‘Sustainable Wood 4 a Sustainable World’
A Smallholder Producer’s Perspective
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Background

• Farm Forestry Smallholder Producers Association of Kenya (FF-SPAK), is an umbrella organization with the head office based in Nairobi and a field office in Nakuru, working with farmer groups in Kenya to promote farm forestry.

• It was registered in 2013 with founding six association in six regions of Eastern, Western, Nyanza, Coast, Rift Valley and Central spread across the country (15 affiliates at the moment)
Background Contn,

Our mission

- “To strengthen the capacity of member organizations to enable farm forestry producers improve their livelihoods”.

Our Vision

- “An outstanding farm forestry umbrella organization providing quality services to smallholder producer organizations in Kenya”
Role of Smallholders

• Private forestry is playing an increasingly important role in helping increase forest cover and provide important goods and services for the economy.
• Smallholder producers in the world over and especially in developing countries are a critical part of this.
• In Kenya for example, FFSPAK have 25,000 registered farmer members working and depending on the family forests. The number is still increasing.
• State forest constitutes 4%. This means potential for private forestry is development is 96%
Current Situation

• Current annual wood demand is 40 million cubic Meters (Kenya Forest Service) against supply of 26 Million Cubic Meters
• Moratorium has been in place for nearly two years.
• Wood deficit is huge (around 14 million cubic meters).
• Demand on wood supply from private farms has gone up pushing the prices up
• Harvesting of premature trees on the rise (Unsustainable)
• Imports have been increasing (mainly from Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, )
Current forest value chains in Kenya

Natural forests, wood lands
- 4.2 million ha
- 28 million m³/a for fuelwood

Government plantations
- 0.15 million ha
- 0.3 million m³/a

Private plantations, wood lots
- 0.1 million ha
- 0.7 million m³/a

Fuel wood
- 28 million m³/a

Char coal
- 1.2 million tons

Non-timber forest products

Construction wood

Utility poles, posts

Logs
- 1.2 million m³

Logging ban

Saw mills
- >1000 mills

Wood-based panel mills
- >10 mills

Furniture & joinery
- 190 mills

Construction

Other uses

Furniture & joinery markets

Paper and converting

Imports:
- Sawn wood
- Wood-based panels
- Furniture
- Joinery
- Ancillary products
- Pulp & paper

Trade deficit of wood products:
>300 million USD with a growing trend. Wood Deficit 14 Million cubic Meters

Distributors

Traders
- 80%
Challenges

- Poor access to finance i.e. credit/loans
- Uncertainties in better market access, also uncoordinated market among smallholders
- Unfavorable legal and policy environment (is changing at the moment) - e.g. double taxation in some cases
- Inadequate incentives i.e. quality seeds.
- Land tenure issues
- Poor state of infrastructure Unpredictable weather conditions
- Little or no value addition to products
POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

• **Policy and legal reforms** - Recognize and support contributions of this private sector

• Improving forest sector **Governance and Transparency**

• **Reducing investment risks** - tailor made insurance products, research to address issues like pests and diseases, etc.

• **Improving access to financing** e.g. long term credit, seed money, etc.

• **Organizing smallholders** to help them enjoy economies of scale, become more eligible for accessing finance, and gain negotiating power through capacity development
Key Lessons Learnt from FFF support

Key Lessons learnt

1. Need to support small-scale farmers through targeted and flexible financing mechanisms
2. Government and other partners to provide collaterals
3. Capacity building not just to farmers but also to the financing institutions needed
Do farmers know what they have? (Focus for FFF Phase 2)

Supporting smallholder farmers to carry out inventory/Tree Census
Supporting smallholders to carry out tree inventory
Thank you