

Ministry to save 15 severely damaged lakes

JAKARTA: The Environment Ministry recently commenced a lake-rescue movement, known as GERMADAN, in order to increase the commitment to care for and save Indonesia's lakes, as well as to develop their potential economically, socially and culturally.

The ministry has confirmed there are 15 severely damaged lakes across the country: Lake Toba (North Sumatra); Lake Maninjau and Lake Singkarak (West Sumatra); Lake Kerinci (Jambi); Lake Rawa (Banten); Lake Rawapening (Central Java); Lake Batur (Bali); Lake Tempe and Lake Matano (South Sulawesi); Lake Poso (Central Sulawesi); Lake Tondano (North Sulawesi); Lake Limboto (Gorontalo); Lake Sentarum (West Kalimantan); and Lake Cascade Mahakam and Lake Sentani (East Kalimantan).

Environment Minister Gusti Muhammad Hatta said in a statement that his ministry would prioritize saving the 15 most severely damaged lakes in the country. "Today marks the beginning of the movement to save lakes in our country. I, therefore, encourage all people to be committed toward this effort," he said during a national conference on Indonesia's lakes in Semarang, Central Java.