Development of timber and non-timber forest products’ production and market strategies for improvement of smallholders’ livelihoods in Indonesia

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) funded project (FST/2012/039)

Introduction
Combining tree planting with Tops management has been an important part of local farmers’ livelihoods’ strategies for a long time, with each element playing a different role. Integration of improved production and marketing of smallholders’ timber and NTFPs is likely to improve livelihoods and with better management at the landscape level. The project aims to identify, enhance and expand smallholders’ involvement in the management of commercial, forestry-based products at different spatial scales in Java and eastern Indonesia.

Methodological framework
The project will be integrated across sites, partners and objectives, focusing on improved management of integrated smallholding timber-NTFP production systems and employing a participatory action research approach with all activities to ensure greater likelihood of uptake of the project’s objectives.

Management models of three existing complementary timber and NTFPs practices:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NTFP extraction</th>
<th>Timber domestication (planted)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Timber extraction from forest</td>
<td>Case study 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTFP domestication</td>
<td>Case study 2</td>
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<td>NTFP extraction</td>
<td>Case study 3</td>
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The project addresses four research questions:
1. How can forestry and agroforestry management practices be improved to enhance integrated timber and NTFP management and production?
2. What are suitable strategies for effective integrated marketing of timber and NTFPs for smallholders?
3. What policy factors significantly hinder smallholders’ production and competitiveness in timber and NTFPs and how can these factors be addressed?
4. What are the key characteristics of an extension program that can deliver information on best practices for timber and NTFP management, production and value-added marketing?

Project sites
Research is implemented in smallholders’ farming areas in Indonesia’s poorest provinces of West Nusa Tenggara and East Nusa Tenggara and in smallholders’ teak production areas on its most densely populated island (Yogyakarta, Central Java).

Impact and adoption pathways
Guided by research in searching ways for maximising lessons in opportunities for poverty alleviation through integrated timber and NTFP management; ensuring successful agribusiness development at the micro- and small scale; and improving the links between timber and NTFP use, community-based forestry management and micro- and small-scale enterprise development.

Means for ensuring impacts and adoption include:
1. Scientific outputs on integrated timber and NTFP production and marketing are shared with local, national and international audiences;
2. Policy recommendations, published as briefs or similar documents, provide support for positive policy modifications in locations outside of Indonesia where policy conditions are similar;
3. The capacity of communities, extension agents, local government officials, and researchers to manage integrated timber and NTFP production and marketing systems are enhanced through their participation in the project activities.

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Legend
- Provincial area
- Province
- Country

For project partners: