

# Knowledge governance for the adoption of conservation agriculture in rural villages of East Java, Indonesia

Hesthi Nugroho, Dr. Ronlyn Duncan, Dr. Roddy Hale  
Development Network Conference  
University of Otago  
Dunedin, 2014

# Outline

- Research background
- Research questions
- Conceptual framework
- Preliminary observations
- Contributions



“Green Revolution”

- Mass guidance for non-organic pesticides and fertilisers
- Massive growth and production
- Outcomes:
  - Land degradation
  - High residues of pesticides
  - Water pollution

Conservation agriculture

- New knowledge
- Benefits :
  - Improve farmers’ income
  - Reduce crop vulnerability
  - Solve water quality issue
- Working collaboratively with farmers
- Implementation : ???

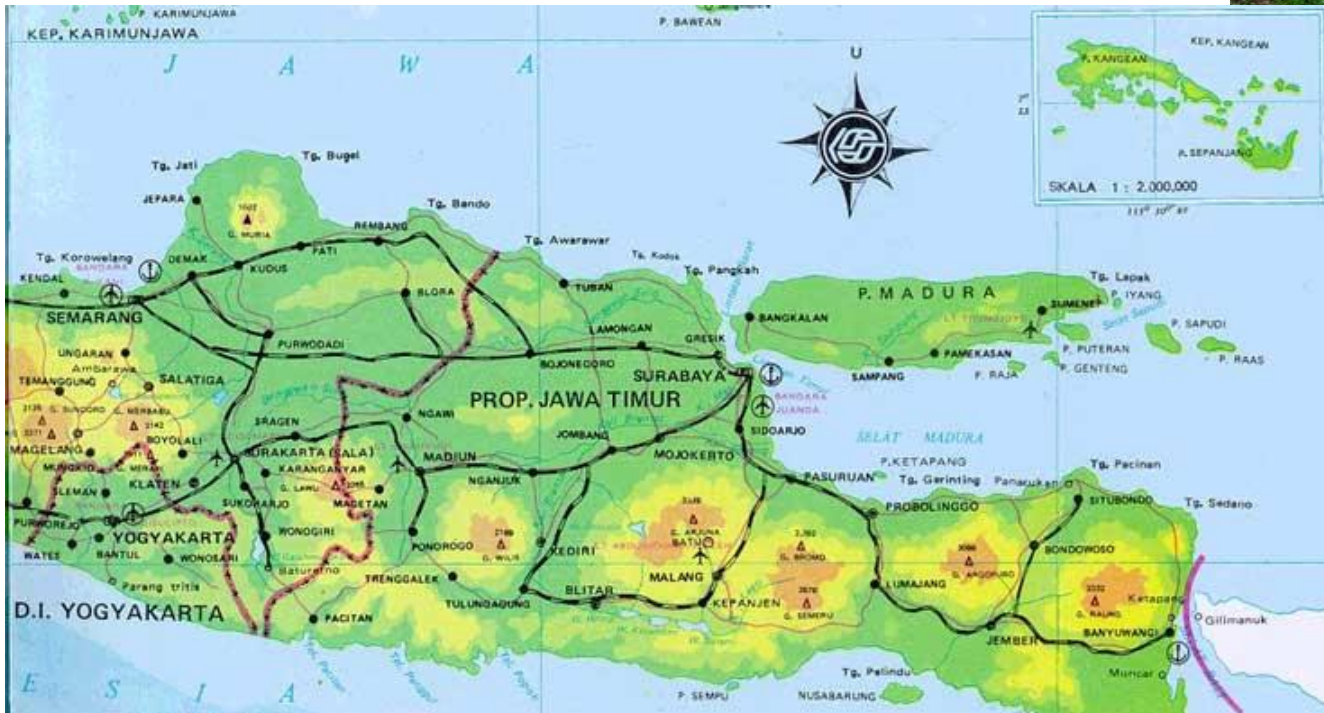
Local knowledge

- Traditional cultivation system
- Rituals : traditional calendars, avoid dates, traditional ceremony





# East Java, Indonesia



# *Research questions:*

- ❖ How is the knowledge of conservation agriculture being delivered in East Java?
- ❖ What are farmers' perceptions of the conservation agriculture programme?

# COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE



{Kerkhoff (2013), Gerritsen et al. (2013), Innes and Booher (2010), Folke et al. (2005), Agrawal and Gibson (1999), Rahman (2003), Agrawal (2005), German et al. (2010), Callon (1999), Sirianni (2009), Lemos and Moorehouse (2005)}



# Methodology



- ▶ A case study approach
- ▶ 50 respondents: 45 farmers, 3 scientists, 1 government representative, 1 field person.
- ▶ Narratives analysis



# Preliminary observations 1: the farmers

- ▶ Rituals :
  - ▶ Traditional calculation
  - ▶ Avoid several dates : Galengan, Urakan, Uwas
  - ▶ Traditional ceremony
- ▶ Local agricultural practices:
  - ▶ Mixing pesticides
  - ▶ Organic Manure
- ▶ Expect local knowledge to be integrated in government programmes.

*“Theoretically the scientists are way smarter than us, but it doesn’t mean they are also smart in practice. So we need to have good connection” (the farmer).*

## Preliminary observations 2: the public agency representatives

- ▶ Limited understanding of local knowledge

*“we always asked the farmers on how they cultivated the land before we came, but finding the right day and such are only myths” (scientists)*

- ▶ Activities have to be consistent with the dates and guidelines

- ▶ Lack of two-way communication



**" the wisdom of traditional knowledge can be put together with scientific knowledge to achieve what has not been achieved so far...the future sustainability..."  
(Lateef, 2012, p.326)**

# Acknowledgement

- ▶ Supervisors:
  - ▶ Dr. Ronlyn Duncan (main supervisor)
  - ▶ Dr. Roddy Hale (co-supervisor)
- ▶ Lincoln University, New Zealand
- ▶ University of Brawijaya, Indonesia





Matur nuwun - Terima kasih  
Thank you



