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Editor's Preface

As this growing number of human beings face a multitude of threats from climate change, pollution, viruses and other forms of serious problems, including each other as we compete for an ever shrinking piece of the pie, this small book intends to provide hope by giving an insight into the planning of future developments in agriculture and rural society in an environmentally friendly and economically sustainable way in the authors' homeland, Indonesia. It attempts to review the present conditions from a realistic perspective that does not conveniently forget to account for the future losses to agriculture incurred by pollution, overuse, and soil degradation while providing the means to address the social and economic losses to rural society as their talented sons and daughters are lured by lucrative employment prospects to the already overloaded urban areas.

Can such an ambitious plan succeed? It is up to us to draft an eloquent argument that can persuade those who refuse to see what is perfectly clear to the world's scientists, that the only way to ensure a stable, secure, and prosperous future for future generations is to make sure the human race progress together, and leaves no one behind.

Indonesia's advancement towards a sustainable future is still a work in progress, very much in the planning stages. As a humble first step I have called upon my colleagues in related fields to report on the present situation on the ground, and explain the latest developments in their respective fields.

In the first chapter Dr. Iqra Anugrah, a specialist agrarian politics, gives his report on solidarity practices in rural and fishing communities across Indonesia. In the Chapter 2, I lay out my proposals for strengthening the resilience of rural agricultural societies. In Chapter 3, Dr. Corinthias P. M. Sianipar introduces the issues, challenges and

opportunities provided by advances in Smart Farming, and in Chapter 4, AR. Rohman Taufiq Hidayat shows how spatial planning for rural development can provide holistic and sustainable solutions for rural societies. In the concluding chapter, I give a summary of a discussion among my coauthors after sharing their research, and I will draw from each contributor and try to see how we can collaborate to better achieve our goal.

It is my sincere hope that through the insights of these young specialists, we can work together to guide an increasingly prosperous Indonesian nation towards a bright future. Due to its diversity of pioneering endeavors, it is our hope that this will provide a model for ensuring sustainable growth in the Asian region.

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Chapter 2: Strengthening the Resilience of Rural Agricultural Societies in Indonesia: Agroecology with a Terroir Approach

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