

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?



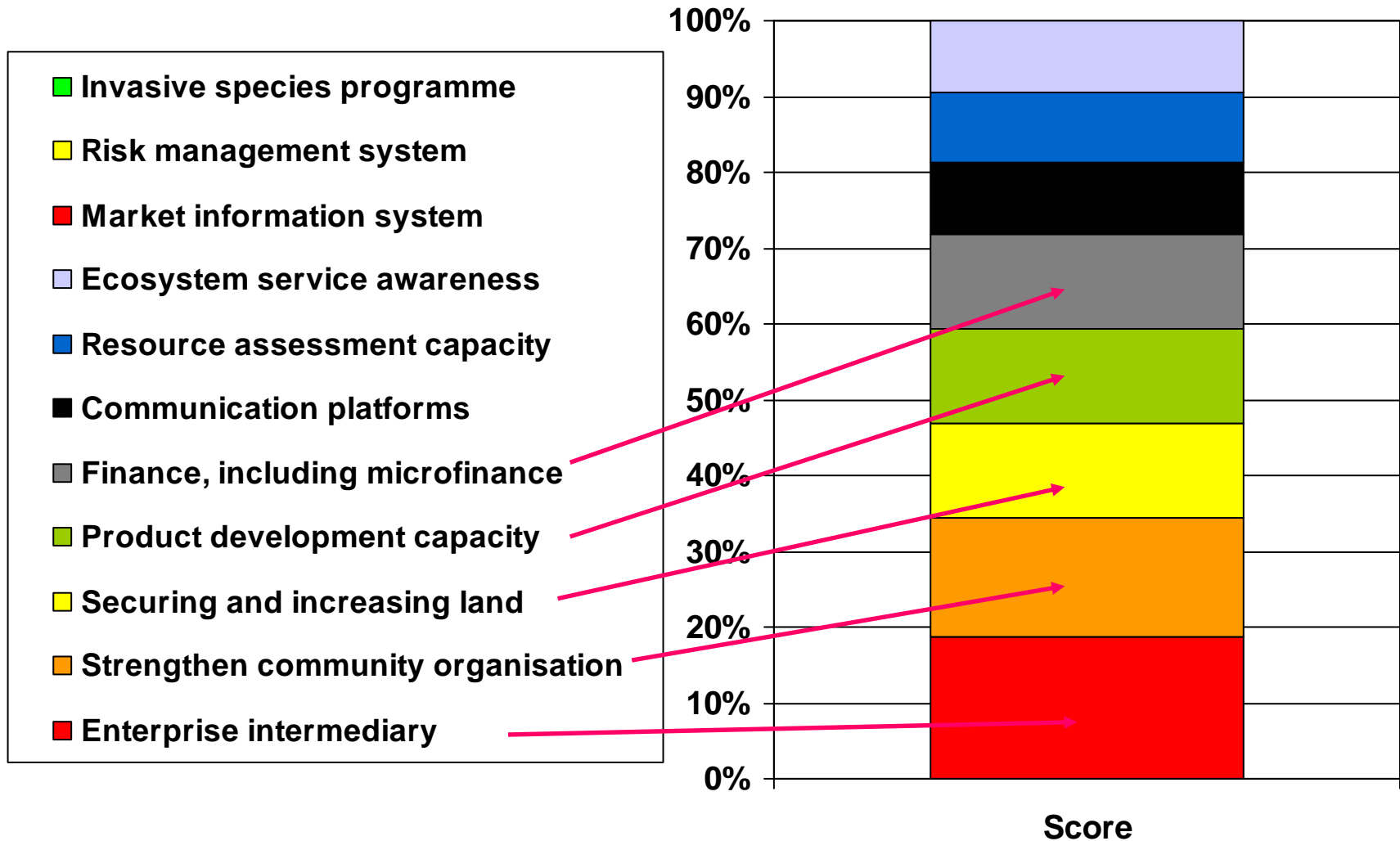
- Strengthen community level organisations within and between communities (bundling products)
- Develop open source communication platforms (e.g. internet / mobile phones... at community level) that serve value adding activities
- Investment in an enterprise intermediary to link communities to new markets, 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



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?