

2023 Annual Report – Supplementary Information

# ONGOING PROJECTS

## AFoCO/008/2014

### Village-based Forest Rehabilitation in Lao PDR

<b>Duration</b>	2016 – 2025
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 1,865,830 AFoCO: USD 1,500,000 National: USD 87,990 (In-cash), USD 277,840 (In-kind)
<b>Project Site</b>	Paksong District, Champasak Province, Lao PDR Sangthong District, Vientiane capital, Lao PDR

## PROJECT SUMMARY

The project developed by Department of Forestry (DoF) with a strong support from the AFoCo Secretariat and technical assistance from a Korean Expert Team and a national consultant, was designed to contribute to increase national forest cover, reduce rural poverty, enhance forest carbon stocks, and contribute to mitigating global climate change. To achieve these aims, different forest regeneration measures will be applied. In order to engage local villagers to implement rehabilitation activities, the project will provide incentives to local villagers through various means, inter alia, strengthening capacity of villagers to produce a good quality of seedlings, seedling production, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas. To ensure sustainability and ownership, forest rehabilitation objectives will be integrated into a five-year plan of local social-economic development plan and village and clusters village development or three pillars development policy in the so-called "Sam Sang".

The project will be implemented within a timeframe of 10 years with funding support on a grant basis from AFoCo in a total amount of 1.5 million US Dollars which is shared about a half for Paksong and the other half for Sangthong districts. Within 10 years from 2016 to 2025, the Village Based Forest Rehabilitation program module objective is specified in the following section.

## Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to increase forest cover by the restoration of degraded forest areas, strengthen capability of government agencies and local authority including villagers in implementing national forest rehabilitation policy, and contribute to poverty reduction.

1. To demonstrate village-based forest rehabilitation concepts in degraded forests through the application of different forest regeneration measures (ex-situ conservation plantation, enrichment planting, and assisted natural regeneration)
2. To generate broad public support on the implementation of national forest rehabilitation policy in general, village-based forest rehabilitation program in particular
3. To provide incentives to local villagers through various means, inter alia, strengthening capacity of villagers to produce a good quality of seedlings, seedling production, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas
4. To strengthen capability of stakeholders at all levels for successful implementation and replication of the project

## Achievements in 2023

### Paksong District

- Activity 4.1.1 Organizing study tours for VFPG and VFDG
- Activity 4.3.1 Development of reforestation concept and related methodologies, procedures, and technical guidelines
- New Activity 2023-1 Improvement of natural water supply system from Kongtoun Mountain

### Sangthong District

- Activity 1.3.2. Conducted enrichment planting of 21
- Activity 4.3.2 Recording, storing, synthesizing, updating and documenting all related concept, methodologies, procedures, technical guidelines and experiences

Total AFoCO Budget Expended

USD 87,910.49



1. Conducted tending models in Quang Ninh province  
2. Conducted tending models in Vinh Phuc province

## AFoCO/013/2020

### Improving *Pinus caribaea* Morelet for plantation on degraded land in Viet Nam's Northern mountains region

<b>Duration</b>	07/2020 – 12/2023
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 576,285 AFoCO: USD 486,000 National: USD 90,285
<b>Project Site</b>	Northern mountainous region of Viet Nam

## PROJECT SUMMARY

The project proposal aims to rehabilitate plantation forest ecosystem by planting improved high-quality seedlings on degraded land in the north of Viet Nam as well as in Mekong sub-region countries which have similar natural conditions to Viet Nam in order to adapt to climate change. When the project is completed, project technical staff can exchange experience with regional countries on plantation and rehabilitation of forests on degraded land. Additionally, improved seedlings will be widely introduced so as that they are able to be developed to increase the productivity of plantation forests and rehabilitate forests on degraded land. Plantation and rehabilitation of degraded forest regions is an urgent issue for Southeast Asian countries, so the project demonstration model and lesson-learned which will be applied for the local farmers and also for the other regions which have the same environmental site condition for increasing farmers' knowledge of intensive planting for the high economic value purpose and adaptation to the hard environmental conditions in the current years. The experiences and lessons learnt from implementation project will be shared through international conferences and publications that would be of great significance for exchanging and sharing with countries in the Mekong sub-region

## Objectives

To develop *P. caribaea* forests on degraded land in northern mountainous region by improving high-quality seedling production, developing intensive cultivation techniques and appropriate *P. caribaea* timber processing and preservation technology to meet market demands and provide raw materials for timber processing industry.

1. To improve high-quality *P. caribaea* seedling production by selection of at least 150 plus trees from seed orchards; development of 10ha of transformed seed stands and 4ha of seed orchards; completion of sexual and asexual propagation techniques to create high-quality seedlings and transfer them to production
2. To develop and transfer the guideline of intensive forest plantation to production; develop 11ha of model forest from created seedlings
3. To develop appropriate techniques to preserve *P. caribaea* timber to meet market demands

## Achievements in 2023

- B.2 Conducted tending and collected data for 4ha seed orchards
- B.3 Conducted tending and collected data for 10ha of transformed seed stand in Dai Lai
- D.1 Organized 1 training course for 20 participants
- F.2 Conducted tending and collected data for 4ha in 2 sites (in Quang Ninh and Vinh Phuc)
- F.3 Conducted tending and collected data for 3ha of models in 2 sites (Michelia mediocris Dandy, Cinnamomum parthenoxylon, and *P. caribaea* Morelet)
- F.4 Conducted tending and collected data for 2ha sites (*Morinda officinalis*)
- F.5 Conducted tending and collected data for 2ha of models in 2 sites (Cinnamomum parthenoxylon, *Erythrophleum fordii*, *Chukrasia tabularis*)
- H.1 Organized 1 training course for 20 participants

### SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

- 1.3 Organized the final workshop in Ha Noi

### SUPPLEMENTS TO THE WORK PLAN OF 2023 BY USING THE PROJECT'S SAVINGS

- B.4 Organized 2 training courses on seed stand transformation in Quang Ninh and Vinh Phuc
- 5. Organized 1 workshop on the project's accomplishments and impacts for a total of 5p participants



1. Conducted tending models in Quang Ninh province

2. Conducted tending models in Vinh Phuc province

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey and assessment activities: to select plus trees, monitor, describe (phenological and characteristics); and to collect, store, preserve, and germinate seeds from selected plus trees to produce 7,100 seedlings</li> <li>• Surveyed and prepared field sites for models: 4 ha seed orchards, 9 ha transformed seed stands; 4 ha pure plantation of P.caribaea, 3 ha mix plantation, 2 ha NTFPs, and 2 ha native species under canopy</li> <li>• Arranged experiments, and collected and analyzed data for 3 technical guidelines for propagation method by seeds, cuttings, and grafting respectively. Also, the IA has organized 1 training course on propagation methods in the first year of the Project</li> <li>• Conducted survey sites and data collection for soil conditions to produce a soil conditions map, and 1 report on criteria and scale of site conditions for planting P.caribaea</li> <li>• Conducted survey and assess markets of pine wood, P.caribaea and timber processing inside and outside of country</li> <li>• Developed technical guidelines on temporary post-harvesting wood, post-sawing timber preservation techniques; and P.caribaea wood processing of finger joint boards and veneer</li> <li>• Conducted Inception meeting</li> <li>• Hired 1 contract staff to assist PMU</li> </ul>	152,721

2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey and assessment activities: to monitor, describe (phenological and characteristics), germinate seeds from selected plus trees to produce 8,080 seedlings</li> <li>• Conducted plantation, data collection and tending for models: 4 ha seed orchards, 9 ha transformed seed stands; 4 ha pure plantation of P.caribaea, 3 ha mix plantation, 2 ha NTFPs, and 2 ha native species under canopy.</li> <li>• Arranged experiments, collected and analyzed data to finalize 3 technical guidelines for propagation method by seeds, cuttings and grafting respectively. Also, the IA has organized 1 training course on propagation methods in the first year of the Project</li> <li>• Organized 4 training courses on soil conditions determination and forest rehabilitation</li> <li>• Finalized 4 technical guidelines on temporary post-harvesting wood, post-sawing timber preservation techniques; and P.caribaea wood processing of finger joint boards and veneer</li> <li>• Hired 1 contract staff to assist PMU</li> </ul>	172,483
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Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organized the Mid-term workshop on 27 June 2022</li> <li>• Survey and assessment activities: to monitor, describe (phenological and characteristics)</li> <li>• Conducted data collection and tending for models: 4 ha seed orchards, 10 ha transformed seed stands; 4 ha pure plantation of P.caribaea, 3 ha mix plantation, 2 ha NTFPs, and 2 ha native species under canopy</li> <li>• Hired 1 contract staff to assist PMU</li> <li>• Nominated 1 staff to abroad training course in Philippines</li> <li>• Organized training courses on seed production, P.caribaea intensive plantation, preservation and processing</li> </ul>	96,809
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted data collection and tending for models: 4 ha seed orchards, 10 ha transformed seed stands; 4 ha pure plantation of P.caribaea, 3 ha mix plantation, 2 ha NTFPs, and 2 ha native species under canopy</li> <li>• Hired 1 contract staff to assist PMU</li> <li>• The final workshop</li> <li>• Training courses on seed stand transformation</li> <li>• Workshop on the project's achievements and impacts</li> </ul>	63,987
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 486,000</b>



Organized the final workshop on 20 December 2023

## AFoCO/016/2021

# Promotion of Vertical Integration in Wood Processing through People's Organization in Community Based Forest Management Areas in the Philippines

<b>Duration</b>	01 July 2021 – 30 June 2026
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 1,118,536.60 AFoCO: USD 928,821.60 National: USD 169,315.00 Others: USD 20,400
<b>Project Site</b>	One in the Visayas and one in Mindanao <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visayas: Region 7, Central Visayas Province of Negros Oriental, Municipality of Bindoy</li> <li>• Mindanao: Region 13, CARAGA Region; Province of Agusan del Sur, Municipality of Prosperidad</li> </ul>

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

The Forest Management Bureau (FMB) which is under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), is the Implementing Agency (IA) of the project entitled "Promotion of Vertical Integration in Wood Processing through People's Organizations in Community Based Forest Management Areas in the Philippines".

This five-year endeavor is being implemented in two (2) tenured areas covered by a Community Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA) awarded to the People's Organization (PO) of the Nalundan United Farmers Association, Inc. (NUFAI) located in Barangay Nalundan, Bindoy, Negros Oriental, Central Visayas (Region 7) and Mabuhay Timberland Farmers Multipurpose Cooperative (MATILFAMCO) located at Barangay Mabuhay, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur, CARAGA (Region 13).

## Objectives

The project intends to support the vertical integration in CBFM areas through the promotion of community-based livelihood by utilizing the existing plantations.

1. Promote the engagement of two (2) participating CBFM POs into value adding activities in wood production.
2. Provide adequate market linkages for the two (2) participating CBFM POs in the operation of their wood-based enterprise.
3. Formulate and recommend enabling policy guidelines for the implementation of vertical integration as a business model for CBFM POs.

## Achievements in 2023

- Procurement of wood processing machineries and equipment for the two project sites/Regions (Regions 7 and 13)
- Procurement of Project Vehicle for two project sites/Regions (Regions 7 and 13)
- Conduct of workshops – these include the workshop on the formulation of re-investment Scheme in Region 7 and workshop on the preparation of Business plan for both Region (Region 7 and 13).
- Conduct of data gathering for the Market study – the initial report was already submitted on 2023 while the final report and presentation is scheduled on 2024.

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
<b>2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.2.1 Procurement of Machineries and Equipment</li> <li>• 1.2.2 Procurement of Project Vehicle</li> <li>• 1.3.1 Workshop on the updating of Reinvestment Scheme</li> <li>• 2.1 Preparation of Market Information Matrix through a market survey and supply and demand analysis</li> <li>• Staff Resource Allowance</li> <li>• Management Support to Operation</li> <li>• Monitoring and Evaluation</li> </ul>	283,937.69
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 283,937.69</b>



1. The conduct of National Year-End Assessment  
2. The machineries and equipment for veneer processing in Region 13

## AFoCO/017/2020

# Sustainable Community-based Enterprise Development for Improved Rural Livelihood in Bhutan

<b>Duration</b>	2020 – 2025
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 1,400,000 AFoCO: USD 1,000,000 National: USD 400,000
<b>Project Site</b>	12 Districts – Bumthang, Chukha, Thimphu, Paro, Haa, Gasa, Wangdue, Punakha, Tsiring, Lhuentse, Trashigang, Pemagatshel

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Bhutan's rural community directly depends on natural resources using it as wild vegetables, medicinal herbs, firewood, house-building timber, drinking and irrigation water, fodder and leaf litter for cattle, spiritual ground and recreation, ecotourism, etc. They utilize the natural resources with traditional knowledge enhanced by technical knowledge and programs initiated for the benefit of the rural people since the inception of the community forest and non-wood forest products programs in the early 1990s. To further enhance the income generation of the rural communities, while sustainably managing the natural resources, the AFoCO Project with million-dollar support targets 12 districts out of 20 in Bhutan focusing on community forest and non-wood forest product management groups.

This project will provide strategic interventions such as sustainable forest management and improving the livelihoods of rural communities. This project will build the capacities of key stakeholders in implementing the project at the central, local governments, forestry officials, and rural communities.

## Objectives

1. Promote CF and NWFP industry by establishing community-based enterprises
2. Develop alternative income sources for the livelihoods of rural communities
3. Enhance knowledge and technology on climate change adaptation through sustainable forest management

## Achievements in 2023

- Infrastructure development for Zordung Wood-based Enterprise
- Training on Silviculture for forestry officials (2 rounds to 48 officials)
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the project activities by AFoCO Secretariat (mid-term evaluation and monitoring)
- Training on Good Governance and Record Keeping to the Communities/Enterprises
- Participation of forestry officials in international workshops and trainings (2 international workshops/trainings)
- Procurement of laptops (8 laptops)
- Domestication of 2 NWFP species
- Identification of 2 new eco-tourism enterprises

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
<b>2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of potential CF/NWFP Enterprises</li> <li>• Consultation meetings and workshop for identification of CF/NWFP Enterprises</li> <li>• Field Survey and assessment of vulnerable timber and NWFP Species</li> <li>• Procurement of office supplies</li> </ul>	1,075.09
<b>2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Plan Preparation Training</li> <li>• Identification of potential Eco-tourism enterprises</li> <li>• Consultation meetings and workshops for the identification of eco-tourism Enterprises</li> <li>• Training on resource assessment, good governance and silviculture</li> <li>• Procurement of computers and office equipment</li> <li>• Procurement of vehicle</li> <li>• Protection and management of watersheds</li> </ul>	114,405.84
<b>2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure development for Laya Incense Enterprise, Devithang Hot-stone Bath Enterprise, Jagay Menchu Hot-stone Bath Enterprise, Tokey Menchu Hot-stone Bath Enterprise, and Drakey Chinto Incense Enterprise</li> <li>• Procurement of Incense processing unit and equipment for wood-based enterprises</li> <li>• Domestication of Cane and Bamboo</li> <li>• Training on silviculture</li> </ul>	260,726.25
<b>2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure development for Zordung Wood-based Enterprise</li> <li>• Training on Silviculture</li> <li>• Monitoring and Evaluation</li> <li>• Training on Good Governance and Book Keeping</li> <li>• Procurement of Incense processing and packaging unit</li> <li>• Identification of Eco-tourism Enterprises</li> <li>• Participate in international workshops and trainings</li> <li>• Domestication of NWFPs</li> </ul>	153,679.47
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 529,886.65</b>



1. Project staff from Bhutan attending the Annual Technical Workshop in Vietnam  
2. Construction of Infrastructure for Zordung Wood-based Enterprise

## AFoCO/018/2020

### Development of Agroforestry Models for Promotion of Reforestation in the Different Agroecological Zones (AEZ) in Timor-Leste

<b>Duration</b>	January 2021 – January 2024
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 605,580 AFoCO: USD 516,700 National: USD 88,880
<b>Project Site</b>	1. Bobonaro Municipality (Central Zone) – 2 sites 2. Liquica Municipality (North Zone) – 1 site 3. Covalima Municipality (South Zone) – 2 Sites 4. Ermera Municipality (Central Zone) – 1 site

### PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

In Timor-Leste, about 183,800 ha of forests had disappeared between 2003 and 2012. During the same period, nearly 171,000 ha of dense forests had been degraded and converted into sparse forests or other forms of land use. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), particularly the Office of Director General of Forestry, Coffee and Industrial Plants (DGFCIP), and international agencies/donors (DPs) have made efforts of reducing the deforestation rate through reforestation over past decades. Nevertheless, even at present, deforestation and forest degradation remain as critical issues to be addressed in the country.

One of the technical weaknesses in the promotion of reforestation in the country is a lack of data and knowledge on agroforestry-based reforestation models, which must be suitable in different natural and socio-economic contexts in Timor-Leste. As there are few agroforestry models proven in the field, it is essential to develop and demonstrate agroforestry-based models suitable for introduction in the different agro-ecological and socio-economic conditions in the country to enable MAF/DGFCIP to promote reforestation in collaboration with local communities in the entire country.

Hence, the proposed project will focus on i) establishment of field-tested agroforestry systems/models in the different agro-ecological zones, which are effective in reforestation and livelihood improvement, and ii) building of the institutional capacity to promote reforestation by demonstrating and scaling up the agroforestry systems/models in combination with CB-NRM approaches.

### Objectives

1. Promote agroforestry-based reforestation by disseminating agroforestry models suitable for the different natural conditions in the typical agro ecological zones as well as socio-economic conditions.
2. Strengthen institutional capacity of Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery (MAF)/Directorate General Forest, Coffee, and Industrial Plantations (DGFCIP) and relevant offices to promote reforestation and sustainable forest management in collaboration with other government and non-government institutions as well as local communities.
3. Build and strengthen networks with relevant stakeholders in the country and the region, particularly AFoCO member countries for knowledge sharing and scale-up of the agroforestry-based reforestation.

## Achievements in 2023

- Developed a set of technical manuals on development of the agroforestry-based reforestation models
- Conducted a consultation workshop on manual of agroforestry and capacity development needs analysis
- Continue Tree activities and tree barcodes installation in the demonstration plots
- Developed a project site



Tree monitoring and Barcode Installation at the Demonstration Plots in August and September 2023

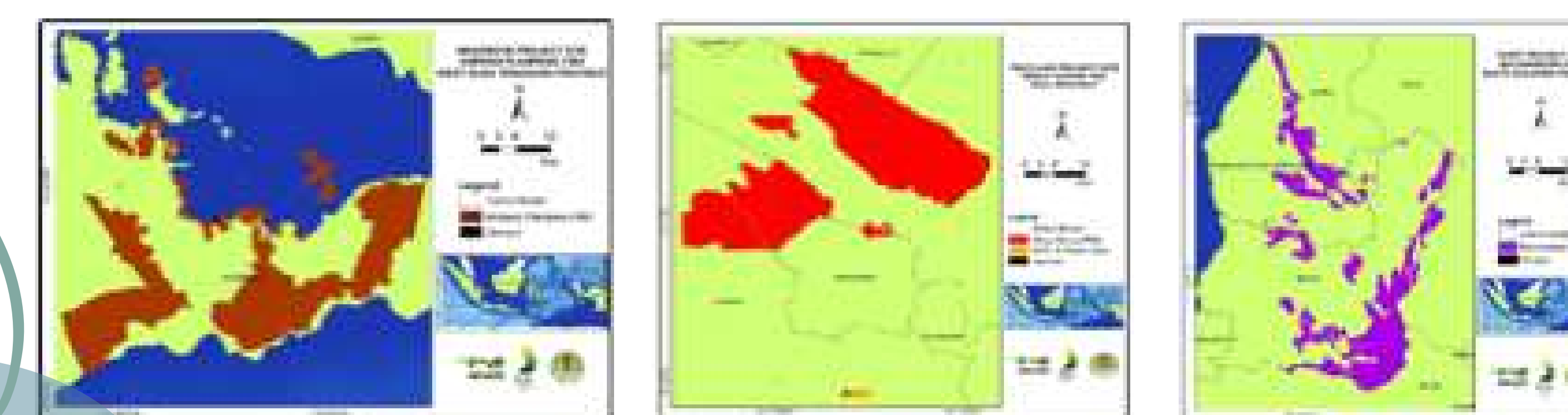
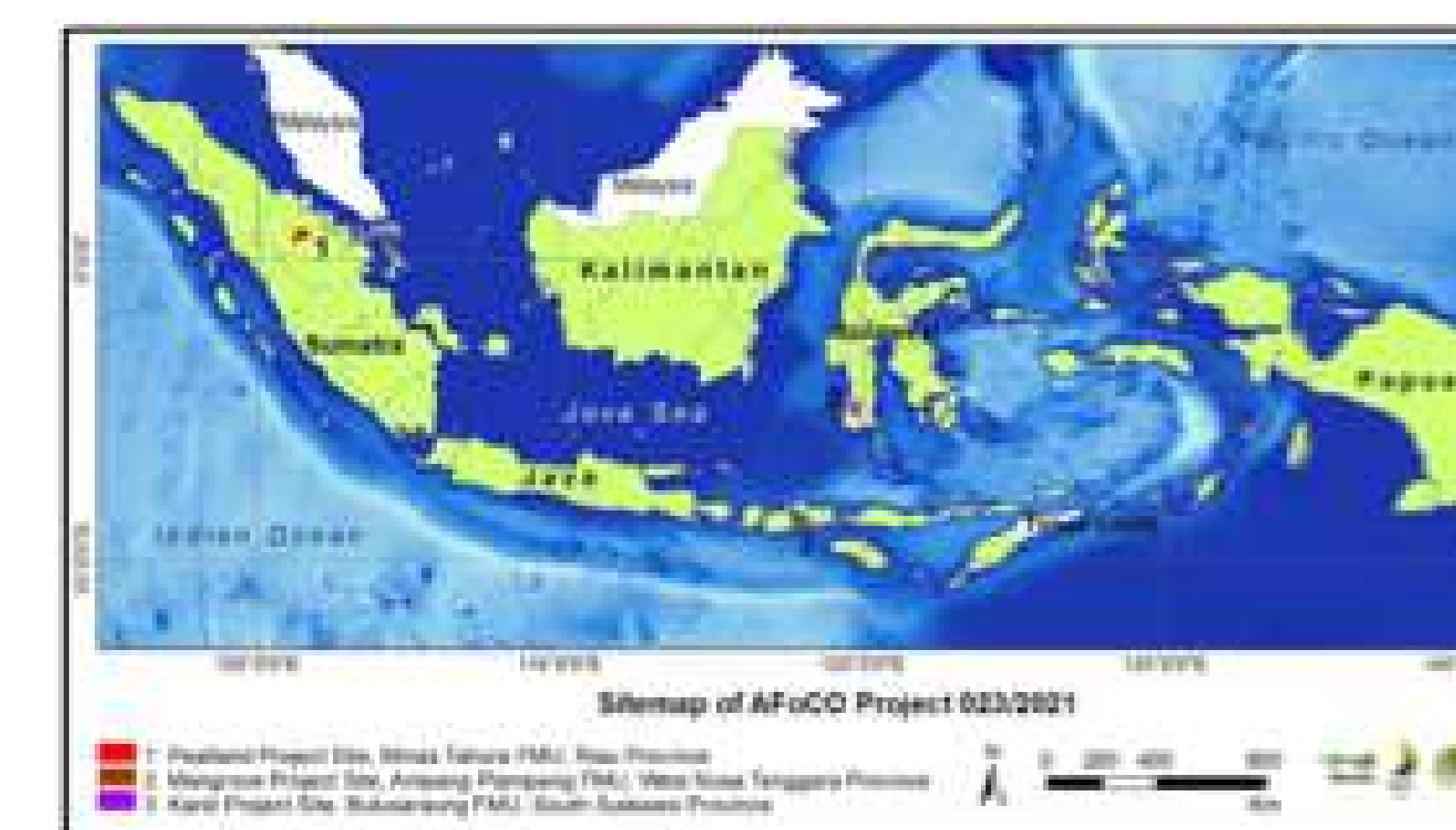


Consultation workshop on manual of agroforestry and capacity development needs analysis in August 2023 in Dili

## AFoCO/023/2021

### Innovative Solutions for Climate Change and Biodiversity Landscape Strategy to Support SDGs in Indonesia

<b>Duration</b>	1 July 2021 – 31 December 2024
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 800,000 AFoCO: USD 700,000 National: USD 100,000
<b>Project Site</b>	1. Tropical peatlands forest of Forest Area with specific Purpose of Kepau Jaya and Forest Management Unit of Minas Thura in Siak District, Riau Province 2. Mangrove ecosystem in Ampang Forest Management Unit,



Project Site Map

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Indonesia has committed to reduce GHG emissions by 29% unconditionally and 41% conditionally with financial support by 2030. Prioritizing the land-based sector is a strategic approach to meet these goals outlined in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Forest Management Units (FMUs) in the country total 321, but only 131 have a long-term forest management plan (RPHJP), and 139 have not developed one (DG PHPL, 2019), mainly due to insufficient capacity of forest managers. FMUs are vital for implementing mitigation and adaptation actions to contribute to the national NDC target. Integrating these plans into FMUs' RPHJP and RPHJM, along with business models aligned with these plans, will support achieving NDC targets and enhancing community resilience to climate change.

The project aims to introduce innovative solutions on sustainable management practices and enhance the capacities of Forest Management Units (FMUs) and local communities on contributing to Indonesia's emissions reduction targets and improve biodiversity landscapes to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDGs 1, 8, 13 and 15. The project will work in the three different ecosystem types in Indonesia, which are peatland, mangrove and combination of karst and lowland forest.



## Objectives

1. Establish baseline informaton by mapping the existing biophysical, soci-economic condition, and potency of natural resources in the three study sites in the beginning of the project
2. Facilitate the preparation of business plans of the Forest Management Units (FMUs) at three study sites
3. Develop demonstration plots of at least 10 ha in each study site for carbon stock enhancement in FMUs or Forest Area with Specific Purpose (KHDTK) areas
4. Transfer techniques and raise awareness of project model establishment to relevant stakeholders through the synthesis of knowledge and experinces, recommendations on policy practices, and dissemination of prohect outputs.

## Achievements in 2023

- Conducted capacity building trainings :
  - Activity 4.2 Accounting Carbon Stock Based on Indonesian National Standard of 7724:2019 and Emission Reduction form Frestry Sector with 87 participants from 47 FMUs in 3 provinces
  - Activity 4.3 Initiating and promoting eco-tourism for community around forest with 85 participants from 3 FMUs in 3 provinces
  - Activity 4.4 Statup business and oline business for community around the forest with 248 participants from 3 FMUs in 3 provinces
- Conducted series workshops:
  - Activity 5.1 Developing the Long Term Forest Management Plan based on Climate Cahnge Adaptation for the three project sites
  - Activity 9.2 Publication and disseminations with participant from national expert or researchers who involved in the project activities about 47 participants and four mentors. The current outputs are two publications are submitted to International journals and under reviewed and three draft of publications on writing progress.



Capacity building on startup business including upgrade products or services through value addition and online business of Mud Crab Silvofishery in Mangrove Forest with community around Ampang Plampang FMU in South Sulawesi

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect and analyze data and information for scoping and spatial analysis</li> <li>• Collect and analyze baseline data and information of carbon stock, emission, biodiversity; and identification of potential commodities in three sites (Riau, Bali, South Sulawesi)</li> <li>• Participatory rural appraisal (PRA) on demonstration plot site matching</li> <li>• Establishing demonstration plots</li> </ul>	42,436.57
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey and assess data and information of Socio-economic (livelihood, economic assessment, market analysis) at the beginning and end of the project</li> <li>• Investigate and conduct value chain analysis and market analysis of potential commodities</li> <li>• Conduct capacity building on GIS and Remote sensing analysis for FMU Officers at three project sites</li> <li>• Conduct capacity building on accounting of carbon stocks and emissions reduction, for FMU officers in the three project sites</li> <li>• Participatory rural appraisal (PRA) on demonstration plot site matching</li> <li>• Establishing demonstration plots</li> <li>• Maintenance growth monitoring of the demonstration plots</li> </ul>	173,417.54
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct capacity building on accounting of carbon stocks and emissions reduction, for FMU officers in the three project sites</li> <li>• Conduct Capacity building/training on initiating and promoting eco-tourism for FMU personnel at the three project sites</li> <li>• Conduct Capacity building on startup business (including upgrade products or services through value addition) and online business for FMU personnel at the three project sites</li> <li>• Workshop on developing scenario of Business Plans (forest-based ecotourism, etc., based on site resources potential and market opportunities) for the three project sites</li> <li>• Extended Establishing demonstration plots</li> <li>• Maintenance growth monitoring of the demonstration plots</li> <li>• Publication and dissemination (workshop, seminar, conference, publications)</li> </ul>	155,879.60
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 371,733.71</b>



1. Capacity building on startup business including upgrade products or services through value addition and online business of Mud Crab Silvofishery in Mangrove Forest with community around Ampang Plampang FMU in South Sulawesi  
2&3 Maintenance growth monitoring of the demonstration plots in Peatland ecosystem KHDTK Kepau Jaya in Riau

## AFoCO/025/2021

### Intergrated Village-Driven Forest Rehabilitation and Livelihood Improvement in Viengthong District, Bolikhamxay Province, Lao PDR

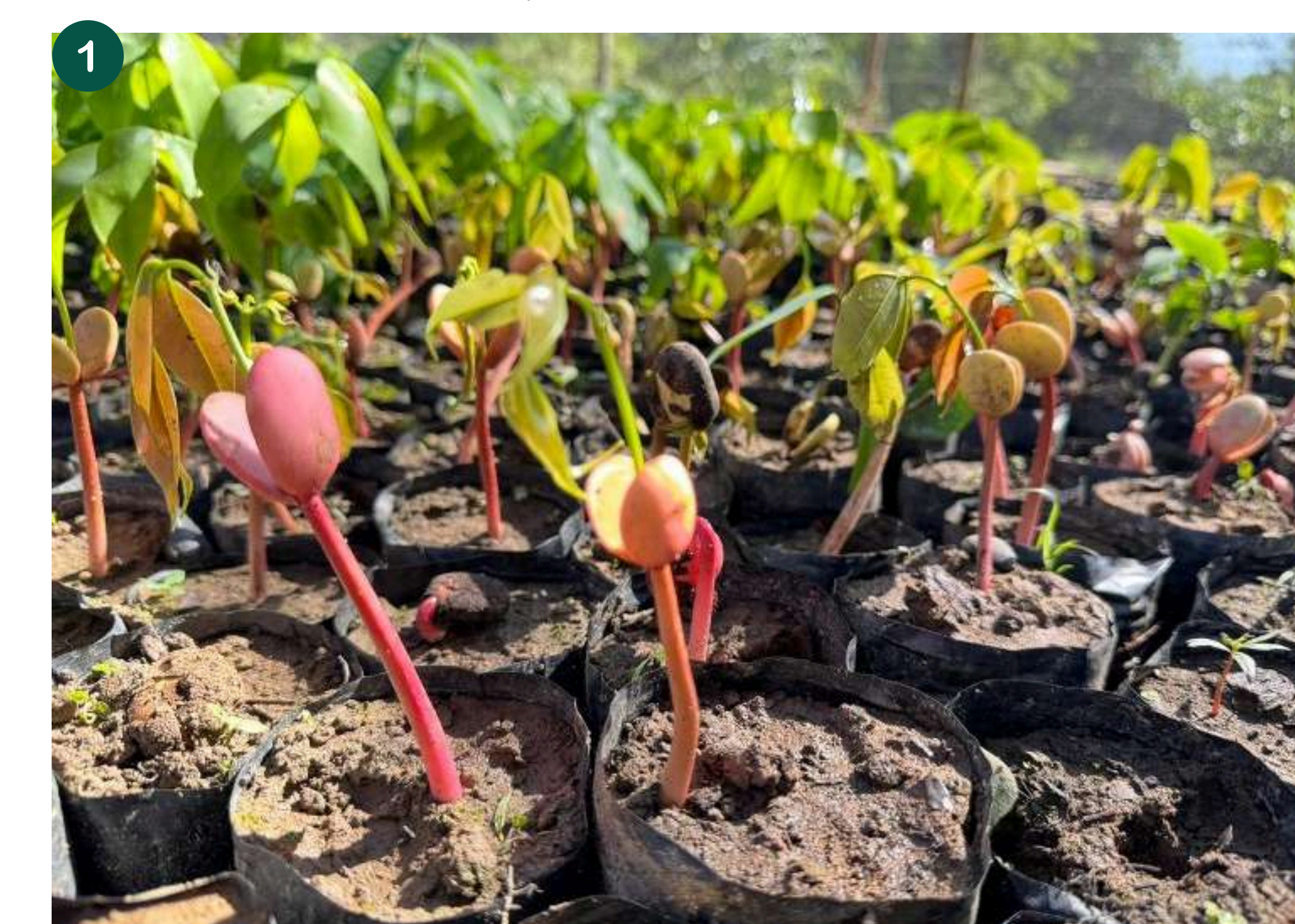
Duration	12021 – 2026
Budget	Total USD 1,099,840 AFoCO: USD 993,440 National: USD 106,400
Project Site	Phou Khene Protection Forest, in Viengthong District, Bolikhamxay Province, Lao PDR

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Forests are critically important for sustainable socio-economic development and local livelihoods in Lao PDR. However, the country has experienced serious deforestation during the last three decades. This has threatened sustainable socio-economic development and local livelihoods in the country, particularly for those whose livelihoods depend on forest resources. To reverse the situation, the Government of Lao PDR (GoL) has exerted best efforts in order to halt deforestation, while strongly promoting forest restoration combined with local livelihood improvement. In this connection, the GoL aims to restore 3 million hectares (ha) of degraded forest areas nationwide which are mainly in protection forests. This attempt is expected to contribute to the national target of increasing its forest cover up to 70% in the near future.

To restore the degraded forest areas, various community-based forest restoration models are being developed and tested in the country. The AFoCO/Landmark Rehabilitation Project, for instance, has developed and implemented a site-specific "Village-Driven Forest Restoration Model" in Sangthong and Paksong Districts of Lao PDR. The model integrates 3 technical measures which include forest protection, forest restoration and livelihood improvement of participating village community. To date, the model has illustrated a convincing appropriateness to the county's circumstances, local acceptance and meeting the policy priorities of the GoL.

The recently updated forestry legal framework, particularly the revised Forest Law, allows forest villagers to develop and use degraded forestland in protection forests for commercial tree plantation. The updated forestry law also recognizes the ownerships of village community and individuals on the planted trees and tree plantation upon legal registration. This increases opportunity for village community to integrate commercial plantation activities into the Village-Driven Forest Restoration Model as additional sources alternative income. Thus, the project is designed in such approach, particularly in the areas already occupied by villagers for cultivating agriculture crops in combination with tree plantation within the degraded forests in Phou Khene Protection Forest.



1. The seedlings in Viengthong district, Bolikhamxay province  
2. Enrichment planting by the villagers in Viengthong district, Bolikhamxay province

## Objectives

1. Develop, refine and make available for further replication of a set of technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable "Village-Driven Forest Restoration Model, ViDFoRM" for degraded protection forest areas following DoF's Common Approach to Village Forestry. One aspect of promoting replication of the models this will be to develop institutional and human capacity for successful implementation, management and replication of the ViDFoRM
2. Restore degraded forestland and protection of Phou Khaen Protection Forest Areas through the application of Forest Restoration Model "ViDFoRM" in selected areas of degraded protection forest through integrated natural forest regeneration measures, including enrichment planting, forest plantation, educational outreach scheme, forest patrols, and forest fire management in 10 villages located surrounding the Phou Khene Protection Forest
3. Improve livelihood of forest dependent community in Phou Khaen Protection Forest Areas through income generation from implementing forest restoration activities and NTFPs products
4. Manage the project in an effective manner and in compliance with project implementation guidelines and AFoCO related guidelines

## Achievements in 2023

- Established 10 Village Forest Restoration Groups (VFRGs)
- Seedling production 50,000 seedlings
- Conducted enrichment planting in 91ha and natural regeneration in 650 ha
- conducted patrolling activity in 10 target villages
- Establish PMU and DCU offices
- Conducted procurement of vehicles (1 pick-up, 2 motorbikes)
- Organized 2 training and 1 study tour

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
<b>2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act 2.1.4 Seedling production</li> <li>• Act 2.1.5 Conduct enrichment planting, assisted natural regeneration and maintenance</li> </ul>	USD 190,440
<b>2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act 2.1.4 Seedling production</li> <li>• Act 2.1.5 conduct enrichment planting, assisted natural regeneration and maintenance</li> </ul>	USD 317,210.72
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 371,733.71</b>

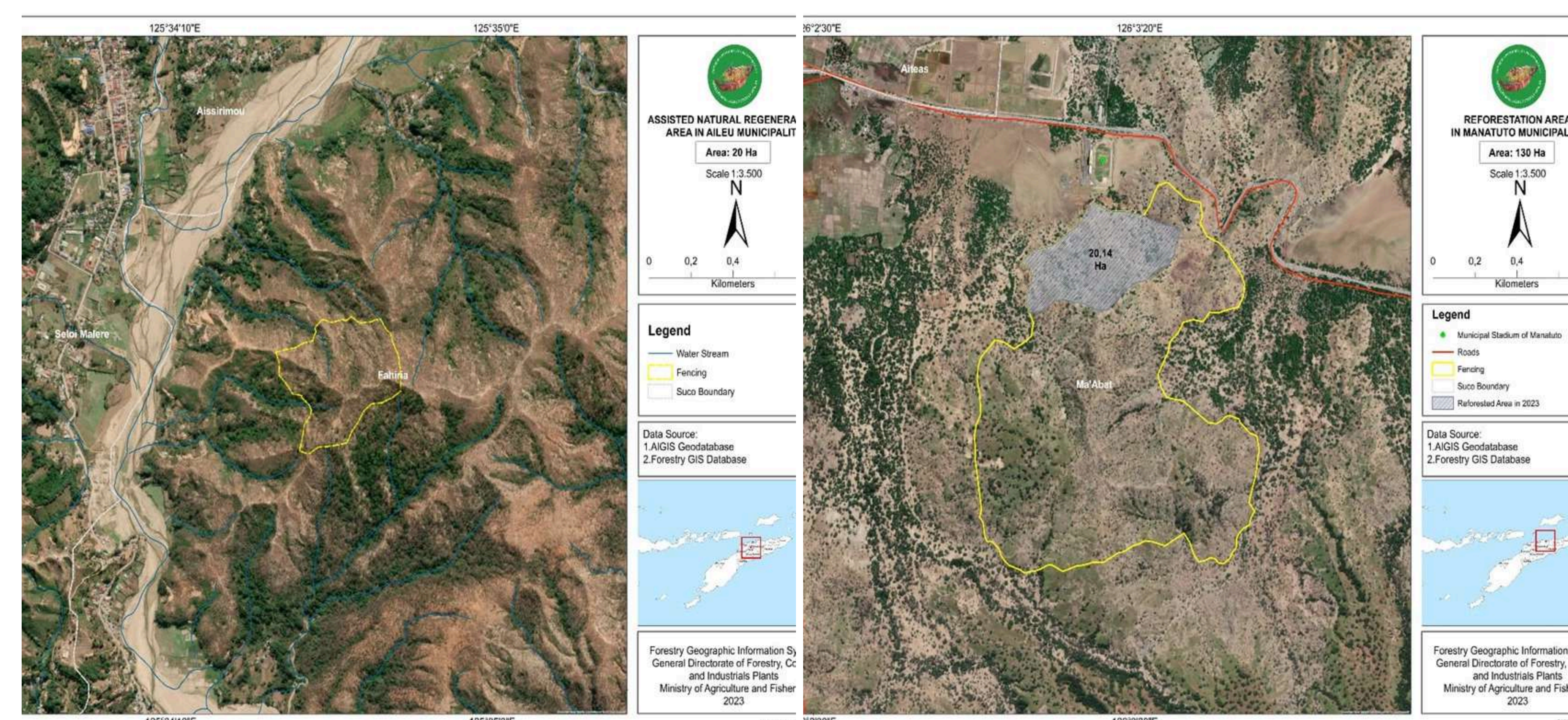


1. The villagers produced the seedlings in Viengthong district, Bolikhamxay province  
 2. Enrichment planting by the villagers in Viengthong district, Bolikhamxay province

## AFoCO/026/2021

# Re-greening the bare land in Timor-Leste through the Promotion of Locally Customized Restoration Models

<b>Duration</b>	2022 – 2026
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 1,050,000.00 AFoCO: USD 1,000,000.00 National: USD 50,000.00
<b>Project Site</b>	Municipality of Manatuto and Aileu



## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Timor-Leste, the youngest southeast country, has more than about 64% of its 1.2 million population dependent upon agriculture and natural resources for their livelihoods. Due to traditional agriculture practices, such as slash and burn activities, land degradation is a serious problem in many parts of the country and because of a lack of capacity for appropriate management practice in local communities, these practices continue. Lack of clear land tenure, shifting cultivation and heavy dependence upon firewood for energy are other reasons which exacerbate land degradation. Locally customized Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) is essential to restore the ecological and economic value of these critical landscapes. This project would engage a range of stakeholders to ensure better understanding of the degraded forest and restoration priorities in East Timor and employ a combination of methods such as participatory approaches, geo-spatial analysis, and participatory action research.

## Objectives

1. Establish database of the forestland degradation and build capacity of farmers in the project sites
2. Develop a business model for tradeoff of key ecosystem goods and services through a network of community-based enterprises

## Achievements in 2023

- Recruited 7 Field Assistance and 3 Security Guard
- Planted 82,270 seedlings in Manatuto and 12,500 seedlings in Aileu
- Built Warehouse/mini office in the project site Manatuto
- Established nursery in Manatuto and Aileu (Including Materials)
- Procurement Office facilities such as motorbikes, lapto, printer, GPS, camera, projector, external hard disk and sound system
- Conducted National Sandalwood and Forest Day

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organized 6 consultation meetings with community and local leaders in 2 Municipals</li> <li>• Launching and traditional ceremony</li> <li>• Established nursery and planting plots including fencing 130ha in Manatuto                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Established nursery in Manatuto Municipality- local materials (organic soil, seeds, bamboo)</li> <li>◦ Nursery materials</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Established planting plots (130ha)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Planting (labor cost, seedlings transportation, fertilizer application)</li> <li>◦ Year 1 of maintenance 40% (8000 seedlings + 24886)</li> <li>◦ Additional fencing (relocation from fencing maintenance 15% )</li> <li>◦ DSA for Senior level</li> <li>◦ DSA for Technical level</li> <li>◦ DSA for Municipality Senior level</li> <li>◦ DSA for Municipality technical level</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Established nursery and planting plots including fencing 20ha in Aileu Municipality for support assisted natural regeneration                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Established nursery in Aileu Municipality- local materials (organic soil, seeds, bamboo)</li> <li>◦ Nursery materials</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Established planting plots (20ha)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Land Preparation</li> <li>◦ Planting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	240,518.00
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 240,518.00</b>



Establish nursery in Manatuto



Special guest (Minister of Korea Forest Services, Executive Director AFoCO and members) for the Commemoration of National Sandalwood and Tree Planting Day



## AFoCO/027/2022

# Site Restoration and Sustainable Management of Community Forest Using Multiple Use Tree Species and Agroforestry

Duration	2022 – 2027
Budget	Total USD 727,515 AFoCO: USD 663,515 National: USD 64,000 (In-kind)
Project Site	Kampong Seila District, Preach Sihanouk province

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

The project is implemented by the Forestry Administration of Cambodia under financial support from the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization, which will span over five years starting in 2022. The project aims to restore forest resources (timber and NTFP) and increase community members' revenue to sustainably maintain community forests. The project site covers 592 ha of degraded forests in Neakta Thmor Prung Community Forestry located in Kampong Seila district, Preah Sihanouk Province. Through the project intervention, sustainable forest management will be achieved by creating a CF restoration plan, increasing the capacity of local community members, establishing tree nurseries, and restoring a quarter of the community forest with a variety of species to meet the needs of the community and forest site conditions as well as promoting sustainable forest-based livelihoods.

## Objectives

1. Ensure the community forest is well managed in the Philippines on the CFMP development and GIS and Remote Sensing Technology
2. Rehabilitate the community forest by using multiple species with high economic value and sustainably managed to benefit the local communities
3. Disseminate the project experiences and lessons to ensure the beneficial positive effects on other CFs and to sustain the activities after project completion

## Achievements in 2023

- Conducted the capacity building program in the Philippines on the CFMP development and GIS and Remote Sensing Technology
- Developed a 10-year restoration plan for community forestry through a participatory resource mapping approach, the conduct of forest inventory, community visioning and draft action plan
- Established a tree nursery to produce tree seedlings supplied in the Coastal region following the plan designs as well as development of a business plan for the nursery
- Intervening in forest protection by providing material and equipment to support forest patrolling
- Compiling the research and proceedings of the meeting and workshop aims to share knowledge and lessons learned in the future

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted a cross training for the team members in the Philippines on participatory CFMP development</li> <li>• Conducted participatory resources mapping of the community forest and forest inventory</li> <li>• Conducted community visioning of the CF and draft action plan</li> <li>• Prepared a 10-year forest management/restoration plan</li> <li>• Developed a plan for tree nursery construction</li> <li>• Established a tree nursery in the Gulf FA Inspectorate</li> <li>• Prepared a registration of CF Land</li> <li>• Provided research activities by university students and researchers</li> </ul>	106,957.52
AFoCO Budget Expended		USD 106,957.52



Conducting participatory resources mapping of the community forest and forest inventory



## AFoCO/028/2022

### Pilot project on inventory of unaccounted forests in Kostanay and North Kazakhstan regions and automation of information collection on forestry

<b>Duration</b>	2022 – 2027
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 727,515 AFoCO: USD 663,515 National: USD 64,000 (In-kind)
<b>Project Site</b>	Kampong Seila District, Preach Sihanouk province

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Despite its importance there were no projects conducted yet on inventory of unaccounted forests in the country, mainly because of budget limitations from the government. Since Kazakhstan's territory is big, most of the budget goes to the protection of existing forests from forest fires, pests and diseases. Moreover, about 70% of the country is considered as degraded. Hence, planting trees on the uncovered lands of state forest fund put a lot of pressure on the entire national budget.

Recent data show a small annual decline in area of forest and other wooded land between the last Soviet inventory. However, there are many problems with data quality, as well as of comparability with the 1988 data, so it is not possible even to make estimates of trends over the period. This is a typical situation not only in Kazakhstan, but also in whole Central Asia.

The management, inspection, permitting, accounting, and analysis of forest data are being performed by the managers and specialists of the Committee and its territorial agencies, forestry entities, and other forest owners across the country. These managerial functions involve the processing, transmission and storage of large amounts of data and information, which requires a functional and integrated system. At present, the collection and storage of primary data on forests and their processing for the compilation into statistical reports is carried out manually on paper at all levels of forest management. These led to inefficiency in forest management. It is necessary to develop a digital platform that would consolidate all levels of reporting data on forest management starting from the most primary from across the country up to compiled data at the governmental level, since forest data is crucial for forest management decision-making.

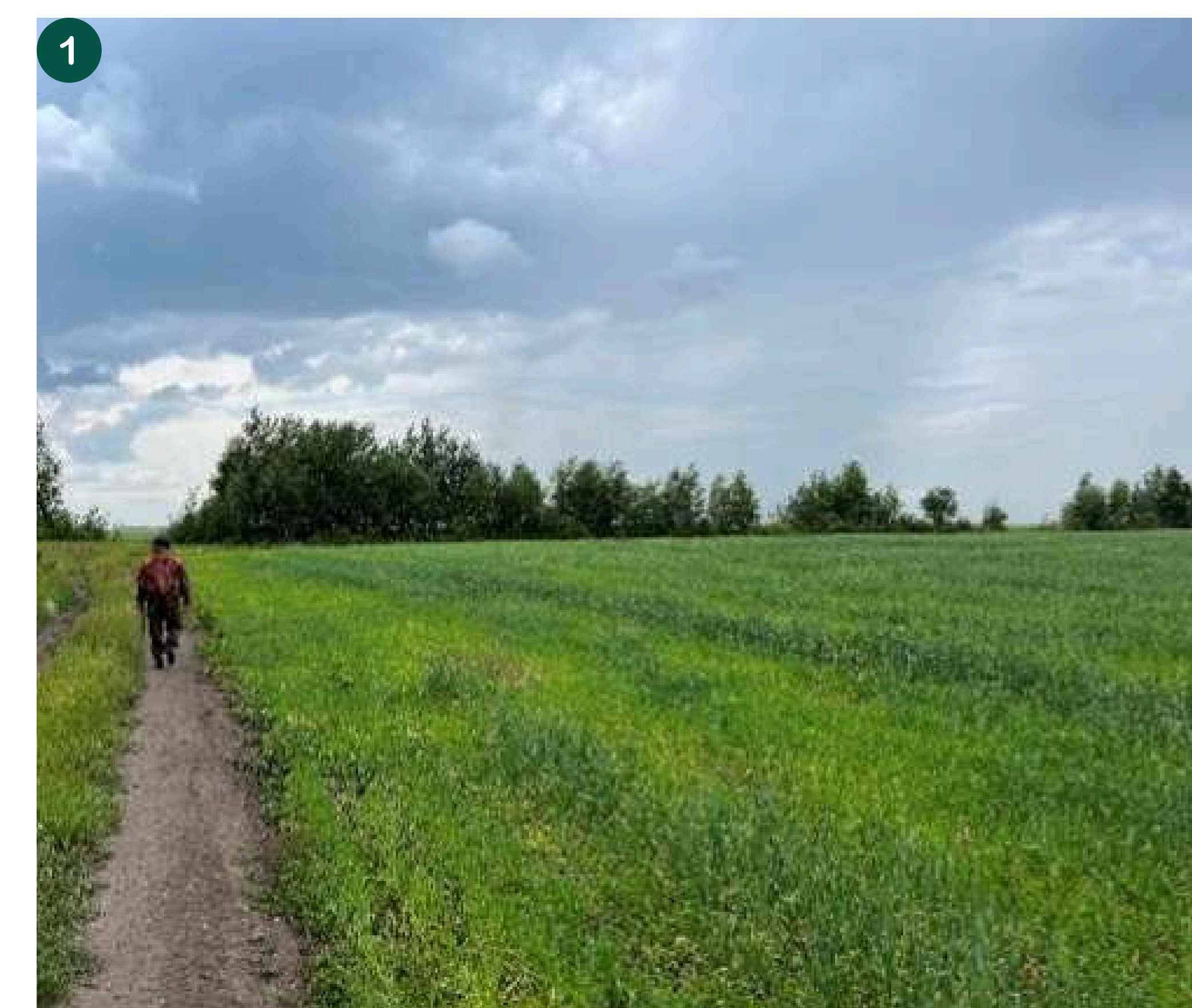
## Objectives

1. Conduct identification and pilot inventory of the unaccounted forests in Kostanay and North Kazakhstan
2. Develop a fully functional digital program (software) on forest data management

## Achievements in 2023

- Field inventory in Kostanay region conducted
- Server room modernization finished
- IT company hired
- Development of digital platform/program is ongoing
- Study of data requirement through consultation workshop

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
<b>2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procured the necessary equipment for conducting activities related to data collection/validation</li> <li>• Conducted in-house preparatory work through collection of baseline data</li> <li>• Conducted consultation meeting with relevant local forestry agencies and stakeholders in Kostanay and North Kazakhstan regions</li> <li>• Validated the data analysis in Kostanay region and North Kazakhstan</li> <li>• Procured equipment requirement to conduct activities for data processing</li> </ul>	305,458
<b>2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted field inventory in Kostanay region</li> <li>• Hired IT company</li> <li>• Conducted consultation workshop</li> </ul>	180,522
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 485,985.0</b>



1. Field inventory of unaccounted forest in Kostanay region is finished

2. Study of data requirement through consultation workshop (8 December 2023/Astana/Kazakhstan)

## AFoCO/030/2022

# Improving local community's livelihoods and engagement in sustainable forest and land management in Thailand through Forest Landscape Restoration

<b>Duration</b>	1 December 2022 – 30 November 2024
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 453,921 AFoCO: USD 303,921 National: USD 150,000
<b>Project Site</b>	Pa Leaw Luang sub-district, Santisuk district, Nan province, Thailand

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Pa Leaw Luang sub-district is located in between Doi Phuka National Park and Tham Sa Kern National Park, which become the strategic areas for landscape restoration and natural resource conservation. In total, there are 8 protected areas under administration of the Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation (DNP) and reserved forests under administration of the Royal Forestry Department (RFD).

The project will improve sustainable land use in agricultural areas by applying Forest landscape Restoration (FLR) and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) principles. If the project is achieved, it will reduce agricultural burning, the main cause of smog and PM 2.5 issues which affect the borders of Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar.

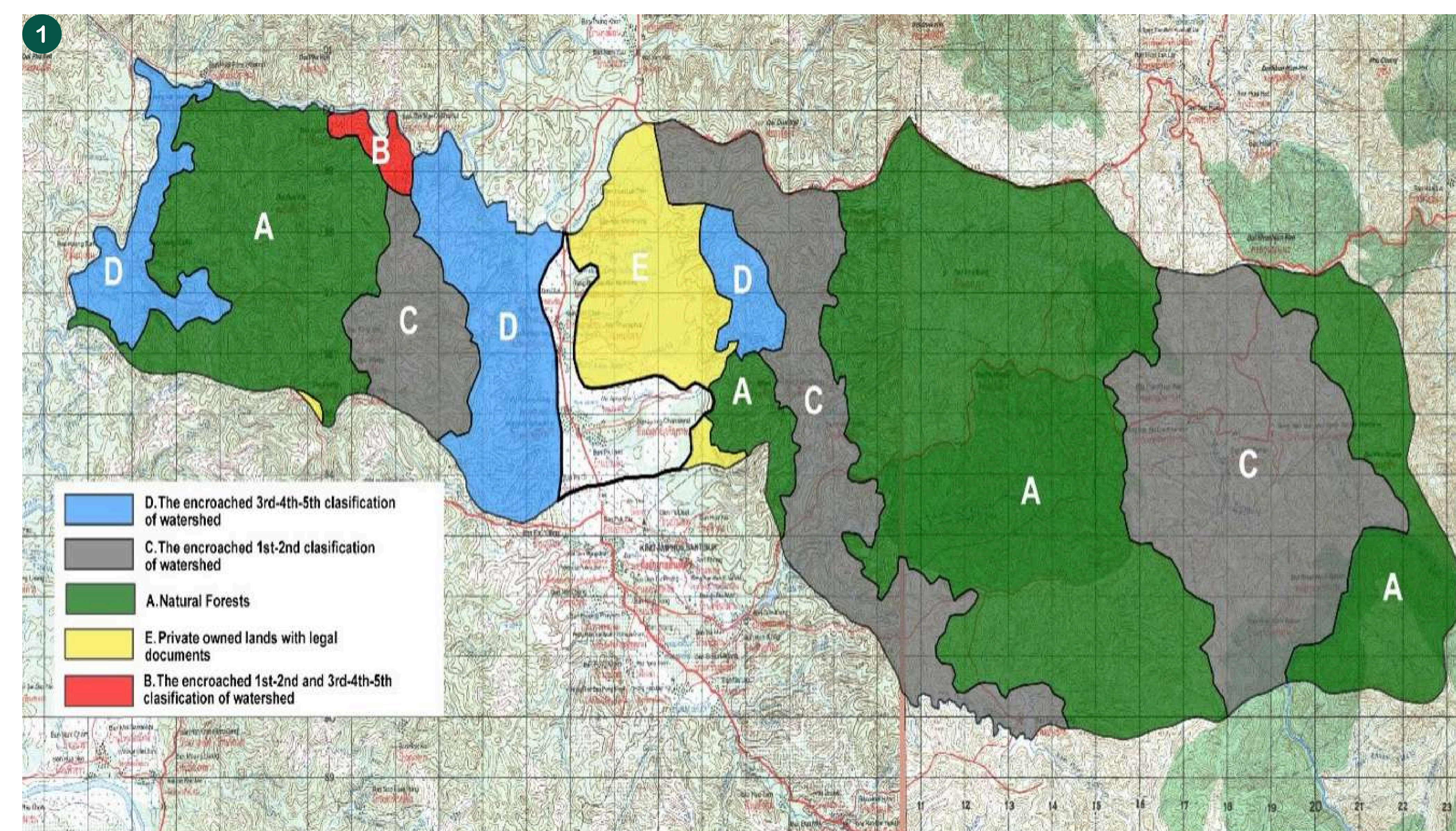
## Objectives

To develop a pilot model of sustainable land and forest management at the local level, which focuses on implementation of measures in responding to the National Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets, and address the raising concerns of greenhouse gas emission from agricultural and forestry sectors.

## Achievements in 2023

- 2.1 The National Policy Frameworks on Integrated SLM to apply in the Targeted Areas
- 2.2 The impact of climate change, climate patterns and scenarios for further consideration of land management plan
- 2.3 Developing plans for sustainable land management, water resources management and forest resources management
- 2.6 Periodic meetings for provincial governmental officers and NGOs to integrate their work plans related to Sustainable Land Management (SLM)
- 3.1 Organizing training needs assessment for local communities in the target areas through workshop or consultation meeting
- 3.2 Organize capacity building and standards on ROAM and FLR, sustainable land management
- 3.4 Organize periodic meetings for the group members to identify gaps and challenges of existing market strategies

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
<b>2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review Literature</li> <li>• Conducted workshop and meetings</li> <li>• Organized community interview and set up implementation plans</li> </ul>	76,573
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 76,573</b>



1. Project Site at Pa Leaw Luang, Santisuk Sub-District, NAN Province  
2. Field Trip to visit agroforestry integrated farming and soil and water conservation measurement for sustainable forest and land management



## AFoCO/031/2022

# Rehabilitation of degraded and potentially deserted forest land in the Northwest region of Viet Nam through application of integrated technical measures

Duration	2022 – 2026
Budget	Total USD 919,680 AFoCO: USD 799,690 National: USD 120,000
Project Site	4 provinces of the Northwest region (Hoa Binh, Son La, Lai Chau, Dien Bien)

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

The project is implemented in the Northwest region (including the four (4) provinces of Hoa Binh, Son La, Lai Chau and Dien Bien), the hot spots in Viet Nam suffering forest land degradation. Limited awareness and application of science and technology in cultivation, coupled with the pressure of population growth and the limited availability of agricultural land have forced people to take unsustainable cultivation on forest land to ensure their food security and livelihoods. In many localities of the Northwest region, the practice of monoculture of short-term crops on sloping land, especially maize and cassava without application of soil protection measures, has resulted in heavy leaching of soil surface, reduction in soil fertility, and even the soil has degraded and faded, leading to a decrease in crop productivity and an increase of cultivation investment cost. These circumstances have resulted in the decrease of forest area in the region, and an increasing of risk of flash floods, landslides, soil erosion, leaching and land degradation. In addition, the traditional shifting cultivation method on high sloping land without any fallow period, no soil protection measures, no fertilization or very little use of fertilizers are the causes of increasing nutrient depletion and land becomes difficult to recover unless there are appropriate technical measures and management methods. To address the aforementioned problems and limitations, the project goal is to sustainably rehabilitate, manage and use degraded and potentially forest land in four (4) project provinces of the Northwest in terms of ecology, environment and livelihoods through application of integrated technical measures associated with the specific classification levels of degradation. The project's demonstration models are expected to enable replication and scaling-up of the project in local and other areas to lessen the degradation problem of forest land and combat desertification in Viet Nam.

## Objectives

1. Develop integrated technical measures corresponding to different degradation levels of forest land classified in the Northwest
2. Establish and evaluate effectiveness of four (4) models of degraded forest land rehabilitation in four Northwest provinces through application of integrated technical measures in combination with advanced scientific technology
3. Compile technical guidelines on degraded forest land rehabilitation and policy briefs on sustainable management and use of degraded and potentially deserted forest land in the Northwest region
4. Transfer techniques and awareness of project model establishment to relevant stakeholders

## Achievements in 2023

- Selected suitable locations to establish 4 project models
- Established 12 spinning plots and 12 erosion monitoring systems at 4 models (3 spinning plots and 3 soil monitoring systems/model)
- Baseline data on vegetation, soil properties, awareness and livelihoods of local communities and forest owners were also investigated and evaluated as a basis for assessing changes created by the project model (interviewing 240 interviewees, 12 vegetation investigation sheets in 12 spinning plots, sampling and analyzing 108 soil samples in the laboratory)
- organized 4 training courses in 4 project provinces: Hoa Binh, Lai Chau, Dien Bien and Son La with the participation of 160 trainees



1. Successfully mobilized the participation of local communities  
 2. Plant green banks of nitrogen-fixing plant as an immediate solution for soil fertility improvement and erosion control  
 3. Apply probiotic product

## AFoCO/035/2022

# Improved Livelihood of Local Community Livelihood through Increased Benefits from Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP): Modelling Scalable Community-Based Enterprise

Duration	2022 – 2026
Budget	Total USD 4,000,000
Project Site	Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

NTFPs have been sources of food, fodder fuel, and other products that can be harvested in otherwise difficult times and consumed at home or sold. The FAO report on the World's Forest 2022 estimates that 3.5–5.8 billion people use NTFPs for their own use or to support livelihood. The report also mentioned that some NTFPs are driving multimillion and even multibillion-dollar industries associated with cosmetics, food, and health and well-being. NTFPs have high potential to smooth income across seasons and years, thereby mitigating the risk that the poor will sink deeper into poverty and the non-poor will become impoverished.

In this context, the 5th Session Assembly of AFoCO 2021 approved the regional project entitled "Improved local community livelihoods through increased benefits from non-timber forest products (NTFP): Modeling scalable community-based enterprises in Asia". This project is the first regional initiative in which all member countries of AFoCO participate.

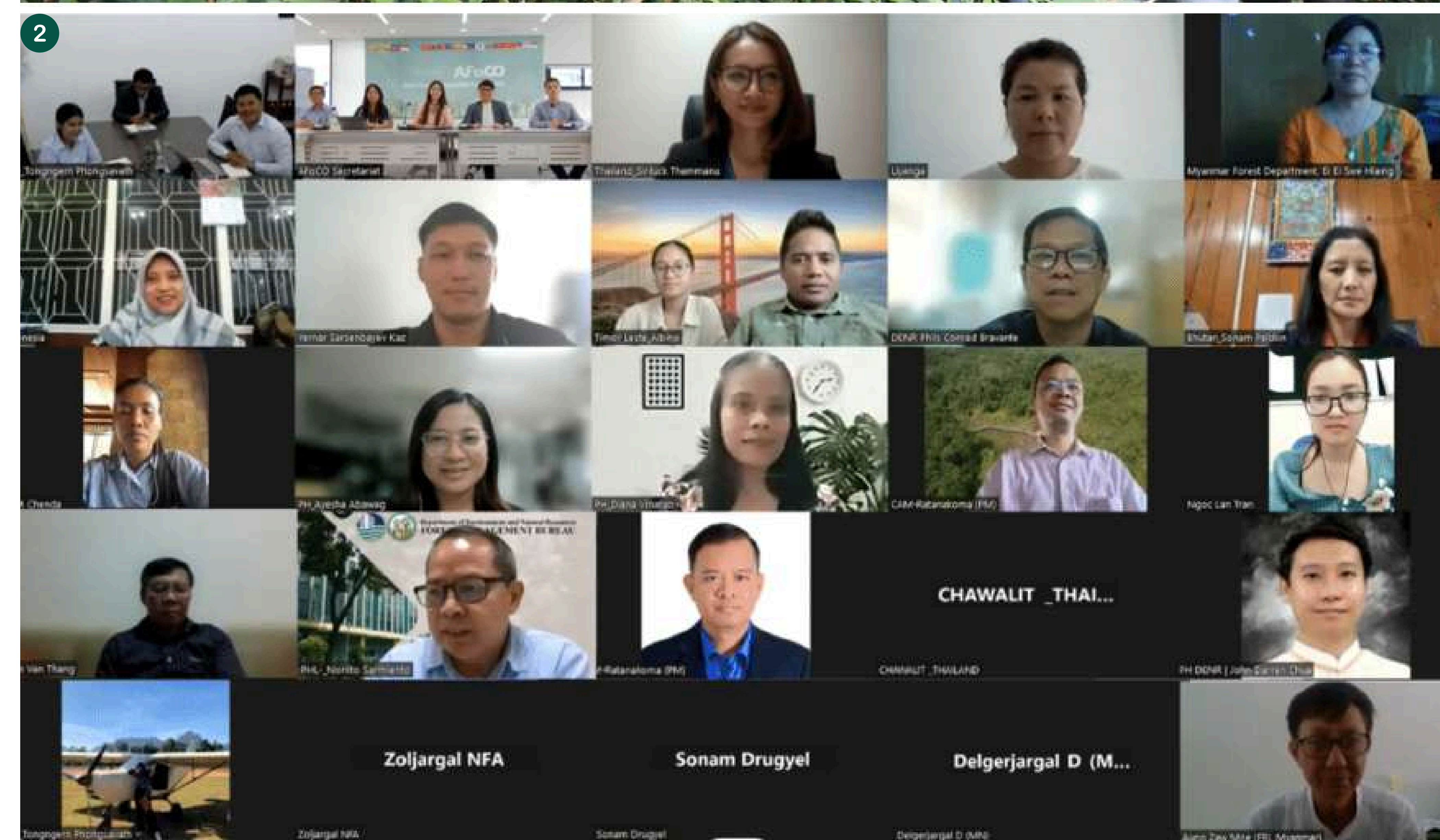
The NTFP Project is a pivotal initiative aimed at harnessing the untapped potential of Non-Timber Forest Products in select countries. NTFPs encompass a diverse array of natural resources, such as medicinal plants, wild edibles, and handicraft materials, often source from forests.

## Objectives

1. Promote nature-based and inclusive solutions to improve local community livelihoods and contribute to climate change adaptation through the development of country-specific, scalable and replicable community-based NTFP Enterprise (CBNE) models and Capacity Building
2. Improve income benefit capture from NTFPs for communities through research, value-addition, standards and certification, and market access
3. Secure NTFP resource supply, balancing utilization and sustainable resource management, through increased knowledge and practice on NTFP Sustainable Harvesting Protocols (SHP), Resource Mapping & Monitoring (RMM), and Resource Enhancement Method and enabling policy
4. Foster an enabling environment for CBNEs through the institutionalization of CBNE Development Extension support by building the capacity of government support providers, creating and exchanging knowledge on CBNEs and NTFPs and policy recommendations

## Achievements in 2023

- Established Regional Workshop on CBNE Development and Management
- Organized field visit to the Community Forest Management and Bamboo Value Added Product at Ban Samakkhi Tham
- Established Regional Workshop on NTFP Sustainable Resources Management
- Organized an online webinar



1. Regional Workshop on NTFP Sustainable Resources Management, 4–8 September 2023, in Hanoi, Viet Nam

2. Webinar attended by 33 participants from 12 countries on June 16, 2023

## AFoCO/036/2022

### The Establishment of ASEAN-Korea Garden in Cambodia Project

<b>Duration</b>	2023 - 2025
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 2,000,000 AFoCO: USD 1,801,625 National: USD 198,375
<b>Project Site</b>	Pa Leaw Luang sub-district, Santisuk district, Nan province, Thailand

### PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

To support the government policy as well as to promote eco-tourism in Cambodia, the ASEAN-Korea Garden Project is initiated and implemented by the Forestry Administration (FA), Cambodia. The project will cover 2 hectares of forest area, located in Khun Ream Commune, Banteay Srey District, Siem Reap Province of Cambodia. The project lasts 3 years and is financed by AFoCO and co-financed by the FA in form of in-kind contribution. The Project Steering Committee (PSC) was organized to supervise the project while on-site project implementation is executed by the Project Management Unit (PMU). The importance of the establishment of the ASEAN-Korea Garden are to let people enjoy forest ecosystem services and improve livelihoods and incomes through forestry-related activities as well as to address significant issues of plant diversity and human-well-being of people through forest ecosystems and it will become the venue for collecting and preserving flora and fauna of the region, including endangered and threatened species, listed on IUCN Red-list.

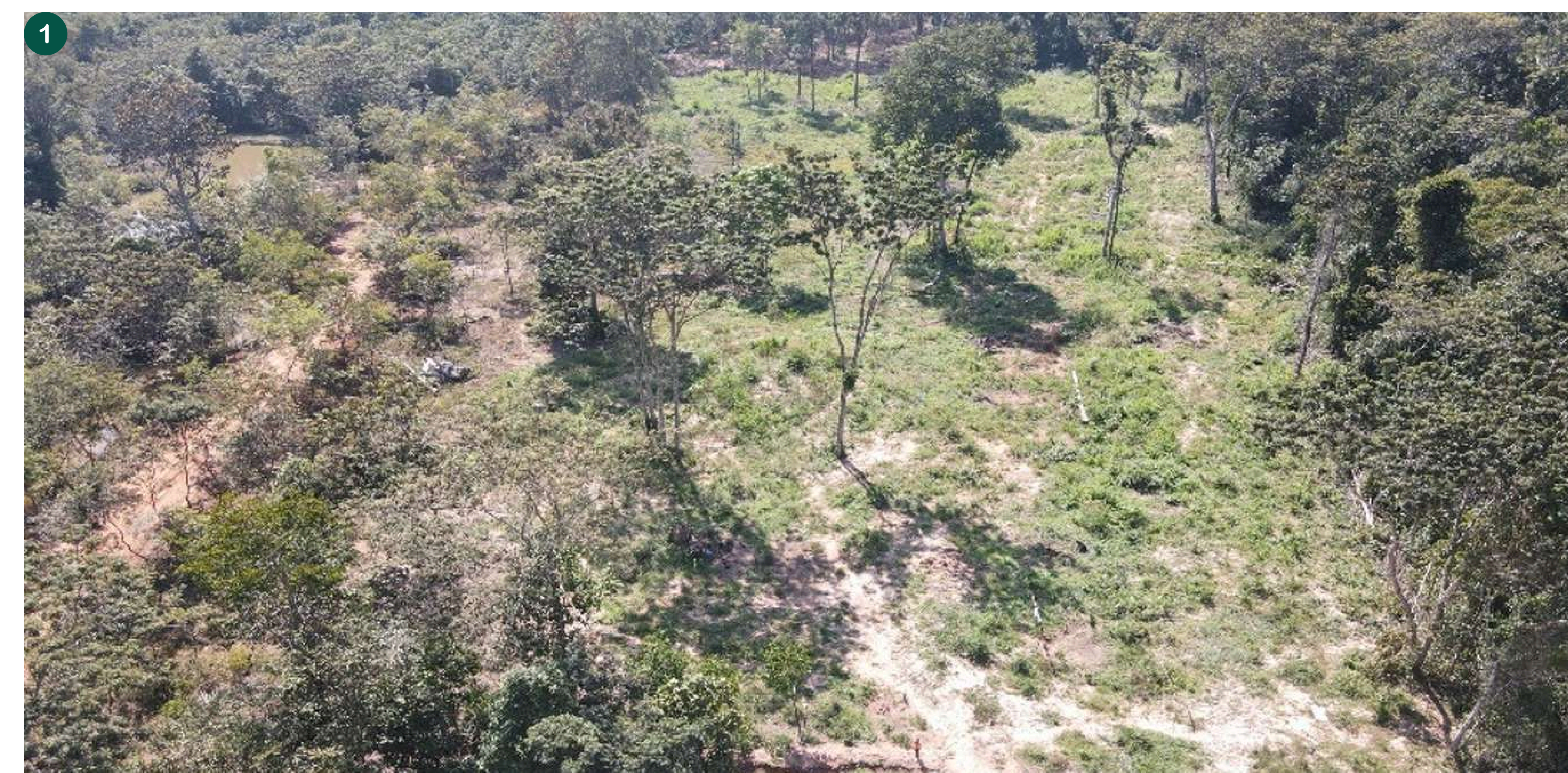
### Objectives

1. Promote human well-being and conserve threatened/endangered tree and plant species through the establishment of ASEAN-Korea Garden
2. Promote educational and awareness programs on restoration and biodiversity conservation and promote knowledge sharing in the region
3. Develop tourist market linkage and prepare sustainable financial planning to sustain the ASEAN-Korea Garden management in the long run

### Achievements in 2023

- Selected Design company
- Selected Construction company
- Organized Groundbreaking Ceremony

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
2023	• Personnel (PMU)	• 51,000
	• Administration	• 38,212.25
	• Regular field monitoring	• 4,221.1
	• Project Inception and PSC meeting	• 2,293.6
	• Bank Charge	• 150.92
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 95,877.86</b>



1. Site clearance for ASEAN-Korea Garden construction, in Khun Ream commune, Banteay Srei District, Siem Reap province  
2. Groundbreaking Ceremony in Khun Ream commune, Banteay Srei District, Siem Reap province

## AFoCO/038/2023

# Advancing Restoration of native Agarwood – Aquilaria crassna and A. malaccensis – for Sustainable Use and Management in Southwestern Cambodia

<b>Duration</b>	1 June 2023 – 31 May 2026
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 713,748 AFoCO: USD 658,248 National: USD 55,500 (In-kind)
<b>Project Site</b>	Advancing Restoration of native Agarwood – Aquilaria crassna and A. malaccensis – for Sustainable Use and Management in Southwestern Cambodia

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

The native Agarwood species used to be widespread abundant in the forest areas of Southwestern Cambodia, the Cambodian Emerald Wild Agarwood, up until the early 2000s. Two native Agarwood species, *Aquilaria crassna*, and *Aquilaria malaccensis*, thrive in those areas. The two species are classified as endangered species by IUCN Red List, CITES, and national regulations like ministerial order and primer Sub-Decree.

The core problem is "loss of viable naturally reproductive populations of Agarwood in Community Forestry areas". Three main causes are 1) ineffective management of Agarwood in the CF areas; 2) overexploitation due to past illegally export trade; and 3) lack of coordination and technical skills among stakeholders in Agarwood plantation management.

## Objectives

In order to counter the worsening problems, the goal of the project is to restore native Agarwood species in their former habitats of the target Community Forestry sites of the Southwestern Cambodia thereby contributing to the country National Forest Program (2010 – 2029).

1. Promote human well-being and conserve threatened/endangered tree and plant species through the establishment of ASEAN-Korea Garden
2. Promote educational and awareness programs on restoration and biodiversity conservation and promote knowledge sharing in the region
3. Develop tourist market linkage and prepare sustainable financial planning to sustain the ASEAN-Korea Garden management in the long run



*Aquilaria malaccensis*, growing in the wild at Phum Kandal Community Forestry, Samlot district, Battambang province. Collected by Mr. Meng Channa (left), 29 July 2023

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A1. Select former habitats of native Agarwood for restoration plots</li> <li>• B1. Conduct technically subnational consultation workshops for subnational data consolidation of all four provincial sites</li> <li>• C1. Hold technical pre-assessment workshop on the statuses of native Agarwood in the Southwestern Cambodia</li> <li>• D1. Select the suitable site for 2 ha piloting plantation sites</li> </ul>	18,918
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 18,918</b>



1. Site Identification walks in the former Agarwood Habitats in Pursat province. Project team and members of Community Forestry July 2023  
2. Sub-national workshop, Koh Kong province in July 2023  
3&4. Participants at National Technical Agarwood Pre-assessment workshop, 13 November 2023

## AFoCO/040/2023

# Forest Restoration using Philippine Threatened and Endemic Tree Species in Bacon Manito Geothermal Reservation in supports to Philippines Forestry Sector National Greening Program

<b>Duration</b>	3 July 2023 – 31 December 2023
<b>Budget</b>	Total USD 25,000 AFoCO: USD 25,000 EDC/IA/DENR: USD 66,300
<b>Project Site</b>	EDC Bacon Manito Geothermal Reservations, Manito, Albay

## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

The diminishing forest cover of the Baccon Manito Geothermal Reservation is a serious threat not only to the biodiversity of the area but to the overall integrity of the landscape that serves as a critical watershed that provides a myriad of ecosystem services to the downstream communities of Manito, Albay and several towns in Sorsogon province.

Due to these continuing threats, EDC launched and implemented its BINHI Program in 2008, the company's environmental project to mainstream Philippine native trees and restore denuded lands. For the last fifteen (15) years, EDC-BINHI restored around 10,000 hectares of denuded lands across all EDC sites in the Philippines. EDC-BINHI is also aligned and in partnership with the DENR National Greening Program.

The project aims to demonstrate a private-public partnership in forest restoring 100 hectares of disturbed forest including the development of an arboretum. The partnership intends to document good practices and proposed policy directions in facilitating private engagement in forest rehabilitation. Likewise, the project also intends to develop and recommend propagation protocols to facilitate production of indigenous and endangered tree species in forest restoration programs.



Site Validation and Location Map of the proposed 100 hectares forest restoration in EDC-Bacon Manito Geothermal Projects, Brgy. Cabacongan, Manito, Albay

## Objectives

1. Restore 100 hectares of disturbed forest with 20 species of highly threatened and endemic trees in Support to the Philippine Forestry Sector's National Greening Program
2. Establish 2 hectares arboretum within forest restoration area
3. Document good practices and propagation protocols of using PRES in forest restorations that can be developed and translated into national policies and/or technical bulletins
4. Demonstrate Private-Public Partnership in forest restorations and translate into working national policies and/or technical bulletins
5. Facilitate knowledge sharing on Forest Restoration Using PTES

## Achievements in 2023

- Produced at least 50,000 PTES seedlings
- Capacitated one local community

Year	Main Activities	AFoCO Budget (USD)
<b>2023</b>	• Site validation and mapping	• 1,954.58
	• Production of seedlings	• 12,000
	• Training of Farmers Association on Forest Restoration	• 3,347.79
	• Propagation Protocol Trial	• 1,681.74
	• Training of Farmers Association on Forest Restoration	• 1,000
<b>AFoCO Budget Expended</b>		<b>USD 19,984.10</b>



Capacity Building and Community Organizing of ALBAFAI, Brgy. Cabacongan, Manito, Albay



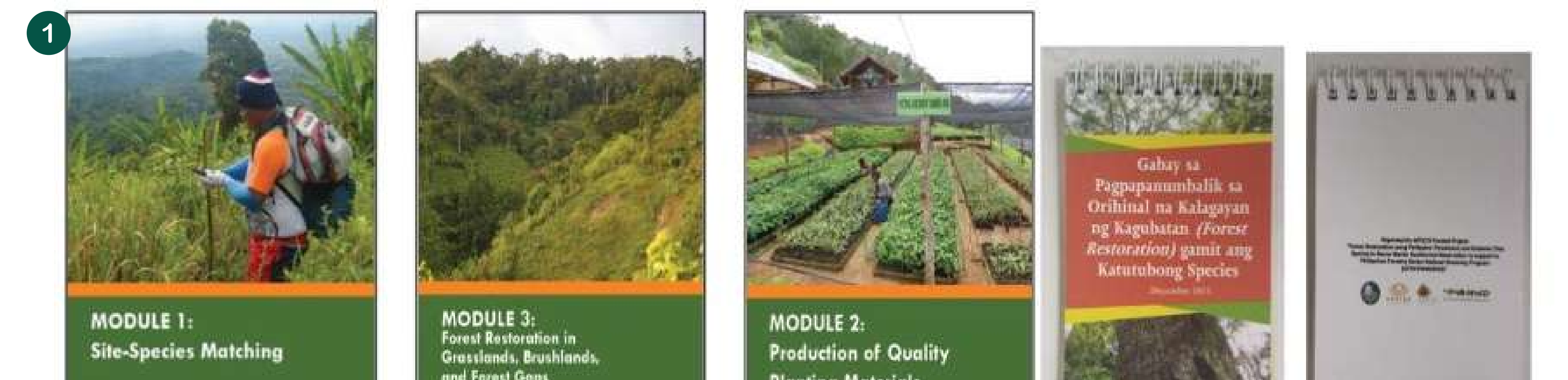
Launching of EDC-BINHl Nursery in Bacon Manito Geothermal Project on April 28, 2023 together with the DENR and Local Government Unit



Priority Philippine Threatened Tree Species Produced for the AFoCO/040/2023



1. Training conducted for Forest Nursery and Forest Restoration t in EDC-Bacon Manito Geothermal Projects, Manito, Albay  
 2. EDC and DENR Coordination Meeting in DENR Region V Office, Legazpi Albay  
 3&4. DENR Site Validation in EDC Bacon Manito Geothermal Project, Manito Albay



EDC Information Materials Reprinted and Billboards Installed for the AFoCO/040/2023