

Tropical Timber Market Report

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Top story

Calls for blended approach to forest restoration and investment in nature based solutions

The Chief Executive Officer of Ghana's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has called on the private sector to partner with government and environmental agencies to help restore degraded lands across the country.

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India is promoting blended approaches to finance where public funds are used to encourage and de-risk private investments in nature-based solutions.

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Central and West Africa

Production and demand overview

The weather remains the main limiting factor for production across the region. Heavy rains continue to disrupt harvesting, road conditions and log transport in Cameroon, Gabon, Congo and the Central African Republic.

Cameroon, northern Congo and the DRC are expected to enter the long dry season at the end of December lasting around six months. Gabon and northern Congo will see a shorter dry period of two to three months beginning at the end of December after which rains will return until July or August.

International market conditions remain stable but weak. The European market continues to be dull with limited activity. The Middle East is showing renewed interest in Okoume while red species continue to perform relatively well. Buyers for the Chinese market remain quiet, purchasing mainly Belli, Ovangkol and Okan, with no substantial change in buying volumes. Viet Nam demand remains steady maintaining a consistent buying pattern without significant fluctuations.

Regional update

Gabon

The forestry sector Task Force continues strict limits on companies which have unpaid taxes and social charges. Many companies have now been freed of restrictions after paying 40% of their calculated arrears.

A main supplier of okoume to peeling mills in the Nkok Special Economic Zone has resumed activity which will improve log availability. Despite this, tension remain high among operators, subcontractors and exporters due to the financial burden created by the Task Force measures.

Red species such as Bosse, Sapelli, Padouk, Azobe and Okan are present in smaller but consistent volumes. Millers continue to depend on GSEZ log stocks due to earlier disruptions stemming from Task Force interventions.

Okoume demand has slightly improved as exporters in Brazil are asking higher prices for pine but volumes are yet to reflect significant recovery.

International demand remains weak. Europe continues to purchase only on a supply-on-demand basis due to heavy winter stock levels. China's demand is very low, still influenced by a significant log surplus in Zhangjiagang and the domestic economic sentiment.

New domestic housing and construction initiatives have been mentioned by government officials. The construction sector is a driver of the economy. Boosted by major infrastructure projects the construction sector grew by 48% in 2024 and could grow faster in 2026, according to government forecasts.

There are plans for new roads, schools, universities, hospitals, housing and administrative buildings. Among the various projects the 'Emerald City' plan symbolises a commitment to urban modernisation.

See: <https://www.lenouveaugabon.com/fr/economie/2010-20628-le-gabon-mise-sur-la-diversification-pour-doper-sa-croissance-hors-petrole>

High unemployment and limited household purchasing power holds back domestic consumption, including for construction-related materials. Erratic power supplies continue to hinder industrial output. Daily cut-offs, two to three per day, remain common.

Although a third Turkish power ship is intended to raise total production capacity connection delays continue to prolong interruptions. Heavy rains have increased water levels at the Kinguéle dam, the country's first hydroelectric complex, may help alleviate power shortages.

Operators report container availability is sufficient and transport to the port is generally smooth where there are tarmac roads. Port operations in Libreville remain functional though vessels typically wait several days before berthing due to congestion.

Customs export duties will rise sharply from 8.6% to 12.5% as of 1 January 2026. This increase is expected to add further cost pressure on exported sawn and processed timber with direct implications for price competitiveness next year.

Cameroon

Harvesting activities continue but are increasingly affected by persistent rainfall. Continuous rains across forest regions are reducing accessibility and slowing the flow of logs. Enquiries from international buyers remain modest reflecting both cautious buyers and subdued global markets. No major upward movement is reported across species.

Operational activity is progressing but remains slow, influenced by uncertainty, rains and the recent closure of three sawmills in Douala. As the dry season approaches operators expect a gradual improvement in production and transport conditions, although investment remains limited for now.

Railway services remain functional with no major disruptions noted. Road connections to ports are open but negatively affected by weather conditions with delays on secondary routes.

Container availability remains stable. Sufficient empty containers are reported across Cameroon and no shortages have been noted in the main logistics corridors. Port activities continue under normal conditions. Dispatch is occurring with no significant operational disturbances from port authorities or maritime agents.

Implementation of EUTR remains a key focus. Since September a specialised Forestry Inspection Team has been active in the field, checking operators for compliance in both forest operations and milling.

Republic of the Congo

Operations in Congo remain generally quiet with political speculation rising ahead of next year's presidential elections. Forest sector activity continues at a slow and measured pace with ongoing export controls. Officially, log exports should cease but the level of enforcement is unclear and operators continue working cautiously within an uncertain policy environment.

Timber sector activity in the Congo remained steady through to the end of November although overall momentum continues to be subdued. Harvesting is ongoing with operators working on the principal commercial species, Sapelli, Ayous, Iroko, Padouk, Azobe and Okoume. Production levels, however, are tempered by weak international demand particularly from China, where purchasing activity remains low.

Transportation to Douala continues to function as usual with no major new disturbances reported. Operators maintain their reliance on this corridor despite the distances involved. Port operations in Pointe-Noire remain functional, albeit with the typical congestion pressures associated with vessel traffic. While there have been no notable disruptions, cumulative delays remain an operational challenge for exporters.

Domestic regulatory oversight remains firm. Forestry authorities continue enforcing CITES regulations with additional compliance requirements tied to the EUTR under review.

Sawmills generally maintain log inventories sufficient for two to three months of production allowing them some buffer against fluctuating supply and external demand cycles. Market sentiment remains muted across key destinations. Europe and China continue to show limited buying constraining export-driven growth.

The country remains heavily dependent on oil revenues which account for approximately 60% of national earnings. The remaining income is generated by forestry, agriculture, gold and various other sectors. This structural fragility is expected to influence the timber sector indirectly as the country approaches a politically active 2026 with early signals of heightened political manoeuvring already emerging.

Central African Republic

Political developments dominate discussions in the DRC. Timber operations are still disrupted by rains and market conditions mirror those observed earlier in the month with no significant change in supply or demand.

Log export prices

West African logs Asian market	FOB Euro per cu.m		
	LM	B	BC/C
Acajou/ Khaya/N'Gollon	220	220	175
Ayous/Obeche/Wawa	220	220	200
Azobe & ekki	250	250	175
Belli	260	260	-
Bibolo/Dibétou	200	200	-
Bilinga	230	230	-
Iroko	270	250	225
Okoume (60% CI, 40% CE, 20% CS) (China only)	180	180	220
Moabi	260	260	220
Movingui	180	180	-
Niove	160	160	-
Okan	210	210	-
Padouk	280	250	220
Sapele	230	230	220
Sipo/Utile	250	250	200
Tali	260	260	-

Sawnwood export prices

West African sawnwood	FOB Euro per cu.m
Ayous FAS GMS	440
Bilinga FAS GMS	680
Okoumé FAS GMS	420
Merchantable KD	400
Std/Btr GMS	420
Sipo FAS GMS	520
FAS fixed sizes	-
FAS scantlings	540
Padouk FAS GMS	850
FAS scantlings	900
Strips	400
Sapele FAS Spanish sizes	530
FAS scantlings	550
Iroko FAS GMS	850
Scantlings	900
Strips	400
Khaya FAS GMS	420
FAS fixed	440
Moabi FAS GMS	550
Scantlings	550
Movingui FAS GMS	460
Okoume Merch	380
Assamela FAS GMS	1,400
Gheombi	450

Through the eyes of industry

The latest GTI report lists the challenges identified by the private sector in the Republic of Congo and Gabon.

See: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.itto-ggsc.org/static/upload/file/20251119/1763515845482749.pdf

Major tax reforms in 2026 budget

Parliament has passed the Value Added Tax (VAT) Amendment Bill following its announcement by the Minister of Finance, Dr. Ato Forson, in the 2026 Budget Statement.

The Statement announced some major tax reforms which the Minister described as “the designing of a modernised Valued Added Tax (VAT) system fit for Ghana’s economic transformation agenda”.

The package of VAT reforms was intended to make Ghana’s tax system more equitable, transparent and business-friendly and included: abolishing the 1% COVID-19 Health Recovery Levy, abolishing the decoupling of the 2.5% GET Fund and 2.5% NHIL levies from the VAT tax base allowing both levies to be subject to input tax deductions, reducing the effective VAT rate from 21.9% to 20.0% and raising the VAT registration threshold from GH¢200,000 to GH¢750,000 to reduce the tax compliance burden on small and micro-businesses

Implementation is expected to be January 2026 and will introduce Fiscal Electronic Devices (FEDs) to improve VAT compliance and track taxable transactions, digital VAT collection on cross-border e-commerce and a new VAT reward scheme encouraging consumers to demand receipts to support compliance.

The new VAT regime seems to indicate the government prefers using existing tax laws, rather than introduce new taxes to capture greater revenue. The Finance Minister, who led the policy revisions, said the new legislation will remove distortions, reduce cascading effects, promote compliance and improve economic efficiency for businesses.

According to the Country Managing Partner of Ernst and Young, Emmanuel Adekahlor, the success of the 2026 Budget hinges on effective implementation of expenditure controls and a strong commitment to keep spending within approved limits.

See: <https://www.myjoyonline.com/parliament-passes-value-added-tax-bill-2025-covid-19-levy-abolished/>

and
<https://www.mofep.gov.gh/sites/default/files/budget-statements/2026-Budget-Statement-and-Economic-Policy.pdf>

and
<https://www.myjoyonline.com/success-of-2026-budget-hinges-on-effective-implementation-of-expenditure-controls-others-ey-boss/>

EU supports Ghana’s forest restoration

The European Union has provided €2.4 million in grants to three not-for-profit organisations to support the restoration of about 5,000 hectares of forest in some selected forest reserve zones of the country. The project is to be implemented in the Ahafo, Bono East, Upper East and Western regions.

According to the Head of Infrastructure and Sustainable Development at the EU Delegation to Ghana, Paulina Pozycka, the increasing degradation of forest reserves poses serious risks to ecosystems, local economies and surrounding communities so needs to be addressed.

Speaking on the sidelines of an event to launch the project she added that the initiative also includes building the capacity of 20,000 farmers in rural communities to help improve their livelihoods.

Ghana’s forests are important for biodiversity, support climate resilience, water and food security, while serving as sources of livelihood for thousands of people, particularly fringe communities.

See: <https://www.myjoyonline.com/eu-launches-gh%E2%82%B531m-forest-restoration-grant-scheme-in-ghanas-northern-belt-and-forest-zones/>
and
<https://www.gbcghanaonline.com/general/forest-restoration-ghana/2025/>

Major export markets for wood product

A total of 160,974cu.m of wood products were exported to Ghana’s major market destinations during the first three quarters (January to September) of 2025. This is 23% below the volume in the first three quarters of 2024 according to available statistics from the Timber Industry Development Division (TIDD) of the Forestry Commission (FC).

Wood products exports - Jan-Sep 2025

	cu.m	% of total
AD sawnwood	93,180	58%
KD sawnwood	23,450	15%
Billets	13,605	9%
Plywood*	12,994	8%
Rotary Veneer	5,615	4%
Mouldings	4,170	3%
Sliced Veneer*	5,336	3%
Briquettes	900	1%
Others (8)	1,724	1%
Total	160,974	100%

*Includes overland exports

Air-dried sawnwood accounted for close to 58% of the total export volume of wood products export for the period January to September 2025 against 57% last year. This product, together with five other products including billets, reflected the growing demand for primary products which was 67% against that of secondary processed wood products and tertiary wood products which accounted for 30% and 3% respectively.

Compared to the previous year primary, secondary and tertiary represented 68%, 30% and 2% respectively.

Exports to Asia earned Euro 40.01 million (54% of the total for the period) from a volume of 105,939cu.m . This represented a decrease of 24% in value and a 22% in volume against figures for the same period in 2024. Products exported to these markets included air and kiln dry sawnwood, sliced veneer, billets and mouldings.

Europe was the second largest importer for Ghana's wood products generating Eur17.92 million from 25,861 cu.m from January to September 2025 which reflects a 9% drop in value and a 20% drop in volume compared to the same period in 2024.

The export value from trade within Africa during the period under review was Eur6.64 million from an export volume of volumes of 16,080cu.m. The ECOWAS sub-regional market absorbed 12,774cu.m of the total African wood product trade valued at Eur4.85 million.

While other major destinations included Egypt, Morocco, Mauritius and South Africa. Export products included sawnwood, veneers (sliced & rotary), plywood, mouldings and poles.

The shipment of the various wood products went through the Takoradi and Tema (Ghana's two main seaports) as well as overland to neighbouring countries.

Calls for private sector to help restore degraded lands

The Chief Executive Officer of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Professor Nana Ama Browne Klutse, has called on the private sector to partner with government and environmental agencies to help restore degraded lands across the country.

She expressed deep concern over the extensive destruction of farmlands, forests and water bodies caused by illegal mining activities which she described as a major threat to the country's environmental sustainability and economic progress.

Speaking at an event in the Ashanti Region, Professor Klutse stressed that the cost of restoring degraded lands, estimated at 3 million hectares, is enormous. She underscored the need for collective efforts, particularly from the private sector, to help rehabilitate affected areas and promote sustainable land management practices as Government and EPA cannot do it alone.

The Ghana Institute of Foresters has called for tighter laws and policies to prevent mining in the country's productive forest reserves including the destruction of excavators and equipment used in illegal mining.

Dr. Hugh C.A. Brown, Chief Executive Officer of the Forestry Commission, has described the fight against illegal mining as a "scary and life-threatening mission" for officers protecting Ghana's forest reserves. He revealed that officers of the Commission face constant threats and intimidation from illegal miners and called for stronger government and security support to safeguard the country's natural resources.

In his 2026 Budget Statement to Parliament, the Finance Minister announced that an amount of GH¢150 million has been allocated to the National Anti-Illegal Mining Operations Secretariat (NAIMOS) for their activities against illegal mining and forest degradation in the country.

See: <https://citinewsroom.com/2025/11/private-sector-urged-to-help-restore-ghanas-degraded-lands-epa/> and <https://3news.com/news/galamsey-fight-has-become-scary-ceo-of-forestry-commission>

Economy grew 5% in August

According to the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) provisional Monthly Indicator of Economic Growth (MIEG) data, the economy grew at a rate of 5.1% in August 2025 representing a marginal increase over the 4.9 % posted in August 2024.

The Agricultural Sector grew by 7.4 % in August 2025 compared with 2.3% in August 2024 contributing about 27% to Gross Domestic Products (GDP) growth. While the Industrial Sector, on the other hand, contracted by almost 2% in August 2025, compared to August 2024.

The Governor of the Central Bank, Dr. Johnson Asiamah, revealed that the Bank of Ghana (BoG) international reserves stand at US\$11.41 bil., equivalent to 4.8 months of import cover. At the recent policy board meeting, majority of the members voted to reduce the policy rate significantly by 350 basis points to 18 % from 21.5%, the lowest since March 2022.

This brings good news to industrialists as the prevailing average lending rates by commercial banks have, since the beginning of 2025, moved from 31.5% to 22.0% in October 2025.

The Governor described this development as a strong sign of improving economic stability but indicated the committee will continue to monitor development and take the appropriate policy decisions to ensure sound and stable macroeconomic conditions.

See: <https://www.graphic.com.gh/business/business-news/ghanas-economy-expands-by-5-1-in-august-2025-as-services-sector-leads-strong-growth.html>

and <https://www.myjoyonline.com/bog-reserves-hit-11bn-as-import-cover-nears-five-months-dr-asiamah/>

Boule export prices

	Euro per cu.m FOB
Black Ofram	330
Black Ofram Kiln dry	420
Niangon	780
Niangon Kiln dry	910

Rotary veneer export prices

Rotary Veneer, FOB	Euro per cu.m	
	CORE (1-1.9 mm)	FACE (>2mm)
Ceiba	359	472
Chenchen	502	612
Ogea	347	590
Essa	561	656
Ofram	350	435

Sawnwood export prices

Ghana sawnwood, FOB	Euro per cu.m	
	Air-dried	Kiln-dried
FAS 25-100mmx150mm up x 2.4m up		
Afromosia	860	925
Asanfina	465	947
Ceiba	290	465
Dahoma	402	519
Edinam (mixed redwood)	640	672
Emeri	700	750
African mahogany (Ivorenensis)	783	1,020
Makore	692	835
Niangon	800	845
Odum	823	1,165
Sapele	695	806
Wawa 1C & Select	430	491

Plywood export prices

Plywood, FOB	Euro per cu.m		
	Ceiba	Ofram	Asanfina
BB/CC			
4mm	287	580	641
6mm	440	536	604
9mm	413	504	560
12mm	350	489	480
15mm	395	356	430
18mm	460	437	383

Grade AB/BB would attract a premium of 10%, B/BB 5%, C/CC 5% and CC/CC 10%.

Sliced veneer export prices

Sliced face veneer	FOB
	Euro per cu.m
Asanfina	1,304
Avodire	637
Chenchen	1,260
Mahogany	1,260
Makore	1,835
Odum	1,084
Sapele	1,341

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See: <chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.itto-ggsc.org/static/upload/file/20251119/1763515845482749.pdf>

Malaysia

Netherlands reaffirms recognition of MTCS

The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) has announced the formal decision by the Government of the Netherlands to affirm the status of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) International under its stringent Dutch Timber Procurement Policy (TPP).

In an official letter dated 6 November 2025 the definitive finding was conveyed to PEFC International by the Director-General for the Environment and International Affairs, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, Netherlands.

The press release from MTCS says the government of Netherlands has reached this decision following a comprehensive and independent review by the Timber Procurement Assessment Committee (TPAC), culminating in its 'Final Judgement Detailed Research MTCS' report.

In its official statement the Minister for the Environment has received and formally endorsed the TPAC report. TPAC has concluded that both PEFC International and MTCS are compliant with the requirements of the Dutch Timber Procurement Assessment System (TPAS). Hence, based on TPAC's expert advice the Minister has officially decided to maintain the admitted status of PEFC International to the Dutch timber procurement policy.

This final recognition by the Government of the Netherlands establishes a significant and powerful reaffirmation of international stakeholder confidence in the operational integrity, transparency and robustness of MTCS as Malaysia's national timber certification scheme.

See: <https://mtcc.com.my/netherlands-government-upholds-recognition-of-the-malaysian-timber-certification-scheme-mtcs-following-conclusive-tpac-review/>

Malaysian Wood Expo 2025

The Malaysian Wood Expo (MWE) 2025 a premier international timber and woodworking trade exhibition organised by the Malaysian Timber Council was held in November. At the opening the Minister of Plantation and Commodities highlighted Malaysia's longstanding commitment to sustainable forestry. "Today, around 55% of the nation's land area remains under forest cover and 5.85 million hectares of forests have been certified under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) placing Malaysia among the top ten countries globally with the largest area of sustainably managed forests" he added.

This year's Expo featured 127 exhibitors from 19 countries, including China, Germany, Austria, Uruguay and Thailand. MWE 2025 also featured a high-level Timber Conference gathering global experts and industry leaders to share insights on market developments, innovation and sustainable design trends.

See: <https://mrem.bernama.com/viewsm.php?idm=52711>

Sarawak to explore use of synthetic timber for construction

At the opening of the 'International Conference on Industrial Forest Plantation Research and Innovation (ICFPRI) 2025' in Kuching, Premier Abang Johari Tun Openg suggested building contractors in Sarawak should consider exploring the use of synthetic timber as part of Sarawak's shift towards a green economy.

He added that under the Sarawak Land Use Policy 7 million hectares of the State's 12.4 million hectares have been formally allocated for sustainable forestry and conservation. The Premier noted that Sarawak currently maintains approximately 7.65 million hectares, or 62% of its landmass under forest cover.

Abang Johari also talked about Forest Management Certification (FMC) a key tool to ensure Sarawak's products would meet stringent international standards. "To date, 17 Forest Management Units and nine Forest Plantation Management Units, covering 1.53 million hectares and 127,311 hectares respectively have been certified.

Focus on achieving RM8 billion export target

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) has reaffirmed its commitment to aggressively developing the state's timber and non-wood forest products sector targeting a strategic export value of RM8 billion by 2030.

In highlighting this ambitious goal, a recent workshop was held, gathering 70 participants including representatives from key government agencies, the Sarawak Timber Association (STA), the Sarawak Furniture Industry Association (SFIA) and major industry players like Harwood Timber co ltd. The workshop was to review and refine strategies under the Post-Covid Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, with a primary focus on achieving the bold RM8 billion export target.

The permanent secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development underscored the sector's economic significance. "While the industry currently supports approximately 12,000 direct jobs and had recorded exports worth about RM2.8 billion in 2024, these figures reveal a significant gap that must be closed to meet the PCDS 2030 target".

See:

<http://theborneopost.pressreader.com/article/281548002171945>
and
<http://theborneopost.pressreader.com/article/281543707197220>

Satellite technology to monitor GHG emissions

Sarawak is taking a major step forward in advancing scientific cooperation with Japan through a new partnership that will use satellite technology to monitor and verify greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Premier Abang Johari Tun Openg witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Sarawak Forest Department and Osaka Metropolitan University in Japan which could involve collaboration on the use of Japan's Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (Gosat) for assessing and monitoring GHG emissions through the Net Ecosystem Exchange (NEE) measurement.

For Sarawak, the collaboration will further strengthen the State's credibility in independent reporting within the Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM), as Gosat provides scientifically verified and independent data streams.

The scope of the partnership also covers joint research activities in forest ecosystem studies and biodiversity conservation, as well as joint publication of research outcomes between both parties.

Meanwhile Sarawak is set to deepen and diversify its longstanding partnership with Japan beyond forest restoration, with new collaborations to be explored in green technology, carbon trading, biodiversity science and human capital development.

Premier Abang Johari Tun Openg said the State is ready to build on the success of its 30-year cooperation between the Japanese Malaysia Association (JMA) and the Sarawak Forest Department to venture into high-impact sectors aligned with global sustainability goals.

See:

<https://theborneopost.pressreader.com/article/281569476994044>
and
<https://theborneopost.pressreader.com/article/281483577646129>

Through the eyes of industry

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See: chrome-

extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclefindmkaj/https://www.itto-ggsc.org/static/upload/file/20251119/1763515845482749.pdf

Indonesia

Industrial plantations as a core renewable energy source

Indonesia is positioning its Industrial Plantation Forests as a key driver in the global shift toward renewable energy according to the Director General of Sustainable Forest Management, Laksmi Wijayanti. She stressed that plantations should be understood not only as a timber source but as a central pillar of the future green economy.

She explained that the government is directing plantation forest management to support the energy transition by producing biomass and other bioenergy materials to replace fossil-based inputs.

Laksmi also highlighted the SVLK certification system as Indonesia's global "green passport," ensuring legality, traceability and sustainability for all forest products, including biomass. She emphasised that this system reinforces Indonesia's NDC commitments and aligns with international frameworks such as FLEGT-VPA, thereby boosting confidence in sustainable supply chains.

In related news, the Director General of Sustainable Forest Management explained that regenerative forestry bridges environmental protection and economic progress supported by upcoming green policies, incentives and stronger partnerships between the private sector and forest-dependent communities.

This approach aims to attract sustainable investment while ensuring that forest management contributes both to climate goals and local prosperity.

The country's model emphasises high-value forest commodities such as forest-grown coffee, certified organic honey and essential oils from endemic plants, products that support community livelihoods while maintaining ecological balance. Laksmi stressed that multi-sector collaboration is essential to accelerate the shift toward an inclusive green economy.

See: <https://forestinsights.id/indonesia-positions-industrial-plantation-forests-as-a-global-backbone-for-renewable-energy-transition/> and <https://forestinsights.id/regenerative-forestry-business-promoted-as-a-pillar-of-green-economy-and-social-justice/>

Strengthening competency of workers to achieve US\$6 billion exports

The Indonesia Furniture Industry and Craft Association (HIMKI) is prioritising stronger human resource development through relevant and market-oriented professional certification.

Chairman Abdul Sobur said that improving the quality and competency of workers is essential for raising the competitiveness of the country's furniture and craft sector and achieving the export target by 2030. He highlighted that practical skills, real work portfolios and credible certification systems are crucial to meeting global standards.

Sobur also noted that Indonesia is at a strategic moment to become a global hub for production and creativity as long as it builds solid quality and competency standards. He pointed out that many local craft products already align with international market demands, especially those inspired by the Monozukuri philosophy which stresses skill, precision and the creation of high-quality goods.

See: <https://www.antaranews.com/berita/5252657/himki-tekankan-penguatan-sertifikasi-wujudkan-ekspor-6-miliar-dolar-as>

Indonesia and Japan cooperation on sustainable mangroves

Indonesia and Japan have strengthened their collaboration on sustainable mangrove management and climate resilience as reaffirmed during a bilateral meeting between Indonesia's Deputy Forestry Minister, Rohmat Marzuki and representatives of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) at the Tropical Forest Summit in Belém, Brazil. Rohmat expressed appreciation for JICA's continued support and flexibility, noting that the partnership remains aligned with the shared goal of advancing sustainable mangrove ecosystems and climate adaptation efforts.

The discussion also focused on enhancing the role of Indonesia's Mangrove Information Center (MIC) which contributes to the World Mangrove Center (WMC) network.

Indonesia committed to developing the MIC into a regional and international hub for learning, research and knowledge exchange. Technical preparations including facility upgrades, expert recruitment and coordination with relevant agencies are currently underway. Indonesia also looks forward to ongoing support from JICA to strengthen the MIC's operational and technical capacity within the WMC framework.

See: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/391549/indonesia-japan-boost-cooperation-on-sustainable-mangrove-projects>

Indonesia, Fiji move to deepen cooperation in responsible forestry

Indonesia and Fiji are exploring deeper cooperation in responsible forestry through the UN's REDD+ climate mitigation framework and the voluntary carbon market. During a meeting with Conservation International on the sidelines of COP30 in Brazil, Fiji commended Indonesia's achievements in sustainable forest management and expressed interest in learning from its best practices.

The Pacific nation highlighted its intention to build a partnership centered on knowledge exchange and capacity-building in climate mitigation and forest governance.

Indonesia welcomed the idea with Haruni Krisnawati, the Forestry Ministry's Expert Staff for Climate Change, affirming the country's readiness to enhance collaboration. She emphasised, however, that the foundation of cooperation must be renewed as the previous 2018 memorandum of understanding expired in 2023. Updating this MoU, she stated, is essential for both countries to elevate their joint efforts in addressing climate change and advancing sustainable forestry initiatives.

See: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/392021/indonesia-fiji-move-to-deepen-cooperation-in-responsible-forestry>

Bolstering carbon market integrity and collaboration

Indonesia has reiterated its commitment to strengthening the integrity of carbon markets and enhancing global collaboration Deputy Forestry Minister, Rohmat Marzuki, said at a COP30 event hosted at Singapore's Pavilion. He emphasised Indonesia's support for the principles promoted by the Coalition to Grow Carbon Markets noting that these guidelines help governments and companies uphold high-integrity carbon credit systems. Marzuki underscored Indonesia's readiness to work with all partners to ensure transparency and credibility in carbon trading.

He also expressed appreciation to the coalition's founding members, Kenya, the United Kingdom, Singapore, France and Panama for their leadership in building trustworthy market frameworks.

Indonesia views the coalition as instrumental in accelerating climate action and supporting sustainable development by mobilising private financing through carbon markets.

Marzuki affirmed that Indonesia shares the coalition's vision of ensuring that carbon trading remains transparent, credible and beneficial to both communities and the environment while contributing to sustainable economic growth.

In related news, Indonesia reported strong progress in carbon credit transactions at its pavilion during COP30 in Belém, Brazil. Within a week of opening on 10 November, the country reported nearly Rp7 trillion in carbon trades representing 13.5 million tonnes of CO₂ credits.

These included 12 million tonnes from technology-based projects and 1.5 million tonnes from the forestry and other land use sectors, alongside contributions from power-generation initiatives. The Environment Minister, Hanif Faisol Nurofiq, emphasised that the deals reflect growing cooperation in efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions and boost Indonesia's carbon-based economy.

The government aimed to finalise transactions from 44 projects totaling 90 million tonnes of CO₂, valued at Rp16 trillion, by the closing of COP30 on 21 November. To help meet this target the Indonesia Pavilion is holding daily Seller Meet Buyer sessions, its new matchmaking platform for connecting carbon-credit sellers with buyers and investors.

See: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/391293/ri-doubles-down-on-bolstering-carbon-market-integrity-collaboration> and <https://en.tempo.co/read/2066775/indonesias-carbon-sales-at-cop30-near-rp7-trillion-out-of-rp16-trillion-goal>

Nature-based climate action in ASEAN

Indonesia reaffirmed its commitment to advancing nature-based climate action in ASEAN by strengthening social forestry, Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA). Speaking at a Social Forestry Talk Show at the ASEAN Pavilion during COP30 in Belém, Ministry of Forestry official Julmansyah emphasised the crucial role forests play in supporting life, culture and climate mitigation across the region.

ASEAN countries have integrated forests into their core climate strategies, as seen in increasingly ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and coordinated regional efforts. A key achievement is the completion of guidelines and tools for implementing NbS and EbA in sustainable forest management, developed collaboratively by ASEAN working groups, UN-REDD and other partners.

Representing ASEAN at COP30, Julmansyah highlighted the need for sustainable and predictable climate finance to ensure long-term forest protection, restoration and management under NDC commitments. He also underscored the importance of improving capacity-building to strengthen technical and institutional capabilities, particularly in monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), carbon accounting and transparent reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework.

See: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/392613/ri-committed-to-strengthening-nature-based-climate-action-in-asean> and <https://mediaindonesia.com/humaniora/831750/hutan-sosial-jadi-fondasi-strategi-iklim-baru-di-asean>

Ensuring social forestry business groups see benefits from the carbon market

The Ministry of Forestry announced that it is overseeing benefit-sharing mechanisms to ensure Social Forestry Business Groups (KUPS) gain fair advantages from participation in the carbon market. According to Enik Eko Wati, Secretary of the Directorate General of Social Forestry, social forestry groups must work with partner facilitators because preparing the required Mitigation Action Plan Document (DRAM) involves high costs.

Cooperation agreements between KUPS and facilitators must be approved by the Head of the Social Forestry Agency and documentation of the benefit-sharing mechanism must be included before final approval by the Minister to prevent communities from being disadvantaged.

Enik stressed that all communities participating in activities under the Carbon Economic Value (NEK) framework will receive outreach and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). This requirement applies not only to carbon trading but also to result-based payments (RBP) and result-based contributions (RBC). She emphasised that FPIC is essential to ensure communities fully understand their rights and obligations before entering any carbon-governance commitments.

See: <https://m.antaranews.com/amp/berita/5252505/kemenhut-pastikan-kups-perhutanan-sosial-terima-manfaat-pasar-karbon>

IEU-CEPA to provide new trade advantages for Indonesia

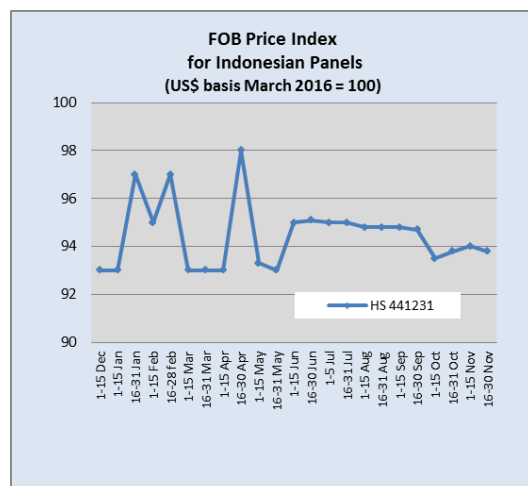
The European Union (EU) has highlighted that the Indonesia-EU Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IEU-CEPA) could provide significant trade advantages for Indonesia, mainly through reduced export tariffs.

EU Ambassador Denis Chaibi noted that several Indonesian products, including footwear, clothing and palm oil could enter the EU market with zero-percent tariffs from the first day the agreement is implemented. He stressed the urgency of finalising the deal before the current Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) expires on 1 January 2027 in order to maintain the competitiveness of Indonesian products, which currently face tariffs of 12–17%.

Chaibi also emphasised that sectors like footwear and palm oil could gain a stronger competitive position compared to other regional exporters, such as Vietnam and Malaysia. However, he noted that Indonesia will need to invest domestically to improve product quality, production efficiency and supply chain transparency to fully benefit from the tariff advantages.

Leveraging IEU-CEPA opportunities will require strategic preparation to ensure Indonesia can capitalise on its potential trade gains, Chaibi said.

See: <https://www.antaranews.com/berita/5247393/ue-sebut-ieu-cepa-berpotensi-beri-keunggulan-dagang-baru-indonesia>



Data source: License Information Unit. <http://silk.dephut.go.id/>

Through the eyes of industry

The latest GTI report lists the challenges identified by the private sector in Indonesia.

See: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnmnipccajpcgclefindmkaj/<https://www.itto-ggsc.org/static/upload/file/20251119/1763515845482749.pdf>

Myanmar

Our apologies, we are unable to provide a report from Myanmar for this issue of the report.

India

Welcome easing of inflation

The annual rate of inflation based on the all India Wholesale Price Index (WPI) was -1.21% for October 2025 (over October 2024). The negative rate of inflation in October 2025 was primarily due to decreases in prices of food articles, crude petroleum and natural gas, electricity, mineral oils and manufactured basic metals.

The index for manufacturing was steady being 145.2 in September 2025 and 145.1 in October. Out of the 22 NIC two-digit groups for manufactured products, 7 groups saw a decrease in prices, 11 groups saw an increase in prices and for 4 groups there were no change in prices.

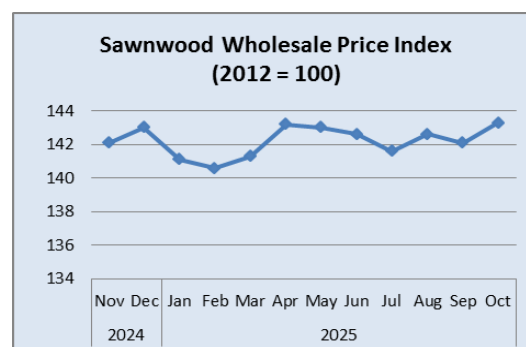
Some of the important groups that showed month on month decrease in prices were manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products, basic metals, chemicals and chemical products, motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers and printing and reproduction of recorded media.

Some of the groups that witnessed an increase in prices were manufacture of textiles, food products, computers, electronic and optical products, electrical equipment and wood, products of wood and cork in October 2025 as compared to September 2025.

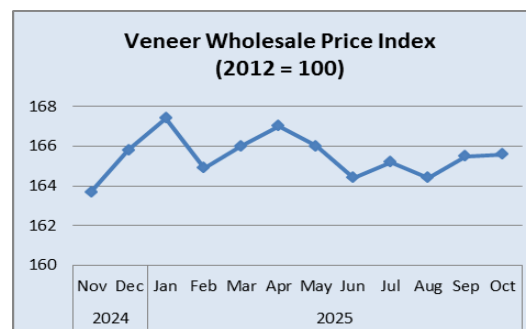
See: <https://eaindustry.nic.in/>



Data source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India



Data source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India



Data source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India

A blended approach to address climate change

The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav, has said that India will require investments of more than US\$10 trillion by 2070 to achieve its net-zero target.

He further emphasised the need to build trust in environment friendly investments to achieve this goal. Yadav said, "India is promoting blended approaches to finance where public funds are used to encourage and de-risk private investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, electric vehicles, waste-to-wealth initiatives and nature-based solutions and resources".

The Minister outlined the key principles guiding India's climate-related efforts: climate finance cannot be separated from development finance, clean energy, efficient cities, climate-resilient agriculture and strong infrastructure are the foundation for national security and industrial leadership and a country that successfully mobilises green investments will do well in the industrial value chains.

See: <https://plyinsight.com/ambitious-target-for-net-zero/>

Major reform of labour laws

The Central government has enacted sweeping reforms to labour laws with the adoption of the Code on Wages (2019), Industrial Relations Code (2020), Code on Social Security (2020) and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSHC) Code (2020). The Codes came into effect 21 November 2025 and replaced 29 Central labour laws.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomed the decision, describing it as "one of the most comprehensive labour-oriented reforms since Independence." Announcing the implementation, the Ministry of Labour and Employment said the Codes would modernise India's labour governance, expand social-security coverage and simplify compliance procedures for industries.

The India's new labour codes aim to simplify regulations, reduce compliance burdens and enhance worker welfare. These reforms are expected to boost competitiveness by offering greater flexibility in hiring and overtime, potentially attracting more domestic and foreign investment into manufacturing and services.

The long-awaited labour codes announced by the Government represent a major change. For decades, labour regulation were guided by a multiplicity of laws, many of them dating back to the pre-independence era.

See: <https://ddnews.gov.in/en/centre-implements-four-labour-codes-overhauling-29-existing-laws/>

Urban housing landscape changing

TradeBrains, a leading Indian financial analysis and news platform and a research analyst firm, has analysed the main emerging housing trends reshaping Indian cities in 2025. The company says India's urban housing landscape in 2025 changed a lot driven by demographic shifts, evolving lifestyle preferences, sustainability imperatives and technological advancement.

See: <https://tradebrains.in/money/top-9-emerging-housing-trends-reshaping-indian-cities-in-2025-2/>

Cost C&F Indian ports in US\$ Hoppus measure

Teak log prices, C&F US\$/Hoppus cu.m

	Hoppus cu.m	US\$ C&F
Brazil	331	503
Colombia	212	445
Costa Rica	186	350
Nigeria	-	-
Benin	-	-
Tanzania	270	482
Laos	-	-
South Sudan	281	685
Guatemala	267	400
Venezuela	-	-

Teak sawnwood prices, C&F US\$/cu.m

	cu.m	US\$ C&F
Benin	288	670
Brazil	258	650
Colombia	-	-
Costa Rica	241	520
Ecuador	-	-
Ghana	190	435
Ivory Coast	289	810
Nigeria	246	440
South Sudan	313	610
Tanzania	-	-
Togo	322	515
Panama	320	485

Locally milled sawnwood prices

Sawnwood Ex-mill	Rs per cu.ft.
Merbau	4,450 - 4,850
Balau	3,050 - 3,350
Resak	-
Kapur	-
Kempas	1,750 - 2,050
Red meranti	1,900 - 2,200
Radiata pine	925 - 1,200
Whitewood	950 - 1,150

Price range depends mainly on lengths and cross-section

Locally sawn hardwood prices

Sawnwood (Ex-warehouse) (KD 12%)	Rs per cu.ft.
Beech	1,950 - 2,300
Sycamore	2,400 - 2,800
Red Oak	2,950 - 3,400
White Oak	3,400 - 3,800
American Walnut	5,450 - 5,950
Hemlock STD grade	1,950 - 2,250
Western Red Cedar	3,000 - 3,400
Douglas Fir	2,450 - 2,650

Price range depends mainly on lengths and cross-section

Domestic ex-warehouse prices for locally manufactured WBP plywood

Plywood Ex-warehouse	Rs. per sq.ft
4mm	85.50
6mm	99.00
9mm	117.50
12mm	140.00
15mm	181.50
18mm	199.50

Domestic ex-warehouse prices for locally manufactured MR plywood

Plywood Ex-warehouse	Rs. per sq.ft
4mm	58.00
6mm	74.50
9mm	85.50
12mm	101.00
15mm	136.50
19mm	146.00
5mm Flexible ply	91.00

Viet Nam

Wood and Wood Product (W&P) trade highlights

According to the Viet Nam Customs Department, W&P exports in October 2025 amounted to US\$1.53 billion, up 12.5% compared to September 2025, but down 0.9% compared to October 2024 of which WP exports earned US\$1 billion, up 12% compared to September 2025 but down 1% compared to October 2024. In the first 10 months of 2025 W&P exports earned US\$14 billion, up 6% over the same period in 2024 of which exports of WP reached US\$9.6 billion, up 5% over the same period in 2024.

W&P exports to the Netherland market in October 2025 earned US\$8.8 million, down 23% compared to October 2024. In the first 10 months of 2025 W&P exports to this market totalled US\$82.9 million, up 33% over the same period in 2024.

W&P exports to Spain in October 2025 were valued US\$4.8 million, up 5% compared to October 2024. In the first 10 months of 2025 W&P exports to Spain totalled US\$60.1 million, up 25% over the same period in 2024.

Viet Nam's W&P imports in October 2025 were valued US\$248.4 million, down 6% compared to September 2025, however, compared to October 2024 imports increased by 6%. In the first 10 months of 2025 W&P imports reached US\$2.62 billion, up 16% over the same period in 2024.

Viet Nam's pine imports in October 2025 were 89,900 cu.m, worth US\$16.4 million, down 7% in volume and 6% in value compared to September 2025. Compared to October 2024 imports were down 13% in volume and 31% in value. In the first 10 months of 2025 imports of pine amounted to 874,000 cu.m, worth US\$172.3 million, up 6% in volume but down 7% in value over the same period in 2024.

In the first 9 months of 2025 wood imports from Cameroon to Viet Nam reached 309,090 cu.m, with a value of US\$121.33 million, up 10% in volume and 3% in value over the same period in 2024.

Sustainable softwood trends stand out at Viet NamWood 2025

On 19 November, the 16th International Exhibition on Machinery and Equipment for the Wood Processing Industry (Viet NamWood 2025) officially opened at the Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center attracting more than 320 domestic and foreign enterprises.

With more than 320 enterprises from 28 countries attending Viet NamWood has affirmed its position as one of the leading events in the wood processing sector in Viet Nam specialising in machinery, technology wood products and consumables.

At Viet NamWood 2025, Canada Wood Viet Nam had an impressive display space with a variety of interior applications from Canadian timber helping visitors easily visualise the practical application of Canadian wood through many design styles.

Certified Canadian softwoods a viable option

According to Viet Nam Customs and the Viet Nam Wood and Furniture Export Report 2024 – 2025 Viet Nam's wood and wood products exports reached US\$16.25 billion in 2024 up 20% over the previous year. In 2025, the industry aims to increase this figure to US\$18 billion shifting its focus towards sustainability, legal origin and transparency of wood products.

Using certified wood from sustainably managed forests not only meets legal requirements in Viet Nam but is also an important strategy to help businesses maintain a competitive advantage in the international market.

Certified Canadian softwoods present a solution to help Vietnamese manufacturers improve product quality while meeting the growing consumer trend of preferring furniture products with transparent origins and made from sustainable materials. In addition to supporting businesses in accessing certified wood sources, Canadian Wood Viet Nam also provides technical assistance programmes, specialised training and market development consulting.

Mr. Tran Thanh Ven, Country Director of Canadian Wood Viet Nam shared, Viet NamWood is a valuable opportunity for Canadian Wood Viet Nam to connect and exchange directly with partners and manufacturers in the wood processing industry, helping us better understand the needs and development trends in the Vietnamese market.

See: <https://baotintuc.vn/kinh-te/xu-huong-go-mem-ben-vung-noi-bat-tai-Viet-Namwood-2025-20251119194112259.htm>

Viet Nam's W&WP exports reach US\$16.5 billion in 11 months

A conference to address difficulties, remove trade barriers and expand the market for wood and forest product exports was held on 21 November.

The Forestry and Forest Protection Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, in coordination with the Ho Chi Minh City Department of Agriculture and Environment and the Handicraft and Wood Industry Association of Ho Chi Minh City (HAWA), hosted the event.

Delivering his remarks, Deputy Director of the Department of Forestry and Forest Protection, Nguyen Van Dien, stated that although exports over 11 months reached US\$16.5 billion, growth was below expectations at only 5.4%, below the projected 6%.

The main reasons are challenges in exporting to key markets, technical barriers related to the legal origin of wood, transparency requirements and ongoing pressures on businesses.

Domestic production also faces difficulties due to extreme weather disrupting raw material supply and impacting processing capacity.

Mr. Ho Truc Thanh, Deputy Director of the Ho Chi Minh City Department of Agriculture and Environment, noted that the City currently has over 5,120 enterprises participating in the wood processing chain and is promoting green transformation and digitalisation to meet international standards. Meanwhile, Deputy Director of the Trade Remedies Authority under the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Truong Thuy Linh, reported that by October 2025, Vietnamese goods faced 297 trade remedy investigations with the US leading at 77 cases.

Authorities recommend that businesses fully comply with investigation requests, maintain transparent documentation and proactively diversify markets.

The conference concluded that the wood industry is at a critical stage and requires close coordination between regulatory agencies and enterprises to sustain export growth in the coming period.

See: <https://en.sggp.org.vn/Viet-Nams-wood-exports-reach-us165-billion-in-11-months-post121945.html>
W&WP Exports/Imports 11 months 2025

Imports of logs and sawnwood (raw wood)

According to preliminary statistics imports of raw wood in October 2025 stood at 530,600 cu.m, worth US\$164.5 million, down 5% in volume and 5% in value compared to September 2025 but compared to October 2024 imports were up 4% in volume and 5% in value.

In the first 10 months of 2025, raw wood imports were 5.67 million cu.m, worth US\$1.79 billion, up 23% in volume and 20% in value over the same period in 2024.

In the first 9 months of 2025 the average import price of raw wood to Viet Nam stood at US\$316.7 per cu.m, down 3% over the same period in 2024.

Import prices of raw wood from China decreased by 23% over the same period in 2024 to US\$304.8 per cu.m; from the US the price decreased by 3% to US\$ 419.2 per cu.m and from the EU prices increased by 0.5% over the same period in 2024, reaching US\$316.3 per cu.m.

Imports from US increased sharply in first 10 months of 2025

W&WP imports from the US in the first 10 months of 2025 reached US\$489 million, up 82% over the same period in 2024 and accounted for nearly 19% of total W&WP imports.

It is forecast that for 2025 imports of raw wood from the US will total at 1.3 million cu.m, with a value of US\$543 million

Brazil

Planted Forests - the foundation of a green economy

The United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Brazil, placed forests, particularly planted forests, at the centre of low-carbon sustainable development solutions.

Silviculture, grounded in the cultivation and sustainable management of trees, has become an essential activity for the green economy. It provides a renewable source of wood with an intrinsic capacity to sequester and store carbon throughout the lifespan of products such as furniture, panels and structural timber.

Brazil as a well-established infrastructure to contribute to the global market for sustainable forest products.

The State of Paraná is one of the main hubs of plantation sector with 1.17 million hectares of planted forests (713,000 hectares of pine and 442,000 hectares of eucalyptus).

This forest base supports job creation, generates added value and directly contributes to environmental conservation. A notable example is the work of companies associated with APRE Florestas where, for every hectare planted another hectare is set aside for the conservation of native vegetation, demonstrating the integration of production and preservation. Paraná accounts for approximately 15% of jobs in Brazil's forest sector and 13% of the country's forestry companies, highlighting its economic and social importance.

Despite lingering misconception that planted forests harm conservation efforts, they are a part of the solution. They ensure a supply of timber, reduce pressure on native forests, contribute to soil and water conservation and support the recovery of degraded areas.

COP30 represented an opportunity for the formal recognition of the importance of planted forests in decarbonisation.

Now is the time to strengthen public policies for incentives, stimulate innovation and expand the use of advanced technologies such as engineered wood, sustainable forest management and sustainability certification. The transition to a low-carbon economy necessarily involves the consolidation of the forest sector.

See: <https://apreflorestas.com.br/noticias/florestas-plantadas-a-base-da-economia-verde-que-o-brasil-precisa-valorizar/>

Amazon Fund resources to strengthen regional forest monitoring

During the COP30 the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) announced an important milestone for forest protection; the receipt of R\$55 million from the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES) via the Amazon Fund. The resources will be used to strengthen national monitoring systems for the Amazon forest and for upgrading the technical capacity of member countries for preventing and controlling deforestation and forest degradation.

This initiative brings together ACTO member countries (Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela) with the goal of strengthening technical capacities, standardising methodologies and expanding efforts to prevent and control deforestation and forest degradation.

The project will receive technological support from the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) which will be responsible for transferring monitoring technology to other member countries. According to ACTO, technical cooperation and methodological harmonisation are essential to ensure effective preventive and corrective responses across an interconnected biome.

Brazil's Ministry of the Environment highlighted that its technical-scientific panel will expand the data available for formulating public policies on climate, biodiversity and natural resources and that member countries will establish a joint ministerial committee to align strategies against transboundary environmental crimes and promote a sustainable development agenda.

Among the instruments to be strengthened is the Regional Amazon Observatory (ARO) which integrates multiple information sources and provides the biome in areas such as biodiversity, water resources, forests, wildfires, indigenous peoples and protected areas.

According to BNDES, standardising monitoring methods is crucial to addressing the lack of integration that currently benefits organised crime, reinforcing ACTO's role in protecting a 6.7 million sq.km biome that is essential for continental climate regulation.

See <https://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/meio-ambiente/noticia/2025-11/cop30-paises-amazonicos-anunciam-monitoramento-conjunto-da-floresta>

Export update

In October 2025 Brazilian exports of wood-based products (except pulp and paper) decreased 2% in value compared to October 2024, from US\$263.7 million to US\$257.3 million.

Pine sawnwood exports increased 13% in value between October 2024 (US\$50.1 million) and October 2025 (US\$56.8 million). In volume exports increased 27% over the same period, from 206,500 cu.m to 261,300 cu.m.

Tropical sawnwood exports increased 32% in volume from 21,700 cu.m in October 2024 to 28,700 cu.m in October 2025. In value exports increased 52% from US\$8.7 million to US\$13.2 million over the same period.

Pine plywood exports decreased 25% in value in October 2025 compared to October 2024, from US\$57.2 million to US\$42.9 million. In volume exports decreased 16% over the same period, from 169,100 cu.m to 142,600 cu.m.

Tropical plywood, exports increased 14% in volume from 2,100 cu.m in October 2024 to 2,400 cu.m and in October 2025. The value remained at US\$1.2 million in the period analysed.

As for wooden furniture, the exported value remained at US\$48.2 million in October 2025.

BNDES continues to invest in Brazil's forest sector

The Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES) has consolidated the largest investment in its history in the forestry sector, allocating R\$7 billion since 2023 for conservation, restoration and sustainable forest management across all the country's biomes. The results include 280 million trees planted, 168,000 hectares restored, 70,000 jobs created and 54 million tonnes of CO₂ captured reinforcing Brazil's role in forest restoration and the bio-economy of native species.

These advances are driven by the BNDES Florestas platform which integrates credit, guarantees, reimbursable and non-reimbursable instruments and programmes such as Floresta Viva, Arco da Restauração, Restaura Amazônia, BNDES Florestas Inovação and ProFloresta+. The bank also leverages credit lines under the Climate Fund which alone has provided R\$1.9 billion in loans and leveraged R\$5.7 billion in private investment.

In the Amazon, the Restoration Arc (Arco da Restauração) programme launched in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA) at COP28 has already mobilised R\$2.4 billion, with emphasis on the “Restore Amazônia” initiative which is investing R\$500 million in agroforestry systems and restoration of degraded areas benefiting indigenous lands, rural settlements and protected areas.

The innovation agenda is also advancing, with R\$30.8 million directed toward the development of silviculture technologies for native species.

BNDES initiatives operate in an integrated manner, linking nurseries, seed networks and carbon contracts to build scale and financial sustainability. Through these actions BNDES is strengthening its role as a central agent of Brazil’s ecological transition, demonstrating that forest restoration is a strategic solution for carbon capture, biodiversity conservation, income generation and community empowerment.

See: <https://www.maisfloresta.com.br/bndes-mobiliza-r-7-bilhoes-para-o-setor-florestal-o-maior-investimento-da-historia-do-banco-em-florestas/>

Impact of US tariffs on Brazil’s wood product exports

Brazilian exports of wood products to the US fell by 55% in the first three months following the 50% tariff imposed by the US according to an analysis by the Brazilian Association of Mechanically-Processed Timber Industry (ABIMCI) based on SECEX/MDIC data. Between August and October, there was a sharp decline in the volume shipped to the US, the main market for items such as mouldings, plywood, sawnwood and doors.

The drop in sales has meant companies had to introduce operational shutdowns, reduced production and had to resort to layoffs and dismissals reflecting four consecutive months of export contraction since the measure was announced in July.

ABIMCI warned that, without progress in negotiations between Brazil and the United States, the situation is likely to worsen. The Association notes that delays in diplomatic discussions increase the risk that Brazilian products will be replaced in the US market by suppliers from countries with lower tariffs.

See: <https://abimci.com.br/exportacoes-de-madeira-para-eua-caem-em-media-55-em-tres-meses-de-taxacao/>

Domestic log prices

Brazilian logs, mill yard, domestic	US\$ per cu.m
Ipê	436▲
Jatoba	191▲
Massaranduba	175▲
Muiracatiara	168▲
Angelim Vermelho	179▼
Mixed redwood and white woods	135

Prices do not include taxes. Source STCP Data Bank

Domestic sawnwood prices

Brazil sawnwood, domestic (Green ex-mill)	US\$ per cu.m
Ipê	1,904
Jatoba	975▲
Massaranduba	877▲
Muiracatiara	914▼
Angelim Vermelho	830▲
Mixed red and white	570
Eucalyptus (AD)	322
Pine (AD)	258▼
Pine (KD)	310▼

Prices do not include taxes. Source: STCP Data Bank

Domestic plywood prices

Parica ex-mill	US\$ per cu.m
4mm WBP	590▲
10mm WBP	452▼
15mm WBP	407▼
4mm MR.	560▲
10mm MR.	417▼
15mm MR.	360f

Prices do not include taxes. Source: STCP Data Bank

Prices for other panel products

Domestic ex-mill prices	US\$ per cu.m
15mm MDParticleboard	275▼
15mm MDFibreboard	291▼

Prices do not include taxes. Source: STCP Data Bank

Export prices

Average FOB prices Belém/PA, Paranaguá/PR, Navegantes/SC and Itajaí/SC Ports.

Export sawnwood prices

Sawnwood	US\$ per cu.m
Ipe	2,473▲
Jatoba	1,227▼
Massaranduba	1,139▼
Muiracatiara	1,216▼
Pine (KD)	201▼

Prices do not include taxes. Source: STCP Data Bank

Plywood export prices

Pine plywood	US\$ per cu.m
9mm C/CC (WBP)	289▼
12mm C/CC (WBP)	269▼
15mm C/CC (WBP)	253▼
18mm C/CC (WBP)	245▼

Prices do not include taxes. Source: STCP Data Bank

Export prices for added value products

Added value product	US\$ per cu.m
Decking Boards	
Ipê	3,857
Jatoba	1,625

Prices do not include taxes. Source: STCP Data Bank

Through the eyes of industry

The latest GTI report lists the challenges identified by the private sector in Brazil.

See: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclefindmkaj/https://www.itto-ggsc.org/static/upload/file/20251119/1763515845482749.pdf

Peru

Primary product exports disappoint in first nine months

Export shipments of wood products earned US\$49.9 million during the first nine months of 2025 a 22% decrease compared to the same period in 2024 according to the Center for Research on Global Economics and Business of the Association of Exporters (CIEN-ADEX).

Figures from the ADEX Data Trade Business Intelligence System report exports included sawn timber (US\$18.2 million), semi-finished products (US\$17.1 million), fuelwood and charcoal (US\$4.4 million), furniture and furniture parts (US\$3.5 million) and construction products (US\$3.1 million).

The leading destination was the Dominican Republic at US\$8.4 million, a 1% increase compared to the previous year. The US followed with US\$7.6 million, a decrease of 24% compared to 2024, France with US\$6.8 million, a decrease of 35%, China with US\$5.3 million, a decrease of 40% and rounding out the top five export destinations was Mexico with sales of US\$4.9 million, a decrease of 36%.

Exports of furniture and furniture parts increased

According to information provided by ADEX shipments of furniture and furniture parts during the period January-September 2025 reached a FOB export value of US\$3.5 million, a positive change compared to the same period in 2024, which was US\$3.4 million.

The main market for exports of furniture and parts was the United States which accounted for 56% of exports and a positive trend of 1% compared to the same period in 2024 followed by Antigua and Barbuda with 9%. Italy ranked third with 7%, Chile 6% and the Dominican Republic 5%.

Expo Forestal 2025 closes with US\$2.2 million in sales

Expo Forestal Perú 2025, organised by the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Irrigation (Midagri) through the National Forest and Wildlife Service (Serfor) and its Sustainable Productive Forests Program (BPS) concluded with preliminary sales commitments valued at approximately US\$2.2 million.

The projections correspond to the purchase of approximately 100,000 cubic meters of standing pine and eucalyptus timber.

One of the main events was the business matchmaking event where more than 30 meetings took place between producers supported by the BPS (Social Security Bank) and potential timber buyers.

Field visits, technical meetings and reviews of preliminary agreements were concluded. A visit from investors and authorities from Ecuador was confirmed for January 2026 and new channels of dialogue were initiated with sustainable investment funds such as Green Capital Partners.

See: <https://www.gob.pe/institucion/serfor/noticias/1292170-midagri-expo-forestal-2025-cierra-con-proyecciones-comerciales-por-us-2-2-millones-en-plantaciones-de-pino-y-eucalipto>

Consolidating latest approaches to sustainable forest management

The National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) and the World Bank conducted a high-level technical mission in Puerto Maldonado, Madre de Dios, to identify new opportunities for technical and financial cooperation aimed at consolidating a new forest management model in the country.

The event brought together senior management from SERFOR, the World Bank and business leaders investing in the forestry sector witnessing first-hand the potential of a sector moving toward a new era of forestry based on legality and the responsible management of forests.

See: <https://www.gob.pe/institucion/serfor/noticias/1298157-serfor-y-banco-mundial-fortalecen-cooperacion-para-consolidar-una-gestion-forestal-moderna-y-sostenible>

Export prices for added value products

	US\$ per cu.m
Strips for parquet Cabreuva/estoraque KD12% S4S, Asian market	1,418-1,477
Cumarú KD, S4S Swedish market	1,080 -1,156
Asian market	1,189 -1,271
Cumarú decking, AD, S4S E4S, American market	1,648-1,692
Pumaquiro KD Gr. 1, C&B, Mexican market	869-933
Quinilla KD, S4S 2x10x62cm, Asian market	591-627
2x13x75cm, Asian market	774-831

Export veneer prices

	US\$ per Cu.m
Veneer FOB Callao port	
Lupuna 3/Btr 2.5mm	221-249
Lupuna 2/Btr 4.2mm	234-266
Lupuna 3/Btr 1.5mm	219-228

Export sawnwood prices

Peru sawnwood, FOB Callao Port	US\$ per cu.m
Pumaquiro 25-50mm AD Mexican market	912-968
Virola 1-2" thick, length 6"-12" KD Grade 1, Mexican market Grade 2, Mexican market	598-619 537-551
Cumaru 4" thick, 6"-11" length KD	
Central American market Asian market	1139-1198 1232-1281▲
Ishpingo (oak) 2" thick, 6"-8" length Spanish market Dominican Republic	1062-1,096 1015-1,132
Marupa 1", 6-11 length KD Grade 1 Asian market	586-602

Export plywood prices

Peru plywood, FOB Callao (Mexican market)	US\$ per cu.m
Copaiba, 2 faces sanded, B/C, 8mm	349-379
Virola, 2 faces sanded, B/C, 5.2mm	487-511
Cedar fissilis, 2 faces sanded, 5.5mm	766-783
Lupuna, treated, 2 faces sanded, 5.2mm	396-419
Lupuna plywood B/C 15mm	449-495
B/C 9mm	379-399
B/C 12mm	350-360
B/C 8mm	466-487
C/C 4mm	389-425
Lupuna plywood B/C 4mm Central Am.	391-407

Domestic prices for other panel products

Peru, domestic particleboard	US\$ per cu.m
1.83m x 2.44m x 4mm	282
1.83m x 2.44m x 6mm	230
1.83m x 2.44m x 12mm	204

Domestic sawnwood prices

Peru sawnwood	US\$ per cu.m
Mahogany	-
Virola	262-289▲
Spanish Cedar	338-349
Marupa (simarouba)	211-238

Domestic plywood prices (excl. taxes)

Iquitos mills	US\$ per cu.m
122 x 244 x 4mm	512
122 x 244 x 6mm	519
122 x 244 x 8mm	522
122 x 244 x 12mm	528
Pucallpa mills	
122 x 244 x 4mm	503
122 x 244 x 6mm	511
122 x 244 x 8mm	516
122 x 244 x 8mm	521

Japan

Priority is delivering measures against rising prices

The Cabinet approved a new economic stimulus package. The overall scale of the stimulus measures is about US\$135 billion when tax reductions are included with the primary cut being the abolition of a provisional gasoline tax. Subsidies for electricity and gas bills will resume.

The package has three pillars: measures to address rising prices, realising a strong economy and strengthening the country's defense and diplomatic capabilities.

The government reported in late November that core inflation excluding volatile food costs was 3% in October, higher than the Bank of Japan's target of around 2%.

The Japanese Prime Minister Takaichi Sanae said: "With this economic stimulus package, the government will prioritise quickly delivering measures against rising prices. We will also fund crisis management and growth initiatives".

The spending package far exceeds those of the pre-COVID-19 pandemic years and is also meant partly to blunt the impact of higher US tariffs on Japanese exports to America.

After taking office last month the Prime Minister promised to boost government spending despite concerns that this will delay progress on trimming Japan's national debt which is about triple the size of its economy.

See: https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20251121_B2/ and

<https://apnews.com/article/japan-economy-takaichi-trump-stimulus-a5b913d98c422540a837397ea8fd676d>

Labour shortages should support wage gains

Negative effects of US tariffs say analysts, are highly likely to emerge going forward. Although the Japan-U.S. negotiations have resulted in a decision by the US to lower the tariff rate, the imposition of a still-high 15% tariff remains unchanged meaning the downward pressure on the Japanese economy will still be considerable.

At the 2026 spring wage negotiations the pace of wage hikes is likely to slow versus 2025 due to weaker 2025 earnings but labour shortages should still support some wage gains. Alongside slower inflation, real wages are expected to trend moderately higher.

See: https://www.dlri.co.jp/english/report_en/202509YS.html

Growth driven by services sector

Japan's November flash PMI data, released by S&P Global, shows an expansion in private sector activity with the Composite Output Index rising to 52.0 from 51.5 in October, marking the highest level in three months.

This growth was primarily driven by the services sector, which remained resilient, while the manufacturing sector continued to contract but at a slower rate.

Inflation is driving up input costs at their fastest pace in six months so firms continued to increase their selling prices. That said, an uplift in business confidence to the highest in ten months hinted at potential improvements in business conditions in the near-term.

See:
<https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/mi/research-analysis/japans-growth-momentum-rises-alongside-improvement-in-business-confidence-Nov25.html>

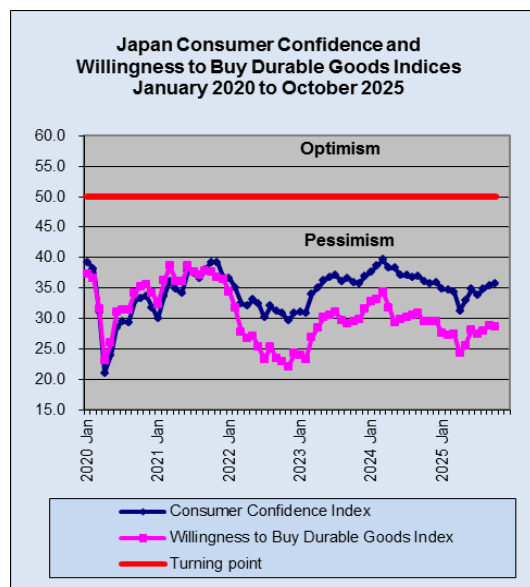
Household spending holds up despite high inflation

Japan's household spending rose for a fifth month in September and this helped support an economy that analysts say contracted in the third quarter.

Spending by households adjusted for inflation gained 1.8% in September from a year earlier according to the Ministry of Internal Affairs but this was below the median economist estimate of a 2.5% rise as there was a decline in spending on housing and education.

Consumption accounts for more than half of Japan's GDP. While spending held up despite high inflation the economy continued to slow as exports have declined and housing starts dropped. Consumption is a key indicator to gauge if households are becoming resilient against the rising cost of living.

See:
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/business/2025/11/07/economy/september-household-spending/>



Data source: Cabinet Office, Japan

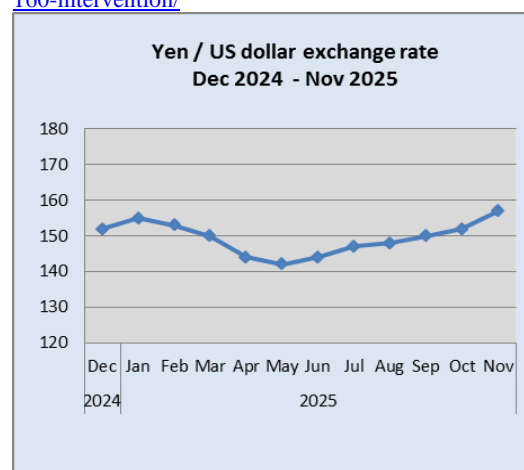
Talk of currency intervention against the rapidly sliding yen

In late November the yen continued its downward spiral against the US dollar as confidence failed to return and negative sentiment grew. The massive stimulus package announced by the new administration in Japan was behind the latest yen weakness because new debt has been issued to, in part, fund the stimulus.

In the second half of November the yen fell toward 158 to the dollar and discussions on currency intervention were heating up. The 'yen sell off' sentiment paused after a top finance official warned of currency intervention against the rapidly sliding yen and the Finance Minister, Satsuki Katayama, said "the government will take appropriate action when necessary to address excessive volatility or disorderly movements in the foreign exchange market".

Goushi Kataoka, a former Bank of Japan Policy Board member chosen by Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi to serve on a new economic growth strategy panel said "the government's response to the weaker yen has been too muted." Market participants broadly expect the yen's downtrend to continue.

See:
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/business/2025/11/19/markets/yen-160-intervention/>



Data source: WSJ

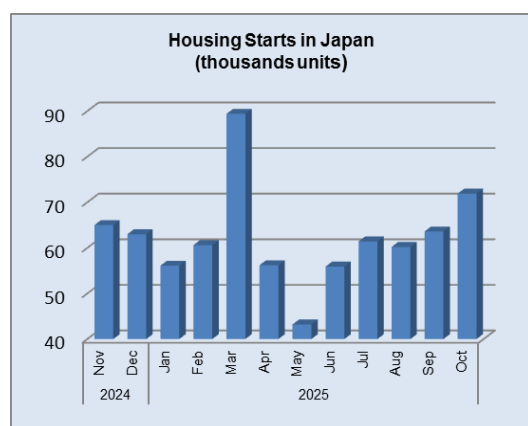
Satellite imagery and AI to find abandoned houses suitable for sale

Some Japanese companies are using a combination of satellite imagery and artificial intelligence to help them find abandoned houses that could be put up for sale, as the country tries to address the rise in abandoned houses.

Abandoned houses in Japan, known as akiya, are the result of a declining and aging population, urbanisation and complex inheritance laws. It is estimated that there are around 9 million vacant properties in the country. These houses are often found in rural areas and can be purchased at a very low cost.

A service provided by a startup uses AI trained on thousands of photos to identify aging roofs based on characteristics such as rustiness and colours, signs that the houses are likely abandoned and could be offered for renovation.

See: <https://english.kyodonews.net/articles/-/65506>



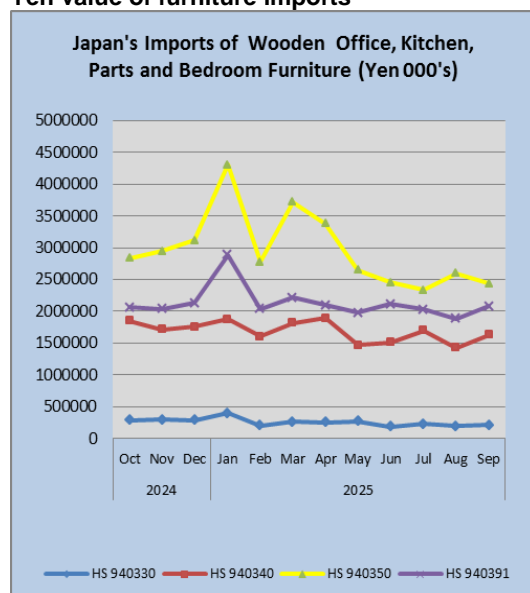
Data source: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan

Wooden furniture imports

Since June this year the yen has depreciated XX% against the US dollar, the main currency in the wooden furniture and parts trade. This has pushed up the cost of imports to an extent that any underlying trend in core demand has been hidden.

The most obvious trend that has emerged is that while the cost of imports has steadily risen, the value of imports of wooden bedroom furniture has dropped sharply, a sign of weak demand.

Yen value of furniture imports



Data source: Ministry of Finance, Japan

Wooden office furniture imports (HS940330)

Year on year and month on month the value of Japan's imports of wooden office furniture (HS940330) in September rose but the upswing was modest as shipments from the main supplier China, were little changed.

In September, four suppliers accounted for over 90% of imports of wooden office furniture: China (82%), Italy (7%), Taiwan P.o.C and Turkey (2.5%). The other significant shippers in September were Viet Nam and Denmark.

September 2025 wooden office furniture imports (HS940330)

	Imports Sep 2025 Unit, 000's Yen
China	164,947
Taiwan P.o.C	5,601
Viet Nam	3,874
Malaysia	1,169
Indonesia	566
Denmark	3,424
Netherlands	235
Germany	825
Italy	13,949
Poland	231
Turkey	4,983
USA	1,316
Total	201,120

Data source: Ministry of Finance, Japan

Wooden kitchen furniture imports (HS940340)

As in previous months, September imports of wooden kitchen furniture (HS940340) were dominated by shippers in the Philippines (52% of imports) and Viet Nam (27%). September arrivals from both the Philippines and Viet Nam recovered from the downturn in August.

The value of September arrivals of HS940340 from China (6% of the total) was around the same level as in August.

In September there were significant shipments originating in Germany, Italy and Thailand. Year on year the value of September wooden kitchen furniture imports rose and an upward shift was seen compared to a month earlier

September 2025 wooden kitchen furniture imports (HS940340)

	Imports Sep 2025 Unit, 000's Yen
China	99,241
Viet Nam	444,059
Thailand	59,318
Malaysia	18,904
Philippines	842,974
Indonesia	22,137
Germany	78,626
Italy	63,351
Finland	738
Canada	1,844
USA	536
Total	1,631,728

Data source: Ministry of Finance, Japan

Wooden bedroom furniture imports (HS940350)

After four consecutive months of decline the value of wooden bedroom furniture imports moved higher in August but that was not sustained into September. There was a drop in the value of imports during the second and third quarters of this year.

Against the backdrop of the weakening yen exchange rate clearly underlying demand has faltered.

The top two shippers of HS940350 to Japan in September were China, 63% (59% in August) and Viet Nam 29% (29% in August). The other top sources of September imports of wooden bedroom furniture were Thailand and Italy.

Year on year there was an increase in the value of September imports but compared to a month earlier September imports declined.

September wooden bedroom furniture imports (HS940350)

	Imports Sep 2025 Unit, 000's Yen
China	1,527,009
Taiwan P.o.C	1,954
Viet Nam	693,235
Thailand	49,776
Malaysia	42,149
Philippines	2,438
Indonesia	33,498
Denmark	1,390
UK	798
France	2,108
Italy	44,691
Poland	7,198
Romania	25,963
Turkey	523
Total	2,432,730

Data source: Ministry of Finance, Japan

Wooden furniture parts imports (HS940391)

The value of wooden furniture parts imported into Japan up to September this year has been remarkably consistent except for the peak at the beginning of the year. Shippers in China and Indonesia dominated September imports with Viet Nam being pushed into third place at just 14% of the value of September arrivals.

The value of September 2025 imports was up on the level reported for August and also up on the value reported for September 2024.

Of the total value of HS940391 imports, 46% was delivered from China (47% in August), 21% from Indonesia (20% in August), 14% from Viet Nam (14% in August). Malaysia, which secured a 6% share of July imports, was the fourth ranked source in terms of value.

Imports of HS940391 from shippers in Europe accounted for a small part of September imports, of note was the up in the value of imports from the US.

September wooden furniture parts imports (HS 940391)

	Imports Sep 2025 Unit, 000's Yen
S.Korea	20,559
China	962,759
Taiwan P.o.C	11,150
Viet Nam	281,039
Thailand	42,584
Malaysia	118,670
Philippines	503
Indonesia	433,446
Cambodia	617
Norway	862
Denmark	9,841
Germany	23,568
Switzerland	5,593
Portugal	1,507
Spain	281
Italy	49,579
Finland	29,491
Poland	16,033
Hungary	694
Romania	2,142
Turkey	4,140
Lithuania	269
Czech Rep.	210
Slovakia	3,960
Canada	947
USA	60,575
Total	2,081,019

Data source: Ministry of Finance, Japan

Trade news from the Japan Lumber Reports (JLR)

The Japan Lumber Reports (JLR), a subscription trade journal published every two weeks in English, is generously allowing the ITTO Tropical Timber Market Report to reproduce news on the Japanese market precisely as it appears in the JLR. For the JLR report please see: https://jfpi.jp/japan_lumber_reports/

Plywood

Shipments of domestic softwood plywood have picked up this autumn, mainly driven by demand from precut factories. In October, domestic softwood structural plywood (12 mm, 3×6) was priced at approximately ¥1,100 per sheet (wholesaler delivery) in the Tokyo area, largely flat compared to the previous month.

Indonesian plywood, including both all-natural wood and falcata-combination types, remains on a firm pricing trend. This firm market tone is primarily driven by elevated log prices resulting from limited log availability. Thin plywood, which depends on high-grade logs, is experiencing tight raw material supply.

The quoted origin price for Indonesian ordinary plywood is approximately US\$970 for 2.4 mm thickness (3×6 panel), US\$880 for 3.7 mm and US\$850 for 5.2 mm—all on a C&F basis, with lower prices available depending on the deal.

Compared to last month, prices have held steady: US\$600–610/m³ for painted formwork plywood, US\$500–510 for standard formwork and US\$510–520 for structural plywood (all C&F). For the wood construction market, domestic painted formwork plywood (12 mm thick, 3×6 panel) is trading at ¥1,800–¥1,850 per sheet (delivered), while both standard formwork and structural grades are approximately ¥1,550.

Prices for standard plywood remain firm, with 2.5 mm at around ¥780, 4 mm at ¥930 and 5.5 mm at ¥1,100 per sheet (wholesaler delivery).

Domestic lumber and logs

The market for domestic wood products remains uneven. As builders accelerated construction during September and October, precut factories began operating at higher utilization rates. Among domestic products, cedar studs are in highest demand, with some mill carrying a one-month order backlog since September.

Likewise, 90 mm square cedar and cypress are in short supply, prompting producers to adopt a stronger position on price increases when dealing with large housing firms.

Prices for KD premium cedar studs (3m × 30 × 105 mm) remain flat at ¥60,000–¥62,000/m³ (precut plant delivery). KD Cypress posts (90 mm square × 4 m, premium grade) are priced at approximately ¥78,000/m³, with cedar of the same dimensions trading near ¥60,000.

Cedar log prices are rising in northern Kanto and Tohoku, whereas demand for cypress logs is weakening in western Japan.

As the logging season begins, nationwide log output is on the rise. Yet, similar to last year, purchasing interest is picking up in eastern Japan while waning in the west. In the latter part of last year, log output did not pick up, resulting in widespread price increases by year-end. The plywood segment also began to experience supply tightness. In many regions, both cedar and Cypress are trading at higher levels compared to last year, raising interest in whether the same pattern will emerge again.

Cedar logs for post cutting in Tochigi rose to ¥17,000/m³ (log market delivery), a ¥1,000 increase from last month. Akita's medium-diameter logs are up ¥500 at ¥15,500–¥16,000.

In Kyushu, prices are stable. ¥16,000 for post-cutting logs and ¥14,500 for medium-diameter logs. Cypress log prices showed mixed movement. Tochigi's post-cutting grade dropped ¥1,500 to ¥19,000/m³, Kyushu's foundation-grade fell ¥500 to ¥22,500, while prices in Chubu and Chugoku stayed flat—with Chugoku maintaining high levels at ¥24,000 for both post and foundation grades.

U.S. tariffs on Japanese imports range from 10% to 15%

The import tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump on lumber and related products took effect on 14th October. Imports from Japan to the United States, including softwood lumber, logs and processed goods such as sofas and furniture—are subject to tariffs ranging from 10% to a maximum of 15%.

According to the Forestry Agency, Japan's wood exports to the United States totaled approximately ¥5.6 billion in 2024, making it the third-largest export destination after China and the Philippines.

In particular, exports of Japanese cedar lumber to the United States totaled approximately ¥2.7 billion, accounting for about 49% of the overall volume and are subject to a 10% tariff. In addition, exports of wooden fittings, bamboo products, softwood edge-glued lumber, wooden tableware and other items totaled approximately ¥2.9 billion and are now subject to a 15% tariff.

Meanwhile, softwood lumber imported from Canada to the United States is subject to a 10% tariff and when combined with existing duties—namely anti-dumping and countervailing duties—the total average tariff on Canadian softwood lumber reaches approximately 45%.

Shippers are closely monitoring the situation. As domestic market prices in the U.S. have not risen to offset the previous tariff increases, the additional Trump tariffs are expected to deal a further blow, leading to a series of temporary closures of lumber mills due to worsening profitability.

Due to last-minute purchases by buyers ahead of the increase in anti-dumping and countervailing duties, the market is now oversupplied. In addition, winter is typically an off-season for demand in the U.S. and a recovery is unlikely until spring.

Special Feature -Forestry Agency releases survey results

The Forestry Agency has compiled the results of its fact-finding survey on price pass-through and fair trade practices in the forestry and timber industries.

In fiscal 2024, 64% of businesses were able to pass on either most or part of their cost increases. However, by industry segment, challenges were particularly evident in the precut processing and raw material production sectors. Meanwhile, the survey also revealed persistent issues in trade practices, such as delayed payments and excessive price reductions, highlighting the continued presence of problematic business customs that require improvement.

The fact-finding survey was conducted from late June to late July, with a total of 776 responses collected.

Responses were categorised into six industry segments, raw material production, wood processing (including manufacturing), precut processing, primary wholesale markets, sales (including trading companies, wholesalers and retailers) and others and aggregated by business size.

The main reasons cited for price pass-through were raw material costs, 77%, followed by transportation costs, 62%, labour costs, 61% and energy costs 52%. However, 14% of respondents reported that they were unable to pass on any of the cost increases. By industry segment, the highest rate of partial or full cost pass-through was seen in the sales sector at 84%, while the lowest was in precut processing at 47%, followed by raw material production at 50%.

In terms of pricing methods within the industry, 72% relied on negotiated transactions, while bidding and buyer-initiated proposals were relatively uncommon. Among negotiated transactions, 95% involved price negotiations at the time of setting prices and even during cost increases, 73% of cases included at least partial negotiation.

As expected, price negotiations in response to rising costs were mostly initiated by the receiving (contracted) side. The most commonly used material during negotiations was market data, 52%, followed by cases with no supporting documentation, 32%, indicating that many businesses entered negotiations without any backup. The third most common reference was data on rising manufacturing costs, cited by 29% of respondents.

While 27% of businesses did not engage in price negotiations during cost increases, the most common reason—cited by 35%—was the belief that such negotiations would not be accepted, leading them to refrain from initiating discussions. The second most common reason, cited by 23%, was the fear that initiating negotiations might lead to reduced order volumes or termination of business relationships.

The Forestry Agency plans to finalise its guidelines on price negotiations by the end of the year, with a view to publishing them along with specific case examples.

China

Decline in sawnwood imports

According to China Customs, from January to September 2025 China's sawnwood imports declined 12% to 18.34 million cubic metres valued at US\$4.776 billion, down 11% over the same period of 2024.

The recent tariff friction between China and the United States has had a significant impact on manufacturers. Fluctuations in the timber supply chain have led to a significant reduction in sawnwood imports and pushed up input costs and has intensified the operating pressure on enterprises.

Russia was the largest supplier of China's sawnwood imports with around 48% of China's sawnwood being imported from Russia from January to September 2025. China's sawnwood imports from Russia totalled 8.728 million cubic metres, down 8% over the same period of 2024.

Thailand was the second largest supplier of sawnwood imports and 18% of China's sawnwood were imported from Thailand from January to September 2025. China's sawnwood imports from Thailand totalled 3.244 million cubic metres, down 15% over the same period of 2024.

Imports of sawnwood from the two major supply countries have dropped significantly leading to a larger decline in China's overall sawnwood imports.

In addition, China's sawnwood imports from Canada, Belarus, USA, Gabon, Finland and Sweden fell sharply in the first three quarters of 2025.

In contrast, China's sawnwood imports from the Philippines and Vietnam rose 20% and 91% respectively from January to September 2025.

Sawnwood imports from Jan-Sep 2025 (top suppliers)

Supplier	000' cu.m	YoY % change
Total	18,338	-12%
Russia	8,728	-8%
Thailand	3,244	-15%
Canada	876	-13%
Belarus	848	-7%
USA	736	-18%
Philippines	547	20%
Gabon	412	-31%
Finland	308	-38%
Sweden	289	-15%
Viet Nam	246	91%

Data source: China Customs

Sawnwood imports from Jan-Sep 2025 (top suppliers)

Supplier	US\$ mil.	YoY % change
Total	4,776	-11%
Russia	1,842	-9%
Thailand	838	-13%
Canada	210	4%
Belarus	162	-7%
USA	506	-9%
Philippines	40	19%
Gabon	148	-31%
Finland	72	-36%
Sweden	64	-10%
Viet Nam	144	148%

Data source: China Customs

Decline in sawn softwood imports

China's sawn softwood imports declined 14% to 11.15 million cubic metres from January to September 2025, imports from almost all top suppliers fell. China's sawn softwood imports from New Zealand, alone among top suppliers, rose 31% from January to September 2025.

Russia was the largest supplier of sawn softwood imports having a 70% market share. Sawn softwood imports from Russia declined 10% to 7.841 million cubic metres year on year.

Sawn softwood imports from Jan-Sep 2025 (top suppliers)

Supplier	000' cu.m	YoY % change
Total	11,149	-14%
Russia	7,841	-10%
Belarus	848	-7%
Canada	796	-17%
Finland	308	-38%
Sweden	289	-15%
New Zealand	195	31%
Chile	157	-21%
Brazil	150	-9%
USA	104	-36%
Germany	99	-74%

Data source: China Customs

Decline in tropical sawnwood imports

In the first three quarters of 2025 China's tropical sawnwood imports were 5.121 million cubic metres valued at US\$1.468 billion, down 11% in volume and 12% in value and accounted for about 28% of the national total. The CIF prices for tropical sawnwood fell 1% to US\$287 per cubic metre over the same period of 2023.

The trade friction between China and the United States has escalated and Western enterprises are accelerating the adjustment of their production chains. The increase in tariffs has forced global procurement to shift towards Southeast Asian countries which has resulted in a reduction in China's imports of tropical sawn timber.

Thailand was the largest supplier shipping tropical sawnwood to China from January to September 2025. 63% of China's tropical sawnwood imports were shipped from Thailand. China's tropical sawnwood imports from Thailand from January to September dropped 15% to 3.344 million cubic metres valued at US\$838 million, down 13% over the same period of 2024. The CIF price for China's tropical sawnwood imports from Thailand rose 2% to US\$258 per cubic metre over the same period of 2023.

The Philippines was the second largest supplier shipping tropical sawnwood to China from January to September 2025. 11% of China's tropical sawnwood imports are shipped from the Philippines. China's tropical sawnwood imports from the Philippines from January to September rose 20% to 547,000 cubic metres valued at US\$40 million, up 19% over the same period of 2024.

It is worth noting that China's imports of tropical sawnwood from PNG and Vietnam soared, surging 286% and 91% respectively from January to September 2025. In contrast, China's tropical sawnwood imports from Gabon, Myanmar, Malaysia, Cameroon, the Republic of Congo and Indonesia dropped year on year

Tropical sawnwood imports Jan-Sep (top suppliers)

Supplier	000' cu.m	YoY %change
Total	5,121	-11%
Thailand	3,244	-15%
Philippines	547	20%
Gabon	412	-31%
Viet Nam	246	91%
PNG	146	286%
Myanmar	125	-34%
Malaysia	76	-23%
Cameroon	57	-41%
Congo Rep.	43	-10%
Indonesia	41	-30%

Data source: China Customs

Significant decline in plywood imports

China's plywood imports declined 41% to 272,000 cubic metres from January to September 2025. China has an abundant production capacity for plywood production and exports a large amount to more than 200 countries as such there is little demand for plywood at present.

China's plywood imports from Russia, as the largest supplier, fell 44% which directly led to a reduction in the overall import volumes from January to September 2025. In addition, China's plywood imports from Malaysia, Vietnam, Italy and Romania dropped over the same period.

In contrast, China's plywood imports from Japan rose 33%. It is worth noting that China's imports of plywood from Chile and Cambodia while of small volume soared from January to September 2025.

Plywood imports from Jan-Sep (top suppliers)

Supplier	000'cu.m	YoY % change
Total	272	-41%
Russia	235	-44%
Indonesia	12	-18%
Japan	5	33%
Chile	4	1469%
Malaysia	4	-30%
Cambodia	3	12238%
Viet Nam	2	-38%
Italy	1	-25%
Romania	1	-54%

Data source: China Customs

Rise in plywood exports

According to China Customs, from January to September 2025 China's plywood exports totalled 9.922 million cubic metres, up 4% over the same period of 2024.

China's plywood exports have been increasing year by year with the number of export destinations consistently exceeding 200. With the convenience of the Belt and Road Initiative and the China-Europe Railway Express a large amount of plywood can be exported to countries along these routes.

The Philippines was the largest destination for China's plywood exports. From January to September 2025 China's plywood exports to the Philippines amounted to 786,000 cubic metres, up 8% over the same period of 2024.

China's plywood exports to UAE and Saudi Arabia, as the second and third largest destination countries, rose 25% and 32% respectively from January to September 2025. In addition, China's plywood exports to Nigeria, Australia and Mexico grew 62%, 25% and 18% respectively over the same period.

In contrast, China's plywood exports to UK, Vietnam and Japan dropped 3%, 6% and 6% respectively from January to September 2025.

Plywood exports from Jan-Sep (main markets)

Supplier	000'cu.m	YoY %change
Total	9,922	4%
Philippines	786	8%
UAE	661	25%
Saudi Arabia	577	32%
UK	546	-3%
Nigeria	486	62%
Australia	435	25%
Mexico	393	18%
Viet Nam	371	-6%
Japan	355	-6%
Malaysia	292	6%
Canada	291	5%

Data source: China Customs

GTI-China Index in October 2025

Data from China's General Administration of Customs revealed that in September this year China's total imports of logs and sawnwood reached 4.67 million cubic metres representing a year-on-year decline of 8%.

However, compared to the previous month, the volume increased by 16%, marking an end to the consecutive five-monthly declines. From January to September China imported a total of 42.17 million cubic metres of logs and sawnwood, down 13% year on year. The data also revealed a mixed performance in China's furniture industry characterised by recovering domestic demand but subdued overseas demand.

While its domestic furniture sales saw substantial growth during the first nine months cumulative exports fell by 5% year-on-year to US\$50.18 billion.

On 28 October, the 'Recommendations of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China for Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development' were released outlining key directions for promoting development in the real estate sector.

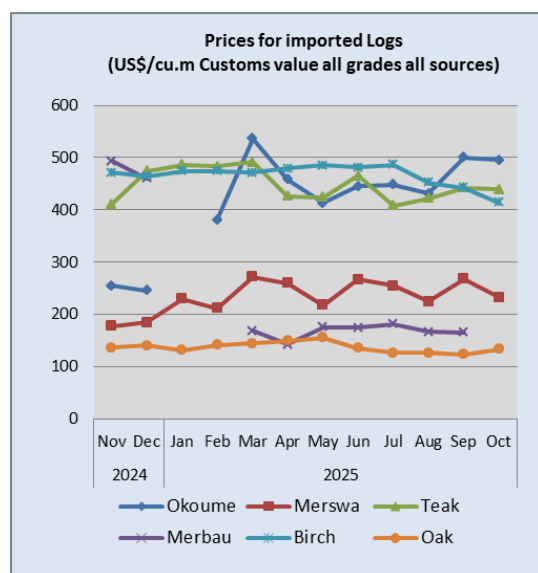
Under the Recommendations real estate development is considered within the framework of a new-type of urbanisation with its livelihood-oriented attributes further emphasised. It is reported that in the future this will drive the real estate sector to shift from scale expansion to quality enhancement.

In October 2025, the GTI-China index registered 45.6%, a decrease of 6.1 percentage points from the previous month and fell below the critical value (50%) after one month indicating that the business prosperity of the timber enterprises represented by the GTI-China index shrank from the previous month.

Due to factors such as China's eight-day National Day holiday the production and business activities of Chinese timber enterprises generally slowed down in October.

As for the twelve sub-indexes, one index (import) was above the critical value of 50%, while the remaining eleven indexes (production, new orders, export orders, existing orders, inventory of finished products, purchase quantity, purchase price, inventory of main raw materials, employees, delivery time and market expectation) were all below the critical value.

Compared to the previous month the indices for import and inventory of raw materials increased by 1.2-9.9 percentage points, and the indices for production, new orders, export orders, existing orders, inventory of finished products, purchase quantity, purchase price, employees, delivery time and market expectation declined by 0.5-10.9 percentage point(s).

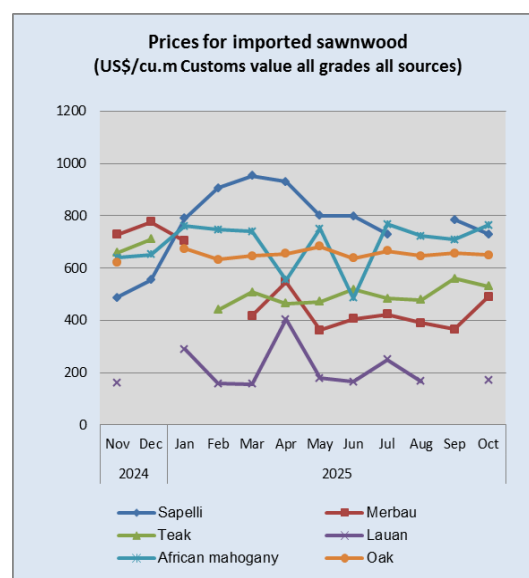


Data source: Customs, China

Average CIF prices, logs US\$/cu.m

	2025 Sep	2025 Oct
Okoume	500	495
Merswa	268	233
Teak	442	439
Merbau	165	
Birch	442	414
Oak	123	133

Data source: Customs, China



Data source: Customs, China

Average CIF prices, sawnwood, US\$/cu.m

	2025 Sep	2025 Oct
Sapelli	784	729
Merbau	365	491
Teak	560	531
Lauan		172
African mahogany	709	764
Oak	657	650

Data source: Customs, China

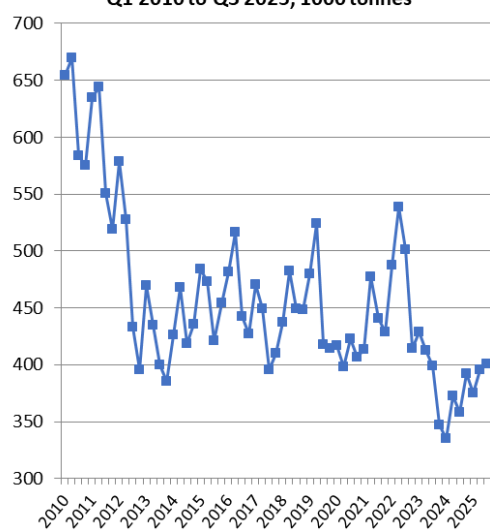
EU

EU tropical wood imports remain slow in the third quarter

The EU27 imported 1,171,600 tonnes of tropical wood and wood furniture in the first nine months of 2025, 8% more than the same period in 2024 when imports were at an all-time low. Imports in the third quarter of this year were 400,800 tonnes, 1% more than the previous quarter and 12% more than the same quarter the previous year.

Import tonnage during the third quarter of this year was still well below the long-term quarterly average of around 450,000 tonnes in the last decade (Chart 1a).

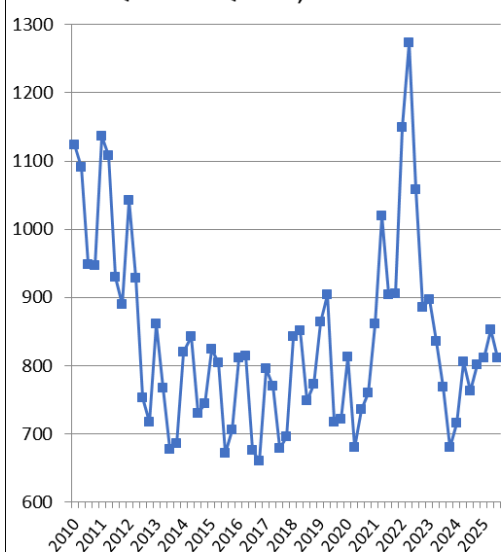
Chart 1a: EU27 quarterly tropical wood & wood furniture* imports, Q1 2010 to Q3 2025, 1000 tonnes



Source: ITTO Analysis of Eurostat. * includes all wood products in HS Chapters 94 (furniture) and 44 (wood), excluding wood for energy

EU27 import value of tropical wood and wood furniture in the first nine months of 2025 was US\$2474 million, 8% more than the same period in 2024. Import value in the third quarter this year was US\$811 million, 5% less than the previous quarter and 6% more than in the same quarter in 2024. In nominal US\$ value terms (i.e. not accounting for inflation), import value during the third quarter of 2025 was well above the pre-pandemic 2013-2019 quarterly average of around US\$750 million (Chart 1b).

Chart 1b: EU27 quarterly tropical wood & wood furniture* imports, Q1 2010 to Q3 2025, Million USD



Source: ITTO Analysis of Eurostat. * includes all wood products in HS Chapters 94 (furniture) and 44 (wood), excluding wood for energy

EU forecast of continued slow economic growth

The European Commission's Autumn 2025 Economic Forecast published on 17 November shows continued slow growth in the EU despite a challenging economic and geopolitical environment.

Economic growth exceeded expectations in the first nine months of the year, with real GDP growth outperforming the annual expansion projected in spring. This better-than-expected performance was initially due to a surge in exports ahead of anticipated tariff increases, but investment in equipment and intangible assets also performed more strongly than expected — most notably in Ireland. Data from the Commission surveys and Purchasing Manager Indices in October suggest continuing growth momentum in the coming quarters.

Altogether, the EC projects real GDP to grow by 1.4% in the EU in 2025 and 2026, edging up to 1.5% in 2027. Inflation is forecast to continue its decline in 2025, falling to 2.1% in the euro area, and then hover around 2% over the next two years.

The Joint Statement on a US-EU framework on an agreement on reciprocal, fair and balanced trade, issued on 21 August 2025, establishes a headline tariff rate of 15%. Compared to other major global players (e.g. China, India, ASEAN countries), the EU enjoys lower trade-weighted average tariff rates on exports to the US providing a relative advantage for the EU economy.

However, this advantage is set in the context of modest growth in export markets for goods and a strong euro. Persistently high trade policy uncertainty continues to burden economic activity in the EU, while the economic impact of the current tariffs and non-tariff restrictions and resulting supply chain disruptions might be greater than expected.

Private consumption grew at a slightly slower pace than anticipated during the first half of 2025. After declining since late 2024, consumer confidence stabilised over the summer, although it remains below its long-term average. While real household disposable income continued to rise, the saving rate remained relatively high and even increased in the first quarter, thereby limiting consumption growth.

Private consumption is now expected to support slow growth, helped by a gradual decline in the saving rate. However, public consumption growth is expected to lose steam in the coming months, as growth in public wages decelerates. Overall, the unemployment rate in the EU is anticipated to edge down further from 5.9% in 2025 and 2026 to 5.8% in 2027.

In a striking reversal, the countries that suffered most during the eurozone crisis over a decade ago - Portugal, Greece, Cyprus, Ireland, and Spain - are set to outperform countries such as Germany, Finland, and Austria that were once seen as economic models.

The EU's three largest economies - Germany, France, and Italy - are set to experience weak growth over the coming years. Once the engine of European growth, Germany is set to expand by 0.2 percent in 2025 and 1.2 percent in 2026 and 2027.

Italy is estimated to grow at an even more sluggish pace - 0.4 percent in 2025 and 0.8 percent in 2026 and 2027 - despite being the main beneficiary of the EU's post-COVID recovery program. This stands in contrast to the strong economic growth in 2025 in Southern and Eastern countries such as Malta (4 percent), Bulgaria (3 percent), Lithuania (2.4 percent) and Croatia (3.2 percent).

Emerging momentum in the European construction sector

Europe's construction market has stabilized with signs of emerging momentum in key economies. The recovery is being fuelled by pent-up residential demand and infrastructure investment. The medium-term outlook for European construction is now positive, although a full rebound remains contingent on economic stability.

These are key conclusions of a report by Bain & Company, the global management consulting firm drawing on its new Building Blocks Construction Indicator, released 29 October.

The forecast upturn in the industry is expected to be buoyed by the interest rate cuts made by the European Central Bank in the past year, as these now trigger increased spending on refurbishments by private households, as well as higher capital investment by commercial and industrial players.

Alongside, years of pent-up unmet demand for new residential construction is also beginning to spark new building activity, while public infrastructure growth is boosted by the end of recent European election cycles, according to Bain's report.

With the worst of earlier, severe headwinds for most European construction markets now past, after what Bain described as a "perfect storm" for the industry in recent years, its analysis reports that activity in markets including the Netherlands, the Nordics, and likely the UK, is already seeing a turning point. But Bain cautions that some markets, including France and Germany, will see a more subdued near-term recovery, and a slower path back to growth, with this returning only during next year. Italy is an outlier, expected to see activity fall further due to phasing out of government incentive programs.

Europe's office construction activity is set to lead non-residential growth in selective segments and prime locations despite the continuing shift to remote work, supporting modest positive growth across 2025–2028. Residential new construction is expected to become among the main growth engines for European construction into 2028.

Structural housing shortages – particularly in social housing – combined with stabilizing economic conditions are unlocking activity across much of Europe.

However European construction's positive current outlook and nascent recovery through to 2028 is also vulnerable to potential disruption from sources of instability, such as a return to heightened economic uncertainty, Bain cautions.

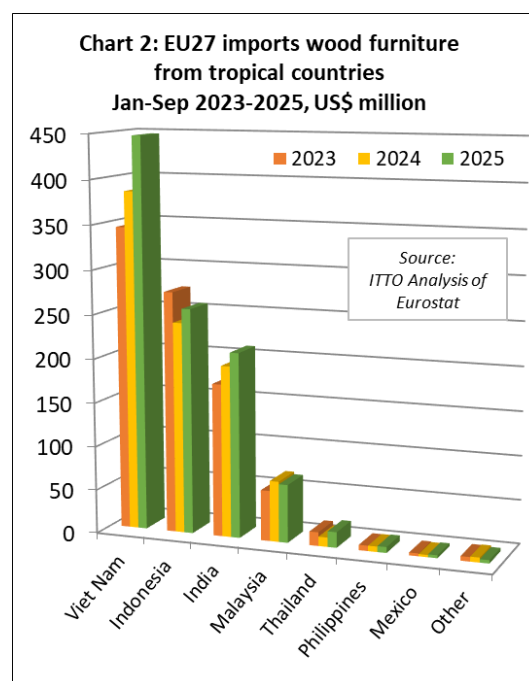
See: <https://www.bain.com/about/media-center/press-releases/20252/europes-construction-industry-is-turning-a-corner-as-early-signs-of-recovery-point-to-strengthening-medium-term-prospects--bain--company/>

Vietnam, Indonesia and India driving recovery in EU tropical wood furniture imports

The EU27 imported 237,500 tonnes of wood furniture from tropical countries with a total value of US\$1012 million in the first nine months of 2025. Import quantity and value were up 9% and 11% respectively compared to the same period in 2024.

In the first nine months of 2025, EU27 import value of wood furniture increased from the three largest supply countries: Vietnam (+16% to US\$447.0 million), Indonesia (+7% to US\$256.6 million), and India (+8% to US\$210.6 million).

There were also large percentage gains in imports from several smaller suppliers including Thailand (+67% to US\$17.8 million), the Philippines (+8% to US\$6.7 million), and Mexico (+28% to US\$3.3 million). However, imports from Malaysia decreased 4% to US\$66.1 million. EU27 wood furniture imports from all other tropical countries have been negligible this year (Chart 2).

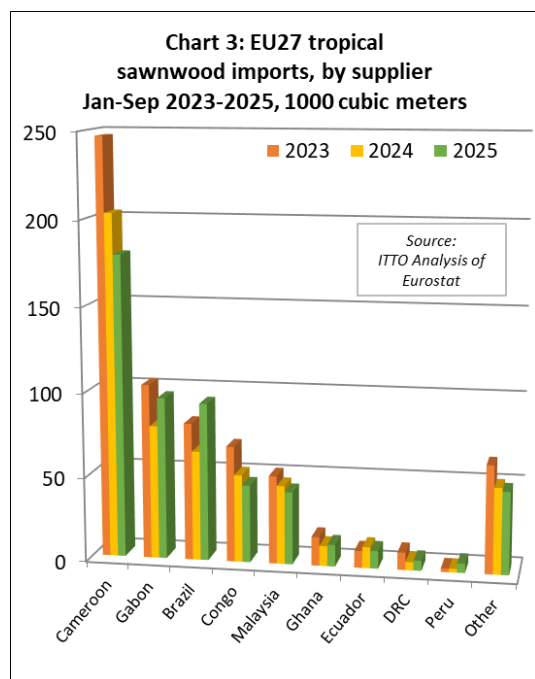


EU27 imports of tropical sawnwood only just above last year's record low

The EU27 imported 540,800 cu.m of tropical sawnwood with a total value of US\$491.6 million in the first nine months of 2025, respectively 3% and 1% more than the same period in 2024.

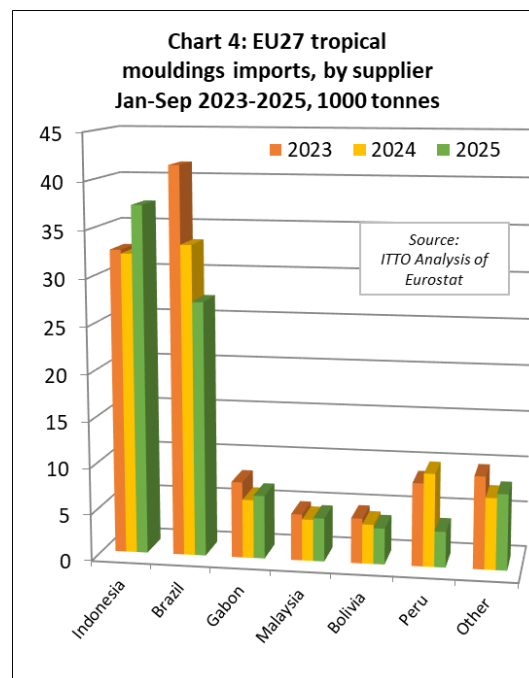
Tropical sawnwood imports were down in the first nine months of 2025 compared to the same period last year from Cameroon (-12% to 179,100 cu.m), the Republic of Congo (-12% to 45,900 cu.m), Malaysia (-8% to 43,000 cu.m), and Ecuador (-17% to 10,400 cu.m).

However, these declines were offset by rising imports from Gabon (+21% to 95,900 cu.m), Brazil (+44% to 93,400 cu.m), Ghana (+8% to 12,800 cu.m), the Democratic Republic of Congo (+25% to 6,000 cu.m), Peru (+152% to 5,500 cu.m), Central African Republic (+21% to 5,300 cu.m), and Indonesia (+23% to 5,200 cu.m) (Chart 3).



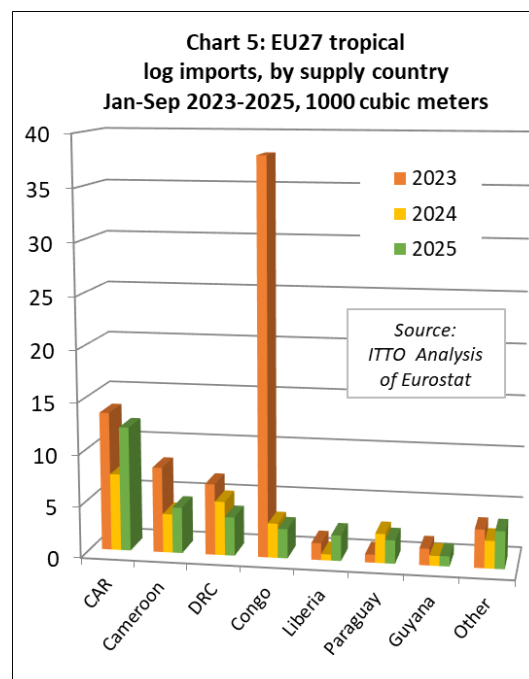
The EU27 imported 92,000 tonnes of tropical mouldings/decking with a total value of US\$157.8 million in the first nine months of 2025, respectively 6% and 9% less than the same period last year.

The decrease in imports was mainly due to a steep decline from Brazil (-18% to 27,300 tonnes), and Peru (-62% to 3,800 tonnes). Imports were also down 6% from Bolivia to 3,900 tonnes. However, imports increased from Indonesia (+16% to 37,300 tonnes), Gabon (+8% to 6,800 tonnes), and Malaysia (+4% to 4,700 tonnes) (Chart 4).



Second quarter rise in EU27 imports of tropical logs from CAR and Liberia

The EU27 imported 32,500 cu.m of tropical logs with a total value of US\$18.5 million in the first nine months of 2025, respectively 21% and 12% more than the same period in 2024.



The rise in trade quantity was particularly driven by sharp percentage increases from the Central African Republic (+62% to 12,100 cu.m) and Liberia (+325% to 2,500 cu.m), concentrated in the second quarter of the year.

Imports from Cameroon were also up 8% to 4,500 cu.m, gaining pace in the third quarter after a slow start to the year.

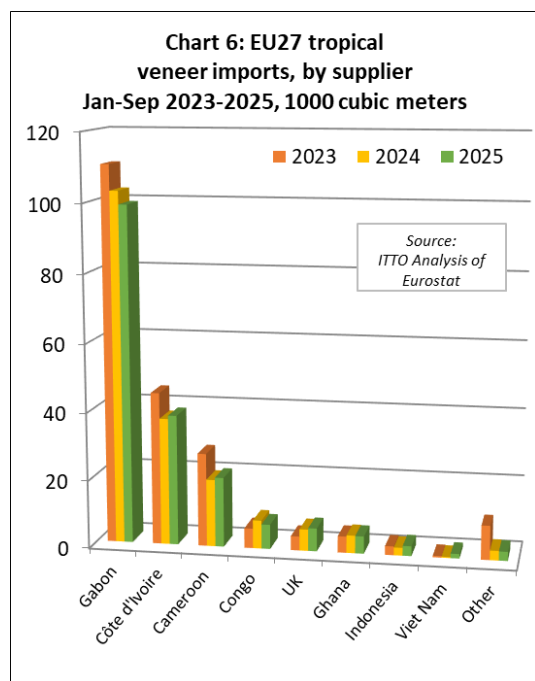
However, log imports declined from both the Democratic Republic of Congo (-28% to 3,800 cu.m) and the Republic of Congo (-15% to 2,800 cu.m) in the first nine months of 2025, responding to tighter controls on log exports. EU27 log imports also fell from Paraguay, by 20% to 2,300 cu.m, but were stable from Guyana at 1000 cu.m during the nine month period (Chart 5).

Signs of recovery in EU imports of tropical veneer and plywood this year

The EU27 imported 183,900 cu.m of tropical veneer with a total value of US\$132.6 million in the first nine months of 2025, respectively down 1% and up 6% compared to the same period last year.

EU27 imports of tropical veneer decreased during the nine month period from Gabon (-4% to 99,100 cu.m), the Republic of Congo (-13% to 7,200 cu.m) and Ghana (-2% to 5,100 cu.m).

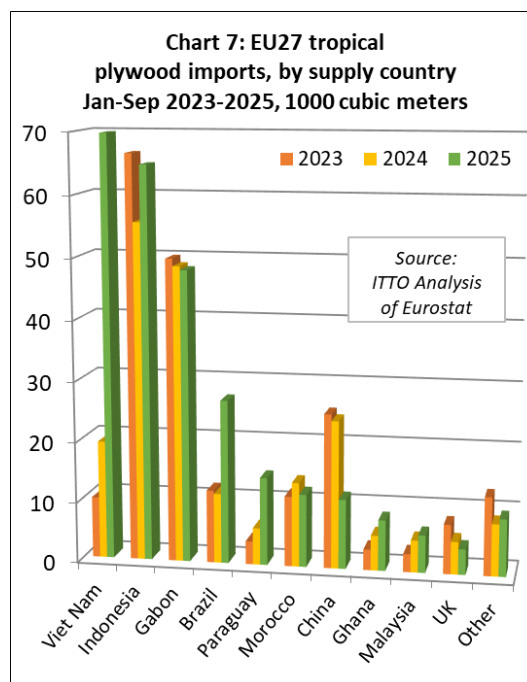
However, imports increased from Côte d'Ivoire (+3% to 38,300 cu.m), Cameroon (+4% to 20,500 cu.m), the UK (+7% to 6,800 cu.m), Indonesia (+26% to 2,900 cu.m), and Vietnam (+353% to 1,300 cu.m) during the period (Chart 6).



The EU27 imported 275,800 cu.m of tropical plywood with a total value of US\$178.9 million in the first nine months of 2025, up 35% and 20% respectively compared to the same period in 2024. Imports increased dramatically during the nine-month period from Vietnam, by 258% to 69,700 cu.m, thereby overtaking Indonesia as the largest single supplier of tropical plywood to the EU27.

Imports also increased, but at a slower rate, from Indonesia (+17% to 64,800 cu.m), Brazil (+134% to 27,000 cu.m), Paraguay (+138% to 14,500 cu.m), Ghana (+45% to 8,400 cu.m), and Malaysia (+17% to 6,200 cu.m).

However, these gains were partly offset in the first nine months of 2025 by declining imports from Gabon (-1% to 48,000 cu.m), China (-53% to 11,500 cu.m), Morocco (-14% to 12,000 cu.m), and the UK (-22% to 4,200 cu.m) (Chart 7).



Definitive anti-dumping duties imposed on EU imports of Chinese hardwood plywood

Recent trends in EU27 hardwood plywood imports have been impacted by the EU's anti-dumping investigation against Chinese hardwood plywood which led to the imposition of definitive anti-dumping duties on EU imports of this commodity, effective 21 November 2025.

These measures are intended to protect EU producers from unfair trade practices, as the EU alleges that Chinese exporters were selling the product below production cost.

The duty imposed on one Chinese producer that cooperated with the investigation was raised from a provisional rate of 25.1% imposed on June 11, 2025, to 43.2%. For all other Chinese hardwood plywood producers, the duty was raised from the provisional rate of 62.4% imposed in June to 86.8%.

These anti-dumping duties on Chinese hardwood plywood have led to a switch in EU imports of hardwood plywood, particularly a rise a trade with Vietnam which has benefitted from a sharp increase in production and exports to the EU this year.

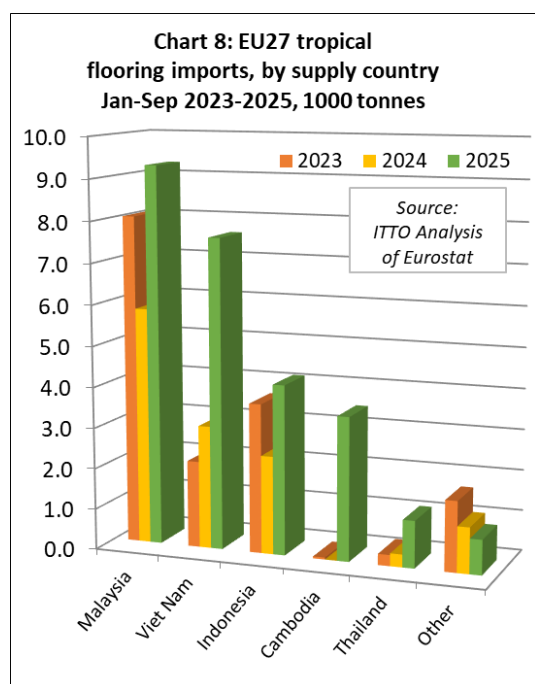
See: <https://pagedplywood.com/en/european-commission-regulation-imposes-high-import-duties-on-chinese-hardwood-plywood/>

EU imports of tropical flooring products rise sharply this year

The EU27 imported 26,600 tonnes of tropical wood flooring with a total value of US\$74.8 million in the first nine months of 2025, up 110% and 126% respectively compared to the same period in 2024.

Imports increased by 60% from Malaysia to 9,300 tonnes. Imports of 7,600 tonnes from Vietnam were 152% more than the same period last year.

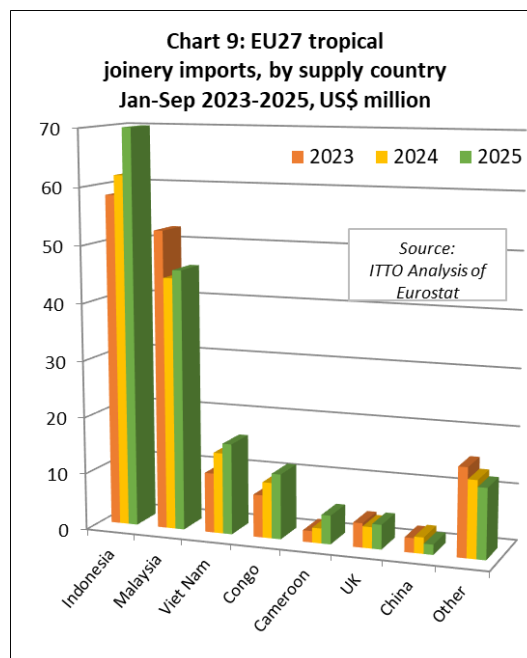
EU imports of this commodity have also risen sharply in percentage terms this year from Indonesia (+73% to 4,200 tonnes), and Thailand (+268% to 1,200 tonnes). Imports from Cambodia, near zero in the first nine months of last year, were 3500 tonnes in the same period this year (Chart 9).



EU27 import value of other joinery products from tropical countries - mainly laminated window scantlings, kitchen tops and wood doors – was US\$166.7 million in the first nine months of 2025, 9% more than the same period last year. Import quantity was up 14% to 75,600 tonnes in the same period.

Import values increased from Indonesia (+13% to US\$70.0 million), Malaysia (+3% to US\$45.8 million), Vietnam (+12% to US\$16.0 million), the Republic of Congo (+17% to US\$11.5 million), Cameroon (+92% to US\$5.0 million), and the UK (+16% to US\$4.3 million).

However, EU27 import value of joinery products made from tropical wood was down 38% to US\$1.8 million from China (Chart 9).



EU close to agreement on additional twelve-month delay to EUDR

After weeks of speculation and conflicting news around another possible delay to the date of application of the EU Deforestation Regulation, a clearer picture emerged following a vote by the European Parliament on 26 November.

The Parliament voted 402 to 250 to delay and simplify the EUDR, thereby taking a position very closely aligned to that agreed by the EU Council on 19 November.

This means the European Parliament and Council can now formally enter interinstitutional negotiations (“trilogues”) to reach a final agreement. This follows the ordinary legislative procedure, where the Commission proposes legislative changes and the co-legislators jointly decide.

The mandates of both co-legislators now converge on several key elements: a 12-month postponement for all operators, a range of simplification measures designed to reduce the bureaucratic burden within the EU, and a requested review of the EUDR by April 2026 to assess impacts and the need for further adjustments.

Some divergences remain - notably, the Parliament’s proposal to exclude the printing sector from the scope of the regulation. A 4th country risk category (‘zero risk’), which was previously mentioned, is not under negotiations and will not be a matter of discussions.

The timeline remains tight: once a provisional agreement is reached, it must still be formally endorsed by both institutions — the Parliament (expected around 15 December) and the Council (expected around 18 December).

Any amendments must be published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) before 30 December for the changes to enter into force as intended.

However, given the proximity of the two positions and the Commission's facilitating role, negotiations are expected to be relatively smooth and to conclude within the planned timeframe.

This makes it very likely that the 12-month delay to the dates of application of EUDR will be confirmed for all operators. This would mean that large and medium sized operators would have to apply EUDR from 30 December 2026, while micro and small operators (with less than 50 employees and turnover not exceeding €10 million) would be given an additional six months until 30 June 2027.

See: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/11/19/deforestation-council-ready-to-start-talks-with-parliament-on-a-targeted-revision-of-the-regulation/>

North America

Reopened US government releases August trade data

Following a budget agreement to end the government shutdown US government operations returned to normal on 13 November. The release of trade data, which had been suspended, resumed with the release of August totals.

Data for imports of tropical hardwoods and related products revealed no major trends in August. US imports of imports of sawn tropical hardwood and wooden furniture both fell 6% and imports of hardwood plywood dropped by 15%. But imports of tropical hardwood veneer surged 27% and imports of hardwood mouldings rose 14%, while imports of hardwood flooring and assembled flooring panels held relatively steady.

US government agencies are still in the process of scheduling releases of economic information to catch up after the shutdown. Until the agencies return to a normal release schedule, individual items in this report may reflect data from varied months depending upon the latest information available. Readers should carefully note the time frame of all data.

August imports of sawn tropical hardwood lag

US imports of sawn tropical hardwood fell 6% in August with imports from many of the top exporting countries falling even further. At 15,192 cubic metres, import volumes were up less than 1% versus August of last year. Imports from Indonesia fell by 10%, imports from Malaysia fell 26% while imports from top-trader Brazil fell by only 2%. Imports from Ecuador, which have risen sharply this year, tumbled 51% in August. Total imports of sawn tropical hardwood remain just ahead of last year's pace, up less than 1% from 2024 through August.

In Canada, imports of tropical hardwood rose 19% in August on strong gains in imports from Congo (Zaire and Brazzaville), Bolivia and the United States, along with a 10% rise in imports from top-supplier Cameroon.

Imports of sawn tropical hardwood

	2025 Aug. cu.m	MoM % change
Total	15,192	-6%
Ecuador	489	-51%
Brazil	4,836	-2%
Cameroon	1,573	-33%
Malaysia	1,513	-26%
Rep. Congo	965	-8%
Peru	103	194%
Indonesia	1,145	-10%
Ghana	745	26%
Cote d'Ivoire	259	23%
Other	3,564	30%

Data source: US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Trade Statistics

Hardwood plywood imports retreat, but remain strong

While US imports of hardwood plywood dropped by 15% from July to August, imports still greatly outpaced last August totals. At 272,862 cubic metres, August 2025 import volumes were 30% higher than in August 2024.

Apart from small gains from China and Cambodia, imports from most leading trade partners fell in August, led by a 39% drop in imports from Russia, a 26% fall in imports from Malaysia and a 16% tumble in imports from Indonesia. Despite the August retreat, total import volume of hardwood plywood is up 25% over 2024 through August.

Hardwood plywood imports

	2025 Aug cu.m	MoM % change
Total	272,862	-15%
China	1,958	23%
Russia	17,679	-39%
Indonesia	83,065	-16%
Malaysia	8,960	-26%
Cambodia	15,037	2%
Vietnam	87,573	-11%
Ecuador	10,130	-11%
Other	48,460	-12%

Data source: US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Trade Statistics

Veneer imports surge

US imports of tropical hardwood veneer jumped 27% in August, rising to their highest level in two years. The bulk of the rise was due to a spike in imports from Italy, along with strong gains in imports from India (up 152%) and China (up 41%).

August imports were a full 69% higher than in the same month a year ago. Imports of tropical hardwood veneers are up 23% over last year through August.

Imports of tropical hardwood veneer

	2025 Aug US\$	MoM % change
Total	3,934,888	27%
Italy	646,877	10401%
China	371,363	41%
Ghana	50,437	-42%
Cote d'Ivoire	208,603	-6%
Cameroon	1,613,481	-12%
India	390,300	152%
Other	653,827	23%

Data source: US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Trade Statistics

Moulding imports reach highest level in more than 3 years

Imports of hardwood mouldings rose 14% in August to reach their highest level since March 2022. Imports from top trading partner Canada rose 10% while imports from countries not seen as leading suppliers accounted for most of the gain.

Despite August declines in imports from some of the other top trading partners, notably China (down 61%) and Brazil (down 38%), imports from all of the top traders are up by one third or more for the year to date. August imports of hardwood mouldings were 24% higher than in August 2024 and total imports are up 19% over last year through August.

Imports of hardwood mouldings

	2025 Aug US\$	MoM % change
Total	17,234,949	14%
Brazil	340,230	-38%
China	253,475	-61%
Malaysia	998,576	-17%
Canada	5,533,451	10%
Other	10,109,217	32%

Data source: US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Trade Statistics

Imports of hardwood flooring slip

Imports of hardwood flooring held at a high level in August despite slipping 3% from July totals. At US\$7.1 million, imports were up 43% over the previous August. A doubling of imports from China and a 36% gain in imports from Malaysia helped mitigate declines in imports from most other countries. With a strong summer, imports have nearly caught up with last year and are now only down 6% versus 2024 through August.

It is the opposite story for imports of assembled flooring panels. Imports also remained steady in August, rising 1% over the previous month, but they are at a very low level versus last year. At US\$20.6 million, imports were 33% lower than in August 2024. An 11% loss in imports from top-trader Canada erased gains of more than 40% in imports from China and Indonesia.

With trade slumping imports of assembled flooring panels are now behind last year's pace for the first time this year, down 1% through August.

Wooden furniture imports fall to yearly low in August

US imports of wooden furniture dropped 6% in August to fall to their lowest level in 14 months. At US\$1.59 billion, imports for the month were 9% below those of August 2024. Imports from the top-supplier, Vietnam, were down 3%, while imports from Canada and China were off by more than 10%.

For the year so far, Imports from Canada and Mexico were down 12% and 13% respectively while imports from China were down by 36%. Through August, total imports of wooden furniture were down 2% versus 2024.

See: <https://www.smith-leonard.com/2025/08/05/july-2025-furniture-insights/> and <https://usatrade.census.gov/index.php?do=login>

Existing home sales see small October gain, but supply is now dropping

The drop in mortgage interest rates at the end of the summer boosted home sales, but that gain may be short-lived. Sales of previously owned homes in October rose 1.2% from September to 4.1 million units on a seasonally adjusted, annualised basis, according to the National Association of Realtors. Sales were up 1.7% year over year.

This analysis is based on home closings, so additional contracts were likely signed in August and September. While contract signings would not be impacted by the government shutdown that started in October, closings, especially those requiring flood insurance or government-backed rural home loans, could be.

The inventory of homes for sale has also come down. After gaining for much of this year, supply fell to 1.52 million units, down 0.7% from September, although still nearly 11% higher than a year earlier.

"Looking ahead, home shoppers in today's market face some advantages from falling mortgage rates and seasonally slower competition," said Danielle Hale, Chief Economist at Realtor.com, in a release. "At the same time, a lack of housing affordability continues to be a challenge keeping home sales in their historically low level."

Month on month sales increased in the Midwest and South, showed no change in the Northeast, and fell in the West. Year-over-year sales rose in the Northeast, Midwest and South, and decreased in the West.

See: <https://www.nar.realtor/newsroom/nar-existing-home-sales-report-shows-1-2-increase-in-october>

Consumer sentiment tumbled to a three-year low

Consumer sentiment in the US dropped to a three-year low and close to the lowest point ever recorded by the University of Michigan one month into the government shutdown, with pessimism over personal finances and anticipated business conditions weighing on Americans. The November survey showed the index of consumer sentiment at 50.4, down a startling 6.2% from last month and it has plunged nearly 30% from a year ago.

“With the federal government shutdown dragging on for over a month, consumers are now expressing worries about potential negative consequences for the economy,” said Joanne Hsu, Surveys of Consumers Director at University of Michigan. “This month’s decline in sentiment was widespread throughout the population, seen across age, income and political affiliation.”

The one exception, Hsu said, were those with large stock holdings. Big tech companies, particularly in artificial intelligence, have driven explosive returns for investors. The tech-heavy Nasdaq is up 17% this year.

See: <https://www.sca.isr.umich.edu/>
and

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/markets/consumer-sentiment-tumbles-close-to-record-lows-in-latest-u-michigan-survey/ar-AA1Q0YtT?ocid=BingNewsVerp>

US manufacturing slipped further in October

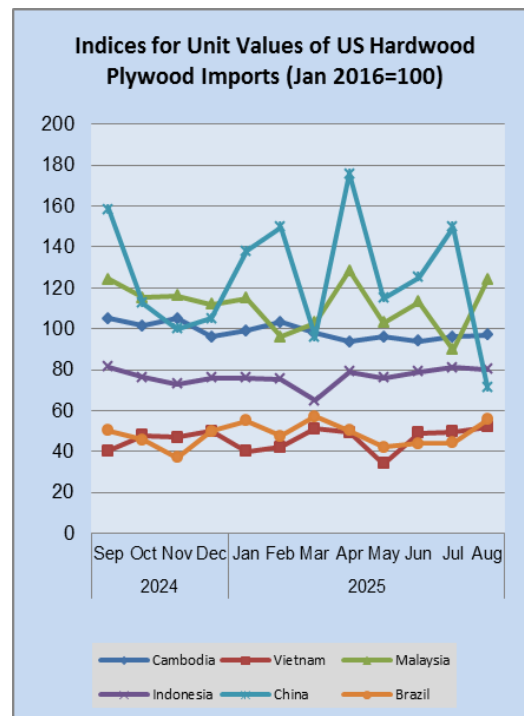
Economic activity in the manufacturing sector contracted in October for the eighth consecutive month following a two-month expansion preceded by 26 straight months of contraction, say the nation's supply executives in the latest ISM Manufacturing PMI Report.

“Of the six largest manufacturing industries, only two (Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products; and Transportation Equipment) expanded in October,” reported Susan Spence, Chair of the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) Manufacturing Business Survey Committee.

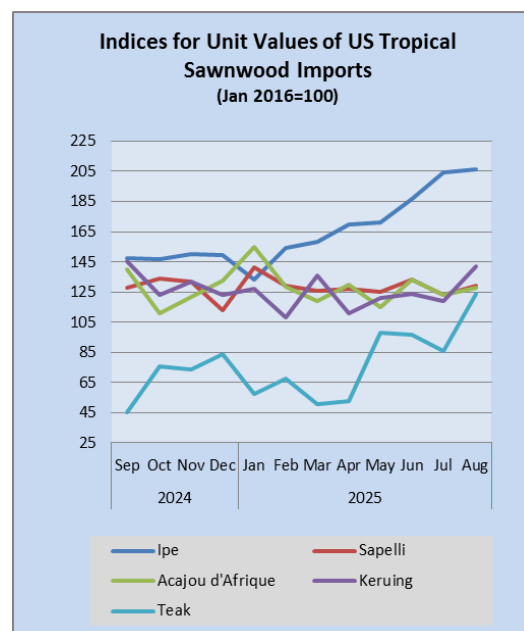
The Manufacturing PMI registered 48.7% in October, a 0.4-percentage point decrease compared to the reading of 49.1% recorded in September (a figure above 50% denotes expansion). The overall economy continued in expansion for the 66th month after one month of contraction in April 2020.

Of the 18 manufacturing industries surveyed by ISM, six reported growth in October while 12 reported contraction. Both the Wood Products sector and the Furniture & Related Products sector reported contraction in October.

See: <https://www.ismworld.org/supply-management-news-and-reports/reports/ism-pmi-reports/>
and
<https://www.woodworkingnetwork.com/news/woodworking-industry-news/manufacturing-pmi-487-12-manufacturing-sectors-report-decline>



Data source: US Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics



Data source: US Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics

Disclaimer: Though efforts have been made to ensure prices are accurate, these are published as a guide only. ITTO does not take responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

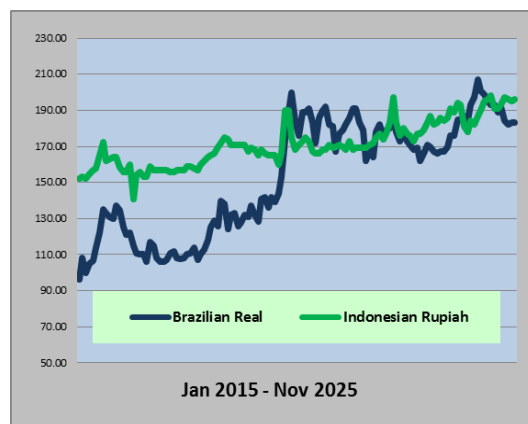
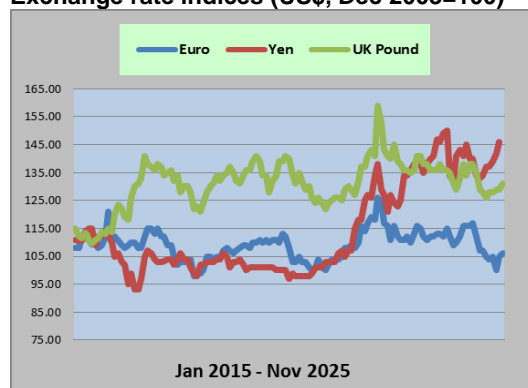
The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the correspondents and do not necessarily reflect those of ITTO

US\$ Dollar Exchange Rates

As of 25th November 2025

Brazil	Real	5.39
CFA countries	CFA Franc	567.88
China	Yuan	7.09
Euro area	Euro	0.86
India	Rupee	89.15
Indonesia	Rupiah	16,640
Japan	Yen	156.00
Malaysia	Ringgit	4.13
Peru	Sol	3.43
UK	Pound	0.76
South Korea	Won	1,465.66

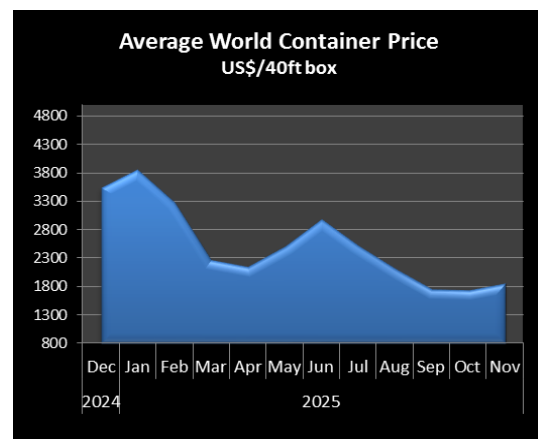
Exchange rate indices (US\$, Dec 2003=100)



Abbreviations and Equivalences

Arrows ↓↑	Price has moved up or down
BB/CC etc	quality of face and back veneer
BF, MBF	Board foot, 1000 board foot
Boule	bundled boards from a single log
TEU	20 foot container equivalent
CIF	Cost insurance and freight
C&F CNF	Cost and freight
cu.m cbm	cubic metre
FAS	First and second grade of sawnwood
FOB	Free-on board
Genban	Sawnwood for structural use in house building
GMS	General Market Specification
GSP	Guiding Selling Price
Hoppus ton	1.8 cubic metre
KD, AD	Kiln dried, air dried
Koku	0.28 cubic metre or 120 BF
LM	Loyale Merchant, a grade of log parcel
MR., WBP	Moisture resistant, Weather and boil proof
MT	Metric tonne
OSB	Oriented Strand Board
PHND	Pin hole no defect
QS	Qualite Superieure
SQ,SSQ	Sawmill Quality, Select Sawmill Quality

Ocean Container Freight Index

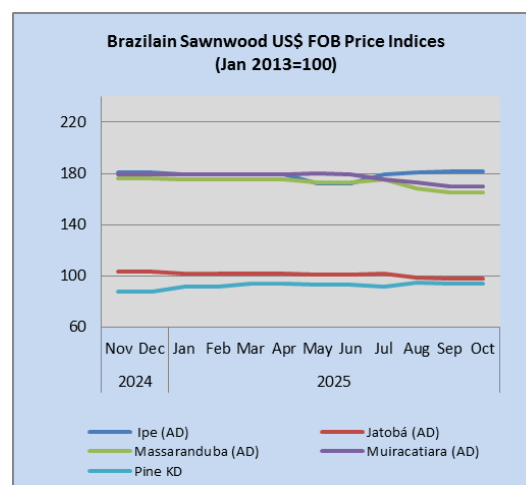
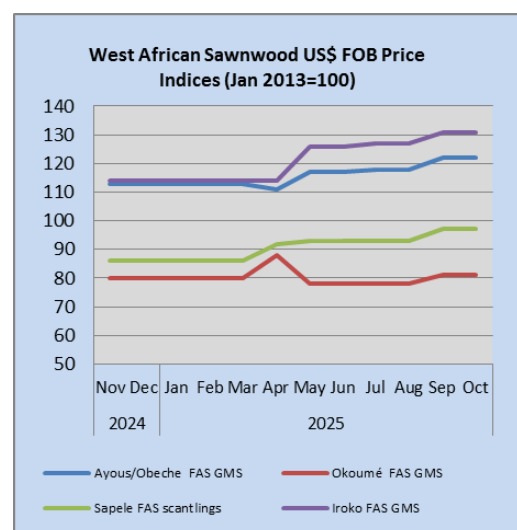
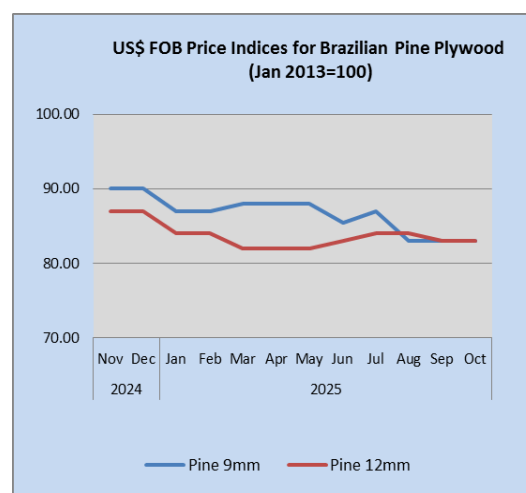
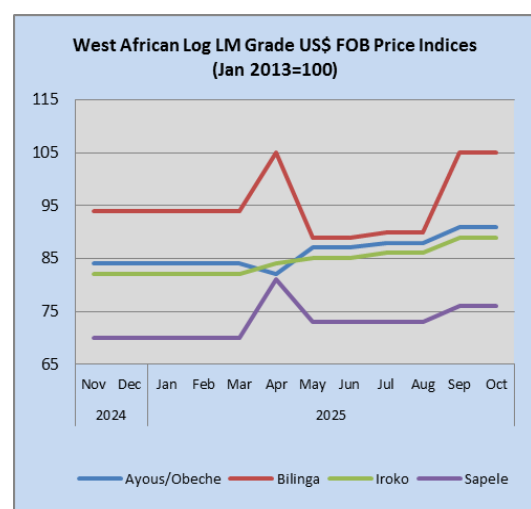


Data source: Drewry World Container Index

See: <https://www.drewry.co.uk/supply-chain-advisors/supply-chain-expertise/world-container-index-assessed-by-drewry>

Price indices for selected products

The following indices are based on US dollar FOB prices



Note: Indices for W. African logs and sawnwood are recalculated from Euro to US dollar terms.

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