



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 3

held at Skeldon Estate, GuySuCo, Region 6, August 17, 2010
& Imran Shafeeullah Sawmill, Crabwood Creek, August 18, 2010

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Guyana, Meeting 3**

**held at Skeldon Estate Training Centre, GUYSUCO, Region 6, August 17, 2010
and Imran Shafeeullah Sawmill, August 18, 2010**



(View of Skeldon Estate senior staff quarters as seen from venue of Region 6 CMP MSD meeting)

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Acronyms

CFA	Community Forest Association
CFA, CMP	Community Forest Advisor, Chainsaw Milling Project
CFW	Community Forest Worker
CMP	Chainsaw Milling Project
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FML	Farfan & Mendes Ltd
FPA	Forest Products Association of Guyana
FPDMC	Forest Products Development & Marketing Council
FTCI	Forestry Training Centre Incorporated
GFC	Guyana Forestry Commission
GMA	Guyana Manufacturers' Association
LCDS	Low Carbon Development Strategy
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoAA	Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
MoH	Ministry of Health
RIL	Reduced Impact Logging
RDC	Regional Democratic Council
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SFP	State Forests Permit
TF	Task Force (of the Chainsaw Milling Project)
TSA	Timber Sales Agreement
UBFPA	Upper Berbice Forest Producers Association

1. Introduction

This report seeks to give an account of the **third multi-stakeholder dialogue meeting on chainsaw milling in Guyana facilitated by the Chainsaw Milling Project**. The meeting was held at the Skeldon Estate Training Centre, GuySuCo, on August 17, 2010 and followed by presentations on sustainable forest management and practical demonstrations on different technologies and techniques for converting logs into lumber at Shafeeullah's sawmill in Crabwood Creek on August 18, 2010.

2. Background

2.1 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**, 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 such as 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, practices in the sector need to be reviewed to align it more holistically with national initiatives on reduced impact logging, sustainable rural livelihoods and poverty alleviation.

Overall objectives of the project:

- to reduce poverty and promote viable livelihoods in forest-dependent communities;
- to reduce the occurrence of illegal logging; and
- 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 four in Guyana) dependent on chainsaw milling will be targeted. At the international level, forestry decision makers are targeted.

2.2 The Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Platform

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

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.

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

There is the need for an appropriate mechanism for dialogue among 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 and preparatory meetings were held with key stakeholders to brief them on the project and the multi-stakeholder dialogue and to initiate discussions on stakeholder issues in relation to chainsaw milling, and hopes, fears and expectations in relation to the future of chainsaw milling and the dialogue process.

2.3 Objectives of the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue held in Region 6

Objectives of the multi-stakeholder dialogue meeting held in Region 6 during August 17 and 18, 2010:

1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in Region 6;
2. To provide information to guide the stakeholder decision-making process and to support more sustainable forest practices by chainsaw operators; and
3. To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs to lumber.

Expected outputs of the meeting:

- An understanding of the issues related to chainsaw lumbering and their impacts on the sub-sector;
- Recommendations on 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 with recommended solutions to stakeholder issues that will contribute to national level discussions on chainsaw milling in Guyana.

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;
 9. Suppliers of inputs and supplies;
 10. Other forest users;
 11. Traditional sawmilling industry; and
 12. Other stakeholders interested in Sustainable Forest Management.
- 2) Members of the Task Force (responsible for guiding the multi-stakeholder dialogue process);
- 3) FTCl Safety Officer and Farfan & Mendes milling demonstration crew;
- 4) The Chainsaw Milling Project staff in Guyana (responsible for facilitating the meeting).

Forum Structure

The two-day meeting was organized to facilitate dialogue among and between stakeholders on strategic and practical solutions to issues previously identified through research, focus group and preparatory meetings conducted by project personnel. The first day of the meeting comprised four main sessions:

1. Session 1: Participants engage in a review of issues. Stakeholders were organized to sit in table groups to review issues, get clarifications, raise new issues, select representatives to communicate the group's thinking to the plenary and generally engage in dialogue with fellow stakeholders from other communities and from other locations.
2. Session 2: Group work on beginning to identify solutions to selected issues.
3. Session 3: Presentations by representatives from each 'solutions group' with opportunities for further dialogue.
4. Session 4: 'Next steps' and an evaluation of the day's proceedings.

The second day of the meeting, which complemented the first day's discussions, was also organized into four main sessions:

5. Session 1: Participant feedback and evaluation of the day's activities.
6. Session 2: Presentations of Sustainable Forest Management, Recovery and Marketing Issues
7. Session 3: Safety, Best Practices for improving recovery and getting value, hands-on-practice with different technologies
8. Session 4: Evaluation of day's proceedings

Both days' activities strived to achieve high levels of participation by all participants.



(Participants engaged in an after-lunch energizer on one of the Chainsaw Milling Project's MSD objectives)

3. Proceedings of the MSD Meeting, Day 1, Tuesday August 17, 2010

3.1 Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions of Stakeholders

The meeting was called to order at 9.00 am by the Chairperson, Mr. Khalawan, representative of the Forest Products Association and current chair of the Chainsaw Milling Project Task Force. Participants then stood for a reciting of the National Pledge. This was followed by participant Introductions. Please see Annex 1 for the days' agendas. Annex 3 for Introduction activity, and Annex 4 for list of participants.

To facilitate formal and informal dialogue, participants were seated at six tables arranged in a close semi-circle (bicycle-spoke-like) in six stakeholder groups:

1. Representatives of Region 6 RDC, Orealla & Siparuta Village Councils, and other Regulatory Agencies (GFC, EPA, MoAA)
2. Community Forest Associations (Orealla, Siparuta, Mara, & Upper Berbice FPA)
3. Chainsaw crews, individual SFP holder
4. Lumber dealers, transportation providers, suppliers of inputs, consumers (GuySuCo)
5. Traditional Sawmilling Industry
6. Other Forest Users & SFM Stakeholders (FTCI, Iwokrama)



Forty-two (42) participants were present for the first day and thirty-seven (37) for the second day of the MSD meeting. Two stakeholder representatives were women from the Orealla Farmers' Organization.

3.2 Review of Chainsaw Milling Project MSD & Objectives

After participants viewed an 18-minute documentary on chainsaw milling in Guyana, the CMP Coordinator Ms Rohini Kerrett described the main aspects of the Chainsaw Milling Project and summarized the findings from research and focus group meetings with the aid of a power-point presentation. She examined the reasons why the project was paying attention to and evaluating

chainsaw milling; reviewed the various stakeholder groups and concerns; and noted the importance of planning for the future of chainsaw milling (with the involvement of chainsaw operators) to enable chainsaw millers to increase the benefits they reap from our forests without having to work as hard as they now do. She explained the multi-stakeholder dialogue methodology being employed by the CMP process and the objectives of the MSD process:

- 1) To achieve a shared understanding of chainsaw lumbering practices and associated socio-economic issues;
- 2) To build consensus between and among stakeholders to reduce the level of conflict and illegality related to chainsaw lumbering;
- 3) To address the regulatory frameworks to strengthen good governance in the forestry sector.

3.3 Review of Key Issues (from earlier stages of the stakeholder dialogue)

The six table groups were invited to review and discuss the various issues that surfaced during the focus group and preparatory meetings that had been held with stakeholders. For ease of reference and to facilitate continuation of the dialogue, each list of issues was printed on paper of a different color and enclosed in the folders given to participants. See Annex 2 for “Region 6 Stakeholder Issues and Possible Solutions.”

Each group was asked to report on additions, subtractions and comments arising in their dialogue on the ‘issues’ listed, and to engage in dialogue with representatives of other stakeholder groups.

In the consultations that followed, in the table groups and in the wider assembly, representatives raised/added the following points:

Community Forest Associations: Most buyers want 1” boards, but GFC regulations prevent CFA chainsaw operators from cutting 1” boards; GFC applications process takes too long; preferential treatment for groups with government connections; poor or no maintenance of vital roadways to get lumber from concessions to markets; the absence of an Orealla/Crabwood Creek road link is hampering the industry.

Other Forest Users, Other SFM Stakeholders: Because of the expansion of the chainsaw milling sector, it is important to think about what we are doing, how we look at wood, and treat it.

Traditional Sawmillers: Effective monitoring and systematic inventorying of all forest reserves continues to be an issue; stigmatizing the results of striving for high standards as ‘waste’ and ‘rejects’ is not helpful; not enough awareness of grades and grading rules; continued harvesting of undersized logs; forest being raped not reaped; chainsaw operators damaging roads and non-existence of roads linking concessions in the Corentyne area, and between Corentyne and Kwakwani; chainsaw operators underselling traditional sawmillers; with reference to GFC/EPA role in issuing of licences for moving mobile mills, the FPA made representation to the Minister of Agriculture with responsibility for forestry

and secured agreement but there seem to be differences in interpretation or differences in what was communicated to the GFC Board and to the FPA.

Chainsaw crews, individual SFP holder: Need to address the fact that there are two sets of rules – one for the wider forest and another for Amerindian lands; non-use of safety gear; chainsaw operators need to see benefits of working with village councils; two-year tenure period not sufficient incentive for sustainable practices; EPA/GFC requirement for moving mobile mills is a ‘grey’ area that has to be resolved.

Lumber dealers, transportation providers, suppliers of inputs, consumers: Need for level playing field and greater transparency re the 4.5% reserved for biodiversity protection (not sufficient, should be 8%) in connection with TSA/SFP holders and Amerindian lands; quality control, penalties and fees; need for proper and regular training in the concessions, constant monitoring of forest produce, poaching and illegal cutting; chainsaw operators not complying with Forests Act requirement that lumber offered for sale must be graded, but lumberyards comply and are accused of finding high levels of ‘rejects.’

Regulatory agencies, including regional & village leaders: Communities have difficulties in retaining, equipping and paying trained people; accessing of information, research data and training opportunities are key issues.

The dialogue on issues led to corrections and clarity in a few cases: For example, the charge was made that the Forest Products Association (FPA) only represents the ‘big boys’ in the industry. The FPA representative pointed out that the organization’s mandate allows for representation of chainsaw millers. (However, chainsaw millers are not on the FPA’s executive.) This point followed closely on an observation that the FPA should be represented on the GFC Board. A member of the GFC Board who was present noted that there is GFC/FPA collaboration although not formalized, and that the GFC has had a meeting with the FPA to discuss this and other issues.

An expression of need for information on lesser used species led the Forest Products Development & Marketing Council (FPDMC) Director to make such a list available to participants on the second day of the meeting.

3.4 Recommendations on Solutions from Stakeholder Groups

MSD representatives were invited to choose issues and groups they wished to work on and with, engage in dialogue with other stakeholders on ideas for solutions, respond to the five questions suggested on the agenda, and choose a representative to re-present their recommendations to the whole group. During the dialogue on issues, a number of ideas had been proposed. These were noted and posted so that the groups could take them into consideration as they were continuing their work on solutions:

1. There should be a level playing field, same rules for all in the sector.
2. Chainsaw operators should negotiate as a community through the Village Council or Association with contracts between buyers and sellers as part of the process of resolving grading issues.

3. Instead of having general one- or two-week timber-grading courses, there should be simplified (and shortened) versions that meet the needs of particular communities.
4. Chainsaw operators need to be trained 'to saw for grade.'
5. Chainsaw operators should be facilitated to visit export-oriented lumber businesses so that they can see what high standards look like.
6. Compliance with rules, regulations and good practice should be encouraged and rewarded.
7. There should be ongoing awareness raising, education, training and certification of chainsaw operators.
8. GFC should engage in on-the-ground training for Amerindian communities in monitoring and inventorying, and the costs and benefits of same; GFC capacity-building should take place in communities (instead of in Georgetown).
9. Greater emphasis should be placed on research and more widespread sharing of information and data.
10. There should be a news bulletin for chainsaw operators on relevant forest-related issues, including training opportunities.
11. GFC and EPA should collaborate to resolve the mobile mill movement issues where one SFP holder has more than one concession.
12. Kwakwani to Crabwood Creek and a Crabwood Creek to Orealla road links should be developed.
13. Stakeholders should work towards getting FPA representation on the GFC Board and chainsaw operators representation on the FPA Executive.
14. Underselling can be avoided through standardization and training.

The five questions suggested for guiding the dialogue on solutions are as follows:

1. Where are we (the chainsaw milling sector) now?
2. Where do we want the chainsaw milling sector to go?
3. What can we do as stakeholders to help make this happen?
4. What needs to be done at other levels?
5. What knowledge and resources we need to get chainsaw milling where we want it to be?

3.4.1 SFM-Specific Stakeholders and Other Forest Users

Where we are now: Chainsaw milling sub-sector recognized as important to rural livelihoods with considerable potential for development, for example, utilization of less livelihoods with lower cost if correct considerations applied such as sawing for value, planning, marketing, training etc.; capacity exists to provide training in proper techniques; chainsaw milling is recognized and approved at policy level.

Where we want to go: Better management of sector through training in proper techniques; use of occupational health and safety measures; record keeping; cost management; grading of logs and lumber; full compliance with SFM and timber utilization prescriptions; incentives for good practices.

What can we do as stakeholders: Provide and support initiatives that benefit chainsaw operators and their communities; document and share good examples of successful and economically viable chainsaw enterprises; share responsibility for compliance with all laws and guidelines; encourage collaboration between stakeholders.

What needs to be done at other levels: All of the above, under ‘what stakeholders can do.’

What knowledge and resources we need to have these done: Knowledge of stakeholders’ vision for the sector; information on available forest stocks; sources of technical and financial assistance and their requirements; current and potential human capacity; government to implement strategic plans in rural areas.

Ideas on Solutions

1. Consider re-opening fruit cheese factory in Orealla: review viability (that is, find out whether it is workable); restart enterprise, if workable, with business plan; seek technical and other assistance for further development, for example expanded processing and storage capacity; expand product range, for example, casareep, juice for school feeding programme.
2. Develop and promote craft production in markets in all communities.
3. SFM institutions to engage each other to support communities and chainsaw milling enterprises through shared workshops, field visits, training, projects, research and extension activities.

3.4.2 Traditional Sawmillers

Where we are now: Chainsaw millers are a recognized group converting logs to lumber operating within State Forest Permits (SFPs) and Community Forest Associations (CFAs). Some chainsaw operators work with mobile sawmills.

Where we want to go: We would like them to improve forest management practices; and improve occupational health and safety practices. Consumers should be educated on why they should buy by grade and pay accordingly, and this should be included in national policy; ensure that grading practices are in step with legislation.

What can we do as stakeholders: By improving practices noted above, chainsaw operators can get better prices; and chainsaw millers and traditional sawmillers can co-exist and compete in harmony for quality products.

What needs to be done at other levels: (1) Prices should be paid according to grades. (2) Educate buyers and consumers about grades with respect to tolerances.

Ideas on Solutions

In order to resolve the issue as to how chainsaw operators can be better represented:

- FPA rules do not exclude any category of forest producers. The organization is currently engaged in a CESO project to strengthen the FPA to be more effective in representing people engaged in forest production. The FPA will do a 'gap analysis,' review its strengths and weaknesses, repair damage done in the past when the FPA was run by traditional sawmillers, become more business-like, engage in dialogue to come up with solutions and find a way for chainsaw operators to be more comfortable and co-exist with the 'big boys.' We have already had an ice-breaking meeting with the GFC to start resolving some outstanding issues.

3.4.3 Regulatory Agencies

Where we are now: The chainsaw sector is expanding and competing with traditional sawmillers; issues are growing; production is high and quality is low; the sector is being affected by climate change; safety measures are not being practiced; the sector is slowly getting organized with help from the Chainsaw Milling Project leading to more awareness, and changing attitudes and thinking; poor planning is causing people not to see the benefits of their labour.

Where we want to go: Value for labour; seeing chainsaw milling as a career, a job that operators can take pride in; adding value to product; proper financial management at the individual and collective levels; more organization within the sector; quality improvement; consistent use of safety gear.

What can we do as stakeholders: Training and capacity building (formal, peer-to-peer and friends helping friends) to raise levels of awareness; investment in equipment to make the work more efficient; networking with other agencies and persons who can offer advice.

What needs to be done at other levels: Networking and communication with regulatory agencies on the ground; improving technical knowledge.

What knowledge and resources we need to have these done: Easy access to information and finance.

Ideas on Solutions

This group focused on non-payment of royalties and came up with the following proposal:

- The Village Council will implement a system by January 2011 where they purchase all of the lumber from chainsaw millers; and the Council will market and sell the produce.

- This will eliminate the problem of underselling; and ensure that transportation providers are paid on time.
- Royalties and profits will go to the Village treasury.
- MoAA and GFC to provide training and technical guidance to Village Councils in financial record keeping and management.

3.4.4 Chainsaw Operators

Where we are now: We are much more knowledgeable on the chainsaw milling sector.

Where we want to go: We want to be more professional and efficient.

What can we do as stakeholders: Work together as groups enhancing knowledge sharing and making proper representation.

What needs to be done at other levels: Training in communities in felling, positioning of logs to be sawn and other milling techniques.

What knowledge and resources we need to have these done: Having registered groups; longer land tenure; renewable energy at concessionary rates; point of contact Internet service.

Ideas on Solutions

Come together in association with persons who can benefit from a group arrangement, to:

- agree on objectives
- strengthen bargaining position
- pool resources
- get the best out of market conditions (through contracts)
- engage GFC on issues affecting group
- negotiate funding and other resources
- decide on rules (constitution)
- elect representatives
- agree on strategic work plan: short-term and medium-term
- identify agencies to network with

3.4.5 Community Forest Associations

Where are we now: Disorganized; poor marketing skills; producing low quality lumber; low understanding of regulations; wasteful production; environmentally untrained. This negative view is changing as chainsaw milling is being seen as a way of providing a living for families, creating

employment for people in the community, and spending most of the money earned in the community. However, it is a marginal business, barely surviving.

Where do we want to go: We envision ourselves as being more organized, more trained, seen in a more positive light, creating more profits, playing a bigger role in improving the community, producing quality grade lumber and value-added products for consumers, making full use of logs and being more responsible and environmentally friendly users of forest resources – as there are many more to come after us.

What can we do: Get more properly organized; get each chainsaw operator educated and trained in Reduced Impact Logging and being less destructive to the environment (every worker can do better than he is presently doing); do more for our community (for example build bridges, improve roadways, do infrastructural development through cooperative efforts, get together at least once a month as chainsaw operators to make time for our youth and impart knowledge to them); improved planning; better marketing; make better use of our income; invest in business to facilitate the growth of the industry; get into value-added products; educate ourselves on the rules and regulations of the industry; share knowledge and experience.

What needs to be done at other levels: Provision of training by FTCI, GFC, CMP, FML; funding by donor agencies; help in infrastructure development by government; training in marketing, how to bargain for better prices, knowing and getting real value for our lumber; assistance with information, increase in usage of waste, development of markets for more species of trees, and building links between markets and suppliers by FPDMC; assistance in organizing a more efficient, planned and structured flow of materials from suppliers; assistance for investment in equipment (for example, mobile mills and planers) to improve quality of lumber.

What knowledge and resources we need to have these done: Training and education in marketing, grading, equipment maintenance and repair; mechanical knowledge of machines used in the industry; certification of chainsaw operators; equipment pool to develop infrastructure; capacity building to develop CFAs and village councils to put training into practice; investments in improving value recovery, i.e., knowledge, marketing, felling, etc.

Ideas on Solutions

Management training to improve leadership skills; marketing training; extend representation at seminars to include more groups; more practical demonstrations and training in sawing; help in developing contracts; education that focuses on helping people understand *why* in addition to *how*; basic training in grading; saw maintenance training from FML; more networking; access to loans; developing relationships with banks, suppliers, etc.; true representation at decision-making level by grassroots chainsaw millers on FPA and GMA executive and boards; good two-way relationship (where both are speaking and listening) with regulatory bodies; infrastructural development; ensuring benefits for community; establishment of a store where parts, lubricants etc can be on sale for members.

3.5 Next Steps, Evaluation & Closing

Under the 'next steps' agenda item, CMP Coordinator, Ms Rohini Kerrett drew participants' attention to Day 2 activities, noted that this was the third of four regional multi-stakeholder dialogues in February, July and August of this year (the fourth is to be held in October 2010 in Region 2, Essequibo), promised that a record of the MSD proceedings will be sent back to participants and agencies so that stakeholders can start taking action where they can. The CMP Coordinator also:

- indicated areas where the Chainsaw Milling Project is continuing its capacity building work by engaging resources to conduct sessions on the Forests Laws, the Code of Practice, bookkeeping and proposal writing;
- informed participants that the information coming out of the dialogue process would be analyzed and taken to the national level, and asked that stakeholders begin thinking of who would best represent them at this level;
- applauded the fact that stakeholders were already considering the need and importance of representation on various boards;
- noted that after considering the strengths and weaknesses of the recommendations on practical and strategic solutions, an action plan would be devised for policy makers and others to implement;
- reminded participants that the MSD was a process, not a one-off activity and encouraged all to see it as a way of resolving issues facing our communities, regions and country as a whole.

Also making contributions under the 'next steps' head on the agenda were Ms Vanessa Benn (GFC Board member and Iwokrama representative). She pointed out that recommendations from the Chainsaw Milling Project on the chainsaw sector to the GFC will be vital to GFC's ongoing consultations on improving its policies. Mr Khalawan noted (to expressions of approval from the Upper Berbice Forest Producers Association representative, Mr Charles Thom) that the FPA was building a relationship with the GFC that would serve to protect the smaller scale forest producers.

The evaluation of the day's work took the form of participants' using the popular but informal timber grading methods: *A*, *B*, *C* and *reject*. The "A" grade column received sixteen (16) ticks and the "B" grade column thirteen (13) ticks. There were no ticks in the "C" grade and "reject" columns.

Mr Glen King, the GuySuCo representative, with the consent of the chairperson, rose to address participants on the importance of forest inventoring; to recommend the use of GPS for mapping purposes; to encourage training and qualification in timber grading for Orealla, and acquiring machinery and implements to make the work easier; and to challenge the village council to take the lead in these new developments, and to lead by example.

The Chairperson then invited the two guests from Tropenbos to make closing remarks.

Mr Seitze van Dijk, the mid-term evaluator of the Chainsaw Milling Project, described the day's session as 'A grade' and expressed his pleasure at the active participation, the enthusiasm and the commitment which he found to be even stronger than when he conducted the mid-term evaluation. He said that the Project deserved its extension, and supported the expression of caution made earlier by Mr Andrew Mendes, by saying that if we really want success, we should not be counting our benefits too early, because of the tendency to fall back into a 'business as usual' mode. He urged stakeholders to stick with the process for the long-term to ensure that there are real gains.

Ms Marieke Wit, the Tropenbos Overall Coordinator of the Chainsaw Milling Project, in her contribution, said that she was very happy to see how participants were engaged in the process and hoped that Tropenbos could help make a difference. She noted that the EU was entering into a Voluntary Partnership Agreement with the Government of Guyana and that this, and other developments in the forestry sector would have an impact on the process. Therefore, there would be a need to make connections at the national level in order that the multi-stakeholder dialogue can be embedded in the national process. She observed that the government of Ghana (also engaged in similar project) was having difficulties with chainsaw milling which is illegal in that country and hoped that Guyana could serve as an example to other countries that have not yet started to address issues surrounding small-scale logging. She thanked participants for increasing her knowledge of the Guyana situation and urged the group to keep the spirit going.

The Chairperson, Mr Khalawan, thanked participants and closed the session at 5.15 pm after the singing of a National Song, "Hymn for Guyana's Children."

The Orealla/Siparuta chainsaw operators, village councils and other community representatives then met in an informal session with the two Tropenbos representatives.



(Corentyne River, viewed from Imran Shafeeullah Sawmill, venue of Day 2 Region 6 MSD Meeting)

4. Proceedings of Region 6 MSD Meeting, Day 2, August 18, 2010

Day Two of the meeting opened at 9.05 am at Shafeeullah's sawmill with participants sharing their thoughts and feelings on *what* was done on the previous day and *how* it was done. See Annex 5 for participants' views.



4.1 Presentations

4.1.1 Sustainable Forest Management

Mr Godfrey Marshall began his presentation by stating that everything we do here in Guyana in connection with the forestry sector is of interest to the outside world and that the Guyana Forestry Commission has responsibilities to the global community. This means, he said, that if felling of trees in Guyana is not being done in a responsible manner, external buyers may not want to buy from us.

He made the following main points: (1) The forest is a living thing, a whole system that we all depend on. In a twinkling of an eye, it can disappear. (2) The forest has a lot of stakeholders: state, private (Amerindian communities), and institutional (e.g., Iwokrama) in addition to others who depend on and

use the forest. There is no national land use plan because this cannot be prepared without information. (3) The two main purposes of forest management are protection and production. The biodiversity reserve of 4.5% is what it is, for the time being, because our population is small, but ideally we should be protecting more areas so, that, for example, the people of Orealla can show their children's children what the original forest looked like. We protect and manage the forest for different purposes, e.g., eco-tourism, wild life and timber production. It is important for all stakeholders to think ahead on a whole set of variables, e.g., timber harvest planning, markets (who is buying what), labour costs (recruitment, training, maintaining trained personnel, paying and maintaining forest-based workers, technology (which to choose), timber resources (how much and their condition), transport of personnel, fuel, rations and transaction costs for concessions (acreage fees, licences, tags, and time spent running behind stakeholders), planning for sustainability for today, tomorrow, for 15 to 20 years and for the more distant future. He also mentioned that the FTCl has a forest management training programme soon to be implemented in Orealla and Ituni.

Question: "Why so interested in chainsaw operators? We in Orealla are not destroying the forest. It is the sawmillers with skidders who damage up the whole forest."

Response from presenter: Chainsaw operations do have a lesser impact on the forest. There is a special monitoring team for large concessions. Some people are getting away with murder because we can't see everything. We are not targeting chainsaw operators, but they also cause damage. Forest management is everyone's responsibility. A lot of people are not trained. There are skidder operators without a drivers' licence. There is the Lacey Act. Buyers want to be comfortable with how producers are operating; they want to know that they are doing the right thing in the forest. People who don't operate responsibly will go out of business.

4.1.2 Recovery Issues & 4P Approach to Marketing (Product, Price, Promotion, Place)

Mr Andrew Mendes' presentation (see Annex 6 for outline) focused on recovery for value rather than volume. He pointed out generally and in response to a comment that chainsaw operators are paying more royalty on round logs that concessionaires that the system penalizes 'good recovery.' In response to the GFC Berbice-based officer who noted his discomfort with the term 'penalizes,' Mr Mendes rephrased his remark to reflect his view that 'good recovery practices were not being rewarded.' He also addressed the importance of good storage practices, the use of wax-based sealants (instead of paint) and effectiveness of properly done air-drying of lumber. It was suggested that information on air-drying methods and times for various species be obtained and communicated to operators, perhaps in newsletter form.

4.1.3 Health, Safety, Directional Felling & Other Logs-to-Lumber Practices

Mr Wilfred Jarvis of the FTCl demonstrated the use and importance of a variety of safety gear (helmets, goggles, ear-guards, high visibility vests, leg guards, and safety boots) and safety features of the chainsaw. Questions raised included concerns over baldness resulting from wearing helmets, ear muffs preventing loggers from hearing falling trees, safety gear costs and comfort levels.

Directional felling with the aid of two wedges was demonstrated with the use of diagrams. Log selection, measurement and sawing patterns were treated with during the logs to lumber practical demonstration session. All participants were very engaged during this session which ended at 5 pm.

4.2 Evaluation & Closing

The second day of the MSD meeting closed on a high note with the 23 participants present grading the day's activities with an "A."



Annex 1: Agenda

CMP Region 6 MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE Meeting

(Day 1: Tuesday, August 17, 2010, 9 am to 5 pm, Skeldon Estate Training Centre, Berbice)

Objectives

1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in Region 6
2. To provide information to guide stakeholder decision making process.

Agenda: DAY 1

1. Registration
2. Welcome: Chairperson, Mr Khalawan, Forest Products Association representative
3. National Pledge
4. Introductions: Stakeholders
5. Documentary on Chainsaw Milling in Guyana
6. Findings from Research and Focus Group Meetings

SNACK (10.30 – 10.45)

7. Review of key issues on Chainsaw Milling by Stakeholder Groups:
 - Sustainable Forest Management/Sustainable Livelihood Options (other ways of making a living)
 - Governance (community forest associations, village councils, GFC policies, regulations, & practices)
 - Communication
8. Reports on Issues by representatives of stakeholder groups
9. Group work on specific solutions to issues:
 - Where are we [the chainsaw milling sector] now
 - Where do we want the chainsaw milling sector to go
 - What can we do as stakeholders to help make this happen
 - What needs to be done at other levels
 - What knowledge and resources will we need to get chainsaw milling where we want it to be

LUNCH (12.30-1.30)

10. Reports on specific solutions from stakeholder group representatives

SNACK (3.30)

11. Next steps
12. Evaluation and Closing
13. National Song: *Hymn for Guyana's Children*

CMP Region 6 MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE Practical Demonstration, Day 2
Wednesday, August 18, 2010, 9 am to 3 pm, Shaffeeullah's Sawmill, Crabwood Creek, Berbice

Objectives

1. To provide information to support more sustainable forest practices by chainsaw operators; and
2. To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber.

Agenda: DAY 2

1. Registration
2. Introduction to Day 2, *Chairperson*
3. Sustainable Forest Management, *Godfrey Marshall, Director FTCI*
4. Recovery Issues: Volume , Value & Grade, *Andrew Mendes*
5. The 4Ps Approach to Marketing: Product, Price, Promotion, Place, and How Marketing Affects Recovery, *Andrew Mendes*

Snack (10.00 – 10.15)

6. Safety: Felling Practices & Protective Gear, *Wilfred Jarvis*
7. Log Selection, Measurement & Grading, *Leroy Welcome*
8. Sawing Patterns (1/4, cant, grade & taper sawing); Best Opening Face, How chainsaw operators cut and why, Best Practices for improving recovery, Cutting for grade, *Andrew Mendes*
9. Logs to lumber demonstration and Hands-on Practice Session

Lunch (12.30-1.00)

10. Logs-to-lumber demonstration (continued)
11. Timber Storage & Hygiene, *Leroy Welcome*
12. Evaluation
13. Closing

Take-Away Snack

Wan wan dutty build dam

Annex 2: Region 6 Stakeholder Issues & Proposed General Solutions

TRADITIONAL SAWMILLING INDUSTRY

Sustainable Forest Management/Sustainable Livelihood Options Issues: Weak forest regulation and management has contributed to deforestation in Canje Creek and Baracara; well known species and marketable products getting less and less; in West Berbice spars, wattles and saplings are being harvested on a monumental scale; wastage of lumber, too much good sawn wood left in the forest; chainsaw operators poaching and underselling produce from SFP concessions, if regulatory bodies come down too hard on chainsaw operators 'profilers' will have difficulty getting materials; fear of negative impact of new Forests Act on livelihoods.

Proposed General Solutions to SFM/SLO Issues

1. FPA committed to putting its house in order;
2. More emphasis on research and development;
3. More effective monitoring of chainsaw operations and concession areas;
4. GFC should ensure that the Code of Practice is practiced;
5. All forest users should practice proper forest management, cut with permission, come together as a community and work together with forestry rules and regulations;
6. Timber grading course should be for two years, not seven to ten days; education and training for maximum recovery, production and better quality of lumber in an environmentally-friendly and stakeholder-beneficial way;
7. Conduct consultations to respond to the dramatic increase of forestry exports;
8. Zero tolerance on illegal cutting;
9. Promote conservation and sustainable use of the forest in a manner that supports community development.

Governance Issues: Licenses are being issued to non-concession holders to operate mills in Berbice; large scale poaching costing the industry substantial sums of monies in fines etc; lack of confidentiality when reports are made at Forestry head office; excessive fines and compounding, detention and custody of produce pending stump inspection which could take a week to a month depending on how much you have antagonized the Officer in addition to operator having to absorb cost of inspection; standards in relation to portable mills vs static mills set by regulatory bodies; GFC officers have challenges getting operators to comply with rules and regulations; with so many rules and strict enforcement of regulations many individuals in the industry are frustrated, angry, and discouraged to the point of closing up shop; monies are paid to EPA and years later there is no inspection, and no approval; GFC's speed to modernize and regularize the system does not provide stakeholders with enough time to get documents together for the licensing process; frequent changes in standard operating procedures without consultation; block harvesting, annual allowable cut and 100% inventory requirements on a yearly basis costly; REDD initiative has potential for over-regulation; chainsaw

operators refusing to cut 'cants' (secondary production which require tolerance to process/resaw): they demand to be paid extra for tolerance; non-use of safety gear, custom and practice by chainsaw operators; we have decided to keep quiet on illegal harvesting since we have to pay the fines imposed by the regulatory body and be accountable for every square inch of our concession area; Code of Practice out of step with reality, new policies are emerging every day, not written but verbal so we are uncertain about things; just a lot of talk and more talk; EPA doesn't help, all they do is take our money;

Proposed General Solutions to Governance Issues

1. Develop regulations specific to the chainsaw sector;
2. GFC should focus on 'facilitation instead of policing' and 'correction instead of persecution'; victimization and reprisals should be tools of the past; GFC needs to work on cultivating better relations with forestry stakeholders; regulatory bodies and industry stakeholders need to sit down and work out their differences;
3. GFC should practice consistency in application of rules;
4. Chainsaw operators should be licensed;
5. Ban all chainsaw lumbering for a period of 5 to 10 years to give the forest a rest; *(Note: This item was deleted as a result of dialogue at the Region 6 MSD Meeting)*
6. Revise block harvesting, annual allowable cut and 100% inventory with consultation;
7. FPA representation on GFC Board;
8. Use monies collected from fines to establish a fund to allow us to get fuel at a reasonable rate
9. Building codes should be revised to include source of material which should be purchased from licensed millers;
10. No licensed lumberyard should be allowed to stock chainsaw lumber since this product is driving fixed mills out of the market;
11. Separate areas should be designated for dressed and undressed lumber;
12. Review of policy requiring chainsaw lumber be graded at sawmills;
13. Regulatory body should change policy that allows chainsaw operators to cut boards,(they should only be allowed to cut 'cants') and monitor quality of forest products being sold.
14. Punish owners and operators of saws doing illegal cutting to reduce poaching;
15. Include chainsaw operators on tax roll so there is a level playing field;
16. Limit the number of chainsaws imported into the country on an annual basis; only persons licensed to operate in the natural resources sector should be allowed to purchase chainsaws;

Communication Issues: Fear of reprisals is a reality since speaking out could be costly, for example, delays in the issuance of tags and permits; currently communication between industry stakeholders and regulatory bodies is one-way; when a report is made about illegal harvesting we have to wait sometimes for weeks before anyone shows up because they are all in Georgetown

Proposed General Solutions to Communication Issues: Regulatory bodies need to listen to industry stakeholders; stakeholders working together as a team within the rules and regulations.

REGULATORY AGENCIES

Sustainable Forest Management/Sustainable Livelihood Options Issues: Competing land use/forest based goals at the regional and national administrative levels; concerns that wildlife trade would not be a major consideration for Chainsaw Milling Project; socio-economic conditions of persons in chainsaw operations continuing to drive expansion of the sector; monitoring is a challenge given the distribution and accessibility of forest resources; GFC restricted from intervening to prevent forest related violations and illegalities on lands belonging to Amerindian communities; objection by chainsaw operators to restriction on 1” cutting; mobility of chainsaw operators makes them difficult to monitor; chainsaw operations hazardous to operators and to others; chainsaw operators leaving good wood to waste in the forest only bringing out what they have orders for; chainsaw operators go into forest and ‘clear fell’ species they want; Illegal logging, chainsaw operators cross boundaries, cut and fetch away wood.

Proposed General Solutions to SFM/SLO Issues

1. Engage in the CMP process to ensure consideration of wildlife trade, protection of the species of importance to the trade and CITES obligations;
2. Create other alternatives for chainsaw loggers to make a living;
3. Implement and enforce relevant quality and environmental standards to ensure better and sustainable management of forests and protection of the environment without negatively impacting on the livelihoods of chainsaw operators.

Governance Issues: Finding the balance between policy makers, chainsaw millers and methods of regulation and enforcement; with so many pieces of legislation there are possibilities of overlap and conflict; getting chainsaw operators to comply with policies and laws.

Proposed General Solutions to Governance Issues

1. Creation of a long-term plan to allow sustainable chainsaw milling in Guyana and effective management of its activities;
2. Legislative reform that seeks to eliminate concurrent or overlapping jurisdiction (inter-agency collaboration has helped but is not a sufficient solution);
3. Development of suitable methods and strategies for monitoring chainsaw milling and ensure that regulations are not being breached.

Communication Issues: Poor turn-outs to GFC organized sessions by SFP holders who employ chainsaw operators means that their employees are unaware of policies, laws and regulations on safety, forest and lumber extraction; challenges the state faces in trying to meet expectations of forest-dependent communities; convincing chainsaw operators to improve harvesting, reduced impact logging (RIL).

Proposed General Solutions to Communication Issues: GOG and stakeholders deciding on innovative ways to maximize benefits from the land; Sensitize chainsaw loggers to the challenges Government faces in making lands available and facilitate them to use the lands they currently have in multiple, sustainable and value-added ways to maximize socio-economic and environmental benefits.

AMERINDIAN VILLAGE COUNCILS

Sustainable Forest Management/Sustainable Livelihood Options/Governance Issues

1. Lack of cooperation from chainsaw operators (village council may organize to get a good price and people go behind our backs and make other agreements);
2. Chainsaw operators fail to use the tags they are given (it was noted that Village Council does not have the capacity to monitor tags and permits);
3. Harvesting of undersized trees;
4. Not producing quality lumber, lots of rejects;
5. Orders not being met on time;
6. Some do not pay royalty (sometimes people do not have any money on them to pay, promise to return and never do);
7. Village council continues to give chances to people who have a history of not paying royalty, and there is a failure to penalize offenders;
8. Village council business is not always done in the village office.

Proposed General Solutions

1. The community can work together to get better pricing and marketing;
2. Amerindian village councils should be facilitated in doing an inventory of their forest stocks and encouraged to comply with the Forests Act as a means towards sustainable forest management;

CHAINSAW OPERATORS

Sustainable Forest Management & Sustainable Livelihood Issues

1. Markets for lumber not always available; market tends to be flooded (with wood) sometimes because of the number of chainsaws in the sector;
2. Lack of cooperation by loggers in marketing, buyers 'playing one against the other'
3. Grading issues – deductions tend to be more than they should be; buyers not willing to pay for 'rejects' which they sell;
4. Under-pricing of lumber; low pricing; prices remain at the same level for too long;
5. Difficulty in getting orders;
6. Some species (e.g. wallaba) are short; people not willing to accept substitutes;
7. Re Occupational Health & Safety: wearing of protective clothing is seen as a burden by operators and safety gear is not readily available;
8. Getting transportation to the 'working grounds' is difficult;
9. Not enough tractors and trailers to take logs extracted, long waiting times for transportation;
10. While logs are awaiting transportation, some would be stolen;
11. High cost of fuel;
12. Not getting enough tags;
13. Purchasers not willing to give advances and loans to operators;
14. Loans from commercial banks not available;

Possible General Solutions to SFM/SLO Issues

1. Duty-free concessions for tractor spare parts
2. Education and training of chainsaw operators
3. Loggers should get some compensation for rejects, at least half price because they have to pay to extract lumber that is 'rejected'
4. Contractors and other buyers need to be educated on alternative species
5. "Other species" can be promoted by the authorities to lead to greater acceptance by buyers
6. Training in grading for suppliers; funding for training in grading
7. Organize security for protecting logs awaiting transport

COMMUNITY FOREST ASSOCIATIONS

Sustainable Forest Management/Sustainable Livelihood Options Issues

1. Chainsaw operators on Amerindian reservations are allowed to saw 1” lumber, and cut anything, including under-aged trees;
2. Village councils not aware of exact levels and nature of forest stocks and have no plan for sustainable management of what they have;
3. Playing field re forestry not level for Community Forest Associations, SFP holders and Amerindian reservations;
4. Many newcomers to the trade and untrained persons engaged in chainsaw operations;
5. Chainsaw operators engaging in unsafe cutting practices even when they do have safety gear;
6. High levels of waste and rejects;
7. Low price for chainsaw milling produce;
8. Quota system (tags) too small for two-year period;
9. High cost (\$90,000) to SFP holders for EPA permit to move mobile mills from one concession to another.

Possible General Solutions to SFM/SLO Issues

1. Access to other markets other than Springlands;
2. Bypass the middlemen to earn more;
3. Duty-free concession on machinery and spare parts;
4. Access to loans and credit to machinery, spare parts, fuel and lubricants;
5. Acquire machinery to produce value added products (tables, chairs, beds etc)
6. Ensure more equal arrangements for CFAs, SFP holders and Amerindian communities with respect to forest use;
7. Use of frames to ensure proper cutting should be compulsory;
8. Involve others in the sector, including women and children in transforming ‘waste’ into items of value.

Governance

Issues: Chainsaw operators unaware of forestry laws and regulations; Chainsaw operators not meeting Occupational Health & Safety standards

Proposed General Solutions to Governance Issues

1. Training of village councils and community forest associations in management, finance, democratic practices and governance;
2. GFC to conduct programs to educate chainsaw operators on Forests Act and Code of Practice;

3. Lumber dealers should be permitted to submit plan for EPA approval and be allowed to proceed to other stages of the documentation and permit process;
4. Village councils in need of guidance from regulatory bodies on monitoring forest extraction; special Village Council body should be set up to regulate lumbering;
5. Amerindian village councils should be facilitated in doing an inventory of their forest stocks and encouraged to comply with the Forests Act as a means towards sustainable forest management;
6. Stakeholder collaboration to make representation to authorities to resolve issues;
7. Chainsaw operators need to be trained and certified in grading and cutting to increase value and reduce waste, to comply with Code of Practice and GFC guidelines;
8. Chainsaw operators need to be educated on occupational health and safety practices.

Communication

Issue: Low levels of English literacy, general and specific education of members of village councils and community forest association leading to mismanagement and malpractices;

Proposed General Solution to Communications Issues

1. Education, training and other forms of communication that take levels of formal education of chainsaw operators and the community at large into account;
2. Access to communication, radio set.

Note: Re Other Forms of Viable Livelihood: Representatives of the ***Orealla Farmers Organization*** present at the Orealla/Siparuta MSD preparatory meeting raised the following issues:

- Pests such as carambola fruit flies, monkeys, rodents and other animals destroying crops
- Extreme weather conditions
- Farmers and residents not making use of aid and equipment made available through the organization
- Agriculture not viewed as a viable livelihood
- Low prices for crops produced

INSTITUTIONS WITH AN INTEREST IN SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Sustainable Forest Management/Sustainable Livelihood Options Issues: Threat to forest stocks and more efficient use of resources; increase in unemployment due to new restrictions; value –adding needs more thought and support by various agencies and organizations to create viable alternatives for earning a living; ensuring benefits to all stakeholders.

Proposed General Solutions to SFM/SLO Issues

1. Prevent exploitation by helping communities with marketing and business;
2. Communicate environmental impacts of ‘illegal’ logging in ways that can lead to curbing illegalities;
3. Communities can be facilitated to develop strategic plans for logging to enable sustainable use of forest in a multi-disciplinary manner;
4. Provide specialized training in sawmilling, biodiversity and climate change to stakeholders in the sector.

Governance Issues: Weak governance at the community level; certification challenges for Guyana’s timber exports.

Proposed General Governance Solutions

1. Organize and train chainsaw operators so that their operations are legal;
2. Make use of safety gear compulsory;
3. Monitor solutions generated by the Chainsaw Milling Project.

Communication Issues: Consultation fatigue; keeping the dialogue alive; maintaining communications and interactions between communities on the coast and hinterland.

Proposed General Communication Solutions

1. Disseminate outcomes of Project to inform policy and practice in the forests sector;
2. Engage in behavior change communication and monitor behavior change;
3. Ensure cooperation and active participation from communities on their livelihood issues.

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

Issues

Transportation arrangements for moving Orealla/Siparuta lumber involves tractors, trailers, boats and road transport to dealers on the coast difficult and costly

Proposed General Solutions

LUMBER DEALERS

Issues

1. Getting a lumberyard license takes a long time, many documents are required, many agencies are involved leaving timber dealers with no storage facilities or place to store rejects;
2. Competition hard;
3. Fluctuations in prices;
4. Problem dealing with left over (unsold)lumber (good and rejects)

Proposed General Solutions

Annex 3: Introductory & After-Lunch Energiser Activities

Introductions

1. Introduce yourself and say what you do (briefly)
2. Say what you like about your work
3. Say what you don't like about your work

After-Lunch Energiser

1. The facilitator assembled participants outdoors.
2. The group was divided into three:
 - Chainsaw operators
 - GFC Officers and other regulatory agencies
 - Other SFM stakeholders (located in the middle between the first two)
3. The first two groups were instructed to switch roles:
 - Chainsaw operators were to behave as though they were the regulatory agencies.
 - Regulatory agencies were to behave as though they were chainsaw operators.
 - No instructions were given to the 'other stakeholders' group who remained in the middle.
4. The groups were told that the current timeframe was **BM (Before the MSD process)**:
 - The chainsaw operators armed with their saws (that is, the regulatory agencies in their new role) and regulatory agencies GFC, EPA, regional & village councils armed with their powers (that is, the chainsaw operators in their new role) were then instructed to 'go to work.'
 - While the two groups were tussling, the other stakeholders stood by and looked on.
 - After some time, a halt was called by the facilitator.
5. She announced that we were now in a new time frame, a new day, **AM (After the MSD process)**:
 - Each group was asked to re-group, consult on a better way forward, ie, via dialogue, respect for others.
 - The facilitator pointed out that everyone has personal, family, community and national responsibilities for reduction of conflict and sustainable forest management – and that this includes the 'by-standers' whether or not they have formal or institutional SFM responsibilities.
 - Everyone was then instructed to return to work in the way they thought the Chainsaw Milling Project through the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue was working to achieve.
6. After the more civilized encounter between the two groups, with the third group (no longer standing by and observing) taking an active part in simulating a dialogue situation, feedback by representatives from each of the three groups was invited.
7. The activity ended with persons from each group being directed to select a partner from another group and take that person for a short walk before returning to the meeting venue.

Annex 4: List of Participants

Community Forest Associations

1. Errol Edwards, Orealla CFA,
2. Joseph Peneux, Orealla CFA, 335-3609
3. Carl Peneux. Orealla CFA & HM Orealla Primary School
4. Joseph Wilson, Mara, CFA, 661 0870
5. Christopher Massiah, Mara, CFA

Chainsaw Operators

1. Earl Vandenburg, Orealla, 638 3613
2. Clyde Coppin, Orealla, 611 5799
3. Leslie Adrian, Siparuta, 654 7794
4. Doodnauth Narine, SFP Holder

Other Forest Users

1. Sandra Herman, Orealla Farmers Organization
2. Janice Herman, Orealla Farmers Organization, 338 9280

Regulatory Agencies

1. Del Williams, Toshao, Siparuta Village Council
2. Floyd Edwards, Orealla Village Council
3. McLean DeVair, Orealla Village Council, 628 6465
4. Shameza David, Project Officer, MoAA, 226 5167, 672 9195
5. Simone Benn, Community Development Officer, GFC, 226 7271, 644 5252
6. Roger Astwood, Environmental Officer, EPA, 657 0482
7. Mark Gupta, RDC #6, Engineer
8. Kenford Fraser, GFC Officer, Region 6

Resale & Manufacturing Establishments & Other Consumers

1. Ralph Devonish, Salesperson, Vishnu Super Store, 335 3236
2. Glen King, Supervisor, GuySuCo, Supervisor Skeldon Estate, 676 1574
3. Curbette Victorine, Project Manager, GuySuCo Skeldon Estate

Traditional Sawmillers

1. Ravi Lakeram, Logging Clerk, Baijnauth Logging Co, 699 6000
2. Niranjan Persaud, Lumber Checker, Ganesh Singh Sawmill, 339 2430
3. Motee Singh, Director Wanatobo Forest Resource, 683 7479
4. Jagmohan Bhoopsingh, Director/Secretary, Ganesh Singh Sawmill, 339 2430

Other Stakeholders with an Interest in SFM

1. Godfrey Marshall, Director, FTCl, gemar@guyana.net.gy
2. Wilfred Jarvis, FTCl
3. Derrick Cummings, Director, FPDMC, director@fpdmcguy.org
4. Vanessa Benn, Consultant, Iwokrama vbenn@iwokrama.org

Chainsaw Milling Project Team & CMP Task Force (TF)

1. Rohini Kerrett, Coordinator, 227 0724
2. Oneica Dennis, Project Assistant, 227 0724
3. Bonita Harris, Facilitator, 226 4458
4. Leroy Welcome, Community Forest Advisor, 227 0724
5. Raymond Herman, Community Forest Worker, 622 9657
6. Andrew Mendes, Managing Director, GMSA, amendes@fmcgy.com (TF)
7. Khalawan, Forester, FPA 613 8319 (TF)
8. Charles Thom, logger's representative, UBFPA, 647 1588 (TF)
9. Shameza David, Project Officer, MoAA, 226 5167, 672 9195 (TF)
10. Simone Benn, Community Development Officer, GFC, 226 7271, 644 5252 (TF)

Tropenbos Representatives

1. Marieke Wit, Programme Coordinator, Tropenbos International
2. Sietze van Dijk, Capacity Building Officer, Tropenbos International, Suriname

The following participants were present for Day 2 of the MSD meeting only:

1. Ramesh Chand, Sawmill Operator, Ganesh Singh Sawmill
2. Rajendra Prashad, Sawmill Operator, Ganesh Singh Sawmill
3. Pawan Basdeo, Sawmill Operator, Ganesh Singh Sawmill
4. Narindranauth Gumani, N & S Gumani & Sons, Sawmill
5. Outram Sankar, N & S Gumani & Sons, Sawmill

Annex 5: Participant Reflections on Day One of the MSD meeting

Participants were asked to share their thinking and feelings on the first day of the meeting especially with respect to what we did and how we did it. Their views are reproduced below:

1. *I thought yesterday's session would have been more mixed. My feelings are that the work was a bit stiff. We should have had ice-breakers. When I looked around I saw people falling asleep. What we did was good and how we did it was good. (Del Williams, Toshao, Siparuta)*
2. *My feeling is that it was excellent. We heard from different stakeholders. Everyone got a chance to give their ideas and opinions. We were able to find out where the Chainsaw Milling Project is and where we are heading. We did it in an organized way and everyone contributed. (Floyd Edwards, Village Councillor, Orealla)*
3. *I felt everything went well in the meeting. We exchanged ideas in all the groups with the different stakeholders. What we did was okay. We got more knowledge and saw how we can go along to get more benefits. (Janice Herman, Secty Orealla Farmers' Organization)*
4. *I think workshops like these can be very beneficial to the community so that we can go about our work better and future generations can benefit. Yesterday when we started I felt that we would have been separated; I feel good we were in a group where we could learn from each other. (Note: In this MSD meeting, the village councils were in the regulatory table group with representatives of the regional council, GFC, EPA, and the MoAA) What we did was excellent, but we need more of this. How we did it was very good – in groups! (McLean DeVair, Toshao, Orealla)*
5. *I never thought I would do a presentation, but I did. I was nervous. What we did was good and how we did it was good. (Sandra Herman, Orealla Farmers Organization)*
6. *Very informative. A lot of information came out to help us help one another to make things more understandable. Impressed by how participants put forward their ideas in a professional way, no conflicts, very amicable and orderly. (Raymond Herman, CMP Community Forest Worker)*
7. *The sad state is that all participants invited did not attend. It is costly. We want to have knowledge sharing but we don't want to make the effort. I was impressed with the introduction session. We did it in a great manner. What I observed was that we know the solution but we put it over in the form of a problem. We by ourselves, we know, but it is how we put it over. Too much food. (Doodnauth Narine, SFP Concession Holder)*
8. *I feel it was good. When I left I felt satisfied. We enjoyed the day. I want more workshops like this so that everyone in Orealla can get the same feelings and knowledge. (Errol Edwards, Chainsaw Operator, Orealla)*
9. *Yesterday was really educational. I got to know more about chainsaw milling. I think we should have more of these workshops. It was done in order. As adults we did it in order. We were well behaved. We showed some discipline. (Clyde Coppin, Chainsaw owner, Orealla)*
10. *The activities were executed as planned. It was well structured. I felt more connected as a representative of the GFC. I felt the zeal and enthusiasm of the chainsaw association representative and that he was speaking for the entire crew. I could feel Sandra's nervousness,*

but she continued. I liked the introductory activity because I got an idea about everyone when they introduced themselves. I really enjoyed the day. (Simone Benn, GFC)

11. *A lot was accomplished. It was an important first step. The work now starting will be a challenge for the team. The team did excellent work in how they organized the session. Keep the spirit going! (Marieke Wit, Programme Coordinator, Tropenbos)*
12. *I thought yesterday's workshop would have been a little bit more mixed. A councilor from Orealla should have been with the chainsaw operator group. It was still good. I feel that the next workshop we should get more interested persons. How we did it was good. What we did was excellent. (Leslie Adrian, Chainsaw operator, Siparuta)*
13. *I feel that we still have the passion to resolve the issues around chainsaw milling and we should keep at it. (Godfrey Marshall, Director, FTCl)*
14. *A good place to come and vent problems and difficulties you face and have all the organizations here represented so that the interaction can bring out and help solve some of the problems. It was quite revealing. I have my doubts about milling equipment but I am assured by Mr Mendes that the equipment exists for chainsaw millers to improve their standards. (Glen King, Supervisor, Skeldon Estate, GuySuCo)*
15. *I was a bit skeptical. I didn't think that sawmillers would be willing to listen to an ordinary chainsaw operator like myself. ... Yesterday's work was done in a good way. After understanding the chainsaw millers situation, after knowing the longer term effects on the environment and the socio-economic situation, we all came to understand that we have to have a goal in making chainsaw milling better. I feel something great was accomplished yesterday. How and what we did was well done. (Joseph Peneux, Chainsaw Operator, Orealla)*
16. *I think that the planners did a really good job. The level of involvement and outcome of this third MSD meeting was much higher when compared to the Annai. It is clear that this did not happen by chance, but by reviewing the outcomes and tweaking the programme to get the best out of it. I am impressed by the passion and what was revealed. The how was good. (Derrick Cummings, Executive Director, FPDMC)*
17. *Yesterday was an improvement on previous meetings. We are learning and doing it better on every occasion. The issues seem to be common. I am hopeful that by the end of the process we will have issues resolved and make a difference. (Leroy Welcome, CMP Community Forest Advisor)*
18. *This is my first time at a workshop like this. I learned very much. I will be able to go back to my community and enlighten others to have more understanding about the process. It was a success. We can now move forward to preserve our forests for our children and grandchildren and all those to come. (Joseph Wilson, Chainsaw operator, Mara)*
19. *The workshop gave people the opportunity to dialogue. People understood and were able to express their views without fear or favour. People expressed themselves not in an argumentative way but in a positive way. The preparatory meetings helped the process. Happy to hear that a chainsaw operator feels he can speak to a sawmiller. The method we have been using was well thought out – people can give their views and know that they will be accepted ... people listened and this is important for dialogue. (Khalawan, representative of Fprest Products Association)*

20. *Whilst listening and observing the Orealla participants I said to myself these are qualified people, academically qualified, who can make a viable living, so making chainsaw operating a certified career is possible. (Charles Thom, representative of Upper Berbice Forest Producers Association)*
21. *I feel happy because everyone was putting forward their views and coming up with solutions to make a foundation for our children. Others should have the opportunity to attend workshops like this in the future, working to put chainsaw milling in a better place. I am 90% satisfied. (Earl Vandenburg, Chainsaw operator, Orealla)*
22. *A wonderful job. I learned a lot. People learned a lot from each other. I was surprised at the list of solutions. I got 28, even though it was not all. We cannot work on all; we have to get the best and start with those we can address from our strengths and not wait on other parties to correct. (Sietze van Dijk)*
23. *Excellent. Well executed. Everyone shared their thoughts. It was fun. Who said we can't have fun while learning? (Kenford Fraser, GFC Berbice officer)*
24. *The Chainsaw Milling Project is a good forum to see how issues are being addressed. There are continuing issues, new issues and emerging issues. I am impressed with the way the CMP continues to bring issues to the fore. In a lot of the presentations, there was a lot of ownership coming from the presenters, this pointed to the fact that they are representing the views of their community. I applaud Andrew Mendes and Farfan & Mendes for their involvement and contribution to this effort, going beyond profit margins and helping to improve lives of community and country as a whole. (Vanessa Benn, Consultant, Iwokrama)*
25. *I thought it would have been like the Annai meeting. It was better. Things were more clear to participants. It was professional. (Wilfred Jarvis, FTCl)*
26. *I thought that a lot of the issues were very common to the rest of Guyana. ... It went well. I was happy to see people participating and speaking openly. (Rohini Kerrett, CMP Coordinator)*
27. *From the first MSD meeting to today, it was a lot better. The participation was good. We can learn by sharing ideas. The main thing is to know that there is a lot we can do ourselves, without anybody else and without spending a lot of money. (Andrew Mendes, representative of suppliers of inputs)*
28. *My education is mostly based on concrete and steel. Yesterday was very educational. It gave me an opportunity to know and experience more about what you guys do, and learn a little about the timber industry. We at the regional level can start immediately with quality control. I can see a chain effect working. Very educational. Well done. Well organized. (Mark Gupta, Engineer, RDC Region 6)*
29. *This is my first time at a workshop. We at Mara recently started out. It is a bit strange to meet. My colleague mentioned that chainsaw millers are grassroots people. In Mara, there are a lot of grassroots people like myself in chainsaw work. They would have been glad to be in this workshop. I hope this workshop can assist me to improve. (Christopher Massiah, Chainsaw operator, Mara)*
30. *I learnt a lot. I can positively see that we are heading in a direction of more percentage recovery. Feeling good. Everyone participated. (Ravi Lakeram, Logging Clerk, Baijnauth Sawmills)*

Annex 6: Recovery Issues and the 4P Approach to Marketing

(Notes prepared by Andrew Mendes for his presentation and distribution to participants)

MSD DEMONSTRATION PLAN – CONCEPTS TO BE DEMONSTRATED

1. Marketing – marketing is not producing a product that you can and trying to promote it as marketing is conceptualized in Guyana. It is based on an all encompassing concept that includes the whole value chain from the forest, through processing and value added, to the final customer. It embraces the concept that:-

‘An organization’s goals can be achieved by meeting or exceeding customer satisfaction.’

How to achieve this is by focusing on giving the final customer what they want, when they want it and how they want it at a price that is fair (profitable) for the organization and the consumer. It embraces the concepts of the 4 P’s and matching resources:-

The 4 Ps:

Product – that you can produce the product demanded to the quality the consumer expects or is at least satisfied by.

Price – is the price such that you can make a profit and have an economically viable operation whilst still being acceptable or attractive for the consumer.

Promotion – how you access the market. Promotion covers everything from creating awareness to advertising the product.

Place – being able to deliver in a timely manner the volume /quality of product the customer wants or demands. **Give them what they want, when they want and how they want it.**

This approach is also based on the concept of. “**matching resources**” - matching the size, volume, diversity and quality of the resource (the forest type and structure) through appropriate processing to a market either existing or “created.” – ie. In the context of Guyana we have a very limited (slow growing, low yield, large number of different species and selective logging) and diverse timber resource which only represents niche market volumes. It therefore suggests that, given this resource, we concentrate on supplying quality, niche markets that will give the greatest return from the least volume of timber. Based on this, the required products, and the equipment, technical and human resources needed to satisfy these markets can then be assessed in terms of viability and appropriateness.

Marketing therefore focuses on all aspects of the product, from the forest to the final end user. It encompasses –

- Access to the appropriate size and type of forest land – the legal and logistical framework to gain access.
- Inventory of the forest – to get a clear idea of what is there, where it is and how to get it, to be able to know what species and products you can supply to satisfy a market and what markets to look for or try to supply or develop. Assess the most appropriate equipment and plan the extraction to ensure it is appropriate and as efficient and effective (cost, environmental impact etc.) as possible
- Processing – what type of equipment, financial and human resources and technical help would be required to produce the required product from the resource and to satisfy the customer.
- Value added – the more value you add by onward processing (eg. Kiln drying, moulding, planning, furniture manufacturing), the more money you can theoretically make. Are the value added techniques and equipment appropriate, viable and sustainable given all the resources available.
- Transportation and logistics – what is the best way and what is the best equipment to use to access the resource and transport the final product to the market. Is it cost effective and achievable?
- Pricing – what profit can be made given the cost of production and delivery and the price accepted by the customer. If the price does not allow the producer to make a reasonable and acceptable profit (for the producer), they need to assess if the product is appropriate or the market is appropriate for themselves.
- Market access – how do we access existing markets or how do we develop new markets for the products that can be produced effectively.
- Promotion of the product – how do we make consumers aware, sell the benefits of, and advertise the products. this can be everything from making contracts, to public relations, advertising in publications to educating consumers on the benefits of the product.
- Delivery – can the products be delivered in the quality and quantity on time to the customers requirements. If it cannot be done, then a commitment cannot be made to the customer.

This will tie in and put in context, the reasons for and costs of doing planning and inventory and the other aspects of planning required in the code of practice.

Sawing for value rather than volume to extract the greatest returns from each hectare of forest or each cubic meter of log.

The concepts behind portable milling that make it the most appropriate and effective way to harvest tropical forests –

- Taking Moses to the mountain rather than the mountain to Moses. Taking the means of production as close to the stump as possible so little extra equipment is required and no waste is transported – eg. Given present industry recovery of export grade rates of 20% (40 % overall recovery rates of which only 50% is export grade at best), it means that 5 (or m3) tons of log have to be transported to mills to produce 1 ton (1 m3) of export

grade material. Chainsaws as a comparison achieve at least as good recovery rates and transport only the finished lumber out of the bush.

- Minimalist concept – minimizing the capitalization relative to the resource base to maximize returns (read profit). The use of cost effective dual use equipment that can be contracted in (like farm tractors and standard cargo trucks for lumber) vs large, expensive, single purpose material handling, transport and support equipment to gain economies of scale (like log skidders, log loaders and expensive purpose built logging trucks) when the limited nature of the resource precludes that.
- Appropriate and sustainable technology – the choice of whatever portable milling equipment that can be operated, afforded and maintained by the organization or people converting the resource – ie. Portable mills are better and produce than chainsaws, but cost more and require more people and support equipment (like tractors to pull logs to the mill) and therefore much higher up front costs to start a cutting cycle. Can the person/community afford, operate and maintain these and therefore have a sustainable business.
- Appropriate value added or cost saving technologies and techniques – affordable, viable and sustainable – eg. Doing kiln dried flooring can generate prices of at least G\$400 (US\$2.00) per board foot with an additional added cost of G\$80 (US\$0.40c) per board foot.

Logging Residues

Buttress
 Cross-cutting residues
 Crown/branches



Logs left in the forest
 Stem offcuts
 Stump

Industrial Waste

Logs rejected or left at loading station



Water way transportation

Cross-cutting residues



Damaged log (fungi, insects, checks, etc.)

Bark
 Core
 Slabs
 Sawdust



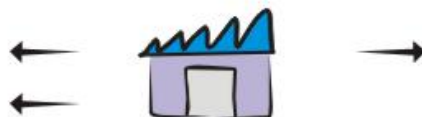
Shorts
 Trimmings
 Veneer waste
 Defective pieces caused by processing

Sawdust
 Defective pieces caused by processing



Shorts
 Shavings

Decay
 Low grade product



Product