

Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment



JOINT COOPERATION PROGRAMME

Component C3:

Lowland / Peatland subsidence – Future drainability

Document C3.1

PPPs first workshop on *Peatland subsidence and flooding* modelling

Bandung

26-28 July 2011

Project: 1201430.000

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Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment





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Peatland extent in Indonesia, and scale & rate of drainage / conversion in recent years

Al Hooijer

For JCP kick-off workshop on peatland subsidence and flooding modeling 26-28 July 2011

Peatland extent & condition

Indonesia has about 21 Million hectare of peatland

- 12 % of the land area
- Over 60% of the lowland area (of ~35 Mha, depending of definition)

Lowlands and peatlands Kalimantan and Sumatra



Many policy makers are not much aware of the extent or location of peatlands, which complicates planning and management.

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Indonesia has about 21 Million hectare of peatland:

Nearly all of this was largely intact in 1980, only 30 years ago, and even in 1995...



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Peatland extent & condition

Indonesia has about 21 Million hectare of peatland:

Nearly all of this was largely intact in 1980, only 30 years ago, and even in 1995...



Peatland extent & condition

Map of lowlands and fires on peatlands.

Fires are caused by drainage and 'matches': always man-made. Drought 'helps' the fires but does not cause it: undrained peat forests do not burn. Lowlands, peatlands and MODES Hotspots for Kalimantan and Sumatra



Research shows: ire frequency has been lower since 2006 as these were very wet /ears, but <u>fire risk</u> has increased. Should 2011 be as dry as 2006, ires could be worse...

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Peatland extent & condition

Map of lowlands and current land cover on peatlands in Riau and Kalteng.

'Hot spot' provinces for many issues in Indonesia have the largest peatland cover.



Map of lowlands and current land cover on peatlands in Riau and Kalteng.

'Hot spot' provinces for many issues in Indonesia have the largest peatland cover.



Peatland extent & condition

Peatland clearing





Peatland extent & condition

Peatland drainage



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Peatland extent & condition

Oil palm plantation establishment





Very poor water management leading to low productivity, high carbon emissions, high fire risk...



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Peatland extent & condition

Other peatland is converted to acacia (pulp) plantations





And some to rice fields, in lowland development schemes...



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Peatland extent & condition

Or to small-scale vegetable farming...





But <u>most deforested peatlands are not productive at all</u>: they are degraded peatlands, unused and burning frequently.



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Peatland extent & condition

But <u>most deforested peatlands are not productive at all</u>: they are degraded peatlands, unused and burning frequently.





Peatland extent & condition

Peatland deforestation and drainage patterns in Indonesia

Peatlands were considered unsuitable for agricultural development until 1980-1995. Peatland deforestation has rapidly accelerated over last 20 years. Most peatland is now fully deforested, and hardly any is left intact (outside Papua).



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Many of Indonesias 'difficult policy issues' are in the lowlands:

- National food security: where can more rice be grown?
- Palm oil / pulp & paper: where can export crops be grown?
- Carbon emissions from fires and peat oxidation (SATGAS / REDD)?
- Poverty alleviation / transmigration: where and how?
- Flooding / Sea+River level rise: which areas are save to develop?

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Impacts of peatland drainage: carbon emissions, haze/smoke, subsidence and flooding

Al Hooijer

For JCP kick-off workshop on peatland subsidence and flooding modeling 26-28 July 2011



Carbon emissions resulting from peatland drainage and fires

Carbon emissions from Indonesia's degrades peatlands are globally significant, at equivalent to 3%-8% of global emissions from fossil fuel burning. Greatest single land-use related carbon source in the world.



Peatland drainage impacts

Fire patterns in relation to land use developments to date The consequences of fires are felt locally...



Fire patterns in relation to land use developments to date The consequences of fires are felt regionally...





1 januari 2008

Peatland drainage impacts

Carbon emissions resulting from peatland drainage and fires

Carbon emissions are globally significant, at equivalent to 3%-8% of global emissions from fossil fuel burning. Greatest single land-use related carbon source in the world.



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1 januari 2008

Peatland drainage impacts

Values of natural peatland in Indonesia

As long as there is no drainage and no fires, selective logging in peatlands can be productive and sustainable in the long term.

This production is lost after clearing or fires.



Peatland drainage impacts

Values of natural peatland in Indonesia

Peatlands are now a last refuge for the biodiversity in SE Asia, which is the highest in the world





Subsidence resulting from peatland drainage and fires

Loss of carbon from peatland, after drainage, results in lowering of the peat surface.



Peatland drainage impacts

Subsidence resulting from peatland drainage and fires

The evidence is everywhere



Subsidence resulting from peatland drainage and fires The evidence is everywhere



Peatland drainage impacts

Subsidence resulting from peatland drainage and fires *The evidence is everywhere*



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So all field observations confirm what science tells us: peatland drainage inevitably leads to oxidation of the peat, which inevitably leads to subsidence. We also know a lot about how fast this subsidence proceeds...



What we don't know very well, yet, is what the effect of this subsidence will be, on drainability, flooding and future agricultural production.

For this, we need to know the position of the peat surface and peat bottom relative to Sea level (and river level).







What we know about peat depth and elevation in relation to Sea level

Al Hooijer

For JCP kick-off workshop on peatland subsidence and flooding modeling 26-28 July 2011

Peat depth and elevation

Quickscan: cross sections of peatlands in SE Asia have been collected from literature and project reports.

Sarawak





Quickscan: cross sections of peatlands in SE Asia have been collected from literature and project reports.

Jambi



Peat depth and elevation

Quickscan: cross sections of peatlands in SE Asia have been collected from literature and project reports.

Sarawak



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Quickscan: cross sections of peatlands in SE Asia have been collected from literature and project reports.

West Kalimantan



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Peat depth and elevation

The average cross section for Indonesia was constructed (16 cross sections)

► Very similar to Sarawak; difference largely due to difference in cross section length and number.



The average cross section for Indonesia was constructed (16 cross sections) With drainage base & limit added



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Peat depth and elevation

The average cross section for Indonesia was constructed (16 cross sections) With surface levels after 25, 50 and 100 years drainage added



The average cross section for Indonesia was constructed (16 cross sections) With drainage base & limit + surface levels after 25, 50 and 100 years drainage added



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Peat depth and elevation

Resulting statistics are indicative, and maybe surprising, but need further work, with more data and with Indonesian experts, in the Joint Cooperation Programme?

	Sarawak	Kalimantan +	Sarawak +	
		Sumatra	Kalimantan	
			+ Sumatra	
Number of cross sections available	27	16	43	
Average length of cross sections, from river (km)	7.0	12.2	9.0	
Average peat depth (m)				
Average peat depth (m)	6.2	7.5	6.7	
Percentage peat depth > 3m	81%	88%	83%	
Position of peat surface				
Position above MSL, 1 km from river (m)	3.8	3.1	3.6	
Position above MSL, 5 km from river (m)	5.9	5.7	5.8	
Position of peat bottom				
Percentage peat bottom below MSL	60	68	63	
% peat bottom below MSL + Sea Level Rise ^a	67	75	70	
% peat bottom below High Water Level ^b	83	94	87	
% peat bottom below Drainage Base ^c	92	97	94	
Trend in start of drainage problems (peat surface below Drainage Base)				
after 25 years	46	48	46	
after 50 years	70	68	69	
after 100 years	83	89	85	
Trend in end of gravity drainage (peat surface below Mean Sea Level)				
after 25 years	12	12	12	
after 50 years	32	27	30	
after 100 years	52	52	52	
^a A value of 0.5 has been assumed for Sea Lovel Pise over 100 years (IPCC, 2007)				

A value of 0.5 has been assumed for Sea Level Rise over 100 years (IPCC, 2007)

^b High Water Level: High Tide Level near the Sea, and Flood level along inland rivers

^c The Drainage Base was defined by adding a conveyance gradient of 0.2 m/km to HWL for River dominated water levels, and to MSL for Sea dominated water levels.

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Fundamentals of peatland development and peat characteristics

Al Hooijer

For JCP kick-off workshop on peatland subsidence and flooding modeling 28-28 July 2011

What is peat?











Peat soils consist mostly of water (90%), held together by vegetation remains (= mostly carbon).



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What is peat?

Typical peat in Indonesia, in thick/deep deposits: fibric matrix with wood remains.





- Consisting only of water and vegetation remains, peatlands are not really 'land' in the classic sense but are wetlands.
- Peatlands need to be managed rather like water bodies (lakes) to prevent loss of the water that supports the peat surface, i.e. to prevent subsidence.
- Until now most peatland water management in SE Asia does not recognize this fact and can therefore not result in sustainable peatland development and conservation.

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What are peatlands?

Intact peatswamps (more or less...): vulnerabilities due to fine eco-hydrological balances...





What are peatlands?



Clearing and fires...



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What are peatlands?

Effects of peatland clearing and drainage at the local scale: unit carbon emissions, subsidence







Effects of peatland clearing and drainage at the large scale: plantations often not (very) productive, much degraded / burnt forest



(Note that the unplanted but drained area around plantationss is often as large as the planted area.)





- In peatlands converted to plantations, as in degraded peatlands, conditions have changed radically compared to natural conditions:
- 1. From very wet to dry, through drainage







In peatlands converted to plantations, as in degraded peatlands, conditions have changed radically compared to natural conditions:

- 1. From very wet to dry, through drainage
- 2. From dense vegetation cover to open, leading to high soil temperature
- 3. From low nutrients to high nutrients, through vegetation
- 4. From stable soil to disturbed soil



Each of these effects causes peat oxidation. Carbon loss from drained peatlands is therefore inevitable.

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How do peatlands develop?

Peatlands develop where dead vegetation (carbon) accumulates over thousands of years, in water-saturated conditions



How do peatlands develop?

Peat accumulation continues as long as water tables are near the soil surface: 'carbon sink'



The basics of peatland carbon storage

Why are peatlands different from other lowland areas?

Peat soils consist mostly of water (90%), held together by vegetation remains i.e. mostly carbon (10%)

Peatlands are in some ways more like lakes than land: they are wetlands



Why does peatland drainage lead to subsidence, flooding, fire and CO₂ emissions?

Drainage lowers water table and dries the peat





Why does peatland drainage lead to subsidence, flooding, fire and CO₂ emissions?

Drainage lowers water table and dries the peat

Dry peat will burn easily, but also decomposes ('rotting') without fires: 'carbon source'





Peat loss can be quick (fires) or slow (oxidation)

Without rewetting all peat above drainage limit (River / Sea) will be lost



The basics of peatland carbon storage

What are the impacts of peatland drainage?

General environmental impacts:

- Smoke emissions: local health problems and regional haze
- CO₂ emissions (and other greenhouse gases)
- Remaining conservation forest progressively drained and lost





What are the impacts of peatland drainage?

Impacts directly relevant to peatland agricultural productivity:

- Peat subsidence increases flooding and reduces drainability: will be less productive / unproductive in future; many drained peatlands already frequently flooded now
- Further production loss if peat underlain by 'acid sulphate' soils
- Possible downstream production loss and damages if river flood flows increase



The basics of peatland carbon storage

How can these impacts be stopped or reduced?

Peat loss is assumed to stop when the peat is fully 'rewetted', but it is not clear how soon decomposition ends after the balance between soil carbon, landscape morphology and vegetation has been disturbed. Probably decades, possibly centuries.






Studies on oxidation and subsidence in tropical peat

Al Hooijer

For JCP kick-off workshop on peatland subsidence and flooding modeling 28-28 July 2011

Drained in 1912, subsidence now monitored for 100 years. It was found that:

- Subsidence is caused mostly (up to 90% since start) by peat oxidation
- Subsidence continues at a constant rate, after a reduction in the first 5 years
- Subsidence can not be stopped as long as peat is drained
- Therefore, peatland drainage was stopped in the USA, and in most other countries, since the 1950s



The first major study: Everglades, USA

Subsidence at constant water depth is constant, but changes when water depth changes.







- By Deltares, with universities of Helsinki, Leicester, Singapore and Jambi.
- Measurements 2007-2010, <u>at a larger cale than all earlier studies combined.</u>
- First publications now coming out, have greatly reduced uncertainties.

Overlaying a map of modelled average annual lowest groundwater depth in peatlands, 2002-2008, showing that <u>not all peatlands are equal!!</u>



Research and training

Key measurements:

- Peat surface subsidence (>200 points, monthly)
- CO₂ gas flux (144 points; 2300 measurements)
- Water table depth
- Soil temperature
- Soil bulk density (>1000 samples)

Other:

- Rainfall
- Soil moisture
- Elevation surveys
- Canal hydrology

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The most recent study: acacia and oil palm plantations in Riau and Jambi

Field training: the basics of subsidence





Field training: measuring peat depth & setting up subsidence pole



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The most recent study: acacia and oil palm plantations in Riau and Jambi

Peat sampling: ring samples from pits







Peat sampling: ring samples from pits



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The most recent study: acacia and oil palm plantations in Riau and Jambi

Subsidence pole







Training and discussions with Bappeda etc



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The most recent study: acacia and oil palm plantations in Riau and Jambi

Typical cross section as studied in Riau and Jambi



Peat depths studied are 3 to 19 metres.



Subsidence data as measured in Sumatra (plus some in Malaysia), in relation to average water table depth.



Conclusions: average 5.2 cm/y at 0.7 m drainage depth.

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The most recent study: acacia and oil palm plantations in Riau and Jambi

Bulk density profiles as studied in Riau and Jambi



Conclusion: clear change in peat characteristics in upper 0.5 metres, but not below: indicates peat oxidation occurs mostlt near the surface.



Bulk density profiles as studied in Riau and Jambi

Individual sections in drained peat

Typical average sections after 1 - 5 - 18 years

Profiles in undrained peatland



Conclusion: bulk density does not change after first 5 years, and only changes in top layer of peat. Therefore, <u>oxidation is dominant in subsidence</u>, not compaction / consolidation

The most recent study: acacia and oil palm plantations in Riau and Jambi

Subsidence records for different tropical locations in SE Asia and semi-tropical locations in USA

- Subsidence records remarkably similar
- Subsidence always 4-8 cm/y at average water depth of ~0.7 m
- Subsidence does not slow down in time
- In deep peat in SE Asia: 2.5m after 25 years; up to 6m after 100y.







Different studies, using different techniques, have found mostly similar relations between water depth and carbon loss (= CO₂ emission)



Conclusions: there is no question that subsidence is mostly a result of carbon loss.









Exercises

Marnix van der Vat

JCP Workshop peatland subsidence Bandung, July 26 and 27, 2011



Construct a table and a graph of annual subsidence rate and remaining peat thickness for 4 different forms of land use

Duration 100 years Initial peat thickness 10m Initial subsidence after conversion: year 1 70cm year 2 45cm



Annual subsidence per land use category:

- 1 Natural forest
 - 2 mm/year growth
- 2 Degraded forest with dense net of logging tracks/canals 0.6m deep
 - subs= 7.06 * drainage depth (subs in cm, drain in m)
 - till depth of loggin tracks is reached
- 3 Plantation drained at 1.2m depth
- 4 Plantation drained at 0.6m depth

<u>Exercise 1: subsidence curves</u>

subs =1.5 + 4.98 * drainage depth (subs in cm, drain in m)

How much peat remains after 100 years for each of the four land uses?

3

- How do the speed of subsidence and growth of peat compare?
- How does impact of initial subsidence compare to other subsidence on the long term?
- What is the long term impact of different drainage depths in plantations?

Exercise 2: Subsidence on average profile



Exercise 2: Subsidence on average profile

Construct a table of remaining elevation after conversion to plantation during 100 years subisdence (and a graph at 25 years intervals)

Initial peat thickness 10m

Initial subsidence after conversion: year 1 70cm

year 2 45cm

Plantation drained at 0.6m depth

subs =1.5 + 4.98 * drainage depth (subs in cm, drain in m)



Exercise 3: Impact of subsidence on flooding & drainability

Add HWL and zero drainage level to graph and tabulate (from graph at 25 year interval) percentage length of profile with flooding and drainability problems

High water level:1.5 mHead loss:20 cm/km (starting at MSL)Drainability classes:1 < 0 cm $2 \quad 0 - 30 \text{ cm}$ $3 \quad 30 - 60 \text{ cm}$

4 > 60cm

Exercise 3: Impact of subsidence on flooding & drainability

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- How many percent of the profile experiences flooding and drainage problems after 50 years?
- How many percent of the profile can be sustainably developed for 100 years?

Exercise 4: Sarawak profile



Exercise 4: Sarawak profile

 Compare results for flood and drainage with Indonesian profile and explain the differences



Exercise 5: Sea Level Rise

Add 1cm per year SLR (high estimate) to the HWL and zero drainage level and repeat the profile analysis of flood and drainage for Indonesia

Compare results in table with and without SLR. What is the influence of SLR? How important is SLR compared to subsidence?

How many percent does now experience problems after 50 years? And how many percent does not have problems after 10 years?

Exercise 6: with 2 types of land use in the profile

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Repeat subsidence analysis on Indonesian average profile but now with first 4km from river plantation drained at 1.2m and after that natural forest

Is this result possible in reality? What will happen in reality to the peat under the forest?

- Peat thickness 10m
- Hydraulic conductivity 100m/d
- Drainage depth 1.2m

Determine the required width of the buffer from plantation with 1.2m drainage depth to keep subsidence in conservation area below 5cm over 50 years



Use the results of exercise 1 to calculate emissions (rate per year and cummulative) for a period of 100 years for 4 different landuses

Carbon storage: 15.1 ton CO2/ha/cm

Compare emission rates with the storage under natural forest







Peatland subsidence and flood model for Indonesia

Marnix van der Vat

JCP Workshop peatland subsidence Bandung, July 26 and 27, 2011







Demonstration model without:

- DEM
- on peat thickness
- actual land use and prognoses future development

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Indonesian model - incremental development

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- 1. Focus first on case study areas with better data (Jambi, South Sumtra, Kampar), later gradual extension to rest of Indonesian lowlands
- 2. Demonstration model as for Sarawak derived from average peat dome profile and peat extent map
- 3. Replace approximate DEM from average profile with improved lowland DEM (to be developed)
- 4. Replace peat thickness from average profile with improved peat thickness map (to be developed)
- 5. Include actual land use, concessions and prognoses for land use development



1. Demonstration model on average profile



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- Combination on data of elevation and peat thickness (or peat bottom elevation)
- Measured in a line from a drainage basis (river, lake or sea)
- With for each data point the distance to the drainage basis
- Preferably with data on mean and maximum water level at drainage basis
- With all elevations relative to the same reference level (preferably MSL)
- To be collected from published literature, reports and unpublished studies
- Now data for 16 profiles collected



Actions:

- Collect more existing data on peat dome surface elevation and peat thickness (peat bottom elevation) as a function of distance to river
- 2. Prepare new approximations for DEM and peat thickness

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3. Run demonstration model

Elevation data requirements

- An accurate Indonesian lowland DEM
- Vertical accuracy within 1 meter
- Horizontal resolution 1x1km or finer





Delluies

SRTM30 South-Sumatra



SRTM DEM

- Horizontal resolution 90x90m (publicly available)
- Horizontal resolution 30x30m (available to Indonesian authorities, LAPAN)
- Vertical resolution 1 meter
- Data collection not recent
- Data not filtered for vegetation



DEM – ASTER GDEM



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DEM - ASTER GDEM, SRTM removed





ASTER GDEM

- Horizontal resolution 15*15m
- Vertical accuracy to be determined
- No complete coverage
- Not filtered for vegetation
- More recent data collection, but data collected at different moments



Lidar

- To be collected for EMRP area, Central Kalimantan
- Expensive, so no complete coverage
- Expected to have high horizontal resolution (several point per m²)
- Expected to have high vertical accuracy (within 20cm)

2. Improved DEM for Indonesian Lowlands

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- Cooperate with BAKOSURTANAL and LAPAN
- Combine different data sets
 - SRTM
 - ASTER
 - Other



Peat thickness data requirements

- Accurate map of peat extent
- Horizontal resolution 1x1km or finer
- Accuracy peat thickness within 1m

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3. Improved peat thickness map

In cooperation with partners (PUSLITANAK, University of Jambi?)

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- Combine different data sets:
 - WI Peat Atlas
 - PUSLITANAK
 - RePPProT
 - Local databases



Should primarily be expected from BAPENAS

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- Concession data from Forestry
- Transmigration data from Agriculture
- Actual land cover from CRISP





First results of an emission model for two scenarios

Marnix van der Vat

PCRaster training Bandung, July 28, 2011

Input concession





Assumptions

Peat depth class 100-200cm, 1.5m

Peat depth class 400-800cm, 6.0m

No buffer outside concession

No buffer outside peat

Plantation is all not in CAA and buffer (so also outside concession)

Emission factor 15.10 ton CO2/ha/cm for both initial and residual subsidence

3

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Scenarios

Scenario 1	Scenario 2
 Conservation 	Development (all plantation)
Transmissivity 1000m2/d	Transmissivity 1000m2/d
Drainage level plantation 1.2m constant depth	Drainage level plantation 1.2m constant depth (so drainage depth follows subsidence)
 Drainage levels canals and logging tracks fixed at 0.6m (so drainage depth does not follow subsidence) 	
Buffer extent 1000m	



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Input CAA







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Input canals

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Distance to CAA











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Plantation







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Drainage initial at 0.6m



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Drainage initial at 1.2m



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Distance to 0.6m drainage





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Distance to 1.2m drainage





All 0

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Subsidence after 5 years



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- O ×

Subsidence after 10 years







Subsidence after 25 years



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Subsidence after 30 years







Subsidence after 50 years





- O ×

Emission after 50 years (ton CO2/ha)







Total emission (Mton CO2)					
Year	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Reduction		
5	107,000	196,000	88,000		
10	122,000	217,000	96,000		
25	150,000	282,000	132,000		
30	158,000	304,000	146,000		
50	189,000	390,000	201,000		

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Average annual emission (Mton CO2/y)						
Year	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Reduction			
5	21,000	39,000	18,000			
10	12,000	22,000	10,000			
25	6,000	11,000	5,000			
30	5,000	10,000	5,000			
50	4,000	8,000	4,000			



Avera	(ton CO2/ha)		
Year	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Reduction
5	537	979	442
10	608	1087	479
25	749	1411	662
30	790	1520	730
50	943	1951	1008





Average annual emission within concession (ton CO2/ha/y)					
Year	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Reduction		
5	107	196	88		
10	61	109	48		
25	30	56	26		
30	26	51	24		
50	19	39	20		





Sarwak subsidence model trial application

Marnix van der Vat

JCP Workshop peatland subsidence Bandung, July 26 and 27, 2011





Flooding and drainage limits



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Development flooding and drainage problems



To support planning we need a map

Locations of areas with and without potential problems

Identification of areas to conserve and areas to develop

To make a map we need a geographical model and input maps

Geographical model works with same relations as Excel on distance to river

To make a map we need input maps



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- Coastline
- Rivers
- Peat thickness
- Elevation (DEM)







- No peat thickness
- No DEM
- → Take these from average profile as a relation of distance from river



Approximation of DEM

- Idealized relation between elevation and distance to river/sea
- Map of distance to river
- Map of distance to sea

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Relation between distance to river and elevation

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Approximate DEM

Approximate DEM from average peat dome profile





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Relation between distance to river and peat bottom elevation



Approximate peat thickness



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Approximate DEM





DEM after 25 years drainage

Approximate DEM after 25 years drainage of the peat



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DEM after 75 years drainage

Approximate DEM after 75 years drainage of the peat



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- Zero drainage level
 HDrain0 = D2river * head loss (20cm/km)
- Drainge depth = Elevation HDrain0

Example of drainability calculation

- Classify:
 - 1. < 0m
 - 2. 0 0.3m
 - 3. 0.3 0.6m
 - 4. > 0.6m



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Example of drainability calculation





25



Initial Drainage Depth



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Drainability after 25 years of drainage



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Drainability after 75 years of drainage



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