

Vietnam

Country Brief

The demand for FSC products is growing rapidly in Vietnam. However, to date only 56,000ha of forest are certified, accounting for less than 1 percent of the government's target area. The Government of Vietnam is testing various forest payment for ecosystem services mechanisms, which is part of an effort to develop forest management strategies which are sustainable and participatory—an important requirement for FSC certification.

Scope of project

The ForCES project will contribute to national programs in the field of natural resource management and Sustainable Forestry. This will be achieved by establishing FSC certification as a market tool for a wide range of ES, which are currently not adequately covered for sustainable forest management. The project also has a component to ensure community ownership of information through the establishment of community monitoring systems.

Project partners

The Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) - implementing partner for Vietnam.

SNV's experience of more than 40 years has shown that lasting solutions for sustainable forest management can only be generated if the state is willing and able to make changes, and if forest-dependent communities have real incentives. In Vietnam, SNV has cooperated successfully with WWF to implement smallholder forest certification for Quang Tri province.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

Institutional responsibility for Vietnam's forestry sector lies with MARD. The Directorate of Forestry under MARD will be a key partner in the project.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

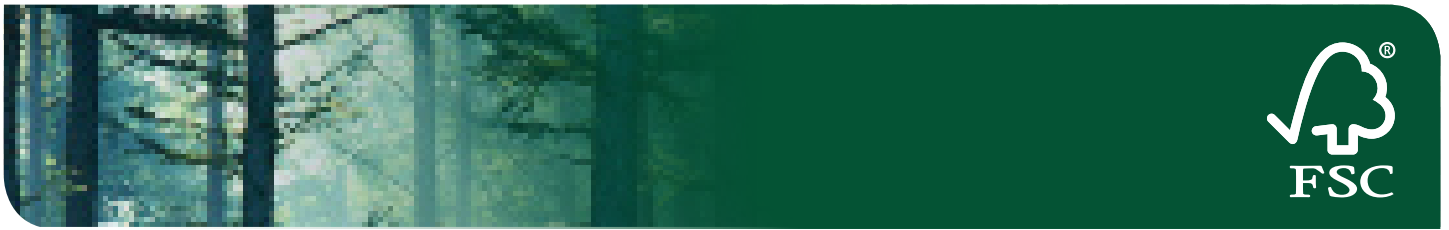
Vietnamese national standard/indicators developed for ES certification

Viable business model defined for marketing ES delivered at site level

System pilot tested at two sites: Dakrong and Huang Son

Monitoring system to address project and long-term impact

Increased awareness and capacity of stakeholders for ES certification



Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)

Working at the provincial level, DARD is a professional agency under the Provincial People’s Committee (PPC). It is charged with assisting PPC in realizing state forestry management.

Communal People’s Committee (CPC)

At the commune level, responsibility for forestry lies with the CPC. In recent years, the idea of setting up Communal Forestry Board (CFB) has been introduced in upland mountain communes.

State Forest Company (SFC)

The SFC has played a pivotal role in the development of Vietnam’s forestry and wood-growing sector, as well as delivering social services to remote areas. All business plans need approval from the PPC.

CHALLENGES INCLUDE

- Capacity enhancement of stakeholders
- Development of scientific methods for valuation of ecosystem goods
- Efficient payment and governance structures
- Creation and compilation of adequate data and baseline for various contexts.

Project sites

Vinh Tu, Quang Tri Province

Vinh Tu is located in the central province of Quang Tri. The total natural area is 3,539 ha, of which around 1,000 ha is forested land. The natural forests on sandy-soils cover roughly 450 ha and have a very important function in water regulation and controlling soil erosion from coastal winds. In 2012, 249 ha of Acacia plantations across 112 households in Vinh Tu received FSC certification. Field observations by SNV have highlighted general stakeholders’ awareness and interest in extended certification for a range of ecosystem services including watershed protection, forest protection and recreational services.

Huong Son

The site in Ha Tinh Province consists of around 38,000 ha of hilly and lowland forest, classified as production forest and managed by Huong Son State Forest Company. The pilot site faces considerable threats from deforestation and degradation, as well as wildlife poaching. Ha Tinh is one of the proposed new sites for the UN REDD program. There is considerable local awareness of pressures on ES, of efforts to protect these, and of FSC.

PROJECT SITES



FSC-SECR-0002