

Forest & Landscape Denmark (FLD)

Development and Environment Programme

Forest & Landscape Denmark is an independent centre at the University of Copenhagen (UC).

The Centre undertakes research, education, extension and consultancy services in the area of forest, landscape and planning.

Forest & Landscape has some 300 employees and an annual budget of about 20 million Euro. The Centre has seven locations throughout Denmark

The Centre was established on 1 January 2004 through a merger of the Danish Forest and Landscape Research Institute, the Danish Forestry College, the Danida Forest Seed Centre and parts of the Department of Economics and Natural Resources of the former KVL. The four institutions merged in order to strengthen the professional environment and to create a unit with strong international capacities and experiences that are relevant to the development and environment programme.

The mission of our development and environment programme is to contribute to the increased welfare of present and coming generations, with particular emphasis on poor people, through improved rural and urban planning, and sustainable management and utilisation of trees, forests, landscapes and other natural resources. In our development and environment programme we engage in technical fields and policy issues, where we have strong capacities.

Our focal areas are:

Governance- and policy processes

Successful management of natural resources depends on how governance- and policy processes are organised and on rules and legislation at various levels. This area is concerned with the organisational management of natural resources (primarily trees and forests) and formulation of legislation and policies under specific political settings with the overall objective of maintaining and improving the livelihood of forest dependent households. Particular focal areas are; decentralisation, good governance, policy processes and their implementation.

Improved livelihood

A majority of households in developing countries rely fully or partly on trees, forests and forest products for their livelihood. There are no indications that this will change shortly. Documenting and understanding the economic value of trees, forests and forest products to rural households is essential for identifying and designing appropriate development interventions. *Forest & Landscape Denmark* aims at increasing our understanding of economic constraints and opportunities at the household level and their relation to natural resource use and management

decisions. Particular attention is paid to valuation, non-timber forest products and community-based management systems.

Forest genetic resources

Domestication and breeding can provide significant benefits to rural livelihoods through development of high productive and environmentally adapted tree and crop varieties. Wise use and conservation of forest genetic resources support sustainable economic and environmental development. *Forest & Landscape Denmark* has a long experience in use and conservation of forest genetic resources in developing countries e.g. through former Danida Forest Seed Centre. The area is in a phase of transition where new models, approaches and methodologies are required. Focus is on presently under-utilised species, including fruit tree species, and further investigation and testing of seed distribution and production programmes matching local conditions and institutional set-ups.

National monitoring

FLD is also responsible for the national monitoring of forests and forest statistics in Denmark, develop and maintain the Danish Arboretums and national, long-term forest and environment trials.

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What the FLD generally does:

Within the fields of forest, landscape and planning *Forest & Landscape* carries out:

- Education and training
- Development and environmental assistance
- Monitoring
- Consultancy services and extension
- Ministerial services
- Research and development

Some examples on core competences are:

Capacity building

Our capacity building activities aim at building capacities at our partner institutions in (i) education and training, (ii) research and (iii) integration of research results into policy and implementation (research into practise). Our

capacity building is in the form of specific capacity building projects, e.g. the Enhancing Research Capacity (ENRECA) projects of which FLD is currently involved in three projects in Bolivia, Nepal and Tanzania, and well as an integral part of other projects, e.g. research projects. The FLD programme currently encompasses students; many from developing countries.

Information dissemination

We want to make the results of our activities known and available to users. For this reason, we emphasise “research into practise” under our capacity building activities together with a well-functioning information dissemination function from our programme. FLD has five publication series within the development and environment programme: Development and Environment, Working Papers, Seed leaflets, Development Briefs and the FLD Newsletter. All publications are available free of charge from our website or – for most of them – in hardcopy on request.

Research

The focus is on applied research. In collaboration with our partners, we develop and disseminate new knowledge, methods and guidelines. The research is currently focused within our core areas of expertise, see description below

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