



**INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL  
FIFTY-NINTH SESSION**

**13 - 17 November 2023, Pattaya, Thailand**

**CRF 57 Agenda Item 5 - Policy Work (ii)**

**Joint ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical  
Forest Biodiversity /  
Programme Document 2024-2025**

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Forest Management Division  
ITTO**

# ITTO–CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity



In line with CBD COP 10 in Aichi, Japan , ITTO and CBD launched the ITTO–CBD collaborative initiative in 2011, recognizing the **importance of biodiversity in production forest landscapes** outside protected areas. The initiative was designed to

- 1) Enhance the local capacity for biodiversity conservation in **production forests** and for the rehabilitation of degraded and secondary forests.
- 2) Improve the conservation and management of protected areas, especially in association with **buffering protected areas**, and transboundary conservation.
- 3) **Safeguard tropical forest biodiversity** in forestry interventions, including in REDD+related projects.
- 4) Improve the **welfare of local communities and indigenous groups** through biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources.



# Implementation of ITTO-CBD Initiative



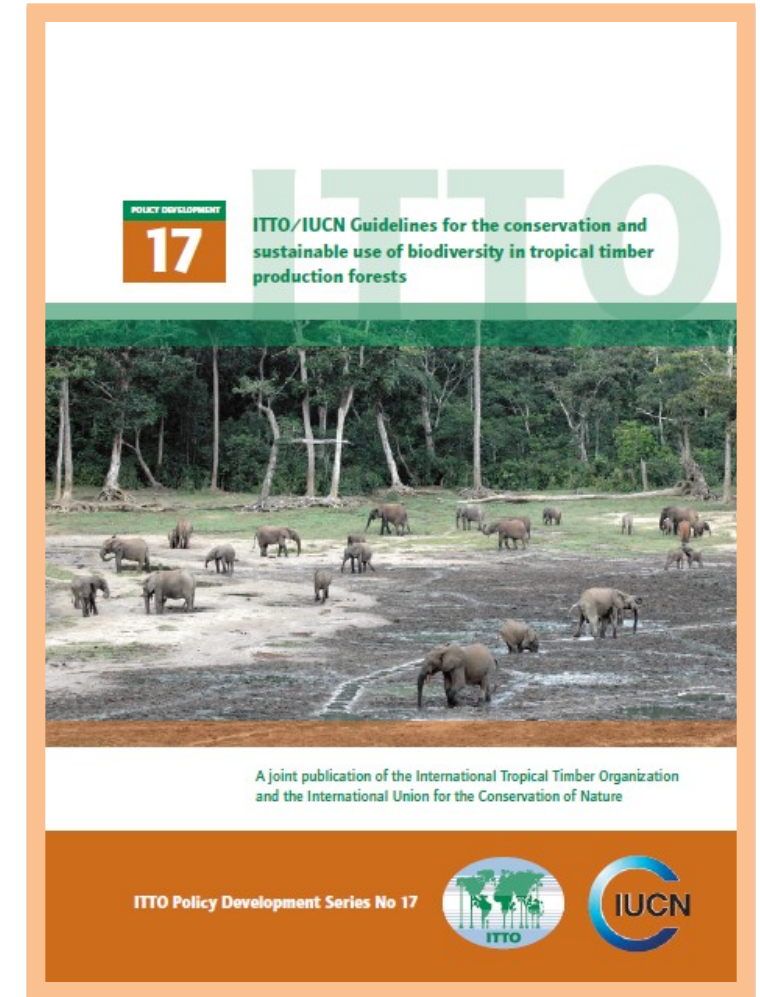
In the ten years to 2020, the collaborative initiative supported 16 projects in 23 tropical forest countries with a total value exceeding USD13 million (mostly from Japan)

Project title		Countries in which the project took place
1	Capacity-building for sustainable forest management and conservation in the Congo Basin	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon
2	Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex	Cambodia, Thailand
3	Mangrove ecosystem conservation in the northwestern Peru biosphere	Peru
4	Transboundary biodiversity conservation in the Betung Kerihun National Park	Indonesia, Malaysia
5	Buffer zone management of the Pulong Tau National Park with local communities	Malaysia
6	Integrated natural resource management in the Tacaná Volcano range	Guatemala, Mexico
7	The conservation of selected high-value indigenous species in Sumatra	Indonesia
8	The rehabilitation and sustainable forest management of sacred forests at Ramsar sites 1017 and 1018	Benin
9	Capacity-building in the Congo Basin for sustainable forest management and use of satellite imagery	Angola, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda
10	Capacity building of Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization member countries in managing Amazonian forests	Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela
11	Transboundary biodiversity conservation in the Tanintharyi Range	Myanmar
12	Community-based restoration and sustainable forest management in mangrove forests of the Rewa Delta	Fiji
13	Capacity building for sustainable forest management in tropical dry forests on the north coast of Peru	Peru
14	Restoration and sustainable forest management of sacred forests at Ramsar sites 1017 and 1018 <sup>a</sup>	Benin
15	Developing a forest landscape restoration programme based on ITTO guidelines	Guatemala
16	Restoration of Cibodas Biosphere Reserve involving local stakeholders	Indonesia



# Guiding Reference for ITTO-CBD JI: ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Production Forests

- ❖ Joint effort between ITTO and IUCN in 2009
- ❖ Designed to assist forest stakeholders in conserving biodiversity in tropical production forests - **11 Principles, 46 Guidelines**, Priority actions
- ❖ Many cases, can be equally applied to other types of forest ecosystems



Category/Principle	No. of guidelines by principle	No. of guidelines by category
<b>Strategic (national institutional and regulatory arrangements in accordance with international commitments)</b>		
I. Sovereignty and societal choice	2	6
II. International commitments	2	
III. Political commitment, policies and laws	2	
<b>Enabling (institutional and regulatory national arrangements that affect forest management)</b>		
IV. Land use and spatial planning	2	14
V. Decentralization, forest tenure and natural resource access rights	2	
VI. Incentives	4	
VII. Knowledge, learning, technology transfer and capacity building	6	
<b>Operational (institutional and regulatory national arrangements that allow intervention in the territory)</b>		
VIII. Managing tropical production forests at a landscape scale	3	26
IX. Biodiversity considerations at the forest management unit level	14	
X. Biodiversity conservation in planted forests	5	
XI. Maintaining functioning forest ecosystems	4	

# Lessons learned from the ITTO-CBD Initiative



The important lessons learned in the implementation of the initiative's 16 projects can readily be applied to future projects under the initiative.

- All projects addressing conservation and sustainable forest management should consult regularly with and enable the involvement of **local communities and indigenous groups** in the area of influence.
- Indigenous and other local communities must derive benefits from such projects, and **traditional land rights and practices** must be enabled to continue.
- Projects designed to improve livelihoods can have beneficial impacts on local incomes. **Clear indicators** should be established to measure the effectiveness of such projects in addressing long-term livelihoods, sustainability and biodiversity conservation.

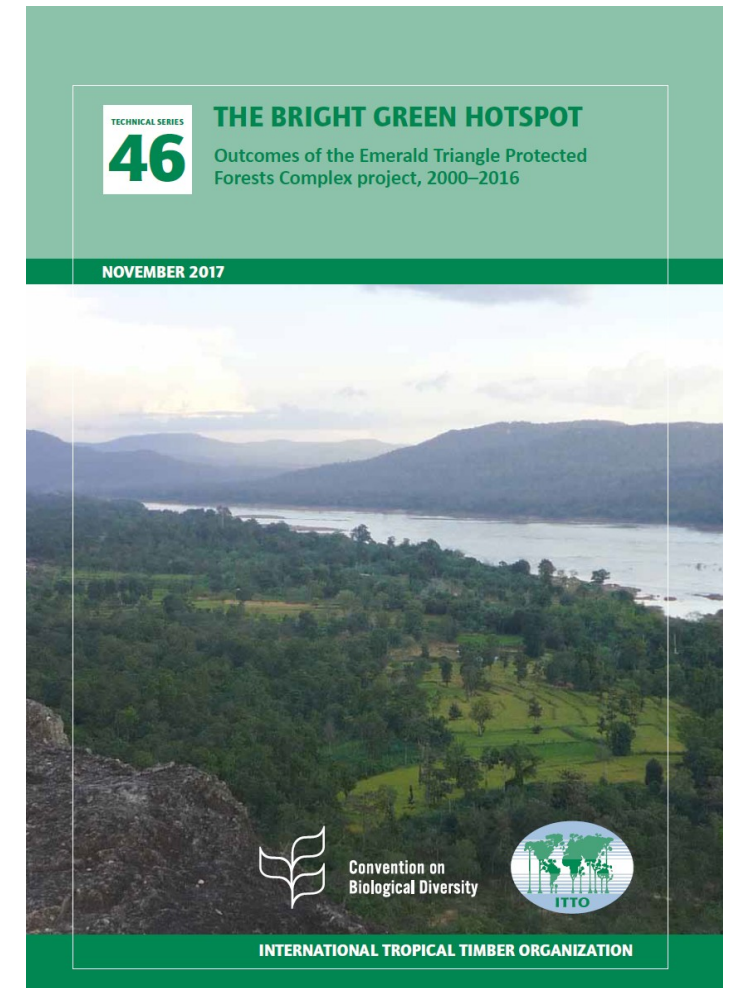


# Achievements of ITTO-CBD Initiative



Notable achievements of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative supported 16 projects in 23 tropical forest countries included:

- the expansion of a **Peruvian mangrove protected area** by more than 700 000 hectares;
- a better understanding of animal movements and habitat conservation in the **Emerald Triangle Forests** between Cambodia and Thailand;
- more than 120 hectares of mangrove forest planted in **Fiji**;
- more than 400 foresters in **Central Africa** trained in sustainable forest management.



**UNFF 18**

8–12 May 2023

UN headquarters, New York



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

**ITTO side-event**

# Enriching Biodiversity in Tropical Production Landscapes through SFM



**10 May 2023, 1:15-2:30 pm**  
**Conference Room 8 at UNFF 18**

Presentation:

Partnerships and Synergies in Forest Biodiversity in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (**Ms. Jamal Annagylyjova**)

Lessons from the Implementation of the Joint ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity (Dr. Ian Thompson)

**Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex for transboundary Biodiversity Conservation between Thailand, Cambodia and Lao PDR (Prof. Yongyut Trisurat)**

Smallholder Community Forest Management Initiatives in Para State, Brazil: A Collaborative Framework for Sustainable Production (Dr. Milton Kanashiro)

Enriching Biodiversity in Production Landscapes through  
Sustainable Forest Management in the Tropics

18<sup>th</sup> UNFF: 10 May 2023

@ UNHQ, New York

Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex  
for Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation

**Yongyut Trisurat**

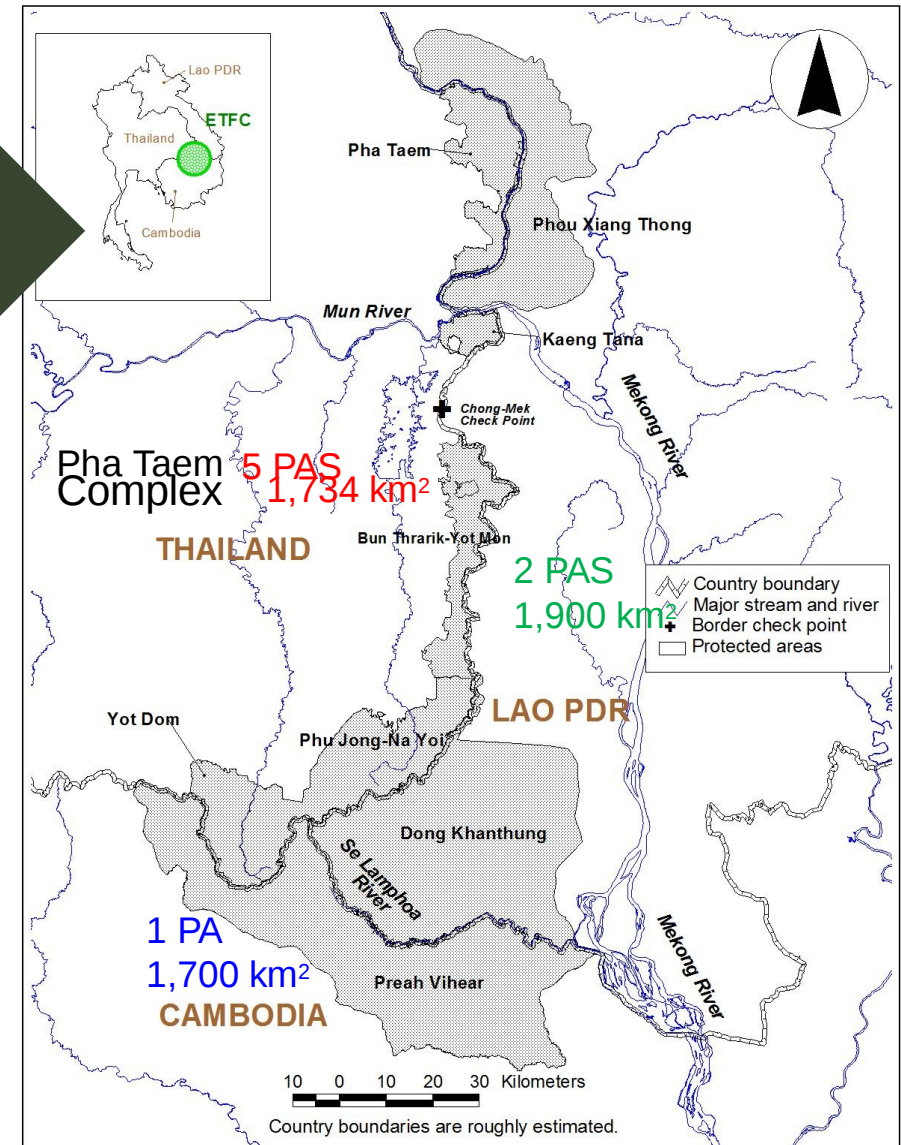
Professor, Kasetsart University, THAILAND





# The Emerald

The largest remaining extensive **intact block** of a unique landscape of global importance for biodiversity conservation in the Mekong Basin.



# International significance of iconic



Rhin  
o



Eld's  
deer



Kouprey (*Bos sauveli*),  
last observation in 1964



Sarus  
crane



Giant  
ibis





# ITTO's Project Milestones

Phase 1:  
2001-04  
Thailand

Phase 2:  
2008-10  
Thailand  
Cambodia

Phase 3:  
2012-15  
Thailand  
Cambodia  
Lao PDR

Border dispute  
& disparities

Objectives: Towards trans-boundary conservation partnership

To initiate a mgt. planning process in a **framework of TBCAs**  
To promote cooperation among 3 countries

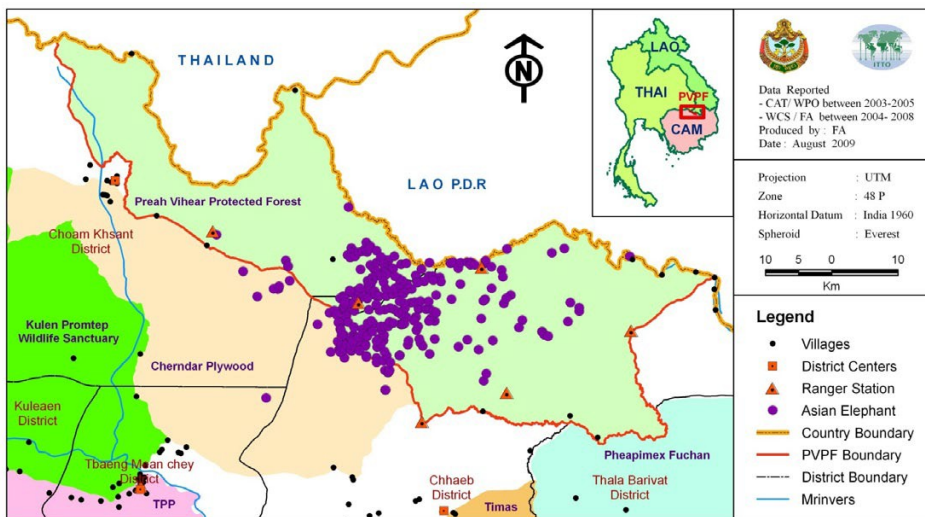
To strengthen cooperation among the three countries.

To enhance protection measures and the monitoring of biodiversity across-  
border  
To strengthen the involvement of **local communities**  
and

To strengthen the protection of trans-boundary habitats of the wide-ranging species in the Emerald Triangle

# Significant Outputs of Phase III (2012-2015)

- **Jointly surveyed wildlife** occurrences across the Emerald Triangle and **shared** the spatial data.
- strengthened the **protection of trans-boundary habitats** of the wide-ranging species



## Target species

- Tiger
- Leopard
- Elephant
- Gaur
- Bantang
- Sambar
- Eld's deer*
- Giant ibis
- Suras crane
- Lesser adjutant stork
- Wild boar\*
- Barking deer\*





# A show case under CBD/ITTO collaborative Initiative (CBD COP 12)



## Phase I: 200-2003

- ✓ TBCA framework
- ✓ Information sharing
- ✓ Coordinated implementation

## Phase I: 2008-2010

- ✓ Compatible management plans
- ✓ Governance mechanisms
- ✓ Bilateral or Trilateral Cooperation Agreements

## Phase I: 2012-2015

- ✓ Joint management planning and implementation
- ✓ "Peace Park"?

**Border Disputes**



**Unilateral Action**

**Coordination**

**Advanced Cooperation**

**Full cooperation (one heterogenous landscape)**

**Cooperation Continuum**



# ITTO-CBD CI FOR TROPICAL FOREST BIODIVERSITY: PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR 2024-2025 - CRF(LVII)/4

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## Development objective

To enhance biodiversity conservation in tropical forests with the direct participation of local stakeholders, addressing the drivers of deforestation, forest degradation and biodiversity loss.

## Specific objectives

To provide support for the implementation of country-specific projects that contribute to the Targets 12 and 18 of Strategic Priority 3 of ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2022-2026 and to the achievement of common goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.



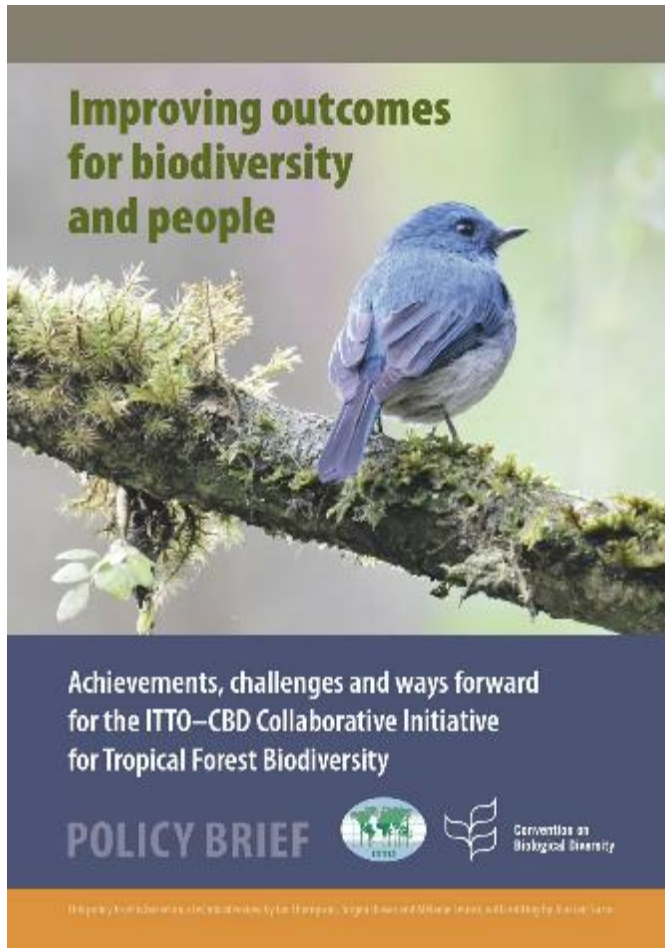
# ITTO-CBD CI FOR TROPICAL FOREST BIODIVERSITY: PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR 2024-2025 and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

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The ITTO-CBD CI prioritizes activities to contribute to the achievement of forest related goals and associated targets identified in the KM Global Biodiversity Framework, which are in correlation with ITTO objectives and priorities, specifically:

- **Target 2:** Ensure that by 2030 at least 30% of degraded ecosystems are under restoration
- **Target 3:** Ensure that by 2030 at least 30% of land and ocean are protected through well-connected and equitable governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).
- **Target 10:** Ensure that areas of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably
- **Target 20:** Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation
- **Target 21:** Ensure the best available data, information and knowledge for decision-making
- **Target 22:** Ensure participatory decision-making and respect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities
- **Target 23:** Ensure gender responsive approach

# Moving forward: reconciling biodiversity conservation and sustainable timber production



- **Integrated forest management** is key to reconciling biodiversity conservation and sustainable timber production, involving integrating conservation objectives into forest management plans and practices, developing sustainable value chains
- In 2021, ITTO and CBD extended joint work to 2025 in a new MoU and continue its **long-term commitment to enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity** in tropical forests production landscapes
- Recommends the approval of “**PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR 2024-2025 for ITTO-CBD COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE FOR TROPICAL FOREST BIODIVERSITY CRF(LVII)/4**”
- ITTO continues to work with, partners all over the world, to support the achievement of the SDGs, and efforts in line with the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**.