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

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

ENV/2007/133-003

Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Plan, Guyana
Updated, November 2010

Rohini Kerrett and Bonita Harris
Chainsaw Milling Project, Guyana
Forestry Trainings Centre Inc.
1 Water Street, Kingston
Georgetown, Guyana

November 2010

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

This report presents a Plan for the multi-stakeholder dialogue (MSD) on chainsaw milling in Guyana implemented by the EU financed project titled 'Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw lumbering through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana'.

A multi-stakeholder dialogue can be described a tool for participatory decision making in which stakeholders jointly discuss issues and agree on possible solutions for addressing those issues.

The multi-stakeholder dialogue will afford Guyanese stakeholders the opportunity to address key issues and concerns relevant to chainsaw milling.

2. Overview of the Project and the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

2.1 The Project

The Chainsaw Milling Project titled 'Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw lumbering through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana' focuses on the broad theme of forest governance in countries where chainsaw milling is prevalent, Ghana and Guyana in particular.

The project is financed by the European Commission and implemented by Tropenbos International (TBI) based in the Netherlands, through two local partners in Ghana: the Ghana Forestry Commission (FC) and the Forest Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG); and two local partners in Guyana: Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development (Iwokrama) and the Forestry Training Centre Incorporated (FTCI).

In many local and indigenous forest-dependent communities, chainsaw milling is an important component of rural livelihoods. But it is challenging to monitor due to the simplicity of the technology and the ability of chainsaw millers to operate in any forest type without major infrastructure such as roads used by conventional loggers.

The project examines the situation in Ghana and Guyana because there are different policy approaches to chainsaw milling.

In Ghana the practice is illegal whereas in Guyana it is legal; therefore at the policy level, the respective forestry authorities have adopted different approaches to dealing with the issue.

Although chainsaw milling in Guyana has emerged as a major component of rural livelihoods, there is insufficient data and information on the practice at a national scale. The scope of opportunities, challenges of the practice, and impact on forest resources are also not sufficiently documented to guide the strategic decisions and policies on practical and strategic issues of rural livelihoods.

The **overall objectives** of the project 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** of the project is:
- 'The level of conflict and illegality related to chainsaw lumbering by local communities reduced'.

The **expected results** are as follows:
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 chinsaw 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)

2.2 Definition of illegality

In Guyana, chainsaw milling is legal and encouraged by policy makers. However, there are claims of illegal activities related to the chainsaw milling sub-sector. The true extent of illegal chainsaw milling is not known or properly researched and given that there has been debate on what is meant by the term "illegal logging /chainsaw milling" the proliferation of illegal activities may vary depending on the definition applied.

- The Guyana Forestry Commission definition of legality is expressed in this way: "Legal timber in Guyana is that which has been removed, transported, processed, bought or sold in a manner within the provision of the relevant laws of the country."

- FAO/ITTO's Definition
  a. The term illegal logging is used to refer to timber harvesting related activities that are in violation of national laws.
  b. Illegal and corrupt activities in the forest sector can span the entire industry from wood harvesting and transport, to industrial processing and trade.
  c. Illegal cutting includes logging inside protected areas or outside concession areas.
  d. Logging within allocated concessions can be illegal if it does not conform to the law. For example cutting restricted species over the allowable limit, or before the concession or license is active, constitutes an illegal act.
  e. Other types of illegal activities include under-reporting the amount cut, false reporting of the species harvested to avoid higher taxes and the poaching of wildlife in areas opened up by timber harvesting.
  f. Corruption can occur at many levels from the issuance of the licenses and concessions to local law enforcement.

2.3 The Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (MSD) Component of the Project

The lack of an appropriate mechanism for dialogue between the principal stakeholders of chainsaw lumbering in combination with limited knowledge on chainsaw lumbering issues and limited livelihood alternatives for communities engaged in chainsaw lumbering fosters many of the issues at the strategic and practical levels.

As such, there is a fundamental need for the principal stakeholders of chainsaw lumbering to have an effective and meaningful mechanism for dialogue in order to achieve a shared understanding of chainsaw lumbering practices and associated socio-economic issues.

Results 3 and 4 of the project will aim at the creation of a mechanism for stakeholders to interact. This will build on learning gained from the Ghana and Guyana experiences.

The substantive activities of the multi-stakeholder dialogue 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 in determining the costs and benefits of chainsaw milling from the perspectives of each interest. Once agreement can be reached on the principal problems, strategies to address them will be formulated, including a plan for further action.

The project will build consensus between and among stakeholders to reduce the level of conflict and illegality related to chainsaw lumbering by local communities and addressing regulatory frameworks in order to strengthen the good governance of the forestry sector.

The successful creation of a multi-stakeholder platform for dialogue will depend on the extent to which the stakeholders contribute to such a mechanism, and their willingness to accept and take responsibility for the outcomes of the process.

3. The Approach

Establishment of the multi-stakeholder dialogue

The MSD process utilizes a participatory and interactive methodology to encourage frank discussions on critical and sensitive issues, build trust between stakeholders, and reach consensus on mechanisms to resolve and/or manage problems and challenges associated with chainsaw milling.

Currently, no permanent dialogue mechanism exists at either the local or national levels in Guyana. The early work of the Project involved preparing the ground for the establishment and institutionalization of fora for multi-stakeholder dialogue. Representatives of all stakeholder groups, from the regulatory agencies to the grassroots participants, now recognize the usefulness of the MSD tool. The feedback has been positive and enthusiastic. Stakeholder representatives expect that the dialogue will continue, and expressed their satisfaction that a number of issues were able to be resolved on the spot though the intervention of representatives of regulatory agencies present during different stages of the dialogue process. The experience of the Project, with each MSD being more effective and successful than the preceding ones, and the requests for continuing discussions and on-the-ground community-based training are indicators that communities are now ready for the establishment of a permanent dialogue platform.

In designing the multi-stakeholder dialogue for Guyana, a number of key steps were taken to ensure that the process was sound and inclusive.

3.1 Implementation of a stakeholder analysis

The stakeholder analysis sought to provide an insight into the constituencies with a stake in chainsaw lumbering, the nature of the stake, and the ways in which stakeholders can or may influence the determination of outcomes of chainsaw lumbering issues and the multi-stakeholder dialogue.The stakeholder analysis found that were lots of people intricately involved in the chainsaw milling sub-sector along the flow of timber from the forest to the end consumers, the flow of money from investors to beneficiaries, the regulatory mechanisms, the stakeholders impacted by chainsaw lumbering, and others with a specific interest in sustainable forest management.

Thirteen broad **stakeholder groups** were identified:
1. Amerindian communities/village councils
2. Investors or contractors (SFP holders, timber dealers/middlemen)
3. Community Forestry Associations
4. Chainsaw crew

5. Transportation providers (on land and water)
6. Resale and manufacturing establishments (lumber yards, resaw, moulding, planning, furniture manufacturers)
7. Consumers
8. Regulatory Agencies
9. Suppliers of inputs (chainsaw parts, fuel and lubricants, food)
10. Custom brokers, shipping agencies
11. Other forest users
12. Traditional sawmilling industry
13. Stakeholders with an interest in Sustainable Forest Management (OCC, Other NRM Agencies, NGOs, Academia, Donors)

Relationships among stakeholders range from good to problematic for various reasons, including high level of rejects of lumber, late payments from the lumberyards/timber dealers, poaching, enforcement conflicts, the prevalence of narrow self-interest and family interests, acceptance of bribes, etc.

The following **key risks** were identified in relation to the success of the MSD:
1. Absence or non-participation of stakeholder groups;
2. The number of interested/involved stakeholders; if only few stakeholders are interested/involved then the process would not be comprehensive enough;
3. Prejudice; not allowing all parties to effectively state their case and ventilate their issues;
4. Lack of consensus;
5. Solutions offered are not practical or affordable;
6. Lack of will to arrive at workable solutions;
7. Forestry policies remain unchanged;
8. Large timber operators' claims and influence in the forest industry;
9. Person(s) facilitating meetings not able to do this effectively;
10. Lack of awareness and education of stakeholders;
11. Some businessmen (esp. large sawmillers) manipulation of the discussions;
12. The willingness of the invisible actors (investors) and some stakeholders to contribute to the discussions;
13. The level of involvement of the chainsaw crew;
14. The perceived inflexible attitude of the GFC in managing State forests;
15. Lack of unity, togetherness, and positive thinking and attitudes to future projections;
16. The multi-stakeholder dialogue at a national level will dilute local views on chainsaw lumbering and affect participation of certain stakeholder groups.

Measures to mitigate the identified risks were considered in the design of the MSD and the M&E framework for the component.

3.2 Engaging facilitators

The project in Guyana, initially recruited two part-time facilitators as prescribed in the project document. However, resulting from a number of issues of availability, delivery of outputs and communication, this strategy was re-evaluated. In July 2010, a part-time facilitator who had been functioning in the capacity of consultant to the project in the areas of strategic planning and training was subsequently employed.

Facilitator training: During the period May 19-30, 2008, facilitators and the project coordinator received training in Kumasi, in planning, managing and facilitating multi-stakeholder processes in Ghana and Guyana. A website was subsequently created by the trainers of Wageningen International to reinforce learning and the sharing of experiences to help the implementation of the multi-stakeholder dialogue.

3.3 Development of Draft Guiding Principles for the MSD

These principles guided the roles, responsibilities and conduct of facilitators and the MSD process. They also helped to lay the basis for the rules of engagement of the specific multi-stakeholder forums designed by the CMP team with guidance from the Task Force.

1. Keep the dialogue real.
2. Be credible.
3. Create a safe space for the Dialogue.
4. Keep it Simple and Transparent (KIST)
5. Every stakeholder's opinion is valid and to be respected.
6. Listen with an open mind; Enable objective attitudes.
7. Listen to the less powerful; let every voice have an equal say.
8. Build trust to build consensus.
9. Promote and apply Free, Prior & Informed Consent (FPIC).
10. Validate stakeholder leadership and ownership of the MSD.

3.4 Focus Group Meetings

Seven focus group meetings with representatives of key stakeholder groups were held with the objectives of (a) sharing information on the project; and (b) learning from them the key issues in relation to chainsaw lumbering; their hopes, fears and expectations of the multi-stakeholder dialogue process; and the way forward in general. Each meeting was documented in a report and the issues that came out of the meetings shared with stakeholder representatives during subsequent stages of the dialogue. The key issues identified by stakeholder representatives at the focus group meetings are listed below:

Sustainable forest management/Viable livelihoods options
- No long-term plan available for chainsaw milling in Guyana
- Threat of forest stocking
- Knowledge gaps on some issues, i.e. nature and scope, environmental impacts of chainsaw milling
- Depletion of forests in some areas
- Lack of strategic planning at the community level
- SFM that can be achieved without great impact on livelihoods of those that depend on the activity
- Availability of more lands for chainsaw milling
- Use of better technologies to maximise use of logs
- Need to match resources with the number of saws allowed
- Availability of other viable options of livelihoods
- Resistance to alternative sources of income for a livelihood (than chainsaw milling)
- Value-adding activities need to be explored
- Poverty is one of the driving factors for chainsaw milling

Communication/inclusive decision making
- Planned conservation activities must involve all communities
- Poor communication in decision making at the community and national level (consultations needed on new policies)
- Consultation fatigue (many talk shops, little action)
- Chainsaw millers/community loggers feel voiceless: frequent changes in forestry rules without consultation, they are made to abide or bear the consequences.

Forest governance
- Fees applied to small timber operations vs. large timber operators; Why should the small operator pay the same fee as large operators?
- Consistency of policies and codes of practices in relation to mining and forestry, i.e. buffer zones applied in forestry
- Weak governance at the community level
- Policy changes without consultation which impact heavily on small millers
- Lack of a timber grading standard and methods reducing wastage
- Sawpit licences are issued to non-concession holders (encourages poaching)
- Standards/requirements of portable mills vs. Static mills needs to be reviewed
- Lots of rules and regulations making it difficult for businesses to survive
- Chainsaw millers are issued with poorly stocked and worked over areas
- Harvesting lumber without permission of authority
- Harvesting lumber in protected areas
- Cutting of undersized trees and other violations of the Codes of Practice for Timber Harvesting by chainsaw millers
- Poaching on other concessions/forest lands

Operational level issues
- Poor occupational health and safety standards in the sub-sector
- Poor management and business aptitude in at the community level (record/book keeping, marketing, cost-benefit evaluation, etc)
- Lack of formal education of some participants in the sub-sector (and forest industry)
- Lack of financing to purchase machines to extract and process timber
- Sawmillers are of the opinion that they are being undersold
- Some forestry officials are disrespectful to communities
- High rejects and late payment at lumber yard

Future of chainsaw milling
- LCDS means no more concessions, no more work.

3.5 Formation of a Task Force to guide the multi-stakeholder dialogue

One of the activities identified by the project is the creation of a "task force" responsible for the guiding of the multi-stakeholder dialogue process. This task force is to help ensure that stakeholder representatives "own" the process; that the meetings are conducted within a work plan; and that decisions are communicated to the relevant agencies, where appropriate. The task force comprises nine (9) representatives from the key stakeholder groups: regulatory agencies, community forestry associations, State Forest Permit holders (individual small loggers), Amerindian communities, timber industry (large), merchants/secondary processing, academia, NGOs, and other forest-based users identified in the stakeholder analysis of the project. Representatives were selected by their constituent groups.

Responsibilities of the task force include providing technical oversight, coordination among agencies, assistance in problem-solving, provision of policy guidelines, and monitoring of the multi-stakeholder dialogue in Guyana. Specifically, the task force will engage in the following:
– Promoting the objectives and desired outcomes of the project;
– Supporting the roles and responsibilities of Tropenbos International, the partners in Guyana (FTCI and Iwokrama), the Project Coordinator and the stakeholders;
– Organising the election of a chairperson and scribe for the meetings;
– Reviewing and commenting on MSD work plans and budget;
– Actively participating in the planning of the MSD meetings;
– Providing technical support and oversight where appropriate;

- Monitoring the implementation of MSD activities and related expenditure;
- Providing assistance in resolving problems and addressing challenges if necessary; and
- Communicating the results of decisions of the MSD to relevant agencies/ and stakeholder groups where appropriate.

Please see Annex 1 for the ToR and Annex 2 for a list of task force members.

3.6 Capacity Building in Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E training in Guyana for project staff and the Task Force was designed to sharpen the focus of the multi-stakeholder dialogue and the community forestry component of the project through a learning-oriented approach to M&E. This approach considers M&E to have broader functions beyond information for accountability purposes. The learning-oriented approach to M&E is also meant to inform management about why change is happening and how this might be different from what is/was anticipated, thereby guiding the decision-making process of management for impact (adaptive management).

In multi-stakeholder dialogue processes, if shared learning is to take place, M&E needs to be participatory to provide information to and from all key stakeholders.

This learning-oriented approach to M&E training is intended to help make the multi-stakeholder dialogue (and the project) more effective. Instead of a stand-alone exercise, it is a continuous and continuing exercise of reflecting woven into the fabric of the project.

Development of an expanded logical framework for Monitoring and Evaluation of the MSD

Resulting from the M&E training, key critical conditions that may impact on the success of the MSD were identified and elaborated in an expanded logical framework. See section on MSD Plan for more details.

3.7 Development of a Draft Communication Strategy and Plan for the MSD

As outlined in the project document there is need for a communication mechanism to ensure an effective flow of information, updates and key messages accurately and promptly to targeted stakeholder groups within Multi Stakeholder Dialogue process. At the same time, the communication strategy should collect feedback and knowledge through its communication activities to continually improve the Chainsaw Milling Project on the technological, social, political, economic and environmental issues around chainsaw milling and other alternatives or viable options. This draft communication strategy was reviewed and adopted at the initial MSD preparatory meeting.

Main **communication objectives** of the Project:
- To ensure that the key stakeholders get and give feedback on all aspects of the MSD process and the work of the Project;
- To create an enabling environment for the necessary policy decisions and actions to be taken with respect to the Chainsaw Milling sub-sector;
- To promote the MSD as a crucial problem-solving tool at local, national and international levels.

3.8 Research Findings

The findings of the research conducted by the project on the background, impact, legal and policy framework, drivers and diagnosis of chainsaw milling in Guyana, along with findings of the stakeholder analysis and focus group meetings was used to inform the multi-stakeholder dialogue design agreed on in the Preparatory MSD meeting.

Synopsis of the Research

Chainsaw milling has emerged as a major component of the timber industry in Guyana. The activities of this sub-sector provided an estimated 40 percent of the fees — total royalties on logs and lumber — received by the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC) in 2007 (Clarke 2009).

Chainsaw milling provides income and livelihoods for a large number of persons within and outside forested areas, and affordable lumber for the local market. However, there are major issues related to chainsaw milling: concerns about continued availability of commercial forests stocks; under-utilization of timber resources as a result of poor cutting techniques and practices; poor occupational health and safety practices; and low levels of compliance with environmental standards.

Policy-makers and other stakeholders in Guyana have responded positively to the potential of chainsaw milling to foster the development of rural communities by promoting and supporting the development of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) that operate within State Forests. The GFC also supports community logging initiatives by Amerindians on communally owned lands.

The legal framework

The general policy of the Guyana Forestry Commission on chainsaw milling is that it is legal once SFP and all conditions are met, including licensing, tagging, declaration and payment of royalties.

The new Forests Act will become the central piece of legislation governing the forestry sector. The old Acts, including the *Forest Act* of 1953, will be repealed as soon as the new Act is formally proclaimed as law. The new Forests Act recognizes chainsaws as "primary conversion units" that must be registered each year.

The Act introduces the concept of Community Forest Management Agreements (CFMA). The purpose of a CFMA is to provide communities with a means of acquiring clear and secure rights to manage and benefit from their forests on a sustainable basis in order to help meet local needs, stimulate income generation and economic development, and enhance environmental stability.

CFMAs are granted for a maximum of two years. They can be applied for by any legally registered "community group" -- defined as being comprised of persons living within and having strong ties with the community. The agreements are suitable for Community Forest Associations involved in chainsaw milling.

Drivers of chainsaw milling in Guyana

The paucity of viable livelihood alternatives in rural areas without industry or other commercial activity acts as a powerful driver for chainsaw milling, as does the availability of the resource and the possibility of making a reasonable living from chainsaw milling.

There is scope for profits in chainsaw milling given the strong demand for lumber. Chainsaw lumber can supply domestic markets more cheaply than sawmilled lumber because of the relatively high production costs of large concessions. It can provide a wider range of species than large-scale industry, which focuses on log and lumber exports from a few prime species.

The profitability of chainsaw lumber varies, depending on type of transport, fuel costs, costs for rations, price for lumber and distances to/from harvesting and selling locations. Simple economic analyses indicate that at least some actors in the trade chain can make a reasonable living from chainsaw lumber production. In three different chainsaw milling scenarios the gross margin percent was found to be 25.1, 15.2 and 2.3 respectively, to an SFP/lumberyard owner; a CFA member and contractor; and an Amerindian logging cooperative (Clarke and Mangal 2006). The ability of chainsaw milling operators to easily obtain chainsaws through informal short-term financing options and hire purchase has allowed the practice to expand within communities. Chainsaw milling is also sustained by an enabling policy environment. The GFC supported the formation of CFAs to provide access to land through State Forest Permissions. The designation of areas as conversion forests — due to mining (bauxite, sand and gold), agriculture and hydro-electric development — is also a major factor that supports chainsaw milling. The construction of roads, bridges, culverts and buildings in some rural and hinterland communities has led to short-term chainsaw milling activities in these locations.

Impacts of chainsaw milling

The GFC reports that more than 27,000 people are directly employed in the forest sector (GFC 2007). Approximately 70 percent are employed on SFP concessions. It is estimated that approximately 70 communities in Guyana are involved in chainsaw milling. In some of these communities as many as 80 percent of the residents are actively involved in chainsaw milling operations.

The proportion of financial benefits in the supply chain increases markedly from primary producer to retailer. The people directly involved in the production of chainsaw lumber earn less than five percent of the final retail lumber price. Wholesale suppliers of rations, equipment and parts receive a much larger proportion of the sales revenue.

There has been no specific study of the environmental effects of chainsaw milling, nor have any attempts been made to compare the environmental impacts of chainsaw milling with those of conventional logging. It can be speculated, however, that the lack of heavy machinery in chainsaw milling reduces the impact on soil, regeneration and fauna. On the other hand, chainsaw operators are less likely to follow the Code of Practice or adopt Reduced Impact Logging techniques. In addition, the range of species typically cut in chainsaw milling can result in a greater opening of the canopy, especially in logged-over areas. There are also reports of chainsaw millers cutting undersized and protected trees (including trees in forest reserves and watercourse buffers).

The extent of illegal logging in Guyana is debatable. Depending on the definition applied, high figures can be reported. Based on the GFC definition, total illegal produce is considered to represeent less than two percent of total annual timber production.

Violations of forest laws include operators travelling with expired or no documents, cutting of undersized logs, sourcing logs from outside concessions (poaching), harvesting protected species and false declaration of harvested volume. Violations of the *Forests Act*, however, are not restricted to any particular sub-sector; they include small, medium and large operators.

Lack of access to forests with "marketable" trees is a significant problem for chainsaw millers and a principal driver of illegality among small-scale loggers. Many of the concessions awarded to small loggers become unproductive within a year.

Various issues are associated with chainsaw milling:
- Operators not adhering to forest laws or forest management guidelines;
- Low prices offered for chainsaw lumber by lumber dealers;
- The fact that chainsaw operators receive only partial payment for the lumber sold;
- Revenues collected not clearly accounted for by community forest associations (CFA);
- Quotas for some SFPs not being able to meet the needs of members adequately; and
- Orders for lumber restricted to a powerful few rather than shared between all members of the CFA.

Conclusions

The *de facto* policy of the government, through the Guyana Forestry Commission, is to acknowledge and accept chainsaw milling. This is demonstrated by the establishment of Community Forest Associations, State Forest Permissions, Community Forest Management Agreements, and a regulatory framework.

Chainsaw milling must increase its levels of efficiency in conversion and achieve higher recovery rates. The industry will also need to improve its compliance with the Code of Practice and other forest management prescriptions. From the perspectives of optimum resource utilization, rural livelihoods and economies — both local and national — there seems to be justification for supporting the small-scale forestry sector, which comprises mainly appropriate forms of logging.

This support is circumscribed by the capacity of Guyana's forests to sustain a yield that can support communities that rely on lumber from chainsaw milling and industrial sawmills. The overall performance of the sub-sector appears inadequate to address the local livelihood requirements of chainsaw operators and dependent communities. The commercial depletion to date of accessible forests suggests that the current number of saws and operators cannot be sustained, at least not everywhere in the State Forest or on private lands. Alternative economic activities are needed to support long-term livelihood goals.

In addressing the issue of chainsaw milling in Guyana, the evidence gathered from the stakeholder analysis, research and focus group findings suggest **two general lines of action** (and their interactions)**: improvement of current practices and strategic interventions.**

There are numerous opportunities within the context of sustainable forest management to improve current practices in order to optimize benefits to communities that depend on chainsaw milling:
- Improved functioning of CFAs, including matching the number of CFA members to the size and quality of the forest resource;
- Improved CFA awareness and capacities on and in sustainable forest management; forest code of practice, laws and regulations; bookkeeping and record keeping, leadership and organizational management, marketing and improvement of productivity and product (including non-timber forest resources) enhancement;
- Better representation of the small-scale sector in trade associations and on agency boards, and the formation of a Small and Medium Forest Enterprise association.

To fully understand Guyana's chainsaw milling sub-sector, further research is needed on several issues:
- Socio-economic impacts on communities;
- Actual direct and indirect employment generated by the sub-sector;
- Distribution and use of benefits along the supply chain;
- Extent of illegal logging;
- The most efficient means of log to lumber conversion, including 'waste' left in forest;
- The full extent of chainsaw milling on Amerindian lands, in SFP concessions (not those held by Community Forest Associations); and
- Environmental impacts.

Strategic interventions must start from a concept of chainsaw milling sub-sector vis-à-vis the mainstream forest sector, the role of forestry in regional development and potentially competing land uses. Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy will provide opportunities to treat with these issues in a broader framework.

Multi-stakeholder dialogue between and among a wide range of participants is critically needed to discuss and understand the impact of national strategies on costs/benefits to the diverse actors in the forest sector, and to facilitate the most economically viable, efficient and equitable allocation and exploitation of the national forest estate.

3.9 Preparatory Meeting to Plan the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Process

The Preparatory Meeting held on November 19, 2009 was a vital step in the establishment of the multi-stakeholder dialogue. That meeting built agreement on the priority issues, structure and general plan for the formal MSD meetings that would be most effective for discussing, learning and reaching consensus on the way forward for chainsaw milling in Guyana.
.
The **objectives** of the Preparatory Meeting were to:

- Introduce the Task Force and outline its roles in guiding the management of the MSD
- Present the findings of the stakeholder analysis, research and focus group meetings
- Identify priority issues to be discussed on the multi-stakeholder dialogue
- Identify priority issues that required further research
- Agree on a definition for illegality
- Agree on the form and structure of the MSD
- Plan the first four (4) MSD meetings
- Discuss the way forward for the MSD

The approach to the Guyana MSD process took into consideration mitigating the risk of having "another talk shop" and the challenges of designing a forum that would encourage participatory discussion and decision making by stakeholder representatives on the issues they identified.

It was recommended that MSD meetings be organised in chainsaw sensitive areas (Annai, Anna Regina/Capoey, Ituni, Orealla/Corriverton) in four Regions (9, 10, 6, and 2) of Guyana. It was also recommended that these meetings be followed by a national consensus workshop to be held in Georgetown. The four regional level MSD meetings would be limited to approximately 30 representatives from key stakeholder groups.

The **priority issues** identified by stakeholder representatives for the multi-stakeholder dialogue were as follows:

Governance and policies (need for clear policies and guidelines for chainsaw milling)
- Fee structure
- Consistency of policies/codes of practice for forestry and mining
- Need meaningful consultations before policy development
- Strengthening of community governance
- Standards and requirements for portable vs. static mills
- The policy behind which and how much forest is allocated to chainsaw millers

Effective communication and dialogue
- Poor communication strategy in decision making at all levels
- Chainsaw millers/community loggers feel voiceless
- Planned conservation activities must involve all communities
- Consultation fatigue

Sustainability Forest Management, Viable Livelihood Options
- Sustainable forest management can be achieved
- Strategic planning: need for long term-planning at national and community levels
- Use of better technology to maximise the use of logs
- Value-adding activities to be explored
- Availability of other viable livelihood options
- Willingness to engage in alternative sources of income for a livelihood

Duration of the MSD Meetings

It was recognized by the Preparatory Meeting that the duration of the MSD in each community would depend on the agenda and activities planned by the PMT, the CMP team and the Task Force. Two days per MSD were decided on by the project team and the Task Force to accommodate the presentations, the dialogue on the issues, and the practical logs-to-lumber demonstrations.

Monitoring of the progress of the MSD Process

Stakeholder representatives at the Preparatory Meeting agreed on the need to develop a monitoring mechanism to measure the progress of the MSD and progress on the achievement of consensus.

The Preparatory Meeting also agreed that the Task Force would evaluate the outcomes of each MSD meeting and recommend adjustments based on its findings.

The following methods of evaluation by the Project Management Team and Task Force were proposed:
- Informal monitoring
- Formal monitoring (questionnaire)
- Show of hands
- Signing to agreements after meetings
- Stakeholders opinions (captured in short videos)

Simple evaluation techniques were utilized to get feedback from stakeholder representatives on each of the two days of the MSD. Their views, thoughts and feelings on the form and content of the process were documented by audio-video technology and in the formal reports on each MSD.

In addition critical conditions identified in the expanded logical framework will be monitored to ensure the multi-stakeholder dialogue is achieving its objectives.

3.10 Capacity Building in Strategic Planning

The objectives of a three-day Strategic Planning workshop for the Task Force and Project staff were as follows:

- To deepen each participant's awareness of collective and individual responsibilities and work programme of the Chainsaw Milling Project Task Force;
- To facilitate participants in developing a strategic plan for the Task Force;
- To engage participants in an interactive and participatory planning process.

This workshop and ongoing practical support from the project team enabled the Task Force to make meaningful contributions to the planning and evaluation of the MSD process.

3.11 Organisation & Facilitation of MSD 1

The first formal multi-stakeholder dialogue was held in Annai, Region 9, with the following objectives:
1) To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in the Annai community;
2) To engage participants in recommending SMART solutions for chainsaw lumbering issues as key to Annai's sustainable livelihood; and

3) To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber.

3.12 Task Force Reflection on MSD 1

The Task Force convened to reflect on, evaluate and make recommendations on the way forward for the MSD process on the basis of the Annai experience. The structure of the meeting was based on items in a "Reflection Questionnaire" prepared to guide the monitoring and evaluation by PMT and Task Force members. The findings were discussed at Task Force "Reflection Meetings," documented, decisions taken on the recommendations, and action implemented. Similar "reflection meetings" also took place after the second and third MSD. Questionnaire items were as follows:

1) Did the MSD meet the following aspects of its objectives:
   - A 'continuation' of the stakeholder dialogue
   - Consensus building
   - Capacity building
   - Providing information to guide stakeholder decision-making
2) Would you say that there was genuine dialogue?
3) Was the meeting participatory?
4) Did the stakeholder representatives seem to 'own' the process?
5) Were the two days adequately prepared for?
6) What was the best thing about Day 1?
7) What was the best thing about Day 2?
8) What comments and recommendations would you like to add?

3.13 Capacity Building of Project Staff and Members of the Task Force

A two-day workshop on Community Mobilization and Governance for Sustainable Forest Management was organized to achieve the following objectives:
- To deepen participants' understanding of community mobilization and capacity building requirements for mobilizing communities for sustainable forest management;
- To enable participants to communicate and practice good governance principles.

3.14 Regional MSD Preparatory Meetings

Internal MSD work planning sessions were conducted and a series of preparatory meetings (22) were held with stakeholder representatives in Regions #10, 6 and 2 with the following objectives:
1) To introduce participants to the objectives of the Chainsaw Milling Project and the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
2) To prepare participants to select effective representatives for the regional multi-stakeholder dialogue
3) To inform participants of draft agenda for MSD Meeting and practical demonstration plans
4) To get feedback from participants on the meeting and the MSD process

3.15 Organisation & Facilitation of MSD 2

The second multi-stakeholder dialogue was held in Region #10 with the following four objectives:
1) To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in Region 10;
2) To provide information to guide the stakeholder decision-making process;
3) To present other forms of possible livelihood options; and
4) To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on-practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber.

Addressing 'other livelihood options' (Objective 3) at the MSD was deemed to be especially important for this region because the significant down-sizing of the mainstay of its economy -- bauxite mining and processing operations – had led to much unemployment and under-employment.

3.16 Organisation & Facilitation of MSD 3 and 4

The third and fourth multi-stakeholder dialogues were held in Regions #6 and #2 with three objectives:
1) To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management in Region 10;
2) To provide information to guide the stakeholder decision-making process; and
3) To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on-practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber.

3.17 Preparation and Circulation of Reports on MSD Proceedings

Reports of MSD 1 to 4 have been prepared, and partly circulated to key stakeholders: The reports, including simplified versions for community stakeholders, will be fully disseminated by January 2011, in preparation for the MSD process at the national level.

3.18 Task Force Review & Appointment of Technical Sub-Committee

The year ahead will see the Task Force engaging in self-evaluation, reflecting on the regional MSDs, guiding the preparation for national MSD meetings and the MSD institutionalisation phase, reviewing the 2011 CMP Work Plan, appointing and deciding on Terms of Reference for the Technical Sub-Committee.

The TOR for the Technical Sub-Committee will include the following tasks:
- Analyse information gathered from the MSDs, research and focus groups using tools such as root cause analysis, SWOC, CBA;
- Identify key areas which require national consensus for action;
- Identify and fill data needs and research gaps where possible;
- Recommend packaging and presentation guidelines for national MSD.

3.19 Establishment and institutionalization of the MSD at the local level

MSD platforms will be institutionalized at the local level in the three pilot communities, with the inclusion of regional officials of the regulatory agencies and other key local stakeholder representatives. The CMP Community Forest Workers, under the supervision of the Community Forest Advisor (CFA), will be holding capacity building sessions and regular meetings with Community Forest Associations, Amerindian Village Councils, chainsaw operators and other community stakeholders to begin establishing a permanent forum for ongoing dialogue in Annai, Ituni and Orealla/Siparuta. Sub-activities include:

- Capacity building of CMP staff, Task Force members, GFC/MoAA Community Development Officers in governance, and use of tools for analysis and planning to support the multi-stakeholder dialogue process in the three pilot communities;
- Capacity building of pilot communities in governance, conflict resolution, documentation, communication, and in the use of various tools (root cause analysis, SWOC analysis, CBA, and SMART) relevant to community-based action planning.
- Agreement on membership of local MSD (and process of identifying representatives), and on the responsibilities of stakeholder representatives to the MSD platform at the local and national levels, to their constituencies and communities;
- Planning, guiding, monitoring, supporting and reporting on the local level multi-stakeholder dialogue by Community Forestry Workers.

3.20 Establishment and institutionalization of the MSD at the national level

Preparatory work for the establishment and institutionalisation of the national multi-stakeholder dialogue includes:

a) Determination of the terms of reference, work plan, and tenure of the Technical Sub-Committee of the Task Force established to recommend policy options for addressing chainsaw lumbering issues. Crucial tasks to be completed before moving to the national level dialogue will include Technical Sub-Committee:
   - analyzing information garnered during earlier stages of the MSD process for action at practical and policy levels;
   - deciding what issues must be addressed by policy makers;
   - analyzing relevant information and determining how it should be packaged for the various stakeholders;
   - considering issues and options for moving forward;
   - examining and justifying solutions proposed;
   - providing facts and figures, costs and benefits to guide decision-makers;
b) Orientation of Technical Sub-Committee on the tools and processes for analyzing the data gathered: root cause analysis, SWOC, CBA, SMART;
c) Facilitation of research to fill data gaps identified by Technical Sub-Committee;
d) Collaborating with the Technical Sub-Committee to package the results of the sub-committee findings for various stakeholders;
e) Technical Sub-Committee presentation of findings to key national stakeholders at preparatory meetings for the national level MSD;
f) Agreement on the process for engaging stakeholder representatives (policy makers, community, and others) for ongoing participation at national level MSD meetings. (Local stakeholder

representatives to the national MSD will form the core of the institutionalised MSD in the three pilot communities.)

g) Planning, organising and facilitating preparatory meetings:
- To brief senior officials of key agencies (e.g., GFC, OCC, EPA, MoAA, GGMC) on the MSD process to date, solutions that require their attention, and recommendations of the Technical Sub-Committee
- To brief community and other stakeholders on recommendations of Technical Sub-Committee, on the use of the SMART tool, and on best practices for effective representation
- To secure agreement on and plan agenda, content, process, timing and stakeholder representatives for national MSD meetings 5, 6 and 7.

h) Planning, organising and facilitating national MSD Five (June/July 2011), MSD Six (August/September 2011) and Seven (November/December 2011) with the following objectives:

National MSD 5
1) To continue the multi-stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process;
2) To engage participants in the examination of options for solutions for chainsaw lumbering issues;
3) To reach agreement on 'next steps.'

National MSD 6
1) To continue the multi-stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process;
2) To secure consensus on the use of local and national MSD as tools for problem solving;
3) To identify and agree on areas where consensus has been achieved;
4) To reach agreement on 'next steps.'

National MSD 7
1) To continue the multi-stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process;
2) To engage in action planning on agreed solutions using the SMART tool;
3) To reach agreement on 'next steps.'

i) Task Force reflection on the three national level MSDs. (Note: MSD timings may be affected by the national elections due in 2011 (date not yet announced).

4. MSD Plan for 2011

4.1 Review of Progress Achieved on Objectives of the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

Objective 1: To achieve a shared understanding of chainsaw lumbering practices and associated socio-economic issues.

- The CMP team, project partners and stakeholder representatives who have been participating in the dialogue process now have a shared understanding of chainsaw lumbering practices and the associated socio-economic issues. Getting 'stakeholder representatives' to fully grasp the principles and practice of the work of representation will be ongoing in order to ensure that constituencies and groups understand the issues, and are being effectively and transparently represented.

- All key stakeholder agencies have received copies of the Reports on the MSD regional meetings detailing the issues raised by stakeholders and the recommendations for solutions that stakeholder representatives have proposed.
- Seven focus group meetings in the early phase of the Project, 22 MSD preparatory meetings in three regions (10, 6 and 2), four formal two-day MSD meetings (all key locations for dialogue on issues and practices) and three pilot community bulletins (prepared and currently being reviewed) on the outcomes of the MSDs all contribute to a general and specific increase in understanding of the socio-economic chainsaw-related issues.
- Training in Forests Laws, Code of Practice, Reduced Impact Logging and community-based forest management facilitated by the Project and conducted by the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC) and the Forestry Training Centre Inc (FTCI) has also greatly assisted these key stakeholders in understanding existing chainsaw practices and the socio-economic realities of different communities.
- However, this objective has not yet been achieved at the policy level of key agencies. While representatives of the GFC, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA) who participated in the dialogue are clear on the practices and issues, officials at more senior and national levels may not have similar levels of clarity. The Guyana Gold Miners Commission (GGMC), another key stakeholder agency, has not participated in the process at any level so far. One representative from the Office of Climate Change (OCC) was present at a MSD preparatory meeting.
- Public understanding of the main chainsaw issues in the four MSD regions has increased during the period under review with:
    - the circulation of the synopsis paper on the Chainsaw Milling Project;
    - the airing of a Project video by national and local television stations;
    - Radio Paiwomak, the Annai community radio station, live broadcasts of portions of that region's MSD discussions;
    - a CMP press conference held to coincide with the visit of Tropenbos representatives to Guyana covered by the principal media outlets in Guyana;
    - the dissemination of a one-page green flyer outlining background information on *why chainsaw operators, what the chainsaw milling project is about, who is involved In the project, what it has done so far, where it is going next* and *why it is important.*

Objective 2: To build consensus between and among stakeholders to reduce the level of conflict and illegality related to chainsaw lumbering by local communities.

- Chainsaw related conflict in Guyana mainly involves poaching, forestry laws, regulations and code of practice offences. Violations with respect to occupational health and safety (OHS) and labour laws are countrywide problems. The Project is planning a vigorous safety campaign in 2011 to begin addressing OHS issues in the chainsaw sub-sector. In addition to poverty, greed and a culture of lawlessness being driving factors behind many of the illegalities; the general insufficiency of chainsaw-milling-specific awareness, education, training and monitoring are also contributing factors. Through the MSD process, the role of these factors, as well as longstanding and deep-seated communication, comprehension and calculation competence issues are now more fully understood. Consensus on the connections between illegal activities and effective communication is being achieved, as is all-round consensus on the importance of basic training in all elements of sustainable forest management.
- In order to ensure that partners and concerned parties in the international environment do not assume levels of violence when the term 'conflict' is used*; issues, problems, difficulties* and c*hallenges* more appropriately and accurately describe and communicate the Guyana reality.
- Two of the pilot communities (Annai and Orealla/Siparuta) in the project occupy and operate on lands owned by the indigenous peoples. There is consensus that many of their many issues are governance related. Although GFC has no legal mandate over these communities, there is growing consensus, among indigenous leaders and chainsaw operators, that the agency has a moral and legitimate responsibility to assist Amerindian communities to develop their capacity to manage their

forest resources in a sustainable way – and that this should include taking action against outsiders poaching on Amerindian owned lands and dealers fraudulently passing off illegal produce as though sourced from Amerindian reservations.

- In the third pilot community, the Ituni Small Loggers Association has reported a substantial reduction in the level of recorded violations and fines paid by community loggers to the GFC. This is no small achievement. The wide range of development opportunities facilitated by the project has also contributed to the growing consensus that there are benefits, short- and medium-term, to be gained from legal operations.

- The sharing of experiences by small loggers now operating legitimately through community forest associations, and the reporting by CFA representatives of offending behaviours of rogue operators, is also helping to build consensus on the need for systematic monitoring and ensuring of acceptable forest practices.

- Generally speaking, the MSD tool has enabled agents of regulatory bodies, providers of inputs, consumers of chainsaw products, and other operators within the chainsaw sub-sector to discuss their issues with one another openly and respectfully, give and get information and clarifications, and begin the process of resolving the irritants and problems plaguing stakeholders. On both sides of the regulatory divide, participants have reported a better understanding, reduced levels of antagonism, and improved relations between parties on the ground as forestry officials are acting more as facilitators and educators than as enforcers. This bodes well for the continuing achievement of this objective.

Objective 3: To address regulatory frameworks to strengthen good governance in the forestry sector

- The Project is addressing this objective by facilitating training in the Forests Laws, Code of Practice, reduced impact logging, sustainable forest management, participatory management planning, and basic bookkeeping. Additional educational and training interventions are needed, and have been requested by the communities in all of the above areas, in the three pilot communities. During the MSD process in Region 2, where the Project has no pilot community, requests were also made by village leaders, community forest association representatives and chainsaw operatives for on-site training to enable the sub-sector to comply with forestry regulations and sustainable forest management practices.

- Attempts are being made to determine the content and methodology of past and current interventions by the GFC with respect to the formation, maintenance, monitoring and planning for the future of the existing community forestry associations. This information, and additional information gathered from the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the communities on the needs and issues that must be addressed will be key to designing the capacity building intervention on governance issues. The principal work for 2011 towards meeting this objective will be systematic governance education and training for the project's Community Forest Workers, Community Forest Associations, Amerindian Village Councils and other community groups in the pilot communities.

- Through the MSD process, stakeholder representatives have begun to appreciate the links between good governance on the one hand, and the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours on the other hand, that all parties bring to the table. Many of the key actors on the ground are also beginning to see, as a result of the MSD example, that the *forms* that communication takes are as important as the *content* of the communication initiatives.

- The project has begun to address OHS issues by signalling to all concerned that it will be challenging negative health and safety attitudes and behaviours in a wholehearted and holistic way to bring chainsaw owners and operatives into greater compliance with Ministry of Labour, Human Services & Social Security regulations.

4.2 Plan for the MSD on chainsaw lumbering in Guyana (2010- 2011)

The plan for the MSD will be further elaborated based on the priority issues identified from the preparatory meeting of the MSD during a strategic planning session with the PMT and the Task Force set for January 2009. At this planning session, the task force will define the objectives, plan the agendas for the meetings and determine expected outcomes.

Meeting	Objectives	Output	Period	Where	Remarks
MSD 1-4 (regional level)	1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management. 2. To engage participants in discussing and recommending solutions for chainsaw lumbering issues identified by stakeholders as key to sustainable livelihood. 3. To demonstrate and facilitate hands-on practice with a range of different technologies for more effectively converting logs into lumber.	• An understanding of the issues related to chainsaw lumbering and their impacts on the sub-sector; • Recommendations for solutions to address issues related to chainsaw lumbering; • Improvement of capacity of local operatives for practical decision making for sustainable forest management; • Meeting proceedings report on recommended solutions to stakeholder issues that will contribute to national level discussions on chainsaw milling in Guyana.	MSD1: February 17-18, 2010 MSD 2: July 7-8, 2010 MSD 3: August 17-18, 2010 MSD 4: October 19-20, 2010	Annai, Region 9 Linden, Region 10 Corriverton, Region 6 Anna Regina, Region 2	Completed
Preparatory meetings for MSD 2, 3 and 4	1. To introduce participants to objectives of the Chainsaw Milling Project and the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue. 2. To build participants' capacity for representation work on the multi-stakeholder dialogue. 3. To facilitate the selection of stakeholder representatives to the regional MSD. 4. To inform participants of draft agenda for MSD Meeting and Practical Demonstration. 5. To get feedback from participants on prep meeting and the MSD process.	• List of region-specific stakeholder issues to be added to those elicited earlier in the process. • Names of representatives identified for MSD. • Information on CMP and MSD communicated to stakeholder groups by persons participating in preparatory meetings.	May 17-October 8, 2010	Regions 10, 6 and 2	Completed
MSD 1-3 Task Force Reflections	To reflect on the MSD process, make recommendations and decisions on adjusting the process in light of lessons learned.	• Reflections meeting and report • Task force decisions on recommendations	February 19-March 4, 2010 July 12-28, 2010 August 19-September 3, 2010	FTCI	Completed
Task Force Evaluation, Review & Appointment of Technical Sub-Committee (and decision on ToR)	Task Force self-evaluation, review of past work and proposed work plan, guidance on continuation of MSD process, and appointment of Technical Sub-Committee 1. To analyse information (using a variety of tools, (eg, root cause analysis, SWOC and CBA) collected from stakeholders, research	Agreement on 2011 work plan Options for solutions to put to national MSD	January 2011		To be done

	and focus group sessions. 2. To identify key areas which require national consensus for action. 3. To identify and fill data needs and research gaps where possible. 4. To recommend packaging and presentation guidelines for national MSD.				
Research	To fill data gaps identified by technical sub-committee.	Research reports	February-April 2011		To be done

(Inter)MSD Planning	1. To identify stakeholders for national level MSDs (policy makers, community and other stakeholder);
	2. To organise and facilitate preparatory meetings for national MSDs
	  a. To brief policy level stakeholders at the national level on the MSD process, solutions that require their attention, and present technical sub- committee recommendations.
	  b. To engage community and other stakeholders on recommended solutions of technical sub-committee.
	3. To plan content, process and precise timing of national MSD meetings.
	
	4. Reflection of Task Force on MSD meetings (process, content, achievements, challenges).
	
	5. Final evaluation of the MSD process by task force.
		MSD membership identified.
		
		Policy makers understanding of the MSD process to date, and the part they need to play re the issues and recommended solutions on chainsaw lumbering in Guyana.
		
		Community and other stakeholder representation informed on solutions.
		
		Planned Agenda, process and dates, timing, participants (permanent members for national level MSDs) and venue of meetings.
		Decisions on recommendations following each reflection meeting.
		
		Report on Task Force reflections on MSD national level meetings with recommendations.
		
		Report on Task Force evaluation on MSD process
			May - December 2011		To be done

MSD 5 (National Meeting for addressing solutions)	1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue, consensus and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management. 2. To engage participants in examining options for solutions for chainsaw lumbering issues. 3. To reach agreement on 'next steps.'	Report with recommendations on solutions and the way forward,	June – July 2011		To be done

MSD 6 (National consensus Meeting)	1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management. 2. To get consensus on the use of local and national MSD as tools for problem solving. 3. To identify and agree on areas where consensus has been achieved. 4. To reach agreement on 'next steps'	Consensus report and recommendations on the way forward.	August – September 2011		To be done
MSD 7 (National Action Planning Meeting)	1. To continue the stakeholder dialogue and capacity building process for community livelihood and sustainable forest management. 2. To engage in action planning on agreed solutions using SMART tool. 3. To reach agreement on 'next steps.'	Draft action plan and decision on the way forward	November – December 2011		To be done
Institutionalisation of MSD platform at local levels	1. To identify local representatives to be part of the membership of the national MSD and form the core of the local MSD. 2. To establish and facilitate MSD problem-solving platforms at local level with community and regional participation in three pilot communities.	Regular attendance at and feedback on national MSD meetings by local representatives. Regular MSD meetings held in Annai, Ituni, and Orealla/Siparuta – and documented.	January – December 2011		To be done
Communication	1. To ensure that main stakeholders get and give feedback on all aspects of the MSD process and the work of the project. 2. To create an enabling environment for the necessary policy decisions and actions to be taken with respect to the CSM subsector. 3. To promote the MSD tool at local, national and international levels.	MSD reports Community bulletins MSD videos Press conferences Media articles and interviews Pilot community school-based sessions CMP website updated	January 2010 – December 2011		To be done
Capacity building	1. Capacity building of Task Force and staff in a. Strategic Planning b. Community Mobilization and Governance c. Report writing for CFWs d. Planning, analysis, facilitation and communication skills 2. To facilitate capacity building in cooperation with Community Forestry Component, in a. Governance b. Analysis, planning, facilitation and communication skills c. Occupational health and safety	Improved functioning of task force and staff for MSD support activities. Consensus built on the necessity for sustainable forest management and sustainable livelihoods.	January 14-16, 2010 April 29-30, 2010 October 27, 2010 January – December 2011	Splashmin's Resort FTCI FTCI	Completed Completed Completed To be done

	d. Code of Practice and Forests Laws e. Sustainable forest management f. Viable livelihood options				

5. Monitoring and Evaluation of the MSD

An expanded logical framework was developed to monitor the remaining MSD activities of the project, resulting from the training in learning oriented M&E. Some activities were added or the order of activities was rearranged from the original logical framework sequence to align for better implementation of the work of the MSD.

Expanded Logical Framework

Result 3: Multi-stakeholder learning forums established to discuss chainsaw lumbering issues						
Project Objectives	**Performance and learning questions in relation to the objectives**	**Intended use of the information (by whom)**	**Information needs and Indicators**	**Methods, sources and processes of verification & communication**	**Timing & frequency**	**M&E Roles & responsibilities/ Required capacities & conditions**
1. Objective Create a task force responsible for the management of the multi-stakeholder process	Do members of the task force have the capacity to guide a multi-stakeholder process? What capacities exist and how do we bridge capacity gaps? Are there expertise/capacities to fill gaps?	Inform the Project Management Team on what capacities are needed for the task force to effectively guide the MSD	TF Members technical knowledge on the issues (discussion on issues) TF Members knowledge in planning MSDs (process) Capacity gaps identified (assessment of TF performance at meetings) Available expertise in the project/ locally/ overseas to fill capacity gaps	PMT assessment of TF performance at meetings. PMT, Local / Overseas Expertise	On creation of the task force; every 6 months	PMT, Facilitator Financial Technical
Required critical conditions: The Task Force has the capacity to effectively guide MSD process.						
Concerns about the process: The technical expertise identified to bridge capacity gaps is the available. Financial Resources are available for capacity building of the TF						
Concerns about the stakeholders: The project is taking up too much valuable time of TF members.						
Concerns about assumptions: All participants have the same level of understanding to participate in the MSD and capacity building.						

Result 3: Multi-stakeholder learning forums established to discuss chainsaw lumbering issues						
Project Objectives	**Performance and learning questions in relation to the objectives**	**Intended use of the information (by whom)**	**Information needs and Indicators**	**Methods, sources and processes of verification & communication**	**Timing & frequency**	**M&E Roles & responsibilities/ Required capacities & conditions**
2. Objective Build capacity of various stakeholder groups to participate in the MSD	Why is it that we need the MSD? Are people communicating presently, if not why? What capacities are needed for stakeholders to effectively participate in the MSD? How do we build stakeholders capacity to participate in the MSD? What opportunities exist for synergies in capacity efforts of the Community Forestry Component of the project and other stakeholders?	To help the implementers of the MSD (PMT and task force) to identify and address capacity weaknesses of stakeholders groups to participate in the MSD.	Information on which stakeholder groups are not participating in the MSD and why	Observation of participation on the MSD	Ongoing	PMT, Task Force, Facilitator Financial Technical

Required critical conditions: The Implementers of the project are able to detect that stakeholder are participating in the dialogue.

Concerns about the process: The technical expertise identified to bridge capacity gaps is the available.
    Financial Resources are available for capacity building where needed
.

Concerns about the stakeholders: The project is taking up too much valuable time of stakeholders

Concerns about assumptions: Stakeholders are willing to bridge gaps/divides

Result 4: National consensus achieved in Guyana about issues regarding chainsaw lumbering using an institutionalised mechanism for permanent dialogue						
Project Objectives	Performance and learning questions in relation to the objectives	Intended use of the information (by whom)	Information needs and Indicators	Methods, sources and processes of verification & communication	Timing & frequency	M&E Roles & responsibilities/ Required capacities & conditions
1. Objective: **Create a communication mechanism to document and disseminate findings**	What are the most effective ways of communicating with the identified stakeholders?	Inform the stakeholders and the general public' To build the capacity of the stakeholders	Types of communication tools would be useful to stakeholders based on culture, level of education, language, access to information (remoteness), access to ICT	Discussion with stakeholders of communication activities: Are they receiving feedback? Do they understand the feedback? Are they encouraged by the feedback?	As outlined in the communic ation strategy	PMT Financial and Technical, Stakeholders feedback

Required critical conditions
The technical resources are available to develop the communication outputs identified.
Financial resources are available to produce the communication outputs

Concerns about the process
There is adequate follow-up on the impact of the communication methods used.
A distribution network for the information is established for all stakeholders despite their geographic location.

Concerns about the stakeholders
The communication mechanism developed is accessible and user friendly.

Concerns about the assumptions
The documentation of the outcomes are really what transpired at meetings.

Result 4: National consensus achieved in Guyana about issues regarding chainsaw lumbering using an institutionalised mechanism for permanent dialogue						
Project Objectives	**Performance and learning questions in relation to the objectives**	**Intended use of the information (by whom)**	**Information needs and Indicators**	**Methods, sources and processes of verification & communication**	**Timing & frequency**	**M&E Roles & responsibilities/ Required capacities & conditions**
2. Objective: Conduct meetings of the MSD following work plan	Is the work-plan sound and strategic? - Are there goals defined? - Is there consideration for sound management of the MSD? - What outcomes are expected? Are the meetings effective: - Are we achieving the objectives of the meetings? - Are we adjusting as we learn? - Is the logistical planning done effectively? Timely preparation: agenda, setting, scheduling, planning of activities, prior informed promoting and adhering to principles agreed on for the MSD? - Is consensus being achieved? - Number of stakeholders to be invited	Implementers (PMT, TF, Facilitator) of the MSD to guide in planning and decision making	Planning of logistics, Accessibility, number of attendees, sourcing of food	Work plan Response or feedback from the stakeholders Level of buy-in to the process by the stakeholders	Quarterly	Task Force, PMT
Required critical conditions: Stakeholder are interested in discussions on the MSD **Concerns about the process:** The planning process is participatory/ inclusive that encourages stakeholder ownership of the process and also willingness to resolve issues on chainsaw milling in Guyana. **Concerns about the stakeholders:** Stakeholders are motivated to participate in the MSD, they are give adequate notice and a neutral space is provided where they can participate without fear of reprisals. **Concerns about assumptions:** Will the stakeholder be really interested in this dialogue process?						

Result 4: National consensus achieved in Guyana about issues regarding chainsaw lumbering using an institutionalised mechanism for permanent dialogue						
Project Objectives	Performance and learning questions in relation to the objectives	Intended use of the information (by whom)	Information needs and Indicators	Methods, sources and processes of verification & communication	Timing & frequency	M&E Roles & responsibilities/ Required capacities & conditions
3. Objective: Collect and analyze information as agreed at MSD forum	Why do stakeholders want to know more about an issue? Is the issue worth evaluating?	To better inform the stakeholders including policy makers on issues	Data on the issues identified. The analysis report is disseminated to the stakeholders	Dependent on the issue identified different data collection methods would be employed	On going during the MSD	Task Force, PMT, researchers Financial, technical

Required critical conditions:
Identification of pertinent and relevant issues that need further analysis

Concerns about the process
Management of the facilitation process – Conflicting issues
Do the technical capacities exist to analyse the issues?

Concerns about the stakeholders
Validity of information

Concerns about the assumptions
The criteria established to determine the validity of the data can withstand a litmus test.

Annex 1: ToR for Task Force

Terms of Reference

Project ENV/2007/133-003: 'Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw lumbering through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana'

Task force for the Management of the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

1. Background

The Forestry Training Centre Incorporated, a subsidiary of the Guyana Forestry Commission, is collaborating with Tropenbos International and Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development (Iwokrama) to implement the Guyana component of an EU funded project '*Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw lumbering through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana'*.

The project focuses on the broad theme of forest governance in countries where chainsaw milling is prevalent, Ghana and Guyana in particular. 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.

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.

Result 3. Multi-stakeholder Platform
Result (3) of the project will aim at the creation of the mechanism for stakeholders to interact.

The substantive activities of the stakeholder 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.

2.   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 2006[1], 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.

The success of creating a multi-stakeholder platform for dialogue will depend on the extent to which the stakeholders contribute to such a mechanism, and their willingness to accept and take responsibility for the outcomes of the process.

The Project Management Team will therefore create appropriate institutional arrangements for such a platform, including the proper identification of stakeholders and the training and preparation of facilitators, and participating representatives of stakeholders.

3.   Establishment of a task force to manage the multi-stakeholder process
One of the activities identified by the project is to create a "task force", responsible for the management of the multi-stakeholder process. This task force will ensure that the stakeholders "own" the process; that the meetings are conducted within a work plan; and that decisions are communicated to the relevant agencies, where appropriate.

The task force will be comprised of 9 representatives from the following organizations/agencies/key stakeholder groups, identified in the stakeholder analysis of the project:

1. **Regulatory Agency:** Guyana Forestry Commission
2. **Community Based Forestry Associations:**
3. **Representatives of SFPs:**

---

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

4. **Amerindian communities producing chainsaw lumber:**
5. **Timber Industry**: Forest Producers Association
6. **Chainsaw lumber merchants/persons involved in secondary/tertiary processing**: Guyana Manufacturing Association
7. **Academia:** UG/GSA
8. **Conservation/Research Institutions/Natural resource related NGO:** World Wildlife fund for Nature
9. **Other forest based users/enterprises:** Gold and Diamond Miners /**NTFP** (preferred) harvesters/Agriculture /Ecotourism.

The Facilitators of the MSD will be resource persons to the task force.

The task force will meet once every 2 months for the duration of the MSD.

4. Responsibilities of the task force
The task force will provide technical oversight, coordination among agencies, assistance in problem-solving, provision of policy guidelines, and monitoring of multi-stakeholder dialogue in Guyana.

Specifically, the task force will engage in the following:
– Promoting the objectives and desired outcomes of the project;
– Supporting the roles and responsibilities of Tropenbos International, the partners in Guyana (FTCI and Iwokrama), the Project Coordinator and the stakeholders;
– Organising the election of a chairperson and scribe for the meetings;
– Reviewing and commenting on MSD work plans and budget;
– Actively participating in the planning of the MSD meetings;
– Providing technical support and oversight where appropriate;
– Monitoring the implementation of MSD activities and related expenditure;
– Providing assistance in resolving problems and addressing challenges if necessary; and
– Communicating the results of decisions of the MSD to relevant agencies/ and stakeholder groups where appropriate.

5. Limitations of the task force
The task force shall not take decisions on the use of funds, termination of contracts or any major changes to the project which will substantially change the agreed objectives of the project. Such decisions, based on recommendations by the task force, will be taken at tripartite review with Tropenbos International, the project partners and the project coordinator when applicable.

6. Deliverables
1. Minutes of meetings of the task force submitted to the project secretariat within one week of the meeting.
2. An assessment of key issues arising from MSD meetings including the organization of the event and the ease with which contributions/inputs at meetings, and the quality of outputs from each meeting.

7. Reporting
The task force members shall report directly to the National Project Coordinator and work in close collaboration with the Project Management Team and other Project staff in Guyana.

8. Remuneration
The task force will be paid a sitting allowance to be determined by the Project Management Team in addition to reimbursement of transportation costs for persons travelling from outside Georgetown environs to attend meetings.

Annex 2: Members of the Task Force

Members of the MSD Task Force are:

Ms. Simone Benn   Guyana Forestry Commission representative

Mr. Andrew Mendes   Guyana Manufacturing & Services Association representative

Mr. Khalawan   Forest Products Association of Guyana representative

Mr. Lawrence Lewis   University of Guyana Representative

Mr. Charles Thom   Community Forestry Associations (CFAs) representative
Mr. Tasleem Drepaul   CFAs representative alternate

Ms Shameza David   Ministry of Amerindian Affairs

Ms. Irene Bacchus Holder   Guyana Arts and Crafts Producers Association