

Foreword

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This is to welcome you in Göttingen at the Georg-August University. It was with great pleasure when the Centre for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture and Forestry – CeTSAF was asked to support the conference “International Seminar on Poverty Alleviation: Concepts and Experiences. Focused on Indonesian Cases”, organized by Indonesian Student Union in Göttingen.

For over than 40 years, CeTSAF has been active in the area of research and higher education both in the area of agriculture and forestry in the tropics and thus, in developing countries. One of the major strategic partnerships has been established with Indonesia, namely the Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB) starting with the Master Program “Integrated Tropical Agriculture and Forestry” lasting from 1991 till 2001. During this period, 90 Indonesian scientists visited Göttingen and more than 100 German scientists visited the Indonesian partner. Many research projects developed based on the established personal and institutional contacts since then, one of which is the DFG-funded joint research project on the Stability of Rainforest Margins in Indonesia (STORMA).

Göttingen University is an excellent platform for such interdisciplinary research approaches as it hosts various disciplines related to rural development especially in the tropics and subtropics. In this regard, the chosen topic of this seminar fits very well as it addresses a multi-layered and complex problem, which can be discussed on the basis of multidisciplinary input, only.

CeTSAF wishes interesting sessions and valuable discussions during this seminar, which contributes on the academic level to the vision of poverty eradication. May this seminar also be the spark for new joint research projects between Germany and Indonesia.