



Co-funded by the European Union



of the Federal Republic of Germany



Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA)

Component 1: Strengthening the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN Member States (AMS) on Sustainable Peatland Management (Peatland Governance)



The challenge

Peatland ecosystems are made up of decayed water-logged biomass. They are home to unique and endangered flora and fauna, and are highly efficient natural carbon sinks. In ASEAN region, peatlands cover approximately 27.4 million hectares, representing 56% of global tropical peatlands. It is estimated that ASEAN peatlands store approximately 68 billion tons of carbon, i.e. 14% of carbon stored in peatlands globally. In the past few decades, human interventions such as logging, slash and burn, deforestation, drainage for agriculture, and consequently increasing wildfires have turned ASEAN's carbon-rich peatlands into gigantic carbon emitters. Annual emissions are now estimated at about 2 billion tons, approximately 5% of global fossil fuel emissions. Since the late 1990's, uncontrolled large-scale land and forest fires occurring mainly on peatlands plagued Southeast Asia. The fires caused severe transboundary smoke haze pollution affecting millions of peoples' health, the disruption of transport, economic losses, and strained the diplomatic relations between neighbouring ASEAN countries. Globally, this situation contributed to huge releases of carbon and widespread loss of the unique and valuable peatland biodiversity and ecosystems.

The benefits

In this context the specific objective of the SUPA programme is "To improve sustainable peatland management to mitigate the adverse impact of climate change in ASEAN, to manage risk of wild fires and reduce transboundary smoke haze."

The programme is structured into 2 components. The goal of component 1 is to strengthen ASEAN and AMS to implement ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS) and National Action Plan for Peatlands (NAPPs). GIZ will support ASEAN and the AMS, through capacity building, strengthening regional co-operation through provision of technical and material support to regional institutions on sustainable peatland management, and implementation of best practices peatland governance on the ground.

Implemented by:

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für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Project name	Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA) Component 1 <i>The German contribution is undertaken through its programme 'Strengthening Regional Experiences in Sustainable Peatland Management (ASEAN REPEAT)'</i>
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)
Co-financed by	European Union (EU) and the Federal Republic of Germany
Project region	Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN Member States)
Beneficiary	ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) and ASEAN Member States
Duration	Delegation Agreement EU/GIZ: 01.03.2017 – 31.05.2021 Commissioned by BMU: 01.06.2018 – 31.01.2023

Our approach

Component 1 of SUPA will be implemented using a multi-level approach, engaging stakeholders at regional, national, sub-national and local levels. Based on this intervention logic, the implementation of component 1 is structured into three work areas:

Work Area 1: Strengthening regional co-operation by strengthening ASEAN

Work Area 2: Specific support to AMS for the implementation of APMS and NAPPs

Work Area 3: Generating pilot experiences from Indonesia and Malaysia

Our expected results

1 ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems, APMS and NAPPs gradually implemented at local, national and regional level through enhanced capacity and identification of ASEAN peatland areas

3 Integrated management of targeted peatlands to maintain ecological functions and biodiversity and reduce GHG emissions

2 Significantly reduced peatland fires and associated haze through fire prevention and peatland rehabilitation

4 Peatlands are sustainably managed to enhance livelihood and maintain economic value

Published by:
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

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Programme/project description:
Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA)
Component 1

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On behalf of
Federal Ministry for the Environment,
Nature Conservation and
Nuclear Safety (BMU)

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