



## WORKSHOP ON FOREST TRADE AND MARKET REFORMS IN THE MEKONG REGION: CREATING A NETWORK TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY, LEGALITY, AND PRO-POOR OUTCOMES

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### PARTICIPANTS LIST & BIOGRAPHIES

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#### ***Hour Lim Chhun, Sustainable Livelihoods Specialist, UNDP***

Mr. Hour Lim Chhun is currently working as a Sustainable Livelihoods Specialist for the UNDP on the Tonle Sap Conservation Project. After this project is completed this August, he will resume his work as Head of Cambodia's Forestry Administration Extension Office. He has also worked with DANIDA, UNFF, ITTO and participated in various Mekong regional forestry forums. He holds a Master's degree in Environmental Forestry from the School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences, University and College of North Wales, Bangor, UK.

#### ***Andrew Cock, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre of Southeast Asian Studies, Monash University***

Andrew Cock is a postdoctoral fellow in the Centre of Southeast Asian Studies at Monash University. He obtained a PhD in political science from La Trobe University in 2007 for a dissertation on the interaction between Cambodia's ruling elite and the forestry reform agenda promoted by Western aid donors. From 1999-2004 he worked on forestry and natural resource management issues in Cambodia, for much of the period employed as forestry policy advisor with the NGO Forum on Cambodia. Interested in the linkages between energy, agriculture, and climate change, he has more recently embarked on a new project on the political dimensions of agrarian change in mainland Southeast Asia.

#### ***Keith Barney, Post-doctoral Student, York University***

Mr. Keith Barney is a PhD candidate in the Department of Geography at York University, Toronto, Canada. He conducted doctoral fieldwork in Laos from 2004-2006 on the political economy and political ecology of tree plantations development, and has also completed research in Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Malaysia. Since 2003, he also has consulted on forestry management issues in Asia for Forest Trends, Rights and Resources Initiative and CIFOR.

#### ***Kerstin Canby, Director, Forest Trade and Finance Program, Forest Trends***

Ms. Kerstin Canby is the Director of the Forest Trade and Finance Program at Forest Trends. In addition to general program management, her work specifically focuses on policies and trade issues related to the illegal logging, corruption and associated trade, such as the role of financial institutions and investment flows in combating illegal and unsustainable harvesting practices. A significant portion of her time is spent on the China / East Asia region. Prior to joining Forest Trends, Kerstin worked at the World Bank, where she worked with the Bank's Governance and Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Programs, coordinating the Africa FLEG ministerial process and providing training to local NGOs interested in developing independent monitoring networks; the World Bank's CEOs ad hoc Forum on Forests; and as special assist to the Director of the Environment Department. She continues to work with the World Bank, advising on the development of the Europe / North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Ministerial process.

Kerstin has also worked with the US Forest Service in Oregon (economic and land management analysis), was the co-founder of an environmental education program in Durham, North Carolina, and was a teaching assistant of environmental economics at Duke University. Kerstin holds a BA from Duke University, as well

as a Masters in Environmental Management from Duke University's School of Forest and Environmental Sciences, where she focused on forestry, wetlands and coastal ecosystems.

***Khamla Phanvilay, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Forestry, National University of Laos, and Post-Doctoral Student, East-West Centre, University of Hawaii***

Mr. Khamla Phanvilay is Vice Dean of the Faculty of Forestry, National University of Laos, also holds a position as a post-doctoral student at the East-West Centre, University of Hawaii. His main area of expertise is water and resource management in Laos.

***Maung Maung Than, Mangrove Plantation Project Manager, FREDA***

Dr. Maung Maung Than has been working as a Mangrove researcher since April 2006. He also teaches forestry training courses, mostly Silviculture, Community Forestry and Environmental Conservation to NGO staff and community leaders. When he is not teaching, he writes articles that are related to environmental conservation and sustainable development in a weekly Journal for public awareness. He has also worked with an NGO called FREDA on mangrove restoration, with CARE Myanmar on mangrove forestry, and as a Forest Ranger and Plantation Assistant for the Myanmar Forest Department. He holds a Masters of Science in Natural Resource Conservation from Yokohama National University, Japan.

***Stephen Midgley, Director, Salwood Asia Pacific Pty Ltd.***

Mr. Stephen Midgley is Director of Salwood Asia Pacific Pty Ltd, a company which offers a professional commitment to partnerships between Asian and Australian forest industries and organisations through a range of services relating to the commercial plantation use of Australian trees, forest industries and rural development. For more than 34 years he has worked in plantation-oriented projects with Asian partners and spent 13 years living and working in Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka and China. He maintains a strong working network of friendships and personal relationships in many countries of Asia. Stephen has a professional commitment to the commercial use of Australia's eucalypts and acacias and has published widely on their international use. In partnership with his strong and functioning networks within the Asian forestry sector he has completed studies on wood demand and markets, primarily in China, Vietnam and India.

***Robert Oberndorf, Project Coordinator, RECOFTC***

Mr. Robert Burton Oberndorf, J.D., is an international natural resources and environmental lawyer with over fifteen years of experience. He has been based in Southeast Asia for eight years working on issues relating to natural resources and environmental law, land management and governance reform, and is currently the Asia-Pacific Regional Project Coordinator for the VERIFOR and Pro-Poor Tenure, Markets and Trade Projects at the Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand.

***Phuc Xuan, Post-doctoral Student, Anthropology Department, University of Toronto***

Mr. Phuc Xuan To was formerly a junior researcher at Junior Research Group on Post-socialist Land Relations at Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany. He received his doctoral degree in Geography at Humboldt University in Berlin in 2007. His dissertation project examines political economy of forest in Vietnam, with particular attention to the dynamics of access and control over forestland and forest resources. He, together with his colleagues, is now working on a book project that examines the changing post-socialist landscapes in Vietnam, Romania, and Albania. Phuc is involved in the research project entitled The Challenges of Agrarian Transition in Southeast Asia (ChATSEA), and another project that studies biodiversity discourses in Vietnam. He has been writing on cultural markets of timber and land in the uplands of Vietnam. Phuc is now a postdoc fellow at the Anthropology Department of University of Toronto, Canada.

***Pyrou Chung, Biodiversity and Grassroots Advocacy Field Coordinator, East-West Management Institute - Program on Rights and Justice (EWMI-PRAJ)***

Ms. Pyrou Chung holds a degree in environmental science with a Masters in Ecology, and has worked mainly on the promotion of sustainability both within developed and developing countries. Recently she has been involved with community organizing, facilitation of community forest monitoring initiatives and advocacy

surrounding land disputes in Cambodia. She is currently working directly with communities within the Prey Lang forest in Northern Cambodia. This extensive forest of 100,000ha is unprotected but of high biodiversity significance to Cambodia and the Indochina region as it is the last remaining dry lowland evergreen forest. It is at present experiencing significant threats from mining, plantations, illegal wildlife trade and logging. Her work with the communities is focused on building community capacity to monitor forestry resources empowering them to assert their traditional stewardship rights over the forest area and to influence management initiatives along side government policy and frameworks. In addition to this, she sits on the National Steering Committee of the Extractive Industries Working Group which focuses on holding the government accountable to upholding environmental, social and human rights issues in relation to extractive industries.

***Jordan Sauer, Program Associate, Forest Trade and Finance Program, Forest Trends***

Mr. Jordan Sauer joined Forest Trends in February 2008 as the Program Associate for the Forest Trade and Finance program. Prior to joining Forest Trends, Jordan worked briefly with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) in London, assisting with the consultation process on the Global Forest Partnership consultation. Jordan recently graduated from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London with an MA in International Studies and Diplomacy. His master's thesis explored the effectiveness of forest certification and public governance initiatives in regulating illegal logging in the Asia-Pacific region.

***Sithong Thongmanivong, Head of Research, National University of Laos***

Mr. Sithong Thongmanivong is a lecturer in Remote Sensing, GIS, and Integrated Land Use Planning at the Faculty of Forestry, National University of Laos. He holds a Phd in Biology from the University of Vienna (2004), and his primary area of expertise is teaching and research on remote sensing and GIS. He has also gained extensive research and consulting experience in capacity building and community based natural resource management in Laos, Vietnam, Thailand and the Philippines.

***Supol Jitvijak, Head of Forest Resources Unit, WWF Greater Mekong Thailand Country Programme***

Supol Jitvijak is the Head of the Forest Unit, WWF Greater Mekong Thailand Country Programme. He has more than 10 years experience on protected area management in Thailand. He completed his Master's Degree in park and recreation, at the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Thailand. At present, he is interesting on forest trend in Thailand and forest rehabilitation and restoration.

***Su Yufang, Program Manager, World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF)***

Ms. Su Yufang is a program manager at the World Agroforestry Center, China office, where her current work focuses on resources governance, livelihood and land use transition, including forestland tenure reform, sustainable forest management, and sustainable use and production of rural energy in Southwest China. Prior to joining the World Agroforestry Center, China office, Ms. Su served as a researcher at the Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, and Center for Community Development Studies. During her ten years with the Chinese research institute and NGO, Ms. Su developed and implemented several researches addressing critical issues in Southwest China, including poverty alleviation, natural resources management, and resources tenure. She also served as a consultant a series of China-related international rural development programs. And now she is working at in an international organization devoted to scientific-technical research on agroforestry, livelihoods and the environment. She therefore has some different professional experiences at different institutional settings. Ms. Su completed a bachelor's degree program on Geography at the Shanghai Teachers' University in China and received a Master degree on Sustainable Development at the Chiang Mai University in Thailand. She also has pursued extensive relevant professional training.

***Tanasin Yimnoi, Head of Forest Resources Unit, WWF Greater Mekong Thailand Country Programme***

He completed his Master's Degree in park and recreation, at the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Thailand.. He is strong in field experience on land use planning and forest rehabilitation. Currently, he is taking the lead to develop Forest Trend and Sustainable use under the Forest Unit.

***Tan Quang Nguyen, Independent Researcher/Consultant***

Dr. Tan Quang Nguyen is a Vietnamese national. He has a Master degree from University of Arizona, the United States, in 2000 and a PhD degree from Humboldt University Berlin, Germany, in 2004. During his PhD research, he was one of the core members of a research team on development of a tool to assess outcomes of forest devolution program at local level in Dak Lak province, Central Highlands of Vietnam. His dissertation provides insights in the process of changes in forest tenure situation in Dak Lak and their impacts at household and village levels. Since the completion of his PhD to date, Nguyen has worked as a freelance researcher/ consultant, focusing on forest tenure, forest governance and poverty alleviation. He has conducted a number of studies in Vietnam for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), and the Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC). He has also written extensively about forest economics, forest tenure, forestry development and poverty alleviation in Vietnam. Since September 2006, Nguyen has been running a project on forest governance and poverty alleviation in Vietnam for the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). The project focuses on cross-sharing of lessons on poverty alleviation from community forestry in the Central and Central Highlands provinces of Thua Thien Hue and Dak Lak of Vietnam. Over the last two years, he has also been actively engaged in two studies commissioned by RECOFTC in Vietnam. The first one is on forest tenure reform in the Northern Upland and Central Highlands regions. The second one is on compilation and discussion of data on forest resources, tenure, trade and poverty in Vietnam.

***Win Myo Thu, Managing Director, ECODEV***

Mr. Win Myo Thu is a Burmese national and pioneer environmentalist in Myanmar. He holds M.Sc in Rural and Regional Development Planning from Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand and B.Sc in Forestry Science from Yangon University and Yezin Agriculture Institute of Myanmar. At present, Mr. Win is a founder and managing director of ECODEV, a local leading firm in Myanmar for promoting private-public partnership for business-cum-community development projects across the country. He also used to work as consultant for development projects of UNDP, UNOPS, FAO, UN/ESCAP, DFID, ICIMOD, ADB and JICA. Currently, Mr. Win is managing the projects of community forestry, post-disaster emergency relief and recovery operations, local capacity building, and community income generation and micro-financing activity. He also serves as a steering committee member of NGOs' working group for food security in Myanmar as well as a focal point of National Climate Change Committee of Union of Myanmar for public awareness, education and training. His professional expertise and interest are decentralized planning, participatory assessment, organizational development and civic education for community based natural resource management, clean development mechanism and environmental governance. He is also a lobbyist of civil society networking development for democratic reform in Myanmar.

***Kevin Woods, Doctoral Student, University of California, Berkeley***

Mr. Kevin Woods has been working on Mekong forestry issues for the past ten years. Originally starting out in tropical forest restoration, Kevin then turned toward political/social ecology of upland systems, particularly for northern Myanmar/Burma, Yunnan, and Laos. Most recently, job responsibilities have focused more on regional timber trade patterns, with expertise on China-Myanmar-Thailand and Laos-Vietnam. He is now finishing a study on land tenure in upland Myanmar, which is helping to connect previous work experience in the forestry sector with a more livelihood and rights approach. Kevin will be starting a PhD in social ecology at UC-Berkeley starting this fall, '08.