

# STA REVIEW

Monthly Magazine of Sarawak Timber Association



pg. **03**

STA Commemorates the Legacy of the Late  
Tun Pehin Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Taib Bin Mahmud

pg. **04**

Meetings of STA  
Subsidiary Companies

pg. **06**

STA Carbon Committee  
Meeting No. 2/2025



# TABLE OF CONTENT

STA Commemorates the Legacy of the Late Tun Pehin Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Taib Bin Mahmud	03
Visit from Avant Wood Finland: Exploring Timber Innovation	04
Meetings of STA Subsidiary Companies	04
Inter-Agency Committee Meeting	05
STA Carbon Committee Meeting No. 2/2025	06
Visioning Workshop for Strengthening the Timber Legality Assurance System	07
Enhancing Forest Plantation Skills through Collaborative Training	08
Discussion on the Policy Related to the Establishment of Mill in the LPF Areas	08
Stakeholder Engagement for the Development of Forest Carbon Offset Methodologies	09
WWF-Malaysia Sarawak Conservation Programmes Next Phase Planning Workshop	10
Third Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Forest Carbon Offset	11
Teak Supply Chains and Market Demands	12
Training Workshop on Monitoring Sarawak's Wildlife Populations in FMUs	13
Seminar on the Status of Forest Carbon Study Permits and Forest Carbon Licence	14
MEF East Malaysia (Sarawak) Regional Meeting No. 2/2025	15
Progressive Wage Policy Roadshow, Kuching Sarawak	16
Meeting on ePASS Trial Run	17

## Regular Features

Statistics	18
Skills Training for Trained Workmen	28



Cover photo by Chen Boon Kheng

## STA REVIEW

is a monthly magazine published by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) for its members.



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## STA Commemorates the Legacy of the Late Tun Pehin Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Taib Bin Mahmud

STA held a Commemoration Event on 21 February 2025 at the foyer of Wisma STA in Kuching, marking the first anniversary of the passing of the late Tun Pehin Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Taib bin Mahmud.

The event, officiated by Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, Chairman of STA, honoured Tun Taib's enduring contributions to the timber industry, featuring the unveiling of a Commemorative Photograph and the launch of a dedicated book celebrating Tun Taib's life and legacy with the timber industry.

The event paid tribute to Tun Taib's visionary leadership, which was instrumental in uniting the timber industry under the STA. His efforts revolutionised the sector, fostering a legacy of sustainability, resilience and progress. Among the distinguished attendees were his children, Dato Hajjah Hanifah Hajar Taib and Dato Sri Mahmud Abu Bekir Taib, alongside fifteen STA Council Members, STA Advisor, Datu Haji Hamdem bin Haji Mohamed, Director of Forests and representatives from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation.

A highlight of the event was the launch of a commemorative book titled "A Tribute to Taib Mahmud", unveiled by Dato Henry Lau. Published by STA, the book celebrates Tun Taib's transformative contribution to Sarawak's timber industry. It chronicles his leadership journey, pioneering policies and his profound impact on modernising and unifying the timber sector, shaping it into a key driver of Sarawak's economic and environmental sustainability.

The event concluded with a group photo session and a luncheon, where guests gathered to reflect on Tun Taib's influence and his valuable contributions to the industry and beyond.

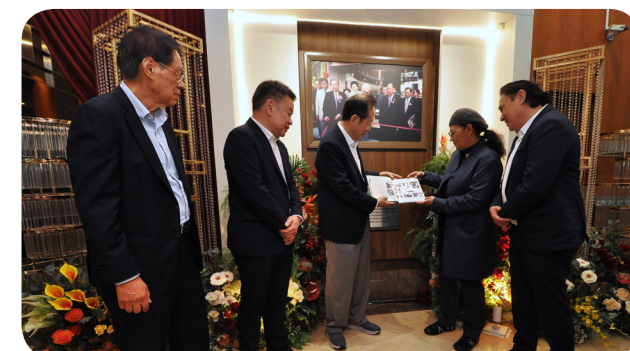
STA memperingati ulang tahun pertama pemergian Tun Pehin Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Taib bin Mahmud dengan satu majlis di Wisma STA, Kuching. Dirasmikan oleh Pengerusi STA, Dato Henry Lau, majlis ini melibatkan perancangan gambar peringatan dan buku yang menghormati kepimpinan Tun Taib dalam menyatukan dan memodenkan industri perikanan di Sarawak.



A group photo of all the invited distinguished guests with the book "A Tribute to Taib Mahmud"



Dato Hajjah Hanifah (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and Dato Henry Lau (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) inserting the plaque to unveil the commemorative photograph



Dato Hajjah Hanifah (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and Dato Henry Lau (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) admiring the book after it was launched

本会于古晋STA大厦为已故前砂元首敦丕显里泰益玛目举行逝世一周年纪念仪式，并由本会主席拿督刘利康主持，为纪念照片揭幕并推介其书籍，以致敬敦泰益在团结和现代化砂拉越木材工业中的领导贡献。



## Visit from Avant Wood Finland: Exploring Timber Innovation

On 20 February 2025, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, welcomed Mr Matthias Gelber and Mr Henry Lindberg from Avant Wood Finland for a meeting. During the visit, Avant Wood showcased its innovative timber modification technology, highlighting the advantages it offers in enhancing the quality of planted timber.

The discussion focused on exploring potential research collaboration, particularly aimed at testing the timber modification technology on Sarawak-planted timber. Additionally, the meeting highlighted the possibility of organising an engagement session for STA members, where Avant Wood could introduce its range of products and services, and demonstrate how the timber modification technology could enhance our planted timber for the benefit of industry stakeholders.



Mr Matthias Gelber (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Mr Henry Lindberg (right) from Avant Wood Finland posed for photo with Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and Ms Tchin Boon Ling, STA's Member Services Officer (Forest Plantation)(left)

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA, Cik Annie Ting mengalu-alukan dua wakil daripada Avant Wood pada 20 Februari 2025 untuk membincangkan teknologi pengubahsuaian kayu. Mesyuarat meneroka kerjasama penyelidikan mengenai kayu yang ditanam di Sarawak dan sesi penglibatan untuk mempamerkan inovasi Avant Wood kepada ahli-ahli STA dan pihak berkepentingan industri.

本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐于2025年2月20日接待Avant Wood的代表，就木材改性技术进行讨论。该会探讨关于砂拉越人工林木材的研究合作以及潜在的交流会，以向本会会员和工业利益相关者展现Avant Wood的创新。

## Meetings of STA Subsidiary Companies

The Boards of Directors (BOD) of STA subsidiary companies held their first meetings in February 2025 via video conferencing. The BOD meetings for STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE) took place on 25 February, while the Adjourned Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) was held on 26 February. In these meetings, the Directors approved the Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024. Other notable discussions and decisions are summarised as follows:

### STAT

The Adjourned Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd BOD Meeting No. 1/2025 was held virtually on 26 February 2025, with Mr David Tiong presiding in the absence of Chairman, Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong. The Directors deliberated on the conduct of a new course, the "Log Scaling Course" and write-off of fixed assets.

The Board was informed on the trainings conducted by the Trainers and Assessors of the Company. From 3 December 2024 to 15 February 2025, a total of 35 workmen in 5 prescribed

forestry activities (PFAs) and 10 in non-PFAs were trained and found competent. The Board also received updates on the sharing session conducted between the Company and the Forest Department Sarawak on trainings in 5 PFAs as well as the visit to the Terengganu Forestry Training Centre.

### STAE

The STAE BOD Meeting No. 1/2025, with Mr Desmond Cheng acting as Chair in the absence of Chairman, Dato Henry Lau, endorsed various financial and administrative matters with regards to building operation and maintenance, tenancy of Wisma STA and human resource policies and procedures manual of the Company.

### STAM

The BOD of STAM, in its meeting led by Mr David Tiong in the absence of Chairman, Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, received updates on the progress of the STA Bonded Scholarship application for students pursuing a Diploma in Forestry at Universiti Putra Malaysia, Bintulu Campus. An interview will be conducted in March to select the most suitable candidate for the scholarship.

*Lembaga Pengarah syarikat-syarikat subsidiari STA bermesyuarat pada Februari 2025 untuk membincangkan hal-hal berkaitan kewangan, operasi dan pentadbiran. Topik termasuk kemas kini latihan, kelulusan belanjawan, penyelenggaraan bangunan, urusan penyewaan, dasar sumber manusia dan program biasiswa perhutanan.*



本会子公司董事会于2025年2月召开会议，讨论关键的财务、运营和行政事宜。议题包括培训更新、预算审批、建筑维护、租赁事宜、人力资源政策和林业奖学金计划。

*Adjourned Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd's Board of Directors' Meeting No. 1/2025*

## Inter-Agency Committee Meeting

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) called for the Inter-Agency Committee (IAC) meeting on 13 February 2025. Co-chaired by Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Management), and Mr Nicholas Lissem, Assistant General Manager in the Licensing, Industrial Planning, and Investment Division of the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), the meeting was attended by officers from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development, FDS, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, STIDC, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, and STA.

Key discussions included the New Zealand Forest (Legal Harvest Assurance) Amendment Act 2023, which incorporates legal harvest assurance into law through the Forest Act 1949. This amendment was open for public consultation from 28 November 2024 to 26 February 2025. The Committee also discussed compliance with the European Union Deforestation-free Regulation and deliberated on the implementation of the Electronic Removal Pass (ePASS), a system-generated document issued via REVLOG on-site to replace the pre-printed Removal Pass.

Additionally, the meeting addressed updates to the Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) booklet, ensuring it reflects the latest regulatory and procedural changes from relevant agencies.

*Jabatan Hutan Sarawak mengadakan mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Antara Agensi pada 13 Februari 2025, membincangkan Pindaan Akta Hutan New Zealand (Jaminan Penuaian Sah), Peraturan Bebas Penyahutan EU, pelaksanaan ePASS dan kemas kini buku STLVS. Mesyuarat itu melibatkan agensi-agensi perhutanan utama, memastikan pematuhan kawal selia dan penyelarasan industri dengan standard yang berkembang.*

砂森林局(FDS)于2025年2月13日召开跨机构委员会会议，讨论纽西兰森林(合法采伐验证)修改法、欧盟无毁林法规(EUDR)、实施电子通行证(ePASS)以及木材合法性验证系统(STLVS)书籍的更新。该会涉及主要机构，确保监管合规性，并使工业与不断发展的标准保持一致。



## STA Carbon Committee Meeting No. 2/2025



STA Carbon Committee Meeting was chaired by its newly appointed Committee Chairman, Mr Zion Kong (bottom, centre)

The STA Carbon Committee held its second meeting of the year on 27 February 2025 via video conferencing, with all five (5) Committee Members in attendance. During the meeting, Mr Zion Kong was appointed as Committee Chairman. In his acceptance, he expressed gratitude for the trust placed in him and sought the Committee's continued support in collectively advancing the Committee's objectives. The discussion also covered key developments and strategic directions for carbon initiatives in Sarawak.

Mr Ling Tiing Tchin, STA's representative in the Technical Working Group (TWG) for Forest Carbon Offset (FCO) programme, Malaysia's very own carbon standard for nature-based crediting mechanism, provided updates on discussions from the 3<sup>rd</sup> TWG meeting held on 19-20 February 2025 in Kuala Lumpur. STA had submitted over 100 feedbacks to the Malaysia Forest Fund, the agency tasked by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability to operationalise the FCO.

During his briefing, Mr Ling highlighted key issues and recent developments, including discussions on equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms for local communities and the authorisation process for Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement. He also sought the Committee's input on STA's participation in sub-working groups focused on specific carbon methodologies under the FCO programme. After deliberation, the Committee decided to prioritise the sub-TWG on "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation & Forest Degradation/ Avoided Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)" and, if given the opportunity, to also join the sub-TWG on "Improved Forest Management (IFM)".

Additionally, Committee Members who attended the "Seminar on the Status of Forest Carbon Study Permits and Forest Carbon Licence", organised by the Forest Department Sarawak from 25 to 26 February 2025 at Meritz Hotel, Miri shared key takeaways from the Seminar which featured presentations from carbon study permit and carbon licence holders. These presentations provided valuable insights into the progress and challenges faced in developing carbon projects in Sarawak.

The STA Carbon Committee remains committed to driving sustainable carbon initiatives in Sarawak and ensuring that its members are well-informed and prepared to navigate the evolving carbon landscape.

*Jawatankuasa Karbon STAmengadakan mesyuarat keduanya pada 27 Februari 2025, melantik Encik Zion Kong sebagai Pengerusi. Kemas kini mengenai program Forest Carbon Offset (FCO), yang dibangunkan oleh Malaysia Forest Fund telah dikongsi dan merangkumi mekanisme perkongsian manfaat dan kebenaran Hasil Pemindahan Mitigasi Antarabangsa. Ahli-ahli jawatankuasa yang menghadiri seminar karbon hutan anjuran Jabatan Hutan Sarawak turut berkongsi pandangan penting dengan Jawatankuasa.*

本会碳委员会于2025年2月27日召开本年度第二次会议，委任江义声先生为主席。会议分享由马来西亚森林基金开发的森林碳抵消(FCO)项目的最新进展，内容涵盖利益共享机制和国际转移缓解成果(ITMO)的授权。参加砂森林局举办的森林碳研讨会的委员会成员也在会议中分享重要见解。

## Visioning Workshop for Strengthening the Timber Legality Assurance System

The Ministry of Plantations and Commodities, through the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), has appointed 27 Advisory Sdn Bhd as the consultant for the Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) Strengthening Study Project. The Project, which runs from 1 February 2025 to 31 August 2025, is an initiative under the Timber Industry International Trade Law Compliance Mitigation Sub-Committee.

As part of the project, a Visioning Workshop was held on 24 February 2025 at Hyatt Place, Kuala Lumpur, bringing together stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of TLAS implementation, identify challenges faced by stakeholders, and explore key areas for policy improvements and interventions.

In his opening remarks, Mr Mohd Amin bin Kadir, Deputy Director of Management & Operations at MTIB, emphasised the importance of stakeholder participation, particularly from representatives of the three (3) regions. He reiterated that TLAS, introduced in February 2013 to comply with the European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR), has evolved into a crucial system for verifying the legality of timber products for export to international markets. He highlighted the goal of developing a National TLAS framework based on the 3 regions' TLAS models to facilitate exports not only to the EU market but also for other export destinations. He expressed confidence that the study would enhance TLAS as a due diligence tool supporting Malaysia's timber exports.

The workshop featured a presentation by Mr Girish Ramachandran, Executive Director

of 27 Advisory Sdn Bhd, who outlined the project's objectives. These include conducting a survey and gap analysis of the timber industry to assess TLAS effectiveness, followed by developing an action plan to strengthen TLAS through sustainable forest management, Chain of Custody, and digitalisation. Additionally, the study aims to analyse TLAS implementation in timber-importing countries, address policy gaps, and propose solutions aligned with international standards. Mr Girish noted that the study would incorporate principles of legality, traceability, transparency, and sustainability, integrating them into a digital system while engaging stakeholders to refine frameworks and actionable plans. He also announced that the study would extend to other states, including visits to processing mills.

As part of the next steps, focus group discussions will be held in the 3 regions in April and June 2025 to gather insights from stakeholders, including implementation agencies. These discussions will be instrumental in shaping recommendations for strengthening TLAS and ensuring compliance with evolving international trade requirements.

*Kementerian Perlindungan dan Komoditi, menerusi MTIB melantik 27 Advisory Sdn Bhd untuk Projek Kajian Pengukuhan TLAS (Feb-Ogos 2025). Bengkel Perbincangan pada 24 Februari 2025 menilai keberkesanan dan cabaran TLAS. Sebagai sebahagian daripada langkah seterusnya, kajian itu akan dilanjutkan ke negeri lain, termasuk kilang pemrosesan dan perbincangan kumpulan fokus akan diadakan pada April dan Jun 2025 untuk mengumpul maklumat daripada pelbagai pihak berkepentingan.*

马来西亚种植及原产业部通过马来西亚木材工业局(MTIB)委任27Advisory有限公司，于2025年2月至8月负责开展强化木材合法性保证系统(TLAS)研究项目。于2025年2月24日举行的愿景工作坊评估了TLAS的有效性和挑战。作为后续工作的一部分，该研究将扩展到其他州，包括加工厂，并将在2025年4月和6月举行焦点小组讨论，以收集利益相关者的见解。



Photo with Mr Girish Ramachandran (5<sup>th</sup> from left), staff of 27Advisory and participants



## Enhancing Forest Plantation Skills through Collaborative Training

A meeting was held on 5 February 2025 at the headquarters office of the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) in Kuching to discuss enhancement of forest plantation activities in Sarawak through potential collaborative training. The meeting was chaired by Haji Happysupina bin Sait, the Deputy Director of Forests (Forests Conservation and Development), and attended by officers from both FDS and STA.

In the opening remarks by Haji Happysupina, he highlighted that FDS aims to identify potential collaborations with STA via its training arm, STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) to provide necessary training on forest plantation activities. He recognised that STAT had developed training courses related to forest plantation establishment and harvesting. He hoped that through various trainings, it would be able to enhance the progress of forest plantation development in Sarawak and ensure alignment with regulatory requirements.

The meeting highlighted the importance of proper nurseries to supply good quality seedlings for forest plantation development and suggested for FDS and STA to develop a nursery management course. The course will cover nursery design, seed germination, seedling propagation and hardening, species selection, and others. The check list developed by FDS for LPF nursery audit can be used as the baseline document to develop the course syllabus. The meeting agreed to organise a brainstorming workshop to further discuss the course content.



The members of meeting discussed potential training collaboration in forest plantation activities

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dan STA membincangkan pemerkasaan aktiviti perladangan hutan melalui kerjasama latihan dalam satu mesyuarat pada 5 Februari 2025. Dipengerusikan oleh Haji Happysupina Bin Sait, Timbalan Pengarah Hutan (Pemuliharaan dan Pembangunan Hutan), mesyuarat mencadangkan keperluan kursus pengurusan tapak semaian dan merancang satu bengkel untuk memperhalusi kandungan kursus bagi memastikan pematuhan piawaian peraturan.

砂森林局和本会于2025年2月5日举行会议，讨论通过培训合作加强人工林活动。会议由砂森林局副局长(森林保护与发展)哈芝哈比苏皮纳先生主持，提议开设苗圃管理课程，并计划举办工作坊以完善课程内容，确保符合监管标准。

## Discussion on the Policy Related to the Establishment of Mill in the LPF Areas

On 4 February 2025, Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Management), Forest Department Sarawak, chaired a meeting at its headquarters in Kuching. The meeting served as a platform to engage Sarawak forestry agencies and industry stakeholders on policy related to the establishment of mills within Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) areas. Representatives from the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, as well as STA members and its Secretariat attended the meeting.

In his opening remarks, Mr Semilan emphasised that the policy aims to assist LPF holders reduce logistics costs and improve the planted log recovery rate, thereby promoting greater efficiency, sustainability, and profitability

within the forest plantation industry. He further shared that, to facilitate the implementation of the policy, the FDS has drafted a procedure for royalty assessment of planted timber using the standing tree volume method. This procedure will be applied by LPF holders who have mills within the LPF area.

The meeting provided stakeholders with an overview of the draft procedure detailing specific requirements for LPFs and the associated compliance obligations. Following the discussion, the procedure will be refined, and another engagement session will be held before field testing is conducted.

Encik Semilan anak Ripot, Timbalan Pengarah Hutan telah mempengerusikan satu mesyuarat pada 4 Februari 2025 dengan pelbagai pihak berkepentingan bagi membincangkan dasar kilang di dalam kawasan lesen ladang hutan. Perbincangan tertumpu kepada draf prosedur penilaian royalti bagi meningkatkan kecekapan, kelestarian dan pematuhan ladang hutan.

砂森林局副局长塞米兰先生于2025年2月4日假古晋主持一场会议，与利益相关者讨论在人工林种植执照(LPFP)地区内设立工厂的政策。会议重点讨论旨在提升人工林效率、可持续性、及合规性的特许权使用费评估程序草案。



Meeting attendees gather for a group photo with Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Management) (seated, 3<sup>rd</sup> from left). Pictured seated on the left is Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA

## Stakeholder Engagement for the Development of Forest Carbon Offset Methodologies

KPMG, a consultancy firm appointed by the Malaysia Forest Fund (MFF) to develop standardised and internationally aligned methodologies for Forest Carbon Offset (FCO), engaged with STA on 4 February 2025. The online discussion aimed to better understand the challenges faced by project developers in assessing the suitability of various standards for nature-based carbon projects in Malaysia.

Mr Zion Kong from SaraCarbon Sdn Bhd, a member of the STA Carbon Committee, joined the session to share insights from his experience in obtaining the first carbon licence in Sarawak from the Forest Department Sarawak for the Marudi Forest Conservation and Preservation Project.

During the discussion, Mr Kong highlighted key challenges faced by carbon project developers in Sarawak. A major concern was the high annual royalty payment of RM260 per hectare, which would significantly impact the viability of certain carbon project methodologies, such as Improved Forest Management. This cost burden makes these projects less viable and competitive compared to those in other states in Malaysia.

In light of these challenges, carbon projects in peatlands and mangroves present a more viable alternative as they generate higher volumes of carbon credits. Another key issue is stakeholder engagement, which requires extensive consultations with local communities, making the process more time-consuming and costly for companies.

By identifying these challenges, engagement sessions like this provide valuable insights, enabling MFF to refine its methodologies to better align with the realities on the ground to enhance project feasibility and success.

KPMG telah mengadakan sesi penglibatan dengan STA pada 4 Februari 2025 untuk membincangkan cabaran dalam menilai kesesuaian pelbagai piawaian untuk projek karbon berasaskan alam semula jadi di Malaysia. Encik Zion Kong, dengan pengetahuan yang luas daripada pengalamannya dalam projek karbon berkongsi cabaran di Sarawak, termasuk yuran royalti yang tinggi dan penglibatan pihak berkepentingan yang meluas.

毕马威(KPMG)于2025年2月4日与本会进行交流，探讨评估马来西亚基于自然碳排放项目各种标准的适用性所面临的挑战。江义声先生凭借他在碳项目方面的丰富经验，参与此次会议并提供见解。他强调砂拉越面临的挑战，包括高额的特许权使用费和广泛的利益相关者参与。



# WWF-Malaysia Sarawak Conservation Programmes Next Phase Planning Workshop

WWF-Malaysia Sarawak organised the “Conservation Programmes Next Phase Planning Workshop” for the financial years 2026–2031 on 20 February 2025 at Raia Hotel, Kuching. The workshop brought together key partners and stakeholders involved in conservation efforts across Sarawak, including government agencies, higher learning institutions, grassroots platforms, and non-governmental organisations that have collaborated with WWF-Malaysia over the years, including STA.

In her welcoming remarks, Ms Cynthia Chin, Head of Conservation for the Sarawak Conservation Programme at WWF-Malaysia, shared that WWF-Malaysia is taking an approach to include all their stakeholders and partners in the planning process. The workshop was designed to gather valuable insights and perspectives that will shape their conservation strategies for the next six (6) years.

Ms Chin also outlined the three (3) key conservation landscapes in Sarawak, each with a distinct focus. The first, which covers the western part of Sarawak, is centred on the protection of orang-utan habitats, ensuring the survival of this endangered species through habitat restoration and conservation initiatives. The second, located in central Sarawak, focuses on freshwater protection and the third landscape in the northern part of Sarawak, prioritises connectivity and landscape functionality, ensuring that ecological corridors

remain intact to support wildlife movement and overall ecosystem resilience.

She also reflected on WWF-Malaysia Sarawak’s past conservation efforts and the collaboration with its partners and stakeholders. Following her presentation, participants engaged in group discussions on different areas, including forest and forest systems, freshwater systems, mangroves, and community well-being. Among the key feedback shared was the need to ensure long-term sustainability in conservation projects. Additionally, WWF-Malaysia Sarawak was urged to continue supporting Sarawak’s certification initiatives, such as the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme for timber and the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil certification for oil palm, particularly in addressing high conservation value issues.

WWF-Malaysia Sarawak mengadakan bengkel pada 20 Februari 2025 untuk merancang strategi pemuliharaan untuk tahun 2026-2031. Pihak berkepentingan membincangkan tiga landskap utama: pemuliharaan orang utan di barat Sarawak, perlindungan air tawar di tengah Sarawak dan ketersambungan ekologi di utara. Perbincangan menekankan kelestarian, sokongan pensijilan dan isu nilai pemuliharaan yang tinggi.

马来西亚世界自然基金会砂拉越分会于 2025 年 2 月 20 日举办工作坊，规划 2026 年至 2031 年的保护策略。主要利益相关者讨论三个景观，即砂拉越西部的人猿保护、砂拉越中部的淡水保护以及北部的生态连通性。讨论还强调了可持续性、认证支持和高保护价值问题。



Ms Cynthia Chin, Head of Conservation for the Sarawak Conservation Programme at WWF-Malaysia (front row, 6<sup>th</sup> from right) posed for photo with key partners and stakeholders present at the Workshop

# Third Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Forest Carbon Offset

The Malaysia Forest Fund (MFF) held the third Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting for the Forest Carbon Offset (FCO) programme on 19 and 20 February 2025 at Impiana Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The meeting focused on refining key guidelines for implementing FCO as Malaysia’s national carbon standard for nature-based crediting, ensuring that it effectively supports a wide range of forest conservation and carbon sequestration initiatives.

In his welcoming remark, Dato’ Mohamed Shah Redza bin Hussein, Chief Executive Officer of MFF, highlighted the role of FCO and the importance of TWG in this endeavour. He also addressed a critical question often raised: “Why is a local carbon standard necessary?” While international standards are widely recognised, their high costs and stringent criteria often pose significant barriers. FCO bridges this gap by providing a viable, inclusive framework that acknowledges and supports these smaller-scale initiatives, ensuring their contributions to environmental protection are equally recognised and valued.

In her opening remarks, Datuk Nur Yahati binti Awang, Deputy Secretary General (Environmental Sustainability) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, emphasised the importance of Malaysia developing its own carbon standard to remain competitive within the ASEAN carbon market. She highlighted that without a national framework, new players in the carbon market may be vulnerable to misinformation and exploitation by self-proclaimed consultants.



TWG members were divided into groups to discuss and refine key aspects of the FCO programme

STA, as a member of the TWG, actively contributed to the discussions on feedback gathered from all TWG members on the eight (8) subsidiary guidelines for FCO. The 2-day discussion focused on key issues such as benefit-sharing mechanisms, project registration, international standards and accreditation process. STA emphasised the importance of ensuring that the fees associated with registration to FCO remain reasonable to support the broader objective of making the national standard more cost-effective alternative to international standards. Excessive fees could create financial barriers for Sarawak-based projects, especially considering the charges collected by the Sarawak government, including annual carbon licence fee, royalty and Forest Ecosystem Fee.

The next step towards finalising this comprehensive framework for the FCO programme is developing methodologies, which will be further deliberated at the sub-TWG level.

Malaysia Forest Fund telah mengadakan mesyuarat Kumpulan Kerja Teknikal ketiga bagi program Forest Carbon Offset (FCO) pada 19 dan 20 Februari 2025. Perbincangan tertumpu kepada penambahbaikan garis panduan dan penetapan FCO sebagai piawai karbon nasional Malaysia. STA menekankan keperluan untuk yuran pendaftaran yang berpatutan bagi mengelakkan halangan kewangan kepada projek-projek karbon di Sarawak, dengan mengambil kira caj sedia ada di peringkat negeri.

马来西亚森林基金于2025年2月19日至20日举行第三次森林碳抵消(FCO)项目技术工作组会议。讨论课题集中于完善指南和将FCO定位为马来西亚的国家碳标准。考虑到现有的砂州收费，本会强调合理的注册费用的重要性，以防止造成对砂拉越地区项目的财务障碍。



TWG members and MFF Secretariat gathered for a group photo with Dato’ Mohamed Shah Redza, CEO of MFF (seated, left); Datuk Nur Yahati binti Awang, Deputy Secretary General (Environmental Sustainability) of NRES (seated, centre) and Mr Simon anak David, Head of REDD PLUS at NRES cum REDD Plus Finance Framework Advisory Committee (seated, right)



## Teak Supply Chains and Market Demands

The growing demand for high-quality timber from teak and other valuable species has highlighted the need for sustainable and legally compliant supply chains, particularly in tropical regions. In a collaborative effort to meet these demands, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and Kasetsart University in Thailand are leading a transformative project aimed at promoting quality timber production in smallholder and community-based plantations. This initiative, titled *"Promoting Quality Timber Production in Smallholder and Community-based Teak and Other Valuable Species Plantations in the Tropics,"* brings together stakeholders from six (6) countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Thailand, Vietnam, and Togo in West Africa.

As part of the project's knowledge-sharing initiative, a webinar was organised on 14 February 2025. The webinars serve as a platform for stakeholders, including government representatives, industry experts, and academics, to exchange the latest research, share successful case studies, and discuss the challenges of building sustainable supply chains.

Dr Tetra Yanuariadi, Project Manager at ITTO provided an overview of key trends in tropical timber production, highlighting the impact of major economic shocks such as the global financial and economic crises of 2008-2009, the COVID-19 pandemic, and ongoing geopolitical conflicts. In his presentation *"Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains: Responding to Market Requirements"*, he discussed global regulations shaping the timber trade, including the US Lacey Act Amendments, Australia's Illegal Logging Prohibition Act, the European Union Deforestation-Free Regulation (EUDR), and Japan's Revised Clean Wood Act. These policies aim to strengthen forest law enforcement, improve

governance and combat illegal logging. He also elaborated on the immediate and long-term impacts of the EUDR and highlighted ITTO's role in supporting sustainable supply chains, using teak plantations as a key example.

Dr PK Thulasida, Former Principal Scientist and Former TEAKNET Coordinator from Kerala, India provided insights into the role of smallholder teak production in meeting market demands. He noted that teak is grown in around 80 tropical countries, with natural teak forests covering 30.2 million hectares and planted teak spanning 4.9 million hectares. India, Indonesia, and Myanmar are the leading producers, playing a significant role in global supply. However, smallholder teak farmers continue to face challenges such as limited technical knowledge on tree management, insecure land tenure, and low timber prices due to intermediary-dominated supply chains. Drawing on case studies from Indonesia, Dr Thulasida illustrated how smallholders are overcoming these obstacles through innovate approaches and improved practices.

ITTO dan Universiti Kasetsart mempromosikan pengeluaran jati yang lestari di ladang pekebun kecil merentas 6 negara. Pada 14 Februari 2025, satu webinar telah diadakan untuk berkongsi pengetahuan yang diperolehi daripada projek dan membincangkan arah aliran pasaran, keperluan kawal selia dan cabaran pekebun kecil. Pakar menekankan dasar global, kelestarian rantaian bekalan dan penyelesaian untuk pekebun kecil bagi meningkatkan tadbir urus, akses pasaran dan daya tahan.

国际热带木材组织(ITTO)与泰国农业大学(Kasetsart University)正在六个国家的小农种植园中推广可持续柚木生产。并于2025年2月14日举办的线上研讨会中分享从该项目所获得的知识，并讨论市场趋势、监管要求和小农面临的挑战。专家们强调全球政策、供应链可持续性以及帮助小农改善治理、市场准入和复原力的解决方案。

### Webinar's objectives

- Facilitate exchange of experiences in smallholder teak and timber supply and value chains
- Promote carbon financing and incentive mechanisms for smallholders
- Enhance the understanding and application of sustainable management practices for teak and other valuable timber species, empowering smallholders to increase productivity, and compliance with certification and legality standards.

**Bimonthly Webinar Series (12)**

- Setting the scene
- .....
- Good-quality timer production
- Theme: Sustainability of ITTO-BMEL Teak Partnership

### Invitation to Webinar: Teak Supply Chains and Market Demands

Join us for an engaging webinar exploring how plantations of teak and other valuable species can meet market demands while ensuring sustainability. We will also discuss the challenges faced by smallholders in meeting supply chain and market demands.

**Webinar Details:**

- Topic:** Teak Supply Chains and Market Demands
- Date:** 14 February 2025
- Time:** 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (GMT+7)
- Language:** English
- Registration:** Free
- Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20T-4022>
- QR Code:**

**Programme (one hour):**

- Opening remarks:** Mr. Jeevan Chandra, Director, Forest Management Division, ITTO
- Presentations:** Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains required to meet requirements: Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, Project Manager, Trade and Industry Division, ITTO
- Smallholder Teak and valuable species towards market demands:** Dr. PK Thulasida, Former Principal Scientist, Kerala Forest Research Institute, India & former TEAKNET Coordinator, India

Webinar in progress

## Training Workshop on Monitoring Sarawak's Wildlife Populations in FMUs



Participants of the Workshop

WWF-Malaysia Sarawak collaborated with the Forest Department Sarawak and the Biodiversity Conservation Society Sarawak to organise a *"Training Workshop on Monitoring Sarawak's Wildlife Populations in forest management units (FMUs)"*. The workshop was held on 10–11 February 2025 at the Kingwood Hotel, Sibu, with 30 participants from STA Members.

In her welcoming speech, Ms Esther Mawan, Senior Manager of WWF Malaysia Sarawak, thanked all the participants for attending. She highlighted that this monitoring initiative aligns with WWF's ongoing efforts to support sustainable forest management in Sarawak. Wildlife monitoring within FMUs has predominantly relied on methodologies outlined in the Green Book. While these methods have been effective for decades, changing forest conditions call for the exploration of additional techniques to strengthen conservation efforts.

The introduction of *"A Technical Guide for Monitoring Wildlife Populations"* marks a significant step forward in improving wildlife monitoring within FMUs. Importantly, this monitoring technique does not supersede existing forest policies or replace established wildlife management practices. Instead, it serves as a complementary tool to enhance current methodologies, ensuring a more comprehensive understanding of wildlife populations and their habitats.

Three (3) expert trainers namely Dr Engkamat Lading, Mr Lukmann Hageem and Mr Ngumbang Juat provided participants with in-depth insights into the Technical Guide

for Monitoring Wildlife Populations. The sessions covered key concepts such as species abundance and occupancy, the development of sampling strategies and the effects of different sampling methods and sample sizes on data accuracy and statistical inferences. Additionally, the trainers introduced the fundamentals of R programming, open-source software for statistical computing and graphics. Participants learned how R programming can be used to facilitate probability sampling processes and data analysis, equipping them with valuable skills for practical implementation.

WWF-Malaysia Sarawak, Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dan Persatuan Pemuliharaan Biodiversiti Sarawak telah menganjurkan bengkel pemantauan hidupan liar untuk unit pengurusan hutan pada 10–11 Februari 2025 di Sibu. Penceramah telah memperkenalkan metodologi dan perisian canggih untuk pengkomputeran statistik dan grafik bagi meningkatkan usaha pemuliharaan tanpa menggantikan dasar sedia ada.

马来西亚世界自然基金会砂拉越分会、砂森林局和砂拉越生物多样性保护协会于2025年2月10日至11日在诗巫为森林管理单位举办一场野生动物监测工作坊。专家们介绍用于统计计算和图形的先进方法和软件，旨在在不取代现有政策的情况下加强保护工作。



# Seminar on the Status of Forest Carbon Study Permits and Forest Carbon Licence

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) held a “Seminar on the Status of Forest Carbon Study Permits and Forest Carbon Licence” from 25 to 26 February 2025 at Meritz Hotel, Miri as an avenue for carbon study permit and forest carbon licence holders to report the status of their forest carbon studies. The main objectives of the Seminar are to assess progress, ensure compliance, address challenges and strengthen collaboration with stakeholders.

Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Management) welcomed over 100 participants consisting of officers from FDS headquarter and regional offices, representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development, Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability, Sarawak State Attorney General's Chamber, Sarawak Economic Planning Unit, Sarawak forestry agencies, Carbon Study Permit (CSP) holders, Forest Carbon Licence (FCL) holders and STA.

He highlighted that Sarawak achieved a significant milestone in November 2024, with the issuance of one (1) FCL and seven (7) CSPs covering a total area of over 100,000 hectares. These projects play a crucial role in conservation efforts while also generating carbon credit, providing a sustainable revenue stream and delivering tangible benefits to local communities. He added that Sarawak's carbon initiatives are supported by a strong legal framework under the *Forests (Forest Carbon Activity) Rules, 2022*, ensuring transparency, accountability and alignment with international carbon market standards.

Dr Malcom anak Demies, Senior Research Officer (Carbon Unit), FDS kicked off the Seminar with a presentation highlighting Sarawak's commitment to forest carbon projects. He also elaborated on Sarawak's strategic initiatives, which include the Post-COVID Development Strategy 2030 and ongoing policy and legislative reviews, such as amendments to the *Land Code* and the *Forests Ordinance 2015*.

Mr Mohamad Fuad bin Ahmad, Legal Officer (Legal and Advisory Services Unit), FDS provided a legal perspective on Sarawak's forest carbon activities. His presentation provided valuable insights into the salient features of key legislations governing carbon emissions in the state, namely the *Forests Ordinance, 2015* and the *Environment (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Ordinance, 2023 [Cap. 85]*. His legal side of presentation was complemented by information presented by Mr Carloz Nelson Lalo, Executive Forester from the Licensing Division, who explained the procedures involved and documents required for application of CSP and FCL in Sarawak.

Mr Tan Win Sim, Verra Regional Representative was also present at the Seminar and gave a presentation on latest developments and general requirements by Verra. He provided an overview of Verra and the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) Programme in Malaysia, highlighting recent updates and the convergence between voluntary and compliance carbon markets. He explained the process of developing a VCS project, including selecting and understanding a methodology. He also introduced other Verra programmes, namely the Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards and the Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard (SD Vista), which address broader sustainability and social impact goals.

Majority of the project proponents highlighted engagement with the local community

as a key challenge, particularly unresolved land disputes, misconceptions about carbon projects, and difficulties in ensuring genuine community consent and buy-in.

Additionally, evolving methodologies and frequent amendments in qualifying criteria create uncertainties, leading to project delays and increased costs. The lack of clear national policies and regulatory frameworks, especially regarding Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, further complicates project implementation and market access.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak telah mengadakan “Seminar Status Permit Kajian Karbon Hutan dan Lesen Karbon Hutan” pada 25 dan 26 Februari 2025 di Miri. Pemegang-pemegang permit dan lesen membentangkan kemajuan mereka dan cabaran utama yang dibangkitkan termasuk pertikaian tanah, ketidaktentuan peraturan serta kriteria pasaran karbon yang sentiasa berubah, justeru memberi kesan kepada pelaksanaan projek dan kos.

砂森林局(FDS)于2025年2月25日至26日在美里举办“森林碳研究许可证和森林碳执照最新进展研讨会”。许可证和执照持有者汇报他们的进展,并提出一些主要挑战,包括土地纠纷、监管不确定性以及影响项目实施和成本的碳市场标准变化。

## MEF East Malaysia (Sarawak) Regional Meeting No. 2/2025

The second meeting of the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak) Region for the year was held online on 20 February 2025. The meeting, chaired by Ms Dayang Jamillah binti Tun Abang Muhd Salahuddin, the Consultant-Industrial Relations of MEF Sarawak, featured two (2) presentations on the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and a brief discussion on the key changes introduced in the Sarawak Labour Ordinance (Amendment) Bill 2024.

Mr Azraf bin Mohamad Ayub Han, Head of the Employer Services Section, provided a comprehensive overview of employer responsibilities concerning EPF contributions for employees under a contract of service or apprenticeship. He emphasised that failure to make EPF contributions on or before the fifteenth day of the following month constitutes an offence, punishable by a fine of up to RM10,000, imprisonment of up to three (3) years, or both.

In addition to timely contributions, employers are responsible for registering their employees as EPF members, maintaining records for at least six (6) years, and informing EPF of any discrepancies between EPF statement and employer records or changes to employer's particulars. He also highlighted an upcoming mandate of EPF contribution for non-resident employees, which is currently pending the finalisation of implementation procedures.

Following this, Mr Cliff Bryan anak Thomas Budis, Officer from the Relationship and Advisory Section, outlined the options available for EPF members to make voluntary contributions through the Voluntary

Excess and i-Saraan schemes. He underscored the benefits of additional contributions, particularly in securing a financially stable retirement.

Ms Dayang Jamilah then presented an overview of the *Sarawak Labour Ordinance (Amendment) Bill 2024*, which was passed by Parliament on 12 December 2024. The Bill introduces several significant reforms, including provisions on Sexual Harassment, Flexible Work Arrangements and Housing & Amenities. Key amendments include extending maternity leave from 60 days to 98 days and introducing a seven-day paternity leave. The Bill also expands the Ordinance's coverage to employees earning below RM4,000 monthly, up from the previous threshold of RM2,500, and imposes stricter penalties for non-compliance.

Currently, the Bill is awaiting royal assent before being gazetted. Once gazetted, the Minister of Human Resources will determine the enforcement date.

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) Wilayah Malaysia Timur (Sarawak) mengadakan mesyuarat kedua tahun ini pada 20 Februari 2025. Sesi tersebut merangkumi tanggungjawab majikan KWSP, caruman sukarela, serta perubahan utama dalam Rang Undang-undang Ordinan Buruh Sarawak (Pindaan) 2024, termasuk lanjutan cuti bersalin dan peluasan perlindungan pekerja.

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)东马(砂拉越)区域于2025年2月20日召开本年度第二次会议。该会涵盖雇员公积金(EPF)雇主责任、自愿缴纳以及2024年砂拉越劳工法(修正案)的主要修改,包括延长产假以及扩大员工覆盖范围。



Mr Semilan anak Ripot, the Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Management), delivering welcoming remarks and highlighting the objectives of the Seminar



# Progressive Wage Policy Roadshow, Kuching Sarawak

The Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp), in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Resources and the Ministry of Economy (MoE), hosted the Progressive Wage Policy (PWP) Roadshow on 20 February 2025 at UCSI Hotel Kuching. The event brought together 250 participants from various industries, providing a platform to discuss key developments in wage policies, labour laws, and workforce productivity in Malaysia.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr Awang Raduan bin Awang Omar, Director of the Labour Department Sarawak, emphasised the importance of implementing the PWP, the *Minimum Wage Order 2025*, and the Productivity-Linked Wage System, all aimed at raising wages and improving living standards. He highlighted that these initiatives are designed to ensure equitable wages that align with skills and productivity, contributing to economic sustainability. He also shared that RM200 million had been allocated since October 2024 to support 50,000 employees earning between RM1,500 and RM4,999, helping companies remain competitive.

The event featured six (6) presentations, beginning with Mr Phang Ping, an Industrial Relations Officer specialising in the Sarawak Labour Ordinance. He provided an overview of the Ordinance's evolution, explaining that proposed amendments, intended to keep pace with modern employment practices, are currently in the process of being gazetted before official enforcement.

Ms Norhashimah binti Haron, Principal Assistant Director of the MoE addressed the challenges in Malaysia's wage bargaining landscape. She pointed out that only about 6% of Malaysia's 50 million workers are unionised, significantly weakening employees' ability to negotiate for better wages. She elaborated on the government's initiative to provide incentives under PWP, offering RM200 per month for entry-level employees and RM300 for non-entry-level workers, applicable across all sectors.

Ms Sabrina anak Winston, Talent Acquisition Specialist from the Social Security Organisation (SOCSO) highlighted the evolution of social security services in Malaysia, including employment protection and job-matching services via MyFutureJobs. She discussed SOCSO's wage guide, which helps employers determine fair salary structures, and encouraged attendees to explore the organisation's resources for comprehensive employment support.

Mr Muhammad Fudhail Hariz bin Kamarudin, Secretariat of the National Wages Consultative Council (NWCC) explained the principles behind the minimum wage system, which excludes allowances and is based on factors such as poverty line income, median salary and inflation rates. He outlined the historical trends in Malaysia's minimum wage adjustments and the NWCC's role

in determining fair wages to support a reasonable standard of living.

The Productivity Linked-Wage System (PLWS) was covered by Ms Norhafizah binti Ismail, Senior Assistant Department of Industrial Relations Malaysia. She described PLWS as a performance-based wage system incorporating profit-sharing models to motivate employees and enhance productivity. She emphasised that both employers and employees benefit from the system, which aligns wages with company performance and individual contributions.

Ms Norsita binti Ali from the Associate Grant Management Unit of HRD Corp Sarawak highlighted the organisation's efforts in workforce development. She introduced key initiatives such as National Training Week, e-Latih (an online training platform), Super App MyHRDCorp (a mobile app for easy access to training), and the National Training Index, all aimed at enhancing workforce skills and employability.

With additional sessions planned for April 2025 in Sibu and Miri, the initiative continues to play a pivotal role in ensuring Malaysia's workforce remains competitive and fairly compensated.

*Jerayawara Dasar Gaji Progresif HRD Corp di Kuching pada 20 Februari 2025 mengumpulkan 250 peserta untuk membincangkan pembaharuan dasar gaji, undang-undang buruh dan gaji berkaitan produktiviti. Pakar menekankan cabaran gaji, keselamatan sosial dan program latihan Malaysia. Topik utama termasuk Ordinan Buruh Sarawak, kemas kini gaji minimum dan insentif majikan. Jerayawara akan datang dirancang diadakan Sibu dan Miri.*

砂拉越人力资源发展机构(HRD Corp)的渐进式薪资政策巡回讲座于2025年2月20日假古晋举行, 汇集250位参与者, 讨论薪资改革、劳工法以及生产力挂钩的薪酬。专家们强调马来西亚的薪资挑战, 社会保障以及培训计划。其关键内容包括砂拉越劳工法令, 最低薪金更新以及雇主激励措施。接下来的讲座计划将在诗巫和美里举行。

# Meeting on ePASS Trial Run

A hybrid meeting on the Electronic Removal Pass (ePASS) Trial Run was held by the Forest Department of Sarawak (FDS) on 4 February 2025 at Wisma Baitul Makmur II, Petra Jaya, and via the Zoom platform. The meeting was chaired by Mr Oscar Johin Ngayop, Head of the Revenue and Data Management Division, FDS.

Mr Joshua Deri, Engineer in the Revenue & Data Management Division of FDS, shared that the Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint 2030 outlines Sarawak's strategy for leveraging digital technologies to enhance various sectors and improve service delivery. The blueprint aims to modernise traditional processes, increase operational efficiency and integrate digital solutions to streamline government services for citizens and businesses.

In line with this digital transformation, the FDS has developed ePASS, a system-generated document under the Sarawak Logs Tracking & Forest Revenue System (REVLOG) to replace the pre-printed Removal Pass. This digital solution facilitates seamless submission and endorsement of ePASS applications, benefiting multiple stakeholders including the FDS,

licensees, contractors, third parties and enforcement agencies.

The implementation of ePASS allows licensees to submit and monitor applications online, while FDS officers can efficiently process requests and provide real-time updates. Upon inspection, the ePASS can be generated and printed on-site, significantly reducing processing time and enhancing workflow efficiency.

The ePASS Trial Run will encompass three (3) processes: Issuance of Transit (ePASS), Incoming Shipment, and Shutout Logs. This trial phase is critical in identifying and addressing potential challenges before statewide deployment across Sarawak. The trial will be conducted in three (3) regions: Sibu, Kapit, and Sarikei between 10 March and 30 April 2025.

*Jabatan Hutan Sarawak mengadakan mesyuarat hibrid pada 4 Februari 2025 untuk membincangkan Percubaan Removal Pass Elektronik (ePASS) bagi menggantikan Removal Pass pracetak dengan digital. Penyelesaian digital ini memudahkan penyerahan dan pengesahan permohonan ePASS secara atas talian, memberi manfaat kepada pelbagai pihak berkepentingan termasuk FDS, pemegang lesen, kontraktor, pihak ketiga dan agensi penguatkuasaan.*

砂森林局(FDS)于2025年2月4日召开混合会议, 讨论电子通行证(ePASS)的试运行。ePASS将取代预印通行证。该数字解决方案有助于无缝提交和批准ePASS申请, 使FDS、许可证持有者、承包商、第三方和执法机构等多个利益相关者受益。





PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM NATURAL FORESTS BY REGION FROM SARAWAK- HILL AND SWAMP SPECIES

PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI HUTAN SEMULA JADI MENGIKUT BAHAGIAN DARI SARAWAK - SPESIS HUTAN BUKIT DAN HUTAN PAYA

砂拉越各区域天然林原木生产量 - 丘陵与沼泽地树种

Region	Nov '24	Nov '23	Dec '24	Dec '23	Jan - Dec '24	Jan - Dec '23	Jan '25	Jan '24
	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Kuching (Hill)	750	---	560	650	7,448	3,872	---	---
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sibu (Hill)	20,852	20,631	22,069	21,561	264,882	383,040	14,615	15,698
(Swamp)	2,005	1,944	1,741	1,707	22,051	50,325	1,062	1,402
Bintulu (Hill)	69,282	67,653	45,686	42,194	690,194	838,888	40,724	65,220
(Swamp)	3,295	217	434	2,212	18,297	17,600	2,282	3,153
Miri (Hill)	11,490	15,622	4,992	7,588	87,814	212,773	7,812	4,429
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kapit (Hill)	60,003	53,081	47,117	35,060	613,147	637,591	25,740	47,148
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Limbang (Hill)	7,539	5,505	3,136	6,733	86,907	91,799	4,386	6,955
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	2,474	---	---
Sarikei (Hill)	757	3,597	346	5,568	24,579	56,973	72	5,135
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sri Aman (Hill)	505	267	---	---	937	17,378	182	---
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	52	---	---
Subtotal (Hill)	171,178	166,356	123,906	119,354	1,775,908	2,242,314	93,531	144,585
(Swamp)	5,300	2,161	2,175	3,919	40,348	70,451	3,344	4,555
TOTAL	176,478	168,517	126,081	123,273	1,816,256	2,312,765	96,875	149,140

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak  
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM NATURAL FORESTS BY HILL SPECIES FROM SARAWAK

PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI HUTAN SEMULA JADI MENGIKUT SPESIS HUTAN BUKIT DARI SARAWAK

砂拉越丘陵地树种之天然林原木生产量

Hill Species	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Bindang	356	507	760	659	3,800	204
Meranti	69,226	62,304	71,779	50,066	739,577	40,315
Kapur	6,962	5,218	5,877	4,718	65,461	2,617
Keruing	3,563	2,635	4,178	2,748	36,887	1,824
Sepetir	250	191	274	122	2,896	107
Selangan Batu	3,050	1,838	2,905	2,039	25,900	1,652
Nyatoh	1,787	1,655	1,971	1,154	17,152	664
Other species	86,324	79,850	83,434	62,400	884,235	46,148
TOTAL:	171,518	154,198	171,178	123,906	1,775,908	93,531

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM NATURAL FORESTS BY SWAMP SPECIES FROM SARAWAK

PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI HUTAN SEMULA JADI MENGIKUT SPESIS HUTAN PAYA DARI SARAWAK

砂拉越沼泽地树种之天然林原木生产量

Swamp Species	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Sepetir	---	---	---	---	34	---
Kapur	40	54	41	86	725	27
Keruing	65	47	25	53	357	17
Meranti	907	1,100	694	262	6,085	217
Other species	4,435	4,061	4,540	1,774	33,147	3,083
TOTAL:	5,447	5,262	5,300	2,175	40,348	3,344

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak  
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



SARAWAK timber trade statistics

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM INDUSTRIAL FOREST PLANTATION BY REGION FROM SARAWAK

PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI PERLADANGAN HUTAN INDUSTRI MENGIKUT BAHAGIAN DARI SARAWAK

砂拉越各区域工业人工林原木种类生产量

Region		Nov '24	Nov '23	Dec '24	Dec '23	Jan - Dec '24	Jan - Dec '23	Jan '25	Jan '24
		Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Sibu	(ACMG)	8,742	7,165	4,328	9,554	71,930	52,498	1,024	7,008
	(ALBZ)	1,386	994	3,466	84	15,746	11,458	1,847	---
	(KLPN)	266	810	101	436	7,736	7,251	79	621
Bintulu	(ACMG)	65,852	55,899	61,456	44,225	632,990	831,618	29,930	52,302
	(ALBZ)	5,934	2,468	4,409	991	74,035	29,531	780	2,520
	(EUCA)	782	3,121	213	2,671	20,573	23,480	3,193	1,807
	(GMELINA)	---	---	---	---	2,084	---	---	---
	(KLPN)	---	---	---	17	581	304	---	---
	(MHGN)	---	---	---	981	---	981	---	---
Miri	(ACMG)	13,557	13,363	4,012	4,812	130,374	126,448	5,780	12,865
	(ALBZ)	3,846	1,366	3,081	131	25,564	5,501	4,371	2,130
	(EUCA)	8,266	3,745	4,558	2,449	99,695	30,949	3,596	4,594
	(GMELINA)	46	---	736	---	782	---	---	---
Limbang	(ACMG)	---	887	---	1,769	11,436	11,092	---	1,002
Subtotal	(ACMG)	88,151	77,314	69,796	60,360	846,730	1,021,656	36,734	73,177
	(ALBZ)	11,166	4,828	10,956	1,206	115,345	46,490	6,998	4,650
	(EUCA)	9,048	6,866	4,771	5,120	120,268	54,429	6,789	6,401
	(GMELINA)	46	---	736	---	2,866	---	---	---
	(KLPN)	266	810	101	453	8,317	7,555	79	621
	(MHGN)	---	---	---	981	---	981	---	---
TOTAL:		108,677	89,818	86,360	68,120	1,093,526	1,131,111	50,600	84,849

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak  
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

\*ACMG - Acacia mangium ALBZ - Albizia EUCA - Eucalyptus GMELINA - Gmelina arborea KLPN - Kelampayan MHGN - Mahogany

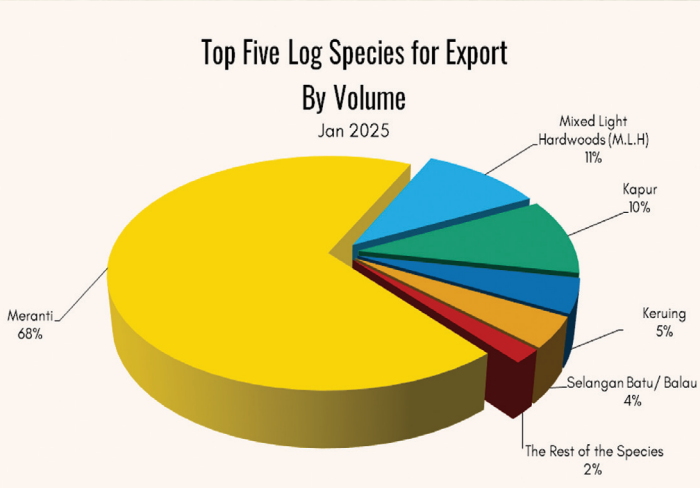
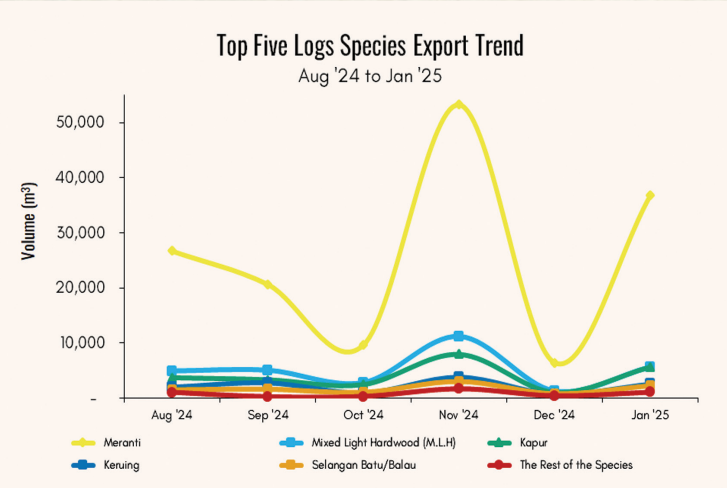
EXPORT OF LOGS BY SPECIES FROM SARAWAK

EKSPORT BALAK MENGIKUT SPESIS DARI SARAWAK

砂拉越原木树种出口量

Species	Nov '24		Dec '24		Jan - Dec '24		Jan '25		Jan '24	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Arau	455	544,127	4	4,081	2,432	2,893,891	258	321,403	551	608,215
Kapur	7,953	8,911,429	977	1,173,478	45,619	51,597,957	5,628	6,256,136	5,957	6,549,791
Keranjii	91	55,585	---	---	237	139,774	109	66,387	12	6,856
Keruing	3,825	2,965,430	708	562,196	40,631	31,973,765	2,538	2,033,175	2,865	2,268,431
Meranti	53,312	36,962,829	6,434	5,106,057	300,178	221,221,139	36,760	26,618,617	48,846	35,033,479
Mersawa	317	255,967	125	108,386	4,319	3,227,247	208	180,392	302	267,428
Mixed Light Hardwoods (M.L.H)	11,205	6,767,729	1,254	799,686	57,408	36,554,723	5,646	3,203,382	4,440	2,620,499
Nyatoh	254	157,631	10	6,212	689	467,310	99	54,665	25	16,107
Resak	485	392,065	88	66,362	3,359	2,874,062	274	229,189	674	580,079
Selangan Batu/Balau	3,056	4,545,803	834	1,514,195	21,845	33,585,169	2,286	3,658,512	3,605	5,887,609
Other Species	44	27,495	165	174,079	431	378,855	88	58,946	39	22,219
TOTAL:	80,997	61,586,090	10,599	9,514,732	477,148	384,913,892	53,894	42,680,804	67,316	53,860,713

Source of data: Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation  
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



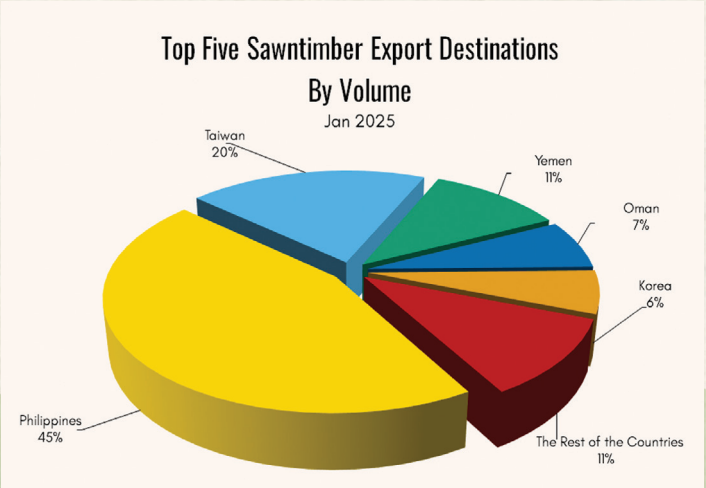
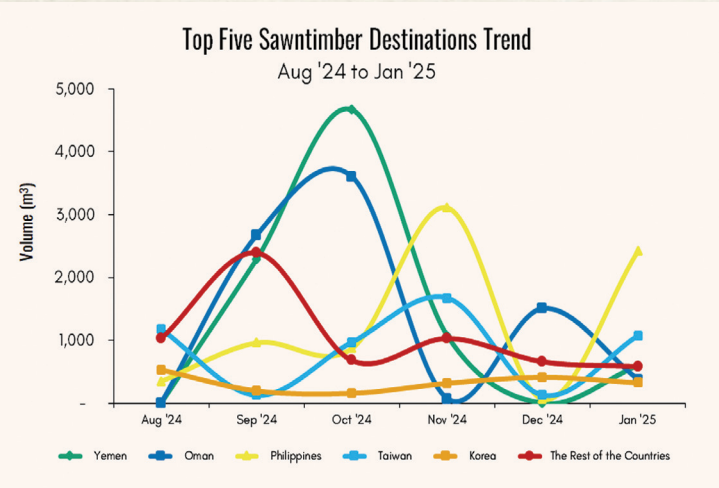


SARAWAK timber trade statistics

EXPORT OF SAWNTIMBER BY DESTINATIONS FROM SARAWAK
EKSPORT KAYU BERGERGAJI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之锯木出口量

Table with 11 columns: Country of Destination, Nov '24 (Vol, Val), Dec '24 (Vol, Val), Jan - Dec '24 (Vol, Val), Jan '25 (Vol, Val), Jan '24 (Vol, Val). Rows include China, India, Japan, Korea, Oman, Philippines, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Yemen, Other Countries, and a TOTAL row.

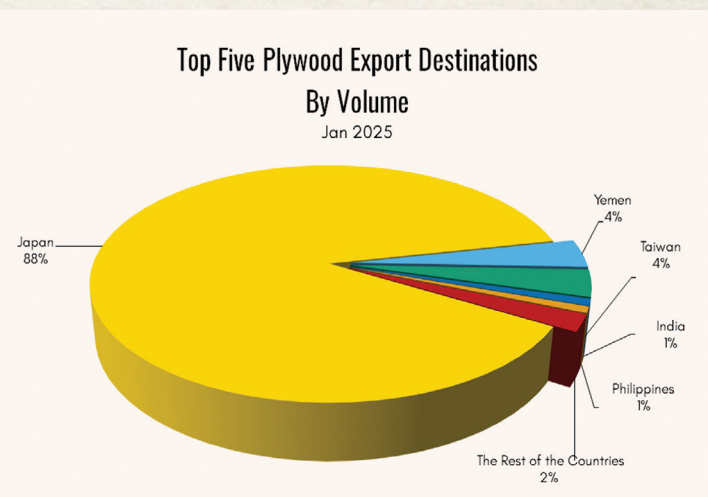
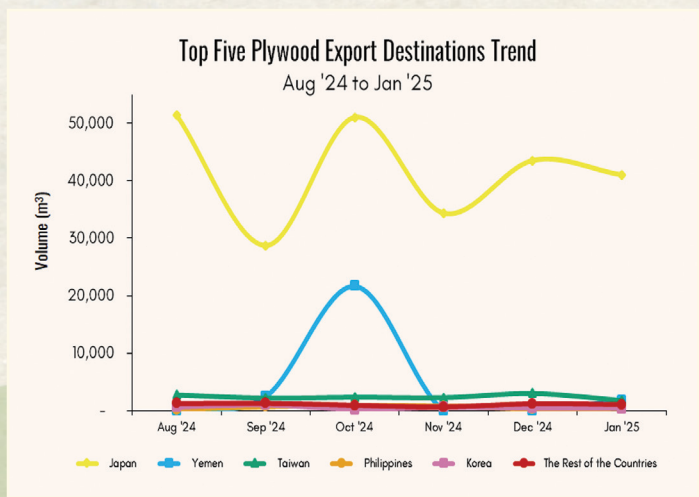
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



EXPORT OF PLYWOOD BY DESTINATIONS FROM SARAWAK
EKSPORT PAPAN LAPIS MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之胶合板出口量

Table with 11 columns: Country of Destination, Nov '24 (Vol, Val), Dec '24 (Vol, Val), Jan - Dec '24 (Vol, Val), Jan '25 (Vol, Val), Jan '24 (Vol, Val). Rows include Australia, Brunei, India, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Other Countries, and a TOTAL row.

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

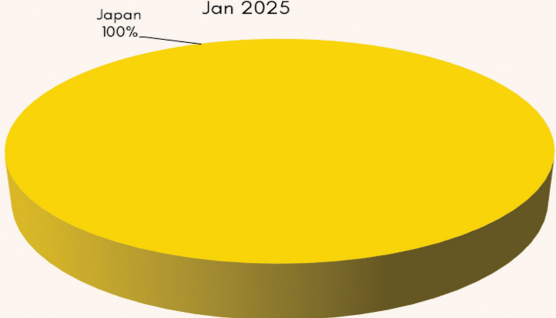






EXPORT VALUE OF VENEER BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT VENIR MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之单板出口值

Top Veneer Export Destination  
By Value  
Jan 2025

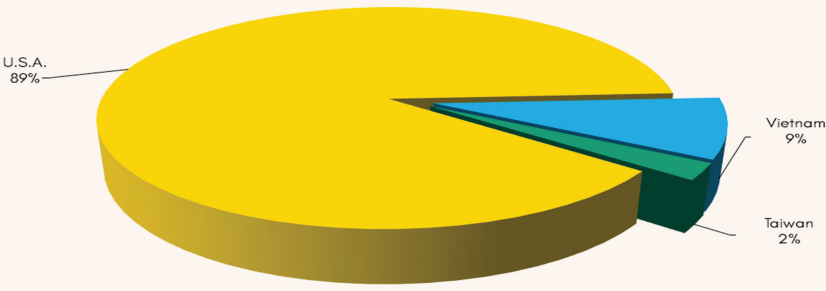


Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
2,442,526	2,185,633	1,082,027	1,268,712	20,808,576	240,829



EXPORT VALUE OF LAMINATED BOARD / FLOORING BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN LAMINA / LANTAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之层压板/地板出口值

Top Three Laminated Board / Flooring Export Destinations  
By Value  
Jan 2025

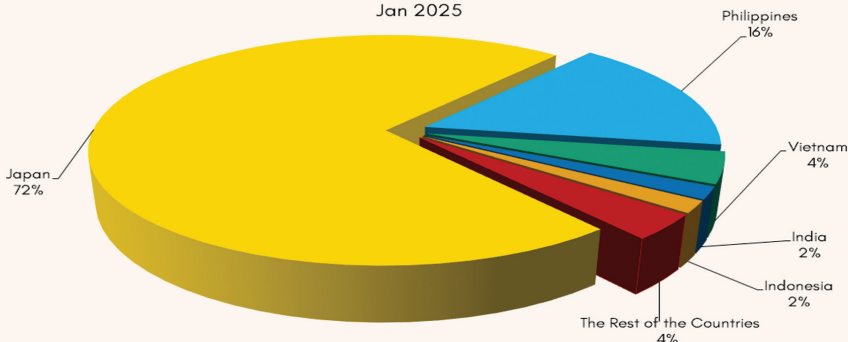


Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
7,690,369	7,083,811	5,805,769	3,973,454	66,014,953	4,988,748



EXPORT VALUE OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN GENTIAN BERKETUMPATAN SEDERHANA MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之中密度纤维板出口值

Top Five Medium Density Fibreboard Export Destinations  
By Value  
Jan 2025

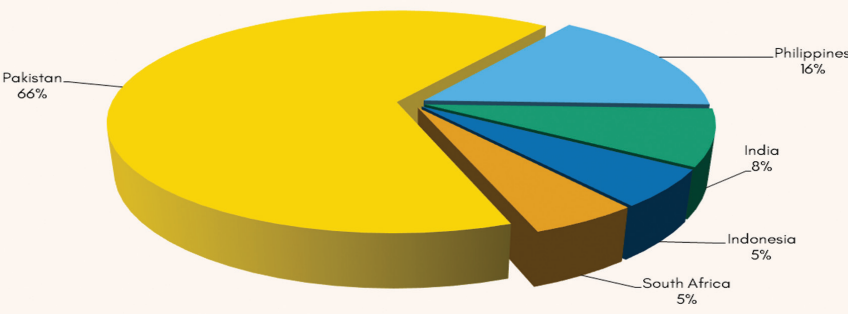


Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
37,153,150	30,139,985	34,549,741	28,011,619	388,220,038	28,997,251



EXPORT VALUE OF DOORSKIN BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT DAUN PINTU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之门皮出口值

Top Five Doorskin Export Destinations  
By Value  
Jan 2025

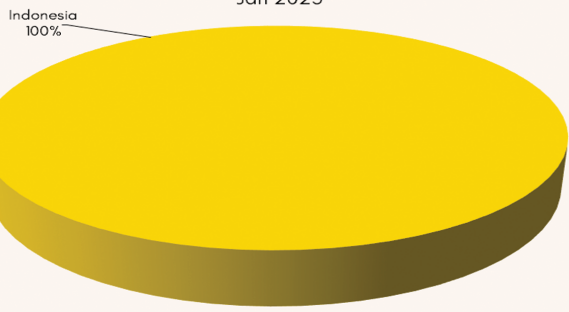


Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
2,050,032	2,886,986	3,763,102	2,667,488	41,593,310	2,767,499



EXPORT VALUE OF PARTICLEBOARD BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN SERPAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之塑合板出口值

Top Particleboard Export Destination  
By Value  
Jan 2025

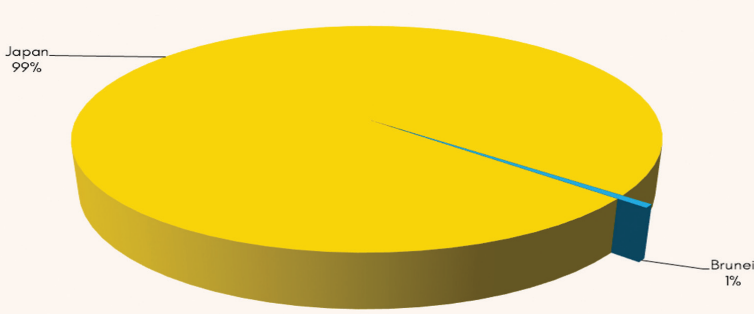


Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
227,763	1,347,203	873,992	1,166,947	10,292,982	113,694



EXPORT VALUE OF DOOR PANELS & FRAME BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT PANEL & BINGKAI PINTU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之门框出口值

Top Two Door Panels & Frame Export Destinations  
By Value  
Jan 2025



Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan - Dec '24	Jan '25
1,370,516	2,166,530	2,609,408	2,874,268	29,291,708	922,793

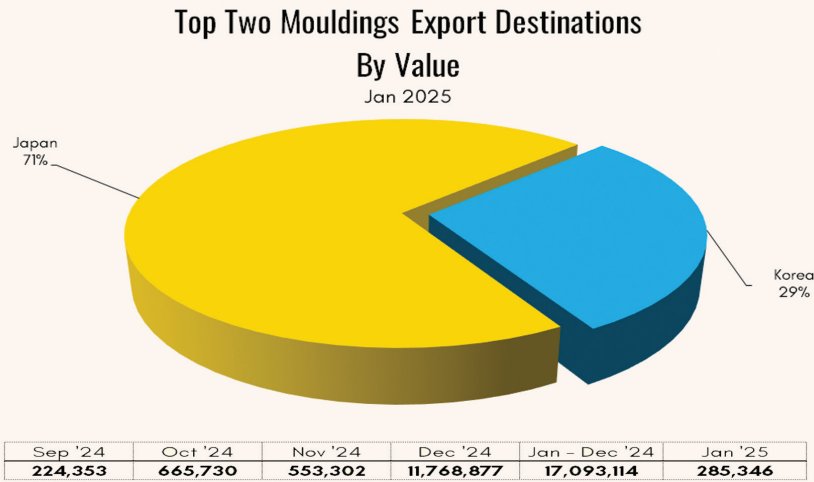
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation  
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

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(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

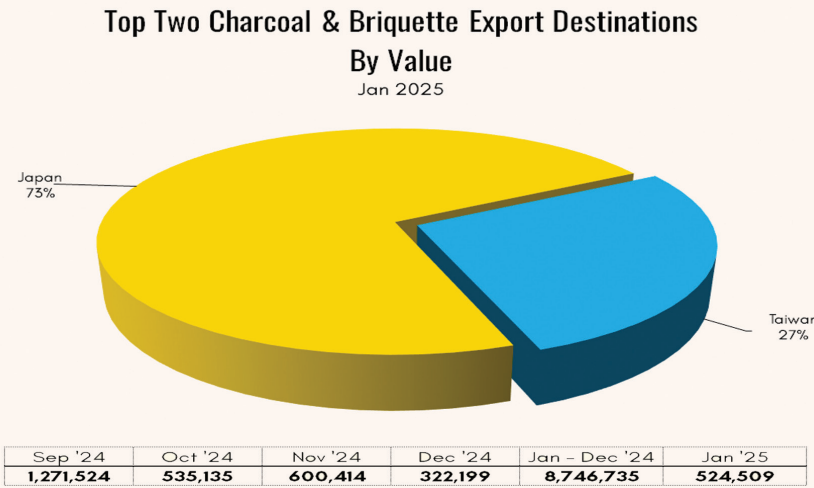




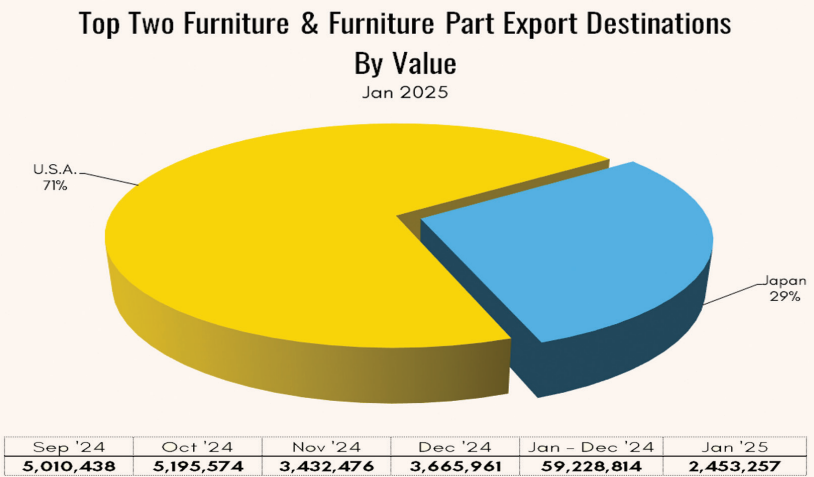
**EXPORT VALUE OF MOULDINGS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK**  
NILAI EKSPORT KAYU KUMAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之制模出口值



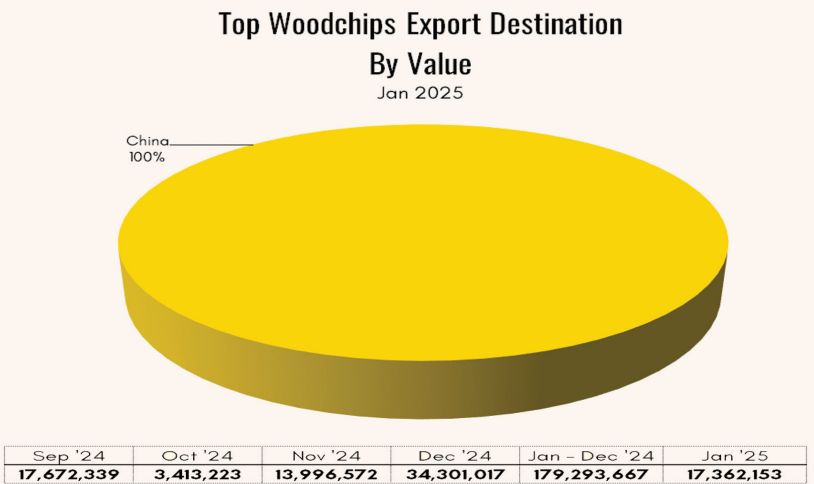
**EXPORT VALUE OF CHARCOAL & BRIQUETTE BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK**  
NILAI EKSPORT ARANG & BRIKET MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之木炭和煤球出口值



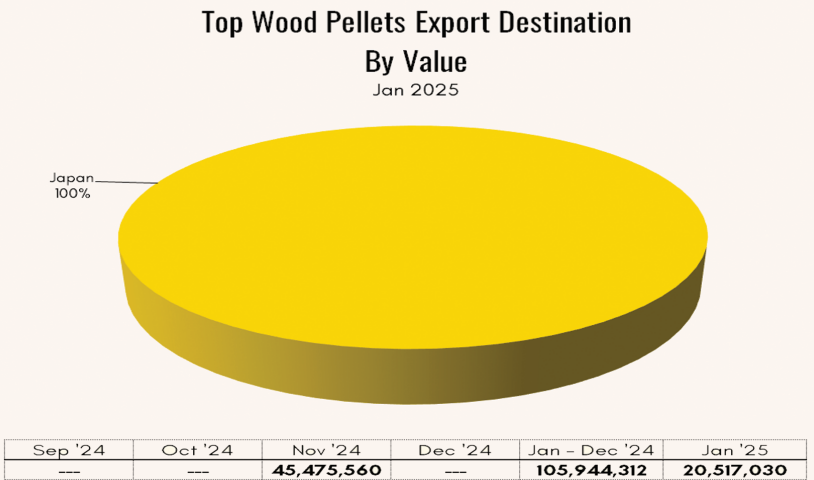
**EXPORT VALUE OF FURNITURE & FURNITURE PARTS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK**  
NILAI EKSPORT PERABOT & BAHAGIANNYA MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之家具及其零件出口值



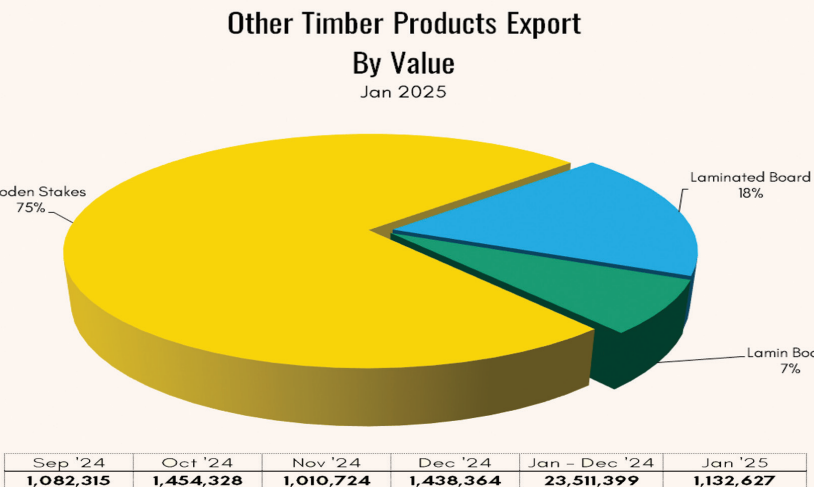
**EXPORT VALUE OF WOODCHIPS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK**  
NILAI EKSPORT CIP KAYU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之木屑出口值



**EXPORT VALUE OF WOOD PELLETS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK**  
NILAI EKSPORT PELET KAYU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之木屑颗粒出口值



**EXPORT VALUE OF OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS FROM SARAWAK**  
NILAI EKSPORT PRODUK KAYU LAIN DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越其它木制品出口值



Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation  
(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

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(Please note that the figures for February 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



# OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME FEBRUARY 2025

Skills training in forestry activities have been designed to provide forest workmen with basic knowledge and practical skills required to work safely in the forests. It helps to create awareness on the environment, sustainable forest management as well as occupational safety and health.

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of STA, offers training to workmen in the forestry and timber industry. Presently, there are twelve (12) skills sets offered by STAT.

For this month, STAT conducted ground operator training programme as follows:

### > Tree Felling – Chainsaw (Natural Forest)

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Kutok Bayang  
**Date** : 5 – 8 February 2025  
**Location** : OT4475 Sg Lintah/Sg Setapang,  
Ulu Sg Kelebu Bintulu  
**Company** : Thano Oil Palm Sdn Bhd

### > Log Loading – Front End Loader (Natural Forest)

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Sang Sanjan  
**Date** : 9 – 12 February 2025  
**Location** : OT4475 Sg Lintah/Sg Setapang,  
Ulu Sg Kelebu Bintulu  
**Company** : Thano Oil Palm Sdn Bhd

### > Log Extraction – Tractor (Natural Forest)

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Sang Sanjan  
**Date** : 5 – 8 February 2025  
**Location** : OT4475 Sg Lintah/Sg Setapang,  
Ulu Sg Kelebu Bintulu  
**Company** : Thano Oil Palm Sdn Bhd

### > Mechanical Site Preparation – Excavator (Forest Plantation)

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Ngumbang Bayang  
**Date** : 5 – 8 February 2025  
**Location** : OT4475 Sg Lintah/Sg Setapang,  
Ulu Sg Kelebu Bintulu  
**Company** : Thano Oil Palm Sdn Bhd

### > Clear-Fell Site Preparation – Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Ngumbang Bayang  
**Date** : 9 – 12 February 2025  
**Location** : OT4475 Sg Lintah/Sg Setapang,  
Ulu Sg Kelebu Bintulu  
**Company** : Thano Oil Palm Sdn Bhd

### > Log and Timber Identification

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Sumbang Rani  
**Date** : 11 – 14 February 2025  
**Location** : Selaan Camp, Baram  
**Company** : Temasek Yakin Sdn Bhd

### > Log and Timber Identification

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Sumbang Rani  
**Date** : 19 – 22 February 2025  
**Location** : Muput Camp, Tatau  
**Company** : Zedtee Sdn Bhd

### > Log Loading – Front End Loader (Natural Forest)

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Sang Sanjan  
**Date** : 19 – 22 February 2025  
**Location** : Muput Camp, Tatau  
**Company** : Zedtee Sdn Bhd

Under Section 51 of the Forests Ordinance 2015, forest workmen are required to receive training from a training provider and demonstrate their competence through assessment. STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) is the appointed training provider by Forest Department Sarawak to provide skills training for the five (5) prescribed forestry activities (PFAs) as listed in Schedule 1 The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015.

## GET IN TOUCH

For more information, contact Mr Wong How Chu at 082 – 332 222 or email at [howchu@sta.org.my](mailto:howchu@sta.org.my)