

ALIANSI MASYARAKAT ADAT NUSANTARA (AMAN) INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ALLIANCE OF THE ARCHIPELAGO



Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara

The Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) established in 17 March 1999. Up to now consists of: 2.596 members communities; ±20 millions in population, 20 Regional Chapters, 113 Local Chapters, 3 Wing Organizations, 2 Autonomous Bodies, 2 Economic Institutions.

History

Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN) or 'The Indigenous Peoples' Alliance of the Archipelago is an independent civil organization of which members are from Indigenous Peoples communities around the archipelago. AMAN is officially registered in Department of Justice and Human Rights as an Organizations Alliance under the Notary Act No. 26, H. Abu Yusuf, SH and Deed of Establishment on 24 April 2001, Renewed by Decree of Minister of Law and Human Rights, No. AHU-0000340.AH.01.08.2017, Notary Act No.2, Ellyza, SH.,M.Kn, NPWP No. 02.072.633.7-015.000.

AMAN was first declared in 1999 during the initial Kongres Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (KMAN I) in Jakarta. The event was a significant milestone in the history of indigenous peoples movement in Indonesia. Since mid-1980s, a new awareness among non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and social scientists about a wide variety of the negative impacts on the development to indigenous communities in Indonesia. Indigenous Peoples is one of the main groups and the largest number of the most disadvantaged (and victims) of political development during the past three decades. Repression to Indigenous Peoples happens in various issues, i.e. economic development, political, legal, health, social, cultural and education.

Since the mid-1980s Indigenous resistance against government policies began to appear sporadically. These situations arouse the concern of many social movement activists and academics on the conditions faced by indigenous peoples in various communities in the country since the 1990s. Finally, in 1993 in South Sulawesi Toraja, agreed upon the establishment of a forum called The Network of Defender of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Jaringan Pembela Hak-Hak Masyarakat Adat - JAPHAMA) pioneered by the customary leaders, academics, legal assistances and social movement activists. The presence of JAPHAMA was also in responded to the strengthening of Indigenous Peoples movement at the global level.

The JAPHAMA meeting also discussed and agreed on the term *Indigenous Peoples* in Indonesia context as "*Masyarakat Adat*". The use of the term is a form of resistance to the terms attached

to the Indigenous Peoples that is abusive, such as *outcast tribe, forest dwellers communities, wild swiddeners, primitive, obstacles to development*, etc which are violating the constitutional rights of Indigenous Peoples to be treated with the same rights as citizens of Indonesia. Through JAPHAMA, the customary leaders and the various other elements consolidated the idea of Indigenous Peoples and identified of common goals. Customary leaders were then get support from various activists and NGOs with different backgrounds i.e. environmental, anti-globalization, agrarian reform, legal assistances, cultural activists and others to jointly realize the implementation of the Congress of Indigenous Peoples when there was a momentum for reformation in Indonesia.

On March 17 to 22, 1999, for the first time, Congress of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (KMAN - hereinafter referred as KMAN I) was held at the Hotel Indonesia in Jakarta. KMAN I was attended by over 400 Indigenous leaders from all over the archipelago, women and men. Various problems that threaten the existence of indigenous peoples from various aspects such as human rights violations; expropriation of land, territories and resources; harassment of customs and culture; as well as policy development that deliberately marginalize Indigenous Peoples were discussed. KMAN I also discussed and agreed on the vision, mission, principles, program outlines and goals of the movement. KMAN I produced a Basic View of the Congress of Indigenous Peoples in 1999 on "The Indigenous Peoples Position to the State" which strongly confirms that Indigenous Peoples had already existed before the state, is therefore *"Should the State not recognizing us, then we will not recognize the State."* KMAN I also established a working definition for indigenous communities as *"community that inhabit an ancestral domain from generation to generation, have sovereignty over their land and natural resources, of which social and culture regulated by customary law and institution maintaining the peoples' sustainability."* KMAN I also laid the foundation of gender equality in the Indigenous Peoples movement.

Furthermore, KMAN I set the formation of the Indigenous Peoples' Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) as an organization for Indigenous Peoples movement in Indonesia. Since then, the date of March 17 was celebrated as the Day of the Resurrection of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (Hari Kebangkitan Masyarakat Adat Nusantara - HKMAN) and simultaneously, the birthday of AMAN. KMAN I have become a momentum of consolidation for Indigenous Peoples' movement in Indonesia, to uphold customary rights and set a foundation of its position as a major component of the nation.

At the beginning period of its formation 1999-2003, the AMAN's Council is the organization's highest decision-making body under KMAN. AMAN's Council consist of 54 indigenous leaders-representing 27 provinces, each one male and one female. AMAN Council then selects and defines three among themselves as the Council's Coordinator of AMAN, representing western, central and eastern part of Indonesia. Council's Coordinator, in addition to its main task of coordinating the members of AMAN's Council in their respective territories, are also responsible for issuing policy directives and at the same time monitoring the Executive Secretary in daily organizing of AMAN National Secretariat. AMAN members at that time consisted of Indigenous Communities and the Indigenous Peoples Organization (Organisasi Masyarakat Adat - OMA).

In the next period, this organizational structure continues to evolve in accordance with the aspirations and needs of its members to be able to respond to various challenges, both at the national and regional levels as well as developments at the global level.

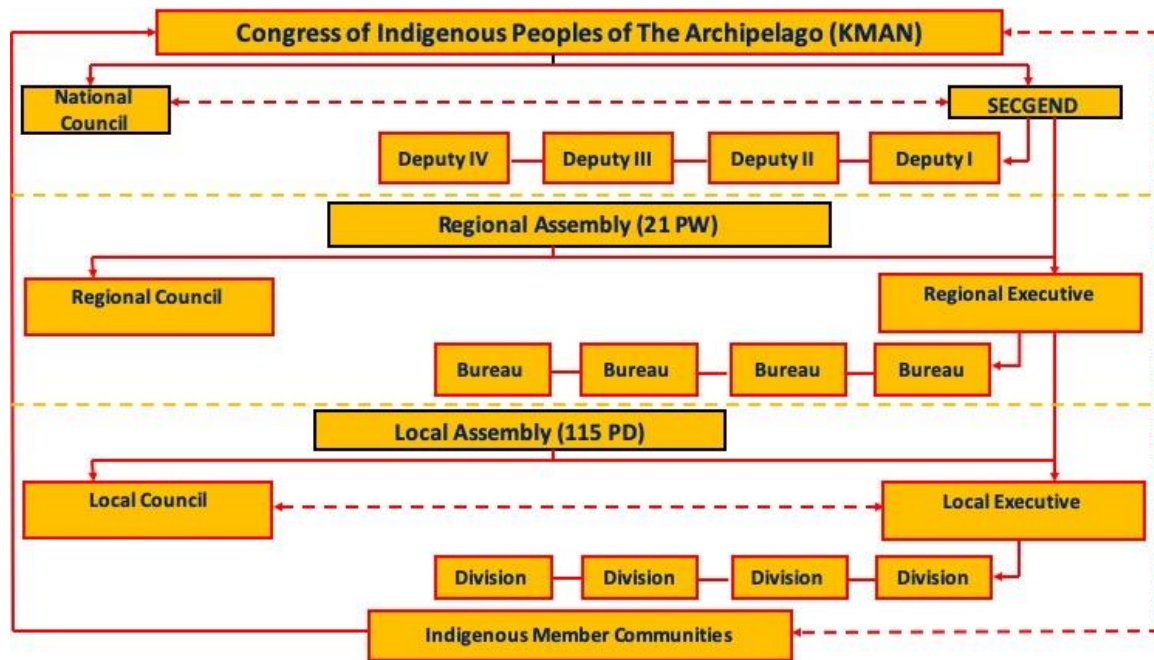
The most significant changes occurred in KMAN III in Pontianak, West Kalimantan in 2007. KMAN III decided and determined that AMAN to be led by a Secretary General to implement mandates given by the organization. In carrying out responsibilities, the Secretary General would be accompanied by the National Council (Dewan AMAN Nasional - DAMANNAS) delegates from 27 provinces, each consisting of one male and one female. They were selected and assigned in KMAN III. DAMANNAS then choose 7 Region Coordinators for the Region of Sumatra, Borneo, Java, Bali, Nusa Tenggara, Sulawesi, Maluku and Papua.

The leadership at the national level is called Central Governing Body (Pengurus Besar - PB) of AMAN. While the regional and local levels are respectively led by AMAN's Regional Chapter (Pengurus Wilayah AMAN or PW AMAN), equal of a province or bigger areas based on cultural identity and AMAN's Local Chapter (Pengurus Daerah AMAN or PD AMAN), equal of a district or bigger areas based on cultural identity. Each of which is composed of Regional Daily Governing Body/Executive (Badan Pelaksana Harian - BPH) and Local Governing Body/Executive, together with Regional Council (DAMANWIL) and Local Council (DAMANDA). Moreover, the membership system had changed as well. KMAN III decided that AMAN previously consisting of indigenous communities and organizations would be solely composed of indigenous communities. Indigenous peoples' organizations previously registered as AMAN's members were dissolved and mandated to adopt with the structures decided by KMAN III by becoming PW AMAN and PD AMAN.

KMAN IV held in April 2012 in Tobelo, North Halmahera of North Maluku. In KMAN IV, there was a change in the composition of DAMANNAS which was originally made up of 54 representatives from 27 provinces, led by 7 Regional Coordinators, amended by eliminating the provincial representatives into 2 regional representatives only. The provincial representatives then serve as Regional Council in AMAN Regional Chapters. Until now, DAMANNAS consists of 14 indigenous leaders, one male and one female, both representing each of 7 regional division of AMAN's working areas, Sumatra, Borneo, Java, Bali, Nusa Tenggara, Sulawesi, Maluku and Papua. DAMANNAS selected by each region, and assigned in KMAN IV.

AMAN's Structure

Since the changes of AMAN's Statutes and Bylaws set in 2007, structurally, AMAN has established 20 Regional Chapters (PW) and 113 Regional Chapters (PD) in 33 provinces. AMAN is currently comprised of 2,596 indigenous communities with a population of + 20 million people. To strengthen its organizational work, AMAN has also formed 3 Wing Organizations, 2 Autonomous Bodies and 2 Economic Institutions. AMAN structure from the community level to the national level can be illustrated and described as follows:



1. AMAN Members - Indigenous Communities:

AMAN members are indigenous communities who agreed and approved AMAN's Statutes and Bylaws, meeting the requirements of AMAN membership and have declared it self, as well as officially accepted as member of AMAN. Based on the results of KMAN VI in 2022, numbers of AMAN member communities are 1449 communities. This number keeps growing. After the RPB XXXIV, the number reached 2.596 member communities.

2. AMAN's Local Chapter (PD):

Local Chapter (or PD AMAN) is AMAN's structure responsible at the local level. The scope of work of PD AMAN can be based on a district-government administrative area approach, or it can also follow the indigenous territorial approach, according to and based on mutual agreement and cultural history of the indigenous communities within the respective areas. Up to RPB XXXIV December 2024, total number of AMAN's Local Chapters is 113. This number continuously grows according to the needs of service to members. PD AMAN is composed of Local Executive (PHD) and Local Council (DAMANDA).

3. AMAN's Regional Chapter (PW):

Regional Chapter is AMAN's structure responsible at the regional level. The scope of work of PW AMAN can be based on a provincial-government administrative area approach, or it can also follow the indigenous territorial approach, according to and based on mutual agreement and cultural history of the indigenous communities within the respective areas. Up to RPB XXXIV in December 2024 to date is 20 PW. This number continuously grows according to the according to the needs of service to members. PW AMAN is composed of Regional Executive (PHW) and Regional Council (DAMANWIL).

4. The Central Governing Body (PB) AMAN:

Central Governing Body of AMAN (or PB AMAN) is an organizational structure that is responsible at the national level. PB AMAN composed of Secretary General and the National Council (DAMANNAS) selected and determined by KMAN. To ensure the implementation of

mandates of KMAN, the Central Governing Body meets at least once in a year. To implement and manage the Secretariat of AMAN in order to be effective, the Secretary General of AMAN appointed 4 Deputies whose each, coordinates several directorates as the implementing of key programs. Secretariat of Central Governing Body of AMAN located in the capital of the Republic of Indonesia.

AMAN National Council/Board (DAMANNAS):

AMAN National Councils consist of 1 woman and 1 man from AMAN members representing 7 regions. As well as Secretary General, they were elected by AMAN members in the Indigenous Peoples' Congress/KMAN. For the period of 2022-2027, members of AMAN National Council are:

Chairperson:

1. Mr. Stefanus Masiun (Male, representing Kalimantan Region)

Vice Chairpersons:

2. Mr. Henriana Hatrawijaya (Male, representing Java Region)
3. Ms. Dorince Mehue (Female, representing Papua Region)

Members of National Council:

4. Mr. Def Tri Hardianto (Male, representing Sumatera Region)
5. Ms. Riama Simamora (Female, representing Sumatera Region)
6. Ms. Dyah Ayu Puji Prastiwi (Female, representing the Java Region)
7. Ms. Lusiana Napu (Female, representing Kalimantan Region)
8. Mr. Alberthus Ferdinand Sekeronej (Male, representing the Maluku Region)
9. Ms. Afrida Ngato (Female, representing Maluku Region)
10. Mr. Sem Vani Ulimpa (Male, representing Papua Region)
11. Mr. Bata Manurun (Male, representing Sulawesi Region)
12. Ms. Hasnah (Female, representing Sulawesi Region)
13. Mr. Antonius Johanis Bala (Male, representing Bali-Nusra Region)
14. Ms. Dende Suriasari (Female, representing the Bali-Nusra Region)

AMAN's National Daily Governing Body/Executive:

Secretary General	: Ms. Rukka Sombolinggi
Deputy I	: Mr. Eustobio Renggi <i>Organizational Affairs</i>
Deputy II	: Mr. Erasmus Cahyadi <i>Political Affairs</i>
Deputy III	: Mr. Annas Radin Syarif <i>Economic Affairs</i>
Deputy IV	: Ms. Mina Susana Setra <i>Social Culture Affairs</i>

Directorates:

1. Directorate of Management and Operational
2. Directorate of Organizational, Cadres Training and Membership
3. Directorate of Information and Communication
4. Directorate of Resources Mobilization
5. Directorate of Advocacy
6. Directorate of Indigenous Peoples Political Affairs
7. Directorate of Community Support and Services
8. Directorate of Economic Development and Natural Resources Management

9. Directorate of Education and Cultural Affairs

5. AMAN Wing Organizations:

To strengthen its work of grassroots level, AMAN formed 3 Wing Organizations, namely:

1) *Barisan Pemuda Adat Nusantara or BPAN (The Archipelago Indigenous Youth Front)*

BPAN consists of young indigenous from AMAN member communities aged between 17-35 years. BPAN have leadership at the national, regional and local to village level. BPAN current Chairman, Jakob Siringoringo, elected in the BPAN National Assembly, currently leads BPAN nationally. To learn more about BPAN can be viewed at the website: <http://bpan.aman.or.id/>

2) *Persekutuan Perempuan Adat Nusantara - PEREMPUAN AMAN (Indigenous Women's Union of the Archipelago)*

PEREMPUAN AMAN's memberships are individuals, indigenous women from AMAN member communities. Like BPAN, PEREMPUAN AMAN also have leadership at the national, regional, local to the village level. PEREMPUAN AMAN is currently led by a Chairman, Devi Anggraini, elected in the PEREMPUAN AMAN National Assembly. More information on PEREMPUAN AMAN can be viewed at the website: <http://perempuan.aman.or.id/>

3) *Perhimpunan Pembela Masyarakat Adat Nusantara - PPMAN (The Association of Indigenous Peoples' Defender of the Archipelago)*

PPMAN members comprised of lawyers and legal experts who are concerned and committed to the work of the defense and promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples all over Indonesia. Nur Amalia, currently leads PPMAN as the chairperson. Further information about PPMAN can be viewed at the website: <http://www.ppman.or.id/>

6. AMAN's Autonomous Bodies:

1). *Yayasan Pendidikan Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (YPMAN)*

Yayasan Pendidikan Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (YPMAN) or Indigenous Education Foundation was established on June 15, 2016 and based in Bogor, West Java. This foundation is a non-profit professional organization that seeks to help overcome educational problems faced by indigenous peoples in Indonesia based on the compliance and assistance to the educational needs of Indigenous Peoples.

2). *Koperasi Produsen AMAN Mandiri-KPAM (AMAN's Independent Producers Cooperative)*

KPAM was formed as a *space* to realize one of the pillars mandated to AMAN by the KMAN. It is become economically independent. The idea is to encourage economic independence of Indigenous Peoples in managing the wealth of their territories. KPAM strategy is to become the main actors in producing and opening the access to market for products produced by indigenous communities, whether it is carried out in groups and or derived from indigenous communities.

7. AMAN's Economic Institutions

1) Credit Union RANDU

CU RANDU (Gerakan Credit Union Pancoran Kehidupan), is one of AMAN's Autonomous Body which is an embodiment of the ideas of the activists in Jakarta, Bogor, Depok, Tangerang and Bekasi (Jabodetabek) to be able to make economy support and changes, both to the activists themselves, family, friends and wider community who are willing to join. CU RANDU was founded on November 24, 2013. The activists in the greater Jakarta area as many as 33 people, agreed on the establishment of the Credit Union Pancoran Kehidupan Movement (CU RANDU). CU RANDU is projected to be a forerunner to the establishment of CU in indigenous communities in various areas of the Indonesian archipelago.

2) PT. Berdaulat, Mandiri, Bermartabat (BMB)

PT. Berdaulat, Mandiri, Bermartabat (BMB- Sovereignty, Prosperity, Dignity) Consult was officially established by AMAN on November 23, 2015. PT. BMB Consult is a private company that is engaged in the field of Consulting Services. The consulting services covering the fields of law-making, both at the national and regional levels, proposed changes of laws and the establishment of new law submitted to the government, the legislative and the judicial authorities in various levels of government, publishing studies on laws and regulation, economic development, regional structuring and management of natural resources.

8. Organizational Decision Making

Congress, conferences, and meetings as means of AMAN's organizational decision making consist of:

- a. Congress of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (KMAN), once in 5 years.
- b. Extraordinary Congress of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (KMANLUB)
- c. AMAN's National Strategic Meeting (RAKERNAS AMAN), once every 2 years.
- d. Central Governing Body Meeting (RPB), twice a year.
- e. Secretary General and PB AMAN's Staff Coordination Meeting, once every 3 months.
- f. Regional Assembly (MUSWIL), once in 5 years.
- g. Regional Extraordinary Assembly (MUSWILUB)
- h. Regional Strategic Meeting (RAKERWIL), once every 2 years.
- i. Regional Chapter Meeting (RPW), twice a year.
- j. Local Assembly (MUSDA), once in 5 years.
- k. Local Extraordinary Assembly (MUSDALUB)
- l. Local Strategic Meeting (RAKERDA), once every 2 years.
- m. Local Chapter Meeting (RPD), twice a year.

AMAN's Program

To perform its function as an organization for Indigenous Peoples movement in Indonesia, AMAN programs established according to the needs of service to its members. The programs include:

1. Advocacy, Human Rights and Politics

- a. Lobbying, intervention and pushing for law or legislation, regulations and agreements at the national level; Local Regulation, Decision Letters etc. at the local level to recognize the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- b. Providing legal services and cases handling to AMAN's members who involve in legal conflicts related to their collective rights.

- c. Encouraging the expansion of Indigenous Peoples political participation.
- d. Lobbying and interventions in various global forums and international agreements.

2. Strengthening the Organization and Institutional Building

Strengthening the capacity of the organizational management and operational, as well as capacity building for AMAN members and its cadres; organizational development at every level; strengthening information and communication including developing of community media; mobilization of public resources.

3. Community Service and Support

Mapping of indigenous territories; community economic empowerment; developing renewable energy resources; disaster management; developing Indigenous Peoples' cooperative producers; developing community-owned enterprises; development of culture and education; developing indigenous based forestry.

Achievement

At international level, since 2007 AMAN has closely engaged with REDD+ issues as member of the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) and involved closely in the intervention on the formulation of Paris Agreement. AMAN is trusted by Asia's Indigenous Peoples' organizations to lead and represent the region in various climate change forums and REDD+ negotiations such as the UNREDD Policy Board, FCPF Participants Committee, CIF-FIP Sub Committee, involved in the formation of Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities under the FIP, involved in GEF Counsel, REDD+ Partnership Forum, etc. AMAN also actively follow the UNPFII, following Human Rights issues and involved in UN meetings in Geneva like UPR and EMRIP, as well as making reports to CERD. AMAN has continuously invited to the various High Level International Conferences to speak about Indigenous Peoples Rights and a way through to solve problems such as human rights, deforestation, climate change, economic and businesses. From April 2015 to March 2016, AMAN has participate in, among others: the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), World Economic Forum (WEF), Global Landscape Forum, UNFCCC COP 13 until COP 25, The Creative Time Summit, Global Land Forum – Land Rights Now!, The State of Rights and Resources, The Climate Summit, various High Level Conference Organized by the Ford Foundation; Forest for Climate: The Science. The Politics., UNESCO event: An Afternoon with Robert Redford: Storytelling for Global Action., Tropical Forest Alliance, etc.

At national level AMAN has engaged closely with different government entities resulted in Memorandum of Understandings/MoU with the National Commission on Human Rights, Ministry of Environment (now Ministry of Environment & Forestry) and the National Land Agency (now Ministry of Agrarian & Spatial Planning). The current achievements in the past 5 years at national level such as: (1) *The Constitutional Court Ruling No. 35 on Customary Forests*, (2) *Draft of Indigenous Peoples Act*, (3) *Inclusion of Indigenous Maps into the Government's One Map Initiative*, (4) *National Inquiry concerning Violations of Indigenous Land Rights in Forest Areas conducted by the National Commission on Human Rights*, (5) *The National Initiative Program on the Recognition and Protection of Indigenous Peoples launched by Vice President of Indonesia*, (6) *Vision and Mission of the President of Republic of Indonesia (known as NAWACITA) that includes six points towards the protection of Indigenous Peoples*, and (7) *The President's plan to create a special Task Force on Indigenous Peoples*.

In local level, AMAN is facilitating local governments in developing Local Regulations on Indigenous Peoples. AMAN also continuously facilitates the mapping of indigenous territories.

On the 22 December 2014, officially AMAN handed over 517 ancestral domain maps registered in Ancestral Domain Registration Agency (BRWA) to the REDD+ Agency and Ministry of Environment and Forestry, covering 4,822,000 million hectares of territories. On August 2015, AMAN submitted maps of 6,8 million hectares of Indigenous territories to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. Up to August 2020, we have mapped 11,2 million hectares of Indigenous territories all over Indonesia and have handed over to the Ministry of Forestry and Environment. This numbers are keep growing since many indigenous communities are now still in the process of mapping their territories. AMAN keep working with the Ministry and the Badan Informasi Geospasial (BIG – Geospatial Information Agency) to include the indigenous territories maps to the One Map Policy.

AMAN also working on *economy empowerment* for Indigenous Community, established *indigenous gallery* (including online) for indigenous products, *renewable energy program*, *media development* (such as community radios and streaming, citizen journalism-including website and social media, and newsletter etc.) and *cultural and education program*.

Until September 2021, The Indigenous Youth Homecoming Movement has resulted in the establishment of 82 Indigenous Schools in various places in Indonesia and brings more youth to return to their communities, protecting and managing their territories.

Based on the Decision of the Third National Strategic Meeting in Tumbang Malahoi, Central Kalimantan in 2013, AMAN also encourages its members to involve in politics. In the 2014 national election, AMAN supported 181 indigenous candidates from different communities to run for the election. 41 indigenous politicians successfully elected in different posts, as local, regional and national parliament and for the 2019 election, 163 Indigenous representatives are running for election. Up to date 34 indigenous politicians successfully elected in different posts, as local, regional and national parliament. In addition, since 2015 AMAN has intervened in the democratic process at the village level, starting from encouraging indigenous community cadres to be involved in contesting village head elections to designing development plans that accommodate the rights of indigenous peoples at the village level. The latest data for 2020, AMAN has 114 Village Heads, cadres of indigenous peoples who were successfully elected through elections at the village level.

As of September 2021, AMAN has been working to ensure the recognition of Indigenous Peoples at the national and local levels, contributing to the formation of 148 Local Laws consisting of 64 Local Regulations (Peraturan Daerah/PERDA), 82 Head of District Decrees (Keputusan Bupati) and 2 Head of District Regulations (Peraturan Bupati).

During the pandemic, AMAN established 108 Emergency Response Unit in community level, to support communities with prevention of pandemic outbreak and ensuring community food stock by increasing local food production. AMAN and Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia were able to prevent the Covid-19 spread in indigenous territory. AMAN has established 108 Emergency Response Units for Covid-19 (known as AMANKanCovid19) that has worked together with Indigenous Peoples to implement village lockdown, Rituals, ensuring dignified quarantine, organizing traditional healers and increasing food production during the first-period of the pandemic. The food sovereignty and economic movement carried out has succeeded in ensuring the formation of 118 business groups (agriculture, plantations, livestock, fisheries) in indigenous territories that contributed during the pandemic carried out by Indigenous Peoples, and as many as 1.781 people of whom came from indigenous youth and women.***