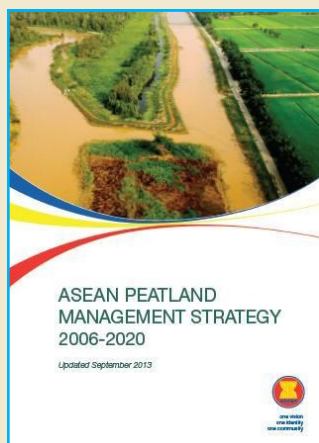




ASEAN Programme for Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems (2014-2020)



Supports the implementation of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy 2006-2020

Southeast Asia has more than 60% of the world's tropical peatlands covering about 25 million hectares. These peatlands are critical in regulating global climate, conserving biodiversity and sustaining water resources and local livelihoods. However many peatlands in the region are being affected by exploitation and unsustainable management practices. Large scale peatland drainage and conversion is responsible for much of the fires and transboundary haze which is one of the most serious regional environmental problems in ASEAN.

ASEAN Member States adopted the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy 2006-2020 (APMS) and updated it in 2013 to provide guidance for collaborative action. Although good progress has been made, recent large scale transboundary haze events have indicated efforts need to be enhanced further. In September 2013, ASEAN Ministers responsible for the environment endorsed the establishment of a long term multi-stakeholder ASEAN Programme for the Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems 2014-2020 (APSMPE).

APSMPE will support collaboration between different stakeholders (including government, private sector, communities and civil society) in the ASEAN Region to achieve the goal of the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy 2006-2020 (APMS), namely: *To promote sustainable management of peatlands in the ASEAN region through collective actions and enhanced cooperation, to support and sustain local livelihoods, reduce risk of fire and associated haze and contribute to global environment management.*

KEY TARGETS BY 2020

The key targets by 2020 of the Programme agreed at the recent ministerial level Conference of Parties of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) in Surabaya, Indonesia in September 2013 are:

1. All peatland areas in ASEAN identified and inventoried;
2. Zero-burning is uniformly practiced and controlled-burning only used in exceptional cases to prevent any uncontrolled wildfires on peatlands, and eliminate any widespread smoke haze;
3. Fire prone sites are rehabilitated by focusing on root causes of fire;
4. Peatlands are sustainably managed, sustainable livelihoods enhanced, and sustainable economic use mainstreamed;
5. Peatlands are conserved to contribute to significantly reduced emissions of greenhouse gases and increased peatland biodiversity in the region;
6. APMS and National Action Plans on Peatlands are implemented; national and regional capacity is enhanced.

Key Targets were endorsed by the ASEAN Ministers in September 2013

Two projects supporting the development of the Programme — namely the ASEAN Peatland Forests Project (APFP) and SEApeat project, are briefly described below:



Investing in rural people



ASEAN Peatland Forests Project | www.aseanpeat.net



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

The ASEAN Peatland Forests Project (APFP), funded by GEF through IFAD, aims to demonstrate, implement and scale up the sustainable management and rehabilitation of peatland forests in Southeast Asia. The project is being implemented in Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines and Viet Nam between 2010-2014.

The Project focuses on:

- Strengthening institutional capacity and frameworks;
- Reducing the rate of peatland degradation;
- Demonstrating integrated management and rehabilitation at target sites; and
- Engaging the private sector and local communities.

SEApeat

Sustainable Management of Peatland Forests in Southeast Asia



European Union

SEApeat is a project funded by the European Union and implemented by the Global Environment Centre (GEC), a Malaysian non-profit organisation in partnership with the ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Member States. It aims to reduce deforestation and degradation of peatland forests.

This project is supporting activities in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, The Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam between 2011-2015.

OPTIONS FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROGRAMME

- **The ASEAN Secretariat in conjunction with the ASEAN Member States (AMS), with technical support from the Global Environment Centre, is currently in the process of elaborating the Programme.**
- **Preparatory meetings were held with AMS and more than 15 potential partner organisations in December 2013, April, August and November 2014.**
- **Approximately US \$250 million of ongoing and planned projects and activities have been identified by the AMS and partners for inclusion in the Programme framework.**
- **Organisations which are currently implementing or planning activities in the ASEAN region related to peatlands are encouraged to link their planned activities with the Programme.**
- **Benefits of including projects and activities in the Programme include:**
 - Enhancing synergy and avoiding duplication of actions by different partners and countries
 - Sharing experiences and best practices
 - Linking and reporting progress to high level meetings of ASEAN Member States
 - Scaling up action through collaborative action
 - Joint mobilisation of resources

Focal areas of APMS (2006-2020):

1. Inventory and Assessment
2. Research
3. Awareness & Capacity Building
4. Information Sharing
5. Policies and Legislation
6. Fire Prevention, Control and Monitoring
7. Conservation of Peatland Biodiversity
8. Integrated Management of Peatlands
9. Promotion of best management practices
10. Restoration and Rehabilitation
11. Peatlands and Climate Change
12. Regional Cooperation
13. Financing of the Strategy

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