



The ITTO Strategic Action Plan, 2013–2018

The International Tropical Timber Organization promotes the expansion and diversification of international trade from sustainably managed and legally harvested tropical forests. It works with international, regional, national and local governmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to develop partnerships and networks and implement projects to advance its objectives.

In 2012, ITTO's governing body, the International Tropical Timber Council, approved a new strategic action plan for 2013–2018 with six strategic priorities; this plan specifies expected outcomes and indicators of success and provides a range of actions to achieve the outcomes. The ITTO Strategic Action Plan, 2013–2018 sets a funding target of US\$200 million for its implementation through biennial work programmes, the thematic programmes and projects with the aim of achieving sustainable forest management (SFM) in the tropics.

Main cover photo: Francisco Tueros

Back cover photos (inset, from left): T&I, Jacqueline Henry; Eduardo Mansur

The objectives of the ITTO Strategic Action Plan, 2013–2018

- Provide a reference for producer countries in developing policies on tropical forests and forest-based industries and for consumer countries in undertaking complementary policies and actions
- Provide a reference for members in developing project proposals and for donors in allocating voluntary contributions
- Communicate ITTO's objectives and priorities
- Provide strategic policy guidance to the Organization



The ITTO Strategic Action Plan, 2013–2018 can be downloaded at www.itto.int/action_plan or requested from:

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Planning a sustainable future

The ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2013–2018

ITTO International Tropical Timber Organization

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Strategic Priority

1

Funding target **US\$40 million**

Promote good governance and enabling policy frameworks for strengthening SFM and related trade and enhancing SFM financing and investment

Examples of specific actions

- Develop approaches to increase financing for SFM and investment in the forest sector
- Strengthen partnerships to develop innovative plans, processes and mechanisms for financing SFM, especially for small and medium-sized forest enterprises and community enterprises
- Collaborate with the World Bank, FAO and others to promote, use of the forest governance framework
- Assist ITTO members to implement the revised SFM guidelines, and develop guidelines to promote legal and sustainable timber

Expected outcomes

- Forest sector is better-managed, and investment is increased
- Area of forest managed sustainably and legally harvested is increased
- Forest governance is improved and law enforcement is more effective
- Illegal logging is reduced



Strengthen partnerships to develop innovative plans, processes and mechanisms for financing SFM

Strategic Priority

2

Funding target **US\$55 million**

Increase the contribution of tropical forests to national and local economies, including through international trade

Examples of specific actions

- Develop, demonstrate and disseminate information on financial tools for forest-based communities and community enterprises
- Assist communities and forest-based enterprises to acquire business skills, including in marketing
- Promote understanding of new initiatives related to trade in legal and sustainable timber
- Promote complementary policies and actions among consumer members

Expected outcomes

- Contribution of forest sector to national and local economies is increased
- Livelihoods of local and indigenous communities are improved
- Small and community enterprises have greater access to international markets for forest products
- More value-added products from sustainably managed forests are produced with greater efficiency
- Competitiveness and market access for tropical timber are increased
- Systems for assuring tropical timber legality and sustainability are more compatible
- Contribution of non-timber forest products is increased



Assist communities and forest-based enterprises to acquire business skills, including in marketing. Photo: Arsenio Ella

Strategic Priority

3

Funding target **US\$17 million**

Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber-producing forests

Examples of specific actions

- Further develop and disseminate guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber-producing forests
- Promote regional and transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable timber production

Expected outcomes

- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical forests are increased
- Trade and use of tropical forest species is consistent with the conservation of those species
- Business models for the conservation and sustainable use of tropical forest biodiversity are supported



Promote regional and transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable timber production. Photo: Nico Kingman

Strategic Priority

4

Funding target **US\$28 million**

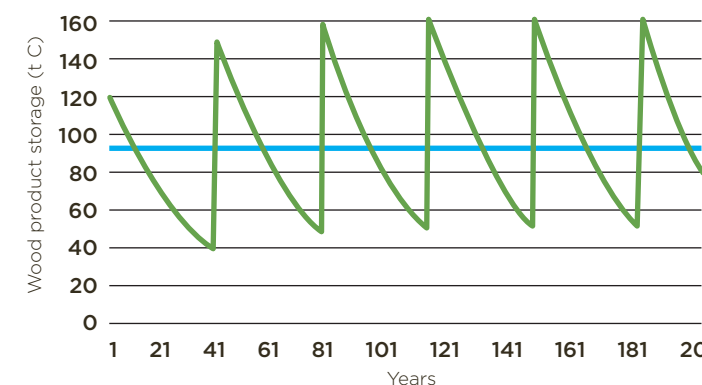
Reduce tropical deforestation and forest degradation and enhance the provision of environmental services

Examples of specific actions

- Assist members to gain access to sources of financing for REDD+
- Assist members to develop capacity for the monitoring, reporting and verification of REDD+ in the context of SFM, including social and environmental safeguards
- Assist member countries to implement mechanisms for payments for environmental services in support of SFM

Expected outcomes

- Capacity of members to mitigate climate change through SFM is increased
- SFM is supported by payments for tropical forest environmental services
- Area of forest under SFM is increased, and there is greater use of ITTO guidelines and criteria and indicators
- Income earned from forest-related environmental services and other forest outputs is increased



Assist members to gain access to sources of financing for REDD+

Strategic Priority

5

Funding target **US\$30 million**

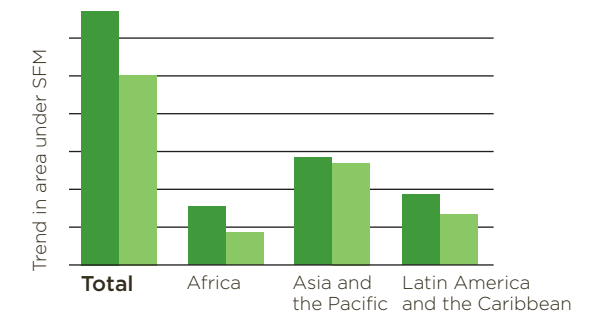
Improve the quality and availability of information on tropical forests and on forest-product markets and trade

Examples of specific actions

- Conduct studies, disseminate information and provide regular reports on conditions in tropical forests and in markets for tropical forest products
- Assist members to improve the quality of timber and non-timber information
- Build capacity of member countries for data analysis and policy formulation
- Develop partnerships to collect forest and trade data and further harmonize information

Expected outcomes

- More and better information on tropical forests and forest products and trade is available
- ITTO members use more accurate information in policymaking
- Other institutions and processes make greater use of ITTO data



Assist members to improve the quality of timber and non-timber information

Strategic Priority

6

Funding target **US\$30 million**

Build and develop human resource capacity to implement SFM and increase trade in forest goods and services from sustainably managed forests

Examples of specific actions

- Continue and expand the ITTO Fellowship Programme
- Provide assistance to national and regional institutions for training
- Develop cooperation with international organizations in improving SFM training and outreach
- Assist members to support research and development
- Assist members to transfer expertise and technology, including South-South and North-South
- Increase ITTO communication and outreach efforts
- Strengthen the involvement of stakeholders in ITTO work and activities

Expected outcomes

- Stakeholders have adequate skills to implement SFM and engage in international trade
- There is greater awareness of the contribution of SFM to economies
- Local communities are informed about and better able to participate in SFM policy development
- There is more exchange of experiences and knowledge and greater promotion of trade
- Collaboration is increased between the private sector and civil society



Assist members to transfer expertise and technology, including South-South and North-South. Photo: Tetra Yanuariadi