

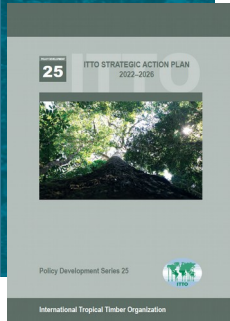


Draft Biennial Work Programme 2024-2025

Item 12(b) of the Provisional Agenda
Document ITTC(LIX)/8



59th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC)
13 - 17 November 2023, Pattaya, Thailand



Background

Decision 9(XXXIV) requests the Executive Director to develop a BWP which prioritizes and allocates resources for specific activities under the Organization's Action Plan (*SAP 2022-2026*)

Summary table Part 1 = 21 activities, 5 categories, references (*SAP, GFG, PLs*);
Part 2 = 16 regular work activities

Terms of Reference (*for Part 1 activities*)

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Activity	Implementation Approach and Cost	Activity Targets	Relevance	Body
2. Strengthening participation of the private sector in the work of ITTO: Industry-led legality compliance/ due diligence training	<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: <i>SP2</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG-6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 1</i></p>	Council/CEM, CFI
3. Promoting quality timber production from smallholder and local community-established plantations	<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: <i>SP1, SP2, SP4</i></p> <p>UNSPF: <i>GFG2, GFG6</i></p> <p>PL: <i>PL 1, PL 3</i></p>	CRF/CFI

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Activity No. 2	
DEVELOPMENT OF ITTO GUIDELINES TO INCORPORATE GENDER EQUITY IN THE ORGANIZATION'S ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES (Strategic Action Plan 2013-2018, Strategic Priority 1)	
I. Background	
For many years, ITTO has contributed to the implementation of a large number of activities and projects in its member countries. Many of these activities and projects have had strong links to local communities and have supported local men and women in improving the management of their forest resources.	
II. Description	
A consultant will be recruited to draft ITTO guidelines on gender equity. To this end, he/she should:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the gender guidelines of other international organizations; Analyse different ITTO instruments and tools taking into account in particular those that are most commonly used by ITTO member countries, and identify which of these instruments would require the incorporation of gender-related mechanisms for their implementation; Prepare a draft of ITTO Gender Guidelines, including a training module; Propose at least five gender-sensitive indicators for the Strategic Action Plan 2013-2018 and for future work. 	
III. Expected Outputs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved gender vision in ITTO's policy work and ITTO project outcomes, thus contributing to the achievement of the ITTA 2006 objectives; Project proponents, ITTO staff and ITTO focal points will become aware of the gender potential of the achievement of ITTO objectives and will be able to include gender issues in their policy work and projects; ITTO Gender Guidelines and ITTO Training Module on Gender Issues; Increased mobilization of resources from donors that regard gender as a key component. 	
IV. Target Countries	
Global	
V. Duration & Timing	
5 months (after allocation of funds)	
VI. Budget	
US\$70,000	



Draft BWP 2024-2025 Financing

Draft BWP includes 37₍₋₃₎ activities

Part 1: 21 activities requiring financing

- 14 activities require voluntary funding
- 7 activities funded from core operational costs
(TFU; Annual Market Discussion with TAG; Market Information Service MIS; Statistics; Communications & Outreach, Expert Panel, Biennial Review)

Part 2: 16 administrative & financial activities *(routine activities)*

- no cost implications

Source	2024	2025	Total
Voluntary Contributions	\$1,280,000	\$1,385,000	\$2,665,000
Core Operational Costs	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Total	\$2,280,000	\$2,385,000	\$4,665,000





Structure Draft BWP 2024-2025

The 21 activities requiring financing (Part 1) are categorized into five groups:

- Group 1: Field Oriented Activities with Engagement of/Work in Member Countries;
- Group 2: Normative Work on Policy Guidelines or Other Strategic Work;
- Group 3: Collaborative Work with Other Organizations/Initiatives Including Meetings;
- Group 4: Communications and Outreach Related Work;
- Group 5: Analytical, Statistical & Other Recurring Work;

All activities are continuations/follow up activities from the previous BWP, no entirely new activities are proposed





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

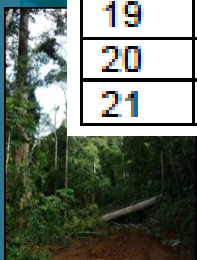
No.	Activity	Status
9	Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests	ongoing
10	Cooperation and consultation with the CPF, UNFF and others	ongoing
11	Collaboration on criteria and indicators for SFM	ongoing

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





Pledges for Draft BWP 2024-2025

Two (sub)activities have already received funding commitments:

Activity 1 (LSSC)

US\$1,467,000/year from IPIM, Macao

- Operation and improvement of Global Timber Index platform, GTI
- Establish & test timber simulation platform for cross-border timber traceability based on blockchain technology

Activity 3 (Teak, Phase II)

US\$1,413,449 BMEL, Germany

- Aims to promote & improve the production of high-quality teak and other valuable species (*availability of high-quality planting materials, improvement of silvicultural practices, promoting of financial schemes*)
- Encourage regional & international cooperation to support sustainable development of smallholder plantations, inclusion of Togo





Concept Note from TAG

In accordance with Decision 2(LVI) new BWP activities need to be submitted as Concept Notes

1.1 Project Title:

Enhancing Stakeholders' Capacity of tropical timber producing Member Countries in Carbon Trading

1.2 Submitting Country/ies:

Japan, Malaysia

1.3 Specific Location & Country/ies/regions/areas benefitting from the project:

Asia-Pacific, Latin America, and Africa

1.4 Endorsement from ITTO Focal Point:

No endorsement required.pdf

1.5 Intended Project Duration (in months):

1

1.6 Indicative Budget (in US\$):

ITTO	630,200
Counterpart	0
Total	630,200

1.8 Project Type

Capacity Building/Training, Workshop/meeting/seminar, Market/product development

1.9 Proposal Summary:

The Market Discussion held during ITTC58 in Yokohama in November 2022, with the theme "Carbon Trade and Tropical Forests", invoked much interests and discussions among participants from ITTO members. The MD speakers were experts working in this field in Africa, Latin America and Asia. They pointed out that there were very few carbon projects in ITTO Producers despite the huge potentials offered by carbon trading. It was estimated that the carbon trading market was worth some US\$ 2 billion in 2022. The speakers have observed obstacles to participation: no knowledge of carbon trading, lack of expertise and/or experience to develop a suitable project for carbon trading, not knowing where to start for those who wished to participate, etc. These obstacles were confirmed by comments from the floor. It was suggested that TAG should follow up the MD by organising technical training to prepare potential and interested participants to enter the carbon market. Working with the ITTO Secretariat, TAG proposed to run four-day workshops in Africa, Latin America and Asia. The workshop will prepare participants how to choose a methodology to develop a project; prepare a validation/verification process to register the project; and develop a monitoring system prior to issuance of verified carbon units. Experts will be identified to speak (and teach) the following topics: introduction to the UNFCCC process, Carbon offsets/credits, and REDD+ preparedness. Workshop participants will be invited from the private sector though relevant officials from the public sector will probably attend for knowledge. Ample budget should be set aside to sponsor participants so as to reach out to those who will benefit most from such training. The workshop in Asia will use English as the working language; in Africa it will be in French, and Spanish in Latin America. An excursion is envisaged to visit appropriate carbon project sites for a real-life exposure and learning experience.



Thank you