Evaluation report
documentation study on
community forest
management model
Yen Bai province

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Part I: Background of community forest management

1. Introduction

Vietnam with a total land area of 32,894,398 ha is ranked 55th among the 200 countries in the world. But because of the big population (the 12th ranking) Vietnam's average land area per capita is ranked 120th with 4.48 ha/person equal to 1/6 of the average rate of the world.

Agricultural land is 7.348 million ha (22.20% of the total area). The average agricultural land per capita is low and is going down.

Forest land related to the mountain mid-land areas, with a total area of 19 million ha is a very important part of Vietnam's land availability, accounting for 63% of the whole country's area with 8.923 million ha in Northern Vietnam, 4.935 million ha in Central Vietnam and 5.509 million ha in the Central Highland area.

Related to forest land are forest resources. Among 19 million ha of land which were considered forest land, there are only 10.9 million ha with forest and 9.7 million ha for forestry purposes.

In 1943 Vietnam had 14 million ha of forest with the coverage 43%. In 2001 there are only 10.9 million ha (natural forest is 9.44 million ha, the plantation forest is 1.47 thousand ha) the forest coverage is 33.2%, that shows the decline of Vietnam's forest. It is clearly understood that now bare hills are as much as twice that of agriculture land, and the natural forest now only exits in the remote areas.

In terms of the strategy, loss of forest not only means loss of ecological balance, but also the serious mistakes in mountain land utilization and management that have been leading to the unexpected changes in climate, with plenty of disasters, such as loss of land and water resources etc. Without forest, flood becomes more and more serious like the two great floods in November, 1999 in Central Vietnam as typical examples.

Yen Bai Province also suffers from this bad situation when its previous total forest area of 688,292ha is now reduced to 258,918 ha including:

- Natural forest: 180,430 ha

- Plantation forest : 78,488 ha.

The forest coverage of the whole province is 37.6% which is 33.2% higher than the whole country. But in some districts in the West, the forest coverage is still low.
Why have forest resources been quickly reducing? The Government's protection and management policy can be considered the very important reason that is responsible for this decline. The method of forest protection in the uplands should be sustainable in terms of technique and economics as well.

In the long run, the Government can not pay for forest protection (50,000VND/ha/year) for all forest areas regulated as protection forest, especially in less critical protection areas.

The subsidy in forest protection also increases the dependency and passivity of local people. So it should put into trial another way of paying for forest protection with a view to promoting up the production and economic value of the forest. Civil-culture management activities should also be carried out in order to maintain the regeneration and protection functions of protection forest and increase the productivity of forest products. It is very necessary for forest plantation as well as the natural regenerated areas.

Since late 1998, the Yen Bai Mountain Rural Development Project has introduced models of community forest management in 8 villages with different characteristics including:

- Deo Thao village and Dong Ke village - Tan Nguyen commune - Yen Binh district - low land in Yen Binh district.

- Village 7 and village 8 - Tan Dong commune - Tran Yen district.

- Giang Cai village and Nam Kip village - Nam Lanh commune - Van Chan district - living area of Dao people in Van Chan district which is higher and more remote than Yen Binh and Tran Yen districts.

- Na Hang A village - Mo De commune - Mu Cang Chai district - living area of H'mong people in the uplands

- Ma La Thang village - Ze Xu Phing commune - Mu Cang Chai - living area of H'mong people in Mu Cang Chai district.

(Purposes: Protect and develop forest resources stably with the joint effort of the Government and local people. The Government will, step by step, reduce the subsidy for forest protection. It means that protection must be well combined with the effective management of timber and non-timber forest products with a view to bringing the physical benefit to local people and encourage them to protect and develop forests instead of paying them with cash.)
2. Foundation for trial model.

- Decree No. 02/CP dated January 15, 1994 on forest land allocation to organizations, households, individuals for long-term and sustainable use for forestry purpose.

- Decree No. 01/ CP dated January 04, 1995 on land contract for the purpose of agricultural production, aquaculture in the State enterprises.

- Decision No.245/ Q§ - TTg dated December 21, 1998. This Decision clearly regulates the responsibilities of all forest and forest land management levels to prevent the forest resource destruction, and enable organizations, households and individuals to actively protect and develop forest. The decision clearly states the responsibilities of all management levels of ministries, provinces and communes including:

  - Conduct a survey to identify types of forest, border lines of forest land on the map and in the field. Produce statistics to monitor forest status, and forest land change.

  - Make a plan for forest and forest land management and protection in the whole country and in each locality.

  - Allocate and retrieve forest land and forest.

  - Register, develop and manage administrative land, and grant land use right certificates.

  - Sort out disputes on forest and forest land.

- Circular No. 56/1999/TT/BNN dated March 30, 1999 guiding the development of regulation on community and village forest protection and development. The laws acknowledge the village regulations as behavioural ways in the community and they can be voluntarily followed by villagers as long as these regulations are built up in accordance with the State's laws and the Party’s policies, as well as the good traditions and customs of the locality.

- Decision No.661/ Q§ - TTg dated July 29, 1998 on targets, duties, policies and implementation of the 5 million- hectare programme. This decision has a lot of new changes which are very suitable and favourable for trial of community forest management plans.

The 5 million- hectare programme set forth some proposals as follows:

- Less critical protection forest used for the purpose of protection and agro-forestry development is allocated as production forest and granted the land tenure certificate.
- Favourable policies will be used for the development and rehabilitation of less critical protection forest, such as loans from the national investment fund, credits with preferential interest.

- Like production forest, timber and other forest products of rehabilitation areas in less critical protection forest can be utilized without negatively influencing the protection function of forest and can be sold in the market like products from production forest.

- Free tax for non-timber forest products from natural forest.

### 3. What is Community Forest Management?

Community forest management is a type of natural resource management by local people for their own benefit.

Forest protection and management is the cooperation of organizations, institutions, communities and individuals with a view to managing and protecting forest sustainably.

Sustainable forest management and protection must ensure the long-term benefit for people (especially local people). The natural resources and environment must be protected for the next generation including:

- Good for environment.
- Social benefit.
- Economic
- Good for ecology.

The sustainability must include the effective production and high productivity and most of all it must ensure the sustainability in terms of resources and ecological balance. Sustainable development is an economic activity meeting the present demands without negative affecting the capacity of the next generation.

### 4. Main features of commune/village protection and management method

* **Principle ((Protection through production)).**

This method will mainly increase the productivity as well as the economic value of forest for local people so it will encourage them to actively manage and protect forest coverage.

Because the Government can not pay farmers to protect all forest areas (especially less critical protection forest in uplands) for a long time it is necessary to find a more effective method.
Principle ((Protection through production)) means that within local areas, it must have a method for less critical forest management and protection like production forest and when people get income from utilization of (main and additional products) those forests they have to spend a part in protection of forests.

* Long-term forest land allocation or contract.

The new method will include the implementation of long-term contract or allocation of less critical watershed forest and production forest land to households, household groups or other organizations. The duration of long-term contract or assignment will depend on each area but be at least 25-50 years.

* Allocating land to the community so that the community can sign the sub-contract with households or household groups.

Critical protection forest and production forest land will be allocated to communities (communes or villages) by district People's Committees for joint protection and management. And then the community can sign the long-term sub-contracts with households, household groups, mass associations or villages based on forest management and protection plans.

* Preparing for commune or village forest management and protection plans.

The main duty of developing a plan is to identify forests that need to be protected and managed in each locality based on the following criteria:

- Current status and conditions of forest.
- Current forest management method.
- Forest protection function.
- Status of main timber products and non-timber products.
- Market opportunities for forest products.
- Ability to sign different contracts (with households, household group or the whole village).

* Applying the civil-culture techniques for protection forest management and protection.

The advanced civil-culture technical methods are applied for forest plantation and natural rehabilitation for production and protection forests with a view to attaining the following targets:

- Maintain the appropriate coverage (coverage with multi-layer)
- Maintain the natural rehabilitation capacity of protection forest.

- Maximize the production of additional products from the forest.

- Attain the maximum volume of forest timber.

* Developing agreements on sharing of benefit/ revenue among households and community with a view to contributing to funds for forest management and protection.

- Develop and apply the sharing structure of benefit gaining from timber products in accordance with the regulations, among households and communities.

- Selection of timbers to share the benefit, and the benefit sharing will be decided by local people, villages and communes.

- One part of the shared benefit will be spent for management of production and protection forest in the area (for example paying protection groups, and building a nursery etc.)

*Duration of the programme support.

- The programme fund will be developed in accordance with the new regulations in the 5 million hectare programme (a certain amount for 1ha/year) for plantation forest or natural rehabilitation areas.

- This fee will be subsidized for a certain time (some years) and then it will phase out. It is expected to continue receiving the financial support to maintain the forest management and protection on a long term basis.

* Placing responsibility of regulations development and monitoring on a commune

Development of forest management and protection plans must include laws and regulations for different types of forest and managed areas. The regulations are developed by villagers.

- These regulations on timber utilization must respond to regulations of the State management institutions (Forestry Protection Station etc)

* Participation of the community’s members.

Land allocation and local forest land management will be carried out based on forest management and protection plans. Therefore, it is very important to pay attention to desire, need and opportunities for the community’s members. All people must participate in the preparation of this plan.
* Technical and training support.

Based on the demands identified in forest management and protection plans, technical requirements must be met to enable local communities to implement the plan. This will include the survey and research to assist the development of sustainable forest management and protection activities. Training, technical instructions must be given to local people and staff.

5. New changes in model of community forest management and protection (compared with the other State’s programmes, for example programme 327 etc)

*/ Change contract duration (longer, more flexible) to be able to develop a model of more active forest management.

*/ Change policies to critical watershed forest, it means that protection is done through production based on the reality of the local area.

*/ Change land allocation policies, it means that land allocation will be carried out in accordance with the village’s plan.

*/ Change supporting role of institutions relating to forestry, both in supplying in-puts and creating the most favourable conditions for forest management based on evaluation of conditions and demand of the local area (ecology, economics and society).

*/ Decentralization to communes to monitor, assist in forest management and protection in the commune, continue allowing the utilization of timber in accordance with the negotiated plan (regulations, plan of village, household groups and households approved by upper levels).

* Change from:
FUND ______________ Plan____________Activity

to

Plan____________ FUND____________activity

*/ Benefit sharing is very clear between commune and village. It is a method of mobilizing capital from forest resources for local development, so it will reduce the rareness of other investments for other villages’ development where forest production is not so high.

*/ Funds for communes for forestry development should be used as fixed assets in which the initial capital is spent for forest plantation and forest protection and used in accordance with the plan of village and household groups, it must have funds for management and auditing systems.
Advise for business plan development and market analysis.

Technically support to communes and households; develop skills at commune level for individuals or those whose are responsible for forestry activities.

Develop separate plan for local area based on the evaluation of ecological, social-economic conditions.

Develop the method of landscape management in order to ensure the relation between water and tree management.

Enable farmers to access the market to be able to sell their forest products and cease the monopoly of trading companies in forest products.

Vietnam - Sweden Mountain Rural Development Programme develops the strategy to be able to assist the development of a local forestry plan.

Step by step minimize the fees for forest protection paid by the Government, because when the forest starts providing products (the minimizing plan is suitable with the production plan, it means that it must be based on the forecast of forest products in the forest management plan.

The important issue is the sharing of product or revenue relating to equality and gender.

6. Main steps

Phase I: General Planning.

Step 1: Holding village/commune meetings to introduce the principle of community forest management and protection methods and discuss steps.

Expected Results:
- Agree on schedule of implementation.
- Select community's representatives to carry out steps of plan development.

Step 2: Identify location and draw map ((forest areas managed by local areas))

Criteria for identifying managed forest areas:

1. Forest situation and capacity: Expect to use the present forest classification system to classify types of forest land into the following groups:
- Group 1: Barren areas with grass, bushes and scattered timber trees (Ia, Ib & Ic)

- Group 2: Young rehabilitated forest land (IIa & IIb)

- Group 3: Poor and average natural forest

- Group 4: Rich natural forest (IV, IIIa3 & IIIb)

2. Management description: for example

- Area granted with red book

- Area granted with blue book

- Area managed by community.

- Holy forest

- Area for rehabilitation...

3. Expected method of management contract:

Appropriate management contracts are identified by local people for each managed forest area (individual households, household groups or villages).

4. Main products.

Main timber and non-timber products from different areas and from different kinds of forest

Method:

- Clearly identify forest areas with local people.

- Negotiate with young and old people on the best management method.

- Identify and classify timber and non-timber products from different forest areas.

Expected results:

Maps clearly showing the village/commune forest management and protection, different managed areas, present forest's conditions and suggesting contracts for forest management in each area.

Step 3: Clearly represent general technical regulations and activities for each managed area and different types of forest

For example: General technical regulations.
- Thinning and ensuring the density of Vau bamboo.

- Thinning for growth and natural rehabilitation of valuable timber trees.

- Introducing method of planting and enriching forest with valuable timber trees.

- Developing regulations on timber utilization.

**Expected results:**

- Technical regulations set up for different managed areas and types of forest.

**Step 4:** *Holding village meetings to discuss the management methods and regulations in communities in different forest areas.*

**Expected results:**

- Obtain agreement on the method of management contracts and technical regulations.

- Draft community regulations for different forest areas and local areas.

**Step 5:** *Collect village/commune forest management and protection plans.*

**Contents of forest management plan.**

- Have a map identifying different managed forest areas, forest's conditions and forest land and develop the method for management contract.

- Have a list of households participating in each kind of forest management contract (Those are contracts with separate households, households groups or villages).

- General technical regulations and activities for each area contracted for management.

- Anticipate the community regulations applied with separate households, household groups or community in managing allocated forest areas.

- Mention the supporting requirements in plan implementation. For example, training, implementation of applying trials, establishment of nursery etc.

**Step 6:** *Present and adjust the plan.*

The developed plan must be represented in the meetings with the participation of commune and district’s representatives, Agriculture
Department, Forestry Protection Station... After representation, appropriate adjustment to the plan must be carried out.

**Phase II: Implementation.**

**Step 1:** Develop instructions on sharing of forest products. This sharing is applied to timber products that are utilized in accordance with the approved technical regulations and the utilization still maintains the forest coverage (depend on the principle from protection to protection through production)

This issue must be carefully discussed with agreement in village/commune meetings.

**Expected results:**

With the agreement on sharing of products as follows:

- Agreement on sharing of products by the whole community.
- Based on the technical calculation that allows the utilization level.

**Step 2:** Prepare and implement forest land allocation to communities for management and protection.

**Procedures for forest land allocation:**

- Develop procedures for forest land allocation (less critical production and protection forest) to commune People's Committee or village community by district People's Committee to ensure the implementation of village/commune forest management plan.

- Community signs long-term contracts with households, household groups or villages as mentioned in management plan with the certification of commune People's Committee.

- The contract mentions the duration: 5, 10, 15, 20... 50 years. It is also necessary to fix an appropriate temporary contract duration. After the contract duration, the forest status will be reconsidered. Sustainable forest management requires a long term contract.

- The contract must clearly mention the rights and responsibilities of both sides in accordance with the laws and forest management regulations.

**Expected results:**

Forest land is allocated to the community and long-term contracts to households, household groups or villages are signed in accordance with approved community forest management plan.
Step 3: Establish fund for forest management and development and regulations on village/commune community forest management.

Fund can be used as follows:

- Paying for forest protection of the State (or Project)
- Paying for forest plantation of the State (or Project)
- Part of product sharing to community in accordance with the agreement.
- Loans with preferential interest.
- Expenses from other sources.
- Expenses of the States/project

The State’s expenses for forest plantation, management and protection will respond to the regulations in the 5 million ha programme. The non-project villages that are carrying out this model will not be able to receive the financial support from the State, so they can be assisted in getting loans from MRDP to establish funds for themselves.

- Financial support from outside (Project or the State) will terminate after 5 years.
Part II. Contents, methodology and geographical locations of the documentation study

1. Evaluation contents:

Evaluation on 8 models of community forest management and protection was done in Yen Bai province late in 1998. The main points in the evaluation are forest's sustainability, forest's conditions, difference between the survey time and the forest management plan in 1998.

2. Methods of investigation and survey.

- Information collection.

+ Collected information: guiding information, decisions, policies of the State and Party, and documentation relating to forest management.

+ Guiding writings of the programme board and reports of advisors.

+ Reports of Yen Bai Mountain and Rural Development project (province, commune and village).

+ Documentation on results of trial model of forest management and protection since 1998.

- Methods.

* In order to evaluate the forest's current condition and the big changes between the survey times (July, 2001) to the timewhen the 1998 plan was developed we use:

+ PRA (transect, 3D maps, discussion, household interview...)

+ In-depth survey, detailed calculation.

+ Comparison and conclusions drawings.

+ Group discussion, village meetings to gather ideas.

*/ In order to evaluate the sustainability of each type of forest, 5 criteria are used as follows:

- Land use right.

- Forest resources.
- Main influence of the Government.
- Community's participation.
- Community's benefit from forest.

**Detail contents of the five criteria are as follows:**

**1/ Land use right.**

According to Vietnam's regulations, land is the property of all people and uniformly managed by the Government.

Land is allocated to organizations, households and individuals for long-term use under the form of contracts, either with or without a land use fee.

The Government also allows organizations, households and individuals to retrieve land.

Forestry land (including land with and without forest but planned for plantation) is allocated to households and individuals for a duration of 50 years, after that if users have a need, they will be re-allocated. The subjects who are allocated land are as follows:

- The State allocates forest land to special-use forest management boards to build and develop, including National Garden, Natural Reservation, landscape forest relating to cultural, historic and tourism projects.

- The State also allocates planned forest land for establishing and developing critical and less critical protection forest with a concentrated area of 5,000ha upwards to protection forest management boards in accordance with the approved investment project.

- Planned forest land for less critical production and watershed forest and scattered critical watershed forest with a scale of less than 5,000ha will be allocated to households, individuals and organizations (not protection forest management boards) in accordance with forest management regulations.

Organizations, households and individuals who are allocated with forest land will be granted a land tenure certificate (Red Book).

Special-use forest, watershed protection forest management boards and SFEs who are allocated forest land will contract to households, individuals and other organizations for forest protection and rehabilitation under the agreement between the two sides (contractor and contractee).
Contract duration for special-use and protection forest is 50 years, for the production forest, the duration will depend on the business cycle of forest trees.

Village level community is not a legal factor because it is not recognized as an organization, therefore there are no regulations on allocating forest land to communities, and according to village by-laws, and previous village forest will be managed, protected and utilized by villagers who are considered forest owners.

Although communities have no legal status models of community forest have been existing in Vietnam for a long time, so in many provinces land and forest are allocated to village communities.

In fact, the community's land use right can be various and can be classified in three levels as follows:

**Level A:** Community allocated or contracted for long-term use in accordance with the laws is granted with a red book or given land allocation decisions of the relevant authorities or long-term contract. Community is allowed to decide the way to use the forest.

**Level B:** Land temporarily allocated to community in a short term manner or for certain periods of time on an annual basis without red book/ decision issued by functioning authorities, and then the use rights are limited.

**Level C:** Land has not been allocated to community by any functioning government organization, land is being used improperly (slash and burn). Community shall not interfere into local land resource.

**2/ Forest status.**

In fact, land areas allocated to communities may be barren land or forest land with different situations. The national forestry working group has divided these into different levels of forest status:

**Status A:** Natural forest with rich volume of 100 - 180 m³/ ha can be immediately logged.

**Status B:** Young forest, rehabilitation forest after slash and burn or logging, regenerated timbers with diameter 10 - 30 cm; many more years needed before logging.

**Status C:** Barren land, land with bushes, land with bushes and rehabilitation trees, but no need to be planted with multi-purpose trees and cared for many years.

In fact, individual households have been allocated land in level C, but they can focus on forest rehabilitation because they have their own rights. Thousands of ha of land in level C, which were allocated to households in the 1980s in accordance with the Decision No.184/
H§BT have been well developed, but people still do not have rights to utilize the forest.

Village's communities are allocated with land in level B and C. If land in level C is allocated, it should have financial support from the State to facilitate forest rehabilitation.

3/ Influence of the State classified into the following three levels.

Level A: The State only creates the legal lobby, encourages investment without intervening in the communities' decisions.

Level B: The State creates legal lobby, financially supports and participates in approving planning, plans and deciding some targets, and approaches to community forest management.

Level C: The State only proposes targets, plans and financial support, communities are responsible for implementing the State's targets under the form of contract without involving in the State in important issues.

4/ Participation of communities in forest management can be divided into three levels as follows:

Level A: Communities actively participate in planning village land, developing regulations for community forest management that clearly indicate rights and benefit of community's members as well as the treatment of any violation to regulations.

- Land planning and plans are implemented. Regulations on forest protection are supported and voluntarily followed by communities' members. Forest is well protected.

- Communities get benefit from forest to set up budget for forest rehabilitation without having to receive financial support from the State for forest protection contract (50,000VND/year).

Level B:

- Develop planning and plans for village land use and regulations for community forest management.

- Households' forest is mainly managed by themselves. Village community forest is not voluntarily protected by community's members.

- Depend much on the State's budget or the programme's support for forest protection contract, not set up fund for village protection and rehabilitation.
Level C:

- Regulations for forest protection may not be developed or already developed but simple and not actively followed by communities' members.

- Village forest management has not been implemented. Community forest is seriously violated and illegally utilized. Households and organization's forest is also not properly protected.

5/ Benefit from forest can be divided into the three levels as follows:

Level A:
- Community's members can collect non-timber forest products (Song, May, wood-ears, mushroom, herb etc)

- Community can utilize forest (including direct and indirect utilization) in accordance with regulations of different types of forest.

- Utilize forest products for community's purposes, and sell forest products with specific price and address.

- Set up fund for forest protection and rehabilitation by selling forest products after paying tax in accordance with the laws and pay the contractor as mentioned in the contract (if community receives contract for forest rehabilitation from other organizations).

Level B:
- Community's members can collect non-timber forest products (song, May, wood-ears, mushroom, herb etc)

- Community can utilize middle products, utilize old trees, for constructing community's public projects, but not allow selling.

- Community's households can utilize a limited quantity of timber with trees marked and monitored by village heads for house construction and old house repair.

Level C:
- Community's members can collect non-timber forest products for daily use but not sell.

- Community can not utilize timber from community forest.

So evaluation of community forestry models is based on 5 criteria and each criteria is divided into three different levels. If showing it on a circle, we have the following chart.
Figure 2.
Navigation tool to study community forest status

Include:

1/ Land use rights
2/ Forest status.
3/ Government’s interfere frequently
4/ Community’s involvement level.
5/ Benefit sharing to community

Forestry working group named the above figure as navigation tool to carry out study on community forest.

According to the Navigation tool, when all indicators fall into Level A (see figure 2) it is considered as the most sustainable model.

3. Method for documentation of the model.

- Established working group includes 5 members (decision by DARD Director or Project Director). Members are from district, commune and village involved.

- Split into small groups to do topical surveys.

- Group discussion and compilation.

- Village meeting - revising- finalizing

4. Study locations

Study has been carried out in all villages involved in Joint-forest management models (8 villages in 4 project districts).

Recommendations.

1. Propose district People's Committee to allocate land (protection forest area of 121ha) to commune for contracting to villages for forest management and protection in a long-term manner. After receiving land, people will focus on forest management, protection and development.

2. Propose to the State to continue expanding the forest management and protection in 6 villages in the commune and enable the commune to follow general forest management and protection. That will surely increase the effectiveness in forest management and protection.
avoiding the problems in implementing policies relating to forest management and protection.

3. In line with land planning and allocation to community for long-term use, the State should support communities with the following issues:

3.1. Knowledge

- Organize training courses and transfer the knowledge in forest management and protection, such as forest protection and management laws, Party and State’s policies.

- Civil-culture technique and forest plantation such as: promote valuable trees and diversify forest products.

- Combined agriculture and forestry models are applied such as SALT 1 and SALT2 etc that can enable people to invest, produce and sort out the problem of food shortage and ensure forest management and protection.

- Investment in construction and development of fruit trees, livestock, and agriculture models etc.

- Knowledge in livestock.

- Knowledge in management and business development

- Market information development.

3.2. Capital

- In line with knowledge, farmers should receive timely short-term and long-term loans for cultivation and livestock etc.

- Supply capital for constructing rural infrastructure, such as building of primary schools, village health care stations, and upgrading inter-village road systems for market development and product consumption.

- Supply villages with the initial capital for forest management and protection like guards, meetings, land marks and civil-culture techniques like fire line and forest enriching etc.

- In parallel with capital and knowledge, the State should apply a product subsidy to enable people to develop production, stabilize the food situation that will in turn help in forest stabilization.
Part III. Protection forest management and protection plan On land without a red

1. Main targets.

1. Good forest management and protection.

2. Increase income from forest.

3. Maintain forest's protection function (keep soil + water)

2. Status.

1. Difficult access, although road system has been upgraded (project and the State have financially supported to build spillways, cross streams so travelling is much easier than before), difficult market.

2. Rehabilitation of indigenous trees is very high.

3. Households' protection forest has not been granted a red book, therefore it has not facilitated the application of civil-culture techniques for forest development.

4. Farmers lack experience in forest management and protection.

5. Forest is mainly rehabilitation so there are not so many products from rehabilitation areas.

6. Food security has been improved but lack of food is still very common that has led to forest destruction.

7. Only 2 villages in commune are subjected to trial model of forest management and protection, so there are still a lot of problems.

For example: In trial village, people have to seriously follow village regulations: not collect bamboo shoots, promote rehabilitation, zone forest protection etc so villagers do not have products for using or selling. Villages without trial model will be free to collect bamboo shoots, fire wood etc and sell products in market and at home. That will cause envy between trial villages and non-trial villages.
3. Activities

1. **Decision of contracting protection forest (72ha) to commune, village with a duration of more than 50 years was submitted to district People’s Committee for approval.**

At present villages have completed procedures as follows:

- Present map classifying types of forest and land allocation
- Regulations of management and protection have been approved by village, commune and district.
- Statement for land allocation of commune People's Committee
- The outline description of the forest natural resources

**Responsibilities:** The village and district project management board

2. **Consolidate and develop institutions.**

- Continue to stabilize village forest management board.
- Develop timetable for guards, meetings and forest management and protection.
- Report on results of forest management and protection.
- Draw experience through meetings approved by community.

**Responsibility:** Village project board.

3. **Applying civil-culture technique**

- Promote forest value: rehabilitation of valuable timber such as Lat hoa, Gioi, Sang, Goi...
- Diversify forest products: enriching forest (some valuable timber trees, herbs, additional forest products etc)
- Forest cleaning.
- Forest plantation and enriching: Areas with a lot of reed should be cleared and grown with more valuable timber trees such as Lat hoa, Tram, Doi, Ven khe and maybe Luong of Thanh Hoa.

**Responsibilities:** Village project management board organizes training.

4. **Other activities.**

- Building fire lines.
- Setting up the landmark.

- Participating in village meetings, training courses held in villages or other places with the community’s representatives.

**Responsibilities:** Village, village and district project management board

4. Report of community forest management assessment (Na Hang A village - Mo De Commune - Mu Cang Chai District)

1/ Introduction:

Mo De Commune in Mu Cang Chai District was established in 1958 with 6 villages whose people were living in old forest with a lot of valuable trees. When the population increased 5 more new villages were set up, forest area was reduced leaving bare areas which are not protected by forest so the soil is exhausted.

The total natural area of the commune is 6,505.0 ha including:

- Agriculture land: 923.1 ha
- Forest land: 2 218 ha
- Residential land: 7.96 ha
- Special-use land: 18.94 ha
- Non used land: 3 337.0 ha.

Mo De is an upland commune (100% H'mong people) with 458 households and 2614 family members (according to the survey result in September, 2001), their livelihoods is very difficult so slash and burn is very common in this area. A main reason for this status is that there is no new business undertakings, high subsidization, self-supply. The strong point of the local areas is to take advantage of land, labour, appropriate land use, development of livestock, cultivation and agro-forestry....

In 1993 and 1994 Mo De Commune with the support from Mu Cang Chai district People’s Committee, Agriculture and Forestry Department (before), Forestry Protection Station and Pung Luong Forestry Station contracted 3,856 ha of natural forest for rehabilitation and protection, planting protection forest in accordance with the annual plan to households who were paid rice so the people's livelihoods have been improved.

However, in the long run this type of subsidy can not remain. So from September the trial of community forest management and protection
model in Na Hang village was applied with support from the Vietnam - Sweden Mountain Rural Development Programme.

This is the method of forest resource utilization from which people protect forest well and utilize non-timber forest products. It is also a very suitable method to protect forest resources and reduce the subsidy of the State.

**Na Hang A** is a village of Mo De commune. According to the result of land use and allocation of Forestry Planning Institute approved by the functioning levels, Na Hang A village has a total area of 188 ha in which:

- Agriculture land: 69,0 ha.
- Forestry land: 113, 8 ha.
- Special-use land: 2, 1 ha.
- Residential land: 1,9ha.
- Non-use land: 1, 2 ha.

The whole village has 42 households. Since September, 1999, Na Hang A has put into trial a model of forest management and protection. The village discussed and classified types of forests, developed regulations, planned to assess types of forest and at the same time divided groups and set up a community forest management and protection board.

2/ Result from survey of community forest resources conducted in September, 1999 and main contents compared with the survey results in October, 2001 with the specific result as follows:

**Results from forest status survey in September 1999. (Source: Village joint-forest management plan in October 1999)**

**Table 1: Forest classification (made by community)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest types</th>
<th>Village manages</th>
<th>Household manages</th>
<th>SFE manages</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Plantation (Mainly pine)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Rehabilitation (IC)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Rehabilitation + Shan tea intercropped</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comments.**

- Forest plantation and rehabilitation areas are under management of the SFE who contracts to Mo De commune, then commune contracts to households in the villages. The contract
says 30000 VND per ha should be paid, but in fact households get 27000 VND per ha.

Table: Forest land areas of the village (calculated by community)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest type</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Areas allocated to household groups (ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group I (19 has)</td>
<td>Group II (19 has)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Plantation</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Rehabilitation</td>
<td>121.0</td>
<td>60.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Rehabilitation plus Shan tea</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>149.5</td>
<td>74.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments

Rehabilitation areas are being planned to critical watershed under management of Pung Luong SFE, annual contracts are signed with commune, then commune contracts to households in the villages.

Table: Assessment of main timbers 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator \ Species</th>
<th>Súng lồng</th>
<th>Vôi thuốc</th>
<th>Sơn tra</th>
<th>Đê</th>
<th>Lồng trưởng</th>
<th>Thành ngạch</th>
<th>bam boo</th>
<th>Pine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Growth rate</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Regeneration rate</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Use value</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/ Economic Value</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/ Present volume</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/ Easy to grow</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note.

(By scoring from 1 to 10. 1: Bad, 10: Good)

Example: The growth rate of bamboo is 8
          The growth rate of Sum long is 3

Conclusion.

- In the height of more than 1000 m a.b.s.l, trees have different typical characteristics, rehabilitation and plantation is the main method (pine plantation)

- Zoning and protection should be done to develop regenerated trees for the forest diversity.
Table: Analysis of forest products from mixed rehabilitation (October, 2001)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Name of species</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Present utilization</th>
<th>User</th>
<th>Product Use</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Construct wood, wooden items, House building...</td>
<td>- Pơ mu</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rehabilitation trees are strictly managed and protected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Vệ liệu</td>
<td>Many</td>
<td>Many</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Dải</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Long nơ rồng</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- De</td>
<td>Many</td>
<td>Many</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sài đi</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fire wood</td>
<td>- Dry branches (all types)</td>
<td>Many</td>
<td>Avg</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Bushes</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Herb Medicine</td>
<td>- Ba k=Ych</td>
<td>Many</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Šc trăng</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- §¼ng sòm</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Tu dì</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Many trees not of knowledge or of great value</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:

- Quantity: Plenty, little, average.
- Present utilization: Many; little; average.
- User: Male or female, local people or outside people.
- Products: by percentage (%)
- Note: Local people or outside people.

*/ Other comments.

- New discovery of rare medical herbs during forest management and protection process. These herb plants are used to cure disease.

- Forest products are mainly for household consumption, very little is sold out at cheap prices.

- Living standard is still very low, so local people still destroy forest.
- By contracting with SFE, local people get paid (27000 VND/ha) for their protection work so the shortage of food reduces to 1 - 2 month

Table: Analysis of pine forest products (September, 2001)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Name of species</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Present utilization</th>
<th>User</th>
<th>Products Use</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Pine forest after 10 years of utilization | - Resin
- Stem
- Wood | 5 - 10 kg/1 tree/year | Yes | Farmer | Use | 100% |
| 2. Wood for Construction, house building | - Pơ mu
- Doi
- Voi Thuoc
- Pine | Average | Little | Farmer | 80% | 20% |
| 3. Firewood | - Pine branches
- Lung sung
- Bush | Plenty | Plenty | Farmer | 100% |
| 4. Herb | - Dang Sam
- Hoang Tinh
- Tu Di
- Long Lố
- Honey
- Son tra
- Wood ears | Plenty | Plenty | Farmer | 50% to 60% | 40 to 50% |

Note:
- Quantity: Plenty, little and average.
- Present utilization: plenty, little and average.
- User: Male or female, villagers or outside people.
- Product: by %
- Note: Villagers or outside people

*/ Other comments.*
- Main herb is used by local people as medicine.
- Market for forest product consumption is difficult.
- Pine resin has been utilized in accordance with the Forestry Station's plan with limited quantity so it cannot solve the lack of food.

- Forest destruction is still common although there is a tendency to reduction.

- Literacy is low, backward customs and traditions, long-standing cultivation still depends on the State's subsidy.

Table: Protection function of each type of forest (October, 1999)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of forest</th>
<th>Soil protection (Foot and side)</th>
<th>Water protection</th>
<th>Residential area protection</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/ Rehabilitate zoning forest</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Critical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Pine forest</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Critical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Zoning forest + Shan tea</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Critical</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:
Forests with mark X have function of water and soil protection and are left blank if they do not have that function.

Other comments.

Function of protection forest is mainly to protect the watershed of Da River’s basin

Results from forest status survey in August, 2001

Table 1: Forest classification (made by community)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of forest</th>
<th>Manage d by village</th>
<th>Manage d by HHs</th>
<th>Manage d by the State</th>
<th>Manage d by State or SFEs</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/ Protection forest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/ Rehabilitate timber forest</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Without subsidy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Vau forest*</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>//</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Vau and bamboo forest*</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>//</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/ Barren land (in protection forest area)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>//</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II/ Production forest (granted with red book)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>land tenure certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/ Forest garden</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>//</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Forest plantation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>//</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Barren area (close to protection forest)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>//</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other comments

- In terms of areas, forest classification is still the same. However, in 2001, there are 4 new separated households so there is a small change in sharing of residential, production and living land.

- Forest land is still administratively managed by the State. District People's Committee still do not have decision for land allocation to communes and villages.

- From 1999, owing to joint-forest management and protection, forests have been effectively managed. A lot of new regenerated trees have been discovered. Forest destruction for fields has been controlled. Barren areas have been grown with a lot of rare regenerated trees.

Table: Assessment of main timber trees (August, 2001)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator \ Species</th>
<th>Săng</th>
<th>Sung</th>
<th>Số i</th>
<th>sê n</th>
<th>Xoan</th>
<th>Đào</th>
<th>Gô</th>
<th>Lát</th>
<th>Tấu</th>
<th>Kẹn</th>
<th>Mỏ</th>
<th>Tráng</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Growth rate</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Regeneration rate</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Use value</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/ Economic Value</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/ Present volume</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note.

( By scoring from 1 to 10. 1: Bad, 10: Good

Example: The growth rate of styrex is 10
The growth rate of Dinh is 2

*/ Compare to the situation in October, 1999 there are some changes as follows:

- Many regenerated trees like Lat hoa, tram, sang, goi, cheo have dissappeared and especially in barren areas, there are a lot of fast growing trees. It is the first sign of forest regeneration.

- Focus in promoting the rehabilitation of valuable trees like Soi de, Rang Rang...
**Table: Analysis of forest products from mixed rehabilitation**  
*(August, 2001)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Name of species</th>
<th>Quantit of species</th>
<th>Present utilization</th>
<th>User</th>
<th>Products Use</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/ Construction</td>
<td>- sâng - Gôi</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Young trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Chêo - sên</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sôi dê - Mô</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Trâm</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Fire wood</td>
<td>- Hu đay</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- hoa tráng</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Ba soi</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Household</td>
<td>- sâng</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Little</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appliances</td>
<td>- Gôi</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sôn</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/ Furniture</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/ Pole</td>
<td>- sâng</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Young trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-tau mui</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Dôi</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Kháo</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/ Herb</td>
<td>- Sơn thượng</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Cù ba mủi</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Khúc khác.</td>
<td>//</td>
<td>//</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Many herbs are not known by name</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**
- Quantity: plenty, few and average.
- Present use: plenty, few and average.
- User: Male or female, local villagers or outside people.
- Product: by %

/* There are some changes compared with 1999. */

- There are a lot of valuable trees like Lat Hoa, Sen, Tau, Tram, Sang, Goi etc especially fast growing trees like styrex, Rang Rang etc.
- Rehabilitation forests develop very strongly. Forest destruction has reduced. Forests are well protected.
Table: Analysis of products from Timber, Vau and Nua bamboo forests  

*October, 2001*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Name of species</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Present utilization</th>
<th>User</th>
<th>Products Use</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/ Construction</td>
<td>- Đôi</td>
<td>Avrg</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sàng</td>
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<td>- sên</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- trò nâu</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- trâm họng</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Fire wood</td>
<td>- Hu đay</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Ba soi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Household appliances</td>
<td>Young trees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/ Furniture</td>
<td>- vâu</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- nứa</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/ Pole</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/ Herb</td>
<td>- Khúc khách</td>
<td>Plenty</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sơn thức</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Hu đay</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/ Casing wood</td>
<td>- Sàng</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sung</td>
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<td>- Đệ</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Sổi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:
- Quantity: Plenty, few and average.
- Present use: plenty, few and average.
- User: Male or female, local people or outside people
- Product: by %
- Note: Local people or outside people

*Changes compared with 1999.*
- Young regenerated trees develop quickly such as Sang, Mo, Sau, Tro Nau especially newly discovered trees such as Lat Hoa, Tram, Tau, Doi etc.

- Wood for building houses, beds, windows and doors etc
- Vau, nua bamboo develops into a big quantity and gets a good price in the market in the local areas.
### Table: Analysis of products from Timber, Vau and Nua bamboo forests

*(August, 2001)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Name of species</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Present utilization</th>
<th>User</th>
<th>Products Use</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/ Construction</td>
<td>- Mơ - sên - dối - sằng - Gối - Sợi</td>
<td>Very few // //</td>
<td>Few // //</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Fire wood</td>
<td>- Hu đay - Ba soi - nứa</td>
<td>Plenty // Avrg</td>
<td>Plenty // //</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>80% 20%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Household appliances</td>
<td>Young trees</td>
<td>Avrg</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/ Pole</td>
<td>- vâu</td>
<td>Plenty Few</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/ Herb</td>
<td>- Khúc khác - Sốn thực - Hu đay</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Few</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**
- Quantity: Plenty, few and average.
- Present use: plenty, few and average.
- User: Male or female, local people or outside people
- Product: by %
- Note: Local people or outside people

*Comments on changes compared with 1999.*
- There are a lot of Mo, Sen, Sang in timber and vau and nua bamboo forests and rehabilitation forests, but there are fewer herbs than rehabilitation forests.
- Regenerated trees develop quickly.
- Rehabilitation forest is well protected.
### Table : Protection function of forests (August, 2001)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of forest</th>
<th>Soil protection (Foot and side)</th>
<th>Water protection</th>
<th>Residential area protection</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/ Rehabilitation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Few</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/ Timber* Vau bamboo forest</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>More</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/ Vau* Timber and Nua Bamboo forest</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>More</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**

Forests with mark X have function of water and soil protection and those left blank do not have that function.

**Other comments(changes compared with 1999)**

- Protection function of protection forest mainly protects watershed areas of streams, soil and water resource for production, irrigation and daily use for local people in Deo Thao and Xom Trong villages.

- Villagers are aware of forest management and protection. They prevent forest destruction and know deeply about the benefit that the forest can bring so they focus on forest protection.

Based on the above 5 criteria, the working group evaluates the sustainability of each type of forest as follows

**I/ Evaluation of the sustainability of pine forest**

1/ **Land use right.**

* Level of sustainability: B

2/ **Forest resources.**

* Level of sustainability: B

3/ **Influence of the State.**

*/ Level : A

4/ **Participation of community**

- Villages hold meetings to discuss plan for community forest management and protection.
- Community is divided into 2 groups, each group elect group leader and deputy leader. Community conducts field survey to define villages' border line of community's forests with other villages', communes'.

- Village develops regulations for forest management and protection that has been agreed by village and approved by commune People's Council and district People's Committee.

- Village protects forest, communities manage actively and effectively.

- However village forest regulations, after being approved have not been disseminated and implemented in the communities.

/* Evaluation of community participation: B

5/ Benefit sharing to households and communities.

- Community's households enjoy financial support from the State's budget by receiving contract of forest management and protection from SFEs and Mu Cang Chai Forestry Protection Station.

- Enjoying agro-forestry products but the quantity is limited and difficult market.

- Using forest's protection function (supply and regulation of water etc)

* Level scoring: B

Summary: The current management method is unstable.

II/Same as rehabilitation forest (IC)

1/ Land use right : level B

2/ Forest status: Level B

3/ Interference of the Government: level B

4/ Involvement of local people: level B

5/ Benefit from forest for communities?

Summary: Navigation tool shows the insufficiency of present forest management model
Forest management and protection plan of Na Hang A village

I/ Main targets.
- Effective forest management.
- Increase income from forest.
- Maintain protection function of forest.

II/ Activities.
1. Decision of forest and forest land allocation is made by district People's Committee to Mo De commune to contract to Na Hang A village
- Based on:
  + Forest status map and forest land allocation map.
  + Regulations for forest management and protection approved by commune People's Committee and district People's Committee.
  + Description and plan for community forest management and protection of Na Hang A village.
  + Application for allocation submitted to Mo De commune people's committee.
- **Responsibility:** District project management board, commune and Na Hang A village.

2. Maintaining forest man agent activities
- Working time schedule: Regular patrol forest in accordance with regulations.
- Forest patrol.
- Review to draw from experience and reporting.

**Responsibilities: Na Hang A project management group.**

3. Application of civil-culture methods
- Setting up the fire lines.
- Thinning dead trees/ small trees
- Cutting branches for firewood
- Enriching present forest with valuable spices and grow more herbs
- Planting additional seedlings in barren areas.

**Responsibilities:** District project management board, commune and village

4. **Participation in training courses.**

- Location: in villages and other places.

- Contents:
  
  + Knowledge in cultivation, livestock, and agro-forestry models etc.
  
  + Policies: laws on forest management and development, decrees and other Government's policies.

- **Responsibilities:** Village and community management group

5. Develop annual forest management and protection plan. Regular monitoring and evaluation.

Method of developing specific management plan as done earlier

**Responsibilities:**

- District Project Management Board

- Commune and village project management board

**Recommendations and proposals**

1. Propose district People’s Committee to allocate land (protection forest area of 121ha) to commune for contracting to villages for forest management and protection in long-term manner. After receiving land, people will focus on forest management, protection and development.

2. Propose the State to continue expanding the forest management and protection in 6 villages in the commune and enable the commune to follow general forest management and protection. That will surely increase the effectiveness in forest management and protection avoiding the problems in implementing policies relating to forest management and protection.

3. In line with land planning and allocation to community for long-term use, the State should support communities in the following way:

   3.1. Knowledge

   - Transfer of knowledge in forest management and protection such as laws on forest protection and development.
- Civil-culture technique and forest plantation such as: promote valuable trees and diversify forest products.

- Agro-forestry models are applied such as SALT 1 and SALT2 etc that can enable people to invest, produce and sort out the problems of food shortage and ensure good forest management and protection.

- Investment in construction and development of fruit trees, livestock, and agriculture models etc.

- Knowledge in management and business development

- Market information development.

3.2. Capital

- In line with knowledge, farmers should receive timely short-term and long-term loans for cultivation and livestock etc.

- Supply high yield varieties to villages.

- Supply capital for constructing rural infrastructure, such as building of primary schools, village health care stations, and upgrading inter-village road systems for market development and product consumption.

- Supply villages with the initial capital for forest management and protection like guards, meetings, land marks and civil-culture techniques like fire lines and forest enriching etc.

- Through the 5 million ha programme, the State should plant, rehabilitate and protect forest with a view to increasing work and income for local people. People will be paid 100,000VND/ha/year for forest protection.

4/ Market.

The most important issue is that local people collect non-timber forest products and utilize timber from qualified forest, not only for their daily life, but also for selling to get money for food and other necessary items. In Mo De commune - Mu Cang Chai district - labourers are paid from 5,000VND to 7,000VND/day which is very low. Labourers do not know much about markets that are far away from their living areas. Therefore the Government should apply appropriate policies to subsidy products and keep farmers informed about prices.

Protection forest management and protection plan on land without a red book

I/ Main targets.

1. Effective forest management and protection.
2. Increase income from forest.

3. Maintain forest's protection function (keep soil + water)

II/ Status

1. Market for products is difficult.

2. Rehabilitation of indigenous species is high.

3. Forest land has not been granted a red book, so it still limits the application of civil-culture techniques in forest development.

4. Farmers are not experienced in forest management and protection.

5. Bad transport systems also limit opportunities to sell forest products (timber, other forest products etc)

6. Forests are mainly rehabilitation areas so benefit from forest is still limited and there are no products for rehabilitation.

7. Shortage of food is still very serious.

III/ Activities

1. Decision of forest and forest land allocation is made by district People's Committee to contract commune and village with a duration of more than 50 years.

   At present the village has completed the following procedures:

   - Current map of forest classification and land allocation

   - Village regulations for forest management and protection approved by village, commune and district

   - Preliminary description of forest resources.

   - Statement for land allocation of commune People's Committee

   Responsibilities: Village and district project management groups

2. Consolidate and develop institutions.

   - Continue to stabilize village forest management group

   - Redevelop the schedule for forest patrol, meetings and forest management.

   - Reports on forest management and protection results.

   - Draw experience through village meetings.
**Responsibilities:** Village project management board.

### 3. Applying civil-culture technique

- Promote forest value: rehabilitate valuable timber trees such as Pomu, Doi, Voi thuoc...

- Diversify forest products: Enriching forest (valuable timber trees, herbs and additional forest products)

- Forest cleaning.

**Responsibilities:** Village project management board organizes training courses.

### 4. Other activities.

- Build fire lines.

- Make landmark.

- Participate in village meetings, training courses etc.

**Responsibilities:** Villages, village project management board.

### 5. Participate in training courses.

- Location: in villages, and other places.

- Contents:

  + Knowledge in cultivation; livestock and combined agro-forestry models.

  + Policies: laws on forest protection and development, decrees, the State's policies.

**Responsibilities:** Village and community management boards.
Part IV. Comments, proposals and recommendations

1. Initial comments

After 4 years of introducing a forest management and protection model, some comments can be drawn as follows:

1.1. Trial of forest management and protection model has been suitable to the State's policies, it is highly appreciated by communities in 8 villages, especially the village and commune authorities as well as involving institutions.

1.2. The method is simple, easy to follow. Community's members can build up their own plans if they are trained.

1.3. People know more about their rights and responsibilities in forest management and protection through discussion to develop forest management and protection plans, regulations, budget use and benefit sharing etc. It also creates a close working relationship among people in community and encourages them to actively manage and protect forest.

1.4. Forest is considered as the nation's property (when they build up the plan for forest management and protection by themselves and are happy to know that the district People's Committee will allocate forest and forest land to communes and villages). The responsibilities of communities will be enhanced.

1.5. Forest has been considered as local villages' property (when they make their own plan for management and protection, and get hold of the land allocation decision from the District PC). Responsibility, self-discipline of the community will be increased in forest management.

1.6. Through discussion, communities have a deeper understanding of forestry activities such as: civil-culture techniques, thinning, forest thinning and enriching, laws on forest protection and development etc.

1.7. Forests are well protected. After applying this model, slash and burn, illegal utilization and land invasion have been stopped. Forests have been quickly recovered especially rehabilitation forests with rare timber trees. Rare animals have come back.

1.8. Hope that community joint-forest management and protection will be implemented in areas with forests. The State must consider the strong points in this model to issue appropriate policies for national forest management and protection.
2. Proposals and recommendations

1/ Methods of implementation.

After 4 years of application of this model in 8 villages of 4 districts, although it has been supported by communities and relevant institutions, in order to make the model more effective, some adjustments must be done as follows:

- **Implementation steps.** Right at the first phase, it should have the decision of land allocation of the district People's Committee to commune People's Committee and villages before the next step: developing forest management and protection plans; plan implementation; monitoring and evaluation; adjustment and then plan development. That can be considered as a cycle.

**Illustrated in the following chart**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decision of forest and land of district People's Committee to commune People's Committee and villages</td>
<td>+ Identify types of forests and management status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ Calculate areas of each kind of forest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ Map identifying forest resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scale: 1/10 000 or 1/5 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ Village regulations approved by commune and district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ Application to commune People's Committee for land allocation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop forest management and protection plan - Submitted and get approved by Forestry Protection Station and Commune Agro-Forestry Board</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan implementation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regularly monitor and evaluate implementation process of forest management and protection plan</td>
<td>Adjust to conform to each stage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In order to get the decision of land allocation from district People's Committee to communes and villages, 4 types of papers are needed as follows:

*/ Status map of forest resources, and land and forest allocation which clearly identify village border lines and border lines between forest and forest land, identify management status of forest areas. Map with scale: 10 000; 5 000; 2 000.

*/ Simple documents describing forest resources (with each type of forest), short plan for forest management and protection. Calculate areas of forests. Forest areas must be contracted to communes and villages.

*/ Regulations for community forest management and protection approved by villages, communes and district.

*/ Statement for contracting of forest management and protection of commune People's Committee to district People's Committee.

● **Schedule:**

The time to complete forest management and protection plans (as with 8 villages) can be reduced from 8 days to 3-4 days. Forest management is supposed to be supported.

● **Contents:**

- Clearly mention in monitoring and evaluation section.

- Forest management and protection plan must be approved by authorities (Local Forestry Protection Station and Head of commune Agro-forestry Group) at the same time these authorities will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating changes during implementation of model trial.

● **Scale of model implementation**

The model of community joint-forest management and protection should be done at commune level. So the effectiveness of village forest management and protection can be improved.

The model of community joint-forest management and protection should be done at commune level to get the best effectiveness. If the model is only applied to some villas in the commune, it is unavoidable that difficulties in forest management and protection will be faced.

2. **Land policies.**

- Villages apply the model based on planning, forest management and protection plan, all papers have been completed to propose that the district People's Committee allocate land and grant land use right certificate (by the decision of district People's Committee to allocate
land and forest to commune People’s Committee, villages) to 7 villages (except Giang Cai village) for protection areas which have been applied with the new method.

- Check land and forest availability managed by SFEs to find out the areas which are not well managed by SFEs for production purposes to return to local authority for allocating to communes, villages and households for long-term utilization and management.

**Example:**

Pung Luong SFE managed about 20 000 ha and implemented the 661 programme on over 60 000 ha (total of 80 000 ha) with staff of 150 in which 25 are working part-time. So Pung Luong SFE can not manage such a workload, as a result land and forest should be checked and SFE should be organized in accordance with the 187 programme. Natural forest areas scattered with agricultural land and residential areas like Ma La Thang village under the planning of critical protection areas should be returned to local authorities to allocate to village communities.

- Van Chan State Forestry Enterprise should discuss with Nam Lanh commune and Nam Kip village about the border line between SFE’s land and villages’ land (SFE contracted 530 ha rehabilitation forest and 86 ha plantation forest to Nam Kip village) at the same time clearly identify types of forest and forest land to enable district People’s Committee to issue decision to allocate forest to communes and villages for management and protection.

- Check contracts for forest rehabilitation and plantation between State institutions (Protection forest and special-use management groups, SFEs) with households and communities. The short-term contract (one year) must be changed to the form of long-term contract (50 years) as Decree No.01/ CP allows contractees to get benefit from forest - a method that effectively encourages farmers to invest and well manage and protect forests. In order to successfully carry out this method, Pung Luong, Van Chan and Yen Binh State Forestry Enterprises should check land availability through contracts for forest management, protection, rehabilitation and plantation to households, individuals and communities. Contractor and contractee must agree with each other on each side's responsibilities and rights to sign long-term contracts (50 years for protection and production forests or depending on forest growth cycle for production forest).

- Closely combine protection functions of forest. Contratee are allowed to collect forest products from protection forest as long as there is no destruction of the protection function of such forest. At the same time an appropriate policy should be applied to enable farmers and communities to get benefit from the forest when allocated with land for forest for rehabilitation and plantation.
3/ Benefit sharing from forest.

Every household receiving contracts of forest rehabilitation in watershed protection areas will enjoy the following benefits:

+ Get paid for forest protection in accordance with the current laws.

+ Collect non-timber forest products, fruit, resin during forest rehabilitation, management and protection in accordance with the regulations of forest management groups.

+ Utilize dead trees, branches, remaining timber after utilization etc. Collected forest products will be used free of tax.

+ Collect bamboo shoots, nua with the maximum volume of 30% of forest trees when the coverage is 80% in accordance with guidance and monitoring of forest management groups. Households will enjoy 87% value of forest products after paying tax, the contractor will get 10% and contribute to commune's budget is 3%.

+ Utilize timber under the form of cutting with the maximum quantity of not over 20% of trees when protection forest is qualified for utilization in accordance with the design made by forest management groups, approved by Agriculture and rural Development Department and granted permission.

Utilization value after paying tax is shared as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest status</th>
<th>Sharing rate (%)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HHs</td>
<td>Contractor</td>
<td>Paying to commune's budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Status A:</strong> Exhausted regenerated forest with a lot of bushes, creepers and some timber trees of over 30cm in diameter in bad quality.</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Status B:</strong> Rehabilitation forest with timber trees of less than 20 cm in diameter.</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Status C:</strong> Forest is extremely utilized but rehabilitated with regenerated timber trees of 20 to 30 cm in diameter</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Status D:</strong> Forest trees have been cut and a limited number of rare timber trees have been cut down but still in big quantity. (&gt; 100m3)</td>
<td>Enjoying 2% but not over 40% for protection</td>
<td>The contract or will enjoy the remaining</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the second utilization cycle, forest product value after paying tax will be shared as follows: 87% for contractee, contractor 10%, commune's budget 3% without distinguishing the initial forest status.

4. Knowledge:

- Transfer knowledge in forest management and protection, forest management and protection laws to enable households to have a deep understanding of forestry activities as well as benefits and importance of forest.

- Instruct in civil-culture techniques like: forest plantation, enriching, and natural rehabilitation, forest tendering and clearing.

- In line with instruction in forest management and protection and civil-culture techniques, relevant institutions should further assist farmers in terms of knowledge in production and application of SALT, SALT1, SALT2, SALT3, SALT4... As a result farmers can increase income, ensure food security, poverty alleviation, food shortage and ensure forest management and protection.

- Develop models of fruit trees, livestock, industrial trees and special trees.

- Knowledge in management and business development.

- Market information development.

5. Capital

- In remote and upland areas with ethnic minority groups (Van Chan especially Mu Cang Chai district), forest areas need to be supported under 661 programme -5 million hectare programme, once supported by this programme villagers will get jobs and at the same time ensure food security. As a result, local farmers will stick to forests.

- During forest management and protection, almost all villages face a lot of difficulties in terms of capital, technique, market for product consumption, rural infrastructure etc. In order to facilitate sustainable forest management and protection, the State should further support communities to stabilize economics, culture, education and health care etc to step by step sort out the upland communities' difficulties.

*/ Support for agro-forestry production.

- In the commune centre, it should build a local agriculture station that assists agro-forestry production, veterinary activities, vegetation protection, and agro-forestry product processing.

- Supply with varieties.

+ Poor households are supplied free of charge varieties (high yield rice varieties, hybrid rice and hybrid maize) together with fertilizers
that can produce food on their own land. They will get 70% support for the first crop and the second crop, and 50% in the third crop.

+ Support for forest plantation, rehabilitation, care and protection. For very critical protection forest like old forest, local people will get paid 100,000VND/ha/year for forest protection.

+ For barren areas for forest plantation. the Government should supply seedlings, fertilizers and encourage households in low areas like Tran Yen and Yen Binh to plant forest and supply varieties to households in uplands.

- Support in livestock.

+ Poor households are given priority to get loans from the bank for the poor to buy seedlings, varieties and animal food.

**Example:** Ze Xu Phing with 1000ha of free grazing area or equivalent to 1.3ha/person still has 30% of households facing shortage of food for 3-4 months. If areas are well planned for raising milk-cows, buffaloes etc, households' food shortages will reduce and reduce the pressure on forest's stability.

+ Training in livestock development, supply with new varieties, disease prevention, mobilize raising animals in cages without free grazing and moving animal cages far away from people's living areas should be encouraged. Vaccinate animals free of charge for poor households.

- Apply policies in profession development, product consumption, preservation and processing and rural services: agriculture product processing, veterinary services, vegetation protection, market information and a network for agriculture product consumption.

+ Households or household groups are given priority to get loans from the bank and pay interest after three years for development of small scale industry, rural services, agriculture product processing and consumption etc.

+ Decrease credit interest down 50% compared with the rate applied in mountainous and remote areas regulated by the Government.

+ Exempt revenue tax. The Government will subsidize agriculture products, livestock to increase consumption of these products. In some cases, the Government will protect price for households when prices go down lower than product cost.

**6/ Development of local forest product market**

When farmers collect non-timber forest products from qualified forests, the most important issue is to make those products, not only helpful for their daily use, but also become goods to sell to buy foodstuff and other items. In some places like Mu Cang Chai and Van
Chan districts, the money for one working day is 7 000 VND/ labour. This explains why some farmers do not know much about market or markets far away from their living areas. So the Government should have a policy to subsidize products and keep farmers informed about prices.


- Propose the State give priority to infrastructure construction such as: irrigation for rice fields, variety products, veterinary units, training units and domestic water and agro-forestry product processing units based on support from 135 programme for 1715 poor villages.

8. Development of resources

- Pupils do not have to pay school fees, or other fees and are assisted with stationary

- Set up a volunteer agriculture extension system. Every year villages will elect one experienced farmer to train and exchange agriculture, forestry extension, veterinary and animal protection experience in the local areas and he will get paid by the State.

- Members who are good producers or active participants will study experiences and demonstration models.

9. Developing fund for village forest rehabilitation and protection.

In the early stages, forest management and protection coped with a lot of difficulties. According to the decision No.661, the Government's budget will only paid for forest protection during the first 5 years (From 1999 to 2004) and from 2005 upwards contractees will get benefits from forest, but due to the long forest growth cycle, communities can not get such benefit regularly every year to pay for management and protection process. The participation of communities' members is different, so it is necessary to develop village funds for community forest management and protection.

*/ Funds are raised by the following sources:

- Money from selling forest products in communities' forests.

- Fees paid by members when they utilize timber in communities' forest for house construction and wooden furniture.

- Commune budget.

- Financial support from domestic and overseas individuals and organizations.

- Fines from forest violations to village forest management regulations.
**Funds for village development from rural development project**

*Using of funds for forest rehabilitation.*

- Pay those who directly manage and protect forests.
- Pay for fire protection and disease prevention.
- Pay for civil-culture techniques.
- Pay for plantation and forest enriching.
- Pay to set up land marks and fire lines etc.

*Management of village fund for forest rehabilitation.*

Developing funds for forest protection and rehabilitation is based on community's volunteer contribution and managed by village management group. Expenditure and revenue must be clearly written and publicly reported to communities until the termination of the fund. All of this information must be transferred to the successor with the witness of commune legal workers. Funds are to be investigated and monitored by commune budget head.

10/ Confirming the legal status of village communities to enable them to manage and utilize forest legally like other subjects.

In forest management and protection, the form of participatory forest management may already be established, so almost all villages in mountainous provinces have village forests and their own regulations. Article 9 in decree No.17/ HH§BT dated January 17, 1992 of Ministerial Council (Government) on the implementation of laws on forest management and protection stipulates as follows: (Organizations, individuals allocated with forest and forest land are recognized as legal forest owners to their managed forest and forest land).

Article 3 in the Decree also mentions: (... village forest is village's property...) MARD issued Circular No.56/1999/QQ§ - BNN - KL dated March 30, 1999 guiding the development of village forest management and protection regulations. However, the current laws only recognize the current community forest management models. The current laws do not recognize communities as legal factors with all rights and abilities, so it doesn't accept the form of land allocation to communities while community forestry is an advanced forest management tendency required to reach forestry stabilization.

In order to attain effectiveness in forest management and protection, province Peoples’s Committees should allocate land and forest (including natural forest) to communities. Land allocation to
communities only require a decision of the district People's Committee without land use right certificate.

11/ Propose SIDA continue financially supporting community joint-forest management and protection model (that can be included in Phase 3 of MRDP programme or the 5 million ha programme)

Table: Status of land, social situation and joint-forest management activities of village No 8 in the CFM model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commune/district/village</th>
<th>unit</th>
<th>Nam Lanh commune Van Chan</th>
<th>Tan Dong commune Tran Yen</th>
<th>Tan Nguyen commune Yen Binh</th>
<th>Mu Cang Chai District</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Giang Cai</td>
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<td>Villag e 8</td>
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