



IFSA Representatives to

**The International Conference on Forest  
Tenure, Governance, and Enterprise:**

Experiences and Opportunities for Asia in a Changing  
Context

Activity report:  
**“The IC on FTGE”**  
Lombok, July 11<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup> 2011



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## 1. Introduction of ICFTGE

The International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise (ICFTGE) was held in Lombok, Indonesia on 11th-15th July 2011. As well as the other environmental issue related to the forest, tenure is also one of the most important issues that already caught the international attention as a key to achieve a sustainable forest management. The clear tenure of forests its self will support and maximize them to play their role in addressing the global environmental sustainability in order to improve the Climate Change and Economic Development Community.

In this conference, many stakeholders from various countries were involved to share and discuss their experiences and thoughts about new developments related to forest tenure. The diversity of stakeholders brought the various lessons to determine the forward paths and the next steps as reformed of current patterns of forest tenure.

## 2. IFSA at ICFTGE:

ICFTGE 2011 was attended by Metia Lembasi (IFSA Head of International Processes Commission 2010-2011) and Ahmad Karsidi (Asia Regional Representative 2010-2011). The International Tropical Timber Organization and Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia, after handing out official invitations to the two IFSA representatives, covered the travel and accommodation costs. The delegates participated to the conference as the representative of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA).



*IFSA representatives at International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise*

### 3. Sessions Summary of ICFTGE

The International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise is the follow up conference after the last conference in Brazil 2007, and Cameroon 2009. Continuing the last conference which focused on Central and West Africa, this conference was designed to address about experience and opportunities for Asia in changing context.

**The first day** introducing the conference by giving some keynotes addresses. Some critical issues such as inequality of land ownership/tenure, poverty and social inequality, and disparity of land tenure were explained as the keynote of forest tenure's problems. The session continued with panel session themed 'Currents Status of Tenure in Asia and Emerging Lessons from Ongoing Reformation'. The key points of this section addressed the understanding of how far the progress to date and where to go from the conference results. In the last part of the session, some recommendations such as reformation of the framework, commitment, and granting ownership were successfully highlighted as the plans for the future actions.



*Session at International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise*

**The second day** was started with the keynote addressed about the importance of land and forest tenure reforms in implementing climate change as the sensitive development agenda presented by Kuntoro Mangkusubroto from Government of Indonesia. He addressed the importance of forest tenure reform pre-requisite to reduce poverty and promote livelihood as well as climate change mitigation and food security. He emphasized that we need to take a cross sector approach involving multi stakeholders to shift the development paradigm into sustainable and responsible use of Indonesian natural resources. In the morning, the session brought perspective of public forest agencies regarding the update of statues in the forest tenure reform around the world. It was noticed that most forest around the world are still owned and managed by government although the number of private ownership has increased. There were four presentations from countries which already made significant reformation regarding forest tenure. They are China, US, Brazil and Nepal where the reformation had given positive benefits such as increasing income and welfare of the indigenous people, giving job opportunities/employment, and raising the responsibility managed the own forest.

The afternoon session provided Indonesian community perspectives on forest reformation, including their role in the processes. The critical issue that is faced by Indonesia in implementing the CBFM is that there are still lack and weak legal recognition of traditional CBFM practices in Indonesia and inadequate support for CBFM in the national and local government level. One of the recommendations to address that issue is by enhancing government priority to promote CBFM as well as to provide financial and technical assistant, and to improve CBFM institution.

The Role of Tenure and Governance in climate change mitigation was discussed in the next session. It was highlighted that a safe tenure will support the successful work of REDD, as well as SFM. ITTO addressed that people must be in the center. He stated that we don't need to be afraid of REDD+. Instead, REDD+ can certainly be supportive to forest biodiversity and local development. However, at the same time REDD+ poses risk to people and biodiversity. Thus, to reduce the risks there is a need to design and implement the safeguards appropriately. The next session raised the gender issues and its challenge on forest tenure. Issues faced by women are about the recognition of the role of women and the disadvantaged position in customary system. There are main opportunities that can be done to developed gender balance situation such as shifting in laws and local practice, outmigration of men, democratization process, gender mainstream in project design (REDD, AID)

**The third day** was designed to be parallel panel sessions. The day was started with theme "Experience with forest enterprise and opportunities for new forest economy". It examined the type of alternative forest business model which can effectively help to create a new forest economy. One of the presentations for this topic today from FAO entitled 'The Importance of the Community Based Enterprise Development' presented by Sophie Growles. Her presentation explored the importance of the community based enterprise development by giving market analysis. In many interesting Community Based Enterprise Development, experiences are ongoing creating local wealth and increasing local commitment to forest. She explained that without the clear tenure, the community forest enterprise could not grow properly.

The session continues to the round table discussion with topic 'Mapping Forest Rights and Spatial Planning for Livelihood Security'. The session concluded that to the community mapping facilitates the indigenous communities to assert their territorial rights and as an important record of customary land territories. Legal recognition of the map is one of the challenging issues; hence, we need to have community participation to determine the success in the mapping process. The participation should be done before, during, and after the map has been produced. Participatory mapping also offers a forum for negotiating spatial conflicts.

The conclusion of the sessions was that many examples showed that forest tenure reformations contributed positively to community livelihood, environmental protection and accountability, forest cover, and rural economy. Other supports were also needed to optimize tenure reformations, such as financial services, access to market capacity, etc. In addition, political willingness plays an important role to create a good political condition to strengthen forest tenure reforms.

#### 4. Experiences gained during Fieldtrip

**During the fourth day participants were brought** to have field trip. Delegates went to visit the Rinjani National Park people village: Karang Bajo, area in customary forest. It was where we were explained about the national park in order to around the forest. The us, they answered all the participant enthusiastically; traditional food for lunch and entertainment. After visited our trip to a customary forest / water sources. At the area, we managed directly by the government's interference. The



management office, indigenous Bayan and the water source very nice to visit this location the strategic management of develop the economic of society inhabitants warmly welcomed questions delivered by They also served delicious performed the traditional indigenous village we continued *hutan adat* in which there are were explained that the forest is inhabitants without water source in the forest covers

the need of water for five villages around the forest. The society based management ensures the sustainable management of the forest because the people have the sense of belonging that leads into wise management.

#### **4. The outcome of the Meeting**

**On the last day**, the session was intended to conclude and produce the outcomes of the 5 days conference. Before the closing remarks, participants were divided into four affiliate groups. They were civil society, government, international donor, and academic/expert/private sectors. Each group had to come up with an emergent set of outcomes that will be used as the next step to accelerate the reformation in the Asian region. In the closing session, each group presented their discussion and proposed recommendation as an outcomes of the lesson learned, path forward and also next step in the reformation.

The summary of the recommendation of the discussion is presented below.

##### **Government:**

- Ratify and implement United Nations conventions, declaration and agreements that recognize, respect and protect the rights of indigenous people and local communities dependent on forest.
- Use such international instruments on the rights of indigenous people and local communities to guide government and local policies and, when appropriate, develop an overarching national law to protect such rights.

##### **Civil-society organizations**

- Commit budgets and networks to assist the poor within communities at the village level to improve tenure rights and the capacity to improve their livelihood.
- Continue working with communities to map their customary lands.
- Ensure the provision of legal advice communities on the establishment of forest-based enterprise.

##### **Communities**

- Mobilize to participate in and provide input to spatial planning processes, such as through community mapping.
- Organize and make network so that marginalized groups within communities can participate effectively in reform processes and express opinions on rights to claim to forest tenure.
- Continue the conservation, management, and sustainable use of forest

##### **Donors and International organizations**

- Urgently seek ways to increase the amount of funds that reach the poorest and most marginalized forest-dependent people and provide support through target group networks.
- Provide funds through flexible mechanism to increase the capacity building in indigenous and local communities and local government.
- In cooperation programs for the forest and social sectors, support partner countries in the implementation of forest tenure reformation and enterprises at the community level.
- ITTO—mobilize the civil society advisory group to assist in monitoring projects and programs.

## All Parties

- Develop widely the agreed criteria for measuring the success of forest tenure reform
- Compile and Monitoring success story and actively processes and make data available to all parties to well publish the advantages and challenges of forest tenure reformation and community forest management and enterprise.
- Develop simple tools and mechanism to ensure that projects and programs integrate women's need as a core component.
- Work to increase investment in capacity building for local communities and local governments.

## 5. Acknowledgement

On behalf of IFSA we would like to express our deep gratitude towards any single person and institution who contributed to make our presence to the International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise possible. Thank you for the generous support given by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and Ministry of Forestry of The Republic of Indonesia

In particular, we would like to deeply thank Mr. Eduardo Mansur, Mr. Tetra, and Mr. Teguh Rahardja for the invaluable time you invested to share your experiences during your busy time at the conference and for the constant support to IFSA. Not only referring to this event but also for all past and upcoming activities related to IFSA and forestry events. Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank all friends who contributed to our participation to the event.



*Delegates taking pictures with Executive Director of ITTO Mr. Emanuel Ze Meka and Assistant Director for Reforestation and Forest Management of ITTO Mr. Eduardo Mansur*

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## Delegations' comment

### Metia Lembasi

*As a student, listening and following the conference within the sessions is very interesting, especially because I am not really familiar with the issues that were discussed within the conference. The sessions, roundtable discussion, and the fieldtrip programme give an excellent opportunity for the contribution of my education into a broader and more close to ground-level-reality context. Internationally renowned speakers, government, academic institutions, environmentalists, technical experts, and indigenous people attending this conference enabled me to have direct discussion to exchange opinions and ideas with them, as well as with other participants and academic who come from diverse countries. It was a rewarding moment! The exhibition furnished me the opportunity to get wider perspective about the advance in forestry sectors, technology, management, and policies.*

*The activities I followed during the conference made to enrich my knowledge about the current situation of forest tenure problems and the development of implementation of forest tenure policies, especially in Indonesia. Information and emotional messages shared by participants who during these times have been looking for a right platform to make their voices heard and to get the attention from the world about the problems they are facing and the suffer they feel contributed to better understanding for me about the real condition of forest dependent communities, especially indigenous people. However, the most interesting session for me is the session when participant were gathered based on their background to create their recommendation that will be followed up as the next steps in reforms.*

*This conference is the gate, the recommendations made is the key, the **actions that will be taken** after this conference is the step to the path that will make the wishes about better forest and better life come true! For me, what I have learned from this conference is a provision that will support me to reach my dream to be part of forest restoration programmes in the future, hence I am very grateful to be part of this conference.*

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### Ahmad Karsidi

*At the first time hearing the conference with theme forest tenure, governance and enterprise, to be honest I didn't really understand contextually what the theme will be about. As forestry student, tenurial is quite familiar issues but it has very small capacity in curriculum study. Even though students participation to such kind of international conference could be boring, the process how the stakeholders take part, meet, share their experience to others and discuss to produce the path forward, next step, and recommendation bring me as young student very rich and wide experience and lesson.*

*I found my highly interest regarding topic on how important to integrate the community based forest enterprise. In my opinion as second year student majoring forest product and technology, integrated the entrepreneurship to the indigenous people by giving market and business training is very challenging since we know that indigenous people have very low skill and educational background. By implanting entrepreneurship to people around the forest will develop and lead them to be more creative to utilize the forest production. It also will support the utilization of non-wood forest product which is significantly sustaining the forest by reducing the need of wood/trees.*

*I learned a lot by experiencing participated to this conference, this experience will for sure increase our capacity as young student as well as preparation for the future. I hope there will be more international conference or meeting which is involved the young students even for being an observer to train young generation as preparation to have better future. This kind of conference will be very good platform for us to know and learned international issues and how the decision made by the expert and stakeholder which we will never get from formal education in University.*