VIP report back on “What sort of investment is required to build on local control?”
VIP room – who are we?

- Peter Gardiner – S. African rugby and Man Utd fanatic
- Duncan Macqueen – Mandolin maniac
- Chris Buss – English rugby fanatic who loves sitting in coaches
- Margareta Renstrom – Devoted gardener and dog lover
- Somying Soontornwong – Loves children and photography
- Gabriel Troumi – Loves walks with fiancée
- Shiva Pandey – Badminton and Kapardi enthusiast and card sharp
- Vila Chanthavong – Passionate about reading and watching detective movies
What sort of investment is required to build on local control?

- Advocacy to increase and secure the forest resource base under local community control
- Investing in Nepalese-owned resource assessment capacity to accurately measure and verify resource base
- Redirecting use or diversifying into higher revenue / community-branded products by enhancing product development capacity
- An awareness programme about ecosystem service development
What sort of investment is required to build on local control?

- Strengthen community level organisations within and between communities (bundling products)
- Develop open source communication platforms (e.g. internet / mobile phones… at community level) that serve value adding activities
- Investment in an enterprise intermediary to link communities to new markets, technologies, service providers etc
What sort of investment is required to build on local control?

- Market information services (MIS) for key timber, NTFP and environmental service products
- Work programme with micro-finance providers to establish new forest investment lines
- Developing risk management systems for environmental service trade
- Set up an invasive alien species programme
VIP priorities

- Invasive species programme
- Risk management system
- Market information system
- Ecosystem service awareness
- Resource assessment capacity
- Communication platforms
- Finance, including microfinance
- Product development capacity
- Securing and increasing land
- Strengthen community organisation
- Enterprise intermediary
How do we get there?

- “There” = investment to create incentives for effective locally controlled forestry that sustains and improves livelihoods.
- Starting premise is that, with 15,000 CFUGs change will only be possible with effective intermediaries – so our starting priority is to invest in their work.
How do we get there?

• But uptake and spread of capacity also requires strong community organisations – including product and service based networks. How?
  – Catalysing product groups
  – Introduce benefits of collective action / bargaining power

• Work with these groups to secure / increase productive forest land
  – Setting up lobby groups at the right level
  – Documenting good examples of success
How do we get there?

• With strong organisations and a secure resource base the next priority is to **develop or diversify products**
  – Market research and advice on design, production, marketing

• Then we need **accessible financial instruments** to allow communities to identify and develop their own priority businesses
  – Public sources
  – Private finance, including micro-finance
How do we get there?

• With all this in place a pressing need is then adequate **communication platforms** to link producer groups with each other and markets – this may be the immediate priority in Nepal?