



PROMOTING FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Forests in the Asia-Pacific region provide vital ecosystem services in support of agriculture, food security and nutrition; as well as playing a critical role in climate-change mitigation and adaptation. This vital role is being rapidly diminished, owing to massive degradation of forests and lands. In recent years, the landscape restoration approach has gained momentum and offers enormous opportunities. However, reforestation efforts in the region have been modest, owing to a general lack of awareness, technical capacity, and viable strategies at the national level to implement forest and landscape restoration (FLR). The project aimed to support four selected countries in the region to restore degraded forestlands using a landscape approach through the adoption of FLR in national forest restoration strategies.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project significantly improved knowledge and skills to restore degraded forestlands in four selected countries in the region: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Philippines. This was done by carrying out national assessments of FLR in the four countries, to identify the type of potential FLR interventions, gaps, opportunities and needs for FLR; piloting FLR approaches at selected demonstration sites in the four countries; and conducting technical capacity-building activities for the governments and communities to identify opportunities and create an enabling environment for FLR. The project promoted regional, multisector collaboration on FLR; initiated the establishment of frameworks for moving forward in the years to come; and laid the foundation for larger projects on FLR in the future.

IMPACT

The project contributed to enhancing sustainable livelihoods and improving agricultural production for local communities and forest dependent peoples, by contributing to the restoration of environmental stability and productivity of degraded forests and forest landscapes. In addition, assistance was provided for planting food crops on firebreaks, thereby providing sources of sustenance, while concurrently creating incentives to prevent fire. Sustained maintenance of firebreaks is crucial for the restoration of tree cover on denuded lands.

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD 300 000

Duration

April 2016 – December 2017

Resource Partner

FAO

Partners

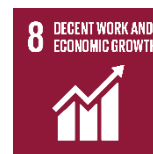
Forestry Administration of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia; Ministry of Environment and Forestry and Provincial Forestry Office of West Sumatra, Indonesia; Department of Forestry of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao People's Democratic Republic; Forest Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Department of Interior and Local Government and Provincial Government of Bohol, Philippines

Beneficiaries

Planners and field staff of government forestry agencies, members of academia, community organization officers and farmer leaders in their respective communities, local communities, farmers

ACTIVITIES

- Suitable sites for the demonstration of FLR in the four countries were selected and established, including five pilot sites in Cambodia, two in Lao People’s Democratic Republic, three in Indonesia and seven in Philippines.
- FLR was implemented with a country-specific focus in the selected sites: Cambodia emphasized comprehensive planning via application of the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) method; Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Indonesia built on previous accomplishments in assisted natural regeneration (ANR); and Philippines focused on firebreak establishment, ANR, hands-on training courses, institutional development, and strengthening of linkages among the concerned national government agencies.
- A series of training activities was implemented: in Cambodia the training focused on addressing capacity gaps concerning planning; in Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Indonesia and Philippines workshops prioritized the promotion of FLR concepts, and built on previous or ongoing rehabilitation programmes.
- A regional training workshop with a field visit was conducted in Philippines, attended by 29 participants from the four project countries.
- One national inception meeting/workshop was organized in each project country to build awareness on FLR and foster appreciation and support on the FLR approach.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Project Code
TCP/RAS/3512

Project Title
Promoting Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)
in Selected Southeast Asian Countries

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