

## International Conference on Forest Education, 22-24 June 2021

### Breakout Group Briefing Note: 2.4

*“Community groups, Producer Organizations and Civil Society Organizations”*

#### Organizer: FAO, Forest and Farm Facility

**Moderator:** Meeting 1: Jhony Zapata, Forest and Farm Facility, FAO  
Meeting 2: Sophie Grouwels, Forest and Farm Facility, FAO  
**Facilitator:** Francesca Guarascio, Forest and Farm Facility, FAO  
**Rapporteur:** José Díaz, Social Forestry Team, FAO

#### Dates and times:

Meeting 1: Wednesday 23 June, 15:15-16:45 Central European Summer Time (CEST)  
Meeting 2: Thursday 24 June, 08:30-10:00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

#### Breakout group description:

*Community groups, producer organizations and CSOs are important players in the forestry sector. These groups, either formal or informally organized, constitute efficient channels to exchange experiences and knowledge among farmers, producers and forest dwellers. They also are well positioned for delivering capacity-building, education and extension services to their members as they are rooted on the ground, know the needs of their constituencies and have the local and traditional knowledge for the sustainable management of forests.*

*This BOG will present the experiences of the Forest and Farm Facility and its partners working on strengthening the capacities and knowledge of communities, producer organizations and forest dependent peoples on natural resources management. The presentations will promote discussions towards the needs and challenges of local communities and farmers experience regarding forest education and extension services; and the role of civil society organizations and community groups in the provision of education and extension services, and the importance of including traditional and local needs in the designing and delivering forest education and extension programs.*

#### Questions to be addressed by the breakout group:

1. What does forestry education and extension means for farmers, producers and communities?
2. How can forest communities and civil society organization engage and support forestry education programs?
3. How can we strengthen the participation of communities, producers and other civil society organizations groups in the planning, designing and implementation of formal and informal forestry education programs?
4. What do community groups, producer organizations civil society organizations need to access formal and informal forestry education, capacity building and extension services?

## Speakers:

### Meeting 1: Wednesday 23 June, 15:15-16:45 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

1. Theodora Pius- National Network of Farmers' Groups in Tanzania (MVIWATA). *The Role of Forest and Farm Producer Organizations in strengthening the capacities of farmers through forestry education and extension services: The Experiences of the National Network of Farmers' Groups in Tanzania.*
2. Geoffrey Wanyama, CEO Farm Forest Smallholder Producer Association of Kenya (FFSPAK). *The Participation Forest and Farm Producer Organizations in supporting entrepreneurial capacities of youth through forestry education and extension services: Reflections, experiences and perspectives of the Farm Forest Smallholder Producer Association of Kenya.*
3. Marisela Fernández de la Red Indígena Bribri y Cabecar- Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests (AMPB). *Participation of Forest and Community Producer Organisations in the inclusion of ancestral knowledge and wisdom of Indigenous Peoples in forestry education: Reflections and experiences from the Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests.*

### Meeting 2: Thursday 24 June, 08:30-10:00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

1. Noora Simola- Food and Forest Development Finland (FFD)/AgriCord. *Building producer organisations' service orientation in forestry sector -from institutional strengthening to silvicultural practices and market access.*
2. Anna Bolin- Senior Researcher, IIED. *How to develop entrepreneurship and sustain locally controlled forest businesses? Building capacities from within producer organisations.*

## Supporting information:

1. <http://www.fao.org/forest-farm-facility/en/>
2. <http://www.mviwata.or.tz/>
3. <https://www.alianzamesoamericana.org/es/>
4. <https://agricord.org/>
5. <https://www.iied.org/>