

Goodbye 2013, HELLO 2014!

Its year end. Time to take stock of our achievements. Let's look back at the year that has been and make fresh promises for the year to come.

8th APFP Project Management Meeting:

On 9th July 2013, the 8th Project Management meeting was held in Manila to discuss the progress of the components. It was attended by the National Coordinators and National Experts from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam. Also present was a representative from IFAD and observers from DENR and ACB.

Many issues were discussed to ensure the project proceeds smoothly in its final year. This was followed by a field visit to several barangays in Agusan Marsh, Caraga, Mindanao on the 10th.

We thank the Filipino component for being kind and gracious hosts.

The Ministers reviewed national, sub-regional and regional activities to address land and forest fires in the region and its associated transboundary haze pollution. The Ministers welcomed the significant progress in the implementation.



River Carnival 2013

The 2013 River Carnival was held in SMK Taman Melawati on 29th September. There was plenty to do and fun for the 1000-odd visitors who came to the carnival which is part of a wider effort to raise awareness on the importance of river conservation; highlighting the importance of taking responsibility by reducing pollution.



Held in conjunction with the World Rivers Day, the ROL POP River Carnival is organised by the Department of Drainage and Irrigation (DID) Malaysia in partnership with Ampang Jaya Municipal Council, Global Environment Centre (GEC) and ERE Consulting Group Sdn Bhd. It is just one of the many activities that DID Malaysia has planned under ROL POP to increase public participation, reduce river pollution and improve water quality in the ROL pilot project area.

The Carnival ran from 8am to 3pm with a variety of educational activities such as the Young River Scientist Programme where young children played scientist for a day and learned about organisms in rivers and how to test river cleanliness.

To kick off the carnival, VIPs released fish into a tank. The fish was later released into the river. Following the launch, the audience was

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treated to a zapin dance by SMK Taman Melawati students. Celebrity Daphne Iking joined the judges of the inter-School Upcycling competition and emceed together with En Shahidan from JPS to bring cheer to the festivities. The YAWA EcoDrum circle entertained the audience with instruments made from recycled items.

3 lucky draw sessions were held, with fun prizes like chocolate hampers and Body Shop gift boxes.

The winners of the Inter-School Upcycling and Photo Contests were awarded their prizes later that day.

Thank you to all who came and we look forward to seeing you again.

Photo contest winners

Under 18



MOHD IKHMAL ISAAC BIN MOHD AZMI
"A local resident was fishing at the Klang river to make a living for his family."



AMIN BIN MOHAMMAD MOKHTAR
"Where once the banks were green foliage, now it's sometimes a graffiti wall"

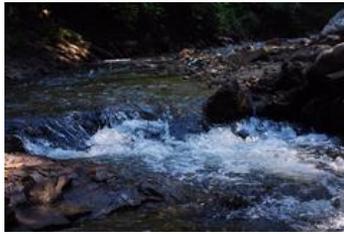


DANISYA IRDINA BT MOHD FAIZAL
"Sungai Klang"



AIMAN FIRDAUS BIN DAUD
"Deruan Sungai"

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KHAIRUL NUR SHAHIDAN BIN TAJUL ARIFF
"The Beautiful Flow of River Klang"

Above 18



AMINRULLRASHED BIN AZMAN
"Sungai Klang and Masjid"



ABD GANI MASROM
"Graffiti street art along the Klang River right off Pasar Seni LRT station"



HAZIZE BIN SAN
"Atmosphere of the Klang River near Jalan Jelatek"



NG WEI CHEAN
"The Beauty of Klang River"



MOHD AZAHARI BIN ISMAIL
"Sungai Bersih Memacu Kelestarian Alam Sekitar"

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Phase 2 meeting



In early September, delegates from 8 ASEAN countries met in Petaling Jaya to discuss the continuation of the ASEAN Peatland Forests Project. Results brought to IAMME in Surabaya.

In Surabaya, we displayed the progress of the project in all participating countries and discussed the continuation at the plenary meeting. The proposal was endorsed by the Government representatives present.

Raja Muda Selangor Greens the Forest



28th August 2013 - The Crown Prince of Selangor, Tengku Amir Shah ibni Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah visited the peatland forest rehabilitation site managed by GEC in cooperation with the Selangor Forestry Department at Bestari Jaya. Also present was YB Elizabeth Wong Keat Ping, Chairman of the State Council for Tourism, Consumer Affairs and Environment.

Tengku Amir gave a speech, in which he urged everyone to realize the importance of the environment and hopes the North Selangor PSF can continue supporting the local socio-economy. His Highness planted a Mersawa Paya (*Anisoptera marginata*) tree and visited a nearby burn site. Tg Amir also spent some time visiting 7 exhibition booths which showcased the conservation efforts in the area.

600 Tenggek burung (*Euodia redleyi*) trees were planted by volunteers to re-green the site, stop peatland fires and help prevent global warming.

Earthwatch Citizen Science Leader Training Day



On 17th October 2013, 19 HSBC staff attended an Earthwatch Citizen Science Leader training session at their headquarters at Leboh Ampang, KL. The objective of the programme was to introduce the HSBC Water programme and prepare the volunteers for carrying out quarterly water quality monitoring at 10 selected sites along the Klang River for the next 3-years. The collected data will be uploaded into the Earthwatch water programme website. The information collected will deliver important data for a global freshwater programme. During the training session, Sudha from

Earthwatch talked about global water issues and Dr. Kali from GEC talked about water issues in Malaysia. Participants learned about key environmental issues and challenges related to freshwater quality and supply.

There were two fieldwork sessions. At the open classroom, the volunteers learned how to conduct water quality and biological monitoring using the correct tools and methods. The second fieldwork involved practical water quality monitoring at the river bank near HSBC HQ.

At the end of the training session, each volunteer was given their own water testing kit. The volunteers thoroughly enjoyed the training and were all raring to go!



Roadshow Organised To Raise Awareness On Urban River Conservation

PETALING JAYA, 15 DECEMBER 2013: A river conservation and management roadshow took off on 15 December 2013, at Pasar Seri Setia, SS9, Petaling Jaya. Organised by GAB Foundation in partnership with Global Environment Centre (GEC), a local NGO, the roadshow hosted various river conservation and waste management activities which was participated by more than 100 local communities and traders.



Located at industrial area along Federal Highway in Petaling Jaya, the Sungei Way river begins as 2 small separate channels in SS1. It is a relatively short concrete – channelised river of 12km long but yet experiences all levels of pollution, especially solid waste, from the densely populated and industrial area surrounding it. The roadshow intended to disseminate information and increase awareness on river pollution while sharing hands-on waste management techniques. The roadshow is a part of Sungei Way river rehabilitation programme undertaken through the W.A.T.E.R Project, an initiative of GAB Foundation in partnership with Global Environment Centre (GEC).

The roadshow saw the participants took parts in hands-on activities – candle and soap making from used cooking oil, composting, bio-monitoring and water quality testing. These specific activities were exhibited and demonstrated in an effort to ensure participants understood different type of actions and implications towards the river ecosystem.

GEC Director, Faizal Parish stated that “The WATER Project aims to raise public awareness about the issues facing the Sungei Way River. Through the roadshow, the public got the opportunity to be engaged and educated on river management and learned how they can play a role in keeping our rivers clean.”

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Remember to check out our 2014 tree planting dates!

Support Us!

One of GEC's Stop The Haze Campaign missions is to provide regular reports to public on haze and fire situation and haze safety tips through educational materials and outreach activities. To do this, we need a constant supply of funds! Help us make a better environment today by donating to our funds!

You can help by making a donation to GEC's "Stop the Haze" Campaign through CIMB Clicks donation portal.

*All contributions to GEC are tax deductible.

Contact us for further details.

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