

A-22-7-10 –Annex-3. Summary on Training and Education Programs

Status of Training and Education Programs in 2022

No.	Date/Venue	Courses	Number of Trainees* (Male/Female)	Number of Countries*
AFoCO Regular Training (short-term)				
1	14-18 Mar./ Virtual	Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the Forest and Forestry Sector	54 (21/33)	14
2	29 April/ In-person	Project Performance Review (Annual Technical Workshop)	Conducted by the Secretariat (Cooperation and Project Division) as part of the Annual Technical Workshop	
3	16-20 May./ Virtual	Forest Crime and Sustainable Forest Management	25 (16/9)	10
4	26-29 July / In-person	Special Course on GIS-based Project Management	23 (16/7)	10
5	28-30 September / Virtual	AFoCO-ITTO Capacity Building Workshop on “Forest Landscape Restoration in the Asia-Pacific Region: Assessing Climate Change Finance & Carbon Benefits for FLR	51 (20/31)	14*
6	5-7 October / In person	A Post-session of the 2022 AFoCO-ITTO Capacity Building Workshop on “Forest Landscape Restoration in the Asia-Pacific Region: Assessing Climate Change Finance & Carbon Benefits for FLR “An Intensive discussion for FLR and REDD+”	10 (4/6)	9
7	17 & 22 Nov / Virtual, 29 Nov – 2 Dec / In-person	Joint Workshop with FAO on Conflict Resolution	To be updated	To be updated
8	November	Joint Workshop with ITTO, CBD and IUCN for Biodiversity Conservation	To be postponed to April 2023, after UNCBD COP15	
In-house Capacity-building Program for RETC Staff				
9	22 Feb-6 May/ In-person	Applied Computer Skill Training	12 (9/3)	1
10	11 May/ In-person	Fire Safety Training	34 (25/9)	1
Community Development Training				
11	30 May-5 June / In-person	(Myanmar) Growing Mushrooms, Bamboo and their Enterprises	25 (23/2)	1
12	August-November / In-person	(Cambodia) Community Seedlings Production using Cutting and Grafting Techniques	To be updated	To be updated
13	September-October/ In-person	(Myanmar) Bamboo Handicraft Making	To be updated	To be updated
14	May 2023 / Hybrid	(Philippines) Training on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation (CCAM) and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) for Community-Based Forest Management- People’s Organizations (CBFM-POs)	To be updated	To be updated

Eco-School Program				
15	September / In-person	Eco-Schools for Teachers in Myanmar	To be updated	To be updated
16	September / In-person	Eco-Schools for Teachers in Myanmar	To be updated	To be updated

(*including Fiji and Papua New Guinea)

AFoCO RETC Trainees of the Member Countries
(January 2019 ~ October 2022)

Country	Number of Certified Trainees*				Total
	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Bhutan	14	2	11	to be updated	to be updated
Brunei Darussalam	6	2	5	to be updated	to be updated
Cambodia	13	6	22	to be updated	to be updated
Indonesia	14	8	66	to be updated	to be updated
Kazakhstan	8	-	13	to be updated	to be updated
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	to be updated	to be updated
Lao PDR	10	6	9	to be updated	to be updated
Malaysia	-	-	6	to be updated	to be updated
Mongolia	6	4	9	to be updated	to be updated
Myanmar	24	10	14	to be updated	to be updated
Philippines	8	2	43	to be updated	to be updated
Singapore	2	2	5	to be updated	to be updated
Thailand	15	8	16	to be updated	to be updated
Timor-Leste	10	6	25	to be updated	to be updated
Viet Nam	14	8	12	to be updated	to be updated
Total	144	64	256	to be updated	to be updated

Note:

* Participants to AFoCO Regular Training and Joint Capacity-building workshops were included.

*Number of speakers, facilitators, and other countries' participants are not included.

A-22-7-10 –Annex-4. STEP Program**AFoCO STEP Researchers of the Member Countries**
(2019 ~ 2022)

Country	Number of STEP Researchers				Total
	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Bhutan	1	-	-	-	1
Brunei Darussalam	1	-	1	-	2
Cambodia	1	-	1	-	2
Indonesia	-	1	-	-	1
Kazakhstan	-	-	1	-	1
Lao PDR	-	1	-	-	1
Mongolia	-	-	-	-	-
Myanmar	1	1	-	-	2
Philippines	-	-	-	-	-
Thailand	-	-*	1	-	1
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	-
Viet Nam	1	-	-	-	1
Total	5	3	4	-	12

Note: *The nominee who did not participate the STEP program was not included.

Concept Note (draft)

Seed Conservation Promotion Program

“Keep Eternally Your Seeds for Future (KEYS for Future)”

with the Baekdudaegan Global Seed Vault (BGSV)

Background

Seeds are considered as the most efficient means for *ex-situ* conservation of plants under the steady biodiversity losses caused by deforestation and climate change. The Seed Conservation Promotion Program “Keep Eternally Your Seeds for Future (KEYS for Future)” serves the said concept as enhancing the genetic resource capacity of the member countries vigorously.

The uniqueness of the program is to store seed in the Baekdudaegan Global Seed Vault (BGSV), which is the only permanent storage facility in the world for wild plant seeds to stand natural and man-made disasters. The BGSV is a commemorative outcome of the Korea Forest Service (KFS) to express gratitude towards the global society for their aids for the last decades to the Republic of Korea (ROK). The ROK received aids from many countries, including the Asian countries, as the country was devastated during 1950s and 1960s by the Korean War and land use change for industrialization. During the era, these aids made the KFS's devotion more valuable, hence the forest of Korea was greened at a rapid pace.

The ROK, through the BGSV, has now a will to support the global society to cooperate in mitigating such consequences through joint efforts toward climate change and biodiversity. The BGSV is regarded as an ultimate insurance policy for world's wild plants supply, provisions for future generations to avoid ecological crises, and it will contribute to overcome the challenges to climate change and disasters. As storing seeds in the BGSV, the depositing organization or country have a full authority to utilize the seeds. Likewise, countries can jointly secure millions of seeds representing wild natural species available in the world today for centuries.

Benefits to AFoCO Member Countries

The member country can store the seeds in the BGSV to conserve the diversity of wild plants and to make a backup copy of the seeds. For the country that deposited the seeds in the BGSV, the BDNA can share opportunities as follows:

Firstly, various scientific and technical training will be provided including knowledge exchange with the BGSV in the future through the AFoCO STEP Program. Secondly, various seed studies that contained the quality, ability of seeds can be conducted using BDNA's state-of-the-art seed research facilities. In addition, the country will be favorably invited to workshops and symposia organized by the BDNA or BGSV.

About the Beakdudaegan National Arboretum (BDNA) and the BGSV

The BDNA is one of the AFoCO's partner organizations and currently cooperate with AFoCO in terms of conducting the Science and Technology Exchange Partnership (STEP) Program. The BDNA was established by KFS to operate the BGSV for a long-term seed storage and short- & mid-term seed bank for research of wild plant seeds.

The objectives of the BGSV can be summarized as follows: to conserve and protect the plant genetic resources sustainably and to have permanent security of seeds as source for regeneration and restoration of endangered, vulnerable or lost plant species in the world. BGSV has visions to become a leading seed storage facility in the world and to have storage of 10,000 species of wild plant seed by 2030.

BGSV is the second future-proofed seed storage facility in the world. Nevertheless, it is the first repository for wild plant resources (seeds). And it is the largest repository in Asia, with an area of 2,100 square meters, capable of storing more than two million accessions of seeds.

As located at an altitude of 600 m or higher, it is not affected by sea level rise which is the effect of the climate crisis. The storage is located deep underground and is protected from external physical shocks and reckless access. The storage is also built-in case of earthquakes. This special facility has been designated as an important facility of Korea and is being managed by the government, so it can be responsible for safety and security.

All seeds are always stored at minus 20 degrees and 40 percent relative humidity. Of course, this storage condition is checked every day and the stability of the storage is guaranteed through a close inspection twice a year. Your seeds will be always stored into the future under uniform conditions.

Qualification for Storing Seeds

No qualifications are required to store seeds.

Seed Types

All seeds of domestic wild plants that can be stored by an institute or seed bank in the country.

Costs or Fees

Free of charge policy for storing and protecting the seeds in the BGSV will be applied. The BGSV will provide all equipment for storing seeds such as the black box, bags, sealed labels, and others, including shipping costs.

Procedures for Seed Storing to the BGSV

STEP-1. Application for Seed Deposit

- Let us know your institutional or national intention of storing seeds in the BGSV by phone or e-mail to the AFoCO Secretariat.

STEP-2. Mutual Confirmation on Seed Inventory

- BGSV will provide a 'Seed Inventory Form' for storing seeds. The country should fill out the form and send to BGSV.
- BGSV will do a preliminary check of the seed inventory by quarantine list of the Korean government.
** Plants (or seeds) that are currently prohibited to be brought into Korea cannot be brought in. The BGSV are trying to solve the quarantine issues so that all plant seeds can be brought into Korea.*
- BGSV will inform the country about the list of seeds that can be stored in the Seed Vault accordingly, which has been confirmed for preliminary review.
- The researcher may carry out quarantine according to the sending country's quarantine laws against this list and secure documents.
**The number of seeds that can be stored in the seed vault may be limited subject to the capacity of the seed vault.*
- The country should send BGSV a 'Seed Deposit Request' for the seed list with 'Quarantine Result Certificate'.
**If necessary, BGSV can provide the 'Seed Deposit Request' form to the country.*

STEP-3. Transport of Seeds Using a Black Box

- BGSV will send the country all items of the black box for storing seeds. The country should pack the seeds in a black box. A separate guideline on how to use the black box will be provided.
- Shipping the black box to BGSV.
**At this time, the black box must be sealed, and the quarantine certificate issued in your country must be attached on the black box.*

- As BGSV receive the black box from the Korean Quarantine Headquarters, then BGSV will immediately proceed with the storage procedure for the seed vault.

STEP-4. Seed Conservation in the Seed Vault

- BGSV will determine the storage numbering and storage location of the black box. And your black box will be stored in the seed vault permanently.
- Once the seed has conserved in the seed vault, BGSV will issue the 'Seed Conservation Deposit Certificate' with all storage information. The certificate will be sent to the country by e-mail and postal mail.

Further Consideration for Capacity Building

The AFoCO can bridge the proposed seed storage program of “Keep Eternally Your Seed for Future (KEYS for Future)” to the STEP Program upon the wishes of the member countries who want to access the BGSV for capacity building.

A-22-7-10 – Annex-6. Landmark Scholarship Program**AFoCO Landmark Scholarship Recipients of the Member Countries**
(2014 ~ 2022)

Country	Number of Scholarship Recipient		Total
	Doctoral	Master's	
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-
Cambodia	1 (KNU)	1 (YU PSPS)	2
Indonesia	2 (UOS / KNU)	1 (YU PSPS)	3
Lao PDR	1 (CNU)	2 (KWNU / YU PSPS)	3
Malaysia	-	-	-
Myanmar	1 (SNU)	3 (CBNU / CNU / YU PSPS)	4
Philippines	-	2 (DKU)	2
Singapore	-	-	-
Thailand	2 (SNU / YU)	1 (YU PSPS)	3
Viet Nam	-	5 (YU PSPS / KMU / SNU / KNU)	4
Total	7	15	22

Abbreviation

KNU: Kookmin University

YU PSPS: Yeungnam University, Park Chung Hee School of Policy and Saemaul

UOS: University of Seoul

CNU: Chungnam National University

KWNU: Kangwon National University

SNU: Seoul National University

CBNU: Chungbuk National University

DKU: Dongguk University

YU: Yeungnam University

KMU: Kookmin University

A-22-7-10 – Annex-7. Fellowship Program

AFoCO Fellowship Officials of the Member Countries
(2015 ~ 2022)

Country	Number of Fellowship Officials							Total
	2015	2016	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Bhutan	-	-	1	1	1	1	to be updated	to be updated
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Cambodia	-	1	1	1	1	-	to be updated	to be updated
Indonesia	1	-	-	-	1	-	to be updated	to be updated
Lao PDR	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kazakhstan	-	-	-	-	-	1	to be updated	to be updated
Malaysia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mongolia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Myanmar	-	-	1	-	1	1	to be updated	to be updated
Philippines	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Singapore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thailand	1	-	-	-	-	1	to be updated	to be updated
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Viet Nam	1	-	1	1	1	-	to be updated	to be updated
Total	4	3	4	3	7	6	4	31