The Forests Dialogue

Dialogue on Investing in Locally Controlled Forestry
Ohrid, Macedonia
December 1-4, 2009

Dialogue Co-Chairs
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Lennart Ackzell – IFFA
Ruth Martínez – GACF
Facilitator: Markku Simula – Ardot

Objectives of the ILCF initiative

- Highlight the challenges and opportunities faced by locally controlled forestry (LCF) in the global north and south;
- Identify the factors behind successful forestry interventions that need to be integrated into investment initiatives and other support programs;
- Strengthen the north-south connections and explore a global vision;
- Develop and share information on best practices and operational models.

Questions to consider in the field

1. What form of local control (decision making power) is there?
2. What are people doing in the forest and for what purpose?
3. What is stopping and helping people make good decisions?
4. How are people organizing themselves?

Program

Tuesday, December 1 - Continental Hotel, Skopje

8:00 Opening – Morten Thoroe, CEFP
Welcome Address – Vojo Gogovski, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
TFD and ILCF Introduction – Teresa Sarroca, TFD
Background Presentation – Atilla Lengyel and Makedonka Stojanovska

10:15 Depart Skopje for the field

12:00 Visit Novo Selo, meet local association of private forest owners and have lunch

15:00 Visit Godivje local forest owners in the field for discussion and viewpoint of forested landscape

17:00 Arrive and check in at Gorica Hotel, Ohrid

Wednesday, December 2 - Ohrid

8:30 Visit small private saw mill in Ohrid vicinity
9:30 Visit members of a local hunting organization
10:40 Visit Ela Mak, private saw mill in Ohrid

12:45 Visit Vevcani’s neighboring forest and natural springs being proposed as a municipal and protected forestland

13:30 Lunch at Vevcani with community members and wild mushroom collectors

15:30 Return to Gorica Hotel, Ohrid
Thursday, December 3 - Gorica Hotel, Ohrid
9:00 Co-Chairs’ key conclusions of the field days
9:30 Plenary session on field days conclusions
10:00 Breakout group session I - Policies and Institutions
   ➔ What is needed for appropriate tenure and ownership rights for locally controlled forests?
   ➔ What are the enabling conditions for effective locally controlled forests (policy framework, regulations, incentives, overcoming perceptual problems among forest authorities concerning LCF) considering both the formal and informal sectors?
   ➔ What should be the role of state and institutions, particularly public forest enterprises?
   ➔ What else is needed to establish effective local control of forests?
10:45 Coffee break in breakout groups
12:30 Lunch
13:30 Breakout group reports
14:30 Breakout group session II - Capacity Building
   ➔ What is needed to establish and strengthen of organizations of forest owners, indigenous peoples and communities?
   ➔ What else is needed to build capacity among rights groups?
   ➔ How to overcome the problem of fragmentation of small-scale private ownership?
   ➔ How to build capacity in the informal sector?
16:00 Coffee Break
16:15 Breakout group reports
17:30 Adjourn for the day

Friday, December 4 – Gorica Hotel, Ohrid
8:30 Overview and key conclusions from Day 3
9:00 Breakout group session III - Economic contributions and financing
   ➔ How to develop efficient and profitable forest operations (incl. services) and ensure appropriate distribution of benefits from locally controlled forests between actors?
   ➔ How to develop SMEs?
   ➔ How to overcome problems in access to financing of investment in a broad sense to enhance benefits from locally controlled forests?
   ➔ What should be the role of actors in the development of locally controlled forests including among others: donors, support organizations, service providers, the private sector and other investors?
10:15 Coffee Break
10:30 Breakout group reports
11:30 Plenary discussion
12:30 Lunch
13:30 Co-Chairs presentation and plenary discussion on main conclusions and next steps
15:00 Adjourn with coffee break before boarding the buses back to Skopje