

Growing Forest Partnerships

The Growing Forest Partnerships ¹(GFP) is about creating and strengthening partnerships for the benefit of those dependent on forests by building up and supporting networks at local, national and international levels. It aims to ensure that discussions about forests include the real and current challenges that forest-dependent people and local forest managers are facing, bringing the voices of local communities and indigenous peoples forward to influence decision-making. GFP is currently active in Mozambique, Liberia, Ghana, Guatemala, and Nepal. It supports existing initiatives that are already working on the ground, filling in gaps in on-going processes, and working to build capacity and support communications. There are four facilitating partners; viz. Food and Agricultural Organization ² (FAO), International Union for the Conservation of Nature ³ (IUCN), The World Bank and International Institute for Environment and Development ⁴(IIED) for the Growing Forest Partnership.

In Nepal, the GFP initiative began in mid 2010 to facilitate a more inclusive dialogue in forest sector policy processes and communicate outcomes with wider audiences. A civil society consortium, composed by ForestAction, ASMITA, the Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal (FECOFUN), and Nepal Foresters' Association (NFA), initiated a catalytic multi-stakeholder forest policy dialogue in partnership with GFP. The consortium carry diagnostic analysis on the key forest sector policy issues, conduct multi-stakeholder policy dialogues, write and publish policy relevant materials like policy briefs, booklets and discussion papers and engage with mass media. It has initiated a unique multi-stakeholder forum for informed policy dialogue called Van Chautari since 2011.

¹ <http://www.growingforestpartnerships.org/>

² <http://www.fao.org/>

³ <http://www.iucn.org/>

⁴ <http://www.iied.org/>