Towards Regional Cooperation in the Field of FLR in Asia through AFoCO

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Background

• **International Meeting for SFM & Climate Change**
  - UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)
  - CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity)
  - UNCCD (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification)
  - UNFF (United Nations Forum on Forests)

• **Economic aspect**
  - ROK -> The 8th largest economic country (amount of export & import)
  - ROK’s contribution for the world

• **Successful story of the ROK**
  (Rehabilitation for degraded and deforested land)
  - The Republic of Korea embarked on a four-fold programme in 1973…
    The programme succeeded beyond expectations (FAO Unasylva, 1981).
  - S.Korea is a reforestation model for the world. We can reforest the earth
    (Lester Brown, 2008).
  - Highly praised the successful rehabilitation in Korea (Achim Steiner,
    Executive Director of UNEP, 2008 10th Ramsar Convention)
Successful Story of Rehabilitation

Seongbuk-dong area, Seoul, Republic of Korea in the 1950s and present

Past
- GNI per capita in 1953 = USD 67
- Population density = 222 people/km²
- Growing stock per ha = 6 m³

Present
- GNI per capita in 2010 = USD 20,000
- Population density = 485 people/km²
- Growing stock per ha = 126 m³
Successful Story of Rehabilitation

The past

Planting for restoration: 2.1 mil ha, 12 bil trees
Fuelwood forests: 643,000 ha
Rehabilitation by erosion control: 120,000 ha

Present

Changes in Growing Stock (Unit: m³/ha)

Korea is the sole developing country in the world that has been successful in reforestation after the Second World War (FAO, 1982)
Progress in Establishment of AFoCO

- AFoCO was proposed by Korean Government at the “ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit” (1-2 June 2009 in Jeju)

- ASEAN-ROK Foreign Affairs Ministers signed the “ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation Agreement” at the 14th ASEAN-ROK Summit (18 November 2011 in Bali) and paved the way for the establishment of AFoCO

- The Agreement entered into force on 5 August 2012 after ROK and 6 ASEAN Member States completed respective domestic procedure
Progress in Establishment of AFoCO and Management

- Agreement Between the Governments of the Republic of Korea and the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on Forest Cooperation

- Date of Entry into Force: 5 August 2012

- Institutional Arrangement: Governing Council and Secretariat (located in Seoul, ROK)

- A separate legally binding arrangement for AFoCO is targeted within this Agreement period (within two years)

- Financial Arrangements:
  - Operation costs: ASEAN:ROK = 1:9
  - Project funding: voluntary contribution
What can we do through AFoCO? (Vision & Mission)

AFoCO, a legally binding regional organization established by an intergovernmental multilateral arrangement involving 10 ASEAN countries, ROK, and more other Asian countries.

Sustainable Development for a Green Asia

- Forest rehabilitation and prevention of forest-related disasters
  - Rebuild forest ecosystem to prevent calamities
  - Restore degraded tropical forests and combat desertification in Asia
  - Prevent forest disasters
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
  - Enhance forest carbon stocks and support initiatives on mitigation and adaptation of impacts of climate change
  - Support REDD activities prevent forest disasters
  - Reinforce sound industrial plantation within the region
- Sustainable forest management
  - Promote sustainable forest management practices
  - Encourage sustainable trade of forest products
  - Protect livelihood of forest dependent and indigenous communities
  - Promote community-based forestry activities
- Capacity building and transfer of technology
  - Establish human resource development
    - Promote public awareness
    - Research and development in forest sector
  - Establish database for comprehensive information sharing
Roles & Structure of AFoCo Secretariat

• Role of the Secretariat
  : Assisting the Council in the coordination of, monitoring of, and reporting on all approved programmes, plans and activities.

• Organizational Structure
  - Current: Executive Director (1), Vice Executive Director (1), Planning, Budget and HR Management Team (5), International Cooperation Team (3)
  - Dr. Hadisusanto Pasaribu, first ED of the Secretariat has already been appointed at the 2nd Session of the Governing Council. He will work for the Secretariat upcoming June.
Individual Cooperation Project

- **Budget:** USD 700,000
- **Period:** 1 Year (2013~2014)
- **Proponent:** 7 ASEAN Member States (except for Brunei and Singapore)

**Activities**
- Restoration of degraded forests
- Mitigation of climate change
- Biodiversity and conservation
- NTFPs development and community forestry
- Human capacity development
Regional Cooperation Project 1

Reclamation, Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystems

• Budget: USD 1 Million
• Period: 2 Years (2013~2014)
• Proponent
  – Mekong Project: Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam
  – BIMPS Project: Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore

• Activities
  – Biodiversity conservation, forest restoration through pilot testing, technology transfer and capacity development
Regional Cooperation Project 2

Capacity Building on Improving Forest Resources Assessment and Enhancing the Involvement of the Local Communities to Address the Adverse Impact of Climate Change

• Budget: USD 2 Million
• Period: 2 Years (2013~2014)
• Proponent: 10 ASEAN Member States
• Activities
  - Regional workshops on forest resources assessment
  - Capacity building on recent technologies for forest resources assessment
  - Awareness raising and engagement of local communities in forest related activities
AFOCo Landmark Project

• Budget: USD 15 million
• Period: 2014-2023
• Proponent: ROK and 10 ASEAN Member States
• Activities
  A. Hardware (USD 5 million)
     ▪ Establishment of Regional Education and Training Center
  B. Software (USD 10 million)
     ▪ Development Education and Training Program for Capacity Building
     ▪ Restoration of Degraded Forest Regions
     ▪ Development of Advocating Activities
Challenges of AFoCO

• Expansion of AFoCO
  (11 Countries (Korea+10 ASEAN) → Asia (40) )

• Perspectives of Korean Economy
  - Growth rate: 3% (need fund raising)

• Competing & Going together with other environmental Int’l Org. which has its secretariat in Korea
  - GCF, GGGI, GTC, etc.

• Partnership with Others
  - Globally: FAO, ITTO, CIFOR, AFP, APFnet
  - Domestically: AKECOP, INFOCO, CCDASA
What is different from other International Organizations in forest or forestry?

1. Regional Organization for Asia

2. Action-oriented Organization
   - Rehabilitation for degraded & deforested area
   - Transfer know-how, experience, technology related to forest restoration & rehabilitation

3. Priority → Least Developed Countries & Developing Countries
Thank you

Ar Kun!
Terima kasih!
Khawp Chai lai lai!
Chezu tinbade!
Salamat Po!
Khawp khun khrap!
Cam on!
Kamsahamnida!