

# STA REVIEW

Monthly Magazine of Sarawak Timber Association



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Engagement Session on the Requirements for Mills  
in Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) Areas



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Cover photo by Bong Ted Onn

## STA REVIEW

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## Meeting with Deputy Prime Minister



Dato Henry Lau (left) and Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof (centre) in discussion, accompanied by Ms Annie Ting, STA CEO

On 13 October 2025, Dato Henry Lau, Chairman of STA, met with Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Deputy Prime Minister at the Leo Moggie Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur. Also present were Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA and Ms Yii Yien Yien, Assistant Manager of STA. The meeting provided an opportunity for STA to present several pressing concerns affecting businesses in Sarawak and across Malaysia, particularly in light of rising operational costs and recent regulatory changes.

In 2025, businesses have been significantly impacted by a series of policy shifts, including the increase in minimum wage to RM1,700, the expansion of the Sales and Service Tax (SST) scope, enforcement of stamp duty on employment contracts, mandatory Employees Provident Fund (EPF) contributions for foreign workers, and the costly implementation of the new Foreign Worker Transformation Approach (FWTA). These cumulative measures are eroding business margins, reducing competitiveness, and threatening the long-term sustainability of enterprises, especially micro, small and medium-sized businesses in labour-intensive sectors such as manufacturing, agriculture, and construction.

In a written submission to the Deputy Prime Minister, STA proposed several practical recommendations to ease the impact of these policies. These included expediting confirmation on key SST implementation matters to provide clarity and consistency across the board, raising the stamp duty exemption threshold for employment contracts to RM4,000 in line with labour law benchmarks, and allowing employment contracts to be stamped only after 12 months of continuous service to reduce unnecessary administrative costs in sectors with high employee turnover. STA also recommended deferring the requirement for EPF contributions for foreign workers until after

six (6) months of employment, to accommodate short-term or seasonal hiring practices.

Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah acknowledged the concerns raised and assured STA that the matters would be conveyed to the relevant ministries, namely the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Human Resources, and Ministry of Home Affairs. STA welcomes this assurance and looks forward to continued dialogue and collaboration with the Government to support the resilience and sustainability of the business community in Sarawak and Malaysia.

*Pada 13 Oktober 2025, Pengerusi STA, Dato Henry Lau telah mengadakan pertemuan dengan Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof di Kuala Lumpur untuk membentangkan isu-isu utama yang dihadapi oleh sektor perniagaan, termasuklah peningkatan kos operasi akibat perubahan dasar seperti kenaikan gaji minimum, peluasan SST, diti setem ke atas kontrak pekerjaan, caruman wajib KWSP bagi pekerja asing serta pelaksanaan Pendekatan Transformasi Pekerja Asing (FWTA) baharu yang menelan kos tinggi. STA turut mencadangkan penyelesaian praktikal bagi mengurangkan impak terhadap perniagaan, khususnya perusahaan mikro, kecil dan sederhana dalam sektor berintensifkan tenaga kerja. Timbalan Perdana Menteri memberi jaminan bahawa isu-isu tersebut akan dibangkitkan kepada kementerian berkaitan untuk pertimbangan lanjut.*

2025年10月13日，本会主席拿督刘利康假吉隆坡礼节性拜访副首相拿督阿玛哈吉法迪拉尤索夫，并提出主要的商业关切，包括因政策变化导致的营运成本上升，如最低薪资上调、销售与服务税(SST)范围扩大、雇佣合约印花税、外籍员工强制公积金(EPF)缴纳，以及新外籍员工转型方法(FWTA)的高昂实施成本。本会对此提出务实的解决方案，以减轻这些政策对企业，尤其是劳动密集型工业中的微型、小型及中型企业所造成的影响。副首相表示将把这些问题提呈相关部门作进一步审议。



From left to right: Ms Yii Yien Yien, Assistant Manager of STA, Dato Henry Lau, Chairman of STA, Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Deputy Prime Minister and Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA



## Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2025 – Sarawak Level Celebration

The Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) organised the Sarawak level celebration of Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2025 on 29 October 2025 at Roxy Beach Resort, Sematan. The event was attended by representatives from government agencies, industry stakeholders, and members of the public, including representatives from the STA Council, the STA Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) Working Group and STA Secretariat.

One of the key highlights of the event was the official launch of the “Guidance Document on Interpreting Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Terms and Conditions for Forestry Sector Projects in Sarawak” by the Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg.



The Premier of Sarawak receiving a copy of the Guidance Document from Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (4<sup>th</sup> from left) joined by Datu Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak (centre, back row), representing NREB in the joint collaboration

Jointly developed by NREB and the STA ECA Working Group, with technical input from the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), the Guidance Document serves as an important reference to help the forestry sector better interpret and comply with the Terms and Conditions (T&Cs) of approved EIA reports. By clarifying these T&Cs, the document directly supports the implementation of the Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA), a key regulatory mechanism under the Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008.

In his remarks, Datu Jack commended the initiative as a proactive step towards strengthening environmental compliance and self-regulation within the forestry sector.

He highlighted that with the full implementation of the ECA for the forestry sector beginning 1 July 2024, the Guidance Document will serve as a practical tool for auditors and project proponents to ensure effective implementation and consistent monitoring of EIA T&Cs. Designed as a living document, it will continue to evolve in line with regulatory and industry developments, supporting Sarawak’s commitment to balancing environmental stewardship with sustainable economic growth.

The development of this Guidance Document further reinforces the long-standing collaboration between NREB and STA in promoting responsible environmental practices, enhancing industry awareness, and strengthening regulatory compliance within the forestry sector. This partnership exemplifies the shared commitment of both organisations in advancing Sarawak’s sustainability agenda under the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 towards responsible, resilient, and sustainable forest management.



Ms Annie Ting (centre), CEO of STA led a delegation comprising members of STA Council, STA ECA Working Group and STA Secretariat to the event



The book “Guidance Document on Interpreting Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Terms and Conditions for Forestry Sector Projects in Sarawak”

Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NREB) telah menganjurkan sambutan Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2025 pada 29 Oktober 2025 di Sematan, di mana Premier Sarawak melancarkan “Dokumen Panduan mengenai Pentafsiran Terma dan Syarat Penilaian Impak Alam Sekitar (EIA) untuk Projek Sektor Perhutanan di Sarawak”, yang dibangunkan bersama oleh NREB dan STA dengan input teknikal daripada Jabatan Hutan Sarawak. Dokumen Panduan ini menyediakan panduan yang jelas untuk meningkatkan pemahaman dan pematuhan terhadap keperluan EIA, menyokong pelaksanaan Audit Pematuhan Alam Sekitar dan memperkukuh usaha ke arah pengurusan hutan lestari di Sarawak.

天然资源与环境局(NREB)于2025年10月29日在三马丹举办2025年国家环境日庆祝活动，砂总理在活动中正式启用由NREB和本会联合制定，并结合砂森林局的技术意见的《砂拉越林业项目环境影响评估(EIA)条款和条例解读指南》。该指南为加深对EIA要求的了解和遵循提供明确指引，支持环境合规审计(ECA)的有效实施，并进一步加强砂拉越可持续森林管理工作。

## Collaborative Meeting between STA & STIDC

The STA Secretariat, led by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer, initiated a meeting with officers from the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) on 27 October 2025 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The STIDC was represented by Ms Jessica anak Ayom and Ms Wan Ching Ching from the Promotion and Trade Facilitation Division; Mr Afizulmizam bin Afandi from the Licensing, Industrial Planning and Investment Division; and Ms Atiqah Batrisyia binti Abdul Rahman from the Research, Development and Innovation Division.

The meeting provided a platform for open dialogue between the two (2) organisations to exchange information and ideas, strengthen coordination and foster a deeper mutual understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the sector. Through constructive discussion, both parties identified key challenges and potential areas for collaboration, particularly those linked to the implementation of national-level policies and initiatives affecting the timber industry.

Key topics deliberated during the session included Malaysian Standards, Formaldehyde Emission Level from Panel-Based Product Regulations 2025, Sarawak Timber Industry (Licensing) Regulations 2025, Foreign Workers Transformation Approach (FWTA), and the upcoming Seminar for the Sarawak Forestry Sector 2025, among others.

Both parties expressed a shared commitment to holding regular engagements to sustain open communication, strengthen alignment, and enhance collaboration in advancing the growth, competitiveness, and sustainability of Sarawak’s timber industry.

STA yang diketuai oleh Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Cik Annie Ting telah bertemu dengan pegawai-pegawai Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) di Wisma STA pada 27 Oktober 2025 untuk bertukar idea, mengukuhkan penyelarasan dan membincangkan peluang sektor. Topik utama termasuklah Piawaian Malaysia, peraturan perkayuan dan Seminar Sektor Perhutanan Sarawak 2025 yang akan datang. Kedua-dua pihak komited untuk mengadakan penglibatan berkala bagi memajukan industri perkayuan di Sarawak.

2025年10月27日，本会在首席执行官陈燕贞小姐带领下假STA大厦与砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)官员会面，旨在交流意见、加强协调，并探讨工业机遇。重点议题包括马来西亚标准、木材法规以及即将举行的2025年砂拉越林业研讨会。双方承诺保持定期交流，以持续推动砂拉越木材工业的发展。



Group photo



# Engagement Session on the Requirements for Mills in Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) Areas

An engagement session between the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and industry stakeholders on the requirements for mills in Licence for Planted Forest (LPF) areas was held on 30 October 2025 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The session aimed at providing industry stakeholders with a better understanding of the licensing process, regulatory requirements, and associated procedures



Mr Joseph Lau (right) during his welcoming remarks

Mr. Joseph Lau, Chairman of the STA Forest Plantation Committee, in his welcoming speech highlighted that the session aims to provide a platform for an open dialogue to enhance understanding of compliance requirements, identify potential challenges, and strengthen collaboration between the parties present.

The session featured a presentation by Mr Afizulmizam bin Afandi, Manager at STIDC, on the Timber Industry Licence (TIL) application process for mills in LPF areas. His presentation covered the detailed process framework, required supporting documents, and applicable fees. He also shared the policy conditions for mills operating within LPF areas, which include the following:

- (i) Applicant must hold a valid LPF;
- (ii) Minimum planted area within the LPF is 5,000 ha;
- (iii) Mill must be established at the site approved by the Director of Forests;

- (iv) Applicant must obtain approval from Industrial Coordination Committee (ICC) or the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) for manufacturing licence/ permit;
- (v) Applicant must obtain TIL from STIDC to operate a mill;
- (vi) Leasing of mill licence to contractor/ operator is not permitted;
- (vii) To utilise legal planted timber harvested within the LPF area;
- (viii) Inactive operation for 3 consecutive years shall render the licence cancelled.

The session was followed by a presentation from Mr Semilan anak Ripot, Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Management), FDS, on conditional approvals, application procedures, and standing tree volume assessments. He explained that remote sensing technology will be used to verify the actual planted areas within the LPF before approval is granted for mill establishment. He further emphasised that LPF holders must pay the royalty and cess based on the standing tree volume measured and mutually agreed upon by FDS and LPF



Engagement session in progress

holders before harvesting activities can commence. In addition, he elaborated on the prohibited activities within the mill, as well as the compliance monitoring and enforcement measures to be implemented during harvesting operations.

Following the two (2) presentations, participants took the opportunity to clarify queries and share insights, with discussions highlighting key challenges such as compliance obligations, investment requirements, and ensuring a sustainable raw material supply. Participants also proposed the concept of a “portable mill”, which provides greater operational flexibility by allowing the mill to relocate to harvesting areas within the LPF where raw materials are available, rather than depending on a fixed, permanent facility.



Mr Afizulmizam bin Afandi (left) and Mr Semilan anak Ripot (right) during their respective presentations



Participants actively engaged to clarify their queries

Satu sesi penglibatan di antara Jabatan Hutan Sarawak, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak dan pemegang taruh industri mengenai keperluan pelesenan bagi kilang di kawasan Lesen untuk Ladang Hutan (LPF) telah diadakan pada 30 Oktober 2025 di Wisma STA. Pembentangan merangkumi proses pelesenan, prosedur pematuhan dan penggunaan penderiaan jauh untuk pengesahan. Sesi tersebut turut membincangkan cabaran, kemampunan dan konsep “kilang mudah alih” yang dicadangkan untuk penempatan semula kilang fleksibel dalam kawasan LPF.

砂森林局(FDS)、砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)以及业界利益相关者于2025年10月30日假本会大厦，就人工林种植执照(LP) 区域内设立木材加工厂的许可要求举行交流会。汇报内容涵盖许可证申请流程、合规程序及利用遥感技术进行核查。讨论环节涉及面临的挑战、可持续发展以及提议在LPF区域内实现灵活搬迁的“可移动木材加工厂”概念。



Group photo



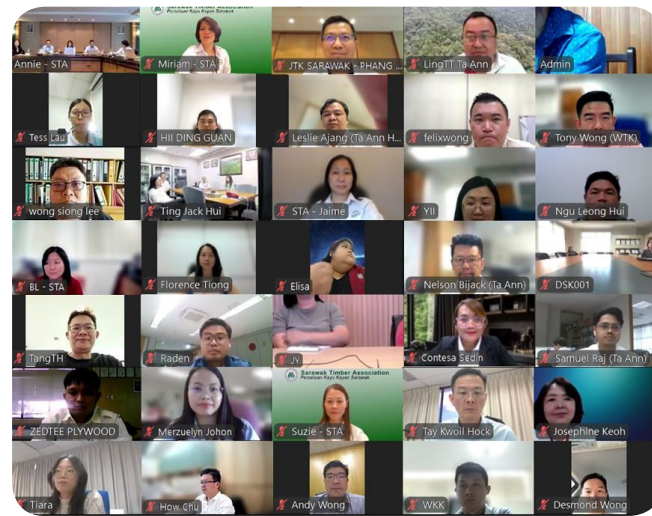
## Sharing Session on Sarawak Labour Ordinance

On 1 October 2025, STA organised a hybrid session on the Sarawak Labour Ordinance (SLO), bringing together 70 members to gain a clearer understanding of the recent amendments and their impact on employment practices within the industry.

In her welcoming remarks, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, emphasised the significance of the session in light of the recent Ordinance's changes. She noted that it is both timely and essential for employers, managers, and human resource practitioners to familiarise themselves with the revised provisions to ensure proper and effective implementation within their respective organisations. Ms Ting added that the session was designed to deliver comprehensive guidance and practical insights into the application of the amended Ordinance, supporting members in aligning their employment policies and procedures with current legal requirements.

Mr Phang Pin, Senior Assistant Director of the Department of Labour Sarawak shared an insightful overview of the amended Ordinance. He explained that the updates aim to harmonise the Labour Ordinance of Sarawak with the provisions of the Employment Act 1955, the Children and Young Persons (Employment) Act 1966, and the Employees' Minimum Standards of Housing, Accommodations and Amenities Act 1990. The amendments also seek to align the Ordinance with current economic developments, standardise labour practices across Malaysia, and ensure employees nationwide enjoy similar benefits and protections. He also highlighted a concise overview of 18 key areas amended such as definition of "employee", rest days, public holidays, working hours, maternity and sick leave, payment of wages, and prohibition of forced labour.

He also mentioned that currently, Part IVA of the Ordinance pertaining to the minimum standards for housing, accommodation and amenities for employees, has yet to come into force. While major amendments to the Ordinance took effect on 1 May



Screen capture of some of the participants

2025, Part IVA was specifically excluded and will be enforced at a later date appointed by the Minister. Although not yet in effect, the amendments related to Part IVA are intended to align Sarawak's regulations with the federal Employees' Minimum Standards of Housing, Accommodation and Amenities Act 1990 (Act 446). The key provisions under the new Part IVA will cover the followings:

- **Standards for accommodation:** General provisions detailing minimum housing and accommodation requirements for workers.
- **Housing and amenities in estates:** Specific requirements for employees working in plantation estates.
- **Accommodation in other workplaces:** Rules for housing provided at workplaces other than estates.

Moving forward, Mr Phang reiterated that businesses that provide housing for employees should prepare for the future implementation of the new, more stringent standards. Employers will be required to ensure that the living quarters and facilities meet the minimum requirements outlined in the Part IVA of the Ordinance.

The event concluded with encouragement for employers to update their policies and collaborate closely with regulators to ensure compliance and uphold responsible labour practices within the industry.

Pada 1 Oktober 2025, STA telah mengadakan sesi hibrid mengenai Ordinan Buruh Sarawak yang dihadiri oleh 70 ahli-ahlinya bagi memahami pindaan terkini serta kesannya terhadap amalan pekerjaan. Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA, Cik Annie Ting, menekankan kepentingan untuk membiasakan diri dengan peruntukan yang telah dipinda, manakala Encik Phang Pin daripada Jabatan Buruh Sarawak menjelaskan pindaan utama dan pelaksanaan Bahagian IVA yang akan datang mengenai piawaian perumahan pekerja. Walaupun belum berkuat kuasa, Encik Phang menggalakkan majikan untuk bersedia bagi pelaksanaan piawaian baharu yang lebih ketat pada masa hadapan bagi memastikan pematuhan dan amalan buruh yang adil.

2025年10月1日，本会举行一场关于砂拉越劳工法令的混合会议，共有70名会员出席，旨在了解近期修订内容及其对雇佣实践的影响。本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐强调熟悉修订条文的重要性，而砂拉越劳工局的彭彬先生则讲解主要修订内容，以及即将实施与雇员宿舍标准相关的第IVA项条例。虽然该项条例尚未生效，彭彬先生鼓励企业为未来实施这些更为严格的新标准做好准备，以确保合规并维护公平的劳动实践。



Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) presented a token of appreciation to Mr Phang Pin, Senior Assistant Director of the Department of Labour Sarawak (centre)

## STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No. 2/2025

The STA Forest Plantation Committee convened its second meeting of the year on 30 October 2025 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The session began with welcoming remarks from the Committee Chairman, Mr Joseph Lau Ching Hoo, who expressed appreciation for the members' continued commitment and contributions to the Committee's initiatives.

During the meeting, members reviewed the progress of STA-funded research and development projects, including the ongoing research trial plots for *Neolamarckia cadamba* and *Falcataria moluccana*. A key agenda item was the discussion on the establishment of mills within the Licensed for Planted Forests (LPF) areas. Members deliberated on the main concerns and challenges related to mill development, and agreed on a way forward to facilitate the planning and application of mill projects within LPF areas.

The Committee also discussed the planning of activities and budgets for 2026 to ensure that future programmes remain aligned with the Association's strategic objectives.

Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA telah mengadakan mesyuarat kedua pada 30 Oktober 2025 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Ahli-ahli telah menyemak semula projek penyelidikan & pembangunan yang sedang dijalankan, membincangkan pelan aktiviti 2026, dan membincangkan cabaran dalam menubuhkan kilang di kawasan lesen ladang hutan, serta bersetuju dengan langkah ke hadapan untuk menyokong perancangan dan aplikasi projek kilang.

本会人工林委员会于2025年10月30日假古晋本会大厦召开第二次会议。委员们审查进行中的研究与发展项目，讨论2026年的活动计划，并就于人工林种植执照(LPF)区域内设立木材加工厂所面临的挑战进行深入讨论，同时就支持木材加工厂项目规划与申请达成前进的共识。



Meeting in session



## Road to Belém: Accelerating Climate Action in Sarawak

The Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability Sarawak, in collaboration with PricewaterhouseCoopers Malaysia, organised the Road to Belém: Accelerating Climate Action in Sarawak – Open Day for the Sarawak Net Zero Strategy and Carbon Plan on 7 - 8 October 2025 at Sheraton Hotel, Kuching. The event brought together stakeholders from both the public and private sectors, including STA to foster collaboration, facilitate dialogue, and explore sustainable investment opportunities. It also served as a platform for the signing of climate action commitments. Participants engaged in discussions on strategies and pathways towards a greener, low-carbon future.



Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg delivering his address (Source: Weida, 7 October 2025)

The event was officiated by the Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg. In his address, the Premier emphasised the importance of collective action in addressing climate change and highlighted Sarawak's contribution to regional and global net-zero efforts. He underscored the state's initiatives to conserve and restore mangrove forests, which are natural carbon sinks capable of storing three times more carbon than regular forests, while creating new economic opportunities for coastal communities.

Since the establishment of the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy in 2008, Sarawak has made significant progress towards a low-carbon economy. Recent initiatives including the Sarawak Sustainability Blueprint 2030, Hydrogen Economy Roadmap, Energy Transition Policy and the newly launched Net Zero Strategy and

Carbon Plan, form a comprehensive framework to guide Sarawak's transition towards achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

Sarawak is also advancing its carbon trading and Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) legal framework to align with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, enabling registration under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The State is collaborating with the World Bank to develop a model for voluntary carbon trading and to refine the formula and pricing mechanisms for carbon transactions.

The event featured six (6) panel discussions focusing on key aspects of the sustainability transition, including financing the net-zero transition; integrating climate, nature and biodiversity to strengthen co-benefits and manage trade-offs in a just transition; charting Sarawak's path as a clean-energy leader; and promoting circular economy practices under the theme Waste to Wealth – Rethinking Resources in a Circular Economy.

On the second day, participants were introduced to the KenalESG Programme, which highlighted the i-ESG Framework, a national initiative led by the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry to guide the manufacturing and industrial sectors in Malaysia in adopting Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices. The i-ESG Framework is designed to support micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in progressively adopting ESG principles, acknowledging the challenges they may face in terms of resources and expertise.

*Kementerian Tenaga dan Kelestarian Alam Sekitar Sarawak dengan kerjasama PricewaterhouseCoopers Malaysia telah menganjurkan program "Road to Belem: Accelerating Climate Action in Sarawak – Open Day" pada 7-8 Oktober 2025 di Kuching bagi mempromosikan Pelan Strategi Sifar Bersih dan Karbon Negeri. Majlis tersebut telah disempurnakan oleh Premier Sarawak dan menampilkan sesi perbincangan panel, pameran inisiatif rendah karbon Sarawak serta pengenalan Program KenalESG bagi membantu perusahaan mikro, kecil dan sederhana mengamalkan amalan lestari yang selaras dengan prinsip ESG.*

砂拉越能源与环境可持续发展部(MEESy)与马来西亚普华永道(PwC)合作, 于2025年10月7日至8日在古晋举办“通往贝伦之路: 加速砂拉越气候行动-开放日”活动, 旨在推广砂州的净零排放策略和碳计划。活动由砂总理主持开幕, 设有专题论坛, 展示砂拉越的低碳倡议, 并介绍KenalESG计划以协助微型、小型和中型企业采纳可持续且符合环境、社会和治理(ESG)原则的实践。

## Dialogue between STA ECA Working Group and NREB



Datu Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak (seated 3<sup>rd</sup> from left) and Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA (seated 3<sup>rd</sup> from right) posed for group photo with representatives from both parties

A dialogue between the STA Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) Working Group and the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) was held on 9 October 2025 at NREB Headquarters, Kuching. The session, chaired by Datu Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, was attended by senior officers from NREB, representatives from STA ECA Working Group and the STA Secretariat.

The dialogue aimed to review the progress of ECA implementation within the forestry sector and to strengthen collaboration between STA and NREB in ensuring smooth and effective compliance with environmental requirements. The meeting also served as a platform to exchange feedback, discuss common implementation challenges and explore opportunities to improve understanding between industry and regulator.

Discussions covered several aspects related to the ECA framework and its supporting processes, including guidance documents, audit procedures and reporting requirements. Both parties also exchanged views on the development of practical reporting formats and the importance of capacity building for industry personnel involved in environmental compliance.

The meeting reflected the shared commitment of both STA and NREB to strengthen environmental governance through continuous engagement and cooperation. STA expressed appreciation to NREB for its openness and willingness to work closely with industry players, while NREB commended STA's proactive role in coordinating feedback and supporting its members in meeting regulatory expectations. Both parties agreed to launch the jointly developed "Guidance Document on Interpreting EIA Terms and Conditions for Forestry Sector Projects in Sarawak" by the STA ECA Working Group and NREB during the upcoming *Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2025 Peringkat Sarawak* celebration on 29 October 2025.

*Kumpulan Kerja Audit Pematuhan Alam Sekitar (ECA) STA telah mengadakan dialog bersama Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NREB) pada 9 Oktober 2025 di Kuching bagi menilai kemajuan dan memperkukuh kerjasama dalam pelaksanaan ECA di sektor perhutanan. Sesi tersebut merangkumi aspek utama rangka kerja ECA seperti prosedur audit, keperluan pelaporan dan pembangunan kapasiti serta diakhiri dengan perancangan untuk melancarkan "Dokumen Panduan Mentafsir Terma dan Syarat Laporan EIA bagi Projek Sektor Perhutanan di Sarawak" yang dibangunkan bersama semasa sambutan Hari Alam Sekitar Negara 2025 Peringkat Sarawak pada 29 Oktober 2025.*

本会环境合规审计(ECA)工作组于2025年10月9日在古晋与天然资源与环境局(NREB)举行会谈, 旨在审查进度并加强在林业领域实施ECA的合作。会议涵盖ECA框架的关键事项, 包括审计程序、报告需求和能力建设, 并敲定于2025年10月29日举行的2025年全国环境日砂拉越区庆典活动中推出双方联合制定的《砂拉越林业项目环境影响评估(EIA)条款与条例解读指南》。



A snapshot of the engaging dialogue between NREB senior officers and the STA ECA Working Group



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Log Scaling Course Enhances Technical Competency in Sarawak's Timber Industry

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), in collaboration with the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), successfully conducted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Log Scaling Course of 2025 from 14 to 16 October 2025 at Dynasty Hotel, Miri. This collaborative initiative aimed to enhance the industry's technical knowledge and competencies in log measurement and scaling, contributing to the promotion of sustainable forest management and the accurate valuation of timber resources.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr Liam anak Dibor, Regional Forest Officer, Miri, underscored the importance of accurate log scaling in ensuring that log specifications submitted by licensees or their contractors for royalty marking are precise and in compliance with regulatory requirements. He highlighted that accurate measurement plays a crucial role in safeguarding government revenue by preventing potential leakage in log royalty collection. Mr Liam also encouraged participants to take full advantage of the training to enhance their knowledge and competency in log scaling, thereby ensuring that all submissions to FDS adhere to existing laws and regulations.



*Welcoming remarks by Mr. Liam anak Dibor, Regional Forest Officer, Miri*

The three-day intensive course was conducted by experienced trainers, Mr Joshua Deri and Ms Hasanaliza binti Bujang Abdillah from FDS, together with Mr Sumbang anak Rani from STAT, and attended by 20 log scalers from across Sarawak. The programme covered key components of log scaling, including measurement techniques, log tagging, species identification, recording of log details in specification forms, and submission

of applications to FDS for royalty assessment in accordance with the Forests Ordinance, 2015 and related regulatory requirements.



*Mr Sumbang anak Rani, STAT's Trainer presented on the identification of logs during the training*

Participants engaged in both classroom sessions and hands-on practical exercises conducted at a log pond in the Lapok area. The practical sessions offered valuable exposure to correct measurement techniques, log tagging, species identification, and documentation procedures, thereby reinforcing participants' understanding of the comprehensive process of log movement and royalty assessment.

*STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) dengan kerjasama Jabatan Hutan Sarawak telah menganjurkan Kursus Pengukuran Kayu Balak (Log Scaling) ke-2 bagi tahun 2025 dari 14 hingga 16 Oktober di Miri. Kursus selama 3 hari ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kemahiran teknikal peserta dalam pengukuran kayu balak, penandaan, dan pengecaman spesies, mengukuhkan pematuhan terhadap Ordinan Hutan 2015 dan menyokong penilaian royalti yang tepat dan pengurusan hutan secara lestari.*

STATraining有限公司(STAT)与砂森林局(FDS)合作, 于2025年10月14日至16日在美里举办第二期原木检尺课程。为期三天的课程提升学员在原木测量、标记和树种识别方面的技能, 加强对2015年森林法令的遵守, 并有助于准确的原木特许权使用费评估并推动可持续森林管理。

*A photo session with participants of the Log Scaling Course, jointly organised by the FDS and STA*

## State Task Force on Illegal Logging Meeting No. 1/2025



*Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah bin Ali Hasan chairing the meeting*

The State Task Force on Illegal Logging Meeting No. 1/2025 was held on 23 October 2025 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The meeting was chaired by Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah bin Ali Hasan, the Second Minister of Natural Resources and Urban Development, and attended by representatives from various state authorities such as the Royal Malaysia Police, Royal Malaysian Customs Department, State Attorney-General's Chambers and forestry agencies including the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation and Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd as well as representatives from STA and its members.

In his opening remarks, Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah emphasised that the Task Force serves as an important platform for relevant agencies to coordinate efforts in combating illegal logging in Sarawak. It provides an avenue to exchange views, share information on the latest technologies, and enhance collaboration among stakeholders. He also highlighted the importance of capacity building, recommending continuous improvements to enhance transparency and to engage with civil society in raising awareness on sustainable forest management. The inclusion of STA in this Task Force, he added, is to ensure that all its members and their subcontractors are informed about the importance of compliance with rules and procedures, as the ultimate responsibility still lies with the licensees.

Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah emphasised that close cooperation with the timber industry is vital to ensuring compliance and strengthening sustainable forest management. He noted that with ongoing collaboration, data sharing, and training among officers, communities, and the public, the sector can continually improve and keep potential risks well managed.

The meeting was updated by the FDS on the decline in illegal logging cases from 2020 to 2025 and on the use of the Continuous Monitoring and Surveillance (COMOS) system,

a geospatial-based technology developed to detect and share tactical information on such activities in real time. The COMOS initiative enhances enforcement effectiveness by improving decision-making, saving time and costs, and providing more accurate intelligence for timely action.

It was also informed that the Premier of Sarawak has approved the Self-Regulatory Policy, which requires licensees to prepare enforcement and safety plans, engage auxiliary police or private security, prevent encroachment, conduct regular monitoring, and be subject to action or fines for negligence. FDS will carry out regular monitoring and inspections to ensure compliance. To facilitate effective implementation, Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah tasked FDS to collaborate with STA to develop a practical mechanism to operationalise the new policy.

*Mesyuarat Pasukan Bertindak Negeri mengenai Pembalakan Haram Bil. 1/2025, yang dipengerusikan oleh Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah bin Ali Hasan, Menteri Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar Kedua pada 23 Oktober 2025, telah membincangkan usaha yang diselenggarakan untuk memerangi pembalakan haram melalui teknologi, perkongsian data dan kerjasama industri. Jabatan Hutan Sarawak telah membentangkan maklumat terkini mengenai kes-kes dan sistem pemantauan Pemantauan dan Pengawasan Berterusan. Turut dikongsikan kelulusan Dasar Kawal Selia Kendiri oleh Premier Sarawak, dan FDS serta STA dikehendaki untuk membangunkan mekanisme pelaksanaannya secara bersama.*

非法伐木活动的州级特别工作组本年度首次会议于2025年10月23日召开, 由天然资源与城市发展第二部长拿督阿旺登亚主持, 就通过科技、共享数据以及业界合作来打击非法伐木活动的协调措施进行讨论。砂森林局(FDS)汇报相关案件以及持续监测与监察系统的最新进展。会议也指出, 砂总理已批准自我监管政策, 并指示FDS和本会合作制定其实施机制。



## NREB Stakeholder Engagement Programme Series 2/2025

The Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) continued its 2025 Stakeholder Engagement Programme with Series 2 held on 1 October 2025 at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching, drawing over 200 participants from government agencies, project proponents, environmental consultants, and industry associations, including the STA.

Carrying the theme “Empowering Development through Environmental Awareness and Compliance in Sarawak”, the programme sought to strengthen environmental understanding, enhance compliance with regulatory requirements, and reinforce collaboration between regulators and the private sector.

The programme featured presentations across two sessions covering Sarawak’s environmental framework. In Session 1, moderated by Mr Kenny Poon, Deputy Controller (Management), Mr Joshua Iman, Head of Legal Unit, delivered a briefing on the Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance, 2024 (Chapter 87). He explained the phased enforcement approach of the new Ordinance, with key provisions expected to take effect by end of 2025. This was followed by Mr Jong Chean Fuei, Head of the Natural Resources and Environmental Management Division, who emphasised the importance of EIA screening process in determining correct assessment pathway and ensuring that project-specific environmental sensitivities are identified at an early stage.

Session 2, chaired by Mr Dau Utai, Head of Research and Development Division, focused on key aspects of enforcement, monitoring, and environmental education. Mr Felix Joe anak Daud, Environmental

Control Officer from the Compliance and Enforcement Division, presented on enforcement strategies to improve industry compliance. He highlighted that consistent monitoring and transparent enforcement remain vital to ensuring the effectiveness of the Environmental Impact Assessment system.



Mr Felix Joe anak Daud, Environmental Control Officer from the Compliance and Enforcement Division, delivered his presentation on enforcement strategies aimed at enhancing industry compliance

Mdm Mary Magdalen, Head of the Environmental Monitoring Division, provided an update on the status of river water quality in Sarawak, noting areas of improvement and future plans for monitoring enhancement. Mdm Marinni Khir, Head of the Environmental Education Division, stressed the importance of education and awareness programmes in promoting community and industry participation in environmental protection. She also took the opportunity to promote the Premier of Sarawak Environmental Award.

In the welcoming remark delivered during the closing ceremony, Mdm Penny Sumok, Deputy Controller (Operations), on behalf of Datu Jack anak Liam, the Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, expressed appreciation to participants for their active engagement and reaffirmed NREB’s commitment to continuous dialogue and cooperation with stakeholders.

Datuk Dr Haji Hazland bin Haji Abang Hipni, Deputy Minister for Energy and Environmental Sustainability, in his closing speech, commended NREB’s sustained

efforts to engage stakeholders and align environmental governance with Sarawak’s low-carbon and Net Zero 2050 aspirations. Datuk Dr Hazland highlighted that Sarawak’s transition towards a low-carbon economy demands strong cooperation between government, industry, and the public. He said the state’s natural advantages, such as rich forests, rivers, and carbon-sink capacity; position it well to pursue nature-based solutions alongside technological innovations such as Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage. He described Sarawak’s Net Zero 2050 Strategy as a dynamic, evolving framework that will be strengthened through research, innovation, and partnership.

*Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NREB) telah mengadakan Program Libat Urus Pihak Berkepentingan 2025 Siri 2 pada 1 Oktober 2025 di Hotel Imperial, Kuching. Program tersebut menekankan perkembangan terkini mengenai Ordinan Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar 2024, proses Penilaian Impak Alam Sekitar (EIA), strategi penguatkuasaan, pemantauan kualiti air sungai dan inisiatif pendidikan alam sekitar. Timbalan Menteri Tenaga dan Kelestarian Alam Sekitar, Datuk Dr Haji Hazland Abang Hipni, menekankan kerjasama dan inovasi bagi memacu peralihan rendah karbon Sarawak dan mencapai matlamat Sifar Bersih 2050.*



Welcoming remarks by Mdm Penny anak Sumok, Deputy Controller (Operation) on behalf of Datu Jack anak Liam, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak

砂拉越天然资源与环境局(NREB)于2025年10月1日假古晋帝宫酒店举办2025年利益相关者交流计划系列二。该计划重点介绍2024年天然资源与环境法令的最新进展、环境影响评估(EIA)程序、执法策略、河流水质监测以及环境教育倡议。砂拉越能源与环境可持续发展部(MEESTy)副部长拿督哈芝哈兹兰博士强调,应通过合作与创新推动砂拉越的低碳转型,以实现2050年净零排放目标。

## Lu Ban Birthday Celebration

In honour of Lu Ban, the revered Chinese historical figure celebrated as the patron saint of carpenters, builders, and artisans, the Sarawak Furniture Industry Association (SFIA) organised the Lu Ban Birthday Celebration Dinner Ceremony with much pride and reverence on 3 October 2025 at Theatre Hotel, Kuching. STA was among the invited guests, in recognition of its support and sponsorship towards the celebration.

The dinner brought together a wide array of industry stakeholders, including representatives from various state chapters of the Malaysian Furniture Council, government officials, and professionals from across the timber and woodworking communities.

The guest of honour, Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian, Deputy Premier of Sarawak, commended the event in his speech, urging SFIA members to preserve the enduring values and spirit of Lu Ban. He highlighted the importance of integrating artificial intelligence and modern technologies in production processes while staying true to the innovative roots and craftsmanship championed by Lu Ban. Datuk

Amar Dr Sim also expressed hope that SFIA would continue to work closely with the Sarawak Government to drive the advancement of the downstream timber industry and further establish Sarawak as a hub for high-quality furniture manufacturing.

Held in a spirit of appreciation and community, the evening also featured the SFIA 2025 Education Excellence Award Ceremony. Cash awards were presented to children of SFIA members who demonstrated outstanding academic performance at both the primary and secondary school levels. In a meaningful gesture of social responsibility, SFIA also extended monetary support as a token of encouragement to selected students from the Salvation Army, reflecting the association’s ongoing commitment to education and community welfare.

*Persatuan Industri Perabot Sarawak (SFIA) telah mengadakan Majlis Makan Malam Sambutan Hari Lahir Lu Ban pada 3 Oktober 2025 di Kuching bagi menghormati santo penaung para tukang. Majlis tersebut telah diserikan oleh Timbalan Premier, Dr Sim Kui Hian dan menghimpunkan para penggiat industri. Acara turut menampilkan Anugerah Kecemerlangan Pendidikan SFIA yang mengiktiraf pencapaian cemerlang anak-anak ahli SFIA dan menyokong inisiatif pendidikan komuniti.*

砂拉越家具工业联合会(SFIA)于2025年10月3日在古晋举办鲁班诞辰庆祝活动晚宴,以纪念工匠的守护神。砂副总理拿督阿玛沈桂贤医生莅临活动,汇聚业界人士,并颁发SFIA教育卓越奖,表彰SFIA会员子女的杰出表现,同时支持社区与教育相关项目。



Mr Dau anak Utai (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), chairman of Session 2, joined by presenters Mdm Mary Magdalen, Mr Felix Joe and Mdm Marinni Khir (from left to right)



## Launch of the Sabal Forest Reserve as Eco-Tourism Hub and Sabal Open Day 2025

On 18 October 2025, the Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, officiated the 2025 edition of the Sabal Open Day at the Sabal Forest Reserve in Simunjan, which also marked the official launch of the reserve as a designated eco-tourism hub.

The Director of Forests, Datu Haji Hamden bin Haji Mohammad, shared that the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) continues to advance innovative initiatives at the Sabal Forest Reserve focusing on forest restoration, scientific research, and community engagement. Among these are the Forest Landscape Restoration initiative launched in 2019, the planting of Sarawak's 50-millionth tree, drone-seeding technology and the Green Horizon Innovation Programme to accelerate forest regeneration through the application of science and technology. These initiatives are complemented by strong forest fire management and training programmes to safeguard restored landscapes and promote sustainable forestry practices.

Since its introduction in 2024, the Sabal Open Day has grown into a key platform for public participation and awareness in forest conservation. Datu Haji Hamden expressed hope for it to become an annual regional event and a highlight in Sarawak's tourist calendar.

In his address, the Premier of Sarawak underscored the ongoing transformation within Sarawak's forestry sector, shifting from conventional timber extraction toward forest restoration, carbon management, and nature-based solutions. From 2021 to 2025, over 50 million trees were planted, surpassing earlier targets and enhancing the region's forest inventory. He emphasised that the economic value of forests now extends beyond timber to include ecological, educational, wellness, and carbon-capturing functions. About RM60 million has been allocated to develop research laboratories, accommodations, eco-tourism engagement zones and wellness facilities at Sabal by 2028.

Reinforcing Sarawak's commitment to human capital development, the Premier reiterated the Sarawak Government's pledge to provide free education for Sarawakians to equip future generations with knowledge in green innovation and research. He

envisioned Sabal as a centre for environmental education and a hub for student exchange programmes, where participants could learn about forests. He concluded by expressing hope that the Sabal Eco-Tourism Hub serve as a model of sustainability, uniting forest conservation, carbon sequestration, education, and rural community empowerment in shaping Sarawak's green future.



STA Forest Plantation Committee Member, Mr Ling Kuok Phiew, representing RH Forest Corporation Sdn Bhd in receiving the Green Award from the Premier of Sarawak.

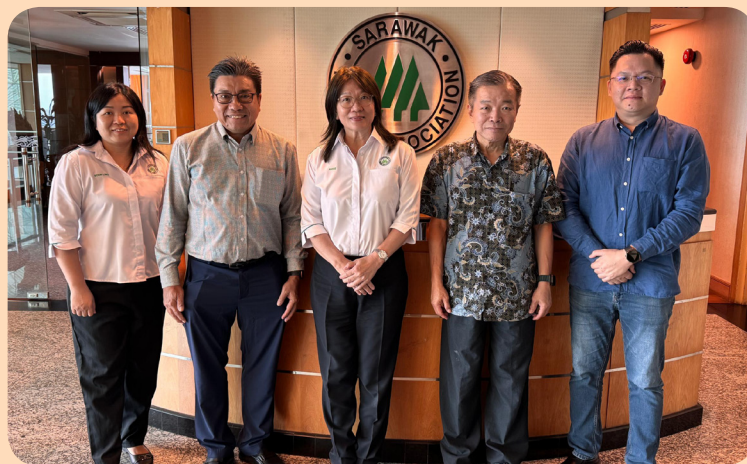


Group Photo

Pada 18 Oktober 2025, Premier Sarawak melancarkan Hari Terbuka Sabal dan mengisytiharkan Hutan Simpan Sabal sebagai hab eko-pelancongan. Acara ini mengetengahkan inisiatif Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dalam pemulihan hutan, penyelidikan dan teknologi. Premier juga menekankan peralihan Sarawak ke arah pemulihan, pengurusan karbon dan inovasi hijau dengan membayangkan Sabal sebagai model untuk kemampanan dan pendidikan alam sekitar.

2025年10月18日，砂总理正式启动萨巴开放日并宣布萨巴森林保护区为生态旅游枢纽。该活动重点展示砂森林局在森林恢复、研究以及技术方面的举措。砂总理也强调砂拉越正转向森林恢复、碳管理以及绿色创新，并将萨巴打造为可持续发展与环境教育的典范。

## Courtesy Visit by APRIL Indonesia



Ms Annie Ting, the CEO of STA (centre) posed for a group photo with the delegation from APRIL Indonesia, led by Mr Sihol Parulian (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), at their courtesy visit to STA

On 9 October 2025, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA welcomed a delegation from Asia Pacific Resources International Holdings (APRIL) Indonesia, led by Mr Sihol Parulian Aritonang, President Director of PT Riau Andalan Pulp and Paper, the operating arm of APRIL. The visit served as a follow-up to their earlier engagement in 2024, reinforcing the commitment of both organisations to maintain open dialogue and strengthen regional collaboration within the forestry sector.

During the meeting, both parties shared updates on the development of industrial forest plantations in their respective

countries and shared insights on timber utilisation, market trends and future industry directions. Discussions also centred on key challenges affecting the industry, such as the sustainable supply of raw materials, advancement of value-added product development, rising transportation costs, compliance with forest management certification requirements, recruitment of foreign labour, and international trade barriers.

APRIL Indonesia expressed keen interest in exploring potential partnerships with local planters in Sarawak. The company indicated its readiness to offer technical support in plantation establishment and monitoring, reflecting its ongoing commitment to promoting sustainable practices and fostering regional cooperation in the industrial forest plantation industry.

Pada 9 Oktober 2025, Cik Annie Ting, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA telah mengalu-alukan delegasi daripada Asia Pacific Resources International Holdings (APRIL) Indonesia yang diketuai oleh Encik Sihol Parulian Aritonang. Lawatan tersebut, susulan daripada sesi libat urus mereka pada tahun 2024, memberi tumpuan kepada perkembangan dalam industri ladang hutan, trend pasaran serta cabaran industri, di samping meneroka potensi kerjasama dengan pengusaha ladang di Sarawak bagi mempromosikan amalan perhutanan lestari.

2025年10月9日，本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐接待由西霍尔先生率领的印度亚太资源集团(APRIL)代表团来访。此次访问是双方继2024年交流之后的跟进，重点围绕工业人工林的发展、市场趋势及工业挑战，并探讨与砂拉越种植业者合作推广可持续林业实践的可能性。



# Visit to Forest Department Sarawak's Research and Development Division

Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA led a delegation of STA Secretariat on a visit to the Research and Development Division (RDD) of the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) on 10 October 2025 to gain a deeper understanding of RDD's roles, functions, and research facilities.

The delegation was warmly received by Datin Runi Sylvester Punga, Head of RDD, and her team of research officers. As a gesture of goodwill, Datin Runi also presented several publications to STA for collection. During the visit, the delegation toured the Visual Gallery and the Tissue Culture Laboratory, where the delegation was briefed on RDD's ongoing research initiatives.

This visit marks a positive step towards strengthening ties between STA and FDS, laying the groundwork for future collaboration in forest research.



Photo taken in front of the Visual Gallery

Pada 10 Oktober 2025, Cik Annie Ting, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA telah mengetuai delegasi ke Bahagian Penyelidikan dan Pembangunan Jabatan Hutan Sarawak untuk mempelajari fungsi serta kerja-kerja penyelidikan Bahagian tersebut. Delegasi STA disambut oleh Datin Runi Sylvester Punga. Lawatan merangkumi sesi taklimat, lawatan makmal dan perbincangan bagi memperkukuh kerjasama masa hadapan dalam penyelidikan perhutanan.

2025年10月10日，本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐率团前往砂森林局(FDS)研发部，了解其职能与研究工作。代表团由拿汀鲁尼热情接待，访问内容包括在研项目简报、参观实验室，以及讨论加强未来森林研究合作事宜。

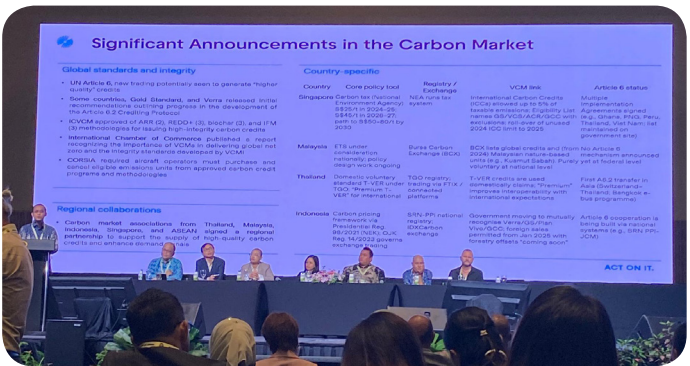
# International Conference on Borneo's Green Heart

The International Conference on Borneo's Green Heart was held from 22 to 23 October 2025 at the Sabah International Convention Centre (SICC), Kota Kinabalu. Organised by the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD), the two-day event with theme "Advancing Climate Resilience, Conservation and Sustainable Livelihoods" brought together participants from across Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, and international organisations to renew regional cooperation under the Heart of Borneo (HoB) initiative.

Datuk Norlijjah Haji Danin, Deputy State Secretary (Administration) of Sabah launched the Conference on behalf of the Chief Minister of Sabah, and reaffirmed the State Government's commitment to forest conservation and climate resilience. She highlighted that Sabah's forest policies have evolved beyond timber extraction to embrace the principles of sustainable management, biodiversity protection and carbon stewardship. The opening ceremony also witnessed the launch of publications, including a jointly produced guide on mangrove conservation and rehabilitation by the SFD and the International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems, underscoring the importance of science-based conservation planning.

The Conference featured three (3) plenary sessions that reflected the region's most pressing environmental themes, namely "Climate Action in Tropical Rainforest Landscapes", "Protected and Conserved Areas: What's Next?", and "Biodiversity Conservation

and Sustainable Resource Use". Speakers from government agencies, international organisations, and the private sector shared insights on topics such as carbon markets, nature-based solutions, ecosystem restoration, open-data tools for climate adaptation, and the integration of conservation efforts with community livelihoods.



Speaker delivering significant announcement in the Carbon Market

Ms Habibah binti Salleh, Research Officer from the International Affairs Division of Forest Department Sarawak presented on Sarawak's perspectives and achievements under the HoB initiative. One of the major achievements is forest management certification where a total of 11 Forest Management Units covering 793,296 ha within HoB were certified, a clear demonstration of how sustainable forest harvesting and biodiversity conservation can co-exist in the landscape. Another noteworthy achievement is the expansion of HoB areas from 2.12 million ha under Phase 1 (2007) to 2.69 million ha under Phase 2 (2018).

The event also showcased an exhibition featuring over 20 exhibitors representing government agencies, HoB project partners, academic institutions, and non-governmental organisations. The exhibition highlighted on-ground conservation



Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of STA (3<sup>rd</sup> from right) posed for photo during her visit to Jawala Plantation's booth at the conference. Also in the photo is Mr Rahman Khan, CEO of Jawala Plantation (3<sup>rd</sup> from left)

projects, forest-carbon initiatives, and sustainable livelihood programmes. Sabah's leadership through the recent Climate Change and Carbon Governance Enactment 2025 and the establishment of the Sabah Climate Change Action Council was frequently cited throughout the sessions as an example of proactive state-level policy development. Discussions centred on integrating forest conservation within climate frameworks and strengthening protected area management.

The conference concluded with closing remarks by Datuk Dr Ahemad Sade, Deputy State Secretary (Development) of Sabah representing the State Secretary of Sabah, who called for continued collaboration among Borneo's three nations and encouraged knowledge-sharing across state boundaries to achieve a balanced approach between conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

Persidangan Antarabangsa mengenai Borneo's Green Heart telah diadakan pada 22-23 Oktober 2025 di Pusat Konvensyen Antarabangsa Sabah, Kota Kinabalu, menghimpunkan peserta serantau dan antarabangsa bagi memperkukuh kerjasama di bawah inisiatif Heart of Borneo. Dianjurkan oleh Jabatan Perhutanan Sabah, acara ini menekankan komitmen Sabah terhadap pengurusan hutan secara lestari, pemuliharaan biodiversiti, dan pengurusan karbon yang bertanggungjawab. Dengan menampilkan sesi pleno, pameran serta pembentangan daripada Malaysia, Brunei dan Indonesia, persidangan ini menekankan kepentingan pemuliharaan berasaskan sains, daya tahan iklim, serta kerjasama rentas sempadan bagi menjamin kelestarian sumber kehidupan dan perlindungan ekosistem.

婆罗洲绿色之心国际会议于2025年10月22日至23日在沙巴亚庇国际会议中心举行，汇聚来自区域及国际的与会者，共同推动婆罗洲之心倡议下的合作。会议由沙巴森林局主办，重点展示沙巴在可持续森林管理、生物多样性保护及碳管理方面的承诺。会议设有专题会议、展览及来自马来西亚、文莱和印尼的报告，强调以科学为基础的保护、气候韧性建设，以及跨境合作以促进可持续生计与生态系统保护。



## Industry Update on Sarawak Timber Industry Regulation

Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) gathered timber industry players and stakeholders at its STIDC Industry Update 2025 at Wisma Sumber Alam on 6 October 2025 to discuss the implementation of the latest policies, regulations, and standard operating procedures, particularly following the gazettment of the STIDC (Licensing) Regulation, 2025 on 3 September 2025.

The event also aimed to ensure that industry participants gain clear understanding and full clarity on the requirements and compliance obligations outlined under the new Regulation. Ms Nurul Hidayah binti Abu Bakar, Legal Affairs Manager at STIDC, provided an overview of additional clauses in the Regulation relevant to the timber industry. Her presentation covered procedures for licence and temporary permit applications, conditions and restrictions, grounds for refusal or cancellation, renewal of Timber Industry Licences (TIL) and reasons for refusal, as well as compliance with other applicable laws. She also elaborated on requirements for operator appointments, timber mill layout, maintenance of registers, and the appeal process, emphasising the importance of continuous legal compliance within the industry.

Mr Afizulmizam bin Afandi, Manager – Licensing at STIDC, provided a detailed explanation of the procedures, terms and conditions governing TILs, including the establishment of mills within Licence for Planted Forests and the issuance of temporary permits.

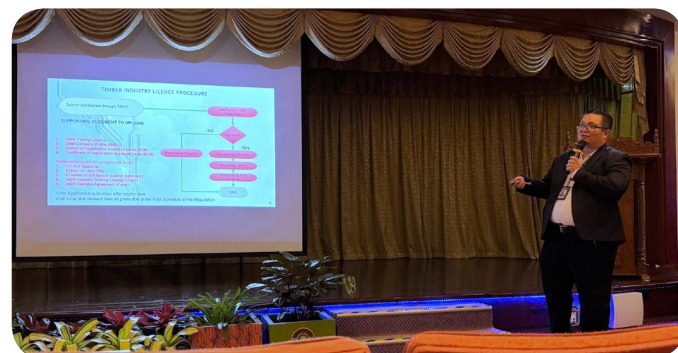
Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA raised concerns regarding terms and conditions governing TILs as well as the requirements for mill in the planted forests. She appealed for more engagements between relevant authorities and stakeholders. Such continued dialogue, she noted, would foster transparency, promote better regulatory compliance, and facilitate a smoother transition for all parties affected by the new Regulation.



Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA has raised her points during Q&A Session

*Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) telah menganjurkan Kemas Kini Industri 2025 pada 6 Oktober 2025 untuk memberi taklimat kepada para penggiat industri perikanan mengenai Peraturan STIDC (Pelesenan) 2025 yang baru diwartakan. Prosedur pelesenan utama dan kewajipan pematuhan telah diperincikan bagi memastikan kefahaman dan kesiapsiagaan yang lebih baik. Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA, Cik Annie Ting menggesa agar penglibatan berterusan diteruskan bagi menyelesaikan isu-isu berbangkit berkaitan dokumen sokongan dan menggalakkan ketelusan, pematuhan peraturan dan pelaksanaan yang lebih lancar.*

砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)于2025年10月6日举办2025年工业动态简报会，向木材工业从业者介绍新颁布的2025年STIDC(许可证)条例。该会概述主要的许可证申请程序和合规义务，以确保从业者更好地理解并做好准备。本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐呼吁持续开展交流，以解决长期存在的支持文件问题，并提升透明度、监管合规性和更顺畅的实施。



Ms Nurul Hidayah binti Abu Bakar, Legal Affairs Manager (left) and Mr Afizulmizam bin Afandi, Manager – Licensing at STIDC (right) presented the Industry Update on Sarawak Timber Industry Regulation

## Technical Committee on Sustainable Timber and Timber-Based Products Meeting

The Technical Committee on Sustainable Timber and Timber-Based Products (NSC 22/TC 5) was established under the National Standards Committee on Timber, Timber Products and Timber Structures (NSC 22) to focus on standardisation in the areas of sustainability and renewability of timber and timber-based products, including chain of custody, timber tracking, and related sustainability aspects. The Committee agreed to appoint Ts Farydatul Nazly Mohd Zin, Deputy Director General (Development & Commercial) of the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), as the chair.

As a member of the NSC 22/TC 5, STA attended a meeting on 15 October 2025 at Menara Cyber Axis, Cyberjaya, convened by the Department of Standards Malaysia (DOSM), an agency under the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) that serves as the National Standards and Accreditation Body in accordance with the Standards of Malaysia Act 1996 [Act 549]. As Malaysia's National Standards Body, DOSM is responsible for developing Malaysian Standards (MS) across various sectors to support trade facilitation, regulatory enforcement and Malaysia's participation at regional and international levels.

During the meeting, Ms Anis Dalila of DOSM gave an overview of DOSM's structure and provided a brief



Meeting in progress

demonstration on the ISolutions platform, which hosts relevant standards documents. She explained that DOSM acts as the secretariat overseeing 27 National Standards Committees, supported by numerous Technical Committees and Working Groups.

The meeting also reviewed the final draft of the Sustainable Timber and Timber-Based Products document and shared several comments, including a proposal to replace the term “native forest” with “natural forest” and a request for clarification on the scope of the document. Participants were given one week to submit additional feedback, which will be used to refine the draft and ensure it reflects current sustainability practices and industry requirements. In addition, the meeting was informed that Brazil has proposed a new ISO standard on Planted Forest Management, aimed at promoting sustainable forest plantation practices while ensuring economic viability and social responsibility.

*Jawatankuasa Teknikal bagi Produk Kayu dan Produk Berasaskan Kayu Lestari (NSC 22/TC 5) telah mengadakan mesyuarat pada 15 Oktober 2025 di Menara Cyber Axis, Cyberjaya, yang dianjurkan oleh Jabatan Piawaian Malaysia (DOSM). Dalam mesyuarat tersebut, ahli-ahli telah meneliti draf dokumen Produk Kayu dan Produk Berasaskan Kayu Lestari serta memberikan komen termasuk cadangan perubahan istilah dan penjelasan tentang skop dokumen tersebut bagi memastikan standard tersebut mencerminkan amalan kelestarian semasa, memenuhi keperluan industri dan menyokong penyertaan Malaysia dalam penyeragaman antarabangsa.*

可持续木材与木制品技术委员会(NSC 22/TC5)于2025年10月15日假赛城 Cyber Axia大厦召开会议，由马来西亚标准局(DOSM)召集。会议中，成员们审查《可持续木材与木制品》的文件草案并提供意见，包括术语修改建议及范围界定，以确保该标准反映当前的可持续实践，工业要求并支持马来西亚参加国际标准化工作。



# Sarawak Economic Conference and Launching of Sarawak's 13<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (2026 – 2030)

The Sarawak Government, through the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) Sarawak, hosted its inaugural Sarawak Economic Conference with the theme “Accelerating Sarawak’s Growth through 13MP” on 20 October 2025 at the Sheraton Hotel, Kuching. The conference was held in conjunction with the launch of Sarawak’s 13<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (13MP) 2026–2030, a key roadmap guiding Sarawak’s economic direction over the next five years.

The conference kick-start with three (3) keynote addresses and three (3) plenary sessions, drawing participation from government officials, industry leaders, academics, development partners, and civil society representatives. Discussions focused on global, national, and state economic developments, their implications for Sarawak’s future growth trajectory and private sector as catalysts for innovation and growth.

In the afternoon, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak, officiated the launching ceremony of Sarawak’s 13MP, which sets forth Sarawak’s strategic priorities, high-impact projects, and implementation mechanisms for the next five years.

The 13MP builds upon the foundations of the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030) and represents the next phase in Sarawak’s transformation towards a high-income, inclusive, and sustainable economy. It outlines ten high-level strategies supported by fifteen socio-economic sectors and enablers, designed to deliver balanced, inclusive, and sustainable growth.



Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg officiating the launching ceremony of Sarawak’s 13MP

The Sarawak 13MP will be driven through ten high-level strategies, each designed to focus resources and partnerships on the areas of greatest impact:

- 1. Accelerating clean energy transition** through the establishment of an energy regulator, development of the Sarawak Hydrogen Hub, and enhancement of power generation and storage.
- 2. Developing and attracting strategic industries** via partnerships, local supply chain strengthening, and SME development, with hubs like the Kuching Low-Carbon Hub and Baram Renewable Energy Economic Zone.
- 3. Increasing investor confidence and attracting greater private sector participation** by improving governance, regulations, and public-private partnership frameworks.
- 4. Optimising land use to drive growth** for agriculture, industry, and urban development through joint

ventures and leasing models, particularly for native customary rights (NCR) land.

- 5. Building a high-quality living environment and inclusive society for all communities** through medical hubs, family well-being programmes, and initiatives such as Sarawak Women@Work and Family First.
- 6. Attracting and retaining talent and fostering a skilled and agile workforce** with targeted incentives like the Sarawak Employment Package (SPACK), Elevating the Educators, and Regional Youth Centres.
- 7. Enhancing safety, security and disaster preparedness** using technology-driven monitoring and resilient infrastructure.
- 8. Engaging in climate action, integrating ESG and advancing the circular economy** through a Sarawak Climate Change Centre and Climate Finance Facility.
- 9. Protecting and sustainably managing natural resources** with nature-based carbon projects and community-led forest management.
- 10. Creating a strong and resilient Bumiputera business community** through financing, skills training, and partnerships to expand participation in the growing economy.

All ministries and agencies will prepare detailed action plans aligned with the 13MP strategies, supported by regular performance reviews to drive better execution, stronger outcomes, and an improved quality of life for all Sarawakians.

For the forestry sector, the 13MP emphasises balancing economic utilisation with environmental protection.



Second plenary session in progress

Conservation priorities will be integrated into land use planning, while initiatives such as forest carbon projects and ecosystem restoration will reinforce Sarawak’s reputation as a global sustainability leader.

Development of manufacturing as well as the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) will be key drivers of Sarawak’s industrial diversification under the 13MP. Sarawak aims to position itself as a premier hub for high-value manufacturing by developing special economic zones, strengthening supply chains, advancing downstream industries, and enhancing the competitiveness of its industrial parks. To ensure inclusive growth, Sarawak is empowering 45,000 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) through entrepreneurship programmes focusing on financial support, marketing, digitalisation, and capacity building. By 2030, an estimated 30,000 SMEs are expected to adopt digital platforms, boosting their competitiveness and integration into the global value chain.

The Premier reaffirmed that a dynamic private sector will be central to Sarawak’s growth story. The Sarawak Government will continue to enhance the public-private partnership framework and foster a business environment that supports innovation and investment.

*Persidangan Ekonomi Sarawak yang diadakan pada 20 Oktober 2025 menyaksikan pelancaran rasmi Rancangan Malaysia ke-13 Sarawak (2026–2030) (RMK-13), satu pelan tindakan yang membimbing pembangunan Sarawak dalam tempoh 5 tahun akan datang. Berasaskan Strategi Pembangunan Pasca COVID-19 2030, RMK-13 menetapkan 10 strategi dan 15 sektor keutamaan untuk mempercepatkan pertumbuhan, memperkukuh tadbir urus dan meningkatkan kualiti hidup semua rakyat Sarawak.*

砂拉越经济会议于2025年10月20日举行，见证砂拉越第13大马计划(2026 - 2030)(13MP)的正式启动，该计划为引领砂拉越未来五年发展的路线图。基于后新冠疫情发展策略2030，13MP制定10项策略以及15个优先领域，以加速经济增长、加强治理并提升所有砂拉越人民的生活质量。



Sarawak 13MP: Built Around 15 Key Socioeconomic Sectors and Enablers



# Malaysia Carbon Market Forum 2025: Empowering Regional Climate Actions through the ASEAN Common Carbon Framework

Held on 15 October 2025 at W Kuala Lumpur and streamed online for wider participation, the Malaysia Carbon Market Forum 2025 gathered policymakers, industry leaders, and market experts to advance dialogue on regional carbon market cooperation. Organised by Bursa Carbon Exchange (BCX) in conjunction with the International Greentech & Eco Products Exhibition & Conference Malaysia 2025, the Forum reflected Malaysia's leadership under the ASEAN Chairmanship in steering the region toward a unified and credible carbon market. Building on the momentum from its previous editions, this year's Forum adopted the theme *"Empowering Regional Climate Actions through the ASEAN Common Carbon Framework"*.



Dato' Fad'I Mohamed, CEO of Bursa Malaysia delivering his opening remarks

In his opening address, Dato' Fad'I Mohamed, Chief Executive Officer of Bursa Malaysia, reiterated BCX's aspiration to build a vibrant and credible carbon market ecosystem that supports Malaysia's low-carbon transition. He highlighted recent developments, including the upcoming implementation of a carbon tax in 2026 for selected sectors and the need to catalyse domestic carbon credit utilisation to offset compliance emissions. Dato' Fad'I also underscored the importance of developing a comprehensive national carbon market framework and linking ASEAN carbon markets under the ASEAN Common Carbon Framework (ACCF) to address regional and global carbon market leakages while driving long-term competitiveness.

Delivering the keynote address, Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani, Minister of Plantation and Commodities and Acting Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), emphasised Malaysia's determination to establish a strong legal and policy foundation for its carbon market. He reaffirmed the Government's plan to table the Climate Change Bill (*Rang Undang-Undang Perubahan Iklim Negara*, RUUPIN) and finalise the National Carbon Market Policy (*Dasar Pasaran Karbon Kebangsaan*, DPKK) to ensure transparency, accountability, and compliance. Datuk Seri Johari stressed that carbon pricing is not merely a fiscal tool but a strategic measure to safeguard Malaysia's exporters from mechanisms such as the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and to attract investment in local decarbonisation projects, particularly in forestry, energy, and palm oil sectors.

The event also witnessed the exchange of two (2) Memoranda of Understanding between (i) Bursa Malaysia and the Malaysia Forest Fund (MFF), and (ii) Bursa Carbon Exchange (BCX) and Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB), underscoring their commitment to advancing carbon market collaboration, promoting nature-based solutions, and supporting renewable energy initiatives in Malaysia and the region.

The Forum featured in-depth discussions on global and regional carbon market trends, national policy developments, and the operationalisation of emissions trading schemes in Asia-Pacific. Panellists highlighted the importance of integrity, transparency, and coherence in building credible carbon markets, stressing that credible frameworks, robust standards, and digital infrastructure are essential for reducing transaction costs and attracting investment. ASEAN members shared progress under the ASEAN Common Carbon Framework, aimed at addressing market fragmentation and creating a harmonised regional carbon market, liquidity challenges, and capacity building.

Nature-based solutions were a key focus, with experts emphasising the need for frameworks that balance environmental integrity with community benefits, supported by clarity, credibility, and commercial viability. The role of national exchanges in facilitating price discovery, investor confidence, and clean energy investment was highlighted, alongside innovative financing solutions such as blended finance, credit

ratings, and carbon insurance to de-risk projects.

Overall, the Forum underlined the shift from framework design to tangible implementation, with integrity as the currency of trust guiding ASEAN carbon markets toward delivering meaningful climate outcomes.

*Forum Pasaran Karbon Malaysia 2025 yang diadakan pada 15 Oktober 2025 telah menghimpunkan pembuat dasar, pemimpin industri dan pakar bagi memperkukuh kerjasama serantau dalam pasaran karbon. Dianjurkan oleh Bursa Carbon Exchange di bawah Pengerusian ASEAN oleh Malaysia, Forum ini menumpukan kepada pelaksanaan pasaran karbon yang berwibawa dan terhubung melalui Rangka Kerja Karbon Umum ASEAN. Perbincangan merangkumi dasar karbon negara, skim perdagangan pelepasan, penyelesaian berasaskan alam semula jadi, mekanisme pembiayaan serta peranan bursa. Forum menyimpulkan bahawa tahun 2025 menandakan peralihan ASEAN daripada bentuk rangka kerja karbon kepada pelaksanaan impak iklim sebenar yang berintegriti dan berasaskan kerjasama.*

*2025年马来西亚碳市场论坛于2025年10月15日召开，汇聚政策制定者、工业领袖及专家，共同推动区域碳市场合作。该论坛由碳信用交易所(BCX)在马来西亚担任东盟主席国期间主办，重点聚焦于通过东盟共同碳框架建立可信且互联的碳市场。讨论内容涵盖国家碳政策、碳排放交易机制、基于自然的解决方案、融资机制以及交易所的作用。论坛总结出，2025年标志着东盟从碳框架设计阶段迈向以诚信与合作实现实际气候影响的关键转折。*

## Kind Borneo 2025 – Connecting Corporates with Civil Society

Kind Malaysia was launched in 2018 to bring together corporate organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and individuals, promoting collaboration and kindness for the betterment of life in Malaysia. Building on this success, Kind Malaysia has expanded its reach to Borneo with the official launching of Kind Borneo on 2 October 2025 at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK). The event was organised by Borneo Business Connect Sdn Bhd in collaboration with the Malaysian Association of Convention and Exhibition Organisers and Suppliers Sarawak, and supported by Business Events Sarawak and BCKK.

In his welcoming address, Datuk (Dr) M Ghandi, Founder of Kind Borneo and Director of Borneo Business Connect, highlighted the importance of platforms such as Kind Borneo, particularly as corporations increasingly seek to align their corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts with their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) goals and meet the reporting requirements of Bursa Malaysia. Meanwhile, Mdm Amelia Roziman, Chief Executive Officer of Business Events Sarawak, who officiated the event, reaffirmed the commitment to organising Kind Borneo every two years.

The event featured pitch presentations from fourteen NGOs and two panel sessions. The first panel titled *"Forging Effective Partnerships: Aligning CSR Vision with NGO Impact"* explored community needs, sustainable support models, and collaboration opportunities between business communities and NGOs. The second panel, *"Beyond Grants: A Strategic Blueprint for NGO Success with Government-Linked Foundations"* focussed on strategies for securing grants and shared success stories of NGOs that have leveraged government support.

The participating NGOs also showcased their works in their booths around the hall.



Datuk Jacqueline Fong, Director of Tanoti Sdn Bhd (left) moderated the second panel session



Demonstration by the artisans of The Ranee

*Kind Borneo telah dilancarkan pada 2 Oktober 2025 di Pusat Konvensyen Borneo Kuching. Inisiatif ini menghimpunkan organisasi korporat, pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO) dan individu, dengan menyediakan platform unik kepada NGO untuk mempamerkan misi, projek dan impak mereka, di samping membolehkan pihak korporat berhubung serta menyokong usaha-usaha yang bermakna.*

*Kind Borneo于2025年10月2日假古晋婆罗洲会展中心正式启动。该平台汇聚企业组织、非政府组织(NGOs)及个人，为NGO提供展示其使命、项目及影响力的独特舞台，同时让企业能够与这些有意义的公益事业建立联系并提供支持。*



# Consultation Workshop on the Review of the National Occupational Skills Standards for Furniture Manufacturing Operation

The Malaysian Institute of Plantations and Commodities (IMPAC), an Industry Lead Body under the Ministry of Plantations and Commodities (KPK) has been appointed by the Department of Skills Development (DSD) to strengthen skills training in the agri-commodity sector. The DSD is responsible for managing and coordinating skills training programmes and certification across various sectors to support the national agenda of enhancing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

Recognising that human capital development is vital to ensuring the long-term competitiveness and sustainability of the timber sector, greater emphasis must be placed on equipping the workforce with relevant and up-to-date skills aligned with industry needs.

In support of this goal, IMPAC, in collaboration with the Timber Industry Skills Development Centre and the Malaysian Timber Industry Board, organised a “*Consultation Workshop with Industry Players and Stakeholders of the Timber Sector on the review of the National Occupational Skills Standards (NOSS) for Furniture Manufacturing Operation*” on 13 October 2025 at Sama-Sama Hotel, Sepang. The workshop gathered representatives from vocational training institutions, accredited certification bodies, members of the timber industry and timber associations including STA.

In his opening remarks, Mr Saravana Kumar a/ Marimuthu, Division Secretary of the Industrial Innovation and Human Capital Promotion Division, KPK outlined key challenges facing Malaysia’s timber industry, including US tariffs, compliance with the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), global economic uncertainty, and a critical shortage of skilled manpower. He highlighted that overcoming the skills shortage is a national priority to sustain industry competitiveness. To this end, the NOSS for Furniture Manufacturing Operations will be reviewed to ensure alignment with current industry requirements

Mr Saravana also announced that the *Code of Practice for TVET Programme Accreditation (COPTPA)* will come into effect on 1 January 2026, paving the



Presentation in progress during the Consultation Workshop

way for harmonised quality assurance between TVET and academic sectors. He concluded his remarks by calling for stronger collaboration among stakeholders to position Malaysia as a regional centre of excellence in skills development. The workshop featured three (3) presentations delivered by speakers representing the government agency, industry experts and training institutions.

Moving forward, STA will work with its members, particularly those in the downstream sector to review the 29 identified NOSS related to the timber sector. The review aims to assess the continued relevance of existing courses and determine the need for new or updated ones. STA will subsequently engage with the DSD to ensure that the NOSS remain aligned with evolving industry needs, particularly in light of technological advancements such as mechanisation and automation to enhance productivity.

*Institut Perlindungan dan Komoditi Malaysia, dengan kerjasama Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Industri Perkayuan dan Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia telah menganjurkan bengkel perundingan pada 13 Oktober 2025 untuk menilai semula Standard Kemahiran Pekerjaan Kebangsaan (NOSS) bagi Operasi Pembuatan Perabot. STA turut mengambil bahagian dan akan bekerjasama dengan ahli-ahlinya untuk menyemak semula 29 NOSS berkaitan kayu bagi memastikan kesesuaiannya serta penyelarasan dengan keperluan semasa industri, selaras dengan kemajuan teknologi.*

马来西亚种植及原产业学院(IMPAC)联合木材工业技能发展中心和马来西亚木材工业局(MTIB)，于2025年10月13日举办一场咨询工作坊，旨在审查家具制造运营的国家职业技能标准。本会参与此次工作坊，并将与本会会员合作，审查29项与木材相关的国家职业技能标准，以确保其内容符合现今工业需求，尤其是在科技不断进步的背景下保持相关性与实用性。

# Updates on Labour Laws and Regulations

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak Region) organised a Human Resource/Industrial Relations Seminar focusing on updates to Labour laws and regulations on 15 October 2025 at the MEF Kuching Branch Office.

Datuk Haji Shamsuddin Bardan, MEF Advisor explained that starting 1 January 2025, the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia (IRBM) has intensified the enforcement of the Stamp Duty Act 1949 (Act 378) through the implementation of the Stamp Duty Audit Framework. Under this framework, the IRBM will audit company documents, including employment contracts, offer letters, and transfer letters, covering a retrospective period of three (3) years from 1 January 2025. This retrospective scrutiny has caught many employers off guard, raising concerns over potential penalties for non-compliance. Datuk Shasuddin clarified that the applicable stamp duty rate is RM10 per original document under Item 4 of the First Schedule, with an additional RM10 for each duplicate copy.

He added that given the enormous number of employment contracts nationwide and acknowledging that audit findings on unstamped employment contracts are a relatively new issue, the IRBM issued a media statement on 6 June 2025 outlining the applicable exemptions and remissions, as summarised below:

| Contract signing date              | Stamp duty requirement          | Late stamping penalty  |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Before 1 January 2025              | Not required                    | No penalty   |
| 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 | Required (RM10.00 per contract) | No penalty if stamped by 31 December 2025                      |
| From 1 January 2026 onwards        | Required (RM10.00 per contract) | Penalty applies if later than 30 days from the date of signing |

Datuk Shamsuddin further noted that while contracts signed before 1 January 2025 are exempted from stamping requirements, employers may still choose to have these

documents stamped. In cases of a legal dispute, the Civil Court may only recognise stamped contracts as valid evidence. As such, employers are encouraged to voluntarily submit unstamped contracts to IRBM for stamping and validation to ensure legal enforceability.

Datuk Shamsuddin also shared key updates on workplace issues, highlighting concerns over bullying, discrimination, workplace safety, and employee mental well-being. He emphasised the need to strengthen awareness and grievance procedures to foster a respectful work environment. He also informed that the IRBM portal is being redeveloped, with future stamping to be done via the MyTax Portal and that MEF will collaborate with IRBM officers to hold a briefing session for employers to provide further updates.

Ms Shyan Wong, Assistant Manager of MEF Membership and Strategic Communication, delivered a comprehensive presentation on the benefits of MEF membership. These include complimentary HR consultations, legal representation in labour cases, discounts for MEF events, access to HRDC-claimable training, and various publications and resources.



Ms Shyan Wong presenting the core benefits of MEF membership

*Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) Malaysia Timur (Wilayah Sarawak) telah mengadakan Seminar Sumber Manusia/ Perhubungan Perusahaan pada 15 Oktober 2025 di Kuching untuk memaklumkan kepada majikan tentang undang-undang dan peraturan buruh. Sesi tersebut merangkumi penguatkuasaan Akta Duti Setem 1949 yang dipergiatkan oleh Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri Malaysia, pengecualian berkaitan, dan peralihan yang akan datang kepada Portal MyTax. Turut dibincangkan dalam seminar tersebut adalah isu-isu utama di tempat kerja dan serta faedah dan perkhidmatan sokongan yang tersedia untuk ahli-ahli MEF.*

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)东马(砂拉越)区域于2025年10月15日在古晋召开人力资源/劳资关系研讨会，向雇主更新有关劳工的法律法规。该会内容涵盖马来西亚税务局(IRBM)对1949年印花税法的强化执法及其相关豁免事项，以及即将迁移至MyTax门户网站的安排。会议也讨论职场重要议题，并强调MEF会员可享受的多项广泛福利及支持服务。



## MEF East Malaysia (Sarawak) Regional Meeting No. 10/2025

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak Region) convened its tenth meeting on 9 October 2025, facilitated by Ms Dayang Jamillah binti Tun Abang Muhd Salahuddin, Consultant of Industrial Relations at MEF Sarawak. The meeting featured two (2) insightful sharing sessions that addressed key employment matters affecting employers in the region.

The first session, titled “*Employers Education Project: Extension of Mandatory Contributions to Non-Citizens Workers*” presented by Mr Mohd Huzaimie bin Ismaili, Advisor of the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Sarawak Branch. He explained that the EPF contribution is mandatory for all Non-Malaysian Citizen Employees (NMCEs) via the Circular No. 30/2025, effective on 1 October 2025. This change is part of the EPF Act 2025 that mandates both employers and NMCE (excluding domestic workers) to contribute 2% of monthly wages starting October 2025.

He also outlined the various benefits available to NMCEs under the EPF scheme, including the Retirement Account for retirement savings, the Sejahtera Account for pre-retirement needs such as education, housing and healthcare, and the Flexible Account for emergencies. Mr Mohd Huzaimie also addressed several issues raised by participants. He clarified that NMCEs leaving Malaysia are allowed to withdraw their EPF savings and are advised to apply at least two (2) months before their permit expires, with full withdrawal encouraged upon reaching age 60. EPF withdrawal applications must currently be submitted in person at EPF counters, though employers may arrange on-site registration through the “Janji Temu oleh Majikan” platform.

Regarding cessation of contributions before an employee’s departure, EPF advised that payments should stop 2 months prior to the expiry of the work pass pending official guidelines. He also shared that EPF has initiated automatic account registration for NMCEs via data integration with the Immigration Department, although occasional mismatches may occur. In such cases, registration can still be completed within three (3) months of permit expiry. Members were also encouraged to visit the EPF website at <https://www.kwsp.gov.my/en/employer/responsibilities/non-malaysian-citizen-employees> for comprehensive guidance on contribution, registration and registration matters for NMCEs.

The second session, entitled “*Confidentiality in the Workplace*” was delivered by Mr Cyrill Clade Agus, Consultant – Legal & Industrial, MEF Sabah. He explained what constitutes confidential information and why safeguarding such information is essential. He gave examples of how breaches can happen including through careless sharing, unsafe storage and loose conversations in public. He emphasised that confidentiality obligations often extend beyond employment and while employees may retain the skills and experience gained during their tenure, they are prohibited from taking or misusing company assets.

To strengthen information protection, Mr Cyrill recommended cultivating a culture of vigilance by encouraging employees to think carefully before sharing information, avoiding unsecured platforms for transmitting sensitive data, and keeping physical documents securely stored. He also advised employers to clearly define what constitutes confidential information within the organisation, adopt non-disclosure agreements for employees, contractors, and vendors, and restrict access to confidential data based on job roles.

*Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) Malaysia Timur (Wilayah Sarawak) telah mengadakan mesyuarat ke-10 pada 9 Oktober 2025 yang merangkumi dua sesi. Encik Mohd Huzaimie bin Ismaili daripada Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) Sarawak telah memberi taklimat kepada ahli-ahli mengenai sumbangan wajib baharu sebanyak 2% KWSP bagi pekerja bukan warganegara yang berkuat kuasa mulai 1 Oktober 2025. Encik Cyrill Clade Agus daripada MEF Sabah pula membincangkan tentang kerahsiaan di tempat kerja dengan menekankan pelanggaran lazim melalui perkongsian maklumat secara cuai, penyimpanan tidak selamat dan perbincangan terbuka, serta menggesa amalan perlindungan maklumat yang lebih baik.*

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)东马(砂拉越)区域于2025年10月9日召开本年度第十次会议，共设两个环节。来自砂拉越雇员公积金局的莫哈末胡扎伊米先生向会员简要说明自2025年10月1日起强制为外籍员工缴纳2%公积金的新规定。随后，来自MEF沙巴的西里尔先生则探讨工作场所保密议题，强调常见的泄密情况包括不慎分享信息、储存不当及在公共场合讨论等，并呼吁雇主雇员加强信息保护措施。

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT TRAINING

**Date** : 21-23 October 2025 (Part 2)

**Venue** : Wisma STA, Kuching

**Trainer** : Mr Peter Sawal,  
Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang



The second part of the Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) Training was successfully organised by STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) in collaboration with the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) from 21 to 23 October 2025 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The three-day course focused on identifying and overcoming challenges during audits, case studies, review of audit reports, and examinations. The sessions were conducted by experienced trainers, Mr Peter Sawal and Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang, who shared their expertise and practical insights with the participants.

The ECA Training Course aims to equip participants with a thorough understanding and hands-on application of the ECA process in accordance with the Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008, and its associated guidelines. The training also promotes self-regulation among industry players, enabling qualified personnel to be registered as Environmental Auditors with NREB and to conduct internal audits, transitioning from the current practice of submitting Environmental Monitoring Reports (EMR).

Implementation of the ECA became mandatory for the forestry sector in Sarawak effective 1 July 2024, while the agriculture (oil palm plantation), quarry, and mining sectors will implement it starting 1 January 2027.

For more information on the ECA Training Course, please contact Mr Wong How Chu at 082-332222 or email [howchu@sta.org.my](mailto:howchu@sta.org.my)



### Image Captions:

1. Classroom lecture by Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang, the ECA Trainer
2. Closing remarks by Mr Mathew anak Losey, Head of Preventive Inspection Section of NREB
3. Participants were assessed on the last day of training
4. Participant received a Certificate of Attendance from Mr Mathew anak Losey, Head of Preventive Inspection Section of NREB



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          | Jul '25  | Jul '24  | Aug '25  | Aug '24  | Sep '25  | Sep '24  | Jan - Sep '25 | Jan - Sep '24 |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|---------------|
|                 | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³)      | Vol (m³)      |
| Kuching (Hill)  | ---      | 1,478    | ---      | 562      | ---      | 943      | 949           | 4,957         |
| (Swamp)         | 1,046    | ---      | 386      | ---      | ---      | ---      | 3,736         | ---           |
| Sibu (Hill)     | 26,344   | 25,528   | 24,032   | 24,894   | 23,171   | 28,420   | 195,752       | 198,701       |
| (Swamp)         | 3,378    | 3,082    | 2,975    | 2,019    | 1,675    | 2,229    | 21,860        | 15,372        |
| Bintulu (Hill)  | 71,433   | 61,494   | 59,158   | 54,784   | 54,605   | 65,353   | 460,593       | 519,676       |
| (Swamp)         | 1,611    | 888      | 1,332    | ---      | 1,547    | 3,218    | 20,286        | 12,239        |
| Miri (Hill)     | 12,316   | 5,812    | 19,699   | 7,429    | 12,171   | 5,736    | 99,865        | 65,308        |
| (Swamp)         | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---           | ---           |
| Kapit (Hill)    | 55,838   | 52,073   | 56,745   | 46,345   | 56,183   | 61,152   | 450,111       | 447,763       |
| (Swamp)         | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---           | ---           |
| Limbang (Hill)  | 11,847   | 6,724    | 8,925    | 8,497    | 8,968    | 7,688    | 63,363        | 66,935        |
| (Swamp)         | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---           | ---           |
| Sarikei (Hill)  | 4,306    | 715      | 4,982    | 2,095    | 7,792    | 2,226    | 24,637        | 22,854        |
| (Swamp)         | 937      | ---      | 346      | ---      | 131      | ---      | 1,414         | ---           |
| Sri Aman (Hill) | ---      | ---      | 547      | ---      | 557      | ---      | 2,508         | 432           |
| (Swamp)         | ---      | ---      | 842      | ---      | ---      | ---      | 842           | ---           |
| Subtotal (Hill) | 182,084  | 153,824  | 174,088  | 144,606  | 163,447  | 171,518  | 1,297,778     | 1,326,626     |
| (Swamp)         | 6,972    | 3,970    | 5,881    | 2,019    | 3,353    | 5,447    | 48,138        | 27,611        |
| TOTAL           | 189,056  | 157,794  | 179,969  | 146,625  | 166,800  | 176,965  | 1,345,916     | 1,354,237     |

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak  
(Please note that the figures for October 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  | May '25  | Jun '25  | Jul '25  | Aug '25  | Sep '25  | Jan - Sep '25 |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
|               | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³)      |
| Bindang       | 647      | 1,781    | 538      | 1,306    | 1,195    | 8,881         |
| Meranti       | 71,461   | 63,479   | 71,609   | 72,835   | 68,469   | 546,809       |
| Kapur         | 4,839    | 4,641    | 4,729    | 4,632    | 4,742    | 37,278        |
| Keruing       | 4,145    | 3,846    | 3,376    | 3,520    | 3,614    | 28,087        |
| Sepetir       | 222      | 246      | 300      | 327      | 230      | 1,978         |
| Selangan Batu | 2,945    | 2,777    | 2,797    | 3,319    | 3,357    | 21,840        |
| Nyatoh        | 1,622    | 1,859    | 1,901    | 2,095    | 1,697    | 13,247        |
| Other species | 76,507   | 77,025   | 96,834   | 86,054   | 80,143   | 639,658       |
| TOTAL:        | 162,388  | 155,654  | 182,084  | 174,088  | 163,447  | 1,297,778     |

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 | May '25  | Jun '25  | Jul '25  | Aug '25  | Sep '25  | Jan - Sep '25 |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
|               | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³)      |
| Jongkong      | 18       | 1        | 24       | 19       | ---      | 81            |
| Sepetir       | ---      | 8        | ---      | 11       | 6        | 25            |
| Kapur         | 385      | 177      | 273      | 160      | 40       | 1,847         |
| Keruing       | 26       | 29       | 7        | 7        | 22       | 143           |
| Meranti       | 600      | 380      | 575      | 650      | 618      | 4,133         |
| Other species | 7,372    | 5,194    | 6,093    | 5,034    | 2,667    | 41,909        |
| TOTAL:        | 8,401    | 5,789    | 6,972    | 5,881    | 3,353    | 48,138        |

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak  
(Please note that the figures for October 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   |           | Jul '25  | Jul '24  | Aug '25  | Aug '24  | Sep '25  | Sep '24  | Jan - Sep '25 | Jan - Sep '24 |
|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|---------------|
|          |           | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³) | Vol (m³)      | Vol (m³)      |
| Kuching  | (ACMG)    | ---      | ---      | 15       | ---      | 83       | ---      | 98            | ---           |
| Sibu     | (ACMG)    | 844      | 7,067    | 1,688    | 4,398    | 1,414    | 5,245    | 16,792        | 53,257        |
|          | (ALBZ)    | ---      | 84       | ---      | 756      | ---      | 1,990    | 4,825         | 7,927         |
|          | (EUCA)    | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | ---      | 2,783         | ---           |
|          | (KLPN)    | 179      | 1,735    | 102      | 249      | 334      | 95       | 969           | 7,091         |
| Bintulu  | (ACMG)    | 22,980   | 59,724   | 20,043   | 36,469   | 19,382   | 64,585   | 156,344       | 454,110       |
|          | (ALBZ)    | 3,005    | 7,598    | 3,945    | 4,082    | 2,079    | 9,201    | 28,583        | 59,027        |
|          | (EUCA)    | 338      | 1,476    | 980      | 3,846    | 1,865    | 1,386    | 16,746        | 18,284        |
|          | (GMELINA) | ---      | ---      | ---      | 1,316    | ---      | 476      | ---           | 2,084         |
|          | (KLPN)    | 62       | 66       | ---      | ---      | 93       | 238      | 155           | 581           |
| Miri     | (ACMG)    | 13,580   | 9,445    | 3,232    | 5,853    | 5,652    | 8,652    | 77,034        | 100,957       |
|          | (ALBZ)    | 8,726    | 2,200    | 2,514    | 1,132    | 1,823    | 2,587    | 34,236        | 15,708        |
|          | (EUCA)    | 8,647    | 10,202   | 10,400   | 13,597   | 11,789   | 8,030    | 69,702        | 79,030        |
|          | (GMELINA) | 6,320    | ---      | 2,435    | ---      | 1,374    | ---      | 12,189        | ---           |
|          | (KLPN)    | 219      | ---      | 204      | ---      | 110      | ---      | 699           | ---           |
| Limbang  | (ACMG)    | ---      | 1,056    | ---      | 1,408    | ---      | ---      | ---           | 11,436        |
| Subtotal | (ACMG)    | 37,404   | 77,292   | 24,978   | 48,128   | 26,531   | 78,482   | 250,268       | 619,760       |
|          | (ALBZ)    | 11,731   | 9,882    | 6,459    | 5,970    | 3,902    | 13,778   | 67,644        | 82,662        |
|          | (EUCA)    | 8,985    | 11,678   | 11,380   | 17,443   | 13,654   | 9,416    | 89,231        | 97,314        |
|          | (GMELINA) | 6,320    | ---      | 2,435    | 1,316    | 1,374    | 476      | 12,189        | 2,084         |
|          | (KLPN)    | 460      | 1,801    | 306      | 249      | 537      | 333      | 1,823         | 7,672         |
| TOTAL:   |           | 64,900   | 100,653  | 45,558   | 73,106   | 45,998   | 102,485  | 421,155       | 809,492       |

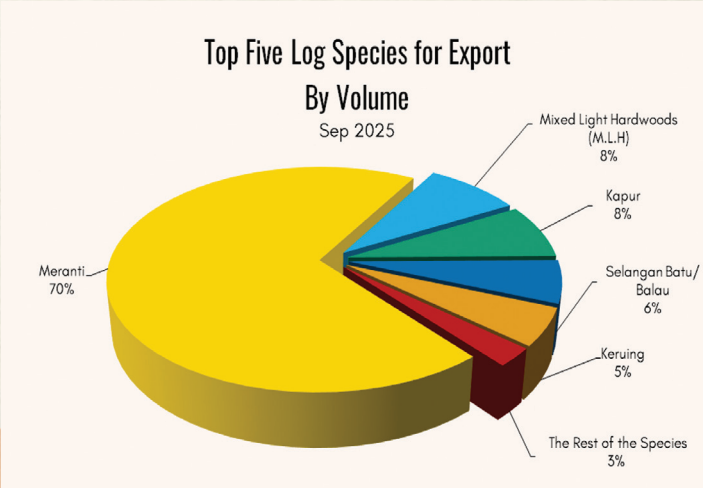
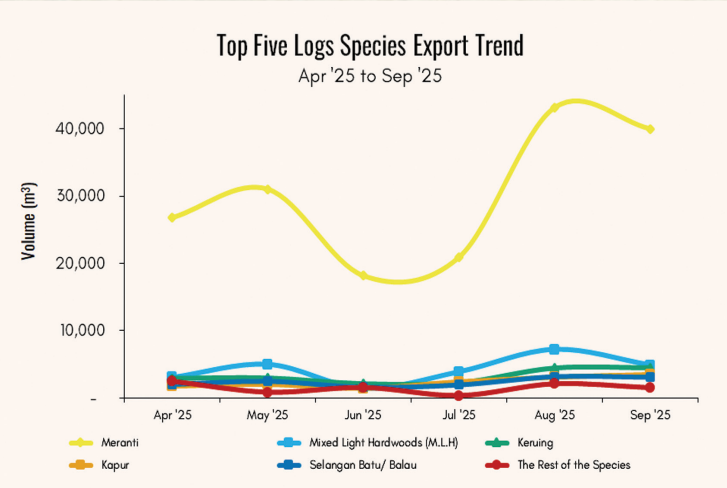
Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak  
(Please note that the figures for October 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

\*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                       | Jul '25  |            | Aug '25  |            | Sep '25  |            | Jan - Sep '25 |             | Jan - Sep '24 |             |
|-------------------------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
|                               | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)   | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)   | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)   | Vol (m³)      | Val (RM)    | Vol (m³)      | Val (RM)    |
| Arau                          | 37       | 29,910     | 243      | 287,421    | 119      | 146,460    | 1,109         | 1,310,959   | 1,963         | 2,334,597   |
| Kapur                         | 2,262    | 2,712,126  | 4,443    | 5,161,090  | 4,477    | 5,152,250  | 29,753        | 33,518,602  | 34,285        | 39,069,433  |
| Kelat/ Ubah                   | ---      | ---        | 21       | 17,597     | 84       | 79,759     | 105           | 97,356      | ---           | ---         |
| Keruing                       | 1,960    | 1,618,346  | 3,179    | 2,552,386  | 3,086    | 2,529,381  | 19,350        | 15,651,225  | 35,180        | 27,744,351  |
| Meranti                       | 20,927   | 17,053,112 | 43,141   | 34,511,160 | 39,997   | 31,675,752 | 250,947       | 194,312,730 | 230,792       | 172,466,602 |
| Mersawa                       | 124      | 104,128    | 403      | 361,259    | 357      | 313,254    | 2,054         | 1,802,852   | 3,812         | 2,813,068   |
| Mixed Light Hardwoods (M.L.H) | 3,896    | 2,734,988  | 7,191    | 4,408,192  | 4,893    | 2,898,736  | 37,891        | 23,334,681  | 42,156        | 27,363,862  |
| Nyatoh                        | 67       | 40,016     | 162      | 96,712     | 236      | 134,106    | 933           | 549,011     | 391           | 279,150     |
| Resak                         | 115      | 97,884     | 546      | 477,108    | 487      | 415,394    | 2,620         | 2,223,493   | 2,720         | 2,365,643   |
| Selangan Batu/ Balau          | 2,397    | 4,121,515  | 3,106    | 5,440,910  | 3,501    | 6,075,416  | 19,323        | 32,505,408  | 16,863        | 26,028,910  |
| Other Species                 | 2        | 2,284      | 719      | 698,242    | 227      | 189,106    | 5,240         | 4,931,654   | 262           | 156,819     |
| TOTAL:                        | 31,787   | 28,514,309 | 63,154   | 54,012,077 | 57,464   | 49,609,614 | 369,325       | 310,237,971 | 368,424       | 300,622,435 |

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

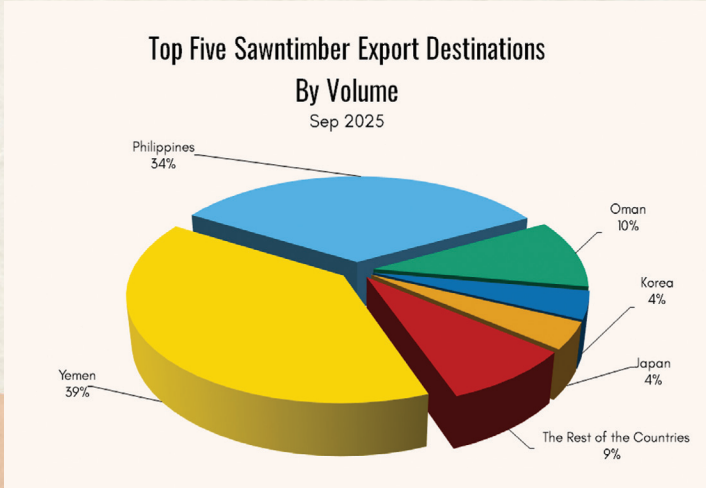
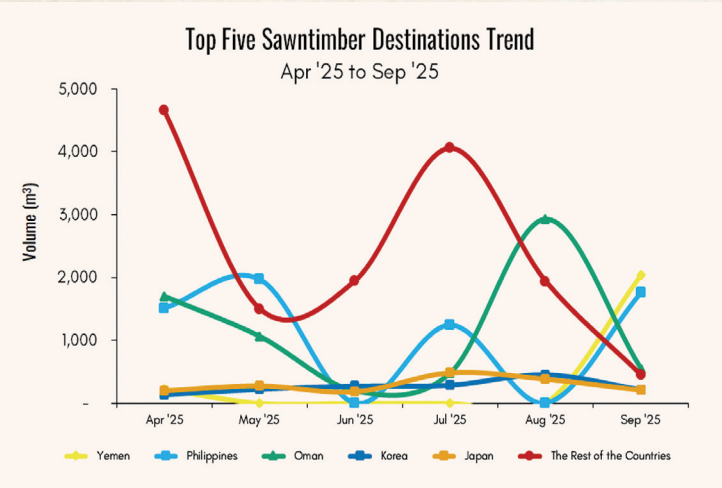




EXPORT OF SAWNTIMBER BY DESTINATIONS FROM SARAWAK  
EKSPORT KAYU BERGERGAJI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK  
砂拉越至各目的地之锯木出口量

| Country of Destination  | Jul '25  |           | Aug '25  |           | Sep '25  |           | Jan - Sep '25 |            | Jan - Sep '24 |             |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
|                         | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)  | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)  | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)  | Vol (m³)      | Val (RM)   | Vol (m³)      | Val (RM)    |
| Australia<br>澳洲         | 7        | 20,359    | 4        | 9,524     | 21       | 61,665    | 103           | 308,467    | 111           | 471,750     |
| China<br>中国             | 412      | 389,684   | 232      | 160,353   | 134      | 63,374    | 2,451         | 4,522,837  | 2,198         | 2,969,296   |
| Japan<br>日本             | 490      | 1,176,526 | 388      | 899,295   | 211      | 533,659   | 2,378         | 5,976,352  | 2,807         | 8,044,257   |
| Korea<br>韩国             | 290      | 318,649   | 457      | 703,926   | 219      | 311,493   | 2,203         | 3,171,480  | 1,291         | 2,361,940   |
| Maldives<br>马尔代夫        | ---      | ---       | ---      | ---       | 92       | 117,115   | 154           | 186,062    | 446           | 2,837,019   |
| Oman<br>阿曼              | 481      | 476,853   | 2,926    | 3,485,140 | 549      | 561,721   | 13,910        | 15,155,424 | 14,283        | 19,293,940  |
| Philippines<br>菲律宾      | 1,242    | 879,366   | ---      | ---       | 1,759    | 1,331,594 | 11,355        | 9,915,401  | 18,395        | 17,316,803  |
| Taiwan<br>台湾            | 159      | 150,702   | 1,413    | 1,945,756 | 101      | 89,800    | 6,755         | 9,271,599  | 10,153        | 17,815,698  |
| Thailand<br>泰国          | 231      | 303,819   | 43       | 39,500    | 65       | 31,048    | 2,167         | 2,097,641  | 3,566         | 3,878,234   |
| Yemen<br>也门             | ---      | ---       | ---      | ---       | 2,040    | 3,467,987 | 12,777        | 25,745,276 | 13,316        | 25,588,009  |
| Other Countries<br>其他国家 | 3,251    | 4,253,685 | 247      | 482,484   | 33       | 131,843   | 8,299         | 11,359,402 | 6,959         | 14,208,588  |
| TOTAL:                  | 6,563    | 7,969,643 | 5,710    | 7,725,978 | 5,224    | 6,701,299 | 62,552        | 87,709,941 | 73,525        | 114,785,534 |

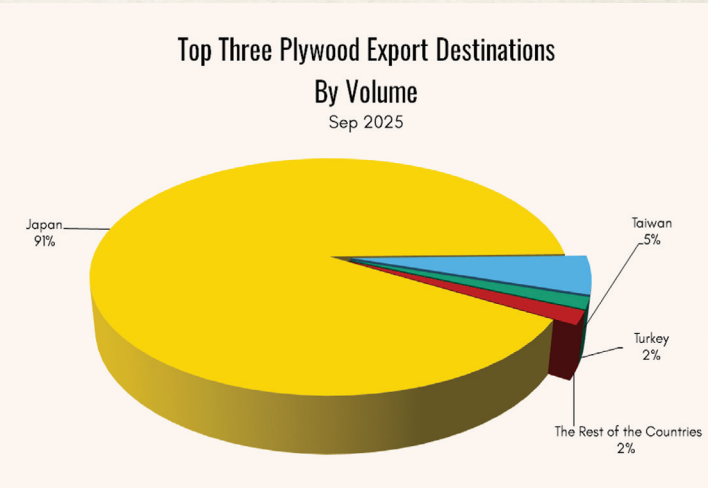
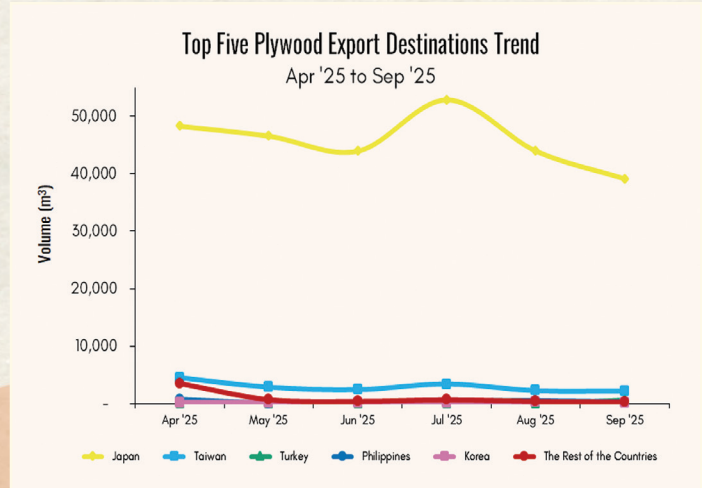
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation  
(Please note that the figures for October 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



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  | Jul '25  |             | Aug '25  |            | Sep '25  |            | Jan - Sep '25 |             | Jan - Sep '24 |               |
|-------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
|                         | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)    | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)   | Vol (m³) | Val (RM)   | Vol (m³)      | Val (RM)    | Vol (m³)      | Val (RM)      |
| Australia<br>澳洲         | 183      | 434,915     | 122      | 218,604    | 164      | 366,076    | 1,032         | 2,362,418   | 895           | 2,440,478     |
| Brunei<br>汶莱            | 251      | 381,580     | 190      | 296,122    | 84       | 159,290    | 1,750         | 2,586,611   | 2,529         | 3,325,626     |
| Japan<br>日本             | 52,904   | 108,016,036 | 43,998   | 92,061,649 | 39,145   | 80,324,467 | 393,183       | 816,597,204 | 368,343       | 842,632,616   |
| Korea<br>韩国             | 232      | 412,719     | 341      | 540,514    | 229      | 379,683    | 2,306         | 3,953,746   | 9,263         | 16,784,550    |
| Oman<br>阿曼              | 182      | 274,647     | 104      | 158,055    | 29       | 41,967     | 487           | 735,817     | 1,115         | 1,848,786     |
| Philippines<br>菲律宾      | 407      | 1,144,729   | 467      | 1,518,655  | 265      | 914,612    | 2,927         | 9,010,756   | 3,840         | 13,188,807    |
| Taiwan<br>台湾            | 3,422    | 5,530,205   | 2,289    | 3,503,443  | 2,232    | 3,794,516  | 26,169        | 41,834,390  | 24,010        | 43,099,290    |
| Turkey<br>土耳其           | 101      | 189,236     | ---      | ---        | 675      | 1,277,552  | 776           | 1,466,788   | 270           | 508,999       |
| Vietnam<br>越南           | ---      | ---         | ---      | ---        | 35       | 135,296    | 142           | 547,102     | 558           | 2,222,082     |
| Other Countries<br>其他国家 | 110      | 271,910     | 25       | 79,105     | ---      | ---        | 32,581        | 57,026,374  | 52,408        | 99,069,792    |
| TOTAL:                  | 57,792   | 116,655,977 | 47,536   | 98,376,147 | 42,858   | 87,393,459 | 461,353       | 936,121,206 | 463,231       | 1,025,121,026 |

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



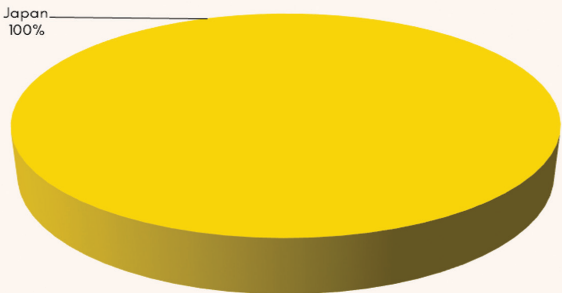




EXPORT VALUE OF VENEER BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK

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

Top Veneer Export Destination  
By Value  
Sep 2025



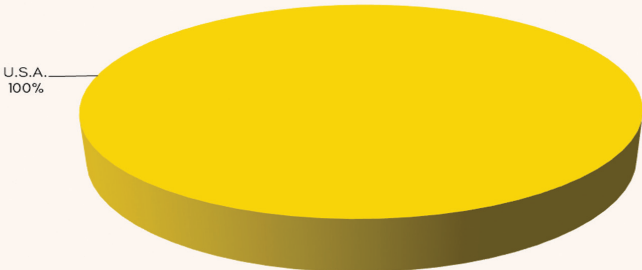
| May '25   | Jun '25 | Jul '25 | Aug '25   | Sep '25 | Jan - Sep '25 |
|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------------|
| 1,507,590 | 376,436 | 900,540 | 1,090,769 | 3,223   | 6,307,371     |



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 Laminated Board / Flooring Export Destination  
By Value  
Sep 2025



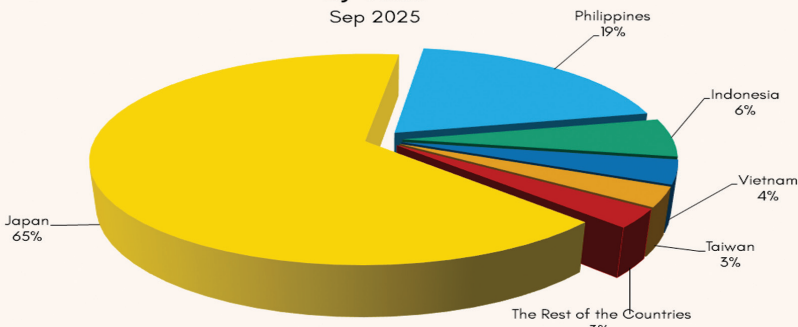
| May '25   | Jun '25   | Jul '25   | Aug '25   | Sep '25   | Jan - Sep '25 |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| 3,823,008 | 2,116,052 | 4,379,513 | 5,688,896 | 2,542,381 | 31,985,891    |



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  
Sep 2025



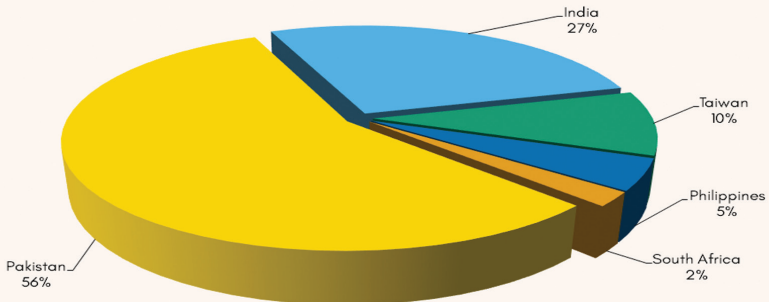
| May '25    | Jun '25    | Jul '25    | Aug '25    | Sep '25    | Jan - Sep '25 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| 32,693,115 | 24,673,917 | 39,735,169 | 28,347,745 | 26,196,960 | 269,204,049   |



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  
Sep 2025



| May '25   | Jun '25   | Jul '25   | Aug '25   | Sep '25   | Jan - Sep '25 |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| 3,655,241 | 2,780,145 | 3,677,200 | 3,134,155 | 3,017,329 | 28,759,021    |



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 Sep 2025

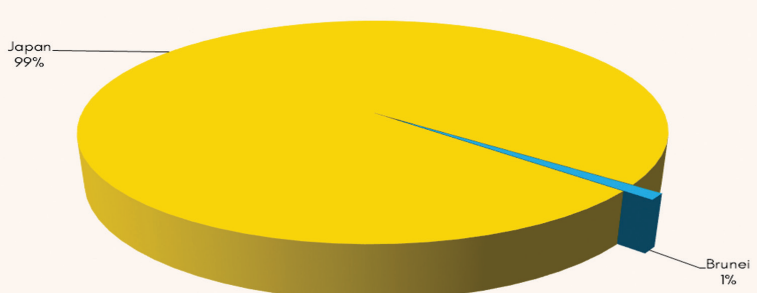
| May '25 | Jun '25 | Jul '25 | Aug '25 | Sep '25 | Jan - Sep '25 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------------|
|         |         |         |         |         | 113,694       |



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  
Sep 2025



| May '25   | Jun '25   | Jul '25   | Aug '25   | Sep '25   | Jan - Sep '25 |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| 2,379,974 | 1,804,247 | 2,000,985 | 2,165,454 | 2,164,134 | 18,627,890    |

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

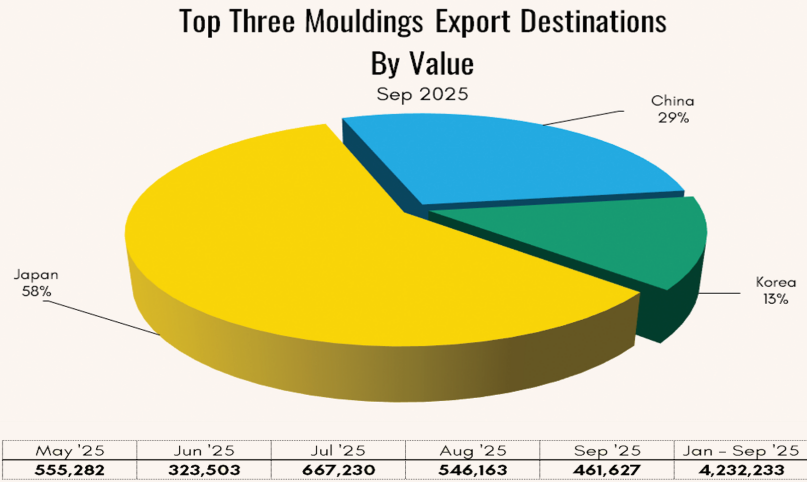
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation  
(Please note that the figures for October 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)





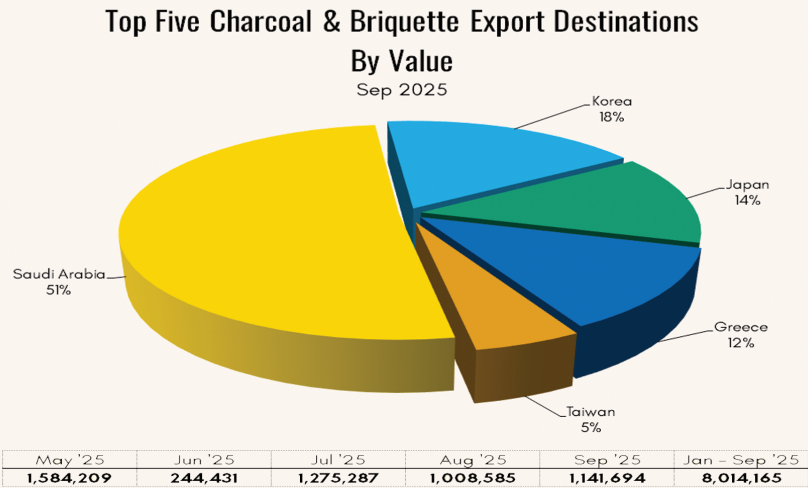
EXPORT VALUE OF  
MOULDINGS BY  
DESTINATION FROM  
SARAWAK

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



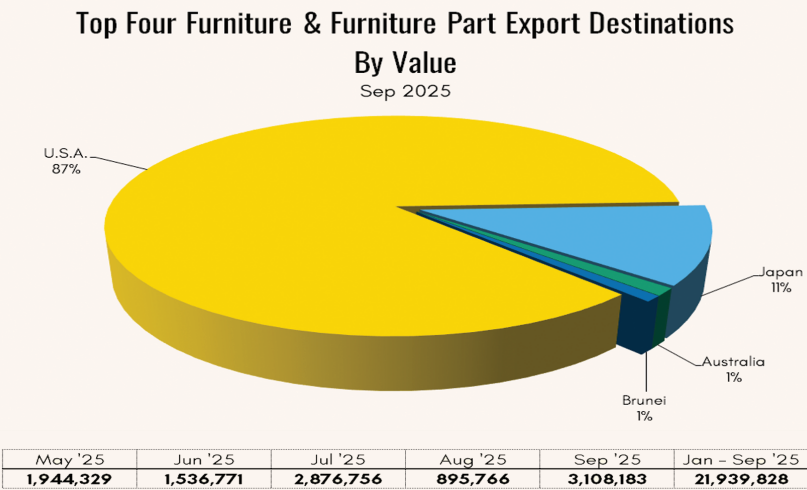
EXPORT VALUE OF  
CHARCOAL & BRIQUETTE  
BY DESTINATION FROM  
SARAWAK

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



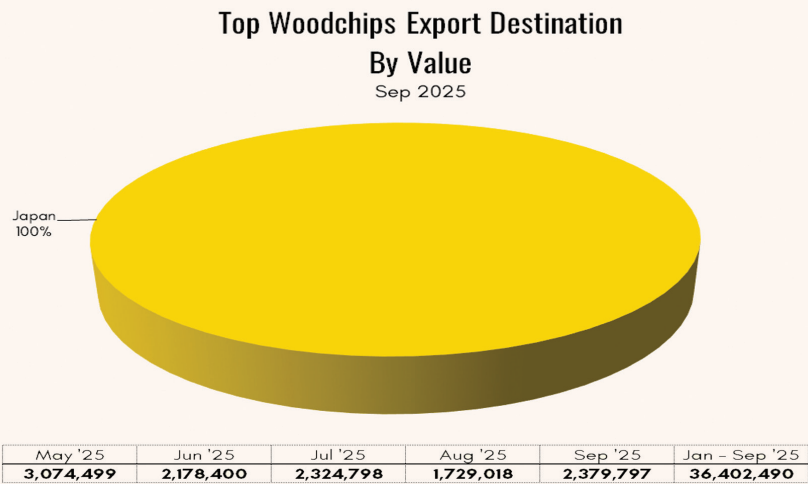
EXPORT VALUE OF  
FURNITURE & FURNITURE  
PARTS BY DESTINATION  
FROM SARAWAK

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



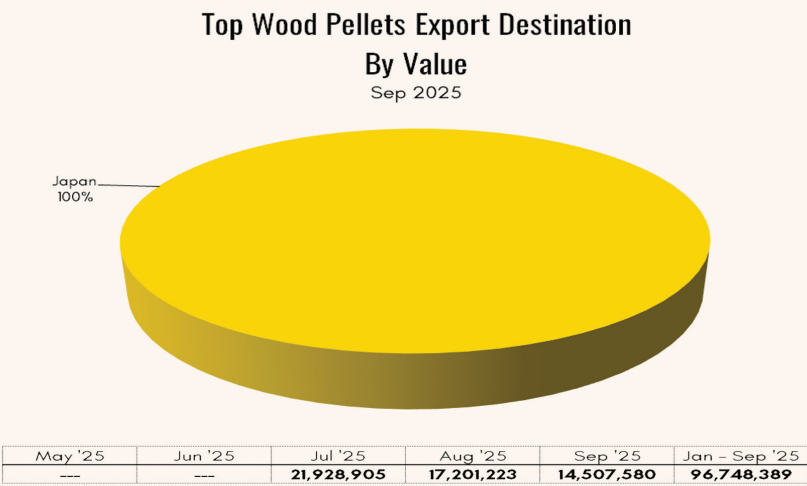
EXPORT VALUE OF  
WOODCHIPS BY  
DESTINATION FROM  
SARAWAK

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



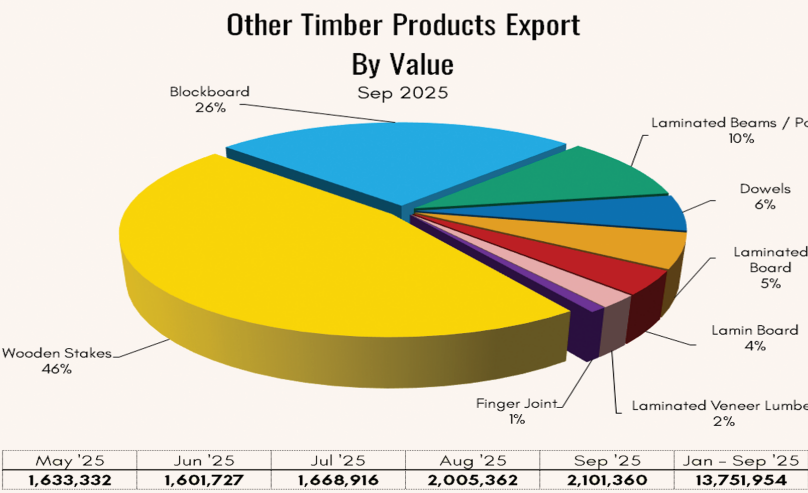
EXPORT VALUE OF WOOD  
PELLETS BY DESTINATION  
FROM SARAWAK

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



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



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



## OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME OCTOBER 2025

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.

For this month, STAT conducted ground operator training programme as follows:

### > **Mechanical Site Preparation – Excavator (Forest Plantation)**

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Ginda Uli  
**Date** : 21 – 24 October 2025  
**Location** : Engkeramuh Camp, Kapit  
**Company** : Hariwood Sdn Bhd



### > **Tree Felling – Chainsaw (Natural Forest)**

**STAT Trainer / Assessor** : Mr Kutok Bayang  
**Date** : 21 – 24 October 2025  
**Location** : Engkeramuh Camp, Kapit  
**Company** : Hariwood Sdn Bhd



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

For more information, contact Mr Wong How Chu at 082 – 332 222 or email at [howchu@sta.org.my](mailto:howchu@sta.org.my)