



Growing Forest Partnerships (GFP) Guatemala

Initial experiences





Outline of presentation

- Background
- A vision for GFP Guatemala
- Principles
- Three pillars of work
- Immediate actions
- Added value?





Background

- Many financing issues (FCPF, PINFOR, PINPEP, PPAFD, private instruments, market development)
- A well established nfp process with several consultation fora, but with limited participation by communities, indigenous groups, and small producers
- “Isolation” is an issue at many levels
- National workshop in November 2007 started process of development of national strategy for forest financing and of innovative instruments





A vision for GFP Guatemala

- **Content:** Develop and implement financing mechanisms that will benefit forest stakeholders, and in particular communities, indigenous groups, and small producers (GFP target group), to strengthen SFM and its contribution to sustainable development.
- **Process:** Strengthen forest sector governance through an increased participation of the target group and its influence on local, national and international forest policies.





Principles

- Support and strengthen existing and developing national initiatives. No new projects
- Strengthen the capacity to participate and contribute of the target group
- Attention to the forest dependent poor that is currently marginalized in forest dialogues and negotiations
- A integrated vision of the forest sector
- Nurture national leadership
- Emphasize a catalytic role for the GFP that will measure its impact also by the degree of partners' contribution to the conceptualization and implementation of its activities





Three pillars of work

- Governance and Participation
- Financing mechanisms
- Information and capacity building





1. Governance and participation

Needs and challenges:

- Strengthen regional nfp consultation fora (MCF) and link them to other fora
- Improve dialogue at national level and across sectors
- Increase the participation in the nfp and its influence at the national level





1. Governance and participation

Main suggestions:

- Transform the national forest program in a sectoral initiative, while maintaining INAB's support for it
- Bring the regional consultation fora (MCF) closer to communities
- Create a national MCF to orient the nfp
- Respect regional differences (time and pace)
- Build on successful local governance models (Lachúa)
- Work on something concrete
- Promote forms of association among isolated indigenous groups and small producers so as to bring their voices to national level MCF
- Facilitate creation of a national representative body for indigenous people and community groups (ACOFOP, Utz Che)





2. Financing mechanisms

Needs and challenges:

- Participatory restructuring of instruments (r-plan for FCPF, PINFOR, PINPEP, etc)
- REDD initiatives with limited input by forest departments
- Fair distribution of benefits
- Development of attractive projects





2. Financing mechanisms

Main suggestions:

- REDD initiatives with joint focal points MARN-INAB-CONAP
- Strengthen forms of association among indigenous groups and small and medium producers
- Develop information and tools to improve market access, production chains, and entrepreneurial development
- Support pre-investment projects that will attract investments





3. Information and capacity building

Needs and challenges

- Generation, coordination and management of economic-financial information for project and instrument development
- Market development
- Investment guides
- Communication
- Investors' relations





3. Information and capacity building

Main suggestions

- Create a Forest Finance Intelligence Unit (FFIU)
- Strengthen linkages among organizations and initiatives (AGEXPORT, INAB, AGER, Forest Connect, SIFGUA, etc.)
- Thematic capacity building programs (REDD; PINFOR/PINPEP; enterprise development; project development; Financing instruments; economic-financing concepts) for forest and financing organizations, and communities
- Develop pilot projects





SUGGESTED IMMEDIATE ACTIONS





1. Four task force groups formed

- Governance and participation
- Financing instruments
- Information and capacity building
- Initial set up activities (identify and contract a GFP facilitator; Attend to the transformation of the NFP; Ensure the commitment of INAB's Board of Directors to the process)





2. Selection and contracting of a GFP facilitator

3. Participatory development of 2009 work plan





4. Commitment by INAB to:

- Support the transformation of the NFP, while maintaining support
- Gradual taking over of financial responsibilities from GFP





SO, WHAT IS THE VALUE ADDED OF THE GFP?

- Opportunity to better coordinate existing and new initiatives
- New resources for capacity building of marginalized groups
- Contribute to a reduction of the financing gap (up-front investments, pre-investment studies, piloting, information, FFIU)
- IF the GFP/CG organizations manage to work well together AND following the leadership of the country, it is an opportunity to bridge a significant governance and participation gap.

