**Brief Report of KIARA**

On 3-5 March 2019, KIARA together with KELOLA and the Customary Coastal Community Forum held a Workshop of Customary Community on the Coastal and Small Islands. This meeting discussed the issue of tenure rights and invited government to implement a small-scale fisheries guide (VGSSSF). This activity was attended by Coastal Customary groups in several regions, such as Aceh, Riau, East Nusa Tenggara, West Nusa Tenggara and Maluku.

In this meeting, participants explained and agreed on the deprivation of living space which was legitimized by government policy, becoming one of the important issues they faced. The practice of deprivation of living space can be seen with the rampant development of reclamation projects in 42 Indonesian coastal areas, 26 mining projects, debt-based marine conservation areas of more than 20 million hectares, expansion of large-scale tourism projects with the National Tourism Strategic Zone (KSPN) scheme, and expansion oil palm plantations on the coast and small islands more than 600 thousand hectares. All of these projects have a negative impact on coastal indigenous people who are also categorized as small-scale fishermen in Indonesia.

In this context, the small-scale fisheries guidelines compiled by FAO have significance for providing protection to small-scale fishermen, especially coastal indigenous communities in Indonesia. However, unfortunately this international guideline is only voluntary or not binding. In other words, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has no obligation to ratify this guideline into national laws or regulations that apply in Indonesia. This is where the weak points of the Small Scale Fisheries Guidelines are. Thus, this Code cannot be practiced even though the substance is very good. However, a number of important issues, such as the issue of human rights (HAM), have not been included in this Code.

The Workshop on Customary Community on Coastal and Small Islands resulted numbers of important recommendations, including the following: **First,** an inventory of coastal customary peoples in Indonesia, as small-scale fisheries actors. To this day, the existence of coastal indigenous communities in Indonesia has not been well recorded and consolidated. In fact, the threat of deprivation of living space they face is very real. KIARA (2019) noted, to date there are 790 coastal indigenous communities in Indonesia. The facts in the field could be more numerous, considering that such an inventory had never been carried out by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

**Second,** an inventory of small-scale fisheries practices that have been carried out by coastal indigenous communities, along with a variety of traditional wisdom. In Indonesia, •various small-scale fisheries practices with their traditional wisdom are proven to maintain the sustainability of marine and coastal ecosystems from damage. As a result, coastal indigenous communities have never experienced an ecological crisis or even a food crisis.

Third, including human rights issues into small-scale fisheries guidelines. Even though this guidelines is already very good, but in small-scale fisheries practices, especially in Indonesia, there are many human rights violations committed by the state and business institutions. At this point, the issue of human rights becomes very crucial.

**Fourth,** inventorying various national policies that weaken the position of coastal indigenous peoples as small-scale fisheries actors. KIARA noted, since the Law up to its derivative rules, it was proven to have weakened coastal indigenous communities in Indonesia.

To strengthen the position of customary coastal community in Indonesia, KIARA has initiated the Coastal Customary Community Forum at the end of 2017 as a forum to fight for the interests of coastal indigenous peoples in Indonesia. In the future, strengthening institutional capacity at the national and local levels must continue. In addition, building networks with various parties, both domestically and abroad, must be a priority agenda.

Additional Notes:

1. VGSSF has been Kiara concern since it initiated, even we are getting involved in some workshop that supported by ICSF. That is why we and coastal community who getting involved on this are very proud of it.
2. Somehow, VGSSF still found big obstacle. The basic problem it’s because the VGSSF only voluntary, there is no legally binding and hard to push government to use it as guidelines. In national level, we push this guidelines to be used in the regulation making. What we think is how to encourage the government to consider this guidelines.
3. We also consider that some of ministry don’t have any knowledge about this guidelines. Only Ministry of Marine Affair and Fisheries who notice and understand the VGSSF.
4. Related to Voluntary Guidelines of Tenure Right, we haven’t find any ministry notice or even understand this.
5. In Indonesia context, the continuation after this workshop is doing socialization in