

Zhasela Community Forest (Tshering Yangzom)

# Zhasela Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) (Bhoutan)

Zhasela Drongdhey Nagtshel Zinchong Detshen (ल्'तक्रे'आ'र्च्रे'क्'व्यायः क्र्यायः द्विं'क्र्रें' ख्रें'क्या)

## DESCRIPTION

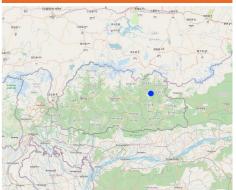
The Zhasela Community Forest (CF) in Lhuentse covers an area of approximately 208 acres (83 ha). The Zhasela CF Management Group (CFMG), consisting of members of 15 households, has been formed for sustainable utilization and management of forest resources, protection of water sources, and income generation through the sale of sustainable forest products to reduce poverty.

Zhasela Community Forest (CF) covers an area of approximately 208 acres (83 ha). The community forest name "Zhasela" is derived from the local deity of the forest, Zhasela. The CF is a cool broadleaf forest. The dominant tree species found are the species of the genera Michelia, Persia, Symplocos, Betula, and Cinnamomum. The CF is looked after by the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) consisting of members of 15 households. The operation of the CFMG is guided by the Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP). The first period of Zhasela CF management was between 2004 and 2014. The CF coverage was around 84 acres (33 ha) with 13 CFMG households. At the end of the first planning period, the CF management was retained and the CFMP revised for the next 10 years. The revised plan period was completed in 2017 with the addition of almost 124 acres (50 ha) resulting in a total 208 acres (83 ha). The CFMG members increased from 13 to 15 households. The CFMG carries out the activities highlighted in the CFMP.

The main objectives of the approach are sustainable utilization and management of forest resources, protection of water sources, and income generation through the sale of sustainable forest products to reduce poverty. Apart from the CFMG members, the stakeholders involved in the approach are the territorial division office, Gewog Forestry Extension Officer (GFEO), and CFMG members. The territorial division office's roles include training CFMG on a need's basis; providing technical inputs while implementing the CFMP; monitoring and providing feedback on CFMP implementation; providing market information and supporting marketing; providing support for amendment and revision of CFMP; verifying CFMG's records annually; translating CFMP to a Dzongkha version; coordinating study tours; and disseminating or advertising information related to CF or CFMG.

What the CFMG members like about this approach is that it protects water sources, provides access to forest resources such as timber, fuel wood, and non-timber forest products (NTFPs) such as fodder, fencing/flag poles, and leaf litter. The approach also helps to resolve conflicts regarding access to forest resources, conserves the local forest, reduces erosion and landslides, and thus aids in habitat protection and biodiversity conservation. In terms of the community, the approach also helps provide loans to members from the CF fund lending scheme with minimal interest. The other advantages of this approach include diversifying income sources by reducing dependency on a single source of income like livestock farming or crop production, strengthening social cohesion by empowering local communities to manage their resources, and improving living standards and reducing poverty in rural communities.

#### LIEU



Lieu: Bragong village, Jalang chiwog, Minjey gewog, Lhuentse Dzongkhag, Bhoutan

Géo-référence des sites sélectionnés91.23899, 27.5791

Date de démarrage: 2004

Année de fin de l'Approche: sans objet

- Type d'Approche
- traditionnel/ autochtone
   initiative/ innovation récente locale
- fondé sur un projet/ programme



## OBJECTIFS DE L'APPROCHE ET ENVIRONNEMENT FAVORABLE

#### Principaux objectifs de l'Approche

The main objectives of the approach are sustainable utilization and management of forest resources, protection of water sources, and income generation through the sale of excess forest products to reduce poverty.

Conditions favorisant la mise en oeuvre de la/(des) Technologie(s) appliquée(s) sous l'Approche

- Disponibilité/ accès aux ressources et services financiers: The CFMG has a 'CF fund lending scheme' where the money generated from selling CF resources such as surplus
  timber and wood products is lent to CFMG members at a minimal interest. Sometimes interest-free loans are provided to bereaved families and families bearing medical
  expenses due to sickness. The scheme provides relatively easy and cheap local access to cash for group members. During the first plan period of Zhasela CF management,
  CFMG generated more than Nu 320,000 from the sale of surplus timber and finished products. Nu 299, 600 was divided among the group members and each member
  received Nu 23,000.
- Cadre institutionnel: The CFMG has helped the members improve their livelihoods and reduce poverty. The CFMG generate income through the sale of forest resources to contractors, government agencies, and private individuals.
- Collaboration/ coordination des acteurs: There is labour-sharing in the group for activities such as the plantation of seedlings, fire line creations, and overall forest management thereby easing workload in the group and improving collaboration and coordination. The CFMG members also help each other out in times of need. For example, Mr. Tshering Dorji's house was damaged by an earthquake in September 2009. In spring 2010, the CFMG allotted four drashing (trees of at least 50 cm diameter at breast height) from the CF free of cost to him for the reconstruction of his house.
- Connaissances sur la GDT, accès aux supports techniques: Members realize the importance of the CF. They realize that the forest helps protect water sources, avoid erosions and land slides through land coverage, and increase wood production.
- Marchés (pour acheter les intrants, vendre les produits) et prix: There is a good market for the sale of surplus timber from the CF. Timber is sold in the form of logs, planks, and finished products like altar. The CFMG has been able to earn a substantial amount from the sale of timber to contractors, government agencies, and private individuals.
- Charge de travail, disponibilité de la main-d'œuvre: There is labour-sharing in the group thereby easing workload in the group.

Conditions entravant la mise en oeuvre de la/(des) Technologie(s) appliquée(s) sous l'Approche

# PARTICIPATION ET RÔLES DES PARTIES PRENANTES IMPLIQUÉES DANS L'APPROCHE

Parties prenantes impliquées dans l'Approche et rôles			
Quels acteurs/ organismes d'exécution ont été impliqués dans l'Approche?	Spécifiez les parties prenantes	Décrivez le rôle des parties prenantes	
exploitants locaux des terres / communautés locales	15 CFMG members from 15 households.	The CFMG members carry out the activities highlighted in the CFMP.	
Spécialistes de la GDT/ conseillers agricoles	GFEO	The GFEO monitors the activities implemented by the CFMG and provides necessary assistance in any field that the CF members require.	
gouvernement national (planificateurs, décideurs)	Territorial division office	The territorial division office's roles include training CFMG on a need base, providing technical inputs while implementing the Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP), monitoring and providing feedback on CFMP implementation, providing market information and supporting marketing, providing support for amendment and revision of CFMP, verifying CFMG's records annually, translating CFMP to Dzongkha version, coordinating study tours, and disseminating or advertising information related to CF or CFMG.	

Participation des exploitants locaux des terres/ communautés locales aux différentes phases de l'Approche



#### Diagramme/ organigramme

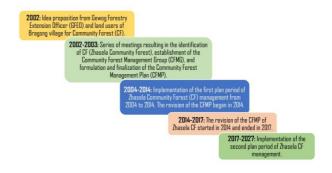


Figure 1. Flow chart showing the conception of Zhasela Cl

#### Prises de décision pour la sélection de la Technologie de GDT

#### Les décisions ont été prises par

- les exploitants des terres seuls (auto-initiative)
- principalement les exploitants des terres soutenus par des spécialistes de la GDT
- tous les acteurs concernés dans le cadre d'une approche participative
- principalement les spécialistes de la GDT, après consultation des exploitants des
- les spécialistes de la GDT seuls les responsables politiques/ dirigeants
- Land users (CFMG members) and GFEO

#### Les décisions ont été prises sur la base de

- l'évaluation de connaissances bien documentées en matière de GDT (prises de décision fondées sur des preuves tangibles)? les résultats de recherches?
- expériences et opinions personnelles (non documentées) 1
- The people of Bragong village had observed a gradual depletion of forest resources 1 near their village. Forest resources such as timber, firewood, fencing/flag poles, fodder, and other forest products had become scarce. So, the community came forward with the proposal to establish a CF. Furthermore, the GFEO had been emphasizing  $\mbox{CF}\xspace{s}$  importance to the villagers multiple times. This eventually led to the formation of the CF.

SOUTIEN TECHNIQUE, RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS ET GESTION DES CONNAISSANCES

#### Les activités ou services suivants ont fait partie de l'approche

- Renforcement des capacités/ formation 1
- Service de conseils 1
- Renforcement des institutions (développement organisationnel)
- Suivi et évaluation 1 Recherche

#### Renforcement des capacités/ formation

#### La formation a été dispensée aux

- parties prenantes suivantes
- exploitants des terres 1
- personnels/ conseillers de terrain
- exploitants) zones de démonstration 1
  - réunions publiques cours

sur le tas

Formats de la formation

# Sujets abordés

🗾 entre agriculteurs (d'exploitants à

Accounting and record keeping Forest management Nursey management Leadership skills Power chain operation

- Service de conseils
- Le service de conseils était fourni

dans les champs des exploitants? 1 dans des centres permanents

Land users have access to advisory services from the GFEO. The GFEO provides necessary assistance in any field that the CF members require and also advises the CFMG on the implementation of CFMP, the latest policies and amendments of the rule.

# Renforcement des institutions

Institutions ont été renforcées ou mises en place
non
oui, un peu
oui, modérément

Décrivez l'institution, ses rôles et responsabilités, ses membres, etc. Land users have benefitted a lot from the CF, the water sources are protected, erosions and landslides are prevented, and there is sustainable utilization and management of forest resources. Also, land users are able to generate income through the sale of surplus forest products especially timber. During the first plan period of Zhasela CF management, CFMG generated more than Nu 320,000 from the sale of surplus timber and finished products. Nu 299, 600 was divided among the group members and each member received Nu 23,000.

#### Plus de détails

# Type de soutien

🔽 oui, beaucoup

financier
 renforcement des capacités/ formation
 équipement

# Suivi et évaluation

The Chief Forestry Officer, Gewog Ranger, and land users are involved in monitoring and evaluation. The monitoring of CF activities is done by all CF members (land users). The necessary records are maintained by the nominated executive committee members (chairperson, secretary, treasurer) of CFMG. The executive members are mandated to submit annual progress reports to Gewog Ranger. The Chief Forestry Officer and Gewog Ranger monitor the activities implemented by CFMG.

# FINANCEMENT ET SOUTIEN MATÉRIEL EXTERNE Budget annuel en dollars US de la composante GDT < 2 000</td> There is no set annual budget for the SLM 2 000-10 000 component of the approach but wherever 2 000-10 000 Soutiens financiers/ matériels fournis aux exploitants des terres

2 000-10 000 10 000-100 000 100 000-1 000 000 > 1 000 000 Precise annual budget: sans objet There is no set annual budget for the SLM component of the approach but wherever necessary the land users use the CFMG fund and sometimes get financial and material support from the government.

au niveau suivant

régional

national

 Soutiens financiers/ matériels fournis aux exploitants des terres
 Subventions pour des intrants spécifiques Crédits

> en partie financé entièrement financé

> > nent p

Autres incitations ou instruments

#### Soutiens financiers/ matériels fournis aux exploitants des terres

The CFMG received Nu.100,000 to carry out some of the activities reflected in the CFMP, four rolls of barbed wire, and some tree seedlings.

The CFMG received Nu.100,000 from the government to carry out some of the activities reflected in the CFMP, four rolls of barbed wire, and some tree seedlings.

#### La main d'oeuvre fournie par les exploitants des terres était

- volontaire
   vivres-contre-travail
- payée en espèces

récompensée avec un autre soutien matériel

# ANALYSES D'IMPACT ET CONCLUSIONS

Impacts de l'Approche

Est-ce que l'Approche a autonomisé les exploitants locaux des terres, amélioré la participation des parties prenantes? CF management has improved participation among the member households. The CFMG members work together and carry out the activities highlighted in the CFMP. There is labour-sharing in the group for activities such as the plantation of seedlings, fire line creations, and overall forest management thereby easing workload in the group and improving collaboration and coordination. The CF has helped empower local communities to manage their resources collectively. The CFMG members also help each other out in times of need. For example, Mr. Tshering Dorji's house was damaged by an earthquake in September 2009. In spring 2010, the CFMG allotted four drashing (trees of at least 50 cm diameter at breast height) from the CF free of cost to him for the reconstruction of his house. CFMG has improved stakeholder participation between members and the government. Both land users and government officials like GFEO have benefitted through the CF. As for the members, due to CF, they have access to forest resources such as timber, fuel wood, fencing/flag poles, NWFPs, and free grazing. Their water sources are also protected and risks of erosions and landslides have been minimized. All of these motivate them to manage the forest. As for the GFEO, the forest is sustainably being managed by the members guided by CFMP thereby making their work easier. The members and the GFEO are working together with the officials giving technical advice and conducting periodic monitoring and the members carrying out various sustainable forest management field work. The CF has facilitated collaboration between different stakeholders.	Non Oui, un peu Oui, modéré Noui, bearcou
Est-ce que l'Approche a permis la prise de décisions fondées sur des données probantes? During the first plan period of Zhasela CF management, CFMG utilized 147 drashing (trees of at least 50 cm dbh which is used for sawn timber), 20 numbers of cham (trees of 30-50 cm dbh which are used for beams), 3 numbers of tsim (trees of 20-30 cm dbh which are used for large poles), and 4 numbers of dangchung (trees of 10-20 cm dbh which are used for small poles). The group also generated income through the sale of surplus timber and finished products (altars). The group generated more than Nu 320,000 from the sale of surplus timber and finished products. Nu 299, 600 was divided among the group members and each member received Nu 23,000. Some of the activities carried out in the first plan period were 2 acres of barren land were planted and maintained, a tree nursery was established, and approximately 5 acres of unwanted bushes were cleared for enhancement of regeneration and growth of retained trees. The water sources were protected and risks of erosions and landslides were minimized. The members got access to many forest resources. The members reaped a lot of benefits from the CF and this made them revise and continue CFMP for another 10 years (2017-2027). All the positive aspects of the CF enable evidence-based decision-making.	
Est-ce que l'Approche a aidé les exploitants des terres à mettre en œuvre et entretenir les Technologies de GDT? The management of CF by the CFMG has helped land users protect water sources, minimize erosion and landslides, and sustainably use forest resources.	
Est-ce que l'Approche a amélioré les connaissances et les capacités des exploitants des terres pour mettre en œuvre la GDT? CF has helped land users protect water sources and sustainably use forest resources.	
Est-ce que l'Approche a autonomisé les groupes socialement et économiquement défavorisés? The CF has helped land users have access to forest resources such as timber, fuel wood, fencing/flag poles, and NWFPs and provided an opportunity to generate income.	
Est-ce que l'Approche a amélioré l'égalité entre hommes et femmes et autonomisé les femmes et les filles?	

Est-ce que l'Approche a amélioré l'égalité entre hommes et femmes et autonomisé les femmes et les filles? CFMG comprises both male and female land users. There is no gender discrimination.

Est-ce que l'Approche a amélioré les questions foncières et des droits d'utilisation qui entravent la mise en œuvre des Technologies? CF has resolved conflicts regarding access to forest resources.		
Est-ce que l'Approche a conduit à améliorer la sécurité alimentaire et/ou la nutrition? The CF has helped land users have access to forest resources such as timber, fuel wood opportunity to generate income. Also, CFMG provides loans to its members.	d, fencing/flag poles, and NWFPs and provided an	
Est-ce que l'Approche a conduit à améliorer l'accès à l'eau et l'assainissement? The CF has helped protect the water sources.		
Est-ce que l'Approche a conduit à des emplois, des opportunités de revenus? The land users generate income by selling forest products as they have access to forest	resources.	
<ul> <li>Principale motivation des exploitants des terres pour mettre en oeuvre la GDT <ul> <li>augmenter la production</li> <li>augmenter la rentabilité/ bénéfice, rapport coûts-bénéfices</li> </ul> </li> <li>réduire la dégradation des terres <ul> <li>réduire la charge de travail</li> <li>paiements/ subventions</li> <li>règles et règlements (amendes)/ application</li> <li>prestige, pression sociale/ cohésion sociale</li> <li>affiliation à un mouvement/ projet/ groupe/ réseaux</li> </ul> </li> <li>conscience environmementale <ul> <li>coutumes et croyances, morale</li> <li>améliorer l'esthétique</li> </ul> </li> <li>atténuer les conflits</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Durabilité des activités de l'Approche</li> <li>Les exploitants des terres peuvent-ils poursuivre ce qui a été mis en oeuvre par le biais de l'Approche (sans soutien extérieur) ?</li> <li>non</li> <li>oui</li> <li>incertain</li> <li>Sustainable use of resources in CF ensures regeneration and replenishment of harvested resources.</li> </ul>	
CONCLUSIONS ET ENSEIGNEMENTS TIRÉS		
<ul> <li>Points forts: point de vue de l'exploitant des terres</li> <li>Protection of water sources.</li> <li>Access to forest resources such as timber, fuel wood, fencing/flag poles, fodder, leaf litter, and NWFPs.</li> <li>Conflict mitigation due to clarity on access to forest resources.</li> <li>Access to loans from the CF fund lending scheme with minimal interest.</li> <li>Conservation of local forest.</li> <li>Reduce erosion and landslides in the area.</li> <li>Habitat protection and biodiversity conservation.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Faiblesses/ inconvénients/ risques: point de vue de l'exploitant des terrescomment surmonter</li> <li>Faiblesses/ inconvénients/ risques: point de vue du compilateur ou d'une autre personne-ressource clécomment surmonter</li> <li>Farmers are not able to sell NWFPs due to a lack of markets in the vicinity. Since one of the roles and responsibilities of the territorial division office is to provide market information and support marketing (as highlighted in CFMP), it should come up with ways to link land users and markets in Lhuentse.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Points forts: point de vue du compilateur ou d'une autre personne-ressource clé</li> <li>Diversify income sources by reducing dependency on a single source of income like livestock farming or crop production.</li> <li>Improve living standards and reduce poverty in rural communities.</li> <li>Sustainable utilization and management of forest resources.</li> <li>Strengthen social cohesion by empowering local communities to manage their resources collectively.</li> <li>Facilitate collaboration among different stakeholders.</li> </ul>		

#### RÉFÉRENCES

Compilateur Tshering Yangzom **Editors** Tashi Wangdi

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#### Personnes-ressources

Palden Dorji - exploitant des terres Tshewang Rinzin - exploitant des terres Yangchenmo - exploitant des terres Sonam Norbu - exploitant des terres Kinga Yonten - exploitant des terres

Description complète dans la base de données WOCAT https://qcat.wocat.net/fr/wocat/approaches/view/approaches\_6892/

# Données de GDT correspondantes sans objet

## La documentation a été facilitée par

Institution

• National Soil Services Center, Department of Agric (National Soil Services Center, Department of Agric) - Bhoutan

Projet
 Strengthening national-level institutional and professional capacities of country Parties towards enhanced UNCCD monitoring and reporting – GEF 7 EA Umbrella II (GEF 7 UNCCD Enabling Activities\_Umbrella II)

## Références clés

- Phuntsho, S., Schmidt, K., Kuyakanon, R., & Temphel, K. J. (n.d.). Community Forestry in Bhutan: Putting People at the Heart of Poverty Reduction.:
- http://uwice.gov.bt/admin\_uwice/publications/publication\_files/Reports/2011/UWICER-CFIB.pdf#page=27
- Wangchuk, S. (2014). Equity in Community Forestry Management: A Case of Lhuentse and Mongar Dzongkhags, Eastern Bhutan. Journal of the Bhutan Ecological Society, 48–59.: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sonam-Wangchuk-5/publication/313663481\_Equity\_in\_Community\_Forestry\_Management\_A\_Case\_of\_Lhuentse\_and\_Mongar\_Dzongkhags\_Eastern\_Bhutan/links/58a2047f45851598babae778/Equityin-Community-Forestry-Management-A-Case-of-Lhuentse-and-Mongar-Dzongkhags-Eastern-Bhutan.pdf

### Liens vers des informations pertinentes disponibles en ligne

• Phuntsho, S., Schmidt, K., Kuyakanon, R., & Temphel, K. J. (n.d.). Community Forestry in Bhutan: Putting People at the Heart of Poverty Reduction.:

http://uwice.gov.bt/admin\_uwice/publications/publication\_files/Reports/2011/UWICER-CFIB.pdf#page=27

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