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# SUMMARY REPORT FOREST SECTOR RESULTS 2024



## **VIETNAM FORESTRY ADMINISTRATION**

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# **SUMMARY REPORT**

# **FOREST SECTOR RESULTS**

# **2024**

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**June 2025**



# INTRODUCTION

In 2024, the Department of Forestry-now the Viet Nam Forestry Administration (VNFOREST) Forestry-implemented the tasks outlined in its operational plan. With the state management responsibilities assigned and the outcomes achieved in 2023, the forestry sector was required to undertake numerous economic, social, and environmental tasks in 2024. The forestry sector must both maintain forest coverage rates and ensure forest protection and development, while also focusing on the sustainable development of forest-based economics. This involves maximizing the multifunctional value of forest ecosystems through effective forest resource management and utilization, thereby stabilizing the livelihoods of those working in the forestry sector.

VNFOREST is pleased to present the “Summary Report: Forest Sector Results 2024.” The report is one in a series of annual publications detailing sectoral outcomes aimed at supporting evidence-based decision-making in planning, policy, and strategic development. It also serves as a basis for monitoring progress toward the forestry sector’s annual and multi-year strategic goals.

VNFOREST expresses its sincere appreciation to the forestry officers, experts, organisations, and projects that contributed to the completion of this report—particularly the Project “Upscaling of Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Certification in Viet Nam” jointly implemented by the Management Board of Forestry Projects (MBFPs) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE) and GIZ.

**VIET NAM FORESTRY ADMINISTRATION**

**Director General**

**Mr. Tran Quang Bao**



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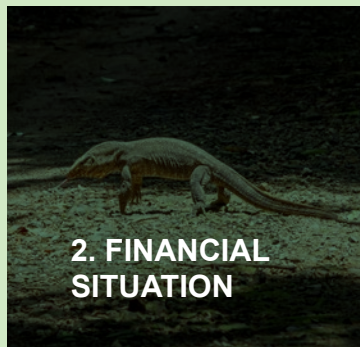
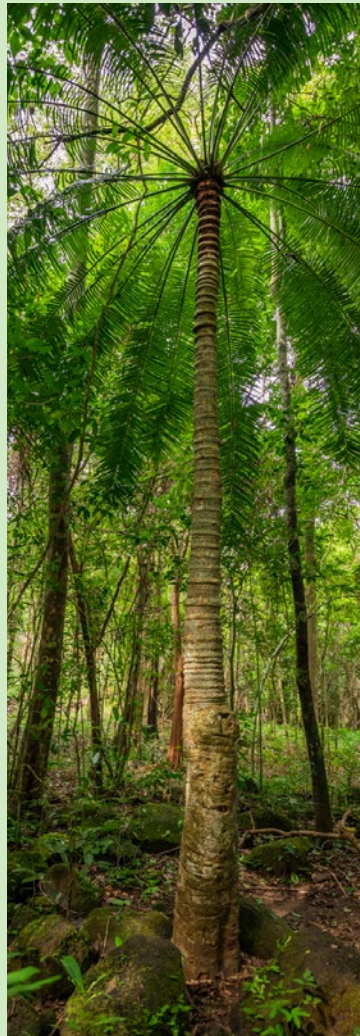
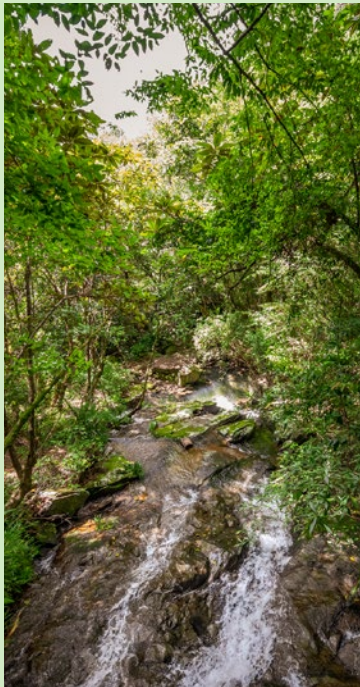


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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ERPA	Emission Reduction Payment Agreements
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
MAE	Ministry of Agriculture and Environment
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MBFPs	Management Board of Forestry Projects
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
PFES	Payment for Forest Environmental Services
SUF	Special-Use Forest
VNFOREST	Viet Nam Forestry Administration

# KEY CONTENT





# KEY FOREST SECTOR EVENTS IN 2024

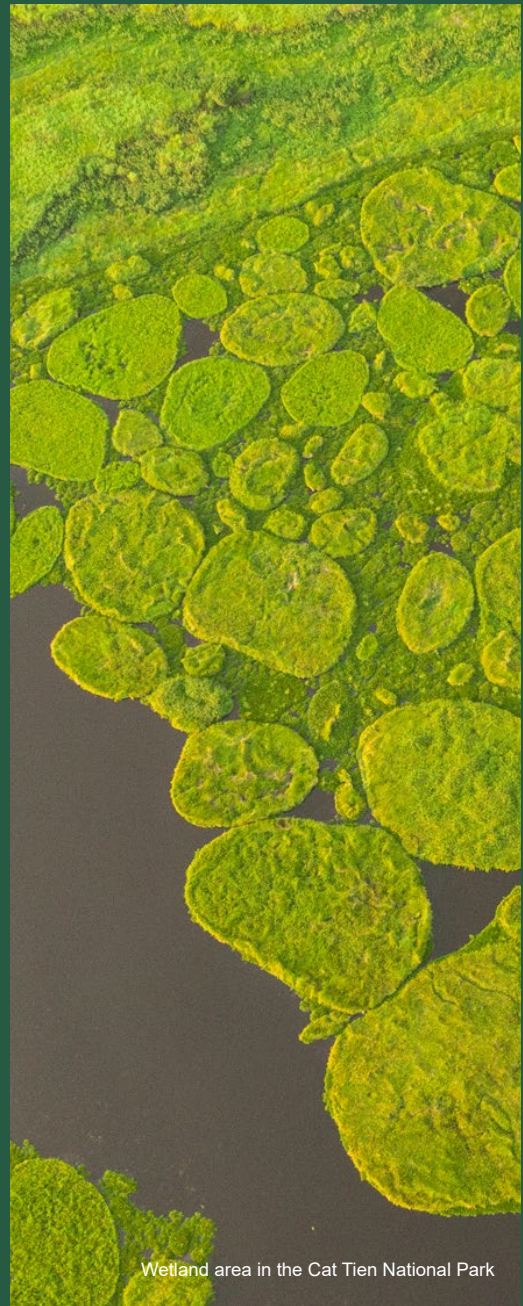
Ancient Tung Tree, approximately 400 years old,  
Cat Tien National Park

# 01

## PROMULGATION OF KEY POLICIES TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR

In 2024, the forest sector advised on the issuance of 12 legal documents effectively resolving major difficulties and bottlenecks in the sector and across localities. These documents laid a foundation for promoting production and business activities in forestry toward new levels of development. Notable documents include: Decree No. 58/2024/ND-CP on specific investment policies in forestry; Decree No. 91/2024/ND-CP, amending and supplementing several articles of Decree No. 156/2018/ND-CP; and several circulars regulating technical and economic norms in forestry.

Additionally, the National Forestry Plan 2021–2030, with a vision to 2050, was issued in August 2024. This established a legal and strategic foundation, further clarifying the development trajectory of the forestry sector. It contributes to the implementation of the Law on Planning, the Law on Forestry, and the realisation of the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy 2021–2030, with a vision to 2050, as approved by the Prime Minister.



Wetland area in the Cat Tien National Park

# 02

## **PROMOTION AND OPERATIONALISATION OF THE MULTI-PURPOSE VALUE OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS**

The Prime Minister’s issuance of Decision No. 208/QĐ-TTg dated February 2, 2024, approving the Scheme on Developing the Multi-Purpose Value of Forest Ecosystems to 2030, with a vision to 2050, marked a turning point. The Scheme introduced “fresh impetus” to exploit the multi-purpose values of forest ecosystems—particularly ecotourism services in national parks and nature reserves. In parallel, the phrase ‘forest carbon credits’ remained a key term attracting attention from society, businesses, partners, and communities residing in forest areas. Pilot payment activities in the North Central Region launched in 2024 are expected to lay a solid foundation for scaling and institutionalising this service nationwide in the future.





Rainfall Waterfall in the Than Sa-Phuong Hoang  
Nature Reserve, Thai Nguyen province

# 03

## **THE INITIATIVE TO FOSTER ECOTOURISM IN NATIONAL PARKS—‘ISSUANCE OF THE NATIONAL PARK PASSPORT’**

For the first time in Viet Nam, this initiative was implemented with the objective of creating a mechanism to promote ecotourism in national parks and nature reserves. It aims to motivate tourists to experience and explore forest ecosystem values. Gradually, it will help establish a sustainable financial mechanism and provide momentum for national parks and nature reserves with tourism infrastructure to attract a greater number of visitors. Additionally, it enhances community awareness of sustainable ecosystem values.

In its initial phase, the national park passport is being applied in 35 national parks and selected nature reserves within the special-use forest (SUF) system that offer tourism activities.

# 04

## PROMOTION OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN DEVELOPING THE MULTI-PURPOSE VALUE OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

In 2024, the Department of Forestry signed a cooperation agreement with Suntory PepsiCo Viet Nam, marking it as one of the first companies to enter a strategic partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) in sustainable forest development—targeting water resource conservation and carbon neutrality.

The Memorandum of Understanding focuses on promoting the planting of large-diameter timber forests and indigenous tree species in combination with medicinal plants. These initiatives are linked to livelihood improvements for local people, carbon sequestration and neutrality, environmental protection, and water resource regeneration.

The programme aims to afforest and enrich approximately 250 hectares of forest, focusing on headwater and protective forests nationwide.



Sawlog plantation forest at Song Kon Forestry Co., Ltd. Gia Lai province

## NEW RECORD-HIGH EXPORT VALUE OF TIMBER AND FOREST PRODUCTS

The export value of timber and forest products reached USD 17.35 billion, exceeding the 2024 target by 14.1%, a rise of 20% compared to 2023. The trade surplus amounted to USD 14.6 billion. Vietnamese forest products were exported to 170 countries and territories, affirming Viet Nam's position as a global leader in timber product manufacturing and export.

# 05



Sawlog plantation intercropped with native tree species  
by Song Kon Forestry Co., Ltd., Gia Lai province.

# **RESULTS TASK IMPLEMENTATION IN THE FOREST SECTOR 2024**

# 1.

## GENERAL CONTEXT



The trail to campsite near the tourist center  
Bidoup-Nui Ba National Park



Sawlog plantation of Quy Nhon Forestry Co., Ltd., Gia Lai province.

In 2024, the forest sector implemented its plans under challenging conditions, marked by numerous difficulties and risks. Climate change led to abnormal and complex extreme weather phenomena such as droughts, floods, hailstorms, landslides, and saltwater intrusion. Notably, Typhoon No. 3 (Yagi) caused significant damage to hundreds of thousands of hectares of forest, severely impacting forestry production. In addition, ongoing global political conflicts disrupted production and consumption supply chains worldwide, including the timber and forest product supply chain.

Despite these challenges, with timely guidance and support from the Government, the Prime Minister, and the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)—along with the coordination of other ministries, sectors, and localities—the forestry sector achieved significant and positive results. These contributions played an important role in the overall growth of the agriculture and rural development sector, while also ensuring social welfare and ecological environmental protection.

In 2024, numerous policy documents were issued to ensure effective

implementation of the sector’s tasks and facilitate enforcement of the 2018 Law on Forestry; the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy 2021–2030, with a Vision to 2050; the Sustainable Forestry Development Program 2021–2025; and many other key programmes and initiatives. A comprehensive and synchronised system of legal frameworks, mechanisms, policies, and solutions for forest management, protection, and development was put in place, contributing meaningfully to the overall growth of the agriculture and rural development sector.

The forest sector continued to affirm its role and position as a specialised economic-technical field. Most sectoral targets were met or exceeded, while forest protection and development efforts continued to show positive progress. Scientific and technological applications were increasingly adopted in production practices, contributing to higher productivity and improved quality of plantation forests. Notably, the export value of forest products remained a bright spot for the forestry sector in 2024.

# 2.

## OBJECTIVES AND TASKS FOR 2024<sup>1</sup>



The path through the Nui Tuong grassland  
Cat Tien National Park

## 2.1. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

To implement effectively the sector's planned targets; the Sustainable Forestry Development Program 2021–2025; the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy 2021–2030, with a vision to 2050; along with other sectoral programmes, schemes, and projects.

## 2.2. SPECIFIC TASKS

- Strengthen forest protection and enhance forest fire prevention and control; proactively and flexibly prepare for timely response to natural disaster-related situations; promptly detect, prevent, and effectively handle violations of forestry laws.
- Improve forest quality
- Enhance the management and quality control of forest tree seedlings
- Implement sustainable forest management practices and expand forest certification
- Promote the development of export markets for timber and forest products.
- Foster the multifunctional value of forest ecosystems
- Continue implementing Decree No. 107/2022/NĐ-CP dated 28 December 2022, of the Government, on piloting the transfer of emissions reduction results and the financial management of Emissions Reduction Payment Agreement (ERPA) in the North Central Region
- Organise forest management in tandem with the restructuring,

renovation, development, and enhancement of operational efficiency of state-owned agricultural and forestry enterprises; promote cooperative economic models and production linkages in the forestry sector

- Strengthen information dissemination and public communication; accelerate digital transformation and administrative reforms across the forestry sector

## 2.3. PLANNED TARGETS

### a) Key sectoral targets

- Forest coverage rate: 42%
- Growth rate of forestry production value: 3.5–4.0%
- Afforestation: 245,000 hectares
- Scattered tree planting: 130 million trees
- Total harvested timber volume: 22.5 million m<sup>3</sup>
- Export value of wood and forest products: USD 15.2 billion
- Revenue from forest environmental services: VND 3,200 billion
- Area of forest certified under sustainable forest management: 60,000 hectares

### b) Development of legal documents, programmes, and schemes

#### \* *Legal documents*

- Continue finalising and following up on the issuance of submitted legal documents: two Decrees<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Department of Forestry, document No. 106/CTR-LN-CĐS regarding the 2024 work plan of the Department of Forestry, dated 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

<sup>2</sup> The law amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Law on Forestry and the Decree providing regulations on the liquidation of planted forests.

*\* Development and submission of key programmes and schemes*

- Finalise and submit the National Forestry Master Plan 2021–2030, with a Vision to 2050, to the Prime Minister for approval and organise its effective implementation
- (Decision No. 895/QĐ-TTg dated 24 August 2024 by the Prime Minister)
- Scheme on the development of the multifunctional value of forest ecosystems to 2030, with a Vision to 2050 (Decision No. 208/QĐ-TTg dated 29 February 2024 by the Prime Minister)
- Scheme on improving forest quality for the conservation of forest ecosystems and disaster prevention

and control (Decision No. 171/QĐ-TTg dated 17 February 2024 by the Prime Minister)

- Continue to monitor and develop the Scheme on Investment in forest Protection and Development to support localities in responding to climate change and ensuring national defence and security in the Central Highlands region (already submitted to the Prime Minister)

*\* Ongoing implementation of approved programmes and schemes*

Continue implementing 12 key approved programmes and schemes

(See Annex 3 for details)




Specimen exhibition room showcasing animal species found in Cat Tien National Park.

# 3.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS



Ancient Banyan Tree at Cat Tien National Park


An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. In the foreground, there is a wide, shallow river or stream with dark water, surrounded by vibrant green grass and vegetation. The middle ground shows rolling hills covered in dense, dark green forest. The background features more forested hills under a bright, slightly cloudy sky. The overall scene is a beautiful representation of a healthy ecosystem.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS IN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES**

Despite facing numerous difficulties and significant challenges, the forestry sector continued to affirm its position and role within the broader context of agriculture and rural development, contributing meaningfully to the sector's overall progress, ensuring social welfare, and protecting the ecological environment. In 2024, most of the sector's targets were achieved as planned. The application of science and technology in forestry production played a key role in improving the productivity and quality of planted forests. Forest protection activities continued to show positive improvements, while forest development efforts were actively implemented by localities, successfully mobilising social resources for afforestation, forest restoration, and enhancing the multifunctional value of forest ecosystems.

The sector maintained forest product export value, remaining a key export category in the agriculture–forestry–fisheries group.

Notably, the forestry sector successfully continued implementation of the Payment for Forest Environmental Services (PFES) policy. The revenue generated from PFES—an important and sustainable financial resource for the sector—was effectively utilised, significantly contributing to supplemental income for forest-dependent communities and enhancing their participation in forest protection.

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. In the foreground, there is a dense forest of vibrant green trees. A winding river or stream flows through the middle ground, reflecting the sky and surrounding greenery. The background shows rolling hills covered in dense forest under a bright, slightly cloudy sky. A semi-transparent dark green rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

In addition, forestry activities generated direct employment for approximately 5 million workers. Policies supporting forest protection, including forest protection contracts with households, individuals, and community-based groups covering an average of around 6.2 million hectares per year, have created income sources and improved the livelihoods of local communities. These efforts have contributed to poverty reduction and the construction of new rural areas in mountainous regions.<sup>3</sup>

Accordingly, it can be confirmed that the sector's core objectives of the sector were achieved despite a context marked by significant changes, incomplete policy frameworks, and a difficult economic situation following the COVID pandemic. The system of newly finalised policies and schemes will open up new opportunities for the forestry sector's development in the coming years.

<sup>3</sup> Workshop on "Solutions for implementing the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy in the new context" held on February 27, 2024.



Indigenous mother and daughter: Kà Thị Ngọc Hương and Kà Rèn Cát Tiên National Park

Based on the specific goals set out in the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy and the sector's annual targets, the following results were achieved by the close of 2024.

### 3.1. ECONOMIC ASPECTS

Forestry production value grew by 4.96%, meeting the target set for 2021–2025. The export value of forest products reached USD 17.35 billion (including USD 16.28 billion from timber and wood products, and USD 1.07 billion from non-timber forest products), exceeding the 2024 plan by 14.1%. The trade surplus reached USD 14.6 billion, a 19% increase compared to 2023.

Approximately 255,000 hectares of concentrated forests and 124 million scattered trees were planted, surpassing the annual plan by 4% and representing a 2% increase in concentrated forest area compared to 2023.

In 2024, the harvested volume of planted forest timber reached approximately 22.7 million m<sup>3</sup>, exceeding the annual target by 1%. Timber harvested from scattered

trees and rubber trees amounted to about 8 million m<sup>3</sup>, a 3% increase over 2023. Firewood output was estimated at 17.6 million m<sup>3</sup> equivalent to 2023.

The total revenue from various types of PFES in 2024 was VND 3,741.3 billion, of which:

- Revenue from PFES under Decree No. 156/2018/NĐ-CP amounted to VND 3,481.3 billion, exceeding the 2024 target by 8.81% an increase of 10.9% compared to 2023
- Revenue from carbon sequestration and storage services under Decree No. 107/2022/NĐ-CP totalled VND 259.98 billion

The proportion of organizational forest owners that have developed and approved sustainable forest management plans reached 83.5%, covering 92.7% of applicable forest area. The area of forest certified under sustainable forest management schemes totalled over 619,187 hectares, surpassing the target set for 2021–2025.

### 3.2. SOCIAL ASPECTS

The forest sector has generated employment for households and individuals directly engaged in forest protection, with more than 5 million workers involved. This contributed to job creation and improved livelihoods for approximately 25 million people living near forest areas<sup>4</sup>.

Currently, over 500,000 workers are in the forest product processing industry nationwide, with 55–60% trained and in stable employment.

Forests allocated to households and individuals under management cover 3.19 million hectares (accounting for 21.45% of the total forest area), while 1.05 million hectares (7.06%) are under community management. Forest protection contracts with households, individuals, and communities cover an average of 6.2 million hectares per year<sup>5</sup>.

In addition, households and communities benefit indirectly from livelihood support policies for communities living in SUF buffer zones, with an average support level of VND 50 million per community per year.

### 3.3. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

The national forest coverage rate remained stable at 42.03%, meeting the planned target. Biodiversity conservation efforts were effectively carried out in 167 SUFs, including national parks, nature reserves, and species and habitat conservation areas, which are home to rich biodiversity.

In 2024, a total of 3,138 violations of forestry laws were detected, a decrease of 189 cases (down 6%) compared to 2023. The area affected was 885.6 hectares, marking a reduction of 162.6 hectares (down 16%).

Regarding forest fires, 288 incidents were recorded, a decrease of 22 cases (down 7%); however, the area affected reached 741.8 hectares, an increase of 67.3 hectares (9.97%) compared to 2023.

In 2024, Super Typhoon Yagi caused severe damage to forestry production in the Red River Delta and Northern Midland and Mountainous Regions. In total, 13 provinces experienced forest damage with over 174,000 hectares affected. Quảng Ninh was the hardest-hit province, suffering losses of approximately 111,000 hectares.



Wooden boardwalk at Crocodile Lake, Cat Tien National Park

<sup>4,5</sup> Workshop on 'Solutions for Implementing the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy in the new context,' held on February 27, 2024.

# 4.

## POLICY, LEGAL FRAMEWORK, AND MAJOR PROGRAMME AND SCHEME DEVELOPMENT



## 4.1. DEVELOPMENT AND PROMULGATION OF POLICIES AND LEGAL DOCUMENTS IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR

In 2024, VNFOREST advised and supported the promulgation of 12 legal documents in the forestry sector, including seven decrees and five circulars. These policies focused on key areas such as:

- Restructuring, reforming, developing, and improving the efficiency of state-owned agriculture and forestry companies
- Investment policies in the forestry sector
- The Viet Nam Timber Legal Assurance System (VNTLAS)
- Liquidation of planted forests
- Economic-technical norms in forestry

(For the full list of legal documents, see Annex 2).

## 4.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY PROGRAMMES AND SCHEMES IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR

In 2024, MARD advised the Prime Minister to promulgate and implement 12 programmes and schemes aligned with the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy. In addition, two additional schemes are in the process of being finalised for submission and approval.

(For the list of programmes and schemes, see Annex 3).

## 4.3. RESULTS BY SUBSECTOR<sup>6</sup>

### \* Forest management, protection, and nature conservation

- *Management of SUF and protection forests:* SUF management: Oversight

and protection of 167 SUFs, covering a total area of over 2.3 million hectares in 54 of 63 provinces and cities, of which more than 2.2 million hectares have forest cover.

- *Protection forest management:* The total area of protection forests reached over 5.5 million hectares, distributed across 59 of 63 provinces and cities, with nearly 4.7 million hectares of forested land. There are 216 Protection Forest Management Boards managing over 3.1 million hectares.

### *Forest protection*

Ongoing protection efforts for 14.87 million hectares of existing forests, especially for natural forests, were maintained. Rational allocation of the three forest categories—special-use, protection, and production forests—was ensured.

### *Nature conservation*

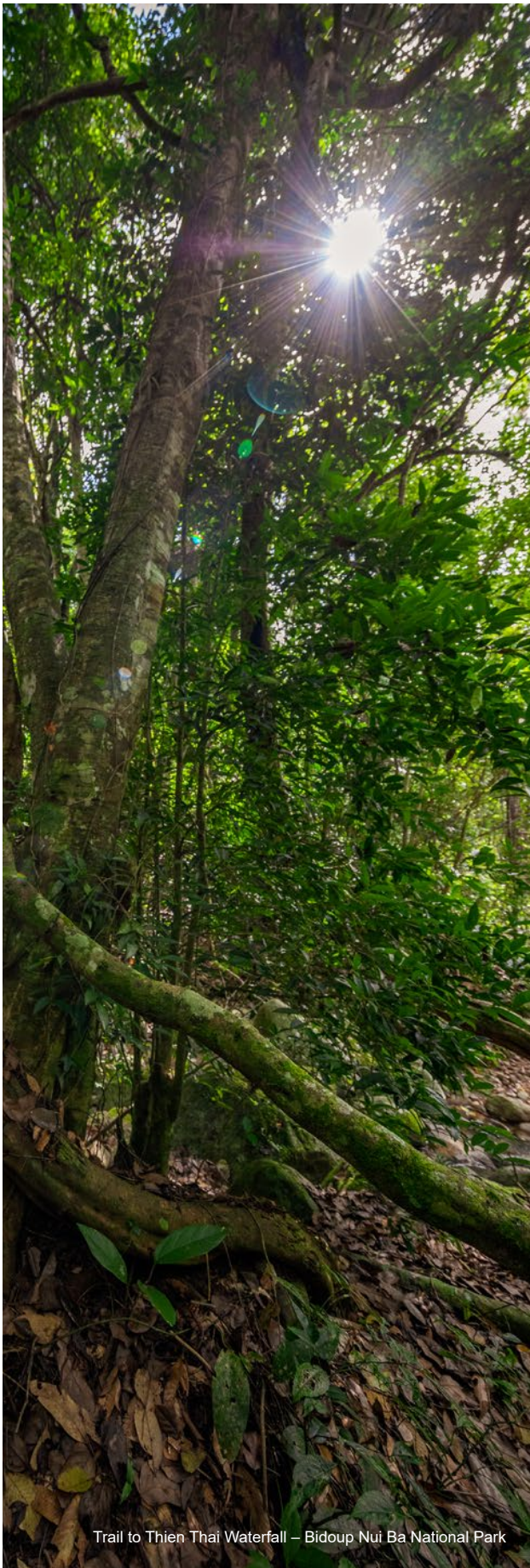
Biodiversity conservation was effectively implemented across 195 SUFs. Rescue and conservation efforts for endangered flora and fauna were enhanced. Several forest species were successfully conserved and rescued, including primates, tigers, elephants, gaurs, bears, pangolins, small carnivores, hoofed mammals, medicinal plants, and valuable timber species.

### \* Forest development

#### *Forest tree breeding*

Breeding and cultivar recognition: 10 new forest plant cultivars were officially recognised; 7 additional cultivars are undergoing evaluation; 14 hybrid acacia and triploid acacia cultivars were granted protection; 10 new hybrid acacia cultivars

<sup>6</sup> Viet Nam Administration of Forestry, "Summary Report on the Forestry Sector in 2024 and Key Tasks for 2025," dated 26 December 2024.



Trail to Thien Thai Waterfall – Bidoup Nui Ba National Park

were accepted for registration; 760 plus trees from 10 species were selected; over 36,000 samples of plant genetic resources were preserved; 80 hectares of seed forests were established for major afforestation species; and 24 hectares of demonstration models for high-quality forest tree cultivars were developed.

**Propagation and seedling supply:** Over 10 million high-quality seedlings, including elite trees and commercial-grade stock, were supplied for large-timber plantations and for reforestation efforts following Typhoon No. 3 (Yagi).

**Technical guidance and technology transfer:** A comprehensive technical guideline package was completed for the propagation and cultivation of 20 key forest tree species.

#### *Assisted natural regeneration (ANR)*

Between 2021 and 2024, ANR activities reached a cumulative area of 537,000 hectares, averaging 134,000 hectares/year. In 2024 alone, 130,000 hectares were regenerated through this method.

#### *Forest plantation and forest quality improvement*

In 2024, a total of 254,000 hectares of concentrated planted forests were established, including over 445,000 hectares of large timber plantations and 63,000 hectares of converted large timber plantations. In addition, 124 million scattered trees were planted. The average area of planted forests under tending during 2021–2024 reached 585,000 hectares per year, with 614,000 hectares tended in 2024.

The productivity and quality of planted forests have improved, with the average forest yield reaching approximately 18



Selective thinning for recovery harvest toward sawlog forest at Quy Nhon Forestry Co., Ltd., Gia Lai province

m<sup>3</sup>/hectares/year. In several localities applying intensive silvicultural techniques, yields ranged from 35 to 40 m<sup>3</sup>/hectares/year.

### *Development of non-timber forest products (NTFPs)*

The forestry sector has implemented initiatives to promote the development of non-timber forest products and medicinal plants, including high-value NTFP development programmes (e.g. ginseng, medicinal herbs, etc.).

### *Forest production organisation*

Efforts continue to restructure, reform, and improve the operational efficiency of agricultural and forestry companies. In 2024, a pilot programme was implemented nationwide to issue plantation area codes for 10,400 hectares of raw material forests.

### **\* Forest utilisation**

#### *Sustainable forest management (SFM) and certification of production forests*

SFM planning: 83.5% of forest owners (and 92.7% of the total forest area) developed and approved SFM plans.

Among them, 93% of SUF management boards and 79.4% of protection forest management boards had completed plans, managing 98.4% and 94.8% of their respective forest areas. For state-owned forestry companies, the figure stood at 77.3%.

Forest certification: Certified forest area increased significantly, reaching 139,187 hectares in 2024—almost double that of 2023—bringing the nationwide total to 619,187 hectares certified for sustainable management.

### *Timber harvesting*

The volume of harvested timber from concentrated plantations reached 22.7 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2024, with the 2021–2024 average exceeding 20.5 million m<sup>3</sup>/year. Harvest from scattered trees and rubber trees was estimated at 8 million m<sup>3</sup>, up 3% from 2023. Firewood production was estimated at 17.6 million m<sup>3</sup>, similar to 2023.

Currently, domestic plantation forests, scattered trees, and a portion of imported timber constitute the main sources of raw material for processing and export.



The total supply of timber for processing and trade reached approximately 31.0–31.5 million m<sup>3</sup>, meeting around 75% of demand.

Regarding natural forests, the policy of closing natural forests will continue to be implemented until 2030.

### *Forest product processing*

There are approximately 16,000 small-scale wood and forest product processing facilities operated by households nationwide, 300 traditional woodworking craft villages, and 6,234 enterprises engaged in the processing and trade of wood and forest products. Among them, domestic enterprises account for 82.8%; foreign direct investment (FDI) enterprises make up 13.2%; and private sector enterprises comprise 95%. Enterprises producing wood products account for 79.1%; NTFP processing 7.4%; artificial board manufacturing 9.3%; woodchip production 3%; pallet manufacturing 0.9%; and wood pellet production 0.4%<sup>7</sup>. Enterprises are concentrated in the Southeast Region (41.5%), the Red River Delta (17.8%),

the North Central Region (11.1%), the Northeast Region (10%), the South Central Region (9.8%), and other regions (9.9%).

### *Ecotourism development*

Currently, 61 of 195 SUFs and 7 Protection Forest Management Boards are organising ecotourism activities. In 2024, national parks welcomed 2.19 million visitors earning a total revenue of VND 538.781 billion. Among these, six national parks under MARD received 718,401 visitors, an increase of 25% compared to 2023. Total revenue collected was VND 52.961 billion, up 24% compared to 2023.

### *Forest environmental services*

The total revenue from forest environmental services (PFES) in 2021–2024 was VND 14,663.86 billion, of which: revenue from PFES under Decree No. 156/2018/NĐ-CP dated 16 November 2018 of the Government was VND 13,407.34 billion; and revenue from the ERPA in the North Central region under Decree No. 107/2022/NĐ-CP dated 28 December 2022 of the

<sup>7</sup> Department of Forestry, Report on the status of the forestry sector, 2025.

Government was VND 1,256.52 billion.

In 2024, total PFES revenue reached VND 3,741 billion, of which revenue from PFES under Decree No. 156/2018/NĐ-CP was VND 3,481.3 billion, exceeding the 2024 plan by 8.81%, an increase of 10.9% compared to 2023.

The forest area receiving PFES payments was 7.45 million hectares, accounting for 53.53% of the total national forest area.

### \* Forest product processing and trade

#### *Timber and forest product exports*

In recent years, the export value of timber and wood products has grown by an average of 10% per year, from USD 15.8 billion in 2021 to USD 17.35 billion in 2024 (see Annex 4 for details).

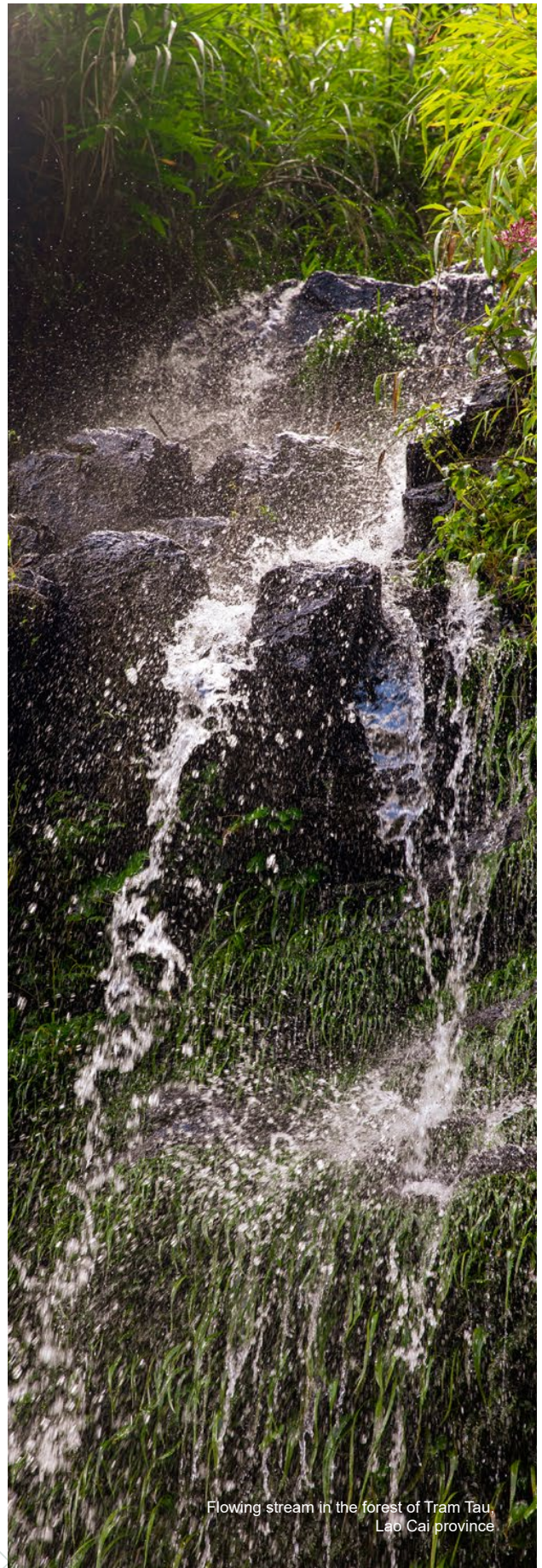
In 2024, Viet Nam exported forest products to nearly 170 countries and territories. The five main markets—USA, China, South Korea, Japan, and the EU—accounted for nearly USD 15.2 billion, over 87% of total export value. Export turnover to these markets increased by approximately 12% compared to 2023.

#### *Timber and timber product imports*

In 2024, imports reached USD 2.75 billion, an increase of 25.5% compared to 2023 (USD 2.19 billion in 2023).

#### *Trade surplus*

In 2024, the trade surplus was USD 14.6 billion, an increase of 19% compared to 2023.



Flowing stream in the forest of Tram Tau,  
Lao Cai province

# 5.

## FOREST FINANCE



Red Lingzhi mushrooms grown under the canopy of sawlog forest as part of the mushroom cultivation model in Ben Hai, Quang Tri province.



Sawlog plantation of Quy Nhon Forestry Co., Ltd., Gia Lai province.

## AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES

In 2024, total mobilised funding amounted to VND 19,849 billion, of which the State Budget contributed VND 3,051 billion, including both central and local budgets (accounting for 15.37% of total mobilised funding); the rest came from other sources.

Regarding bank credit, the total loan volume from credit institutions to the forestry sector from 2021 to September 2024 reached VND 1.28 million billion, with outstanding loans totalling VND 217 thousand billion.

In 2024, the revenue from forest environmental services reached VND 3,763 billion, an increase of 9.5% compared to 2023, exceeding the annual target by 8.12%. The revenue from FES contributed to the management and protection of more than 7.3 million hectares of forest, accounting for 49.6% of the total national forest area.

The total number of ongoing ODA (Official Development Assistance) projects is 15, with 10 projects under preparation.

# 6.

## GENERAL EVALUATION OF THE FOREST SECTOR IN 2024



Trail to campsite near the tourist center – Bidoup Nui Ba National Park



Harvesting Hmong Apple in Tram Tai, Lao Cai province

## 6.1. STRENGTHS

- The sector's 2024 tasks and targets were basically achieved along with continued effective implementation of forest protection and development. Strong and timely leadership and solutions helped maintain positive outcomes, making a significant contribution to the MEA's overall performance.
- The central government's budget support was allocated promptly and in accordance with regulations, ensuring the effective implementation of forest protection and development activities.
- PFES continued to be effectively implemented, contributing to forest protection and increasing income for local people and units involved in forest protection.
- The development of legal documents, programmes, and projects was

carried out in line with planned timelines and quality requirements; the forestry policy system was basically completed.

- International cooperation in forestry has developed both in scope and depth, thereby promoting the development of production, forest product export markets, and the carbon market.

## 6.2. LIMITATIONS

- Due to abnormal climate change, prolonged heat and drought in many localities sustained the risk of forest fires at a high level, causing damaging wildfires with human and property losses; Super Typhoon Yagi severely damaged forestry production in North-eastern provinces.
- Although forest coverage has increased, the quality and biodiversity of natural forests remains low. Productivity of planted forests is still



Tram Tau, Lao Cai province

- limited, and quality remains uneven.
- Forestry production is still commonly small-scale; while there have been improvements in value chain linkages, they remain limited. The connection between tree growers, processing enterprises, and the market is weak. Labour productivity in forest product processing is still low. Business and national branding has not received adequate attention.
- Organisational models for forestry production lack diversity; cooperative economic models are underdeveloped and account for a small proportion of agricultural cooperatives overall.
- Illegal deforestation for land use, illegal logging, and unresolved forest land disputes persist in several provinces. There are still hotspots of illegal natural forest destruction that have caused negative public perceptions.
- Income per hectare of forest remains low; most forest-dependent people are still poor.
- Infrastructure for forestry development is still underfunded, especially at forest management boards and forestry companies. There is a lack of equipment and facilities for research and seed production, while those currently in use are outdated. There are also inconsistencies in boundary demarcation and land area identification on maps versus field reality in special-use and protection forests, leading to overlaps with other land users.
- Afforestation of protection and SUF faces numerous challenges due to fragmented land resources, remote locations, and high associated costs.

# 7.

## ORIENTATIONS AND KEY TASKS FOR 2025



"Bac Dong" Makha Tree (*Afzelia xylocarpa*) tree,  
Cat Tien National Park

## 7.1. CONTEXT

In 2025, the country stands at a historic juncture, poised to enter an era of national rise. A nationwide effort is underway to streamline and restructure administrative units. Accordingly, every unit is required to complete organisational restructuring and stabilise operations. At the same time, they are expected to fulfil their assigned functions and ensure personnel policies are properly implemented so that staff morale is maintained throughout the restructuring process.

Strategic competition among major powers remains intense, and the Russia–Ukraine military conflict shows no sign of abating. In 2025, the global economy is expected to come under pressure from high interest rates, trade tensions, military conflict, and political instability. These factors may cause unpredictable fluctuations in demand for timber and wood products in 2025.

Nevertheless, the forestry sector is expected to pursue sustainable development, with the overarching objectives of: protecting and effectively managing forest ecosystems; increasing forest productivity, quality and value; and ensuring balanced progress across the three pillars of sustainability—economic, social, and environmental. Achieving these objectives will require a concerted effort across the sector. To achieve its 2025 targets and tasks, the forestry sector must mobilise resources, address key challenges, and seize emerging opportunities.

## 7.2. KEY TASKS

1. Effectively enforce the Law on Forestry and its guiding regulations; continue to advise on the completion of forestry mechanisms, policies and legal documents; and finalise – on schedule and to the required quality – the 2025 legislative plan as assigned by the MEA.
2. Reorganise and streamline the merged Viet Nam Administration of Forestry in line with ministerial directives; manage and utilise civil servants and public employees efficiently; and apply personnel policies for officials, public employees, and workers in strict compliance with regulations.
3. Implement the sector’s strategies, plans, programmes and schemes in an integrated and effective manner, including: the Forestry Development Strategy 2021-2030, with a vision to 2050; the National Forestry Master Plan 2021-2030, with a vision to 2050; the Sustainable Forestry Development Programme 2021-2025; the Forestry Restructuring Plan 2021-2025; Conclusion No. 61-KL/TW of 17 August 2023 (Politburo) on continuing implementation of Directive No. 13-CT/TW of 12 January 2017 on strengthening Party leadership over forest management, protection, and development; and Government Resolution No. 29/NQ-CP of 8 March 2024 promulgating the Government’s action programme for implementing Conclusion No. 61-KL/TW and related directives.
4. Direct the strengthening of inspection forces and supervision of forest protection, forest fire prevention, and firefighting in key areas; and implement an inter-sectoral coordination mechanism among relevant forces to detect and strictly handle violations of the Law on Forestry.

5. Enhance quality management of forest tree varieties; continue to review and improve national standards for seed management; intensify research and application of science and technology in the selection and breeding of forest tree varieties; apply intensive forest plantation techniques suited to ecosystems to increase the productivity and yield of planted forests; and promote the development of large timber plantations.
6. Implement the plan for sustainable forest management and forest certification; carry out biodiversity conservation activities in forest ecosystems; promote eco-tourism, recreation, and sustainable forest environment use; continue to effectively implement the policy on PFES.
7. Establish stable forest boundaries for SUFs and protection forests; implement projects for the establishment, expansion, and reclassification of SUFs according to the National Forestry Planning 2021–2030, with a Vision to 2050, approved by the Prime Minister under Decision No. 895/QĐ-TTg dated 24 August 2024.
8. Proactively engage in international cooperation to mobilise and attract funding through forestry programmes and projects; develop export markets for forest products in accordance with international laws and signed agreements.
9. Strengthen information and communication efforts in the forestry sector in alignment with tasks assigned by the Government and the MEA; diversify communication methods; organise training, workshops, and awareness-raising activities on forest protection and development; and effectively implement mechanisms and policies.
10. Develop and submit the Sustainable Forestry Development Program 2026–2030 to the Prime Minister for approval.



Tending and pruning planted forest for sawnlog production at Quy Nhon Forestry Co., Ltd., Gia Lai Province



Rice fields in the valley of the Than Sa-Phuong Hoang Nature Reserve, Thai Nguyen province.

# ANNEXES

## Annex 1. Key forest sector results in 2024

Target	Measured in	Planned in 2024	Result in 2024
<b>I. Economic aspect</b>			
1. Increase in production value	%	3,5-4	4,96
2. Export value of wood furniture and forest products	Billion USD	15,2	17,35
3. Concentrated afforestation	1000ha	245	255
4. Planting of scattered trees	Million tree	130	124
5. Timber harvesting output of planted forests	Million m3	22,5	22,7
6. Revenue from forest environment services	Billion VND	3.200	3.741
of which, revenue from carbon absorption and storage services	Billion VND		259
7. Forest area granted certificates	1000 hectares	60	65
8. Quality yield of planted forests	Million m3/ha		18
<b>II. Social aspect</b>			
1. Percentage of forest labourers receiving vocational training	%		
2. Households in mountainous areas and ethnic minorities participating in production activities	%		
3. Jobs created and livelihoods improved for people participating in forestry	Million people		20
<b>III. Environmental aspect</b>			
1. Forest coverage rate	%	42,03	42,03
2. Forest protection	Million hectares	14,86	14,86
3. Conservation of biodiversity	Protected area	167	167

*Source: Department of Forestry, 2024*

## Annex 2. Legal documents promulgated in 2024

No	Type	Number, reference code	Date of issuance	Title
1	Decree	04/2024/ND-CP	12 January 2024	Decree No. 04/2024/ND-CP of the Government amending and supplementing a number of articles of Government Decree No. 118/2014/ND-CP dated 17 December 2014 on arranging, renewing and developing, improving the operational efficiency of agricultural and forestry companies
2	Decree	27/2024/ND-CP	6 March 2024	Government Decree No. 27/2024/ND-CP amending and supplementing a number of articles of Government Decree No. 156/2018/ND-CP dated 16 November 2018 detailing the implementation of a number of articles of the Forestry Law
3	Decree	58/2024/ND-CP	24 May 2024	Government Decree No. 58/2024/ND-CP on a number of investment policies in forestry.
4	Decree	91/2024/ND-CP	22 July 2024	Decree No. 91/2024/ND-CP, on the Decree amending and supplementing a number of articles of Government Decree No. 156/2018/ND-CP dated 16 November 2018 detailing the implementation of a number of articles of the Forestry Law.
5	Decree	120/ND-CP	30 September 2024	Decree No. 120/ND-CP amending and supplementing a number of articles of Government Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP dated 1 September 2020 regulating Viet Nam's legal timber assurance system

No	Type	Number, reference code	Date of issuance	Title
6	Decree	140/ND-CP	24 October 2024	Decree No. 140/ND-CP regulating the liquidation of planted forests
7	Decree	159/2024/ND-CP	18 December 2024	Decree No. 159/2024/ND-CP amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decree No. 01/2019/ND-CP on forest rangers and forest protection forces
8	Circular	05/2024/TT-BNNPTNT	19 April 2024	Circular No. 05/2024/TT-BNNPTNT regulating economic and technical norms for forest surveys
9	Circular	11/2024/TT-BNNPTNT	4 September 2024	Circular No. 11/2024/TT-BNNPTNT stipulating economic and technical norms for forest inventory and monitoring of forest developments
10	Circular	22/2024/TT-BNNPTNT	11 December 2024	Circular No. 22/2024/TT-BNNPTNT stipulating a number of provisions on forestry for implementation of the Sustainable Forestry Development Program and the National Target Program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas for 2021-2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025 (replacing Circular No. 12/2022/TT-BNNPTNT dated 20 September 2022)
11	Circular	23/2024/TT-BNNPTNT	11 December 2024	Circular No. 23/2024/TT-BNNPTNT regulating economic-technical norms for delimitation of forest boundaries
12	Circular	24/2024/TT-BNNPTNT	12 December 2024	Circular No. 24/2024/TT-BNNPTNT amending and supplementing a number of articles of circulars on forestry



Mushroom cultivation under the canopy of sawlong plantation in Ben Hai, Quang Tri province

## Annex 3. Forest sector programmes and schemes

### Ongoing programmes and projects

No	Title	Leading unit
1	Sustainable Forestry Development Program 2021-2025	Forestry Department
2	Viet Nam's Forestry Development Strategy 2021-2030, with a Vision to 2050	Forestry Department
3	Sustainable Forest Management Scheme and Forest Certificate	Forestry Department
4	Macadamia Sustainable Development Project 2021 – 2030, with a Vision to 2050	Forestry Department
5	Project: Protection and Development of Coastal Forests in Response to Climate Change in 2021-2030	Forestry Department
6	Project to Plant 1 Billion Scattered Trees in 2021-2025	Forestry Department
7	Project on Developing a Sustainable and Effective Wood Processing Industry in 2021 – 2030	Forestry Department
8	Scheme on Protection, Restoration, and Sustainable Development of Forests in the Central Highlands in 2016 – 2030	Forestry Department
9	Project to Strengthen the Management Capacity of the System of Protected Areas to 2025, with a Vision to 2030	Forestry Department
10	Plan: Development of Large-Scale Timber Production Forests in 2024-2030	Forestry Department
11	Viet Nam Ginseng Development Program to 2030, with an Orientation to 2045	Forestry Department
12	Project: Improving the Capacity of Forest Rangers in Forest Management and Protection, and Forest Fire Prevention and Fighting in 2021–2030	Forest Protection Department

**Programmes and projects in development, submitted for approval, or scheduled for formulation**

No	Title	Leading unit
1	Forest Protection and Development Program 2026–2030	VNFOREST
2	National Action Program to Combat Desertification to 2030, with a Vision to 2050	VNFOREST



## Annex 4. Forest product export value 2021–2024

Unit: Million USD

No	Product	2021	2022	2023	2024
	<b>SUM</b>	<b>15,803.5</b>	<b>17,094.7</b>	<b>14,475.2</b>	<b>17,352.2</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Timber and timber products</b>	<b>14,651.3</b>	<b>16,008.9</b>	<b>13,467.7</b>	<b>16,282.2</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Raw timber</b>	<b>3,737.1</b>	<b>4,968.2</b>	<b>4,354.0</b>	<b>5,025.0</b>
a	Wood chips	1,729.5	2,776.9	2,268.8	2,410.1
b	Other types of timber	72.9	26.2	64.9	71.3
c	Round wood	1.2	2.2	3.0	8.1
d	Lumber	49.0	37.5	86.0	95.4
e	Boards of all kinds	1,460.4	1,306.9	1,255.9	1,634.1
f	Wood pellets	424.1	818.5	675.4	806.1
<b>2</b>	<b>Timber products</b>	<b>10,914.2</b>	<b>11,040.7</b>	<b>9,113.7</b>	<b>11,257.2</b>
a	Interior, exterior	10,152.8	10,166.3	8,376.1	10,320.1
b	Other timber products	305.8	342.5	268.2	350.5
c	Timber products for construction	455.6	531.9	469.4	586.6
<b>II</b>	<b>Non-timber forest products</b>	<b>1,152.2</b>	<b>1,085.8</b>	<b>1,007.5</b>	<b>1,070.1</b>
1	Bamboo and rattan	878.5	818.5	733.3	804.1
2	Anise and cinnamon	273.7	267.3	274.2	266.0



## REFERENCES

1. Viet Nam Forestry Administration, Review of the forestry sector in 2024 and key tasks for 2025, Hanoi, 2024
2. Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Report on the implementation of the Sustainable Forestry Development Program 2021–2025, Hanoi, 2025
3. Viet Nam Forestry Administration, Report on the current status of the forestry sector. Hanoi, 2025
4. Viet Nam Forestry Administration, Evaluation report on three years (2021–2023) implementation of the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy 2021–2030, with a vision to 2050, 2024, Hanoi