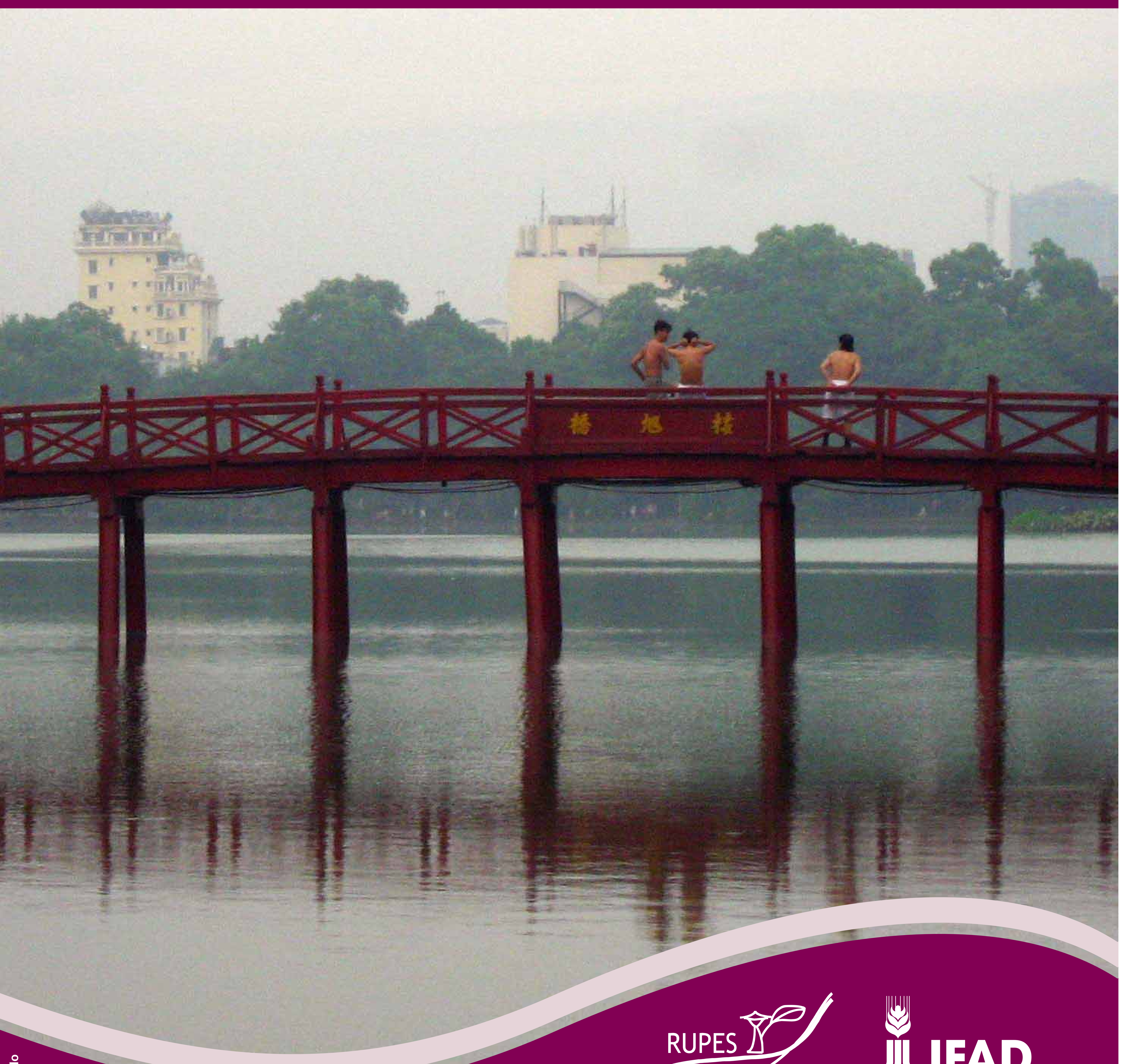


RUPES's Approach to Bridge Institutional Constraints



Recognizing that lack of political will or institutional capacity, lack of supportive legal framework and financial resources, and even limited community interest and commitment, RUPES is active to provide solutions by facilitating independent national environmental service (ES) networks in Indonesia and the Philippines. Currently involving more than 15 key government and non-government institutions, the Indonesian COMMITTEES is now drafting an environmental service law that will serve as an umbrella regulation for all ES initiatives. Members of the Philippines ES Technical Working Group (or TWG) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen collaboration among ES stakeholders in the country. RUPES involvement at national level in these two countries reflects a promising approach to improve coordination among government agencies and existing legislation on environmental conservation.