Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity

**Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (PP-A/54-331A)**



# CONSOLIDATED 3rd BI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ITTO-BMLEH TEAK PROJECT

## Executing Agency: ITTO

**Collaborating Agencies:**

**Cambodia:** Forestry Administration
**Thailand:** Royal Forestry Department/Kasetsart University
**Vietnam:** Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences
**India:** ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding
**Indonesia: Ministry of Forestry**
**Togo:** University of Lomé
**Germany:** Thünen Institute of Forestry

**1 January 2025 – 30 June 2025**

# Brief of the Project

| | |
|---|---|
| **Project Title:** | Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics |
| **ITTO Project Number:** | PP-A/54-331A |
| **Project Objective:** | Contribute to increasing the economic and social contributions of smallholder teak and other valuable species plantations in the tropics to facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for a sustainable future. |
| **Donor:** | The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH), the Government of Germany |
| **Duration:** | 38 months (2 months no-cost extension) |
| **Starting Date:** | 1 November 2023 |
| **Completion Date:** | 31 December 2026 |
| **Executing Agency:** | ITTO Secretariat |
| **Collaborating Agencies:** | Kasertsart University (KU) in collaboration with<br>Cambodia: Forestry Administration<br>Thailand: Royal Forestry Department/Kasetsart University<br>Vietnam: Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences<br>India: Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education<br>Indonesia: Ministry of Forestry<br>Togo: University of Lomé |
| **Project Budget:** | USD 1,413,449 |

**Key contact persons:**

Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi: ITTO Projects Manager, ITTO
Email: tetra@itto.org

Professor Yongyut Trisurat: Regional Project Manager, Kasetsart University, Thailand
Email: fforyyt@ku.ac.th

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## 1. Description of the work implemented in the period

The ITTO-BMLEH Project, *"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholder and Community-Based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (PP-A/54-331A)"* Phase II builds on the strong achievements of Phase I, *"Enhancing Conservation and Sustainable Management of Teak Forests and Legal and Sustainable Wood Supply Chains in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (PP-A/54-331)."* Phase II aims to significantly improve the production of high-quality timber from teak and other valuable species plantations established by smallholders and communities in five Asia-Pacific countries and in Togo, West Africa. Collaborating agencies include the Cambodia Forestry Administration; the Royal Forestry Department and Kasetsart University in Thailand; the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences; the Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), Coimbatore; and the Ministry of Forestry in Indonesia. In Togo (West Africa), the University of Lomé is a key collaborating agency.

The Project seeks to enhance the production of high-quality timber by promoting policies that support access to superior planting stock, adoption of best silvicultural practices, improved financing for longer rotation periods, value addition, and improved timber legality. Key activities include supporting financial schemes that invest in high-quality teak production with longer rotations and facilitating access to voluntary carbon markets. Engaging in carbon credit markets will provide additional incentives and support global efforts in climate change mitigation. Moreover, the project fosters regional and international cooperation to promote sustainable smallholder plantations.

Through effective policy implementation and collaborative efforts, the Project aims to improve the economic outcomes of smallholder and community plantations across tropical regions. Initially scheduled to run for three years (September 2023 – August 2026), the project has been extended to December 2026 at no additional cost. It is funded by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH—formerly BMEL), Government of Germany.

The activities carried out during the period covered by the 3rd Progress Report (from 1 November 2023 to 30 June 2025, with an emphasis on the period 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025) complied with the extended work plan approved by BMLEH on 10 March 2025. Sub-activities were integrated into the 2nd Yearly Plan of Operation (YPO), which was approved during the 1st Project Steering Committee meeting on 17 September 2024. These are detailed in the Workplan Progress Table.

Most activities in Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo were executed as planned. Thailand and Togo began physical implementation in November 2023, while Cambodia and Vietnam commenced activity implementation in January 2024. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ITTO and ICFRE was duly signed by authorized parties on 6 November 2024. However, physical implementation in India is behind schedule. It is hoped that ICFRE will accelerate implementation and align with the planned activities in due course. In contrast, the Ministry of Forestry in Indonesia signed an MoU with ITTO in March 2025, but a project management team has yet to be formally established, and physical activities have not yet commenced

## 1.1 Recruitment of Regional Project Manager and Project Staff

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and Kasetsart University (KU) of Thailand, with support from the Royal Forest Department (RFD), have agreed to cooperate in the implementation of project PP-A/54-331A, *"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholder and Community-Based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics"* (also referred to as the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase II). The project is financed by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH), Government of Germany. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ITTO and KU was signed on 6 September 2023.

Additionally, ITTO issued a No Objection Letter (NOL) approving the nomination of Professor Yongyut Trisurat from the Faculty of Forestry at Kasetsart University (KUFF), Thailand, as the Regional Project Manager (RPM). The NOL also approved the appointment of project staff, including a Project Secretary and a Project Finance Officer.

In addition to working with the RFD, the Regional Project Manager coordinates with National Coordinators from the other four implementing agencies in the Asia-Pacific region: the Forestry Administration (FA) of Cambodia, the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS), the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia, and the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE). Coordination also includes the University of Lomé in Togo, West Africa.

## 1.2 Project Steering and Project Technical Committee

***Project Steering Committee (PSC)***

The President of Kasetsart University officially appointed the Project Steering Committee (PSC) on 3 January 2024. The PSC comprises a Chairperson (the Director-General of the Royal Forest Department) and 17 other members, including representatives from ITTO, BMLEH, the six participating countries, the Forest Industry Organization (FIO), relevant agencies, and forestry experts. The Regional Project Manager serves as the Committee Secretary.

The primary role of the PSC is to oversee the implementation of project activities, approve expenditures within the allocated budget, review completed activities, and propose any necessary changes to budgets or activities. PSC members are responsible for monitoring the overall strategic management of the Project, ensuring it proceeds in a timely, efficient, and effective manner in accordance with the approved work plan and the overall Project document. PSC meetings are planned to take place at least once per year, or three times over the course of the project. The venues and agendas for these meetings are to be drafted and discussed collaboratively by ITTO and the Country Coordinators of the six participating countries.

The list of embers for the PSC is below:

1. Director General of Royal Forest Department — Chairperson
2. Dean, Kasetsart University Faculty of Forestry — Deputy-chairperson
3. Managing Director of Forest Industry Organization — Member
4. Representative of Forest Administration, Cambodia — Member
5. Representative of the ICFRE – Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore — Member

| | |
|---|---|
| 6. Representative of Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) | Member |
| 7. Representative of Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia (now Ministry of Forestry) | Member |
| 8. Representative of University of Lomé, Togo | Member |
| 9. Representative of ITTO | Member |
| 10. Representative of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), Germany (now BMLEH) | Member |
| 11. President of Forestry Alumni Society, Thailand | Member |
| 12. Mr. Suchat Kalyawongsa, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 13. Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 14. Director of Research and Forest Development Office, RFD | Member |
| 15. Director of Forest Economics Office, RFD | Member |
| 16. Director of Forestry Foreign Affairs Office, RFD | Member |
| 17. Regional Project Manager | Member and Secretary |
| 18. Director of International Cooperation and Organization Division, RFD | Member and Assistant Secretary |

The first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting was held on 17 September 2024 and covered six agenda items: 1) Opening of the meeting; 2) Group photo; 3) Review of the project structure and progress (including financial aspects and inputs applied); 4) Consideration of the Second Yearly Plan of Operation; 5) Recommendations and 6) Other business.

PSC members acknowledged the progress made in project implementation between November 2023 and September 2024, as well as the challenges posed by delays in signing the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) between ITTO and the implementing agencies in India and Indonesia, due to internal administrative procedures and governmental organizational structures, respectively.
The Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany, also presented a plan to implement a micro-financing scheme under Output 2, with support from the national coordinators.

Thailand, Togo, and Vietnam requested budget modifications to align with their proposed activities. ITTO consolidated these requests and forwarded them to BMLEH. Approval was subsequently obtained for both the budget revision (BR-A) and the project extension to December 2026, without requiring additional funding.

The PSC members reviewed, evaluated, approved, and adopted the 1st Progress Report. They also provided recommendations to support the effective implementation of the project Document #1 (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zHGU1g9iqpRRfN0Pq8Qk-8aOBNEC3FXB/view?usp=sharing). Additionally, the ITTO-BMLEH Teak project requested BMLEH to disburse budget to ITTO and the participating countries. On 10 March 2025, the BMLEH officially notified the ITTO that the BMLEH approved the panned activities during January-June 2025 and agrees to budget revision (BR-B).

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*Photo 1* ***The 1st PSC meeting on 17 September 2024 in Bangkok***

***Project Technical Committee (PTC)***

In addition to the PSC, the Project Technical Committee (PTC) was established to support the PSC by periodically reviewing the implementation of all activities aimed at achieving the project's objectives. The PTC is composed of technical team members from the participating countries, as well as subject-matter experts. The PTC convenes at least once a year, typically in conjunction with PSC meetings.

The functions of the PTC include the following responsibilities:

1. Collaborating with the Royal Forest Department (RFD), relevant agencies, and smallholders to facilitate project implementation
2. Monitoring activities carried out by project staff
3. Providing information and technical guidance to project teams to support implementation
4. Coordinating with national agencies, the private sector, and smallholders in the pilot provinces to ensure effective execution of assigned tasks
5. Supervising the Regional Project Manager and consultants in preparing technical reports and work plans as required by ITTO

Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen, Director of the Research and Forest Development Office, RFD, kindly serves as the Chair of the PTC.

List of members for the PTC is below:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Director of Research and Forest Development Office, RFD | Chairman |
| 2. Cambodia National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 3. India National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 4. Indonesia National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 5. Thailand National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 6. Vietnam National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 7. Director of Forest Economics Office, RFD | Member |
| 8. Director of Silviculture Division, RFD | Member |
| 9. Representative of Forest Industry Organization | Member |
| 10. Dr. Saroj Wattanasuksakul, Senior Expert | Member |
| 11. Mr. Suchat Kalyawongsa, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 12. Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 13. Regional Project Manager | Member and Secretary |

The first PTC meeting was organized back-to-back with the PSC meeting on 17 September 2024.

## 1.3 Appointment of Project Staff

In addition to the project management team (comprising the Regional Project Manager, Secretary, and Finance Officer), National Coordinators and supporting staff have been appointed in five of the six participating countries (excluding Indonesia) to coordinate with the Regional Project Manager in executing the planned activities in each recipient country.

The management team operates under the supervision of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and works in close collaboration with the Project Technical Committee (PTC). Figure 1 illustrates the organizational structure of the ITTO-BMLEH Project Phase II, highlighting the interactions among the executing agencies, PSC, PTC, and consultants.

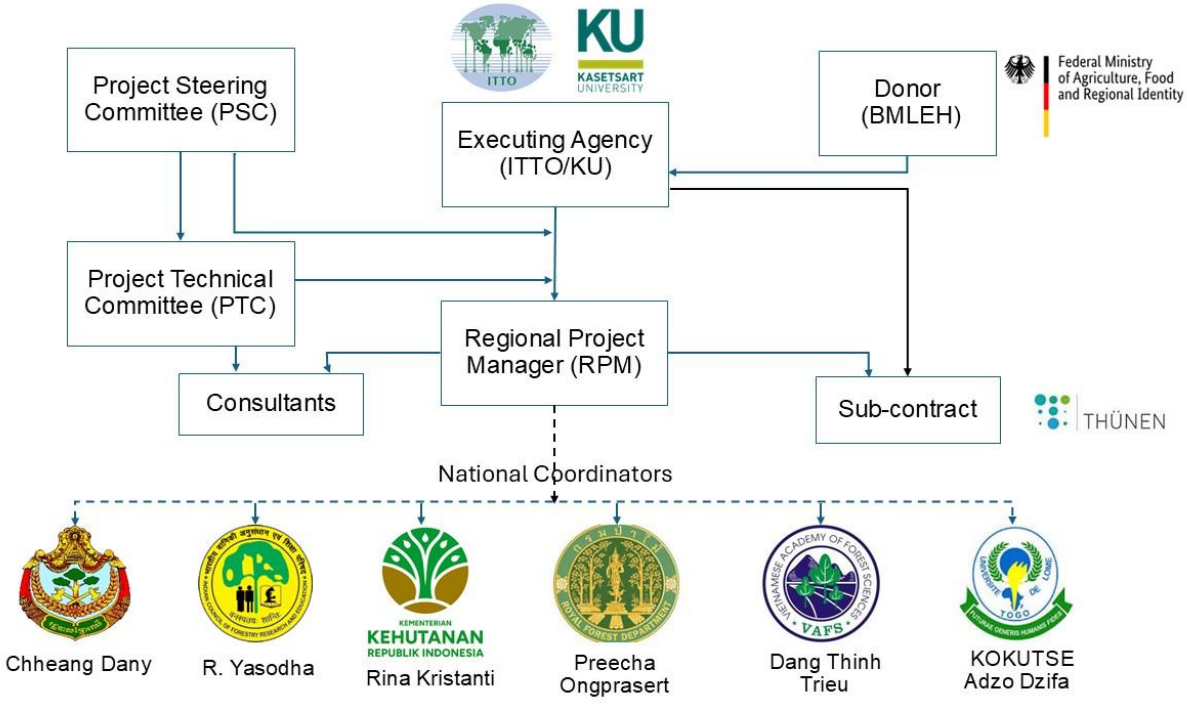


***Figure 1** Organization chart of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Economic Species Plantation Project*

It is noted that project staff of all participating countries are working in normal positions and are assigned to assist with the project as additional work. List of names, positions and contact details for each participating country is shown below.

### *Cambodia Component*

The Forestry Administration (FA) assigns the project teams at Project Office in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Names, positions and contact details are shown below.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Coordinator | Mr. Chheang Dany | Email: wpo@online.com.kh; Phone: (855-12) 867-477 |
| Deputy Project Coordinator | Mr. Say Sinly | Email: saysinlyrua@gmail.com; Phone: (855-17) 909 768 |
| Project Finance | Ms. Lim Sopheap | Email: sopheap73@yahoo.com; Phone:(855-61) 939-929 |
| Project Secretary | Mr. Pang Phanit | Phone:(855-17) 913-127 |
| Field Assistant | Mr. As Brosden | Phone:(855-71) 544-2013 |
| Field Assistant | Mr. Kong Kongkea | Phone:(855-17) 944-468 |
| Field Assistant | Mr. Phoung Sophea | Phone:(855-17) 222-745 |

### *India Component*

The ICFRE has nominated Dr. R. Yasodha as the National Coordinator. The Project Technical Working Group (PTWG) has been established to implement the project's objectives. The PTWG includes 4 main members, and three project specific appointments.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Coordinator | Dr. R. Yasodha | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: +919487841515<br>Email: yasodha@icfre.org; yasodhaifgtb@gmail.com |
| Project Investigator | Dr. Rekha Warrier | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: +919442918647<br>Email: rekha@icfre.org; rekhawarrier@gmail.com |
| Mr R. Velumani | Technical Officer | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Email: velumanir@icfre.org |
| Mr SM Paulraj | Senior Technician | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: +919715147306<br>Email: paulrajsm@icfre.org |

***Indonesia Component (TBD)***

As discussed above, the MOU between ITTO and Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry was signed in March 2025. However, the project's main staff has not yet been made, but initial contact has been conducted with individuals. The current *de-factor* National Coordinator is Dr. Rina Kristanti.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| *De-factor* National Coordinator | Dr. Rina Kristanti | cumieinfahutan@gmail.com |
| TBD | TBD | |
| TBD | TBD | |

***Thailand Component***

The Director-General of the RFD assigned several staff to support the ITTO-BMEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Project. Key staff includes Dr. Preecha Ongprasert (National Coordinator), Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen (Chair of the PTC) and Mr. Montree Intasen (Deputy Project Coordinator). Apart from these three key people, the DG of RFD also appointed seniors' staff from relevant offices to serve as the PSC and PTC members.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| National Project Coordinator | Dr. Preecha Ongprasert | Director of Forestry Foreign Affairs Office, Royal Forest Department<br>Tel. +66-2561-4192-3 ext. 5034<br>Fax +66-2561-3109<br>Mobile +66-8-9118-2351<br>E-mail: precha ong@yahoo.com |
| Chair of the PTC | Dr. Suwan Thangmitcharoen | Director of Forestry Research and Development, RFD<br>Tel: +66-81667-2987<br>Email: suwan@gmail.com |
| Deputy Project Coordinator | Mr. Montree Intasen | Director of International Cooperation and Organization Division, RFD |

***Vietnam Component***

Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) has assigned the project's main staff to support the implementation of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project. Names, positions, and contact details are shown in the Table below.

| Name | Title | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Dr. Tran Lam Dong | Chair of the Project Technical Working Group (PTWG) for Vietnam | Vice President of VAFS Tel: (84) 986 506 018<br>E-mail: tranlamdong@gmail.com |
| Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu | Project Coordinator | Head of Silviculture Techniques Department – Silviculture Research Institute (SRI) – VAFS Tel: (84) 984 174 696<br>E-mail: thinhtrieu@hotmail.com |
| Ms. Dang Nhu Quynh | Secretary | Tel: (84) 986 727 259<br>E-mail: quynhfsiv@gmail.com |

| Name | Title | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Dr. Le Van Quang | Field Assistant | Senior researcher – Applied Silviculture Research & Extension – SRI - VAFS<br>Tel: (84) 974 217 901<br>E-mail: vanquanglamnghiep@gmail.com |
| Mr. Duong Quang Trung | Field Assistant | Researcher – SRI – VAFS Tel: (84) 975 848 729<br>E-mail: duongquangtrung87@gmail.com |
| Nguyen Thuy Duong | Field Assistant | Researcher – SRI – VAFS Tel: (84) 981 344 735<br>E-mail: nguyenthduong1205@gmail.com |

Additionally, VAFS has appointed a Project Coordinator responsible for communicating with other participating countries and relevant Vietnamese government ministries and agencies, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam. This ensures that the project is implemented within appropriate institutional frameworks.

Moreover, the Project Secretary plays a vital role in coordinating the day-to-day project activities, especially those involving provincial stakeholders, to ensure effective and consistent coordination

***Togo Component***

Togo, through the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) of the University of Lomé, oversees the overall implementation of the Project within Togo (West Africa), organizes key meetings, and participates in the Project Steering Committee.

The National Project Coordinator in Togo serves as the primary liaison between the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) and the Regional Project Management (RPM) Team. This role includes submitting various reports—such as the inception report, progress reports, and the completion report—to the executing agency. The National Project Coordinator works closely with the RPM to ensure smooth and effective coordination.

| Position | Name | Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Steering Committee member | Prof. KOKOU Kouami | +22890020411<br>kokoukouami@hotmail.com |
| National coordinator | Prof. KOKUTSE Adzo Dzifa | +22890865207<br>mimidam@hotmail.com |
| Project Committee Member Working on the silviculture of Teak in Togo | Dr. ADJONOU Kossi | +22890244301<br>adjonoukossi@hotmail.com |
| Project Committee Member Working on Teak wood quality in Togo<br>Field Assistant | Dr. SEGLA Kossi | +22890934433<br>kosisegla@gmail.com |
| General Director of the Forest Development and Exploitation Office (ODEF), ITTO Focal point in Togo | Dr. ALABA Pyoabalo | Tél: (+228) 93238595/(+228)90 00 2242<br>pyoalaba@yahoo.fr |
| Project Committee Member Head of Forestry and Development Division ODEF/MERF<br>Field Assistant | Mr. SIMTAKO Baléma | +228 22 51 42 17<br>simtakob2007@yahoo.fr |

| Position | Name | Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Steering Committee member | Prof. KOKOU Kouami | +22890020411<br>kokoukouami@hotmail.com |
| National coordinator | Prof. KOKUTSE Adzo Dzifa | +22890865207<br>mimidam@hotmail.com |
| ODEF/MERF<br>Field Assistant | Mrs. KPATCHA Nadège | +22891696824<br>Nadegesolim@yahoo.fr |
| Project Committee Member ODEF | Mr. ASSI Brice | assibrice@yahoo.fr |

In addition, the Togo component has established a Technical Committee to support the work of the National Project Coordinator. The committee includes representatives from the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) and the Office de Développement et d'Exploitation des Forêts (ODEF) under the Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources.

The committee conducts periodic reviews of project activities and disseminates non-confidential information on activities and outputs to relevant institutions and interested stakeholders.

***Kasetsart University***

The President of Kasetsart University authorized the Dean of the Faculty of Forestry to act on behalf of the University. In addition, the Faculty of Forestry nominated Professor Yongyut Trisurat, Professor of Forestry, to serve as the Regional Project Manager (RPM). The RPM is supported by a Project Secretary and a Project Finance Officer.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Dean, the Faculty of Forestry | Prof. Prateep Duengkae | Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University<br>Tel 6625790170; Email: fforyyt@ksw.ac.th |
| Regional Project Manager | Prof. Yongyut Trisurat | Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University<br>Tel 6625790176; Email: fforyyt@ku.ac.th |
| Project Secretary | Miss Saichon Mutarapat | Forestry Foreign Affairs Office, RFD<br>Email: chon-ag44@hotmail.com |
| Project Finance | Miss Suchanart Suyarat | Email: plantz.sucha@gmail.com |

***ITTO Secretariat***

| Title | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| **Central Level** | | |
| Project Supervisor | Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi | Projects Manager of Division of Trade and Industry, ITTO Secretariat Tel. 81-45-223-1110<br>Email: tetra@itto.int |

***Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany***

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ITTO and the Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, Germany—represented by the Thünen Institute of Forestry—was signed on January 22, 2024. Based on this agreement, the Thünen Institute has recruited Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo as a Research Assistant, effective August 1, 2024, to carry out the feasibility studies outlined in Outputs 2.1 to 2.4 of the project.

In addition, the Thünen Institute of Forestry is collaborating with ITTO, National Coordinators, and the Regional Project Manager to recruit field data collection experts to support survey and interview-based data collection in the six participating countries.

As previously reported, Dr. Eliza Zhunusova was appointed as the Project Technical Supervisor, effective May 1, 2024. She contributes 10% of her working time to the project, with her time fully funded by the Thünen Institute. Dr. Sven Günter also serves as Senior Advisor to the project and is a member of the Project Steering Committee (PSC).

| Title and name | Position | Contact information |
|---|---|---|
| PD Dr. Sven Günter | Head of the Unit Forestry Worldwide | Thünen Institute of Forestry<br>Project Steering Committee (PSC) member<br>Email: sven.guenter@thuenen.de |
| Dr. Eliza Zhunusova | Senior Scientist on Rural Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Analyses | Thünen Institute of Forestry<br>Project Supervisor<br>Email: eliza.zhunusova@thuenen.de |
| Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo | Project Staff | Thünen Institute of Forestry<br>Tel: +49-40-73962-334<br>Fax: +49-40-73962-399<br>Email: temesgen.jaffo@thuenen.de |

## 1.4 Consultants

Five participating countries, excluding Indonesia, have successfully recruited consultants to support activity implementation. In addition, ITTO sub-contracted the Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany, to facilitate micro-financing and credit-lending schemes for smallholder teak plantations (Activities 2.1–2.4), with the support of national experts for field data collection.

Furthermore, ITTO has recruited international consultants to support implementation at the regional and global levels. These positions include:

- Consultant #3: Legality
- Consultant #5: Information Management
- Consultant #7-1: Strategy Development for Teak and Other Valuable Species
- Consultant #7-2: Networking and Capacity Building for Teak and Other Valuable Species

It should be noted that Consultant #7-1 and Consultant #7-2 were split from the original Consultant #7: Teak Strategy Development, as indicated in the project document.

A list of all consultants is provided in Table 1. Although two consultant positions for the Indonesia component—Consultant #1: Quality Planting Material and Consultant #6: Value Chains—have not yet been filled, initial discussions have begun with potential candidates affiliated with the Faculty of Forestry, Gadjah Mada University (UGM), located in Yogyakarta.

**Table 1** List of national and regional consultants and status

| Technical field | Scope | Ref. to Activity framework | Man-month and duration | Potential institution/individual | Host country | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Consultant 1 Quality Planting Material | International | Activities 1.1, 1.2 | 4 months | Mr. Cheat Vichet | Cambodia, | Recruited |
| | | | | **UGM (TBD)** | **Indonesia** | **Not started** |
| | | | | Dr Phan Minh Quang, Silviculture Research Institute, VAFS* | Vietnam, | Recruited |
| | | | | Dr Esse AYIGA | Togo | Recruited |
| Consultant 2: Field training in seed production/ nursery mgt/ silvicultural practices | National | Activities 1.1, 1.2 | 3 months | Mr. Phoung Sophea | Cambodia | Recruited |
| | | | | Dr. Vu Dinh Huong, Forest Science Institute of South Vietnam, VAFS | Vietnam, | Recruited |
| | | | | Mr. ASSI Hèmou* | Togo | Recruited |
| Consultant 3: Legality | International | Activities 1.2, 1.3 | 4 months | Mr. Taiji Fujisaki Research Manager IGES | ITTO | Recruited |
| Consultant # 4: Efficient teakwood transportation and processing | National | Activity 1.2 | 2 months | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nopparat KAAKKURIVAARA Faculty of Forestry, KU* | Thailand | Recruited |
| | | | | Dr. Mohammed Ghouse | India | Recruited |
| Consultant 5: Information management | International | Activities 3.1, 3.2 | Package | Dr. P.K. Thulasidas | ITTO/KU | Recruited |
| Consultant # 6: Value chains | International | Activity 1.2 | 3 months | Dr C. Nalin Kumar * | India | Recruited |
| | | | | **UGM (TBD)** | **Indonesia** | **Not started** |
| | | | | Mr. Kitipong Tangkit Faculty of Forestry, KU | Thailand | Recruited |

| Technical field | Scope | Ref. to Activity framework | Man-month and duration | Potential institution/individual | Host country | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Consultant # 7-1: Teak and other valuable species Strategy | International | Activities | 3 months | Dr. ANTO RIMBA-WANTO<br>Research Centre for Applied Botany<br>National Research and Innovation Agency<br>YOGYAKARTA | ITTO | Recruited |
| Consultant # 7-2: Teak and Other Valuable Species Networking and Capacity Building | International | Activities | 3 months | Dr. Hwan-ok Ma<br>OJEong Resilience Institute, Korea University, Seoul, Korea | ITTO | Recruited |
| Sub-contract with the Thünen Institute of Forestry | International | Activities 2.1-2.4 | package | Thünen Institute of Forestry | TIF-Germany | MoU signed<br>Work started |
| **Total** | | | 22 months/ 2 packages | | | Not started (2 positions) |

* Lead Consultant

The work progress of each consultant is embedded in the activity achievement (Section 2.5: Outputs achievements).

## 2. Execution of the Workplan

### 2.1 Workplan review

It should be noted that the ITTO-BMLEH Teak project requested BMLEH to modify the budget. On 10 March 2025, the BMEL officially notified the ITTO that the BMLEH agrees to budget revision (BR-B) and the cost-neutral extension of the project term until December 2026 (Table 2).

**Table 2** Workplan progress for the six participating countries (expanded to December 2026 with no cost extension)

| Outputs and Activities | Responsible party | Calendar year 1 | Calenda year 2 ('24) | | | | Calenda year 3 (25) | | | | Calenda year 4 ('26) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nov | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | |
| | | Dec | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Note |
| **Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture, timber processing and legality** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 Conserve teak and other valuable species genetic variation through improved management of existing seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations (India, Indonesia, Thailand) | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>Consultant # 1 &2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 Support smallholders and local communities for improved management of existing demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species and field training on the following subjects: (1) seed production/nursery techniques; (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method; (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation; (4) teak value chains and other valuable species and NTFP (5) timber legality and sustainability (**all participating countries)** | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>Consultants # 1,2,3,4 &6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.3 Promote timber legal compliance in smallholder/ community plantations, aligning with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting and legality (**global**) | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Consultant #3. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by ITTO |

**Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes.**

| Outputs and Activities | Responsible party | Calendar year 1 | Calendar year 2 ('24) | | | | Calendar year 3 (25) | | | | Calendar year 4 ('26) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nov | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | |
| | | Dec | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Note |
| 2.1 Carry out a feasibility study for direct contracts/out-grower schemes with sourcing companies to ensure that smallholders' products will be purchased at remunerative prices (**all participating countries**) | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>TIF- Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 2.2 Carry out a study to promote micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to explore different options to overcome the problem with collaterals that smallholders often face trees as guarantees, and group-lending to a number of forest growers who can ensure loan repayments from each other (**all participating countries)** | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>TIF- Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 2.3 Carry out a study to promote the formation of effective forest grower associations to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits (**all participating countries)** | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinator<br>TIF- Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 2.4. Carry out a study to access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security of farmers, address the issue of cash flows, and support their access to micro-lending schemes (**global scope)** | ITTO<br>Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>TIF-Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| Sub-contract with the Thünen Institute of Forestry to carry out feasibility studies for financing schemes for smallholder teak plantations | TIF-Germany/ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jan 2024 |
| **Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3.1 Produce and disseminate outreach and training materials on the conservation and sustainable management of teak and other valuable species plantations and legal and sustainable supply chains in line with outcomes of Activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4 to support forest policy development (**regional scope).** | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>Consultant #5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jointly managed by ITTO and KU |

| **Outputs and Activities** | **Responsible party** | **Calenda year 1** | **Calenda year 2 ('24)** | | | | **Calenda year 3 (25)** | | | | **Calenda year 4 ('26)** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Nov** | **Quarter** | | | | **Quarter** | | | | **Quarter** | | | | |
| | | **Dec** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **Note** |
| 3.2 Support and facilitate teak networking in ITTO's member countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America in collaboration with TEAKNET and other partners through the organization of a quarterly-based Webinar (4 every year) to promote the conservation and sustainable management of teak forest resources and legal and sustainable supply chains (**global scope).** | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO/TEAKNET | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 3.3 Plan and organize a regional workshop in Thailand for timber legality and another regional workshop in Java, Indonesia with investors and financial institutions to discuss financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations (**regional scope**). | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jointly managed by ITTO and KU;<br>1st Reg workshop Aug-Sep 2024 |
| 3.4 Support sharing lessons in promoting the quality teak production and legal and sustainable supply chains at the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerala, India) for improved global teak collaboration (**global scope**). | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>ITTO/TEAKNET | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jointly managed by ITTO and KU; IUFRFO – Jun 2024; 5th WTC – Sep 2025 |
| **Reporting and monitoring** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Submission of inception report (before start of Project) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jan 2024 |
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the first year (before start of Project) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jan 2024 |
| Submission of progress report (b-annual) with training, workshop, technical report | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1st Prog Report May 2024 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the second and third year (before start of Project for the second year and third year) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | Incept./ 1st PSC | | 2st PSC | | | | | | | | | | 1st PSC – Sep 2024; 2nd PSC – Nov 2025 |
| Submission of financial report (bi-annual) and audited financial report (every twelve months) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Apr 2024 |
| Submission of Project Completion Report | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Nov 2026 |
| Technical and Steering Committee Meetings (back-to back) and monitoring | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1st PSC – Sep 2024; 2nd PSC – Nov 2025 |

## 2.2 Progress in Implementation of the Activities

The percentage of completion of activities that appear in the 3rd bi-annual Progress report (1 November 2023-30 June 2025) as of 30 June 2025 is shown in Table 3. The percentage of progress in overall implementation of the activities (11) was 36**%,** ranking from 25-60%, while it was 50% for meeting and report submission.

**Table 3** Progress of the activities for all participating countries

| Outputs and Activities | Percentage executed | Original planned completion date | Estimated completion date | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture, timber processing and legality** | | | | |
| 1.1 Conserve teak and other valuable species genetic variation through improved management of existing seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations (**India, Indonesia, Thailand**) | **Average: 40**<br>India: 25<br>Thailand: 100<br>Indonesia: initiate discussion | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | In execution for Thailand and Togo components; Activity not started for Indonesia |
| 1.2 Support smallholders and local communities for improved management of existing demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species and field training on the following subjects: (1) seed production/nursery techniques; (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method; (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation; (4) teak value chains and other valuable species and NTFP (5) timber legality and sustainability (**all participating countries)** | **Average: 40**<br>Thailand: 50<br>Vietnam: 60<br>Cambodia: 50<br>Togo:50<br>India: 25<br>Indonesia: initiate discussion | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | All participating countries have executed the training sessions, while Indonesia initiated discussion with stakeholders. |
| 1.3 Promote timber legal compliance in smallholder/ community plantations, aligning with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting and legality (**global**) | Average: 30 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | The first draft was submitted. |

| Outputs and Activities | Percentage executed | Original planned completion date | Estimated complete on date | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes.** | | | | |
| 2.1 Carry out a feasibility study for direct contracts/out-grower schemes with sourcing companies to ensure that smallholders' products will be purchased at remunerative prices (**all participating countries**) | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Field data collection started |
| 2.2 Carry out a study to promote micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to explore different options to overcome the problem with collaterals that smallholders often face trees as guarantees, and group-lending to a number of forest growers who can ensure loan repayments from each other **(all participating countries)** | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Same as the above row |
| 2.3 Carry out a study to promote the formation of effective forest grower associations to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits **(all participating countries)** | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Same as the above row |
| 2.4. Carry out a study to access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security of farmers, address the issue of cash flows, and support their access to micro-lending schemes **(global scope)** | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Same as the above row |
| Sub-contract with the Thünen Institute of Forestry to carry out feasibility studies for financing schemes for smallholder teak plantations | Signed | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | |
| **Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened** | | | | |
| 3.1 Produce and disseminate outreach and training materials on the conservation and sustainable management of teak and other valuable species plantations and legal and sustainable supply chains in line with outcomes of Activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4 to support forest policy development **(regional scope).** | Average 45 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | 8 out of 18 bi-monthly newsletters<br><br>Project website Completed<br><br>VDOs for Thailand and Cambodia |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | completed. |
| 3.2 Support and facilitate teak networking in ITTO's member countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America in collaboration with TEAKNET and other partners through the organization of a quarterly-based Webinar (4 every year) to promote the conservation and sustainable management of teak forest resources and legal and sustainable supply chains (**global scope).** | Average: 25 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | 3 out of 12 webinars successfully organized. |
| 3.3 Plan and organize a regional workshop in Thailand for timber legality and another regional workshop in Java, Indonesia with investors and financial institutions to discuss financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations (**regional scope**). | Average: 50 | 1st Regional Workshop was conducted during 18020 September 2024 in Thailand. | 2nd Regional workshop – planned during 3rd Q of 2026. | Venue will be determined. |
| 3.4 Support sharing lessons in promoting the quality teak production and legal and sustainable supply chains at the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerala, India) for improved global teak collaboration (**global scope**). | Average:60 | IUFRO 2024 held in Jun 2024 | 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerela – 17-20 September 2025) | A side event will be organized at the 5th WTC. |

| Outputs and Activities | Percentage executed | Original planned completion date | Estimated completion date | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Submission of inception report (before start of Activity) | 100 | Jan 2023 | Jan 2023 | |
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the first year (before start of Activity) | 100 | Jan 2023 | Jan 2023 | |
| Submission of progress report (bi-annual) with training, workshop, technical report | 60 (3 out of 5 reports) | 1st report – Jun 2024<br>2nd report – Dec 2024 | Jun 2026 | |
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the second and third year (before start of Activity for the second year and third year) | 50 | Every year (starting from Jan 2023 | Jan 2026 | |
| Submission of financial report (bi-annual) and audited financial report (every twelve months) | 50 | Every 6 month (Jun 2024) | March 2027 | Final financial report: 3 months after the project completion |
| Submission of activity completion Report | 0 | | Jan 2027 | 1 month after the project completion |
| Technical and Steering Committee Meetings (back-to back) and monitoring | 33 (1 out of 3 meetings) | 1st PSC and PTC in Sep 2024; 2nd PSC planned in November 2025 | Dec 2026 | 1st PSC was conducted in Bangkok, Thailand. |

Note: The project period has been extended (without additional costs) from August 2026 (Project Document) to December 2026 (approved by ITTO and BMLEM)

## 2.3 Highlight of Achievements during 1 January 30 June 2025

### 2.3.1 Pre-test and Orientation Workshop on Field Data Collection Tools for the Micro-financing Mechanisms

The Thünen Institute of Forestry—a research partner collaborating with the ITTO-BMLEH Smallholder Teak Project—joined Kasetsart University in conducting a training workshop for field data collection experts and researchers selected from five project countries in the Asia-Pacific region (Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Indonesia, and Thailand), held from 13–14 May 2025.

Prior to the workshop, a critical pre-testing of data collection tools was carried out with selected smallholder teak growers in Ban Huai Bo Thong village, Uttaradit Province. This was followed by field visits to the Srisatchanalai Reforestation Station in Sukhothai Province and the TS Teak Wood processing company in Uttaradit Province, Northern Thailand, from 7–9 May 2025.

***Photo 2** Meeting with teak growers in Uttaradit province (left) and Chief of FIO reforestation in Sukhothai province*

The workshop was conducted with the objectives of:

- Update study site selection & stakeholder identification
- Familiarize experts with the data collection tools through practical sessions
- Pre-testing and adaptation of data collection tools
- Data collection planning exercise, country level


**Integrated Pre-Testing and Field Visits**

During an initial three-day field engagement, the joint team administered the draft household survey to local smallholder teak growers and entered the data using LimeSurvey while testing its technical functionality. Simultaneously, the team visited smallholder teak plots at various rotation stages and observed operations at a private plantation and teak processing company (TS-Teak), as well as one of the teak plantation sites of the Forest Industry Organization (FIO) in Phitsanulok. Using a structured pre-testing guide, the research team documented survey-related challenges and feedback (e.g., confusion around terms such as “financial mechanisms”) alongside field observations, ensuring that subsequent revisions to the data collection tool were grounded in practical, real-world conditions.

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**Updating Data-Collection Tools**

Drawing directly from insights gained during the three days of pre-testing and field observation, the household survey underwent substantial revisions. Technical jargon and unclear wording were rephrased using simpler language, and basic explanatory notes were added to assist data collection experts. In addition, the functionality and accuracy of skip-logic triggers were tested and adjusted where necessary.

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**Familiarization Workshop: Presentation and Reflection**

The training workshop targeted data collection experts who were recruited to carry out field-level data collection tasks in each project country. The workshop was held over one and a half days (13–14 May 2025). On the first day, data collection experts presented their preparatory work, which included compiling district-level demographic and land-use data to construct sampling frames. For each country’s deliverables, the group provided feedback, confirming adequate coverage and suggesting refinements. The session then transitioned to a review of the revised survey tools, where participants examined the updated questions and conducted mock interviews to identify any remaining ambiguities.

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**Planning and Next Steps**

The final segment of the workshop focused on operational planning. Project partners and technical experts collaboratively developed a timeline, scheduling the survey launch for the second week of June 2025, with completion targeted for the second week of July 2025. Key activities—ranging from final preparatory steps and logistical arrangements to scheduling in-depth expert interviews and focus group discussions—were mapped against this timeline.

To close the session, Jennifer Conje, ITTO Director of Forest Management, delivered remarks emphasizing the strategic importance of the feasibility study on financial mechanisms to promote high-quality timber production through longer-rotation teak and other valuable timber species in smallholder and community-based plantations. She highlighted her expectation that the study would make a significant contribution to addressing a relatively underexplored dimension of the project: the socio-economic aspects, which are equally critical to ensuring the long-term sustainability of smallholder-based teak and valuable timber species plantations.

### 2.3.2 ITTO Project Monitoring meeting during 14-18 May 2025

ITTO delegates Ms. Jennifer Conje, Director of the Forest Management Division, Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO Projects Manager, and Thailand project management team conducted a project monitoring field visit in Thailand. During 14–18 May 2025, a technical meeting was aligned with administrative officers and project staff as part of Activity D01 (Monitoring and Review), as outlined in the project document.

The monitoring meeting program included three components:

- Observed and delivered closing remarks at the Orientation Workshop on Field Data Collection for the Micro-financing Scheme (see item 2.3.1).
- Attended the project technical meeting (Thailand component) with Kasetsart University (KU), the Royal Forest Department (RFD), and key stakeholders.
- Visited selected project sites and held discussions with multiple stakeholders involved in the project.

Summaries of these three components are provided below:

**Closing remarks**.

- Prof. Yongyut Trisurat informed Ms. Jennifer that the Thailand component, with technical support from the Thünen Institute, conducted a pre-test of the questionnaires in northern Thailand from 7–9 May 2025. The results and insights gained have been analyzed, leading to refined draft questionnaires being better tailored to the project's needs. Subsequently, the Orientation Workshop was conducted on 13–14 May 2025 (see above).

- Ms. Jennifer from ITTO expressed gratitude to Prof. Yongyut Trisurat and Mr. Temesgen Jaffo (Thünen Institute, Germany) for the excellent organization of the Orientation Workshop. The face-to-face workshop provided an excellent opportunity to explore the LimeSurvey platform developed by the Thünen Institute and to discuss its role in supporting data collection for the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase II. ITTO hopes that the preliminary findings will be presented at the 5th World Teak Conference in Kerala, India, in September 2025.

**Project Technical Meeting among KUFF, RFD and ITTO**

- Prof. Prateep Duengkae, Dean of KUFF, expressed his sincere thanks to ITTO and the RFD for placing their trust in the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, and for giving KU the opportunity to implement three significant ITTO projects, namely: 1) the Sustainable Wood

Use Project; 2) the Forest Loss Monitoring Project; and 3) the ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Project.

- Brief presentations of the above projects were given by Dr. Wirongrong Duangjai (Sustainable Wood Use), Dr. Chakrit Na Takuathung (Forest Loss Monitoring), and Prof. Yongyut Trisurat (ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Project). The first two projects, funded by the Government of Japan, were successfully completed, while the ITTO-BMLEH project has been implemented for one and a half years, reaching approximately 50% completion. Key activities and achievements of each project were presented, followed by questions and comments from the attendees.

- The Sustainable Wood Use (SWU) project significantly contributed to fostering an environment that supports urban consumer awareness, paving the way for increased demand for legally certified wood products in Thai society. Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi added that discussions are underway for a potential second phase of the project, which would focus on the development of "**wooden cities**" as a model for sustainable urban living. Prof. Yongyut noted that the concept for phase II was discussed during the ITTO capacity training on project proposal formulation in Pattaya in February 2025. A complete version of the concept note will be submitted to ITTO soon.

- Regarding the Forest Loss Monitoring project, the team developed a GIS-based deforestation risk map and installed NCAP cameras and a real-time camera monitoring system, as well as the SMART Patrol mobile application, to support local communities and governments in effectively monitoring and protecting forest resources in five target areas. Additionally, over 70 individuals received direct training in using forest protection technologies and livelihood improvement activities. Key discussions focused on the sustainability of project activities, long-term financial support for equipment maintenance, stakeholder engagement, and strategies to scale up the project's approaches and lessons learned to other community forests and forest reserves outside protected areas.

The progress and achievements of the ITTO-BMLEH project implementation are presented in this report.

***Photo 3** Project monitoring review meeting at KUFF chaired by Dr. Jennifer Conje, ITTO*

**Visited selected project sites and discussed with stakeholders**

After the project technical meeting, the ITTO delegates, project staff and some PSC members visited some sites in northern Thailand and western Thailand to explore the previous achievements during the project phase I and the progress/on-going activities of the project phase II as follows:

**Visit to Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station, Phayao Province**

Mr. Poonsak Chaiduangkaew, Chief of Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station gave an overview of the Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station, Lampang Province. Mae Ka is recognized as the first world teak seed orchard established in 1965 under a bilateral agreement between the Royal Thai Government and the Royal Danish Government (DANIDA). Its main mission is to supply superior teak seeds for plantation development and provided opportunities for research and students to conduct research. The research station houses more than 200 superior clones planted in 27 plots. In addition, the station also supplies good seedling for plantation in three demonstration plots under the project phase I and two plots under project phase II. Additionally, it also provides resource persons for training workshops.

Ms. Somporn Khumchompoo, affiliated with the Forestry Research and Development Office, RFD on Teak Genetics in Thailand, noted that this research also provides teak seedling from the 25 clones of the total 500 clones intended for promotion among smallholder plantations at the farm level planted at two new demonstration plots—one in Chiang Mai Province and another in Kanchanaburi Province.

These 25 teak clones were selected based on three main criteria: 1) growth performance; 2) shape (straight trunk); and 3) heartwood proportion. Ms. Somporn informed the monitoring team that she received funding support to establish demonstration plots during both Phases I and II.


*Photo 4* ***Monitoring team's visit to Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station***

**Visit to commercial teak plantation owned by Sri Trang Company, Nan Province**
Sri Trang and Rubber Plantation Ltd. is the largest rubber plantation company in Thailand. Since 2000, the company has diversified into teak plantations to avoid global competition in the rubber industry and poor land suitability in certain areas. The company purchased the land from poor farmers in 2000 and use heavy machinery in the light of labor shortages. The company followed intensive silvicultural practices and plants teak seedling at a spacing of 4x7 meters to accommodate machinery and allow nearby villagers to cultivate crops such as upland rice, pumpkin, and corn in the plantation area during the first 4–5 years. This win-win model benefits both parties: villagers use the land rent-free, while the company saves on weeding, fire prevention, and fertilizer costs.


*Photo 5 Visit to commercial teak plantation in Pua District, Nan Province*

Dr. Jennifer, ITTO recommended that the company should:

- Diversify its markets, exploring opportunities in the Middle East.
- Strengthen connections with domestic markets and wood-processing industries to develop value-added products aligned with evolving consumer preferences, especially among younger generations.
- Utilize the ITTO's Tropical Timber Market Report, published biweekly, for updated market information.
- Encourage staff to attend the upcoming 5th World Teak Conference (WTC) in India to build networks and gather market intelligence.

**Visit to teak wood-based industry in Phrae Province** (DM Furniture Design Company Limited) DM Furniture Design Co. Ltd is recognized as one of 50 mediums to large-scale companies and from the total of approx. 1,000 small and medium-sized wood-based in the teak wood industry in Phrae Province. This company alone requires at least 10,000 cubic meters of teak annually to meet industry demand. The DM Company is a community wood enterprise and has around 40 members. The advantages and highlights of this community enterprise are:

1. Stronger bargaining power with middlemen and government officials
2. Mutual support in areas such as marketing, design, and production
3. Reduced competition among members through collaboration.

It was acknowledged that many small wood-processing businesses have struggled in recent years due to economic downturns and intense competition. However, his company has been less affected, as it targets the medium- and high-end markets, which still have the purchasing power for premium, well-designed products.

*Photo 6* ***ITTO team lead by Dr. Jenifer at DM Furniture Design factory, Phrae Province***

The company owner raised concerns and outlined the priorities for strengthening wood-based industry as follows:

1. Increased market opportunities since it is the key driver of the supply chain
2. Enhanced capacity for product and design improvement
3. A transformative shift in the government's role from regulator to facilitator

**Visit to FIO Mae Saroi Reforestation and smallholder plantation, Wangchin, Phrae Province**

The reforestation is one of approx. 200 FIO reforestations, established in 1978. It comprises 20 plantation plots, the size of each plot ranges from 50 - 100 ha (300–600 rai). The station's main responsibilities include: 1) forest plantation; 2) timber harvesting; and 3) plot maintenance and pest control.

For the plantation activities, high-quality seedlings are sourced from one of the two major FIO seedling production centers in northern Thailand. The typical rotation period for FIO plantations is 30 years, but recently it has been extended to 40 years. The station harvests approximately 100 to 500 cubic meters of timber annually. About 40% of this is sent to the FIO sawmill, while the remainder is sold to private sector buyers and small- to medium-sized wood-processing enterprises in the Northern provinces.

Currently, about 30% of the planted teak trees are affected by teak borers and as a response, the station is experimenting mixed-species plantations with iron wood and rosewood.


*Photo 7 At FIO timber depot*

After the FIR reforestation, the monitoring team visited a smallholder teak plantation nearby**.** This plot was established in 1986 under the nationwide financial support for reforestation program (approx. USD 600 per ha or 3,000 baht per rai). The owner obtained high-quality teak seedlings from the RFD. The current teak stand is 18 years old coppice trees, following the initial harvest in 2006.

The ITTO delegates observed that tree sizes vary significantly (uneven growth) due to light competition and the absence of pruning and thinning. This suggests that many smallholder teak growers lack understanding of proper silvicultural practices—the important measures for producing high-quality timber.


*Photo 8 The team at smallholder teak plantation in Phrae province*

**Visit to teak clonal testing site I Kanchanaburi Province (Project Phase I)**

Mr. Arkon Tunrat, Chief of Kroengkrawia Reforestation, Kanchanaburi province and Ms. Somporn informed the monitoring team that there are two demonstration plots in Kanchanaburi Province:

1. A clonal test of the plus trees (Phase I); and
2. A clonal test of 25 clonal champions for smallholder plantations. The site visited by the ITTO delegates was established during Phase I of the project. The 2nd new site is located quite far away and could not be visited. It was observed that the seedlings at the demonstration site are growing very well compared to those in the FIO plantation,

especially the clones sourced from Lampang. During the visit, the monitoring team noticed that teak trees at the site are not affected by teak borers. This is likely due to the surrounding intact forest, which supports a high number of natural insect predators.


***Photo 9** Visit the teak clonal test demonstration plot situated at Kanchanaburi Province*

The minutes of ITTO monitoring is uploaded to Google as Document #2
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xf0lqyUSwkeQ6g4Chr29_m6WVxbol_Bu/view?usp=sharing

### 2.3.3 Organizing the Precision Insect Pest Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests, northern Thailand

***Photo 10** Group photo: Participants and the project team*

Thailand component arranged a training workshop on **Precision Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests"** on March 13-14, 2025, in Lam Phun Province, northern Thailand.

Teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) is a valuable native timber species found in India, Myanmar, Thailand and Lao PDR. In addition, teak plantations have been widely established across 80 tropical countries over an estimated 6.89 million hectares, nearly 80% of which is in Asia followed by 10% in Africa and 6% in Latin America and the area is increasing. Despite widespread plantations, the productivity of planted teak is generally low, particularly the

plantations established by smallholders and local communities. This is partly due to poor quality of planting stock, inadequate silvicultural practices, limited financing to produce quality timber, and weak marketing and value chains.

Apart from all these, diseases in teak plantations are a major health issue threatening the productivity of plantations. The beehole borer, *Xyleutes ceramicus* WALKER is the most important forest insect pest of teak. The pest is generally distributed throughout the natural teak forests of Southeastern Asia. Teak trees in the plantation are evidently more susceptible than those of natural teak forests and mixed plantations. Although, it does not kill the tree, it causes severe damage/defect inside the heartwood of the tree and greatly reduces the quality and value of the marketable timber of 30-70%. Therefore, sharing and dissemination of knowledge on pest control, in particular beehole borer in teak plantation is very crucial for the success of long-term plantation aiming to harvest good quality timber. And contributed to the project Activity 1.2 strengthening smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems.

The specific objectives of the training workshop were therefore:

1. To educate participants on insect pests in teak plantations, especially beehole borer
2. To provide precision guidelines on how to investigate, control and mange beehole borers to produce good quality timber
3. Field visit and hand-on practice to investigate the affected teak tress

A total of 40 people from interested teak smallholders in northern Thailand, the RDF and the FIO participated in the training organized. Prof. Decha Wiwatawitaya from the Faculty of Forestry, Keasetsart University, who has studied beehole borers more than 30 years, was the instructor of this training workshop.

The two-days training workshop consists of 4 lectures and a half day filed practice. The summary of the training module is shown below:

**Lecture 1: Introduction to insect pests affecting teak plantation**

- Prof. Dr. Decha Wiwatwitaya recommends that all participants understand first the life cycle of insect pest (egg, caterpillar, pupa and adult-butterfly), then preventive measures can be undertaken. These four stages may cover almost 2 years.
  - Stage 1- Butterflies usually lay egg in February-March and the number of eggs is about 12,000-15,000 and the success of hatching in 82%.
  - Stage 2 covers the period from April to December (8-9 months).
  - Stage 3- expands for 3-4 weeks in January – February (next year).
  - Stage 4- the adult stage (butterfly) is very short, covering only 1 week (February-April). It should be noted that the life cycle calendar varies from place to place.
- Not all caterpillars survive and can drill into trees. More than 90% are killed by predators, especially ants and environmental conditions. Based on literature, only 1% of caterpillars can drill.

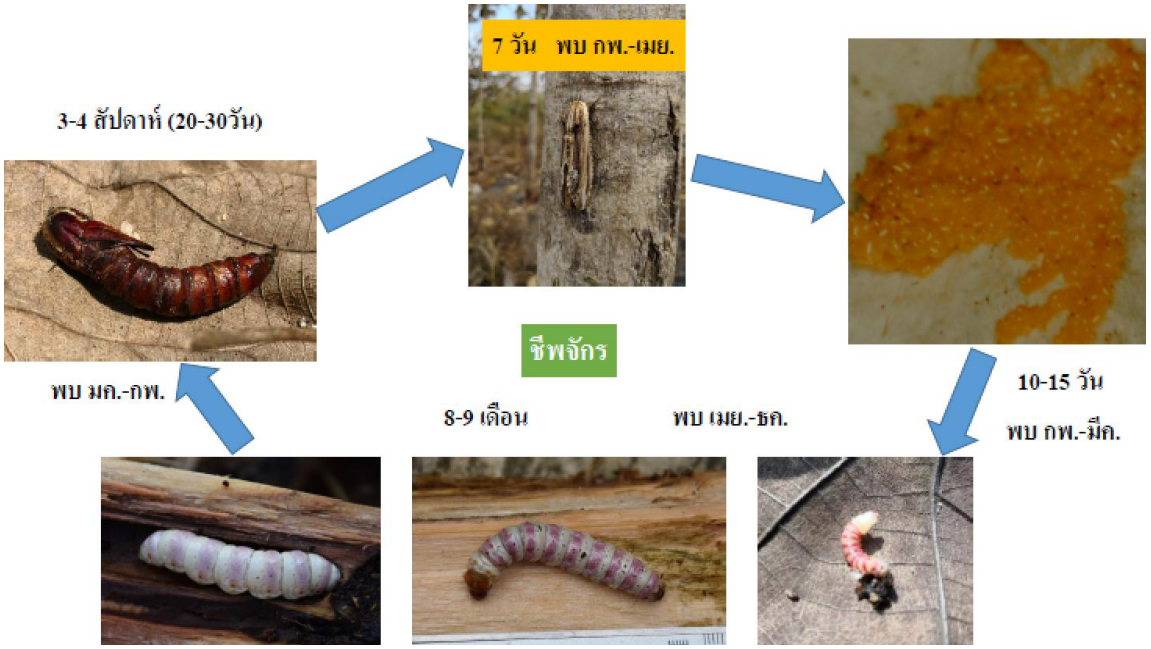



*Photo 11* ***Beehole borer life cycle***

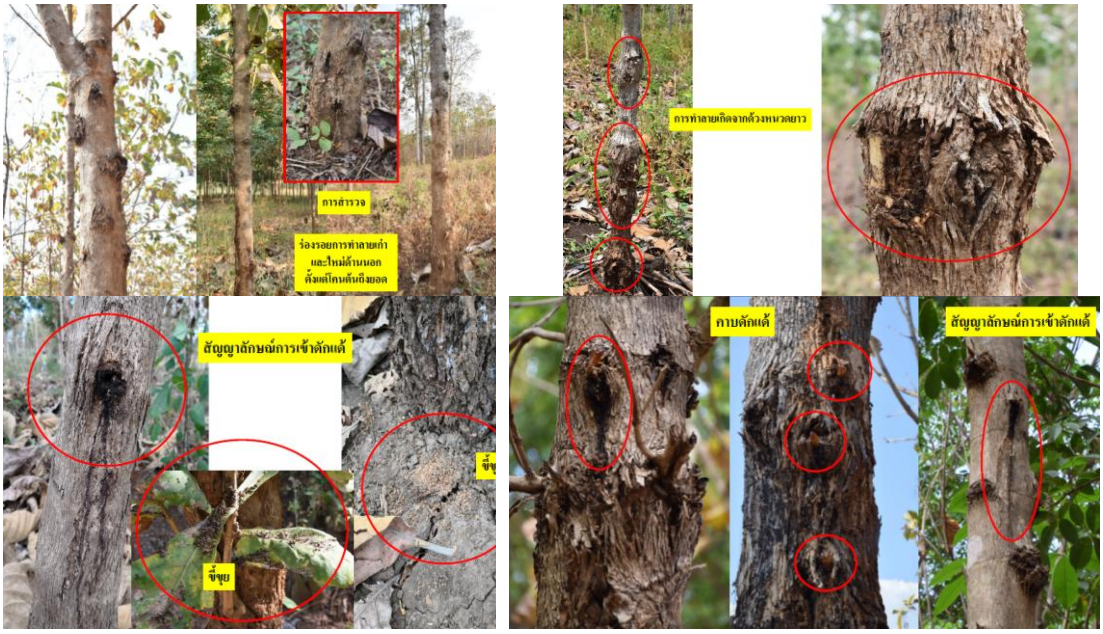
**Lecture 2: Prevention and mitigation measures of teak beehole borers**

1. Beehole borers cause serious damage to teak plantations due to monoculture practice. This cultivation system lacks natural predators. In addition, climate change or long dry period may trigger the success of hatching and reduce washing capacity of eggs on teak bark. More research is recommended to prove the later assumption.
2. Prevention and mitigation measure of teak beehole borers include a wide range of methods: 1) pesticide; 2) inoculation by fungal disease, *Beauveria bassiana*; 3) fire; 4) light trap; 5) natural predators; 6) direct mitigation (remove or kill); 7) incentive award; and 8) mixed plantations. In addition, mandatory destruction affected teak plantations to mitigate the risk of further outbreaks of the disease such as avian Influenza Prevention strategy should be included.
3. The application of the above methods depends on time and location (space), as well as environmental conditions in each site. For example, pesticide application is not suitable in area near human settlement. Light trap is feasible only in the adult stage (approximately 1 week in January – February). Fire management is cheap and effective during the hatching of egg and 1$^{st}$ stage of caterpillar. However, the zero-burn policy prohibits this method. Thus, this policy should be reviewed or precision fire management using flamethrower should be considered.

**Lecture 3: Investigation and evaluation of affected teak trees**

This lecture session covered 3 topics: 1) investigation; 2) evaluation; and 3) monitoring.

1. Selection of sample trees. The percentage of samples depends on time and resources. On each sample tree, the following data will be recorded: number of holes, stage of caterpillar, damage type/and extent, height and girth of sample tree, pula evidence.




2. Create and use data entry t regularly record the evidences.
3. Classify the damage levels: low <10% of sample trees; moderate 11-30%; high > 31%. It should be noted that the damaged evidences of teak (sapling) less than 10 years old are usually less than 0.5-meter height, but teak older than 10 years, the beehole borer holes are higher than 2 meter and it is difficult to notice and mitigate the insects.
4. Monitoring the effects of beehole borers should be done regularly, either after teak trees are damaged or before damage occurs.

**Lecture 4: Precision Management and Control Measures of Teak Borers**

Based on the life cycle of beehole borer and evidence of damage, the prevention and mitigation measures should focus on teak trees less than 10 years old. In addition, field investigation should cover all year round starting from January. Target investigation of other stages may continue.

It should be noted that the behavior and life cycle stages of beehole borer vary from place to place according to environmental conditions (e.g., temperature, rain, wind) which have consequences on damaged areas. Nevertheless, the above measures provide only general guidelines for investigation. The owners of teak plantation must consider the above conditions carefully. Otherwise, it is too late to mitigate or prevent the damage if caterpillar and pupa already drilled inside the wood.

**Training Evaluation**

The training results were evaluated and analyzed from questionnaires distributed to participants who attended the Training Workshop. There were 34 participants who submitted the completed evaluation questionnaires out of 40 participants.

The overall satisfaction level of the training was very high. The highest satisfaction was the additional knowledge gained and met expectations, with 73.5% of participants rating it as "Very High" and 20.6% as "High". Other highly rated aspects included the training content on teak plantation pests and pest management techniques, with over 67% of respondents marking these as "Very Good".

Participants provided valuable recommendations for future improvements. Many participants suggested more training sessions and extended the training duration and to other teak plantation areas such as Chiang Mai.

The RFD and FIO should implement nationwide control of insect pests, especially beehole borers. The zero-burn policy should be reviewed, with recommendations for early burning in high-risk areas and further research on disease mitigation techniques.

*Photo 12* ***Opening session (above) and lecture by Dr. Decha Wiwatwitaya and introduction of Mae Li Reforestation Station, Lam Phun province (Mr. Mr. Atithep Phuttapong, Chief of Mae Li Teak Reforestation (below)***

*Photo 13* ***Hand-on practices to identify affected trees and showing damage evidence***

After the training (on 16 June 2025), the project team—Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Asst. Prof. Dr. Kobsak Wantongchai, Mr. Suchart Kanyawongsa, and Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen—had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Prasit Koet-to, Acting Managing Director of the Forest Industry Organization (FIO), along with administrative officials at FIO headquarters. During the discussion, the project team raised concerns about the outbreak of the *teak wood-boring*

*caterpillar*, which has been causing significant damage to teak trees at reforestation stations in northern Thailand.

The meeting concluded with a summary of initial recommended approaches to effectively minimize the issue, as follows:

- Monitor the lifecycle of teak borers in all teak reforestation areas to determine the optimal timing for intervention. FIO has developed a data collection template for this purpose.
- Introduce incentive-based awards for local communities living near the reforestation areas to physically remove or eliminate the pests and help reduce their population.
- Apply fire treatment to tree trunks and branches (up to 6 meters in height) during stage 1 or stage 2, before the caterpillars bore into the teak wood.
- Establish buffer zones with alternative tree species to prevent the spread of the insects.
- If the above measures are ineffective, consider replacing teak with more pest-resistant species such as *Xylia xylocarpa* (ironwood), which is known to grow well and resist both pests and diseases.

***Photo 14* post-training meeting with FIO**

The training report is uploaded to Google as Document #3
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s8RxbM_X6Gie2-hAZNGXKk9C2dPesSoi/view?usp=sharing

## 2.4 Inputs Applied

### 2.4.1 Cashflow and Expenditures

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH) provides financial support for the implementation of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase II through ITTO. The total budget is USD 1,413,449 for a period of three years (from 1 November 2023 to 31 December 2026). The allocation of project funds to the participating countries is presented in Table 4

BMLEH has already transferred a total of USD 637,097.78 to ITTO, representing 45.07% of the total project budget. This amount includes the 1st installment of USD 142,293 in September 2023, the 2nd installment of USD 424,363 in September 2024, and the 3rd installment of USD 70,441.78 in March 2025.

Total project expenditures to date amount to USD 767,174.21, resulting in a budget deficit of USD 130,076.43. These expenditures include project activity costs of USD 616,424.77, monitoring and evaluation costs of USD 12,554.44, and program support costs of USD 138,195.

**Table 4** Budget allocation among TTO and the participating countries

| Country/recipient | Amount (USD) [1/] | % |
|---|---|---|
| ITTO | 714,849 | 50.57% |
| (Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany) | (353,954) [2/] | (25.04%) [2/] |
| Cambodia | 51,000 | 3.61% |
| India | 71,000 | 5.02% |
| Indonesia | 110,500 | Not transferred |
| Thailand | 358,100 | 25.33% |
| Vietnam | 54,000 | 3.82% |
| Togo | 54,000 | 3.82% |
| Total | 1,413,449 [3/] | (100.00%) [3/] |

Note: 1/ Excluding additional funds to support field data collection for micr-finance meachnism; 2/ Allocated through ITTO; 2/ Include all partners.

The Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo components, as well as the Thünen Institute of Forestry, have already signed MoUs with ITTO. The Thailand and Togo components began implementing physical activities in November 2023, while the Cambodia and Vietnam components started activity implementation in January 2024.

In addition, the MoU for India was signed in November 2024, and for Indonesia in March 2025. Following the signing of the MoUs, ITTO transferred the 1st installment of USD 182,000 and the 2nd installment (except for India) of USD 166,000 to the five participating countries. Furthermore, a total of USD 49,200 was disbursed to support field data collection for micro-finance mechanisms. ITTO also disbursed USD 132,733 to the Thünen Institute of Forestry following the signing of the agreement in March 2024.

As of 30 June 2025, five participating countries (excluding Indonesia) received a total of USD 397,200 from ITTO, representing 62.32% of the total project budget allocated to those countries. Funds have not yet been transferred to Indonesia due to pending on-the-ground implementation.
The estimated budget required to carry out activities from July to December 2025 in the five participating countries is USD 341,200.60. The available balance in project bank accounts, including earned interest, is USD 506,140.02. To fully implement the planned activities for this period, ITTO and the executing agencies require additional funds totaling USD 281,142.71.

**Table 5** The up-to-date Balance for the 1st and 2nd installments received from ITTO

| Recipient | Fund of 1st installment (USD)* | Fund of 2nd installment (USD)* | Micro-finance | Expenditure (Nov 2023 - Jun 2024) | Total expenditures (Nov 2023 – Jun 2025) | Planned budget (Jul-Dec 2025) | Fund in project Bank Account (USD) | Remark |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | 20,000 (39%)[1/] | 20,000 (39%)[1/] | 9,000 | 2,541 | 34,240.62 | 18,847.38 | 14,759.38 | |
| India | 22,000 (31%) [1/] | | 9,000 | | 10,475.33 | -33,541.90 | 20,888.41 | Interest earn USD 209.35 |
| Indonesia[2/] | | | | | | NA | NA | Pending MoU signing |
| Thailand | 100,000 (28%)[1/] | 106,000 (29.6%)[1/] | 13,200 | 63,372 *(2023-6,467; 2024-46,495)* | 164,217.88 | 72,16017 | 55,297.12 | Interest earned USD 315 |
| Vietnam | 20,000 (37%)[1/] | 20,000 (37%)[1/] | 9,000 | 8,482 | 20,446 | 23,455 | 28,554 | |
| Togo | 20,000 (37%)[1/] | 20,000 (37%) | 9,000 | 15,017 | 24,930.06 | 36,142.94 | 24,069.94 | |
| **Sub-total** | **182,000 (30.9%)** [3/] | **166,000 (23.8%)**[4/] | **49,200 (62.1%)** | **89,412** [5/] | **254,309.89 (64.02%)** | **161,012.39** | **143,568.85** | |
| ITTO | 142,293 [9/] (10.1%)[1/] | 424,363 [9/] (30.02%)[1/] | 70,441.78 (4.98%) | | | | | |
| Thunen | 132,733 [10/]; (33%) [1/] | | | 132,733 | 132,733 (120,600.15) | 132,733 | (12,132.85) | |
| Project costs: disburse to | | | | | 616,424.77 | | | Include international |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| participating and others (include Thunen) | | | | | | | | consultant and particiapation in IUFRO 2024. |
| Monitoring and evaluation | | | | | 12,554.44 | 8,000 | | |
| Program support | | | | | 138,195 | | | |

Notes: 1/ percentage of the total allocated budget; 2/ Indonesia has not obtained funds from ITTO; 3/ total 1st installment allocated to the 5 participating countries (excluding Thunen); 4/ total 2nd installment allocated to the 5 participating countries; 5/ total expenditures of the 5 participating countries (Nov 2023 – Jun 2024); 6/ total expenditures of the 5 participating countries (Nov 2023 – Dec 2024); 7/ planned budget from Jan-Jun 2025 for ITTO; 8/available funds for the 5 participating countries; 9/ funds transferred from BMEL to ITTO; 10/ funds transferred from ITTO to Thunen

The expenditures of ITTO, each country's component and Thünen are summarized below. Detailed expenditures by budget item are presented in the separate financial report.

***Cambodia***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 34,240.62, and it represents 69.88% of the 1st and 2nd, as well as additional fund to support field data collection received from ITTO (USD 49,000.00=20,000+20,000+9,000)
- The up-to-date Balance of 1st and 2nd installments and additional fund of USD 9,000 for field data collection received from ITTO: USD 49,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 34,240.62 [where, USD 14,759.38 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Cambodia component has planned activities during July-December 2025 with the costs of USD 18,847.38.

***India***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the India component Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 10,475.33 or 33.79% of the 1st installment and additional fund of USD 9,000 for microfinancing scheme received from ITTO (USD 22,000 + USD 9,000). The disbursed funds represent 16.90% of the total project budget (USD 53,000 + 9,000). Please note that the expenditures of India component is the lowest among the five participating countries which have signed MoUs with ITTO due to delayed engagement.

- The up-to-date Balance of both 1st installment and fund for data collection received from ITTO: USD 31,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 10,475.33 [where, USD 20,888.41 (Fund in Project bank Account). Note that India component also earned interest of USD 209.35.
- India component has planned activities during July-December 2025 with the costs of USD 33,541.90.

***Thailand***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The Thailand component began the physical implementation of project activities on 1 November 2023. Expenditures were as follows:
  - USD 6,467 from 1 November to 31 December 2023
  - USD 46,495 from January to June 2024
  - USD 52,066 from July to December 2024

- As of 30 June 2025, the cumulative use of ITTO project financial resources amounted to USD 164,217.89, representing 74.92% of the total from the 1st and 2nd installments plus the additional fund of USD 13,200 for field data collection received from ITTO (Total: USD 219,200 = 100,000 + 106,000 + 13,200). This also accounts for 43.54% of the total project budget (USD 377,200 = 358,000 + 6,000 + 13,200).

- The up-to-date balance of total funds received from ITTO (USD 219,200 liquidated) stands at USD 55,297.11, including USD 315 in earned interest. This is based on total expenditures of USD 164,217.89.

- The Thailand component has planned activities for July–December 2025 with an estimated cost of USD 55,297. Key planned expenditures include:
  - Organization of the 2nd PSC meeting in November
  - Participation in the 5th World Teak Conference (WTC) in India
  - Organization of the 3rd training session, including payment to Consultant #4

- It is noted that ITTO transferred USD 6,000 to reimburse the Thailand component for advanced payments made to support Dr. Hwan-ok Ma and Dr. P.K. Thulasidas (resource persons) who participated in IUFRO 2024 in Sweden in June 2024. Additionally, USD 13,200 was transferred to support the pre-test, an orientation workshop on field data collection, and the hiring of national experts to assist in data collection for the micro-financing mechanisms.

- Thailand component has planned activities during July-December 2025 with the costs of USD 72,160.17

***Vietnam***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 20,446 or 21.20% of the 1st and 2nd installments and additional fund for field data collection of USD 9,000 received from ITTO (USD 49,000=20,000+20,000+9,000) and it represents 32.45% of the total project budget (USD 54,000.00+9,000) due to the delayed establishment of demonstration plots.

- The up-to-date Balance of the total funds received from ITTO: USD 49,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 20,446 [where, USD 28,554 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Vietnam component has planned activities during July – December 2025 with the costs of USD 20,858.

***Togo***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- Similar to Thailand component, Togo component has started the physical implementation of the project activities from November 2023.

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 24,930.06 or 50.88% of the 1st and 2nd installments and additional fund of USD 9,000 received from ITTO (USD 49,000) and it represents only 39.57 % of the total project budget (USD 54,000.00 + 9,000).

- Main expenditures include expenses for Prof. Dr. Adzo Dzifa KOKUTSE to participate in the IUFRO World Conference in Sweden (USD 4,1107), measurement and experiment at two demonstration plots (USD 7,89.73), and the payment for the Cons # 1 Quality Planting Material of USD 4,000.

- The up-to-date Balance of the 1st and 2nd installments received from ITTO: USD 40,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 24,930.06 [where, USD 24,069.94 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Togo component has planned activities during July – December 2025 with the costs of USD 36,462.94.

***Indonesia***

Although, Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry signed MoU with ITTO in March 2025, funds have not yet been transferred to Indonesia due to pending on-the-ground implementation.

***Thünen Institute of Forestry***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 120,600.15 or 90.86% of the 1st installment received from ITTO (USD 132,733) in February 2024 and it represents only 34.07 % of the total project budget (USD 353,954).

- Main expenditures include expenses for salary of the project staff (USD 60,806.71) and overhead costs of the institute (USD 23,886) and travel costs to participate in the Pre-test and Orientation Workshop on Field Data Collection Tools for the Micro-financing Mechanisms and the 1st PSC meeting and the 1st Regional Workshop in Thailand.

- The up-to-date Balance of both 1st installment received from ITTO: USD 12,733 (Liquidated) = USD 120,600.15 [where, USD 12,132.85 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Thünen Institute has requested ITTO to disburse the 2nd installment of USD 132,733 to implement the planned activities and salary for the project staff.

### 2.4.2 Budget modification

The participating countries have already requested budget modifications. These requests do not affect the project's objectives or the allocated budget by item. The first budget modification (Modification: BR-A) was approved by BMLEH in September 2024, while the second request (Modification: BR-B) was approved in March 2025. See uploaded Document #4. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hGS6O-XttVDmd9M9mFdVPM3WLuB7DTiD/view?usp=sharing

Due to adjustments in the implementation of some activities, the participating countries now request a third budget modification (BR-C). The proposed modification reflects a decrease in the planned 2025 budget from USD 572,135 to USD 478,852. The remaining funds will be reallocated to the 2026 budget. Details are as follows:

*Payment for consultants*

- **Consultant #1 – Quality Planting Material (Budget Item A04):**
  The budget increases from USD 6,000 to USD 12,450 due to the early engagement of the consultant. This results in a corresponding reduction in the 2026 budget.
- **Consultant #2 – Field Training in Silviculture (Budget Item A05):**
  The budget increases from USD 5,200 to USD 10,200, also due to early engagement. This adjustment reflects a reduction in the 2026 budget.
- **Consultant #5 – Information Management (Budget Item A06):**
  The budget increases from USD 7,000 to USD 10,000 to comply with the agreed contract and Terms of Reference (TORs), with each instalment amounting to USD 5,000.
- **Consultant #6 – Teak Value Chain (Budget Item A07):**
  The budget decreases from USD 10,000 to USD 3,000 due to delayed recruitment for the Indian component and the postponement of a training session for the Thailand component to 2026.
- **Consultant #7.2 – Networking and Capacity Building (Budget Item A102):**
  The budget decreases from USD 12,000 to USD 6,000 in line with the agreed contract and TORs.

*Lump sum items*

- **Operational costs for project offices** (Budget Item B01) in the five participating countries increase from USD 6,000 to USD 9,628.
- **Technical reports and completion report editing** (Budget Item B02) decrease from USD 10,000 to USD 3,000, as the technical reports from consultants are expected in 2026

*Reimbursable items*

- **The remaining budget for organizing the 2nd Regional Teak Workshop** (Budget Item C12) is postponed to 2026.
- Regional and national webinars (Budget Item
- **Internal travel** (Budget Item C21) increases from USD 6,000 to USD 6,994 to support consultants' participation in the 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand in November 2025.
- **National and regional webinars** (Budget Item C21) decrease from USD 8,000 to USD 3,841 due to 3 out of 12 webinars have been organized.
- **Establishment of demonstration plots and nurseries** (Budget Item C42) increases from USD 10,000 to USD 22,241 due to early engagement. Only the Indonesia component has yet to establish its demonstration plots.
- **Training costs** (Budget Item C43) double increase from USD 32,429 to USD 62,083 to align with the planned capacity-building schedules in the participating countries.
- **Literature, publications, and webpage** (Budget Item C45) increases slightly from USD 2,000 to USD 2,454.96 in line with the plan to update the project website.

*ITTO Project Administration*

- **The entire allocated budget for ITTO program support** (Budget Item E01) was fully disbursed in 2024.

See detail in Annex 3.

## 2.5 Output Achievements

The progress towards achieving outputs complies with the verifiable indicators dated 19 January 2024, as outlined in the Logical Framework of the Inception Report (Table 6). The average percentage of progress for the project's achievements up to 30 June 2025 is 36%, ranging from 25% to 60%. The project's achievements for each activity, jointly implemented by the five participating countries (except Indonesia) and the Thünen Institute of Forestry, are shown in Table 6. In addition, the progress reports of each participating country are uploaded to Google Drive.
(Document #5
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NP0XTHQxjxJWDhEQ9PQdZEgnQGxwcRNO/view?usp=sharing
Document #6
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l4bpA3ZvH9EeRUU2NA85Amhfs6JQTrCW/view?usp=sharing
Document #7
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J8AUtFYcEzXgKqTIDEeJUIDrtVxzdqfh/view?usp=sharing
Document #8
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NfA4hnb5r8g7UdSSG-kKCIfT5k5rVmnj/view?usp=sharing)

**Table 6** Logical framework matrix

| Strategy of intervention | Measurable indicators | Means of verification | Key assumptions |
|---|---|---|---|
| To improve the production of high quality timber from teak and other valuable species plantations established by smallholders and communities in the Asia Pacific and West Africa; improve livelihoods and social and environmental outcomes through better silviculture practices, efficient wood transport and small-scale processing, financial schemes to invest in quality timber production from long rotations and access to voluntary carbon markets, as well as regional and international collaboration for sustainable smallholder plantations | 1) By the end of the Project, policies to secure high quality planting stock, best practices in silviculture, access to financing to promote longer rotations, value addition and improved legality achieved.<br>2) Promoting financial schemes that invest in high quality teak production with long rotations, access to voluntary carbon markets.<br>3) Facilitates regional and international cooperation for sustainable smallholder plantations<br>4) Effective implementation policies contribute to improving the economic outcomes of the smallholder and community plantations in the tropics | 1) Project reports, study reports and minutes of meetings.<br>2) Financial schemes<br>3) Teak market reports<br>4) Policy briefs on viable financial schemes for smallholder community plantations | – National governments support Project development and stimulate stakeholders to participate in the activities.<br>– Forestry administrations will provide and/or recruit qualified staff for implementation, contribute data on smallholder teak and other intercropping species composition, support viable financial schemes to smallholders for sustainable wood production. |
| **Output 1:** Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture and timber processing and legality. | 1) Improved management of existing and new demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species to support smallholders and local communities.<br>2) Field training on the following subjects: (1) Seed production/nursery techniques, (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method, (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation (4) teak and other valuable species and NTFP (5) documentation for timber legality and sustainability.<br>3) By the end of Project, recommended practice on quality standards for teak planting material, efficient timber harvesting and processing, improved product designs for increased product value have been developed, and considered by the national forestry administrations for policy improvement<br>4) Opportunities for improved teak market access have been elaborated and considered by the national forestry administration for policy improvement | 1) Management plan guidelines on smallholder and other species plantations and training reports.<br>2) Project report on field -oriented training of the 6 topics including timber legality and sustainability of smallholder production systems<br>3) Project reports on improved timber processing, product development, value chain<br>4) Teak market access<br>5) SFM in the tropics | – National government support to ensure supply of improved planting material to smallholders.<br>– Sustainable livelihood and legal harvest and wood product trade for increased income. |
| **Output 2:** Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been | 1) By the end of the Project, financial support schemes/incentives by sourcing companies ensure that the smallholder's products will be purchased at | 1) Project on Consultant reports (TIF, Germany) on financial | – National government support to smallholder farmers in community enterprises and establishment of |

| Strategy of intervention | Measurable indicators | Means of verification | Key assumptions |
|---|---|---|---|
| analysed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes. | remunerative prices based on the feasibility studies by TIF, Germany<br>2) Optimization of micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to overcome the problem with collaterals/ group cooperatives that they often face trees as guarantees, group-lending motivate farmers ensure loan repayments, pilot study in 3 regions including Togo and Indonesia.<br>3) At the end of the Project, formation of effective forest grower associations/group marketing ventures to build good relationships with market to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits<br>4) Access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community- based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security to farmers, address issues of cash flows, and support access to microfinance schemes. | incentives, micro-lending opportunities for smallholders.<br>2) Project reports on teak-based community enterprises, MSME for furniture productions<br>3) Regional workshop report<br>4) Policy interventions on carbon credits for smallholder teak and valuable species plantations | pilot study areas<br>– adequate opportunities and Interventions in group marketing of wood products, improved bargaining power to secure better value of their products, reduce transaction costs. |
| **Output 3:** Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened | 1) By the end of the Project at least 7 technical reports and/or studies have been uploaded on the Internet and are publicly available.<br>2) One regional workshop in 2024 at the middle of the Project have been implemented to support information management among the participating countries.<br>3) Problem and challenges for sustainable smallholder teak stands and selected tropical species plantations promoted in the Asia Pacific and W. Africa (Togo) has been shared in the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and 5th World Teak Conference 2025 in India and well understood by the participants | 1) Teak-website and online bi-monthly newsletter<br>2) List of participants of the regional workshop<br>3) List of participants of the IUFRO World Congress 2024 and 5th World Teak Conference 2025 | – Qualified staff from the participating countries participate in joint research activities.<br>– Outreach and promotional materials are actively used by teak stakeholders. |

The following activities for each output will contribute to meet the objective of the Project:

**Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture, and timber processing and legality.**

***Activities 1.1: Conserve teak and other valuable species genetic variation through improved management of existing seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations (India, Indonesia, Thailand).***

***Achievements***

Teak is a native species in Myanmar, India, Thailand and Lao PDR. Despite it is an exotic species in Indonesia, a lot of scientists recognize it as landrace species in Indonesia because it was introduced to Indonesia over 300 years ago and can adapt to local environment, especially in Yogyakarta. Similar to Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam and Togo do not have natural teak forests and native teak genetic resources, but various experiments related to seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations are conducted.

***Thailand***

- Scientists from Thailand's RFD have collected seeds from 636 mother trees (plus trees) in natural teak forests across the country, especially in northern provinces. These seeds were planted in several seed orchards in Lampang and Phayao provinces to produce high-quality planting material. In addition, clonal tests and provenance trials of approximately 400 clones were conducted, and experiments on the remaining clones were completed during project phase I. Furthermore, three clonal plantation plots (in Khon Kaem, Kanchanaburi, and Lampang provinces) established during project phase I have been maintained since then.

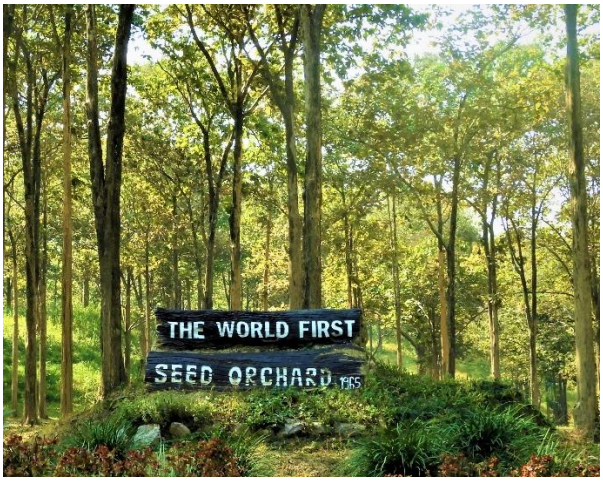



*Photo 15* ***Seed Orchard in Phayao province***

*Photo 16* ***Mother tree collection in Lampang Province***

*Photo 17* ***Demonstration plots established during project phase I and still under maintenance***

***India***

- Identified existing seed orchards/clonal plantations. In discussion with the stakeholders.
- Identified tree growers in Tamil Nadu who expressed interest to establish 2 hectares of Teak clonal plantations.

***Indonesia***

- Not started

***Activities 1.2: Support smallholders and local communities for improved management of existing and new demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species and field training on the following subjects: (1) seed production/nursery techniques; (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method; (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation; (4) teak and other valuable species and value-chains (5) timber legality and sustainability (all participating countries)***

***Achievements***

***Thailand***

*I. Establish demonstration plots*

- At the 1st PSC meeting held in September 2024, the Thailand component allocated funds to Ms. Somporn Khamchompoo, affiliated with the Forestry Research and Development Office, RFD. The funds are being used to maintain the three existing demonstration plots established during project phase I and to establish new plots.

- Two new plots are being established in Kanchanaburi and Chiang Mai provinces, each with a size of 5 rai (approximately 0.8 hectares). The main objective of these new plots is to test 20 top-performing clones for smallholder plantations at the farm scale. These clones were selected from provenance trials based on growth performance, hardwood proportion, and shape (straightness f teak tree) for commercial purposes.

- Teak seedlings have already been planted in the Kanchanaburi plot, while planting in the Chiang Mai plot is scheduled in July 2025.


***Photo 17** Demonstration plots in Kanchanaburi (upper left) and Chiangmai (upper right), and awarding the project funds to support establish new provenance test of 20 top clones on 19 September 2024 (below)*

*II. Training sessions*

- The Thailand component has planned to organize four training sessions (see Table 7) to build the capacity of smallholders and staff from relevant agencies such as the RFD and FIO.

- The first training workshop on *Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for Smallholders* was held on 27–28 March 2024 in Nan Province. The objective of the workshop was to introduce both the theory and practice of teak plantation and silvicultural techniques to smallholders. A total of 32 participants attended the workshop. Instructors included Prof.

Yongyut Trisurat (Regional Project Manager), Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen (RFD and Chair of the Project Technical Committee), Mr. Tosaporn Wacharangkul, and Mr. Boonlerd Srisuksai (invited resource persons). In addition, the Director of the Nan Provincial Forestry Office was invited to officially open the event and deliver a lecture on national policies regarding economic teak and other high-value tree plantations.

- Following the lectures, all participants and resource persons visited a commercial teak plantation owned by Sri Trang Rubber and Plantation Ltd. The plantation spans approximately 650 hectares (2,100 rai). The company employs modern technology, high-quality planting material, and intensive silvicultural practices. Local people are also permitted to grow cash crops (intercropping) for 1–3 years. This intercropping system not only promotes co-benefits but also reduces weeding costs and enhances fire prevention-leading to saving costs of the company.

***Photo 18* Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders in Nan Province, and field visit at Sri Trang Rubber and Plantation Ltd.**

- The second training workshop on *Precision Insect Pest Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests* was held in Lamphun Province on 27–28 March 2025. The specific objectives of the workshop were to educate participants on insect pests in teak plantations—particularly the beehole borer—and to provide practical, precision-based guidelines on how to investigate, control, and manage beehole borer infestations to ensure the production of high-quality timber. Hands-on practice in investigating affected teak trees was included.

- A total of 40 participants, including interested teak smallholders from northern Thailand, staff from the RFD and the FIO, attended the training. Prof. Decha Wiwatawitaya from the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, served as the lead instructor. See more details in item 2.3.3.

- The two remaining training sessions planned for 2026 are:

  - Minimizing Harvesting Loss, Efficient Transport and Processing of Teak Roundwood, and Product Design and Innovation, to be conducted by Consultant #4 (Efficient Wood Transportation and Processing); and
  - Teak and Other Valuable Species and Value Chains, to be led by Consultant #6 (Value Chains)

***Cambodia***

*I. Demonstration plots*

- The Cambodia project has recruited two consultants: Consultant #1 for the Production of Good-Quality Planting Material and Consultant #2 for Field Training in Silviculture.

- The existing silvicultural demonstration plots of teak plantation (10 plots in Kampong Cham province) were measured in August 2024, while the other 12 plots in Kampong Speu province were unable to be measured due to a legal challenge involving Grandis Co., Ltd.

- The project team visited the existing demonstration plots. Fifty percent of the plots in each province underwent pruning, while the remaining 50% were left untreated (non-silvicultural practice). Measurement of the teak demonstration plots is set to begin in early June 2024.

- Additionally, the project team established two cluster demonstration plots for four native species at the same location in Kampong Cham. Plot 1: Smallholder teak plantation (individual), Han Chey commune, is located at Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province). Plot 2 Smallholder tree plantation (other valuable timber species), Han Chey commune, Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province)is in These plots include four native timber species: *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* Kurz, *Afzelia xylocarpa* (Kruz.) Craib, and *Sindora cochinchinensis* Baill. The main objective of these plots is to promote silvicultural practices towards high quality timber.

- The Cambodia project team has investigated potential sites to establish seed production sources and demonstration plots aimed at raising public awareness about planting teak as a long-term economic benefit and the effects of silvicultural best practices on teak growth performance.

***Photo 19*** ***Measuement of Teak and other valuable species in demonstration plots (2024)***

*Photo 20* ***Measuement of demonstration plots for othe valuable timber species (2025)***

*II Training sessions*

- In line with the OECD Scheme on Forest Reproductive Material, the *Guidelines on the Production of Good-Quality Planting Material* have been prepared in Khmer, covering teak and other native valuable timber species in Cambodia. Additionally, the *Guidelines on Nursery Techniques and Silvicultural Practices to Improve Stand Management in Cambodia* have also been developed in Khmer. Both sets of guidelines served as training resources for local smallholders during sessions held in January and February 2025.

- Two training sessions on "Production of Good-Quality Planting Materials, Nursery Techniques, and Silvicultural Practices to Improve Stand Management of Teak Plantations and Other Valuable Timber Species" were organized on 23–24 January 2025 in Kampong Cham province and 26–27 February 2025 in Ratanakiri province, respectively. Each session was attended by 27 participants.

*Photo 21* ***First training organized in Kampong Cham province in Januray 2025***


*Photo 22* ***Second training organized in Ratanakiri province in Februray 2025***

***India***

*I. Demonstration plots*

- The India project management team has held discussions with stakeholders who own existing seed orchards and clonal plantations for teak and other valuable species. Potential sites have been identified in Salem, Neyveli, Gudalur, and Walayar, and relevant data has been collected.

- In the existing seed production areas and seed orchards, the quality of fruit and seed production is scheduled to be assessed during the upcoming season.

- Additionally, the project team has identified tree growers in Tamil Nadu who have expressed interest in establishing two demonstration plots (1 hectare each) of teak clonal plantations at the farm level.

- For the demonstration/clonal trials, wood quality assessment has been initiated. Permission has been obtained for felling trees in Panampally, while non-destructive assessments are planned for September in Neyveli and Salem.

- The project also plans to establish two additional demonstration plots for teak, to be promoted under smallholder agroforestry systems for the sustainable supply of high-quality seedlings and timber. These plots will be located in Coimbatore district (Animoor and Anaikatti) and are scheduled for establishment in late 2025.

*II Training sessions*

- Mr. Mohammad Ghouse has been recruited as Consultant #4 (Efficient Teakwood Transportation and Processing) and Dr. C. Nalin Ku as Consultant #6 (Value Chains).

- Presentations were delivered during training sessions for the forest departments of Tamil Nadu in July 2025 and for those in Chhattisgarh or Maharashtra in August 2025, focusing on the importance of smallholder teak in agroforestry. The tentative title for the workshop is "Introducing the Package of Practices for Teak Cultivation to Smallholders."

- Smallholders and local communities have been identified to support the improved management of existing demonstration plots for teak.

- Additionally, the project team has engaged with licensed commercial tissue culture laboratories affiliated with ICFRE-IFGTB for the production of tissue culture teak plantlets.

- The remaining two training sessions—focused on harvesting, transportation, processing, product design and innovation, value chain analysis, timber legality, and sustainability are scheduled for 2026.

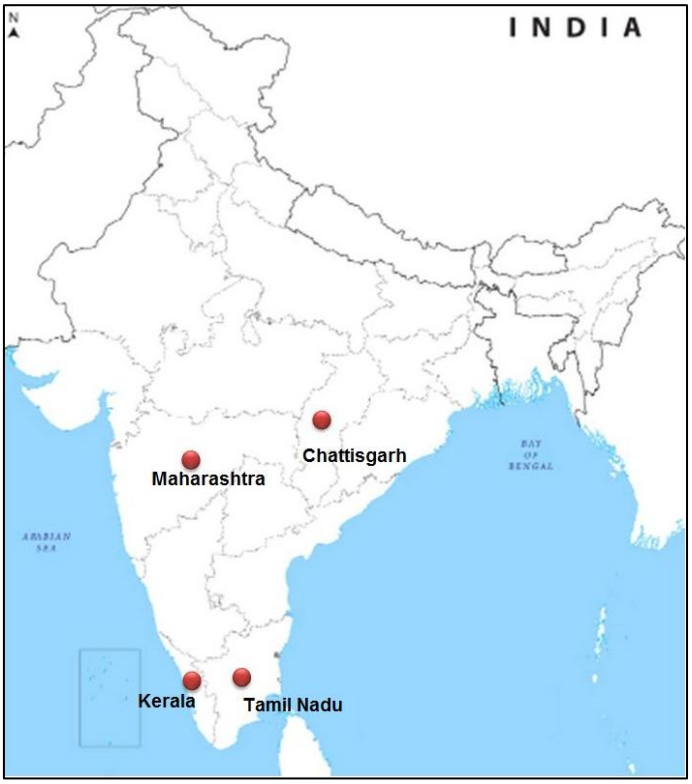



*Figure 2* ***Target areas in India***

***Vietnam***

*I. Demonstration plots*

- The Vietnam project team discussed with five forest enterprises and one research center in cooperation to establish 14 hectares of teak in five ecological regions in Vietnam

- Vietnam component signs a contract with Thai Orchids Co., Ltd to import 9,000 teak plantlets produced from tissue culture from Thailand. Transportation of teak seedlings was behind the planned schedule due to custom procedures. The plantlets were shipped to Vietnam in March 2025 and currently maintained in the nursery.

- The Vietnam project team discussed with five forest enterprises and one research center in cooperation to establish 3 hectares of Teak in Yen Bai province (plot 1), and teak mixed with cinnamon plantations in Bac Giang province (plot 2). The establishment of demonstration plots is ongoing process.

- The main purpose of both demonstrations is to demonstrate silvicultural practices to obtain quality timber.

- Besides the demonstration plots, Vietnam component organized Tree Planting Festival event with the support from Yen Bai Farmer Union in Yen Bai province.

***Photo 23** Leaders from Yen Bai province and SRI taking photo with ITTO-BMEL project in the tree planting festival in Yen Bai Province*

*II Training sessions*

- The Vietnam Component recruited two consultants (Consultant#1 Quality planting material and Consultant#2 Field training silviculture) to facilitate capacity building for forest enterprises and smallholders. Both consultants attended the 1st Regional Workshop, and the 1st PSC meeting held in Thailand.

- Vietnam component plans to organize two training sessions on Training on teak in nursery and Planting techniques on teak in August 2025.

- Additional training sessions are planned in 2026.

***Indonesia***

*I Demonstration plots*

- Although the Indonesia component has not yet established the project management team, the initial identification and engagement of consultants with communities to establish demonstration plots has already begun. *Plot 1* is located at Sedyo Lestari in the Forest Management Resort of Paliyan, while *Plot 2* is in Tani Manunggal, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province.

- *Plot 1:* After logging in 2021–2022 (of 20-year-old trees), regeneration occurs naturally through grafting and enrichment planting using naturally uprooted seeds. The area employs agroforestry intercropping with annual crops such as corn, peanuts, and cassava. Based on observations, fertilizer application and weeding have not significantly contributed to the growth performance of the teak trees. Given the current condition of the teak stands, it is still possible to plant MPTS (multi-purpose tree species). Additionally, the community does not currently follow appropriate silvicultural techniques in cultivating and harvesting timber, so there is a need to enhance their capacity in area management.

- *Plot 2*: The local community plans to harvest the planted teak trees in August 2025, although the trees are still small. The teak trees were planted at a 2x3 m spacing, which is too dense and has resulted in poor growth performance. Additionally, no silvicultural techniques are being applied in cultivation or harvesting due to limited understanding and complicated official permit procedures.

- The establishment of the 2nd demonstration plot will focus on logged-over areas to optimize land management and silvicultural practices, and to assess teak growth using coppicing and embroidery techniques.

*Photo 24* ***Reconnaissance survey and consultation with local communities: Sedyo Lestari (left) and Tani Manunggal (right) in Forest Management Resort of Paliyan, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province***

*II Training sessions*

The *de facto* Coordinator of the Indonesia component has discussed with potential consultants (#1: Quality Planting Material and #6: Value Chain) the plan to conduct four training sessions on the following topics:

- *Training on silviculture (teak pruning and shooting) to conserve teak species*
- *Training on teak nursery development*
- *Training on media planting preparation*
- *Training on sustainable supply chain*

The actual implementation will begin immediately after the official establishment of the project team and the recruitment of both consultants

***Togo***

*I Demonstration plots*

- The Togo component has recruited Consultant #1: Quality Planting Material and Consultant #2: Field Training in Silviculture. In addition, target stakeholders for training have been identified. Consultant #1 has responsibility to support Activity 1.1 on good quality planting material. The Consultant#2 (Mr. AYIGA) had to carry out activities to identify the collection sites of the sections of the APCs, the development of the greenhouse, the construction of five sprouts, the construction of a shed to contain the sprouts. Its activities also focused on the removal of stumps of the selected trees (APs) of Avétonou site, and their cultivation (cuttings) and the monitoring of the recovery of these sections. Finally, the last part of the activities he undertook is the collection of seeds from Malaysian plantations (Luasong, Perlis, Taliwas) and Indian plantations at the Zogbepime site.

- Togo has valuable experience in teak plantation dating back to 1906. It is the second country in West Africa, after Nigeria, where teak was introduced. In addition to the provenance trials at Zogbépimé, the Togo component has conducted trials on the Wotou, Tetetou, and Blitta clones, including the selection of high-performance trees based on specific criteria to be defined across three sites from different forest stands.

- Additionally, five technical committee meetings have been organized, focusing on various aspects of project implementation. Key discussions led to Togo's involvement in specific project activities, such as cloning experiments for Teak trees and other valuable species like *Khaya* spp., *Cedrela odorata*, and *Pterocarpus erinaceus*.

- Among these activities, those related to project output 1, consisting of three activities (A.1.1., A.1.2., A.1.3.), have been started. To carry out these activities, three field missions were conducted:

- The first mission involved monitoring and evaluating the effect of the association between *Tectona grandis* and *Khaya* spp. on their diameter and height growth, as well as the influence of thinning on the performance of both species after silvicultural treatment application;

- The second mission was to continue the monitoring program of provenance trials conducted by the Forest Research Laboratory of the University of Lomé at Zogbépimé, aiming to assess the growth, health, and wood quality of different teak provenances.

- The third mission consisted of an identification and selection of candidate trees (APC) conducted from March 18 to 23, 2024, with a mixed team comprising technicians from the Forest Development and Exploitation Office (ODEF) and the University of Lomé.

- The Togo component has established two demonstration plots in Ativémé and Zogbépimé

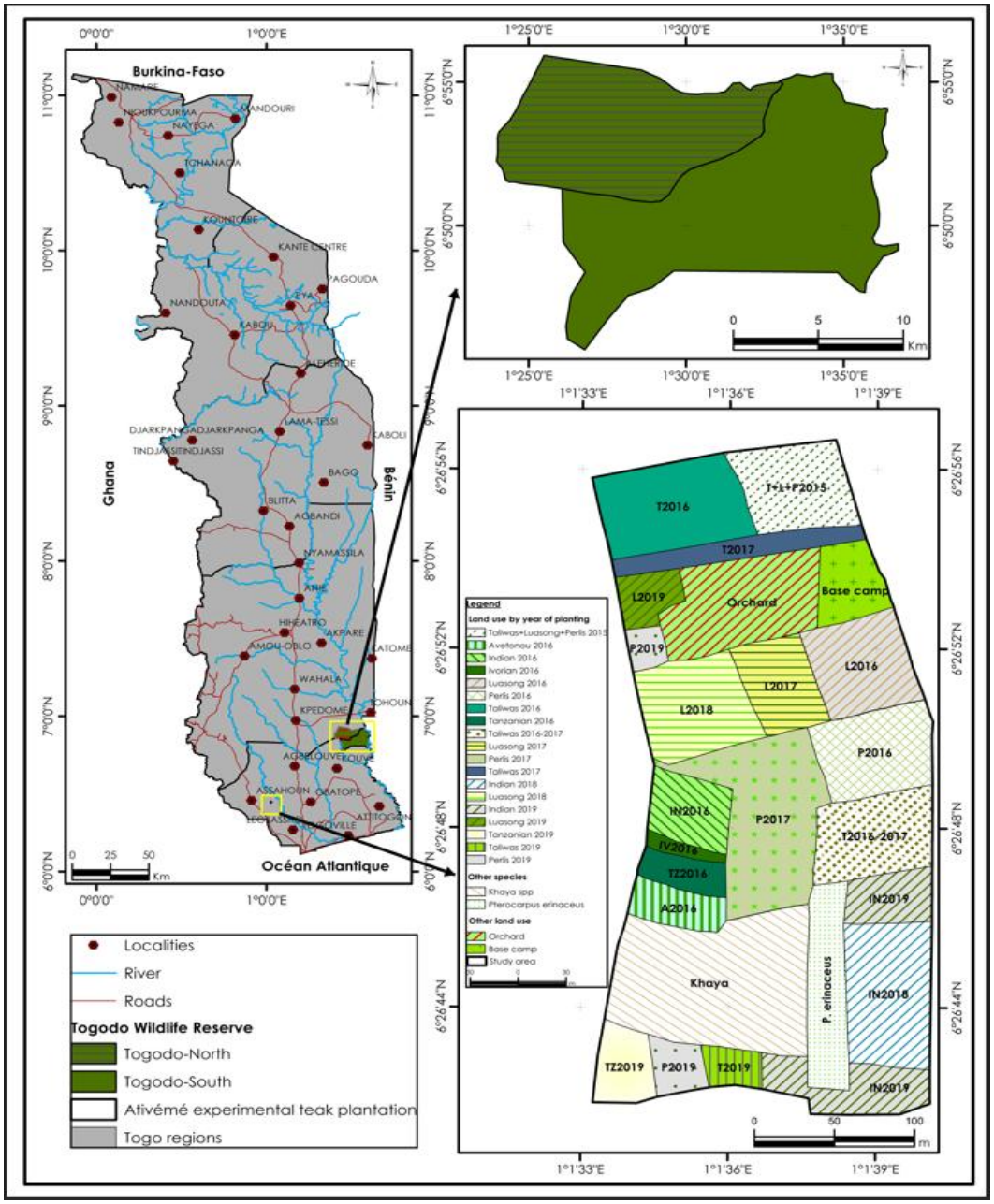



*Figure 3* ***Map showing the site and collection plantations***

The Ativémé plot belongs to the Forest Research Laboratory, located at the northern boundary of the Agronomic Research Station of the Togolese Institute of Agricultural Research. It is situated in Ativémé village in the Maritime region of Togo. The ongoing silvicultural trials focus on the effects of associating tree species, specifically teak (*Tectona grandis*) and Khaya spp. (*Khaya senegalensis, Khaya grandifoliola*)

The activities undertaken at this site include monitoring and evaluating the effects of the association between *Tectona grandis* and *Khaya* spp. on their diameter and height growth, as well as the influence of thinning on the performance of both species. Specifically, the objectives are to: (i) analyze the effect of the association between Tectona grandis and Khaya spp. on their diameter and height growth, and (ii) evaluate the influence of thinning on the performance of the two species when grown in association.

To achieve these objectives, a forest inventory was conducted on three plots: one with a pure teak stand, one with a mixture of one row of teak and one row of Khaya, and one with a mixture of one row of teak and two rows of Khaya. Data on tree height and diameter were collected before thinning using a systematic sampling method in 2020, and the current inventory was conducted after thinning, following the same protocol, in 2024.

2) The second site is the Zogbépimé Forest Station, established in 2014 by the Forest Research Laboratory of the University of Lomé. The station was created to experiment with the performance of different teak (*Tectona grandis*) provenances, as well as Khaya and *Pterocarpus erinaceus* plantations. It is located approximately 8 km east of the town of Kévé, in the Ave Prefecture of the Maritime Region of Togo

At the second site, the prospecting aimed to continue the provenance trial monitoring program to evaluate the growth, health, and wood quality of the different teak provenances. Specifically, this involved: (i) collecting data on height and diameter growth, tree health, and other relevant variables, including fruit production from seed orchards based on selected trees, and (ii) analyzing the collected data to assess the height and diameter growth, as well as other performance parameters, of the different teak provenances

Teak seeds were collected from experimental plantations in Zogbépimé, representing four different provenances: India, Perlis, Taliwas, and Luasong. These seed sources, all from eight-year-old trees (Figure 1), were carefully sorted and counted. In total, 1,646 seeds were collected: 810 from India, 226 from Perlis, 346 from Taliwas, and 264 from Luasong.

The seedlings are planted at a specific spacing (Photo 25). To create an environment that promotes the vigor of the seedlings, the seedling trays are covered with transparent plastic tarpaulins. The seedlings obtained in greenhouses and germinators (Photo 3) are gradually transplanted once they have developed four leaves. They are then placed in another compartment of the greenhouse and watered daily (Photo 4). These plants are eventually transferred to the site for transplanting (Photo 26).

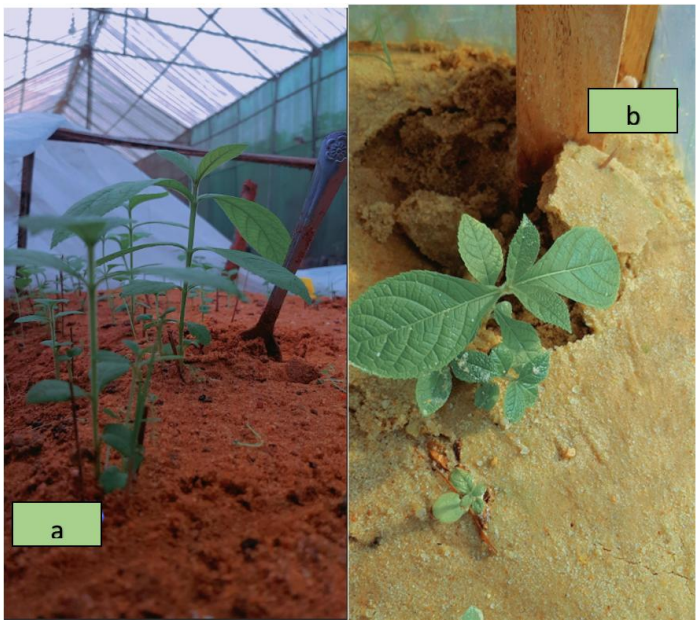



*Photo 25* ***Seedlings obtained (a: under cover in a greenhouse; b: in germination trays)***

*Photo 26* ***Luasong Provenance from Malaysia (2016)***

***Provenance from Indian (2018)***

*Photo 27* ***Some pictures of layers setting up***

In addition, a seed collection and germination testing of local species in Togo was also conducted. A seed collection mission took place from 3 to 6 March 2025 in Asrama and Togodo. The primary objective of this mission was to collect seeds from three major forest species: *Tectona grandis*, *Cedrela odorata*, and *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, with the aim of germinating and propagating them in nurseries. The team consisted of researchers from the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF), agents from the Forest Development and Exploitation Office (ODEF), and consultants.

*II Training sessions*

- Togo component recruited the Consultant#1: Consultant 1 Quality Planting Material and Consultant#2: Field training silviculture to ITTO. In addition, target stakeholders for training are identified.

- Consultant#1 (Mr. ASSIH) had to develop a proposal for a training manual in addition to the concept note which is also sent to the project coordinator.

- The 1st training workshop on quality timber production from teak and associated valuable species is Scheduled from 14 to 18 July 2025 in Asrama (Avé Prefecture). Thirty participants are expected, and both consultants are key instructors.

**Table 8** Establishment of new demonstration plots

| Country | Plot location | Objective(s) | Note |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | Plot 1: Smallholder teak plantation (individual), Han Chey commune, Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province) | Silvicultural practices to improve teak stand | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Smallholder tree plantation (other valuable timber species), Han Chey commune, Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province) | Silvicultural improvement toward high quality timber | Ongoing |
| India | Plot 1: Smallholder plantation (individual), Animoor | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Smallholder plantation (individual), Anaikatti | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| Indonesia | Plot 1: Community-based teak plantation Sedyo Lestari in Forest Management Resort of Paliyan, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province | The demonstration plot will be conducted by silvicultural improvement toward high quality timber. It is expected to have a diverse composition of species so that the group gets benefits both in the short term (seasonal plants and green fodder), medium term (MPTS) and long term (timber). | Initial discission started |
| | Plot 2: Community-based teak plantation Tani Manunggal in Forest Management Resort of Playen, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province | Silvicultural improvement toward high quality timber will be implemented. It is necessary to increase the group's capacity in area management and silvicultural techniques due to harvesting, more specifically in using the shoot instead of using seedlings, cultivation techniques, and optimization of plant types and under-stand areas. | Initial discussion started |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Thailand | Plot 1: Kroengkrawia Reforestation, Kanchanaburi province | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Smallholder plantation, Chiangmai province | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| Vietnam | Plot 1: Mixed planting Teak and Cinnamon cassia. Yen Bai province | Silvicultural improvement plantation quality | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Pure teak plantation, Bac Giang province | Silvicultural improvement plantation quality | Ongoing |
| Togo | Plot 1: Zogbépimé forest station located in the Avé Prefecture (Maritime Region) | Silvicultural improvement of community-based teak plantations to enhance timber quality, using improved seeds and proper maintenance practices | Site established and baseline data collection ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Ativémé, Prefecture of Yoto | Evaluation of mixed plantation performance (Teak–Khaya senegalensis) to improve growth and timber yield under species association trials | Growth monitoring conducted in Feb. 2025; infestation by Loranthaceae noted |

**Table 9 Summary of training sessions by each country**

| Country | Training/workshop theme | Objective(s) | Note |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | Session 1: Training on "Production of Good Quality Planting Materials, Nursery Techniques, and Silvicultural Practices to Improve Stand Management of Teak Plantation and Other Valuable Timber Species" | • Introduce technical aspects of quality planting material production;<br>• Demonstrate the techniques for seed collection and storage as well as nursery techniques<br>• Demonstrate how to plant trees as plantations and silvicultural practices including thinning and pruning at plantations;<br><br>• Share experiences that have been compiled from various parts locally and globally. | Location & date: Kampong Cham province, 23-24 January 2025<br><br>(27 participants) |
| | Session 2: Training on "Production of Good Quality Planting Materials, Nursery Techniques, and Silvicultural Practices to Improve | | Location & date: Ratanakiri province, 26-27 February 2025 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Stand Management of Teak Plantation and Other Valuable Timber Species" | | (24 participants) |
| India | Session 1: Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders | Introducing the package of practices for teak cultivation to smallholders | Planned in July 2025 in Tamil Nadu |
| | Session 2: Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders | Introducing the package of practices for teak cultivation to smallholders | Planned in August 2025 in Chattisgarh |
| Indonesia | Session 1: Training on silviculture (teak pruning and shooting) to conserve teak species | To apply pruning garden and shoot cuttings to support the conservation and improvement of teak genetics | Not started |
| | Session 2: Training on teak nursery development | To conduct a proper nursery activities and to upskill farmers to produce high quality seeds | Not started |
| | Session 3: Training on media planting preparation | To use a proper planting media to produce high quality seeds | Not started |
| | Session 4: Training on sustainable supply chain | To educate farmers in establishing smallholders' cooperation and matching global market requirement through legal supply chains and market sustainability | Not started |
| Thailand | Session 1: Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders | Introducing the theory and practice of teak plantation and silviculture practices to stallholders | 27-28 March 2024 in Nan province (32 participants) |
| | Session 2: Precision management and control of teak plantation pests | To educate participants on insect pests in teak plantations, especially beehole borer and to provide precision guidelines and hand-on practices on how to investigate, control and mange beehole borers to produce good quality timber | 13-14 March 2025 in Lam Phun province (40 participants) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Session 3: Minimizing harvesting loss, and innovative product designs | To introduce zero-waste wood processing and value addition | Early 2026 by Consultnat#4 |
| | Session 4: teak value- chains in Thailand and opportunities | To promote legal support chains | Late 2026 by Consultant#6 |
| Vietnam | Session 1: Training on teak in nursery | | August 2025 |
| | Session 2: Planting techniques on teak | | August 2025 |
| Togo | Session 1: Training workshop on quality timber production from teak and associated valuable species | Training workshop on quality timber production from teak and associated valuable species | Scheduled from 14 to 18 July 2025 in Asrama (Avé Prefecture); 30 participants expected<br><br>Consultant#1, Consultant#2 |

***Activities:*** 1.3 Promote timber legal compliance in smallholder/community plantations, aligning with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting and legality (global)

***Achievements***

- In September 2024, the ITTO-BMEL teak project (handled by ITTO) recruited, the Project recruited Taiji Fujisaki, Research Manager Biodiversity and Forest Area of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) as Consultant#3 Legality. Taiji takes overall responsibility review legal framework, policy support, as well as challenges and opportunities for smallholder plantations in the six participating countries.

- Mr. Taiji Fujisaki attended the 1st Regional Workshop and the 1st PSC meeting. At the PSC meeting, he made a presentation to national coordinators and the PSC members on his assignments and approaches to collect data through the support of national coordinators, workplan and expectations during 2024-2026.

- Key Activities Conducted:

1.1 Interview with EUDR and timber legality experts:

Consultant #3 conducted interviews with experts on the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) to revise the review framework, with particular emphasis on issues related to traceability and due diligence. In addition, Consultant #3 interviewed specialists in timber legality and forest governance to refine the key review questions.

As a result of these consultations, a new focus area was incorporated into the framework: policies that support small-scale timber enterprises and promote the development of local markets for smallholders and communities. These aspects are regarded as essential for advancing legal timber production and trade.

1.2 Engagement with Local Consultants in Indonesia and Vietnam:

Consultant #3 identified local consultants in Indonesia and Vietnam who will be responsible for data collection aligned with the revised review framework. Preliminary discussions were held with these local consultants to test the applicability and contextual relevance of the framework in both countries.

These discussions led to further modifications of the framework, enhancing its utility as a tool to guide document analysis, stakeholder interviews, and comparative policy reviews aimed at identifying key policy gaps.

1. Outcome

Based on insights gained through these interviews and consultations, Consultant #3 has revised the policy review framework. The updated version can be downloaded at Google Document#9. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Yq-eTu7VwgYSrPzyojL497tWStIJ2Jnb/view?usp=sharing

2. Challenges and measure

Identification of Local Consultants:

- Consultant #3 (Legality) will coordinate with the Project Coordinator, national focal points, and ITTO to identify suitable local consultants in each target country.

- Adapting the Review Framework to Diverse Contexts:

- Given the diversity in timber production systems, trade structures, and market conditions across the target countries, making the review framework broadly applicable poses a challenge. To address this, Consultant #3 has held discussions with local consultants of Indonesia and Vietnam to test and refine the framework, ensuring its relevance and usability in different national contexts.

***Cambodia***

- Although the Cambodia component is not directly assigned to implement Activity 1.3, the Cambodian Project has utilized existing UN-REDD communication materials to promote timber legal compliance in smallholder and community plantations, in alignment with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting, and legality.

- The Cambodia component plans to produce a video titled *"Current Status of Key Selected Tree Species in Cambodia and a Shift to More Sustainable Livelihoods through Other Hardwoods, Teak, and Fast-Growing Tree Plantations as Substitutes for Rosewood Products."* The video will cover the following key contents:

- An introduction to forest resources in Cambodia

- CITES conventions and their restrictions on the international trade of endangered tree species

- The current status of key selected tree species in Cambodia

- Responsible purchasing practices and their role in preventing illegal logging
- Alternatives to illegal logging (e.g., using other hardwoods, teak, and fast-growing tree plantations as substitutes for rosewood)
- Promotion of private forest plantations (e.g., rosewood and agarwood) for **ex situ** conservation
- The global rise of teakwood

**Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes**

***Activities:***

2.1 Carry out a feasibility study for direct contracts/out-grower schemes with sourcing companies to ensure that smallholders' products will be purchased at remunerative prices (all participating countries)

***Activities:***

2.2 Carry out a study to promote micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to explore different options to overcome the problem with collaterals that smallholders often face trees as guarantees, and group-lending to a number of forest growers who can ensure loan repayments from each other (all participating countries)

***Activities:***

2.3 Carry out a study to promote the formation of effective forest grower associations to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits (all participating countries)

***Activities:***

2.4 Carry out a study to access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security of farmers, address the issue of cash flows, and support their access to micro-lending schemes (global scope)

***Achievement***

Activities 2.1-2.4 are leaded by the Thunen In statute of Forestry, Germany with cooperation and support from the participating countries and field data collection national experts.

Brief summary of the progress activity implementation by the TIF are shown below.

### *i. **Preparatory tasks for field data collection***

- *Identification of Primary Data Sources and Study Design Progress*:

TIF has identified the study primary data sources, including smallholders, forest grower associations, large-scale teak plantations, teak processing companies, traders, micro-finance institutions, GOs & NGOs and academia. Sample sizes were also determined for each group of data source per each project country which are classified into two groups based on the scale of teak production: i. major teak producing project countries (Thailand, India and Indonesia) and ii. progressing/smaller teak producing project countries (Vietnam, Cambodia and Togo). Additionally, preliminary study sites have been also strategically selected to capture variations in financial mechanisms and geographic scope, ensuring comprehensive contextual insights. These preparatory steps lay a strong foundation for the data collection phase and the overall research framework.

- *Study site selection*

Based on secondary data collected from each project country – TIF and the participating countries have identified study sites in all the project countries (except Indonesia). Accordingly, in the five project countries household surveys and focus group discussions will be conducted in 15 (and a few more additional districts from India) major smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable timber growing districts.

The following table shows a summary of the study sites per each project country:

| **Project country** | **Sample size** | **Study sites** | | **Remark** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Province/ Region/ State** | **District** | |
| Thailand | 60 | 3 | 6 | - Large # of smallholder teak growers, Micro-credit, gov't prog., mostly state manged forests<br>- BAAC Thong Saen Khan branch provides credit<br>- Community enterprise with 61 smallholder teak growers (Ban Na Lao); RECOFTC Trees4All |
| India | 60 | 2 | 3 + TBD* | - Large # of smallholder teak growers, Processing industry and FGA |
| Vietnam | 30 | 1 | 2 | - Smallholder based teak plantation area (ha), sale mainly raw materials only, social bank, MFI, large scale grower, historical gov't prog (Project 327 1997/98) |
| Cambodia | 30 | 3 | 3 | - Small-scale teak plantation and processing |
| Togo | 30 | 1 | 3 | - Major private teak plantation area and agroforestry |

*Note: * India to identify districts for the second target province.*

- *Preparation of data collection protocols*

To guide the data collection for the feasibility study of the financial mechanisms, Thünen Institute of Forestry has developed three different data collection tools, data entry platform (online and excel version) and a comprehensive info-sheet to guide the process of data collection, entry and reporting process. The tools developed are listed below:

| S-No | Data Collection Tool | Target Group | Remark |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Household survey: coded on Lime Survey and adopted for an Offline Surveys data collection | - Sample households among smallholder teak and other valuable timber growers. | |
| 2 | Expert Interview Questionnaire | - Stakeholders in the sector: Policymakers, private sector, financial institutions, R&D, NGOs… | |
| 3 | FGD Guide | - Smallholder groups (6–10 people) - 3 FGD/country | |

- *Pre-testing and training workshop on familiarization of data collection tools*
  Thünen Institute of Forestry, in collaboration with Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand – conducted a training workshop for field data collection experts and researchers selected from the five project implementing countries in Asia Pacific (Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Indonesia and Thailand). Preceding the actual workshop, an essential task of pre-testing of data collection tools with selected smallholder teak growers and field visits to teak plantation sites and processing industry in Uttaradit and Sukhothai provinces, Northern Thailand was conducted (item 2.3.1). Based on the findings of the pre-test exercise and feedback from data collection experts, the data collection tools were revised and updated addressing critical comments related to complexity, using technical terminologies and question type (open ended vs multiple answer option question).

- TIF has developed, with valuable feedback from the Regional Project Manager and ITTO, the terms of reference (ToR) for the recruitment of field data collection experts. The ToR had been reviewed (through Regional Project Manager) by ITTO, TIF and National Project Coordinators. TIF has also delivered satisfaction consent reviewing the CVs of the selected potential candidates.

- ITTO, TIF, National Coordinators and the Regional Project Manager had virtual meetings on 22 April 2024 to update the progress of sub-contract and on 19 December 2024 to review CV of potential candidates for field data collection experts (Table 10). The meeting decided and asked the Regional Project Manager to request NOL to recruit field data collection experts. The assignment covered the period from January – May 2025. Furthermore, ITTO, TIF, National Coordinators, National Experts and the Regional Project Manager had a virtual meeting to update the progress of filed data collection and challenges. The meeting has agreed to extend the period of data collection and analyzes to 31 August 2025, and a number of sample size (Thailand and India – at least 60 samples, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Togo- 30 samples). Note that the implementation in Indonesia is pending. In addition, the Thunen encourages all national Experts to use computerized system developed by Thunen to standardize data collection.

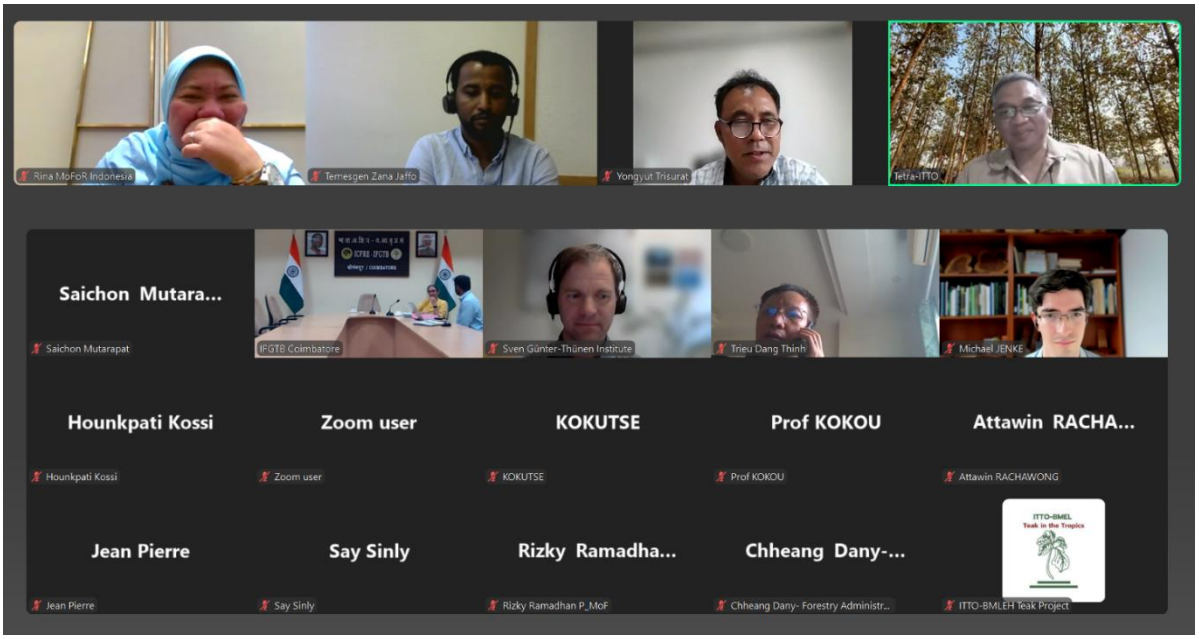



*Figure 4* ***Virtual meeting on 26 June 2025***

**Table 10** Recruited national experts to assist field data collection for micro-financing mechanisms

| Country | Name | Contact address |
|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | Mr. Sinly SAY | # I7, Street No. 60D, Kvao Village, Sangkat DangKoa, Khan Dangkoa, Phnom Penh, |
| India | Mr. G. Suresh | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: 9585536554<br>Email: sureshsugadev.s.s@gmail.com |
| Indonesia | Not started | |
| Thailand | Mr. Attawin Rachawong (supervised by Dr. Micjael Jenke) | Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand |
| Vietnam | Dr. Nguyen Tien HAI | Forestry Economics Research Centre - Vietnam Academy of Forest Science |
| Togo | Mr. Kossi HOUNKPATI | Forestry Research Laboratory of the University of Lomé, Togo |

***ii. Literature review and initial context analysis***

During the reporting, a comprehensive review of scientific literature has been initiated to gather insights on the current state of smallholder and community-based teak and valuable timber production in the project countries. In parallel, detailed country profile data sheets have been compiled for each respective project country. These profiles provide basic information, including teak production practices, processing techniques, market dynamics, and existing financial mechanisms. This dual approach aims to establish a robust knowledge base to inform the study's subsequent phases.

***iii. Participation in the 1st Regional Workshop***

Thünen Institute of Forestry participated on the 1st Regional Workshop on "***Enhancing smallholder plantations towards quality timber production of teak and other valuable species and carbon neutrality in the tropics***" co-organized by ITTO, Kasetsart University, Thailand, and Royal Forest Department, Thailand from 18-21 September 2024. TIF also contributed to the workshop, engaging in pre-workshop meetings (project technical committee and project steering committee meetings), development policy and scientific discussions and insightful field excursion. In addition, Dr. Sven Gunter and Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo jointly presented the draft study design and field data collection plan and received valuable feedback that shaped the subsequent course of action at the technical committee meeting.

- Besides, the ITTO-BMEL Teak Project (handled by ITTO) also recruited Dr. ANTO RIMBAWANTO from Research Centre for Applied Botany, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia to serve as Consultant7#1: Teak and Other Valuable Species Strategy Development (starting from October 2024). The consultant 7-1 has overall responsibility to support the effective and successful implementation of the project activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4, forest policy development (regional scope) (Activity 3.1), teak networking in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa regions through ITTO's member countries and partners (Activity 3.3), and sharing project lessons on sustainable teak forest management and legal and sustainable supply chains at two regional workshops (Activity 3.3), and the 5th World Teak Conference in 2025 in India (Activity 3.4).

- This formal agreement officially confirms the Consultant's participation, enabling them to begin their contributions to the project's objectives. With this contract in place, the project can now move forward with its planned activities.

- ITTO (Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi), Consultant#7-1 (Dr. Anto RIMBAWANTO), the Regional Project Manager (Prof. Yongyut Trisurat), and the project staff had online meeting on 16 December 2024 to review TORs and workplan assigned to the consultant, and to clarify some questions raised by the consultant.

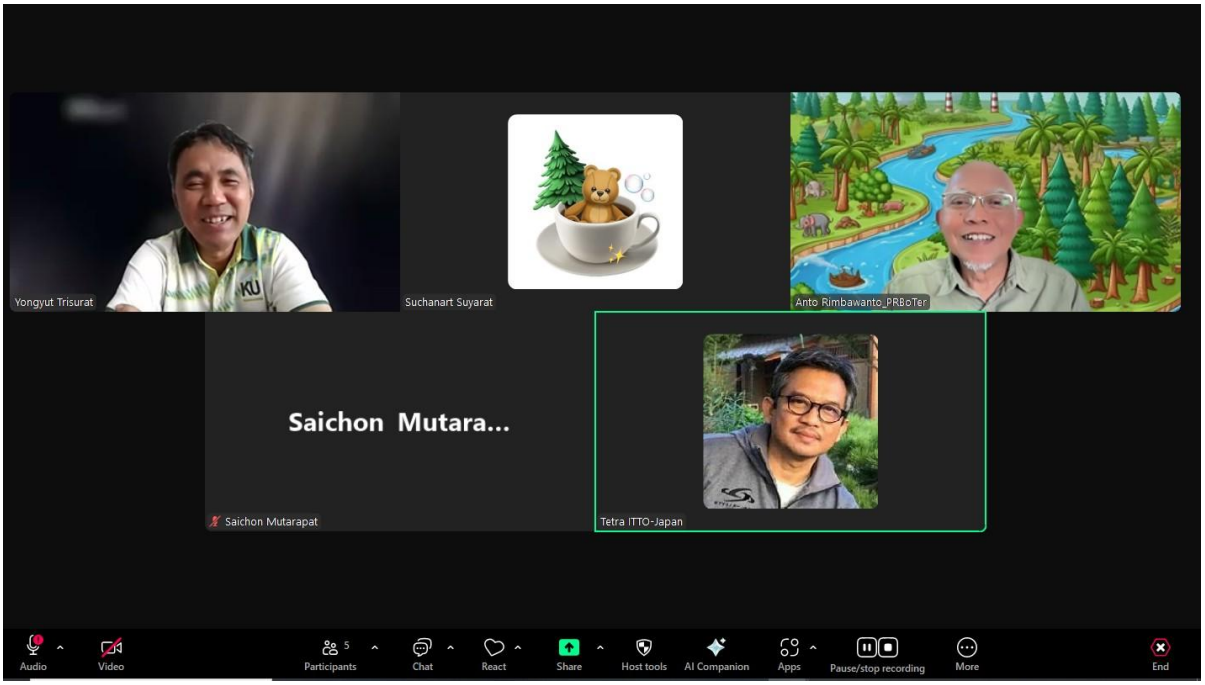



*Figure 5* ***Online meeting with Consultnat#7-1 (Dr. Anto RIMBAWANTO) on 16 January 2024.***

Dr. Anto submitted the 1st progress report outlying his consultancy for the ITTO- BMLEH Teak Project [PP-A/54-331] from January to June 2025, focusing on policy development for the sustainable management of teak and other valuable species in Indonesia.

Key Activities and Progress during January-June 2025:

- Develop a Policy Development for Sustainable Management of Teak and Other Valuable Species in Smallholder and Community-Based Plantations (draft – Table 11).
- Annalise national policies and legal frameworks for domestic and foreign investments in smallholder teak and other valuable species plantations (draft)
- Preparations for taking part at the 5th World Teak Conference 17-20 September 2025.
- Literature search and summary of the development of teak and other valuable species markets and trade, along with teak forest certification in participating countries.

**Table 11 Matrix of Policy Development for Sustainable Management of Teak and Other Valuable Species in Smallholder and Community-Based Plantations in Asia**

| Theme | Key point | Policy implications/Recommendations | Research Questions |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Species and Importance** | Teak, mahogany, acacia, eucalypt, and paraserianthes are vital for smallholders and community plantations in Asia, providing timber, income, and ecological benefits. | Recognize and support diverse species in policy frameworks for multi-species systems. | Which species combinations are most suitable for smallholder systems in different ecological and socioeconomic contexts? |
| **Socioeconomic & Environmental Role** | Plantations support rural livelihoods, timber supply, ecological restoration, and carbon sequestration. | Policies should promote sustainable management balancing economic, social, and environmental goals. | How do smallholder plantations contribute to rural livelihoods, poverty reduction, and ecosystem restoration in various countries? |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Challenges** | Limited access to improved genetic material, poor silvicultural practices, insecure tenure, market barriers, financial constraints, and climate vulnerability remain persistent. | Address extension, legal, and market gaps to empower smallholders. | What are the main barriers to adoption of improved genetic material and best management practices by smallholders? |
| **Policy & Institutional Landscape** | Existing policies are fragmented; implementation and enforcement are weak; institutional support is often lacking for smallholders. | Strengthen coordination, clarify tenure, and improve enforcement with a smallholder focus | How do current policies and institutional arrangements impact smallholder participation and benefit-sharing? |
| **Ecosystem Services Integration** | Carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and soil conservation are key services; PES and carbon markets can incentivize sustainable management. | Develop PES schemes and link smallholders to carbon and biodiversity incentives. | How can ecosystem services (carbon, biodiversity) be quantified and monetized for smallholder benefit? |
| **Case Studies & Lessons Learned** | Participatory approaches, capacity building, and market linkages have proven successful in some contexts. | Scale up proven models and adapt lessons for broader impact. | What factors contribute to the success or failure of smallholder/community-based plantation initiatives in Asia? |
| **Genetic Diversity & Improvement** | - High genetic variation exists within and between teak provenances, with India and Myanmar showing the highest diversity.<br>- Most smallholders rely on wildings or local germplasm of unknown or poor quality due to limited access to improved planting material.<br>- Clonal propagation and tissue culture now allow mass production of superior genotypes, but access remains limited for smallholders.<br>- Use of improved genetic material is associated with higher productivity, better timber quality, and greater climate resilience.<br>- Maintaining genetic diversity is crucial for adaptation to pests, diseases, and climate change. | - Develop policies to ensure smallholders have access to improved and diverse genetic material.<br>- Support national and regional breeding programs and germplasm exchange.<br>- Promote participatory breeding and conservation of local genetic resources.<br>- Integrate genetic diversity objectives into certification and plantation registration schemes. | - What are the barriers to smallholder access to improved genetic material?<br>- How does genetic diversity within plantations affect productivity, timber quality, and resilience?<br>- What policy mechanisms can support the development and distribution of improved, climate-resilient planting stock to smallholders? |
| **Recommendations** | Socio-ecological impact studies, optimizing genetic improvement, innovative financing, and monitoring frameworks are needed. | Prioritize adaptive management and evidence-based policy. | What is the socio-ecological impacts of policy reforms and innovations in smallholder forestry, and how can they be effectively monitored? |

- The draft report is uploaded to Google document#10. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Hd9CU5MSBv3DiRiFDWIuy6snrFHGjd6O/view?usp=sharing
- The policy draft will be finalized by December 2025

## Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened

***Activities*** 3.1: ***Produce and disseminate outreach and training materials on the conservation and sustainable management of teak and other valuable species plantations and legal and sustainable supply chains in line with outcomes of Activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4 to support forest policy development (regional scope).***

***Achievements***

***Thailand***

- National Newspapers reported the launching Workshop of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Economic Species Plantation on Kom Chat Luk (https://kardchuek.net/68763/);

ไทยรัฐ
Thai Rath
Circulation: 500,000
Ad Rate: 1,000

Section: First Section/การศึกษา-ศาสนา-สาธารณสุข
วันที่: จันทร์ 16 ตุลาคม 2566
ปีที่: 74 ฉบับที่: 24009 หน้า: 7(กลาง)
Col.Inch: 22.79 Ad Value: 22,790 PRValue (x3): 68,370 คลิป: ขาว-ดำ
หัวข้อข่าว: คณะวนศาสตร์หนุน 5 ชาติปลูกสวนป่า

# คณะวนศาสตร์หนุน 5 ชาติปลูกสวนป่า

ศ.ดร.ยงยุทธ ไกรสุริยันต์ คณะวนศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยเกษตรศาสตร์ ในฐานะผู้จัดการโครงการการส่งเสริมการผลิตไม้ที่มีคุณภาพโดยเกษตรกรรายย่อยผู้ปลูกไม้สักและไม้มีค่าชนิดอื่นๆ ในเขตร้อนหรือ ITTO-BMEL Teak Project Phase II เปิดเผยว่า ITTO-BMEL Teak Project Phase II ได้รับการสนับสนุนทางการเงินจากกระทรวงเกษตรและอาหาร สหพันธรัฐเยอรมนี ประมาณ 80 ล้านบาท มีพื้นที่โครงการครอบคลุม 6 ประเทศในเอเชียแปซิฟิก ประกอบด้วย กัมพูชา ไทย เวียดนาม อินเดีย อินโดนีเซีย และโตโก ในแอฟริกาตะวันตก โดยคณะวนศาสตร์ทำหน้าที่เป็นผู้จัดการโครงการระดับภูมิภาค มีจุดมุ่งหมายเพื่อปรับปรุงการผลิตไม้คุณภาพสูงจากสวนไม้สักและไม้มีค่าชนิดอื่นๆ ที่ปลูกโดยเกษตรกรรายย่อย และชุมชนในเขตเอเชียแปซิฟิกและทวีปแอฟริกาตะวันตก และสร้างความร่วมมือในระดับภูมิภาคและระดับนานาชาติ เพื่อการปลูกไม้สักและไม้ป่ามีค่าอื่นๆ โดยเกษตรกรรายย่อย

ศ.ดร.ยงยุทธกล่าวต่อว่า โครงการนี้ส่งเสริมนโยบายการปลูกสวนป่าไม้สักและไม้มีค่าชนิดอื่นๆ จากกล้าไม้ที่มีคุณภาพและส่งเสริมการเข้าถึงแหล่งเงินทุนเพื่อส่งเสริมการปลูกไม้และการจัดการสวนป่าที่ยาวนานขึ้นเพื่อให้ได้เนื้อไม้ที่มีคุณภาพดีขึ้น ซึ่งจะเป็นการเพิ่มมูลค่าไม้และผลิตภัณฑ์ไม้ที่ตรงความต้องการของตลาด โดยมีแหล่งที่มาของไม้ที่ถูกต้องตามกฎหมาย และพัฒนาอุตสาหกรรมเข้าถึงตลาดซื้อ-ขายการ์บอน ซึ่งเป็นแหล่งรายได้เสริมจากการปลูกต้นไม้สอดคล้องกับเงื่อนไขมาตรการ CBAM (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism) ที่สินค้าที่เข้าไปขายในสหภาพยุโรปตั้งแต่วันที่ 1 ม.ค.2568 เป็นต้นไป และสนับสนุนนโยบายรัฐบาลในการลดปริมาณการปล่อยคาร์บอนร้อยละ 20-25 ภายในปี 2573 ตามความตกลงปารีสภายใต้กรอบอนุสัญญาสหประชาชาติว่าด้วยการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ

Khao Sod (https://www.khaoded77.com/?p=10575); Pracha News Online https://www.facebook.com/pracharthai/posts/pfbid02HQM5ywC7Gj5WXXeyUdsBphSN5cutqwNnaiTUNr2Hyfy2RF61DEdTyquvi3Xnc5v5l;Thai Rat Newspaper (National newspaper) reported the RFD/KU with other 5 countries promote teak plantations คณะวนศาสตร์หนุน 5... - คณะวนศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยเกษตรศาสตร์ (facebook.com)

Khao Sod (https://www.khaoded77.com/?p=10575)


Pracha News Online

- ITTO invited Prof. Yongyut Trisurat to participate in the 59th ITTC Meeting held in Pattaya, Thailand, from 13–17 November 2023. On 14 November 2023, Prof. Yongyut had the opportunity to present the achievements of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase I, as well as the project context for Phase II. In addition, the project organized an exhibition showcasing the accomplishments and planned activities of both phases.

- During the event, Prof. Yongyut also met and discussed the project context with Mr. Matthias Schwoerer of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, as well as with National Coordinators and high-ranking officials from Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Togo, Thailand, and Vietnam


*Photo 28* ***Invited presentation and exhibitions at the 59th ITTC***

- The project hired a technical expert to develop the official project website: https://itto-bmel-project.com/. The website features four main sections: 1) Who We Are; 2) Our Approach; 3) Our Programs, and 4) News and Insights Each participating country is encouraged to contribute up-to-date information and recent activity updates. The website will be updated monthly.

- The RFD invited the project team to set up an exhibition in celebration of **World Forestry Day** on 21 March 2024 in Thong Pha Phum District, Kanchanaburi Province. In the accompanying photo, the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the Deputy Director-General of the RFD, and other senior officials are seen visiting the project's exhibition booth

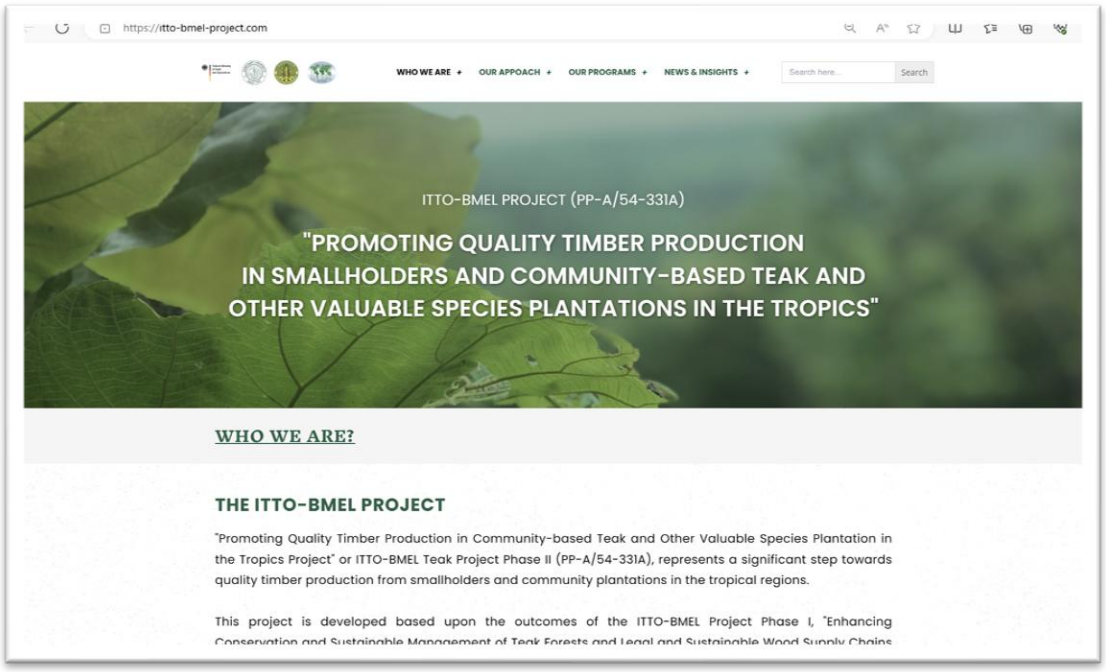



*Figure 6* ***ITTO-BMLEH Project website: https://itto-bmel-project.com/***

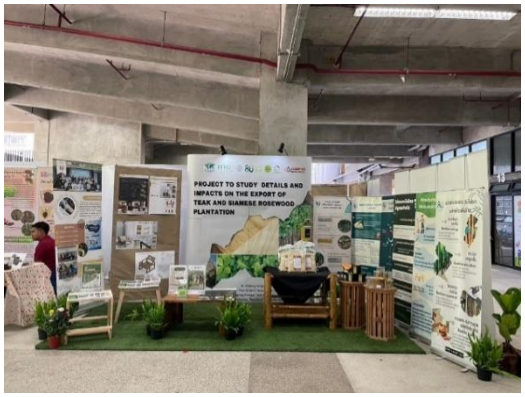



*Photo 29* ***Exhibition for celebrating the Anniversary World Forestry Day on 21 March 2024 (left) and Exhibition for Bio-economy Launching Ceremony at the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University on 21 June 2024 (right)***

- The Thailand project team produced a video introducing the ITTO-BMLEH Project. The video content covers the project's background, objectives, outputs, and key activities. In addition, the ITTO Communication Unit visited Thailand and recorded footage of project activities from 8–11 February 2025. The video is scheduled to be launched at the 5th World Teak Conference in India, taking place from 17–20 September 2025.


A video introducing the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project. Available to download at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JacdvTy1shogGEAdzAE_1vL8s-qvC6BM/view?usp=sharing

*Photo 30* ***VDO production by ITTO Communication Unit***

*Cambodia*

- The Cambodia project team coordinated with the ITTO Communication Unit to produce video footage for the ITTO Mekong Teak Project Phase II, highlighting the challenges and opportunities for smallholder plantations. The video, filmed in Ratanakiri Province, aims to promote teak plantation development in Cambodia. It was officially launched at the 60th ITTC Meeting held in Yokohama, Japan, from 2–6 December 2024, and was later reintroduced by Prof. Yongyut Trisurat.

*Photo 31* ***VDO production***


***Launching VDO at the ITTC 60 meeting***

***Activities*** 3.2: ***Support and facilitate teak networking in ITTO's member countries in Africa, Asia- Pacific and Latin America in collaboration with TEAKNET and other partners through the organization of a quarterly-based Webinar (4 every year) to promote the conservation and sustainable management of teak forest resources and legal and sustainable supply chains (global scope).***

***Achievement***

- Dr. P.K. Thulasidas, former TEAKNET Coordinator, has been recruited as **Consultant #5: Information Management** since November 2023. His primary responsibility is to promote knowledge sharing and outreach across the three tropical regions by publishing 18 issues of the bi-monthly ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletter.

- The bi-monthly newsletter is hosted on the **TEAKNET website** (www.teaknet.org) and the **Kasetsart University project website** in Thailand.

- During the reporting period, Consultant #5 was actively involved in the publication of the bi-monthly online ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletter, which features articles and reports on project activities implemented in participating countries across the Asia-Pacific region and Togo in West Africa. Since the start of Phase II in November 2023, nine (9) issues have been published, with the latest—**Vol. 7(3), 2025**—released in June 2025. See Google document#11.https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_BtpoxhQ42mlcK8yigAWqMO1ORZRTPEj/view?usp=sharing



*Figure 7* ***Selected ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletters***

- Dr. Hwan-ok Ma has been recruited as *Consultant #7-2: Teak and Other Valuable Species Networking and Capacity Building* since October 2024. He is responsible for supporting the effective and successful implementation of *Activity 1.2* and teak networking in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa regions (*Activity 3.2*) through a series of 12 webinars. These webinars, organized in collaboration with Kasetsart University, feature selected topics presented by invited experts. Dr. Ma also contributes to *Activity 3.3*, which includes two regional workshops to share project lessons on sustainable management of teak and other valuable species and legal, sustainable supply chains, and *Activity 3.4*, which includes participation in the 5th World Teak Conference in 2025 in India.

- During the reporting period, Consultant #7-2, with support from the project team, organized three webinars. A summary of the first webinar is provided below:

- The **1st webinar**, titled *"Setting the Scene"*, was held on 14 February 2025. The event featured invited speakers:

    - Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO Projects Manager, Trade and Industry Division, presenting *"ITTO Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains: Responding to Market Requirements"*
    - Dr. P.K. Thulasidas, Principal Scientist & Former Head, Wood Science and Technology Department, and former TEAKNET Coordinator, presenting *"Smallholder Teak and Other Valuable Species: Meeting Market Demands"*
    - The webinar was moderated by Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Regional Project Manager, and officially opened by Ms. Jennifer Conje, Director of the Forest Management Division, ITTO.
    - The event brought together over 70 participants from countries across the Asia-Pacific and West Africa, fostering valuable discussions on sustainable timber production.

- The **2nd webinar**, titled *"Quality Planting Materials for Premium Teak Production"*, was held on 22 April 2025. The session was officially opened by Ms. Jennifer Conje, Director of ITTO Forest Management Division.

- The first speaker, *Dr. Yasodha Ramasamy* from the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), India, presented recent advancements in teak genomics. She emphasized the role of whole genome sequencing and genomic selection in accelerating breeding cycles and improving timber quality. Dr. Ramasamy highlighted the genetic diversity of teak across its natural range and stressed the importance of leveraging this diversity for sustainable genetic improvement. She advocated for global collaboration and proposed the establishment of an International Institute for Teak to support breeding, conservation, and resilience to climate change.

- The second speaker, *Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen* from the Royal Forest Department (RFD), Thailand, discussed teak genetic diversity, conservation efforts, and breeding programs in the Greater Mekong Subregion. He highlighted Thailand's leadership in teak improvement and the integration of biotechnology. Dr. Suwan called for enhanced regional collaboration, improved access to quality germplasm, and innovative marketing strategies to ensure that genetic gains benefit both smallholders and the timber industry. He explained that Thailand's teak improvement program has evolved through three key phases:
    - Seed orchard establishment and seed production
    - Clonal testing and provenance trials
    - Integration of biotechnology and DNA-based techniques

- The webinar concluded with strong interest in tissue culture as a transformative tool for quality timber production from teak and other species in the tropics. Additionally, key messages derived from the 3rd webinar are shown below:

- Clonal teak ensures uniformity and superior wood traits: Vegetative propagation using tissue culture enables the discussion emphasized the importance of maintaining genetic diversity alongside genomic selection to ensure resilient teak plantations. It was recommended that breeding programs target heartwood quality and use 20 to 30 clones to balance productivity with long-term genetic stability and climate resilience. The need to improve smallholders' access to superior planting materials—via tissue culture and certified nurseries—was also underscored. Participants agreed on the urgent need for stronger regional collaboration in teak genetic conservation and research.

- The webinar brought together over 50 participants from across the Asia-Pacific and West Africa, with a shared interest in teak genetics and improvement strategies.

- The **3rd Webinar** on "*Teak Seedling Innovation via Tissue Culture*" was held on 27 June 2025. It explored advanced propagation techniques to improve the quality and productivity of teak and other species plantations in tropical regions. The webinar brought together 36 experts and participants from six partner countries (Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo) to strengthen South-South cooperation in sustainable forestry. The session was moderated by Prof. Yongyut Trisurat (Regional Project Manager, Kasetsart University) and officially opened by Dr. Mohammad Nurudeen Iddrisu (Director of ITTO Timber Industry and Trade Division) on behalf of the Executive Director. Dr. Nurudeen stressed the role of quality planting stock and tissue culture in supporting sustainable supply chains, and encouraged collaboration with the World Teak Conference (India, Sept 2025).

- Dr. Doreen Goh (YSG Bioscape, Malaysia) shared innovations in tissue culture enabling large-scale production of superior teak clones with higher growth, survival, and carbon potential, while maintaining genetic diversity. The YSG Vioscale company has exported teak seedlings to about one thirds countries growing teaks. Dr. Paiboolya Gavinlertvatana (Thai Orchids Lab) highlighted Thailand's success in commercial tissue culture, producing millions of clones annually from elite trees with proven field performance. He underscored its value in enhancing smallholder productivity and reducing pressure on natural forests.

1) Participants engaged in discussions on rotation cycles, export regulations, smallholder access, and clonal diversity, with presenters stressing the importance of conservation breeding and inclusive propagation modelsreplication of elite genotypes, resulting in uniform, fast-growing trees with improved form, density, and wood quality compared to seed-derived plants.

2) High productivity with shorter rotations: Clonal teak plantations have demonstrated significantly higher yields—up to 30–50% more than conventional teak—enabling shorter harvesting rotations, which accelerates investment (e.g., 6–7 years in an innovative management system with irrigation and fertilization in Cambodia, and 15–18 years in Brazil).

3) Cost-effective mass production is achievable: Through optimized tissue culture protocols, millions of clonal teak plants can be produced annually at competitive costs, making them viable even for commercial scale plantations.

4) Improving smallholder access: Although clonal teak is primarily supplied to large investors, there is an increasing need to support smallholders by providing starter planting materials—such as hedge gardens—along with technical training and cooperative nursery models to lower costs and ensure quality.

5) Enhancing value via carbon and non-timber products: Potential carbon credit revenues and innovative uses of teak leaves (e.g., natural dyes, shampoos) offer additional income streams, making teak plantations more economically attractive for communities.

- Tentative schedule of three additional webinars between August and December 2025 is shown below:

  > 4th Webinar: Date: late August 2025
  Theme: Quality Timber Production – Silvicultural Practices

  > 5th Webinar: Date: October 2025
  Theme: Monitoring Forest Health and Pest Control: Message of 5th World Teak Conference 2025

  > 6th Webinar: Date: December 2025
  Theme: Efficient Teak Harvesting and Transportation


***Figure 8** Flyers for the 1st Webinar held on 14 February 2025; 2nd Webinar on 22 April 2025; and 3rd Webinar on 27 June 2025*

Webinar reports are uploaded to Google document#12.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bPFJJgHt-DCbRhkVK4mcb7ui6IP8QeUD/view?usp=sharing

***Activities 3.2: Plan and organize two Regional Workshops in Thailand and in central Java, Indonesia with investors and financial institutions to discuss financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations (regional scope).***

***Achievements***

***I. Regional Workshop***

- The **1st Regional Workshop** on "*Enhancing Smallholder Plantations Towards Quality Timber* Production of Teak and Other Economic Species and Carbon Neutrality in the Tropics" was held in Bangkok from 18–21 September 2024, back-to-back with the 1st Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting. A field visit to Nan, Phrae, and Lampang provinces was conducted from 20–22 September 2024 to observe smallholder and commercial teak plantations, as well as teakwood manufacturing factories.

- The **2nd Regional Workshop** is tentatively planned for the second half of 2026.

- The overall objective of the workshop was to discuss the planning and implementation of research and development activities aimed at producing high-quality timber, enhancing value chain processes in the wood industry, and promoting carbon-supported plantation development. Over 70 participants from more than 10 countries in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond attended the workshop.


*Photo 31* ***Group photo of all participants attending the 1st Regional workshop.***

- The substance of this regional workshop included four components: 1) Welcome and opening remarks; 2) Keynote presentations; 3) Technical presentations; and 4) A post-workshop field excursion.

- *Opening remarks* were delivered by Dr. M. Nurudeen Iddrissu (ITTO), Mr. Stephen Wagner (BMLEH representative), Dr. Kobsak Wanthongchai (Dean, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University), and Mr. Bannarak Sermthong (Deputy Director-General, Royal Forest Department).

- The opening remarks were followed by four *keynote presentations*:

    - Dr. Khwanchai Duangsathaporn, Member of Thailand's National Board on Forest Policy, presented the Thai Government's Policy on Economic Tree Plantations.
    - Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO Projects Manager, delivered a talk on "Promoting Sustainable Wood Use in ITTO Producer Countries", highlighting urgent global challenges such as pandemics, armed conflicts, disrupted supply chains, inflation, extreme weather events, and ecosystem degradation.
    - Dr. P.K. Thulasidas, Steering Committee Member of TEAKNET and former Regional Coordinator for Asia-Pacific and Oceania for the Global Teak Resources and Market Assessment (TRMA 2022), shared findings from the collaborative study undertaken by IUFRO, TEAKNET, and FAO, following up on the TRMA 2010 report.
    - Dr. Osamu Saito, from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan, presented a simplified model on the "Nature Futures Framework (NFF)"—a tool to support desirable futures for people, nature, and the planet.

- In addition to the keynote addresses, the workshop featured 10 technical presentations delivered in two sessions:

    - Technical Session 1: Smallholder Plantations Towards Quality Timber Production
    - Technical Session 2: Forest Plantations and Restoration Contributing to Carbon Neutrality, Teak Value Chains, and Micro-Finance

These technical papers were presented by national coordinators, scientists, and practitioners from both the participating countries and the broader Asia-Pacific region.

***Activities 3.2: Support sharing lessons in promoting the quality teak production and legal and sustainable supply chains at the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerala, India) for improved global teak collaboration (global scope).***

***Achievements***

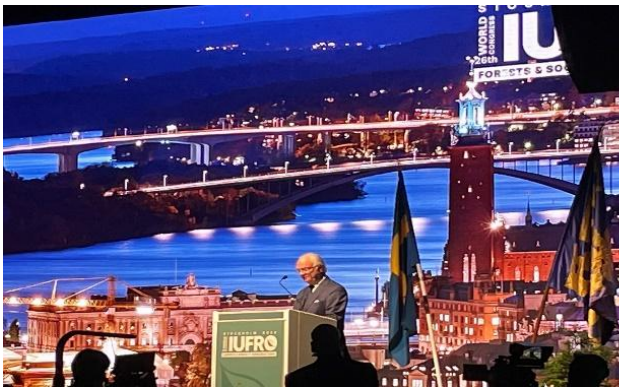
## *I. IUFRO 2024*

- IUFRO, TEAKNET, and ITTO jointly organized a side event titled "Strengthening Teak Forest Management for Sustainable Teakwood Supply Chains and Trade (T2:29)" at the IUFRO World Congress 2024, held in Stockholm, Sweden, from 24 to 31 June 2024.

- The preliminary program schedule for the science sessions is available at: https://program.iufro2024.com/.

- The Teak Session T2:29 was held on 28 June, from 8:30 to 10:30 AM (CEST), and was moderated by Mario Tomazello and P.K. Thulasidas.

- Six project members—Dr. Hwan-ok Ma, Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, Dr. Dong Lam Tran, Prof. Kokutse Adzo Dzifa, and Prof. Yongyut Trisurat—contributed as speakers at the teak side event, while Dr. P.K. Thulasidas served on the organizing committee. For more details, see the ITTO-BMEL Teak Newsletter, published in August 2024 (*Volume 6(4)*)



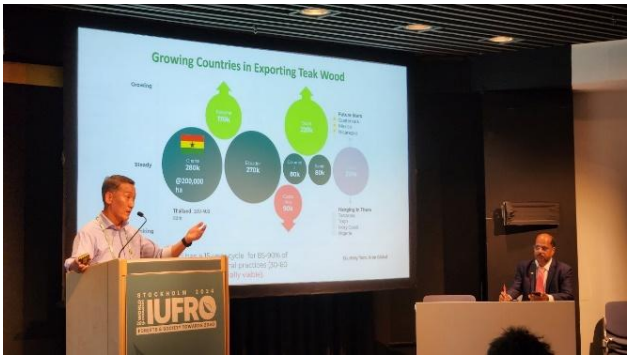





***Photo 32** Dr. Ma (moderated by Dr Thulasidas)*

***Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi***

***II 5th WTC***

- With the support of ITTO and project members, the 5th World Teak Conference (5th WTC), entitled "*Sustainable Development of the Global Teak Sector – Adapting to Future Markets and Environments*", will be held at the Grand Hyatt, Cochin, Kerala, from 17–20 September 2025. The event will be hosted by the Kerala Forest Research Institute and coordinated by the International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET), India.

- The ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project will organize a side event entitled "*Improving High-Value Teak Timber for Sustainable Supply Chains"* on 17 September 2025. The objective of the side event is to disseminate and share experiences gained from the project with scientists and practitioners worldwide. Topics will include financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations, seed production and nursery techniques, silvicultural practices and improved stand management (including coppicing as a regeneration method), teak and other valuable species value chains, as well as teak timber legality and sustainability.

- At least 26 delegates from ITTO, Germany, and the six participating countries are expected to attend the conference, with the majority coming from India (the host country) and Thailand. Financial support for participation will be allocated from budget item C64 – World Teak Conference.

- The side event will include opening remarks by ITTO, a project overview by the Regional Project Manager, and eight technical presentations by representatives of the participating countries. The list of delegates and abstracts are uploaded to Google document#13. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LgP7QaI3DMxMX9gXwtPTUckA5b7P2uWK/view?usp=sharing

  The tentative program for the side event is shown below:

**5th WTC 2025 - DRAFT ITTO Side Event program schedule**
**Theme: "Improving high-value teak timber for sustainable supply chains"**

| | |
|---|---|
| | **ITTO-BMLEH Teak Session** |
| **Wednesday, 17 Sept 2025** (16.00-18:20) | Moderators: Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi (Projects Manager) and Ms. Paula Sarigumba (Communications and Outreach Officer), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Japan |

| Time | Topic | Speaker |
|---|---|---|
| 16.00-16.10 | Opening Remarks and group photo | Ms. Sheam SATKURU, ITTO Executive Director |
| 16.10-16.20 | ITTO-BMLEH project achievement and way forwards | Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Kasetsart University, Thailand |
| 16.20-16.40 | Keynote presentation: Enhancing high-value teak timber for sustainable supply chains (will update the topic later) | TBD –(Thulasidas). Keynote will be identified by TEAKNET upon RPM request |
| 16.40-16.48 | Smallholder Teak Plantations: Bridging the Demand and Supply Gap in India | Dr. R. Yasodha, IFGTB, India (she may be requested to prepare an Abstract for this topic) |
| 16.48-16.56 | Teak plantation in Cambodia | Mr. Cheat Vichit, Department of Forest Plantation and Private Forest Development |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 16.56-17.04 | The Role of Smallholder Teak Plantations in Indonesia's Forestry Sector: Models for Sustainable Development | Prof. Anto RIMBAWANTO, BRIN, Indonesia |
| 17.04-17.12 | Promoting high-value teak timber for sustainable supply chains in Vietnam | Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu, VAFS, Vietnam |
| 17.12-17.20 | Teak Clonal Test Plan for Selecting Superior Mother Trees for Commercial Plantation in Thailand | Ms. Somporn Khumchompoo, RFD, Thailand |
| 17.20-17.28 | Monitoring adaptation and productivity of teak plantations in Guinean Zone of Togo: A comparative study of historical and newly introduced provenances | Presented by Prof. Adzo Dzifa KOKUTSE, University of Lome, Togo |
| 17.28-17.36 | Precision Control and Management of Teak Borer (*Xyleutes ceramica* Walker) in Thailand | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wattanachai Tasen, Kasetsart University, Thailand |
| 17.36-17.44 | Bridging the Financial Gap for Teak Smallholders: A Review of Financing Models in South Asia, Southeast Asia and West Africa.- | Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo, Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany |
| 17.44-18.15 | Questions and Discussion | All speakers moderated by Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi and Ms. Paula Sarigumba |
| 18.15-18.20 | Summary and closing | ITTO |

Note: Time allocation for technical presentation is 8 minutes; Welcome Reception will start at 18.30 h.

## 3. Planned Activities during July – December 2025

***Cambodia***

The planned activities for Cambodia components are as follows:

- Maintain and conduct measurements of demonstration plots
- Participate in the 2nd PSC meeting and the 5th WTC in India, as well as other project activities such as bi-monthly webinars
- Activities under Outputs 2 and 3 will be carried out intensively from July to December 2025, with support from Thunen Institution.

***Thailand***

Thailand's project team discussed the planned activities for July – December 2025. The proposed activities and tentative schedules are summarized below:

- Coordinate with Consultant#7.2 (Capacity Building and Networking) to organize the 4th to 6th webinar.

| No | Date | Speaker | Tentative Subject |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | August 2025<br>• **Theme: quality timber production (silvicultural practices)** | To be confirmed<br>**Director of Forest Plantation**, Ghana Forestry Commission | Intensive teak plantation in Ghana |
| | | **Mr. Boonlert Srisuksai**<br>Sri Trang, Thailand<br><br>Or TCR Company in Brazil | Intensive silvicultural practices and agroforestry Win-Win approach |
| 5 | October 2025<br>**Theme: Monitoring health and pest control** | To be decided<br>**Professor affiliated with Mendel at Brno,** Czech Republic | Forest health monitoring |
| | | **Prof. Kouami KOKOU**,<br>University of Lome<br>Togo | Monitoring forest plantation health using drone and remote sensing technique |
| | | **Prof. Decha Wiwattaya or**<br>**Dr. Watanachai Tasen**<br>Kasetsat University<br>Thailand | Teak pole borer detection and control |
| 6 | December 2025<br>**Theme: Efficient teak harvesting and transportation** | To be decided<br>Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology, **Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic** | Challenges and opportunities to use skye logging in forest plantations |
| | | **Dr. Nopparat K.**<br>Kasetsat University<br>Thailand | Efficiency teak harvesting in FIO plantation |

- Cooperate with and support Thai National Expert, with assistance from Thünen Institute, to finalize field data collection and conduct a field survey and focus group meeting with stakeholders from July-August 2025.

- Arrange the 2nd PSC meeting and a side event at the APFC in Chiangmai

- Support the Consultant#4 in organizing the 3rd training on Efficient teak harvesting and transportation in November 2025.

- Collaborate with TEAKNET, ITTO and all participating countries to organize a side event at the 5th World Teak Conference in Kerala, India.

- Monitor on the ground activities at demonstration plots

***Vietnam***

- Transplant teak plantlets maintained in the nurseries to the two demonstration plots.
- Organize the remaining training courses on nursery and planting of teak for participating households.
- Participate in-person in the 5th World Teak Conference (WTC) in India and 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand.
- Support Thünen Institute of Forestry in collecting data for scientific research involving multiple stakeholders along supply chains of teak and other valuable species, including those engage in microfinancing schemes for longer rotation in Vietnam.

***Togo***

- Togo component will continue experimenta research activities on:
- Production of teak seedlings from improved seeds (Indian and Malaysian origin)
- Production of cuttings from high-performance teak trees
- Collection and germination testing of seeds from local species in Togo
- Maintain and continue data collection at two demonstration plots located int Ativémé and Zogbépimé.
- Plan and organize the remaining training sessions for private planters in Togo on producing *Pterocarpus erinaceus* seedlings using the marcotting technique. Additionally, a training session for planters in Togo on techniques for collecting and conditioning forest seeds (Teck, Cedrela et Pterocarpus) is also planned by the consultant 2.
- Mr. HOUNKPATI Kossi, as the field data collection expert, will coordinate with the National Coordinator and the Thunen Institute to carry out field data collection for micro-financiering mechanism.
- Participate in-person at the 5th WTC in India in September 2025 and attend the 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand online.

***India***

**Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems.**

- In the existing seed production areas and seed orchards, an assessment of fruit and seed quality is planned for the upcoming season.

- The project plans to establish two demonstration plots for teak in Coimbatore district during late 2025. These plots will promote smallholder agroforestry systems for the sustainable production of quality seedlings and timber.

- Two out of four training courses outlined in the inception report are scheduled to be prepared and conducted in late 2025.

**Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes**

- India component had finalized the target individuals and groups for interview and focus group consultation meetings. The next step is to carry out field data collection on micro-lending schemes that address the credit constraints of smallholders. This includes exploring options such as tree collaterals and group-lending models, where forest growers support each other to ensure loan repayment.

**Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened.**

- A field guide in local language on teak cultivation for small holder systems will be finished and distributed to smallholders and interested individuals.

- ICFRE-IFGTB will participate in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 in Kochi, India during 16-20 September 2025, and deliver both oral and poster presentations.

- Abstracts submitted to the Conference have been accepted.

- ICFRE-IFGTB also plans to set up an exhibition in the Conference.

***Indonesia (TBD)***

It is hoped that Indonesia component can establish the project management team soon to begin implementing project activities. Upon the official approval, the two proposed demonstration plots will be established, and the planned training session will be conducted. Delegates from the Indonesia component will also attend the 2$^{nd}$ PSC meeting in Thailand and the 5$^{th}$ WTC in India.

***Thünen Institute of Forestry***

During July-December 2025, the Thünen Institute plans to accomplish the following tasks:

- Launch, monitor and finalize field data collection in all the project countries.
- Participate in the 5th World Teak Conference (September 2025)
- Participate in the 2nd PSC meeting (November 2025)

***International Consultants***

- Consultant#3: Legality - Continue discussions with local consultants in Indonesia and Vietnam to finalize the review framework.
- Identify and engage potential consultants in the remaining participating countries.
- Consultant#5: Information Manage - Publish the bi-monthly Teak Newsletter Issues for August, October and December 2025
- Consultant#7.1: Policy Strategy Development for Teak and Other Valuable Species – Finalize the policy draft by December 2025
- Consultant#7.2: Capacity Building and Networking – Organize the 4$^{th}$ to the 5$^{th}$ webinars, with support from ITTO and the Regional Project Manger

## 4. Critical Analysis

The ITTO-BMLEH has been implemented since November 2023, covering approximately 50% of the project duration. However, the participating countries have encountered some challenges as follows:

- Due to the lengthy internal review process, the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia just signed MoU with ITTO in early March 2025. However, the project management team has not yet been officially established, and all project activities are pending. It is hoped that implementation in Indonesia will commence soon.
- Project activity implementation in India is relatively behind the schedule, primarily due to delays in signing the MoU. Nevertheless, India component has accelerated implementation efforts with support from the Regional Project Manager and the other participating countries.
- The establishment of two demonstration plots in Vietnam is delayed by 4-6 months due to import restriction by the Viet Nam's Custom Department, which affected the delivery of teak pallets from Thailand.
- Field data collection and analysis of micro-financing mechanisms, lead by the Thünen Institute of Forestry, are also behind the schedule. This is due to the late development of online data collection tools and the complexity of identifying appropriate sample datasets, and a need for a shared understanding of interview and focus group methodologies across the participating countries. A pre-test data collection and orientation workshop were organized in Thailand for May 2025 to guide all national experts on the next steps.

## 5. Conclusions

The ITTO-BMLEH teak project has provided six tropical countries in Asia-Pacific and West Africa with a unique opportunity to collaborate in their effort toward the sustainable management of teak and other valuable species and to promote quality timber production under the South-South Cooperation. Following the successful Launching and Inception Workshops in October 2023 and January 2024, respectively, the project team and institutional arrangement were established in five participating countries (except Indonesia) to implement the project activities with support from consultants.

The project is progressing well in Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo, as these participating countries began activities in late 2023 or early 2024. However, implementation in India is behind schedule. At the current speed of implementation, it is hoped that India component will be able to catch up with the progress of other countries by June 2025. Increased engagement with the Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry is recommended to officially initiate project implementation there.

After one and half years, the project has achieved an overall completion rate of 36%. The progress under **Output1**: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems, and **Output 3**: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, ranges from 40-60%. In comparison, the average progress of activities under **Output 2**: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations is 35%.

As of 30 June 2025, BMLEH has transferred the 1st to 3rd installments to ITTO, totaling USD 1,092,623.56, which represents 77.30% of the total budget (USD 1,413,449). Meanwhile, the total disbursed amount to participating countries, the Thünen Institute, and consultants was USD 616,424.77. The estimated budget required to carry out upcoming activities is USD 341,200.60. Funds have not yet been transferred to Indonesia due to pending on-the-ground implementation. The available balance in bank accounts, including earned interest, is USD 506,140.02. To implement the planned activities for July–December 2025, ITTO and the executing agencies require additional funds amounting to USD 181,142.71.

The delays in implementing activities reported in the 2$^{nd}$ bi-annual progress report have been mitigated, particularly for the India component. It is hoped that the India component will be able to catch up with the other participating countries in project implementation by June 2025. The remaining challenge is the pending implementation of project activities for the Indonesia component

## List of uploaded documents

- Google document#1 – Minute of the 1st PSC meeting on 18 September 2024
- Google document#2 - Minutes of ITTO monitoring in Thailand on 13-18 May 2025
- Google document#3 – The training report, "Precision Insect Pest Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests, northern Thailand" on 27-28 March 2025.
- Google document#4 - Modification -A (BR-A) approved in September 2024 and modification budget -B (BR-B) approved in March 2025.
- Google document#5 - Progress reports of Cambodia component
- Google document#6 - Progress reports of India component
- Google document#7 - Progress reports of Vietnam component
- Google document#8 - Progress reports of Togo component
- Google document#9 - Progress report of Legality (prepared by Consultant#3)
- Google document#10 – Progress report of policy strategy development (prepared by Consultant7#1: Teak and Other Valuable Species Strategy Development)
- Google document#11- ITTO Newsletters for February 2025 (issue 7-1), April 2025 (issue 7-2), June 2025 (issue 7-3)
- Google document#12 – Webinar reports from 1st – 3rd
- Google document#13 - The list of delegates and abstracts of a side event at the 5th World Teak Conference in Kerala, India.

**Annex 1** Signed MoU between ITTO and Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry

**INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION**

**PROJECT AGREEMENT**

**PP-A/54-331A**

**"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics"**

**between**

**THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION (ITTO)**

**and**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA**

**Memorandum of Understanding**

**The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)**

**and**

**The Ministry of Forestry (MoF), Indonesia**

Whereas the International Tropical Timber Organization (hereinafter referred to as 'ITTO'). The Ministry of Forestry (Thereinafter referred to as "MoF") has agreed to cooperate for purposes of supporting the implementation of Indonesia's component of the "Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics" which was financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).

1. (1) ITTO shall make available to MoF an amount of up to **USD 107,500** (One hundred and seven thousand and five hundred US Dollars) for the project period from 2025 to 2026, to cover the estimated costs of the projects per the related project budget of the projects document attached hereto as the Appendix. The first disbursement of **USD 27,000** (Twenty-seven thousand US Dollars) is foreseen in 2025.

   (2) MoF shall maintain a record of all transactions related to ITTO's funds in a separate and traceable accounting ledger. The funds shall be used exclusively to meet the project's costs.

   (3) MoF shall submit biannual financial reports (including expenditures and unexpended budget balances by main budget classifications and a fund requirement schedule).

   (4) MoF shall inform ITTO without delay of any significant changes in the project's plan of operations that involve modifying fund requirements.

2. MoF may draw on the amounts made available by ITTO as required to meet the costs incurred in connection with the project.

3. MoF shall

   (1) administer the funds by MoF's financial rules and regulations and ensure that the funds have been used economically and for the intended purposes.

   (2) maintain a separate bank account with a bank of commonly recognized high reputation for the funds. All receipts and expenditures should be kept; any interest accruing on the funds shall be calculated and processed by the financial rules and regulations of the ITTO and shall be credited annually to the above-mentioned separate account by paragraph 5 below; this interest is part of the amount made available according to paragraph 1. (1) above.

4. (1) MoF shall ensure that the disbursement of funds does not exceed the amounts made available by ITTO, including such amounts as ITTO may provide in the context of any revision of the plan of operations,

(2) All financed records maintained in connection with the funds shall be expressed in US Dollars. Income and expenditure in other currencies shall be converted into US Dollars at the United Nations rate of exchange applicable on the date of such transactions.

(3) In connection with the final financial statement referred to in paragraph 6 (2) below, MoF transfers any surplus balance to ITTO within three months after project completion. This shall also apply to the interest accrued unless already offset according to subparagraph (1) above.

5. (1) The underlying objectives of the project are to support the six countries to build up sustainable forest management capacities and to further pursue their strategic objectives and policies on the sustainable development of teak forest resources.

(2) MoF shall pay special attention to the following aspects of the project:

- The multiplication of projects results by feeding them into policy discussion both at the country and at other relevant events.
- The cooperation with other countries and partners, and
- Linking the project's activities and their result to the relevant ITTO initiatives, such as the Legal and Sustainable Supply Chain (LSSC) program.

(3) MoF shall implement the project under the project document referred to in paragraph 1 above and appoint a national project leader.

(4) The contribution of the Federal Republic of Germany to this project and ITTO shall be indicated in all relevant project documents prepared by MoF. For public relations work on this project the logos of MoF, ITTO, and the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) shall be used.

(5) MoF shall submit to the Regional Project Manager and ITTO a biannual report on the progress of the project covering all the participating countries under the ITTO standard reporting format.

(6) MoF shall be represented in the Project Steering Committee (PSC) consisting of the six participating countries, ITTO, and donor (the Government of Germany) representatives. MoF shall establish a national Project Technical Committee to facilitate the effective and successful implementation of the Indonesia component of the projects.

6. (1) MoF shall submit to the Regional Project Manager and ITTO. Within two months of completion of the activities provided for in the project document, a completion report of the project covering all the participating countries by ITTO standard reporting format.

(2) MoF shall submit to the Regional Project Manager and ITTO, within two months of completion of the activities provided for in the project document, a final financial statement covering the use of the funds.

7. This Arrangement may be supplemented or modified by a written agreement between MoF and ITTO.

8. This Arrangement shall enter into force on the date of the last signature thereof.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present Arrangement in duplicate in the English language.

Krisdianto, Ph.D
Head of Public Relations
and Overseas Cooperation Bureau
on behalf of National Focal Point ITTO
the Ministry of Forestry

Sheam Satkuru
Executive Director

On behalf of the Government of Indonesia

Dated: 10th March 2025

Place: Jakarta, Indonesia

On behalf of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Dated: 10th March 2025

Place: Yokohama, Japan.

Erwan Sudaryanto
Director of Forest Product Processing and Marketing
on behalf of the Executing Agency
the Ministry of Forestry, Republic of Indonesia

Dated: 10th March 2025

Place: Jakarta, Indonesia

## Annex 2 NOLs from ITTO to engage 5 National Experts

**International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)**
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CENTER – 5F, PACIFICO-YOKOHAMA
1-1-1, MINATO-MIRAI, NISHI-KU, YOKOHAMA 220-0012, JAPAN

**FACSIMILE**

Fax: (81-45) 223-1111
Tel.: (81-45) 223-1110
E-mail: rfm @itto.int

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Date:** | 10 January 2025 | **Ref. No.** F.25-0001 | |
| **To:** | **Prof. Yongyut Trisurat**<br>Regional Project Manager<br>Faculty of Forestry<br>Kasetsart University<br>50 Phahonyothin Rd, Khwaeng Lat Yao<br>Khet Chatuchak, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon<br>Bangkok, 10900, Thailand | **From:** | **Ms. Jennifer Conje**<br>Director<br><br>Division of Forest Management<br>ITTO – Yokohama, Japan |
| **E-mail:** | fforyyt@ku.ac.th | | |

Dear Prof. Yongyut Trisurat,

**PP-A/54-331A**
**"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (Teak Project Phase II)"**

Thank you for your letter of 24 December 2024 regarding your proposal to engage five National Experts to assist field data collection (C-46) for the above Project:

| Name | Position | Engagement Period | Total Honorarium (US$) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr. Say SINLY | Field data collection expert, Cambodia | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. SURESH G | Field data collection expert, India | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. Attawin RACHAWONG | Field data collection expert, Thailand | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. Kossi HOUNKPATI | Field data collection expert, Togo | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. NGUYEN TIEN HAI | Field data collection expert, Vietnam | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |

I am pleased to inform you that I have no objection to engage the above five National Experts with the duration and honorarium as detailed above, provided that the terms of reference and related costs for the appointment are in accordance with the provisions specified in the Project document.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Conje
Director
Division of Forest Management

# Annex 3 Consolidated and Proposed Budget Modification (BR-C)

**Financial Report**

**Project No.** PP-A/54-331A
**Project Title:** Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-
**Implementing Agency: Countries**

**Proposed budget : 16 July 2025**

| | | Budget line/item | Approved Yearly Budget B (BR-B) (USD) | | | | Budget total | Proposed budged modification (BR-C) | | | | Budget total | Balance | Expenditure | | | | Budget next period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | | Nov-Dec 2023 | Jan-Dec 2024 | Jan-Jun 2025 | Total | Jul-Dec 2025 9/ |
| | | | (Sep-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Aug) | (H) | (Sep-Dec) I) | (Jan-Dec) (J) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (M) | (M-H) | (O) | (P) | (R) | | (S) |
| | A02 | Project Secretary | 1'500 | 9'000 | 9'000 | 7'500 | 27'000.00 | 1'500 | 9'000.00 | 9'000.00 | 7'500.00 | 27'000.00 | - | 1'500 | 9'000.00 | 4'500.00 | **15'000.00** | 4'500.00 |
| | A03 | Finance Staff | 1'200 | 7'200 | 7'200 | 6'000 | 21'600.00 | 1'200 | 7'200.00 | 7'200.00 | 6'000.00 | 21'600.00 | - | 1'200 | 7'200.00 | 3'600.00 | **12'000.00** | 3'600.00 |
| | A04 | Cons # 1 Quality Planting Material 1/ | - | 4'800 | 6'000 | 13'200 | 24'000.00 | - | 4'800.00 | 12'450.00 | 6'750.00 | 24'000.00 | - | - | 4'800.00 | 5'850.00 | **10'650.00** | 6'600.00 |
| | A05 | Cons # 2 Field Training, Silviculture 2/ | - | 4'800 | 5'000 | 5'200 | 15'000.00 | - | 4'800.00 | 10'200.00 | - | 15'000.00 | - | - | 4'800.00 | 5'433.00 | **10'233.00** | 4'767.00 |
| | A06 | Cons # 3 Legality | - | 6'000 | 6'000 | 12'000 | 24'000.00 | - | 6'000.00 | 6'000.00 | 12'000.00 | 24'000.00 | - | - | 6'000.00 | - | **6'000.00** | 6'000.00 |
| | A07 | Cons # 4 Efficient teak wood transportation and processing | - | 2'000 | 6'000 | 4'000 | 12'000.00 | - | 2'000.00 | 6'000.00 | 4'000.00 | 12'000.00 | - | - | 2'000.00 | 1'500.00 | **3'500.00** | 4'500.00 |
| | A08 | Cons # 5 Information Management 3/ | 5'000 | 5'000 | 8'500 | 7'000 | 25'500.00 | 5'000 | 5'000.00 | 10'000.00 | 5'500.00 | 25'500.00 | - | 5'000 | 5'000.00 | 5'000.00 | **15'000.00** | 5'000.00 |
| | A09 | Cons # 6 Teak value chains 4/ | - | 2'000 | 6'000 | 10'000 | 18'000.00 | - | 2'000.00 | 3'000.00 | 13'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | - | 2'000.00 | 1'500.00 | **3'500.00** | 1'500.00 |
| | A10 | Cons # 7 Teak strategy development | - | - | | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | A101 | Const#7.1 Teak and other econ spp strategy devlopment | | | 12'000 | 6'000 | 18'000.00 | | - | 12'000.00 | 6'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | | - | 6'000.00 | **6'000.00** | 6'000.00 |
| | A102 | Cont#7.2 Networking and Capacity building 5/ | | - | 12'000 | 6'000 | 18'000.00 | | - | 6'000.00 | 12'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | | - | 6'000.00 | **6'000.00** | - |
| | A11 | Sub-contract Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany* (*No ITTO programme support on this amount) | - | 132'733 | 132'733 | 88'488 | 353'954.00 | - | 132'733.00 | 132'733.00 | 88'488.00 | 353'954.00 | - | | 132'733.00 | | **132'733.00** | 132'733.00 |
| | **A** | **Sub-Total Personnel & Consultants** | **13'700** | **209'533** | **246'433** | **195'388** | **665'054.00** | **13'700** | **209'533.00** | **250'583.00** | **191'238.00** | **665'054.00** | **-** | **13'700** | **209'533.00** | **57'383.00** | **280'616.00** | **193'200.00** |
| **B. p sum items** | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | B01 | Operation cost for project offices (electr., commun., consumables) 6/ | 101 | 2'741 | 6'000 | 14'129 | 22'971.00 | 101 | 5'008.00 | 9'628.00 | 8'233.75 | 22'971.00 | - | 101 | 5'008.00 | 4'093.00 | **9'202.00** | 5'535.00 |
| | B02 | Technical reports,and completion report editing 7/ | - | | 10'000 | 8'000 | 18'000.00 | - | - | 3'000.00 | 15'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | - | | - | - | 3'000.00 |
| | **B** | **Sub-total Lump sum items** | **101** | **2'741** | **16'000** | **22'129** | **40'971.00** | **101** | **5'008.00** | **12'628.00** | **23'233.75** | **40'971.00** | **-** | **101** | **5'008.00** | **4'093.00** | **9'202.00** | **8'535.00** |
| **C. ursable items** | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | **C10** | **Conferences, meetings, workshops** | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | C11 | PSC meetings (venue, trav., accom) | 5'661 | 8'833 | 12'000 | 9'506 | 36'000.00 | 5'661 | 8'832.86 | 12'000.00 | 9'506.23 | 36'000.00 | - | 5'661 | 8'832.86 | 2'477.17 | **16'971.03** | 9'522.83 |
| | C12 | Regional teak workshop (venue, trav., accom) 8/ | - | 8'297 | 82'703 | - | 91'000.00 | - | 8'297.37 | - | 82'702.63 | 91'000.00 | - | - | 8'297.37 | - | **8'297.37** | - |
| | C13 | IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Regn, trav, accom,) | 1'911 | 20'281 | - | | 22'192.00 | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | - | 22'192.00 | - | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | **22'192.00** | - |

**Financial Report**

**Project No.** PP-A/54-331A
**Project Title:** Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-
**Implementing Agency: Countries**

**Proposed budget : 16 July 2025**

| | | Budget line/item | Approved Yearly Budget B (BR-B) (USD) | | | | Budget total | Proposed budged modification (BR-C) | | | | Budget total | Balance | Expenditure | | | | Budget next period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | | Nov-Dec 2023 | Jan-Dec 2024 | Jan-Jun 2025 | Total | Jul-Dec 2025 9/ |
| | | | (Sep-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Aug) | (H) | (Sep-Dec) I) | (Jan-Dec) (J) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (M) | (M-H) | (O) | (P) | (R) | | (S) |
| | C13 | IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Regn, trav, accom,) | 1'911 | 20'281 | - | | 22'192.00 | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | - | 22'192.00 | - | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | **22'192.00** | - |
| | C14 | World Teak Conference 2025 (Regn, trav, accom,) | - | - | 40'000 | - | 40'000.00 | - | - | 40'000.00 | - | 40'000.00 | - | - | | 7'414.17 | **7'414.17** | 20'585.83 |
| | **C20** | **National Workshops and Regional Webinars** | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C21 | National and Regional Webinars 9/ | 1'825 | 2'552 | 8'000 | 10'157 | 22'534.00 | 1'825 | 2'552.00 | 4'841.00 | 13'316.00 | 22'534.00 | - | 1'825 | 2'552.00 | - | **4'377.00** | 4'841.00 |
| | **C30** | **Consult. Travel (flights, transp., lodging, food)** | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C31 | International travel consultants#3,#6 and#7 10/ | - | | 6'000 | 12'000 | 18'000.00 | - | - | 6'994.00 | 11'006.00 | 18'000.00 | - | - | | 994.00 | **994.00** | 6'000.00 |
| | **C40** | **Others items** | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C41 | Publication | 104 | | 2'000 | 7'896 | 10'000.00 | 104 | - | 2'000.00 | 7'895.81 | 10'000.00 | - | 104 | | - | **104.00** | 2'000.00 |
| | C42 | Demonstrations plots, nurseries 11/ | - | 17'241 | 10'000 | 44'204 | 71'445.00 | - | 20'360.00 | 22'241.00 | 28'844.00 | 71'445.00 | - | - | 20'360.00 | 5'603.00 | **25'963.00** | 16'638.00 |
| | C43 | Training costs (4 training events per country) (venue, stationary, catering, lodging 12/ | - | 9'912 | 32'429 | 84'517 | 126'858.00 | - | 5'912.37 | 62'083.03 | 58'862.60 | 126'858.00 | - | - | 5'912.37 | 19'716.03 | **25'628.40** | 42'367.00 |
| | C44 | Financial auditing 11/ | - | - | 5'000 | 10'000 | 15'000.00 | - | - | 5'000.00 | 10'000.00 | 15'000.00 | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C45 | Literature, publications, webpage 13/ | - | 2'912 | 2'000 | 2'088 | 7'000.00 | - | 2'911.89 | 2'454.96 | 1'633.15 | 7'000.00 | 0 | - | 2'911.89 | 2'454.96 | **5'366.85** | - |
| | C46 | Survey and data collection for teak plantations | - | | 49'200 | 30'000 | 79'200.00 | - | - | 49'200.00 | 30'000.00 | 79'200.00 | - | - | | 19'689.00 | **19'689.00** | 29'511.00 |
| | **c** | **Sub -total reimbursable items** | **9'501** | **70'028** | **249'332** | **210'368** | **539'229.00** | **9'501** | **69'147.49** | **206'814.00** | **253'766.42** | **539'229.00** | **0** | **9'501** | **69'147.49** | **58'348.34** | **136'996.83** | **131'465.66** |
| **D. ITTO Monitoring and Review** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | |
| | D01 | Monitoring and Review | 3'078 | 8'649 | 10'000 | 8'273 | 30'000.00 | 3'078 | 8'649.00 | 8'827.00 | 9'446.00 | 30'000.00 | - | 3'078 | 8'649.00 | 827.00 | 12'554.00 | 8'000.00 |
| | | **Component Total:** | **3'078** | **8'649** | **10'000** | **8'273** | **30'000.00** | **3'078** | **8'649.00** | **8'827.00** | **9'446.00** | **30'000.00** | **-** | **3'078** | **8'649.00** | **827.00** | **12'554.00** | **8'000.00** |
| | | **Sub-total direct project cost (A+B+C+D)** | **26'380** | **290'951** | **521'765** | **436'158** | **1'275'254.00** | **26'380** | **292'337.49** | **478'852.00** | **477'684.17** | **1'275'254.00** | **0** | **26'380** | **292'337.49** | **120'651.34** | **439'368.83** | **341'200.66** |
| **E. ITTO Project Administration** | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | E01 | ITTO Program support (@ITTO standard rate)** (** No PS charged on TI Subcontract) 14/ | 3'672 | 134'523 | 50'370 | - 50'370 | 138'195.00 | 3'672 | 134'523.00 | - | | 138'195.00 | - | 3'672 | 134'523.00 | - | 138'195.00 | |
| | **E** | **Sub total ITTO Proejct administratio** | **3'672** | **134'523** | **50'370** | **- 50'370** | **138'195.00** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** |

**Financial Report**

**Project No.** PP-A/54-331A
**Project Title:** Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-
**Implementing Agency: Countries**

**Proposed budget : 16 July 2025**

| | Budget line/item | Approved Yearly Budget B (BR-B) (USD) | | | | Budget total | Proposed budged modification (BR-C) | | | | Budget total | Balance | Expenditure | | | | Budget next period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | | Nov-Dec 2023 | Jan-Dec 2024 | Jan-Jun 2025 | Total | Jul-Dec 2025 9/ |
| | | (Sep-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Aug) | (H) | (Sep-Dec) I) | (Jan-Dec) (J) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (M) | (M-H) | (O) | (P) | (R) | | (S) |
| E | **Sub total ITTO Proejct administratio** | **3'672** | **134'523** | **50'370** | **- 50'370** | **138'195.00** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** |
| | **Grand Total (A+B+B+C+D+E)** | **30'052** | **425'474** | **572'135** | **385'788** | **1'413'449.00** | **30'052** | **426'860.49** | **478'852.00** | **477'684.17** | **1'413'449.00** | **0** | **30'052** | **426'860.49** | **120'651.34** | **577'563.83** | **341'200.66** |

Notes

1/ Early engagement of the consultant#1. This results in a corresponding reduction in the 2026 budget
2/ Early engagement of the consultant#2. This results in a corresponding reduction in the 2026 budget.
3/ The budget increases from USD 7,000 to USD 10,000 to comply with the agreed contract and Terms of Reference (TORs).
4/ Delayed recruitment for the Indian component and the postponement of a training session for the Thailand component. Thus, the remining funds for 2025 is moved to year 2026.
5/ The budget decreases from USD 12,000 to USD 6,000 in line with the agreed contract and TORs. The remaining funds for 2025 is moved to 2026.
6/ Operation cost for project offices (electr., commun., consumables) for year 2025 is expected due to engagemen t of India component. The total amount is the same.
7/ The budget for technical reports,and completion report editing decreases from USD 10,000 in year 2025 to USD 3,000, as the reports are expected in 2026.
8/ The 2nd Regional teak workshop is postponed to year 2026.
9/ Costs for webinar decrease from USD 8,000 to USD 3,841 due to 3 out of 12 webinars have been organized.
10/ Internal travel increases from USD 6,000 to USD 6,994 to support consultants' participation in the 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand in November 2025
11/ Costs for establishment of demonstration plots increase from USD 10,000 to USD 22,241 due to early engagement. Only the Indonesia component has yet to establish its demonstration plots
12/ Costs for the training sessions increase almost double to aling with the planned capacity-building schedules.
13/ Costs for literature, publications, and webpage increases slightly in line with the plan to update the project website.
14/ The entire allocated budget for ITTO program support was fully disbursed in 2024.

| | **Installments** | Amount (USD) |
|---|---|---|
| | #1 The 1st installment that ITTO received from BMEL in December 2023 after signing the agreement | 142'293.00 |
| | #2 The 2nd installment that ITTO rece | 424'363.00 |
| | 3rd installment received from BLEH ir | 70'441.78 |
| | **Total** | **637'097.78** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. 1st and 2nd installment from BMEL | | 637'097.78 | |
| 2. Expenditures (Nov 2023-Jun2025) by the participating countries, Thunen and ITTO | | 577'563.83 | |
| 3. Balance | | 59'533.95 | |
| 4. Bank interest earn 1/ | | 524.00 | 315.21 |
| 5. Balance + Bank interes | | 60'057.95 | |
| 6. Total planned budget Jul-Dec 2025 2/ | | 341'200.66 | |
| 7. 3rd call for funds (from BMEL) 3/ | | 281'142.71 | |

1/ Bank interest US$ 315 (Thai component Nov 2023-Dec 2024)
2/ planned expenditures during Jan-Jul 2025 (i71) + (Ba;ance + Bank Interest) <d70> )
3/ required budget to implemnt planned activities. However, all balances are in bank accounts of the participating countries, while the balance of ITTO is negative.

## Annex 4 List of delegations from the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project to attend the 5th World Teak Congress

| Country | Name | Affiliation |
|---|---|---|
| **ITTO** | | |
| 1 | Ms. Sheam SATKURU | Executive Director, ITTO |
| 2 | Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi | ITTO Projects Manager |
| 3. | Ms. Paula Sarigumba | ITTO Communications and Outreach Officer |
| **Germany** | | |
| 1 | Dr. Sven Günter | Head of Working Group Forestry Worldwide, Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany |
| 2 | Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo | Research Scientist, Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany |
| **Thailand** | | |
| 1. | Prof. Dr. Yongyut Trisurat | Regional Project Manager, ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University |
| 2. | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wattanachai Tasen | Head of the Department of Forest Biology, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University |
| 3. | Ms. Somporn Khumchompoo | Scientist, Senior Professional Level, Silvicultural Research Division, Forest Research and Development Office, Royal Forest Department (RFD) |
| 4. | Ms Sangrawee Sukeetham | Forestry Technical Officer, Practitioner Level Forest Utilization Research and Development Division, Forest Research and Development Office, RFD |
| 5. | Mr. Naravich Changtor | Forestry Technical Officer, Practitioner Level Forest Utilization Research and Development Division, Forest Research and Development Office, RFD |
| 6. | Ms Saichon Mutarapat | Secretary, ITTO-BMLEH Project |
| **Cambodia** | | |
| 1. | Mr. Cheat Vichet | Consultant, Department of Forest Plantation and Private Forest Development (previously Forest Administration), Cambodia |
| 2. | Mr. Phoung Sophea | Scientist, Department of Forest Plantation and Private Forest Development (previously Forest Administration), Cambodia |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Vietnam** | | |
| 1 | Dr. Tran Lam Dong | Vice President, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| 2 | Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu | National Coordinator, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| 3 | Dr. Vu Dinh Huong | Consultant# 1, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| 4 | Dr. Mai Thi Phuong Thuy | Head of the Department of Plant Cell Technology, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| **India** | | |
| 1 | Dr. R. Yasodha | National Coordinator, Scientist G, Division of Plant Biotechnology ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, ICFRE-IFGTB) |
| 2 | Dr. Rekha R. Warrier | Deputy National Coordinator, Scientist, ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding |
| 3 | Dr. C. Nalin Kumar, | ITTO Consultant |
| 4 | Dr. Mohammad Ghouse | ITTO Consultant |
| 5 | Dr. T. Vamadevan | Information Officer, EIACP |
| 6 | Ms. P. Maheswari | Senior Project Associate |
| **India** | | |
| 1 | Dr. S. Sandeep | TEAKNET Coordinator, TEAKNET, Kerala, India |
| 2 | Dr. P.K. Thulasidas | ITTO Consultant# 5- Information Management, TEAKNET, Kerala, India |
| **Indonesia** | | |
| 1. | Prof. Dr. Anto RIMBAWANTO | ITTO Consultant – Teak and other valuable species strategy development,Research Centre for Applied Botany National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), YOGYAKARTA |
| **Togo** | | |
| 1 | Prof. Adzo Dzifa KOKUTSE | National Coordinator, University of Lomé, Togo West Africa |

Notes: At least 26 delegates from the participating countries, TEAKNET, Thunen and ITTO confirmed to attend the side event.

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity

ITTO

KASETSART UNIVERSITY SINCE 1943

## Prepared by:


**Prof. Yongyut Trisurat** (Regional Project Manager)
**Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi** (ITTO Projects Manager)
**Dr. Precha Ongprasert** (Thailand National Coordinator)
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**Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu** (Vietnam National Coordinator)
**Prof. KOKUTSE Adzo Dzifa** (Togo National Coordinator)
**Dr. Rina Kristanti** (Indonesia National Coordinator)
**PD Dr. Sven Günter** (Project Steering Committee (PSC) member)
**Dr. Thulasidas P.K.** (TEAKNET)


KEMENTERIAN KEHUTANAN REPUBLIK INDONESIA

ROYAL FOREST DEPARTMENT

VIETNAMESE ACADEMY OF FOREST SCIENCES VAFS

THÜNEN

# CONSOLIDATED 3rd BI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ITTO-BMLEH PROJECT

**Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics**
**Project number: PP-A/54-331A**


## Executing Agency: ITTO

**Collaborating Agencies**
**Cambodia:** Forestry Administration
**Thailand:** Royal Forestry Department/Kasetsart University
**Vietnam:** Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences
**India:** Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education
**Indonesia:** Ministry of Forestry
**Togo:** University of Lomé
**Germany:** Thünen Institute of Forestry

**1 January 2025 – 30 June 2025**

# Brief of the Project

| | |
|---|---|
| **Project Title:** | Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics |
| **ITTO Project Number:** | PP-A/54-331A |
| **Project Objective:** | Contribute to increasing the economic and social contributions of smallholder teak and other valuable species plantations in the tropics to facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for a sustainable future. |
| **Donor:** | The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH), the Government of Germany |
| **Duration:** | 38 months (2 months no-cost extension) |
| **Starting Date:** | 1 November 2023 |
| **Completion Date:** | 31 December 2026 |
| **Executing Agency:** | ITTO Secretariat |
| **Collaborating Agencies:** | Kasertsart University (KU) in collaboration with<br>Cambodia: Forestry Administration<br>Thailand: Royal Forestry Department/Kasetsart University<br>Vietnam: Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences<br>India: Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education<br>Indonesia: Ministry of Forestry<br>Togo: University of Lomé |
| **Project Budget:** | USD 1,413,449 |

**Key contact persons:**

Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi: ITTO Projects Manager, ITTO
Email: tetra@itto.org

Professor Yongyut Trisurat: Regional Project Manager, Kasetsart University, Thailand
Email: fforyyt@ku.ac.th

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## 1. Description of the work implemented in the period

The ITTO-BMLEH Project, *"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholder and Community-Based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (PP-A/54-331A)"* Phase II builds on the strong achievements of Phase I, *"Enhancing Conservation and Sustainable Management of Teak Forests and Legal and Sustainable Wood Supply Chains in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (PP-A/54-331)."* Phase II aims to significantly improve the production of high-quality timber from teak and other valuable species plantations established by smallholders and communities in five Asia-Pacific countries and in Togo, West Africa. Collaborating agencies include the Cambodia Forestry Administration; the Royal Forestry Department and Kasetsart University in Thailand; the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences; the Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), Coimbatore; and the Ministry of Forestry in Indonesia. In Togo (West Africa), the University of Lomé is a key collaborating agency.

The Project seeks to enhance the production of high-quality timber by promoting policies that support access to superior planting stock, adoption of best silvicultural practices, improved financing for longer rotation periods, value addition, and improved timber legality. Key activities include supporting financial schemes that invest in high-quality teak production with longer rotations and facilitating access to voluntary carbon markets. Engaging in carbon credit markets will provide additional incentives and support global efforts in climate change mitigation. Moreover, the project fosters regional and international cooperation to promote sustainable smallholder plantations.

Through effective policy implementation and collaborative efforts, the Project aims to improve the economic outcomes of smallholder and community plantations across tropical regions. Initially scheduled to run for three years (September 2023 – August 2026), the project has been extended to December 2026 at no additional cost. It is funded by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH—formerly BMEL), Government of Germany.

The activities carried out during the period covered by the 3rd Progress Report (from 1 November 2023 to 30 June 2025, with an emphasis on the period 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025) complied with the extended work plan approved by BMLEH on 10 March 2025. Sub-activities were integrated into the 2nd Yearly Plan of Operation (YPO), which was approved during the 1st Project Steering Committee meeting on 17 September 2024. These are detailed in the Workplan Progress Table.

Most activities in Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo were executed as planned. Thailand and Togo began physical implementation in November 2023, while Cambodia and Vietnam commenced activity implementation in January 2024. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ITTO and ICFRE was duly signed by authorized parties on 6 November 2024. However, physical implementation in India is behind schedule. It is hoped that ICFRE will accelerate implementation and align with the planned activities in due course. In contrast, the Ministry of Forestry in Indonesia signed an MoU with ITTO in March 2025, but a project management team has yet to be formally established, and physical activities have not yet commenced

## 1.1 Recruitment of Regional Project Manager and Project Staff

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and Kasetsart University (KU) of Thailand, with support from the Royal Forest Department (RFD), have agreed to cooperate in the implementation of project PP-A/54-331A, *"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholder and Community-Based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics"* (also referred to as the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase II). The project is financed by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH), Government of Germany. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ITTO and KU was signed on 6 September 2023.

Additionally, ITTO issued a No Objection Letter (NOL) approving the nomination of Professor Yongyut Trisurat from the Faculty of Forestry at Kasetsart University (KUFF), Thailand, as the Regional Project Manager (RPM). The NOL also approved the appointment of project staff, including a Project Secretary and a Project Finance Officer.

In addition to working with the RFD, the Regional Project Manager coordinates with National Coordinators from the other four implementing agencies in the Asia-Pacific region: the Forestry Administration (FA) of Cambodia, the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS), the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia, and the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE). Coordination also includes the University of Lomé in Togo, West Africa.

## 1.2 Project Steering and Project Technical Committee

***Project Steering Committee (PSC)***

The President of Kasetsart University officially appointed the Project Steering Committee (PSC) on 3 January 2024. The PSC comprises a Chairperson (the Director-General of the Royal Forest Department) and 17 other members, including representatives from ITTO, BMLEH, the six participating countries, the Forest Industry Organization (FIO), relevant agencies, and forestry experts. The Regional Project Manager serves as the Committee Secretary.

The primary role of the PSC is to oversee the implementation of project activities, approve expenditures within the allocated budget, review completed activities, and propose any necessary changes to budgets or activities. PSC members are responsible for monitoring the overall strategic management of the Project, ensuring it proceeds in a timely, efficient, and effective manner in accordance with the approved work plan and the overall Project document. PSC meetings are planned to take place at least once per year, or three times over the course of the project. The venues and agendas for these meetings are to be drafted and discussed collaboratively by ITTO and the Country Coordinators of the six participating countries.

The list of embers for the PSC is below:

1. Director General of Royal Forest Department — Chairperson
2. Dean, Kasetsart University Faculty of Forestry — Deputy-chairperson
3. Managing Director of Forest Industry Organization — Member
4. Representative of Forest Administration, Cambodia — Member
5. Representative of the ICFRE – Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore — Member

| | |
|---|---|
| 6. Representative of Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) | Member |
| 7. Representative of Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia (now Ministry of Forestry) | Member |
| 8. Representative of University of Lomé, Togo | Member |
| 9. Representative of ITTO | Member |
| 10. Representative of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), Germany (now BMLEH) | Member |
| 11. President of Forestry Alumni Society, Thailand | Member |
| 12. Mr. Suchat Kalyawongsa, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 13. Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 14. Director of Research and Forest Development Office, RFD | Member |
| 15. Director of Forest Economics Office, RFD | Member |
| 16. Director of Forestry Foreign Affairs Office, RFD | Member |
| 17. Regional Project Manager | Member and Secretary |
| 18. Director of International Cooperation and Organization Division, RFD | Member and Assistant Secretary |

The first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting was held on 17 September 2024 and covered six agenda items: 1) Opening of the meeting; 2) Group photo; 3) Review of the project structure and progress (including financial aspects and inputs applied); 4) Consideration of the Second Yearly Plan of Operation; 5) Recommendations and 6) Other business.

PSC members acknowledged the progress made in project implementation between November 2023 and September 2024, as well as the challenges posed by delays in signing the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) between ITTO and the implementing agencies in India and Indonesia, due to internal administrative procedures and governmental organizational structures, respectively.
The Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany, also presented a plan to implement a micro-financing scheme under Output 2, with support from the national coordinators.

Thailand, Togo, and Vietnam requested budget modifications to align with their proposed activities. ITTO consolidated these requests and forwarded them to BMLEH. Approval was subsequently obtained for both the budget revision (BR-A) and the project extension to December 2026, without requiring additional funding.

The PSC members reviewed, evaluated, approved, and adopted the 1st Progress Report. They also provided recommendations to support the effective implementation of the project Document #1 (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zHGU1g9iqpRRfN0Pq8Qk-8aOBNEC3FXB/view?usp=sharing). Additionally, the ITTO-BMLEH Teak project requested BMLEH to disburse budget to ITTO and the participating countries. On 10 March 2025, the BMLEH officially notified the ITTO that the BMLEH approved the panned activities during January-June 2025 and agrees to budget revision (BR-B).

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*Photo 1* ***The 1st PSC meeting on 17 September 2024 in Bangkok***

***Project Technical Committee (PTC)***

In addition to the PSC, the Project Technical Committee (PTC) was established to support the PSC by periodically reviewing the implementation of all activities aimed at achieving the project's objectives. The PTC is composed of technical team members from the participating countries, as well as subject-matter experts. The PTC convenes at least once a year, typically in conjunction with PSC meetings.

The functions of the PTC include the following responsibilities:

1. Collaborating with the Royal Forest Department (RFD), relevant agencies, and smallholders to facilitate project implementation
2. Monitoring activities carried out by project staff
3. Providing information and technical guidance to project teams to support implementation
4. Coordinating with national agencies, the private sector, and smallholders in the pilot provinces to ensure effective execution of assigned tasks
5. Supervising the Regional Project Manager and consultants in preparing technical reports and work plans as required by ITTO

Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen, Director of the Research and Forest Development Office, RFD, kindly serves as the Chair of the PTC.

List of members for the PTC is below:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Director of Research and Forest Development Office, RFD | Chairman |
| 2. Cambodia National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 3. India National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 4. Indonesia National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 5. Thailand National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 6. Vietnam National Project Coordinator | Member |
| 7. Director of Forest Economics Office, RFD | Member |
| 8. Director of Silviculture Division, RFD | Member |
| 9. Representative of Forest Industry Organization | Member |
| 10. Dr. Saroj Wattanasuksakul, Senior Expert | Member |
| 11. Mr. Suchat Kalyawongsa, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 12. Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk, Forestry Expert | Member |
| 13. Regional Project Manager | Member and Secretary |

The first PTC meeting was organized back-to-back with the PSC meeting on 17 September 2024.

## 1.3 Appointment of Project Staff

In addition to the project management team (comprising the Regional Project Manager, Secretary, and Finance Officer), National Coordinators and supporting staff have been appointed in five of the six participating countries (excluding Indonesia) to coordinate with the Regional Project Manager in executing the planned activities in each recipient country.

The management team operates under the supervision of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and works in close collaboration with the Project Technical Committee (PTC). Figure 1 illustrates the organizational structure of the ITTO-BMLEH Project Phase II, highlighting the interactions among the executing agencies, PSC, PTC, and consultants.

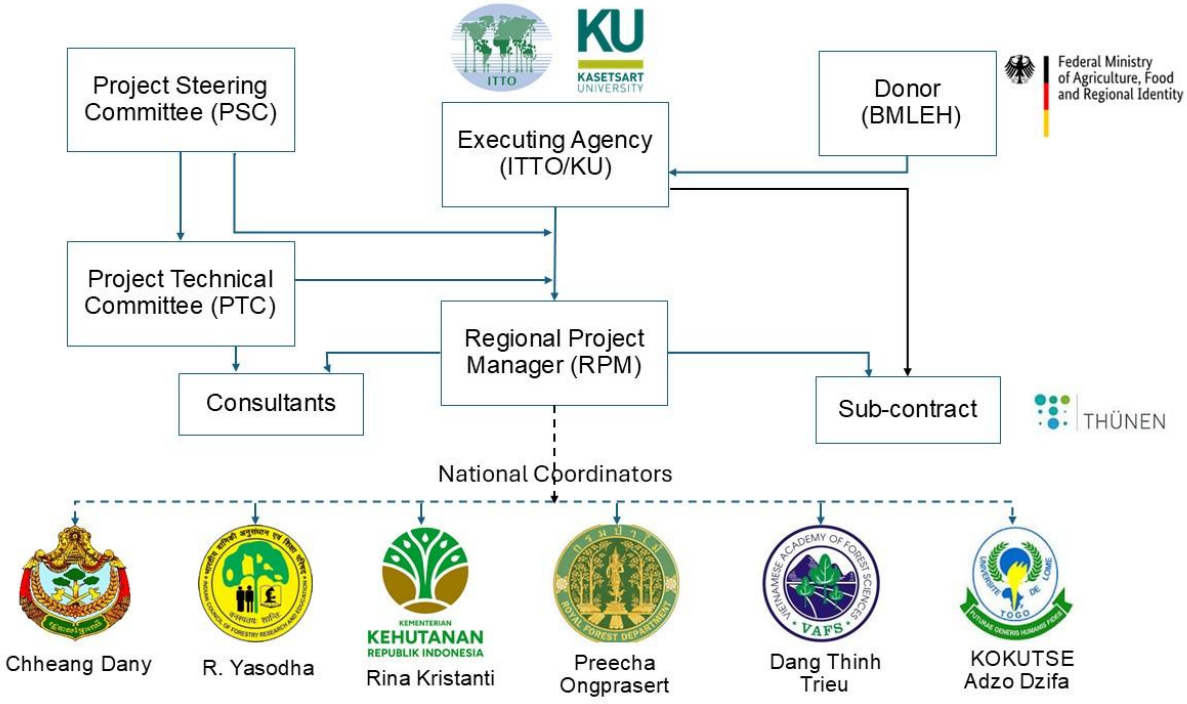


***Figure 1** Organization chart of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Economic Species Plantation Project*

It is noted that project staff of all participating countries are working in normal positions and are assigned to assist with the project as additional work. List of names, positions and contact details for each participating country is shown below.

### *Cambodia Component*

The Forestry Administration (FA) assigns the project teams at Project Office in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Names, positions and contact details are shown below.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Coordinator | Mr. Chheang Dany | Email: wpo@online.com.kh; Phone: (855-12) 867-477 |
| Deputy Project Coordinator | Mr. Say Sinly | Email: saysinlyrua@gmail.com; Phone: (855-17) 909 768 |
| Project Finance | Ms. Lim Sopheap | Email: sopheap73@yahoo.com; Phone:(855-61) 939-929 |
| Project Secretary | Mr. Pang Phanit | Phone:(855-17) 913-127 |
| Field Assistant | Mr. As Brosden | Phone:(855-71) 544-2013 |
| Field Assistant | Mr. Kong Kongkea | Phone:(855-17) 944-468 |
| Field Assistant | Mr. Phoung Sophea | Phone:(855-17) 222-745 |

### *India Component*

The ICFRE has nominated Dr. R. Yasodha as the National Coordinator. The Project Technical Working Group (PTWG) has been established to implement the project's objectives. The PTWG includes 4 main members, and three project specific appointments.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Coordinator | Dr. R. Yasodha | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: +919487841515<br>Email: yasodha@icfre.org; yasodhaifgtb@gmail.com |
| Project Investigator | Dr. Rekha Warrier | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: +919442918647<br>Email: rekha@icfre.org; rekhawarrier@gmail.com |
| Mr R. Velumani | Technical Officer | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Email: velumanir@icfre.org |
| Mr SM Paulraj | Senior Technician | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: +919715147306<br>Email: paulrajsm@icfre.org |

***Indonesia Component (TBD)***

As discussed above, the MOU between ITTO and Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry was signed in March 2025. However, the project's main staff has not yet been made, but initial contact has been conducted with individuals. The current *de-factor* National Coordinator is Dr. Rina Kristanti.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| *De-factor* National Coordinator | Dr. Rina Kristanti | cumieinfahutan@gmail.com |
| TBD | TBD | |
| TBD | TBD | |

***Thailand Component***

The Director-General of the RFD assigned several staff to support the ITTO-BMEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Project. Key staff includes Dr. Preecha Ongprasert (National Coordinator), Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen (Chair of the PTC) and Mr. Montree Intasen (Deputy Project Coordinator). Apart from these three key people, the DG of RFD also appointed seniors' staff from relevant offices to serve as the PSC and PTC members.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| National Project Coordinator | Dr. Preecha Ongprasert | Director of Forestry Foreign Affairs Office, Royal Forest Department<br>Tel. +66-2561-4192-3 ext. 5034<br>Fax +66-2561-3109<br>Mobile +66-8-9118-2351<br>E-mail: precha ong@yahoo.com |
| Chair of the PTC | Dr. Suwan Thangmitcharoen | Director of Forestry Research and Development, RFD<br>Tel: +66-81667-2987<br>Email: suwan@gmail.com |
| Deputy Project Coordinator | Mr. Montree Intasen | Director of International Cooperation and Organization Division, RFD |

***Vietnam Component***

Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) has assigned the project's main staff to support the implementation of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project. Names, positions, and contact details are shown in the Table below.

| Name | Title | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Dr. Tran Lam Dong | Chair of the Project Technical Working Group (PTWG) for Vietnam | Vice President of VAFS Tel: (84) 986 506 018<br>E-mail: tranlamdong@gmail.com |
| Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu | Project Coordinator | Head of Silviculture Techniques Department – Silviculture Research Institute (SRI) – VAFS Tel: (84) 984 174 696<br>E-mail: thinhtrieu@hotmail.com |
| Ms. Dang Nhu Quynh | Secretary | Tel: (84) 986 727 259<br>E-mail: quynhfsiv@gmail.com |

| Name | Title | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Dr. Le Van Quang | Field Assistant | Senior researcher – Applied Silviculture Research & Extension – SRI - VAFS<br>Tel: (84) 974 217 901<br>E-mail: vanquanglamnghiep@gmail.com |
| Mr. Duong Quang Trung | Field Assistant | Researcher – SRI – VAFS Tel: (84) 975 848 729<br>E-mail: duongquangtrung87@gmail.com |
| Nguyen Thuy Duong | Field Assistant | Researcher – SRI – VAFS Tel: (84) 981 344 735<br>E-mail: nguyenthduong1205@gmail.com |

Additionally, VAFS has appointed a Project Coordinator responsible for communicating with other participating countries and relevant Vietnamese government ministries and agencies, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam. This ensures that the project is implemented within appropriate institutional frameworks.

Moreover, the Project Secretary plays a vital role in coordinating the day-to-day project activities, especially those involving provincial stakeholders, to ensure effective and consistent coordination

***Togo Component***

Togo, through the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) of the University of Lomé, oversees the overall implementation of the Project within Togo (West Africa), organizes key meetings, and participates in the Project Steering Committee.

The National Project Coordinator in Togo serves as the primary liaison between the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) and the Regional Project Management (RPM) Team. This role includes submitting various reports—such as the inception report, progress reports, and the completion report—to the executing agency. The National Project Coordinator works closely with the RPM to ensure smooth and effective coordination.

| Position | Name | Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Steering Committee member | Prof. KOKOU Kouami | +22890020411<br>kokoukouami@hotmail.com |
| National coordinator | Prof. KOKUTSE Adzo Dzifa | +22890865207<br>mimidam@hotmail.com |
| Project Committee Member Working on the silviculture of Teak in Togo | Dr. ADJONOU Kossi | +22890244301<br>adjonoukossi@hotmail.com |
| Project Committee Member Working on Teak wood quality in Togo<br>Field Assistant | Dr. SEGLA Kossi | +22890934433<br>kosisegla@gmail.com |
| General Director of the Forest Development and Exploitation Office (ODEF), ITTO Focal point in Togo | Dr. ALABA Pyoabalo | Tél: (+228) 93238595/(+228)90 00 2242<br>pyoalaba@yahoo.fr |
| Project Committee Member Head of Forestry and Development Division ODEF/MERF<br>Field Assistant | Mr. SIMTAKO Baléma | +228 22 51 42 17<br>simtakob2007@yahoo.fr |

| Position | Name | Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Project Steering Committee member | Prof. KOKOU Kouami | +22890020411<br>kokoukouami@hotmail.com |
| National coordinator | Prof. KOKUTSE Adzo Dzifa | +22890865207<br>mimidam@hotmail.com |
| ODEF/MERF<br>Field Assistant | Mrs. KPATCHA Nadège | +22891696824<br>Nadegesolim@yahoo.fr |
| Project Committee Member ODEF | Mr. ASSI Brice | assibrice@yahoo.fr |

In addition, the Togo component has established a Technical Committee to support the work of the National Project Coordinator. The committee includes representatives from the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF) and the Office de Développement et d'Exploitation des Forêts (ODEF) under the Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources.

The committee conducts periodic reviews of project activities and disseminates non-confidential information on activities and outputs to relevant institutions and interested stakeholders.

***Kasetsart University***

The President of Kasetsart University authorized the Dean of the Faculty of Forestry to act on behalf of the University. In addition, the Faculty of Forestry nominated Professor Yongyut Trisurat, Professor of Forestry, to serve as the Regional Project Manager (RPM). The RPM is supported by a Project Secretary and a Project Finance Officer.

| Position | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| Dean, the Faculty of Forestry | Prof. Prateep Duengkae | Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University<br>Tel 6625790170; Email: fforyyt@ksw.ac.th |
| Regional Project Manager | Prof. Yongyut Trisurat | Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University<br>Tel 6625790176; Email: fforyyt@ku.ac.th |
| Project Secretary | Miss Saichon Mutarapat | Forestry Foreign Affairs Office, RFD<br>Email: chon-ag44@hotmail.com |
| Project Finance | Miss Suchanart Suyarat | Email: plantz.sucha@gmail.com |

***ITTO Secretariat***

| Title | Name | Position/Tel/E-mail |
|---|---|---|
| **Central Level** | | |
| Project Supervisor | Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi | Projects Manager of Division of Trade and Industry, ITTO Secretariat Tel. 81-45-223-1110<br>Email: tetra@itto.int |

***Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany***

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ITTO and the Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, Germany—represented by the Thünen Institute of Forestry—was signed on January 22, 2024. Based on this agreement, the Thünen Institute has recruited Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo as a Research Assistant, effective August 1, 2024, to carry out the feasibility studies outlined in Outputs 2.1 to 2.4 of the project.

In addition, the Thünen Institute of Forestry is collaborating with ITTO, National Coordinators, and the Regional Project Manager to recruit field data collection experts to support survey and interview-based data collection in the six participating countries.

As previously reported, Dr. Eliza Zhunusova was appointed as the Project Technical Supervisor, effective May 1, 2024. She contributes 10% of her working time to the project, with her time fully funded by the Thünen Institute. Dr. Sven Günter also serves as Senior Advisor to the project and is a member of the Project Steering Committee (PSC).

| Title and name | Position | Contact information |
|---|---|---|
| PD Dr. Sven Günter | Head of the Unit Forestry Worldwide | Thünen Institute of Forestry<br>Project Steering Committee (PSC) member<br>Email: sven.guenter@thuenen.de |
| Dr. Eliza Zhunusova | Senior Scientist on Rural Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Analyses | Thünen Institute of Forestry<br>Project Supervisor<br>Email: eliza.zhunusova@thuenen.de |
| Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo | Project Staff | Thünen Institute of Forestry<br>Tel: +49-40-73962-334<br>Fax: +49-40-73962-399<br>Email: temesgen.jaffo@thuenen.de |

## 1.4 Consultants

Five participating countries, excluding Indonesia, have successfully recruited consultants to support activity implementation. In addition, ITTO sub-contracted the Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany, to facilitate micro-financing and credit-lending schemes for smallholder teak plantations (Activities 2.1–2.4), with the support of national experts for field data collection.

Furthermore, ITTO has recruited international consultants to support implementation at the regional and global levels. These positions include:

- Consultant #3: Legality
- Consultant #5: Information Management
- Consultant #7-1: Strategy Development for Teak and Other Valuable Species
- Consultant #7-2: Networking and Capacity Building for Teak and Other Valuable Species

It should be noted that Consultant #7-1 and Consultant #7-2 were split from the original Consultant #7: Teak Strategy Development, as indicated in the project document.

A list of all consultants is provided in Table 1. Although two consultant positions for the Indonesia component—Consultant #1: Quality Planting Material and Consultant #6: Value Chains—have not yet been filled, initial discussions have begun with potential candidates affiliated with the Faculty of Forestry, Gadjah Mada University (UGM), located in Yogyakarta.

**Table 1** List of national and regional consultants and status

| Technical field | Scope | Ref. to Activity framework | Man-month and duration | Potential institution/individual | Host country | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Consultant 1 Quality Planting Material | International | Activities 1.1, 1.2 | 4 months | Mr. Cheat Vichet | Cambodia, | Recruited |
| | | | | **UGM (TBD)** | **Indonesia** | **Not started** |
| | | | | Dr Phan Minh Quang, Silviculture Research Institute, VAFS* | Vietnam, | Recruited |
| | | | | Dr Esse AYIGA | Togo | Recruited |
| Consultant 2: Field training in seed production/ nursery mgt/ silvicultural practices | National | Activities 1.1, 1.2 | 3 months | Mr. Phoung Sophea | Cambodia | Recruited |
| | | | | Dr. Vu Dinh Huong, Forest Science Institute of South Vietnam, VAFS | Vietnam, | Recruited |
| | | | | Mr. ASSI Hèmou* | Togo | Recruited |
| Consultant 3: Legality | International | Activities 1.2, 1.3 | 4 months | Mr. Taiji Fujisaki Research Manager IGES | ITTO | Recruited |
| Consultant # 4: Efficient teakwood transportation and processing | National | Activity 1.2 | 2 months | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nopparat KAAKKURIVAARA Faculty of Forestry, KU* | Thailand | Recruited |
| | | | | Dr. Mohammed Ghouse | India | Recruited |
| Consultant 5: Information management | International | Activities 3.1, 3.2 | Package | Dr. P.K. Thulasidas | ITTO/KU | Recruited |
| Consultant # 6: Value chains | International | Activity 1.2 | 3 months | Dr C. Nalin Kumar * | India | Recruited |
| | | | | **UGM (TBD)** | **Indonesia** | **Not started** |
| | | | | Mr. Kitipong Tangkit Faculty of Forestry, KU | Thailand | Recruited |

| Technical field | Scope | Ref. to Activity framework | Man-month and duration | Potential institution/individual | Host country | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Consultant # 7-1: Teak and other valuable species Strategy | International | Activities | 3 months | Dr. ANTO RIMBA-WANTO<br>Research Centre for Applied Botany<br>National Research and Innovation Agency<br>YOGYAKARTA | ITTO | Recruited |
| Consultant # 7-2: Teak and Other Valuable Species Networking and Capacity Building | International | Activities | 3 months | Dr. Hwan-ok Ma<br>OJEong Resilience Institute, Korea University, Seoul, Korea | ITTO | Recruited |
| Sub-contract with the Thünen Institute of Forestry | International | Activities 2.1-2.4 | package | Thünen Institute of Forestry | TIF-Germany | MoU signed<br>Work started |
| **Total** | | | 22 months/ 2 packages | | | Not started (2 positions) |

* Lead Consultant

The work progress of each consultant is embedded in the activity achievement (Section 2.5: Outputs achievements).

## 2. Execution of the Workplan

### 2.1 Workplan review

It should be noted that the ITTO-BMLEH Teak project requested BMLEH to modify the budget. On 10 March 2025, the BMEL officially notified the ITTO that the BMLEH agrees to budget revision (BR-B) and the cost-neutral extension of the project term until December 2026 (Table 2).

**Table 2** Workplan progress for the six participating countries (expanded to December 2026 with no cost extension)

| Outputs and Activities | Responsible party | Calendar year 1 | Calenda year 2 ('24) | | | | Calenda year 3 (25) | | | | Calenda year 4 ('26) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nov | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | |
| | | Dec | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Note |
| **Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture, timber processing and legality** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 Conserve teak and other valuable species genetic variation through improved management of existing seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations (India, Indonesia, Thailand) | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>Consultant # 1 &2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 Support smallholders and local communities for improved management of existing demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species and field training on the following subjects: (1) seed production/nursery techniques; (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method; (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation; (4) teak value chains and other valuable species and NTFP (5) timber legality and sustainability (**all participating countries)** | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>Consultants # 1,2,3,4 &6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.3 Promote timber legal compliance in smallholder/ community plantations, aligning with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting and legality (**global**) | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Consultant #3. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by ITTO |

**Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes.**

| Outputs and Activities | Responsible party | Calendar year 1 | Calendar year 2 ('24) | | | | Calendar year 3 (25) | | | | Calendar year 4 ('26) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nov | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | Quarter | | | | |
| | | Dec | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Note |
| 2.1 Carry out a feasibility study for direct contracts/out-grower schemes with sourcing companies to ensure that smallholders' products will be purchased at remunerative prices (**all participating countries**) | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>TIF- Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 2.2 Carry out a study to promote micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to explore different options to overcome the problem with collaterals that smallholders often face trees as guarantees, and group-lending to a number of forest growers who can ensure loan repayments from each other (**all participating countries)** | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>TIF- Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 2.3 Carry out a study to promote the formation of effective forest grower associations to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits (**all participating countries)** | ITTO, Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinator<br>TIF- Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 2.4. Carry out a study to access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security of farmers, address the issue of cash flows, and support their access to micro-lending schemes (**global scope)** | ITTO<br>Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>TIF-Germany<br>Consultant #7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| Sub-contract with the Thünen Institute of Forestry to carry out feasibility studies for financing schemes for smallholder teak plantations | TIF-Germany/ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jan 2024 |
| **Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3.1 Produce and disseminate outreach and training materials on the conservation and sustainable management of teak and other valuable species plantations and legal and sustainable supply chains in line with outcomes of Activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4 to support forest policy development (**regional scope).** | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. coordinators<br>Consultant #5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jointly managed by ITTO and KU |

| **Outputs and Activities** | **Responsible party** | **Calenda year 1** | **Calenda year 2 ('24)** | | | | **Calenda year 3 (25)** | | | | **Calenda year 4 ('26)** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Nov** | **Quarter** | | | | **Quarter** | | | | **Quarter** | | | | |
| | | **Dec** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **Note** |
| 3.2 Support and facilitate teak networking in ITTO's member countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America in collaboration with TEAKNET and other partners through the organization of a quarterly-based Webinar (4 every year) to promote the conservation and sustainable management of teak forest resources and legal and sustainable supply chains (**global scope).** | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO/TEAKNET | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Hosted by TTO |
| 3.3 Plan and organize a regional workshop in Thailand for timber legality and another regional workshop in Java, Indonesia with investors and financial institutions to discuss financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations (**regional scope**). | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jointly managed by ITTO and KU;<br>1st Reg workshop Aug-Sep 2024 |
| 3.4 Support sharing lessons in promoting the quality teak production and legal and sustainable supply chains at the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerala, India) for improved global teak collaboration (**global scope**). | Reg. Proj. Manager<br>ITTO/TEAKNET | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jointly managed by ITTO and KU; IUFRFO – Jun 2024; 5th WTC – Sep 2025 |
| **Reporting and monitoring** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Submission of inception report (before start of Project) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jan 2024 |
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the first year (before start of Project) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Jan 2024 |
| Submission of progress report (b-annual) with training, workshop, technical report | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1st Prog Report May 2024 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the second and third year (before start of Project for the second year and third year) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | Incept./ 1st PSC | | 2st PSC | | | | | | | | | | 1st PSC – Sep 2024; 2nd PSC – Nov 2025 |
| Submission of financial report (bi-annual) and audited financial report (every twelve months) | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Apr 2024 |
| Submission of Project Completion Report | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Nov 2026 |
| Technical and Steering Committee Meetings (back-to back) and monitoring | Reg. Act. Manager<br>Nat. Coordinators<br>ITTO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1st PSC – Sep 2024; 2nd PSC – Nov 2025 |

## 2.2 Progress in Implementation of the Activities

The percentage of completion of activities that appear in the 3rd bi-annual Progress report (1 November 2023-30 June 2025) as of 30 June 2025 is shown in Table 3. The percentage of progress in overall implementation of the activities (11) was 36**%,** ranking from 25-60%, while it was 50% for meeting and report submission.

**Table 3** Progress of the activities for all participating countries

| Outputs and Activities | Percentage executed | Original planned completion date | Estimated completion date | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture, timber processing and legality** | | | | |
| 1.1 Conserve teak and other valuable species genetic variation through improved management of existing seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations (**India, Indonesia, Thailand**) | **Average: 40**<br>India: 25<br>Thailand: 100<br>Indonesia: initiate discussion | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | In execution for Thailand and Togo components; Activity not started for Indonesia |
| 1.2 Support smallholders and local communities for improved management of existing demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species and field training on the following subjects: (1) seed production/nursery techniques; (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method; (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation; (4) teak value chains and other valuable species and NTFP (5) timber legality and sustainability (**all participating countries)** | **Average: 40**<br>Thailand: 50<br>Vietnam: 60<br>Cambodia: 50<br>Togo:50<br>India: 25<br>Indonesia: initiate discussion | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | All participating countries have executed the training sessions, while Indonesia initiated discussion with stakeholders. |
| 1.3 Promote timber legal compliance in smallholder/ community plantations, aligning with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting and legality (**global**) | Average: 30 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | The first draft was submitted. |

| Outputs and Activities | Percentage executed | Original planned completion date | Estimated complete on date | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes.** | | | | |
| 2.1 Carry out a feasibility study for direct contracts/out-grower schemes with sourcing companies to ensure that smallholders' products will be purchased at remunerative prices (**all participating countries**) | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Field data collection started |
| 2.2 Carry out a study to promote micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to explore different options to overcome the problem with collaterals that smallholders often face trees as guarantees, and group-lending to a number of forest growers who can ensure loan repayments from each other **(all participating countries)** | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Same as the above row |
| 2.3 Carry out a study to promote the formation of effective forest grower associations to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits **(all participating countries)** | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Same as the above row |
| 2.4. Carry out a study to access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security of farmers, address the issue of cash flows, and support their access to micro-lending schemes **(global scope)** | Average :35 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | Same as the above row |
| Sub-contract with the Thünen Institute of Forestry to carry out feasibility studies for financing schemes for smallholder teak plantations | Signed | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | |
| **Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened** | | | | |
| 3.1 Produce and disseminate outreach and training materials on the conservation and sustainable management of teak and other valuable species plantations and legal and sustainable supply chains in line with outcomes of Activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4 to support forest policy development **(regional scope).** | Average 45 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | 8 out of 18 bi-monthly newsletters<br><br>Project website Completed<br><br>VDOs for Thailand and Cambodia |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | completed. |
| 3.2 Support and facilitate teak networking in ITTO's member countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America in collaboration with TEAKNET and other partners through the organization of a quarterly-based Webinar (4 every year) to promote the conservation and sustainable management of teak forest resources and legal and sustainable supply chains (**global scope).** | Average: 25 | Aug 2026 | Dec 2026 | 3 out of 12 webinars successfully organized. |
| 3.3 Plan and organize a regional workshop in Thailand for timber legality and another regional workshop in Java, Indonesia with investors and financial institutions to discuss financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations (**regional scope**). | Average: 50 | 1st Regional Workshop was conducted during 18020 September 2024 in Thailand. | 2nd Regional workshop – planned during 3rd Q of 2026. | Venue will be determined. |
| 3.4 Support sharing lessons in promoting the quality teak production and legal and sustainable supply chains at the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerala, India) for improved global teak collaboration (**global scope**). | Average:60 | IUFRO 2024 held in Jun 2024 | 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerela – 17-20 September 2025) | A side event will be organized at the 5th WTC. |

| Outputs and Activities | Percentage executed | Original planned completion date | Estimated completion date | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Submission of inception report (before start of Activity) | 100 | Jan 2023 | Jan 2023 | |
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the first year (before start of Activity) | 100 | Jan 2023 | Jan 2023 | |
| Submission of progress report (bi-annual) with training, workshop, technical report | 60 (3 out of 5 reports) | 1st report – Jun 2024<br>2nd report – Dec 2024 | Jun 2026 | |
| Submission of Yearly Plan of Operation for the second and third year (before start of Activity for the second year and third year) | 50 | Every year (starting from Jan 2023 | Jan 2026 | |
| Submission of financial report (bi-annual) and audited financial report (every twelve months) | 50 | Every 6 month (Jun 2024) | March 2027 | Final financial report: 3 months after the project completion |
| Submission of activity completion Report | 0 | | Jan 2027 | 1 month after the project completion |
| Technical and Steering Committee Meetings (back-to back) and monitoring | 33 (1 out of 3 meetings) | 1st PSC and PTC in Sep 2024; 2nd PSC planned in November 2025 | Dec 2026 | 1st PSC was conducted in Bangkok, Thailand. |

Note: The project period has been extended (without additional costs) from August 2026 (Project Document) to December 2026 (approved by ITTO and BMLEM)

## 2.3 Highlight of Achievements during 1 January 30 June 2025

### 2.3.1 Pre-test and Orientation Workshop on Field Data Collection Tools for the Micro-financing Mechanisms

The Thünen Institute of Forestry—a research partner collaborating with the ITTO-BMLEH Smallholder Teak Project—joined Kasetsart University in conducting a training workshop for field data collection experts and researchers selected from five project countries in the Asia-Pacific region (Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Indonesia, and Thailand), held from 13–14 May 2025.

Prior to the workshop, a critical pre-testing of data collection tools was carried out with selected smallholder teak growers in Ban Huai Bo Thong village, Uttaradit Province. This was followed by field visits to the Srisatchanalai Reforestation Station in Sukhothai Province and the TS Teak Wood processing company in Uttaradit Province, Northern Thailand, from 7–9 May 2025.

***Photo 2** Meeting with teak growers in Uttaradit province (left) and Chief of FIO reforestation in Sukhothai province*

The workshop was conducted with the objectives of:

- Update study site selection & stakeholder identification
- Familiarize experts with the data collection tools through practical sessions
- Pre-testing and adaptation of data collection tools
- Data collection planning exercise, country level


**Integrated Pre-Testing and Field Visits**

During an initial three-day field engagement, the joint team administered the draft household survey to local smallholder teak growers and entered the data using LimeSurvey while testing its technical functionality. Simultaneously, the team visited smallholder teak plots at various rotation stages and observed operations at a private plantation and teak processing company (TS-Teak), as well as one of the teak plantation sites of the Forest Industry Organization (FIO) in Phitsanulok. Using a structured pre-testing guide, the research team documented survey-related challenges and feedback (e.g., confusion around terms such as “financial mechanisms”) alongside field observations, ensuring that subsequent revisions to the data collection tool were grounded in practical, real-world conditions.

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**Updating Data-Collection Tools**

Drawing directly from insights gained during the three days of pre-testing and field observation, the household survey underwent substantial revisions. Technical jargon and unclear wording were rephrased using simpler language, and basic explanatory notes were added to assist data collection experts. In addition, the functionality and accuracy of skip-logic triggers were tested and adjusted where necessary.

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**Familiarization Workshop: Presentation and Reflection**

The training workshop targeted data collection experts who were recruited to carry out field-level data collection tasks in each project country. The workshop was held over one and a half days (13–14 May 2025). On the first day, data collection experts presented their preparatory work, which included compiling district-level demographic and land-use data to construct sampling frames. For each country’s deliverables, the group provided feedback, confirming adequate coverage and suggesting refinements. The session then transitioned to a review of the revised survey tools, where participants examined the updated questions and conducted mock interviews to identify any remaining ambiguities.

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**Planning and Next Steps**

The final segment of the workshop focused on operational planning. Project partners and technical experts collaboratively developed a timeline, scheduling the survey launch for the second week of June 2025, with completion targeted for the second week of July 2025. Key activities—ranging from final preparatory steps and logistical arrangements to scheduling in-depth expert interviews and focus group discussions—were mapped against this timeline.

To close the session, Jennifer Conje, ITTO Director of Forest Management, delivered remarks emphasizing the strategic importance of the feasibility study on financial mechanisms to promote high-quality timber production through longer-rotation teak and other valuable timber species in smallholder and community-based plantations. She highlighted her expectation that the study would make a significant contribution to addressing a relatively underexplored dimension of the project: the socio-economic aspects, which are equally critical to ensuring the long-term sustainability of smallholder-based teak and valuable timber species plantations.

### 2.3.2 ITTO Project Monitoring meeting during 14-18 May 2025

ITTO delegates Ms. Jennifer Conje, Director of the Forest Management Division, Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO Projects Manager, and Thailand project management team conducted a project monitoring field visit in Thailand. During 14–18 May 2025, a technical meeting was aligned with administrative officers and project staff as part of Activity D01 (Monitoring and Review), as outlined in the project document.

The monitoring meeting program included three components:

- Observed and delivered closing remarks at the Orientation Workshop on Field Data Collection for the Micro-financing Scheme (see item 2.3.1).
- Attended the project technical meeting (Thailand component) with Kasetsart University (KU), the Royal Forest Department (RFD), and key stakeholders.
- Visited selected project sites and held discussions with multiple stakeholders involved in the project.

Summaries of these three components are provided below:

**Closing remarks**.

- Prof. Yongyut Trisurat informed Ms. Jennifer that the Thailand component, with technical support from the Thünen Institute, conducted a pre-test of the questionnaires in northern Thailand from 7–9 May 2025. The results and insights gained have been analyzed, leading to refined draft questionnaires being better tailored to the project's needs. Subsequently, the Orientation Workshop was conducted on 13–14 May 2025 (see above).

- Ms. Jennifer from ITTO expressed gratitude to Prof. Yongyut Trisurat and Mr. Temesgen Jaffo (Thünen Institute, Germany) for the excellent organization of the Orientation Workshop. The face-to-face workshop provided an excellent opportunity to explore the LimeSurvey platform developed by the Thünen Institute and to discuss its role in supporting data collection for the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase II. ITTO hopes that the preliminary findings will be presented at the 5th World Teak Conference in Kerala, India, in September 2025.

**Project Technical Meeting among KUFF, RFD and ITTO**

- Prof. Prateep Duengkae, Dean of KUFF, expressed his sincere thanks to ITTO and the RFD for placing their trust in the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, and for giving KU the opportunity to implement three significant ITTO projects, namely: 1) the Sustainable Wood

Use Project; 2) the Forest Loss Monitoring Project; and 3) the ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Project.

- Brief presentations of the above projects were given by Dr. Wirongrong Duangjai (Sustainable Wood Use), Dr. Chakrit Na Takuathung (Forest Loss Monitoring), and Prof. Yongyut Trisurat (ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Project). The first two projects, funded by the Government of Japan, were successfully completed, while the ITTO-BMLEH project has been implemented for one and a half years, reaching approximately 50% completion. Key activities and achievements of each project were presented, followed by questions and comments from the attendees.

- The Sustainable Wood Use (SWU) project significantly contributed to fostering an environment that supports urban consumer awareness, paving the way for increased demand for legally certified wood products in Thai society. Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi added that discussions are underway for a potential second phase of the project, which would focus on the development of "**wooden cities**" as a model for sustainable urban living. Prof. Yongyut noted that the concept for phase II was discussed during the ITTO capacity training on project proposal formulation in Pattaya in February 2025. A complete version of the concept note will be submitted to ITTO soon.

- Regarding the Forest Loss Monitoring project, the team developed a GIS-based deforestation risk map and installed NCAP cameras and a real-time camera monitoring system, as well as the SMART Patrol mobile application, to support local communities and governments in effectively monitoring and protecting forest resources in five target areas. Additionally, over 70 individuals received direct training in using forest protection technologies and livelihood improvement activities. Key discussions focused on the sustainability of project activities, long-term financial support for equipment maintenance, stakeholder engagement, and strategies to scale up the project's approaches and lessons learned to other community forests and forest reserves outside protected areas.

The progress and achievements of the ITTO-BMLEH project implementation are presented in this report.

***Photo 3** Project monitoring review meeting at KUFF chaired by Dr. Jennifer Conje, ITTO*

**Visited selected project sites and discussed with stakeholders**

After the project technical meeting, the ITTO delegates, project staff and some PSC members visited some sites in northern Thailand and western Thailand to explore the previous achievements during the project phase I and the progress/on-going activities of the project phase II as follows:

**Visit to Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station, Phayao Province**

Mr. Poonsak Chaiduangkaew, Chief of Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station gave an overview of the Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station, Lampang Province. Mae Ka is recognized as the first world teak seed orchard established in 1965 under a bilateral agreement between the Royal Thai Government and the Royal Danish Government (DANIDA). Its main mission is to supply superior teak seeds for plantation development and provided opportunities for research and students to conduct research. The research station houses more than 200 superior clones planted in 27 plots. In addition, the station also supplies good seedling for plantation in three demonstration plots under the project phase I and two plots under project phase II. Additionally, it also provides resource persons for training workshops.

Ms. Somporn Khumchompoo, affiliated with the Forestry Research and Development Office, RFD on Teak Genetics in Thailand, noted that this research also provides teak seedling from the 25 clones of the total 500 clones intended for promotion among smallholder plantations at the farm level planted at two new demonstration plots—one in Chiang Mai Province and another in Kanchanaburi Province.

These 25 teak clones were selected based on three main criteria: 1) growth performance; 2) shape (straight trunk); and 3) heartwood proportion. Ms. Somporn informed the monitoring team that she received funding support to establish demonstration plots during both Phases I and II.


*Photo 4* ***Monitoring team's visit to Mae Ka Silvicultural Research Station***

**Visit to commercial teak plantation owned by Sri Trang Company, Nan Province**
Sri Trang and Rubber Plantation Ltd. is the largest rubber plantation company in Thailand. Since 2000, the company has diversified into teak plantations to avoid global competition in the rubber industry and poor land suitability in certain areas. The company purchased the land from poor farmers in 2000 and use heavy machinery in the light of labor shortages. The company followed intensive silvicultural practices and plants teak seedling at a spacing of 4x7 meters to accommodate machinery and allow nearby villagers to cultivate crops such as upland rice, pumpkin, and corn in the plantation area during the first 4–5 years. This win-win model benefits both parties: villagers use the land rent-free, while the company saves on weeding, fire prevention, and fertilizer costs.


*Photo 5 Visit to commercial teak plantation in Pua District, Nan Province*

Dr. Jennifer, ITTO recommended that the company should:

- Diversify its markets, exploring opportunities in the Middle East.
- Strengthen connections with domestic markets and wood-processing industries to develop value-added products aligned with evolving consumer preferences, especially among younger generations.
- Utilize the ITTO's Tropical Timber Market Report, published biweekly, for updated market information.
- Encourage staff to attend the upcoming 5th World Teak Conference (WTC) in India to build networks and gather market intelligence.

**Visit to teak wood-based industry in Phrae Province** (DM Furniture Design Company Limited) DM Furniture Design Co. Ltd is recognized as one of 50 mediums to large-scale companies and from the total of approx. 1,000 small and medium-sized wood-based in the teak wood industry in Phrae Province. This company alone requires at least 10,000 cubic meters of teak annually to meet industry demand. The DM Company is a community wood enterprise and has around 40 members. The advantages and highlights of this community enterprise are:

1. Stronger bargaining power with middlemen and government officials
2. Mutual support in areas such as marketing, design, and production
3. Reduced competition among members through collaboration.

It was acknowledged that many small wood-processing businesses have struggled in recent years due to economic downturns and intense competition. However, his company has been less affected, as it targets the medium- and high-end markets, which still have the purchasing power for premium, well-designed products.

*Photo 6* ***ITTO team lead by Dr. Jenifer at DM Furniture Design factory, Phrae Province***

The company owner raised concerns and outlined the priorities for strengthening wood-based industry as follows:

1. Increased market opportunities since it is the key driver of the supply chain
2. Enhanced capacity for product and design improvement
3. A transformative shift in the government's role from regulator to facilitator

**Visit to FIO Mae Saroi Reforestation and smallholder plantation, Wangchin, Phrae Province**

The reforestation is one of approx. 200 FIO reforestations, established in 1978. It comprises 20 plantation plots, the size of each plot ranges from 50 - 100 ha (300–600 rai). The station's main responsibilities include: 1) forest plantation; 2) timber harvesting; and 3) plot maintenance and pest control.

For the plantation activities, high-quality seedlings are sourced from one of the two major FIO seedling production centers in northern Thailand. The typical rotation period for FIO plantations is 30 years, but recently it has been extended to 40 years. The station harvests approximately 100 to 500 cubic meters of timber annually. About 40% of this is sent to the FIO sawmill, while the remainder is sold to private sector buyers and small- to medium-sized wood-processing enterprises in the Northern provinces.

Currently, about 30% of the planted teak trees are affected by teak borers and as a response, the station is experimenting mixed-species plantations with iron wood and rosewood.


*Photo 7 At FIO timber depot*

After the FIR reforestation, the monitoring team visited a smallholder teak plantation nearby**.** This plot was established in 1986 under the nationwide financial support for reforestation program (approx. USD 600 per ha or 3,000 baht per rai). The owner obtained high-quality teak seedlings from the RFD. The current teak stand is 18 years old coppice trees, following the initial harvest in 2006.

The ITTO delegates observed that tree sizes vary significantly (uneven growth) due to light competition and the absence of pruning and thinning. This suggests that many smallholder teak growers lack understanding of proper silvicultural practices—the important measures for producing high-quality timber.


*Photo 8 The team at smallholder teak plantation in Phrae province*

**Visit to teak clonal testing site I Kanchanaburi Province (Project Phase I)**

Mr. Arkon Tunrat, Chief of Kroengkrawia Reforestation, Kanchanaburi province and Ms. Somporn informed the monitoring team that there are two demonstration plots in Kanchanaburi Province:

1. A clonal test of the plus trees (Phase I); and
2. A clonal test of 25 clonal champions for smallholder plantations. The site visited by the ITTO delegates was established during Phase I of the project. The 2nd new site is located quite far away and could not be visited. It was observed that the seedlings at the demonstration site are growing very well compared to those in the FIO plantation,

especially the clones sourced from Lampang. During the visit, the monitoring team noticed that teak trees at the site are not affected by teak borers. This is likely due to the surrounding intact forest, which supports a high number of natural insect predators.


***Photo 9** Visit the teak clonal test demonstration plot situated at Kanchanaburi Province*

The minutes of ITTO monitoring is uploaded to Google as Document #2
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xf0lqyUSwkeQ6g4Chr29_m6WVxbol_Bu/view?usp=sharing

### 2.3.3 Organizing the Precision Insect Pest Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests, northern Thailand

***Photo 10** Group photo: Participants and the project team*

Thailand component arranged a training workshop on **Precision Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests"** on March 13-14, 2025, in Lam Phun Province, northern Thailand.

Teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) is a valuable native timber species found in India, Myanmar, Thailand and Lao PDR. In addition, teak plantations have been widely established across 80 tropical countries over an estimated 6.89 million hectares, nearly 80% of which is in Asia followed by 10% in Africa and 6% in Latin America and the area is increasing. Despite widespread plantations, the productivity of planted teak is generally low, particularly the

plantations established by smallholders and local communities. This is partly due to poor quality of planting stock, inadequate silvicultural practices, limited financing to produce quality timber, and weak marketing and value chains.

Apart from all these, diseases in teak plantations are a major health issue threatening the productivity of plantations. The beehole borer, *Xyleutes ceramicus* WALKER is the most important forest insect pest of teak. The pest is generally distributed throughout the natural teak forests of Southeastern Asia. Teak trees in the plantation are evidently more susceptible than those of natural teak forests and mixed plantations. Although, it does not kill the tree, it causes severe damage/defect inside the heartwood of the tree and greatly reduces the quality and value of the marketable timber of 30-70%. Therefore, sharing and dissemination of knowledge on pest control, in particular beehole borer in teak plantation is very crucial for the success of long-term plantation aiming to harvest good quality timber. And contributed to the project Activity 1.2 strengthening smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems.

The specific objectives of the training workshop were therefore:

1. To educate participants on insect pests in teak plantations, especially beehole borer
2. To provide precision guidelines on how to investigate, control and mange beehole borers to produce good quality timber
3. Field visit and hand-on practice to investigate the affected teak tress

A total of 40 people from interested teak smallholders in northern Thailand, the RDF and the FIO participated in the training organized. Prof. Decha Wiwatawitaya from the Faculty of Forestry, Keasetsart University, who has studied beehole borers more than 30 years, was the instructor of this training workshop.

The two-days training workshop consists of 4 lectures and a half day filed practice. The summary of the training module is shown below:

**Lecture 1: Introduction to insect pests affecting teak plantation**

- Prof. Dr. Decha Wiwatwitaya recommends that all participants understand first the life cycle of insect pest (egg, caterpillar, pupa and adult-butterfly), then preventive measures can be undertaken. These four stages may cover almost 2 years.
  - Stage 1- Butterflies usually lay egg in February-March and the number of eggs is about 12,000-15,000 and the success of hatching in 82%.
  - Stage 2 covers the period from April to December (8-9 months).
  - Stage 3- expands for 3-4 weeks in January – February (next year).
  - Stage 4- the adult stage (butterfly) is very short, covering only 1 week (February-April). It should be noted that the life cycle calendar varies from place to place.
- Not all caterpillars survive and can drill into trees. More than 90% are killed by predators, especially ants and environmental conditions. Based on literature, only 1% of caterpillars can drill.

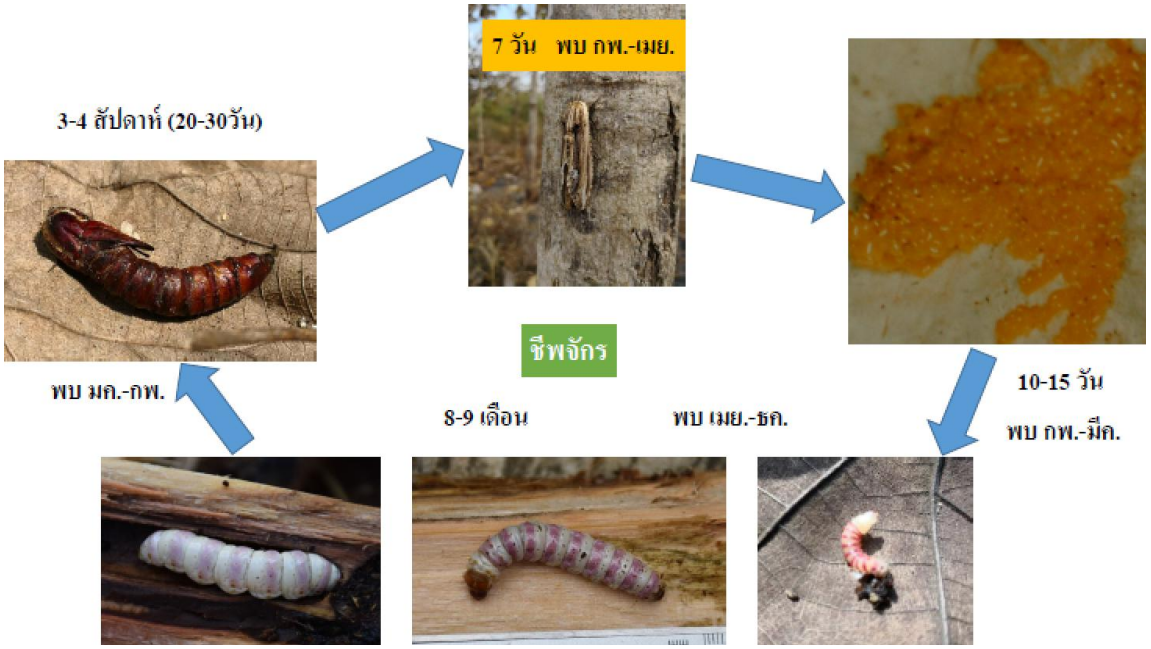



*Photo 11* ***Beehole borer life cycle***

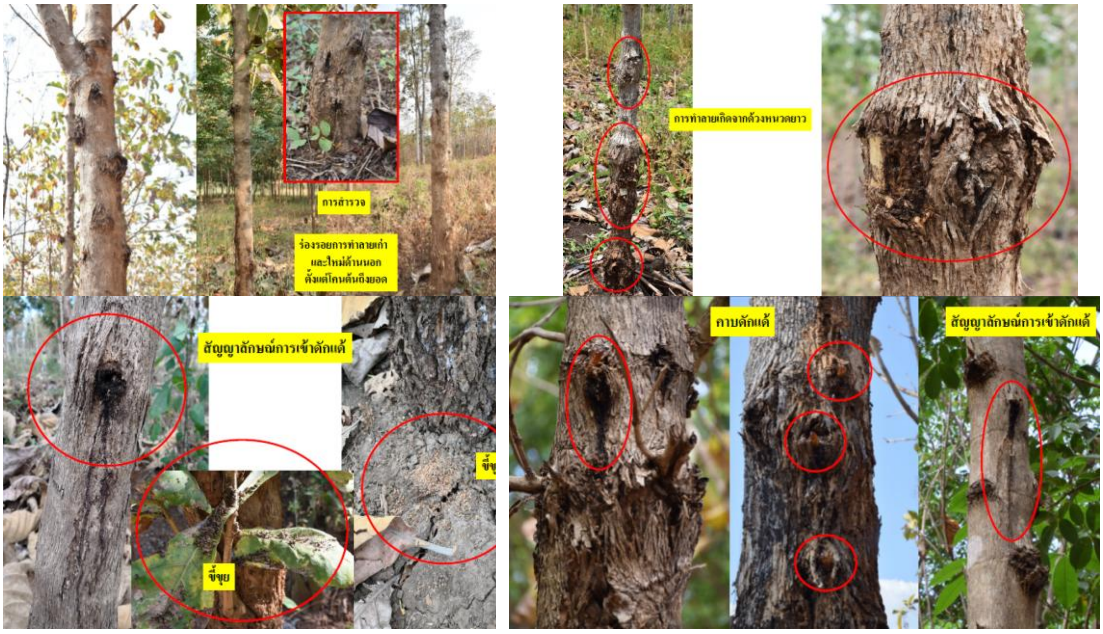
**Lecture 2: Prevention and mitigation measures of teak beehole borers**

1. Beehole borers cause serious damage to teak plantations due to monoculture practice. This cultivation system lacks natural predators. In addition, climate change or long dry period may trigger the success of hatching and reduce washing capacity of eggs on teak bark. More research is recommended to prove the later assumption.
2. Prevention and mitigation measure of teak beehole borers include a wide range of methods: 1) pesticide; 2) inoculation by fungal disease, *Beauveria bassiana*; 3) fire; 4) light trap; 5) natural predators; 6) direct mitigation (remove or kill); 7) incentive award; and 8) mixed plantations. In addition, mandatory destruction affected teak plantations to mitigate the risk of further outbreaks of the disease such as avian Influenza Prevention strategy should be included.
3. The application of the above methods depends on time and location (space), as well as environmental conditions in each site. For example, pesticide application is not suitable in area near human settlement. Light trap is feasible only in the adult stage (approximately 1 week in January – February). Fire management is cheap and effective during the hatching of egg and 1$^{st}$ stage of caterpillar. However, the zero-burn policy prohibits this method. Thus, this policy should be reviewed or precision fire management using flamethrower should be considered.

**Lecture 3: Investigation and evaluation of affected teak trees**

This lecture session covered 3 topics: 1) investigation; 2) evaluation; and 3) monitoring.

1. Selection of sample trees. The percentage of samples depends on time and resources. On each sample tree, the following data will be recorded: number of holes, stage of caterpillar, damage type/and extent, height and girth of sample tree, pula evidence.




2. Create and use data entry t regularly record the evidences.
3. Classify the damage levels: low <10% of sample trees; moderate 11-30%; high > 31%. It should be noted that the damaged evidences of teak (sapling) less than 10 years old are usually less than 0.5-meter height, but teak older than 10 years, the beehole borer holes are higher than 2 meter and it is difficult to notice and mitigate the insects.
4. Monitoring the effects of beehole borers should be done regularly, either after teak trees are damaged or before damage occurs.

**Lecture 4: Precision Management and Control Measures of Teak Borers**

Based on the life cycle of beehole borer and evidence of damage, the prevention and mitigation measures should focus on teak trees less than 10 years old. In addition, field investigation should cover all year round starting from January. Target investigation of other stages may continue.

It should be noted that the behavior and life cycle stages of beehole borer vary from place to place according to environmental conditions (e.g., temperature, rain, wind) which have consequences on damaged areas. Nevertheless, the above measures provide only general guidelines for investigation. The owners of teak plantation must consider the above conditions carefully. Otherwise, it is too late to mitigate or prevent the damage if caterpillar and pupa already drilled inside the wood.

**Training Evaluation**

The training results were evaluated and analyzed from questionnaires distributed to participants who attended the Training Workshop. There were 34 participants who submitted the completed evaluation questionnaires out of 40 participants.

The overall satisfaction level of the training was very high. The highest satisfaction was the additional knowledge gained and met expectations, with 73.5% of participants rating it as "Very High" and 20.6% as "High". Other highly rated aspects included the training content on teak plantation pests and pest management techniques, with over 67% of respondents marking these as "Very Good".

Participants provided valuable recommendations for future improvements. Many participants suggested more training sessions and extended the training duration and to other teak plantation areas such as Chiang Mai.

The RFD and FIO should implement nationwide control of insect pests, especially beehole borers. The zero-burn policy should be reviewed, with recommendations for early burning in high-risk areas and further research on disease mitigation techniques.

*Photo 12* ***Opening session (above) and lecture by Dr. Decha Wiwatwitaya and introduction of Mae Li Reforestation Station, Lam Phun province (Mr. Mr. Atithep Phuttapong, Chief of Mae Li Teak Reforestation (below)***

*Photo 13* ***Hand-on practices to identify affected trees and showing damage evidence***

After the training (on 16 June 2025), the project team—Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Asst. Prof. Dr. Kobsak Wantongchai, Mr. Suchart Kanyawongsa, and Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen—had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Prasit Koet-to, Acting Managing Director of the Forest Industry Organization (FIO), along with administrative officials at FIO headquarters. During the discussion, the project team raised concerns about the outbreak of the *teak wood-boring*

*caterpillar*, which has been causing significant damage to teak trees at reforestation stations in northern Thailand.

The meeting concluded with a summary of initial recommended approaches to effectively minimize the issue, as follows:

- Monitor the lifecycle of teak borers in all teak reforestation areas to determine the optimal timing for intervention. FIO has developed a data collection template for this purpose.
- Introduce incentive-based awards for local communities living near the reforestation areas to physically remove or eliminate the pests and help reduce their population.
- Apply fire treatment to tree trunks and branches (up to 6 meters in height) during stage 1 or stage 2, before the caterpillars bore into the teak wood.
- Establish buffer zones with alternative tree species to prevent the spread of the insects.
- If the above measures are ineffective, consider replacing teak with more pest-resistant species such as *Xylia xylocarpa* (ironwood), which is known to grow well and resist both pests and diseases.

***Photo 14* post-training meeting with FIO**

The training report is uploaded to Google as Document #3
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s8RxbM_X6Gie2-hAZNGXKk9C2dPesSoi/view?usp=sharing

## 2.4 Inputs Applied

### 2.4.1 Cashflow and Expenditures

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH) provides financial support for the implementation of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase II through ITTO. The total budget is USD 1,413,449 for a period of three years (from 1 November 2023 to 31 December 2026). The allocation of project funds to the participating countries is presented in Table 4

BMLEH has already transferred a total of USD 637,097.78 to ITTO, representing 45.07% of the total project budget. This amount includes the 1st installment of USD 142,293 in September 2023, the 2nd installment of USD 424,363 in September 2024, and the 3rd installment of USD 70,441.78 in March 2025.

Total project expenditures to date amount to USD 767,174.21, resulting in a budget deficit of USD 130,076.43. These expenditures include project activity costs of USD 616,424.77, monitoring and evaluation costs of USD 12,554.44, and program support costs of USD 138,195.

**Table 4** Budget allocation among TTO and the participating countries

| Country/recipient | Amount (USD) [1/] | % |
|---|---|---|
| ITTO | 714,849 | 50.57% |
| (Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany) | (353,954) [2/] | (25.04%) [2/] |
| Cambodia | 51,000 | 3.61% |
| India | 71,000 | 5.02% |
| Indonesia | 110,500 | Not transferred |
| Thailand | 358,100 | 25.33% |
| Vietnam | 54,000 | 3.82% |
| Togo | 54,000 | 3.82% |
| Total | 1,413,449 [3/] | (100.00%) [3/] |

Note: 1/ Excluding additional funds to support field data collection for micr-finance meachnism; 2/ Allocated through ITTO; 2/ Include all partners.

The Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo components, as well as the Thünen Institute of Forestry, have already signed MoUs with ITTO. The Thailand and Togo components began implementing physical activities in November 2023, while the Cambodia and Vietnam components started activity implementation in January 2024.

In addition, the MoU for India was signed in November 2024, and for Indonesia in March 2025. Following the signing of the MoUs, ITTO transferred the 1st installment of USD 182,000 and the 2nd installment (except for India) of USD 166,000 to the five participating countries. Furthermore, a total of USD 49,200 was disbursed to support field data collection for micro-finance mechanisms. ITTO also disbursed USD 132,733 to the Thünen Institute of Forestry following the signing of the agreement in March 2024.

As of 30 June 2025, five participating countries (excluding Indonesia) received a total of USD 397,200 from ITTO, representing 62.32% of the total project budget allocated to those countries. Funds have not yet been transferred to Indonesia due to pending on-the-ground implementation.
The estimated budget required to carry out activities from July to December 2025 in the five participating countries is USD 341,200.60. The available balance in project bank accounts, including earned interest, is USD 506,140.02. To fully implement the planned activities for this period, ITTO and the executing agencies require additional funds totaling USD 281,142.71.

**Table 5** The up-to-date Balance for the 1st and 2nd installments received from ITTO

| Recipient | Fund of 1st installment (USD)* | Fund of 2nd installment (USD)* | Micro-finance | Expenditure (Nov 2023 - Jun 2024) | Total expenditures (Nov 2023 – Jun 2025) | Planned budget (Jul-Dec 2025) | Fund in project Bank Account (USD) | Remark |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | 20,000 (39%)[1/] | 20,000 (39%)[1/] | 9,000 | 2,541 | 34,240.62 | 18,847.38 | 14,759.38 | |
| India | 22,000 (31%) [1/] | | 9,000 | | 10,475.33 | -33,541.90 | 20,888.41 | Interest earn USD 209.35 |
| Indonesia[2/] | | | | | | NA | NA | Pending MoU signing |
| Thailand | 100,000 (28%)[1/] | 106,000 (29.6%)[1/] | 13,200 | 63,372 *(2023-6,467; 2024-46,495)* | 164,217.88 | 72,16017 | 55,297.12 | Interest earned USD 315 |
| Vietnam | 20,000 (37%)[1/] | 20,000 (37%)[1/] | 9,000 | 8,482 | 20,446 | 23,455 | 28,554 | |
| Togo | 20,000 (37%)[1/] | 20,000 (37%) | 9,000 | 15,017 | 24,930.06 | 36,142.94 | 24,069.94 | |
| **Sub-total** | **182,000 (30.9%)** [3/] | **166,000 (23.8%)**[4/] | **49,200 (62.1%)** | **89,412** [5/] | **254,309.89 (64.02%)** | **161,012.39** | **143,568.85** | |
| ITTO | 142,293 [9/] (10.1%)[1/] | 424,363 [9/] (30.02%)[1/] | 70,441.78 (4.98%) | | | | | |
| Thunen | 132,733 [10/]; (33%) [1/] | | | 132,733 | 132,733 (120,600.15) | 132,733 | (12,132.85) | |
| Project costs: disburse to | | | | | 616,424.77 | | | Include international |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| participating and others (include Thunen) | | | | | | | | consultant and particiapation in IUFRO 2024. |
| Monitoring and evaluation | | | | | 12,554.44 | 8,000 | | |
| Program support | | | | | 138,195 | | | |

Notes: 1/ percentage of the total allocated budget; 2/ Indonesia has not obtained funds from ITTO; 3/ total 1st installment allocated to the 5 participating countries (excluding Thunen); 4/ total 2nd installment allocated to the 5 participating countries; 5/ total expenditures of the 5 participating countries (Nov 2023 – Jun 2024); 6/ total expenditures of the 5 participating countries (Nov 2023 – Dec 2024); 7/ planned budget from Jan-Jun 2025 for ITTO; 8/available funds for the 5 participating countries; 9/ funds transferred from BMEL to ITTO; 10/ funds transferred from ITTO to Thunen

The expenditures of ITTO, each country's component and Thünen are summarized below. Detailed expenditures by budget item are presented in the separate financial report.

***Cambodia***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 34,240.62, and it represents 69.88% of the 1st and 2nd, as well as additional fund to support field data collection received from ITTO (USD 49,000.00=20,000+20,000+9,000)
- The up-to-date Balance of 1st and 2nd installments and additional fund of USD 9,000 for field data collection received from ITTO: USD 49,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 34,240.62 [where, USD 14,759.38 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Cambodia component has planned activities during July-December 2025 with the costs of USD 18,847.38.

***India***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the India component Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 10,475.33 or 33.79% of the 1st installment and additional fund of USD 9,000 for microfinancing scheme received from ITTO (USD 22,000 + USD 9,000). The disbursed funds represent 16.90% of the total project budget (USD 53,000 + 9,000). Please note that the expenditures of India component is the lowest among the five participating countries which have signed MoUs with ITTO due to delayed engagement.

- The up-to-date Balance of both 1st installment and fund for data collection received from ITTO: USD 31,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 10,475.33 [where, USD 20,888.41 (Fund in Project bank Account). Note that India component also earned interest of USD 209.35.
- India component has planned activities during July-December 2025 with the costs of USD 33,541.90.

***Thailand***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The Thailand component began the physical implementation of project activities on 1 November 2023. Expenditures were as follows:
  - USD 6,467 from 1 November to 31 December 2023
  - USD 46,495 from January to June 2024
  - USD 52,066 from July to December 2024

- As of 30 June 2025, the cumulative use of ITTO project financial resources amounted to USD 164,217.89, representing 74.92% of the total from the 1st and 2nd installments plus the additional fund of USD 13,200 for field data collection received from ITTO (Total: USD 219,200 = 100,000 + 106,000 + 13,200). This also accounts for 43.54% of the total project budget (USD 377,200 = 358,000 + 6,000 + 13,200).

- The up-to-date balance of total funds received from ITTO (USD 219,200 liquidated) stands at USD 55,297.11, including USD 315 in earned interest. This is based on total expenditures of USD 164,217.89.

- The Thailand component has planned activities for July–December 2025 with an estimated cost of USD 55,297. Key planned expenditures include:
  - Organization of the 2nd PSC meeting in November
  - Participation in the 5th World Teak Conference (WTC) in India
  - Organization of the 3rd training session, including payment to Consultant #4

- It is noted that ITTO transferred USD 6,000 to reimburse the Thailand component for advanced payments made to support Dr. Hwan-ok Ma and Dr. P.K. Thulasidas (resource persons) who participated in IUFRO 2024 in Sweden in June 2024. Additionally, USD 13,200 was transferred to support the pre-test, an orientation workshop on field data collection, and the hiring of national experts to assist in data collection for the micro-financing mechanisms.

- Thailand component has planned activities during July-December 2025 with the costs of USD 72,160.17

***Vietnam***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 20,446 or 21.20% of the 1st and 2nd installments and additional fund for field data collection of USD 9,000 received from ITTO (USD 49,000=20,000+20,000+9,000) and it represents 32.45% of the total project budget (USD 54,000.00+9,000) due to the delayed establishment of demonstration plots.

- The up-to-date Balance of the total funds received from ITTO: USD 49,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 20,446 [where, USD 28,554 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Vietnam component has planned activities during July – December 2025 with the costs of USD 20,858.

***Togo***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- Similar to Thailand component, Togo component has started the physical implementation of the project activities from November 2023.

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 24,930.06 or 50.88% of the 1st and 2nd installments and additional fund of USD 9,000 received from ITTO (USD 49,000) and it represents only 39.57 % of the total project budget (USD 54,000.00 + 9,000).

- Main expenditures include expenses for Prof. Dr. Adzo Dzifa KOKUTSE to participate in the IUFRO World Conference in Sweden (USD 4,1107), measurement and experiment at two demonstration plots (USD 7,89.73), and the payment for the Cons # 1 Quality Planting Material of USD 4,000.

- The up-to-date Balance of the 1st and 2nd installments received from ITTO: USD 40,000.00 (Liquidated) = USD 24,930.06 [where, USD 24,069.94 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Togo component has planned activities during July – December 2025 with the costs of USD 36,462.94.

***Indonesia***

Although, Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry signed MoU with ITTO in March 2025, funds have not yet been transferred to Indonesia due to pending on-the-ground implementation.

***Thünen Institute of Forestry***

The expenditure incurred shown in the Project Budget at present is explained below:

- The up-to-date use of the ITTO Project Financial resource as of 30 June 2025 was USD 120,600.15 or 90.86% of the 1st installment received from ITTO (USD 132,733) in February 2024 and it represents only 34.07 % of the total project budget (USD 353,954).

- Main expenditures include expenses for salary of the project staff (USD 60,806.71) and overhead costs of the institute (USD 23,886) and travel costs to participate in the Pre-test and Orientation Workshop on Field Data Collection Tools for the Micro-financing Mechanisms and the 1st PSC meeting and the 1st Regional Workshop in Thailand.

- The up-to-date Balance of both 1st installment received from ITTO: USD 12,733 (Liquidated) = USD 120,600.15 [where, USD 12,132.85 (Fund in Project bank Account).

- Thünen Institute has requested ITTO to disburse the 2nd installment of USD 132,733 to implement the planned activities and salary for the project staff.

### 2.4.2 Budget modification

The participating countries have already requested budget modifications. These requests do not affect the project's objectives or the allocated budget by item. The first budget modification (Modification: BR-A) was approved by BMLEH in September 2024, while the second request (Modification: BR-B) was approved in March 2025. See uploaded Document #4. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hGS6O-XttVDmd9M9mFdVPM3WLuB7DTiD/view?usp=sharing

Due to adjustments in the implementation of some activities, the participating countries now request a third budget modification (BR-C). The proposed modification reflects a decrease in the planned 2025 budget from USD 572,135 to USD 478,852. The remaining funds will be reallocated to the 2026 budget. Details are as follows:

*Payment for consultants*

- **Consultant #1 – Quality Planting Material (Budget Item A04):**
  The budget increases from USD 6,000 to USD 12,450 due to the early engagement of the consultant. This results in a corresponding reduction in the 2026 budget.
- **Consultant #2 – Field Training in Silviculture (Budget Item A05):**
  The budget increases from USD 5,200 to USD 10,200, also due to early engagement. This adjustment reflects a reduction in the 2026 budget.
- **Consultant #5 – Information Management (Budget Item A06):**
  The budget increases from USD 7,000 to USD 10,000 to comply with the agreed contract and Terms of Reference (TORs), with each instalment amounting to USD 5,000.
- **Consultant #6 – Teak Value Chain (Budget Item A07):**
  The budget decreases from USD 10,000 to USD 3,000 due to delayed recruitment for the Indian component and the postponement of a training session for the Thailand component to 2026.
- **Consultant #7.2 – Networking and Capacity Building (Budget Item A102):**
  The budget decreases from USD 12,000 to USD 6,000 in line with the agreed contract and TORs.

*Lump sum items*

- **Operational costs for project offices** (Budget Item B01) in the five participating countries increase from USD 6,000 to USD 9,628.
- **Technical reports and completion report editing** (Budget Item B02) decrease from USD 10,000 to USD 3,000, as the technical reports from consultants are expected in 2026

*Reimbursable items*

- **The remaining budget for organizing the 2nd Regional Teak Workshop** (Budget Item C12) is postponed to 2026.
- Regional and national webinars (Budget Item
- **Internal travel** (Budget Item C21) increases from USD 6,000 to USD 6,994 to support consultants' participation in the 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand in November 2025.
- **National and regional webinars** (Budget Item C21) decrease from USD 8,000 to USD 3,841 due to 3 out of 12 webinars have been organized.
- **Establishment of demonstration plots and nurseries** (Budget Item C42) increases from USD 10,000 to USD 22,241 due to early engagement. Only the Indonesia component has yet to establish its demonstration plots.
- **Training costs** (Budget Item C43) double increase from USD 32,429 to USD 62,083 to align with the planned capacity-building schedules in the participating countries.
- **Literature, publications, and webpage** (Budget Item C45) increases slightly from USD 2,000 to USD 2,454.96 in line with the plan to update the project website.

*ITTO Project Administration*

- **The entire allocated budget for ITTO program support** (Budget Item E01) was fully disbursed in 2024.

See detail in Annex 3.

## 2.5 Output Achievements

The progress towards achieving outputs complies with the verifiable indicators dated 19 January 2024, as outlined in the Logical Framework of the Inception Report (Table 6). The average percentage of progress for the project's achievements up to 30 June 2025 is 36%, ranging from 25% to 60%. The project's achievements for each activity, jointly implemented by the five participating countries (except Indonesia) and the Thünen Institute of Forestry, are shown in Table 6. In addition, the progress reports of each participating country are uploaded to Google Drive.
(Document #5
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NP0XTHQxjxJWDhEQ9PQdZEgnQGxwcRNO/view?usp=sharing
Document #6
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l4bpA3ZvH9EeRUU2NA85Amhfs6JQTrCW/view?usp=sharing
Document #7
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J8AUtFYcEzXgKqTIDEeJUIDrtVxzdqfh/view?usp=sharing
Document #8
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NfA4hnb5r8g7UdSSG-kKCIfT5k5rVmnj/view?usp=sharing)

**Table 6** Logical framework matrix

| Strategy of intervention | Measurable indicators | Means of verification | Key assumptions |
|---|---|---|---|
| To improve the production of high quality timber from teak and other valuable species plantations established by smallholders and communities in the Asia Pacific and West Africa; improve livelihoods and social and environmental outcomes through better silviculture practices, efficient wood transport and small-scale processing, financial schemes to invest in quality timber production from long rotations and access to voluntary carbon markets, as well as regional and international collaboration for sustainable smallholder plantations | 1) By the end of the Project, policies to secure high quality planting stock, best practices in silviculture, access to financing to promote longer rotations, value addition and improved legality achieved.<br>2) Promoting financial schemes that invest in high quality teak production with long rotations, access to voluntary carbon markets.<br>3) Facilitates regional and international cooperation for sustainable smallholder plantations<br>4) Effective implementation policies contribute to improving the economic outcomes of the smallholder and community plantations in the tropics | 1) Project reports, study reports and minutes of meetings.<br>2) Financial schemes<br>3) Teak market reports<br>4) Policy briefs on viable financial schemes for smallholder community plantations | – National governments support Project development and stimulate stakeholders to participate in the activities.<br>– Forestry administrations will provide and/or recruit qualified staff for implementation, contribute data on smallholder teak and other intercropping species composition, support viable financial schemes to smallholders for sustainable wood production. |
| **Output 1:** Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture and timber processing and legality. | 1) Improved management of existing and new demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species to support smallholders and local communities.<br>2) Field training on the following subjects: (1) Seed production/nursery techniques, (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method, (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation (4) teak and other valuable species and NTFP (5) documentation for timber legality and sustainability.<br>3) By the end of Project, recommended practice on quality standards for teak planting material, efficient timber harvesting and processing, improved product designs for increased product value have been developed, and considered by the national forestry administrations for policy improvement<br>4) Opportunities for improved teak market access have been elaborated and considered by the national forestry administration for policy improvement | 1) Management plan guidelines on smallholder and other species plantations and training reports.<br>2) Project report on field -oriented training of the 6 topics including timber legality and sustainability of smallholder production systems<br>3) Project reports on improved timber processing, product development, value chain<br>4) Teak market access<br>5) SFM in the tropics | – National government support to ensure supply of improved planting material to smallholders.<br>– Sustainable livelihood and legal harvest and wood product trade for increased income. |
| **Output 2:** Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been | 1) By the end of the Project, financial support schemes/incentives by sourcing companies ensure that the smallholder's products will be purchased at | 1) Project on Consultant reports (TIF, Germany) on financial | – National government support to smallholder farmers in community enterprises and establishment of |

| Strategy of intervention | Measurable indicators | Means of verification | Key assumptions |
|---|---|---|---|
| analysed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes. | remunerative prices based on the feasibility studies by TIF, Germany<br>2) Optimization of micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to overcome the problem with collaterals/ group cooperatives that they often face trees as guarantees, group-lending motivate farmers ensure loan repayments, pilot study in 3 regions including Togo and Indonesia.<br>3) At the end of the Project, formation of effective forest grower associations/group marketing ventures to build good relationships with market to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits<br>4) Access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community- based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security to farmers, address issues of cash flows, and support access to microfinance schemes. | incentives, micro-lending opportunities for smallholders.<br>2) Project reports on teak-based community enterprises, MSME for furniture productions<br>3) Regional workshop report<br>4) Policy interventions on carbon credits for smallholder teak and valuable species plantations | pilot study areas<br>– adequate opportunities and Interventions in group marketing of wood products, improved bargaining power to secure better value of their products, reduce transaction costs. |
| **Output 3:** Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened | 1) By the end of the Project at least 7 technical reports and/or studies have been uploaded on the Internet and are publicly available.<br>2) One regional workshop in 2024 at the middle of the Project have been implemented to support information management among the participating countries.<br>3) Problem and challenges for sustainable smallholder teak stands and selected tropical species plantations promoted in the Asia Pacific and W. Africa (Togo) has been shared in the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and 5th World Teak Conference 2025 in India and well understood by the participants | 1) Teak-website and online bi-monthly newsletter<br>2) List of participants of the regional workshop<br>3) List of participants of the IUFRO World Congress 2024 and 5th World Teak Conference 2025 | – Qualified staff from the participating countries participate in joint research activities.<br>– Outreach and promotional materials are actively used by teak stakeholders. |

The following activities for each output will contribute to meet the objective of the Project:

**Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture, and timber processing and legality.**

***Activities 1.1: Conserve teak and other valuable species genetic variation through improved management of existing seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations (India, Indonesia, Thailand).***

***Achievements***

Teak is a native species in Myanmar, India, Thailand and Lao PDR. Despite it is an exotic species in Indonesia, a lot of scientists recognize it as landrace species in Indonesia because it was introduced to Indonesia over 300 years ago and can adapt to local environment, especially in Yogyakarta. Similar to Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam and Togo do not have natural teak forests and native teak genetic resources, but various experiments related to seed production areas, seed orchards, and provenance/progeny trials/clonal plantations are conducted.

***Thailand***

- Scientists from Thailand's RFD have collected seeds from 636 mother trees (plus trees) in natural teak forests across the country, especially in northern provinces. These seeds were planted in several seed orchards in Lampang and Phayao provinces to produce high-quality planting material. In addition, clonal tests and provenance trials of approximately 400 clones were conducted, and experiments on the remaining clones were completed during project phase I. Furthermore, three clonal plantation plots (in Khon Kaem, Kanchanaburi, and Lampang provinces) established during project phase I have been maintained since then.

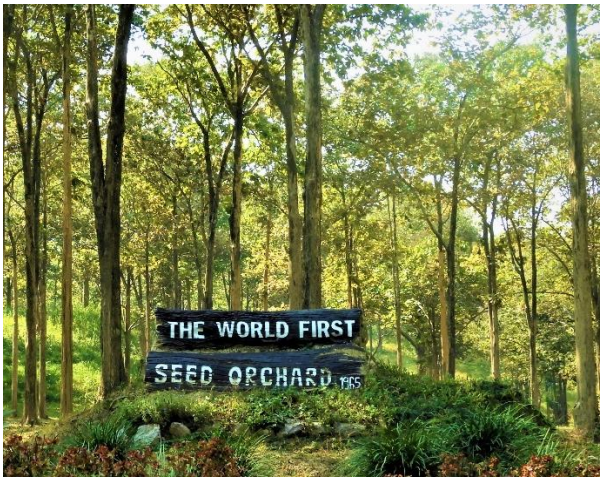



*Photo 15* ***Seed Orchard in Phayao province***

*Photo 16* ***Mother tree collection in Lampang Province***

*Photo 17* ***Demonstration plots established during project phase I and still under maintenance***

***India***

- Identified existing seed orchards/clonal plantations. In discussion with the stakeholders.
- Identified tree growers in Tamil Nadu who expressed interest to establish 2 hectares of Teak clonal plantations.

***Indonesia***

- Not started

***Activities 1.2: Support smallholders and local communities for improved management of existing and new demonstration plots for teak and other valuable species and field training on the following subjects: (1) seed production/nursery techniques; (2) silvicultural practices and improved stand management, including coppicing as a regeneration method; (3) minimizing harvesting loss, efficient transport and processing of teak roundwood and product designs and innovation; (4) teak and other valuable species and value-chains (5) timber legality and sustainability (all participating countries)***

***Achievements***

***Thailand***

*I. Establish demonstration plots*

- At the 1st PSC meeting held in September 2024, the Thailand component allocated funds to Ms. Somporn Khamchompoo, affiliated with the Forestry Research and Development Office, RFD. The funds are being used to maintain the three existing demonstration plots established during project phase I and to establish new plots.

- Two new plots are being established in Kanchanaburi and Chiang Mai provinces, each with a size of 5 rai (approximately 0.8 hectares). The main objective of these new plots is to test 20 top-performing clones for smallholder plantations at the farm scale. These clones were selected from provenance trials based on growth performance, hardwood proportion, and shape (straightness f teak tree) for commercial purposes.

- Teak seedlings have already been planted in the Kanchanaburi plot, while planting in the Chiang Mai plot is scheduled in July 2025.


***Photo 17** Demonstration plots in Kanchanaburi (upper left) and Chiangmai (upper right), and awarding the project funds to support establish new provenance test of 20 top clones on 19 September 2024 (below)*

*II. Training sessions*

- The Thailand component has planned to organize four training sessions (see Table 7) to build the capacity of smallholders and staff from relevant agencies such as the RFD and FIO.

- The first training workshop on *Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for Smallholders* was held on 27–28 March 2024 in Nan Province. The objective of the workshop was to introduce both the theory and practice of teak plantation and silvicultural techniques to smallholders. A total of 32 participants attended the workshop. Instructors included Prof.

Yongyut Trisurat (Regional Project Manager), Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen (RFD and Chair of the Project Technical Committee), Mr. Tosaporn Wacharangkul, and Mr. Boonlerd Srisuksai (invited resource persons). In addition, the Director of the Nan Provincial Forestry Office was invited to officially open the event and deliver a lecture on national policies regarding economic teak and other high-value tree plantations.

- Following the lectures, all participants and resource persons visited a commercial teak plantation owned by Sri Trang Rubber and Plantation Ltd. The plantation spans approximately 650 hectares (2,100 rai). The company employs modern technology, high-quality planting material, and intensive silvicultural practices. Local people are also permitted to grow cash crops (intercropping) for 1–3 years. This intercropping system not only promotes co-benefits but also reduces weeding costs and enhances fire prevention-leading to saving costs of the company.

***Photo 18* Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders in Nan Province, and field visit at Sri Trang Rubber and Plantation Ltd.**

- The second training workshop on *Precision Insect Pest Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests* was held in Lamphun Province on 27–28 March 2025. The specific objectives of the workshop were to educate participants on insect pests in teak plantations—particularly the beehole borer—and to provide practical, precision-based guidelines on how to investigate, control, and manage beehole borer infestations to ensure the production of high-quality timber. Hands-on practice in investigating affected teak trees was included.

- A total of 40 participants, including interested teak smallholders from northern Thailand, staff from the RFD and the FIO, attended the training. Prof. Decha Wiwatawitaya from the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, served as the lead instructor. See more details in item 2.3.3.

- The two remaining training sessions planned for 2026 are:

  - Minimizing Harvesting Loss, Efficient Transport and Processing of Teak Roundwood, and Product Design and Innovation, to be conducted by Consultant #4 (Efficient Wood Transportation and Processing); and
  - Teak and Other Valuable Species and Value Chains, to be led by Consultant #6 (Value Chains)

***Cambodia***

*I. Demonstration plots*

- The Cambodia project has recruited two consultants: Consultant #1 for the Production of Good-Quality Planting Material and Consultant #2 for Field Training in Silviculture.

- The existing silvicultural demonstration plots of teak plantation (10 plots in Kampong Cham province) were measured in August 2024, while the other 12 plots in Kampong Speu province were unable to be measured due to a legal challenge involving Grandis Co., Ltd.

- The project team visited the existing demonstration plots. Fifty percent of the plots in each province underwent pruning, while the remaining 50% were left untreated (non-silvicultural practice). Measurement of the teak demonstration plots is set to begin in early June 2024.

- Additionally, the project team established two cluster demonstration plots for four native species at the same location in Kampong Cham. Plot 1: Smallholder teak plantation (individual), Han Chey commune, is located at Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province). Plot 2 Smallholder tree plantation (other valuable timber species), Han Chey commune, Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province)is in These plots include four native timber species: *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* Kurz, *Afzelia xylocarpa* (Kruz.) Craib, and *Sindora cochinchinensis* Baill. The main objective of these plots is to promote silvicultural practices towards high quality timber.

- The Cambodia project team has investigated potential sites to establish seed production sources and demonstration plots aimed at raising public awareness about planting teak as a long-term economic benefit and the effects of silvicultural best practices on teak growth performance.

***Photo 19*** ***Measuement of Teak and other valuable species in demonstration plots (2024)***

*Photo 20* ***Measuement of demonstration plots for othe valuable timber species (2025)***

*II Training sessions*

- In line with the OECD Scheme on Forest Reproductive Material, the *Guidelines on the Production of Good-Quality Planting Material* have been prepared in Khmer, covering teak and other native valuable timber species in Cambodia. Additionally, the *Guidelines on Nursery Techniques and Silvicultural Practices to Improve Stand Management in Cambodia* have also been developed in Khmer. Both sets of guidelines served as training resources for local smallholders during sessions held in January and February 2025.

- Two training sessions on "Production of Good-Quality Planting Materials, Nursery Techniques, and Silvicultural Practices to Improve Stand Management of Teak Plantations and Other Valuable Timber Species" were organized on 23–24 January 2025 in Kampong Cham province and 26–27 February 2025 in Ratanakiri province, respectively. Each session was attended by 27 participants.

*Photo 21* ***First training organized in Kampong Cham province in Januray 2025***


*Photo 22* ***Second training organized in Ratanakiri province in Februray 2025***

***India***

*I. Demonstration plots*

- The India project management team has held discussions with stakeholders who own existing seed orchards and clonal plantations for teak and other valuable species. Potential sites have been identified in Salem, Neyveli, Gudalur, and Walayar, and relevant data has been collected.

- In the existing seed production areas and seed orchards, the quality of fruit and seed production is scheduled to be assessed during the upcoming season.

- Additionally, the project team has identified tree growers in Tamil Nadu who have expressed interest in establishing two demonstration plots (1 hectare each) of teak clonal plantations at the farm level.

- For the demonstration/clonal trials, wood quality assessment has been initiated. Permission has been obtained for felling trees in Panampally, while non-destructive assessments are planned for September in Neyveli and Salem.

- The project also plans to establish two additional demonstration plots for teak, to be promoted under smallholder agroforestry systems for the sustainable supply of high-quality seedlings and timber. These plots will be located in Coimbatore district (Animoor and Anaikatti) and are scheduled for establishment in late 2025.

*II Training sessions*

- Mr. Mohammad Ghouse has been recruited as Consultant #4 (Efficient Teakwood Transportation and Processing) and Dr. C. Nalin Ku as Consultant #6 (Value Chains).

- Presentations were delivered during training sessions for the forest departments of Tamil Nadu in July 2025 and for those in Chhattisgarh or Maharashtra in August 2025, focusing on the importance of smallholder teak in agroforestry. The tentative title for the workshop is "Introducing the Package of Practices for Teak Cultivation to Smallholders."

- Smallholders and local communities have been identified to support the improved management of existing demonstration plots for teak.

- Additionally, the project team has engaged with licensed commercial tissue culture laboratories affiliated with ICFRE-IFGTB for the production of tissue culture teak plantlets.

- The remaining two training sessions—focused on harvesting, transportation, processing, product design and innovation, value chain analysis, timber legality, and sustainability are scheduled for 2026.

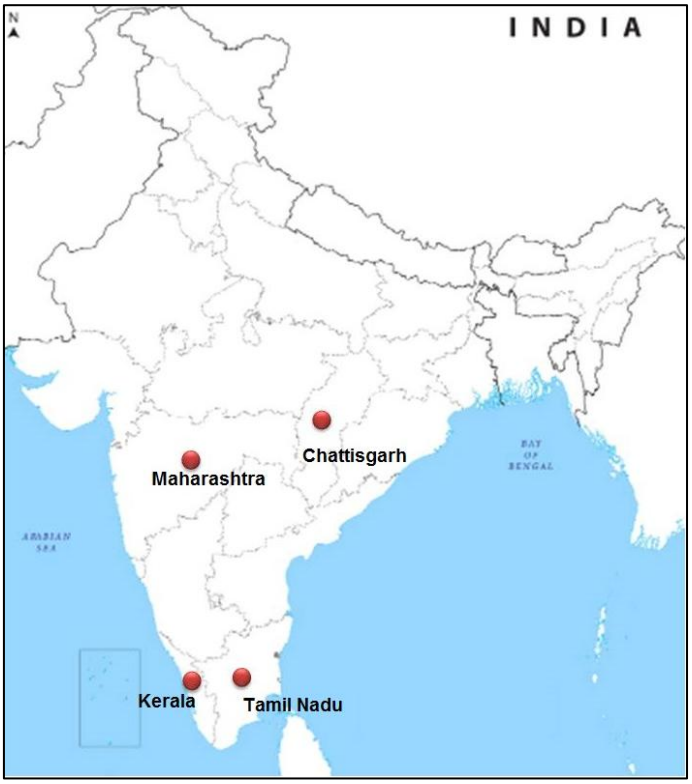



*Figure 2* ***Target areas in India***

***Vietnam***

*I. Demonstration plots*

- The Vietnam project team discussed with five forest enterprises and one research center in cooperation to establish 14 hectares of teak in five ecological regions in Vietnam

- Vietnam component signs a contract with Thai Orchids Co., Ltd to import 9,000 teak plantlets produced from tissue culture from Thailand. Transportation of teak seedlings was behind the planned schedule due to custom procedures. The plantlets were shipped to Vietnam in March 2025 and currently maintained in the nursery.

- The Vietnam project team discussed with five forest enterprises and one research center in cooperation to establish 3 hectares of Teak in Yen Bai province (plot 1), and teak mixed with cinnamon plantations in Bac Giang province (plot 2). The establishment of demonstration plots is ongoing process.

- The main purpose of both demonstrations is to demonstrate silvicultural practices to obtain quality timber.

- Besides the demonstration plots, Vietnam component organized Tree Planting Festival event with the support from Yen Bai Farmer Union in Yen Bai province.

***Photo 23** Leaders from Yen Bai province and SRI taking photo with ITTO-BMEL project in the tree planting festival in Yen Bai Province*

*II Training sessions*

- The Vietnam Component recruited two consultants (Consultant#1 Quality planting material and Consultant#2 Field training silviculture) to facilitate capacity building for forest enterprises and smallholders. Both consultants attended the 1st Regional Workshop, and the 1st PSC meeting held in Thailand.

- Vietnam component plans to organize two training sessions on Training on teak in nursery and Planting techniques on teak in August 2025.

- Additional training sessions are planned in 2026.

***Indonesia***

*I Demonstration plots*

- Although the Indonesia component has not yet established the project management team, the initial identification and engagement of consultants with communities to establish demonstration plots has already begun. *Plot 1* is located at Sedyo Lestari in the Forest Management Resort of Paliyan, while *Plot 2* is in Tani Manunggal, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province.

- *Plot 1:* After logging in 2021–2022 (of 20-year-old trees), regeneration occurs naturally through grafting and enrichment planting using naturally uprooted seeds. The area employs agroforestry intercropping with annual crops such as corn, peanuts, and cassava. Based on observations, fertilizer application and weeding have not significantly contributed to the growth performance of the teak trees. Given the current condition of the teak stands, it is still possible to plant MPTS (multi-purpose tree species). Additionally, the community does not currently follow appropriate silvicultural techniques in cultivating and harvesting timber, so there is a need to enhance their capacity in area management.

- *Plot 2*: The local community plans to harvest the planted teak trees in August 2025, although the trees are still small. The teak trees were planted at a 2x3 m spacing, which is too dense and has resulted in poor growth performance. Additionally, no silvicultural techniques are being applied in cultivation or harvesting due to limited understanding and complicated official permit procedures.

- The establishment of the 2nd demonstration plot will focus on logged-over areas to optimize land management and silvicultural practices, and to assess teak growth using coppicing and embroidery techniques.

*Photo 24* ***Reconnaissance survey and consultation with local communities: Sedyo Lestari (left) and Tani Manunggal (right) in Forest Management Resort of Paliyan, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province***

*II Training sessions*

The *de facto* Coordinator of the Indonesia component has discussed with potential consultants (#1: Quality Planting Material and #6: Value Chain) the plan to conduct four training sessions on the following topics:

- *Training on silviculture (teak pruning and shooting) to conserve teak species*
- *Training on teak nursery development*
- *Training on media planting preparation*
- *Training on sustainable supply chain*

The actual implementation will begin immediately after the official establishment of the project team and the recruitment of both consultants

***Togo***

*I Demonstration plots*

- The Togo component has recruited Consultant #1: Quality Planting Material and Consultant #2: Field Training in Silviculture. In addition, target stakeholders for training have been identified. Consultant #1 has responsibility to support Activity 1.1 on good quality planting material. The Consultant#2 (Mr. AYIGA) had to carry out activities to identify the collection sites of the sections of the APCs, the development of the greenhouse, the construction of five sprouts, the construction of a shed to contain the sprouts. Its activities also focused on the removal of stumps of the selected trees (APs) of Avétonou site, and their cultivation (cuttings) and the monitoring of the recovery of these sections. Finally, the last part of the activities he undertook is the collection of seeds from Malaysian plantations (Luasong, Perlis, Taliwas) and Indian plantations at the Zogbepime site.

- Togo has valuable experience in teak plantation dating back to 1906. It is the second country in West Africa, after Nigeria, where teak was introduced. In addition to the provenance trials at Zogbépimé, the Togo component has conducted trials on the Wotou, Tetetou, and Blitta clones, including the selection of high-performance trees based on specific criteria to be defined across three sites from different forest stands.

- Additionally, five technical committee meetings have been organized, focusing on various aspects of project implementation. Key discussions led to Togo's involvement in specific project activities, such as cloning experiments for Teak trees and other valuable species like *Khaya* spp., *Cedrela odorata*, and *Pterocarpus erinaceus*.

- Among these activities, those related to project output 1, consisting of three activities (A.1.1., A.1.2., A.1.3.), have been started. To carry out these activities, three field missions were conducted:

- The first mission involved monitoring and evaluating the effect of the association between *Tectona grandis* and *Khaya* spp. on their diameter and height growth, as well as the influence of thinning on the performance of both species after silvicultural treatment application;

- The second mission was to continue the monitoring program of provenance trials conducted by the Forest Research Laboratory of the University of Lomé at Zogbépimé, aiming to assess the growth, health, and wood quality of different teak provenances.

- The third mission consisted of an identification and selection of candidate trees (APC) conducted from March 18 to 23, 2024, with a mixed team comprising technicians from the Forest Development and Exploitation Office (ODEF) and the University of Lomé.

- The Togo component has established two demonstration plots in Ativémé and Zogbépimé

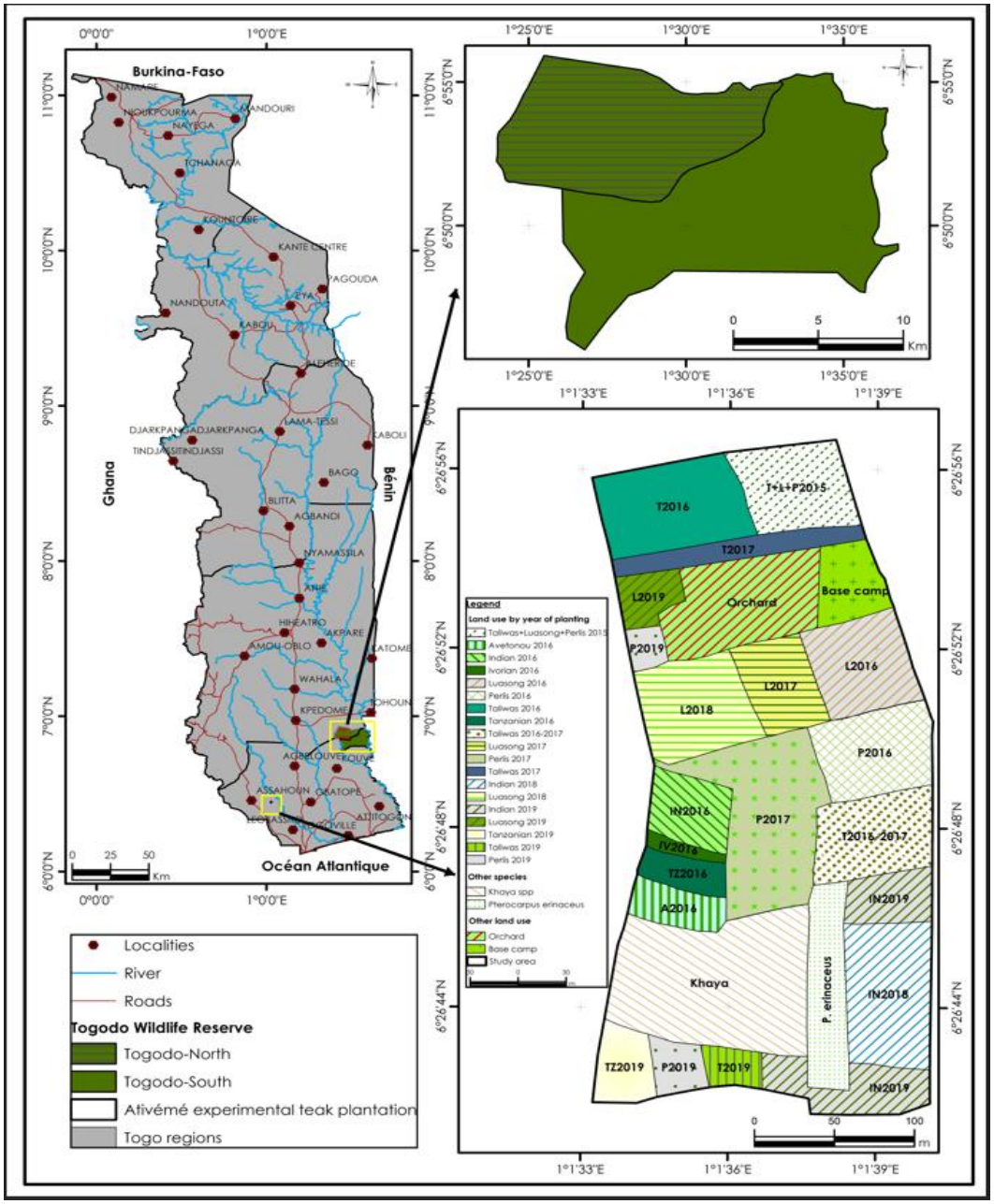



*Figure 3* ***Map showing the site and collection plantations***

The Ativémé plot belongs to the Forest Research Laboratory, located at the northern boundary of the Agronomic Research Station of the Togolese Institute of Agricultural Research. It is situated in Ativémé village in the Maritime region of Togo. The ongoing silvicultural trials focus on the effects of associating tree species, specifically teak (*Tectona grandis*) and Khaya spp. (*Khaya senegalensis, Khaya grandifoliola*)

The activities undertaken at this site include monitoring and evaluating the effects of the association between *Tectona grandis* and *Khaya* spp. on their diameter and height growth, as well as the influence of thinning on the performance of both species. Specifically, the objectives are to: (i) analyze the effect of the association between Tectona grandis and Khaya spp. on their diameter and height growth, and (ii) evaluate the influence of thinning on the performance of the two species when grown in association.

To achieve these objectives, a forest inventory was conducted on three plots: one with a pure teak stand, one with a mixture of one row of teak and one row of Khaya, and one with a mixture of one row of teak and two rows of Khaya. Data on tree height and diameter were collected before thinning using a systematic sampling method in 2020, and the current inventory was conducted after thinning, following the same protocol, in 2024.

2) The second site is the Zogbépimé Forest Station, established in 2014 by the Forest Research Laboratory of the University of Lomé. The station was created to experiment with the performance of different teak (*Tectona grandis*) provenances, as well as Khaya and *Pterocarpus erinaceus* plantations. It is located approximately 8 km east of the town of Kévé, in the Ave Prefecture of the Maritime Region of Togo

At the second site, the prospecting aimed to continue the provenance trial monitoring program to evaluate the growth, health, and wood quality of the different teak provenances. Specifically, this involved: (i) collecting data on height and diameter growth, tree health, and other relevant variables, including fruit production from seed orchards based on selected trees, and (ii) analyzing the collected data to assess the height and diameter growth, as well as other performance parameters, of the different teak provenances

Teak seeds were collected from experimental plantations in Zogbépimé, representing four different provenances: India, Perlis, Taliwas, and Luasong. These seed sources, all from eight-year-old trees (Figure 1), were carefully sorted and counted. In total, 1,646 seeds were collected: 810 from India, 226 from Perlis, 346 from Taliwas, and 264 from Luasong.

The seedlings are planted at a specific spacing (Photo 25). To create an environment that promotes the vigor of the seedlings, the seedling trays are covered with transparent plastic tarpaulins. The seedlings obtained in greenhouses and germinators (Photo 3) are gradually transplanted once they have developed four leaves. They are then placed in another compartment of the greenhouse and watered daily (Photo 4). These plants are eventually transferred to the site for transplanting (Photo 26).

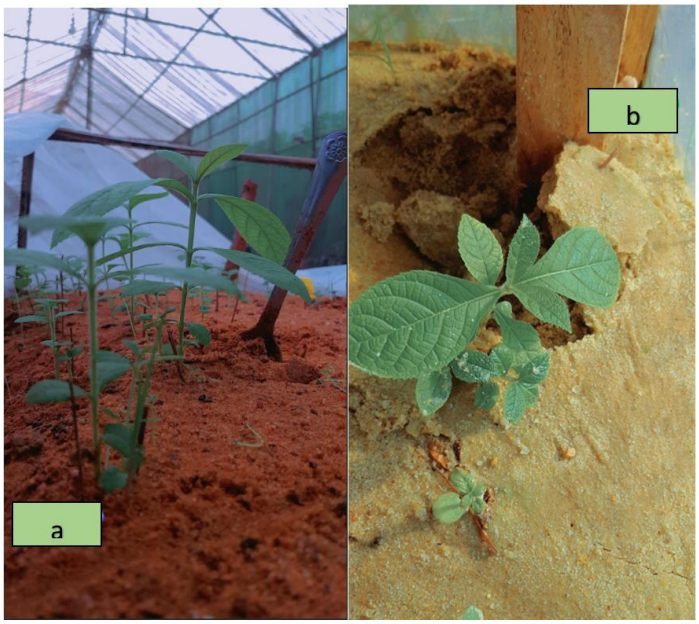



*Photo 25* ***Seedlings obtained (a: under cover in a greenhouse; b: in germination trays)***

*Photo 26* ***Luasong Provenance from Malaysia (2016)***

***Provenance from Indian (2018)***

*Photo 27* ***Some pictures of layers setting up***

In addition, a seed collection and germination testing of local species in Togo was also conducted. A seed collection mission took place from 3 to 6 March 2025 in Asrama and Togodo. The primary objective of this mission was to collect seeds from three major forest species: *Tectona grandis*, *Cedrela odorata*, and *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, with the aim of germinating and propagating them in nurseries. The team consisted of researchers from the Forest Research Laboratory (LRF), agents from the Forest Development and Exploitation Office (ODEF), and consultants.

*II Training sessions*

- Togo component recruited the Consultant#1: Consultant 1 Quality Planting Material and Consultant#2: Field training silviculture to ITTO. In addition, target stakeholders for training are identified.

- Consultant#1 (Mr. ASSIH) had to develop a proposal for a training manual in addition to the concept note which is also sent to the project coordinator.

- The 1st training workshop on quality timber production from teak and associated valuable species is Scheduled from 14 to 18 July 2025 in Asrama (Avé Prefecture). Thirty participants are expected, and both consultants are key instructors.

**Table 8** Establishment of new demonstration plots

| Country | Plot location | Objective(s) | Note |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | Plot 1: Smallholder teak plantation (individual), Han Chey commune, Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province) | Silvicultural practices to improve teak stand | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Smallholder tree plantation (other valuable timber species), Han Chey commune, Kampong Siem district, Kampong Cham province) | Silvicultural improvement toward high quality timber | Ongoing |
| India | Plot 1: Smallholder plantation (individual), Animoor | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Smallholder plantation (individual), Anaikatti | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| Indonesia | Plot 1: Community-based teak plantation Sedyo Lestari in Forest Management Resort of Paliyan, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province | The demonstration plot will be conducted by silvicultural improvement toward high quality timber. It is expected to have a diverse composition of species so that the group gets benefits both in the short term (seasonal plants and green fodder), medium term (MPTS) and long term (timber). | Initial discission started |
| | Plot 2: Community-based teak plantation Tani Manunggal in Forest Management Resort of Playen, Gunung Kidul District, Yogyakarta Province | Silvicultural improvement toward high quality timber will be implemented. It is necessary to increase the group's capacity in area management and silvicultural techniques due to harvesting, more specifically in using the shoot instead of using seedlings, cultivation techniques, and optimization of plant types and under-stand areas. | Initial discussion started |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Thailand | Plot 1: Kroengkrawia Reforestation, Kanchanaburi province | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Smallholder plantation, Chiangmai province | Clonal test at farm scale plantation | Ongoing |
| Vietnam | Plot 1: Mixed planting Teak and Cinnamon cassia. Yen Bai province | Silvicultural improvement plantation quality | Ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Pure teak plantation, Bac Giang province | Silvicultural improvement plantation quality | Ongoing |
| Togo | Plot 1: Zogbépimé forest station located in the Avé Prefecture (Maritime Region) | Silvicultural improvement of community-based teak plantations to enhance timber quality, using improved seeds and proper maintenance practices | Site established and baseline data collection ongoing |
| | Plot 2: Ativémé, Prefecture of Yoto | Evaluation of mixed plantation performance (Teak–Khaya senegalensis) to improve growth and timber yield under species association trials | Growth monitoring conducted in Feb. 2025; infestation by Loranthaceae noted |

**Table 9 Summary of training sessions by each country**

| Country | Training/workshop theme | Objective(s) | Note |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | Session 1: Training on "Production of Good Quality Planting Materials, Nursery Techniques, and Silvicultural Practices to Improve Stand Management of Teak Plantation and Other Valuable Timber Species" | • Introduce technical aspects of quality planting material production;<br>• Demonstrate the techniques for seed collection and storage as well as nursery techniques<br>• Demonstrate how to plant trees as plantations and silvicultural practices including thinning and pruning at plantations;<br><br>• Share experiences that have been compiled from various parts locally and globally. | Location & date: Kampong Cham province, 23-24 January 2025<br><br>(27 participants) |
| | Session 2: Training on "Production of Good Quality Planting Materials, Nursery Techniques, and Silvicultural Practices to Improve | | Location & date: Ratanakiri province, 26-27 February 2025 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Stand Management of Teak Plantation and Other Valuable Timber Species" | | (24 participants) |
| India | Session 1: Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders | Introducing the package of practices for teak cultivation to smallholders | Planned in July 2025 in Tamil Nadu |
| | Session 2: Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders | Introducing the package of practices for teak cultivation to smallholders | Planned in August 2025 in Chattisgarh |
| Indonesia | Session 1: Training on silviculture (teak pruning and shooting) to conserve teak species | To apply pruning garden and shoot cuttings to support the conservation and improvement of teak genetics | Not started |
| | Session 2: Training on teak nursery development | To conduct a proper nursery activities and to upskill farmers to produce high quality seeds | Not started |
| | Session 3: Training on media planting preparation | To use a proper planting media to produce high quality seeds | Not started |
| | Session 4: Training on sustainable supply chain | To educate farmers in establishing smallholders' cooperation and matching global market requirement through legal supply chains and market sustainability | Not started |
| Thailand | Session 1: Training workshop on Teak Plantation and Silvicultural Practices for smallholders | Introducing the theory and practice of teak plantation and silviculture practices to stallholders | 27-28 March 2024 in Nan province (32 participants) |
| | Session 2: Precision management and control of teak plantation pests | To educate participants on insect pests in teak plantations, especially beehole borer and to provide precision guidelines and hand-on practices on how to investigate, control and mange beehole borers to produce good quality timber | 13-14 March 2025 in Lam Phun province (40 participants) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Session 3: Minimizing harvesting loss, and innovative product designs | To introduce zero-waste wood processing and value addition | Early 2026 by Consultnat#4 |
| | Session 4: teak value- chains in Thailand and opportunities | To promote legal support chains | Late 2026 by Consultant#6 |
| Vietnam | Session 1: Training on teak in nursery | | August 2025 |
| | Session 2: Planting techniques on teak | | August 2025 |
| Togo | Session 1: Training workshop on quality timber production from teak and associated valuable species | Training workshop on quality timber production from teak and associated valuable species | Scheduled from 14 to 18 July 2025 in Asrama (Avé Prefecture); 30 participants expected<br><br>Consultant#1, Consultant#2 |

***Activities:*** 1.3 Promote timber legal compliance in smallholder/community plantations, aligning with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting and legality (global)

***Achievements***

- In September 2024, the ITTO-BMEL teak project (handled by ITTO) recruited, the Project recruited Taiji Fujisaki, Research Manager Biodiversity and Forest Area of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) as Consultant#3 Legality. Taiji takes overall responsibility review legal framework, policy support, as well as challenges and opportunities for smallholder plantations in the six participating countries.

- Mr. Taiji Fujisaki attended the 1st Regional Workshop and the 1st PSC meeting. At the PSC meeting, he made a presentation to national coordinators and the PSC members on his assignments and approaches to collect data through the support of national coordinators, workplan and expectations during 2024-2026.

- Key Activities Conducted:

1.1 Interview with EUDR and timber legality experts:

Consultant #3 conducted interviews with experts on the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) to revise the review framework, with particular emphasis on issues related to traceability and due diligence. In addition, Consultant #3 interviewed specialists in timber legality and forest governance to refine the key review questions.

As a result of these consultations, a new focus area was incorporated into the framework: policies that support small-scale timber enterprises and promote the development of local markets for smallholders and communities. These aspects are regarded as essential for advancing legal timber production and trade.

1.2 Engagement with Local Consultants in Indonesia and Vietnam:

Consultant #3 identified local consultants in Indonesia and Vietnam who will be responsible for data collection aligned with the revised review framework. Preliminary discussions were held with these local consultants to test the applicability and contextual relevance of the framework in both countries.

These discussions led to further modifications of the framework, enhancing its utility as a tool to guide document analysis, stakeholder interviews, and comparative policy reviews aimed at identifying key policy gaps.

1. Outcome

Based on insights gained through these interviews and consultations, Consultant #3 has revised the policy review framework. The updated version can be downloaded at Google Document#9. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Yq-eTu7VwgYSrPzyojL497tWStIJ2Jnb/view?usp=sharing

2. Challenges and measure

Identification of Local Consultants:

- Consultant #3 (Legality) will coordinate with the Project Coordinator, national focal points, and ITTO to identify suitable local consultants in each target country.

- Adapting the Review Framework to Diverse Contexts:

- Given the diversity in timber production systems, trade structures, and market conditions across the target countries, making the review framework broadly applicable poses a challenge. To address this, Consultant #3 has held discussions with local consultants of Indonesia and Vietnam to test and refine the framework, ensuring its relevance and usability in different national contexts.

***Cambodia***

- Although the Cambodia component is not directly assigned to implement Activity 1.3, the Cambodian Project has utilized existing UN-REDD communication materials to promote timber legal compliance in smallholder and community plantations, in alignment with national and local laws governing forest plantations, management, timber harvesting, and legality.

- The Cambodia component plans to produce a video titled *"Current Status of Key Selected Tree Species in Cambodia and a Shift to More Sustainable Livelihoods through Other Hardwoods, Teak, and Fast-Growing Tree Plantations as Substitutes for Rosewood Products."* The video will cover the following key contents:

- An introduction to forest resources in Cambodia

- CITES conventions and their restrictions on the international trade of endangered tree species

- The current status of key selected tree species in Cambodia

- Responsible purchasing practices and their role in preventing illegal logging
- Alternatives to illegal logging (e.g., using other hardwoods, teak, and fast-growing tree plantations as substitutes for rosewood)
- Promotion of private forest plantations (e.g., rosewood and agarwood) for **ex situ** conservation
- The global rise of teakwood

**Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes**

***Activities:***

2.1 Carry out a feasibility study for direct contracts/out-grower schemes with sourcing companies to ensure that smallholders' products will be purchased at remunerative prices (all participating countries)

***Activities:***

2.2 Carry out a study to promote micro-lending schemes to address the credit constraints of smallholders to explore different options to overcome the problem with collaterals that smallholders often face trees as guarantees, and group-lending to a number of forest growers who can ensure loan repayments from each other (all participating countries)

***Activities:***

2.3 Carry out a study to promote the formation of effective forest grower associations to reduce transaction costs and help improve access to micro-credits (all participating countries)

***Activities:***

2.4 Carry out a study to access to voluntary carbon markets to increase revenues from longer rotation of smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable species plantations to increase financial security of farmers, address the issue of cash flows, and support their access to micro-lending schemes (global scope)

***Achievement***

Activities 2.1-2.4 are leaded by the Thunen In statute of Forestry, Germany with cooperation and support from the participating countries and field data collection national experts.

Brief summary of the progress activity implementation by the TIF are shown below.

### *i. **Preparatory tasks for field data collection***

- *Identification of Primary Data Sources and Study Design Progress*:

TIF has identified the study primary data sources, including smallholders, forest grower associations, large-scale teak plantations, teak processing companies, traders, micro-finance institutions, GOs & NGOs and academia. Sample sizes were also determined for each group of data source per each project country which are classified into two groups based on the scale of teak production: i. major teak producing project countries (Thailand, India and Indonesia) and ii. progressing/smaller teak producing project countries (Vietnam, Cambodia and Togo). Additionally, preliminary study sites have been also strategically selected to capture variations in financial mechanisms and geographic scope, ensuring comprehensive contextual insights. These preparatory steps lay a strong foundation for the data collection phase and the overall research framework.

- *Study site selection*

Based on secondary data collected from each project country – TIF and the participating countries have identified study sites in all the project countries (except Indonesia). Accordingly, in the five project countries household surveys and focus group discussions will be conducted in 15 (and a few more additional districts from India) major smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable timber growing districts.

The following table shows a summary of the study sites per each project country:

| **Project country** | **Sample size** | **Study sites** | | **Remark** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Province/ Region/ State** | **District** | |
| Thailand | 60 | 3 | 6 | - Large # of smallholder teak growers, Micro-credit, gov't prog., mostly state manged forests<br>- BAAC Thong Saen Khan branch provides credit<br>- Community enterprise with 61 smallholder teak growers (Ban Na Lao); RECOFTC Trees4All |
| India | 60 | 2 | 3 + TBD* | - Large # of smallholder teak growers, Processing industry and FGA |
| Vietnam | 30 | 1 | 2 | - Smallholder based teak plantation area (ha), sale mainly raw materials only, social bank, MFI, large scale grower, historical gov't prog (Project 327 1997/98) |
| Cambodia | 30 | 3 | 3 | - Small-scale teak plantation and processing |
| Togo | 30 | 1 | 3 | - Major private teak plantation area and agroforestry |

*Note: * India to identify districts for the second target province.*

- *Preparation of data collection protocols*

To guide the data collection for the feasibility study of the financial mechanisms, Thünen Institute of Forestry has developed three different data collection tools, data entry platform (online and excel version) and a comprehensive info-sheet to guide the process of data collection, entry and reporting process. The tools developed are listed below:

| S-No | Data Collection Tool | Target Group | Remark |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Household survey: coded on Lime Survey and adopted for an Offline Surveys data collection | - Sample households among smallholder teak and other valuable timber growers. | |
| 2 | Expert Interview Questionnaire | - Stakeholders in the sector: Policymakers, private sector, financial institutions, R&D, NGOs… | |
| 3 | FGD Guide | - Smallholder groups (6–10 people) - 3 FGD/country | |

- *Pre-testing and training workshop on familiarization of data collection tools*
  Thünen Institute of Forestry, in collaboration with Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand – conducted a training workshop for field data collection experts and researchers selected from the five project implementing countries in Asia Pacific (Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Indonesia and Thailand). Preceding the actual workshop, an essential task of pre-testing of data collection tools with selected smallholder teak growers and field visits to teak plantation sites and processing industry in Uttaradit and Sukhothai provinces, Northern Thailand was conducted (item 2.3.1). Based on the findings of the pre-test exercise and feedback from data collection experts, the data collection tools were revised and updated addressing critical comments related to complexity, using technical terminologies and question type (open ended vs multiple answer option question).

- TIF has developed, with valuable feedback from the Regional Project Manager and ITTO, the terms of reference (ToR) for the recruitment of field data collection experts. The ToR had been reviewed (through Regional Project Manager) by ITTO, TIF and National Project Coordinators. TIF has also delivered satisfaction consent reviewing the CVs of the selected potential candidates.

- ITTO, TIF, National Coordinators and the Regional Project Manager had virtual meetings on 22 April 2024 to update the progress of sub-contract and on 19 December 2024 to review CV of potential candidates for field data collection experts (Table 10). The meeting decided and asked the Regional Project Manager to request NOL to recruit field data collection experts. The assignment covered the period from January – May 2025. Furthermore, ITTO, TIF, National Coordinators, National Experts and the Regional Project Manager had a virtual meeting to update the progress of filed data collection and challenges. The meeting has agreed to extend the period of data collection and analyzes to 31 August 2025, and a number of sample size (Thailand and India – at least 60 samples, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Togo- 30 samples). Note that the implementation in Indonesia is pending. In addition, the Thunen encourages all national Experts to use computerized system developed by Thunen to standardize data collection.

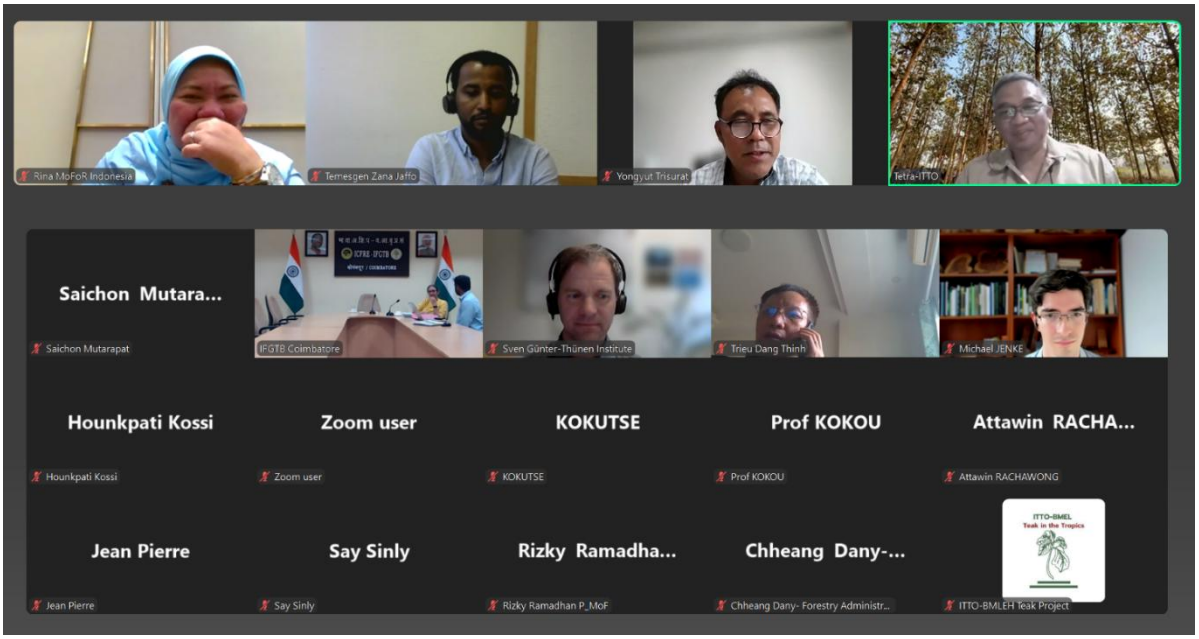



*Figure 4* ***Virtual meeting on 26 June 2025***

**Table 10** Recruited national experts to assist field data collection for micro-financing mechanisms

| Country | Name | Contact address |
|---|---|---|
| Cambodia | Mr. Sinly SAY | # I7, Street No. 60D, Kvao Village, Sangkat DangKoa, Khan Dangkoa, Phnom Penh, |
| India | Mr. G. Suresh | ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (ICFRE-IFGTB), R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002<br>Phone: 9585536554<br>Email: sureshsugadev.s.s@gmail.com |
| Indonesia | Not started | |
| Thailand | Mr. Attawin Rachawong (supervised by Dr. Micjael Jenke) | Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand |
| Vietnam | Dr. Nguyen Tien HAI | Forestry Economics Research Centre - Vietnam Academy of Forest Science |
| Togo | Mr. Kossi HOUNKPATI | Forestry Research Laboratory of the University of Lomé, Togo |

***ii. Literature review and initial context analysis***

During the reporting, a comprehensive review of scientific literature has been initiated to gather insights on the current state of smallholder and community-based teak and valuable timber production in the project countries. In parallel, detailed country profile data sheets have been compiled for each respective project country. These profiles provide basic information, including teak production practices, processing techniques, market dynamics, and existing financial mechanisms. This dual approach aims to establish a robust knowledge base to inform the study's subsequent phases.

***iii. Participation in the 1st Regional Workshop***

Thünen Institute of Forestry participated on the 1st Regional Workshop on "***Enhancing smallholder plantations towards quality timber production of teak and other valuable species and carbon neutrality in the tropics***" co-organized by ITTO, Kasetsart University, Thailand, and Royal Forest Department, Thailand from 18-21 September 2024. TIF also contributed to the workshop, engaging in pre-workshop meetings (project technical committee and project steering committee meetings), development policy and scientific discussions and insightful field excursion. In addition, Dr. Sven Gunter and Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo jointly presented the draft study design and field data collection plan and received valuable feedback that shaped the subsequent course of action at the technical committee meeting.

- Besides, the ITTO-BMEL Teak Project (handled by ITTO) also recruited Dr. ANTO RIMBAWANTO from Research Centre for Applied Botany, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia to serve as Consultant7#1: Teak and Other Valuable Species Strategy Development (starting from October 2024). The consultant 7-1 has overall responsibility to support the effective and successful implementation of the project activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4, forest policy development (regional scope) (Activity 3.1), teak networking in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa regions through ITTO's member countries and partners (Activity 3.3), and sharing project lessons on sustainable teak forest management and legal and sustainable supply chains at two regional workshops (Activity 3.3), and the 5th World Teak Conference in 2025 in India (Activity 3.4).

- This formal agreement officially confirms the Consultant's participation, enabling them to begin their contributions to the project's objectives. With this contract in place, the project can now move forward with its planned activities.

- ITTO (Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi), Consultant#7-1 (Dr. Anto RIMBAWANTO), the Regional Project Manager (Prof. Yongyut Trisurat), and the project staff had online meeting on 16 December 2024 to review TORs and workplan assigned to the consultant, and to clarify some questions raised by the consultant.

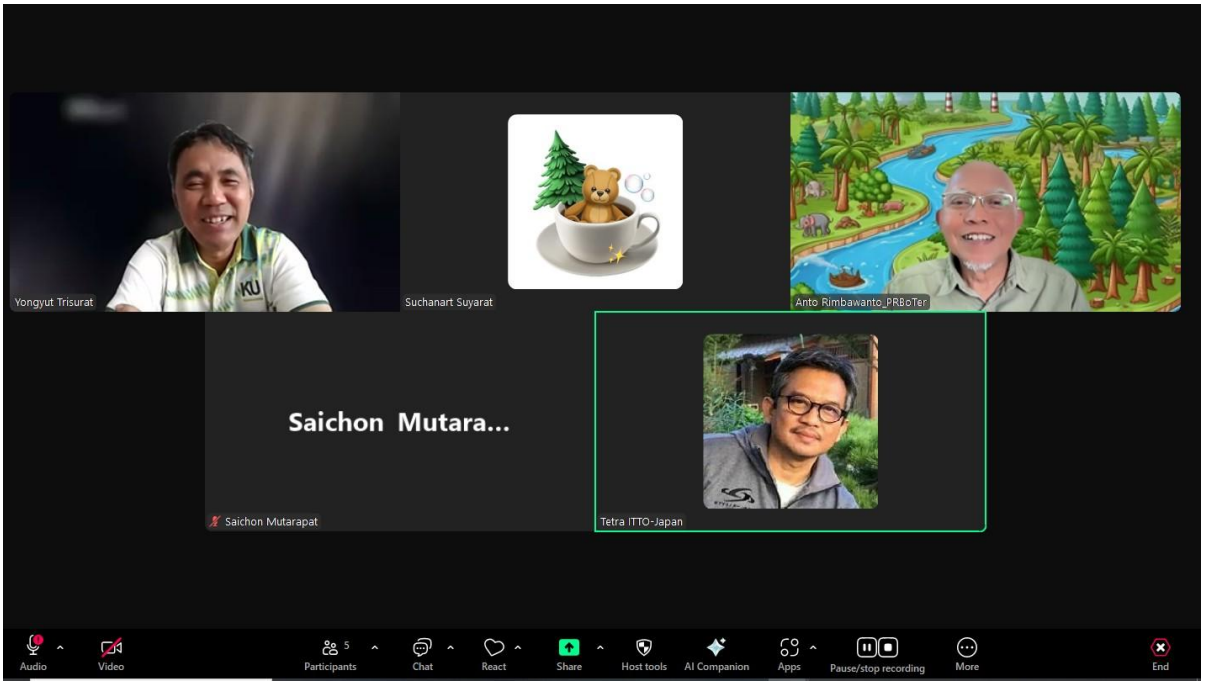



*Figure 5* ***Online meeting with Consultnat#7-1 (Dr. Anto RIMBAWANTO) on 16 January 2024.***

Dr. Anto submitted the 1st progress report outlying his consultancy for the ITTO- BMLEH Teak Project [PP-A/54-331] from January to June 2025, focusing on policy development for the sustainable management of teak and other valuable species in Indonesia.

Key Activities and Progress during January-June 2025:

- Develop a Policy Development for Sustainable Management of Teak and Other Valuable Species in Smallholder and Community-Based Plantations (draft – Table 11).
- Annalise national policies and legal frameworks for domestic and foreign investments in smallholder teak and other valuable species plantations (draft)
- Preparations for taking part at the 5th World Teak Conference 17-20 September 2025.
- Literature search and summary of the development of teak and other valuable species markets and trade, along with teak forest certification in participating countries.

**Table 11 Matrix of Policy Development for Sustainable Management of Teak and Other Valuable Species in Smallholder and Community-Based Plantations in Asia**

| Theme | Key point | Policy implications/Recommendations | Research Questions |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Species and Importance** | Teak, mahogany, acacia, eucalypt, and paraserianthes are vital for smallholders and community plantations in Asia, providing timber, income, and ecological benefits. | Recognize and support diverse species in policy frameworks for multi-species systems. | Which species combinations are most suitable for smallholder systems in different ecological and socioeconomic contexts? |
| **Socioeconomic & Environmental Role** | Plantations support rural livelihoods, timber supply, ecological restoration, and carbon sequestration. | Policies should promote sustainable management balancing economic, social, and environmental goals. | How do smallholder plantations contribute to rural livelihoods, poverty reduction, and ecosystem restoration in various countries? |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Challenges** | Limited access to improved genetic material, poor silvicultural practices, insecure tenure, market barriers, financial constraints, and climate vulnerability remain persistent. | Address extension, legal, and market gaps to empower smallholders. | What are the main barriers to adoption of improved genetic material and best management practices by smallholders? |
| **Policy & Institutional Landscape** | Existing policies are fragmented; implementation and enforcement are weak; institutional support is often lacking for smallholders. | Strengthen coordination, clarify tenure, and improve enforcement with a smallholder focus | How do current policies and institutional arrangements impact smallholder participation and benefit-sharing? |
| **Ecosystem Services Integration** | Carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and soil conservation are key services; PES and carbon markets can incentivize sustainable management. | Develop PES schemes and link smallholders to carbon and biodiversity incentives. | How can ecosystem services (carbon, biodiversity) be quantified and monetized for smallholder benefit? |
| **Case Studies & Lessons Learned** | Participatory approaches, capacity building, and market linkages have proven successful in some contexts. | Scale up proven models and adapt lessons for broader impact. | What factors contribute to the success or failure of smallholder/community-based plantation initiatives in Asia? |
| **Genetic Diversity & Improvement** | - High genetic variation exists within and between teak provenances, with India and Myanmar showing the highest diversity.<br>- Most smallholders rely on wildings or local germplasm of unknown or poor quality due to limited access to improved planting material.<br>- Clonal propagation and tissue culture now allow mass production of superior genotypes, but access remains limited for smallholders.<br>- Use of improved genetic material is associated with higher productivity, better timber quality, and greater climate resilience.<br>- Maintaining genetic diversity is crucial for adaptation to pests, diseases, and climate change. | - Develop policies to ensure smallholders have access to improved and diverse genetic material.<br>- Support national and regional breeding programs and germplasm exchange.<br>- Promote participatory breeding and conservation of local genetic resources.<br>- Integrate genetic diversity objectives into certification and plantation registration schemes. | - What are the barriers to smallholder access to improved genetic material?<br>- How does genetic diversity within plantations affect productivity, timber quality, and resilience?<br>- What policy mechanisms can support the development and distribution of improved, climate-resilient planting stock to smallholders? |
| **Recommendations** | Socio-ecological impact studies, optimizing genetic improvement, innovative financing, and monitoring frameworks are needed. | Prioritize adaptive management and evidence-based policy. | What is the socio-ecological impacts of policy reforms and innovations in smallholder forestry, and how can they be effectively monitored? |

- The draft report is uploaded to Google document#10. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Hd9CU5MSBv3DiRiFDWIuy6snrFHGjd6O/view?usp=sharing
- The policy draft will be finalized by December 2025

## Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened

***Activities*** 3.1: ***Produce and disseminate outreach and training materials on the conservation and sustainable management of teak and other valuable species plantations and legal and sustainable supply chains in line with outcomes of Activities 1.2 and 2.1-2.4 to support forest policy development (regional scope).***

***Achievements***

***Thailand***

- National Newspapers reported the launching Workshop of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Economic Species Plantation on Kom Chat Luk (https://kardchuek.net/68763/);

ไทยรัฐ
Thai Rath
Circulation: 500,000
Ad Rate: 1,000

Section: First Section/การศึกษา-ศาสนา-สาธารณสุข
วันที่: จันทร์ 16 ตุลาคม 2566
ปีที่: 74 ฉบับที่: 24009 หน้า: 7(กลาง)
Col.Inch: 22.79 Ad Value: 22,790 PRValue (x3): 68,370 คลิป: ขาว-ดำ
หัวข้อข่าว: คณะวนศาสตร์หนุน 5 ชาติปลูกสวนป่า

# คณะวนศาสตร์หนุน 5 ชาติปลูกสวนป่า

ศ.ดร.ยงยุทธ ไกรสุริยันต์ คณะวนศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยเกษตรศาสตร์ ในฐานะผู้จัดการโครงการการส่งเสริมการผลิตไม้ที่มีคุณภาพโดยเกษตรกรรายย่อยผู้ปลูกไม้สักและไม้มีค่าชนิดอื่นๆ ในเขตร้อนหรือ ITTO-BMEL Teak Project Phase II เปิดเผยว่า ITTO-BMEL Teak Project Phase II ได้รับการสนับสนุนทางการเงินจากกระทรวงเกษตรและอาหาร สหพันธรัฐเยอรมนี ประมาณ 80 ล้านบาท มีพื้นที่โครงการครอบคลุม 6 ประเทศในเอเชียแปซิฟิก ประกอบด้วย กัมพูชา ไทย เวียดนาม อินเดีย อินโดนีเซีย และโตโก ในแอฟริกาตะวันตก โดยคณะวนศาสตร์ทำหน้าที่เป็นผู้จัดการโครงการระดับภูมิภาค มีจุดมุ่งหมายเพื่อปรับปรุงการผลิตไม้คุณภาพสูงจากสวนไม้สักและไม้มีค่าชนิดอื่นๆ ที่ปลูกโดยเกษตรกรรายย่อย และชุมชนในเขตเอเชียแปซิฟิกและทวีปแอฟริกาตะวันตก และสร้างความร่วมมือในระดับภูมิภาคและระดับนานาชาติ เพื่อการปลูกไม้สักและไม้ป่ามีค่าอื่นๆ โดยเกษตรกรรายย่อย

ศ.ดร.ยงยุทธกล่าวต่อว่า โครงการนี้ส่งเสริมนโยบายการปลูกสวนป่าไม้สักและไม้มีค่าชนิดอื่นๆ จากกล้าไม้ที่มีคุณภาพและส่งเสริมการเข้าถึงแหล่งเงินทุนเพื่อส่งเสริมการปลูกไม้และการจัดการสวนป่าที่ยาวนานขึ้นเพื่อให้ได้เนื้อไม้ที่มีคุณภาพดีขึ้น ซึ่งจะเป็นการเพิ่มมูลค่าไม้และผลิตภัณฑ์ไม้ที่ตรงความต้องการของตลาด โดยมีแหล่งที่มาของไม้ที่ถูกต้องตามกฎหมาย และพัฒนาอุตสาหกรรมเข้าถึงตลาดซื้อ-ขายการ์บอน ซึ่งเป็นแหล่งรายได้เสริมจากการปลูกต้นไม้สอดคล้องกับเงื่อนไขมาตรการ CBAM (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism) ที่สินค้าที่เข้าไปขายในสหภาพยุโรปตั้งแต่วันที่ 1 ม.ค.2568 เป็นต้นไป และสนับสนุนนโยบายรัฐบาลในการลดปริมาณการปล่อยคาร์บอนร้อยละ 20-25 ภายในปี 2573 ตามความตกลงปารีสภายใต้กรอบอนุสัญญาสหประชาชาติว่าด้วยการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ

Khao Sod (https://www.khaoded77.com/?p=10575); Pracha News Online https://www.facebook.com/pracharthai/posts/pfbid02HQM5ywC7Gj5WXXeyUdsBphSN5cutqwNnaiTUNr2Hyfy2RF61DEdTyquvi3Xnc5v5l;Thai Rat Newspaper (National newspaper) reported the RFD/KU with other 5 countries promote teak plantations คณะวนศาสตร์หนุน 5... - คณะวนศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยเกษตรศาสตร์ (facebook.com)

Khao Sod (https://www.khaoded77.com/?p=10575)


Pracha News Online

- ITTO invited Prof. Yongyut Trisurat to participate in the 59th ITTC Meeting held in Pattaya, Thailand, from 13–17 November 2023. On 14 November 2023, Prof. Yongyut had the opportunity to present the achievements of the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Phase I, as well as the project context for Phase II. In addition, the project organized an exhibition showcasing the accomplishments and planned activities of both phases.

- During the event, Prof. Yongyut also met and discussed the project context with Mr. Matthias Schwoerer of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, as well as with National Coordinators and high-ranking officials from Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Togo, Thailand, and Vietnam


*Photo 28* ***Invited presentation and exhibitions at the 59th ITTC***

- The project hired a technical expert to develop the official project website: https://itto-bmel-project.com/. The website features four main sections: 1) Who We Are; 2) Our Approach; 3) Our Programs, and 4) News and Insights Each participating country is encouraged to contribute up-to-date information and recent activity updates. The website will be updated monthly.

- The RFD invited the project team to set up an exhibition in celebration of **World Forestry Day** on 21 March 2024 in Thong Pha Phum District, Kanchanaburi Province. In the accompanying photo, the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the Deputy Director-General of the RFD, and other senior officials are seen visiting the project's exhibition booth

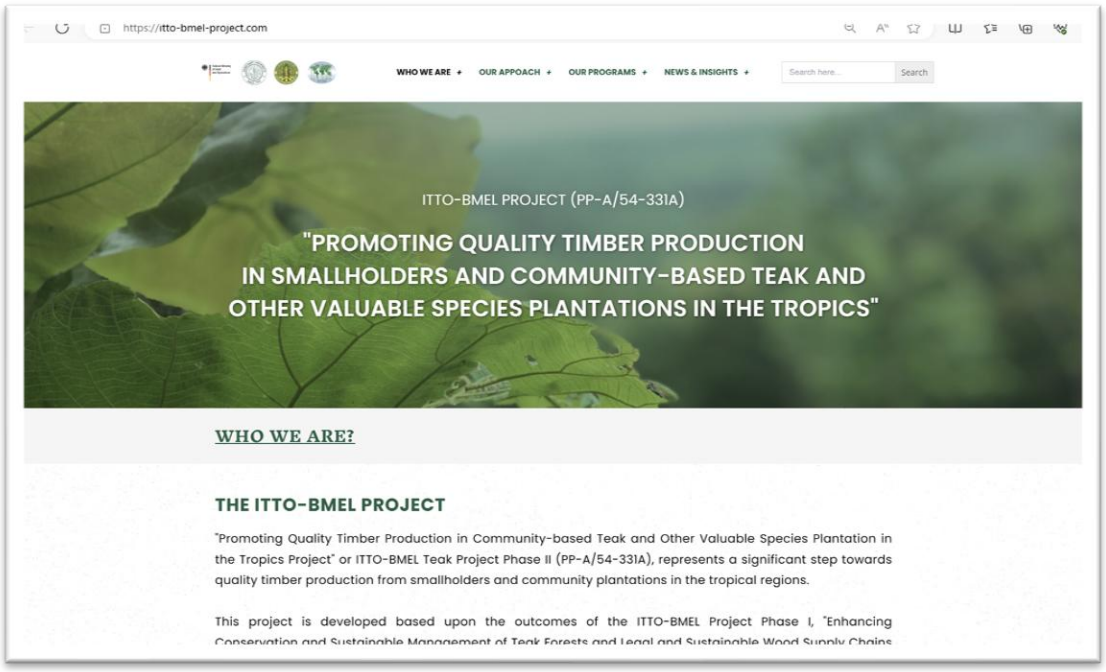



*Figure 6* ***ITTO-BMLEH Project website: https://itto-bmel-project.com/***

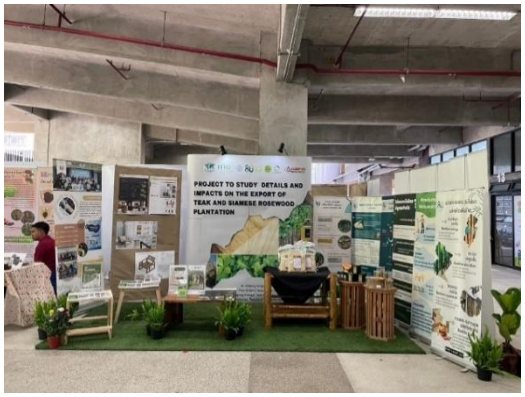



*Photo 29* ***Exhibition for celebrating the Anniversary World Forestry Day on 21 March 2024 (left) and Exhibition for Bio-economy Launching Ceremony at the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University on 21 June 2024 (right)***

- The Thailand project team produced a video introducing the ITTO-BMLEH Project. The video content covers the project's background, objectives, outputs, and key activities. In addition, the ITTO Communication Unit visited Thailand and recorded footage of project activities from 8–11 February 2025. The video is scheduled to be launched at the 5th World Teak Conference in India, taking place from 17–20 September 2025.


A video introducing the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project. Available to download at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JacdvTy1shogGEAdzAE_1vL8s-qvC6BM/view?usp=sharing

*Photo 30* ***VDO production by ITTO Communication Unit***

*Cambodia*

- The Cambodia project team coordinated with the ITTO Communication Unit to produce video footage for the ITTO Mekong Teak Project Phase II, highlighting the challenges and opportunities for smallholder plantations. The video, filmed in Ratanakiri Province, aims to promote teak plantation development in Cambodia. It was officially launched at the 60th ITTC Meeting held in Yokohama, Japan, from 2–6 December 2024, and was later reintroduced by Prof. Yongyut Trisurat.

*Photo 31* ***VDO production***


***Launching VDO at the ITTC 60 meeting***

***Activities*** 3.2: ***Support and facilitate teak networking in ITTO's member countries in Africa, Asia- Pacific and Latin America in collaboration with TEAKNET and other partners through the organization of a quarterly-based Webinar (4 every year) to promote the conservation and sustainable management of teak forest resources and legal and sustainable supply chains (global scope).***

***Achievement***

- Dr. P.K. Thulasidas, former TEAKNET Coordinator, has been recruited as **Consultant #5: Information Management** since November 2023. His primary responsibility is to promote knowledge sharing and outreach across the three tropical regions by publishing 18 issues of the bi-monthly ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletter.

- The bi-monthly newsletter is hosted on the **TEAKNET website** (www.teaknet.org) and the **Kasetsart University project website** in Thailand.

- During the reporting period, Consultant #5 was actively involved in the publication of the bi-monthly online ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletter, which features articles and reports on project activities implemented in participating countries across the Asia-Pacific region and Togo in West Africa. Since the start of Phase II in November 2023, nine (9) issues have been published, with the latest—**Vol. 7(3), 2025**—released in June 2025. See Google document#11.https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_BtpoxhQ42mlcK8yigAWqMO1ORZRTPEj/view?usp=sharing



*Figure 7* ***Selected ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletters***

- Dr. Hwan-ok Ma has been recruited as *Consultant #7-2: Teak and Other Valuable Species Networking and Capacity Building* since October 2024. He is responsible for supporting the effective and successful implementation of *Activity 1.2* and teak networking in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa regions (*Activity 3.2*) through a series of 12 webinars. These webinars, organized in collaboration with Kasetsart University, feature selected topics presented by invited experts. Dr. Ma also contributes to *Activity 3.3*, which includes two regional workshops to share project lessons on sustainable management of teak and other valuable species and legal, sustainable supply chains, and *Activity 3.4*, which includes participation in the 5th World Teak Conference in 2025 in India.

- During the reporting period, Consultant #7-2, with support from the project team, organized three webinars. A summary of the first webinar is provided below:

- The **1st webinar**, titled *"Setting the Scene"*, was held on 14 February 2025. The event featured invited speakers:

    - Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO Projects Manager, Trade and Industry Division, presenting *"ITTO Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains: Responding to Market Requirements"*
    - Dr. P.K. Thulasidas, Principal Scientist & Former Head, Wood Science and Technology Department, and former TEAKNET Coordinator, presenting *"Smallholder Teak and Other Valuable Species: Meeting Market Demands"*
    - The webinar was moderated by Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Regional Project Manager, and officially opened by Ms. Jennifer Conje, Director of the Forest Management Division, ITTO.
    - The event brought together over 70 participants from countries across the Asia-Pacific and West Africa, fostering valuable discussions on sustainable timber production.

- The **2nd webinar**, titled *"Quality Planting Materials for Premium Teak Production"*, was held on 22 April 2025. The session was officially opened by Ms. Jennifer Conje, Director of ITTO Forest Management Division.

- The first speaker, *Dr. Yasodha Ramasamy* from the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), India, presented recent advancements in teak genomics. She emphasized the role of whole genome sequencing and genomic selection in accelerating breeding cycles and improving timber quality. Dr. Ramasamy highlighted the genetic diversity of teak across its natural range and stressed the importance of leveraging this diversity for sustainable genetic improvement. She advocated for global collaboration and proposed the establishment of an International Institute for Teak to support breeding, conservation, and resilience to climate change.

- The second speaker, *Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen* from the Royal Forest Department (RFD), Thailand, discussed teak genetic diversity, conservation efforts, and breeding programs in the Greater Mekong Subregion. He highlighted Thailand's leadership in teak improvement and the integration of biotechnology. Dr. Suwan called for enhanced regional collaboration, improved access to quality germplasm, and innovative marketing strategies to ensure that genetic gains benefit both smallholders and the timber industry. He explained that Thailand's teak improvement program has evolved through three key phases:
    - Seed orchard establishment and seed production
    - Clonal testing and provenance trials
    - Integration of biotechnology and DNA-based techniques

- The webinar concluded with strong interest in tissue culture as a transformative tool for quality timber production from teak and other species in the tropics. Additionally, key messages derived from the 3rd webinar are shown below:

- Clonal teak ensures uniformity and superior wood traits: Vegetative propagation using tissue culture enables the discussion emphasized the importance of maintaining genetic diversity alongside genomic selection to ensure resilient teak plantations. It was recommended that breeding programs target heartwood quality and use 20 to 30 clones to balance productivity with long-term genetic stability and climate resilience. The need to improve smallholders' access to superior planting materials—via tissue culture and certified nurseries—was also underscored. Participants agreed on the urgent need for stronger regional collaboration in teak genetic conservation and research.

- The webinar brought together over 50 participants from across the Asia-Pacific and West Africa, with a shared interest in teak genetics and improvement strategies.

- The **3rd Webinar** on "*Teak Seedling Innovation via Tissue Culture*" was held on 27 June 2025. It explored advanced propagation techniques to improve the quality and productivity of teak and other species plantations in tropical regions. The webinar brought together 36 experts and participants from six partner countries (Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo) to strengthen South-South cooperation in sustainable forestry. The session was moderated by Prof. Yongyut Trisurat (Regional Project Manager, Kasetsart University) and officially opened by Dr. Mohammad Nurudeen Iddrisu (Director of ITTO Timber Industry and Trade Division) on behalf of the Executive Director. Dr. Nurudeen stressed the role of quality planting stock and tissue culture in supporting sustainable supply chains, and encouraged collaboration with the World Teak Conference (India, Sept 2025).

- Dr. Doreen Goh (YSG Bioscape, Malaysia) shared innovations in tissue culture enabling large-scale production of superior teak clones with higher growth, survival, and carbon potential, while maintaining genetic diversity. The YSG Vioscale company has exported teak seedlings to about one thirds countries growing teaks. Dr. Paiboolya Gavinlertvatana (Thai Orchids Lab) highlighted Thailand's success in commercial tissue culture, producing millions of clones annually from elite trees with proven field performance. He underscored its value in enhancing smallholder productivity and reducing pressure on natural forests.

1) Participants engaged in discussions on rotation cycles, export regulations, smallholder access, and clonal diversity, with presenters stressing the importance of conservation breeding and inclusive propagation modelsreplication of elite genotypes, resulting in uniform, fast-growing trees with improved form, density, and wood quality compared to seed-derived plants.

2) High productivity with shorter rotations: Clonal teak plantations have demonstrated significantly higher yields—up to 30–50% more than conventional teak—enabling shorter harvesting rotations, which accelerates investment (e.g., 6–7 years in an innovative management system with irrigation and fertilization in Cambodia, and 15–18 years in Brazil).

3) Cost-effective mass production is achievable: Through optimized tissue culture protocols, millions of clonal teak plants can be produced annually at competitive costs, making them viable even for commercial scale plantations.

4) Improving smallholder access: Although clonal teak is primarily supplied to large investors, there is an increasing need to support smallholders by providing starter planting materials—such as hedge gardens—along with technical training and cooperative nursery models to lower costs and ensure quality.

5) Enhancing value via carbon and non-timber products: Potential carbon credit revenues and innovative uses of teak leaves (e.g., natural dyes, shampoos) offer additional income streams, making teak plantations more economically attractive for communities.

- Tentative schedule of three additional webinars between August and December 2025 is shown below:

  > 4th Webinar: Date: late August 2025
  Theme: Quality Timber Production – Silvicultural Practices

  > 5th Webinar: Date: October 2025
  Theme: Monitoring Forest Health and Pest Control: Message of 5th World Teak Conference 2025

  > 6th Webinar: Date: December 2025
  Theme: Efficient Teak Harvesting and Transportation


***Figure 8** Flyers for the 1st Webinar held on 14 February 2025; 2nd Webinar on 22 April 2025; and 3rd Webinar on 27 June 2025*

Webinar reports are uploaded to Google document#12.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bPFJJgHt-DCbRhkVK4mcb7ui6IP8QeUD/view?usp=sharing

***Activities 3.2: Plan and organize two Regional Workshops in Thailand and in central Java, Indonesia with investors and financial institutions to discuss financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations (regional scope).***

***Achievements***

***I. Regional Workshop***

- The **1st Regional Workshop** on "*Enhancing Smallholder Plantations Towards Quality Timber* Production of Teak and Other Economic Species and Carbon Neutrality in the Tropics" was held in Bangkok from 18–21 September 2024, back-to-back with the 1st Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting. A field visit to Nan, Phrae, and Lampang provinces was conducted from 20–22 September 2024 to observe smallholder and commercial teak plantations, as well as teakwood manufacturing factories.

- The **2nd Regional Workshop** is tentatively planned for the second half of 2026.

- The overall objective of the workshop was to discuss the planning and implementation of research and development activities aimed at producing high-quality timber, enhancing value chain processes in the wood industry, and promoting carbon-supported plantation development. Over 70 participants from more than 10 countries in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond attended the workshop.


*Photo 31* ***Group photo of all participants attending the 1st Regional workshop.***

- The substance of this regional workshop included four components: 1) Welcome and opening remarks; 2) Keynote presentations; 3) Technical presentations; and 4) A post-workshop field excursion.

- *Opening remarks* were delivered by Dr. M. Nurudeen Iddrissu (ITTO), Mr. Stephen Wagner (BMLEH representative), Dr. Kobsak Wanthongchai (Dean, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University), and Mr. Bannarak Sermthong (Deputy Director-General, Royal Forest Department).

- The opening remarks were followed by four *keynote presentations*:

    - Dr. Khwanchai Duangsathaporn, Member of Thailand's National Board on Forest Policy, presented the Thai Government's Policy on Economic Tree Plantations.
    - Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO Projects Manager, delivered a talk on "Promoting Sustainable Wood Use in ITTO Producer Countries", highlighting urgent global challenges such as pandemics, armed conflicts, disrupted supply chains, inflation, extreme weather events, and ecosystem degradation.
    - Dr. P.K. Thulasidas, Steering Committee Member of TEAKNET and former Regional Coordinator for Asia-Pacific and Oceania for the Global Teak Resources and Market Assessment (TRMA 2022), shared findings from the collaborative study undertaken by IUFRO, TEAKNET, and FAO, following up on the TRMA 2010 report.
    - Dr. Osamu Saito, from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan, presented a simplified model on the "Nature Futures Framework (NFF)"—a tool to support desirable futures for people, nature, and the planet.

- In addition to the keynote addresses, the workshop featured 10 technical presentations delivered in two sessions:

    - Technical Session 1: Smallholder Plantations Towards Quality Timber Production
    - Technical Session 2: Forest Plantations and Restoration Contributing to Carbon Neutrality, Teak Value Chains, and Micro-Finance

These technical papers were presented by national coordinators, scientists, and practitioners from both the participating countries and the broader Asia-Pacific region.

***Activities 3.2: Support sharing lessons in promoting the quality teak production and legal and sustainable supply chains at the IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (Kerala, India) for improved global teak collaboration (global scope).***

***Achievements***

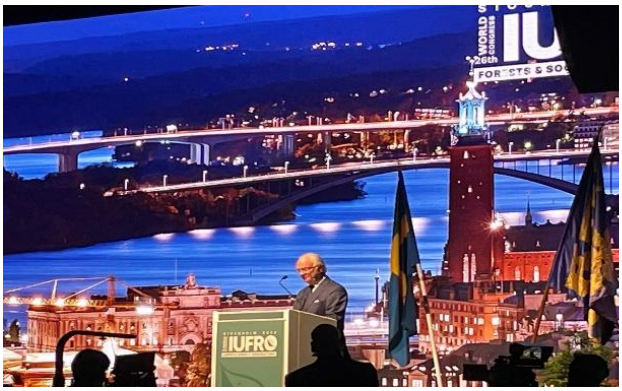
## *I. IUFRO 2024*

- IUFRO, TEAKNET, and ITTO jointly organized a side event titled "Strengthening Teak Forest Management for Sustainable Teakwood Supply Chains and Trade (T2:29)" at the IUFRO World Congress 2024, held in Stockholm, Sweden, from 24 to 31 June 2024.

- The preliminary program schedule for the science sessions is available at: https://program.iufro2024.com/.

- The Teak Session T2:29 was held on 28 June, from 8:30 to 10:30 AM (CEST), and was moderated by Mario Tomazello and P.K. Thulasidas.

- Six project members—Dr. Hwan-ok Ma, Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, Dr. Dong Lam Tran, Prof. Kokutse Adzo Dzifa, and Prof. Yongyut Trisurat—contributed as speakers at the teak side event, while Dr. P.K. Thulasidas served on the organizing committee. For more details, see the ITTO-BMEL Teak Newsletter, published in August 2024 (*Volume 6(4)*)



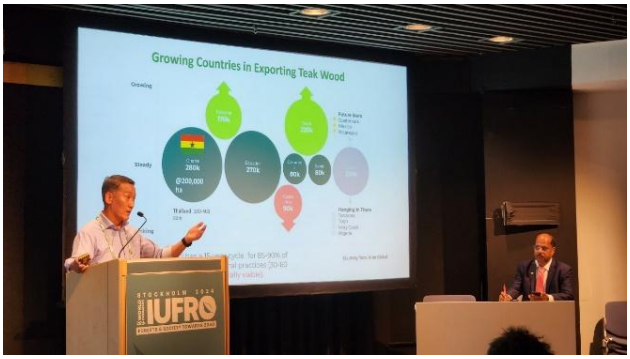





***Photo 32** Dr. Ma (moderated by Dr Thulasidas)*

***Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi***

***II 5th WTC***

- With the support of ITTO and project members, the 5th World Teak Conference (5th WTC), entitled "*Sustainable Development of the Global Teak Sector – Adapting to Future Markets and Environments*", will be held at the Grand Hyatt, Cochin, Kerala, from 17–20 September 2025. The event will be hosted by the Kerala Forest Research Institute and coordinated by the International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET), India.

- The ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project will organize a side event entitled "*Improving High-Value Teak Timber for Sustainable Supply Chains"* on 17 September 2025. The objective of the side event is to disseminate and share experiences gained from the project with scientists and practitioners worldwide. Topics will include financing schemes promoting quality timber production in smallholder teak plantations, seed production and nursery techniques, silvicultural practices and improved stand management (including coppicing as a regeneration method), teak and other valuable species value chains, as well as teak timber legality and sustainability.

- At least 26 delegates from ITTO, Germany, and the six participating countries are expected to attend the conference, with the majority coming from India (the host country) and Thailand. Financial support for participation will be allocated from budget item C64 – World Teak Conference.

- The side event will include opening remarks by ITTO, a project overview by the Regional Project Manager, and eight technical presentations by representatives of the participating countries. The list of delegates and abstracts are uploaded to Google document#13. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LgP7QaI3DMxMX9gXwtPTUckA5b7P2uWK/view?usp=sharing

  The tentative program for the side event is shown below:

**5th WTC 2025 - DRAFT ITTO Side Event program schedule**
**Theme: "Improving high-value teak timber for sustainable supply chains"**

| | |
|---|---|
| | **ITTO-BMLEH Teak Session** |
| **Wednesday, 17 Sept 2025** (16.00-18:20) | Moderators: Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi (Projects Manager) and Ms. Paula Sarigumba (Communications and Outreach Officer), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Japan |

| Time | Topic | Speaker |
|---|---|---|
| 16.00-16.10 | Opening Remarks and group photo | Ms. Sheam SATKURU, ITTO Executive Director |
| 16.10-16.20 | ITTO-BMLEH project achievement and way forwards | Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Kasetsart University, Thailand |
| 16.20-16.40 | Keynote presentation: Enhancing high-value teak timber for sustainable supply chains (will update the topic later) | TBD –(Thulasidas). Keynote will be identified by TEAKNET upon RPM request |
| 16.40-16.48 | Smallholder Teak Plantations: Bridging the Demand and Supply Gap in India | Dr. R. Yasodha, IFGTB, India (she may be requested to prepare an Abstract for this topic) |
| 16.48-16.56 | Teak plantation in Cambodia | Mr. Cheat Vichit, Department of Forest Plantation and Private Forest Development |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 16.56-17.04 | The Role of Smallholder Teak Plantations in Indonesia's Forestry Sector: Models for Sustainable Development | Prof. Anto RIMBAWANTO, BRIN, Indonesia |
| 17.04-17.12 | Promoting high-value teak timber for sustainable supply chains in Vietnam | Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu, VAFS, Vietnam |
| 17.12-17.20 | Teak Clonal Test Plan for Selecting Superior Mother Trees for Commercial Plantation in Thailand | Ms. Somporn Khumchompoo, RFD, Thailand |
| 17.20-17.28 | Monitoring adaptation and productivity of teak plantations in Guinean Zone of Togo: A comparative study of historical and newly introduced provenances | Presented by Prof. Adzo Dzifa KOKUTSE, University of Lome, Togo |
| 17.28-17.36 | Precision Control and Management of Teak Borer (*Xyleutes ceramica* Walker) in Thailand | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wattanachai Tasen, Kasetsart University, Thailand |
| 17.36-17.44 | Bridging the Financial Gap for Teak Smallholders: A Review of Financing Models in South Asia, Southeast Asia and West Africa.- | Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo, Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany |
| 17.44-18.15 | Questions and Discussion | All speakers moderated by Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi and Ms. Paula Sarigumba |
| 18.15-18.20 | Summary and closing | ITTO |

Note: Time allocation for technical presentation is 8 minutes; Welcome Reception will start at 18.30 h.

## 3. Planned Activities during July – December 2025

***Cambodia***

The planned activities for Cambodia components are as follows:

- Maintain and conduct measurements of demonstration plots
- Participate in the 2nd PSC meeting and the 5th WTC in India, as well as other project activities such as bi-monthly webinars
- Activities under Outputs 2 and 3 will be carried out intensively from July to December 2025, with support from Thunen Institution.

***Thailand***

Thailand's project team discussed the planned activities for July – December 2025. The proposed activities and tentative schedules are summarized below:

- Coordinate with Consultant#7.2 (Capacity Building and Networking) to organize the 4th to 6th webinar.

| No | Date | Speaker | Tentative Subject |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | August 2025<br>• **Theme: quality timber production (silvicultural practices)** | To be confirmed<br>**Director of Forest Plantation**, Ghana Forestry Commission | Intensive teak plantation in Ghana |
| | | **Mr. Boonlert Srisuksai**<br>Sri Trang, Thailand<br><br>Or TCR Company in Brazil | Intensive silvicultural practices and agroforestry Win-Win approach |
| 5 | October 2025<br>**Theme: Monitoring health and pest control** | To be decided<br>**Professor affiliated with Mendel at Brno,** Czech Republic | Forest health monitoring |
| | | **Prof. Kouami KOKOU**,<br>University of Lome<br>Togo | Monitoring forest plantation health using drone and remote sensing technique |
| | | **Prof. Decha Wiwattaya or**<br>**Dr. Watanachai Tasen**<br>Kasetsat University<br>Thailand | Teak pole borer detection and control |
| 6 | December 2025<br>**Theme: Efficient teak harvesting and transportation** | To be decided<br>Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology, **Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic** | Challenges and opportunities to use skye logging in forest plantations |
| | | **Dr. Nopparat K.**<br>Kasetsat University<br>Thailand | Efficiency teak harvesting in FIO plantation |

- Cooperate with and support Thai National Expert, with assistance from Thünen Institute, to finalize field data collection and conduct a field survey and focus group meeting with stakeholders from July-August 2025.

- Arrange the 2nd PSC meeting and a side event at the APFC in Chiangmai

- Support the Consultant#4 in organizing the 3rd training on Efficient teak harvesting and transportation in November 2025.

- Collaborate with TEAKNET, ITTO and all participating countries to organize a side event at the 5th World Teak Conference in Kerala, India.

- Monitor on the ground activities at demonstration plots

***Vietnam***

- Transplant teak plantlets maintained in the nurseries to the two demonstration plots.
- Organize the remaining training courses on nursery and planting of teak for participating households.
- Participate in-person in the 5th World Teak Conference (WTC) in India and 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand.
- Support Thünen Institute of Forestry in collecting data for scientific research involving multiple stakeholders along supply chains of teak and other valuable species, including those engage in microfinancing schemes for longer rotation in Vietnam.

***Togo***

- Togo component will continue experimenta research activities on:
- Production of teak seedlings from improved seeds (Indian and Malaysian origin)
- Production of cuttings from high-performance teak trees
- Collection and germination testing of seeds from local species in Togo
- Maintain and continue data collection at two demonstration plots located int Ativémé and Zogbépimé.
- Plan and organize the remaining training sessions for private planters in Togo on producing *Pterocarpus erinaceus* seedlings using the marcotting technique. Additionally, a training session for planters in Togo on techniques for collecting and conditioning forest seeds (Teck, Cedrela et Pterocarpus) is also planned by the consultant 2.
- Mr. HOUNKPATI Kossi, as the field data collection expert, will coordinate with the National Coordinator and the Thunen Institute to carry out field data collection for micro-financiering mechanism.
- Participate in-person at the 5th WTC in India in September 2025 and attend the 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand online.

***India***

**Output 1: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems.**

- In the existing seed production areas and seed orchards, an assessment of fruit and seed quality is planned for the upcoming season.

- The project plans to establish two demonstration plots for teak in Coimbatore district during late 2025. These plots will promote smallholder agroforestry systems for the sustainable production of quality seedlings and timber.

- Two out of four training courses outlined in the inception report are scheduled to be prepared and conducted in late 2025.

**Output 2: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes**

- India component had finalized the target individuals and groups for interview and focus group consultation meetings. The next step is to carry out field data collection on micro-lending schemes that address the credit constraints of smallholders. This includes exploring options such as tree collaterals and group-lending models, where forest growers support each other to ensure loan repayment.

**Output 3: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened.**

- A field guide in local language on teak cultivation for small holder systems will be finished and distributed to smallholders and interested individuals.

- ICFRE-IFGTB will participate in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 in Kochi, India during 16-20 September 2025, and deliver both oral and poster presentations.

- Abstracts submitted to the Conference have been accepted.

- ICFRE-IFGTB also plans to set up an exhibition in the Conference.

***Indonesia (TBD)***

It is hoped that Indonesia component can establish the project management team soon to begin implementing project activities. Upon the official approval, the two proposed demonstration plots will be established, and the planned training session will be conducted. Delegates from the Indonesia component will also attend the 2$^{nd}$ PSC meeting in Thailand and the 5$^{th}$ WTC in India.

***Thünen Institute of Forestry***

During July-December 2025, the Thünen Institute plans to accomplish the following tasks:

- Launch, monitor and finalize field data collection in all the project countries.
- Participate in the 5th World Teak Conference (September 2025)
- Participate in the 2nd PSC meeting (November 2025)

***International Consultants***

- Consultant#3: Legality - Continue discussions with local consultants in Indonesia and Vietnam to finalize the review framework.
- Identify and engage potential consultants in the remaining participating countries.
- Consultant#5: Information Manage - Publish the bi-monthly Teak Newsletter Issues for August, October and December 2025
- Consultant#7.1: Policy Strategy Development for Teak and Other Valuable Species – Finalize the policy draft by December 2025
- Consultant#7.2: Capacity Building and Networking – Organize the 4$^{th}$ to the 5$^{th}$ webinars, with support from ITTO and the Regional Project Manger

## 4. Critical Analysis

The ITTO-BMLEH has been implemented since November 2023, covering approximately 50% of the project duration. However, the participating countries have encountered some challenges as follows:

- Due to the lengthy internal review process, the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia just signed MoU with ITTO in early March 2025. However, the project management team has not yet been officially established, and all project activities are pending. It is hoped that implementation in Indonesia will commence soon.
- Project activity implementation in India is relatively behind the schedule, primarily due to delays in signing the MoU. Nevertheless, India component has accelerated implementation efforts with support from the Regional Project Manager and the other participating countries.
- The establishment of two demonstration plots in Vietnam is delayed by 4-6 months due to import restriction by the Viet Nam's Custom Department, which affected the delivery of teak pallets from Thailand.
- Field data collection and analysis of micro-financing mechanisms, lead by the Thünen Institute of Forestry, are also behind the schedule. This is due to the late development of online data collection tools and the complexity of identifying appropriate sample datasets, and a need for a shared understanding of interview and focus group methodologies across the participating countries. A pre-test data collection and orientation workshop were organized in Thailand for May 2025 to guide all national experts on the next steps.

## 5. Conclusions

The ITTO-BMLEH teak project has provided six tropical countries in Asia-Pacific and West Africa with a unique opportunity to collaborate in their effort toward the sustainable management of teak and other valuable species and to promote quality timber production under the South-South Cooperation. Following the successful Launching and Inception Workshops in October 2023 and January 2024, respectively, the project team and institutional arrangement were established in five participating countries (except Indonesia) to implement the project activities with support from consultants.

The project is progressing well in Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo, as these participating countries began activities in late 2023 or early 2024. However, implementation in India is behind schedule. At the current speed of implementation, it is hoped that India component will be able to catch up with the progress of other countries by June 2025. Increased engagement with the Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry is recommended to officially initiate project implementation there.

After one and half years, the project has achieved an overall completion rate of 36%. The progress under **Output1**: Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems, and **Output 3**: Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, ranges from 40-60%. In comparison, the average progress of activities under **Output 2**: Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations is 35%.

As of 30 June 2025, BMLEH has transferred the 1st to 3rd installments to ITTO, totaling USD 1,092,623.56, which represents 77.30% of the total budget (USD 1,413,449). Meanwhile, the total disbursed amount to participating countries, the Thünen Institute, and consultants was USD 616,424.77. The estimated budget required to carry out upcoming activities is USD 341,200.60. Funds have not yet been transferred to Indonesia due to pending on-the-ground implementation. The available balance in bank accounts, including earned interest, is USD 506,140.02. To implement the planned activities for July–December 2025, ITTO and the executing agencies require additional funds amounting to USD 181,142.71.

The delays in implementing activities reported in the 2$^{nd}$ bi-annual progress report have been mitigated, particularly for the India component. It is hoped that the India component will be able to catch up with the other participating countries in project implementation by June 2025. The remaining challenge is the pending implementation of project activities for the Indonesia component

## List of uploaded documents

- Google document#1 – Minute of the 1st PSC meeting on 18 September 2024
- Google document#2 - Minutes of ITTO monitoring in Thailand on 13-18 May 2025
- Google document#3 – The training report, "Precision Insect Pest Management and Control of Teak Plantation Pests, northern Thailand" on 27-28 March 2025.
- Google document#4 - Modification -A (BR-A) approved in September 2024 and modification budget -B (BR-B) approved in March 2025.
- Google document#5 - Progress reports of Cambodia component
- Google document#6 - Progress reports of India component
- Google document#7 - Progress reports of Vietnam component
- Google document#8 - Progress reports of Togo component
- Google document#9 - Progress report of Legality (prepared by Consultant#3)
- Google document#10 – Progress report of policy strategy development (prepared by Consultant7#1: Teak and Other Valuable Species Strategy Development)
- Google document#11- ITTO Newsletters for February 2025 (issue 7-1), April 2025 (issue 7-2), June 2025 (issue 7-3)
- Google document#12 – Webinar reports from 1st – 3rd
- Google document#13 - The list of delegates and abstracts of a side event at the 5th World Teak Conference in Kerala, India.

**Annex 1** Signed MoU between ITTO and Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry

**INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION**

**PROJECT AGREEMENT**

**PP-A/54-331A**

**"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics"**

**between**

**THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION (ITTO)**

**and**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA**

**Memorandum of Understanding**

**The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)**

**and**

**The Ministry of Forestry (MoF), Indonesia**

Whereas the International Tropical Timber Organization (hereinafter referred to as 'ITTO'). The Ministry of Forestry (Thereinafter referred to as "MoF") has agreed to cooperate for purposes of supporting the implementation of Indonesia's component of the "Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics" which was financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).

1. (1) ITTO shall make available to MoF an amount of up to **USD 107,500** (One hundred and seven thousand and five hundred US Dollars) for the project period from 2025 to 2026, to cover the estimated costs of the projects per the related project budget of the projects document attached hereto as the Appendix. The first disbursement of **USD 27,000** (Twenty-seven thousand US Dollars) is foreseen in 2025.

   (2) MoF shall maintain a record of all transactions related to ITTO's funds in a separate and traceable accounting ledger. The funds shall be used exclusively to meet the project's costs.

   (3) MoF shall submit biannual financial reports (including expenditures and unexpended budget balances by main budget classifications and a fund requirement schedule).

   (4) MoF shall inform ITTO without delay of any significant changes in the project's plan of operations that involve modifying fund requirements.

2. MoF may draw on the amounts made available by ITTO as required to meet the costs incurred in connection with the project.

3. MoF shall

   (1) administer the funds by MoF's financial rules and regulations and ensure that the funds have been used economically and for the intended purposes.

   (2) maintain a separate bank account with a bank of commonly recognized high reputation for the funds. All receipts and expenditures should be kept; any interest accruing on the funds shall be calculated and processed by the financial rules and regulations of the ITTO and shall be credited annually to the above-mentioned separate account by paragraph 5 below; this interest is part of the amount made available according to paragraph 1. (1) above.

4. (1) MoF shall ensure that the disbursement of funds does not exceed the amounts made available by ITTO, including such amounts as ITTO may provide in the context of any revision of the plan of operations,

(2) All financed records maintained in connection with the funds shall be expressed in US Dollars. Income and expenditure in other currencies shall be converted into US Dollars at the United Nations rate of exchange applicable on the date of such transactions.

(3) In connection with the final financial statement referred to in paragraph 6 (2) below, MoF transfers any surplus balance to ITTO within three months after project completion. This shall also apply to the interest accrued unless already offset according to subparagraph (1) above.

5. (1) The underlying objectives of the project are to support the six countries to build up sustainable forest management capacities and to further pursue their strategic objectives and policies on the sustainable development of teak forest resources.

(2) MoF shall pay special attention to the following aspects of the project:

- The multiplication of projects results by feeding them into policy discussion both at the country and at other relevant events.
- The cooperation with other countries and partners, and
- Linking the project's activities and their result to the relevant ITTO initiatives, such as the Legal and Sustainable Supply Chain (LSSC) program.

(3) MoF shall implement the project under the project document referred to in paragraph 1 above and appoint a national project leader.

(4) The contribution of the Federal Republic of Germany to this project and ITTO shall be indicated in all relevant project documents prepared by MoF. For public relations work on this project the logos of MoF, ITTO, and the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) shall be used.

(5) MoF shall submit to the Regional Project Manager and ITTO a biannual report on the progress of the project covering all the participating countries under the ITTO standard reporting format.

(6) MoF shall be represented in the Project Steering Committee (PSC) consisting of the six participating countries, ITTO, and donor (the Government of Germany) representatives. MoF shall establish a national Project Technical Committee to facilitate the effective and successful implementation of the Indonesia component of the projects.

6. (1) MoF shall submit to the Regional Project Manager and ITTO. Within two months of completion of the activities provided for in the project document, a completion report of the project covering all the participating countries by ITTO standard reporting format.

(2) MoF shall submit to the Regional Project Manager and ITTO, within two months of completion of the activities provided for in the project document, a final financial statement covering the use of the funds.

7. This Arrangement may be supplemented or modified by a written agreement between MoF and ITTO.

8. This Arrangement shall enter into force on the date of the last signature thereof.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present Arrangement in duplicate in the English language.

Krisdianto, Ph.D
Head of Public Relations
and Overseas Cooperation Bureau
on behalf of National Focal Point ITTO
the Ministry of Forestry

Sheam Satkuru
Executive Director

On behalf of the Government of Indonesia

Dated: 10th March 2025

Place: Jakarta, Indonesia

On behalf of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Dated: 10th March 2025

Place: Yokohama, Japan.

Erwan Sudaryanto
Director of Forest Product Processing and Marketing
on behalf of the Executing Agency
the Ministry of Forestry, Republic of Indonesia

Dated: 10th March 2025

Place: Jakarta, Indonesia

## Annex 2 NOLs from ITTO to engage 5 National Experts

**International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)**
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CENTER – 5F, PACIFICO-YOKOHAMA
1-1-1, MINATO-MIRAI, NISHI-KU, YOKOHAMA 220-0012, JAPAN

**FACSIMILE**

Fax: (81-45) 223-1111
Tel.: (81-45) 223-1110
E-mail: rfm @itto.int

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Date:** | 10 January 2025 | **Ref. No.** F.25-0001 | |
| **To:** | **Prof. Yongyut Trisurat**<br>Regional Project Manager<br>Faculty of Forestry<br>Kasetsart University<br>50 Phahonyothin Rd, Khwaeng Lat Yao<br>Khet Chatuchak, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon<br>Bangkok, 10900, Thailand | **From:** | **Ms. Jennifer Conje**<br>Director<br><br>Division of Forest Management<br>ITTO – Yokohama, Japan |
| **E-mail:** | fforyyt@ku.ac.th | | |

Dear Prof. Yongyut Trisurat,

**PP-A/54-331A**
**"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (Teak Project Phase II)"**

Thank you for your letter of 24 December 2024 regarding your proposal to engage five National Experts to assist field data collection (C-46) for the above Project:

| Name | Position | Engagement Period | Total Honorarium (US$) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr. Say SINLY | Field data collection expert, Cambodia | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. SURESH G | Field data collection expert, India | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. Attawin RACHAWONG | Field data collection expert, Thailand | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. Kossi HOUNKPATI | Field data collection expert, Togo | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |
| Mr. NGUYEN TIEN HAI | Field data collection expert, Vietnam | 1 January – 31 May 2025 | 4,500.00 |

I am pleased to inform you that I have no objection to engage the above five National Experts with the duration and honorarium as detailed above, provided that the terms of reference and related costs for the appointment are in accordance with the provisions specified in the Project document.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Conje
Director
Division of Forest Management

# Annex 3 Consolidated and Proposed Budget Modification (BR-C)

**Financial Report**

**Project No.** PP-A/54-331A
**Project Title:** Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-
**Implementing Agency: Countries**

**Proposed budget : 16 July 2025**

| | | Budget line/item | Approved Yearly Budget B (BR-B) (USD) | | | | Budget total | Proposed budged modification (BR-C) | | | | Budget total | Balance | Expenditure | | | | Budget next period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | | Nov-Dec 2023 | Jan-Dec 2024 | Jan-Jun 2025 | Total | Jul-Dec 2025 9/ |
| | | | (Sep-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Aug) | (H) | (Sep-Dec) I) | (Jan-Dec) (J) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (M) | (M-H) | (O) | (P) | (R) | | (S) |
| | A02 | Project Secretary | 1'500 | 9'000 | 9'000 | 7'500 | 27'000.00 | 1'500 | 9'000.00 | 9'000.00 | 7'500.00 | 27'000.00 | - | 1'500 | 9'000.00 | 4'500.00 | **15'000.00** | 4'500.00 |
| | A03 | Finance Staff | 1'200 | 7'200 | 7'200 | 6'000 | 21'600.00 | 1'200 | 7'200.00 | 7'200.00 | 6'000.00 | 21'600.00 | - | 1'200 | 7'200.00 | 3'600.00 | **12'000.00** | 3'600.00 |
| | A04 | Cons # 1 Quality Planting Material 1/ | - | 4'800 | 6'000 | 13'200 | 24'000.00 | - | 4'800.00 | 12'450.00 | 6'750.00 | 24'000.00 | - | - | 4'800.00 | 5'850.00 | **10'650.00** | 6'600.00 |
| | A05 | Cons # 2 Field Training, Silviculture 2/ | - | 4'800 | 5'000 | 5'200 | 15'000.00 | - | 4'800.00 | 10'200.00 | - | 15'000.00 | - | - | 4'800.00 | 5'433.00 | **10'233.00** | 4'767.00 |
| | A06 | Cons # 3 Legality | - | 6'000 | 6'000 | 12'000 | 24'000.00 | - | 6'000.00 | 6'000.00 | 12'000.00 | 24'000.00 | - | - | 6'000.00 | - | **6'000.00** | 6'000.00 |
| | A07 | Cons # 4 Efficient teak wood transportation and processing | - | 2'000 | 6'000 | 4'000 | 12'000.00 | - | 2'000.00 | 6'000.00 | 4'000.00 | 12'000.00 | - | - | 2'000.00 | 1'500.00 | **3'500.00** | 4'500.00 |
| | A08 | Cons # 5 Information Management 3/ | 5'000 | 5'000 | 8'500 | 7'000 | 25'500.00 | 5'000 | 5'000.00 | 10'000.00 | 5'500.00 | 25'500.00 | - | 5'000 | 5'000.00 | 5'000.00 | **15'000.00** | 5'000.00 |
| | A09 | Cons # 6 Teak value chains 4/ | - | 2'000 | 6'000 | 10'000 | 18'000.00 | - | 2'000.00 | 3'000.00 | 13'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | - | 2'000.00 | 1'500.00 | **3'500.00** | 1'500.00 |
| | A10 | Cons # 7 Teak strategy development | - | - | | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | A101 | Const#7.1 Teak and other econ spp strategy devlopment | | | 12'000 | 6'000 | 18'000.00 | | - | 12'000.00 | 6'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | | - | 6'000.00 | **6'000.00** | 6'000.00 |
| | A102 | Cont#7.2 Networking and Capacity building 5/ | | - | 12'000 | 6'000 | 18'000.00 | | - | 6'000.00 | 12'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | | - | 6'000.00 | **6'000.00** | - |
| | A11 | Sub-contract Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany* (*No ITTO programme support on this amount) | - | 132'733 | 132'733 | 88'488 | 353'954.00 | - | 132'733.00 | 132'733.00 | 88'488.00 | 353'954.00 | - | | 132'733.00 | | **132'733.00** | 132'733.00 |
| | **A** | **Sub-Total Personnel & Consultants** | **13'700** | **209'533** | **246'433** | **195'388** | **665'054.00** | **13'700** | **209'533.00** | **250'583.00** | **191'238.00** | **665'054.00** | **-** | **13'700** | **209'533.00** | **57'383.00** | **280'616.00** | **193'200.00** |
| **B. p sum items** | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | B01 | Operation cost for project offices (electr., commun., consumables) 6/ | 101 | 2'741 | 6'000 | 14'129 | 22'971.00 | 101 | 5'008.00 | 9'628.00 | 8'233.75 | 22'971.00 | - | 101 | 5'008.00 | 4'093.00 | **9'202.00** | 5'535.00 |
| | B02 | Technical reports,and completion report editing 7/ | - | | 10'000 | 8'000 | 18'000.00 | - | - | 3'000.00 | 15'000.00 | 18'000.00 | - | - | | - | - | 3'000.00 |
| | **B** | **Sub-total Lump sum items** | **101** | **2'741** | **16'000** | **22'129** | **40'971.00** | **101** | **5'008.00** | **12'628.00** | **23'233.75** | **40'971.00** | **-** | **101** | **5'008.00** | **4'093.00** | **9'202.00** | **8'535.00** |
| **C. ursable items** | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | **C10** | **Conferences, meetings, workshops** | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | C11 | PSC meetings (venue, trav., accom) | 5'661 | 8'833 | 12'000 | 9'506 | 36'000.00 | 5'661 | 8'832.86 | 12'000.00 | 9'506.23 | 36'000.00 | - | 5'661 | 8'832.86 | 2'477.17 | **16'971.03** | 9'522.83 |
| | C12 | Regional teak workshop (venue, trav., accom) 8/ | - | 8'297 | 82'703 | - | 91'000.00 | - | 8'297.37 | - | 82'702.63 | 91'000.00 | - | - | 8'297.37 | - | **8'297.37** | - |
| | C13 | IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Regn, trav, accom,) | 1'911 | 20'281 | - | | 22'192.00 | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | - | 22'192.00 | - | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | **22'192.00** | - |

**Financial Report**

**Project No.** PP-A/54-331A
**Project Title:** Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-
**Implementing Agency: Countries**

**Proposed budget : 16 July 2025**

| | | Budget line/item | Approved Yearly Budget B (BR-B) (USD) | | | | Budget total | Proposed budged modification (BR-C) | | | | Budget total | Balance | Expenditure | | | | Budget next period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | | Nov-Dec 2023 | Jan-Dec 2024 | Jan-Jun 2025 | Total | Jul-Dec 2025 9/ |
| | | | (Sep-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Aug) | (H) | (Sep-Dec) I) | (Jan-Dec) (J) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (M) | (M-H) | (O) | (P) | (R) | | (S) |
| | C13 | IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Regn, trav, accom,) | 1'911 | 20'281 | - | | 22'192.00 | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | - | 22'192.00 | - | 1'911 | 20'281.00 | - | **22'192.00** | - |
| | C14 | World Teak Conference 2025 (Regn, trav, accom,) | - | - | 40'000 | - | 40'000.00 | - | - | 40'000.00 | - | 40'000.00 | - | - | | 7'414.17 | **7'414.17** | 20'585.83 |
| | **C20** | **National Workshops and Regional Webinars** | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C21 | National and Regional Webinars 9/ | 1'825 | 2'552 | 8'000 | 10'157 | 22'534.00 | 1'825 | 2'552.00 | 4'841.00 | 13'316.00 | 22'534.00 | - | 1'825 | 2'552.00 | - | **4'377.00** | 4'841.00 |
| | **C30** | **Consult. Travel (flights, transp., lodging, food)** | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C31 | International travel consultants#3,#6 and#7 10/ | - | | 6'000 | 12'000 | 18'000.00 | - | - | 6'994.00 | 11'006.00 | 18'000.00 | - | - | | 994.00 | **994.00** | 6'000.00 |
| | **C40** | **Others items** | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C41 | Publication | 104 | | 2'000 | 7'896 | 10'000.00 | 104 | - | 2'000.00 | 7'895.81 | 10'000.00 | - | 104 | | - | **104.00** | 2'000.00 |
| | C42 | Demonstrations plots, nurseries 11/ | - | 17'241 | 10'000 | 44'204 | 71'445.00 | - | 20'360.00 | 22'241.00 | 28'844.00 | 71'445.00 | - | - | 20'360.00 | 5'603.00 | **25'963.00** | 16'638.00 |
| | C43 | Training costs (4 training events per country) (venue, stationary, catering, lodging 12/ | - | 9'912 | 32'429 | 84'517 | 126'858.00 | - | 5'912.37 | 62'083.03 | 58'862.60 | 126'858.00 | - | - | 5'912.37 | 19'716.03 | **25'628.40** | 42'367.00 |
| | C44 | Financial auditing 11/ | - | - | 5'000 | 10'000 | 15'000.00 | - | - | 5'000.00 | 10'000.00 | 15'000.00 | - | - | | - | **-** | - |
| | C45 | Literature, publications, webpage 13/ | - | 2'912 | 2'000 | 2'088 | 7'000.00 | - | 2'911.89 | 2'454.96 | 1'633.15 | 7'000.00 | 0 | - | 2'911.89 | 2'454.96 | **5'366.85** | - |
| | C46 | Survey and data collection for teak plantations | - | | 49'200 | 30'000 | 79'200.00 | - | - | 49'200.00 | 30'000.00 | 79'200.00 | - | - | | 19'689.00 | **19'689.00** | 29'511.00 |
| | **c** | **Sub -total reimbursable items** | **9'501** | **70'028** | **249'332** | **210'368** | **539'229.00** | **9'501** | **69'147.49** | **206'814.00** | **253'766.42** | **539'229.00** | **0** | **9'501** | **69'147.49** | **58'348.34** | **136'996.83** | **131'465.66** |
| **D. ITTO Monitoring and Review** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | |
| | D01 | Monitoring and Review | 3'078 | 8'649 | 10'000 | 8'273 | 30'000.00 | 3'078 | 8'649.00 | 8'827.00 | 9'446.00 | 30'000.00 | - | 3'078 | 8'649.00 | 827.00 | 12'554.00 | 8'000.00 |
| | | **Component Total:** | **3'078** | **8'649** | **10'000** | **8'273** | **30'000.00** | **3'078** | **8'649.00** | **8'827.00** | **9'446.00** | **30'000.00** | **-** | **3'078** | **8'649.00** | **827.00** | **12'554.00** | **8'000.00** |
| | | **Sub-total direct project cost (A+B+C+D)** | **26'380** | **290'951** | **521'765** | **436'158** | **1'275'254.00** | **26'380** | **292'337.49** | **478'852.00** | **477'684.17** | **1'275'254.00** | **0** | **26'380** | **292'337.49** | **120'651.34** | **439'368.83** | **341'200.66** |
| **E. ITTO Project Administration** | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | - | | |
| | E01 | ITTO Program support (@ITTO standard rate)** (** No PS charged on TI Subcontract) 14/ | 3'672 | 134'523 | 50'370 | - 50'370 | 138'195.00 | 3'672 | 134'523.00 | - | | 138'195.00 | - | 3'672 | 134'523.00 | - | 138'195.00 | |
| | **E** | **Sub total ITTO Proejct administratio** | **3'672** | **134'523** | **50'370** | **- 50'370** | **138'195.00** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** |

**Financial Report**

**Project No.** PP-A/54-331A
**Project Title:** Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-
**Implementing Agency: Countries**

**Proposed budget : 16 July 2025**

| | Budget line/item | Approved Yearly Budget B (BR-B) (USD) | | | | Budget total | Proposed budged modification (BR-C) | | | | Budget total | Balance | Expenditure | | | | Budget next period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | | Nov-Dec 2023 | Jan-Dec 2024 | Jan-Jun 2025 | Total | Jul-Dec 2025 9/ |
| | | (Sep-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Aug) | (H) | (Sep-Dec) I) | (Jan-Dec) (J) | (Jan-Dec) | (Jan-Dec) | (M) | (M-H) | (O) | (P) | (R) | | (S) |
| E | **Sub total ITTO Proejct administratio** | **3'672** | **134'523** | **50'370** | **- 50'370** | **138'195.00** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** | **3'672** | **134'523.00** | **-** | **138'195.00** | **-** |
| | **Grand Total (A+B+B+C+D+E)** | **30'052** | **425'474** | **572'135** | **385'788** | **1'413'449.00** | **30'052** | **426'860.49** | **478'852.00** | **477'684.17** | **1'413'449.00** | **0** | **30'052** | **426'860.49** | **120'651.34** | **577'563.83** | **341'200.66** |

Notes

1/ Early engagement of the consultant#1. This results in a corresponding reduction in the 2026 budget
2/ Early engagement of the consultant#2. This results in a corresponding reduction in the 2026 budget.
3/ The budget increases from USD 7,000 to USD 10,000 to comply with the agreed contract and Terms of Reference (TORs).
4/ Delayed recruitment for the Indian component and the postponement of a training session for the Thailand component. Thus, the remining funds for 2025 is moved to year 2026.
5/ The budget decreases from USD 12,000 to USD 6,000 in line with the agreed contract and TORs. The remaining funds for 2025 is moved to 2026.
6/ Operation cost for project offices (electr., commun., consumables) for year 2025 is expected due to engagemen t of India component. The total amount is the same.
7/ The budget for technical reports,and completion report editing decreases from USD 10,000 in year 2025 to USD 3,000, as the reports are expected in 2026.
8/ The 2nd Regional teak workshop is postponed to year 2026.
9/ Costs for webinar decrease from USD 8,000 to USD 3,841 due to 3 out of 12 webinars have been organized.
10/ Internal travel increases from USD 6,000 to USD 6,994 to support consultants' participation in the 2nd PSC meeting in Thailand in November 2025
11/ Costs for establishment of demonstration plots increase from USD 10,000 to USD 22,241 due to early engagement. Only the Indonesia component has yet to establish its demonstration plots
12/ Costs for the training sessions increase almost double to aling with the planned capacity-building schedules.
13/ Costs for literature, publications, and webpage increases slightly in line with the plan to update the project website.
14/ The entire allocated budget for ITTO program support was fully disbursed in 2024.

| | **Installments** | Amount (USD) |
|---|---|---|
| | #1 The 1st installment that ITTO received from BMEL in December 2023 after signing the agreement | 142'293.00 |
| | #2 The 2nd installment that ITTO rece | 424'363.00 |
| | 3rd installment received from BLEH ir | 70'441.78 |
| | **Total** | **637'097.78** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. 1st and 2nd installment from BMEL | | 637'097.78 | |
| 2. Expenditures (Nov 2023-Jun2025) by the participating countries, Thunen and ITTO | | 577'563.83 | |
| 3. Balance | | 59'533.95 | |
| 4. Bank interest earn 1/ | | 524.00 | 315.21 |
| 5. Balance + Bank interes | | 60'057.95 | |
| 6. Total planned budget Jul-Dec 2025 2/ | | 341'200.66 | |
| 7. 3rd call for funds (from BMEL) 3/ | | 281'142.71 | |

1/ Bank interest US$ 315 (Thai component Nov 2023-Dec 2024)
2/ planned expenditures during Jan-Jul 2025 (i71) + (Ba;ance + Bank Interest) <d70> )
3/ required budget to implemnt planned activities. However, all balances are in bank accounts of the participating countries, while the balance of ITTO is negative.

## Annex 4 List of delegations from the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project to attend the 5th World Teak Congress

| Country | Name | Affiliation |
|---|---|---|
| **ITTO** | | |
| 1 | Ms. Sheam SATKURU | Executive Director, ITTO |
| 2 | Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi | ITTO Projects Manager |
| 3. | Ms. Paula Sarigumba | ITTO Communications and Outreach Officer |
| **Germany** | | |
| 1 | Dr. Sven Günter | Head of Working Group Forestry Worldwide, Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany |
| 2 | Mr. Temesgen Zana Jaffo | Research Scientist, Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany |
| **Thailand** | | |
| 1. | Prof. Dr. Yongyut Trisurat | Regional Project Manager, ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University |
| 2. | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wattanachai Tasen | Head of the Department of Forest Biology, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University |
| 3. | Ms. Somporn Khumchompoo | Scientist, Senior Professional Level, Silvicultural Research Division, Forest Research and Development Office, Royal Forest Department (RFD) |
| 4. | Ms Sangrawee Sukeetham | Forestry Technical Officer, Practitioner Level Forest Utilization Research and Development Division, Forest Research and Development Office, RFD |
| 5. | Mr. Naravich Changtor | Forestry Technical Officer, Practitioner Level Forest Utilization Research and Development Division, Forest Research and Development Office, RFD |
| 6. | Ms Saichon Mutarapat | Secretary, ITTO-BMLEH Project |
| **Cambodia** | | |
| 1. | Mr. Cheat Vichet | Consultant, Department of Forest Plantation and Private Forest Development (previously Forest Administration), Cambodia |
| 2. | Mr. Phoung Sophea | Scientist, Department of Forest Plantation and Private Forest Development (previously Forest Administration), Cambodia |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Vietnam** | | |
| 1 | Dr. Tran Lam Dong | Vice President, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| 2 | Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu | National Coordinator, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| 3 | Dr. Vu Dinh Huong | Consultant# 1, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| 4 | Dr. Mai Thi Phuong Thuy | Head of the Department of Plant Cell Technology, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS) |
| **India** | | |
| 1 | Dr. R. Yasodha | National Coordinator, Scientist G, Division of Plant Biotechnology ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, ICFRE-IFGTB) |
| 2 | Dr. Rekha R. Warrier | Deputy National Coordinator, Scientist, ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding |
| 3 | Dr. C. Nalin Kumar, | ITTO Consultant |
| 4 | Dr. Mohammad Ghouse | ITTO Consultant |
| 5 | Dr. T. Vamadevan | Information Officer, EIACP |
| 6 | Ms. P. Maheswari | Senior Project Associate |
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| **Indonesia** | | |
| 1. | Prof. Dr. Anto RIMBAWANTO | ITTO Consultant – Teak and other valuable species strategy development,Research Centre for Applied Botany National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), YOGYAKARTA |
| **Togo** | | |
| 1 | Prof. Adzo Dzifa KOKUTSE | National Coordinator, University of Lomé, Togo West Africa |

Notes: At least 26 delegates from the participating countries, TEAKNET, Thunen and ITTO confirmed to attend the side event.

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity

**Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (PP-A/54-331A)**



# CONSOLIDATED 3rd BI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ITTO-BMLEH TEAK PROJECT

## Executing Agency: ITTO

**Collaborating Agencies:**

**Cambodia:** Forestry Administration
**Thailand:** Royal Forestry Department/Kasetsart University
**Vietnam:** Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences
**India:** ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding
**Indonesia: Ministry of Forestry**
**Togo:** University of Lomé
**Germany:** Thünen Institute of Forestry

**1 January 2025 – 30 June 2025**

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity

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KEMENTERIAN KEHUTANAN REPUBLIK INDONESIA

ROYAL FOREST DEPARTMENT

VIETNAMESE ACADEMY OF FOREST SCIENCES VAFS

THÜNEN