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**Submission in response to call for inputs:**

**“Access to information on climate change and human rights”**

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This input is prepared and co-written by Muhammad Reza Sahib, Coordinator, KRUHA/People’s Coalition on Right to Water, Henry Thomas Simarmata, Executive Coordinator of Apintlaw, concurrently as co-researcher of KRUHA (People’s Coalition on Right to Water)[[1]](#footnote-1), Sigit Budiono, research team, KRUHA/People’s Coalition on Right to Water[[2]](#footnote-2).

This input is submitted as a contribution of the KRUHA/People’s Coalition on Right to Water

**Objective of this contribution**

1. This contribution would discuss the importance of the information, and the development of body of knowledge on ecosystems relative to climate change and human rights. This contribution reflects and projects a process in which information is shared in decision making in each different ecosystems.
2. KRUHA is a coalition of movements and organisations in Indonesia which pursue the realisation of right to water, both as an agenda of water justice and of responding to the climate change. KRUHA works in fields of advocacy in a level of ecosystem and in policy making fora.
3. This contribution is focused on responding to the question no. 1 and 2 of the call.

**Matters of onsets (both rapid- and slow-) events**

1. In Indonesia, rapid onset events takes place when and where there are natural disasters and human induced-natural disasters. The activities of commercial mining, timber, reclamations, monocultures vegetation, prominently, are among human-induced-natural disaster. On this, information are fragmented but still there has been a coherence work on this.
2. In Indonesia, slow onset events takes place when and where there is change in weather caused mainly by pollution and waste. This subject is well research by both researchers and the government of Indonesia. The Indonesian ministry of environment and forestry develop a sustained research on the quality of water and air and produced recommendations for different stakeholders.
3. Private sectors also participates in the development of information and knowledge systems on the quality of soil and possibility of green transition which they envisages
4. Communities living in different ecosystems develop their knowledge, usually traditional, intuitive, and holistic in nature. Their traditional knowledge is recognised both in international norm and in domestic norm as fundamental to their right to life. Their traditional knowledge contribute to the understanding of both rapid- and slow- onset events.

**The question of onsets (both rapid- and slow-) as a fundamental issue of human rights**

1. The accumulation of information and body of knowledge on onset events is understood as important to the respond of climate change. The issue of human rights lies on the usage of the information. The information often used in draconian way i.e. the use with the objective to control the ecosystem and the communities living in it. Out of this, the information is used to dominate the decision making.
2. The accumulation of information and body of knowledge relates well to the respond to slow onset events, but little relates to the respond to rapid onset events. The information did not contribute to the, for examples, the understanding to the health status of an ecosystem, and to contribution of communities in taking care that ecosystem.
3. The claim of green transition is based on the quick fix assumption that in a very short time, power will be available. In the case of geothermal in Indonesia, situation in several ecosystems challenged assumption in a way that the destruction and long-term adverse impact overran the benefit of geothermal. Study and impact assessment are much needed to really develop information and body of knowledge on climate change relative to geothermal.
4. Communities living in ecosystems have a big contribution to the organisation of knowledge on the ecosystem. Their traditional information need to be recognised in the whole process of responding to climate change. Their rights to keep and manage traditional knowledge need to be recognised.

**Next steps**

1. Information could be useful but it could be also becoming weapon one against the others. The onsets events is truly a human rights issue in which all rights holders should have a say and substantive participation on acquiring and organising information and body of knowledge. The broad guideline on climate change on onsets should compel both duty bearer and rights holders to uphold human rights standard.

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