

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS OF A COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT IN VIETNAM

— A CASE OF HONG HA COMMUNE, THUA THIEN HUE PROVINCE —

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1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

Vietnam experienced considerable decrease in forest area because of the repeated wars, population growth and failure in centralized forest management by the State. Based on these experiences, the government started to decentralize the forest management by allocating forest land to organizations, households and individuals. Recent days it became trend to allocate forest land to communities in order to implement community forest management (CFM) which is expected to contribute to the conservation of the natural forest and to improve the local livelihood. Because this approach has just started, few evaluations of the CFM by forest land allocation (FLA) have been reported. Therefore it is meaningful to analyze the CFM by FLA, which was implemented by the support of World Wide fund for Nature (WWF) under the Green Corridor Project (GCP), at Kan Sam hamlet, Hue province. The objective of this study is to clarify the challenges of the FLA project at Kan Sam hamlet through interview survey to stakeholders.

2. METHODOLOGY

The research was conducted mainly by semi-structured interview to individuals of Kan Sam hamlet and concerned organizations. In addition, secondary data collections and field observations were conducted. Stakeholder analysis was applied for analyzing the data obtained from the survey.

3. RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

The goal of this project was primarily to conserve the natural forest and secondarily to improve the local livelihood. However, the livelihood improvement of the local people and forest management and protection by Kan Sam villagers were not observed. The villagers' interests in CFM seemed very limited. Table 1 shows the uncooperative relations between villagers and other stakeholders. It is obvious that the villagers didn't have any decision-making power over project. Furthermore, there is a gap between villagers' interests and project side's interests. Villagers were interested in their livelihood improvement while project side aimed at conservation and sustainable forest management. Hence the consensus on CFM has not been achieved. From these results, it is concluded that the communication among these stakeholders were not enough although it is essential to carry out CFM. **Table 1 Interrelations, roles and interests of key stakeholder regarding FLA at Kan Sam**

	Kan Sam villagers	People's Committee of Hong Ha	Forest Protection Unit in Hong Ha	Forest Protection Unit in A Luoi	Section of Agriculture & Rural Development	Section of Natural Resource & Environment	People's Committee of A Luoi	GCP	Roles	Interests
Kan Sam villagers		×	×	×	*	*	*	△	Demarcation/Measuring forest storage/ Planting/ Protection	Owing forest Improving life standard
People's Committee, Hong Ha	*		*	*	*	*	○↓	*	Deciding the FLA at commune side	Providing job for villagers Improving life standard of villagers
Forest Protection Unit, Hong Ha	×	*		○↓	*	*	*	○	Measuring forest storage	Protecting forest from illegal logging Preventing forest fire
Forest Protection Unit, A Luoi	△	*	○↑		○	○	○	○	Implementer of the FLA	Sustainable forest management
Section of Agriculture & Rural Development	*	*	*	○		○	○	*	Making land use plan Considering the feasibility of FLA	Implementing land use plan they made
Section of Natural Resource & Environment	*	*	*	○	○		○	*	Considering the feasibility of FLA	Sustainable natural resource management
People's Committee, A Luoi	*	○↑	*	○	○	○		○	Approving the FLA Supervising the process Issuing the Red Book	Improving the welfare of the people in the district Carrying out policies
GCP	△	○	○	○	○	○	○		Organizer of GCP	Conservation of the precious landscape in the Green Corridor

○ good × bad △ moderate * unclear ↑upper ↓ lower

