

GEC QUARTERLY UPDATE (APRIL TO JUNE 2023)

Introduction

This report provides updates on the progress of GEC's activities for the second quarter (Q2) of 2023: April to June 2023. Following are key activities carried out in Q2 2023:

Forest and Coastal Programme (FCP)

Below are some highlights from the activities that have been conducted by FCP:

- Conducted a stakeholder workshop with the participation of 15 governmental and non-governmental organizations to discuss, revise and finalize the content of "Pelan Tindakan Pengurusan Tanah Gambut (Pertanian) dalam Mengurangkan Risiko Bencana Banjir dan Kebakaran di Johan Setia" from 31 May -1 June 2023.



Stakeholder workshop on "Pelan Tindakan Pengurusan Tanah Gambut (Pertanian) dalam Mengurangkan Risiko Bencana Banjir dan Kebakaran di Johan Setia" on 31/5-1/6/2023.

- 1,500 mangrove trees were planted at Tebuk Mendeleng, Sabak Bernam Selangor and Tanjung Surat, Johor under the ISF mangrove tree planting programme and Aramco Project, respectively. A total of 1,600 replacement trees (0.8ha) have been planted at the degraded area in Kuala Gula and 800 trees (0.4 ha) have been planted at the degraded area of Pasir Panjang Laut in Sitiawan under the YSD mangrove project.
- A total of 1,300 trees were planted in Raja Musa Forest Reserve (RMFR) by HSBC Volunteers (17 May 2023), Prosper staff (22 June 2023) and volunteers (during the monthly tree planting event on 24 June 2023 in conjunction with World Rainforest Day). While at Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve, a total of 600 trees were planted with support from BOH Plantations on 20 May 2023 in conjunction with International Day for Biological Diversity.



Monthly Tree Planting at KLNFR supported by BOH Plantations (left). Mangrove tree planting programme conducted by GEC and community under ISF (right).

- One Community-based Social Entrepreneurship Training Programme has been conducted with the participation of 60 pax from 6 CBOs under FCP-GEC on 19-21 May 2023.



Community-based Social Entrepreneurship Training Programme from 19-21 May 2023

- On 12 May 2023, Raja Musa Forest Reserve and GEC-CoSPeC received an educational visit from the National University of Singapore to learn about the ecosystem of North Selangor Peat Swamp Forest (NSPSF) and efforts carried out to conserve and rehabilitate NSPSF through nature-based solutions via community participation. The visit was participated by 50 NUS students and lecturers.
- The construction of Temuan Culture Information Centre at Kg OA Pulau Kempas was completed. Currently, the interior designing work is being carried out by the selected, skilled OA members and GEC staff.



The aerial view of Temuan Culture Information Centre at Kg OA Pulau Kempas

Peatland Programme (PP)



GEC has provided technical support to NPMO and SPMOs for SMPeM project, including guidance on administration and preparing technical documents, and provided technical support at workshops. GEC participated at Pahang stakeholder workshop on 23-24 May; meetings of STWG Pahang and Sabah on 6 June and 27 June respectively. GEC was also involved in IFAD Implementation Support Mission for the SMPeM from 3-5 April 2023 – Courtesy Visit

of new IFAD Country Director (Jakarta Hub for Asia Pacific Region) to NRECC to meet GEF OFP and NPSC Chair (NRECC) and the SMPeM NPMO. GEC was invited as panellist to participate in **GEF8 National Dialogue** and as resource person during site visit to NSPSF/RMFR organized by NRECC and the GEF Secretariat from 8-10 May in Kuala Lumpur.

In Pahang, GEC facilitated engagement of different agencies to fight the a number of peatland fires which started since March 2023 in Southeast Pahang Peatland Landscape (SEPPL) and installing canal blocks in different locations. This also included providing water pumps to the communities and conducting a fire awareness program on 24 June.



In Sabah, a **fire awareness campaign** through collaboration with several agencies such as DOE, SFD and Beaufort District Fire and Rescue Department was conducted on 6 May at Kg Takuli Community Hall. On 24 June 2023, GEC co-organized a **Vanilla Cultivation and Marketing Briefing** program which exposed the community to vanilla cultivation and potential of commercial.



Under the MAHFSA programme and in collaboration of with DENR-BMB and SUPA-PH ESBenePeat Project, a Training of Trainers (TOT) on Peatland Assessment and Management, was carried out in the Philippines on 11 – 15 April 2023.



GEC through the ASEAN-IFAD's MAHFSA programme also organised a webinar on El Nino and Transboundary Haze on 11 May 2023 to disseminate knowledge and raise awareness regarding 2023 El Nino. Speakers included ASMC, MMD, DNP Thailand, PCD Thailand, ATFP Chair, ADPC and MOEF Indonesia. The MAHFSA Program was invited to present the ASEAN Investment Framework (AIF) to the 19th Meeting of AWGFCC on 4 May 2023 virtually; and invited by the AWGCC to attend the 3rd ASEAN

Climate Change Partnership Conference (ACCPC) held on 25 May 2023 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

River Care Programme (RCP)



Several training activities were conducted in Ipoh in May. These include “*Latihan Pemeriksaan Komuniti dalam Diet Kesihatan melalui Amalan Terbaik Pemilihan Makanan, Corak Pemakanan, Masakan dan Nilai Nutrisi bagi Melestarikan Pertanian Bandar*” which was organised at KRT Klebang Selatan on 6 May 23. From 8 until 13 May 2023, Malim Gunung training was conducted for Kg Orang Asli Makmur which exposed the community to three (3) modules which are Malim Gunung Basic Skills, First Aid Skills and Communication Skills respectively.

In Selangor, Sg Way River clean up and education activity was carried out under the W. A. T. E. R. project on 20 May with the involvement of the nearby local community, volunteers, representatives of LUAS, MBPJ and KDEB. GEC also had a sharing session with the YB Minister of NRECC and the ADUN of Bkt Gasing during their site visit along the Sg Penchala Section 14 trail visit on 30 May.



On 15 June, a bioengineering training was organized by GEC with support of Berjaya Somp Insurance Berhad at Kampung Batu 12 Gombak (Upper Gombak river basin) with Orang Asli and Batu Caves community. Under the Hasanah Special Grant project, in collaboration with Youth Care Malaysia (YCM) GEC-RCP Ipoh carried out WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Programme at Kg Orang Asli Sg Tonggang on 17 June. The project team also carried out a Sg Seno'oi Edutourism Study Trip to Kg Sg Tonggang on June 18. It covered the activities of exploring Nong Bercacip Jug Eco-trail and learning on river ecosystem through the established Sg Seno'oi River Open Classroom.



A community sharing session was carried out at Zon Central Section 19 PJ community garden on 25 June where the various community groups shared their initiatives and followed by a tour around the garden. Also present was Eap Sen Yi, the MPBJ Council Member for ZON 9 - Sek. 17A, Sek 19 & SS20.

From April to June, two key initiatives took place focusing on the pilot site

bioengineering plot along the riverbank of Sg Batu; with selective planting and mural designing for the DID Gombak's Sg Batu trail. RCP has also signed an MoU with Taylors University; Taylor's Impact Labs - Solving Real Issues to support the initiatives along the Sg Penchala Section 14.



Outreach and Partnership Programme (OPP)



On 5 June 23, GEC's implemented programme for Yayasan PETRONAS Walk4Trees Tree Planting activities was selected for the **ASEAN Green Initiative (AGI)**. The award recognition was held in Jakarta, Indonesia. GEC (represented by Nagarajan) also presented a paper on "*Livelihoods: Incentives Scheme*" during the Regional Forum on Ecosystem Restoration. Under the project, a total of 69,857 trees has been planted in 14 sites across 11 states in Malaysia through the help of community leaders and members and support of respective state and federal authorities. Average survival rate 78%.



For outreach, GEC held an exhibition during the ASTRO's Earth Day on 12 Apr 2023.

Planned events

The following are the planned GEC events and activities from July to Sept 2023:

Date (TBC)	Venue	Event
July		
1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Sg Batu	Mural Painting
5	Tamu Hotel & Suites, Kuala Lumpur	Sesi Perbincangan Terfokus Bersama Pihak Berkepentingan Bagi Tujuan Kajian Penilaian Outcome Aktiviti Penyelidikan Dan Penanaman Program Penanaman Pokok Bakau Dan Spesies-Spesies Yang Sesuai Di Pesisiran Pantai Negara
6	JPSM, KL	Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Teknikal Mengenai Perancangan Dan Pelaksanaan Program Penanaman Pokok Bakau Dan Spesies-Spesies Yang Sesuai Di Pesisiran Pantai Negara
4 -6	Kuala Lumpur	Consultative Meeting for Information and Data Collection and Results Management for Fire and Haze in Southeast Asia
5	Sg Kayu Ara	River clean up with Luno
8	Kg Selingkong, Nenasi	Fire awareness programme with government agencies
12 -14	Ca Mau Province, Vietnam	Training Course for Capacity Building on Sustainable Management of Forest and Peatlands in The Lower Mekong Delta
15 -18	Indonesia	Site visit to Kg. Buruk Bakul to plan the implementation of future mangrove projects.
17 - 20	KPPL Sabah	Community & Agency engagement (baseline information) for Eco-Tourism potential area
18 -20	Vang Vieng, Lao PDR	i) 8th Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force on Peatlands (ATFP) ii) 5th PSC Meetings of SUPA, MAHFSA and Mekong Peatlands Project
20	Online	Meeting with Dr.Quoi Vietnam to plan a community-based mangrove rehabilitation project in VietNam
22	Kg Batu 12 Gombak	Tree planting on slopes
23 - 26	Johor	Working visit to Johor (Parit Kassim, TG Surat, PPD Kota Tinggi, JSFD) to discuss about upcoming project in Johor.
25 -26	Putrajaya	4 th /Final Consultative Meeting on the Development of ASEAN Investment Framework
27 -30	Bario, Sarawak	Pesta Nukanen
29	Selangor	My Soil Doctor Workshop with DOA
August		
2	Tebuk Mendeleng	HSBC mangrove planting
5	Bukit Kiara	River Walk
5 - 6	Tg Surat	Aramco mangrove tree planting (TBC)
7 - 8	Tg Surat	YP visit to Tanjung Surat (TBC)
8	Melaka	Program Penanaman Pokok Hutan Fasa II "Restorasi Empangan Durian Tunggal"
8 -11	Riau, Indonesia	Capacity Building Workshop on Community-based Fire Prevention, Sustainable Livelihood and Paludiculture Practice
8-15	Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok	Design mission for ASEAN Investment framework for Haze-free Sustainable Land Management
19-28	Selangor	RMIT student visit to visit RFMR
19	Raja Musa Forest Reserve	Tree planting under W.A.T.E.R. project
21 -24	Vientiane, Lao PDR	COM/COP AATHP and ASEAN Meetings
22	Tebuk Mendeleng	International student visit to KDH
22 - 23	Kota Kinabalu, Sabah	Heart of Borneo Conference, Sabah
24 -25	RIC, Kuala Penyu Sabah	Fire Awareness Campaign organized by SFD - SUPA
26	KDH	Ericsson mangrove tree planting (TBC)
TBC	Ipoh	Flood Preparedness Training
TBC	TBC	Capacity Building for FOKiRB members
TBC	Klang Valley	CIMB KUDAH Programme
September		
2 & 3	Tg. Surat	Aramco mangrove tree planting (TBC)
9	Tebuk Mendeleng	ISF mangrove tree planting
30	Tebuk Mendeleng	YSD event at KDH (TBC)

TBC	Ipoh	Kayuh D' Tonggang Launching
TBC	TBC	Capacity Building for FOKiRB members
TBC	Sg Penchala	Trail Beautification
TBC	TBC	National River Forum
TBC	Indonesia	42nd ASEAN Summit (tbc)
TBC	Pekan/Nenasi	Fire awareness program with community for Southeast Pahang Peatland Landscape