



Balitbang LHK
Palembang

SEEDS OF CHANGE CONFERENCE

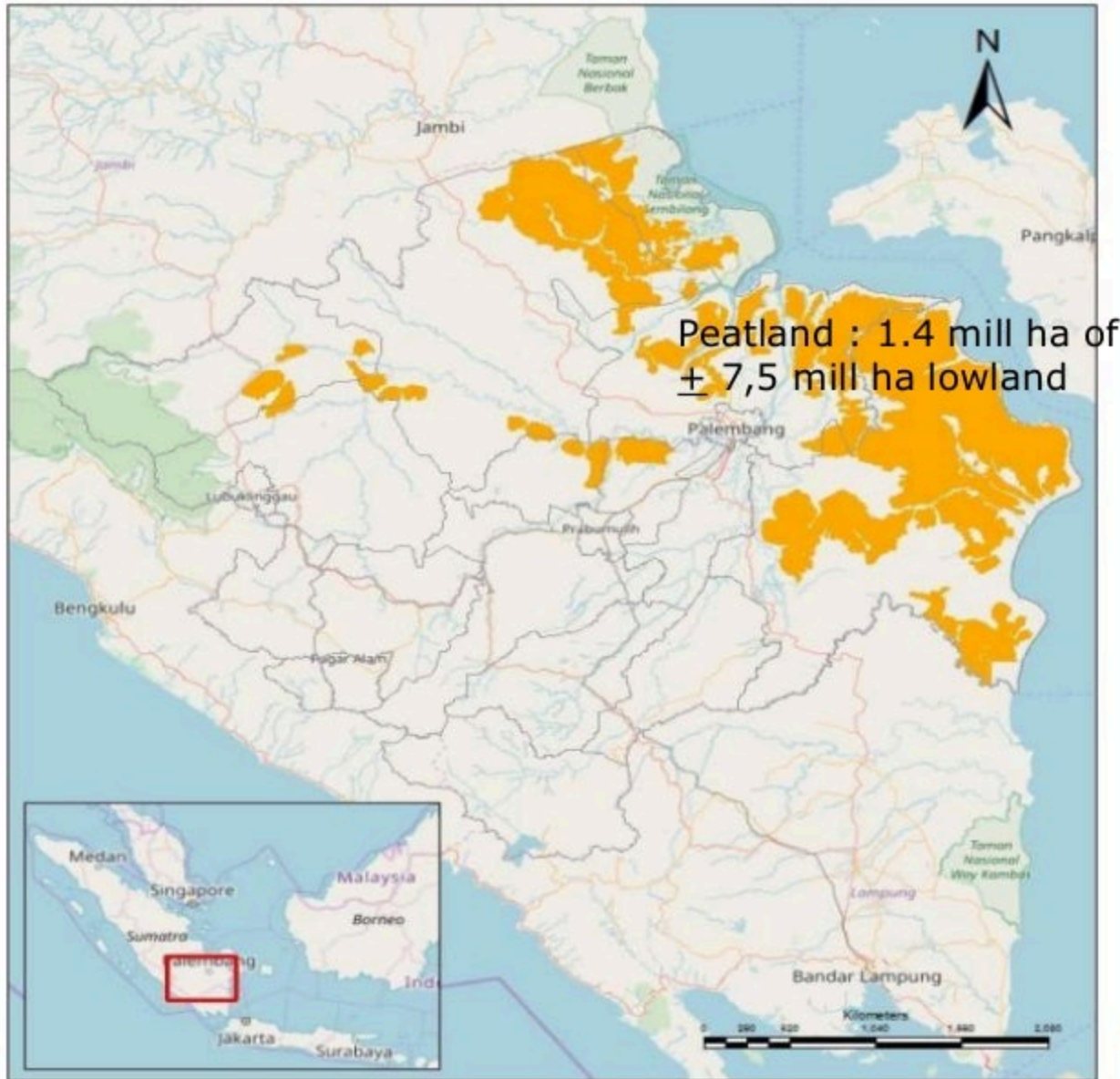
Gender Issue in Rural Lowland Management and Development in Southern Sumatra

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Introduction



Introduction

- ❑ Lowland in South Sumatra has experienced massive land conversion from forested area into commercial agriculture area
- ❑ At the micro level, study of the role of men and women in practicing commercial agriculture need to update

Objective:

highlights the existing and potential role of gender
in rural lowland (mineral and peat land)
management and development



Methodology

- ❑ Qualitative approach
- ❑ Sites: 4 villages in lowland, South Sumatra (2 villages in mineral land and 2 villages in peatland)



Livelihoods and gender in mineral land villages

- ✓ Commodities : rubber, oil palm, vegetables
- ✓ Alternative livelihoods: on farm and off farm labour
- ✓ Decision in land management: traditionally, more **men** than **women (from planting until marketing the commodities)**



Livelihoods and gender in mineral land villages

- ❑ Along with better social economy condition of the household, there is a change with more women role in deciding the crops to cultivate until harvesting the crops, while the men are seeking potential livelihoods for diversification.
- ❑ In marketing the crops, men are still have dominant role than women (men have more network in marketing the crops)



Livelihoods and gender in mineral land villages

- ❑ More women control the financial arrangement in farming activities than men
- ❑ However, there is an absence of women in farming group activities and limited access to agricultural development program



Livelihoods and gender in marginal peatland

- ✓ Limited commercial species can be cultivated on the peatland
- ✓ Recent commodities: **palm oil**, vegetables, pineapple (**new**)
- ✓ Tend to practice agroforestry system
- ✓ The production of these commodities has not satisfied yet to the rural people because of the biophysical constraint



Livelihoods and gender in marginal peatland

- ✓ There was more gender balance situation where men and women in the household shared the idea and responsibility in finding the prospective commodities from crops, fruits, timber and non-timber forest products.
- ✓ In famine situation, men became migrant worker outside the rural area to get better income and the women are taking over the land management for certain times.



Livelihoods and gender in marginal peatland

- ✓ Limited knowledge and skills of men and women on good agricultural practice in peatland due to limited assistance from government program and other stakeholders



Conclusions

- ✓ There is more obvious role of women in agricultural practice as response to the livelihood situation, biophysical condition and change of land cover
- ✓ It needs inclusive land management program, including agricultural development program for men and women to improve access, skill for better rural livelihood and environment

