



Forest Governance Learning Group

Overview of the Project

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Design

- ✓ Forest Governance Learning Groups established in 10 countries in Africa and Asia (Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique, Cameroon, Niger, Ghana, South Africa, India, Indonesia and Vietnam)
- ✓ Informal membership, drawn from NGOs / civil society, government, private sector, journalists
- ✓ Learning together around issues of forest governance and social justice in forest management
- ✓ Identifying opportunities for achieving change and influencing policy – communication, policy research, advocacy, dialogues

Design

What role does FGLG play across 11 countries?

- Creation of an “informal space” – beyond formal processes, where negotiations can take place (eg Ghana)
- Creation of a “safe space” where people can talk without fear of reprisals, share information (eg Uganda)
- Creation of new horizontal linkages (ministry to ministry, private sector to government – eg S. Africa)
- Creation of new vertical linkages – helping those affected by policy decisions interact with those making them (eg Indonesia community logging)
- Place where people can attend in individual capacity and learn together – strong convergence of individual & institutional interests (Cameroon)

Design

What themes / issues have the country groups taken up?

- Political interference in forest sector
- Illegal logging, corruption and trade
- Small and Medium forest enterprises
- Land use conflicts (forest vs industrial agricultural crops)
- Community forestry
- Forest rights within context of decentralisation
- Rights of indigenous people to forest land and resources
- Timber legality, FLEGT, VPA
- REDD, equity and land rights