



VIETNAMESE - GERMAN COOPERATION

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**Participatory Land Use Planning and
Forest Land Allocation**

Field Experience and Lessons Learnt

from the Project

**Sustainable Management of Natural Resources
in Central Vietnam**

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General introduction of the GTZ Program “Management of Natural Resources

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GTZ Sector Program of Management of Natural Resources (MNR)
(visit: <http://www.mnr.org.vn>).

Projects addressing the management and conservation of renewable natural resources (**currently: 10 projects in 26 provinces**)

Overall objective: To improve the legal and institutional framework for the protection & sustainable MNR at national and decentralized levels , thus creating new opportunities for an improved livelihood in rural areas.

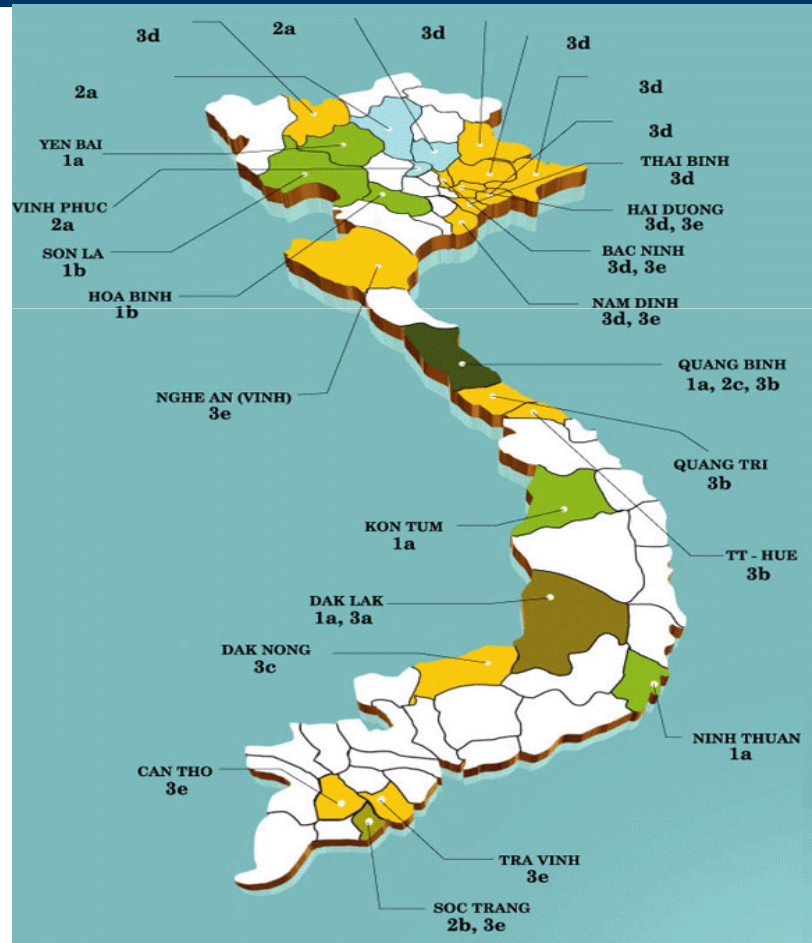
Approach: follows the principles and criteria of sustainable development and is based on cross-sector coordination for multi-level implementation of natural resources management.





GTZ's 10 current MNR Sector Projects in 26 provinces of Vietnam

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GTZ's FLA-related Projects

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Provincial level:

- Social Forestry Development Project (SFDP) Song Da (1994 – 2004)
- Integrated Food Security Program (IFSP) Quang Binh (1996 – 2002)
- Rural Development Project (RDDL) Dak Lak (2003 – 2010)
- Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (SMNR-CV) Central Vietnam (2004 – 2010)
- Environmental Protection and Management of Natural Resources (EPMNR) Dak Nong (2008 – 2014)

National level:

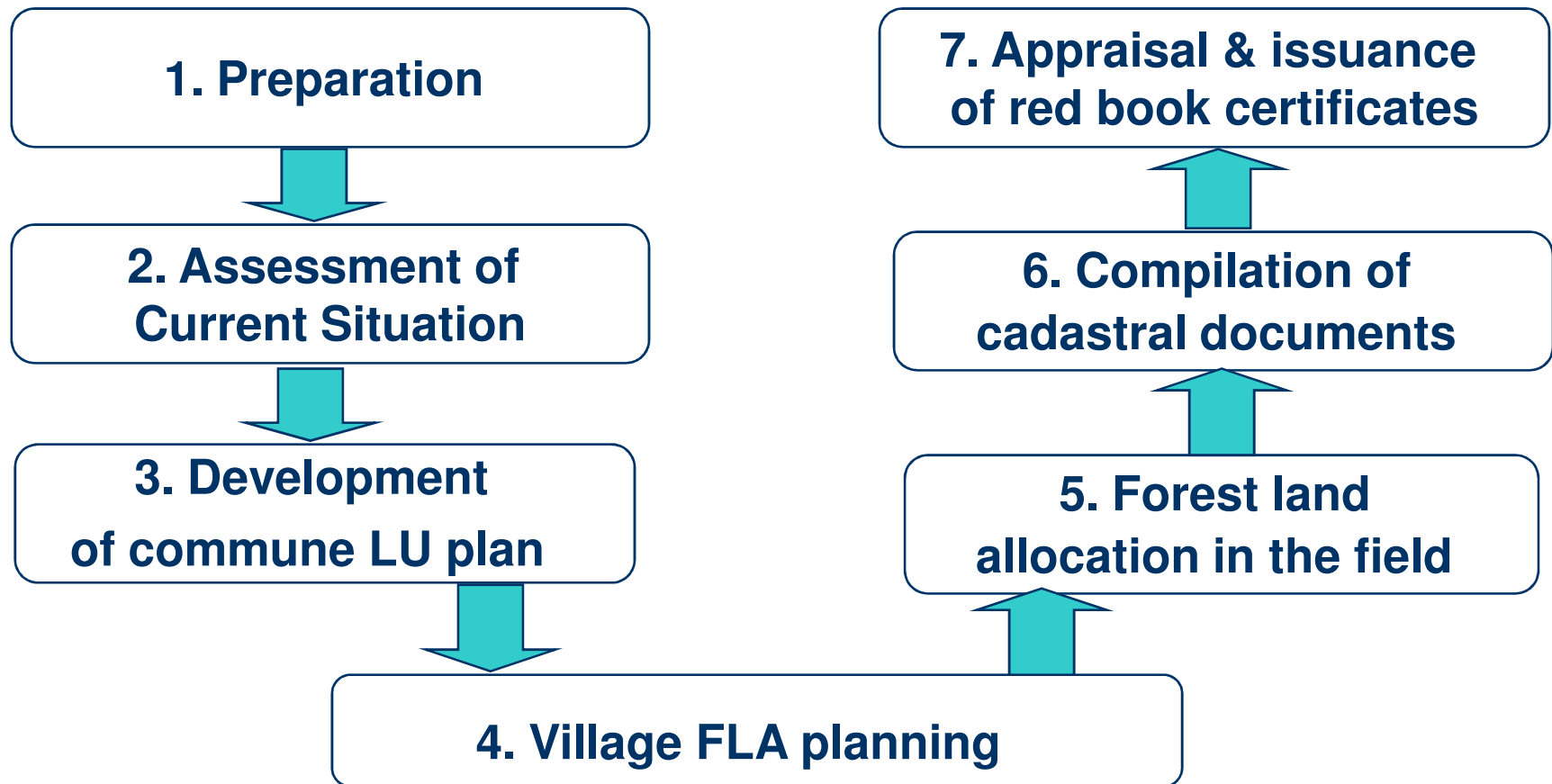
- Public Administration Reform in the Forestry Sector (REFAS) 1998 – 2004
- GTZ Forestry Program (Policy Component) 2004 - 2011





Implementation Steps of PLUP and FLA in GTZ Projects

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Impl. Steps: 1. Preparation

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- District meeting and formation of district steering group
- Commune meeting and formation of commune working group
- Collection of available documents and maps
- Training to commune working group
- Clarification of village boundaries and preparation of village topographic maps
- Preparation of PLUP-FLA communal operational work plan and required materials





Impl. Steps: 2. Assessment of Current Situation

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- First village meeting
 - ✓ Introduction of objectives, activities and procedures of PLUP-FLA
 - ✓ Brief introduction on PLUP-FLA policies
 - ✓ Presentation of PLUP-FLA operational plan
 - ✓ Selection of key-villagers

- Assessment of current socio-economic and ecological conditions in the village:
 - ✓ 3D model and transect walk & diagram
 - ✓ Socio-economic and ecological analysis and identification of land use trends
 - ✓ Forest status assessment

- Development of current land use village map





Impl. Steps: 3. Development of Commune Land Use Plan

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- Development of initial village land use plan
- Second village meeting
 - Agreement on village land use plan
 - Explanation of next PLUP-FLA steps
- Finalization of village land use plan and presentation to the CPC
- Preparation of commune land use plan & report and handing over to the commune council for approval
- Presentation and submission of commune land use plan & report to DPC for approval





Impl. Steps: 4. Village FLA Planning

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- Preparations for developing the village FLA plan
- Third village meeting
 - ✓ Agreement on contribution from villagers during FLA field implementation
- Preparation and approval of list of eligible hhs
 - ✓ Collection of application forms and preparation of registration list
- Meeting with households receiving forest land in the same forest area
- Agreement on location of plots, distribution methods and distribution of plots
- Preparation of village FLA sketch map





Impl. Steps: 5. FLA in the Field

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- Delineation of boundaries in the field and calculation of plot areas
- Participatory forest inventory and calculation of timber volumes
- Preparation of village FLA map
- Preparation of commune FLA proposal and handing over to CPC and DPC for approval
- Hand over of forest land in the field





Impl. Steps: 6 and 7

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6. Compilation of cadastral documents

- Compilation of cadastral documents (cadastral book, record book and FLA map)

7. Appraisal and issuance of red book certificates

- Appraisal of cadastral documents by the DPC
- Issuance and distribution of red book certificates, carrying names of husbands and wives
- Filing of cadastral documents





Predecessor “Integrated Food Security Program” (IFSP) 1996-2002

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North-Central Vietnam

Quang Binh
(Implementation area)

Quang Tri and T.T. Hue
(Dissemination area)





Achievements of the Predecessor “IFSP”

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- 1999:** Addressed FLA in a legal “grey zone”: Implementation of national legislation on FLA; administrative mandate to sign “red books”
- 2000:** intensive lobbying led to shift of administrative mandate to the district level; training and equipment of districts; participatory village meetings, implementation in 2 pilot communes
- 2001:** up-scaling to all communes in 2 districts, in all: more than **43.000 ha** of forest and barren land allocated to more than **11.000 rural households** on individual basis
- 2002:** issuance of red-book titles for all the 11.000 households (with names of husband & wife); assessment and lessons learnt from implementation process, first version of **guidelines** on “Participatory Land Use Planning and Forest Land Allocation” (PLUP-FLA)





Achievements of the Predecessor “IFSP” (1996-2002) – as Basis for SMNR-CV

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2001: **Video Clip** link to ►► Clip Forestry

2002:

Participatory Land Use Planning



Issuance of Red Books





Lessons Leant from FLA in IFSP

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- The process was too fast → unclear demarcation in the field → forest owners did not know exactly the boundaries of their allocated plots → no investment in forest management
- In April 2004, SMNR-CV project conducted assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the IFSP, leading to a revised approach which more clearly emphasizes the **quality of the process** rather than the quantity of outputs.





SMNR-CV Project Strategy

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- Resolution of ongoing land conflicts (49)
- Development of “Forest Protection and Development Regulations” (FPDR) after FLA
- Combination of social and economic concerns of forest owners through the approach “Community-based Forest Management” (CBFM)
- Introduction of group model for FLA; issuance of red books to forest user groups
- Re-vitalize the support for small tree nurseries (indigenous species) – to promote sustainable forest management





Lessons Learnt on FLA from SMNR-CV

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- Provincial Workshops on solutions for participatory LUP-FLA
- Well-prepared trainings on PLUP-FLA method ensure good field implementation
- Cooperation among district departments to be close and comprehensive
- Monitoring and supervision of the FLA implementation
- Allocate areas of natural forests located far from residential areas to forest user groups / village community
- Assist local people to develop village FPDRs after FLA
- Develop and organize the implementation of a benefit-sharing mechanism
- Support people in developing / implementing CBFM plans





Recommendations

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- **Combine** the activities of FLA with forest management
- Strengthen close **cooperation** between DONRE and DARD to integrate FLA and forest management
- **Participatory** inventory of forest resources to be done in “tandem” of qualified consultant agent with local population
- Elaborate a **benefit mechanism** for each area and region
- **Institutionalize** the guidelines on PLUP-FLA for **roll-out** of application in the whole province
- Support the local people after completing PLUP-FLA , enabling investments and strengthen **sustainable Community-based Forest Management** (CBFM)





Current Issues and Concerns gtz

MONRE Pilot Program vs. Circular 38

- Only marginal participation of local people in the FLA procedures, resulting in limited understanding of rights and obligations. *Tendency of converting degraded natural forests into Acacia monocultures would result in a withdrawal of the land use certificate*
- No assessment of forest quality conducted (as stipulated in Circular 38), procedures for benefit sharing remain unclear
- No field demarcation of allocated plots, misleading forest owners & outsiders alike about ownership, resulting in lack of long-term investments
- Large-scale conversion of natural forests into acacia monoculture plantations leads to unpredictable impacts for the agricultural sector.





Implications of Circular 38 in Quang Binh **gtz**

- 1. Review areas of forest land allocated, not yet allocated, or cut and shifted to locality from SFEs**
- 2. Withdraw allocated forest areas in which forest management is not effective or no forest development carried out**
- 3. Roll-out implementation of new provincial Guidelines on participatory Forest Protection and Development Regulations (FPDR).**
- 4. Allocate forest plots to individual households, forest user groups and communities, based on demand**
- 5. Besides using own public budget, province to call for further financial support from donor community**





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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Download
PLUP-FLA Manual
from:
GTZ MNR-Library

