

HAB-ASEAN: Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Remote-Monitoring and Detection over Wireless Networks for Food Security in ASEAN



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The Kelantan Fisheries Department (JPNK) has imposed an immediate ban on molluscs from Sungai Geting, Tumpat due to a suspected 'red tide'

A 'red tide' is a common term used for uncontrolled algae bloom that is harmful to humans.

According to [Bernama](#), JPNK director Nazri Ishak said that **the sale and harvest of shellfish, such as oysters, cockles, and clams, are prohibited as of October until further notice.**

"An analysis by the Fisheries Biosecurity Lab shows that molluscs from the area are contaminated with saxitoxin from harmful algae, *Alexandrium minutum*," he said.

"If consumed, the contaminated molluscs can cause poisoning and pose a threat to human health," he said in a statement on Monday, 11 October.



Fisheries Dept: Do Not Eat Shellfish From Kelantan For Now Due To Toxins

Customers are advised to ask for the origin of the shellfish they are buying.



By [May Vin Ang](#) — 14 Oct 2021, 05:45 PM — Updated 28 days ago

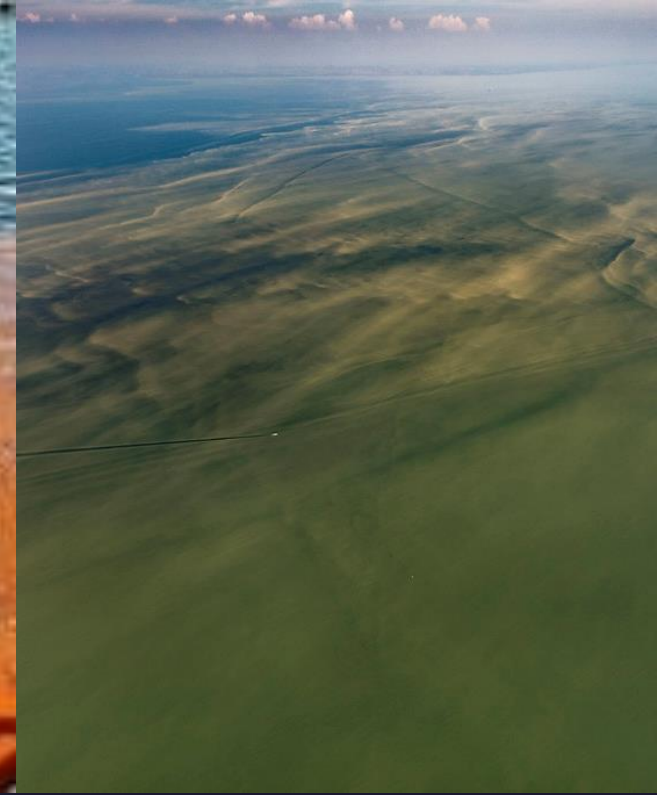


[#news](#) [#kelantan](#) [#shellfish](#) [#foodpoisoning](#) [#health](#) [#informative](#) [#environment](#)



Cover image via [Murai MY](#) & [New Straits Times](#)

The ban was initially on the shellfish from one area, but now the ban is on the shellfish from the entire state!!



Harmful algal bloom (HAB)

- Colonies of algae — simple plants that live in the sea and freshwater — grow out of control and produce toxin
- Commonly known as “red tide” - but HABs do not just paint the water red; some turn the water cloudy, brown or foamy.
- The discoloration in the water is most visible early in the morning. As the day warms up, the mass of microalgae will sink down to avoid extreme heat (Approx. 2 meters below sea level).
- High possibility of recurrence once area is afflicted.
- Tend to occur in sheltered places with restricted water movements, such as lagoons, ports and embayment.

HAB Effects

Primary effects



Contamination of water



Deterioration of aquatic ecosystem



Degradation of air quality



Contamination of shellfish



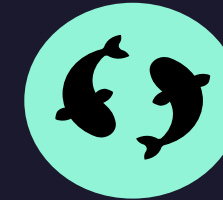
Secondary effects



Threat on human health



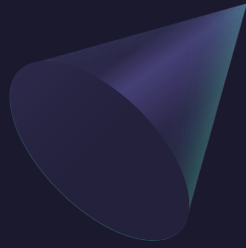
Killing of marine mammals



Massive fish mortality



Regional economy decline



Other HAB afflicted areas in Malaysia



Harmful algal blooms

	HARMFUL MICROALGAE	LOCATION	IMPACT
2001	<i>Alexandrium minutum</i>	Tumpat, Kelantan	Shellfish contamination six hospitalised, one death
2002	<i>Prorocentrum minimum</i>	Johor Baru, Johor	Water discolouration
2003-2004	<i>Cochlodinium polykrikoides</i>	Kota Kinabalu, Sabah	Fish kills
2005	<i>Cochlodinium polykrikoides</i>	Kota Kinabalu, Sabah	Water discolouration
2006	<i>Cochlodinium polykrikoides</i>	Kuching, Sarawak, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah	Fish kills
2007	<i>Neoceratium furca</i>	Pangkor, Lumut, Penang	Water discolouration
2009	<i>Pyrodinium bahamense</i>	Kota Kinabalu and surrounding areas	Shellfish contamination
2013	<i>Pyrodinium bahamense</i>	West coast, Sabah	Shellfish contamination, 3 deaths, over 40 hospitalised



Current HAB monitoring methods in Malaysia:

- Performed by the *Fisheries Biosecurity Division*
- Sampling is performed once every 3 months and testing is conducted in labs.
- Frequent sampling is only performed after bloom is detected



CELL COUNT
(MICROSCOPE)



IDENTIFICATION OF
SPECIFIC
MICROORGANISM
(MICROSCOPE)



DETECTION OF
TOXIN



MICE-BIOASSAY

1) Stationing of LoRA receivers at the identified coastal site

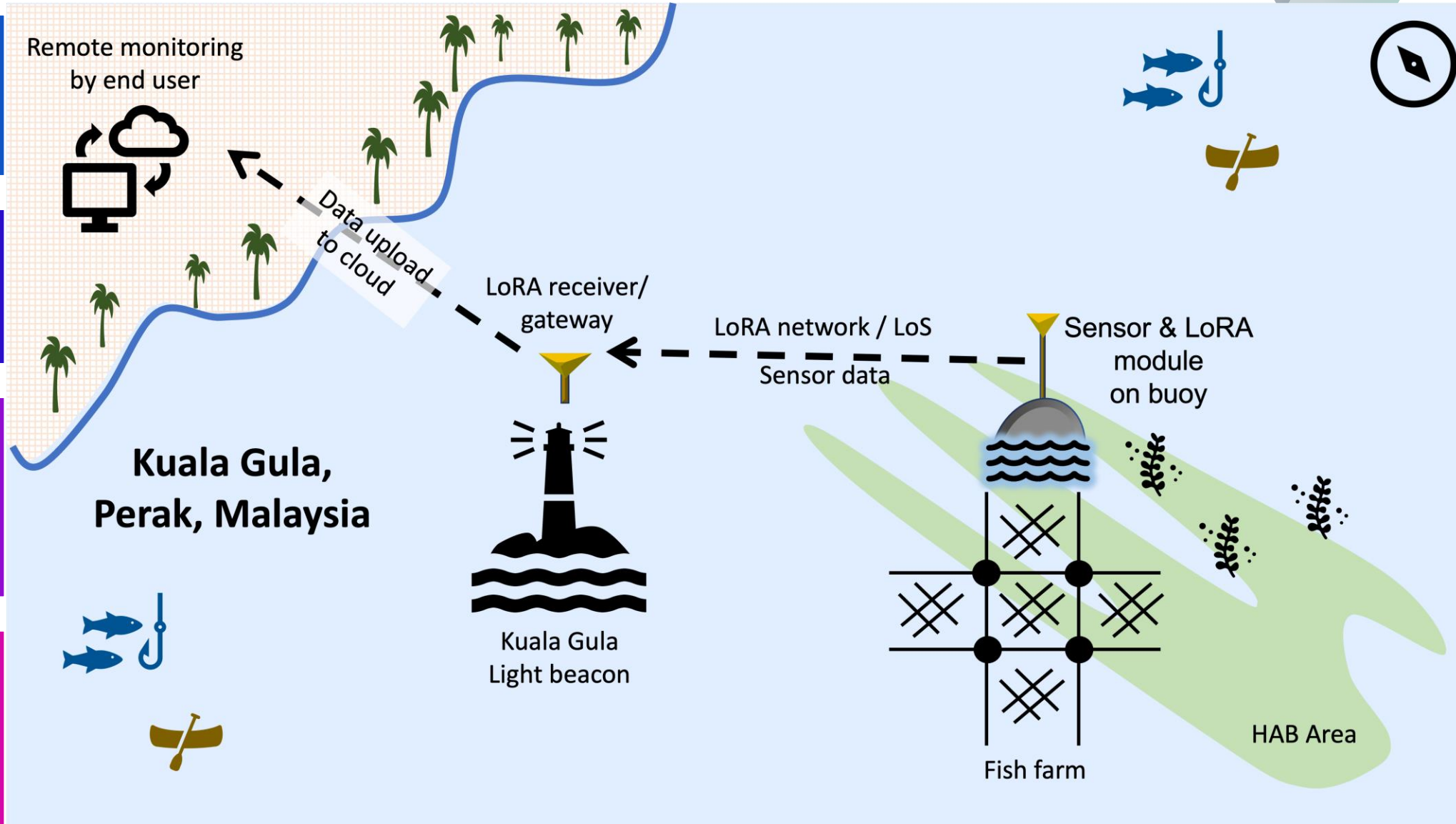
2) Integration of marine-grade sensors on buoy

3) Establishing communication protocol between LoRA and sensor-buoy

4) Deploying remote-monitoring of HAB system and visualization of real-time data on dashboard.

5) Data analytics and machine learning to recognize unusual water quality patterns to alert authorities and fish farmers

The solution: Remote Monitoring for Early Detection of HAB



Selected Fish Farm:
Kuala Gula, Perak
mariculture site



Placement of LoRA gateway



Testing LoRA connectivity & signal strength from gateway





HAB monitoring based on chemical and physical parameters

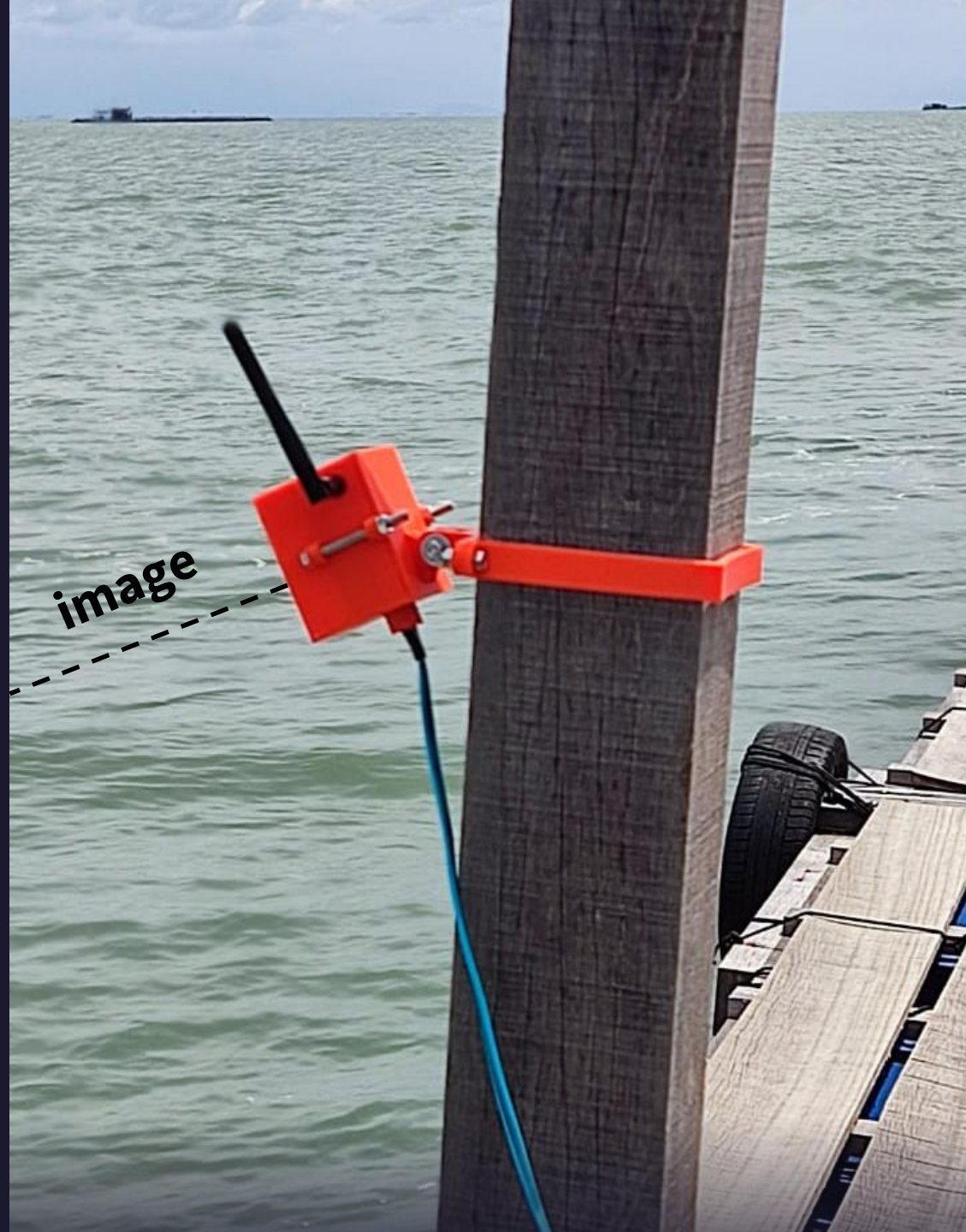
Monitoring parameters:

- Chlorophyll – productivity of algae
- Temperature – climate change

HAB monitoring based on chemical and physical parameters

Monitoring parameters:

- Water discoloration
– algae on water
surface



We are
looking for..

More PARAMETERS and COLLABORATORS

1. Drop in dissolved oxygen (DO) – massive decay of algae / diatom
2. Spike in Nitrogen (N) – increase in nutrient
3. Spike in Phosphorus (P) – increase in nutrient
4. Toxin (common toxin is saxitoxin)
5. IoT deployment to monitor other fish farms in **ASEAN countries**
- 6. Experts from ASEAN and Japan**
 - IoT experts
 - aquaculture experts

Funding and awards for project



National Instruments Malaysia
(American multinational company)
awarded the proposal
RM 100,000



Gold certificate from ASEAN IVO
(a global alliance of ICT R&D
institutes and universities in the
ASEAN region and Japan.)

'Malaysia is blessed with natural resources, and it is up to us to manage it wisely'

REMOTE-MONITORING OF HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM VIA MARINE TOXIN BIOSENSOR INTEGRATED LORA FOR FOOD SECURITY

Source: Dof Malaysia Youtube Channel

[Music playing]

Thank you
Terima kasih

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