

Consultation Report on the Vanuatu Forest Policy

2011 - 2020



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National Consultation April 16-19 2010



FOREST POLICY REVIEW NATIONAL CONSULTATION

16 & 19 April 2010

Hospitality Centre, Port Vila

Report

The first national consultation on the Vanuatu forest policy review was held on April 16 and 19, 2010 in Port Vila, Vanuatu. The meeting was attended by 52 individuals representing 39 organizations, departments, NGOs and communities (list of participants, see app.1).

The consultation was opened by his Excellency Steven Kalskau, the Honourable Minister on Agriculture, Quarantine, Forestry and Fisheries, in the presence of the Director General, Mr. Jeffery Wilfred.

The consultation developed along the lines of the proposed workshop agenda (app. 2), with presentations scheduled from key stakeholders on the first day, and followed by in depth group discussions on the following day. Unfortunately, several scheduled presenters were unable to attend, and their views on the forest policy, especially in reference to issues related to industry, trade, and commerce, had to be elaborated by third parties.

The participants showed considerable interest in international carbon markets, specifically local entry into carbon trading and eligibility for obtaining emission reduction certificates, e.g. for existing coconut palm plantations.

In addition to Carbon Trading, the following issues were raised to be considered and addressed in the new forest policy:

- Model small-scale plantations (multi-grower scheme) *Santalumk spp.* (Sandalwood), *Canarium indicum* (ngai), *Endorspermum medullosum* (whitewood), *Terminalia catapa* and *Swietenia macrophylla* (Mahogany)
- Financing mechanisms for small-scale plantations = farmer-based afforestation;
- Sandalwood: The need for nurseries to produce seedlings, especially for farm-based approaches;
- Canarium nuts: Vanuatu has 900 000 Canarium trees and can produce annually about 400 000 tons of nuts, which would bring at 2 mill Vatu/ ton a market price of 9 Billion Vatu annually. Canarium can ideally be used in agro-forestry systems together with cocoa. This potential is not exploited because:

1. many nuts get spoiled due to poor postharvest procedures and difficulties in land and sea transport, as remote producers do not have infrastructure to preserve (deep-freeze) at site (actually the drying of nuts in shell to certain MC before sent to processing site.
 2. processing plants are required in the main centres (Port Vila-Efate, Lakatoro-Malekula & Luganville-Santo) to limit these problems;
 3. there is a lack of assistance in getting quarantine, beetle control and other plant protection measures sorted out which are necessary to export the nuts to the major markets;
 4. quality of the products need improvement to secure niche market in the temperate countries as products have longer viability compare to the tropical countries,
 5. research development and government assistance to gain market access for products is urgently needed,
 6. the cocoa disease that occur in PNG already reached north Solomon. and will eventually reach Vanuatu, therefore Canarium growing should be encouraged as alternative crop.
- There is an urgent need for firewood plantations to provide subsistence cooking fuel for Ni-Vanuatu;
 - There is an urgent need to upgrade infrastructure in rural areas for private industries and local producers (export-oriented) to work competitively;
 - Land-ownership is a problem for Canarium nut usage as well as for sandalwood and other plantations;
 - Government should support small scale, rather than large-scale forest plantations;
 - Monitoring of sandalwood planting and survival rate are required,
 - Plants with high survival rate and better growth will be awarded with certificate including certified benefits
 - Plantings will be registered as collateral,
 - While we are encouraging landowners to involve in tree planting, it is important for the department to have a provision in policy and regulation that deal with damage caused to the plants, especially damage done by people and domesticated animals,
 - 80 % of the rural population is governed by church and chief, therefore it is important that churches are included in the list of stakeholders
 - Sawmillers on the outer islands could not be able to trade their timber profitably in Port Vila due to the lower price offered by imported timber (pine), including hardwood timber importing from Solomon Islands,
 - Role of the stakeholders have to be clearly practical and specified,
 - Availability of information is important,
 - Since Vanuatu has a shortage of land available for commercial forestry, returns should be maximized with appropriate species planted correctly on the appropriate sites;
 - Global consumers have strong ethical and environmental concerns. Vanuatu should aim at this global market and comply with global consumer's demands– end usage brings social as well as monetary rewards; citizen of Vanuatu
 - A coordinated approach for the forestry sector with other industries, departments and non-state actors is required, therefore a common masterplan for the entire sector, including and endorsed by all relevant stakeholders is proposed;
 - The policy should address the suitability of land for afforestation/ reforestation (land-use planning),
 - The policy should address carbon sequestration promotion and plantation development;
 - A policy is required for organic certification of planted forests and certification of standards and ethical natural processing of forest products (especially sandalwood);

- A policy is required to make landowners aware of commercial and legal aspects of forest economic opportunities and the need to provide landowners equity in investments in addition to lease royalties;
 - A policy on the protection of local flora and species and import prevention of invasive species is needed;
 - The nature of the new forest policy should be further discussed: should it be broad and open, or narrow and specific?
 - The new forest policy should not be a policy for the Forest Department, but rather for all stakeholders involved in the forestry sector, in particular for the forest owners;
 - Information and communication will be important not only during the process of developing the forest policy, but across the entire cycle of implementation and monitoring;
 - DoF should be responsible for forestry-related knowledge transfer to farmers;
 - DoF should indicate what has been implemented and achieved on the last policy,
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- It was suggested to present the changes made to the old forest policy, highlighting key new areas in the new Policy.
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- Vanwoods has 5000 paying members on Efate, Tanna, Santo & Malekula,
 - Community forestry is a new scheme in their organisation,
 - In forestry, they are focusing on sandalwood and the establishment of nursery, supplying 100 seedlings to the paying members,

Changes to Vision and Objectives

The Vision for the new forest policy was amended as follows:

Forests of Vanuatu are sustainably managed and conserved, contributing to development for the ongoing wellbeing of all people in Vanuatu

The Objectives were amended as follows:

1. Vanuatu's forest resources are managed in an integrated and sustainable manner and provide wood/non-wood forest products and services.
2. The biological, cultural, spiritual and historical values of Vanuatu's forests are protected and conserved for the benefit of present and future generations.
3. The nation's forest resources contribute to sustainable economic growth through income generation and employment opportunities for Ni-Vanuatu.
4. A conducive investment climate encourages internationally competitive forest industries.
5. The development of Vanuatu's forest sector contributes increasingly to the welfare and livelihoods of landowners, farmers and communities.
6. Vanuatu's forest sector development pro-actively addresses climate change adaptation and mitigation challenges and opportunities.
7. Reforestation and afforestation efforts contribute towards forest rehabilitation in Vanuatu.
8. An effective legislative framework and its enforcement support the sustainable development of Vanuatu's forest sector.
9. All relevant actors coordinate their efforts for a sustainable development of Vanuatu's forest sector

Working Groups

Four working groups consisting of between 6 and 8 participants each discussed and presented constraints, stakeholder issues, and policy recommendations in the following thematic areas:

1. Commercial forestry
2. Community forestry
3. Forest Conservation
4. Crosscutting issues.

1.0 Working Group 1 - Commercial forestry

Vision:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To provide income and employment2. To improve and upgrade living standards3. Sustainable economic growth
Constraints:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Condition and quality of infrastructure;• High costs of utilities• Funding

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KSA- knowledge skills and activities • Land disputes between different t land owners • Conflicting interests of forest users • Insufficient postharvest treatment of products (e.g. Canarium nut) • Too strict quarantine requirements • Bio-security • Phytosanitary requirements • Not enough Government exemptions • Lack of political will • High population growth rate • High consumption of Kava/Grog • Government “Red Tape” • Landowners are inconsistent with their land/forestry deals with investors
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexploited potentials • Existing niche-markets • Employment opportunities/skills training • Improving standards • Training • Fast growing population
Roles and Responsibilities	
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidelines and directions • Regulate landowners • Promote/raise awareness of policies and legislation • Train landowners in log scaling, valuation of trees • Facilitate sustainable forest management practices
Provincial Governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop land-use planning policies • Zone areas properly (concessions, tourism, forestry, medicinal plants) • Liaise /consult with chiefs and landowners regarding land-use planning • Facilitate conflict resolution
Landowners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate production forest to enable implementation of standard practices and proper management
Chiefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolve disputes • Work with Department of Lands to identify land boundaries • Assist in organizing land owner groups, tribes, clans, families etc for forestry sector involvement and production
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect relevant information and data for development of the forestry sector • Enter into agreements with landowners/communities/local farmers • Comply with existing rules, regulations and legal requirements • Establish and implement development projects.

1.1 Reforestation and Forest Plantation Development

Landowners/Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake programmes in afforestation, reforestation, planting and harvesting • Allocate and make land available for forestry • Develop nurseries with assistance of forestry field officers
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Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide concessions to industry • Facilitate duty exemptions • Facilitate big investments through joint venture – or lease arrangements • Provide training on nursery development and afforestation • Allocate funds towards reforestation
Private financial institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide micro-financing for re/afforestation
Donor Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 10 million \$ US over next 5 years towards re/afforestation programme
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide infrastructure • Provide finance • Provide training and machinery • Provide research & development

1.2 Sandalwood, Whitewood, Canarium nuts

Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize forestry sector • Provide rules and regulations for production, harvesting and processing of commercial forest products • Issue strict quotas to manage • Provide procedures and protocols for the monitoring and harvesting of commercial forest products • Facilitate funds for model management practices • Facilitate funds for wood mizer to harvest woodlots and lesser-used species
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake research and development, e.g. wood properties in farmer plantations and wood lots • Establish plantations
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant and harvest trees and forest products

1.3 Modernization of Wood Processing Industry

Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the purchase of equipment, plants, machinery • Facilitate passing through forestry quarantine/ approval by Forestry Board • Facilitate duty exemptions for wood processing industry • Facilitate training in value- added machinery
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with forest policies and regulations • Provide processing machinery/maintenance/training etc. • Provide training and R& D for Ni-Vanuatu • Invest in modern wood processing plants and equipment
Trade Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding and foreign investment

Institutions (VNPF A.G Bank etc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide financial loans
Landowners/Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake training/specialization • Invest locally and overseas
Donor Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on grant applications and financial management

1.4 Forest Products Export, Marketing and Trade

Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with all international export requirements (e.g. for value-added export products- Trade Department) • Provide that standards legislation and requirements are in place • Provide institutional infrastructure and coordination (Forestry, Customs, Quarantine, Trade) • Together with industry, maximize use of forest products and negotiate export markets • Train Ni-Vanuatu in professional skills for export requirements • Facilitate Market opportunities and Market access • Facilitate establishment of cooperatives for export • Assist with reducing costs of doing business (e.g. wharf charges, electricity, transport costs, etc.) • Provide adequate infrastructure (roads, wharfs etc.)
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate markets • Improve standards and quality of products • Process value-added products • Undertake research and knowledge development on all types of forest products • Involve manufacture of small volume of product • Provide duty exemptions on all machinery (crackers, sorters/graders, peelers, roaster, polisher, coater, dryer, packaging , labelling and extraction) for canarium nut production • Conduct research on various product options and markets • Conduct research on the supply chain arrangements appropriate for most promising products • Provide adequate infrastructure • As industry develops likely that the collection base of the industry where nuts are collected from forest areas will be influenced by the need for more managed cultivation of trees and nuts. This is likely to influence the adoption of new approaches to management and nut quality • Comply with relevant regulatory requirements e.g. to quarantine and health • Comply with international and national export regulations • Train Ni-Vanuatu in processing and export
Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish farm cooperatives with assistance of Department of Cooperative & Ni-Vanuatu Business • Establish Farmers Associations
Donor Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in infrastructure development

1.5 Revenue Generation

Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue permits • Collect license fees • Sell carbon credits
Provincial Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect access fee • Issue business licenses • Sell seedlings • Sell carbon credits
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sell export products • Sell carbon credits
Landowner/Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect royalty • Sell forest products /seeds • Sell carbon credits • Development Fund

2.0 Working Group 2 - Community Forestry

Vision:	The vision should include spiritual and cultural values
Objectives:	<p>The objectives 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8 are relevant. Of particular importance for Community Forestry is objective 5, which should be reworded in</p> <p>The development of the forestry sector contributes increasingly to the welfare and livelihoods of landowners, farmers, and communities.</p>
Issues/constraints	<p>Two constraints were raised, which are a major thread in community forestry. However, due to their linkage to other groups / sectors, it is proposed to raise them to a higher level, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population growth • Land issues (concerning titles, land use planning, site classification, availability, etc.) <p>Other issues were grouped into</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of knowledge of communities and rural landowners regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access to funds for forestry activities through e.g. local banks providing micro-finance possibilities and soft loans ○ Fund management, i.e. establishment of accounts, need to periodical payback, "handling" of money, management of micro-enterprises, etc. ○ Holistic sustainable resource management, i.e. considering e.g. water resources when allowing timber harvesting on their land, appreciation of bio-diversity and medical plants, ○ Capacity to plan for the needs of a modern Vanuatu society, i.e. long-term planning of management of all community-based forest resources. ○ Code of logging and other forestry rules and regulations is not understood or enforced in communities. • Uncoordinated activities of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government agencies, incl. Fisheries, Agriculture, Land,

	<p>Forestry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncoordinated transfer of knowledge to communities by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government agencies, ○ NGO's ○ Churches <p>A number of issues regarding the participation of women, children and other vulnerable groups were summarised in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of women and vulnerable groups in planning and decision-making at community level is low. <p>It was found that the role of communities within the society of Vanuatu is not well perceived, esp. by the Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of appreciation for community forestry by Government. <p>Further, it was found that the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of infrastructure at community levels is inadequate to enable rural areas to be competitive in providing forest produce for markets outside the community, e.g. export. • Cooperatives Dept has given much support to small-scale merchandise coops, but rarely to forestry cooperatives. • Communities should be involved more proactively in the private sector, like in planting and weeding of plantations. <p>The group discussed intensively the Forestry Act. Members found that the Forestry Project Funds provides an obstacle for community development as money is collected centralised and e.g. seedlings should be provided instead. Others opposed. A conclusion could not be reached.</p>
Topics:	<p>The proposed topics as outlined in the proposed structure of the new policy were slightly changed. Three topics are proposed, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Forestry Extension Programme • Forest Production at Community Level • Market Access for Communities and Farmers
2.1 Community Forestry Extension Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work out a comprehensive concept for community forestry in Vanuatu (DoF) [encompassing aspects of finance access and management, participation of women and vulnerable groups, coordination of extension of GO's and NGO's, specifying alternative production systems, considering adaptation and mitigation of climate change, fuel wood plantations, charcoal production, etc.]. This activity is of utmost importance. • Carry out economic studies (DoF) [of alternative production systems to provide economic advice to communities and farmers related to forest production] • Revive extension service (DoF) [This was in existence until 1993 and was faded out for today unknown reasons.] • Identify responsive and proactive communities (Communities & Chiefs, Farmers; DoF to assist) • Establish demonstration plots (Industry) [Forest Industries, active in a certain region/island and with a particular technical expertise on a certain production system should establish and maintain these plots that interested communities / farmers can visually assess them.] • Promote agro-forestry (DoF) [Communities, interested in traditional approaches to land management (in contrast to more commercially

	<p>oriented production and monocultural systems) should be able to access advanced knowledge on agro-forestry]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce forestry (and environmental awareness) as subject in education curriculums (Ministry of Education)
2.2 Forest Production at Community Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage producer cooperatives (DoF) [to avoid small-scale approaches and reach certain economics of scale] • Provide planting material (DoF, Industries) • Establish nurseries (Industry, DoF, Communities) [on the long run communities should be able to supply their own planting material] • Assist in infrastructure development (Industry should be active in this area) • Facilitate "Community Carbon Credit Scheme" (DoF)
2.3 Market Access for Communities and Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and formalise market linkages to industry (Industry) • Encourage decentralisation of downstream processing (Industry)

3.0 Working Group 3 - Forest Conservation

Vision:	./.
Objectives:	./.
Opportunities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Act includes forest conservation • Vanuatu ratifies all relevant international conventions related to environment • REDD+ = opportunity for forest conservation in Vanuatu • Communities consider forests as heritage for future generations
Challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibilities/institutional mandates for forest conservation to be clarified • Cooperation and coordination between stakeholders to be strengthened • Human resources and financial capacities of institutional stakeholders insufficient • Buffer zone according to Water Resources Act and Code of Logging Practice should be established • Population growth • Lack of investment for eco-tourism • Big infrastructure investments • Carbon credits threatens forest conservation • Lack of funding for conservation- the government provides subsidies for copra, why not for protected areas?
Role of institutional stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DoF provides TA for forest conservation → provide TA from tech, standpoint to DoE: Protected areas management • DoE provides assistance to Community Conservation Areas, the mandates on PAs should be clarified between DoE and DoF. Also mandate on mangroves: Forestry or Fisheries? • Develop regulation on hunting & → develop regulation and strategic direction on use/protection of endangered and endemic species • DoE is enhancing and implementing EMCA → strengthen Nat. Herbarium incl. clarify roles + responsibilities of institutions • Department of Rural Water Supply assures continuous water supply for

	<p>community settlements, villages, towns → harmonise buffer zone regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanuatu Cultural Center (VKS) promotes cultural + traditional heritage → establish data base on cultural and traditional heritage in forests • DoL responsible for land use planning → apply LUP where forest conservation is concerned • Strengthen genetic research in DoF for conservation species • Access and promote best practices combining forest conservation and private commercial forestry • Encourage Gov (NACCC, National Advisory Committee on Climate Change) to lobby for CO2 reduction on int. level • Integrate forest conservation issues prominently in review of Env. Man. And Cons. Act, EMCA • Develop compensation mechanism for water supply (Payment for Environmental Services) • Identify land boundaries between communities • Clarify mandates with regards to mangroves • Develop a scientific protection status for mangroves • Encourage and promote research into forest ecosystems
Activities for other stakeholders not listed here	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop products and markets for non-timber forest products • Increase forest cover + protected areas as a means to adapt to CC • Apply EMCA legislation (particularly EIAs and protected area regulations) to all private investments relevant to forests • Promote soil enrichment planting • Promote local and endemic tree species • Provide training to local communities on forest conservation • Financial support & human resources to assist communities in protected areas management • Promote awareness of forest conservation on all levels
Role of communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local communities need to play active role in forest conservation • Designate land/forests as PAs
Activities of local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and manage nurseries of local tree species • Develop ecotourism activities • Develop botanical gardens for local usage, research, education ...
Role of private sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector needs to play active role in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ forest conservation ○ forest sector ○ tourism sector ○ agribusiness
Activities of private sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage and preserve native forests in private forest projects • Promote ecotourism

4.0 Working Group 4 - Crosscutting Issues

4.1 Land Issues

Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have forest policy recognized by the government as a national interest and link this policy with other sectors such as education, public utilities etc (DOF and Private Sector) • Within a total national objective to provide island families
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	opportunities to attain cash income at a defined level.
Issues and constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial illiteracy amongst landowners and communities Process for clearing undisputed land is long and complicated; can take between 6 months and 5 years Land often divided among many family members Landownership is rarely properly certified Landowners are unable/do not want to pay land survey fee for land certification and annual registration fee Agencies are inconsistent (VKS (Van. Cult. Center) asks landowners not to register their land, because it is too costly/goes against custom ownership) Poor correlation between Lands Act, Forest Act and timber plantation Act (Harvesting Rights Act) Companies sometimes do not follow the Lands Act and the Land Tribunal Act
Action:	
Investor:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow existing Lands Acts and comply with rules and regulations Include landowners commercially in an equitable and transparent way
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislate and enforce legislation Simplify bureaucratic processes Harmonize land and forest legislation Merge forest acts Protect landowners in cases of land disputes Raise awareness of farmers /landowners on legislative and financial issues/opportunities
Farmer and Landowner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in land registration Negotiate and undertake forestry development projects
Suggestions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest policy should point to process and protocol for land certification Involve landowners economically and from management point of view in private business sector Consider realistic benefit sharing with landowner, e.g. pegged to company success (xx%??) Landowner should have access to 2-3 alternative private business offers to ensure that they get a fair investment deal. Also advice from govt. Use expertise within the private sector to consult on and move forward with forest legislation and implementation

4.2 Climate Change

Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roles for NACCC, VIPA, COC on forest carbon issues is unclear and seem to overlap Land owners and farmers have low level of knowledge on cc issues Forest carbon ownership unclear Wind insurance for plantations needed
Action	

Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify roles of different agencies • Announce Designated National Authority (DNA)-NACCC as lead agency on all cc issues • Make VIPA entrance for international investment on carbon, under involvement of Forestry Department-VIPA must liaise with govt before granting any investment approvals, institutionalize this process. • Ensure that the respective line agency (DOF for forest carbon) is from the beginning involved in CC projects • Facilitate investor's access to carbon ownership • Regulate carbon rights • Set rules for carbon plantations and sequestration credits • DOF: Develop a list of forest species adapted to changing climate conditions and sites • DOF: develop zoning for forestry based on cc scenarios/ predictions • Undertake a new forest resources assessment (forest inventory) for REDD baseline setting • Prevent natural forest from being removed under carbon schemes • DNA/NACCC : strengthen communication and consultation with private sector including investors • Establish forest bank to reduce insurance costs for farmers/investors for losses due to cc • NACCC: establish core working group on forest carbon and CC, with involvement of other departments, private sector and land owners • Review land-use plans and strategies • Build consensus across political parties on how to deal with CC • Assess in how far MAR project on reclassification on Vanuatu vegetation and WB project on R-PP can contribute to new forest resources assessment, and what is needed additionally
Private sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get involved in forest resources assessment • Strengthen communication/coordination with Government Agencies on CC • Lead the best-practice implementation of CC forest policy

4.3 Gender

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for women to get involved and contribute in specific areas (ylang-ylang collection for perfume manufacture, canarium nut cracking, seed orchards, etc.) • Involve other vulnerable groups like children and youth to prevent them from falling to drugs (kava/grog) • Train and employ more women • Conduct awareness raising campaigns
Other issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve infrastructure and transport to reduce costs • Amend forest legislation • Combine forest products harvesting and processing with tourism • Encourage process and product certification

List of Participants

List of participants – National Workshop, 16.April 2010

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List of participants – National Workshop, 19.April 2010

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Programme



FOREST POLICY REVIEW CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

16 & 19 April 2010

Hospitality Tourism and Leisure Training Centre

Chair: Mr. Livo Mele (Director of Forestry)

Moderators: Dr. Wulf Killmann, Dr. Reinhold Glauner (Forestry Consultants)

Day 1: Friday April 16

Time		Speaker ¹	comment
Opening			
09:00	Welcome & Official Opening	Minister, AQFF	
09:10	Round of Introductions	Moderator	
09:30	Objectives of Consultation	W.Killmann	
09:45	Morning Tea		
The Vanuatu Forestry Sector			
10:00	Forests in the international climate change regime	W.Killmann	
10:30	Climate change adaptation and mitigation in Vanuatu	Brian Phillips/Jotham Napat	
10:45	Overview of Forest Sector	Mr. Livo Mele	
11:15	Proposed structure and elements of revised forest policy	R. Glauner	

¹ Each presentation should be restricted to 15 minutes

Forest Production			
11:30	Industry & Production	Mr. Jim Pati	“
11:45	Finance & Production	Mr. John Solong	“
12:00	Discussion: Forestry Production Policy & CC		- main objectives - policy recommendations
12:30	Lunch		
Forest Products Processing			
1:15	Industry & Processing (mobile sawmilling)	Mr. Roy Sirus	“
1:30	Industry & Processing (Canarium nuts)	Mr. Sarlo Long Wah	“
1:45	Industry & Processing (Sandalwood)	Mr. Jonathan Naupa	“
2:00	Discussion: Forestry Processing Policy & CC		- main objectives - policy recommendations
3:00	Afternoon Tea		
Forestry Marketing and Trade			
3:15	Trade Dept. & Marketing/Trade	Mr. Timothy Sisi Williams	“
3:30	Customs & Marketing/Trade	Mr Ben Wotu	“
3:45	Chamber of Commerce & Marketing/Trade	Mr Louis Kalnpel	“
4:00	Industry & Marketing/Trade	Mr. Tony Nicholls	“
4:15	Discussion: Forestry Marketing/Trade Policy		- main objectives - policy recommendations
4:30	Discussion and winding up of day		
6:00	Kava Night		

Day 2 – Monday April 19

Time		Speaker	comment
9:00	Welcome & Recap	Moderator	-
Working Groups			
9:15	Establishment of Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commercial Forestry - Community Forestry - Forest Conservation - Cross cutting issues 		Roles & Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - government - industry - farmer
09:30	Group Work		
12:30	Lunch		
2:00	Group Work continued		
2:45	Afternoon Tea		
Defining New Forest Policy Priorities			
3:00	Presentations Commercial Forestry WG incl. discussion		
3:20	Presentations Community Forestry WG incl. discussion		
3:40	Presentations Forest Conservation WG incl. discussion		
4:00	Presentations Cross cutting issues WG incl. discussion		
4:20	Discussion		
5:20	Summing Up, next steps and closure		
5:30	End		

Southern Consultation April 22-23 2010



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FOREST POLICY REVIEW SOUTHERN CONSULTATION

22-23 April 2010

Hospitality Tourism and Leisure Training Centre

Report

The Vanuatu Forest policy review Southern Consultation was held in Port Vila on April 22 and 23. 30 participants attended (App.1, participants list). Due to power failure, the program was adapted from powerpoint-based discussions to free discussions on international forestry, climate, carbon credits and the Vanuatu situation. “

In response to their preferences, the participants were divided into three working groups:

- Community Forestry
- Forest Conversation
- Crosscutting issues.

The results of the group work, as presented in plenary on day 2, are reflected below.

Group work

Community Forestry

Extension Programme

Issues	Actions
Extension service not effective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop community forestry programme (DoF, DoA, Community)• Establish more forestry offices on outer islands (DoF)• Hire and train more extension officers (DoF)• Produce extension materials that are self explanatory for villagers and communities (DoF)• Conduct more awareness prog. and workshops (DoF)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train farmers in tree farming (DoF, DoA, NGO) • Recruit and train community forestry extension farmers (Community + farmers) • Improve inter-departmental cooperation (Gov.) • Consult with Chiefs prior to initiating forestry projects (DoF) • Establish forestry working group Assist communities to develop forestry workplan • Assist farmers in establishing Nursery • Establish more nurseries in the outer islands (DoF) • Monitor and supervise forestry extension officers every 3 months
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Production systems

Issues	Actions
Need facilitation of forest production at community level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more forestry extension officers (DoF) • Promote production: products and methods (DoF + farmers) • Supply nursery tools and materials (DoF) • Supply more seedlings to communities (DoF) • Establish seed orchards (Farmers) • Promote forestry project joint ventures (Farmer + Industry) • Encourage farmers to plant more (Farmers) • Increase resource base(production) (Farmer) • Provide Harvesting tools and equipment to communities (donors, DoF, NGOs)

Markets

Issues	Actions
No established market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form cooperatives at community level (Community + DoF) • Undertake economic analysis of markets (DoF) • Conduct awareness on the economic potential of tree crops (DoF + Farmer) • Develop/market/promote different products (Industry) • Identify potential buyers (DoF) • Improve infrastructure (Industry)

Additional comments raised in plenary:

- An important step towards clarification of ownership would be boundary marking (of community's and of individual/family parcels).
- Joint venture agreements between community and industry should be facilitated and formalized
- Infrastructure is very important for communities to be able to market their produce
- DoF should undertake woodlot/plantation suitability surveys in communities that request it
- A ready-made/standard awareness programme on forestry issues should be introduced for communities across Vanuatu (DVD/Radio etc).
- Forestry extension officers are needed on each island
- If forestry does not have the money to hire new officers, experienced "leading farmers" should be trained who could provide extension services to other farmers
- DoF should introduce quality control validate of tree crops, however, the liability question for DoF needs to be solved
- DoF should help and advise farmers and landowners on: which species to plant, clarification what to do with (produce, maintain, harvest) their species, market advice on selling the products, and on issues related to carbon trading.

Forest Conservation

Biodiversity conservation

Issues	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bush burning • Cutting bush & gardening • No land use planning, i.e. buluk grazing in streams etc • Population growth • Domesticated livestock damage to crops • Ferral animal damage to crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce new ways of agriculture (better methods) (DoF, DoA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agro-forestry methods ○ Rotational cropping ○ Demo / education plots ○ Best practices • Introduce compensation mechanism for farmers when crops/trees are damaged by feral and domestic animals • Give direction and awareness on land use planning options / methods (DoF, DoL, DoE, Prov. Gov.) • To combat pop growth, increase production and the effectiveness of farming practices (DoF, DoA, Prov. Gov.) • For land conflicts of interest, guide negotiation process with investors and land owners, ensure proper community engagement processes are followed, and conduct impact assessments on the forestry development. Establish a forestry

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowner vs. community plans for land / conflict of interest Natural disaster Invasive species Logging activities Land degradation Coastal erosion 	<p>negotiation standard process (DoF, DoA, Prov. Gov.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster impact reporting after a natural disaster to DOF Proper screening of imported species (Quarantine). Make Invas. species management / eradication / containment process clear to communities and develop strategies and work plans for each island/area. Better implement the Code of Logging, - enforce, - involve landowner + chiefs, province / relevant pers. must be involved in enforcement and be fully aware of the code) (DoF, DoA, DQ, DoE, DoF, Prov. Gov., Communities) Rehabilitate degraded areas with endemic sp. (DoF, DoL, DoE) For coastal erosion, replant mangrove and other native sp. (ie Pandanus) Begin to plan for and develop human relocation processes for CC/Sea level (DoF, DoE, communities, Prov. Gov., NDMO)
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Water and Soil

Issues	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logging close to water source Cattle and gardening in sensitive areas of watershed Landslide erosion runoff due to deforestation Climate changes to soil microclimates and nutrient quality Natural disaster (volcano etc.) Climate related changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buffer zoning near streams and other sensitive watershed areas (DoF, DoA, Communities, Water supply) Awareness and understanding on climate change land use planning (DoF, DoA, DoE, NACCC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best practise Prevention of erosion/runoff Area committee to manage and enforce land use plans Climate change assessment advice, vulnerable areas and adaptation options.

to fruit size and quality/ crop season timing and duration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage needs of wetlands and mangroves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gov. rehabilitation process for eroded/degraded land from climate change (National Government)
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Protected areas

Issues	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for subsistence, so no focus on strict preservation • Land disputes • Not enough Pas (to meet international targets or sufficiently protect endangered species) • No clear economic benefit to communities from protected areas • Misplaced Pas in areas that are degraded, too small, vulnerable to CC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardize the PA registration process among stakeholders (DoF, DoE, Prov. Gov. Communities) • Conduct national assessment of threatened forest ecosystems • Establish a Quota for Pas in Vanuatu – Target % land covered by PAs • Provide economic incentives to communities for establishing PAs.: Carbon Credits? • DoF awareness on PA site selection priorities (DoF, DoE, NACCC)

Financial constraints & opportunities

Issues	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DoF extension funding • \$\$ for communities to make conservation a priority. • Investment in direct revenue generating projects only, not biological conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the national Carbon credit mechanism (Gov) • Develop and increase Funds for community conservation activities (DoF, MoF, investors, community)

Additional comments raised in plenary:

- Communities need the backup of departments when establishing conservation and protected areas
- Conduct biodiversity survey on farmer/community level for national database
- Protected areas on islands need back-up from DoF
- Develop zoning for conservation areas. Suggested are three zones, which reflect different degrees of intensity of protection/sustainable use, with stating the dos and don'ts
- There should be no logging allowed in protected areas
- There should be no logging in and along creeks, as regulated by the logging code
- For logging, any of the three parties to the respective agreement (land owner, industry, DoF) can stop the logging operation, if it offends the rules
- In-situ protection should be preferred over Ex-situ protection
- DoF should set aside and manage a protected area on each island
- Protected areas should have buffer zones with clarified width
- Farmers need advice from DoF regarding species to be planted to prevent coastal erosion, and the required silvicultural treatments
- For coastline protection, only multipurpose tree species should be planted, which would also be of use for and provide economic benefit to farmers
- Provide farmers with tree seeds/seedlings and tools for nursery

Crosscutting Issues

Land tenure, ownership, and land use planning

Issues	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of customary land policy • Adoption of land tribunals is not accepted by some islands (e.g. Tanna, Pentecost) • Identification of true customary owners is slow • Continuing Land disputes • Lack of land use planning at provincial & community levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of customary land policy (Island Council of Chiefs) • Awareness raising of land tribunals (Lands Dep.) • Establishment of land tribunals office in each island (Lands Dep.) • Revisit, update existing land use planning policy (National & prov- community) • Train provincial planners and provincial tags on land dispute processes and resolution options

Climate change adaptation & mitigation

Issues	Actions
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea level rise • Coastal erosion • Marine (life) resources, threat to tourism industry • Flooding of low-lying areas affect gardens, water and settlements. Etc. • Increase of temperature • CC Disturbs and reduces tree reproduction • Opportunities through REDD+ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better planning for community settlements, tourism etc (Provinces, Tourism & physical planning unit) • Replanting of coastal area (Community, province, DoF) • Tree improvement (genetic) Proper site selection (species matching) (DoF, donors partners) • Reducing of land degradation and deforestation (Farmers, landowners, communities)
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Participation of women and vulnerable groups

Issues	Actions
Lack of women involvement in decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness on importance of involvement of women and vulnerable groups (VNCW and women affairs) • Train and create more opportunities for women and vulnerable groups in forestry (VNCW and women affairs) • Better presentation of women in all levels of forestry decision making

Development of eco- and nature tourism

Issues	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land disputes • Custom landowner identification • Accessibility issues (isolated and remote villages) • Insufficient funding to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of lands tribunal • Development of customary land policy • Establishment of lands tribunal office in each province • All by Land Dep.; ministry; Malvatumari (National Council of chiefs) province; lands tribunals

develop tourism activities/meet basic quality standards Delay in identifying & establishing community boundaries	
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Research, information, education, training and extension

Issues	Action s
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of seeds storage facility • Lack of Human Resource Master Plan for DoF • Lack of Forestry Information Centre • Lack of funding for forestry extension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of seeds storage facility (DoF, donor partners) • Development of human resource master plan & policy, incl. scholarships (Scholarship; MoE, DEPAAC) • Develop forestry information centre (DoF, donor partners) • Provision of adequate funding for extension programme (DoF, donor partners, provinces)

Institutional Development (Forestry Admin.)

Issues	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of participation of DoL, DoE, Lands tribunal in provinces • Weakness of coordinated approach (TAG) • Lack of participation of Line Departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen of provincial TAGs (Dep. of Local Authority, Line Departments)

Legislation & Law Enforcement

Issues	Actions
Lack of enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building through training and education (Scholarship & DEPAAC) • Backup support: finance; material & equipment; HR (Line Dep. Head offices)

Additional comments raised in plenary:

- The current structure of DoF should be reviewed
- DoF needs an institutional management plan
- Financial constraints affect the implementation of the decentralization act and the service delivery of departments
- The National Research Council should be involved in forestry research planning and implementation
- Involve churches in forestry issues
- Lands Tribunals has to work more with communities to solve land disputes
- Tourism is at present driven by foreign investors, we need more involvement of and benefits for Ni-Vanuatu

Participant List

Pacific -German Regional Programme on Adaptation to Climate Change

VANUATU Forest Policy Review

April 22-23 2010

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS – Southern Consultation

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Programme



FOREST POLICY REVIEW SOUTHERN CONSULTATION

22-23 April 2010

Hospitality Tourism and Leisure Training Centre

Chair: Mr. Livo Mele (Director of Forestry)

Moderators: Dr. Wulf Killmann, Dr. Reinhold Glauner (Forestry Consultants)

Day 1: Thursday April 22

Time		Speaker ²	comment
Opening			
09:00	Welcome & Official Opening	Director (Forestry)	Ioan Viji
09:10	Round of Introductions	Moderator	
09:30	Objectives of Consultation	W.Killmann	
09:45	Morning Tea		
Climate Change & Forestry			
10:00	Forests in the international climate change regime and Climate Change Impacts in Vanuatu	W.Killmann	
10:30	Overview of Forest Sector	Director Forestry	
Group Work			
10:45	Groupwork Introduction & Establishment of working groups	Moderator	

² Each presentation should be restricted to 15 minutes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Commercial forestry- Community forestry- Forest Conservation- Cross-cutting issues		
11:15	Group work		
12:30	Lunch		
Group Work			
13:15	Group Work	Moderator	
14:45	Afternoon Tea		
15:00	Group work continues	Moderator	
17:00	Discussion in plenary	Moderator	
17:30	End of First Day	Director Forestry	

Day 2 – Friday April 23

Time		Speaker	comment
9:00	Welcome & Recap	Moderator	-
Presentations by WGs in Plenary			
9:15	Group Commercial Forestry	Moderator	
9:45	Group Community Forestry	Moderator	
10:30	Morning Tea		
10:45	Group Forest Conservation	Moderator	
11:15	Group Crosscutting Issues	Moderator	
11:45	Summing up and next steps	Moderator	
12:00	Closure of workshop	Director Forestry	
12:15	Lunch		
13:15	Go home		

Northern Consultation April 26-27 2010



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FOREST POLICY REVIEW SOUTHERN CONSULTATION

26 - 27 April 2010

Vanuatu Agricultural College
Luganville, Santo

Report

The Vanuatu Forest policy review Southern Consultation was held in Luganville on April 26 and 27 (App 1, program). 37 participants attended (App.2, participants list).

Vision and objectives

The participants proposed some changes to the vision and overall objective of the forest policy. The vision now reads:

Trees and forests of Vanuatu are sustainably managed and conserved, contributing to development for the ongoing wellbeing of all people in Vanuatu.

The overall objective was changed as follows:

The nation's forest resources are managed in an integrated and sustainable manner and provide wood and non-wood forest products and services to contribute to income generation and employment opportunities as well as social wellbeing for ni-Vanuatu, and thus to sustainable economic growth.

The participants also proposed to change the thematic title: "Community Forestry" into "Small - scale and community forestry"

Working Groups

In response to their preferences, the participants were divided into three working groups:

- Commercial Forestry
- Farm-based and Community Forestry
- Forest Conservation
- Crosscutting issues.

The results of the group work, as presented in plenary on day 2, are reflected below.

Commercial Forestry

Vision	"Forests and Trees" to be included
O.a. objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define terms: Sustainable manner etc. Replant and conservation • Forest must be clearly defined and applied to Vanuatu context
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ok <p>2) Distinguish between:</p> <p>1) Native Forest Plantation Forest</p>

5.1 Harvesting under timber licences

Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber licences for plantations
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract outside funding for plantation development e.g. Worldbank, JICA, VNPF (DoF) • Encourage the expansion of private commercial plantations (DoL, DoF) [This includes sandalwood] • Facilitate and support the marketing activities of small-scale timber suppliers (Industry) • Encourage farmers to engage in plantation development (DoF, Farmer, Industry) • Distinguish between timber licenses for natural and planted forests • Exempt private planted forests from timber licenses • Access carbon credit program for plantation establishment • Register forest plantation areas (DoF, DoL)

5.2 Reforestation and forest plantation development

Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of Land security for forest plantations
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry plantations should have formalized leases and titles (DoL, DoF, Landowners) • Awareness on forest plantation establishment (Industry, DoF) • Develop a seeds distribution centre (DoF, Industry) • Establish commercial nurseries strategically throughout the islands (Industry, DoF) • Secure (formally) public and private lands for reforestation programs (DoL, DoF)

5.3 Commercial Forest Products

Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the promotion of commercial forest products • Existing licensing needs to be reviewed (timber & nwfp) (DoF, Industry) • Control of issue of licences (Industry, DoF)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for Industry in licence procedures, codes and regulations and roles of stakeholders (Industry, DoF) • Train ni-Vanuatu participants in industry on newest techniques and quality measures. • Establish infrastructure (Industry) • Involvement of Ni-Vanuatu in forestry ownership & business
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5.4 Modernization of the wood processing industry

Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more quantity and diversity of products
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Saw log / veneer production, semi-processed / finished production (Industry) • Upgrade and maintain suitable equipment (Industry) • Change existing building codes that hamper development of local wood industry (FWD, Industry, DoF) • Promote high quality (finished or value-added) timber products (Industry, Government) • Facilitate training of Ni-Vanuatu commercial technicians (DoF, Industry)

5.5 Forest products export, marketing & trade

Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited / no resource base for sustained export/market/trade
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need long-term plan (10+ years) (Industry, DoF) • Large-scale commercial forestry establishment (Private, Industry) • Encourage joint-venture (farmer + other entity) plantations (DoF, Industry)

5.6 Revenue generation

Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government does not facilitate proprietary revenue generation for the forestry sector
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate revenue through timber harvesting control mechanisms (licences and fees etc) (Government) • Access to forest development funds through a special Vanuatu Government program (DoF)

5.7 Financial constraints & opportunities

Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty of raising capital
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to develop/bolster political will for forestry development (Government) • More awareness on the forestry sector and its needs should be targeted to higher administrative/political levels (Government) • Ensure and promote best practices on the proper management of forestry projects (Industry) • Population growth

5.8 Opportunities

Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanuatu Government does not own its own land with its own forestry plantations
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanuatu Government should acquire land to create Vanuatu owned forestry plantations <p>Government facilitate opportunities for outside funding (Government), e.g. JICA, Worldbank, IFC, VNPF (Government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide employment opportunities to ni-Vanuatu

Major points in the discussion:

- Include "Lesser known species" in the development plans of the commercial sector
- Include training opportunities for ni-Vanuatu, e.g. scholarships for key human resources to learn forestry skills and opportunities. (in "Need more products")
- Industry has a role to play in the development of the sector, including reviewing and managing the licensing rules and regulations.

Priorities:

- Private timber plantations should need no licences for harvesting (meant as incentive for plantation owners), etc. [Amend forestry act]
- Land/Resource security for plantation investors
- Resource base for sustained trade has to be increased (more products, regular supply)
- Long-term planning is essential
- Vanuatu should concentrate on saw log and veneer production
- Sector needs political backup and will at the highest levels

Working Group Farm-based and Community Forestry

6.1. Extension

Issues	Actions & Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• not enough seedlings•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize , train seed collectors• Seed storage facilities throughout the islands• establish more community nurseries (DoF, province, aid donors, communities)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• no visit from forestry officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase number of FO• Train key farmers in extension work to assist the department(DoF, communities)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• not enough supply of planter bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fair distribution of planter bags among the islands• import bags directly from Aus or NZ to save farmers money (DoF)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• awareness programme I mas go aot long rural erias plante	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Train people who will have a high dissemination potential: farmers, schools, provincial councils, churches & leaders• Regularize visits by extension officers (DoF)• Provide agroforestry demonstration plots (DoF)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• high mortality rate of seeds and seedlings through disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biological control for pests and diseases• Promote resistant plants (the right species at the right sites)• Regularize visits by extension officers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• not enough participation of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage participation of women• media proaction programme• Organize, train information officers on gender inclusion opportunities (DoF)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• no land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest Officers are underpaid	improve the welfare and salary of welfare of existing Forest officers (salary etc)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> low government funds for extension work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve financial system, allowing forestry to keep some of its revenue for internal allocation
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6.2. Forest production at community level

Issues	Actions & Responsibility
No machinery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop externally-funded project proposals to improve availability of equipment (DoF, province, DESPAC)
No local/community interest in tree farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More awareness raising on the value and long term opportunities of investing in forests and forest products (DoF, ngos) Establish forestry demonstration plots strategically throughout the islands
Not enough nurseries close to communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish forestry nurseries strategically throughout the islands (DoF, key farmers, schools, churches, communities)
Natural and man-made disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize awareness on manmade disasters and forestry impacts and recovery (DoF, ngos, province, industry, National Disaster Management Office (NDMO))
Lack of forestry training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialize training in forestry (Van Ag. Collage)) Promote study tours to other islands, Pacific countries to learn best/novel practices(DoF, donors, GTZ, SPC)
Topography, rugged terrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage and train on terrace planting Promote Non timber products that don't require easy access roads/infrastructure etc.
Difficulties in transport & communication	

6.3. Market Access for farmers & Communities

Issues	Actions & Responsibility
Competition between local & imported timber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Govt. to subsidise costs of local production or raise duties on imported timber
Market access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforce and implement Vanuatu's existing grading rules
No standard royalty rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a standard royalty rate for the entire country, to use as a base for negotiations.
No adequate infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve infrastructure (PWD, province, DoF,
No information accessible for farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce leaflets, pamphlets, DVDs , radio spots (DoF, NGOs, donors)
Lack of skills in business management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide opportunities and access to business management training (Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI), Dep. of Rural Development)
Disputes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish good governance model structures for forestry initiatives (Malvatumauri, ngo, national Gov. ICC, World Vision)

No support from community institutions like women's groups, men's youth, church etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage involvement of community institutions in forestry workshops (DoF, Province, NGOs)
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6.4. Financial constraints & opportunities

Issues	Actions & Responsibility
Lack of access to funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide training workshops on completing project funding proposals using standard donor formats (Province, DoF, Finance Department, VNPF, donors)
No direct funding from donors or DoF, other financial institutions for forestry development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activate forestry fund, or old DoF reforestation fund.
Government budget allocation to department is too small to cover all activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department/Farmers should undertake an in-depth Economic Audit of all required expenses to justify the budgets submitted to the Council of Ministers (DoF, farmers)
Political support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize workshops for parliamentarians on forestry issues, cross-cutting thematic areas and major directions for the sector (DOF, provinces)
No access to Agricultural Development Bank (often reject or do not consider loans to individuals for forestry, even if all paperwork is correct, their processes are too difficult for farmers).	

Discussion points:

- "No land" means not enough forestry land allocated at the village level
- Change title to "Farm-based and community forestry"
- Study tours are needed for farmers to demonstration areas (domestic and international)
- A plan is needed for community forestry, this should be planned at both national and village-levels
- Responsibilities should be clarified between Gov. Departments
- More emphasis should be given to whole production cycle (thinning, silviculture) and not only to seedlings and end product
- Transparent management systems are needed at CF level
- Partnership with industry

Priorities:

- Not enough seedlings
- Training

Group Work – Forest Conservation

Biodiversity Conservation

Issues	Action/Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Disputes - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enforcement of conservation by-laws, community level, provincial level and national level (Lands dept, DOF, communities, province, department of environment)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improper consultation amongst the landowners licensees & communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting up of special committee to oversee conservation establishment (Community, Environment dept, DOF, Lands dept, province)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of knowledge and information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More awareness, establish demo sites, information on - BC should be included in the education curriculum (Community, Lands dept, Province, DOF, Environment dept, DOE)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of invasive species & invasion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National/Village level Management Plans to: Protect, control, eradicate invasives (Quarantine Dept, Environment dept, Province, DOA, Community, Individual)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No funding for biodiversity conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government needs to set aside funds, investors to assist (Environment unit, DOF, Province, community, NGO)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land clearing for farming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce better farming system (DOF, Agriculture dept, Province, community)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Population increase 	

Protected Area Management

Issues	Action/Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No proper PA management plans; community/province 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting up special committee to develop and review management plans: representatives of relevant depts.. & NGOs (Environment dept, DOF, Fisheries dept, NGOs, Province, community)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low Percentage of land in Vanuatu protected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest inventory, update of biodiversity survey (Environment dept, DOF, Fisheries dept, NGOs, Province, community)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of knowledge: environment values, cultural values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enforcement of protected areas by-laws: province, community, chiefs (Environment unit, DOF, Fisheries dept, Lands dept, Province, Community, chiefs)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land disputes - Population increase 	

Water Management & soil conservation

Issues	Action/Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No proper water management plan at provincial or community level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produce water management plans (Lands dept, province, community, Geology & Mines dept, DOF, DOA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No proper land use planning at community level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifications of land use at provincial and community level (Lands dept, province, community, Geology & Mines dept, DOF, DOA)

Management of Wetlands and Mangroves

Issues	Action/Activities
- Over harvesting of mangroves; community	- Sustainable harvesting plans for mangroves (Forestry dept, province, community)
- Destruction of mangroves for development; eg, tourism at community level	- Enforce the use of Environmental Impact Assessments EIA (Fisheries dept, DOF, Environment unit, province, community)
- No proper management plans specifically for wetlands; community level	- Develop wetland management plans; community level (Fisheries dept, DOF, Environment unit, province, community)
- Population increase	

Financial Constraints & opportunities

Issues	Action/Activities
- No dedicated funds available for forest conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government to set up trust fund purposely for biodiversity, protected areas (Province, community, DOF, DOA, DOE. DOM, Tourism Dep.) - Introduction of conservation fees (for investors to pay as a percentage of harvest revenue license fees etc) (Province, community, DOF, DOA, DOE. DOM, Tourism Dep.)
- No appreciation to accept traditional knowledge on sustainable forest management - SFM	- Government to promote traditional knowledge via awareness (Cultural Centre, DOE, DOF, provinces, ngos, communities)
- Poor use of Eco-tourism opportunities	- Promote Eco tourism, especially in the context of – REDD+

Discussion:

- One must be very specific when discussing "what" to protect
- Lowland rainforest as "endangered ecosystem" in Vanuatu should be protected

Priorities

- Land disputes
- Management plan (PA)
- Management plan (watershed)
- Conservation fund
- Lack of knowledge to be addressed

Group – Cross-Cutting Issues

Land tenure, ownership, and Land use

Issues	Opportunities	Activities
- Landowner has the final say in development despite Land use and planning activities	- Better land management (SLM)	- Raise landowner awareness on better land management (Lands, DOF, Provinces)
- Draft land use policy	-	- Improve, finalise and implement LUP

		(ASAP) (Lands, DOF, Provinces)
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Climate adaptation & Mitigation

Issues	Opportunities	Activities
- Heavy rain, sun disturbing flowering and fruiting of trees	- Hybrid planting materials	- Tree Improvement (Genetic) (SPC, DOF, GTZ & Other donor partners) - Vegetative propagation (SPC, DOF, GTZ & Other donor partners)
- Spread of Pests & diseases	- Collaboration with National, Regional & International organisation	- Encourage traditional methods of containing Pest & Diseases (SPC, DOF, GTZ & Other donor partners) - Improve forest Plantation/Wood lot Management (SPC, DOF, GTZ & Other donor partners) - Species site matching (SPC, DOF, GTZ & Other donor partners)
- Coastal erosion		- Rehabilitation of coastal areas (DOF, Provinces, communities, Fisheries, Environment, Donors) - Proper land use plan for coastal areas (DOF, Provinces, communities, Fisheries, Environment, Donors)

Participation of women and vulnerable groups

Issues	Opportunities	Activities
- Culture & Tradition	- Gender equality (MDG 3) and benefit sharing	- Raise awareness with Men on importance of involvement of women (Women Affairs, NCW, Provinces, communities, DOF, NGOs, Youth Department)
- Lack of involvement of women in community decision making		- Identify income generating activities for women and youths in the communities (Women Affairs, NCW, Provinces, communities, DOF, NGOs, Youth Department)
- Lack of involvement of women, youths in community activities		- Promote multi-sectoral development approach (Women Affairs, NCW, Provinces, communities, DOF, NGOs, Youth Department)

Development of eco-tourism and nature tourism

Issues	Opportunities	Activities
- Lack of	- Increase	- Raise awareness on the context and

understanding on conservation and management	Involvement of local/communities investment	<p>definitions of Conservation, Protected areas, National Parks, Reserves, community based SFM, Conservation and integrated management (DOE, Tourism, VCC, DOF, Provinces)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National tourism Development office to provide grant to potential eco tourism local investors/developers (NDTO)
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Institutional Development (e.g. Forest Admin)

Issues	Opportunities	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate provincial forest officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competent and resourceful organisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocate forest officers to all provinces (PSC, DOF, Ministry of Agriculture, Provinces)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited knowledge of farmers on forest nursery, forest management, natural stand, plantings 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct training and awareness on issues raised (DoF)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited funding of forest activities in the rural areas 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide funding materials and equipment (DOF, Province, Donor partners) - Implement decentralization policy (PSC, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, DSPAC)

Research, Information, Education & Training

Issues	Opportunities	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of emphasis on Research & Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaboration with Regional, International Research institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote and enforce "Applied Research" (SPC, DOF, Province, Donors)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of information dissemination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaboration with tertiary institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include Research component in the new Policy (DOF, Donor partners) - Needs facts & Figures for funding (Ministry of Education, DOF, PSC, VAC, Ministry of Agriculture) - Develop a national forestry information dissemination Centre (Ministry of Education, DOF, PSC, VAC, Ministry of Agriculture)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited scholarship for forestry trainees 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produce training and awareness materials - Strengthening curriculum at VAC and secure scholarship for further training (Ministry of Education, DOF, PSC, VAC, Ministry of Agriculture)

Legislation and Law enforcement

Issues	Opportunities	Activities
- Lack of linkages, overlap among sectors	- Transparency & accountability in the enforcement of law	- Harmonise existing laws and legislations (State law office, Relevant sectors)
- Financial constraints to enforce laws and legislations		- Training at Operational level to understand their law and legislation (Enforcement Officers) - Develop Private/Public Partnership in law enforcement (Enforcement Officers)
- Conflict of interest in the enforcement of law at the higher level		- Equitable Benefit sharing (DOF, Companies, Province)

Discussion:

- Introduce hybrid planting material
- Better control of pests & diseases
- Perform multi-sectoral approach when discussing women's affairs
- Provide grants for investors who want to invest in ecotourism
- Harmonisation of legislation is essential
- Decentralise governmental approach
- Scholarships are needed for training of new and qualified staff in forestry
- Focus to applied research is needed (We need facts & figures)
- Develop good forestry technicians e.g. in VAC
- Approach Lands Dep. first for clarification of ownership before applying for forestry license
- Land issues are the problem of Lands Dep. and not of DoF; DoF, DoE etc. only come in when it comes to zoning during land use planning
- Churches need to be involved more
- Agro-forestry approaches are needed (research priority)
- Identify permanent forest estate in LUP. URGENT.

Priorities:

- Decentralisation
- Land use planning
- Information Centre ("Walk-in" extension service for farmers and communities)
- Harmonisation of legislation
- Tree improvement
- Participation of women
- Awareness on conservation of protected areas & natural forests

Programme



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FOREST POLICY REVIEW NORTHERN CONSULTATION

26-27 April 2010

Vanuatu Agricultural College, Luganville, Santo

Chair: Mr. Livo Mele (Director of Forestry)

Moderators: Dr. Wulf Killmann, Dr. Reinhold Glauner (Forestry Consultants)

Day 1: Monday April 26

Time		Speaker ³	comment
Opening			
09:00	Welcome & Official Opening	Director (Forestry)	Ioan Viji
09:10	Round of Introductions	Moderator	
09:30	Objectives of Consultation	W.Killmann	
09:45	Morning Tea		
Climate Change & Forestry			
10:00	Forests in the international climate change regime and Climate Change Impacts in Vanuatu	W.Killmann	
10:30	Overview of Forest Sector	Director Forestry	
Group Work			
10:45	Groupwork Introduction & Establishment	Moderator	

³ Each presentation should be restricted to 15 minutes

	of working groups - Commercial forestry - Community forestry - Forest Conservation - Cross-cutting issues		
11:15	Group work		
12:30	Lunch		
Group Work			
13:15	Group Work	Moderator	
14:45	Afternoon Tea		
15:00	Group work continues	Moderator	
17:00	Discussion in plenary	Moderator	
17:30	End of First Day	Director Forestry	

Day 2 – Tuesday April 27

Time		Speaker	comment
9:00	Welcome & Recap	Moderator	-
Presentations by WGs in Plenary			
9:15	Group Commercial Forestry	Moderator	
9:45	Group Community Forestry	Moderator	
10:30	Morning Tea		
10:45	Group Forest Conservation	Moderator	
11:15	Group Crosscutting Issues	Moderator	
11:45	Summing up and next steps	Moderator	
12:00	Closure of workshop	Director Forestry	
12:15	Lunch		
13:15	Go home		

Participant List

Pacific -German Regional Programme on Adaptation to Climate Change

VANUATU Forest Policy Review

April 26-27 2010

Vanuatu Agricultural College- Santo

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National Consultation June 7 2010

Programme



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FOREST POLICY REVIEW

2nd NATIONAL CONSULTATION

Monday, June 7, 2010

Chair: Mr. Livo Mele (Director Forest)

Moderators: Dr. Wulf Killmann, Dr. Reinhold Glauner (Forestry Consultants)

Time		Speaker⁴	comment
Opening			
08:30	Welcome & Official Opening	Minister MAQFF	
08:40	Round of Introductions	Moderator	
08:50	Objectives of Consultation	Moderator	
09:00	Morning Tea		
Vanuatu's New Forest Policy			
09:15	Presentation of New Forest Policy	Director Forest	
09:45	Questions and Answers	Moderator	
Group Work			
10:15	Groupwork Introduction & Establishment of working groups - Commercial forestry	Moderator	

⁴ Each presentation should be restricted to 15 minutes

	<div>- Farmer-based & Community forestry</div> <div>- Forest Conservation</div> <div>- Cross-cutting issues</div>		
10:30	Group work		
12:30	Lunch		
Group Work			
13:15	Group Work continues	Moderator	
14:45	Afternoon Tea		
15:00	Group work presentation and discussion in plenary	Moderator	
17:00	Summing up and closure	Director Forest	

Participant List

Pacific -German Regional Programme on Adaptation to Climate Change
VANUATU Forest Policy Validation Workshop
Monday June 7th
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Southern Consultation June 8-9 2010

Programme



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FOREST POLICY REVIEW

2nd SOUTHERN CONSULTATION

Melanesian Port Vila

June 8 & 9, 2010

Chair: Mr. Livo Mele, Director Forest

Moderators: Dr. Wulf Killmann, Dr. Reinhold Glauner, Consultants

Day 1: Tuesday June 08

Time		Speaker ⁵	comment
Opening			
08:30	Welcome & Official Opening	Director Forest	
08:40	Round of Introductions	Moderator	
08:50	Objectives of Consultation	Moderator	
The New Forest Policy			
09:15	Presentation of New Forest Policy	Director Forest	
09:45	Questions and answers	Moderator	
10:00	Morning Tea		
Group Work			
10:15	Groupwork Introduction & Establishment	Moderator	

	<div>of working groups</div> <div><div>- Commercial forestry</div><div>- Farmer-based & Community forestry</div><div>- Forest Conservation</div><div>- Cross-cutting issues</div></div>		
10:30	Group work		
12:00	Lunch		
Group Work			
13:15	Group Work continues	Moderator	
15:00	Afternoon Tea		
15:15	Group work continues	Moderator	
17:00	End of First Day	Director Forest	

Day 2 – Wednesday, June 09

Time		Speaker	comment
08:30	Welcome & Recap	Moderator	-
Presentations by WGs in Plenary			
08:45	Group Presentations- Commercial	Moderator	
10:00	Morning Tea		
10:15	Group Presentations continued – Farmer & Community, Conservation, Cross Cutting	Moderator	
11:30	Summing up and next steps	Moderator	
11:50	Closure of workshop	Director Forest	
12:00	Lunch		
13:30	Go home		

Participants

Pacific -German Regional Programme on Adaptation to Climate Change

VANUATU Forest Policy Validation

June 8-9

Melanesian Port Vila

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Northern Consultation June 10-11 2010

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FOREST POLICY REVIEW

2nd NORTHERN CONSULTATION

Vanuatu Agricultural College, Luganville, Santo

June 10 & 11, 2010

Chair: Mr. Livo Mele, Director Forest

Moderators: Dr. Wulf Killmann, Dr. Reinhold Glauner, Consultants

Day 1: Thursday June 10

Time		Speaker ⁶	comment
Opening			
08:30	Welcome & Official Opening	Director Forest	
08:40	Round of Introductions	Moderator	
08:50	Objectives of Consultation	Moderator	
09:00	Morning Tea		
The New Forest Policy			
09:15	Presentation of New Forest Policy	Director Forest	
09:45	Questions and answers	Moderator	
Group Work			
10:15	Groupwork	Moderator	

⁶ Each presentation should be restricted to 15 minutes

	Introduction & Establishment of working groups - Commercial forestry - Farmer-based & Community forestry - Forest Conservation - Cross-cutting issues		
10:30	Group work		
12:30	Lunch		
Group Work			
13:15	Group Work continues	Moderator	
14:45	Afternoon Tea		
15:00	Group work continues	Moderator	
17:00	End of First Day	Director Forest	

Day 2 – Friday, June 11

Time		Speaker	comment
08:30	Welcome & Recap	Moderator	-
Presentations by WGs in Plenary			
08:45	Group Commercial Forestry	Moderator	
09:30	Morning Tea		
09:45	Group Farmer-based & Community Forestry	Moderator	
10:30	Group Forest Conservation	Moderator	
11:15	Group Crosscutting Issues	Moderator	
12:00	Summing up and next steps	Moderator	
12:15	Closure of workshop	Director Forest	
12:30	Lunch		
13:30	Go home		

Participant List

Pacific -German Regional Programme on Adaptation to Climate Change

VANUATU Forest Policy Validation

June 10-11

Vanuatu Agricultural College- Santo

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National Validation Feb 23-24 2011

Programme



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FOREST POLICY REVIEW & VALIDATION SUMMIT

23rd & 24th February 2011

Melanesian Hotel, Port Vila

Chair: Mr. Livo Mele (Director of Forestry)

Day 1: Wednesday 23rd February

Time		Facilitator
8:00	Welcome & Official Opening	Minister, AQFF
8:10	NFP Sector Description	Livo Mele
8:20	Strategic Goals and Rationale of a National Forest Policy	Livo Mele
8:30	Stakeholder Consultation and Ownership Process	Christopher Bartlett
8:45	Policy Sections and Structure; <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Forward- Sector Background- NFP Statement (brief);- Appendices	Livo Mele
9:30	Morning Tea	
9:45	National Forest Policy Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Guiding Principles;- Vision;- Objectives;- Implementation Strategy	Livo Mele
11:30	Lunch	
12:30	National Forest Policy Directives: 1. Sustainable Forest Management	Jude Tabi

1:45	National Forest Policy Directives: 2. Small Farmer and Community Based Forestry	Ioan Viji
3:00	National Forest Policy Directives: 3. Forest Conservation and Environment	Christopher Bartlett
4:15	Wrap up of Day 1	Livo Mele
4:30	Afternoon Tea	

Day 2 – Thursday 24th February

Time		Speaker
8:00	Welcome & Recap	
8:15	National Forest Policy Directives: 4. Climate Change	Christopher Bartlett
9:30	National Forest Policy Directives: 5. Finance	Livo Mele
10:30	Morning Tea	
10:45	National Forest Policy Directives: 6. Institutional Setup	Livo Mele
12:00	Lunch	
1:00	National Forest Policy Directives: 7. Awareness, Training, Capacity and Research	Tate Hanington
2:00	National Forest Policy Directives: 8. Forest Industries	Livo Mele
3:15	Afternoon Tea	
3:30	Implementation processes	Livo Mele
4:45	Summing Up and Closure	