

Peatlands

International

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International Conventions, Organizations and Initiatives and their Impact on the Management of Peatlands
Sustainable and Resilient Community: Co-existence of Oil Palm Plantation, Biodiversity and Peat Fire Prevention
Mires and Peat - IPS-IMCG Open Access Journal
Peat and peatland events



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Welcome to the ^{*}
International Peatland Society.

We cover ALL aspects of peatlands.
Globally.

Editorial

Inspiring Irish Spirit

There is always time to learn something new and challenge our own opinions and routines. This was my main thought whilst I was travelling back from Ireland after a busy, yet highly rewarding and relaxing, five days. “A New Conversation on Peatlands” and the annual IPS meetings took place on 7 - 11 June in Tullamore.

One might think that an event of five days is too long, especially at the beginning of the summer season, but it was extremely worthwhile. When people come together and find the time to walk and talk in nature or by the fireside, it is rather easy to get into the spirit of things and continue to discuss many other issues. In Tullamore, we experienced a number of best practices and standards for setting new approaches that are worth adopting for other events. This is why I believe that we will be very grateful for this week in the future.

The inspiring spirit of Tullamore is also reflected in the smooth progress of the IPS strategy process. The reception of the new IPS strategic plan 2016 - 2020 draft was encouraging and we are highly motivated to carry on working on our six strategic



Education masterclass in Tullamore. Photo: Hannu Salo

goal project groups. However, under these goals, there is a lot to do in improving different actions and tasks. Progress in the working groups will be carefully assisted and monitored towards the end of the year.

Peatlands International is the global magazine of the International Peatland Society (IPS). It provides the more than 1,400 corporate and individual members of the Society with up-to-date information on peat and peatland matters, reports and photos of conferences and workshops, background reports and publication reviews.

To serve all of our members, we provide always a good balance between economic, social and environmental points of view. To receive Peatlands International in your email every three months, visit www.peatlands.org/join-us and sign up as a member.

Another notable event for IPS was moving the office into an ideal environment for cooperating with and learning from other organizations. We believe that the new surroundings will not only boost the working capabilities of IPS but also, contribute to many practical affairs such as providing smoother data connections, leaner management and better supporting services. You are welcome to come and visit us.

After the holiday season, there are many interesting conferences for peat and peatlands experts. May I take this opportunity to remind you, dear reader, to visit the IPS website and Peat News for more information on such events. I would also like to remind you of the next International Peat Congress in Malaysia in August 2016. You are more than welcome to actively participate in the promotion and preparation of this congress. For more information, please visit www.ipc2016.com.

Once again, this issue of Peatlands International has something for all members. We show you what happened in Tullamore in June and introduce the SER 2015 World Conference in Manchester

(August). We present all of the photos from the Me&Peat contest and the winners of the new Allan Robertson Grants for Research Students and Young Professionals. Jack Rieley writes about the most influential international conventions, organizations and initiatives. We also mention the Flixton Werewolf. Additionally, we invite you to an international seminar on the co-existence of oil palm plantations, biodiversity and peat fire prevention in Riau.

Last but not least, let me mention that, with the change of our name to the International Peatland Society, our emails and website have also changed to peatlands.org.

If you would like to be an author for the first autumn issue, please contact us by 30 August.

We wish you a happy and warm summer.

Hannu Salo

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www.peatlandsinternational.wordpress.com

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Cover: Peatland restoration site at Slieve Bloom Mountains.
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For the online versions of our articles and more background information, go to Peatlands International's own website and blog at www.peatlandsinternational.wordpress.com and type ->

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This will give all IPS members reading access during July 2015 - December 2015.

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Peatlands

A New Conversation:

Event Wrap Up

In June 2015, the Irish Peat Society hosted Peatlands - A New Conversation in Tullamore, Co. Offaly. The atmosphere was excited. The weather was fantastic. The food was amazing. The T-shirts were awesome. The programme was different. The bog people were very, very, happy. And we discovered that there are some unbelievably talented singers within the International Peatland Society!

Event Review

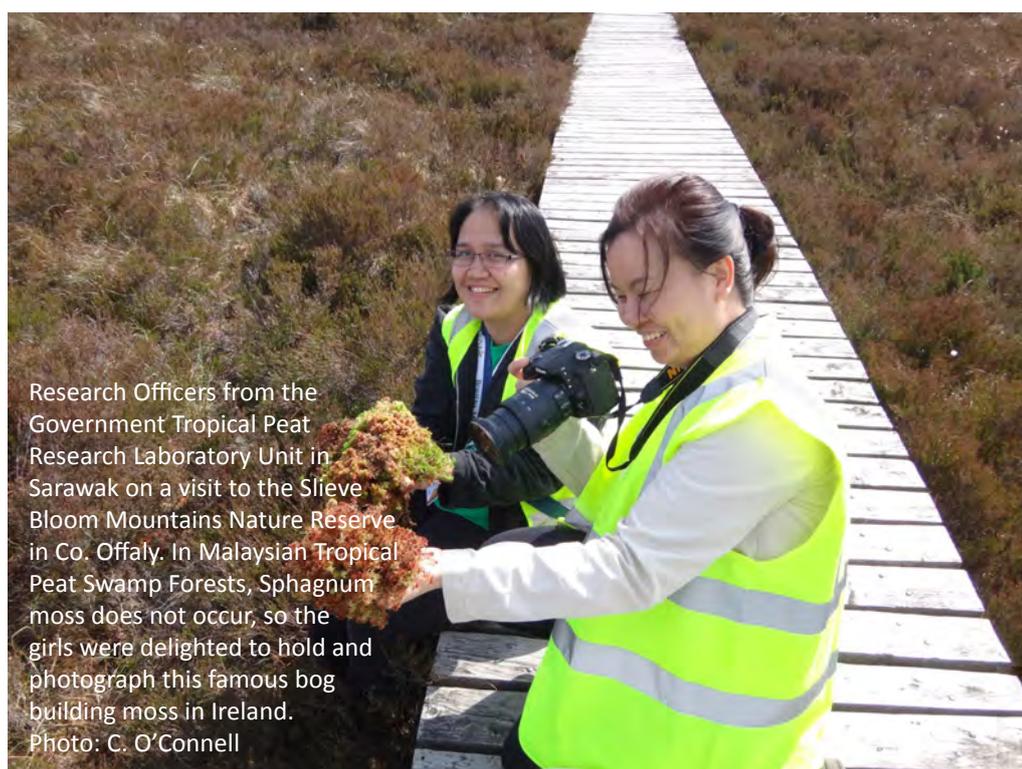
Each participant at Peatlands - A New Conversation had the opportunity to learn something new

every day of the conference. The Irish Peat Society set out to break the conference mould of closed sessions on specific topics, and we took the learning outdoors and for the most part into the bog. We still retained key note addresses, posters and master class sessions indoors for a short period each day. Our goal was to fine tune the thinking, broaden perspectives and send delegates home refreshed and energised.

The field trips were an integral part of Peatlands - A New Conversation replacing the standard indoor power point presentations. Three field days brought participants to six sites across the range of peatland types in Ireland - blanket bog and

raised bog. Each site was chosen because it presented a particular use of the peatland including domestic turf cutting, industrial peat production, afforestation, grazing, rehabilitation, bio-energy, restoration, education or conservation.

Throughout the course of the event 70 experts were drafted in to meet the delegates and to tell the story of their daily work in the peatlands and its challenges. The tales included footing turf



Research Officers from the Government Tropical Peat Research Laboratory Unit in Sarawak on a visit to the Slieve Bloom Mountains Nature Reserve in Co. Offaly. In Malaysian Tropical Peat Swamp Forests, Sphagnum moss does not occur, so the girls were delighted to hold and photograph this famous bog building moss in Ireland. Photo: C. O'Connell

for the family fire, restoring active raised bog habitat, monitoring hen harriers, harvesting moss peat, managing forests in recreational mountain bogs, re-flooding worked out bogs and developing wind farms on cutaway bogs.

Mr Charlie Flanagan T.D., Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade in Ireland officially opened Peatlands A New Conversation on Monday morning. He recounted his own personal experience of peatlands of the Irish midlands and how they impacted on part of his childhood. The Minister visited the Poster Session and spoke with representatives from Micropropagation Services in the UK (www.beadamoss.co.uk) who were demonstrating successful re-introduction of Sphagnum moss to UK peatlands from BeadaMoss, SoluMoss and



Marcel Silvius speaking with a student from Edinburgh at the Ballycon Wetland, a post peat production rehabilitation site owned and managed by Bord na Móna. Photo: C. O'Connell

Sphagnum Plugs. He had photographs taken with representatives of the Malaysian Peat Society (www.ipc2016.com) who were promoting the Congress in 2016 in Kuching and the Girley Bog Meitheal Project (www.ipcc.ie) from Ireland and he reviewed posters painted by local school children.



Claes Rülcker (Sweden) and Guus van Berckel (the Netherlands) cutting turf the traditional way in Ireland. Photo: C. O'Connell

Marcel Silvius from Wetlands International (www.wetlands.org) and Marion Harkin MEP (www.marianharkin.com) gave the two keynote addresses to the conference. Peatland Management and Sustainability - Marcel dispelled some myths regarding sustainable practice. He suggested that within Europe current policies on



Mount Lucas wind farm site on industrial cutaway peatland in Co. Offaly. Part of the site has been rehabilitated to wetland. The wind farm consists of 28 turbines which are capable of generating 84MW electricity at peak capacity. Photo: C. O'Connell

of stopping peat production on German agricultural bogs not being sustainable if it results in extraction from pristine sites in Scandinavia.

He proposed that EU Action on Peatlands in Europe should focus on conserving sites, allowing peat mining only on heavily degraded sites and phasing out agriculture on peatland and converting such

Biomass, Agriculture on peatlands and Biogas from maize cultivation on peat soils do not promote sustainability and in many cases are creating a net carbon loss. In addition he gave the example

lands to paludiculture. He also addressed the issue of palm oil production on reclaimed tropical peat forests in South East Asia and he called for the elimination of this practice on peat soils and for

Takeaway Messages

- That rehabilitation of cutaway bogs can be very valuable for mitigating climate change and for creating biodiversity.
- The certification of peat production is a complex and necessary process and that progress is being made in Europe towards achieving a scheme that is agreed by all.
- That restoration of active peat formation on Irish raised bogs is only possible where conditions such as slope, hydrology and microtopography are correct and this could take a minimum of 10 years. Similarly the restoration of active peat formation on cutover bogs is only possible where the correct conditions are achieved and provided these conditions can be created this process may take as much as 30 years.
- The application of new technologies such as LiDAR, GPS and GPR in both the industrial and the conservation uses and management of peatlands and the level of detail these can provide to assist with site management is impressive.
- Restoration of active peat formation or rehabilitation of cutaway bogs should be scaled up from trial size to landscape size.
- In depth discussions of possible restoration measures on industrial cutover bogs should be held involving all stakeholders across all members of the IPS with particular emphasis on the role of such sites in climate control.
- Community education and awareness is essential if sustainable peatland projects are to be achieved and the IPS needs to take leadership in this area of activity.

the authorities to develop an integrated landscape management strategy with community buy in so that peatlands can be restored and managed wisely.

Marion Harkin MEP spoke about sustainable development taking a global perspective and presented global figures for peatlands which gave the impression that peatlands are being utilised and managed sustainably. Unfortunately she could not stay for the discussion, which centered around the global climate crisis and the role of drained peatlands in green house gas emissions.

The interactive poster session provided a tremendous opportunity for networking. Each researcher gave a short oral presentation about the content of their poster and Martina Glynn, the conference MC asked questions which helped to enhance understanding and enjoyment of this session.

The Irish Peat Society decided to focus on two particular issues of concern to the IPS - certification and education - and to tease these topics out in detail by providing master classes. The certification master class presented three different approaches to certification of peat production. We heard about Veriflora a certification scheme used in Canada and the RPP (Responsibly Produced Peat) certification scheme developed by the Dutch.

Two case studies focusing on the RPP scheme were presented by representatives from Klasmann-Deilmann on a site in Lithuania and on a selection of sites in Ireland from Bord na Móna. We heard about "Project 4" from the UK – a scheme to establish what responsible growing media look like from a consumers point of view.

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The Education Masterclass presented by the Irish Peatland Conservation Council (www.ipcc.ie) set out to develop an understanding of ecosystem services, provide tips on leading a tour to a peat or peatland area and presented a hands-on trial for participants of the top 6 activities to do in an education programme.

A fireside chat was organised around a large turf fire in Charleville Castle. The discussion, led by Donal Clarke focused on resolving the issue of domestic turf cutting on conservation-worthy raised bogs in Ireland and particularly about the importance of community engagement. Participants agreed that without the community on board, peatland projects will not succeed and this is true right across the world in countries where peatland occurs.

On the last day National Committee representatives from 11 countries among others attended the round table meeting and voted



Participants at the Education Master Class discovering the creatures that inhabit wetlands and pools on peat and peatland sites. In Ireland, pond dipping for invertebrates is the most popular activity to undertake with children. Photo: C. O'Connell



The Derrinboy horticultural peat production site in Co. Offaly. Participants were shown how Bord na Móna maps out peat production and forecasts resources for the future using technologies such as GPR, LiDAR and GPS. The horticultural peat produced at this site is exported to Europe and is used as a constituent in growing media. Photo: C. O'Connell

to the 11th June 2015. It was organized by the Irish Peat Society. Bord na Móna very kindly were the key sponsor of the event while National Parks and Wildlife Service, Klasmann-Deilmann and Vapo sponsored the three field days.

Thank you to the 120 people who attended the five day event, the majority attending on three out of the five days. "The Irish Peat Society were excited to see attendees from North America, Malaysia, Japan, Europe and Russia at the

on some important proposals. These included a name change from International Peat Society to International Peatland Society, a review of the mission statement and Strategic Plan 2016-2020 for the IPS and discussions about appropriate celebrations for 50 years since the foundation of the IPS which will be held in 2018. There is plenty to look forward to!

Peatlands - A New Conversation was not all work and no play. We had four social events including a BBQ with a live band at Lough Boora Parklands, a whiskey tasting and distillery tour of Tullamore Dew and a classical music recital and haunted castle tour in Charleville Castle. And there were after-parties every night in the traditional Irish pubs in Tullamore when the singing abilities of several well-known peat experts were exposed. But as they say "what happened in Tullamore stays in Tullamore".

Thank You

Peatlands - A New Conversation took place in Tullamore from the 7th

event." We are grateful to all those specialists who met with us in the field to expand on their work in peatlands. For the many organisations and individuals who assisted the Irish Peat Society in putting on Peatlands – A New Conversation Míle Buíochas.

Dr Catherine O'Connell

Chair of the Irish Peat Society
Irish Peatland Conservation Council
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Conference participants at Clara bog. For some more impressions, see the IPS photo gallery at www.ow.ly/P8iz9. Photo: Susann Warnecke



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Allan Robertson Grants for Research Students and Young Professionals 2015

Nisa Novita

Nisa Novita comes from West Sumatra, Indonesia. She attended the Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia where she received her bachelor's and master's degrees in 2008 and 2010. Her past work includes a restoration project officer in a private company and a consultant in Ministry of National Development Planning in Indonesia. Now, she is currently completing a doctorate in tropical peat forestry, a Ph.D from Fisheries and Wildlife Department at the Oregon State University, USA.



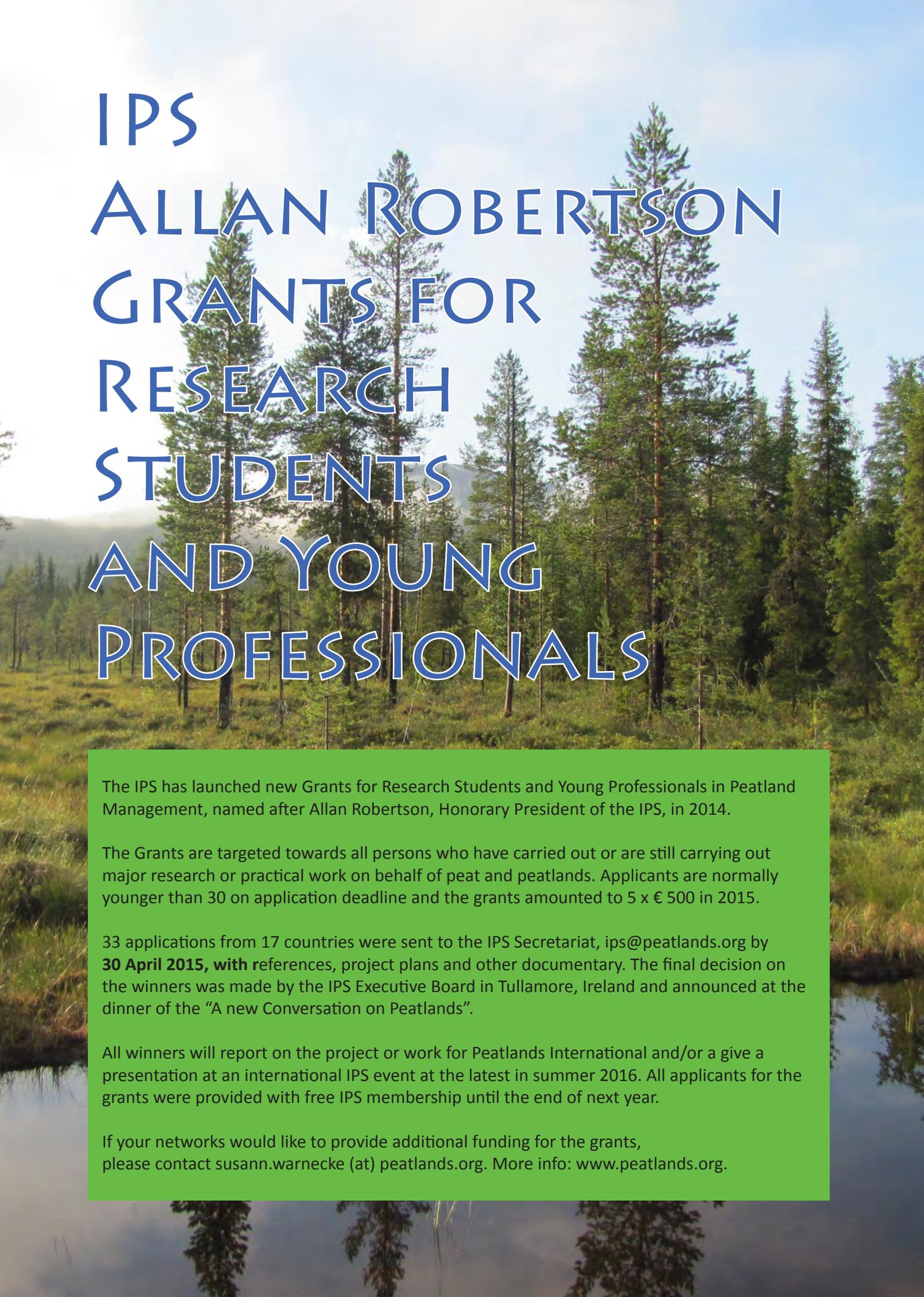
Nisa's dissertation examines the impacts of land use/land cover change on greenhouse gas (CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O) emissions in tropical peatland, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. In addition, she also quantifies carbon losses from carbon stock change approach from primary forest and oil palm plantation. This research is designed to increase our understanding of the carbon dynamics of tropical peat forests and their role in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Given the limited study on greenhouse gas emissions and carbon stocks on tropical peatland, especially Indonesia as the richest-peat country in the tropics, her research will significantly contribute to the current knowledge of tropical peatlands. The study is supervised by Kristell Hergoualc'h (CIFOR) and Boone Kauffman (Oregon State University) and fully funded by Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR).

Tadhg Ó Corcora



I have worked as Conservation Officer with the Irish Peatland Conservation Council (IPCC) since October 2009. My role involves the management of IPCC's four peatland reserves, responding to policy and planning submission calls, and maintenance of the IPCC databases of sites and supporters. I hold a BSc in Zoology and an MSc in Biodiversity and Conservation.

The IPCC own and manage 8.6ha of Girley Bog in Co. Meath. This is a raised bog and part of the network set up to conserve peatlands and to meet Ireland's obligations under the EU Habitats Directive. A portion of the site had been used as a spreading ground for the drying of machine cut turf up until 2011. Over a significant part of this area the bog flora has died leaving bare peat. This area will be the focus of Sphagnum



IPS ALLAN ROBERTSON GRANTS FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

The IPS has launched new Grants for Research Students and Young Professionals in Peatland Management, named after Allan Robertson, Honorary President of the IPS, in 2014.

The Grants are targeted towards all persons who have carried out or are still carrying out major research or practical work on behalf of peat and peatlands. Applicants are normally younger than 30 on application deadline and the grants amounted to 5 x € 500 in 2015.

33 applications from 17 countries were sent to the IPS Secretariat, ips@peatlands.org by **30 April 2015**, with references, project plans and other documentary. The final decision on the winners was made by the IPS Executive Board in Tullamore, Ireland and announced at the dinner of the “A new Conversation on Peatlands”.

All winners will report on the project or work for Peatlands International and/or a give a presentation at an international IPS event at the latest in summer 2016. All applicants for the grants were provided with free IPS membership until the end of next year.

If your networks would like to provide additional funding for the grants, please contact [susann.warnecke \(at\) peatlands.org](mailto:susann.warnecke@peatlands.org). More info: www.peatlands.org.

transfer restoration as described by Quinty & Rochford, demonstrating this practice to the public by training volunteers to help with the work and organising a public awareness day on the site. This opportunity from the International Peatland Society through the Allan Robertson Grant will allow me to further develop his profile as an expert in Sphagnum moss transfer in Ireland. Thank you!

Anna-Helena Purre

I am second year PhD student of ecology in Tallinn University, from where I also did my bachelor and master's thesis, both of these were on the subject of vegetation in restored milled peatlands. Now I have broadened my studies and doing photosynthesis and respiration measurements of plant communities in peatlands, also I am doing vegetation biomass and cover analysis. Purpose of the studies is finding out how plant assemblages and biomass distribution between plant functional types in restored and pristine peatlands are connected with carbon dioxide fluxes.

The main aim of my project is to analyse CO₂ fluxes and measure plant biomass of restored (previously forestry-drained) and pristine peatlands and find connections between amount of plant biomass, its structure (plant functional types), photosynthesis, respiration, and overall net ecosystem exchange. Peatland and its carbon balance studies are important for Estonia and Finland, especially since over 22% of Estonian and almost 30% of Finland's land area is covered by peatlands, many of them are under human impact, drainage and excavation. Three sites in Finland and one site in Estonia were selected as study sites, where measurements will be carried out during this years (2015) growing season.



Jon Ratcliffe



I'm a research student currently living in the north of Scotland. I'm interested in the palaeoecology and carbon cycling in peatlands. I've recently completed an MSc at the University of Highlands and Islands investigating the rate of carbon accumulation in Flow Country peatlands and the effects of commercial forestry on carbon stored in the peat.

In October I will be starting a PhD supervised by Dr David Campbell at the University of Waikato in New Zealand. My project will investigate how the historical conversion of peatland to pasture has affected the carbon balance and the future viability of an area of intact remnant bog, Moanatuatua. It will also follow up on recently published eddy covariance measurements which appear to show the site to be the strongest sink for carbon ever recorded in an ombrotrophic bog (Campbell et al. 2014) and make comparisons with an area of intact bog, Kopouatai. A key component of my PhD will be using Tephrochronology, or volcanic ash, to date the peat. This process would normally be highly time consuming but the Allan Robertson grant will allow me to use an ITRAX core scanner in Sydney Australia which can be used to rapidly locate the volcanic ash within the peat matrix.

Sara Thornton

I am a PhD student at the University of Leicester, Department of Geography (UK) under the supervision of Professor Susan Page, Dr. Caroline Upton and Dr. Mark Harrison.

I first went to Indonesia when I was 19 years old to volunteer for the Orangutan Tropical Peatland Project (OuTrop) in the Sabangau peat-swamp forest. Inspired by the forest, the base camp and Indonesia, I returned as a volunteer coordinator for OuTrop in 2012, and now I am back in the Sabangau forest once more as a PhD student!

My interdisciplinary PhD project is investigating the benefits and values provided by tropical peat-swamp forests in Indonesian Borneo, with a focus on fish provision. This involves monthly fish surveys in the river and forest as well as assessing the cultural and economic importance of fish and fishing activities to the local communities. I am also evaluating the viability of fish ponds (which have been recently built by the forest edge) as a sustainable livelihood option by considering their economic, social and ecological viability. I am now in my 11th month of field work, and the Allan Robertson Grant will allow me to continue until November 2015 to complete my data collection!



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Photo
Competition:
Me&Peat
Thank you!



Gerhard van Rooyen.

Clara Bog Visitor Centre, Ireland.

Gerhard van Rooyen.



Pat Byrne, Ireland.



Susanna Palmu, Finland.



Bartek Głina, Poland.



Bartek Głina, Poland.



Clara Bog Visitor Centre, Ireland.



Clara Bog Visitor Centre, Ireland.



Gerhard van Rooyen.



Peatland symposia at the 6th World Conference on Ecological Restoration

David Wilson, Roxanne Andersen and Simon Caporn

The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) holds its 6th World Conference on Ecological Restoration in Manchester, England 23 - 27 August 2015. The conference aims to bring together over a 1000 delegates (academics and practitioners from the public, private and non-profit sectors) to explore the role of ecological restoration as a means of responding to current and future causes of environmental degradation. A number of peatland themed symposia with invited speakers are

scheduled for the 4-day conference. The symposia cover a wide range of peatland topics including the restoration of damaged upland blanket bogs, the lessons learned from peatland restoration over the last 30 years and global perspectives on greenhouse gas dynamics in restored peatlands. In addition, field trips to the Manchester Mosslands and the Peak District offer delegates the opportunity to get their boots wet while examining peatland restoration at these sites. Registration is available at www.ser2015.org.



Chambers used for the measurement of greenhouse gases at a rewetted industrial peatland in Ireland. Photo: David Wilson

Greenhouse gas dynamics in restored peatlands: Global perspectives

Drainage of peatlands results in a range of impacts on ecosystem functioning in general, and on greenhouse gas dynamics (GHG) in particular. A lowering of the water table as a prelude to peat extraction, forestry or agriculture for example has been widely shown to produce increased emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and in some cases nitrous oxide (N₂O), and a



reduction in methane (CH₄) emissions. Drainage can also create conditions whereby wildfires can further deplete the peat resource and release huge emissions of CO₂ to the atmosphere. The restoration (rewetting) of drained or degraded peatlands results in a considerable reduction in GHG emissions to the atmosphere and potentially leads to a return of the carbon sink function that is a major feature of peatlands in their intact state. However, as the recent Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Wetlands Supplement has demonstrated (IPCC, 2014), peatlands exhibit widely disparate GHG values following rewetting, driven by factors such as previous land use, current management, climate, vegetation composition, nutrient status and hydrology.

Clearly, GHG dynamics post-restoration are highly site specific and as such, cognisance of the issues and challenges in this regard can only be achieved through the dissemination and discussion of results from a wide range of restored peatland ecosystems. This symposium titled “Greenhouse gas dynamics in restored peatlands: Global perspectives” will seek to further improve our understanding of GHG dynamics in these new peatland ecosystems by focusing on research carried out on both degraded/drained and restored peatlands, and in climatically different

regions. The talks in this symposium are likely to be of major interest to decision makers, land managers and national GHG inventory compilers.

References

IPCC: 2013 Supplement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands. Hiraishi, T., Krug, T., Tanabe, K., Srivastava, N., Baasansuren, J., Fukuda, M., and Troxler, T. G. (Eds.), IPCC, Switzerland, 2014.

Speakers

Dr David Wilson (organiser)

Assoc Prof Maria Strack

Dr Simon Dixon

Prof Stephan Glatzel

Dr Jyrki Jauhiainen

Restoration of Peatlands after 25 years: Where are we in this Mossy World?

Research on the restoration of peatlands has emerged as an active scientific field in the last

Highly eroded Blanket Bog in the Peak District National Park.
Photo: Simon Caporn



carried out around the world. The first objective of this symposium will be to revisit the advances made worldwide in bog restoration in the last fifteen years. Have these restored peatlands really become boggy, mossy places? Has the most important characteristic of peatland ecosystem, the peat-accumulating function, been reinitiated again? What about their specialised biodiversity? There is now a growing understanding that degraded peatlands bear a significant cost to society,

and a raising awareness of the possibilities to restore peatlands in a cost-effective way. Given the important link between peatlands and global carbon cycle, governments, regulators or simply good corporate citizen are pushing for the ecological restoration of industrial peatlands. And with big the industries and associated impacts on the landscape comes big challenges. The second objective of the symposium will be to identify the challenges that lay ahead for peatland restoration.

25 years. The incentive to restore degraded peatlands was induced by the wider recognition of wetland values in the landscape along with the goods and ecological services they can provide to human. For centuries, peatlands have been used by humans (grazing, turf cutting for cooking or heating, small berries gathering, etc.), but the incentive to engage more strongly into ecological restoration of peatlands has arisen recently with the more extensive commercial and industrial uses of peatlands: drainage for agriculture and forestry, industrial impacts associated with ores and petrol extraction and their associated infrastructures (winter, temporary or access roads, seismic lines, power lines, pipelines, exploratory and extraction pads) or commercial peat extraction activities for the production of energy or horticultural substrate.

Speakers

Prof Line Rochefort (lead organiser)
Dr Roxane Andersen (co-organiser) &
Dr Catherine Farrell
Prof Beverly Clarkson
Prof Harri Vasander
Prof Edgar Karofeld

Fifteen years ago, the PERG (Peatland Ecology Research Group) organised a symposium on the approaches to restore different functions of bogs (Sphagnum-dominated peatland). Since then, several large-scale restoration projects have been

Restoration of damaged Upland Blanket Bog

Upland blanket bog is a very distinct and important form of peatland supporting a wide range of ecosystem services, but in many regions this ecosystem lies in a degraded condition. The potential benefits of repairing these damaged ecosystems are considerable. However, the particular challenges faced in restoration of these upland bogs are typically distinct from the problems in the lowlands where much successful



restoration has been achieved in recent decades. This symposium addresses the variety of causes of degradation and erosion of upland blanket bog; explores the consequences for ecosystem services particularly catchment hydrology, carbon balance and biological diversity; and examines the success of current restoration practices.

Experts in these disciplines will draw evidence from research and practice in different upland blanket bogs of temperate regions, contrasting the nature of the problems and underlying causes, and will critically assess the extent to which the planned benefits of restoration are being realised. This symposium, titled "Restoration of damaged Upland Blanket Bog" is highly relevant to the considerable restoration effort that is on-going very close to Manchester in the southern Pennine hills. The talks in this symposium about the unique upland blanket bog ecosystem will generate debate and evidence to support the decisions of policy-makers and practitioners.

Speakers

Professor Simon Caporn (lead organiser)

Richard Lindsay

Professor Penny Anderson

Dr David Smith

Dr Jon Walker

David Wilson

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If you are an IPS member and would like to receive our Peat News newsletter every month, please email us at susann.warnecke@peatlands.org. All members receive the newsletter automatically.

Corporate and other organisations members can sign up even six employees to receive full membership benefits. ---> peatlands.org/join-us

IPS Document Database

Each IPS member has access to the document database of the IPS website. This contains a large collection of IPS publications, such as the proceedings of our 2012 and 2008 Congresses, Peat News, International Peat Journal, Peatlands International and much more. Your user name is usually `firstname.lastname` or the first part of your email address before the `@`. In case you need a new password, visit www.peatlands.org/user/password and type the email address to which you receive Peat News. We are constantly uploading new items - come back regularly!

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Which International Conventions, Organizations and Initiatives have the Greatest Impact on the Management of Peatlands?

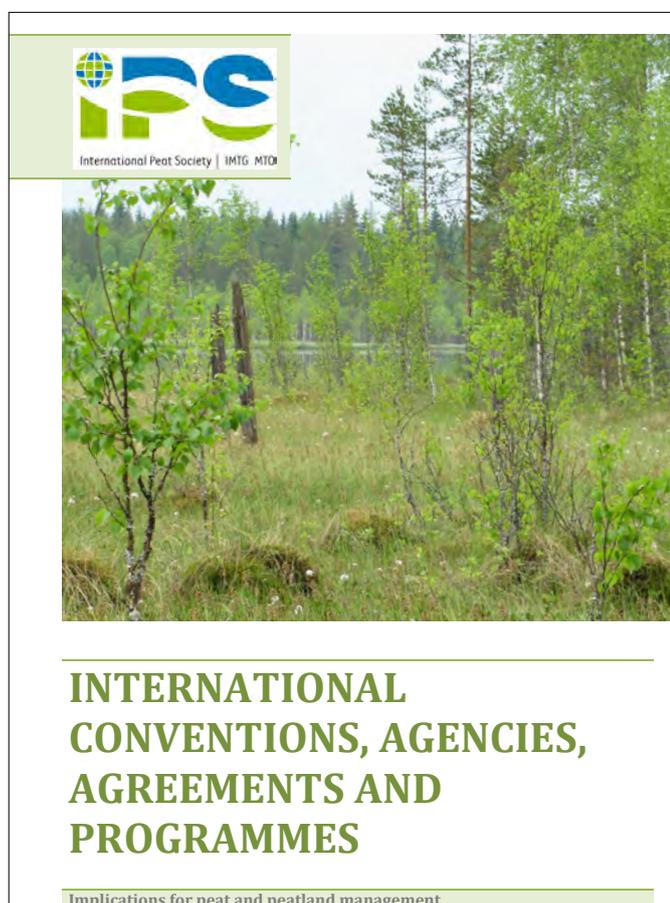
This question, relevant to all who care about responsible management of peatlands and wise use of peat is addressed in the new IPS Report on “International Conventions, Agencies, Agreements and Programmes”. This publication was prepared in response to requests

to provide information and guidance on the most important international organisations that initiate policies and influence decision-making on responsible peatland management and wise use of peat.

It provides information on 19 international bodies most of which were established by the United Nations or an Agency of the UN but their aims, functions and structure can be confusing. The origins of all of them can be traced back to immediately after World War II when the United Nations was established in 1945. Soon afterwards, UNESCO was formed in the belief that political and economic agreements are not enough to build a lasting peace and that humanity’s moral and intellectual solidarity are also essential. UNESCO promotes education, intercultural understanding, protection of heritage, scientific co-operation and freedom of expression, aspects of which were consolidated in later international conventions and agreements.

Some, perhaps the most important, are international conventions to which nation states, in some cases regional groupings of states (e.g. EU) or customs unions, have signed up to because they agree with the aims and objectives and decisions taken at Conferences of the Parties (COP). This group includes CBD, UNFCCC, IPPC, WMO, Ramsar and CITES.

Others are Agencies of the UN, established for specific purposes, for example, FAO and IMO,



Cover of the IPS Conventions report. Download: www.peatlands.org/conventions2014.

the former to reduce poverty and defeat hunger, especially in developing countries while the latter sets standards for transporting commodities between countries by sea. UNDP, UNEP, MICCA and UN-REDD are programmes under the UN directly or of the UN agency FAO. Both UNDP and UNEP have been responsible for establishing some of the other international organisations in this report (see Figures 1 and 2). Both UN-REDD and MICCA programmes were established much more recently with very specific mandates, the former for reducing GHG emissions through reducing deforestation in developing countries and the latter by mitigating GHG emissions in agriculture and other land uses.

A few have general remits that cover important global issues of which peatlands form part, for example UNDP focusses on sustainable development and relief of poverty while UNEP has a mandate for global environmental issues and manages the Global Environment Fund (GEF). Ramsar and IUCN were formed in response to specific environmental conservation needs and pressures, independently of the UN but linked to it and committed to by large numbers of nation states and other bodies, including environmental NGOs all of which contribute to its funding.

IUCN, which was formed as a result of an initiative of the first director of UNESCO is a non-UN international organisation dedicated to conserving the integrity and diversity of nature. It is a network of NGOs, governments, scientists, businesses and local communities and others and provides a neutral forum to find practical solutions to conservation and development challenges. IUCN established CITES that is another non-UN international convention

regulating the trade in endangered animal and plant species highlighted in the IUCN 'Red Data Books'.

For the 25 years from 1945 to 1970 the predominant international organisation for nature conservation was IUCN but in 1971, together with UNESCO, they promoted the establishment of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, initially to conserve habitats for migratory birds and waders. Subsequently, Ramsar embraced all kinds of freshwater and shallow marine wetlands including peatlands. Ramsar is not a UN Convention but it works closely with IUCN and since the latter has a wide remit for conservation across many ecosystems and habitats it defers to Ramsar for protection of wetlands including peatlands.

Acronyms

CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity
 CDM – Clean Development Mechanism (Kyoto Protocol)
 CGIAR – Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
 CIFOR – Centre for International Forestry Research
 CITES – Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
 COP – Conference of the Parties (CBD)
 CSPMA – Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association
 FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 GEF – Global Environment Facility
 GHG – Global Greenhouse Gas
 IMO – International Maritime Organization
 IPCC – International Panel on Climate change
 IPS – International Peat Society
 ISPMs – International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures
 IUCN – International Union for Conservation of Nature
 MICCA – Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture
 STRP – The Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention
 UN – United Nations
 UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
 UN-REDD – United Nations collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
 UNCED – UN Conference on Environment and Development (1992, Rio de Janeiro)
 UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
 UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme
 WMO – World Meteorological Organization

www.bppf2015.eu



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15-18 September, 2015

Kuressaare, Saaremaa, Estonia



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Important dates

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Finally there is a small group of international organisations that may appear to have little influence on peatlands, peat or peat industry, namely CGIAR, CIFOR and WTO. The first is the 'Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research' that manages 15 international research centres of which CIFOR is one. CGIAR has close relationships with FAO, UNDP and World Bank while CIFOR provides information to UN-REDD, UNFCCC and CBD.

WTO stands out as different in its origin and status from all other international organisations. It acts similarly to international conventions in that a large number of countries belong to it. However, it is an informal organisation, without legal status, that arose out of the former 'General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade' (GATT) that originated in 1948 and ended in 1994 at the 'Uruguay Round' when WTO was created to replace it. WTO deals with the rules of trade between nations at a global scale. The importance of WTO to the peat industry is that it formulates regulations for the international trading of commodities such as peat and it administers the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regulations on animal and plant health that are prepared by the International Convention on Plant Protection (IPPC) and other similar organisations.

The role of international conventions, agencies, agreements and programmes on the responsible management of peatlands and the use of peat

Three phases of development of these international bodies can be identified: (1) 1945 – 1975, beginning with UNESCO and IUCN and ending with FAO, Ramsar and CITES; (2) 1988 – 1995, from IPCC to WTO and SPS; and finally (3) UN-REDD in 2008 and MICCA in 2010. This chronology reflects the change in emphasis

internationally from concern about individual animals and plants and linking conservation to the needs of sustainable development, to a more recent focus on ecosystem management and the services ecosystems provide to humankind.

Things changed in the late 1980s and early 1990s with the international realization that biodiversity was reducing and some species were under threat of extinction because of land use change and the planet of overheating as a result of climate change. In response to the latter IPCC was established in 1988 to provide governments with the science based evidence of climate change and explain the implications of what was happening.

Since formation of IPCC there has been increasing awareness of and concern for human induced climate change and virtually all of the organisations mentioned in this Report now have a remit to consider the implications of their objectives and activities for this serious global problem.

International environmental protection and enhancement bodies

The United Nations Group

Loss of biodiversity, climate change and desertification were identified as the greatest challenges to sustainable development during the first United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) that was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. As a result, three new international conventions were formed that have had major impact upon global environmental agendas and commercial activities. These are CBD, UNFCCC and NCCD, the first two of which were to have implications for peatlands, peat and peat industry.

CBD is concerned with biodiversity of both habitats and species and therefore it would be unwise to develop pristine bogs that are a diminishing natural resource or peatland that supports rare and endangered animal and plant

species, especially those highlighted in national or regional Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP).

In terms of responsible peatland management it is essential therefore to know and understand the ecosystem and biodiversity status of peatlands.

UNFCCC is the international convention that implements the Kyoto Protocol and requires participating countries to report annually on their greenhouse gas emissions to show how they are achieving their GHG emissions reduction targets. The amount of carbon dioxide equivalent released to the atmosphere as a result of peat extraction, processing, distribution and use may be a very small proportion of a country's total annual GHG emissions but it is a contribution to it and companies should adopt practices that reduce

their GHG emissions and implement mitigation activities where possible.

Non-UN conventions and agreements

Both IUCN and Ramsar are linked to the network of international, regional and national NGOs and government agencies that are concerned with conservation and preservation of all forms of wildlife. The Ramsar Convention works very closely with four international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) Wetlands International (WI), Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Birdlife International (BLI) that have been associated with the Convention since its beginnings. The International Water Management Institute (IWMI), added at COP9 in 2005, is not an NGO but one of the 15 CGIAR research institutes.

These five have been given International Observer Status within the Ramsar Convention and they participate regularly in all meetings of the Conference of the Parties and Standing Committee, and as full members of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel so they have a powerful role in contributing to the policies of the Convention. WI, WWF and BLI are also members of IUCN.

Networking between UN and non-UN bodies

The principal UN environmental conventions, agencies and programmes (CBD, UNFCCC, FAO, UNEP) interact and work together on a range of issues of mutual interest, provide each

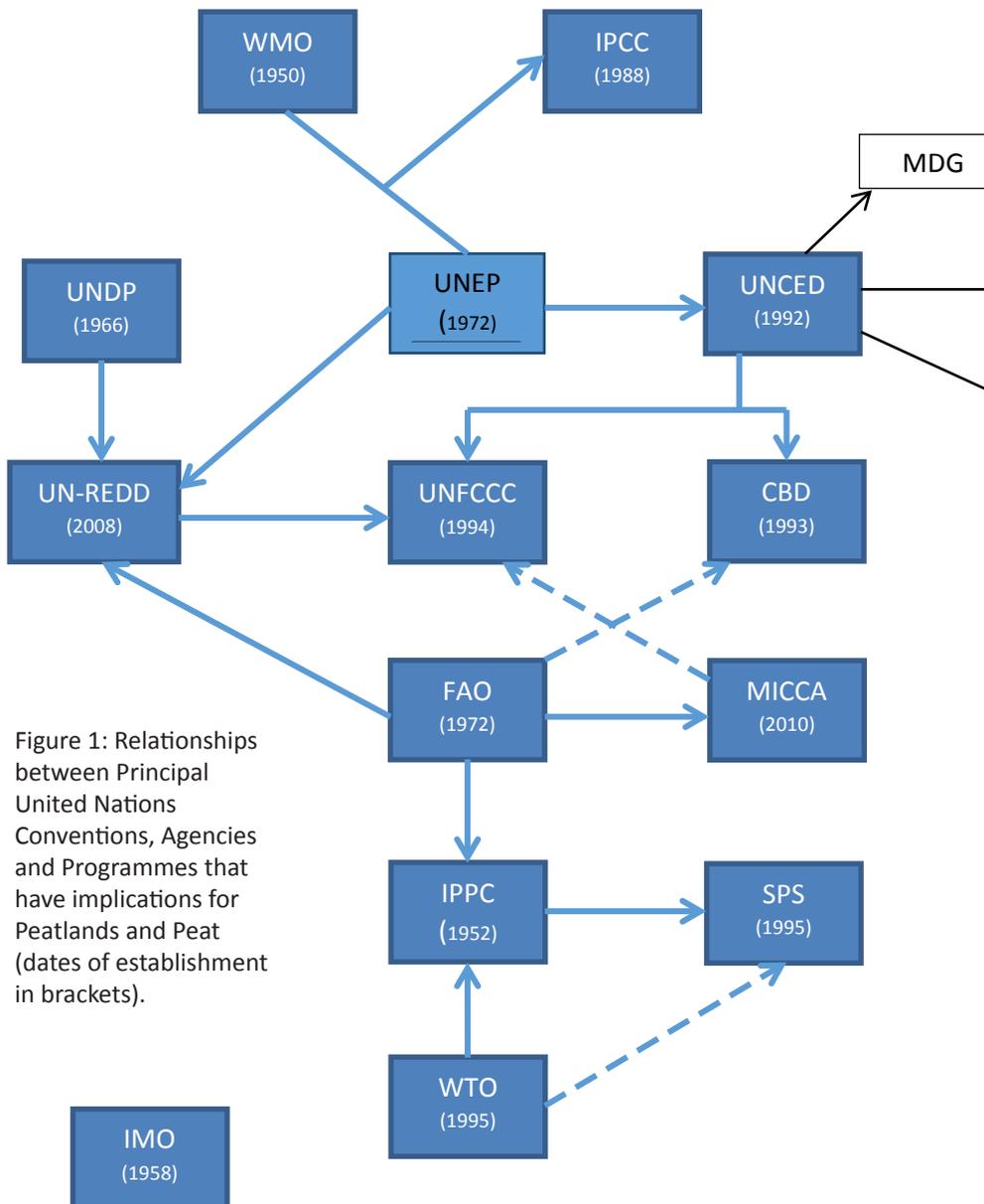


Figure 1: Relationships between Principal United Nations Conventions, Agencies and Programmes that have implications for Peatlands and Peat (dates of establishment in brackets).

other with information and attend each other's meetings either as observers at COPs or as members of subsidiary or advisory bodies. Similarly, Ramsar and IUCN, as non-UN bodies, provide information to UN environmental organisations either informally or as members of their subsidiary bodies. For example, CBD and UNFCCC regard Ramsar as the primary source of expert information on the role of wetlands, including peatlands, in climate change whilst IUCN is the acknowledged authority on nature conservation and endangered and rare species.

In recent years FAO has widened its original brief of addressing hunger and poverty to embrace climate change issues, especially how to make agriculture and forestry 'climate smart' through mitigation schemes for the former (MICCA) and reduced deforestation in developing countries to maintain carbon stores in the latter (UN-REDD).

The activities and role of INGOs

International environmental NGOs play an important role in the policy making and implementation of decisions taken by many of the international organisations presented in this report. The most prominent are Wetlands International (WI), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), International Union for Conservation of

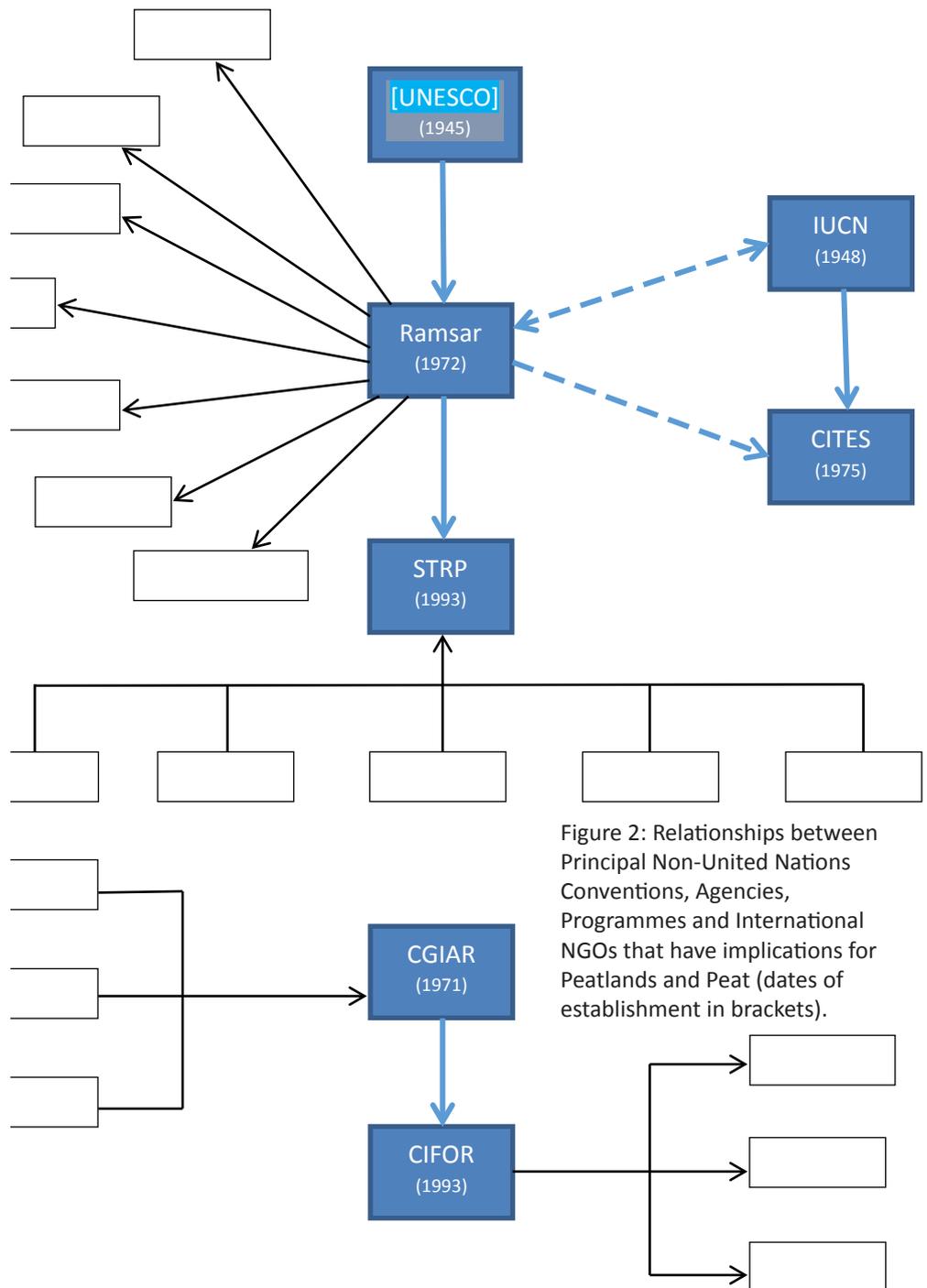


Figure 2: Relationships between Principal Non-United Nations Conventions, Agencies, Programmes and International NGOs that have implications for Peatlands and Peat (dates of establishment in brackets).

Nature (IUCN), Birdlife International (BLI) and International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG).

Others are also involved either through membership of another NGO such as IUCN or as an observer on a subsidiary advisory body of a convention (e.g. IPS has observer status on Ramsar STRP). In addition INGOs and others, including scientists and campaigning NGOs such as Friends of the Earth (FOE) and Greenpeace sponsor and attend 'side-events' at COPs of various key conventions in order to lobby delegates on specific current or emerging issues of environmental



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concern to them. They also launch campaigns to influence public opinion. INGOs are very efficient and successful at these kinds of activities and many of the same individuals attend meetings organised by different organisations and COP side events and participate in several different international fora, for example, CBD, IUCN and Ramsar.

International trade and health regulatory bodies affecting transnational transport of peat

A few international organisations such as IPPC, WTO, SPS and IMO are concerned with commercial aspects of peat transportation between and importation into countries. They are involved with health and safety issues rather than environment and climate change. IMO is an agency of the UN established in 1958 to regulate and ensure the safe transportation by ship of goods and commodities, including peat, traded between countries. IPPC is an international convention under the UN that was formed by FAO and WTO with the remit to prepare, implement and monitor the standards for preventing the import of plant pests. Together with the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), IPPC contributes to the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Regulations (SPS), an international treaty of the WTO. SPS sets constraints on member-states' policies relating to food safety as well as animal and plant health with respect to imported pests and diseases. International trade in peat and peat products can be affected by SPS measures.

Conclusions

1. Management of peatlands, peat use and its commercial supply chain are influenced by decisions taken by international conventions, agencies and programmes. Management of peatlands and use of peat are affected by these decisions and ensuing policies implemented by governments at international, national and regional levels.
2. The most important international bodies that protect and promote peatland environmental quality are CBD (biodiversity), UNFCCC and IPCC (GHG emissions and climate change), FAO/MICCA (drained peatlands and GHG mitigation), IUCN (nature conservation) and Ramsar (wetland/peatland wise use).
3. Other international organisations affect peatlands, peat use and peat industry in more specific and subtle ways, for example, regulating international trade (IMO and WTO), formulating sanitary and phytosanitary standards (IPPC and SPS) and enforcing them (WTO) and focusing on reducing GHG emissions from tropical peatlands by preventing deforestation (UN-REDD) or implementing mitigation measures for drained peatlands (FAO/MICCA).
4. Stakeholders involved in peatland management, peat use and the peat supply chain should become acquainted with the international bodies highlighted in this Report and their implications for their own activities and business.
5. In addition, they should update themselves regularly on any changes to the aims, objectives and policies of these bodies and to be alerted to any new implications for peatland management and peat use.
6. It is clear that peat industry organisations such as EPAGMA and CSPMA can lobby their own governments (EU or Canada) but they cannot influence or participate in the work of the international bodies whose decisions affect their member companies. The same applies to individual companies or groups of companies within countries. This should be the role of the IPS.
7. While EPAGMA and CSPMA should continue to lobby their respective federal, national and regional governments on policy and regulations that affect their businesses it is only through the activities of IPS that scientific aspects of peatland management and wise use can be presented and discussed in an impartial manner, contributing to the policy making processes of these international organisations.

Jack Rieley

IPS 2nd Vice President and Chair of
Scientific Advisory Board
jack.rieley@btinternet.com



The Flixton Werewolf

The area around Flixton has a very ancient history and this particular landscape makes it a very fertile place for stories and legends to grow and take hold. The places we live in can store memories, and like the incidental marks on a palimpsest, we leave little pieces of memory behind. Werewolf legends in Britain are rare enough but Flixton has one. Mesolithic Sites are very rare in Britain, but Flixton has one. Mesolithic sites that contain ‘shamanic antler headdresses’ are extremely rare anywhere in the world, but Flixton has twenty one.

The accounts of The Flixton Werewolf date back a thousand years, stories and sightings then start appearing every few hundred years. “A fearsome beasts, equipped with abnormally large eyes and exuding a terrible stench, the animal is supposed to fell nocturnal wayfarers with its tail which is almost as long as its body. The eyes are crimson and dart fire... Historical records, mention that in the year 940AD a hostel was built in the village of Flixton to shelter wayfarers in wintertime from attacks by these kind of wolves.” - John Harries, ‘A Ghost Hunter’s Road Book’ 1974. This book also tells us that, “a wizard with a dark powers to ‘shape-shift’ roams the area of Flixton”.

A more recent sighting in 1985 by local lad Mr Richard Perkins, he describes how, “me and me mates were out raking about with matches and space raiders, we saw what we thought was a dog

on in the field above, we couldn’t go any further coz Brian had just spread liquid pig swill all over the field and tim never has his wellies on (we all did), so Chris went to his Nans to get some binoculars, he took ages but we kept watching the beast until he got back, we saw a big dog like thing but it didn’t look like a dog, it looked like a cat, a ‘dog cat’ we thought. I asked me dad about this and he said that when keeping weird exotic pets became illegal, people chucked them out into the wild, we thought this is what it could be, a ‘chucked out big cat’! I was really scared”.

Flixton, Folkton and Staxton all sit in the peat bogs in the Vale of Pickering, once the great proglacial ‘Lake Pickering’, the waters now drained and sunk creating the low lying carr lands that are farmed today.

Peat is formed from the layering up of semi-decayed organic matter. It is these peat bogs that have preserved ‘Star Carr’ the most famous Mesolithic Site in Britain, named after the farm land under which it was found. These and the finds at ‘Flixton Island’, a raised area of land that was once a small island on Lake Pickering, gave a precious incite into life in Britain 11,000 years ago. Twenty one ‘antler headdresses’ were excavated from the peat at Star Carr in the late 1940’s.

Francis Prior, eminent archaeologist, in his new book states, “most archaeologists, myself

included, see them as some sort of strange headdresses worn by shamans during pre, or post hunting rituals and dances". A 'shaman' is an academic way of describing a 'Witch Doctor' or a 'Wizard'. Later excavations found post holes and a sunken floor, which established itself as the remains of the earliest permanent house in Britain. Did a Wizard (shaman) with his or her collection of headdresses live in the house by the lake at Star Carr? Is it the memory of this eminent individual, that has given rise to the 'wandering shape shifting werewolf' as described in the accounts at Flixton?



Horse prints at Flixton Island.

Flixton, Folkton and Staxton are Anglo-Saxon/ Old Norse place names, the result of Scandinavian settlers making their home here. The name of Staxton comes from Old Norse meaning a village owned by a man by the name of 'Stakkr', and found in the Domesday Book of 1086.[1] The word 'haystack' comes from 'stakkr', meaning 'to pile up, heap up'. The 'Star' as in 'Star Carr' may have come from this, though the translation from

Danish of 'Star Kjaer' means 'sedge fen' describing this type of wetland. The 'Flix' in Flixton may have also come from an anglicised personal name but is harder to find. There is a link between 'Flix' and 'fur' in Anglo-Saxon.

In his book 'Crossing The Borderlines: Guising, Masks and Ritual Animal Disguises in the European Tradition, Nigel Pennick explains "at the start of each month certain Norse (north) men underwent a form of madness that made them into wolves

and dogs, who spent the night roving around. Perhaps the legend of the Werewolf originates in such ceremonial 'madness'? Norse warrior tradition describes the cult of the 'Berserkers' associated with using wolf or bear skin as armour, transforming soldiers into powerful beasts in battle. 'Going Berserk' is a term used when someone flies into a rage, in Old Norse it means literally to go into battle wearing a 'Bear Skin Shirt'".

Harold Hardrada, the king of Norway, who burnt Scarborough to the ground



Flixton Lane.

Antler Headdress from Star Carr, Flixton exhibited in The British Museum



Star Carr Antler Headdress.

an ancient profession, the ability to transform objects with hammer and furnace is a valuable skill closely linked to animals and especially horses.

Over the years, the people on the Carrs report cattle and horses that are lost in the peat bogs. A Spitfire that crash landed in a field during the war, was soon swallowed up by the bogs.,Mrs Renshaw recalls her mum telling her of the ghost of a horse at the end of Flixton Lane around Flixton Island area.

The Flixton Island excavations unearthed remains of a horse

on his way to Riccall to the great battle at Stamford Bridge in 1066, had the 'Berserkers' as his personal bodyguard. Note, the Bearskin hats of The Royal Guard at Buckingham Palace!

Nigel Pennick continues, "The Old Norse stories of shape shifting individuals gives an insight into the beliefs people held when in disguise. A person had 'hamr' a shape which could mean an animal skin. One who never changed shape was a 'hamrammr', 'shape strong' and one who did change shape was called 'hamhleypa', literally meaning the 'leaper out of skin'". A hammer (hamr) the black smith tool used for changing an objects shape now takes on different connotations. A Black Smith is

butchery site, used in the Mesolithic. To add to the rich dramatic atmosphere, peat bogs can give rise to 'Fox Fire', the combustion of rotting organic matter that ignite when oxidises to make 'Fox Fire' or 'Bog Lights' apparently cold to the touch, it gave rise to the tales of 'will-o-the wisps'.

Bog lands have always been places of mystery, neither water nor land, neither here or there, difficult to farm and often classed as 'waste land'. Does peat store the memory of a place?

Houses aren't just bricks and mortar. German Artist Joseph Beuys explained that,"bogs are the liveliest elements in the European landscape, not

just from the point of view of flora and fauna, birds and animals, but as storing places of life, and of mystery and chemical change, as well as preservers of ancient history."

It's the full moon next week... don't follow the lights! Save our Wetlands.

David White

dawwhite@ymail.com



Flixton Island Dig.



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International Seminar on Toward a Sustainable and Resilient Community: Co-existence of Oil Palm Plantation, Biodiversity and Peat Fire Prevention

Background

Indonesia nowadays is the largest producer and exporter of palm oil in the world. The palm oil has made a significant contribution to the Indonesian economy in general and a lot of people have thrived from this blessed. After the first oil palm plantation was opened in East Sumatra during the Dutch colonial period, its expansion has not stopped until now.

Especially after the 1970s, its expansion has been accelerated and now we can see the plantation not only in Sumatra, but also in Kalimantan, Sulawesi and Papua islands. The palm oil has been considered to be one of the most efficient and effective ways to develop the rural areas in Indonesia. And now we can see the emergence of small cities and towns in rural Sumatra and Kalimantan because of the palm oil's economic contribution to the rural area. Palm oil has transformed the rural society in a fundamental way for the last 20 years.

After the economic benefit of palm oil became to be known, however, not only the number of plasma small holders contracted to the companies but also the number of independent small holders

has started to increase. The Riau province has the fastest growing number of independent small holders in Indonesia.

On the other hand, the environmental diversity has been lost. And the land suitable for the plantation has become scarce and more and more of them have been motivated to open the plantation in less fertile soil and finally in the peat swamp area. Riau has one of the richest peat swamp areas in Indonesia and its rapid transformation to the oil palm plantation without any environmental consideration has caused the fire in the peat swamp and that has become detrimental not only to the surrounding communities but also to the neighbour countries such as Singapore and Malaysia. The loss of peat swamp is equal to the loss of carbon stock and the global community has more and more pay attention to this.

Date, Venue, Aims:

30 July 2015, Aula LPPM University of Riau

1. To understand the current conditions of oil palm plantation development, especially in Riau related to biodiversity conservation and fire prevention strategy.
2. To analyze the communities where independent small holders grow oil palm in Pelalawan district, Riau with a comparative perspective
3. To analyze the peat swamp forest within/near the communities
4. To exchange ideas about how to transform

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International Seminar on Toward a Sustainable and Resilient Community

Co-existence of Oil Palm Plantation, Biodiversity and Peat Fire Prevention

July 30th 2015,
Aula LPPM University of Riau



- the communities into more sustainable and resilient ones
- To share ideas about how biodiversity conservation and fire prevention model based on in the village level.

Topics :

- Sustainable Palm Oil (Socio Ecology, antropology, Government Policy)
- Peat Swamp Ecosystem (Hydrology,

- Biodiversity, Fire Prevention)
- Haze Impact From Medical and Basic Science Perspective

Registration fees

Early Bird Registration: 25 May-19 July 2015

Late Registration: 19 July-30 July 2015

Local Participant: Rp 75.000 / Rp 100.000

Overseas participant: 20 USD / 25 USD

Local Students: Rp 30.000 / Rp 50.000



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Time Schedule :

19th July 2015:	early bird registration
30 th July 2015:	late registration
10th July 2015:	abstract deadline
15th July 2015:	abstract acceptance
20th July 2015:	registration for abstract presenter and draft paper

Proceedings will be published at Scopus Index.

Contact Adress:

Center for Disaster Studies
Lembaga Penelitian dan pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat, University of Riau

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nurul_mafda@yahoo.com

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lulu_zahra@yahoo.com

Seminar Agenda

08.00-09.00	Registration
09.00-09.30	Opening: Welcome speech, Speech by Rector
09.30-09.45	Coffee Break
09.45-11.30	HM Harris (Head of Pelalawan Agency of Riau), Prof. Masaaki Okamoto (CSEAS, Kyoto University), Prof.Dr. Almasdi Syahza (LPPM UR), Prof. Asc. Stephanie Evers (University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus), Prof. Fabrice Bonn (Spanyol/United Nation University)
11.30-11.00	Discussion
11.30-12.30	Plenary Session Prof. Ashaluddin Jalil (Fisip, University of Riau) Prof. Asc Osamu Kozan (CSEAS Kyoto University) Dr. Haris Gunawan (Center for Disaster Studies University of Riau) Prof. Asc. Kuwata (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) Dr. Sofianita (Center for Disaster Studies Univ. Riau).
12,30-13.30	Ishoma
13.30- 17.00	Paralell session



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Peat and peatland events

International Seminar on Toward a Sustainable and Resilient Community: Co-existence of Oil Palm Plantation, Biodiversity and Peat Fire Prevention
University of Riau, Riau, Indonesia
30 July 2015
e-mail: haris1901 (at) gmail.com

Finnish Peatland Society
Excursion to Central Finland
Jyväskylä, 17 - 18 August 2015
More info: www.suoseura.fi

SER 2015 World Conference on Ecological Restoration: Towards Resilient Ecosystems: Restoring the Urban, the Rural and the Wild
Manchester, UK, 23 - 27 August 2015
www.ser2015.org

Mires of Northern Europe: Biodiversity, Dynamics, Management
Petrozavodsk, Republic of Karelia, Russia
2 - 5 September 2015
email: mire2015 (at) krc.karelia.ru

Bioenergy 2015
Jyväskylä, Finland, 2 - 4 September 2015
www.bioenergyevents.fi

IPS-ISHS Peat in Horticulture
Vienna, Austria, 7 - 11 September 2015
www.ages.at/susgro2015

XIV World Forest Congress "Forests and People: Investing in a Sustainable Future"
Durban, South Africa, 7 - 11 September 2015
www.fao.org/forestry/wfc/87584/en

Wilder by Design 2
Sheffield, UK, 9 - 11 September 2015
ukeconet.org/event/wilder-by-design-wild-thing

BIOECON Conference "Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Sustainability"
13 - 15 September 2015
Cambridge, United Kingdom
www.bioecon-network.org/pages/17th_2015/17th_2015.html

Apply now to host the 50th Anniversary Conference of the International Peatland Society in May/June 2018! Ask for more info: ips@peatlands.org.

Molinia management on upland peat in the UK
Huddersfield, UK, 14 - 16 September 2015
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/marsdenmoor

Baltic Peat Forum
Kuressaare, Estonia, 15 - 18 September 2015
www.bppf2015.eu

UK Peat Society Annual Meeting
September 2015
More info: [jack.rieley \(at\) btinternet.com](mailto:jack.rieley@btinternet.com)

Third International Scientific and Practical Conference
"Study and use of Siberian peat resources"
Tomsk, Russia, 27 September - 2 October 2015
ips2015tomsk.ru

42nd Session of the IPCC
Dubrovnik, Croatia, 5 - 8 October 2015
climate-l.iisd.org/events/42nd-session-of-the-ipcc

Deutscher Torf- und Humustag
Bad Zwischenahn, Germany, 15 October 2015
www.ivg.org/de

Remote Sensing of Wetlands Symposium
Seville, Spain, 23 October 2015
<http://ocs.ebd.csic.es/index.php/RSW/RSCW2015/schedConf/overview>

More at: www.peatlands.org/events

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