

**PRESENTATION GIVEN AT THE TRANSLINKS NATURE,
WEALTH AND POWER WORKSHOP**

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Enterprise-Based Biodiversity Conservation Nature, Wealth, and Power Lessons from Community Forestry In the Philippines and Nepal



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EWV's Enterprise-Based Conservation Program

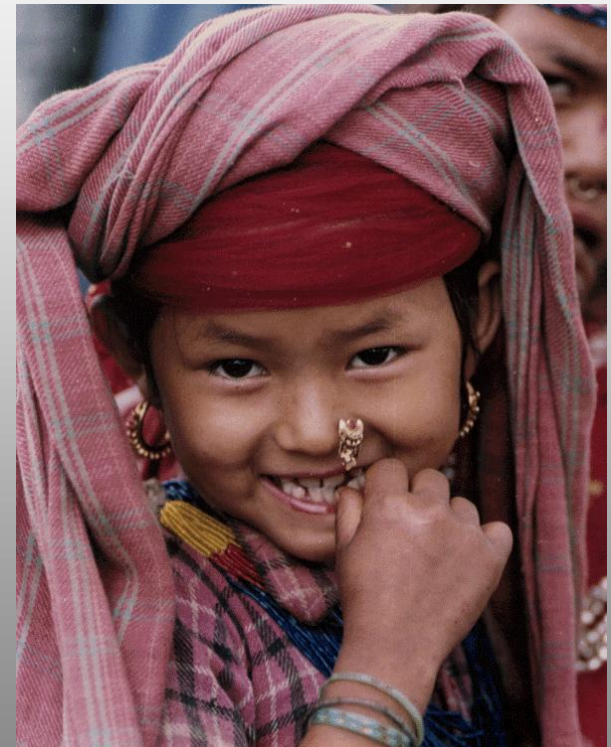
- **Designed for Community Forestry Programs (project experience from India, Indonesia, Nepal and Philippines)**
- **Community Forestry programs have hundreds and often thousands of small groups (20 to 100 members) that need assistance**
- **Challenge to go beyond group by group assistance and scale up and consolidate critical masses of forestry groups**
- **Explicit recognition that enterprise and conservation have to be integrated**
- **Integration of other forestry “tenure” – protected areas, government lands, private concessions, etc.**

Context of Community Forestry

- Legal programs for community forestry new in last 20 years; more hectares in community forestry programs than protected areas worldwide. Contain critical biodiversity and often buffer intact **nature**.
- Groups may get inadequate areas to manage sustainably and/or high percentages of degraded forest; low **wealth** potential
- Challenge existing **power** in forestry areas; conflicts common over resources as well as from ongoing “civil” conflicts
- Put lots of responsibility on groups that often have low capacity. Responsibility and rights articulated in complicated and conflicting laws and implementation by governments
- Need for group coordination and cooperation, but individual economic rewards!

Quick Case – Nepal

- Existing trade in nontimber forest products, degradation happening, but ways to mitigate
- Little competition from outside “big players”
- Opportunities for product value addition and market improvement (price information, FSC certification)
- Recognition that critical biodiversity needed to be conserved and government receptive to awarded larger tenure agreements for high performing groups
- Strengthening of forestry groups through federation efforts
- Civil conflict, but consistent policy progress with government



Past, Present, Future Table for Community Forestry in Nepal and goals to enhance nature, wealth and power elements

Issue	10 Years Ago	Now	Goal for Next Five Years
Forest Management and local resource management	Community Forestry getting going with few CFUGs organized in the upper mountain, NTFPs not in operational plans	NTFPs included in some plans, models of good CFUG governance; 21 CFUGs are FSC certified; all groups in federation	25% of CFUGs include NTFPs for commercial harvesting and are implementing effective OPs and have attained good governance and documented biodiversity threats abatement
Coordination among major sector actors	No formal bodies to bring together CFUGs, government, private sectors and NGOs	NNN, HJSS, NTFP Coordinating Committee, etc. all provide regular forums for interaction among actors	These bodies are still functioning and have made significant progress on stated objectives
Effective Resource Management and Scientific Harvesting	“Free for all” NTFP collecting in the field and no knowledge of scientific harvesting	Some CFUGs bringing harvests under control, select work done on scientific harvesting and pilots done in field	Make scientific managed regeneration and harvesting mainstream for collectors and 50% of OPs have clear and enforced harvesting plans.
Financing for local processing	Non-existent	Some local capital invested	Develop NTFP specific lending programs with Nepal financial institutions
Value Adding Processing	Raw NTFPs largely traded illegally to India with no value added – 90% of Jatamansi not processed; Wintergreen has little trade and processing	75% of Jatamansi and 100% of Wintergreen now processed into oil	100% of Jatamansi and Wintergreen processed in Nepal
Market Information for Harvesters	No market information and harvesters were at the mercy of traders	MIS system operating in 12 districts for 42 products	Build on MIS system to education collectors on harvesting and quality control issues and double the number of districts covered by the MIS
Product Positioning in International Markets	Little or no sales in International markets beyond India	Jatamansi achieves sales in European markets and certification programs initiated	Nepal has established market position in international market beyond India

Quick Case - Philippines

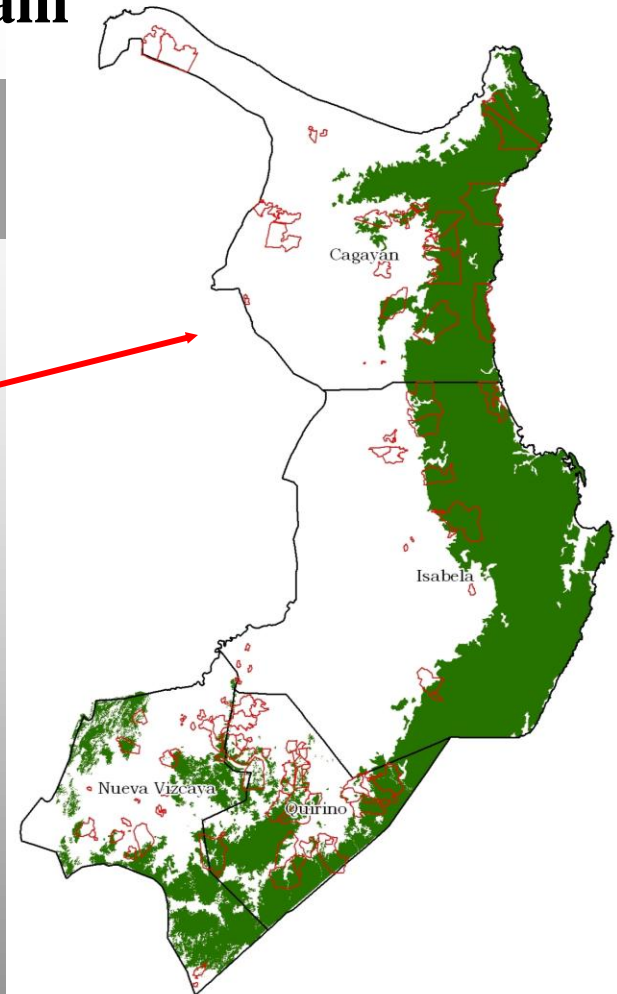
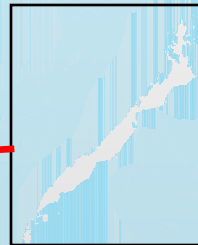
- Existing trade in timber, which was depleted in most community forestry areas. Need to switch to alternative activity.
- Lots of competition from outside “big players” (armed illegal loggers, mining interests)
- Opportunities for product development, but needed longer-term vision and development of skills (agro forestry, NTFPs)
- Recognition that critical biodiversity needed to be conserved but varying government receptiveness to community forestry. Permit suspensions, tenure cancellation.
- Strengthening of forestry groups through federation efforts
- Civil conflict in isolated areas, inconsistent policy progress with government

Key Interventions in the Philippines Program

- Improve federation's abilities to provide sustainable services to their members in forest resource use planning and management through improved coordination with partners

- Develop federations abilities to implement biological monitoring and to meet legal compliance with forest regulations

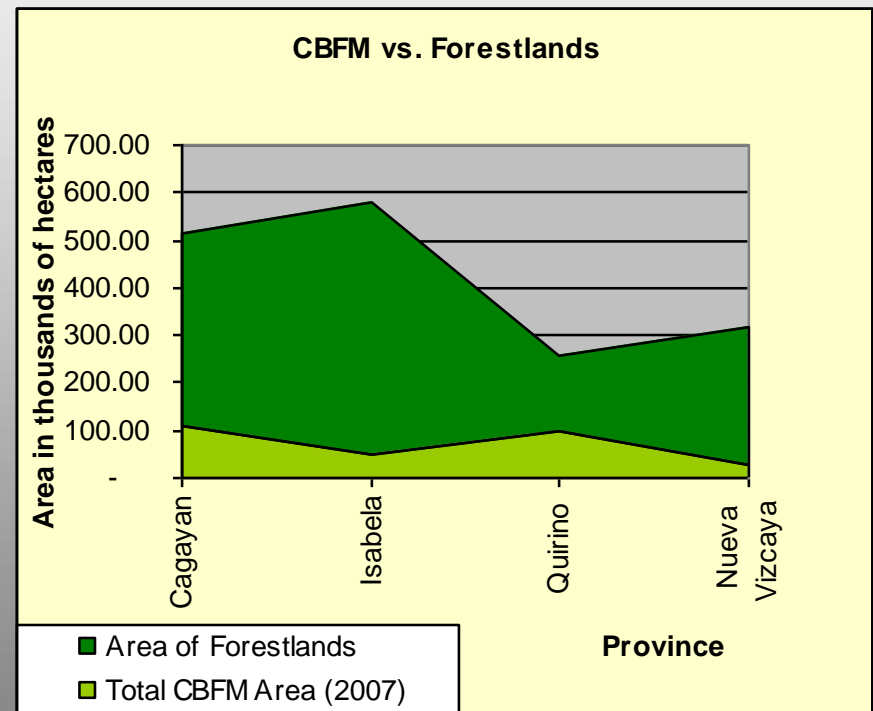
- Transfer resource management tools and strategies to federations –developed under proven conservation programs for articulating and integrating threat abatement strategies into resource management and economic development strategies



To bring **300,000** hectares already in the CBFM Program under effective management by 2008 and build a sustainable mechanism within Federations for providing CBFM resource management services that conserve biodiversity while providing for sustainable economic activities.

2007 CBFM Region 2 Statistics

- 17% of region 2's forest lands are under the CBFM agreement (286 thousand of the 1.67 million hectares of forestlands)
- 117 CBFM holders/people's organizations
- 4 provincial and 1 regional federation (70% POs affiliated)



Assessing Progress

- **Use of CBFM group baseline and monitoring tool**
- **About 70% of CBFM groups surveyed during baseline in 2001 and completed follow-up assessment in 2006 (about 75 group)**
- **Tool also used to work with DENR to assess groups when CBFM compliance if challenged.**
- **Despite thousands of community forestry agreements around the world, few ongoing M&E tracking efforts for large numbers of groups**

Summary Results of Follow-up Assessment

Organizational Governance

– Score Mixed

- Governance stagnated for many individual groups as resource use permits were suspended, while other groups were catalyzed and contributed to federation building and cross-sectoral task forces



Summary Results - Finance



Score – Mixed

Financial controls improved for many groups, but groups with banking relationships declined by 12% due to restricted economic activities

Total capital build up for PO did increase from 6.4 M Pesos to 14.7 M Pesos

Summary Results Enterprise Activities

Score – Small improvement

- Major shift from timber and non-timber forest products enterprise due to RUP suspensions into lending operations, agroforestry and agriculture.
- 21% increase in economic participants (about 1000)



Summary Results – Forest Protection

- **Score – Mixed**
- **Decreased foot patrols and checkpoints, but increased fire control in some groups and legal filings against illegal activities (but POs threatened)**
- **Increases in plantations and agroforestry, but dramatic decrease in timber stand improvement and assisted natural regeneration.**
- **Documented conservation of biodiversity (decreased timber poaching and fires) and greater awareness within groups, but set back from outside mining.**



Summary Results – Conflict Resolution

Score – Improved

Ground delinations and community mapping resolve conflicts and enforce protection policies

Recognition of individual property rights (IPR) helps member better participate in CBFM, encourages tree planting, and has helped to decrease slash and burn

Conflicts greatly reduced which provide greater stability for economic activities and incentives to protect



Conclusion for Community Forestry

- **Still issues to solve and many improvement needed.**
- **Even with all its problems community forestry in Nepal and the Philippines has allowed increases in economic wellbeing of members**
- **Community forestry in both countries has brought together stakeholders to work together on conservation. Forest biodiversity loss greatly reduced in areas compared to pre-community forest period. RP German Study which shows forest loss down to .03% in last 7 years from 3% in previous decade.**