



Investing in local communities for sustainable forests

The Asia and the Pacific pre-World Forestry Congress regional meeting on people and forests

KU Home, Kasetsart University

Bangkok, Thailand, 8-10 July, 2015

As poverty is still more prevalent in rural areas where natural capital is relatively high, it is essential to enable the rural poor to convert natural capital to other forms of capital in a sustainable way. Thus, empowering local communities by investing in tenure rights and appropriate regulatory and supporting frameworks to achieve sustainable forest management is essential. Investing in social and human capital is an essential part of investing in natural capital and ensuring a sustainable future. It is local people who can sustainably manage natural resources if they value them - and they will value them if they benefit from them.

This event aims to highlight the role of local people - smallholders, IPs and CF members – in sustainable forest management. Local community members from different rights groups from Asia - **indigenous peoples, community forest members, and smallholders** - will share their experiences and discuss forest issues that are priorities from their perspectives. The meeting aims to empower local community members from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam to participate on the regional and global levels to advocate on why forest decision-makers should invest in them, recognizing that the management of forests by local communities is of benefit on local, national and global levels.

The objectives of the event are:

- developing key messages by local community members from different rights groups from Asia on the theme 'Invest in us'
- identifying recommendations for action by government, private sector and other stakeholders to be communicated at the IVX World Forestry Congress, Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016 and other key opportunities.
- developing opportunities for coordinated communication activities to increase the forest community's understanding of the role of local people in sustainable forest management

AGENDA

Date/ time	Session title
DAY 1 – 8 July	
830-900	Registration
900-915	Opening remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tint Lwin Thuang, Executive Director, RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests • Kanoksak Duangkaewroen, Chief of Mae Tha Sub-District Administration Office and a CF network leader in Thailand • Patrick Durst, Senior Forestry Officer for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
915-1000	Why do we need to participate in the World Forestry Congress? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trevor Abrahams, Secretary General, XIV World Forestry Congress
1000-1030	Coffee break
1030-1045	Introductions and review agenda
1045-1215	<i>Setting the context</i> Regional perspectives: Why do community rights in sustainable forest management matter?
1215-1315	Lunch
1315-1500	Our vision of community rights in sustainable forest management
1500-1530	Case study: community sustainable forest management, Republic of Korea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dong Geun Han, Director, Center for Consulting & Project Management Institute of International Development Cooperation, Yeungnam University, ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo)
1530-1600	Coffee break
1600-1700	Understanding gaps between now and our vision
1700-1715	Reflections
DAY 2 – 9 July	
1830-2030	Reception welcome hosted by RECOFTC
0900-1030	Why CF is a solution worth investing in: Gaps, opportunities and constraints of community rights in sustainable forest management
1030-1045	Coffee break
1045-1215	Priorities for our collective actions
1215-1315	Lunch
1315-1500	Government perspectives on priorities for our collective actions
1500-1530	Coffee break
1530-1645	Invest in CF and this is why: Four tentative priorities and recommendations
1645-1700	Reflections
DAY 3 – 10 July	
0900-0930	Review of tentative recommendations
0930-1030	Mock-interviews with media to refine the four tentative priorities and recommendations
1030-1100	Coffee break
1100-1200	Plenary mock-interviews with representatives of each key message
1200-1300	Lunch



1300-1315	RECOFTC communication plan to bring the key messages to the World Forestry Congress and beyond
1315-1500	Widening the communication plan
1500-1530	Coffee break
1530-1600	Next steps
1600-1630	Close of meeting

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