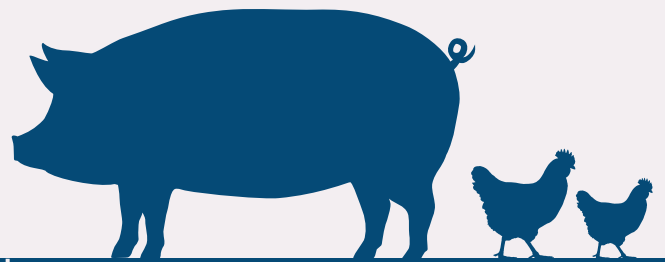


# Sangga Health

Through **Sangga Health**, we seek to reduce rates of hunting and mitigate threats to biodiversity through increased availability of disease-free livestock, improved public health, and the advancement of culturally appropriate indigenous management systems.



## Minimum Target:

**> 25%** of households  
(~325)

### Village :

Banua Tanga

Mensiau

Menua Sadap

Pulau Manak

Setulang

Sungai Ajung

Sungai Uluk Palin

Tamao

- Seven additional villages seek to join the programme.

### Scope:

Starting with chickens, then expanding to pigs, ducks and goats.



# What Sangga Bumi has learned:

In some areas of Bentarum, our Sangga Farming project is increasing market access for agricultural projects. In many other areas, villagers are cashless, relying on a barter economy. External business opportunities are not a priority.

Some villagers believe wild meat is healthier, because they see domestic animals die from disease. Others say domestic meat is healthier, because they get sick from wild meat.

Villagers want current economic challenges removed, rather than new opportunities provided. Stated objectives all point to a desire for greater self-sufficiency.

Domestic chickens produce fewer eggs than expected, an indicator of poor health. To compensate, villagers buy eggs for USD 0.25.

Stunting is common. Pregnant women are not accessing the available services, local health centre (*puskesmas*) data collection is substandard, and government advice to increase protein intake threatens wild animals.

Efforts to increase livestock numbers are hampered by a belief that only shop-bought industrial feed is suitable. At USD 36.50 a bag, chicken feed is prohibitively expensive.

There is significant hunting of wild animals for meat, including of Critically Endangered species. Wild meat is bartered and occasionally sold to markets.

Village attempts to commercialise egg production were abandoned as capital couldn't be obtained. A plan to use village budget (*dana desa*) to purchase 1,000 chickens in Sungai Ajung were considered unviable because villagers felt they would need two bags of industrial feed per day, costing USD 73.

African Swine Fever arrived in 2020 and decimated wild and domestic pig populations. Newcastle disease outbreaks kill domestic chickens. Rabies is present, but only ever attributed to dogs. Pigs are housed under fruit trees, the perfect breeding ground for Nipah virus.

There is a strong cultural attachment to hunting wild animals. A rudimentary regulatory system exists, with households forbidden from hunting certain species. This provides a basis from which a culturally appropriate, species-specific detailed regulatory system could be developed.

To deal with the lack of domestic meat, villagers purchase chicken meat smuggled in from Malaysia (for USD 3.65 per kilo), buy meat in Putussibau, or barter with villagers.

Hunting is interlinked with logging and fishing. Hunters take advantage of open canopies at logging sites to hunt wild animals, and take guns while fishing in ponds and slow-flowing rivers so they can opportunistically hunt wild animals attracted to fish.

# Timeline

**Sangga Health began being implemented in May 2025** and will be implemented over a period of four years. It will be incorporated into a Leverhulme Trust-funded PhD studentship with the University of Kent, which ends in 2028.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>1. Household surveys</b> to collect more detailed data on demography, wellbeing, livelihoods, livestock keeping, agricultural activities, forest utilisation, meat consumption, biodiversity knowledge, conflict, hunting, and trade, from which we can monitor behaviour changes.</p> | <p><b>2. Workshops</b> to discuss current animal husbandry methods, feed use, growth rates, protein sources, and disease trends.</p>                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>3. Training on animal husbandry methods</b> to increase animal health and advance disease-resistant livestock farming, including disinfection methods, minimum distance from disease vectors, diets, animal husbandry standards, and stress reduction methods.</p>                     | <p><b>4. Establish a demonstration site for free range chickens</b> at our Sangga Hub education centre. Trialling locally available feed like rice, cassava, corn, and vegetables to show that livestock can be fed by locally available food sources.</p>              |
| <p><b>5. Socialise zoonotic disease prevention</b> in villages, in collaboration with the Department of Health. Focusing on African Swine Fever, Newcastle disease, rabies and nipah virus, to increase understanding of disease risk from wild meat hunting.</p>                            | <p><b>6. Support maternal health.</b> We will ensure the government-run maternal support service <i>Posyandu</i> reaches Bentarum's pregnant women, increasing their protein intake from domestic sources, reducing rates of stunting without relying on wild meat.</p> |
| <p><b>7. Training in business development and household financial management</b> to both business owners (typically men) and household budget managers (predominantly women), equipping them with the skills to create practical business plans and apply effective budgeting practices.</p> | <p><b>8. Workshops</b> to understand cultural components of hunting and relationships with wild animals, documenting Dayak traditions and beliefs, creating a tech-based inventory of oral stories with Dayak youth.</p>                                                |
| <p><b>9. Develop a regulatory system for biodiversity threats.</b> Working with Dayak Elders and village authorities, we will develop culturally appropriate regulatory systems for hunting and logging, which threatens forest cover and facilitates hunting.</p>                           | <p><b>10. Monitoring &amp; Evaluation:</b> annual camera trap surveys to monitor the long-term impact on wildlife populations, annual household surveys to detect behaviour changes, annual landscape-wide documentation of hunting to identify trends.</p>             |



**sangga**  
bumi lestari

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