

BERITA ENSEARCH

Building capacity in the environmental field as an enabler to Malaysian professionals growth

Editor's note

It has been 7 months since the Covid-19 outbreak affecting all walks of life. As countries rolling out Economic Recovery strategies, experts have urged for the need of "Green Shift" that could not only focus on revitalising the economy but to build resilience for the future that would benefit all 3 of the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development.

The Global Risk Report 2020 highlighted "Extreme Weather", "Climate Action Failure" & "Biodiversity Loss" among the Top 5 global risks in terms of impact while the Global Future Report 2020 estimated Business as Usual would cost an annual lost of 478.9 US\$ Billion in the event of degraded ecosystem services. On the other hand, the World Resource Institute estimated that investments in climate adaptation approaches which includes Nature based Solutions could reap net benefits of \$7.1T.

Could the year 2020 still be the "Super Year" which multilateral agreement on several global environmental agenda that could put nature conservation back on track to address climate change and biodiversity issues supposed to happen?

In this Berita, we bring to you the angle on the opportunities & threats, the environmental leadership in demand and an outlook of the future of biodiversity.

Perhaps, it is time to re-evaluate the essential ecosystem services provided by the natural environment and the biodiversity at its core to the economy and social-wellbeing.

Selamat Hari Kebangsaan ke-63!

Kelvin Diong

NOTE TO MEMBERS

Members are encouraged to write to us at admin@ensearch.org in the event of changing contact details. Corporate members are recommended to provide more than one contact (email address) to facilitate better dissemination of ENSEARCH information.

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FEATURED MEMBER

Badariah Awang Kechik

(ENSEARCH Individual Member)

Pn Badariah Awang Kechik is an Environmental Auditor registered under the Department of Environment Malaysia with competency in Certified Erosion, Sediment and Storm Water Inspector (CESSWI) and HRDF Certified Trainer. She graduated from the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi with B.A (Hons) in Geography and Master's in Environmental Management.

With more than 20 years of experience in environmental management, Pn Badariah is the founder and current Director of Perunding Alam. When she first started her career, she was attached to Johor Skills Development Centre (PUSPATRI) as an Executive before transferred to Pasir Gudang Municipal Council (PGMC) as Head of Quality Department/Cleanliness & Environmental Department as the Environmental Management Representative (EMR) for EMS ISO 14001. She then worked at Gerbang Perdana Sdn Bhd as Environmental Officer, Ranhill Engineers & Constructors Sdn Bhd as Senior Environmental Executive, MMC-Gamuda JV Sdn Bhd as Environmental Manager, SALCON-MMCB-AZSB JV Sdn. Bhd. as Environmental Manager and MMC Engineering Group Bhd/MMC Engineering Services Sdn Bhd as Environmental Manager.

She founded Perunding Alam in 2012 since then been providing environmental consultancy and services, specialized in Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP), Land-Disturbing Pollution Prevention and Mitigation Measures (LDP2M2), Environmental Monitoring and Auditing, Environmental Management System (EMS ISO 14001); and implementation and compliance with Environmental Legislation and EIA Approval Conditions.

Some of the key projects she principally involved includes:

- Led the Quality Department of PGMC and successfully obtained EMS ISO 14001 certification within 6 months in 2001.
- Implementation of EMP and ISO 14001 in Gerbang Selatan Bersepadu Project in Johor Bahru
- Internal Lead Auditor & Internal Trainer at MMC-Gamuda Sdn Bhd, prepared revised EMP & ESCP for Electrified Double Track Project (Ipoh-Padang Besar)

Pn Badariah is an avid trainer in EIA, ESCP, EMP, HSE & Scheduled Waste Management.. She also lectures at universities on the following courses

- Professional Diploma In Industry Environmental Management (PDIEM) Module IE 123 : Ecology Management & Environmental Audit and Module IC 353: Environmental Impact/ Aspect Assessment and Planning (EIA & EMP) at UTM-SPACE
- IEA 517 Subject (Subtopic -Scheduled Wastes Management) at USM, Penang
- EAT 332 Subject (Subtopic - Effectiveness of EIA & EIA Procedure and Requirement in Malaysia) at UniMAP, Perlis



Pn Badariah with intensive experience in Compliance Audit, completed 50 projects under DOE, JKR and others across Malaysia (e.g Penang Sentral Project, SUKE Project, Eco Horizon Project, MSM Perai, Toray Plastic and Ann Joo Steel)



Pn Badariah and her family.

FEATURED CORPORATE MEMBER

EUROPASIA Engineering Sdn Bhd

(Registered Environmental Consultancy Firm)

Incorporated in 1992 and a corporate member of ENSEARCH since 2008, EUROPASIA Engineering Services Sdn Bhd is a local environmental consultancy based in Petaling Jaya.

EUROPASIA and its associated consultancy Enviro Enhance Sdn Bhd, a MOF registered consultancy, offers services in the fields of environmental impact assessments, environmental audits, Post-EIA compliance reporting, environmental and social studies. EUROPASIA is also ISO 9001:2015 certified in the fields of Environmental Consultancy and Training Services.

EUROPASIA strongly believes that through offering a multitude of services in the environmental sector, it would result in a positive long term effect on playing a small part in the deteriorating quality of the Malaysian environment so as to enable our future generation a cleaner, greener and healthier Malaysia.

Employing multi-disciplinary personnel with the required certification to undertake EIAs, EUROPASIA and Enviro Enhance is able to be one-stop consultancies to undertake studies and audits. Some of their projects are as follows:

EIA and/or EMPs

- Elmina East and West Housing Development
- Setia Ecohill 1 and II Housing Developments
- EcoMajestic Housing Development
- Jeram Sanitary Landfill Phase 2
- Waste to Energy Plant, Jeram
- Serenia City Phases 1, II and III Housing Developments
- SILK and ELITE Highway Expansions

3rd Party Audit

- MRT Lines 1 and 2
- Setia Ecogrades Development
- Saga Tunas Development

Other Studies

- DOE Guidelines for Sectorial EIAs
- Rancangan Struktur Negeri Terengganu 2050 (Kajian Semula)



EUROPASIA is dedicated to provide services that is important for our nature.



EUROPASIA team in bowling action at Sunway Pyramid as an appreciation to the employees.

FEATURED ARTICLE

Reopening the economy:

Opportunities & Threats for the Environment

Author: Dr Zuliana Moktar

NOW more than ever, COVID-19 flags a bleak outlook for the economy and social livelihood. This is among the headlines we frown upon day in, day out. On the flip side, what seems to be a global crisis economically and socially, resembles layers of silver linings for the environment – perhaps the sole beneficiary of the ruthless pandemic so far. A recent study concludes that when half of the world population is under some form of lockdown due to COVID-19, mobility is drastically reduced up to 90% and as a result, environmental pollution is sharply scaled down up to 30%.

Put succinctly, the hiatus brought by the pandemic forcibly put a slowdown to the pollution we caused on air, water and land. However, when things bounce back to normal, nobody could guarantee whether the environmental improvement inadvertently achieved would persist in the long run.

Arguably, the environment rides the momentum of the lockdown side effects and basks in glory, potentially just until the lockdown is fully lifted. The hard truth is: the longer the lockdown, the better the environment thrives but the steeper the economy contracts. Having both feet on the ground, a lockdown in any country cannot last forever without affecting us economically and socially. With COVID-19 has not been fully contained, the global economy is now paralyzing and is calling for an urgent reviving. If the worst case scenario prevails, the pandemic may continue to shape our livelihood much longer than what we had hoped for. Looking back through history, it is worth mentioning that scientists have been trying to find a vaccine for the common cold without success since the 1950s.

Today, COVID-19 fatality rate is slowly subsiding in Malaysia. Based on a calculated risk assessment, the government is taking a baby step to relax the movement restriction and jumpstart the economy. With Conditional Movement Control Order being implemented, it is feared that reopening the economy could run the risk of industries doubling up its operation manifolds in making up for what has been lost. Unlike countries that have moved from a manufacturing or industrial economy to a service economy, Malaysia is still very much dependent on the activities as well as foreign direct investment in the

manufacturing sector. In other sectors, people still need to go out and work to make ends meet. While economic activity and subsequent pollution is expected to return, it is worth to take stock and to reflect inwardly about how our behavioural shift during the lockdown could continue to abate air, water and land pollution post-lockdown.

Air – Air pollution is mainly caused by the emission from the combustion of fossil fuels caused by energy use and production. Air polluters include smog, soot, hazardous pollutants and greenhouse gases. During the lockdown, domestic travel was discouraged, international travel was banned and factories operation was abruptly shut causing less fossil fuel being burned. Air travel is reported to drop 96% globally, lowest in 75 years. This translates to a dramatically reduced carbon emissions, clear blue skies and lower ecological footprints for our groceries and consumables. Some of the behavioural shifts that contribute to the cleaner air worth holding on to post-lockdown are the transitioning from physical office to telecommuting, prioritising office mobility and flexibility, reassessing long haul travel necessity, making better choice about daily transportation and buying locals with lower ecological footprints.

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Water – Water pollution occurs when harmful substances such as toxic chemicals or microorganisms contaminate a water body such as stream, river, lake, ocean and aquifer. Contaminant originates from various sources like agricultural, recreational, sewage, wastewater, oil, single used plastics, consumables as well as radioactive. Industry shutdown and less recreational activities leads to less pollutants in waterways as well as less activities that cut through the marine habitats. During the lockdown, 29 water monitoring stations in Malaysia showed an improved river water quality index. Being more vigilant about our waste and opting for a safer disposal may help to continuously protect our water.

Land – Land pollution refers to the degradation of the land surfaces mainly due to the misuse of land resources and human activities such as the disposal of agricultural, domestic, industrial and commercial waste. The lockdown caused a decreased in foot traffic and waste generation especially in the agricultural, industrial and commercial sectors. This eventually eased the burden of the landfill. Solid waste entering Malaysian landfills are reported to dropped significantly around 10% to 30% during the lockdown period. Further, the fear of catching the pandemic had also indirectly caused many to develop an instant habit of refusing plastic bags and bringing their own.

Although there is no anecdotal evidence of an increased recycling awareness, we could always start small in generating less waste post-lockdown.

The grim reality of COVID-19 brings with it an important lesson about how pollution is a reversible phenomenon.

In returning to what is supposed to be a changed world of a new normal, we need to thoroughly assess what part of the old normal worth going back to. Whether the environment improvement achieved during the lockdown period is doomed to be a short lived victory or a major turning point for a more sustainable future, depends hugely on the options we make. While opportunity cost in balancing economic, social and environmental consideration remains a challenge, our behavioral shift as an individual could help to achieve the future that we want. The pandemic anomalies forced us to make greener options and kept us away from the pollution we have been previously harmed by, why don't we leave the situation as it is and continue to pollute less?

Article was published @ [Astro Awani](#)

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SDG Corner

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Did you know?

Annual mean concentration of particulate matter of less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5) ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Value Year Rating Trend

16.0 2017 ● ↗

Access to improved water source, piped (% of urban population)

98.9 2017 ● ↑

Satisfaction with public transport (%)

61.0 2019 ● ↓



Decreasing



Stagnating



Moderately improving



On track or maintaining SDG achievement

Malaysia performance according to The Sustainable Development Report 2020 (Cambridge University Press, 2020)

FEATURED ARTICLE

Environmental Leadership will be more In Demand than ever after COVID-19

Author: Neal Myrick (Vice President, Social Impact, Tableau Software)

In just a few short months, COVID-19 has reshaped the world. While we don't know how long the pandemic will affect our day-to-day lives, we can already see the impact it is having in so many areas; the economy, our personal lives – and the environment. COVID-19 is a global health crisis, but it is also showing just how closely our economy and lifestyles are linked to the overall health of the planet.

- *The links between human and planetary health have been laid bare by the COVID-19 crisis.*
- *The world is crying out for a new, more sustainable direction.*
- *It's in the power of leaders across the world to deliver this future.*

As we move through the pandemic and begin to think about recovery, business leaders can place a pretty secure bet on the fact that the expectation for strong and well-thought-out environmental strategies will be even stronger than it was before. As my colleague Suzanne DiBianca, Salesforce's Chief Impact Officer, said recently: "We are facing numerous challenges now, but regardless of what else is happening in the world, the climate crisis is here, it's real, and this is the decade where we need to act. At Salesforce, the call for leadership and action in the environmental space – from our stakeholders, our communities, and our employees – is clearer than ever amid the COVID-19 crisis."

The health of the planet is inextricably linked to the health and wellbeing of people and businesses across the globe. Leaders who are preparing to address both with strong strategies and decision-making will set their businesses and their people up for success in the future.

Environmental leadership is more important than ever before

Sustainability has only grown in urgency over the past several years, and business and leadership strategies have reflected that. A [2019 Deloitte study](#) found that more than 63% of businesses have formal resource and sustainability goals in place, and more than two-thirds say they're hearing demands from customers to increase their commitment to good environmental practices. Employees, too, are sounding this call.

In the wake of COVID-19, leadership on environmental sustainability will be in increased demand, writes UN Environment Programme Director Inger Andersen in [an op-ed for the UN](#). It will be up to

our leaders to course-correct. The link between planetary and human health has to guide the way leaders across the world make decisions after the pandemic passes, Andersen writes: "As the engines of growth begin to rev up again, we need to see how prudent management of nature can be part of this 'different economy' that must emerge, one where finance and actions fuel green jobs, green growth and a different way of life, because the health of people and the health of planet are one and the same, and both can thrive in equal measure."

So what steps can leaders take now to ensure the health of the planet and its people following this pandemic?

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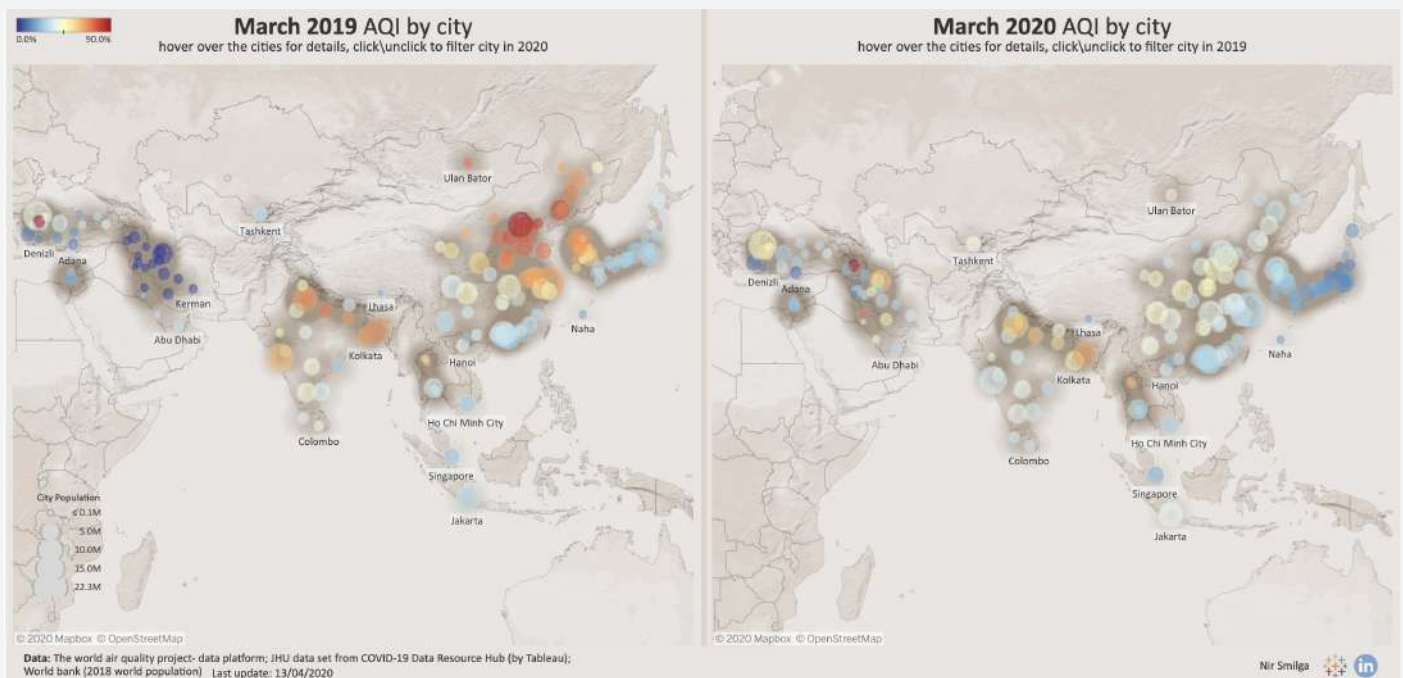
Environmental Leadership will be more In Demand than ever after COVID-19

What is COVID-19 telling us about the need for strong sustainability policies

COVID-19 has already disrupted the way many businesses across the world operate. In the span of a few short weeks, workforces have had to go remote, offices have shuttered, and commuting has been put on pause. Leaders have had to rise to the challenge of guiding their people through these changes,

and many are now settling into this new way of operating.

These shifts are proving effective in slowing the spread of the virus, but they're also having another effect. The data shows that where COVID-19 has spread, carbon dioxide emissions, air pollution, congestion and related transport emissions have [significantly decreased](#).



A year-on-year comparison of air quality in Asian cities, March 2019 to March 2020. (Image: Tableau)

While it's true that COVID-19 may bring about the first major drop — [around 5%](#) — in emissions in over half a century, this is not the way we want to be achieving it, Stanford University professor and Global Carbon Project chair Rob Jackson told [Grist](#). “Millions of people out of work is not the way we want to reduce emissions,” he said. And it's highly unlikely that these declines will last. As soon as places begin to lift stay-at-home sanctions, emissions are likely to climb again.

What business leaders need to think about now is their role in avoiding the 'bounce-back' effect of pollution spiking again after this crisis. What policies can carry through to protect the planet after the pandemic passes? Can you establish a clear work-from-home policy, where possible, across the company? Can you encourage green transportation options, like cycling and public transit, to keep emissions from commuting at low levels? Can you conduct an audit of your buildings to ensure that they're operating at the highest efficiencies standards?

FEATURED ARTICLE

Environmental Leadership will be more In Demand than ever after COVID-19

For policy-makers and elected officials, the World Bank [notes](#) that in the aftermath of the pandemic, one of the key focuses will be on stabilizing the world and its economy in the long-term. That means redesigning subsidies to shift dependence away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy, and making significant investments in sustainable transit infrastructure and environmental remediation projects.

Across sectors, these are big shifts to be contemplating. But the coronavirus has already upended our business-as-normal. Leaders need to be thinking about the future and how to set us all up for success in our new reality.

Doing our part to invest in the health of the planet

There is some good news. More than ever, leaders are committing to the health and wellbeing of the planet beyond their own four walls.

In the past several years, business and investor support for environmental sustainability measures has continued to rise. In 2018, a [report from PwC](#) found that around 50% of companies had built their impact strategies around several of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. More than 90% of the 250 largest companies in the US produce a corporate sustainability report. It's more important than ever that companies can show their commitment to goals that are larger than the scope of their own business, but critical for the long-term health of the planet.

That was true before COVID-19, and will be even more urgent after the pandemic passes. [Data is showing](#) that a driving force behind the emergence of the novel coronavirus was deforestation; as human industry and activity scales up and begins to encroach on natural ecosystems, [opportunities for cross-contamination](#) of viruses between animal species and humans skyrocket.

If we don't do anything to radically scale back the devastation of natural resources, and regenerate those we have already lost, we're setting ourselves up for a repeat of the situation we're in right now.

For business leaders, the link between COVID-19 and environmental degradation needs to be a [call to action](#) to support sustainability measures. And there are more opportunities than ever for companies to commit their resources to helping the planet - such as the effort to plant [1 trillion trees](#) to mitigate environmental losses. For leaders, pledging to limit further damage along their supply chains is a way to show commitment toward ensuring the long-term health of their people and the planet.

COVID-19 has shown us just how much our actions — as individuals, businesses, and communities — affect the planet on a daily basis. It's also made it clear that unless we act now, we run the risk of exposing ourselves to further threats in the future.

Business leaders now have an opportunity to integrate these learnings and work together to enact strategies — within their own operations, and in concert with governments, nonprofits, and each other — to ensure that we emerge from this crisis with a plan for sustainability.

Article was published @ [World Economic Forum](#)

FEATURED ARTICLE

Imagining Transformative Biodiversity Futures

Author: Carina Wyborn, Federico Davila, Laura Pereira, Michelle Lim, Isis Alvarez, Gretchen Henderson, Amy Luers, Maria Jose Martinez Harms, Kristal Maze, Jasper Montana, Melanie Ryan, Chris Sandbrook, Rebecca Shaw and Emma Woods

Biodiversity research is replete with scientific studies depicting future trajectories of decline that have failed to mobilize transformative change. Imagination and creativity can foster new ways to address longstanding problems to create better futures for people and the planet.

The world has changed. Posited to be a ‘super year’ for biodiversity with various international meetings and the conclusion of the Convention on Biological Diversity’s ten-year Aichi Targets, 2020 will be remembered for very different reasons: catastrophic fires, the COVID-19 pandemic, floods, locust outbreaks, a drastic drop in oil prices and widespread food insecurity. These disruptions will exacerbate the already considerable gap between rich and poor, hitting marginalized groups – the impoverished, women, Indigenous communities and people of colour – much harder. Impacts on the environment have been mixed: carbon emissions may be down, but there are growing concerns that nature will be forgotten in the rush to rebuild devastated economies.

Times of rapid disruption create novel opportunities for change. When longstanding ways of doing things are destabilized, new ideas, institutions and ways of relating to one another can take hold. These events remind us that the future is uncertain and that big changes are possible over short timeframes. To capitalize on this moment, the biodiversity community needs to be creative, to imagine new futures that enable people and nature to thrive on our planet. Now is a time to revolutionize how we listen, think and act.

The biodiversity community – those researchers, citizens, local knowledge holders, practitioners and decision makers concerned with the natural world and its relationship with people – are scrambling to use this opportunity to create thriving futures for people and nature. As fodder for the conversations, strategies, research plans and decisions that are

unfolding, we offer three possible futures that characterize ongoing debates within the biodiversity community.

Set in 2050, they chart the consequences of decisions or events that may unfold over the next few years. Each future is situated within a rapidly changing Anthropocene. None of them are inevitable. Many more exist: zero conflict, obliterated nature, societal collapse. We have crafted stories that highlight contrasting world views that shape who has power, what values are prioritized and which bits of biodiversity ‘matter’. You will probably like some aspects of each future and dislike other aspects at the same time. We invite you to let your imagination take you to the year 2050.

Basic Needs

Enjoying coffee and locally sourced breakfast cooked in a communal kitchen, you watch the news streamed through a vid-cast. Luckily, your rations arrived yesterday, so you have fresh coffee for the first time in weeks.

After widespread popular revolts in 2021, equality and social welfare are now prioritized by national governments. Many countries turned inwards, focusing on producing food for their citizens. With less consumption, trade and travel, carbon emissions flat-lined. But this morning’s news is evidence that this may have been too little too late: cyclones in the Philippines, catastrophic fires in California in winter and water shortages across the Andes. You wonder what could have been possible if there was more money available for research and innovation.

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Imagining Transformative Biodiversity Futures



Not all nature is thriving. Healthy mangroves protect urbanized coasts from rising sea levels, urban food forests are buzzing with visitors and nature-friendly farming provides food for local markets.

However, efforts to protect wildlife are fading as funding has dried up. Iconic species like orangutans and giant pandas are probably extinct. But, basic needs are being met and society seems to be adjusting to life within limits.

Wildlife Rules

You wake up and open a bag of lab engineered coffee and rip open a box of fortified breakfast cereal from climate controlled farms. The local desalination plant ensures a constant supply of food despite ongoing droughts in your region.

At the annual Global Conservation Summit, a virtual reality tour brings you and your colleagues thousands of miles away to the Congolese rainforest. You see gorillas protected by digital fencing and military drones.

The project exemplifies the extreme conservation measures adopted globally in 2021 as the world struggled to limit the spread of zoonotic diseases. Though impressed, you wonder where the people live and how they make their living.

As priorities shifted from climate action, emissions growth continued. This means that while militarized conservation protects species locally, climate-sensitive species are now only found in climate-controlled enclosures in zoos. The Arctic is ice-free in the summer and the polar bears are gone. More people are employed protecting species rather than hunting and harvesting them for food and trade, but society as a whole is disconnected from nature.

Climate First

You munch your breakfast of locally farmed oats and an apple from your roof garden. As you down your carbon-neutral coffee, it is met with a shot of nostalgia for a good cup of Venezuelan coffee.

Your Unity BCI (Brain Computer Implant) projects drone footage from the Radical Climate Action Alliance: deserts covered with solar farms; oceans with wind farms; and farmed land covered with biofuel crops.

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Imagining Transformative Biodiversity Futures

The Alliance successfully advocated for environmental and human rights treaties to be revoked in 2021 in favour of a Climate First Charter that prioritizes storing carbon and generating clean energy.

You feel a sense of pride at a nuclear reactor displaying your national flag and consider how corporations have benefited from green energy partnerships while inequality has risen.

The clip closes with images of carbon-capturing trees in the Amazon. You would love to visit one day, but carbon sanctuaries are closed to visitors: not even Indigenous peoples who have sustained these landscapes for thousands of years can enjoy them. Widespread restrictions on travel have devastated local economies, and with no ecotourism, funding for conservation is scarce. The Great Barrier Reef has recovered but wind farms have decimated avian species and bats.

Whose Future?

These worlds are allegories that capture major features of a two-year dialogue – under the banner Biodiversity Revisited – involving almost 300 experts from across the world, at different stages of their career and with diversity of backgrounds.

The initiative has generated a transdisciplinary agenda that calls for research to mobilize plural knowledges, ethics and actions to sustain diverse and just futures for life on Earth^{1,2}.

These stories take place in the future, but the values and motivations that underpin them exist in the present³. We have imagined how they may play out to stimulate more creative ways of considering the trade-offs and consequences of current choices, decisions and actions.

In ‘Basic needs’, decision makers focus on addressing social inequalities through radical economic interventions⁴. Here, society values local biodiversity that sustains human well-being.

‘Wildlife rules’ describes a world where governments and conservation organizations focus on preserving iconic species and large landscapes, at the cost of displacing local communities and other potential trade-offs⁵.

In ‘Climate first’, governments around the world addressed climate change through technological solutions; biodiversity is valued only where it serves climate-change mitigation⁶. Each story implies different ways of producing food, because this is an important signifier of society’s relationship with nature and how biodiversity is valued⁷.

As vignettes, the stories are unavoidably incomplete. Who does the imagining matters for which story is told, for what stories are enacted. The stories illustrate that biodiversity, climate and inequality are inseparable agendas. We are not suggesting a choice between worlds, but rather, a choice between ways to navigate diverse pathways.

The biodiversity community needs to move beyond the technocratic approaches that currently dominate ways of thinking about the future⁸. These approaches are often built on outdated assumptions that often do not reflect diverse knowledges and perspectives about biodiversity values⁹.

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Imagining Transformative Biodiversity Futures

This matters because projections of the future both represent and create trajectories of change by shaping how problems are understood and communicated, and therefore which strategies are developed to address them^{10,11}. This means that researchers have to acknowledge that imagining the future, whether in a model or a story, is political¹².

Imagination in the Anthropocene

Imagination is critical to sustainable and just futures for life on Earth^{8,13}. Writing after the West African Ebola outbreak, Professor Michael Osterholm and colleagues called for more “creative imagination” to consider future pandemic scenarios¹⁴. This feels particularly salient five years on. Purely technocratic approaches fail to engage with the emotions that motivate action towards alternative futures: fear, hope, grief and agency^{8,15}. By building new ways of thinking about longstanding problems, inclusive and creative processes can generate positive stories about the future in ways that are empowering^{8,10}. Imagining the future can drive societies towards change by shaping common practices, aspirations and institutions¹⁶.

Methods for imagining, such as scenarios analysis, strategic foresight and speculative fiction are commonplace in research, investment and planning^{8,13,17}. They can help the biodiversity community address the bleak futures that are projected for biodiversity.

Research can play an important role in embracing imagination by fostering novel participatory methods that enable society to explore what is possible, plausible and desirable¹³. All models and scenarios are wrong, some are helpful: they contain assumptions about what matters, what is known and what is unknown. Embracing and communicating these assumptions and uncertainties builds trust in science, opening up spaces for deliberation about values, trade-offs and desirable futures¹⁸.

Imagination can build the anticipatory capacity to get ahead of the curve, rather than react to crisis¹⁷.

Decision makers must learn to provide anticipatory leadership that fosters shared responsibility for actions that may have greater costs now, to avert harm in the future. Enabling transformations also requires those who benefit from the status quo to acknowledge the need for change.

Policy frameworks need to consider the distribution of costs and benefits over longer timescales when setting current priorities. Ultimately, society needs to accept that the future is unknowable and uncertain, but that action is needed now

These anticipatory capacities start with asking:

What are the short- and long-term drivers of change?

What values should be maintained into the future?

What can be done differently over the next five years?

Over the next 30 years?

What do we need to know and what will we never know?

How can options be created and traps avoided? What are the ethical implications of action and inaction? Considering these types of questions can provide a foundation for decision making despite uncertainty.

Our stories show that choices have consequences. Some close down options. Some open up multiple pathways. Either way, choices create winners and losers. The critical challenges of the Anthropocene require humility¹⁹ and the ability to respond²⁰. Imagination can help the biodiversity community grapple with these challenges by embracing diverse ways of thinking, listening, being and knowing. And such diversity can be the foundation of more just and sustainable futures for life on Earth.

FEATURED ARTICLE

Imagining Transformative Biodiversity Futures


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SDG Corner

SDG14 – Life Below Water

Did you know?

14 LIFE BELOW WATER	Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	28.5	2018	● →
→	Ocean Health Index: Clean Waters score (worst 0–100 best)	57.4	2019	● ↓
SDG15 – Life on Land				
15 LIFE ON LAND	Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	39.5	2018	● →
→	Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.7	2019	● ↓
	Permanent deforestation (% of forest area, 5-year average)	1.8	2018	● ●
	Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2.1	2018	● ●

↓ Decreasing
→ Stagnating
↗ Moderately improving
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
● Information unavailable

Malaysia performance according to The Sustainable Development Report 2020 (Cambridge University Press, 2020)

COVID-19
#KitaTeguhKitaMenang

CEGAH COVID-19: AMALKAN NORMA BAHARU



**Kerap
Membasuh Tangan**



**Penjarakan
Sosial**



**Guna
Pelitup Muka**



Kementerian
Kesihatan
Malaysia



MYHEALTHKKM



ELAKKAN 3S

1 Sesak
(Crowded Places)



**Tempat
yang sesak**

2 Sempit
(Confined Space)



**Tempat sempit
dan tertutup**

3 Sembang Dekat
(Close Conversation)



**Bersembang
dekat-dekat**



National
Foundation for
Infectious
Diseases

www.nfid.org/coronaviruses

**Let's get to know
some of the
symptoms**

- Breathing**
- Chills**
- Congestion**
- Cough**
- Diarrhea**
- Fever**
- Headache**
- Nausea**
- Pain**
- Runny nose**
- Smell**
- Sore throat**
- Taste**
- Vomiting**

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS WORD SEARCH

H	E	A	D	A	C	H	E	Q	U	K	U	E	R	R
A	K	S	E	X	U	M	K	V	S	F	S	A	Q	B
N	O	I	T	S	E	G	N	O	C	O	D	U	U	O
J	E	L	V	A	U	N	H	Z	N	F	I	W	S	P
T	V	I	L	E	O	B	J	Y	B	R	A	K	V	G
N	G	O	N	E	W	R	N	A	X	N	R	H	U	S
T	N	G	M	G	M	N	H	V	A	E	R	H	Z	E
I	E	N	O	I	U	S	W	T	W	U	H	H	J	Z
D	M	I	K	R	T	N	Z	H	E	X	E	H	X	E
P	O	H	E	I	A	I	G	Q	L	R	A	Y	Z	T
W	M	T	P	U	K	U	N	W	N	R	O	M	X	R
Z	X	A	S	A	O	A	Y	G	D	T	A	S	T	E
R	F	E	X	C	I	S	U	S	L	L	I	H	C	V
O	A	R	A	H	R	N	R	X	I	U	R	S	R	E
V	S	B	P	D	H	S	L	K	I	I	U	E	Y	F

PAST EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Technical Site Visit to 1.5MW Biogas Plant at Cenergi SEA Jerantut, Pahang



The Technical Field Visit hosted by Cenergi SEA Biogas plant was successfully organised on 11th March 2020 with good turnout of 30 participants comprises ENSEARCH Council, Secretariat and Members.

In view of the potential environmental issues the palm oil mill effluent (POME) may give rise to i.e. impaired water quality and potential GHG emissions, this visit was organised for our members to learn about the waste to energy technology that also treats POME.

“The self-generated power plant could hold up to 90 tonnes of POME,” said Mr Hamizan, the manager of the biogas power plant. The effluent transferred to the digester will be processed for about 25 - 30 days until it gets mature. The biogas power plant is complemented with 2 ponds (26km³ each) maintained by fresh microorganisms (1m³ for each treatment) to enhance the treatment process. The collected gas will be processed in the scrubber for further treatment and chilled out in the chiller before channeled to the engine for power usage. The biogas plant has been installed according to environmental health and safety guidelines and has been operated without any failure.

Apart from serving the purpose of treating the POME to avoid environmental implications, the biogas power plant is able to convert waste into energy, making good use of harvested Methane gas, and spur economic growth that includes job opportunities in technical aspects, manufacturing, construction, that does not only benefit the operator, the local community and also the supply chain.

As the plant looks set to achieve the carbon saving objective, turning POME into energy is also a fine example of practicing “Circular Economy” by assigning value to waste and not disposing it. It is also contributing towards the SDG7, SDG12 & SDG13 of the UN Global Agenda 2030 as well as the RMK11.

Overall, it was an enlightening visit to find that sustainable and green practice at an POME plant is essential as it could contribute to not just reducing environmental impacts but also the national target of GHG emissions reduction..

ENSEARCH Council would like to thank Cenergi SEA for hosting the visit and appreciate participations from our members. We look forward to the next technical visit and wish all participants take home new knowledge and thoughts for application in your works.

PAST EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Introduction to Environmental Management &

How to Start Your Career in Environmental Field

On 22nd June 2020, ENSEARCH hosted the online sharing session FOC as we observe the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO) rules on restriction of conducting classroom training to expose and help environmental graduates and practitioners on pursuing environmental career.

The speaker, Pn Badariah binti Awang Kechik, is an ENSEARCH Member who is also the founder and director of Perunding Alam. As an experience environmental consultant and trainer, she provided insights on kick-starting a career path in the environmental field, shared key areas within the environmental management, and opportunities that can be explored.

At the session, fresh graduates with environmental studies background highlighted that most of them lack of guidance in hunting for environmental job, as their peers are equally inexperienced.

We hope that the participants would be inspired and keep their options open as Pn Badariah shed light on various business and industrial activities that requires environmental management, of which knowledge and trainings on environmental management could come in handy.

“In every industrial activities and development undertaken, environmental management cannot be discounted. Failure to manage the environment will undoubtedly have an adverse effect on the environment.

In order to deal with these environmental issues, it is necessary to have qualified staff that can effectively identify and handle environmental issues well.”

Covid19 Outbreak & Environmental Health Impacts

“We should be responsible to our nature by practicing 3R - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle especially during this pandemic season.”

As the Covid-19 pandemic happens globally, ENSEARCH organised another online sharing session FOC about “COVID-19 Outbreak and Environmental Health Impacts” Delivered by Dr. Subramaniam A/L Karuppanan (ENSEARCH Council Member and a lecturer) on 26th June 2020.

Dr Subramaniam started with introduction on the pandemic disease before getting into the main message for Environmental Practitioners to adapt to the “new normal”, reiterating the importance of environmental ethics and the need to be responsible for our nature and surroundings, as many times, anthropogenic degradations come back to haunt us – the people.

As the country edge closer to fully resume economic activities, 7 months since the emerging of Covid19 in January and reports from every states in March, it is high time that everyone shall practice the SOPs stipulated by the Ministry of Health as frontliners are working on their best in order to keep Malaysian safe over this pandemic.

It has also been reported that there are signs of environmental recoveries during the Movement Control Order (MCO) however there needs to be continuous commitment from various sectors including individuals to ensure sustainable environmental practices shall not cease action.

We observe and comply to all MCO & MCMO restrictions.

Follow us [ONLINE](#) to keep abreast with new knowledge!

PAST EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Green Procurement—ISO 20400

International Standard for Sustainable Procurement

Dr Hari Ramalu Ragavan (ENSEARCH Council Member) conducted 2 sessions of online trainings about ISO 20400, abiding the RMCO regulations and HRDF guidelines.

The trainings were held on 7th Jul & 14th Jul over Google Meet with 29 enthusiastic participants joined to keep abreast on Green Procurement. We are glad to see the participants enjoying the interactive sessions by learning online in an engaging way.

We appreciate feedback from participants and happy that the participants learnt about the International Standard for Sustainable Procurement by having in depth understanding on sustainability impacts from business activities, aspects of procurement activities and strategy to implement sustainable procurement practically.

Mr Ng Tuan Hooi from PETRONAS was happy to join the session, acknowledging that Green Procurement is a key component in ensuring corporate Sustainability.

Climate Change Adaptation: Strategies & Plans for Malaysian Companies

It was touted the MOST INTERACTIVE training session!

Participants are willing to join further training as climate change is happening an adaptation takes continuous process and requires cyclical approaches.

In view of the rising trend of businesses recognizing need to address climate risk and improve climate resilience, ENSEARCH organised its first training on Climate Change Adaptation on 29th Jul 2020 with overwhelming responds.

Mr Shiro Chikamatsu, a Japanese expert with National and Global Climate Change project consulting experience conducted the training that was split into 2 sessions to ensure optimum effectiveness as recommended by HRDF guidelines.

With particular focus on strategies and plans for Malaysian companies, Mr Shiro took participants through the following key elements of running climate change adaptation:

- Climate Change status and Climate Change Adaptation Policies
- Understanding the impact of Climate Change on businesses
- Developing Climate Change Adaptation Plans and Strategies
- Tools and Methods (Vulnerability Assessment, Monitoring & Evaluation)

We observe and comply to all MCO & MCMO restrictions.

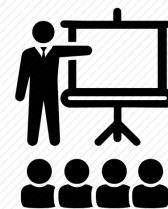
Follow us [ONLINE](#) to keep abreast with new knowledge!

TRAINING & ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2020

Life Cycle Assessment in Malaysia

[Online Training]

(18th-19th August)



Environmental Health Impact Assessment of
Disease Outbreaks (12 CPD APPROVED)

[Classroom Training]

(22nd-23rd September)



Monitoring and Evaluation for Results
(12 CPD APPROVED) **[Classroom Training]**
(6th-7th October)



QUAL2K River Water Quality Modeling
(12 CPD APPROVED) **[Classroom Training]**
(21st-22nd October)



Geographic Information System (GIS) for
Environmental Management
(12 CPD APPROVED) **[Classroom Training]**
(10th – 11th November)



more

Environmental Droners Course – Beginner
and/or Intermediate Levels

[Classroom Training]

(17th – 18th November)

TRAININGS

next page

TRAINING & ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2020

Environmental Management
using ISO 14000

(12 CPD APPROVED) [Classroom Training]
(24th – 25th November)

Air Pollution Assessment
Level 1-Beginner

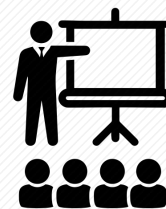
(12 CPD APPROVED) [Classroom Training]
(8th-9th December)

Air Pollution Assessment
Level 2-Intermediate Level

(6 CPD APPROVED) [Classroom Training]
(10th December)

Green Logistic
Beginner Level

[Classroom Training]
(16th-17th December)



ENSEARCH Trainings are

HRDF Claimable & EiMAS CPD Points Applicable.

For more information:

Please register or state your interest at www.ensearch.org or drop us an email at po-training@ensearch.org.

ENSEARCH SEMINAR/TRAINING ROOM for rent

RM350.00 net per day

Approximately 800 square feet

Classroom seating - 25 pax

Theatre seating - 40 pax

Time: 0830 - 1700

INCLUDING

Projector Screen

Whiteboard & Marker

Flip Chart

Water dispenser

High Speed WIFI Internet

Tables & Chairs

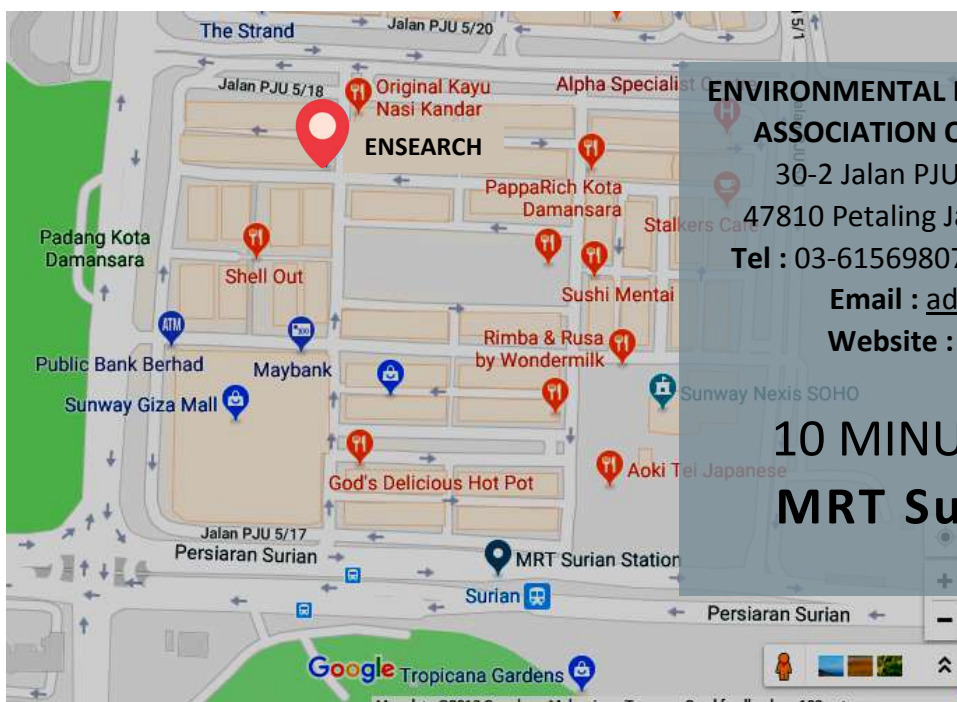
Prayer Room



Spacious classroom or theatre setting



Reading corner at the room's entrance



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

ASSOCIATION OF MALAYSIA (70/84 WP)

30-2 Jalan PJU 5/16, Kota Damansara,
47810 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan.

Tel : 03-61569807 / 08 Fax : 03 - 61569803

Email : admin@ensearch.org

Website : www.ensearch.org

**10 MINUTES walk from
MRT Surian Station**

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 ENSEARCH Resident

Brief History of ENSEARCH

ENSEARCH was established on 26th November 1984 by a pioneer group of local professionals and academics from multidisciplinary background. The founder President (1984-2000) was Ir. K. Kumarasivam and the first Hon. Secretary General was Dato' Prof Dr. Abu Bakar Jaafar. As of today, ENSEARCH has more than 300 Members consisting of Corporate, Individual and Life Members.

It is acknowledged that enhanced awareness and competency of organizations and individuals through education and training is essential to achieve the objectives of Malaysian Environmental Quality Act 1974. Therefore ENSEARCH began formulating and implementing Training programmes to enhance the capacity for environmental management in Malaysia.

In addition, ENSEARCH organizes Tea Talks and Public Lectures to enhance awareness on pertinent and comprehensive issues on the environment. ENSEARCH has also been actively involved in dialogue sessions with relevant authorities in development of legislative and regulatory frameworks that strengthens the environmental management practices in Malaysia. In recognition of ENSEARCH's objectives, it has been given tax-exempt status whereby the donations to ENSEARCH are exempted from tax.