



Farmer Field School

Implementation Guide

FARM FORESTRY AND
LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT





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This guide is based on the experience gained from the Intensified Social Forestry Project (ISFP) in Semi Arid Areas in Kenya, financed by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and implemented by the Kenya Forest Service.

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Principal Authors:

Takayuki Hagiwara, Natural Resources Management Officer, FAO
Investment Centre
Shinji Ogawa, Farmer Field School Specialist, Former ISFP JICA Expert
Patrick M. Kariuki, Former ISFP Project Manager, Kenya Forest Service
Jane N. Ndeti, Former ISFP Assistant Project Manager, Kenya Forest Service
James M. Kimondo, Former ISFP Co Manager, Kenya Forest Research Institute

Reviewed by:

Arnoud Braun, Director at the Farmer Field School Foundation
Deborah Duveskog, FFS Specialist
Godrick Khisa, FFS Specialist
Roland van Asch, Agricultural Economist

Contact information:

Director, Investment Centre Division
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy
E mail: Investment_Centre@fao.org
www.fao.org
www.fao.org/investment

Office of Public Relations
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Nibancho Center Building 5 25,
Niban cho, Chiyoda ku, Tokyo, Japan 102 8012
E mail: jicagap_opinion@jica.go.jp
www.jica.go.jp/english/index.html

Director, Kenya Forest Service (KFS)
KFS Headquarters in Karura, Off Kiambu Road, Opposite CID headquarters
P.O. Box 30513 00100 Nairobi, Kenya
E mail: director@kenyaforestservice.org
www.kenyaforestservice.org



Intensified Social Forestry Project Staff Members

Project Management

1. Patrick M. Kariuki,
Project Manager
2. Jane N. Ndeti, Assistant
Project Manager

District Forest Officers (DFOs)

1. Paul N. Karanja
2. James R. Chomba
3. Joseph M. Njigoya

Assistant District Forest Officer

1. Wellington Muli Ndaka
2. George K. Nduati
3. Kenneth M. Riungu

Divisional Forest Extension Officers

1. Elvis K. Fondo
2. Peter O. Aloo
3. Kariuki Kooro
4. Theophilus M. Muasya
5. Christopher Maina
6. Silas Mutea
7. Samuel M. Gachagua
8. Phineas Rewa
9. Benedict N. Kakuku
10. S.M Mbuko

11. Charles M. Makau

12. Remmy Manzi

13. Charles Kavithi

14. Paul Musembi

15. J. N. Muiruri

16. Benedict Mainga

17. Joseph Ndirangu

18. Christopher A. Kapula

19. Maina Karimi

KEFRI

1. James M. Kimondo, Former
KEFRI Kitui Centre Director
2. M. T. E. Mbuvi, KEFRI Kitui
Centre Director

JICA Experts

1. Yuichi Sato, Chief Technical
Advisor (2004 – 2006)
2. Shinji Ogawa, Social Forestry
Extension (2004 – 2007)
3. Takanobu Nawashiro, Project
Coordinator (2004 – 2006)
4. Yoshiaki Hata, Chief Technical
Advisor (2006 – 2009)
5. Shinji Abe, Project Coordinator
(2006 – 2009)

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Abbreviations & Acronyms

AESA	Agro Ecosystem Analysis
AfDB	African Development Bank
ASAL	Arid and Semi Arid Areas
CDA	Coast Development Authority
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
DCCF	Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests
DFO	District Forestry Officer
DFEO	Divisional Forestry Extension Officer
DM	District Manager
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FD	Forest Department
FFs	Farmer Facilitators
FFS	Farmer Field School
FFFS	Farm Forestry Field School
GOJ	Government of Japan
GOK	Government of Kenya
ICIPE	International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGA	Income Generating Activities
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
ISFP	Intensified Social Forestry Project
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute
Ksh	Kenya Shilling

LFFS	Livelihood Farmer Field School
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MENR	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NFE	Non Formal Education
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PC	Project Coordinator
PCE	Participatory Comparative Experiment
PFO	Provincial Forestry Officer
PM&E	Participatory M&E
PMU	Project Management Unit
PTD	Participatory Technology Development
Q&A	Question and Answer
SFTP	Social Forestry Training Project
SLDP	Sustainable Livelihood Development Project
SOFEM	Social Forestry Extension Model Development Project
SSIS	Small Scale Irrigation System
TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme
TOF	Training of Facilitators
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Foreword

The Government of Kenya and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) have a longstanding partnership for the development of social forestry in the semi arid areas of Kenya. JICA's initial assistance started with the Social Forestry Training Project (SFTP) in 1985 for a period of 12 years. The main focus of the project was to develop tree nursery and tree planting technologies in the semi arid areas as well as to provide social forestry training for farmers and government staff. The Social Forestry Extension Model Development Project (SOFEM) started in 1997, following SFTP's completion. It aimed to develop an extension model for the promotion of farm forestry among local residents in semi arid areas of Kenya. These two projects were implemented jointly by the Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI) and JICA.

The Intensified Social Forestry Project in semi arid areas of Kenya (ISFP) commenced in 2004 for a period of five years. The project consolidated the main lessons learned and key technologies acquired in the previous two projects. Although the previous two projects achieved their project goals, both could not reach a substantial number of farmers; for example, SOFEM worked with only 98 farmers. ISFP was tasked to cover a wider geographic area and a greater number of beneficiaries as well as organize delivery of farm forestry extension services whilst empowering farmers and improving extension service quality. The main purpose of ISFP thus became to intensify social forestry activities in the target areas. The Kenya Forest Service (KFS), the key institution responsible for forest administration and management, became the main implementer of the project, with close collaboration of KEFRI.

Building on past experiences, ISFP brought a new dimension to forestry extension and created a systematic extension management system. With assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the project introduced the Farmer Field School (FFS) methodology, which had previously mainly been applied for agricultural extension service delivery in the country. It customised the approach to farm forestry, leading to the Farm Forestry Field School (FFFS) approach. Currently this approach has become the standard method for farm forestry extension in KFS and is widely used in other districts and projects in Kenya. With help from FAO, KFS has further developed the Livelihood Farmer Field School, which was based on the FFFS. It is anticipated that this guide will contribute to improved extension service delivery among project managers and field workers who are facilitating farmers' empowerment processes through the FFS approach.

D. K. Mbugua
Director, Kenya Forest Service

Preface

This document is based on the manual prepared for the Intensified Social Forestry Project (ISFP) in semi arid areas of Kenya (2004 – 2009) under the technical cooperation programme of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to the Government of Kenya, more specifically to Kenya Forest Service (KFS). From the onset of the project, the FAO Investment Centre was involved in designing of implementing Farm Forestry Farmer Field Schools and compilation of the manual. The cooperation between JICA and FAO produced not only the successful results of the ISFP, but also the preparation of the Support to Community Based Farm Forestry Enterprises Project funded by the Japan Social Development Fund being managed by the World Bank. JICA would like to acknowledge the valuable input of all the KFS staff involved in the ISFP and five JICA experts who participated in the project. JICA would also like to take this opportunity to thank the FAO Investment Centre for its efforts to support the ISFP and making this publication possible. JICA hopes that this guide will improve the rural livelihoods of the people of Kenya, and elsewhere.

Masaaki Kato

JICA Representative in Kenya



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Takayuki Hagiwara

FAO Investment Centre

and

Shinji Ogawa

Farmer Field School Specialist



