

STA REVIEW

Monthly Magazine of Sarawak Timber Association

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STA Council Meeting
No. 2/2025

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STA Training Sdn Bhd Gains Hands-on
Experience in FDPM Logfisher Training

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Engagement with Ministry of Finance
on Expanded SST Scope

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STA REVIEW

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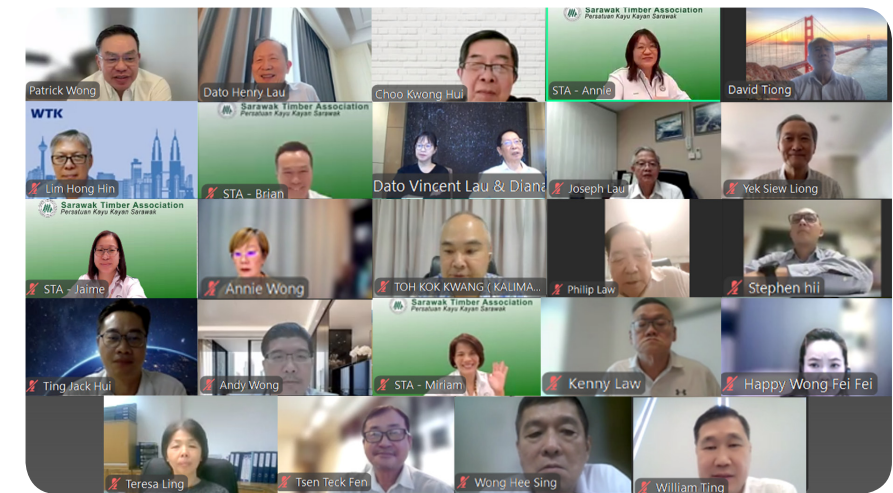
STA Council Meeting No. 2/2025

The second STA Council Meeting of 2025 took place online on 28 August 2025. The meeting was chaired by Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, Chairman of STA, and was attended by Mr David Tiong, Vice Chairman, Dato' Sri Patrick Wong, Honorary Secretary, Mr Philip Choo, Honorary Treasurer, and 21 Council members.

During the meeting, the Council reviewed reports from various Category Committees and Working Committees. Among the topics discussed, the Council took note of the progress made on research and development projects aimed at improving planting materials for forest plantations in Sarawak.

Concerns were raised regarding the practicality and cost implications of the enrichment planting programme. In response, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer shared that STA has been actively engaging with the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) on this matter, including a workshop held in Sibu on 26 August 2025. She also highlighted the Sarawak Government's shift toward forest conservation, as reflected in recent policy developments. The Council acknowledged that, if effectively implemented, enrichment planting could contribute positively to forest value.

The Council also noted that the Association will be meeting with the Immigration Labour Management Unit (ILMU) on 11 September 2025 to discuss challenges faced by members in transitioning from the Monitoring System on the Employment of Non-Sarawakians (MSEN), which ceased operations on 10 August 2025, to the Sarawak



Meeting in progress

Advanced Non-Sarawakians Online System (SANSOLS). Members reported challenges they have encountered while using the SANSOLS, including lengthy approval processing times, technical issues, and limited system clarity. Further concerns include poor customer support, high system costs, and rigid licensing policies of forfeiting fees paid at each stage of application, namely labour licence, *elektronik Visa Dengan Rujukan* (eVDR) and medical check-up should a worker is not accepted by the authorities for recruitment.

Several key activities were approved for the second half of the year. These include a roadshow in Miri and Sibu to inform and educate members on the Occupational Safety and Health (Amendment) Act 2022, and its implications for workplace safety and health. A follow-up technical workshop on Biodiversity Observation for Land and Ecosystem Health will also be held from 11 to 13 September 2025, building on the success of the Technical Workshop and Training in 2024. In addition, a brainstorming session will also be held to chart the roadmap and framework for the Task Force on Forestry-related Issues in October 2025. The Association is also collaborating with FDS to jointly organise the International Conference on Forest Plantation Research and Innovation 2025 from 17 to 19 November 2025 at the Pullman Hotel Kuching.

The meeting also covered administrative matters concerning the Association and its three subsidiary companies, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd.

Mesyuarat Majlis STA Kedua bagi tahun 2025 yang diadakan secara dalam talian pada 28 Ogos telah dipengerusikan oleh Dato Henry Lau dan dihadiri oleh 21 ahli Majlis. Majlis meneliti laporan jawatankuasa dan kemajuan Penyelidikan & Pembangunan, di samping membincangkan kebimbangan mengenai kos dan keberkesanan program penanaman pengayaan, dengan makluman daripada libat urus bersama pihak Jabatan Hutan Sarawak. Ahli turut membangkitkan cabaran serius dalam peralihan kepada SANSOLS dan aktiviti utama yang diluluskan dalam Mesyuarat Majlis termasuk siri jelajah Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan, sesi percambahan fikiran untuk Pasukan Isu Perhutanan serta Persidangan Penyelidikan dan Inovasi Ladang Hutan 2025.

本会理事会于2025年8月28日召开本年度第二次线上会议，由拿督刘利康主持并获得21位理事出席。该会审议各委员会的报告及研发进展，同时针对富集种植的成本及其可行性表示关切，并听取与砂森林局(FDS)就富集种植事项交流的最新进展汇报。会员也在会中提出在过渡至砂公民及非砂公民线上劳工系统(SANSOLS)期间所面临的严峻挑战。此外，会中获得批准的重点活动包括职场安全与卫生的巡回讲座会、林业相关课题工作小组的脑力激荡会议，以及2025年人工林大会。

Meetings of STA Subsidiary Companies

The Boards of Directors (BOD) of STA subsidiary companies convened via video conferencing in August 2025, chaired by Chairman, Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong. The BOD meeting of STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE) was held on 20 August 2025, followed by the Adjourned Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) on 22 August 2025. The key highlights of both meetings are summarised below:

STAT

The Adjourned Meeting of STAT BOD Meeting No. 2/2025 deliberated and approved several financial and operational matters, including the appointment of KPMG PLT to convert the audited financial statements into XBRL format for submission to the Companies Commission of Malaysia through the Malaysian Business Reporting System 2.0, as well as matters related to the implementation of e-invoicing in the Company.

The Board was also briefed on the trainings conducted by the Company. Between 26 February 2025 and 31 July 2025, the Company conducted 19 skills trainings and successfully trained 118 forest workmen in various skill sets. For external programmes, the Company organised two (2) Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) trainings, one (1) Environmental Quality Monitoring training, and one (1) Log Scaling training.

STAE

The STAE BOD Meeting No. 2/2025 endorsed several financial and administrative matters relating to building operations and maintenance, tenancy of Wisma STA, as well as amendments to the Company's human resource policies and procedures manual.



Adjourned Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd's Board of Directors' Meeting No. 2/2025

Lembaga Pengarah syarikat-syarikat subsidiari STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE) dan STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) bermesyuarat secara maya pada 20 Ogos dan 22 Ogos 2025, dipengerusikan oleh Dato Henry Lau. STAT meluluskan urusan kewangan dan operasi, termasuk e-invois, dan melaporkan aktiviti latihan dengan pelaksanaan 19 latihan kemahiran yang disertai oleh 118 pekerja hutan dan penganjuran beberapa program lain. STAE membincangkan operasi bangunan, penyewaan Wisma STA dan pindaan kepada dasar Sumber Manusia.

本会子公司STA Enterprises有限公司(STAE)和STA Training有限公司(STAT)分别于2025年8月20日和8月22日召开线上董事会会议，由拿督刘利康主持。STAT董事会批准财务和运营事项，包括电子发票的实施，并汇报培训活动，为118名林业员工举办19场技能培训课程，同时也组织多个外部项目。STAE董事会则审议建筑运营事务、STA大厦的租赁情况以及人力资源政策的修订事宜。

STA Constitution Committee Meeting No. 2/2025

The STA Council at its Meeting No. 3/2024 on 6 September 2024 has approved the strategic transformation to effectively address emerging challenges and seize new opportunities. The first step was to broaden the Association's objectives in line with the new direction.

Following that, the STA Constitution Committee met again on 27 August 2025 to deliberate on the restructuring exercise. The meeting was chaired by Dato Henry Lau, Chairman and attended by four (4) Committee members.

The Committee discussed key changes aimed at broadening STA's membership base to allow a wider range of organisations to join STA, fostering

greater collaboration and inclusivity. These include re-categorising the current nine membership types, introducing a two-tier membership system, and streamlining the voting process.

Majlis STA, pada Mesyuarat Bil. 3/2024 pada 6 September 2024, meluluskan transformasi strategik untuk menangani cabaran dan peluang yang muncul. Selepas itu, Jawatankuasa Perlembagaan STA bermesyuarat pada 27 Ogos 2025, dipengerusikan oleh Dato Henry Lau, dan membincangkan penstrukturan semula, yang memberi tumpuan kepada perluasan keahlian, mengkategorikan semula jenis, memperkenalkan sistem dua peringkat, dan memperkemas proses pengundian.

本会理事会于去年2024年9月6日召开的年度第三次会议上，批准一项策略转型方案，以应对日益突出的挑战和机遇。随后，本会章程委员会于2025年8月27日召开会议，由拿督刘利康主持，重点讨论公会架构重组事宜，其中包括扩大会员范围、重新分类会员类型、引入双层会员制度以及简化投票程序。

STA Training Sdn Bhd Gains Hands-on Experience in FDPM Logfisher Training

The Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM) organised a Log Extraction Using Logfisher Training from 25 to 27 August 2025 at the Terengganu Forestry Training Centre (TFTC). The training was attended by a total of 20 participants from Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak, including three (3) staff from STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), Mr Wong How Chu, Assistant Manager, and Trainers Mr Ginda Uli and Mr Sumbang Rani.

STAT participated in the programme to exchange technical knowledge, share operational experiences, and gain insights into log extraction using the Logfisher in Peninsular Malaysia, with the aim of developing a similar training programme under STAT for operators in Sarawak.

The three-day training was led by experienced trainers from TFTC, Mr Ahmad Azhar bin Mamat and Mr Mohd Anuar bin Abd Rahman. Training combined classroom lectures, practical demonstrations and field exercises covering Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) Guidelines for Peninsular Malaysia, Logfisher components and maintenance, safe operating procedures and practical log extraction techniques. Participants also gained exposure to real-world conditions such as manoeuvring machinery on difficult terrain and coordinating between operators and hookmen.

In his closing remark, Mr Mohd Tarmizi bin Ahmad, Principal of TFTC, highlighted that the training was designed to build capacity among Logfisher operators and their hookmen, particularly in the safe handling of heavy machinery used in log extraction operations. He stressed the importance of competency in alignment with the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (MC&I SFM) and RIL practices.



Participants posed for a group photo with trainer Mr Ahmad Azhar bin Mamat (2nd from left) and his assistant Mr Mohd Anuar bin Abd Rahman (standing 5th from right) after completing the practical session on component identification



Participants were given hands-on experience in operating the logfisher

Mr Mohd Tarmizi added that the Logfisher training is part of the Forestry Worker Competency Programme under FDPM, which targets full participation of forest workers in certified training courses. This initiative, aligned with the DPM Strategic Plan 2026–2030, aims to strengthen skills and professionalism in the forestry sector. He expressed hope that participants would apply the skills and knowledge gained during training to daily operations, contributing to improved management of forests.



Participants took a group photo with Mr Mohd Tarmizi bin Ahmad, Principal of TFTC (centre, front row), after the closing ceremony

Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia (JPSM) telah mengadakan Latihan Pengekstrakan Kayu Balak Menggunakan Logfisher pada 25–27 Ogos 2025 di Pusat Latihan Perhutanan Terengganu, dihadiri oleh 20 peserta termasuk tiga wakil daripada STAT, yang menyertainya untuk bertukar-tukar pengetahuan teknikal dan berkongsi pengalaman operasi dalam pengekstrakan balak menggunakan Logfisher, dengan tujuan untuk membangunkan program latihan serupa di bawah STAT untuk operator di Sarawak. Program ini menggabungkan kuliah, demonstrasi dan kerja lapangan mengenai Pembalakan Berimpak Rendah, keselamatan dan operasi jentera.

马来西亚半岛森林局(FDPM)于2025年8月25日至27日在登嘉楼森林培训中心举办使用抓木机进行原木采伐培训课程。此次培训共有20名学员参与，其中包括来自STA Training有限公司(STAT)的3名职员，他们参与该课程旨在掌握使用抓木机进行原木采伐的技术知识与实地操作经验，并以长远目标在砂拉越开发类似的操作员培训课程。该培训结合了讲座、示范与实地操作内容，涵盖低影响采伐、安全措施及机械操作。

Hand-Holding Programme on the Expansion of the Scope of Service Tax & Review of Sales Tax Rates

The Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) successfully conducted its Hand-Holding Programme on the Expansion of the Scope of Service Tax and Review of Sales Tax Rates on 13 and 14 August 2025 at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching.

The two-day initiative is part of RMCD's ongoing commitment to strengthen industry engagement and provide clear guidance on recent legislative changes impacting indirect taxation in Malaysia. The programme specifically targeted sectors most affected by these changes, attracting strong participation from industry leaders, tax professionals, and key stakeholders across Sarawak.

A major focus was the expanded scope of the Service Tax, which came into effect on 1 July 2025, and now includes additional sectors such as construction services, rental and leasing, healthcare, education, and financial services. At the same time, the review of Sales Tax rates covered a broader range of goods, affecting many businesses across various industries, including the timber industry. These tax reforms are aligned with the government's broader fiscal strategy to expand the tax base, enhance revenue collection, and promote long-term fiscal sustainability.

Participants received comprehensive briefings from RMCD officials, supported by interactive question and answer sessions that clarified compliance obligations, implementation timelines, and sector-specific concerns.

In addition to the main presentations, several SST clinics were set up outside the hall to provide personalised assistance and address individual queries.

Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia telah mengadakan Program Bimbingan 2 hari pada 13–14 Ogos 2025 di Hotel Imperial, Kuching. Peserta-peserta menerima panduan mendalam melalui taklimat dan klinik SST mengenai pembaharuan cukai tidak langsung yang terkini, termasuk perluasan skop Cukai Perkhidmatan yang merangkumi sektor seperti pembinaan, penyewaan, penjagaan kesihatan, pendidikan dan perkhidmatan kewangan serta semakan kadar Cukai Jualan yang memberi kesan kepada rangkaian barangan yang lebih luas.

马来西亚皇家关税局(RMCD)于2025年8月13日至14日假古晋帝宫酒店举办为期两天的“手把手”活动。参与者透过简报会以及服务及销售税(SST)咨询会, 深入了解近期间接税制改革的相关内容, 其中包括扩大服务税范围, 涵盖建筑、租赁、医疗、教育和金融服务等领域, 以及销售税税率的调整, 影响更广泛的商品范围。

Engagement with Ministry of Finance on Expanded SST Scope

On 1 July 2025, the Government expanded the scope of the Sales and Service Tax (SST), extending its coverage to a wider range of goods and services, including certain timber products which were previously exempt. This policy shift has understandably raised concerns across industries as businesses work to adapt to the new requirements.

To support members navigate these changes, the STA organised a one-day briefing in collaboration with the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) on 3 July 2025 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The session drew strong participation from member companies and provided a valuable opportunity for industry players to seek clarification directly from Customs officers.

Building on feedback gathered during the briefing, STA consolidated members' issues and formally submitted them to the Ministry of Finance (MOF) on 17 July 2025. This led to an engagement session with MOF on 15 August 2025, chaired by Mr Mohd Fadzlee bin Malik, Head of the GST Section, together with officers from the Ministry. The STA group was led by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer, and included Mr Koh Siok Kiat, STA Consultant, and Ms Yii Yien Yien, Assistant Manager.

The dialogue gave STA the chance to present industry-specific issues, particularly those affecting the timber sector, while MOF shared initial considerations and clarified general principles under the new SST framework. Key issues discussed included sales tax exemption for wastes, residues and by-products such as log ends, sawdust and woodchips, materials not purposely manufactured but generated incidentally

in the course of the production process, and typically reused, recycled, or used for energy recovery. STA also raised the need to extend the sales tax exemption period for exports through third parties from six (6) months to twelve (12) months, as timber exporters often require more time to aggregate sufficient volumes before shipment.

In addition, STA requested the exclusion of material and goods costs used in construction from the imposition of service tax, and sought a business-to-business (B2B) exemption for professional services such as those provided by architects, engineers, and designers, both aimed at avoiding cascading tax effects.

Although many matters are still under review at policy level, STA's proactive engagement ensured that members' concerns were raised early and directly with the authorities. STA has also requested a written reply from MOF once decisions on the outstanding issues are finalised.

Through these efforts, STA reaffirms its commitment to representing members' interests and to ensuring that industry voices are heard in policy discussions that directly impact business operations.



STA group, headed by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer (2nd from right) with Mr Mohd Fadzlee bin Malik (3rd from left) and MOF team

Pada 15 Ogos 2025, STA mengadakan pertemuan dengan Kementerian Kewangan untuk membentangkan isu-isu berkaitan Cukai Jualan dan Perkhidmatan (SST) daripada ahli-ahlinya. Perbincangan tersebut membolehkan STA mengetengahkan kebimbangan industri sementara MOF berkongsi pertimbangan awal dan menjelaskan prinsip umum di bawah rangka kerja SST yang diperluaskan.

2025年8月15日, 本会与财政部(MOF)会面, 提呈会员在销售与服务税(SST)方面的相关问题。此次交流使本会得以向财政部反映业界关切, 财政部则分享扩大SST框架的初步考量, 并说明相关的基本原则。

Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) Executive Committee Meeting No. 4/2025

The Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) convened its Executive Committee Meeting No.4/2025 on 8 August 2025 at Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur, chaired by its president, Mr Tan Peng Juan. STA was represented by its Chief Executive Officer Ms Annie Ting, who also serves as the Honorary Treasurer of MTA.

During the meeting, Executive Committee members engaged in in-depth discussions and follow-ups on several pressing issues concerning the sustainability, regulatory compliance, and advancement of Malaysia's timber industry. Among the key topics addressed were the National Industrial Tree Plantation programme; the European Union Deforestation-free Regulation Coalition, United States tariffs, and enhancement of the Timber Legality Assurance System.

The Committee endorsed the establishment of eleven (11) sub-committees and working groups to strengthen the industry's collective response in addressing specific challenges such as market technical requirements, forest plantation development and utilisation, standards, among others. The meeting also resolved administrative matters including the appointment of authorised bank signatories to enhance and improve efficiency.

Persatuan Perkayuan Malaysia (MTA) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Eksekutif Bil. 4/2025 pada 8 Ogos di Kuala Lumpur, dipengerusikan oleh Presiden Encik Tan Peng Juan. Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA, Cik Annie Ting yang juga Bendahari Kehormat MTA, turut mengambil bahagian dalam mesyuarat tersebut yang membincangkan perkara seperti kelestarian industri, Gabungan Peraturan Bebas-Penyahutan Kesatuan Eropah dan penambahbaikan Sistem Jaminan Kesahihan Kayu. Sebelas jawatankuasa kecil juga telah dibentuk untuk menangani cabaran industri utama dan mengukuhkan kerjasama.

马来西亚木业联合会(MTA)于2025年8月8日在吉隆坡召开本年度第四次执行委员会会议, 由主席陈鼎元先生主持。本会首席执行官兼MTA名誉财政陈燕贞小姐出席该会, 讨论工业可持续发展、欧盟无毁林法规联盟以及木材合法性保障系统的改进等事项。此外, 会议还成立了十一个小组委员会, 以应对关键的工业挑战并加强合作。

International Conference on Advanced Applied Sciences & Sustainability 2025

University of Technology Sarawak (UTS), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Sarawak organised the “*International Conference on Advanced Applied Sciences and Sustainability (ICAAS) 2025*” on 6 August 2025 at Raia Hotel & Convention Centre, Kuching.

In his opening remarks, Haji Zainal Abidin bin Abdullah, General Manager of STIDC highlighted the importance of pursuing sustainable development in Sarawak, a region blessed with rich natural resources. He reiterated Sarawak’s commitment to the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030, which seeks to achieve balanced growth across economic, social, and environmental dimensions. He further stressed the need for innovation and global responsibility in addressing the challenges of climate change, underscoring the role of ICAAS as a vital platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange. With 75 presentations and more than 100 participants including representatives from STA, the conference served as a catalyst for practical innovations in Sarawak’s resource-based industries. He concluded his address by calling for continued collective efforts to ensure Sarawak’s development remains progressive, sustainable, and competitive on the global stage.

ICAAS 2025 was officially launched by Prof. Datuk Dr. Khairuddin Ab. Hamid, Vice-Chancellor of UTS. In his address, Prof. Khairuddin drew attention to the conference theme, “*Innovations in Applied Sciences for a Sustainable Future*,” describing it as both timely and inspiring. He underscored the need to reimagine the role of science in shaping a resilient, inclusive, and green future, while emphasising the importance of applied research in delivering tangible and lasting benefits to communities and the environment. He also commended the efforts of the Centre of Excellence in Wood Engineered Products (CeWEP) at UTS for strengthening the link between industry innovation and sustainable development. In particular, he highlighted its contributions in advancing engineered wood products, promoting biomass valorisation, and optimising the use of tropical wood resources, all of which are initiatives that align closely with Sarawak’s long term sustainability goals.

The conference featured two (2) keynote presentations. The first was delivered by Prof. Ir. Ts. Dr. Julie Juliewatty binti Mohamed of Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, who explored how modern engineering techniques can be applied to better understand and preserve traditional Mambong pottery. Her presentation highlighted the rich intersection of heritage craftsmanship and scientific innovation, demonstrating how technology can play a role in safeguarding cultural traditions.

The second keynote was presented by Datu Haji Hashim bin Haji Bojet, Advisor to STIDC, who shared an overview of the current



Haji Zainal Abidin bin Abdullah,
General Manager of STIDC delivering
his opening remarks

status and future prospects of Sarawak’s timber industry. He drew attention to pressing challenges such as the significant decline in log production, which has led to increased reliance on imported logs for downstream processing. Despite the sector’s high installed milling capacity, utilisation remains low at around 50%, while exports of timber and timber products continue to decline. Labour shortages and skills gaps further compound these issues. In response, the Sarawak government, through STIDC, is implementing strategic initiatives, including allowing mills to operate within forest areas to reduce costs and improve recovery rates to over 80%, with the goal of boosting productivity and strengthening sustainability.

The conference featured four (4) parallel sessions covering a wide spectrum of topics, including wood and forest products, food and agricultural technologies, agroforestry, micro and nano sciences, various engineering fields, and renewable energy. These sessions fostered

interdisciplinary collaboration and facilitated knowledge sharing across applied sciences and sustainability-focused research.

In addition to the presentations, the conference also featured a Memorandum of Understanding exchange between UTS and STIDC, as well as poster presentations, exhibitions, and an awards ceremony. These activities celebrated the contributions of researchers whose outstanding and innovative projects are expected to bring meaningful benefits for both the industry and local communities.

Persidangan Antarabangsa Sains Gunaan Lanjutan dan Kelestarian (ICAAS) 2025, anjuran bersama Universiti Teknologi Sarawak, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak dan Universiti Teknologi MARA Sarawak telah diadakan pada 6 Ogos 2025 di Kuching. Penceramah utama menekankan integrasi warisan dan inovasi dalam memelihara tembikar Mambong serta inisiatif strategik kerajaan Sarawak untuk menangani cabaran dan memacu kelestarian dalam industri perikanan.

2025年先进应用科学与可持续发展国际会议(ICAAS)于2025年8月6日在古晋举行，由砂拉越科技大学(UTS)、砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)及玛拉工艺大学(UiTM)砂拉越分校联合主办。会议主旨演讲嘉宾重点强调如何在保存孟邦陶艺(MambongPottery)过程中融合文化传承与创新元素，同时也介绍砂拉越政府为应对木材工业挑战和推动其可持续发展所采取的策略举措。

FDS Briefing on Areas to be Inundated by the Baleh Hydroelectric Project

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) held a briefing on the Salvage Logging Guidelines for areas to be inundated by the Baleh Hydroelectric Project (HEP) on 14 August 2025 at Kingwood Hotel, Sibu. The session was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development, FDS, Natural Resources and Environment Board, Sarawak River Board, Sarawak Energy Berhad, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, affected forest timber licence holders/contractors, and STA.

FDS presented on the Salvage Logging Guidelines for areas to be inundated by the Baleh HEP to all the affected licensee and contractors. It was stressed that all licensees and contractors must adhere strictly to the guidelines and all work must be completed by September 2026, a year ahead of the scheduled reservoir impoundment in September 2027. This timeline is crucial to ensure proper reservoir preparation, protect the environment, and safeguard downstream communities.



Briefing in session

All affected licensees were requested to notify FDS in writing within one week of the briefing, stating whether or not they intend to participate in salvage logging.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah mengadakan taklimat pada 14 Ogos 2025 di Sibu mengenai Garis Panduan Pembalakan Salvaj untuk kawasan yang akan ditenggelami oleh Projek Hidroelektrik Baleh. Sesi tersebut menekankan 2026 sebagai tarikh siap Projek, risiko operasi dan langkah-langkah mitigasi. Pemegang lesen diarahkan untuk memaklumkan kepada FDS dalam tempoh satu minggu sama ada mereka berhasrat untuk mengambil bahagian dalam pembalakan salvaj atau tidak.

砂森林局(FDS)于2025年8月14日在诗巫就将被巴勒水电(HEP)项目淹没的地区举办有关抢救性伐木指南的简报会。该会强调竣工期为2026年、其运营风险以及缓解措施。许可证持有者也被指示在一周内通知FDS是否有意参与抢救性伐木。

Enrichment Planting Implementation Workshop

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) gathered officers from its Headquarters and Regional Forest Offices, STA members and STA Secretariat at the Enrichment Planting (EP) Implementation Workshop to review the current EP Guidelines, identify challenges faced by licensees, and explore practical solutions through collaborative discussions. The workshop, facilitated by Mr Arifin bin Awang Zulkifli, Head of the Licensing Division at FDS, was held at Kingwood Hotel, Sibu on 26 August 2025.

In the lead-up to the workshop, STA convened several meetings with members to review the Guidelines and consolidate challenges encountered during on-the-ground implementation. EP was formally mandated in 2019 through two (2) DF Circulars: (i) DF Circular 2/2019, requiring all Forest Timber Licence holders to carry out EP within licensed areas using indigenous species, with the number of trees planted equivalent to those harvested; and (ii) DF Circular 1/2025, stipulating that compliance with the Guidelines is a prerequisite for licence renewal and new PEC applications, with an EP report required for renewal.

During the workshop, participants were divided into three (3) focused groups to discuss various aspects of the EP Guidelines. Each group examined different sections of the EP Guidelines, highlighted areas that posed practical challenges to implementation, and proposed adjustments based on their operational experiences. Justifications were also provided to explain the rationale behind each proposed amendment to the EP Guidelines. These discussions underscored the need for a more practical and coordinated approach to enhance both compliance and the overall effectiveness of EP in licensed areas.

The outcomes of these discussions were presented in a plenary session, where Ms. Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, joined three senior FDS officers as panel members. Through this process, the EP Guidelines will be refined to better integrate practical industry inputs with FDS clarifications, ensuring that implementation in licensed areas is both achievable for licence holders and effective in contributing to forest restoration objectives. Some of the proposed refinements include limiting seedling

planting to the edges of log landings, abandoned royalty marking sites, and temporary camps due to soil compaction, with edge planting also helping to reduce erosion. A checklist was also developed to guide the selection of suitable indigenous species, with additional species such as Kelampayan, sawih, and terbulan included. For monitoring purposes, FDS has agreed to GPS waypoints at key points along skid trails or baselines, each marked with a pole and tape, were also proposed.

The FDS also agreed to maintain continuous engagement with STA and the timber industry on EP matters, including conducting field testing and site visits to support successful implementation on the ground. This commitment underscored the importance of ongoing collaboration between the authority and license holders to strengthen compliance and achieve restoration objectives.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) menganjurkan Bengkel Pelaksanaan Tanaman Pengayaan (EP) pada 26 Ogos 2025 di Sibu dan menghimpunkan pegawai FDS, ahli-ahli STA, dan Sekretariat STA untuk menyemak Garis Panduan EP, menangani cabaran, dan mencadangkan penyelesaian praktikal. Peserta Bengkel membincangkan kuota penanaman pokok, lokasi sesuai penanaman, pemilihan spesies, kaedah merekod dan borang pelaporan yang dipermudahkan. Cadangan utama termasuk integrasi digital melalui Portal Pelesen Hutan dan FDS turut komited untuk terus berinteraksi dengan STA serta industri melalui ujian lapangan dan lawatan tapak.

砂森林局(FDS)于2025年8月26日在诗巫举办富集种植(EP)实施工作坊,召集FDS官员、本会会员及秘书处,审议EP指南、解决挑战并提出可行的解决方案。参与者讨论树木种植配额、适合种植的地点、树种选择、记录方式以及简化报告表格。主要提议包括通过森林许可证持有者网站进行数字化整合, FDS也承诺将通过实地测试和现场考察持续与本会及工业保持交流。



Group photo

Visit to Samling's Tissue Culture Laboratory, Nursery and *Eucalyptus* Clonal Plantations

On 14 August 2025, the STA Secretariat visited Samling's tissue culture laboratory, nursery, and *Eucalyptus* clonal plantations in Bintulu to gain deeper insights into the company's advancements in *Eucalyptus* tree improvement and sustainable industrial forest plantation.

The visit began with a courtesy meeting with Mr Yap Fui Fook, Chief Operating Officer of the Samling Group of Companies, and his team at Samling Plywood Bintulu Sdn Bhd. During the session, the Secretariat was briefed on Samling's tree improvement programme for *Eucalyptus* species, which has seen significant investment in developing high-quality clonal planting materials through tissue culture techniques. The discussion also explored opportunities for future collaboration in research and development to further strengthen progress in *Eucalyptus* cultivation.

The delegation then toured Samling's tissue culture laboratory before proceeding to Samling's planted forest area in Segan. There, they observed nursery operations and visited *Eucalyptus* clonal research plots, witnessing the company's efforts to enhance productivity and sustainability in industrial forest plantation.

Pada 14 Ogos 2025, Sekretariat STA melawat Samling di Bintulu untuk mempelajari kemajuan dalam penambahbaikan pokok Eucalyptus. Lawatan tersebut turut melibatkan perbincangan dengan pihak pengurusan, taklimat mengenai program kultur tisu Samling, lawatan ke makmal dan tapak semaian serta plot penyelidikan klon yang menonjolkan usaha dalam pembangunan ladang hutan industri yang lestari.

2025年8月14日, 本会秘书处在民都鲁访问三林集团,了解桉树改良方面的最新进展。该访问包括与管理层会谈、听取三林组织培养计划的简报以及参观其实验室、苗圃和克隆研究地块,重点展示在可持续性工业人工林发展上的努力。



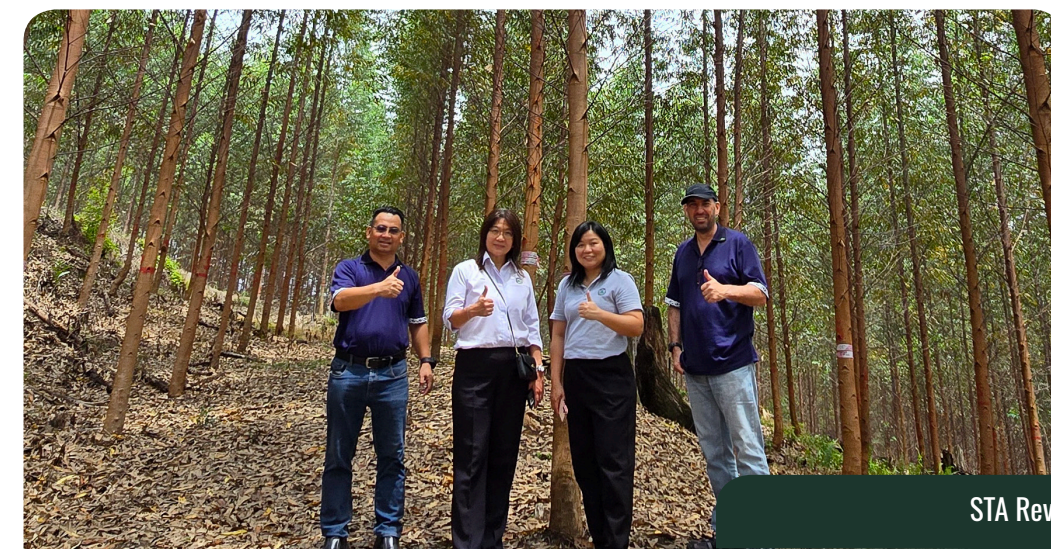
Observing the propagation process at the tissue culture lab



Group photo at the rooting area of the tissue culture lab



Group photo at nursery, holding the *Eucalyptus* hybrid clones



Group photo at 18-month *Eucalyptus* hybrid (*E. urophylla* × *E. grandis*) research plot

Rewilding Association of Sarawak Holds Inaugural TreeTalk

The Rewilding Association of Sarawak (RAS) hosted its first TreeTalk titled “*Rewilding a City, One Tree at a Time*” on 15 August 2025 at Hotel Telang Usan, Kuching. The inaugural event was attended by nature enthusiasts, as well as representatives from non-governmental organisations and community associations, including STA.

As a new platform dedicated to advancing ecological restoration through rewilding initiatives across Sarawak, RAS aims to reconnect people with nature, restore degraded ecosystems, and foster coexistence between human settlements and native biodiversity.

Welcoming the participants, Mr Philip Yong, RAS Chairman and Founder, emphasised that working together and sharing knowledge openly is key to

avoiding duplication and ensuring meaningful impact. He noted the very different challenges between rewilding in cities and in rural landscapes, particularly in choosing suitable species for degraded areas. Breaking down silos, he said, will allow collective efforts to flourish and ecosystems to heal.

The speaker, Dr Anthony Shadbolt, a seasoned practitioner in rewilding and biodiversity restoration from Christchurch, New Zealand, drew on decades of practice to share his insights. He recounted how once-degraded spaces in Christchurch were turned into thriving ecological corridors, offering valuable insights that could be adapted to Sarawak's unique environment.

In responding to questions from the participants, Dr Shadbolt stressed the need to strike a balance between tree planting and long-term maintenance, cautioning that without proper care, restoration efforts may falter. He also emphasised the importance of selecting species suited to urban environments and stressed that rewilding cannot succeed without strong public awareness and support, nurtured through sustained education and engagement.

Persatuan Rewilding Sarawak (RAS) telah mengadakan TreeTalk sulungnya pada 15 Ogos 2025 di Kuching, menghimpunkan peminat-peminat alam semula jadi, wakil daripada pertubuhan bukan kerajaan dan kumpulan masyarakat. Pengerusinya, Encik Philip Yong menekankan kepentingan kerjasama serta strategi khusus yang disesuaikan untuk pemulihan kawasan bandar dan luar bandar, manakala penceramah jemputan, Dr Anthony Shadbolt berkongsi iktibar dari New Zealand dan menekankan penyelenggaraan, kesesuaian spesies, dan pendidikan awam sebagai kunci kejayaan “rewilding”.



Dr Anthony Shadbolt sharing with nature enthusiasts

砂拉越生态复野协会(RAS)于2025年8月15日在古晋举办首届树语分享会，汇聚自然爱好者、非政府组织及社区团体的代表。主席菲利普杨先生(译音)强调城镇与乡村复野工作应加强协作，并采取因地制宜的策略。嘉宾演讲者安东尼沙德博尔特博士则分享来自新西兰的经验，着重于生态维护、物种适宜性与公众教育为成功复野的关键。

MEF East Malaysia (Sarawak) Regional Meeting No. 8/2025

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak Region) convened its eight meeting on 28 August 2025 in a session facilitated by Ms Dayang Jamillah binti Tun Abang Muhd Salahuddin, Consultant of Industrial Relations at MEF Sarawak.

Two (2) insightful presentations were featured during the meeting, namely “Mental Health Awareness in Workplace” by Ms Chiew Pei Ching, Head of Psychology Counselling Unit of Kuching Health Division Office and “Forced Resignation – Lessons for Employers” by Ms Dayang Jamilah.

Ms Chiew kicked off her presentation by engaging attention of participants by asking them “how are you today?” a simple yet powerful way to draw attention to the importance of mental health. She emphasised the importance of emotional self-awareness and the ability to recognise,

validate, and manage one’s feelings before stress becomes overwhelming. These skills, she noted, are essential for maintaining mental wellbeing, especially in the workplace.

Ms Chiew then introduced the Whooley and General Anxiety Disorder 2 (GAD-2), widely used screening tools for mental health assessment. The questions prompt individuals to reflect on whether, in the past one (1) month, they had felt down, depressed, hopeless, or experienced little interest or pleasure in doing things. These prompts, though simple, are effective in encouraging early recognition of mental health issues and seeking support when needed.

She urged employers to prioritise their employees’ emotional wellbeing by cultivating a supportive, empathetic and non-judgmental work environment with fairness and respect.

In the second presentation, Ms Dayang Jamilah provided key insights into the handling of forced

resignations, stressing the importances of avoiding ultimatums such as “resign or be dismissed”, ensuring Performance Indicator Plans (PIPs) are fair, genuine and properly documented, provide adequate time and support for improvement are among others.

She cited a recent Industrial Court case, *Thevendran A/L S. Sivanatham v Fuji Xerox Asia Pacific Pte Ltd*, where the Court ruled that the employee had effectively been forced to resign, having been given no real choice. The case highlighted that such actions are legally considered dismissals, and if done without just cause or excuse, could result in serious legal consequences for the employer.

She emphasised the need for employers to manage such situations carefully and fairly to minimise legal risks and safeguard the employers’ reputation. Among the practical steps shared were maintaining objective performance records, using PIPs as developmental tools, not punitive measures, offering necessary training and support,

avoiding coercive and exploring redeployment options before considering termination.

Ms Dayang Jamilah concluded by underscoring that adherence to proper procedures and employment laws is essential to ensure fair and consistent decisions. This not only protects the employers but also fosters a respectful and harmonious workplace while reducing the likelihood of disputes or complaints.

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) Malaysia Timur (Wilayah Sarawak) telah mengadakan mesyuarat kelapannya pada 28 Ogos 2025, dibantu oleh Cik Dayang Jamillah. Mesyuarat memaparkan ceramah tentang kesihatan mental di tempat kerja dan pemeriksaan awal yang menekankan kesedaran emosi diri dan persekitaran kerja yang menyokong. Ianya termasuk sesi mengenai peletakan jawatan secara paksa, menonjolkan risiko undang-undang, prosedur adil dan tanggungjawab majikan.

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)东马(砂拉越)区域于2025年8月28日召开本年度第八次会议，由达央贾米拉小姐主持。该会内容包括职场心理健康与早期筛查的专题讲座，强调情绪自我觉察以及营造支持性的工作环境。该会也涵盖关于被迫辞职的简报，探讨法律风险、公平程序及雇主所应承担的责任

IWPA Trade Policy Update

STA, as a member of the International Wood Products Association (IWPA), attended a Trade Policy Update webinar organised by the Association on 27 August 2025. The session, led by Ms Ashley Amidon, IWPA Executive Director; Mr Joseph O'Donnell, Director of Government and Public Affairs; and Mr Ben Finnestad, Policy & Marketing Coordinator, provided members with a comprehensive update on United States (US) trade policy developments affecting the wood products industry.

Key topics included the ongoing Section 232 investigation under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, International Emergency Economic Powers Act-based tariffs, enforcement actions under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, updates on Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duties (AD/CVD), as well as other relevant issues such as the European Union Deforestation-Free Regulation. The speakers also outlined the current US political landscape and explained how potential shifts in government policy may influence trade, particularly timber imports.

Participants were informed that the US Department of Commerce is assessing whether certain imports pose risks to national security under Section 232 of the Trade Act of 1974, while Section 301 continues to serve as a key enforcement tool to address unfair foreign trade practices. The discussion also highlighted the implications of AD/CVD measures on timber imports, underscoring the need for industry stakeholders to stay vigilant.

Ms Amidon acknowledged the prevailing uncertainties in global trade but assured members that IWPA remains committed to providing timely updates on ongoing investigations, tariffs, and duties that may impact the timber sector.

Pada 27 Ogos 2025, STA menghadiri Webinar Dasar Perdagangan anjuran Persatuan Produk Kayu Antarabangsa (IWPA) yang menyediakan taklimat komprehensif mengenai perkembangan dasar perdagangan Amerika Syarikat (A.S.) yang mempengaruhi produk kayu. Topik yang diliputi termasuk siasatan berterusan, tarif, langkah penguatkuasaan dan Peraturan Bebas Penyahutan Kesatuan Eropah. Penceramah juga menekankan kesan peralihan dinamik politik A.S. dan menekankan kepentingan kewaspadaan dalam kalangan pihak berkepentingan industri.

2025年8月27日，本会参加国际林产品公会(IWPA)主持的贸易政策线上研讨会，全面介绍美国贸易政策对木材产品的影响。议题涵盖包括持续调查、关税、执法措施及欧盟无毁林法规。讲者也着重讲述美国政治局势变迁带来的影响并强调工业利益相关者保持警觉性的重要性。

MEESy's Public-Industry Engagement Day and Launching Ceremony of the Sarawak Energy Transition Policy

The Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability (MEESy) gathered more than 500 representatives from government, industry, academia, and civil society at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching on 11 August 2025 for its Public-Industry Engagement Day. The event provided a platform for dialogue on partnership opportunities to accelerate Sarawak's clean energy transition and marked the official launch of the Sarawak Energy Transition Policy (SET-P), a strategic framework to position the energy sector as a key driver of the Sarawak's future development.

The programme began with a briefing by appointed consultants on three (3) key government policies charting Sarawak's pathway towards sustainability and energy innovation, namely the Sarawak Sustainability Blueprint (SSB) 2030 and the Sarawak Hydrogen Economy Roadmap (SHER), both launched in May 2025 as well as the SET-P, which was launched later that day.

The SSB 2030 sets a comprehensive roadmap towards a low-carbon, inclusive and sustainable economy through 10 Strategic Thrusts. Forestry plays a central role under *Strategic Thrust 7: Sustainable Stewardship of Natural Assets*, with key targets including maintaining 56% forest cover, designating one million hectares as Totally Protected Areas by 2025, certifying three million hectares of long-term forest timber license areas and constituting 50,000 hectares of permanent forest this year. Other commitment include restoring up to 10% of forest ecosystems, planting 5,000 non-timber forest product species

annually and establishing 10,000 hectares of bamboo plantations by 2030.

Complementing this, the SHER positions Sarawak as a future leader in the global hydrogen economy, recognising hydrogen's role in decarbonisation and its diverse industrial applications.

Following the briefing, Sarawak State Secretary Datuk Amar Haji Mohammad Abu Bakar bin Marzuki delivered his welcoming remarks, highlighting the importance of cross-sector collaboration, efficient regulatory coordination and digital adoption to ensure development benefits reach all Sarawakians, including rural communities. He stressed that the SET-P complements the SSB 2030 and SHER under the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 and called on the Sarawak Civil Service to actively engage stakeholders and embrace innovative approaches.

Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, then delivered his address and officially launched the SET-P. In his speech, the Premier outlined Sarawak's strong competitive edge in driving energy transition, noting that Sarawak ranks first in Malaysia for low-carbon energy potential, natural gas production, and reserves, accounting for more than 60% of the national total. He further pointed to Sarawak's abundant land and water resources for industrial development and utilities, as well as its strategic position at the heart of the South China Sea, a major maritime corridor carrying one-third of global sea trade.



The Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg underscored in his address how the State's three (3) key policies are paving the way for a sustainable and resilient future

Anchored on seven (7) strategic pillars and supported by five (5) key enablers, the SET-P is expected to generate investments of RM580-700 billion by 2050, create 80,000 high-paying jobs by 2050 and channel over 75% of benefits to middle- and lower-income households. Forestry will play a significant role in this green economy shift through carbon capture, utilisation and storage initiatives, positioning forests as nature-based carbon sinks, and through bioenergy, leveraging wood residues as a biomass resource.

The launch ceremony also witnessed the signing of seven Memoranda of Understanding between the Sarawak Government and leading industry players in various renewable energy sectors, reinforcing Sarawak's position as a regional clean energy hub.

Kementerian Tenaga dan Kelestarian Alam Sekitar melancarkan Dasar Peralihan Tenaga Sarawak (SET-P) semasa Hari Penglibatan Awam-Industri pada 11 Ogos 2025. Turut diperkenalkan semasa acara itu ialah Pelan Induk Kelestarian Sarawak (SSB) 2030 dan Pelan Hala Tuju Ekonomi Hidrogen Sarawak (SHER). Dasar-dasar ini merangka halatuju Sarawak ke arah ekonomi rendah karbon melalui tenaga bersih, pemuliharaan hutan dan inovasi hidrogen. Sektor perhutanan memainkan peranan penting, dengan komitmen untuk mengekalkan 56% liputan hutan, memperluas kawasan perlindungan, memulihkan ekosistem yang terdegradasi, dan menyokong pasaran karbon dan bioenergi. Secara keseluruhannya, dasar ini bertujuan untuk menarik pelaburan sebanyak RM580-700 bilion dan mewujudkan 80,000 pekerjaan menjelang 2050.

砂拉越能源与环境可持续发展部(MEESy)于2025年8月11日在其公众与工业对话日正式发布砂拉越能源转型政策(SET-P)。同一活动中也介绍2030年可持续发展蓝图(SSB)和砂拉越氢能经济路线图(SHER)。这些政策通过清洁能源、林业保护以及氢创新描绘出砂拉越迈向低碳经济的路径。林业则扮演核心角色，达到维持56%的森林覆盖率、扩大保护区、恢复退化生态系统以及支持碳汇与生物能源市场的承诺。总体而言，这些政策旨在到2050年吸引马币5,800-7,000亿令吉的投资，并创造逾8万个就业机会。



The Premier of Sarawak launches the Sarawak Energy Transition Policy (SET-P), a key step that sets the pace for advancing Sarawak's clean energy ambitions

HRD Corp Open Day 2025

In conjunction with the “HRD Corp Open Day – National Day Edition” on 21 August 2025, the HRD Corp Kuching Branch hosted a series of interactive sessions for its stakeholders at its office. STA participated in one of the sharing sessions delivered by Mr Phang Pin, Senior Assistant Director of the Labour Department Sarawak, who spoke on the Amendments to the Labour Ordinance of Sarawak (Sarawak Cap. 76) and the Minimum Wage Order 2024.

Mr Phang informed participants that a total of 75 amendments to the Labour Ordinance of Sarawak (Sarawak Cap. 76) were made in 2025, of which he highlighted 18 key areas. These included revisions to the definition of “employee”, rest days, public holidays, working hours, maternity and sick leave, payment of wages, and prohibition of forced labour, among others. He also noted that special provisions under Part IVA of the Ordinance, relating to minimum standards for employee housing, accommodations, and amenities, have been approved but are not yet enforced.

On the subject of wages, Mr Phang outlined the role and functions of the National Minimum Wages Council. He clarified that under the Minimum Wage Order 2024, effective 1 August 2025, the minimum wage, whether calculated monthly, piece rate, tonnage, or other methods, must not fall below RM1,700 per month.

Beyond the sharing sessions, the HRD Corp Open Day also featured a free consultation clinic offering personalised guidance on HRD Corp services, including levy matters, claims processes, and available training programmes.



Mr Phang Pin highlighted the series of amendments of Labour Ordinance of Sarawak (Sarawak Cap 76)

Participants also benefited from pocket talks on the HRD Corp Training Grant Process and a Comprehensive Guide to the HRD Corp Allowance Cost Matrix, aimed at enhancing stakeholders’ understanding and utilisation of HRD Corp initiatives.

STA menyertai Hari Terbuka HRD Corp – Edisi Hari Kebangsaan pada 21 Ogos 2025 di Kuching. Antara sorotan lain, sesi oleh Encik Phang Pin, Penolong Pengarah Kanan Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Sarawak yang mengetengahkan pindaan utama Ordinan Buruh dan Perintah Gaji Minimum 2024. Beliau juga menyatakan bahawa pelaksanaan peruntukan berkaitan perumahan, penginapan dan kemudahan pekerja masih tertangguh.

本会于2025年8月21日参与由人力资源发展机构(HRD Corp)在古晋举办的国庆节开放日。分享环节的亮点之一，是砂拉越劳工部高级助理局长彭彬先生深入讲解劳工法及2024年最低工资令的主要修订内容。他也指出有关雇员宿舍、住宿及设施的相关条文尚待落实执行。



Wishing all Members and Readers

Happy

Malaysia Day

From the Chairman, Council Members, Management and Staff of STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Training Sdn Bhd

Pengerusi, Ahli-Ahli Majlis, Pihak Pengurusan dan Kakitangan STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd dan STA Training Sdn Bhd ingin mengucapkan Selamat Hari Malaysia kepada semua warga Malaysia.

本会主席、理事会、管理委员会和STA秘书处, STA Enterprises有限公司, STA Mutual 有限公司和 STA Training 有限公司全体职员在此祝愿所有马来西亚人民马来西亚日快乐。

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT TRAINING

Date : 5-7 August 2025 (Part 2)
Venue : Wisma STA, Kuching
Trainer : Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang



The part 2 of the Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) training course was successfully organised by STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) in collaboration with the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) from 5 to 7 August 2025, at Wisma STA Kuching. The part 2 training covers identifying and overcoming challenges during audits, case studies, review of audit reports, and examinations. The training was delivered by an experienced trainer, Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang.

The ECA training course aims to provide a thorough understanding and practical application of the ECA process to meet the requirements of the *Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008*, and the associated guidelines as well as to promote self-regulation within the industry players. This training will enable qualified personnel to be registered as Environmental Auditor with NREB and to conduct internal audits, migrating from the existing Environmental Monitoring Reports (EMR) submission.

With effect from 1 July 2024, it is mandatory for the forestry sector in Sarawak to implement the Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) while for agriculture (oil palm plantation), quarry, and mining sectors; it will come into effect on 1 January 2027.

For more information on the above training, contact Mr Wong How Chu at 082- 332222 or email to howchu@sta.org.my

- Image Captions:
- 1.Participant received a Certificate of Attendance from Ms Annie Ting, STAT Manager (middle) after completing the training. Certificate of Competency will be issued to those successfully passed the examinations
 - 2.Classroom lecture by Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang, the ECA Trainer
 - 3.Group discussion on the case studies related to the conduct of ECA
 - 4.Participants were assessed on the last day of training

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM NATURAL FORESTS BY REGION FROM SARAWAK-
HILL AND SWAMP SPECIES
PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI HUTAN SEMULA JADI MENGIKUT BAHAGIAN DARI SARAWAK - SPESIS HUTAN BUKIT DAN
HUTAN PAYA
砂拉越各区域天然林原木生产量 - 丘陵与沼泽地树种

Region	May '25	May '24	Jun '25	Jun '24	Jul '25	Jul '24	Jan - Jul '25	Jan - Jul '24
	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Kuching (Hill)	---	913	289	647	---	1,478	949	3,452
(Swamp)	593	---	---	---	1,046	---	3,350	---
Sibu (Hill)	26,026	18,718	22,133	17,936	26,344	25,528	148,549	145,387
(Swamp)	3,550	780	4,534	---	3,378	3,082	17,210	11,124
Bintulu (Hill)	56,797	55,567	53,305	55,320	71,433	61,494	346,830	399,539
(Swamp)	4,258	---	1,255	1,016	1,611	888	17,407	9,021
Miri (Hill)	8,719	6,836	14,827	9,691	12,316	5,812	67,995	52,143
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kapit (Hill)	59,798	42,561	56,700	54,097	55,838	52,073	337,183	340,266
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Limbang (Hill)	8,403	4,301	6,165	4,035	11,847	6,724	45,470	50,750
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sarikei (Hill)	2,645	3,564	2,235	---	4,306	715	11,863	18,533
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	937	---	937	---
Sri Aman (Hill)	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,404	432
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal (Hill)	162,388	132,460	155,654	141,726	182,084	153,824	960,243	1,010,502
(Swamp)	8,401	780	5,789	1,016	6,972	3,970	38,904	20,145
TOTAL	170,789	133,240	161,443	142,742	189,056	157,794	999,147	1,030,647

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM NATURAL FORESTS BY HILL SPECIES FROM
SARAWAK
PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI HUTAN SEMULA JADI MENGIKUT SPESIS HUTAN BUKIT DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越丘陵地树种之天然林原木生产量

Hill Species	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Bindang	68	2,148	647	1,781	538	6,380
Meranti	50,404	63,004	71,461	63,479	71,609	405,505
Kapur	3,246	4,047	4,839	4,641	4,729	27,904
Keruing	2,572	2,864	4,145	3,846	3,376	20,953
Sepetir	165	240	222	246	300	1,421
Selangan Batu	1,551	2,469	2,945	2,777	2,797	15,164
Nyatoh	1,050	1,323	1,622	1,859	1,901	9,455
Other species	58,054	64,444	76,507	77,025	96,834	473,461
TOTAL:	117,110	140,539	162,388	155,654	182,084	960,243

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM NATURAL FORESTS BY SWAMP SPECIES
FROM SARAWAK
PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI HUTAN SEMULA JADI MENGIKUT SPESIS HUTAN PAYA DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越沼泽地树种之天然林原木生产量

Swamp Species	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Jongkong	---	13	18	1	24	62
Sepetir	---	---	---	8	---	8
Kapur	20	596	385	177	273	1,647
Keruing	5	6	26	29	7	114
Meranti	109	599	600	380	575	2,865
Other species	2,582	7,523	7,372	5,194	6,093	34,208
TOTAL:	2,716	8,737	8,401	5,789	6,972	38,904

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM INDUSTRIAL FOREST PLANTATION BY REGION FROM SARAWAK

PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI PERLADANGAN HUTAN INDUSTRI MENGIKUT BAHAGIAN DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越各区域工业人工林原木种类生产量

Region		May '25	May '24	Jun '25	Jun '24	Jul '25	Jul '24	Jan - Jul '25	Jan - Jul '24
		Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Sibu	(ACMG)	762	8,364	1,609	5,679	844	7,067	13,690	43,614
	(ALBZ)	---	535	---	1,342	---	83	4,825	5,180
	(EUCA)	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,783	---
	(KLPN)	---	400	231	989	179	1,735	533	6,747
Bintulu	(ACMG)	15,603	47,749	14,933	42,119	22,980	59,724	116,919	353,056
	(ALBZ)	7,530	9,845	4,478	12,873	3,005	7,598	22,559	45,744
	(EUCA)	152	2,069	2,239	2,535	338	1,476	13,901	13,052
	(GMELINA)	---	292	---	---	---	---	---	292
	(KLPN)	---	---	---	42	62	66	62	343
Miri	(ACMG)	10,411	8,542	14,472	11,266	13,580	9,445	68,150	86,452
	(ALBZ)	4,181	1,336	4,057	1,632	8,726	2,200	29,899	11,989
	(EUCA)	10,386	7,014	9,692	11,839	8,647	10,203	47,513	57,404
	(GMELINA)	490	---	1,570	---	6,320	---	8,380	---
	(KLPN)	46	---	---	---	219	---	385	---
Limbang	(ACMG)	---	2,576	---	690	---	1,056	---	10,028
Subtotal	(ACMG)	26,776	67,231	31,014	59,754	37,404	77,292	198,759	493,150
	(ALBZ)	11,711	11,716	8,535	15,847	11,731	9,881	57,283	62,913
	(EUCA)	10,538	9,083	11,931	14,374	8,985	11,679	64,197	70,456
	(GMELINA)	490	292	1,570	---	6,320	---	8,380	292
	(KLPN)	46	400	231	1,031	460	1,801	980	7,090
TOTAL:		49,561	88,722	53,281	91,006	64,900	100,653	329,599	633,901

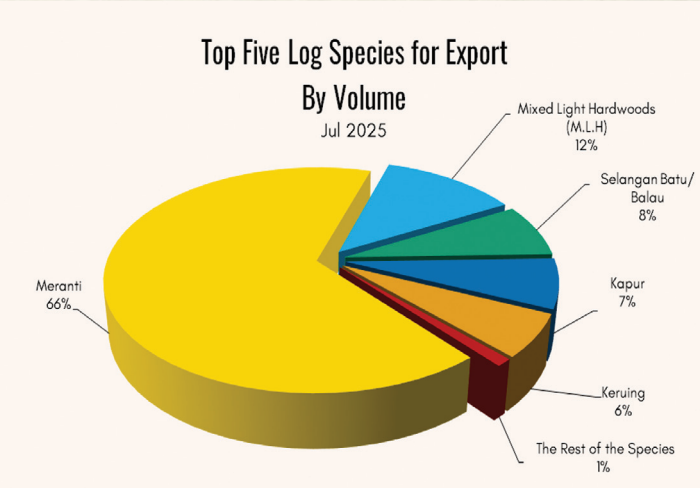
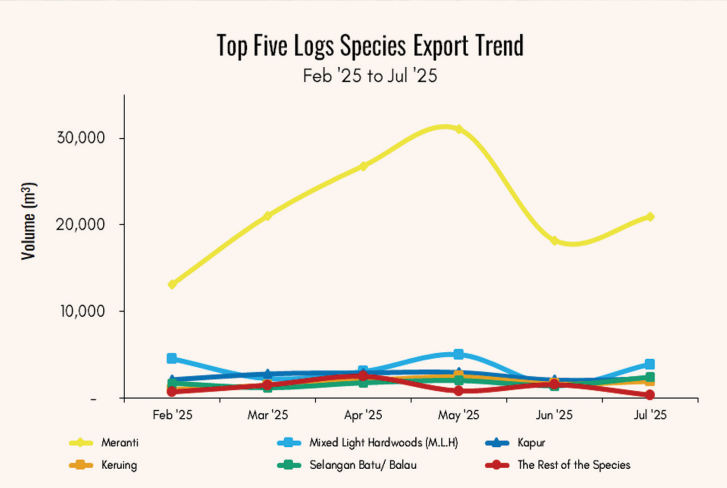
Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

*ACMG - Acacia mangium ALBZ - Albizia EUCA - Eucalyptus GMELINA - Gmelina arborea KLPN - Kelampayan MHGN - Mahogany

EXPORT OF LOGS BY SPECIES FROM SARAWAK
EKSPORT BALAK MENGIKUT SPESIS DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越原木树种出口量

Species	May '25		Jun '25		Jul '25		Jan - Jul '25		Jan - Jul '24	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Arau	131	151,491	58	62,577	37	29,910	747	877,078	1,662	1,971,467
Kapur	2,962	3,199,877	2,109	2,284,539	2,262	2,712,126	20,833	23,205,262	27,338	30,986,713
Keruing	2,496	2,072,739	1,627	1,293,548	1,960	1,618,346	13,085	10,569,458	30,403	24,018,535
Mempening / Empenit	---	---	---	---	2	2,284	2	2,284	---	---
Meranti	31,032	24,657,019	18,188	14,250,371	20,927	17,053,112	167,809	128,125,818	183,410	137,213,944
Mersawa	199	178,513	222	190,756	124	104,128	1,294	1,128,339	3,518	2,577,412
Mixed Light Hardwoods (M.L.H)	4,986	3,197,925	1,472	917,016	3,896	2,734,988	25,807	16,027,753	32,217	20,934,540
Nyatoh	64	38,787	56	34,497	67	40,016	535	318,193	275	193,268
Resak	256	221,024	194	164,410	115	97,884	1,587	1,330,991	2,259	1,984,969
Selangan Batu/ Balau	2,000	3,208,261	1,419	2,363,450	2,397	4,121,515	12,716	20,989,082	13,671	21,037,537
Other Species	184	127,176	1,011	1,138,296	---	---	4,292	4,042,022	176	108,838
TOTAL:	44,310	37,052,812	26,356	22,699,460	31,787	28,514,309	248,707	206,616,280	294,929	241,027,223

Source of data: Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



SARAWAK timber trade statistics



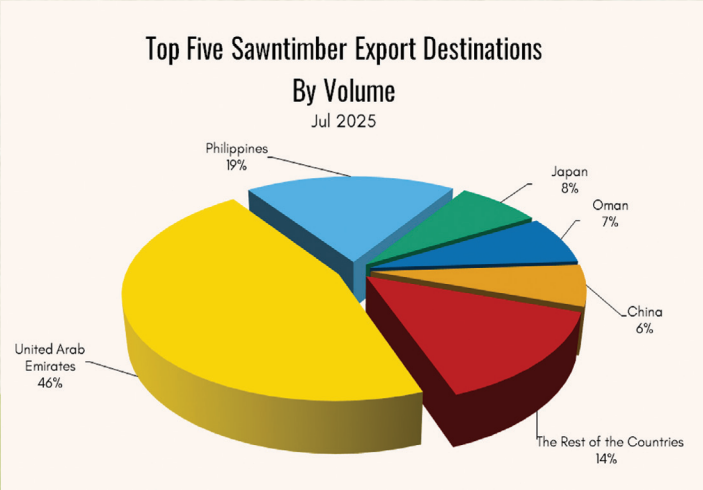
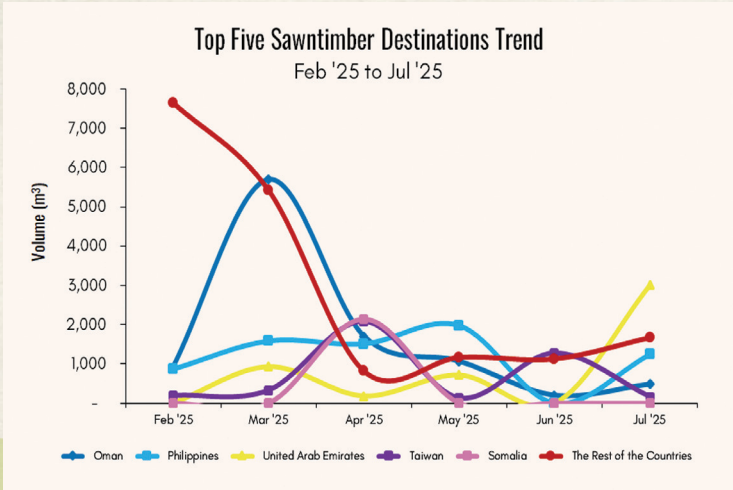
EXPORT OF SAWNTIMBER BY DESTINATIONS FROM SARAWAK

EKSPORT KAYU BERGERGAJI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK

砂拉越至各目的地之锯木出口量

Country of Destination	May '25		Jun '25		Jul '25		Jan - Jul '25		Jan - Jul '24	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
China 中国	305	275,351	284	216,862	412	389,684	2,085	4,299,110	1,457	1,975,464
Japan 日本	280	702,881	187	496,156	490	1,176,526	1,779	4,543,398	2,207	6,437,944
Korea 韩国	227	339,830	275	407,919	290	318,649	1,527	2,156,061	556	993,890
Oman 阿曼	1,064	1,486,851	196	219,302	481	476,853	10,435	11,108,563	11,614	15,573,783
Philippines 菲律宾	1,971	2,398,712	---	---	1,242	879,366	9,596	8,583,807	17,079	16,580,641
Seychelles 塞舌尔	39	118,244	---	---	79	255,886	216	688,116	106	372,813
South Africa 南非	---	---	---	---	154	154,060	267	274,850	207	266,941
Taiwan 台湾	126	95,234	1,276	1,666,474	159	150,702	5,241	7,236,043	8,851	16,099,810
Thailand 泰国	253	330,272	299	198,242	231	303,819	2,059	2,027,093	3,126	3,381,308
United Arab Emirates 阿联酋	715	926,265	---	---	3,007	3,811,611	4,831	6,180,251	3,983	7,931,843
Other Countries 其他国家	66	168,152	87	123,092	18	52,487	13,582	26,185,372	12,596	26,904,856
TOTAL:	5,046	6,841,792	2,604	3,328,047	6,563	7,969,643	51,618	73,282,664	61,782	96,519,293

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



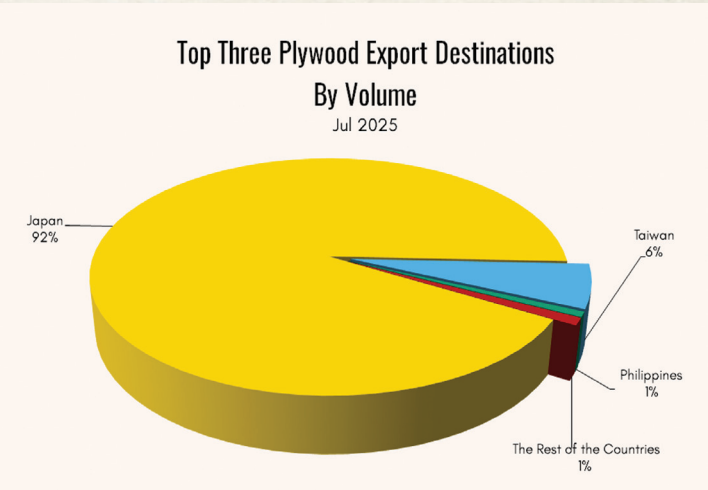
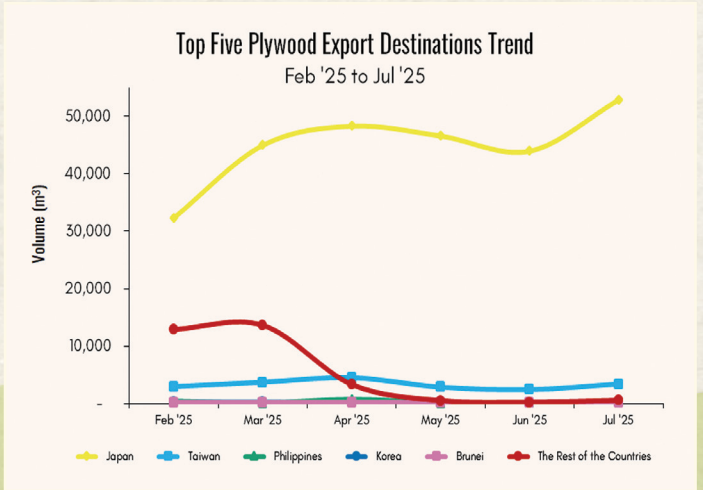
EXPORT OF PLYWOOD BY DESTINATIONS FROM SARAWAK

EKSPORT PAPAN LAPIS MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK

砂拉越至各目的地之胶合板出口量

Country of Destination	May '25		Jun '25		Jul '25		Jan - Jul '25		Jan - Jul '24	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Australia 澳洲	117	317,944	83	181,960	183	434,915	746	1,777,738	720	1,998,425
Brunei 汶莱	219	342,770	202	283,439	251	381,580	1,476	2,131,199	2,085	2,723,271
Japan 日本	46,586	96,906,522	43,966	89,806,103	52,904	108,016,036	310,040	644,211,088	288,279	670,617,341
Korea 韩国	229	419,824	148	227,236	232	412,719	1,736	3,033,549	7,642	14,300,006
Oman 阿曼	---	---	---	---	182	274,647	354	535,795	1,070	1,776,257
Philippines 菲律宾	82	217,607	121	343,115	407	1,144,729	2,195	6,577,489	2,949	10,262,524
Singapore 新加坡	---	---	113	175,166	107	256,423	241	486,133	194	503,434
Taiwan 台湾	2,883	4,533,789	2,459	3,761,442	3,422	5,530,205	21,648	34,536,431	19,093	34,683,819
Thailand 泰国	3	10,483	4	18,482	3	15,487	227	583,835	114	327,862
Turkey 土耳其	---	---	---	---	101	189,236	101	189,236	270	508,999
Other Countries 其他国家	412	725,640	37	144,435	---	---	32,195	56,289,107	48,245	91,572,950
TOTAL:	50,531	103,474,579	47,133	94,941,378	57,792	116,655,977	370,959	750,351,600	370,661	829,274,888

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)





EXPORT VALUE OF VENEER BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT VENIR MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之单板出口值

Top Three Veneer Export Destinations

By Value
Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
745,204	312,283	1,507,590	376,436	900,540	5,213,379

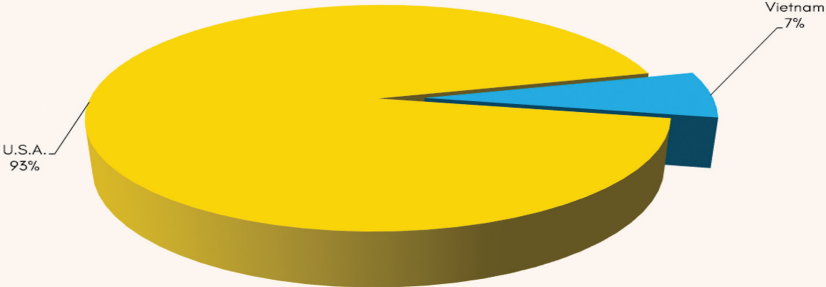


EXPORT VALUE OF LAMINATED BOARD / FLOORING BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN LAMINA / LANTAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之层压板/地板出口值

Top Two Laminated Board / Flooring Export Destinations

By Value
Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
4,449,345	2,682,087	3,823,008	2,116,052	4,379,513	23,754,614

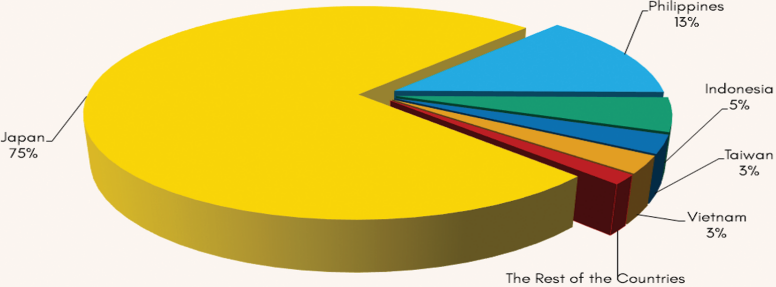


EXPORT VALUE OF MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN GENTIAN BERKETUMPATAN SEDERHANA MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之中密度纤维板出口值

Top Five Medium Density Fibreboard Export Destinations

By Value
Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
31,673,313	25,627,367	32,693,115	24,673,917	39,735,169	214,659,344

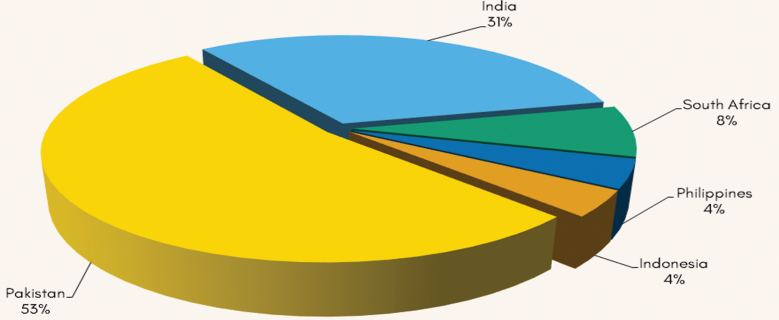


EXPORT VALUE OF DOORSKIN BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT DAUN PINTU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之门皮出口值

Top Five Doorskin Export Destinations

By Value
Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
2,275,612	3,935,559	3,655,241	2,780,145	3,677,200	22,607,537



EXPORT VALUE OF PARTICLEBOARD BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN SERPAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之塑合板出口值

Remark:

No export of particleboard was recorded in Jul 2025

Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
---	---	---	---	---	113,694

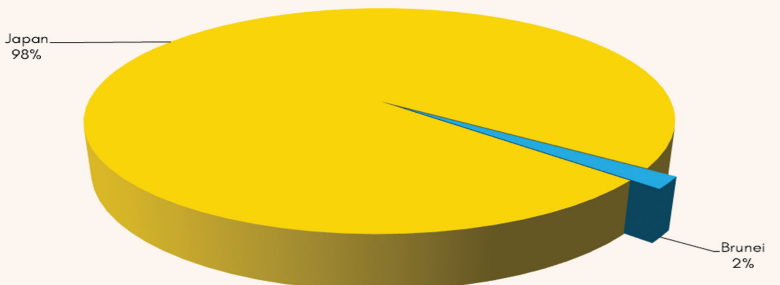


EXPORT VALUE OF DOOR PANELS & FRAME BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT PANEL & BINGKAI PINTU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之门框出口值

Top Two Door Panels & Frame Export Destinations

By Value
Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
2,403,210	2,886,044	2,379,974	1,804,247	2,000,985	14,298,302

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for August 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

SARAWAK timber trade statistics



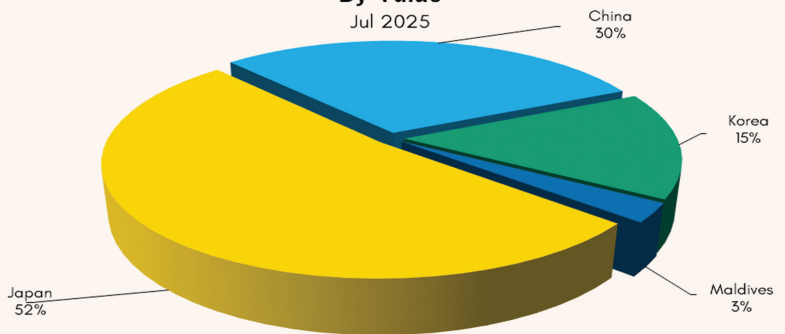
EXPORT VALUE OF MOULDINGS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT KAYU KUMAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之制模出口值

Top Four Mouldings Export Destinations

By Value

Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
478,384	565,385	555,282	323,503	667,230	3,224,443



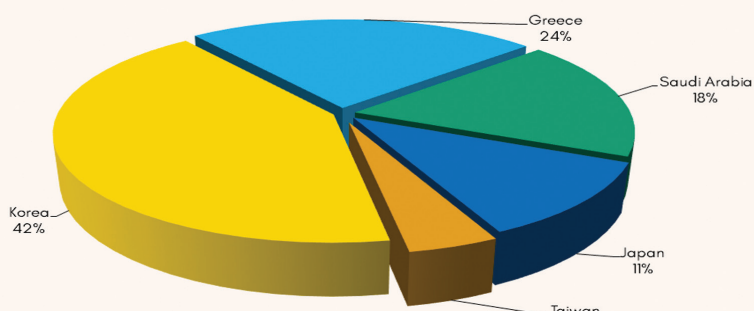
EXPORT VALUE OF CHARCOAL & BRIQUETTE BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT ARANG & BRIKET MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之木炭和煤球出口值

Top Five Charcoal & Briquette Export Destinations

By Value

Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
726,347	1,344,446	1,584,209	244,431	1,275,287	5,863,886



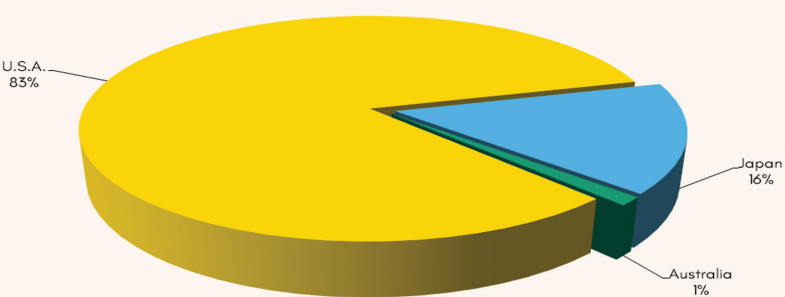
EXPORT VALUE OF FURNITURE & FURNITURE PARTS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT PERABOT & BAHAGIANNYA MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之家具及其零件出口值

Top Three Furniture & Furniture Part Export Destinations

By Value

Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
3,039,680	3,584,612	1,944,329	1,536,771	2,876,756	17,935,879



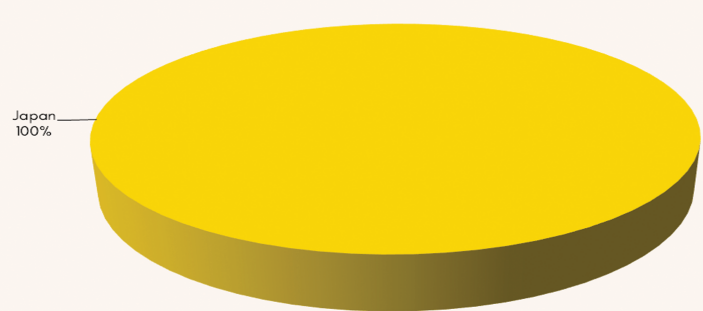
EXPORT VALUE OF WOODCHIPS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT CIP KAYU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之木屑出口值

Top Woodchips Export Destination

By Value

Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
2,487,139	---	3,074,499	2,178,400	2,324,798	32,293,675



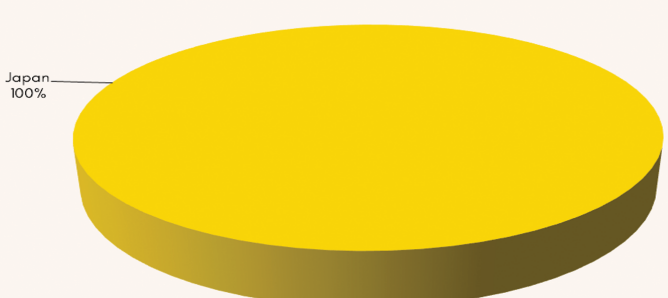
EXPORT VALUE OF WOOD PELLETS BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT PELET KAYU MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之木屑颗粒出口值

Top Wood Pellets Export Destination

By Value

Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
173,724	22,419,927	---	---	21,928,905	65,039,586



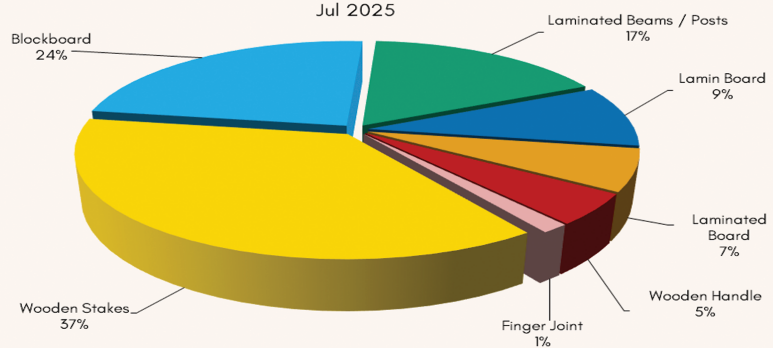
EXPORT VALUE OF OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS FROM SARAWAK

NILAI EKSPORT PRODUK KAYU LAIN DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越其它木制品出口值

Other Timber Products Export

By Value

Jul 2025



Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Jan - Jul '25
1,132,141	1,252,204	1,633,332	1,601,727	1,668,916	9,645,232

Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
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SKILL TRAINING FOR TRAINED WORKMEN

Skills training in forestry activities have been designed to provide forest workmen with basic knowledge and practical skills required to work safely in the forests. It helps to create awareness on the environment, sustainable forest management as well as occupational safety and health.

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of STA, offers training to workmen in the forestry and timber industry. Presently, there are twelve (12) skills sets offered by STAT.

LOG LOADING - FRONT END LOADER (NATURAL FOREST)

A **Certificate in Log Loading – Front End Loader (Natural Forest)** is awarded to an operator who has demonstrated competence in operating a log loader to handle logs for loading onto a logging truck and unloading logs from a logging truck safely.



SCOPE OF TRAINING COVERS SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE IN:

- Safety and health
- Basic maintenance of log loader
- Pre-start check
- Shut down procedure
- Moving logs from stack and position logs securely on a logging truck

MEET THE TRAINERS



KUTOK BAYANG
Trainer/Assessor



SANG SANJAN
Trainer/Assessor

Under Section 51 of the Forests Ordinance 2015, forest workmen are required to receive training from a training provider and demonstrate their competence through assessment. STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) is the appointed training provider by Forest Department Sarawak to provide skills training for the five (5) prescribed forestry activities (PFAs) as listed in Schedule 1 The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015.

GET IN TOUCH

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