



Community Economy and Livelihood (CEL)

7th Meeting of the CSO Forum on Social Forestry in ASEAN

Danang, Vietnam, 24-25 June 2018

GOAL

Sustainable community forest based livelihoods in ASEAN secured and self reliant CFES effectively engaging and equitably benefitting from trade through mainstreaming in ASEAN economics policies and programs



Targets

1. Improved **policy support** on community forestry community livelihoods
2. **Value chain management partnership**, incentive and support services for CFES
3. Community forestry groups with **improved knowledge and capacities** on community forestry livelihoods
4. Serious and sustained **consumer campaign** on Green and Fair Community Products
5. Enhanced knowledge on **AEC** including impacts on opportunities
6. Protecting **IPR** of local communities depending on chosen IPR strategy of community
7. **Monitoring** of **ASFN adopted strategies** for community, economy and livelihood

1. Improved policy support on community forestry community livelihoods

- engaging other ASEAN bodies ASWGAC, ACCMSME and having more inroads into the ASEAN infrastructure
- CFE -SME Policy Paper (2016)
- Draft outline for guidelines on CFES mainstreaming into MSME Agenda of ASEAN
- supported enabling environments for CFES at national level
 - Delayed transport permit costs for forest honey CFES (Cambodia)
 - Waived planned taxes on forest honey (Indonesia)
 - Exchanges, sharing on culture and arts based NTFP enterprises initiated by government (Philippines)
 - NTFP policy reform (Philippines)



2. Value chain management partnership, incentive and support services for CFES

- Value chain studies on sago and nutmeg in Indonesia
- Support to market study on forest honey in Laos, and national multi-stakeholder workshop linking with scientists, private sector, and beekeepers
- Value Chain partnership with Coopita, Asia-wide digital marketing platform for traditional handmade crafts



3. Community forestry groups with improved knowledge and capacities on community forestry livelihoods

- NTFP-EP has continued with its training wing EXCEED which has been able to reach out to 100 participants from eight countries 51% CSOs, 39.8% communities and 9.18% ASEAN government officials.
- Thus capacity has been built in the fields of community livelihood appraisal, and product scanning, strategic marketing and retailing, upscaling, starting a community based NTFP business and women entrepreneurship, Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) and Fair Trade
- Support has been given for technical skills beekeeping upgrade in Laos



4. Serious and sustained consumer campaign on Green and Fair Community Products



- The Panen Raya Nusantara (PARARA) local products festival featuring also CFE products, took place in 2015 and 2017 in Jakarta, Indonesia. At least 3,000-5,000 consumers at each event mobilizing 26 NGOs in supporting over 100 community enterprise groups.

4. Serious and sustained consumer campaign on Green and Fair Community Products



- Regional marketing platform for crafts: Meet the Makers (MTM) Singapore was organized in 2017 in cooperation with Coopita and involving close to 30 artisans from 8 Asian countries. Products now in the Green Collective shop in a mall in Singapore.
- The Forest Harvest Collective Mark (FHCM), a community forest trademark, was developed and is being tested as a means to further differentiate local, NTFP based community products.

5. Enhanced knowledge on AEC including impacts on opportunities

- AEC policy briefs translated into 6 languages (English, Filipino, Bahasa Indonesia, Khmer, Laos and Vietnamese and disseminated across ASEAN countries, shared on radio shows, various multi-stakeholder sessions etc.



6. Protecting IPR of local communities depending on chosen IPR strategy of community

- 3 Community Intellectual Property Rights Webinars were conducted in 2018
- Inputs to IPR options for the Indonesian Dayak Benuaq leaf fiber based cloth "tenun doyo"

7. Monitoring of ASFN adopted strategies for community, economy and livelihood

ASFN 5th Conference
24-26 May 2014, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

IV. Community Economy & Livelihood

1. Establish a regional process for... local products and knowledge (including copyright...)
2. Include the... as a priority sector for economic integration.
3. ... for SF-based SMEs.
4. ... human rights in line with UN Due Diligence guidelines.
5. ... to promoting intra-ASEAN trade in creative/cultural economy products, while... chain of custody traceability.
6. ... technical expertise through MoUs among centers of excellence in forest products... research in ASEAN.
7. Establish Value Chain support programs for SF-based SMEs.
8. Provide incentives to SF-based SMEs and communities.

Watermark: X Trust fund for CFES X Sharing technical expertise in NTFPs X IPR for community products

7. Monitoring of ASFN adopted strategies for community, economy and livelihood

Consolidated Recommendations on CEL from the ASFN 6th Conference, 1-3 June 2015, Inle Lake-Myanmar

1. Document and publish at national level a priority list of NTFPs / forest resources for protection, enhancement, management, production for livelihood and enterprise
 2. Support research and investment on food from forests and on nutrition from organic and diversified production systems
 3. Provide a "one stop" service center for SMEs including micro, small community- and Indigenous Peoples Enterprise
 4. ... to meet national/regional product standards/requirements, enhance value addition, increase of packaging power and achieve economies of scale
 5. Accept alternative certification regimes that are more appropriate for SMEs
 6. Joint planning between ASFN and relevant AEG/AWG on community economy, ... and climate change
 7. ... and regulate the development of equitable partnership between small holders, SMEs, larger enterprises and the international markets
 7. Promote legal and eco-friendly trade nationally and regionally (e.g. through regional branding)
- Watermark: X One stop center for CFES X Assistance in meeting standards, value addition X Acceptance of alternative certification X Promote equitable partnership by CFES and larger enterprises*

7. Monitoring of ASFN adopted strategies for community, economy and livelihood

Additional recommendations from AWG-SF meeting 2017, Chiangmai, Thailand

1. Develop a long term collaborative program with the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro-Small and Medium Enterprises (**ACCMSME**) in order to mainstream Community Forestry Enterprises (CFEs) into ASEAN MSME programming
2. Support the productivity and innovation of community forestry production systems, especially those that build on Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) and are anchored on sustainable production principles
3. Conduct national and regional policy dialogues, policy review mechanisms that aim at reducing barriers to CFE viability
4. Develop and implement locally and contextually appropriate capacity building and mentoring programs on social entrepreneurship, particularly entrepreneurial leadership, financial literacy, including both soft skills and technical skills
5. Strengthen policies and mechanism/s for community forestry enterprises including but not limited to tax exemption for NTFP trade of indigenous peoples and local communities, and assist MSMEs to meet national/regional product standards or requirements, enhance value addition, increase bargaining power and achieve economies of scale.

Role and contribution of AWG-SF

- AWG-SF has facilitated participation of ASEAN Member States in EXCEED trainings (and funded their participation in the first training).
- AWG-SF secretariat has facilitated in the engagement with ACCMSMEs
- AWG-SF participated in Community Forestry Enterprises festival/PARARA

Impact on local communities

- Observed increase in appreciation in **creative economy** products like forest-based crafts (natural and handmade) with national institutions promoting stronger creative economy movements
- Consolidation of **marketing and branding efforts** expands the national and regional scope for CFE products
- Use of **digital media** have allowed market reach even for more isolated communities
- More recognition from ASEAN bodies (eg. **ACCMSME**) on the importance of CFEs as part of their MSME agenda thus expands scope for additional capacity building
- More pride and confidence and **inspiration** for new CFEs

Major challenges of SF til 2025

- **Slow and bureaucratic** process of existing social forestry regimes and the disconnect with economic programs
- Continued **dominance of private sector** in forestry landscape including corporate take over of plantation companies over community land, unfair contracts for farmers and indigenous peoples
- Lack **or minimal funds** to implement sustained programs for SF
- Lack of political will of some local officials to implement SF
- Lack of **capacity of CFEs** to run forest based enterprises
- Lack of consistent and sustained support and connectivity for NTFP value chains

Key opportunities

- Sustainable Development Goals align well with Social Forestry objectives
- **SF programs are emerging** and evolving in most ASEAN countries with stronger support from national governments.
- SF stakeholders are **learning** through programs like AWG-SF and NTFP-EP
- **Partnerships** and collaboration are growing between ASEAN bodies, eg. ACCMSME and the AWG-SF allowing for opportunities to mainstream CFEs not only in ASEAN's MSME agenda but in overall economic policies and programs
- Inter-sectoral collaboration allows for the strengthening of CFE voices and to tap opportunities including possible long-term markets
- There are new, and more easily **accessible funds** and loans available for small holders in the forestry sector (Philippines)

Additional Questions

1. What are the future plans and timeline of activities?
2. What will be the role of the CSO Forum Lead/Participants?
3. What support will be needed?
4. How do you see the CSO Forum working after 2020? What do we change? What do we keep?