

Annex III/Annexe III

Summary of working group sessions/ Résumé des sessions de groupes de travail

The seminar participants were divided into eight working groups to discuss issues related the scaling-up of participatory forestry. Each group identified its own rapporteur who reported the group's finding to the plenary. Three working group sessions were held, one in the morning of Thursday 21 February to identify essential elements for promoting PFM, one in the afternoon of the same day to prepare recommendations on each of the eight themes identified and one in the morning of Friday 22 February to prepare a policy brief and finalize recommendations.

GROUP 1 - Economics of participatory forest management (PFM)

The five issues identified were:

- Costs
- Benefits
- Sharing of costs/benefits
- Cost effectiveness
- Sustainability (of the benefits)

Recommendations for scaling-up (key elements)

Costs/benefits

- Identify "hidden" or opportunity costs
- Identify trade-offs
- Develop Memorandum of Understanding (requires enabling policy and supportive legislation)
- Market research/access for value-added products
- Equitable and transparent distribution of benefits
- Compensation to communities for "public service" provided by PFM

Cost effectiveness

- Integration and coordination of resources
- Develop and utilize existing capacity

Sustainability

- Supportive policy and legislation
- Security of tenure
- Develop multiple strategies to reduce vulnerability
- Regulation of resource use
- Dedicated communication strategy
- Transparency

How can PFM contribute to poverty alleviation?

Provides income – direct and indirect

- Marketing forest products (Nigeria)
- Ecotourism (Ethiopia, Uganda)
- Receiving rentals (South Africa)

Reduce vulnerability to poverty

- Security of tenure/user rights (Ethiopia)

Improve quality of life

- Protection/improved access to water resources (United Republic of Tanzania, Malawi, Morocco)

Empowerment for good governance

- Transfer of technology for management and business planning (South Africa)

GROUP 2 - Sustainability

I. How would you assess the level of advancement of PFM in Africa (and specifically in your country)?

Scaling between 0 and 10 | average: **4.0**

Why not 0?

1. Good number of positive examples of PFM
2. Clear positive impact on forest conservation
3. Policies adopted in most countries. They are in favour of PFM, e.g. Uganda, the Gambia, Tanzania
4. Enabling legislation exists in some countries, e.g. South Africa. In many more countries, it is in the making
5. PFM reflected in NFP in some countries, e.g. Tanzania
6. Increasing awareness of linkages between PFM and poverty alleviation
7. Presence of some political will, e.g. Uganda, the Gambia, Tanzania

BUT:

Only limited PFM in high value forests

Communities fear that resources will be taken back after rehabilitation, e.g. Shamba system in Kenya

Why not 10?

1. Appropriate degree of ownership, access and control of forests by communities still being debated among PFM interest groups
2. PFM still confined to smaller donor-dependent “islands” (sustainability questionable)
3. PFM not moved beyond pilot initiatives in many places (quality of initiatives also varies)
4. PFM not always sufficiently integrated into macroeconomic policy frameworks such as PRSP, but there is increasing decentralization, participation and devolution of powers
5. Lack of mechanism to share experiences and draw lessons learned
6. In most cases there is lack of interdepartmental coordination of policies with regard to PFM, e.g. South Africa
7. There is no sufficient and detailed enough sustainable livelihood analysis with regard to PFM
8. Economic benefits not always enough to sustain PFM, but there are non-economic benefits that communities enjoy
9. Operationalization strategies not yet in place

II. What are the key elements needed for scaling-up PFM in Africa and more specifically in your country?

Rephrased to:

What are the economic obstacles for moving beyond pilot initiatives?

1. On the side of the forest departments:

- No sufficient debate and agreement on cost-benefit sharing with regard to PFM
- Fear of loss of potential income (FD as such/in some cases also individuals)
- Establishing PFM requires many inputs from FD but the necessary resources are often not available
- Insufficient revenue generation limits PFM service delivery
- Funds allocated to FDs do not reflect the contribution of forestry to national economies

2. On the side of the governments (local, village, state)

- Insufficient revenue generation limits PFM service delivery
- Insufficient fund allocation for PFM activities. Even if funds are available they will go to other priorities

3. On the side of the communities

- Communities are not compensated for conservation efforts (conservation of national and international biodiversity or water catchments values)
- Difficulties to find start-up funds (needed if initial benefits accrued from PFM are too small)
- Sometimes benefits are not fairly distributed among the community. Even the fear that unfair distribution might happen can hinder PFM
- Income from PFM may not be enough to cover costs of management and capacity building
- There are opportunity costs (patrolling, meetings etc.), which need to be compensated by benefits
- Income-generation activities insufficient. They may be needed:
 - in cases of limited benefits from the forest, or
 - in cases where access to the forest is limited (either self-limitation of communities or contractual limitations)

In some cases there is limited access to markets and/or marketing opportunities

4. On the side of donors

- Donors develop parallel structures that cannot be economically sustained by the government

5. On the side of NGOs

- Lack of stable funding, dependency on short-term project funding
- Local NGOs have no means to access market information

6. On the side of the private sector

- Lack of incentives to support PFM (except where joint exploitation of timber is possible)
- Insufficient credit facilities available
- High risk investments in PFM (insecure return caused by unclear tenure)
- Not interested in transparent systems in some instances

III. How can PFM contribute to poverty alleviation?

Not answered owing to time constraints

IV. What concrete steps can be taken to move PFM forward?

1. Establishment of fora to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the various actors in PFM
2. Donors should continue to support the scaling up of PFM but ...
3. Innovative financing mechanisms for promotion of PFM
4. PFM Endowment Fund for local NGOs

5. Compensation of communities for their contributions to forest conservation if these are in the public interest
6. Development of sound and feasible PFM guidelines
7. Consideration of PFM-related issues in the curricula of the relevant training institutions for forestry, agriculture and community development (universities, colleges, etc.)
8. Provision of infrastructure in PFM areas, e.g. road construction for marketing of forest products
9. Tax incentives for private sector involvement in PFM areas, e.g. in ecotourism and timber harvesting

GROUP 3 - Land and tree tenure

1. Assessment of the level of advancement of PFM in Africa

Scaling between 0 and 10 | average: 3.6

WHY NOT 10?	WHY NOT 0 (ZERO)?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Inadequate funds ■ PFM still as pilot projects ■ Poverty alteration not yet guaranteed by PFM ■ Some policy-makers and professionals are rigid to changes related to PFM ■ Tangible benefits not yet realized by many communities, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Many initiatives are in place ■ Supportive legislation (Ghana) ■ Forestry professional attitude change to accommodate PFM ■ Political will in place (Tanzania) ■ Initial funding available

Issues that would lead to advancement of PFM

- Strategy for sustainable funding and long-term commitment (11 votes), tied with security of land and tree tenure (11 votes).
- Strong legislation and institutional capacity (7 votes).
- Mechanism for monitoring and evaluation (5 votes).

2. What are the key elements needed for scaling-up PFM in Africa (focus on land and tree tenure)?

- Review institutional landownership by the state, chiefs, families and individuals.
 - Ownership of the soil (state ... Ethiopia and most African)
 - Ownership or interest in communities' land
 - Both (Ugandan).
- Harmonize/coordinate sectoral policies in relation to land and tree tenure (case of agriculture expansion/industrialization vs. forestry/forested lands).
- Women must have a share in land and tree ownership (case of Ethiopia: men and women own land individually; case of Uganda: moving towards co-ownership of land).
- Promotion of equity in law, customs and practice of men and women in landholding case: some African countries allow women to inherit land (Ghana) while others do not.
- States to develop guidelines on forestry management especially outside state-owned land; case of Uganda where FD does not control forestry outside gazetted forest reserves.
- Provide ownership of naturally growing trees on farm; case of Ghana: no ownership on naturally growing trees except planted ones.
- Guaranteed ownership of trees privately/communally planted in protected area. Case Lushoto community.

- Allow control and ownership of trees on rented land (from private individuals). Case: Cameroon and failure of agroforestry.
- Having in place community land-use plan.
- Promote positive attitude change for both men and women on issue of land and tree tenure.
- Recognition of customary land tenure. Communally owned land to have titles.
- Having legal frame work for community private rights to common forestry resources.

3. How can PFM contribute to poverty alleviation with regard to land and tree tenure?

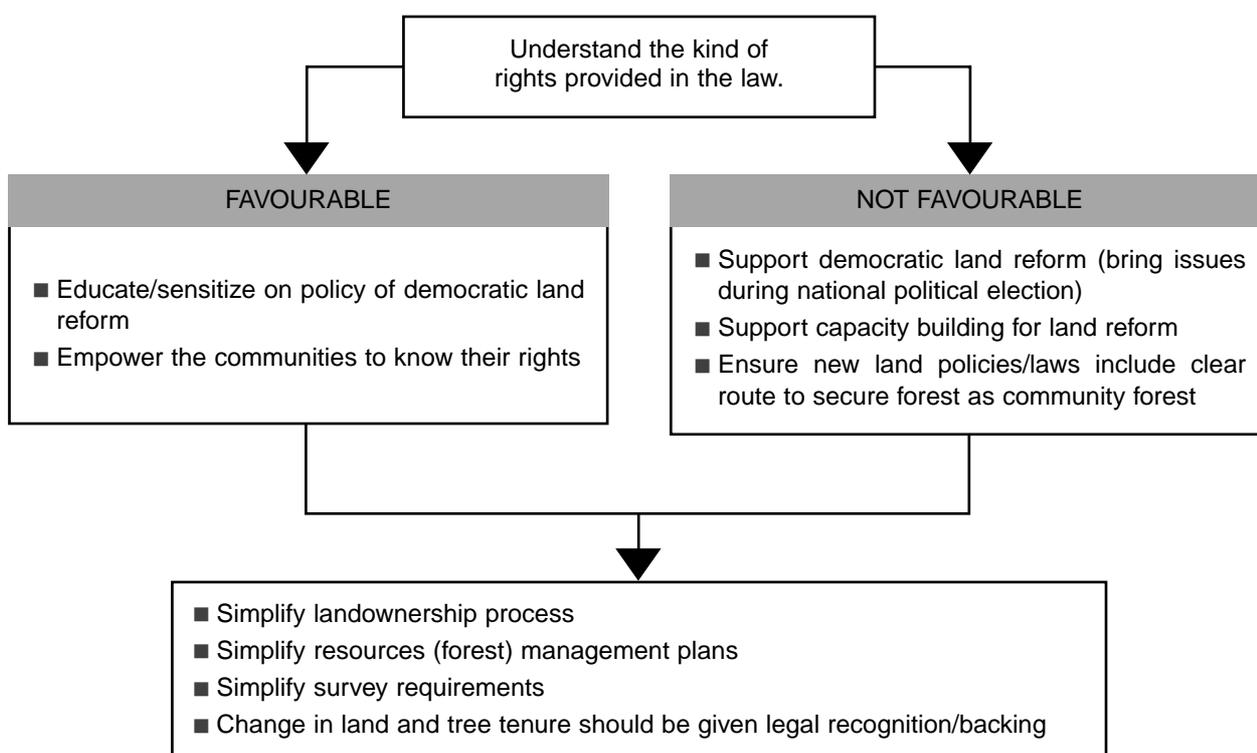
“Helping households to secure land and tree tenure puts rural community livelihood in a stable state” hence a better chance of poverty alleviation.

- Secured tenure leads to increased output through individual/community investments (enterprise development) e.g. ecotourism in the Gambia.
- Secured tenure reduces open access phenomena by the wider communities hence reduced pressure on forest resources: case of grazing, timber cutting and collection of NTFP (Tanzania and Cameroon).
- Enterprise development and reduced pressure on resource extraction would lead to adequate forestry resources for the communities some of which end up in the market.

4. What concrete steps can be taken to move PFM forward with regard to land and tree tenure?

- Understand the kind of rights provided in the law.
- Where the law is positive/conducive, lobby and raise awareness on land and tree tenure at the community and political levels. BUT where the law does not exist or is “bad”, initiate land reform.

Thus



Conclusion: 3 areas of concrete action: capacity building, networking and appropriate funding mechanism.

GROUP 4 - Assessment

Scaling between 0 and 10 | average: 4

Why not 0?

- PFM practices evident
- Policy and legal framework in place
- Information exchange happening
- Donor support for PFM
- Existence of traditional systems for PFM to build on

Why not 10?

- Minimal stakeholder involvement
- Capacity of communities
- Financial constraints
- Poor information flow
- Benefit sharing not adequate
- Policy and legal frameworks incomplete
- PFM still pilot
- Government commitment still low

Priority key issues

- Governance – 7 votes
- Capacity building – 6 votes
- Poverty alleviation – 3 votes

Other issues

- Networking and information
- Technical implementation

Contribution of PFM to poverty alleviation

- Food security
- Opportunities for employment
- Markets for environmental services
- Boosting ecotourism
- Organizing markets
- Governance improvement
- Skills building
- Empowerment of communities
- Generation of cash income
- Increased access to forests
- Improvement of the environment

Moving beyond the policy brief (gaps)

- Payments for downstream environmental services e.g. catchments
- Link to national PRSPs as a mechanism to implement PFM
- Forestry improves the balance of trade situation for countries

Moving beyond the policy brief (how to implement)

- Support for relevant government structure to implement PFM
- Develop strategic alliances to provide support e.g. on marketing
- Develop an action plan to have the policy brief implemented

What needs to be done in PFM to avoid poverty traps

- Strategic alliances and linkages to open up more opportunities
- Empowerment in skills, leadership, rights and responsibilities
- Exploring off-forest livelihood means
- More ownership and more tangible benefits to communities

Governance issues

- Resource allocation for PFM from governments
- Power and decision-making at all levels
- Rights to use and access
- Transparency
- Roles/responsibility of other actors

Resource allocation

- Assessment of forestry products and services to provide true value
- Reflection of forestry in PRSPs as a priority
- Showing complementarities of forestry to other sectors
- Provision of relevant and timely information to policy-makers

Power and decision-making at all levels

- Knowledge of rights and levels of empowerment
- Diminishing influence up the ladder of authority
- Communities participate in discussions but government has final word (revenue)
- Representation (user groups, gender, geographical coverage) critical

Rights (use and access)

- Rights open for harvesting minor forest products
- More valuable products require permits even in community-owned forests
- Communities can subcontract rights to harvest valuable products (Kenya)

Transparency

- Jointly defining to whom and how accountability will flow
- The vertical and horizontal flow of information on key issues is critical
- Enhanced community assertiveness to demand accountability and transparency

Roles of other actors

- Jointly agreeing who the other actors are and what they will do
- Common agreement on who defines and how roles, rights and responsibilities are defined

GROUP 5 - Capacity building for PFM

Target groups

- Local NGOs and CBOs
- FDs and other relevant Departments
- Local government
- Natural resources training and research institutions
- Civil society organizations (traditional rulers, traditional herbalists)

Capacities

- Resource assessment skills
- Market analysis skills
- Participatory planning skills
- Participatory monitoring and evaluation skills
- Interpretation and implementation of policies impacting on PFM
- Skills to communicate issues that impact negatively on PFM, e.g. HIV/Aids
- Organizational assessment and development

Legal framework

- Forest Acts' interpretation and implementation/enforcement in relation to PFM
- Harmonization of all legislation relating to NRM
- Recognition, articulation and application of PFM by-laws
- Integration of indigenous perceptions in the legal systems

Capacities to be built

- Gender and livelihood analysis training
- PFM concepts for all stakeholders
- Reviewing of curricula to reflect participatory approaches at all levels
- Integration of various stakeholders/sectors in PFM training
- Training communities in leadership
- Conflict management skills
- Good governance skills
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Community dynamics, advocacy and lobbying skills

Capacities

- Collaborative research with relevant institutions (NGOs, universities)
- Establish and strengthen networks for PFM
- Negotiation skills
- Communication skills
- Financial management skills

Who should do what?

- Training at higher levels
- Tailored training
- Community-level training
- Financing of training

Training at higher levels

- Universities, e.g. SUA-Tanzania, Moi-Kenya, MAK-Uganda, Muzzuzu-Malawi
- National Colleges, e.g. Wondo Genet-Ethiopia, Olmotonyi-Tanzania

Tailored training

- MS-TCDC, Arusha Tanzania
- IRDT, Dodoma Tanzania
- MAK-Uganda
- SUA-Tanzania
- Egerton-Kenya

Community level training

- NGOs, e.g. DONET-Tanzania; EA-Uganda; CURE-Malawi
- CBOs; e.g. Ugunja-Kenya
- Extension agencies from various government departments, NGOs and private sector
- Financing of training
- Central and local governments
- Private sector
- NGOs
- CBOs
- Donors

GROUP 6 – Monitoring and evaluation for PFM

Who and why M&E?

- **Donors:** to justify funding, make management adjustments and influence policies
- **Executing agencies:** NGO;GO, projects: To highlight best practice, to make management adjustments, avoid poverty traps, know conditions of the resource, influence policy
- **Communities:** know condition of the resource, perceive benefits and cost over time, to make management judgements

What to monitor and evaluate?

- Resource base
- Rate of utilization of forest products
- Functioning of institutions
- Civil society
- Implementation of policy and regulatory framework
- Equity in benefits and costs: gender, age, poverty
- Degree of participation
- Costs as in budget expenditures
- Impact on livelihoods

How? Tools and methods

- Conventional and participatory maps
- Baseline study and follow-up studies of forest resource
- Management plan/guidelines with quantitative information
- Implementation reports

- Socio-economic information
- Records of meetings and participants
- Relevant rapid assessment tools
- Operating rules and regulations of village committees
- Ongoing M&E systems (e.g. TCA Ethiopia, SYMS Cameroon)

Key elements of scaling-up M&E for PFM

- Low-cost and simple M&E methods
- Strict enforcement of regulatory provisions on forest exploitation (either participatory or not)
- Adequate documentation of experiences
- Generic guidelines (but level-specific)
- Establishment of standards for success
- Regular financing mechanism for covering community costs of M&E
- Possibility for testing approach by other institutions
- M&E as component of PFM in the village

Role of M&E for poverty alleviation

- Provide quantifiable evidence of linkage between PFM and poverty reduction
- M&E indicators need to identify impact on poverty and livelihood, not just cash income
- Assess impact of PFM on marginalized groups also outside community

Concrete steps forward

National level

- Regular feedback of information to all stakeholders
- Simple M&E systems and guidelines
- Provision for M&E within legal framework
- Integration of M&E in PFM planning
- One person responsible for collecting and recording information
- Establish national M&E system at all levels
- Commitment to time schedule for regular visits
- Development of M&E capacity and skills
- Regular information exchange and sharing of experiences

Regional level

- M&E training in regional centres
- Development of guidelines for harmonizing reported M&E information
- Regional experience sharing meetings
- M&E electronic-based information exchange system
- Sensitize states on importance of M&E within PFM

International level

- Compile harmonized M&E information to assess advancement of PFM in Africa
- Integrate PFM into other studies/surveys in the forest sector
- Inclusion of M&E as a key theme on the agenda of conferences and workshops
- Disseminate information on M&E from Arusha workshop to other fora and conferences
- Draw inspirations from M&E of relevant conventions (Kyoto)

Key elements of best practices in M&E (policy brief)

- Simple and low-cost do not create a barrier to entry in PFM
- Regularly timed, targeted and result-oriented

- Adaptable to different users and different levels
- Demonstrate the link between PFM and poverty alleviation
- Capture different social groups (gender, poverty levels)
- Build on existing systems and experiences
- M&E process owned by stakeholders
- Feedback mechanism into policy and the community to adjust processes
- Improve transparency of revenue sharing

GROUP 7 – Level of advancement of PFM

Scaling between 0 and 10: average: **5.1**

- Dramatic increase in the last 10 years
- But very variable from country to country and even within countries. While the geographical extent is small, the process is very dynamic because it is not only donor-driven but also increasingly demand-driven

Based on the factors that influence the performance of PFM, the following issues were identified as important:

- Economics: cost-benefits, benefit-sharing
- Governance, rights, tenure and civil society
- Institutional capacity/training/capacity building
- Technical issues
- Scaling-up (both in terms of expanding the area under PFM and in mainstreaming the process)
- PFM for poverty alleviation

What are the key elements needed for scaling-up?

- There must be clear benefits for communities
- This is best achieved if communities control the resource and can decide upon the type of benefits
- Benefits come with costs! These include:

BENEFITS	COSTS
Jobs and income	Community time
Subsistence products	Extension services
Environmental services	Infrastructure and equipment
Good governance	Management, M&E, operational costs
Cultural/spiritual strengthening	Taxes on revenue
Enterprise and stronger local economy	Conflicts (e.g. users and former users)
Power, control, self-confidence	Increasing inequality

What needs to be in place for scaling up?

In general:

- Awareness of rights (and costs and benefits) that lead to community demands for PFM
- Political commitment (policy, laws, mechanisms for implementation)
- Organizational and institutional change to meet the demands

What needs to be in place for scaling-up?

Specific economic aspects:

- Simple and cost-effective approaches
- Legal mechanisms for community to manage funds
- Tax incentives
- Partnerships with private sector
- Community access to and influence on international financial instruments, e.g. carbon sequestration, GEF
- Enterprise development assistance
- Market access
- Mechanisms for reinvesting forest tax revenues into PFM (e.g. forest fund)

How can PFM contribute to poverty alleviation?

The most important contribution of PFM is improved **social capital**

- Building community confidence and capacity, including gender equity, to pursue other opportunities

To increase further the contribution of PFM to poverty alleviation, it is necessary to:

- Legalize trade of NTFPs and timber from PFM sources (e.g. bushmeat, timber certification)
- Increase market information (e.g. about consumer demand)
- Consider cost-benefit sharing mechanisms
 1. the ratio of benefit sharing between government and communities
 2. benefit sharing within the community (shared to households, community development projects, community income-generating projects)
 3. benefit sharing internationally
- Have continued donor support (long-term, process-oriented, monitored and coordinated)

Recommendations 1

Establish a forum for PFM in Africa to:

- access, share and provide information on lessons learned, experiences, guidelines
- link local initiatives (Web portal, radio, exchange visits)

Action 1 - set up a working group to discuss the form and funding of such a forum (after this session)

Action 2 - create local/national networking groups to link with this forum (on return home)

Recommendations 2

All participants should:

1. Ensure that the National Forest Programme Facility (at FAO) focuses on PFM by lobbying:
 - FAO
 - National representatives on the NFP steering group (once identified)
2. Support the formation of associations of PFM groups at local/national levels
3. Disseminate success stories using all media and encourage colleagues to do the same

GROUP 8 - Elements et conditions favorables lies a la bonne gouvernance pour une extension de la foresterie participative

ACTEURS	RÔLES ET RESPONSABILITÉS	POUVOIR / AUTORITÉ	CONDITIONS
Communautés	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contribuer à établir les règles de gestion - Planification - Utilisation/mise en - oeuvre - Suivi-évaluation - Contrôle accès - utilisation - Aménagement - Commercialisation - Mobilisation des ressources propres - Gestion prévention des conflits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statut légal des structures villageoises - Droit de contrôle - Droit de sanction - Droit de commercialisation et d'allocation - Pouvoir de contrôle interne comme mécanisme de contre pouvoir 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cadre de référence pour approbation - Sécurité foncière - Renforcer les capacités - Accès à la ressource - Contrôler le contrôleur (garde-fou interne et externe) - Capacité de contractualisation - Démarche de concertation et de validation - Transparence et bonne gouvernance - Accès à l'information

ACTEURS	RÔLES
Etat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elaborer les politiques et stratégies - Transférer les ressources - Transférer les compétences
Magistrature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gestion des conflits
Services déconcentrés	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appui-conseil - Contrôle - Système d'information
Elus (société civile, techniciens)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approbation - Ressource financière - Appui –conseil - Contrôle - Système d'information
Secteurs privés	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information – financement - Appui-conseil
Tissus associatifs, société civile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plaidoyer, opinion publique - Information - communication - médiation – mobilisation sociale - Appui-conseil
Bailleurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financement
Projets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclure les modalités de désengagement - Appui-conseil - Appui institutionnel - Contribuer à l'élaboration des politiques et stratégies au niveau national - Stratégiés au niveau national

Vers un plan d'action pour une meilleure gouvernance et une extension de la foresterie participative

- Développer les mécanismes, et instruments judiciaires adaptés pour accroître l'accès à la justice dans la gestion des conflits
- Développement/renforcement des dispositions législatives en faveur de la bonne gouvernance en foresterie participative (Sécurité foncière, sanctions, garde-fous)
- Inventorier et documenter les exemples et cas concrets en cours ou les conditions de la bonne gouvernance sont remplies
- Elaborer et mettre en ouvre un programme de développement de la foresterie participative avec des aspects de bonne gouvernance aux niveaux national et local
- Légitimer la priorité du sous-secteur foresterie participative dans les orientations nationales des stratégies de réduction de la pauvreté et de promotion de bonne gouvernance
- Accroître la transparence du point de vue de l'information et des connaissances (concessions de droits pour les paysans et autres permis)
- Faire réviser les politiques forestières pour y inclure des aspects de bonne gouvernance relatifs à la foresterie participative
- Faire réviser les législations pour les adapter aux conditions de bonne gouvernance en matière de foresterie participative
- Capitaliser et documenter les expériences de mobilisation de ressources dans le cadre de la vulgarisation des pratiques d'autofinancement
- Promouvoir et renforcer les structures de la société civile (tissu associatif, syndicats et groupements professionnels)

Action plan from the recommendations (GROUPS 1 to 4)

Recommendation 1:

Develop PFM strategies to reduce the vulnerability of local communities to poverty

Who: Forestry Departments, NGOs, universities and research institutions

How: Incorporated into agendas of PRSPs

Used as conditionality for donor support

Use of information from market research and access

Encouragement of diversification of income sources to communities (ecotourism, agriculture, etc)

When: As soon as possible but progress to be reported during next PFM international workshop

Recommendation 2:

Develop and implement innovative financing mechanisms for the promotion of PFM in Africa

Who: Forestry Departments, projects, NGOs in direct consultation with local communities

When: Organizers of the next workshop should generate information on progress made prior to the next workshop

How: Concession agreements/contracts

Endowment funds

Communities receive payment from taxes and fees for provision of public goods

Tax exemptions on products from community forests

Capacity building and training

Recommendation 3:

Encourage the organization of fora at all levels with a view of producing MoU clarifying the roles and responsibilities of all actors in PFM (tenure, financing, etc)

Who: All actors in PFM (national PFM coordinating bodies; South Africa, Cameroon, Ethiopia, etc)

When: Immediately

How: National guidelines to be produced

Action plan from the recommendations (GROUPS 5 to 8)

Improve exchange and transparency of forestry information and knowledge (government, financial issues)

- Establish forum
- Set up working groups
- Create local, national, regional networking groups
- Designate one individual for information exchange (one focal point per region)
- Integrate into NFP formats
- Utilize the media

Improve monitoring and evaluation of PFM

- Establish M&E programmes in PFM process, especially in management plans
- Integrate PFM indicators into national NRM programmes and processes
- Link indicators to international, regional conventions (Kyoto, Biodiversity, etc.)
- Link PFM indicators to poverty reduction and land use
- Use various information sources

Reinforce PFM within existing training programmes

- Identify CBOs and NGOs that have PFM training programme
- Identify tailored training programme
- Inventory existing curricula of schools
- Establish or use regional training centre

Improve capacity of civil society and local organizations/associations to participate in forestry decisions-making

- Identify and promote associations and federation of CBOs
- Strengthen advocacy capacity of civil society
- Assure participation of leaders and spokespersons in each country

Establish and implement mechanism for revenue sharing from exploitation of forest products

- Publish information on value and revenue generated from forest resources
- Review and identify best practices for equitable revenue distribution

Reinforce legal and judicial mechanisms for

- Assuring transfer of power
- Fair and equitable access of rural populations in favour of PFM
 - Review existing mechanisms
 - Identify best practices
- Assist governments (elected/administrative bodies) to identify major legal and judicial constraints, constraints, needs, actions to undertake

POLICY BRIEF

Introduction

- Community involvement in forest management is growing rapidly across Africa. Of 29 countries surveyed in 2001, 27 are implementing PFM. In the mid 1980s it was virtually non-existent
- There has been a clear shift in political will across the continent, with many supportive policies and laws now in place
- This second international conference shows the wealth of experience over Africa and worldwide, but there is still much to be done
- Evidence is growing that it can help achieve national and international development targets

What can it do for you?

- A national demonstration of commitment to international targets, such as Rio commitment, biodiversity convention
- PFM can enable governments to tap international finance such as GEF, Kyoto, donors, etc.
- Approach is gaining political support in many African countries
- It has potential to help the national economy grow
- It is a catalyst for private sector/community partnerships

More benefits to you

- It can help reduce rural poverty by improving livelihoods
- It can reduce central government costs with a more effective control over forest resources
- It can ensure sustainable land management
- More effective land-use planning through the development of partnerships among rural people, state, civil society and private sector
- A means of solving conflict over control and flows of natural resources in rural areas
- It can promote production of value-added goods in the rural environment

What can be done?

- Community approaches to forest management need a network of champions and more public support
- Link PFM strategies to national and international processes (PRSPs, conventions, and protocols) to get more financial support
- Embrace the conference recommendations for action
- Remove constraints to private sector involvement in PFM

PFM IS A “WIN-WIN” STRATEGY FOR POLICY-MAKERS, FORESTS AND PEOPLE