

STA REVIEW

Monthly Magazine of
Sarawak Timber Association



pg. **03**

STA Annual General Meeting

pg. **08**

International Conference on Sustainable
Management of Tropical Forest

pg. **16**

Meeting of the Committee on International Timber
Trade Legal Compliance

TABLE OF CONTENT

STA Annual General Meeting	03
Courtesy Call to Minister of Plantation & Commodities	07
International Conference on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests	08
Working Visit to Sabah Forestry Department	12
Tree Planting Programme in conjunction with NREB's 30 th Anniversary	14
Second Workshop on High Conservation Value Screening for Permanent Forest Estates in Sarawak	15
Meeting of the Committee on International Timber Trade Legal Compliance	16
STA Timber Products Marketing Committee Meeting No 1/2024	17
MTA Executive Meeting No 1/2024	18
Engagement Session with STA Hill Logging Category and STA Certification Committee Members	18
Final User Requirements Study Lab for Trained Workmen	19
Regular Features	
Statistics	20
Skills Training for Trained Workmen	32

CONTACT US

- ++ (60 82) 332 222 (Phone)
- ++ (60 82) 487 888 (Fax)
- sta@sta.org.my
- www.sta.org.my
- 11 Floor Wisma STA, 26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim, 93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

On the Cover

Cover photo by Peter Lee Pui Weng



STA REVIEW

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



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

The contents of the STA Review may be reprinted with prior written permission from STA.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor
Annie Ting

Members
Freda Emmanuel
Jaime Chan
Miriam Hong
Tchin Boon Ling
Wong How Chu
Yii Yien Yien

STA Annual General Meeting



Dato' Sri Patrick Wong, STA Vice Chairman (5th from left), joined by Mr Wong Ting Chung, STA Honorary Secretary (4th from left), Mr Philip Choo Kwong Hui, STA Honorary Treasurer (5th from right) and representatives from the 9 category committees.

The STA Annual General Meeting (AGM) was convened on 26 March 2024 at Wisma STA, Kuching, with representatives from 141 member companies across Sarawak in attendance.

In the absence of the Chairman, Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, Vice Chairman Dato' Sri Patrick Wong Haw Yeong deputised and presided over the proceedings. Mr Wong Ting Chung, Honorary Secretary delivered a comprehensive report on the Association's activities for the year 2023 on behalf of the Chairman, whose report is provided on pages 4 and 5.

Both Mr Semilan Anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests of Forest Department Sarawak and Haji Zainal Abidin bin Haji Abdullah, General Manager of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation were present at the AGM to provide updates on Sarawak's timber industry policies and developments.

They emphasised initiatives such as forest management certification, restoration efforts, and adherence to environmental regulations. They also discussed promoting sustainable growth in Sarawak's timber industry through innovation, digitalisation, and human capital development.

The AGM also saw the appointment of auditors and public officers for the upcoming years and addressed matters concerning the Association's subsidiary companies; STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, and STA Ventures Sdn Bhd.

Members in attendance then participated in the election of Council members for the 2024 and 2025 term during the AGM.

Following the AGM, a Council Meeting was promptly convened. Dato' Sri Patrick Wong was appointed to chair the Council Meeting, during which Office Bearers for the term of 2024 and 2025 were elected.

Mesyyarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) STA telah diadakan pada 26 Mac 2024 di Wisma STA, Kuching dan dihadiri oleh wakil-wakil daripada syarikat ahli di seluruh Sarawak. Naib Pengerusi Dato' Sri Patrick Wong Haw Yeong mempengerusikan mesyyarat tersebut atas ketiadaan Pengerusi Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong. Kemas kini mengenai dasar industri perkayuan, menekankan kelestarian dan inovasi telah disampaikan. Selain itu, juruaudit dan pegawai awam telah dilantik dan ahli-ahli telah memilih ahli Majlis untuk penggal 2024-2025. Selepas AGM, Mesyyarat Majlis diadakan di mana Pemegang Jawatan untuk tempoh yang sama telah dipilih.

本会年度会员常年大会于2024年3月26日在古晋 STA 大厦召开, 并获得来自砂拉越各地会员公司代表踊跃出席。本会副主席拿督斯里黄厚匀在主席拿督刘利康缺席下, 主持此大会。会员被告知木材工业政策的最新信息, 强调可持续性和创新。此外, 大会也委任审计员和公职人员, 并选出2024-2025年任期的理事会成员。新一届理事会



(Left) Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests, Forest Department Sarawak, and

(2) Haji Zainal Abidin bin Haji Abdullah, General Manager of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation shared Government's perspective and current policies.

Chairman’s Speech

Annual General Meeting 2024

It is my honour to address you as the Chairman of STA, as we reflect on the achievements and challenges we have encountered over the past year, in the dynamic and challenging landscape of the timber trade.

First and foremost, we must pay tribute to the late Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Bin Mahmud, former Governor and Chief Minister of Sarawak who passed away on 21 February 2024. Tun Pehin Sri’s enduring legacy as a visionary leader in the forestry and timber industry has shaped our industry, leaving an indelible mark on Sarawak and its people. Let us take a moment to honour his memory and reflect on his profound contributions to our industry.

Inspired by Tun Pehin Sri’s visionary leadership, STA, as the leading timber institution in Sarawak, remains steadfast in advancing sustainable forest management and conservation, even amidst global uncertainties. Throughout 2023, we made concerted efforts to promote environmental stewardship and implement sustainable practices and responsible forestry management to enhance the overall efficiency of our timber trade operations.

Following these endeavours, we take great pride in reporting the remarkable achievements of our members in forest management certification (FMC). Currently, twenty-four (24) forest management units (FMUs) and seven (7) forest plantation management units, covering a total area of 2.16 million hectares, have attained the certified status and proudly hold certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme. This scheme is endorsed by the internationally recognised Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

Certified FMUs meticulously plan for the sustainable management of forests, catering to both present and future needs. Accomplishing effective long-term planning necessitates extended tenures. A longer tenure from the Government will undoubtedly instil confidence in the timber industry and foster its continued growth with unfailing commitment to provide environmental, social and economic benefits to the people of Sarawak.

As a dedicated timber institution in Sarawak, it is also our core objective to promote the well-being of the timber trade and industry in Sarawak, ensuring the long term economic, social and environmental viability of the industry. For this, I must also address a pressing concern – the escalating costs associated with the continuous maintenance of certified FMUs. This has become a significant source of concern for our members.

Commencing from 1 July 2024, a new directive mandates certified FMUs to contribute to corporate social responsibility through a cess of RM15 per cubic metre. While we acknowledge the significance of such contributions for the betterment of Sarawak’s communities, we advocate for transparency in how this cess is utilised. STA actively seeks to participate in the discussion regarding the allocation of these funds.

The recently concluded International conference on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests, organised by STA in collaboration with Forest Department Sarawak and WWF-Malaysia with the support of the International Tropical Timber Organization from 6 to 7 March 2024, highlighted the significant value of tropical forests

to the environment, economies and livelihoods. As responsible forest managers, the industry requires supportive policies and enabling environment, including assurance of long-term tenure and incentives to sustainably manage our forests and safeguard their intrinsic values against conversion for alternative land uses.

It is imperative to recognise that this unavoidable cost will inevitably translate into higher selling prices for both international and domestic buyers, affecting particularly downstream sector members. Consequently, downstream sector members will be compelled to adjust their prices, further challenging the competitiveness of our timber and timber products in markets already strained by the State sales tax (SST). The SST, ranging from 1% to 2.5%, was implemented on 1 June 2023, affecting selected timber products outside Sarawak, including sawntimber, veneer, woodships, fibreboard, particleboard, and plywood. Furthermore, the decision to use CNF (Cost and Freight) value in determining SST starting March 2024 has sparked concerns among members.

Would it not be simpler to calculate SST based on the value indicated on the invoice, regardless of whether it is CNF or FOB (Free on Board)? After all, both Section 15(d) of the State Sales Tax Ordinance, 1988, and Regulation 19H stipulate that the sales value for timber products exported or sold externally shall be the price of goods stated in the contract or invoice.

The impact of these financial burdens is starkly evident in the declining export value of timber and timber products. Despite a robust RM3.947 billion recorded in 2022, the export value plummeted to RM3.141 billion in 2023, signifying a tangible loss of competitiveness in our industry.

Effectively competing in international markets is paramount and demands immediate attention. The escalating costs within the timber industry pose a formidable challenge that cannot be ignored. From production to transportation, each facet of our operations requires meticulous review to identify cost-saving measures without compromising on the quality and sustainability of our products.

This development not only jeopardises our ability to effectively compete in international markets but also poses a serious threat to our initiatives in market development and expansion, both domestically and internationally, essential for sustaining the long term viability and ensuring the continuous growth of timber trade of Sarawak.

In addition to the above pivotal roles STA plays as an institution dedicated to promoting sustainable forest management and well-being of timber trade, STA has demonstrated continuous efforts to uphold the interest and welfare of its members through various endeavours in the year 2023. We consistently engage in close collaborative endeavours with our members, government agencies, and stakeholders, emphasising our commitment to maintaining strong partnerships. Active involvement in capacity building through trainings and discussions on Reduced Impact Logging and High Conservation Values with Forest Department Sarawak and WWF-Malaysia. These endeavours not only supported the expertise growth but also enhanced proficiency among our members, ensuring effective implementation of sustainable practices on the ground.

STA continues its longstanding collaboration with the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) throughout the year in improving environmental stewardship practices within the industry. A noteworthy accomplishment includes the successful completion of two (2) pilot projects on environmental compliance audit culminated in a workshop on 6 November 2023, where both STA and NREB jointly analysed findings to refine the Guidelines for Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008. Plans are underway to address cost-effectiveness and increase the number of internal auditors to facilitate the industry’s migration to self-regulation.

To enhance workplace safety and promote a culture of safety in the timber industry, STA collaborated with Chemsain HRD Sdn Bhd to organise Training on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Coordinator exclusively for STA members. Participants who successfully completed the training are now qualified OSH Coordinator registered with the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, complying with the new Section 29A of the Occupational Safety and Health (Amendment) Act 2022, which mandates employers with five (5) or more employees to appoint OSH Coordinator.

Aligning with our commitment to sustainability, STA has undertaken ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) capacity building initiatives. In collaboration with the Malaysian Timber Association and CIMB Bank, STA has imparted knowledge on ESG through training and engagement sessions. This efforts empower our members to integrate ESG considerations into daily operations, enhancing the industry’s reputation and contributing to the long-term sustainability and resilience of the timber trade.

STA recognises the Sarawak Government’s initiative to establish industrial forests as a long term strategy to provide an alternative consistent source of wood materials for the downstream sector. To support this development, STA is currently funding three (3) research & development (R&D) projects on Kelampayan and Batai in the year 2023. The planting materials produced from these R&D projects, carrying anticipated favourable traits, are currently undergoing trial planting at our members’ areas.

To further advance the development of industrial forests, STA applauds Sarawak Government’s recent initiative in exploring the establishment of mills within the industrial forests. As we are well aware, logs from industrial forests play a pivotal role in supplementing the shortage of raw materials for the downstream sector. The potential reduction in log costs would not only alleviate financial burdens within the timber industry but also enhance the overall competitiveness of our products in the market. Hence, STA firmly believes that this initiative holds great promise in reducing the costs of logs sourced from industrial forests, and we eagerly await further developments.

One year on, the timber industry continues to grapple with persistent labour shortage, particularly evident in the forest plantation sector and oil palm activities carried out by our members. If left unaddressed, this situation poses a significant risk to the continuity of our members’ operations. In light of these challenges, we urgently call upon the government to establish more consistent policies and streamlined processes for the recruitment of foreign workers.

A more predictable and efficient framework will not only help mitigate the current labour shortage but also contribute to the long-term stability of the timber industry. By fostering a conducive environment for workforce management, the government can play a pivotal role in ensuring the sustained growth and competitiveness of our members.

The Sarawak Government has been a proponent of utilising logs from industrial forests, encouraging the industry to venture into engineered wood products and biomass. This strategic shift necessitates our members to upgrade their mills for processing logs from industrial forests. To foster this transformation, we earnestly call upon the government to provide incentives for mill retooling/refitting. Recognising the financial commitment required for such endeavours, incentives would play a pivotal role in facilitating this crucial transition.

Additionally, we seek government assistance in developing markets for the new products that will emerge from this initiative. Creating avenues for the successful introduction and acceptance of these products in the market is essential for the sustained growth and competitiveness of our industry.

We appreciate the constructive actions taken by NGOs and environmental activists in safeguarding the forests. While their efforts are crucial, it is equally important to refrain from criticising our members who operate within the bounds of the law. Our collective endeavours should focus on fostering collaboration, transparency, and sustainable practices to maintain Sarawak’s forest cover. By maintaining a balanced approach, we aim not only to uphold environmental integrity but also to enhance Sarawak’s risk rating through responsible forestry practices.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, it is crucial to acknowledge that our journey is ongoing. The timber trade industry is dynamic, and as an institution championing the interests of the timber industry in Sarawak, we must remain adaptable and responsive to emerging trends and challenges. With the unwavering support of our dedicated members and partners, I am confident that STA will continue to lead with integrity and a commitment to excellence.

Returning to the matters of the Association, this is an election year. Members shall elect Council members for a term of two (2) years, 2024 and 2025. I would like to put on record my gratitude to the outgoing Council for their efforts and unequivocal support over the past two (2) years and I wish the incoming Council a successful term.

Finally, I like to thank STA Advisors, Datu Haji Hamden Bin Haji Mohamad, Director of Forests and Tuan Haji Zainal Abidin Bin Haji Abdullah, General Manager of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, as well as officers from the various ministries and agencies in the Sarawak Government for their continuous support to STA. I would also like to thank Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer and her officers at the Secretariat for their hard work.

STA Council (2024 - 2025)

STA OFFICE BEARERS

CHAIRMAN

Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry

VICE CHAIRMEN

Dato' Sri Wong Haw Yeong, Patrick
Mr Ho Yam Kuan, James

HONORARY SECRETARY

Mr Wong Ting Chung

HONORARY TREASURER

Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip

STA PERMANENT COUNCIL MEMBER

KTS Group of Companies

- Temenggong Dato Lau Lee Ming, Vincent
- Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry

Rimbunan Hijau Group of Companies

- Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King
- Mr Tiong Chiong Ong, David

Samling Group of Companies

- Datuk Yaw Chee Chik
- Mr Yap Fui Fook

Shin Yang Group of Companies

- Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho
- Mr Ling Chiong Sing

Ta Ann Group of Companies

- Datuk Amar Haji Abdul Hamed bin Haji Sepawi
- Dato Wong Kuo Hea

WTK Group of Companies

- Dato Sir Wong Kie Yik, KBE
- Dato' Sri Wong Haw Yeong, Patrick

ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Forest Plantation

1. Mr Lau Ching Hoo, Joseph (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Soh Eng Chai, Wilson
3. Mr Wong Ko Hock, Andy

Furniture & Other Woodworking

1. Mr Yek Siew Liong (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Cheng Hwa Tang, Desmond

Hill Logging

1. Mr Wong Ting Chung (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Law Hui Kong, Kenny
3. Mr Lau Tee Mei, Roland
4. Mr Lim Hong Hin
5. Mr Ling Uong Chong
6. Mr Ting Jack Hui
7. Mr Tiong Hoo Chiong
8. Mr Tsen Teck Fen
9. Ms Wong Fei Fei, Happy

Log Marketing

1. Ms Lau Kor See, Adeline (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Chang Lik Yang, Gerald
3. Mr Ho Yam Kuan, James
4. Mr Ting Dau Hu, William
5. Ms Wong Haw Ing, Audrey

Moulding

1. Mr Law Buong Hoo, Philip (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Tiong Chiong Chung

Panel Products

1. Datuk Ling Lu Kiong (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Chieng Ai Ung, Vincent
3. Mr Lau Lee Kiong, Stephen

Sawmilling

1. Datin Sri Wong Haw Bing, Annie (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Wong Hee Sing

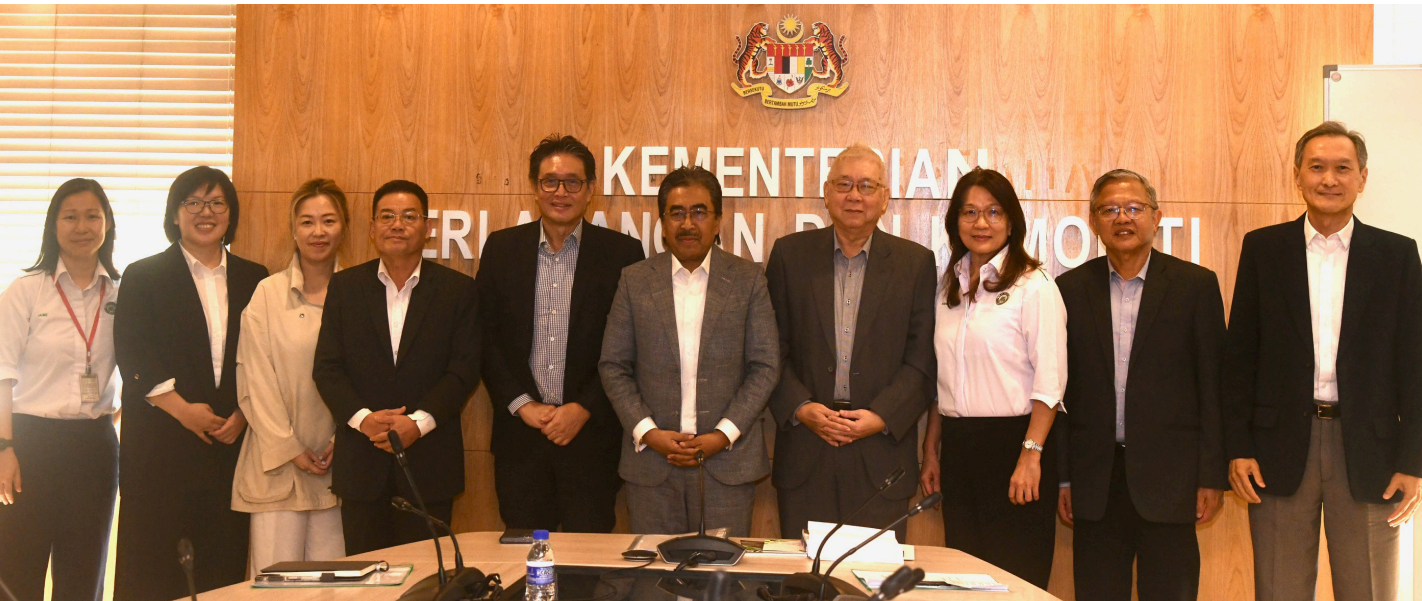
Swamp Logging

1. Ms Lau Kor Ping, Diana (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip

Timber Products Marketing

1. Mr Hii Hium Ung, Stephen (Category Chairman)
2. Ms Ling Lay Kiong, Teresa
3. Mr Teng Kheng Huh, Patrick
4. Mr Toh Kok Kwang

Courtesy Call to Minister of Plantation & Commodities



Datuk Seri Johari bin Abdul Ghani, Minister of Plantation and Commodities (6th from left) posed for photo with STA delegates led by Mr Wong Ting Chung, STA Honorary Secretary (4th from right)

STA paid a courtesy call to Datuk Seri Johari bin Abdul Ghani, Minister of Plantation and Commodities on 25 March 2024 at his office located at the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities, Putrajaya. The delegation of nine (9) was headed by Mr Wong Ting Chung, Honorary Secretary.

During the Courtesy Call, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA introduced STA and elaborated on the initiatives STA undertakes to assist members in producing legal and sustainable timber. These initiatives include

providing training for forest workers, organising workshops, hosting the recently concluded "International Conference on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests", producing handbooks on reduced impact logging, sharing research and development projects undertaken by STA, as well as representing members in downstream activities.

She also highlighted challenges faced by the timber industry, including allegations from non-governmental organisations discrediting forest management

certification process, the carry forward of unabsorbed business losses, and accusations of dumping plywood.

The Minister pledged to assist STA on the carry forward of unabsorbed business losses and requested data from STA on timber species requiring a longer carry-forward period.

Regarding anti-dumping on plywood in the Korean market, the Minister proposed intervening through dialogue with Korea to address the issue.



Meeting in progress.

Delegasi STA, diketuai oleh Setiausaha Kehormatannya, Encik Wong Ting Chung lawat Datuk Seri Johari bin Abdul Ghani, Menteri di Kementerian Perladangan dan Komoditi untuk membincangkan inisiatif ke arah pengeluaran kayu mampan.

Cabaran seperti tuduhan pertubuhan bukan kerajaan dan tuduhan lambakan papan lapis telah dibincangkan, dengan ikrar daripada Menteri untuk membantu dan intervensi dalam perkara berkaitan.

STA代表团在其名誉秘书黄祯俊先生的带领下，礼节性拜访马来西亚种植与原产业部部长拿督斯里佐哈里阿都甘尼，讨论协助可持续木材生产的举措。非政府组织的指控和胶合板倾销的指控等挑战获得了重视，部长也承诺提供协助和介入相关事件。



Newly formed Council members for the term 2024 & 2025 present at the AGM

International Conference on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests

Setting the Scene on Collective Action for Sustainable Forests

“Forests must provide economic value, else it risks being converted into alternative land uses”

Dato Henry Lau, Chairman of STA

The International Conference on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests, held from 6 to 7 March 2024 at Hilton Kuching in conjunction with the International Day of Forests 2024, served as a pivotal platform for fostering collaboration and dialogue among experts, policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders.

Organised by STA in collaboration with the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and WWF-Malaysia, and supported by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the conference addressed the critical nexus between forestry and sustainable development.

At its core, the conference aimed to advocate for the conservation of existing forests and the revitalisation of Permanent Forest Estates (PFEs) through sustainable forest management (SFM). It positioned SFM as a key strategy not only for environmental conservation but also for fostering social well-being. Additionally, the conference explored various financing options and investment opportunities to effectively implement SFM practices.

The conference began with speeches by esteemed leaders from the timber industry, government bodies, and conservation organisations, STA Chairman, Dato Henry Lau; FDS Director of Forests, Datu Haji Hamden bin Haji Mohammad; and WWF-Malaysia Chairman, Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar who set the scene for collective action for sustainable forests.

Their speeches underscored the paramount importance of tropical forests in conserving biodiversity, generating economic benefits, and fostering positive social aspects through responsible and sustainable forest management. Recognising the multifaceted contributions of tropical forests, their insights illuminated how collaborative efforts could shape policies and initiatives to simultaneously advance environmental sustainability, economic well-being, and social welfare.

In her keynote address titled “Sustainable Tropical Forestry, Supply Chains, and Investment – A Pathway for a Sustainable Future” Ms Sheam Satkuru, the Executive Director of ITTO, emphasised the critical importance of intelligent forest management practices in addressing sustainability challenges.

She highlighted how sustainable forest management of tropical forests, coupled with forest-based enterprises and the

international tropical timber trade, significantly adds value to these ecosystems, fostering inclusiveness, resilience, and economic development.

Ms Satkuru emphasised the need for further investments in sustainable forestry and forest enterprises to promote inclusive and resilient solutions that benefit both people and the environment.

Additionally, she debunked the misconception that harvesting in tropical forests leads to deforestation, asserting that legally and sustainably sourced timber serves as a renewable, carbon-storing, and recyclable material, playing a central role in advancing sustainability efforts.

Publications launched at the conference

1) Handbooks on Reduced Impact Logging joint project between FDS and STA



2) High Conservation Value Training Modules joint publication by WWF-Malaysia, STA, FDS and SFC



The materials for the Conference are available for download on STA website.



SCAN HERE

Keynote Address



“Further investments accompanied by appropriate fiscal and non-fiscal incentives are urgently needed to realize the full potential of tropical forests and wood industries to provide efficient and cost-effective nature-based solutions for a sustainable future”

Ms Sheam Satkuru, Executive Director of ITTO

Sustainable Tropical Forestry, Supply Chains and Investment – a pathway for a sustainable future

Side events pre-conference



(1) Sharing session on carbon by Dr Gary Theseira

(2) Discussion with Mr Rupert Oliver on compliance to European Union Deforestation-free Regulation



(Seated, left to right) Ms Sheam Satkuru, Executive Director of ITTO; Datu Haji Hamden bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests; Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman of WWF-Malaysia and Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA cum Conference Chairperson with participants of the Conference

International Conference on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests

Speakers and moderators:



Session 1: Valuing our Forest - Future Directions and Policies



Session 2: Climate-smart SFM - What are the Options?



Session 3: Finance, Market and Branding - Building Opportunities



Session 4: Collaboration and Partnership - Research, Risk and Safeguards

Divided into four (4) sessions, the conference covered various themes, including valuing forests, climate-smart SFM, finance, market, and branding, as well as collaboration and partnership. Each session delved into different aspects crucial for the sustainable management of tropical forests, ranging from policy directions to financial innovations and community engagement.

Notable speakers at the conference shared insights on the multifaceted contributions of forests to ecosystems, economies, and overall well-being. They stressed the importance of forests providing economic value while also enhancing additional values from ecosystem services.

Supportive policies, assurance of long-term tenure, and adoption of smart SFM practices were identified as essential elements in addressing the climate crisis and ensuring sustainable forest management.

Furthermore, the conference underscored the need for substantial finance, incentives, and investment to effectively pursue SFM goals. It highlighted the importance of multi-stakeholder consultation, collaboration, and partnership in achieving sustainability objectives, recognising the interconnectedness of social, economic, and environmental aspects in forest management.

Also launched during the conference were the Handbooks of Reduced Impact Logging Guidelines, a joint project between FDS and STA, and the High Conservation Value (HCV) Training Modules, a joint publication by WWF-Malaysia, STA, FDS, and Sarawak Forestry Corporation.

FDS and STA collaboratively produced the seven (7) RIL Handbooks, derived from RIL Guidelines for ground-based timber harvesting in the State of Sarawak to facilitate ground crews in carrying out specific tasks related to the implementation of RIL. Each handbook is available in English, and translated into Bahasa Melayu and Mandarin, making the handbook multi-lingual and ensuring accessibility for a wider audience.

The HCV Training Modules, on the other hand, are tailored for use by Forest Management Units, with contents suited to the context of Sarawak. Its goal is to enhance the HCV processes, concentrating on assessment, management and monitoring. The production took about five (5) years and included consultation sessions, field testings and reviews, with the final version completed in 2022.

Persidangan Antarabangsa mengenai Pengurusan Mampan Hutan Tropika yang diadakan pada Mac 2024 menekankan kerjasama dalam kalangan pakar dan pihak berkepentingan untuk mempromosikan pengurusan hutan mampan (SFM) bagi faedah sosial, ekonomi dan alam sekitar. Penceramah utama menekankan kepentingan amalan SFM dan menafikan salah tanggapan tentang peneuaian hutan tropika.

Acara itu memberi tumpuan kepada penghargaan hutan, SFM pintar iklim, kewangan, pasaran, penjenamaan dan kerjasama. Hasil yang ketara termasuk pelancaran buku panduan dan modul latihan.

于2024年3月举行的热带森林可持续管理国际研讨会强调了专家和利益相关者之间的合作，以促进实现社会、经济和环境效益的可持续森林管理（SFM）。主讲人强调可持续森林管理实践的重要性，并揭露有关热带森林采伐的误解。该研讨会着重讨论了森林价值评估、气候智能型SFM、金融、市场、品牌和合作。显着的成果包括推出手册和培训模块。



Frontrow, 8th from right are Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA cum Conference Chairperson, Conference Co-Chairmen Dr Jason Hon, Associate Director, WWF-Malaysia and Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests; Ms Sheam Satkuru, Executive Director of ITTO; Dato Sri Patrick Wong, STA Vice-Chairman; and Mr Philip Choo, STA Honorary Treasurer.



Conference in progress.

Working Visit to Sabah Forestry Department



Haji Happsypina bin Sait, Deputy Director of Forests (Conservation and Development), Forest Department Sarawak (5th from left), Mr Musa Salleh, Deputy Chief Conservator of Forest (Operation) (16th from left) and Mr Daim Balingi, Head of SFM Department of Sabah Forestry Department (11th from left) posed for a group photo at SFD's Office



The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) led by Haji Happsypina bin Sait, Deputy Director of Forests (Conservation & Development) conducted a working visit to Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) from 26 February 2024 to 1 March 2024.

The visit aimed to strengthen the knowledge in development and management of planted forest, forest fire and to explore potential collaboration between FDS and SFD as well as to understand approaches adopted by SFD in certifying forest plantation. Representatives from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, Sarawak Planted Forest and STA participated in the working visit.



The visit commenced with a courtesy call to SFD in Sandakan, where Mr Musa Salleh, Deputy Chief Conservator of Forest (Operations) and Mr Daim Balingi, Head of Sustainable Forest Management Department of SFD welcomed the delegation. Mr Daim shared insights into Sabah's forest fire management strategies, emphasising the significant economic and environmental ramifications of forest fires. He also outlined collaborative efforts with the Fire and Rescue Department of Malaysia and the establishment of an "Initial Attack Crew" to combat forest fires effectively. The integration of technology such as the Electronic Weather Station (EWS) and the Fire Danger Rating System (FDRS) were highlighted as pivotal in forest fire risk management.



Ms Heidi Henry William from SFD's Sustainable Forest Mangement Department provided a briefing on the establishment of forest plantation in Sabah. She shared the State's policy shift towards reducing dependence on natural forest resources, aiming to develop 400,000 hectares of planted forests by 2036, with a production capacity between 6-8 million

cubic metres per year. As of December 2023, a total of 38 licences were issued for planted forests with total planted areas of 175,255 hectares. Main species planted were rubber, *Acacia*, *Albizia*, and laran. Despite notable achievements in this endeavour, challenges including high capital investments, labour shortages, market fluctuation, certification of planted forests and compliance with regulations such as the European Union Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR) were acknowledged.

At the Segaliud Lokan Forest Reserve, managed by KTS Plantation Sdn Bhd, Mr Paul Liau, Plantation Manager mentioned that the areas assigned for industrial tree plantation are harvested using reduced impact logging technique, followed by forest rehabilitation activities within the High Production Corridor with pioneer species such as Binuang and Laran planted at open canopy area with primary species such as Seraya Punai and Kapur Paji subsequently added.

Mr Paul also brought the delegation to the nursery where indigenous species of wildings are collected for rehabilitation planting. Wildings collected from field will be raised in the polybag for 7 months until reaching 70-100 cm height before being transferred to the field. Trees planted were mapped and submitted to SFD.

The delegation also had the privilege of visiting the Jawala Plantation Industries Sdn Bhd located at Sapulut Forest Reserve, Keningau. The plantation, with a total size of 11,043 hectares was established in 2016, planting mostly white kelampayan and *Albizia*. Mr Rahman Khan, Chief Executive Officer of Jawala Plantation, in his briefing informed that based on initial harvesting data of 5 years harvesting rotation, they are able to produce about 210m³/ha of *Albizia* and 130m³/ha of Laran. Jawala Plantation won the best model forest plantation in Malaysia and Malaysia Outstanding ESG Impact Corporate Excellence Award in 2023.

Further insights were obtained from the visit to Sabah Forestry Institute (IPS) in Telupid, where delegates learned about IPS' role and forest fire training

programme. Delegates were once again welcomed by Mr Musa Salleh and Haji Muhammad Razali Muhammad, Principal of IPS. Delegates were briefed on the management of the IPS, training programmes as well as the forest fire training developed by SFD. This was followed by a visit to forest fire store to understand equipments and tools used by the forest fire crews.

Exploring the Sook Lake Forest Reserve and the Klias Peatland Forest Reserve underscored the SFD's multifaceted approach towards forest management, encompassing research, training and ecosystem restoration efforts. Mr Bonaventure Oliver Boyou, Sook District Forestry Officer informed that the Sook Lake Forest Reserve was formerly used as SFD's research plots and is currently used as forest fire training site. At the Klias Peatland Forest Reserve, delegates visited the infrastructure developed by SFD to address forest fire and restoration of peat swamp area within the Klias Peatland Forest Reserve, a forest fire prone area.

The delegation also visited the Rainforest Discovery Centre (RDC), where Dr Reuben Nilus, Deputy Head of Research and Publication Centre of RDC briefed the delegates on the Conservation Area Information & Monitoring System which was developed to provide information on the totally protected forest reserves and conservation areas in Sabah for conservation, monitoring, education, research and public awareness.

Perwakilan Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah melawat Jabatan Perhutanan Sabah (SFD) dari 26 Februari hingga 1 Mac 2024 dengan matlamat untuk mengukuhkan pengetahuan dalam pengurusan hutan. Sorotan termasuk lawatan ke Rainforest Discovery Centre, Hutan Simpan Segaliud Lokan, Institut Perhutanan Sabah dan Jawala Plantation Industries, di mana perkara-perkara berkaitan tentang strategi kebakaran hutan, penubuhan ladang hutan dan usaha pemuliharaan telah dibincangkan.

砂拉越森林局(FDS)代表团于2024年2月28日至3月1日访问沙巴森林局(SFD), 目的在于加强森林管理知识。重点活动包括参观热带雨林探索中心、Segaliud Lokan 森林保护区、沙巴林业学院和Jawala人工林, 并讨论有关森林防火策略、人工林建设和保护工作的见解。



Nursery of Jawala Plantation

Tree Planting Programme in conjunction with NREB's 30th Anniversary



In conjunction with its 30th anniversary, the Natural Resources and Environment Board Sarawak (NREB) collaborated with the Forest Department Sarawak to organise a tree planting programme at Sabal Forest Reserve on 9 March 2024. The event was attended by representatives from various government agencies, private enterprises, non-governmental organisations, educational institutions including STA.

Datuk Dr Haji Hazland bin Abang Haji Hipni, Deputy Minister of Energy and Environmental Sustainability, in his speech highlighted that initiatives such as the tree planting programme helped Sarawak align with sustainable development principles and solidify its commitments towards climate adaptation. He also commended the collaborative spirit demonstrated across sectors, underscoring the importance of collective efforts in effecting meaningful change. Echoing these sentiments, Mr Jack anak Liam, the Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak highlighted the urgency for action at both individual and collective levels to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

This joint effort saw the planting of 3,000 mixed indigenous tree saplings, an endeavour that supports Sarawak's goal of maintaining over 50 percent of forest and tree cover across Sarawak.

Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar Sarawak meraikan ulang tahunnya yang ke-30 dengan acara penanaman pokok di Hutan Simpan Sabal pada 9 Mac 2024. Acara tersebut diadakan dengan kerjasama Jabatan Hutan Sarawak. Timbalan Menteri Datuk Dr Haji Hazland Bin Abang Haji Hipni menekankan peranan program tersebut dalam pembangunan lestari dan penyesuaian iklim, memuji usaha kerjasama. Wakil-wakil daripada kerajaan, sektor swasta, pertubuhan bukan kerajaan dan orang ramai menyertai dan menanam 3,000 anak pokok asli, menyokong matlamat Sarawak untuk mengekalkan lebih 50% liputan hutan dan pokok.

砂拉越天然资源与环境局于2024年3月9日与砂拉越森林局在萨巴尔森林保护区联办植树活动,以庆祝该局成立30周年纪念。砂能源及可持续性环境部副部长拿督哈吉哈兹兰博士强调该计划在可持续发展及气候适应方面的作用,并赞扬合作精神。该活动获得来自政府、私营部门和非政府组织的代表及民众参与并种植3千棵本土树苗,以支持砂拉越维持50%以上森林和树木覆盖率的目标。

(1) Datuk Dr Haji Hazland bin Abang Haji Hipni, Deputy Minister of Energy and Environmental Sustainability (seated, center); Mr Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak (seated, 2nd from left); Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Management) (seated, 2nd from right) posed for photos with attendees at the tree planting programme.

(2) Datuk Dr Haji Hazland (centre) watering the tree he planted in the presence of Mr Jack anak Liam (2nd from right) and Mr Semilan anak Ripot (2nd from left)

(3) Mixed indigenous tree saplings were planted at Sabal Forest Reserve.

Second Workshop on High Conservation Value Screening for Permanent Forest Estates in Sarawak



The second Workshop on High Conservation Value (HCV) Screening for Permanent Forest Estates (PFE) in Sarawak was organised by the World Wildlife Fund for Nature Malaysia (WWF-Malaysia), in collaboration with the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and STA.

STA hosted the venue of the Workshop at Wisma STA from 19 to 21 March 2024. Facilitated by Mr Neville Kemp from HCV Network, the Workshop was a continuation from the previous workshop held in July 2023. Representatives from STA members who are attached with their Forest Management Units, the Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA), WWF-Malaysia, and FDS actively engaged in the 3-day discussions and knowledge sharing.

The overarching objective of the workshop was to comprehensively assess the presence of HCVs within PFEs and its surrounding areas throughout Sarawak. Additionally, participants endeavoured to identify potential threats to these HCVs and prioritise the values most at risk.

The outcomes will lead to prioritised HCV management action plans for companies or organisations overseeing the HCV Priority Conservation Areas. These plans support the FDS' vision and mission of sustainably managing and developing forest resources for socio-economic and environmental stability towards global recognition in sustainable forest management practices.

马来西亚世界自然基金会(WWF)联合砂拉越森林局和本会于2024年3月19日至21日举办第二届砂拉越永久林区(PFEs)高保护价值(HCV)筛选工作坊。其目的是评估PFEs及周边地区HCV的存在,同时识别威胁及优先采取的保护行动,并与砂拉越的森林管理目标保持一致。



Workshop in session.

The next step of the screening process is to finalise the HCV areas and the outcomes will be shared and utilised by all relevant stakeholders in managing and monitoring their respective HCV areas. This collaborative effort ensures that the management actions and conservation strategies are effectively implemented across the landscape, contributing to the overall goal of sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation in Sarawak.

Bengkel kedua mengenai Saringan Nilai Pemuliharaan Tinggi (HCV) untuk Estet Hutan Kekal (PFE) di Sarawak, anjuran WWF-Malaysia dengan kerjasama Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dan STA telah diadakan dari 19 hingga 21 Mac 2024.

lanya bertujuan untuk menilai kehadiran HCV di PFE dan kawasan sekitar, mengenal pasti ancaman dan mengutamakan tindakan pemuliharaan sejajar dengan objektif pengurusan hutan Sarawak.

Meeting of the Committee on International Timber Trade Legal Compliance



Group photo. Seated from left to right are Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA; Haji Zainal Abidin Bin Haji Abdullah, General Manager of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation; Datu Haji Hamden bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests Sarawak; Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests; and Haji Abu Hassan bin Haji Yusuf, General Manager of Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd.

Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB) and STA convened a meeting on 21 March 2024 at the FDS headquarter in Petra Jaya. This gathering marked the establishment of the inaugural Committee on International Timber Trade Legal Compliance among Sarawak's forestry agencies and STA.

As the appointed Chairperson of the Committee, Datu Haji Hamden bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests at FDS, emphasised the critical importance of ensuring the sustainability of Sarawak forests and timber industry. He underscored the necessity for the industry to remain competitive and market-oriented, especially in light of the "new normal" characterised by increased digitalisation. He stressed the need for proactive measures among stakeholders to align with the shared aspirations of both the Federal and Sarawak Governments in advancing the forest and timber industry, including initiatives to enhance timber resources through industrial forest development.

During the meeting, discussion centred on crafting the terms of reference for the Committee and nominating its members. Additionally, the meeting addressed the implications of the European Union Deforestation-Free Regulation on Sarawak's industrial forest plantation policy and the Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System.

Members of the meeting were also briefed on the latest developments in the biomass industry, focusing on the utilisation of timber and bamboo for pellet production, as well as the ongoing revision of the policy concerning mill in licence for planted forest areas.

Following the meeting, the Committee issued a press statement reaffirming its dedication to promoting sustainable practices, upholding legal compliance, and advancing the forest and timber industry in accordance with global standards.



Forests and Innovation New Solutions for a Better World

On this International Day of Forests, 21 March, 2024, the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) come together to commemorate the pivotal significance of forests.

Together, we reaffirm our shared commitment to propel the forestry and timber industry in Sarawak forward, ensuring its sustainability while able to continue to foster economic growth and provide employment opportunities.

As key stakeholders in the forestry sector, FDS, STIDC, HTSB and STA have forged a close collaboration, overcoming obstacles at both national and international fronts, resulting in significant milestones for the well-being of Sarawak timber industry. United in our dedication, we aim to facilitate sustainable development for the long-term health of our forests and the well-being of present and future generations.

Recognizing the importance of addressing pressing challenges, FDS, STIDC, HTSB

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS), Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd dan STA telah bermesyuarat pada 21 Mac 2024 di ibu pejabat FDS di Petra Jaya untuk menubuhkan Jawatankuasa Pematuhan Undang-undang Perdagangan Kayu Antarabangsa dalam kalangan agensi perhutanan di Sarawak.

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa, Datu Haji Hamden bin Haji Mohammad, Pengarah Hutan menekankan kepentingan Jawatankuasa ini untuk menyelaraskan aspirasi bersama kedua-dua Kerajaan Persekutuan dan Sarawak dalam memajukan industri perhutanan dan perkayuan.



and STA are collectively committed to actively engaging in initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable forest management practices, collaborating closely with diverse stakeholders, to explore innovative approaches, to leverage on advanced technologies and to enhance strategies that bolster sustainable forest management, fortifying the industry's adaptability in response to emerging challenges.

Furthermore, FDS, STIDC, HTSB and STA are committed to ensuring policy coherence and promoting Sarawak's legality system embedded in Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System, and to continuously promoting responsible harvesting standards as well as sustainability across all facets of the timber industry, from upstream operations to downstream activities.

As we celebrate International Day of Forests, FDS, STIDC, HTSB and STA pledge to renew our collective commitment to safeguard our forests with the same spirit of collaboration and by working together, we envision a future where the Sarawak's forest and timber sector will thrive sustainably, contributing to both environmental conservation and socio-economic development for present and future generations.

砂拉越森林局(FDS)、砂拉越木材工业发展机构、Harwood 木材有限公司和本会于2024年3月21日在古晋柏特拉再也的FDS总部召开会议，成立砂拉越林业机构国际木材贸易法律合规委员会。委员会主席，即砂森林局局长拿督哈芝哈姆登强调利益相关者需要采取积极措施，以符合联邦和砂拉越政府在推动森林和木材工业方面的共同愿望。

STA Timber Products Marketing Committee Meeting No 1/2024



Mr Stephen Hii, Chairman of STA Timber Product Marketing Committee (right) chaired the hybrid meeting.

The STA Timber Products Marketing (TPM) Committee Meeting No 1/2024, chaired by Mr Stephen Hii, TPM Committee Chairman was held on 13 March 2024 at Wisma STA Kuching comprising both in-person and virtual attendees at the hybrid meeting.

Key agenda items deliberated included strategising avenues for increasing the production of value-added products, navigating the intricacies of Sarawak State Sales Tax (SST), planning participation in upcoming exhibitions in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore, organising engagement sessions and arranging a mill visit to Malaysian Wood Moulding & Joinery Council in Kuala Lumpur. Additionally, the Committee deliberated on the significance of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) certification for timber products.

On the issue of determining SST, the Committee proposed appealing to the Sarawak State Treasury Department for SST to be calculated based on the sale value stated in invoices. This approach would allow flexibility in considering either Cost and Freight (CNF) or Free on Board (FOB) value, depending on the nature of the business transaction between importers and exporters. Furthermore, the Committee also acknowledged the importance of understanding the chain of custody certification process and its accreditation standards.

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pemasaran Produk Kayu STA Bil. 1/2024 hibrid yang dipengerusikan oleh Encik Stephen Hii pada 13 Mac 2024 membincangkan strategi untuk meningkatkan pengeluaran produk bernilai tambah, Cukai Jualan Negeri Sarawak (SST), pameran yang akan datang, sesi penglibatan serta pensijilan produk kayu. Jawatankuasa turut mencadangkan pengiraan SST berdasarkan nilai invoice dan menekankan kepentingan memahami proses pensijilan.

由许勳文先生主持的本会木材产品行销委员会本年度首次混合会议于2024年3月13日召开，讨论事项包括促进增值产品生产的策略、砂拉越州销售税 (SST)、即将举行的展览、交流活动和木材产品的可持续森林管理认证。他们提议SST应基于发票价值计算，并强调了解认证流程的重要性。



MTA EXCO Meeting in progress

MTA Executive Committee Meeting No 1/2024

At the EXCO meeting, members discussed various MTA's initiatives, including finalising and getting the Environmental, Social Governance (ESG) framework for the timber industry endorsed by Malaysian Timber Industry Board and Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry.

The engagement with Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation (MGTC) was also deliberated upon to understand government funding on green procurement projects. Updates on the latest development of European Union Deforestation-free Regulation, Malaysian Timber Industry Roadmap, and standardisation of definitions definition such as forest plantation and industrial tree plantation in forestry act were also highlighted.

The President of Malaysian Timber Association (MTA), Mr George Yap chaired two meetings at Menara PGRM on 14 March 2024; the MTA Executive Committee (EXCO) Meeting No 1/2024, followed by a session with the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) and non-governmental organisations, namely World Wildlife Fund for Nature-Malaysia and Malaysian Nature Society.

EXCO members resolved to distribute workloads efficiently among themselves and prepare for the MTA Annual General Meeting scheduled for 8-11 June 2024 in Mulu, Sarawak, with STA tasked with venue and flight arrangements.

In the subsequent session, MTIB pledged their full support for MTA's initiative in setting up ESG framework for timber industry. Both MTA and NGOs agreed to a joint press statement slated for release on 21 March 2024, coinciding with the International Day of Forests, to be published in The Edge.



Meeting with MTIB, WWF-Malaysia and MNS

马来西亚木材公会 (MTA) 主席叶宏展先生于 2024 年 3 月 14 日在 Menara PGRM 主持两场会议。MTA 执行委员会会议讨论 MTA 的举措，包括环境、社会和治理 (ESG) 框架，以及获取欧盟无毁林法规最新进展的信息。MTA 随后与马来西亚木材工业局 (MTIB) 召开会议，会议中该会为木材工业建立 ESG 框架的倡议获得了支持。

Pada 14 Mac 2024, Encik George Yap, Presiden Persatuan Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTA), mempengerusikan 2 mesyuarat di Menara PGRM. Mesyuarat EXCO membincangkan inisiatif MTA termasuk rangka kerja Alam Sekitar, Sosial dan Tadbir Urus (ESG) dan menerima kemas kini mengenai perkembangan terkini Peraturan Bebas-Penyahutan Kesatuan Eropah. Dalam sesi berikutnya dengan Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB), MTA memperoleh sokongan untuk inisiatifnya dalam menubuhkan rangka kerja ESG untuk industri perakayuan.

Engagement Session with STA Hill Logging Category and STA Certification Committee Members

An online engagement session with members of the Hill Logging Category and Certification Committee of STA was held on 22 March 2024, chaired by Mr Wong Ting Chung, the Category and Committee Chairman.

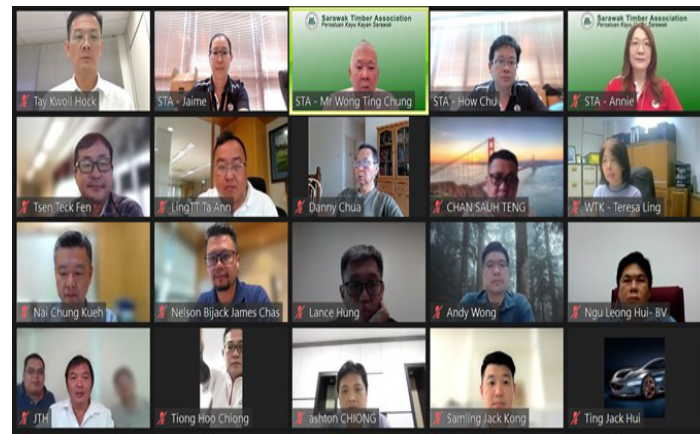
During the session, members received updates on several topics, including the implementation of enrichment planting within Forest Timber Licences (FTL), contributions of cess by certified FTL holders for corporate social responsibility, integration of a trained workmen database with the Sarawak Logs Tracking and Forest Revenue System, and the Forest Licensee Portal for online training nominations.

They also discussed on the compliance to the European Union Deforestation-Free (EUDR) Regulation including a briefing on EUDR to STA members for better understanding, courtesy call to Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and distribution of Reduced Impact Logging Handbooks jointly developed by FDS and STA.

Concerns were also raised about the Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) starting 1 July 2024, due to unresolved gaps identified in two pilot projects and shortage of internal auditors.

Pada 22 Mac 2024, Kategori Pembalakan Bukit dan Jawatankuasa Pensijilan STA, yang diketuai oleh Encik Wong Ting Chung telah bermesyuarat secara atas talian. Perbincangan termasuk kemas kini mengenai penanaman pengayaan, sumbangan ses, penyepaduan pangkalan data pekerja, pemuatan kepada Peraturan Bebas-Penyahutan Kesatuan Eropah (EUDR) serta kebimbangan mengenai Audit Pemuatan Alam Sekitar

由黄祯俊先生领导的本会丘陵采伐小组和认证委员会的交流会议于 2024 年 3 月 22 日在线上召开。讨论内容包括富集种植、税收缴纳、员工数据整合、欧盟无毁林 (EUDR) 法规合规性的最新进展，以及对环境合规审计 (ECA) 的担忧。



Engagement session in progress.

Final User Requirements Study Lab for Trained Workmen



Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dengan kerjasama Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS) dan STA mengadakan Makmal Kajian Keperluan Pengguna untuk Pekerja Terlatih yang terakhir di Pusat Latihan SAINS, Eco Mall, Kuching.

Makmal memuktamadkan sistem pekerja terlatih, persediaan ujian penerimaan pengguna dan sesi latihan pada Mei 2024.

The final User Requirements Study Lab for Trained Workmen was conducted by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS) at SAINS Training Centre at Eco Mall, Kuching on 22 March 2024.

The lab, attended by officers from FDS, SAINS, STA and STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) reviewed and finalised the trained workmen system developed based on inputs provided at the previous labs.

The forthcoming stages entail conducting user acceptance tests and training sessions for the trained workmen system in May 2024, paving the way for its operational deployment.

Upon completion, integration with the Sarawak Logs Tracking and Forest Revenue System (REVLOG) and the forest licensee portal will occur seamlessly, streamlining the nomination process for forest workmen to attend training and assessments through the licensee's portal.

砂拉越森林局与砂拉越资讯系统有限公司 (SAINS) 以及本会合作，在古晋 Eco Mall 的 SAINS 培训中心举办受培训员工用户需求考察终极工作坊。工作坊敲定受培训员工系统，为 2024 年 5 月的用户接受程度测试和培训课程做准备。

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	Dec '23 Vol (m³)	Dec '22 Vol (m³)	Jan '24 Vol (m³)	Jan '23 Vol (m³)	Feb '24 Vol (m³)	Feb '23 Vol (m³)	Jan-Feb '24 Vol (m³)	Jan-Feb '23 Vol (m³)
Kuching (Hill)	650	---	---	---	154	1,135	154	1,135
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sibu (Hill)	21,561	40,965	17,509	35,872	26,174	34,901	43,683	70,773
(Swamp)	1,707	5,949	1,402	3,318	3,218	3,413	4,620	6,731
Bintulu (Hill)	42,194	61,740	65,220	49,828	43,667	82,152	108,887	131,980
(Swamp)	2,212	1,341	3,153	199	---	2,855	3,153	3,054
Miri (Hill)	7,588	19,582	4,429	11,796	11,159	30,617	15,588	42,413
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kapit (Hill)	35,060	47,936	45,337	46,651	47,048	45,420	92,385	92,071
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Limbang (Hill)	6,733	7,157	6,955	6,913	9,957	6,332	16,912	13,245
(Swamp)	---	948	---	206	---	128	---	334
Sarikei (Hill)	5,568	1,530	5,135	4,495	3,932	2,632	9,067	7,127
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sri Aman (Hill)	---	1,092	---	637	---	1,961	---	2,598
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal (Hill)	119,354	180,002	144,585	156,192	142,091	205,150	286,676	361,342
(Swamp)	3,919	8,238	4,555	3,723	3,218	6,396	7,773	10,119
TOTAL	123,273	188,240	149,140	159,915	145,309	211,546	294,449	371,461

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 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	Oct '23 Vol (m³)	Nov '23 Vol (m³)	Dec '23 Vol (m³)	Jan '24 Vol (m³)	Feb '24 Vol (m³)	Jan - Feb '24 Vol (m³)
Bindang	181	1,006	15	124	121	245
Meranti	75,143	71,959	51,840	62,147	63,720	125,867
Kapur	6,534	7,110	4,072	6,243	5,990	12,233
Keruing	4,279	3,656	2,446	3,197	2,979	6,176
Sepetir	327	374	201	236	253	489
Selangan Batu	2,565	2,687	1,610	2,318	2,497	4,815
Nyato	1,858	1,797	973	1,447	1,200	2,647
Other species	91,390	77,767	58,197	68,873	65,331	134,204
TOTAL:	182,277	166,356	119,354	144,585	142,091	286,676

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	Oct '23 Vol (m³)	Nov '23 Vol (m³)	Dec '23 Vol (m³)	Jan '24 Vol (m³)	Feb '24 Vol (m³)	Jan - Feb '24 Vol (m³)
Jongkong	6	---	---	---	---	---
Sepetir	9	---	6	6	3	9
Kapur	297	213	161	100	84	184
Keruing	68	85	5	4	44	48
Meranti	399	302	318	478	504	982
Other species	3,356	1,561	3,429	3,967	2,583	6,550
TOTAL:	4,135	2,161	3,919	4,555	3,218	7,773

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

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		Dec '23	Dec '22	Jan '24	Jan '23	Feb '24	Feb '23	Jan - Feb '24	Jan - Feb '23
		Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Sibu	(ACMG)	9,554	---	7,008	---	5,147	362	12,155	362
	(ALBZ)	84	---	---	---	712	---	712	---
	(EUCA)	---	---	---	---	858	---	858	---
	(KLPN)	436	---	621	---	---	---	621	---
Bintulu	(ACMG)	44,225	67,452	52,302	64,680	51,290	88,480	103,592	153,160
	(ALBZ)	991	1,288	2,520	1,455	2,195	1,250	4,715	2,705
	(EUCA)	2,671	1,413	1,807	500	2,860	1,166	4,667	1,666
	(KLPN)	17	---	---	---	---	77	---	77
	(MHGN)	981	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Miri	(ACMG)	4,812	3,318	12,865	8,529	13,452	6,665	26,317	15,194
	(ALBZ)	131	274	2,130	46	1,295	230	3,425	276
	(EUCA)	2,449	2,160	4,594	997	6,580	2,282	11,174	3,279
Limbang	(ACMG)	1,769	-	1,002	693	2,143	2,389	3,145	3,082
Subtotal	(ACMG)	60,360	70,770	73,177	73,902	72,032	97,896	145,209	171,798
	(ALBZ)	1,206	1,562	4,650	1,501	4,202	1,480	8,852	2,981
	(EUCA)	5,120	3,573	6,401	1,497	10,298	3,448	16,699	4,945
	(KLPN)	453	---	621	---	---	77	621	77
	(MHGN)	981	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
TOTAL:		68,120	75,905	84,849	76,900	86,532	102,901	171,381	179,801

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

* ACMG - Acacia mangium ALBZ - Albizia EUCA - Eucalyptus KLPN - Kelampayan MHGN - Mahogany

Note: Forest Department Sarawak has revised the data for Bintulu Region for the month of January 2024 as follows:

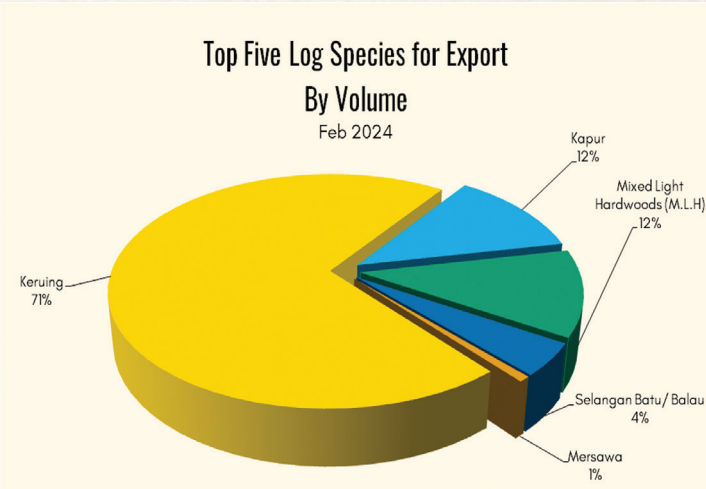
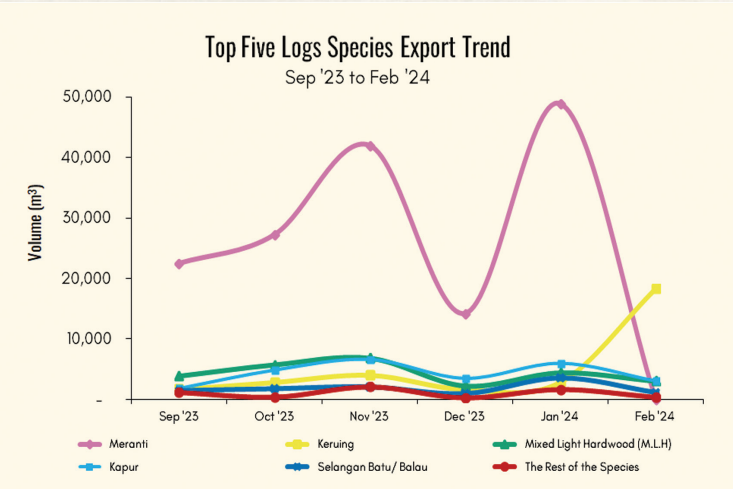
ACMG: from 53,471 m³ to 52,302 m³

ALBZ: from 1,351 m³ to 2,520 m³

EXPORT OF LOGS BY SPECIES FROM SARAWAK
EKSPORT BALAK MENGIKUT SPESIS DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越原木树种出口量

Species	Dec '23		Jan '24		Feb '24		Jan - Feb '24		Jan - Feb '23	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Arau	104	126,706	551	608,215	24	27,533	575	635,748	82	92,584
Kapur	3,523	3,737,236	5,957	6,549,791	3,096	3,731,348	9,053	10,281,139	8,435	10,389,221
Keruing	1,651	1,389,018	2,865	2,268,431	18,231	14,006,164	21,096	16,274,595	7,560	6,844,283
Mersawa	73	68,817	302	267,428	193	174,126	495	441,554	577	595,892
Mixed Light Hardwood (M.L.H)	2,263	1,333,214	4,440	2,620,499	3,052	1,852,215	7,492	4,472,714	7,072	4,699,797
Nyatoh	---	---	25	16,107	17	9,860	42	25,967	---	---
Resak	26	19,956	674	580,079	90	77,343	764	657,422	477	461,855
Selangan Batu/Balau	949	1,491,431	3,605	5,887,609	1,141	1,658,994	4,746	7,546,603	6,658	10,984,577
Other species	14,227	11,124,311	48,897	35,062,554	---	---	48,897	35,062,554	52,785	45,040,021
TOTAL:	22,816	19,290,689	67,316	53,860,713	25,844	21,537,583	93,160	75,398,296	83,646	79,108,230

Source of data: Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation

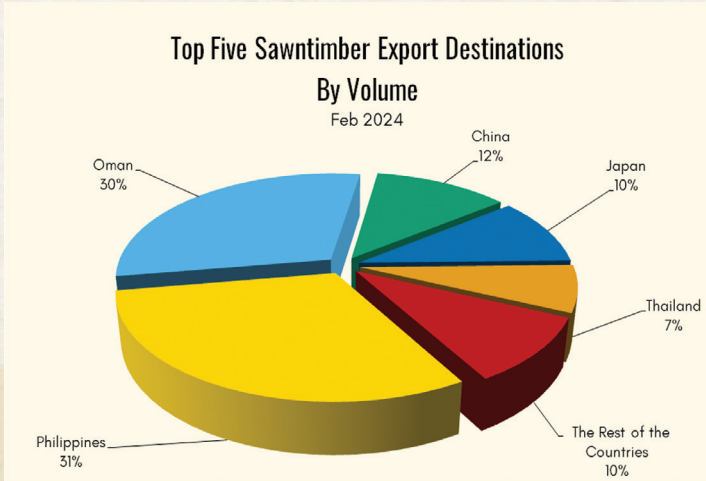
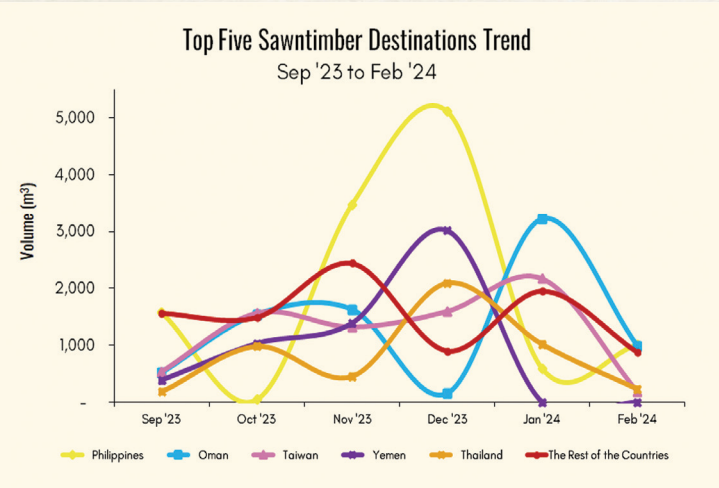


SARAWAK timber trade statistics

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

Country of Destination	Dec '23		Jan '24		Feb '24		Jan - Feb '24		Jan - Feb '23	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Australia 澳洲	4	14,355	4	12,739	2	5,193	6	17,932	32	108,116
Brunei 汶莱	---	---	18	159,900	17	159,900	35	319,800	---	---
China 中国	92	68,307	79	130,283	395	365,838	474	496,121	841	1,276,715
Japan 日本	601	1,876,003	374	1,129,136	337	974,724	711	2,103,860	889	2,749,971
Korea 韩国	24	23,581	89	179,747	97	160,061	186	339,808	659	1,192,942
Maldives 马尔代夫	26	40,309	---	---	27	51,635	27	51,635	---	---
Oman 阿曼	154	145,771	3,225	4,296,834	988	938,273	4,213	5,235,107	922	1,228,332
Philippines 菲律宾	5,111	6,300,177	592	196,445	1,014	1,197,770	1,606	1,394,215	5,752	8,539,746
Taiwan 台湾	1,601	3,980,270	2,175	4,185,883	182	188,420	2,357	4,374,303	114	452,065
Thailand 泰国	2,097	1,963,157	1,020	1,030,924	233	263,846	1,253	1,294,770	2,113	2,252,450
Other Countries 其他国家	3,179	6,783,717	1,392	3,199,196	---	---	1,392	3,199,196	3,838	10,142,885
TOTAL:	12,889	21,195,647	8,968	14,521,087	3,292	4,305,660	12,260	18,826,747	15,160	27,943,222

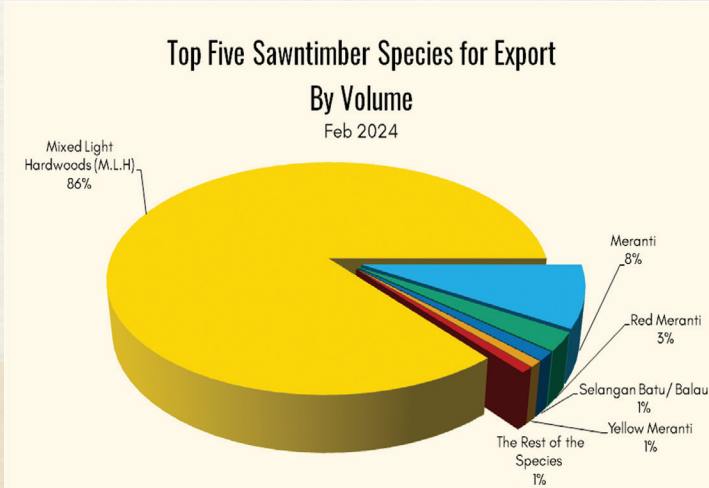
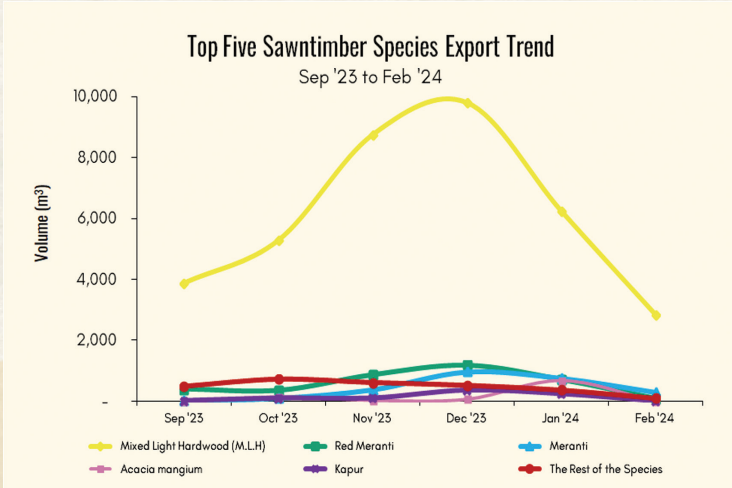
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation



EXPORT OF SAWNTIMBER BY SPECIES FROM SARAWAK
EKSPORT KAYU BERGERGAJI MENGIKUT SPESIS DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越锯木树种出口量

Species	Dec '23		Jan '24		Feb '24		Jan - Feb '24		Jan - Feb '23	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Meranti	952	1,346,709	744	1,169,960	279	199,961	1,023	1,369,921	216	256,631
Mixed Light Hardwoods (M.L.H)	9,796	15,621,280	6,238	8,734,721	2,835	3,618,141	9,073	12,352,862	13,765	25,145,367
Red Meranti	1,194	2,012,673	717	1,722,519	83	150,708	800	1,873,227	546	1,059,392
Selangan Batu/ Balau	64	70,306	187	768,848	40	205,370	227	974,218	142	580,023
Yellow Meranti	70	136,398	79	231,620	28	79,844	107	311,464	29	94,063
Other species	813	2,008,281	1,003	1,893,419	27	51,636	1,030	1,945,055	462	807,746
TOTAL:	12,889	21,195,647	8,968	14,521,087	3,292	4,305,660	12,260	18,826,747	15,160	27,943,222

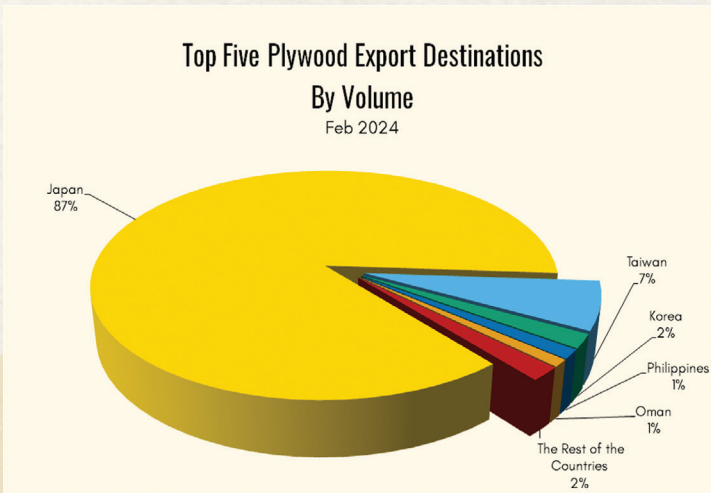
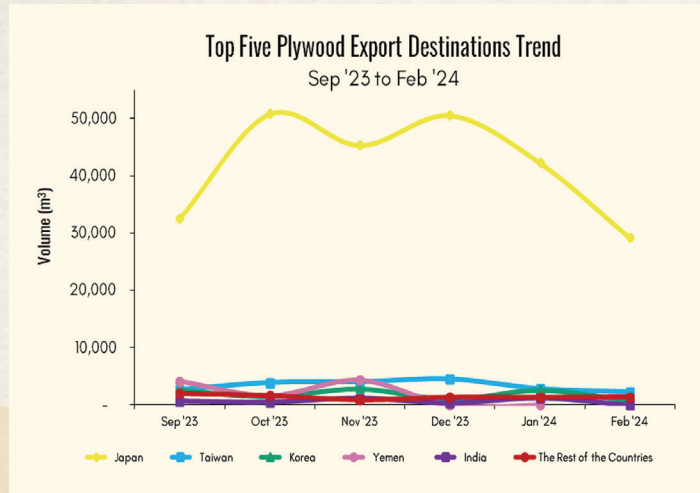
Source of data: Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation



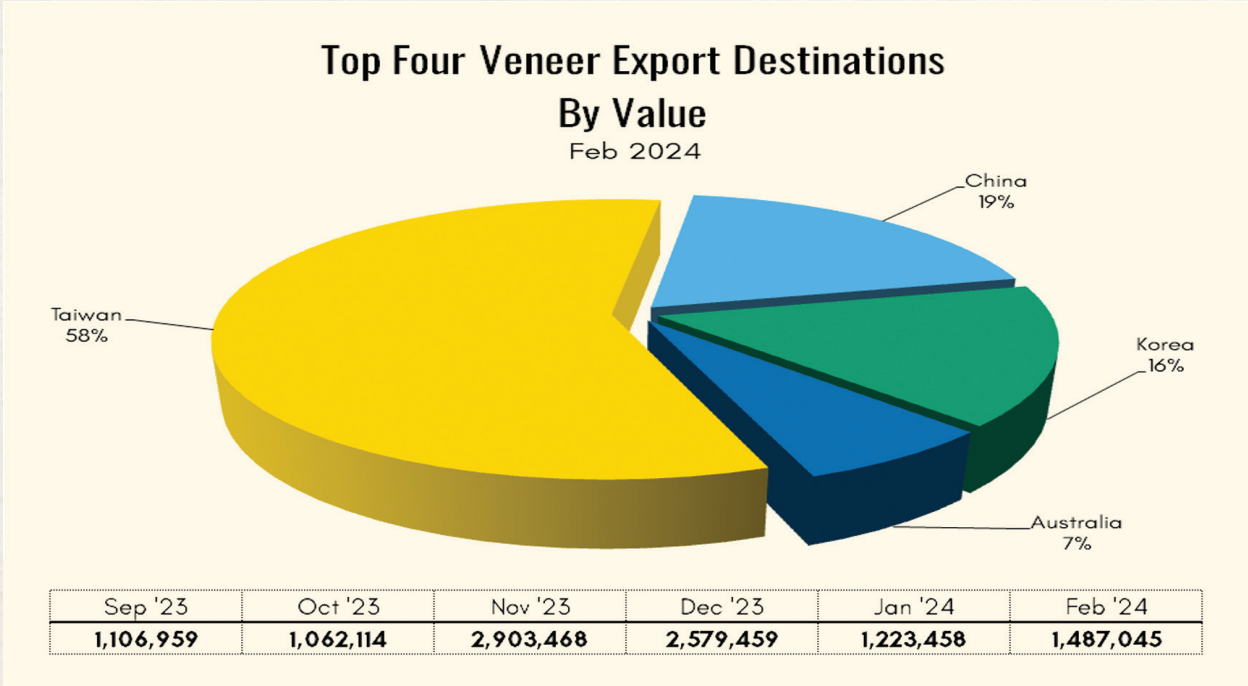
EXPORT OF PLYWOOD BY DESTINATIONS FROM SARAWAK
EKSPORT PAPAN LAPIS MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之合板出口量

Country of Destination	Dec '23		Jan '24		Feb '24		Jan - Feb '24		Jan - Feb '23	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Australia 澳洲	43	197,768	---	---	97	288,615	97	288,615	282	886,249
Brunei 汶莱	242	315,259	320	401,794	129	187,675	449	589,469	391	517,035
Japan 日本	50,528	126,013,406	42,260	102,610,768	29,161	73,446,586	71,421	176,057,354	60,292	175,092,235
Korea 韩国	890	1,647,066	2,554	4,363,352	643	1,245,242	3,197	5,608,594	3,476	7,371,792
Oman 阿曼	---	---	85	126,830	341	538,831	426	665,661	86	163,229
Philippines 菲律宾	643	2,294,324	566	1,730,073	434	1,512,995	1,000	3,243,068	650	2,014,397
Singapore 新加坡	43	135,885	65	196,270	43	102,054	108	298,324	---	---
Taiwan 台湾	4,477	8,633,503	2,816	5,208,688	2,244	4,112,780	5,060	9,321,468	4,724	8,865,751
Turkey 土耳其	135	261,363	---	---	270	508,999	270	508,999	113	242,066
Vietnam 越南	139	598,210	34	148,201	70	274,331	104	422,532	35	155,226
Other Countries 其他国家	417	1,198,882	1,391	3,524,900	22	95,793	1,413	3,620,693	16,056	33,312,460
TOTAL:	57,557	141,295,666	50,091	118,310,876	33,454	82,313,901	83,545	200,624,777	86,105	228,620,440

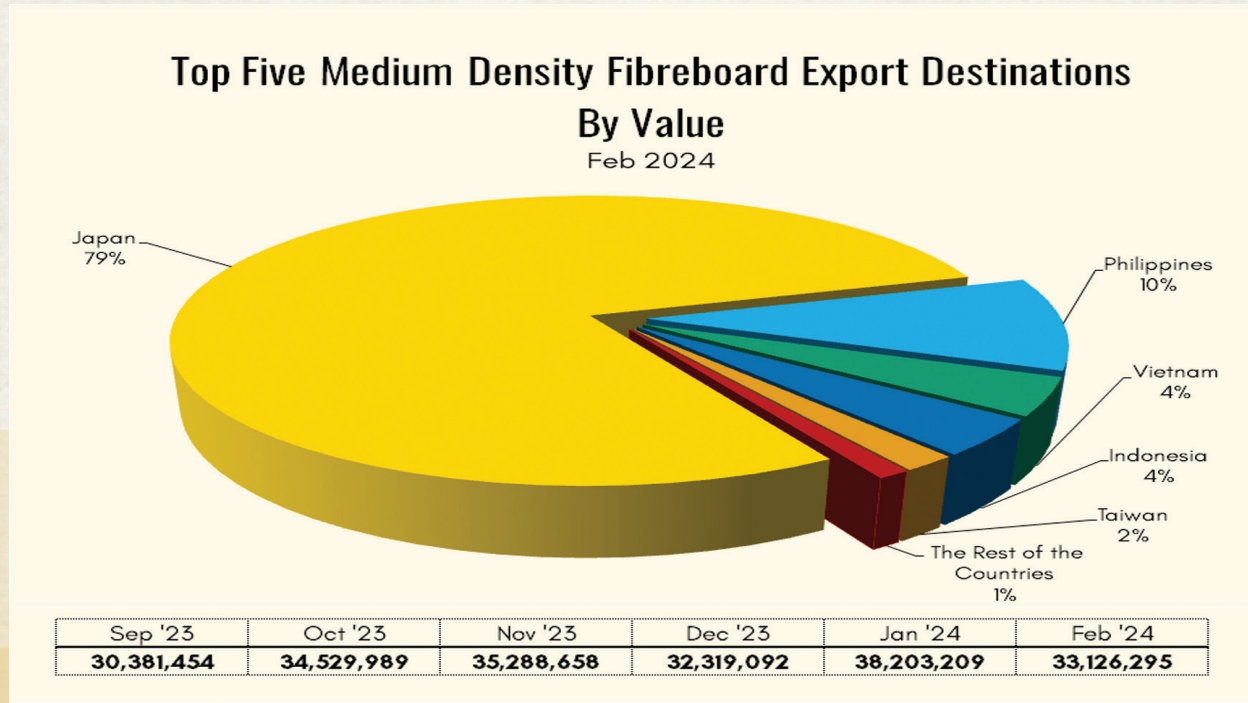
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation



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量

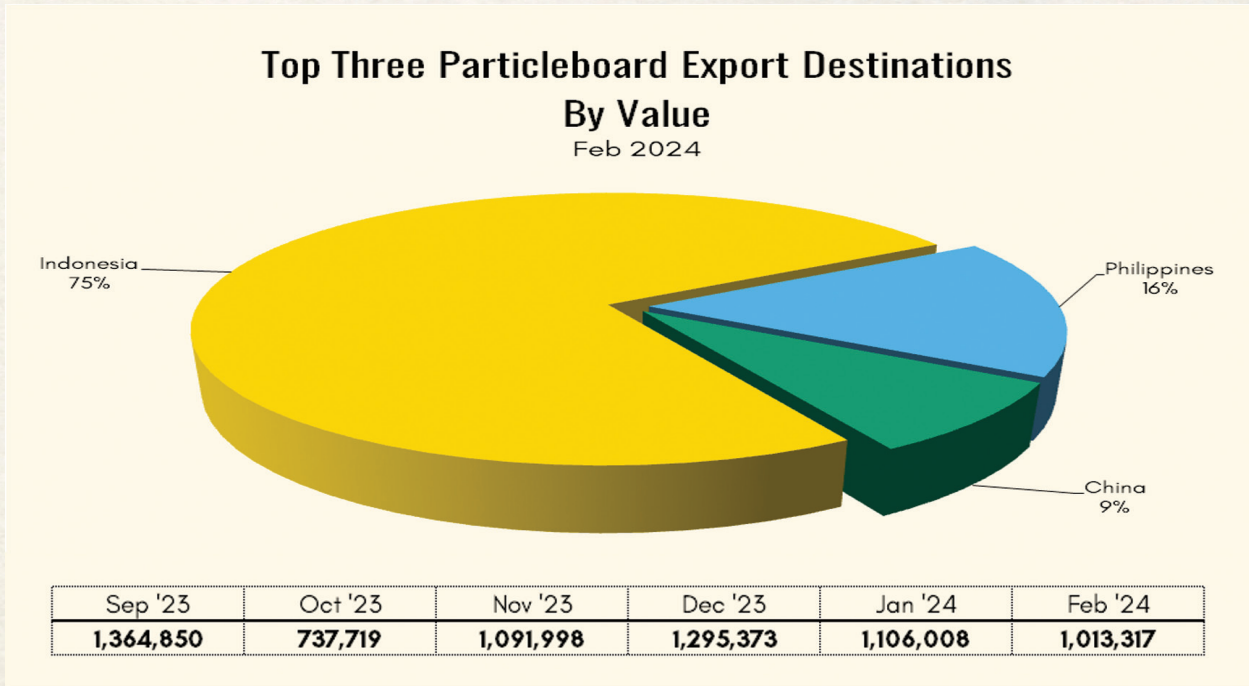


EXPORT VALUE OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN GENTIAN BERKETUMPATAN SEDERHANA MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之中密度纤维板出口值

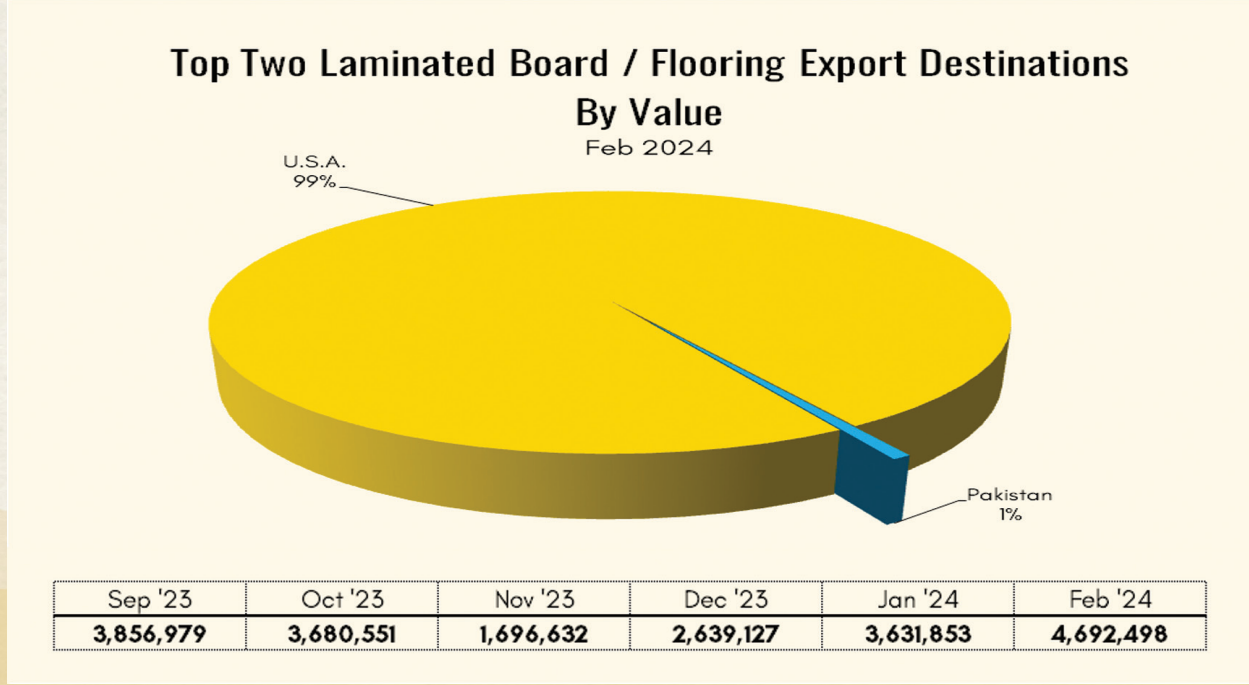


Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

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膠合板出口值

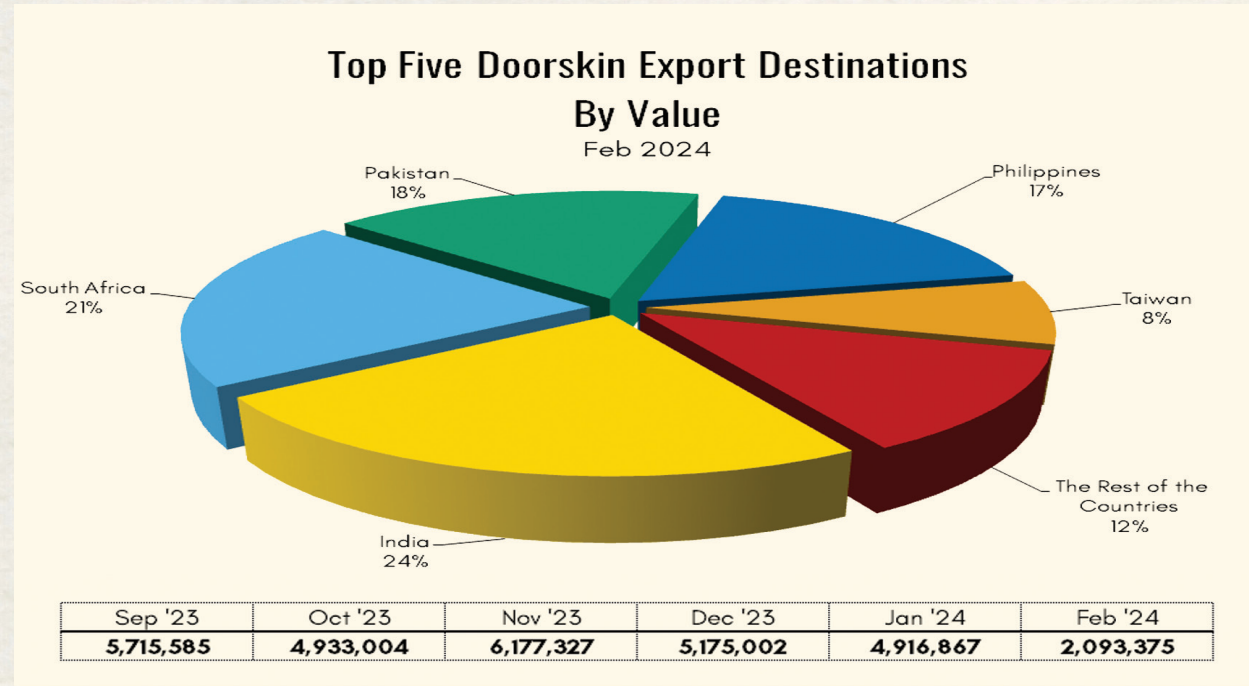


EXPORT VALUE OF LAMINATED BOARD / FLOORING BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN LAMINA / LANTAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之层压板/地板出口值

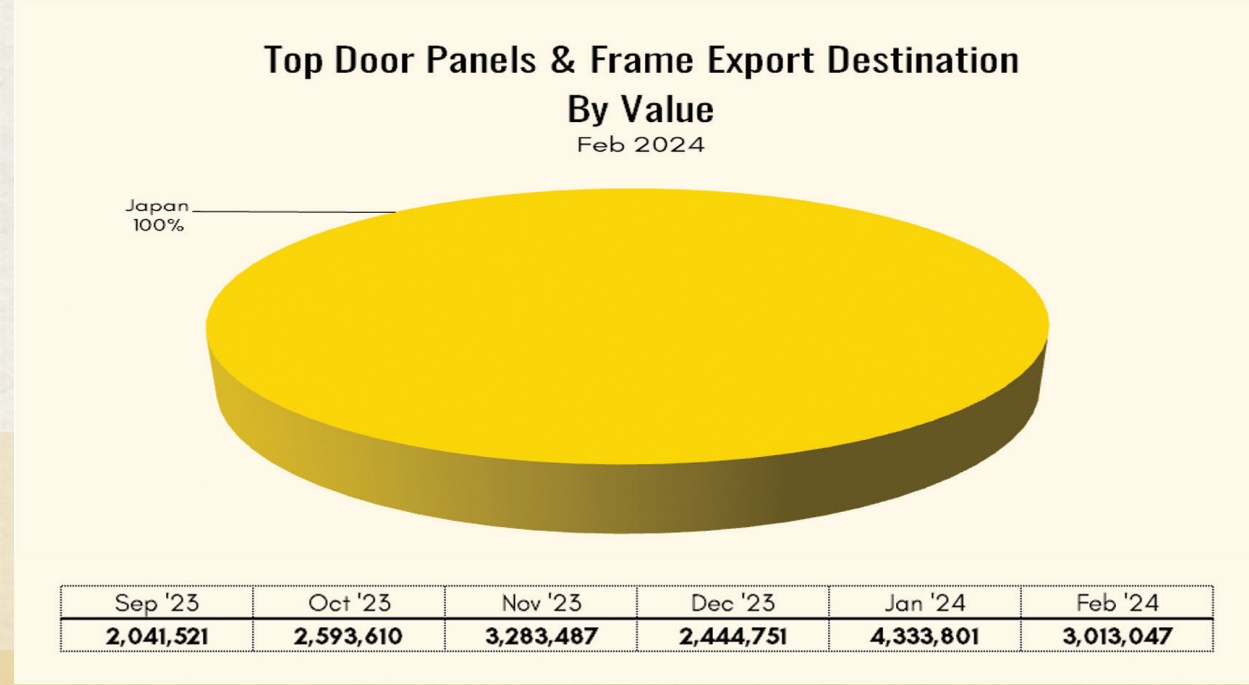


Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

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



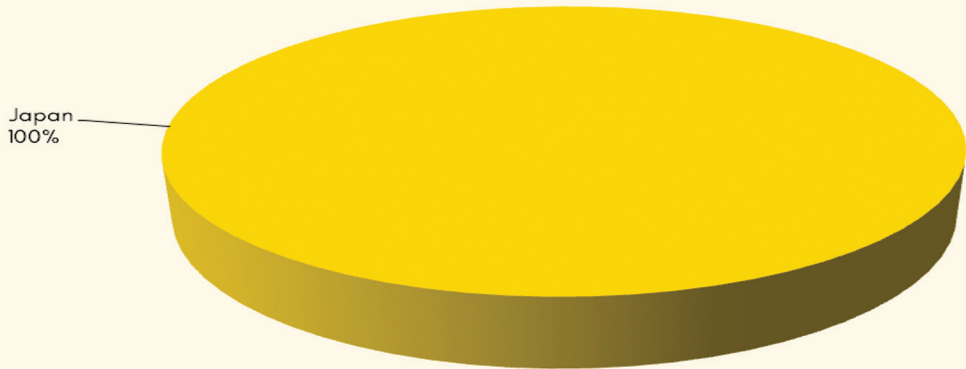
EXPORT VALUE OF DOOR PANELS & FRAME BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT PANEL & BINGKAI PINTU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之门框出口值



Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 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

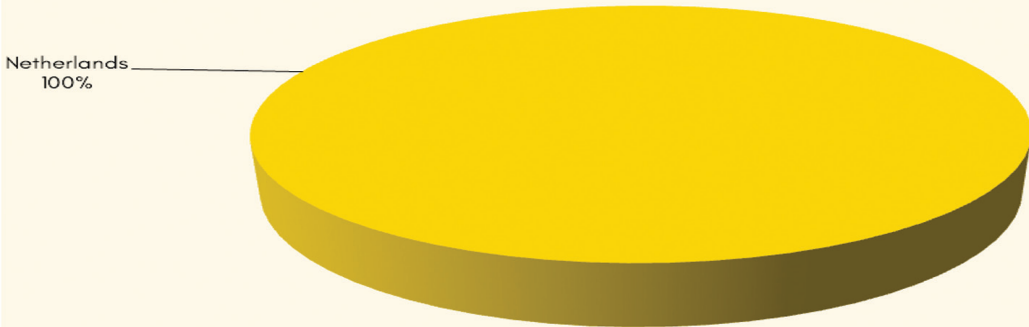
Top Mouldings Export Destination
By Value
Feb 2024



Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Feb '24
615,839	575,096	684,859	626,057	563,461	504,487

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

Top Wood Pellets Export Destination By Value
Feb 2024



Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Feb '24
—	—	8,496,513	160,650	7,857,850	14,034,300

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

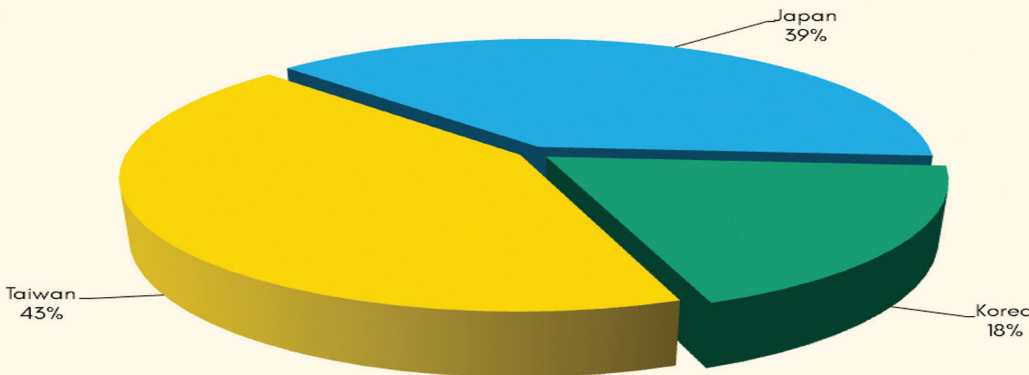
Top Two Furniture & Furniture Parts Export Destinations
By Value
Feb 2024



Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Feb '24
2,996,097	6,611,102	6,729,564	2,981,262	6,525,964	4,146,868

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

Top Three Charcoal & Briquette Export Destinations
By Value
Feb 2024



Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Feb '24
718,857	1,058,939	447,131	600,551	651,751	892,852

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for March 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

STA TRAINING SDN BHD

OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME MARCH 2024

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 (Forest Plantation), and Log Loading – Excavator (Forest Plantation)**
- STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Sumbang Rani
- Date** : 5 – 15 March 2024
- Location** : Segan Reforestation Harvesting Camp, Bintulu
- Company** : Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd
- **Mechanical Site Preparation – Excavator (Forest Plantation), Tree Felling – Chainsaw (Natural Forest), and Log Extraction – Tractor (Natural Forest)**
- STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Ngumbang Bayang & Mr Sang Sanjan
- Date** : 13 – 20 March 2024
- Location** : Berkakap Camp, Kapit
- Company** : Reliwood 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