



Factsheet

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Strengthening Rural Institutions to Support Livelihood Security for Smallholders Involved in Industrial Tree-planting Programs in Vietnam and Indonesia

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

Country/Region:	Vietnam, Indonesia
German participation	Centre for Tropical and Sub-tropical Agriculture and Forestry (CeTSAF), Georg-August-University, Göttingen
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Duration:	Jan 2008 – Dec 2010

Initial situation

Recently, governments across Southeast Asia have prioritized development of industrial tree plantations, driven by a growing demand for timber and fiber. Ambitious tree-planting programs are underway in Vietnam and Indonesia. Vietnam aims to increase the nation's forest cover to 43% by 2010, with 2 million ha of new plantation forests. Indonesia seeks to establish 9 million ha of new plantations by 2016. 60% of the area is to be planted by 360,000 smallholder households. Both governments promote smallholder plantations to alleviate poverty by giving farmers access to land, discounted credit, technical extension, and subsidized inputs. However, such programs can increase inequality, worsening conditions for the poor, marginalized groups and women. Occasionally, they displace communities

with customary or newly granted rights. Smallholders often have limited information about appropriate tree species, silviculture and markets, and therefore capture a small share in overall benefits.

Approach of the project

The project applies variety of methods: policy analysis; participatory rapid appraisal; socio-economic surveys; commodity chain analyses; key informant interviews; surveys of plantation enterprises; trade, investment, and policy scenario-building; forest mensuration and inventory techniques; and SILVIA forest management system.



Major results achieved

An inception meeting and stakeholder consultations were held in Hanoi in March, 2008. In Vietnam, Binh Dinh and Phu Tho provinces were selected as sites for

having significant investments in smallholder tree-planting and large wood processing industries. In Indonesia, South Kalimantan and Riau provinces were selected to provide a wide variety of smallholder plantation development models.



Initial data has been collected. Rapid appraisals were completed in all sites by August, 2008, and household surveys and silvicultural surveys and inventories were carried out in both countries by December, 2008. Province-level stakeholder workshops were organized in November 2008. The Vietnam workshops presented preliminary findings and solicited input on issues faced by provincial and district governments, forest enterprises and wood processing industries, smallholder tree-planters and donors. The Indonesia workshops introduced the project and solicited inputs from provincial/district forestry agencies, forest and wood processing enterprises, NGOs, and community representatives.

In Indonesia, policy consultation meetings were held with the Ministry of Forestry and preliminary findings were presented. In Vietnam, consultation meetings were conducted with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Forest Sector Support Partnership, provincial governments and GTZ.

Expected impact

With a new Indonesian Minister of Forestry and a new five-year plan coming, this research will provide inputs for revision of current regulations on smallholder timber plantations and land gazettement. The Vietnam Government is evaluating their smallholder plantation program, towards which this project will provide input.

Collaborating institutions

School of International Development, University of East Anglia (UEA); Forest Science Institute of Vietnam (FSIV); Faculty of Forestry, Bogor Agricultural University; Forestry Research and Development Agency (FORDA)

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