

Background

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed in 2010 between the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) during COP 10 held in Nagoya, Japan, which gave birth to the ITTO/CBD Joint Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity (ITTO/CBD Initiative). To date, 11 projects have been funded to support efforts in sustaining tropical forest biodiversity and improve the livelihoods of the people living in and around tropical forests. These projects cover a broad range of activities, such as the establishment and sustainable management of transboundary conservation areas, the development of capacities of forest institutions, local and indigenous communities and other stakeholders.

This side-event will share major lessons learned and showcase the key achievements made through the implementation of projects under the ITTO/CBD Initiative and their contribution to the achievement of the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets on the ground, where it matters the most.

The event will also celebrate the signing of a new MoU by the heads of CBD and ITTO with the extended duration of 2015-2020, which includes projections of targeted activities between ITTO and CBD.

13:15-13:20 (5 min.) 13:20-13:25 (5 min.) 13:25-13:30 (5 min.)	Opening address by Mr. Emmanuel Ze Meka, Executive Director, ITTO Remarks by Dr. Braulio F. de Souza Dias, Executive secretary, CBD Secretariat Signing of MoU by the heads of ITTO and CBD
13:30-13:40 (10 min.)	Presentation on the outline of the ITTO/CBD Initiative by Mr. John Leigh, Conservation Officer, ITTO
13:40-14:20 (40 min.)	 Presentations on the lessons learned and achievements made through the implementation of projects under the ITTO/CBD Initiative by: Mr. Cheanng Dany (Cambodia) on the Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex to Promote Cooperation for Trans-boundary Biodiversity Conservation between Thailand, Cambodia and Laos Mr. Pedro Lopez (Guatemala) on the Integrated Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity in the Tacana Volcano and Its Range of Influence in Mexico and Guatemala Ms. Yani Septiani (Indonesia) on Promoting Biodiversity Conservation in Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP) as a Transboundary Ecosystem between Indonesia and State of Sarawak Malaysia Mr. Kennchi Shishido, JICA (Japan) on its support provided to the Initiative Facilitated by Ms. Catalina Santamaria, Programme Officer, CBD Secretariat
14:20-14:40 (20 min.)	Discussion Facilitated by Ms. Catalina Santamaria, Programme Officer, CBD Secretariat
14:40-14:45 (5 min.)	Concluding remarks by Ms. Catalina Santamaria, Programme Officer, CBD Secretariat

Tentative Programme Lunch will be provided

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