

STA dan Rakan2



August 2010

For Private Circulation Only

Issue 146

This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

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Editorial Board

Chief Editor:
Dr Lee Hua Seng

Editor/Secretary:
Jaime Chan

Members:
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Jenny Chen

INTER-AGENCY SOPS ROADSHOWS



Pictures: Participants of the Roadshow in Sibul, Bintulu and Miri

In the efforts towards enhancing their performance, forestry and timber agencies in Sarawak has developed an Inter-Agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for performance of forestry functions. The agencies involved are Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB).

The newly developed SOPs aimed to standardise, streamline and improve work flow, enhance operational cost-effectiveness, establish clarity of roles and responsibilities and thereby eliminate overlapping of execution

and jurisdiction. This will also maintain the elements of check and balance for performance of forestry functions or operations in Sarawak.

The scope of SOPs include compliance with harvesting plan, revenue collection, control of log movement, enforcement, issuance of permits, Totally Protected Area (TPA) constitution, wildlife conservation and control of import of sawn timber from West Kalimantan, Indonesia. The exclusions are Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) operations, management of TPAs, issuance of timber licenses and timber mill registration

FDS, being the owner of this SOP will lead and take charge of its implementation.

A series of roadshows on the Inter-Agency SOPs for performance of forestry functions had been conducted in Kuching, Sibul, Bintulu and Miri from 25 – 30 August 2010. It was well attended by members from the timber industry in the four regions.

During the roadshows, it was announced that HTSB shall be carrying out physical checking of forest produce prior to the issuance of Transit Removal Pass (TRP) and acknowledgement on incoming shipment with effect from 1 September 2010. It was also mentioned that HTSB will not impose any additional charges on their new role.

Did you know that...

The Kedah, Pahang and Perak Forest Management Units (FMUs) have been awarded with the accredited Certificate for Forest Management (Natural Forest) against the requirements of the MC&I(2002) under the MTCS. MTCS-certified logs originating from these FMUs and their downstream products are now eligible to carry the PEFC Logo.

Source:
MTCC News
Volume 4, Issue 3,
May-July 2010

WORKSHOP ON CARBON FOOTPRINT PROJECT AND MILL VISITS

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) with the approval from the Ministry of Planning and Resource Management Sarawak has embarked on a pilot project on carbon footprint for plywood. This project, funded by STIDC and supported by the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA), is carried out with the assistance from the Environment and Bioprocess Technology Centre, SIRIM Berhad (i.e. the appointed consultant) and is expected to take six months to complete.

Currently, the project will focus mainly on the plywood manufacturers. Hence, STIDC organised a series of workshops on Carbon Footprint Project (CFP) in Bintulu on 3-4

August 2010 and in Sibul on 5-6 August 2010. The workshops in Bintulu were attended by more than 50 participants and 40 participants attended the ones in Sibul. The workshops were officiated by Datu Haji Sarudu Haji Hoklai, the General Manager of STIDC.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To understand the concepts of environmental issues and the importance of sustainable development
- To understand the concepts and basic requirements of Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) and Eco-labeling
- To enable the collection of data for carrying out Life Cycle Inventory and Life Cycle Impact Assessment

The workshops were conducted by Dr Chen Sau Soon and Dr

Ler Leong Tat, both from the Environment and Bioprocess Technology Centre, SIRIM Berhad, and covered the following topics:

- Trends and Drivers Towards Environmental Performance Quantification: Carbon Footprint and Ecolabels
- Concepts of LCA (ISO 14040)
- Life Cycle Inventory for Eco-Profiles – Carbon Footprint, Water Footprint
- LCA for Plywood
- Ranking the Company's Green Performance Common Approach towards Inventory Collection for Plywood Production

The speakers also took the opportunity to visit two plywood mills while in Bintulu to gain a better understanding on the flow of plywood manufacturing and the layout of the factories.

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PGDIP - THE PATH TO FOREST CERTIFICATION

A critical part of the process towards forest certification is ensuring that procedures and practices meet the requirements of the certification system that is being used. One way of determining whether a forest operation is ready for certification is to do a self-audit before the real auditors are invited. For

this reason, learning how to carry out an audit was the focus of the latest teaching module for students from the *Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management) (PGDip)*, a degree run jointly by Lincoln University, New Zealand and Sarawak Timber

Association (STA) through its wholly-owned company STA Training Sdn Bhd.

The group of eleven PGDip students were in Deramakot Forest Reserve (DRF) in Sandakan, Sabah from 8 – 13 August 2010. The trip was led by Associate Professor Hugh Bigsby

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from Lincoln University, and Mr Gan Boon Keong, a technical consultant who works in auditing and forest certification. DRF has been certified by Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) for a number of years, providing a good location for observing well-established forestry

systems that are compatible with forest certification. In DFR, logging is done using crawler tractors practising Reduced Impact Logging (RIL).

In this teaching module, the focus was on the process of auditing. This was done in the context of selected criteria and indicators in

the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I (2002)] relevant to logging. The fieldwork was based on an audit of three components of logging namely, pre-harvest planning, felling operations and post-harvest activities.

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WORKSHOP ON CARBON OFFSETS AND FOREST CONSERVATION

Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) in collaboration with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) organised a workshop on Carbon Offsets and Forest on 18 August 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Workshop was officiated by Tuan Haji Ali Yusop, Deputy Director of Forests who was representing Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, the Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning and Resource Management, Director of Forests and Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Forestry, and was attended by 100 participants from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), SFC, WCS and Sarawak Timber Association (STA).

The Director of Forests' speech read by Tuan Haji Ali, reiterated that "Deforestation and forest degradation make up 20% of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas

emission, second only to the combustion of fossil fuels and deforestation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emission in the developing world today as trees are a large source of oxygen and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis, thus functioning as a huge store of carbon. Deforestation does not only destroy these large stores of carbon, but also releases more carbon dioxide when these trees either rot or are burnt; the result is an overall increase in the concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide, a major contributor of greenhouse gases." Malaysia has pledged to ensure at least 50% of the land area remains as forests as a show on the forest conservation effort by the country at the Rio Earth Summit.

The Workshop aimed at familiarising Sarawak and the timber-related parties with carbon offset,

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), and the shift towards implementing Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in Sarawak.

The papers presented in the Workshop are as follows:-

1. "REDD – The International Scenario and the Malaysian perspective" by Dr Gary Theseira, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Malaysia

The speaker explained on the role of forests in combating climate change, carbon credit as a commodity, development of the carbon markets, dynamics of REDD/ REDD+ and the concerns for Malaysia.

2. "The Framework for Voluntary Market REDD Projects" by Dr Tom Evans, WCS Cambodia Programme

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Did you also know that...

The Malaysia - New Zealand Free Trade Agreement came into effect on 1 August 2010 following its signing in October 2009.

In the first phase, some tariff reductions will begin until total free trade is achieved by 2016 for industrial and agricultural products. New Zealand is well-known for its food and agricultural exports to Malaysia.

Source:
ITTO MIS Report
1 - 15 Aug 2010

Printed Matter



Sarawak Timber Association
11 Floor, Wisma STA
26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim
93450 Kuching
Sarawak, Malaysia

Tel : 082 - 332 222
Fax : 082 - 487 888, 487 999
E-mail: sta@sta.org.my
Web site: www.sta.org.my

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The speaker presented on the context of the voluntary market for REDD projects, the way the market works, key design principles and gave examples on such type of projects.

3. “Experiences in developing a REDD pilot project in Cambodia” by Dr Tom Evans, WCS Cambodia Programme

The speaker shared his experiences on Cambodia's second REDD project, which is carried out in a conservation area.

TALK ON HEAT TREATMENT OF WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL

Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and Taik Sin Timber Industry Sdn Bhd is organising a Talk on Heat Treatment of Wood Packaging Material (WPM). The details as follows:-

Date: 30 September 2010, Thursday
Time: 8.30 a.m.—1.00 p.m.
Venue: Auditorium Forest Research Institute
Malaysia, Kepong, Selangor
Fee: Free

The objective of this talk is to inform users of wooden pallets on the regulatory aspects of heat treatment/usage, heat treated wood, nature of wood, insects and fungi as well as the handling of heat treated WPM.

A copy of the Registration is available at STA Secretariat. For further inquiries, please contact:

Cik Zuraida Abd Majid / Pn Mashila Mior Ismail
Tel: 03-62797280 / 03-62797543