

APRIL's Fire Free Village Programme — Paying Riau Villages Not to Burn Peatland, Independently Evaluated

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Indonesia

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

APRIL's Fire Free Village Programme pays Riau villages IDR 50–100 million for staying fire-free; a peer-reviewed 2019 study found programme villages had 40% fewer fires than comparison villages in the severe 2015 El Niño season, mainly via compliance pressure.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	0/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	3/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-09-27

Fire Free Alliance (APRIL Group and partner companies) — accessed 2026-09-27

Watts et al. 2019, Forest Policy and Economics (ScienceDirect) — accessed 2026-09-27

APRIL Asia — Fire Free Alliance — accessed 2026-09-27

Jakarta Globe — A Decade of APRIL's Fire Free Village Program — accessed 2026-09-27

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