

RNRRS PROJECT COMPLETION SUMMARY SHEET

TITLE OF PROJECT:	DATE Sheet Completed: 21 November 1997 A practical manual of 'Toolkit' for forest concessionaires on the implementation of International Forestry Standards.
DFID Project Reference Number:	R6370CB
RNRRS PROGRAMME:	Forestry and Agroforestry Research Strategy Programme
PROGRAMME MANAGER (INSTITUTION):	SGS Forestry
SUB-CONTRACTOR (if relevant):	International Institute for Environment and Development
RNRRS PROGRAMME PURPOSE:	Models of policy, legislation and incentive schemes to sustain forest resources developed and valued; tropical moist forests sustainably managed.
RNRRS PRODUCTION SYSTEM:	Tropical moist forests
COMMODITY BASE:	Timber (non-timber forest products, forest services)
BENEFICIARIES:	Global community, timber importers, timber companies, forest dwellers, communities whose environment is affected through logging.
TARGET INSTITUTIONS:	Forest concessionaires, government forestry departments.
GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS:	Tropical forest countries.
START DATE:	Planned September 1995 Actual September 1995
FINISH DATE:	August 1997 August 1997
TOTAL COST:	£189,051

1. Project Purpose:

A practical manual will be developed for forest managers to assist them with the implementation of sustainable forestry practices within their forest enterprise, based on appropriate international standards. The manual will identify and discuss the many international initiatives relating to good forest stewardship. It will summarise the main areas these initiatives address and then discuss how these can actually be implemented at the forest management unit level. The manual will provide a 'step-by-step' guide for forest managers to allow them to generate their own 'internal standards' based on external standards and covering the areas of sustained yield, conservation of biological diversity, social and economic impacts and the wider framework in which the forest management unit is located. Specific guidelines on how to consult with local communities and become agents for participatory approaches to forest resource utilisation will be included based on research done in collaboration with IIED as part of the project. The economic implications will be analysed and discussed throughout the manual.

2. Outputs:

The project has produced two output reports to fulfil the above purpose.

1. The Sustainable Forestry Handbook: a practical guide for tropical forest managers on implementing new standards.
2. Sustainable Forest management: allocation of resources and responsibilities.

The Sustainable Forestry Handbook provides a ground-breaking, step-by-step explanation of the practical implementation of international forestry standards. It is composed of five parts and five appendices:

Part 1: *Background*

This part describes the background to the many international initiatives for sustainable forest management and discusses briefly the objectives of each.

Part 2: *What do the standards require?*

This part looks in detail at the requirements of the Forest Stewardship Council's Principals and Criteria and the ITTO's guidelines for natural forest, planted forest and management of biodiversity within production forest.

Part 3: *Meeting the requirements:*

Part 3 describes how the requirements described in part 2 might be met, arranged around the concept of the environmental management system.

Part 4: *Tackling Social Issues*

Part 4 takes a closer look at important social issues involved in forest management, to assist the forest management team in dealing with an often unfamiliar subject.

Part 5: *Forest Management Certification*

This part discusses why an organisation might wish to achieve independent certification and describes the processes involved.

Appendices: The appendices provide further information on the standards; some technical examples; relevant international conventions, useful contacts; and some basic scientific descriptions.

Sustainable Forest Management: allocation of resources and responsibilities provides an in-depth analysis of allocation policies conducive to sustainable forest management covering:

- forest tenure systems;
- methods of allocating public forest land;
- features of management agreements;
- financial terms of access to forest lands;
- policies for sustainable forestry - conclusions;
- six case studies.

3. Contribution of Outputs to Project Goal:

The outputs of the project have been largely completed. The Sustainable Forestry Handbook provides a practical manual for forest managers, based on appropriate international standards. It discusses how to implement them at the forest management unit level. It provides the sort of 'step-by-step' guide originally envisaged and covers all the areas expected. Specific guidelines are provided on consultation with local communities.

The economic implications of sustainable forest management from a government perspective are discussed in the separate report on 'Allocation of resources and responsibilities'.

The only area not fully covered by the outputs, which had been envisaged, is the economic implication of implementation of forestry standards at the forest management unit level. During fieldwork, discussions and workshops for production of the Sustainable Forestry Handbook, it was found that sufficient data to make generalisations about economic implications was not available. Not only does data covering the implementation of new standards, depending on availability of skilled personnel, equipment and existence of research data and methods.

4. Publications:

None

5. Internal Reports:

1. The Sustainable Forestry Handbook: a practical guide for tropical forest managers on implementing new standards.
2. Sustainable Forest Management: allocation of resources and responsibilities.
3. Sustainable Forest Management: a practical guide (1st draft of handbook disseminated for consultation and review).

6. Other Dissemination of Results:

1. Attendance and progress report given at workshops organised by CIFOR on testing criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management in Brazil 12-30 December, 1995 and Costa Rica, 27 February - 4 March 1996.
2. Attendance at BVC-UPM Conference on forest Certification, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 12-16 May 1996.
3. Workshops held in Costa Rica, Belgium, Zimbabwe and United States during 1997 to discuss development of the handbook with forest managers, certification bodies and researchers.
4. Discussions and field visits with forestry industry and other stakeholders in Guyana, June 1996.

7. Follow-up indicated/planned:

the Sustainable Forestry Handbook should be as widely disseminated as possible in order to fulfil its purpose. Subject to discussions with the FRP, the Handbook will be submitted for publication (earthscan have expressed an interest). The Handbook could also be disseminated via the internet if appropriate.

The study of concession allocation policy should be disseminated to government bodies which express an interest and might be suitable for inclusion on the internet.

8. Name and signature of author of this report

Sophie Higman, Principal Researcher, SGS Forestry

Hugh Speechly, Technical Director, SGS Forestry