



## SUMMARY REPORT

# Third Regional Forum for People and Forests

Strengthening commitment to community forestry  
action plans in Asia

19-20 November 2013, Bangkok, Thailand





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This report was written by Karen Edwards, with Caroline Liou and Detty Saluling.



# Introduction

The Third Regional Forum for People and Forests hosted over 100 participants from 15 different countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The Forum was designed to assess progress and lessons since the Second Regional Forum for People and Forests. The process focused on actively engaging a strategic group of core stakeholders from RECOFTC focal countries (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam) to identify key practical actions in the form of realistic but strategic commitments for advancing community forestry in the future.

The Forum was opened by Mr Boonchob Suthamanuswong, Director-General, Royal Forest Department, Thailand, with the statement that, "Community forestry can be a powerful solution to land conflicts in forest lands and can be a means to improve livelihoods, reduce deforestation and strengthen good governance by taking into account the needs and knowledge of local people."

At the opening, Dr Tint Lwin Thaung, Executive Director, RECOFTC, highlighted that "Increasing forest area under community management is a key priority, but equally important is strengthening the active control of communities over their forests. When people are empowered to participate in decision-making and when they derive regular benefits from their forests, evidence shows they will conserve biodiversity, reduce deforestation and manage forests sustainably."

The Forum was designed as a highly participatory event, and was organized to actively engage every participant to take part in each session through situational analysis, sharing, peer feedback and distillation of priority actions. The aim of the Forum activities was to develop joint (multi-stakeholder) country action plans to strengthen community forestry and foster active commitment to increasing forest area under community management; strengthening the active control of communities over their forests; and ensuring that institutions are able to effectively implement community forestry laws in their country. Furthermore, taking stock of current process was enriched by new experiences and critical questions for the future. Most importantly, ideas and commitments developed in the Third Regional Forum will be shared and enriched further in a series of national forums in 2014 in six countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Organized by RECOFTC in collaboration with Thailand's Royal Forest Department, the Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet), ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN), and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), this forum created energetic momentum for specific changes and commitments to community forestry at the national level.

The objectives of the Third Forum are to increase active commitment to joint country action plans to strengthen community forestry (CF) by:

- Assessing progress of community forestry in the region and exploring strategic means to overcome identified obstacles to secure and protect forests and the people that depend on them;
- Promoting common priorities that strengthen community forestry and encourage partnership and coordination across sectors;
- Increasing active commitment to joint CF country action plans that prioritize increasing forest area under community management; strengthen the active control of communities over their forests; and ensure that institutions are able to effectively implement CF laws in their country.

local  
people





# PAST PRESENT FUTURE

## Lessons learned and future challenges

Mr Preecha Siri, a local community leader from Ban Huay Hin Lahd Nai Community Forest, Thailand, and Ms Isabelita Austria, Chief of the Community Based Forest Management Unit of the DENR (Department of Environment and Natural Resources) in the Philippines told their stories of change, demonstrating that community forestry can have tangible results under appropriate conditions and an enabling environment. Both experiences – told from different perspectives (local community and government) – highlighted the clear need to respond to calls for planning and expanding community forestry at the landscape level and ensuring the conditions and incentives to make this happen. Dr David Gritten, Senior Program Officer, RECOFTC, highlighted key challenges to the future success of community forestry.





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## **A local community in Thailand builds on their community forestry successes**

Mr Preecha Siri highlighted his experience of effective protection and sustainable utilization of forests by local people if given the authority and rights to manage their forests – bringing local, national and global benefits.

With his guidance, his community successfully adopted an integrated system of wet terrace fields, rotational farming, beekeeping, and native tea and bamboo farming along with forest conservation demonstrating a successful model of ecosystem management. These innovative income generation plans have helped to create community funds and build community resilience.<sup>1</sup>

Ban Huay Hin Lahd Nai community has won several international awards for their inspirational efforts to move from protecting their forest at a local level to working with 16 other villages at the landscape level in Thailand. Thus one community that both depends on the forest and places value on it, together with taking responsibility for and making a commitment to its protection at the local level, has led to an expansion of community forestry area under local community management in the Ban Huay Hin Lahd Nai landscape.

## **Lessons learned from developing social forestry programs in the Philippines**

Ms Isabelita Austria presented the lessons from the past to the present of community forestry in the Philippines, highlighting key historical shifts that have led to an expansion of the area under community forestry including duration and nature of tenure from short-term individually orientated arrangements to longer-term community-based agreements.

In the 1970s, government-led people-oriented forestry programs began as a response to decreasing forest cover, population growth, poverty in the uplands, increasing need for wood and food, and the failure of punitive measures in addressing forest occupancy.

In the '80s, these programs were consolidated into the Integrated Social Forestry (ISF) program and the issuance of individual land property rights through a Certificate of Stewardship Contract. A 15-year Upland Development Program with 16 pilot sites nationwide served as research support to the ISF program. However, it was found that the individual approach in ISF did not promote strong community action. Also, production of forest products was fragmented and marketing not well-coordinated.

Executive Order No. 263 was signed in 1995 adopting community-based forest management (CBFM) as the national strategy for the sustainable development of forestlands and their resources. There was also modest support for the setting-up of local-level market information systems for products derived from social forestry, which resulted in an increase in the bargaining power of communities. Marketing was not given much attention in the early '90s, thus this remains a current need of products that are being harvested in CBFM areas. Assistance on enterprise development – and particularly market information – is needed.

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Forum on Forests 2012, 2012-2013 Forest Heroes Award Winners, accessed 13 January 2013, <<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/forest-heroes/winners.html>>.

## Future challenges: The fundamentals for successful community forestry

Dr David Gritten discussed that in many places in the Asia-Pacific region, community forestry is the most appropriate option for the sustainable management of forest resources, as well as for addressing the wide set of economic, environmental and social objectives on the national and local levels, including:

1. enhancing livelihoods and meeting the subsistence needs of households (firewood, fodder, timber, etc.);
2. reducing deforestation and improving forest conditions and quality (wood volume, stem density, vegetation cover and biodiversity); and
3. strengthening governance and rural people's political rights.

However, far too often community forestry is unable to deliver on these objectives. This is underlined by future challenges facing the region, including growing population, increasing urbanization, changing climate and fluctuating food prices. Community forestry can help to address these, however, in order to do so, and for it to deliver on its potential, certain fundamentals need to be in place, as encapsulated in the formula:

$$\text{susCF} = T + 2aR + aC + M$$

Where:

susCF is **sustainable community forestry**

T is **tenure**

2aR is **appropriate regulations & appropriate resources**

aC is **appropriate capacity**

M is **market**

The starting point for sustainable community forestry is tenure. Tenure is important in many aspects, including in providing security, encouraging responsible stewardship of the land, facilitating investment that gives bigger returns not only in economic, but also social and environmental terms.

The first aR is based on the fact that across the region the regulations that govern communities' interaction with the forest fail to enable them to benefit from these forests, and instead place many burdens on communities. Additionally, government officials have to monitor the regulations, which offer few rewards. Appropriate regulations must be in place to create an enabling environment for community forestry. The second aR is appropriate resources, which specifically refers to the fact that when communities are given tenure it must be to real forests, rather than degraded/poor quality forests that is often the norm. This, like many facets of community forestry, is based on the understanding that community forestry will not succeed unless communities can make a living from the forests, the starting point of which is having tenure to forests and land that are appropriate to their needs.

Appropriate capacity (aC) relates to the fact that to manage the forests in a sustainable manner, communities and government officials working in the area of community forestry must have access to appropriate information and technology. This information includes ensuring that the community understands the value of making decisions in a participatory manner. Finally, the M for market points to the fact that communities need to have access to a market to sell their forest products.

Putting all these elements together will go some way to ensure that community forestry can deliver, and help society as a whole meet the challenges of the future.



What is your insight?

Security of tenure  
as the foundation  
of sustainable  
CF



What is your insight?

Openness by different  
stakeholders is the key  
to effective participatory  
collaboration.



Long-term planning is essential  
for making it possible and  
desirable for people to stay  
and manage the forest instead  
of moving to the cities.

What is your insight?

Give community rights  
to harvest timber from forests  
(simple procedures / free tax /  
technology instructions)



What is your insight?

Marketing the forest  
products & services  
produced from CF;  
CF developments in Socio-  
Economic development.





# Key themes for action

The Third Regional Forum focused on promoting significant conversations between participants from different countries to share both key lessons and assumptions behind community forestry implementation that may need to be challenged in the future. What emerged from the interactions were a number of common regional themes and key areas for action:

**Securing forest tenure:** Identified as a key principle and significant lesson for community forestry to be a success, this remains a valid agenda for some countries where tenure is limited and policies still prevent productive use of forests.

**Turning policy into real action:** It cannot be assumed that if a policy framework is in place community forestry will be implemented effectively. There is still reluctance for some to allocate land and deliver on agreements. Just how to ensure efficient roll out based on policy frameworks remains a challenge and this was still a key conversation piece during the Forum.

**From fragmentation to integration at the landscape level:** It is now recognized that although in some countries areas of forest managed under communities have grown, they are not yet at the landscape level. Community forestry needs to be integrated as a key land use management strategy in participatory land use planning. This will require significant cross-sectoral collaboration. The benefits of community forestry must be clear to other sectors and vice-versa. This was another key agenda during the Forum.

**Linking to other sectors and global agendas:** To expand areas under community forest management and promote secure tenure, the benefits of community forestry and the respective discourse need to be promoted in other global agendas and dialogue such as climate change. How to ensure that community forestry practitioners link better to other sectors and agendas was identified as one issue that needed to be discussed more at the Forum.

**Toward real economic benefits and commercialization of products and services from community forestry:** This was a prominent conversation topic in the Forum and is strongly reflected in many of the countries commitments. A shift from subsistence to more business-orientated community forestry is required.

MINISTRY OF FORESTRY NRM.

policy can be created  
How?

? What is effective  
policy?

## ROLE

Create effective policy  
environment supportive to CF

What is included  
in 'policy env.'?

beyond  
policy

## COMMITMENTS

- Provision of adequate funds, resources & other support services
- Build & sustain strong partnership with other stakeholders
- Strengthen Management Information System & Knowledge hub related to CF

Include  
• Implementation  
• Monitoring & Evaluation  
• Review → Reform Policy

Can't think of anything else to add

- Come work with us

Where set knowledge + info from?

# Changing stakeholder roles

Following the session on identifying common regional themes and key areas for action, participants gathered into stakeholder groups. Each group discussed key areas for future action from the perspective of their own stakeholder group and identified key commitments to be undertaken by their stakeholder group to strengthen community forestry.

BUREAU-CRACY

PEOPLE

LOW

POLICY

support

tion

Stakeholder	Future role	Priority commitments
Central government	Coordination and harmonization of policies, national plans and budgets, including how community forestry relates to all sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timely update and review of relevant policies and regulations</li> <li>Improvement of representation of marginalized groups and communities in national working groups</li> </ul>
Ministry of Natural Resources/Forestry	Create effective policy supportive of community forestry and improved livelihoods from forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of adequate funds and support services for community forestry</li> <li>Build and sustain strong partnerships with other stakeholders</li> <li>Strengthen management information systems and knowledge hubs for community forestry</li> </ul>
Local government	Regulate implementation and provide technical services for communities for community forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop own internal capacity to provide high-quality technical services</li> <li>Include community forestry in local government land use and development plans including budgets</li> <li>Improve vertical integration with communities and relevant line ministries to effectively communicate policy impacts, issues and lessons</li> </ul>
Private sector	Source and procure sustainable products from communities through connections with markets, brokers and entrepreneurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop long-term partnerships and effective community-based business models based on win-win principles</li> <li>Build essential skills within target communities for self-organization, financial management and marketing</li> </ul>
International organizations	Generate knowledge and demonstrate how to deal with next generation issues including commercialization of community forestry goods and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support policy and participatory practice in countries</li> <li>Continue capacity building for community forestry</li> <li>Improve donor coordination at national and international levels on community forestry</li> </ul>
Researchers and academics	Communicate research and findings in relation to best practice and influence and inform decision making and policy development relevant to community forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design and deliver outcome-based research</li> <li>Mainstream community forestry research agendas into academic institutions</li> <li>Target communication products to specific audiences for policy change and influence</li> </ul>
Media (Journalists)	Enhance two-way communication on community forestry issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expose stories of the positive impacts of community forestry</li> <li>Amplify local people's perspectives to reach relevant stakeholders</li> <li>More balanced reporting of stakeholder perspectives</li> </ul>
Civil society	Continue to play bridging role and feedback loop between community forestry practice and policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for more community-based and people-oriented policy</li> <li>Strong collaboration with all other stakeholders</li> <li>Continue to build capacity of communities</li> </ul>
Communities	Enhance and strengthen community networks for collective voice and action and passing leadership skills to the next generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a community learning hub and share knowledge with others</li> <li>Make government accountable to secure forests and land tenure rights</li> <li>Build capacity of the next generation to lead community forestry management and entrepreneurship</li> </ul>



## RECOFTC launches new strategic plan for 2013-2018



During the Third Regional Forum, RECOFTC launched its new strategic plan for 2013-2018. Building on a very successful previous strategic phase, the new RECOFTC Strategic Plan (2013-2018) – entitled *People and forests for a greener future - Empowering local people to effectively and equitably engage in the sustainable management of forested landscapes* – has an increased focus on clearer strategic outcomes in RECOFTC's four thematic areas: Securing Community Forestry; Enhancing Livelihoods and Markets; People, Forests and Climate Change; and Transforming Forest Conflicts. Within the thematic areas, emerging issues, including landscape approaches, food security, water security, and biomass energy security, are explored.

A focus on a rights-based approach based on three principles - strong and secure rights, good governance and fair benefits – is being strengthened, along with increasing emphasis on social inclusion and gender, forestry leadership development, and a more robust participatory monitoring and evaluation system.

RECOFTC's expanded engagement in eight focal countries – Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam – continues to be a cornerstone of our work to deliver tangible outcomes on the ground. The four functional approaches – training and learning networks, research, communication, and piloting and demonstrating – also continue to complement each other and contribute to RECOFTC's strategic outcomes.

The strategic plan is available at [www.recoftc.org](http://www.recoftc.org).





An exhibition fair highlighting the products and activities of community enterprise groups took place over the two-day Forum. Forum partner booths also displayed the work and achievements of each organization.

Community enterprise groups that displayed their products at the exhibition fair were:

- Baan Maab Lao Cha-oun Community Forest
- Biodiversity-Based Economy Development Office (BEDO)
- Community enterprise group of organic coffee and forest conservation Baan Khun Lao
- Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Program (NTFP-EP)



## Many Lessons Learned

Transformation of the CF to e...  
oriented CF is nec... sustain it e...  
and contribute to... developm...  
case anal... nted cor...  
st manag... CFUGs in...  
ts) illustr... manage &...  
e the fo... come and...  
ent, se... omen and othe...  
roups... ater social inst...



# Seeing community forestry differently

Acknowledging progress in community forestry but recognizing that advancing it requires considering new dimensions and a different emphasis for change formed the basis of discussion for thinking about the future. Challenging existing perspectives and unpacking opportunities to make community forestry work better – through cross-sectoral integration and cooperation on climate change, and a more focused commercial enterprise-driven community forestry – was a key highlight of the Third Regional Forum from three key speakers.



Dr Don Gilmour, RECOFTC Honorary Fellow, shared a challenging perspective on the relationship between forests and water, and its relevance to community forestry policy and practice. "To some extent there is a disconnect between the popular narrative about forest water relationships and what the science tells us. The popular narrative has often been a very powerful determinant of forest policy and a myth for a charter of action. We need to consider location-specific factors when talking about water and forest and our management objectives as decisions we make will be different based on what aspect of the water cycle we are concerned with."

Dr Bhishma Subedi, Executive Director of Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB), highlighted the potential value of community forestry to deliver more economic benefits through enterprise development and improved productive forest management

and utilization. "There is scope for sustainable management and use in some places where community forests are overgrown and overstocked. The transformation of traditional community forestry to enterprise-driven community forestry is required to sustain it effectively."

The ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Framework on Climate Change (AFCC) was shared by Mr Sugeng Marsudiarto, Deputy Director, Directorate of Social Forestry Development, Ministry of Social Forestry of Indonesia, "Southeast Asia, due to population concentration, coast line length and dependency levels on agriculture and forestry, is the third most vulnerable region in the world to climate change. Climate change is a cross-sectoral issue and collaboration will be essential." He also discussed that ASEAN has been in the process of implementing the ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Framework on Climate Change: Agriculture and Forestry towards Food Security (AFCC).



For more information, see:

[www.recoftc.org/site/resources/Seeing-community-forestry-differently.php](http://www.recoftc.org/site/resources/Seeing-community-forestry-differently.php)



## Joint country action plans to strengthen community forestry

The Third Regional Forum culminated with participants taking part in country groups to discuss the main elements of joint (multi-stakeholder) country action plans that describe what is needed to strengthen community forestry; who needs to be included; priority actions by various stakeholders; and what are the expected outcomes. To develop the action plans, country groups discussed a series of questions that were captured on country-specific 'Community Forestry Change Canvases' and country-specific 'Learning Walls'.

At the end of the Forum, participants, organized in country groups, presented their joint country action plans to strengthen community forestry. The recommendations will serve as a basis for discussion in succeeding national forums to take place in early 2014 in six countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam.









# CAMBODIA

Progress has been made in the last two decades in community forestry in Cambodia in the form of a clear policy and legal framework and strengthening of local institutions. The Government of Cambodia has committed to establishing two million hectares of community-managed forest by 2029 and to date in 2013, 457 community forests are demarcated covering an area of 400,000 hectares. Accelerating the process of community forestry management planning is pivotal for the long-term success of community forestry in Cambodia. To date only one community forest management plan is approved and only 20 more await approval. Prioritizing the guidelines and implementation of community forestry management planning for approved community forests will enable key changes in relation to improving resource productivity and enterprise development as it is an approved management plan that allows active management and sustainable utilization.





Key commitments<sup>2</sup> made for the next three years:

- Review and finalize the Community Forestry Guidelines and Management Planning Manual for Cambodia
- Establish and ensure effective community forestry registration at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (MAFF)
- Continue to pilot and demonstrate successful community forestry management

<sup>2</sup> Key commitments have been called from information by country groups during the Forum that were captured on the 'learning wall', 'change canvas' and/or (in some cases) the country community forestry flag.

## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the Cambodia country group captured their group discussion on this 'Learning Wall'.

<p><b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fisheries: Flooded mangroves: cFi flooded land 700,000 ha mangroves=40% of areas of flooded forest for cFi &gt; 200 cFi (registered/ at MAFF) (500 cFi) plan to register 100/yr (cFi) - Most plans of cFi prepared and approved</li> <li>- 120 cPAs 164480 ha- 10 plans (5 approved) (cPA)</li> <li>- commitment by government by 2029- 2 MHa of CF - 457 established CF = 0.4 MHa- 345 approved by MAFF- 1 CF management plan approved, 20 CFMP draft</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What are the regulatory barriers to implementation of CF and how can we overcome them?</li> <li>- How to support (technically and financially) and sustain implementation of CF, cFi, cPA management plans?</li> <li>- How to improve and strengthen NCFPCP, cPA network+ cFi network, provincial, community forestry program coordination committee network?</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local authorities to implement national policy</li> <li>- Local community to feel empowered to implement what they are legally granted</li> <li>- How do we get media to engage and cover more CF community stories?</li> <li>- How can we get the private sector to engage with local communities during the development process?</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forests and water- need additional investigation on location specifics</li> <li>- CF enterprise: Traditional model is dominant in Cambodia but the new model is limited in experience for Cambodia. Revisit and review CF/ cPA guidelines to promote the new model, especially to engage private sector.</li> <li>- climate change: Inclusion of cPA (MOE) + cFi (MAFF) in ASFN- call for consideration. How to link national climate change policy/action plan to the existing NFP?</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Next three years</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empower local community</li> <li>- Improve resources</li> <li>- Enterprise development</li> <li>- Dialogue</li> </ul>



## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the Cambodia country group captured their group discussion on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.

<b>Who will help you?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development partners</li> <li>- FA-FDA/MAFF</li> <li>- GDANCP/MOE</li> <li>- NGOs</li> </ul>	<b>What will you do?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Piloting and demonstration</li> <li>- Reviewing and finalize cFNP manual</li> <li>- Reviewing and finalize CPA guideline</li> <li>- cFi registration at MAFF</li> <li>- Training and multi-stakeholder discussion</li> </ul>	<b>How will you help make the change differently?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Documenting and sharing to make the change</li> </ul>	<b>How will you interact?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Networking</li> <li>- Workshop</li> <li>- Meeting</li> <li>- Face-to-face talk</li> </ul>	<b>Who will you help?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF CPA cFi networks</li> <li>- FA, GDANCP, FTA</li> <li>- Local authorities</li> <li>- Local NGOs</li> <li>- TWG</li> <li>- NCFPcc</li> </ul>
<b>What will you give?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Time commitment</li> <li>- Technical expertise</li> <li>- Documents</li> </ul>		<b>How will they know you and how will you deliver?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Networking</li> <li>- Use of existing websites</li> <li>- Social media</li> <li>- Multi-stakeholder discussion</li> </ul>		
		<b>What will you get?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- credibility for more advocacy</li> <li>- New lessons and experiences for better CF, CPA, CF development</li> <li>- Better policies support</li> <li>- CFMP guideline</li> <li>- CPAMP guideline</li> <li>- CPA guideline</li> <li>- cFi Regulation</li> <li>- commitment in terms of staff time, expertise and funds</li> <li>- CF network functioning contributes to SFM</li> <li>- Number of cFNP approved and implemented</li> </ul>		





# CHINA

Mainstreaming community forestry into National Development planning is a key strategy for advancing the agenda in China. Strengthening networks within China and with other countries in the region are essential for building collaboration and learning as well as pivotal changes in commercializing community forestry goods and services, which will be necessary for community forestry to be accepted as a key strategy. More effective stakeholder engagement is required for community forestry and demonstrating the value of specific community forestry models in collective forest management will be critical. This can be done by documenting and communicating best practice around key models.

Key commitments made for the next three years:

- Document best practices from existing models and communicate findings to key policy makers
- Provide trainings on conflict management and sustainable natural resource management at the local level
- Engage media for public awareness-raising on valuable models of community forestry and factors that enhance success



## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the China country group captured their group discussion on this 'Learning Wall'.

<b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National programs use CF approach</li> <li>- Local communities have benefitted from National Forestry Program</li> <li>- community collectives are developing</li> </ul>
<b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to mainstream CF into national policies/plans?</li> <li>- How to promote commercialization of CF goods and services?</li> <li>- How to strengthen networking in china and in the region?</li> </ul>
<b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- central government policy reform               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Market oriented</li> <li>• valuing natural resources</li> <li>• Ero compensation / PES</li> <li>• Social equality</li> <li>• clarify tenure rights</li> </ul> </li> <li>- SFA               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainstreaming/Inclusion of CF into plans</li> <li>• Supportive policies for CF</li> <li>• capacity building</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Local communities:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-organize/reconstruction</li> <li>• community institution development</li> <li>• Networking</li> <li>• capacity building</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- close connection between forest and water</li> <li>- Policy making should be based on scientific and research results</li> <li>- New models need government support               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• capacity building on governance</li> <li>• Services</li> <li>• Marketing</li> </ul> </li> <li>- climate change               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific objectives</li> <li>• Specific responsibilities (all stakeholders)</li> <li>• closely link with CF</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>5. Next three years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- useful CF models accepted</li> <li>- All stakeholders get involved in CF</li> <li>- Environment improved</li> <li>- collective forest improved</li> <li>- Living condition improved</li> </ul>

## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the China country group captured their group discussion on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.

<b>Who will help you?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- RECOFTC</li> <li>- NGOs</li> <li>- community</li> <li>- Government</li> <li>- Stakeholders</li> <li>- CIFOR</li> </ul>	<b>What will you do?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training (ToT, M&amp;E, conflict management)</li> <li>- Public awareness</li> <li>- Best practice</li> <li>- Pilot demonstration</li> </ul>	<b>How will you interact?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshop</li> <li>- M&amp;E</li> <li>- Study tours</li> <li>- Dialogues</li> <li>- Interviews</li> </ul>	<b>Who will you help?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Government</li> <li>- communities</li> <li>- Local people (farmers)</li> <li>- Practitioners</li> </ul>
<b>What will you give?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy recommendations</li> <li>- Technical support</li> <li>- Extension</li> <li>- Deliverables</li> </ul>		<b>How will they know you and how will you deliver?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Personal connection</li> <li>- CF activities</li> <li>- Public media</li> </ul>	
		<b>What will you get?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information shared</li> <li>- Best practices/CF models</li> </ul>	





# INDONESIA

Various forms of community forestry have been identified and accepted in Indonesia and community forestry has already been included in the National Development Plan (medium-term). Targets to expand the area under community forestry are slowly being achieved and the focus still needs to be shifted away from subsistence use of forest products to commercialization and real economic benefits from forests for the community managers. Of the 2.5 million hectares that the government has targeted, to date 360,000 hectares of community forest has been established. Recently, Indigenous Peoples' rights over forest in Indonesia has been recognized but as yet there are no clear implementation regulations. A less fragmented approach to expanding community forestry areas at a landscape level is to be prioritized with improved coordination between the central and local government. Ensuring that community forestry expansion is mainstreamed into spatial planning at the local level is a key change to be promoted in the next three years.





Key commitments made for the next three years:

- Two million hectares of indigenous forests are recognized by the government
- Total forest areas managed by communities reach five million hectares
- Five of the top community forests' products are commercialized
- Thirty percent of Forest User Groups/Cooperatives are advanced

The above commitments will be achieved through some strategies:

- Include CF expansion programs into the medium-term development plan and local government spatial planning
- Improve budgeting and planning for community forestry development
- Review and improvement of regulation for licensing community forest areas
- Focused engagement with the private sector for community forestry enterprise development

## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the Indonesia country group captured their group discussion on this 'Learning Wall'.

<b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy issues               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CF is included in National Medium Term Development Plans</li> <li>• Various Schemes of CF</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Institutional issues               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The challenge is lack of coordination between central and local government</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Technical issues               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest quality improved to some degree</li> <li>• CF still focusing on subsistence needs of people but efforts made for commercialization</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Still far from target:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HKM &amp; village forest: 360,000 ha vs. 2.5 million ha (2014)</li> <li>• HTR: 670,000 ha</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Indigenous forest recognized by law but no implementation regulations</li> <li>- Partnership development issuance of Minister Regulation (P 39/2013)</li> <li>- Partnership Scheme: 500,000 ha</li> <li>- JFM Perhutani:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,1 M ha (Java)</li> <li>• 5,400 FUG/villages</li> <li>• 1,300 coops</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is bureaucratic reform possible (removal of regulation barriers)?</li> <li>- How can CF be mainstreamed?</li> <li>- How can we accelerate and increase benefits of CF?</li> </ul>
<b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnership among stakeholders should be promoted</li> <li>- Accelerating bureaucratic reform</li> <li>- Increase the role of private sector</li> </ul>
<b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- cross-sectoral and central-local coordination/collaboration → MDGs goal</li> <li>- Landscape approach (not only forest)</li> <li>- commercialization of multiple products (goods and services)</li> <li>- Gender-mainstreaming in CF</li> <li>- More areas for CF (larger scale)</li> <li>- Increase cooperation between district &amp; or 4 regional office of CFET</li> <li>- Development of CF enterprises</li> </ul>
<b>5. Next three years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hutan Rakyat (community forest) = 7.1 mil ha</li> <li>- 2 mil hectares of indigenous forest recognized by the government</li> <li>- 30% of FUG/coop (CF institution) advanced; 30% of them would be learning site</li> <li>- commercialization of CF products (5 Top products)</li> <li>- CF expansion program included at local government spatial plan and medium-term development plan</li> </ul>

## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the Indonesia country group captured their group discussion on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.



Who will help you?	What will you do?	How will you help make the change differently?	How will you interact?	Who will you help?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Parliament</li><li>- Political party</li><li>- Governments</li><li>- Bupati</li><li>- community leaders</li><li>- Journalists</li><li>- Donors</li><li>- NGOs</li><li>- Universities</li><li>- Research agencies</li><li>- Local government associations - APKASI, ADEKSI, provincial government associations</li><li>- International research institutes: CIFOR, ICRAF, etc.</li><li>- RECOFTC - regional &amp; country programs</li><li>- Related ministries, agencies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Writing CF papers</li><li>- Research on best practice of CF &amp; business model of CF enterprise</li><li>- Facilitate collaboration among stakeholders on CF</li><li>- Writing success stories of CF in media</li><li>- Mobilizing funds for CF</li><li>- Facilitating partnership development between CF farmer groups and private sector organizations</li><li>- Encourage working group on CF to be more participating in CF development activities</li><li>- Training on TLAS, climate change, extension, SFM, nursery, etc.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Promoting multi-stakeholder dialogue</li><li>- Promoting partnership among stakeholders</li><li>- Review and improvement of regulation on licensing CF</li><li>- Engage private sector for CF enterprise development</li><li>- Proper planning and budgeting for CF development</li></ul>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Establishing and strengthening CF working group at provincial/district level</li><li>- Integrating CF into poverty reduction program and national/local level</li><li>- Widening collaboration at national through intersectoral working group on CF</li></ul></div> <div><b>How will they know you and how will you deliver?</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Development of documentation on SF development activities</li><li>- Media (electronic and print media, social media)</li><li>- Workshops, meetings</li></ul></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Who will you help?</li><li>- Indigenous people(IP)</li><li>- Adat groups</li><li>- Local government</li><li>- Forest-dependent community</li><li>- Landless farmers</li><li>- Disadvantaged groups, communities</li><li>- Youth &amp; children</li><li>- women-headed households</li></ul>
<b>Who are you and what do you have?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Training center (CFET) - Training course module, curricula, trainers, facilitating</li><li>- Multi-stakeholder forum - networking, share learning, capacity building</li><li>- Scientists - produce CF science, implement CF science to action, bring science to policy</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- kemitraan - Network with govt, CSOs, technical assistance, grant support for CSO &amp; govt</li><li>- Development program - implementing unit at provincial/district levels</li><li>- capacity development/training institutions</li><li>- Media - Networking</li><li>- Forest state cooperation - SF development program; implementing SF at district level</li></ul>	
<b>What will you give?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Training courses on CF at CFET annually</li><li>- Promoting success story on CF</li><li>- Technical asst (study, policy, recommendation, training)</li><li>- Research/knowledge products</li><li>- CF development programs</li><li>- Establishment of CF (institutions, CF groups, CF cooperative, etc)</li><li>- Facilitating CF multi-stakeholder forum</li><li>- Soft loan for CF farmers groups</li><li>- Grants for national/local CSOs, co-fund with government agencies</li></ul>			<b>What will you get?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Recognition - credible training center</li><li>- Promotion, reputation</li><li>- Publications</li><li>- Recognized as key organization working on CF</li></ul>	



# LAO PDR

The policy and institutional framework for community forestry in Lao PDR is in place and there is a Village Forestry Division at the central and local levels. Pilot projects have started to develop tools and guidelines for implementation of Village Forestry and land allocation. Grassroots awareness of opportunities through Village Forestry still need to be strengthened.





In order to accelerate implementation of community forestry and develop experience on best practices further, the following commitments were made for the next three years:

- Support and strengthen community forestry sub-working groups to distill relevant best practice and provide policy advice to key stakeholders
- Expand the number and distribution of skilled community forestry trainers through a training of trainers approach focusing on the Village Forest Model
- Develop a pilot tree plantation model based on forest certification and document lessons and best practice for dissemination to other stakeholders

## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the Lao PDR country group captured their group discussion on this 'Learning Wall'.

<p><b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Legal framework</li> <li>2. Institutional framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village forestry division at central and local levels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- watershed management (Bokeo, Xiengkhuang, Balikhamsai Province) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>under Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SuFORD</li> <li>• TABI</li> <li>• Helvetas</li> <li>• GIZ</li> <li>• PAREDD</li> <li>• WHH</li> <li>• ForInfo</li> <li>• EEP</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Protection Forest (cF)</li> <li>• Production forest + Benefit sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SuFORD</li> </ul> </li> <li>• conservation forest (cF)</li> <li>• Ecotourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NAM KAN (Bokeo)</li> <li>- NAM HA (Namtha)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Tools guideline project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land allocation revising</li> <li>• Developing village forestry guideline</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How to promote local leader on cF to understanding</li> <li>2. How to mainstream strategic plan from central → Local (P+D+cF)</li> </ol>
<p><b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. community take more ownership in cF</li> <li>2. DOF take more of a leading role to involve all stakeholder work together</li> <li>3. SWG (cF) have to raise the voice of CSO, People to improve policy and implement</li> </ol>
<p><b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organizing workshop by DOF on forests and water, Marketing</li> <li>2. Integrate into country strategic action plan (Forest water, Forest market)</li> <li>3. Awareness of grassroots and local levels</li> </ol>
<p><b>5. Next three years</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pilot tree plantation certification in Bokeo and Luang Namtha</li> <li>2. TOT on Village Forestry</li> </ol>



## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the Lao PDR country group captured their group discussion on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.

<b>Who will help you?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- MONRE</li><li>- MAF</li><li>- Line Ministry</li><li>- NGOs</li><li>- Mass Organization</li><li>- Local Authorities</li><li>- Mass Media</li><li>- Donors</li><li>- Projects</li><li>- JICA</li><li>- RECOFTC</li><li>- CSOs</li><li>- Private Sectors</li><li>- AFoco</li><li>- ASFN</li><li>- CIFOR</li><li>- SWGs</li></ul>	<b>What will you do?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Setup Natural CF Sub working group</li><li>- TOT on CF</li><li>- Pilot tree plantation certification</li></ul>	<b>How will you help make the change differently?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- SWG in place and in action</li><li>- Skilled trainers</li><li>- Benefit from certificate</li><li>- Law enforcement with the community</li></ul>	<b>How will you interact?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Through SWG</li></ul>	<b>Who will you help?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Local staff</li><li>- Individual</li><li>- NGO</li><li>- CSO</li></ul>
<b>Who are you and what do you have?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Government centre-Local</li><li>- CSO</li><li>- INGO (RECOFTC)</li></ul>			<b>How will they know you and how will you deliver?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Through communication and media</li></ul>	
<b>What will you give?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Instruction</li><li>- Information</li><li>- Funding</li><li>- Technical advice</li></ul>		<b>What will you get?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- CF/VF model → SFM</li><li>- Enhance livelihood and market</li></ul>		



A target of 2.27 million acres has been set by the Government of Myanmar for community forestry establishment although as yet there is no clear government budget for activities to support this. To date there is now 110,000 acres of community forestry and 740 Forest User Groups and there is a need for a strategy to expand the scale of implementation further. Some established community forests have overlapping claims with economic concessions and have been disputed. The tenure basis for community forestry needs to be strengthened further through changes to the legal framework as the current 30 year tenure right is not yet solidly supported by the law.





Considering how the area under community forestry can be expanded with a strong legal framework to support clear tenure, the Myanmar team made the following commitments for the next three years:

- Evidence-based research for policy and legal framework advocacy
- Strengthen and coordinate the Community Forestry National Working Group-CFNWG
- Establish community forestry demonstration sites through capacity building and resource mobilization
- To improve livelihoods of local communities through community forestry activities

## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the Myanmar country group captured their group discussion on this 'Learning Wall'.

<b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF target: 2.27 million acres</li> <li>- Budget is not allocated by Forest Department</li> <li>- No specific CF unit in Forests Department</li> <li>- About 11,000 acres have been established for 18 years out of 2.27 million acres</li> <li>- A total of 740 FUGs were formed in the past 18 years</li> <li>- 30 years land tenure right provided by the community Forestry Instruction, which is only Departmental Instruction, not a law. Due to land grabbing, some CFs were abolished</li> </ul>
<b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to build up the capacity of stakeholders and mobilization of resources?</li> <li>- How to create security of land tenure and legitimacy of CF?</li> <li>- What measures to be considered to scale up the rate of CF implementation?</li> </ul>
<b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- create effective policy/law environment supportive of CF and contribute sufficient support to community (government and parliament)</li> <li>- create alternative livelihoods support program and encourage communities' active participation (government, NGOs and private sector)</li> <li>- change all stakeholder mindset to achieve successful CF (NGOs, academia and media)</li> </ul>
<b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduce soil erosion</li> <li>- Maintain underground water storage</li> <li>- Adaption and mitigation to climate change through CF linking with REDD+</li> <li>- creating small and medium enterprise (SME) and market-led approach in CF</li> </ul>
<b>5. Next three years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF law and policies issues (a set of recommendations)</li> <li>- Expansion of CF areas               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20,000 acres per year</li> <li>• 60,000 acres for 3 years</li> </ul> </li> <li>- capacity building               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National level: 500/year</li> <li>• Sub-national level: 500/year</li> <li>• community level: 2000/year</li> <li>9000 people for 3 years</li> </ul> </li> <li>- CF unit formed</li> <li>- Fund-raising and mobilization USD 600,000 for 3 years</li> </ul>



## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the Myanmar country group captured their group discussion on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.

<b>Who will help you?</b>  International organizations: - JICA - RECOFTC - ASFN - Norad - FAO - UNDP - DFID - Sida - ICMOD - Government agencies - Private sector - NGOs - Media	<b>What will you do?</b>  - Proposal development - Networking - cooperation	<b>How will you help make the change differently?</b>  - Policy, advocacy workshop - capacity building - coordination by CF National working group - Research, survey interview - Reference materials - Establishment of demonstration plot	<b>How will you interact?</b>  - Extension - Discussion - consultation - campaign IBC materials - Awareness raising: multimedia, social media - Person to person, Group visit	<b>Who will you help?</b>  All stakeholders: - Parliamentarians - Government (national and regional) - Private sector - CSOs (NGOs) - Academia and researchers - communities - Media
	<b>Who are you and what do you have?</b>  A team of CF development - Myanmar - Keen interest on CF - High commitment - Knowledge - Experience		<b>How will they know you and how will you deliver?</b>  - Invitation to workshop - Networking - corresponding - Radio and TV - Broadcasting - Pamphlets Sharing - Exhibition	
<b>What will you give?</b>  - Resources - Funding - Knowledge and experience sharing	<b>What will you get?</b>  - A set of recommendation on CF policy and law - Healthy environment, wealth of community - capacity building for 9000 people for the next 3 years - 60,000 forests will have been established by the end of the next 3 years - CF unit formed - USD 600,000 will have been secured			



# NEPAL

Community forestry is well established in Nepal with currently 1.70 million hectares under management and control of 18,133 forest user groups. The value of income generated currently from community forestry is estimated at 50 million USD per year. Although protection of forests by communities has been very successful in the past, forest management could be made more productive to provide incentives for local people to continue to manage forests sustainably in the future and maintain interest of both the government and the forest user groups.

The future demands more effective engagement with and investment by the private sector in community forestry enterprises and technical support to forest user groups for review of their operational management plans. Strengthening internal governance of forest user groups continues to be a priority change process for Nepal.

The Community Forestry Change Can

NEPAL



Key commitments the Nepal team identified in the Forum are:

- Facilitate a transparent consultative policy review to enable a shift toward enterprise-related community forestry
- Scale up and document successes of enterprise-orientated community forestry at the landscape level
- Linking community entrepreneurs and private sector to a relevant market information system
- Strengthen the CFUG leadership in forest governance through capacity development activities for women and marginalized groups



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AJAYA, BHAWANA, BHISHMA, BISHNU, CHANDRI  
KRISHNA, RAJU, SHYAM, SUMAN

## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the Nepal country group captured their group discussions on this 'Learning Wall'.

<b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total no of CFUGs = 18,133</li> <li>- Households involved in CFUGs = 2.2 millions</li> <li>- Total area of CF = 1.75 million hectares</li> <li>- Approximately US\$ 50 Million/year of cash income</li> <li>- New CF leaders (particularly women) are less aware of their roles/ rights/responsibilities</li> </ul>
<b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to make forest management activities more productive oriented?</li> <li>- What are the incentives to local people (CFUGs) for continuation in the future?</li> </ul>
<b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- create enabling environment for private sector involvement and investment (government's role)</li> <li>- Promote internal governance in CFUGs (FECOFUN's role)</li> <li>- Government should take initiative to prepare local resource person in VDC for the renewal of OP</li> </ul>
<b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forest  water             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cannot be generalized</li> <li>• Depends on vegetation type</li> <li>• Long-term short-term retain of vegetation and terrain</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Maintaining natural vegetation is important in special case of hills and mountains (well mix of vegetations)</li> <li>- Potential forest scaling up (enterprise-oriented community based forestry)</li> <li>- Think on global changes and partnership on policies and plans</li> <li>- cons             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People may start cutting trees for water</li> <li>• Need to go back to community for more reflection in regards to popular narratives</li> <li>• Enabling forest based entrepreneurship investment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>5. Next three years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scale up</li> <li>- Policy review             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of curriculum and training leaders (piloting) and replication</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Landscape approach</li> <li>- Income</li> <li>- Market information system</li> </ul>



## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the Nepal country group captured their group discussion on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.

<b>Who will help you?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Government             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Forests and Soil conservation MFSC</li> <li>• Dept. of Forests (DoF - community Forestry Division)</li> <li>• Ministry of commerce and Industry</li> </ul> </li> <li>- FEN FIT</li> <li>- Forest Action</li> <li>- ANSAB</li> <li>- FECOFUN</li> <li>- UNDP/ MSFP/ Hariyoban Program</li> <li>- COFSUN</li> <li>- HIMAWANTI</li> </ul>	<b>What will you do?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Document Success stories and lessons</li> <li>- Dissemination</li> </ul>	<b>How will you help make the change differently?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Package Success stories for different target audiences</li> <li>- Mainstreaming government regular programme</li> <li>- Policy review</li> <li>- Engage media for dissemination</li> </ul>	<b>How will you interact?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- communicate properly to target groups</li> <li>- Publications</li> <li>- Use of multi-stakeholder forum</li> </ul>	<b>Who will you help?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CFUG members</li> <li>- NEHHPA/JABAN</li> <li>- FECOFUN</li> <li>- Forest based entrepreneur</li> <li>- Gov. of Nepal             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o MoFSC</li> <li>o DoF</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>What will you give?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expertise</li> <li>- Time</li> <li>- Budget</li> <li>- Information</li> </ul>		<b>What will you get?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New learning</li> <li>- Satisfaction from improvement of social and environment condition</li> <li>- Expanded network</li> <li>- Goodwill /satisfaction</li> </ul>		



# THAILAND

Currently Thailand has an estimated area of 1.2 million hectares of community forest. As the legal framework still does not yet provide an opportunity for recognition of community managed areas, a large proportion of this area is still not based on an agreement with the government. The Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) mechanism has recently provided an alternative window to mobilize support for community forestry and the number of areas recognized by government are increasing.

The Thailand team prioritized a number of changes that are needed to advance community forestry including a participatory review of the policy and legal framework, a shift toward more enterprise orientated community forestry that will require increased engagement with the private sector and enterprise-related support to communities from the Royal Forest Department.



THAILAND



Key commitments made for the next three years:

- Mapping of existing community forestry and local assets
- Expand the community forest product base including strengthening capacity of value chain actors and product identity
- Develop stronger partnerships for promoting expansion of community forestry and related enterprise development including effective engagement of the private sector

## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the Thailand country group captured their group discussion on this 'Learning Wall'.

<p><b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b></p>	<p>1.1 Increase in numbers of CF and CF areas annually; officially recognized by RFD (aims to add 700 CF nation-wide)</p> <p>1.2 currently (2013) there is approximately 1.2 million ha of CF area officially and not officially recognized, managed by 9,192 CF communities (both inside and outside the protected area)</p> <p>1.3 Thailand has no specific law supporting CF rights but RFD has a mechanism that indirectly mobilizes CF.</p> <p>Other notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- About 8,300 CFs are recognized by the government, while another 1,000 are not accepted</li> <li>- STK (Sor-Tor-Kor) certifications are being granted to households in natural reserved forest areas - Provide new opportunity to work with community toward CF</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b></p>	<p>2.1 How can CF in conserved area become recognized officially?</p> <p>2.2 How could we formulate CF law?</p> <p>2.3 Increase understanding and strengthen network partnerships amongst stakeholders (i.e. especially private sector) for better livelihoods of CF</p> <p>2.4 How can communities participate in identifying policies and create changes? (community engagement)</p> <p>2.5 How can we develop products based on available CF product base? (Research and development)</p>
<p><b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b></p>	<p>3.1 RFD moves from conventional support to giving support in more updated issues such as product development, marketing/entrepreneurship, etc.</p> <p>3.2 Academics: researchers should invest in further development of products based on available CF products and also look at the whole cycle, not just the products.</p> <p>3.3 Private sector: i) create partnerships, ii) identify viable economic model, iii) create win-win economic partnership</p> <p>3.4 community: i) become a learning center that promotes knowledge exchanges - "Living learning room"</p> <p>3.5 Would like to see RFD play more active role in facilitating and coordinating as well as supporting CF implementation and management</p>
<p><b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF is - mechanism to decrease gap of policy + implementation + conceptual</li> <li>- Law vs. actual situation: Declaration of conserved area, prohibition of CF in conserved areas.</li> <li>- conflict between the school of thoughts about CF in protected area</li> <li>- CF is not only providing ecological functions but it is also an economic base for community for better livelihood and food security</li> <li>- Individual initiative is an important factor in CF management</li> <li>- Appropriate CF law and regulations are in place to support CF management and</li> </ul>



	their tenure rights (CF law/related laws and regulations in supporting CF) - Significant increase of CF area and expansion of CF practices in Thailand
<b>5. Next three years</b>	- Forest landscape approach is used in policy and implementation of CF management - Increase of the good practices and demonstration sites with influence in policy change - Effective partnerships among stakeholders in strengthening CF management based on tenure rights - Increase communication with public, using media to spread news or knowledge on community forest.

## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the Thailand country group captured their group discussions on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.

<b>Who will help you?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bangchak (company)</li> <li>- RFD (Government)</li> <li>- SMES</li> <li>- Donor foundations</li> <li>- community development agency</li> <li>- cooperative local funds</li> <li>- Academics and universities</li> <li>- Youth</li> <li>- International organization such as ITTO, RECOFTC, USAID</li> </ul>	<b>What will you do?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CF mapping (including capacities and resources of CF)</li> <li>- CSO/communities should partner to develop the quality of life and agricultural practices.</li> <li>- create product identity, for product standardization.</li> <li>- conduct research on item such as 'GAS', local knowledge, local resources based on each CF.</li> </ul>	<b>How will you help make the change differently?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhance community's economic basis to improve their quality of life</li> <li>- Partner with other stakeholders and strengthen existing ties</li> <li>- Provide more tangible and practical information centers</li> <li>- Increasing of good practices/documentation sites for learning sharing and influencing policy</li> <li>- campaign/promote local CF products to the general public</li> <li>- Strengthen stakeholders in a product's life cycle and standardize the quality of local products.</li> <li>- Develop community based biodiversity and local knowledge database</li> <li>- Decentralization of authority to CSOs</li> </ul>	<b>How will you interact?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Facebook</li> <li>- Meeting</li> <li>- Exchange of information</li> </ul>	<b>Who will you help?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Government               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ministry of Interior and its regional office</li> <li>2. Royal Forestry Dept.</li> <li>3. cooperative Dept.</li> </ol> </li> <li>- Quality of life development project</li> <li>- Earth Net Foc</li> <li>- LAOS</li> <li>- Schools/Academic</li> <li>- Temples</li> </ul>
<b>Who are you and what do you have?</b> <p>Information, knowledge, business ..., skill &amp; resources, media (channel to spread info)</p>			<b>How will they know you and how will you deliver?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PR, Media</li> <li>- Networking</li> <li>- Story of change</li> <li>- Build story of change</li> </ul>	
<b>What will you give?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Knowledge &amp; Skills</li> <li>- Training</li> <li>- Network connection</li> <li>- Funds</li> <li>- Human resources</li> <li>- Facilities</li> <li>- Dialogue &amp; facilitation</li> <li>- Training</li> </ul>			<b>What will you get?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Networking</li> <li>- Knowledge and experience</li> <li>- Income</li> <li>- Market access</li> <li>- Recognition</li> <li>- Sustainable forests</li> </ul>	



# VIET NAM

To date in 2013 over 20% of forest land in Viet Nam has been allocated to local communities for community forest areas, however, the size of the areas are small in area ranging from 1-1.5 hectares per household. They are also restricted to areas of lower quality production forest. Although community forestry is recognized within the Forest Law the legal status of communities in relation to actual management of the forest is still unclear and the planning and procedures that provide space for actual forest management and use are complex. The Third Regional Forum team from Viet Nam would like to see changes to increase extent of government service provision to communities engaged in forest management and increases in income through value chain development of community forest products.





#### Key commitments made for the next three years:

- Facilitate and accelerate the revision of the forest law to enhance security of rights for local communities
- Integrate community forestry into the land allocation and Participatory Land Use Planning processes
- Promote institutional reform and capacity building for establishment of a specific department within the Viet Nam Forest Administration with specific responsibility for community forestry
- Maintain and expand demonstration sites and document best practice from community forest sites

## Country Learning Wall

Forum participants taking part in the Viet Nam country group captured their group discussions on this 'Learning Wall'.

<p><b>1. Three facts to describe the current status of community forestry</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Only 20% of forest land area have been allotted with LC to HH, communities, and commune; often they are: 1) small 1-1.5 ha/hh, 2) part of production forests, and 3) in poor condition – soil and forests</li> <li>-CF is recognized in forest law but legal status is not recognized; and the CF definition is unclear (is it purely community-managed, collectively managed, or simply allocated to communities without management responsibilities?)</li> <li>-There are various complicated procedures in the implementation of CF (development of norms for benefit sharing, stakeholder responsibilities, etc.); economic benefits still dominate the CF development agenda</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. What are your questions to move community forestry forward?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-What are the appropriate benefit-sharing systems to promote CF?</li> <li>-can CF be extended to protection and special use forests?</li> <li>-Do we need to set up a government body responsible for CF?</li> <li>-What mechanism needs to be in place to get non-state actors involved in the development of CF?</li> <li>-How to balance benefits from CF, i.e., economic, social, and environmental?</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. What changes do you want to see in stakeholder roles?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Government to provide more services</li> <li>-More participation in decision-making process on CF-related issues</li> <li>-More focus on social inclusion and environmental safeguards</li> <li>-Strengthening internal monitoring of Meso organizations in CF</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. What are the implications of the presentations to you?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-To broaden discussions about forest and water relationships to help the farmers with grasslands to obtain PES (payment for environmental services)</li> <li>-To build up local capacity to adapt to climate change</li> <li>-To advocate forest policies that are open to forest commercialization by communities</li> <li>-To maximize forest benefits, planners must determine the most important forest functions based on management objectives and ecological characteristics, e.g., water yield, flood control, dry control, soil erosion prevention</li> <li>-To promote CF cooperatives as a solution to tenure and collective rights issues</li> <li>-To initiate conducting a water-forest study in Viet Nam</li> <li>-To integrate CF forum with other national and international agendas, e.g., climate change, green growth, efficient water management</li> <li>-To improve coordination with other related sectors, e.g., energy and transport in responding to climate change adaptation and mitigation, i.e., ASEAN MULTI-SECTORAL FRAMEWORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE (AFCC)</li> <li>-To promote transboundary landscape collaboration and management</li> <li>-To consider forest-water relationship in formulating forest development policies</li> <li>-To initiate the piloting of enterprise-based payment for environmental services in CF</li> <li>-To properly account and integrate the values of water yield and soil erosion into PES or REDD+</li> <li>-To promote CF development cooperation in the region</li> </ul>

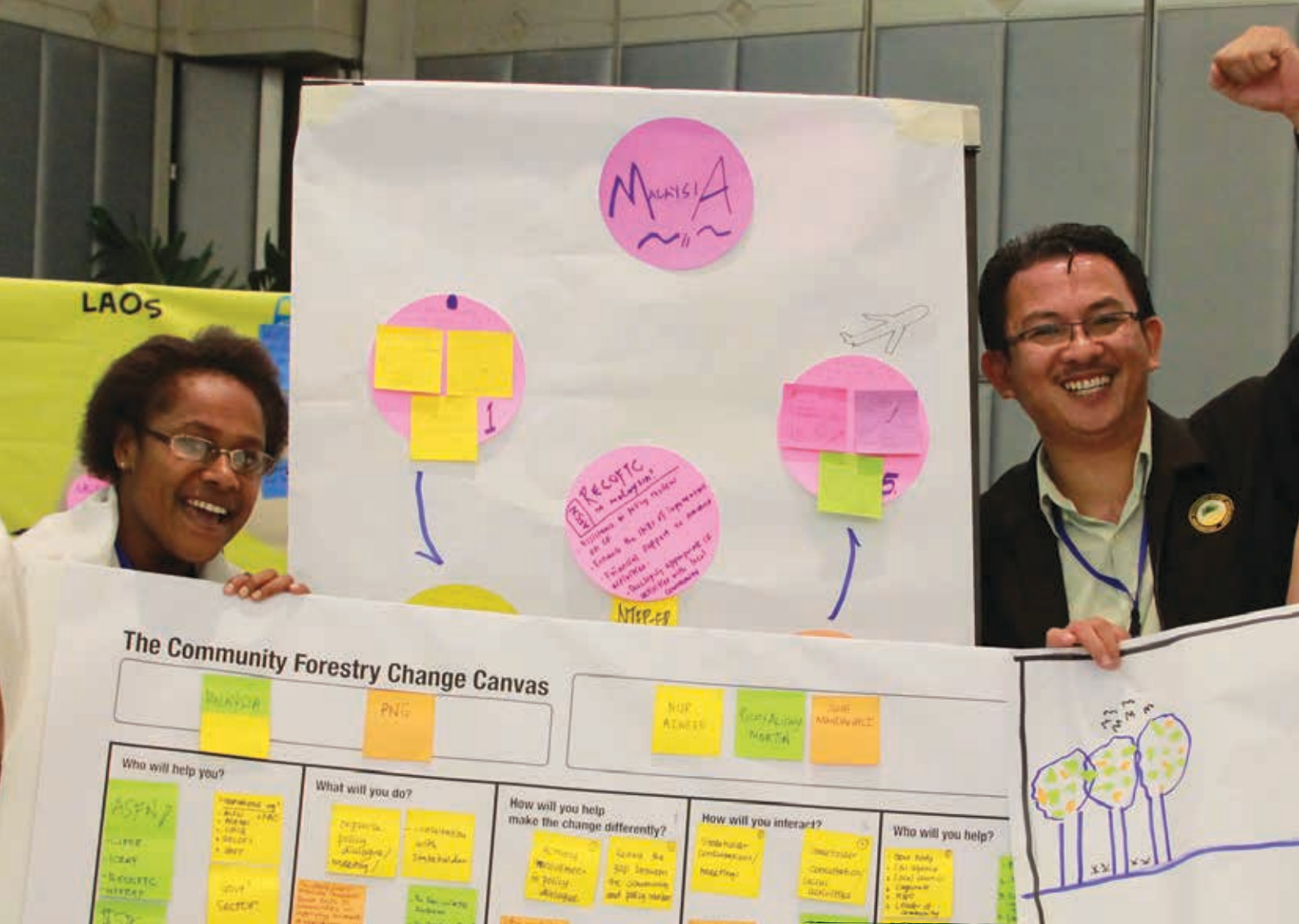


<b>5. Next three years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-To put/collect all CF knowledge together for better planning and decision-making</li> <li>-To involve the next generation, e.g., children in various aspects of CF management</li> <li>-To use the consolidated CF knowledge in improving community livelihoods, and developing other forms of income/benefits from CF without sacrificing the overall state of the forests</li> <li>-To have abundant forest especially in watershed areas after three years</li> </ul>
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## Community Forestry Change Canvas

Forum participants taking part in the Viet Nam country group captured their group discussion on how to advance CF on the following 'Community Forestry Change Canvas'.

<b>Who will help you?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Donors</li><li>• International communities</li><li>• Other NGOs, government experts</li><li>• Research and training institutions</li><li>• Local authorities</li></ul>	<b>What will you do?</b> <p>organize...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dialogues</li><li>• consultations</li><li>• Meetings</li><li>• Review/ assessment</li></ul>	<b>How will you help make the change differently?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By pro-actively participating in CF activities</li><li>• By setting up and maintaining demonstration sites</li><li>• By providing inputs on CF guiding document including FLA</li><li>• By producing relevant communication materials and disseminating them</li><li>• By documenting lessons learned on CF at national and international levels</li><li>• By facilitating cross-site learning and sharing of experiences</li></ul>	<b>How will you interact?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By organizing multi-stakeholder dialogues and consultations</li><li>• Through networking</li></ul>	<b>Who will you help?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National assembly</li><li>• Local communities</li><li>• Forestry administration</li><li>• Local authorities</li><li>• Donors</li><li>• Natural resource sector</li><li>• International community</li></ul>
<b>Who are you and what do you have?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JAFS, TUAF, FiPi, DAFA, ISARD, NPU, CSDM, RECOFTC-VN, Vietnamnet</li><li>• CF expertise and experience</li><li>• Research skills</li><li>• capacity building networks</li><li>• Database on CFM and related issues</li></ul>	<b>How will they know you and how will you deliver?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Through publications on different media</li><li>• By conducting relevant assessments and studies</li><li>• By preparing briefs, reports, etc.</li></ul>			
<b>What will you give?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CF lessons, evidences, locations</li><li>• Local voices</li><li>• Research reports, papers on CFM</li><li>• Proposals for funding</li><li>• Trainers/training courses</li><li>• Networks</li><li>• Technical advice</li><li>• Forest management technology</li></ul>			<b>What will you get?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Networks</li><li>• Improved knowledge</li><li>• Happiness</li><li>• Funds for CF</li><li>• Improved organizational reputation</li><li>• Improved capacity</li></ul>	



# MALAYSIA

Although social forestry activities have been implemented at the field level in Malaysia it is not yet recognized as an important strategy for developing poverty and for its potential contribution in relation to national development. Communities engaged in social forestry need to be better networked and engaged in policy dialogue so that their needs and constraints can influence the policy discourse.

Commitments of the Malaysia team include:

- Review the community forestry policy with the engagement of the community level
- Build stronger networks between communities and other stakeholders
- Provide skills-based training in community forestry to local-level government staff
- Continue to demonstrate through field activities the importance of community forestry





# PHILIPPINES

The policy and legal framework for community forestry is well-established with a number of laws and policies providing tenurial security for a period of 25 years to communities registering under the CBFM system. Currently there is 1.6 million hectares of forest under this arrangement managed by 1,900 local institutions. A Community Based Forest Management Agreement allows for sustainable utilization of timber by communities and the Philippines team would like to see more agreements signed in the next three years.

The key commitments of the Philippines team include:

- Advocate for the passage of the revised policy and legal framework "The SFM Bill" through parliament, which highlights a need for improved forest land use planning and productivity of forests
- Prepare and approve guidelines for Payment for Environmental Services
- Continue to promote community-based forest management over larger areas of forest and final agreements allowing the productive use of forests by communities





## Pathways to...

Increasing forest area under community management	Strengthening the active control of communities over their forests	Ensuring that institutions are able to effectively implement Community Forestry laws in country
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For healthy forests  
improved livelihoods  
and good governance





# Conclusion and next steps

Over two days, participants of the Third Regional Forum for People and Forests shared their knowledge and experiences to identify common regional themes for strengthening community forestry; key roles and commitments to be undertaken by different stakeholders; and develop joint country action plans that identify specific actions that need to be undertaken by a range of stakeholders.

Common regional themes for strengthening community forestry included securing forest tenure, challenges to turning policy into action, moving from fragmentation to integration at the landscape level, linking to other sectors and global agendas, and obtaining economic benefits from the commercialization of products and services from community forestry.

Key roles and commitments to be undertaken to strengthen community forestry by relevant stakeholders groups – central governments, ministries of natural resources/forestry, local governments, private sector organizations, international organizations, researchers and academics, media (journalists), civil society, and local communities – were also identified by regional groupings of stakeholders themselves.

The Forum culminated in the development of joint country action plans by participants grouped by country. The actions plans were developed by groups from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, China, Nepal, Malaysia and the Philippines. The plans emphasized what needs to be done differently to progress from the current situation, who needs to be involved and key priority actions to be taken in the next three years.

The Forum wrapped up with insights on the outcomes and recommendations of the Forum by representatives of APFNet, ASFN and JICA. Highlights from their closing remarks include:

Mr Zuofeng Zhuang, Director for Project Planning, APFNet Secretariat, stated that the Forum provided an important opportunity to ensure that voices from every relevant stakeholder could be directly heard, and noted that all participants were actively involved in sessions and contributed inputs and recommendations from their own perspectives. He summarized that the main priorities for action include capacity building to advance community forestry development; that community forestry must be mainstreamed into national plans to ensure that communities get support from their governments, both technically and financially, to develop activities that improve the lives of local communities; and the commercialization of community forestry-related goods and services.

Mr Sugeng Marsudiarto, Deputy Director - Directorate of Social Forestry Development, Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia (representing current Chairperson of ASFN, Mr Thong Eth Phayvanh) found that the forum provided a necessary platform for participants to share ideas on the future development of community forestry. He re-affirmed the commitment of ASFN in engaging CSOs in the development of social forestry, and their priorities in poverty reduction and REDD+ through the framework of ASFCC. He urged all participants to implement the commitments made during the Forum.

Mr Kenichi Shishido, Deputy Director General of Global Environment Department, JICA, re-iterated that the Forum offered the very positive experience of enabling participants to understand various stakeholders' perspectives. He was impressed with the final session, where each country set their commitments. He recommended that in the next forum, participants can share detailed feedback on the progress, changes and achievements on the commitments of each country, and highlight associated success stories.

"The Third Forum created an enabling environment for active participation by all. As a result, this Forum was highly productive, interactive and participatory. I believe we all have learned a lot and most importantly, we can see that we have all made commitments to promote community forestry through national initiatives," concluded Dr Tint Lwin Thaug, Executive Director, RECOFTC.

Following the Forum, analysis of evaluation forms indicated that participants gained considerable increases in terms of their awareness of priorities throughout the region to strengthen community forestry (tenure, livelihoods, active participation of local communities) and knowledge of the current status and obstacles to community forestry in their country (including different stakeholders perspectives). Active commitment by Forum participants to strengthen community forestry also increased significantly as a result of the Forum. Specific actions that individual participants identified they will take as a result of the Forum generally fell into three broad categories:

Research, communication and advocacy:

*"Reaching out to the media and public to advocate to policy and decision-makers and providing policy briefs and relevant documents"*

*"Documenting good community forestry practices to serve as advocacy tools to convince more stakeholders to support implementation of community forestry"*

*"Conducting research on community forestry enterprise models and best practices"*

Networking and outreach:

*"Communicating ideas presented in the Forum with other stakeholders during national forums"*

*"Adapting of Forum ideas into national community forestry action plans"*

*"Building the commitment of stakeholders for community forestry development through national and local working groups"*

Capacity development

*"Developing a more effective community forestry capacity development program"*

*"Using knowledge gained at the Forum to improve community forestry modules and curricula in my training center"*





Participants to the Forum also took part in a video, where they answer the following four questions: *Why is community forestry important? What are the most important issues emerging in community forestry now and the future? What is the value of this Forum? What needs to happen to advance community forestry further after this Forum?* The video is available at: [www.recoftc.org/site/resources/VIDEO-The-Third-Regional-Forum-for-people-and-forest.php](http://www.recoftc.org/site/resources/VIDEO-The-Third-Regional-Forum-for-people-and-forest.php)

The Forum was widely covered by media in the region. In Thailand, the Forum was covered by Channel 3, Channel 7, Channel 9, Krungthep Turakij, The Nation, Thai PBS, Bangkok Post, Khao Sod and KT TV. Regionally, reports were published in the Phnom Penh Post, Vietnamnet, Myanmar Times and Green China.

The Forum will be followed by a series of national forums in six countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. The national forums aim for wider engagement and fostering ownership of local stakeholders in further developing and implementing their community forestry priorities and action plans.

The objectives of the 2014 national forums are to:

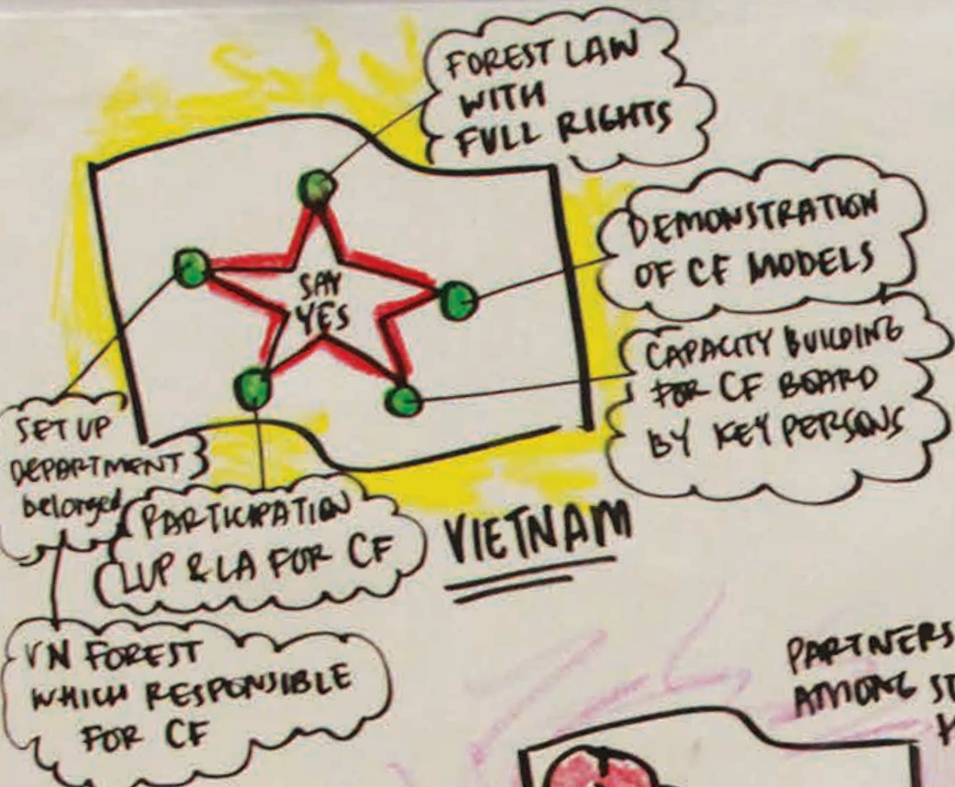
- Assess progress of community forestry in each country, including to review policy briefs and recommendations from existing resources relevant to CF such as national policies, regulations, strategies, the RECOFTC research report *Community forestry in Asia and the Pacific: Pathway to inclusive development*, and others;
- Widen and strengthen commitment to community forestry of key stakeholders in the countries through the Joint CF Country Action Plans; and
- Encourage harmonization of future efforts and strategies, including strengthening existing national working groups and plans on CF and forestry, or cross-sectoral, in the countries.

The recommendations of the national forums will also help inform the further development of RECOFTC's country engagement programme. The national forums will take place in early 2014 and include a range of stakeholders – from governments, CSOs/NGOs, local communities, academics, media, international organizations and the private sector and reach out to stakeholder groups that lacked large representation during the Third Regional Forum, especially representatives of local communities and grassroots organizations.





# FLAG OF COMMITMENT

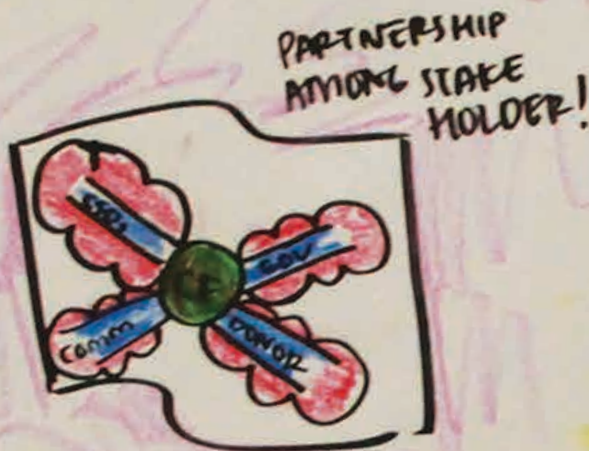


VIETNAM



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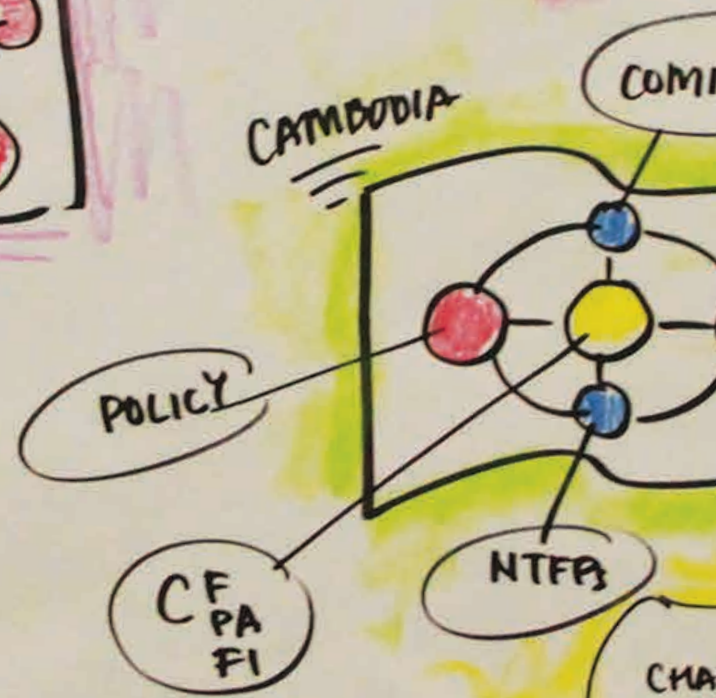


NEPAL

WELL MANAGED FOREST

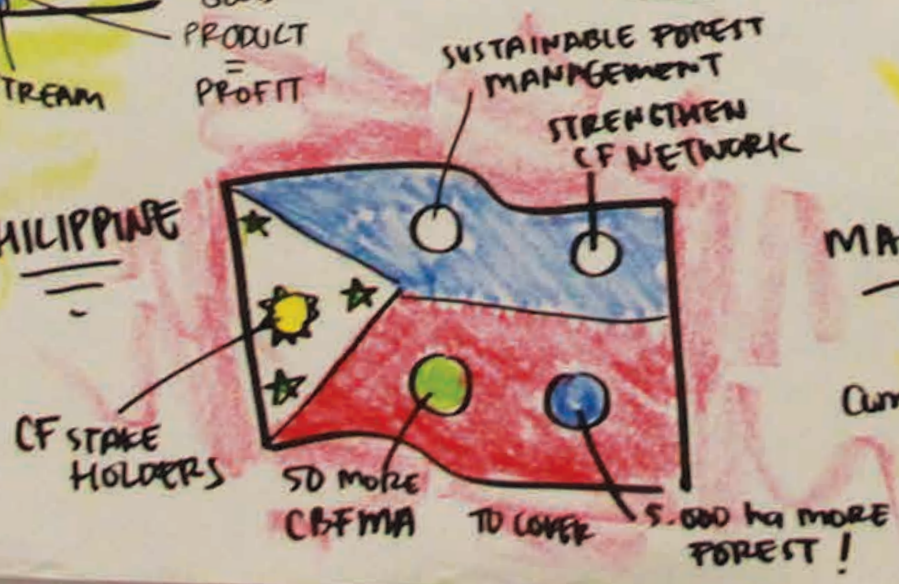


CAMBODIA



CHA  
FOREST  
BALAN  
FOREST  
SITUA

PHILIPPINE



MALAYSIA

Community



60







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SWEDEN