

Place-based Citizen Science as a “Heartware” Tool to Build Shared Values and Capacity for Watershed Management

Open Science Forum 2: Open Science

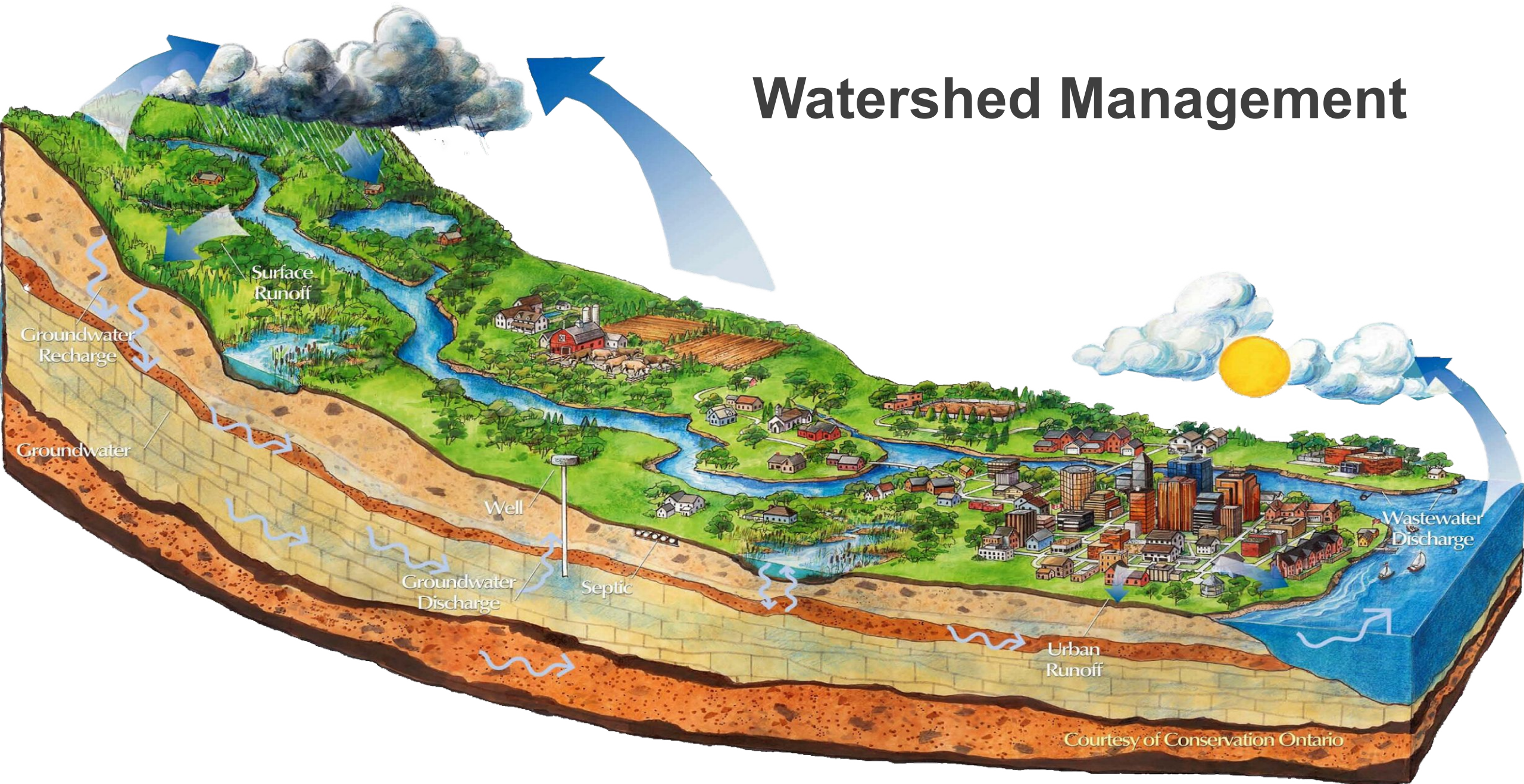
Interactive workshop 1: Citizen Science and Open Dialogue with other Knowledge systems

23 – 24 October 2024

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Watershed Management





Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

TARGET 6.3

By 2030, **improve water quality** by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally

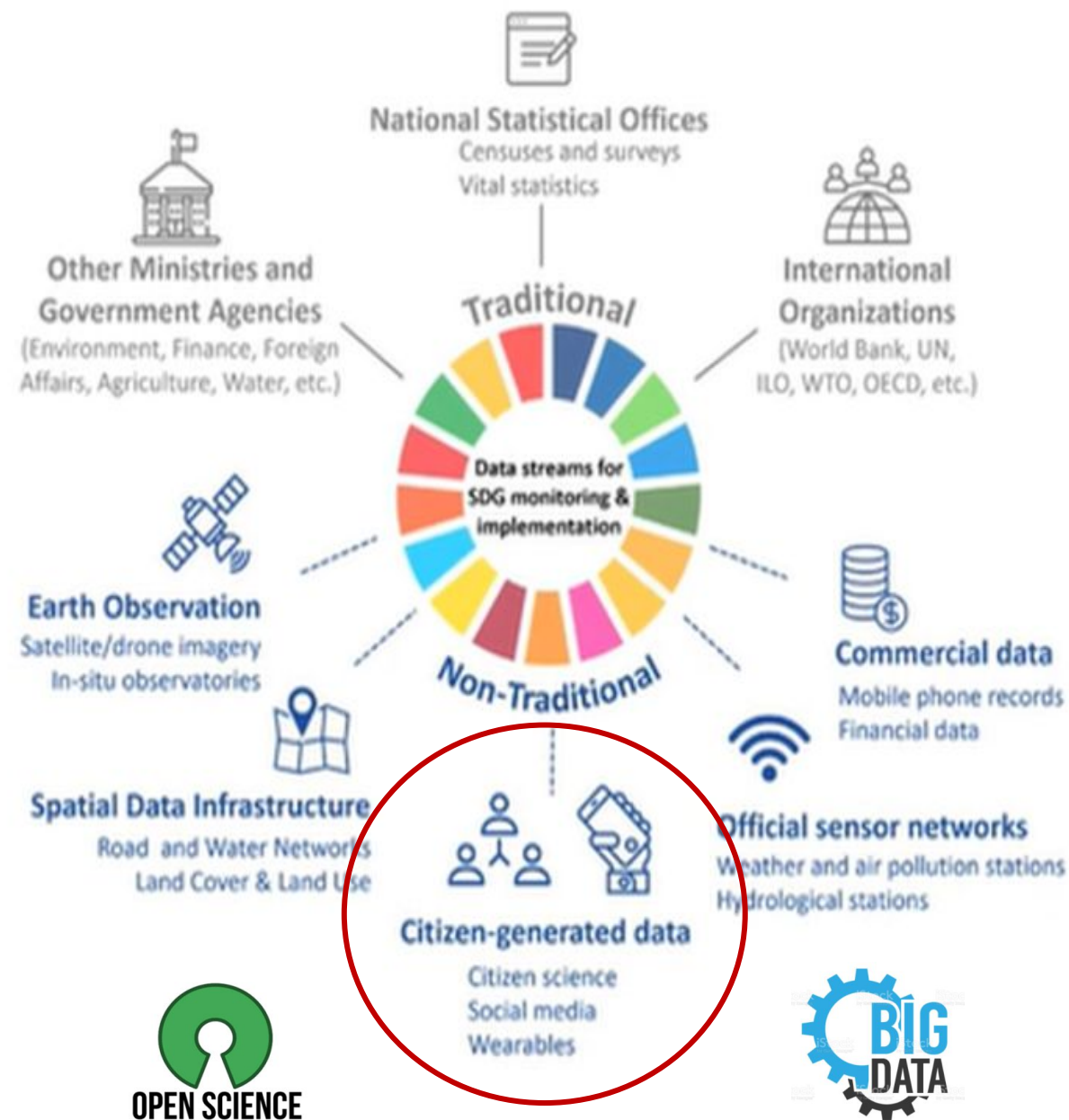
Indicator 6.3.1:

Proportion of wastewater safely treated

Indicator 6.3. 2:

Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

- UNEP, 2018. **Progress on Ambient Water Quality: Piloting the Monitoring Methodology and Initial Findings for SDG Indicator 6.3.2** ISBN No: 978-92- 807-3711-0. UN Environment
- Fritz, S., See, L., Carlson, T., Haklay, M. M., Oliver, J. L., Fraisl, D., ... & Wehn, U. (2019). **Citizen science and the United Nations sustainable development goals**. *Nature Sustainability*, 2(10), 922-930.
- Quinlivan, L., Chapman, D. V., & Sullivan, T. (2020). **Validating citizen science monitoring of ambient water quality for the United Nations sustainable development goals**. *Science of The Total Environment*, 699, 134255



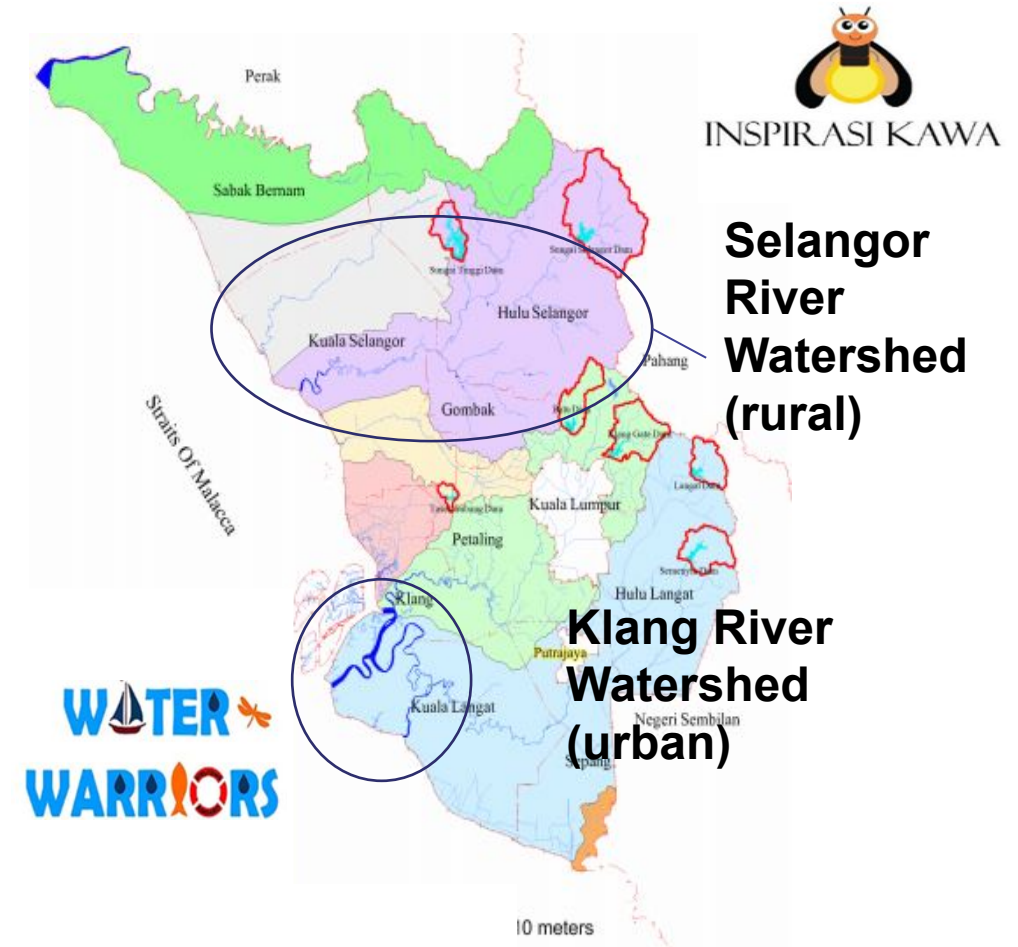


Place-based Citizen science (PBCS)

- citizen scientists work with researchers to collect and analyse scientific data to solve questions that are relevant to the **sustainability aspiration of a particular place or local area.**

Key criteria of PBCS:

- ✓ **Place based elements** as a precursor to the design of PBCS programmed
- ✓ Priority in **integrating scientific knowledge with local knowledge** by emphasizing the process of the meaning and value of citizen science data and process to the local context.
- ✓ Emphasizes **ethical consideration** on ecological protection and long-term social welfare and empowerment
- ✓ Contributes to an innovative form of citizen science by being **more robust from a social science perspective and reflexive from an ethical perspective**



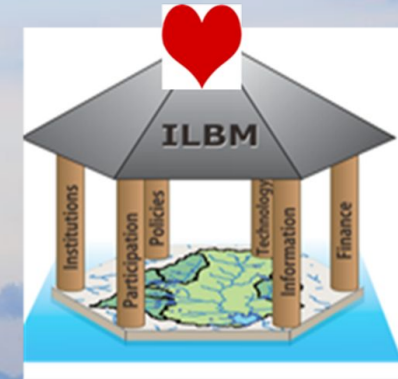
JSPS Japan-Malaysia Asian Core Programme (ACP) on “Asian-oriented Integrated Watershed Management”

Heartware

Organic and voluntary approach
driven by internal motivation based
on local values
(Voluntary human processes)

Software

Institutional, policy,
regulatory and financial
approach
(managed human processes)



Hardware

Technological
approach

Place-based shared values

- Landscape appreciation
- Local traditions
- Retention of historical memories of human nature relationship
- Citizen movements inc. ***citizen science***

Science – Policy – Community Interface

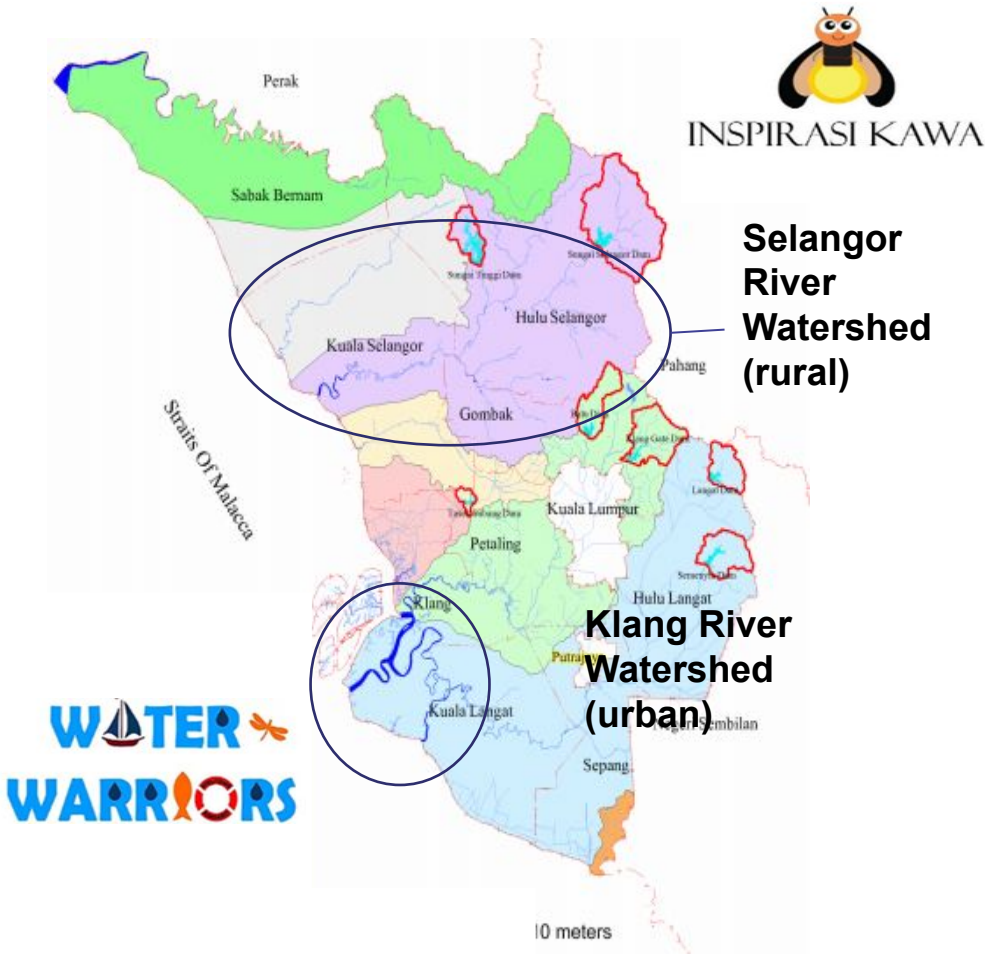






JAPAN

MALAYSIA



Place-based Citizen Science (PBCS)



Sustainable Places
Research Institute
Sefydliad Ymchwil
Mannau Cynaliadwy



The Application of **Place-based Methods** for Enhancing **Citizen Science** as a **Participatory Approach** for Watershed Conservation



Generic PBCS Programme Design

Understanding your place

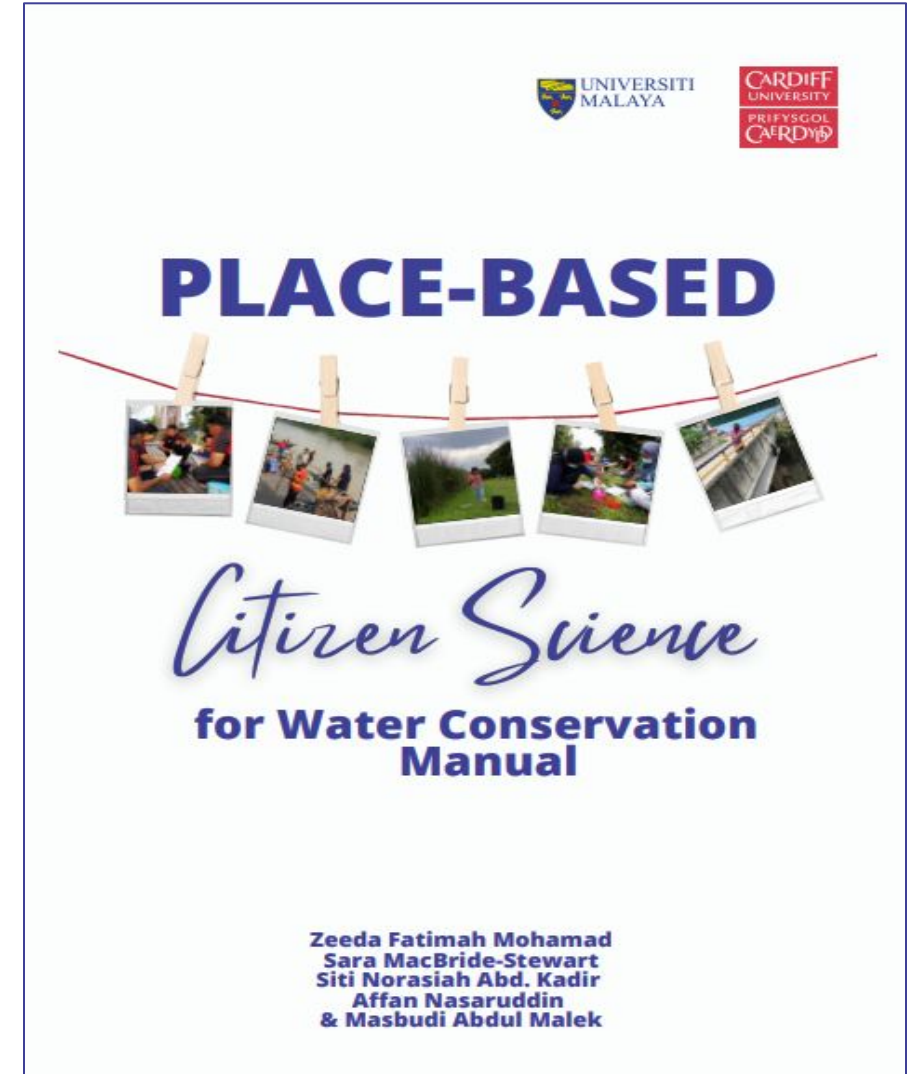
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Developing your PBCS team and toolkit

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Conducting Place-based Citizen Science

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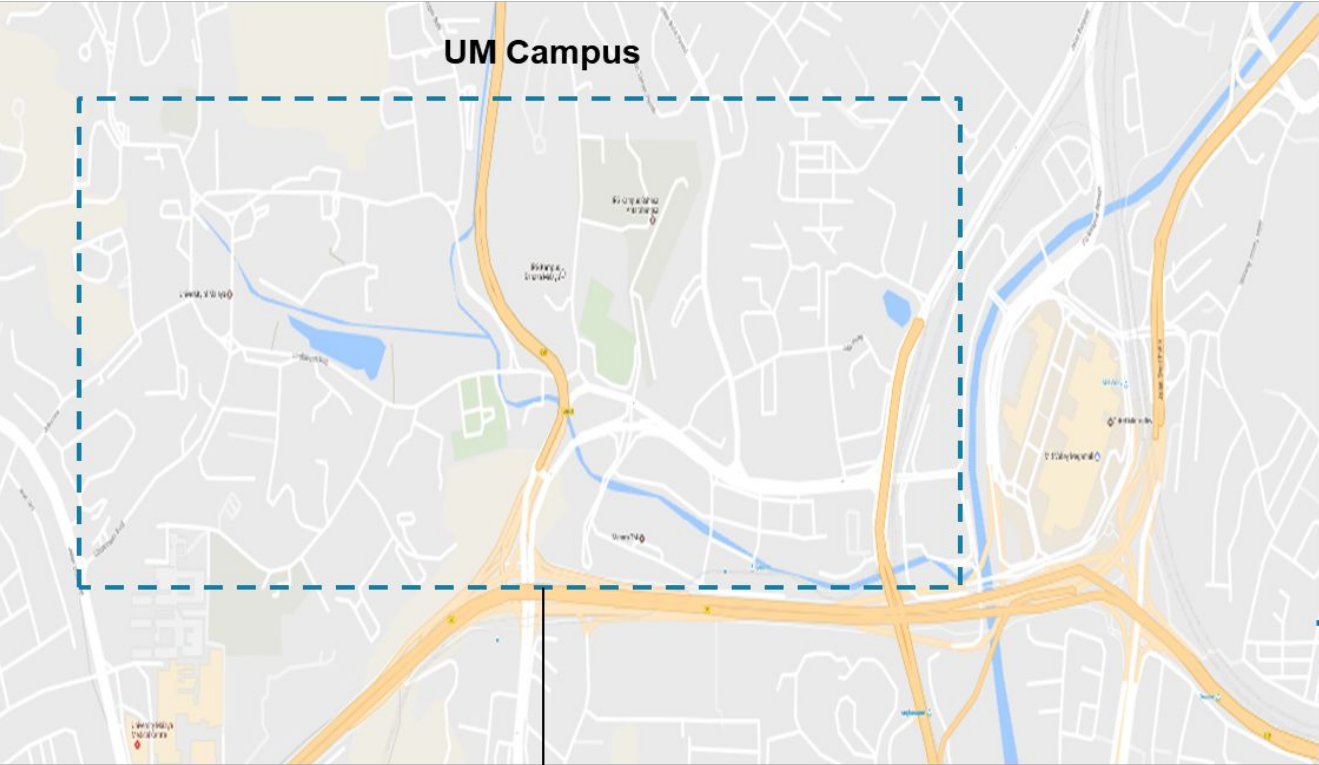
Understanding your place

STEP 01

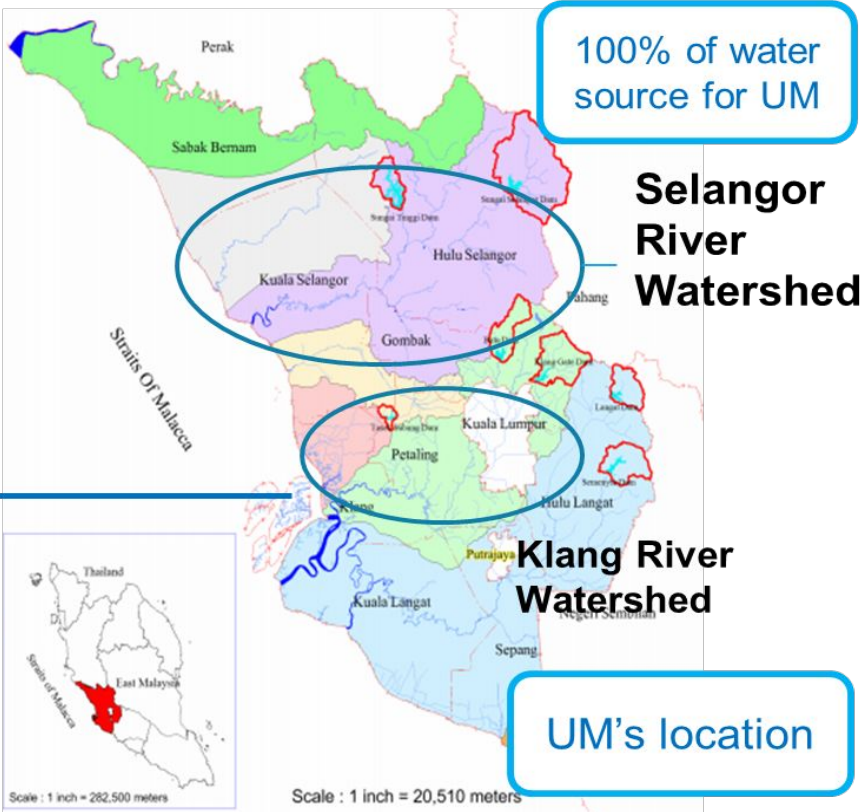
Understanding your watershed and getting to know your community



Watershed address



Network of water bodies within the campus



Tasek Varsiti, Klang River Watershed (2013)



Mukim Pasangan, Downstream of Selangor River (2013)



Ask the local community to identify:

- Any concerns about their water bodies
- The function/or purpose of the water bodies
- Any concerns about land activity near the water
- Changes they have noticed over time and/or differences from other places
- How identified concerns can impact water quality
- Who is impacted or challenged by, or benefits from these problems?
- Community or civic activities being conducted to help address identified problems
- Any concerns about problems that might occur in the future
- How existing measurements can be adapted so a community member can collect data in a way that fits within their daily life
- What they want to know more?

CASE STUDY: Understanding watershed communities in the Selangor River (rural) and Klang River (urban)

When we, as researchers, started our project on water conservation for the watersheds linking Sungai Selangor and Sungai Klang, we needed to reflect collectively about what was important in each place.

For Sungai Selangor (rural), our objective was to help the community address the impact of water quality on the declining population of a unique species of freddy, which was harming the economic development of a community that was heavily reliant on ecotourism. Using PBCS, we learnt instead about the culture, the spirituality, the life cycle of the freddy, the value of its supporting ecosystem and the deep sense of commitment from the community in protecting the freddy species from decline. How do you evaluate cultural meaning or grief? While the outcome of improving the watershed was the same for the citizen scientists and the PBCS, it was the grief and sadness, and the special place of the freddy and the local ecosystem in people's hearts that focused the PBCS approach on the research and engagement process rather than outcomes.



Similarly, in the urban watershed of Sungai Klang, we hoped to engage the community in citizen science that aimed to understand how the deteriorated water quality was due to the relatively higher pollution in the city. We felt that the water quality was enough to motivate the community to participate. We did however make assumptions about the motivations and priorities of the community. After using the PBCS approach (i.e. forums, drop-ins and conversations) to understand what the community thought, felt, valued and knew, we realised that in the city, rivers looked like drains, and that for this urban community, poor water quality was to be expected!

If we had focussed only on the outcome and not the process, we would not have discovered what was important to the community, or what was known about water in each place.

Detailed references:
Abd. Kadir et al. (2015), Mohamad et al. (2015) and Mohamad et al. (2018)



When developing the PBCS team, get to know:

Who are your audience?



Who are the experts?



Who are your volunteers?



The ethical requirements

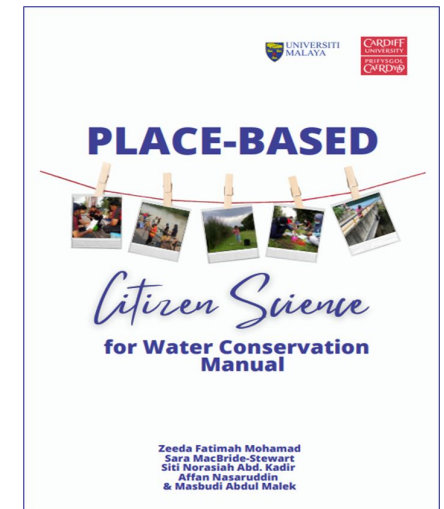
Informed consent | Privacy and confidentiality | Equity and Inclusiveness | Transparency | Scientific Integrity | Respect | Community Engagement | Environmental Cultural Sensitivity | Accountability | Education & Capacity Building

Adhere to ethical research & citizen science guidelines e.g. by European Citizen Science Association & the British Sociological Association

Developing your PBCS team and toolkit

CO-PRODUCE the toolkits and procedures by deciding how and to what extent you and your community will monitor the water:

- Co-decide the **water conservation issues** that is of shared interest by the community and those involved
- Co-decide the list of **suitable parameters** that can be used to monitor the issue of concern:
 - **Water quality monitoring** (temperature, DO, BOD, pH, Turbidity, TDS, TSS, Conductivity, Phosphate, NH₃, Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform, Heavy Metal)
 - **Place observation**: Physical observation (sight, smell, hearing, touch); Photographs/drawings & Descriptive accounts of the place
- Co-design the **tools** (Accuracy, Price, Brand, Size, Ease of use)
- Co-choose your **monitoring sites**
- Co-develop the **protocol**
- Co-test your **toolkits and protocol**, and improve them accordingly



Conducting Place-based Citizen Science

STEP
07

Training and supporting your citizen scientists

PBCS is often best when scientists and citizen scientists work together to collect, analyse and share data about issues of shared-concern in a particular area.

Training the citizen scientists for data collection

- ✓ how to collect representative water quality samples
- ✓ how to use each toolkit
- ✓ practice until protocols are followed without error
- ✓ how to submit and interpret data
- ✓ how to use data for different purposes

Supporting and empowering the team of citizen scientists:

- ✓ Coordination
- ✓ Supporting materials
- ✓ Continuous training
- ✓ Feedback
- ✓ Providing additional resources that are suitable for the group (online tools; videos; pocket size instructions, project website)



Conducting Place-based Citizen Science

STEP
08

Analysing, visualising and sharing your data

Once the citizen scientists have collected and submitted their data, relevant communities in the area of focus will be in a position to make sense of the collected data and to share the findings to relevant stakeholders.

Analysing the data

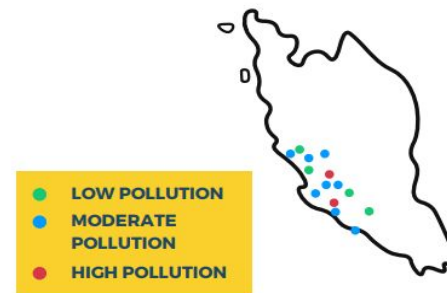
- ✓ Cleaning the data:
- ✓ Making sense of the data
- ✓ Interpret your data

Visualising the data

- ✓ The mapping approach
- ✓ Scientific/professional approach
- ✓ Data that is words, still pictures, moving images or sound
- ✓ Public-friendly approach

Sharing the data and providing feedback to the community

- ✓ One-off, scheduled event
- ✓ On-going sharing and feedback



Eco-Heart Index as a PBCS tool

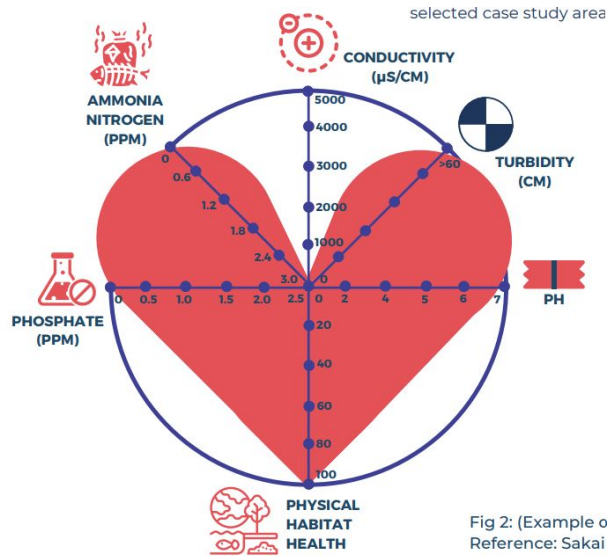
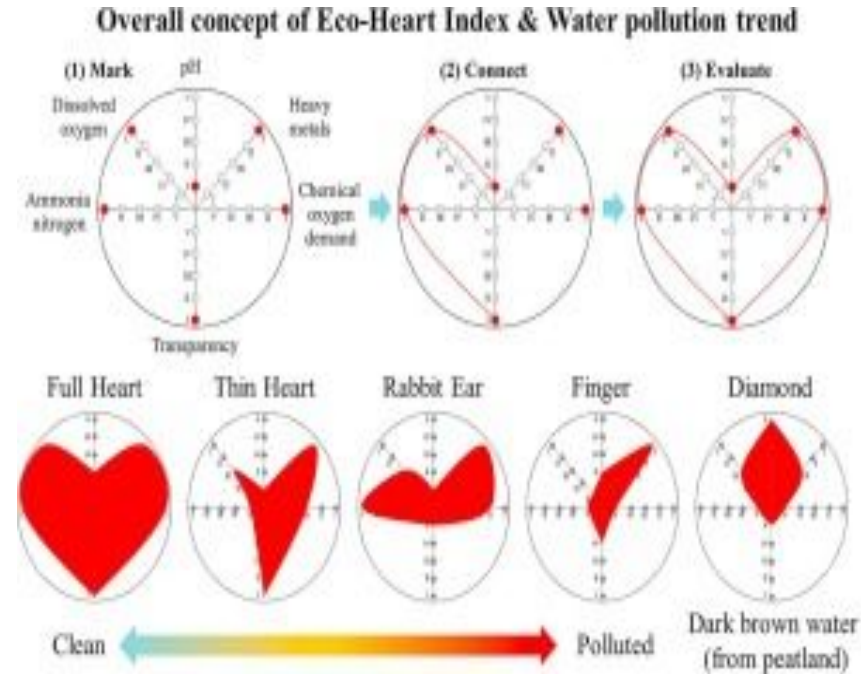
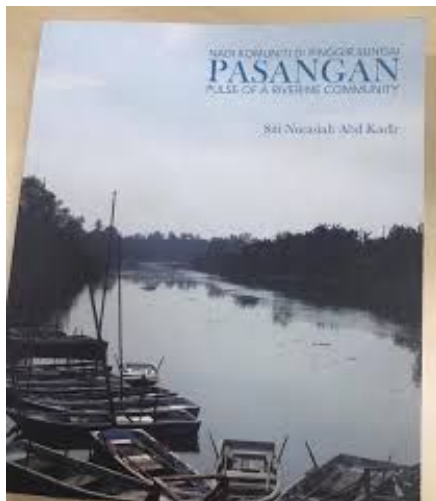


Fig 2: (Example of Reference: Sakai



Water quality map with Eco-Heart Index in Langat River Basin (Malaysia)



Reference:

- Sakai, N., Mohamad, Z. F., Nasaruddin, A., Kadir, S. N. A., Salleh, M. S. A. M., & Sulaiman, A. H. (2018). **Eco-Heart Index as a tool for community-based water quality monitoring and assessment.** *Ecological Indicators*, 91, 38-46.
- Kadir, N., Nasaruddin, A., Kadir, S. N., Musa, M. N., Ong and Mohamad, Z. F. (2015) **PASANGAN: Pulse of the Riverine Community.** A Sustainability Science Cluster and JSPS Asian Core Program Publication. UM Press. Kuala Lumpur ISBN: 978-967-0380-71-1
- Abd. Kadir, S.N., MacBride-Stewart, S. & Mohamad, Z. F. (2024). **Unpacking place-based narratives: Enhancing campus community participation in watershed conservation.** *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education*, 22(2), 404-422.

Results



Conceptual, Theoretical and Methodological articulation based on existing practices (Akanoi Biwako, Inspirasi Kawa & Water Warriors)

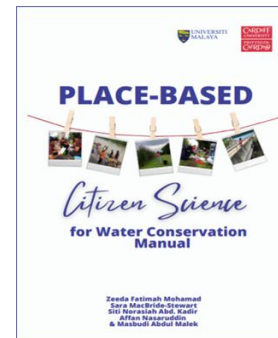


Pilot Test (Phase 1) with Critical Friends within the community and key stakeholders

sekitar



Pilot Test (Phase 2) with improved protocols/tools & broader engagement



Broader Programme deployment

Potential

- LUAS/Air Selangor – **Rawang Industrial Area**
- Risks and Solutions: Marine Plastics in Southeast Asia (RaSP-SEA): **Freshwater – Marine Monitoring**

(Possible) further improvements on the value of PBCS based on the framework of “**responsible innovation**”

Anticipation	Systematic thinking aimed at increasing resilience, while revealing new opportunities for innovation and the shaping of agendas for socially-robust risk research
Reflexivity	Holding a mirror up to one’s own activities, commitments and assumptions, being aware of the limits of knowledge and being mindful that a particular framing of an issue may not be universally held.
Inclusion	Inclusion of new voices in the governance of science and innovation as part of a search for legitimacy & “opening up” framings of issues that challenge entrenched assumptions and commitments has been emphasized.
Responsiveness	Capacity to change shape or direction in response to stakeholder and public values and changing circumstances.

Source:

Stilgoe, J., Owen. R., & Macnaghten, P. (2013). *Developing a framework for responsible innovation. Research Policy*, 42, 1568– 1580

Actions

2012

Japan-Malaysia Research Consortia on Asian-based Integrated Watershed Management

2013

Shared Values Research of a rural watershed in Malaysia conducted by University of Malaya researchers. Watershed as a 'space' for shared values

2015 - 2016

Value-based Citizen Science tested in Malaysia as a translational research project in both rural and urban watersheds

2016 - 2017

Value-based Citizen Science tested in Malaysia as a translational research project in both rural and urban watersheds

2018 - 2020

Malaysia-UK collaboration on 'The Application Place-based Methods for Enhancing Citizen Science as a Participatory Approach for Watershed Conservation'

BES Citizen Science SIG Event to be held in August 2019 at Cardiff, Wales

Concepts

2013

Heartware approach to Integrated Watershed Management

Watershed management informed by internal motivations of local community (e.g. shared values)

2014

Value-based Citizen Science

Inspiration from Lake Biwa Watershed, Japan. This links local values to the design of citizen science programs

2016

Eco-Heart Index

Innovation of citizen science tool for water quality monitoring using heart to symbolize value-nature connection. This links socioecological narrative and water quality indices across place

2017

Place-based Methods

Inspiration from Sustainable Places Research Institute, Cardiff University UK. Exploration of methods for understanding socio-ecological narrative across and within place (i.e. scale)

2018 - 2020

Place-based Citizen Science

Conceptual development of place as an integrative concept that reflects and shapes value-based citizen science and community participation

Publications

Journals

1. Mohamad, Z. F., Nasaruddin, A., Kadir, S. N. A., Musa, M. N., Ong, B., & Sakai, N. (2015). Community-based shared values as a 'Heart-ware' driver for integrated watershed management: Japan-Malaysia policy learning perspective. **Journal of Hydrology**, 530, 317-327.
2. Sakai, N., Mohamad, Z. F., Nasaruddin, A., Kadir, S. N. A., Salleh, M. S. A. M., & Sulaiman, A. H. (2018). Eco-Heart Index as a tool for community-based water quality monitoring and assessment. **Ecological Indicators**, 91, 38-46.
3. Mohamad, Z. F., Abd Kadir, S. N., Nasaruddin, A., Sakai, N., Zuki, F. M., Hussein, H., ... & Salleh, M. S. A. M. (2018). Heartware as a driver for campus sustainability: Insights from an action-oriented exploratory case study. **Journal of Cleaner Production**, 196, 1086-1096.
4. Ong, B., Goh T. G., Tan, K.R., Nasaruddin, A. & Mohamad, Z.F. (2019) Citizen Science Prospects and Pitfalls: A Developing World Reflection. **ROOTS - Botanic Gardens Conservation International Education Review**, 16(2), 11-1
5. Abd. Kadir, S.N., MacBride-Stewart, S. & Mohamad, Z. F. (2024). Unpacking place-based narratives: Enhancing campus community participation in watershed conservation. **International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education**, 22(2), 404-422.

Book/Book Chapter

1. Kadir, N., Nasaruddin, A., Kadir, S. N., Musa, M. N., Ong and Mohamad, Z. F. (2015) **PASANGAN: Pulse of the Riverine Community**. A Sustainability Science Cluster and JSPS Asian Core Program Publication. UM Press. Kuala Lumpur ISBN: 978-967-0380-71-1
2. Mohamad, Z. F. (2024) **Place-based Citizen Science as a Heartware approach to build shared values and capacity for watershed management**. In J. Marquardt, L. L. Delina & M. Smits (Ed.), *Entanglements of Designing Social Innovation in the Asia-Pacific*. Routledge

Guidebook

1. Mohamad, Z.F., MacBride-Stewart, S., Abd. Kadir, S. N., Nasaruddin, A. and Abdul Malek, M. (2021). **Place-based Citizen Science for Water Conservation Manual**. Cardiff University, UK and Universiti Malaya, Malaysia
2. **Air Selangor Water Handbook**



Thank you

DISCUSSION + Q&A
