THE FORESTS DIALOGUE

Field Dialogue on Investing in Locally Controlled Forestry
22-25 August 2009 – Panama

Dialogue Co-Chairs
Estebancio Castro – IAITPTF
Peter deMarsh – IFFA
Ghan Shyam Pandey – GACF

Objectives

- 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.

Dialogue Key Questions

1. How do the models of the visited LCF projects differ? How were they developed and what were the drivers?
2. How have the enabling conditions and challenges been different among projects?
3. Have communities linked to outside investment and support? What are the challenges related with both finding and dealing with this external support?
4. Are communities communicating how they carry out LCF?
5. How do we share what we learn here?

Dialogue Itinerary

Saturday August 22
7:00 Depart for Kuna Yala from the Allbrook Mall. We will travel to El Porvenir to meet with the Kuna Yala Cacique and community members. We will return to the Gamboa hotel by dinner time.

Sunday August 23
7:00 Depart for Embera Ipetí from the Gamboa Hotel Resort
9:00 We will visit the Orozco sawmill in the town of Chepo, a small-medium enterprise that is working with WWF and USAID in a FSC project.
10:00 We will continue the trip towards the Ipetí Emberá community where we will attend a welcoming ceremony by community members and elders. Community leaders will give a presentation on the history of the community and the displacement that lead it to its current location.
12:30 We will join the community for lunch.

13:30 We will visit the community’s REDD project and a reforestation project implemented by the community with technical assistance provided by the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and McGill University.

16:30 On our return to Gamboa we will make a stop at the Kuna Ipetí community.

**Monday August 24 - Hotel Gamboa Resort**

9:00 Introductions, TFD and the ILCF initiative
10:30 Break
10:45 Forest Context in Panama
11:00 Reflections on field days
12:00 Other experiences in Panama
13:00 Lunch
14:00 Breakout sessions:
   - What are the key elements of local control?
   - How much control does your community have now?
   - What are the key challenges in getting the local control you need and keeping it?
16:00 Break
16:15 Breakout presentations
18:00 Adjourn

**Tuesday August 25 - Hotel Gamboa Resort**

9:00 Co-Chair wrap-up of the 1st day
10:30 Break
10:45 Breakout sessions
   - What are the opportunities for investment?
   - What are the models for investment?
   - Where is the “investment” going to come from and how are we going to get it?
12:45 Lunch
13:45 Breakout presentations
14:45 Discussion: prioritization and ways forward
16:00 Break
17:00 Adjourn