



Collaborative Research Centre 990 (CRC  
990 - EFForTS)  
Ecological and Socioeconomic Functions of  
Tropical Lowland Rainforest Transformation  
Systems  
(Sumatra, Indonesia)



Invitation and description:

## Workshop “Introduction to Palynology and Paleoecology”

*Fields: paleo-botany, ecology, geology, geography, archaeology, forestry, agriculture*

**Monday 10th – Friday 21st of October; 09.00 am – 05.00 pm**

We are inviting students of master and bachelor programs to learn basic skills of paleoecological research on the example of human influence on the landscape, surrounding the Muaro Jambi Temple Complex in our two-week practical class at Jambi University. The course and associated fieldwork will provide enough material for two Master theses for interested students at the collaborating Indonesian universities, supervised by Dr. Asmadi Saad.

The class will include an introduction to basic sampling and laboratory methods as well as exercises in data analysis and interpretation. Week one will majorly consist of fieldtrips to the Muaro Jambi Temple area and Bram Itam peat protection area (BIPA), to practice common paleoecological coring methods and discover the surrounding landscape. Furthermore, laboratory methods will be taught at the paleoenvironmental laboratory of Jambi University comprising the preparation of palynological and charcoal samples.

In general, paleoecological investigations at the Muaro Jambi Temple could provide key information about anthropological influences during the establishment of the Muaro Jambi Temple complex. It could include local palynological signals of past land use and phases of human occupation at the temple itself. The Bram Itam peat protection area could contain paleoenvironmental signals of past sea level changes and peat development. We hope further data analysis will be carried out by interested students at our partner Universities in benefit of the Indonesian development program. Moreover, by preliminary analysis and sample preparation during our workshop at Jambi University we hope to raise interest in paleoecological and palynological studies.

Lecturers:

**Dr. Asmadi Saad**

Counterpart subproject A01  
Jambi University (UNJA)  
Department of Soil  
Sciences  
Jambi, Indonesia

**Svea Lina Jahnk**

PhD student subproject A01  
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Associated PhD student  
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Max. number of Students: 15