

CRC 990

Ecological and Socioeconomic Functions of Tropical Lowland Rainforest Transformation Systems Sumatra, Indonesia

A01

Development and dynamics of rainforest and rainforest transformations in Sumatra during prehistoric and historic times

Hermann Behling, Siria Biagioni, Supiandi Sabiham, Asmadi, Yudhi Achnopha and Christina Ani Setyaningsih

Background

- Lakes, bogs and swamps in Jambi province are important environmental archives to record rainforest and rainforest transformations in the landscape at different scales in space (local to regional) and time (decadal, centennial, millennial)
- The multi-proxy approach including high resolution pollen, charcoal and sediment analyses allows to investigate rainforests and rainforest transformation systems during prehistoric and historic times

Goals

- Estimating vegetation/pollen rain relationship on CRC plots as a tool for the interpretation of pollen records
- Reconstructing past vegetation, plant diversity and climate dynamics
- Assessing the ecological response of rainforest and rainforest transformation systems to environmental variability
- The exceptional high diversity of different pollen and spore types in tropical regions allows the evaluation of plant diversity changes in rainforest and rainforest transformation systems during the past
- Investigating the history of human impact on the landscape (shifting cultivation, slash and burn, crop cultivation, rubber and palm oil plantations)
- Assessing the impact and role of droughts (ENSO) and fire
- Providing the evaluation of current and future changes from a historical perspective





A new lab in town!





Pollen and spore reference collection Preparation of reference collection

started in UNJA laboratory in collaboration with B06 (Dr. Katja Rembold). First **130** samples ready.

historical fire regimes

Panicum laxum



Pollen trap in Bukit Duabelas



Bogor Agricultural University

University of Jambi



Tadulako University Palu