

THE IRONWOOD TRADE FROM KALIMANTAN TO SULAWESI: A REPORT FROM SEVERAL SITES ON IRONWOOD PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, AND CONSUMPTION

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We studied the production, trade, and consumption of ironwood (*Eusideroxylon zwageri*) between the east coast of Kalimantan Island and the southeast coast of Sulawesi Island. Ironwood is produced in inland areas near the coasts of East and South Kalimantan, and is shipped to Sulawesi by the Bugis people living along the coast and on the small islands of Sulawesi. There, it is used as construction material for houses and ships.

It is not always sensible to divide regions into units of main “areas” of land. Using ironwood production and trade as an example, we propose that “areas” of sea and small islands form key elements that can be classed into units based on historical relationships and social networks built up over several centuries between Kalimantan and Sulawesi.

Keywords: Bugis, Ironwood, Kalimantan, Spermonde Archipelago, Sulawesi