

GEC's Role on Sustainable Peatland Management and Smoke Haze Prevention

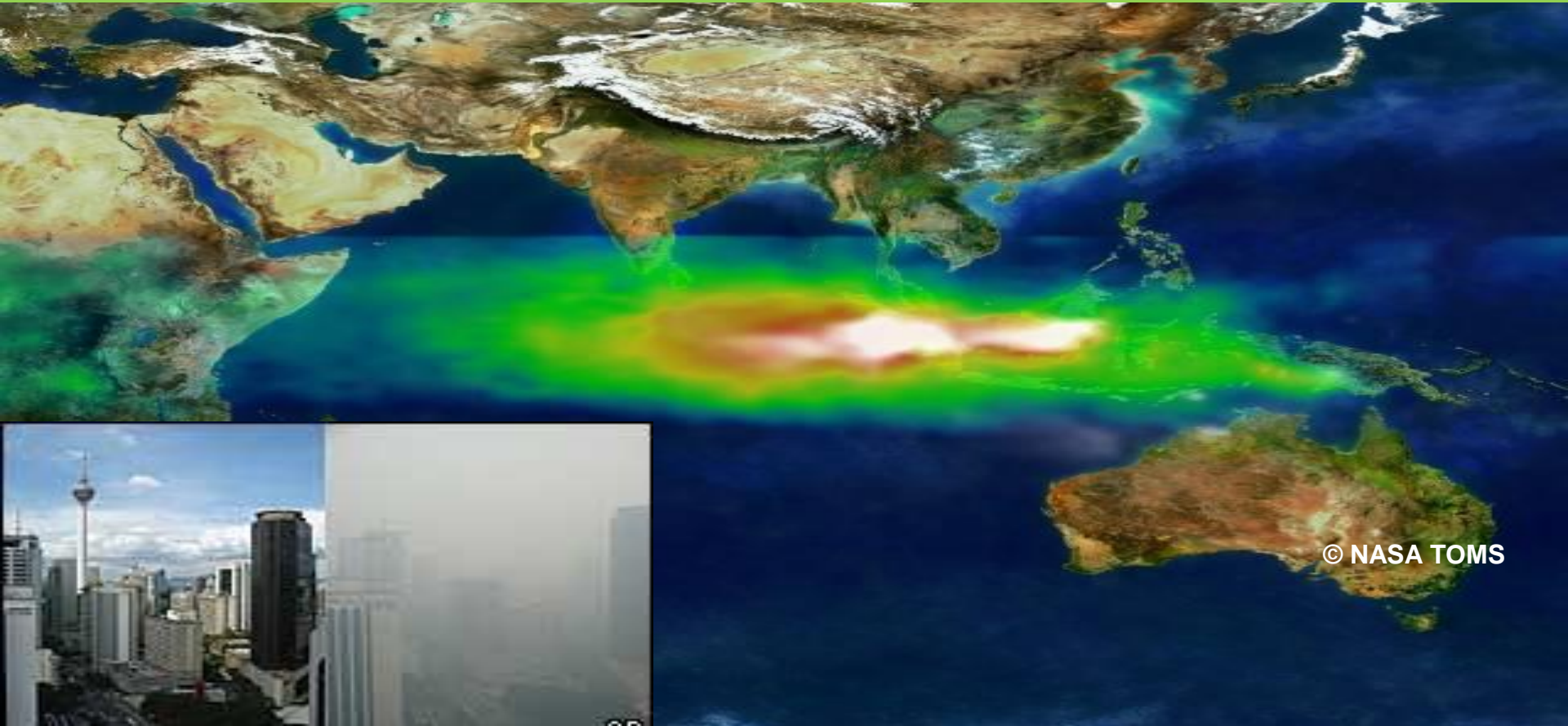
Lew Siew Yan (Serena)

APRIL 23, 2019, KL PAC

Peatlands cover 400 million ha globally and 23 million ha in ASEAN



Smoke from peatland fires affected 50 million people in six ASEAN Member Countries – 1997-98 El Nino



Partnerships are key

(Sustainable Development Goal 17)

- **17. iv-b Multi-stakeholder partnerships**
 - Cross-sectoral working relationship between agencies
 - Public-Private Partnerships
 - Top-up decisions from policy makers to operation meets Bottom-up initiatives from layman and communities – more success stories and ownerships by all parties – appreciation of all involvements
 - Transform scientific results and technical knowledge to practical on the ground through CEPA -> community participatory approach



GEC Peatland Partners



European Union



Investing in rural people



Australian Government

AusAID



And other funders and partners...

Achievements – International

- **Securing recognition** of importance of peatlands by UNCBD and UNFCCC
- International Mire Conservation Group (**IMCG**)
- Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (**RSPO**)
- International Peatland Society (**IPS**)
- **Global Peatland Initiative**, Brazzaville Declaration (Indonesia, Democratic of Congo, Republic Democratic of Congo and Peru)



Achievements – Regional

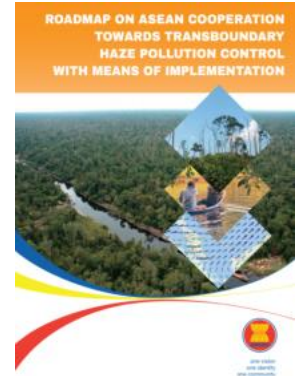
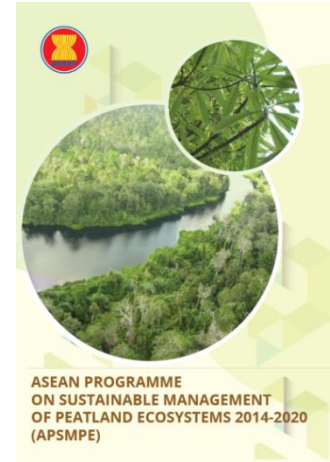
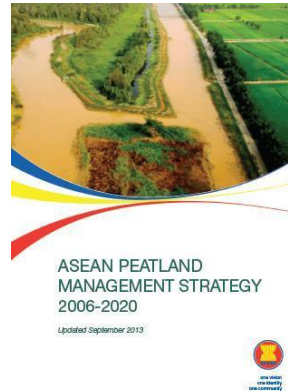
- Supporting and contributing to **ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP)**, **ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy 2006-2020 (APMS)**, ASEAN Task Force for Peatlands (ATFP), **ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems 2014-2020 (APSMPE)**, ASEAN Haze Free Roadmap, ASEAN Guidelines on Peatland Fire Management, etc.

Achieving...

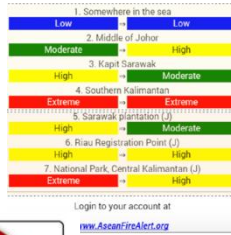
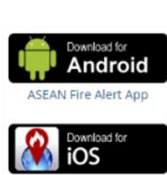
Sustainable management of peatlands through collective actions and enhanced cooperation to support and sustain local livelihoods, reduce fire risk and associated haze, and contribute to global environmental management...

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20 years of achievements



Achievements – Fire Management



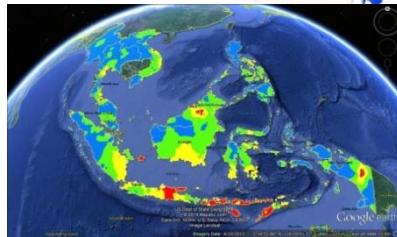
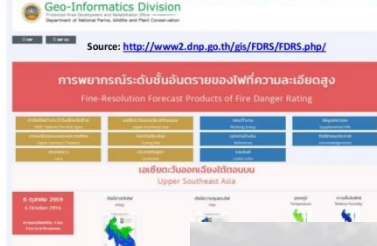
You have 13 regions with hotspots:

1. South Sumatra
2. West Malaysia large area
3. dtdfd
4. Indonesia: Kalimantan
5. Indonesia: Sumatra - South, Lampung
6. Indonesia: Kalimantan (J)
7. Indonesia: Sulawesi, Papua (J)
8. Indonesia: Sumatra - Riau (J)
9. Indonesia: Sumatra - South, Lampung (J)
10. Indonesia: Sumatra - Jambi (J)
11. Malaysia - West (J)
12. Myanmar (J)
13. Vietnam (J)



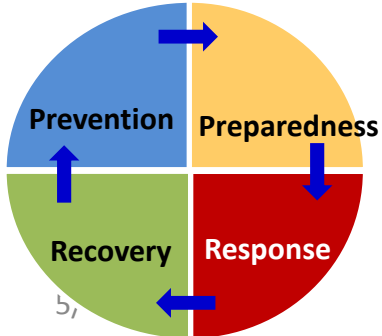
ASEAN Fire Alert Tool
Cornerstone Corporation

Forecast Fire Danger Rating for Upper ASEAN and Thailand



20 years of achievements

- Supporting and promoting the **ASEAN Guidelines on Peatland Fire Management** – endorsed in October 2015
- Development and operation of **Fire Alert Tool and Fire Danger Ranger System** (produced by MMD, ASMC, LAPAN/BMKG and DNP)



Malaysia Air Poll
FENAPPS

Shows the latest air
quality index reading in
Malaysia, Singapore and

★★★★★ FREE



Haze@SG
Hosay Studios

Haze@SG is a useful
utility that allows you to
check the hourly PSI on

★★★★★ FREE

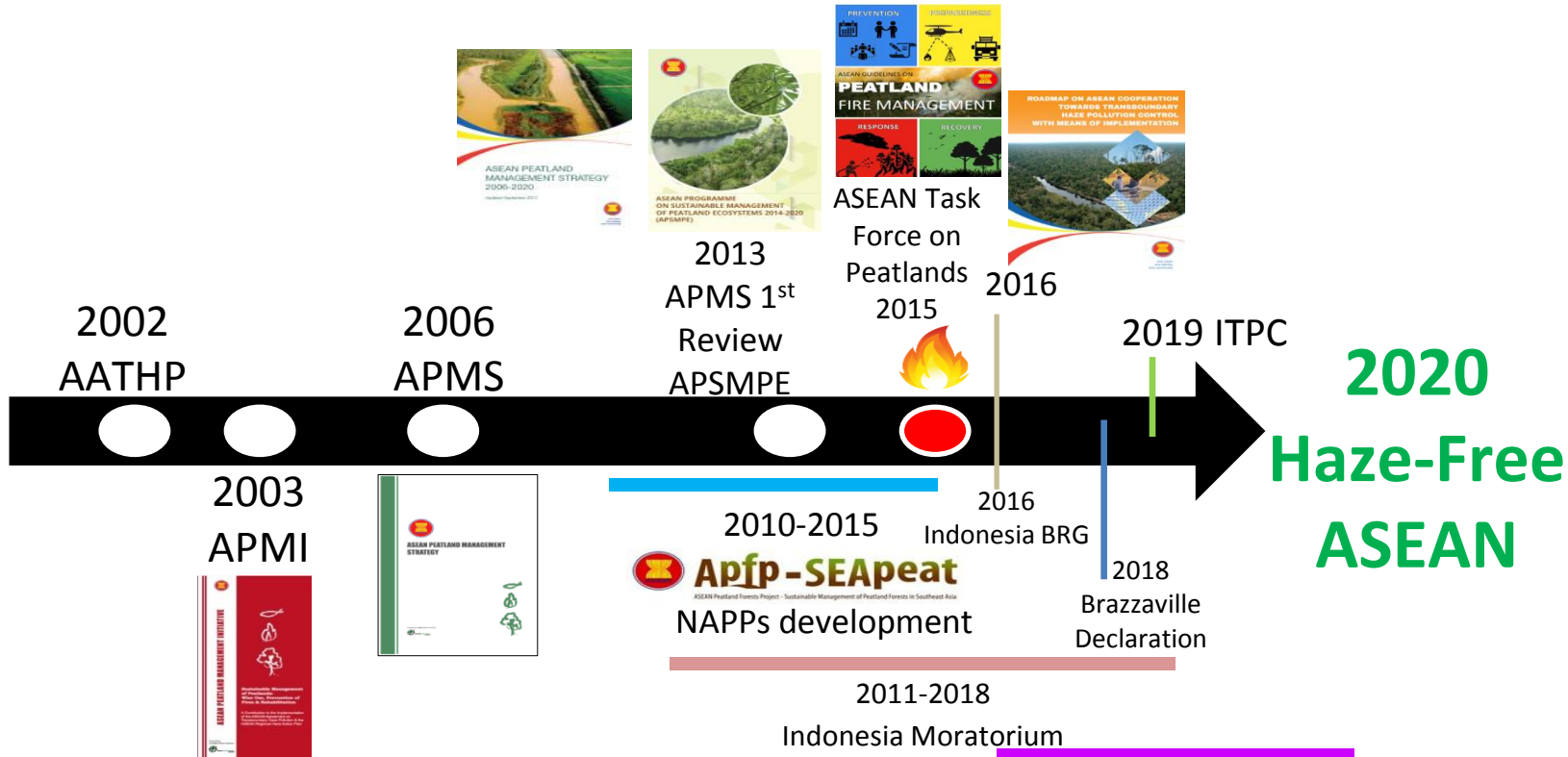


Info BMKG
Badan Meteorologi, Klir

★★★★★ FREE

Significant Milestones on ASEAN Efforts

1997/8
El Nino



AATHP – ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution

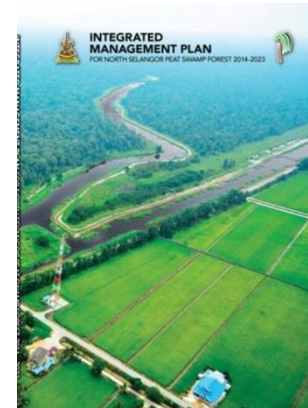
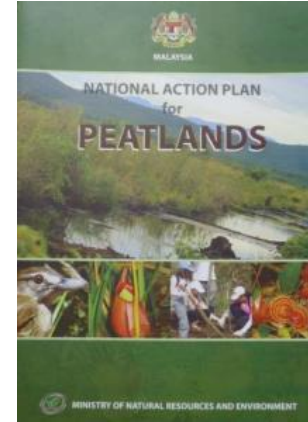
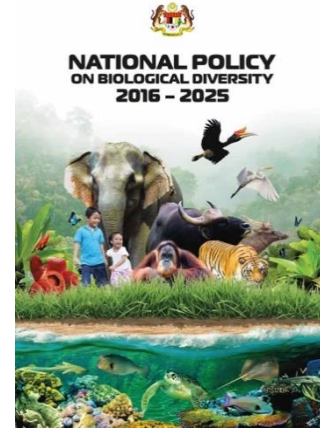
APMI – ASEAN Peatland Management Initiative

APMS – ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy

BRG – Peatland Restoration Agency, Indonesia

Achievements – National

- **National** – supporting and contributing to the **National Policy for Biological Diversity 2016-2025 (NPBD)**, **National Action Plans for Peatlands 2011 – 2020 (NAPP)**, national peatlands project (**Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems in Malaysia – SMPEM** – 2019-2023 with involvement of 5 landscapes in 4 states – Pahang, Sabah, Sarawak and Selangor), **Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO)** certification processes, **Malaysian National Interpretation Working Group** for RSPO
- Sub-national and site levels – **Integrated Management Plans** – e.g. for North Selangor Peat Swamp Forests (IMP-NSPSF, 2014-2023), Fire Management Plan for Kuala Langat North



Achievements – Site

- Spearhead peatland rewetting and fire control in Southeast Asia

Natural recovery in 18 months with high water table



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Community participatory and empowerment in water management by installing canal block in degraded peatlands



20 years of achievements

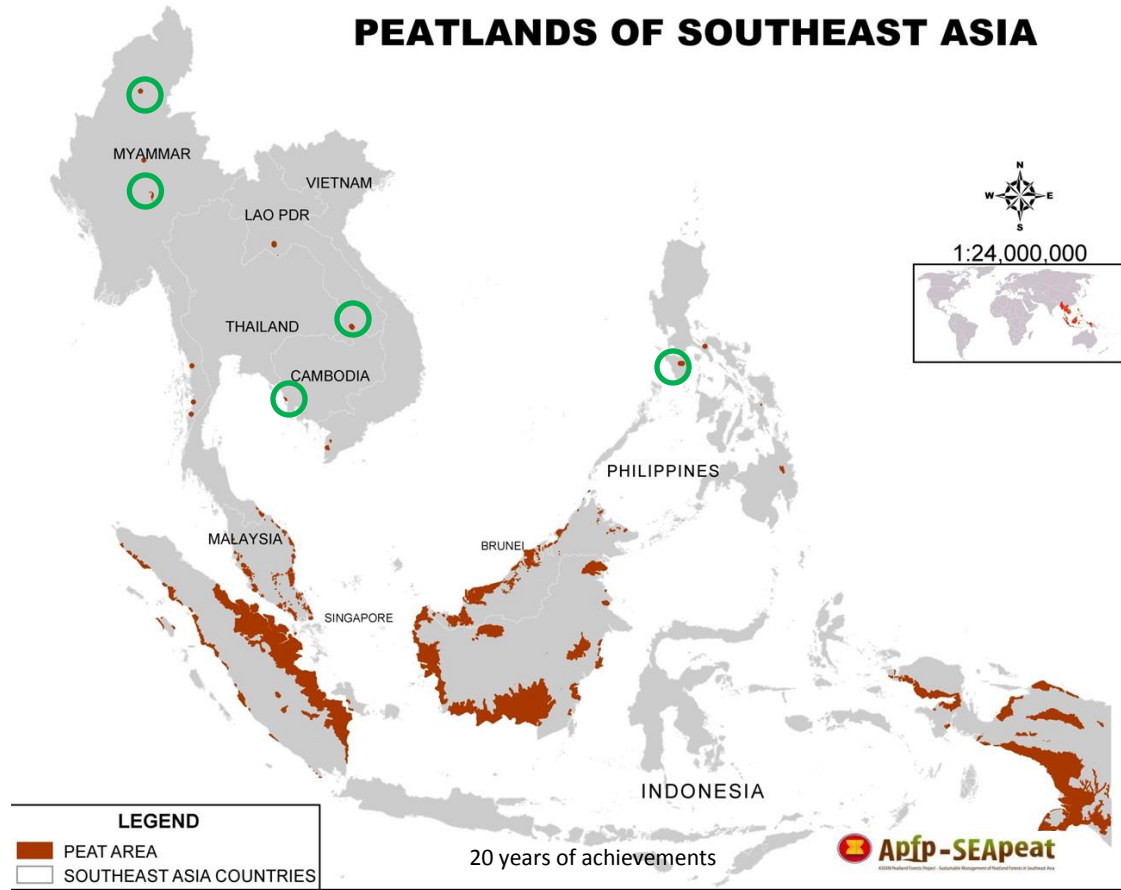
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New Peatland Areas Discovered

About 50% of
world's
tropical
peatlands c.
23 million ha

APSMPE
Target 1: All
peatland
areas in
ASEAN are
identified and
inventorised

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Partnership in
peatlands
identifying and
inventory first in
Indonesian
Peatland Atlas in
2002-2007. Then
continued effort
under APFP-
SEApeat (2009-
2015) and coming
regional
programme
starting 2019

Cambodia

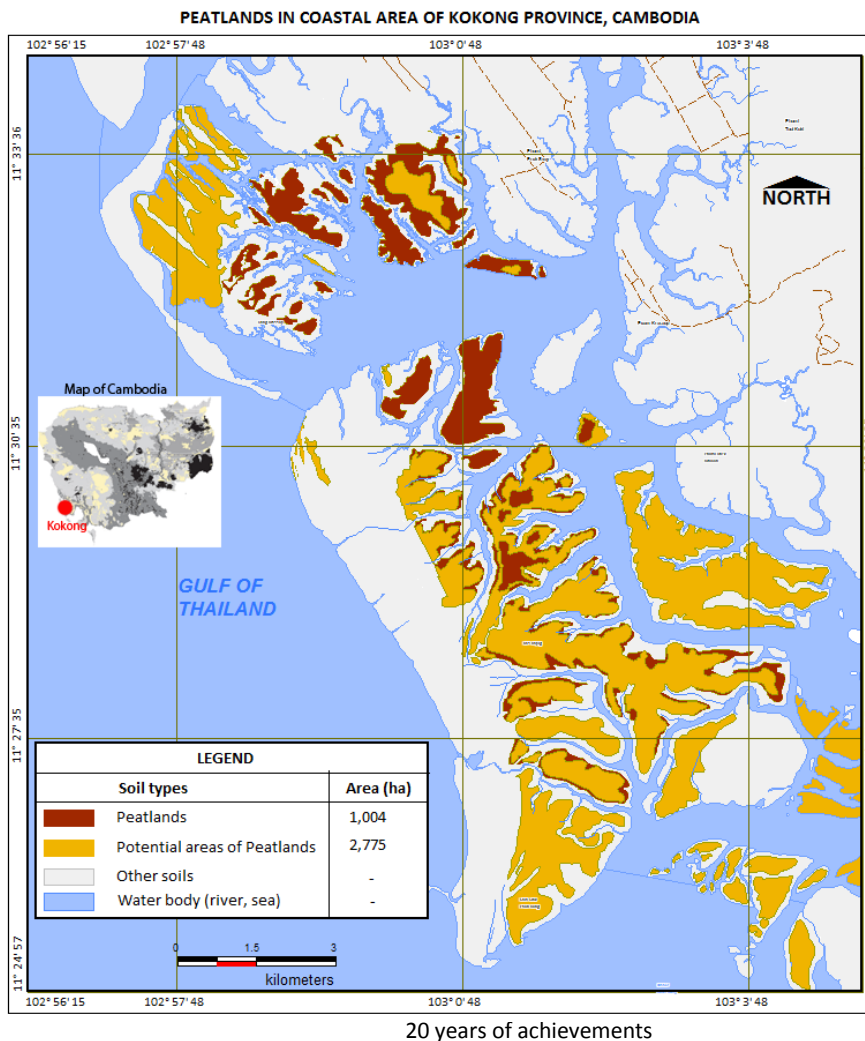
Unique ecosystem
– peat underneath
mangroves

2010 – unknown

2013 – 7,300 ha

2019-2023 more to
be identified under
Mekong peat
project

Potential
Ecotourism
development with
community



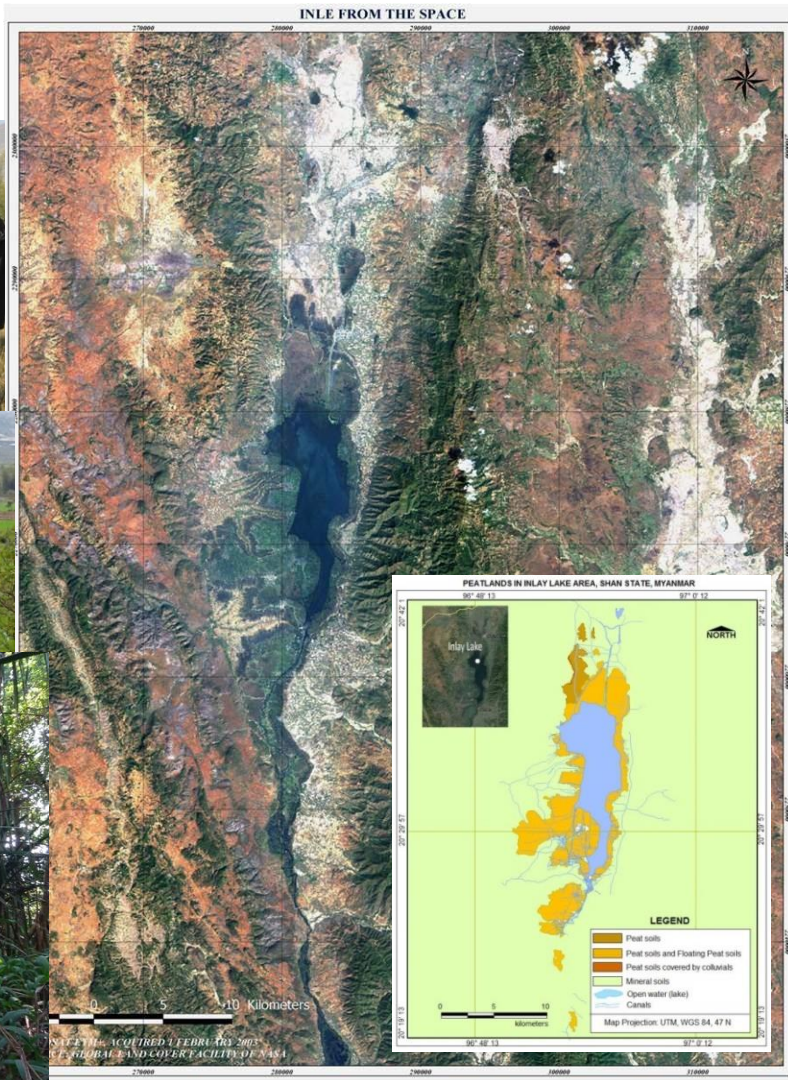
Peatlands in Inle Lake Region, Myanmar

Inle Lake area = 9,105.94 ha

Also a mound spring found in the region that under community protection for water source and some peat areas for spiritual and cultural protection by local people

New peat swamp forest discovered in Nga Yant Chaung Village in Mandalay and Kauk Ye Island, Bok Pyin Township

Depth: up to 1.6m



Sustainable Livelihoods

Good examples of community based peatland management

- Low carbon
- Environmental-friendly
- Peer learning programme
- Government support
- Research experiments
- CSR buy-in
- Biomass to fertiliser
- Ecotourism
- Optimum landuse for integrated farming

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Zero Burning Options for Peatland Agriculture

Integrated farming – agroforestry (Jelutung + corn),
sorjan farming, floating garden, Green Contract, etc.



Key Factors for Successful Community Engagement in Peatland Rehabilitation

- Engagement from early stage
- Support community organisation development
- Generate clear benefits to community
- Awareness enhancement and capacity building – seedling development, planting, maintenance and fire prevention
- Rehabilitate hydrology and encourage power of nature to support natural regeneration



***U Minh Thuong National Park, Viet Nam –
Melaleuca forest on peatland recognised as ASEAN Heritage Park
in 2013 and designated as Ramsar site in 2016***

- *Commitment from local authorities*
- *Technical support from scientists and research institutes*
- *Local communities at buffer zone – improved livelihoods reducing dependency on the forest*



GEC Partnership with RSPO

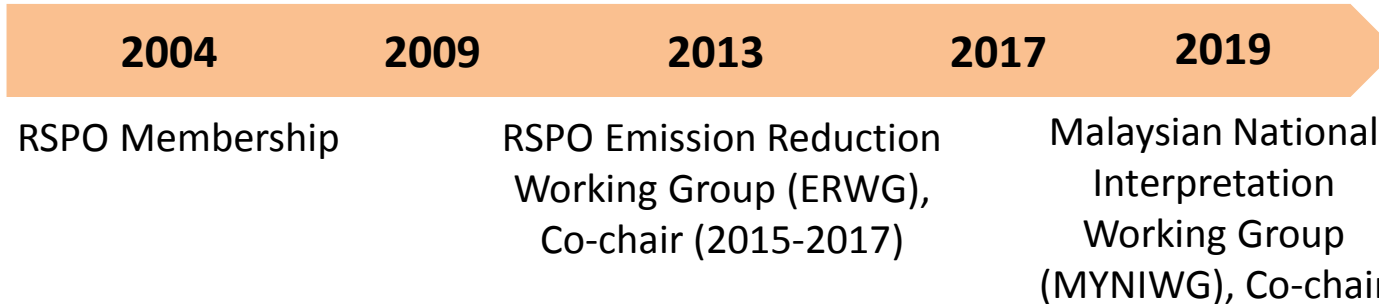
RSPO

Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

RSPO Peatland Working
Group (PLWG) Co-chair,
2009-2012

- RSPO PLWG2 Co-chair, 2017-2020
- RSPO appointed GEC to review & update BMP Manuals on peat

***Supporting sustainable palm oil
production
Promoting No-Deforestation,
No-Peat & No-Exploitation
Policy (NDPE)***



Next Steps

- Maintain and enhance peatland related activities in ASEAN region
- Expanded private sector partnership for peatland landscapes
- Review and enhancement of ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (2006-2020)
- Technical Assistance for Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems in Malaysia (2019-2023)
- Measureable Action for Haze-free Land Management in Southeast Asia (2019-2024)

Thank You

