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**Editorial**

In this issue, we bring you a brief report of the ITTO Teak Mekong Regional Workshop held in Yangon, Myanmar during 24-27 September 2019. We also present the report of the partner event on teak organized by TEAKNET in collaboration with IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (Div.5.06.02) at XXV IUFRO World Congress, Curitiba, Brazil. The partner event was organized under the theme "Forests and Forest Products for a Greener Future." The updates of the forthcoming 4th World Teak Conference in Ghana during 24-27 August 2020 is included in this issue and we request your active participation in the event. The World Teak Conference with the theme ‘Global Teak Market: Challenges and Opportunities for Emerging Markets and Developing Economies’ will address the most crucial issues of the global teak sector. In addition, market price of plantation teak imported to India and our regular column on teak prices are included for the benefit of our readers.

We invite your continued support and feedback on issues related to teak and enrich us with articles/news items of interest/research papers etc. of non-technical nature for inclusion in the bulletin.

S. Sandeep
TEAKNET Coordinator

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**Regional Workshop on Sustaining Teak Forests in Mekong Basin**

**24-27 September 2019 | Yangon, Myanmar**

The Regional Workshop on “Sustaining Teak Forests in the Mekong Basin,” convened by ITTO, Japan in cooperation with the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) and the Forest Department of Myanmar made six key recommendations for the sustainable development of the teak forest sector. The Regional Workshop held during 24-27 September in Yangon, Myanmar concluded that sustainable management of teak (Tectona grandis) forests in the Mekong Basin will create jobs for young people, generate income for smallholders and help in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In the congratulatory address by Dr. Ye Myint Swe, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Myanmar told that sustaining teak forests is extremely important to Myanmar, and the government is committed to sustainable teak forest management and addressing climate change, deforestation and biodiversity loss.

ITTO Projects Manager Dr. Hwan-Ok Ma speaking on the occasion said that there is an increasing need to generate income for smallholders and create job opportunities for young people in the teak forest sector. “The establishment of innovative incentive mechanisms to promote legal and sustainable supply chains of teak timber and teak products is critical to the sustainability of the teak sector,” said Dr. Ma. He appreciated ITTO’s support for teak-related projects on genetic resource conservation and the sustainable management of natural and planted teak forests.

Dr. Ye Myint Swe, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources & Environmental Conservation, Myanmar

Dr. Hwan-Ok Ma, Project Manager, ITTO, Japan

Read more on page 2
AFoCO’s Mr. Sung Ho Choi said that community forestry and the maintenance of forest ecosystems are priorities in AFoCO’s member countries. Other speakers at the opening of the workshop were Dr. Nikhom Leamsak, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Thailand, and Dr. Chanhsamone Phongoudome, Deputy Director General of the Laotian Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute.

Workshop participants agreed that the sustainable development of the teak-based forest sector requires:

1. **Enhancing the in-situ and ex-situ conservation of teak genetic resources** through the establishment of seed production areas and seed orchards. There is also a need for long-term teak improvement research and development programmes to supply high-quality seed for teak plantations and joint research on the conservation of teak genetic resources linked with breeding and biotechnology. This includes the transfer of seeds for plantations and genetical materials subject to national regulations in the Mekong sub-region to improve the genetic base of populations and avoid genetic erosion.

2. **Improving silvicultural aspects of teak plantations**, from the selection of suitable sites to thinning and harvesting techniques. There is a strong need to share knowledge and experiences in the sustainable management of teak plantations.

3. **Promoting the engagement of smallholders and communities**, including young people and women, in natural teak forest management and the establishment of planted teak by supporting the supply of high-quality teak seedlings and extension services to smallholders and encouraging capacity building, networking and partnerships.

4. **Promoting value chains for teak timber and timber products** through value-added product development, appropriate incentive mechanisms for smallholder plantations, improved marketing and greater access to finance and long-term investment, and by conducting a global study on teak supply and demand and sustainable teak industry development to ensure effective policies and law enforcement and increase intraregional teak trade.

5. **Strengthening the sustainable supply and consumption of teak timber and timber products** through the establishment of incentive mechanisms to promote legal and sustainable teak supply chains and by increasing regional cooperation aimed at growing investment in downstream supply chains, improving marketing and increasing the teak trade.

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

For more details visit [ITTO website](#)
TEAKNET successfully conducted a Partner Event in the XXV IUFRO World Congress on 05 October 2019 from 08:30-10:30 hrs at Expo Unimed at Curtiba, Brazil. The event was organized by the IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (Div 5.06.02) in collaboration with International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET) and supported by the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO-RAP), Bangkok. The theme of the event was "Towards Sustainable Development of the Global Teak Sector in a Changing World". The session was chaired by Prof. Mario Tomazello Filho, Universidade de Sao Paulo, Brazil and Dr. Gilles Chaix, CIRAD -BIOS, France and co-chaired by Dr. P. K. Thulasidas, TEAKNET, India.

**The major objectives were:**

1. Strategies for the sustainable management and conservation of teak genetic resources of both natural and planted forests;
2. Production and distribution of genetically improved planting stock to smallholders for quality teak timber and livelihood enhancement;
3. Develop appropriate processing technologies for quality teak products;
4. Expansion of teak trade from legally harvested and sustainably managed sources.

Read more on page 4
## Programme

**05 October 2019, Saturday**  
**08.30-10.30 hrs**

**Session Chair:** Prof. Mário Tommasiello Filho, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil  
Dr. Gilles Chaix, CIRAD, France

**Co-chair:** Dr. P.K. Thulasidas, TEAKNET, India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</table>
| 08.30-08.40 | Opening Remarks:  
Michael Kleine, Dy. Executive Director, IUFRO HQ, Vienna, Austria  
Dr. Gerhard Dieterle, Executive Director, ITTO, Japan |
| 08.40-08.50 | Enhancing Conservation and Sustainable Management of Teak Forests and the Legality of Wood Supply in the Greater Mekong Sub-region  
*Tetra Yanuariadi, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Yokohama, Japan* |
| 08.50-09.00 | Improving structural diversity of teak monocultures and economic implications  
*Rasoul Yousefpour, Chair of Forestry Economics and Forest Planning, University of Freiburg, Germany* |
| 09.00-09.10 | Growth Performance and Physical Properties of 15-year old TEAK Clones from Kerala, India  
*Thulasidas P K, Kerala Forest Research Institute, India* |
| 09.10-09.20 | Growth performance of 18 years old Teak of different planting stocks  
*Zar Chi Hlaing, Forest Research Institute, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar* |
| 09.20-09.30 | Development of sustainable livelihoods for forest fringe communities from Teak plantations in Ghana  
*Valerie Fumey Nassah, Forestry Commission, Ghana* |
| 09.30-09.40 | Technological characterization of *Tectona grandis* sawing wood waste and considerations of its potential uses  
*Marina Coelho, Universidade de São Paulo, Piracicaba, Brazil* |
| 09.40-09.50 | Strategies and practices to manage teak plantations in south China  
*Zaizhi Zhou, Research Institute of Tropical Forestry, CAF, Guangzhou, China* |
| 09.50-10.10 | Discussion |
| 10.10-10.20 | TEAKNET towards the Development of Teak Sector  
*Sreelakshmy MP, TEAKNET, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, India* |
| 10.20-10.30 | Wrap up and Closing Remarks |

*Read more on page 5*
In the opening remarks, Dr. Michael Kleine, Dy. Executive Director, IUFRO HQ, Vienna touched upon the teak research support program IUFRO was coordinating with TEAKNET in the sustainable management of teak resources worldwide and the recent IUFRO publication on the global teak study. He stressed the need for extending the teak project now pursued by ITTO, Japan in the Mekong sub region to Africa and Latin American countries. Dr. Gerhard Dieterle, Executive Director of ITTO in his facilitation address shared his experiences while working in Togo on smallholder teak farming systems and the profitable teak marketing value chain. He outlined the recent launch of the teak project by ITTO in the Mekong sub region for a period of 3 years with the support of Govt. of Germany.

Eight presentations were deliberated upon in this session on different aspects of teak and following the presentations, the key messages were consolidated.

**Key Messages**

1. Scaling-up efforts to conserve teak genetic resource and enhance sustainable management of both natural and planted forests through strengthened international and regional cooperation, partnership and networking with priorities on joint research and development programs, improved capacities of governments, local communities and small holders in teak resource development, green and legal teak supply chains, and wider genetic exchange program.

2. Promoting productive legal teak timber production and processing to increase economic return and funding availability for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services and benefits for socio-economic development of the rural communities.

3. Emphasizing international teak research on cloning methods to promote breeding programs for producing outstanding genotypes with durable wood of enhanced yield and shorter rotation that benefits teak investment.

4. Improving silviculture practice of teak plantations from selection of suitable sites to thinning and harvesting techniques to ensure increasing productivity, stand quality and value chains for economic viability and its impacts on community income generation and job creation without reducing efforts to promote environmentally sound management.

5. Widening teak stakeholders’ participation and encouraging the formulation of sustainable global teak strategies and recommended actions at the 4th World Teak Conference (Accra, Ghana, August 2020) and further scaling up international collaboration, partnerships and networking to promote the contributions of sustaining teak forests and teak products.
Continued from page 5

**Photo Gallery**

![Tetra Yanuarladi, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Yokohama, Japan](image1)

![Rasoul Yousefpour, Chair of Forestry Economics and Forest Planning, University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany](image2)

![Thulasidas P K, Kerala Forest Research Institute, India](image3)

![Zar Chi Hlaing, Forest Research Institute, Myanmar](image4)

![Valerie Fumey Nassah, Forestry Commission, Ghana](image5)

![Marina Coelho, Universidade de São Paulo, Piracicaba, Brazil](image6)

*Read more on page 7*
Participants of the event

Zaizhi Zhou, Research Institute of Tropical Forestry, CAF, Guangzhou, China

Sreelakshmy MP, TEAKNET, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, India
Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation 2017-2018

ITTO released *Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation* which compiles the most up-to-date and reliable international statistics available on global production and trade of timber, with an emphasis on the tropics. It also provides information on trends in forest area, forest management and the economies of ITTO member countries. The document is based on information submitted by ITTO member countries through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire, supplemented by other sources as necessary.

The report is available on the TEAKNET Website and you can Download it here.

Abstract of IUFRO World Congress 2019

XXV IUFRO World Congress entitled "Forest Research and Cooperation for Sustainable Development" was held at Curitiba, Brazil during 29 September – 5 October 2019. The abstracts of the technical sessions are published as a Special Issue of the Journal *PFB Pesquisa Forestal Brasileira - Brazilian Journal of Forestry Research*, v. 39, e201902043, 2109, ISSN 1809.

The abstract of the IUFRO World Congress 2019 is also available on the TEAKNET Website and you can Download it here.
4th World Teak Conference Updates

The official conference website of WTC 2020 (www.worldteakconference2020.com) is now open and all the details are being updated in the website periodically. The official launch of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) constituted by the Forestry Commission of Ghana was inaugurated on 25 July 2019. The Second Announcement was released on 25 October 2019.

Keep watching the updates!!

Key Dates

- Registration opens: 01 Nov 2019
- Abstract submission: 01 Nov 2019
- Deadline for abstract submission: 15 Jan 2019
- Author registration deadline: 31 Mar 2020
- End of Early bird registration: 30 Apr 2020
- 3rd Announcement: 31 May 2020
- Registration deadline: 31 July 2020
- Final programme: 31 July 2020
- Conference starts: 24 Aug 2020
### Prices of Plantation Teak Imported to India

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
<th>Logs</th>
<th>US$ per cu.m C &amp; F</th>
<th>Sawn wood / Squares</th>
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<td>290-714</td>
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Variations are based on quality, lengths of logs and the average girth.

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**Teaknet Bulletin** is a quarterly electronic newsletter of TEAKNET brought out through its website. It is intended for circulation among the members of TEAKNET and other stakeholders of global teak sector. The views expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization. The readers are welcome to express their opinions or pass on information of value to teak growers, traders, researchers or others concerned with teak. However, TEAKNET reserves the right to choose the contributions for publishing and also to make necessary editorial modifications in the articles in consultation with the authors.

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