

Stakeholders' Workshop on Present Policy Provisions and Practices related to SMFE sector in Nepal

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Agenda

- Brief overview of policy issues and Framework for Group Discussions
- Group Discussions
- Way forward

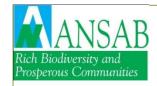


Brief Overview of Policy Issues and Framework for Group Discussions



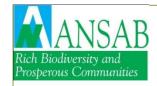
Existing Policies

- Several polices, plans, acts and laws interact to regulate and set the context:
 - Herbs and NTFP Development Policy 2061 (2004)
 - Master Plan for the Forestry Sector (MPFS) 1988
 - o Forest Act 2049 (1993), Forest Regulations 2051 (1995) and their Amendments
 - Local Self-Governance Act (LSGA) 1998
 - o Industrial Policy 2067 (2010)
 - Environment Protection Act 1996 & Environmental Protection Regulation 1997



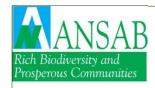
Existing Policies

- The Five-Year Plans
- Nepal Biodiversity Strategies, 2002
- National Conservation Strategy 1988
- Nepal Environmental Policy and Action Plan 1993
- EIA Guidelines for the Forestry Sector, 1995
- Decentralization Act 1982
- National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973
- Soil and Watershed Conservation Act 1982



Existing Policies

- Pasture Land Nationalization Act 1974
- Aquatic Life Protection Act, 1961
- Trade and Transit Agreements (with India)
- Import and Export (Control) Act, 1957
- New Trade Policy 1982
- Custom Act, 1963
- Plant Protection Act, 1972
- Land (Survey and Measurement) Act 1961



A Range of Stakeholders

- Collectors to end users
- Local traders to exporters
- Traditional healers to professional practitioners
- Small processors to big manufacturers
- CBOs to NGOs government agencies



Analysis

- Impacts and implications:
 - o on growth, conservation, equity and poverty
 - potential untapped
- Most important policy issues to be addressed for conservation, growth and poverty reduction



Impacts

- Some progress in sustainable harvesting, economic gain and poverty reduction, esp. in community forestry, where appropriate external support is provided
- Vast majority (90%) harvested from the wild mostly by the poor in remotest mountains
- Inappropriate and over-harvesting, as well as mismanagement of these resources
- Discouragement and little incentives to produce in private land



Impacts

- Limited enterprises; over 90% NTFPs traded in raw forms; inefficient, badly governed value chains
- Generally, low returns to local collectors, forest users and village level traders
- The poor become poorer and end up destroying their only livelihood – the biodiversity rich forest



Potential not tapped

- Abundance of resource and scope for sustainable management
- Growing market
- 30 + years of experience in community based natural resource management
- Lost opportunity of forestry sector estimated at NRs.
 42b (MFSC)
 - 162 million USD from Timber; 67.6 million USD from NTFPs; also from ecosystem services (ANSAB 2010)



Potential not tapped ...

- 60% of total forest land potential for community forestry; also for enterprise oriented NTFPs management
- ANSAB initiated incorporating NTFPs in community forest management in 1996 from Humla and promoted value chain with responsible biz. practices
- A case analysis of enterprise-oriented community forest management (37 CFUGs in 6 districts) illustrate that they can manage conserve the forest, generate income and employment, serve the poor, women and dalits better with greater social justice



What can we do?

- A vast scope to improve the policy and regulatory environment by:
 - Improving policy formulation and revision process
 - Revising and formulating national legislations
 - Improving the implementation practices, esp. governance & coordination
 - Establishing an effective monitoring system



Framework for Group Discussions

- Identify important policy issues under the given policy headings
- Prioritize the issues
- Suggest policy reform options and their implications



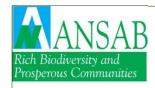
Identify important policy issues under the given policy headings

- Review main national policy provisions and implementation practices to evaluate impacts, and identify gaps, contradictions and confusions
- List important policy issues to be addressed
- Be specific as much as possible



Policy Issues – Major Headings

- Property rights & access to resources
- Lack of clear policy re traditional knowledge & IPR
- Enterprise registration and establishment
- Bans & restrictions
- Unnecessary hurdles & trade barriers
- Royalties and taxation
- Distorted implementation practices
- Development Support



Prioritize the Issues

- Prioritize the issues to be addressed to maximize the following goals:
 - Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
 - Well-governed value chain, esp. distributional equity
 - Economic growth & social justice, esp. poverty alleviation



Suggest policy reform options and their implications

Issue	Reform Option	Justification



Headings for Groups

Group A	Group B	Group C
 Property rights & access to resources Lack of clear policy re traditional knowledge & IPR Enterprise registration and establishment 	 Bans & restrictions Unnecessary hurdles & trade barriers Royalties and taxation 	 Development Support Distorted implementation practices



Way Forward