UNFF Side Event for UNFCCC COP 26

Prevention of Forest Fires in the Tropics: ITTO
Forest Fire Projects in Peru and Indonesia

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The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

- An intergovernmental organization established in 1986; 74 members – consumer and producer memberships; HQs – Yokohama, Japan;
- Promoting the conservation and sustainable management, use and trade of tropical forest resources – Policy & Project Work
ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests

- **Initiated** after the extended fire and smoke pollution episode in SE Asia during the El Niño of **1982-83**
- **Published in 1997** – in the year of the second severe El Niño
- Contributions from leading world experts, including **Prof. Dr. Johann Goldammer**, Global Fire Monitoring Center in Germany
- Provide a guide for policy-makers and managers to develop programs/projects to address specific national, socio-economic problems related to fire in natural and planted tropical forests

### 27 principles and recommended actions

- Policy and legislation;
- Integrated fire management planning;
- Monitoring and research;
- Institutional framework;
- Socio-economic considerations
- Training and public education
ITTO new fire projects in Peru and Indonesia:

- Peru – SERFOR
- Indonesia – Ministry of Environment and Forestry

The Government of Japan provided financial support to implement two forest fire projects in Peru and Indonesia with a combined value of USD 2.2 million

- Under Japanese government Initiative for “Emergency Support to Large Scale Forest Fires in the Amazon region and Indonesia”
- To address global environmental concerns relating to climate change, biodiversity conservation and people’s health
Launching of Peru’s SERFOR-ITTO Fire Project on 28 July 2021 with the aim of tackling the threat of wildfire in Peru
**AREAS:** It targets regions that are especially vulnerable to forest fire - five departments of Cajamarca, Huánuco, Junín, Pasco and Ucayali in Peru.

**MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS:** Local communities, indigenous groups, farmers, fire brigades, forest enterprises, non-governmental organizations and local and national agencies are all expected to benefit from the project.
Objective

To improve prevention of forest and land fire through strengthening management and technical capacity of stakeholders at three targeted provinces and national level.

Activities

- Develop zero-burning practices (land preparation without burning) for fire prevention applied by local communities/Fire Care Community.
- Strengthen fire management capacity of Fire Brigade (Manggala Agni).
- Develop fire prevention patrol reporting system (SMART Patrol system).
- Provide safety equipment and fire infrastructure for Fire Brigade (Manggala Agni).
- Organize regional (South East Asia) webinar series on fire prevention and management.
Central and South Kalimantan and South Sumatera are categorized as fire-prone provinces and burn every year.

Technical training of fire management for Fire Brigade (Manggala Agni)
Monthly Webinar Series (July – Oct 2021)

1. Policy and Research Development of Indonesia
   Speakers:
   - R. Basar Manullang (Dir. FLFM)
   - Prof. Dr. Bambang Hero Saharjo (IND)

2. Prevention and Management of Forest and Land Fires in South East Asia
   - Dr. Veerachai Tanpipat (THA)
   - Prof. Dr. Bambang Hero Saharjo (IDN)

3. The FDRS with Anthropogenic and New Technologies and Innovations for Future Fires
   - Prof. Dr. Ahmad A. Nuruddin (MYS)
   - Hartanto Sanjaya (IDN)
   - Dr. Richard Woods (AUS)

4. Mitigation and Collaboration Governance Model for Fire Prevention
   - Dr. Wida SH Suhaili (BRN)
   - Dody Ruswandi (IDN)
   - Jean-Michele Dumaz (FRA)

- Proactive participation of many stakeholders (more than 160 participants) in each webinar
- Indonesia MoEF-ITTO Forest Fire Project plans to organize regional workshop in January 2022 in C Kalimantan or S Sumatra in a hybrid format

Capacity Building on Forest and Land Fire Management in Indonesia
LESSONS LEARNT & The way forward

Improving fire management in the tropics is urgent

- Millions of forest fires burn in the tropics each year; huge economics costs and severe impacts on human health and ecosystems
- Indonesia’s devastating forest fires in destroyed 10-11 million ha (1997/1998) and 8 million ha (2015); In 2019, released around 708 million tonnes of CO2 into the atmosphere
- Tropical forests are reducing their ability to act as “carbon sinks”. Amazon could turn into source of CO2 in atmosphere by next decade, research suggests (The Guardian, 4 March 2020)

Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use: From Political commitment to action

- Over 130 leaders, accounting for more than 90% of the world’s forests, have committed to work together to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030
- Urgent need to support programs/ projects to address national, environmental, socio-economic problems related to forest fire in tropical forests