

## I T T O

## INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION

## DRAFT PROJECT DOCUMENT

Title	INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON IMPROVED UTILIZATION OF TIMBER RESOURCES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
Serial Number	PD 160/91 Rev 2. (I)
Original	ENGLISH

Prepared by	FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE MALAYSIA (FRIM)
Submitted by	GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA
Duration	5 DAYS
Field of Activity	FOREST INDUSTRY
Co-operating Governments	GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN
Implementing Agency	ITTO/IUFRO DIVISION V/RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF HOST COUNTRY
Estimated Starting Date	SEPTEMBER 1991
Estimated Project Cost	US\$ 136,760 PLUS CONTRIBUTION IN KIND
Financing Sources and Amount	
- ITTO Contribution	US\$ 116,360 PLUS CONTRIBUTION IN KIND
- Contribution by IUFRO Div. V.	US\$ 10,200 PLUS CONTRIBUTION IN KIND
- Contribution by Donor Agencies	US\$ 10,200 PLUS CONTRIBUTION IN KIND
- Contribution by Host Country	IN KIND
Signed	

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 On behalf of ITTO

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 Date

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 On behalf of IUFRO Div. V.

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 Date

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 On behalf of Host Country

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 Date

## Part I LEGAL CONTENT

This project is submitted in accordance with the directions of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983. It meets the objectives as laid down in Article 1 of the Agreement, particularly objectives (c) and (e) and falls within the scope of the functions of the Permanent Committee on Forest Industry. It relates to paragraph 5 of Article 23 of the Agreement and is consistent with all the criteria set up in paragraph 6 of that Article.

## Part II THE PROJECT

### I. OBJECTIVES

#### (a) Development Objectives

##### Basic long-term objectives

Improve the contribution of forest products to the economy of the participating Southeast Asian countries and to the living conditions of the people of these countries, in particular urban and rural poor populations. To this end, upgrade the operations particularly of small; medium and cottage industries in order to contribute to sustainable management of tropical forestry and to attain a balance between tropical timber utilization and conservation.

(b) Specific Objectives

(i) To bring together researchers in the Region as well as executives of donor agencies to determine the appropriate actions to be taken to implement the four regional priority research areas viz.

- utilization of lesser-known species (commercially less accepted species) from natural forests
- utilization of plantation grown species
- utilization of bamboo and rattan
- utilization of wood residues

(ii) To draw up a work plan for the implementation of research and development (R & D) activities in the above-mentioned regional priority areas and to determine the roles to be played by each participating R & D institutions in the region.

(iii) To establish a system of coordination and networking to facilitate the effective implementation of the work plan.

(iv) To explore means for improving the transfer of knowledge from the national R & D institutions to the forest industries.

## II. BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

The International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) will celebrate its centenary in 1992. There are at present some 674 member institutions, spread across 105 countries and including an estimated 15,000 professional staff for research on all aspects of forestry and forest products. The activities of IUFRO are carried out by about 230 research groups organized in six technical divisions.

Approximately 91 research organizations concerned with forest products are member institutions of IUFRO. Division 5 of IUFRO is composed of four subject and six project groups.

### Subject Groups:

- S5.01 Wood quality
- S5.02 Timber engineering
- S5.03 Wood protection
- S5.04 Wood processing

### Project Groups:

- P5.01 Properties and utilization of tropical woods
- P5.03 Energy and chemicals from forest biomass
- P5.04 Production and utilization of bamboo, rattan and palmwood
- P5.05 Tree ring analysis
- P5.06 Forest products marketing
- P5.07 Non-wood forest products

More than 1018 research staff are members of the four subject and six project groups.

The member institutions concerned with forest products are located regionally as follows:-

Europe, North America, Australasia and Japan	67
Sub-Saharan Africa	6
Latin America and the Caribbean	10
Asia (excluding Japan) and the Pacific	4
West Asia and North Africa	4

Unsurprisingly, the developing countries have relatively few institutions.

It is well known that tropical forests are being rapidly depleted or deteriorated in many regions of the world. It is also generally accepted that the continued existence and wise use of these forests is essential to safeguard the world's ecological equilibrium and to provide for indispensable material needs of people in the developing countries where most of these forests are located. The Draft Action Plan and Work Program in the Field of Forest Industry [Document PCI (VI)/3] recommends that IUFRO should take the initiative to address the problems facing the Southeast Asian (SEA) countries and to establish a network of research institutes on tropical timber.

Following a resolution at its XVIIth World Congress in Kyoto, Japan, in 1981, IUFRO decided to address the problems of forestry in developing countries by setting up a special programme. Its basic objective is the improvement of living conditions for the rural and urban poor population.

The realization of the basic objective requires:

- appropriate knowledge, either obtained from existing sources, or to be created by research,
- application of this knowledge.

As a first step, IUFRO organized the Asian Regional Workshop on "Increasing Productivity of Multipurpose Tree Species (MPTS) in Kandy, Sri Lanka in 1984 under its Special Programme for Developing Countries. The Workshop centred discussion on the selection, establishment, protection and management systems for MPTS to address the problems related to fuelwood production and consumption, rehabilitation of watersheds and degraded lands and incorporation of MPTS in farm practice to generate additional income for the rural poor. This particular workshop did not deliberate issues related to improved utilization of existing forest resources in the region as a means to improve the living condition of the rural poor as well as to upgrade the economic development in the developing countries.

The proposed workshop will bring together knowledgeable people in the region to draw up a plan of action to bring about efficient utilization of hitherto underutilized and

new resources such as the lesser-used species in the natural forest, the small diameter logs from the plantations and wood residues. Rattan and bamboo are also given emphasis as they are important raw material input for small-scale industries, actively promoted by various countries in the region as a means to bring industrial development to the rural areas to upgrade the incomes of the rural poor.

Wood has always been an important material for the rural poor as a source of energy and building material. The Workshop will identify areas where research and development is needed so that currently lesser-used species, plantation woods and wood residues could be turned into more efficient and cheaper materials to satisfy their basic needs for energy and construction. The availability of cheaper energy and housing will enable the rural poor to spend more for food, clothing and other essentials to improve their overall living standard.

To assess research needs in each region, a rapporteur is engaged to visit and discuss with local officers of national forest products research laboratories in the region to identify priority research areas. The exercise in Asia was carried out in May, 1985, by Dr. Florentino Tesoro of the Philippines. Dr. Tesoro's report summarizes research priorities as seen by the senior officers of the different national research laboratories in the region.

This Proposal is based on the report by Dr. Tesoro and refers to the eight countries he visited, i.e. Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The average annual loss of forest areas from all causes (agriculture, urban sprawl), fire, unlicensed cutting, etc) in the eight countries visited by Dr. Tesoro was estimated in 1985 to amount to 1.4 million hectares, i.e. 0.5% of the total existing forest area. Although meritorious efforts are being made to establish plantations of high productivity, these are very far from adequate to replace the volume of timber lost.

Further substantial losses of usable timber occur through wasteful logging and processing and through the absence or poor quality of preservative treatments of wood exposed to attack by fungi or insects.

On the other hand, there is an increasing demand for timber in the Region for building, furniture, poles and posts and other uses. Timber also contributes very substantially to export earnings, Malaysia and Indonesia being the largest exporters of tropical woods on a world-wide basis.

The research officers interviewed by Dr. Tesoro were unanimous that real opportunities exist for vastly improving the contribution of forest products to the economy and quality of life of the countries included in the survey.



To translate these opportunities into constructive action, the officers considered that both research and technology transfer should be significantly increased in the Region's institutes. They identified the following priorities as specific objectives for urgent attention:

- Utilization of commercially less accepted species;
- Utilization of plantation grown species;
- Utilization of bamboo and rattan;
- Utilization of wood residues.

Most of the research, development and extension work required could be undertaken in regional cooperative projects by setting up networks.

To ensure cross-fertilization between the different research areas, an overall coordinator should be appointed to ensure common purpose and avoidance of duplication.

### **III. BENEFITS**

Based on the report by Dr. Tesoro, a programme of action has been drafted by Walter Kauman, Florentino Tesoro and Wong Wing-Chong and published as a document by Project Group P5.01 - Properties and Utilization of Tropical Woods, IUFRO. This programme of Action was further modified by Wong Wing-Chong and research proposals on each of the four selected priority areas have been prepared.

To realize maximum benefit, the commitments of all participating countries have to be obtained. The proposed international workshop is deemed to be the best means to present the research proposals for discussion. The representatives from nations in Southeast Asia can scrutinize the research proposals and suggest improvement. They can also express their interest in participating in all or selected research projects and have the opportunity to agree or rectify the work plan. In order to attain success in carrying out the necessary activities in the four identified priority research areas, it is essential to get everyone involved adequately informed and committed from the very beginning.

The organization of the international workshop will enable executives of donor agencies to be informed of the nature and purpose of the research and development activities to be carried out under the overall project "Improved Utilization of Timber Resources in Southeast Asia" which will be put forward for funding at a later date. These executives would then have the opportunity to assess the worthiness of this project for financial assistance and to propose any amendments that will make the project more amenable for funding by their agencies.

#### **IV. OUTPUTS**

The Workshop will lead to modification of the project proposals and production of the final document encompassing

the views expressed by the participants of the Workshop. The final Project Document will also include proposal for financing, agreed upon with representatives of the Donor Agencies.

A report of the Workshop will also be prepared, presenting

- a summary of the discussions
- the main conclusion and recommendation
- a timetable and procedure for monitoring the implementation of the project.

#### V. ACTIVITIES

The Workshop will be held for 5 days in 1992 at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia. The Workshop will be jointly sponsored by ITTO/IUFRO Division V/FRIM.

It is conceived as a work conference to

- test and evaluate the previously identified research priorities.
- discuss the present state and future needs of forest products research in the different countries in the region.
- prepare draft project documents as mentioned under "Output".
- elaborate realistic plans for financing the projects in concert with donor agency representatives.

The participants include:

IUFRO Workshop Coordinators	: 5
ITTO Officers	: 2
Representatives from Consumer Countries	: 5
Coordinator	: 1
Organizing Secretariat	: 3
Representatives from Donor Agencies	: 5
Representatives from South Asia	: 24 (2 from each of the nations)

#### VI. INPUT

The Host Institute will undertake the organization of the Workshop and a consultancy service may be appointed for assisting the Host Institute.

ITTO will provide advice on the appointment of the consultancy service and will help to publicize the Workshop.

#### VII. BUDGET

This budget is based on the estimate of 45 participants including the coordinator. Cost of air travel and per diem have been averaged to arrive at an order of magnitude.

<u>Travel</u>	<u>US\$</u>
45 airfares at US\$1200	54,000
Local travel and transfer	12,000
<u>Per Diem</u>	
44 x 7 days at US\$120 per day	36,960
1 x 15 days at US\$120 per day for coordinator	1,800

**Miscellaneous**

Office expenses, secretariat	10,000
Mail telecommunication	2,000
Printing	10,000
Contingencies	<u>10,000</u>
Total US\$	136,760

**VIII. CONTRIBUTION**

(i) **ITTO**

(a) Airfares and per diem for ITTO officers, Representatives from consumer countries, Coordinator, Organizing Secretariat, and Representatives from Southeast Asia.	72,360
(b) Miscellaneous and Local Travel	<u>44,000</u>
Total US\$	116,360

(ii) **IUFRO**

Travel and per diem for IUFRO Workshop coordinators	10,200
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(iii) **DONOR AGENCIES**

Travel and per diem for representatives from donor agencies.	10,200
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## **IX. WORK PLAN**

The detailed work plan will be developed by a regional coordinator and experts recruited by ITTO, as soon as possible after the approvals have been obtained.

## **X. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

FRIM will act as a general coordinator and, together with the regional coordinator and recruited experts, form a steering committee for supervision of project implementation.

## **XI. PRIOR OBLIGATIONS AND PREREQUISITES**

No specific prior actions, obligation or prerequisite is required for the Project.

## **XII. POSSIBLE FUTURE ASSISTANCE**

It is expected that the successful international workshop will provide the basis for the preparation of a comprehensive project proposal for improved utilization of timber resources in South East Asia. The implementation of the project may require additional assistance. Requests for such assistance should be submitted to ITTO and other technical assistant agencies for consideration and action.

## **PART III SCHEDULE OF MONITORING EVALUATION AND REPORTING**

### **I. MONITORING REVIEWS**

This Project's implementation will be monitored in accordance with the policies and procedure of ITTO. Progress reports should be submitted to

the Sessions of ITTO's Council through the Permanent Committee of Forest Industry.

## II. EVALUATION

This Project will be evaluated by ITTO in accordance with its established procedures.