

# ECOTOURISM IN MALAYSIA

## WATER QUALITY MONITORING IN KUALA SELANGOR

### INTRODUCTION

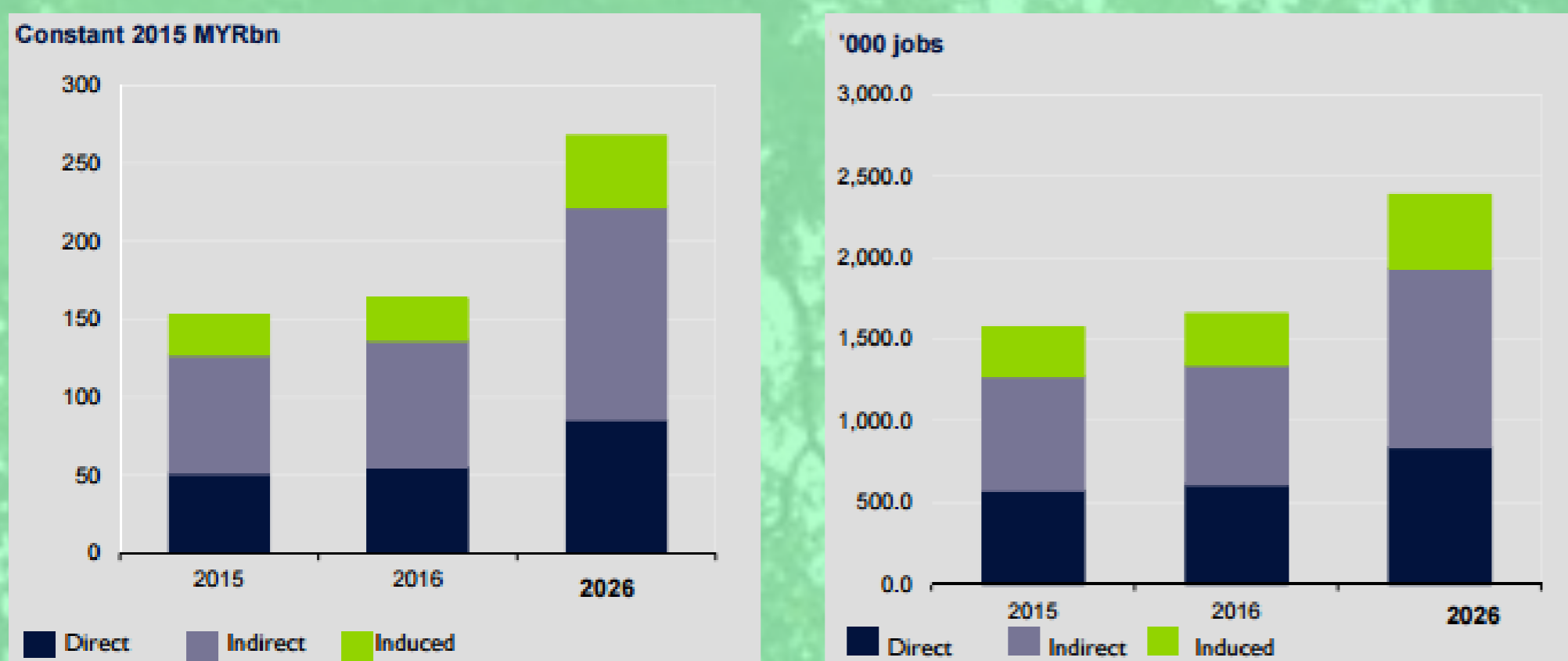
Ecotourism is defined as "responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well-being of the local people, and involves interpretation and education" (The International Ecotourism Society, 2015)

Malaysia, being one of the most megadiverse countries in the world, possesses the qualities of being an ecotourism hotspot, especially because it has rainforests and good environmental regulations, besides having good infrastructures.



### BENEFITS

The major benefits that ecotourism provides to Malaysia and its people are increased GDP and increased employment opportunities. According to forecasts, this number will still continue to increase until 2026.



Total Contribution of Tourism to GDP

Total Contribution of Tourism to Employment

Source: World Tourism and Travel Council 2016 Country Reports

### CHALLENGES

One of the major challenges in Kuala Selangor, Malaysia is the preservation of clean rivers.



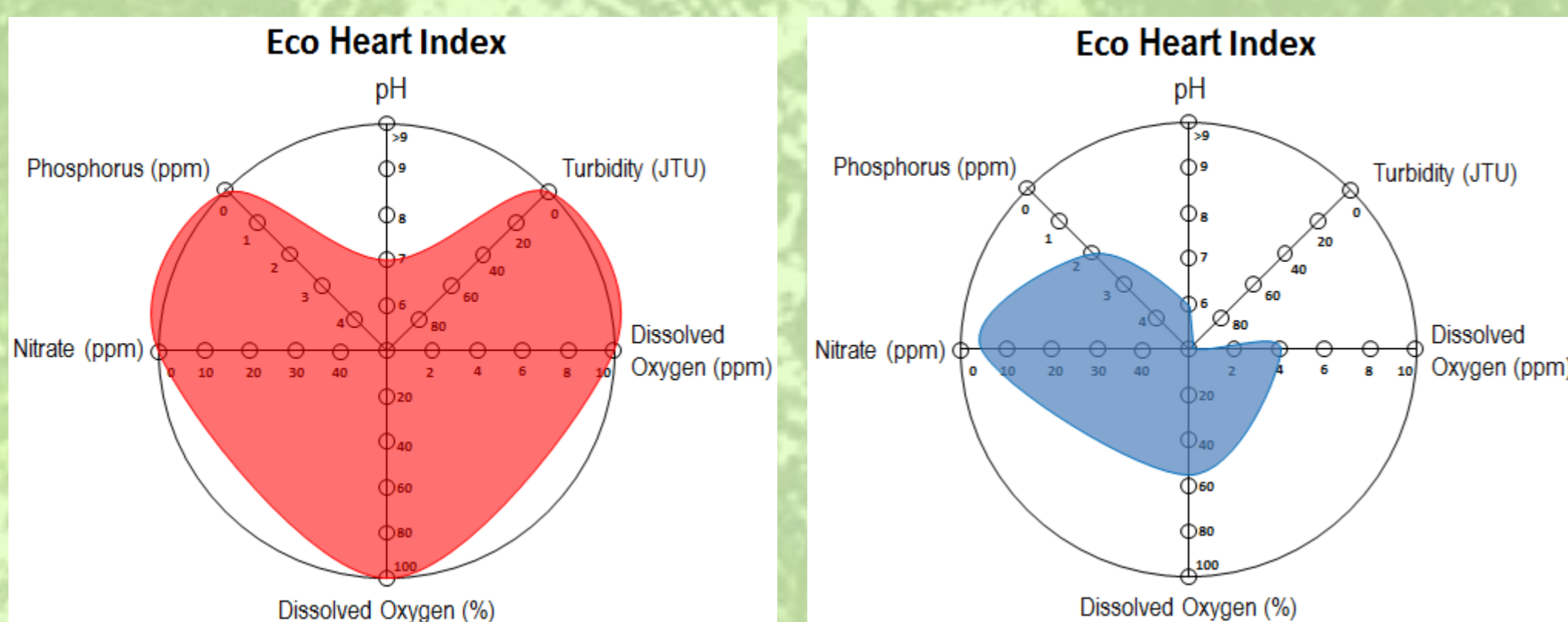
During the Fieldwork, the students did water monitoring in one of Kuala Selangor's rivers.

### PROCEDURE AND RESULTS

#### Procedure

1. Take water from the river to be sampled.
2. Check the mark at the bottom of the bucket for turbidity.
3. Do the testing for Phosphorus, Nitrate, pH and Dissolved Oxygen.

#### Results



The photo on the left shows the Eco Heart Index of a clean river. From the results obtained that can be seen on the right, the water in Kuala Selangor river is polluted.

### SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS



#### EDUCATING THE YOUTH

Photo Source: Kelab Alami KAWA Facebook page, accessed on February 27, 2017.

### CONCLUSION

The ecotourism is an essential part of Malaysia's economy. However, the growth of this industry should not forego the cleanliness and the health of the environment. It is important that we keep the environment clean to preserve biodiversity, which in turn would also keep the ecotourism industry booming.

### FUTURE HOPE

#### Co-Management

- a joint program that would include the government to create and enforce laws, and the community to strictly abide by the rules and put efforts in preserving the environment.

#### Sustainable Development

- development that meets the need of the present without compromising the needs of the future generations.



Presented by:

Marisa Sano (Keio University), Goh Yi Sing (University of Malaya), Justin Benedict Ugsimar (University of the Philippines)