**Introduction and Technical Meeting/Workshop on Regional Websites for ASEAN Forestry Cooperation**

(Bandung, 12/09/12)\_ Indonesia represent by Forestry Engineering and Forest Product Processing Research and Development Center (FEFProc) – Forestry Research and Development Agency (FORDA) develop ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network on Forest Product Development (ARKN-FPD) with the website address: [www.arkn-fpd.org](http://www.arkn-fpd.org/).

ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network on Forest Product Development (ARKN-FPD) is a network between ASEAN member states (AMS), founded base on the 2nd meeting resolution of ASEAN Experts Group on Forest Product Development (AEG-FPD) in Manila (2010). That meeting was also assigned Indonesia as lead country for ARKN-FPD.

ARKN-FPD was initiated to be an information pool, harmonize forest product standard and regulations, and promote research and development network on forest product development trough AMS. Dr.Putera Parthama, head of FEFProc stated that “Indonesia as lead country initiate develop ARKN-FPD website ([www.arkn-fpd.org](http://www.arkn-fpd.org/)) as the first step to the real network between AMS”. He also said that this website was built as media for communication forum, data and information exchange, and promotes networking on forest product development between AMS. Furthermore, the network was initiated to strengthen ASEAN as a community in forest product world trade constellation.

ARKN FPD website provides information on forest product, regulation, publication, standard, capacity building, news and events related to forest product development. This websites also provides a discussion forum to facilitate posting and comment on forest product development.

To introduce the website and improve the capacity of AMS admin, Indonesian Ministry of Forestry trough FEFProc, was organize Technical Meeting/Workshop on Regional Websites for ASEAN Forestry Cooperation in Bandung, 12-14 September 2012. The workshop was held to provide technical explanation on managing two websites: ARKN-FPD and ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN). After the workshop, country admin are expected to be fully understood the structure, content, and website management technique to manage the website and keep it update. The workshop was also elaborate response about existing ARKN FPD website for further improvement.

Eight AMS (Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar dan Vietnam) were presented in the workshop. Ir. Sugeng Marsudiarto, M.Sc., Head of Private Forest and Partnership Sub Directory, Indonesian Ministry of Forestry and Sagita Arhidani, (Chairman of ASFN Secretariat) were also present as speaker in the workshop.

On the introduction of the website, Dr. Putera said that ARKN FPD website was designed as dynamic and multi admin web which provide an opportunity of each AMS admin managing data and information on their country page. More, he said that the commitment of each AMS was needed to maintain the website update with high quality information. On that reason, country admin was participated in the development of the website to grow the sense of belonging on the website.

**Final launching of the website**

ARKN FPD website will be launched at 2012 AMAF meeting in Vientiene, at the end of September 2012. Every menu in the website of each country page should have been uploaded by latest data and information before the meeting. On that reason, the workshop also invites some Indonesian stakeholders: APHI, APKINDO, Pustanling, BUK, IPB, and senior researchers. They are will be asked to provide data and information needed for Indonesian country page continuously.

Contribution and commitment of each AMS and stakeholder related in developing ARKN FPD website as information and data source are expected trigger the real productive network between AMS on forest product development program.(DP)\*\*\*