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The *ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletter* support and facilitates teak and other tropical species networking and information dissemination in the Asia Pacific and West Africa through ITTO member countries and partners, and support sharing lessons of the project through short news release, occasional papers, project related research and development information. The bi-monthly newsletter is released online through TEAKNET webpage www.teaknet.org and co-hosted by Kasetsart University, Thailand.

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Timber Legality and Supply Chain Participation of Smallholders and Local Communities: Lessons from Six Tropical Countries

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1. Why timber legality matters for smallholders and local communities

Timber legality has become an important global policy issue because illegal logging threatens forest resources, sustainable development, rural livelihoods, economies, and fair competition in timber markets. Timber legality broadly refers to compliance with applicable laws governing timber in the country of origin (Noguerón et al., 2018) and provides a foundation for sustainable forest management (Brown et al., 2004).

Smallholders are significant producers of plantation timber in many tropical countries, contributing to rural livelihoods as well as domestic and international wood supply (Midgley et al., 2017). For timber producers, compliance with legality requirements is also important for market access. Several importing countries have introduced or strengthened timber-legality requirements, under which suppliers may need to provide timber-origin and supply-chain information for risk-based due diligence by importers.

This raises a central question: what challenges need to be addressed to promote legal timber production by smallholders and

local communities and strengthen their participation in legal timber supply chains? To examine this, the study reviewed Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Togo and Viet Nam under the ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project (PP-A/54-331A), identifying cross-cutting challenges and recommendations. This article summarizes key findings and recommendations from the technical report prepared under the project.

2. The six-country review

Across the six countries, smallholders and local communities participate in forestry in different ways. Smallholders are more commonly involved in private plantations or farm forestry linked to commercial timber production. Local communities are often engaged through community forestry schemes linked to livelihoods, restoration and conservation, although commercial timber production is also permitted under specific arrangements.

Using a common framework, country experts reviewed relevant policies and legal and institutional arrangements, drawing on

interviews where appropriate. The review covered governance and monitoring, tree rights and harvesting procedures, institutional and financial support, market access, legality verification and traceability. The author then conducted a comparative analysis.

The review focused on policy and institutional design rather than on measuring effectiveness on the ground.



Wood harvesting in a smallholder eucalyptus plantation in Andhra Pradesh, India, 2022. (Photo: T.R. Manoharan)

3. Key challenges to promoting legal timber production and participation in legal timber supply chains

The comparative review identified four cross-cutting challenges spanning regulatory, institutional, market and information-related areas. They concern how legal timber production by smallholders and communities is governed and supported, including through incentives, how information on timber origin is maintained, and whether gaps exist between the information available from such legal production and overseas due-diligence requirements.

3.1 Coordination and monitoring

Smallholder and community forestry is linked not only to timber production and trade but also to rural development,

climate change and biodiversity conservation, involving institutions across different policy areas. The key issue is whether these institutions and policy objectives are adequately connected to improve coherence and address gaps in responsibilities and support.

Monitoring presents a related challenge. In several countries, it does not fully capture small and dispersed timber producers, informal or unreported transactions, or some small-scale downstream actors. Information on forest resources, plantation plots, land tenure, timber harvesting and transport, processing and trade may also be held in separate systems with limited links between them. As a result, monitoring may not provide a clear overall picture of smallholder and community timber production and flows, reflecting two related issues: coverage - whether relevant producers and production are captured - and connectivity - whether information across systems can be linked.

3.2 Support, incentives and market access

The six-country review identified various forms of support for timber production, including technical assistance, finance and producer organization. However, support is generally differentiated more by land or registration status, organizational status and forest-management arrangement than by producer scale. Smallholders differ considerably in production scale, but existing support is not necessarily targeted to the specific constraints faced by smaller producers. Furthermore, financial arrangements may not always match the longer investment periods associated with timber production. For community-managed forests, even where commercial timber use is permitted, capacity and support may be needed for management planning, harvesting authorization, and market entry.

Support beyond timber production also varies across the countries, with dedicated support for small-scale processing more limited in some cases. Participation in formal markets depends on downstream conditions, including aggregation, processing, sourcing arrangements and access to buyers. Procurement policies and buyer sourcing requirements can influence demand for legally produced timber.

3.3 Maintaining information on timber origin

Several reviewed countries simplify harvesting and transport requirements for privately grown timber through self-declarations or other producer-prepared documents to reduce administrative burdens and facilitate legal timber production by smallholders. Plantation registration and digital tools can provide additional source information on land status, plantation location or harvesting, complementing simplified procedures. However, their contribution depends on the information they record or verify, their coverage and the consistency of implementation. Some systems are voluntary or still at the pilot stage, with limited or uneven coverage in some countries.

Timber from many smallholders is often aggregated before or during processing, and plot-specific source information may no longer be retained, while downstream controls generally rely more on transaction and material-flow records. Where all inputs can be shown to come from plantation sources under the same legal requirements, identifying each plot is less important for legality verification. Where sources are mixed and may involve different regulatory requirements or sourcing risks, identifying their origin becomes more important, especially for overseas due diligence.

The key issue is whether sufficient information is retained to demonstrate plantation origin and legal compliance and, when necessary, distinguish relevant source categories.

3.4 Potential gaps between producer-country legality systems and overseas timber due-diligence requirements

Producer-country legality systems are designed to establish legal compliance in timber production and trade, but do not always require continuous plot-to-product traceability.

When conducting due diligence, overseas companies assess risks related to timber legality and origin according to importing-country regulations and may map the supply chain and identify timber sources. Accordingly, information sufficient to demonstrate legality under producer-country law does not necessarily provide all the information needed for an overseas risk assessment. In addition, under the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), operators assess deforestation risks, which can require location information together with historical forest-cover and land-use information. Such information may already exist in forest-monitoring, land-administration or plantation-registration systems, but their coverage and links vary across the reviewed countries.



Timber collection site in Kanchanaburi Province, Thailand, 2025. (Photo: Nopparat Kaakkurivaara)

Additional information or verification can increase transaction and compliance burdens when sourcing from many small and dispersed producers. The question is not simply whether more information is needed, but how existing producer-country information can be connected and effectively used in overseas risk assessments.

4. Moving forward

The review points to four priority areas for strengthening smallholder and community participation in legal timber supply chains.

- ⇒ First, cross-sectoral coordination, monitoring coverage and information connectivity should be strengthened. Monitoring should better capture smallholders, communities and relevant downstream actors, while existing information sources should be linked or used together where needed.
- ⇒ Second, institutional support and market incentives should be considered across the timber value chain. Greater attention is needed to differences in production scale and resource constraints among private smallholders, while support should extend beyond production to aggregation, processing, sourcing and market access. Producer-buyer arrangements, collective marketing and financial arrangements suited to timber-production cycles are possible approaches.
- ⇒ Third, registration and digital tools should be assessed as they develop, considering their contribution to traceability, the information they generate or verify, their coverage, links with downstream records, costs and accessibility. The scope of traceability should reflect the purpose of verification, the timber source categories involved and the risks being assessed, and need not always extend to the original plot.

- ⇒ Fourth, producer-consumer cooperation can help address potential due-diligence information mismatches. Dialogue and targeted analysis can clarify how existing producer-country information is used and whether additional information or verification is needed. ITTO could provide a forum for this cooperation.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank the experts who prepared the country reviews, which provided the primary basis for this study: Mr. Say Sinly (Cambodia), Dr. T.R. Manoharan (India), Mr. Muchamad Muchtar (Indonesia), Dr. Nopparat Kaakkurivaara (Thailand), Dr. SEGLA Kossi Novinyo (Togo), and Ms. Kim Anh Luong (Viet Nam).

References

- Brown, D., Luttrell, C., Casson, A., Cruz, R., & Fometé, T. (2004). Forest law enforcement & governance: The role of independent monitors in the control of forest crime. *Forestry Briefing No. 5. Overseas Development Institute (ODI)*.
- Midgley, S. J., Stevens, P. R., & Arnold, R. J. (2017). Hidden assets: Asia's smallholder wood resources and their contribution to supply chains of commercial wood. *Australian Forestry 80 (1): 10–25*.
- Noguerón, R., Cheung, L., Mason, J., & Li, B. (2018). Sourcing legally produced wood: A guide for businesses - 2018 edition. World Resources Institute (WRI).

Report of

10th Webinar on Teak DNA Barcoding and Forensic Investigation for Legal Supply Chains

At the 10th Webinar series conducted on 20th August, 2026 on the “**Teak DNA Barcoding and Forensic Investigation for Legal Supply Chains**” attended over by more than 45 participants, the speakers explained that DNA barcoding and other forensic tools can help to improve the tracking and traceability of teak and other timber species thereby illegal logging can be effectively controlled. Teak is grown in around 80 countries across the tropics. Its widespread cultivation and trade make the species particularly vulnerable to illegal logging and timber laundering. In her opening remarks, ITTO Director of Forest Management Dr. Jennifer Conje hoped that using scientific evidence-based tools like DNA barcoding and forensics, illegal logging and timber laundering combated, supply chain claims verified, international trade requirements met and the certification schemes upheld.



ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations Project

Invitation to 10th Webinar: Teak DNA Barcoding and Forensic Investigation

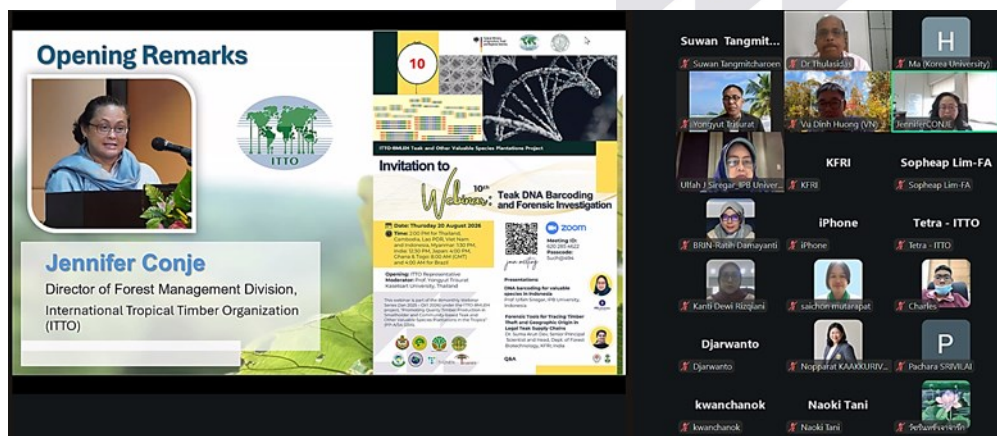
Date: Thursday 20 August 2026
Time: 2:00 PM for Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Indonesia; Myanmar: 1:30 PM; India: 12:30 PM; Japan: 4:00 PM; Ghana & Togo: 8:00 AM (GMT) and 4:00 AM for Brazil

Opening: ITTO Representative
Moderator: Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Kasetsart University, Thailand

Presentations:
DNA barcoding for valuable species in Indonesia
 Prof. Ulfah Siregar, IPB University, Indonesia
Forensic Tools for Tracing Timber Theft and Geographic Origin in Legal Teak Supply Chains
 Dr. Suma Arun Dev, Senior Principal Scientist and Head, Dept. of Forest Biotechnology, KFRI, India

Q&A

Zoom Meeting ID: 620 285 4622
Passcode: Such@494



Opening Remarks

Jennifer Conje
 Director of Forest Management Division,
 International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Participants:

- Suwan Tangmit...
- Suwan Tangmitcharoen
- Dr. Thaisak...
- Ma Korea University
- Ulfah Siregar
- Vu Dinh Huong (VH)
- Jennifer Conje
- KFRI
- Sopheap Lim-FA
- Sopheap Lim-FA
- iPhone
- Tetra - ITTO
- Tetra - ITTO
- Karti Dewi Riqqah
- Sakthi Muthalingam
- Charles
- Djarwanto
- Nopparat KAMKUIV...
- Pachara SRIWALAI
- kwanchanok
- Naoki Tani
- Naoki Tani
- Perfume...

This webinar was held as part of the second phase of the ITTO-BMLEH teak project enhancing the production of high quality timber from teak and other valuable species plantations managed by smallholders. The webinar was moderated by Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok. There were two presentations from India and Indonesia. Both the experts outlined illegal status of timber trade happening in their respective countries and how the molecular tools like DNA barcoding and high-throughput technologies of fingerprinting and profiling help to differentiate timber species and enforcement of timber legality.

DNA Barcoding work in Indonesia

Professor Ulfah J. Siregar from Indonesia's IPB University informed that Indonesia also faces problems linked to illegality in its timber sector. In 2013, the country was estimated to be among the world's three largest producers of illegal timber, about 50% of timber production originates from illegal sources.




DNA Barcoding for Valuable Tree Species in Indonesia



Ulfah Juniarti Siregar

Professor in Forest Biotechnology

Mandatory certification of domestically harvested timber through its Timber Legality and Sustainability Assurance System (SVLK) was a key response to this challenge and the country implemented it. SVLK compliance has been strengthened across the Indonesian timber sector through traceability and audits designed to ensure legality and sustainability. Timber forensics combine several scientific techniques to identify wood and its origin.

Professor Siregar and her team have put these methods into action, showcasing practical applications across the country. She presented several case studies demonstrating how DNA analysis can be used to compare timber samples with reference material. By examining genetic similarities between samples of known and uncertain origin, researchers can assess whether timber is consistent with a claimed source of chain of custody and provide scientific evidence to support investigations into its geographic provenance (see below slide).

The State of Illegal Logging Enforcement in Indonesia



In 2013, Indonesia was among the world's three largest producers of illegal timber, with approximately 50% of its timber production estimated to originate from illegal sources

Most illegal timber trade cases are prosecuted under the Forestry Law (Law No. 41/1999) and the Law on the Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction (Law No. 18/2013)

Indonesia is the only country authorized to issue FLEGT licenses and has implemented the Timber Legality Assurance System (SVLK) through mandatory certification

WRI (2026)

Violations in the Timber Trade

MONGABAY

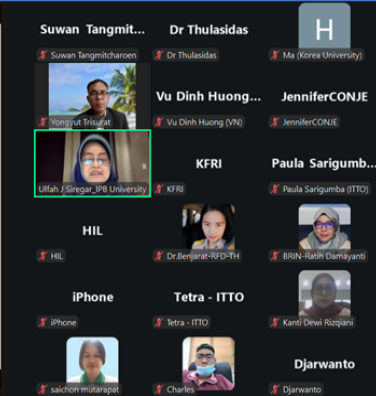
Monitoring reveals Indonesia's 'legal timber' scheme riddled with violations



A screenshot Description

Fingerprinting and Profiling: Most advance techniques

- Rely on high-throughput technology powered by next-generation sequencing platforms
- Bypass traditional gel-based limitations to provide dense, genome-wide single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) profiles
- There are several types:
 - High-Throughput Sequencing & Reduced Representation:
 1. Genotyping-by-Sequencing (GBS)
 2. Restriction site-Associated DNA sequencing (RAD-seq)
 - High-Precision SNP Genotyping:
 1. KASP (Kompetitive Allele Specific PCR)
 2. DNA microarrays (SNP Chips)
 - Functional and Targeted Fingerprinting:
 1. Start Codon Targeted (SCoT) Polymorphism
 2. Targeted Region Amplified Polymorphism (TRAP)



Lessons Learned:

- Molecular genetic markers showed consistency in timber forest products throughout timber chain of custody
- Success of DNA isolation from wood is a precondition for feasible application of technologies
- Requirements for full application of molecular markers and fingerprinting in forensic genetics in forestry depend on:
 - establishment of complete data base on genetic variations of important timber species
 - cheap and easy methods for DNA analysis

Forensic tools for tracing timber legality: insights from India

The next speaker Dr. Suma Arun Dev from the Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) noted that domestic illegal felling of highly priced timbers including teak is rampant across 17 Indian states and cross-border trafficking of illegally logged timbers, especially from Myanmar and Bangladesh through eastern bordering states is a great concern for law enforcing authorities and policy makers in the country. India banned logging in the natural forests and witness unrestricted

import of different kinds of timbers including teak as the demand of wood in the construction and housing sector exceeds the domestic production and the Govt of India's Ministry of Forestry do not have stringent laws in force to combat illegally felled logs entering to the country. The mandatory forest certification is at its infancy and may take years to get it implemented in the country. As such the drivers of the illegal timber trade in India are complex. As timber supply chains become increasingly complex, scientific evidence can complement certification and conventional traceability systems.

Forensic Tools for Tracing Timber Theft and Geographic Origin in Legal Teak Supply Chains

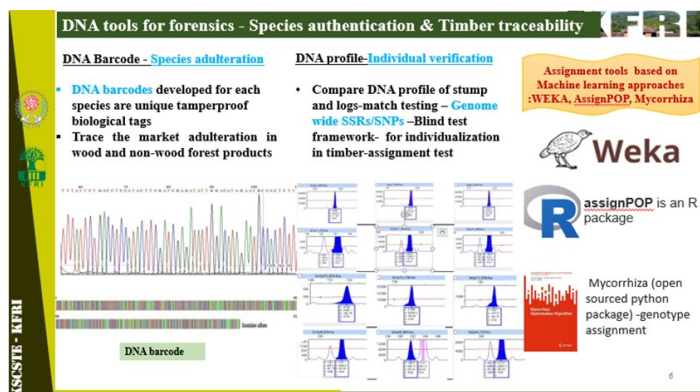
Dr. Suma Arun Dev
Senior Principal Scientist & Head
Forest Genetics and Biotechnology Division, KFRI

10th ITTO-BMLEH WEBINAR - 20TH AUGUST 2026

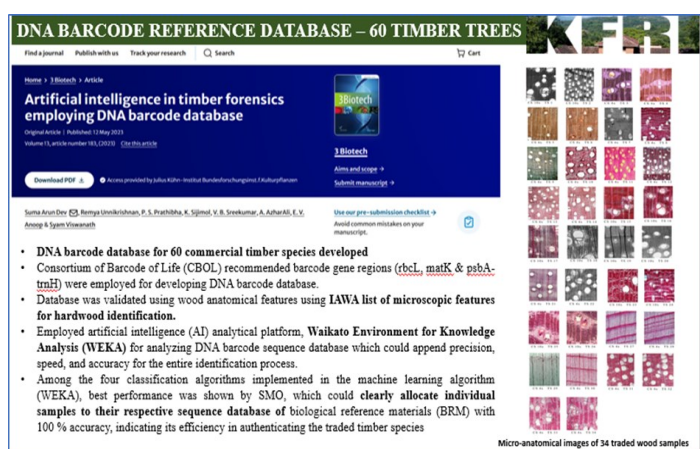
KSCSTE-KERALA FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The poster features a background image of a lush green forest with mountains in the distance. In the center, there is a small inset photo of Dr. Suma Arun Dev, a woman with glasses wearing a red sweater, sitting at a desk. The KFRI logo is visible in the bottom right corner, and a circular emblem is in the bottom left corner.

Eventhough wood anatomical tools are commonly used by experts to identify/discriminate different timbers, there exists difficulties to identify the seized logs that belongs to the exact original stump, especially when the illegally felled logs are smuggled out of forests. KFRI has responded by developing and applying a suitable DNA-based forensic tools for species and origin identification.



DNA barcoding can be used to identify timber species and, when combined with population-level genetic markers and reference databases, provide evidence about the geographic origin of individual samples. KFRI's database brings together reference data for key species, providing a centralized resource for researchers, policymakers and law enforcement agencies. Using machine learning algorithms, Dr Arun Dev and her team have made the database more efficient and practical to use by enhancing its searchability and analytical capabilities.



Dr. Suma concluded her talk by suggesting that establishing a global timber forensic database, building on the national reference systems developed by KFRI could allow authorities in different countries to compare timber samples against shared reference data, strengthening cross-border verification of species and geographic origin. However, it may take years to gather such information generated on global timber forensic database available to the end-users.

The experiences presented by experts during the webinar demonstrate how DNA-based tools and other forensic approaches can strengthen the ability to verify the legality of timber species. Forensic technologies can complement these legal and institutional measures by strengthening timber identification, traceability and verification.



To standardize and broaden the adoption of forensic technologies, international cooperation and knowledge sharing are necessary, commented Dr. Naoki Tani, JIRCAS, Japan in the Q & A session.

Watch the full webinar video in the [project website](#) and download the presentations

Report by

PK Thulasidas, Yongyut Trisurat and Tetra Yanuariadi
ITTO Teak project team

Upcoming 11th Webinar

Join our next webinar **“Teakwood Characteristics and engineered Wood”** for a deep dive into wood properties that contribute to high-quality teak from natural forests and plantations. Researchers from Indonesia and Thailand will share their findings and highlight key factors influencing teak wood quality and production.



ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations Project

Invitation to Webinar: 11th Teak Wood Characteristics and Engineered Wood

Date: Wednesday 7 October 2026

Time: 2:00 PM for Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Indonesia, Myanmar: 1:30 PM, India: 12:30 PM, Japan: 4:00 PM, Ghana & Togo: 8:00 AM (GMT) and 4:00 AM for Brazil



join meeting



Meeting ID:
620 285 4622
Passcode:
5uch@494

Opening: ITTO Representative
Moderator: Prof. Yongyut Trisurat
Kasetsart University, Thailand

This webinar is part of the Bimonthly Webinar Series (Jan 2025 – Oct 2026) under 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).



Presentations:

Wood properties and quality of super teak

Dr. Ratih Damayanti, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia

A Comparison of Teak Wood Properties from Natural Forests and Plantations

Dr. Trairat Neimsuwan, Faculty of Forestry Kasetsart University, Thailand

Q&A



Date

Friday, 20 February 2026



Time:

2:00 PM for Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Indonesia, Myanmar: 1:30 PM, India: 12:30 AM, Japan: 4:00 PM and Ghana & Togo: 8:00 AM (GMT)



Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 620 285 4622
Passcode: 5uch@494





Federal Ministry
of Agriculture, Food
and Regional Identity



2nd Regional Workshop on

**Microfinancing support for smallholders and
community-based teak farming systems in the
tropics towards high-quality timber production**

14 – 16 October 2026

Hotel Grand Zuri, Yogyakarta, Indonesia



The second Regional Workshop on **Microfinancing support for smallholders and community-based teak farming systems in the tropics towards high quality timber production** is being jointly organized by the Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia, ITTO, Japan and Kasetsart University, Thailand in collaboration with the six participating countries in Asia-Pacific and Togo in West Africa during 14-16 October 2026 at Hotel Grand Zuri, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Background

The ITTO-BMLEH project entitled “**Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics**” (PP-A/54-331A) aims to support the six participating country's policies and strategic goals in promoting the sustainable management of teak resources and plantation efforts on public and private land.

Additionally, the project focuses on the certification and legality of sustainably produced timber, including that from small- and medium-sized enterprises, along with enhanced value chain processes in the wood industry and promoting carbon-supported plantation development. Building upon ITTO's comparative advantage, the project leverages the organization's expertise in addressing forestry issues that require strong public, private, and community collaboration. ITTO's proven track record in policy development and capacity-building initiatives in its producer member countries further strengthens the project's foundation.

The development of management models for smallholder value chains in teak and other valuable species plantations and the introduction of supportive finance systems will encourage smallholders and forest communities to plan the sustainable management of plantation resources and quality timber production in longer rotations and efficient timber and timber products processing. Cooperation with smallholder farmers and entrepreneurs will increase livelihood opportunities for local residents and reduce pressure on the exploitation of forests for unsustainable use. The Project also will assist in the practical application of the certification of sustainability of forest management, and the verification of timber legality. The capacity-building program of the project will be based on a rapid, participatory training needs assessment that will be implemented in close cooperation with forestry authorities, academic and research institutions, NGOs, and interested development partners.

The project leverages existing experiences and knowledge from relevant ITTO projects on teak and other valuable species through South-South cooperation in the two tropical regions. Field activities in selected countries in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa will focus on smallholder farming systems, integrating valuable native multifunctional species to provide alternate income sources alongside teak planting for long rotations. Key collaborating agencies include the Cambodia Forestry Administration, Thailand's Royal Forestry Department and Kasetsart University, Vietnamese Administration of Forestry/Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Dehra Dun, and the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry. In Togo (West Africa), the University of Lomé will play a pivotal role.

The project also aims at harnessing synergies with other organizations working in the same field such as IUFRO and TEAKNET. The specific collaboration and engagement with the Thünen Institute of Forestry was envisaged to carry out feasibility studies for financing schemes for smallholders' teak and other valuable species plantations. The project will explore recent incentive programs and improve smallholders' access to finance and long-term investments to meet market specifications.

Knowledge sharing and outreach efforts for the two tropical regions have been disseminated through a series of webinars and workshops, and participation in important events such as IUFRO World Congress 2024, the first regional workshop on Enhancing Smallholder Plantations Towards Quality Timber Production of Teak and Other Economic Species and Carbon Neutrality in the Tropics in 2024, and the fifth World Teak Conference in 2025.

Objectives:

The overall goal of this workshop focuses on the planning and implementation of research and development activities of good quality timber production along with enhanced value chain processes in the wood industry and promoting carbon-supported plantation development, while the specific objectives are to:

- i. Review status of smallholder and community-based teak and other valuable species plantations and management in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa regions
- ii. Review policy and institutional arrangements for legal and sustainable supply chains and financial mechanisms for longer rotation towards good-quality timber production, and nature positives.
- iii. Review and share experiences on project implementations, case studies, good practices and policy options in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa regions to promote local communities and smallholders in planted teak and other valuable species, and agroforestry systems to support sustainable livelihoods

A one- day Post-Workshop field excursion to community-based teak wood industries and teak plantations and agroforestry in Yogyakarta, Indonesia will also be organized. The detailed Provisional Agenda may be downloaded from the [link here](#)

The outputs of the second Regional Workshop will be shared among the six participating countries in the Asia-Pacific and West Africa, interested individuals and organizations. In addition, workshop outputs will be disseminated at the ITTO and TEKNET websites, ITTO Tropical Forest Update Bulletin, and ITTO-BMLEH Teak Newsletter.

Language of the Meeting: English

Sponsorship:

The ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project will support invited participants from the participating countries and selected resource experts.

Meeting venue:

Grand Zuri Malioboro hotel
Jl. Mangkubumi No.18, [Yogyakarta](#), 55122, [Indonesia](#)

For more details visit: <https://www.guestreservations.com/grand-zuri-malioboro-hotel/>

Contact Details

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Kasetsart University:

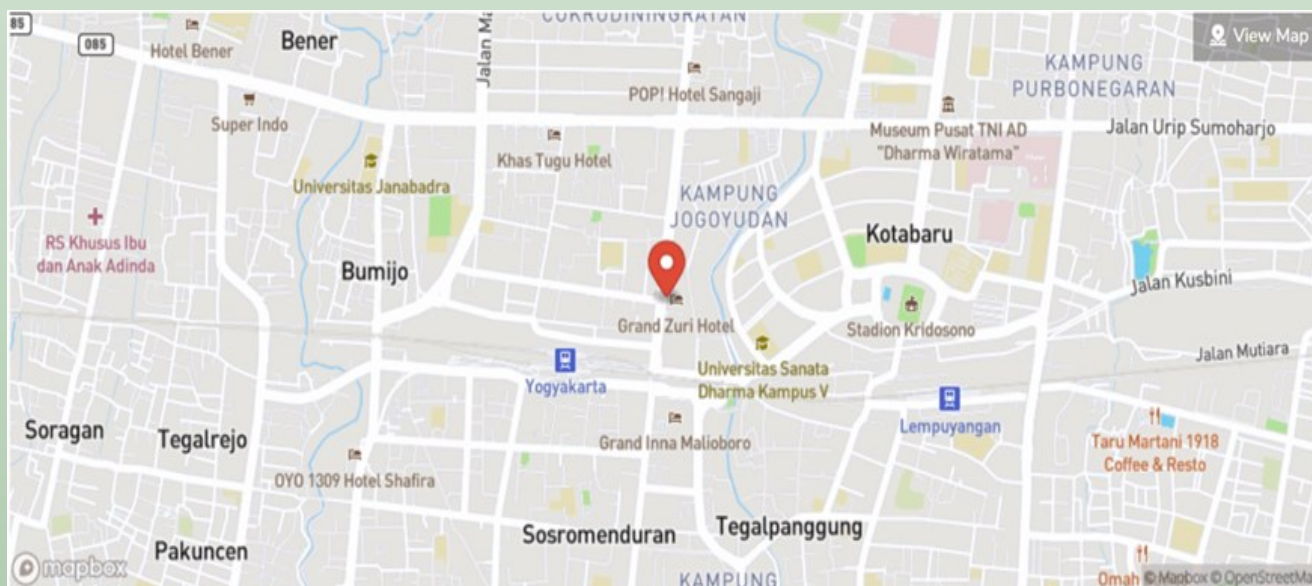
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Tel. 81-45-223-1110
Email: tetra@itto.int



Draft Provisional Agenda

As of 10 July 2026

Date and Time	Topic
<u>Day 1: Wednesday, 14 October 2026</u>	
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-09.45	Opening Session (MC: Dr. Rina Kristanti) Welcome Remarks by Head of Environment and Forestry Agency, Special Region of Yogyakarta Welcome Remarks by Project Host Country of ITTO PP-A/54-331A (Thailand) Welcome Remarks by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH), Germany (Mr. Stephan Wagner, BMLEH) Welcome Remarks by Executive Director of ITTO Opening Remarks by Vice Minister of Forestry, Indonesia Group photo
09.45-10.30	Keynote Presentation (45 minutes) (MC Dr. Rina Kristanti) Director General of Social Forestry, Ministry of Forestry, Republic of Indonesia Update on 1 billion trees planting initiative by ASEAN Secretariat
10.30-10.45	Coffee Break and Poster Presentation
10.45-11.00	Introduction of ITTO-BMLEH Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantation Project (Prof. Dr. Yongyut Trisurat, Regional Project Manager)
11.00-12.00	Technical Session 1: High Quality Germplasm Materials Towards Quality Timber Production (Co-chairs: Dr. Suwan Tangmitcharoen and Dr. Sandeep)
	Guest speaker: Production of high-quality teak clones through micropropagation (Dr. Doreen Goh, YSG Bioscape Sdn Bhd, Sabah, Malaysia) Teak genetic improvement towards higher yield and quality teakwood (Dr. R. Yashoda, ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, India) Growth Assessment of Teak Clones Across Diverse Environmental Conditions (Sompon Khumchompoo, RFD-Thailand) Cons # 1 Quality Planting Material (Vietnam) Silviculture Department, Faculty of Forestry, Gadjah Mada University Q&A
12:00-13:00	Lunch Break
13:30-16:00	Technical session 2: Session 2: SMART Silvicultural practices and agroforestry, and mitigation of pests and diseases (Co-Chairs: Dr. Tran Lam Dong and Dr.Yongyut Trisurat)
13:30-14:00	Keynote Presentation: Teak molecular genetics and planting strategies - an Indonesian experience (Dr. Naoki Tani, JIRCAS, Japan)
14:00-15:30	Pests and Diseases in the Teak Plantations of Bago Yoma (West), Myanmar (Dr. Zar Chi Hlaing, FRI, Yezin, Myanmar) Productivity of teak provenances and other associated tree plantations in Togo (University of Lome, Togo) Innovative teak plantation towards good quality timber (FIO, Thailand) Teak update from Laos (Dr. Simone Vongkhamho, NAFRI-Laos) Efficient teak wood transportation and processing (Dr. Nopparat Kaakkurivaara, KU-Thailand) Q&A
15.00 – 16.00	Break and preparation for cultural show
16.00 – 21.00	Cultural show and welcome dinner hosted by Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia

Date and Time	Topic
Day 2: Thursday, 15 October 2026	
09.30-12.00	Technical Session 3: Promoting Micro-financing and Sustainable Value-Chains for Smallholder Teak and other valuable spp. plantations (Co-Chairs: Dr. Tony Rianto and Dr. Sapol)
09:30-10:00	Guest speaker by ICRAF-World Agroforestry Centre on ‘Significance of planted teak for smallholder farmers’ or a similar topic (TBC)
10:00-12:00	Financial mechanisms to promote high-quality timber (Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany) Teak value chains (Dr. Nalin Kumar, Cons # 4, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, India) Long-term teak strategy development (Prof. Anto Rimbawanto, BRIN) KEMITRAAN, Indonesia Teak management in Indonesia from young generation’s perspective (Sylva Indonesia) Global teak trade and trends in major teak producing countries (Dr. PK Thulasidas, TEAKNET, India) Q&A
12.00-13:00	Lunch Break
13.00-15.30	Technical Session 4: Enabling governance and empowering smallholders’ livelihood (Co-Chairs: Dr. Nopparat and Prof. Anto Rimbawanto)
13.00-13.30	Guest speaker: Teak Value Chain Analysis: Enhancing Smallholder Access to Finance, Markets, and Value Addition Opportunities (Taiji FUJISAKI, IGES-Japan)
13.30-15.00	Traceability system in Indonesia (EA Indonesia) Traceability system in Vietnam (Dr. Tran Lam Dong, DDG-VAFS) Role of TEAKNET in strengthening knowledge and networking (Dr. Sandeep, TEAKNET Coordinator, India) Empowering smallholders’ livelihood in teak management (Faculty of Forestry, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia) Perum Perhutani: Challenge and the Future of Teak Management by Private Sector Q&A
15.00-15.15	Conclusion and Key Message from the Regional Workshop (Prof. Yongyut Trisurat, Dr. Rina Kristanti and Dr. Thulasidas)
15.15-15.30	Closing remarks ITTO
Day 3: Friday, 16 October Field Excursion	
08:30-13:00	Field visit on teak plantation & agroforestry
13:00-14:00	Lunch break in wooden mask home industry
14:00-17:00	Small wood industry
18.30-20.00	Dinner
Day 4 : Saturday, 17 October 2026	
Morning	Departure of delegates and participants



MINISTRY OF
FORESTRY
REPUBLIC INDONESIA



ITTO
INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER ORGANIZATION



Federal Ministry
of Agriculture, Food
and Regional Identity



Yogyakarta, Indonesia

A Brief Background for Meeting Participants

Major Attractions and Surrounding Heritage Sites

The Kraton – Yogyakarta Royal Palace: The historical and cultural centre of the city, providing an introduction to Javanese royal traditions, architecture, ceremonies and performing arts.

Malioboro Street: One of Yogyakarta's most recognisable landmarks, known for shopping, street food, traditional crafts and the everyday atmosphere of the city.



Taman Sari: A historic royal garden and water complex dating from the period of the Yogyakarta Sultanate, notable for its pools, underground passages and distinctive architecture.

Prambanan Temple: One of the most important Hindu temple complexes in Southeast Asia. It was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1991.





Glimpses of Indonesia

IUFRO All Division 5 Conference 2027, Estonia

Abstract Submission Deadline ! 26 October 2026



Estonian University
of Life Sciences



SWST – International
Society of Wood
Science and Technology

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the joint conference of IUFRO Division 5 and the SWST in Tartu, Estonia, from May 30 to June 3, 2027.

For the Side Event, **(Processing and Efficient Utilisation of Plantation Timbers for Legal Supply Chains and Sustainable Wood Use)** is being organized by IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (Div5.06.02) and Research Group on Plantation Woods (Div5.06.00). Submit your Abstract online before the deadline of October 26, 2026. Kindly look for the above session title in the website <https://www.iufro-div5-2027.ee/abstracts/> to submit your abstract.

Contact:

Prof. Mario Tomazello Filho (mtomazel@usp.br)

Dr. PK Thulasidas (thulasidas.teak@gmail.com)

Conference Website <https://www.iufro-div5-2027.ee/>

Registration Open

**Early Bird Registration deadline
January 25, 2027**

Call for Abstract

**Submission deadline:
October 26, 2026**

Organized by



IUFRO RG 5.06.00 (Plantation woods) & IUFRO WP 5.06.02 (Planted Teak)

Co-sponsored by



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ITTO –BMLEH Teak Newsletter is a bi-monthly electronic newsletter of the Project Team which is intended for circulation among the 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 concerned with teak. However, we reserves the information on the project and publishing through this newsletter for our esteemed readers.

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