



Role of AFoCO to support Primary forest conservation in Asia

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Historical Background

- ❑ First proposed by the Republic of Korea at the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit in Jeju, ROK in **2009**.
- ❑ The initial phase of the cooperation mechanism between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea was signed on the 19th ASEAN-ROK Summit on **19 November 2011** in Bali, Indonesia
- ❑ The ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) entered into force on **5 August 2012** (2011-2016)
- ❑ A new Dialogue for the establishment of the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) was formed and the agreement was adopted on **22 September 2015** and entered in to force on **27 April 2018**
- ❑ The members of the Dialogue outside of the **ASEAN Member States** includes **Bhutan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia** and **Timor-Leste**.

Principle Organs of AFoCO

The Assembly: Represented by Senior Officials on Forestry from each Party. It is headed by a President elected among the members of the Assembly. The Assembly is the decision-making body of the organization.

The Secretariat: Headed by The Executive Director and based in Seoul South Korea. It is independent and international in nature. It carries out diverse roles including planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting to the Assembly.



AFoCO Member Countries



The Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) as a Multilateral Agreement was registered with The Secretariat of The United Nations (**Treaty Collection No. 55833**) since 13 December 2019.

Parties (13)

Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
Indonesia
Kazakhstan
Lao PDR
Mongolia
Myanmar
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Viet Nam

Observers (2)

Malaysia
Singapore

Vision & Mission

A greener Asia with resilient forests,
landscapes, and communities

with mission to
strengthen cooperation in the forest sector and
promote action-oriented practices of sustainable forest management
through policy support, capacity development, and inclusive
partnerships to address the adverse impacts of climate change.

Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

To contribute to the member countries in:

- Achieving the **global goal of increasing forest cover up to 3% worldwide**;
- Implementing the **Paris Agreement on climate change** particularly in pursuit of policy approaches for adaptation in the forestry sector;
- **Improving livelihood and income** through forestry-related activities

Initiating customized **restoration & reforestation models**



Supporting research & development in **climate change adaptation approaches**



Introducing systematic management on **forest-related disasters**



Local livelihood improvement & community-based small enterprise development



Strengthening **institutional capabilities**, diversifying **resources** & promoting **regional actions**



Strategic Approach

Action-oriented Implementation



Transforming proven technology and policies into concrete actions in the context of sustainable forest management and addressing deforestation and forest degradation at the ground level

Regional-based Partnership



Fostering close cooperation through joint efforts of participating countries towards a common regional goal

Country-driven Project Development



Developing projects based on each country's priorities under specific national strategies

Project Portfolio

1. Six (6) projects completed (~ USD 6.0 million)
2. Thirteen (13) on-going projects (~ USD 21.9 million)
3. Six (6) projects under inception arrangements (~ USD 6.8 million)
4. Seven (7) projects in the pipeline (~ USD 8.1 million)

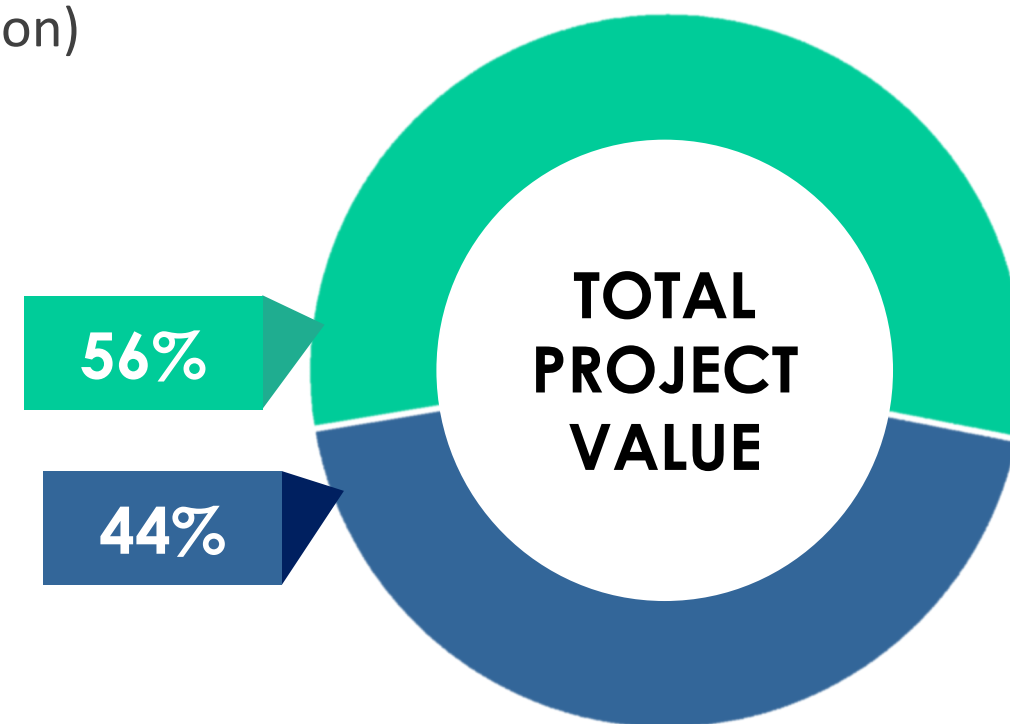
PROJECT FUND DISTRIBUTION (2013-2021)

Total Project Value (USD)	62.4 M
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AFoCO Funding	34.7 M
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National Contributions	27.7 M
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*including in cash and in-kind contributions



Capacity Building Programs

The **AFoCO Science and Technology Exchange Partnership Program (STEP Program)** is an intensive one-month training program at leading forestry-related science and technology institutions aimed at providing quality training to enhance knowledge and skills in specific fields of forestry.

The **Scholarship Program under the AFoCO Landmark Program**, is implemented for the government officials from ASEAN Member states to study for a graduate degree in the field of forestry in the Republic of Korea.

Regular opportunities for government officials from Parties to work in the Secretariat is offered through the **Fellowship Program**.

Regular training courses are run to strengthen the capacities of policy-makers, technical practitioners and researchers in the forestry sector to help contribute to the sustainable management of forests to address climate change and societal challenges. The core training areas are **Forest Rehabilitation and Reforestation**, **Forest Fire Management**, and **Community Based Forest Management**.

Capacity Building Programs



5 RESEARCHERS
AFoCO STEP PROGRAM



17 OFFICIALS
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



19 RECIPIENTS: 3 MSc, 6 PhD
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



1,532 STUDENTS in Global Youth Camps



6,305 PARTICIPANTS in **63** TRAINING COURSES

AFoCO's role in primary forest conservation

1. Provide a platform for exchange of expertise and technical cooperation in areas of forest restoration and rehabilitation through the implementation of Regional Projects and Landmark Programs
2. Strengthen forestry institutions and enhance forest governance through capacity development programs for forest policy makers, technical forestry practitioners and researchers in the forestry sector to help contribute to the sustainable management of forests to address climate change and societal challenges
3. Contribute to poverty reduction and resiliency of upland and forest dependent communities through investment in sustainable and economically viable livelihood country projects
4. Promote private sector participation and investment in forest resources management through our fund mobilization program and Partnership Program
5. Expand our partnership in restoring Asian drylands and drought prone areas in Southeast Asia, South Asia, East Asia and Central Asia through our Landscape Partnership Asia in partnership with CIFOR-ICRAFT, and Global Evergreening Alliance
6. Raise level of awareness of the private and public sector and the youth in the importance of forest resources through our intensive information sharing and education campaign

AS A FORMAL REGIONAL BODY, AFoCO WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE BRIDGE IN ORDER TO ENHANCE CROSS-SECTORAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG MEMBER PARTIES AND PARTNER INSTITUTIONS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION OF GOODS AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES, BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION, AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION.

THANK YOU

<http://afocosec.org/>

