Background: This online training program aimed to provide best practice guidelines on nursery establishment and forest seedling propagation to oil palm plantation staff and community members working on riparian rehabilitation. These rehabilitation efforts are focused on conserving and restoring high conservation value (HCV) forests—forest areas that are recognized as having biological, ecological, social, and/or cultural importance—located within areas managed by the plantations. Successful rehabilitation rests
on the production of good-quality seedlings that are able to thrive in field conditions when planted and grow into healthy trees. This training event was originally intended to be field-based, but it was conducted online instead due to the COVID19 pandemic.

**Course Objectives:**

- To provide practical guidance on establishing and managing a nursery;
- To introduce generative and vegetative plant propagation techniques; and
- To strengthen the network for disseminating and exchanging information between oil palm plantations involved in managing land rehabilitation activities in HCV areas

**Course Format:**

The course was facilitated by Arbainsyah and Sulton Affudin from ELTI and Abrar Ramlan and Henry Putranto from Goodhope. The course was divided into two thematic modules, each of which was covered during one of the two days of the online training.

**Module 1:**

- Opening
- Propagating seeds
- Developing a nursery facility and budget analysis
- Improving the growing media for seedlings
- Seedling propagation with generative techniques
- Discussion
Module 2:
- Seedling propagation with vegetative techniques
- Organic fertilizer production
- Discussion
- Closing

The online course materials included interactive presentations and videos that were made available via a WhatsApp group platform. Live sessions with the resource people were held on Zoom. A reference booklet, entitled “Nursery Establishment and Forest Seedling Propagation”, was also produced and made available to participants. Participants, many of whom participated in the training as part of a group, then started practicing nursery establishment and vegetative propagation techniques at their respective oil palm company locations.

Course Participants:
A total of 53 participants attended the online training from across Indonesia. Participants included representatives from palm oil companies from the following provinces and cities:

- West Kalimantan: PT Sawit Nabati Agro, PT Agrajaya Baktitama, PT Batu Mas Sejahtera, PT SIsM and Bumitama Gunajaya Agro
- Central Kalimantan: PT Agro Bukit, PT Agro Indomas, PT Agro Wana Lestari, PT Karya Makmur Sejahtera, PT Musirawas Citaharpindo, PT RIM Capital, PT Sawit Sumbermas Sarana and PT First Lamandau Timber International
- East Kalimantan: PT Agro Indomas, First Resources, Bumitama Gunajaya Agro, PT Pilar Wanapersada and PT Rea Kaltim Plantations

Henry Putranto of Goodhope, moderating one of the sessions

David Neidel, ELTI Asia Advisor, introducing the topic of the training

Edi Purwanto, Director of OWT, providing an introduction to the concept of HCVs
This event received the generous support of Arcadia - a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin - and the Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning.

- Jakarta: PT Agro Harapan Lestari, PT SMART Tbk, PT Genting Plantation Nusantara, PT Gawi Bahandep Sawit Mekar/USTP and First Resources
- Papua: PT Nabire Baru, PT Sariwana Adi Perkasa and PT Bio Inti Agrindo

The training was also attended by representatives from government institutions (i.e., Balitek KSDA, SD Tunas Agro, SMKN 1 Danau Sembuluh and SMP Tunas Agro), community groups (i.e., Desa Terawan Central Kalimantan and Nabire Baru Papua), and NGOs from Bogor (i.e., PILI-Green Network, Remark Asia and Tropenbos Indonesia).

**Follow-up:**
A WhatsApp group was established during the training and participants have been actively following up with each other, as well as with the organizers. Some of the training participants have also asked to ELTI to hold a follow-up field-based training in the future.