

## **“It’s My Heritage, Not My Property”: Traditional Sustainable *Repongdamar* Agroforestry in Pesisir Krui, Indonesia**

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### **Abstract:**

Traditional storytelling is a research method that connects indigenous peoples' worldviews, builds trusting relationships, and involves indigenous peoples in the research process. In particular, this paper describes the use of the storytelling method to explore traditional knowledge and values in the management of repong damar in the Krui community, Indonesia. The author collects data through conversational methods such as storytelling techniques, sharing-talking circles, focus group discussions, and walking-talking discussions that are consistent with the cultural practices of the local community. Researchers used domain analysis techniques, taxonomies, components, and cultural themes to analyze conversation transcripts. The results show that the storytelling method can explore important elements and values in indigenous peoples' research; build and strengthen the capacity of researchers to collaborate with indigenous peoples in exploring traditional knowledge and values; and become the traditional way of knowing in Indigenous cultures and the primary means of transmitting knowledge from generation to generation. Through the employing conversation method, the research found specific mechanisms for the Krui indigenous people in developing and preserving the socio-cultural, economic and ecological institutions of the repong damar agroforestry that support their ecological life. Socio-cultural, economic and ecological practices in the management of repong damar are mostly obtained through stories passed down from generation to generation. This paper concludes that the conversational method allows researchers and participants to learn together, respect each other, and speak honestly and openly. In addition, data collection using conversational methods can build trust between research participants and researchers as well as bridge Western and Indigenous ways of thinking in explaining the phenomenon of traditional sustainable agroforestry of repong damar.

### **Keywords:**

Indigenous knowledge; Indonesia; pesisir Krui; repong damar; storytelling methods.