

Forestry Policy Development in Cambodia

Centre for Forest Landscape

Support to Forestry Administration for NFP Development

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Contents

- Forest policy development in Cambodia:
 - Strengths
 - Short Comings
- International Forest Policy Dialogues:
 - IPF/IFF Proposal for Actions
 - UNFF initiatives
 - ASEAN initiatives
 - FAO and other regional, international initiatives
- Conclusions and recommendations

Forest Policy Development (1)

- There was a wide range of forest policy development since AD 639;
- Policy concept varies in different regimes;
- In 1993 the RGC started activities in formulation of the forest policy;
- In 1995 Forest Policy Assessment was conducted jointly by WB-FAO-UNDP;
- The outcome was reported to the COM

Forest Policy Development (2)

- Steering Committee (SC) on Forest Policy Reform and its Secretariat were established in July 1996;
- In 1996, the RGC adopted the policy on export band of round log and rough sawn timber;
- In 1997-98, the SC contracted the international consulting firms to further study in detail on:
 - Forest Policy Reform
 - Forest Concession Management
 - Logging Control and Log Verification
 - Legal Counsel Assignment

Forest Policy Development (3)

- National Forest Policy Guideline (NFPG) was drafted in 1998 with support from FAO-UNDP. Four different deliberations at different levels were conducted but no adoption from RGC;
- ADB SFM Project, 1999-2000 continued support SNACOMFOP;
- In collaboration with CGFP-GTZ, the National Forest Policy Statement (NFPS) was adopted in 2002;

Forest Policy Development (4)

- Five million US\$ loan from WB supported to FA (2000-2005) on strengthening institutional capacity in Forest Concession Management;
- Independent Forest Sector Review, 2004;
- ITTO Diagnostic Study, October 2004 was conducted with three main objectives;
- The TWG-F&E was established in Nov 2004;

Forest Policy Development (5)

■ Strengths

- Firm commitment from the RGC on forest policy reform
- Statement of the National Forest Sector Policy
- The RGC's Rectangular Strategy
- The National Strategic Development Plan, 2006-2010
- TWG on Forest and Environment (TWG-F&E)

Forest Policy Development (6)

■ Short comings:

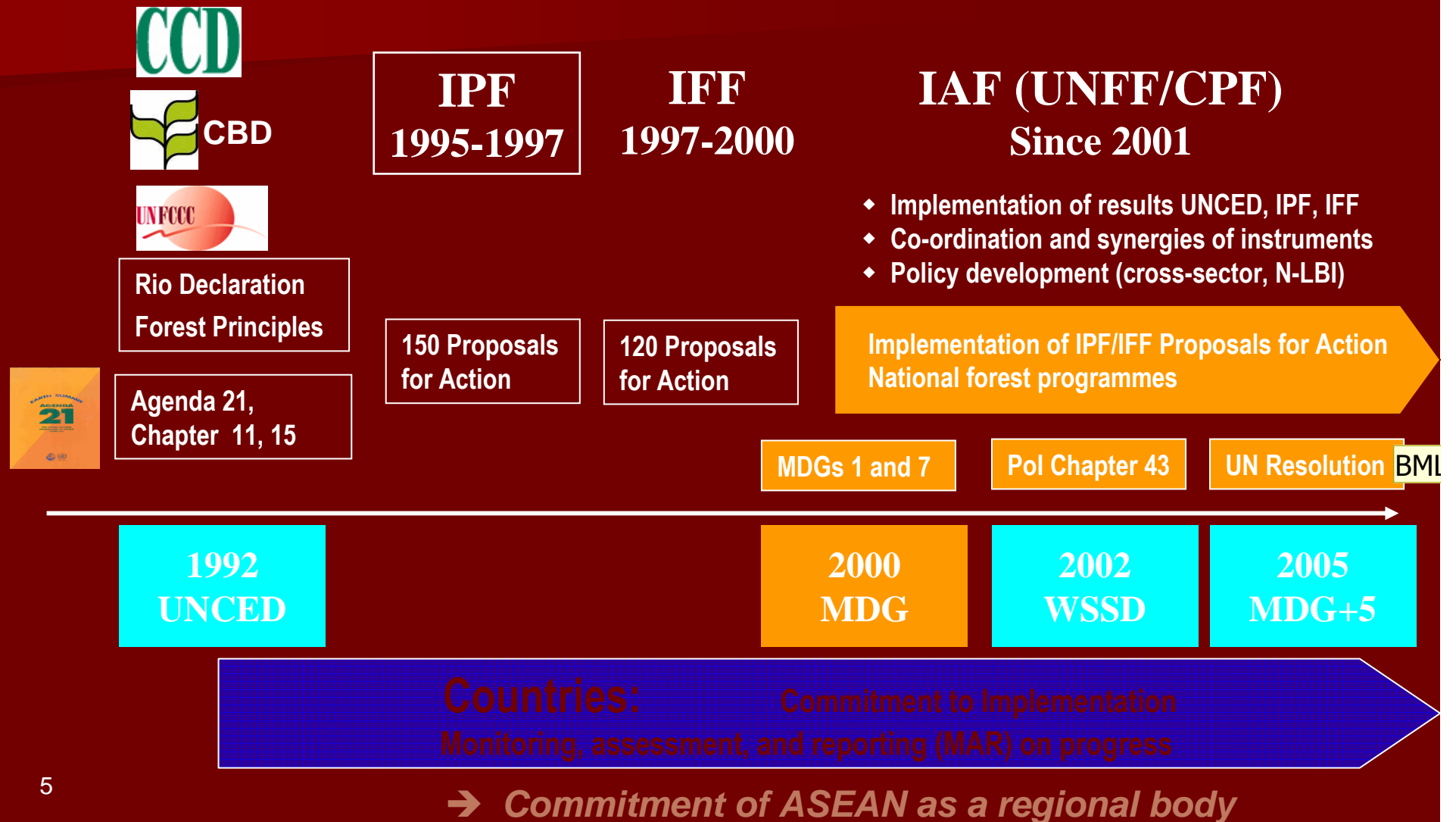
- Limited fund for implementation of NFP
- Staff's knowledge and experience in development and implementation of NFP is limited
- Reluctant of participation and genuine support
- Poor forestry planning at both central and local levels
- Lesser support from Donor agencies

International Forest Policy Dialogues (1)

- UNCED 1992, the forest principles was declared, agenda 21 chapter 11 and 15;
- IPF 1995-1997, 150 Proposals for Action were adopted;
- IFF 1997-2000, 120 Proposals for Action were adopted;
- Since 2001, the UNCED, IPF/IFF PfA, IAF (UNFF/CPF) have been committed to implement by countries and organizations.

Background

The International Forest Policy Dialogue - From UNCED to IAF -



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BML1

The MDG+5 UN Resolution reaffirms commitment to achievement of SD. Commitment of countries to adopt, by 2006, and implement comprehensive national development strategies to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals (para 22);

Chapter Sustainable development: managing and protecting our common environment (para 48-56): Reference to Agenda 21, Rio Principles, MDGs, WSSD PoI. Enhanced implementation of UNFCCC and CCD are mentioned as of key importance. Para 56(j) on forests refers to objectives of IAF, the role of forests in achieving the MDGs, and points at UNFF-6.

Furthermore: Cooperation and coordination with regional and subregional organisations.

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International Forest Policy Dialogues (2)

- UNFF initiatives: at the first session 2001, Plan of Action was developed to guide the implementation of the IPF/IFF PfA;
- UNFF invited countries to proceed with assessment, prioritization, and implementation of IPF/IFF PfA in the context of their national priorities;
- UNFF further invited countries, regions, and organizations to voluntarily report on their implementation of the IPF/IFF PfA including achievements and identification of gaps and obstacles.

International Forest Policy Dialogues (3)

- In its sixth session 2006, UNFF reiterated its commitment to IPF/IFF PfA and urged countries to make concerted efforts to develop and implement NFP and report progress of work;
- Cambodia has attended and reported to the UNFF sessions since the first meeting in 2001;
- To comply with the recommendation of the UNFF Cambodia under the framework of TWG-F&E has started NFP, sector review, sector-wide planning and monitoring processes.

International Forest Policy Dialogues (4)

- ASEAN initiatives for implementation of the international forest policy processes have been activated;
- ASEAN Senior Official on Forestry is a forestry mechanism to discuss forestry programs and priorities, monitor and evaluate implementation of regional forest policy;
- ASEAN community committed to implement the IPF/IFF PfA, resolutions, and decisions of UNFF;
- ASEAN acknowledges NFP as the agreed framework for SFM;

International Forest Policy Dialogues (5)

- At UNFF-4 ASEAN was officially accredited as an intergovernmental organization to the forum;
- Joint ASEAN Statements were presented at the UNFF-5 and UNFF-6 on progress of IPF/IFF PfA implementation;
- Despite progress being made, experience with IPF/IFF PfA and NFP process is still limited;
- ASEAN Ad-hoc Expert Working Group on International Forest Policy Process was established in 2004;

International Forest Policy Dialogues (6)

- ASEAN work plan on forest policy process has been elaborated, endorsed by ASOF;
- Guideline for the implementation of IPF/IFF PfA and the MAR format for SFM in ASEAN based on ASEAN C&I 2006 are being developed and tested in Cambodia;
- Peer Consultation Review is being applied;

International Forest Policy Dialogues (7)

- FAO and Other International Regional Initiatives;
- FAO-Medium term priority framework 2006-2010:
 - Support FA to prepare and implement NFP
 - Improve livelihood and household participation in CF
 - Support research on NTFP processing technology
 - Support to forest reform with regard to enhancing local FA infrastructure
- A national steering committee is established under the auspices of CARD;
- NFP Facility has been approved by the steering committee. Follow up process of partnership is ongoing;

International Forest Policy Dialogues (8)

- Cambodia and international conventions (1):
 - International Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) 1994;
 - RAMSAR Convention on wetlands, 1999;
 - Convention on International Trade in Endanger Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, (CITES) 1997;
 - Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) 1996;
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1995;
 - International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution by dumping of waste and other matter (MARPOL) 1994;

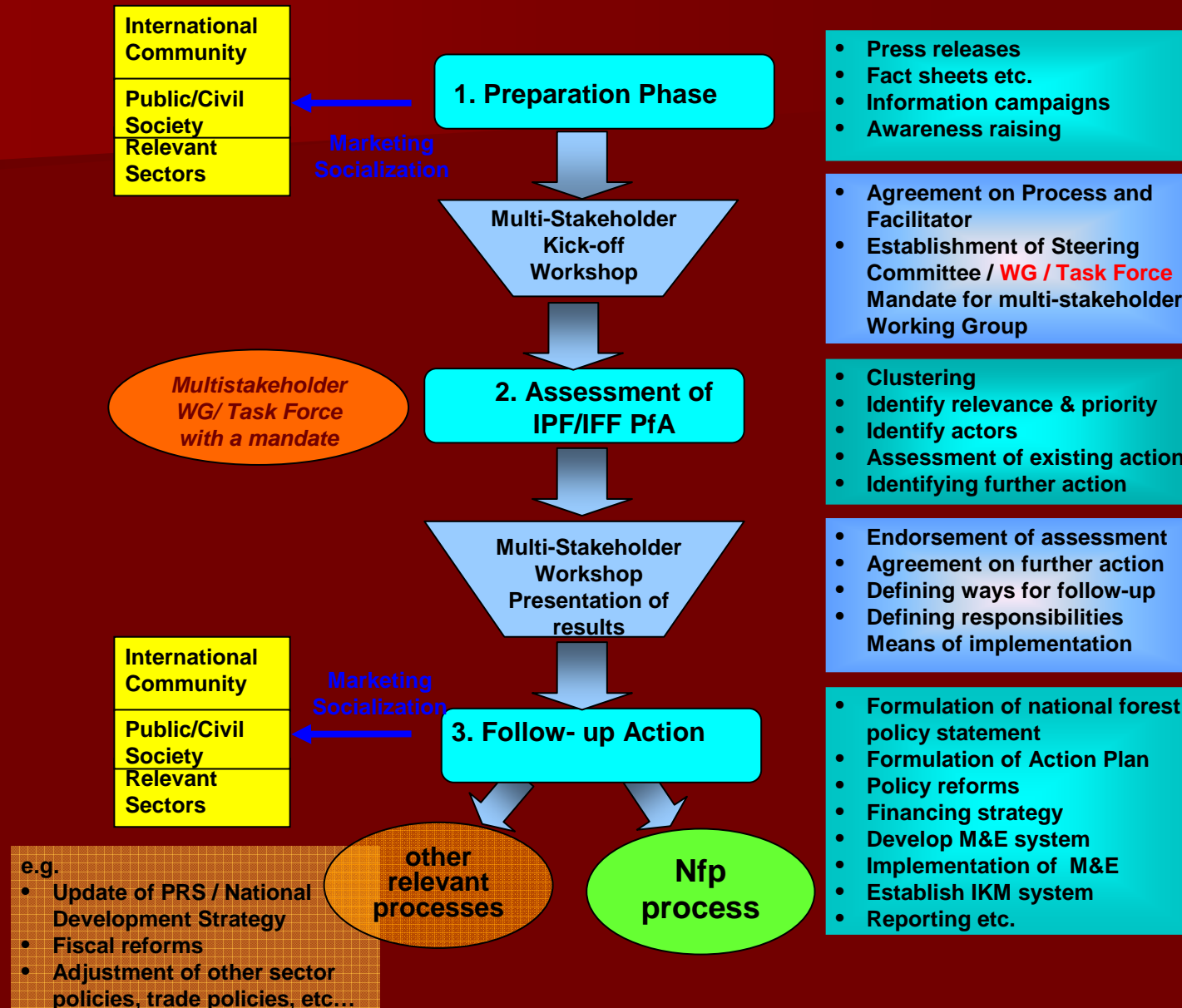
International Forest Policy Dialogues (9)

- Cambodia and international conventions (2):
 - Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1992;
 - Agreement on the cooperation for the sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin (MRC) 1995;
 - Member of the WTO, 2004;
 - International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1995;

Steps in Implementation of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action

- Preparation Phase
 - Awareness raising
 - Agreement on process
 - Establishment of Steering Committee/Task Force
 - Mandate for multi-stakeholder working group
- Assessment of IPF/IFF PfA
 - Identify relevance and priority
 - Identify actors and responsibilities
 - Assess existing actions
- Follow-up Action
 - Formulation of NFP Statement
 - Formulation of Action Plan
 - Identify Financing Strategy
 - Develop MAR system

Steps in the Implementation of the IPF/IFF PfA



Conclusions (1)

- Cambodia has integrated her forest management policy into regional and global development trend;
- Cambodia has attended and reported to the UNFF sessions since 2001;
- The IPF/IFF PfA has been considered to be applied in Cambodia;
- With commitment of the RGC, the Centre for Forest Landscape and Planning of Denmark has started its support to develop a coherent forest resource planning through development of a NFP;
- FAO NFP Facility has been approved and supported;

Conclusions (2)

- TWG-F&E has developed a work plan for follow up actions to ensure harmonization and alignment of government policy;
- Cambodia has now a window of opportunity to develop its forest management into a modernized coherent and effective participatory based system;
- NFP is now at initial stage of development;
- NFP statement, Program and Sub-program are entering into phase of preparation;

Conclusions (3)

- National long-term forest management planning including investment program and policy guidelines has not been formulated;
- These shortcomings have emerged due to limited capacity of the government officials and fund to develop and run the programs;

Recommendations (1)

- In order to enhance and strengthen government commitment, technical assistance and funding should be channeled through TWG-F&E;
- Government ownership of the program should be maintained to ensure iterative process of NFP implementation;
- The main national forest programs, sub-programs and statements including a national forest action plan should be formulated based on priorities of the government and stakeholders;

Recommendations (2)

- Consultative processes at national, provincial, and local levels should be assured in each implementation;
- Monitoring and Evaluation system should be developed to monitor progress;
- Findings and recommendations from previous studies should be considered for NFP development processes;
- Procedure for participation, facilitation processes need to be defined;
- NFP Task Force need to be established.

Thank you

