Online Workshop Series

Exploring criteria and indicators for tropical peatland restoration

WEDNESDAY | 📅 **2 SEPT 2020** | 🕐 **01.30 pm (GMT+7)**

Photo by Faizal Abdul Aziz/CIFOR

Organized by:

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL PEATLANDS CENTER

Badan Restorasi Gambut

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Background

Indonesian peatlands, including peat swamp forests, comprise 36% of the world's tropical peatlands. As one of the largest tropical peatlands, Indonesian peatlands provide numerous ecosystem services, including their ability to slowly sequester and store carbon. Despite their important benefits, Indonesian peatlands have faced deforestation and drainage since the 1980s, mainly for forestry and agriculture purposes.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions caused by peatland degradation and fires place Indonesia among the top five emitter countries. In its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement, Indonesia has committed to restoring more than 2 Mha of degraded peatland area to prevent GHG emissions.

Peatland restoration needs to be underpinned by monitoring efforts that allow an adaptive approach. Peatland monitoring, guided by science-based practice, will enhance the transparency and accountability of reporting under the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC). Indicators that are simple, easy to recognize, measure and monitor over time can be helpful.

A scientifically robust, reliable and practical set of criteria and indicators (C & I) can help to assess progress and outcomes of restoration efforts. Identified C&I should cover four aspects: (1) biophysical, (2) social, (3) economic, and (4) governance. This allows restoration targets to be adequately quantified, and success measured.

The Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) in collaboration with the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF), Peatland Restoration Agency (BRG), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Environmental Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), International Tropical Peatlands Center (ITPC), and Global Peatlands Initiative (GPI) has organized this online workshop to facilitate the process of developing C & I for peatland restoration through knowledge exchange and expert discussion.

Objectives

The main objective of this online workshop, as an initial meeting, is to identify key contributors and suitable methodology for selecting appropriate criteria and associated indicators based on characteristics such as relevance, ease of application, responsiveness, representativeness, consistency and sensitivity to local conditions.

Supported by:

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

NICFI Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

UN environment programme

Global Peatlands Initiative

Online workshop format

The expert resource persons will discuss specific topics in the following areas:

- The principles of existing C & I in multilateral environment agreements, monitoring schemes and networks, and their implications (Session 1)
- Initial criteria and measurable indicators to evaluate restoration performance: biophysical, economic and social aspects (Session 2).

There will be a moderated general discussion session where questions and recommendations will be accommodated.

Expected outputs

At the end of the consultation process (carried out in a series 4 online workshops), expected outputs include:

- Set of validated C & I to monitor and assess peatlands restoration success
- Participants familiarized with validated C & I
- Knowledge exchanged, through discussions, on scientific ways to use a C & I approach for monitoring and evaluation of peatland restoration.

Date and venue

The workshop will be held online over 3 hours on 2 September 2020 using Zoom platform.

Agenda
Wednesday, 2 September 2020

Time	Session	Speakers
01.30–02.00 pm	**Opening** 1. **Introduction** 2. **Keynote address** 3. **Welcome and opening remarks**	• **Daniel Murdiyarso**, CIFOR • **Alue Dohong**, Vice Minister, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia • **Nazir Foead**, Head of Peatland Restoration Agency (BRG)
02.00–02.40 pm	**Session 1 – Setting the scene** Visiting the principles in the existing C & I in multilateral environmental agreements (e.g. SDG, CBD, Ramsar), Monitoring schemes, networks, and implications **Discussion**	*Facilitator:* **Haruni Krisnawati**, Forestry Research, Development and Innovation Agency (FORDA), Ministry of Environment and Forestry Republic of Indonesia/International Tropical Peatlands Center (ITPC) *Resource persons:* • **SPM Budisusanti**, Director for Peat Land Degradation Control at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry • **Lera Miles**, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Center (UNEP-WCMC) • **Maria Nuutinen**, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
02.40-02.50 pm	**Break and Short video viewing**	
02.50-03.40 pm	**Session 2 – Potential criteria and indicators** Exploring initial criteria and measurable indicators to evaluate restoration performance • Overview of restoration progress: achievements and challenges • Physical aspects • Biological aspects • Socioeconomic aspects **Discussion**	*Facilitator:* **Rupesh Bhomia**, CIFOR *Resource persons:* • **Budi Wardhana**, Deputy for Planning and Cooperation, Peatland Restoration Agency (BRG) • **Azwar Ma'as**, University of Gadjah Mada (UGM) • **Agustinus Tampubolon**, Researcher/Chairman of Paludiculture Forum, Forestry Research, Development and Innovation Agency (FORDA), Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia • **Sonny Mumbunan**, University of Indonesia (UI)
03.40-04.00 pm	**The way forward**	• **Haris Gunawan**, Deputy for Research and Development, Peatland Restoration Agency (BRG)

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