

SEEDLINKS

THE NEWS PULSE OF MALAYSIAN TIMBER CERTIFICATION COUNCIL

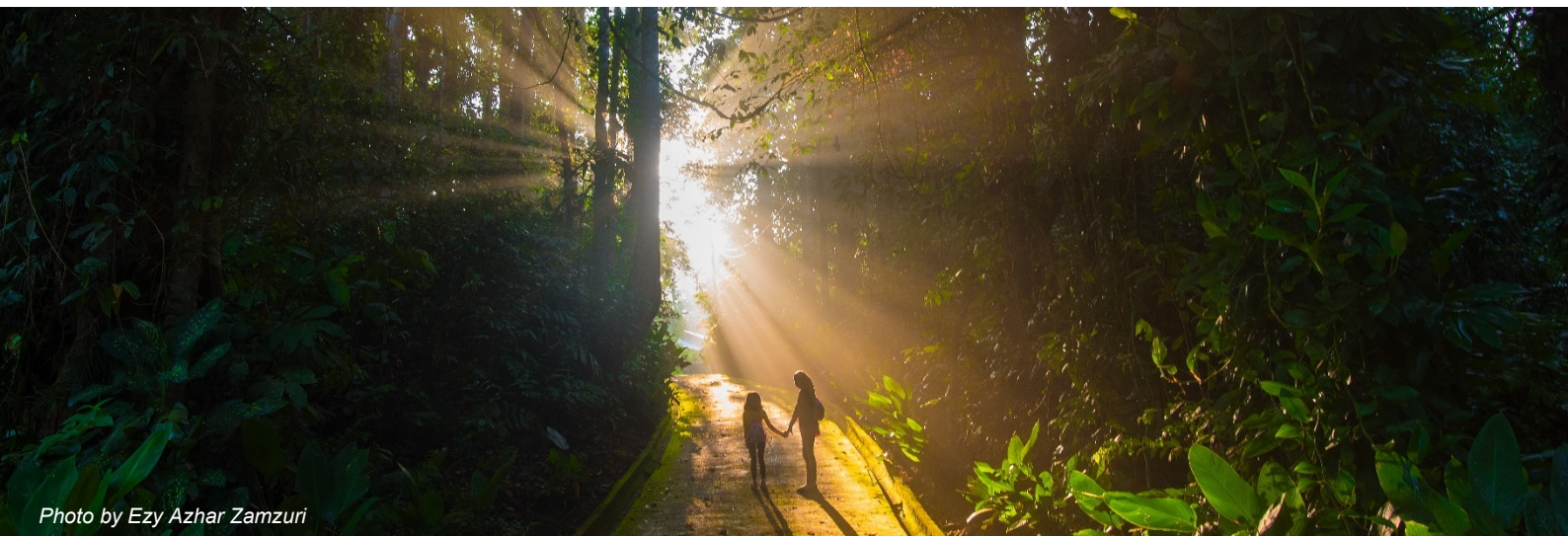


Photo by Ezy Azhar Zamzuri

► Page 3

WORLD'S BIGGEST FOREST CERTIFICATION SCHEME ACKNOWLEDGES MTCC'S OUTSTANDING CERTIFICATION EFFORT

The recognition was given to MTCC for the marked increase of 957,583 ha of MTCS/PEFC-certified forest area from September 2019 to September 2020. The total certified forest area in 2019 was 4,315,151 ha and increased to 5,272,734 ha with the certification of 10 forest management units.

► Page 4

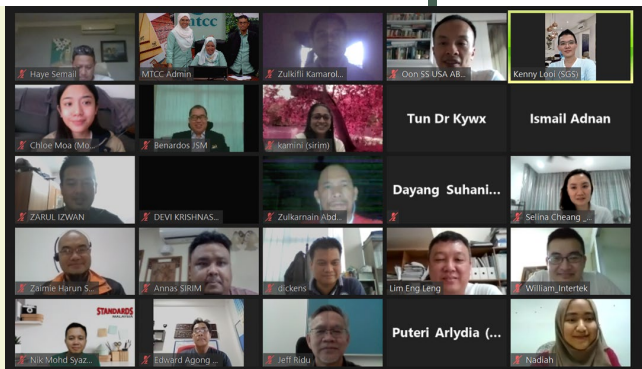
PEFC RECEIVES HIGHEST RATING AGAINST ASEAN RAI

The PEFC has received the highest rating against the ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (ASEAN RAI) which was launched on 3 November. The 10 Guidelines of the ASEAN RAI are part of a broad range of initiatives aiming to ensure that investments in the food, agriculture and forestry (FAF) sectors in the ASEAN region comply with international frameworks, yet are regionally relevant and contextualised.

► Page 7

APPLICATION DATE OF MC&I SFM EXTENDED TO 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

Taking into consideration the delay in a number of planned activities including scheduling of training and audit caused by restrictions due to the Covid-19 outbreak as well as feedback from PEFC of a longer time needed for the endorsement process, the MTCC Board of Trustees on 1 October approved the extension of the date of entry into force of the *MC&I SFM* from 1 January 2021 to **1 September 2021**.



► Page 9

ONLINE CHAIN OF CUSTODY TRAINING COURSE

MTCC organised a two-day Chain of Custody (CoC) Training Course for CoC auditors, reviewers and certification decision makers on 9 to 10 December.

SEEDLINKS is a quarterly e-newsletter published by MTCC and is available for download at www.mtcc.com.my



A NOTE FROM THE CEO

Dear Reader,

Amidst the ups and downs of the pandemic impact, the last quarter of this year has brought positive vibe to MTCC and certification efforts in general. The synergistic effort and hard work from the forest managers and stakeholders in managing the forest under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) have paid off when MTCC was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation from the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Scheme (PEFC) for the greatest increase in PEFC-certified forest area on 12 November.

The recognition was given to MTCC for the marked increase of MTCS/PEFC-certified forest area from 4,315,151 ha in September 2019 to 5,272,734 ha in September 2020. This covers the certification of 10 forest management units (FMUs) in Johor, Sabah and Sarawak, in addition to the existing 20 FMUs, many of which have been maintaining their certification for over 10 years such as the FMU for the states of Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor and Terengganu, Anap-Muput FMU in Sarawak and Segaliud Lokan FMU in Sabah.

MTCC's achievement resonates with PEFC's accomplishment of receiving the highest rating against the 10 ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (ASEAN RAI) on 3 November. ASEAN RAI, which is linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, steers investors and industry players on investments to an existing landscape of voluntary sustainability standards and certifications that implement responsible practices along value chains in ASEAN's growing food, agriculture and forestry sectors. With the rating, organisations which are already adhering to PEFC such as MTCC could also easily demonstrate alignment with the ASEAN RAI.

The December issue of Time Magazine has named 2020 as the worst year ever. Malaysians look forward to 2020 with great hope and anticipation for the country to become a self-sufficient industrialised nation as enshrined within our Vision 2020 launched by the Fourth Prime Minister of Malaysia in 1991. Who would have thought that a tiny, intangible virus could turned our world topsy-turvy? The unprecedented impact of Coronavirus pandemic has left us clueless and has literally brought many economies to a grinding halt. It has totally changed the way we live and move. It has forced us to be creative and innovative, and have realistic expectations in whatever we do.

The pandemic is far from over. However, tough times don't last. Tough people do. So, let's take the experience we've been through together as a valuable life lesson to continue adapting to change and move on.

On behalf of MTCC, I wish you brighter days ahead in 2021. Happy New Year and stay safe!

Yong Teng Koon
Chief Executive Officer

GENERAL NEWS

WORLD'S BIGGEST FOREST CERTIFICATION SCHEME ACKNOWLEDGES MTCC'S OUTSTANDING FOREST CERTIFICATION EFFORT

MTCC has marked another milestone when it was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation from the PEFC for the greatest increase in PEFC-certified forest area at the virtual PEFC Awards Ceremony on 11 November. MTCC is the National Governing Body that implements the MTCS endorsed by PEFC since 2009. Based in Geneva, PEFC is the biggest non-profit, non-governmental organisation of forest certification system in the world.

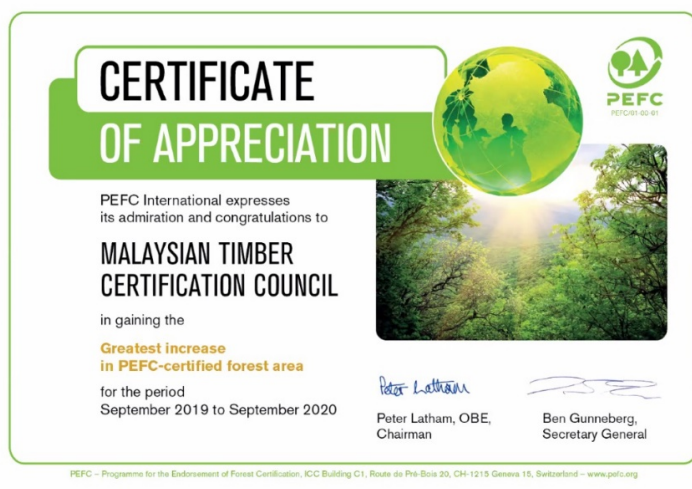
The recognition was given to MTCC for the marked increase of 957,583 ha of MTCS/PEFC-certified forest area from September 2019 to September 2020. The total certified forest area in 2019 was 4,315,151 ha and increased to 5,272,734 ha with the certification of 10 FMUs in Johor, Sabah and Sarawak. This is in addition to the existing 20 FMUs, many of which have been maintaining their certification for over 10 years such as the FMU for the states of Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor and Terengganu, Anap-Muput FMU in Sarawak and Segaliud Lokan FMU in Sabah. Despite the overall increase, a number of FMUs have their certification suspended and withdrawn over the years due to non-conformity with the sustainable forest management standard.

The virtual award presentation ceremony was hosted by PEFC International in conjunction with its 25th General Assembly held on 11 November. The Certificate of Appreciation was presented by PEFC International Chairman, Peter Latham and PEFC International Secretary General, Ben Gunneberg.

In the award acceptance remarks, MTCC Chairman, Kamaruzaman Mohamad dedicated the achievement to the concerted effort and commitment from the forest managers and stakeholders in managing the forest sustainably under the MTCS.

"We dedicate this award to everyone who has been working tirelessly behind the scene - the forest managers in particular, and all our stakeholders - civil society and governmental organisations, industry, unions and academician - who have been supporting our efforts to ensure sustainable forest management is implemented, independently assessed to the highest standards and continuously monitored for improvement. Without this shared vision and commitment to sustain our forests for the future, this achievement would not have been possible," he said. Present at the event was MTCC CEO, Yong Teng Koon.

Apart from certified forest areas, a total of 382 timber companies have been certified under the MTCS.



PEFC RECEIVES HIGHEST RATING AGAINST ASEAN RAI

The PEFC has received the highest rating against the ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (ASEAN RAI) which was launched on 3 November. The 10 Guidelines of the ASEAN RAI are part of a broad range of initiatives aiming to ensure that investments in the food, agriculture and forestry (FAF) sectors in the ASEAN region comply with international frameworks, yet are regionally relevant and contextualised.

Twelve selected existing FAF industry standards and certifications were assessed against the 10 Guidelines. In the forestry industry sector, PEFC was rated 95% while the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) 90% – PEFC was rated higher due to its regional approach. The PEFC Sustainable Forest Management principles were used for this mapping exercise where the first five principles aligned with the ASEAN RAI Guidelines on food nutrition, economic development, natural resources, climate change and rule of law and governance. The sixth PEFC principle (maintenance or appropriate enhancement of socio-economic functions and conditions) emphasises economic development, support to marginalised populations (women, young people, indigenous people) as well as tenure rights and data collection. A partial match was observed with Guideline 10 (concerning regional approaches) when two of the six PEFC principles include specific references to regional policy and approaches. Overall, the PEFC Sustainable Forest Management principles aligned with 9.5 out of 10 of the ASEAN RAI Guidelines.

With the rating, organisations which are already adhering to these selected standards such as MTCC could easily demonstrate alignment with the ASEAN RAI.

Guides FAF Investors

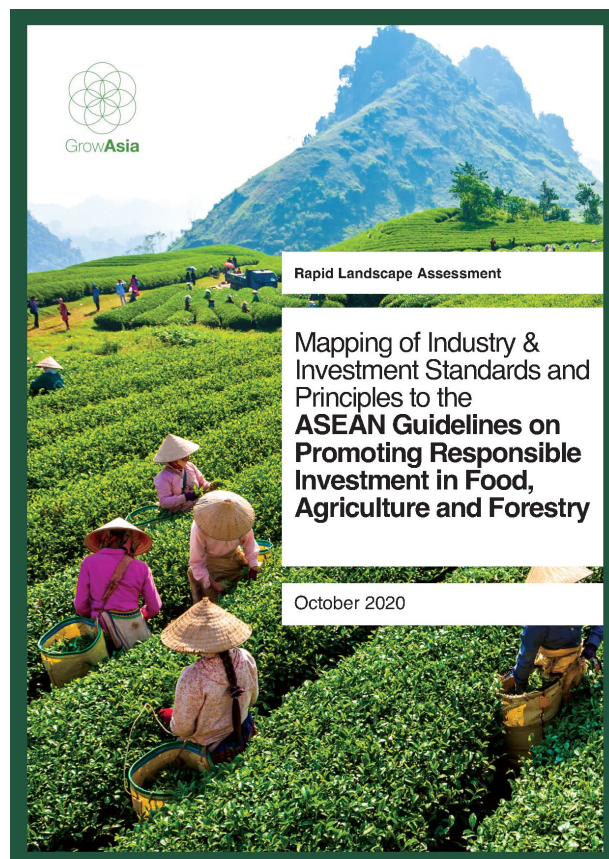
The ASEAN RAI Guidelines were grounded in the Committee on World Food Security's Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFSRAI), which were endorsed in Rome in October 2015. The ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) adopted the ASEAN RAI in October 2018 following a nine-month multi-stakeholder consultation process led by Grow Asia – a unique multi-stakeholder partnership platform that brings together farmers, governments, private sector, NGOs and other stakeholders in

Southeast Asia to lift the productivity, profitability and environmental sustainability of smallholder agriculture in the region.

The Guidelines lead agribusiness, governments, financial institutions and producers on investments to an existing landscape of voluntary sustainability standards and certifications that help guide responsible practices along value chains in ASEAN's growing FAF sectors.

The Guidelines are linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically, Goal 1 (to end poverty), Goal 2 (to end hunger), Goal 5 (to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls), Goal 8 (to promote decent work and economic growth), Goal 10 (to reduce inequality within and among countries), Goal 12 (to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns), Goal 13 (to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts), Goal 14 (to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources) and Goal 15 (to protect and restore ecosystems and life on land).

Source: Adapted from Grow Asia's report on Rapid Land Assessment – Mapping of Industry and Investment Standards and Principles to the ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (October 2020).



CERTIFICATION UPDATES



STATISTIC *(as of 31 December 2020)*

Total certified forest under MTCS:
5,272,734.84 ha

22 Forest Management Units (FMUs)
covering **5,139,745.36 ha**

8 Forest Plantation Management Units (FPMUs)
covering **132,989.48 ha**

381 PEFC Certificate for
Chain of Custody Holders

NEW CERTIFICATE FOR CHAIN OF CUSTODY

No.	Company	Certificate No.	Product scope	Contact
1	Syarikat Jaya Waso Dungun Sdn. Bhd.	PSV-MTCC-101065	Purchase of PEFC certified logs, sawmilling and sales of PEFC certified sawn timber and sawmill waste (slabs, off-cuts and sawdust).	+6012 551 7301 +6012 938 8778 jayawaso@yahoo.com
2	United Woodwork & Construction (M) Sdn. Bhd.	SIRIM - COC 00237	1) Purchase of PEFC certified sawn timber and plywood; 2) Manufacture and sales of wooden furniture using the physical separation and percentage-based method.	+604 3561 151 anntan.unitedwoodwork@gmail.com /
3	Nets Printwork Sdn. Bhd.	SGS-PEFC/COC-MY20/181103 0454	Purchase of PEFC certified paper and paper board, printing, outsource (finishing work and printing) and sales of PEFC certified books, magazines, brochures, packaging products and other printed matters.	+ 603 8942 9858 info@netsgroup.com.my.
4	Dagangterus Sdn. Bhd.	SGS-PEFC/COC-MY20/181103 0456	1) Purchase of PEFC certified logs. 2) Purchase and sales of PEFC certified sawn timber using physical separation method.	+603 2072 2141 elena-ong@marubeni.com
5	KS Jaya Timber Sdn. Bhd.	PSV-MTCC-101066	Purchase of PEFC certified and PEFC controlled sources logs; manufacture and sales of PEFC certified and PEFC controlled sources sawn timber, wood chips and wood waste (slabs, off-cuts, shavings and sawdust).	+609 966 9603 ksjaya9603@yahoo.com
6	Rhong Khen Timbers Sdn. Bhd.	PSV-MTCC-101067	Purchase of PEFC certified and PEFC controlled sources logs; manufacture, kiln drying and sales of PEFC certified and PEFC controlled sources sawn timber, wood chips and wood waste	+609 681 5811 ie_rtk@yahoo.com

			(slabs, off-cuts, shavings and sawdust).	
7	Tien Chung Trading Sdn. Bhd.	PSV-MTCC-101068	Purchase of PEFC certified sawmill waste (off-cuts, slabs and wood strip); manufacture and sales of PEFC certified wood chips.	+603 31678801/ 8802 tienchung1969@gmail.com
8	Unikarya Wood Marketing	PSV-MTCC-101069	Purchase of PEFC certified logs, manufacture and sales of PEFC certified sawn timber, wood chips and wood waste (slabs, off-cuts, shavings and sawdust).	+6019 9815 913 akkthey@gmail.com
9	HMH Recycle Sdn. Bhd.	PSV-MTCC-101070	Trading of PEFC certified sawntimber and sawmill waste.	+6019 9199 163 recyclesb@yahoo.com
10	Lian Hin Jaya Sdn. Bhd.	PSV-MTCC-101071	Purchase of PEFC certified logs and sawntimber, sawmilling and sales of PEFC certified sawntimber and sawmill waste (slabs, off-cuts and sawdust).	+6019 9223 893 +6019 8195 836 lhjayasb@gmail.com
11	H. G. Timber Merchant Sdn. Bhd.	PSV-MTCC-101072	Purchase of PEFC certified logs, kiln drying, manufacture, sales and trading of PEFC certified sawn timber, mouldings, wood chips and wood waste (slabs, off-cuts, shavings and sawdust).	+609 329 2326 hgtimber99@yahoo.com





APPLICATION DATE OF MC&I SFM EXTENDED TO 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

The Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (*MC&I SFM*) was launched on 1 April following its approval by the MTCC Board of Trustees on 5 March. The *MC&I SFM* is the outcome of the review of the *MC&I (Natural Forest)* incorporating the requirements of the *MC&I Forest Plantation.v2* into a single document. The review was conducted by the Standards Review Committee (SRC) comprising 15 members representing the various stakeholder groups from the three regions in Malaysia.

The *MC&I SFM* was approved with the application date of 1 January 2021. However, taking into consideration the delay in a number of planned activities including scheduling of training and audit caused by restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak as well as feedback from PEFC of a longer time needed for the endorsement process, the MTCC Board of Trustees on 1 October approved the extension of the date of entry into force of the *MC&I SFM* from 1 January 2021 to **1 September 2021**.

The endorsement process of the MTCS by PEFC is currently underway and we will keep stakeholders updated of its progress. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all stakeholders for your commitment in the pursuit of sustainability in forest management and we look forward to your continuous support. Should you need further clarification on this matter, please feel free to contact Ms Siti Syaliza Mustapha (siti@mtcc.com.my) or Mr Melvin Ku (melvin@mtcc.com.my).

The Transition Plan for Use of MC&I SFM

Users are required to take note of the following transition plan for use of MC&I SFM standard:

Timeline	Transition Plan
1 April 2020	Launch of <i>MC&I SFM</i>
1 September – 31 December 2020	<p>For existing certificate holders: Gap assessment on <i>MC&I SFM</i> during surveillance audit against <i>MC&I(Natural Forest)/MC&I Forest Plantation.v2</i></p> <p>For new application: Use of <i>MC&I SFM</i> is recommended</p>
1 January 2021	All audits to be conducted against <i>MC&I SFM</i>
31 August 2021	Any outstanding non-conformity against <i>MC&I(Natural Forest)/MC&I Forest Plantation.v2</i> must be closed
1 September 2021	Entry into force of <i>MC&I SFM</i>

All notified certification bodies (CBs) are required to adhere to the following requirements:

- Beginning **1 September 2020**, all surveillance audits against the *MC&I(Natural Forest)* or *MC&I Forest Plantation.v2* shall be conducted together with a gap assessment against the *MC&I SFM*.
- By **1 January 2021**, all audits for existing certificate holders and new applicants shall use the *MC&I SFM* as the audit requirement. Applications for audits against the *MC&I(Natural Forest)* and *MC&I Forest Plantation.v2* **after 1 January 2021 shall not be accepted.**

All certificate holders for forest management certification (natural forest and/ or forest plantation) under the MTCS are required to adhere to the following:

1. Certificate holders shall make the necessary preparation and amendments at the management and operational levels in accordance with the *MC&I SFM* before 1 January 2021. All audits after 1 January 2021 shall be assessed against the *MC&I SFM*.
2. All Non-conformities raised against the *MC&I(Natural Forest)* and/or *MC&I Forest Plantation.v2* during surveillance audit **must be closed before 31 August 2021.**
3. Upon successful transition, certificate holders will be issued with a new certificate against the *MC&I SFM* with the existing certification cycle maintained.

All new applicants for forest management certification under the MTCS are required to adhere to the following:

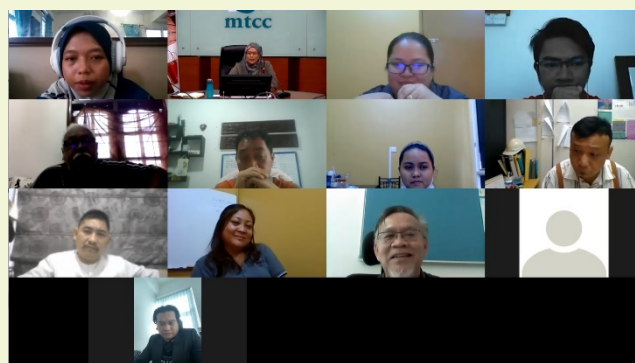
1. All applications for forest management certification received after **1 September 2021** shall be audited against the *MC&I SFM*.
2. Applicants found to comply with the requirements of the *MC&I SFM* will be awarded with a new certificate valid for **five (5) years**.

ONLINE AUDITOR TRAINING COURSE ON FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

To introduce the newly revised MC&I SFM standard and as part of the efforts to increase the pool of qualified auditors, MTCC organised an auditor Training Course on Forest Management Certification on 13-15 October. The conduct of the training course had to be adjusted to be held online due to the sudden increase of COVID-19 cases in September.

The course was attended by 13 auditors from DIMA Certification Sdn. Bhd., Nesus Certification Sdn. Bhd. and Haza Eco Consultancy and Services as well as independent auditors and representatives from the Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia. The training was conducted by in-house trainers from the MTCC Forest Management Unit, comprising Senior Manager, Siti Syaliza Mustapha, Senior Executive, Melvin Ku and Executive, Haniff Salleh. Two external experts, Dr. Samsudin Musa and Dr. Zahid Emby were also engaged to provide training and insights on specific auditing procedures relating to forest management practices and social aspect.

The training was aimed at increasing understanding on the requirements of MC&I SFM standard, the assessment processes involved in conducting an audit, requirements for group certification as well as the use of PEFC trademark logo, and accreditation for auditors to conduct audit under the MTCS.



Participants of the online training



MTCC Senior Manager (Forest Management) Siti Syaliza Mustapha conducting the training



Training in progress

CHAIN OF CUSTODY



ONLINE CHAIN OF CUSTODY TRAINING COURSE

MTCC organised a two-day Chain of Custody (CoC) Training Course for CoC auditors, reviewers and certification decision makers on 9 to 10 December. The online training was attended by 23 participants from various certification bodies including two participants from STANDARDS MALAYSIA, the national accreditation body.

The training was conducted to fulfill the training requirements as stipulated in paras 6.1.2.1 and 6.1.1.4.3 of the PEFC ST 2003:2020 Requirements for Certification Bodies operating Certification. This training is of special importance for the auditors, reviewers and certification decision makers to be familiar and knowledgeable of the newly revised PEFC ST 2002:2020 Chain of Custody of Forest and Tree Based Products-Requirements.

The training was conducted by MTCC Manager (Product), Sabrina Mawasi and MTCC Senior Executive (Product), Akmal Saarani – who are both PEFC qualified CoC trainers/ experts.



MTCC Manager (Product), Sabrina Mawasi conducting the briefing



MTCC Senior Executive (Product), Akmal Saarani answering questions raised by participants

COMMUNICATION/ OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



MTCC ORGANISES WEBINAR ON MALAYSIAN AND GERMAN TIMBER TRADE

The COVID-19 pandemic is changing business landscapes across the globe. Apart from posing numerous challenges for the forestry and timber industry players to accept and adapt to the new normal in doing things, the pandemic is also bringing in new opportunities to explore for both producing and importing countries.

In light of the global health and economic conundrums, MTCC organised a webinar titled “Timber Trade 2020: Malaysia and Germany – Status, Challenges, Perspectives” at its premises in Kuala Lumpur on 27 October. The webinar was held to give the latest update on timber trade in Malaysia and Germany to the industry players and stakeholders in both countries as well as to inspire them to prepare for change and embrace the new normal in doing business.

Germany and the European Union (EU) have been important business partners for Malaysian tropical timber and furniture industries for decades. Malaysian timber-based agencies such as MTCC and the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) have been working closely with the German Timber Trade Federation (GTTF) over the years to facilitate and promote the trade of Malaysian timber products to the Deutschland.

In his welcoming remarks, MTCC CEO, Yong Teng Koon highlighted the rising awareness among industry players in the EU markets on Malaysia’s sustainable forest management efforts and recognition of the MTCS implemented by MTCC.

“With the increasing awareness on the need to ensure sustainability, timber certification has been promoted as a marketing tool to maintain and improve market access for our timber products. We at MTCC are happy to see the increased awareness in the EU markets of our efforts towards sustainable forest management and for their recognition of the MTCS,” he said.

Three topics were presented at the webinar which was moderated by KaiserCommunication GmbH (Germany) founder and CEO Guntram Kaiser. MTC Deputy CEO, Wong Kah Cane talked about the current overview on timber trade between Malaysia and Germany and the EU countries in general with a paper titled “Overview on Latest Developments in Malaysia-EU/Germany Timber Trade.” Thomas Goebel, Secretary General of the European Timber Trade Federation and GTTF Chief Executive Officer, presented a topic on “Market Development in the Timber Trade 2020” where he briefly talked about Germany’s timber trade progress amidst the coronavirus situation. Yong, the third speaker, delivered a topic on “Update on Sustainable Forest Management and Timber Certification in Malaysia.” The presentations were followed by a Q&A session.

A total of 82 participants comprising the PEFC/MTCS CoC certificate holders, representatives of various timber associations, timber traders as well as lecturers and students from both countries joined the 90-minute webinar.



Participants of the webinar



NEWS ACROSS THE GLOBE

ITTO STUDIES RECOVERY TIMEFRAME IN TROPICAL TIMBER SECTOR

The International Tropical Timber Trade Organisation (ITTO) recently developed a model for forecasting trends in tropical timber supply and demand with a view to predicting regional surpluses and deficits of timber supply that incentives might help address. The model has now been used to examine the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on tropical timber supply and trade and to estimate the likely time required for the sector to recover to pre-pandemic levels. The preliminary findings of the report highlight that Latin America has been most affected by the crisis, followed by Southeast Asia. It says that production in the hard-hit tropical timber sector is likely to recover to pre-crisis volumes by 2026. The full report of the study will be available in 2021.

Full article:

https://www.itto.int/news/2020/11/05/itto_modelling_examines_recovery_timeframe_in_tropical_timber_sector/

WOOD REDUCES ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

A new study by researchers at Aalto University, Finland and the Finnish Environment Institute has discovered that shifting to wood as a building construction material would significantly reduce the environmental impact of building construction. The results show that if 80% of new residential buildings in Europe are made of wood, and wood are used in the structures, cladding, surfaces, and furnishings of houses, all together the buildings would store 55 million tonnes of carbon dioxide a year. That is equivalent to about 47% of the annual emissions of Europe's cement industry. When the energy used in housing comes increasingly from renewable sources, the significance of the construction phase of the building's total environmental impact grows even more. However, wood construction is sustainable only if the wood comes from forests that are grown in a sustainable manner.

Full article:

www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/11/201102110010.htm

PEFC LAUNCHES "FASHIONS CHANGE, FORESTS STAY" CAMPAIGN

The PEFC has launched 'Fashions Change, Forests Stay', a campaign to raise industry awareness on the importance of sourcing materials from sustainably managed forests. Launched in late October, the campaign is expected to draw attention amongst fashion brands and retailers to make responsible procurement choices by sourcing natural forest fibres such as viscose, acetate and lyocell from sustainably managed forests. PEFC says that natural and renewable forest fibres have a huge potential to help the fashion industry meet their commitments in tackling climate change, but must be sourced responsibly from a sustainable origin which can be proved via the PEFC chain of custody certification mechanism.

Full article:

<https://www.innovationintextiles.com/pefc-launches-new-fashions-change-forests-stay-campaign/>

TROPICAL TIMBER HIT HARD BY PANDEMIC

The preliminary findings of a report presented by the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) Secretariat show that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a drastic impact on tropical timber trade, with log exports down by 28% compared with 2019, sawnwood down by 16% and tropical plywood down by 8%. The ITTO Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation, which was presented at the fifth and final day of the 56th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council in November, provides data on the production and trade of tropical forest products and the status of tropical forests in ITTO member countries, as well as an overview of production and trade statistics for all timber products in these countries. The report says that in addition to declines in primary timber products such as logs and sawnwood, all major tropical exporters of secondary processed wood products except Vietnam are expected to suffer double-digit declines (by value) in 2020 due to the pandemic. The full report is to be released mid-2021.

Full article:

https://www.itto.int/top_stories/2020/11/14/tropical_timber_trade_takes_big_hit_from_pandemic/

MALAYSIA TO SHOWCASE THE ROLE OF HER FOREST IN BATTLING GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI

Malaysia's success stories of sustainable forest management efforts will be the main highlight at Expo 2020 Dubai which is scheduled to be held at the Dubai Exhibition Centre, Dubai, UAE from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Themed "Energising Sustainability", the Malaysia Pavilion will feature a rainforest canopy-inspired net zero carbon setting, reflecting Malaysia's seriousness and commitment in sustainable development, especially with regard to climate change mitigation and forest conservation.

Themed "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future", the world expo is the first to be held in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia regions, with an anticipation of 25 million visitors. Malaysia will be among 192 participating countries at the expo which will feature permanent displays, as well as a line-up of activities such as showcases, pocket talks, summits, forums, cultural performances, demos and 26 weekly thematic business programmes.

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation is the lead ministry for Malaysia's participation while the Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Centre (MGTC) is the implementing agency. A total of 22 government ministries, 40 agencies and 5 state governments are expected to represent the country at the expo.

Full article:

<https://mtcc.com.my/malaysia-to-showcase-the-role-of-its-forest-in-the-global-climate-battle-at-expo-2020-dubai/>



The Malaysia Pavilion will feature a rainforest canopy-inspired net zero carbon setting with the theme "Energising Sustainability."



Malaysia will share her success stories of sustainable forest management efforts at Expo 2020 Dubai.



Issued by:
Malaysian Timber Certification Council
 C-08-05, Block C, Megan Avenue II,
 No. 12, Jalan Yap Kwan Seng,
 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tel : +603-2161 2298
 Fax : +603-2161 2293
 E-mail : info@mtcc.com.my
 Website: www.mtcc.com.my