

**PLAN OF ACTION (POA) FOR
THE ASEAN COOPERATION ON FOREST MANAGEMENT
(2016-2020)**

SECTOR : FORESTRY
SUB-SECTOR : -
RESPONSIBLE WORKING GROUP : ASEAN WORKING GROUP ON FOREST MANAGEMENT

STRATEGIC THRUST 1: ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT					
Action Programme	Activities	Sub Activities	Responsible ASOF Subsidiary Bodies/Lead Country	Timeline	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
1.1 Increase of Forest Resource Base and Conserving Existing Forest Resources, including Forest Biological Diversity.	1.1.1 Facilitate reforestation and afforestation programmes.		ASEAN Working Group on Forest Management (AWG-FM)	2016-2020	Annual extent of area reforested and afforested in ASEAN Member States (AMS) reported.
	1.1.2 Review and assess fiscal and other social and economic incentives for enhancing forest conservation and restoration.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	List of fiscal and other social and economic incentives in AMS for enhancing forest conservation and restoration compiled.
	1.1.3 Review and adapt national strategies, plans and programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.		ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (AWG-CITES and	2016-2020	National strategies, plans and programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in AMS adapted for implementation.

			WE), and AWG-FM		
1.2 - Enhancement of Sustainable Forest Management and Use the Resources within Safe Ecological Limits.	1.2.1 Review and assess the implementation of the ASEAN Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests through the online and offline Monitoring, Assessment, and Reporting Format for Sustainable Forest Management in ASEAN (MAR Format) at both the national and forest management unit (FMU) levels.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Biennial assessment report on the status of implementation of the ASEAN Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests in AMS prepared and shared with the ASEAN Secretariat.
	1.2.2 Undertake a comprehensive review of forest and forest-related laws and regulations at national level to ensure that the laws and regulations are consistent with and are not in conflict with other bodies of legislation and that they support and promote sustainable forest management.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	List of forest and forest-related laws and regulations at the national level that support and promote sustainable forest management compiled.
	1.2.3 Detect, prevent and suppress forest fires, including peatland fires to reduce risk of fires and transboundary haze pollution through the implementation of the ASEAN Peatland Management Initiative (APMI).		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Annual report on the frequency of forest fires, including peatland fires, and the status of implementation of the ASEAN Peatland Management Initiative (APMI) prepared and shared with ASOEN.

	<p>1.2.4 Develop effective mechanisms for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the commercial utilisation of forest genetic resources, including payment to local communities and indigenous people¹ arising from the use of traditional forest-related knowledge and technologies developed by them for sustainable forest management.</p>		<p>AWG-FM, AWG-CITES and WE, ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWG-SF)</p>	<p>2016-2020</p>	<p>Mechanisms for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the commercial utilisation of forest genetic resources, including payment schemes, to local communities and indigenous people¹ developed.</p>
	<p>1.2.5 Elaborate measures to prevent the introduction of invasive alien species to the forest ecosystems, and control or eradicate priority species.</p>		<p>AWG-FM</p>	<p>2016-2020</p>	<p>Measures to prevent the introduction of invasive alien species on the forest ecosystems developed and incorporated in forest management plans.</p>
	<p>1.2.6 Facilitate the integration of forest ecosystem and biological diversity values into national and local planning, development processes and poverty reduction strategies, and accounts.</p>		<p>AWG-FM, AWG-CITES and WE</p>	<p>2016-2020</p>	<p>Mechanisms to facilitate the integration of forest ecosystem and biological diversity values into national and local planning, development processes and poverty reduction strategies, and accounts developed.</p>
	<p>1.2.7 Promote inter-sectoral co-operation between the forestry sector and other sectors, including agriculture, environment, customs, and trade.</p>		<p>ASOF</p>	<p>2016-2020</p>	<p>Policies to promote inter-sectoral co-operation between forestry and other sectors formulated and implemented by AMS.</p>

¹ Not applicable to Thailand as it does not have indigenous people according to Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Thailand, Lao PDR and Indonesia.

1.3. Enhancement of Forest Management involving Community living within and surrounding the Forest for the Sustainability of the Forest and Prosperity of the People.	1.3.5 Support alternatives to deforestation driven by basic needs, such as subsistence farming and the reliance on fuelwood for energy.		AWG-FM, AWG-SF	2016-2020	Plans and/or policies developed by AMS to reduce subsistence farming and the use of fuelwood for energy significantly.
1.4. Adoption of Sustainable Management Practices for Non-wood Forest Products, such as Medicinal Plants, Rattan, Bamboo, etc.	1.4.1 Document sustainable management practices of non-wood products.		AWG-FM, AWG-SF	2016-2020	Documents of sustainable management practices of specific non-wood products prepared and shared among AMS.
	1.4.2 Promote cross-country learning in managing non-wood forest products sustainably.		AWG-FM, AWG-SF	2016-2020	Management practices of specific non-wood products in AMS are shared through the ASEAN Forest Clearing House Mechanism (CHM).
1.5. Strengthened Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG).	1.5.1 Finalise the Manual for Assessing Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) Implementation in AMS through pilot-testing.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	The Manual for Assessing FLEG Implementation in AMS approved by ASOF and endorsed by AMAF.
	1.5.2 Monitor, assess and report periodically the progress in implementing the Manual for Assessing FLEG Implementation in AMS.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Biennial assessment report on the status of implementation of the Manual prepared and shared with the ASEAN Secretariat.
	1.5.3 Conduct needs assessment at the national level for FLEG implementation		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Needs assessment for implementing FLEG in AMS at national level conducted and reported.

	1.5.4 Prepare a handbook on good practices of FLEG for the ASEAN region.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	A handbook on good practices of FLEG in ASEAN, based on experiences and lessons learned in implementing the Manual for Assessing FLEG Implementation in AMS prepared.
	1.5.5 Strengthen the implementation of forest law enforcement, governance, transparency and the rule of law.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Strategic measures to strengthen enforcement of forest law and governance in AMS developed and implemented.
	1.5.7 Establish a regional clearing house mechanism to enable the sharing and exchange of information on legal and illegal activities in the forestry sector in the region.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	The capability of the ASEAN Forest Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) to share and exchange information on legal and illegal activities among AMS developed.
	1.5.8 Develop a framework for enforcement co-operation at the ASEAN level that deals with transnational illegal forestry activities and to facilitate cross-border enforcement.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Rules and procedures to facilitate cross-border enforcement on transnational illegal forestry activities established.
1.6. Mobilisation of Finance and other Resources for Enhancing Sustainable Forest Management and Development of Forest-based Products.	1.6.1 Mobilise significantly measurable increased in investments at all levels to finance sustainable forest management.		ASOF, AWG-FM	2016-2020	Strategic measures to mobilise additional investment to finance sustainable forest management developed and implemented.
	1.6.2 Encourage incentives that		AWG-FM,	2016-	List of incentives that stimulate

	stimulate investments in sustainable forest management and the development of forest-based products.		ASEAN Working Group on Forest Products Development (AWG-FPD)	2020	investments in sustainable forest management and the development of forest-based products in AMS compiled.
	1.6.3 Further promote payment of ecosystem services derived from forests.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Programmes for payment of ecosystem services in AMS prepared and shared among AMS.

STRATEGIC THRUST 3: ENHANCING THE FORESTRY SECTOR RESILIENCE AND ROLE IN CLIMATE CHANGE					
Action Programme	Activities	Sub Activities	Responsible ASOF Subsidiary Bodies/Lead Country	Timeline	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
3.1. Integration of Climate Change in the Forestry Sector.	3.1.2 Assess the impacts of climate change and risks on forest biological diversity at the genetics, species, habitat and ecosystem levels.		AWG-FCC, AWG-FM	2016-2025	Periodic reports on the impacts of climate change and risks on forest biological diversity in AMS prepared. Mechanisms to address the impacts of climate change and risks on forest biological diversity in AMS developed.
3.2. Promotion of Forestry and Climate Change Adaptation	3.2.1 Document the role of coastal forests and mangroves in providing protection for people and assets against storms and cyclones, tsunami and other natural disaster.		AWG-FM	2016-2020	Contributions of coastal forests and mangroves in providing protection against storms and cyclones, tsunami and other natural disaster in AMS documented.
	3.2.2 Conduct periodic assessment of forest health and productivity against fire, forest diebacks, the spread of pests and diseases, and invasive species.		AWG-FM	2016-2025	Periodic assessment reports of forest health and productivity in AMS conducted.
	3.2.3 Address and strengthen		AWG-FM	2021-	Approaches for integrating

	the links between forestry and food production through an integrated approach in landscape management, especially watershed management.			2025	forestry with food production studied and documented.
3. 3. Enhancement of Forestry in Climate Change Mitigation	3.3.1 Monitor, assess and report periodically changes in forest carbon stock.		AWG-FM, AWG-FCC	2016-2025	Periodic Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) report on the status of forest carbon stock in AMS prepared.
	3.3.2 Promote the enhancement of sinks through afforestation and reforestation.		AWG-FM	2016-2025	Extent of annual area afforested or reforested as sinks in AMS documented.

STRATEGIC THRUST 4: INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT					
Action Programme	Activities	Sub Activities	Responsible ASOF Subsidiary Bodies/Lead Country	Timeline	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
4.1. Promotion and Implementation of Training Programmes in Forestry.	4.1.1 Identify existing training facilities and available training programmes in the region and develop mechanisms for sharing of such training facilities and programmes.		AWG-FM, AWG-FPD, AWG-SF, AWG-CITES and WE	2016-2025	List of existing training facilities and available training programmes, including mechanisms for sharing them, compiled.
	4.1.2 Conduct training of		AWG-FM	2016-	Report on the training of trainers

	trainers on the online Monitoring, Assessment, and Reporting Format for Sustainable Forest Management in ASEAN (MAR Format).			2020	from AMS on the online MAR Format prepared and disseminated.
	4.1.3 Undertake professional training programmes for judges in forest legislation, particularly those at the level of courts that deal with forest and forest-related cases, as well as for customs and border guards.		AWG-FM, AWG-CITES and WE	2016-2025	List of conducted professional trainings in forest legislation for judges, customs and border guards in AMS compiled and disseminated.
	4.2.1 Facilitate cross-learning among AMS in enhancing sustainable forest management practices, combating illegal forestry activities and timber trade, including the EU-FLEGT VPA process; and in improving the range and quality of wood products.		AWG-FM, AWG-FPD, AWG-SF	2016-2025	Practices of sustainable forest management, including combating illegal forestry activities and timber trade, and in improving the range and quality of wood products shared through the ASEAN Forest Clearing House Mechanism (CHM).
4.2. Enhancement of Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned.	4.2.2 Conduct workshops, seminars, and webinars, including focused group discussions, on topics affecting the sustainability of the forest resources and the forest-based industries in the region.	- Utilize ASEAN Forest Clearing House mechanism as sharing platform	AWG-FM, AWG-FPD, AWG-SF, AWG-CITES and WE	2016-2025	List of conducted workshops, seminars, webinars and focused group discussions compiled and disseminated.
4.3. Strengthened Research and Development (R&D).	4.3.1 Enhance R&D co-operation and technology transfer among forestry research institutions in the region.		AWG-FM, AWG-FPD, AWG-SF	2016-2025	Annual reviews of R&D partnerships in the region conducted and to increase R&D resources significantly.

	4.3.2 Strengthen the networking of forestry research institutions within and with those outside the region.		AWG-FM, AWG-FPD, AWG-SF	2016-2025	Mechanisms for networking of forestry research institutions within and with those outside the region developed.
	4.3.3 Formulate and implement arrangements for exchange of experts and scientists, and research materials and information in compliance with national legislation.		AWG-FM, AWG-FPD, AWG-SF	2016-2020	Rules and procedures for facilitating exchange of experts and scientists, and research materials and information by AMS established in compliance with national legislation.

THRUST 5: STRENGTHENING ASEAN'S JOINT APPROACHES ON REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AFFECTING THE FORESTRY SECTOR					
Action Programme	Activities	Sub Activities	Responsible ASOF Subsidiary Bodies/Lead Country	Timeline	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
.5.1. Strengthened ASEAN Co-ordinated Actions at Regional and International Fora.	5.1.1 Support and contribute to international and regional initiatives to reduce carbon emission from deforestation and forest degradation.		AWG-FCC, AWG-FM	2016-2025	Mechanisms for regional co-operation to contribute to reduce carbon emission from deforestation and forest degradation developed.
	5.1.2 Invite the international community to participate and contribute to ASEAN's efforts in		AWG-FCC, AWG-FM	2016-2025	Engagement with the international community to contribute to afforestation and reforestation,

	afforestation and reforestation, as well as to reduce deforestation and forest degradation.				and reduce deforestation and forest degradation conducted.
	5.1.3 Strengthen regional and sub-regional collaboration in the implementation of agreed outcomes of forest and forest-related agreements and fora (UNFF, CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD international, CITES, etc).		AWG-FM, AWG-CITES and WE, AWG-FCC	2016-2025	ASEAN level report on implementation of agreed outcomes of forest and forest-related international agreements and fora prepared and disseminated.
5.2. Enhancement of ASEAN Joint Approaches in Addressing Regional and International Forestry Issues.	5.2.1 Exchange information on forest and forest-related issues and challenges affecting the interest of AMS, including experiences and lessons learned in addressing them.	-	AWG-FM, AWG-FCC	2016-2025	Procedures to facilitate exchange of information on forest and forest-related issues and challenges established.
	5.2.2 Adopt and articulate ASEAN common positions and influence the outcomes of the deliberations at international and regional fora (UNFF, CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CITES, etc).	- Develop ASEAN Statement to UNFF	AW-FM, AWG-CITES and WE, AWG-FCC	2016-2025	Mechanisms for adopting and articulating ASEAN common positions at international and regional fora developed.