

# STA REVIEW

Monthly Magazine of Sarawak Timber Association



pg. **03**

Finnish Smart Forestry Delegation Visits  
Kuching, Sarawak

pg. **04**

A Talk on Timber Industry Development in  
Sarawak – Private Sector Perspective

pg. **05**

Industry Training on ESG Workshop for the  
Malaysian Timber Industry – from Framework to Action



# TABLE OF CONTENT

<i>Finnish Smart Forestry Delegation Visits Kuching, Sarawak</i>	03
<i>A Talk on Timber Industry Development in Sarawak – Private Sector Perspective</i>	04
<i>Industry Training on ESG Workshop for the Malaysian Timber Industry – from Framework to Action</i>	05
<i>Tree, Log and Timber Identification Training Course</i>	06
<i>Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2024 – Sarawak Level Celebration</i>	08
<i>Engagement Session for the 13<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan</i>	09
<i>20<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Forestry Conference</i>	10
<i>HRD Trainer's Development Framework</i>	10
<i>Meeting with Jawala Plantation Industries Sdn Bhd</i>	11
<i>ASEAN Carbon Forum 2024 – Development of Carbon Crediting Program and Carbon Projects</i>	12
<i>Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Forest Carbon Offset Guidelines</i>	13
<i>Strengthening Wild Life Protection: Honorary Wild Life Ranger Reappointment Course Concludes</i>	14
<i>Second Project Steering Committee Meeting for ITTO-funded projects</i>	15
<i>Sarawak Sustainability Insights</i>	17
<i>Workshop on the Formulation of Environmental Policy for Sarawak</i>	18
<i>Briefing on Anti-Competition Agreement and Abuse of Dominant Position</i>	18
<i>Seminar on Environmental Management for Sustainability</i>	20
<i>Meeting of MEF East Malaysia Region Members No. 10/2024 – Key Changes to Malaysian Labour Laws 2024</i>	21
<i>Foreign Workers Seminar: Economic Contributions and Security Threats</i>	22
<i>Industrial Continuous Professional Development (iCPD)</i>	23
<i>Capacity Building: Workshop on Strengthening Forest Management Certification</i>	24
<i>Dialogue Session Between the Deputy Minister of Transport Malaysia and Sarawak Maritime Industry Players</i>	26
<i>Sarawak Timber Industry Demands Proof, Not Baseless Accusations</i>	27
<b>Regular Features</b>	
<i>Statistics</i>	28
<i>Trainings by STAT</i>	38
<i>Skills Training for Trained Workmen</i>	40



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## STA REVIEW

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



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## Finnish Smart Forestry Delegation Visits Kuching, Sarawak

STA hosted a delegation from the Finnish Smart Forestry on 7 October 2024, led by Mr Mohamed Farid, Senior Advisor at Business Finland. This initiative, organised by the Business Finland in collaboration with the Embassy of Finland, represented a significant opportunity to share Finland's advanced forestry technologies and explore potential collaborations aimed at enhancing sustainable forestry practices in Sarawak.

The visit commenced with a tour of the STA Exhibition Centre, followed by a meeting at the STA office, where the delegation engaged with STA members and senior officials from the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC). Mr Brian Yeo, STA Senior Manager of Finance and Administration, welcomed the delegation and facilitated introductions among the participants.

Ms Miriam Hong, STA Manager for Membership, Manufacturing, and Trade, presented an overview of STA's profile, detailing the support offered to the sustainable forestry and timber industry while highlighting current trends and emerging opportunities in the sector.



The delegation from Finnish Smart Forestry, led by Mr Mohamed Farid, Senior Advisor at Business Finland (seated, 3<sup>rd</sup> from left) posed for photo with STA and its members.

The Finnish delegates shared insights about their companies and showcased their technological advancements, creating a valuable platform for both parties to exchange ideas and discuss challenges and opportunities in the forestry and timber industry.

The visit concluded with an engagement session at the STIDC office, followed by a tour of Layang Layang Aerospace, where the delegation observed high-tech aircraft used for surveillance and mapping—an initiative organised by the Forest Department Sarawak.

Pada 7 Oktober 2024, STA telah menerima delegasi dari Finnish Smart Forestry yang diketuai oleh Encik Mohamed Farid daripada Business Finland. Lawatan itu termasuk lawatan ke Pusat Pameran STA, pertemuan dengan ahli-ahli STA dan pegawai daripada Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak dan pembentangan mengenai perkembangan perhutanan lestari. Perwakilan berkongsi pandangan teknologi, diikuti dengan lawatan ke Layang Layang Aerospace, mempamerkan pesawat pengawasan untuk pemetaan hutan.

本会于2024年10月7日接待由芬兰国家商务促进局穆罕默德法里德先生率领的芬兰智慧林业代表团。此次访问包括参观本会展览中心、与本会会员及砂拉越木材工业发展机构官员的会议，以及关于持续性林业发展趋势的专题汇报。代表团成员分享他们在林业和木材工业的技术见解，随后参观拉央拉央宇航，展示用于测绘森林的侦察机。



The delegates exploring STA Exhibition Centre



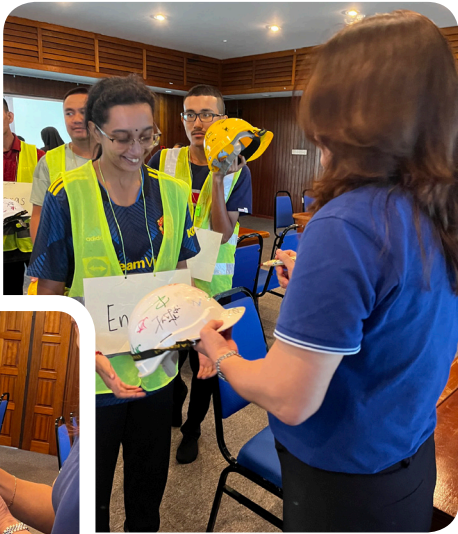


# A Talk on Timber Industry Development in Sarawak – Private Sector Perspective

Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA was invited to speak to Bachelor of Forestry Science students at Universiti Putra Malaysia Bintulu Campus on 4 October 2024. The event coincided with the students' participation in a two-week forest camp, a vital component of their forestry education.

In her presentation, Ms Ting provided an overview of STA, detailing its objectives, organisational structure, and subsidiary companies. She highlighted various initiatives undertaken by STA to support certification of natural forests and plantations. She outlined the training programmes for forest workers, as well as the development of Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) handbooks. The presentation also covered collaborative research efforts between STA and institutions such as UNIMAS, Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak Campus, and the Sarawak Forestry Corporation, focusing on forest plantation management.

During her talk, Ms Ting provided valuable insights into forest management practices in Malaysia, particularly the certification of forest areas and the Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System. She also shared on the products of the Sarawak timber industry while discussing the economic contributions of the industry through premiums, State Sales Tax, and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.



Students approaching Ms Ting to request her signature on their helmets as a memento

She also spoke on the challenges faced by the timber industry, such as compliance with the European Union's Deforestation-Free Regulation, rising operational costs, and changing resource availability. She encouraged students to explore career opportunities within the forestry and timber sector, highlighting the industry's need for fresh perspectives to drive sustainable practices.

The talk created an engaging atmosphere, with students actively participating through questions and discussions, which showed their genuine interest in STA's initiatives and commitment to community engagement.

*Cik Annie Ting, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Persatuan Kayu-Kayan Sarawak telah menyampaikan taklimat kepada pelajar-pelajar perhutanan di Universiti Putra Malaysia, Bintulu pada 4 Oktober 2024, sebagai sebahagian daripada program kem hutan pelajar. Beliau menggariskan objektif STA, inisiatif pensijilan hutan, program latihan dan kerjasama dengan institusi penyelidikan serta cabaran industri seperti peraturan EU dan peningkatan kos. Beliau juga menggalakkan pelajar untuk mempertimbangkan kerjaya dalam perhutanan lestari.*

本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐于2024年10月4日在马来西亚民都鲁博特拉大学的森林营期间，与林业大专生进行交流。她解说本会的目标、森林认证举措、培训计划和与研究机构的合作以及欧盟法规和成本上升等行业挑战事项。她也鼓励他们考虑从事可持续林业方面的事业。



Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA shared her presentation with the students (left photo) and posed for photo with them after the session (right photo)



# Industry Training on ESG Workshop for the Malaysian Timber Industry – from Framework to Action



Participants of the training posed for photo with Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (centre) and Mr Khairul Anwar, Director of Strategic Planning and Sustainability Division of MTC (4<sup>th</sup> from left) and trainers; Mr Supun (4<sup>th</sup> from right) and Mr Melvin (3<sup>rd</sup> from right)

The Malaysian Timber Council (MTC), in-collaboration with STA organised an “Industry Training on ESG Framework for the Malaysian Timber Industry – from Framework to Action” for members of STA at Wisma STA, Kuching from 2 to 3 October 2024. The training, conducted by Mr Supun Nigamuni and Mr Melvin Ku from Control Union (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, is a follow up from a previous training session held in December 2023 and aimed to provide essential tools and knowledge to the forestry sector in incorporating effective environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles into their daily operations.

Mr Khairul Anwar, Director of Strategic Planning and Sustainability Division of MTC addressed the participants and informed that the ESG framework, developed by the Malaysian Timber Association (MTA), represents a comprehensive and industry-specific approach to ESG standards. Tailored to the unique needs of the timber industry across all three (3) regions of Malaysia, the framework sets the benchmark for ESG assessment, measurement and reporting.

He added that as global markets increasingly prioritise companies with strong ESG commitments, the framework will help improve supply chain management and ensure that timber-based manufacturers remain competitive on the world stage.

Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA underscored in her welcoming remarks that sustainability represents a fundamental shift in industry practices. She noted that

the partnership between STA, MTC, MTA, government agencies and industry stakeholders is essential for creating a resilient, competitive, and responsible forestry sector.

The 2-day training introduced participants to the ESG framework, with alignment to global standards such as the Global Reporting Initiative and the Simplified ESG Disclosure Guide for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), developed by the Capital Markets Malaysia. The training focused on practical applications of the ESG framework's material topics guiding participants on how to begin implementation. They were also provided with industry-relevant case studies and a practical template to aid data collection, ultimately facilitating ESG disclosures for their companies.

*Majlis Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTC), dengan kerjasama STA telah menganjurkan “Latihan Industri mengenai Rangka Kerja ESG untuk Industri Perakayuan Malaysia – dari Rangka Kerja ke Tindakan” untuk ahli-ahli STA di Wisma STA, Kuching. Latihan industri tersebut yang dianjurkan pada 2 dan 3 Oktober 2024 bertujuan untuk menyediakan kaedah dan pengetahuan penting dalam menggabungkan prinsip alam sekitar, sosial dan tadbir urus (ESG) yang berkesan ke dalam operasi harian mereka. Latihan tersebut yang dikendalikan oleh jurulatih daripada Control Union (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, memberi tumpuan kepada aplikasi praktikal topik material dalam rangka kerja ESG daripada Persatuan Kayu-Kayan Malaysia, yang membimbing peserta tentang cara untuk memulakan pelaksanaan.*

马来西亚木材理事会 (MTC) 与 本会合作，于 2024 年 10 月 2 日至 3 日在古晋 STA 大厦为会员举办 “马来西亚木材行业 ESG 框架业培训 - 从框架到行动” 提供必要的工具和知识，将有效的环境、社会 and 治理 (ESG) 原则纳入日常运营中。该培训由来自 Control Union (马来西亚) 有限公司的培训师带领，着重于由马来西亚木材公会开发的 ESG 框架提要的实际应用，指导参与者如何开始实施。



Ms Annie Ting (left), and Mr Khairul Anwar (right), delivering their opening remarks





Participants participated in the hands-on training on tree identification



One of the participants practicing technique taught in the classroom on log identification

## Tree, Log and Timber Identification Training Course

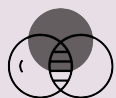
The STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) in-collaboration with the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) had conducted Tree, Log and Timber Identification Training Course solely for 14 FDS staff from 30 September 2024 to 4 October 2024 at Oriental Evermore Hotel in Sarikei.

In the welcoming remarks by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA cum Manager of STA, she welcomed all participants to the training and expressed gratitude to FDS for collaborating with STAT in organising this training. She highlighted that the training encompasses a broad range of competencies and knowledge areas that support forestry experts, timber traders, and woodworkers in identifying species through botanical characteristics, cross-section examination, and wood anatomy. The identification can be challenging for a number of reasons.

### Identification Challenges:



Species diversity and variation



Overlapping characteristics



Inexperience



Human error

Therefore, continuous hands-on training and technological application are essential for enhancing accuracy and identification skills, particularly in diverse environments.

Madam Runi anak Sylvester Punga, Senior Assistant Director, Research and Development Division of FDS in her opening speech mentioned that this training was organised as part of the project 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan project entitled "Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Forensic Timber Identification for Forest Protection and Revenue Generation" under the scope of capacity building. The training was intended to provide FDS staff the up-skilling, re-skilling as well as to equip them with new knowledge and technology that will eventually lead to more effective, reliable, systematic, precise and more importantly quick result in identification of tree, log and timber. She hoped that the participants could learn and be more skillful, agile and adapt the techniques in their scope of work.

Madam Runi anak Sylvester Punga, Senior Assistant Director, Research and Development Division of FDS (middle) presenting memento to Ms Annie Ting of STAT (2<sup>nd</sup> from left)



Besides that, Madam Runi had also proposed to have another aspect of collaboration beyond timber with STA that related to conservation of plants such as wild orchids. She highlighted that most of the orchids are epiphytic that lives on trees including commercial timber trees. As part of the forest biodiversity, it is important to include the orchids in the effort of conservation. She gave an example of orchid nursery established at Anap-Muput FMU, whereby FDS managed to rescue and collect the orchids affected by timber harvesting and nurtured them at the nursery. Through that effort, FDS eventually found a new orchid species in the FMU and named it after our Honourable Premier, *Bulbophyllum abangjoei*.



Participants participated in the hands-on training on timber identification



Photo call after the launching ceremony. Madam Runi anak Sylvester Punga, Senior Assistant Director, Research and Development Division of FDS (seated, middle) and Ms Annie Ting of STAT (seated, 3<sup>rd</sup> from right)

The five (5) days training was conducted by STAT Trainer, Mr Sumbang Rani and assisted by Mr Ginda Uli. The training covered both theoretical and hands-on training. The practical for identifying trees took place at Sebangkoi Rimba Park in Sarikei, while the log identification exercise was conducted at Logpond Collection Distribution Centre Tanjung Genting in Bintangor. In the classroom, participants were taught on a hands-on workshop on timber identification, which cover the use of instruments and identification methodologies.

STA Training Sdn Bhd, dengan kerjasama Jabatan Hutan Sarawak telah mengadakan Latihan Pengenalan Pokok, Balak, dan Kayu untuk 14 kakitangan FDS dari 30 September hingga 4 Oktober 2024. Latihan tersebut bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kemahiran mengenal pasti pokok, balak, dan kayu menggunakan ciri botani dan teknologi. Ianya merangkumi sesi praktikal di Taman Rimba Sebangkoi dan Tanjung Genting, dengan tumpuan kepada kaedah praktikal dan penggunaan alat canggih untuk pengenalan kayu yang tepat.

STA Training 有限公司与砂拉越森林局(FDS) 合作, 于2024年9月30日至10月4日为14位FDS官员进行识别树木、原木和木材培训。培训旨在提高利用植物特征和技术进行识别的技能。这也包括在 Sebangkoi 森林园和 Tanjung Genting 进行的实践课程, 主要介绍准确识别木材的实践方法和先进工具。



## Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2024 – Sarawak Level Celebration

The Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) organised the Sarawak level celebration of “Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2024”, an annual event celebrated every 21 October. This occasion aims to foster a culture of environmental education and awareness across the country while honouring individuals and organisations that have made significant contributions to the conservation and preservation of the environment.

In his welcoming address, Datu Jack anak Liam announced the NREB’s initiative to establish Environmental Clubs (*Kelab Pencinta Alam Sekitar*), in all primary and secondary schools. Currently, there are 484 such clubs, but the NREB has set an ambitious goal to expand this number to 700 by 2025, with a long-term target of 1,461 clubs by 2030. Datu Jack explained that the NREB plans to allocate RM2,000 per club to support environmental activities and programmes and achieving this goal will require an estimated RM13 million in funding, benefitting around 187,685 students across Sarawak. He also encouraged corporate bodies to consider financially supporting or sponsoring these clubs to ensure their sustainability, emphasising that this initiative aims to cultivate a generation that values and prioritises environmental responsibility.



Datu Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak delivering his welcoming speech (Photo courtesy of NREB)

Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, the Premier of Sarawak delivering his officiating speech (Photo courtesy of NREB)

The event was attended by Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, the Premier of Sarawak who announced in his officiating speech, the introduction of two (2) new regulations under the Environment (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Ordinance, 2023. The Certified External Auditors Eligibility and Registration Regulations 2024 will establish stringent standards for environmental audits by requiring auditors to be registered and accredited, ensuring the authenticity and reliability of audit reports. These reports will serve as valuable data sources for monitoring compliance with environmental standards.

The second regulation, the Burning and Emission Regulations 2024, will focus on flaring practices within the oil and gas sector. The Premier shared that oil and gas facilities emit flares that release pollutants, and the new regulation, which will come into effect in 2025, will enforce limits on these emissions to prevent adverse environmental impacts, such as excessive heat or explosion risks. He also highlighted the importance

of the NREB in overseeing these activities, ensuring that facilities remain within the permissible emission limits.

During the event, The Premier also approved an allocation of RM13.722 million to support NREB in its target of establishing Environmental Clubs in Sarawak primary and secondary schools across Sarawak over the next six (6) years. The event concluded with the presentation of awards for the Choral Speaking Competition 2024, the Zero Food Waste Video Competition, the *Anugerah Media Alam Sekitar Sarawak 2024*, and the *Anugerah Sekolah Lestari Alam Sekitar*, celebrating the efforts of individuals and institutions dedicated to environmental sustainability and awareness in Sarawak.

*Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NREB) telah menganjurkan Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2024 peringkat Sarawak bagi mempromosikan kesedaran alam sekitar. Datu Jack Anak Liam, Pengawal Kualiti Alam Sekitar Sarawak mengumumkan rancangan untuk mengembangkan Kelab Alam Sekitar di sekolah-sekolah di seluruh Sarawak dan Premier Sarawak memperkenalkan 2 peraturan yang menasaskan pengurangan pelepasan gas rumah hijau dan amalan pembakaran, dengan menekankan amalan lestari serta pematuhan terhadap peraturan-peraturan alam sekitar.*

天然资源与环境局(NREB)主持2024年国家环境日砂拉越区，以提高环保意识。砂环境质量局长拿督杰克宣布在全砂学校扩展环境俱乐部的计划，砂总理则介绍两项针对减少温室气体排放和燃烧及排放活动的法规，强调可持续实践和环境合规性。

## Engagement Session for the 13<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan

The Federal Ministry of Economy, led by its Minister Mr Rafizi Ramli, held an engagement session at the Pullman Hotel, Kuching on 30 October 2024 to gather Sarawak’s inputs for the 13<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan, which will shape national development from 2026 to 2030. This engagement, part of a broader series of state-level sessions running from September to December 2024, follows similar sessions in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, and Melaka.

This series aims to share the RMK13 framework at the state level and collect feedback on Malaysia’s development priorities, challenges, and future direction from a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including government leaders, industry players, academics, and civil society. Mr Rafizi explained that the insights gathered will help the Ministry allocate development resources across states, balancing Malaysia’s economic capacity with its strategic goals.

The RMK13 framework is designed to guide Malaysia toward becoming a high-income, developed nation through inclusive and sustainable development. It emphasises high-value industries that incorporate advanced technologies, aiming to cultivate a competitive workforce with higher wages and improved living standards. Prioritising sustainable socioeconomic growth, RMK13 also seeks to bolster resilience against climate change and disasters, while protecting natural resources and the environment. Good governance underpins the plan, ensuring government services remain transparent, efficient, and grounded in integrity.

Mr Rafizi assured that the Ministry will balance allocations equitably, ensuring that all states receive the necessary funding to address developmental disparities. He noted that many projects in Sarawak are already underway, with both federal and state governments aligned on long-term objectives, which will help accelerate progress over the next five years.

Over the next two months, the Ministry of Economy will continue engaging with various sectors to shape a comprehensive RMK13 that is responsive to local and national priorities. Stakeholders can also provide feedback through the official RMK13 portal at <https://rmk13.ekonomi.gov.my/>.

*Kementerian Ekonomi Persekutuan diketuai oleh Encik Rafizi Ramli mengadakan sesi penglibatan di Hotel Pullman Kuching pada 30 Oktober 2024, untuk mengumpul input Sarawak bagi Rancangan Malaysia Ke-13 (RMK13), membimbing pembangunan negara dari 2026 hingga 2030. RMK13 bertujuan untuk mengubah Malaysia menjadi negara maju berpendapatan tinggi melalui pembangunan inklusif dan mampan, memfokuskan kepada nilai tinggi industri dan teknologi termaju untuk meningkatkan daya saing tenaga kerja dan taraf hidup. Rangka kerja itu juga mengutamakan daya tahan terhadap perubahan iklim dan perlindungan sumber asli, disokong oleh tadbir urus yang baik. Kementerian akan terus terlibat dengan pelbagai sektor dalam tempoh 2 bulan akan datang, dengan maklum balas diterima melalui portal rasmi RMK13 di [rmk13.ekonomi.gov.my](https://rmk13.ekonomi.gov.my/).*

联邦经济部由部长拉菲兹先生率领的交流会假古晋铂尔曼酒店举行，为第13大马计划(RMK13)收集砂拉越的意见，指导2026年至2030年的国家发展。RMK13旨在改换马来西亚成为高收入、通过包容性和可持续发展的发达国家，专注于高价值产业和先进技术，提高劳动力竞争力和生活水平。该框架也优先考虑在良好治理的支持下抵御气候变化并保护天然资源。该部将于接下来两个月持续地与各领域交流，并通过 RMK13 官网 [rmk13.ekonomi.gov.my](https://rmk13.ekonomi.gov.my/) 接受反馈。



## 20<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Forestry Conference

The Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) hosted the 20<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Forestry Conference (MFC) from 29 to 30 October 2024 at the Sabah International Convention Centre (SICC) in Kota Kinabalu. With the theme *"Harmonising Forestry Towards Sustainability"*, the conference brought together more than 300 forestry personnel from all three regions, government officials, NGOs, and other stakeholders, including STA, to discuss key issues in forest management and conservation across Malaysia.

The event also provided a platform for exchanging ideas on critical forestry topics, including policy and governance frameworks, climate change adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and community engagement. Over the two days, three keynote speakers and 24 technical papers from forestry experts across Sabah, Sarawak, and Peninsular Malaysia highlighted the latest trends and innovations in sustainable forestry practices.

The Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Hajiji bin Haji Noor, officiated the opening by striking the MFC mallet, marking the official launch of the event. This year's conference also coincided with the Sabah Forestry Department's 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary, celebrating a century of forest protection and conservation in the state.

A significant highlight of the conference was the launch of the Sabah Mangrove Action Plan (SMAP) 2024-2033, aimed at enhancing the management and conservation of Sabah's mangrove forests, which make up 60% of Malaysia's total mangrove area. The action plan aligns with the state's Blue Economy Agenda and focuses on biodiversity, coastal protection, and climate change mitigation.



Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (5<sup>th</sup> from left) and Mr Joseph Lau, Chairman of STA Forest Plantation Committee (6<sup>th</sup> from left) in a group photo with STA members at the conference

The conference also featured an exhibition showcasing various forestry initiatives, projects, and achievements from across Malaysia, providing a space for networking and knowledge-sharing among forestry professionals, policymakers, and the attendees.

The MFC, which began in 1966, rotates every two years among Malaysia's three forestry regions: Sabah, Sarawak, and Peninsular Malaysia. The next MFC will be hosted in Sarawak in 2026.

*Persidangan Perhutanan Malaysia ke-20 yang diadakan di Kota Kinabalu pada 29-30 Oktober 2024 telah mengumpulkan lebih 300 pihak berkepentingan dalam industri perhutanan untuk membincangkan perhutanan lestari. Antara topik utama yang dibincangkan termasuk adaptasi iklim, biodiversiti dan penglibatan komuniti. Persidangan tersebut juga menyaksikan pelancaran Pelan Tindakan Bakau Sabah dan meraikan ulang tahun ke-110 Jabatan Perhutanan Sabah, dengan pameran yang mempromosikan usaha pemuliharaan hutan di seluruh Malaysia.*

第20届马来西亚林业大会于 2024年10月29日至30日在亚庇举行，汇聚300多位林业利益相关者以讨论可持续林业。大会关键主题包括气候适应、生物多样性和社区参与。此次活动还推出沙巴红树林行动计划，庆祝沙巴森林局成立110周年，并通过展览宣传马来西亚各地的森林保护工作。

## HRD Trainer's Development Framework

The Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp) organised 2-day online briefing on HRD Trainer's Development Framework (HRD-TDF) on 29 & 30 October 2024 with the objectives to ensure all active trainers under HRD Corp are able (i) to meet a baseline quality standard, and (ii) remain active and continuously develop themselves throughout their training career.

The briefing was led by Mr Nickson Jampang, Associate-Stakeholder Engagement of HRD Corp and

## Meeting with Jawala Plantation Industries Sdn Bhd

On 29 October 2024, a delegation from the STA Forest Plantation Committee, led by Mr Joseph Lau, the committee's Chairman, and joined by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of STA engaged in a productive meeting with Mr Rahman Khan, CEO and Executive Director of Jawala Plantation Industries Sdn Bhd at his office in Kota Kinabalu. The delegation was in Kota Kinabalu attending the 20<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Forestry Conference.

The discussion focused on the latest survey costings for industrial tree plantation (ITP) development, particularly concerning the major species in Sarawak and Sabah. Both parties also exchanged valuable insights on current forest plantation practices and the unique challenges each state faces.

The meeting underscored a shared commitment to advancing forest plantation initiatives and fostering sustainable practices that could benefit the forest plantation sector. It was agreed that the two sides would reconvene to discuss costing and related matters on ITP once every six months.



Group photo of delegation from STA Forest Plantation Committee, led by its Chairman, Mr Joseph Lau (seated, right) with Mr Rahman Khan, CEO and Executive Director of Jawala Plantation Industries Sdn Bhd (seated, 2<sup>nd</sup> from right). Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA is seated, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left

*Pada 29 Oktober 2024, delegasi daripada Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA bertemu dengan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif dan Pengarah Eksekutif Jawala Plantation Industries di pejabatnya di Kota Kinabalu untuk membincangkan kos tinjauan, amalan perladangan dan cabaran di Sabah dan Sarawak, bersetuju untuk mengadakan mesyuarat 2 kali setahun untuk mempromosi kelestarian.*

本会人工造林委员会于2024年10月29日，假亚庇贾瓦拉种植园工业有限公司的办公室与其首席执行官兼执行董事长会面，讨论沙巴和砂拉越的调查成本、种植园的实践和挑战，并同意每年召开两次会议以促进可持续发展。

attracted over 90 online participants. Key elements of the HRD-TDF were discussed, including implementation requirements and a brief hands-on session regarding the submission process through the Trainer Development Management System. He explained that the HRD-TDF is a comprehensive framework designed to establish a pool of competent trainers by implementing a standardised quality benchmarks which includes three (3) categories:

- Trained-The-Trainer Certified Trainer
- Trained-The-Trainer Exempted Trainer
- HRD Corp Accredited Trainer

Additionally, he also emphasised that in line with the Training Providers' Circular No. 1/2023 dated 14 December 2023, only HRD Corp Accredited Trainers will be eligible to conduct training under various HRD Corp schemes starting 1 January 2025.



*HRD Corp menganjurkan taklimat dalam talian selama 2 hari mengenai Rangka Kerja Pembangunan Jurulatih HRD (HRD-TDF) pada 29-30 Oktober 2024. Acara yang diketuai oleh Encik Nickson Jampang, bertujuan untuk memastikan jurulatih memenuhi standard kualiti dan kekal aktif dalam pembangunan kerjaya mereka. Topik utama termasuk pelaksanaan HRD-TDF, kategori jurulatih dan keperluan akreditasi untuk kelayakan latihan mulai Januari 2025.*

人力资源发展机构(HRD Corp)于2024年10月29至30日举办关于HRD培训者发展框架(HRD-TDF)的两日线上讲座。该活动由尼克森强邦先生主持，旨在确保培训者达到标准水平并在他们的事业发展保持活跃。主要议题包括 HRD-TDF 的实施、培训者类别以及自2025年1月起培训资格的认证要求。



## ASEAN Carbon Forum 2024 – Development of Carbon Crediting Program and Carbon Projects

In preparation for Malaysia's chairmanship of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 2025, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), through the Malaysia Forest Fund (MFF) and in collaboration with the World Bank Group and Permian Malaysia organised the “ASEAN Carbon Forum 2024 – Development of Crediting Programme and Carbon Project” at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on 9 October 2024. The Forum, held in conjunction with the International Greentech & Eco Products Exhibition and Conference Malaysia 2024, aims to encourage discussions among policymakers and implementing agencies from ASEAN countries, particularly on the development of offsetting programmes and carbon crediting systems.

Mr Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad, Minister of the Ministry of NRES officiated the event in the presence of Datuk Dr. Ching Too a/I Kim, Secretary General of the Ministry of NRES and Dato' Indera Mohd Ridza bin Awang, member of the MFF's Board of Trustee. In his opening speech, Mr Nik Nazmi shared that one of the strategies that the ASEAN region has outlined in its journey towards a low-carbon future focuses on establishing reliable and common standards, with priority in developing a viable carbon market. He added that the Ministry of NRES is evaluating the integration of a Carbon Pricing Instrument and developing the National Climate Change Bill, the National Carbon Market Policy, and through the MFF, the national carbon crediting system.

Dato' Indera welcomed representatives of ASEAN member states as well as heads of departments, agencies and statutory bodies to the forum, emphasising that its focus extends beyond the technicalities of carbon credit systems to address the broader challenge of transitioning to a sustainable future. He noted that Southeast Asia, one of the most climate-vulnerable regions, has the potential to harness carbon markets to not only reduce emissions but also spur economic growth, particularly in key sectors like agriculture and manufacturing. He further highlighted the crucial role of governments in establishing regulatory frameworks and fostering innovation to ensure

fair, low-carbon transitions, while the private sector plays a pivotal part in driving investment and collaboration.

In the dialogue session on “Carbon Crediting Systems and Offsetting Programmes: Supply and Demand”, Mr Taisei Matsuki from the World Bank, advised the Malaysian government to target specific sectors for carbon pricing instruments and uphold high carbon credit integrity to draw investment. Madam Suhaini Haron, Senior Director from MFF highlighted that forest restoration and improved forest management can generate carbon credits if greenhouse gas reductions are effectively quantified. However, high costs, technical gaps, and data reliability pose challenges. To address these, MFF is conducting a feasibility study for a domestic carbon credit system focused on high integrity.

Dr. Ir. Syaiful Anwar, Senior Policy Analyst from Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry and Ms Sim Wi-Min, Director of Singapore's National Environment Agency discussed their nations' diverse climate policies. Dr. Ir. Syaiful emphasised Indonesia's national climate registry, while Ms Sim shared insights on Singapore's pioneering carbon tax legislation, aimed at guiding businesses toward low-carbon transitions. Ms Yap Mun Ching, Chairman of Malaysia's Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), introduced the programme that was launched in 2017 by the International Civil Aviation Organisation to address cross-border aviation emissions with participation from ASEAN countries.

Dr. Wei-Nee Chen, Head of Bursa Carbon Exchange (BCX) presented the ASEAN Common

Carbon Framework (ACCF), facilitating an interoperable carbon market across the region by 2025. She highlighted challenges on the supply side which included project bottlenecks under stringent standards, and demand-side challenges such as market fragmentation and green washing concerns. She added that BCX is partnering with the World Bank to establish a compliant carbon market by 2025. She noted support from the Malaysia Carbon Market Association, which plans to collaborate with regional counterparts to enhance carbon market efforts.

In the subsequent sharing session, developers from Malaysia's Kuamut Rainforest Conservation and Indonesia's Cilacap Blue Carbon projects stressed the necessity of strong policy backing and expert project management to sustain carbon initiatives across ASEAN.

*Forum Karbon ASEAN 2024 telah diadakan pada 9 Oktober 2024 di Pusat Konvensyen Kuala Lumpur untuk membincangkan pembangunan sistem pengkreditan karbon dan program pengimbangan, sebagai persediaan untuk pengerusi ASEAN Malaysia pada 2025. Forum anjuran bersama Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Kelestarian Alam, Dana Hutan Malaysia dan Bank Dunia menekankan kepentingan pasaran karbon yang boleh dipercayai dengan topik utama seperti pemulihan hutan, penetapan harga karbon dan kerjasama di seluruh negara ASEAN untuk memupuk peralihan karbon rendah yang sedang dibincangkan.*

2024年东盟碳论坛于2024年10月9日假吉隆坡会展中心举行，讨论碳信用体系和碳抵消项目的发展，为马来西亚担任2025年的东盟主席国做准备。该论坛由马来西亚天然资源与环境可持续部、马来西亚森林基金以及世界银行联合举办，强调可靠碳市场的重要性，并在森林恢复、碳定价以及东盟各国间以促进低碳转型方面的合作等关键议题进行讨论。



Mr Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad, Minister of the Ministry of NRES (seated, centre) posed for photo with participants of the ASEAN Carbon Forum 2024

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

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), through the Malaysia Forest Fund (MFF), is developing a national crediting system designed to align with Malaysia's unique environmental context while actively supporting the country's commitment to maintaining over 50% forest cover, alongside fulfilling the objectives of the National Policy on Biological Diversity and Malaysia's Nationally Determined Contributions.

Known as the Forest Carbon Offset (FCO), the initiative will facilitate the transfer of forest-based emissions reduction or removals to buyers in the form of carbon credits, enabling organisations to offset their carbon emissions. Following the conclusion of a feasibility study, a Technical Working Group (TWG) was established, comprising experts from government agencies, private sector, civil societies, non-governmental organisations and academia to provide insights and recommendations on the development of FCO guidelines. STA was also invited to participate as a TWG member, providing industry insights to help ensure effective guidelines that align with best practices.

The TWG held its inaugural hybrid meeting on 2 October 2024, chaired by Ms Suhaini Binti Haron, Senior Director of Corporate Development & Strategy at MFF. During the session, TWG members received overview of the draft guidelines prepared by MFF and were invited to review and contribute feedback to refine the guidelines further in preparation for the next meeting.

*Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Kelestarian Alam Sekitar melalui Malaysia Forest Fund sedang membangunkan Forest Carbon Offset (FCO), iaitu sebuah sistem pengkreditan negara yang bertujuan menyokong komitmen Malaysia terhadap pemuliharaan hutan dan neutraliti karbon. Semasa mesyuarat kumpulan kerja teknikal pertama pada 2 Oktober 2024, ahli-ahli termasuk STA, menerima gambaran keseluruhan draf garis panduan dan dijemput untuk menyemak serta menyumbang maklum balas untuk memperhalusi garis panduan tersebut.*

天然资源与环境可持续发展部通过马来西亚森林基金正在开发森林碳抵消(FCO)，这是一项国家信用体系，旨在支持马来西亚对森林保护和碳中和的承诺。在2024年10月2日所召开的首次技术工作组会议上，包括本会在内的组员获知指南草案的概述，并受邀审查并提供反馈以完善该指南。



## Strengthening Wild Life Protection: Honorary Wild Life Ranger Reappointment Course Concludes



Group photo featuring Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA (seated, 5<sup>th</sup> from right) alongside trainers, Ms Joyce Ting Huang from Sarawak Forestry Corporation (seated, 5<sup>th</sup> from left) and Mr Adrian Markus Terang from Forest Department Sarawak (seated, 4<sup>th</sup> from right)

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA), through its training arm STA Training Sdn Bhd, is proud to announce the successful completion of the Honorary Wild Life Ranger (HWR) reappointment training course, held today in collaboration with the Sarawak Forestry Corporation and the Forest Department Sarawak.

The training reflects STA's ongoing commitment to building capacity among its members to uphold sustainable forest management practices. The course aims to enhance participants' understanding of local ecosystems and biodiversity as well as provide training in wildlife protection methods. It also provided essential training in wildlife conservation, covering key areas such as anti-poaching efforts, habitat management, and ranger operational protocols.

The appointment of Honorary Wild Life Rangers is governed by Section 8(1) of the Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1998, with a validity of three years. This initiative is essential for fulfilling the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management and empowers local communities to actively participate in wildlife conservation.

Today's training session saw the participation of 25 forest managers, wildlife conservation officers, certification managers, and personnel from Forest Management Units (FMUs) representing nine STA member companies. These individuals are seeking



Participants posed for a group photo with their respective group members

reappointment as HWRs, underscoring the commitment of the forestry sector to sustainable practices and wildlife protection.

Honorary Wild Life Rangers play a vital role in our ecosystems by reporting contraventions of wildlife laws, educating local communities on wildlife protection issues, briefing Wildlife Officers on local challenges, and assisting in the enforcement of conservation regulations.

We commend all participants for their dedication to wildlife conservation and their commitment to upholding the integrity of our natural resources. Together, we can foster a sustainable future for our forests and wildlife.

ANNIE TING  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
SARAWAK TIMBER ASSOCIATION  
15 October 2024



Participants sharing their group's assignment

## Second Project Steering Committee Meeting for ITTO-funded projects

The Second Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting for two (2) International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) projects was held on 10 October 2024 at the Pullman Hotel, Miri, Malaysia.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr Semilan Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests, Forest Department Sarawak (FDS); Ms Sheam Satkuru, Executive Director of ITTO; and Mr Mazlan bin Othman, Senior Undersecretary of the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities. Representatives from the donor country, Japan, joined the meeting virtually, while various government agencies, local communities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and STA representatives attended in person.

### The two projects discussed were:

- i. PD902/19 Rev.3 (F) – Management of the Upper Baram Forest Area (UBFA) for Conservation and Sustainable Development with Involvement of Local Communities, Upper Baram, Sarawak, Malaysia; and
- ii. PP-A/59-352 – Community Empowerment in Forest Management and Forest Landscape Restoration in Upper Baram, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Continued on Page 16



A key development at the meeting was the formal request from the Sarawak Government, through the FDS, to terminate the first project (PD902/19 Rev.3 (F)), which had faced significant implementation challenges. These challenges included interference from both local and international NGOs, as well as evolving and conflicting aspirations among project stakeholders.

The project, which was approved by the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) during its 57<sup>th</sup> session in November–December 2021, officially commenced in September 2023. It was funded by the Government of Japan, the Bruno Manser Fonds (BMF), and the Canton of Basel, Switzerland. Ms Sheam acknowledged the request and emphasised that the termination process would be handled in accordance with ITTO's standard procedures.

Presentations were made by project leaders Madam Evelyn Jugi and Dr Alexander Kiew anak Sayok, who provided updates on the progress of both projects. They highlighted several successful outcomes, especially in terms of community empowerment and the promotion of sustainable forest management practices. Madam Evelyn Jugi shared examples of local community engagement, noting that community-based ecotourism training sessions had been conducted in Miri, which involved 39 participants from 19 villages. These sessions focused on building skills related to ecotourism and sustainable development. Additionally, she reported on capacity-building initiatives that included training in electric wiring, wood carpentry, and furniture fabrication.

She also highlighted the positive impact of a benchmarking visit to Koperasi Pelancongan Batu Putih in Kinabatangan, Sabah, and the Rainforest Discovery Centre, which provided valuable insights into best practices in ecotourism and forest conservation. Furthermore, she mentioned the completion of minor improvements to community infrastructure, contributing to the overall well-being of local residents.

The meeting also included a financial report for both projects, providing transparency on the use of funds and the ongoing financial management of the initiatives. Following the financial presentation, a question and answer session was held, allowing stakeholders to raise questions and share feedback.

Prior to the PSC meeting, a field visit was conducted from 7 to 9 October 2024 to Ba Data Bila village in Upper Baram, where project leaders and stakeholders met with local communities to discuss the impacts of the projects. During the visit, community members expressed their thoughts and feelings about the projects, offering valuable insights into the challenges and successes on the ground. The feedback gathered during this visit was important in shaping the discussions at the PSC meeting, ensuring that the voices of local communities were heard.

*Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pemandu Projek Kedua bagi 2 projek Pertubuhan Kayu Tropika Antarabangsa telah diadakan pada 10 Oktober 2024 di Miri, Malaysia. Topik utama termasuk pembangunan lestari di Ulu Baram, penglibatan komuniti dan cabaran projek. Sarawak secara rasmi memohon pembatalan salah satu projek berikutan campur tangan daripada NGO tempatan dan antarabangsa serta perubahan dan percanggahan aspirasi dalam kalangan pihak berkepentingan projek.*

国际热带木材组织之两个项目的第二次指导委员会会议于2024年10月10日假马来西亚美里召开。主要议题包括峇南上游区的可持续发展、社区交流以及项目所面临的挑战。由于当地及国际非政府组织的干预，以及项目利益相关者之间不断演变和相互冲突的意愿，砂拉越正式要求终止其中一个项目。



Mr Semilan Ripot (centre) co-chaired the meeting with Ms Sheam Satkuru and Mr Mazlan bin Othman

## Sarawak Sustainability Insights

The Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability Sarawak, in collaboration with Ernst & Young, spotlighted Sarawak's leadership in low-carbon development at the Sarawak Sustainability Insights (SSI) 2024 event on 29 October 2024, held at Pullman Hotel, Kuching.

This pivotal event marked a significant step in Sarawak's sustainability journey, providing a platform to introduce the forthcoming Sarawak Sustainability Blueprint. The Blueprint serves as a comprehensive roadmap that aligns economic growth with environmental stewardship across ten key thrusts, including energy transition, sustainable agriculture, and conservation of natural assets, reflecting Sarawak's commitment to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. Through an interactive gallery walk, attendees explored Sarawak's strategic priorities and initiatives for a low-carbon, sustainable future.

In his keynote address, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, the Premier of Sarawak, underscored the State's unique geographical strengths and natural resources, emphasising the responsibility to manage them effectively in the face of climate change and resource scarcity. He recognised the critical role of sustainability policy in realising the vision for Sarawak as a data-driven, innovative society, where economic growth, social inclusivity, and environmental integrity underpin its development.

The event also featured a plenary session that examined essential strategies for driving



The Premier of Sarawak delivered a keynote on Sarawak's commitment to sustainable development at the SSI 2024 event

sustainable growth in Sarawak, along with panel discussions addressing the challenges and opportunities in renewable energy, modernising energy infrastructure, and enhancing energy efficiency. Discussions further explored Sarawak's strategic initiatives to transform its transport infrastructure in alignment with its sustainability goals.

In closing, Deputy Minister Datuk Dr Haji Hazland Bin Abang Hipni called for enhanced collaboration, stressing the importance of impactful environmental strategies and robust legislation in realising Sarawak's sustainable future. Overall, the SSI 2024 event underscored a united commitment to securing a sustainable and prosperous path forward for Sarawak.

*Semasa Sarawak Sustainability Insights 2024 yang diadakan di Hotel Pullman Kuching pada 29 Oktober 2024, kepimpinan Sarawak dalam pembangunan rendah karbon telah ditonjolkan, menampilkan Rangka Tindakan Kelestarian Sarawak yang akan datang. Perbincangan utama tertumpu kepada peralihan tenaga, pertanian mampan dan pemuliharaan sumber asli. Perdana Menteri Sarawak menekankan kemampunan dalam mengurus sumber, manakala pakar membincangkan strategi untuk tenaga boleh diperbaharui, pengangkutan, dan perundangan untuk masa depan yang mampan.*

2024年砂拉越可持续发展洞察力大会于2024年10月29日假古晋铂尔曼酒店举行，强调砂拉越在低碳发展方面的领导地位，其中包括即将推出的砂拉越可持续发展蓝图。主要讨论课题集中于能源转型、可持续农业和天然资源保护。砂总理强调资源管理的可持续性，而专家们则讨论可再生能源、交通以及可持续未来的立法策略。



Panelists engaged in a dynamic fireside chat



## Workshop on the Formulation of Environmental Policy for Sarawak

The Sarawak Government, through the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) is in the process of formulating an Environmental Policy for Sarawak. On 24 October 2024, Chemsain Konsultant Sdn Bhd, the appointed consultant for the underlying study, presented the draft policy to a diverse group of stakeholders at a workshop held at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching. The attendees included representatives from non-governmental organisations and private sector entities, offering a broad spectrum of perspectives on the draft policy. The workshop provided an essential platform for gathering feedback to refine the policy further, incorporating insights from civil society and key stakeholders.

In his opening remarks, read by Mdm Rahmah binti Biak, Deputy Controller, Datu Jack anak Liam, the Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, underscored the importance of the workshop as a

key milestone in the journey of finalising the policy. He emphasised that the policy's goal is to protect the environment and Sarawak's precious resources while driving sustainable economic development.

He highlighted that stakeholder input is vital to ensuring the policy is comprehensive, balanced and practical, reflecting not only the government's perspectives but also the views of the civil society and other key stakeholders. He further explained that the draft policy represents months of rigorous work by the NREB, involving extensive research and close collaboration with various ministries and agencies across Sarawak all focused on advancing our shared environmental priorities – ensuring clean air, water and soil, along with the preservation of biodiversity.

The draft policy presented at the workshop sets forth a strategic framework for balancing environmental preservation with sustainable

development in Sarawak. Through the consultative process, the NREB aims to finalise a policy that genuinely addresses Sarawak's unique environmental challenges while aligning with its vision for long-term environmental sustainability.

*Kerajaan Sarawak, melalui Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NREB) sedang menggubal Dasar Alam Sekitar untuk Sarawak. Pada 24 Oktober 2024, bengkel di Hotel Imperial Kuching mengumpulkan pelbagai pihak berkepentingan untuk menyemak draf dasar. Datu Jack anak Liam menekankan kepentingan input semua pihak berkepentingan dalam memastikan dasar itu komprehensif, seimbang dan sejajar dengan matlamat pembangunan mampan dan alam sekitar Sarawak.*

*砂拉越政府，通过天然资源与环境局为砂拉越制定着环境政策。该局于2024年10月24日假古晋帝国酒店举行工作坊，聚集各方利益相关者以审查政策草案。拿督杰克强调利益相关者的意见对于确保该政策全面、平衡并符合砂拉越的环境和可持续发展目标的重要性。*



*Madam Rahmah binti Biak, Deputy Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak (seated, 3<sup>rd</sup> from right) posed for photo with the team of consultant and participants of the workshop*

## Briefing on Anti-Competition Agreement and Abuse of Dominant Position



*Speakers of the briefing*

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) conducted a hybrid briefing on “Anti-Competitive Agreements and Abuse of Dominant Position” on 1 October 2024. Mr Saiful Bahri Salleh, the Director General of MTIB, emphasized that the key objective was to inform industry stakeholders about investigation and advocacy on Anti-Competitive Agreements in Malaysia as well as insights into the abuse of dominant positions as outlined in the Competition Act 2010 (CA 2010). The briefing is part of MTIB's initiatives to disseminate information, with Mr Saiful asserting that promoting fair competition will ultimately benefit the timber industry.

Mr Muhammad Syairazi bin Md Aliman, Assistant Director of the Policy and Communication Division at the Malaysia Competition Commission (MyCC), noted that MyCC, a statutory body under the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living, was established by the Competition Commission Act 2010 (Act 713) to enforce the CA 2010, which aims to enhance consumer welfare, promote fair business practices, and support economic development.

He highlighted that fair competition compels enterprises to become more efficient, innovative, and responsive to consumer demand. The advantages include competitive pricing, improved products, wider choices for consumers, and enhanced overall efficiency in the economy. He further stressed that the CA 2010 is designed not to protect enterprises but to ensure that these entities compete freely and fairly. Additionally, CA 2010 does not apply to commercial activities regulated by the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998, the Energy Commission Act 2001, the Petroleum Development Act 1974, and the Malaysian Aviation Commission Act 2015. Lastly, he clarified that Anti-Competitive Agreements, which involve collusion among enterprises to avoid competition, need not be documented formally; such agreements can include informal, oral arrangements made in various settings, even simple understandings signified by a nod.

The briefing continued with a presentation by Mr Mohd Hasbullah Mohd Faudzi, Assistant Director and Head of the Investigation & Enforcement Division of MyCC. He explained that monopolies often arise when companies

with a deep understanding of market dynamics choose to manipulate the market, sometimes through cartels, which is a partnership among companies that conspire to control prices to their advantage.

Mr Mohd Hasbullah also shared several cases penalised under the CA 2010 and addressed common misconceptions. He clarified that MyCC does not function as a price control authority and emphasised that monopolies are not inherently illegal. He encouraged participants to reach out to MyCC for free consultations regarding any issues they may encounter.

*Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia telah mengadakan taklimat hibrid mengenai “Perjanjian Anti-Persaingan dan Penyalahgunaan Kedudukan Dominan” pada 1 Oktober 2024. Ketua Pengarahnya, Encik Saiful Bahri Salleh dan pegawai MyCC menekankan kepentingan persaingan yang adil, menerangkan Akta Persaingan 2010, penguatkuasaannya, serta manfaat seperti inovasi dan kecekapan. Sesi tersebut turut merangkumi kajian kes, penjelasan dan tawaran perundingan.*

*马来西亚木材工业委员会(MTIB)于2024年10月1日就“反竞争协议和滥用市场支配地位”举行了混合简报会。MTIB总监赛夫巴里先生和马来西亚竞争委员会官员强调公平竞争的重要性，解释2010年《竞争法》及其执行情况以及创新和效率等好处。会议还包括案例研究、澄清和咨询建议。*



# Seminar on Environmental Management for Sustainability

In celebration of its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) hosted a seminar titled *"Environmental Management for Sustainability"* on 31 October 2024 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching. The seminar brought together over 150 participants from government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector, highlighting a shared commitment to advancing environmental stewardship.



Datu Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak welcomed participants to the Seminar, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts in addressing climate change

In his welcoming remarks, Datu Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, underscored the importance of collaborative action in addressing climate change. He noted that the seminar's theme, *"Mitigating Climate Change for a Clean and Green Sarawak,"* aims to deepen understanding of environmental management practices, promote dialogue across sectors, and reinforce a collective commitment to sustainability.

The seminar featured distinguished speakers, including Madam Kamisah binti Mohd Ghazali, Head of the Resilient Environment Division at Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA), Johor who shared insights from Iskandar Malaysia's pioneering green initiatives, focusing on enhancing ecological resilience, promoting green mobility, and fostering a low-carbon society. She highlighted the importance

of capacity building, environmental education, and youth empowerment in creating a vibrant and sustainable community as part of Iskandar Malaysia's ongoing green transition.

Mr Ahmad Farid bin Mohammed, Deputy Undersecretary of the Climate Change Division at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), outlined Malaysia's climate resilience strategy, emphasising initiatives in renewable energy, sustainable forestry, water and food security, and public health protections. He also introduced Malaysia's National Adaptation Plan (MyNAP) and the upcoming Climate Change Bill, expected in 2025, which will strengthen climate governance and lay the groundwork for a national carbon market policy.

At Sarawak's level, Dr. Kho Lip Khoon, Head of Corporate Development and Economy at the Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability Sarawak, detailed Sarawak's ambitious goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. He also discussed the 2023 Environment (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Ordinance, which regulates greenhouse gas emissions and supports carbon capture and trading initiatives.

Ir. Dr. Angelia Liew, Advisor (Climate Change, Energy and Sustainable Development) in the Department of the Premier of Sarawak introduced Public Sustainability Reporting (PSR) as a vital tool in Sarawak's green economy transition. She explained that PSR will enhance transparency, accountability, and data-informed decision-making across government agencies, aligning with international standards. It will also allow Sarawak to monitor its sustainability progress, attract green investments, and address challenges like data standardisation.

Adding to the discourse on sustainable solutions, Mr Stephen Chin, Group CEO of Trienekens (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, explored Waste-to-Energy (WTE) technology as a critical component of

sustainable waste management. He explained how WTE systems convert waste into energy, such as electricity and biofuels, supporting the shift to a circular economy and reducing landfill reliance.

A notable milestone of the event was the launch of the Environmental Impact Assessment Consultants Management System (EIACMS), designed to streamline environmental consultancy processes. This initiative represents a forward step in ensuring efficient, transparent, and effective environmental management in Sarawak.

Seminar Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar bertajuk "Pengurusan Alam Sekitar untuk Kelestarian" menekankan kelestarian alam sekitar dan tindakan iklim. Penceramah menekankan matlamat bersih-sifar Sarawak, strategi ketahanan iklim Malaysia, dan inisiatif hijau Iskandar Malaysia. Acara juga menyaksikan pelancaran sistem Penilaian Kesan Alam Sekitar, bertujuan untuk menambah baik pengurusan alam sekitar dan menggalakkan ketelusan.

天然资源与环境局题为《可持续发展环境管理》的研讨会强调环境可持续性和气候行动。讲员们强调砂拉越的净零目标、马来西亚的气候适应策略以及马来西亚依斯干达特区的绿色倡议。该活动也推出环境影响评估系统，旨在改善环境管理并提高透明度。

## Meeting of MEF East Malaysia Region Members No. 10/2024 – Key Changes to Malaysian Labour Laws 2024

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak) Region convened its 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the year on 28 October 2024, presided over by Mr Asarah bin Sahimun, Consultant-Industrial Relations of MEF Sabah. The online session focused on *"Key changes to Malaysian Labour Laws (Laws): Changes, Issues and Challenges in Employer-Employee Relations in Malaysia-Industrial Relations Act 2020"* presented by Dato' Hj Jalaludin bin Hj Hussain, Senior Principal Consultant-Industrial Relations at MEF.

The presentation highlighted the significant amendments to the laws i.e. Industrial Relations (Amendment) Act 2020, Trade Unions (Amendment) Act 2024, Industrial Relations Regulations 2024 and Trade Union Regulations 2024. Key points discussed were:

- i. Amendments to Part III of the Industrial Relations (Amendment) Act 2020;
- ii. Changes to collective bargaining (CB) and collective agreement (CA), specifically Section 13(3);
- iii. Updates on references under Section 20;
- iv. Amendments regarding the powers of the Industrial Court under Section 29;
- v. Deletion of Section 33A concerning appeals to the High Court and Court of Appeal; and
- vi. Amendments to punishment provisions under Section 4.

Dato' Hj Jalaludin informed that these amendments were gazetted by the Ministry of Human Resources on 15 September 2024 and aim to enhance the principles of freedom of association, CB and CA. He also acknowledged the challenges presented by the Industrial Relations Act, which has been in force since 1 January 2021. These challenges include the necessity for a thorough understanding of the amendments and their implications for human resource practitioners and companies, particularly regarding union recognition and the management of CB and CA. He emphasised that these complexities highlight the importance of MEF's membership, which provides assistance and support to members in navigating these issues together.

Mesyuarat MEF Malaysia Timur ke-10, yang diadakan pada 28 Oktober 2024 memfokuskan kepada pindaan utama kepada undang-undang buruh Malaysia. Dato' Hj Jalaludin membincangkan perubahan dalam Akta Perhubungan Perusahaan (Pindaan) 2020, Akta Kesatuan Sekerja (Pindaan) 2024, dan peraturan lain. Beliau menekankan kepentingan memahami perubahan ini dan sokongan yang ditawarkan oleh keahlian MEF dalam mengharungi cabaran ini.

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)东马(砂拉越)区域的第十次会议于2024年10月28日召开，注重于马来西亚劳工法的主要修正案。拿督哈芝加拉丁讨论2020年工业关系(修订)法、2024年工会(修订)法和其他法规的修改。拿督也强调理解这些修改以及MEF的支持以便会员能应对这些挑战的重要性。



# Foreign Workers Seminar: Economic Contributions and Security Threats

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA) organised the *Foreign Workers Seminar: Economic Contributions and Security Threats* on 15 October 2024 at the Federal Government Administrative Centre, Putrajaya.

In his welcoming address, Mr Lokman Effendi bin Ramli, Chief Executive of Institute of Public Security of Malaysia (IPSOM), highlighted that the seminar aimed to assess the economic and security impacts of foreign workers in Malaysia and to disseminate information on foreign workers' policies to the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and companies. He emphasised IPSOM's intention to leverage the seminar's outcomes to enhance collaboration among MOHA, relevant ministries, NGOs, and companies employing foreign workers.

In his inaugural speech, Mr Anuar Zaki bin Bakar, Secretary of Immigration Affairs MOHA, highlighted that contemporary Malaysia, as a rapidly developing nation in this 21<sup>st</sup> century, requires an influx of labour, including skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled foreign workers, to support essential sectors such as agriculture, construction, and manufacturing and to drive the country's economic development. He added that while promoting economic growth, it is crucial not to overlook security and public order, especially considering data from the Immigration Department of Malaysia, which indicates that there are approximately 2.4 million active holders of temporary work visit passes, which warrants careful consideration.

Additionally, Mr Anuar highlighted the *Malaysia Madani* concept, under which MOHA has developed its Foreign Workers Management (FWM) policy based on four key principles, namely reducing migration costs, expediting the FWM process,



Seminar in session

ensuring the welfare of foreign workers, and protecting the interests of all parties involved. In line with the Ministry's commitment to providing efficient services to the public and industry stakeholders, it has recently improved processing times for hiring foreign workers from about 29 months to about 15 months, while also re-establishing the One Stop Centre for FWM to streamline bureaucracy.

Moreover, MOHA acknowledged that numerous industries rely on foreign workers and reminded all parties that employing illegal immigrants, constitutes an offense under the Immigration Act. He concluded by expressing the hope that this program will serve as a platform for the exchange of information and recommendations regarding FWM policies that support economic growth while safeguarding national security.

The seminar featured presentations from Mr Ayub bin Abd Rahman from Immigration Department, Ms Nurul Aainaa binti Mohamed Nasir from Ministry of Economy, and Mr Azmi bin Yusof from Crime Investigation Department. They provided insights into the economic contributions of foreign workers, security threats, safety issues, and related crimes, with the goal of promoting effective management and balanced policies that maximize economic benefits in conjunction with protecting the safety and welfare of local communities.

*Kementerian Dalam Negeri telah menganjurkan seminar pada 15 Oktober 2024, menangani sumbangan ekonomi dan kesan keselamatan pekerja asing di Malaysia. Penceramah utama menekankan peranan buruh asing dalam pertumbuhan ekonomi, seimbang dengan pertimbangan keselamatan. Seminar turut menampilkan pembentangan yang memberikan pandangan tentang sumbangan ekonomi pekerja asing, ancaman keselamatan dan isu keselamatan yang menekankan keperluan untuk dasar seimbang yang memaksimumkan faedah ekonomi dan melindungi kebajikan masyarakat.*

内政部于2024年10月15日举行研讨会，讨论外籍劳工对马来西亚经济的贡献及其安全影响。主要讲员们强调外籍劳工在经济增长中的角色与安全考虑相平衡。该会以专题发表于有关外籍劳工的经济贡献、安全威胁和安全问题提供见解，强调制定平衡的政策的需要，以最大限度地提高经济利益并保护社区福利。

# Industrial Continuous Professional Development (iCPD)

The Ministry of International Trade, Industry, and Investment (MINTRED) Sarawak, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Innovation, and Talent Development Sarawak (MEITD), the Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC), and the Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA) organised Series 5 of the Industry Continuous Professional Development (iCPD) on 23 October 2024 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching.

The iCPD Series 5, launched by Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister for MEITD, served to assist the people of Sarawak in identifying relevant training courses that enhances their skills and knowledge, thereby improving their marketability and preparing them for long-term career success and employability opportunities. This initiative also aims to collect data on industry-specific skill requirements and strengthen collaboration between institutions and industry stakeholders in developing talent. Additionally, Dato Sri Roland witnessed the exchange of the Memorandum of Understanding between MEITD and MPC, which symbolises a commitment to advancing talent development and cultivating a skilled, competitive workforce for the future.

In her opening remarks, Dr Mazrina binti Mohamed Ibramsah, Deputy Director General of MPC, highlighted that the iCPD initiative aligns with the government's vision of fostering a competitive workforce capable of meeting industry demands as well as driving innovation and productivity, thereby steering Sarawak toward a more prosperous future.

Several speakers shared their knowledge and expertise with the participants. Ts Grenson Philip Angkok, Senior Assistant Director of Skills Development Department, provided an overview of the Malaysian Skills Certification System,

which is awarded through accredited training programmes that include apprenticeship training offered by various industries and institutions.

Mr Nickson Jampang, Associate-Stakeholder Engagement of Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp), presented on the Industrial Training Scheme and HRD Corp Claimable Courses, outlining the training grant application process, which includes planning, applying, training, and claiming. Ms Nur Munirah binti Mustafa Kamal, Assistant Manager Talent Development Section & People Productivity Division of MPC outlined Academia in Industry Programme, which uses a place-and-train concept for local talent development through skills recognition.

Mr Abdul Hafidz Ali, Manager of Workforce Development at Sarawak Skills Kuching, presented on the Recognition Prior to Experiential Learning Programme, an assessment method that allows workers to receive official recognition for skills and experiences acquired through their work. Mr Larry Ong, Manager of Chemsain HRD Sdn Bhd, provided an overview of Chemsain's diverse business areas, which encompass environmental services, sustainability, occupational safety and health, monitoring, and drone technical services. Mr Chai Chong Foong, Head of Section, Investigation & Prosecution Section DOSH, also took the opportunity to present the guidelines for Occupational Safety and Health Coordinators in accordance with Section 29A of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994.

*Pada 23 Oktober 2024, kementerian Sarawak MINTRED dan MEITD mengadakan iCPD Siri 5 untuk meningkatkan kemahiran dan kebolehpasaran di Sarawak. Dilancarkan oleh Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, acara itu menandatangani inisiatif pembangunan tenaga kerja, kerjasama industri dan skim latihan. Acara turut menyaksikan pemeteraian MoU di antara MEITD dan MPC untuk memajukan daya saing bakat dan inovasi di Sarawak.*

砂拉越国际贸易、工业和投资部(MINTRED)连同砂教育、创新和人才发展部(MEITD)于2024年10月23日举行行业持续专业发展系列5，以提升砂拉越民的技能及就业能力。该活动由拿督斯里罗兰推展，强调劳动力发展倡议、行业合作以及培训方案。该活动也见证MEITD与马来西亚生产力机构(MPC)签署谅解备忘录(MoU)，以推动砂拉越人才竞争力和创新能力。



Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister for MEITD (left) and Dr Mazrina Mohamed Ibramsah, Deputy Director General of MPC (right) delivering their opening remarks



## Capacity Building: Workshop on Strengthening Forest Management Certification



*Participants of the workshop in Kuching*

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), in collaboration with the Sarawak Timber Association (STA), successfully organised the Workshop on Strengthening Forest Management Certification for Natural Forests and Forest Plantations in two sessions—on 10-11 October 2024 at Mercure Miri City Centre and 17 October 2024 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The capacity building workshops aimed to enhance participants' understanding of forest management certification processes and strengthen the implementation of Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) methods for sustainable forestry. The workshops brought together forest managers, government officials, and industry stakeholders to discuss key topics, including legal frameworks, management planning, harvesting operations, and social responsibility in the certification process.

A central focus of the workshops was the development of Forest Management Plans for natural and forest plantations, which are vital to achieving sustainable forest management and meeting certification standards. It emphasised on the importance of comprehensive management plans, covering key components such as management plan prescriptions, forest research, harvesting operation and impact assessments. These plans ensure responsible forestry operations while promoting environmental sustainability and social inclusion.

Another key highlight was the session on harvesting operations and Reduced Impact



*Workshop participants listening intently as speaker shares insight*

Logging (RIL). This session underscored the significance of RIL guidelines, which are designed to reduce damage to residual stands, protecting biodiversity, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of forest ecosystems.

Additionally, the workshop in Miri covered critical legal obligations governing forest management, and economic aspects of forest management. The workshop also addressed the importance of social conflict resolution mechanisms and the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules 2015, ensuring that forestry personnel are trained and equipped to manage forestry operations effectively.

By strengthening forest management practices and promoting responsible certification, this workshop marks an important step for capacity building towards ensuring the long-term sustainability of both natural forests and forest plantations in Sarawak.

ANNIE TING  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
SARAWAK TIMBER ASSOCIATION  
17 October 2024



*Participants of the workshop in Miri*



*Quiz winner receiving a prize from  
Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA*



## Dialogue Session Between the Deputy Minister of Transport Malaysia and Sarawak Maritime Industry Players

The Ministry of Transport Sarawak (MOTS) and the Ministry of Transport Malaysia (MOT) co-organised a dialogue session on 11 October 2024 at the Sheraton Hotel in Kuching. Chaired by the Deputy Minister of Transport Malaysia, Datuk Haji Hasbi Bin Haji Habibollah, the dialogue session was attended by key stakeholders from Sarawak including STA.

In his welcoming remarks, Dato' Henry Harry Jinep, Deputy Minister of Transportation (Marine and Riverine) for Sarawak, underscored the maritime sector's vital role in connecting Sarawak with Peninsular Malaysia, particularly in transporting essential goods such as food, vehicles, and medicines. He noted that the liberalisation of the cabotage policy in 2017 failed to reduce prices, leading to its reinstatement to support local maritime growth and safeguard the domestic shipping industry in Sarawak. He also highlighted the Sarawak government's commitment to enhancing maritime infrastructure, particularly in shipbuilding and ship repair (SBSR), with 68 of Malaysia's 100 shipyards located in the region.

Datuk Haji Hasbi, in his opening remarks, reinforced the shipping and maritime sector's critical role Malaysia's economy, noting that 90% of trade activities are conducted via sea transport. He pointed out that Malaysia's fourth-place ranking in the Liner Shipping Connectivity Index among Asia Pacific countries, underlining the nation's readiness as a potential global shipping hub. The reinstated cabotage policy on 1 June 2024, aims to strengthen the local maritime sector and boost the SBSR industry, a vital contributor to Sarawak's economy, where approximately 80% of new ships are constructed.

The dialogue featured three presentations on the reinstatement of the cabotage policy, third-party marine liability insurance for non-convention vessels, and bunkering standard operating procedures. Perlindungan dan Indemniti Malaysia Sdn Bhd (P&I Malaysia) was introduced as a special purpose vehicle established to provide affordable marine liability insurance for small ship operators under 300GT. Additionally, applications

for bunkering activities will be available online starting 1 November 2024 to streamline processes and reduce bureaucracy.

Stakeholders voiced concerns about high freight costs and inefficiencies stemming from the reinstated cabotage policy, citing issues like double handling and excessive shipping charges imposed by local companies that hinder competitiveness. There were urgent calls for infrastructure upgrades at Sarawak's ports to improve trade potential, emphasising the necessity for increased competition, improved facilities, and regulated shipping charges to support local industries.

In response to these challenges, both MOTS and MOT proposed a special technical session to engage various stakeholders in finding solutions.

*Pada 11 Oktober 2024, Kementerian Pengangkutan Sarawak dan Kementerian Pengangkutan Malaysia telah mengadakan sesi dialog di Kuching dengan pihak berkepentingan utama daripada industri maritim Sarawak. Liberalisasi dasar kaboat pada 2017 gagal menurunkan harga dan menyebabkan dasar tersebut dikuatkuasakan semula pada 1 Jun 2024 untuk menyokong pertumbuhan maritim tempatan dan melindungi industri perkapalan domestik di Sarawak. Pihak berkepentingan membangkitkan kebimbangan mengenai kos pengangkutan yang tinggi, ketidakcekapan akibat pengendalian berganda, dan caj yang berlebihan daripada syarikat tempatan, meminta agar penambahbaikan infrastruktur segera untuk meningkatkan daya saing. Sebagai tindak balas, MOTS dan MOT mencadangkan sesi teknikal khas untuk menangani isu-isu ini secara kolaboratif.*

砂拉越交通部与马来西亚交通部于2024年10月11日假古晋与砂拉越海运业主要利益相关者进行对话会。于2017年豁免的沿海贸易政策未能降低运输价格，导致该政策于2024年6月1日重新实施，以支持当地海运业的增长并保护砂拉越本地运输业。利益相关者提出关于高运费、因双重处理导致效率低下，以及当地公司收取之高费用的担忧，并呼吁紧急升级基础设施，以提升竞争力。对此，砂拉越交通部与马来西亚交通部提议召开特别技术会议以协作解决这些问题。



Dato' Henry Harry Jinep, Deputy Minister of Transportation (Marine and Riverine) for Sarawak, presenting his welcoming remark

## Sarawak Timber Industry Demands Proof, Not Baseless Accusations

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) is outraged by the recent unfounded allegations made in a report issued by Human Rights Watch and several Sarawak-based non-governmental organisations (NGOs) against the Sarawak timber industry.

They had alleged that Sarawak's millions of hectares of ancient rainforests are at risk of being razed for timber and oil palm plantations supplying international markets leading to deforestation and violations of Indigenous peoples' rights.

STA maintains that these claims are a blatant attempt to tarnish the reputation of an industry that has made significant strides in sustainable forest management (SFM).

Sarawak's commitment to SFM is evident through the State's stringent sustainable policies, conservation efforts, and community engagement initiatives, in collaboration with international bodies including the ITTO. Guided by these policies, the industry actively adopts certified practices, implements responsible harvesting methods, and invests in sustainable technologies, resulting in numerous certified Forest Management Units and adherence to international standards. We have also worked tirelessly to ensure free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) from affected communities.

STA has always welcomed and consistently supported the NGOs as third-party observers to monitor the well-being of the industry. So why the sudden call for this damaging classification? Why should Sarawak be labelled as "high risk" due to one isolated incident? Have the NGOs engaged in dialogue with the Sarawak government and STA to make any effort to verify their claims before making sweeping allegations and demanding for Sarawak to be labelled as high risk over the whole industry? Is it not an unjust and vicious act to label the whole industry as high risk over one allegedly unjust act? If indeed proven to be so on the one specific incident, then punish that act accordingly not genocidally put everyone in the same cage.

STA urges the EU to at least conduct a full investigation into these allegations, involving all relevant stakeholders and determine whether the concerns raised are genuinely reflective of the industry at large. The future of Sarawak's timber industry, and the livelihoods of the thousands of people it supports, depends on a balanced and just decision, not one driven by isolated cases.

The Sarawak timber industry is a vital contributor to the nation's economy and the livelihoods of thousands of people. A hasty decision to label Sarawak as "high risk" based solely on unfounded allegations would be a grave injustice that could bring tremendous harm to Sarawak and the people's livelihood. Is this the modus operandi of the NGOs or is this what the NGOs want to see?

ANNIE TING  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
SARAWAK TIMBER ASSOCIATION  
28 October 2024



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	Jul '24 Vol (m³)	Jul '23 Vol (m³)	Aug '24 Vol (m³)	Aug '23 Vol (m³)	Sep '24 Vol (m³)	Sep '23 Vol (m³)	Jan - Sep '24 Vol (m³)	Jan - Sep '23 Vol (m³)
Kuching (Hill)	1,478	---	562	755	943	---	4,957	2,333
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sibu (Hill)	25,528	27,468	24,894	35,082	28,420	28,355	198,701	314,384
(Swamp)	3,082	4,470	2,019	5,684	2,229	5,776	15,372	43,556
Bintulu (Hill)	61,494	68,793	54,784	86,086	65,353	69,041	519,676	666,045
(Swamp)	888	1,536	---	367	3,218	1,413	12,239	14,154
Miri (Hill)	5,812	15,148	7,429	17,838	5,736	12,181	65,308	172,188
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kapit (Hill)	52,073	53,676	46,345	48,393	61,152	60,261	447,763	490,749
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Limbang (Hill)	6,724	6,150	8,497	10,230	7,688	5,839	66,935	69,882
(Swamp)	---	1,286	---	130	---	---	---	2,474
Sarikei (Hill)	715	1,518	2,095	4,343	2,226	7,166	22,854	41,906
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sri Aman (Hill)	---	799	---	2,287	---	3,391	432	16,841
(Swamp)	---	52	---	---	---	---	---	52
Subtotal (Hill)	153,824	173,552	144,606	205,014	171,518	186,234	1,326,626	1,774,328
(Swamp)	3,970	7,344	2,019	6,181	5,447	7,189	27,611	60,236
TOTAL	157,794	180,896	146,625	211,195	176,965	193,423	1,354,237	1,834,564

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

Update of data from source: Forest Department Sarawak has revised the data for January 2024 and February 2024. In January 2024, the volume for Sibu has been revised from 17,509 m³ to 15,699 m³, and for Kapit, from 45,337 m³ to 47,148 m³. In February 2024, the volume for Sibu has been revised from 26,174 m³ to 25,338 m³, and for Kapit, from 47,048 m³ to 47,884 m³.

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	May '24 Vol (m³)	Jun '24 Vol (m³)	Jul '24 Vol (m³)	Aug '24 Vol (m³)	Sep '24 Vol (m³)	Jan - Sep '24 Vol (m³)
Bindang	150	438	264	142	356	1,874
Meranti	54,398	59,528	61,842	60,579	69,226	555,428
Kapur	4,982	5,114	5,076	4,990	6,962	49,648
Keruing	2,523	3,151	3,396	3,103	3,563	27,326
Sepetir	211	271	335	222	250	2,309
Selangan Batu	2,221	1,751	1,940	1,782	3,050	19,118
Nyatoh	1,300	1,287	1,475	1,369	1,787	12,372
Other species	66,675	70,186	79,496	72,419	86,324	658,551
TOTAL:	132,460	141,726	153,824	144,606	171,518	1,326,626

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	May '24 Vol (m³)	Jun '24 Vol (m³)	Jul '24 Vol (m³)	Aug '24 Vol (m³)	Sep '24 Vol (m³)	Jan - Sep '24 Vol (m³)
Sepetir	---	---	---	---	---	34
Kapur	40	99	22	27	40	544
Keruing	47	30	14	19	65	232
Meranti	58	507	882	50	907	4,029
Other species	635	380	3,052	1,923	4,435	22,772
TOTAL:	780	1,016	3,970	2,019	5,447	27,611

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak  
(Please note that the figures for October 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		Jul '24	Jul '23	Aug '24	Aug '23	Sep '24	Sep '23	Jan - Sep '24	Jan - Sep '23
		Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Sibu	(ACMG)	7,068	704	4,398	870	5,245	26,745	53,257	29,763
	(ALBZ)	84 <sup>#</sup>	---	756	2,441	1,990	7,352	7,927	9,793
	(KLPN)	1,735 <sup>#</sup>	---	249	777	95	4,349	7,091	5,126
Bintulu	(ACMG)	59,724	38,666	36,469	77,189	64,450	66,920	453,975	645,997
	(ALBZ)	7,598	2,910	4,082	3,704	9,201	3,004	59,027	24,359
	(EUCA)	1,476	1,890	3,846	879	1,386	2,475	18,284	14,509
	(GMELINA)	---	---	1,316	---	476	---	2,084	---
	(KLPN)	66	---	---	45	238	88	581	287
Miri	(ACMG)	9,445	11,092	5,853	14,069	8,652	11,793	100,957	95,198
	(ALBZ)	2,200	480	1,132	406	2,587	1,499	15,708	3,857
	(EUCA)	10,202 <sup>#</sup>	758	13,597	4,119	8,030	621	79,030	22,022
Limbang	(ACMG)	1,056	---	1,408	---	---	---	11,436	6,486
Subtotal	(ACMG)	77,292	50,462	48,128	92,128	78,347	105,458	619,625	777,444
	(ALBZ)	9,882	3,390	5,970	6,551	13,778	11,855	82,662	38,009
	(EUCA)	11,678	2,648	17,443	4,998	9,416	3,096	97,314	36,531
	(GMELINA)	---	---	1,316	---	476	---	2,084	---
	(KLPN)	1,801	---	249	822	333	4,437	7,672	5,413
TOTAL:		100,653	56,500	73,106	104,499	102,350	124,846	809,357	857,397

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

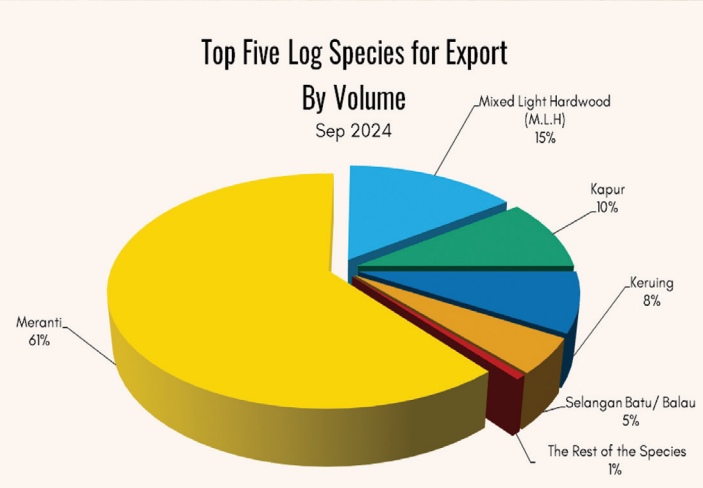
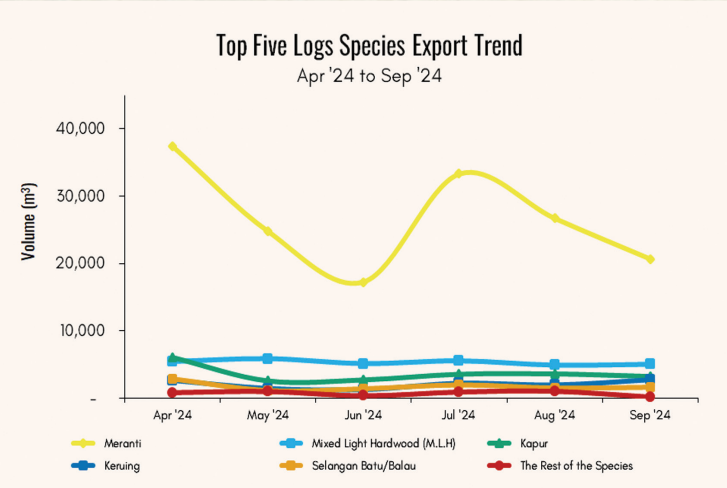
\*ACMG - Acacia mangium ALBZ - Albizia EUCA - Eucalyptus GMELINA - Gmelina arborea KLPN - Kelampayan

<sup>#</sup>Update of data from source: Forest Department Sarawak has revised the data for July 2024. In the Sibu region, the volumes for Albizia (ALBZ) and Kelampayan (KLPN) have been switched, with ALBZ revised from 1,735 m³ to 84 m³ and KLPN from 84 m³ to 1,735 m³. In the Miri region, the volume of Eucalyptus (EUCA) has been revised from 10,232 m³ to 10,202 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	Jul '24		Aug '24		Sep '24		Jan - Sep '24		Jan - Sep '23	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Arau	297	376,958	292	351,916	9	11,214	1,963	2,334,597	932	1,034,187
Kapur	3,610	4,291,346	3,665	4,360,031	3,282	3,722,689	34,285	39,069,433	44,471	54,416,971
Keruing	2,257	1,998,922	1,992	1,646,240	2,785	2,079,576	35,180	27,744,351	28,546	25,167,364
Meranti	33,341	26,346,495	26,718	20,003,205	20,664	15,249,453	230,792	172,466,602	275,294	230,911,399
Mersawa	189	179,548	170	139,178	124	96,478	3,812	2,813,068	2,757	2,739,022
Mixed Light Hardwood (M.L.H)	5,534	3,679,170	4,904	3,146,644	5,035	3,282,678	42,156	27,363,862	42,819	27,303,073
Nyatoh	90	68,526	100	73,168	16	12,714	391	279,150	82	59,196
Resak	321	291,306	376	315,496	85	65,178	2,720	2,365,643	2,968	2,794,426
Selangan Batu/Balau	2,009	3,099,439	1,539	2,462,731	1,653	2,528,642	16,863	26,028,910	29,992	49,908,765
Others species	26	18,167	86	47,981	---	---	262	156,819	1,998	1,838,999
TOTAL:	47,674	40,349,877	39,842	32,546,590	33,653	27,048,622	368,424	300,622,435	429,859	396,173,402

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



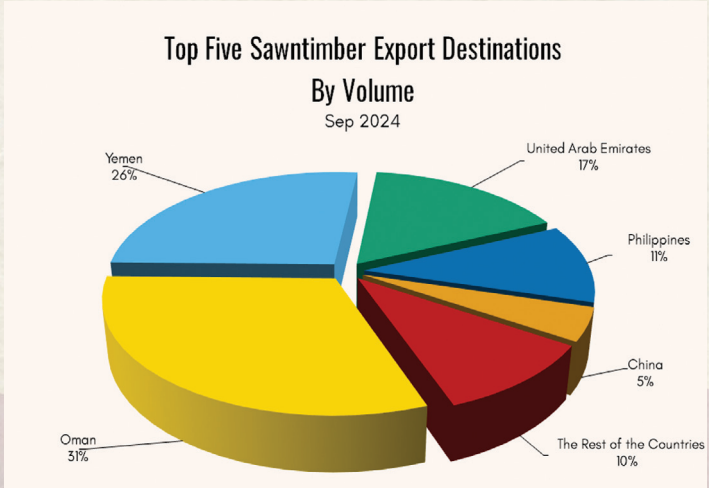
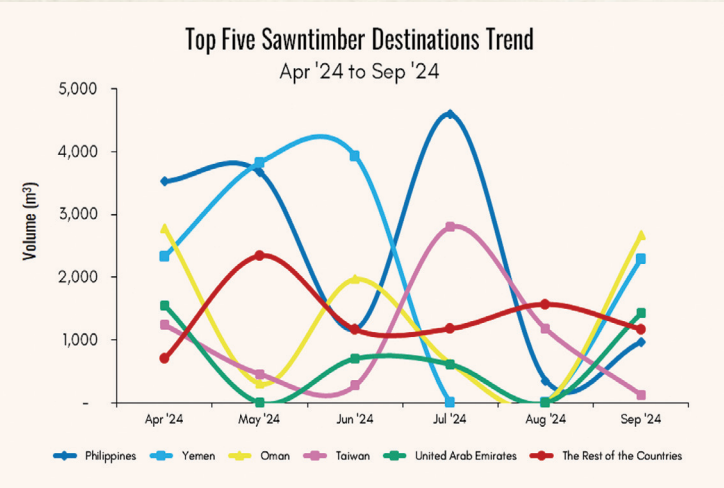


SARAWAK timber trade statistics

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

Country of Destination	Jul '24		Aug '24		Sep '24		Jan - Sep '24		Jan - Sep '23	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Brunei 汶莱	76	105,733	63	161,033	87	207,207	279	811,138	---	---
China 中国	300	384,021	336	438,107	405	555,725	2,198	2,969,296	2,720	4,100,053
Japan 日本	210	619,857	479	1,289,197	121	317,116	2,807	8,044,257	3,271	10,510,819
Korea 韩国	150	266,285	533	1,012,644	202	355,406	1,291	2,361,940	4,253	8,546,406
Oman 阿曼	627	1,176,855	---	---	2,669	3,720,157	14,283	19,293,940	11,898	19,644,700
Philippines 菲律宾	4,601	4,521,514	352	185,206	964	550,956	18,395	17,316,803	29,130	44,765,731
Taiwan 台湾	2,804	4,583,986	1,176	1,583,640	126	132,248	10,153	17,815,698	12,053	27,152,575
Thailand 泰国	339	334,594	100	75,816	340	421,110	3,566	3,878,234	9,157	11,091,167
United Arab Emirates 阿联酋	613	1,252,671	---	---	1,428	2,846,102	5,411	10,777,945	2,573	5,734,718
Yemen 也门	---	---	---	---	2,291	4,245,749	13,316	25,588,009	23,346	60,002,362
Other Countries 其他国家	100	380,889	55	133,545	17	35,277	1,826	5,928,274	1,632	4,838,259
TOTAL:	9,820	13,626,405	3,094	4,879,188	8,650	13,387,053	73,525	114,785,534	100,033	196,386,790

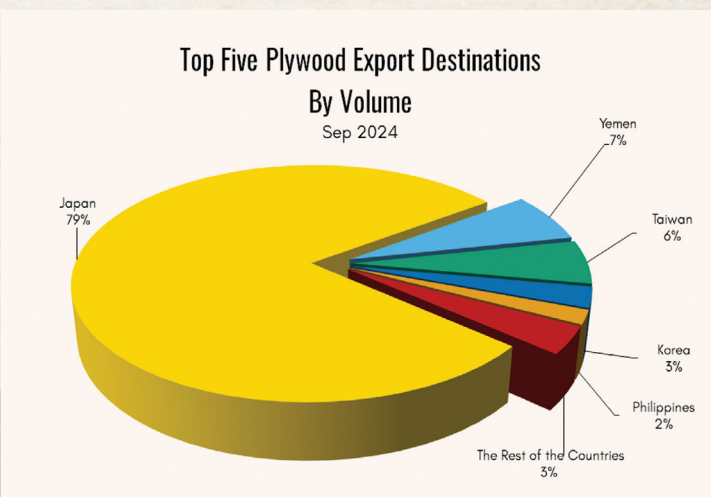
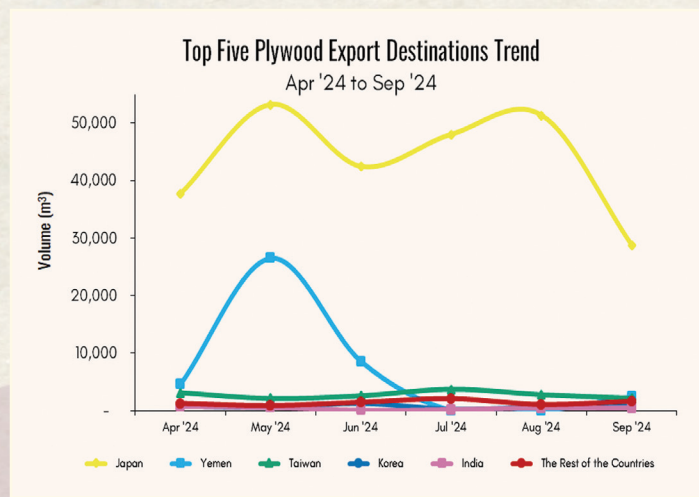
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation  
(Please note that the figures for October 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



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

Country of Destination	Jul '24		Aug '24		Sep '24		Jan - Sep '24		Jan - Sep '23	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Australia 澳洲	179	474,815	83	200,552	92	241,501	895	2,440,478	1,226	4,070,975
Brunei 汶莱	551	713,489	288	368,180	156	234,175	2,529	3,325,626	1,975	2,493,088
India 印度	215	600,823	488	1,392,298	445	1,201,077	3,642	9,845,280	3,154	9,871,520
Japan 日本	48,034	107,309,143	51,339	111,098,578	28,725	60,916,697	368,343	842,632,616	327,809	846,551,046
Korea 韩国	222	544,325	607	991,498	1,014	1,493,046	9,263	16,784,550	17,995	34,827,249
Philippines 菲律宾	558	1,944,899	196	725,534	695	2,200,749	3,840	13,188,807	1,941	6,508,491
Taiwan 台湾	3,677	6,513,453	2,759	4,793,238	2,158	3,622,233	24,010	43,099,290	26,630	49,785,306
United Arab Emirates 阿联酋	660	1,110,718	---	---	488	724,093	1,325	2,125,471	1,306	2,715,769
Vietnam 越南	---	---	106	429,482	69	258,191	558	2,222,082	317	1,449,929
Yemen 也门	---	---	---	---	2,447	4,171,615	46,319	84,297,941	50,069	100,098,785
Other Countries 其他国家	118	290,979	329	640,638	86	142,763	2,507	5,158,885	5,340	12,959,631
TOTAL:	54,214	119,502,644	56,195	120,639,998	36,375	75,206,140	463,231	1,025,121,026	437,762	1,071,331,789

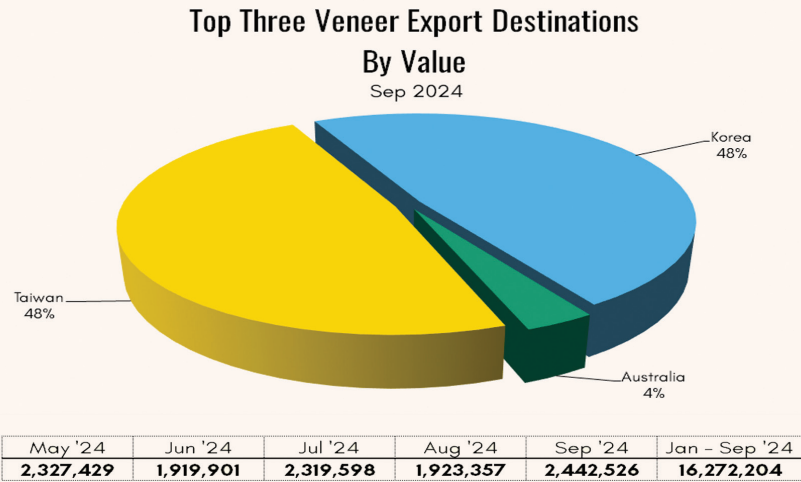
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation  
(Please note that the figures for October 2024 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



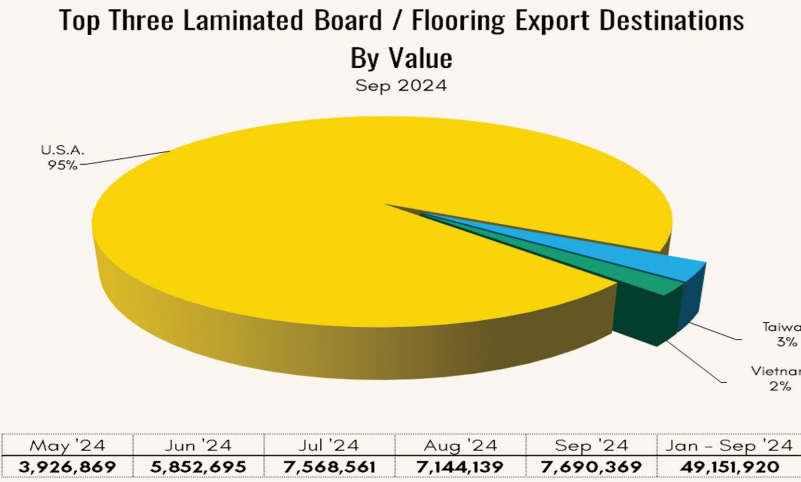




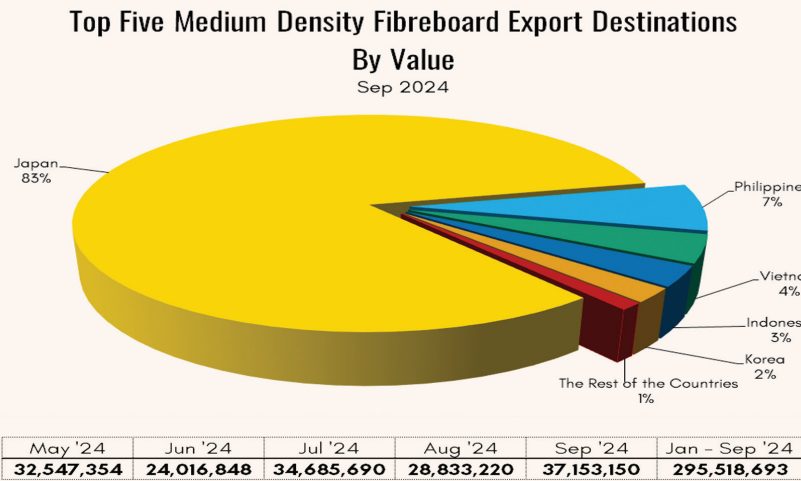
EXPORT VALUE OF VENEER BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT VENIR MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之单板出口值



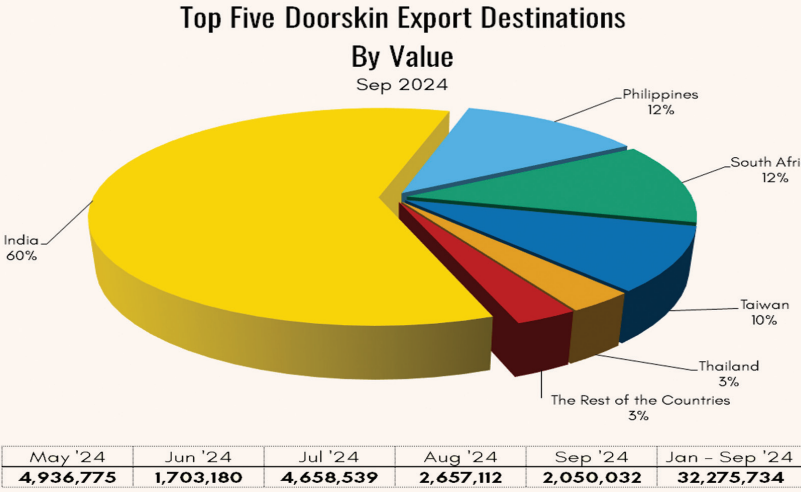
EXPORT VALUE OF LAMINATED BOARD / FLOORING BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN LAMINA / LANTAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之层压板/地板出口值



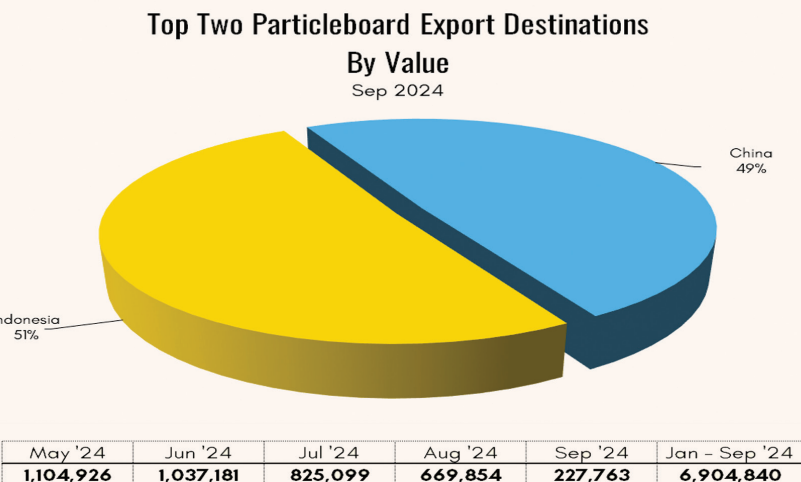
EXPORT VALUE OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN GENTIAN BERKETUMPATAN SEDERHANA MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之中密度纤维板出口值



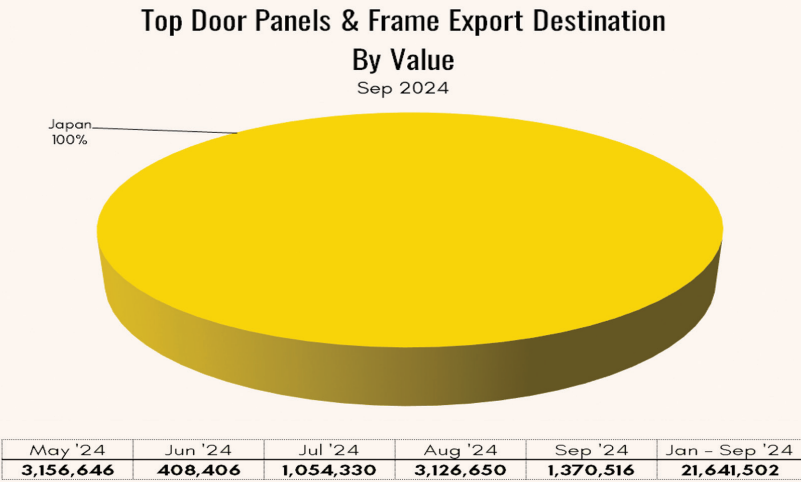
EXPORT VALUE OF DOORSKIN BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK  
NILAI EKSPORT DAUN PINTU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之门皮出口值



EXPORT VALUE OF 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



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 October 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 October 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 Two Mouldings Export Destination  
By Value  
Sep 2024

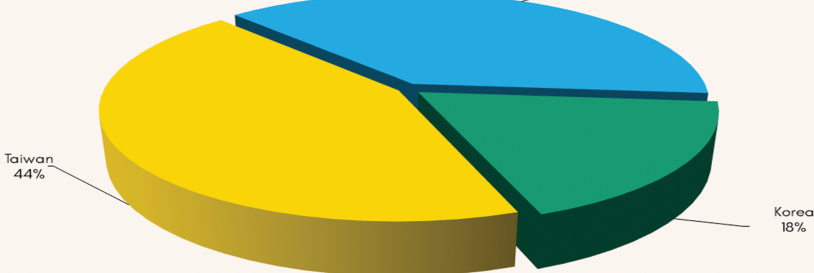


May '24	Jun '24	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Jan - Sep '24
756,495	112,325	490,239	497,924	224,353	4,105,206



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  
Sep 2024

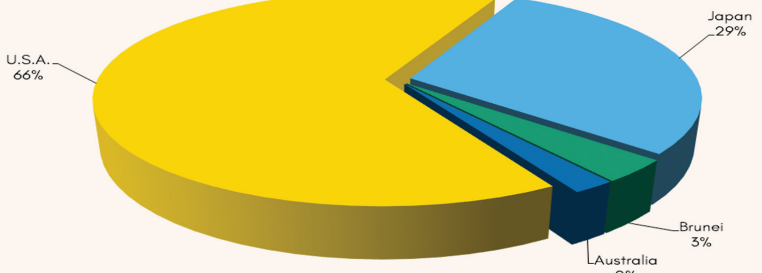


May '24	Jun '24	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Jan - Sep '24
992,023	562,174	783,818	806,574	1,271,524	7,288,987



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 Four Furniture & Furniture Part Export Destination  
By Value  
Sep 2024



May '24	Jun '24	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Jan - Sep '24
6,862,930	3,423,622	5,453,426	5,168,592	5,010,438	46,934,802



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

Top Two Woodchips Export Destination  
By Value  
Sep 2024



May '24	Jun '24	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Jan - Sep '24
18,204,995	14,066,329	23,517,020	---	17,672,339	127,582,855



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  
Sep 2024

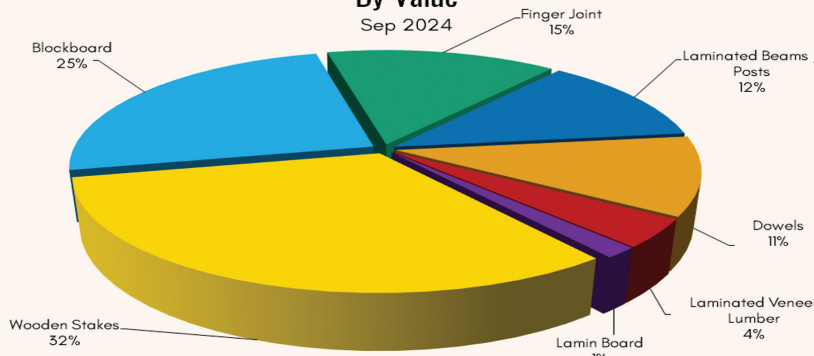
*Remark:*  
No export of wood pellets was recorded in  
Sep 2024

May '24	Jun '24	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Jan - Sep '24
20,483,496	---	18,093,106	---	---	60,468,752



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

Other Timber Products Export  
By Value  
Sep 2024



May '24	Jun '24	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Jan - Sep '24
2,043,240	1,984,787	1,859,685	1,527,207	1,082,315	19,607,983

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



# HONORARY WILD LIFE RANGERS (REAPPOINTMENT) TRAINING COURSE

**Date** : 15 October 2024

**Venue** : Wisma STA, Kuching

**Trainers** : Ms Joyce Ting Huang,  
Mr Willy Chin,  
Ms Jenny Ngeian,  
Mr Adrian Markus

STA Training Sdn Bhd, training arm of STA, is partnering with the Sarawak Forestry Corporation and the Forest Department Sarawak to organise the Honorary Wild Life Rangers (HWR) reappointment training course. The appointment of HWR is made under Section 8(1) of the Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1998, with a validity of three years. Reappointment is possible upon successful completion of the HWR reappointment training course. The appointment of HWRS is also a key requirement under the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management and plays a crucial role in empowering communities to actively engage in wildlife conservation efforts. For more information on the training, kindly contact STAT at 082- 332222 or email to [howchu@sta.org.my](mailto:howchu@sta.org.my)

## Image Captions:

1. Ms Ting Huang from SFC providing introduction to Honorary Wild Life Ranger Programme
2. Ms Jenny Ngeian from SFC shared on the Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1998
3. Mr Adrian Markus from FDS shared with participants on the overview of Forests Ordinance, 2015 including wildlife conservation
4. Participants presenting their group assignment
5. Group photo featuring Ms Annie Ting, STA Manager (seated, 5<sup>th</sup> from right) alongside trainers, Ms Ting Huang from Sarawak Forestry Corporation (seated, 5<sup>th</sup> from left) and Mr Adrian Markus Terang from Forest Department Sarawak (seated, 4<sup>th</sup> from right)



# ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT TRAINING

**Date** : 21-25 October 2024 (Part 1)

**Venue** : Wisma STA, Kuching

**Trainer** : Mr Peter Sawal



The STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), training arm of STA had collaborated with the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) to organise Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) training course, to provide a thorough understanding and practical application of the ECA process to meet the requirements *the Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008*, and the associated guidelines as well as to promote self-regulation within the industry players.



This training will enable qualified personnel to be registered as Environmental Auditor with NREB and to conduct internal / external audit, migrating from the existing Environmental Monitoring Reports (EMR) submission. For more information on the training, kindly contact STAT at 082- 332222 or email to [howchu@sta.org.my](mailto:howchu@sta.org.my)



## Image Captions:

1. Group photo at Ladang Simunjan and Ladang Ladong under the Kumpulan Kris Jati Sdn Bhd after the completion of ECA auditing
2. Opening meeting prior to the conduct of the ECA auditing
3. Participants conducting audit at Workshop of oil palm estate
4. Briefing by Mr Hezron Ngau, Estate Manager (2<sup>nd</sup> left) on the efforts taken by estate to comply with the General and Specific Terms and Conditions of Environmental Management Plan
5. Group photo with the participants of the ECA training. Ms Annie Ting, Manager of STAT (seated, center), with Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang, ECA Trainer (on her left), and Mr Peter Sawal, ECA Trainer (on her right)



## OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME OCTOBER 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)**
- STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Ginda Uli
- Date** : 15 - 20 October 2024
- Location** : Marudi Reforstation Harvesting, Marudi
- Company** : Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd

- > **Log Loading - Excavator (Forest Plantation)**
- STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Sang Sanjan
- Date** : 15 - 19 October 2024
- Location** : Marudi Reforstation Harvesting, Marudi
- Company** : Syarikat Samling Timber 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)