

Public Diplomacy of Eco-Pesantren to Promote Sustainable Development in Island Resilience: The Case of Lombok Island

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Abstract

Public diplomacy is the core way for the Islamic Boarding School (Pesantren) as a non-state actor with a great social legitimacy and economic potential. Even though it takes a great challenge to optimize sustainable development, it launches Eco-pesantren as a consideration for the environmental movement to address food security and the green economy. Furthermore, Eco-pesantren has been implemented in some rural areas, such as on the island. It contributes positively to the implementation of Indonesia's public diplomacy, given its strategic position in building relationships, networks, and collaborations between state and non-state actors at national and international levels. It is exemplified by Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School, which applies Eco-pesantren to the Haramain Integrated Farming program as an effort to promote sustainable development on environmental conservation in Lombok Island. This research provides recommendations for stakeholders to consider local empowerment through the utilization of potential resources, mainly in the agricultural sector, to contribute to sustainable development for the island's resilience. Primary data were obtained through interviews and observation at Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School. In addition, it adopted the Public Diplomacy model initiated by Geun Lee and Kadir Ahyar due to its relevance to the analysis scope. Then, it employed a conceptual framework as the secondary way to discover interdisciplinary studies. Thus, Haramain Integrated Farming has become a significant case study applying Eco-pesantren as the path to enhance food security and green economy for Lombok Island's resilience. Moreover, it was raised by international achievement and recognition for contributing to environmental conservation, enabling its existence from a public diplomacy perspective.

Keywords: public diplomacy; eco-pesantren; sustainable development; food security; green economy; island resilience

INTRODUCTION

New public diplomacy can support global environment issue as the core material for creating preservation and sustainability. Nation branding refers to the process of mobilizing a nation's resources and stakeholders to promote its image internationally. Moreover, public diplomacy is a strategic practice undertaken by practitioners to initiate, cultivate, and sustain long-term relationships with international publics in pursuit of foreign policy objectives. Global environment issues can be characterized by multiple actors, such as civil societies and the influence of non-governmental actors (Melissen, 2005). Accordingly, public diplomacy is highly

beneficial for a state to set a competitive advantage to increase public awareness. In part, Indonesia is an island naturally endowed with agricultural abundance.

The island that becomes a rural area encounters some challenges to agricultural development as the main obstacle to optimizing economic advantages. It is due to environmental issues threatening their resilience, mainly for food security and the green economy. In fact, islands serve as primary examples of resource-restricted environments characterized by high vulnerability and exposure to the risks of global warming, thereby necessitating the adoption of sustainable development by island communities (Ratter, 2017).

According to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), island nations possess tremendous potential for ecological diversity, encompassing sectors such as energy, water, tourism, and agriculture, that serve as vital resources for economic development. Both Global North and Global South countries recognize the urgent need for international cooperation to advance environmental protection and sustainability, given their close interconnection with economic development. Developed states face a threat to their industrialization due to environmental degradation; meanwhile, developing nations encourage the growth economy balance with natural resource preservation (Polsci, 2025).

Indonesia is a part of south states that has many islands in rural areas. As an Island state, Indonesia has a vast archipelagic landscape and abundant biodiversity. It possesses substantial natural resources to provide essential factors for a competitive advantage. Nevertheless, Indonesia takes on some environmental challenges, including deforestation, rising sea levels, declining fishery performance, and increasing forest fires (Koons, 2024).

This abundance is still an imperative interest to achieve social welfare. One of the islands, Lombok in West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia, is internationally recognized as a wonderful tourist destination, but it takes vary issues on environmental conservation. According to the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), Lombok Island is at risk of losing approximately 1,500 square meters of coastal area due to rising sea levels, a phenomenon that will alter coastal ecosystems. It leads to a decline in clean water availability and subsequently impacts basic human needs, including household, agricultural, and industrial use (WWF Indonesia, 2009). It is supposed to be any solution for Indonesia's challenge to develop the agriculture sector as a priority and strategic sector to escalate people's welfare (Andoko, 2019).

Besides, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) contribute to promoting sustainability and resource conservation, such as education, training, and orientation to raise the proper behavior, which refers to national development goals of the country, like institutions (FAO, 1994). One of the non-state actors that drives environmental conservation in Lombok Island is Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School. It is called a *pesantren*, an Islamic institution located on Lombok Island. The institution contributes to environmental sustainability through the implementation of *eco-pesantren*, a program that integrates education and training into the agricultural system and promotes environmental preservation by Islamic communities. As a result, it encourages food security and sufficiency. This position makes Islamic boarding schools potentially active as conservation agents and centers of ecological movements (LPBI NU, 2019).

Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School contributes to advancing green development initiatives across the Lombok Island archipelago. Its agricultural model significantly contributes to Indonesia's public diplomacy in agricultural development and environmental conservation. Public diplomacy can support environmental conservation in the midst of ecosystem disruption and modern human living. Public diplomacy in agricultural development carries missions and solutions to environmental issues that frequently occur in developing states. This approach can be clearly explained through the public diplomacy model by Lee and Ahyan, as it further explores collaborative approaches not encompassed by traditional diplomacy.

Hence, this research fills the gap by examining the imperative role of Islamic boarding schools as a non-state actor in international relations discourse, looking at public diplomacy. The research question is: How does Nurul Haramain's eco-pesantren function as a public diplomacy instrument to promote sustainable development for Lombok's resilience? The research seeks to analyze the significance of Islamic boarding schools as an institution that contributes to sustainable development for Lombok Island's resilience, foremost, food security, and green economy. It analyzed Haramain Integrated Farming in public diplomacy to represent Indonesia's contribution to sustainable development. This result points to a recommendation for environmental stakeholders to grow more awareness of Islamic boarding schools as a substantial movement to manifest sustainable development for the island's resilience.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Islamic boarding schools, or usually called *pesantren*, have been an imperative path as social capital, creating social legitimacy in society. In particular, they form a faith-based education as the main value for the Islamic boarding schools to develop their students' (*santri*) capacity. Moreover, it encourages ethic value for resilience and sustainability that brands can be a material for public diplomacy of a state.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Beside of nation-state's, non-government organizations (NGO) can direct communication with foreign people by shaping their opinion (NGO Report, 2025). Public diplomacy aims to foster greater understanding among foreign audiences and strengthen a country's image and reputation internationally. By shaping the perceptions and attitudes of foreign citizens, it can indirectly influence the behavior and policy decisions of foreign governments. Moreover, it promotes the involvement of both public and private actors, including profit-oriented and nonprofit organizations, in advancing international engagement and diplomatic objectives.

Another dimension of public diplomacy involves cultivating enduring relationships with strategically important individuals through capacity-building programs, international conferences, and media engagement. Although these initiatives demand significant investments of time and resources, they generate long-term relational assets by engaging a relatively limited number of participants; organization-public relationships impact organizational reputation greatly. NGOs in public diplomacy are essential because they contribute to the establishment of enduring institutional relationships, the effective management of organizational reputation overseas, and the promotion of the home country's interests and international standing (Zatepillina-monacell, 2009).

NGOs' diplomacy has a substantial contribution to understanding their impact on the environment and sustainable development (Gemmill & Bamidele-Izu, 2002). NGOs work inside the system to counterproductively publish the position they want governments to take. NGOs participate in global environmental politics and conduct activities related to, such as advocacy, research, and outreach (Betsill & Corell, 2007). In international relations, NGOs play a substantial role in international development policy-making and are vocal advocates for environmental conservation initiatives that enhance the effectiveness of socio-economic policies implemented by governments

(Zhang, 2025). NGOs as non-state actor holds an essential position in public diplomacy (Buntinx & Colli, 2022), as they can foster a positive reputation, address specific issues through expert collaboration, and engage in dialogue between the government and public. In addition, their proximity to local communities allows them to comprehend specific needs and aspirations more deeply.

Furthermore, NGOs create essential networks and virtual communities that support the operations. Public diplomacy is a political instrument employed by state and non-state actors to comprehend, engage, and influence publics. It refers to governance, economic growth, and even the host of cross-border threats and opportunities (Gregory, 2008). Public diplomacy is closely connected to NGOs (Ivanchenko, 2016), which can influence internal society (Clark, 1995). Hence, this research investigated the public diplomacy conducted by Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School, which implements the *eco-pesantren* concept through the Haramain Integrated Farming program in Lombok to promote food security and a green economy for the island's resilience.

MODEL PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: RELATIONAL, NETWORKED, COLLABORATIVE

The contribution of non-state actors in contemporary international relations is often directed toward public diplomacy initiatives that strategically build relational, networked, and collaborative engagements. Moreover, non-state actors frequently cooperate with state actors in areas including advocacy, the exercise of influence, agenda-setting, stakeholder mobilization, the advancement of foreign policy objectives, the promotion of national reputation and prestige, the cultivation of mutual understanding, and the alignment of shared values (Lee & Ayhan, 2015).

This concept is a proper tool to analyze how non-state actors possess greater credibility than states in public diplomacy, due to their neutrality, strategic actions at the local level, and long-term vision. Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School has adopted a public diplomacy model because it is internationally recognized as a non-state actor within the environmental movement, contributing positively to local resilience. Additionally, this model demonstrates how the interaction between local action and domestic policy and its subsequent impact on achievements at the international level serves as a key strength in the practice of public diplomacy.

Table 1. Model of Public Diplomacy

	Issue	Collaborative approaches		
		State's weaknesses	Non-state actor advantages	Related non-state actors
Relational approaches	Relationship-building	Lack of long-term vision, public skepticism, maintenance costs, and symbolic relationships	Long-term vision, neutrality, credibility, and behavioral relationships	On the ground, local knowledge, long-term-focused
	Mutuality & symmetrical	Asymmetrical self-interests	Symmetrical mutual interests	Collaborating with stakeholders, mutual interests, and action-oriented
Networked Approaches	Credibility	Public skepticism, self-interests, and limited social capital	Neutrality/universality, credibility, social capital	High density (high social capital), credible (trusted)
	Reach	Limited reach, limited resources/knowledge	Bridging, spanning structural (or cultural) holes	High centrality
	Resources	Limited resources, bureaucracy	Expertise, know-how, flexibility	Specialization (know-how)

Source: Lee & Ayhan (2015)

Relational public diplomacy with non-state actors has three dimensions: reactive (news management), proactive (strategic communication), and relationship building that involves key actors necessitating the development of mutual trust and the creation of a neutral and secure environment that facilitates constructive engagement (Leonard et al., 2002). Despite persistent public skepticism, long-term public diplomacy is typically associated with government institutions. Accordingly, considerable opportunity costs arise from the continuous investment of time and resources required to establish and sustain durable relationships (Brown, 2010). Meanwhile, non-state actors enjoy more neutrality and credibility in a field due to it avoids self-interested and have universal values on the ground. Their credibility is rooted in their technical expertise and extensive local knowledge. Moreover, their visibility fosters direct interpersonal engagement and behavior-based relationships. As opposed to symbolic relationships mediated through indirect channels, non-state actors are committed to long-term efforts and naturally maintain their relationships for their main goals. The two-way symmetrical model takes public interest and emphasizes mutual understanding (Lee & Ayhan, 2015).

On the other side, networked public diplomacy and non-state actors are the most powerful network environment. It supports the state to become a focal organization that the state cannot do for

long-term public diplomacy. Furthermore, non-state actors can be regarded as potential partners in a mutual interest. Network density and centrality are significant for stakeholders' network properties. Local non-state actors often possess greater credibility and richer social capital networks, enabling them to engage more effectively with local communities. Through collaboration with actors that hold central positions within relevant networks, they can improve communication, foster trust-based relationships, and advance public diplomacy objectives more efficiently. In addition, the state has limited its credibility and capabilities to expand public diplomacy goals as they have universal values beyond national interests. State also reaches limited network, and non-state actors can be better connected to the public or centrally located to reach influential elites in particular public, such as resources, social capital, technical capabilities, and issue-specific knowledge. An actor with high centrality is regarded as a gatekeeper who facilitates information exchange and network bridges (Lee & Ayhan, 2015).

This collaboration approach is based on management collaboration between state and non-state actors to contribute to public diplomacy initiatives and conduct effective public diplomacy (Cowan & Arsenault, 2008). Consequently, it promotes a state's reputation and image in the asymmetrical and aggressive self-interested activities. Non-state actors can realize the limited access of the state as public diplomacy outcomes, which leads to more active engagement of society (Lee & Ayhan, 2015).

ECO-PESANTREN AS FAITH-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTOR

Eco-*pesantren* was established by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia in 2008. It called as Eco-*pesantren* program, focusing on four goals: 1) escalating environmentally friendly attitude for people; 2) green activities based on Islamic teaching; 3) bridging socialization of environmental preservation as the way of life in *pesantren*; 4) implementation of environmentally friendly into *pesantren*'s life; 5) meeting *pesantren* empowerment to improve the quality of religious education regarding to the Qur'an and Sunnah; 6) encouraging activities that refer to ecology, economy, and social; and 7) *pesantren* empowers the local community. It aims to improve efficiency in *pesantren*, reducing and saving resources, establishing a conducive and convenience space, and raising the youth generation to comprehend through management and realize environment conservation as the sustainable development goals (Pujianto et al., 2021).

As a result, eco-*pesantren*, established by an Islamic boarding school, which is a non-state actor with a great social legitimacy, is foremost in education and becomes a faith-based environmental actor in Indonesia (Khoirurrijal et al., 2025). It grows a grassroots diplomacy due to most of them being located in green areas whose livelihood is in agricultural development. This abundance is empowered to gain food security and a green economy linked with sustainable development. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), non-governmental organizations have a significant part to play in fostering environmental conservation action in rural areas, especially if it can be supported by local people. Because they act strategically to make direct interaction and sometimes surpasses of national government institutions. It was proven that a number of NGOs have supported successful environmental initiatives through non-formal education (FAO, 1994).

Islamic boarding schools have been a natural capital for green economy development due to their most strategically located in the agriculture area (Bonang et al., 2026). Islamic boarding schools serve as a social actor in educational development in Indonesia. Their holistic, theologically based educational model makes all activities part of the learning. This system equips students with numerous values that promote *maslahah* (beneficial values) or prevent them from engaging in wasteful and immoral behavior (Muis, 2025). Furthermore, the number of Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia has continued to grow, spreading across almost every region. According to data from the Ministry of Religious Affairs for the 2023-2024 period, the number of Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia reached 39,551 with 4.9 million students (Maarif, 2024). The existence of Islamic boarding schools is supported by national regulations that control their role and function in national development, both in education, particularly regarding the formation of social behavior (morals) and economic resilience (Muis, 2025).

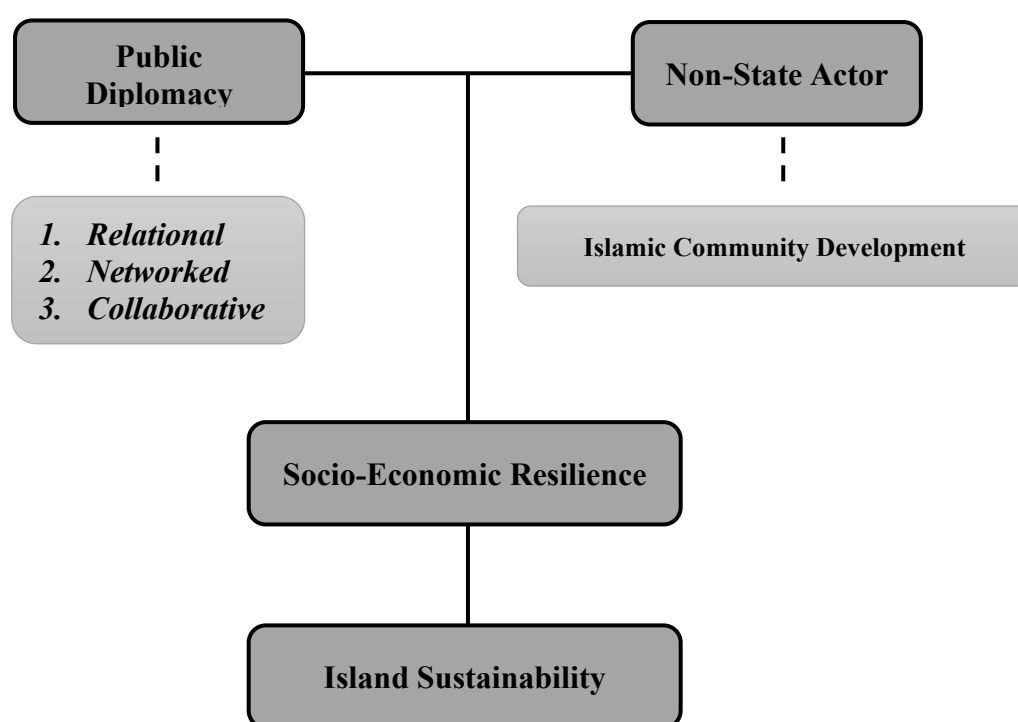
Furthermore, institutions and development organizations have a major role to play in promoting sustainability and resource conservation strategies. For instance, proper education, training, and orientation to achieve effective information dissemination about sustainable development are the critical foundation for proper behavior that refers to national development goals of the state (FAO, 1994). It is relevant to *eco-pesantren* as the Islamic boarding school's program in environmental movement. *Eco-pesantren* means ecology as a study of human relations with the natural environment; meanwhile, *pesantren* is a religious institution, which is an Islamic-based educational institution. Hence, *eco-pesantren* is a program or movement of faith-based actors that has environmental governance. It is an Islamic educational institution that is environmentally friendly, such as protection and preservation of the environment (Bahri, 2016).

With close access to green areas, many Islamic boarding schools manage productive land, which they utilize to meet at least the food needs of their students and the local community, such as Darussalam Gontor Islamic Boarding School in East Java. These Islamic boarding schools employ residents, managing agricultural areas, particularly agriculture, to supply the students with their basic food needs. As a result, this Islamic boarding school has been able to reduce the often-fluctuating price of rice, enabling the community to become self-sufficient in rice production. Darussalam Gontor Islamic Boarding School, based in East Java, is one example of its 20 schools spread across Sumatra, Java, and Sulawesi (Muis, 2025).

INTERCONNECTEDNESS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND INDONESIA DIPLOMACY

Sustainable development goals (SDGs) are a normative purpose for Indonesia's diplomacy due to their providing legitimacy for non-state actors involved in the development process and multistakeholder governance. This path emphasizes Indonesia's international cooperation, formulating the National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN) in line with international policies. Moreover, SDG 17, creating partnerships for the goals, is a strategic position to build international partnerships, strengthening soft power, especially for international image, and forging strategic alliances based on

On the other side, this approach aligns with the goal of Responsible Consumption and Production (SDGs 12), as implemented by Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School through Haramain Integrated Farming. The act of a non-state actor here argues that an Islamic boarding school can play a noteworthy role in manifesting quality education (SDGs 4). It demonstrates the Indonesian image implementing the green movement as public diplomacy.



The conceptual framework of this study positions public diplomacy and non-state actors as key determinants in strengthening the socio-economic resilience of island communities (Figure 1). The public diplomacy framework comprises relational, networked, and collaborative dimensions that explain how Islamic boarding schools engage with communities and stakeholders through Islamic

community development initiatives. In this study, Islamic boarding schools represent non-state actors that implement community empowerment programs aimed at enhancing local capacities and livelihoods. The interaction between public diplomacy practices and the strategic role of these non-state actors is expected to strengthen the socio-economic resilience of island communities, thereby providing a foundation for achieving island sustainability. This framework suggests that island sustainability is shaped not only by the economic and social capacities of communities but also by effective public diplomacy practices and the contributions of non-state actors in facilitating community-based development.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research utilized triangulation within a case study framework, entailing the use of a multi-method for data collection and analysis. This approach serves as a research strategy, encompassing identifying, exploring, and understanding different dimensions to reduce biases and assess the validity of research findings (Rothbauer et al., 2008). This research utilized documents, a theoretical framework, and interviews. The first step involved using a conceptual framework to conduct the analysis. Subsequently, primary data were obtained through interviews with the stakeholders at the Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School, including the school's president, as well as the founder of Haramain Farming, and the head of the pesantren's business unit, Haramain Farming developers, and a young teacher that responsible for the pesantren's business development. Moreover, researchers observed the Haramain Integrated Farming processes at several areas owned by Nurul Haramain, such as the integrated farming area at the main campus and the Madani integrated garden.

The analytical framework adopted Kadir Ayhan's public diplomacy model, which delineates three approaches to public diplomacy: relational, networked, and collaborative. These approaches encourage collaborative engagement between state and non-state actors, as illustrated in the following model by Lee & Ayhan (2015) (Table 1). This method represents the best way to showcase the potential of Haramain Integrated Farming as an application for food security and green economy resilience in Lombok Island. It encourages national branding for Indonesia to lead public diplomacy.

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Following the analysis, *eco-pesantren*, as such Haramain Integrated Farming, occupied a positive standpoint for implementing public diplomacy regarding the island's resilience, in particular food security and green economic potential. *Eco-pesantren* embodies sustainable development according to green education.

MODEL OF ECO-PESANTREN OF NON-STATE ACTORS: HARAMAIN INTEGRATED FARMING

Haramain Integrated Farming established a food security initiative in 1994. Haramain Integrated Farming was initiated by Green Book (*Kitab Hijau*) in 2002 by Tuan Guru Hasanain Junaini, a religious scholar (*Ulama*) from Lombok Island and a leader of Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding

School. Its agricultural land spans a total of 56 hectares, distributed across several areas in Lombok, including the central garden and Madani Super Camp located in Narmada, Sekotong, and coastal areas. Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School has contributed to reducing carbon emissions by preserving natural resources, including planting and distributing 1,000 free tree seedlings. Together with the local community, these trees are expected to grow long-term and serve as carbon sinks. This effort preserves Indonesia's natural environment, representing a green investment for sustainability, prosperity, and mutual benefit not only financially but also in terms of natural resources (Rianto, personal communication, October 4, 2024). An integrated Farming System (IFS) is achieved by optimizing available resources, considering the environmental impacts of management practices, and maintaining social and economic welfare. IFS includes the integration and synergy of agriculture, livestock, aquaculture, agroforestry, waste recycling, beekeeping, and organic farming practices (Behera et al., 2025). All these potentials have been initiated and developed by Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School. The integration principle at the boarding school emphasizes input efficiency with minimal maintenance, as everything happens naturally. Consequently, the output generated has also been optimized. Agricultural, aquaculture, and livestock products can be harvested daily, weekly, monthly, annually, biannually, and beyond, meeting most of the boarding school's large family's food needs sustainably. *Santri*, as a student of the Islamic boarding school, actively participates in farming activities as a voluntary act.

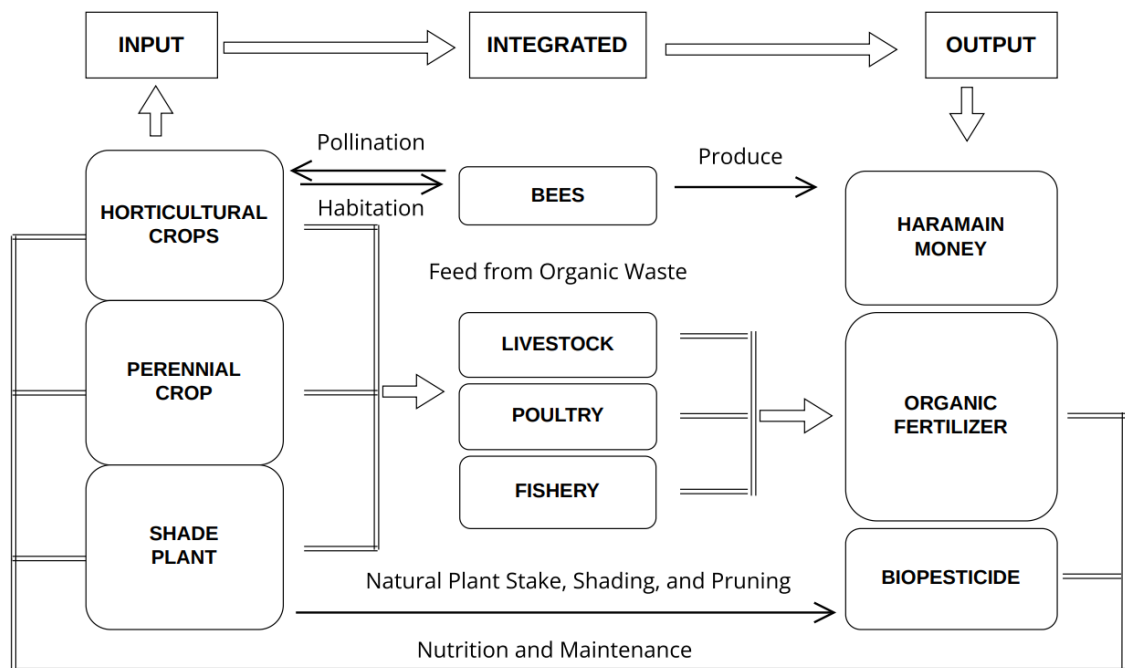


Figure 2. Mapping Haramain Integrated Farming (Processed by Authors, 2025)

The mapping exhibits the application of Haramain Integrated Farming, creating the model of responsible consumption and production working for food security and green economy resilience.

There are three main principles of integrated farming based on Figure 3: (1) minimizing inputs by (2) integrating various available resources, while still producing (3) high outputs. The results of sustainable environmental management are the benefits that stem from actively protecting the environment. Reforestation enhances carbon sequestration and boosts oxygen production. Organic waste can be transformed into valuable nutrients for plant and animal life, while efforts to recycle inorganic waste have been progressively taking shape. These practices underscore a broader commitment to maintaining ecological balance.

This approach enhances biodiversity through the integration of agriculture, aquaculture, and livestock farming. Horticultural crop cultivation includes vegetable and fruit plants. Perennial crop cultivation consists of seasonal fruit plants, shade trees, and fence plants. Aquaculture involves freshwater fish and ornamental fish. Livestock farming includes poultry, cows, goats, and bees.

Integrated farming is reflected in the efficient use of inputs from one cultivation activity to support another. Despite being perfect, the principles of zero waste in the integrated farming system to support environmental sustainability have been applied. They have been implemented through the reuse of organic waste, integrated with agriculture, aquaculture, and livestock models. From nature to nature, whatever has been taken from nature is returned as much as possible to maintain the balance of the earth. Figure 2 displays some of the strategies implemented by Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUBLIC DIPLOMACY MODEL ON HARAMAIN INTEGRATED FARMING

Relational Approaches

As depicted in Table 2, the program demonstrated a positive relationship with the Local Government of West Nusa Tenggara, mainly to supply the *pesantren*'s food security and implementing green economy. Haramain Integrated Farming also served raw materials for the *pesantren*'s business units and contributed to the supply of vegetables in the province's market.

The concepts of mutuality and symmetry in this case highlight the advantages of *eco-pesantren*, which has garnered significant attention from central and local governments. Haramain Integrated Farming has received several agricultural development grants, such as greenhouse construction funded by Bank Indonesia and vanilla cultivation development supported by the Agricultural Instrument Standardization Agency (BSIP). It has maintained strategic connections for consultations with the Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia. The greenhouse initiatives incorporate contemporary agricultural technologies, including drip irrigation for chili plants and hydroponic systems for Gold Honeydew melons.

As a result, Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School can be more strategic in obtaining a great social legitimacy for bridging state and society, manifesting green sustainability in Lombok Island when the central government did not have a huge access to them. The relation between the government

authority and Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School, as an NGO, has constructed a mutual interest as the material for public diplomacy.

Afterward, the implementation of sustainable agricultural development has fostered long-term, inclusive relationships with the surrounding community, as Haramain Integrated Farming employed simple technologies that can be easily adopted by local residents. Furthermore, the *eco-pesantren* initiative has provided employment opportunities for the local population, offered educational experiences for *santri* as a way to create regeneration, contributed to the food security of the Islamic Boarding School (*pesantren*), and supplied products for the *pesantren*'s business units.

The synergistic role of Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School in executing *eco-pesantren* combined with government capital contributions has created a sustainable agricultural system on Lombok Island by revitalizing land productivity and empowering farmers for integrated farming research and development, as well as small and medium enterprise (SME) activities within the *pesantren* and local markets. It has had a significant impact on food security and economic resilience in the archipelagic region, as demonstrated during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, when Lombok's agricultural sector exhibited positive trends while other provinces experienced economic productivity deficits due to disrupted community activities.

Networked Approaches

The implementation of networked approaches emphasizes the pivotal role of Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School as a non-state actor in addressing the government's strategic limitations in accessing resources, as presented in Table 3. The credibility of Nurul Haramain is demonstrated through national recognition and awards, such as the Kalpataru and Indonesia Green Award, which acknowledge its high environmental awareness and dedication to environmental conservation for future generations. The institution has collaborated on agricultural development initiatives with government bodies, including the Ministry of Forestry, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Indonesia. Furthermore, it has received recognition for its educational capabilities from the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. Those achievements have raised an enormous reputation and capital for Indonesia's public diplomacy.

Table 3. Implementation of Networked Approaches Based on a Case Study

Issues	Collaborative Approach		
	State's awakensness	Non-state actor advantages	Related non-state actor
Credibility	The interests promoted by the government have not been effective in mobilizing segments of the population to develop the agricultural sector.	Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School possesses significant potential to provide social capital.	Haramain Integrated Farming has a clear orientation and well-defined targets.
	The government has limitations in supplying social capital.		Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School possesses specialization in mobilizing adequate social capital, both internally and externally, to conduct research and development.
Reach	The government has not fully optimized its role in collaborating with practical non-state actors.	Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School is capable of bridging the roles of the government and non-state actors.	Haramain Integrated Farming serves a strategic role in the development of the green economy on Lombok Island.
	National and province policies remain very general and have not yet effectively reached the agricultural community.	"Integrating functions based on capabilities in education to support aspects of sustainable development."	
Resources	The government faces limitations in accessing human resources due to bureaucratic administrative factors.	Nurul Haramain Integrated Farming has access to human resources to manage natural potentials.	Haramain Integrated Farming has received national and international recognition for its success and consistency in developing the agricultural sector and serving as an environmental conservation agent.

Source: Processed by Authors (2025)

To disseminate information more widely to the public, it has partnered with mass media to highlight its agricultural productivity and contributions to food security and economic self-sufficiency. The credibility of Haramain Integrated Farming has also been recognized internationally through the Ramon Magsaysay Award, considered the Asian equivalent of the Nobel Prize, for its success in developing an environmentally conscious Islamic boarding school that respects women and promotes

interfaith integration. Additionally, it has received the Ashoka Award and achieved top-tier membership for its consistent application of agricultural development programs over the years. Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School has also served actively as an assessor for the Syafi'i Ma'arif Award and is an advisory council member for the Ramon Magsaysay Award, and participates in capacity-building training programs in Thailand and India.

In higher education and scientific advocacy, Tuan Guru Hasanain has acted as a keynote speaker in multiple international forums, such as the 19th Island of the World Conference entitled: Island and Resilience for Global Opportunities, representing Islamic Community Development as a strategic non-state actor with strong social legitimacy. This political influence has enabled him to mobilize local communities through the *eco-pesantren*.

The networked approach highlights the capacity for collaboration in green economy initiatives. Nurul Haramain has established strong integration with other non-state actors, such as WALHI and the Association for *Pesantren* and Community Development (P3M). Through its network, the *pesantren* has connected with all 327 Islamic boarding schools in West Nusa Tenggara, supporting green projects such as tree plantations and the distribution of one million seeds through the Islamic Boarding School for the People program until 2017, contributing to regional ecological resilience. As a result, it also aligns with the fact that the Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School has played a significant role in bridging Islamic institutions with both the government and other non-state actors to advance agricultural development programs.

Regarding resources, Haramain Integrated Farming has collaborated with experts, producing outputs such as the publication *Fiqh for Nature* (Ethics for Nature), developed through partnership with Islamic boarding schools across Indonesia, as well as national and international nature conservation organizations. This initiative has promoted nature conservation at national, regional, and international levels (Juaini, 2024). The expertise and specialization of Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School in integrated farming could enhance human productivity for agricultural governance. Moreover, *eco-pesantren* could also mobilize religious intellectuals as human resources for research and development and community advocacy. Human capital at Nurul Haramain possesses the flexibility to develop specialized agricultural skills through integrated farming. Therefore, it fosters an atmosphere of soft power to disseminate faith-based environmental actors as knowledge diplomacy.

ECO-PESANTREN AS INSTRUMENTAL OF INDONESIAN PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Internal and external collaboration on Haramain Integrated Farming exemplifies the success of a non-state educational actor. This approach to public diplomacy entails collaboration regarding credibility, reach, and resources, while demonstrating the *eco-pesantren's* influence in driving community-based green economy initiatives. These achievements have shaped the political will of Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding as a stakeholder in agricultural development projects and green economic development in Indonesia. The green economy in Indonesia is closely linked to sustainable development, harmonizing environmental, economic, and social aspects into an integrated framework. The productivity of *pesantren* as a contributor to agricultural development is crucial for regional

economic growth, including the integration of upstream and downstream agricultural activities, managed waste and peatland utilization, agricultural productivity, and livelihoods (Muis et al., 2025).

These accomplishments confirm that Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School, through its Haramain Integrated Farming program, constitutes an important instrument of Indonesian public diplomacy in promoting food security and green economic initiatives as SDGs, such as zero hunger, quality education, responsible consumption and production, and partnerships for the goals. It is not merely as advocacy and practice of local wisdom, but also forms a model of faith-based environmental actor to stand on the standpoint of *eco-pesantren* as the platform for achieving Indonesia's public diplomacy.

CONCLUSION

Haramain Integrated Farming has demonstrated how grassroots initiatives can become instruments of public diplomacy that promote Indonesia's commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship. The success of Haramain Integrated Farming reflects the ability of the Islamic boarding school to serve not merely as religious and educational institutions but also as agents of social transformation, environmental sustainability, and community empowerment. This finding suggests that locally rooted initiatives can generate broader diplomatic value by showcasing Indonesia's sustainable development practices and strengthening its positive image internationally. The study also reflects the importance of collaboration, trust-building, and community engagement as key elements of effective public diplomacy.

Based on the findings, several recommendations can be proposed. First, government institutions should strengthen partnerships with Islamic boarding schools and other community-based organizations to support sustainable agricultural development and environmental conservation programs. Second, policymakers should formally recognize the strategic role of Islamic boarding schools as non-state actors that can contribute to Indonesia's public diplomacy objectives. Third, capacity-building programs, financial support, and knowledge-sharing networks should be expanded to enhance the sustainability and scalability of integrated farming initiatives. Finally, the Haramain Integrated Farming model should be replicated in other regions to promote food security, green economic resilience, and sustainable community development for Lombok Island's resilience.

Furthermore, it demonstrates how agricultural and environmental initiatives can be utilized as public diplomacy resources to promote Indonesia's commitment to sustainability, strengthen community resilience, and enhance the country's international reputation in achieving sustainable development goals.

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APPENDIX

Table 2. Implementation of Relational Approaches Based on a Case Study

	Issues	Collaborative Approaches		
		State's weakness	Non-state actor advantages	Related non-state actor
Relational Approaches of Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School		The local government (province and national) only has general agricultural development policies.	It implements an agricultural development program targeting Islamic Boarding Schools (<i>pesantren</i>) by the Haramain Integrated Farming program.	The management of the Haramain Integrated Farming program involves the participation of teachers, students (<i>santri</i>), and local farmers.
			Haramain Integrated Farming integrated by non-academic program	The management of the Haramain Integrated Farming program employs simple agricultural technologies that are easily accessible to the community.
	Relationship-building	The government lacks strategic access for agricultural development in potential community segments, such as <i>pesantren</i> .	It demonstrates consistent engagement in research and development (R&D) in agriculture.	The management of the Haramain Integrated Farming program is integrated with spiritual education (Islamic Worldview).
			It maintains good relationships with the Central Government, Local Governments, NGOs, and among <i>pesantren</i> both within and outside the province.	The agricultural development system within Haramain Integrated Farming fosters food self-sufficiency for <i>pesantren</i> and promotes green economic resilience on Lombok Island.
		The government needs more optimization of the	Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School promotes mutual interests that benefit both the	Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School enhances the effectiveness of agricultural development by

Mutuality & Symmetrical	implementation of agricultural development policies due to their lack of targeted focus.	<i>pesantren</i> and civil society.	maintaining strong relationships with various <i>pesantren</i> , non-governmental organizations, universities, mass media, and international institutions.
	The government requires the involvement of non-state actors to reach community segments with high potential, thereby enhancing effectiveness.		Haramain Integrated Farming is recommended as a model for sustainable development among <i>pesantren</i> .

Source: Processed by Authors (2025)