

EDITION
July
2022
1st ISSUE

www.mpogcf.org



MAMPAN MONTHLY

is here

Message from the General Manager

Assalamualaikum W.B.T. and Salam Sejahtera
#TeamMampan,

With utmost pleasure, myself and all of us at **Malaysian Palm Oil Green Conservation Foundation (MPOGCF)** are delighted to welcome you to the **first issue of Mampan Monthly**, our monthly newsletter that is meant to share with you the latest news, activities and information on various aspects of green conservation as they relate to the palm oil industry, with a key focus on biodiversity and wildlife conservation, sustainable practices as well as pertinent developments within the palm oil industry.

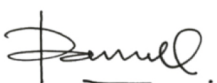
In commemoration of our first issue, I would like to take this opportunity to reintroduce ourselves for the benefit of our readers. As an initiative mooted by Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC), **MPOGCF is positioned to initiate, collaborate and support conservation initiatives** related to the palm oil industry as well as to reflect the industry's commitment towards conserving the environment. We continuously look at critical areas related to green conservation within the industry for short, middle and long-term protecting, managing as well as conserving our natural heritage.

The main aspect in the establishment of MPOGCF is to showcase that the palm oil industry is sustainable or Mampan, which I believe makes for a suitable name for our monthly newsletter. I also believe that the publication of Mampan Monthly will help propagate the important message that the palm oil industry is an environmentally responsibly industry, that is reflected through the projects that we have taken on and the work that we do on a daily basis.

Welcome again to Mampan Monthly. Enjoy!

Green Conservation for a Sustainable Future,

ZAMAKHSHARI BIN MUHAMAD



**General Manager
Malaysian Palm Oil Green Conservation Foundation (MPOGCF)**



As the feature story in this first issue, we have our colleague share his **experience representing MPOGCF on a global stage** during Eid ul-Fitri. We are also highlighting the **Biodiversity and High Conservation Value (HCV) training programme for palm oil smallholders** that MPOGCF held in collaboration with our partners as well as **MPOGCF Media High-Tea Get Together**, our first engagement programme with the media which received an overwhelmingly positive response from attendees. On a separate note, MPOGCF has also **appointed new leadership for the Conservation Department**, which you can find out more in this issue.

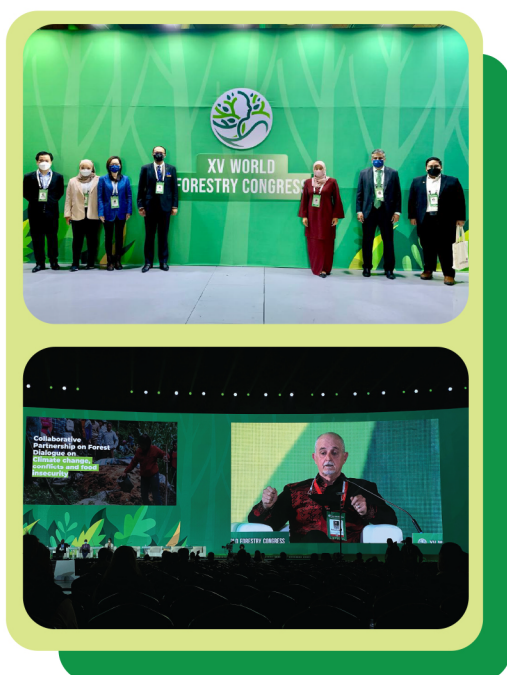
With the 105th anniversary of the palm oil industry, now is a great time for MPOGCF to ramp up our initiatives to mirror the industry's environmental commitment. I applaud **#TeamMampan** for the great work that they have done and continue to do. I believe we can achieve more by coming together and working with each other, as we move forward in the next half of 2022.

XV World Forestry Congress: Convening of Experts and Young Professionals in Forestry on A Global Stage

Story contributed by: Syafiq Nazari, Conservation Executive, MPOGCF

Participating in an international conference outside of Malaysia has been a dream of mine professionally, which is why I was thrilled to be given the opportunity to cross it off my list by representing Malaysian Palm Oil Green Conservation Foundation (MPOGCF) in the **XV World Forestry Congress in Coex, Seoul, Republic of Korea**. Themed, "Building a Green, Healthy and Resilient Future with Forests", Malaysia was among 146 countries taking part in the Congress which drew more than 15,000 participants from across the globe.

At the opening ceremony, I had the privilege of witnessing His Excellency Moon Jae-in, President of Republic of Korea officiating the Congress, which launched the ministerial talks, sub-theme forums, special events as well as plenary sessions. As a young professional, being a part of high-level dialogues with distinguished speakers and panellists while engaging with these experts in real time had allowed me to have valuable insights from the industry and provided me with the inspiration and tools to better deliver my responsibilities as an executive.



The highlight for me had to be **the opportunity to connect with 600 other young professionals of diverse backgrounds**. At the Congress, I felt that our viewpoints were valued and our collective voices were being heard which was visible through the speech delivered by a recognition by the Congress of **the youth's role in fostering inclusive and intergenerational dialogue** in the forestry sector, amongst the experts.

The Congress is a valuable avenue for the youth, particularly in educating, training, and developing careers within the field. Young professionals were engaged in a series of activities for **capacity building and meaningful networking**.

The Congress concluded with the **Seoul Forest Declaration** which concentrated on how forests can help combat the multiple crises that humanity faces, among them; climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation, hunger and poverty. In my view, we are and have to be the solution to the many challenges the world is currently facing. **Innovative projects and partnerships that support green initiatives must be our focus**. Action is needed now!

The Korean Experience: Eid Celebration and an Eye-Opening Exchange

My decision to participate in the XV World Forestry Congress during Eid ul-Fitri this year meant that I **had to forgo Eid celebrations with my family**. I felt that it was a privilege to be asked to represent MPOGCF and since it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, it was too valuable of an experience for me to pass; and I was right.

Attending the Congress in Seoul had allowed me to experience Eid ul-Fitri in Korea for the first time. **I had the chance to gather with 2000 other Muslims from all walks of life and perform my Eid prayers at Seoul Central Mosque in Itaewon. It was also my first time enjoying lemong and rendang in a foreign country at Itaewon Kitchen.** At the Congress, people from all over the world represented their countries' rich culture and heritage by dressing in traditional attires. It was an overwhelmingly friendly and positive atmosphere, expressed by all the participants.

When we talk about Korea, K-pop, K-drama or even kimchi would cross our minds. In my view, **there is so much more to be discovered in Korea, from its food and lifestyle to its culture and history.** Korea, for instance, has a great public transportation system that we can learn a lot from when it comes to country-wide mobility. The Korean food I had in Seoul were also very delectable, even though it was not easy to find halal food there. Halal restaurants are mostly in Itaewon, about 20 to 40 minutes from Coex.

Returning to Malaysia after a week of meaningful exchange and experience, I felt **a renewed sense of motivation and accomplishment to carry out my duties at MPOGCF in order to push the green conservation agenda forward.** I found the many opportunities I had there, including the interactions with people from different parts of the world were **very eye-opening and beneficial for my personal and professional growth.** My wish is that my peers would be provided with the same if not similar opportunity in the future.



Training Programme for Palm Oil Smallholders, Jointly Held by MPOGCF, Sime Darby Plantation and PKPKM



The Biodiversity and High Conservation Value (HCV) Training Course was held recently in Jeli, Kelantan, a collaboration between (MPOGCF) and Sime Darby Plantation alongside National Association of Smallholders Malaysia (PKPKM) which saw 50 palm oil smallholders participating in the programme.

The programme was held with the objective of providing exposure to palm oil smallholders regarding Biodiversity and HCV, maintaining Sustainable Palm Oil Certification as well as the compliance process and procedure, with respect to their requirements, either on a mandatory or voluntary basis.

It also served as awareness training with guidance from and coaching by Sime Darby Plantation and Sime Darby Ecogarden, with the aim of producing national trainers amongst the smallholders within the next few years. The method of training used include individual quizzes, group discussions and video presentations.

The programme was held for the first time and will continue in several locations across the country including Johor, Perak and Negeri Sembilan. Upon completion of the training course, each participant would receive a certificate of participation.

Congratulations to all attendees for completing the training course and for the cooperation given throughout the programme!

Injured by Snare Trap, Baby Elephant Rescued by WRU



Sabah's Wildlife Rescue Unit (WRU) was dispatched to Lahad Datu to join forces with Sabah Wildlife Department to help search and rescue a female calf caught in a snare trap for several days, upon receiving report from estate workers in Tungku who spotted the injured young elephant.

The female calf was believed to be less than 2 years old during the rescue and was found at Felda Sahabat 5 with an injured front right leg on 18 June. Upon closer inspection by a veterinary officer, **part of its ankle had been severely fractured** due to the trap being too tight and **had to be amputated to prevent its foot tissue from further complications and dysfunction.**

Sabah's Tourism, Culture and Environment Minister, Datuk Jafry Ariffin warned against **setting up such snare traps to hunt wildlife as it is a crime punishable by law under the Wildlife Conservation Enactment 1997**, section 33 (1)(k)(iii). Anyone with information is urged to contact Sabah Wildlife Department with **RM 5,000 reward upon identification of those responsible.**

MPOGCF is deeply saddened by this act of cruelty which resulted in the eventual death of the calf on 21 June, despite showing positive signs of recovery upon surgery on 20 June. Our thanks to WRU and Sabah Wildlife Department in their unwavering attempt to save the baby elephant's life.

* Sabah's WRU was set up by Sabah Wildlife Department with the main task of rescuing and translocating distressed wildlife found within the Sabah landscapes. WRU's operations are made possible through funding from Malaysian Palm Oil Wildlife Conservation Fund (MPOWCF) since 2010 before the establishment was improvised into MPOGCF in 2021.

MPOGCF Hi-Tea Media Get Together Drew a Successful Turnout



MPOGCF's first engagement programme with the media saw 40 members of the media ranging from traditional newspapers to online portals gathering under one roof at Pullman Kuala Lumpur Bangsar for MPOGCF Hi-Tea Media Get Together.

MPOGCF Hi-Tea Media Get Together also received strong support from **Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC), Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC), Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) and Malaysian Palm Oil Certification Council (MPOCC)** who were all present with representatives from its senior leadership as well as communications team.

During the programme, **General Manager of MPOGCF, Zamakhshari bin Muhamad called upon the media to help champion the palm oil industry and spread news of various conservation efforts** carried out by MPOGCF and other agencies while **countering false and inaccurate claims made by irresponsible parties abroad.** The message was also reiterated in a speech by **MPOGCF's Board of Trustees, YBhg. Dato' Dr. Wan Zawawi bin Wan Ismail.**

MPOGCF Hi-Tea Media Get Together ended with a special lucky draw session which saw winners bringing home holiday packages and premium hampers as prizes.

MPOGCF would like to thank everyone, particularly members of the media for taking the time and we hope the programme had provided the avenue in getting to know us better as well as in providing mutual support.

Welcome Onboard! Conservation Department Received New Head



MPOGCF officially welcomed **Ahmad Shahdan bin Kasim** who is recently appointed as the new **Conservation Manager**.

Shahdan brings with him **15 years of experience in the field of biodiversity and wildlife conservation**. He started his career as a Naturalist at **Pangkor Laut Resort**, focusing on jungle exploration and documenting the island's flora and fauna. He was also a part of two environmental non-governmental organisations, namely **Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)** and **Global Environment Centre (GEC)** where he was tasked with mangrove forest restoration efforts and uplifting the livelihood of the local communities in the restoration areas.

Shahdan had also served at **Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN)** where he was put to charge of the Malayan Tiger Conservation Programme. He later joined **Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC)** under the Science, Environment and Sustainability Division, specialising in wildlife related issues in the palm oil industry, initiating while leading several key conservation programmes, most notably the Malayan Tiger Conservation Programme as well as monitoring the then known as **Malaysian Palm Oil Wildlife Conservation Fund (MPOWCF)**.

In his new role at Malaysian Palm Oil Green Conservation Foundation (MPOGCF), Shahdan's remit includes overseeing the conservation programmes and managing the operations of the **Conservation Department**, with a special focus on applying his expertise in guiding and driving MPOGCF's conservation activities while promoting sustainable practices related to and within the Malaysian palm oil industry.

Zero Burning: Policy and Replanting Technique

The **Zero Burning technique** is among the best developed practices that have been used by commercial-scale plantations in Malaysia.

It is a **technique used to reduce the clearing method by burning old crops** which is a common method used in oil palm cultivation in previous times.

The most environmentally-friendly technique of replanting was developed commercially in 1985 by **Sime Darby Plantation** and subsequently adopted in palm oil replanting as the industry standard.

The new technique includes the disposal of old palms by shredding and decomposing in the fields, thereby **avoiding air pollution** and **help return the plant nutrients to the soil**.

Malaysia has successfully implemented this technique by increasing awareness among the plantations and smallholders.

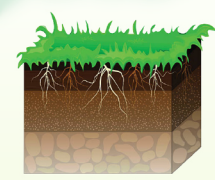
During the **Rio Earth Summit in 1992**, to improve and commercialize this technique, **Sime Darby Plantation** was admitted to the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global 500 Roll of Honour for Environmental Achievement**.



- Zero Burning Policy has been adopted and enforced since the 90s to prevent forest fire hence, haze issue.



- The felled oil palms are chipped into small pieces and left on the ground to decompose naturally. This will allow the planters to save in fertilizer costs.



- This practice will reduce the release of green house gasses (GHG) into the atmosphere. It also returns the nutrient back to the soil.

QUIZ TIME!

Here is the question for July issue:

What gets returned to the soil with the Zero Burning Policy and Replanting Technique?

Send in the correct answer to info@mpogcf.org.my and stand a chance to win a special prize from MPOGCF.

Thank You for Your Support!

Learn more about Malaysian Palm Oil
Green Conservation Foundation (MPOGCF):




info@mpogcf.org.my

📍 Level 12-3-3A, PJX HM Shah Tower, 16 A,
Persiaran Barat, PJS 52, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

    @mpogcfofficial

 www.mpogcf.org

 +603 - 7931 5544 / 5445
+603 - 7931 0811