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Green Energy, Climate Neutral, Water

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Indonesia: The Katingan Project

Peatland Restoration and Conservation in Kalimantan

Certification:

VCS VERIFIED CARBON STANDARD
A Global Benchmark for Carbon

CCB Standards

Key Facts

TÜV NORD
TÜV NORD CERT GmbH
Verified Certificate Management

Location:
Central Kalimantan, Indonesia

Project type:
Peatland Restoration & Conservation

Total emission reductions:
»» 7,450,000t CO_2e p.a. ««

Project standard:
Verified Carbon Standard & CCBS

Project start date:
November 2010

Background

Indonesia is home to about 36 percent of the world's tropical peatlands. Peatlands form when dead plants partially decay in soils soaked with tannin-rich water, and organic matter gradually accumulates, over time. They have an exceptional biological value; peatlands support fundamental ecological functions and store up to 20 times more carbon than non-peat mineral soils. When degraded to make way for plantations and other developments, the stored carbon is released into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide along with other GHG gases.

Kalimantan consists of approximately 5.7 million hectares of peatland. It is estimated that by 2020, the expansion of industrial plantations on peatlands in Kalimantan could contribute to 18–22% of Indonesia's total GHG emissions. According to the World Resources Institute, about half of Indonesia's peatlands are now degraded. In 2015 alone, burning of peatlands cost the Indonesian economy $16 billion in losses, generated more GHG emissions, and led to about 100,000 premature deaths.

The Government of Indonesia has introduced initiatives designed to stop further peatland degradation. For example, in 2016, it established the Peatland Restoration Agency which aims to restore 2 million hectares of peatlands within five years.

The Project

The project is located in the Katingan and Kotawaringin Timur districts of Central Kalimantan Province. It covers one of the largest remaining intact peat swamp forests in Indonesia. This project seeks to protect and restore 149,800 hectares of peatland ecosystems for several endangered and vulnerable species. Kalimantan is home to Bornean Orangutan, Proboscis Monkey and Southern Bornean Gibbon. The project works with local communities to devise sustainable sources of income while tackling climate change. It supports traditional livelihoods including farming, fishing, and non-timber forest products harvesting.

Sustainable Development

By supporting this project you'll contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goals:

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

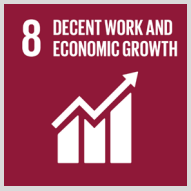
While focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, all our projects also generate multiple co-benefits. These are supportive of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

No poverty

The project works with communities to address poverty through mobilising carbon-based finance. This offers communities the option to commercialise natural resources through active forest restoration and protection.

Clean water and sanitation

Forests serve as natural filters to protect water bodies and purify water. They act as natural sponges, absorbing up precipitation before releasing and recharging groundwater.



Decent work and economic growth

The project seeks to provide communities with sustainable sources of income. It provides employment both long-term and short-term opportunities to communities living in the project-zone.

Climate action

The project encourages forest restoration and discourages degradation and peak drainage. This contributes to average 7,450,000 tons GHG emissions reduction annually.

Life on land

Katingan project helps to maintain a healthy population of faunal and floral species in the project zone by eliminating drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. It further enhances natural habitats and ecological integrity through ecosystem restoration.

Partnership for the goals

Project activities are implemented in partnership with the community and focus on developing enhanced and alternative livelihoods. The project aims to improve the local economy to relieve pressure on the natural ecosystem.

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Technology brief – how it works

The process of capturing and storing carbon dioxide by growing plants is known as bio-sequestration. Photosynthesis is one of the most basic and essential mechanisms on earth and converts carbon dioxide into various types of biomass by using water and energy from sunlight.

In natural peatlands, the soil conists to a large part of water. Thus, plant litter will sink to the ground and be covered by water. Under anaerobic conditions this will contribute to the formation of peat in which a large part of the sequestered CO_2 remains for many years. However, this only works as long as the protective layer of water is preserved. Draining destroys the peatland and the stored carbon is released, thus, the peatland turns from a carbon sink to a major source of CO_2 emissions. Protecting and re-establishing natural peatland therefore is an effective way to remove carbon emissions from the atmosphere and thus contributes to climate change mitigation.

Project Standard

VCS VERIFIED CARBON STANDARD
A Global Benchmark for Carbon

The Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) is a global standard for the validation and verification of voluntary carbon emission reductions. Emissions reductions from VCS projects have to be real, measurable, permanent, additional, unique, transparent, and third-party verified. Assessed against the background of the total volume of emission reductions, VCS is the globally leading standard for voluntary carbon offsets.

CCB Standards
The Climate, Community & Biodiversity Alliance

The Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards were launched in 2005 to foster development of, and investment in, site-based projects that deliver credible and significant climate, community and biodiversity benefits in an integrated, sustainable manner.

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For more information on other projects in our portfolio please visit our website:

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