

# More hotspots in Kalimantan may bring widespread transboundary haze to S'wak

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MIRI: The latest satellite images taken over Borneo Island show that there are 169 forest-fire hotspots in Kalimantan, Indonesia.

Many of these hotspots are raging near Sarawak and may bring transboundary haze into the state even as Sarawak battles its own spate of wildfires.

The latest satellite image was recorded at 9am on Sunday (Aug 18).

It is a big jump from the 95 hotspots detected in Kalimantan Saturday (Aug 17).

In Sumatra, 26 hotspots were detected Sunday morning while there is one in Sarawak in the Sri Aman district.

A hotspot is a fire measuring at least one sq km in size.

It is big enough to be detected from satellite cameras and it appears as a red dot in the pictures captured from space.

In the meantime, the latest Air Pollutant Index (API) in Sarawak showed very unhealthy readings in two places.

The state Disaster Relief Management Committee secretariat issued a latest update of the API at 9am Sunday.

It shows API readings of 252 in Sri Aman and 158 in Kuala Baram district.

Visibility in the state capital, Kuching, was down to 5km this morning.

In the meantime, firefighters from the Sarawak Fire and Rescue Department are working overnight to douse a spate of wildfires still burning in various districts.

An API reading of between 0 and 50 is good while 51 to 100 is moderate, 101 to 200 is unhealthy, 201 to 300 very unhealthy, and 301 and above is deemed hazardous.