

Key Stakeholders in Protected Forest Areas Management in Viet Nam

(VNAFE group include 4 participants: Cao Thi Ly, Do Van Nhan, Nguyen Quoc Binh and Nguyen Thi Thuy Phuong)

1 Introduction

Integrated management of conservation forest resources is a sustainable approaches for forest resources management as well balanced as economic, cultural, social development in human – ecological systems. In reality, protected forest areas management is confronting many conflicts between forest-used needs and strict conservation policies.

At present, policies that support for forest resources conservation are not much, especially conservation forest resources management base on community, benefit shared and coordinated mechanisms on integrated conservation,...So that, the improvement on organization and management of forest resources combine with socioeconomic development of buffer zones are not significant effects.

How to involve participation of key stakeholders for effective protected forest areas management? And how can policy help? To find out, we will undertake to analyze related research results, that were implemented in some protected areas in the Central Highland of Vietnam between 2005 and 2007, and to supplement real information and data in other locations outside of the central highland during July to October 2008.

2 Research Objectives

This research aims to analyse the current policies and practices of the conservation management in some national parks and identify lessons with regards to what, how to involve effective participation of stakeholders, especially buffer zone communities in protected forest areas management.

3 Research Questions

- How high are the important and participatory levels of key stakeholders in managing the protected forest areas?
- Why does current protected forest areas management not involved effective participation of the buffer zone communities?
- How has the inflexible strict conservation policy implementation impacted to integrated conservation? (Have forest resources been protected? How benefit shared and what are the coordinated mechanisms? Protected forest areas management base on communities?)
- How to involve participation of key stakeholders, especially communities in protected forest areas management?

4 Research Contents (What needs to be analyzed?)

- Analyzing important and participatory level of key stakeholders in protected forest areas management;
- Determining main causes of ineffective participation of stakeholders, especially buffer zone communities in conservation;
- Analyzing effects and impact of current strict conservation policy in term of:

- + Protected forest resources (Environmental)
- + Benefit shared mechanisms (Economic)
- + Co-ordinate mechanisms in conservation and conservation base on community (Social – Cultural/Local Ecological Knowledge)

5 Plan to gather, analyze and organize the results

The plan is shown in a log frame below:

Activities	Methods	Expected Results	Responsibility	Time
1. To analyze important and participatory level of key stakeholders in protected forest areas management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using and inheriting available research results in the Central Highland of Viet Nam - Further organizing 2 participatory workshops in 2 protected areas in other locations (if possible) (*) 	<p>important and participatory level of key stakeholders in protected forest areas management will be identified</p> <p>Some real evidences will be shown</p>	<p>4 participants of VNAFE group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cao Ly - Do Van Nhan - Quoc Binh - Thuy Phuong 	July - August
2. To determine main causes of ineffective participation of stakeholders, especially buffer zone communities in conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using and inheriting available research results - Supplementing real information, data from two other protected areas (**) - Information sharing, discussion and consensus (by email & phone) 	<p>main causes of ineffective participation of stakeholders, especially buffer zone communities in conservation will be described</p> <p>Some real evidences will be shown</p>	<p>To analyze base on available research results: Cao Ly, Do Van Nhan;</p> <p>To supplement real information in two other National Parks(NPs): Bach Ma NP – Hue (Thuy Phuong) Cat Tien NP – Dong Nai (Quoc Binh)</p>	July - August
3. To analyze effects and impact of current strict conservation policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using and inheriting available research results - Individual analysis, discussion and consensus (by email & phone) 	<p>Effects and impact of current strict conservation policy will be identified</p> <p>Some real evidences will be shown</p>	4 participants	July - August
4. To synthesize analytical results and to put forward ideas to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group working, discussion and consensus (Group 	<p>Conclusions, summary of lessons learned and</p>	4 participants	September

Activities	Methods	Expected Results	Responsibility	Time
integrated conservation management	meeting) (***)	recommendations		
5. To write and complete reports and research products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assigning tasks and sharing the work. - Assembling, consensus, reviewing and completing 	<p>The policy report</p> <p>Draft of the policy brief</p> <p>Presentation by powerpoint</p>	4 participants	September – Deadline in October