Co-Chairs’ Summary

Of Day 3

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Ohrid, Macedonia
Co-chairs:
Lennart Ackzell, IFFA
M. Ruth Martínez, GACF
Max Ooft, IAITPTF
Critical Gaps in LCF

Historical factors, political transition, unclear rights, mistrust and misperceptions, institutional interests, lack of political will, etc.

Many similarities of gaps between regions. Due to differences in local contexts blueprints do not exist but experience on best practices can be shared.
Rights

Appropriate **definition** of rights is critical for LCF; rights are always **relational** and they imply **responsibility** and accountability; **security** of rights is fundamental

Gap 1: rights on paper vs. in practice
Gap 2: conflicting rights
Gap 3: existing rights vs. what they should be

**Scope of rights:**
- Ownership
- Use and access to benefits
- Management
- Exclusion
Institutional Gap

- Gap: lack of common perspective on goals and objectives

- **Forest authority:**
  - Mixed objectives:
    - National policy objectives
    - Organizational objectives
  - Mixed roles:
    - Regulatory function
    - Production, market dominance, pricing
    - Promotional function

- **Forest owners’ associations**
  - Objectives: promotion of interests and tangible benefits
  - Constraints: awareness, critical mass, confidence and trust, capacity
Capacity Building Gaps

- Forest authority
- Local authorities
- Associations
- Forest owners
- Service providers and intermediaries
- Support organizations

→ Need for clear strategies to address capacity building of all groups
Scope of Capacity

• Set priorities and understand regulations
• Exercise rights and control
• Plan, implement and monitor forest operations
• Know markets and sell
• Obtain financing and support
• Manage external and internal conflicts
• Influence policies and regulation
Fragmentation

Dimensions
• Small property size: advantage and weakness
• Micro-mosaic of private and state ownership

Options for improving conditions for SFM:
• Association services
• Cooperative approaches, joint management
• Cadastre, consolidation of properties (land exchange)
• Incentives
• Inheritance rules
Further clarification needed

- Generation of political will
- Strategic approach: (i) sectoral, (ii) natural resources, (iii) rural development
- Best practices in LCF
- Informal sector
- Gender aspects
- Communication