

Global Teak Support Program for the sustainable management of natural and planted teak resources in the tropics

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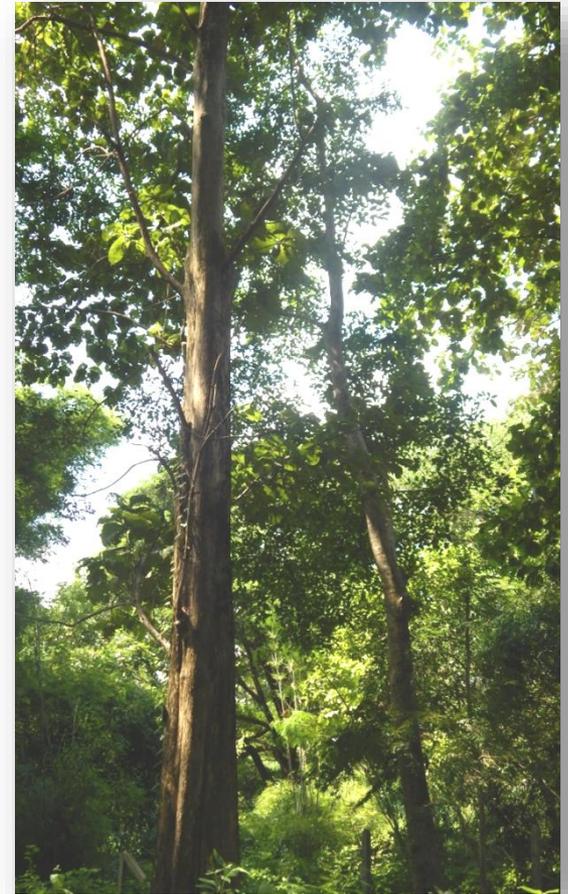
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Background

- Globally, natural teak forests are on continuous decline and there is high risk of losing their genetic diversity.
- According to FAO's Global Action Plan for the Conservation, Development and Sustainable Use of Forest Genetic Resources, teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) takes the top rank in the list of priority species in more than 20 countries for large scale plantation establishment for quality timber production.
- Teak is one of the few emerging hardwood species widely planted in about 70 countries in the tropics.

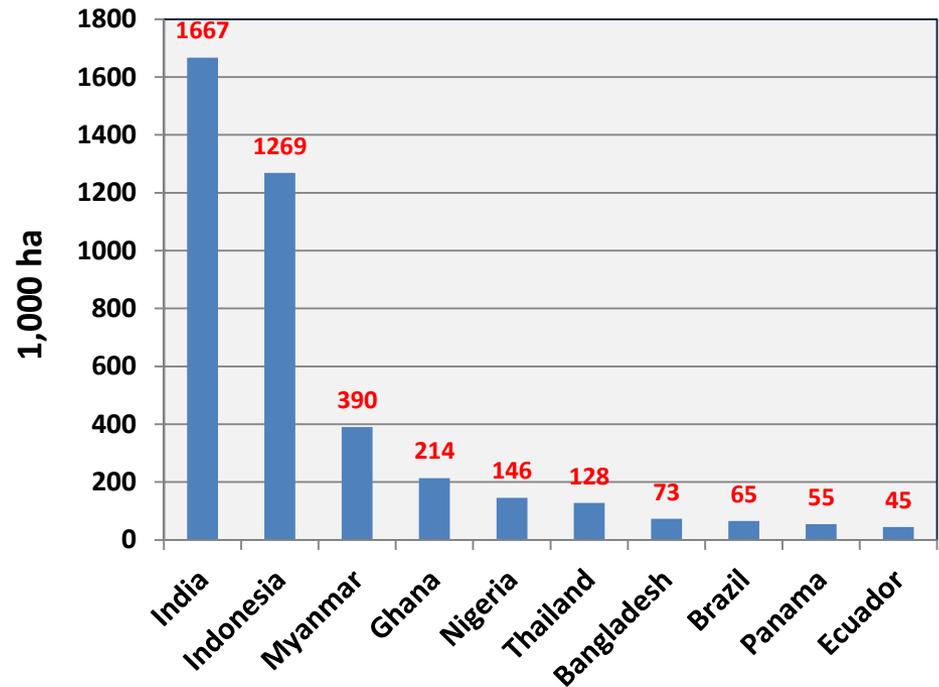


Natural teak forests

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- Planted teak forests cover an area between 4.35 to 6.89 million ha , of which 83% are in Asia, 11% in Africa, and 6% in tropical America.
- Teak contributes only less than 2% of the total planted forests area. In terms of value its contribution is much higher.
- Most of these plantations are established with seeds of unknown origin that ultimately affects the timber quality and productivity of plantations.
- Genetic variation in teak is very large.

Planted teak distribution in 10 major countries



Source: Kollert & Cherubini, 2012. Teak Resources and Market Assessment

International initiative

This situation calls for the implementation of a global program for the conservation, development and sustainable use of teak genetic resources.



International partners – IUFRO- FAO- TEAKNET - ITTO



Since 2014, Teaknet initiated a large-scale international research, development and cooperation program - Global Teak Support Program (GTSP)



- to **strengthen the conservation and sustainable use of teak genetic resources** for the benefit of teak growers, forest industries, investors and local communities in different country contexts in Africa, Asia and Latin America



Pre-projects workshops and meetings

IUFRO sponsored Project formulation workshops were conducted at Bangkok (2014) and Guayaquil, Ecuador (2015)



Workshops

TEAKNET organised Partner Events during APFW 2016 (Philippines) and APFC 2017 (Colombo, Sri Lanka)



Workshops



- a) Conducted comprehensive evaluation of national and international teak research programs undertaken in African, Asian and Latin American countries

- b) Suggestions invited for formulation of a full- fledged project proposal



Representatives from different teak growing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America participated

Ex-post analysis & Expert Consultation meeting

With support of ITTO, Japan the project partners conducted an Ex-post analysis and evaluation of previous teak projects funded by ITTO from 1996 to 2006.

Along with the Ex-post analysis, Expert Consultation meeting was convened at IUFRO HQ in Vienna in 2016 and global teak study report was prepared with the help of teak experts from 12 countries.

Conserving teak for future generations

An ex-post evaluation has found that an ITTO-supported project in Myanmar helped the conservation of high-quality teak genetic materials but would have benefited from more attention to social and policy aspects

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Review: A project officer and a district forest officer discuss "lessons learned" in a village-managed seed production area. Photo: R. Glauner

This article presents the results of an ex-post evaluation of an ITTO-supported project implemented in Myanmar to encourage the sustainable management of the country's teak resources. ITTO commissioned the ex-post evaluation in 2016

harvesting, and the expansion of agricultural activities among local communities.

In the mid 1800s, the community use of teak forests in the country's Pega area led Sir Dietrich Brandis—a German

Courtesy: ITTO Tropical Forest Update 26/1 15: 2017



Global Teak Study Report

This Global Teak Study Report contains Policy recommendations and guidance for future ITTO funded projects in promoting sustainable management of natural and planted teak forests in the tropics.



The Study Report has been released as IUFRO World Series Publication No. 36 and is available online

Major objectives

1. Improve statistical database on teak resources, production and trade
2. Strengthen international collaboration and regional networks on forest genetic resources
3. Monitor genetic improvement programs and international trade in clones
4. Improve the management/conservation of natural teak forests
5. Support good management practices in planted teak forests
6. Promote small-scale teak production for smallholder farmers
7. Investigate the impact of silviculture on teak wood quality
8. Improve the international marketability of teak
9. Provide impartial cost-benefit analysis for potential investors
10. Strengthen TEAKNET as international teak information network and partnership platform



Policy implications & Forest certification

- The major economic challenge for teak growers is to produce quality wood that is acceptable in international markets. One increasingly important consideration influencing trade in plantation teak involves environmental certification and legality issues.
- Governments, buyers and retailers, mainly in western countries have embraced the principles of certification.

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Forest certification

In future, public and private teak producers and processors will increasingly pursue voluntary certification schemes (forest management and chain-of-custody certification) to meet environmental, social and economic standards of responsible forest management and gain better access to high-price in timber markets.

Green timber supply & value chains

- Also to ensure that international trade of tropical timber follow the green supply chains from legal and sustainable sources.
- Starting from production, through processing to the marketing of finished wood products in international markets.
- Establishing green supply chain, not only ensure economic development, but also for achieving SDG



Future outlook

In order to ensure long-term sustainability of natural and planted teak forests, it is imperative to organise and implement a global program for the conservation, improvement, development and sustainable use of teak resources.

Such a Global Teak Support program (GTSP) would contribute to preserve the native teak resources still existing before they decline further.

This will also contribute towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the post 2015 Agenda and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity.



4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON PLANTED FORESTS
Planted Forests - A Solution for Green Development

Thank you for your kind attention !

TEAKNET Partner Event
4th ICPF 2018, Beijing, China
23 October 2018

