

Second Announcement

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP ON TROPICAL PEATLAND (KUCHING 2008)

Theme:
**Peatland Development:
Wise Use and Impact Management**

**19-22 August 2008
Hilton Hotel,
Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia**

Website:
http://www.frst.unimas.my/iswtp_kch08

Organised by
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute



In collaboration with
CARBOPEAT
International Peat Society



Under the auspices of
Ministry of Planning and Resource Management, Sarawak



Supported by
Sarawak Convention Bureau



BACKGROUND

Peatlands of Southeast Asia that cover more than 30 million hectares in area are one of the few remaining frontiers for physical land development, and at the same time, are being recognized as an important carbon store that may contribute significantly to global climate change. The great interest that these peatlands have generated of late led to CARBOPEAT's (www.carbopeat.org) first International Symposium and Workshop on Tropical Peatlands held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 25-29 August 2007 that focused on vulnerabilities of and risks to the peatlands' carbon pools. KUCHING 2008 is a follow-up of the Yogyakarta meeting and will revolve around the theme **Peatland Development: Wise Use and Impact Management**.

OBJECTIVES

Covering the entire scope from science to implementation, the symposium-workshop aims at:

1. Providing an opportunity at which to present the latest data and information on tropical peatlands and their wise use with major focus on their important role in the carbon cycle, nationally, regionally and globally.
2. Providing a platform for information dissemination particularly of the previous EU and other related research projects culminating in implementation strategies and policy recommendations that benefit industry, European Community and Developing Country Government agencies and other stakeholders.
3. Promoting an enhanced understanding of Carbon-Climate-Human-Interactions in Tropical Peatlands.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This International Symposium and Workshop should be of direct interest to all organisations and individuals concerned with the utilization, management and conservation of peatlands including

- Scientists, researchers and members of the academia
- Regional and International experts
- Stakeholders at the national, state, and local government levels
- Plantation Industry and other peatland users

SCOPE

Symposium

The symposium will address issues related to tropical peatland, its use or development and mitigation of the impacts, thereof, looking at the complete scenario from the science to implementation of wise use of tropical peatland.

Altogether, there will be seven thematic sessions. The scientific programme will include sessions on:

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|----|--|
| 1. | Ecology and Biodiversity of Peat Swamp Forest |
| 2. | Soils and Hydrology |
| 3. | Land Use: Conservation, Forestry, Agriculture, Settlement and Other Uses |
| 4. | Carbon Storage, Climate Change and Air Quality |
| 5. | Livelihood: Social and Economic Perspectives |
| 6. | Awareness, Policies, and Legal & Institutional Framework |
| 7. | Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Peatland |

Workshop

There will be workshop sessions on wise use options (Oil palm, national parks, avoided deforestation, facilities, etc) and impact mitigation (EIA, water management, policy, institutional arrangement, etc).

KEY SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

Plenary Papers

1. Prof Dr Jack Rieley, *University of Nottingham*: "More than thirty years of research on tropical peatland: Are we now wise enough to ensure their future?"
2. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia: "Peatlands and climate change"
3. Natural Resource and Environment Board (NREB), Sarawak: "Peatland use: Sarawak perspectives"
4. Dr Susan Page, *University of Leicester*: "Restoration ecology of tropical peatlands: Opportunities and challenges"

Keynotes

1. Assoc Prof Dr Andrew Alek Tuen, Prof Dr Fatimah Abang & Assoc Prof Dr Cheksum Tawan, *UNIMAS*: "The flora and fauna of tropical peatland"
2. Ir Henk Ritzema, *Alterra, Wageningen University and Research Centre*: "The hydrology of a drained peatdome"
3. Dr Ir Henk Wosten, *Alterra, Wageningen University and Research Centre*: "Requirements and operational aspects of water management in tropical peatlands"
4. Mr Ismail Abu Bakar, *MARDI*: "Towards wise use of tropical peatland: From agriculture perspective"
5. Dr Gurmit Singh, *United Plantations Berhad*: "Oil palm on peatlands"
6. Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM): "Forest land use – National Parks"
7. Dr Herbert Diemont & Dr Jan Verhagen, *Wageningen University and Research Centre*: "Spatial policy and the issue of carbon emission in peatlands"
8. Dr Sarah Jewitt, *University of Nottingham*: "Alternative income-earning strategies for local communities that support the wise use of tropical peatland"
9. Dato' Dr James Dawos Mamit, *NREB Sarawak* & Prof Dr Murtedza Mohamed, *UNIMAS*: "EIA and impact mitigation"

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME OUTLINES

	Monday 18th August	Tuesday 19th August	Wednesday 20th August	Thursday 21st August	Friday 22nd August	Saturday 23rd August
		Symposium			Workshop	
Morning		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration Plenary Paper 1 Plenary Paper 2 Official Opening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary Paper 3 Session 3: Land Use: Conservation, Forestry, Agriculture, Settlement & Other Uses Session 4: Carbon Storage, Climate Change & Air Quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary Paper 4 Session 7: Rehabilitation & Restoration of Degraded Peatland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 1: Plenary - CARBOPEAT WG3, WG4 & WG5 Report Presentation Session 2: Workshop break-out sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topic 1: Wise Use Options - Topic 2: Impact Mitigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-symposium tour
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 1: Ecology & Biodiversity of Peat Swamp Forest Session 2: Soils & Hydrology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 5: Livelihood: Social & Economic Perspectives Session 6: Awareness, Policies, Legal & Institutional Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical tour to Asajaya and IADA Samarahan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session 3: Plenary - Workshop Report Presentations and Discussion Official closing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-symposium tour
Evening		Welcome Dinner				

TECHNICAL TOUR



In the afternoon of 21st August 2008, participants will have first-hand look at peatland utilization by the local communities in Asajaya, in the form of pineapple plots, oil palm mini-estate and mixed cultivation. Tour includes a visit at the Integrated Agricultural Development Area (IADA) at Kota Samarahan, Sarawak.

POST-SYMPOSIUM TOUR

There will be three (3) types of post-symposium tour around Kuching, Sarawak on the 23rd August 2008:

- 1. Cultural tour:** In Sarawak, there are 28 ethnic groups living in the hinterland with rich diversity in heritage, culture, language, ethno-music and traditional ecological knowledge. Participants will be amazed by the varieties of heritage from the major ethnic groups i.e. Iban, Melanau, Bidayuh and Orang Ulu that are well preserved in the Sarawak Cultural Village (www.scv.com.my) at the foot of Mount Santubong. There will be cultural performances in the morning at 11:30am and afternoon show at 4.00pm.
- 2. Leisure tour:** Experience the breathtaking view of Mount Penrissen also known as Borneo Highlands (www.borneohighlands.com.my) where the legendary Italian naturalist Odoardo Beccari made an expedition in the mid 1800s. Activities include golf, leisure walk, jungle spa retreat, etc.
- 3. Nature tour:** You may want to spend a whole day to observe the 7 magnificent ecological habitats within the Bako National Park (www.sarawakforestry.com/htm/snp-np-bako.asp) while looking for the endangered and shy Proboscis Monkey.

ACCOMMODATION

You are encouraged to book your own accommodation and early reservations are highly recommended. Following are the suggested hotels for your accommodation throughout the event ranging from high standard to budget hotels:

Hilton Kuching Hotel

- ISWTP KUCHING 2008 venue
Phone: +60 82 248200
Fax: +60 82 428984

Crowne Plaza Riverside Kuching Hotel

- Adjacent to Hilton Kuching Hotel
Phone: +60 82 247777
Fax: +60 82 425858

Holiday Inn Kuching Hotel

- Opposite Crowne Plaza Riverside Kuching Hotel
Phone: +60 82 423111
Fax: +60 82 426169

Harbour View Hotel

- 5-min walk to the ISWTP KUCHING 2008 venue
Phone: +60 82 274666
Fax: +60 82 274777

Grand Continental Hotel

- 15-min walk to the ISWTP KUCHING 2008 venue
Phone: +60 82 230299
Fax: +60 82 230339

Budget Hotels:

Singgahsana Lodge

- 5-min walk to the ISWTP KUCHING 2008 venue
Phone: +60 82 429277
Fax: +60 82 429267

Longhouse Hotel

- 5-min walk to the ISWTP KUCHING 2008 venue
Phone: +60 82 419333
Fax: +60 82 421563

Telang Usan Hotel

- 10-min walk to the ISWTP KUCHING 2008 venue
Phone: +60 82 415588
Fax: +60 82 425316

Liwah Hotel

- 10-min walk to the ISWTP KUCHING 2008 venue
Phone: +60 82 429222
Fax: +60 82 423690

**For more information on the hotels, please refer to our website*

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for the submission of final manuscripts:	30 June 2008
Deadline for registration, standard fee:	30 June 2008
Final Programme:	August 2008

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Patron	Dato Sri Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, <i>Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management, Sarawak</i>
Advisor	Prof Dr Murtedza Mohamed, <i>UNIMAS</i>
Chairman	Prof Dr Wan Sulaiman Wan Harun, <i>UNIMAS</i>
Co-Chairman	Mr Ismail Abu Bakar, <i>MARDI</i>
Secretariat	Assoc Prof Dr Cheksum Tawan, <i>UNIMAS</i> Dr Siti Akmar Khadijah Ab Rahim, <i>UNIMAS</i> Mr Mohamad Shahril Dahrawi Edrus, <i>UNIMAS</i>
Technical	Prof Dr Fatimah Abang, <i>UNIMAS</i> Assoc Prof Dr Ismail Jusoh, <i>UNIMAS</i> Assoc Prof Dr Edmund Sim, <i>UNIMAS</i>
Finance	Mr Mohamad Shahril Dahrawi Edrus, <i>UNIMAS</i> CTTC UNIMAS
Symposium Tour	Assoc Prof Dr Múhd Tajuddin Abdullah, <i>UNIMAS</i>
Ceremony & Protocol	Prof Dr Lau Seng, <i>UNIMAS</i>
Logistics	Assoc Prof Dr Isa Ipor, <i>UNIMAS</i> Mr Nicholas Daniel, <i>MARDI</i>
Social Events	Ms Emelia Tambi, <i>UNIMAS</i>

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof Dr Jack Rieley	University of Nottingham, UK
Prof Dr Harri Vasander	University of Helsinki, Finland
Prof Dr Florian Siegert	Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich, Germany
Prof Dr Edward Maltby	University of Liverpool, UK
Dr Jaako Silpola	Secretary General, International Peat Society
Dr Susan Page	University of Leicester, UK
Dr Ir Henk Wosten	Alterra, Wageningen UR, The Netherlands
Dr Daniel Murdiyarto	Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Indonesia
Prof Dr Bostang Radjagukguk	Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
Dr Lulie Melling	Department of Agriculture, Sarawak, Malaysia
Mr Ismail Abu Bakar	MARDI, Malaysia
Prof Dr Murtedza Mohamed	UNIMAS, Malaysia
Prof Dr Wan Sulaiman Wan Harun	UNIMAS, Malaysia
Prof Dr Fatimah Abang	UNIMAS, Malaysia
Assoc Prof Dr Ismail Jusoh	UNIMAS, Malaysia
Assoc Prof Dr Edmund Sim	UNIMAS, Malaysia

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ISWTP KUCHING 2008 Secretariat
Faculty of Resource Science & Technology
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
94300 Kota Samarahan
Sarawak, Malaysia

REGISTRATION FORM

*Online Registration is also available at our website.

Your Title: _____
Name: _____
Position : _____
Organisation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Postcode: _____
Country: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

Dietary restriction: None Vegetarian Other _____ (please specify)
Participating as: Presenter Observer
I wish to present: Oral Poster
Please tick where applicable

Title of Paper: _____

Symposium and Workshop Fees

Registration Category	Standard: Before 30 June 2008	Late: After 1 July 2008
National Participants and ICREPE Members	RM 600	RM 700
International Participants	USD 300	USD 400
Students	RM 300	RM 300
Accompanying Family Members	RM 350	RM 350

*Information on ICREPE (International Consortium for Research & Education on Peatland Ecosystem) is available at our website

Payment Method

Payment in FULL can be made with your complete Registration Form. The fees are payable to "UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK" by cheque or bank transfer to the following account:

Bank Name : RHB Bank Berhad
Branch : UNIMAS, Kota Samarahan
Account Name : Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
Account No : 2-11128-5000150-5
SWIFT code : RHBBMYKL

Enclosed

Cheque/Bank Transfer Slip No: _____

Please return the registration form and the payment to:

ISWTP KUCHING 2008 Secretariat
Faculty of Resource Science & Technology
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
94300 Kota Samarahan
Sarawak, Malaysia

or Fax to: +60 82 583160