

Promotion of Sustainable Forest Management

Duration

May 2003 - May 2006

Project Budget paid by seco

USD 499,444

Project Partners and Beneficiaries

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)
- Local Authorities
- Local Communities
- Private and State Forest Enterprises

Implementing Agencies

MARD and WWF Indochina Programme

1. Background

■ This project supported by Switzerland will promote the sustainable management of tropical forests. It focuses both on forest conservation as well as on the sustainable use and responsible trade in forest products. This is a pilot project: Vietnam being the first country in which Switzerland is involved in the specific support for certification of forests.

2. Overall Goal

■ The long-term vision of the proposed project is that owners and managers of natural forests in Vietnam manage forest resources in a sustainable way. The project intends to put into place a process whereby state and private forest owners are able to actively promote and implement sustainable forest management and forest certification, supported by selected provinces, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and other central-level stakeholders in Vietnam.

3. Objectives

- Develop and implement a pilot project on forest certification in the Gia Lai Province (Criteria and Indicators will be based on the Forest Stewardship Council's standards).
- Vietnamese wood processing industry uses locally produced certified timber instead of imported timber.
- Establish a forest and trade network, that promotes the concept of a well-managed forest, with forest managers and the forest processing industry as members.
- Develop sustainable forest management programs with all relevant stakeholders at the provincial level.
- Consolidate information available on the nature, causes, scale and impact of unregulated and unsustainable logging in Vietnam and the development of best practices to promote sustainable management and prevent illegal harvesting and trade.



Beneficiaries of the project are those who rely on forests for their livelihoods; rural and downstream communities that rely on forests for their environmental services of these forests; government agencies and State Forest Enterprises (SFE) that lose revenue due to unsustainable forest management practices; and processing companies in Vietnam that are increasingly demanding certified forest products in order to meet requests from European markets. Target audiences are the National Working Group on sustainable forest management (NWG), policy makers, regulatory bodies and enforcement agencies at the district, provincial or national levels with jurisdiction over forests or cross-border trade, and the tropical forest products trade.

Furthermore, the project has an additional component (with extra budget) to promote sustainable forest management in Cambodia and Laos and to study regional aspects of the trade flows in tropical timber in this area.

4. Activities

■ The Forest Programme of WWF Indochina will implement the project with various Government and private sector partners at the central and provincial levels. The key partners will be forestry departments within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the People's Committee of Gia Lai and three other Central Highland Provinces of Vietnam, SFEs, communities managing forest land, the NWG, forest products processing industry and exporters of processed products.

Contacts

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

Mr. Tran Kim Long, Program Officer,
International Cooperation Department
2, Ngoc Ha, Hanoi - Vietnam
Phone: + 84 4 845 96 71 - Fax: +84 4 733 07 52
Email: tklongicdmard@fpt.vn

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Mr. Tim Dawson, Forest Program Coordinator,
WWF Indochina Program
53, Tran Phu Street, Hanoi - Vietnam
Phone: +84 4 733 83 87 - Fax: +84 4 733 83 88
Email: tim@wwf.org.vn

State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco)

Mr. Daniel Birchmeier, Program Manager
Effingerstrasse 1, 3003 Berne - Switzerland
Phone: +41 31 324 09 14 - Fax: +41 31 322 86 30
Email: daniel.birchmeier@seco.admin.ch

Embassy of Switzerland

Ms. Dominique Jordan, First Secretary
44B Ly Thuong Kiet Street, Hanoi - Vietnam
Phone: +84 4 934 65 89 - Fax: +84 4 934 65 91
Email: Vertretung@han.rep.admin.ch

