

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES: CASE STUDY IN NGHIA HANH DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE

Nguyen Thi Hong Mai, Nguyen Van Minh

Summary

The models of community forest management implemented in Hanh Tin Dong and Hanh Tin Tay communes of Nghia Hanh district are followed the guidance of Circular No. 38 / 2007/TT-BNN & PTNT in Quang Ngai province from 2006 to 2014. These forests have belonged to the traditional use-right of the community, so community members have participated in the process of management, protection and benefit. According to the general assessment, they are efficient models in forest management, protection and development of the province. The survey of 70 households by questionnaires and in-depth interviews of key informants at administrative levels from commune to district and province has showed that: to maintain and enhance the community' activities in forest management, the post-forest allocation supports - such as technical solutions on forest enrichment, institutions and methods for developing five-year and annual forest management plans and capacity building not only for the community but also for stakeholders in forest management - are very essential. On the other hand, it is necessary to promote initiatives of benefit sharing from community forests of Hanh Tin Dong and Hanh Tin Tay communes because there are lot of NTFPs and ecotourism potentials, which are also opportunities for sustainable forests management.

Keywords: *Community forest management, stakeholders, benefit sharing, non-timber forest products.*