



# Proboscis Monkeys (Bekantan) Rescue Community: A Civic Engagement in the Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia Foundation

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**Abstract.** This research aims to see the form of civic engagement of the Sahabat Bekantan (SBI) Foundation, which has successfully preserved the population of proboscis monkeys in recent years. The research approach used in this research is descriptive qualitative by writing down the form of civic engagement. The results of the study obtained that Civic engagement carried out by the Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia Foundation is by rehabilitating proboscis monkeys that are experiencing poor health, a place to conduct research related to proboscis's monkeys and their ecosystems, restoring mangrove Zambia which aims to create a natural, healthy and good ecosystem for the development and preservation of proboscis monkeys, and designing and making a place on Curiak Island as the center of Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia's activities as an educational place for tourists, students and students to learn about proboscis's monkeys and their ecosystems. The recommendation in this research is that what is done by Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia continues to be sustainable and needs maximum support from the Government to save native primates from the island of southern Kalimantan from extinction.

**Keywords:** Civic Engagement · Proboscis Monkey · Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia

## 1 Introduction

The province of South Kalimantan has one distinctive primate animal, the proboscis monkey or known as (*Nasalis larvatus* Wurmb). This animal is known by various other names, such as Proboscis Monkey or Long-Nosed Monkey in English, Kera Bekantan in Malaysian, and Bangkatan for Brunei, while Local residents also call it Dutch Monkey or Dutch Monkey, Pika, Bahara Bentangan, Raseng, and Kahau. According to the Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. P.106/2018, the proboscis's monkey is a protected species. In addition, it is also included in the category of endangered species based on the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Proboscis Monkeys (Bekantan) are characterized by having a large n fragmented making the population small and isolated [1].

Proboscis Monkeys (Bekantan) are characterized by having a large nose and reddish fur color, and male proboscis's monkeys are more significant than females, with sizes

that can reach 75 cm and weigh up to 24 kg. Female monkeys measure 60 cm and weigh 12 kg. Proboscis monkeys are the official mascot of South Kalimantan, so in the past, proboscis monkeys were very easy to find in the South Kalimantan Province, especially in mangrove forests, swamps, and coastal areas.

The population of proboscis monkeys (Bekantan), according to data from the Natural Resources Conservation Center (BKSDA) in 2022 and data from the head of the Indonesian Proboscis Monkey Friends Foundation (SBI), related to the number of proboscis monkeys in South Kalimantan from year to year, this data is more clearly presented in the form of a Table 1.

The Table 1 shows that every year from 1980 to 2014, the number of proboscis monkeys has significantly shrunk due to several factors, so it is included in the category of endangered animals in Indonesia. Factors that caused the Proboscis Monkey's population to shrink from 1980 to 2014 were large-scale land conversion, illegal tree harvesting, and the unlawful hunting of Proboscis Monkeys to sell and consume their meat because there are still people who believe that Proboscis Monkeys meat has unique properties. There are still people who catch Proboscis Monkeys to be petted. The existence of proboscis monkeys is very influential in their ecosystem because proboscis monkeys are very dependent on the environment in which they live.

From 2014 until 2019, the population of proboscis monkeys in South Kalimantan experienced changes, namely the increase in the proboscis monkey population, which increased every year and in 2019, the number of proboscis monkeys increased by 3000 after that, it rose again in 2022 by 1000 so, the proboscis animal population has reached 4000. This is due to the awareness of the community of the existence of proboscis monkeys, which we, as fellow creatures, should protect and protect each other.

**Table 1.** Population Bekantan

No	Years	Population Bekantan
1	1980	250.000 tails
2	1994	114.000 tails
3	2004	25.000 tails
4	2010	11.000 tails
5	2013	3.600 tails
6	2014	634 tails
7	2015	664 tails
8	2016	665 tails
9	2017	986 tails
10	2018	992 tails
11	2019	3.000 tails
12	2022	4.000 tails

The increase in the proboscis monkey population is also inseparable from civic engagement, which plays a significant role in sustainable development for the life of the proboscis monkey population in South Kalimantan Province. Civic engagement describes how active citizens participate in community life for others or to help shape society. Citizen engagement in social life is a hope to realize society's ideals. Civic engagement is one of the main concepts in Community Civic to be able to participate in public life. Civic engagement is divided into two: First, it is more structural. Second, it is daily. Included in official civic engagement are: Business associations, professional organizations, film clubs, sports clubs, trade unions, and political parties. Whereas routine community activities such as: visiting each other, eating together, participating in a festival, and allowing their children to play together are standard forms of civic engagement [2].

In the scientific concept of Civic Education, there is something called Civic Engagement or citizen involvement. The definition of civic specifically into several things, among others; Civic engagement as community service, namely civic engagement, is defined as the duty and obligation of individuals to embrace the responsibility of citizenship to participate actively. Civic engagement is collective action, where civic engagement is defined as activities where people come together in their role as citizens. Civic engagement is political involvement, i.e., individual efforts with collective action to solve problems. Civic engagement as social change, namely civic engagement is defined as participation in community life in order to help shape the future with social change [3]. Civic engagement also refers to individual and group activity in social community activities [4]. Citizen involvement in preserving the environment is necessary and a shared responsibility with the Government [5].

Some of the theories above explain that civic engagement includes actions where individuals participate in activities of personal and public concern that are mutually enriching and socially beneficial to society. Thus, civic engagement is a form of participation carried out consciously to achieve a better situation.

Civic engagement can be defined as the process of believing one can make a difference in improving one's community. To improve the community, one needs the knowledge, skills, and values required to make that difference [6]. Civic engagement emphasizes participation in voluntary service to the local community by individuals acting independently or as participants in a group [7].

Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia Foundation (SBI) is a form of citizen involvement community that is expected to strengthen the character of caring for the local environment, especially related to the problem of the Proboscis Monkey animal population. Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia (SBI) was founded in 2010 and has won several environmental awards at home and abroad. Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia has several activities that they carry out, one of which is the preservation of mangrove plants to make proboscis monkeys a safe place to live and also become the leading food of proboscis monkeys.

The Yayasan Sahabat Bekantan has also received the Kalpataru Award, the highest appreciation given to environmental and forestry fighters. The Kalpataru Award has 4

(four) categories, namely: Environmental Pioneers, Environmental Servants, Environmental Saviors, and Environmental Trustees. This study aims to determine the involvement of the Yayasan Sahabat Bekantan in efforts to preserve the proboscis monkey population in South Kalimantan.

## **2 Theoretical Review**

### **2.1 Definition of Civic Engagement**

Civic engagement or citizen participation is an activity to bring change in the lives of citizens or communities that combines various aspects such as knowledge, attitudes, skills, values, and motivation to make these changes. This action is an effort to improve the quality of life of the community, “both through politics and non-politics” Civic engagement can also be interpreted as one of the elements or actions of citizens who participate in community life to improve the conditions of other people in the neighborhood, help and shape the future of society [8].

Civic engagement describes how active citizens participate in community life for others or to help shape society. Citizen engagement in social life is the hope for realizing society’s ideals. Society. Civic engagement is one of the main concepts in the Civic Community to participate in public life. To participate in public life. Civic engagement is divided into two: First, it is more structural. Second, it is every day [2].

Citizen involvement is an action to participate in supporting activities that support the ideals and goals of the state. While suppressing awareness is needed in each individual so that Citizen involvement can answer the needs and achieve a goal [9]. For the goal to be completed, strengthening is needed to foster awareness of citizens to be directly involved in development. Civic engagement can be applied in everyday life. Civic engagement can be used in everyday life [10].

From some of the above opinions, it can be concluded that civic engagement is the participation of citizens so that all is the participation of citizens so that all people, both individuals, and groups, in an activity that is equally aimed at improving the quality of life of citizens. Individuals and groups in a move that both aim to make or bring changes in people’s lives to realize the ideals of society, so there must be participation in the realization of these ideals. The purpose of an organization so the completion of these ideals. There must be participation and collaboration from the community and the Government involved. And cooperation from the community and the Government who are directly affected can contribute to the success of a goal.

### **2.2 Forms of Civic Engagement**

Civic Engagement can be formed from the existence of civic awareness in the participation to influence the larger civil society through collective action (Civic Engagement). Influence the larger civil society through collective action and civic participation.

Collective action includes an examination of the cultural environment of the social environment of the community concerned, social interaction, and social behavior. Based on this, socialization is the most important link among other social systems because in socialization, there is individual involvement up to groups in one procedure to participate.

Based on the description above, there are similarities regarding socialization, located on the object of socialization, namely society which is seen from the point of view of the relationship between humans and the process that arises from the relationship between human beings. And the processes that occur in human relationships in society. So, in socialization, there is interaction between humans as group members. The emergence of groups in society is due to the two natures of human beings that conflict with each other, is human nature that conflicts with each other; on the one hand, wanting to cooperate, on the other hand, tend to compete with fellow humans for power. Power is the study and concept of politics regarding socialization relations [11].

Civic participation is the trust of the community to participate in government policies and various environmental activities related to social movements in the community, related to social activities in the community. Activities carried out by the community in developing civic engagement with people in need, such as street friends, can be done before the Government decides so that the community can carry out its social activities. To determine so that the community can carry out its social activities. Because the community will continue to take to the streets and carry out social action based on tolerance between religions, religion, and religion, based on an attitude of interfaith tolerance, helping, caring, and not relying on government decisions. It is not based on government decisions. Civic participation is essential for community life to realize society's ideals [11].

### **3 Method**

This research used a descriptive qualitative approach with more emphasis on the discovery of processes related to the behavior and actions of civic engagement through the Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia (SBI). This data collection is either done through observation or observation activities, interviews with narrators and documenting directly to the field on the object under study. Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia (SBI). The reason for choosing this location is because of the success of the Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia (SBI) in preserving the population of proboscis monkeys in South Kalimantan. Data analysis is the process of systematically searching and compiling data obtained from interviews, field notes, and documentation. It was obtained from interviews, field notes, and documentation by way of organizing data into categories, breaking it down into units, synthesizing, organizing into patterns, selecting what is essential and what will be studied, and making conclusions so that it is easily understood by oneself and others.

### **4 Result and Discussion**

Based on the results of research findings obtained by researchers that the form of involvement of the Friends of the Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia (SBI) Foundation in preserving the proboscis monkey population, which is outlined in the document of programs such as rehabilitation, research studies, mangrove Zambia restoration, and ecotourism.

Rehabilitation of proboscis monkeys (bekantan) aims to increase the preservation of proboscis monkey populations. In preserving and developing the proboscis monkey population, it is not uncommon for them to find unhealthy proboscis monkeys. Therefore,

rehabilitation is needed as a place to heal proboscis monkeys if something happens to proboscis monkeys before being released into the forest. Rehabilitating proboscis monkeys (bekantan) is part of civic engagement to provide a cure so that proboscis monkeys remain healthy and their population can be preserved.

Rehabilitation is the concept of civic engagement in sustainable development. The idea of community participation is the trust of the community to participate in government policies and various environmental activities related to social movements in the community. Social activities in the community. Activities carried out by the community in developing civic engagement with people in need, such as Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia, can be done before the Government decides so that the community can carry out its social activities. Make a decision so that the community can carry out its social activities [12].

Civic engagement as community service, namely civic engagement, is defined as the duties and obligations of individuals to embrace the responsibility of citizenship to actively participate, individually or together with others, in voluntary service activities that strengthen the local community. Voluntary services that enhance the local community [3].

Research studies researchers who have been members of the Bekantan friend foundation from the beginning of the foundation often conduct research studies related to the problem of proboscis monkeys and their environment. The results of their research will be used as a reference in the development of proboscis monkeys in the following days.

The researcher's results are used as a reference for implementing conservation actions. The history of Curiak Island is the result of the researcher observing proboscis monkeys from the data during the expedition along the Barito River. Curiak Island research was conducted, and it showed that the population structure of the proboscis monkeys was population structure was very low and the basis for protecting the area and increasing the population. Population. Scientifically, the results of the research become the basis or foundation for concentration actions such as planting Rambai mangrove trees as habitat and the leading food of proboscis monkeys. as habitat and the main food of proboscis.

Civic engagement emphasizes participation in voluntary service to the local community, either by individuals acting independently or as participants in a group. Citizen participation in community life can be a hope for the realization of the ideals of society. Civic engagement is a fundamental concept in community citizenship to participate in civic life. Social life. Citizen participation can arise because it is based on a conscience that is based on a conscience that takes the initiative and is sincere without coercion from others [13].

Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia established a proboscis monkey research station on Curiak Island for research purposes and patrols of the existence of proboscis monkeys there. In implementing the rambai mangrove planting program, SBI usually invites and embraces the community around Curiak Island to get involved. Embrace the community around Curiak Island to get involved. The community that involved then formed a group that was legalized under the name of the Environment Care Fishermen Group [14].

Attitudes of civic engagement give meaning to local commitments and behaviors of engaged behavior, which in turn contribute to developing their scholarship, promoting their engagement as agents of change. Become agents of change in the relationship between civic behavior and the environment, but not in the relationship between civic engagement attitudes and the environment. This suggests that attitudes and behaviors must be integrated into the relationship between civic engagement attitudes and the environment. The perspectives of civic engagement and the environment indicate that attitudes and behaviors should be nurtured to promote new ways of being. Should be encouraged to promote new ways of living together in local communities, such as responsible togetherness [13].

Mangrove restoration activities are carried out by the Sahabat Bekantan foundation by planting mangrove tree seedlings around the riverbank forest, which is the habitat of proboscis monkeys. Restoration is the recovery of mangrove plants. This aims to increase the type of rambai mangrove plant, which is one of the staple foods of proboscis monkeys, because it is one of the staple foods of proboscis monkeys. One of the staple foods of the proboscis monkey because it is impossible to save the habitat of the proboscis monkey but not save its habitat. Keeping the proboscis monkey but not protecting its habitat. This Curiak Island is where the pressure is relatively high, such as residential industrial, and agricultural areas. Therefore, in the restoration of mangroves rambai sahabat bekantan Indonesia foundation (SBI) has developed a land purchase, waqf land to be forested with mangrove tree planting activities. Rambai.

The proboscis monkey's habitat is a mangrove area dominated by rambai (*Sonneratia caseolaris*) as their primary food source [14]. It suppress the rate of decline in the proboscis monkey population due to habitat loss, it is necessary to restore proboscis monkey habitat by planting rambai mangroves in their natural habitat areas, such as Curiak Island, to increase the carrying capacity of feed. So far, the rambai tree planting activity on Curiak Island is still being carried out on a self-taught basis by partners [14].

So what is considered is not only about the proboscis monkey population, but the most important thing is to create a good and healthy ecosystem for the development and preservation of proboscis monkeys. One of them is by restoring the rambai mangrov.

Ecotourism after five years of activities carried out by Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia to preserve and increase the proboscis monkey population and create a good and healthy ecosystem for the proboscis monkey to live in. Now by improving the forest, the proboscis monkey population is increasing, and it can be used to examine that the activities of fishermen and farmers can be one of the attractions of tourism. Farmers can turn out to be one of the attractions of tourism with notes special interest tourists because when developing into mass tourism later the proboscis monkeys will be stressed, nature will be damaged, the environment will be full of garbage and the facilities will be injured. Afraid of damaged facilities. So to keep these things, the Yayasan sahabat Indonesian proboscis monkeys (SBI) developed into special interest ecotourism; tourists who come are also invited to participate in ecotourism, not only education but also education but also involves participation.

Ecotourism is sustainable ecotourism by making the conservation of the rich wildebeest a theatre to make it an educational place that provides an understanding of the conservation of the wildebeest. The architectural problem raised is the design of the

ecotourism area based on the conservation of the wildebeest, which is educative and minimizes the impact of damage and disturbance to the local environment [15].

## 5 Conclusion

Civic engagement carried out by the Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia Foundation is by rehabilitating proboscis monkeys that are experiencing poor health, a place to conduct research related to proboscis monkeys and their ecosystems, restoring mangrove rambai which aims to create a natural, healthy, and sound ecosystem for the development and preservation of proboscis monkeys, and designing and making a place on Curiak Island as the center of Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia's activities as an educational place for tourists, students and students to learn about proboscis monkeys and their ecosystems. The recommendation in this research is that what is done by Sahabat Bekantan Indonesia continues to be sustainable and needs maximum support from the Government as an effort to save native primates from the island of southern Kalimantan from extinction.

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