

MALAYSIAN TIMBER INDUSTRY BOARD Maskayu

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VOLUME 2



**Brainstorming Timber
Usage** In Construction



Visioning Workshop:
Strengthening Study Of
The Malaysia Timber
Legality Assurance
System



Workshop on
**Karas Tree Inoculum
Processing And Inoculation
Technique Agarwood
Production**

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Workshop on Karas Tree Inoculum Processing and Inoculation Technique For Agarwood Production

Prepared by: Encik Muhd Muzakkir Kamaruzaman

Inoculum usually refers to the fungal culture injected into the tree to induce the formation of agarwood. The karas tree only produce agarwood naturally when infected or wounded. As such, to speed up and control this process, farmers inject an inoculum containing specific fungi or microbes that stimulate agarwood resin formation. This process is known as inoculation. In Malaysia, several inoculation techniques are commonly used for karas trees, namely the sweep, the spiral, the single-hole and the notch techniques.

To enhance awareness of the importance of the inoculation process, Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), in collaboration with Aromatic Gaharu Bukit Rambai, organised a workshop on Karas Tree Inoculum Processing and Inoculation Techniques for Agarwood. The workshop was held from 24 to 25 February 2025 at Bukit Rambai, Melaka. Ts. Farydatul Nazly Mohd Zin, Deputy Director General of Development and Commercial, MTIB officiated the programme. She noted that the workshop was an MTIB initiative to assist growers and smallholders in the agarwood industry.

The objective of the workshop was to enhance the knowledge of participants including entrepreneurs and smallholders on the processes involved in producing inoculum and applying inoculation techniques for agarwood production. With such knowledge, they will be able to produce their own inoculum and subsequently inoculate their karas trees.

The speaker, Tuan Haji Shamsuddin Abd Razak, Director of Aromatic Gaharu Bukit Rambai, spoke on the basic ingredients for inoculum production, breeding stock, stock preparation and the inoculation technique.

The workshop adopted an interactive and hands-on approach, allowing participants to produce the inoculum themselves through guided practical sessions. The interactive format also encouraged knowledge sharing and collaboration among participants.

By the end of the workshop, the participants had successfully completed one (1) breeding stock. The programme was attended by 30 participants consisting of farmers, entrepreneurs, and related stakeholders.

BRAINSTORMING TIMBER USAGE IN CONSTRUCTION

Prepared by: Encik Muhammad Fu'ad Mohamad Ali

Amidst the rapid growth of Malaysia's construction industry, timber, a traditional material has slowly slipped into the background. Once a staple in building design, the use of wood in construction has seen a steady decline. Several factors may be to blame: rising costs, public doubt about its durability, and a diminishing supply of natural resources.

But hope is far from lost. Determined to revive timber's role in modern construction, the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) has taken a bold step forward by organising a large-scale brainstorming session, a strategic move aimed at reigniting the use of timber in Malaysia's building sector.

Held on 17 February 2025 at Bangi Resort Hotel, the event titled "Brainstorming Timber Usage in Construction" was more than just a discussion. The session also served as a platform for key stakeholders to come together and generate ideas, solutions, and actionable strategies to bring timber back into the spotlight.

The session was officially launched by the Director-General of MTIB, YBr. Tuan Saiful Bahri Salleh, who, in his opening speech, reaffirmed MTIB's commitment to revitalising timber as a core construction material in Malaysia. He highlighted MTIB's continuous efforts in conducting various research and development (R&D) projects focused on timber usage in the built environment, all with the aim of restoring public confidence in its strength, durability, and long-term value.



**Opening speech by the Director General of MTIB,
YBr. Tuan Saiful Bahri Salleh**

Through efforts like this, MTIB is not only tackling current challenges head-on but also working to rebuild public confidence in timber, a natural building material deeply rooted in Malaysia's architectural heritage, and one that still holds immense potential for sustainable development.

At the opening of the brainstorming session, Prof. Dr. Zakiah Ahmad gave a short and informative presentation about the current situation of timber use in construction in Malaysia. Her presentation offered participants a clearer understanding of the role and relevance of timber in local building practices, sparking renewed interest in this sustainable material.



Presentation by Prof. Dr. Zakiah Ahmad

To ensure meaningful discussions and targeted outcomes, participants were divided into four focus groups, each tasked with exploring specific aspects of timber development and strategy. The groups were:

Group

1

Research & Development

Group

2

Regulations & Standards

Group

3

Human Capital Development

Group

4

Promotion & Marketing

Each group brought together professionals and experts to share insights, identify challenges, and propose actionable solutions tailored to their respective topic. From strengthening industry standards to elevating the public image of timber through marketing, the discussions were rich with ideas on how to reposition timber as a viable, modern, and sustainable building material.



Group discussions

This structured approach allowed for a focused, multi-dimensional exploration of the issues at hand, laying the groundwork for a comprehensive strategy to bring timber back to the forefront of Malaysia's construction sector. As a result of the group discussions, an estimated eight short-term activities and seven long-term activities were proposed by each group. These proposals were formulated based on the (NSTIP) and the National Agrocommodity Policy, which served as key references in relation to the use of timber in construction.



Participating attendees

The initiative drew strong support, with participation from government agency representatives, academics from higher learning institutions, members of timber-related industry associations and MTIB officers. A total of 50 participants, professionals from a wide range of expertise, actively contributed to the dialogue, reflecting just how important and timely this issue is for the future of Malaysian construction.



**KAYU
MALAYSIA**
Standing on Excellence

**A nature's blessing
that evokes
memories to last.**



Visioning Workshop: Strengthening Study Of The Malaysia Timber Legality Assurance System

Prepared by: Encik Mohd Fariz Ahmad

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) in collaboration with 27 Advisory Sdn. Bhd. (MTIB-appointed consultant) organised a Visioning Workshop entitled 'Strengthening the Study of the Timber Legality Assurance System' on 24 February 2025 at Hyatt Place Bukit Jalil Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

The workshop aimed to gather input and feedback from stakeholders involved in the Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS). Its primary focus was to strengthen the existing certification framework, making it more uniform, comprehensive, and effective as a guideline for stakeholders in the national timber industry. Additionally, the workshop sought to address critical requirements related to sustainability, traceability, transparency, and legality of timber supply sources, in both domestic and international trade. Currently, Malaysia implements TLAS regionally, with distinct frameworks tailored to specific areas: MYTLAS in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah TLAS in Sabah, and STLVS in Sarawak.

The workshop was officiated by YBrs. Encik Mohd Amin Kadir, Deputy Director General (Management and Operations) of MTIB. In his opening speech, he emphasised the importance of cooperation to ensure the successful completion of the study. He stated that the study would span seven (7) months, from February to August 2025, as part of an initiative under the Sub-Committee on Mitigation of International Trade Legal Compliance (JKM³PA) overseen by the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities (KPK).

The workshop featured the following speakers:

- Objective of the Study and Workshop Programme – Mr. Girish Ramachandran
- From EUTR to VPA/FLEGT/TLAS to the EUDR – Mr. Christian Schriver
- Timber Legality – Prof. Dr. Jegatheswaran Ratnasingam

The workshop was conducted in three (3) separate sessions designed to facilitate comprehensive engagements with participants and gather actionable insights:

- Workshop/Plenary Discussion - Preliminary observations on gaps within the current TLAS and an interactive Mentimeter Survey to collect feedback
- Breakout Group Discussion - Identification of challenges in the current TLAS and exploration of potential solutions to harmonise the TLAS within the context of Malaysia's diverse regional frameworks
- Vision Setting – A Mentimeter Survey session enabling stakeholders to define a unified path forward towards TLAS improvement

The workshop was attended by nearly 100 participants, representing a diverse range of stakeholders, including representatives of government ministries, government agencies, councils, timber associations, and industry players from Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak. The active participation of stakeholders from across the country underscored the collective commitment towards improving Malaysia's Timber Legality Assurance System. 



IMPRESSIVE TRANSFORMS SDN. BHD. (587167-P)



Prepared by: Encik Husaini Ghani

Company Background

Impressive Transforms Sdn. Bhd. (ITSB) (587167-P) is a dynamic and rapidly growing Bumiputera company that has firmly established itself in Malaysia's timber industry. With a legacy of 18 years in the business, ITSB is a leading furniture manufacturer based in the state of Melaka. The company's expertise lies in crafting high-quality furniture from a variety of materials, including wood, panels, iron, and upholstery.

ITSB operates a factory spanning 4 acres, where it carries out rubberwood processing activities, which include sawmill, kiln drying, moulding, and furniture production. This comprehensive approach makes it a One Stop Center for rubberwood processing.

ITSB has the capability to produce its own raw materials with a high capacity, exceeding 3,000 tonnes per month. This capacity has positioned ITSB as a reliable supplier of raw materials to furniture manufacturers in the southern region of Malaysia since 2005. With years of experience and a strong commitment to quality, ITSB has built a solid reputation for meeting the growing demands of the furniture industry, ensuring consistent supply, and contributing to the development of the sector in the region.

One of ITSB's significant achievements is being the first bumiputera company in Melaka to produce rubberwood furniture. This milestone highlights ITSB's innovative approach and commitment to supporting sustainable practices in the timber industry.

At the heart of ITSB's success is its talented and dedicated team of artisans and craftsmen. Their skills and passion drive the company to stay ahead of contemporary trends, ensuring that every piece of furniture is not only functional but also a work of art that reflects the unique needs and desires of each customer.

With a focus on quality, innovation, and sustainability, ITSB continues to grow as a key player in the Malaysian furniture manufacturing landscape, delivering excellence in every product.

Company Mission



Assistance and Facilities

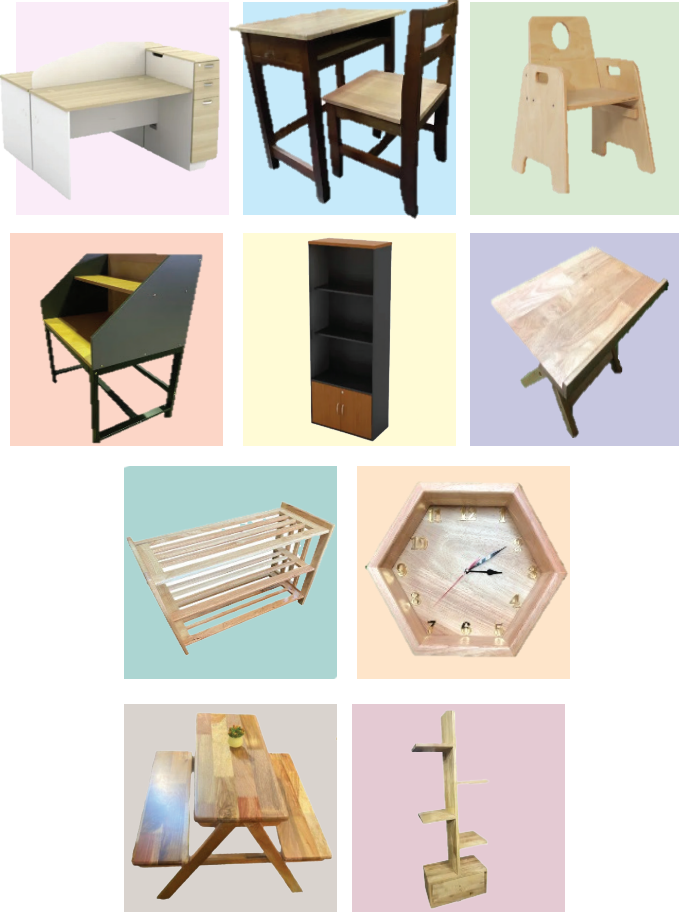
ITSB has successfully secured MTIB matching grant through 'Program Peningkatan Kapasiti Industri Ukiran Kayu Bumiputera (PPKU)' to acquire a CNC Double Ended Tenon woodworking machine, enhancing its production capacity for crafting school furniture. This investment marks a significant step towards boosting efficiency and meeting growing demand.

Furthermore, ITSB has also gained access to rental facilities at Pusat Kemasiapan Perabot (PKP) in Bukit Rambai, Melaka, further enhancing its operational capabilities.



Product Manufactured

ITSB produces a wide range of high-quality furniture including office, school, kindergarten, residential, dormitory, and hospital furniture to meet diverse needs across various sectors.



ITSB also supplies a range of high-quality raw materials, including timber logs, wet sawntimber, dry sawntimber and finger joint boards to meet needs of the timber and furniture industries.



Timber Log



Wet Sawn Timber



Finger Joint Boards

Production and Market

ITSB production of rubber logs is estimated to be between 2,000 and 3,000 tonnes per month, sourced from Negeri Sembilan, Melaka, and Northern Johor.



It has 2 kiln dry chambers, each with a capacity of 25 tonnes. There are 3 cycles per month depending on the thickness of the wood. The production capacity ranges from 100 to 150 tonnes per month.



ITSB has 4 units of bandsaw machines for cutting rubberwood. The production capacity of each machine is 3-4 tonnes per day, depending on the size of the wood.



ITSB produces 1,000 to 1,200 pieces of finger joint boards per month.



Awards and Achievement

ITSB won 3rd place for Best Booth Design at the Export Furniture Exhibition (EFE) 2018.



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January

Total export of Malaysian timber and timber products in January 2025 decreased by 7% in value, totalling at RM1.90 billion, down from RM2.05 billion in the previous month, December 2024. Similarly, compared to year-on-year performance, exports also decreased by 5% from RM2.01 billion in January 2024.

According to Global Wood Market Info, to boost domestic demand and promote high-standard production, China has adjusted import tariff rates for certain goods in 2025. Among them, tariffs on some imported wood products—including veneer, wood flooring, fibreboard, plywood, wooden doors, wooden formwork, wooden pallets, wooden tools, cork and cork products, and other related items have been revised. Most wood products however, continue to enjoy a provisional tax rate of 0% maintaining the policy implemented in 2024.

Data from China's National Forestry and Grassland Administration shows that the total output value of China's forestry industry reached 10.17 trillion yuan in 2024, marking a year-on-year growth of 9.6%. A key driver behind the growth is timber production which reached 137 million m³ in 2024 - representing an 8% increase compared to 2023. Recently, many shipping companies announced a new round of price increases for certain routes in March, adding cost pressure on Chinese wood importers. In response, some enterprises plan to mitigate these challenges by diversifying transportation methods and expanding their procurement sources.



2025

SAWNTIMBER

Total export of sawntimber in January 2025 decreased by 12% in volume and 25% in value to 70,169 m³ totalling at RM121.2 million, as compared to the previous month. Similarly, cumulative exports for the period of January 2024 - January 2025 decreased by 7% in volume and 23% in value to 70,169 m³ totalling at RM121.2 million over the previous corresponding period.

Exports to the EU for the month were recorded at 3,359 m³, increased by 14% compared to 2,959 m³ in the previous month. The Netherlands, as the main buyer, increased buying by 10% to 1,807 m³ from 1,644 m³ in the previous month. Similarly, export to Belgium also increased by 201% to 611 m³ followed by Germany which increased their intake by 16% to 368 m³ respectively. However, in other parts of Europe, exports to the UK decreased by 33% to 609 m³ from 907 m³ in the previous month.

Total export to South Asia increased by 7% to 11,705 m³ from 10,965 m³ as recorded in the previous month. India, as the main buyer from South Asia decreased imports by 11% to 6,035 m³ from 6,741 m³. Meanwhile, exports to the Maldives increased by 20% to 2,201 m³ followed by Sri Lanka with an increase of 51% to 2,073 m³ respectively.

Elsewhere, total export to West Asia decreased by 14% to 16,459 m³ from 19,221 m³ as recorded in the previous month. The UAE, as the main buyer decreased imports by 48% to 2,120 m³ from 4,042 m³ followed by Saudi Arabia with a decrease of 24% to 831 m³. However, exports to Iraq increased significantly by 485% to 10,888 m³ compared to 1,862 m³ in the previous month.

Shipments to East Asia decreased by 46% to 13,555 m³ from 24,956 m³ in December 2024. China, as the main

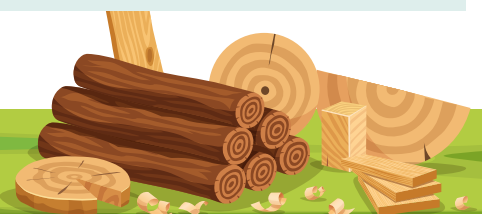
buyer, also decreased its purchases by 55% to 6,960 m³ from 15,599 m³ in the previous month. Similarly, exports to Taiwan decreased by 32% to 3,716 m³ from 5,456 m³ last month, followed by Japan which decreased its intake by 5% to 2,093 m³ compared to 2,204 m³ in the previous month.

Meanwhile, buying from ASEAN increased by 29% to 21,328 m³ from 16,505 m³ as registered in the previous month. Thailand increased purchases by 8% to 4,722 m³ from 4,373 m³ as recorded in the previous month. However, exports of sawntimber to Singapore decreased by 26% to 4,719 m³ while the Philippines increased its intake significantly by 168% to 11,524 m³ from 4,293 m³ last month.

Moving to the Africa region, exports to Africa decreased by 45% to 1,436 m³ compared to 2,616 m³ in the previous month. Similarly, demand from South Africa also decreased by 48% to 1,241 m³ from 2,369 m³ followed by Mauritius, which decreased buying by 5% to 195 m³ from 205 m³ in the previous month.

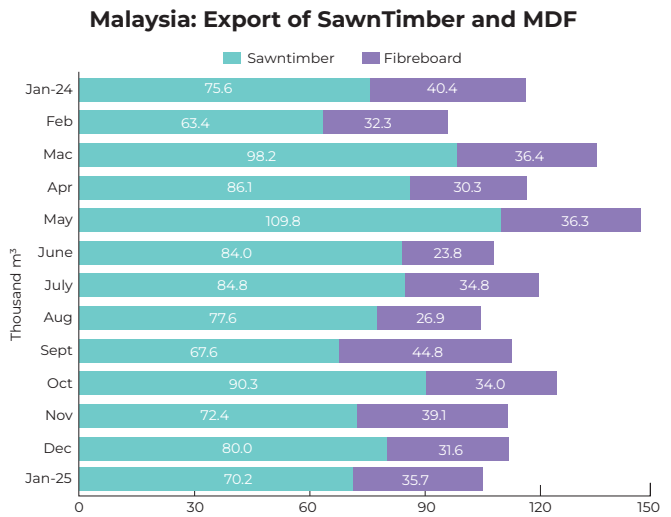
Elsewhere, the USA, as a major buyer from North America, decreased its intake by 24% to 1,108 m³ from 1,450 m³ compared to the previous month. In the Oceania/Pacific region, exports to Australia increased by 32% to 545 m³ from 414 m³ in the previous month while New Zealand resumed its buying to 21 m³ for the month.

The average FOB price of sawntimber decreased by 15% to RM1,727 per m³ from RM2,031 per m³ in the previous month. Meanwhile, the price of Dark Red Meranti to the Netherlands also decreased by 6% to RM3,420 per m³ from RM3,642 per m³ in the previous month. Keruing was traded at RM2,677 per m³, a decrease of 5% from RM2,822 per m³ in the previous month.



A total of 60 million m³ of roundwood was harvested for industrial use and export in Finland in 2024, according to the Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke). The final statistics will be published in April 2025. In December, industrial roundwood harvests reached 4.9 million m³, 1% less than in the same month of the previous year. Commercial fellings of saw logs and pulpwood each totalled at 2.5 million m³. Industrial roundwood removals from non-industrial private forests amounted to 3.8 million m³, marking a 3% decline.

Meanwhile, removals from state-owned and forest industry companies totalled at 1.1 million m³, down 10%. Energywood removals for the month were 383 thousand m³, with 70% consisting of delimbed stems and whole trees. For the full year of 2024, removals declined by 800 thousand m³ compared to the previous year and remained 4% below the average level of the last five years. The majority, 79%, of commercial fellings originated from non-industrial private forests, contributing 48 million m³, a 3% reduction. In contrast, removals from state-owned and forest industry companies rose by 4% to 13 million m³.



PLYWOOD

Export of plywood in January 2025 recorded a 26% decrease in volume to 86,486 m³ and a 22% decrease in value to RM179.1 million, as compared to the previous month. Cumulative exports for the period of January 2024 - January 2025 also showed a 12% decrease in volume to 86,486 m³ and 22% decrease in value, totaling at RM179.1 million over the previous corresponding period. The EU region recorded a 244% increase in plywood exports from 154 m³ to 531 m³. Poland increased its purchases by 7% to 136 m³. Meanwhile, Germany and the Netherlands resumed their buying at 93 m³ and 260 m³-respectively. In other parts of Europe, exports decreased by 73% to 3,309 m³ from 12,416 m³ in the previous month. The UK reduced its purchases by 81% to 2,338 m³, while Turkiye increased its buying by 2,399% to 970 m³.

Moving to the East Asia market, volume decreased by 19% to 55,518 m³ from 68,510 m³. Japan, as the largest importer from the region, reduced its buying by 14% to 48,966 m³, followed by the Republic of Korea and Taiwan with a decrease of 53% to 3,037 m³ and 31% to 2,752 m³ respectively. In the ASEAN region, imports decreased by 9% from 4,877 m³ to 4,421 m³. Plywood exports to Thailand and Singapore dropped by 3% to 2,341 m³ and 41% to 1,094 m³ respectively, while export to the Philippines increased by 187% to 790 m³.

In the South Asia region, plywood purchases decreased by 63% from 2,216 m³ to 828 m³. India and Maldives reduced their imports by 61% to 761 m³ and 91% to 25 m³ respectively. Pakistan resumed its purchases with 40 m³. The West Asia region recorded an increasing trend of 216% to 8,771 m³ from 2,775 m³ in the previous month. Yemen resumed its purchase with 8,145 m³, but the UAE and Jordan decreased their purchases by 0.1% to 446 m³ and 10% to 179 m³, respectively.

In the Africa region, purchases increased by 241% from 86 m³ to 292 m³. South Africa improved its buying by 100% to 171 m³, while Mauritius resumed its purchase with 121 m³. Meanwhile, in the North America region, imports showed a decline of 54%, from 22,979 m³ to 10,673 m³. The USA, as the main buyer, reduced its purchase by 57% to 9,481 m³, followed by Canada with a 30% decrease to 311 m³. Meanwhile, Mexico increased its buying by 24% to 882 m³. On the other hand, plywood exports to the Oceania/Pacific region recorded an increase of 5% from 2,040 m³ to 2,143 m³, with the purchases being from Australia.

The FOB price of plywood for January 2025 was at RM2,071 per m³, an increase of 5% from RM1,973 per m³ in the previous month.

2025 will be a year of moderate growth for the construction industry, with the Australian Construction Industry Forum predicting just a 0.9% growth. This forecast reflects slowing economic conditions, cost and inflationary pressures, and continued challenges around the availability of skilled labour. Despite slight deceleration in building construction, demand remains strong in engineering construction, as the industry moves into a utilities-driven cycle. Investment in large-scale renewable energy infrastructure will drive demand for accommodation, amenities and regional development to support these major projects. The commercial and industrial building sectors will experience a decline in growth in 2025. So too will the residential construction sector, with Australia's population-driven housing boom yet to arrive. Among a wide range of considerations, in 2025 there will be greater focus on circular construction practices and reducing Scope 3 emissions, the indirect greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) that occur in a company's value chain.



VENEER

Export of veneer in January 2025 decreased in volume by 62% to 1,690 m³ and a decrease in value by 53% to RM4.0 million as compared to the previous month. The cumulative exports for January 2025 also showed decreases in volume by 35% to 1,690 m³ and 42% in value to RM4.0 million over the previous corresponding period.

ASEAN recorded a decrease in veneer import by 5%, from 286 m³ to 271 m³. Viet Nam increased its import by 246%, reaching 268 m³, while Singapore resumed its buying with 2 m³. In East Asia, exports decreased by 74%, from 3,107 m³ to 799 m³. Japan and China reduced their purchases by 35% to 307 m³ and 28%, to 493 m³ respectively. Meanwhile, the South Asia region recorded an increase in import performance by 27%, to 229 m³, from 180 m³ in the previous month. Veneer purchase by India increased by 110%, to 163 m³, while Bangladesh reduced its purchase by 35%, to 67 m³.

Moving to North America, veneer import recorded a decrease of 63% from 544 m³ to 202 m³, with the purchases being from the US. In the Africa region, the import performance also decreased by 4%, to 191 m³, with the purchases being from South Africa.

The average FOB price for veneer increased by 25%, from RM1,891 per m³ to RM2,360 per m³ as compared to the previous month.

The Indian flooring industry is undergoing a remarkable transformation, with wooden flooring emerging as a preferred choice due to its aesthetics, durability, and sustainability. With rapid urbanisation, increasing disposable incomes, and growing home renovation trends, demand for high-quality wooden flooring is rising. The Indian wooden flooring market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 7.2% from 2023 to 2030, driven by urbanisation, rising disposable incomes, and increasing home renovations. Metro cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, and emerging Tier-2 cities are leading in demand, with premium housing projects and commercial spaces adopting wooden flooring trends. Augmented Reality (AR) and AI-powered room visualisers are helping consumers make informed flooring choices, while e-commerce platforms are making premium wooden flooring more accessible across India.

MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD (MDF)

Export of MDF in January 2025 recorded a 13% increase in volume at 35,721 m³ and a 16% increase in value at RM61.2 million compared to the previous month. However, cumulative exports for the period of January 2025 recorded a decrease in volume at 12%, to 35,721 m³, and 20% in value totalling at RM61.2 million, as compared to the corresponding period in 2024.

Export to ASEAN improved by 21% from 3,170 m³ to 3,824 m³ in the previous month. The Philippines added up its import by 64% to 2,541 m³. Meanwhile, Indonesia and Viet Nam reduced their buying by 7% to 539 m³ and 30% to 585 m³, respectively.

Elsewhere, East Asia also improved MDF purchases by 21% from 10,440 m³ to 12,586 m³ compared to the previous month. MDF sales to Japan and Taiwan recorded increases of 46% and 65% to 11,479 m³ and 610 m³ respectively. South Korea reduced its imports by 76% to 497 m³. Moving to the South Asia market, export increased by 37% to 6,631 m³ from 4,859 m³. Export performance to India rose by 140% to 5,577 m³ while Pakistan reduced its import by 36% to 999 m³. Nepal has resumed-import with 34 m³.

Export to the West Asia region also recorded an increase of 9% from 8,309 m³ to 9,038 m³ compared to the previous month. The UAE reduced its imports by 64% to 2,718 m³, but Saudi Arabia increased its imports by 1,433% to 2,385 m³. Meanwhile, Yemen has resumed its purchase with 3,208 m³. In other parts of Europe, MDF imports fell by 48% from 40 m³ to 21 m³, with purchase being from the United Kingdom.

Export to Oceania/Pacific region, imports decreased by 10% to 1,943 m³ from 2,153 m³. Australia reduced MDF purchases by 10% to 1,922 m³ while New Zealand resumed its buying to 21 m³.

MDF imports in North America showed a decrease of 34%, from 2,413 m³ to 1,599 m³, compared to the previous month. MDF purchases by the US, Canada and Mexico decreased by 27%, 19% and 57% to 900 m³, 414 m³ and 285 m³, respectively. In the Africa region, imports decreased by 53% from 122 m³ to 58 m³. South Africa and Mauritius reduced their buying by 45% to 53 m³ and 80% to 5 m³ respectively. Likewise, import into Guatemala in Central America also reduced by 68% to 22 m³.

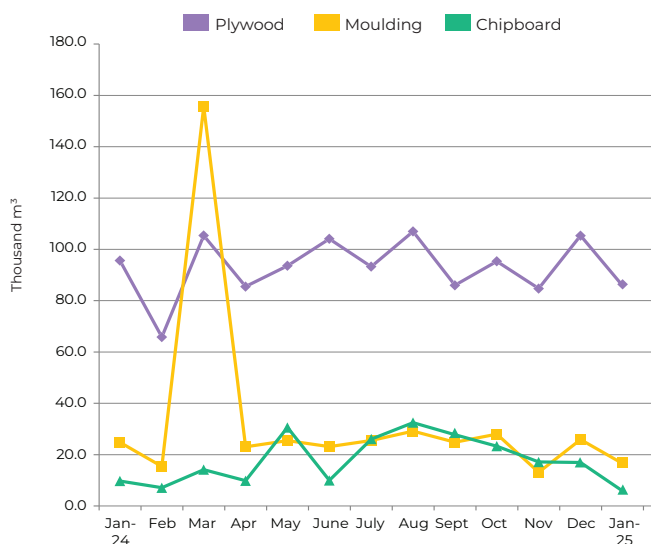
The FOB price of MDF increased by 2% to RM1,712 per m³ from RM1,673 per m³ in the previous month.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is witnessing an unprecedented construction and urban mega projects boom that will reshape the future of the Kingdom and the region. Mega



public and private sector projects are funded by the Public Investment Fund, the Royal Commissions of the prime urban areas, the related Ministries, as well as the private sector are driving the largest number of projects and opportunities. Exhibitors offering resilient, sustainable building technologies and solutions will participate in unmatched opportunities, with new projects valued at more than USD 2.9 trillion. Saudi Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs has started a five-year USD 43 billion plan for the construction of housing across the Kingdom. The programme involves the construction of 240,000 units. It is one of the largest of its kind anywhere in the world. New housing units will be built in urban areas all over the Kingdom. The plan is to create widespread opportunities for residential infrastructure suppliers, construction companies, suppliers of interior fixtures, fittings and finishing material and other related construction products and services.

**Malaysia: Export of Major Timber Product
Jan 2024 – Jan 2025^P**



MOULDINGS

In January 2025, the export of mouldings decreased by 10% in volume, reaching 19,729 m³ and by 2% in value, amounting to RM71.5 million compared to December 2024. Compared to January 2024, exports of mouldings were down by 15% in volume to 19,729 m³ from 23,173 m³ and by 14% in value to RM71.5 million from RM83.2 million in the same period in 2024.

Exports to ASEAN countries increased by 46% to 892 m³ in January 2025, up from 611 m³ in December 2024. Exports to Singapore rose by 27% to 737 m³ while Thailand resumed its intake with 23 m³ in January 2025.

In the East Asia region, exports declined by 23% to 1,239 m³ in January 2025. Exports to Japan and Hong Kong fell by 22% to 685 m³ and 43% to 42 m³, respectively. In contrast, exports

to the Republic of Korea increased by 10% from 435 m³ in to December 2024 to 473 m³ in January 2025.

In the South Asia region, export volume showed an impressive increasing trend of 30% to 274 m³ in January compared to the previous month. This increase was driven by demand from Maldives which rose by 195% to 192 m³. Sri Lanka also resumed its intake with 82 m³ in December 2024. A similar decline was observed in the West Asia region where there was no demand in January 2025.

Exports to the EU showed a positive trend, increasing by 13% to 4,385 m³ in January 2025 compared to 3,867 m³ in December 2024. The Netherlands, France and Belgium recorded increases of 13% to 2,532 m³, 60% to 791 m³ and 52% to 332 m³ respectively. Additionally, exports to the United Kingdom increased significantly by 297% to 548 m³ in January 2025.

In the Oceania and Pacific region, total export decreased by 15%, reaching 1,044 m³ in January 2025 compared to 1,227 m³ in December 2024 due to reduced intake from Australia.

In North America, total demand decreased by 21% to 10,967 m³ in January 2025. Exports to the USA declined to 10,916 m³ compared to 13,661 m³ in December 2024. Exports to Canada also dropped by 81% to 51 m³ from 262 m³ in December 2024.

In the Africa region, total export rose by 14% to 379 m³ compared to 332 m³ in December 2024. South Africa almost doubled its intake in January 2025, increasing by 81% to 132 m³. In contrast, exports to Mauritius decreased slightly by 4% to 248 m³ from 259 m³ in the previous month.

The average FOB unit value for mouldings increased by 9% to RM3,624/m³ compared to RM3,121/m³ in December 2024.

According to the Construction Products Association's (CPA) Winter 2025 forecast, the UK construction sector is projected to experience a gradual recovery over the next two years, with an anticipated growth of 2.1% in 2025 and 4.0% in 2026. This marks a slower rebound than previously expected, influenced by persistent inflation and limited interest rate reductions. The private housing sector, the largest within the industry, is expected to see a modest recovery in early 2025, hindered by elevated mortgage rates from late 2024. The pace of recovery will largely depend on the trajectory of mortgage rates and the outcomes of the key spring selling season. Despite these challenges, private housing output is forecast to rise by 6.0% in 2025 and 8.0% in 2026, although short-term risks remain, particularly in the first half of the year. Additional complexities such as water and nutrient neutrality requirements and changes in building regulations continue to add costs and complexity for housebuilders.

In the private housing repair, maintenance, and improvement (RM&I) sector, growth is expected to accelerate in the latter half of 2025, driven by increasing house prices and sustained



demand for energy-efficiency retrofits, including solar panel installations. This sector is projected to grow by 3.0% in 2025 and 4.0% in 2026. The infrastructure sector, the third-largest in construction, continues to benefit from major projects like Hinkley Point C and HS2. The wind farm sector is also growing, along with a planned £500 million boost for pothole and road maintenance. However, the cancellation of five major road schemes could limit overall growth in this area. Infrastructure output is expected to increase by 1.4% in 2025, with a more substantial rise of 4.1% in 2026. Rebecca Larkin, CPA's Head of Construction Research, emphasised that while the recovery is more gradual than previously anticipated, growth areas such as energy-efficiency improvements and large infrastructure projects are promising. She also highlighted the crucial role of government in providing long-term funding and investment to sustain the sector's recovery.

BUILDERS JOINERY AND CARPENTRY (BJC)

Exports of BJC in January 2025 increased by 6% in volume to 12.7 million kg and by 10% in value to RM126.9 million compared to the previous month, December 2024. In December 2024, exports of BJC amounted to 11.9 million kg in volume and RM115.4 million in value. Compared to January 2024, exports of BJC in January 2025 showed a 9% increase in volume and a 14% increase in value. This marks a positive trend from January 2024, when exports stood at only 11.7 million kg in volume and RM111.8 million in value.

Demand from the ASEAN region decreased by 32% to RM8.0 million, with Singapore, as the highest buyer, reducing its intake to RM4.1 million, a decrease of 35% from RM6.2 million in January 2024. Exports to Viet Nam and Thailand went down by 51% to RM1.5 million and 28% to RM1.4 million respectively, compared to January 2024.

Meanwhile, in January 2025, exports to East Asia countries dropped by 38% to RM6.1 million, over RM9.7 million compared to January 2024. Japan remains the highest buyer with a decrease of 44% to RM4.5 million. China reduced its intake by 10% to RM529,807 compared to January 2024, which amounted to RM587,659. Taiwan also reduced its intake by 54% to RM355,293 in January 2025, compared to RM771,432 in January 2024.

Intake from South Asia countries decreased by 69% to RM1.6 million, with India, the largest buyer, decreasing its intake by 62% to RM1.4 million. Similarly, the Maldives increased its intake by 30% to RM211,922 in January 2025. Bangladesh, however, continued to decrease its intake by 75% to RM43,342 compared to January 2024, when

imports amounted to RM170,648. Moving on to the West Asia countries, Saudi Arabia recorded an import increase of 8,996% to RM6.9 million in January 2025. However, Kuwait and the UAE did not continue their buying in January 2025.

Moving on to the EU bloc, exports of BJC increased by 12% to RM27.8 million compared to January 2024, which amounted to RM24.9 million. Export to Belgium grew by 43% to RM13.1 million in January 2025, followed by France, which increased import by 195% to RM2.1 million. Export to the Netherlands decreased by 33% amounting to RM6.1 million. Meanwhile, export to the UK increased by 292% to RM11.9 million from RM9.2 million. Similarly, exports to Norway increased by 2% amounting to RM869,993.

As the largest buyer of BJC in January 2024, demand from the North America region has continued to grow, reaching RM43.6 million, an increase of 80% compared to export in January 2024, which were worth RM23.7 million. Exports to the USA increased by 82% to RM43.1 million from 23.7 million in January 2024. Exports to Canada expanded by 16% to RM610,400 from RM524,631 in January 2024. Meanwhile, South America did not continue its buying in January 2025.

Shifting to the Oceania/Pacific region, exports went down by 22% to RM19.2 million, with Australia, as the largest buyer, recording a decrease of 25% to RM16.5 million. Exports to New Zealand rose by 6% to RM2.4 million, whilst Tonga resumed its buying with RM84,679.

According to France's National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE), the construction sector in France maintained a stable business climate as of January 2025. Despite this stability, industry players expressed cautious optimism, reflected in the general business outlook balance of -27. This sentiment suggests that while operations remain steady, there is uncertainty about future performance. The construction industry continues to navigate various external pressures and market fluctuations that temper overall confidence.

Among the main challenges highlighted were insufficient demand and a shortage of skilled workers. INSEE reported that 31% of construction firms cited a lack of demand as a limiting factor, while 28% pointed to difficulties in recruiting qualified labour. These constraints are impacting the industry's growth potential and productivity. As the sector looks ahead, addressing workforce shortages and stimulating demand will be critical for sustaining momentum and supporting long-term recovery.



FURNITURE

Export of wooden furniture for the month of January 2025 decreased by 2% to RM872.1 million from RM888.7 million in December 2024. Meanwhile, when compared year-on-year, exports of wooden furniture decreased slightly by 0.3% from RM875.0 million in January 2024.

Export of wooden furniture to ASEAN decreased by 7% amounting to RM104.8 million, down from RM112.5 million in its corresponding period in 2024. Export to Singapore fell by 2% to RM72.5 million, followed by the Philippines, where export declined by 8% to RM18.5 million. Similarly, export to Thailand decreased by 12% to RM6.2 million for the stated period.

Moving to the East Asia region, export decreased by 16% to RM49.6 million from RM59.3 million year-on-year in 2024. Japan remained the highest buyer with an export of value RM42.1 million, an increase of 13%. Similarly, exports to both Taiwan and South Korea decreased by 15% to RM3.9 million and by 41% to RM2.2 million respectively during the same period in 2024.

Export to West Asia increased by 26% to RM54.0 million, from RM43.0 million during the same period in 2024. Export to Saudi Arabia, the largest buyer in the region, rose by 64% to RM24.4 million. Similarly, export to Oman increased significantly by 118% to RM3.0 million, while demand from the UAE declined by 4% to RM20.3 million.

Moving to the South Asia region, export of wooden furniture to the region declined by 29% to RM11.3 million for the month. Amongst South Asian countries, India recorded the highest intake, with an export value of RM10.8 million with a decrease in intake by 24%. Similarly, export to the Maldives dropped by 82% to RM0.3 million, while Bangladesh resumed its intake at RM0.2 million during the stated period.

Export to the European Union recorded a decline of 10% to RM27.5 million from RM30.5 million over the corresponding period in 2024. Belgium, as the largest buyer in the economic bloc improved by 21% to RM4.9 million while export to France, grew by 46% to RM3.3 million. Nevertheless, export to Poland showed a decline of 3% to RM3.5 million during the stated period.

Amongst other parts of Europe, the United Kingdom, as the largest buyer, recorded an increase of 19% to RM47.3 million from RM39.6 million over the corresponding period in 2024. However, exports to Georgia and Türkiye decreased by 60% to RM0.8 million and by 76% to RM0.3 million, respectively.

Export to Oceania/Pacific dropped by 11% to RM43.5 million from RM49.1 million over the corresponding period in 2024. Australia remained as the top buyer in the archipelago region, with imports worth RM39.5 million despite a reduction in

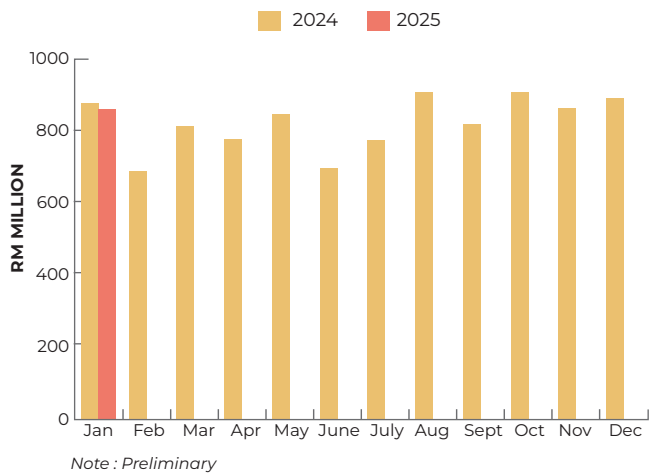
buying by 12%. Similarly, exports to New Zealand dropped by 26% to RM2.5 million, while esports to Papua New Guinea improved by 137% worth RM0.9 million for the stated period.

Moving to the Central America region, export of wooden furniture decreased by 28%, to RM2.8 million from RM4.0 million year-on-year. Both Panama and El Salvador recorded an increase of sales by 65% to RM1.0 million and by 2% worth RM0.8 million, respectively. Conversely, export to Guatemala dropped by 15% to RM0.8 million from RM0.9 million in January 2024.

Meanwhile, export to the North America region advanced by 3% to RM510.0 million from RM493.5 million year-on-year. As Malaysia's largest wooden furniture buyer, the USA improved its buying by 4% to RM466.2 million from RM449.0 million in the corresponding month in 2024. Similarly, export to Puerto Rico multiplied by 60% to RM5.8 million. However, exports to Canada dropped by 15% to RM30.8 million for the stated period.

Similarly, exports of wooden furniture to the South America region recorded a decrease of 22% worth RM7.9 million from RM10.2 million over the corresponding month, January 2024. Export to Chile declined by 25% to RM4.6 million from RM6.1 million in the corresponding month in 2024. Exports to Venezuela and Peru declined by 37% to RM0.9 million and by 49% to RM0.8 million, respectively.

Malaysia: Export of Wooden Furniture



Moving to the Africa region, exports to the region dropped by 5% falling to RM11.5 million, with South Africa garnering the largest market share with RM4.0 million. Intake from South Africa recorded an increase of 1% from RM3.9 million in the corresponding period in 2024. This was followed by Tanzania, with recorded sales of RM1.1 million as exports grew by 18% from the previous corresponding period. However, exports to Libya dropped by 10% to RM0.9 million in January 2025 from RM1.0 million in January 2024.



Rattan furniture shipments for January 2025 recorded a decrease of 23% valued at RM6.4 million, from RM8.4 million in the previous month, December 2024. Nevertheless, based on year-on-year, exports of rattan furniture for the month grew by 17% from RM5.5 million in January 2024 to RM6.4 million in January 2025.

Export to ASEAN member countries totalled at RM0.3 million, a decline of 67% for the mentioned period of January 2024 from RM1.0 million in the same period in 2024. The highest buyer, Singapore, recorded sales of RM0.14 million, decreased by 44%. However, export to Thailand grew by 203% to RM0.11 million, and were followed by Indonesia, with intakes increased by 695% to RM34,683.

Meanwhile, export to the East Asia region recorded an increase of 1% worth RM0.2 million, despite Japan reducing its intake by 23% to RM95,477. Similarly, export to China declined by 21% to RM69,816, while Hong Kong resumed intake with RM81,007. Moving on to South Asia countries, India was recorded as the highest buyer of rattan furniture, with a significant increase in buying worth RM0.2 million from RM3,520 in the corresponding period in January 2024.

Export to the West Asia region decreased by 29%, to RM0.3 million from RM0.4 million in the corresponding period in 2024. The largest buying nation of rattan furniture in the West Asia countries, Iran resumed its intake with RM0.1 million and similarly, export to Qatar also improved by 50% to RM23,394. Meanwhile, export to the UAE dropped by 54% to RM0.1 million for the period of January 2025.

Moving to the European Union bloc, export grew significantly by 215% to RM1.4 million from RM0.4 million in the corresponding period in January 2024. Poland and the Netherlands resumed their intake with RM0.4 million and RM0.3 million, respectively. Exports to France increased by 34% to RM0.4 million. Moving on to other parts of Europe, demand from the group declined by 31% to RM0.4 million, with the UK being the largest buyer in the region. The UK reduced its buying by 34% to RM0.3 million, while Switzerland resumed its buying with RM860. Meanwhile, Russia improved its buying by 7% to RM49,179 for January 2025. Shipments to the Oceania/Pacific archipelago region dropped by 71% RM78,674. Australia recorded a decline in intake by 52% to RM78,674 from RM0.2 million in January 2024.

Export to the North America region increased by 32% to RM3.3 million from RM2.5 million over the same period in 2024. The USA, being the largest buyer for rattan furniture, recorded a surge in intake by 53% to RM3.1 million, while Canada resumed its buying with RM0.3 million. Meanwhile, Chile resumed its intake of rattan furniture to RM0.1 million in January 2025.

ResearchAndMarkets.com's "The Furniture Industry in India, 2025" reported that with a value of around USD22 billion, the furniture market in India nearly doubled in the last ten years, making it the world's fourth-largest and the second-largest in the Asia-Pacific region after China. India is also among the fastest-growing furniture markets projected for 2025 and 2026, driven by an expanding middle class, rising investments in residential and commercial infrastructure, government initiatives, and the modernisation of furniture retail. The Indian furniture market is undergoing a significant transformation, shifting from a highly fragmented and unorganised structure to a more consolidated and competitive landscape. Rapid urbanisation, increasing disposable incomes, and global integration are reshaping the industry, and fostering efficiency. The entry of international brands, the expansion of organised retail, and growing market consolidation are accelerating this shift. ”

According to CSIL report on 'World Furniture Outlook 2025', global furniture consumption is expected to remain stable in current USD compared to 2023, with varying trends across different regions and countries. Europe has been one of the hardest-hit regions, experiencing significant declines, particularly Germany and France. Although inflation has slowed considerably, the trend has not yet shifted towards increased consumption, as the economic and social outlook remains uncertain. From the international trade perspective, 2024 was a complex year because of ongoing maritime transport issues and geopolitical tensions. Despite these obstacles, the world trade of furniture increased by 2%, to the value of around USD174 billion, driven by a good performance of Asian exporters, with a gradual recovery of Chinese exports and the growing trend of exports from Southeast Asian countries. According to the report, Europe continues to hold a crucial position in the global furniture industry, acting as a pivotal hub for production, market size and world trade. Despite difficult market conditions in 2023-2024, the furniture sector in Europe has proven its resilience, staying above pre-pandemic levels, supported by a high level of integration and market concentration. Dominated by major retail chains and manufacturers operating on a European scale, the market benefits from strong internal cohesion and a well-established trade network. This structural strength not only underpins its stability but also drives the substantial concentration of export and import flows within the region. 





Overview

The Federal Republic of Germany remains strategically located in central Europe, maintaining its borders with the Netherlands to the northwest, Belgium, Luxembourg, and France to the west and southwest, Denmark to the north, the Czech Republic and Poland to the east, and Switzerland and Austria to the south and southeast. It shares its coastline with the Baltic Sea in the north and the North Sea in the northwest, with a 2,389-kilometer-long coastline and covering an area of 357,022 square kilometers.

In 2025, the German timber sector continues to be influenced by sustainability initiatives and technological advancements. There's a growing emphasis on using sustainably sourced timber and implementing innovative construction techniques. The market is also responding to increasing demand for eco-friendly building materials and prefabricated timber elements. The sector is navigating challenges related to supply chain disruptions and evolving regulations, while also exploring opportunities in digitalisation and automation to enhance efficiency and competitiveness.



Economy

Germany continues to be a leading economic power, maintaining its position as the largest economy in the European Union and one of the world's largest economies. The German economy's strength remains rooted in its innovations, its export-oriented approach, and its robust global networks. The labour market has remained resilient, though it faces new challenges related to technological shifts and demographic changes. Germany's participation in the Eurozone continues to be a cornerstone of its economic framework, influencing trade and fiscal policies.

Germany's economic freedom score reflects ongoing efforts to balance regulatory frameworks with market dynamism. While the economy benefits from a highly skilled workforce and advanced infrastructure, challenges persist in areas such as government spending, labour market regulations, and bureaucratic processes. There is a continued focus on fostering digital transformation, promoting sustainable industries, and adapting to the evolving global economic landscape. Thus, the German government is actively pursuing strategies to enhance competitiveness, attract investments, and ensure long-term economic stability amid global uncertainties.



Forestry

Germany remains one of Europe's densely wooded countries, with approximately 11 million hectares, or one-third of its national territory, covered by forests. The composition of German forests continues to be a mix of approximately 60% coniferous and 40% deciduous trees. Mixed stands still make up about 73% of the total forested area, with spruce maintaining its position as the most prevalent tree species at 28%, followed by pine at 23%, beech at 15%, and oak at 10%. These proportions vary across regions, influenced by local ecological conditions and historical forestry practices.

In 2025, there is a heightened focus on sustainable forest management and climate resilience. Most forest areas are still certified under leading international systems such as PEFC and FSC, ensuring adherence to environmental and social standards. Efforts are being made to adapt forest management practices to address the impacts of climate change, including increased droughts, storms, and pest infestations. There's also a growing emphasis on promoting biodiversity, enhancing carbon sequestration, and utilising timber resources in a way that supports a circular economy.



Timber Industry

The forest and timber industries, encompassing processing, paper, printing, and publishing continue to be a vital part of the German economy, providing significant employment and generating substantial annual turnover. These industries remain crucial for regional economic and rural employment structures, primarily due to the prevalence of small and medium-sized enterprises located in rural areas. The sector plays a key role in supporting sustainable development and contributing to the bioeconomy.

The German timber industry is focusing on innovation, sustainability, and adapting to market demands. There's an increased emphasis on using sustainably sourced timber, developing bio-based materials, and implementing advanced processing technologies. The industry is also responding to the growing demand for eco-friendly construction and renovation, with a focus on timber-based building solutions. Efforts to enhance resource efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and optimise supply chains are central to the sector's strategy, ensuring its continued contribution to the German economy and rural communities. Timber and timber production shows a fluctuating trend and continues in decreasing trend in 2019 to 2023.



Timber Production

According to FAO's latest forest statistics, Germany produced around 36.1 million m³ of logs in 2023, a decrease of 15% from 2022. Apart from log production, in 2023 the country produced 22.9 million m³ of sawntimber, 5.1 million m³ of particleboard and 3.4 million m³ of fibreboard.

Germany: Production Quantity of Timber and Timber Products, 2019-2023

Quantity: m³

Product	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Sawlogs and veneer logs	38,143,808	44,609,792	44,657,920	42,624,755	36,146,873
Sawnwood	23,300,000	25,200,000	25,300,000	24,300,000	22,900,000
Particleboard	5,714,719	5,556,360	6,036,276	5,526,329	5,051,202
Fibreboard	4,505,051	4,599,693	4,692,624	3,791,548	3,386,691
Veneer sheets	97,740	99,925	115,937	110,049	111,623
Plywood	111,162	99,827	103,012	84,600	72,537
Total	71,872,480	80,165,597	80,905,769	76,437,281	67,668,926

Source: FAO Stats





Germany's Export of Timber and Timber Products

Germany's export of timber and timber products in 2024 decreased by 5% to USD18.4 billion from USD19.4 billion in the previous corresponding period. Germany's major products exported were wooden furniture at a total of USD8.6 billion, slightly decreased from USD8.9 billion in 2023. Meanwhile, exports of sawntimber and fibreboard also registered a slight decrease to USD2.7 billion and USD1.7 billion from USD2.9 billion and USD1.8 billion respectively. Other products exported by Germany were builder's joinery and carpentry (BJC), logs and particleboard.

Germany: Export of Timber and Timber Products, 2020-2024

Value: USD '000

Code	Product	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
9403	Furniture & parts	7,774,990	9,349,458	9,048,653	8,904,435	8,632,329
4407	Sawntimber	2,572,668	4,372,349	4,215,368	2,906,147	2,664,286
4411	Fibreboard	1,867,365	2,199,340	2,034,569	1,790,505	1,661,90
4418	Builders' joinery and carpentry	1,393,951	1,715,011	1,659,489	1,455,002	1,433,19
4403	Logs	989,723	1,185,527	1,139,898	938,519	799,419
4410	Particleboard	624,763	925,764	940,049	806,907	761,401
4421	Other articles of wood	466,768	614,448	588,122	473,667	477,077
4401	Fuel wood	411,806	415,241	574,179	561,250	458,440
4415	Packing cases	334,125	517,347	629,751	482,840	460,363
4412	Plywood	289,003	386,877	366,066	330,631	320,250
4409	Moulding	238,144	346,744	303,668	201,848	206,738
4408	Veneer	145,982	179,870	167,666	153,353	154,538
4420	Wood marquetry	84,380	96,151	88,239	83,955	82,927
4419	Tableware and kitchenware	78,080	97,388	100,924	83,987	80,391
4414	Wooden frames	30,975	36,604	28,823	31,194	35,833
4413	Densified wood	32,220	39,387	47,398	48,421	49,174
4405	Wood wool & flour	33,422	36,060	36,840	32,605	31,994
4402	Wood charcoal	33,017	36,328	36,120	32,734	29,204
4417	Tools, bodies and handles	15,172	18,808	17,583	16,028	15,311
4406	Railway sleepers	17,911	16,471	16,050	11,371	14,151
4404	Hoopwood	7,033	8,153	5,968	5,151	5,772
4416	Casks, barrels, vats and tubs	3,830	4,552	4,161	4,047	3,973
Total	Total	17,445,328	22,597,878	22,049,584	19,354,597	18,378,677

Source: UN-Comrade Trade



Germany's Import of Timber and Timber Products

Germany's import of timber and timber products in 2024 decreased by 3% to USD14.6 billion over the previous year. Germany imported mainly furniture, sawntimber, BJC and plywood in 2024. Imports of furniture increased by 2% to USD7.1 billion compared to USD7.0 billion in 2023. Meanwhile, imports of sawntimber, BJC and plywood in 2024 declined by 13%, 0.4% and 12% to USD1.4 billion, USD1.3 billion and USD887.3 million respectively as compared to the previous year.

Germany: Import of Timber and Timber Products, 2020-2024

Value: USD '000

Code	Product	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
9403	Furniture & parts	6,779,166	8,172,097	7,903,172	7,024,186	7,114,845
4407	Sawntimber	1,401,833	2,282,068	1,718,495	993,932	1,037,749
4418	Builders' joinery and carpentry	1,367,268	1,635,373	1,630,823	1,248,028	1,217,124
4412	Plywood	816,095	1,119,378	1,176,492	966,182	904,433
4421	Other articles of wood	887,363	1,142,563	1,143,220	793,305	811,014
4410	Particleboard	769,631	1,077,562	1,069,936	831,381	759,269
4415	Packing cases	556,511	983,529	1,175,574	740,611	652,131
4403	Logs	381,609	518,249	577,112	484,320	400,405
4411	Fibreboard	528,362	671,431	613,492	499,532	471,794
4409	Moulding	319,754	463,050	392,433	261,023	230,736
4401	Fuel wood	210,356	269,993	435,658	354,357	259,958
4420	Wood marquetry	177,966	211,975	241,500	164,102	171,676
4408	Veneer	175,462	204,474	219,982	167,016	136,580
4419	Tableware and kitchenware	137,888	191,962	195,152	140,171	148,694
4402	Wood charcoal	101,616	98,132	102,417	92,464	77,763
4414	Wooden frames	87,231	103,530	85,810	78,902	89,289
4417	Tools, bodies and handles	35,325	44,938	44,425	33,351	35,455
4413	Densified wood	22,949	38,480	46,497	37,850	42,282
4406	Railway sleepers	13,794	15,731	11,987	16,588	15,902
4404	Hoopwood	14,377	15,309	11,767	11,877	11,367
4416	Casks, barrels, vats and tubs	9,323	11,70	8,767	7,025	6,724
4405	Wood wool & flour	5,166	6,811	6,971	7,845	7,861
Total	Total	14,799,045	19,278,340	18,811,682	14,954,048	14,603,051

Source: UN-Comtrade Trade



In 2024, most of the furniture imported by Germany was from Poland and China. The imports amounted to USD5.3 billion and USD6.0 billion, a decrease of 0.41% and an increase of 19.8% respectively over the previous year. Malaysia ranked 37th as Germany's import partner for furniture.

Germany: Top 10 Furniture Suppliers from The World, 2020-2024

Value: USD '000

Rank	Country	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	World	21,191,685	25,682,045	24,605,339	22,846,948	23,358,939
1	China	5,150,455	7,033,336	6,845,988	5,026,667	6,019,799
2	Poland	4,706,189	5,417,359	4,982,086	5,286,810	5,264,936
3	Czech Republic	1,980,733	2,215,600	2,247,000	2,634,893	2,525,019
4	Italy	1,282,847	1,440,685	1,351,608	1,220,558	1,162,711
5	Türkiye	397,598	525,848	672,363	699,688	677,915
6	Austria	654,362	746,025	660,079	674,577	633,634
7	Hungary	599,372	672,669	685,950	767,438	629,928
8	Romania	576,612	633,036	584,870	601,859	598,069
9	France	464,915	519,424	467,490	473,604	439,662
10	Netherlands	528,183	635,967	589,358	524,327	434,936
37	Malaysia	37,835	41,958	49,700	35,474	36,056

Note: Import from 114 countries

Source: UN- Comtrade



Malaysia's Export of Timber and Timber Products to Germany

In 2024, exports of Malaysian timber and timber products to Germany increased by 5% to RM98.6 million from RM94 million in the previous corresponding period. The main products exported to the Germany market were wooden furniture. Exports of wooden furniture to Germany for the year 2024 were recorded at RM45.3 million, an increase of 13% from RM39.7 million in 2023. Mouldings and sawntimber exports were recorded at RM21.3 million and RM18.3 million respectively in 2024, improved by 36% and 6% from RM15.7 million and RM17.3 million in 2023.

Malaysia: Export of Timber and Timber Products to Germany, 2020-2024

Value: RM

Products	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Wooden Furniture	48,290,889	47,409,670	56,095,320	39,727,377	45,272,055
Mouldings	31,617,313	31,473,904	49,703,568	15,686,528	21,340,491
Sawntimber	26,137,981	30,352,612	33,111,079	17,314,570	18,333,227
Builders Joinery & Carpentry	20,172,859	15,746,576	38,166,965	20,404,698	13,056,433
Plywood	363,290	0	4,551	0	568
Chipboard/Particleboard	0	0	0	77,093	0
Fibreboard	0	14,942	5,304	31,796	0
Logs	0	0	0	0	0
Veneer	1,274,536	615,614	440,509	0	0
Other Products	807,578	1,000,356	1,254,169	727,583	629,721
Total	128,664,446	126,613,674	178,781,465	93,969,645	98,632,495

Note: Wooden Furniture include Rattan and Bamboo Furniture

Source: DOSM



Malaysia's Import of Timber and Timber Products from Germany

Meanwhile, imports of timber and timber products from Germany in 2024 totalled at RM45.1 million, an increase of 17% over the previous corresponding period. The main product imported from Germany was sawntimber and in 2024, Malaysia import worth RM25.7 million an increase of 29% over the previous corresponding period. Other products imported into Malaysia included wooden furniture and chipboards/particleboards valued at RM7.3 million and RM1.4 million respectively as compared to RM8.5 million and RM1.2 million in 2023.

Malaysia: Import of Timber and Timber Products from Germany, 2020-2024

Value: RM

Products	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Sawntimber	23,936,317	31,368,158	52,622,262	19,829,805	25,688,822
Wooden Furniture	5,419,467	3,946,417	13,286,106	8,543,798	7,344,148
Chipboard/Particleboard	878,647	449,466	253,245	1,191,861	1,415,549
Veneer	3,779,470	1,264,307	1,212,020	303,236	863,143
Logs	755,208	758,933	545,983	837,077	619,290
Plywood	453,982	325,838	66,847	86,658	136,169
Fibreboard	180,636	81,815	37,958	60,441	112,009
Builders Joinery & Carpentry	621,118	13,096	131,509	0	82,885
Mouldings	0	0	0	0	50,558
Other Products	9,673,340	8,269,493	9,764,904	7,633,497	8,751,719
Total	45,698,185	46,477,523	77,920,834	38,486,373	45,064,292

Note: Wooden Furniture include Rattan and Bamboo Furniture

Source: DOSM

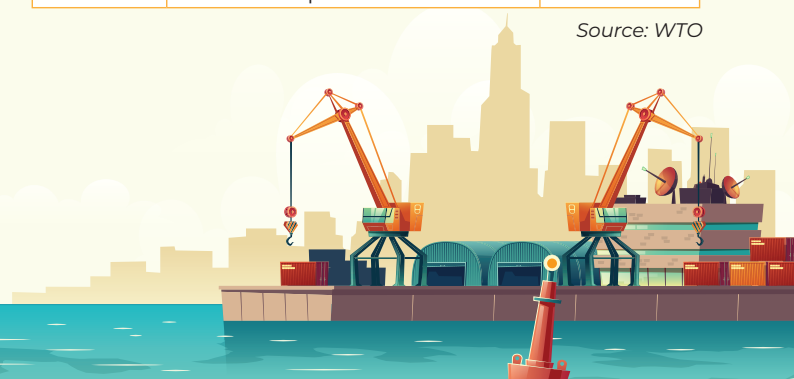


Import Tariff

The Germany's import duty on timber and timber products ranges from 0 – 10% with plywood recording the highest duty of 6-10% followed by particleboard and fibreboard, both at 7% and wooden furniture, at 0-5.6%. The details are as follows:

Code	Product	MFN Rate	Code	Product	MFN Rate
4401	Fuel wood	0	4412	Plywood	6 – 10
4402	Wood charcoal	0	4413	Densified wood	0
4403	Logs	0	4414	Wooden frames	0 – 2.5
4404	Hoopwood	0	4415	Packing cases	3 – 4
4405	Wood wool & flour	0	4416	Casks, barrels, vats and tubs	0
4406	Railway sleepers	0	4417	Tools, bodies and handles	0
4407	Sawntimber	0 – 2.5	4418	Builders' joinery and carpentry	0 – 3
4408	Veneer	0 – 6	4419	Tableware and kitchenware	0
4409	Moulding	0	4420	Wood marquetry .	0 – 4
4410	Particleboard	7	4421	Other articles of wood	0 – 4
4411	Fibreboard	7	9403	Furniture & parts	0 – 5.6

Source: WTO





Prospect

The Eurostat Construction Production Index has consistently demonstrated an upward trend. Germany Construction Industry Report 2024: Output Estimated to Shrink by 4.4% in Real-terms in 2024 and a Further 0.5% in 2025 sees robust construction activities in Germany playing a pivotal role in this growth. This sustained momentum suggests a strong and resilient market, making it an attractive destination for international timber exporters. Even amidst economic fluctuations, including a period of GDP decline, the German construction sector has shown remarkable strength and resilience, outperforming many of its European counterparts. This resilience was particularly evident during the pandemic, where construction activities continued largely unaffected, reinforcing the sector's stability and importance to the German economy.

This positive trajectory in the German construction sector translates into significant opportunities for Malaysian timber exporters. The consistent rise in both residential and non-residential construction projects, coupled with an increasing preference for wood as a primary building material, creates a favourable environment for promoting Malaysian timber products. It is crucial to leverage this trend by showcasing not only traditional building materials such as sawntimber and plywood but also value-added products like furniture, BJC (Builders' Joinery and Carpentry), and mouldings. These value-added products offer higher margins and cater to the sophisticated demands of the German market, thereby enhancing the overall export potential.

Furthermore, the high cost of domestically sourced logs in Germany has driven sawmills to seek raw materials from neighbouring countries with lower log prices. This situation has positioned Germany as the world's second-largest importer of softwood logs, a trend that has seen substantial growth over the past five years. Additionally, the importation of tropical wood into Germany has also been on the rise, particularly in 2019 and early 2020. These import trends indicate a strong and persistent demand for imported timber, which Malaysian exporters can effectively fulfil. By offering competitive pricing and high-quality products, Malaysian timber exporters can capitalise on this demand and establish a strong foothold in the German market.

To fully exploit these opportunities, Malaysian timber exporters must actively enhance their presence in Germany. This involves strengthening networks with German timber importers through consistent and targeted promotional activities. Participating in trade fairs, organising business matching events, and conducting market visits can also significantly improve visibility and foster stronger business relationships. It is also essential to provide comprehensive information about Malaysian timber products, including their sustainability credentials, quality certifications and diverse applications. Building trust and establishing long-term partnerships with German importers will be key to ensuring sustained export growth and market penetration.

In conclusion, the German construction sector's positive outlook combined with the increasing demand for imported timber presents a compelling opportunity for Malaysian timber exporters. By focusing on value-added products, leveraging import trends and actively engaging with the German market, Malaysian companies can significantly boost their exports and contribute to the growth of the timber industry. Continuous market research, adaptation to changing demands and proactive networking will be vital in maintaining a competitive edge and achieving long-term success in the German market.



House at building exhibition in Mannheim, Germany



Panoramic view of the architecture of the old town in Luneburg in Germany

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Wood Industry Show Positive Signals

Vietnam

Viet Nam's wood industry is showing signs of recovery in early 2025, buoyed by rising export demand and a rebound in key markets, according to industry officials and government data. Figures from the Foreign Trade Agency under the Ministry of Industry and Trade show that Viet Nam's export value of wood and wood products reached USD 738.8 million in the first half of January, marking a 15.6% year-on-year increase.

"Orders are flooding in, particularly from the EU and the U.S., where demand is steadily growing," said Tran Lam Son, founder of southern-based Thien Minh Furniture.

The industry is rebounding after a difficult period marked by order declines of up to 60%, driven by economic downturns, high inventories, and soaring shipping costs. Industry leaders say companies have adapted by restructuring order patterns, digitalizing operations, and focusing on efficiency.

Recovery driven by trade and digitalization

Viet Nam Housewares CEO Lai Tri Moc highlighted the growing opportunities for wood product exports, emphasizing the role of cross-border e-commerce in expanding global reach.

Shipping remains a challenge, with transport costs representing a significant portion of product prices. Industry associations have responded by consolidating production data and negotiating shipping rates to enhance export competitiveness, according to Viet Nam News. "Unless there are unexpected disruptions, the wood and furniture sector can achieve an export

growth rate of 20% this year, with some businesses targeting up to 30%," Son added.

The Department of Forestry under the Ministry of Agriculture projects nearly USD 18 billion in export revenue for wood and wood products in 2025, up from USD 16.25 billion in 2024, which represented a 20.3% annual increase.

Policy support and regulatory adjustments

To sustain growth, Viet Nam Timber and Forest Products Association Vice President Ngo Sy Hoai emphasized the need for stronger trade promotion initiatives. He urged the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to encourage greater participation in international trade fairs and business networking events.

“Viet Nam News also reported that industry leaders welcomed the EU's decision to extend the deadline for compliance with its Anti-Deforestation Regulation to December 2025 for large businesses and June 2026 for smaller firms. This extension gives Viet Nameese exporters more time to adjust supply chains and meet sustainability requirements.”

Additionally, companies must prepare for EU greenhouse gas reduction standards coming into effect from 2027, signaling a shift towards more sustainable production practices. "Boosting creativity, design, and branding is crucial to increasing product value and reducing reliance on traditional markets," Chau added.

Viet Nam News noted that despite past challenges, the wood sector is poised for long-term growth, with industry players confident in their ability to expand production and explore new markets in 2025 and beyond.

<https://www.globalwood.org>, 18 February 2025





Wood-Based Panel Export Increased Year-On-Year In 2024

China

In 2024, China's total imports and exports of wood-based panels will be 19.989 million cubic meters, up 25.89% year on year, and the total imports and exports will be USD 7.855 billion, up 14.39% year on year.

China exported a total of 17.859 million cubic meters of artificial board products, a year-on-year increase of 24.79%, with an export value of USD 6.929 billion, a year-on-year increase of 10.4%. A total of 2.1291 million cubic meters of artificial board products were imported, an increase of 36.02% year-on-year, with continuous growth for five years. The import value was USD 926 million, an increase of 56.68% year-on-year. Overall, both the import and export volume of artificial boards increased, but the average unit price of imports and exports decreased.

In 2024, the export volume of plywood products in China was 13.1887 million cubic meters, a year-on-year increase of 22.82%, with an export value of USD 5.269 billion, a year-on-year increase of 9.4%. Imported plywood products amounted to 793,000 cubic meters, a year-on-year increase of 172.41%, with an import value of USD 222 million, a year-on-year increase of 7.25%.

In 2024, particleboard remains the only product in China with an import volume greater than its export volume. A total of 1.2617 million cubic meters of particleboard products were imported throughout the year, a year-on-year increase of 5.02%. The import value was USD 657 million, a year-on-year increase of 48.86%, and both the import volume and import amount increased. The top five countries for China's imported particleboard are Thailand, Brazil, Poland, Romania, and Germany.

China exported 840,000 cubic meters of particleboard products, an increase of 34.61% over the previous year, with an export value of USD 300 million, a year-on-year increase of 10.7%. The top five export destinations are Taiwan, China, Mongolia, Nigeria, Chile and Viet Nam. Compared with 2023, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates will exit the top five in terms of import volume, while Chile and Viet Nam will enter the top five.

<https://www.globalwood.org>, 4 February 2025



Furniture Production Falls

European Union

European furniture production falls to a new low 2024 was a challenging one for the European furniture sector. According to Eurostat data, the value of furniture production in the EU27 fell 3% to 4%. This followed an 8% decline the previous year. Production in the EU last year was lower than in 2020 at the height of the pandemic.

Over past two years, Europe has faced increased uncertainty, sluggish economic performance and a marked slowdown in the construction industry. As a result, European consumer demand for furniture has come under considerable strain. Despite falling inflation, European furniture consumption has continued to suffer from the erosion of household purchasing power, the propensity for consumers to save and the erosion of real financial wealth. Consumers are also now more inclined to spend the disposable income that they do have on travel and eating out, activities precluded during the pandemic, rather than on furniture products which they invested in heavily during 2021 and 2022 in the wake of the COVID lockdowns.

The costs of producing furniture in Europe also remained high in 2024. High energy prices, costs of capital and rising labour costs could not be passed onto customers, greatly reducing profitability. Export market competitiveness was impaired and market prospects, particularly in the US, China and the Middle East, were cooling and not buoyant enough to support European production.

While the overall European trend has been sharply downwards, furniture sector performance has varied between European countries in recent times. Eurostat data shows that while overall EU27 furniture production in 2024 was below the level prevailing in 2019, production in Lithuania, Poland, Spain and Italy remains above the pre-pandemic level. Production in the first three of those countries increased last year. However, production in many other countries is now well below the pre-pandemic level and continued to decline last year, including in Germany, Sweden, Belgium, France, Romania, Netherlands and Denmark.

<https://www.fordaq.com>, 3 February 2025





Government Support Domestic Timber Processing Due To Export Difficulties

Russia

The Russian timber processing sector is facing difficulties in selling products on foreign markets, prompting the need for stronger domestic support. The issues experienced by processors have raised concerns regarding the stability of the industry, which has led to various government initiatives aimed at strengthening local operations.

To address these concerns, the government is focusing on increasing domestic processing capacity, which aligns with broader strategic goals of economic stability. The push for domestic processing also aims to reduce dependency on global markets and support local industries.

A key focus has been improving support mechanisms for the forestry sector. In late January, a meeting convened by Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak discussed various aspects of the forestry industry's performance, including financial figures, profitability, and potential risks posed by high interest rates. The discussions also highlighted the significant debt burden on some enterprises, making it more difficult for them to remain competitive amidst global market volatility.

The government has put forward measures to stimulate demand for timber products within the domestic market. These include improving export logistics and increasing the efficiency of supply chains. Specifically, the government has tasked various ministries with exploring ways to boost transportation, such as increasing the number of direct container trains. This initiative is aimed at matching regional production volumes with transportation capabilities, reducing delays and improving the sector's overall efficiency.

Efforts are also underway to promote timber usage in specific sectors. The Construction Ministry, along with the Ministry of Industry and Trade, is working on strategies to increase demand for forestry products in industries such as individual housing construction and energy. These measures are expected to broaden the use of timber products within the domestic market.

Additionally, the government is exploring ways to support the development of domestic lumber

equipment production. This could help reduce the sector's reliance on foreign machinery, ensuring long-term sustainability for Russian timber processors.

At the subcommittee meeting, industry representatives made several requests, including a three-year moratorium on changes to forest plot rental charges, the removal of export duties on timber with moisture content exceeding 22%, and adjustments to regulations regarding timber transport vehicles. Specifically, they asked for exemptions from equipping foreign-registered vehicles with Russia's GLONASS tracking system, a regulation set to take effect in 2025. These requests reflect the sector's need for more favorable regulatory conditions as it faces mounting pressures at home and abroad. The focus on strengthening domestic processing is a crucial step for the Russian timber industry as it navigates global market pressures and seeks to maintain its long-term viability.

www.globalwoodmarketsinfo.com, 12 February 2025



Logs Are In Short Supply

Switzerland

In a press release, the Swiss Timber Industry Association points out that log stocks in many Swiss sawmills fell sharply last year due to unfavourable weather conditions. The association therefore appeals to all forest owners to mark wood ready for harvesting as soon as possible.

According to the press release, above-average precipitation made timber harvesting more difficult or at times impossible in some places. At the same time, the low level of bark beetle activity led to fewer forced harvests, which overall resulted in a reduced timber harvest volume and a lower supply of sawable round timber.

While the order situation at sawmills remained stable throughout last year, stocks had fallen to an unusually low level by January 2025. Although production can still be maintained at present, according to industry estimates, log stocks are



expected to be depleted by the summer. There is therefore a risk of an undersupply towards the end of the second quarter.

In order to ensure security of supply, it is crucial to utilise the current logging season and replenish stocks in good time. The association is therefore appealing to all forest owners to mark timber ready for harvesting as soon as possible and to carry out or commission the timber harvesting work. Close coordination between forest owners and buyers is also essential.

<https://www.timberindustrynews.com>, 14 February 2025



United Kingdom

According to the latest figures from Timber Development UK (TDUK), volumes of the main timber and panel products imports in the 11 months to November 2024 were very similar to 2023 volumes, down by just 0.2% (around 20,000 cubic meters) as they approached the end of the year.

Solid wood imports between January and November 2024 were 0.3% higher than over the same period in 2023, while imports of panel products were 1.3% lower (down from 2.5% in the previous month). This improvement during October and November, when compared with the same months in 2023, has sharply reduced the overall deficit in volume for the year as a whole.

The percentage cumulative deficit began to fall after the weak first quarter of 2024, with volumes improving throughout the second half of the year. The 15% growth in import volumes seen in October, and the 11% growth in November, accelerated this improvement and resulted in four of the main product groups recording growth over 2023 for the 11 months of 2024. Better import volumes in the second half of 2024 have placed volumes of softwood, plywood, OSB and Engineered Wood Products ahead of 2023 for the year-to-date.

Softwood import volumes by the end of November 2024 were 0.2% higher than over the 11 months of 2023 – the first time in 2024 that year-to-date growth

was recorded. The value of planed softwood was 1.7% higher and the value of sawn goods was lower by 1.4%. As reported previously, a number of supplying countries outside of the leading group have supplied significantly more volume in 2024, including Norway, Austria, Lithuania, Netherlands and Canada. Along with Latvia and the Irish Republic, the improvement in volume from these countries has marginally outweighed the lower volumes in 2024 to date from countries such as Sweden, Finland and Germany.

The deficit in hardwood volume imports in the 11 months to November 2024 fell to around 11,000 cubic meters, when compared to the 18,000 cubic meters deficit in volume reported for the 10 months to October. Hardwood import volumes have been higher in both October and November 2024, with the Baltic States and Romania being the main drivers of this improvement. Volumes from Latvia were 14% higher in 2024 to date; volumes from Estonia were 8% higher and a 9% increase was recorded from Romania. Volumes from France were very similar to 2023 but overall hardwood volumes have been impacted by significantly lower volumes from the USA and Cameroon.

UK tropical hardwood imports from the Cameroon were around 3,500 cubic meters lower in the 11 months of 2024 which, when added to the 2,500 cubic meters reduction in volume from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire) and a 2,000 cubic meters reduction from Malaysia, accounted for most of the 3.5% reduction in 2024 to date. However, higher volumes were imported from the Congo Republic and Poland, with other smaller increases in volume imported through Latvia and Italy.

Imports of hardwood plywood in the 11 months of 2024 to November grew by around 1.6% (around 15,000 cubic meters). Imports from China fuelled this growth with an increase in the year-to-date of just over 30,000 cubic meters. Around 3,000 cubic meters of growth was also realised from Latvia. There were substantial losses in volume from many other supplying countries, however, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Finland, Spain, Italy and Belgium.

Up until the end of October 2024, hardwood plywood imports were at almost the same level as in the 10 months of 2023, but the 15,000 cubic meters growth for the 11 months of 2024 has come from the volume increases seen in November 2024. Most of this growth came from China, with a monthly increase of over 12,000 cubic meters, along with good growth from Indonesia and Malaysia.

TDUK Head of Technical and Trade, Nick Boulton, said: "The growth we've seen in October and November has almost completely wiped out the import deficit as we approach the end of the year, making it likely that the full-year results will see



either no deficit or perhaps even some growth once December's results are published.

"This is encouraging news considering the challenging period we've seen in 2024, and supports the Construction Products Association's (CPA) latest winter forecast, which has predicted growth for 2025 after two years of falling outputs. The CPA has predicted new housing will grow by 5.5% in 2025, housing repair, maintenance and improvement (RMI) for 2025 predicting a 2.8% rise.

"The good correlation between UK housing output and softwood imports suggests that, should the CPA growth forecast be realised in 2025, softwood imports will likely grow, supporting the NSD's own growth forecast for 2025. Following three years of low demand for softwood and other timber products, improved housing output is expected to facilitate modest growth in softwood imports in 2025."

<https://timberdevelopment.uk>, 06 February 2025



Wood Product Sales Rise 11% In December

According to the last report from Statistics Canada, manufacturing sales rose 0.3% to USD 71.4 billion in December, marking the third consecutive monthly increase. Wood product sales climbed 11% year-over-year to USD 3.5 billion, with a 1.5% gain from November. Construction-related non-metallic mineral product sales increased 2% in December but fell 3% from the previous year. Meanwhile, furniture and related product sales declined 9% year-over-year and 5% from November, reflecting economic uncertainty and weaker consumer demand. In the broader manufacturing sector, fourth quarter of 2024 sales rose 1.6% to USD 213.3 billion, driven by gains in transportation equipment and wood products. However, annual sales declined 2% due to weaker performance in transportation equipment and petroleum products. Capacity utilization in the wood product sector dropped nearly 5 percentage points in December, while furniture manufacturing declined nearly 8 percentage points, signaling lower production levels in both industries.

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca>, 14 February 2025



Housing Starts Fell Despite December Jump

Housing starts in the US increased 16% in December to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.50 million units according to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the US Census Bureau. This is the highest rate since February 2024. The December reading of 1.50 million starts is the number of housing units builders would begin if development kept this pace for the next 12 months. Within this overall number, single-family starts increased 3.3% to a 1.05 million seasonally adjusted annual rate. The multifamily sector, which includes apartment buildings and condominiums, increased 62%.

Total housing starts for 2024 were 1.36 million, a 3.9% decline from the 1.42 million total for 2023. Single-family starts in 2024 totalled 1.01 million, up 6.5% from the previous year. Multifamily starts ended the year down 25% from 2023. "Single-family home building increased 6.5% for 2024, as builders added more supply in a market continuing to face a housing affordability crisis due to elevated mortgage interest rates and higher construction costs," said Carl Harris, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and a custom home builder in Kansas.

"Nonetheless, the industry expects to see a slight gain for single-family home building in 2025 because of a persistent housing shortage and ongoing solid economic conditions." Combined single-family and multifamily starts for 2024 were 9.1% higher in the Northeast region, 0.1% lower in the Midwest, 5.2% lower in the South, and 7.7% lower in the West. Housing starts across Canada came in at a seasonally adjusted annualised rate of 231,468 units in December, a 13% drop from the month before reported the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

In 2024 starts across the country ticked up about 2% to 245,120 units. The advance for the year marked the third highest level on record, making some progress to narrow the shortage of homes in Canada and restore affordability in urban centres, according to CMHC's Chief Economist.

<https://www.fordaq.com>, 5 February 2025

United States

Canada





Exports Of Wood-Based Products Up 14%

In December 2024, Brazilian exports of wood-based products (except pulp and paper) increased 14% in value compared to December 2023, from USD 276.4 million to USD 315.2 million. Pine sawnwood exports increased 15% in value between December 2023 (USD 52.3 million) and December 2024 (USD 60.0 million). In volume, exports increased 3% over the same period, from 237,800 cubic meters to 245,100 cubic meters. Tropical sawnwood exports increased 9% in volume, from 22,100 cubic meters in December 2023 to 24,000 cubic meters in December 2024. In value, exports increased from USD 9.1 million to USD 9.4 million over the same period.

“Pine plywood exports increased 37% in value in December 2024 compared to December 2023, from USD 50.5 million to USD 69.1 million. In volume, exports increased 33% over the same period, from 165,700 cubic meters to 219,900 cubic meters. As for tropical plywood, exports increased in volume by 83% and in value by 73%, from 1,800 cubic meters and USD 1.1 million in December 2023 to 3,300 cubic meters and USD 1.9 million in December 2024, respectively. As for wooden furniture, the exported value increased from USD 45.6 million in December 2023 to USD 54.2 million in December 2024, an increase of 19%.”

www.lesprom.com, 4 February 2025



Wood Product Exports Decline Again

Ghana earned EUR 10.22 million from the export of 21,091 cubic meters of wood products in December 2024, a significant decline of nearly 7% in value and 8% in volume compared to December 2023. In 2024, exports earned USD 123.47 million from a volume of 272,829 cubic meters of wood and wood products, a drop in volume (7%) and in value (8%) when compared to same period 2023.

Air dried sawnwood accounted for 51% of the export value in 2024 while figures for kiln dried sawnwood were 19%, sliced veneer 6%, billets, plywood (to the regional market) and mouldings 5% and rotary veneer 4%. These altogether accounted for 95% (EUR 116.79 million) of total revenue earned from timber exports. The major markets for timber from Ghana were India, Egypt, Viet Nam, United States of America, Belgium, Germany, Senegal, Italy, Burkina Faso and Togo. Others included United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia and Estonia. Wawa, ofram, makore, edinam, sapele, denya, ceiba, teak and gmelina featured prominently in the export of sawnwood, rotary veneer, sliced veneers billet and plywood.

Analysis of the three year data for 2022, 2023 and 2024 showed a declining export trend in both volumes and values. One of the main reasons cited for the downtrend was inadequate raw material. Air-dried sawnwood accounted for close to 60% of the total export volume in each of the three years reported and together with kiln dried accounted for over 70% while about sixteen other products accounted for the remaining 30% of the total export volume.



<https://www.itto.int>, 15 February 2025



All containers going through Port Klang must be scanned, says Customs

All containers arriving into or going out of Port Klang are required to undergo a machine-scanning process, says the Customs Department. It said procedures were tightened starting Nov 15, 2023, requiring 100% of containers to be scanned, after two instances where drug-smuggling to Australia were detected in April and October that year.

It added that scanning machines are placed at every container traffic route. Customs said physical inspection is carried out on containers suspected of carrying forbidden items if scans do not match the goods declared. "As an agency responsible to curb smuggling activities and safeguard the country's image, Customs has tightened controls and ensured compliance with the law," it said.

"From Jan 1, 2025, the Border Control and Protection Agency (AKPS) took over responsibility as the inspection and control agency for goods brought in and out of Malaysia. "However, in the interim period, Customs is carrying out inspections until the AKPS is fully operational," it said.

Customs was responding to reports that over 40,600 containers landed in the country daily, but port operators' records only showed 30,000 containers were handled a day. "Not all the containers landed are scanned and released the same day, as only about 5,000 containers are scanned daily for release. "Many containers in transshipment are stored in the container yard, waiting to be processed by importers," it said in a statement on Friday (March 14).

“Customs also said that based on 2024 statistics, it scanned 1,420,845 imported containers at West Port, including those containing e-waste. "This statistic shows that Customs can scan 100% of all containers imported through West Port," read the statement. On imported e-waste, Customs said this is only allowed with written permission from the Environment Department director-general. It said any containers that contain e-waste (without permits) are handed over to the Environment Department.”

It said from August 2024 to February 2025, Customs carried out an operation and found 348 containers containing e-waste out of 389 inspected. Another 26 containers with e-waste were also detected in Penang port from January 2024 to February 2025. All seized containers were handed over to the Environment Department and sent back to the country of origin, with the importer bearing all costs.

PTP is Malaysia's first container terminal to surpass 12m TEUs throughput in a single year

MMC Corporation Bhd's 70%-owned unit, Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP), has become the first container terminal in Malaysia to handle over 12.25 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in a single year in 2024.

“This surpassed its previous record of 11.2 million TEUs in 2021, solidifying PTP's position as Malaysia's leading and largest transshipment hub. PTP chairman Tan Sri Che Khalib Mohamad Noh said the record-breaking performance underscores PTP's indispensable role in global supply chains, and underscores the dedication, resilience and hard work of the PTP team.”

"By seamlessly handling such substantial container volumes, we have consistently delivered exceptional services to our valued customers and partners, contributing to Malaysia's economic growth and reaffirming PTP's position as one of the world's most efficient and high-volume container terminals," he said in a statement on Thursday.

PTP chief executive officer Mark Hardiman added that PTP aims to sustain this momentum and achieve even greater milestones in 2025 and beyond.

"We have made extensive preparations for the future, focusing not only on port asset upgrades and infrastructure enhancements, but also on advancing our environmental, social and governance (ESG) agenda, strengthening safety policies, and driving our digitalisation strategies. "These efforts ensure continuous improvements and expansions as we anticipate a significant increase in volume in the coming year," he added. The 12 millionth TEU was recorded at about 7pm on Dec 23, 2024, marking a defining moment in PTP's history.

PTP_2 Jan 2025



ONE launches new Asia - East Coast South America service



Ocean Network Express (ONE) is adding to Asia – Latin America coverage with the new East Coast South America Express 2 (SX2) service. The SX2 will connecting ports in Northeast and Southeast Asia with major hubs on the east coast of South America

In addition, ONE will offer a dedicated feeder service to the Rio de la Plata, connecting via Rio Grande, “with reliable and competitive transit times to Argentina and Uruguay”.

“The introduction of SX2 with feeder service to the Rio de la Plata underscores ONE's commitment to growth and development in the region, offering an efficient solution for cargo transport between the Far East and South America and meeting the growing demand for trade between these regions,” the company said in a statement. The SX2 service rotation considers Pusan - South China - Singapore - Rio Grande - Santos - Santa Catarina - Singapore - Hong Kong - Pusan, The Rio de la Plata feeder service includes connections Rio Grande - Argentina - Uruguay - Rio Grande. The SX2 service is expected to start operating in April 2025.

Seatrade-maritime_7 Jan 2025

Hong Kong port container volume hit a 28-year low in 2024

Container volume at the port of Hong Kong dropped 4.9% to 13.69 million teu last year the lowest volume since 1996. According to Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, the container throughput of Hong Kong attributed by major port operators declined 4.9% to 13.69 million teu for the whole year of 2024.

Container throughput at Kwai Tsing Container Terminal fell 6.2% to 10.35 million teu in 2024 and the container throughput outside Kwai Tsing Container Terminal decreased 0.9% for the year to 3.34 million teu.

The continued declines in container throughput in Hong Kong mainly caused by the increased competition from ports on the mainland. Ten years ago, the port of Hong

Kong's container throughput was 22.23 million teu, but now it is hard to hit a 14 million teu annual container volume target.

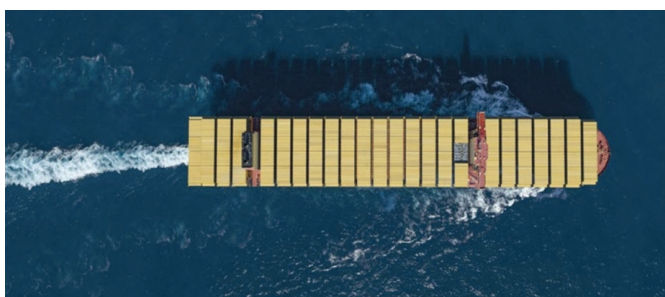
The development of Hong Kong's maritime and port industry has garnered significant attention locally. In the Legislative Council, lawmaker Lam San-keung proposed a Members' Motion in mid-January titled “Enhancing Hong Kong's Status as an International Maritime Services Centre”.

“Hong Kong's port logistics industry boasts a century of excellent legacy, but in the face of a continuously evolving global landscape of shipping and logistics, we must also keep pace with change and speed,” said Mable Chan, Secretary for Hong Kong Transport & Logistics.

“I will focus on promoting the port industry to actively expand cargo volume and business and seeking new growth points. We will continuously enhance the competitiveness and efficiency of the port by going smart, green, and digital. We will also do our best to assist Hong Kong's shipping companies in showing their potential, and make good use of Hong Kong's finance, legal and institutional strengths to develop and promote our high value-added services to the rest of the world,” Chen continued.

Seatrade -maritime_21 Jan 2025

Threat ‘remains high’ to Israeli, UK and US shipping in Red Sea



Warnings to treat Houthi announcements with scepticism as Israel-Hamas ceasefire unfolds. The Houthi have lifted a ‘ban’ on vessels transiting the southern Red Sea, Bab-el-Mandeb, and Gulf of Aden, but the situation remains fraught with risks for international shipping, according to security experts.

Houthi attacks on merchant ships were justified by the group as an action in support of Hamas, punishing Israel for attacks on Gaza. The Houthi commitment to end attacks on shipping is dependent on the Israel-Hamas ceasefire, introducing risks to ships in the event of an actual or perceived contravention of the ceasefire from any side.

A ban on transiting the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait and surrounding area remains in place for Israel-owned and -flagged vessels, but has been lifted for ships affiliated with Israel's allies and ships calling at Israel's ports. The



Houthi said Israeli ships will be allowed passage once all phases of the peace agreement have been concluded.

"Houthi military action in response to a perceived breach of the ceasefire agreement by Israel remains possible and would highly likely impact Israel-affiliated shipping first," Ambrey noted in a Threat Circular.

"The Houthi did not specify how they intend to prevent an Israel-owned or -flagged vessel from transiting the Bab el-Mandeb. The attack of such a vessel, or a flashpoint escalation, is assessed as possible to result in an Israeli airstrike against the Houthi," said Ambrey.

The Houthi warned that military aggression against their territory by US or UK forces would see a return of attacks targeting vessels affiliated with the US and UK. The two nations have targeted Houthi military assets in Yemen to reduce the group's capabilities and limit the threat to civilian ships.

"The maritime industry should be skeptical of recent Houthi claims," the Joint Maritime Information Centre (JMIC) said in its latest weekly report. "JMIC assesses that while a peace agreement is progressing and a statement by the Houthis claim that only "Israeli owned/flagged companies will remain targeted", the maritime industry should remain resilient in maritime security and risk mitigation efforts."

As all parties involved stand ready to retaliate for a breach of the ceasefire, ships in the region could quickly become targets in a rapid escalation of hostilities.

"There is a probability for the US to launch airstrikes in response to Houthi military action against merchant shipping or naval assets, raising the risk for US and UK-owned shipping," said Ambrey.

S&P Global Market Intelligence expects that the current tense situation in the early phases of the Israel-Hamas ceasefire will end with a resumption of Houthi attacks on Israel, opening the door to attacks on shipping.

"The Houthi will likely reduce the frequency of attacks on shipping in the Red Sea while the ceasefire remains in place, but the ceasefire is very likely to collapse beyond its initial phase," it said.

The complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza is a term of the agreed ceasefire, but one S&P Global Market Intelligence does not expect to happen entirely. "The Houthi are likely to cite this as justification for continued missile and uncrewed aerial vehicle (UAV) attacks against Israel."

A resumption of Houthi attacks against Israel would bring a US and UK military response, it added, opening up shipping as a target for the Houthis once again.

"If Houthi attacks against Israel resume, US-led coalition strikes on the Houthi will very likely continue, triggering renewed Houthi targeting of US- and UK-affiliated vessels, which poses a severe risk to all vessels in transit in the 12-month outlook due to uncertainties around

targeting selection," said S&P Global Market Intelligence. Ambrey said that any return of shipping to the region would be gradual, if the ceasefire holds, and would be conditional on there being no further escalation by the parties involved.

Seatrade -maritime_21 Jan 2025

Dry bulk freight rates hit 23-month low



The dry bulk shipping market has continued its miserable start to 2025 falling to its lowest levels in nearly two years. The benchmark Baltic Dry Index (BDI) dropped a further 69 points on 23 January to slump to 824 points, representing its lowest levels since February 2023. The BDI, published by the Baltic Exchange, is down 17.35% since the start of the year.

Weakness in the market is being driven by Capesizes and the Baltic Capesize Index (BCI) 155 points on 23 January to 1,081 points. According to rates published by the Shanghai Shipping Exchange (SSE) rates for 180,000 dwt Capesize on China/Japan Pacific round voyage stand at just \$5,089 per day. Rates for iron ore from Brazil to China stand \$17.60 per ton. In a report issued on 21 January Breakwave Advisors noted that seasonality was impacting the market with limited cargo volumes observed at the start of the year. Cyclones in West Australia had shut ports for several days while heavy rains had disrupted exports from Brazil.

West African activity and bauxite cargoes were noted to remain robust, however the report commented, "Without the contributions of major players like Australia and Brazil, the dry bulk market is likely to continue operating at relatively subdued levels until the stronger spring season emerges." Breakwave noted the market is in its historically weakest part of the year.

Seatrade -maritime_24 Jan 2025



Shipments of Timber and Timber Products Through Ports in Peninsular Malaysia, JANUARY 2025

Products	Port Klang		Kuantan		Pasir Gudang		Tanjung Pelepas		Penang		Total all ports (m³)	% change Dec'24/ Jan'25
	m³	% Change	m³	% Change	m³	% Change	m³	% Change	m³	% Change		
Sawntimber	23,528	-33	4,521	-60	578	97	367	24	1,678	-62	30,673	238
MDF	14,348	-14	0	-100	1,586	-17	469	46	0	-100	16,404	1,407
Mouldings	12,454	-13	0	100	676	-9	2,743	-11	286	25	16,159	-16
Plywood	1,195	-27	0	-100	192	7,605	384	-33	5,769	-16	7,540	-94
Veneer	327	-70	0	100	15	19	0	100	1,143	-10	327	-70
Particleboard	7,158	-41	0	100	27	-51	0	100	6,384	-10	13,569	-30
Total	59,009	-27	4,521	-71	3,074	2	3,964	-7	15,260	-23	85,829	-30



LOGS

The timber market in Peninsular Malaysia demonstrated varied pricing trends across different product categories in January 2025. Logs showed significant price differences based on species, with heavy hardwoods like Chengal (RM 3,267/ton) and Balau (RM 3,734/ton) commanding the highest prices due to their durability and demand in high-end applications. Medium hardwoods such as Keruing (RM 1,913/ton) and light hardwoods like Dark Red Meranti (RM 1,343/ton) were more moderately priced, while Malaysian Rubberwood remained the most affordable at RM 201/ton, reflecting its widespread use in timber industries.



PLYWOODS

Plywood prices increased with thickness ranging from RM 19.40 per piece for 4mm sheets to RM 48.85 per piece for 12mm sheets. The 9mm plywood, priced at RM 38.25 per piece, represented a balanced option for construction and furniture manufacturing, indicating steady demand across various thicknesses.



SAWNTIMBER

The Malaysian sawntimber market exhibits a complex yet well-structured pricing system that reflects both the intrinsic qualities of various wood species and their dimensional specifications. As of January 2025, the market continues to demonstrate clear differentiation between timber grades and dimensions, with pricing structures that reveal important insights about current industry trends and material valuations. At the premium end of the market, heavy hardwoods maintained their traditional dominance in structural applications. Chengal sawntimber commanded exceptional prices, particularly in the General Market Specification (GMS) grade at RM5,508 per cubic

metre, scantling, at RM6,356/m³. Balau followed closely behind, with its GMS grade priced at RM3,055 per cubic metre, scantlings at RM4,590/m³ and strips at RM2,338/m³. The medium hardwood category presents a more moderate pricing structure that reflects these species' versatility across various applications; Keruing, priced at RM2,943 per cubic meter for GMS, scantling at RM2,495/m³ and strips at RM2,401/m³. Meanwhile, for Kempas, the price of GMS was RM2,166/m³, its scantling was at RM2,366/m³ and strips were RM2,048/m³. The Malaysian rubberwood market operates on fundamentally different principles from natural forest timbers. As a plantation-grown species with standardised processing, rubberwood showed remarkably consistent pricing across dimensions, with a gradual increase from RM1,230 per cubic metre for 1"x1" strips to RM1,450 for 4"x4" scantlings.



TRADE IN MALAYSIA-JANUARY 2025

In January 2025, commerce between Sabah and Sarawak with Peninsular Malaysia totalled at 2,541.06 m³, with a value of RM4.98 million. The state of Sabah and Sarawak contributed almost equally to timber product trade value, accounting for around 56% (Sabah) and 54% (Sarawak). Logs, sawntimber, plywood and veneer were the four timber products transported between Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia. Plywood from Sabah and Sarawak was the largest contributor to the trade value for Peninsular, recording a trade value of RM1.76 million (Sabah) and RM0.56 million (Sarawak) with a trade volume of 802 m³ (Sabah) and 561 m³ (Sarawak), followed by sawntimber with trade value for both regions at RM1.55 million with a volume of 753 m³ and veneer which contributed around RM1.06 million with a volume of 424 m³.



*AVERAGE DOMESTIC PRICES OF LOGS, SAWN TIMBER, PLYWOOD AND MDF IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA					
RINGGIT MALAYSIA					
JANUARY 2025					
SPECIES	LOGS/ton	SAWN TIMBER/m³			
	18" UP	GMS	STRIPS	SCANTLINGS	
HEAVY HARDWOOD					
Chengal	3,267	5,508	4,944	6,356	
Balau	3,734	3,055	2,338	4,590	
Red Balau	2,128	2,754	2,119	2,419	
Merbau	2,875	3,754	3,225	3,725	
Mixed Heavy Hardwood	1,088	1,351	1,137	1,255	
MEDIUM HARDWOOD					
Keruing	1,913	2,990	2,401	2,495	
Kempas	1,343	2,166	2,048	2,366	
Kapur	1,874	1,746	1,289	1,685	
Mengkulang	1,724	1,201	1,365	1,871	
Tualang	1,400	1,924	1,448	1,766	
LIGHT HARDWOOD					
Dark Red Meranti	1,760	2,130	1,942	3,337	
Red Meranti	1,880	1,754	1,995	2,307	
Yellow Meranti	1,617	1,854	1,530	1,801	
White Meranti	1,667	2,036	1,801	1,624	
Mersawa	1,400	2,013	1,295	2,154	
Nyato	1,473	1,783	1,819	1,201	
Sepetir	1,280	1,819	1,660	1,295	
Jelutong	1,225	2,119	1,589	1,819	
Mixed Light Hardwood	1,163	1,278	1,095	1,165	
MALAYSIAN RUBBERWOOD Hevea brasiliensis	LOGS/ton	SAWN TIMBER/m³			
	201	1" X 1"	2"X2"	3"X 3"	4" X 4"
		1,230	1,350	1,380	1,450
PLYWOOD 4' X 8' (RM per piece)	4mm	6mm	9mm		12mm
	19.40	26.00	38.25		48.85
MDF 4' X 8' (RM per piece)	4mm	6mm	9mm		12mm
	12.90	23.80	31.60		37.75

Note: Log prices ex-matau. Sawn timber, plywood, MDF and Malaysian Rubberwood (Hevea brasiliensis) prices ex-mill

* Prices are only indicative

INTRA-MALAYSIA TRADE

	Dec 24		Jan 25		% change in volume	% change in value
	Vol(m ³)	Val(' 000 RM)	Vol(m ³)	Val(' 000 RM)	DEC/JAN	DEC/JAN
Sabah						
Logs	14,849	3,532	0	0	-100	-100
Sawn Timber	360	544	295	691	-18	27
Plywood	2,648	5,428	802	1,758	-70	-68
Veneer	1,639	3,414	336	819	-79	-76
Sarawak						
Logs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sawn Timber	36	282	458	855	1,184	203
Plywood	1,243	1,116	561	615	-55	-45
Veneer	177	493	88	247	100	100

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Tabulated: Malaysian Timber Industry Board



Keruing For Timber Structure

Prepared by: Mohd Asmawi Mohd Afandi

Introduction.....

Keruing is the name given to the timber yielded from more than 70 species of the genus *Dipterocarpus*. This group of large hardwoods is indigenous to South East Asia, where the species are harvested from managed forests with regeneration programmes.

Across the entire species, a wide variety of heartwood hues are available, including deep-pink, orange-pink and purple-red. The most common heartwood is red-brown. Sapwood is usually lighter, sometimes with yellow or grey tinges. The wood darkens with age and features a generally straight, or shallowly interlocked grain, sometimes with a stripe figure on the radial surface. Texture varies between species from fine to coarse but is always uniform.

Keruing timber is low maintenance, hardwearing and ideal for outdoor furniture use. The wood is strong and classified as durable, making it useful for construction purposes. Other common uses include internal flooring, protected framing and boards, internal joinery and mouldings, lining, paneling and framework. Preservative-treated material is used for poles, piles, sleepers and cross-arms. It is often used as a cheaper alternative to oak for heavy construction, decking, vehicle building and sleepers. It is also found in plywood.

Where other timbers may require curing, keruing is completely cured and ready for immediate use with no risk of leaching, bleeding or leach sap. It contains oleo-resins which will exude onto surfaces during drying or when exposed to heat or sunshine when in use; gums may also cause problems in machining.

Density.....

It is a Medium Hardwood with a density of 690-945 kg/m³ air dried in Peninsular Malaysia, and with a density of 595-865 kg/m³ air dried for the species found in Sabah.

Natural Durability

The timber (depending on the species) is moderately durable to non-durable under exposed conditions in the tropics.

Preservative Treatment

It is very easily treated with preservatives.

Texture

Texture is moderately coarse to coarse but even, with straight to deeply interlocked grain.

Strength Properties

The timber falls into Strength Group 5 (SG5).

Machining Properties.....

The timber of some species is easy to work, while that of others is moderately easy and some species are classified as slightly difficult. Planing is easy to slightly difficult and the finish is generally smooth.

Air Drying

The timber generally seasons well with some end-splitting and surface-checking as the main defects. The seasoning properties of some *Dipterocarpus* species tested are summarised below:

Species	Time to air dry (months)		Remarks
	13 mm thick boards	38 mm thick boards	
<i>D. baudi</i>	3	5	Fairly slow drying; moderate end-checking; slight cupping, bowing and spring.
<i>D. cornutus</i>	4.5	6.5	Slow drying; moderate end-checking; slight cupping, bowing and spring.
<i>D. costulatus</i>	2	4	Fairly fast drying; slight surface-checking; slight insect attack.
<i>D. crinitus</i>	2	4	Fairly fast drying; slight cupping, bowing.
<i>D. grandiflorus</i>	3.5	5.5	Fairly slow drying; moderate end-checking and cupping; slight bowing, spring and insect attack.
<i>D. kerrii</i>	3	4	Fairly slow drying; severe cupping, slight bowing, spring and checks.
<i>D. kunstleri</i>	4	5.5	Fairly slow drying; moderate end-checking; slight cupping, bowing and spring.
<i>D. lowii</i>	3	5	Fairly slow drying; slight cupping, bowing and spring.
<i>D. sublamellatus</i>	3	5	Fairly slow drying; moderate cupping, bowing; slight spring.
<i>D. verrucosus</i>	3	5	Fairly slow drying; moderate cupping, bowing and spring; slight end-checks, splitting and surface-checking.

Kiln-Drying

Kiln Schedule D is recommended for kiln-drying. Care must be taken as this timber is prone to end-splitting and surface-checking.

Kiln Schedule D

Moisture Content (%)	Temperature (Dry Bulb)		Temperature (Wet Bulb)		Relative Humidity (%) (approx.)
	° F	° C	° F	° C	
Green	105	40.5	101	38.0	85
60	105	40.5	99	37.0	80
40	105	40.5	96	35.5	70
35	110	43.5	97	36.0	60
30	115	46.0	97	36.0	50
25	125	51.5	101	38.0	40
20	140	60.0	105	40.5	30
15	150	65.5	112	44.5	30

Shrinkage.....

The shrinkage of the timber is summarised below:

Species	Shrinkage (%) (Green to air dry)		Remarks
	Radial	Tangential	
<i>D. baudii</i>	2.3	5.6	Very high shrinkage
<i>D. cornutus</i>	3.1	5.1	Very high shrinkage
<i>D. costulatus</i>	2.9	3.3	High shrinkage
<i>D. crinitus</i>	2.1	3.5	High shrinkage
<i>D. grandiflorus</i>	1.6	4	High shrinkage
<i>D. kerrii</i>	2.6	6.6	Very high shrinkage
<i>D. kunstleri</i>	2.6	5.4	Very high shrinkage
<i>D. lowii</i>	2.7	4.5	Very high shrinkage
<i>D. sublamellatus</i>	2	5.5	Very high shrinkage
<i>D. verrucosus</i>	3.1	7.4	Very high shrinkage

Moment in Service

The movement of seasoned timber is classified under Type IV for *D. sublamellatus* (keruing kerut) and *D. cornutus* (keruing gombang) and Type V movement for *D. kerrii* (keruing gondol), *D. costulatus* (keruing kipas), *D. grandiflorus* (keruing belimbing) and *D. lowii* (keruing sol).

Uses

This timber is suitable for heavy construction, posts, beams, joists, rafters, ship and boat building (keels, keelsons and framework), vehicle bodies (framework, floor boards and planking), container flooring and when treated, it is suitable for railway sleepers, harbour works, bridges, power-line poles and telegraph poles.



Reference

<https://www.woodsolutions.com.au/wood-species/hardwood/keruing>

[https://mtc.com.my/wizards/mtc_tud/items/report\(227\).php](https://mtc.com.my/wizards/mtc_tud/items/report(227).php)

5 FEBRUARY 2025

Malaysian Timber Industry Board's Import and Export Procedure Course (MTIB) at The Pearl Hotel Kuala Lumpur

6 – 7 FEBRUARY 2025

Edge Banding and Laser Cutting Machine Maintenance Course 2025 at Woodworking Workshop WISDEC Sabah

12 – 14 FEBRUARY 2025

Peninsular Timber Legality Assurance System (MyTLAS) Strengthening Workshop 2025, at Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan.

18 FEBRUARY 2025

YB Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani officiating Bumiputera Empowerment Symposium in the Timber Industry at The Everly Hotel, Putrajaya.

24 FEBRUARY 2025

Minister of Plantations and Commodities, YB Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani, officiating the 9th Malaysian Institute of Plantations and Commodities (IMPAC) Convocation Ceremony at The Everly Hotel, Putrajaya.

25 – 27 FEBRUARY 2025

Kiln-Dryer Module Development Workshop (Kiln-Dryer), officiated by YBrs. Ts. Farydatul Nazly Mohd Zin, Deputy Director General (Development and Commercial) MTIB.

28 FEBRUARY 2025

MTIB Product Certification Scheme Standards Briefing: Formaldehyde Release from Wood-Based Products at Bangi Resort Hotel.