

FOLLOW-UP OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE WORLD FOOD SUMMIT PLAN OF ACTION

NATIONAL REPORT

Country: Union of Myanmar
Date of Report: 20-12-2005

Institution responsible for reporting

Forest Department

Focal Point

Name

Position

Telephone

Fax

E mail

SECTION I: Priority Food Security Issues and Progress Towards the World Food Summit Goal

The state of the country's food security situation, in terms of food availability, stability of supplies and access to food and the progress in reaching the hunger reduction targets are described below:

N.A

Evaluation studies (such as impact assessment, comparison between results and objects) of programmes or projects related to the WFS Plan of Action are attached to this report and listed below

N.A

Information on external assistance programmes, including a description of their impact on hunger reduction and lessons learned, is given below.

1. Plantations Forestry

Forest Plantations Establishment was started as early as 1850 in Myanmar. Nowadays the FD has established 45000 ha of various plantations namely commercial, fuelwood, watershed and industrial annually in order to rehabilitate the degraded forest, to restore the environment and to supplement the yield of the natural forest.

Moreover Forest plantations establishment program also provides the job opportunity for rural people.

At the end of the year 2005, total area of various forest plantations established exceeds 850,000ha.

sr	type of plantation	hectare
1	Commercial	463964
2	Industrial	68960
3	Watershed Protection	111511
4	Fuelwood	206387
	total	850822

2. Promotion of Community Forest

With the objective of providing the basic need for rural community, encouraging active participating in forest conservation activities, regaining the environmental stability and supporting the economic development of the country, the forest department adopted Community Forestry Instruction in 1995 as a new approach of sustainable forest management.

CF approach demonstrates the sharing of forest management responsibilities towards the rural community through user group's activities and effort with in-kind and technical assistance from forest department. It also focuses on the flow of benefits to the rural poor participating in forest management activities.

The community forest area of 37821 ha with 29175 members have been established at the end of year 2005.

3. Program of Stabilization of Shifting Cultivation

Shifting Cultivation is one of major causes of forest depletion and degradation, severely threatening the sustainability of the forest estate and the forest resources. However, it is not merely an economic practice for the landless poor living in and around the forests. An estimated 10 million people are involved in Shifting Cultivation. Therefore, shifting cultivation (or *taungya*) cannot be completely done away with. For stabilizing the shifting cultivation system in the country, the cropping system must be upgraded scientifically, integrating traditional process in order to enable and sustain in commercial production and at the same time assist in environmental conservation and forestry development. In this context the FD has been implementing the following activities to stabilize the shifting cultivation practice in Myanmar.

Sr.	Activities	unit	target	performance at the end of 2005
1	Data collection	ha	102788	102788
2	Agroforestry	ha	4070	3795
3	Community Forest	ha	12200	6120
4	demonstration			
	(i) Contour bund making	m	5366	19166
	(ii) Natural fertilizer making	time	160	126
	(iii) Training	time	231	62
5	Seedling distribution	million no.	1.6	1.2
6	Income generating group	group	6	5

4. Nonwood Forest Product Production

NWFP production provides ample opportunity for not only promoting the economic development of country but also increase the income of local people. According to the Forest Law (1992), the local people can enjoy the rights of collecting the forest product for their domestic use without obtaining permit of FD.

Average annual production of some NWFP is stated in the table.

sr	NWFP	unit	average annual production	remarks
1	Bamboo	clump('000)	170000	
2	Rattan	clump('000)	23400	
3	Bark	viss	1600000	
4	Thatch	piece	124000	
5	Honey	viss	12900	
6	Guano	viss	355000	
7	Bird's nest	viss	900	
8	Resin	viss	18300	
9	Charcoal	H.ton	259000	
10	Fuelwood	H.ton	299000	
11	Wax	viss	1200	
12	Pole & Post	no.	198000	

5. Permanent Forest Estate

As envisaged in Myanmar Forest Policy, 30 percent of total land area of the country should be gazetted as reserved forests and 5 percent under protected area system. At the end of 2005, the total area of forest reserves and P.A.S exceeds 15,645,800 ha and 2,558,721 ha respectively.

6. Development of national races in border area

The development for progress of Border Areas and National Races in collaboration with other related governmental and non-governmental bodies has been undertaken social, economic and environmental development tasks. FD has been taking the responsibility of forest conservation and restoration since 1990. FD has been implementing the development activities shown in the following table annually.

Sr No	Activities	unit	annual accomplishment	remarks
1	Village Supply Plantation	ha	405	
2	Commercial Plantation	ha	240	
3	Seedling Distribution	Million no	0.35	

SECTION II: Follow up of the WFS Plan of Action

Commitment Three

in accordance with the forestry principles adopted at UNCED, the Myanmar Forest Policy identified six imperatives, which must be given highest priority in order to achieve broader national goals and objectives of forest resource management. These are

1. *Protection*: to protect soil, watersheds, ecosystems, biodiversity, plant and genetic resources, and scenic and national heritage sites;
2. *Sustainability*: to manage forests on a sustainable basis for the benefit of the present and future generations;
3. *Basic needs*: to satisfy the basic needs, such as fuel, water, fodder, food and recreation of the people;
4. *Efficiency*: to harness the full economic potential of the forest without compromising the interests of the future generations;
5. *Participation*: to promote people's participation in all forest activities; and
6. *Public awareness*: to educate the community, politicians and decision-makers about the important role of the forests in the conservation of biodiversity and environment, and in the sustainable development of the nation.

Sustainable Forest Management in Myanmar

In Myanmar forest management evolved over centuries. At present the forest is being managed on the sustainable approach in line with the Myanmar Forest Policy and guidelines adopted by international organizations. The recent development in sustainable forest management are

(i) Development of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management

Identification of C&I's for SFM at national and forest management unit level was initiated in 1996 and revised in 1998 by forest department based on ITTO's Criteria for the measurement of sustainable tropical forest management. Both the initial development and subsequent revisions of Myanmar C&I had involved all the institutions under the MOF. FREDA, a forest related Non-Government Organization.

A total of 7 criteria and 28 indicators at the national and FMU level was identified and approved by MOF in 1999.

(ii) Timber Certification

The Myanmar Timber Certification Committee (MTCC) was established in August 1989 by a decree of MOF. The committee aims to establish a mechanism for natural recognition with internationally accepted certifiers and with consumer countries for the

credibility of its certification labels. The MTTCC is now developing a timber certification process reflecting

Myanmar's forest management system based on Myanmar's C&I at the FMU level.

(iii) Forest Management Plan

For forestry administrative purposes, the country was divided into forest districts each of which was covered by a working plan. A medium term plan for 10 years had its annual checked at mid-term and revised at the termination of the period. All forestry activities were carried out strictly as prescribed in the plan.

In 1996 a Management Plan Formulation Core Group was formed in the forest department. The group developed a new Forest Management Manual and Guidelines. The newly developed Forest Management Plan manual and Guidelines integrated both social and environmental dimensions into the economic development of sector.

Since late 2004, FD has been revising the Forest Management Plans expired in 2006, until now 10 management plans have been revised and approved in FD and 53 management plans are under revising.

The Forest Management Plans if appropriately implemented will lead to the sustainable development of forests of Myanmar.

Summary list of related Programmes of Forest Department contributing to the WFS Plan of Action

Programme	Year initiated	Duration	Total budget (million)	ststus
1 Establishment of Forest Plantation	1970	yearly	K1050/year	Ongoing
2. Community Forest	1995	yearly	-	Ongoing
3. Rural area Development	1999?	yearly	K10/year	Ongoing
4. Stabilizing of shifting cultivation practice	2002	6	0.06	Ongoing
5. Forest Reservation and PAS		yearly	K57/year	Ongoing
6. Panting of Thi sein (<i>Terminalia hallerica</i>) (for edible oil)	2002	2006	K60/year	
7. Nationwide Tree Planting Programme		yearly	K20/year	Ongoing
8. Conservation Mangrooves	1990	yearly		ongoing
9. Promoting Sustainable Utilization of Bamboo through Community Participation in Sustainable Forest Management	2003	4	US\$ 0.05	Ongoing
10. Restoration of degraded forest ecosystems with special emphasis on enrichment planting techniques, soil conservation and pest management	2003	5	US\$.004	Ongoing
11. Market Development of Bamboo and Rattan Products with Potential	2004	3	US\$.0045 K.006 (in kind)	Ongoing
12. Community Forestry Training And Extension Project In Dry Zone	2002	5	US \$4.0	Ongoing
13. Forest for the Green Earth III- Wakingyi Community Forest	2002	5	JY 4.0	Ongoing
14. Sade Watershed Plantation Project through Community Participation	2004	3	US\$0.05	Ongoing
15. Reforestation Project in Nyaung-U	2004	4	JY 2.025	Ongoing

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes are described below

N.A

