



TRAINING REPORT

# Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management (FCSFM)

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16 – 20 May 2022

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16 – 20 May 2022

## Notes to Readers

The report was prepared by the AFoCO Regional Education and Training Center for Short Term Capacity Building Workshop on "Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management" virtually organized on 16 – 20 May 2022.

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The data in the report was validated by participants of FCSFM workshop. The views expressed in this report may not necessarily reflect the views of the AFoCO.

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AMAF	Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry
BhuFED	Bhutan Forest and Wildlife Enforcement Database
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMRS	Community Monitoring and Reporting System
CPC	Criminal Procedure Code
DaMal	Danum-Maliau-Imbak
DoFPS	Department of Forests and Park Services
DWNP	Department of Wildlife and National Parks
DWNP	Department of Wildlife and National Parks
EGILAT	Expert Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FDPM	Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia
FIRMS	Forest Information Reporting & Monitoring System
FPED	Forest Protection and Enforcement Division
FRA	Global Forest Resources Assessment
HCVs	High Conservation Values
HoB	Heart of Borneo
HWC	Human-wildlife conflict
ITTC	International Tropical Timber Council
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
MTLAS	Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System
NCD	Nationally Determined Contributions
NFSMS	National Forest Stock Monitoring System
NTFP	Non-timber forest product
OAG	Office of Attorney General
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
RMP	Royal Malaysian Police
RTE Species	Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species
SAWEN	South Asian Wildlife Enforcement Network
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool
TramCA	Trans-boundary Manas Conservation Area
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNTOC	UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime
WMD	Watershed Management Division

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Forest crime can be broadly defined as “illegal exploitation of wild flora.” According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), forest crime refers to a range of processes of “taking, trading (*i.e., supplying, selling or trafficking*), importing, exporting, processing, possessing, obtaining and consumption of wild flora, including timber and other forest products, in contravention of national or international law.” Forest crime is not just a conservation issue faced by forests and the forestry sector. Its severity has attracted cross-sectoral attention and governance from country leaders and global organizations. The UN’s General Assembly and Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice have raised their concerns about environmental crime. In June 2014, at the first United Nations Environment Assembly, all 193 member countries expressed their political will to curb the destruction of natural resources and heritages<sup>1</sup>.

Recent findings from the FAO’s Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 (FRA 2020) states that the global rate of forest loss is slowed down, but the world’s forest area is decreasing. Forests are being threatened by unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, mainly by illegal actions. Overexploitation of natural resources has significant effects on environmental, economic, and human health, reported the FAO’s State of the World’s Forest 2020.

Increasing demand for timber products could be linked to the global society’s will for fair trade<sup>2</sup>. Due to higher market demand and increased profitability of timber and its byproducts, crime involving the world’s forests has become more serious<sup>3</sup>. Many countries in Asia have lost significant areas of their rich forests by illegal logging activities over the last decades<sup>4</sup>. Illegal logging and related trades are not only considered major forest crimes. Rather, it can be argued that illegal logging directly impacts deforestation, climate change, and species extinction and has a long-term negative impact on the livelihoods of forest-dependent people. Researchers warned that “clearing large forest areas causes CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere that foster climate change<sup>5</sup>”.

Intrinsically, combating forest crime is vital for halting deforestation and forest degradation. In the long-term, it would also contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular, the SDG 14 ‘Conserve and Sustainably Use the Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development’ and the SDG 15 ‘Protect, Restore and Promote Sustainable Use of Terrestrial Ecosystems, Sustainably Manage Forests, Combat Desertification, and Halt and Reverse Land Degradation and Halt Biodiversity Loss,’

This workshop provides a broader understanding of the impact of forest crime on forests and global and regional efforts in maintaining the world’s forests. This workshop pursues to apply and transfer all accumulated knowledge and experiences shared amongst the participants to improve sustainable forest management in AFoCO Member Countries. The interventions and outputs from the workshop will further contribute to the regional response to mitigating climate change and deforestation.

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1. The International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC). (2014). A Global Collaboration to Fight Wildlife and Forest Crime. UN Chronicle 51(2), pp.11-12. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/global-collaboration-fight-wildlife-and-forest-crime>.
  2. Macqueen, D., & Mayers, J. (2020). Unseen Foresters: An assessment of approaches for wider recognition and spread of sustainable forest management by local communities. World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF). [https://wwf.panda.org/discover/our\\_focus/forests\\_practice/](https://wwf.panda.org/discover/our_focus/forests_practice/).
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  4. Fedotov, Y. (2014). How Wildlife and Forest Crime Undermines Development and Ravages Global Biodiversity. UN Chronicle 51(2), pp.13-15. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/how-wildlife-and-forest-crime-undermines-development-and-ravages-global-biodiversity>
  5. Blaser, Jürgen, Zabel von Felten, & Astrid Mirjam (2016). Forest Crime in the Tropics In: Tropical forestry handbook (pp. 3525-3558). Berlin: Springer

## 2. OBJECTIVES AND OUTPUTS

The objectives of the workshop were to 1) improve understanding of major drivers of forest crime and its socio-environmental impacts and 2) to share knowledge and experiences in combating forest crime in AFoCO Member Countries.

## 3. PARTICIPANTS' ANALYSIS

### 3.1 INFORMATION ABOUT PARTICIPANTS

This course welcomed 25 technical-level government officials and forestry experts involved in sustainable forest management and tackling forest crime in Member Countries. Those involved for a minimum of one year of serving the government were invited from the respective member countries.

**Table 1. Number of participants from the member countries**

Sr.	Countries	No. of Participants	Female	Male
1.	Bhutan	3	0	3
2.	Brunei Darussalam	2	1	1
3.	Cambodia	1	1	0
4.	Kazakhstan	2	0	2
5.	Kyrgyzstan	2	0	2
6.	Malaysia	5	1	4
7.	Myanmar	3	1	2
8.	Philippines	4	3	1
9.	Timor-Leste	1	1	0
10.	Viet Nam	2	1	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>

(Note: 25 participants who received the certificate of completion)

**Table 2. Position of participants**

No.	Position	Number
1.	Chief/Head/Senior/Executive Forestry Officer	9
2.	Forestry/Range Officer & Staff	8
3.	Researcher	1
4.	Senior/Chief Specialist	5
5.	Assistant of finance and administration	1
6.	Assistant director of enforcement	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>

## 3.2 PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATION

Country	Purpose of Participation
Bhutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the various strategies and measures that can be put in place at the National, Regional and International level which can help effectively tackle forest crimes?</li> <li>• How can policies and technologies be effectively integrated at all levels to help reduce forest crimes?</li> </ul>
Brunei Darussalam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the best practices or best approach to tackling or reducing forest crime?</li> <li>• What are the potential options or system or technology to monitor transboundary forest crime?</li> </ul>
Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To learn the best practice of Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management project which is implemented in ASIA and AFoCO's member states.</li> <li>• How can the AFoCO support the Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management project? What mechanisms are needed?</li> </ul>
Kazakhstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Kyrgyzstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange with experience on reducing crime in the forestry sector, (joint coordination)</li> <li>• The application of new warning technologies to reduce crime in the forestry sector, as is the detection to reduce crime in the forestry sector</li> </ul>
Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are strategies in combating illegal logging and forest crime?</li> <li>• What are approaches to strengthen the cooperation inter-agencies in combating illegal logging and forest crime?</li> </ul>
Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the challenges and prevention measures in combating Forest crimes?</li> <li>• What will be the collaborative way to mitigate timber demands and eradicate black market?</li> </ul>
Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain more knowledge on the global, regional and transboundary efforts to combat forest crimes</li> <li>• Acquire strategies to reduce the demand for illegal forest products and prevent forest crimes</li> <li>• To become potential technical lead/expert in forest crime and sustainable management</li> </ul>
Timor-Leste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose of Participation – It is expected that upon completion of the Training Course on Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management, we will be able understand how to prevent the conduct of Forest Crime as well as guaranteed Sustainable Forest Management in the future in Timor-Leste</li> <li>• Question – Timor-Leste is a newly underdeveloped country in Asia and in the world with limited resources in every aspect. What will be the best practice that is most suitable for Timor-Leste in fighting the Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management?</li> </ul>
Viet Nam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the various strategies and measures that can be put in place at the National, Regional and International level which can help effectively tackle forest crimes?</li> <li>• How can policies and technologies be effectively integrated at all levels to help reduce forest crimes?</li> </ul>

(Note: Information excerpted from Country Reports submitted by Participants)

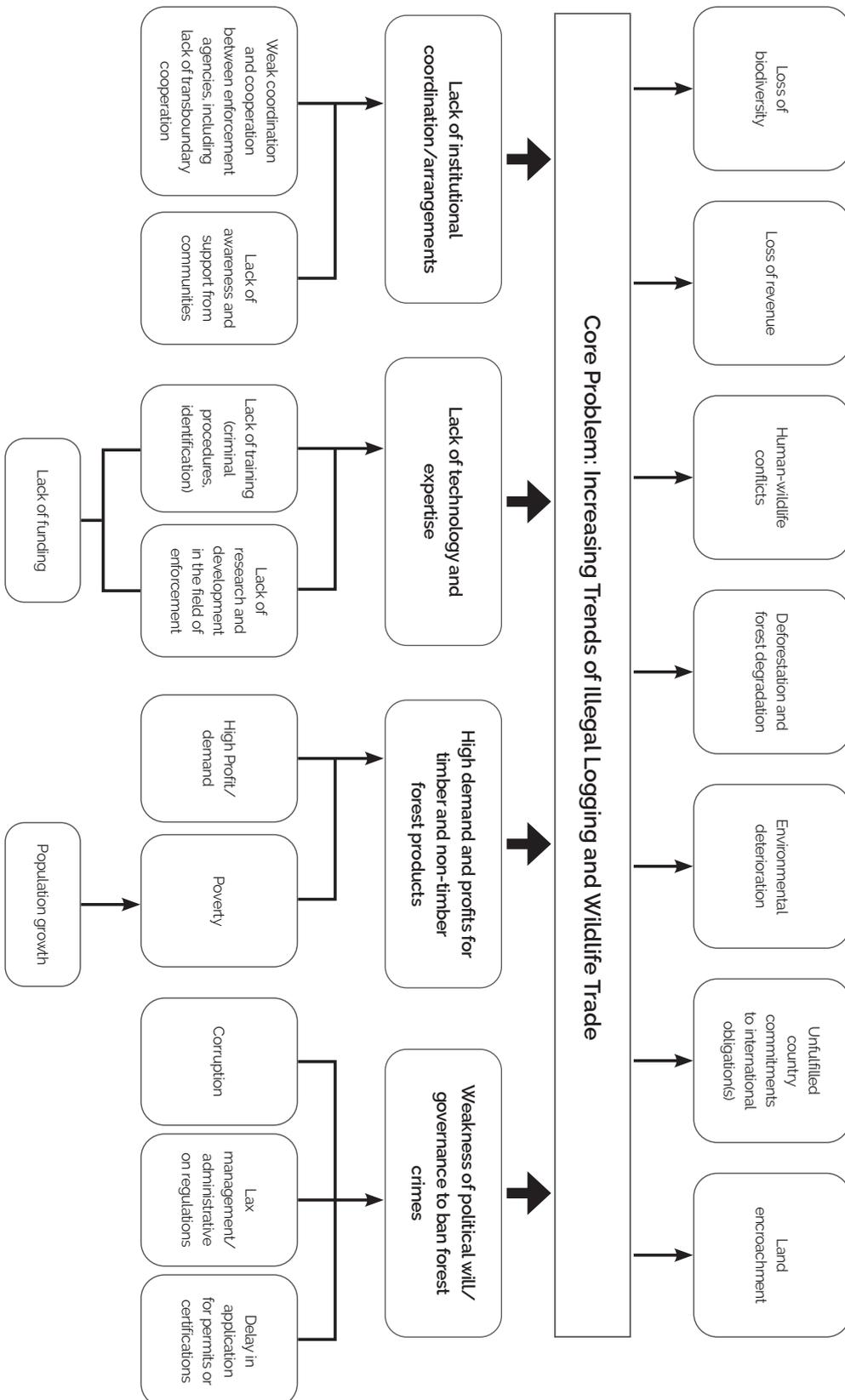
### 3.3 CURRENT ISSUES OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

#### 3.3.1. Core Problem per Country

Country	Core Problems
Bhutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing Trend of Forest Related Crimes</li> </ul>
Brunei Darussalam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination, Capacity building and Funding</li> <li>Uncontrolled illegal and poaching</li> </ul>
Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illegal forest activities</li> </ul>
Kazakhstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
Kyrgyzstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low strength and efficiency in enforcement and legislation on illegal logging</li> <li>Inadequate capacity and effectiveness in law enforcement to combat forest crime</li> </ul>
Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illegal Timber logging Crime</li> </ul>
Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental degradation and deforestation (Due to lack of an established system to detect legally sourced timber)</li> </ul>
Timor-Leste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High rate of Deforestation and Wildlife stalking in Timor-Leste</li> </ul>
Viet Nam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing on Wildlife Crime</li> </ul>

(Note: Information excerpted from Country Reports and Action Plans submitted by Participants)

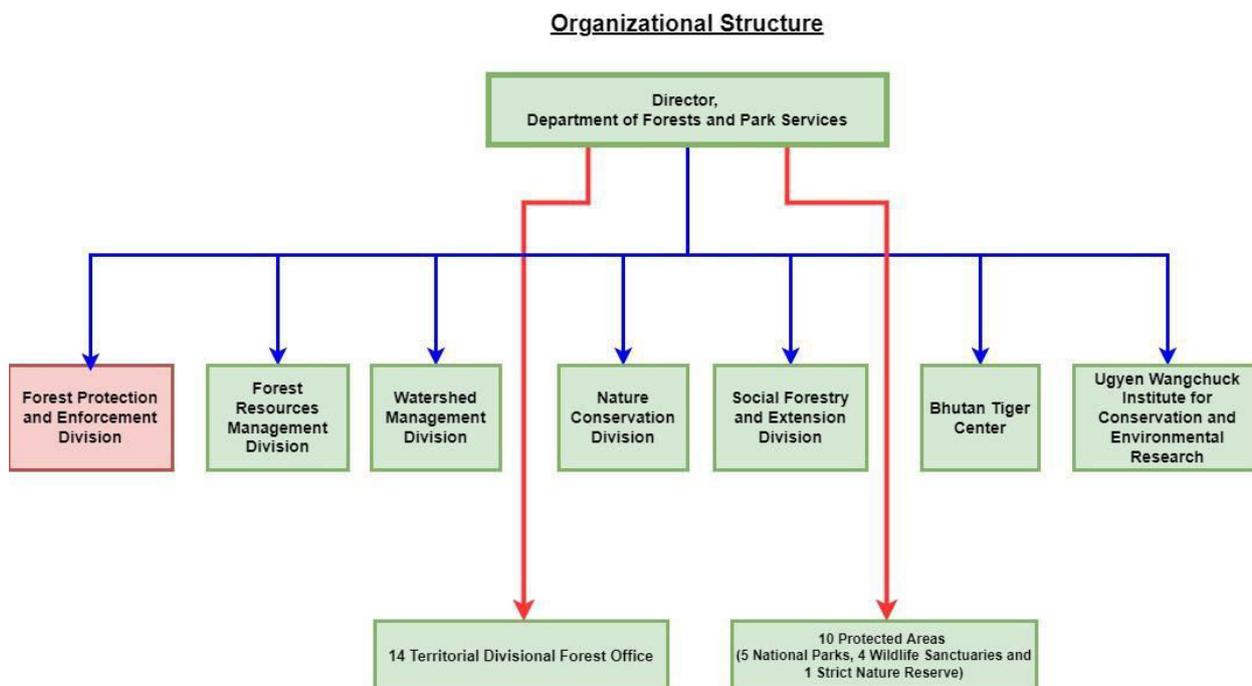
### 3.3.2. Analysis of gaps in reducing forest crime in the AFoCO Region



### 3.4 COUNTRY ISSUES

#### 3.4.1. BHUTAN

##### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Bhutan



\*Highlighted is the Focal Divisions for tackling forest crime.

##### 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in Bhutan

Title	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
National	<b>Legal Frameworks, Strategies and Action Plans</b>		<b>Focals</b>
	1. National Forest Policy, 2011	1. 2011	1. Director, Department of Forests and Park Services (DoFPS)
	2. Forest and Nature Conservation Act of Bhutan, 1995	2. 1995	2. Director, Department of Forests and Park Services (DoFPS)
	3. Forest and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2017 and Amendment 2021	3. 2017 and 2021	3. Chief Forestry Officer, Forest Protection and Enforcement Division, DoFPS
	4. National Zero Poaching Strategy, 2017	4. 2017	4. Chief Forestry Officer, Forest Protection and Enforcement Division, DoFPS
	5. Biodiversity Act of Bhutan, 2003	5. 2003	5. Program Director, National Biodiversity Center
	6. National Environment Protection Act of Bhutan, 2007	6. 2007	6. Secretary, National Environment Commission
	7. Land Act of Bhutan, 2007	7. 2007	7. Secretary, National Land Commission Secretariat
	8. Mines and Minerals Management Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 1995	8. 1995	8. Director General, Department of Geology and Mines
	9. National SMART Implementation Protocol, 2020	9. 2020	9. Chief Forestry Officer, Forest Protection and Enforcement Division, DoFPS
	10. National REDD+ Strategy/Action Plan		10. Chief Forestry Officer, Water Management Division, DoFPS
11. RNR Strategy, 2040			

Title	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
Regional	1. Trans-boundary Manas Conservation Area (TraMCA) 2. South Asian Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)	1. 2013 2. 2011	1. Chief Forestry Officer, NCD 2. Chief Forestry Officer, FPED
International	1. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) 2. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 3. UNFCCC 4. Ramsar Convention 5. UNFF	1. 2002 2. 1995 3. 2002 4. 2012	1. Chief Forestry Officer, NCD 2. Secretary, NEC 3. Secretary, NEC 4. Chief Forestry Officer, WMD 5. Director, DoFPS

### 3. Current Status and Issues in Bhutan

#### a) Background and current status

Bhutan is a small country with around 71% of total land area under forest cover in 2016. Forests, therefore, play a very important role in their daily lives and provide various ecosystem services including regulation of climate and water resources, habitat for plants and animals, livelihoods for humans and contribution to climate change mitigation. Forests have been managed sustainably through the blessings and farsightedness of our Monarchs resulting in sound and conservation friendly Policies. The Forests and Nature Conservation Act (1995) requires all forests of Bhutan to be brought under management with appropriate management plans. Further, the Constitution of Kingdom of Bhutan (2008) mandates the Royal Government of Bhutan to maintain at least 60% forest cover in perpetuity. This, however, doesn't make forest management easier in Bhutan. The rapid expansion of urban areas, population growth and implementation of socio-economic developmental activities is exerting enormous pressure on forests. A developing country, there are many times where there is strong debate on whether conservation is worth forgoing many economic developments. This is further aggravated by climate change and the dwindling economy in the light of the pandemic. With a country mostly dependent on tourism and hydro power as the major source of income, with the pandemic, the income has mostly been dependent on hydropower with the stop on the entry of tourists amidst the pandemic. Therefore, the challenge is more on the forestry sector especially for a country with more than 71 % forest cover.

As per the Forestry Facts and Figures, 2021, Illegal timber harvesting is one of the most reported forest offense types in the country with 670 incidences in just one year followed by illegal harvesting of NTFPs with 253 counts of incidences reported. Other forest offenses reported include wildlife poaching, illegal fishing, illegal timber misuse, land encroachment and forest fires. These increasing trends of forest offense in the country could have a huge implication in the overall goal of sustainable forest management in Bhutan. The trends on reported forest offense cases does not show significant decreases over the years.

Bhutan has long been considered a source and conduit for illegal trade in wildlife. Our close proximity to the wildlife trade hotspots, and gateway to northeast India and to China, identified as a significant smuggling route for illegal wildlife trade is a cause for concern for Bhutan. Located between Nepal, India and China and with easy access to countries like Thailand and Singapore, Bhutan faces a high risk of losing its endangered species, especially as these countries feature prominently as a destination and transit to other countries for wildlife products. Poaching and smuggling of wildlife parts albeit at a small scale is spatially spread across the country mostly along the porous border and along old trade routes to Tibet/China. Offenders and 'carriers' have been caught at hotels, airports, along high-altitude border areas, check posts, or while negotiating sales. In some cases, species killed in retaliation to livestock depredation have been sold. In addition to poaching for the international market, domestic demand for use of wildlife parts to cure ailments exists but the extent of use is not clearly understood. Red sander, a prohibited species of wood for trade and export and listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), is quite often intercepted by Bhutanese authorities while in transit from South India to China. Bhutanese have been involved in smuggling red sanders worth millions of Ngultrums since 2013 in border towns and in Chukha, Paro and Haa.

The traditional detection methods have involved proactive measures (e.g., patrolling, removing snares, enforcers posing as buyers), maximum detections have been based on informants with detection of offenses only after a species has been killed. Rigorous understanding of the demand, motivation, modus operandi, trade routes and the network of actors along the supply chain is still lacking. Anti-poaching patrols and management efforts at the field level will be futile in reducing poaching and smuggling, without an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the drivers and trends of wildlife trade and use of its parts.

#### **b) Experiences in tackling forest crime**

The implementation of enforcement related programs/activities in the field is being carried out by the respective field Divisions and Protected Areas and the Forest Protection and Enforcement Division at the Headquarters provides necessary legal and technical backstopping. The illegal forest offense cases that could not be settled at the field level are forwarded to the Department for settlement. The Legal Section of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests takes up the cases to the Office of Attorney General (OAG) and the Judiciary for prosecution and settlement. Information on forest offenses is compiled by the Forest Protection and Enforcement Division from all protected areas and forest divisions as well as from other partner enforcement agencies. Initially, the enforcement related data management was stored in an online database called Bhutan Forest and Wildlife Enforcement Database (BhuFED). Recently, the BhuFED system was integrated with the Forest Information Reporting & Monitoring System (FIRMS) of the Department and all the information related to enforcement is being stored in this system. The data from FIRMS shows that the most common types of forest related crimes and illegal activities includes illegal timber harvesting, wildlife poaching, illegal fishing, illegal utilization of timber and State Reserve Forest Land encroachment. Illegal timber harvesting is one of the most common forest offense cases registered with the Department and if not checked, might have a huge consequence on the overall sustainable forest management program of the Department. Illegal wildlife poaching cases include species Tiger, Rhinos, Pangolin, Tokay Gecko, Bats, Ungulates, Canids, Hares and Martens. More than 50-80% of wildlife crime offenses were caused inadvertently from traps for wildlife pests, resulting in non-targeted species being killed in traps/snares, due to retaliatory killing.

On the other hand, traps are specifically laid in the forest for species such as musk deer, tigers, leopards and bears. Species such as tigers, leopards, red sander, elephant tusks or peacock feathers are smuggled in from India and either utilized in the country and smuggled out using Bhutan as a transit for these illegal trades. Trend in wildlife offenses as recorded in the system indicate ungulates, felids and bears continue to be lost due to inadvertent killing as a result of human wildlife conflicts. Poaching of Himalayan black bear and musk deer are not as rampant as in the 1980-90s where poachers, middle men and buyers including repeated offenders were apprehended. But then, losses from human wildlife conflicts were also not as high as it is today. Both species still top the list in terms of numbers lost since 2010. The addition of new species such as Tokay gecko and Pangolin is also worrying especially due to the "massive trade especially in Northeast India where millions of rupees are being offered for a Tokay Gecko.

Bhutan has also introduced Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) with the help of WWF in the year 2013 and was subsequently piloted in Royal Manas National Park in 2014. The nation-wide role out of the program was carried out in 2017 following required capacity building training to the field staff. The tool has been proving very efficient in collecting, analyzing and storing data related to enforcement activities in the country and played a vital role in planning of enforcement related programs of the Department. SMART is found to be very effective in measuring patrol effectiveness, improving patrol quality management at field office level, promoting accountability and good governance at national level and, standardized reporting of indicators on poaching and other threats. SMART Core Group was created in order to ensure smooth implementation of SMART in the field and also to ensure that timely technical backstopping is provided to all the field staff. The Core Group consists of 6 field Chiefs, 7 field staff and 1 SMART Focal of the Department.

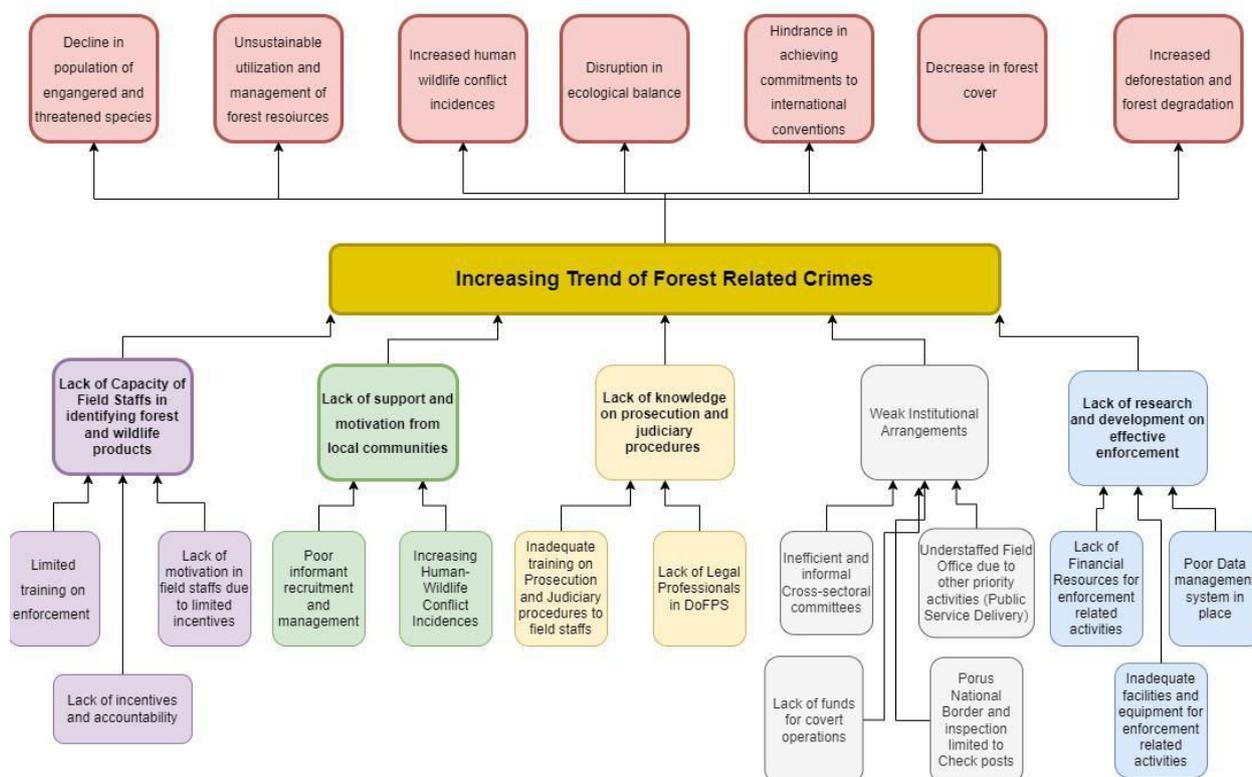
In order to strengthen the cross-sectoral involvement in enforcement related activities in the country, the Department has proposed the formation of a Zero Poaching Task Force named as National Wildlife Crime Control Committee. The Committee is composed of members from the Department of Forests and Park Services, Royal Bhutan Police, Department of Revenue and Customs, Royal Bhutan Army and Judiciary. However, this committee has not been formalized and institutionalized yet and largely remains non-functional. Therefore, there is a need to formalize and institutionalize the committee in order to effectively detect, prosecute and enforce forest crime related programs of the Department.

## **4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management**

#### **a) Current challenges and issues**

The challenges and issues related to forest crimes and its impacts on the sustainable forest management in Bhutan is being illustrated in the form of a problem tree. The core problem in the country related to forest crimes is the increasing trend of forest related crimes being reported which could impact the fulfillment of the constitutional mandate of maintaining 60% of the total area of the country under forest cover for all times to come. Moreover, if relevant interventions are not being put in place, these trends may lead to unsustainable management and utilization of forest resources, increased human-wildlife conflict incidences, disruption in ecological balance (due to wildlife poaching) and may prove a significant hurdle in achieving the commitments to international conventions Bhutan is a part of. The pronounced consequences of increasing forest related offense and crimes may be the decrease of overall forest cover of the country and rapid deforestation and degradation. The underlying and main causes of the problem is represented in the problem tree below:

### Problem Tree



## 5. Exploration of Project Subjects in Bhutan

Sl. No.	Project Title	Duration	Details
1	Strengthening institutional mechanisms to ensure better SMART application on the national anti-poaching programs.	2019-2022	This project is currently under implementation and primarily focuses on capacity development on wildlife crime, technology integration, procurement of technologies/equipment and strengthening of databases through integration of SMART with FRIMS.
2	Living Landscapes: Securing High Conservation Values in South-Western Bhutan: International Climate Initiative	2020-2028	The main purpose of the project is to secure biodiversity and ecosystem services outside the protected area system through identification of High Conservation Values (HCVs) in the program landscape and promote their integration in official land use plans. The project has a component on strengthening forest related enforcement activities of the Department, especially focused on the SMART implementation in the country and associated capacity building programs.

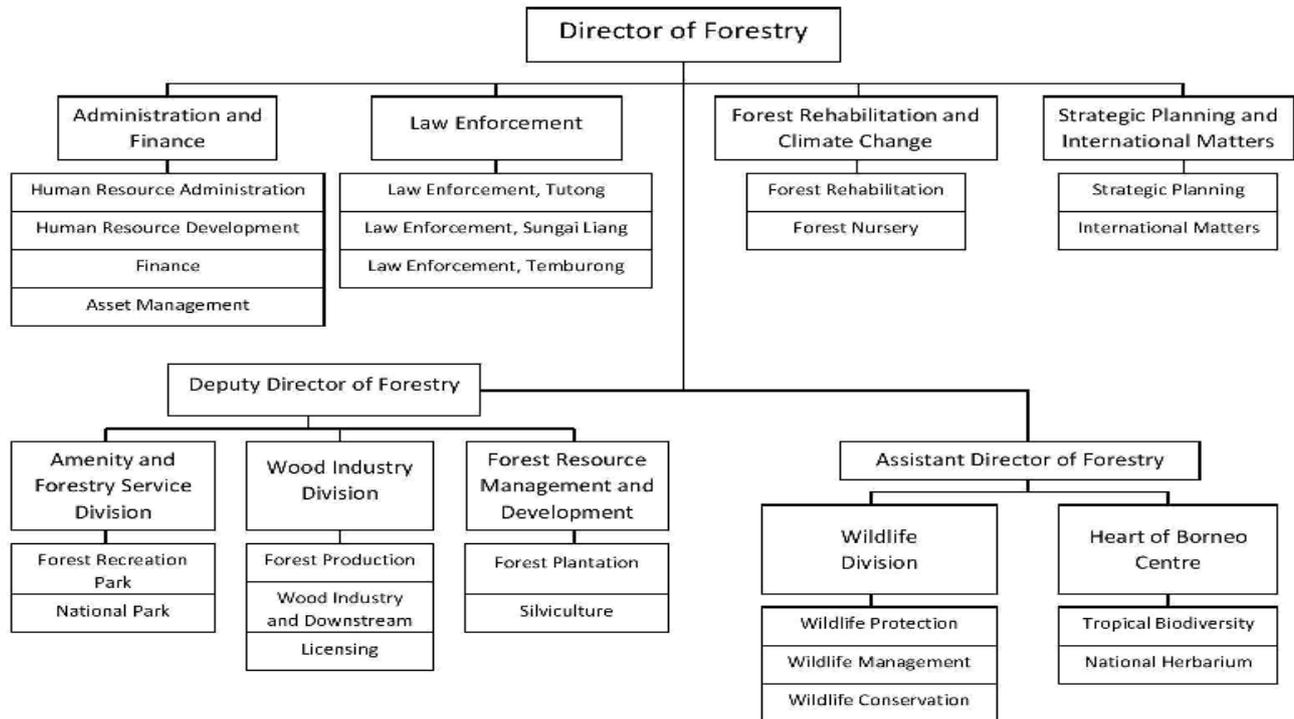
## 6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Bhutan

Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sound and supportive policies and laws</li> <li>• Adequate staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highly restrictive nature of laws.</li> <li>• Limited access due to tough terrain</li> <li>• Porous international border</li> <li>• Limited use of technologies</li> <li>• Lack of coordination</li> </ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing use of technology</li> <li>• Strengthening digitization and digitalization</li> <li>• Multi-stakeholder engagement</li> <li>• Strengthening monitoring and transnational cooperation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of funds</li> <li>• Lack of capacity</li> <li>• Lack of stakeholder support</li> </ul>

### 3.4.2. BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

#### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Brunei Darussalam

FORESTRY DEPARTMENT ORGANISATION CHART



\*Highlighted is the Focal Divisions for tackling forest crime.

#### 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in Brunei Darussalam

Title	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Security Committee</li> <li>Law Enforcement Committee</li> <li>National Coordination Patrol Committee</li> <li>Protap Salimbada Committee</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime Minister Office</li> <li>Royal Brunei Armed Forces</li> <li>Royal Brunei Police Forces</li> </ul>
Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASEAN Working Groups on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (AWG-CITES &amp; WE)</li> <li>Working Group on Illicit Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber (SOMTC WG on ITWT)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forestry Department</li> <li>Prime Minister Office</li> </ul>
International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)</li> <li>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</li> </ul>	1990  2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forestry Department</li> </ul>

### 3. Current Status and Issues in Brunei Darussalam

#### a) Background and current status

Brunei Darussalam is a small Islamic sultanate situated on the north-west coast of the island of Borneo and facing the South China Sea. Geographically, it is located between longitudes 114° 23' and 115° 23' East and latitudes 4° 00' and 5° 05' North. It lies 443 kilometers north of the equator and has a total land area of 576,532 hectares covering an anomalous shape of two enclaves – each enclave surrounded on the land by Sarawak, Malaysia. The country has a coastline of 130 kilometers. The country occupies merely one percent of the whole island of Borneo, however, its forests are noted among the richest in the world and represent Brunei's greatest living natural resource.

The country is divided into four administrative districts, namely: Belait, Brunei-Muara, Temburong, and Tutong. The capital and the center of development is Bandar Seri Begawan located in the Brunei-Muara District.

The formalization of the forestry sector with the passage of the 1934 Forest Act, paved the way for the proclamation of selected forest areas as Forest Reserves. These areas represent national importance in terms of biological composition, unique landscape, forest production areas, forest recreation areas, and other significant considerations. It was during the 1950s when most of the forest reserves were proclaimed and as of 1995, a total of 235,520 hectares or 41% of the country's total land area were delineated and forms part of the national forest reserves.

At present, additional areas for forest conservation purposes are identified for gazette under the Brunei Heart of Borneo Initiative raising the total forest reserves of the country to 58% as provided for by the HoB Project Implementation Framework.

Brunei Darussalam has gained international prestige for having a world class tropical rain forest of which the majority are still in pristine conditions and protected by legislation. In fact, the 2005 Global Forest Resource Assessment of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation considered Brunei Darussalam among the top nations with high forest cover percentage. The beauty and timelessness of the Sultanate's tropical rain forests are indescribable. Although a lot has been written and published, the awe-inspiring experience of standing in the heart of the country's forests remains as enchanting as ever.

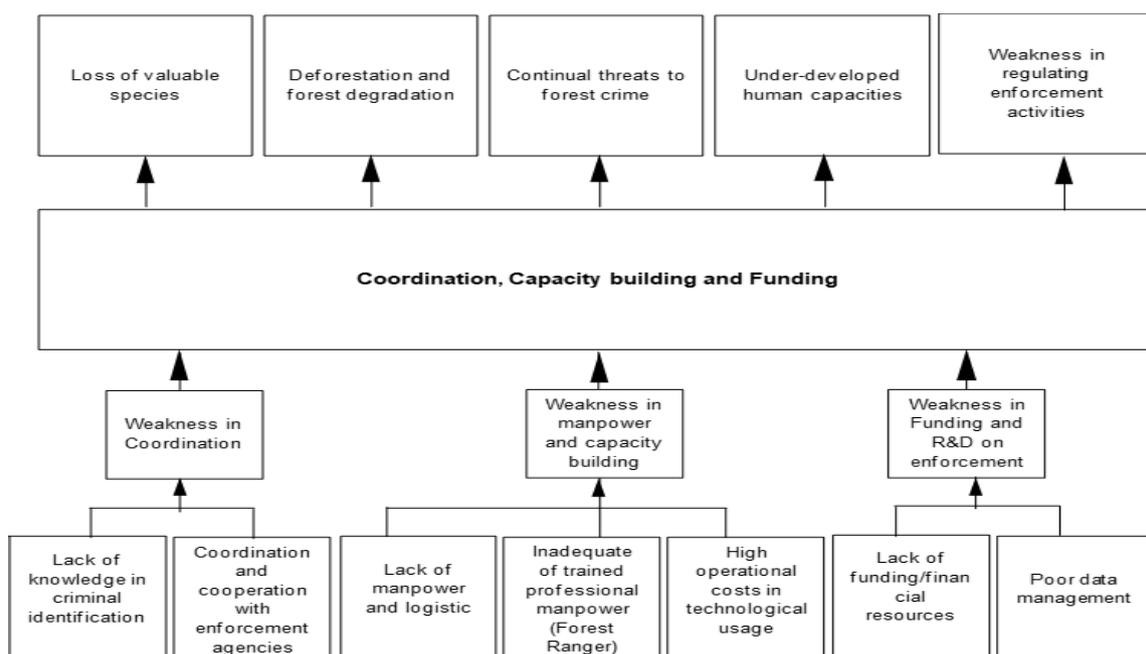
Brunei forests, just like any other tropical rain forests, have evolved over millions of years to turn into the incredibly complex environments they are today. These forests represent a collection of living and breathing renewable natural resources that for ages, have contributed a wealth of resources for the development and well-being of the country's populace.

#### b) Experiences in tackling forest crime

- Illegal logging across the border
- Aquillaria (Gaharu) Poaching

### 4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management

#### a) Current challenges and issues



## 5. Exploration of Project Subjects in Brunei Darussalam

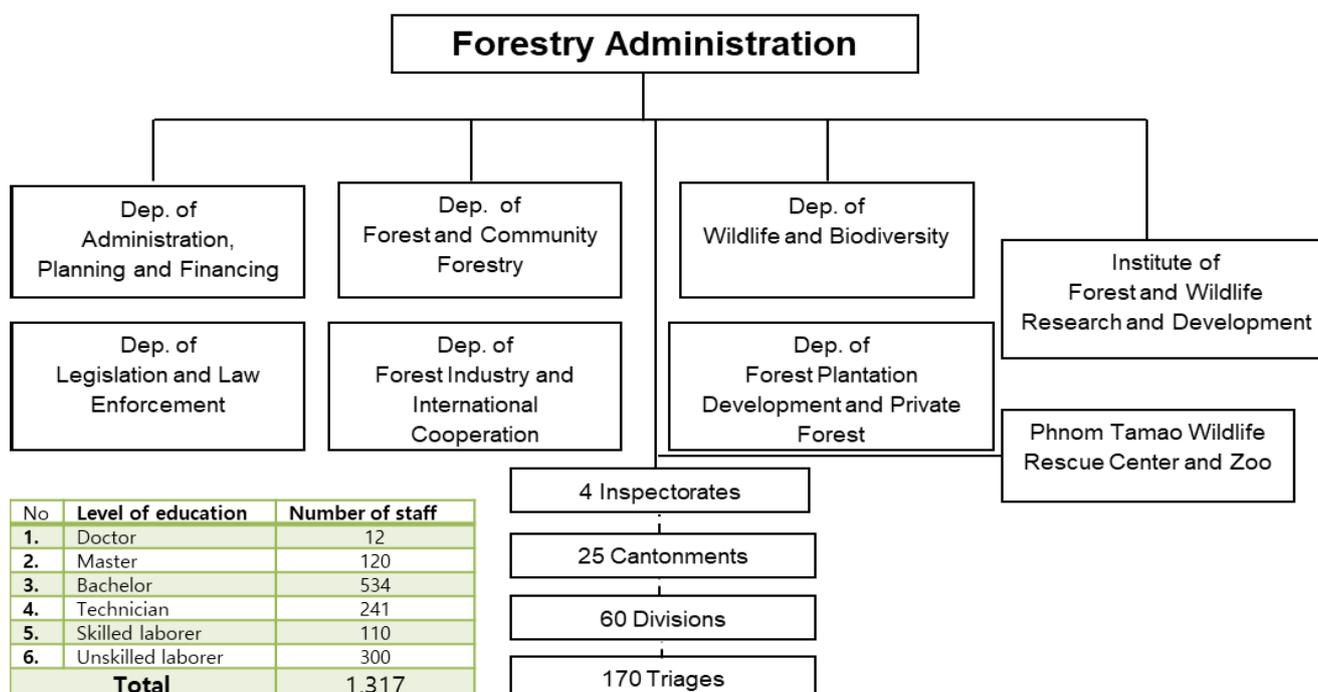
Sl. No.	Project Title	Duration	Details
1	Exploring new technology on enforcement	2022 - 2023	- To explore new technology on enforcement example using UAV, drone - To identify the best practices
2	To develop on gaharu grade	2022 - 2023	- This project aims to develop Brunei gaharu grade
3	Training on forest criminal investigation and forensic	2022 - 2023	- To enhance capacity building of forest rangers in the country to ensure that any forest crime can be tackled more efficiently.

## 6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Brunei Darussalam

Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports NDC</li> <li>• Supports our National Forest Policy on SFM</li> <li>• Supports our Brunei National Climate Change Policy (maintain 72% forest cover)</li> <li>• Multilevel stakeholders involvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential for delays in establishing new policy is high due to too much "red tape" interconnecting (intra/inter Ministerial processes)</li> <li>• Focused funding (Highly reliant on funding from government)</li> <li>• Limited technical and institutional capacity between Ministries and technology use</li> </ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce climate change impacts</li> <li>• Improved livelihood and well-being of people</li> <li>• Biodiversity conservation</li> <li>• Increased technical expertise and improved human capacities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uncontrolled illegal logging and exploitation of forest resources including NTFPs</li> <li>• Increasing population</li> <li>• Economic development pressure</li> </ul>

### 3.4.3. CAMBODIA

#### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Cambodia



#### 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in Cambodia

Title	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
National	Related national Policy (Legal Framework, strategy, action plan..)	2010-2029	Forestry Administration
Regional	ASEAN-WEN (The 1st ASEAN-WEN Meeting in Thailand) ASEAN Working Groups on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (The 13rd AWG CITES & WE Meeting in Indonesia)	2005 2017	Dep. of Legislation and Law Enforcement Dep. of Wildlife and Biodiversity
International	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	1997	Ministry of Agriculture Forestry & Fisheries Forestry Administration Fisheries Administration

### 3. Current Status and Issues in Cambodia

#### a) Background and current status

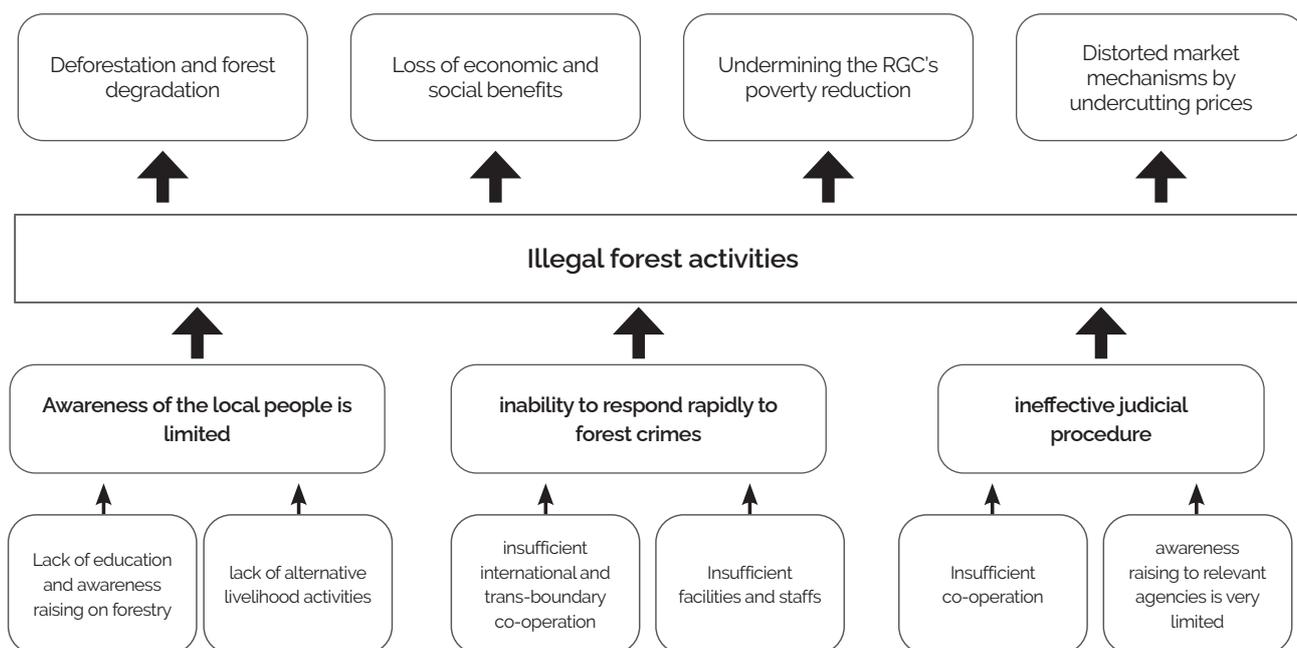
- **The Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia:** Article 59 of the Royal Government of Cambodia states that the state shall protect the environment, and the balance of natural resources and establish a precise plan for the management of forests, forestry products, wildlife, fish and aquatic resources.
- **Forest Policy Statement 2002:** to achieve targets of the National Forest Program the Royal Government of Cambodia has to achieve four main tasks. One of the four tasks is the conservation of forest resources to promote protection and conservation strategies such protection forest, watershed management, conservation of genetic resources and wildlife.
- **Rectangular Strategy Phase IV 2018-2023:** Enhance conservation of forests and wildlife, prevention of forest clearance for ownership and combat forest offenses and wildlife trafficking.
- **National Forest Program 2010-2029:** define strategic goal and strategic implementing programs for 20 years and set out six key programs. Forest resources and biodiversity conservation and development program is one of the programs with inclusion of conservation of biodiversity and wildlife resources.
- **National Strategic Development Plan 2018-2023:** Enhance research and development of wildlife and biodiversity, monitor wildlife farming and promote the registration of wildlife farming.
- **Criminal Law (2007):** This Code of Criminal Procedure aims at defining the rules to be strictly followed and applied in order to clearly determine the existence of a criminal offense. The provisions of this Code shall apply to criminal cases unless there are special rules set forth by separate laws (Article 1).
- **Forestry Law (2002):**  
 Defines the framework for management, harvesting, use, development and conservation of the forests to ensure SFM for social, economic and environmental benefits, including conservation of biological diversity and cultural heritage (Article 1).  
 The operation of Forestry Administration officials qualified as judicial police officials shall be implemented consistent with Law on Criminal Procedures (Article 76).  
 All levels of local authorities, armed forces, custom and excise agents, all airport and port authorities, and other concerned authorities shall facilitate and assist in the investigation, prevention and suppression of forest offenses and temporarily safeguard any seized evidence, upon request of competent Forest Administration officials. If any relevant authority has seen a forest offense, he/she:  
 Shall immediately inform the nearest office or official of Forest Administration;  
 May temporarily detain the offender and evidence until delivery of the case to the Forest Administration officials qualified as judicial police to proceed with legal action; and Shall have no authority to directly collect fines or confiscate evidence (Article 78).

#### b) Experiences in tackling forest crime

- Numbers of cases in 2021: Total 811 cases (Forest crime 634 cases, Wildlife crime 31 cases, Land encroachments 146 cases and 320 cases for transaction fines and 491 cases for courts)
- Wood seized: 1,260M3
- Wildlife seized: Live 1,016 heats, Dead 3,025 heats and Meats 85,60 kg.

### 4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management

#### a) Current challenges and issues



## 5. Exploration of Project Subjects in Cambodia

Dep. of Legislation and Law Enforcement/Forestry Administration no project implementation related to Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management

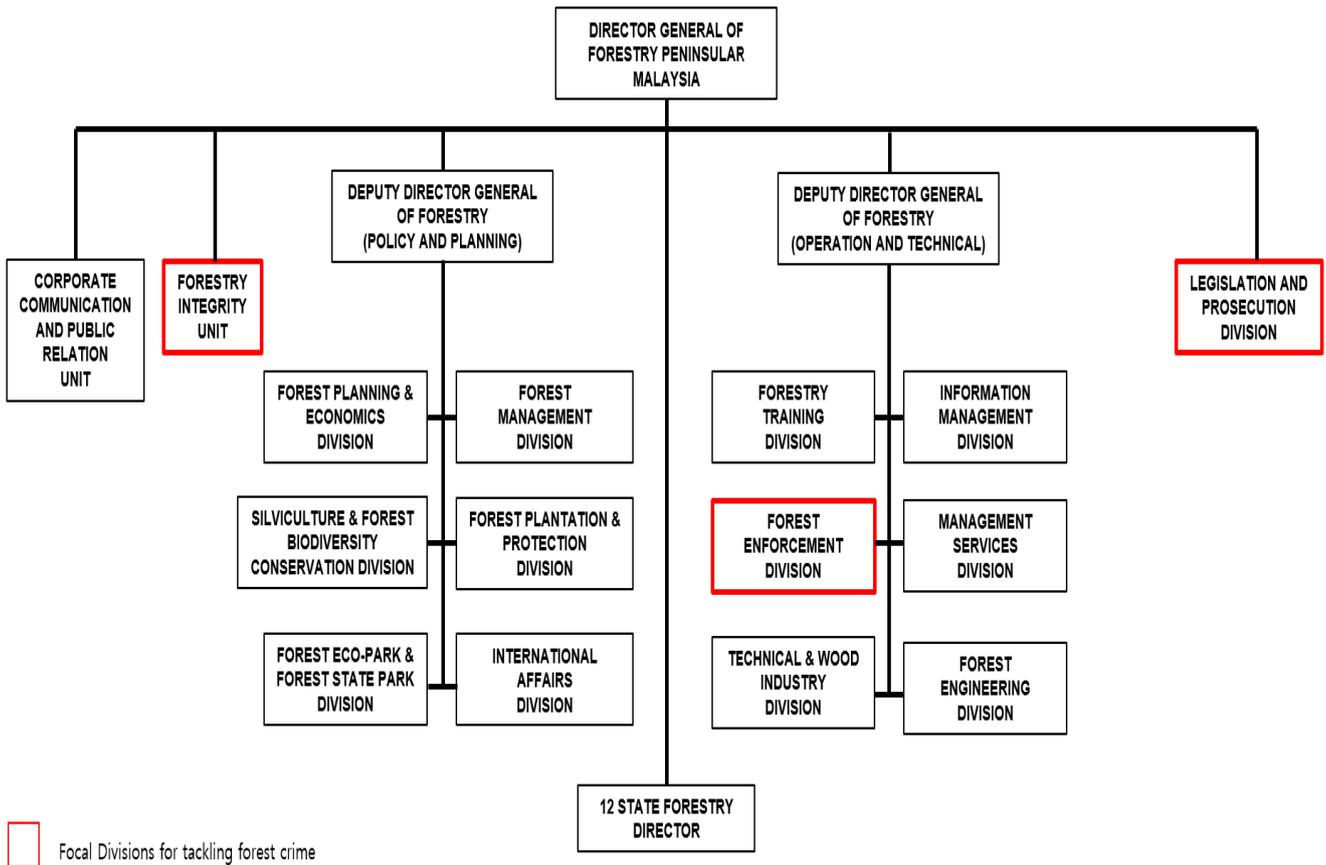
## 6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Cambodia

Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have law and regulations</li> <li>• Experience in team work and coordination</li> <li>• Experience with local community development</li> <li>• Good knowledge on forest and wildlife</li> <li>• Good network with forest crime prevention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of human resource in prevention forest crime</li> <li>• Lack of cooperation/participation from local authorities, and other government agencies</li> <li>• Lack of capacity or motivation in neighboring countries to strengthen trans-border cooperation</li> </ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supportive government policies on NFP</li> <li>• A large number of the population needs forest resources (NTFP) Majority of the population live in rural areas, whose livelihoods depend on subsistence natural resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced interest/motivation of relevant stakeholders</li> <li>• No adoption of the methods after project completion</li> </ul>

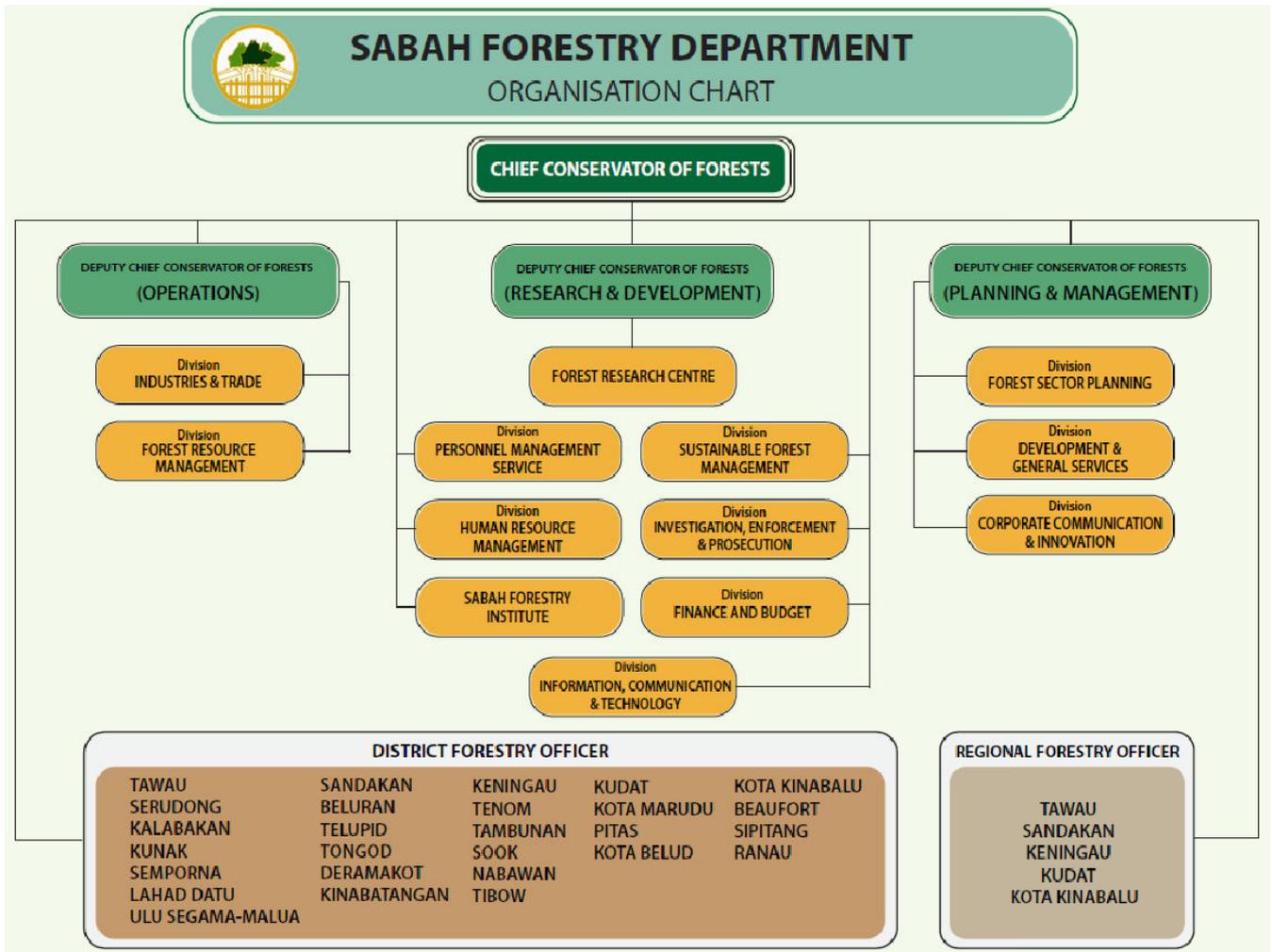
### 3.4.4. MALAYSIA

#### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Malaysia

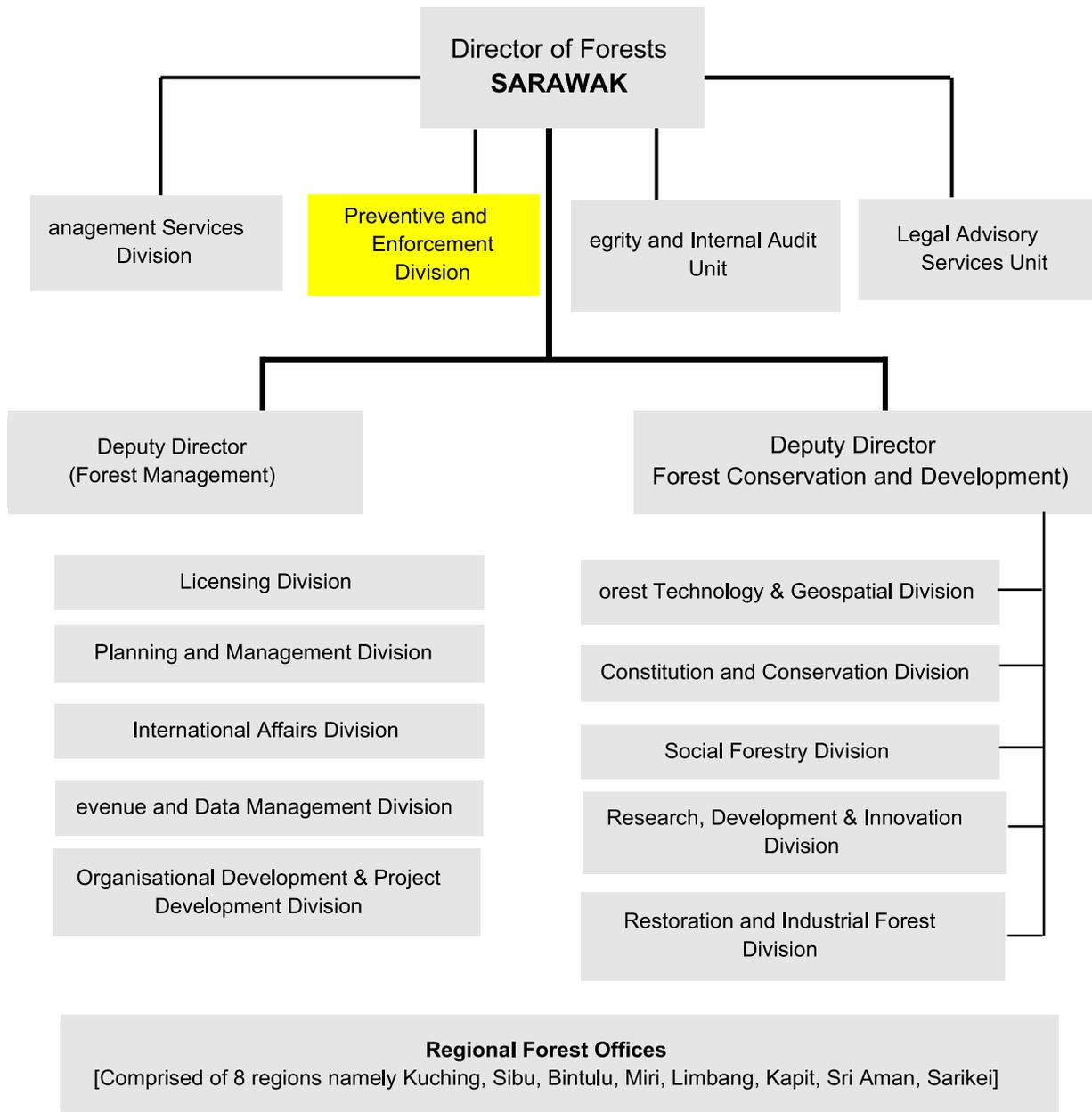
##### Peninsular Malaysia



Sabah



Sarawak



## 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in Malaysia

Title	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
<b>National</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving Connectivity in the Central Forest Spine (SMART Patrol)</li> </ul>	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM) and Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) Peninsular Malaysia</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operasi Bersepadu Khazanah (Integrated Treasury Operations)</li> </ul>	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Royal Malaysian Police (RMP), Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) Peninsular Malaysia and Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Task Force</li> </ul>	2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Royal Malaysian Armed Forces (RMAF), Royal Malaysian Police (RMP), Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM) and other government agencies</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Honorary Forest Rangers</li> </ul>	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sabah Forestry Department,</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canine (Kg unit)</li> </ul>	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sabah Forestry Department</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PROTECT TEAM (50 SFD Officers &amp; ranger have been undertook intensive paramilitary training and were exposed to difficult workplace environment)</li> </ul>	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest Forestry Department</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Khazanah Operation (OBK) (Preventing the exploitation of flora and fauna)</li> </ul>	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sabah Forest Department, Sabah Wildlife Department, Sabah Parks, Immigration Department</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Task Force on Illegal Logging chaired by Deputy Premier of Sarawak</li> <li>Sarawak Forest Policy</li> </ul>	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest Department Sarawak</li> </ul>
<b>Regional</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC)</li> <li>Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)</li> <li>Expert Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGLAT)</li> </ul>	1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Security Council, Immigration Department, Forest Department, Police, Marine Department, Port &amp; Harbour Department, etc</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SOSEK MALINDO (Sosial Ekonomi Malaysia Indonesia. Main objective is to improve the welfare of people who live in border areas. Prevention illegal goods trade through the borders)</li> <li>BIMP-EAGA (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area). Boosts growth in trade through intra-region shipping routes &amp; air links. Cooperation on tourism, environment,..)</li> </ul>	1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest Department, Royal Malaysian Customs Department, Police</li> </ul>
<b>International</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora</li> <li>Convention on Biological Diversity</li> <li>INTERPOL</li> <li>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 1992</li> </ul>		

### 3. Current Status and Issues in Malaysia

#### a) Background and current status

Malaysia is a country located in Southeast Asia. It is a country that covers an area of 330,803 km<sup>2</sup> with forests cover forming approximately 62.3% from the total land mass in the country. Under Article 74(2) of the Malaysian Constitution, forestry comes under the jurisdiction of the respective state government. As such, each state is empowered to enact laws on forestry and to formulate forest policy independently.

Forestry in Peninsular Malaysia is divided into two (2) levels namely Federal and State. However both the Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM) and State Forestry Departments are responsible for forest management of the state.

Forestry in Peninsular Malaysia regulated by the National Forestry Act 1984 (Amendment 1993) and National Forestry Policy 1978 (Revised 1992) and subsequently, Forestry Policy of Peninsular Malaysia (FPPM).

While in Sabah, the agency responsible is Sabah Forestry Department (SFD). SFD to regulate the forestry sector under Forest Enactment 1968, Forest Rules 1969, Forest Timber Enactment 2015.

In Sarawak, the forest and forestry matters is managed by Sarawak Forests Department (FD Sarawak) to regulate Sarawak Forest Policy 2019, Sarawak Forest Ordinance 2015



#### b) Related national Policy

##### i) National Policy

###### Malaysian Forestry Policy 2020

- Malaysia recognizes forest as a strategic national heritage and is committed to securing sufficient forest areas for their ecosystem services, biodiversity conservation, environmental protection and sustainable utilization of resources towards the socioeconomic development of well-being of present and future generations.

###### Sabah Forest Policy 2018

- Sabah is committed to ensure that at least 50% of Sabah's land mass is designated and protected for sustainable forest use and tree cover for environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, and socio-economic well-being.

###### Sarawak Forest Policy 2019

- Outlines 12 thrusts, together with its strategies and action plan. In management of the forest resources, the state has enforced the Sarawak Forest Ordinance 2015 to ensure that the forest is well managed and regulated.

##### ii) Relevant Forestry Laws

###### Peninsular Malaysia

- National Forestry Act 1984 (Amendment 1993)

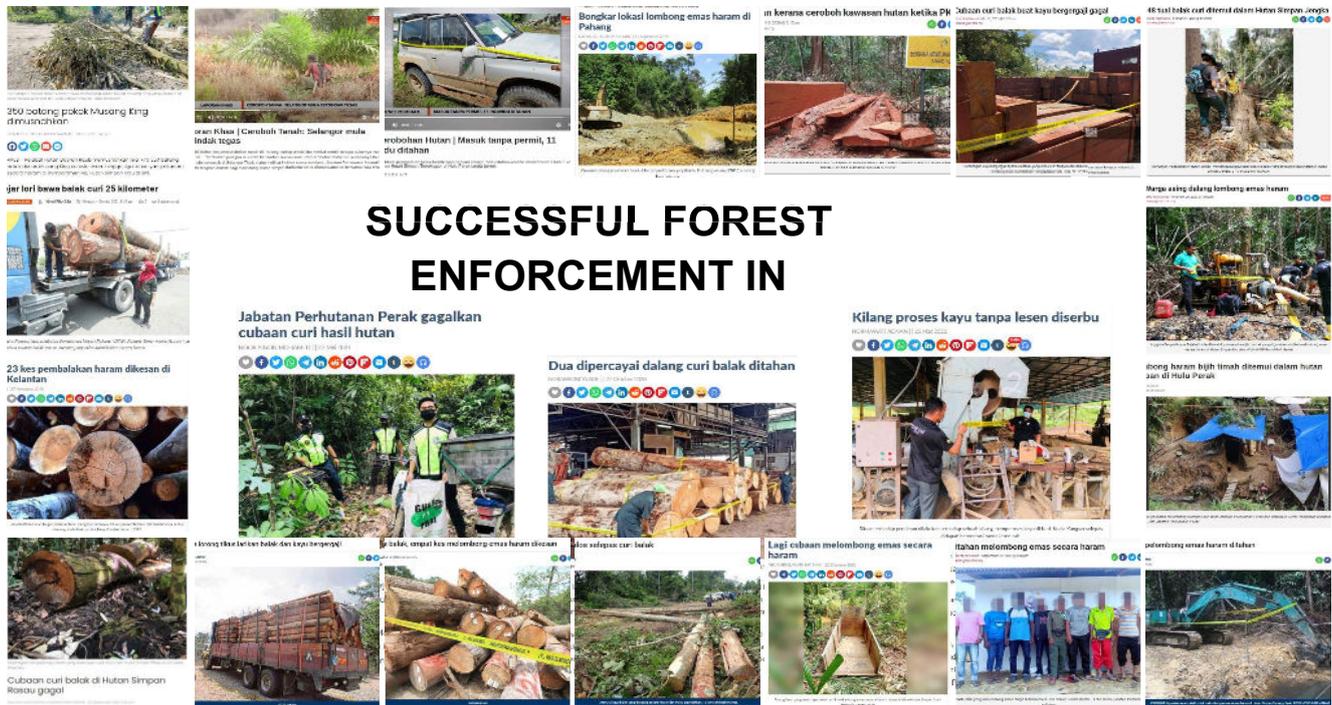
###### Sabah

- Forest Enactment 1968,
- Forest Rules 1969,
- Forest Timber Enactment 2015

###### Sarawak

- Sarawak Forests Ordinance, 2015 (Cap. 71)

Experiences in tackling forest crime

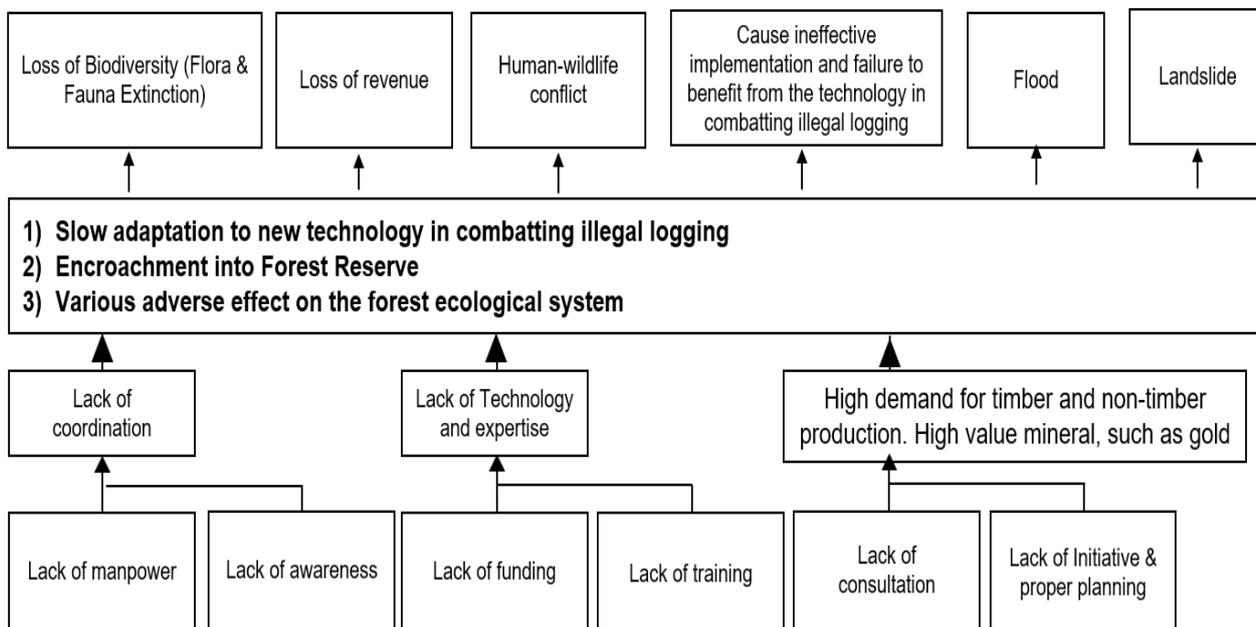


**SFD PROTECT TEAM**

- ❑ A fully-equipped, tactical trained enforcement team at Sabah.
- ❑ Well establishing in (3) regional bases under respective base commanders.
- ❑ The inclusion of (2) capable female rangers is a step forward in team diversity & employment gender equality.



#### 4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management



#### 5. Exploration of Project Subjects

a) List current/previous project implementations related to the topic (in the last ~5 years)

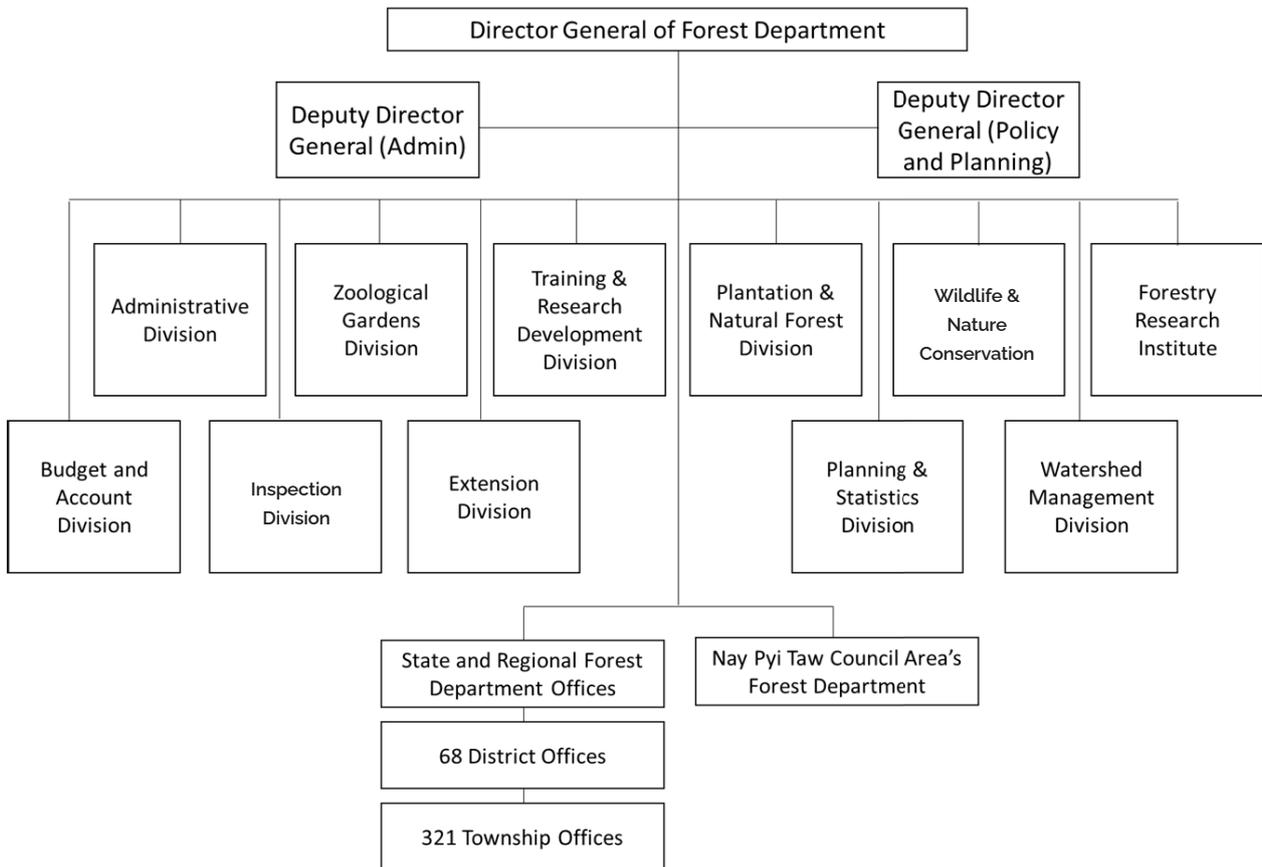
Sl. No.	Project Title	Duration	Details
1	Tactical empowerment of enforcement FDPM	2018 - 2021	
2	Strengthening FDPM Enforcement Intelligence	2018 - 2021	
3	Establishment Of Forest Resource Monitoring Center (War Room)	2018 - 2021	
4	Danum Valley – Maliau Basin – Imbak Canyon (DaMal): Patrolling (Enforcement and Monitoring) Initiative	2017 - 2021	An initiative between Sabah Environmental Trust, Sabah forestry Department & Yayasan Sabah to establish a patrolling team to strengthen the protection area of Danum Valley, Maliau Basin and Imbak Canyon (DaMal)
5	Project on Combating Wildlife Poaching and Trafficking in Sabah	2019 - 2022	To support Protect Team to combat wildlife poaching and trafficking in Sabah by Sabah Forestry Department and Danau Girang Field Center
6	Monitoring Poaching and Encroachment threats Project	2020 - 2023	To conduct patrol, collect intelligence on poaching activity

## 6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Malaysia

Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High political 'support' in sustainable forest management and resource protection</li> <li>• Access to technology (e.g: Satellite image (Planet.com), COMOS - Intelligence by air)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of funding</li> <li>• Red tape in expenditure (Treasury Instruction)</li> <li>• Insufficient of manpower</li> <li>• Lack of coordination amongst enforcement agencies</li> <li>• Lack of public awareness</li> </ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interagency cooperation to share manpower, technology and logistics.</li> <li>• Data and information sharing</li> <li>• Government commitment to forest certification scheme &amp; Timber legality</li> <li>• Industries support towards certified &amp; legal wood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negative public perception</li> <li>• Corruption</li> <li>• Market driven / demand on cheaper forest resources</li> </ul>

### 3.4.5. MYANMAR

#### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Myanmar



## 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in in Myanmar

Title	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
National	Myanmar Forest Law	2018	Forest Department
	Myanmar Forest Rule (Draft)	2019	Forest Department
	Conservation of Biodiversity and Protected Areas Law	2018	Forest Department
	30 years National Forest Master Plan	2002-2031	Forest Department
	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan-NBSAP	2015-2020	Forest Department
	Myanmar Elephant Conservation Action Plan	2018-2027	FD-WCS
	FLEGT Multi-Stakeholder Group	2018	Forest Department
	Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System Documents	2020	Forest Department
	Community Monitoring and Reporting System (CMRS)	2017	Public-FD
Regional	ASEAN Working Groups on Forest Products		FD
	ASEAN Working Groups on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement		
	ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN)		
	Working Group on Illicit Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber (SOMTC WG on ITWT)		
International	Implementing EU FLEGT VPA Process	2014	FD
	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	1997	FD
	Convention on Biological Diversity		Dep of Fisheries

## 3. Current Status and Issues in Myanmar

### a) Background and current status in Myanmar

Myanmar, located in main-land Southeast Asia, has a total land area of 676,557 km<sup>2</sup>. There are about 56 million people in Myanmar and 70% of the total population are living in rural areas of the country. More than 12 million people, or 24% of the total population, are living in the mountainous areas. Agricultural and forestry industries are the main organs of the Myanmar economy of the country. Therefore, they are depending on forests for their food, shelter, cloth, fuelwood and other basic needs. In Myanmar, forest cover is 70,540,925 Ac (42.19%) of the country according to FRA 2020. 826 of reserved forest, 454 of protected public forest, and 57 of protected areas have been established. Permanent forest estates including reserved forest and protected public forest area is 43,139,232 Ac (25.8%) of the country and protected area is 10,750,624.67 Ac (6.43%) of the country. In Myanmar, most of the forest crimes are illicit timber extraction, illicit timber logging, illicit non-timber forest product extraction and export. There are two types of taking action with Forest Law (2018) on forest crimes. These are taking action in an administrative way (according to the article 33,34,35 of section 10 of Forest Law (2018) and taking action with prosecution (according to the article 39,40,41,42,43,44 of section 12 of Forest Law (2018)). During the fiscal year of 2020-2021, there are 4246 crimes taking action administratively and 935 crimes taking action with prosecution.

### b) Related national policy (Legal Framework, strategy, action plan...)

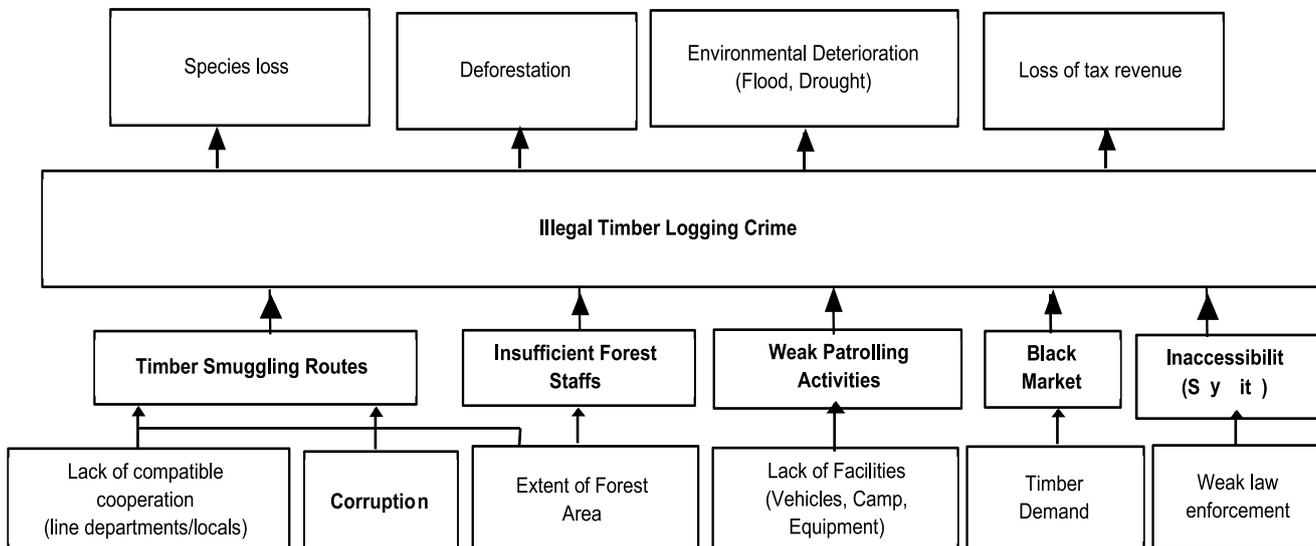
Some of legal framework, strategy and action plan are mentioned in national level initiatives and other related policies are -  
 Myanmar Forest Policy (1995)  
 Myanmar Forest Rule (1995).

### c) Experiences on tackling forest crime

On 12-5-2022, officials from **Forest Department** and **Police Force** seized **199 pieces (4,2044 ton)** of **Ironwood lumber** (Pyinkado- *Xylia xylocarpus*) and **(447) pieces (4,9964 ton)** of **other softwoods** carried on 12 wheels truck with three offenders on Yangon-Pyay Highway Road, Tikekyi Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar. In this case, the offenders are charged with article (41) of the Forest Law (2018) for carrying illegal other softwoods and article (42) of the Forest Law (2018) for carrying illegal forbidden hardwood. Those illegal ironwood and other softwoods are confiscated and 12-wheel trucks will be taking action according to rules and regulations of the Road Transport Administration Department.

#### 4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management

a) Current challenges and issues



#### 5. Exploration of Project Subjects

a) List current/previous project implementations related to the topic (in the last ~5 years)

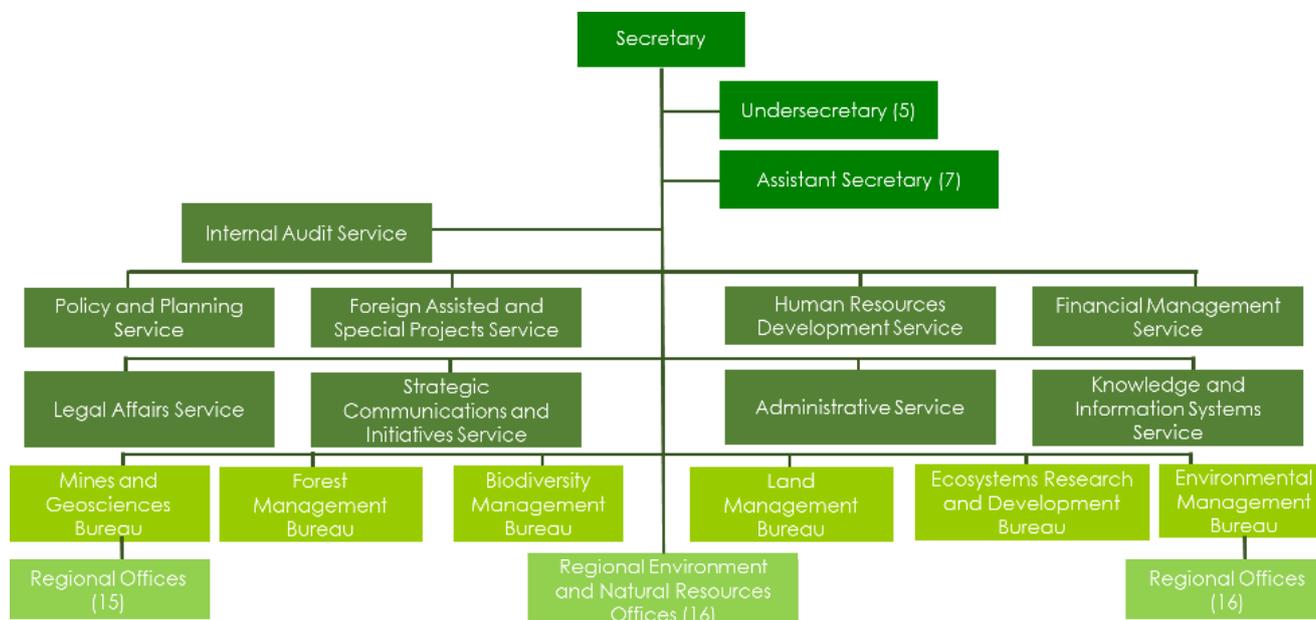
Sl. No.	Project Title	Duration	Details
1	FAO-Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade	2017-2020	To support in the implementation of the Myanmar-EU VPA, contributing to improve forest sector governance and timber legality on timber product markets
2	Promoting understanding of the Chain of Custody to support national dialogue on legality definition in preparation of the FLEGT VPA	2018-2019	To support on the national dialogue on legality definition in preparation of the FLEGT VPA Donor- FAO-EU
3	Strengthening FLEGT Secretariat Support to FLEGT VPA	2018-2019	To support to FLEGT VPA process
4	Supporting National Dialogue for the preparation of the FLEGT VPA	2018-2019	To support national Dialogue for the preparation of the FLEGT VPA
5	Re-establishing Natural Habitat Programme RNH	2019-20 to 2028-2029	To support Patrolling activities in Protected Areas & National Parks through SMART tools in order to tackle wildlife crimes (Government Funds Only)

## 6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Myanmar

Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest Law (2018)</li> <li>• Community Monitoring and Reporting System(CMRS)</li> <li>• SMART Tool</li> <li>• Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System (2013)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weakness in Manpower/ Technology/Financing</li> <li>• Weakness in Facilities</li> </ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trust between local community and Forest staffs</li> <li>• More cooperative between FD and Line departments</li> <li>• Improve technological awareness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black Market/Cronyism</li> </ul>

### 3.4.6. PHILIPPINES

#### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Philippines



\*Highlighted are the Focal Divisions for tackling forest crime.

#### 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in Philippines

Policy Issuance:

PD 705, as amended or the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines

: Lays out the basic principles of forest management and conservation; includes prohibited acts within forestland and their corresponding penalties  
 RA 7586 as amended by RA 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act

: Provides for the guidelines in the administration of designated protected areas and includes provisions for penalties for illegal acts within Pas  
 Executive Order No 23 which declared a moratorium on cutting and harvesting of timber in the natural and residual forests and creating the anti-illegal logging task-force

: Mandated for the establishment of a National Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to be chaired by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Regional Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force  
 DAO 2018-21, Adopted the Lawin Forest and Biodiversity Protection System as a national strategy for forest and biodiversity protection

: The Lawin system is a modernized forest and biodiversity protection system that integrates forest, biodiversity and threats monitoring, implementation of interventions to address threats, and monitoring of the response of the forest ecosystem to the management interventions  
 The Philippines is also part of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT), which promotes sustainable management and conservation of tropical forests and the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests

### 3. Current Status and Issues in Philippines

#### a) Background and current status

##### i) Increasing Population in the Uplands

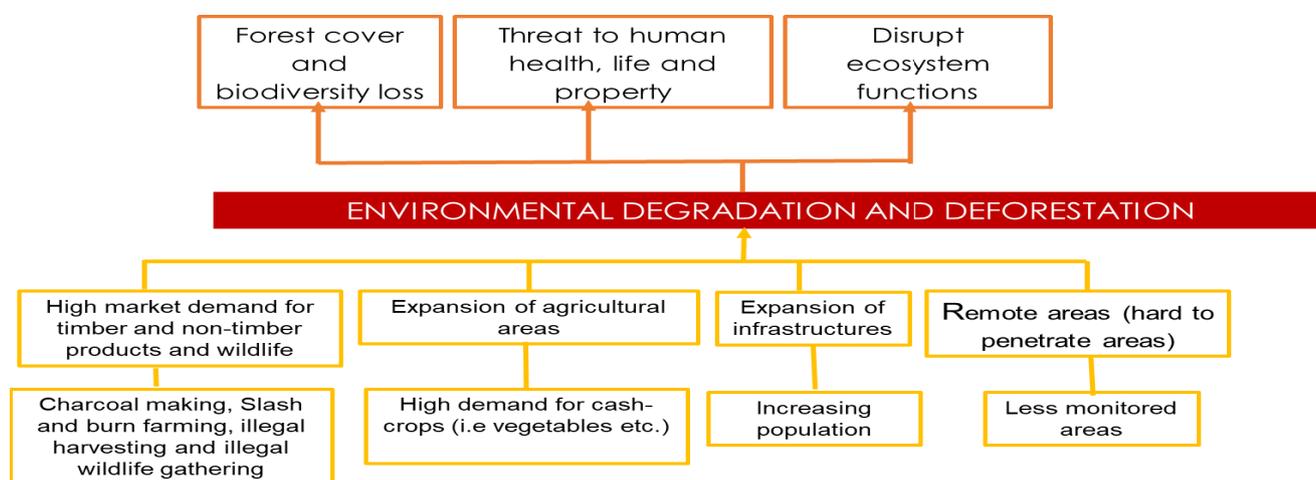
- One of the effects of the recent pandemic is the migration of people from the lowland to the upland. This migration has led to the continued increase in the population of the upland communities.
- The increase in the population has also led to an increase in the demand of forest products.
- Further, illegal activities such as charcoal making, and slash and burn farming, among others have also increased

##### ii) Lack of manpower to implement forest protection activities and forestry laws

- In the Philippines, there only about 3,000 forest rangers guarding almost 15M hectares of forestland or a ratio of about 1:5000 hectares
- Other law enforcement agencies may also be tapped to combat illegal logging, but coordination and cooperation with them needs to be improved

### 4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management

#### a) Current challenges and issues



### 5. Exploration of Project Subjects in Philippines

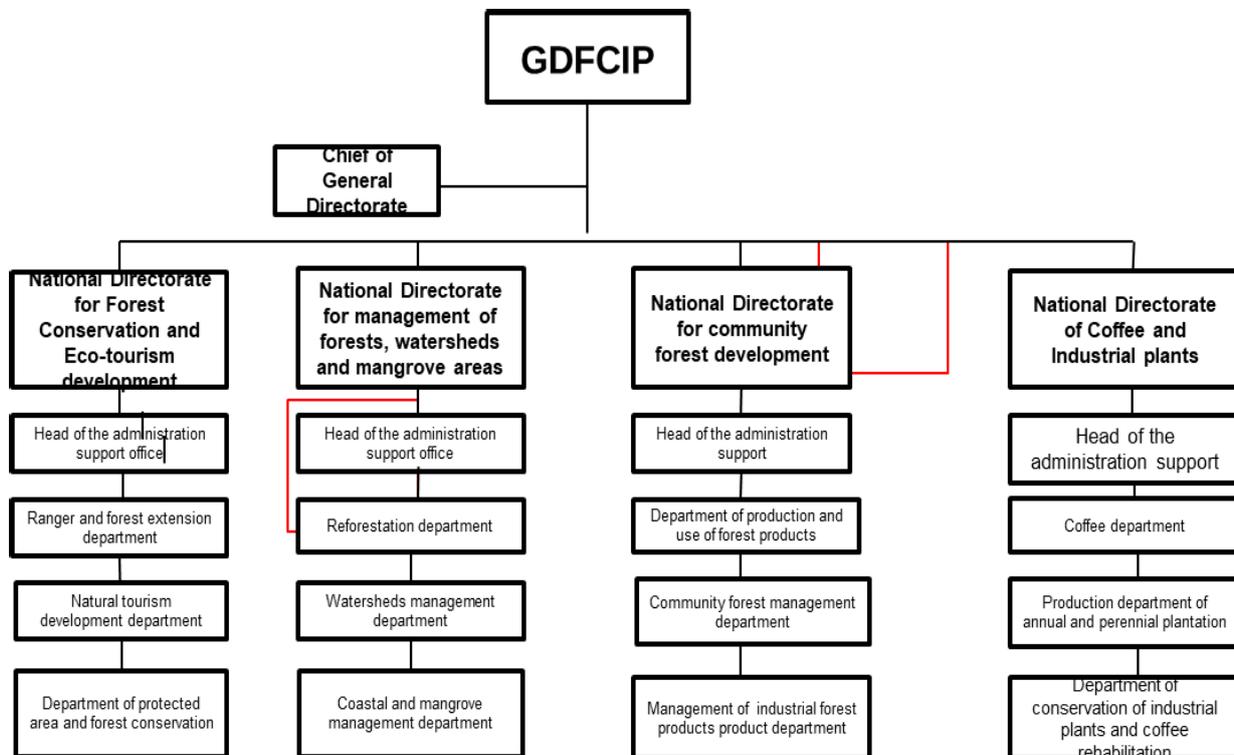
- N/A

### 6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Philippines

Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pioneering and innovative system</li> <li>• Existing timber tracking system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not mandatory</li> <li>• Lack of budget allocation</li> <li>• Additional cost for the WPP owners and Private tree plantation owners</li> <li>• Tedious and additional work for field officers and plantation owners</li> </ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible for funding under EU, AFoCO, CIFOR, ITTO etc.</li> <li>• Potential for application to international forest certification body (i.e. FSC and PEFC)</li> <li>• Capacitation and awareness of relevant stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change in political priorities</li> <li>• Sustainability of the system and maintenance</li> <li>• Upgrade of the logistical materials for the implementation of the system</li> </ul>

### 3.4.7. TIMOR-LESTE

#### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Bhutan



#### 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in Timor-Leste

Title	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
National	Timor-Leste National Forest Policy (NFP)	May 2017	DGFCIP
Regional	ASEAN Working Groups on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement Working Group on Illicit Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber (SOMTC WG on ITWT)		DGFCIP
International	Timor-Leste's Fourth National Report to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Convention on Biological Diversity etc...	October 2011	DGFCIP

### 3. Current Status and Issues in Timor-Leste

#### a) Background and current status

For most people living in rural areas, especially the poor, forests and trees are the sources of food, fuel, fodder, medicines and building materials. The sustainable management of Timor-Leste's forest resources is not just essential for the families who rely on forest products for firewood or income generation, it is important for all farmers as deforestation causes erosion and damages water catchments – and access to good soil and healthy waterways are vital for successful agricultural production.

#### b) Related national policy

Timor-Leste's Fourth National Report to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity – October 2011

Timor-Leste National Forest Policy – Established and Promulgated in May 2017

Decree Law No.14/2017 – General Regime of Timor-Leste Forestry.

DGFCIP Continue to recruit and strengthening its Forest Guards (Forest Police Members)

DGFCIP continue to work with National Police in Controlling the use of Forest Product in Timor-Leste

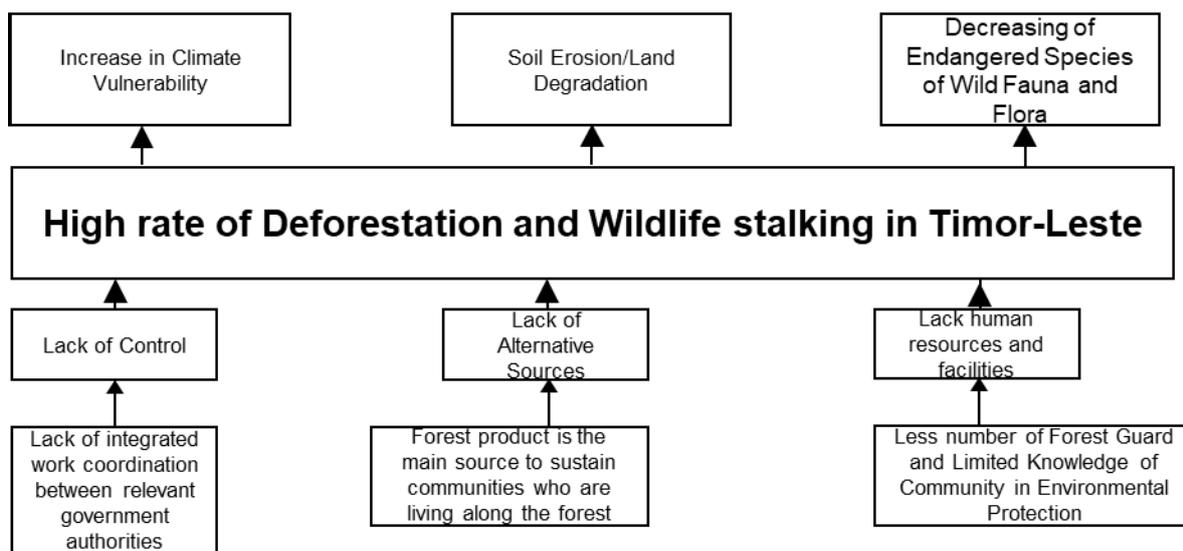
#### c) Experiences in tackling forest crime

Usually if the communities doing the illegal business such as export the woods without licensing process from the government it's categorized as a crime and will proceed based on the law that exists.

In dealing with forest crime in Timor-Leste, now we are in the process of recruiting 180 guard forest to control the forest.

### 4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management

#### a) Current challenges and issues



### 5. Exploration of Project Subjects in Timor-Leste

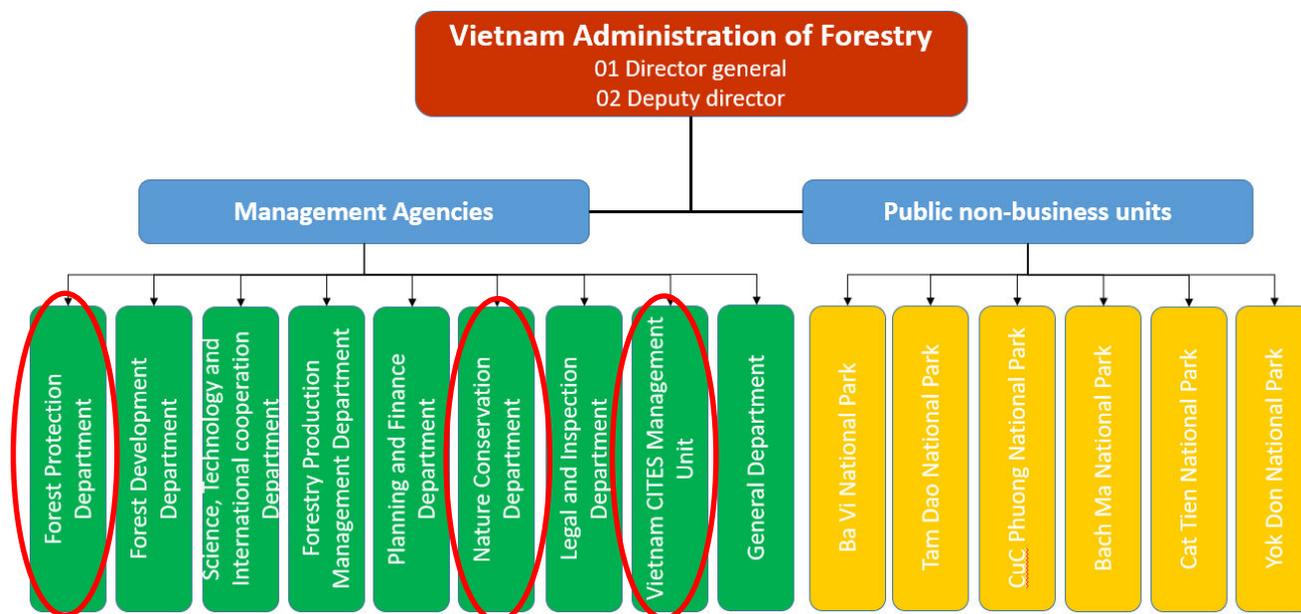
- N/A

### 6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Timor-Leste

Strength	Weakness
• N/A	• N/A
Opportunity	Threat
• N/A	• N/A

### 3.4.8. VIET NAM

#### 1. Organization Structure of Focal Department responsible for forest crime reduction and sustainable forest management in Viet Nam



\*Highlighted are the Focal Divisions for tackling forest crime.

#### 2. Overview of National, Regional and International Initiatives related to forest crime in Viet Nam

Level	Name of the Initiatives	Year (start/ became party)	Focals
National	1. Law of Forestry	2017	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)
	1. Law of Biodiversity	2018	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
	1. Decree No. 160/2013/ND-CP dated November 20, 2013 of the Government on criteria for species identification and the management regime of species on the list of endangered precious and rare species prioritized for protection.	2013	MONRE
	2. Decree No. 155/2016/ND-CP dated November 18, 2016 of the Government providing for penalties for administrative violations in the field of environmental protection.	2016	MONRE
	1. Decree No. 35/2019/ND-CP dated April 25, 2019 of the Government providing for penalties for administrative violations in the forestry sector.	2019	MARD
	2. Decree No. 01/2019/ND-CP dated January 1, 2019 of the Government on Forest Rangers and specialized forces to protect forests.	2019	MARD, Forest Protection Department

### 3. Current Status and Issues in Viet Nam

#### a) Background and current status

- The forest coverage rate is about 42.02%.
- In 2021, about 32 million m<sup>3</sup> timber was exploited
- The export value of forest products in 2021 will reach about 15.87 billion USD (wood and wood products 14.72 billion USD; NTFP 1.15 billion USD).
- Import value of wood and wood products in 2021 will reach about 2.93 billion USD
- Total forest area certified for sustainable forest management (valid up to now) is 314,205 ha in 27 localities (the area granted under the FSC certificate is 258,526 ha; The area granted under the Vietnam Forest Certification Scheme VFCS/PEFC is 55,679 ha).

VIETNAM'S FORESTRY: 2020 KEY STATISTICS



**14.6 Mha – 42% cover**  
**2.2 Mha special use forests**  
**4.6 Mha protection forests**  
**7.8 Mha production forests**  
**1,104,578 forest owners**  
**230,000 ha FM certified**



**20.5 million m<sup>3</sup> harvested**  
**7.0 million m<sup>3</sup> imported**



**60% is state owned forests**  
**40% is private owned forests**



**4,500 enterprises**  
**515 FDI companies**



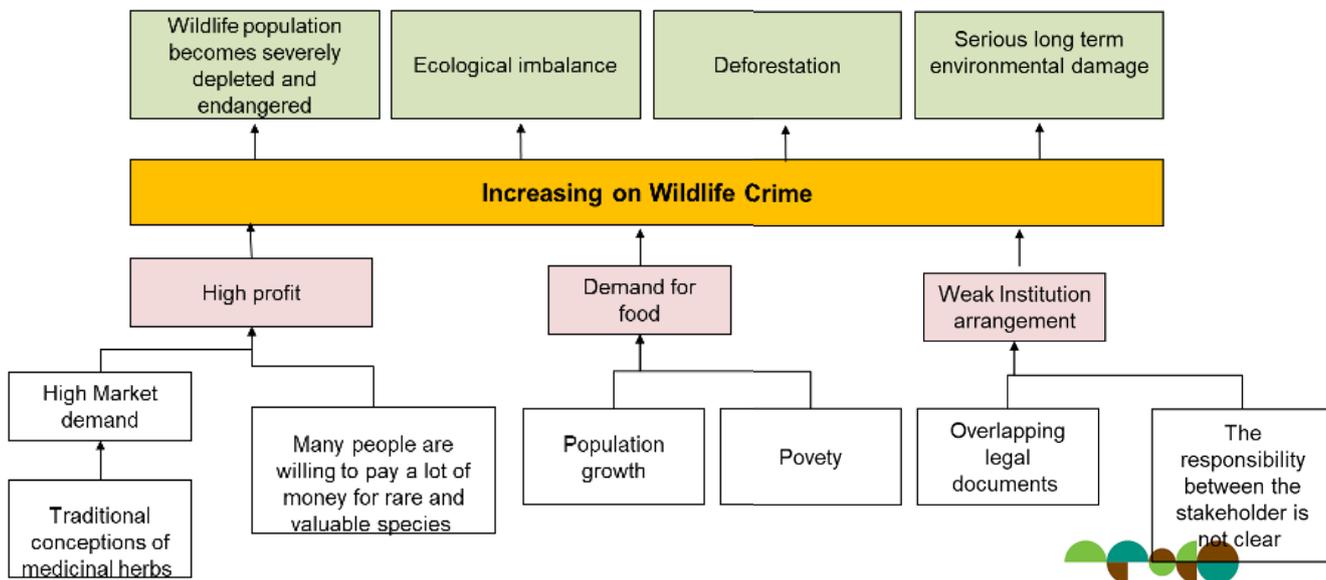
**2010-2019:**  
**22.5 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e – annual emission reduction**  
**-40.2 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e – annual sequestration**



**13.2 B\$ wood export value**  
**2.5 B\$ wood import value**  
**2.3 % GDP contribution**  
**130 M\$ ES revenue**

#### 4. Problem Tree for Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management

##### a) Backgrounds and current status



##### b) Experiences in tackling forest crime

- Developing a mechanism and system of legal documents related to Forest Crime
- Establishing a force and agency specialized in forest crime and resource management
- Develop a coordination mechanism among relevant sectors such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and law enforcement agencies.
- Coordinate with regional and international countries to control the market for illegal forest products
- Capacity building, skills training to prevent illegal wildlife trade.
- Propaganda to raise public awareness
- Implement programs and projects to support livelihoods for local communities dependent on forests, hunger eradication and poverty alleviation.

#### 5. Exploration of Project Subjects

	Project Title	Duration	Details
1	Project for Sustainable Natural Resource Management (SNRM)  JICA	Phase 1: 2015-2021 Phase 2: 2021 - 2025	The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the national capacity to maximize the benefits from forest ecosystems through the promotion of sustainable forest management, REDD+ and biodiversity conservation contributing to the improvement of forest ecosystems, livelihoods for local people and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
2	Project "Sustainable Forest Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Vietnam (VFBC)"  USAID	2021-2026	The overall objective are: - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing carbon sequestration capacity in production forests which are natural forests and plantations of Vietnam; - Conserve biodiversity in forest areas of high national biodiversity value.

**6. SWOT of Forest Crimes in Viet Nam**

Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

## 4. TRAINING SCHEDULE (Korea Standard Time, GMT +09)

Day	Time	Activity	Remark
	Self - paced	<b>Self-study on Climate Change : From Learning to Action (See instruction in Attachment-4)</b>	Trainees
<b>May 13</b>	15:00-17:00	Check and confirm Zoom application connection	RETC
<b>May 16</b>	12:00-12:30	Zoom check-in	RETC
	12:30-13:00	Opening Ceremony & Introduction of participants	RETC
	13:00-14:00 (60')	Orientation for Participants' Roles and Group Work	RETC
	14:00-15:00 (60')	Presentation 1. Country report	Trainees
	15:00-16:00	Break	
	16:00-17:45 (105')	Presentation 1. Country report	Trainees
	17:45-18:00 (15')	Daily feedback and housekeeping announcement	RETC
<b>May 17</b>	12:30-13:30 (60')	Group Work: Development of a Problem Tree	RETC
	13:30-15:00 (90')	Session 1: Global and Regional Efforts in Combating Forest Crime (45-min lecture & 45-min discussion)	Lecturer
	15:00-16:00 (60')	Break	
	16:00-17:30 (90')	Session 2: Analysis on Forest Crime (Group Work)	RETC
	17:30-18:00 (30')	Daily feedback and housekeeping announcement	RETC
<b>May 18</b>	12:30-13:30 (60')	Recap on the previous day	RETC
	13:30-15:00 (90')	Session 3: Impact of Forest Crime on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation (45-min lecture & 45-min discussion)	Lecturer
	15:00-16:00 (60')	Break	
	16:00-17:30 (90')	Session 4: ASEAN efforts on transboundary cooperation (45-min lecture & 45-min discussion)	Lecturer
	17:30-18:00 (30')	Daily feedback	RETC
<b>May 19</b>	12:30-13:30 (60')	Recap on the previous day	RETC
	13:30-15:00 (90')	Session 5: Demand Reduction Strategies in Combating Forest Crime (45-min lecture & 45-min discussion)	Lecturer
	15:00-16:00 (60')	Break	
	16:00-17:30 (90')	Group work: Action Plan Development	RETC
	17:30-18:00 (30')	Daily feedback	RETC
<b>May 20</b>	12:30-13:00 (30')	Recap on the previous day	RETC
	13:00-16:30 (210')	Presentation 2. Action plan	Trainees
	16:30-17:30 (60')	Break	
	17:30-18:00 (60')	Closing Ceremony	RETC

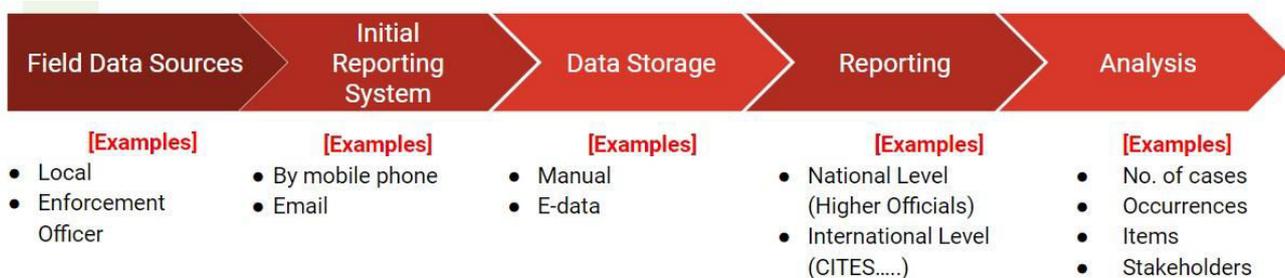
## 5. SESSION SUMMARY AND OUTPUTS

5.1 SESSION 1. GLOBAL AND REGIONAL EFFORTS IN COMBATING FOREST CRIME	
A. Session Overview	This session introduces the concept of forest crime.
B. Learning Outcomes	Understood the concept and rationale for forest crime and its patterns
C. Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) What is forest crime</li> <li>(2) Forest crimes and corruption</li> <li>(3) Case Studies/Programmes (Cooperation and ASEAN networks, UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime, etc.)</li> <li>(4) Way forward</li> </ol>
D. Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Forest Crime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Actions that include illegal logging, transportation, processing, possession and trade of timber. Often associated with serious crimes such as tax evasion, murder, document fraud, corruption, conspiracy, money laundering etc. Illegal logging is one of the biggest forms of environmental crime where up to 30% of overall global trade in timber may be illegal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Characteristics of illegal timber trade in the region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The region has a significant volume of illegal timber trade where the East and Southeast Asia accounts for approximately 70% of the global illegal timber trade exports, and is transnational. This is due to the variation in legal/regulatory frameworks that causes displacement and increased illegal timber trafficking. Conversion timber from various land use developments is also a form of opportunity for illegal timber trafficking to take place as it is difficult to distinguish between legal and illegal timber within the legitimate trade movement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Social and Financial implications of Forest Crime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forest crimes are often linked to violence and murder where Asia has the highest ranger deaths between 2009-2018.</li> <li>- Forest crimes are also often linked to financial crime such as money laundering, bribery and corruption, however if this can be tackled, it gives the opportunity to tackle "bigger players" instead of just focusing on on-the-ground players (illegal loggers). Hence special investigations by looking into financial aspects is also important.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Forms of corruption &amp; parties that are often exposed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forms of corruption include bribery, fraud(counterfeiting CITES certificates), favoritism and cronyism, and kickbacks. Legislative bodies, administrative bodies, law enforcement, private sectors, individuals, media etc are the parties that are likely to be exposed to corruption.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Common law enforcement challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The challenges faced includes increased opportunities for transnational organized crimes, weak penalties, low conviction rate, lack of proactive, intelligence-led investigations, difficulties in tracking bribery and corruption and lack of cooperation at regional level to address transboundary issues</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Way forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multi-agency cooperation is needed to tackle forest crimes, involvement of special investigations and the utilization UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) as legal basis for across border issues are also needed, as well as across border cooperation among law enforcement agencies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
E. Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants agreed that organized criminal groups are involved in forest crime</li> <li>• Organized crimes can be transnational, however, it can be hard to distinct/pin-point without in-depth investigation</li> <li>• Local public figures controlling all timber trading actions. Corruption makes it hard to control (cronyism) and it is impossible to have forest crime without corruption</li> <li>• Core problems for forest crime in the region are corruption and crimes are not investigated by the people with the right authority; it is mostly handled by forest rangers where most are not trained to take down organized crime. Some rangers are underpaid to confront high-risk perpetrators</li> <li>• In terms of capacity needs, the region needs to conduct specialized investigation especially financial investigations (i.e. money laundering);</li> <li>• Organized crimes (money laundering) are handled by different agencies in some countries making it hard to prosecute the illegal loggers/traders. However, in this case, the countries can develop a criminal case to the anti-money laundering office for them to develop it into a civil case.</li> </ul>
F. Observation and Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are various types of forest crime and illegal logging does not necessarily mean for species that are under CITES, but illegal logging is also linked to unsustainable use from existing concessions that are beyond limits of their license</li> <li>• It is important to identify legalities (paperwork) to track forest crime, however we need to investigate beyond papers (i.e. movement of money)</li> <li>• The UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) can be used as a legal basis by multiple countries to seek for mutual legal assistance, to conduct electronic surveillance, special investigations etc. However this is still under-utilized by countries and needs to be utilized more</li> <li>• Law enforcement cooperation across borders (transnational) is crucial and will not be effective without linking up with other countries to effectively find the source/destination.</li> </ul>

5.2 SESSION 2. ANALYSIS ON FOREST CRIME (Group Work)	
A. Session Overview	The participants were divided into groups and discussed about the following questions to analyze the forest crime data collection protocol, common items, stakeholders and limitations in forest crime; (1) Does your country collect data and analyze trends of forestry crime? (2) If not, what are the major limitations?
B. Learning Outcomes	Overview of forest crime data collection protocol, common items, stakeholders and limitations in reducing forest crime in AFoCO member countries were identified through group discussion and presentations by the workshop participants.
C. Content	Group Discussion : Part-1 Forest CrimeData Collection Protocol Group Discussion : Part-2 Analysis on forest crime and limitations

**Group Discussion (Part-1) Forest Crime Data Collection Protocol**

During the group work, the following model was applied to assess the data collection protocol in AFoCO member countries.



The following table is the outcomes of group discussion among participants on data collection protocol in each AFoCO member country.

	Field Data Sources	Initial Reporting System	Data Storage	Reporting	Analysis
<b>Bhutan</b>	Forestry Officer/ Rangers, Local/ Communities	SMART, Mobile (Cyber Tracker), FIRMS	SMART, FIRMS, Local/ Central Database, Manual	National Level Reporting (Forestry Facts and Figures through FIRMS) , Higher Officials, International-CITES	SMART, FIRMS, no of cases, hotspot
<b>Brunei</b>	Enforcement Officer, Rangers, Local Informers	Mobile, Email, Social Network Apps (Whatsapp)	Manual (Computer), papers, E-data	Committee at the national level (CITES, AWCWE,CBD), Higher Officials	Manual Data Analysis tool based on the information collected, no of cases, occurrences occurrences
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Forest Rangers/Local	email	Manual, E-data	National level, International level	Stakeholders
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	Forest Rangers/Local	email	Manual, E-data	National level, International level	Stakeholders
<b>Malaysia</b>	Public (Local), Forest Rangers/Guard Aerial Photo	Official letter, Mobile	Database, Manual (Excel) E-filing (IPTS)	Manual (Excel),national level (official memorandum/ letters), International (official reports)	Type of Cases Frequency, no of incidents, hotspot, stakeholders, items
<b>Myanmar</b>	Local Community/ Informers, Range officers	Official letter, email, post office, Mobile SMART, CMRS	Manual (Computer), E-database	national level (official memorandum/ letters), International (official reports) , INTERPOL,	Manual Data Analysis , Items, occurrences, no of incidents, hotspot, stakeholders
<b>Philippines</b>	Local Source (community, enforcers), Forest Ranger Officers	Mobile Device (Application), Cybertracker/SMART, memoranda, lawin system	Centralized database from DENR Central Office (using cloud)	SMART Desktop Analysis (From field level to national level) through memo, national level (official memorandum/ letters), International (official reports to ASOF, AMAF)	SMART Dashboard (automatically generates report and data with analysis) no of incidents, hotspot, stakeholders, items
<b>Timor-Leste</b>	Forest Guard, Regular Government Staff	Mobile	Central Government Database	Verbal and Written Report	Yet to conduct forest crime analysis
<b>Vietnam</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Forest and Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	Through Forest Protection Division	Manual (Computer)	National Level Reporting (Forest Protection Department)	Manual Data Analysis

**Group Discussion (Part-2) Analysis on forest crime and limitations**

During the group work, the following model was applied to analyze forest crime and limitations in AFoCO member countries



The following table is the outcomes of group discussion among participants analyzing forest crime and limitations in each AFoCO member country.

	<b>Most common items in forest crime</b>	<b>Stakeholders</b>	<b>Limitations in Reducing Forest Crime</b>
<b>Bhutan</b>	Timber Species Wildlife Parts, Red Sanders (being traded from other countries), Wildlife (tigers, musk deer pods), other construction timber species	Enforcement Agencies (Forestry Officials, Custom Officials, Police, Community groups), I/NGOs, Actors (Illegal traders/loggers, poachers)	Institutional Capacity Needs (Technology, skilled rangers, lack of manpower) Limited knowledge on prosecution, funding- Ineffective/outdated legal and policy interventions, Lack of effective bi/multi-lateral collaboration, Lack of awareness
<b>Brunei</b>	Agarwood, Dipterocarps species	Enforcement officers (rangers & police), actors (illegal loggers)	Capacity Needs (Technology, skilled rangers, lack of manpower) funding
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Birch, pine (timber)	Forest guard participated (forest rangers)/local population	Increasing funding for the forest industry, Staff increase, Material base, Increase in penalties
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	Licorice root, St. John's wort, oregano, sage	Forest guard participated (forest rangers)/local population	Increasing funding for the forest industry, Staff increase, Material base, Increase in penalties
<b>Malaysia</b>	Timber, non-timber forest products (agarwood), wildlife (elephant ivory, pangolin, tiger, sun bear)	Illegal loggers, forest enforcement officers, Local community, NGO, Police, Immigration Department	Lack of funding and manpower, access to technology, expertise Lack of awareness
<b>Myanmar</b>	Teak, rosewood, Xylia xylocarpa species, Pterocarpus spp, dalbergia sp) and wildlife (elephant and tiger)	Local Business Man Illegal Loggers, traders, locals, forest officer/Rangers	Capacity Needs (Skillful field officials) Corruption, Manpower, security of enforcement officers
<b>Philippines</b>	Logs (narra, lauan) endemic wildlife species (pawikan, pangolin, elephant tusks), non-timber forest products (agarwood, raw/unworked rattan)	Local communities, local enforcers, other agencies related to enforcement, forest rangers, violators, high officials, Local Government Units	Logistical Resources (manpower, equipment, funding) -Past overdue policies and laws that needs to enhance and amend, peace and order situation
<b>Timor-Leste</b>	Illegal logging, Illegal hunting Wide Agricultural expansion	Related public institutions, International and National NGOs	Human resources and facilities to tackle the forest crime
<b>Vietnam</b>	High value wood, eg: Dalbergia oliveri, Erythrophleum fordii, ect. And wild animals: tiger, Rhinoceros	Communities, illegal loggers, traders, consumers	Awareness within communities, high value wood

<b>5.3 SESSION 3. IMPACT OF FOREST CRIME ON CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION</b>	
<b>A. Session Overview</b>	This session presents the environmental impacts of forest crime and the main drivers of climate change.
<b>B. Learning Outcomes</b>	Identified direct and indirect impacts of forest crime on climate change
<b>C. Content</b>	(1) Drivers of Climate Change (2) What are the major impacts of forest crime on climate change and the forest ecosystem? (3) Forest Crime and REDD+ (4) Recent Findings (5) Way forward
<b>D. Highlights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CIFOR (1993) – ICRAF (1978): merged in 2019 in developing and delivering the scientific solutions to address the global issues / challenges.</li> <li>• Forest crime                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As an umbrella term to include various illegal forest activities (Illegal logging, exploitation of high value species, laundering of illegal harvested wood, document fraud, violations of public, private ownership rights)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Forest Crimes processes:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Taking from nature (illegal logging) *</li> <li>- Adding to nature (pollution, waste)</li> <li>- Altering nature (reduction of biodiversity)*</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Drivers of climate change:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Anthropogenic (human action)</li> <li>- Economic systems</li> <li>- Social systems</li> <li>- Demographic</li> <li>- Technology</li> <li>- Infrastructure</li> <li>- Land-use change</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Forest crime, climate change, and the forest ecosystem                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The impact of deforestation / forest degradation is significant</li> <li>- The link between forest crimes &amp; climate change is not straightforward</li> <li>- Loss of opportunities (forest functions – water catchment, ecosystem)</li> <li>- Potentially irreversible</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Strategies for climate change                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GHG concentrations Climate Change Impacts Responses Mitigation/Adaptation</li> <li>- Mitigation: To reduce emission &amp; enhance carbon sinks</li> <li>- Adaptation: Adaptation for forest &amp; Forest for adaptation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Way forward                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trends corruption in natural resource management</li> <li>- Impacts of climate change on crimes and the roles of forest in mitigating</li> <li>- Climate and security</li> <li>- Technology ( to trace commodity flows, forest cover change – real-time satellite, financial flows )</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>E. Interventions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REDD+ is a new source of income to some countries and it brings direct benefits to the local community. However, the large proportion of revenue still remains on timber extraction.</li> <li>• Land conversion is one of the challenges and many causes of forest crime. Nevertheless, this depends on the status of the land, either community land or concession.</li> <li>• The cutting limit (cubic meters) fully depends on the country's regulations.</li> <li>• Other than looking into the high technology to do monitoring which is very costly, the monitoring work can be done by using satellites and patrolling on the ground. For example roadblock/checking station</li> </ul>
<b>F. Observation and Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest crimes is two interrelated sides, which                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forest crimes / wildlife trade are related to financial crimes</li> <li>- Use financial instruments to track forest crimes (due-diligence)</li> <li>- The important of having a financial investigation training</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The link between forest crimes and climate change is not straightforward                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Both legal and illegal land clearing create emission</li> <li>- A proper long term forest management planning is crucial</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## 5.4 SESSION 4. ASEAN EFFORTS ON TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

<b>A. Session Overview</b>	This session introduces cross-border and interagency cooperation to strengthen legal and policy-based deterrents to forest crime between countries.
<b>B. Learning Outcomes</b>	Understood the importance of collaboration between countries to prevent forest crime
<b>C. Content</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Background of transboundary initiatives</li> <li>(2) Case studies of transnational crime and success stories</li> <li>(3) Way forward</li> </ol>
<b>D. Highlights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Half of the total forested areas of ASEAN Member State countries declines due to anthropogenic actions</li> <li>• ASEAN Ministerial meeting on Illegal wildlife trade, 2019, state that they need to take actions to protect species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products in addressing the illegal wildlife trade in ASEAN</li> <li>• ACB is working closely with the ASEAN member states with holistic and multi- sectoral approach in forest protection through wildlife conservation, as well as ecosystem restoration programs</li> </ul>
<b>E. Interventions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For enhancement of transboundary collaboration in combating forest and wildlife crimes, ACB are establishing programs like AHPs Programmes to focus more on transboundary cooperation among AMS and, with regional and international organizations.</li> <li>• For comprehensive AMS collaboration, it would be better to implement the implementation Plan of Action for AMS cooperation on addressing wildlife crimes.</li> <li>• In case of challenge in transboundary collaboration among AMS is political sensitivity. Each of the AMS countries have unique political priorities. ACB is always taken into account when they are dealing with the governments of AMS countries.</li> <li>• ACB is expanding the network with countries such as South Africa and Central America to address the issues on transboundary crimes of forestry and wildlife.</li> </ul>
<b>F. Observation and Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACB reinforces its efforts to engage all stakeholders in each AMS country, not only in the regional and global levels to save the region's biodiversity.</li> </ul>

<b>5.5 SESSION 5. DEMAND REDUCTION STRATEGIES IN COMBATING FOREST CRIME</b>	
<b>A. Session Overview</b>	This session introduces the case studies and how to develop strategies to reduce the demand for illegal forest products.
<b>B. Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understood the background for demands on illegal forest products to stimulate forest crime</li> <li>• Developed demand reduction strategies in the national context</li> </ul>
<b>C. Content</b>	(1) Analyzing the market demand for illegal forest products (2) Success stories in combating forest crime (3) Way forward
<b>D. Highlights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key drivers of Market Demand for Illegal Forest Products are population growth, declining supply of rare species in natural, old-growth forests, poor environmental law enforcement capacity, lack of transparency</li> <li>• Forest Certification Systems</li> <li>• Demand-side' Regulations</li> <li>• A Case Study from PanNature : Implementing a program to build capacity for journalists investigating forest governance and identifying weaknesses in forestry policy, published stories from PanNature have enabled local authorities to stop illegal forest operations, arrest forest rangers and tighten forest protection in illegal logging hot spots</li> </ul>
<b>E. Interventions</b>	
<b>F. Observation and Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At national level, 1) Institute clear legislation and prohibition of illegally logged timber imports, 2) Develop and support national level timber trade associations to provide clear information to importers and processors, 3) Support the inclusion of threatened timber species in the CITES annexes, 4)Institute laws that criminalize corruption of foreign officials by national companies, 5) Robust enforcement of established legislation on illegal timber importation .</li> <li>• Regional /International level actions are 1) Improve international law enforcement to implement laws regulating forestry and timber trade, 2) Develop and support regional and international level timber trade associations to provide clear information to importers and processors, 3) Develop processes for holding other parties accountable within international conventions and agreements, 4)Create and maximize opportunities for bilateral agreements on illegal logging and trade to support country's transitions to high quality timber regulated markets, 5)Ensure meaningful cooperation of bilateral agreements on illegal logging.</li> </ul>

## 6. ACTION PLANS OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

### 6.1 BHUTAN

#### 1. Problem Statements

- Decline in population of RTE Species
- Unsustainable utilization of forest resources
- Increased HWC incidences
- Decrease in forest cover due to degradation and deforestation

#### 2. Improvement Strategy

- Use of technology (SMART)
- Capacity development
- Financial support
- Bilateral and multilateral transboundary cooperation

#### 3. Specific Action Plan

	DETAILS
<b>Project Title</b>	Combating forest crimes in Bhutan through SMART Technologies and Multi-Sectoral Collaboration.
<b>Implementing Organization</b>	Organization Name : Department of Forests and Park Services Nature or type : Government Major functions/duties : Nationally mandated to manage and monitor forest and wildlife.
<b>Project Duration</b>	<July 2022> – <June 2027>
<b>Est. Budget</b>	USD\$
<b>Main Objectives</b>	1: Introducing appropriate technologies for effective enforcement – SMART, Drone Technologies 2: Improving institutional capacity – human, financial, technical 3: Increasing involvement of communities in HWC mitigation and awareness 4: Strengthening prosecution for wildlife offenses through appropriate policy and legal interventions and judicial awareness 5: Strengthening partnerships, coordination and improving regional cooperation
<b>Benefactors</b>	Government, Communities, Regional Neighbors
<b>Potential environmental and social risk</b>	None foreseen
<b>Project Details</b>	Refer to the "Timeline"

#### 4. Timeline

No	Item	Budget	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1	Introducing appropriate technologies for effective enforcement – SMART, Drone Technologies Appropriate technologies for effective enforcement – SMART, Drone Technologies	200,000	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
2	Improving institutional capacity – human, financial, technical	200,000	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
3	Increasing involvement of communities in HWC mitigation and awareness	200,000	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
4	Strengthening prosecution for wildlife offenses through appropriate policy and legal interventions and judicial awareness	200,000	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
5	Strengthening partnerships, coordination and improving regional cooperation	200,000	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

#### 5. Expected Results – Outputs/Outcomes

##### Economic Effects

- Improvement of rural livelihood through implementation of integrated HWC mitigation measures
- Strengthened national, regional and international collaboration and fund access opportunities

##### Technical Effects

- Increased technical capacity of forestry staff, stakeholders and communities
- Use of latest monitoring and reporting technologies

##### Social and Environmental Impacts

- Support to rural livelihood through alleviation of HWC
- Increasing public awareness and advocacy on forestry crimes
- Conservation of RTE species and forest ecosystem

## 6. Challenges and Solutions

Policy provisions in favor of reducing forest crime

- Facilitating development and review of relevant PLRs
- Policies on transboundary crime prosecution
- Policies on multi stakeholder engagement

Gaps and challenges in fighting against forest crime

- Lack of capacity
- Lack of knowledge on prosecution and judiciary procedures
- Lack of public support and awareness
- Weak institutional linkages and collaboration
- Lack of R&D

Solutions

- Focused capacity building of forestry staff and relevant stakeholders
- Advocating use of modern technologies, digitization and digitalization
- Strengthening national, regional and international linkages and collaboration
- Securing financial stability for advocacy, support and enforcement activities

## 6.2 BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

### 1. Problem Statements

- Coordination (local and transboundary) - between enforcement agencies and communities
- Funding
- Capacity building (training, manpower, technology use)
- Lack of transparency (cronyism, bribery, corruption etc)

### 2. Improvement Strategy

Multi-agency cooperation is crucial (Session 1)

- To utilize available international funding mechanisms i.e. REDD+ (Session 3)
- To utilize UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) on transnational issues and work together across borders (Session 1)
- Institute laws that criminalize corruption of higher officials, media publication on current issues faced in the forestry crime to raise community awareness (Session 5)

### 3. Specific Action Plan

	DETAILS
<b>Project Title</b>	Integrating the use of UAV (drones) and Satellite Data to Boost Forest Security
<b>Implementing Organization</b>	Organization Name : Forestry Department Nature or type : Government Major functions/duties : To oversee the effectiveness and proper implementation of forest crime monitoring and to engage all relevant stakeholders to participate and support the practice.
<b>Project Duration</b>	5 years (2023-2027)
<b>Est. Budget</b>	USD\$ 1.3 million
<b>Main Objectives</b>	To utilize drones for Forest Inventory purposes; To remotely monitor based on real time data and identify illegal logging concessions and sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To overcome the issue of lack of manpower and to tackle forest crime more effectively.</li> </ul>
<b>Benefactors</b>	Community, Fisheries, Agriculture, Forestry, Disaster management, Development sectors, and Economy, Neighboring countries
<b>Potential environmental and social risk</b>	Environmental risk: Climate related impacts such as flood, forest fire, landslides and sea level rise or worse, prolonged drought & biodiversity loss Social risk: Transnational conflicts among law enforcements and communities
<b>Project Details</b>	1) Research / desktop studies on forest distribution & forest borders / potential hotspot areas 2) Procurement of drones 3) Outsource of training on the use of drones (third-party) 4) Outsource of satellite data 5) Outsource training on how to use satellite data Integration of the use of UAV and satellite data on-the-ground

#### 4. Timeline

No	Item	Budget	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1	Research / desktop studies on forest distribution & forest borders / potential hotspot areas		0	0	-	-	-
2	Procurement of drones	<b>\$500,000.00</b>	-	0	-	-	-
3	Outsource of training on the use of drones (third-party) – for forest rangers and other enforcement agencies (police, army etc)	<b>\$100,000.00</b>	-	0	0	-	-
4	Outsource of satellite data	<b>\$150,000.00</b>	-	0	0	-	-
5	Outsource training on how to use satellite data	<b>\$100,000.00</b>	-	-	0	0	-
6	Integrating the use of UAV and satellite data on-the-ground - forest rangers and enforcement agencies	<b>\$100,000.00 (maintenance)</b>	-	-	-	-	0

#### 5. Expected Results – Outputs/Outcomes

##### Economic Effects

- Reduced cost for government
- Increasing income from improved forest conservation, soil & water quality
- Green jobs

##### Technical Effects

- Strengthening existing capacity
- Increasing technical expertise in the country
- More technological advancement and integration in forest crime monitoring activities

##### Social and Environmental Impacts

- Indirect increase in resilience to climate change
- Biodiversity conservation
- Improved livelihood and well-being of community
- Improved capacity of community through involvement in technical capacity building and policy framework

## 6. Challenges and Solutions

Policy provisions in favor of reducing forest crime

- Forest Act Chap 46, Laws of Brunei
- National Forest Policy (1989)
- Wildlife Protection Act, Chap 102
- Wild Fauna & Flora Order 2007
- Heart of Borneo Initiative
- Reduced Cut Policy

Gaps and challenges in fighting against forest crime

- Financial support and commitment from Government and multi-stakeholders is needed to enhance capacity building of forest rangers
- Forest rangers are not trained to handle organized crimes
- Lack of technical and knowledge expertise in handling the project
- Climate change impacts (forest fire)

Solutions

- One whole nation (local) and one whole community (transboundary) approach
- To have support in existing funding options (regional and international)
- Sharing knowledge/training/workshop/forum with regional countries and to have an assistance from other country in order to learn more on handling the project and specialized investigations especially on financial aspect – learning from best practices
- Awareness programs, training, sharing sessions on impacts of climate change to enforcement agencies and relevant stakeholders (i.e. logging businesses)

## 6.3 CAMBODIA

### 1. Problem Statements

- Illegal forest activities resulting in deforestation and degradation are major obstacles for long-term sustainable development in Cambodia, because it deprives the country from revenues that should provide economic and social benefits for present and future generations.
- At the local level, poor people are often pushed into forest degrading activities due to a lack of alternative livelihood activities. People who are temporarily employed by illegal operations are reported to suffer poor working conditions, and only enjoy marginal and short term gains.

### 2. Improvement Strategy

- In order to address forest governance and forest crimes that originate from external influences appropriately, there is a need for stronger cross-sectoral cooperation, particularly between relevant ministries, the enforcement authorities and an independent judicial system. On the implementation side, it is therefore fundamental that local people, or de facto forest managers and monitors, and the government share common goals for forest management and benefit distribution.

### 3. Specific Action Plan

	DETAILS
<b>Implementing Organization</b>	<p>Name: Department of Legislation and Law Enforcement, Forestry Administration            Nature or type: Government Institution            Major functions/duties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage and monitor the forest illegal cases by strengthening relations and collaborating with other legal institutions and national and international Non-Government Organizations for developing and implementing the law enforcement.</li> <li>• Monitor research and investigate to strengthen the law implementation and intervene into the forest and wildlife offense activities in the country wide as needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Duration</b>	2023 – 2027
<b>Est. Budget</b>	US\$ 1,000,000
<b>Main Objectives</b>	To ensure that forest governance and law enforcement take place in a transparent, fair and just manner.
<b>Benefactors</b>	Four forest-dependent communities in Kratie, Kampong Thom, Kampong Speu and Kampot provinces (1,000 families).
<b>Potential environmental and social risk</b>	<p>Forest law enforcement and governance project is by nature a cross-cutting entity because it involves multiple aspects of collaboration between government agencies and NGOs, to efficiently address and combat forest-related crimes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration between relevant government agencies and NGOs</li> <li>• Conflict management capacity and promotion of transparency and accountability</li> <li>• Coordinated inter-agency efforts in implementation</li> </ul>
<b>Project Details</b>	<p>Means of implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 1: Effective collaboration with other law enforcement agencies.</li> <li>• Component 2: Effective implementation of systems to combat illegal land encroachment and land grabbing.</li> <li>• Component 3: Working group on forest crime information response at the central FA.</li> </ul>

#### 4. Timeline

No	Item	Budget	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1	Prepare inter-agency training courses related to communication and investigation of forest and wildlife crimes	200,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
2	Conduct effective extension of forestry law & regulations in connection with illegal land encroachment and land grabbing to relevant stakeholders	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	25,000	25,000
3	Conduct controlling, verification, identification and collection of land clearance and encroachment data	150,000	40,000	40,000	25,000	25,000	20,000
4	Detection and suppression illegal forest clearance and forestland encroachment	200,000	60,000	50,000	40,000	25,000	25,000
5	Communicate with all levels of relevant institutions and organizations, in connection with forest crime information highlighted in the media	100,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
6	Conduct field checks to ensure that forest crime response reports are true and transparent	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000

#### 5. Expected Results – Outputs/Outcomes

##### Economic Effects

- Increase food and NTFP production
- Increase family income
- Reduce poverty and the impacts of the forest resources

##### Technical Effects

- Marketing of the forest and Non-forest products
- Improved knowledge and skill in forest development & conservation

##### Social and Environmental Impacts

- Increase forest land productivity
- Reduce migration to the cities
- Increased forest cover and forest products
- Reduced soil erosion rate
- Increase soil moisture and fertility in the rice paddy areas

## 6. Challenges and Solutions

### Challenges and Risks

- Coordination problems between participating stakeholders which influence the implementation of project activities
- Institutional capacities are not sufficient to provide effective solutions to forest crime that are complex and multi-sectoral
- Lack of commitment from stakeholders and local communities may result in failure of intervention.

### Solutions

- Clarify the responsibility, right, and interest of each participating agency; Strengthen the communication between participating agencies through stakeholder consultations and meetings
- Capacity building will be organized on key techniques to enhance technical knowledge and skill of the project team; Invite competent consultants to solve key technical challenges.
- A stakeholder engagement plan will be developed.

## 6.4 MALAYSIA

### 1. Problem Statements

Inadequate capacity and effectiveness in law-enforcement to combat forest crime including readiness to complicated factors e.g. transboundary forest crime, money laundering and organized crime

### 2. Improvement Strategy

- Strengthen relevant laws and legislation
- Enhance awareness and continuous dissemination on the latest legislation to the stakeholders
- Enhance the capacity of enforcement officers to address illegal logging issues e.g. transboundary forest crime, money laundering and organized crime

### 3. Specific Action Plan

	DETAILS
Project Title	Strengthening forest law enforcement on biodiversity conservation.
Implementing Organization	Organization Name: Forestry Department Peninsular, Sabah Forestry Department, Forest Department Sarawak Nature or type: Government Major functions/duties: Oversee the policy formulation and implementation of activities involving environment and natural resources in Malaysia.
Project Duration	2022 – 2027
Est. Budget	USD\$ (to be ascertained)
Main Objectives	1. To strengthen national forest law through review and make necessary amendment 2. To intensifying enforcement through human resource development and capacity building 3. To strengthen coordination committee between agencies in forest enforcement Leverage on technology in detection and reporting of forest crime
Benefactors	Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Malaysia (KeTSA)
Potential environmental and social risk	N/A
Project Details	Refer to the project scope

#### 4. Timeline

-Duration: 5 years

No	Item	Budget	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1	Review and strengthening of national regulation on forest enforcement	tbc	√				
2	Stakeholder consultation on national regulation on forest enforcement	tbc	√				
3	Procurement of latest systems, technology and equipment relevant to forest enforcement	tbc		√			
4	New recruitment legal advisor, crime analyst officer and forest rangers	tbc		√	√	√	√
5	Capacity building for existing staff in forest enforcement (Ex: Investigation and prosecution)	tbc		√	√	√	√
6	Intensification of monitoring and enforcement activities (in-house and inter-agencies)	tbc		√	√	√	√
7	Establishment of platform for multiple agency collaboration	tbc			√	√	√
8	Establishment of platform of sharing intelligence	tbc			√	√	√

#### 5. Expected Results – Outputs/Outcomes

##### Economic Effects

- Reduced leakage of revenue to Government from forest resource
- Increased gross domestic product
- Enhance downstream timber industry through sufficient and legal supply of timber.
- Alternative income from non-timber (Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), carbon, etc)

##### Technical Effects

- Increase technical proficiency among enforcement staff
- Ability to leverage from technology (compensate for manpower limitation)

##### Social and Environmental Impacts

- Alleviation of environmental impacts associated with uncontrolled logging (i.e. flood, landslide, log jam)
- Protection of rare threatened and endangered species & increase biodiversity security
- Support towards sustainable forest management
- Reduce deforestation and forest degradation
- Protect forest sources of livelihood for forest dependent community

## 6. Challenges and Solutions

Policy provisions in favor of reducing forest crime

- Specific provision that eases procedure for enforcement activities (e.g. raid without warrant; disposal without court approval; etc.)
- Provision for criminalizing possession of timber deemed to be illegal
- Provision for rewards
- Heavy penalties for forest crime

Gaps and challenges in fighting against forest crime

- Manpower (number, age, proficiency)
- Barriers in the pertinent laws that not governed by forestry regulation (e.g. CPC, Penal Code)
- Overburden facility dealing with processing of forest crime (e.g. storage of seized items, investigation etc.)
- Lack of forensic detail in evidence collection involving forest crime.
- Inability to efficiently exploit the existing technology and its maintenance

Solutions

- Recruitment and capacity building for enforcement officers relevant to forestry.
- Research and development to improve legislation as well as strategies and capacities to combat forest crime.
- Enhance cooperation between relevant agencies in monitoring and enforcement against forest crime.
- Utilization of technology
- Engagement of local community, NGO, and other relevant stakeholders in disseminating awareness and providing intelligence information on forest crime.

## 6.5 MYANMAR

### 1. Problem Statements

- Illegal timber extraction, illegal timber trade
- Illegal NTFPs extraction & trade
- Illegal wildlife trade

### 2. Improvement Strategy

Session 5: Demand reducing Strategies in combating forest crimes

### 3. Specific Action Plan

	DETAILS
<b>Project Title</b>	Promoting the network of Multi-stakeholder for combating the Illegal logging crime in Myanmar
<b>Implementing Organization</b>	Organization Name: Forest Department Nature or type: Government Major functions/duties: Conservation and Sustainable Management of Forest and Ecosystem
<b>Project Duration</b>	2023-2024 ( 2 years)
<b>Est. Budget</b>	USD\$ 350,000
<b>Main Objectives</b>	Strengthening Multi-stakeholder collaborative initiatives on combating illegal logging Building the institutional capacity to address illegal logging Promoting the multi-stakeholder dialogue that supports the understanding of legal and regulatory requirements for timber legality
<b>Benefactors</b>	Forest Department, Myanmar Forest Police, Local Communities
<b>Potential environmental and social risk</b>	N/A
<b>Project Details</b>	Building forest camps, and providing vehicles to carry out effective patrolling activities for forest staff on timber smuggling routes Implementing Monitoring and Checking activities through a community monitoring and reporting system Implementing the workshop (National, Local levels) for promoting the voices of all stakeholders to make supply chains more transparent, and promote the trading the legally harvested forest products Raising the awareness of Local community, Forest Staffs, Line departments (Police, Administrative office, Custom Departments, Trade Departments, Myanmar Timber Enterprise), NGOs, Entrepreneurs on MTLA System & CMRS

#### 4. Timeline

No	Item	Budget	Year 1	Year 2
1	Building forest camps, buying vehicles for forest staffs on the selected timber smuggling routes	100,000	√ (6 months)	-
2	Conduct effective extension of forestry law & regulations in connection with illegal land encroachment and land grabbing to relevant stakeholders	100,000	√ (24 months)	√ (24 months)
3	Conduct controlling, verification, identification and collection of land clearance and encroachment data	50,000	√ (24 months)	√ (24 months)
4	Detection and suppression illegal forest clearance and forestland encroachment	50,000	√ (24 months)	√ (24 months)
5	Conduct field checks to ensure that forest crime response reports are true and transparent	50,000	√	√

#### 5. Expected Results – Outputs/Outcomes

##### Economic Effects

- High Revenue
- Reduce the Investment to restore the Forest Ecosystem

##### Technical Effects

- Enhancement of existing capacity

##### Social and Environmental Impacts

- Strengthening the cooperation among different stakeholders
- Increase public awareness
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Eliminate Deforestation and Forest Degradation
- Mitigate environmental problems

#### 6. Challenges and Solutions

##### Policy provisions in favor of reducing forest crime

- Myanmar Forest Law (2018)
- Myanmar Forest Rule(Review)
- Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System-MTLAS (2020)

##### Gaps and challenges in PPP

- Lack of technological capacity
- Lack of R & D

##### Solutions

- Promoting the market on legally harvested timber product trade
- Developing Multi Stakeholder network on preventing illegal timber trade
- Increasing the public awareness on illegal timber crime
- Controlling and Preventing Illegal timber logging

## 6.6 PHILIPPINES

### 1. Problem Statements

- The country lacks the capacity to detect the legality of the source of timber.

### 2. Improvement Strategy

- The Philippines will continue to enhance the National Forest Stock Monitoring System (NFSMS) or the "Timber Tracking System" a project with ITTO which covers activities from pre-harvest inventory, tree marking, felling, bucking, scaling, log/lumber transport, and post-harvest inventory.

### 3. Specific Action Plan

	DETAILS
<b>Implementing Organization</b>	Name : DENR Nature or type : Environment
<b>Project Duration</b>	2023-2024
<b>Est. Budget</b>	USD\$ 150k
<b>Main Objectives</b>	1. To develop a 100% "back to the stump" traceability system for wood production; 2. Develop a Verified Legal Origin (VLO) featuring automated forest charges calculations based on CLO/CTO documentation; 3. Develop a field data entry capable and online configuration, multi-tiered access
<b>Benefactors</b>	DENR/People's Organizations/Private Tree Plantation owners/WPP/Tenure Holders other stakeholders
<b>Potential environmental and social risk</b>	N/A
<b>Project Details</b>	The NFSMS will strengthen the knowledge and understanding of various stakeholders on the legal and regulatory requirements for timber legality. It will also enhance the understanding of the legal framework and requirements in preparation for the criteria set for forest certification.

#### 4. Timeline

-Duration: 2 years

No	Item	Budget (USD)	Year 1	Year 2
1	Hiring of consultancy service for the development of additional Technical Functions of the NFSMS	Php 3.0M	(Q1-Q3)	
2	Pilot-Testing of the NFSMS with additional functions	Php 500K	(Q4)	
3	Policy adopting NFSMS as a strategy to effectively detect the legality of source of wood/timber.	Php 50K	(Q4)	(Q1)
4	Technology transfer to program managers	Php 800K		(Q1-Q2)
5	Development of Manual for operations and procedures for the implementation of NFSMS	Php 1.0M		(Q1-Q2)
4	Nationwide roll-out of the use of NFMS and full implementation	Php 1.5M		(Q3-Q4)

#### 5. Expected Results – Outputs/Outcomes

##### Economic Effects

- Decrease number of trees illegally harvested or cut;
- Added value to the market price of timber since it comes from

##### Technical Effects

- Improved understanding of legally sourced timber
- Improved capability in using recent technological advancements

##### Social and Environmental Impacts

- Increase appreciation of stakeholders on sustainable use of forest products
- Decrease illegal logging activities

#### 6. Challenges and Solutions

##### Policy provisions in favor of reducing forest crime

- No specific law/policy provisions on the use NFSMS in the Philippines

##### Gaps and challenges in fighting against forest crime

- Provision of budget for the full implementation of the system, particularly on infrastructure and logistical support
- Acceptance and technical capacity of the field officers/relevant stakeholders to properly implement the system
- Coordination with other agencies and stakeholders for the implementation of the System

##### Solutions

- Allocate the budget for the implementation of the system in the regular annual fund of the Department
- Organize consultation meetings with concerned agencies and other stakeholders
- Capacity-building activities on the implementation of the system for concerned field officers and agencies
- Intensive communication campaigns for relevant stakeholders that are directly affected by the implementation of the system

## 7. SURVEY RESULTS

After completing all sessions of the training, the participants filled out the questionnaire composed of the organization and preparation of the training course, subjects, training design, comparisons with other training courses, and opinions for the training course.

### 7.1 ORGANIZATION AND PREPARATION

Based on the results of the questionnaire (**Table 1**), 44.4% of the participants strongly agreed that the organization of the course was appropriate, and 27.8% of them agreed to the same survey item.

**Table 1. Organization and Preparation**

Variable	Percentage (%)	
	Strongly Agree	Agree
The organization of the course was appropriate	44.4	27.8
I was well informed and kept updated before the training course	55.6	33.3
I was satisfied with the pre-arrangement of the organization	61.1	27.8

### 7.2 EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Based on the results of the questionnaire (**Table 2**), 50% of the participants were very satisfied with the Zoom setting, and 27.8% of them were Satisfied with the same statement. 66.7% of the participants were very satisfied that the hospitality of the RETC staff and 27.8% of them were satisfied with the same statement.

**Table 2. Educational Environment**

Variable	Percentage (%)	
	Very Satisfied	Satisfied
• Zoom Setting	50	27.8
• Hospitality of the RETC staff	66.7	27.8

### 7.3 COMPARISON WITH OTHER TRAINING COURSES

Relative to other training courses taken by the participants (**Table 3**), 77.8% of the participants answered the overall quality of this training course was "much higher or higher", followed by 16.7% who said it was "similar". 72.2% of the participants said that the level of intellectual challenge presented was "much higher or higher", and the participants who said "similar" was 27.8%. 72.2% of the participants answered that the level of involvement/participation in this course was "much higher or higher", followed by 22.2% who said it was "similar". 83.4% of the participants said that the amount of effort participants put into this course was "high or much higher", followed by 16.7% who said it was "similar". 83.4% of the participants answered that the amount of knowledge/information gained through this course was "much higher or higher", followed by 16.7% who said it was "similar".

**Table 3. Relative to other training courses taken by the participants**

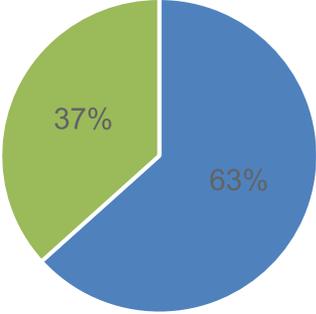
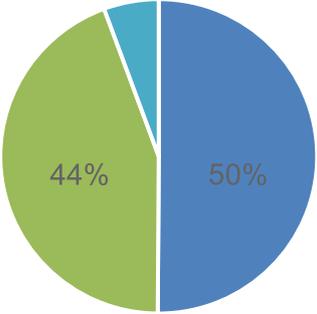
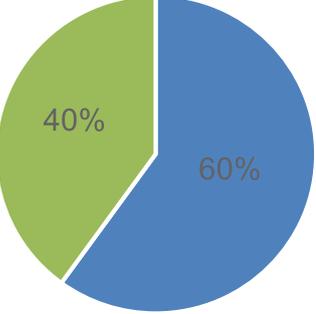
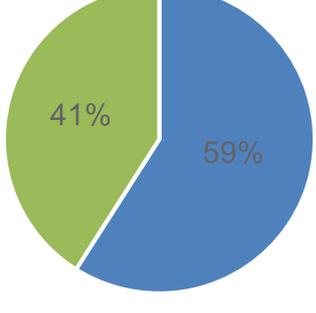
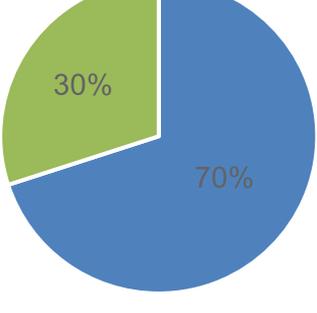
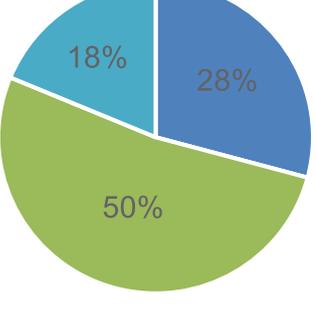
Variable	Frequency (%)		
	Much higher	Higher	Similar
• The overall quality of this training course	27.8	50	16.7
• The level of intellectual challenge presented	11.1	61.1	27.8
• The amount of effort participants put into this course	27.8	55.6	16.7
• The level of involvement/participation in this course	33.3	38.9	22.2
• The amount of knowledge/information gained through this course	27.8	55.6	16.7

## 7.4 Lecturer Evaluation

I. LECTURE EVALUATION ELEMENTS	Frequency (%)	
	Much higher	Higher
A. Helpful for work and self- improvement	61	39
B. Professionalism of Lecturer	65	35
C. Performance and attitude of Lecturer	63	37

## II. LIST OF LECTURERS

No.	Lecturer Name	Affiliation	Lecture
1	Mr.Giovanni Broussard	Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, Environment Team, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (Thailand)	Session 1. Global and Regional Efforts in Combating Forest Crime
2	RETC		Session 2. Analysis on Forest Crime (Group Work)
3	Mr.Ahmad Dermawan	Scientist, Center for International Forestry Research - CIFOR	Session 3. Impact of Forest Crime on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
4	Dr .Arvin C. Diesmos	Director Biodiversity Information Management ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity	Session 4. ASEAN Efforts on Transboundary Cooperation
5	Ms. Natasha Han	Forest Intelligence Coordinator, WWF Greater Mekong	Session 5. Demand Reduction Strategies in Combating Forest Crime

SESSION 1. GLOBAL AND REGIONAL EFFORTS IN COMBATING FOREST CRIME - MR. GIOVANNI BROUSSARD	SESSION 2. ANALYSIS ON FOREST CRIME (GROUP WORK)- AFoCO RETC	SESSION 3. IMPACT OF FOREST CRIME ON CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION- MR. AHMAD DERMAWAN
 <p>■ Very good ■ Good</p>	 <p>■ Very good ■ Good</p>	 <p>■ Very good ■ Good</p>
SESSION 4. ASEAN EFFORTS ON TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION- DR. ARVIN C. DIESMOS	SESSION 5. DEMAND REDUCTION STRATEGIES IN COMBATING FOREST CRIME- MS. NATASHA HAN	OVERALL QUALITY OF THE WORKSHOP
 <p>■ Very good ■ Good</p>	 <p>■ Very good ■ Good</p>	 <p>■ very good ■ good ■ average</p>

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS

### Thank you notes:

- Thank you so much for this training.
- I very much appreciate inviting us to participate in this workshop. Capacity building workshops like this one should be held frequently and it is very good for gaining so much knowledge from this workshop.
- The workshop is a good initiative toward the development of a regional framework and policy/regulation to combat organized forest crime incidents.
- This workshop is very helpful for us. This is my first time and I entered about six months ago. I am very thankful for this workshop initiative in many ways.
- I am impressed with RETC colleagues and their patience. Thank you for the opportunity.

### Next training may be operated considered...

- Less assignments, makes sense if workshop is physical, but virtually it's difficult
- The learning experience and participant engagement would be much better in in-person setting rather than virtually.
- It looks like most of the participants were not aware of the format of the workshop. It will be very helpful if the Secretariat could organize a briefing session with each country prior to the actual workshop date. That way, participants will come more prepared and the discussion and group work will be more productive. Adequate time needs to be given to individual countries to prepare their country report and action plan. Group works as such were not so productive given the format of the training workshop (virtual). It would be useful if the secretariat could come up with alternative ways of organizing such virtual training to maximize learning, participation and interaction among the participants.
- For the next workshop I suggest it be held physically. because it is easier to carry out work in groups, class lectures, discussions, etc.
- The Workshop is a great platform to share the knowledge and experience among National, Regions and International. However, as it is conducted in virtually some activities and involvement would not be able to fully commit due to other commitments in office. Apart of that, the syllabus of the workshop is really good and hope to enhance the
- In the future, I can probably conduct myself physically (more efficiently, proactive, understanding). In terms of topic and lecturer, probably can invite more relevant to the topic, have case study, etc.

### Next training topic under Forest Crime may include...

- Experiences and success stories on Technology use for forest crime control
- Resource Persons from ASEC, APEC EGILAT, SOMTC
- Technology use for forest crime
- I recommend that for the next workshop, especially under the topic combating forest crime, we need to invite a lecturer from INTERPOL considering we need to discuss how to cut down the illegal logging activity and transboundary forest crime for example, inter-state intelligence, prevention, ways to cooperate at national borders and etc.
- Lecture on latest technology for monitoring in areas of forest crime
- Resource Persons from Session 1 & Session 5
- About financial investigations.
- Role of Forest certification on combating forest crime

## 9. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NO.	COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION	AFFILIATION
1	Bhutan	Mr. Kinley Tshering	Chief Forestry Officer	Forest Protection Enforcement Division
2		Mr. Sonam Tobgay	Chief Forestry Officer	Forest Resources Management Division
3		Mr. Lhab Tshering	Senior Forestry Officer	Affiliation Forest Resources Management Division, Department of Forests and Park Services
4	Brunei Darussalam	Mr. Haji Ryni Sofian Haji Othman	Senior Forestry Officer	Forestry Department, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism
5		Ms. Miza Farzana Abdul Ghani	Forestry Officer	Forestry Department, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism
6	Cambodia	Ms. LY Khim	Staff	Department of Forest Legislation and Law Enforcement
7	Kazakhstan	Mr. Kuat Amangeldinovich Meirembekov	Chief Expert	Forestry Development Department Forestry and Wildlife Committee Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
8		Mr. Ivan Alexandrovich Kokh	Head of division	Department of Forests and Protected Natural Territories North Kazakhstan Regional Territorial Inspectorate Committee of Forestry and Wildlife of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
9	Kyrgyzstan	Mr. Toktonazarov Ernist	Head of the department	Forest Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
10		Mr. Azhygulov Taalaibek	chief specialist	Forest Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
11	Malaysia	Ms. Fong Pek Yee	Forest Conservator	Sabah Forestry Department
12		Mr. Denny Kana Anak Joshua	Executive Forester	Forest Department, Sarawak
13		Mr. Edmund William	Forest Conservator	Sabah Forestry Department
14		Mr. Adrian Markus Bin Teran	Executive Forester	Forest Department, Sarawak
15		Mr. Nik Muhammad Faris bin Nik Othman	Assistant Director (Enforcement)	Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia
16	Myanmar	Ms. Ei Sandar Myint	Staff Officer	Forest Department
17		Mr. Shin Thant Oo	Range Officer	Forest Department
18		Mr. Phyo Pyae Sone	Range Officer	Forest Department
19	Philippines	Ms. Cathy Pauig	Senior Forest Management Specialist	Forest Management Bureau
20		Mr. Jhun Barit	Senior Forest Management Specialist	Forest Management Bureau
21		Ms. Luimyla Valente-Peña	Senior Forest Management Specialist	Forest Management Bureau
22		Ms. Marie Argin Bernadette M. Mendoza	Senior Forest Management Specialist	Forest Management Bureau
23	Timor-Leste	Ms. Yora Parera	Assistant of finance and administration	General Directorate of Forestry, Coffee and Industrial Plants, The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
24	Viet Nam	Ms. Dao Le Huyen TRANG	Researcher, Deputy head of General Division	Viet Nam Forest Certification Office
25		Mr. Doan Tien Vinh	Official	Viet Nam Administration of Forestry

### **Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO)**

AFoCO is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization that is committed to strengthening forest cooperation and taking concrete actions to promote sustainable forest management and address the impacts of climate change.

### **AFoCO Regional Education and Training Center (RETC)**

AFoCO RETC was established as a subsidiary organ of AFoCO to develop the capacities of member countries in dealing with forestry and related environmental issues. The RETC provides practical and problem-solving oriented training programs, training courses, and workshops to enhance the knowledge and skills of diverse participants including government officials from member countries, researchers, university students, and members of local communities, among others.

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*AFoCO's Training Reports aim to highlight the findings of training activities and provide up-to-date knowledge and information on the topics discussed by participating Member Countries. The views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the decision-making bodies of AFoCO or its Member Countries.*

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