

# Domestication of Endangered, Endemic and Threatened Plant Species in Disturbed Terrestrial Ecosystem in Malaysia and Thailand

**Project Duration** 6 years (2016-2022)

**Project Budget** USD 1,200,000

## ► Overview

The regional project (AFoCo/010/2016), "Domestication of Endangered, Endemic and Threatened Plant Species in Disturbed Terrestrial Ecosystem in Malaysia and Thailand", was initiated in April 2014 during the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the Governing Council of the Agreement on ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation.

Signing of a Memorandum of Agreement for the project was completed on 19 May 2016 among the ROK, Malaysia and Thailand. The project is implemented by the Forest Research Institute Malaysia and Royal Forest Department of Thailand.

Malaysia is the lead country for this project and the 6-year project will be completed in May 2022. An inception meeting of the project was held in August 2016 at Lampang, Thailand to discuss in detail on matters including methodology, species selection, reporting and financial procedures.

## ► Goal and Objectives

The project primarily aims to develop and transfer domestication techniques of endangered, endemic and threatened plant species in disturbed terrestrial ecosystem and biodiversity conservation in Malaysia and Thailand.

As implementing countries, Malaysia and Thailand will conduct research on domestication model of these species, and exchange knowledge and experiences with other ASEAN member countries through workshops and publications.

### Outputs

- Domestication plots covering 12 ha established on degraded sites with national red list species
- Technology transfer conducted through workshops at national and regional levels for capacity building within the ASEAN region



Technical discussion on ex-lignite mined site at Mae Moh mine, Lampang Thailand



## ► Implementation Progress

- An inception meeting was held at Lampang, Thailand on 25-26 August 2016
- The project sites have been identified in the two implementing countries (an ex-tin mine in Tin Tailing Afforestation Centre (TTAC), SPF Bidor, Perak, Malaysia and the ex-lignite landfill area in Mae Moh Mine, Lampang province and Takua Pa Experimental site, Thailand)
- The species have been identified and seedling preparation or collection has started.

## ► Expected Outcomes

Under this project, the domestication models of Endangered, Endemic and Threatened Plant Species will be established at the designated sites in Malaysia and Thailand. Due to different climatic zone from Lampang, selected species from Southern Thailand will be domesticated at Takua Pa Experimental Site. These models will play a crucial role in forest rehabilitation and biodiversity conservation in Malaysia and Thailand. In addition, other ASEAN countries will have the opportunities to learn the techniques through regional workshops and site visits. Thus, the domestication techniques developed in this project are expected to be shared, adopted and applied to similar sites in the region.



Project site in Mae Moh Mine, Thailand



Path clearing for GPS reading at the project site in Malaysia

The ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) is a regional cooperation mechanism in the forest sector between ASEAN Member States and the Republic of Korea. It 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", which was entered into force in August 2012. The AFoCo aims to tackle the issue of deforestation and forest conservation in the context of sustainable development, and broaden the scope to other Asian countries.



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