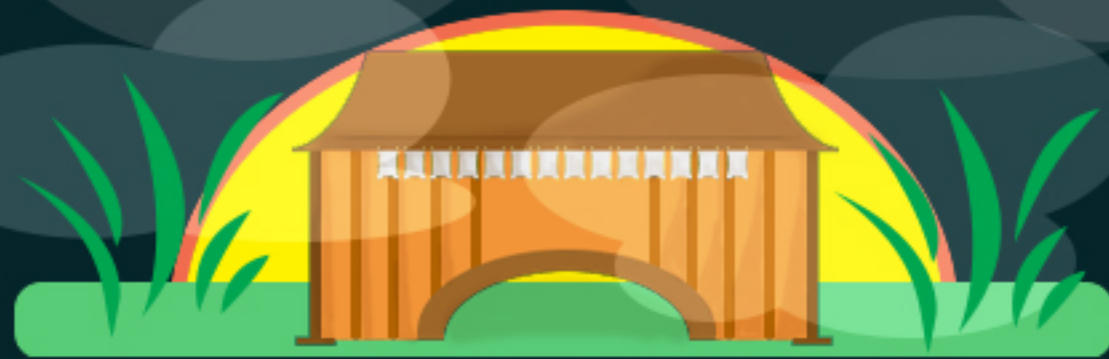


ALL ABOUT THE HAZE

WHAT?

THE HAZE IS A SOURCE OF MASSIVE AIR POLLUTION IN: **INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, THAILAND, PHILIPPINES.**



More specifically, the haze is the accumulated smoke, dust, and dry particles from the forest fires found in **SOUTHERN SUMATRA & WESTERN KALIMANTAN** of Indonesia. These forest fires are a product of the uncontrolled use of slash-burn, a farming technique used to clear & prepare agriculture land.

WHY?

PALM OIL + PULP & PAPER

Land is cleared for palm oil and pulp & paper plantations. These products are used worldwide, especially palm oil, which can be found in:



Everyday household essentials (soap, detergent, cleaning agents, etc.)



Household Favourites (pizza dough, ice cream, cosmetics, etc.)

Because products are high in demand, small and big businesses resort to using fire to quickly make space for more plantations and/or help fertilization for new plantations.

SLASH/BURN

COST OF CLEARING LAND

TIME EFFICIENT.

40x

LESS COSTLY.

In comparison to regular machinery

According to the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the cost of clearing ONE HECTARE of land is:

SLASH-BURN VS. **MACHINERY**
\$5USD - \$10USD VS. **\$200USD**

Thus, the slash-burn serves to be a more attractive method for businesses.

WHY DOES THE HAZE MATTER?

DID YOU KNOW?

The Haze has been an ongoing phenomenon since the 70s.

As an international community, we have become more environmentally conscious. However, we have overlooked the haze for the last several decades. The haze has continually reached record levels of hazardous air throughout Southeast Asia. If we continue to ignore this crisis, we will expect a rise in devastation within the global environment and economy, as well as the social well-being of local countries that are directly affected.



EFFECTS & CONCERNS

ENVIRONMENTAL

- ✦ In October 2015, the daily emissions of CO2 by the haze was 15.95 millions tons.
- ✦ Emission of toxic O3 gases have shown to reduce nutritional contents of crops like wheat, rice, and soybeans — major food source for many communities around the world.
- ✦ The loss of timber have gravely affected the ecosystem: E.g. Reduced food sources for plants and fruit-eating primates.



OH, FOR PEAT'S SALES!



Peatlands are lands of decaying vegetation that absorbs and retains carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. When peatlands are burnt, they release up to six times the amount of carbon as compared to other types of soil. Furthermore, forest fires raise weather temperatures, causing drought, and thus, drying out peatlands, increasing their likelihood to burn uncontrollably and creating a vicious cycle.

FIRE ON PEATLANDS MAKE UP 90% OF THE HAZE



WHEN BURNT, PEATLANDS CAN RELEASE UP TO 3000 YEARS OF ACCUMULATED CO2 IN LESS THAN 100 YEARS.

SOCIAL

ADDED HEALTH RISKS



Approximately 10,000 deaths occur annually from pollution-related illnesses stemming from the haze.

Because of major health concerns, residents of affected regions have been forced to evacuate from their home.

An estimation of 500,000 cases of respiratory tract infections that have been reported since the start of the haze in 2015.

forcibly resulted in nation wide school closures in Singapore and selectively in Malaysia.

Toxic air conditions have

Long exposure to toxic air may affect unborn children.



Airports routinely delay or cancel flights because of poor visibility due to the haze.

DECREASED QUALITY OF LIFE

GROWING DEFICIT

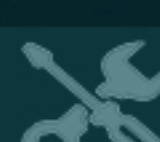
ECONOMICAL

- ✦ In 2015, the haze has disrupted economic activities and growth, amounting to estimates of \$16 billion in losses, or the equivalent of 1.8% of Indonesia's GDP. These costs are found in agriculture, transport, trade, tourism, etc.



E.g. Poor visibility from the haze has disrupted air, land and sea transportation, delaying cargo shipping and flights important for economic growth and stability.

E.g. Bad air quality and illness from the haze has led to lost school and workdays, lowering productivity across the board.



E.g. Out-of-control fires have destroyed existing food crops, disrupting farming activity and threatening the food supply chain and domestic food security.

