

MARUNDA (JAKARTA, INDONESIA)

# URBAN FARMING AND RESHAPING NEIGHBOURHOODS

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Credit: Name, organization

Cordaid's urban resilience program in Jakarta is bearing fruit. Hundreds of impoverished families on the city's heavily polluted and sinking northern coast have now taken up urban farming, claimed their rights, and actively fight the effects of pollution and climate change. Jakarta's deputy governor, inspired by our approach, has invited Cordaid to contribute to the city's urban farming policy plans.

## MARUNDA

In 2015 Cordaid started working in Marunda, a Jakarta neighbourhood with local inhabitants as well as groups of newcomers they call the 'flat community'. Local fishermen families in the inundated area live in shacks, lacking basic facilities. The 'flat people' are families that were evicted and relocated in big social housing flats. They used to live illegally alongside rivers and other places in Jakarta, having nowhere else to go to. The flats they live in now are more comfortable, but many can't afford the rent and they are cut off from the places where they previously made a living. Many people of Marunda hardly have a leg to stand on to claim their rights, simply because, for the government, they don't exist.

*"Streets of Marunda aren't mapped, many inhabitants aren't registered by city agencies. It's as if they don't exist."*

Harma Rademaker, Cordaid Resilience

In May 2015, Cordaid through KARINA Yogyakarta implemented a Participatory Urban Neighbourhood Appraisal (PUNA), it was attended by community and local government to analyse hazards and assess risks they faced. During the PUNA four solutions identified to build resilient Marunda community.

## FOUR SOLUTIONS

1. Create a **multi-stakeholders platform** for the community to participate in Marunda development plan.
2. Increase the community capacity in minimizing flood risks through **mapping**
3. Increase community livelihood through **urban farming**
4. Promote behaviour changes in **hygiene and sanitation**

### 1. The Platform

Looking at the problem complexity and area width to carry out the identified solutions, the MURIA platform (Marunda Urban Resilience in Action) was established. This platform consists of different stakeholders: locals from the Marunda community, private sectors, government and non-government organizations. The main objectives of the platform are to bring up the community position as the determiner party and create a community condition that collaborates with different stakeholders to work together in building resiliency. MURIA initiatives applied an Integrated Risk Management approach - Disaster Risk Reduction as the main foundation combined with Climate Change Adaptation and Environmental Resource Management.

#### MURIA platform:

- involved more stakeholders and developed working groups that were responsible to overcome the problems faced by Marunda community
- brought together all community elements
- facilitated discussion among the platform members
- facilitated planning

## 2. Mapping the streets

The digital mapping of Marunda area was supported by Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT) and was implemented in cooperation with the Marunda youth. The slum dwellers, many of them women, were trained to geographically map their neighbourhoods street by street. They can now show the government how and where they live, that electricity and drinking water are lacking, and how many times their houses are flooded. They map open public spaces, sit together with urban planners and, for example, turned deserted areas into vegetable gardens.

*“It’s amazing to see how people who were invisible for the government are now shaping their neighbourhood and tackling flood risks together with the government.”*

Harma Rademaker, Cordaid Resilience

## 3. Feeding the people

Local fishermen and newcomers alike suffer from job insecurity and have a hard time feeding their families. The urban gardening project provides food as well as an income. The applied urban farming was technically supported by PT East-West Seed Indonesia (EWINDO) and Yayasan Bina Tani Sejahtera. It offered quick wins to overcome the livelihood problem and also invited the community to start managing the environment; this initiative became the strategy to gain community interest in the whole program.



An urban farm in the Marunda flat area (© Cordaid).

## 4. Improving Hygiene

Waste management was introduced by establishing some Waste Bank groups and Communal Business on Saving and Credit. 800 families were trained to improve their often-appalling sanitation and hygiene situation at home and to hold city officials accountable when they spot cases of bad waste management in their own streets. To provide safe drinking water, in the absence of tap water infrastructure, Cordaid set up rain water harvesting initiatives in Marunda. Families are now collecting and filtering rain water, and can quickly and easily test whether it’s safe to drink.

## SCALING UP – NEXT PHASE

As a result of the urban farming implementation, the MURIA platform gained trust from the DKI Jakarta Province and were invited to help create Jakarta’s Urban Farming Grand Design. The Grand Design was developed in collaboration with Partners for Resilience Strategic Partnership Indonesia, the Jakarta Province Agency for Food Security, Marine and Agriculture (DKPKP) and Jakarta Governor Deputy Office for Spatial and Environment. The Grand Design will scale up the platform and urban farms into greater Jakarta over the next 13 years. Its development was based on the principles of Integrated Risk Management and the fundamental objective of MURIA: **strengthening community livelihoods and multi-stakeholder collaboration.**

In July alone the Cities Alliance awarded this project one of five best practices that take an integrated approach to the follow-up and review process for global sustainability agendas. The project was chosen as the example of community involvement presented at the opening panel of the 2018 Adaptation Futures conference to over 2000 people.

This project continues to receive international recognition and has received funding by the Ford Foundation for phase II, and will continue until December 2019.

### ABOUT CORDAID

Cordaid strives to end poverty and exclusion. We do this in the world’s most fragile and conflict-affected areas as well as in the Netherlands. We engage local communities to rebuild trust and resilience and increase people’s self reliance. Our professionals provide humanitarian assistance and create opportunities to improve security, healthcare and education and stimulate inclusive economic growth. We are supported by private donors in the Netherlands and by a worldwide partner network. This gives us the leverage and implementing power to solve problems and create structural change in the most challenging settings.

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