

STA REVIEW

Monthly Magazine of Sarawak Timber Association



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STA Manpower Working Group
Engages with the Immigration and Labour Management Unit

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Engagement with
Permanent Secretary, MUDeNR

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25th Tri-Nation Joint Meeting

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Cover photo by Vincent Wong Thian Fook

STA REVIEW

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STA Manpower Working Group Engages with the Immigration and Labour Management Unit

The STA Manpower Working Group held online discussions on 8 & 10 September 2025 in preparation for a meeting with the Immigration and Labour Management Unit (ILMU) scheduled for 11 September 2025 at ILMU Office Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Kuching.

The main focus of these preparatory meetings was to better understand and document the challenges encountered by members during the phasing out of the Monitoring System on the Employment of Non-Sarawakian (MSEN). Following the official rollout of Sarawak Advanced Non-Sarawakian Online Labour System (SANSOLS) on 10 August 2025, all applications, renewals and related matters concerning licenses, permits and visas for Non-Resident Employees are no longer processed through MSEN platform. These processes have now transitioned to SANSOLS. However, STA members encountered several challenges during this transition, including system inefficiencies, technical & usability issues, gaps in support and communication, difficulties with the 'Application in Principle' (AP) application process and concerns regarding cost and value.

Following the preparatory discussions, Ms Annie Ting led STA in a session with representatives from ILMU, Department of Labour Sarawak (JTKS) and SOCOE Sdn Bhd (SOCOE), chaired by Mr Richard Lon, Director of ILMU. The meeting, which focused on operational shortcomings, user experience issues, and proposed areas for improvement,

provided STA with the opportunity to highlight the challenges faced by STA members in using SANSOLS. STA also shared detailed feedback from its members and proposed actionable recommendations to enhance system performance, usability, and support services, including allowing the checking of foreign workers status from the outset.

Mr Richard provided clarifications where possible and reaffirmed ILMU's commitment to ensuring a smooth transition to the SANSOLS platform for businesses in Sarawak. He assured STA that immediate steps would be taken to address system performance and usability issues.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to ongoing engagement among STA, ILMU, SOCOE, JTKS and other relevant agencies to ensure a smoother and more efficient manpower management process in Sarawak. Following the meeting, STA has written to ILMU to request for temporary waiver of all applicable fees until the system fully stabilises, and the streamlining of application procedures, specifically to simplify and expedite approval processes.

Kumpulan Kerja Tenaga Kerja STA telah mengadakan perbincangan sebagai persediaan untuk mesyuarat bersama dengan Unit Pengurusan Imigresen dan Buruh (ILMU) mengenai isu-isu berbangkit daripada peralihan kepada Sistem Dalam Talian Tenaga Kerja Bukan Sarawak (SANSOLS). STA membentangkan maklum balas daripada ahli-ahlinya tentang ketidakcekapan sistem, jurang sokongan dan cabaran proses dalam pertemuan dengan ILMU di mana cabaran ini telah dibangkitkan dan dibincangkan. ILMU mengakui kebimbangan dan komited untuk membuat penambahbaikan yang diperlukan. Selepas mesyuarat itu, STA menulis surat kepada ILMU untuk meminta tempoh percubaan tanpa bayaran sehingga sistem menjadi stabil dan menyelaraskan prosedur permohonan.

本会人力资源工作小组进行讨论会，为与移民及劳工管理单位(ILMU)的会面做准备，并就过渡至非砂公民线上劳工系统(SANSOLS)过程中所出现的问题进行探讨。在与ILMU的会谈中，本会代表会员反映有关系统故障、支援不足以及过程中所面临的挑战，并就相关问题正式提出意见与讨论。ILMU接纳这些关切事项并承诺进行改进。会后，本会致函给ILMU，请求在系统稳定运作及申请程序简化之前，提供免费试用期。

Group photo with representatives from ILMU, JTKS and SOCOE Sdn Bhd. Seated 3rd and 4th from left are Mr Richard Lon, Director of ILMU and Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA



Engagement with Permanent Secretary, MUDeNR

The STA Secretariat, led by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer, held an engagement session with Datu Haji Abdullah bin Julaihi, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development (MUDeNR), on 10 September 2025 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching.

During the session, the STA Secretariat sought Datu Haji Abdullah's guidance on aligning industry initiatives with the Ministry's policy direction and explored opportunities to strengthen government–industry collaboration. Both parties also exchanged views on current issues affecting the timber sector and agreed on the importance of continuous engagement.

As a way forward, the Permanent Secretary agreed to convene a dedicated dialogue session between the Ministry and STA members. This platform will facilitate open discussions on critical challenges, emerging opportunities, and collaborative strategies to drive the sustainable growth and resilience of Sarawak's timber industry.



Datu Haji Abdullah bin Julaihi, Permanent Secretary of MUDeNR (2nd from left) posed for a group photo with Ms Annie Ting, CEO and Managers Ms Jaime Chan and Ms Miriam Hong (from left to right)

Sekretariat STA yang diketuai oleh Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Cik Annie Ting telah bertemu dengan Datu Haji Abdullah bin Julaihi, Setiausaha Tetap Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar (MUDeNR) pada 10 September 2025 untuk menyelaraskan inisiatif industri dengan dasar kerajaan dan meningkatkan kerjasama. Mereka membincangkan cabaran sektor perikanan dan bersetuju untuk meneruskan libat urus secara berterusan. Satu sesi dialog khusus di antara Kementerian dan ahli-ahli STA telah dicadangkan bagi membincangkan isu-isu utama dan menyokong pertumbuhan industri perikanan di Sarawak.

本会秘书处首席执行官陈燕贞小姐的带领下，于2025年9月10日礼节性拜访砂拉越天然资源与城市发展部(MUDeNR)常务秘书拿督哈芝阿都拉，旨在推动业界倡议与政府政策的协调一致，并加强双方合作关系。双方讨论木材工业所面临的挑战，并同意持续开展交流。会中提议举办该部与本会会员之间的专题对话会，以共同解决关键问题并支持砂拉越木材工业的发展。

Global Legal and Sustainable Timber Forum 2025

The Global Green Supply Chains (GGSC) Initiative, operating under the Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains (LSSC) Programme, approved during the 53rd Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and incorporated into the Biennial Work Programme of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) successfully served as a global platform dedicated to advancing the sustainable development of the forest products industry.

In line with this mission, GGSC had planned, for the third consecutive year, to organise the Global Legal and Sustainable Timber Forum 2025, themed “From Forest to Home – An International Dialogue on Emerging Consumer Trends and Supply Chains Innovation,” scheduled at MGM

Cotai Macau from 23 to 24 September 2025. The Forum was to be co-hosted by ITTO and the Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute of the Macao Special Administrative Region (IPIM), with a diverse agenda that included the main forum, sub-forums, side events, and additional activities such as B2B matching sessions, closed-door meetings, a press conference, and a Legal & Sustainable Timber Display.

A Malaysian delegation was present in Macao for the Forum, comprising senior officials from the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities, Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah Forestry Department, Malaysian Timber Industry Board, Malaysian Timber Council, Sabah Timber Industries Association, STA, along with representatives from timber industry across three regions.

However, due to the approach of Super Typhoon Ragasa, the Macao SAR Government announced the cancellation of the event on 22 September 2025. Consequently, Malaysian delegates were advised to avoid unnecessary outings and remain indoors at their hotels for safety amid severe weather conditions.



Malaysian delegates

Inisiatif Rangkaian Bekalan Hijau Global, di bawah Program Rangkaian Bekalan Sah dan Lestari Pertumbuhan Kayu Tropika Antarabangsa, telah merancang Forum Kayu Sah dan Lestari Global 2025 di Macau pada 23–24 September 2025. Dihoskan bersama dengan Institut Penggalakan Perdagangan dan Pelaburan Wilayah Pentadbiran Khas Macau, ianya ditetapkan untuk menampilkan forum, acara sampingan dan sesi B2B. Delegasi Malaysia hadir di Macau untuk Forum itu tetapi acara itu dibatalkan kerana Taufan Super Ragasa.

国际热带木材组织(ITTO)合法与可持续木业供应链计划下的全球林产品绿色供应链(GGSC)倡议，原定于2025年9月23日至24日在澳门举办2025年全球合法与可持续木业高峰论坛(GLSTF)。该论坛由澳门特别行政区招商投资促进局(IPIM)协办，活动包括论坛会，边会以及B2B洽谈会。马来西亚代表团亦抵达澳门参会，但由于超强台风“桦加沙”来袭，论坛最终被迫取消。

Inter-Agency Committee Meeting No.5/2025

The Inter-Agency Committee Meeting on Forestry and Timber Industry No.5/2025 was held on 8 September 2025 at the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) Headquarters. The session, chaired by Mr Semilan Ripot, Deputy Director (Forest Management), brought together representatives from FDS, the Ministry of Natural Resources & Urban Development, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, and STA.

The main agenda was a discussion on the draft European Union (EU) guidance for evaluating the harvest impacts of timber imports into the EU, which was highlighted

in a recent Convention of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Notification No. 2025/100 dated 18 August 2025.

During the meeting, Mr Jerry Radin anak Gasan, Strategic Planning & International Engagement Manager at SFC gave a briefing on the draft guidance, which aims to help EU authorities assess whether imports of CITES-listed timbers are sustainable, using information such as forest management plans, inventories, annual operating plans, and harvest permits. The guidance also factors in quotas, harvest rates, minimum cutting diameters, seed-tree retention, and recovery indices.

The Committee members reviewed the draft guidance and provided their feedback, which were then compiled by the SFC and used as a reference in the upcoming meeting convened by the CITES Secretariat.



Discussion in progress

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Antara Agensi mengenai Perhutanan dan Industri Perikanan Bil.5/2025 yang diadakan pada 8 September 2025, memberi tumpuan kepada draf panduan Kesatuan Eropah untuk menilai kelestarian kayu import yang disenaraikan oleh CITES. Mesyuarat yang dipengerusikan oleh Encik Semilan Ripot itu merangkumi taklimat oleh SFC dan pengumpulan maklum balas daripada pelbagai agensi bagi menyokong perbincangan dalam mesyuarat Sekretariat CITES yang akan datang.

林业和木材工业跨机构委员会于2025年9月8日召开本年度第五次会议，重点讨论欧盟针对濒危野生动植物种国际贸易公约(CITES)所列木材进口可持续性评估而制定的指导草案。该会由史米兰先生主持，会议包括砂拉越森林企业机构(SFC)的简报，并收集各相关机构的反馈，以为即将召开的CITES秘书处会议上的讨论提供支持。

Biodiversity Observation for Land and Ecosystem and Health (BOLEH) Workshop Series II

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and STA jointly organised a Biodiversity Observation for Land and Ecosystem Health (BOLEH) Workshop Series II from 11 to 13 September 2025 at Citadines Uplands, Kuching. The workshop, which builds upon the introductory session held in November 2024, was conducted by a team of researchers from the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), under the lead of Professor Kanehiro Kitayama.

The 3-day workshop equipped participants with step-by-step manuals, R codes and basic theories related to BOLEH, which helped them with calculating biodiversity indices and biomass stock and data analysis to generate maps of forest intactness.

Discussions during the workshop centred on how BOLEH could be applied in practical forest management. Participants explored the potential of using BOLEH to distinguish oil palm areas, with trainers explaining that this could be achieved by applying different spectral bands and coupling the analysis with satellite imagery. The possibility of incorporating data from existing Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) was also raised, as this could enhance cost-effectiveness by avoiding the need to establish new plots. The relevance of BOLEH to forest plantations was also discussed, particularly for estimating biomass and carbon increase across planting cycles. While Dr Ryuichi Takeshige noted that such analysis was theoretically possible, he explained that it would depend heavily on the availability of annual satellite imagery. The trainers also acknowledged that the current coding framework is tailored to natural forests with diverse species, and would require modifications to be applied in planted forests, which often comprise of a single species.

In her remarks, Professor Dr Yayoi Takeuchi shared that the BOLEH project formed part of ongoing collaborative research between FDS and NIES, focusing on calculating forest volume in one of the forest management unit in Sarawak. While the current phase of the project is drawing to a close, it will be expanded into a new phase, with the third BOLEH workshop scheduled for April 2026.

In his closing remarks, Mr Nelson Bijack, Chairman of STA Certification Committee, speaking on behalf of STA as co-organiser, emphasised the importance of developing cost-effective tools for projecting forest conditions to meet the requirements of Forest Management Certification. He noted that while PSPs remain valuable, BOLEH has the potential to complement these existing methods by offering more practical and efficient approaches and he expressed hope that BOLEH functions could be tailored for plantation use.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dan STA menganjurkan Bengkel Pemerhatian Biodiversiti untuk Kesihatan Tanah dan Ekosistem (BOLEH) Siri II pada 11-13 September 2025 di Kuching bersama penyelidik daripada Institut Kajian Alam Sekitar Nasional. Latihan 3 hari itu memperkenalkan alat untuk analisis biodiversiti dan biojisim, penjaan peta, dan aplikasi praktikal dalam pengurusan hutan. Perbincangan meliputi kemungkinan memasukkan data daripada Plot Sampel Kekal (PSP) sedia ada, penggunaan BOLEH untuk menganggar biojisim dan karbon dalam ladang dan penyelidikan masa depan, dengan bengkel seterusnya dijadualkan pada April 2026.

砂森林局(FDS)与本国联合主办, 并与日本国立环境研究所(NIES)的研究人员于2025年9月11日至13日在古晋协办土地和生态系统健康的生物多样性观测(BOLEH)工作坊系列(二)。此次为期三天的培训介绍用于生物多样性和生物量分析的工具、地图生成及其在森林管理的实际应用。讨论内容涵盖整合现有永久样地(PSP)数据的可能性、使用BOLEH估算种植园中的生物量和碳储量以及未来的研究, 并计划于2026年4月举办下一期工作坊。



Dr Affendi Suhaili, Head of Forest Technology and Geospatial, FDS (seated, center) joined participants for a group photo with the team of trainers; Professor Emeritus Kanehiro Kitayama (seated, 3rd from left), Professor Dr Yayoi Takeuchi (seated, left), Associate Professor Dr Ryota Aoyagi (seated, 2nd from left) and Dr Ryuichi Takeshige (1st row standing, left)

25th Tri-Nation Joint Meeting

The 25th Tri-Nation Joint Meeting of Japan Lumber Importers' Association (JLIA), Japan Plywood Manufacturers' Association (JPMA), Assosiasi Panel Kayu Indonesia (APKINDO), Sabah Timber Industries Association (STIA) and STA, with STA as both participant and host, was held on 18 September 2025 at Imperial Hotel Miri.

A total of twenty nine (29) participants under the head of delegations comprising JLIA Chairman, Mr Hiroshi Sekino; JPMA Chairman, Atsuhiko Inoue; APKINDO Board Member, Mr Ivan Susanto Hartono; and STA Panel Products Committee Honorary Secretary, Mr Vincent Chieng gathered to discuss current market conditions, common challenges faced by the plywood industry across all three countries, and collaborative strategies to ensure long-term sustainability of the plywood business.

All head of delegations in their opening remarks emphasised the need for strong partnerships



Head of delegations hand in hand (left to right) Mr Hiroshi Sekino, Mr Atsuhiko Inoue, Mr Ivan Susanto Hartono and Mr Vincent Chieng



Group photo

in advancing the plywood trade, acknowledged current global market challenges but stressed that resilience and adaptability can be achieved through knowledge-sharing.

During the Joint Meeting, country market reports were presented by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, on behalf of Malaysia; Mr Ivan Susanto Hartono of APKINDO, representing Indonesia; and Mr Takuji Okamoto, Executive Director of JLIA, for Japan. In addition, a detailed market report on various types of plywood products in Japan was also shared.

The Joint Meeting provided a platform for discussion and exchanged on several critical issues, including Anti-Dumping (AD) and Countervailing Duty investigations on plywood exports from Indonesia, China, and Vietnam to the United States; Japanese Government's stimulus package aimed at revitalising its timber industry; surge in Japanese log exports; and development of tree plantation species in Malaysia, among other topics.

In his concluding remarks, Mr Vincent Chieng emphasised that the ongoing challenges and unpredictable market dynamics underscore the importance of continued dialogue and closer collaboration among the three nations. While competition exists, the Tri-Nation platform serves as a valuable channel for communication and collaboration. Mr Chieng reaffirmed that timber remains a sustainable raw material and the right path forward in addressing global warming. In response, both JLIA and APKINDO unanimously echoed Mr Chieng's call for cooperation and expressed optimism about injecting positive energy into the industry.

The meeting also decided that APKINDO will host the next year meeting in Indonesia.

Mesyyarat Bersama Tiga Negara Ke-25 melibatkan JLIA, JPMA, APKINDO, STIA dan STA yang dianjurkan oleh STA pada 18 September 2025 di Miri, mengumpulkan 29 delegasi untuk membincangkan arah aliran pasaran, cabaran dan strategi untuk kelestarian industri papan lapis. Laporan telah dibentangkan oleh Malaysia, Indonesia dan Jepun, meliputi perkembangan perdagangan dan isu industri seperti siasatan anti-lambakan, langkah rangsangan kayu Jepun dan pembangunan perladangan. Perwakilan menegaskan semula kepentingan kerjasama, dengan APKINDO ditetapkan untuk menjadi tuan rumah mesyyarat seterusnya di Indonesia pada tahun 2026.

第25届三国联席会议于2025年9月18日在美里举行, 由本国主办, 汇聚来自日本木材输入协会(JLIA)、日本合板制造商协会(JPMA)、印尼合板公会(APKINDO)、沙巴木材工业公会(STIA)以及本会的共29名代表出席, 共同探讨胶合板工业的市场趋势、挑战和可持续发展策略。马来西亚、印尼和日本分别发表报告, 涵盖贸易发展和工业问题, 例如反倾销调查、日本木材激励措施以及人工林开发。与会代表重申合作的重要性, 并决议由APKINDO于2026年在印尼主办下届会议。

STA Panel Products Committee Meeting No. 2/2025

The STA Panel Products Committee Meeting No. 2/2025 was held in a hybrid format on 17 September 2025, with physical attendance at the Imperial Hotel Miri. The Meeting was chaired by Datuk James Ling.

Members were briefed on the outcome of an informal visit by the Secretariat to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development Sarawak (MUDeNR). During the visit, the Permanent Secretary acknowledged the importance of stronger engagement between the Ministry and the timber industry and proposed organising a dialogue session, tentatively by the end of the year, to provide updates on current government policies and explore avenues for greater industry participation.

The Meeting also discussed the preparation and reviewed the draft outline of Malaysia's market report for the 25th Tri-Nations Joint Meeting, which is being hosted by STA in Miri this year. Additionally, the Meeting adopted Chairman's proposal to identify on-the-ground experts to assist the Secretariat who is currently one of the members in the Main and Technical Committees as well as Working Groups of the National Standard Committee on Timber, Timber Products and Timber Structures. These experts would assist in ensuring that the standards being developed are both practical and applicable to the needs of the timber industry.



Glimpse of meeting with physical attendance at Imperial Hotel Miri

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Panel Produk STA Bil. 2/2025 telah diadakan secara hibrid pada 17 September 2025 di Imperial Hotel Miri dan dipengerusikan oleh Datuk James Ling. Ahli-ahli telah diberi taklimat mengenai cadangan Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar Sarawak untuk mengadakan dialog dengan industri perkayuan menjelang akhir tahun. Mesyuarat turut menyemak laporan pasaran Malaysia untuk Mesyuarat Tiga Negara dan bersetuju untuk mencalonkan pakar untuk menyokong pembangunan piawaian kayu nasional.

本会合板/人造板委员会本年度第二次会议于2025年9月17日假美里帝宫酒店以混合会议形式召开，由拿督林如健主持。会议告知委员们关于砂拉越天然资源与城市发展部(MUDeNR)于年底前与木材工业进行对话的建议。会议也审议马来西亚为三国联席会议准备的市场报告，并同意提名专家以支持国家木材标准的制定。

Online Training on e-Invoicing

On 2 September 2025, the Malaysian Panel-Product Manufacturers Association (MPMA) conducted a one-day online training on e-Invoicing, primarily for its members. The invitation to the online training was also extended to interested parties, including STA. The training was facilitated by Ms Angeline Chua Pek Hon, Associate Member of the Chartered Tax Institute of Malaysia and Transfer Pricing Coach, to equip participants with essential knowledge and practical guidance for a smooth transition to the new e-Invoicing system.

The training began with an overview of the e-Invoicing framework, updated implementation timeline, latest guidelines and compliance requirements. Participants were also briefed on treatments for various scenarios, such as consolidated e-Invoices, self-billed e-Invoices and staff claims.

In the practical session, Ms Chua guided participants step-by-step on the issuance of e-Invoicing documents via the MyInvois portal, including e-Invoices, credit note and consolidated submissions. She also addressed queries raised by participants, offering clarifications and solutions to common challenges.

Persatuan Pengilang Panel-Produk Malaysia mengadakan latihan dalam talian mengenai e-Invois pada 2 September 2025, dikendalikan oleh Cik Angeline Chua, Ahli Bersekutu Institut Cukai Bertauliah Malaysia. Sesi tersebut merangkumi rangka kerja e-Invois, keperluan pematuhan dan penyelesaian untuk pelbagai senario. Peserta turut menerima panduan terperinci mengenai pengeluaran dokumen melalui portal MyInvois, dengan penjelasan diberikan untuk menyokong kelancaran pelaksanaan.

马来西亚合板制造商公会(MPMA)于2025年9月2日举办一日电子发票线上培训，由马来西亚特许税务师学会副会蔡佩涵小姐(译音)主讲。该培训涵盖电子发票框架、合规要求以及针对各种情况的处理方式。参训者也通过MyInvois门户网站获得开具文件的逐步指导，并提供相关说明以支持顺利实施。

Sarawak Stakeholder Engagement Session for the Research Project on Promoting Sustainable Wood Use in Malaysia

A research initiative led by the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), in collaboration with Universiti Putra Malaysia Consultancy and Services Sdn Bhd (UPMCS), is currently underway under the title "Promoting Sustainable Wood Use for the Domestic Market in Malaysia". The project aims to strengthen the Malaysian timber industry by promoting the sustainable and efficient utilisation of the country's abundant wood resources as raw materials.

Through this initiative, efforts focus on enhancing and diversifying domestic consumption, as well as promoting local markets for sustainable wood and wood products. The project also seeks to explore the challenges and opportunities associated with sustainable wood use in Malaysia's domestic market, while providing strategic recommendations to align the timber industry with national sustainability goals and policies.

As part of efforts to ensure the project's success, a stakeholder engagement session was held on 10 September 2025 at the Dormani Hotel in Kuching. The session brought together approximately 15 stakeholders from diverse sectors, including government representatives, academic institutions, the timber industry, and the STA Secretariat with the objective to facilitate dialogue on current policies and initiatives surrounding sustainable wood use in Malaysia, and to gather feedback on their effectiveness.

The session began with an introductory briefing by the Project Coordinator, Prof. Dr. Mohd Shahwahid Haji Othman, who outlined the project's objectives, expected outcomes, and significance in advancing sustainable practices in Malaysia's domestic timber market. Participants were then divided into groups to discuss the key challenges in promoting sustainable wood use, with a Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis conducted to identify relevant internal and external factors.



Group photo with Project Coordinator, Prof. Dr. Mohd Shahwahid Haji Othman (front row, center)

Beyond group discussions, participants examined sustainable wood use policies using the Drivers, Pressures, State, Impacts, and Responses (DPSIR) framework. This approach provided insights into the underlying forces shaping timber industry practices, the associated impacts, and potential solutions. The session concluded with a synthesis of key recommendations and strategies aimed at supporting more effective policies and initiatives to strengthen sustainable wood use in Malaysia's domestic market.

In addition to the main event on 10 September 2025, where the project was presented in greater detail, a preliminary meeting was held on 9 September 2025 with officers from the Forest Department Sarawak and STA. During that session, the consultants introduced the project and outlined its key components. These included an assessment of market demand and supply for sustainable wood and its Chain of Custody, with an emphasis on higher quality and more diverse products; strengthened capacity to produce wood and wood products from sustainable materials; an improved policy framework to drive domestic consumption of wood and wood products; and the development of an Information System Master Plan.

Inisiatif penyelidikan yang diketuai oleh Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC) dengan kerjasama Universiti Putra Malaysia Consultancy menggalakkan penggunaan kayu secara lestari dalam pasaran domestik Malaysia. Pada 10 September 2025, satu sesi libat urus pihak berkepentingan telah menghimpunkan pelbagai peserta untuk membincangkan cabaran dan strategi menggunakan rangka kerja SWOT dan DPSIR, sekali gus menggalakkan dialog mengenai dasar dan amalan kelestarian. Mesyuarat terdahulu pada 9 September 2025 memberi tumpuan kepada permintaan pasaran, kapasiti pengeluaran, penambahbaikan dasar dan membangunkan Pelan Induk Sistem Maklumat untuk menyokong pertumbuhan lestari industri perkayuan.

马来西亚木材认证理事会(MTCC)及马来西亚博特拉大学咨询与服务有限公司(UPMCS)联合主导一项推动马来西亚国内市场可持续木材使用的研究计划。该计划于2025年9月10日举办利益相关者会议，汇聚多方与会者，运用优势、劣势、机会与威胁分析(SWOT)及驱动因素、压力、状态、影响与响应框架(DPSIR)，探讨面临的挑战与应对策略，以促进有关政策和可持续实践的交流。该计划也在早前于2025年9月9日召开的会议中重点讨论市场需求、生产能力、政策改进，以及制定信息系统总体规划，以支持木材工业的可持续发展。

World Heart Day 2025

The World Heart Day (WHD) is celebrated worldwide and annually with the global theme ‘Don’t Miss a Beat’. In Kuching, the WHD2025 was celebrated at the Kuching South City Council (MBKS) Community Hall on 21 September 2025.



Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian (left) officiating the event with Dato Wee Hong Seng (right)

The WHD2025 was officiated by Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian, Deputy Premier of Sarawak and Deputy Chairman of the Sarawak Heart Foundation. Also present were Datuk Amar Dr Sim’s wife Dato Enn Ong Siok Ean, Dato Wee Hong Seng, Kuching City South Mayor, Dato Anne Teng and Ms Pauline Kon Suk Khim, Sarawak Heart Foundation Board of Trustees and other distinguished guests from diverse backgrounds and age groups, including representatives from STA.

Speaking at the WHD2025, Dr Sim has called for greater public awareness of preventive measures against heart disease, a highly prevalent condition in Sarawak. The WHD aims to promote heart health, emphasising the importance of raising public awareness on cardiovascular care as well as encouraging people to take action and prioritise their heart health before it is too late.

The programme for the WHD2025 included a “Walk-A-Mile” walkathon and other activities such as a mini expo, free health screening, fitness test and lucky draw.

Hari Jantung Sedunia 2025 yang bertemakan “Jangan Terlepas Rentak” telah disambut pada 21 September 2025 di Dewan Masyarakat MBKS, Kuching, yang dirasmikan oleh Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian. Acara itu mempromosikan kesedaran kesihatan jantung melalui aktiviti termasuk larian santai Walk-A-Mile, pemeriksaan kesihatan, ujian kecergasan dan ekspo mini.

2025年世界心脏日以“律动不息”为主题，于2025年9月21日假古晋民众会堂(MBKS)举行庆祝活动，由拿督阿玛沈桂贤医生主持开幕。该活动通过“步行一公里”健走、健康检查、体能测试和小型博览会等环节，积极推广心脏健康意识。



STA Secretariat posed for photo with Dato Anne Teng (front row, far left), Ms Pauline Kon Suk Khim (front row, 3rd from left) and Dato Enn Ong Siok Ean (front row, 3rd from right)

Coffee Talk: Brewing Opportunities for Training Providers

HRD Corp Sarawak Region hosted “Coffee Talk: Training Provider Series” on 4 September 2025 at the office of GEM Consultancy Sdn Bhd, Kuching. The session brought together 20 training providers, including trainers, for a morning of sharing, learning, and networking. STA Training Sdn Bhd as STA’s training arm also participated in this event.

The event inspired both active and non-active registered Training Providers and trainers to explore new opportunities in the training market. It also served as a platform to exchange

ideas and learn from the experiences of those who have successfully navigated the challenges of the competitive training industry.

Mr Mohd. Fareez Rizal, Associate of the Industry Outreach Sub-Unit, HRD Corp Sarawak Region, presented on the HRD Corp Trainers Development Framework (HRD-TDF). He highlighted that starting from 1 January 2025, only HRD Corp Accredited Trainers will be eligible to conduct training under the various HRD Corp schemes. The framework is designed to enhance training quality and build a pool of competent trainers who can meet the human capital needs of the nation.

Adding to the programme, Mr Clement Law, Chief Executive of GEM Consultancy, spoke on “Barriers No More: Brewing Success in Training”. He shared valuable insights, exchanged knowledge, and

highlighted new pathways for success in the training industry. He emphasised that in today’s dynamic training market, training providers and trainers must embrace continuous learning, new strategies, and align their trainings with industry needs in order to sustain growth and achieve long-term success.

The Coffee Talk not only delivered valuable insights but also strengthened connections among training providers in Sarawak, reinforcing HRD Corp’s commitment to empowering the training ecosystem.

HRD Corp Wilayah Sarawak telah mengadakan “Bicara Kopi: Siri Pembekal Latihan” pada 4 September 2025 di GEM Consultancy, Kuching, mengumpulkan 20 pembekal latihan dan jurulatih untuk perkongsian dan rangkaian. Sesi itu memaparkan pembentangan mengenai Rangka Kerja Pembangunan Jurulatih HRD Corp dan strategi kejayaan dalam industri latihan, memupuk pertukaran pengetahuan dan mengukuhkan hubungan dalam ekosistem latihan Sarawak.

人力资源发展机构(HRD Corp)砂拉越区域于2025年9月4日假古晋GEM Consultancy举办“咖啡交流座谈会：培训机构系列”，汇聚20家培训机构包括培训师进行经验分享与交流。该会的发表内容包括介绍HRD Corp培训师发展框架以及培训行业的成功策略，旨在促进知识交流并加强砂拉越培训生态系统内的联系。

EUDR Summit 2025: Countdown to Compliance

On 3 September 2025, the EU Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR) Summit 2025 was convened virtually as a platform to help businesses prepare for the enforcement of the EUDR. Held just ten weeks before the regulation takes effect, the event brought together regulators, legal experts, industry representatives, and technology providers to explore practical pathways to compliance.

Key sessions addressed risk classification, regulatory roles and legal interpretations of complex areas such as composite materials, recycled products and geodata obligations. Audit preparedness was also a central focus, with direct insights shared by the German competent authority

Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung (BLE) or Federal Office of Agriculture and Food. Technology demonstrations and case studies highlighted how industries including retail, publishing and furniture are adapting their due diligence systems.

Speakers included representatives from PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), EcoVadis, CMS Legal Services EEIG (CMS), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), RidensPA, and the BLE with keynote contributions from Sophie Mende-Sauer, Deputy Director at BLE. Interactive panels, question and answer sessions and myth-busting discussions allowed participants to engage with experts and peers on issues of traceability, data integration, and compliance workflows.

Across sessions, one message stood out: “now is the time to act”. From regulatory expectations and supplier traceability to system design and audit readiness, speakers emphasised the urgency

of establishing robust, scalable compliance systems ahead of enforcement. While the Omnibus revision may extend enforcement deadlines, expectations remain high. Companies were advised to clarify operator or trader status, address grey areas such as recycled products, composite materials and deforestation definitions, and adopt automation tools to replace spreadsheets which are no longer sufficient for audit readiness.

To support companies in this transition, a comprehensive 30-page Q&A document was released after the event, consolidating participant questions and expert responses. This resource serves as a practical reference for navigating geolocation requirements, traceability obligations and other compliance challenges across commodities.

Sidang Kemuncak EUDR 2025 dalam talian telah diadakan pada 3 September 2025 menghimpunkan pengawal selia, pakar dan wakil-wakil industri sebagai persediaan untuk menghadapi Peraturan Bebas Penyahutan EU. Perbincangan tertumpu pada klasifikasi risiko, kawasan kabur, kesediaan audit dan penyelesaian teknologi. Penceramah menekankan tindakan segera, menekankan keperluan untuk menjelaskan peranan, mengukuhkan kebolehsasaran dan mengguna pakai sistem pematuhan berskala, dengan menyatakan bahawa helaian maklumat sahaja mungkin tidak mencukupi.

2025年欧盟无毁林法规(EUDR)线上峰会于2025年9月3日举行，汇聚监管机构、专家和工业代表，共同为EUDR做准备。会议重点讨论风险分类、灰色地带、审计准备和技术解决方案。讲者强调，行动刻不容缓，需要明确职责、加强可追溯性，并采用可扩展的合规系统，同时也指出单靠电子表格可能不足够。

Discussion on the Operational Costs of Oil Palm in Licence for Planted Forests

In alignment with the Sarawak Government's policy through the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), holders of the Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) are permitted to cultivate oil palm on up to 20% of the plantable area. However, oil palm planting within LPF areas is limited to a single planting cycle, with a maximum duration of 25 years. This policy aims to provide an initial capital injection for the development of industrial forest plantations in Sarawak.

To support FDS in its planning and decision-making for oil palm cultivation in LPF areas, a discussion was held with STA on 8 September 2025, focusing on the operational costs associated with oil palm planting. The meeting was attended virtually by affected STA Forest Plantation members, while the STA Secretariat participated in person.

During the discussion, STA was tasked with compiling cost information from its members, including applicable taxes and fees, and submitting it to FDS. It was also agreed that additional engagement session may be necessary to reconcile data from various agencies and private institutions, due to variations in soil types, including peat and hill soils, as well as geographic challenges.

Following a discussion with its members on 19 September 2025, STA submitted the required data and information to FDS on the same day.

Pada 8 September 2025, STA telah mengadakan perbincangan dengan Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) mengenai kos operasi penanaman kelapa sawit dalam kawasan Lesen Ladang Hutan (LPF). STA kemudiannya telah mengumpul data daripada ahli-ahlinya dan menyerahkannya kepada FDS pada 19 September 2025. Perbincangan lanjut mungkin diperlukan untuk menyelaraskan data tersebut disebabkan oleh variasi tanah dan geografi.

2025年9月8日，本会与砂森林局(FDS)就人工林种植执照(LPFP)区域内油棕种植的营运成本进行讨论。随后，本会汇集会员所提供的数据，并于2025年9月19日呈交予FDS。鉴于土壤与地理条件存在差异，后续或需进一步沟通，以协调相关数据。

MEF East Malaysia (Sarawak) Regional Meeting No. 9/2025

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak Region) convened its ninth meeting on 29 September 2025. The session was facilitated by Ms Dayang Jamillah binti Tun Abang Muhd Salahuddin, Consultant of Industrial Relations at MEF Sarawak.

Two (2) insightful sessions were featured during the meeting. The first, *“Developing Talent from Within: The Strategic Role of Employee Training in Enhancing Retention and Organisational Growth”* was presented by Mr Mohd Fareez bin Rizal, Associate-Industry Outreach Officer of Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp) Kuching. The second session *“Understanding the New Rights to Flexible Working Arrangements Chapter XIVB Section 121A & 121B Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap.76)”* was led by Ms Dayang Jamilah.

In his presentation, Mr Fareez underscored the importance for HR practitioners to understand employee retention strategies, especially by developing internal talent. He clarified the misconception that training contributes only 10% to company growth, explaining that it also reduces turnover by motivating employees to stay and perform better, crucial for building capable future leaders. He also outlined HRD Corp coverage, noting that registration is mandatory for employers with 10 or more local employees (including part-timers) and optional for those with five to nine employees. He cautioned against levy forfeiture under Section 25 of the HRD Corp Act 2001, where unused levies may be forfeited, and reminded that the utilisation period was shortened from five to two years effective 1 January 2020 to encourage more active employer participation in skills development.

Mr Fareez highlighted that HRD Corp offers a range of additional initiatives and programme, including e-LATIH, an online learning platform that provides Malaysians with unlimited access to a wide variety of free online courses from reputable content providers. He concluded his presentation by emphasising key takeaways for human resource practitioners, stressing that training initiatives should be proactive rather than reactive.

In the second session, Ms Dayang Jamilah discussed the handling of Flexible Working Arrangements (FWA), noting that while employees have the legal right to request FWA, approval is not guaranteed. Employers must assess each request case by case, considering operational needs, and may lawfully refuse with valid, documented business reasons. She emphasised that FWAs are individual rights, and not applicable to groups or unions.

She concluded by encouraging employers to refer the FWA guidelines by the Ministry of Human Resources to ensure their practices align with current legal standards. The guidelines can be accessed via <https://www.mohr.gov.my/index.php/categories/garis-panduan/garis-panduan-akf-2024>.

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) Malaysia Timur (Wilayah Sarawak) mengadakan mesyuarat kesembilannya pada 29 September 2025. Perbincangan tertumpu kepada peranan strategik latihan pekerja dalam meningkatkan pengkalan dan pertumbuhan organisasi, menekankan penggunaan levi HRD Corp, ambang pendaftaran mandatori dan inisiatif pembelajaran dalam talian seperti e-LATIH. Mesyuarat itu juga meliputi Pengaturan Kerja Fleksibel, menekankan penilaian berdasarkan kes demi kes, justifikasi yang kukuh bagi penolakan, dan pematuhan terhadap garis panduan yang ditetapkan oleh Kementerian Sumber Manusia.

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)东马(砂拉越)区域于2025年9月29日召开本年度第九次会议。会议重点讨论雇员培训在提升雇员留任率和组织发展中的策略作用，特别指出人力资源发展机构(HRD Corp)征费的使用方式、强制注册的门槛，以及线上学习倡议，例如e-LATIH。该会也涵盖灵活工作安排(FWA)，强调雇主应根据个案评估、给予拒绝申请的合理解释，并遵守人力资源部的相关指南。

STA Pays Courtesy Call to MEF

The Chief Executive Officer of STA, Ms Annie Ting accompanied by Ms Peggy Chew, STA legal counsellor paid a courtesy call to the President of Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF), Datuk Dr. Syed Hussain Syed Husman on 12 September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Dr. Syed Hussain was accompanied by two (2) Vice Presidents, Dr. Mohd Syukri Ahmad Sudari and Mr Nik Mustapha bin Nik Mohamed, as well as MEF Advisor, Datuk Hj Shamsuddin Bardan.



Photo with President of MEF, Datuk Dr. Syed Hussain Syed Husman (seated far left), Vice Presidents, and Advisor

The engagement drew constructive exchange of views on the key challenges currently facing the timber industry in Sarawak, both domestically and internationally. Key topics included sustainable forest management efforts, the potential of carbon credit markets and various business related challenges.

On the domestic front, concerns were raised over narrowing industry margins and sustainability issues, largely driven by rising operational costs. These costs stem from repeated increases in the minimum wage, additional foreign workers recruitment expenses via a new Sarawak online recruitment system, particularly unique to Sarawak only, the implementation of Sarawak sales tax and additional cess imposed on the certified timber.

Internationally, Sarawak timber sector faces significant challenges due to lack of corresponding price increases for certified timber products, as well as the adverse effects of U.S. tariffs imposed on various countries. This engagement served to strengthen collaboration opportunities between the parties and deepen mutual understanding of the challenges and prospects within the industry. It also laid the groundwork for future strategic cooperation and a more unified approach to addressing both domestic and global concerns affecting the Sarawak timber industry.

Pada 12 September 2025, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA, Cik Annie Ting bersama Penasihat Undang-undang, Cik Peggy Chew telah bertemu dengan Presiden MEF, Datuk Dr. Syed Hussain, Naib-naib Presiden serta Penasihat bagi membincangkan cabaran utama dalam dan luar negara yang dihadapi oleh industri perkayuan Sarawak. Antara topik yang dibincangkan termasuklah peningkatan kos operasi, isu kelestarian dan tekanan perdagangan global. Mesyuarat tersebut telah mengukuhkan kerjasama serta membuka ruang bagi penglibatan strategik pada masa hadapan.

2025年9月12日，本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐和法律顾问周萍萍小姐与马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)主席拿督赛义德博士、副主席及顾问会面，探讨砂拉越木材工业所面临的主要国内外挑战。议题包括运营成本上升、可持续发展问题以及全球贸易压力。此次会谈促进双方合作，并为未来的战略合作奠定基础。

e-Invoice Briefing

The Kuching Branch of the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia held a briefing on e-Invoicing at its office on 25 September 2025 to familiarise taxpayers with the new digital invoicing system and its compliance requirements.

Mr Azzizi-Azzizan bin Salleh, Assistant Director of the Customer Service Section explained that the initiative aims to enhance digital tax administration, minimise errors, improve compliance, and promote transparency in business transactions. Beginning August 2024, companies with annual revenue exceeding RM100 million must adopt e-Invoicing, with implementation extending to businesses earning above RM500,000 by 2026. E-invoices can be issued through MyInvois Portal or Application Programming Interface, validated instantly with a unique ID and QR code.

He added that e-invoicing applies to Business-to-Business, Business-to-Consumer, and Business-to-Government transactions. In cases where buyers do not require separate invoices, consolidated e-Invoices may be issued, except for sectors such as automotive, construction, licensed betting and gaming, and luxury goods, where individual invoices are mandatory.

The session also included a live demonstration of the MyInvois Portal, showcasing registration, login, and e-Invoice issuance procedures, providing participants with practical understanding of the system's operation.

Pada 25 September 2025, Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri Malaysia Cawangan Kuching telah mengadakan taklimat mengenai e-Invois untuk meningkatkan pemahaman tentang pentadbiran cukai digital. Sesi tersebut merangkumi penjelasan mengenai garis masa pelaksanaan, keperluan sektor dan jenis transaksi serta menampilkan demonstrasi Portal MyInvois bagi tujuan pendaftaran dan pengeluaran e-Invois.

2025年9月25日，马来西亚内陆税收局(IRBM)古晋分局举办电子发票简报会，以提升对数字税务管理的认知。该会概述实施时间表、适用行业及交易类型，并进行MyInvois门户的注册和电子发票的开具演示。

MyFutureJobs Advocacy Roadshow: Building Growth, Bridging Talent and Progressive Workforce 2025

The Social Security Organisation (PERKESO) organised a series of MyFutureJobs Advocacy Roadshows at Dynasty Hotel Miri (16 August), Paramount Hotel Sibu (23 August), and RAIA Hotel Kuching (17 September 2025). Themed “*Building Growth, Bridging Talent and Progressive Workforce*”, the programme aimed to enhance employers' understanding of the MyFutureJobs platform and its role in supporting national employment initiatives.

Ms Dayang Suziwati binti Abang Badwie, Executive Officer of PERKESO Sarawak, outlined employers' and employees' contribution responsibilities, benefits for insured workers, and the importance of timely payments. The coverage includes medical care, unemployment assistance and compensation for workplace injuries. Foreign workers are equally protected; in fatal cases, RM7,500 is provided, while RM4,500 is given for non-fatal repatriations. To facilitate necessary compensation, employers must ensure valid bank or electronic fund transfer accounts for their workers.

Ms Nurainnie Fitrie binti Sapi'i, Industry Partnership Officer from PERKESO Sarawak discussed talent acquisition, labour market analysis and recruitment for managerial-level positions (RM6,000 and above). She emphasised that since 2020, MyFutureJobs has assisted job seekers through profiling to match them with suitable opportunities. She also highlighted the Career Development Initiative 3.0 under Budget 2025, which offers an incentive of RM600 monthly for three months to employers hiring persons with disabilities and ex-convicts under PERKESO supervision.

Mr Mohamad Fuardy bin Sahmat, Assistant Prison Superintendent, Sarawak Prisons Department, shared the Department's operations and objectives as well as collaboration with PERKESO to assist parolees in securing employment and reintegrating into society. The

Parole and Community Services Department monitors compliance, conducts counselling and workplace visits, and supports parolees in achieving stable employment.

Ms Husna Nadia binti Abang Sapri, Marketing Executive of the Sarawak Centre of Performance Excellence (SCOPE), introduced the Graduates Enhancement Training Sarawak Work Readiness Programme (GETS-WRP). This 12-month initiative equips Sarawakian graduates with employability skills through a three-month Career Enhancement Skills Programme and nine months of internship or on-the-job training. Ms Husna further highlighted that interns will receive a monthly training allowance of RM1,500 for the full 12-month duration of the programme.

Mr Jeffry Douglas anak William Nagun, Senior Assistant Director, Sarawak Labour Department, presented “The Sarawak Labour Ordinance”. He informed that the Ordinance now applies to all employees regardless of wage or job category. Standard working hours are 7.5 hours, 8 hours or 9 hours per day, with any schedule exceeding 10 hours requiring approval from the Director of Labour. The maximum allowable working time, including overtime, is 12 hours with limited exceptions for certain industries like manufacturing. He also distinguished between Contract for Service (for independent workers such as contractors) and a Contract of Service (for formal employees entitled to statutory benefits like EPF, PERKESO, and annual leave). Additionally, salaries must be paid no later than the 7th of the following month, with delays to be reported to the Department.

Ts Grenson anak Philip Angkok, Senior Assistant Director of Skills

Development Department, introduced the Academy Within Industry (AWI) model, which combines 80% on-the-job and 20% theoretical training through physical or online methods. It offers two pathways: Apprenticeship AWI which builds on prior achievements and follows a “train and place” method and Employment AWI, designed for experienced individuals which operates on a “place and train” method. Incentives are available for employees aged 18–40 with less than two years of service. Registration for the first incentive is to be done via www.adi.gov.my, while registration for the second and third incentives is to be made through www.myspike.my.

Mr Megat Yusman bin Megat Jamaluddin, Deputy Director, Ministry of Economy, presented the Progressive Wage Policy, targeting an increase in Malaysia's median wage from RM2,500 to RM3,500 by 2030. He highlighted future reforms under the upcoming 13th Malaysia Plan which will focus on addressing structural issues within the labour market and several proactive measures taken by the government to reform the labour market ecosystem, through the Minimum Wage Order, Productivity-Linked Wage System, etc.

Dr Dayang Zuryani binti Abg Mouhammad Hashim, Psychiatrist at Sarawak General Hospital, introduced MENTARI, Malaysia's Community Mental Health Centre. Established in 2010, MENTARI promotes recovery, employment and social reintegration for individuals with mental health conditions. Dr Zuryani highlighted the role of employers in reducing stigma and encouraged participation in MENTARI's Volunteer, Outreach and Networking (VON) programmes via <https://mentari.moh.gov.my>.

Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO) telah menganjurkan Jerayawara Advokasi MyFutureJobs di seluruh Sarawak sepanjang bulan Ogos dan September 2025 bagi meningkatkan pemahaman majikan tentang inisiatif penempatan pekerjaan. Antara topik yang dibincangkan termasuklah skim keselamatan sosial PERKESO, pengambilan pekerja melalui MyFutureJobs, pemulihan dan penempatan kerja bagi banduan parol, latihan graduan, perkembangan terkini mengenai Ordinan Buruh Sarawak serta inisiatif kesihatan mental masyarakat yang menggalakkan pemulihan dan keterangkuman di tempat kerja.

社会保险机构(PERKESO)于2025年8月至9月在砂拉越各地举办“我的未来工作”(MyFutureJobs)巡回讲座，旨在加深雇主对就业安置计划的了解。活动主题涵盖PERKESO的社会保障计划、通过MyFutureJobs进行招聘、假释者的更生和就业支持、毕业生培训、砂拉越劳工法令(SLO)的最新动态，以及促进康复和职场共融的社区心理健康倡议。

STA Secretariat attended the roadshow in Kuching on 17 September 2025 at Raia Hotel



Programme Executive Talk: OSH Leadership For Top Management

Two staff from STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd attended the “Programme Executive Talk: OSH Leadership for Top Management” organised by the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) at Imperial Hotel, Kuching on 23 September 2025. The seminar was designed to raise awareness among organisational top management about the critical role of workplace safety and evolving regulatory obligations under the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) framework.

The event underscored DOSH’s strategic approach to engaging senior decision-makers, namely those who develop company policy and drive OSH direction. In collaboration with industry OSH specialists, DOSH has developed the “OSH Leadership for Top Management Module” to guide corporate leaders in formulating effective safety, health and welfare policies for employees.

A major highlight was the obligation for each company with five or more employees to appoint an OSH Coordinator. The seminar detailed the coordinator’s statutory duties: conducting safety procedures, site inspections, risk assessments, and submitting required reports to ensure compliance. With the OSH

Act (Amendment 2022) in force since 1 June 2024, premises owners who fail in their obligations may face heavy fines or imprisonment upon conviction.

Pada 23 September 2025, Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (DOSH) telah mengadakan “Program Sesi Eksekutif: Kepimpinan OSH untuk Pengurusan Tertinggi” di Hotel Imperial, Kuching. Seminar itu menekankan peranan pengurusan tertinggi dalam melaksanakan dasar keselamatan dan kesihatan pekerjaan yang berkesan, melantik penyelaras OSH, dan mematuhi pindaan Akta OSH 2022 untuk memastikan keselamatan di tempat kerja. Antara perkara utama yang diketengahkan dalam seminar ini ialah kewajipan bagi setiap syarikat yang mempunyai 5 atau lebih pekerja untuk melantik Penyelaras OSH.

2025年9月23日，职场安全与卫生局(DOSH)假古晋帝宫酒店举办项目高管讲座，标题为高层管理人员的职场安全与卫生(OSH)领导力。讲座会强调高层管理人员在实施有效的OSH政策、任命协调员以及遵守已修订的2022年OSH法令以确保职场安全方面所承担的职责。讲座会的一大重点是每家拥有五名或以上雇员的公司都有义务任命一名OSH协调员。

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT TRAINING

Date : 22-26 September 2025 (Part 1)

Venue : Wisma STA, Kuching

Trainer : Mr Peter Sawal,
Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang



The Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) and the STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), an appointed Training Provider, have partnered to organise the Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) training course. The course aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding and practical application of the ECA process in order to comply with the *Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008*, and the associated guidelines, as well as to encourage self-regulation among industry players. This training will enable qualified personnel to register as Environmental Auditors with NREB and conduct audits, transitioning from the current submission of Environmental Monitoring Reports (EMRs).

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

The next ECA training will be on 17-21 November 2025 (Part 1) and 16-18 December 2025 (Part 2) at Wisma STA, Kuching. For more information on the above training, please contact Mr Wong How Chu at 082-332222 or email to howchu@sta.org.my

Image Captions:

- 1.Photo-call with auditee representatives during the hands-on site audit
- 2.Welcoming address by Mr Tsai Koh Fen, Head of Compliance and Enforcement Division, NREB
- 3.Mr Tsai Koh Fen, Head of Compliance and Enforcement Division, NREB (seated in the middle) and trainer, Mr Peter Sawal, (seated, 4th from the right) posed for group photo with ECA participants
- 4.Participants were briefed on the Bratak Oil Palm Plantation by the Auditee Representative prior to the opening meeting

Wishing all Members and Readers

Happy Deepavali

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

Pengerusi, Ahli-Ahli Majlis, Pihak Pengurusan dan Kakitangan STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutuai Sdn Bhd dan STA Training Sdn Bhd ingin mengucapkan Selamat Hari Deepavali kepada semua penganut agama Hindu.

本会主席、理事会、管理委员会和STA秘书处、STA Enterprises有限公司、STA Mutuai有限公司和STA Training有限公司全体职员在此祝愿所有印度同胞们屠妖节快乐。



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	Jun '25 Vol (m³)	Jun '24 Vol (m³)	Jul '25 Vol (m³)	Jul '24 Vol (m³)	Aug '25 Vol (m³)	Aug '24 Vol (m³)	Jan - Aug '25 Vol (m³)	Jan - Aug '24 Vol (m³)
Kuching (Hill)	289	647	---	1,478	---	562	949	4,014
(Swamp)	---	---	1,046	---	386	---	3,736	---
Sibu (Hill)	22,133	17,936	26,344	25,528	24,032	24,894	172,581	170,281
(Swamp)	4,534	---	3,378	3,082	2,975	2,019	20,185	13,143
Bintulu (Hill)	53,305	55,320	71,433	61,494	59,158	54,784	405,988	454,323
(Swamp)	1,255	1,016	1,611	888	1,332	---	18,739	9,021
Miri (Hill)	14,827	9,691	12,316	5,812	19,699	7,429	87,694	59,572
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kapit (Hill)	56,700	54,097	55,838	52,073	56,745	46,345	393,928	386,611
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Limbang (Hill)	6,165	4,035	11,847	6,724	8,925	8,497	54,395	59,247
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sarikei (Hill)	2,235	---	4,306	715	4,982	2,095	16,845	20,628
(Swamp)	---	---	937	---	346	---	1,283	-
Sri Aman (Hill)	---	---	---	---	547	---	1,951	432
(Swamp)	---	---	---	---	842	---	842	---
Subtotal (Hill)	155,654	141,726	182,084	153,824	174,088	144,606	1,134,331	1,155,108
(Swamp)	5,789	1,016	6,972	3,970	5,881	2,019	44,785	22,164
TOTAL	161,443	142,742	189,056	157,794	179,969	146,625	1,179,116	1,177,272

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for September 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	Apr '25 Vol (m³)	May '25 Vol (m³)	Jun '25 Vol (m³)	Jul '25 Vol (m³)	Aug '25 Vol (m³)	Jan - Aug '25 Vol (m³)
Bindang	2,148	647	1,781	538	1,306	7,686
Meranti	63,004	71,461	63,479	71,609	72,835	478,340
Kapur	4,047	4,839	4,641	4,729	4,632	32,536
Keruing	2,864	4,145	3,846	3,376	3,520	24,473
Sepetir	240	222	246	300	327	1,748
Selangan Batu	2,469	2,945	2,777	2,797	3,319	18,483
Nyatoh	1,323	1,622	1,859	1,901	2,095	11,550
Other species	64,444	76,507	77,025	96,834	86,054	559,515
TOTAL:	140,539	162,388	155,654	182,084	174,088	1,134,331

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	Apr '25 Vol (m³)	May '25 Vol (m³)	Jun '25 Vol (m³)	Jul '25 Vol (m³)	Aug '25 Vol (m³)	Jan - Aug '25 Vol (m³)
Jongkong	13	18	1	24	19	81
Sepetir	---	---	8	---	11	19
Kapur	596	385	177	273	160	1,807
Keruing	6	26	29	7	7	121
Meranti	599	600	380	575	650	3,515
Other species	7,523	7,372	5,194	6,093	5,034	39,242
TOTAL:	8,737	8,401	5,789	6,972	5,881	44,785

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for September 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		Jun '25	Jun '24	Jul '25	Jul '24	Aug '25	Aug '24	Jan - Aug '25	Jan - Aug '24
		Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Kuching	(ACMG)	---	---	---	---	15	---	15	---
Sibu	(ACMG)	1,609	5,679	844	7,067	1,688	4,398	15,378	48,012
	(ALBZ)	---	1,342	---	84	---	756	4,825	5,937
	(EUCA)	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,783	---
	(KLPN)	231	989	179	1,735	102	249	635	6,996
Bintulu	(ACMG)	14,933	42,119	22,980	59,724	20,043	36,469	136,962	389,525
	(ALBZ)	4,478	12,873	3,005	7,598	3,945	4,082	26,504	49,826
	(EUCA)	2,239	2,535	338	1,476	980	3,846	14,881	16,898
	(GMELINA)	---	---	---	---	---	1,316	---	1,608
	(KLPN)	---	42	62	66	---	---	62	343
Miri	(ACMG)	14,472	11,266	13,580	9,445	3,232	5,853	71,382	92,305
	(ALBZ)	4,057	1,632	8,726	2,200	2,514	1,132	32,413	13,121
	(EUCA)	9,692	11,839	8,647	10,202	10,400	13,597	57,913	71,000
	(GMELINA)	1,570	---	6,320	---	2,435	---	10,815	---
	(KLPN)	---	---	219	---	204	---	589	---
Limbang	(ACMG)	---	690	---	1,056	---	1,408	---	11,436
Subtotal	(ACMG)	31,014	59,754	37,404	77,292	24,978	48,128	223,737	541,278
	(ALBZ)	8,535	15,847	11,731	9,882	6,459	5,970	63,742	68,884
	(EUCA)	11,931	14,374	8,985	11,678	11,380	17,443	75,577	87,898
	(GMELINA)	1,570	---	6,320	---	2,435	1,316	10,815	1,608
	(KLPN)	231	1,031	460	1,801	306	249	1,286	7,339
TOTAL:		53,281	91,006	64,900	100,653	45,558	73,106	375,157	707,007

Source of data : Forest Department Sarawak
(Please note that the figures for September 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

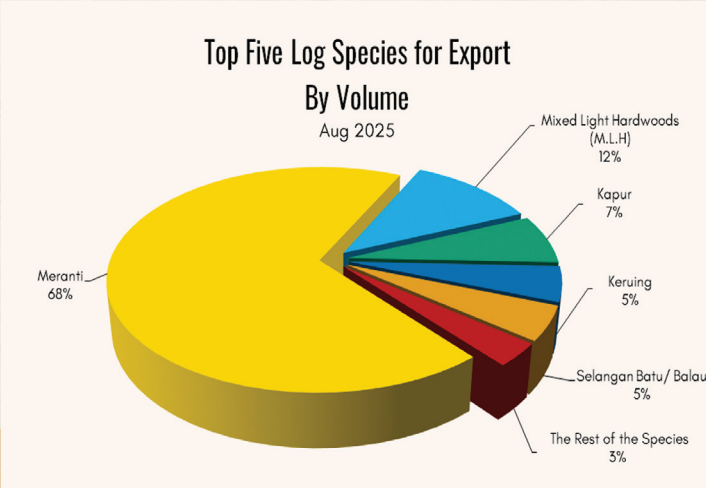
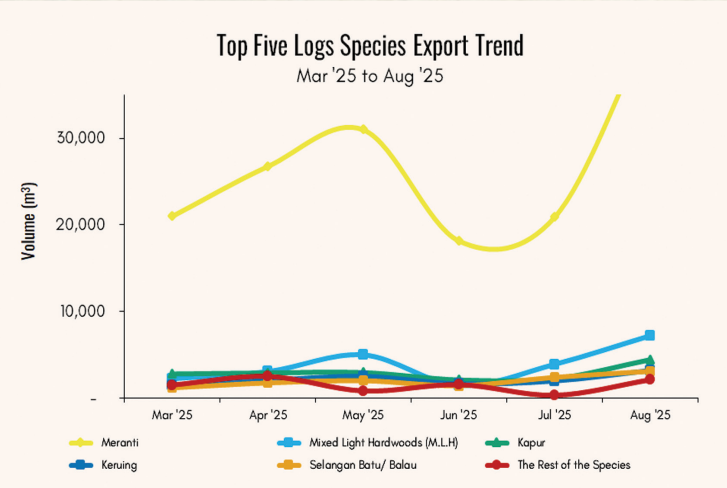
EXPORT OF LOGS BY SPECIES FROM SARAWAK

EKSPORT BALAK MENGIKUT SPESIS DARI SARAWAK

砂拉越原木树种出口量

Species	Jun '25		Jul '25		Aug '25		Jan - Aug '25		Jan - Aug '24	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Arau	58	62,577	37	29,910	243	287,421	990	1,164,499	1,954	2,323,383
Bindang/Damar Minyak/Agathis	1,003	1,128,443	---	---	511	573,843	4,186	4,205,624	---	---
Kapur	2,109	2,284,539	2,262	2,712,126	4,443	5,161,090	25,276	28,366,352	31,003	35,346,744
Keruing	1,627	1,293,548	1,960	1,618,346	3,179	2,552,386	16,264	13,121,844	32,395	25,664,775
Meranti	18,188	14,250,371	20,927	17,053,112	43,141	34,511,160	210,950	162,636,978	210,128	157,217,149
Mersawa	222	190,756	124	104,128	403	361,259	1,697	1,489,598	3,688	2,716,590
Mixed Light Hardwoods (M.L.H)	1,472	917,016	3,896	2,734,988	7,191	4,408,192	32,998	20,435,945	37,121	24,081,184
Nyatoh	56	34,497	67	40,016	162	96,712	697	414,905	375	266,436
Resak	194	164,410	115	97,884	546	477,108	2,133	1,808,099	2,635	2,300,465
Selangan Batu/ Balau	1,419	2,363,450	2,397	4,121,515	3,106	5,440,910	15,822	26,429,992	15,210	23,500,268
Other Species	8	9,853	2	2,284	229	141,996	848	554,521	262	156,819
TOTAL:	26,356	22,699,460	31,787	28,514,309	63,154	54,012,077	311,861	260,628,357	334,771	273,573,813

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

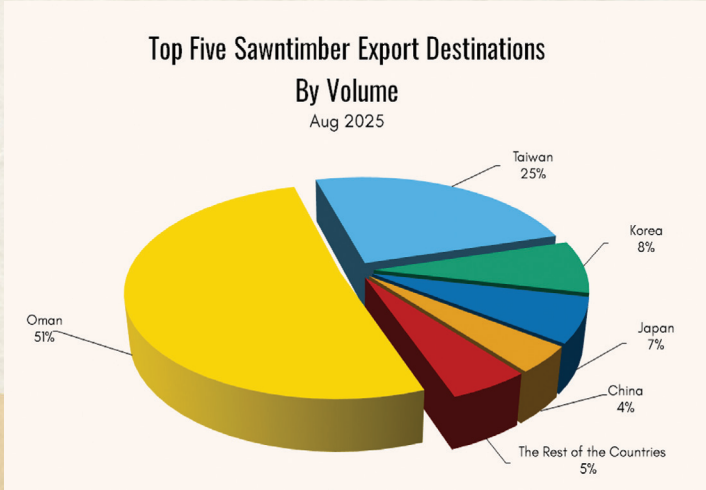
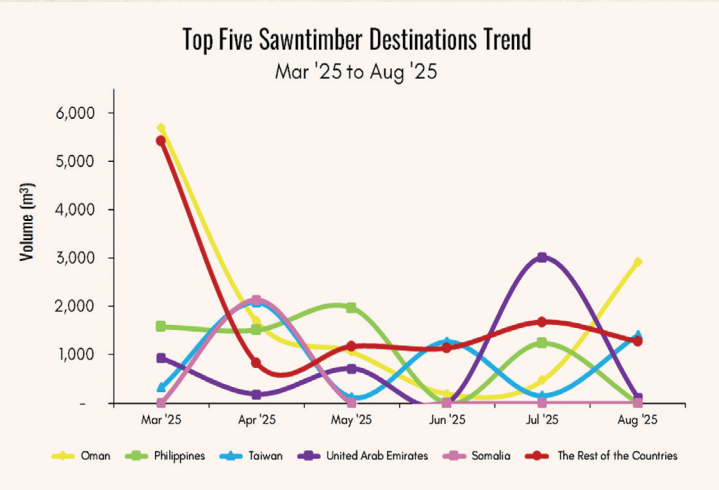


SARAWAK timber trade statistics

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

Country of Destination	Jun '25		Jul '25		Aug '25		Jan - Aug '25		Jan - Aug '24	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Australia 澳洲	5	11,647	7	20,359	4	9,524	82	246,802	95	436,473
China 中国	284	216,862	412	389,684	232	160,353	2,317	4,459,463	1,793	2,413,571
Japan 日本	187	496,156	490	1,176,526	388	899,295	2,167	5,442,693	2,686	7,727,141
Korea 韩国	275	407,919	290	318,649	457	703,926	1,984	2,859,987	1,089	2,006,534
Oman 阿曼	196	219,302	481	476,853	2,926	3,485,140	13,361	14,593,703	11,614	15,573,783
Seychelles 塞舌尔	---	---	79	255,886	35	106,046	251	794,162	106	372,813
Sri Lanka 斯里兰卡	81	108,645	---	---	109	231,585	245	449,476	108	205,062
Taiwan 台湾	1,276	1,666,474	159	150,702	1,413	1,945,756	6,654	9,181,799	10,027	17,683,450
Thailand 泰国	299	198,242	231	303,819	43	39,500	2,102	2,066,593	3,226	3,457,124
United Arab Emirates 阿联酋	---	---	3,007	3,811,611	103	144,853	4,934	6,325,104	3,983	7,931,843
Other Countries 其他国家	1	2,800	1,407	1,065,554	---	---	23,231	34,588,860	30,149	43,590,687
TOTAL:	2,604	3,328,047	6,563	7,969,643	5,710	7,725,978	57,328	81,008,642	64,876	101,398,481

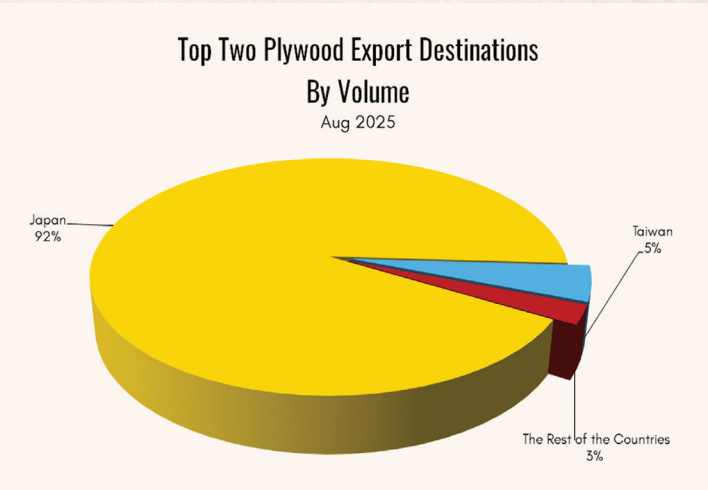
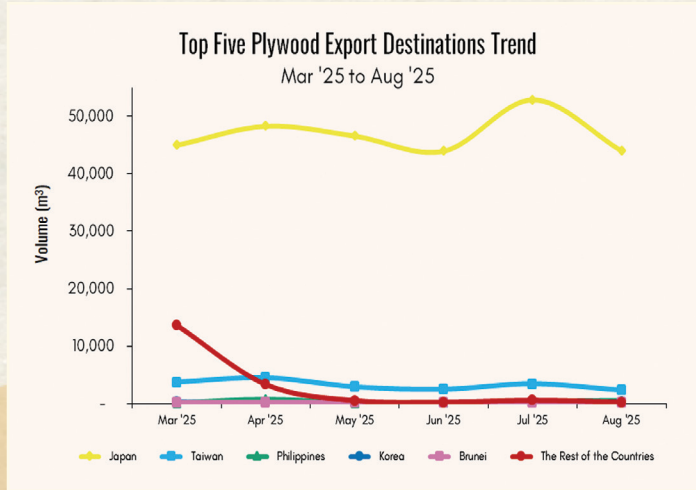
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for September 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



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

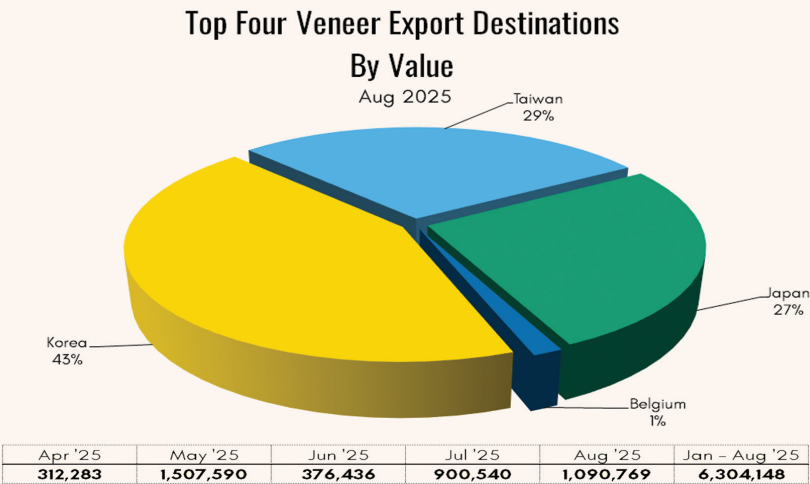
Country of Destination	Jun '25		Jul '25		Aug '25		Jan - Aug '25		Jan - Aug '24	
	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)	Vol (m³)	Val (RM)
Australia 澳洲	83	181,960	183	434,915	122	218,604	868	1,996,342	803	2,198,977
Brunei 汶莱	202	283,439	251	381,580	190	296,122	1,666	2,427,321	2,373	3,091,451
Japan 日本	43,966	89,806,103	52,904	108,016,036	43,998	92,061,649	354,038	736,272,737	339,618	781,715,919
Korea 韩国	148	227,236	232	412,719	341	540,514	2,077	3,574,063	8,249	15,291,504
Oman 阿曼	---	---	182	274,647	104	158,055	458	693,850	1,115	1,848,786
Philippines 菲律宾	121	343,115	407	1,144,729	467	1,518,655	2,662	8,096,144	3,145	10,988,058
Singapore 新加坡	113	175,166	107	256,423	21	62,600	262	548,733	258	672,728
Taiwan 台湾	2,459	3,761,442	3,422	5,530,205	2,289	3,503,443	23,937	38,039,874	21,852	39,477,057
Thailand 泰国	4	18,482	3	15,487	4	16,505	231	600,340	114	327,862
Other Countries 其他国家	37	144,435	101	189,236	---	---	32,296	56,478,343	49,329	94,302,544
TOTAL:	47,133	94,941,378	57,792	116,655,977	47,536	98,376,147	418,495	848,727,747	426,856	949,914,886

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

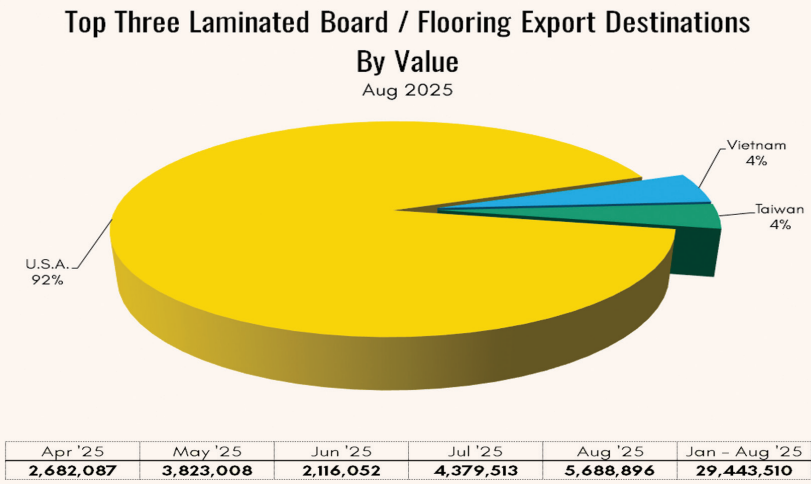




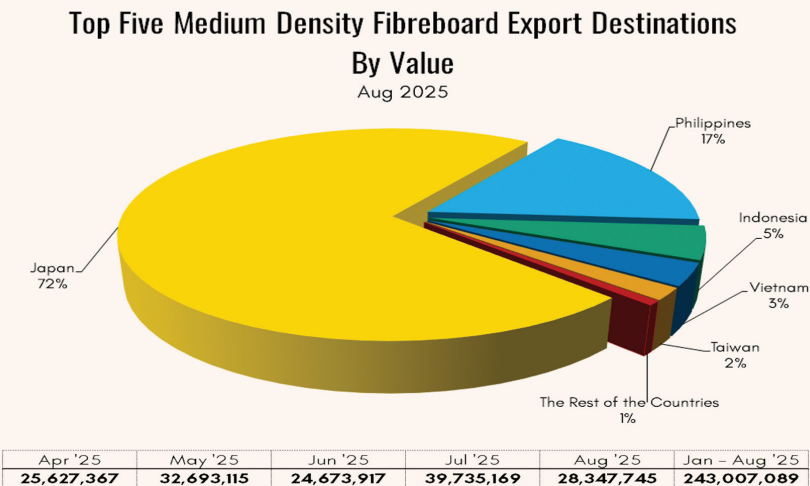
EXPORT VALUE OF VENEER BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT VENIR MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之单板出口值



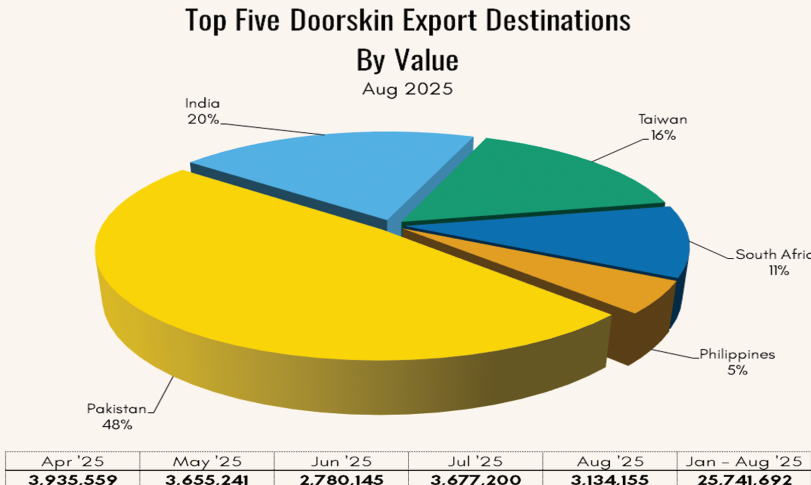
EXPORT VALUE OF LAMINATED BOARD / FLOORING BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN LAMINA / LANTAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之层压板/地板出口值



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



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



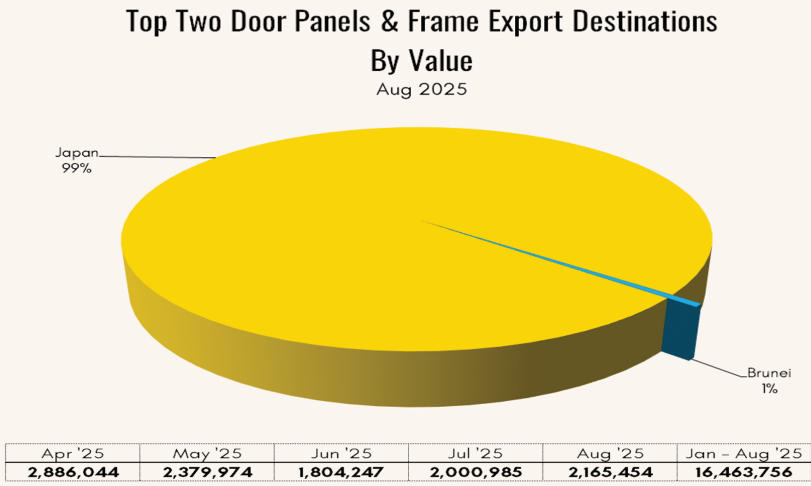
EXPORT VALUE OF PARTICLEBOARD BY DESTINATION FROM SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT PAPAN SERPAI MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之塑合板出口值

Remark:
No export of particleboard was recorded in Aug 2025

Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Aug '25	Jan - Aug '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

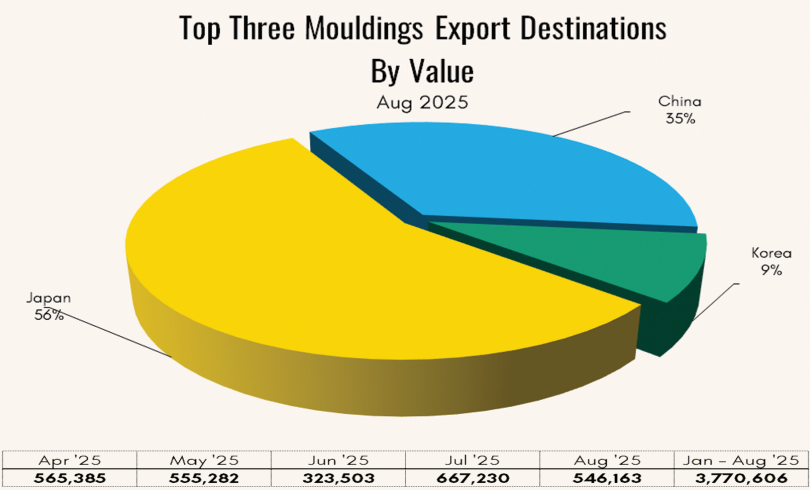


Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for September 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

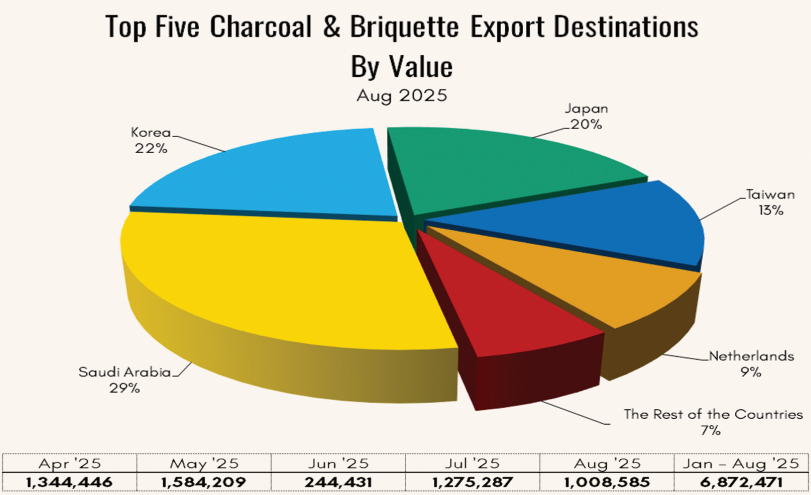
Source of data : Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(Please note that the figures for September 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)



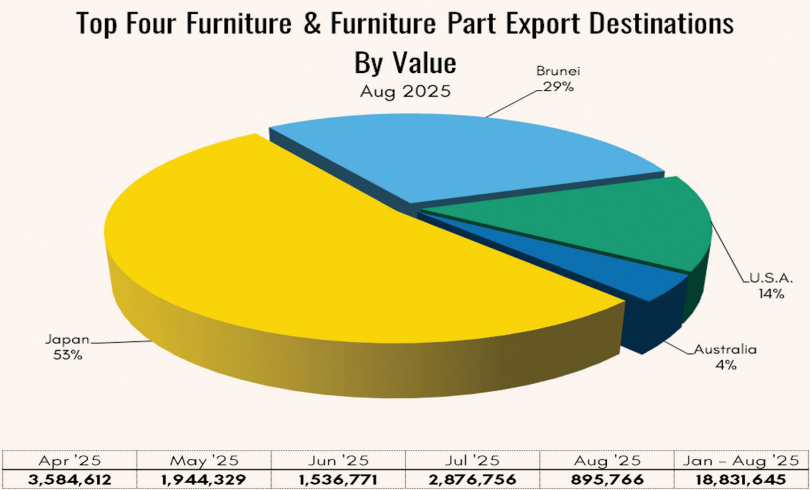
EXPORT VALUE OF
MOULDINGS BY
DESTINATION FROM
SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT KAYU KUMAI
MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI
SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之制模出口值



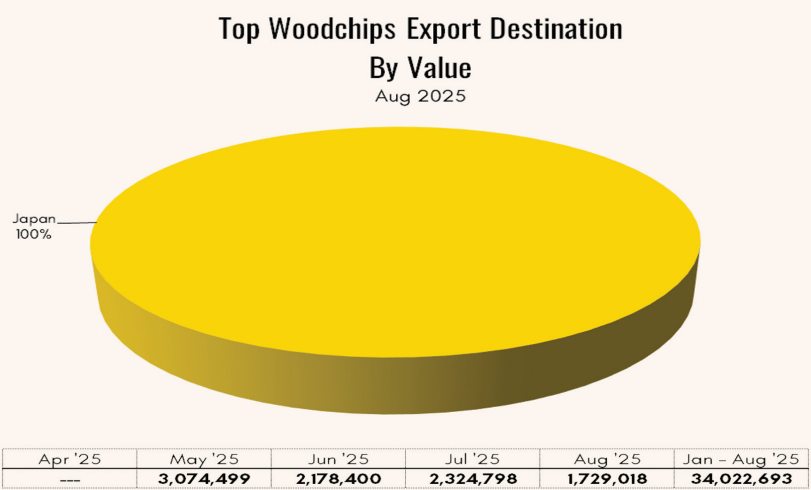
EXPORT VALUE OF
CHARCOAL & BRIQUETTE
BY DESTINATION FROM
SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT ARANG & BRIKET
MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI
SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之木炭和
煤球出口值



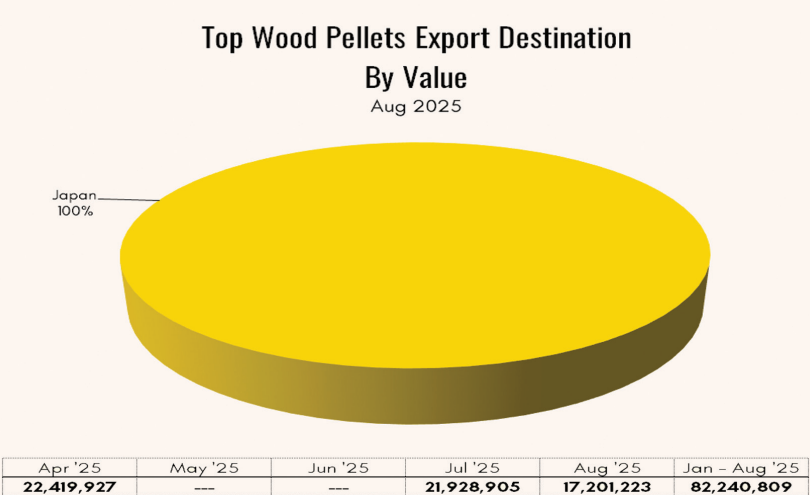
EXPORT VALUE OF
FURNITURE & FURNITURE
PARTS BY DESTINATION
FROM SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT PERABOT &
BAHAGIANNYA MENGIKUT
DESTINASI DARI SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之家具及
其零件出口值



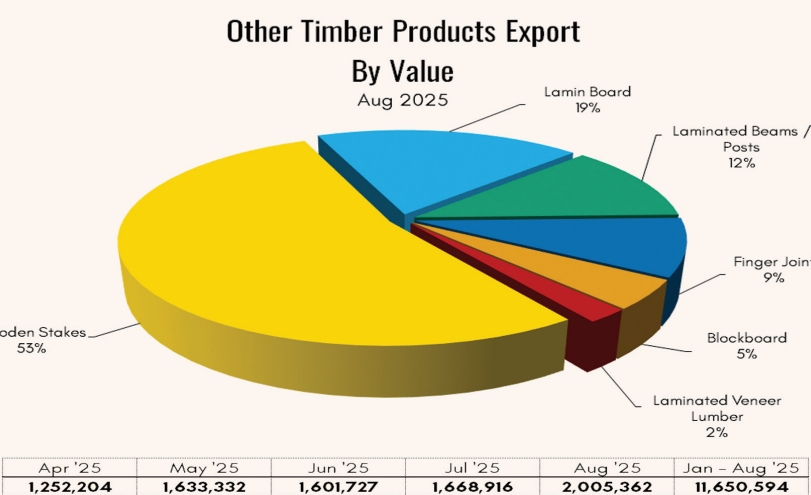
EXPORT VALUE OF
WOODCHIPS BY
DESTINATION FROM
SARAWAK
NILAI EKSPORT CIP KAYU
MENGIKUT DESTINASI DARI
SARAWAK
砂拉越至各目的地之木屑出口值



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 September 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

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(Please note that the figures for September 2025 Edition may be subject to change in the next Edition due to revised data from source)

OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME SEPTEMBER 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:

> Log Extraction - Tractor (Natural Forest)

STAT Trainer / Assessor : Mr Sang Sanjan

Date : 18 – 21 September 2025

Location : Berkakap Camp, Kapit

Company : Reliwood 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

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