Promoting social protection for inclusive forest value chains: experiences & practices of FFF

Anna Bolin (IIED) and Sophie Grouwels (FAO)
1. What is FFF’s approach to social protection?
Social protection for WHO? Great diversity and context dependent

- Locally controlled forestry
  - Indigenous people’s forestry
  - Community forestry
  - Collective natural forests
  - Collective woodlots and agroforestry
  - Smallholder forestry
  - Plantations / woodlots
  - Agroforestry / trees on farm
  - Peri-urban processing
  - Carpentry workshops
  - Construction businesses

- Indigenous forest territories
- Indigenous farmland
- Social protection for WHO? Great diversity and context dependent
Global programme supporting FFPOs to organise for policy, markets, & climate change mitigation/adaptation in 9 countries

- Direct grant agreements with FFPO’s (Phase I 65% of budget reaching 30 million people in 3 global, 3 regional, 10 national and 931 local FFPOs)
- Phase II targeted support to address cross-cutting needs for economic, social and cultural needs/interests
Outcome 1. More enabling policy and legal frameworks for FFPOs delivered through more FFPO-inclusive governance and cross-sectoral processes

Output 1.1. FFPOs have clear advocacy agendas that represent all their members’ interest.

Output 1.2. Cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder policy processes strengthened with better representation from forest and farm producers.

Outcome 2. Increased entrepreneurship, access to markets and finance through gender equitable value chains delivered by new capacity to provide business incubation within FFPOs

Output 2.1. FFPOs have capacity to deliver targeted business incubation services to their members.

Output 2.2. FFPOs (and their members) have improved access to business, marketing and financial services.

Outcome 3. Improved delivery of landscape scale mitigation, adaptation and climate resilience through direct engagement of FFPOs and integration with inclusive livelihood approaches

Output 3.1. FFPOs contribution in climate and landscape level programs has increased the outreach of these programs.

Output 3.2. FFPOs have mainstreamed climate change into their operations.

Outcome 4. Improved and equitable access to social and cultural services provided by or leveraged through FFPOs

Output 4.1. FFPOs have systems in place to provide social and cultural services (targeting the most vulnerable members).

Output 4.2. FFPOs link their social and cultural development agenda to national SDG process and other governmental development processes.
Outcome 4.

**Improved and equitable access to social and cultural services** provided by or leveraged through FFPOs

**Output 4.1**

FFPOs have systems in place to provide **social and cultural services** (targeting the most vulnerable members)

**Output 4.2**

FFPOs **link their social and cultural development agenda to national** SDG process and other governmental development processes

10% of country budget (+ 12% for gender specific activities)
A holistic approach to SP that includes social and cultural services
### Some examples

#### Social (and protective) Services

| Representation (advocacy campaigns, lobby groups, information systems, alliance building) | Finance and insurance (VSLA’s, SACCOs, crop stabilisation, warehouse receipt, rainfall insurance) |
| Utilities and infrastructure creation (water, electricity, roads) | Care and health (creche, elderly care, dentistry, basic/specialist health care) |
| Education (schooling, vocational training, adult literacy classes) | Social security (food aid, food for work, disability, single parent allowances) |

#### Cultural services (identity & relationships to a landscape)

| Territorial mapping and delimitation | Traditional healthcare systems (cultivation and protection) |
| Establishment of seed banks (preserving traditional varieties of crops and tree species) | Restoration/maintenance of culturally and spiritually significant spaces |
| Branding of products and services that reinforces local vision of prosperity and identity | Training services and support for traditional knowledge, arts and crafts |
Common features

• Typically non-commercial in nature
• Differing priority by different types of producer organisations, depending on their own contexts and needs.
• Considerable overlap between social and cultural services in practice
Social services and social protection – relationships and overlaps

Enabling services enhance real incomes and capabilities

Operationalising economic, social and cultural rights

Empowerment address concerns of social equity and exclusion

Protection Social assistance and coping strategies (formal and non-state)

Risk reduction Insurance and diversification mechanisms (social security)

Springboards

- Economically at risk
- Socially vulnerable

Safety nets

- Most poor/
vulnerable

Price stabilisation funds
Warehouse receipt systems
Rainfall insurance
VSLA’s
Burial societies
Vocational trainings
Business development services

Food for work
Food aid
Maternity cover
Single parent assistance

Economically at risk
Socially vulnerable
Most poor/vulnerable

Cultural services – relationships and overlaps

Enabling services
Integrating cultural identity and practices into enterprise
- Eco tourism
- Cultural branding
- Establishment of seed banks/nurseries
- Traditional production & healthcare systems
- Education

Operationalising economic, social and cultural rights

Empowerment
Address concerns of social equity and exclusion
- Rights representation
- Territorial mapping and delimitation
- Support for traditional arts and crafts

Cultural preservation
Traditional authorities, ceremonies, knowledge & management, arts & crafts

Linguistics
Preserving and teaching traditional language

2. Options to consider for implementation

Design & delivery

- Existing structure?
  - Extension of existing service provision to worker-members

- New structure?
  - For specific service needs (e.g., childcare or healthcare)

Collaboration?
  - Partnership to jointly develop or extend services to members

Financing

- Direct payments for services
- Partner funded (public sector)
- Indirect through membership fees
- Indirect via levies on produce processed or marketed
- Co-funding (multi-stakeholder partnership)
- Other?
3. Emerging plans in Phase II countries
• Grass-roots forms of social & cultural services in place, but small scale, strong links to social-forestry programme

• Eco-agro tourism enterprise & Eco-school starting up in 2019 (gender also key focus)

• Emerging consortium of cacao and chocolate producers of Napo (5 FFPOs) - % of profits to create health and education services

• “Chakra” brand - participatory guarantee system for raising awareness, government and market support for chakra system

• Lobby for recognition as **Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems** (GIAHS)
FF-Nepal

Existing provisions

- Allocation of annual budget for social protection and social security for elderly people, single women, and socially marginalized people (30% of CF income)
- Allocation of community income to improve education and health services at the community level
- Advocating and securing women representation (50%) in the leadership and decision-making bodies of local communities

Planned social and cultural services provision

- Gender-sensitive allocation and investment of community funds that have been generated from community managed natural resources
- Ensuring that members (focusing on poor and disadvantaged) could access the services with optimum benefits and minimum hassles
- Increasing awareness of FFPOs members on existing governmental and other schemes on social and cultural services
Bringing nearly 600,000 women and girls together: FFF - ZAMBIA

• Strengthen community saving among FFPOs to support the less privileged to access money for social or cultural needs

• Create awareness of the FFPOs to access Government social protection services like, cash transfer packages, school feeding programmes, child support to access school, etc.

• Support FFPOs to play a role in implementation of traditional ceremonies and management of shrines for cultural services
4. Challenges for FFPO’s

- Recognition from government agencies as potential SP implementing partners
- Expensive to deliver services regularly and to a high standard
- Without substantive external support would require a certain minimum scale of membership and revenue
- Likely to require new skills in staff and learning about a whole new sector that is different to the initial purpose of the cooperative
- Gender inequality and lack of participation of women, socially and economically vulnerable groups can hinder identification and prioritisation
5. Opportunities

• Greater recognition of different types of occupations and contributions to economy and society both within the FFPO itself and outside

• Offers solutions for addressing inequalities and improving gender relations between women and men within the FFPO and the community

• New partnership/learning from collaboration between FFPOs and other public and private sector agencies

• Greater accountability of the government towards forest dependent peoples represented by FFPO’s