

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background

Managing relationships among nations, states, and other players is a key component of diplomacy. Advising, forming, and carrying out foreign policy are all aspects of diplomacy from the viewpoint of a state. It is therefore a method by which states, through their formal and other representatives, as well as other actors, articulate, coordinate, and secure specific or broader interests through the use of correspondence, private talks, point-of-view exchanges, lobbying, visits, threats, and other related activities. (Barston, 2014)

International relations is one of the dynamic branches of science that is able to explain the problems or conflicts of a country. In addition to the issue of conflict and war, the international world is currently also worried about economic and environmental conditions. The environment is currently one of the issues that is widely discussed in all scientific studies due to the consequences of the problem of sustainability that causes global warming due to climate change. Humans are causing rapid climate change by consuming oil, gas, and coal in their homes, industry, and transportation. When these fossil fuels are used, they emit greenhouse gases (CO<sub>2</sub>). These gases trap the sun's heat which raises the planet's temperature. (BBC, 2022) Forests have an important role in ecosystems, one of which is that to prevent global warming by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. This exchange of gases balances the atmosphere and helps in the prevention of global warming. The international community has negotiated a future mechanism to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, which will help to prevent climate change. A response to environmental concerns through international collaboration that involves both state and non-state entities in its implementation is known as environmental diplomacy. Using environmental diplomacy as a means of mitigating ecological damage (Benedick, 1998). According to the Letter of Intent of this cooperation, the purpose and focus of the REDD+ Agreement between Indonesia and Norway aims to conduct a policy on international climate change and collaborating in supporting the implementation of Indonesia's REDD+ strategy.

According to UNFCCC official websites, REDD+ is a framework that was developed by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on the Conference of the Parties (COP) to direct activities in the forest sector that can lower emissions from deforestation of forest degradation, as well as the sustainable management of forest and the preservation and improvement of forest carbon stocks in emerging economies. It intends to have the national government carry out initiatives to reduce human pressure on forests that leads to greenhouse gas emissions, but it also acknowledges subnational implementation as a temporary measure. The implementation of REDD+ itself depends on each developing country's conditions, capacities, and capabilities. Indonesia is one of the nations with sizable tropical forests, and it has plans to slow down deforestation by Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). In accordance with Indonesian forestry regulations, REDD+ is an emission reduction program that can accommodate many forms of forest and land management, such as protected and conservation forests, production forests, or forests that have been converted into Areas of Use (non-forests). (Haeda, 2017)

According to a data from the Republic of Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry on March 31, 2021, the area of Indonesia's tropical forests is 126 million hectares (Ha), making it the third-largest tropical in the world forest after Congo and Brazil. However, the rate of deforestation and degradation in Indonesia is among the greatest in the world. Data that the author cited from the Lokadata website showed that Indonesia emitted carbon dioxide gas with an average of 472.056 million tons during 2005-2010 before the occurrence of the cooperation. For 5 years (2005-2010) the level of carbon dioxide emissions in Indonesia can be said to be high and static when compared to other countries in the world. Due to the high pace of deforestation and forest degradation, Indonesia is one of the major contributors to global gas emissions. In Indonesia, illegal logging, forest fires, a relatively high local and global demand for forest products, the conversion of forest areas to agricultural land, plantations, and settlements, and other factors all contribute to deforestation and forest degradation. (Delvia Susanti, Adiasri Putri Purbantina, 2020) Nearly 80 percent of Indonesia's greenhouse gas emissions come from deforestation, land use change and drainage, decomposition and burning of peatlands. This means that Indonesia can still

maximize the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> produced and can even do so faster than some other countries.

Norway as one of the Scandinavian countries is known as a green country that has a large wealth of petroleum fields. Even so, Norway managed to release its dependence on the commodity of green energy and shift to renewables and change their commodity to renewables. (Digantara, 2019) Norway committed to sharply reducing emissions across the economy and, in particular, in the oil and gas sector. The Norwegian government revised its climate objectives and increased its intention to achieve net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2050. Norway's democratic method also demonstrates its regard for public opinion. The new NDC, which includes the Environmental Information Act, encourages public engagement in climate change decision-making processes. Furthermore, Norway has formally issued its National Transport Plan for the period 2022-2033, which serves as a road map for meeting Norway's 2030 climate objectives for reducing transport-related emissions. (Lee, 2021) With all of those policies and actions that Norway took, especially in the environmental field, Norway is regarded as one of the countries in the world that have the greatest environmental policies when it comes to its own domestic policies. Norway's International Climate Government and the Forest Initiative (NICFI) make up by far the lion's share of Norway's mitigation assistance. The initiative supports the development of international REDD+ to achieve cost-effective and verifiable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+). (Priastowo, 2016) The Norwegian government has a sound regulatory framework that is supported by a low population density and the widespread usage of local hydropower technology. (Berutu, 2016). More than 60 years have passed since Indonesia and Norway first established diplomatic ties. The Joint Declaration on Cooperation in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), which took place in 2007, marked the beginning of environmental cooperation between Norway and Indonesia. (Delvia Susanti, Adiasri Putri Purbantina, 2020)

Indonesia's foreign policy is caused by many factors such as geographical location and natural resources owned there is an assessment that is considered strategic in influencing the form of implementation of Indonesia's foreign policy related to environmental issues is the Indonesian government's policy to cooperate with other countries. One of them is by

cooperating with Norway in dealing with environmental issues by making an international agreement in the environmental field. With various forest problems occurring in Indonesia, Norway has attracted attention to cooperate with Indonesia for the development of REDD+ projects which are an international mechanism to provide positive incentives for developing countries that have succeeded in reducing deforestation emissions and forest degradation. As an industrialized nation included in Annex 1 of the Kyoto Protocol, Norway has a legal obligation to reduce its domestic carbon emissions. This obligation is primarily brought on by the country's extraordinarily high levels of fossil energy usage, industrialization, and transportation. (Lady, 2018) Related to Norway's inability to reduce carbon emissions, the country is willing to provide grants to developing countries, one of which is Indonesia. Indonesia set a target of reducing greenhouse gases by 26 percent in 2020 and 41 percent with the help of international funding. Norway's funding is expected to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Indonesia while developing forest management. (DITJEN PPI, 2022) Conservation cooperation between Indonesia and Norway within the framework of REDD+ is included in functional cooperation, which is where cooperation is established to be able to meet the needs of each party that needs to be achieved through this functional cooperation, this cooperation requires power in meeting the needs or interests of each party and both parties complement and support each other, but if one party cannot perform its function, the cooperation will not be able to function.

The impact of the Indonesia-Norway cooperation through REDD+ can be declared successful in reduce Indonesia's emissions. The cooperation between the two nations began on May 26, 2010, and according to the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, the Indonesian government recently decided to terminate the cooperation on September 10, 2021. In accordance with the terms of Article XIII of the REDD+ Letter of Intent (LoI), the end of the REDD+ cooperation was communicated to the Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway in Jakarta via a diplomatic memorandum. The end of the REDD+ partnership will not have any impact on Indonesia's dedication to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. The cooperation that lasted for approximately 11 years has an impact on environmental conditions in Indonesia, which Indonesia succeeded to reduce up to 11.2 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in the 2016/2017 period. To

achieve the success of the cooperation, the Indonesian government formulated new policies as an effort to successfully reduce gas in Indonesia. Indonesia and Norway are dedicated to completing bilateral collaboration during the time of their partnership, particularly in the area of the environment through the REDD+ Agreement. (Kementrian Luar Negeri RI, 2016)

## **B. Research Question**

Based on the background of the problem as the author describes above, the problems proposed in this thesis can be formulated as follows: **“What is Indonesia’s efforts to reduce emissions through REDD+ with Norway?”**

## **C. Theoretical Framework**

The basic framework of the theory is the section of a study that explains the variables and their relationships based on a concept or a specific definition. Theories that serve as references in the research will be presented in this section of the basic theoretical framework. The author applied the Environmental Diplomacy Concept and International Cooperation Theory in this study.

### **1. Environmental Diplomacy Concept**

Environmental diplomacy is a discipline of international relations that combines ecological issues with other countries and uses negotiation as a solution. According to Paul Webster Hare (2015), environmental diplomacy tries to solve and avoid environmental problems across national borders by incorporating a variety of stakeholders. Environmental diplomacy, in principle, is defined as diplomacy focused only on environmental concerns. In practice, however, environmental diplomacy frequently deals with commerce, intellectual property, energy, health, and even security issues. Environmental diplomacy is a type of endeavor to implement a country's foreign policy in order to engage in the resolution of environmental challenges. Environmental diplomacy in the study of International Relations is the best method for international or ordinary discourse as well as the art of managing international relations, primarily through negotiations. (Pisupati, 2015) Environmental diplomacy has benefited not just one country, but also other, as well as increasing people's quality of life through policies that value the environment, also known as sustainable development. (Susskind, 1994) To achieve the success of an

environmental diplomacy, it is necessary to have environmental protection regulated in international law so that it can be applied by all countries, both developed and developing countries. In the mechanism of environmental diplomacy there are two main pillars to achieve the success of cooperation. The first pillar is the commitment in implementing the agreement and the second pillar is the establishment of conservation and environmental protection.

Borg (1994) defines environmental diplomacy as a skill in handling environmental issues, whose implications are international in scope. Studies in environmental diplomacy have important components that can be seen from the institutional structure, processes, and agendas implemented through environmental diplomacy. The process that takes place in diplomacy is as follows (Pramudianto, 2009). **First**, in a country's diplomatic institutions, missions, and diplomatic are official representatives of a country that have an important role in efforts to improve friendly relations between the two countries, especially in realizing their national interests. **Second**, the diplomatic process is the process of forming international agreements. The process of forming international agreements is carried out through several phases such as pre-negotiation, negotiation, adoption, signing, and ratification. **Then**, after all the processes are carried out, the implementation of the agreement is continued through various meetings which are the monitoring and supervision process. The parties participating in this environmental cooperation include Indonesia and Norway, both of whom have national interests. The government cannot execute the REDD+ accord alone; it requires the cooperation of other non-state entities such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to make it simpler for the government to implement REDD+. (Ningsih, 2019)

According to Paul Webster Hare (2015), one of the most important aspects of diplomacy is the interests that are represented. The similarities in the features of the two nations that pay close attention to worldwide environmental concerns cause these two countries to collaborate to safeguard the environment rather than engage in carbon trading. The execution of this collaboration is inspired by the two countries'

common realization that environmental protection is a shared duty. The success of diplomacy can be interpreted as a combination of tools and mechanisms that help the parties involved in the diplomacy to build a trust to protect the global environment that is very important for the entire world community. In other words, there is a need for cooperation between developed and developing countries in implementing environmental protection mechanisms. Based on these criteria, the Indonesia-Norway REDD+ partnership has been quite competent. Indonesia's strong commitment to protecting forests for future survival makes it a crucial country to which the international community should lend assistance. Meanwhile, by investing up to 1 billion USD REDD+ financing, Norway is establishing itself as a developed country addressing environmental challenges. (Ningsih, 2019).

## **2. International Cooperation Theory**

The occurrence of international relations is a necessity as a result of the interdependence and increasing complexity of human life in the international community so that interdependence does not allow a country to close itself to the outside world. One form of dependence between actors in international relations is realized through a cooperation where the cooperation can involve various actors in international relations, be it countries, organizations, or individuals. (James E. Doughrty & Robert L. Pfaltzgraff, 1997) International Cooperation is a type of relationship that a country has with another country that is aimed at serving the needs of the people and the interests of countries throughout the world. (Ikbar, 2014) In this case, a relationship was developed between Indonesia and Norway in order to mitigate the effects of climate change, one of which was by lowering the effects of peatland fires. Which corresponds to REDD that refers to the role of conservation, sustainable management of forest and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

According to K.J Holsti, international cooperation is a form of view of how two or more interests, values, or goals that produce something in the form of a meeting, are promoted and fulfilled by each party concerned. Cooperation occurs due to behavioral

adjustments made by actors into response and in anticipation of choices made by other actors. Cooperation can be carried out in a negotiation process that is held. But if each side has known each other, negotiations no longer need to be carried out.

In other words, international cooperation can be formed because international life covers various fields such as ideology, politics, economy, social, environment, culture, defense and security. As a result, the conditions for the occurrence of international cooperation must have problems and common interests, then there is a business, a common goal, and finally an organization is formed as a forum for its activities, both bilateral, regional and international. Once an agreement has occurred between member states within the framework of the ongoing framework, the next step is the ability to achieve success in that pattern of international cooperation.

The problem in the implementation of international cooperation lies not only in the identification of common goals and methods for achieving them, but also in the impact and achievement of those goals. Cooperation will also be sought if the benefits obtained are expected to outweigh the consequences that must be borne. In this case, the cooperation established between Indonesia and Norway is an international cooperation in the environmental sector. This international cooperation is carried out through REDD+ agreements as an effort to reduce gas emissions and greenhouse effects in Indonesia.

#### **D. Hypothesis**

Indonesia efforts to reduce emissions as an environmental diplomacy through REDD+ agreement with Norway is by issued several policies and established bodies related to the implementation of REDD+ in accordance with the LoI. Based on the LoI, the form of REDD+ implementation by Indonesia is divided into 3 phases. However, the third phase is the emission verification and payment phase. Therefore, the efforts made by Indonesia are in the first two phases, the two phases are as follows:

1. First Phase - Preparation Phase, in this phase Indonesia created a REDD+ National Strategy which explained the systematic implementation of REDD+, regulated the



establishment of a REDD+ Task Force, and the necessity of having a REDD+ Province Pilot.

2. Second Phase - Transformation Phase, in this phase Indonesia made several policies governing forest licensing and restoration, created a One Map Initiative, drafted a law on indigenous peoples, and regulated the procedural implementation of REDD+.

## **E. Scope of Research**

For as long as the approximately 11 years of environmental diplomacy established between Indonesia and Norway through the REDD+ agreement, Indonesia has successfully pursued emission reductions through the LoI with Norway. The discussion will focus on how Indonesia effort to implement the REDD+ schemes based on LoI with Norway through their policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by deforestation and forest degradation. The analysis of this study will focus based on two phases, which the preparation phase and the transformation phase of REDD+ based on the LoI. Although this agreement officially ended in September 2021, Indonesia and Norway have just re-established cooperation on the protection of tropical rainforests in September 2022. The ongoing bilateral relationship makes the author very interested in discussing the environmental diplomacy established between Indonesia and Norway in dealing with environmental issues.

## **F. Research Methodology**

### **a. Technique of Data Collecting**

The data collection technique that will be carried out in this study is through interview and collecting literature references from various relevant sources such as research, books, journals, articles, reports from government official websites, and other relevant credible writings. The data obtained from the written document will then be reviewed, grouped, and analyzed to enrich the understanding of REDD+ and be able to provide Indonesia's effort to reduce emissions reduction as an implementation of REDD+ based on the LoI with Norway.

## **b. Analysis Technique**

In this research, the author uses a qualitative descriptive research method. Qualitative research is a research approach that investigates and provides deeper insights into real-world issues. Instead on gathering raw data, the qualitative technique aids in the generation of hypotheses as well as the subsequent investigation and comprehension of quantitative data. (Steven Tenny; Janelle M. Brannan; Grace D. Brannan, 2022) Descriptive research is a method for describing the characteristics of a population. It collects data that is used to answer a variety of what, when, and how questions about a certain issue. In this research, the author explains the efforts of Indonesia to reduce emissions based on the cooperation between Indonesia-Norway through REDD+ which provides the efforts and policies made by Indonesia to reduce emissions based on the author's analysis on relatable and credible data.

## **G. Thesis Structure**

The writing system of this study consist of the framework of the clear outline from four chapters, the following are the description of the divided outline.

**CHAPTER 1** This chapter is the introductory part, which contains an explanation of the background, the research question, the theoretical framework, the hypothesis, the scope of research, the research methodology, and the structure of the writing.

**CHAPTER II** This chapter explains the environmental issues in international stage and the background of bilateral relations between Indonesia and Norway through the REDD+ agreement. Which contains further discussion regarding Indonesia's environmental conditions are ultimately deemed necessary to implement REDD+ in Indonesia by attracting Norway to cooperate.

**CHAPTER III** This chapter explain the Indonesia's efforts to reduce the emissions based on the REDD+ LoI with Norway. The efforts of Indonesia itself will be explain based on the first phase and the second phase of REDD+ implementation. This chapter will be also providing the explanation of third phase of REDD+ implementation which will explained the result of the cooperation.

**CHAPTER IV** This chapter presents the conclusion from the whole chapter and bibliography.