

Impact Seed Fund (ISF) 2026

Asia Tenggara Panduan

Wilayah: Negara-Negara di Asia Tenggara

Topik:
Hutan, Transparansi & Tata Kelola, Kelautan



Photo by Pham Van The, Vietnam, 2025



Photo by Ahmad Hidayat, Malaysia, 2025

Tentang Impact Seed Fund (ISF)

Pulitzer Center Impact Seed Fund (ISF) mendukung inisiatif pendidikan, penelitian dan keterlibatan komunitas akademik yang berfokus pada isu-isu yang disorot dalam jurnalisme yang didukung oleh Pulitzer Center.

Impact Seed Fund (ISF) adalah hibah skala mikro yang disediakan oleh Pulitzer Center untuk mendukung kegiatan pendidikan dan penelitian dengan tujuan memperkaya perspektif dan pengetahuan dalam komunitas universitas—khususnya dosen dan mahasiswa. Sentral dari program ini adalah penggunaan jurnalisme yang didukung Pulitzer Center dengan topik Iklim & Lingkungan sebagai sumber daya dan refleksi utama kegiatan yang diajukan. ISF memfasilitasi pemahaman yang lebih mendalam tentang masalah kompleks dengan menghubungkan pengetahuan empiris, kegiatan pembelajaran, dan liputan berbasis lapangan, serta mendorong eksplorasi solusi konstruktif yang mengatasi dampak aktivitas manusia terhadap hutan hujan, lautan, dan krisis iklim.

Kami ingin mendukung proyek-proyek yang menginspirasi perubahan perspektif, narasi, dan aksi, serta membangun komunitas yang lebih terinformasi dan berempati. Dengan memanfaatkan reportase yang didukung Pulitzer Center, ISF bertujuan untuk:

1. Meningkatkan kesadaran dan pemikiran kritis mahasiswa dan komunitas akademik tentang isu-isu kompleks terkait hutan hujan, lautan, dan krisis iklim, termasuk dampaknya pada komunitas rentan. Hal Ini mendorong komunitas akademik untuk mengeksplorasi solusi inovatif guna mengatasi dampak tersebut
2. Memfasilitasi mahasiswa dan dosen untuk mengambil tindakan dan mendorong perubahan dalam melindungi lingkungan serta hak-hak mereka yang paling terdampak oleh kerusakan lingkungan



Photo by Pham Van The, Vietnam, 2025

ISF dirancang agar fleksibel dan responsif terhadap kebutuhan dosen dan komunitas, memungkinkan pelamar untuk menciptakan aktivitas yang berkaitan dengan isu-isu mendesak tentang iklim dan lingkungan yang relevan dengan konteks lokal.

Diluncurkan pada tahun 2022 di Indonesia, ISF telah memperluas cakupannya ke Amerika Latin, Afrika, dan wilayah lainnya.

Jurnalisme sebagai inti dari proyek yang diusulkan: Dengan dukungan dari Pulitzer Center, jurnalis di seluruh dunia telah menghasilkan liputan jurnalistik terobosan yang mengeksplorasi isu-isu sistemik yang jarang dilaporkan dan mempengaruhi hutan hujan, lautan, serta keterkaitannya dengan perubahan iklim, tenaga kerja, dan komunitas dalam situasi rentan. Dengan analisis mendalam, visual berkualitas tinggi, dan wawasan berbasis data, reportase ini mengubah isu-isu kompleks menjadi narasi yang menarik dan relevan, menjadikannya sebagai materi pendidikan dan komunikasi yang sangat baik untuk proyek-proyek yang didanai ISF. **Semua proposal harus menggunakan setidaknya satu liputan jurnalistik yang dibuat oleh jurnalis yang didukung oleh Pulitzer Center dan menjelaskan bagaimana liputan tersebut akan relevan dalam proyek yang diusulkan.**





Tujuan

Kami percaya pada kekuatan pengetahuan—peran peneliti dan dosen dalam menangani isu-isu multidisiplin tentang topik sosial dan lingkungan. Oleh karena itu, ISF dirancang untuk menyediakan pendanaan awal kepada para dosen dan peneliti di berbagai wilayah untuk meningkatkan kesadaran tentang isu-isu penting dalam komunitas mereka di seluruh dunia dan berkontribusi pada perubahan positif yang diinginkan. ISF memberikan dukungan skala mikro untuk:

1. Mengintegrasikan Jurnalisme ke dalam Pengajaran dan Penelitian

Mendukung integrasi sistematis dan refleksi kritis dari wawasan yang diperoleh dari liputan jurnalistik yang didukung oleh Pulitzer Center, termasuk materi kreatif seperti film dokumenter, foto, podcast, infografis, dan visualisasi data, ke dalam kurikulum, keterlibatan mahasiswa, desain penelitian, dan publikasi ilmiah.

2. Mengolah Liputan Jurnalistik Menjadi Riset, Panel Saintifik dan Dialog Publik

Mendorong penggunaan temuan-temuan kunci, kumpulan data, dan metodologi dari jurnalisme yang didukung Pulitzer Center untuk memberikan informasi pada penelitian, studi perbandingan, Dialog Kebijakan, dan proses pengambilan keputusan.

3. Memperkuat Kolaborasi Lintas Sektor

Membangun dan memperluas kolaborasi berkelanjutan antara universitas, jurnalis, masyarakat adat dan masyarakat yang terdampak, serta lembaga lokal. Mendasarkan kemitraan ini pada irisan prioritas bersama untuk memajukan pembelajaran yang bermakna, memfasilitasi pertukaran ide antar sistem pengetahuan dan mendukung solusi responsif secara lokal.

“ Meningkatkan kesadaran dan pemikiran kritis siswa dan dosen tentang isu-isu kompleks yang berkaitan dengan hutan tropis, lautan, dan krisis iklim, termasuk dampaknya terhadap komunitas rentan, dan mendorong eksplorasi solusi dan inovasi untuk mengatasi dampak tersebut.”

Siapa yang dapat mendaftar?



Pelamar harus merupakan dosen atau peneliti universitas yang bernaung di institusi akademik.



Pelamar dapat mengusulkan proyek secara konsorsium dengan dosen dari satu atau lebih universitas.

Persyaratan

- Proposal harus melibatkan dan menggunakan setidaknya **satu liputan oleh jurnalis yang didukung oleh Pulitzer Center**. Silakan merujuk pada lampiran panduan untuk melihat daftar liputan terkurasi untuk Asia Tenggara yang dapat digunakan. Jika pelamar ingin menelusuri liputan secara mandiri, anda dapat mengikuti petunjuk di bawah:
 - **Untuk topik Hutan Hujan:** Para pelamar perlu menelusuri liputan-liputan dari [Rainforest Investigations Network](#) dan [Rainforest Reporting Initiative](#).
 - **Untuk topik Kelautan:** Para pelamar perlu menelusuri liputan-liputan dari [Ocean Reporting Network](#).
 - **Untuk topik Transparansi dan Tata Kelola:** [Transparency and Governance | Pulitzer Center](#)
 - *Contohnya meliputi: kolaborasi dengan jurnalis jaringan Pulitzer Center dalam desain kegiatan setelah proposal disetujui; pemanfaatan data/informasi penting dari pelaporan jurnalis dalam hasil atau kegiatan proposal.*
- Kegiatan tersebut harus memberikan **dampak yang diharapkan kepada khalayak di komunitas akademik** (mahasiswa atau dosen/peneliti) dan masyarakat sipil yang selaras dengan satu atau kedua hasil berikut:
 - Meningkatkan kesadaran dan pemikiran kritis siswa dan dosen tentang isu-isu kompleks yang berkaitan dengan hutan tropis, lautan, dan krisis iklim, termasuk dampaknya terhadap komunitas rentan, dan mendorong eksplorasi solusi dan inovasi untuk mengatasi dampak tersebut.
 - Membekali mahasiswa dan dosen untuk mengambil tindakan dan mendorong perubahan guna memupuk perlindungan wacana sosial dan lingkungan serta hak-hak mereka yang paling terdampak oleh kerusakan sosial dan lingkungan.
- Lihat [detail persyaratan](#) atau panduan selengkapnya tentang informasi Asia Tenggara, Brasil, dan Afrika di bagian atas halaman ini.
- Idealnya, proyek-proyek akan berkolaborasi dengan komunitas yang paling terdampak; misalnya, merancang ide bersama dengan komunitas adat, pemimpin masyarakat adat, atau organisasi lokal yang bekerja langsung dengan kelompok masyarakat dengan situasi rentan; kolaborasi dengan universitas-universitas kecil di daerah setempat.
- Proyek wajib menunjukkan komitmen yang kuat serta implementasi nyata terhadap prinsip Keberagaman, Kesetaraan, dan Inklusi (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion/DEI). Silakan merujuk pada [Pernyataan DEI](#) dari Pulitzer Center untuk informasi lebih lanjut.

Menghubungkan Jurnalisme dengan Dunia Akademis dan Program Pendidikan

Penggunaan jurnalisme sudah cukup lumrah untuk mendukung dunia akademis dan kegiatan pembelajaran. Banyak liputan dan materi berita dimanfaatkan sebagai literatur non-ilmiah *Grey Literature*,¹ yang seringkali sangat penting sebagai pendorong trigger diskusi akademik dan studi kasus kontekstual. Literatur non-ilmiah dalam hal ini liputan jurnalistik memiliki nilai substansial dalam memperkaya analisis, menyediakan konteks empiris lapangan dan membuka pertanyaan kritis.

ISF ingin mendukung inisiatif seperti ini dimana contoh penggunaan jurnalisme dan liputan pada project yang kami dukung seringkali menghubungkan jurnalisme dengan kegiatan pendidikan dalam pendekatan berikut:

- 1 Mengangkat poin kritis utama dalam liputan sebagai dasar perumusan pertanyaan studi atau topik diskusi kelas.
- 2 Mengurai dimensi struktural tentang isu yang diangkat dari sebuah liputan jurnalistik (aktor, kebijakan, relasi kuasa, dampak sosial-ekologis).
- 3 Mengembangkan refleksi kritis pada isu yang diangkat pada liputan jurnalistik dengan teori-teori empiris sehingga menghasilkan rekomendasi yang berbasis pengetahuan. Mendorong mahasiswa untuk melakukan refleksi kritis terhadap isu yang diangkat pada sebuah liputan jurnalistik.
- 4 Mengembangkan output akademik atau publik berbasis jurnalisme dan analisis ilmiah.
- 5 Mengaitkan *insights* kunci pada liputan jurnalistik pada mata kuliah/topik di lintas ilmu interdisipliner, sehingga satu liputan dapat dibaca menggunakan perspektif ilmu yang berbeda seperti hukum, antropologi, lingkungan, studi pembangunan, ekonomi, dsb.

“Dengan pendekatan ini, jurnalisme tidak hanya berfungsi sebagai sumber informasi, tetapi sebagai katalisator pembelajaran kritis dan produksi pengetahuan yang relevan secara sosial.”

¹ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library, “Grey Literature,” University of Illinois Library Guides, menjelaskan bahwa grey literature mencakup materi yang berada di luar sistem publikasi akademik atau komersial tradisional dan umumnya tidak melalui proses peer review termasuk media, sumber-sumber, dokumen, data-data, dsb. Meskipun demikian, literatur ini sering dimanfaatkan dalam penelitian untuk menyediakan data empiris, konteks kebijakan, dan perspektif lapangan yang melengkapi publikasi ilmiah terindeks. Diakses 21 Februari 2026, <https://guides.library.illinois.edu/c.php?g=1310347&p=9630537>.



Besaran Dana

ISF Asia Tenggara berkisar antara USD \$3,000 hingga \$4.000, bervariasi menurut wilayah. Kami mengharapkan proyek dapat diimplementasikan dalam waktu enam bulan setelah disetujui.

Proyek yang telah ISF Danai

- Proyek kolaboratif dengan jurnalis yang didukung oleh Pulitzer Center atau kelompok dosen multidisiplin.
- Proyek kolaboratif dengan komunitas lokal yang paling terdampak (CSO, Masyarakat Adat), contoh kegiatan misalnya; survei lapangan, kegiatan pertukaran pengetahuan, pembelajaran imersif bagi mahasiswa, ekspedisi keanekaragaman hayati, dan pelatihan jurnalisisme warga.
- Integrasi elemen jurnalisisme yang didukung Pulitzer Center ke dalam materi pengajaran, mata kuliah atau silabus baru, debat kampus, hackathon tentang isu-isu sosial, debat yang dipimpin mahasiswa, dan dialog
- Dukungan untuk dialog multi-pemangku kepentingan, diskusi kelompok fokus dengan pembuat kebijakan terkait, seri webinar, seminar.
- Produksi dan penyebaran konten visual untuk mendukung alat bantu pembelajaran (video pendek, film dokumenter, podcast)
- Pameran kecil di kampus, seperti pameran foto atau pemutaran film yang menampilkan isu yang diangkat liputan di Pulitzer Center.
- Lokakarya jurnalistik untuk klub pers mahasiswa
- Kegiatan komunikasi untuk meningkatkan kesadaran publik terkait dengan isu dan topik yang diangkat pada liputan yang didukung Pulitzer Center.
- Dukungan untuk kegiatan penelitian: studi cepat, makalah putih, rekomendasi kebijakan.
- Dukungan untuk seminar, simposium, dan kegiatan ilmiah yang mendorong kolaborasi dan sinergi antar peneliti pada isu-isu yang diangkat pada liputan yang didukung Pulitzer Center.



Cara Mendaftar



Semua pelamar harus mengajukan proposal melalui platform [Submittable](#).



Bagi pelamar dari Asia Tenggara yang perlu mengajukan aplikasi dalam bahasa lokal, pastikan untuk mengirimkan aplikasi melalui tautan yang sesuai:

- [Bahasa Inggris](#)
- [Bahasa Indonesia](#)

Dokumen dan Informasi yang Perlu Dipersiapkan:

- Nama dan detail kontak lainnya
- Judul proyek
- Penjelasan tentang proyek yang diusulkan
- Elaborasi penggunaan liputan jurnalistik yang didukung Pulitzer Center
- Target audiens
- Penjelasan tentang dampak yang diharapkan
- Strategi atau metodologi untuk memastikan keberhasilan proyek
- Anggaran yang diusulkan
- Rincian anggaran, termasuk hasil atau aktivitas yang terkait, beserta unit dan harga
- Rincian linimasa pelaksanaan proyek
- Persetujuan dari komunitas lokal jika proyek melibatkan mereka
- Rencana awal produksi konten (jika ada), termasuk referensi dan strategi distribusi konten
- CV pemimpin proyek, termasuk tiga referensi profesional

Pastikan semua dokumen dan informasi disiapkan dengan lengkap sebelum mengajukan aplikasi.



Penerima ISF 2025

Dengan bangga kami informasikan penerima dana ISF di tahun 2025, yang kami harapkan dapat memberikan gambaran mengenai project-project ISF yang telah memberikan dampak pada komunitas mereka.

Tanggal Penting:

- **Tenggat Pengajuan Proposal**
3 Mei, 2026
- **Proses Seleksi**
4-22 Mei 2026
- **Pengumuman**
28 Mei 2026
- **Proses Kontrak**
1-5 Juni 2026
- **Implementasi Proyek**
8 Juni - 7 Desember 2026
- **Pelaporan**
15 Januari 2027

KONTAK

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	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Thailand	Payuun: Saving Thailand's Last Dugongs	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/payuun-saving-thailands-last-dugongs	Mailee Osten-Tan; Nicolas Axelrod	In 2024, 41 dead dugongs (or payuun in Thai) washed up on Thai shores. Experts predict that there are less than 120 left in the country. Why? Thailand's coastal seagrass patches - the dugongs' main food source - are vanishing fast, and Thailand is the first country in the world where a definitive link between climate change, seagrass, and dugong death is being made. Limited seagrass is also impacting dugongs' migratory patterns. Before late 2024, dugongs were almost never seen in unprotected areas such as Phuket. For months, Theerasak "Pop" Saksritawee, an amateur conservationist, has been monitoring one dugong in particular who has chosen to settle temporarily in Tanken Bay. Pop has fondly named him "Miracle". Through a short documentary film and accompanying feature article, filmmakers Mailee Osten-Tan and Nicolas Axelrod follow Pop as he supports a government working group of scientists to understand what is happening to Thai seagrass and whether it is still possible to save Thailand's last dugongs.	Video, Article	2026
	Thailand's Favorite Fish Is Vanishing; Our Appetite is To Blame	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/thailands-favorite-fish-vanishing-our-appetite-blame	Aidan Jones	"Pla Tu" (mackerel) is Thailand's favorite fish; a once plentiful source of protein for millions who seek out the freshest, fattiest fish for hot oily curries, a cheap meal smoked and flaked into fried rice. But the nation's favorite fish is running out, thanks to trawlers scraping the shallows where the fish uniquely breed in the Gulf of Thailand. At dawn outside a temple on the Mae Khlong River, fishermen return from the Gulf with their catch each morning, complaining it's diminishing. Yet 11 tonnes of fish were caught on average each day in the Gulf of Thailand in 2022. up from 8 tonnes the year before.	Short Documentary Video, Pictures	2023

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Indonesia	Shrimp Estate: Missed Targets, Losses for Small Farmers, and Poorly Managed Waste Systems	https://jaring.id/pr oyek-shrimp-estate-bubk-kebumen/	Abdus Somad	Indonesia’s flagship Shrimp Estate project in Kebumen has displaced local shrimp farmers and failed to meet its promised targets, leaving small producers without compensation, unable to compete with estate-produced shrimp, and facing severe income losses. A collaborative investigation by Jaring.id, Tempo, and Bloomberg Businessweek found the project plagued by poor planning, damaged infrastructure, funding shortfalls, and inadequate wastewater management, with water tests showing elevated pollution risks. Despite being promoted as a model for modern, sustainable aquaculture, the project has stalled amid governance uncertainty and environmental concerns, even as the government pushes ahead with plans for larger shrimp farming developments elsewhere.		2026
	Traditional Conservation Models in Wondama Bay, West Papua	https://p ulitzercen ter.org/pr ojects/traditional-conservation-models-wondama-bay-west-papua	Dominggus Mampioper; Engelberth Wally; Victor Mambor; Alberth Yomo; Leonard Ohee	In this project, Jubi, a local news outlet in West Papua, Indonesia, will explore the marine ecosystem around Teluk Wondama and the contribution of local Indigenous communities through sasi (a traditional conservation model) in relation to the marine ecosystem, blue carbon, and the blue economy. Journalists will examine the Indigenous communities’ smart practices in implementing sasi and the challenges they face in protecting their marine environment. Additionally, this project will explore the role of environmental organizations and the government in safeguarding Teluk Cenderawasih National Park, which is one of Indonesia’s richest and most diverse marine ecosystems.	Article	2025

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Indonesia	The Dark Side of the Natuna and Arafura Seas	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/dark-side-natuna-and-arafura-seas	Abdus Somad, Yosea Arga Pramudita	Indonesia, one of the world's top fishery producers, is facing accusations of illegal fishing by major companies that exceed quotas without consequences. Satellite images show vessels from Indonesia, Hong Kong, Australia, and China fishing in Papua New Guinea's waters and the Arafura Sea, while Vietnamese, Chinese, and Thai vessels operate illegally in the Natuna Sea. Among them, Antesena 827 and Naga Mas Perkasa, linked to PT Pusaka Bejina Resource—despite its revoked license—are still fishing and reportedly docking at a port owned by businessman Tommy Winata. Other companies, including PT Bandar Nelayan, PT Dua Putra Perkasa Pratama, and PT Insan Gemilang Pualam, linked to politicians, are also involved, raising concerns over who truly benefits from these illegal activities.	Pictures, Infographics	2024
	Wave of Change: The Fate of Indonesia's Workers Amid Marine Heatwaves and Extractivism	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/wave-change-fate-indonesia-workers-amid-marine-heatwaves-and-extractivism	Adi Renaldi, Asad Asnawi	Indonesia ranks among the top producers and suppliers of fisheries products worldwide. But Indonesia is facing challenges ahead, from marine heatwaves due to the climate crisis to over-fishing. This project aims to show how marine heatwaves and the climate crisis impact fishery industries and the workers.	Pictures	2025

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Indonesia	The Abandoned Homes of Indonesia's Tsunami Survivors	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/abandoned-homes-indonesia-s-tsunami-survivors	Leila Goldstein	After the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, which killed nearly 250,000 people, massive international aid funded permanent housing for survivors in Aceh, Indonesia. However, at least half of these homes have since been abandoned, as trauma, broken social ties, and limited economic and educational opportunities drove residents away. This project explores why, nearly 20 years later, many tsunami settlements stand empty.	Article	2024
Philippines	The Ocean's Invisible Pollutants	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/oceans-invisible-pollutants	Aryn Baker	We've seen the photos: the Pacific garbage patch, turtles choking on straws, oil spills visible from space. But it is the invisible forms of ocean pollution—microscopic plastic particles, sound, toxic forever chemicals, and insidious viruses and bacteria that hitchhike along the world's shipping lanes—that most threaten marine life, with consequences for human health. And the most pernicious form of plastic pollution isn't found in the ocean at all. It is located in the corridors of power in global capitals, as the fossil fuel industry, threatened by the rise of renewable energies, seeks to reinvent itself with increased plastic production.	Map, Infographic, Graphic, Short Video, Short Documentary Video	2023
Indonesia	The Abandoned Homes of Indonesia's Tsunami Survivors	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/abandoned-homes-indonesia-s-tsunami-survivors	Leila Goldstein	After the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, which killed nearly 250,000 people, massive international aid funded permanent housing for survivors in Aceh, Indonesia. However, at least half of these homes have since been abandoned, as trauma, broken social ties, and limited economic and educational opportunities drove residents away. This project explores why, nearly 20 years later, many tsunami settlements stand empty.	Article	2024

Transparency and Governance

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Philippines	The Ocean's Invisible Pollutants	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/oceans-invisible-pollutants	Aryn Baker	We've seen the photos: the Pacific garbage patch, turtles choking on straws, oil spills visible from space. But it is the invisible forms of ocean pollution—microscopic plastic particles, sound, toxic forever chemicals, and insidious viruses and bacteria that hitchhike along the world's shipping lanes—that most threaten marine life, with consequences for human health. And the most pernicious form of plastic pollution isn't found in the ocean at all. It is located in the corridors of power in global capitals, as the fossil fuel industry, threatened by the rise of renewable energies, seeks to reinvent itself with increased plastic production.	Map, Infographic, Graphic, Short Video, Short Documentary Video	2023

Transparency and Governance

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Indonesia	Ecocide of the Tin Islands: Corruption, Environmental Collapse, and Community	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/ecocide-tin-islands-corruption-environmental-collapse-and-community	Nopri Ismi; Finlan Adhitya Aldan	Centuries of tin mining have caused severe environmental destruction in Indonesia's Bangka Belitung Islands, one of the world's largest tin-producing regions. The industry depends heavily on tens of thousands of artisanal miners working without permits or safety protections, whose illegal tin is mixed into the global supply chain. Recent corruption crackdowns have exposed deep inequalities in this system, leaving miners and rural communities without livelihoods while their land and seas are left polluted and barren. This project examines the crisis through the lens of ecocide, linking local social collapse to global demand—particularly from international markets such as China—that continues to drive environmental and human devastation.	Short Documentary Video, Pictures	2026
	Carbon Trading and Its Impact on Indigenous Peoples and Forests	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/carbon-trading-and-its-impact-indigenous-peoples-and-forests	Adi Renaldi	The Joko Widodo administration in Indonesia passed the Presidential Decree No. 98 in 2021 on Carbon Economic Value Management, which grants private companies exclusive rights to manage carbon trading schemes. Since then, multinational companies have bought carbon credits through such projects across the country, yet questions about inclusivity and fairness persist. During COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, Indonesia reiterated its commitment in reducing emissions to achieve net zero by 2060 or sooner, positioning carbon trading as a cornerstone strategy. However, experts and activists argue that privatization-driven approaches risk perpetuating conflicts with local communities due to overlapping regulations, insufficient recognition of Indigenous rights, and a lack of transparency and accountability.	Article	2026

Transparency and Governance

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Indonesia	Beyond Climate: Java's North Coast Sinking Faster Amid Industrial Projects	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/beyond-climate-javas-north-coast-sinking-faster-amid-industrial-projects	Furqon Ulya Himawan	Java's North Coast is rapidly sinking due to land subsidence and rising sea levels, intensifying tidal floods that could submerge many villages by mid-century – possibly even sooner than predicted. Despite being promoted as “green” development, large industrial projects such as Special Economic Zones and National Strategic Projects are accused of causing ecocide through widespread environmental destruction. The consequences are already severe: worsening floods, coastal erosion, and the loss of livelihoods for fishermen and farmers across East, Central, and West Java. This project investigates how global-driven industrial development is accelerating the Pantura crisis and highlights growing calls to halt these projects to protect vulnerable communities from further harm.	Articles, Maps	2025
	Displacement of the O'Hongana Manyawa Tribe in Halmahera	https://pulitzercenter.org/id/projects/penyingkiran-suku-ohongana-manyawa-di-halmahera	Achmad Rizki Muazam; Irfan Maulana	The O'Hongana Manyawa, an Indigenous tribe on Indonesia's Halmahera Island, are being displaced by large-scale nickel mining that has destroyed their forests, homes, and food sources. This reporting project investigates their struggle to survive amid the growing exploitation of their ancestral lands.	Article, Documentary	2025
	Corruption, Influence Trading, and Deforestation	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/corruption-influence-trading-and-deforestation	Margareth Aritonang	Prabowo Subianto won Indonesia's presidency after years of political setbacks, including military dismissal over human rights allegations and a period of self-exile. His victory has raised concerns about democratic backsliding, making scrutiny of his business interests and influence networks key to understanding the nature of his future government.	Article	2024

Transparency and Governance

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Vietnam/Mekong	Fast and Dubious: How Electric Cars Are Tiring the Mekong	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/fast-and-dubious-how-electric-cars-are-tiring-mekong	Vo Kieu Bao Uyen; Kannikar Petchkaew; Meng Kroypunlok; Konlaphat Siri; Paritta Wangkiat; Alan Parkhouse; Ye Yuan; Cheng-Ting (Tim) Wu; Thanh Hue; Supasin Kreecharoen; George Graham; Trang Bui	Electric vehicles are rapidly reshaping transport across Southeast Asia, but the global shift to cleaner energy carries hidden costs: heavier EVs wear out tires faster, driving rising demand for natural rubber. The Mekong region—producing about half of the world’s rubber—has seen rapid plantation expansion since the early 2000s, often replacing forests with monocultures despite falling prices. This has led to biodiversity loss, weakened carbon sinks, increased flooding risks, and widespread land dispossession affecting Indigenous and rural communities. As governments, companies, and civil society push for better traceability and accountability, this Mekong Eye investigation, in collaboration with regional partners, the Earth Journalism Network, and the Pulitzer Center, reveals how problematic rubber still enters global EV tire supply chains and explores efforts to make “green” cars genuinely sustainable.	Article	2026
Myanmar	Suffering Amid Natural Resource Plunder	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/suffering-amid-natural-resource-plunder	Esther J	For nearly a decade, Chinese-linked mining companies have operated large-scale copper mines in Myanmar’s Sagaing Region, fueling long-standing conflicts with local communities. Tensions intensified after the 2021 military coup, as workers joined anti-coup protests and armed conflict spread to the area. Since 2022, the junta has used mining infrastructure for military purposes,	Articles	2026

Transparency and Governance

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Myanmar				carried out raids and arson in nearby villages, and provided security for the company, trapping communities and forcing repeated displacement. After mining resumed in 2024, regular military convoys and clearance operations—often involving shelling and gunfire—have left residents fleeing their homes again and again, caught between the military and resistance forces, with no lasting safety or stability.		
Laos	Smoking for the State	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/smoking-state	Jason McLure	Tobacco kills more than 8 million people each year, and while multinational corporations are often blamed, governments themselves play a major role in the global cigarette industry. Many states own significant shares in tobacco companies—some as majority stakeholders—creating a direct financial interest in cigarette sales even as public health agencies urge citizens to quit. This investigation by The Examination, in collaboration with Der Spiegel and Initium, explores how these conflicts of interest influence tobacco policies in countries where governments are deeply invested in the industry.	Article	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Cambodia	Conflicted Conservation for Cambodia's Indigenous Peoples	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/conflicted-conservation-cambodias-indigenous-peoples	Jack Brook, Choulay Mech	Cambodia's Indigenous communities have legal rights to collective land ownership, but in practice, government policies and exclusionary conservation efforts have hindered their ability to secure communal forests. Many communities face land disputes, restrictive law enforcement, and a growing debt crisis fueled by World Bank-funded microfinance, which pressures them to seek private land titles instead of communal ownership. As Indigenous lands are increasingly used as collateral for risky loans, collective conservation efforts weaken, accelerating land loss and deforestation in provinces like Monduliri, Ratanakiri, and Kratie. This investigation will uncover how conflicting development agendas and restrictive policies undermine Indigenous land security while also highlighting grassroots efforts to preserve cultural and environmental heritage.	Pictures, Graphics, Map	2024
	Unwilling To Be Silenced, a Cambodian Environmental Activist Readies for Prison	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/unwilling-be-silenced-cambodian-environmental-activist-readies-prison	Andy Ball, Marta Kasztelan	Cambodian environmental activist Ly Chandaravuth, a 24-year-old law student and member of Mother Nature Cambodia, was arrested while testing river pollution in Phnom Penh and charged with plotting against the government. Facing up to a decade in prison, he has endured state surveillance and growing repression against activists exposing environmental destruction and corruption.	Documentary Video,	2024

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Cambodia				Despite the risks, Chandaravuth continues his investigations into illegal logging and rainforest destruction while preparing for possible incarceration. His group recently won the Right Livelihood Award, but uncertainty looms over whether he and his colleagues can travel to Sweden to accept it without facing government retaliation.		
	Cambodian Forests Under Threats	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/cambodian-forests-under-threats	Anton Delgado	As a Rainforest Investigations Network Fellow, Anton Delgado is continuing his investigation into how macaques from Cambodia are being illegally traded. He is further expanding his previous coverage into environmental violations on the border with Vietnam and Laos and the role of Cambodia's biodiversity preservation policy.	Pictures, Map	2023
	When a Flooded Forest Is Drowning	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/when-flooded-forest-drowning	Marta Kasztelan, Andy Ball	This reporting project highlights the cumulative impacts of upstream Mekong River dams in China and Laos on Cambodia's Stung Treng flooded forest. Designated as a Ramsar site because of its exceptional biodiversity and uniqueness, it is home to endangered bird and fish species. But the forest is dying, and its demise will affect fisheries in all of Cambodia as it offers critical food supplies and a breeding site for migratory fish.	Pictures, Map	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Cambodia				Located in northeastern Cambodia, the sprawling Stung Treng flooded forest once could dry out and replenish once the monsoon rains stopped. The cyclical release of water from upstream dams during the dry season—allegedly without consultation with downstream nations—has rendered that impossible and will likely lead to the complete eradication of the region's biodiversity.		
Indonesia	Deforestasi, Pertanian, Pertambangan, dan Pembangunan Memicu Wabah Malaria	https://pulitzercenter.org/id/projects/deforestasi-pertanian-pertambangan-dan-pembangunan-memicu-wabah-malaria	Eko Rusdianto	Since construction of Indonesia's new capital, Nusantara (IKN), began in 2022, more than 256,000 hectares of forest have been cleared, increasing the risk of malaria transmission as deforestation and population movement expand mosquito habitats. Outdoor workers and incoming migrants may accelerate the spread of Plasmodium knowlesi, a monkey-borne malaria already documented in neighboring Malaysia, which shares the same ecological zone as East Kalimantan. With Kalimantan accounting for nearly 60% of Indonesia's total forest loss—East Kalimantan the hardest hit—the project raises serious public health concerns.	Article	2026

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	
Indonesia	Illegal Oil Palm Land Bleaching in Forest Areas in Indonesia	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/illegal-oil-palm-land-bleaching-forest-areas-indonesia	Aditya Budiman	This collaborative investigation by several Indonesian media outlets will examine illegal oil palm land bleaching in forest areas across Riau, West Kalimantan, South Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan, and Jakarta. Through in-depth field reporting, investigations, and data-driven visual storytelling, the project aims to uncover the key actors behind the policy, identify who benefits from it, and document the scale of forest damage caused by illegal oil palm plantations.	Article	2024
	Illegal Gold Mining in Kerinci Seblat National Park	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/illegal-gold-mining-kerinci-seblat-national-park	Suwandi Wendy	<p>This project reveals the actors of illegal gold mining: local businessmen in Merangin Regency and Merangin Regency DPRD members who are financiers of illegal gold mining.</p> <p>Villagers who have been controlled by illegal gold mining actors in Kerinci Seblat National Park have acted anarchically. They blocked the national road, the only access to Kerinci-Merangin, to undermine law enforcement. The police were forced to release a number of illegal gold miners who were arrested because the community's roadblocks had caused congestion and cut off access to land transportation.</p>	Pictures, Map	2024

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	
Indonesia	The Dilemma of Indigenous Forest Status	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/dilemma-indigenous-forest-status	Irma Tambunan, Erika Kurnia, Sucipto Cipto, Dionisius Reynaldo Triwibowo (Aldo)	<p>The recognition of customary forests in Indonesia still has many problems. As of December 2022, the Indigenous Territory Registration Agency has registered 1,167 maps of Indigenous territories with an area of 21.3 million hectares covering Indigenous territories in 29 provinces and 142 districts/cities. The Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) noted that throughout 2022 the government had only succeeded in establishing 105 customary forests with an area of 148,488 hectares.</p> <p>However, Indigenous people also feel that their rights and requests have not been fully fulfilled because an area of 2,400 hectares of Indigenous territories is instead used by the government for a number of social forestry schemes, including village forests, community forests, community plantation forests, and partnerships.</p>	Pictures, Map, Short Documentary Video, Infographic	2023
	Protecting the Forest and Water Resources of Small Islands	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/protecting-forest-and-water-resources-small-islands	Palce Amalo	Three small islands in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), namely Semau, Rote and Timor, have springs that never dry up throughout the year. The springs are Uiasa on Semau, Lelain and Oemau on Rote, and Adang, Kabola, and Nostalgia on Alor Island.	Pictures, Short Documentary Video, Infographic	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	
Indonesia				The preservation of forests on these three islands has helped to maintain groundwater stocks so that the need for clean water for drinking, sanitation, and irrigation can be met. Information on the condition of forests and water sources on these three small islands was obtained from research and interviews with geology experts from Nusa Cendana University Kupang, the rector of Tribuana University Alor, and village officials.		
	Degradation of Mangrove Forests in Indonesia	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/degredation-mangrove-forests-indonesia	Tonggo Simangunsong, Dewantoro, Haryadi Klik, Suryadi M Nur	<p>This project is an in-depth report on the triggers, impacts, and solutions to mangrove degradation in Indonesia, using the provinces of West Kalimantan, South Sumatra, and Riau as case studies.</p> <p>Riau represents the province with the largest mangrove forest on the island of Sumatra, and the province of North Sumatra has extensive damage with complex problems ranging from land tenure for oil palm plantations and fish ponds. The third province, West Kalimantan, has the largest mangrove forest in Indonesia.</p>	Pictures, Map, Short Documentary Video	2023

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	
Indonesia	National Food Estate Program Destroying Indonesia's Small Islands	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/national-food-estate-program-destroying-indonesias-small-islands	Ahmad Arif, Saiful Rijal Yunus, Fransiskus Pati Herin, Yola Sastra	<p>Indonesia is an archipelagic country blessed with a diversity of biological resources, including food. For thousands of years, the islands have enjoyed a food culture that's adaptive to the local environment.</p> <p>However, the extraction of natural resources and centralized food policies have hurt this local food system. As a result, people on small islands are increasingly dependent on food shipments from outside, which has led to a decline in food security along with the destruction of the local ecosystem.</p>	Pictures, Infographic, Graphic	2023
	Illegal Logging Practices in the Southern Part of West Sumatra	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/illegal-logging-practices-southern-part-west-sumatra	Vinolia Achmad, Mona Triana	<p>Kerinci Seblat National Park (TNKS) along with Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) and Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park (TNBBS) were designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 2004. However, due to the high threat to the integrity of the national park areas, IUCN-UNESCO recommended TNKS, TNGI, and TNBBS be included in the World Heritage in Danger list in 2011.</p> <p>The decline in forest cover in this area, especially TNKS, is thought to be due to massive illegal activities in the form of illegal logging. In West Sumatra, this illegal activity is acute in the TNKS area in Pesisir Selatan Regency. As a result, the southernmost district of West Sumatra is subject to flooding.</p>	Pictures, Short Documentary Video	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	
Indonesia	Palm Oil in Senunsur Sembulu	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/palm-oil-senunsur-sembulu	Dini Pramita, Abdus Somad, Alyaa Alhadjri	<p>Senunsur Sembulu II Protected Forest Area is located in East Belitung Regency, Bangka Belitung Islands. This protected forest area is a natural habitat for three important endemic animals, namely the binturong (<i>Arctictis binturong</i>), and pangolin (<i>Manis javanica</i>). It is also the remaining habitat for the Bangka tarsier or mentilin (<i>Cephalopachus bancanus</i>). These three endemic animals are designated as protected animals in the Indonesia's Minister of Environment and Forestry Regulation No. P.20/MENLHK/SETJEN/KUM.1/6/2018.</p> <p>All three are also endangered and on the radar of The International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN Red List). Based on the latest IUCN assessment, February 6, 2016, the binturong is categorized as vulnerable due to its dwindling population in the wild. The Bangka tarsier is in the same position with a population of 19-20 individuals per square kilometer as of the last observation on 22 November 2015. Meanwhile, over the past 21 years, the rate of decline in the population of mackerel has continued to fall by 80 percent.</p>	Pictures, Infographic, Map, Videographic, Illustration, Graphic	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Indonesia	Indonesia's Indigenous Customary Forest	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/indonesia-indigenous-customary-forest	Peter Yeung	<p>Indonesia is home to millions of hectares of forest, 12% of the world's mammals, and a dizzying array of Indigenous peoples. However, as the nation of 280 million develops, that forest—which plays a crucial role in keeping the earth's ecosystem in balance—is quickly being destroyed through mining, logging, plantations and infrastructure building.</p> <p>But at the start of 2017, more than 13,000 hectares of customary land was handed over to nine Indigenous communities across the country, recognizing their longstanding good stewardship and management of forests. This scheme could provide a sustainable solution to the country's future development.</p>	Pictures, Graphic	2023
Thailand	Our World Heritage in Danger?: A Close Look Into Thailand's Natural World Heritage Sites and Challenges	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/our-world-heritage-danger-close-look-thailands-natural-world-heritage-sites-and-challenges	Piyaporn Wongruang, Pattaraporn Sritongtae	Having been designated as Natural World Heritage Sites, Thailand's most valued forests are highly expected from the public that they can retain their ecological values that meet global recognition and the context of the new Global Biodiversity Framework.	Pictures, Infographic, Film Document ary	2024

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Thailand				<p>However, the three sites—Thungyai-Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuaries, Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex, and Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex—have been facing pressure from highly charged threats, from sophisticated poaching to unsound state development, to a decades-long land rights conflict, prompting their world heritage statuses and conservation work to be critically challenged.</p>		
	The Complexity of Thailand's Northern Wildfire Crisis	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/complexity-thailands-northern-wildfire-crisis	Molecule Jongwilai, Patchar Duangklad, Pitshaya Chonato, Pimpatipan Angkharuengrattana, Ploythida Ketkaew, Paris Jitpentom	<p>The wildfire is one of the most severe environmental issues Thailand has faced, especially in the northern region. Many specialists have suggested that this crisis is a main contributor to the haze pollution issue, including the high concentration levels of PM2.5. It has been acknowledged that every type of wildfire and burning in agricultural areas mostly situated next to the forest is a critical problem that needs to be handled or prevented from happening.</p> <p>There are numerous factors that influence wildfires. This leads to significant questions: What are the actual problems causing the haze pollution? Which regulations or policies can handle this complicated issue effectively?</p>	Infographic, Pictures, Map, Short Documentary Video	2024

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Thailand	Panama Canal of the East? Thailand's Bold Plans to Bypass the Strait of Malacca	Panama Canal of the East? Thailand's Bold Plans to Bypass the Strait of Malacca Pulitzer Center	Luke Duggleby	Thailand is planning a \$36 billion "land bridge" across its southern peninsula to link the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea, aiming to shorten global shipping routes and elevate the country's role in international trade. Launched in 2024, the project could significantly reshape regional geopolitics but also threatens local communities and sensitive ecosystems, including mangrove forests. This project by Luke Duggleby and Nicha Wachpanich examines what such large-scale development means for people and the environment, and the costs they may be forced to bear.	Articles	2024
	A Fragile Coexistence	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/fragile-coexistence	Luke Duggleby, Maria Stöhr	<p>During the latter half of 2022, over 10 people were killed by wild elephants in provinces just hours east of Bangkok. Mostly villagers in the wrong place at the wrong time, these deaths tell of what has become Thailand's worst human-elephant conflict.</p> <p>With the highest concentration of wild elephants per square kilometre of natural forest in the country, the area known as Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) has become an unlikely battleground between farmers trying to protect their livelihoods and wild elephants who can't resist the food they grow.</p>	Pictures, Map	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Malaysia	Panama Canal of the East? Thailand's Bold Plans to Bypass the Strait of Malacca	Panama Canal of the East? Thailand's Bold Plans to Bypass the Strait of Malacca Pulitzer Center	Luke Duggleby	Thailand is planning a \$36 billion "land bridge" across its southern peninsula to link the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea, aiming to shorten global shipping routes and elevate the country's role in international trade. Launched in 2024, the project could significantly reshape regional geopolitics but also threatens local communities and sensitive ecosystems, including mangrove forests. This project by Luke Duggleby and Nicha Wachpanich examines what such large-scale development means for people and the environment, and the costs they may be forced to bear.	Articles	2024
	EUDR's Effect on Smallholding Oil Palm in Malaysia	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/eudr-s-effect-smallholding-oil-palm-malaysia	James Whitlow Delano	By the end of 2024, the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) will require palm oil producers to provide GPS coordinates proving their crops did not contribute to deforestation since 2020, or they will be barred from exporting to the EU. This regulation threatens Malaysia's palm oil industry, where 40% of production comes from smallholders, prompting sustainability group Wild Asia to assist farmers in meeting compliance standards.	Pictures, Map	2024

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Malaysia				The Malaysiakini news portal visited the lake in June 2022, where it learned from Tasik Chini locals that they no longer will be able to depend on it as a water source due to alleged heavy contamination. It has come to the extent that villagers face water shortage problems despite living right beside a massive lake basin.		
	Sabah's Mangrove Defenders	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/sabahs-mangrove-defenders	Emily Ding, Yih Wen Chen	<p>Southeast Asia is home to a third and most of the world's mangroves; it is also the region that has experienced the most extensive mangrove loss.</p> <p>In Malaysia, which has nearly 5 percent of the world's total mangroves, about 60 percent are located in Sabah, mostly along its east coast. Most mangroves in Sabah are formally protected as forest reserves, though there remain difficulties of enforcement in more remote areas. Moreover, some mangroves, such as on Sabah's west coast, are unprotected. A 2020 study shows that the annual average rate of mangrove loss in Sabah—0.58% or 1,705 hectares a year—between 2000 and 2015 is higher than global average estimates of 0.16% to 0.39%. This is especially worrying amid our climate crisis, as mangroves can store up to five times more carbon than other forest ecosystems.</p>	Pictures, Footage Video, Short Documentary Video, Map	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Malaysia	Forest Clearing and Floods at Baling, Kedah Malaysia	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/forest-clearing-and-floods-baling-kedah-malaysia	Si Err Yap, Mukhriz Hazim	<p>On July 4, 2022, three people died and more than 3,000 people were displaced when sludge, debris and flood waters buried several villages near Baling, Kedah, in the north of Peninsular Malaysia. On September 6, 2022, water came gushing down Gunung Inas to flood the village again after a 30-minute heavy downpour, forcing more than 100 residents to evacuate. Faced with a third round of flooding in two months, residents of Kampung Iboi near Baling are now asking how much longer they need to live in fear each time it rains.</p> <p>Crucially, they said the series of flooding started when works started on a mega durian plantation in a water catchment area in the mountainous Gunung Inas Forest Reserve.</p>	Short Documentary Video, Pictures, Footage Video, Map	2023
	Malaysia's Deforestation Ecosystem	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/malaysias-deforestation-ecosystem	Low Choon Chyuan	In this project, journalist Low Choon Chyuan, of the independent portal Malaysiakini, uses public domain data, satellite images, and government reports to show the elaborate financial system that supports large-scale deforestation projects. He also examines the stakeholders who gain from such a system, how the network was established, and the social, economic, and environmental costs.	Pictures, Map, Infographics, Graphics, Short Video	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Malaysia	Red Rivers and Death: Natives' Fight Against Iron Mining in Deep Rainforest	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/red-rivers-and-death-natives-fight-against-iron-mining-deep-rainforest	Aidila Razak, S Vinothaa	In 2012, Malaysiakini reported on severe water pollution from an iron ore mine in Kampung Kelaik, Kelantan, which turned the river red and contaminated the village's water supply. The situation worsened over the years, culminating in the tragic death of a village elder, prompting the community to take legal action against the government and 10 firms for encroaching on their land.	Pictures, Short Video, Graphics, Infographics, Map, Documentary Video	2024
	Pahang Deforestation Aided by RM52m Financing From Bank Islam	https://pulitzercenter.org/stories/pahang-deforestation-aided-rm52m-financing-bank-islam	Low Choon Chyuan	In this project, journalist Low Choon Chyuan, of the independent portal Malaysiakini, uses public domain data, satellite images, and government reports to show the elaborate financial system that supports large-scale deforestation projects. He also examines the stakeholders who gain from such a system, how the network was established, and the social, economic, and environmental costs.	Map, Pictures, Graphic, Infographics	2024
	Undrinkable: The Story of Tasik Chini Pollution	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/undrinkable-story-tasik-chini-pollution	Hariz Mohd, Aznael Ishak	Tasik Chini is one of Unesco's Biosphere Reserves (BR), and the second largest natural freshwater lake in Peninsular Malaysia. However, since it was designated as reserve in 2009, the lake reportedly started to endure pollution as the byproduct of deforestation, mining, and plantation activities.	Short Documentary Video, Pictures, Table	2023

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Vietnam	The Construction of a Waste Treatment Plant in Vietnam's Con Dao Forest	The Construction of a Waste Treatment Plant in Vietnam's Con Dao Forest Pulitzer Center	Le Quynh	Vietnam faces growing deforestation risks as authorities approve forest clearance for waste facilities and resort developments in protected areas such as Con Dao and Phu Quoc National Parks. Looser regulations under revised land and forestry laws now allow easier conversion of natural forests for development with only provincial approval, raising concerns as most of Vietnam's forest cover remains degraded and low quality despite overall increases.	Articles	2025
	Lâm Đồng Plans To Remove Hectares From Forest Master Plan	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/lam-dong-plans-remove-hectares-forest-master-plan	Le Quynh	Lâm Đồng, one of Vietnam's most forested provinces with 54.6% forest cover, is experiencing a steady decline in forested areas due to government decisions to remove land from protection. Landslides, flooding, and land subsidence are worsening as authorities revise forest management plans, allocating tens of thousands of hectares for economic development. Over the past 18 years, nearly 107,000 hectares of forested land have been removed or are planned for removal, raising concerns about environmental degradation and the displacement of ethnic minority communities. This investigation examines the justifications behind these policy decisions and their broader impact on ecosystems and local livelihoods.	Pictures, Map, Graphics	2024

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Vietnam	The Human Stories Behind the Mekong's Ecological Collapse	https://rainforestjournalismfund.org/projects/human-stories-behind-mekongs-ecological-collapse	Nhung Nguyen	<p>Vietnam's southern plain, one of the most significant wetlands on earth, has been almost drained. According to the WWF, the Greater Mekong subregion risks losing over a third of its remaining forest within the next two decades.</p> <p>The area has been transformed into an agriculture and aquaculture hub that is now feeding a growing population of 100 million people while producing 13 percent of the world's rice.</p>	Pictures, Short Video, Graphics, Infographics, Map, Documentary Video	2023
	Vietnam's Forests Have Been Cleared To Supply the World's Timber Industry	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/vietnams-forests-have-been-cleared-supply-worlds-timber-industry	Bao-Uyen Vo-Kieu	<p>Vietnam is ranked the fifth-largest country in the world, second in Asia, and the largest in Southeast Asia in furniture exports. Vietnamese furniture has been directly exported to 120 countries and territories.</p> <p>However, behind this impressive figure is that series of natural forests that have been cut down and quickly. These forest land areas have been occupied for growing short-term timber trees.</p>	Pictures, Map, Footage video, Graphic	2024
Laos	China's Billion-Dollar Craze for Durian Is Transforming Laos Forests	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/chinas-billion-dollar-craze-durian-transforming-laos-forests	Zhaoyin Feng, Beimeng Fu	<p>China's surging demand for durian has led to large-scale investments in Laos, with Chinese firms like Jiarun Agriculture securing thousands of hectares of land in Attapeu's primary rainforests for durian plantations. Fueled by the Belt and Road Initiative's Laos-China Railway, this expansion raises concerns over deforestation, biodiversity loss, and its economic and social impact on local communities.</p>	Map, Pictures, Graphic	2024

Rainforest

	Project Title	Project Link	Grantees	Project Synopsis	Media	Year
Laos	Fruits of Spoil: Laos' Forests Disappearing As Fruit Farms Flourish	https://pulitzercenter.org/projects/fruits-spoil-laos-forests-disappearing-fruit-farms-flourish		<p>The booming demand for bananas and durians in China has fueled large-scale agricultural investments in Southeast Asia, with Laos emerging as a key player by providing land and labor. Chinese and Vietnamese investors have capitalized on the country's low land-lease costs and fertile soil, establishing vast plantations that now threaten Laos' forests.</p> <p>Satellite imagery and investigative reports reveal that many plantations, owned by Chinese and Vietnamese companies, are expanding into deforested areas near critical biodiversity zones like Dong Hua Sao and Xe Pian. This rapid land conversion, initially driven by banana cultivation and now durian farming, has intensified deforestation, raising concerns over environmental sustainability.</p>	Pictures, Maps, Graphic, Presentation	2023

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