



The European Union's programme on Tropical Forests and other Forests in Developing Countries

Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw milling through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana

Report on the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Chainsaw Lumbering in Guyana, Meeting 1

held at Annai Benab, Annai Village Region 9, February 17, 2010

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**Report on the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Chainsaw Milling in
Guyana, Meeting 1**

held at Annai Benab, Annai Village Region 9, February 17, 2010

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The content of this publication is the sole responsibility of the authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

Acronyms

AVC	Annai Village Council
CFA	Community Forestry Advisor
CFW	Community Forestry Worker
CM	Chainsaw Milling
CMP	Chainsaw Milling Project
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FPA	Forest Products Association of Guyana
FPDMC	Forest Products Development and Marketing Council
FTCI	Forestry Training Centre Incorporated
GFC	Guyana Forestry Commission
GGMC	Guyana Geology & Mines Commission
ISLA	Ituni Small Loggers Association
KVC	Kwatamang Village Council
LCDS	Low Carbon Development Strategy
MOAA	Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
NRDDB	North Rupununi District Development Board
RVC	Rupertee Village Council
SI	Strategic Issue
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
UBFPA	Upper Berbice Forest Producers Association

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2 Introduction

This report seeks to give an account of the **first multi-stakeholder dialogue meeting on chainsaw milling in Guyana facilitated by the Chainsaw Milling Project**. The meeting was held at the Annai Benab, Annai Village, Region 9 on February 17, 2010 and followed by a practical demonstration exercise on different technologies and techniques for converting logs into lumber on February 18, 2010 at Bina Hill Institute, Annai District, Region 9.

The report is structured in the following manner:

1. Introduction
2. Background to the Project and the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
3. Proceedings of the MSD Meeting
4. Conclusions
5. Annexes
 - Annex 1. Agenda
 - Annex 2. List of participants
 - Annex 3. Participants' evaluation of the meeting
 - Annex 4: Photographs of the meeting

3 Background

3.1 The Chainsaw Milling Project

Chainsaw lumbering refers to on-site conversion of logs into lumber using chainsaws. This practice offers livelihood opportunities to many people in both rural and urban areas in Ghana and Guyana. One advantage of chainsaw lumbering is that it pairs low capital requirements with high labour input making it relatively easy for small scale operatives in rural areas to produce timber. Chainsaw lumbering affords jobs to people in rural areas and in addition, the price of chainsaw lumber is generally within the means of poorer sections of the population.

The EU funded Chainsaw Milling Project '*Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw lumbering through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana*' focuses on the broad theme of **forest governance** in **Ghana** and **Guyana** which are countries with high incidence of chainsaw lumbering. In many local communities, chainsaw lumbering is an important component of livelihoods; and there is the opportunity to address issues of conflict and illegality associated with chainsaw lumbering.

Chainsaw lumbering was banned in **Ghana** in 1998, but the practice is widespread despite measures put in place by government to enforce the ban. Several factors have promoted the widespread illegal chainsaw lumbering in Ghana. Some of the key factors are: high demand for chainsaw lumber due to relatively cheap prices, failure of the sawmills to supply 20% of their lumber products to the domestic market as required by law, strong support of some local communities for illegal chainsaw operations and connivance of some law enforcement personnel and Forest Services Division staff with illegal chainsaw operators. The illegal chainsaw activities contribute to forest degradation and conflict with several other stakeholder groups like the government, traditional sawmill owners, conservationists and other owners of trees and forest resources.

In **Guyana**, chainsaw lumbering is permitted and regulated by the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC). However, although the GFC has developed and implemented a number of measures to improve the management of chainsaw milling operations, there is still the opportunity to review the practice to align it

more with national initiatives on reduced impact logging, sustainable rural livelihoods and poverty alleviation.

The overall objectives of the action are:

- to reduce poverty and promote viable livelihoods in forest-dependent communities.
- to reduce the occurrence of illegal logging
- to promote the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests in developing countries

The specific objective is 'Level of conflict and illegality related to chainsaw lumbering by local communities reduced'.

Expected results:

1. Causes and consequences of chainsaw lumbering and its links with illegality understood (National Level).
2. International best practice determined to address chainsaw lumbering (International level).
3. Multi-stakeholder learning platforms established to discuss chainsaw lumbering issues (National level).
4. National consensus achieved in Ghana and Guyana about issues regarding chainsaw lumbering using an institutionalized mechanism for permanent dialogue between stakeholders (National level).
5. Communities dependent on chainsaw lumbering producing timber in a regulated and sustainable way (Local level).

Local partners:

In Ghana: Forestry Commission (FC)
Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)

In Guyana: Forestry Training Centre Incorporated (FTCI)
Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development (Iwokrama)

Target groups:

The project targets stakeholders of chainsaw lumbering in Guyana (and Ghana) and include chainsaw millers, sawmill owners, forest concession holders, the government and the conservation and development communities respectively. Specifically, eleven communities (eight in Ghana and three in Guyana) dependent on chainsaw milling will be targeted. At the international level, forestry decision makers are targeted.

3.2 The Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Platform

Result (3) of the project aims to create a mechanism for stakeholders to interact.

The substantive activities of the stakeholder dialogue platform consist of inventorying the critical issues regarding chainsaw milling, identifying stakeholders' perceptions, assessing the extent to which they differ and proposing acceptable means to bridge these divisions using participatory strategies to collect unbiased, objective and relevant information. This information will assist to determine the costs and benefits of chainsaw milling from the perspectives of each interest. Once agreement can be achieved about the principal problems, strategies to address them will be formulated, including a plan for further action.

Rationale for the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (MSD)

In both countries (Ghana and Guyana) chainsaw lumbering is an important component of livelihoods for local and indigenous communities.

In Guyana, chainsaw lumbering in State forests falls within the purview of the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC) while on Amerindian Lands it is regulated by the relevant Amerindian Village Council, with commercial extractions monitored by the GFC.

According to a report prepared for World Bank in 2006¹, anecdotal evidence suggests that there is not large scale commercial illegal logging in Guyana. However, the report goes on to state that there are reports of small-scale commercial illegal logging which in certain areas may be quite widespread.

Preliminary research findings of this project indicated that there are many troubling issues related to chainsaw lumbering, for example unsustainable forest management practices.

There is the need for an appropriate mechanism for dialogue between the principal stakeholders of chainsaw lumbering to support rural livelihoods where feasible and to ensure the sector responds positively to national objectives for sustainable forest management. Effective and meaningful mechanisms for dialogue between the principal stakeholders will lead to a shared understanding of chainsaw lumbering practices and associated socio-economic issues.

In preparation for the multi-stakeholder dialogue a series of focus group meetings were held with key stakeholders to brief them on the project and the multi-stakeholder dialogue and to initiate discussions on stakeholders issues in relation to chainsaw milling, and their hopes, fears and expectation in relation to the future of chainsaw milling and the dialogue process.

3.3 Objectives of the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue held in Annai, Region 9

The objectives of the multi-stakeholder dialogue held in Annai during on February 17, 2010 were:

1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in the Annai District
2. To engage participants in recommending SMART solutions for chainsaw lumbering issues identified by community stakeholders as key to Annai's sustainable livelihood

The expected outputs of the meeting were:

- An understanding of the issues related to chainsaw lumbering and their impacts on the sub-sector;
- Recommendations in the form of SMART solutions for addressing issues related to chainsaw lumbering;
- Capacity of local operatives built for practical decision making for sustainable forest management; and
- Meeting proceedings report that recommended solutions to stakeholder issues that will contribute to national level discussions on chainsaw milling in Guyana.

Participants

The meeting involved the following participants:

- 1) Representatives from the following stakeholder categories identified in the stakeholder analysis:
 1. Amerindian communities;
 2. Investors/Contractors;
 3. Community Forestry Associations;
 4. Chainsaw crews;
 5. Transportation providers;
 6. Resale and manufacturing establishments;
 7. Consumers;
 8. Regulatory Agencies;

¹ Gary Clarke, *Law compliance and prevention and control of illegal activities in the forest sector in Guyana*. (The World Bank, 2006), p.11.

9. Suppliers of inputs and supplies;
10. Other forest users;
11. Traditional sawmilling industry; and
12. Stakeholders interested in Sustainable Forest Management.

2) Members of the Task Force responsible for guiding the multi-stakeholder dialogue process.

3) The Chainsaw Milling Project staff in Guyana who facilitated the meeting.

Forum Structure

The workshop focused on dialogue between stakeholders on strategic and practical issues identified from focus group meetings and research conducted by the project. The session was divided into 4 main sessions:

- a. Session 1 focused on strategic issues where stakeholders were organized to sit in a circle and were free to make contributions in an open discussion. The objective of this session was to get stakeholders' view on how chainsaw milling fits into the broader framework for sustainable management of forest and other natural resources in Guyana.
- b. Session 2 focused on group work on the practical issues using SWOT and SMART tools for making recommendations on solutions for dealing with issues.
- c. In Session 3 Groups presented in a plenary session their recommendations for dealing with issues.
- d. Evaluation of the day's activities.

Complementing the discussion at the MSD, a practical demonstration day was organized by the project for February at the Bina Hill Institute in Annai with the objective of demonstrating and facilitating hands-on-practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber.

The practical demonstration day was structured as per the following format:

1. Reflection of Day 1 MSD Dialogue
2. Introduction to Day 2 and short presentations on Forest Management (importance of adhering to laws, codes of practices, sustainable use of resources) and Importance of Marketing
3. Practical Demonstrations
 - a. Safety
 - b. Log selection and measurement
 - c. Methods of Sawing
4. Discussions on forest products and marketing and lessons on livelihood options in Annai
5. Final evaluation.

Both days activities strived to achieve maximum participation of all stakeholders in the discussions and demonstration activities.

4 Proceedings of the MSD Meeting

4.1 Call to order/welcome

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 hrs and chaired by Mr. Sydney Allicock, Chairman of the North Rupununi District Development Board, and a respected leader within the Annai District.

Mr. Ovid Williams, Chairman of the MSD Task Force, greeted all participants in the local Amerindian dialect Makushi “**MOR! PE EREPANK!**” (meaning **Welcome**).

A prayer was offered by Mr. Ivor Daniels, Senior Councilor for Annai Central.

4.2 Introduction of Stakeholders

Each stakeholder formally introduced themselves. Mr. Sydney Allicock then urged all stakeholders to participate fully in the discussions since it was of critical importance for their voices to be heard. He said that this was the beginning of a new approach, first by understanding what the **issues** were that affected them socially, economically and environmentally, secondly how **these identified issues were impacting on their daily lives** and thirdly what would you (as a community) have to do, what action must be taken, in order to find a solution to some if not all of these issues.

4.3 Review of MSD & Objectives

Ms. Rohini Kerrett, National Coordinator of the Chainsaw Milling Project in Guyana then provided a brief overview of the Project, the multi-stakeholder dialogue in Annai and its objectives which were identified as follows:

- a. To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in the Annai District;
- b. To engage participants in recommending SMART solutions for chainsaw lumbering issues identified by community stakeholders as key to Annai’s sustainable livelihood; and
- c. To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on-practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber.

4.4 Review of Strategic Issues (arising out of previous consultations)

This session was facilitated by Ms. Rohini Kerrett, Project Coordinator of the Chainsaw Milling Project.

Ms. Kerrett identified three strategic issues that emerged from prior meetings and research held over the past few years. She noted also that while attention to and work on strategic issues are critical, the failure to simultaneously address the practical needs of all communities can endanger the entire development process.

Ms. Kerrett explained that the use of the word **strategic** meant planning for future use of the forest resources with a specific focus on chainsaw milling. By **practical** we mean the things we need to do to ensure that these plans are being realised. Also of importance is the fact that when practical needs are met, without securing meaningful agreement on strategic issues, interests and needs there is a possibility of eroding or reversing practical gains.

The participants were then asked to consider the following identified strategic issues:

Strategic Issue 1

That forest resources, above and beneath the ground, are critical for (a) community development; (b) regional and national development through logging and mining; and (c) sustainable national development through Sustainable Forest Management.

This issue engendered many questions and comments from the participants:

1. Would sustainable cover good practice?

(a) *Yes it would, so as to ensure that we do not exhaust all forest resources.*

2. What do we really mean when we say sustainable?

(a) *Taking just enough as is needed for survival; respecting and practicing ways of preserving the forest.*

(b) *An analogy was given, for example the question asked in describing sustained yield (much like taking out only the interest from the bank and leaving the capital. It is important to remember that the three (3) pillars of Sustainable Development: Economic, Social and Environmental are to be considered when we talk about sustainability or sustainable.*

(c) *The greater the value we get out of the forest, the greater the value becomes to the people. Therefore if you are harvesting the forest, then the objective must be to have a profitable return since it follows that the person earning more from each log will cut less logs.*

3. Does sustainable national development depend on SFM?

(a) *Yes, since SFM is a major contributor to poverty alleviation. Also forest resources are part of national resources and as such need to be properly managed at a national level.*

4. What about reforestation? This question was deferred for later discussion.

There was general consensus that forest resources are critical for: a) community development; (b) regional and national development; and (c) sustainable national development through Sustainable Forest Management.

Strategic Issue 2

Do you believe that short, medium and long term community, regional and national development initiatives are key to ensuring Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and a successful Low Carbon Development Strategy; and that long-term initiative, especially those with significant international commitments, such as LCDS, if pursued in respectful collaboration with short-term initiatives such as 5 years CMP, can benefit all stakeholders?.

The following views were expressed by a cross-section of stakeholders in response to the above question.

- a. Having SFM can benefit long term initiatives like LCDS.
- b. First we need to define what is meant by short, medium and long term, the usual rule of thumb is that short term refers to 1-5 years, a good example is the CMP which could be considered short-term; medium term refers to 5-15 years and long term beyond 15 years.
- c. This is a good way or method of tracking and measuring development/improvements.
- d. If long term plans are being developed, consideration of and collaboration with already short-term plans is critical for the success of both.

- e. Though it is nice to see to have long term plans, this can't be done at the expense of people going hungry; hence we are trying to achieve balance through the LCDS.
- f. On the other extreme, we cannot exhaust the forest resources because we are hungry. Also finding maximum use of the forest and value for all forest resources example medicinal value is very important.
- g. Through the LCDS, it is more than the standing trees that are important. The fauna is also very important; hence destroying the trees can destroy their habitat causing extinction in some areas. Destruction of the fauna also affects livelihoods as some depend on these species for food. The LCDS therefore, is not meant to create a threat to anyone's livelihood; rather, it is meant to protect all.
- h. Sometimes, it is hard to see things holistically when basic needs are not being met. Thus finding a balance where people are given the opportunity to think in the long run as this only happens when they are satisfied and not hungry is very necessary.
- i. Alternative means of satisfying hunger is very important. In this way, we learn how to help the forest to help us. Guyana is a paradise as it has abundant resources and only few people, so if used efficiently our resources have the potential to make everyone wealthy. Alternative livelihoods include tourism, which is being explored in the Annai reserve. There is the **Harpy Eagle**² in the reserve that is protected. This is an example of being conscious of the value of everything around us.

There was general consensus that short, medium and long term community, regional and national development initiatives are key to ensuring SFM and a successful LCDS; and that long-term initiative, especially those with significant international commitments, such as LCDS, if pursued in respectful collaboration with short-term initiatives such as 5 years CMP, can benefit all stakeholders.

Strategic Issue 3

Do you believe that chainsaw milling is likely to be an ongoing source of individual and community livelihood in the foreseeable future?

There were two opposing views on the future of chainsaw milling:

- a. Chainsaw milling will be an ongoing source of livelihood as there will be increased demand for wood for the purpose of constructing (building) bridges, houses, furniture, etc and these create business opportunities for young people.
- b. Chainsaw milling *may not be sustainable, hence in the long-term it may be done away with.*

These views sparked a very lively debate between the key stakeholders (representatives of the regulatory bodies, the suppliers of milling equipment, and loggers and conservationist present)

- a. Compared with other means of processing logs, chainsaw milling is no worse; recovery needs to be improved though. Chainsaw milling actually contributes to sustainable management as no heavy equipment is used and no roads have to be constructed through the forest, thus impact is less. Also quantity in terms of recovery is just as important as the value we get for what we extract. Technology is available to improve both recovery and value. Value added to the wood

² Harpy eagle - Because of the relative abundance of **Harpy Eagles** in the Kanuku Mountains, this area has been proposed as a site for one of **Guyana's** future National Parks.

sawn is also important. The more value we get from the trees the less needs to be extracted and the more value is placed on the resource by the community.

- b. CM can and will be both profitable and sustainable through improvements in technology, it may become out of control, though, through mismanagement.”
- c. **Courts Guyana Inc.**, a leading hire purchase store, is opening a branch in Lethem offering chainsaws on a hire purchase basis, contributing to easier access to chainsaws. Is this a concern in terms of chainsaw milling becoming unmanageable?
- d. GFC has a code of practice and the Villages work along with the Commission to ensure these are upheld. GFC though, need to enlighten the Villages on new regulations and what they will entail, and give support instead of driving fear. Having regular meetings with the Villages.
- e. Has there been any consideration to viable livelihood alternatives? Chainsaw milling can only be sustained with other viable options being explored.
- f. There is an avenue for chainsaw milling to be ongoing. It has to be considered whether the activity is being done for secondary uses, e.g. clearing of land for farming or is it being done for commercial purposes. On the basis of commercial use, we have to consider whether there is a demand for wood and indeed there is. When a tree is felled, instead of taking out just the blocks needed, more focus should be placed on finding alternative use for the remaining parts of the tree, e.g. furniture making, crafts, etc., Also, supply creates its own demand, thus storing these products and enlightening people of their uses will encourage them to find uses for them. For Amerindian Villages, the Forest Laws only applies if the logs are being transported outside of the villages; if they are consumed within the Village the law does not apply.
- g. Everyone is not engaged in chainsaw milling in Annai, hence, other areas are being explored e.g. tourism and furniture making.

There was consensus that chainsaw milling is likely to be an ongoing source of individual and community livelihood in the foreseeable future but it must be controlled and managed.

Facilitator’s Notes on reaching consensus on strategic forest related issues

Most of the stakeholders representing the logging communities were not involved in the discussions on strategic issues. It was apparent that this very important group was not involved since for some it was their first time learning about the project, also the terms used was difficult to understand. The kind of negotiations which was occurring during this process was not clear to all. That being said consensus was achieved in to take the key strategic issues to the next dialogue meeting by the showing of hands.

4.5 Continuing the dialogue on key issues under three priority headings: *Governance, Effective Communication and Sustainable Forest Management* identified by the stakeholders

This session was facilitated by Ms. Margo Boyce, Facilitator of the Chainsaw Milling Project.

Ms. Boyce outlined the three thematic areas and the issues identified as 'priority' and 'key' in consultations with the Annai Communities: '**Governance & Policies**', '**Effective Communication**', '**Sustainable Forest Management**'. Participants were told that these issues were being proposed for further dialogue by the Annai MSD for the specific purpose of recommending **SMART solutions**.

Participants were then placed into three groups and color coded cards, (green, purple, gold) were distributed through numerical assignment beginning with the first person on the left of the circle. The participants issued with the **Gold** cards were placed in group examining **Governance & Policies, which was facilitated by Margo Boyce**, The '**Purple**' cards were assigned to **Effective Communication was facilitated by Bonita Harris** and the **Green** cards to **Sustainable Forest Management, facilitated by Rohini Kerrett**.

The group work was organized in two segments:

- a. in the first segment participants reviewed issues that emerged from the focus group meeting in Annai and research under the thematic areas and agreed on the main issues under these thematic areas. The issues were then presented at a plenary session 1 by a nominated representative of the group.
- b. in the second segment participants went back to their assigned groups and worked on proposed solutions to one of the issues they raised in segment one using SWOC (strength, weaknesses, opportunities and constraints and SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic/relevant and time bound) as tools to come up with sound solutions. The proposed recommendations were then presented at the plenary by a representative(s) of the groups.

4.6 Submissions by Groups at the Plenary 1

GREEN Group: Sustainable Forest Management

Issue 1: Threat to forest stocks and forest depletion in some areas

In Annai the main threat to forest stocks is the burning of forests for agricultural purposes. There is sometimes the problem of controlling forest fires.

Proposed solutions:

- Education and awareness programs in schools
- Rules for fire prevention by the Village Council
- Farming in the savannahs can perhaps reduce deforestation
- Practice of Agro-forestry (farming in the forest)
- Tree planting exercises in some areas: identification of trees that can grow in highland and wetlands.

Issue 2: Sustainable Forest Management and Viable Liabile Options

General solutions:

1. Revisit land use plan for Region 9;
2. Skills training exchange between communities;
3. Farming both crops and livestock to increase livelihood options;

4. Capital investment and training to facilitate adding value to timber (dressing lumber and other value added products); and
5. Utilization of waste or third grade timber for downstream processing.

Discussion:

- a. Savannah burning is a traditional practice that brings benefits. Controlling fire is an issue that needs to be worked out by the people of Annai.

Issue 3: No long-term chainsaw milling plan

The Group recognized that there was no long term plan for chainsaw milling at the community level and at the national level. However, the group recognized the importance of such a plan.

MYFMI does have draft management plan for the area they are working which needs to be updated: the plan has basic information on species, maps, inventory, etc.

There is need to learn more about new available technologies (e.g. using the GPS for inventory, filing of chains to improve recovery). Partnerships already exists that can be fostered e.g. SFI and Iwokrama.

There is wood wastage (wastage of resources)

- Companies cut to order.
- How do we get more recovery rate? People need to be trained in maximum utilization of the logs. The ideal situation would be to cut random lengths, store by-products for whenever a market arise, and utilize waste. However, focus must be placed on recovery for VALUE rather than volume: there is need good equipment, well trained people in timber grading in eg. timber grading, cutting for grade, development of markets that reward quality, felling techniques, and inventories..
- Development of markets and partnerships with Iwokrama, Farfan and Mendes, etc.
- Sustainability: GFC Quota system - MYFMI cut below half of the cutting GFC limits per hectare, more training is needed on the GFC Code of Practice.
- Elements of Plan: changing perspectives of policy makers:
 - Chainsaw milling has less impact on forest resources;
 - Other viable livelihoods must be considered. Annai District is involved in tourism,(bird watching- harpy eagle and cock of the rock)
- Alternative viable livelihoods cannot focus on timber alone.
- Financing mechanism: 10% of the revenue will go to village council and reservation which is expected to benefit training of community member

Issue 4: LCDS means no more concessions, no more chainsaw milling operations

- GFC informed the community that mining and logging (chainsaw milling will continue).
- There is need for clarification on what exactly will be the regulations but with the understanding that chainsaw milling will continue with structured regulations.

Discussion:

- a. Team work is necessary in developing a long-term plan for chainsaw milling
- b. What is the cost of inventory? Based on costing from a private company inventory can work out less than G\$1 per board foot with a new way being implemented.

PURPLE Group: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Issue 1: NON CONSULTATION ON CHANGES IN FORESTRY RULES

The group decided that communication should be two-fold with both GFC and stakeholders taking on responsibilities. The following responsibilities were identified by the group:

Responsibility of the GFC:

- stakeholders felt that GFC did not consult them before and after policy changes. The group recommended that GFC should have more consultations.
- In addition, implementation timelines must be sufficient to allow operators to organize themselves.
- The following means for ongoing communication were recommended:
 - Weekly radio programmes, Handouts, Work-shops, advertisements on when concessions are available.
 - Organizations such as Village Councils, NRDDDB, RDCs, MYFMI, Iwokrama, Women & Youth groups could get involved in sharing of information
 - DDO, CDP, Community Health Workers, Schools, Churches, Police can play a major role
- There needs to be capacity building of community organizations in areas to facilitate communication, occupational Safety and Health (OSH), Code of Practice, and updates on the rules and regulations.
- Training of community rangers by GFC to assist in verification exercises, as time between stump inspection verification exercises were too lengthy causing them to lose money. Community policing group can assist the GFC with stump inspection.
- More Reduced Impact Logging by FTCL which feeds back into fostering occupational health and safety dialogue.

Responsibility of Community Organizations:

- Make members more aware, educate them, perform self monitoring exercises and community monitoring with respect to rules and regulations, policies, health and safety, violations, need Assessment.

- Early Education in raising awareness on forest related policy, legislation, OHS in schools and teachers training institutions.

Discussions:

- a. For more effective communication we need to identify from which level the breakdown comes. For instance, in some cases the breakdown comes at the community level where persons responsible for dissemination of information are not doing so due to them not being of high education level to transmit information, or understand what is being communicated.
- b. There needs to be a formalized or institutionalized mechanism to encourage continuous dialogue.
- c. GFC has recently introduced a monthly open-day to encourage dialogue at forest stations and a 48-hrs response to stump inspection issues.

GOLD Group: GOVERNANCE & POLICIES

Issue 1: Strengthening Community Governance

- Through training and capacity building
 - Leadership/Managers for all Toshao and councilors.
 - Good upstanding citizens
 - Visionaries: Persons must be of good morale character, with integrity, and have vision

Issue 2: Policy on Forest Allocation to Chainsaw Millers

- The laws must be simple (eg. every tree must be tagged), sometimes illustrations are needed to help us understand so that we bridge the culture divide, many loggers as well as others providing service to the industry do not understand the rules or regulations, and it changes sometimes from Officer to Officer.

Issue 3: Licensing of Non-Concession Holders

- Amerindian lands are not controlled by the GFC but tags are issued for accountability purpose. There must be a system in place for the issue of tags to loggers.

Issue 4: Meaningful Consultation before Policy Development

- The Regulatory Officers in the group stated that a structure is already developed and ‘**meaningful consultations**’ exists. The community members disagreed with the Regulatory officers , it was then determined that this is an issue that required further discussions, and there was a need for a clear understanding of what is meant by ‘**meaningful consultations**’ by Regulatory Officials and what are the expectations of a community when they say that there is no “meaningful consultations” by policy makers.

Issue 5: Fair and Equitable Fee Structure

- The stakeholders believe that acreage fees, fines and compounding is unfair and creates more problems for communities that are already impoverished and trying to survive, even though concessions are being given to community logging association, there is no transparency in fines paid and the types of offences called by the Forest Officer, each Officer charges for something different depending on the location but it is mostly the small loggers that bear the brunt of the charges when they could barely afford to make ends meet.

Issue 6: Community’s perception of ‘disrespect’ from forestry officials

There is no perception of ‘disrespect’ in 2008 when we were having problems with Forestry, it took them a long time to have a Forest Officer on site and then when that happened there was

positive movement on the part of the GFC Officials, the Commissioner himself comes and visit us whenever he is in the area, now within our Community we have a Community Forest Worker, from this Chainsaw Project, we have a community development officer from Ministry of Amerindian Affairs and we have a Forest Officer and all these three persons work together in helping us to resolve the problems as they come up.

We must say thank you to the Guyana Forestry Commission, the Officers are not rude and they teach us and provide training but we need more.

Issue 7: Enforcement of rules and consequences

The existing rules are relevant, however, the challenge is family/friends; members not obeying the rules. Enforcement is a challenge because of family and friends relations and consequences are lenient.

4.7 Submissions by Groups at the Plenary 2

Issue	Proposed Solution	SWOC of proposed Solution	SMART solution
GREEN Group: Sustainable Forest Management			
No long-term chainsaw milling plan.	To develop a short-term plan for sustainable forest management for the North Rupununi (within the short-term).	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Communities knowledge of resource management ✓ Equitable distribution of resources ✓ Transparency <p>Weakness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding, financing for inventory purposes ▪ Technical capacity <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ support from NGOs, other regulatory ✓ Harmonious relationship can be established , leads to collaboration between community members <p>Constraints to plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited support to chainsaw milling ▪ Probable conflicts with boundaries associated with boundaries associated with SFP's concessionaires and other stakeholders (miners) ▪ Negative perception of policy makers to chainsaw milling. 	<p>Specific objective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Development of a short-term plan for management of forest areas for the next 5-years by the MYFMI/Aranaputa Loggers Cooperative <p>Measurable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The plan should be developed within six months and implementation should commence by 12 months. ✓ Who will be involved in developing the plan. <p>Achievable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Yes, finances and technical expertise available. To access finances from possible agencies. <p>Realistic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Yes, the community needs a plan to manage their forest resources. <p>Time Bound</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Phased over five years.
Purple Group: Effective Communications			
Effective Communication of regulations and consequences of violations.	Capacity Building of community organizations (MYFM) in areas of communication, OSH, COP, rules & regulations	<p>Strengths:- Concession owners, Chainsaw operators, trained in timber grading, directional felling, diesel and chainsaw mechanics, tractor drivers, business experience, available markets for their lumber.</p> <p>Weakness:- Everyone is not aware of the Code of Practice, OSH guidelines not being followed, lack of discipline (people work when they feel like), difficult access to hardware, lack of adequate financial resources</p> <p>Opportunities: - Radio Station available for broadcasting programs, access to training through the CMP and FTCLand other partner agencies, alternative means of income, LCDS funding.</p> <p>Constraints: – not constraints were identified.</p>	FTCI to conduct a three-day training session with MYFMI on buffering zones, proximity, OSH, camp hygiene, road building, culvert and bridge construction, directional felling between May and June 2010 since this is the rainy season and not a lot of work will be done during this period.

Issue	Proposed Solution	SWOC of proposed Solution	SMART solution
Gold Group: Governance & Policies			
<p>Poor Governance at the local level.</p>	<p>Strengthening of Community Governance</p>	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Established Village Council ▪ Natural & human resources ▪ Legal framework – ▪ Amerindian Act of 2006, ▪ the Forest Act, the Mining Act. ▪ Previous capacity building workshops, training and seminars <p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inexperienced Leaders (with limited leadership and management skills) <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to and availability of training ▪ Access to funding <p>Constraints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited markets and marketing of forest produce and goods ▪ Factions within the Village Council and Community (Nepotism) 	<p>Smart: Strengthening the Leadership and quality of governance within each community through a series of training workshops on Leadership and Management.</p> <p>Measurable: This would be reflected in the change of the leadership style, increased community participation in the activities and improved community livelihoods.</p> <p>Achievable: Uptake in training opportunities which is evidenced by learned skills.</p> <p>Realistic/Relevant: Training is seen as relevant to community development Plans.</p> <p>Time-bound: Can be done in 3 months.</p>

It was noted that only one issue was used in the process and participants struggled with understanding the tools of SWOC and SMART solutions. However, with practice the process of planning using SWOC and SMART will become easier.

5 The Way Forward and Closing

Only one example was used in the process. However, with practice the process of planning using SWOC and SMART will become easier.

Stakeholders were asked for their recommendations on the way forward.

1. Follow-up visits by the Team to ensure that SMART solutions are being achieved;
2. Regular visits by the regulatory agencies to share information;
3. Similar sessions to address pertinent issues in the community as there are still many gaps and everyone may not understand everything in one session;
4. Getting everyone involved and ensuring they understand what is happening in the area of chainsaw milling and with more training the community can look forward to a bright future;
5. A learning process. For most this is the first session (and has so caused repetition) and as such the process will take time. Would like to see implementation of what was discussed today;
6. Annai district to get itself in order to truly implement: a good opportunity for the Village Council to get revenue to help in development of the Village. A good opportunity to practice sincerity and good management of the area allocated for timber harvesting. Would like to see the relationship between the GFC and the community improved that will help the community to do the right things without fear. Would like to see the group return in the next 2-5 years to look at the progress.

The Project Coordinator outlined the next steps in relation to the dialogue being regional level meetings in Regions 10, 6 and 2 that will be followed by a national level dialogue.

The facilitator, Ms Boyce, requested all participants do a simple evaluation of the day's the activity by indicating on the flip chart how they felt about the activity: pleased, satisfied, or confused or not happy.

The chairman reminded and encouraged participants to attend the practical demonstrations scheduled for the following day, February 18, 2010 at Bina Hill Institute beginning promptly at 9:00 hrs.

There being no other business the Chairman called the meeting to a close at 17.15 hrs.

Annex 1: Agenda

Chainsaw Milling Project **MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE** Meeting, Annai District

Agenda

Wednesday February 17, Thursday, February 18, 2010

Objectives

1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in the Annai District
2. To engage participants in recommending SMART solutions for chainsaw lumbering issues identified by community stakeholders as key to Annai's sustainable livelihood
3. To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on-practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber

Agenda: DAY 1 (10 am to 5 pm)

- Registration/Snack/Warm-up activity
- Welcome and Prayer
- Introductions: Stakeholders
- Review of the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting Objectives
- Reaching consensus on Strategic and Practical Forest related Issues
- Continuing the Dialogue on key issues under three priority headings: *Governance*, *Effective Communication* and *Sustainable Forest Management* (Small Group Work)

The following issues identified as 'priority' and 'key' in the CMP consultations so far, are being proposed for additional 'dialogue' by the Annai MSD for the purpose of recommending SMART solutions:

- *Governance & Policies*: Strengthening of community governance; policy on forest allocation to chainsaw millers; licensing of non-concession holders; meaningful consultation before policy development; fair & equitable fee structures; community perception of disrespect from forestry officials; enforcement of rules and consequences;
- *Effective Communication*: Non-consultation on changes in forestry rules; effective communication of regulations and consequences of violations; and
- *Sustainable Forest Management*: no long-term chainsaw milling plan; threat to forest stocks and forest depletion in some areas; availability of more lands for chainsaw millers; need to match resources to number of saws allowed; sawmillers' claims of unfair competition by chainsaw millers; LCDS means no more concessions, no more chainsaw milling operations.

- Lunch
- Plenary
- SMART (Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Realistic/Relevant, Time-bound) Solutions to key issues based on SWOC (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Constraints) Analysis. (Small Group Work)
- Ideas for 'the way forward'
- Evaluation

Annex 2: List of Participants

Chainsaw Milling Project, Guyana
 Attendance Register: Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting, Annai District
 Wednesday, February 17, 2010, Annai Benab, Region 9

	Name	Occupation	Organization	Village	Contact Information
1	Alvis John	Farmer		Annai	
2	Constancia Sutherland	Councillor	Annai Village Council	Annai	
3	Evor Daniels	Senior Councillor	Annai Village Council	Annai	
4	Eleanor Joel	Seamstress	Women Sewing Group	Annai	
5	Dante				
6	Davelan Joel	Student	Annai Primary	Annai	
7	Robert Augustine	Logger		Renga	
8	Walter Jarvis	Chairman Basketmaker	FTCI		
9	Glen Waipaul	Logger	Itunai Small Loggers Assoc.		679713 655-9113
10	Andrew Mendes	Managing Director	Producers Association Andrew Mendes		
11	Vibert Alphenson	Logger		Annai	
12	Raydon Hamilton	Logger		Parvian	
13	Orla Cabral	Logger		Surama	
14	Ricardo Cabral	Logger		Surama	
15	Deimans Kunkong	Logger		Annai	

Chainsaw Milling Project, Guyana

Attendance Register: Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting, Annai District
 Wednesday, February 17, 2010, Annai Benab, Region 9

	Name	Occupation	Organization	Village	Contact Information
16	Reynoldson Edwards Oselmo	Logger		Kwatamang	
17	Osmet Cambridge	Farmer/Logger		Kwatamang	
18	Kerrick Elliot	Senior counsellor	Rupertee Village Council	Rupertee	
19	Jerome Roberts	Farmer		Rupertee	
20	Derrick Cummings	Executive Director	FPDMC		223-513566 642-3595
21	Laura Singh	Industry & product development officer	FPDMC		223-518566 609-6144
22	Cyril King	Lumber Dealer	Lumber Kings	Lethem	772-2223 702-3606
23	Michael Burnett	Driver		Lethem	686-8128 645-2128
24	Shameza David	Management - Development officer	MoFA		226-5167 672-9195
25	Walcott Cambridge	Councillor	Kwatamang Village Council	Kwatamang	
26	Ovid Peterson	Farmer/Logger		Kwatamang	
27	Delius Cambridge	Miner		Kwatamang	
28	Bertie Hamilton	Chainsaw operator		Aranaputa	
29	Orvan Abraham	Councillor/Chainsaw operator	Aranaputa Village Council	Aranaputa	
30	David Vanlong	Chainsaw operator		Rupertee	

Chainsaw Milling Project, Guyana

Attendance Register: Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting, Annai District
Wednesday, February 17, 2010, Annai Benab, Region 9

	Name	Occupation	Organization	Village	Contact Information
31	Kandila Ramotar	Forester	GFC		227-7271-4 672-4815
32	DVID Williams	Principal Regional Development Officer	MOAA		223-7392 664-4987
33	Kenny David	Forester	GFC		227-7271-4 648-3573
34	Roger Astwood	Environmental Officer	EPA		226-0506 ext 27 657-0482
35	Lloyd Davis	Driver	GFC		227-7271 626-2310
36	Stacy Whyte	Admin Assistant	CMP		227-0724 644-7626
37	Khalawan	Senior Vice-President	FPA		613-8319
38	Kene Beecham-Holder	Craft Business owner	Guyana Arts and Crafts Association		677-621-9303 414-6162 (w)
39	Leroy Welcome	Comm forestry Advisor	CMP		227-0724 678-799
40	Jordan Joseph	Senior Council	Kwatemang Village Council	Kwatemang	
41	Sydney Allcock	Farmer	NRDIB	Surama	
42	Mark Simpson	Logger	Myfmi Inc	Surama	
43	Glendon Allcock	Manager	Myfmi Inc	Surama	glendonallcock@myfmi.com
44	Charles Thom	Logger/President	UBFAPA District	Kwakwani	647-1588
45	Saikie Allcock	Deputy Toshad Tourism (eco-tour)	Annai Village Council	Surama	jacqueline.allcock@ hotmail.com

Chainsaw Milling Project, Guyana

Attendance Register: Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting, Annai District
 Wednesday, February 17, 2010, Annai Benab, Region 9

	Name	Occupation	Organization	Village	Contact Information
46	Linden Duncan	CFW	CMP	Stuni	612-2985 657-8491
47	Chan Bartholomea John	Comm. / farmer	Maspara Village Council	Maspara	
48	Miriam Bartholomea	farmer		Kuatamang	
49	Alfonso Forde	Person Coordinator	NRADB	Aranaputa	
50	Frank Jacobs	CFW	CMP	Surama	frankall@hotnet.com
51	DeRaquel Thomas	DIRECTOR - Resource Mang. + Training PMT	Surama		624 0297 rthomax@wokram.org
52	Emelda Augustine	farmer		Aranaputa	
53	Jermaine Calista	Forest Ranger	GFL	Aranaputa	
54	Ruthwi KENDRETT	PROJECT COORDINATOR	CMP		
55	GODFREY MARSHALL	DIRECTOR	FTCI		
56	Mickey BURNETT	? DRIVER			
57	JOHN CULPENTER	DRIVER	FTCI / CMP		

Annex 3: Participant's Evaluation of the MSD in Annai



22 participants indicated they were pleased with the day's activities.



15 participants indicated they were satisfied or with the day's activity and.



6 participants indicated they were confused or not happy the day's activities.

Annex 4: Photographs of MSD Meeting held at Annai Benab on February 17, 2010



