ACCO OVERVIEW



The Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (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. Through action-oriented practices, AFoCO aims to contribute to the global goals of increasing forest cover and implementing the Paris Agreement on climate change. AFoCO is a Permanent Observer to the United Nations General Assembly and an ODA-eligible International Organization enlisted under the OECD-DAC.



AFoCO envisions a greener Asia with resilient forests, landscapes, and communities. This will be achieved through enhanced cooperation in climate change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable forest management and livelihood improvement programs. Under the broader scope of climate change impacts, AFoCO will promote and undertake action-oriented forest cooperation programs and projects to achieve its mission. For sustainable forest management, AFoCO works to rehabilitate degraded forest land and address deforestation and forest degradation. It also explores common interests and positions among the member states as a unique intergovernmental organization in the forest sector.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Initiating customised restoration & reforestation models



Supporting research & development in climate change adaptation approaches



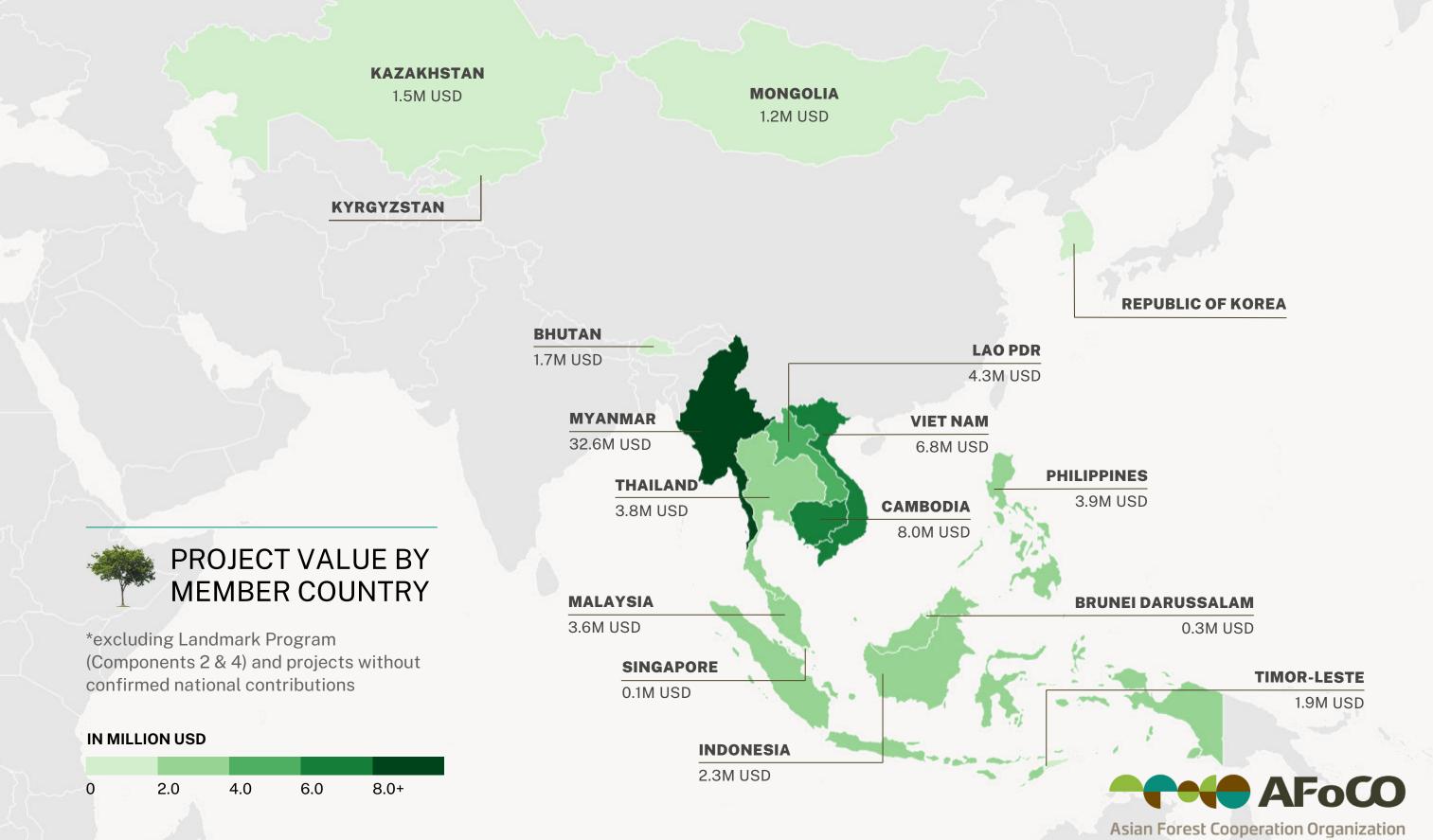
Introducing systematic management of forest-related disasters



Local livelihood improvement & community-based enterprise development



Strengthening institutional capabilities, diversifying resources & promoting regional actions

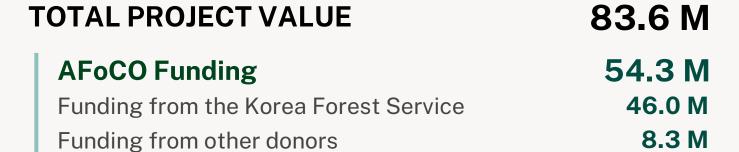






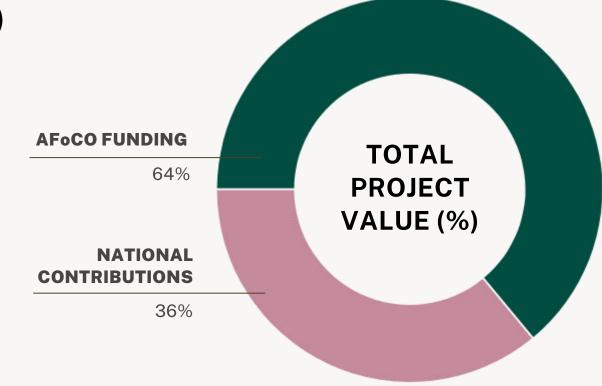
PROJECT FUND DISTRIBUTION (2013–2022)

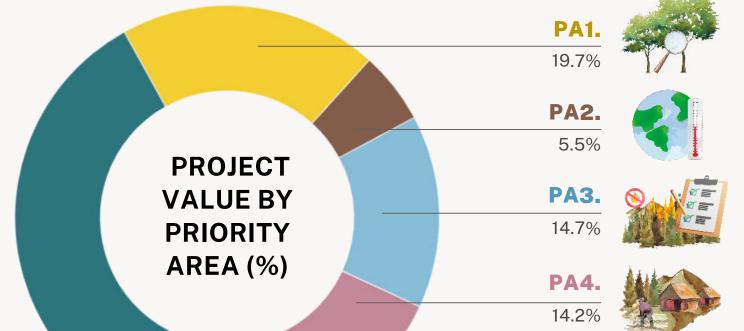
29.3 M



National contributions

*including cash and in-kind contributions; excluding projects without confirmed national contributions





Initiating Customized Restoration & Reforestation Models

Supporting Research & Development in Climate Change Adaptation Approaches

Introducing Systematic Management of Forest-related Disasters

Local Livelihood Improvement & Community-based Enterprise Development

Strengthening Institutional Capabilities, Diversifying Resources & Promoting Regional Actions

(Resources were allocated to implement capacity building initiatives such as the establishment of AFoCO RETC during the initial stage of AFoCO)



BUILDING CAPACITIES IN FORESTRY

AFoCO's flagship capacity-building programs — Fellowship Program, Landmark Scholarship Program, and Science & Technology Exchange Partnership (STEP) Program — have also benefitted young professionals forestry stakeholders at the national and local levels across Asia.

31

FELLOWSHIP OFFICIALS

(2015-2023)

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

27

10 PhD, 17 MSc (2015-2023)

STEP PROGRAM RESEARCHERS

12

PA5.

45.9%

(2019-2022)

TRAINING COURSES (2014-2022)

46 52
REGULAR COMMUNITY
COURSES DEVELOPMENT

GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF LOCAL OFFICIALS COMMUNITIES

5,083 4,641

(47.3%) (43.2%)

11

CUSTOMIZED COURSES

RESEARCHERS & STUDENTS

1,024 (9.5%)

109 TIMES, 10,748 PARTICIPANTS

COURSES

FEMALES 1 42.6%

The AFoCO Regional Education and Training Center (RETC), a specialized subsidiary organ of AFoCO, was established in Yangon region, Myanmar, in 2018 to serve as a platform for capacity development, knowledge transfer, and information sharing. The RETC operates diverse training and workshops to address capacity development needs in the forest sector.



Adoption of the
Agreement on the
Establishment of AFoCO
and preparations for its
entry into force



- Granted Permanent Observer status by the United Nations General Assembly;
- Accreditation as an observer IO to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)



Admission as observer IO to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)



- Establishment of AFoCO as an international organization (IO);
- Opening of AFoCO RETC in Yangon region, Myanmar



- Enlisted as an IO eligible for Official Development Assistance (ODA) under the OECD-DAC;
- Entry-into-force of the HQ Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Korea and AFoCO;
- Accredited as observer IO for participation at Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) meetings