Component activities are designed to link all three components. All project activities will be gender aware and equitable. The livelihoods component will study what farmers do, how they live and what they want. It will train farmers to develop and operate tree nurseries, improve the establishment and management of tree gardens, develop better understanding of and links to markets, produce better quality products for which they will receive higher prices, create agroforestry enterprises for farmers and improve management of landscapes.

The governance component will work closely with local government agencies to help find ways to achieve more prosperity, fairness and harmoniously managed lives and landscapes. It will conduct governance training and study land-use systems as well as links to environmental services, with a focus on women's roles in ecosystem management. The component will review schemes related to payments for environmental services, providing research results on technical issues related to plants, livelihoods and landscapes. These activities will support government agencies to analyse their land tenure policies and procedures.

The environmental component will develop and implement vulnerability assessment methods, local environmental services’ surveys and review ecosystem management approaches. The component will produce research results, manuals and guidelines, generate environmental management strategies and subsequently conduct environmental training events.

AgFor Sulawesi will benefit groups of farmers and individuals who are committed to improving their livelihoods through improved governance of their landscapes and the natural environment. Women and underprivileged groups will be a particular focus, to ensure that all community groups are heard and receive a fair share of generated benefits.

Civil society groups, local communities, conservation organizations and market/trading associations will benefit by working with AgFor Sulawesi as well. These parties and all stakeholders will gain greater knowledge, increase their skills and receive other support to jointly achieve mutual goals.

Government agencies at all levels, particularly local and district levels, will benefit from training and support towards livelihood enhancement, landscape/policy analyses and spatial planning.

The World Agroforestry Centre (legally constituted as the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry/ICRAF) is the lead implementing organization for the AgFor Sulawesi project. Main collaborating partners include the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Winrock International, the Operation Wallacea Trust, Universitas Hasanudin, Yayasan Adudu Nantu International, the National Planning and Development Agency of Indonesia (Badan Perencanaan dan Pembangunan Nasional/Bappenas).

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WHAT IS AGFOR SULAWESI?

AgFor Sulawesi is a 5-year project that works with local communities, civil society groups, conservation organizations, universities and governments to improve farmers’ incomes through agroforestry and natural resource management systems. The project addresses rural development challenges in Sulawesi by enhancing livelihoods and enterprises, improving governance and strengthening sustainable environmental management. Specifically, AgFor Sulawesi will help to develop dynamic agroforestry systems.

Agroforestry combines agriculture and forestry. Trees that farmers want or need are grown in tandem with food crops and livestock. Experience has shown that agroforestry can improve farmers’ incomes and protect the environment.

Funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), AgFor Sulawesi started in 2011.

WHERE DO WE WORK?

AgFor Sulawesi currently works in the provinces of South Sulawesi and Southeast Sulawesi, and will expand to Gorontalo province.

In South Sulawesi, the project works in Bantaeng and Bulukumba districts, while in Southeast Sulawesi it operates in Konawe and Kolaka districts.

After two years, AgFor Sulawesi will expand to two additional districts in South and Southeast Sulawesi and also initiate activities in two districts of Gorontalo province. Expansion is expected in early 2014.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

The main goal is an increase in equitable and sustainable forestry and agroforestry-based incomes among the poor in Sulawesi.

To achieve this, AgFor Sulawesi focuses on three interlinked components, each with its own objective:

1. The livelihoods component aims to improve livelihoods for smallholder farmers through the development and enrichment of sustainable and gender-equitable agroforestry and forestry systems.
2. The governance component aims to increase equitable involvement of local communities in participatory governance of land use and natural resources at subdistrict and district levels.
3. The environmental component aims to improve integrated management of landscapes and ecosystems by local stakeholders through enhanced capacity building.

BACKGROUND

The island of Sulawesi, home to numerous and diverse animal and plant species found nowhere else in the world, is facing various challenges:

• Farmers mostly rely on a limited number of crops; this results in inconsistent income owing to global market volatility.
• Research indicates that Sulawesi will experience substantial climate-change impacts in the near future.
• Legal and equity problems hinder local involvement in planning and management of community land. The poor and marginalized lack land titles and have little awareness about or access to channels for certification or clarification of land status.

The project Agroforestry and Forestry in Sulawesi: Linking Knowledge with Action (AgFor Sulawesi) has been designed to help address these issues through participatory and sustainable management of natural resources that enhances livelihoods, protects the environment and recognizes equity and diversity.