

ITTO-CITES Programme for Implementing CITES Listings of Tropical Tree Species

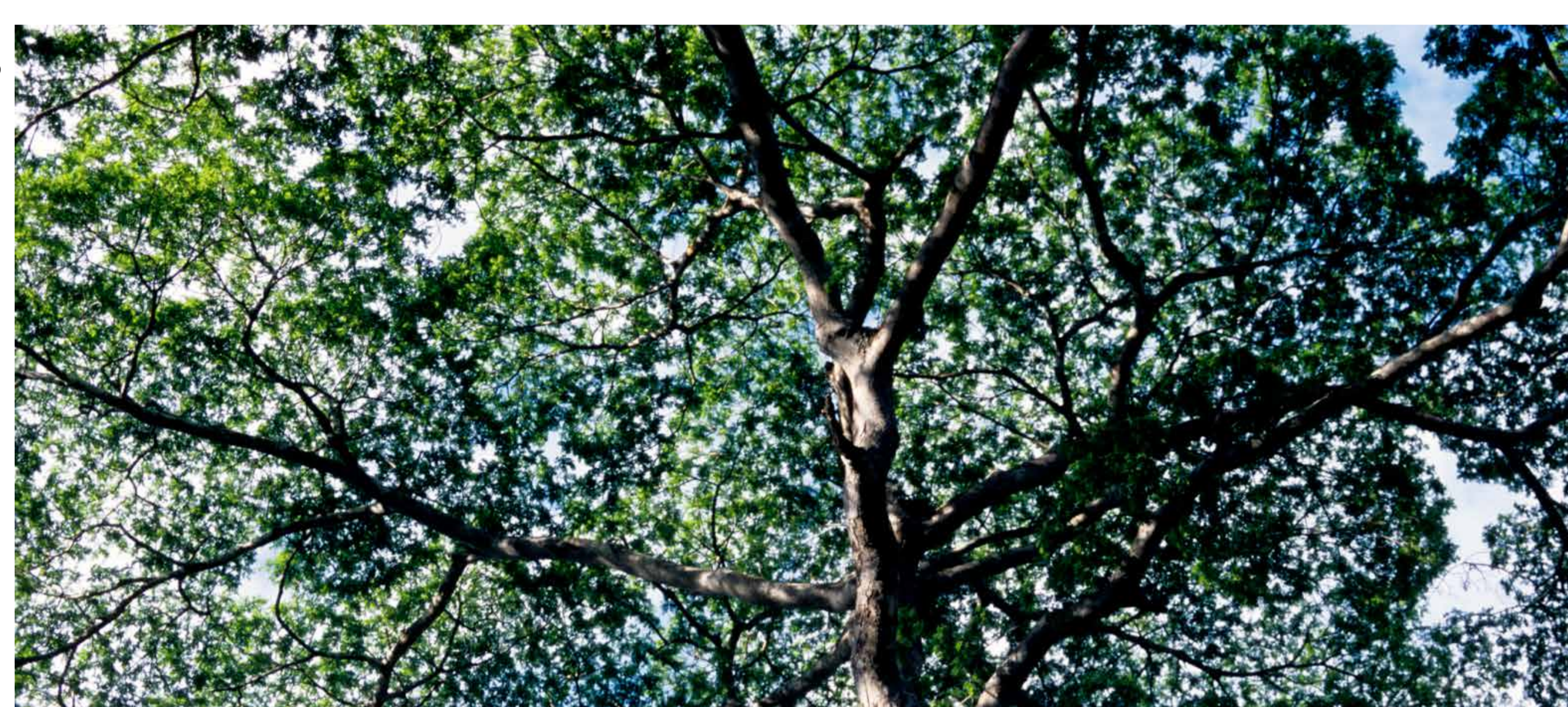
Photo credit: J. Grogan



Swietenia macrophylla (mahogany) forest

Non-detriment findings

Photo credit: J. Grogan



Swietenia macrophylla (mahogany) tree

CITES Appendix II listing means that specimens of these species may only be traded if the exporting country has established that the export of the specimens will not be detrimental to the survival of the species. These so called 'non-detriment findings' (NDF) outlined in Article IV of the text of the Convention are necessary to issue a CITES export permit.

The NDF and advice of the CITES Scientific Authority of the country of export must be based on the following elements relating to the species concerned:

- Population status
- Distribution
- Population trends
- Harvest levels
- Other biological and ecological factors
- Trade information

Photo credit: J. Grogan



Swietenia macrophylla (mahogany) seeds

Photo credit: Efecca



Logging operation in Africa

Accurate and reliable NDFs are essential to ensure sustainability of trade in species in CITES Appendix II. To support the work of CITES Authorities, the Conference of the Parties has adopted further guidance on how to formulate NDFs.

Many ITTO-CITES Programme activities focus on strengthening capacity and collecting and analyzing information required for NDFs.

The number of tree species included in the CITES Appendices has grown from 18 in 1975 to more than 400 today, with close to 200 of these used and traded for timber.

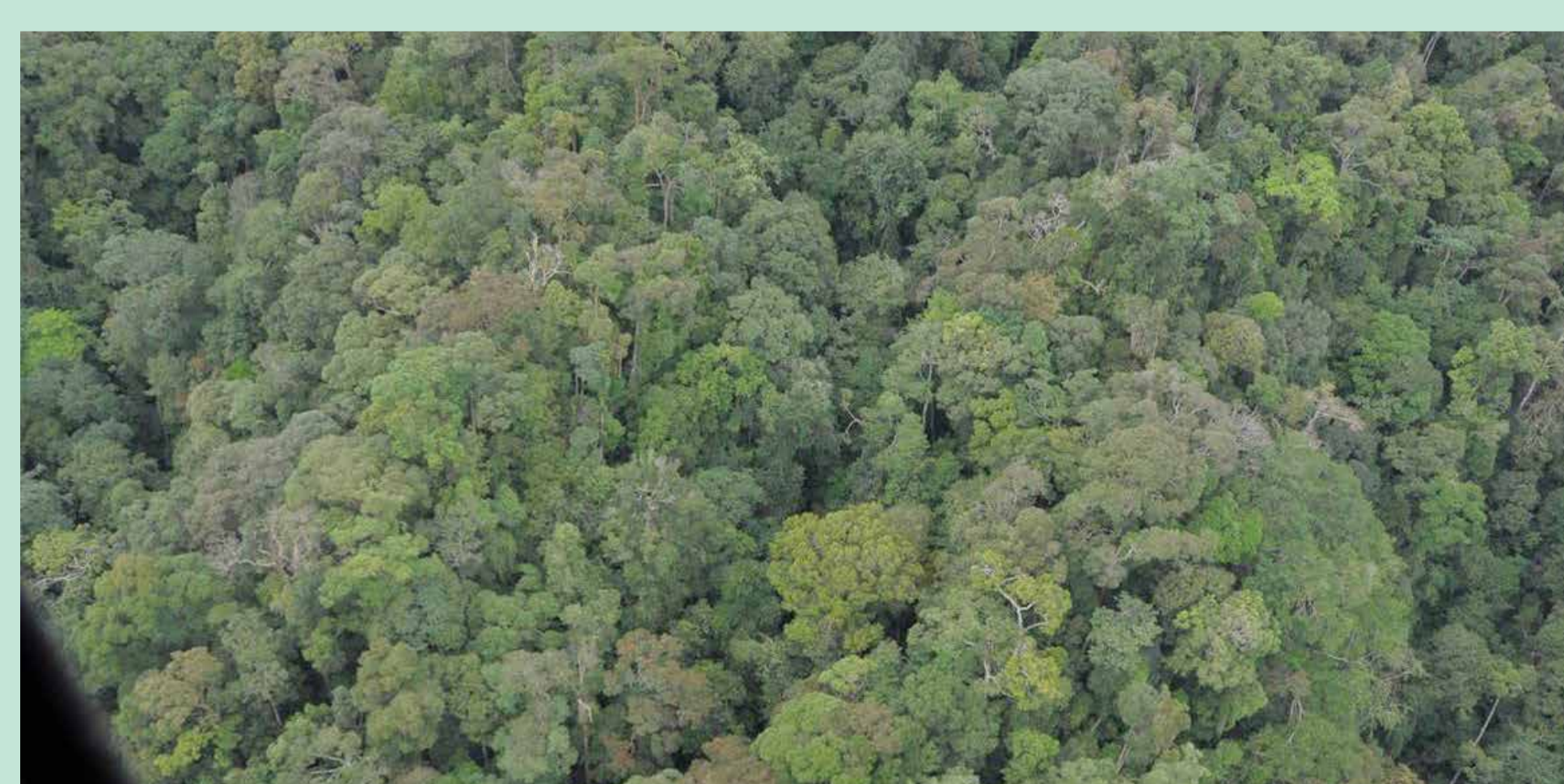
Photo credit: ITTO



Prunus africana (African cherry) forest

Key achievements of the Programme to date include:

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Gyrinops spp. (ramin) forest

Challenges to ramin management practices in Sumatra and Kalimantan led Indonesia to develop an inventory design in order to obtain comprehensive information regarding the estimate of standing stock of ramin and other species found growing in peat swamp forests and to successfully implement improved ramin management.

Photo credit: R. Igüera



Prunus africana (African cherry) bark

After Cameroon set a voluntary zero export quota for the African cherry tree in 2009, it established a scientifically sound NDF that allowed it to reopen a management area for producing dry bark of this species in a sustainable manner.

Photo credit: J. Grogan



Swietenia macrophylla (mahogany) fruit

To ensure stocks of bigleaf mahogany are kept at a level that is consistent with ecosystem sustainability to issue non-detriment findings, Peru carried out extensive field surveys and established a sustainable management strategy for the species.



European Union



Germany



Netherlands



Norway



United States of America