



GREEN ECONOMY GREEN GROWTH-MYANMAR(not-for-profit) ASSOCIATION

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THE PROGRAMME SECOND MYANMAR GREEN ECONOMY GREEN GROWTH: *MOVING FORWARD.*

ANNEX 2.5

Forests and People for Sustainability and Equity.

Facilitated by RECOFTC

Myanmar is home to a great variety of different habitats and ecosystems supporting a rich biodiversity, especially forests. While forests currently officially account for 48% of Myanmar's land area (ECCDI, 2011), the country continues to experience one of the highest deforestation rates in the world, losing an estimated 7.45 million hectares (19%) of forest between 1990 and 2010 (FAO, 2010) ranking 6th among 11 SE Asian countries. This decline has taken place in a context where 70% of the rural population depends heavily upon forests and Non-Timber Forest Products for their daily subsistence needs. It is estimated that 30 million people are dependent to some degree on forests for their livelihoods and meeting their basic needs.

The parallel session will allow participants to review the current situation of forest management and how forest can contribute to poverty reduction in a fair benefit manner.

Specific objectives:

- Explore key opportunities and challenges to optimize use of forests for poverty reduction
- Assess different approaches that could be considered in promoting equity in sustainable forest management
- Draft recommendations on way forward for supporting people equity in sustainable forest management

Session approach

The session will be facilitated by a team of professional facilitators who have extensive experience in participatory forest management from the region. Participants will have opportunity to discuss and exchange among participants and resource persons who have direct experience in community forestry from both the region and in Myanmar.

Part 1: Opportunity and challenges for equity in sustainable forest management in Myanmar (one and a half hour)

Participants will discuss and exchange experience on the following key questions;

- Why do we need people equity in sustainable forest management?
- What are the main challenges in promoting equity in sustainable forest management?
- What are the main opportunities in promoting local equity in sustainable forest management?

Part 2: Different approaches used to promoting equity in sustainable forest management (one and a half hour)

Participants will have opportunity to discuss and share with key players who are directly involved in community forestry practices. They are representatives from community, community forestry users, grassroots level government officers, policy makers, and civil society. At the end of the session, participants will draft recommendations on way forwards for supporting people equity in sustainable forest management.

Expected outputs

At the end of this session, participants will have..

- Better understanding on challenges and opportunities for promoting people equity in sustainable forest management
- Broader view on different approaches used for promoting equity in sustainable forest management exist in Myanmar and ASEAN region
- Draft recommendations for way forward in supporting equity in sustainable forest management