

An Overview of the ITTO-CITES Program in Asia

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

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1. INTRODUCTION

- Under Phase I of the ITTO-CITES Program (2007-2011):

(a) Indonesia

- (i) Implemented 6 Activities with a total ITTO approved budget of US\$ 434,005.00 while Indonesian Government in-kind contribution was valued at US\$ 95,433.00;
- (ii) The total spent from the ITTO budget was US\$ 628,279.43 or 98.7%; and
- (iii) The total spent from the Indonesian Government budget was US\$ 99,368.00 or an increase of 4.1%.

(b) Malaysia

- (i) Implemented 8 Activities with a total ITTO approved budget of US\$ 524,393.00 while Malaysian Government in-kind contribution was valued at US\$ 318,455.00;
 - (ii) The total spent from the ITTO budget was US\$ 503,133.20 or 95.9%; and
 - (iii) The total spent from the Malaysian Government budget was US\$ 248,389.46 or 78.0%.
- Under Phase II of the ITTO-CITES Program (2012-2015):
 - (i) Indonesia is currently implementing 1 Activity where ITTO has approved a budget of US\$ 108,935.00 with the Indonesian Government providing in-kind-contribution amounting to US\$ 60,724.00.

- (ii) Malaysia is currently implementing 2 Activities where ITTO has approved a total budget of US\$ 228,000.00 with the Malaysia Government providing in-kind contribution valued at US\$ 220,100.00.

2. INDONESIAN ACTIVITIES

(a) Improving Inventory Design to Estimate Growing Stock of Ramin (*Gonystylus bancanus*) in Indonesia

- The 3 objectives were to (i) develop inventory design to estimate the standing growing stock of ramin and other peat swamp forest species In Sumatra and Kalimantan, (ii) prepare inventory guidelines and NDF assessment on ramin, and (iii) conduct a training workshop on (ii).
- A total of 10 technical reports were produced, among others, a Workshop Proceeding on the Review of the existing Methods and Design for Ramin Inventory in Peat Swamp Forest, a Manual of Ramin Inventory in Peat Swamp Forest, and a Guideline for Non-Detrimental Finding Assessment on Ramin.

(b) Assessing Silvicultural System on Ramin: Review on the Current Practice and Re-vitalization of Existing Permanent Sample Plots

- The 5 objectives were to (i) review the current silvicultural system and its practices, (ii) re-vitalize existing permanent sample plots; (iii) develop guidelines for monitoring fruiting-flowering and ramin seed handling, (iv) prepare a manual on vegetative propagation techniques, and (v) conduct a training workshop on (iii) and (iv).
- A total of 8 technical reports were produced, among others, a Revised draft on the Silvicultural System in Peat Swamp Forest in Indonesia, a Manual for Monitoring Flowering and Fruiting, and Ramin Seed Production, and a Guideline for Vegetative Propagation of Ramin.

(c) Exploratory Assessment on the Population Distribution and Potential uses of Non-*Gonystylus bancanus* species in Indonesia

- The 5 objectives were to (i) explore the current status of non-*G. bancanus* in Indonesia, (ii) conduct further analyses of the genetic relationship between species and *in vitro* propagation of *Gonystylus* species, (iii) develop a guidebook for species identification, (iv) undertake initial establishment of ramin gene pools in South Sumatra and Central Kalimantan, and (v) conduct a training workshops on (iii).

- A total of 6 technical reports were produced, among others, a Literature Review of non-*Gonystylus bancanus* species, the Genetic Relationship between Species of *Gonystylus* spp., and a Guidebook for Identification of Ramin species [*Gonystylus* spp.] in Indonesia.

(d) Identification of Information Gaps towards the Sustainable Forest Management of Ramin and the Thematic Programs to be Included in the 2009 and 2010 Work Program of the ITTO-CITES Project

- The 2 objectives of the 2-day National Workshop were to (a) identify information gaps on the resource base, administrative and legal provisions, and production and trade of *G. bancanus*, and (ii) the thematic programs for inclusion in the 2009 and 2010 Work Programs of Indonesia.
- A total of 3 reports were produced, among others, a report on the Information Gaps toward the Sustainable Management and Conservation of Ramin.

(e) Review on Ramin Harvest and Trade: CITES Compliance, Tri-National Task Force on Trade in Ramin, Trade Control and Monitoring

- The 3 objectives were to (i) formulate a roadmap to enhance sustainable management of ramin and the implementation of CITES provisions and regulation, (ii) review the work of the Tri-National Task Force on Trade in Ramin, and (iii) improve trade data collection, monitoring and trade control.
- A total of 7 technical reports were produced, among others, a Roadmap Toward Sustainable Management and Conservation of Ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.), Harmonization of Data, Monitoring and Control in Ramin Trade, and a Closer Look at the Terms of Reference (ToR) Concerning the Tri-National Task Force on Trade in Ramin.

(f) Asian Workshop of the ITTO-CITES Project on Ensuring International Trade in CITES-listed Timber Species is Consistent with their Sustainable Management and Conservation: *Gonystylus* spp. (Ramin)

- The 4 objectives of the 2-day Asian Workshop were to (i) introduce the ITTO-CITES Program for implementing CITES listing of tropical timber species, specific to ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.), (ii) review actions taken to implement the recommendations of the ITTO Expert Meeting on the Effective Implementation of the Inclusion of Ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) in Appendix II of CITES (May 2006), (iii) assess progress achieved in implementing the Activities in Indonesia and Malaysia, and (iv) develop priorities and a regional strategic approach for improving the implementation of the CITES-listed *Gonystylus* species in the region.
- A report of the Workshop, including recommendations and strategy, as well as regional priority and action plan for ramin, was produced.

- Currently, Indonesia is implementing 1 Activity - **The Assessment of Ramin Plantation Requirement and the Establishment of Ramin Genetic Resources Conservation Gardens**. The 2 objectives of the Activity are to:
 - (i) assess the areas and the number of planting materials required for ramin plantation; and
 - (ii) establish ramin genetic conservation gardens.
- The 3 expected outputs are:
 - (i) deforested-degraded ramin habitats to be restored and planted identified;
 - (ii) number of ramin planting materials required for plantation establishment estimated; and
 - (iii) ramin genetic resources conservation gardens established.

3. MALAYSIAN ACTIVITIES

(a) Non-detriment Findings Report on *Gonystylus bancanus* - A Quantitative Assessment of *G. bancanus* in two selected Permanent Forests of Sarawak

- The objective was to collect data on the status and stocking of *G. bancanus* in the Kayangeran Forest Reserve in Lawas and the Saribas Lupar Protected Forest.
- A technical report on Non-detriment Findings Report on *Gonystylus bancanus* in the two areas was produced.

(b) The Quantification of Dry and Wet Inland *Gonystylus* spp. (Ramin), *Aquilaria* spp. (Agarwood) and *Intsia* spp. (Merbau) in Peninsular Malaysia

- The 2 objectives were to (i) collect information on the distribution and stocking of dry and wet inland *Gonystylus* spp., *Aquilaria* spp. and *Intsia* spp., and (ii) establish 10 permanent sample plots to monitor the growth, mortality and recruitment of *Gonystylus* spp.

- A technical report on the Quantification of Dry and Wet Inland *Gonystylus* spp. (Ramin), *Aquilaria* spp. (Agarwood) and *Intsia* spp. (Merbau) in Peninsular Malaysia was produced.

(c) Generation of Spatial Distribution Maps of *Gonystylus bancanus* (Ramin) using Hyperspectral Technology and Determination of Sustainable Level of Harvest of Ramin in Production Forests of Peninsular Malaysia

- The 2 objectives were to (i) generate spatial distribution maps using hyperspectral technology and non-spatial information of ramin, and (ii) determine the sustainable level of harvest for ramin in production forests of Peninsular Malaysia.
- A total of 3 technical reports on Population Dynamics and Optimum Harvest of *Gonystylus bancanus* in Production Forests of Peninsular Malaysia, Optimum Harvesting Regimes of Peat Swamp Forests in Peninsular Malaysia, and High Resolution Airborne Hyperspectral Data for Mapping of Ramin (*Gonystylus bancanus*) Distribution in Peat Swamp Forest were produced.

(d) The Development of *Gonystylus* spp. (Ramin) Timber Monitoring System using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) in Peninsular Malaysia

- The 2 objectives were to develop (i) a *Gonystylus* spp. timber monitoring system using RFID, and (ii) an automated detection and notification mechanism for tracing non-compliances using handheld data logger in Peninsular Malaysia.
- A total of 2 technical reports on the Development of *Gonystylus* spp. (Ramin) Timber Monitoring System Using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) in Peninsular Malaysia, and a User Manual for Handheld Application were produced.

(e) Developing DNA Database for *Gonystylus bancanus* in Sarawak

- The 2 objectives were to (i) study the genetic variation and differentiation of *G. bancanus* population in Sarawak; and (ii) develop a DNA database for *G. bancanus* to enhance efforts in tracing and tracking of the timber.
- A technical report on the Development of DNA Database for *Gonystylus bancanus* in Sarawak was produced at the completion of the Activity.

(f) Sawn Timber and Plywood Recovery Study of Ramin (*Gonystylus bancanus*) in Peninsular Malaysia

- The 2 objectives were to (i) determine the recovery rate of ramin logs for the manufacture of sawn timber and plywood; and (ii) develop a technique for quantifying wood waste from sawmilling and in plywood production.
- A technical report on Sawn Timber and Plywood Recovery Study of Ramin (*Gonystylus bancanus*) in Peninsular Malaysia was produced.

(g) National Workshop on Enforcement Compliance for Trade in Ramin (*Gonystylus* species)

- The 4 objectives of the 3-day National Workshop were to (i) understand the CITES Convention and the Malaysian Act 686 (International Trade in Endangered Species Act 2008), (ii) develop common understanding and practices related to trade control for ramin, (iii) establish effective communication channel and networking within the enforcement agencies in Malaysia, and (iv) establish a national Task Force or a Referral Centre to coordinate effective implementation of CITES regulations.
- A proceeding of the Workshop was produced.

(h) Regional Workshop on the Sharing of Findings from the Activities Implemented in Indonesia and Malaysia under the ITTO-CITES Project on Ensuring International Trade in CITES-listed Timber species is Consistent with their Sustainable Management and Conservation

- The 3 objectives of the 4-day Regional Workshop were to (i) share the findings of each Activity implemented in Indonesia and Malaysia, (ii) identify and adapt relevant findings from the Indonesian Activities by Malaysia and *vice versa*, and (iii) identify potential projects and activities to further ensure that the international trade in ramin is consistent with their sustainable management and conservation.
- A proceeding of the Workshop was produced at the conclusion of the Activity.
- Currently, Malaysia is implementing 2 Activities which are as follows:

(a) *In Vitro* Propagation of *Gonystylus bancanus* (Ramin) in Sarawak

- The 2 objectives are to develop protocols for (i) contamination-free culture establishment of *G. bancanus*, and (ii) *in vitro* regeneration of *G. bancanus*.

- The 4 expected outputs are (i) a protocol for surface sterilization of field grown planting materials, (ii) a protocol for axenic culture establishment of surface-sterilized explants of *G. bancanus*, (iii) optimum concentrations of cytokinin for shoot induction of axenic explants, and (iv) optimum explants for shoot induction.

(b) Use of DNA for Identification of *Gonystylus* species and Timber Geographical Origin in Sarawak

- The 2 objectives are to (i) construct a molecular database of ramin for the identification of species and the geographical origin in Sarawak, and (ii) develop a protocol for extracting DNA from ramin timber.
- The 3 expected outputs are (i) DNA from ramin samples extracted, (ii) chloroplast DNA between species and origin determined, and (iii) DNA extraction protocol for ramin timber developed.

4. ACTIVITIES PENDING APPROVAL

- Indonesia has submitted to ITTO 3 Activities while Malaysia 1 Activity which are currently pending approval and funding from ITTO, as follows:

(a) Indonesian Activities

- (i) Capacity Building on Seedling Propagation Techniques and Awareness Raising on CITES Implementation and Ramin Roadmap;
- (ii) Promoting Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources of *Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops* species in Indonesia; and
- (iii) Managing Agarwood Plantation in Indonesia.

(b) Malaysian Activity

- (i) Reproductive and Genetic Studies Towards the Conservation and Management of *Aquilaria malaccensis* in Peninsular Malaysia.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- All the 40 technical reports, 6 workshop reports/proceedings, 14 Completion Reports, and 13 complete Activity documents produced by Indonesia and Malaysia under Phase I of the ITTO-CITES Program have been uploaded in the ITTO website- http://www.itto.int/cites_programme for public access.
- The successful implementation of the Activities will further enhance the management and conservation of *Gonystylus*, *Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops* species in Indonesia and Malaysia, including compliance with the regulatory provisions of CITES in the trade of their products in the global market place.

THANK YOU