

## **INTEGRATING GOVERNMENTS BODIES IN PEATLAND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT TO ELIMINATE THE SECTORAL EGOS\***

### **Abstract**

Peatland fires are a constant problem during the dry season in Banjarbaru, Indonesia, extremely damaging the ecosystem. The central and local governments have made various efforts to tackle peatland fires. This study aims to analyze the role of local governments in managing peatlands and peatland fires to prevent environmental damage. This study uses a descriptive method with a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) approach. This study involved 28 respondents from community groups fighting land fires and local governments in Banjarbaru, South Kalimantan, Indonesia. Data was obtained using interviews, observation, and documentation. Data analysis used triangulation techniques (data reduction, display, and verification). The results show that the fires that occur are influenced by the lack of coordination and synergy between government agencies that play a role in overcoming peatland fires. In addition, the availability of good human resources, facilities, and infrastructure has not been well mapped. As a result, the sectoral ego becomes a problem in handling peatlands. Therefore, the synergy between the government and the community is needed in tackling peatland fires. The research results are expected to be material for evaluating and considering related parties in managing peatlands and peatland fires.

**Keywords:** ecosystem, environmental damage, management, peatland fires