

Summary of the Report of the 2nd Steering Committee meeting of Phatam Project, held in Bangkok on 19 November 2002

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Project title	PD 15/00 Rev. 2 (F) Management of the Phatam Protected Forest Complex to promote cooperation for transboundary biodiversity conservation between Thailand, Cambodia and Laos (Phase 1)
Country	Thailand
Implementing agency	Royal Forestry Department (RFD)
ITTO contribution to budget	USD 629,624.-
Contribution of the Royal Government of Thailand	USD 281,430.-
Donors countries	Japan, Switzerland, The Netherlands, USA
Duration	2 years
Starting date	October 2001.

The second meeting of the Steering Committee of the above project took place on 19 November 2002 in Bangkok. M. Sawat Dulyapach, Deputy Director General of the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, chaired it. Participants included the senior officials of the Royal Forest Department, ITTO representative, Donor representatives (Switzerland, The Netherlands), project senior staff, and a local stakeholder representative. The agenda of the meeting included, among other things, the review of the project progress and structure, review of the financial situation, analysis of the Yearly Plan of Operations (YPO).

On the progress made so far, the PSC noted with great satisfaction that the project was on schedule for most outputs. However it recommended the project to have closer linkage with other ITTO-supported projects in Thailand in order to exchange experiences and make use of technologies developed by these projects. It also requested the Executing Agency to consider the membership of the PSC again, in order to adequately include delegates from local communities and those of other relevant stakeholders. The Committee approved the YPO with some modifications on the budget, and adopted the project's progress report and financial report.

The PSC was also informed on the intention of RFD to include the area of Buntarik-Yodmon in the Phatam Protected Forest Complex. This will turn the Complex into a continuous protected area along the border with Laos and Cambodia. The Committee agreed that the area of Buntarik-Yodmon be include in the project area and be covered by the Management Plan to be elaborated.

On the future of the project, the PSC advised the project to elaborate by mid-2003 a draft proposal for Phase II, so that it can be submitted to the next PSC meeting for comments before submission to ITTO. The proposal for the second phase will be based on the draft Management Plan that should be made available by mid-2003.