



The Prevention of Further Loss and The Promotion of Rehabilitation and Plantation of *Gonystylus spp.* (Ramin) in Sumatra and Kalimantan

ITTO PD 426/06 REV.1(F)

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Ramin (*Gonystylus spp*) is one of the valuable timbers in Indonesia. Due to its commercial value, ramin has been excessively logged since last several decades. This excessive logging, along with frequent forest fire and conversion of ramin habitat to other uses, has caused sharp decrease in its population and potential value for commercial purpose. In the other hand, the artificial plantation of ramin is also insignificant. Lack of high quality planting materials and high requirement for growing site have contributed to the poor plantation success of ramin.

In 2001, logging moratorium of ramin has been imposed throughout the country and in the same year ramin was also listed into CITES Appendix. The purpose of the moratorium are to reduce excessive logging and to prevent further loss of ramin population and habitat. Listing of ramin into CITES appendix is aimed to reduce illegal timber trade through International Trade Convention.

Several efforts have been taken to prevent further loss of ramin and promote its population through the project cooperation between Indonesia and International Tropical Timber Tropical (ITTO PD 426/06 Rev. 1 (F)).

This project, therefore, is intended to promote sustainable management of ramin through conservation, capacity building, provision of high quality planting material for plantation and technology development for ramin propagation and field plantation.



The Objectives

The development objective of this project is to contribute to the prevention of further loss and to ensure the sustainable forest management of *Gonystylus bancanus* (ramin) in Indonesia.

The specific objectives of the project are to improve silvicultural techniques for ramin conservation and plantation developments and to enhance institutional capacity for successful CITES Implementation.

Project Outputs

- Propagation of high quality planting materials.
- The development of field plantation technique.
- Institutional and human resources capacity building on CITES implementation.
- Improved existing rules and regulation for ramin conservation and plantation.

Intended situation after project completion

The situation expected upon the completion of this project is the reversal of the current situation. This condition will be achieved through the following means:

The first is to promote conservation of ramin through plantation and institutional capacity building, which consists of several expected outputs to be achieved during the first phase of the project: (1) developing propagation technology to produce high quality planting materials, (2) developing plantation technology to obtain the best technique to establish ramin plantation, (3) improving institutional and human resources capacity in CITES implementation and (4) improving existing and newly formulated rules and regulation for ramin conservation and plantation including ramin harvest protocols. Information on seed sources for ramin still need further verification, especially their present status. To date, there are no clear sites or sources were sufficient and viable seeds could be collected both in Sumatra and Kalimantan. Ramin produces flowers and fruit irregularly and therefore seeds are available only in its interval flowering/fruitleting. Propagation technology, especially for nursery raised seedlings from seeds and wilding are also needed to be further developed into a larger scale. Pre-project findings indicate some initial steps have been carried out to promote vegetative propagation on ramin but still lack of information on the field planting success.

The second phase is to carry out larger scale rehabilitation (plantation) as a follow up to the previous phase and to prepare more effective measure to prevent further loss of ramin population and habitats through (1) combating illegal logging activities and promoting land use management for ramin to avoid further conversion of ramin habitat, (2) promoting the Implementation of harvest protocols (methods) of ramin to ensure natural regeneration and recovery are taking place in the harvested area. This also includes the improvement of residual stand management through enrichment planting. The above condition are expected to be achieved during the project phases.



By the above mentioned activities, it is expected that ramin timber will recover from scarcity and in the long run logging moratorium policy could be lifted and ramin wood based industry will recover. Tax and foreign exchange earnings originating from ramin related industries will increase meaning that welfare of a segment of community involved in forest management activities and industry will also increase.

Project Strategy

The plantation problem which is mainly due to lack of high quality planting materials will be overcome through the promotion of technology for seedling propagation from seeds and vegetative materials. Promotion of seedling propagation from seeds will begin with the identification of seed sources (site, area, number of stem, potential seed production etc), flowering and fruiting (phenology), seed handling (collection and storage) and germination. The promotion of technology for seedling propagation from vegetative materials will be explored through stem and leaf cutting. Wilding (seedling from natural regeneration) will also be collected for seedling production and stem or leaf cutting. Current sources of seeds and seedling of ramin are mostly from wild stands (old stand or logged over area). No seed orchards of ramin has been recorded. Small scale, but representative plantation trials will also be established in several sites in Sumatra and Kalimantan. The project will establish cooperation with relevant institutions to promote technology for seedling propagation for ramin.

Problem regarding the weak and poor implementation of ramin harvest and trade regulation will be improved through workshop and training which have been scheduled under this project.

Target Beneficiaries

The target beneficiaries of this project include:

1. State-owned Forest Company
2. Private-owned companies, Provincial and District Forest Services of Sumatra and Kalimantan
3. Ministry of Forestry (FORDA, DG Forest Production Management, DG Forest Protection and Nature Conservation and DG Land Rehabilitation and Social Forestry)
4. Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI)
5. Universities
6. Non-Government Organization

The benefits of the project would include:

1. The latest data and information on the seed sources throughout the country.
2. The latest information on the seedling and vegetative propagation techniques on ramin.
3. The latest information on plantation technology, especially silvicultural treatment, site manipulation etc.
4. The increased institutional and human resources capacity on ramin harvest, trade regulation and plantation.
5. The increased institutional and human resources capacity on CITES implementation.



Project Duration and Agency

Duration : 3 years; 1 February 2007– 31 January 2010

Executing Agency : Forestry Research Development Agency

Implementing Agency : Center for Forest and Nature Conservation Research and Development

This project is funded by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) in cooperation with Forestry Research and Development Agency (FORDA), Ministry of Forestry



Ramin Forest in West Kalimantan



Ramin in ex Forest Area

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