Satellite vs Drone: Mapping of Mangroves in Setiu Wetland, Malaysia

Ruwaimana Monika¹, Farid Dahdouh-Guebas¹, Nico Koedam¹, Mohd Muslim Aidy², Satyanarayana Behara² and Dries Raeymaekers³

- Laboratory of Plant Biology and Nature Management, Department of Biology, Vrije Universiteit Brussel VUB, Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels, Belgium E-mail: monruw@gmail.com
- Remote Sensing and Coastal Zone Management, Department of Oceanography and Environment, University Malaysia Terengganu, UMT-INOS, 21030 Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia
- ³ USENSE, Private Company, Smetstraat 50, 3501 Hasselt, Belgium

Mangrove ecosystem is hard to penetrate: tangling hibiscus and high roots that get in the way, plus muddy substrate trapping the feet. However, the importance of this ecosystem is undeniable. Therefore, an easier and faster technique is needed to assess the mangrove. Satellite-based remote sensing becomes a choice, but as the mangrove located on tropical areas, cloud coverage is posing a trouble. Aerial photograph using the drone could be a promising ways to do the mangrove survey. This research will mapped mangrove in Setiu Wetland, Malaysia, using 3 different layers: manual ground $5x5m^2$ plot inventory, aerial photograph using drone from 100m elevation, and SPOT satellite image. The result will be compared and combined to generate a detailed and comprehensive mangrove vegetation map.

Keywords: mangroves; drone; remote sensing