



## QUARTERLY UPDATE (JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2023)

### Introduction

This report provides updates on the progress of GEC's activities and finances for the third quarter (Q3) of 2023: July to September 2023. Following are key activities carried out in Q3 2023:

### River Care Programme (RCP)

Two river restoration and clean-up activities were conducted with corporate partners. One with the employees from Luno Malaysia around Lembah Subang Flat on July 5, and the other with PPB Group Berhad at Tmn Tugu on July 14. A river clean-up and young river scientist session was held with the community at Block 1 Desa Mentari on Sept 23.



Slope tree planting (a bio-engineering initiative) was carried out on July 23 by GEC and Berjaya Sampo Insurans Berhad, in partnership with the Department of Drainage and Irrigation (DID)



Gombak, Gombak and Petaling district offices of Department of *Orang Asli* Development, Jungle School Gombak Malaysia, Friends of SG Gombak. About 20 Berjaya Sampo employees and 15 OA community members of Kampung Batu 12 Gombak planted a total of 732 plants including Simpoh air, Senduduk, Vetiver, Buluh Sumpit, and Gapis at two slope areas, as well as at a selected riverbank stretch.

Under the W.A.T.E.R project, a river walk at Bukit Kiara and tree planting at Raja Musa Forest was conducted with SPARK Foundation employees on Aug 5 and Aug 19 respectively.

A RIVER Ranger 2.0 training was carried out by GEC with Fujitsu Malaysia in partnership with University Malaya (UM) Water Warriors involving 33 participants involving Fujitsu employees, local communities and UM students at Samali Tree house, Universiti Malaya, Aug 26. A theoretical flood preparedness training was held with students from Taylor's University on Sept 26. Sixty students attended the training on flood and the importance of taking proactive measures in flood preparation.



A National River Trail event in conjunction with World River Day was held at Sg Batu by Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) in partnership with GEC. Riverbank and surrounding clean-up activities, planting of herbs and pollinator plants along the riverbank and the newly established community garden, mural painting and Young River Scientist activities were among the activities conducted.



On Aug 24, Malaysia's Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim visited to Kampung Tonggang, Tanjung Rambutan, Perak on a Working Visit. The concerns of the Kampung Tonggang community were brought to his attention by Batin Che Wan Bin Alang during his speech, and he was introduced to the implementation of the GEC-supported Kayuh D' Tonggang local tourist attraction, and the efforts of the Kg Tonggang OA youths who are actively taking care of the environment and the Kg Tonggang river.

Aug 20 for selected community under Friends of Kinta River Basin (FOKiRB) and a SMART Ranger programme conducted on Sept 19 in SMK Kg. Pasir Puteh, Pengkalan Barat 18, Ipoh together with KLK (Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad).

Several training events were conducted in Ipoh. This includes the RIVER Ranger 2.0 training on

On Sept 24, GEC in collaboration with JPS Perak and with the support of Yayasan Hasanah and Quest International University held the Perak State Level World River Day 2023 Celebration and the launch of the Friends of Kinta River Basin Association. The programme was attended by approximately 500 people including local community, members of the public, university students, as well as government agencies and departments who attended the programme.



## Forest and Coastal Programme (FCP)

In addition to the monthly tree planting sessions at Raja Musa Forest Reserve (July 22) and Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve (Aug 26 and Sept 23), which involved 256 volunteers who planted a total of 1350 trees (2.25 ha), FCP also facilitated the following activities and programmes:

- A total of 5,000 mangrove trees were successfully planted with the involvement of more than 350 volunteers with support from Yayasan Sime Darby (YSD) Phase 2 project (1,700 trees), Aramco Malaysia (2,000 trees), Ericsson Malaysia (500 trees), SJKC around Sabak Bernam District (300 trees) and ISF (500 trees).
- A total of 600 trees were successfully planted under the SPARK Foundation in Raja Musa Forest Reserve and maintenance activities at two hectares (1200 trees) in FC99, RMFR.
- Two HSBC volunteer tree planting programmes were held, where 2,000 trees were planted at Kampung Dato Hormat, Sabak Bernam (1,000 trees) and Kampung Orang Asli Bukit Cheeding (1,000 trees) with the participation of 190 HSBC volunteers, 20 and 14 community members from Sahabat Bakau Kampung Dato Hormat and Sahabat Gambut Asli Temuan respectively.



*HSBC volunteer and monthly tree planting programme at KLNFR*

- A 14-day RMIT International Students Study Visit was conducted from Aug 19 to Sept 2 at Sungai Sireh Homestay and CoSPeC with the participation of 15 RMIT students and two lecturers. The visit was designed specifically to include various activities, programmes and stakeholder engagements (SSFD, community groups and schools) including site visits, fieldworks and assessments to understand the peat and mangrove ecosystems, effectiveness of community participation in the environmental conservation and livelihood programmes that have been implemented successfully by GEC for more than 20 years.



*15 RMIT international students, and their two lecturers participated in a 14-day study visit from Aug 19 to Sept 2.*

- Phase II Forest Tree Planting Programme at Durian Tunggal Water Catchment (EDT) commenced. It was jointly organised by Malacca's Water Regulatory Authority (BKSA) and the Malacca Chief Minister's Office, with GEC as its implementing partner and with sponsorship received from Airbnb Community Fund. A total of 149 individuals from various organisations including students participated in planting a total of 600 trees over a one hectare parcel of land.



*Restoration of the Durian Tunggal Water Catchment programme, which involved the planting of 600 trees in a one-hectare parcel of land at the site.*

- The IOGP-Ipieca<sup>1</sup> Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Peer-to-Peer Programme conducted a site visit to the Yayasan PETRONAS (YP) planting sites in support of PETRONAS Walk4Trees Challenge in Raja Musa Forest Reserve on Sept 22. The purpose of this visit was to showcase one of the efforts of PETRONAS and YP in the restoration and conservation of peat swamp forest and biodiversity in collaboration with GEC, Selangor State Forestry Department (SSFD) and Sahabat Hutan Gambut Selangor Utara (SHGSU) as well as to promote the positive impact on the socio-economic improvement to the local community.



*The IOGP-Ipieca Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Peer-to-Peer Programme on Sept 22*

## Peatland Programme (PP)

In the Southeast Pahang landscape, GEC collaborated with Enggang Holdings to construct multiple canal blocks within the peat swamp forest reserves and its buffer area to increase water level to prevent and fight fires. Some of the canal blocks constructed incorporated wooden piles, geobags and rockfill – to strengthen the blocks against erosion in the coming wet season. They were constructed with active involvement and support from local partners including nearby communities.

In addition, GEC team collaborated with stakeholders of the Southeast Pahang Peatland Landscape (SEPPL) including Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems in Malaysia (SMPPEM)-Pahang project team, Pahang's Department of Environment, the Fire Department, and YP Plantation Holdings Sdn Bhd in organising fire prevention awareness events with the indigenous and local communities and monitoring previously burned areas to prevent any recurrence of fires. Biodiversity assessment sessions were conducted to assess biodiversity across the landscape.



<sup>1</sup> International Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP) and Ipieca is a global not-for-profit oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues.

In Sabah, a biodiversity assessment project for part of Klias Peninsula and Binsuluk Forest Reserves, funded by the Malaysian Wildlife Conservation Fund (MWCF) was initiated in September 2023 and is scheduled for completion in December 2024.

Under the Technical Assistance and Knowledge Exchange (TAKE)-SMPEM project, GEC actively participated in the Technical Working Group (TWG) meetings and provided recommendations for the implementation of the SMPEM project. In conjunction with the World Ozone Day, GEC partnered with Sabah Forestry Department and SMPEM-Sabah to organise the "Plant for Tomorrow" CEPA event at SMK Gadong, on Sept 23 and attended by 120 participants.



In Sarawak, GEC participated in the 16th Bario Nukanen Festival from July 27 to July 29. GEC set up a booth to showcase the collaboration with the Bario Asal community, shared outreach materials such as project brochures and videos.

In Maludam Peninsula, initial work to promote Community Engagement Strategy (CES) has started. Separate meetings with the Maludam's State Administrative Officer (SAO), heads of villages within the landscape, and some local agencies were carried out to promote and gain feedback on the strategy and potential way forward.



At regional level, MAHFSA organised a Consultative Meeting on the Guidelines on Information and Data Collection and Result Management for Fire and Haze in Southeast Asia on July 5 to July 7 in Kuala Lumpur. The workshop reviewed the draft Guideline

for Information and Data Collection and Results Management with the ASEAN Member States (AMS) and respective expert agencies. In July, GEC also participated in ASEAN Task Force on Peatland (ATFP) and Fifth Programme Steering Committee (PSC) Meetings for Mekong Peatlands project and the MAHFSA Programme. In Vietnam, a Training Course for Capacity Building Sustainable Management of Forest and Peatlands in the Lower Mekong Delta was conducted on July 12-14 for government officials and national parks management teams. GEC associate, Dr Le Phat Quoi was the main trainer for this training.



GEC also hosted the Final Consultative Meeting on ASEAN Investment Framework for Haze-Free Sustainable Land Management (AIF-HFSLM) in Putrajaya in July, back-to-back to the ASEAN Haze-free Roadmap Task Force Meeting and a policy dialogue to promote the Roadmap. The AIF-HFSLM, ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy (APMS) and Roadmap were all endorsed in August 2023 by 18<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) in Lao PDR.



GEC in collaboration with its sister organisation in Indonesia, Yayasan Gambut, held a Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Community-based Fire Prevention, Sustainable Livelihood and Paludiculture Practice at Riau Province on Aug 8 to Aug 11. This regional capacity building for communities was attended by representatives from eight AMS with aim to provide a platform of knowledge exchange adhering sustainable forest and peatland management from Indonesian communities and local government.

### **Outreach and Partnership Programme (OPP)**



Through funding support from Yayasan PETRONAS and Airbnb Community Fund, GEC organised a four-day peer learning forum cum site visit from July 10 to July 13, to bring together leaders from 25 Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) and community-based organisations (CBOs) established by/working with GEC on the Yayasan PETRONAS Tree Planting Activity in conjunction with PETRONAS Walk4Trees Challenge and several other CBOs working alongside with GEC in tree planting initiatives nationwide. The forum provided a platform to brainstorm and exchange ideas, experience, knowledge and best practices to enhance forest management and develop systematic operations of community groups: to be the stewards and guardians of the nearby mangrove, peatland and inland forests.



The study visit was a showcase of the best management practices (BMP) and successful community-based management of peatland and mangrove forest. The programme aimed to derive inputs and insights from the community members themselves on the exit strategy for the Yayasan PETRONAS project that will serve as an impetus to build the capacity of the local communities that have been involved in the project to enhance and sustain their livelihood beyond the project tenure.

Coinciding with the site visit and in conjunction with GEC's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2023, a Media Familiarisation Trip was organised for selected/invited members of the media to introduce them to the project and as an effort to generate media coverage for the project, particularly by highlighting the strength of community engagement. This one-day activity generated at least 17 media coverages across various media platforms both print and online.



On August 19, GEC facilitated the participation of our UKB indigenous community at the national level, World Indigenous Day celebration at Kg Bawong, Slim River, Perak. The event was a joint initiative of the Department of Orang Asli Development and United Nations Development Programme. This year's theme "Orang Asli Youth as Agents of Self-Change". A village head of one of GEC's community partners in Perak, Tok Batin Che Wan Alang from Kg Tonggang, Perak was on the panel of guest speakers for the event, while GEC was also selected to be the jury for the photo essay competition for this event.

On Sept 3, GEC set up a booth at a public exhibition during a day-long Eco-Bazaar at a Picnic in the Park event at Taman Tasik Permaisuri in Cheras, to increase GEC's visibility and enhance environmental awareness among KL cityfolk. The event attracted about 200 visitors from in and around the Klang Valley.

# Visibility

Between July and September 2023, GEC received 65 media coverages (RCP: 35, FCP: 10, PP: 3, General: 17), with a total PR value of more than RM 1,713,975 and cumulative potential reach of more than 6,050,169 people.

## Nature's heroes

By rising up and tackling conservation issues, these kampung folk are proving to be the new nature heroes, discovers **Hena Kosdy**



**Photo credit: The High Road Project**

At the height of a tree-planting drive, a group of people from the kampung are seen working together to plant saplings. The scene is filled with the sound of tools and the sight of green leaves being added to the landscape.

These are the new nature heroes, the kampung folk, who are rising up and tackling conservation issues. They are the ones who are proving to be the new nature heroes, the kampung folk, who are rising up and tackling conservation issues.

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**The Star** Berjaya Sempu in collaboration with GEC kicks off river slope mitigation through tree planting initiative

**NATION** Thursday, 03 Aug 2023 1:36 PM MYT

### Related News

**NATION** 13h ago **State polls: Don't forget the Orang Asli, Ramli tells candidates**

**METRO NEWS** 21 Jul 2023 **A focus on education among Orang Asli kids**

**NATION** 5h ago **'Amend Perak's forestry laws to safeguard**



Volunteers from Berjaya Sempu together with programme officers from GEC and the orang asli community at kickstart of the river slope mitigation through tree planting to protect water resources at the Klang River Basin Initiative.

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Berjaya Sempu Insurance Bhd (Berjaya Sempu), together with Global Environment Centre (GEC), in partnership with the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) Gombak, Department of Orang Asli Development (JAKOA) Gombak and Petaling District, Jungle School Gombak Malaysia and Friends of Sungai Gombak Batu 12 at Kampung Batu 12, Gombak has embarked on a river slope mitigation through tree planting to protect water resources at the Klang River Basin Initiative.

## 尼查：一旦露水法案通過 設管理機構監督生水

【本報訊】霹靂州議會昨日通過一項法案，旨在設立一個名為「霹靂露水管理委員會」的機構，以監督和管理霹靂州的露水資源。這項法案的通過，標誌著霹靂州在保護和開發其獨特自然資源方面邁出了重要一步。

霹靂露水管理委員會將負責制定和執行有關露水資源的保護和開發政策。該委員會將由霹靂州政府任命，並由霹靂州議會監督。委員會的成員將包括政府官員、專家和社區代表。

霹靂露水管理委員會的成立，將有助於保護霹靂州的露水資源，並確保其可持續利用。此外，該委員會還將負責推廣露水資源的開發和利用，以促進霹靂州的經濟發展。

霹靂露水管理委員會的成立，也反映了霹靂州政府對保護和開發其獨特自然資源的重視。霹靂州擁有豐富的自然資源，包括露水、森林和海洋資源。政府將繼續致力於保護和開發這些資源，以確保霹靂州的繁榮和發展。

## 霹靂 3千公升津貼柴油

【本報訊】霹靂州政府昨日宣佈，將向霹靂州的農民提供3千公升的津貼柴油。這項津貼柴油將用於農民的農業活動，以減輕他們的負擔。

霹靂州政府表示，這項津貼柴油將由霹靂州農業發展局負責發放。農民需要向該局申請，並提供相關的證明文件。津貼柴油將以每公升100令吉的價格發放給農民。

霹靂州政府表示，這項津貼柴油將有助於減輕農民的負擔，並提高他們的生產力。此外，這項津貼柴油還將有助於保護霹靂州的環境，並促進可持續發展。

## 3,300 pokok lindungi Empangan Durian Tunggul

**DURIAN TUNGGAL:** 8 Ogos - Sebanyak 3,300 anak pokok hutan ditanam sekitar Empangan Durian Tunggul sebagai usaha melindungi, mengedarkan dan memelihara ekosistem dalaman air itu.

Exco Kerja Raya, Infrastruktur, Kemudahan Awam dan Pengangkutan negeri, Datuk Harwood Hyechee Kanjo Saheer berkata, penanaman pokok rebus ini adalah inisiatif Festival Empangan Durian Tunggul itu dijalankan dengan kerjasama badan bukan kerajaan (NGO).

Harwood berkata, kesepakatan antara Kerajaan Negeri dan NGO itu secara tidak langsung menyokong Agenda Nasional Negara iaitu, Kempen Penanaman 100 juta Pokok menjelang 2025.

"Dalam merajutkan program penanaman pokok hutan di Empangan Durian Tunggul, Komuniti Ayer Raut disubuhkan.

"Mh komuniti ini berperanan memulakan dan membantu tanam sebanyak 2,700 pokok hutan yang ditanam ketika Fasa I dan tambahan 600 lagi pada Fasa II.

"Bagi Fasa II enam jenis anak pokok hutan ditanam iaitu Wenwan Sapat Jantan, Kana, Kawang Naranan, Perak, Kapar dan Kelada Kelai Paya," katanya.

Berku berkata deretan ketika merajutkan Program Penanaman Pokok Hutan Fasa II Festival Empangan Durian Tunggul, di Durian Tunggul, di sini.

## Getting youths involved in protecting peat ecosystem

**SABAH**

**IN COOPERATION** with World Centre for Wetland Conservation (WCWC) and the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD), the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) has launched a community awareness programme called "Mata Air Bersejarah" at SMK Gadong.

Some 120 people including students and teachers from SMK Gadong, Baram, government agencies and community members participated in the event.

The programme was co-organised and supported by Sabah Forestry Department (SFD), Department of Environment (DOE) Sabah and the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) and the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD).

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## 20 ekar masih terbakar di hutan Kompartmen 99, Hutan Simpan Raja Musa - Bomba

**AWANI**

Masih terdapat baki 20 ekar terbakar di hutan gantung di Kompartmen 99 Hutan Simpan Raja Musa, Bestari Jaya, Kuala Selangor yang memusnahkan hutan bakau, pada Sabtu.

September 16, 2023 11:04 MYT



## Planned events

The following are the planned GEC events and activities from October to December 2023:

Date (TBC)	Venue	Event
<b>October 2023</b>		
7 Oct	Blok 3 Desa Mentari	Blok 3 Desa Mentari river clean up activity
9 Oct	Sungai Kinta, Batu Gajah	Fish release and river health monitoring with FOKIRB and KRT Sg Terap as well as Fishery Department.
11 Oct	Kg OA Bukit Cheeding	HSBC Tree Planting Programme
12-15 Oct	Mersing and Bandar Penawar, Johor	FCP Staff Training
14 Oct	Tebuk Mendeleng	Mangrove tree planting with UITM, DID Sabak Bernam and DOE Sabak Bernam at Tebuk Mendeleng
14 Oct	Kolam Rekrasi Sg Pinji	Tree planting with Qiu (University)
16 Oct	Opero Hotel Southkey, Johor	MoU signing ceremony between JSFD and GEC
19 Oct	Lao PDR	Workshop on Disseminate Information on Forest Fire, Open Burning and Health Impact to Government Authorities, Stakeholder
20-22 Oct	Indonesia	Aramco's Indonesia Project Launching
22 Oct	Pejabat Penghulu Mukim Batu	Sg Batu Flood Training at Mukim Batu
23-25 Oct	Putrajaya	National Biodiversity Conference 2023
28 Oct	Taman Tasik Cyberjaya	SER Volunteering Event
28 Oct	KLNFR	Monthly Tree Planting
28 Oct	GSFR, Mersing	Tabung Haji Plantation Project Launching
29 Oct	UTP	Tree Planting with YP and UTP (VVIP)
30 Oct	NSPSF	Nottingham University visit to NSPSF
October	Maludam, Sarawak	Pilot test- Peatland demonstration plot
October	Klang Valley	DOE Follow up PTO and Pelan Induk Workshop
October-November	UPM, Taylor University/GEC	Workshop on Specimens Preservation using Resin and TOT for volunteers
<b>November 2023</b>		
3 Nov	Sg Penchala	GEC Employees' Sg Penchala Adoption & Clean-Up Event in conjunction with GEC 25th Anniversary
4 Nov	Tanjung Surat	Aramco mangrove tree planting
5 Nov	Sg Penchala	DLMI Clean Up Event
5-7 Nov	Kastam Tg Surat	TOT programme
10-14 Nov	Tg Surat / Muar	Peer Visit by Indonesian Delegation to Johor
14-15 November	Bangkok	Launching of ASEAN peatland management Strategy 2023-2030
15 November	Maludam, Sarawak	Communication, Educational, and Public Awareness (CEPA) event
20-24 Nov	Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand	Mekong Peatlands Project – SUPA – MAHFSA: Exchange Visit to Kuan Kreng Peatland Landscape, Thailand
25 Nov	Garden International School	GEC – GIS Service Learning Week
30 Nov – 12 Dec	Dubai, UAE	UNFCCC COP28
November	Petaling Jaya	User Acceptance Test (UAT) on ASEAN Fire Alert Phone App Tool
November	TBC	Flood preparedness training with community Ulu Kinta
November	TBC	Guidelines finalization workshop by DOA with stakeholders
<b>December 2023</b>		
14 Dec	Kg. OA Pulau Kempas	TCIC Launching
19 Dec	Pusat Kanak-kanak Kreatif Tuanku Bainun, TTDI	GEC 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Forum and Dinner