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The official newsletter of the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) National governing body of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS)



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STATISTICS (as of February 2025)



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Certified Forest Total for MTCS Certified Forest 6.016.795.08 ha

(33.34% of Total National Forest Cover - TNFC)

27 Forest Management Units: 5,870,184.73 ha (32.53% from TNFC)

10 Forest Plantation Management Units: 146,610.35 ha (0.81% from TNFC)



Certified Companies

369 MTCS-PEFC Certified Chain of Custody companies



**Export Volume of Certified Products** 

Cumulative July 2002 to 15 March 2025: 3.45 mil m<sup>3</sup>

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- February 2025

### MTCC Hosts PEFC Field Visit to Strengthen Sustainable Forest Management Practices



PEFC International Field Trip 2025 delegates pictured with members of the Paong FPMU community during their visit

MTCC hosted representatives from the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) for an in-depth field visit from 12 to 19 February 2025. Two representatives of the Netherlands' Timber Procurement Assessment Committee (TPAC) also participated as 'observers.'

The visit provided first-hand insights into the implementation and governance of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS), fostering transparency and collaboration among stakeholders.





An independent consultant moderates a discussion between community members and delegates during a session on complaints mechanism and the role of a Community Liaison Officer in Long Tebanyi

PEFC and TPAC representatives had the opportunity to observe and evaluate complaints raised in 2022 concerning the MTCS. To ensure an impartial review, PEFC International appointed an independent consultant to conduct an evaluation of the scheme's implementation.

This visit marked an important step toward strengthening the MTCS and its role in promoting responsible forest management in Malaysia.

### Field Visit Highlights and Key Outcomes

The field visit took the delegation through several key locations in Malaysia, allowing them to directly observe MTCS in action and engage with a diverse range of stakeholders.

The visit began with a courtesy meeting with the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities, followed by a journey to Sarawak, including Miri and Ulu Baram, and then to Perak, concluding in Kuala Lumpur.



The delegation meeting with the Dato' Yusran Shah Mohd Yusof (Secretary-General, Ministry of Plantation and Commodities)



Dr. Farrah Shameen Mohamad Ashray (MTCC CEO) presenting to local leaders from Paong FPMU, Layun and Gerenai FMU on MTCS certification

During the visit, the delegation interacted with local communities, certification holders, government agencies, NGOs, and activists. These engagements provided an opportunity for feedback on the MTCS and insights into its impact on local communities and sustainable forest management practices.

### Key highlights from the field visit

Sarawak: The delegation met with the Forest Department Sarawak and local leaders from Paong, Layun, and Gerenai FMUs. Field visits in Ulu Baram included observations of sustainable forestry operations and discussions with Indigenous communities in Long Tebanyi and Long Sela'an.

**Perak:** Briefings were held with the Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia and the Perak State Forestry Department, followed by a site visit to Piah Forest Reserve. The delegation also met Orang Asli representatives in Ayer Karah to discuss Social Impact Assessments (SIA) and related social impacts.

The visit concluded in Kuala Lumpur with debriefing sessions involving key stakeholders, including the Ministries of Plantation and Commodities, Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, and relevant forestry departments.

The field visit reaffirmed MTCC's commitment to strengthening the MTCS and supporting the integration of sustainable forest management practices nationwide.

The findings by PEFC International and TPAC, once published, will contribute to further strengthening the implementation of the MTCS.



Delegates receive a briefing on forest operations in Perak, followed by a visit to Piah Forest Reserve to observe sustainable harvesting



Delegates interacting with the Long Tebanyi community

For a detailed account of the field visit and its key engagements, outcomes, and next steps, read the official press release, "Strengthening Transparency and Collaboration in Sustainable Forest Management: Insights from the MTCC-PEFC Field Visit 2025," available on MTCC's website.

Read the Full Story

### MTCC Attends ITTO Workshop on Sustainable Project Formulation and Development







The workshop concluded successfully, offering participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Japan, and India a deeper understanding of ITTO's project formulation framework, paving the way for future projects focused on sustainable wood use

From 3 to 6 February 2025, MTCC participated in the ITTO Project Formulation Workshop held in Pattaya, Thailand. The workshop aimed to equip participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to develop project proposals and concept notes in line with ITTO's standards. MTCC was represented by the Chain of Custody (COC) Unit.

During the workshop, participants were introduced to the ITTO Manual for project formulation, which provided guidance on structuring proposals to meet ITTO's criteria. The focus was on ensuring projects are sustainable, aligned with the organization's goals, and capable of securing donor funding.

The session also included case studies on sustainable wood use projects, where participants shared insights from their national projects. This provided valuable learning on the challenges faced and best practices in managing wood resources sustainably.

As part of the workshop, each country developed a project proposal step-by-step, applying the principles learned throughout the sessions. Malaysia's project idea, titled "Valuing the SFM and COC Certification in Malaysia," was presented, contributing to the collective effort in designing impactful sustainable wood use projects.



### MTCC at EFE 2025: Promoting Sustainable Timber Certification



MTCC will be participating in the 18th Export Furniture Exhibition (EFE) 2025 from 2–5 March at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).

Visit us at Booth 5-K02, Hall 5, to learn more about sustainable timber certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS).

MTCC will be engaging with manufacturers, traders, and stakeholders to share how MTCS supports market access, sustainability goals, and responsible sourcing.

### MTCC Contributes to Visioning Workshop for Strengthening Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS)





Representatives from MTCC joined stakeholders at the Visioning Workshop to explore ways to strengthen Malaysia's Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) for greater transparency and sustainability in the timber sector

On 24 February 2025, MTCC participated in the "Visioning Workshop: Study on Strengthening the Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS)" hosted by the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB). The workshop, initiated by the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities, focused on improving TLAS for greater sustainability, traceability, and transparency in Malaysia's timber sector.

MTCC, represented by CEO Dr. Farrah Shameen Mohamad Ashray and an Executive from the Forest Management Unit, shared views on how MTCS aligns with international standards. Dr. Farrah underscored the benefits of integrating TLAS with voluntary schemes like MTCS to strengthen the industry's assurance systems.

Officiated by YBrs. Tuan Mohd Amin Kadir, Deputy Director-General (Management and Operations) of MTIB, the session reaffirmed MTCC's commitment to responsible practices and transparent timber trade.

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### MTCC Joins Forum on Geospatial Data to Strengthen Climate-Resilient Value Chains and Food Security





MTCC representatives at the forum on geospatial data, sharing insights on timber supply chain transparency and sustainability

The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) took part in a forum on "Building a Collaborative Ecosystem Using Geospatial Data and Satellite Imagery," held on 26 February 2025 in Kuala Lumpur.

Organized by the Netherlands Embassy, the forum explored how geospatial technologies can support sustainability, food security, and climate-resilient value chains.

Represented by its Forest Management unit, MTCC shared perspectives on using geospatial data to enhance transparency in the timber supply chain and support compliance with international regulations such as the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).

MTCC's participation reflects its commitment to strengthening sustainability and traceability in Malaysia's timber industry.

### MTCC Meets with SWCorp to Explore Collaboration on Waste Management and Recycling Initiatives



Dr. Farrah Shameen Mohamad Ashray (MTCC CEO) alongside the MTCC team, presenting a token of appreciation to SWCorp after a productive discussion on potential collaboration

On 25 February 2025, the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) held a briefing session with the Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing Corporation (SWCorp) at MTCC's headquarters in Kuala Lumpur. The session was aimed at fostering dialogue and exploring potential collaboration in promoting sustainable waste management practices, particularly related to paper and construction wood waste.

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MTCC and SWCorp exchanging insights on strengthening waste management and recycling initiatives for a more sustainable future

During the session, SWCorp officers provided an overview of the organisation's core functions in managing solid waste and public cleansing in Malaysia. They also shared details on SWCorp's ongoing recycling programmes involving paper and wood waste, and outlined strategic initiatives under the Malaysia Solid Waste Circular Economy Blueprint 2025–2035.

MTCC, in turn, presented its role in advancing sustainable forest and timber certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS), and discussed how the council's efforts align with national sustainability goals.

The session concluded with a discussion on potential areas of collaboration between MTCC and SWCorp, including awareness campaigns, data-sharing initiatives, and pilot projects to strengthen waste recovery and circular economy practices within the timber sector.

This engagement reflects MTCC's ongoing efforts to broaden its partnerships in support of environmental sustainability and resource efficiency in Malaysia.

### MTCC Welcomes New Chain of Custody Certificate Holders with Onboarding Program





The MTCC team conducting an onboarding session for newly certified MTCS/PEFC Chain of Custody certificate holders, guiding them on certification standards and trademark usage

On 28 February 2025, the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) hosted an online onboarding programme for newly certified MTCS/PEFC Chain of Custody (COC) certificate holders, furthering its commitment to stakeholder collaboration.

Led by COC executives, the session provided an overview of MTCS/PEFC certification standards and the use of PEFC trademarks. Participants had the chance to ask questions and engage in discussions.

Held on the last Friday of each month, the onboarding session is designed to foster stronger relationships, keep stakeholders informed, and ensure the correct use of certification logos.

This initiative supports MTCC's 2020-2025 strategic plan to strengthen partnerships and promote the success of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme both locally and internationally.

#### The following companies participated in the session:

1. Ecopeneer Sdn. Bhd. 4. QF Bioenergy Sdn. Bhd.

2. HeveaPac 5. Sinora Sdn. Bhd.

3. Integrated Wood 6. Vinda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Processing Sdn. Bhd.

#### Onboarding Program for New Chain of Custody Certificate Holders

Month	Last Friday of the Month
March	28
April	25
May	30
June	27
July	25
August	29
Septembe	r 26
October	31
November	28
December	26

Interested in getting MTCS/PEFC COC certified? Email us at <a href="mailto:coc@mtcc.com.my">coc@mtcc.com.my</a> to learn more.

### **New Certificate Holders in February 2025**



### **MTCS Certified Forest**

• There is no new Forest Management Unit certified under MTCS in February 2025.



#### MTCS Certified Chain of Custody

• There is 1 new company certified under MTCS in February 2025.

#### Company

## **Jindek Agency Sdn. Bhd.**BVCMY-PEFC-COC000025

#### **Product Scope**

Trading of 100% PEFC Certified and PEFC Controlled Sources Logs, Sawn Timber, Garden Stakes, Pegs, Decking and Edging.

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