



Supporting and Developing **the** Livelihood
of the People and Residential Community
**on the Protection and Development
Activities** in Dien Bien Province

**Phạm Đức Hiền- DIEN BIEN Department of
Agriculture and Rural Development**

Thai Nguyen, June 11-13, 2014

Contents



Situation of Socio-economic development



Realities of community forest management



Solutions



Results of the implementation of 2 projects



Lessons learned



Recommendations

Situation of Socio-Economic development

**BẢN ĐỒ HÀNH CHÍNH TỈNH
DIỆN BIÊN**



Area (ha)	956.290
Forest land (ha)	761,831
Ethnics (Thái, H'Mông, Kinh,...)	21
Population (per)	512.300
Total labor (per)	279.053
Foreign labor (per)	207.323
Annual Income (million)	17
Forest cover (%)	40,9

Realities of community forest management

In recent years, although the forest area had increased but the quality of forests biodiversity **was likely** to decline.


- + Private forests were also abused, low acreage, forest degradation, destroyed or converted to other purposes.
- + Low growth of provincial forestry sector
- + Potential forest land, **widely** untapped forest.
- + Rapid population growth, shortage of agricultural land
- + Fluctuations of climate and weather due to climate change

REALITIES OF ISSUES

- ✦ Main issues: illegal logging, tendency to burn forest land; Agricultural cropland expansion (poverty).
- ✦ Benefits from business management and forest communities and its many limitations, such as community forests are not recognized as legal entity; annual forest management planning for a duration of 5 years; difficulty in the implementation of technical criteria and procedures in **producing** community forest.
- ✦ Difficulty in gathering fuelwood, no alternative for timber and other values ; difficulty in producing upland rice and corn
- ✦ Lack of organizational and management skills of the people for forest protection and care
- ✦ Lack of financial resources, skilled labor, technical solutions and impact on forests.
- ✦ No land ownership, investment activities in the forest, forest protection, processing, expenditure is not increasing
- ✦ Lack of upland farming field practices, **effort to have big investment is not encouraged.**

REALITIES OF ISSUES

- ✚ The livelihood activities related to farming, vegetable production, reforestation, and application of insecticide
- ✚ Results of the implementation of programs and projects (state, foreign organization) and the desired objectives have not achieved. One of the causes was mainly due to the limited **method** and problem solving strategy

 New approaches of the SUSFORM NOW Project and Community Forestry Project Phase 2: livelihood support activities associated with the protection and management commitment for community forest

SOLUTIONS

1. Integrating forestry policies and increasing the available income for the residential community.

Two important tasks for sustainable forest management should be considered: "to protect and develop forests", and "livelihood support"

Integration of the policies, programs and projects related to protection and forest development and livelihood support must be **sustained** in developing community forest to supplement and remedy these difficulties through : PFES, REDD + , FLA, 30A, World Bank II, a new countryside

SOLUTIONS

2. Support for livelihood development

Agencies who take care of assessment must select the livelihood activities which are appropriate for development.

Funds must be integrated to related programs and projects; supporting and helping businesses to develop capability to invest in, process and market the products related to agriculture, forestry production.

Encourage the use of the resources available in local market, manpower and indigenous experience

Review additional draft policies set up for each community forest protection

Enhancement of training and technical guidelines to develop the capacity of officials and citizens.

Provide capital support, marketing communications

Organize regular reviews learned from experience in the implementation process

SOLUTIONS

3. Training Methods

Perform surveys and evaluation to review current capabilities and training needs analysis

Organize appropriate trainings in accordance with resources, time, people's backgrounds.

Enhancement of training and technical guidelines on management of forest protection and livelihood development.

Coordinate with concerned agencies in training, propaganda and mobilization.

4. Mobilized the participation of the people

In general, residents are encouraged to participate voluntarily in various fields of interests and the community.

Need to specify and understand and develop people's awareness on the goals and objectives, benefits of participating in protection and development of forest communities

SOLUTIONS

5. Gather and disseminate model, how to perform **standard** models and good practices for replication.
6. Raise awareness of people in the exploitation, use and development of resources in forest products.
7. **Conduct research** on plants that are appropriate for the soil type to reduce soil erosion and at the same time increase the income of the community .
8. Regularly coordinate with other ministries for local technical training and guidelines, in the course of implementing the project, it is necessary to determine the occurrence of natural disasters, and diseases.
9. Develop authorized incentive policies, identify appropriate businesses forest investment - processing - marketing of products to help the people

RESULTS FROM TWO PROJECTS

A. Community Forestry Project Phase 2 in Dien Bien province

- ✚ Supported in building 4ha model under forest edging to increase the income from forestland. **Similarly**, provided training and technical guidance of edging plant for household and community involvement were organized.
- ✚ Supported the construction of 16 stoves **using firewood** and supplied to 64 Laos' kitchen, showed improvements and time saving, reduce pressure on forest fuels and help protect the ecological environment.
- ✚ Organized 8 conferences with more than 600 people from different organizations and committees to improve awareness, forest management and other issues related to community projects: climate change (access to PFES/REDD+), timber origin, gender equality and 2 site visits about sustainable forest management and other livelihood activities with more than 60 people

RESULTS FROM TWO PROJECTS

B. SUSFORM – NOW PROJECT

- ✦ Based on evaluation, the project activities are carried out basically according to plan, with remarkable results for the constituencies on 2 forest management and sustainable livelihood development projects.
- ✦ The project has supported 11 activities related to livelihood development **covering** 9 villages.
- ✦ Livelihood activities are implemented and initially created gainful income for households. Management, protection and development of forests urged people to actively participate.

Details:

1. Cow raising: Performed in 2 villages, **of the 12 households that participated;** had the initial success.

RESULTS FROM TWO PROJECTS

B. SUSFORM – NOW PROJECT

2. Pig raising: involvement of 61 households , this activity was considered successful, some households have good quality pig breeding. This activity had the most basic income

3. Fish farming: 52 participating households, carried out in 6 point test.



RESULTS FROM TWO PROJECTS

B. SUSFORM – NOW project

4. Conducted testing activities in improving stoves and biogas: Performed at 4/9 villages of the project. Improved stoves have not been as successful as expected. Many households responded in Biogas, using waste from pigs, and cattle **developed for cooking purposes, providing** lights, saving time and fuel wood from the forest.

5. Other livelihood activities: Raising chickens, vegetable and mushroom production, fruit growing, Mong Pe wine making, brooms making with initial results, then have the impacts on people's feelings and community.

Implementation of Decree 99 - about PES, forest area **communities have acquired 78,164 ha (1,000 ha of the project area in forest communities).in 2014.**

LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES



Chicken growing



Broom making



Mushroom production



Vegetables production

RESULTS FROM TWO PROJECTS

B. SUSFORM – NOW project

6. **Activities:** Planting trees (262 ha); concept of forest protection, and care of forests by local people are committed to implement with the support of the project.



Planting trees
guide



Edging model
under the **shaded**
forest

Protective forest

LESSON LEARNED

- ✚ Site selection **was** consistent with the goal of creating the premise of the project's success
- ✚ Use a systematic approach to examine the issue in a comprehensive and complete manner; participatory approach, approach-oriented research outputs.
- ✚ Organize the evaluation activity, selected the activities that are appropriate for the livelihood development needs and existing conditions of the locality.
- ✚ Modify and adjust the plan promptly when influence of external factors had arisen.
- ✚ Focus on monitoring and evaluating results during the implementation of trial activities.
- ✚ Balancing collaboration, implementing arrangements among the parties concerned.
- ✚ Conduct trainings for staff and local people

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✚ Government: To issue mechanisms and policies related to community forest management for effective and sustainable forest management; execution policy REDD +; **improvement** of forest management planning , and logging procedures of the communities
- ✚ Projects - international organizations: To design and support the implementation of these projects in improving the forest management trainings, forest management o plan , mining plan; tracking, review of forest resources; technical solution of silviculture impacts on RCD, monitoring, and review associated with support activities and development of livelihood activities for **the allocation of community forest management.**
- ✚ Local government: To encourage enterprises to invest in forest plantations, processing and consumption of agricultural and forestry products; regularly coordinate projects in all stages and activities; strengthen advocacy, raising awareness about population, and management and protection of forests.



THANK YOU