

**International GAWN/SURED Seminar WORKSHOP
Sustainable Management of Water and Land Resources II.
Case Study Central Kalimantan, Indonesia**

6 – 8 October 2009

Aquarius Hotel, Palangka Raya, Kalimantan, Indonesia
organized by the Christian University of Indonesia in cooperation with the University
of Palangka Raya and the Province Government of Central Kalimantan

Background

Kalimantan Island, Indonesia, is burdened with many problems, e.g. floods and droughts, deforestation and peat fires, insufficient infrastructure, land use problems etc. The Governor of Central Province, Kalimantan, an alumnus of the organizing Christian University of Indonesia, initiated a row of 3 SURED/GAWN Seminars + Workshops, to make best use of the knowledge and skills of German alumni for the development of Kalimantan.

A first seminar + workshop was carried out successfully in **Jakarta 24 - 27 August 2008**. The 2009 Seminar was designed to help the Provincial Government of Central Kalimantan to find solutions to the problems of management of water and land resources; problems, which were triggered by wrong policy decisions of the past or by numerous failures of development activities.

The international **participants** were alumni from Germany, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. Most **Indonesian participants** were also alumni of German universities, but members of the local administration and staff members of the universities involved attended the Seminar, too

With exception of the opening session on Tuesday morning, all other activities of the Seminar took place at the newly opened Aquarius Hotel in Palangka Raya, which offered not only excellent conference facilities, but also a pleasant accomodation and dining environment.



The Programme
Tuesday, October 06

The Opening Session took place at the Auditorium of the Governor's Palace in Palangka Raya.



Mr. Teras Narang, the Governor of Central Province, Prof. Uras, the head of the Organising Committee and international delegates at the Opening Session



Prof. Uras during her welcome speech at the Opening Ceremony; further guests at the podium are the Governor of Central Province, the DAAD Director at Jakarta Office, Dr. Helmut Buchholt, the Rector of Christian University, Prof. Gultom, and the Rector of Palangka Raya University, Dr. Singarasa



Four keynote speeches followed, one of them was presented by Prof. Bähr of Karlsruhe University / KIT (photo). The other keynote speakers were Prof. Prinz from Karlsruhe, Prof. Olbrisch from Suderburg in cooperation with Dr: Nazir, Jakarta, and Prof. Putuhena from Malaysia



In the afternoon, the paper presentations were continued at the premises of the Aquarius Hotel in 3 separate sessions. The photo shows the floor during a session of the Group on 'Land, Settlement Development and Transportation' with Dr. Gupta, Prof. Uras and Ms. Hamida as speakers and Prof. Nyamathi as chairman (from left)



Seminar Dinner at the Aquarius Hotel. In the foreground Prof. Bähr, behind him Prof. Nyamathi from Bangalore University, India

Wednesday, October 07



12 papers in 3 parallel sessions were presented on Wednesday morning. Mr. Ratnapriya (left) from Sri Lanka reported on 'GIS based assessment for locating constructed wetlands for catchment based wastewater management'. Prof. Nyamathi (right) presented a paper on 'Artificial Neural Network simulation of ground water levels in uplands of coastal tropical riparian wetlands'

In the early afternoon, a session was held to summarize the findings in regard to the water and development related problems and possible solutions.



Later in the afternoon an alumni meeting was attended by 19 alumni of German universities. Prof. Prinz (upper row, center) gave an overview over running DAAD alumni programmes and future GAWN seminars and workshops



A 'Cultural Night' concluded the day. Dayak singers, dancers and musicians presented traditional folk songs and dances of Borneo. Later on all participants were invited to join the dancers – an unforgettable night for all attendees.

Thursday, October 08

First stop of the excursion was in a region of partially drained peatlands, originally covered with a dense rainforest of high biodiversity. After deforestation these areas are left uncultivated, emitting large quantities of greenhouse gases and being source of long lasting peat fires.



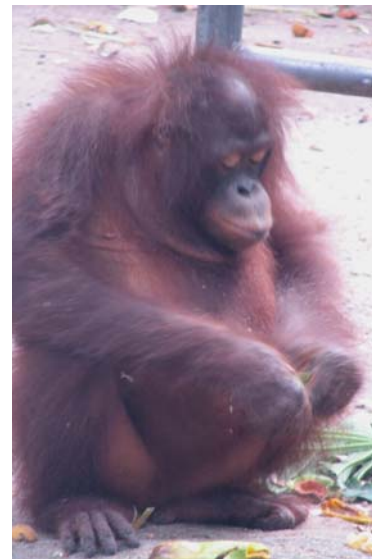
A drainage channel in deforested peat areas

Only a few farmers were successful in producing agricultural crops in the peat areas, like the farmer shown on the photo. He applies ash and mineral fertilizer to produce maize and vegetables. Prof. Bähr is seen in conversation with the farmer.





Next destination was a station of the Borneo Orang Utan Survival Foundation (BOS), where Orang Utans kept for a long time in custody, where trained to return to their natural habits and to live in the jungle.



Friday, October 09



In the morning, Prof. Bähr and Prof. Prinz gave lectures within 'Studium Generale' at Palangka Raya University and all Seminar participants were invited to attend



In the afternoon, a 'Natural Laboratory of Peat Swamp Forest' was visited, using bus, speed boat and field-railway to reach the remote place. A talk to the researchers on the spot, a visit to the rainforest, the climbing of a watching tower and a look at drainage check dams were parts of the programme there.



Saturday, October 10



The participants from outside Kalimantan returned to Jakarta by plane.

The Seminar allowed a good insight into the magnitude of problems of Central Kalimantan in theory and practice. The participants learned a lot on possible solutions and on pathways to put them into practice.

