

SUSTAINABLE USE OF PEATLAND AND HAZE MITIGATION IN ASEAN (SUPA) COMPONENT 2

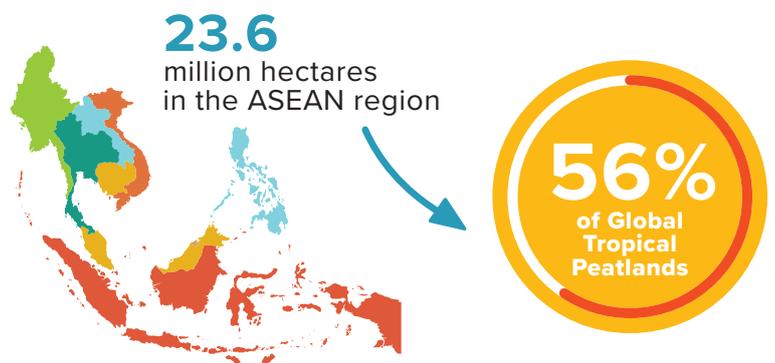
The Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA) project was launched in November 2019, aims to support the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy through collective actions and enhanced cooperation that improves sustainable peatland management, thus mitigating the impacts of climate change, managing the risk of wildfires, and reducing transboundary regional haze. The initiative also supports sustainable local livelihoods while contributing to global environmental management. The program consists of two components:

- The first component is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and focuses on improving the capacity of AMS in sustainable peatland management.
- The second component is implemented by a coalition of People for Peat consisting of the World Resources Institute Indonesia (WRI), Tropical Rainforest Conservation & Research Centre (TRCRC), and Yayasan Inisiatif Dagang Hijau (IDH) and focuses on improving the capacity of Non-State Actors (NSAs) in sustainable peatland management.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT

TO PROTECT PEATLANDS

Despite acting as a major carbon sink, this fragile ecosystem has become an object of rapid development, with the practice of draining and land clearing increasingly damaging the peatland ecosystem. This turns peatlands from carbon storage into a carbon emitter, with significant impacts on the climate crisis.



OBJECTIVE

The involvement of non-state actors in sustainable peat management lies in the importance of securing holistic and proactive approaches across biophysical, social, and economic aspects, which require collective efforts from local communities, private sectors, non-governmental organizations (NGO), research institutions, as well as private and financial institutions.

The objectives of PFP are:

- to create and provide an accessible, integrated database for peatland utilisation and management that contains state-of-the-art knowledge and best management practices for Southeast Asian peatlands;
- to improve economic productivity, environmental protection, and social inclusion of businesses on peatlands through catalysing investment and business model transformation via PFP's Business Hub; and
- to improve the awareness, stewardship, and capacity of non-state actors (NSAs) in collaborating and being mobilised for sustainable peatland management and protection.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES IN MANAGING PEATLAND IN SOUTHEAST ASIA?



LACK OF RELIABLE DATA AND INFORMATION

Currently, not all ASEAN Member States (AMS) have conducted research on peatlands. The research that is existing has not been extensively shared with the directly affected communities. As a result, there is a gap in the levels of understanding of peatlands and sustainable peatland management within AMS. This has made it a challenge to plan, implement, and monitor integrated strategies for peatland management.



LIMITED OPTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS AND LIMITED ACCESS TO FUNDING IN PEATLAND AREAS AND ACCESS TO FUNDING IN PEATLAND AREAS

Peatland has often been regarded as marginal land. In order to make it productive, many village communities or companies drain and burn peatlands for agricultural or infrastructure development. This action, while providing short-term economic opportunity, is extremely damaging to the environment both long and short-term. While there have been initiatives to change that perception, what is needed is alternative business solutions, sufficient investment funding, and best practices to ensure economic growth while maintaining sustainability principles.



LACK OF AWARENESS AND CAPACITY

Currently, there is limited or varied participation of NSAs in sustainable peatland management across ASEAN. There is a need to improve awareness and understanding of the relevance and impact of peatlands in people's lives. Through the awareness that sustainable peatland management can increase economic growth, the next step is building capacity for actions that can be taken by NSAs.

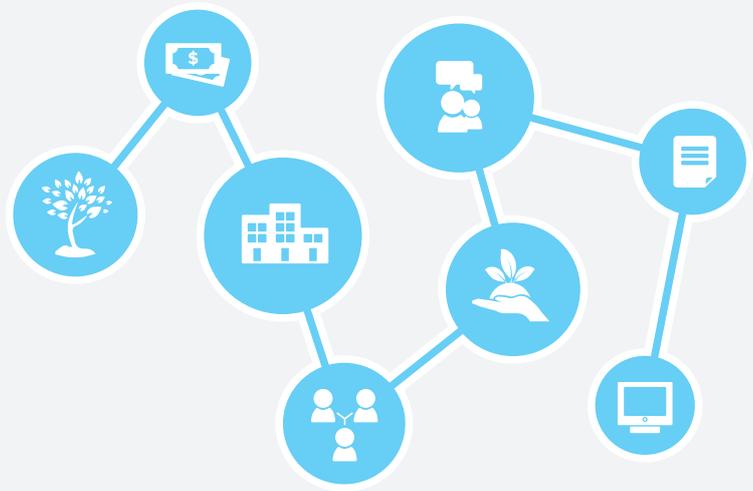
HOW ARE WE GOING TO ADDRESS THOSE CHALLENGES?



OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

Non-State Actor Stakeholder Target Groups :

- Village level communities
- Unions of farmers and smallholders
- Universities and research centres
- Civil society organisations
- Private sector or supply chain companies
- Banks and financial institutions



Areas For Collaboration :

DATA & INFORMATION

Research proposals

- Conduct calls for proposals based on gaps identified in the database. These proposals are expected to address issues both in the regional and local levels.

Funding opportunities

- Select innovative projects to be supported with mentorship, advisory, and capacity building to prepare them for connections to major funders.

Transboundary Peat Experts

- Identify individuals who have specific expertise in peatlands, to provide expert opinions and serve as consultants for PFP initiatives.

BUSINESS & INVESTMENT

Network & Sharing

- Partnership network to guide the development of the PFP Business Hub.

Accelerator Program Candidates, Business Proposal

- Pipelined projects' access to financial advisory, innovative business solutions and models, and technical assistance.

Investment Opportunities

- Stakeholder's access to funding and financial resource to implement, replicate, and scale up profitable restoration and sustainable agriculture projects.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY

Peatland Ranger Programme

- Select rangers from local communities & trained based on each countries' needs and awareness on peatland, resulting in capacity building from the grassroots level.

Country Coordinators

- Hire representatives in 6 countries (besides Malaysia and Indonesia) to coordinate efforts on the ground.

Media/Journalists

- Connect with media and journalists to provide training on the importance of peat protection and related issues to trigger in-depth reporting on peatland.

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of World Resources Institute Indonesia, Tropical Rainforest Conservation & Research Centre and Yayasan Inisiatif Dagang Hijau and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.