

3

Berita Tempatan dan Luar Negara

Ketika dunia sedang bergelut dengan penularan wabak Koronavirus (Covid-19), terdapat hikmah tersembunyi terhadap alam sekitar. Penularan wabak ini telah menyebabkan satu pertiga dunia berada di bawah sekatan pergerakan¹. Secara tidak langsung, kebanyakan aktiviti dan operasi perindustrian, perkilangan, pembangunan infrastruktur dan pengangkutan berkurangan secara drastik². Di Malaysia, sepanjang tempoh Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP), kilang-kilang dan premis perniagaan tidak dibenarkan untuk beroperasi³.

Statistik menunjukkan terdapat sekurang-kurangnya 43 berita tempatan dan luar negara yang memaparkan pelestarian sungai berlaku secara semulajadi sepanjang tempoh 4 Fasa PKP (18 Mac – 12 Mei) dengan jumlah berita tertinggi pada Fasa ke-3 (15 April – 28 April). Sumber berita adalah dari pelbagai medium antaranya media massa, media elektronik, perbincangan dan hantaran muatnaik di media sosial (Facebook, Twitter) serta platform diskusi ilmiah seperti portal *Research Gate*.

¹Holler, S-C. 2020. Insider: Before-and-after photos show the dramatic effect lockdowns are having on pollution around the world. 16 March 2020. <https://www.insider.com/before-after-photos-show-less-air-pollution-during-pandemic-lockdown>.

²Hussain, H. 2020. Gempak.com-Intrend: Hikmah PKP Terhadap Alam Sekitar – Tiada Lagi Air Sungai 'Teh Tarik' Dan Pencemaran Udara, Bersihnya!. 28 April 2020. <https://gempak.com/intrend/artikel/35665/hikmah-pkp-terhadap-alam-sekitar-tiada-lagi-air-sungai-teh-tarik-dan-pencemaran-udara-bersihnya>.

³Ramlan, Y. 2020. Malaysia Kini: Hikmah PKP 'mengalir' di Sungai Melaka. 24 April 2020. <https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/522432>.



APRIL 19, 2020
PP412/09/2012 (030687)
COVID-19 CASES
TOTAL 5,305 (UP TO APRIL 18)
NEW 54
RECOVERED 3,102
DEATHS 88

new sundaytimes

ESTABLISHED 1845

RM1.50

An aerial view of Taman Tasik Titivangsa in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIC BY ASTRA HANZAH

Story of the day / NEWS

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ACTUAL LAND SURFACE TEMPERATURE (LST) IN DEGREE CELSIUS

Constituency/Area	March 23, 2019	March 24, 2020	Drop in LST
Bukit Bintang (CBD)	36.13	25.35	10.58
*Pocket area in Bukit Bintang (peak LST for 2020)	41.1	31.4	9.7
Pudu	38.55	27.33	11.22
Jalan Chan Sow Lin	34.95	25.47	11.18
Lembah Pantai	32.13	24.17	7.96
Segambut	35.94	25.31	10.63
Titivangsa	33.36	25.53	8.33
Cheras	35.51	25.14	10.37
Wangsa Maju	30.39	23.63	6.76
Setu	38.54	26.35	10.19
Keppong	38.09	24.37	11.52
Sungai Besi	35.70	26.30	9.2
Seriwangsa	33.70	26.90	6.8
*Border Tun Razak (minimum LST for both years)	24.95	18.48	6.47

**Highlighted areas to show peak and minimum temperatures*

Source: Data sourced by Universiti Putra Malaysia's Dr Mohd Johari Mohd Yusoff from United States Geological Survey's satellite images.

Improved air, water quality recorded in phases 1 and 2 of MCO

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia recorded an improvement in air and water quality within the first four weeks of the Movement Control Order from March 18 to April 14.

Environment and Water Minister Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man said Air Pollutant Index (API) levels dropped 14 per cent to record a "clean index", while 28 per cent of 29 automatic water monitoring stations' readings showed a real-time improvement in water quality.

He said analyses done on particles in the Klang Valley found that leading pollution contributors were on a downturn during the period, compared with readings taken from March 1 to 17.

Levels of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and particles under 2.5 micron (PM_{2.5}) dipped by 27 per cent and 29 per cent, respectively, while carbon monoxide (CO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) levels dipped by 40 per cent and 70 per cent, respectively.

"Other major cities and towns showed similar drops in pollutants as overall findings show a 26 per cent decrease in levels of particles under PM_{2.5}, followed by a 31 per cent drop for CO, a 40 per cent drop for SO₂ and a 61 per cent drop for NO₂ levels."

The readings were taken from 65 air quality monitoring stations nationwide.

Tuan Ibrahim said the Department of Environment (DoE) found the air quality status at all 25 stations in Pasir Gudang, Johor, known to be one of the areas with traces of toxic gases, to be "stable".

The stations recorded normal or below alert levels of total volatile organic compound readings at one part per million.

"The reduction in API, especially in major cities, is due to the drastic decrease in activities that lead to the emission of air pollutants, such as the use of vehicles, industrial stacks and open burning."

Tuan Ibrahim said eight out of 29 water monitoring stations recorded improved water quality compared with readings taken on March 17 and 18.

Another eight stations, he said, did not show any changes, while 13 stations marked a slight decline in water quality.

He said the stations that recorded improved water quality were Sungai Linggi, Sungai Muar, Sungai Johor, Sungai Pahang, Sungai Kuantan, Sungai Besut, Sungai Kelantan and Sungai Batang Sadong.

He said there was a 50 per cent drop in rubbish collected from booms along Sungai Klang compared with the amount collected in 2017 and 2018. In February and March 2018, a total of 21m3 of rubbish was collected from the booms while 18m3 of rubbish was collected in 2017.

Tuan Ibrahim said the water quality of the Mada canal, Sungai Perak, Sungai Langat, Sungai Klang, Sungai Muar (another stretch), Sungai Kesang, Sungai Paka and Sungai Tuaran remained unchanged.

He added that another stretch of the Mada canal, Sungai Muda, Sungai Kulim, Sungai Rogak, Sungai Semenyih, Sungai Labu, Sungai Langat (another stretch), Sungai Muar (a different stretch from the above two), Sungai Melaka, Sungai Segamat, Sungai Skudai, Sungai Sarawak and Sungai Moyog recorded a slight decline in water quality.

Based on the readings, it was learnt that there was a high concentration of dissolved oxygen to support aquatic life in the rivers.

"During the MCO period, there was an average of five and six per cent in chemical oxygen demand (COD) and biological oxygen demand (BOD), respectively. There was also a one per cent decrease in total suspended solids. This contributed to the boost in water quality," said Tuan Ibrahim.

However, due to the decline in river quality at 13 stations, there was an average decline of six per cent in dissolved oxygen.

He said the temporary suspension of non-essential services, including work for development projects, had a positive impact on water quality.

"But water quality is still influenced by pollution loading from water and industrial effluent treatment plants, as well as septic tanks. Greywater or non-faecal water, which flows from homes, markets and food preparation outlets that do not connect to the main sewerage systems, as well as erosion and rubbish flowing into riverways, also play a part."

He said water quality parameters were heavily influenced by weather, pollutant sources and the need to build better sewerage systems.

"Weather-wise, one of the main issues is the intermonsoonal shift, which brings more rain and more total suspended solids due to the flowing of rubbish and waste that are not properly disposed of into drains and river channels."

"This has contributed to the decrease in water quality in some areas even though BOD and COD readings decrease when it rains."

He urged the public to be vigilant and report activities that could lead to pollution and contamination to the DoE via its toll-free number at 1-800-88-2727 or email aduan_kedoe.gov.my.

Page 1 pic: A view of the Kuala Lumpur skyline from Jalan Tunku Putra yesterday.

Keratan akhbar New Sunday Times bertarikh 19 April 2020

Nasional

Penularan COVID-19

Sungai Kim Kim makin pulih, jernih ketika PKP

Penduduk gembira tiada lagi bau busuk, banyak ikan mula kelihatan

Pasir Gudang: Sungai Kim Kim yang sebelum ini 'popular' kerana lori pencemaran sisa toksik dan dipenalti tempatan minyak sehingga tiada hidupan di dasarnya kini semakin jernih dan bersih.

Tinjauan di kawasan tengah sungai berkenaan yang terletak di Kampung Bukit Patah, dekat sini, mendapati air sungai yang dahulunya berwarna kehijauan kini semakin jernih dan bersih.

Malah, tiada lagi bau busuk keterlaluan disebabkan pencemaran sisa kimia beracun ketika pencemaran di kawasan itu mengemparkan negara tahun lalu.

Penduduk Kampung Bukit Patah yang juga nelayan, Nur Satria Rabei, 54, berkata Sungai Kim Kim kini semakin jernih, malah ketika surut, ikan kecil berenang dapat dilihat jika berbanding 10 tahun lalu.

"Alhamdulillah, Sungai Kim Kim semakin jernih dan pulih selepas ia dibersihkan, apatah lagi ketika Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) dengan kebanyakannya kilang dan industri berhenti beroperasi."

"Jika dahulu air sungai ini sentiasa berwarna kehijauan dan bau busuk hingga tiada seekor ikan pun mampu hidup, kini semuanya semakin baik."

"Kini, banyak ikan termasuk keli, haruan dan tilapia yang besar sudah kembali ke kawasan ini memandangkan keadaan air sungai yang semakin pulih, sekali gus membolehkan mereka kepada penduduk kampung dan nelayan sekitar," katanya ketika ditemui di Sungai Kim Kim, semalam.

Pencemaran kimia berbahaya di Sungai Kim Kim yang berlaku 7 Mac tahun lalu mengemparkan negara selepas beberapa murid dan pelajar ponson 15 bertaiba di samping mengalami gejala pening, loya dan muntah-muntah.

(Foto Farid Nadyati)

Keratan akhbar Berita Harian bertarikh 27 April 2020

Asean+
'Marketplace', set up to help jobless Thais affected by Covid-19, is now seen as a dating site. > 18

MONDAY 27 APRIL 2020 PPL641/03/2013 (031 549) (No. 22143) RM1.40 1300-88-7827 (Customer Service)

Watch out tomorrow!

Amid reports of panic-stricken shoppers hoarding toilet paper to fishermen unable to get their catch to market, how has the movement control order (MCO) affected prices of essential items? Has it also changed our grocery shopping habits?

The Star has the details



Nature heals itself

A pitch-black river in the heart of George Town turns jade green while people stay at home. As pollution levels drop sharply due to the movement control order, rivers nationwide are reviving without human interference and experts are hoping that Malaysia learns from this. > See page 4 for report by LO TERN CHERN



BEFORE MCO

LO TERN CHERN/The Star

AFTER MCO

CHAN BOON KAI/The Star

Once pitch-black, now jade green

One of Malaysia's dirtiest rivers begins recovering from water pollution

By LO TERN CHERN
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GEORGE TOWN: One of the dirtiest rivers in the country is not dirty any more. Thanks to the movement control order (MCO),

Photographs captured from a drone of Sungai Pinang in the heart of the city, taken seven weeks apart, revealed that after the MCO started, the 3.5km river is healing.

From a pitch-black flow polluting the Straits of Malacca, the river is now jade green with algae.

Photographs of the river, taken by The Star on March 8 and yesterday, were all shot at low tide to make a fair comparison without seawater pushing into the river on a rising tide.

Gone is its foul blackness. Prof Dr Chan Ngai Weng, who researches environmental management and hydrology in Universiti



Sains Malaysia, said the pre-MCO pollution was from human activity. "It is all kinds of oil from work shops and factories that emulsified and mixed with organic matter from the wastewater of markets, hawkers and so on."

"With the MCO, the dumping has stopped. You can see now how a river cleans itself if the pollution load is low. It is we humans who overload the rivers."

"We must either relocate polluting sources elsewhere or ensure they treat their waste before discharging them into the environment," said Prof Chan.

Sungai Pinang river basin is about 50sq km, covering much of George Town and all of Ayer Itam Paya Terubong.

It is fed by six tributaries, all of which run through densely populated urban centres on the island. Sungai Pinang's water quality was categorised at Class Four, just one step below the dead river category of Class Five. There were plans to make it Class Two for over 10 years ago.

Prof Chan, who was ecstatic when shown the drone pictures, said each time he asked the authorities about cleaning up the river, "they say no because they think Sungai Pinang is dead and cannot be revived".

"These photos are the game-changer. It proves that Sungai Pinang can be beautiful and have a nice waterfront."

Equally happy was marine biologist Prof Datuk Dr Aileen Tan, who said the heartening improvement of the river showed that "concrete results are achievable if the authorities set up better sewage management systems or get tough on enforcement in the new norm after MCO".

"I am sure rivers all over the country are becoming cleaner by themselves now. We should treasure this phenomenon and take it as a chance for us to change for the better after the MCO," Prof Tan said.

Another river that also made headlines recently was Sungai Melaka, located in the historical city in its namesake state. It is now so clear that people can see schools of fish swimming around.

Environment and Water Minister Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man announced in a statement that Department of Environment (DOE)

took 158 enforcement actions nationwide against premises and individuals for polluting the environment, especially rivers.

He said 13% of the 1,337 manufacturing plants allowed to operate during the MCO were found to be located upriver of water intake points and DOE was paying special attention to such locations.

"The enforcement actions included arrests and suspension of the licences of five premises."

"Since the MCO began, DOE enforcers have conducted regular patrols and surprise checks. One of the places we focus on is areas upriver of water intake points. We use drones to look for pollution indications," he said.

Tuan Ibrahim urged the public to call DOE at 03-8889 1972 or its 24/7 toll-free hotline (1-800-88-2727). For emails, send them to aduan_k@doe.gov.my.

STARMETRO MONDAY 27 APRIL 2020



StarMetro article on April 30, 2019.



StarMetro cover story on Aug 27, 2015.

Clean break for Klang Valley rivers

Despite restoration efforts over the years, pollution persisted until MCO took effect

By SHALINI RAVINDRAN
shalini@shaliniravindran.com

AMID the unprecedented global lockdown in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been numerous bright spots even as Malaysians come to grips with the crisis.

From stories of ordinary people going out of their way to help others during the crisis to poignant moments shown by frontliners, we are a resilient lot.

One silver lining since the movement control order (MCO) came into effect has been the improved condition of rivers and waterways in the Klang Valley – particularly Sungai Gombak and Sungai Klang. StarMetro reported on April 7 that Klang Valley rivers were looking healthier as there was less human interference during the MCO imposed from March 18 to curb the Covid-19 pandemic.

Global Environmental Centre river care programme manager Dr R. Padmanabhan noted the current conditions of some of the rivers in Klang Valley were much better now since MCO was initiated.

Photographs of Sungai Gombak, Sungai Way and Sungai Remanung clearly showed the rivers' improved conditions.

For more than 20 years, StarMetro has reported on numerous cases of rubbish dumping, legal and illegal land clearing as well as sand washing activities that have continued to pollute the rivers.

So too, have we reported on the small and large-scale efforts to clean up these rivers, largely to little effect, as stemming pollution of rivers.

One of the biggest river cleaning and beautification projects extensively reported was the government's multi-billion ringgit river of life project (RoL).

The RoL project is aimed at breathing new life into polluted Klang and Gombak rivers as well as transforming Kuala Lumpur city centre into a vibrant hub for its citizens. The entire project is expected to be completed this year.

However, that target was set before the MCO came into force, turning the river and its tributaries into brown sludge.

Of the amount, RM4.4 billion project – river cleaning, river master plan and beautification and river development.

Of the amount, RM3.4 billion for cleaning up the rivers and RM1 billion for landscaping.

But since it was initiated in 2012, the project has been plagued by inefficiency and multi-agency bureaucracy.

This lack of coordination and enforcement also meant that the headway has become a "one step forward, two steps back" situation. For example, in April last year,



StarMetro report on April 9, 2019.



StarMetro story on Sept 25, 2018.

StarMetro reported that land clearing upstream of Sungai Gombak has sent hundreds of tonnes of silt and sedimentation downstream, turning the river and its tributaries into brown sludge.

Although land clearing carried out on private land was the main culprit, road projects around the area as well as sand washing activities had also been blamed.

The sediment run off travelled downstream right up to the Masjid Jamek area, which caused the water there to turn even murkier than usual.

Ironically, Masjid Jamek's waterfront was named one of the world's 10 best waterfront districts by British online newspaper The Independent a few months prior to the incident.

Apart from land clearing, major activities that have severely impacted the quality of these rivers are illegal sand washing and sand mining taking place along riverbanks.

Since 2015, StarMetro has highlighted several cases of sand washing activities causing pollution along Sungai Klang and its tributaries.

The expenses resulted in the government closing down several of those sites, where the perpetrators were also penalised and their equipment confiscated.

However, in many cases, the illegal activities would restart after just several months.

In October of last year, it was reported that operations at two illegal sand washing sites in Kuala Lumpur resumed just six months after it was shut down by authorities.

One is at 4th Mile, off Jalan Kelang Lama and facing Sungai Klang, while the other is near Kampung Bokok Flood Retention Pond in Bukit Jalil near Sungai Bayu.

Despite the constant highlights in the media on river pollution, it was only since the MCO was enforced that there has been any noticeable change in the quality of the rivers.

It was reported that there had been a 43% reduction in the total amount of rubbish extracted from Sungai Klang since March 18.

Landscape Lumayan Sdn Bhd managing director Sushil Anand Nordin was quoted saying that between March 15 and April 15, 580 metric tonnes (MT) of rubbish was collected under the Selangor Maritime Gateway project compared to an average of 900 to 1,200MT per month over the last six months.

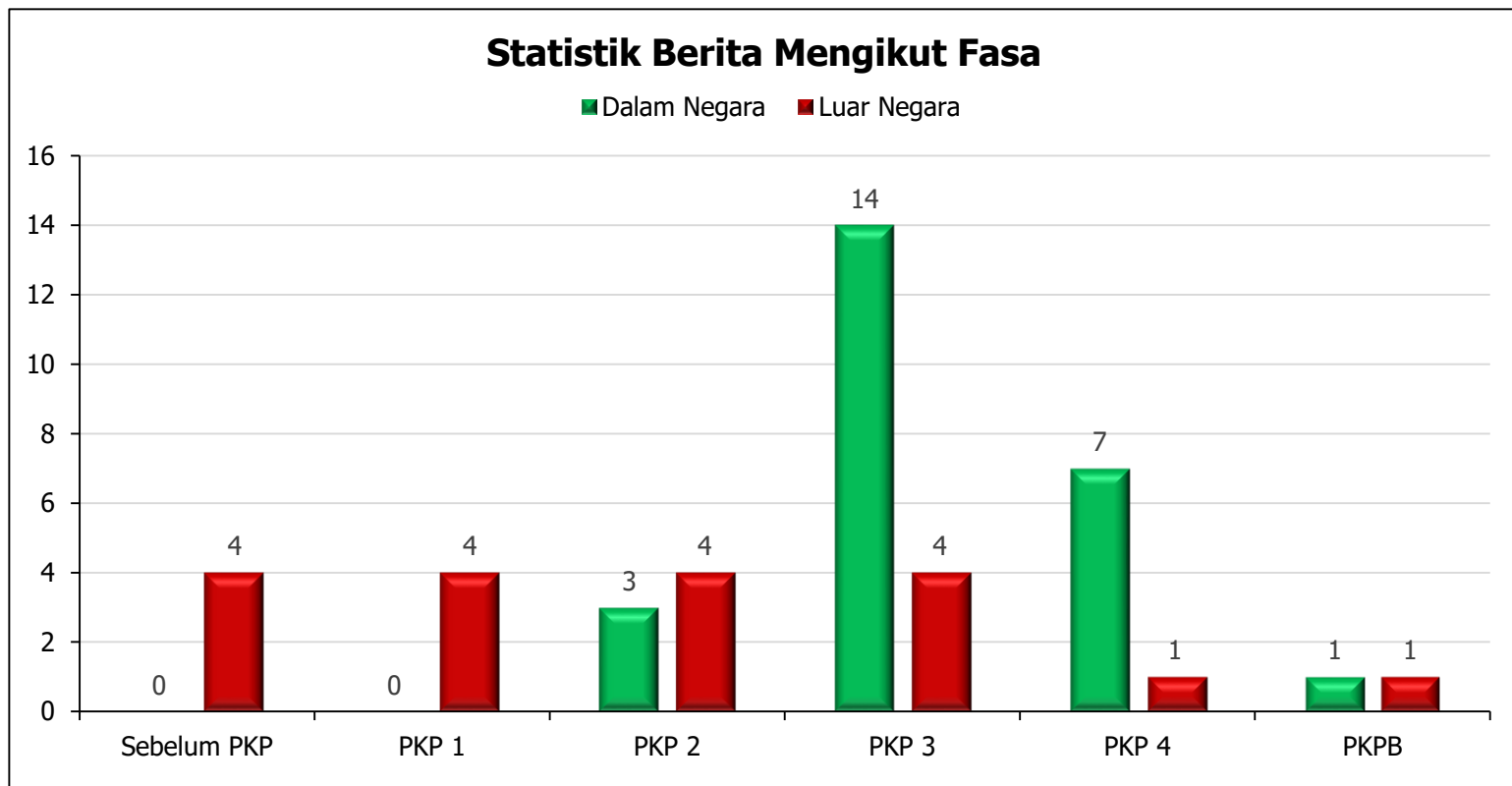
He added that during this time, Sungai Klang recorded Class III Water Quality Index (WQI) readings almost 90% of the time, compared to last year until March, whereby although the overall WQI stood at Class III as well, it was only for about 40% of the time.

Still, there have been some slip ups such as the odour pollution at the raw water source in Sungai Selangor on April 16.

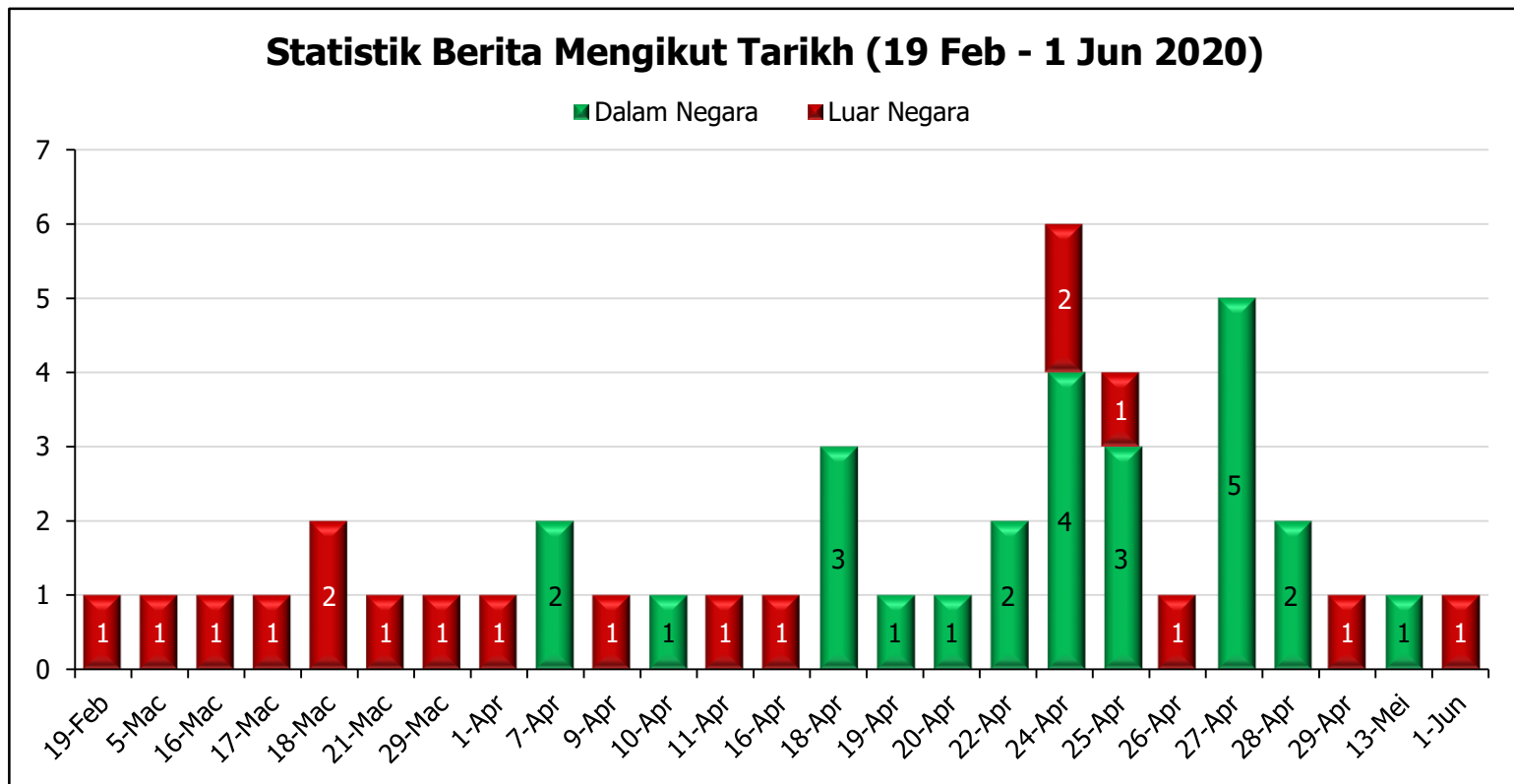
While minimising the movement of people and business operations can help rivers heal, it is not a feasible solution in the long term. In the meantime, we can take heart that nature is getting a much-needed breather during this pandemic.

Feature 5

Keratan akhbar New Sunday Times pada 19 April 2020 (atas dan bawah)



Perbandingan berita pelestarian sungai / alam sekitar tempatan dan luar negara sepanjang tempoh PKP Fasa 1 hingga PKPB



Statistik berita pelestarian sungai / alam sekitar tempatan dan luar negara mengikut tarikh (19 Februari hingga 1 Jun 2020)

Sejak kegiatan manusia terhenti buat sementara waktu, terdapat pelbagai bukti gambar dan rakaman video menunjukkan peningkatan kualiti alam sekitar secara semulajadi berlaku yang memberi kesan baik kepada bumi dan lapan billion penghuninya. Kualiti udara di bandar-bandar utama negara di Asia seperti New Delhi dan Jakarta juga menunjukkan perubahan yang positif¹. Selain itu, kebanyakan negara di seluruh dunia melaporkan perairan atau sungai mulai kelihatan bersih manakala hidupan di dalamnya mula kelihatan^{4,5,6}. Hantaran muatnaik yang tular di aplikasi Twitter menunjukkan hidupan seperti angsa, itik dan ikan lumba-lumba bebas berenang di terusan dan pelabuhan Venice setelah beberapa tahun haiwan berkenaan tidak kelihatan⁷.

¹Holler, S-C. 2020. Insider: Before-and-after photos show the dramatic effect lockdowns are having on pollution around the world. 16 March 2020. <https://www.insider.com/before-after-photos-show-less-air-pollution-during-pandemic-lockdown>.

⁴Woods, A. 2020. New York Post: Dolphins appear in Italian waterways as coronavirus keeps tourists away. 19 March 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/03/19/dolphins-appear-in-italian-waterways-as-coronavirus-keeps-tourists-away/>.

⁵Watts, J. 2020. The Guardian: Climate crisis: in coronavirus lockdown, nature bounces back – but for how long? 9 April 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/09/climate-crisis-amid-coronavirus-lockdown-nature-bounces-back-but-for-how-long>.

⁶Singhal, S and Matto, M. 2020. Down To Earth Blog: COVID-19 lockdown: A ventilator for rivers. 29 April 2020. <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/covid-19-lockdown-a-ventilator-for-rivers-70771>.

⁷HITZ. 2020. Venice's Waters Are So Clear Amidst The COVID-19 Lockdown That The Dolphins Have Returned! <https://hitz.com.my/trending/trending-on-hitz/venices-waters-are-so-clear-amidst-the-covid-19-lo>.



Pemandangan *India Gate War Memorial* di New Delhi, India pada 17 Oktober 2019 (kiri) and 8 April 2020 (kanan)¹



Pemandangan di Jakarta, Indonesia pada 4 Juli 2019 (kiri) dan 16 April 2020 (kanan)¹

¹Holler, S-C. 2020. Insider: Before-and-after photos show the dramatic effect lockdowns are having on pollution around the world. 16 March 2020. <https://www.insider.com/before-after-photos-show-less-air-pollution-during-pandemic-lockdown>.



Pemandangan New Delhi dari Sungai Yamuna pada 21 Mac 2018 (kiri) dan 8 April 2020 (kanan) setelah penutupan seluruh negara selama 21 hari¹



Air jernih di terusan Venice tanpa trafik bot⁸ (kiri) dan deretan gondola di atas air jernih di terusan berkenaan¹ pada awal Mac 2020

¹Holler, S-C. 2020. Insider: Before-and-after photos show the dramatic effect lockdowns are having on pollution around the world. 16 March 2020. <https://www.insider.com/before-after-photos-show-less-air-pollution-during-pandemic-lockdown>.

⁸Chow, D. 2020. NBC New: Coronavirus shutdowns have unintended climate benefits: cleaner air, clearer water. 20 March 2020. <https://www.insider.com/before-after-photos-show-less-air-pollution-during-pandemic-lockdown>.



Anna Mazzola
@Anna_Mazz



Dolphins and swans living their best life in Venice as water quality improves during lockdown.[standard.co.uk/news/world/dol](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/dolphins-and-swans-living-their-best-life-in-venice-as-water-quality-improves-during-lockdown)



♡ 194 10:06 PM - Mar 18, 2020



💬 77 people are talking about this



Aurel Boriçi
@AurelBoriciBT



😬😬😬 #venice

An unexpected side effect of the pandemic: 💧 Water's flowing through the canals of Venice is clear for the first time in forever.

🐟🦢 The fish are visible, the swans returned



♡ 4,031 5:23 PM - Mar 18, 2020



💬 1,545 people are talking about this



Paparan foto dari media sosial menunjukkan kehadiran angsa dan ikan lumba-lumba di terusan dan pelabuhan di Venice, Itali^{4,7}

⁴Woods, A. 2020. New York Post: Dolphins appear in Italian waterways as coronavirus keeps tourists away. 19 March 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/03/19/dolphins-appear-in-italian-waterways-as-coronavirus-keeps-tourists-away/>.

⁷HITZ. 2020. Venice's Waters Are So Clear Amidst The COVID-19 Lockdown That The Dolphins Have Returned! <https://hitz.com.my/trending/trending-on-hitz/venices-waters-are-so-clear-amidst-the-covid-19-lo>.

Situasi di Malaysia menunjukkan penduduk yang tinggal berhampiran sungai utama seperti Sungai Klang, Sungai Gombak, Sungai Way dan Sungai Kemuning melaporkan kualiti air sungai kini lebih bersih dan jernih^{9,10,11}. Sebelum ini, sungai berkenaan seringkali menjadi ‘mangsa’ dan tumpuan pengaliran sampah sarap dari kawasan komersial, industri serta kediaman. Di sesetengah tempat pula, penduduk melaporkan air yang jernih meningkatkan kehadiran burung dan ikan. **Inisiatif terpuji ini (??, ada missing text mungkin sebelum ayat ni, tak dinyatakan apa inisiatif sebelum ayat baris ni)** menunjukkan bahawa sikap tanggungjawab dan cakna rakyat dengan hal yang berlaku di sekeliling seterusnya secara tidak langsung membantu memelihara dan memulihara alam sekitar.

Hasil kajian oleh pakar tempatan mendapati bahawa beberapa sungai lain yang turut menunjukkan peningkatan kualiti air adalah Sungai Linggi, Sungai Muar, Sungai Johor, Sungai Pahang, Sungai Kuantan, Sungai Besut, Sungai Kelantan, Sungai Batang Sadong dan Sungai Anak Tasik, Pantai Batu Feringghi, Pulau Pinang juga menampakkan kejernihan¹. Selain itu, pengurangan beban sampah di Sungai Kelang menurun sebanyak 50% berbanding tahun 2017 dan 2018¹².

¹Holler, S-C. 2020. Insider: Before-and-after photos show the dramatic effect lockdowns are having on pollution around the world. 16 March 2020. <https://www.insider.com/before-after-photos-show-less-air-pollution-during-pandemic-lockdown>.

⁹Bavani, M. 2020. Communities living near waterways report clearer waters since MCO in place. 7 April 2020. <https://www.thestar.com.my/metro/metro-news/2020/04/07/communities-living-near-waterways-report-clearer-waters-since-mco-in-place>.

¹⁰Bernama. 2020. PKP beri nafas baharu kepada alam sekitar. 18 April 2020. <https://www.bernama.com/bm/am/news.php?id=1833450>.

¹¹Mansor, A. Hikmah PKP: Sungai, perairan lebih bersih. 22 April 2020. <https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/80053/BERITA/Nasional/Hikmah-PKP-Sungai-perairan-lebih-bersih>.

¹²Babulal, V. 2020. Air and water quality improve during MCO. 18 April 2020. https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/585488/air-and-water-quality-improve-during-mco?fbclid=IwAR1FNO6sb34-1aEeGGSnI_1z41f4nhT1l_kBAgen9ingrsas6ZcdhiDH7P-Yw#_XpusfeRIY1o_facebook

Namun begitu, terdapat beberapa sungai yang tidak mengalami sebarang perubahan seperti Terusan Mada, Sungai Perak, Sungai Langat, Sungai Muar (bahagian hulu), Sungai Kesang, Sungai Paka dan Sungai Tuaran¹². Antara faktor dan penyumbang terbesar dalam perkara ini adalah perubahan cuaca, pencemaran loji rawatan air industri (ni sisa/efluen loji rawatan air kot) dan efluen tangki septik, air basuhan domestik serta hakisan dan sampah yang mengalir ke sungai¹¹.



Air yang bersih dan jernih di Pantai Batu Ferringhi berikutan efluen terawat sepenuhnya dari loji rawatan kumbahan IWK



Sungai Melaka lebih bersih berbanding sebelum PKP berkuatkuasa

¹¹Mansor, A. Hikmah PKP: Sungai, perairan lebih bersih. 22 April 2020.

<https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/80053/BERITA/Nasional/Hikmah-PKP-Sungai-perairan-lebih-bersih>.

¹²Babulal, V. 2020. Air and water quality improve during MCO. 18 April 2020. <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/585488/air-and-water-quality-improve-during-mco?fbclid=IwAR1FNO6sb34-JqFeGGSnL1z41f4pbT1LkBAgep9ipqrsgs6ZcdhjDHZP-Yw#.XpusfeRIY1o.facebook>.



Foto pada 4 April 2020 menunjukkan Sungai Way yang kebiasaannya kotor menjadi sangat bersih⁹



Keadaan di Sungai Gombak kelihatan lebih baik pada 2 April 2020 berbanding sebelum PKP⁹



Pada waktu biasa, ledakan log sungai Gombak dipenuhi dengan sampah⁹

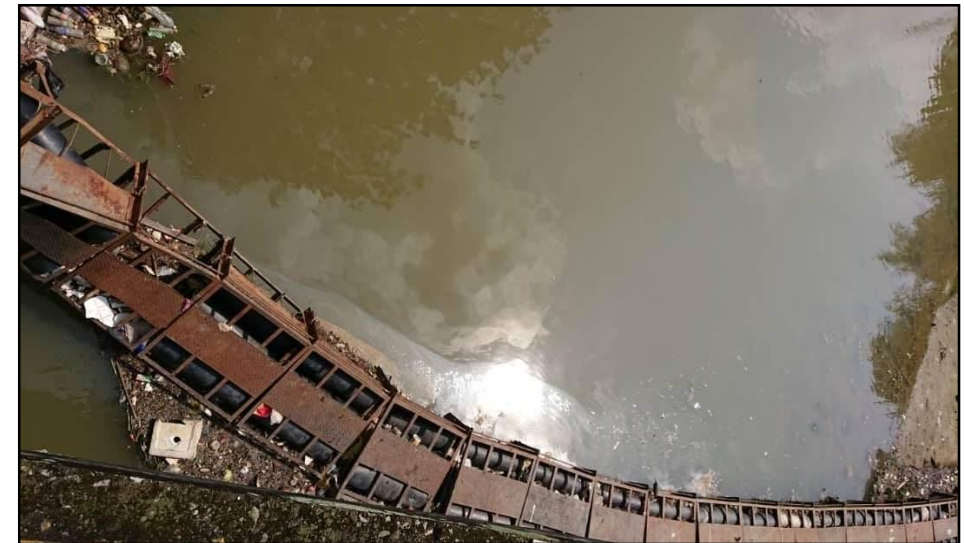


Foto pada 4 April 2020 menunjukkan ledakan kayu Sungai Gombak bebas dari sampah⁹

⁹ Bavani, M. 2020. Communities living near waterways report clearer waters since MCO in place. 7 April 2020. <https://www.thestar.com.my/metro/metro-news/2020/04/07/communities-living-near-waterways-report-clearer-waters-since-mco-in-place>.



Gambar fail, Menteri Alam Sekitar Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man. - Foto BERNAMA

Mampukah rakyat amal normal baharu demi alam sekitar

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KUALA LUMPUR: Peluang menghirup udara segar mungkin berakhir sekiranya Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) yang disambung hingga 12 Mei depan ditamatkan.

Justeru, nikmati dan hargailah anugerah alam ini sementara masih ada kesempatan.

Menteri Alam Sekitar dan Air, Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man baru-baru ini dipetik berkata, pelaksanaan PKP di seluruh negara bagi mengekang penularan wabak COVID-19 juga memberi kesan baik kepada alam sekitar.

Walaupun persekitaran semakin pulih semasa PKP, ahli pakar berpendapat bahawa perkara ini tidak akan bertahan lama. Namun begitu, kesan jangka pendek yang dapat dilihat adalah sangat menarik seperti berita dan gambar yang tersebar luas di media massa dan media elektronik. Tanggungjawab untuk mengekalkan perubahan positif alam sekitar dengan mengamalkan norma baharu harus digalas setiap individu bagi menjaga ekosistem sedia ada seterusnya kelestarian alam sekitar dapat dikekalkan dan diwarisi buat generasi akan datang.

LAMPIRAN

Tarikh dan tajuk berita dari dalam dan luar negara

Bil	Tarikh	Tajuk berita	
1	07/04/2020	Berita Tempatan	Communities living near waterways report clearer waters since MCO in place
2	07/04/2020		Wat-er Difference
3	18/04/2020		PKP beri nafas baharu kepada alam sekitar
4	18/04/2020		Air and water quality improve during MCO
5	22/04/2020		Blue skies, less waste: Covid-19 and the MCO's effects on the environment
6	22/04/2020		Hikmah PKP: Sungai, perairan lebih bersih
7	24/04/2020		Sungai Kim Kim semakin pulih
8	24/04/2020		Hikmah PKP 'mengalir' di Sungai Melaka
9	24/04/2020		Thanks to MCO, Sungai Melaka is green and clean
10	25/04/2020		Cleaner waterways and rivers during MCO
11	25/04/2020		PKP bawa sinar kepada Sungai Melaka
12	27/04/2020		Georgetown's Dirtiest River Healed and Glows In Jade Green Thanks To MCO
13	27/04/2020		Mampukah rakyat amal normal baharu demi alam sekitar
14	27/04/2020		Once pitch-black, now jade green
15	27/04/2020		Water difference - Clean break for Klang Valley rivers
16	27/04/2020		Pemantauan Keadaan Semasa Sungai-sungai Utama Di Wilayah persekutuan Kuala Lumpur
17	28/04/2020		Hikmah PKP Terhadap Alam Sekitar – Tiada Lagi Air Sungai 'Teh Tarik' Dan Pencemaran Udara, Bersihnya!
18	28/04/2020		Bumi kian pulih, kebocoran lapisan ozon kembali tertutup
19	21/10/2019		Bringing dirtiest river back to life
20	N/A	Berita Luar Negara	Visual Story: In Pasir Gudang, the dirtiest river is also Malaysia's most polluted
21	N/A		Environment minister: 160 cases of river pollution during MCO
22	19/02/2020		Analysis: Coronavirus temporarily reduced China's CO2 emissions by a quarter
23	05/03/2020		Coronavirus And The Water Cycle — Here Is What Treatment Professionals Need To Know
24	16/03/2020		Before-and-after photos show the dramatic effect lockdowns are having on pollution around the world
25	17/03/2020		Venice's canal water looks clearer as coronavirus keeps visitor away
26	18/03/2020		Coronavirus shutdowns have unintended climate benefits: cleaner air, clearer water
27	18/03/2020		Airborne Nitrogen Dioxide Plummets Over China
28	19/03/2020		Dolphins appear in Italian waterways as coronavirus keeps tourists away
29	21/03/2020		(1) IAHR World Water Day 2020 Special Event: Hydro-environment Engineering and Adaptation to Climate Change
30	29/03/2020		Monitoring spread of coronavirus through waste water
31	01/04/2020		Do you think the COVID-19 pandemic will significantly impact on water systems?
32	09/04/2020		Climate crisis: in coronavirus lockdown, nature bounces back – but for how long?
33	11/04/2020		Groundwater Contamination Due To Burial Of Covid-19 Dead Bodies
34	16/04/2020		China's air and water quality significantly improved during coronavirus pandemic lockdowns
35	24/04/2020		Coronavirus lockdown Air, water quality improves worldwide; see how New Delhi's pollution-free skyline looks
36	24/04/2020		Flushing is our next weapon against COVID-19, if you're happy to have your sewage scrutinised
37	25/04/2020		Photos show impact of temporary air pollution drops across the world from coronavirus lockdown
38	26/04/2020		Bengaluru: Groundwater levels rise as coronavirus lockdown cuts commercial usage
39	29/04/2020		COVID-19 lockdown: A ventilator for rivers
40	N/A		Groundwater, Wells, and Coronavirus
41	N/A		Venice's Waters Are So Clear Amidst The COVID-19 Lockdown That The Dolphins Have Returned!
42	N/A		Sewage could hold the key to stopping new coronavirus outbreaks