



Northern peatlands vs. tropical peatlands: Are the fundamental processes any different? A brainstorming experience

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Tropical peatlands cover a substantial area of global peatlands and sequester large quantities of carbon. It is therefore crucial that we understand their organic matter accumulation processes so they can be included in peatland and global dynamic vegetation models to ultimately understand their overall role in the global carbon cycle. But what are the differences in terms of carbon balance, hydrology and vegetation dynamics between tropical peatlands and the more commonly studied northern bogs and fens?

This study aims to conceptualise and discuss the fundamentals of tropical peatland carbon accumulation processes and understand how close or comparable they are to northern peatlands from a modelling point of view. We propose here a conceptual model of the processes governing tropical peatlands and encourage the session participants to challenge our model and give input and thoughts by modifying our drawing. We hope that you will be willing to take part in this brainstorming event!