



August 2012

For Private Circulation Only

Issue 170

# STA dan Rakan2

This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information printed in this news bulletin is accurate and correct, neither STA nor its Officers, Members or Employees shall assume any responsibilities or be made liable for any inaccuracies and errors printed; nor is such publication unless otherwise stated necessarily the views of STA, its Officers, Members or Employees.

The news bulletin is circulated to designated readers free of charge.

## Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management)

The third subject of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science Course, Regulation of Forest Management, was delivered from 30 July to 3 August 2012. In this subject, students were taught about the Forest Policy concepts and factors that influence policy direction; legislation and organisations affecting forestry in Sarawak; international agreements and organisations affecting forestry in Sarawak; and current issues comprising biodiversity, timber certification, social impact and international conventions.

Planning and Mapping Forestry Operations, the fourth subject was delivered from 3 to 7 September 2012. Students were introduced to the techniques for forest planning that includes forest measurement, mapping and modelling, harvesting systems and environmental considerations as well as to understand the requirements to prepare plans for submission to the Forest Department Sarawak. On 5 September 2012, the students

proceeded to the research sites at Semengoh for field trip focusing on hands on practical on how to use the maps, global positioning system (GPS) and geographic information system (GIS).

The following two subjects are "Communities and Forests" and "Harvesting and Roding" which will be delivered from 15 to 19 October and 19 to 23 November 2012 respectively at Level 12 Wisma STA, Kuching. In line with this, members of STA who wish to further their knowledge in this subject can attend it on a Continuing Education basis (i.e. single subject only). No fees will be charged for attending this subject but participants shall be responsible for travel to the venue of the course, accommodation and other travel-related expenses. Those interested to attend these subjects are to contact Dr Peter Kho or Ms Suzie Adee at 082-332222.

### Editorial Board

**Chief Editor:**  
Dr Peter C.S. Kho

**Editor/Secretary:**  
Jaime Chan

**Members:**  
Law Hui Chau  
Salfa Kamazura



*Photo: (left) Students on a field trip and (below) lectures in class*



## Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI) Sixth General Assembly 2012

The Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI) is an independent non-profit body, which aims to enhance research and technology development capabilities in support of conservation and management of forest resources in the Asia-Pacific region. The Secretariat is based in the campus of Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Twenty six member institutions attended the recently concluded APAFRI 6th General Assembly on 31 August 2012 in Guangzhou, China. The once-in-three-year event was hosted by the Research Institute of Tropical Forestry of the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF) and those attended the APAFRI General Assembly were also

invited to the Institute's 50th Anniversary Celebration the following day.

Dato' Dr Abdul Latif Mohmod, the outgoing Chairman for APAFRI 2009 – 2012, who is also the Director-General of FRIM, presented his report, listing all the significant activities carried out by the Association over the past three years. He challenged all members to help steer APAFRI into a new chapter, generating income from research. He ended his report with a vote of thanks to all members of the outgoing Executive Committee.

The new Executive Committee for 2012 – 2015 is as follows:

Chairman:	Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) <i>Dato' Dr Abd Latif Mohmod</i>
Vice Chairman:	Indian Council of Forestry research & Education (ICFRE) <i>Dr. V.K. Bahuguna</i>
Committee:	Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI) <i>Dr. Park Jung Hwan</i>  Department of Forestry, Fiji <i>Mr. Elik Senivasa Sigarugurugu</i>  University Putra Malaysia <i>Prof. Faridah Hanum Ibrahim</i>  Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPERTI) <i>Dr. C.N. Pandey</i>  Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) <i>Dr. Aida Lapis</i>  Forestry and Forest Products research Institute (FFPRI) <i>Dr. Isamu Okuchi</i>
Internal Auditors:	Research Institute of Tropical Forestry (RITF) <i>Dr. Xu Daping</i>  Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI) <i>Dr. Romulo Aggangan</i>

During the event, Dr Ke Shuifa, a researcher from the Renmin University China, was presented with the Dr YS Rao Forestry Research Award 2012, for his contributions

to forestry economics, community forestry and tenure reforms.



### Did you know that.....

The European Commission is to ask Member States to agree to the Commission opening free trade agreement talks with Japan. Directives on the negotiations have been submitted to the Council and will create a mandate for the Commission to start negotiating. After China, Japan is the European Union's largest Asian trading partner and together Japan and the EU account for over a third of the world's GDP.

Source: Press Release, 18 Jul 2012, European Commission

## Did you also know that....

A strategic plan for the next 10 years has been created by Japan and ASEAN to ensure economic growth in light of the unstable international economy. The plan under the ASEAN Japan Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap 2012-2022, is to beef the alliance on science and technology, SMEs, food security and farming, energy reserves and energy, environment protection, telecommunication, transportation and logistics among others.

Source: MTIB News Extracts (Vol.33/08/12)



## WISDEC Training Courses

The Wood Industry Skills Development Centre (WISDEC) Sabah has reshuffled few training courses scheduled for October – December 2012. The main purpose is to provide opportunity for Sabah and Sarawak wood-based industry to participate in the training courses offered at WISDEC Sabah. All courses are based on the National Occupation Skills Standard certified by Department of Skills Development. The following are the courses offered:-

Course	Duration (Days)	Fee (RM)	Date	Coordinator
Technology & Operation of Wood Working Machine - 6 head moulder	3	375	2 - 4 Oct	Hamdi Mawardi
*CAD - Inspiration in Furniture Design	3	375	9 - 11 Oct	Hamdi Mawardi
*Product Finishing (Furniture)	4	500	13 - 16 Oct	Hamdi Mawardi
Furniture Design Development	4	500	18 - 21 Oct	Hamdi Mawardi
Sustaining Kaizen Culture to enhance Quality & Productivity	2	250	9 - 10 Nov	Nurul Hasana
*Maintenance of Wood Working Machine	3	375	20 - 22 Nov	Hamdi Mawardi
Creative & Innovative of marketing Strategy	2	250	24 - 25 Nov	Nurul Hasana
OSH Awareness & OSH-MS Management in Wood based Production	2	250	4 - 5 Dec	Nurul Hasana

For more information, please contact the following coordinators from WISDEC Sabah at tel no: 088 - 498822:

Encik Hamdi Mawardi (hamdi@mtib.gov.my)

Cik Nurul Hasana Jaafar (hasana@mtib.gov.my)

\* \* \* \* \*

## Workshop on Malaysia's REDD+ Readiness Project

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) organised a Workshop on Malaysia's Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Readiness Project on 2 – 3 August 2012 at Hilton Kuching Hotel. The REDD+ Readiness in Malaysia is a joint project implemented by UNDP and MNRE aims at developing a national framework that includes the policy, legal and institutional components for REDD+; exploring and providing recommendations on sustainable financing mechanism for REDD+ implementation, and improving capacity and stakeholder participation in REDD+ management.

The workshop included presentations on the following topics:

1. "Introduction to REDD+" by Dr. Elizabeth Philip, head of REDD+ Unit, NRE;
2. "Sarawak's Development Plans" by Mr Lester Matthew, State Planning Unit;
3. "Draft Recommendations for Institutional Framework" by Lee Kian Foh, project consultant; and
4. "Free, Prior and Informed Consent within REDD+" by Maximilian Conrad, REDD+ Unit, NRE

(Continue on page 4)





### Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak Sarawak Timber Association

11 Floor, Wisma STA, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim, 93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.  
Telephone: ++(60 82) 332 222 Facsimile: ++(60 82) 487 888, 487 999  
E-mail: sta@sta.org.my Website: www.sta.org.my

## Sarawak Timber Industry Lab (STIL)



Photo: Panel Members giving their views and comments

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) had organised the last series of Sarawak Timber Industry Lab (STIL) with support from Training Hub Sdn Bhd from 1 to 2 August 2012 at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching. Approximately eighty (80) participants from various agencies attended the lab.

In this lab, the participants and consultants summarised the recommendations discussed during the four labs and gave a presentation to the Panel Members.

Mr Nor Azmi bin Abdul Rahim presented the findings of the labs to the Panel Members which consists

of Tan Sri Datuk Amar Hamid Bugo, Datu Henry Lau, Datu Liaw Soon Eng, Datu Ali Yusop and moderated by Datuk Dr Yusuf Hadi. The views and comments received from the panel will be used to enhance and improve the final report which will then be formulated as policies towards development of the timber industry in Sarawak and to ensure its sustainability.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Continued from page 3)

The workshop also included breakout groups and subsequent plenary discussions on measuring, reporting and verification; social and environmental safeguards; and financing and sharing of benefits. These outputs will be used to formulate the National REDD+ Strategy, which aims to enhance conservation of natural forests and reduce forest degradation.