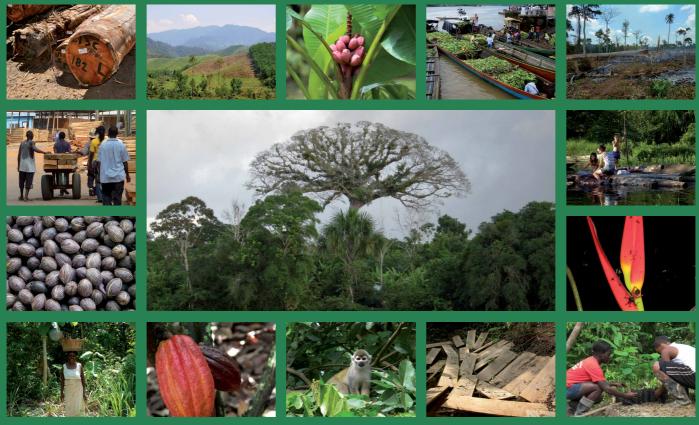
Making knowledge work for forests and people



Annual Report 2012





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Tropenbos International

Annual Report 2012

Message from the Chairman



Well-managed tropical landscape mosaics in developing countries provide forest and agricultural products and a host of ecosystem services that are critical for generating economic growth, employment and self-reliance.

These landscape mosaics, comprising patches of forests amid agricultural land, also provide international public goods such as climate stability and biodiversity. They represent a shared interest and their management calls for collaborative action by the international community.

A key challenge of TBI's new five-year programme is to generate knowledge about and build capacity for the management of these

productive landscapes. Management must take into account the products and services that these landscapes provide and the diverse interests of stakeholders.

Within this objective, TBI is focusing its attention on four forest related themes that are important to the global development agenda: the governance and management of productive landscapes; the sustainable timber trade for domestic and international markets; the local governance and community management of forests; and the development of innovative financing mechanisms to support sustainable forest management.

TBI further plans to continue to strengthen its network of country programmes, which are nationally embedded and relevant to the country's people and forests. TBI now works in two emerging economies in South East Asia - Indonesia and Viet Nam - as well as Ghana and the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa and in four countries in South America: Bolivia, Colombia, Guyana and Suriname.

Thanks to a generous subsidy from the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs TBI is able to carry out its work in six of these eight countries. However, to continue supporting these country programmes in the future TBI needs to broaden its financing sources, including development cooperation bodies of Western European countries, the private sector and philanthropic organisations.

TBI's strategic plan was adopted under the chairmanship of my predecessor, Rudy Rabbinge. This, and the contribution from the Government of the Netherlands provide TBI with an excellent position to further develop an organisational model that combines well established national programmes and an international approach.

Martin Kropff

Chairman

Message from the Director



In 2012 Tropenbos International (TBI) began a new five-year programme funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this programme, we will continue to be knowledge brokers, linking research with policy and practice. We will continue to build capacity in TBI host countries by training professionals, and will facilitate an informed dialogue among relevant stakeholders on societal challenges related to forests and forest resources.

The thematic scope of the programme has changed, however. We aim to better understand the role of trees and forests as providers of ecosystem services in landscape mosaics. In these landscapes, natural forests alternate with intensive agriculture, small-scale croplands and pastures, agro-forests, planted forests and other

forms of land use. Climate stability and biodiversity are two of the services that are important at the local, national and international level.

Another theme that will receive attention in this programme is the timber value chain, and the linkages between the domestic and international trade in timber and other forest products.

We will also pay attention to local governance and community management of forests and the development of innovative mechanisms to support sustainable forest management.

In 2012 we started new projects within these four major themes and we also completed some projects from our previous programme. For example, we concluded two major projects on capacity building and organisational strengthening. In Ghana collaboration with the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology resulted in the integration of natural resource management principles and practices in the university's research and undergraduate curriculum. The project was also instrumental in establishing a new MSc programme on Natural Resource and Environmental Governance in Ghana.

In Colombia the National Training Service (SENA) provides vocational training in every corner of the country. TBI successfully introduced a new methodology for capacity building among the

country's indigenous people based on their experience and specific needs. The project strengthened SENA's organisational capacity to meet the capacity needs of the country's indigenous people and afro-Colombians.

Given TBI's proven approach - integrating research, capacity building and dialogue - and its partnerships with knowledge institutions in the North and South, we are well positioned to continue making knowledge work for forests, people and sustainable development in the years ahead.

René Boot

Director



Productive landscapes provide a wide range of products and ecosystem services. They also fulfil the economic and environmental requirements of present and future generations at the local, national and global level. Tropenbos International (TBI) established its landscape programme to better understand the role of trees and forests as providers of goods and services in these landscapes. Through the programme, TBI develops strategies to increase the benefits from multifunctional landscapes for food security, ecosystem services and human well-being.

Forest landscape restoration is one of the themes addressed within the landscape programme. In various TBI countries, governments involve local farmers in schemes to re-establish forest cover in degraded landscapes. In 2012, TBI and its partners published the results of two of these schemes, the Modified Taungya System (MTS)* in Ghana and Forest Land Allocation (FLA)** in Viet Nam.

Both systems are government strategies to restore forest cover on degraded lands, address timber deficits and contribute to rural livelihoods. Households receive use rights over small (0.5–3 hectares on average) areas of degraded forest land for 25 to 50 years. They can use these areas for establishing tree plantations and for growing crops in the early phases of plantation growth. More than 100,000 households participate in Ghana, and more than one million in Viet Nam. The Ghanaian households keep all of the agricultural harvest and receive 40% of the proceeds of the plantation. In Viet Nam, households are entitled to the full benefits from the crops and plantation.

Researchers from TBI partner universities in Amsterdam, Kumasi, Utrecht and Hue reported on the impacts of these schemes in 2012 (To and Tran 2012; Derkyi 2012; Insaidoo et al. 2012). In both countries, restoring forest cover by farmers was more successful than establishing government-sponsored plantations. In Viet Nam, the success of plantation establishment depended

greatly on the presence of nearby markets for timber and pulp.

The livelihoods benefits were mixed. Researchers noted positive benefits in Ghana, where people had greater access to scarce crop land, increased food security and even earned enough money to afford better homes and an education for their children. The short period when growing crops is permitted (until the canopy of the timber trees closes, usually after three years) limits these benefits, however, and benefits from timber take much longer to be realized and are less secure. In Viet Nam, the relationship between FLA and livelihoods was found to be weak and indirect. Although there were examples of improved livelihoods, this strongly depended on social, cultural and political factors. FLA has assisted people with access to funds for investment, and people with power and education; weaker groups have benefited much less.

The researchers also formulated recommendations for adjusting policies. TBI Viet Nam organized a workshop in April 2012 where researchers and government representatives debated the results of FLA and discussed possible improvements. The recommendations were well received by government, but it will take time for changes to come into effect. In Ghana, the research findings will be used to support the case for re-establishing the MTS, which was abandoned for political reasons in 2010.

MTS and FLA are two examples of strategies that help establish multi-purpose land management systems in degraded landscapes. Critical evaluation of the costs, benefits and weaknesses of these strategies helps to guide policies aimed at promoting sustainable landscapes. Such landscapes provide livelihoods for rural communities, produce timber and other products that support local economies, and conserve or even increase the value of ecosystem services to a variety of people. TBI shares its experiences and lessons in networks such as the Global Partnership for Forest Land Restoration, and disseminates the findings both locally in the partner countries and at international meetings.

Related publications

Boakye, E. A. 2012. Does forest restoration using Taungya foster tree species diversity? The case of the Afram Headwaters Forest Reserve in Ghana. African Journal of Ecology Vol. 50 (3): 319-325

Derkyi, M. 2012. Fighting over forest: Interactive governance of conflicts over forest and tree resources in Ghana's high forest zone. African Studies Collection, Vol. 41. Ph.D. Thesis, University of Amsterdam. Amsterdam, the Netherlands.*

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- City: Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

 Ngoufo, R., N. Njoumemi and M. Parren. 2012. État des lieux de la situation économique, écologique et sociale actuelle de l'espace Camerounais du TRIDOM. Wageningen, Pays-Bas: Tropenbos International, Programme du bassin du Congo
- To Xuan Phuc and Tran Huu Nghi. 2012. Forest Land Allocation in Viet Nam: Implementation process and results. Tropenbos International Viet Nam Info Brief. Hue City, Viet Nam: Tropenbos International Viet Nam.**
- Tran Nam Tu and P. Burgers 2012. Decentralized forest governance in central Vietnam. ETFRN News 53: 240–249.
- Wells P., N. Franklin, P. Gunarso, G. Paoli, T. Mafira, D. Riyo Kusumo and B. Clanchy. 2012. *Indonesian Constitutional Court Ruling Number 45/PUU-IX/2011 in relation to Forest Lands: Implications for Forests, Development and REDD+*. Policy Brief. Daemeter Consultancy, Tropenbos International Indonesia and Makarim & Taira S.





Illegal logging has a devastating impact on forests throughout the world and on the people who live in and depend on these forests. Timber-producing countries in the tropical regions struggle to provide legally verified lumber, especially for local consumption. TBI is supporting these countries in finding new ways to assist the forest sector in supplying legal lumber to the domestic market.

The illegal timber trade

Between €25 and 75 billion in illegal timber is traded every year, with a loss of tax revenue of around €10 billion to the governments concerned. The European Union (EU) is combating illegal logging with the adoption of the Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan. This plan bans illegal timber from the EU market through the EU Timber Regulation, and supports countries in producing legally verified timber through Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs). This timber will be awarded with a FLEGT licence, which will in turn provide access to the EU market.

The majority of the VPAs cover all timber harvested in the country, for both domestic use and export. Production for the local market represents a high percentage of the total timber trade in these countries - often more than 50% - and this share is likely to grow. Many VPA countries are struggling with implementation of the agreement, especially with regard to domestic timber markets. Most of the timber produced for the domestic market in these countries is harvested informally.

A negotiated solution

In Ghana more than 80% of timber for the local market (around 2.5 million m³ per year) is supplied by illegal chainsaw milling. Chainsaw milling is the on-site conversion of logs into lumber using chainsaws; the practice is widespread, even though it has been banned in Ghana since 1998. Finding solutions to this persistent problem has proved to be difficult because of the complexity of the issue and the multiple interests involved. To address this complexity and bridge the differences in perceptions TBI engaged all stakeholders in finding a solution. An all-inclusive discussion, supported by information

obtained through thorough research, was organized. This multi-stakeholder dialogue (MSD) resulted in the adoption of artisanal milling to supply the domestic market with legal lumber. In this approach, forest resources are allocated to small-scale loggers, who sell their legal production to the local market. The concept is being tested through various pilot projects.

TBI is facilitating a similar process in Guyana. There, the small-scale logging sector accounts for 60% of total timber production. Even though the sector produces legal timber, the situation is not without challenges. Together with interested groups, TBI assessed the issues and recommendations for strategic improvement of the subsector to inform a multi-stakeholder dialogue. This MSD process has the potential to make important contributions to the VPA negotiations that started in Guyana in 2012.

TBI's experiences in addressing domestic timber market issues provide important lessons for stakeholders in other countries. In Kinshasa, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, TBI - together with IDLgrouporganized a Forest Governance Forum in September 2012. TBI presented its experiences with the MSD process in Ghana and launched a book on artisanal logging in DR Congo (see publications).

Participation in events and conferences informs stakeholders of TBI experiences, such as the conference "Illegal logging and legality verification – the FLEGT/VPA as new modes of governance" (Copenhagen, December 2012) and the biannual Chatham House Illegal Logging Stakeholder Consultation and Update meetings (London, 9–10 February and 5–6 July 2012).

Related publications

- Bauer, T. 2012. Community forestry in Cameroon: how it can contribute more effectively to FLEGT. Policy Brief, September 2012. Wageningen, the Netherlands: Tropenbos International.
- Benneker, C. 2012. Forest governance in DRC: artisanal logging. ETFRN News 53: 29-35.
- Benneker, C., D-M. Assumani, A. Maindo, F. Bola, G. Kimbuani, G. Lescuyer, J.C. Esuka, E. Kasongo and S. Begaa (eds.). 2012. Le bois à l'ordre du jour. Exploitation artisanale de bois d'oeuvre en RD Congo: Secteur porteur d'espoir pour le développement des petites et moyennes entreprises. Wageningen, Pays-Bas: Tropenbos International, Programme du bassin du Congo.
- Harris, B., R. Kerrett, N. Rozemeijer and M. Wit (eds.). 2012. Supporting sustainable chainsaw milling through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Guyana. Wageningen, the Netherlands: Tropenbos International.
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- Wit, M., P. Cuny, R. Zagt and T. Bauer. 2012. The formalization and integration of the domestic market into LAS: Cameroon. Internal document. Wageningen, the Netherlands: Tropenbos International.



International institutions and NGOs have made a large contribution to getting community forestry recognized as a viable approach to forest management in tropical countries. Community forestry enables local people who live in and around the forest to benefit from its products (and the financial gains these products provide) while managing the forest resource base. The involvement of international parties in fostering community forestry may create the impression that it is an externally imposed model of forest management. However, in many countries communities have long-established patterns of forest use. These forest use patterns are not always recognized as forms of community forestry but are important to consider as a departure point for future approaches.

TBI has implemented studies in various countries on the way that local people, individuals and social entities are involved as communities or as user groups in the use and management of the forest at the local level.

In Bolivia two Ph.D. studies on forest governance were conducted within the *Programa Manejo* de *Bosques de la Amazonia Boliviana* (PROMAB). This EU-funded forest research and development initiative was carried out

by the Dutch NGO HIVOS, Utrecht University, TBI, the Universities of Beni and Pando, and the NGOs IPHAE and HERENCIA.

Community forestry in Bolivia has been implemented since the enactment of the 1996 forest law. The Ph.D. studies show that local forest governance arrangements are strongly influenced by historical changes in access to land, to financing and to forest resources. Market access due to improved infrastructure is also important. Policy changes have given local people more control over land and forest resources and enabled them to sell trees through their contacts with urban dwellers and traders, which were previously established for the sale of Brazil nuts. The economic benefits from the sale of timber have become an important component of local livelihoods.

Outcomes vary in terms of socioeconomic development and sustainable resource use. Some communities implement forest management plans that provide collective benefits. In other cases people prefer to sell trees individually and receive benefits directly. Still other communities apply systems that allow for the generation

of both individual and collective benefits. The resulting local forest governance arrangements are dynamic and apply both formal and informal regulations on forest use as these fit within existing forest use patterns.

In DR Congo property rights over forests are held by the central government. Customary rights are recognized, but not formalized. Community forestry as an alternative model for forest management is included in the 2002 Forest Code, but as of 2012 its regulations had not yet been approved. In practice, however, customary regulations rule what happens on the ground and local communities are the main and most important actors regarding the use and management of the forest on their lands.

In DR Congo TBI participated in a pan-African research project on forest governance named the Responsible Forest Governance Initiative*. TBI researchers showed that forest use patterns are dynamic and that outcomes

are influenced by strong customary ownership over land and resources, improved infrastructure, increased market demand for timber and other forest products and the role of local authorities. Communities increasingly sell timber to artisanal loggers and have learned to negotiate timber prices according to tree species, volume and distance from the harvesting site to the road.

Internally, communities are developing rules to regulate decision-making on benefit sharing and logging in communal and family forests. This process often requires lengthy negotiations and can create conflicts involving community members, local authorities (chiefs), loggers and government officials. The rural population has developed multiple strategies to enforce local authorities to share benefits from timber sales, but they face difficulties when resource exploitation takes place by powerful parties (politicians and the military) in collaboration with customary authorities.

Related publications

Cano Cardona, W. 2012. Formal institutions, local arrangements and conflicts in the Northern Bolivian communities after forest governance reforms. Ph.D. thesis, Utrecht University

Matapí, U. and R. Yucuna. 2012. Cartografía ancestral yucuna-matapí: conocimiento y manejo tradicional del territorio. Bogotá, Colombia: Ministerio de Cultura, Patrimonio Natural- Fondo para la Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas en alianza con Tropenbos Internacional Colombia.

^{*} The Responsible Forest Governance Initiative (RFGI) is a research and training program focusing on environmental governance in Africa. It is funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and executed by the Council for the Development of Social Sciences Research in Africa (CODESRIA), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).



There is a significant gap between the financing that is available from public and private sources for sustainable forest management and the funding required to meet future demands. Private financing is the most significant source of investment for forestry, and is likely to remain so given government policies on public financing. According to the World Bank, the private sector invests US\$ 15 billion every year in tropical forests; this is nine times greater than the combined investments of governments and development agencies.

The crucial challenge is how to reorient private financing to make it accessible in adequate amounts and terms to support sustainable and competitive forest management practices and responsible and profitable forest entrepreneurship. National and international public financing is increasingly focused on creating the supportive conditions to cope with the challenges ahead.

In 2012 TBI carried out several knowledge development activities to broaden the understanding of the needs and perspectives of private finance and business engagement in sustainable forestry (both small-scale and large-scale), and to determine how public policy can contribute.

ETFRN News 54 - Good Business: Making Private Investments Work for Tropical Forests - brought together 23 articles describing the hands-on experiences of individuals and companies. In the Netherlands a study assessed the involvement and perspectives of Dutch financial institutions in forestry. This complemented a similar international study that TBI carried out with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on institutional investors' willingness to finance forestry in emerging countries. All three studies show a growing interest of the private sector to engage more actively in tropical forestry and note the diversity of opportunities. They also, however, caution that the business is still at a very early stage of development and is hindered by uncertainties and risks. To reach the market scale and credibility needed risk-return profiles need to be improved, capacities must be built, networks of expertise and organisations must be expanded, forestry specific tools and standards must be developed, and supportive relations, policies and institutions need to be nurtured.

Together with FAO, the Global Mechanism, the International Tropical Timber Organisation and the National Forest Programme Facility, TBI synthesized the collective experiences in supporting national strategies and mechanisms for sustainable forest and land management in more than

50 countries. The resulting publication, Unlocking National Opportunities: New Insights on Financing Sustainable Forest and Land Management, highlights several lessons for national policy and international support, including the importance of designing a viable strategic process with national partners. Knowledge sharing; coordinated practical action among stakeholders; analysis of potential legal, policy and institutional barriers; risk mitigation; and guarantee instruments also have to be integral parts of strategies to mobilize financing.

TBI's work on small-scale forestry also teaches that in order to develop a more inclusive and sustainable forest sector a better understanding of the functioning of small and medium forest enterprises (SMFEs) is needed, including self-financing through formal and informal arrangements. Neglecting small-scale forest producers in policy-making and business development not only misses an opportunity, but also increases the risks of policy and market failures. Most small enterprises lack knowledge of markets and access to them, and do not have negotiation skills; these are critical weaknesses.

Related publications:

- Asen, A., H. Savenije and F. Schmidt (eds.). 2012. Good Business: Making Private Investments Work for Tropical Forests. ETFRN News 54: xx + 196 pp.
- Asen, A., M. Boscolo, R. Carrillo, K. van Dijk, C. Nordheim-Larsen, S. Oystese, H. Savenije, J. Thunberg and J. Zapata. 2012. *Unlocking National Opportunities: New Insights on Financing Sustainable Forest and Land Management. Policy brochure*. Rome: FAO, Tropenbos International, the Global Mechanism, the National Forest Programme Facility and ITTO
- Bokkestijn, A. 2012. Mecanismos de financiamiento para el manejo no formal de bosques en la Amazonia Peruana. Dos estudios de caso en la región Loreto. Wageningen, Países Bajos: Tropenbos Internacional.
- Glauner, R., J.A. Rinehart, P. D'Anieri, M. Boscolo and H. Savenije. 2012. Timberland in Institutional Investment Portfolios: Can Significant Investment Reach Emerging Markets? Forestry Policy and Institutions, Working Paper No. 31. Rome: FAO.
- van Bodegom, A.J, S. Wigboldus, A.G. Blundell, E. Harwell and H. Savenije. 2012. Strengthening Effective Forest Governance Monitoring Practice. Forestry Policy and Institutions, Working Paper No. 29. Rome: FAO.
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- van Dijk, K., E. Lammerts van Bueren and H. Savenije. 2012a. Bossen en Investeren Enige Basis begrippen. Info brief. Wageningen, Nederland: Tropenbos International.
- van Dijk, K., E. Lammerts van Bueren and H. Savenije. 2012b. Nederlandse Financiële Instellingen en Bosbouw. Betrokkenheid, ervaringen en perspectieven. Een verkenning. Wageningen, Nederland: Tropenbos International.



TBI contributes to better governance and management of tropical forest resources through its support for research and for strengthening of personal and organisational capacities.

In 2012, TBI completed three major projects on capacity building and organisational strengthening: Integrated Natural Resource Management in Ghana; Intercultural capacity building in Colombia; and the Capacity Fund for Forest and Nature (Capaciteitsfonds Bos & Natuur, or CBN) in Suriname. The first two were financed by NUFFIC, the Netherlands organisation for international cooperation in higher education and the third one by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Suriname.

In Ghana, TBI carried out a long-term (2005–12) collaboration with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. The project aimed to embed principles and approaches of Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM) in order to improve higher education in agriculture and natural resources. The major result of the project was the capacity and commitment of CANR staff to use INRM principles in their research and education. At the institutional level, both within CANR and among external stakeholders, the project made considerable gains in embedding INRM principles and approaches.

In Ghana, the need for integrated intersectoral approaches is being recognized.

The experiences gained during the project were presented and discussed at an international conference, "Addressing environmental challenges, a call for business unusual", which took place in the newly build CANR International Centre for Innovative Learning, March 14–15, 2012. The theme of the conference was encouraging universities to develop innovative programmes in order to become more responsive to the needs of the agricultural and natural resource management sectors in Ghana. More than 100 participants concluded that environmental problems, which are complex by nature, need an integrated approach:

- stakeholders must be involved in problem analysis and in looking for solutions;
- intersectoral collaboration and a holistic view are fundamental in addressing environmental problems; and
- targeted, interdisciplinary information is indispensable in multi-stakeholder dialogues and informed decision making.

A new MSc programme on Natural Resource and Environmental Governance was developed as part of the project. It will allow Ghanaian students to acquire the skills and competencies needed to apply INRM principles. The MSc program is being used as case study for the Ph.D. of a CANR staff member, who is looking at the development of curricula that is responsive to the needs of professionals in natural resource governance and to developments in the environmental sector.

In Colombia, the Colombian National Training Service (Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje, or SENA) provides vocational training in social and technical development. SENA and TBI developed the project, Training in environmental management and sustainable production chains, to ensure that the training provided by SENA corresponds to local needs for capacity building. The project, which was carried out from 2008–12, provided SENA with knowledge, tools and staff (100) trained in intercultural capacity building related to environmental management and sustainable production chains.

The goal of the project was to strengthen the organisational capacity of SENA to develop training activities with indigenous and Afro-descendant communities. A methodological road map and toolkit for training in intercultural contexts were developed (published in Spanish), which addressed five steps: consultation, characterization, self-diagnosis, project formulation and systematic learning by doing. The project introduced a unit of intercultural capacity building and productivity (Unidad de Formación, Produccíon Intercultural, or UFPI), a small-scale project that seeks to provide an economic alternative for local communities based on market opportunities and the potential of the natural environment.

The results of the SENA project - along with more than 100 publications, all available on the TBI website - were presented at a series of seminars in each of the seven SENA centres the projects worked with. A final high-level seminar was held in Bogotá, July 7-8, 2012.

The project allowed SENA to make significant progress in tailoring its programs to ethnic communities and to strengthen its training programs in intercultural contexts. This is particularly important in Colombia, where local communities own one-third of the territory.

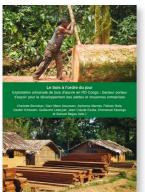
As a follow-up, SENA is formulating an Intercultural Standard and has created an internal platform to further promote the use of the intercultural approach. It has been recognized that rigid rules for education in an intercultural context do not work; the specific circumstances for each region and cultural group have to be taken into account.

Over four years, the Capacity Fund for Forest and Nature supported 46 projects in Suriname through collaborative identification of problems and partners, help with formulation of proposals, and assistance with project implementation. The objective of the CBN was to improve professionalism at the operational and management level in the forest and nature sectors, including timber processing, nature conservation and nature tourism, thus contributing to enhanced performance by both people and organisations.

The initiatives supported by CBN came from the public, private and non-profit sectors, including non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations. Projects included vocational training, management support, development of awareness and training materials, and field visits.

Through these efforts, professionalism in the forest and nature sector has increased in Suriname. The effective CBN communication strategy, relatively easy access to the fund, and direct support with project formulation contributed to the success of CBN.

Wood on the agenda: Artisanal logging in DR Congo



This book provides an overview of artisanal logging (small-scale timber exploitation) in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is based on contributions from 33 researchers from a variety of national and international organisations and institutions. The book provides insight to the basic conditions that need to be fulfilled by a revised legal framework on artisanal logging in the context of the FLEGT process.

Revision of the legal framework in DR Congo requires in-depth information on the specific circumstances of artisanal logging. The chapters in the book provide information on local practices of artisanal logging, including the actors involved (among them, local communities); the interplay between economic and political interests; logging impacts on the forest; the importance of artisanal logging in the region; and its relevance to international development and forest governance policies.

The book identifies three major issues related to artisanal logging in DR Congo: (1) local conflicts resulting from the abuse of power by political and military authorities, which affect the rural population and artisanal

loggers; (2) financial harassment of artisanal loggers by officials, which reduces the cost-effectiveness of artisanal logging and its contribution to the treasury; and (3) the absence of a forest management system that guarantees the sustainability of artisanal timber exploitation.

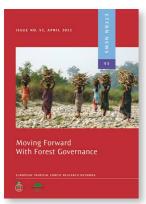
Policy brief: Community forestry in Cameroon: how it can contribute more effectively to FLEGT



Community forestry timber destined for export to the European Union could become a serious threat to FLEGT. This is due to a lack of operational standards for timber exploitation in community forests, and to inadequate independent control of logging inventories, exploitation certificates and timber waybills.

The basic idea of community forestry in Cameroon is to grant small-scale logging rights to forest-adjacent communities in order to improve the livelihoods of local people. The main principle is to keep it simple: applying for, implementing and documenting forestry activities should be feasible and practical for communities. This simplicity, however, has started to compromise community forestry in the country. The policy brief gives an overview of the community forestry situation in Cameroon and advises how regulations and procedures for community forestry could be reformed in order to develop and increase transparency in the timber sector.

ETFRN News 53: Moving Forward with Forest Governance



It is widely acknowledged that improving forest governance is an important prerequisite for sustainable forest management and for reducing deforestation and forest degradation. Making governance work better for people and forests is not an easy task. Divergent interests, imbalanced power relations and unequal access to information, decision-making, resources and benefits are all part of this challenge.

The 29 articles in this issue of ETFRN News' showcase a rich diversity of examples of how forest governance has been addressed. The issue brings together experiences from a wide range of initiatives in forest governance reform in various settings. Some are lessons from well-established approaches to forest governance reform, such as community forestry; others relate to more recently developed initiatives, such as Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT). The articles show that international instruments - such as Voluntary Partnership Agreements, forest certification and more recently, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) - are important drivers to address governance in the forest sector.

Experiences described in the articles demonstrate that forest governance challenges do not have one-size-fits-all solutions. They also show that since inter-related issues underlie all forest governance reforms, an integrated approach is essential. The participatory processes of effective forest governance create the capacity for continuous learning and enhance the ability to adapt to lessons learned. The articles reveal that transparency, communication and access to information, and multi-stakeholder engagement in deliberative processes - particularly the meaningful participation of disadvantaged groups - are crucial ingredients in moving forward with forest governance.

Other TBI Publications

Broekhoven, G., H. Savenije and S. von Scheliha (eds.) 2012. Moving Forward with Forest Governance. ETFRN News 53: xvi + 272 pp. Huy, L.Q. 2012. Growth, demography and stand structure of Scaphium macropodum in differently managed forests in Vietnam. Ph.D. thesis, Utrecht University.

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^{*} ETFRN News is a publication of the European Tropical Forest Research Network (ETFRN). It comprises theme-based issues on research relevant to the international development agenda.

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Revenues	€ x 1,000	%
Netherlands Government		
DGIS	1,841	42.8
EZ	144	3.3
Nuffic NPT programme	684	15.9
EU (Addressing chainsaw milling in Ghana and Guyana through multi-stakeholder dialogue)	645	15.0
RNE (CBN Suriname)	238	5.5
WWF Colombia (Trinational Project)	80	1.9
Local site contracts	414	9.6
Miscellaneous (a.o Consultancies)	234	5.4
Interest	26	0.6
	4,306	100

Expenditures	€ x 1,000	%
Country Programme Activities	1,765	41.0
Local site contracts	405	9.4
Special projects	1,934	44.9
Organisational costs	202	4.7
	4,306	100



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By making knowledge work for forests and people, Tropenbos International contributes to well-informed decision making for improved management and governance of tropical forests. Our longstanding local presence and ability to bring together local, national and international partners make us a trusted partner in sustainable development.

