



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture



AFoCO
Asian Forest Cooperation Organization



Regional Workshop on Sustaining Teak Forests in Mekong Basin

24-27 September 2019, Yangon, Myanmar



Key Messages

The Workshop adopted the following key messages for the sustainable development of the teak-based forest sector.

1. Enhancing the in-situ and ex-situ conservation of teak genetic resources through establishment of field trials, seed production areas and seed orchards as well as long-term teak tree improvement research and development programs to supply high quality seed for teak plantations and encouraging joint research on conservation of teak genetic resources linked with breeding and biotechnology, including exchange of genetic resources, transferring improved seed for plantations, in the Mekong region subject to countries' regulations to improve the genetic component of the population without its genetic erosion.
2. Improving silviculture practice of teak plantations from selection of suitable sites to thinning and harvesting techniques to ensure good productivity, taking into account the fact that teak is demanding for deep and good fertile soils, and sharing knowledge and experience for the development of sustainable management of teak forest plantations in the Mekong region.

3. Promoting the engagement of smallholders and communities, including young people and women, in natural teak forests management and establishment of teak plantation to improve livelihood, income generation and job creation, through support of quality teak seedlings and extension services to farmers and capacity building, networking and partnerships for smallholders groups.

4. Promoting value chains of teak timber and timber products through value-added product development, appropriate incentives mechanisms for smallholder plantations, improved marketing, improved financial resource access and long-term investment and conducting a global study of teak supply and demand and sustainable teak industry development to ensure enhanced policies, law enforcement and promotion of intraregional teak trade.

5. Strengthening sustainable supply and consumption of teak timber and timber products through establishment of incentive mechanisms to promote the legality and sustainability of teak supply chains and strengthening regional collaboration for increased investments in downstream supply chains, marketing and trade of teak timber and products by ensuring the legality and sustainability of domestic and international trade.

6. Encouraging the formulation of sustainable global teak strategies and recommended actions at the Fourth **World** Teak Conference (Accra, Ghana, August 2020) and scaling up international collaboration, partnerships and networking to promote the contributions of sustaining teak forests and teak products in addressing climate change mitigation and adaption, and the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 15 “Life on land”, Goal 12 “Sustainable supply and consumption” and Goal 8 “Decent work and economic growth”.

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