

TENTH EXECUTIVE FOREST POLICY COURSE

**REVISITING THE POVERTY REDUCTION AGENDA IN THE CONTEXT OF SDGs:
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY**

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Non-Wood Forest Products: Improving Production Systems to Enhance Rural Income

Policy Brief: Group 2



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Forest Department
Sri Lanka

FAO - EU FLEGT PROGRAMME

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
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Pacific Community
Communauté
du Pacifique



ICIMOD



Key Messages

Rural people gain little benefit by simply harvesting and marketing NWFPs in unprocessed form. With appropriate capacity and capital they can engage in value addition activities to increase their income.



Key Messages

Unorganized collection and marketing on NWFP provide low income for rural communities, particularly the poor. Efforts to support them develop into formal production system as a cooperative could help.



Key Messages

NWFP market information and access for rural people are often poor and limited. These need to be improved to strengthen producers' bargaining power and broaden their opportunities in expanding markets



Conclusion and Recommendations

Support rural households including the poor to form local organization/cooperative and develop formal and organized production of NWFPs. Particular attention should be given to collective marketing approach as an NWFP based intervention can help communities with knowledge, confidence and processes to operate in the marketing channel;

Conclusion and Recommendations

Provide appropriate incentives, including training in implementation of value added activities and providing technical guide, materials, equipment and loan access to rural households to ensure their engagement in formal and organized NWFP production system.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Support for facilities pertaining to storage, grading, processing and value addition and marketing through convergence of existing schemes and programs in private and public sectors should be promoted.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Revisit the legal regulations to provide enabling legal framework for government support for producer, trade and processing groups, market access and premium prices through certification, tax breaks and outreach and education on new policies and laws.