Group 3

Conditions and drivers of change
Critical elements in the historic process

• Lack of aristocracy / flat hierarchy – **close democratic government** (without corporate capture – 40 years of struggle to progress)

• Good education policy that was oriented towards cooperation / trust – **rights plus obligations** – strengthened by unionisation

• Perceived threat to livelihoods / a **mobilisation to tackle common crisis** (low returns from timber, land price rises etc. – a question of **survival**)

• **Local champions** leading fight – willing to travel to Stockholm / demonstrating even the face of military force (1931)
Critical elements in the historic process - 2

- Innovation by land owners themselves - a strong rural lobby (farm and forestry) that made government sensitive to change

- Ultimate transfer of commercial rights over farm land and forests to local residents plus capping corporate rights

- History of social commitment – practice of democracy and understanding of both rights and obligations – accepted broadly

- A model of cooperation in search of scale and efficient service delivery – work together with a professional business structure
Critical elements in the historic process - 3

- A **diversity of buyers** to keep the service providers / cooperatives efficient and honest

- **Reinforcing law enforcement / measurement** followed to cement gains

- **Ongoing work to deliver economic success** – so that the original crisis was actually addressed

- Gradual **mobilisation of capital** (through leverage of members sales to attract / leverage investment)
Steps that can or cannot be replicated?

• Many countries have common crises and the beginnings of social organisation (e.g. Brazil forest code / India forest rights act)

• The forces of globalisation – corporate strength are much greater now and concentrations of power in certain hands – but are battles for rights and obligations still winnable with organisation?

• Stronger pressures to diversify economies in face of global economic crisis – do models of LCF have more resonance?
Steps that can or cannot be replicated?

• Other countries have less homogeneous and organised civil society – but champions emerge (e.g. Brazil against changes to Forest Code) – is critical mass enough?

• Acceptance that these process take a long fight – and the more organised and market impact actors have the better
What level of development is needed?

• In Sweden at the origin of the crisis there was little ‘development’ perhaps it was the lack of development that was critical

• But then a very long process of social organisation – and ever increasing sophistication of business model and service delivery

• Importance of a general acceptance and expectation that local people can develop such sophistication over time.