**TROPICS PRE-WORKSHOP QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Developing Core Common Outcomes for Tropical Peatland Research and Management: Pre-workshop survey part 1**

You have received this questionnaire because you are either taking part in our [workshop](https://www.dropbox.com/s/dzdm3m0pt1smheh/Tropics%20workshop%20invitation.docx?dl=0) to develop core common outcomes in tropical peatland research and management (in Indonesia, 10th and 11th July 2019) or have expressed a wish to be involved in part of the process. Your responses will be used to inform the workshop. After the workshop you will be invited to comment and vote on the core outcome sets that emerge from this process. Please complete this survey by **17.00 on 3rd July.**

**Introduction**

**What is a CORE OUTCOME SET (COS)?** A Core Outcome Set is the *agreed and standardised* set of required outcomes that should be measured for a specific area of peatland research[[1]](#footnote-1)\*. The COS defines ‘what’ outcomes to measure and ‘how’ they should be measured. In this first step our aim is to define the *‘what’* only. COS represent the minimum set of outcomes (measures) for an area of research. Please see the diagram at the end of this survey for additional information.

**WHY DO WE NEED COS IN PEATLAND RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT?** COS enable the results of research to be reliably compared across studies in the same field to improve understanding and decision-making.

**PEATLAND CORE OUTCOMES. *Feedback on an initial suggestion*.** Our initial proposal is to define core outcomes for peatlands as those related to ecosystem structure and function e.g. carbon storage, biodiversity, hydrology (these are the core areas). These core areas have been sub-divided into example core outcome sets and related outcomes. However, this is just a suggestion and we hope that the response to this survey and the related workshop discussion will add to or redefine this initial proposal.

*If you wish to make alternative suggestions or sub-divide the suggested COS please do so in question 5 of this survey.*

**THE AIM OF THIS QUESTIONNAIRE** is to identify the ***preliminary COS*** and the ***potential outcomes that should be measured*** to provide the minimum COS needed for systematic review and decision-making about peatlands and their management. We have suggested a number of areas/topics and would like you to populate them with potential outcome measures (e.g. for the hydrology core area, a core outcome set might be groundwater flow and one of the outcomes could be hydraulic conductivity). Please add to or amend the core areas with the COS that you think are needed or are missing and suggest their related core outcomes (measures).

For more information about this process, see the original [workshop invitation](https://www.dropbox.com/s/dzdm3m0pt1smheh/Tropics%20workshop%20invitation.docx?dl=0) or contact [Mercy Ojo](mailto:Mercy.Ojo@newcastle.ac.uk).

**Returning your survey**

Please provide written answers to the questions below. You have until **17.00 on 3rd July** to provide your answers to Mercy Ojo: Mercy.Ojo@newcastle.ac.uk

Many thanks for investing your time and effort to complete this survey.

**Survey Questions**

1. **To your knowledge, do any peatland Core Outcome Sets already exist?** If so, please describe them and their related outcome measures.

|  |
| --- |
| No |

1. **Do you know of initiatives underway that are trying to develop common outcome or measurement sets in tropical peatland research and management?** If there are, what are those initiatives, outcomes or measurement sets and who is responsible for them?

|  |
| --- |
| Not, now, there are other international research initiatives on going like those organized under the Jakarta declaration, organized by the international peat land society, this is in support of brg supported restoration activity |

1. **How might you, your organisation or others use tropical peatland COS and what might be the likely benefits of these uses?**

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| --- |
| It might allow for more effective exchange of information between research organisations , for the un aligned with the sustainable development goals is essential |

1. **Please list potential tropical peatland core outcomes and their measurement in each of the three Core Outcome Sets on the following page** (note: the outcomes and measures are initial suggestions. Please add to or delete for your submission to the workshop).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Core area: **Carbon** | |
| **Core outcome set** | **Core outcome (what to measure)** |
| Accumulation/loss | Rate of accumulation/loss |
|  | Carbon content |
| Peat extent | Acreage |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Greenhouse gas fluxes | CO2 |
|  | CH4 |
|  | NOx |
|  | Total ghg emission |
| Emission source |  |
| * Fire |  |
| * decomposition |  |
|  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Core area: **Hydrology** | |
| **Core outcome set** | **Core outcome (what to measure)** |
| Water table | Water-table depth (direct) |
|  | Water-table depth (using vegetation as a proxy) |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Groundwater flow | Hydraulic conductivity |
|  | Water-table height |
|  |  |
| Water quality | Ph |
|  | Dissolvable organic matter |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Please continue on next page

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Core area: **Biodiversity** | |
| **Core outcome set** | **Core outcome (what to measure)** |
| Vegetation (for key species) | Abundance |
|  | Composition |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Habitat | Structure |
|  | Extent |
|  | Loss |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

As noted on the first page, the core areas suggested above may need to be added to or amended. If you have suggestions for additional core areas and their COS or to amend the existing core outcomes please complete this next question.

1. **Do you think we need additional or alternative suggestions for core areas and/or core outcome measures?** Please use this space to add new core outcomes, sub-divisions of core outcomes and/or core outcome measures.

|  |
| --- |
| *This section could be used to include suggestions about how we might include citizen science and traditional research outcomes.*  *Yes, what is proposed does not align well with how research has been traditionally orgsnized:*  *Core outcomes:*   * *Peat extent*   + *Degraded peat*      - *Burn scares*     - *Peat deforested*     - *Rate of deforestation*   + *Peat being restored*   + *Peat restored* * *Peat depth* * *Peat biomass* * *Below ground* * *Above ground* * *Ghg emissions* * *By gas* * *By source* * *Fire* * *Decomposition*   *environmental economic indicators*  *1, Natural capital stock/ natural capital flows*  *2, value of ecosystem services*  *3. reliance of peat for income by communities*  *Other social economic indicators*  *Dig date use has been piloted tp measure haze impact by global pulse lab (see:* <https://www.unglobalpulse.org/blog/haze-gazer-crisis-analysis-tool> |

**Appendix**

How core outcome sets and core outcomes might work in tropical peatland research and management. Depending on the objective of the research or management, there may be more than one agreed method for measuring an item in a measurement set.

Diagram

Description automatically generated

1. \* In this context research means measurement by researchers, practitioners, managers or citizens. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)