

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
Forest Department



**Workshop on Regional Collaboration to Control Illegal Timber
and Forest Products Movement and Addressing
Trans boundary Displacement**

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Viet Nam

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1. Country Profile

Location

- in main-land Southeast Asia
- Latitudes = $9^{\circ} 58'$ to $28^{\circ} 29'$ North
- Longitudes = $92^{\circ} 10'$ to $101^{\circ} 10'$ East

Area

- Total land area = $676,577 \text{ km}^2$

Population

- 51.4 million (2014)
- 70% are in rural area
- 135 different nationalities

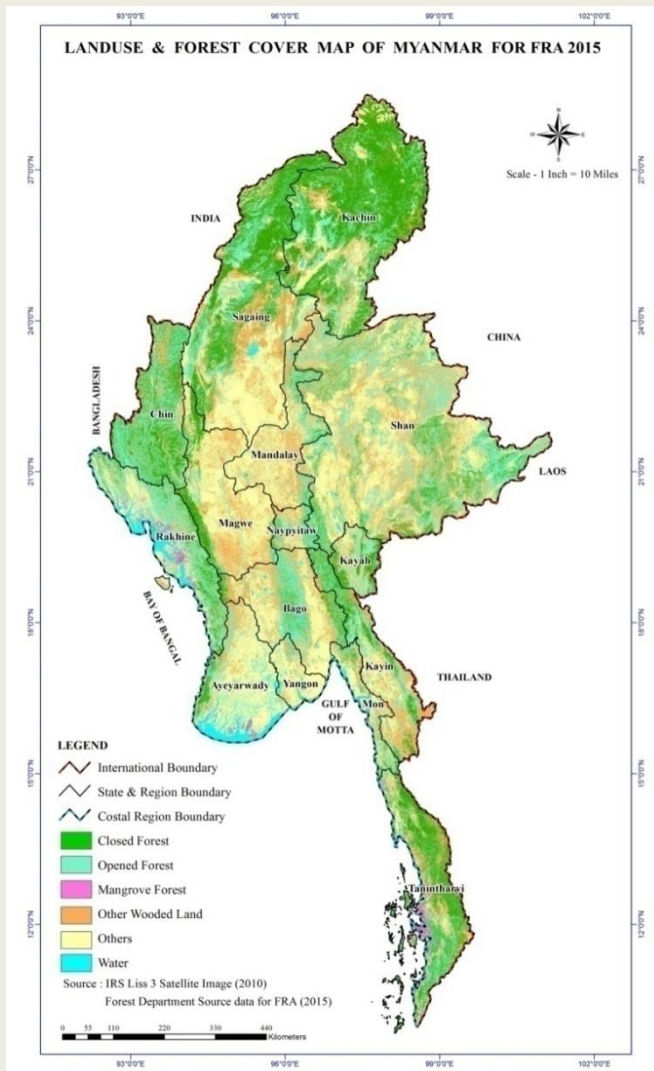
Three different Seasons

- Hot Season (32° C to 38° C)
- Cold Season (10° C to 25° C)
- Rainy Season (25° C to 33° C)

Location Map of Myanmar



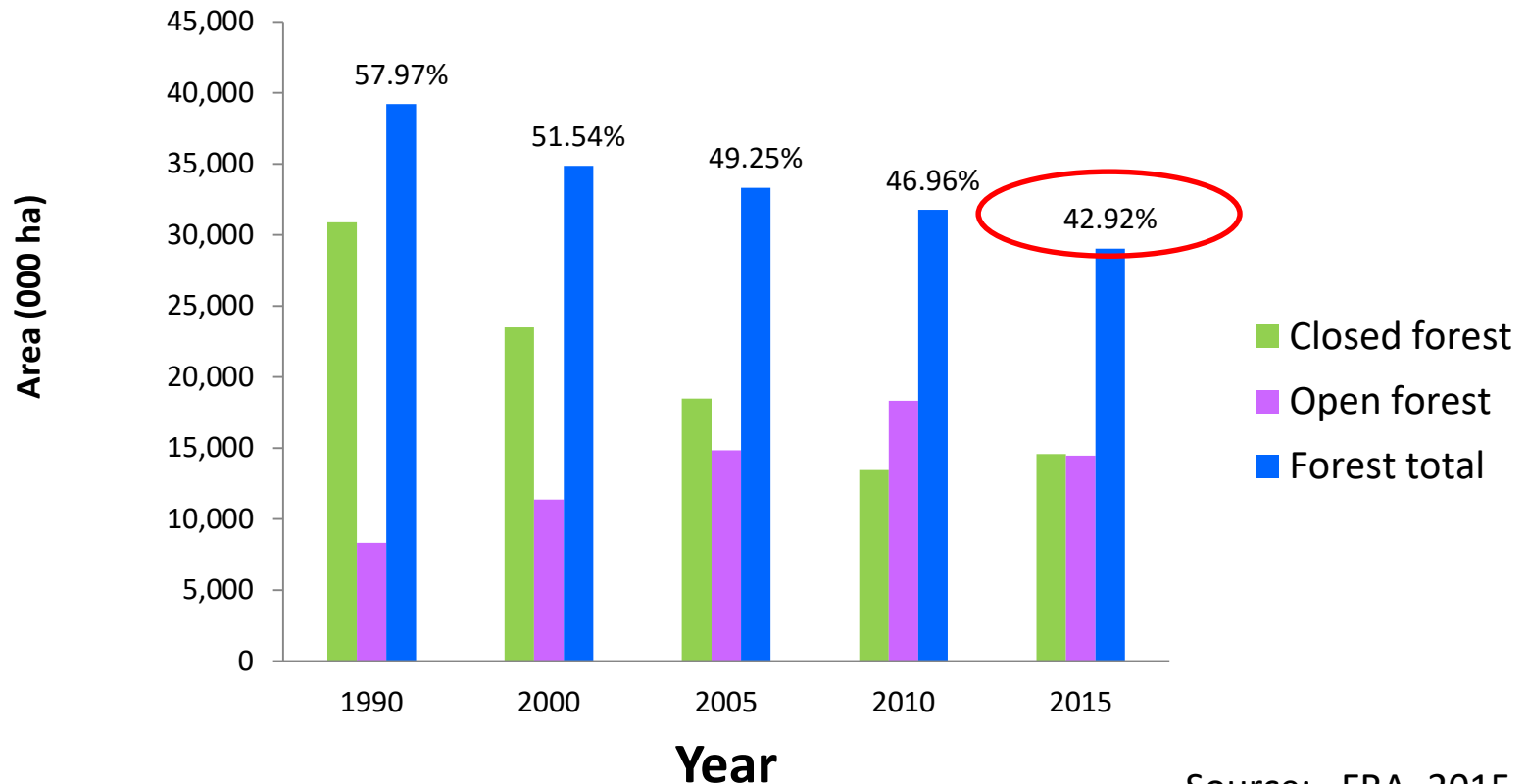
2. Forest Cover Status



Area	Area (,000 ha)	% of total country area
Forest Types		
Closed forest	14585.00	21.56
Open forest	14456.00	21.36
Total	29041.00	42.92
Degraded forest	15080.	22.29
Other land	21634.00	31.98
Water	1903.00	2.81
Total	67659.38	100.00

Source: FRA, 2015

2. Forest Cover Status



Source: FRA, 2015

Deforestation rate from 1990 to 2000 = 1.2 % (435,000 ha/yr)

Deforestation rate from 2000 to 2010 = 0.9 % (309,000 ha/yr)

Deforestation rate from 2010 to 2015 = 1.8 % (546,000 ha /yr)

3. Laws and Regulations

- (a) Myanmar Forest Policy (1995)
- (b) Forest Law (2018)
- (c) Forest Rules (1995)
- (d) Biodiversity and Conservation of Protected Area Law(2018)
- (e) Protection of Wildlife and Protected Areas Rules (2002)



4. Forest Law Enforcement Operations in Myanmar

Five major operations in forest law enforcement

- 1. Seizure with systematic planning at the major routes of illegal timber trade.**
- 2. Operations carried out according to reported information.**
- 3. Compatible cooperation with other relevant organizations (National / Regional / International).**
- 4. Regular seizure by the planning of different levels (Township, District, Division).**
- 5. Investigation and seizure on the possible routes of illegal timber trade to neighboring countries.**

Recorded Photos



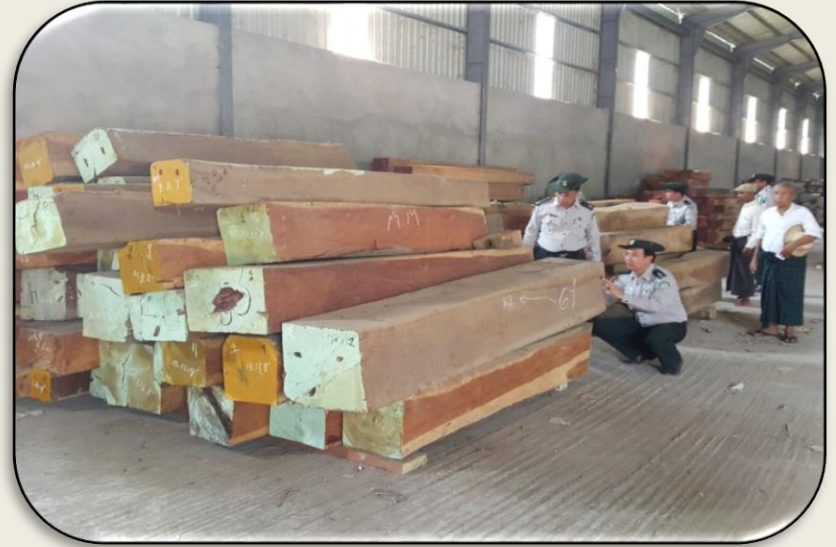
Recorded Photos



Recorded Photos



**Recorded Photos of Seizure in No.(145/B), U Tun Nyo Road, Industrial Zone (1),
Dagon Harbor Township, Yangon**



4. Forest Law Enforcement Operations in Myanmar

Compatible Cooperation with other Organizations (National Organizations)

- **General Administration Department,**
- **Custom,**
- **Myanmar Police Force,**
- **Forest Police Force,**
- **Other relevant organizations,**
- **In insurgent areas, operate in cooperation with Army, Police, Forest Police and other organizations**



4. Forest Law Enforcement Operations in Myanmar

Compatible Cooperation with other Organizations (International Organizations)

- **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora –CITES (a signatory party to since 1997)**
- **ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN)**
- **INTERPOL**
- **Trade Record Analysis of Fauna and Flora in Commerce (TRAFFIC)**
- **Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)**
- **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)**
- **Monitoring Illegal Killing of Wild Elephant (MIKE)**
- **Indian Wildlife Crime Control Bureau**
- **MoU with China (SFA)**
- **Implementing EU FLEGT VPA Process.**

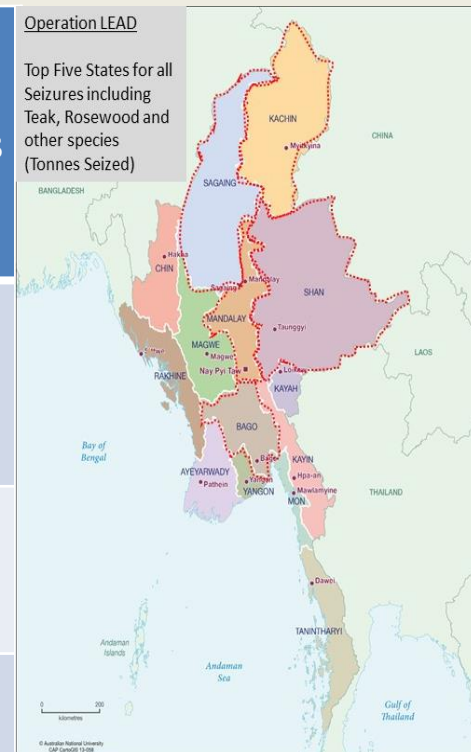


Implementation of Operation LEAD from 2nd May 2017 to 30 June 2017 in Myanmar

Operation LEAD(Law Enforcement Against Deforestation), in the Mekong Region such as Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, led by INTERPOL was implemented from 2-5-2017 to 30-6-2017 in Myanmar.

Operation LEAD Results

Period	Teak (ton)	Hardwood and Rosewood (ton)	Other Species (ton)	Total (ton)	Offenders	Vehicles
Phase 1: 2 May - 15 June	0.0840	129.54	1.49	131.12	30	38
Phase 2: 16 - 30 June	246.00	277.25	416.52	939.78	149	117
Total	246.08	406.79	418.02	1070.82	179	155



5. Summary of Seized Illegal Timber, Offenders & Vehicle/ Vessel during the period of 2014-15 to 2018, Sep:

No	Year	Teak	Hardwood	Others	Amount (tonnes)	Offende-rs	vehicles
1	2014-15	11401.2845	18081.2027	22242.7372	51725.2244	6766	2915
2	2015-16	15747.2354	10438.6916	19967.1314	46153.0584	5548	1944
3	20-16-17	13944.6587	12977.1027	23104.7370	50025.4984	8337	2599
4	2017-18	11056.5081	13340.9868	24283.6212	48681.1161	7305	3483
5	2018 April-September	5093.1287	5395.8919	8130.6360	18619.6566	3265	1992
Total		57242.8154	60233.8757	97728.8682	215205.55	31221	12933

**(31221) offenders (including (204) foreigners) were seized.
1 ton = 1.4158 cubic meter**

5. Total Wildlife and Wild Plant Crime list in different States and Regions in Myanmar (from 2014-15 to 2018 Sept)

States & Regions / Fiscal Yr.	Kachin	Kayar	Kayin	Chin	Mon	Rakhine	Shan	Sagaing	Mandalay	Magway	Bago	Yangon	Ayeyarwaddy	Taninthayi	Nay Pyi Taw	Total
2014-15	0	0	0	3	0	2	8	8	6	0	1	1	5	0	3	37
2015-16	1	0	0	1	0	2	10	5	3	0	4	2	1	0	1	30
2016-17	2	0	3	2	1	3	9	2	4	5	5	3	15	2	1	57
2017-18	1	0	0	7	0	0	16	6	6	2	2	3	19	2	0	64
2018 Sept	0	0	0	2	1	5	8	2	7	2	4	7	9	1	0	48
Total	4	0	3	15	2	12	51	23	26	9	16	16	49	5	5	236

5. Seized Illegal Wildlife Trade and Prosecutions (from 2014-15 to 2018 Sept)

No.	State and Region	Cases	Offenders
1	Ayeyawady	49	95
2	Kachin	4	6
3	Kayar	0	0
4	Kayin	3	4
5	Sagaing	23	19
6	Magwe	9	10
7	Mandalay	26	15
8	Mon	2	2
9	Yangon	16	44
10	Bago	16	18
11	Chin	15	13
12	Rakhine	12	17
13	Shan	51	42
14	Tanintharyi	5	7
15	Naypyitaw	5	1
	Total	236	293

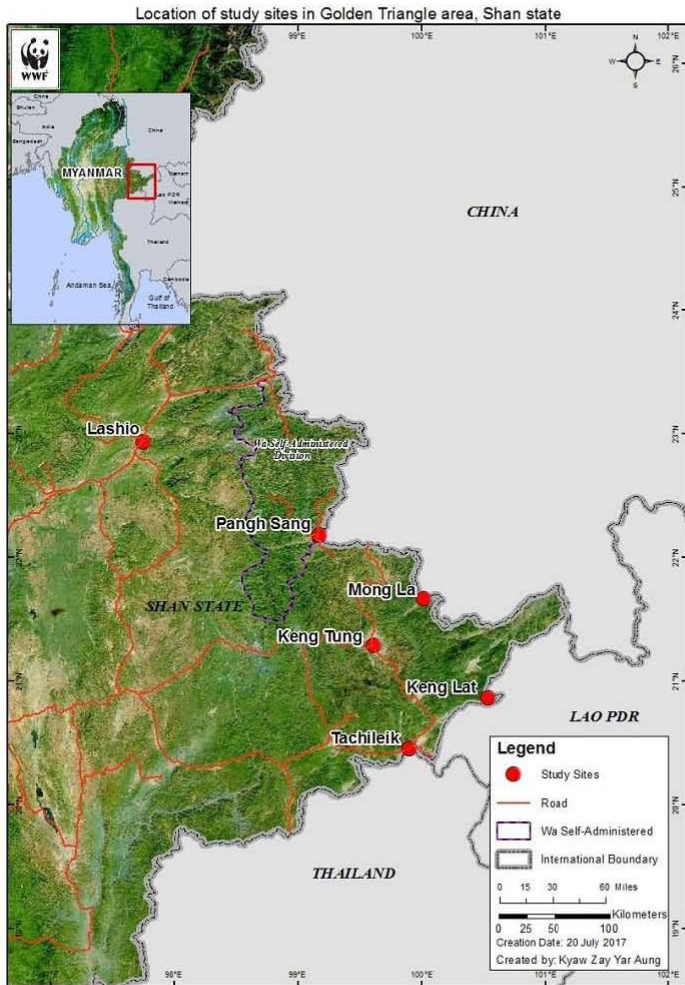
5. Illegal Killing of Wild Elephants(from 2014-15 to 2018 Sept)

State/Division	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 Sept	Total
Ayeyawady	5	17	14	12	7	55
Bago	-	1	4	2	2	9
Yangon	1	4	5	4	3	17
Rakhine	1	1	1	-	-	3
Mandalay	-	-	-	4	3	7
Magwe	1	-	-	-	-	1
NPT	1	1	-	-	-	2
Sagaing	-	-	-	-	1	1
Summary	9	24	24	22	16	95

Seized illegal wildlife crime



Wildlife Species Documented in Markets



Tachileik

Wildlife Species Documented in Markets



Kyaing Tong



Wildlife Species Documented in Markets



Mong La

6. Routes of Illegal Timber Trade to Neighboring Countries from Myanmar

These are the possible **major timber smuggling routes**,

- (8) routes from Kachin State to **China**
- (16) routes from Shan State to China
- (1) route from Sagaing Division to **India**
- (6) routes from Rakhine State to **Bangladesh**,
- (1) route from Chin State to India
- (1) route from Kayin State to **Thailand**
- (5) routes from Tanintharyi Division to Bangladesh, Thailand, **Malaysia**,
Singapore

7. Constraints in Combating Illegal Logging and Timber Trade

The major constraints are-

- **Occupational hazards**
- **Insufficient staff**
- **Limited facility and budget**
- **Inaccessibility**
- **Limited cross sector collaboration**
- **Trans boundary collaboration**

7. Constraints in Combating Illegal Logging and Timber Trade

Case of counter-attack

- Killed 1 District Forest Officer form Linkhay District and 5 other forest staffs
- Injured other 27 forest Staffs



8. Ways Forward

- **To recruit enough staff, security and facilities in needed area particularly in border areas**
- **To give awards for informing and seizing illegal forest products**
- **To accelerate the amendment of Forest Law and Rules for the effective punishment and control for forestry crimes**
- **To check and seize the trade of illegal forest products by using high technologies (CCTV, X-ray Scanner, etc...)**
- **To improve international/regional collaboration for the investigation of trans boundary timber smuggling**
- **To get the technical / training and other supports for combating timber smuggling**

9. Example of Illegal Timber Seizure

Seizure

- From 15.9.2016 to 21.10.2016
- **9209 logs** (7048.874 ton) of **illegal timber** (*Pinus insularis*, *Michelia Champaca*, *Prunus cerasoides*)
- at **Kawnglanghpu Township**, Puta-O District in **Kachin State Myanmar**
- Officials from Myanmar **Forest Department** and **Army Force**



Location of Kaunglanphu Township in Myanmar

9. Example of Illegal Timber Seizure

Start Seizure process

- Get information: Yangon route in more illegally seizure Padauk came from the forest staff undercover investigation,
- Date/Time : 24th Jan 2017, (12:50)pm
- Place : MIP Compound, **Ahlon Township, Yangon**
- Seizure : **Illegal Teak (33.60)tons** within (2) containers
- Offender : (4) suspects, (1) suspect (fled)
- Take action in accordance with section 43(a) of Forest Law (1992) at the Police stations

9. Example of Illegal Timber Seizure

Seizure

- From 24.1.2017 to 14.2.2017
- **1530.8912 tons of illegal timber** (*Tectona grandis*-Teak (99.5380) tons, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*- Padauk (1383.6897)tons, *Dalbergia oliveri*-Tamalan (39.1590)tons & *Albizia lebbek*-Kokko (8.5045)tons) together with 34 offenders, 37 containers, 6 vehicles
- at Ahlon, Inn-sein, Thingangyaun **Townships in Yangon Region Myanmar**
- Officials from Myanmar **Forest Department, Forest Police Force,** Myanmar Police Force and Local authority

9. Example of Illegal Timber Seizure

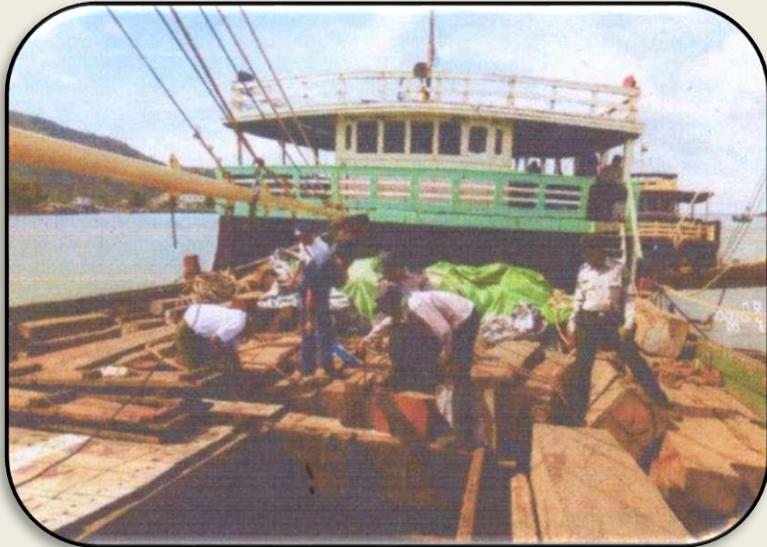
Seizure

- From January 2017 to April 2017
- **332.4920 tons of illegal timber and logs** together with many vehicles.
- In the insurgent areas of Namkham, Muse **Townships in Northern Shan State.**
- Patrolling group of Myanmar Army

9. Example of Illegal Timber Seizure

- Date/ Time : 8th Sep 2017, (16:00)pm
- Place : Latitude 10· 59', Longitude 96· 05' 30" , **Bokpyin Township**,
Kawthoung District, Tanintharyi Region
- Organization of Seizure : Navy, No. (567) Navy ship
- Seizure : **Illegal Teak & Padauk (121.057)tons**
Zeyatheidi-1 Motorboat Schooner vessel, Length (91)ft, Width (31)ft, Height (12)ft, wood body, (280) HP (2) engines
- Destination : according to forest offence inquiry, **Penan Harbor, Malaysia**
- Offender : (12) workers of water-craft including helmsman
- Take action in accordance with section 6(1) of Public Property Protection Act (1947) at the Police Station

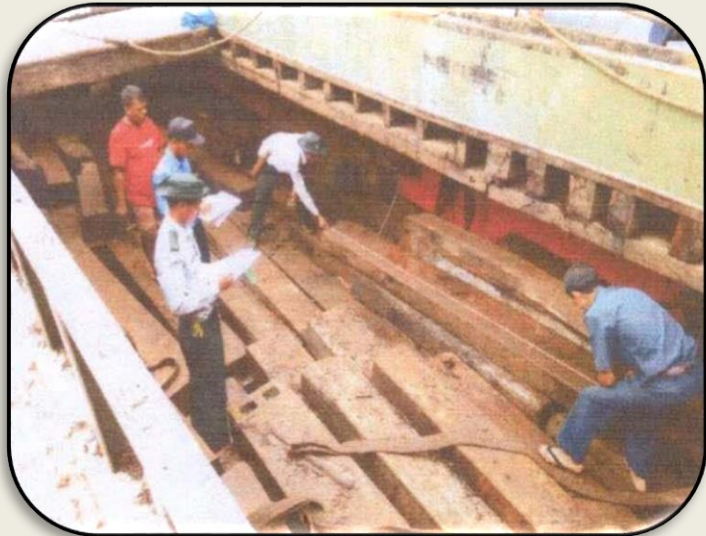
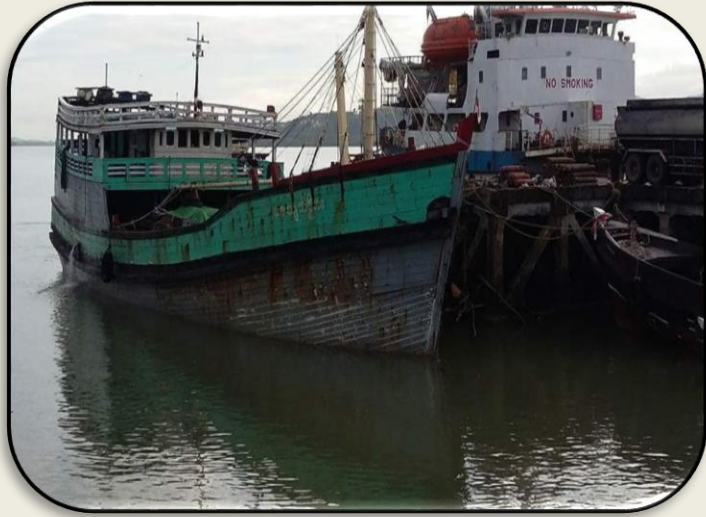
Recorded Photos



9. Example of Illegal Timber Seizure

- Date/ Time : 8th Sep 2017, (15:45)pm
- Place : Latitude 10· 54' 30", Longitude 96· 02' 48" , **Bokpyin Township, Kawthoung District, Tanintharyi Region**
- Organization of Seizure : Navy, No. (567) Navy ship
- Seizure : **Illegal Teak & Padauk (97.434)tons**
Annawarsoemoe-1 Motorboat Schooner vessel, Length (87)ft, Width (20)ft, Height (9)ft, wood body, (280) HP (2) engines
- Destination : **Penan Harbor, Malaysia**
- Offender : (11) workers of water-craft including helmsman
- Take action : in accordance with section 6(1) of Public Property Protection Act (1947) at the Police Station

Recorded Photos



9. Example of Illegal Timber Seizure

Seizure

- In October, 2018
- **85.6678 tons of illegal rosewood** together with 13 offenders on a smuggled Motorboat Schooner vessel.
- Near **Kyaikmaraw Township in Mon State**
- Patrolling group of Myanmar Navy.

Accusation

- The offenders are prosecuting at local court in accordance with Forest Law 2018.

Further actions

- Investigate at the source of illegal timber
- Regular investigations are carrying out by township forest officers

10. Conclusion

Wood smuggling

- One of the major **sources of deforestation and forest degradation.**
- **Loose** the large amount of **revenues** in country's development programmes.
- Favorable to **decrease carbon sequestration** and to increase global warming effects.

Forest Department

- Fully **emphasize to eradicate wood smuggling** crimes with **all possible efforts**
- Willing to **participate in the effective collaboration** between **neighboring countries** regarding the **trans-boundary issues.**
- try to get the **cooperation** of neighboring countries **for mutual Socio-economic benefits**

Thanks For Your Kind Attention!

