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STA dan Rakan2

Workshop on NCR Land Development

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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The Workshop on NCR Land Development Revisited: Alternative Models for NCR land Development was organized by Ministry of Land Development, Sarawak from 3-7 October 2011 at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching. The Workshop was attended by about 80 participants from various backgrounds and expertise such as accountants, lawyers and academicians, practicing smallholders and the public sector.

The objective of this workshop was to find the alternative models of NCR land development which can generate good financial returns to the landowners inline with the government's aspiration of a high income economy. The workshop worked on detailing the operating mechanisms for the implementation of the alternative NCR land development.

Under National Key Economic Areas (NKEA) labs run by the Performance Management and Delivery Unit (PEMANDU) last year, palm oil and related products were among the 12 identified NKEA's to transform the nation into a high income economy. Currently Sarawak is adopting three models to develop NCR land i.e SALCRA Model, NCR JV Model (LCDA) and FELCRA Model. All these models need to be reviewed due to land security issue, low and slow returns to the landowners. There was also no government funding on the current adopted Sarawak's models compare to others development agencies such as FELCRA and RISDA.

The six papers that were presented at the workshop are as follow:

Paper 1: *SALCRA - The Way Forward* by Datu Vasco Sabat Singkang, General Manager of SALCRA

Paper 2: *Land Development in Sarawak: Academia Perspective Issue and Challenges* by Dr. Abdul Rahman Saili (UiTM)

Paper 3: *Ladang Rakyat FELCRA Berhad – 90 – 10 Management Model* by Mr. Hassan Khamis (FELCRA)

Paper 4: *RISDA Rubber Development Programme in Sarawak – Challenges and Opportunities* by Mr. Kamarulazizi Mat Zain (RISDA)

Paper 5: *Alternative Models – Various Leasing Models* by Mr. Mathew Bilong Jenio (Cipta Sawit Sdn. Bhd)

Paper 6: *Cluster/Collector Model* by Mr Yong Kui Po (Pertubuhan Pekebun Kecil Subis)

The focus of these information papers were not be on the historical background of the various land development models, but more on their operation and mechanisms; the 'expected return' to the landowners, and what will happen to the land and landowners after the completion of these development cycles.

The 3 models discussed by the participants can be summarized as follow:

- Leasing Model – An Interested party (Lessee) to
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International Tropical Timber Organization's (ITTO) 25th Anniversary Celebration

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) based in Yokohama, Japan celebrated the 25th anniversary of its establishment in Yokohama, Japan with a commemorative symposium themed "ITTO and Japan: A quarter century of sustaining tropical forests", which was attended by about 200 participants from both producing and consuming member countries, government officials from Japan, past and present friends of the Organisation as well as members of the public.

The symposium was organised with support from the City of Yokohama, the Japan Forestry Agency, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japanese Committee for the International Year of the Forests.

Mr Emmanuel Ze Meka, the Executive Director of ITTO in his opening speech welcomed all participants to the celebrations and thanked the Government of Japan for being the biggest financial contributor to the Organisation and the city of Yokohama for hosting the Organisation. He said despite problems and obstacles faced, ITTO managed to secure US\$365 million for more than 1,000 projects covering topics which includes sustainable forest management and trade. He called on Japan as ITTO's host country to continue and expand support to the Organisation to meet these and other emerging challenges for sustainability in tropical forests. He acknowledged the achievements of the past two Executive Directors and paid tribute to Mr Katsuhiko Kotari for his valuable guidance.

Ms Fumiko Hayashi, the mayor of Yokohama, as a host city that has supported ITTO for the past 25 years, noted the many positive accomplishments of ITTO and highlighted the need for the sustainable utilisation of tropical forests. Ms Jan McAlpine, the Director United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), Mr Bile Allogho Joachim, the Chairman of International Tropical Timber Council and Mr Toshiyuki Kato, the Parliamentary Vice Minister Ministry of Foreign Affairs also spoke during the opening ceremony.

Statements from three producer member countries were made, Dr Pierre Ndzengue the Ambassador of Cameroon to Japan, Dr Hadi Pasaribu, the Senior Advisor to the Minister of Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia and Mr Alexandre Porto, the Minsiter-Counsellor of the Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil. This was followed by a statement from the European Union.

Dr Steven E Johnson from the ITTO Secretariat highlighted 8 of the 25 successful stories (including The Lanjak-Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary, Sarawak, Malaysia), a book which highlighted the 25 years of policy and practice that have brought about positive impact, both at the local and global scale. This book will be launched in the in 47th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and Associated Sessions of the Committees in La Antigua, Guatemala on 14-19 November 2011. This was followed a keynote address by Mr CW Nicol who spoke on his efforts to restore a degraded patch of forest in Japan.

The symposium proper started off with an opening address by His Excellency Mr Tetsuo Morimoto the Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries who congratulated and thanked ITTO for its support to promote green growth in tropical forestry. Mr Yoshitsugu Minagawa, the Director General of the Japanese Forestry Agency then made a presentation on the changes in Japan's forests, the March 11 earthquake and the effects.

Mr Katsuhiko Kotari, the former Special Advisor to the President of The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) spoke of the background behind the establishment of ITTO, which was followed by Datuk Dr Freezailah bin Che Yeom and Dr Manoel Sobral Filho, the first and second Executive Directors respectively. Datuk Dr Freezailah highlighted issues on sustainable forest management, the relatively small areas certified and the need for more supportive markets as the costs of

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Did you know that.....

China will join the PEFC forest certification scheme. PEFC International has approved the application of the China Forest Certification Council (CFCC). In China, there are over 200 million hectares of forest.

Source: 23 Sep 2011, TTJ Timber Trades Journal

Did you also know that....

China aims to increase its total area of forest by 40 million hectares in the next decade, as compared with that in 2005. China will continue to accelerate the pace of forestry development. It is working to increase the country's total forest inventory by 1.3 billion cubic meters from 2005 to 2020. President Hu Jintao made the remarks at the first APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry.

Source: 6 Sept 2011- <http://news.xinhuanet.com>



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sustainable forest management and certification cannot be borne alone by exporters. He appealed to other consumer member countries to make contributions to ITTO. Dr Manoel Sobral Filho spoke on how subsidies for high yielding forest plantations can help retain tropical forests and reduce loss of biodiversity. He expressed concern over the decline in funding for ITTO and the need for healthy funding to achieve more areas under sustainable forest management in the next 50 years.

The symposium continued with presentations on the work carried out by ITTO; Dr Hwan-Ok Ma, the projects Manager of Reforestation and Forest Management Division on biodiversity, climate change, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation + (REDD+) and tropical forest; Mr Takeshi Goto, the Assistant Director of Forest Industry Division on tropical forest industries; and Mr Amha bin Buang, the Assistant Director of the Economics Information and Market Intelligence Division on trade and tropical forests.

Dr Steven E Johnson in his presentation entitled "Assessing Forest Management: Status of Tropical

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develop NCR land by paying rental/lease to landowners at an agreed rate. Leasing rate can be either by Planting Points or hectares cultivated. Landowners guaranteed fixed monthly income.

- Nucleus Model – Led by Anchor Plantation (Nucleus) and landowners (smallholders) work in their own land (creation of entrepreneurship) with government to provide the infrastructure.
- Management Model – Government Agency organizes the smallholders and forms a company with 100% equity by landowners. Managing Agent Company (MC) will be appointed to manage the land and charges management fees either by productivity, hectareage, percentage of revenue/profit.

On the final day of the workshop, the three models were presented and the produced blueprint

Forest Management 2011", spoke on the estimated area of and the trends in areas of tropical forests set aside as production and protection Permanent Forest Estates and under SFM, the climate-change debate, particularly on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), and a comprehensive and up-to-date insight into forest management in tropics. The occasion also marked the handing over of its publication, Tropical Timber Updates (TFU) in Japanese to Mr Shuichi Ikeda, the Deputy Director General for Forestry and Natural Conservation, JICA.

The symposium culminated with Mr Emmanuel Ze Meka, the Executive Director of ITTO acknowledging that although ITTO has been successful in the first 25 years, continued support is needed to tackle the daunting tasks ahead to address the issues of sustainable forest management in the topics, improve the livelihood of inhabitants, deforestation, lost of biodiversity and impact of climate change.

[Copies of some statements and presentations in this Symposium are available from the STA Secretariat].

document will be submitted by the Ministry of Land Development to the State Government for consideration to be adopted state wide.

In the closing ceremony, Tan Sri Dr James Jemut Masing, the Minister of Land Development Sarawak mentioned that the alternative models were being considered because response from landowners under the new concept of NCR development introduced in 1994 to eradicate rural poverty has brought unsatisfactory results. The unsatisfactory responses for this concept were due to the low dividends paid out to the participating landowners and not on time due to the high gearing involved as the investor had to source for the necessary independent fund to develop the project. He also hoped that with introduction of these new models, NCR landowners are able to increase the household income and at the same time to encourage the young generations to be involved in the agriculture sector.

Printed Matter



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Sarawak Timber Association Awards 2011



Photo: The awards winners with STA Secretariat

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA), through its wholly-owned subsidiary STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, provides scholarships to students from Sarawak pursuing degree courses related to forestry and the timber trade at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) as well as STA Prizes to undergraduates who have achieved outstanding results during their course of study.

Two undergraduate students from the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) were recently awarded the STA Prize 2011 for their excellent academic performance; Ms Voon Siaw Hui - the Best Graduating Student and Mr Wong How Chu - the Best Final Year Project Paper entitled "Wood Protection from Fungal Decay with Amine Copper Quat (ACQ) Preservative Treatment".

Both graduates received an acrylic plaque, a certificate and cheque each in a simple ceremony presented by the STA General Manager, Dr Peter Kho and Senior Manager, Ms Annie Ting at Wisma STA, Kuching.