

1. General Description:

1.1 Project Title:

Strengthening the management and conservation for endangered rosewood (Dalbergia) in Vietnam

1.2 Submitting Country/ies:

Vietnam

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

Vietnam

1.4 Endorsement from ITTO Focal Point:

VNForest Endorsement Letter.pdf

1.5 Intended Project Duration (in months):

23

1.6 Indicative Budget (in US\$):

ITTO	149000
Counterpart	40000
Total	189000

1.7 Programme Line Focus (select 1):

Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

1.8 Project Type (select up to 3):

Capacity Building/Training, Community/field-based project implementation,

Pilot/demonstration project

1.9 Proposal Summary:

The Rosewoods are among the most threatened plants in Vietnam due to high demand from trade and illegal logging. All of rosewood species that naturally distribute in Vietnam are protected by the Government of Vietnam. Globally, the rosewood is listed as Endangered (EN) or Vulnerable (VU) by the IUCN. However, this group of plants has been neglected from conservation efforts, hence, the species are considered as locally extirpated in most of its known ranges due to illegal logging and lacking of protection effort. There is no recovery effort yet done for the species such as replanting rosewoods in their known habitats or including rosewood into the current reforestation programs. Our project therefore focusses on improving in-situ conservation in Vietnam's best-known rosewood strongholds by strengthening population management and protection and starting a community-based seedling production and replanting program to ensure the survival and recovery of the plants. The outcomes of the project will ensure strong and effective protection and recovery for rosewood in the future and improve the engagement of community in endangered plant conservation.

2. Proponent Information:

2.1 Executing Agency Information:

Name of Agency/Organization/Institution:

CCD

Name of main Contact Person:

Nguyen

Email:

ha.nguyen@ccd.org.vn

Phone:

+84-913010787

URL:

<https://ccd.org.vn/>

2.2 Type of Organization:

Civil Society Organization

Type of Organization- other case:

Research and Conservation Organization

2.3 Collaborating Agency/ies:**Name of Agency/Organization/Institution:**

Vietnam Administration of Forestry

Name of main Contact Person:

Hiep Nguyen

Email Address:

hiepm.ln@mard.gov.vn

Phone:

+84-912216808

URL:

<http://tongcuclamngiep.gov.vn/>

2.4 Relevant experience of EA:

CCD is working intensively to stop forest and biodiversity lost in Vietnam and Indochina region. In last 5 years, the center closely work with Vietnam Administration of Forestry to implement trainings, capacity building for forest authority and enforcement officers and local stakeholder on timber trade management, forest planting and forest governance. With the existing experiences and collaboration will be a good based to ensure success of this project.

3. Relevance:

3.1 Conformity with ITTO objectives (ITTA, 2006) and priorities (current SAP):

this project conformity with ITTO objectives To promote the sustainable management of tropical timber-producing forests and Strategic Priority 3. Enhance the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Producing Forests. the project will ensure that threatened plant species will be effectively managed and recovery for sustainable use

3.2 Relevance to the ITTO Programme Lines:

the project relevant to the following ITTO program lines: - Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: the project will maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services of tropical forests and forest landscapes, while maintaining the sustainable production of timber and other products and services. - Forest Landscape Restoration and Resilient Livelihoods: Scale up the area of forest landscapes restored and increase the provision of goods and services from planted and restored forests, thereby generating opportunities for local employment.

3.3 Relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Forest Goals (GFGs) and other forest related global agenda:

the project relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND- Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss the project relevance to the Global Forest Goals 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.

3.4 Relevance to submitting country's policies:

This project fit with national priority and directly support National Biodiversity Strategy and support the implementation of Vietnam government Decree on protection of endangered wild fauna and flora (Decree 06/2019/ND-CP)

3.5 Linkages to previous/ongoing ITTO and other projects/activities (if any):

This project directly link to ITTO-CITES Program for Implementing CITES Listings of Tropical Timber Species as rosewood are listed in CITES appendix then the project

help to improve the management and recovery of the CITES listed species.

4. Project synopsis:

4.1 Objectives (reflecting reference to elements within all ITTO Guidelines as applicable):

Goal: To ensure the long-term sustainable use and conservation and recovery of the threatened rosewood species in Vietnam through improving conservation management and effectively mobilizing and engaging local communities in supporting rosewood conservation efforts. Project objectives 1. To strengthen the in-situ conservation for the endangered rosewood in Vietnam priority conservation landscapes. 2. To strengthen capacity of forest rangers, protected areas staffs, and community stakeholders on endangered plant conservation and sustainable forest management for the landscape. 3. To implement a community-based rosewood recovery program through assisted natural regeneration (ANR) techniques of rosewood seedlings in their known habitats and replanting of rosewood trees into their degraded habitats.

4.2 Key problem(s) to be addressed:

Rosewood is among the most threatened and most traded tree species in both the domestic and international markets for a long time. Nevertheless, there is no action to strengthen protection or starting a recovery effort for the species in Vietnam. In addition, there is no conservation plan prepared for this endangered plant yet. To date, there are no conservation efforts to conserve the remaining wild population and relevant stakeholders received no training on rosewood management and recovery measures. This project will fill the gaps by starting a conservation program for the most threatened rosewood species in their best-known habitats of Cat Tien and Bu Gia Map forest. The project will assist the preparation of a rosewood conservation plan with suitable management regime for wild population management and monitoring under; assisted natural regeneration (Dine et al., 2012) and habitat enrichment to facilitate and boost the natural succession processes; community-based seedling and replanting program that help to replant the rosewood species in their known and degraded habitat in the landscape. Furthermore, the project will strengthen and improve the competency of management and conservation for park and reserve staffs, local community, forest owner by provide support and training to improve their forest protection and management capacity as well as efforts taken to

conserve the species in the long-term.

4.3 Main stakeholders and beneficiaries:

1. Cat Tien National Park – will be the primary partner as their staff will involve in the implementation of project activities. The park will be the key beneficiary of this project. Their staffs will be trained, the plant conservation/forest management and conservation capacity will be strengthened. With the project activity, the threatened rosewood population in the park will be better managed, degraded forest/ rosewood known habitat will be enriched by replanting rosewood and other silviculture practices to improve growth, natural regeneration. 2. Bu Gia Map national park – will be the primary partner to implement the project activity, their staff will involve in the project implementation. The reserve will be the key beneficiary of this project, and therefore, their staffs will be trained with new skills on plant conservation and forest management. As a result, their conservation capacity will be strengthened; the threatened rosewood populations in the park will be better managed; degraded forest/rosewood known habitat will be recovered quicker through assisted natural regeneration (ANR) and enriched by replanting rosewood seedlings. 3. Local community – will be the key beneficiary of our project. The community-based activities will focus on the communities living around the landscape. Local villagers, commune forestry officers, village's leaders and woman union members will be engaged in the project implementation. Local communities will be trained and assisted to prepare community-based nursery/seedlings for rosewood, and apply ANR techniques for reforestation and forest enrichment. Having nursery knowledge and skills, communities will continue to produce rosewood seedlings that they could use to plant in their forest gardens or/and sell to the park and reserve, and other forest owners to support their reforestation efforts. 4. Local forest owners – will be a beneficiary of our project as they will be trained on sustainable forest management

4.4 Key activities:

Activity 1. Conduct studies to map the key rosewood populations and mature individuals for better protection and monitoring of rosewood and other threatened tree species. Activity 2. Support the park and reserve to prepare a rosewood conservation plan for the landscape to improve in-situ conservation and recovery of the rosewood. Activity 3. Prepare training materials and organise training courses on endangered plant conservation for forest rangers and staff of protected areas, and local stakeholders Activity 4. Organise a community-based training course on rosewood nursery and seedling production and replanting for local communities and reserve's staffs. Activity 5. Establish a rosewood nursery Activity 6. Implement rosewood planting into their degraded habitats of the conservation landscape and in

the community forests. Activity 7. Implement an assisted natural regeneration technique to accelerate the natural succession processes of rosewood species to support the recovery of wild rosewood populations. Activity 8. Implement a community-based rosewood monitoring for key populations. Activity 9. Prepare rosewood protection posters and education materials Activity 10. Organize rosewood planting events with media engagement for educational purpose

4.5 Expected outcomes and impacts, including innovation/transformation:

The outcomes of the project will make an impact on the recovery of endangered rosewood populations in Vietnam as the key wild populations will be secured with a proper management regime; and rosewood recovery plan initiated by our project then will be extended to national level; local people actively engage and support plant conservation efforts, especially rosewood; The project outcomes will contribute to global efforts in the management and conservation of rosewood and threatened plant species. First year project milestones (2021-2022) - Viable rosewood populations and matured trees surveyed, number of hectares of key conservation areas for rosewood identified, marked and properly managed in 02 protected areas; - Number of degraded forest hectares identified for ANR techniques; - Number of seeds collected enough for germinating in the nurseries and the purpose of planting 10,000 rosewood seedlings in this project; - Two nurseries established to prepare seedlings of *D. oliveri* and *D. cochinchinensis*; - A set education material (rosewood conservation posters, t-shirts) available and distributed. Second year project milestones (2022 - 2023) - Capacity of stakeholders on rosewood conservation strengthened (at least 20 rangers and 40 community members will be trained); - Relevant knowledge, skills on rosewood inventory, rosewood conservation effectively equipped and applied by the trained rangers and community members. - At least 60 Protected area staffs and local community got training and received relevant skills and knowledge on rosewood management including nursery, rosewood seedling production and planting, and ANR techniques; - More than 5000 rosewood trees planted in degraded habitats in the conservation landscape; - At least 2 planting events organized engagement of at least 200 local people and forest authority and media

4.6 Existing funding for (related) initiative(s)/established contacts to potential donors:

CCD will committed \$40,000.00 as matching fund for project implementation. in addition, additional budget will be committed by the Vietnam Administration of Forestry and in-kind contribution from Cat Tien, Bu Gia Map and local community.

4.7 Any other information deemed necessary/important:

At the national level, the project will directly support the implementation of the national Biodiversity Strategy (2013) which is known for reinforcing the management and conservation of endangered plant species. At the global level, the project and its activities will directly support the Resolution of the Convention on international trade on endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17) of CITES on “Regulation of Trade in Plants” and ITTO's programme and priorities

4.8 Risk mitigation measures:

Difficulty to locate and map accurately rosewood populations: Information on population of the rosewood is very scattered and difficult to collect as the landscape size is large. The implementation team, therefore, will need to have a comprehensive plan to review and collect all available information from difference sources, especially from the park and reserve authorities, and communities to locate the potential areas for detail survey to map key populations and matured trees for follow-up monitoring and management. The participation from local communities might not strong at the beginning: in Vietnam all protected areas and protection forests and nature conservation work are inclusively implemented by the state. The involvement of local communities is very few or minor. Therefore, local communities might feel stranger or not so familiar with when they would be asked to join our community-based rosewood protection and monitoring efforts. As such, our project will need a well-planned scheme and adaptive approach to engage local communities from the beginning. Their participation will enable the communities to engage more in biodiversity conservation efforts then they would have more benefits to improve their family income. In addition, effective contribution in forest protection will help them receive more income from the Payment for Forest Ecosystem Services that would help secure their job and income in the long-term. It's would take longer time to evaluate the success and impacts of our project, especially the impact on improving in-situ conservation and facilitate natural regeneration. Rosewood are long-live trees, therefore, by the end of the project it might difficult to evaluate viability of planted seedlings. However, the impact of the project on improving in-situ conservation and natural regeneration could be evaluated through the number of staff trained with practical skills and how their skills has been applied and contribute in forest management

5. Indicative Budget (in US\$):

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Description	ITTO	Counterpart	Total
Personnel	30000	14000	44000
Sub-contracts	30000	4000	34000
Travel and DSA	30000	10000	40000
Capital Items	10000	2000	12000
Consumables	24000	5000	29000
Publication / Dissemination	20000	3000	23000
Miscellaneous	5000	2000	7000
Total	149000	40000	189000