



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture



ITTO

INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER ORGANIZATION



Kochi hosted 5th World Teak Conference 2025

PK Thulasidas, Consultant # 5



2nd PSC Meeting of ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project, 10-12 November 2025, Chiang Mai, Thailand

5th WORLD TEAK CONFERENCE

GRAND HYATT KOCHI, BOLGATTY,
KERALA, INDIA

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL TEAK SECTOR -
ADAPTING TO FUTURE MARKETS AND ENVIRONMENTS



17-20
SEPTEMBER
2025

Organizers



Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI)



Kerala State Council for Science, Technology
and Environment (KSCSTE)



Indian Ministry of Environment , Forests &
Climate Change (MoEFF & CC)



ITTO
INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER ORGANIZATION

International Tropical Timber Organization,
Japan



International Teak Information Network

Supported by



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



MAFF
Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries



Conference Objectives

The World Teak Conferences bring together experts, policymakers, industry representatives, researchers, plantation owners, and local communities to share knowledge and exchange ideas on the economic, social, and environmental benefits of teak resources.

Conference Themes

- ❑ Session I & II (combined) : Financial Analysis, Value Addition, Markets and Legal Supply Chains
- ❑ Session III: Advances in teak genetics and stand management of natural and planted teak forests
- ❑ Session IV: Management models for smallholder teak plantations and agroforestry systems in Asia, Africa and Latin America
- ❑ Session V: Environmental protection, biodiversity conservation and Forest Landscape Restoration

The 4-day program includes plenary sessions and panel discussions covering all aspects of teak management, genetics, markets, legal supply chains, smallholder plantations, and Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR).

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

Output 3 (4 activities)

Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management strengthened

Support and facilitate teak networking, Newsletters, organize Webinars, Regional workshops, IUFRO World Congress 2024 (Sweden) and in the 5th World Teak Conference 2025 (India)



ITTO-BMLEH Teak Side Event at WTC

17th Sept , (14:00 -16:00 h)



Opening Address: ITTO Executive Director Ms. Sheam Satkuru

“supporting high-quality teak production is central to ITTO’s mission to promote sustainable forest management and legal, sustainable tropical timber supply chains. However, smallholders and community plantations still face challenges that ITTO and its partners are seeking to address”, she said

There are altogether 9 presentations from the 6 participating countries, Thailand, Cambodia, India, Vietnam, Indonesia and Togo and Thunen Forestry Institute, Germany

The highlighted recommendations of the session were taken up by organizers to prepare final WTC report and released as policy recommendations for action

Session Chairs: Tetra Yanuariadi & Paula Sarigumba, ITTO



Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, RPM on overall objectives and achievement of project Phase I & II



Dr. Anto Rimbawanto on Indonesian component on smallholder teak plantations



Mr. Cheat Vichet on teak plantations in Cambodia



Dr. Dang Thinh Trieu, VAFS, Vietnam on promoting high value teak timber for sustainable supply chains



Dr. Yasodha, National Coordinator, IFGTB, India on smallholder teak: bridging the demand and supply gap



**Clonal test plan in Thailand:
Dr. Somporn Khumchompoo, RFD**



Prof. Adzo Dzifa Kokutse, University of Lome, Togo on productivity of teak plantations in the Guinean Zone of Togo



Mr. Temesgen Zana, Germany on Financing schemes for smallholders and community-based teak



Dr. Wattanachai Tasen, Kasetsart University, Bangkok on Precision control of teak borer *Xyleutes ceramica*

Closing remarks by ITTO Executive Director at ITTO side event

Ms. Sheam Satkuru, highlighted that the teak industry can only thrive “if we showcase science, policy, and practical interface”, and that the milestones of the ITTO-BMLEH project give us opportunity and promising for scaling up further.



Few Project team members line up for group photo

Highlights of 5th WTC 2025

More than 300 participants from 43 countries representing 6 continents attended the Conference, They raised a wide range of points about teak, the most important of which are summarized in the following messages.

Conference Recommendations for Action

The conference delivered key messages for the policy makers, respective national governments for action to support the sustainable development of teak industry.

The communiqué call for all stakeholders in the sector should work together to:

- 1) Support research efforts to diversify the existing monoculture plantations with multi-species planted forests and agroforestry production systems;
- 2) Explore possibilities to replace harmful fumigating agents with eco-friendly fumigation methods for all imported wood products;
- 3) Investigate new methods using artificial intelligence to record stand data in forest surveys and inventories in a cost-efficient manner;
- 4) Support the mass propagation of superior planting material through the establishment of clonal plantations for higher productivity and better timber quality;

Contd.....

- 5) Investigate further the institutional, organizational and logistical challenges of smallholder growers with the objective to facilitate teak plantation establishment and management;
- 6) Facilitate capacity building for local community and field workers, particularly in teak management techniques and intercropping of teak with profitable agricultural crops;
- 7) Investigate the opportunities of linking teak plantations with carbon credit markets;
- 8) Commit more resources to research and development to advance the sustainable management of planted teak forests with emphasis, in particular on the quality of teak wood grown in plantations to decide the optimum harvesting cycle; and
- 9) Facilitate and enhance the opportunities for TEAKNET to establish comprehensive networks among teak producers, traders and the wood processing industry.

Field Excursion

Two optional field excursions were also conducted on 20th Sept

- Nilambur Teak Museum &
- Aathirappilly waterfalls in the foot hills of Western Ghats



Delegates at Conolly's plot Nilambur



Visit to Athirappilly water falls



Closing remarks at WTC by Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, Projects Manager, ITTO Japan

Photo credit: @KFRI/TEAKNET



Participants of World Teak Conference 2025

Thank you for the kind attention !

