



# CHAPTER 2 : ECOLOGY

- 2.1 Ecosystem Concept
- 2.2 Energy Flow Through Ecosystem
- 2.3 Biogeochemical Cycle
- 2.4 Conservation and Management
- 2.5 Population Ecology

## 2.1 Ecosystem Concept

### At the end of this topic, students should be able to:

a. Define ecosystem.

- b. Describe lake ecosystem based on:
  - i. light penetration (photic and aphotic)
  - ii. distance from shore and water depth (littoral, limnetic)
- c. Describe terrestrial ecosystem of tropical rainforest stratification.(emergent, canopy, understory, shrub, ground layer/forest floor)

# ECOLOGY

The study of how organism interact with each other and with their physical environment.

Ecologists organize their study into several levels (ecological hierarchy).





# **Definition of Ecosystem**

A basic functional unit of nature including both organisms and their non-living environment.

> **Eugene Odum** American Ecologist



Each interacting and influencing each other and necessary for maintenance and development of the system.



## **Biotic vs Abiotic Components**

BIOTIC COMPONENTS	ABIOTIC COMPONENTS
Involves all living organisms	Involves all non living things
Interaction between organisms:	Components of biosphere:
<ul> <li>Competition</li> <li>Parasites</li> <li>Predation</li> <li>Symbiosis</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Air</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Light</li> <li>Wind</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>pH</li> <li>Temperature</li> <li>Salinity</li> <li>Humidity</li> </ul>

## Lake Ecosystem : Zonation

### 1. Photic Zone

- Upper part of lake or marine environment.
  - Light is sufficient for photosynthesis.

### 2. Aphotic Zone

• The deep open water. Region that do not received light.

### A.Light Penetration



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B.Distance from shore and depth of water

### **1.Littoral**

Area near the shore that receives sunlight, extending down to the depth where rooted plants stop growing

### 2.Limnetic

Open surface waters , away from the shore.





## **Tropical Rainforest Stratification**



#### Emergent

Trees that project 50m - 60m above the general level of the canopy.

### Canopy

Forms a continuous evergreen carpet 25 - 35 m tall.

### Understory

Dark and humid area contains saplings between the trunks of larger trees. About 15 - 24 m high.

#### Shrub

Contains small trees and shrubs.

### **Ground layer/Forest floor**

Composed of tall herbs and ferns with a deep litter of fallen leaves and branches.



## 2.2 Energy Flow In An Ecosystem

At the end of this topic, students should be able to:

a. Explain the energy transfer in ecological pyramids in relation to trophic level.

b. Calculate energy loss in each trophic level.

## 2.2 Energy Flow in An Ecosystem



Only 10% of energy is transferred from one trophic level to another

### The rest is lost as heat:

- Respiration
- Excretion
- Photosynthesis
- Movements
- Growth



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# **Ecological Pyramid**



**Pyramid of Number** Based on counting the numbers of organisms at each trophic level.



Pyramid of Biomass Shows weight (usually dry weight) of organisms at each trophic level.



### Pyramid of Energy

Indicates total amount of energy present in each trophic level.



## **Energy Loss Calculation**



**Progressive Loss of Energy in Food Chain** 

## 2.3 Biogeochemical Cycle

At the end of this topic, students should be able to:

a. Describe biogeochemical cycle components (cycling pool and reservoir pool) in carbon and nitrogen cycles.

b. Illustrate phosphorus cycle.

## **Biogeochemical Cycle**

Biogeochemical is the relation between biological and geological/ earth components and chemical changes.



Portion of the environment from which the plants & animals take the abiotic component from reservoir

Portion of the earth that acts as a storehouse for the element

## **The Carbon Cycle**







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## 2.4 Conservation and Management

At the end of this topic, students should be able to:

a. Describe sustainable development.b. Explain threats to biodiversity in Malaysia.c. Illustrate conservation of diversity in Malaysia.

## Sustainable Development

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Development that meets the needs of the present,

without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.



A.Crop Rotation B.Contour Farming C.Strip Farming



## Sustainable Agriculture



Sustainable Forestry



The natural or intentional restocking of existing forests and woodlands that have been depleted, usually through deforestation

### Cutting Limits

The practice of harvesting all merchantable trees above a specified diameter A specific term for designating forests and other natural areas, which enjoy judicial and / or constitutional protection under the legal systems of many countries.

Forest

Reserves

HUTAN SIMPANAN KEKAL NEGERI TERENGGANU HUTAN KHAZANAH NEGARA



## Sustainable Fisheries

Leaves enough fish in the sea to breed and maintain future stocks and ensures the environment they live in is kept healthy



### **Conservation of Diversity in Malaysia.** Ecosystem management through conservation and preservation





Nature reserves

### National Parks



#### Planned land



Legal protection of endangered species



PARTNERSHIP Commercial farming

