

## BRIEF REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF AwF SEAWEED PROJECT IN ACEH

1. Location of the project :  
Location of the project is at Kareung Village, Lhoong Sub-district, Aceh Besar District. This village is inhabited by 127 people from 57 families who are the rest of the population surviving from tsunami disaster.
2. Number of seaweed farmers  
In the first phase, 10 farmers of the 10 families have been selected, and have been running seaweed culture since last week. Each farmer is conducting one unit of culture consisting of 3 rafts of culture (the size of each raft is 5 m x 7 m).
3. Seaweed culture :  
In the first phase, the culture is intended to seed development for 20 days, and subsequently used as source of seaweed seed for expansion of seaweed culture. The reason why the culture is conducted only in small number of farmers, and need to develop seaweed source :
  - a. Seaweed (*Euchema cottonii*) seed is not available in Aceh (after tsunami disaster), and need to purchase from other areas (province). For this project, we bought 300 kg of seaweed as seed source from West Java province at the rate of 5.3 million rupiahs (including cost for air transport). It will be too expensive to buy more than this amount of seaweed.
  - b. Some farmers prefer postponing to run seaweed culture until July since bit strong wave is still occurring during this month.
4. Budget used :  
Budget available having been used for running the first phase of the project is about a half of total budget from AwF. The rest of the budget (about US \$ 8,000) will be used for expansion of seaweed culture by adding either the number of new farmers or unit of culture for existing farmers.
5. Planning to come (second phase) :
  - a. Expansion of seaweed culture at Kareung Village to make this village become center of seaweed culture run by all the people living in this village.
  - b. Bringing the people from West Sumatra province who are experts in seaweed processing to teach seaweed farmers family in project site in order to make seaweed to be valuable food (e.g. cake).
  - c. Helping the farmers to sell harvested seaweed to other province (West Sumatra province) as there is no seaweed buyers for the moment in Aceh after tsunami disaster.

