



한-아세안 산림협력협정
ASEAN-Korea Forest Cooperation

ANNUAL REPORT

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ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo)

The ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation is a regional cooperation mechanism in the forestry sector between the governments of ASEAN Member States and the Republic of Korea. The AFoCo aims to promote rehabilitation of degraded forest and lands and sustainable forest management focusing on action-oriented field activities while ensuring synergies and complementation of existing cooperation, as well as to broaden the scope to other Asian countries towards the establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization.



About AFoCo

The ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) is an inter-governmental regional cooperation which was formalized by the “Agreement between the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea on Forest Cooperation”, also known as “AFoCo Agreement”.

Soon after ROK’s proposal for the establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) at the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit held in Jeju, ROK in June 2009, a working group was formulated. 5 sessions of working group meetings were held from 2009 to 2011 and finalized the AFoCo Agreement which undertakes the ASEAN-ROK forest cooperation activities and dialogue towards establishment of AFoCO.

The AFoCo Agreement was signed at the 14th ASEAN-ROK Summit held in Bali, Indonesia on 18 November 2011 and came into force on 5 August 2012.

The AFoCo aims to undertake projects and translate sound forest policies and proven technologies into action with a mission to rehabilitate degraded forest land and to prevent deforestation and forest degradation in the context of sustainable forest management as well as under the broader scope of addressing the impact of climate change. It also provides a platform towards Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) to broaden the scope to other Asian countries.

The key areas of cooperation of AFoCo include:

- Promoting sustainable forest management
- Addressing deforestation and forest degradation
- Strengthening capacity-building, public awareness, and research and development in forest sector
- Enhancing forest carbon stocks and supporting initiatives

The AFoCo has an institutional arrangement namely the “Governing Council” and the “Secretariat”.

- The Governing Council is responsible for the implementation of the agreement and will act as a decision-making body. The Members of the Governing Council shall be represented by a senior official on forestry from each ASEAN Member State and the ROK.
- The Secretariat based in Seoul assists the Governing Council in the implementation, coordination, monitoring and reporting of activities under AFoCo. The Secretariat is headed by the Executive Director and is currently operating with 2 teams.

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Message from the Executive Director



The Agreement between the Governments of the Republic of Korea and the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on Forest Cooperation (AFoCo Agreement) came into effect on 5 August 2012. Since then all ASEAN Member States and the Republic of Korea have been cooperating closely to meet the objectives of AFoCo Agreement.

The year 2014 marks an important milestone as the AFoCo Agreement was extended for two more years, following the approval of the Governing Council and timely entry into force of the instrument of extension on 5 August 2014. With this, AFoCo has now entered its second phase to continue providing proper framework for implementation of on-going activities. It is time to look back on the activities implemented and to prepare for a better and more effective undertaking into the future.

For about past two and a half years, we have worked on various cooperation projects in Southeast Asian countries to develop forest management capabilities and capacities.

These were not simply another cooperative project. It is an attempt to tackle forest cooperation beyond national borders or boundaries. The Mekong project is implemented with 5 countries and Capacity Building for Forest Resources Assessment is conducted with 8 countries.

There are new projects that will start its activities in 2015 which further build on transboundary cooperation in forest sector in diverse fields ranging from on-site plantation, conservation of plant species, capacity building, and livelihood improvement of the local communities.

AFoCo Landmark Program is another challenging attempt with a holistic approach of "Restoring Degraded Forest in Southeast Asia as a Model for a Greener Asia". The Program will cover restoration of degraded forest as well as capacity building through regional trainings and scholarship support. The Program will provide the proper venue and resources for those countries which will share its experiences while the others will have the opportunity to develop better practices through field-oriented training courses. As a start, a short-term training course on fire management was held in 2014.

Another key objective of the Agreement is to provide a dialogue platform for the establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO). The round of negotiation among 15 dialogue members is expecting to finalize the draft in first half of 2015 and move forward with formalization process to follow.

The AFoCo Secretariat presents the Annual Report which covers the progress in the implementation of Agreement in 2014. All of these progresses would not have been possible without the support and guidance from the Parties, especially the Members of the Governing Council. I would like to extend great appreciation to the Governing Councils for efforts and commitment.

I am very optimistic that with your continued support, AFoCo will move forward and expand on the cooperation activities, and also be a step closer to realizing AFoCO!

Hadi S. Pasaribu
Executive Director
March 2015

2014 AFoCo Calendar of Activities

DATE	TITLE	VENUE
26-27 February 2014	2 nd Meeting of Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
9-14 March 2014	[RRR-DFE Mekong] Regional Training Course on Enhancing Livelihood through Community Forestry	Bangkok & Chiang Rai, Thailand
14 March 2014	[AFoCo Landmark Program] Launching Ceremony of the AFoCo Landmark Program	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
19-20 March 2014	[RRR-DFE Mekong] Regional Workshop on Lesson Learned from Thailand: Ecotourism Linked with Forest Restoration in Mae Yao Subwatershed, Mekong Basin	Chiang Rai, Thailand
28 April 2014	1 st Meeting of Taskforce for the Assessment of the Agreement	Manila, Philippines
30 April 2014	4 th Session of the Governing Council	Manila, Philippines
5-6 May 2014	AFoCo Workshop on Human Resources Development	Jakarta, Indonesia
21 May 2014	Technical Meeting for Finalization of the Instrument of Extension of the Agreement on ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation	Siem Reap, Cambodia
22-23 May 2014	3 rd Meeting of Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization	Siem Reap, Cambodia
5 June 2014	Working Luncheon with ASEAN Ambassadors to Seoul	Seoul, Korea
1-5 August 2014	AFoCo Booth Exhibition at 2014 Korea Forest Expo	Hwacheon, Korea
7 August 2014	[AFoCo Landmark Program] Working Group Meeting for Regional Education Training Center (RETC) under AFoCo Landmark Program	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
25-29 August 2014	[Capacity Building] Comparative Study of Satellite Imagery (GIS and RS) to Support Forest Resources Assessment from ASEAN Member States to Republic of Korea	Korea
26 August 2014	[AFoCo Landmark Program] 1 st Steering Committee Meeting for Regional Education Training Center (RETC) under AFoCo Landmark Program	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
22-27 September 2014	[Capacity Building] Training of Trainer on Remote Sensing Application for Forest Resource Assessment	Vientiane, Lao PDR
30 September – 1 October 2014	4 th Meeting of Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization	Vientiane, Lao PDR

DATE	TITLE	VENUE
16-18 September 2014	AFoCo International Workshop on Forest Disaster Management	Korea
17-19 September 2014	AFoCo High-Level Workshop on Saemaul Undong Spirit for Reforestation in Southeast Asia	Korea
17-23 September 2014	[AFoCo Landmark Program] Short-term Training Course on Forest Disaster Management	
September 2014 - March 2015	AFoCo Photo Exhibition: Efforts Against Forest Disasters	Seoul/ Daejeon/ Cheongju, Korea
29 September - 17 October 2014	AFoCo Booth Exhibition at Interactive Fair on Biodiversity	Pyeongchang, Korea
14-16 October 2014	AFoCo International Thematic Workshop on Payment for Ecosystem Services	Da Lat, Viet Nam
14-16 October 2014	[RRR-DFE Mekong] Regional Workshop on Ecotourism Linked Biodiversity	Da Lat, Viet Nam
20 October 2014	2 nd Anniversary Ceremony: Past Achievements and Way Forward	Seoul, Korea
3-4 November 2014	[Capacity Building] Regional Workshop on Current State of the Utilization of RS/GIS Technology for Forest Resource Assessment: Gap Analysis and Building Capacity in Southeast Asia Region	Yogyakarta, Indonesia
9 December 2014	5 th Session of the Governing Council	Busan, Republic of Korea
9-12 December 2014	AFoCo Booth Exhibition during ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit	Busan, Republic of Korea

* In case of activities under regional projects, only regional level activities are highlighted in the table.



I

Governing Council

The Governing Council of the “Agreement between the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea on Forest Cooperation,” represented by senior officials on forestry from each party, is the decision making, coordinating, and implementing body of AFoCo.

The Session of the Governing Council meets at least once a year and takes decisions on the program for implementation of activities and other actions necessary to achieve the objective of the Agreement. Since the entry into force of the Agreement on the date of 5 August 2012, five sessions have convened.



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1. Fourth Session of the Governing Council, 30 April 2014, Manila, Philippines

The 4th Session of the Governing Council of the Agreement on ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation was held on 30 April 2014 in Manila, Philippines. The 4th Session dealt with a number of agenda such as the extension of the AFoCo Agreement and assessment matters, update on cooperation projects, proposal for the “fellowship program”, and annual report.



Concerns were raised regarding the delay in the extension of the current AFoCo Agreement, however all Parties ensured their unanimous support for the extension

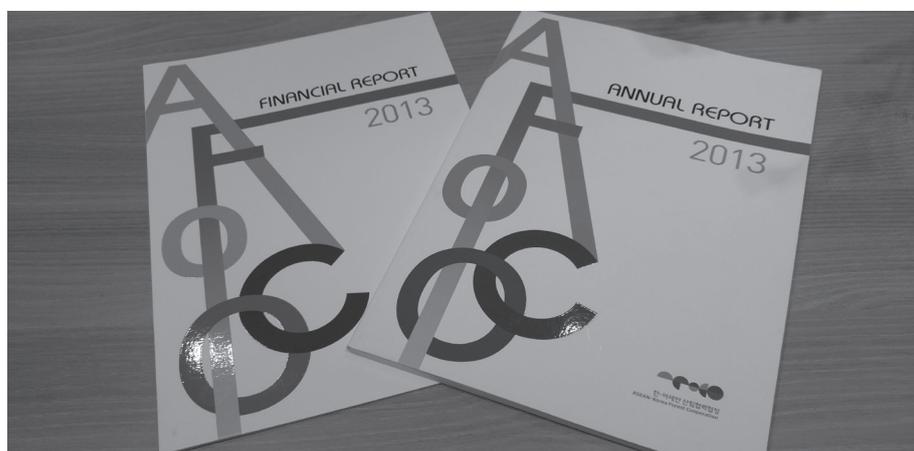


and agreed to facilitate domestic clearance. In line with the extension, the Governing Council unanimously agreed for reappointment of Dr. Hadi Susanto Pasaribu to continue as the Executive Director for another term.

Lead coordinating countries and AFoCo Secretariat updated on the progress of regional projects, Landmark Program and new regional project.

The meeting considered newly proposed “Fellowship Program” for further consideration. It is a program where officials from ASEAN Member States will be invited to be based and work at AFoCo Secretariat. After fine-tuning of the guidelines, the Secretariat is expected to send out invitation for nomination from the Parties and program is projected to launch in early 2015.

Furthermore, the Governing Council approved Annual Report 2013 presented by the AFoCo Secretariat with minor changes. The AFoCo Annual Report 2013 is the first annual report to be published since the entry into force of the Agreement and it includes activities before 2013.



Prior to the 4th Session of the Governing Council, the first meeting of the Taskforce for Assessment for the Implementation of the Agreement (TF-Assessment) was organized on 28 April 2014. The Chair of the TF-Assessment reported on the decision of the TF-Assessment to select an external consulting agency to support the assessment activities, targeting to complete the assessment and report to the Governing Council hopefully by the next Session.

Following the invitation from Korea Forest Service, four proposals for new regional projects were received and initially reviewed by an evaluation team from ROK. The Governing Council requested ROK to work with AFoCo Secretariat to further improve on the evaluation process and reevaluate all the project proposals.

2. Fifth Session of the Governing Council, 9 December 2014, Busan, Korea

The 5th Session of the Governing Council was convened in Busan, Korea on 9 December 2014. The Governing Council reviewed the activities of the Secretariat since its last Council meeting in Manila, Philippines. It was highlight that the Parties applauded the achievements of AFoCo fulfilling the very objectives of the AFoCo Agreement. The Governing Council further recommended to focus the AFoCo activities on strategic areas and reaffirmed its continued support to the AFoCo activities in the future.



The Secretariat informed the Governing Council that following the approval at the 3rd Session of the Governing Council to extend the Agreement for 2 more years, ROK formally sent a proposal with draft amendment on 6 January 2014. With the facilitation of the ASEAN Secretariat, all Parties agreed to take a more practical way to use an “Instrument of Extension”. The Instrument of Extension of the AFoCo Agreement entered into force on 5 August 2014, following the signing by duly authorized Permanent Representatives of ASEAN Member States and ROK to ASEAN.



Following the guidance by the 4th Session of the Governing Council, the guidelines for fellowship program for officials from the ASEAN Member States was finalized and approved by the Governing Council on 12 September 2014. Following the official invitation for nomination of fellowship officials on 16 October 2014, Cambodia, Lao PDR and the Philippines notified their nomination. The Secretariat received additional nomination from Malaysia on 1 December 2014. The Meeting agreed to start with Cambodia, Lao PDR and the Philippines for selection of final candidates for the program beginning in March 2015. In case any nominated candidates do not meet the basic qualifications, the Secretariat was requested to invite second round of nomination from all Parties in order to complete required number of fellowship officials for 2015.

The Governing Council noted on follow-up actions undertaken for the assessment of the implementation of the Agreement. The Terms of Reference for external consultancy for the assessment were finalized on 9 July 2014. In consultation with the members of TF-Assessment, the Secretariat selected the Institute for International Development Cooperation (IIDC) of Yeungnam University of ROK. A five-member consultant team comprised of at least 2 members from the ASEAN Member States and 2 members from the ROK will be formed and assessment will take place from mid-December 2014 until March 2015.

Respective regional project managers updated on the regional projects: Reclamation, Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystems

(RRR-DFE) in Mekong Basin Countries; Capacity Building on Improving Forest Resources Assessment and Enhancing the Involvement of Local Communities to address the Adverse Impact of Climate Change; as well as AFoCo Landmark Program. The Governing Council agreed to withdraw RRR-DFE in BIMPS Countries considering that after negotiation for more than 2 years, domestic concerns and legality issues among the participating countries still remain unresolved.



The Governing Council further approved new regional projects: “Promotion of forest rehabilitation in Cambodia and Viet Nam through demonstration models and improvement of seed supply system” proposed by Cambodia and Viet Nam; and “Facilitating the participatory planning of community-based forest management using geographic information system and remote sensing technologies in forest resources management in the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand” proposed by Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand.

With the approval of the proposed budget and plan of activities for 2015, the 5th Governing Council Meeting was successfully concluded.

II

Secretariat

The Secretariat established under the AFoCo Agreement assists the Governing Council in the implementation, coordination, monitoring and reporting of activities under AFoCo. The Secretariat has been operational since September 2012 after the Agreement entered into force. The Secretariat is located in Seoul and headed by the Executive Director and is currently operating with 2 teams.



1. Related Meetings in 2014

26-27

February

1.1

Second Meeting of Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Soon after the endorsement of the Governing Council on the new dialogue platform, the 1st Meeting of the Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (Dialogue-AFoCO) was held on 11-12 December 2013 in Busan, Republic of Korea. The 1st Meeting provided the venue to share country views on the establishment of AFoCO and introduced a draft legal document for the establishment of AFoCO.



As a follow-up, the 2nd Meeting of Dialogue-AFoCO was organized on 26-27 February 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The members of the Dialogue-AFoCO reviewed and discussed the draft legal text of Agreement and provided inputs. Soon after the meeting the AFoCo Secretariat received further comments for consolidation and consideration at the next meeting.

28

March

1.2

First meeting of the Taskforce for Assessment for the Implementation of the Agreement (TF-Assessment), Manila, Philippines

As recommended by the 3rd Session of the Governing Council, the first meeting of the TF-Assessment was held on 28 April 2014 in Manila, Philippines in

conjunction with the 4th session of the Governing Council. The first meeting of TF-Assessment elected ROK as the chairperson of TF-Assessment.



The 1st Meeting of the TF-Assessment further agreed on future action and schedule for assessment activities as follows:

- The 1st Meeting is considered as the start of assessment and projected schedule of activities to be completed by the next session of Governing Council;
- AFoCo Secretariat, within one month from this meeting, to develop and circulate the required Terms of Reference, procedure and timeline for external agency / consultant to conduct the Assessment for consideration of TF-Assessment;
- Upon the approval by the TF-Assessment, AFoCo Secretariat to select the external agency / consultant and enter contract for the Assessment of the Agreement; and
- The external agency / consultant to submit assessment report to the TF-Assessment for review and the Chairperson will report to the Governing Council for consideration.

21

May

1.3

Technical Meeting for Finalization of the Instrument of Extension of the Agreement on ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation, Siem Reap, Cambodia

The Technical Meeting for Finalization of the Instrument of Extension of the Agreement on ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation was held on 21 May 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia as a follow up to the recommendation of the ASEAN Member States to simplify the format and formality procedures of the extension.



After the approval of the Governing Council for the extension of AFoCo Agreement, all Parties took necessary domestic procedures in cooperation with the forest and diplomatic sector. The ROK Permanent Mission to ASEAN, on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK, extended an official proposal for extension to the Parties through the ASEAN Secretariat together with draft amendment on 6 January 2014.

The ASEAN Member States thoroughly reviewed the draft amendment and consolidated common views on the format and formality procedures. Considering lengthy procedures for amendment, the ASEAN Members, with the facilitation of the ASEAN Secretariat, agreed to take a more practical way to formalize the extension and proposed the “Instrument of Extension”.

22-23

May

This meeting shared the current state and necessary domestic procedures required for the extension in each country as well as consolidated comments to the draft instrument of extension. The meeting also considered the possible signing at the Post Ministerial Conference to be held in the first week of August 2014.

1.4

Third Meeting of Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization, Siem Reap, Cambodia

The 3rd Meeting of Dialogue-AFoCO was held on 22-23 May 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. This meeting reviewed the draft Agreement text mainly based on the comments received. The Meeting cleared the Articles with some editorial corrections. It was further agreed that provisions relating to financing and decision-making still need more discussion and domestic consultation in respective countries.



7

August

1.5

First Working Group Meeting for Regional Education Training Center (RETC) under AFoCo Landmark Program, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

After the launching of the AFoCo Landmark Program and the signing of the MOU for the Establishment of Regional Education and Training Center (RETC) between Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forest of Myanmar and Korea Forest Service, the Working Group Meeting for RETC was held on 7

August in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The meeting discussed the draft Rules of Procedures for the Steering Committee as well as the operation of the field office for the construction. The meeting also reviewed the Action Plan.

26

August

1.6 First Steering Committee Meeting for Regional Education Training Center (RETC) under AFoCo Landmark Program, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

The 1st Steering Committee for RETC was held on 26 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. In consideration of the discussion and recommendation of the First Working Group Meeting for RETC, the steering committee finalized and adopted the Rules of Procedures for the Steering Committee as well as the operation of the field office for the construction. The meeting further reviewed the Action Plan. The construction of RETC in Hmawbi, Myanmar is projected to complete in 2016. The RETC will be the main venue to host diverse education and training programs for all AFoCo member countries.



30

September

1.7 Fourth Meeting of Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization, Vientiane, Lao PDR

The 4th Dialogue-AFoCO, held on 30 September-1 October 2014, Vientiane, Lao PDR, was organized to tackle the remaining issues from the previous meeting.

The AFoCo Secretariat presented latest draft of the Agreement consolidating the inputs from all Parties regarding the remaining issues. The meeting revisited the remaining issues and reformulated paragraphs agreeable to all parties in reference of other existing international organizations.



The meeting agreed that amendment and admission of new Parties should be decided by consensus. The Meeting further viewed that for matters other than amendment and admission of new Parties, the Assembly still needs to make efforts to decide by consensus. However, the Meeting agreed to provide a paragraph on flexible decision-making procedure to be applied in case consensus could not be reached.

The meeting also agreed to take the latest draft to the diplomatic level for finalization targeting to complete the signing by mid-2015.

2. Other Events and Activities



2.1 AFoCo Workshop on Human Resources Development, Jakarta, Indonesia

AFoCo Workshop on Human Resource and Research Development was held on 5-6 May 2014 in Jakarta, Indonesia during “Forests Asia Summit 2014”,

organized by Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and co-hosted by Ministry of Forestry, Republic of Indonesia.



Organized under the title of “Forestry Education and Research in Asia: Reality, Challenges, and Way Forward”, this workshop was attended by 20 participants from ASEAN Member State and ROK to identify the regional demand and challenges on human resource development and research and seek fundamental solutions and recommendations for future undertakings of AFoCo.

The open plenary session of the workshop was held for the lunch time learning event of the Summit in Shangri-La Hotel, attracting more than 150 participants. Dr. Hosny El-Lakany, Chairman for Boards of Trustees of CIFOR pointed out that the steady decline in forestry education is a global trend, which is evidenced by reduced enrolment into forestry education programs in Universities and eventual close-down or merger with agricultural/environmental institutions. Dr. Tint Lwin Thaug, Executive Director of Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC), spoke that contemporary forestry was at transition stage, requiring more multi-disciplined personnel with capacity of handling cross-cutting issues. All the participants shared that forestry education needs to cater for new demands of society and forestry employers.

Consequent discussion session was held in Hotel Santika Premiere in closed session. Three countries, namely Indonesia, Myanmar, and Viet Nam, made presentations on country status on human resource development and all the other participants from each country presented issues and challenges on human

resource development in their countries. Noting that the Landmark Program will involve all 11 parties to AFoCo to enhance regional capacity on forest restoration and sustainable forestry, the participants expressed their expectations for AFoCo Cooperation Projects, especially a newly launched AFoCo Landmark Program.



5

June

2.2

Working Luncheon with ASEAN Ambassadors to Seoul, Seoul, Korea

Working Luncheon with the Ambassadors was held at the Grand Hayatt Hotel, in Seoul, Korea, on 5 June 2014.



Excellency Ambassadors from 10 ASEAN Member States were invited to update on the activities of the AFoCo as well as move forward. The discussion mainly involved the formality procedures and timing for the signing of the instrument of extension of the AFoCo Agreement. The Ambassadors were informed that the matter will be raised at the 18th ASEAN-ROK Dialogue held in June 2014 and all parties will be requested to give full powers to the Permanent Representatives to ASEAN for the signing. The meeting also briefly shared opinions on the plans for the upcoming Special Ministerial Meeting on Forestry to be held in December 2014.

16-18

September

2.3

International Workshop on Forest Disaster Management, Korea

The AFoCo International Thematic Workshop on Forest Disaster Management entitled “Challenges and Way Forward in Forest Fire Management” was held on 16-18 September 2014 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Around 60 participants attended the workshop from 12 countries including 8 AFoCo member countries, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, and ROK.



In accordance with the the 5th Assessment Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), “Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability,” the workshop focused on the impact on Southeast Asian

forest by climate change and the change of the land-use and cover-change (LUCC) by burning practices. A number of invited specialists enriched the workshop with sharp-edged perspectives on forest fire management at global, regional and local levels. Especially, Prof. Dr. Johann G. Goldammer, the head of Global Fire Monitoring Centre (GFMC) actively led the workshop as encouraging participants to build together cooperative strategies for forest fire management in the region of Southeast Asia. Moreover, Mr. Ko Ki Yeon from Korea Forest Service introduced Korea's advanced techniques which would build the strategies more tangible and sophisticated.

The workshop also suggested the AFoCo to develop a cooperative management scheme of FFM at global, regional and local scales, which would be a good stepping stone to develop prospective projects of ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo), which can contribute to devising Southeast Asian-specific climate-vegetation models for forest fire risk management in near future as recommended by IPCC.



17-19

September

2.4

AFoCo High-Level Workshop on Saemaul Undong Spirit for Reforestation in Southeast Asia, Korea

The High Level Workshop on Saemaul Undong (SU) Spirit for Reforestation in Southeast Asia was held in 17-20 September 2014 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.



The workshop provided a chance for participants to learn the case of Korean reforestation efforts through the notion of the SU, which was used as an instrument especially for building the people's self-confidence by various cooperative policies, so that successfully derived a nation-wide human capacity enhancement.

Total 15 participants from 8 AFoCo member countries, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam attended the workshop. Three special invited speakers contributed the success of the workshop. In a keynote speech, Dr. Lee Don Koo, former Minister of Korea Forest Service, provided the workshop with the way forward of SU to forest policy in Southeast Asia. Mr. Cho Whan Bok, Commissioner of Korea Saemaul Undong Center led the first session delivering the origin and history of SU in a general view. Dr. Lee Kyung Joon, professor-emeritus of Seoul National University narrowed the concept of SU down to the field of forestry with diverse forestry policies in Korea derived from SU.

The discussion session opened the ground for sharing knowledge on SU with the participants as discussing how to implement SU in forest policy in Southeast

Asian countries. The workshop especially focused on digging the idea for prospective cooperation projects near future. They shared Korea's case studies on how the government utilized SU into its forest policies, especially for restoration of degraded forest regions and income generation for local communities. For the field-visit, the participants visited the Park Cheong Hee School and Saemaul Undong Policy (PSPS) of Yeungnam University in Daegu and Pohang Iron & Steel Company in Pohang, one of symbols of SU in Korea.

Finally, this workshop was able to recommend providing training courses and workshops for knowledge sharing on SU as a short-term goal and developing potential AFoCo regional projects on SU as a mid-term goal. The AFoCo member countries will develop on long-term goals in the future.

14-16
October

2.5

AFoCo International Thematic Workshop on Payment for Ecosystem Services, Da Lat, Viet Nam

The AFoCo international thematic workshop on PES entitled "How PES serves Livelihood of Forest Community in the Southeast Asia Region?" was organized on 14-16 October 2014 in Da Lat, Lam Dong Province, Viet Nam. Participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam attended 3-day Workshop which includes a field visit to Sun Lat District in Lam Dong Province. The objectives of the workshop were:

- to enhance the conceptual awareness of PES for policy makers, practitioners and researchers in the AFoCo Member Countries;
- to share good models of PES among the AFoCo Member Countries;
- to explore and develop PES models and practices sustainable for further AFoCo Cooperation programs; and
- to recommend potential follow-up actions of AFoCo on PES

Participants from 8 countries were impressed by the high impact of this Workshop, which was designed to share experience among others and learn from Viet Nam's



experience of PES implementation through presentation and field visit. The participants recognized key policy advances made by Viet Nam government to promote the participation and role of local communities in the management of protected forests and their ecosystem under a nationwide PES program. Viet Nam also highlighted challenges and difficulties encountered in its PES implementation.



20

October

2.6 Second Anniversary Ceremony: Past Achievements and Way Forward, Seoul, Korea

The AFoCo Secretariat organized a lunch reception celebrating the 2nd anniversary on 20 October 2014 at Koreana Hotel, Seoul, the Republic of Korea under the title “Past Achievements and Way Forward”.

Minister of Korea Forest Service, Ambassadors of ASEAN Member States to Seoul, current co-chair of AFoCo Governing Council, Director General of South Asia Pacific Affairs Bureau of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, among many other distinguished guests were present to congratulate the accomplishments of past two years and encourage the way forward.



The presentation of video documentation highlighted on-going activities under AFoCo and plans and potential of the Landmark Program.

2.7

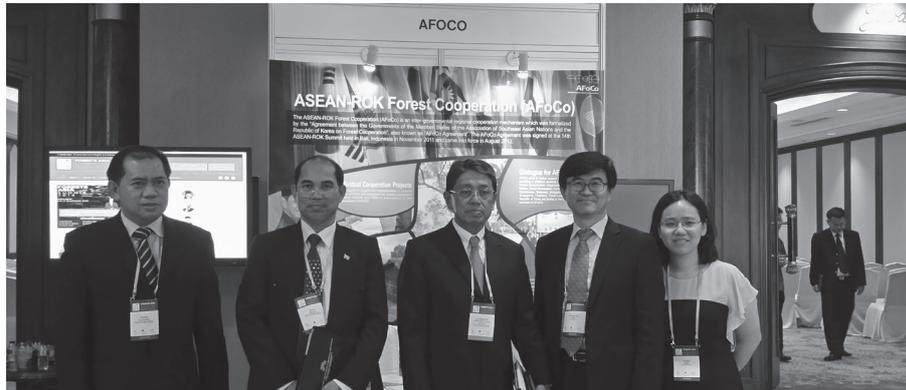
Publicity Booth at Related Events in 2014

Alongside international organizations, NGOs, and academic institutions, AFoCo Secretariat is making efforts to engage in global forestry community through participating in relevant occasions.

The AFoCo Secretariat has exhibited AFoCo's efforts and accomplishments through exhibition booths at:

- 2014 Forest Asia Summit held on 5-6 May 2014 at Jakarta, Indonesia;





- 2014 Korea Forest Expo held from 1 to 5 August 2014 at Hwacheon, ROK; and



- 12th Conference of the Parties to UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on 29 September to 17 October 2014 at Pyeongchang, ROK.



AFoCo booth was selected to be showcased at the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit held on 9-12 December in Busan, ROK as well.



These publicity activities allowed the AFoCo Secretariat to take a huge step forward engaging with other international organizations.

2.8

AFoCo Photo Exhibition: Efforts Against Forest Disasters

The first AFoCo Photography Exhibition was held under the title “Efforts Against Forest Disasters” to showcase photos provided by the Parties. The photo exhibit first launched at Seoul City Hall from 16-18 September 2014 in time for the AFoCo International Thematic Workshop on Forest Disaster Management in Southeast Asia. It was later exhibited at the ASEAN-Korea Centre in Seoul for the month of October and at the Government Complex-Daejeon during the first week of November. Upon request of MBC TV broadcasting center in Cheongju, the photo exhibit was hosted at MBC-Cheongju since 6 November 2014 and continue to be showcased until the end of February 2015.



3. Cooperation with Relevant Agencies and Organizations

3.1

MOU with Third Parties

The Governing Council endorsed the potential scope of cooperation to be initiated with other entities within the scope of the AFoCo Agreement to support in promoting ASEAN-ROK forest cooperation.

Under this potential scope of cooperation, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered with third parties as below:

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the 2014 Incheon Asian Games Organizing Committee on 27 January 2014 to contribute to promoting 2014

Asian Games as low-carbon games though exploring possible domestic and international cooperation projects with involvement of AFoCo members;

- MOU with Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC) on 24 February 2014 regarding sustainable forest management and possible cooperation specially for community forestry management in the Development of Education and Training Programs for Capacity Building component of the AFoCo Landmark Program;
- MOU with the Park Chung Hee School of Policy and Saemaul of Yeungnam University on 26 March 2014 regarding capacity building, and operation of degree programs and short-term training courses specializing in Saemaul Undung (New Village Movement);

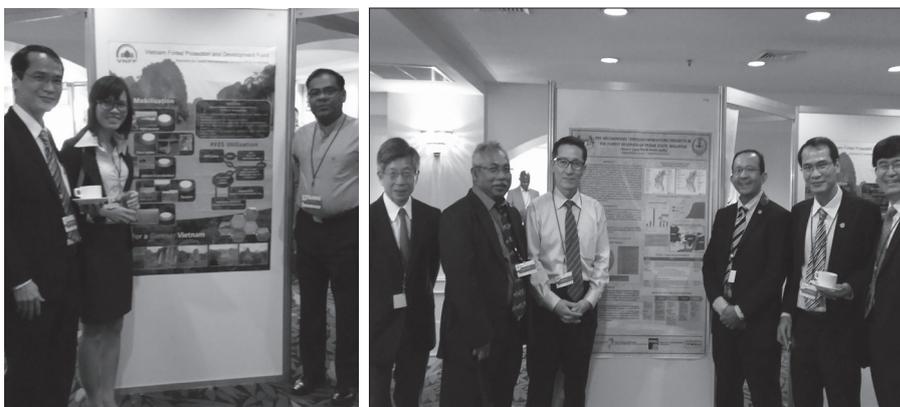


- International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) on 27 October 2014 to include sharing policy practices and experiences as well as information dissemination on sustainable forest management, joint research on PES, nationally consistent carbon modeling, and forest-based bioenergy systems, as well as forest rehabilitation and community based forest management; and
- Kongju National University on 2 December 2014 and University of Seoul on 17 December 2014, in order to promote the implementation of capacity building component of the AFoCo Landmark Program particularly on the development of education and training programs for capacity building.

3.2

International Forum for Payments for Environmental Services (PES) for Tropical Forest, 7-10 April 2014, San Jose, Costa Rica

As a joint activity under the MOU between AFoCo Secretariat and International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), ITTO invited AFoCo members at the International Forum for Payments for Environmental Services (PES) of Tropical Forest held on 7-10 April 2014 at San Jose, Costa Rica. Experts from Malaysia and Viet Nam made a poster presentation to share PES practices in the region.



3.3

Forest Asia Summit 2014, 5-6 May 2014 Jakarta, Indonesia

“Forests Asia Summit 2014” was organized by Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and co-hosted by Ministry of Forestry, Republic of Indonesia on 5-6 May in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The open plenary session of the AFoCo Workshop on Human Resource and Research Development under the title of “Forestry Education and Research in Asia: Reality, Challenges, and Way Forward” was held as a lunch time learning event of the Summit in Shangri-La Hotel, attracting more than 150 participants.

The AFoCo Secretariat also exhibited AFoCo’s efforts and accomplishments through exhibit booth at the Summit.



3.4

Visit of Secretary General of ASEAN, 10 October 2014, Seoul, Korea

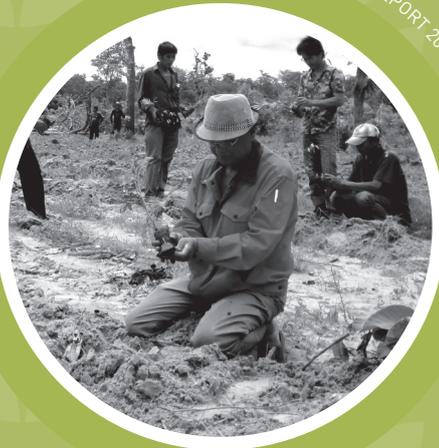
H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, ASEAN Secretary General along with 3 officials from the ASEAN Secretariat visited the AFoCo Secretariat on 10 October 2014. The ASEAN Secretary General noted on the 25 years of close cooperation between ASEAN and ROK and further highlighted the importance of forestry sector. Noting on the potential areas of cooperation such as forest rehabilitation, climate change, and improvement of forest products through SFM, he looked forward to successful forest cooperation through AFoCo.



III

Review of Cooperation Projects under the Agreement

AFoCo projects implement activities related to rehabilitation and conservation of forest resources, as well as capacity building, in line with the goals of AFoCo to carry out action-oriented field activities while ensuring synergies and complementation of existing cooperation, regional and international organizations.



AFoCo ANNUAL REPORT 2014

1. AFoCo Landmark Program

“Restoring Degraded Forest in Southeast Asia as a Model for a Greener Asia: Capacity Building on Forest Restoration and Sustainable Forestry”

The AFoCo Landmark Program is a regional project under the framework of the “Agreement between the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea on Forest Cooperation,” with holistic approach for long-term activities and goals to tackle the unequal distribution of resources, technology, and funding amongst ASEAN Member States.

The program covers restoration of degraded forest, wide range of regional training, academic activities, and public awareness in the field of restoration and sustainable forestry. It aims to contribute to socio-economic development of local communities in accordance with the strategic framework of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) to narrow the developmental gaps among ASEAN Member States.

Program Overview

- Title: “Restoring Degraded Forest in Southeast Asia as a Model for a Greener Asia: Capacity Building on Forest Restoration and Sustainable Forestry”
- Implementation Period: 2014-2023 (10 years)
 - * 1st Phase: 2014-2018 (5 years)
 - * 2nd Phase: 2019-2023 (5 years)
- Total Budget: US\$ 15,000,000 for 10 years
- Implementation Region: ASEAN Member States and ROK
- Main Projects
 - Component 1 Establishment of Regional Education and Training Center
 - Component 2 Development of Education and Training Programs for Capacity Building
 - Component 3 Restoration of Degraded Forest Regions
 - Component 4 Development of Advocating Activities

Current Progress and Future Plans

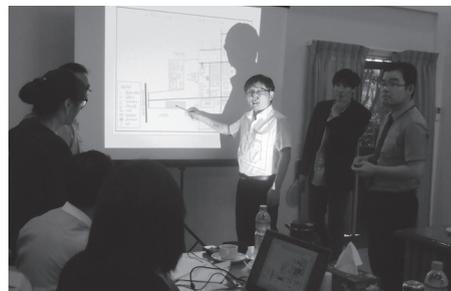
The Launching Ceremony of AFoCo Landmark Program was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 14 March 2014 marking the start of this grand journey towards greener Asia. About 100 participants were present at the Ceremony, including many high level officials as well as members and representatives of the Governing Council of AFoCo Agreement. The dignitaries at the Ceremony including H.E. Union Minister Win Tun of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAF), members of the National Assembly of ROK, Minister of Korea Forest Service, Executive Director of AFoCo Secretariat, representatives from international organizations extended high regards for AFoCo initiative and wished for its further growth in the future.





Component 1: Establishment of Regional Education and Training Center

Following the launching, an MOU was signed for Establishment of Regional Education and Training Center (RETC). The Working Group Meeting for RETC was held on 7 August and the 1st Steering Committee for RETC was held on 26 August 2014. Both meetings were held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The meeting finalized and adopted the Rules of Procedures for the Steering Committee as well as the operation of the field office for the construction.



AFoCo Secretariat selected Construction Management agency for the construction of AFoCo RETC through the bidding process on 14 November 2014. The agency is in charge of the building design and supervision for the construction of the AFoCo RETC with the Field Coordinator from AFoCo Secretariat.

Soon after MOECAAF and AFoCo Secretariat appointed the field coordinators, the field office in Hmawbi began its operation on 15 November 2014. The construction of RETC in Hmawbi, Myanmar is projected to complete in 2016.

Component 2: Development of Education and Training Programs for Capacity Building

In order to promote the implementation of the components of the AFoCo Landmark Program particularly on the development of education and training programs for capacity building, the Secretariat signed MOU with Park Chung Hee School of Policy and Saemaul of Yeungnam University on 26 March 2014; Kongju National University on 2 December 2014; and University of Seoul on 17 December 2014.



AFoCo Secretariat and Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI) held the short-term training course entitled “Training of Trainers on Forest Fire Management Training under AFoCo Landmark Program” with invited instructors from Germany, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal and Thailand on 17-23 September 2014.

Component 3: Restoration of Degraded Forest Regions

The Restoration of Degraded Forest Regions is hosted by Cambodia, Viet Nam and Lao PDR. MOU was signed between ROK and each of the hosting countries. The MOU on restoration of seed production area in Siem Reap Province was signed between KFS and Forestry Administration of the Kingdom of Cambodia on 14 March 2014. MOU between KFS and the Viet Nam Administration of Forestry of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on rehabilitation and development of mangrove forest ecosystem in Thai Binh Province was signed on 29 April 2014. MOU for the rehabilitation of degraded community forest in Champasack and Salavanh Provinces was signed between KFS and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Lao PDR on 30 September 2014. The AFoCo Secretariat contracted Technical consultancy for establishment of specific work plan for the restoration sites.



2. Regional projects 2013-2015

The three regional projects were introduced at the 1st Session of Governing Council and the projects were approved by the 2nd Session in January 2013.

2-1: Capacity Building on Improving Forest Resources Assessment and Enhancing the Involvement of Local Communities to address the Adverse Impact of Climate Change

The project was approved by the 2nd Session of the Governing Council in January 2013 with a total budget of USD 2 million for two years. The Forestry Research and Development Agency of Indonesia is the lead coordinating agency of the project. The project was launched on 18 November 2013 following the signing of implementation agreement by ROK, Indonesia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam. Soon after, all participating countries have signed the Agreement.

For the duration of two-year project period, Indonesia is the lead coordinating country organizing and facilitating the project activities. Country workshops on the current state of capacity and ability of FRA were organized in all participating countries. Indonesia developed the syllabus and module on “Application of Remote Sensing and GIS Technology to Support Forest Resource Assessment”.

Three regional level activities were held under this project:

- From 25 to 29 August 2014, Comparative study on the Utilization of Satellite Imagery Technology to Support Forest Resource Assessment from AMS to ROK





was held in Korea. It was held with great success with 25 participants. The participants had field visit to the Korea Forest Research Institute, Daegu University, and Regional Office of Korea Forest Service to take a look into forest resource assessment practices in Korea.

- Regional Training of Trainer on Remote Sensing Application for Forest Resource Assessment was held on 22-27 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR
- Regional Workshop on Current State of the Utilization of RS/GIS Technology for Forest Resource Assessment: Gap Analysis and Building Capacity in Southeast Asia Region was held on 3-4 November 2014 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia



The Project was found to be very beneficial for many implementing countries in terms of their resources assessment as well as learning and sharing of technology among the countries. It was also recommended to consider a follow-up phase of the project to narrow the gap between ASEAN Member States regarding the application of GIS/RS technology in their countries. The participating country will continue implementing project activities in accordance with the work plan until its termination in November 2015.



2-2 Reclamation, Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystems (RRR-DFE) in Mekong Basin Countries

The RRR-DFE in Mekong is a two-year project with a budget of USD 500,000 supported by ROK. An Implementation Agreement between the Secretariat and

Royal Forest Department of Thailand was signed on 14 May 2013 and an inception meeting for the project was organized on 28 June 2013.

Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam, collectively called as Mekong Basin Countries (MBC), is undertaking activities related to biodiversity conservation, forest certification, watershed management, and forest restoration linked with eco-tourism. The Project started with selection and establishment of pilot project sites within the Mekong Basin. Land use change studies, survey and documentation of biodiversity were undertaken in these sites. Potential sustainable forest management models and methods of promoting eco-tourism within the pilot sites were formulated. Finally, the pilot sites were used for training, exchange of visits and technology transfer among the MBC, through national and regional workshops, exchange visits, and publication.

Thailand selected project site for ecotourism linked with forest restoration in Mae Kok restored forest site. Cambodia launched project activities addressing “Ecotourism Linked with Biodiversity” at Mondolkiri forest reserve. Lao PDR launched project activities for “Participatory Forest Management Linked with Forest Certification” at Xebangnouane community forest. Viet Nam launched project activities for addressing “Ecotourism Linked with Biodiversity” at Bidoup Nui Ba national park and Myanmar also launched its activities addressing “Ecotourism Linked with Watershed Management” at Pindaya protected watershed.



As part of the activities, a regional workshop entitled “Lesson Learned from Thailand: Ecotourism Linked with Forest Restoration, Mae Yao sub-watershed, Mekong Basin” was organized in Chiang Rai, Thailand on 19-20 March 2014 and 25 participants from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Thailand participated the workshop. “Workshop on the ecotourism and Payments for Forest Environmental Services linked to biodiversity conservation and forest resource management” was held in September 2014 in Da Lat, Viet Nam, and participants from all Mekong basin countries learned Viet Nam’s model of “Payment for Forest Ecosystem Services”. In addition to regional level workshops, the Project enables the relevant officials from each country to organize exchange visits to compare and learn about the state of biodiversity conservation and ecotourism in each country.



Cambodia performed several field studies to collect data on the local communities in the project site. Based on the findings, training programs were organized on the use of GPS devices for local rangers to improve the collection of various data. Several capacity building trainings also helped the local stakeholders to better understand ecotourism and alternative livelihood activities.



Lao PDR established a nursery in the local community and also conducted planting of 2 ha. Workshops were organized to help the village people learn about agroforestry and low impact logging. The project also supported the local people to secure alternative food and income through rattan shoot production and mushroom cultivation.



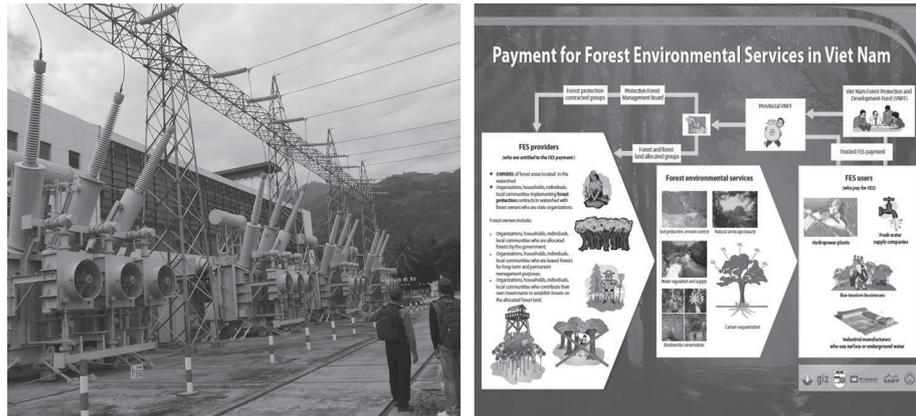
Myanmar focused its activities on the watershed management for ecotourism. The project built check dams and established nurseries through involving local people. The dormitory facility was built at the Watershed Management Training Center located in the project area.



Thailand activities focused on developing the best practice model for ecotourism. Workshops and training programs were organized to enhance participatory forest management and ecotourism in the project site. The project also supported building check dams for watershed management through participation of the local communities.



Viet Nam focused its activities mainly on the study of biodiversity conservation and threats in the project site. The project supported primary field survey and research activities that will be used for developing a model of payment for ecosystem (PES) linked to ecotourism.



Each participating country implemented project activities in accordance with the selected theme and all activities will be completed by May 2015.

Project 3: Reclamation, Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystems (RRR-DFE) in BIMPS Countries

The RRR-DFE in BIMPS is a two-year project with a budget of USD 500,000 which was approved by the 2nd Session of the Governing Council in January 2013. Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Singapore (BIMPS) are participating in this project.

At the 5th Session of the Governing Council, the Secretariat reported that after negotiation for more than 2 years, domestic concerns and legality issues among the participating countries still remain unresolved and the Implementation Agreement is unable to conclude for this project. The Governing Council agreed to officially withdraw the project.

3. New Regional projects 2014

At the 3rd Session of the Governing Council held in October 2013 in Singapore, ROK invited the ASEAN Member States to submit the new proposals by 30 December 2013. ROK reported to the 4th Session of the Governing Council in April 2014 that an evaluation team was formed comprised of 5 professionals from ROK to deliberate the project proposals based on the criteria developed with reference to ITTO and UN guidelines. The Governing Council requested ROK to work with AFoCo Secretariat to further improve on the evaluation process and reevaluate all the project proposals.

Following the recommendation of the Governing Council, the Secretariat conducted evaluation procedures as below:

- [11 Sep 2014] The Secretariat proposed procedure and timeline
- [22 Sep 2014] Formed evaluation team with one member each from Singapore and Myanmar and two from ROK
- [22 Sep - 22 Oct 2014] Evaluation of the proposals by the evaluation team and consolidation of comments
- [22 Oct - 22 Nov 2014] Improvement of the project proposal by proponents in accordance with evaluation comments for approval at 5th GC

After consolidation of comments from evaluation team, the projects have been revised including the titles as follow:

- “Promotion of forest rehabilitation in Cambodia and Viet Nam through demonstration models and improvement of seed supply system” proposed by Cambodia and Viet Nam;
- “Facilitating the participatory planning of community-based forest management using geographic information system and remote sensing technologies in forest resources management in the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand” proposed by Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand;
- “Developing High Valuable Species in Viet Nam and Thailand as a Mechanism for Sustainable Forest Management and Livelihood Improvement for Local Communities” proposed by Thailand and Viet Nam; and

- “Domestication of Endangered, Endemic and Threatened Plant Species in Disturbed Terrestrial Ecosystems in Malaysia and Thailand” proposed by Malaysia and Thailand.

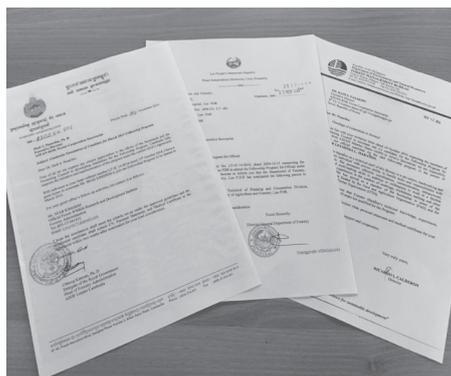
After evaluation and improvement of project proposals, the project document for Cambodia/Viet Nam project and Philippines/Indonesia/Thailand project have been finalized and approved by the Governing Council. Signing of MOU for project implementation took place between ROK and the lead countries during the occasion of the 5th Session of the Governing Council on 9 December 2014. The Governing Council looked forward to finalization of project documents of the remaining projects.



4. Fellowship Program for Officials from ASEAN Member States to AFoCo Secretariat

At the 4th Session of the Governing Council held on 30 April 2014, in Manila, Philippines, the Secretariat proposed a fellowship program, where officials from ASEAN Member States are invited for a short term attachment to the AFoCo Secretariat. The Governing Council welcomed the proposal and reviewed the draft guideline for the proposed program. As advised by the Governing Council, the Secretariat consolidated comments and inputs to the draft guideline for approval. The guidelines was finalized and approved by the Governing Council on 12 September 2014.

Soon after the guideline was endorsed, the Secretariat sent official invitation on 16 October 2014 for nomination of fellowship officials by 24 November 2014. The Secretariat received nomination from the Philippines, Lao PDR, and Cambodia by 24 November 2014. The Secretariat received additional nomination from Malaysia and Viet Nam later.



The Governing Council at its fifth session recommended the Secretariat to start with Cambodia, Lao PDR, and the Philippines for the selection of the final candidates for the program beginning in March 2015. In case the nominated delegates do not meet the basic qualifications, the Secretariat was requested open second round of nomination from the Parties for consideration of the Governing Council.

IV

Extension of the Agreement

AFoCo ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Following the signing of the AFoCo Agreement on 18 November 2011 in Bali, it entered into force on 5 August 2012. By March 2013, all 11 Parties to the Agreement completed respective domestic procedure and participated fully in the activities under the Agreement.

In order to support the implementation of on-going regional projects which are expected to continue beyond the current term of the Agreement as well as to support on-going dialogue for the establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO), the 3rd Session of the Governing Council approved the proposal by the Republic of Korea to extend the Agreement for 2 more years.

A technical meeting was arranged on 10 December 2013 to share views on the importance of the extension and discussed on the procedure among technical bodies in ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat. ROK Permanent Mission to ASEAN, on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK, extended an official proposal for extension to the Parties through the ASEAN Secretariat together with draft amendment on 6 January 2014.

The ASEAN Member States thoroughly reviewed the draft amendment and consolidated common views on the format and formality procedures. Considering lengthy procedures for amendment, the ASEAN Members, with the facilitation of the ASEAN Secretariat, agreed to take a more practical way to formalize the extension and proposed the “Instrument of Extension”.



The text of the Instrument of Extension was reviewed by the Parties at a technical meeting held on 21 May 2014. The meeting consolidated comments and output a final draft. The meeting also considered the possible signing at the Post Ministerial Conference to be held in the first week of August 2014 however the meeting was moved to a later date and the Parties had to consider another venue for the signing. The text of the Instrument of Extension was finalized at the 18th ASEAN-ROK Dialogue on 18-20 June 2014 in Busan. The Parties also decided to give full powers to respective permanent representative to ASEAN for the signing.

After Parties completed necessary domestic procedures, duly authorized representatives of all Parties signed the instrument for entry into force of the extension of AFoCo Agreement for two years until 4 August 2016. The extension of AFoCo paved the way towards continuing and further expanding AFoCo cooperation projects as well as moving a step forward to establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization.



**INSTRUMENT OF EXTENSION
OF
THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF
THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS AND THE REPUBLIC OF
KOREA ON FOREST COOPERATION**

WHEREAS the Agreement between the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea on Forest Cooperation ("the Agreement") was signed on 18 November 2011 in Bali, Indonesia;

WHEREAS the Agreement entered into force on 5 August 2012, and shall remain in force, pursuant to Article XI (4) of the Agreement, until 4 August 2014;

WHEREAS Article XI (4) read with Article VII (4) of the Agreement provides that an extension of the Agreement may be agreed upon by the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Parties");

WHEREAS the Governing Council established under the Agreement at its 3rd Session held on 18 October 2013 in Singapore agreed to extend the validity of the Agreement for a period of two (2) years;

NOW, therefore, the Parties hereby express their consent to extend the Agreement until 4 August 2016, unless terminated in advance in accordance with Article XIV of the Agreement;

FOLLOWING its signature by all Parties, this Instrument shall enter into force on 5 August 2014.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by the Parties, have signed this Instrument.

DONE at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia, this Fourth day of August in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen, in two original copies, in the English language.

For Brunei Darussalam:


H.E. Amb. Emaleen Abdul Rahman Teo
Permanent Representative of Brunei
Darussalam to ASEAN

For the Republic of Korea:


H.E. Amb. Baek Seong-taek
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea
to ASEAN

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:


H.E. Amb. Kan Pharith
Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of Cambodia to ASEAN

For the Republic of Indonesia:


H.E. Amb. Rahmat Pramono
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Indonesia to ASEAN

For the Lao People's
Democratic Republic:


H.E. Amb. Latsamy Keomany
Permanent Representative of Lao PDR to
ASEAN

For Malaysia:


H.E. Amb. Hasnudin Hamzah
Permanent Representative of Malaysia to
ASEAN

For the Republic of
the Union of Myanmar:


H.E. Amb. Min Lwin
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of the Union of Myanmar to
ASEAN

For the Republic of the Philippines:


H.E. Amb. Elizabeth P. Buensuceso
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of the Philippines to ASEAN

For the Republic of Singapore:


H.E. Amb. Tan Hung Seng
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Singapore to ASEAN

For the Kingdom of Thailand:


H.E. Amb. Suvat Chirapant
Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of Thailand to ASEAN

For the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:


H.E. Amb. Vu Dang Dung
Permanent Representative of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to ASEAN



Assessment for the Implementation of the Agreement

AFoCo ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Soon after entry into force of the Agreement on 5 August 2012, the institutional bodies, namely, the Governing Council and the Secretariat were established and implementation of activities has been underway in accordance with the objectives and areas of cooperation stipulated under the Agreement. The Agreement also stipulates the Governing Council to develop specific procedure and terms of reference, and to carry out a mutually agreed assessment of the Agreement in order to continue to promote and expand cooperative activities towards the establishment of AFoCO.

In this regard, a Technical Meeting for Assessment for the Implementation of the Agreement was convened on 26 March 2013 in Manila, Philippines to review and finalize the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Taskforce for Assessment for the Implementation of the Agreement (TF-Assessment). The Governing Council later endorsed the documents and nominated Members of TF-Assessment.

The 1st meeting of the TF-Assessment was held on 28 April 2014 in Manila, Philippines in conjunction with the 4th session of the Governing Council. This meeting elected ROK as the chairperson of TF-Assessment and agreed to select an external consulting agency to support Assessment activities.



The AFoCo Secretariat circulated a draft Terms of Reference for the external agency to conduct the assessment for consideration of TF-Assessment in end May 2014. Following the comments from members of TF-Assessment, the Terms of Reference was finalized and approved in June 2014. In accordance with the selection criteria of the Terms of Reference, Institute of International Development Cooperation (IIDC) of Yeungnam University from ROK was identified as an external consulting agency and given a service contract in December 2014. Soon after, consultant team was formed comprising Dr. Han, Dong Geun from Yeungnam University as the team leader; Dr. Lee, Yohan from Yeungnam University; Dr. Park, Sung Min from Sungkyunkwan University; Dr. MarloMendoza, from University of Philippines, Los Baños; and Dr. Dodik Ridho Nurrochmat from Bogor Agricultural University.

The consultant team will conduct documents review, stakeholders' interview, questionnaire survey and relevant policy review from January to March 2015.

Members of Taskforce for Assessment for the Implementation of the Agreement

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Forestry Department
Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources

CAMBODIA

Mr. Hang Suntra
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Industry and International Cooperation
Forestry Administration
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and
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INDONESIA

Mr. Thomas Nifinluri
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Cooperation Division,
Forestry Research and Development Agency

LAO PDR

Mr. Bounsouane Phongphichith
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Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

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SINGAPORE

National Parks Board
Singapore

THAILAND

Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk
Director of International Cooperation
Division
International Cooperation Office
Royal Forest Department

VIET NAM

Mr. Luu Tien Dat
Official of Department of Science,
Technology and International Cooperation
Viet Nam Administration of Forestry

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Choi Youngtae
Director, International Cooperation Division
Korea Forest Service

VI

Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization



AFoCo ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The AFoCo Agreement stipulates that a dialogue for the establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) shall commence soon after entry into force of the Agreement in anticipation of finalizing a separate arrangement for AFoCO.

Following the decision of the First Session of the Governing Council to form a “working group” for the establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization, AFoCO with big “O”, the working group had two meetings to seek for appropriate dialogue platform. The working group recommended establishing a multilateral mechanism that could accommodate all prospective members to AFoCO, including the parties to the current agreement and other Asian countries to be invited. The Third Session of the Governing Council held in October 2013 endorsed the new dialogue platform.



Since the First Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (Dialogue-AFoCO) organized in Busan in December 2013, the round of negotiation had four meetings.

The 2nd Meeting of Dialogue-AFoCO was organized on 26-27 February 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The members of the Dialogue-AFoCO reviewed and discussed the draft legal text of Agreement and provided inputs. Soon after the meeting the AFoCo Secretariat received further comments for consolidation and consideration at the next meeting.



The 3rd Meeting of Dialogue-AFoCO was held on 22-23 May 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. This meeting reviewed the draft Agreement text mainly based on the comments received. The draft Articles were agreed in principle with minor editorial modifications. However, provisions relating to financing and decision-making needed more discussion and domestic consultation in respective countries.



The 4th Meeting was held on 30 September to 1 October 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The only outstanding issue in the draft Agreement is regarding decision making. The ROK is expected to coordinate with ROK's foreign affairs side for circulation



of the latest draft text to all dialogue members through diplomatic channel for finalization of the Agreement aiming for its signing in mid-2015.





VII

Issues and Challenges



AFoCo ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The activities under the Agreement were implemented upon approval and guidance by the Governing Council. In the implementation of these activities, some issues and challenges were encountered.

The Secretariat made efforts to implement activities in accordance with the approved plan of activities. The Parties viewed that the activities are generally well implemented and encouraged to continue efforts for successful implementation of cooperation activities in the future. Although there were satisfactory evaluations by the participants on AFoCo Activities of 2014, it was found that more time would be needed for good and efficient coordination with the host countries. At the Preparatory Meeting for the 5th Session of the Governing Council, it was advised to reduce the number of activities, focusing on strategic areas of the AFoCo, and begin preparation of organizing events 6 months prior to the scheduled activity.

In implementing regional projects approved by the Governing Council, domestic concerns and legality issues among the participating countries was kept unresolved for a prolonged period. Eventually the Governing Council had decided to withdraw the project. There is a need for all Parties and the Secretariat to consider legal and protocol arrangement in developing and implementing future regional cooperation projects.

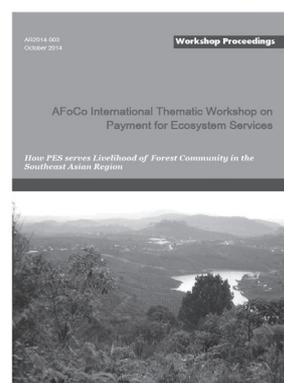
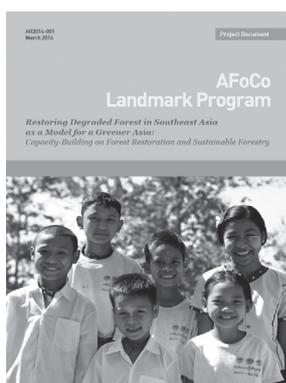
The Dialogue-AFoCO also faced with challenges in reaching consensus to finalize the draft Agreement for the Establishment of AFoCO. The Secretariat viewed that close coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant ministries in respective countries would help reaching a compromised position on certain issues more effectively.

VIII  Publication



Publications in 2014 include:

- “Restoring Degraded Forest in Southeast Asia as a Model for a Greener Asia: Capacity-Building on Forest Restoration and Sustainable Forestry” published in March 2014;
- “Forest Education and Research in Asia: Reality, Challenges, and Way Forward” published in September 2014; and
- “How PES Serves Livelihood of Forest Community in the Southeast Asian Region?” published in December 2014.



The fourth issue of the newsletter was published in September 2014. Several other publicity materials were printed including leaflets introducing Landmark Program and accomplishments of the individual projects 2011-2012.



Introductory video was produced for Landmark Program. The video highlights how little efforts can actually change the world and AFoCo's hopes to contribute to "Greener Asia" through the AFoCo Landmark Program and its four project components. In addition, a video on two year achievement was produced highlighting on the project activities and way forward.



A DVD compilation of publication and videos was produced by the Secretariat to inform the public about AFoCo and its activities. The DVD also features the Korea's way to manage forests, followed by the ASEAN-ROK forest cooperation, and on-going AFoCo programs. The unique experience of forest rehabilitation in South Korea is becoming a model case for many developing countries.

AFoCo is engaging in online publicity through online newsletter, Facebook pages and Twitter.

<https://www.facebook.com/afocosec>

<https://www.facebook.com/AFoCoLandmark>

<https://twitter.com/afocosec>

<https://afoconews.wordpress.com/>





Appendix

Appendix 1

Members of the Governing Council

Members of the Governing Council are represented by a senior official on forestry from each member country. Functions of the Governing Council include adopting relevant Rules of Procedures, approval of program and budget for activities, and promoting and strengthening cooperation with other relevant organizations to ensure synergies and avoid duplication of efforts.

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Director, Department of Forestry
Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources

CAMBODIA

Dr. Chea Sam Ang
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Senior Advisor to the Minister for Economic and International Trade
Ministry of Forestry

LAO PDR

Mr. Thongphath Vongmany
Director-General of Department of Forestry
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

MALAYSIA

Datuk Dr. Abdul Rahim Bin Nik
Deputy Secretary General (Environment)
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Director General, Forest Department
Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry

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Mr. Ricardo L. Calderon
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Dr. LEE Chang-jae
Director General of International Affairs Bureau
Korea Forest Service

The ASEAN Secretariat (Resource Person)
Senior Officer
Agriculture Industries & Natural Resources Division
The ASEAN Secretariat

Note: The list is as of 31 December 2014.

Appendix 2

2015 Plan of Activities

MONTH	TITLE
January	21 Jan. [Landmark Program] Working Group Meetings for RETC & Reforestation Project (Thailand)
	22 Jan. [Mekong Project] Technical Meeting of Mekong Project (Thailand)
	22 Jan. [New Regional Project (NRP)] Technical Meeting for New Regional Project (Thailand)
February	1 st week [Landmark Program] Announcement of 2015 AFoCo Landmark Graduate Scholarship Programs
	23-26 Feb. [Capacity Building Project] Study tour on REDD+ Demonstration Activities in Meru Betiri National Park, Indonesia (Indonesia)
March	26 Mar. [TF-Assessment] 2 nd Meeting of TF-Assessment (Philippines)
	1 st week [Landmark Program] Focus Group Meeting for AFoCo RETC building design (Myanmar or ROK)
	9-14 Mar. [Mekong Project] Regional Training Course: Enhancing Livelihood through Community Forestry, RECOFTC (Thailand)
	3 rd week [Landmark Program] Training Program 1. Forest Policy and Saemaul Undong (ROK)
	[NRP/Cambodia and Viet Nam] Project Inception Workshop (Cambodia)
	22 Mar.-3 Apr. [8th Executive Forest Policy Course] People, Land use and Forests in the ASEAN: Policy Challenges in the 21 st Century, Organized by FAORAP (Myanmar)
[Fellowship Program] Starting of Fellowship Program 2015	
April	8-9 Apr. [Governing Council] 6 th Session of AFoCo Governing Council (tbd)
	[Dialogue] 5 th Dialogue-AFoCo (tbd)

MONTH	TITLE
May	1 st week [Landmark Program] 2 nd Steering Committee Meeting for AFoCo RETC (Myanmar)
	3 rd week [Landmark Program] Training Program 3: GIS & Forest Resource Assessment (tbd)
	7-8 May. [Tech Meeting] Technical Meeting for developing new project(s) as alternative of BIMPS (tbd)
June	3 rd week [Landmark Program] Training Program 4: Forest Pathology Control (ROK)
	[NRP/Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand] Regional Workshop for the Conduct of Comparative Assessment of in-Country Community Forest Management Planning (Philippines)
	2-3 Jun. [Workshop] 1 st Int'l Seminar for Developing Headquarter Agreement and Internal Rules & Regulations for AFoCO (tbd)
July	[Dialogue] 6 th Dialogue-AFoCO (tbd)
	3 rd week [Landmark Program] Training Program 5: Forest Nursery and Tree Planting (ROK)
	6-10 Jul. [Workshop] AFoCo Youth Workshop (tbd)
	28-31 Jul. [International Workshop] AFoCo Forest Week (ROK)
	[Ceremony] (After July) Signing Ceremony of the Agreement on the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) (tbd)
August	1 st week [Landmark Program] Announcement of 2016 AFoCo Landmark Graduate Scholarship Programs.
	3 rd week [Landmark Program] Training Program 6: Silviculture and Restoration. (tbd)
	[Capacity Building Project] Study tour on REDD+ Demonstration Activities in Central Lombok District (Indonesia)
	[Technical Meeting] 2 nd Meeting for Development of AFoCo Project Manual

Acronyms

AFoCO	Asian Forest Cooperation Organization
AFoCo	ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BIMPS	Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Singapore
Dialogue-AFoCO	Dialogue for the Establishment of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization
GC	Governing Council
IAI	Initiative for ASEAN Integration
IIASA	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
IIDC	Institute of International Development Cooperation of Yeungnam University
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
KFS	Korea Forest Service
MBC	Mekong Basin Countries
MOECAF	Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
PSPS	Park Cheong Hee School and Saemaul Undong Policy of Yeungnam University
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
ROK	Republic of Korea
RRR-DFE	Reclamation, Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystems
SU	Saemaul Undong (New Village Movement)
TF-Assessment	Taskforce for the Assessment of the Agreement
USD	United States Dollar

MONTH	TITLE
September	3 rd week [Landmark Program] Training Program 7: Forest Disaster Management (ROK)
	[Fellowship Program] Announcement of Fellowship Program 2016
October	2 nd week [Landmark Program] Groundbreaking Ceremony of AFoCo RETC (Myanmar)
	3 rd week [Landmark Program] Training Program 8: Forest Fire Management (ROK)
	[Capacity Building Project] Regional Workshop on Alternative Livelihood Development to Address the Adverse Impact of Climate Change (Thailand)
	9-10 Oct. [Tech Meeting] Technical Meeting for Developing Forest Fire Management Project (ROK)
	12-16 Oct. [Int'l Conference] Youth Program at the International Wildland Fire Conference (Pyungchang, ROK)
November	3-4 Nov. [Workshop] 2 nd Int'l Seminar for Developing Headquarter Agreement and Internal Rules & Regulations for AFoCO (tbd)
December	1-2 Dec. [Government Council] 7 th Session of AFoCo Governing Council (tbd)



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