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DECISION 3(LIX)

ITTO BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2024-2025

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Appreciating the work of the Secretariat in liaising with Members, the Trade Advisory Group (TAG) and the Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG) in preparing its proposal to Council on the Biennial Work Programme for the years 2024-2025;

Noting that activities listed in the Annex to this Decision are derived from the following: (a) ITTA, 2006; (b) the ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2022-2026; (c) the four ITTO Committee Reports to the Fifty-ninth Session of Council; and (d) previous Council Decisions;

Decides to:

1. Adopt the Biennial Work Programme (BWP) for the years 2024-2025 as contained in the Annex to this Decision;
2. Authorize the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions from Member Countries and other funding sources to finance implementation of the activities listed in the Annex;
3. Request the Executive Director to implement and/or facilitate the implementation of activities in the approved BWP for the years 2024-2025, as contained in the Annex;
4. Request the Executive Director, as of the date of this Decision, to ensure that future activities to be funded outside the core budget are formulated as Concept Notes and included in the database, or as Council Decisions, in order to assess Member priorities and donor interest and financing, prior to being incorporated into the BWP;
5. Request the Secretariat to continue to indicate in the BWP how each activity aligns with the Programmatic Line(s); and
6. Request the Executive Director to continue close collaboration with members of the CPF and other international partners in implementing the BWP for the years 2024-2025;
7. Request the Executive Director to report to Council on the progress in implementing the BWP for the years 2024-2025 during the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council.

ANNEX

SUMMARY OF THE BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2024-2025

Part 1 – TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES REQUIRING FINANCING

GROUP 1 –FIELD ORIENTED ACTIVITIES WITH ENGAGEMENT OF/WORK IN MEMBER COUNTRIES

No.	Activity	Status
1	Building legal and sustainable forest product supply chains	ongoing
2	Strengthening Participation of the Private Sector in the Work of ITTO	ongoing
3	Promoting quality timber production from smallholder and community-established plantations	ongoing
4	Enhance cooperation between ITTO and CITES	ongoing
5	Criteria and indicators workshops	ongoing
6	Statistical capacity building workshops	ongoing
7	Prevention and management of fire in tropical timber-producing forests	ongoing

GROUP 2 – NORMATIVE WORK ON POLICY GUIDELINES OR OTHER STRATEGIC WORK

No.	Activity	Status
8	a) Operationalizing ITTO Policy guidelines on gender equality and empowering women	ongoing
	b) Disseminating the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics	ongoing
	c) Support for women's groups with gender empowerment and forest landscape restoration in Togo	ongoing

GROUP 3 – COLLABORATIVE WORK/MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS/INITIATIVES

No.	Activity	Status
9	Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests	ongoing
10	Cooperation and consultation with the CPF, UNFF and others	ongoing
11	Collaboration on criteria and indicators for SFM	ongoing

GROUP 4 – COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH RELATED WORK

No.	Activity	Status
12	ITTO communication strategy	ongoing
13	ITTO Tropical Forest Update (TFU)	ongoing
14	a) Communications activities (website, reports, PR, etc.)	ongoing
	b) Outreach activities (booths and/or side events at relevant international fora)	ongoing
	c) Translation of the ITTO website and relevant PR materials into Japanese	ongoing

GROUP 5 – ANALYTICAL, STATISTICAL, AND OTHER RECURRING WORK

No.	Activity	Status
15	Trade (TAG) and Civil Society (CSAG) Advisory Group involvement	ongoing
16	ITTO Annual Market Discussion	ongoing
17	Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals	ongoing
18	ITTO Fellowship Programme	ongoing
19	ITTO Market Information Service (MIS)	ongoing
20	Enhancement of statistical work and databases on statistics	ongoing
21	Biennial review and assessment of the world timber situation	ongoing

Part 2 - ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (NO FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS)

Reference Tables**ITTO SAP Strategic Priorities (SP)**

SP 1	Governance and investment
SP 2	Economies and tropical timber trade
SP 3	Resilience, restoration and conservation
SP 4	Statistics and information
Crosscutting Strategy	
1	Help build capacity in member countries to advance the SAP 2022-2026
2	Enhance ITTO's operational effectiveness
3	Promote integration of the tropical forest sector in COVID-19 recovery plans, measures and investments
4	Promote gender equality and the empowerment of women

UNSPF Global Forest Goals (GFG)

GFG 1	Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and enhance the contribution of forests to climate change
GFG 2	Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people
GFG 3	Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests
GFG 4	Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific, technical and technological cooperation and partnerships
GFG 5	Promote sustainable governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
GFG 6	Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across CPF member organizations, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders

ITTO Programme Lines (PL)

PL 1	Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains (LSSC)
PL 2	Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
PL 3	Forest Landscape Restoration and Resilient Livelihoods
PL 4	Emerging Issues and Innovation

Part 1 – TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES REQUIRING FINANCING

GROUP 1 – FIELD ORIENTED ACTIVITIES WITH ENGAGEMENT OF/WORK IN MEMBER COUNTRIES

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
<p>1. Building legal and sustainable forest product supply chains</p>	<p>Support development of innovative solutions to providing assurances of legality and sustainability, including developing/implementing sustainable forest management plans and developing/implementing sustainable supply chains including timber tracking systems and other tools. Under the 2018-20 BWP, ITTO developed a programme on legal and sustainable supply chains (LSSC) for tropical wood and forest products and worked with relevant partners to increase assurance of legality and sustainability through the establishment of a supply chain platform that links legal and sustainable forest products to markets. Under the BWP for 2021-2022 extended into 2023, two sub-activities under this Activity were approved and fully funded by the Trade and Investment Promotion Institute(IPIM) of Macao SAR, China, namely “Supporting the Establishment and Operation of the Global Timber Index Platform for Building Legal and Sustainable Forest Products Supply Chains” and “Supporting Pilot Collaborative Operation of the Blockchain-based Timber Traceability System (BTTS) for Building Legal and Sustainable Forest Products Supply Chains”. Using remaining funds under the 2021-2023 BWP, the work of building the LSSC-GGSC platform and further developing the Timber Trade Portal (TTP) website as well as other events and activities will continue into 2024-2025. The improvement of the Global Timber Index (GTI) Platform to provide multi-dimensional service(Phase II&III) and establishing and testing a simulation platform for cross-border timber traceability based on the blockchain technology(Phase II&III) will be funded by voluntary contributions from IPIM, Macao.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$3,134,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024-US\$100,000 (LSSC-GGSC platform & TTP) Year 2025-US\$100,000 (LSSC-GGSC platform & TTP)</p> <p>Voluntary Contributions from IPIM, Macao Year 2024–US\$1,467,000 (for GTI & Blockchain) Year 2025–US\$1,467,000 (for GTI & Blockchain)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building for SFM and/or sustainable supply chains developed for up to 10 tropical forest operators and other industrial sector representatives/entities with • Increased trade in sustainable/legally verified timber from these forest concessions/ private sector entities 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: Articles 1(d), (k), (n), (o)</p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP1, SP2</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG2, GFG5</p> <p>PL: PL 1</p>	<p>Council/ CEM</p>

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
<p>2. Strengthening participation of the private sector in the work of ITTO: Industry-led legality compliance/ due diligence training</p>	<p>ITTO will continue working with the Trade Advisory Group and other partners such as FAO, as well as other major and relevant international and regional organizations (IOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector associations that are working in this area to pilot and eventually scale up capacity on legality compliance/due diligence. The training model will be based on one that has proven successful – delivered by industry actors, who understand the challenges, needs and vocabulary of businesses and industry in producer countries who are involved in international trade. Training modules were developed and delivered in Colombia, Guatemala and Peru under the 2018-20 and 2021-2023 BWPs; remaining funds pledged to those activities will be used to extend training to an additional country in 2024-25. If additional funds are pledged under this BWP, this work will be extended to other countries/regions and possibly to broaden the scope to consider legality/due diligence aspects associated with forest climate projects/finance.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$100,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$50,000 Year 2025–US\$50,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to an additional five target countries assisted with pilot trainings held for private sector • Technical Assistance provided to target countries by international experts / organizations 	<p>ITTA/ITTC <i>CEM/CFI (L)/4 Report item 9 (IV) and (v); Annex C</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP2</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG-6</p> <p>PL: PL 1</p>	<p>Council/ CEM, CFI</p>
<p>3. Promoting quality timber production from smallholder and local community-established plantations</p>	<p>This Activity, continuing work started under the previous BWP, aims to significantly improve the production of quality timber from smallholder and local community-established plantations of teak and other valuable species in Asia-Pacific and West Africa. It involves promoting policies and programs to ensure the availability of high-quality planting material, the adoption of better silvicultural practices, access to financing to promote longer rotations, value addition and improved timber legality. Key activities include promoting financial schemes that support high-quality teak production with longer rotations and facilitating access to voluntary carbon markets. Tapping into the carbon credit markets will provide additional incentives and contribute to the global effort for climate change mitigation. It will also encourage regional and international cooperation to support the sustainable development of smallholder plantations. The German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) has already committed to funding this Activity over the period 2024-2026.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$1,413,449 Funding sources: Voluntary contributions from BMEL, Germany Year 2024–US\$664,071 Year 2025/26–US\$749,378</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and programs to promote quality timber production from smallholder plantations established in target countries • Financial schemes developed for high quality teak production and voluntary carbon markets accessed. • Regional and international cooperation enhanced for sustainable smallholder plantation development 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Articles 1(a), (c), (d), (f), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (r)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP1, SP2, SP4</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG2, GFG6</p> <p>PL: PL 1, PL 3</p>	<p>CRF/CFI</p>

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
<p>4. Enhance cooperation between ITTO and CITES</p>	<p>Continue to assist Members to implement CITES listings of timber species. Pursuant to Decision 5(XLVI) on “Multi-Donor Mechanism to Facilitate Enhanced Cooperation between ITTO and CITES”, ITTO successfully completed implementation of a second grant of approximately US\$6,200,000 (EUR5,000,000) from the European Union (through the European Commission) in 2016. Matching contributions from other donors of over US\$3,000,000 were received by ITTO during the four-year EU/EC grant period. The EU/EC in 2016 decided to provide further funding for work on CITES-listed tree species directly to the CITES Secretariat through its CITES Tree Species Program, which completed activities in 2022. This activity will continue CITES-related work using funds pledged to similar activities under previous BWPs. Since the number of tropical tree species being listed in CITES Appendices continues to grow, ITTO donors are encouraged to provide additional funds for ITTO’s CITES-related work through this activity to enable ITTO to continue collaborating with the CITES Secretariat and assisting member countries to implement CITES listings of timber species.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$200,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$100,000 Year 2025–US\$100,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to three countries with projects implemented to improve CITES implementation for listed tree species • Participation of ITTO Secretariat in relevant CITES meetings/ activities • Reduced number of trade suspensions of CITES listed timber species 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 15; Decisions 3(XVI), 7(XXXIV), 2(XXXVII) 5(XLVI)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP2, SP3</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG1, GFG2, GFG5, GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 1, PL 2</i></p>	<p>Council</p>
<p>5. Monitor progress in the application of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management</p>	<p>Criteria and indicators training workshops have been facilitated by activities under previous BWPs and this work will continue in 2024-25. Using remaining funds from previous BWP activities, this activity will continue and expand on previous work by convening a C&I workshop in a producer member country. If additional funds are made available, this work (which will promote the new ITTO criteria and indicators approved in 2016 and the revised African principles, criteria and indicators approved in 2022 with focus on new member countries) will be extended to provide for 2 regional workshops on C&I. Capacity building will incorporate related topics such as auditing, certification, international reporting requirements, etc. into the workshops.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$150,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$75,000 Year 2025–US\$75,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to two regional C&I training workshops convened • International collaboration on C&I for SFM enhanced 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Decisions 5(XXX), 9(XXX), 4(XXXIV)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP1</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG5, GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 1</i></p>	<p>Council/ CRF</p>

<p>6. Statistical capacity building workshops</p>	<p>This activity (which continues work funded under previous BWPs) will provide assistance (in liaison with FAO and other partners) to member countries to strengthen their statistics collection and enhance reporting. Using remaining funds from previous BWPs, a regional workshop for Central America is to be organized in early 2024 in Mexico. If additional funds are made available, workshops in the other two tropical regions will be supported in 2024-25.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$100,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$50,000 Year 2025–US\$50,000</p>	<p>Up to four country-level and/or regional workshops conducted</p>	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 28(5)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP4</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG6</p> <p>PL: PL 1</p>	<p>CEM</p>
<p>7. Prevention and management of fire in tropical timber producing forests</p>	<p>The Activity (which continues work funded under previous BWPs) aims to review and analyze the technical information and knowledge gained from the implementation of successfully completed ITTO projects as well as the development of Integrated Fire Management (IFM) framework, which promote ecosystem-based solutions, stakeholder engagement, inclusion, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. This analysis includes the Landscape Fire Governance Framework, approved in May 2023 at the 8th International Wildland Fire Conference in Porto, Portugal. Based on the outcome of this analysis, the Activity will update and revise the <i>ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (1997)</i> to provide a base for policy makers and managers at various levels to develop programs and projects in which the specific national, socio-economic, and naturally occurring problems related to fire in tropical natural and planted forests. Partners in this analysis and revision of the ITTO Fire Guidelines include the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), which supports various regional forest fire networks in the tropics.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$100,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$30,000 Year 2025–US\$70,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An in-depth analysis of the technical information and knowledge of the integrated fire management framework conducted • <i>ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (1997)</i> revised with the support of partners 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 1(m); Decision 6(XXXIII)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP4</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG1, GFG6</p> <p>PL: PL 2, PL 4</p>	<p>CRF</p>

Subtotals Group 1	2024	2025	Biennium Total
Core budget	US\$ NIL	US\$ NIL	US\$ NIL
Voluntary Contributions sought	US\$ 405,000	US\$ 445,000	US\$ 850,000
Total	US\$ 405,000	US\$ 445,000	US\$ 850,000

GROUP 2 – NORMATIVE WORK ON POLICY GUIDELINES OR OTHER STRATEGIC WORK

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
<p>8. Developing and operationalizing ITTO's policy guidelines to members</p>	<p>(a) Operationalizing the ITTO Policy Guidelines on Gender Equality and Empowering Women</p> <p>This activity will facilitate operationalization of the ITTO Policy Guidelines on Gender Equality and Empowering Women Guidelines across all ITTO activities and initiatives. Funding will contribute to capacity building, training, an exploratory study on the role of women in forestry/industry and building a network of gender experts with ITTO's collaborative partners.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$185,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$90,000 Year 2025–US\$95,000</p>	<p>Gender guidelines fully implemented in all of ITTO's operations</p>	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Decision 2(L)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP1-6</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>Crosscutting</i></p>	<p>Council</p>
	<p>(b) Disseminating the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics</p> <p>This activity aims to facilitate the production of outreach and communication materials to promote the dissemination of the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics (2020). It also involves participation in key international FLR events and the organization of three regional capacity building workshops in a hybrid format, in each of the three tropical regions.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$180,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024: US\$60,000 Year 2025: US\$120,000</p>	<p>Dissemination of the newly adopted guidelines in ITTO producing member countries</p>	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Decision 7(LV)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP4</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG1, GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 2, PL 3</i></p>	<p>CRF</p>

	<p>(c) Support for women’s groups with gender empowerment and forest landscape restoration in Togo</p> <p>This Activity is funded to contribute to and operationalize the ITTO Policy Guidelines on Gender Equality and Empowering Women (GEEW) and the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics (FLR). This activity reflects conformity with some elements under Decision 8(LV) and fits well under the pilot phase of the Programmatic Approach of the new financing architecture Third Programme Line (PL3) titled “Forest Landscape Restoration and Resilient Livelihoods”. Additional funds have been mobilized for 2024, with the aim to consolidate and sustain the ground achievements of REFACOF-Togo’s women groups realized during the implementation of the Phase 1 and Phase 2 of PP-A/56-341, in Togo’s Blitta and Lacs Prefectures.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$180,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024: US\$90,000 Year 2025: US\$90,000</p>	<p>Putting into practices two ITTO Guidelines (GEEW and FLR)</p>	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Decision 2(L)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP2, SP-4</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG1, GFG2</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 3</i></p>	<p>CRF</p>
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Subtotals Group 2	2024	2025	Biennium Total
Core budget	US\$ NIL	US\$ NIL	US\$ NIL
Voluntary Contributions sought	US\$ 240,000	US\$ 305,000	US\$ 545,000
Total	US\$ 240,000	US\$ 305,000	US\$ 545,000

GROUP 3 – COLLABORATIVE WORK/MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS/INITIATIVES

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
<p>9. Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests</p>	<p>In line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted during CBD COP 15 in December 2022, this activity will promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests through the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the engagement of the ITTO Secretariat in the Partnerships for Targets 2 & 3 and the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People to support the achievements of forest-related goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Assist the participation of selected ITTO biodiversity project team members in CBD COP 16 in 2024 with the organization of a joint side event with CBD to share ITTO experiences and insights in relevant international events. Support the implementation of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative Programme for the years 2024-2025. This support includes the organization of three regional capacity building workshops and dissemination of their outcomes at international biodiversity events. <p>Estimated cost: US\$200,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$100,000 Year 2025–US\$100,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation of the ITTO Secretariat in the Targets 2 & 3 Partnership of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Participation of ITTO experts in CBD COP 16 supported with a joint ITTO/CBD side event Three regional workshops organized in collaboration with the CBD 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 1(m), (r); Decision 6(XLIV)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP3</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG3, GFG4</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 2, PL 3</i></p>	<p>Council/ CRF</p>
<p>10. Cooperation and consultation with the CPF, UNFF and others</p>	<p>Promoting and integrating the role of productive forest and trade in major global processes (UNFF, CPF, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, UN Environment, and UNCTAD etc.) for achieving SDG and Global Forest Goals through sustainable forest management and legal and sustainable supply chains.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$150,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$75,000 Year 2025–US\$75,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation of ITTO in UNFF19 in 2024 and UNFF 20 in 2025; up to four CPF meetings in 2024 and 2025 Contributions to up to three CPF joint initiatives in 2024 and 2025 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 15; Decision 7(XXX)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP6</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>Crosscutting</i></p>	<p>Council</p>

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
11. Collaboration on criteria and indicators for SFM	<p>This work has been facilitated by similar activities under previous BWPs and will continue in 2024-25. Remaining funds from previous activities together with any new pledges will continue and expand on the work undertaken to date.</p> <p>Funds will be used to allow the Secretariat to participate in international C&I related meetings/discussions/initiatives, including the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest Reporting, initiatives to take advantage of synergies between ITTO and FAO forest reporting (FRA including the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire) and relevant meetings of other C&I processes.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$50,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$25,000 Year 2025–US\$25,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant meetings attended • collaboration with FAO FRA enhanced 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Decisions 3(XXVI), 5(XXX), 9(XXX), 4(XXXIV)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP1</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG5, GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>Crosscutting</i></p>	Council/CRF

Subtotals Group 3	2024		2025		Biennium Total	
Core budget	US\$	NIL	US\$	NIL	US\$	NIL
Voluntary Contributions sought	US\$	200,000	US\$	200,000	US\$	400,000
Total	US\$	200,000	US\$	200,000	US\$	400,000

GROUP 4 – COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH-RELATED WORK

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
12.ITTO communication strategy	Implement various elements of the ITTO communication strategy presented to the Council at its 57th session. Estimated cost: US\$ 340,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary contributions Year 2024–US\$170,000 Year 2025–US\$170,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions aimed at enhancing the branding and outreach of ITTO, elevating its role in the forest dialogue and providing essential thought leadership on policies and practices for sustainable development through SFM 	ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 1</i> ITTO SAP: <i>Crosscutting strategy 2</i> UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i> PL: <i>Crosscutting</i>	Council
13.ITTO Tropical Forest Update (TFU)	Regular work. Estimated cost: US\$390,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024–US\$195,000 Year 2025–US\$195,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to four TFU issues per year published in three ITTO working languages 	ITTA/ITTC: <i>ITTA, 2006, Articles 27, 28</i> ITTO SAP: <i>Crosscutting strategy 2</i> UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i> PL: <i>Crosscutting</i>	Council

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
14. Public relations, education and outreach	<p>Regular work. Continue to ensure that ITTO reaches a wide audience by conducting:</p> <p>(a) Communication activities: Undertaking regular communication and outreach activities including, inter alia, managing the ITTO website (e.g. postings, and improvements in functionality and appearance); publishing and disseminating ITTO reports and publications (e.g. annual reports, project and activity reports, newsletters, TFU articles, news stories and events); producing and disseminating public relations materials (e.g. brochures, calendars, infographics, pamphlets, posters, videos and photographic images) to convey the work of the Organization; and other ad hoc initiatives, including in collaboration with other partners.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$450,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024—US\$225,000 Year 2025—US\$225,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular website and social media posts on the work of the Organization • Up to two new policy/technical series documents published and disseminated • Up to 8 TFU issues widely distributed • Up to 10 issues of Tropical Forest News newsletter widely distributed • New videos, posters, and pamphlets published • Two annual reports in three languages published • Photo database enhanced 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 1</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>Crosscutting strategy 2</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>Crosscutting</i></p>	Council
	<p>(b) Outreach activities (booths and/or side events at relevant international fora): Exhibiting the work of ITTO at relevant international events during the biennium [e.g. IUFRO World Congress; CBD, CITES and UNFCCC COPs; sessions of UNFF; COFO's], and other fora not covered under other BWP activities.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$180,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024—US\$90,000 Year 2025—US\$90,000</p>	Exhibiting the work of ITTO at up to five international fora	<i>Same as above</i>	Council

	<p>(c) Translation of the ITTO website and relevant public relations materials into Japanese.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$50,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary contributions Year 2024–US\$25,000 Year 2025–US\$25,000</p>	<p>Comprehensive Japanese language coverage of ITTO’s work on the ITTO website and other media</p>	<p><i>Same as above</i></p>	<p>Council</p>
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Subtotals Group 4	2024	2025	Biennium Total
Core budget	US\$ 510,000	US\$ 510,000	US\$ 1,020,000
Voluntary Contributions sought	US\$ 195,000	US\$ 195,000	US\$ 390,000
Total	US\$ 705,000	US\$ 705,000	US\$ 1,410,000

GROUP 5 – ANALYTICAL, STATISTICAL AND OTHER RECURRING WORK

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
15. Trade (TAG) and Civil Society (CSAG) Advisory Group involvement	<p>Regular work. Encourage support for the participation of TAG and CSAG members in Council Sessions.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$80,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$40,000 Year 2025–US\$40,000</p>	At least four representatives from TAG and CSAG assisted to participate in the Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Decisions 9(XXVIII), 2(XXXII)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP6</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG6</p> <p>PL: NA</p>	Council
16. ITTO Annual Market Discussion	<p>Regular work. The themes for the Annual Market Discussions will be determined at the Council Sessions immediately preceding the discussions.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$100,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024–US\$50,000 Year 2025–US\$50,000</p>	ITTO Annual Market Discussions convened in 2024 and 2025	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 1(e), (h)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP4</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG6</p> <p>PL: NA</p>	Joint Committees
17. Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals	<p>Regular work. Convene the meetings of the Expert Panel.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$220,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024–US\$110,000 Year 2025–US\$110,000</p>	Meetings of the Expert Panel convened in 2024 and 2025	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 26; Decisions 6(IX), 2(X), 7(XXI), 7(XXII)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: SP1-SP6</p> <p>UNSPF: GFG1-GFG6</p> <p>PL: Crosscutting</p>	Council and Committees

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
18.ITTO Fellowship Programme	<p>Regular work. The objective of the Fellowship Programme is to develop human resources and enhance professional expertise in member countries in tropical forestry and related disciplines, with a view to promoting sustainable management of tropical forests, efficient utilization and processing of tropical timber, and better economic information on the international trade in tropical timber.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$400,000 Expected funding sources: Voluntary Contributions Year 2024–US\$200,000 Year 2025–US\$200,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30-40 fellowships awarded in 2024 and 2025 • Fellowship alumni network maintained 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Decision 4(XXVII)</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP6</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>Crosscutting</i></p>	Council
19.ITTO Market Information Service (MIS)	<p>Regular work.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$500,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024–US\$250,000 Year 2025–US\$250,000</p>	<p>Twenty-three (23) Tropical Timber Market Reports published annually in 2024 and 2025)</p>	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Articles 27, 28</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP2, SP4</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG2, GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 1, PL 4</i></p>	CEM
20.Enhancement of statistical work and databases on statistics	<p>Regular work. The Secretariat will undertake activities to improve statistical databases, maintain access to international forest products trade databases and to maintain involvement in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Statistics and the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire process.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$40,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024–US\$20,000 Year 2025–US\$20,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in two meetings of the Intersecretariat Working Group • Updating and refinement of JFSQ 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 27</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP4</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 1</i></p>	CEM

Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
21. Biennial review and assessment of the world timber situation	<p>Regular work. Preparation of the draft elements for the Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation for 2023-2024 in 2024 and publication of the Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation for 2023-2024 in 2025.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$120,000 Expected funding sources: Core Operational Costs Year 2024–US\$60,000 Year 2025–US\$60,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft elements of the 2023-24 Review considered at the Sixtieth Session of the Council in 2024 • Biennial review and assessment 2023-24 published in 2025 	<p>ITTA/ITTC: <i>Article 28</i></p> <p>ITTO SAP: <i>SP4</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 1</i></p>	Council

Subtotals Group 5	2024	2025	Biennium Total
Core budget	US\$ 490,000	US\$ 490,000	US\$ 980,000
Voluntary Contributions sought	US\$ 240,000	US\$ 240,000	US\$ 480,000
Total	US\$ 730,000	US\$ 730,000	US\$ 1,460,000

Part 2 – ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (NO FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS)

Activity	Implementation Approach	Activity Targets	Body
22. Consider the progress in the implementation of the ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2024-2025. ITTA, 2006, Article 24] [ITTC Decisions 7(XXV), 2(XXXI), 9(XXXIV)]	Regular Sessions' work.	• Progress reviewed at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	Council
23. Consider the Draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2026-2027. [ITTC Decisions 7(XXV), 2(XXXI), 9(XXXIV)]	Regular Sessions' work.	• Draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2026-2027 considered at the Sixty-first Session of the Council in 2025	Council
24. Decide on eligibility of approved actions, projects and pre-projects for funding out of Sub-account B of the Bali Partnership Fund. ITTA, 2006, Article 21] [ITTC Decision 4(XXX)]	Regular Sessions' work. The Panel established under ITTC Decision 4(XXX) advises the Council on eligibility of actions, pre-projects and projects for funding out of Sub-Account B.	• Decisions taken at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	Council
25. Make allocations from unearmarked funds available in the Bali Partnership Fund and/or Special Account to fund implementation of eligible approved actions, projects and pre-projects. ITTA, 2006, Article 21; [ITTC Decision 4(XXX)]	Regular Sessions' work. The Panel established under ITTC Decision 4(XXX) advises Council on allocations of unearmarked funds.	• Allocations made at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	Council
26. Decide on project work, including financing, taking into account the recommendations made by the Committees on project proposals and on-going and completed approved projects. ITTA, 2006, Articles 20, 21, 25]	Regular Sessions' work.	• Decisions taken at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	Council
27. Consider progress in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programmatic approach and the four programme lines during the pilot phase period. [ITTC Decision 8(LV)]	The Secretariat will update Council on the implementation of the pilot phase.	• Review Report to be considered at the Sixtieth Session of the Council in 2024	Council
28. Consider progress in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of pre-projects, projects and activities under the Thematic Programmes Sub-Account. ITTA, 2006, Article 20(6)] [ITTC Decisions 9(XLIV), 10(XLIV)]	Regular Sessions' work.	• Progress (if any) considered at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	<i>Council</i>
29. Consider the reports of the Informal Advisory Group (IAG). [ITTC Decisions 3(XXII), 5(XXVI)]	Regular Sessions' work.	• Report of the Fortieth and Forty-first Meetings of the IAG considered at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	Council
30. Review the results of relevant project and policy work of the Committees. ITTA, 2006, Articles 24, 26]	Regular Sessions' work.	• Reports of the Committees presented at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025	Council

Activity	Implementation Approach	Activity Targets	Body
31. Approve selected projects for ex-post evaluation following procedures outlined in ITTC Decision 3(XXVIII). [ITTC Decision 3(XXVIII)]	Regular Sessions' work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects selected for ex-post evaluation approved at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025 	Council
32. Consider and, if appropriate, take action to disseminate information on project findings and results. ITTA, 2006, Article 26]	Regular Sessions' work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissemination considered at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025 	Council
33. Consider the reports of mid-term and ex-post evaluations on on-going and completed projects. ITTA, 2006, Articles 24, 26]	Regular Sessions' work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports considered at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025 	Joint Committees
34. Review the independent audited statements for the 2023 and 2024 financial years, and make recommendation to the Council for their approval. ITTA, 2006, Article 23]	Regular Sessions' work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports of independent auditors disseminated to members and summaries published in ITTO Annual Reports in 2024 and 2025 	CFA
35. Examine and make recommendations to Council, regarding the approval of the Organization's administrative budget proposal for the 2024-2025 biennium. ITTA, 2006, Article 19(4)]	Regular Sessions' work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget proposal for the 2024-2025 biennium will be included in the Thirty-ninth CFA Report to be presented at the Fifty-ninth Session of the Council in 2023 	CFA
36. Review the assets of the Organization to ensure prudent asset management and that the Organization has sufficient reserves to carry out its work. ITTA, 2006, Article 19(5)]	Regular Sessions' work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the independent auditors for the financial years 2023 and 2024 presented at the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025 Meetings and reports of the investment oversight panel as appropriate 	CFA
37. Examine and make recommendations to Council, on the budgetary implications of the Organization's work program, and the actions that might be taken to secure the resources needed to implement it. ITTA, 2006, Article 24(3)]	Regular Sessions' work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision on the ITTO Biennial Work Programme 2024-2025 presented at the Fifty-ninth Session of the Council in 2023 	CFA

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ACTIVITIES
IN GROUPS 1-5 OF THE
BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME
FOR THE YEARS 2024-2025**

Activity No. 1

BUILDING LEGAL AND SUSTAINABLE FOREST PRODUCT SUPPLY CHAINS

I. Background

This activity will involve close collaboration with donor countries seeking to ensure legality of tropical timber imports. The activity will build on previous work by ITTO and partners to promote SFM and to establish sustainable supply chains, including through innovative timber tracking systems.

II. Description

The activity will support key exporters to respond to emerging demands from consumers for the development of green supply chains. In 2024-2025 work will be continued on the implementation of the programme on legal and sustainable supply chains (LSSC) for tropical wood and forest products. Activities will involve building the LSSC-GGSC platform; consolidating and improving the Global Timber Index (GTI) Platform to provide multi-dimensional service (Phase II&III); establishing and testing a simulation platform for cross-border timber traceability based on the blockchain technology (Phase II&III); further developing the Timber Trade Portal (TTP) website, as well as other events and activities.

ITTO will recruit an experienced team to implement this activity.

III. Expected outputs

The activity will result in tropical forest concessionaires developing increased capacity for SFM and/or sustainable supply chains together with the main private sector importers in key consumer countries. It will thereby increase trade in sustainable/legally verified timber. The activity will facilitate the construction of LSSC-GGSC platform including the improvement of the Global Timber Index (GTI) Platform to provide multi-dimensional service (Phase II&III) and the establishment of a simulation platform for cross-border timber traceability based on the blockchain technology (Phase II&III), and the further development of the Timber Trade Portal (TTP) website, as well as other events and activities. Using remaining funds under the BWP for 2021-2022 extended into 2023, the following work will continue into 2024 and 2025, including building the LSSC-GGSC platform, the improvement of the Global Timber Index (GTI) Platform to provide multi-dimensional service and the establishment of a simulation platform for cross-border timber traceability based on the blockchain technology, and the further development of the Timber Trade Portal (TTP) website, as well as other events and activities.

IV. Target countries

The activity will be relevant to all ITTO member countries.

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	LSSC-GGSC platform	US\$ 100,000
	Timber Trade Portal (TTP) website	US\$ 100,000
	Global Timber Index (GTI) Platform (Phase II&III)	US\$ 2,281,000
	Blockchain study (Phase II&III)	<u>US\$ 653,000</u>
	Total:	<u>US\$ 3,134,000</u>

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Increased forest area that is managed sustainably and legally harvested
- Improvement in good governance and effectiveness of forest law enforcement
- Increased consistency and compatibility among systems to provide assurance of legality and sustainability for tropical timber
- Reduction in illegal logging

SAP indicator(s)

- Quantity of tropical timber exports recognized as originating from sustainably managed forests
- Increased trade in verified legally harvested timber

STRENGTHENING PARTICIPATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE WORK OF ITTO: INDUSTRY-LED LEGALITY COMPLIANCE/DUE CARE TRAINING

I. Background

During the last decade, major consumer markets have put new market requirements and measures in place to restrict the entry of illegally harvested and traded wood products, most notably through the U.S. Lacey Act from 2008 and the EUTR from 2013. The recent adoption of the EUDR in 2023 adds a new layer of complexity. Industry, both corporate and small-scale suppliers, have had to substantially adjust their practices for sourcing legally and sustainable wood. In doing so, it has become apparent that a significant gap exists in how buyers and traders along the supply chain manage their practices in order to demonstrate due care. Some of the issues encountered have been a regular discussion at the CEM/CFI committee as tropical suppliers struggle to understand and meet new market requirements in consumer countries.

Several organizations have developed training programs and materials on forest legality in partnership with industry associations. For example, the Global Timber Forum,--a UK based nonprofit industry group which convenes associations of the wood-based industries and their stakeholders to address shared challenges in responsible trade-- and the FAO FLEGT program brought together groups such as International Wood Products Association of the USA, the European Timber Trade Federation and the UK Timber Trade Federation, as well as others to assess supplier country training and technical assistance needs. Curricula developed in conjunction with experts were piloted and launched in producer countries in Latin America (Colombia, Guatemala and Peru) with ITTO assistance under the 2018-20 and 2021-23 BWPs.

This ongoing work supports the ITTO SAP goals of forging alliances with the private sector, strengthening ITTO work with a major CPF Partner (FAO), and fulfills a commitment by the CEM/CFI committee to enhance work with the private sector with concrete action.

II. Description

ITTO will work with the Trade Advisory Group as well as partners like FAO (a CPF partner), together with major relevant international organizations, NGOs and private sector associations that are working in this area to pilot and scale up capacity on legality compliance/due care. The training model will follow one that has been proven successful – delivered by industry actors in partnership with respected intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, who understand the challenges and needs and vocabulary of businesses and industry in producer countries who are involved in the international trade. Remaining funding from the related activities under previous BWPs will be used to carry out one additional workshop in 2024-25. If additional funds are pledged under this BWP, this work will be extended to up to four additional countries in the other tropical regions.

III. Expected outputs:

Up to five pilot training programs implemented.

IV. Target countries

ITTO Producer countries in Asia and Africa (to be selected by ITTO Secretariat in consultation with partners).

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Year 2024	US\$ 50,000
	Year 2025	<u>US\$ 50,000</u>
	Total:	US\$100,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Increased private sector capacity to trade in forest goods from legal and sustainably managed forests

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of private sector entities who are incorporating the training in their practices

Activity No. 3

PROMOTING QUALITY TIMBER PRODUCTION FROM SMALLHOLDER AND LOCAL COMMUNITY - ESTABLISHED PLANTATIONS

I. Background

Smallholder timber plantations in the tropics have the potential for sustainable quality timber supply chains, driven by increasing forest landscape restoration initiatives. These plantations also provide valuable ecosystem services like carbon sequestration and soil conservation, benefiting local communities. Developing smallholder agroforestry systems with teak and other valuable native tree species has a huge potential for the supply of timber to the local timber industries. Teak plantations, for example, have been widely established across 70 tropical countries over an estimated 6.89 million hectares, nearly 80% of which is in Asia followed by 10% in Africa and 6% in Latin America. Smallholder systems account for approximately one-fifth of the global teak estate and are an important source of raw material for national and international teak industries. However, their productivity remains generally low, due to poor quality of planting stock, insufficient silvicultural practices, limited financing for quality timber production, and weak marketing and value chains.

The Activity builds upon the outcomes of the BMEL-ITTO Project “Enhancing Conservation and Sustainable Management of Teak Forests and Legal and Sustainable Wood Supply Chains in the Greater Mekong Sub-region” (PP-A/54-331) implemented under the BWP 2021-2022. This project supported participating countries’ policies and strategies promoting sustainable management of teak resources and plantation efforts in public and private land, value chain development, forest-based economic development, certification and legality of sustainably produced timber including smallholders.

Given the recent trade development of tropical timber and timber products in ITTO producing member countries, as well as ongoing challenges like deforestation, illegal trade, declining high-quality timber species, and the need to enhance product competitiveness, ITTO remains committed to facilitating the promotion of a common platform through international fora to tackle the challenges of ensuring that teak and other valuable products from legally and sustainably sources benefit member countries, improving community livelihood and local economic development.

II. Description

This Activity aims to significantly improve the production of quality timber from smallholder and local community-established plantations of teak and other valuable species in Asia-Pacific and West Africa. It involves promoting policies and programs to ensure the availability of high-quality planting material, the adoption of better silvicultural practices, access to financing to promote longer rotations, value addition and improved timber legality. Key activities include promoting financial schemes that support high-quality teak production with longer rotations and facilitating access to voluntary carbon markets. Tapping into the carbon credit markets will provide additional incentives and contribute to the global effort for climate change mitigation. It will also encourage regional and international cooperation to support the sustainable development of smallholder plantations.

To achieve the objectives of this Activity, key actions include:

1. Supply Chain Enhancement:

- Conserve genetical resources of teak and other selected species.
- Support smallholders and local communities in improved management practices for these species through field training.
- Promote compliance with timber legality standards in smallholder/community plantations.

2. Financial schemes:

- Conduct a feasibility study for direct contracts/out-grower schemes with sourcing companies to ensure fair product pricing for smallholders.
- Investigate micro-lending schemes to address credit limitations faced by smallholders.
- Explore strategies for establishing effective forest grower associations, reducing transaction costs, and enhancing access to micro-credits.
- Assess opportunities in voluntary carbon markets to increase revenue through longer rotation cycles, providing financial security for farmers.

3. Regional and International Collaboration:

- Develop and disseminate outreach materials and training materials for the conservation and sustainable management of target species.
- Support and facilitate teak networking among ITTO member countries through quarterly webinars.

The German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) has committed to implementing this Activity, as detailed in the project document “Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholders and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics (PP-A/54-331A).” Throughout the implementation of this Activity, active engagement with relevant stakeholders, including CSOs, trade and industry sector, IUFRO and TEAKNET, will be invited to foster collaboration.

III. Expected outputs

- Supply chains of smallholders and community-based teak and other valuable species plantation and management systems have been strengthened with easy availability of high-quality planting stock and implementation of improved practices in silviculture and timber processing and legality.
- Financing schemes for quality timber production in smallholders and community-based teak and other species plantations have been analyzed and improvements have been suggested to increase economic outcomes.
- Regional and international collaboration, information sharing and knowledge management, networking, policy development and outreach for sustainable smallholder teak and other species plantations have been strengthened.

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries (Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Togo and Vietnam)

V. Duration & timing 36 months

VI. Budget	Year 2024	US\$664,071
	Year 2025/26	<u>US\$749,378</u>
	Total:	<u>US\$1,413,449</u>

Strategic Priority(s)

- SP 1 (Governance and Investment)
- SP 2 (Economics and Topical Timber Trade)
- SP 3 (Resilience, Restoration and Conservation)

SAP target(s)

- Target 3, Target 4, Target 6, Target 7, Target 9, Target 10, Target 14

Activity No. 4

ENHANCE COOPERATION BETWEEN ITTO AND CITES**I. Background & description**

ITTO and CITES have developed strong collaborative activities to improve implementation of timber listing requirements over the past 20 years. This collaboration culminated in the large capacity building program first proposed in the 2006-2007 BWP which allowed a grant proposal seeking funding for an ITTO-CITES collaborative capacity building Program to be developed. The proposal was submitted to the European Union through the European Commission, which provided 3 million euros for a first phase running from 2007-2011. The large-scale funding from the EU/EC was extended to 2012-16 under an additional grant of 5 million euros, to be matched by the equivalent of 2.5 million euros to be raised from other donors. The activity therefore continued under ITTO's 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2013-2014 and 2015-2017 BWPs, primarily with EU funding but with additional contributions of over \$3 million from the USA, Switzerland, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Germany, New Zealand, China, the private sector and ITTO's BPF. The work was managed by ITTO until the end of 2016 with assistance from three regional coordinators and the CITES Secretariat and guided by a program advisory committee.

The ITTO-CITES Program completed implementation of more than 40 activities under its second phase from 2012-16. Country-specific activities were completed in Brazil, Cameroon, China, Congo, DRC, Guatemala, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia and Peru, focusing on African species *Pericopsis elata* (afroformosa), *Prunus africana* (African cherry), and several *Dalbergia* (rosewood) and *Diospyros* (ebony) species from Madagascar; Asian species *Aquilaria/Gyrinops* spp. (agarwood) and *Gonystylus* spp. (ramin); and Latin American species *Cedrela odorata*, *Swietenia macrophylla*, *Dalbergia retusa* and *D. stevensonii*. Eight activities were funded and completed under the Trade and Market Transparency thematic program based on a provision of the EU/EC funding grant calling for 20% of the EU funds provided to be directed to activities with objectives relevant to both the TMT and CITES programs.

The EU/EC in 2016 decided to provide further funding for work on CITES-listed tree species directly to the CITES Secretariat through a new CITES Tree Species Program (CTSP). The CTSP finalized activities in 2022, the same year that an additional 200+ tropical tree species were added to CITES Appendix II. The continuing needs of countries for support to implement existing and new CITES tree species listings, coupled with indications from the EU/EC that no further large scale grants for such work will be forthcoming, makes it imperative that other ITTO donors continue to recognize ITTO's comparative advantages in this field by supporting ITTO's CITES-related work through this on-going BWP activity in 2024-25. Using funds already provided under previous BWPs, ITTO has just completed in 2023 an NDF study for mahogany in Ecuador and is currently implementing projects to operationalize DNA tracking of *Pericopsis elata* and *Prunus africana* in Cameroon and to implement a inventory control/tracking methodology for rosewoods in Madagascar. An additional project to implement DNA tracking of cumaru (one of the species newly listed in 2022) in Peru will also be implemented in 2024-25 using remaining funds from previous BWPs. Negotiations are currently underway with the CITES Secretariat on future collaboration on activities of mutual interest. New funding pledged under this BWP to this activity will allow ITTO to assist additional Member Countries in implementing CITES requirements for listed tropical timber species, as well as facilitating ongoing collaboration with the CITES Secretariat.

II. Expected outputs

During the biennium and as appropriate/required in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, this activity will facilitate:

- assistance in implementing CITES requirements for listed tropical timber species (e.g. inventories, NDFs, tracking);
- collaboration with the CITES Secretariat;
- assistance with preparing proposals for CITES listings of new tropical tree species; and
- attendance and participation of ITTO in relevant CITES meetings and fora.

III. Target countries ITTO member countries

IV. Duration & timing 24 months

V. Budget	Work in producer countries and with CTSP	US\$160,000
	Assistance with CITES listings proposals	US\$20,000
	Attendance at relevant meetings	<u>US\$20,000</u>
	Total:	US\$200,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Increased competitiveness and market access for tropical timber
- Trade and utilization of timber and non-timber tropical forest species is consistent with their conservation

SAP indicator(s)

- Value of exports of tropical forest products
- Quantity of tropical timber exports recognized as originating from sustainably managed forests
- Number of commercial timber species and non-timber tropical forest species listed in CITES Appendix I

Activity No. 5

MONITOR PROGRESS IN THE APPLICATION OF CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

I. Background

Under ITTC Decisions 5(XXX), 9(XXX), 4(XXXIV), ITTO has collaborated extensively with other C&I processes (e.g. Montreal Process, Pan-European Process, FAO Forest Resource Assessment, etc.) to promote the understanding of the role of C&I in contributing to sustainable forest management and the use of this important tool for forest monitoring reporting and assessment (MAR). This activity will allow for on-going collaboration with other related forest reporting processes to continue.

The final version of the revised/adapted set of ITTO C&I for sustainable forest management adapted to Africa context was posted on the ITTO website for comments by ITTO Members, and by the deadline of 1 November 2022 there were no comments. The ITTO Secretariat is currently undergoing the translation (English/French, two ITTO working languages used by ITTO member countries in Africa) with final editing, layout, design and publication.

II. Description

This activity will allow for additional workshops during 2024-2025 to disseminate the revised set of ITTO C&I for sustainable forest management adapted to Africa context, which was approved in 2022 with a focus on ITTO member countries in Africa. The activity will allow the holding of two regional workshops in Africa (one for English speaking countries and one for French speaking countries) for the promotion of the abovementioned ITTO C&I for sustainable forest management adapted to Africa context. The curriculum of these workshops will evolve to ensure that participants receive up to date information on all relevant aspects of monitoring, assessing and reporting (MAR) on forests.

III. Expected outputs

- Relevant stakeholders in ITTO producer member countries in Africa familiar with the revised set of ITTO C&I for sustainable forest management adapted to Africa context;
- ITTO concerns and priorities reflected in international initiatives on MAR related to forests; and
- More countries able to effectively report on forests/forest management using the ITTO C&I reporting format.

IV. Target countries ITTO producer members

V. Duration & timing 24 months (commencing when funding made available)

VI. Budget	2 Regional workshops @ \$75,000 each	US\$150,000
	Total:	US\$150,000

Strategic Priority(s)

- SP 1 (Governance and investment)

SAP target(s)

- Target 3

STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS

I. Background

The level and quality of reporting on forestry sector statistics by ITTO producer countries is variable and many countries remain unable to meet their international and national statistical reporting requirements. Although ITTO has conducted a number of regional and national statistical training workshops, country-level assistance is still required because each country's problems and solutions differ and because of staff turnover. ITTO will work in liaison with FAO and other partners in delivering these workshops, tailoring training to country needs and building on collaborative relationships developed in workshops carried out under previous BWPs.

II. Description

The purpose of this activity is to support up to four regional training workshops or other activities on request, to enable producer countries to meet their reporting requirements on forestry sector statistics. In order to maximize the number of participants per workshop, ITTO and FAO have been organizing regional workshops for which 30-40 participants from 15-20 countries are invited to participate to meetings and a field trip for 3-4 days. Both organizations coordinate these regional workshops on a round basis in the three producing regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America-Caribbean regions).

Although the objectives of country-level workshops will be tailored to specific needs, these will include the following:

- Establish and reinforce a network of forest products statistical correspondents;
- Review and assess the current state of national forest products statistics at regional and national levels, identifying the main weaknesses and constraints of the current systems;
- Improve the framework for future national statistical processes, including methodologies for statistical reporting and requirements for resources and equipment;
- Provide training on standardized international definitions as a base for completing the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire; and
- Promote an information culture.

III. Expected outputs

- Information on the status and constraints of current national forestry sector statistics discussed;
- The network of different actors in the value chain, including the public and private sectors, are linked to generate national statistics on production, consumption and trade in wood products. Agreement is reached on sustainable cooperation on forestry sector statistics between the various agencies;
- A roadmap for strengthening the national system of forest products national and international statistical reporting is developed;
- The country's international reporting requirements and requirements of the ITTO Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire are understood; and
- Share common concerns and possible solutions among the participants from various countries.

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget US\$100,000

The aim of this activity is to be able to organize up to 4 regional workshops which costs are shared equally between FAO and ITTO. The estimated total cost for one workshop is \$50,000 (\$25,000 for ITTO and \$25,000 for FAO). The expected cost breakdown for one regional workshop inviting 20 participants for 3 days is as follows:

Participants air travel fees	US\$15,000
Participants accommodation, DSA	US\$15,000
Meeting rooms, logistic, conference	
Facility, documents printing	US\$10,000
Miscellaneous/field trip	US\$10,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Public institutions, communities and commercial entities have adequate forest management, planning, policy and business skills needed to implement SFM and engage in international trade
- Increase in the awareness of the contribution of SFM to economies
- Increase in exchange of experiences, knowledge innovations in SFM, and promotion of trade and timber processing among members

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of individuals receiving training or education

PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF FIRE IN TROPICAL TIMBER-PRODUCING FORESTS

I. Background

Urgent action is needed to improve fire management in tropical regions, evident from devastating fires in the Amazon and elsewhere. Forest and Land fires, exacerbated by drought and heatwaves are a major driver of forest loss and degradation in many tropical countries with releases of carbon dioxide, biodiversity loss and severe human health problems. ITTO has been actively promoting in line with the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests published 1997. These projects have assisted in developing and implementing fire prevention and control strategies for forest managers, planners, and local communities in tropical countries. ITTO has formed partnerships with key organizations, including the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Global Wildland Advisory Group and the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC). Additionally, ITTO has supported a series of International Wildland Fire Conferences, held in 2011 (South Africa), 2015 (Korea), 2019 (Brazil), and 2023 (Portugal). Through these guidelines and field projects, ITTO collaborates with organizations and agencies to create and implement national action plans for forest fires and facilitates meetings for regional forest fire networks.

Under the 2018-2020 BWP, the Government of Japan provided funding of US\$ 2,210,526 to develop two fire projects. These projects aimed to enhance the capacities of national and local authorities in Indonesia and Peru to take urgent action for prevention and response to forest fires. Both projects concluded in 2022, with an ex-post evaluation scheduled for 2024 to assess their impact.

II. Description

The Activity aims to review and analyze the technical information and knowledge gained from the implementation of successfully completed ITTO projects as well as the development of Integrated Fire Management (IFM) framework, which promote ecosystem-based solutions, stakeholder engagement, inclusion, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. This analysis includes the Landscape Fire Governance Framework, approved in May 2023 at the 8th International Wildland Fire Conference in Porto, Portugal. Based on the outcome of this analysis, the Activity will update and revise the ITTO *Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests* (1997) to provide a base for policy makers and managers at various levels to develop programs and projects in which the specific national, socio-economic, and naturally occurring problems related to fire in tropical natural and planted forests. Partners in this analysis and revision of the ITTO Fire Guidelines include the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), which supports various regional forest fire networks in the tropics.

III. Expected outputs

- Improved forest policy development for fire prevention and management with improved national fire cooperation opportunities;
- Enhanced partnerships for effective coordination and synergies among stakeholders in combating and preventing forest and land fires.

IV. Target countries: ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing: 24 months

VI. Budget	Review of the development and implementation of integrated Fire Management Framework and best practices	US\$ 30,000
	Revision of the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (1997) and publication of the revised Guidelines	<u>US\$ 70,000</u>
	Total:	US\$100,000

Strategic Priority(s)

- SP 3 (Resilience, Restoration and Conservation)

SAP target(s)

- Target 12, Target 13, Target 18

Activity No. 8(a)

DEVELOPING AND OPERATIONALIZING ITTO'S POLICY GUIDELINES TO MEMBERS

**OPERATIONALIZING THE ITTO POLICY GUIDELINES ON
GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERING WOMEN**

I. Background

ITTO is committed to gender mainstreaming and enhancing gender equality outcomes across its policy and project work. The ITTO Policy Guidelines on Gender Equality and Empowering Women (GEEW) approved at the 53rd ITTC institutionalize this commitment. The Policy Guidelines serve as a framework for gender integration in ITTO policies, plans, programmes, projects, activities and internal functioning and are intended to enhance the impact and effectiveness of the Organization's operations in all areas and at all levels.

II. Description

In order to implement the gender policy guidelines, a number of possible actions had been proposed in the report of the consultant presented to the 53rd ITTC. While a number of the proposed actions can be initiated or undertaken within existing resources, the following actions proposed for implementation under the BWP 2021-2022 require voluntary contributions from Members for their implementation.

- Supplement the gender guidance contained in the ITTO Manual for Project Formulation (2009 edition) with a new Appendix D to provide guidance on gender analysis.
- Update ITTO project-related manuals to include guidance on gender-related results-based management (outcomes, impacts, etc.), including gender-sensitive results indicators and sex-disaggregated data.
- Include a training module on gender integration in all ITTO training workshops on proposal preparation to ensure Executing Agencies and project coordinators have the skills needed to properly integrate gender issues into project planning, design, monitoring and evaluation.
- Provide training to all ITTO staff members, Executing Agencies and project coordinators so that they understand the importance of GEEW and how to integrate gender issues in their work.
- Participate in meetings/initiatives to develop a network of forest gender experts amongst ITTO collaborative partners, including CPF organizations, UN WOMEN, interested CSAG and TAG organizations.
- Conduct an exploratory study on the role of women in forestry/forest industry, manufacturing and trade.

III. Expected outputs

Enhance the effective integration of gender considerations in all aspects of ITTO's policy and project work. Build the capacity of ITTO and its Members to promote gender quality and empower women in the tropical forest sector.

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Review and update ITTO Manuals	US\$ 50,000
	Development and implementation of a training module on Gender for proposal preparation workshops	US\$ 40,000
	Participation in meetings and networking	US\$ 40,000
	(Virtual) Training of ITTO staff, Executing Agencies	US\$ 25,000
	Study on gender roles in forest industry	<u>US\$ 30,000</u>
	Total:	US\$185,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Public institutions, communities and commercial entities have adequate forest management, planning, policy and business skills needed to implement SFM and engage in international trade

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of individuals receiving training or education
- Number of trained individuals per country

DEVELOPING AND OPERATIONALIZING ITTO'S POLICY GUIDELINES

DISSEMINATING ITTO GUIDELINES FOR FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN THE TROPICS

I. Background

The *ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics (2020)* provides guidance from policymakers to foresters and farmers in restoring degraded forest landscapes, thereby providing vital goods and ecosystem services and creating sustainable rural livelihoods and employment. Forest landscape restoration (FLR) is an inclusive approach requiring some guidance to assist decision-makers and practitioners in putting it into practice, through dissemination and outreach actions. Potential international partners could be, among others, the following: Bonn Challenge with its global call for the restoration; World Resources Institute (WRI) through its 20-20 Target Initiative; and the Target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted during CBD COP 15 in December 2022.

II. Description

Taking into account the fact that there have been major developments in forest-related policy international initiatives, such as the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 15 (SDG-15) that promotes halting global deforestation and the Paris Agreement on Climate which places efforts to tackle deforestation and promote sustainable forestry as a core achievement within the framework of global carbon mitigation measures, this Activity will be implemented as follows:

- Production of outreach and communication materials to facilitate the dissemination of the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics (2020);
- Participation in relevant international FLR events with the involvement of ITTO international partners;
- Organize three regional capacity building workshops, each of the three tropical regions.

III. Expected outputs

- ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration disseminated through county or/and regional workshops in conjunction with international partners, particularly with the members of the Collaborative Partnerships on Forests (CPF);
- Knowledge and experience in promoting the principles of FLR enhanced for ITTO stakeholders.

IV. Target countries: ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Outreach and communications materials in the three ITTO working languages	US\$ 20,000
	Participation in international FLR events	US\$ 10,000
	Three Regional Workshops	<u>US\$150,000</u>
	Total:	<u>US\$180,000</u>

Strategic Priority(s)

- SP 3 (Resilience, Restoration and Conservation)

SAP target(s)

- Target 12, Target 13, Target 14, Target 17

Activity No. 8(c)

DEVELOPING AND OPERATIONALIZING ITTO'S POLICY GUIDELINES

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN'S GROUPS WITH GENDER EMPOWERMENT AND FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN TOGO

I. Background

This Activity is funded under the pilot phase of the Programmatic Approach of the new financing architecture Third Programme Line (PL3) titled "*Forest Landscape Restoration and Resilient Livelihoods*" in conformance with the implementation of Decision 8(LV) calling upon the ITTO Secretariat to play a more proactive role in seeking new funding avenues and partners for the funding of ITTO's work. It will contribute to and operationalize the ITTO Policy Guidelines on Gender Equality and Empowering Women and the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) in the Tropics, as a pilot case to be implemented in Togo. Any additional funds pledged will replicate this Activity in two other African countries to be decided in due time and in consultation with the donors and the women's groups involved in FLR.

II. Description

Women in rural communities are in charge of providing many of the essential livelihood functions for their families and are disproportionately affected by poverty, the impact of climate change and the rapid decline of natural resources on which they depend. This Activity will serve as an example and encouragement for other women groups in Togo to take the initiative to emancipate themselves from traditional gender roles and to improve their livelihoods as follows:

- To build the organizational, technical and material capacities for empowering local women's groups regarding the implementation of forest landscape restoration and agro-forestry activities in Togo, with the potential of replication in two other African countries to be decided in due time; and
- To increase their resilience against impacts from climate change.

Additional funds have been mobilized for 2024, with the aim to consolidate and sustain the ground achievements of REFACOF-Togo's women groups realized during the implementation of the Phase 1 and Phase 2 of PP-A/56-341, in Togo's Blitta and Lacs Prefectures.

III. Expected outputs

- Capacity of selected women's groups in the rehabilitation of degraded forest ecosystems reinforced,
- Resilience of recipient communities to climate change and the improvement of their living conditions through increased and strengthened household incomes,
- ITTO Policy Guidelines on Gender Equality and ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics implemented.

IV. Target countries

- ITTO producing member countries in Africa with a special focus on women's groups involved in FLR.

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	FLR and gender related capacity building	US\$ 75,000
	Ground agroforestry and FLR implementation	US\$ 75,000
	Consultants for technical support on FLR and Gender	<u>US\$ 30,000</u>
	Total:	US\$ 180,000

Strategic Priority(s)

- SP 3 (Resilience, Restoration and Conservation)

SAP target(s)

- Target 13, Target 14

Activity No. 9

**CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY IN
TROPICAL TIMBER PRODUCTION FORESTS**

I. Background

Recognizing the critical importance of tropical production forests in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, ITTO adopted the ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests at the Forty-fourth Session of the Council, in November 2008. In collaboration with IUCN and other relevant partners, these guidelines have been promoted at various levels. Based on the provisions of the memorandum of understanding signed by the CBD and ITTO Secretariats, ITTO has actively promoted the Joint ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity since 2010, which helps finance on-the-ground projects in the three tropical regions.

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted during CBD COP 15 in December 2022, has set out the four global goals and 27 targets for their achievements by 2030. The ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative will prioritize activities to contribute to the achievement of forest-related goals and targets identified in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which are in correlation with some ITTO objectives and priorities, specifically:

- Target 2: Ensure that by 2030 at least 30% of degraded ecosystems are under restoration.
- Target 3: Ensure that by 2030 at least 30% of land and ocean are protected through well-connected and equitable governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.
- Target 10: Ensure that areas of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably.
- Target 15: Take legal, or policy measures to encourage business to reduce negative impacts on biodiversity and to promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.
- Target 16: Ensure that people are encouraged to make sustainable consumption choices.
- Target 20: Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation.

II. Description

This activity will contribute to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests through the following actions:

- Facilitate the engagement of the ITTO Secretariat in the Partnerships for the Targets 2 & 3 and the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People to support the achievements of forest-related goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Assist the participation of selected ITTO biodiversity project team members in CBD COP 16 in 2024 with the organization of a joint side event with CBD to share ITTO experiences and insights in relevant international events.
- Support the implementation of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative Programme for the years 2024-2025. This support includes the organization of three regional capacity building workshops and dissemination of their outcomes at international biodiversity events.

III. Expected outputs

- Sharing ITTO experience in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests;
- Wider knowledge and implementation of the forest-based targets and goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
- Effective implementation of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for 2024-2025 as well as increased partnerships and fundraising activities for its implementation.

IV. Target countries: ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing: 24 months

VI. Budget	Participation of the ITTO Secretariat in the Partnerships for the Targets 2 & 3 and the High Ambition Coalition (HAC)	US\$ 15,000
	Participation of ITTO stakeholders in CDB COP 16	US\$ 15,000
	Support for the implementation of the of the ITTO and CBD for collaborative initiative for 2024-2025 with three regional capacity building workshops	US\$170,000
	Total:	US\$200,000

Strategic Priority(s)

- SP 3 (Resilience, Restoration and Conservation)

SAP target(s)

- Target 12, Target 16, Target 18

COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION WITH THE CPF, UNFF AND OTHERS

I. Background

As a founding member of the CPF, ITTO has established, maintained and strengthened cooperation with the UNFF since its establishment in 2000. Following the Tenth Session of the UNFF held in April 2013, ITTO and other members of the CPF have been called upon to collaborate and make contributions to the follow-up of the outcomes of the session involving inter-sessional work and preparations leading to the convening of the Eleventh Session of the UNFF in New York in 2015.

II. Description

The objective of this activity is to promote and integrate the role of productive forest and trade in major global processes (UNFF, CPF, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, UN Environment, UNCTAD, GFLR and other initiatives) for achieving SDG and Global Forest Goals of green and inclusive growth, securing livelihood needs and protecting national and global public good values. ITTO will generate understanding for the need of investing into forest resources and landscape to offset the emerging global supply deficit of timber and non-timber products and to enhance their role in moving towards a circular economy. ITTO will help increase the understanding that sustainable forest management and legal and sustainable supply chains will generate multiple wins for the benefit of people, the environment and climate. Through this activity, ITTO will be able to collaborate and contribute concretely and meaningfully to the work of the UNFF and CPF as well to other global initiatives by providing relevant inputs, participating proactively in these global fora s as well as to contributing to the costs of joint activities.

III. Expected outputs

- Representation of ITTO at UNFF and CPF events enhanced;
- Cooperation and collaboration between ITTO, UNFF and CPF and other relevant initiatives maintained and strengthened;
- ITTO's outreach, communication and interaction at international and regional levels broadened;
- Perspective and importance of the role of sustainable productive tropical forests and associated supply chains in UNFF and CPF work and activities adequately presented and augmented;
- ITTO's knowledge and awareness of major and emerging forest issues and developments enhanced; and
- Efficiency and effectiveness of ITTO's work enhanced and synergized through cooperation and collaboration.

IV. Target countries Global

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Travel for ITTO staff	US\$ 60,000
	Travel from producer countries	US\$ 40,000
	Consultant Fees	US\$ 40,000
	Material/ printing	<u>US\$ 10,000</u>
	Total:	US\$150,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Understanding of productive forests and sustainable supply chains for green and inclusive growth and livelihood benefits augmented and national and global public goods augmented and reflected in official statements and declarations
- Role of ITTO as a discussion leader recognized
- Investments in productive forests and landscapes as well as in legal and sustainable supply chains increased

SAP indicator(s)

- Decisions and declaration in international fora
- Investments finance increased
- Volume of legal and sustainably trade timber/non-timber products increased

Activity No. 11

COLLABORATION ON CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SFM

I. Background

Under ITTC Decisions 5(XXX), 9(XXX), 4(XXXIV), ITTO has collaborated extensively with other C&I processes (e.g. Montreal Process, Pan-European Process, FAO Forest Resource Assessment, etc.) to promote the understanding of the role of C&I in contributing to sustainable forest management and the use of this important tool for forest monitoring reporting and assessment (MAR). This activity will allow for on-going collaboration with other related forest reporting processes to continue.

II. Description

Funding remaining from previous BWPs has been used to support ITTO's participation in C&I related events being organized by the Montreal Process in association with the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission meeting in October 2023 in Sydney, Australia. Additional funding for this activity will facilitate continued active ITTO participation in the global dialogue on MAR related to forests, including the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest Reporting, discussions on harmonizing reporting on forests between ITTO's SFM Tropics and FAO's Forest Resources Assessment (including through the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire process), and various relevant meetings and initiatives of other international C&I processes.

III. Expected outputs

- More countries able to effectively report on forests/forest management using the ITTO C&I reporting format; and
- ITTO concerns and priorities reflected in international initiatives on MAR related to forests.

IV. Target countries Global

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Participation in relevant meetings/initiatives	<u>US\$50,000</u>
	Total:	US\$50,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Increase forest area that is managed sustainably and legally harvested

SAP indicator(s)

- ITTO indicators for SFM
- Forest area under management plans
- Forest area under SFM
- Forest area certified

ITTO COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

I. Background

The draft communication strategy was presented to the Council at its 57th session (Document ITTC(LVII)/16). The Council welcomed the strategy because it constituted an ambitious plan to improve ITTO's visibility and messaging and support its fundraising efforts. The Council noted that additional resources would be needed for implementation.

II. Description

Implement the communication strategy and its various elements as described in Document ITTC(LVII)/16.

III. Expected outputs

An operational communication strategy which enhances the branding and outreach of ITTO, elevates its role in the forest dialogue and provides essential thought leadership on policies and practices for sustainable development through SFM.

IV. Target countries All members

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Year 1	US\$170,000
	Year 2	US\$170,000

SAP target(s)

Adopt and implement a communication and outreach strategy highlighting ITTO's contributions to global forest-related goals and commitments.

Activity No. 13

ITTO TROPICAL FOREST UPDATE (TFU)

I. Background

The Tropical Forest Update (TFU) newsletter has been produced since 1990 with the aim of promoting the conservation and sustainable development of tropical forests and it's currently distributed in hard copy to around 14,000 individuals in more than 160 countries in English, French and Spanish. TFU is also available online at ITTO's website¹ and since 2016 on the TFU app².

II. Description

The activity will allow for production of up to 4 issues per year of the TFU in ITTO's three working languages.

III. Expected outputs

Up to eight issues of TFU for the biennium in the three ITTO working languages in hard copy and electronic versions.

IV. Target countries Global

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Printing and posting on TFU app	US\$160,000
	Layout and design	US\$ 50,000
	French and Spanish translation	US\$130,000
	Consultant fees	US\$ 45,000
	Miscellaneous	<u>US\$ 5,000</u>
	Total:	US\$390,000

SAP target(s)

Adopt and implement a communication and outreach strategy highlighting ITTO's contributions to global forest-related goals and commitments.

¹ https://www.itto.int/tropical_forest_update/

² Keywords = TFU ITTO

PUBLIC RELATIONS, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES (WEBSITE, REPORTS, PUBLIC RELATIONS, ETC.)

I. Background

ITTO's work produces a wide-range of outputs and impacts, especially in the field which needs to be effectively and extensively disseminated, to raise awareness of sound SFM practices among members and stakeholders, while raising the profile of the Organization.

II. Description

ITTO undertakes a range of regular communication and outreach activities to reach a wide audience, including inter alia, managing the website (e.g. postings, and improvements in functionality and appearance); publishing and disseminating ITTO reports and publications (e.g. annual reports, project and activity reports, newsletters, TFU articles, news stories and events); producing and disseminating public relations materials (e.g. brochures, calendars, infographics, pamphlets, posters, videos and photographic images) to convey the work of the Organization; and other ad hoc initiatives, including in collaboration with other partners.

III. Expected outputs

Regular website and social media posts on the work of the Organization; up to two new policy/technical series documents published and disseminated; up to 8 TFU issues widely distributed; up to 10 issues of Tropical Forest News newsletter published and distributed; new brochures, calendars, infographics, pamphlets, posters and videos produced and disseminated; two annual reports in three languages published and photo database enhanced.

IV. Target countries Global

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Website programming fees	US\$ 50,000
	Consultant fees (editing, layout and design)	US\$ 70,000
	French and Spanish translation	US\$ 110,000
	Dissemination and distribution costs	US\$ 115,000
	Printing cost	US\$ 90,000
	Software	<u>US\$ 15,000</u>
	Total:	US\$ 450,000

SAP target(s)

Adopt and implement a communication and outreach strategy highlighting ITTO's contributions to global forest-related goals and commitments.

Activity No. 14(b)

PUBLIC RELATIONS, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES (BOOTH AND/OR SIDE EVENTS AT RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL FORA)

I. Background

ITTO raises awareness of its work in promoting the conservation and sustainable management, use and trade of tropical forest resources by reaching out to targeted stakeholders at relevant international events and fora, where the Organization can actively participate and exhibit the outputs and impacts of its work.

II. Description

Exhibit the work of ITTO at relevant international events during the biennium [e.g. IUFRO World Congress; CBD, CITES and UNFCCC COPs; sessions of UNFF; COFO's], and other fora not covered under other BWP activities.

III. Expected outputs

Awareness raised on the work of ITTO in up to five international events/fora.

IV. Target countries Global

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Fees for booths	US\$ 25,000
	Shipping cost	US\$ 15,000
	Staffing booths	US\$ 50,000
	Assistance to members	US\$ 45,000
	Duty travel	<u>US\$ 45,000</u>
	Total:	US\$180,000

SAP target(s)

Adopt and implement a communication and outreach strategy highlighting ITTO's contributions to global forest-related goals and commitments.

PUBLIC RELATIONS, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

**OUTREACH ACTIVITIES (TRANSLATION OF THE ITTO WEBSITE AND
RELEVANT PUBLIC RELATIONS MATERIALS INTO JAPANESE)**

I. Background

Being based in Japan, ITTO undertakes public relations and outreach activities with several audiences in its host country, requiring proficient use of Japanese language to effectively convey its message.

II. Description

Continue providing comprehensive Japanese-language coverage of ITTO's work on the ITTO website and other media.

III. Expected outputs

Awareness raised on ITTO's work to stakeholders in Japan.

IV. Target countries Japan

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Translation and website posting fees	US\$ 35,000
	Design	US\$ 7,000
	Printing	US\$ 6,000
	Miscellaneous	<u>US\$ 2,000</u>
	Total:	US\$ 50,000

SAP target(s)

Adopt and implement a communication and outreach strategy highlighting ITTO's contributions to global forest-related goals and commitments.

Activity No. 15

TRADE (TAG) AND CIVIL SOCIETY (CSAG) ADVISORY GROUP INVOLVEMENT

I. Background

Since the formal establishment of the Trade Advisory Group (TAG) and the Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG) in 1999 and 2002 respectively, ITTO has benefited tremendously from these advisory groups in terms of their advice, expertise, contributions, inputs and participation in the sessions of ITTC and its associated Committees as well as in the implementation of ITTO projects, pre-projects and activities. The contributions of these advisory groups particularly in the sessions of the ITTC can be further enhanced if adequate participation of representatives of these groups is facilitated and assisted.

II. Description

This activity is aimed at encouraging active and meaningful participation of TAG and CSAG members in the sessions of the ITTC by providing financial support covering duty travel and daily subsistence allowances for selected members to attend the sessions of the ITTC. The selection of the members of TAG and CSAG to be provided with ITTO financial support will be taken by the Executive Director based on the recommendations made by the coordinators of TAG and CSAG respectively, taking into account the need for balance between producers and consumers, and the need to ensure the balanced participation and effectiveness of these advisory groups.

III. Expected outputs

- Adequate and more effective participation of TAG and CSAG members in ITTC Sessions;
- Improved quality of ITTC decisions and deliberation; and
- Overall efficiency and effectiveness of ITTC and ITTO enhanced.

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget US\$80,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Public institutions, communities and commercial entities have adequate forest management, planning, policy and business skills needed to implement SFM and engage in international trade
- Increase in the awareness of the contribution of SFM to economies
- Increase in exchange of experiences, knowledge innovations in SFM, and promotion of trade and timber processing among members

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of stakeholders participating in SFM policy development processes

ITTO ANNUAL MARKET DISCUSSION

I. Background

The ITTO Annual Market Discussion is an annual forum for international dialogue on a selected theme of the international tropical timber trade. The event is important for delegates of ITTO member countries and trade representatives to discuss and deliberate on germane and often complex trade policy issues confronting tropical timber and timber products. This strategic policy activity strengthens the event by providing for the engagement of keynote speakers at the event.

II. Description

The theme of the ITTO Annual Market Discussion is selected by the Trade Advisory Group (TAG) in consultation with the Executive Director during the session of the ITTC preceding the event. The event is coordinated by the Secretariat and the Trade Advisory Group (TAG), in consultation with other relevant experts and held in a joint session of the technical committees. Keynote speakers will be selected and invited by the Executive Director in consultation with the Coordinator of TAG and will be provided with ITTO financial support to cover duty travel and DSA.

III. Expected outputs

- Quality of keynote address presented at ITTO Annual Market Discussion enhanced;
- Germane issues on international trade in tropical timber identified, ventilated and deliberated upon with appropriate recommendations for ITTO member countries, trade, industry and other relevant stakeholders; and
- Quality and relevance of ITTO Annual Market Discussion improved.

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries, TAG

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget US\$100,000 (Travel and DSA for 7-9 Speakers per year)

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Information on production of timber and non-timber forest products and trade is accurate and widely available
- Accurate information is used in policy making, forest management, market development & investment promotion

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of ITTO members providing timely, accurate data
- Number of countries using information for policy, market development and investment promotion

Activity No. 17

EXPERT PANEL FOR TECHNICAL APPRAISAL OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

I. Background

The Expert Panel for technical appraisal of project proposals appraises and classifies the proposals received under the ITTO Project Cycle based on the 'Revised ITTO System for Technical Appraisal of Project and Pre-project Proposals'. The panel is composed of twelve members, divided into six members from producer countries (two from each sub-region) and six members from consumer countries. The Panel makes recommendations for adjustments to proposals in order to ensure their technical soundness. Panel members are nominated for period of two years with the possibility to extend for a third year.

II. Description

As defined the TORs for the Expert Panel, the Panel shall: (i) Assess new Project and Pre-project Proposals submitted to the organization. The recommendations for amendments to these proposals shall be made by the Expert Panel exclusively for the purpose of ensuring their technical soundness; (ii) Screen the Project Proposals for their relevance to ITTO's Action Plan and Work Programs (in the areas of Economic Information and Market Intelligence, Reforestation and Forest Management, and Forest Industry), and consistency with ITTO decisions and policy guidelines, but not otherwise prioritize them; (iii) Where reformulation involving major amendments is recommended, request to carry out a final appraisal of the revised versions of Project and Pre-project Proposals, prior to their presentation to the relevant ITTO Committees; (iv) Report on the results of the technical assessment of Project and Pre-project Proposals to the submitting governments and to the ITTO Council and Committees, through the ITTO Secretariat; (v) The Expert Panel shall take into consideration previous Expert Panels' reports. The Expert Panel, in assessing Projects and Pre-projects, shall also take into account: their relevance to the objectives of the ITTA, 2006 and the requirement that a Project or Pre-project should contribute to the achievement of one or more of the Agreement objectives; their environmental and social effects; their economic effects; their cost effectiveness; the need to avoid duplication of efforts; and, if applicable, their relationship and integration with ITTO policy work and their consistency with the ITTO Strategic Action Plan and relevant ITTO Guidelines.

III. Expected outputs

- Meetings of the Expert Panel in 2024 and in 2025
- Recommendations for amendments to ensure technical soundness of proposals provided to submitting Governments through the Secretariat
- Reports of the Expert Panel on the results of the technical assessment presented to the ITTO Council and Committees. The Panel may also express technical viewpoints on improving ITTO's procedures for the development of technically sound projects and the relevance of projects to the ITTO Strategic Action Plan

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Year 2024	US\$110,000
	Year 2025	<u>US\$110,000</u>
	Total:	US\$220,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Cross-cutting

SAP indicator(s)

- Cross-cutting

ITTO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

I. Background

The ITTO Fellowship programme began in 1989 under PD 60/89(M,F,I) and was replaced by PD 001/93 (M,F,I) in 1993 which was also subsequently replaced in 1999 by the Freezailah Fellowship Fund through Council Decision 4(XXVII). As at October 2023, the Programme which began in 1989, has enabled more than 1,400 young and mid-career people from 49 countries working for governments, research institutions, universities, civil society and the private sector to pursue their professional development and improved their career prospects. The Fellowships are awarded mainly to nationals of ITTO Producer member countries.

II. Description

The Fellowship programme is geared towards building capacity in the following priority areas:

- Improving the transparency of the tropical timber market;
- Improving marketing and distribution of tropical timber species from sustainably managed sources;
- Improving market access for tropical timber exports from sustainably managed source;
- Securing the tropical timber resource base;
- Improving the tropical timber resource base, including through the application of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management;
- Enhancing, technical, financial and human capacities to manage the tropical timber resource base;
- Promoting increased and further processing of tropical timber from sustainably managed sources;
- Improving marketing and standardization of tropical timber exports; and
- Improving efficiency of processing tropical timber from sustainable sources.

III. Expected Outputs

30-40 awards for the two-year period 2024-2025

IV. Target Countries ITTO producer member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Year 2024	US\$200,000
	Year 2025	<u>US\$200,000</u>
	Total :	US\$400,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Public institutions, communities and commercial entities have adequate forest management, planning, policy and business skills needed to implement SFM and engage in international trade
- Increase in the awareness of the contribution of SFM to economies
- Local communities are informed and able to participate in SFM policy development and related activities
- Increase in exchange of experiences, knowledge innovations in SFM, and promotion of trade and timber processing among members

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of individuals receiving training or education
- Number of trained individuals per hectare of forest per country
- Number of visitors to ITTO's website

ITTO MARKET INFORMATION SERVICE (MIS)

I. Background

The Market Information Service (MIS) has been part of the Secretariat's work since 1996. The main output of the activity [originally PD 16/93 Rev.3 (M)] is the *Tropical Timber Market Report* (TTMR). The report contains price data for about 500 tropical timber products as well as relevant market news from around the globe. The TTMR is disseminated online, by email and in hardcopy to over 18,000 subscribers.

II. Description

The Market Information Service serves to broaden awareness and disseminate information on the state of the tropical timber market. It is undertaken by a full-time Coordinator, who is responsible for publishing the *TTMR* and liaising with eleven market correspondents in producer and consumer countries to obtain up-to-date market news, information and prices on tropical timber products. The Market Information Service Coordinator also engages with other experts in the trade and works with the Trade Advisory Group (TAG) to convene the ITTO Annual Market Discussion.

III. Expected Outputs

- Publication of up to 46 issues of the Tropical Timber Market Report (the number of issues published annually will depend on funding availability);
- Strengthened information base on the market situation for tropical timber products;
- Trade experts and associations from around the globe engaged; and
- Council and other members of the public informed about markets for tropical timber products.

IV. Target Countries Global

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Correspondents	US\$ 250,000
	Coordination	<u>US\$ 250,000</u>
	Total:	US\$ 500,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Information on tropical forests, production of timber and non-timber forest products and trade is accurate and widely available
- Accurate information is used by ITTO members in policy making, forest management, market development and investment promotion

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of ITTO members providing timely, accurate data
- Coverage and accessibility of ITTO databases
- Number of countries using information for policy, market development and investment promotion

ENHANCEMENT OF STATISTICAL WORK AND DATABASES ON STATISTICS

I. Background

The Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire is the primary data source of ITTO forestry sector statistics and is a collaborative activity undertaken by ITTO, FAO, UNECE and Eurostat. These organizations meet annually to review datasets of the previous year and determine any improvements that are required, plan the next year's questionnaire, and make recommendations on changes to international customs classifications for timber codes. ITTO's participation ensures that tropical wood products are given the appropriate attention in international statistical reporting mechanisms.

Statistical data derived from the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire is, however, insufficient to provide a complete analysis of the tropical timber market situation. Additional data and other information are required to complete the analysis and to provide a cross check with ITTO derived datasets. A major source of inaccurate reporting of international data on tropical timber production and trade is the deficiency in usage of accurate conversion factors, particularly for weight to volume measurements.

II. Description

This strategic policy activity is aimed at:

- Maintaining the involvement of ITTO staff in the work of the Inter-secretariat Working Group (IWG) on Forestry Sector Statistics and Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire Process;
- Maintaining data subscriptions and maintenance of access to international forest products trade databases and additional market and trade information;
- Participating to international conferences on forest wood products statistic; and
- Reviewing and consolidating tropical wood products conversion factors for determining wood products production and trade statistics.

III. Expected outputs

- JFSQ process and the accuracy of international statistical data on tropical timber production and trade improved and enhanced; and
- Recommendations on appropriate conversion factors formulated and provided to ITTO member countries in the JFSQ process.

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	IWG participation	US\$20,000
	Participation to statistical conference	US\$10,000
	Data subscription	US\$ 5,000
	Miscellaneous	<u>US\$ 5,000</u>
	Total:	US\$40,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Information on tropical forests, production of timber and non-timber forests products and trade is accurate and widely available
- Accurate information is used by ITTO members in policy making, forest management, market development and investment promotion

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of ITTO members providing timely, accurate data
- Coverage and accessibility of ITTO databases
- Number of countries using information for policy, market development and investment promotion

Activity No. 21

BIENNIAL REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF THE WORLD TIMBER SITUATION

I. Background

ITTO's Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation 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 review is based on information submitted by ITTO member countries through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire, supplemented by other sources as necessary.

Under the ITTA, 1994, draft elements were produced by the ITTO Secretariat to assist the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) in undertaking its annual review of the international timber situation. In accordance with Article 28 of ITTA, 2006, the review and assessment of the international timber situation has been undertaken biennially beginning with the 2013-2014 biennium.

The ITTC will undertake the biennial review and assessment based on draft elements for the review and assessment of the international timber situation. These draft elements will be prepared by the Secretariat and will comprise statistics and available data on production, imports and exports of timber products, with emphasis on tropical timber products, and an analysis of economic and market developments. The elements for the review will be mainly based on information extracted from national responses to the ITTO/UNECE/FAO/EUROSTAT Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire and from other sources.

II. Description

The draft elements of the Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation are usually presented during the first year of the biennium during the Council Session. This allows members to share their comments on the data and analysis presented. The review is then published during the second year of the biennium.

III. Expected outputs

- Draft elements of the Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation 2023-2024 considered during the Sixtieth Session of the ITTC in 2024
- Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation 2023-2024 published in 2025

IV. Target countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & timing 24 months

VI. Budget	Consultant	US\$ 50,000
	Translation	US\$ 20,000
	Country studies	US\$ 20,000
	Design	US\$ 10,000
	Printing	US\$ 10,000
	Shipping	US\$ 5,000
	Miscellaneous	<u>US\$ 5,000</u>
	Total:	US\$120,000

Expected SAP outcome(s)

- Information on tropical forests, production of timber and non-timber forest products and trade is accurate and widely available
- Accurate information is used by ITTO members in policy making, forest management, market development and investment promotion

SAP indicator(s)

- Number of ITTO members providing timely, accurate data
- Number of countries using information for policy, market development and investment promotion