## INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANISATION (ITTO) WORKSHOP



27<sup>TH</sup> TO 29<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024



KAPOK HOTEL, 16 – 18 COTTON HILL ROAD, PORT OF SPAIN



EFFECTIVE USE OF ITTO
CRITERIA AND INDICATORS
FOR SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL
FORESTS.

FOREST
MANAGEMENT
IN TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO



### TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

LOCATION

TOTAL LAND AREA

POPULATION

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY







**HISTORY** 

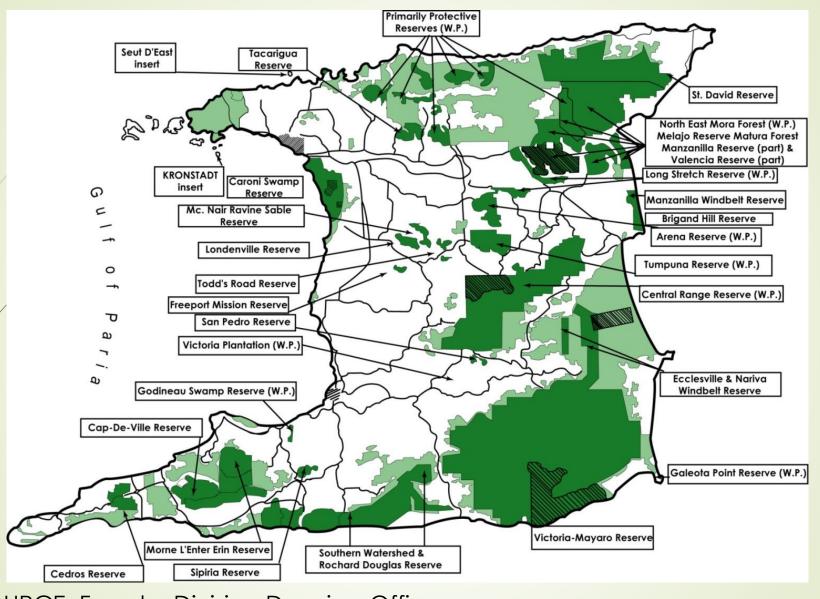
TRADITIONAL & NON-TRADITIONAL FORESTRY

### FORESTRY DIVISION



MANAGEMENT AREAS

PRODUCTION, PROTECTION



**SOURCE:** Forestry Division Drawing Office

### Total Land Area 513,000 ha

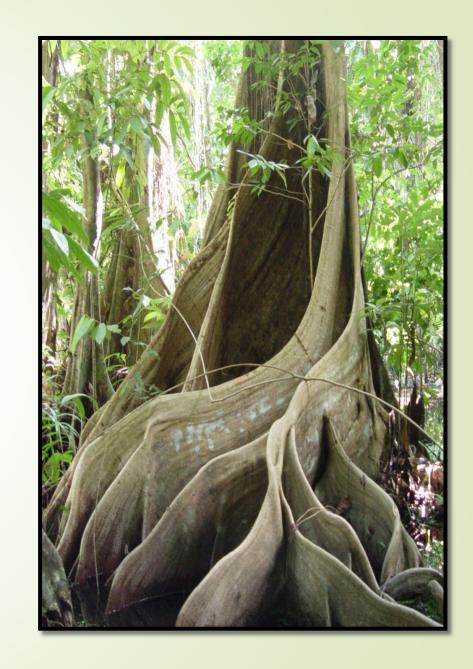
Total Forested Area

255,688 ha 45.7 % Proclaimed Forest Reserves 127,474 ha 24.85 %

Private Lands 56,000 ha

10.92 %

Unproclaim Forest Reserves 11,652 ha 2.27 % Other Forested State Lands 39,350 ha 7.67 %



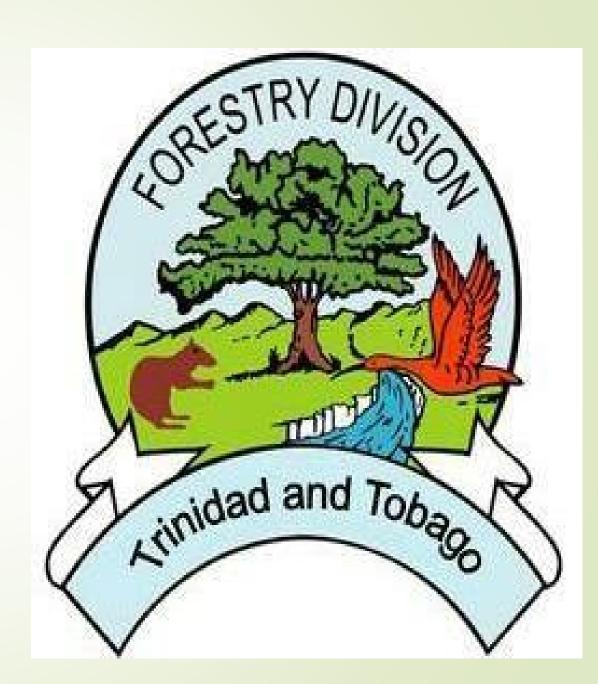
### VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

#### **Vision Statement**

The Vision of the Forestry
Division is to promote the wellbeing of the nation's forest
resources for present and future
generation.

#### **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Forestry
Division is to be of service to the
national and international
community with best practices of
integrated forestry and
environmental conservation.



### GOAL S OF FORESTRY DIVISION



To sustainably manage the forest resources of Trinidad and Tobago to provide for the social, economic, ecological, cultural and spiritual needs of present and future generations



Contribute to the sustainable development of the country



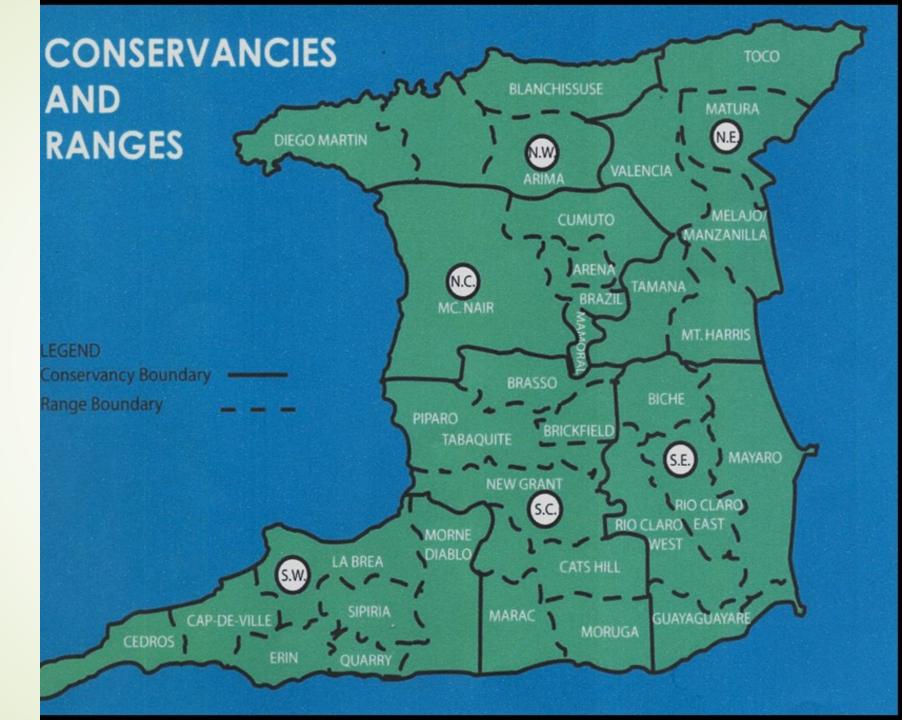
Enhance the quality of human life while at the same time protecting biological diversity and ecological processes.

### ROLE & FUNCTION of the FORESTRY DIVISION

The Role and Functions of the Forestry Division is to effectively manage the forests and its resources utilizing internationally accepted best practices, to ensure all international and governmental objectives are realized, and the benefits to all stakeholders are maximized and sustained.



Map Showing
Conservancy and
Range
Boundaries



### FORESTRY DIVISION OPERATIONS - COMMERCIAL FORESTRY



Timber Production



**Down Stream Processing** 



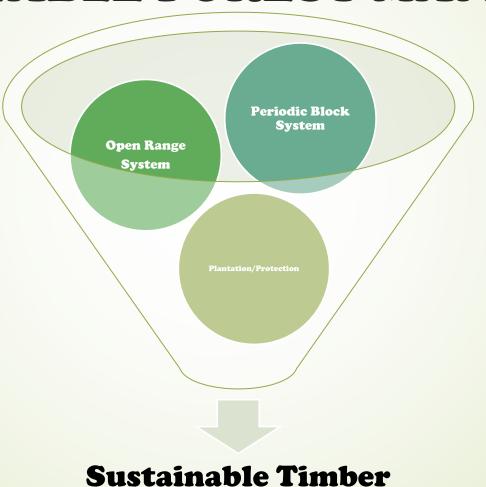


**Plantations** 



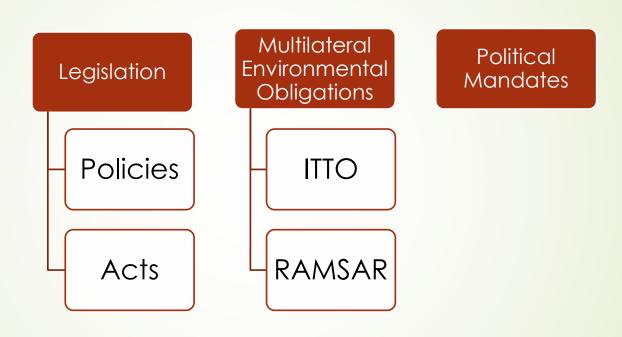
Reforestation

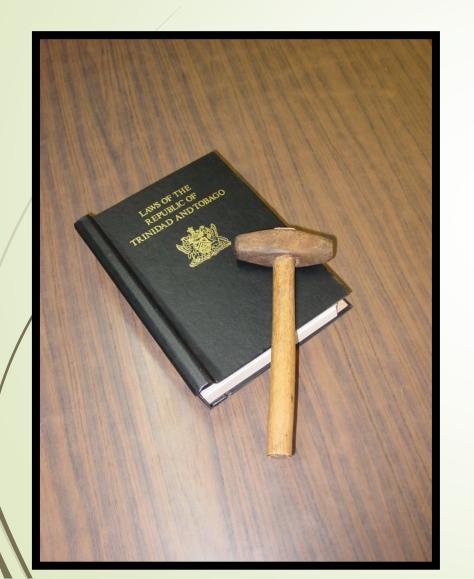
### COMMERCIAL FORESTRY AND SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT



Sustainable Timber Production

### Forestry Division's Pillars





- Forest Act, Chapter 66.01 and Amendments, Act 23/99
- > Sawmills Act Chapter 66.02, and Amendments, Act 24/99
- Conservation of Wildlife Act Chapter 67.01
- Agricultural Fires Act Chapter 63.02
- Litter Act Chapter 30.52
- > Environmental Management Act 2000

# EXPANDING ROLES OF FORESTRY DIVISION



Timber Production
Wildlife Conservation
Recreation and
Ecotourism

Watershed Management

**Environmental Services** 

Biodiversity Conservation

Environmental Education

Non-timber Forest Products

**Community Forestry** 

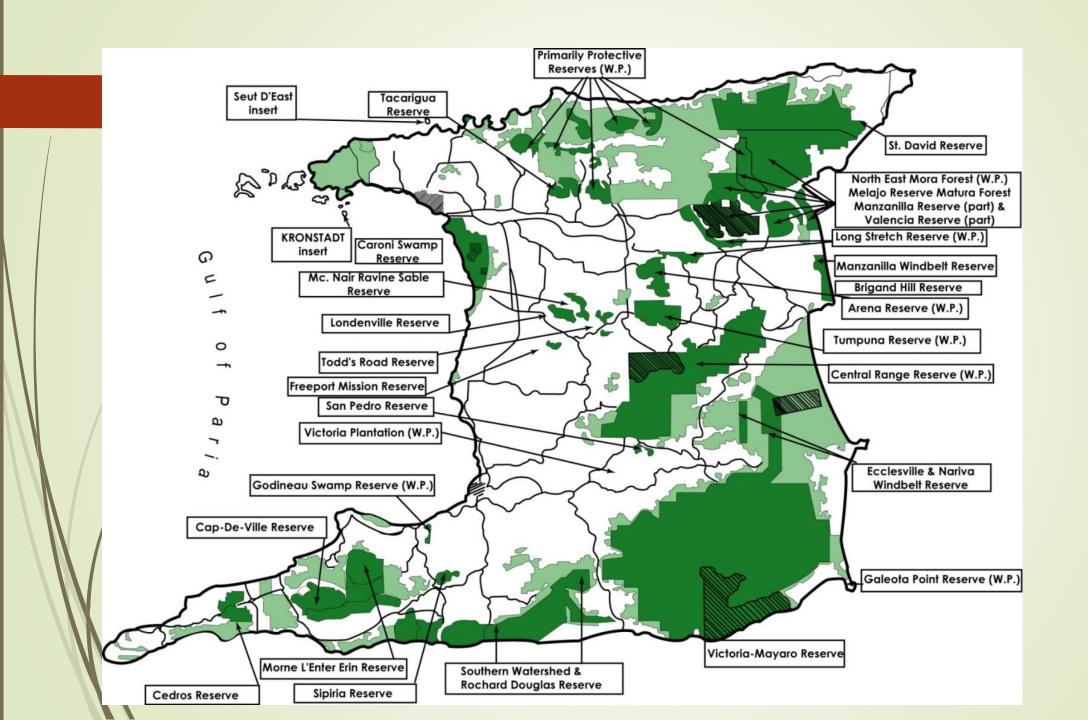
Climate Change mitigation

**Enhanced Food Production** 

#### MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL TROPICAL FOREST IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

- Production Forestry –Teak, Pine, Mixed Species
- Protection Forestry
- Private Forestry Cedar,Mahogany, etc.
- Periodic Block Sales
- Open Range Sales
- Arena TropicalShelterwood System





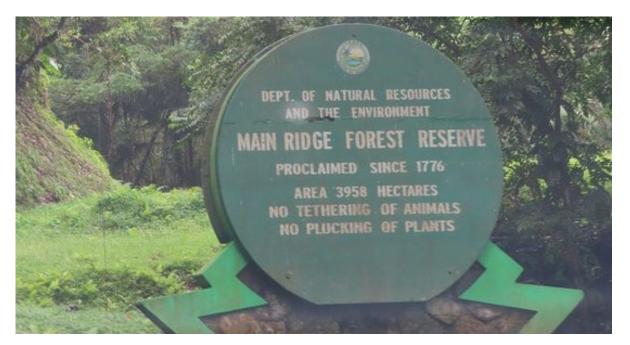
### PRODUCTION FOREST





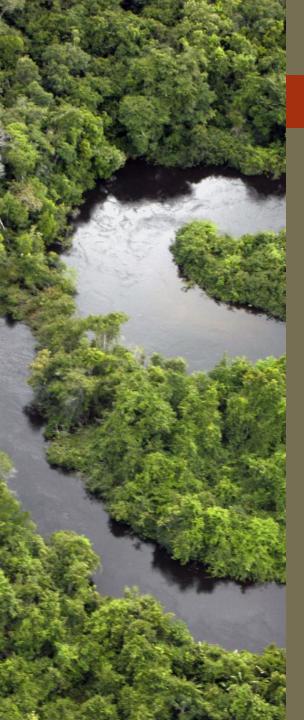
### PRODUCTION FORESTS

- Approximately 21% (28,000 hectares) of the Forest Reserves in Trinidad are currently designated as "production forests"
- Main species planted are Teak, Caribbean Pine, Mahogany, Cedar and Cypre
- Estimated at approximately 15,400 hectares
- > 9,100 hectares Teak
- > 4,200 hectares Pinus Caribaea
- > 2,100 hectares mixed species
- Source -Forest Policy of Trinidad and Tobago 2011





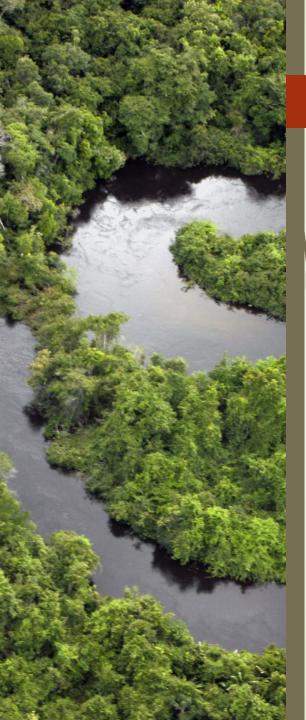




### PROTECTION FOREST MANAGEMENT

- "Protection forests" cover 79% of the Forest Reserves in Trinidad
- Forest Reserves include areas that have been simultaneously designated as:
- **►**/1. Wildlife Sanctuaries
- 2. Prohibited Areas
- 3. Marine Parks
- **4. ESAs**
- 5. Ramsar sites

Source -Forest Policy of Trinidad and Tobago 2011



### PRIVATE FORESTRY

- An estimated twenty per cent (20%) of the total forested area of Trinidad and Tobago are in private ownership.
- Private forests contribute to environmental quality (e.g. watershed protection, soil conservation), biodiversity conservation and economic development
- Within recent times the opportunity presented by this shift from extraction on State forests, has been capitalized on by local landowners, with over 1200 "forest farmers" now planting commercial timber trees on their holdings

Source -Forest Policy of Trinidad and Tobago 2011



### PERIODIC BLOCK SYSTEM

- A form of Polycyclic Selection System
- System is based on the philosophy of minimizing damage to the forest
- Has the overriding objective of applying multiple use principles to achieve sustainable timber production within a balanced conservation program
- Chief method used is the silvicultural selection and harvesting of stems with a defined area of 150 to 300 hectares using a 30 years cutting cycle.
- Ecologically well balanced in terms of species composition, diameter distribution, stand structure, regeneration of important species and volume production

### **OPEN RANGE SYSTEM**

This System uses girth limit on selective species



Lack of adequate control in operating this method has led to over exploitation



Forest managed under this system seems to be in a more ecologically poorer condition



Does not maintain its biological diversity

### ARENA SHELTERWOOD SYSTEM

- Most widely known of the management systems in Trinidad.
- Started in 1932
- Timber fellings and fellings by charcoal burners were regulated.
- In the following year there was abundant regeneration of species.
- The system developed over time with careful control of logging intensity, canopy opening, maintenance of regeneration and removal of undesirable trees for charcoal.
- The areas regenerated by this system have excellent stands

# Forestry Division – Motivation to improve

- Poor Land Use Management
- Extractive Industries vs. SFM
- **■** Illegal Wildlife Trade
- Introduction of Exotic Species
- Forest Inventory
- Monitoring
- Forest Certification.
- Sustainable Forest Management Indicators (tagging etc)
- Poor forest utilization remnants
- Mangrove management
- Diversification of Less utilized forest species

### THANK YOU

