Report on
Launching of Socioeconomic Survey of the Bangladesh Forest Inventory

Bangladesh Forest Department
December 2017

The Forest Department of Bangladesh leads actions to improve forest management and conservation, adopting forward thinking, innovative approaches in its management of approximately 1.55 million hectares of land across the country.

In 2015, the Forest Department began a process to establish a National Forest Inventory and Satellite Land Monitoring System for improved forest and natural resource management. The process supports national objectives related to climate change mitigation and provides information in support of the UN-REDD programme aimed at Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). The process also addresses domestic information needs and supports national policy processes related to forests and the multitude of interconnected human and environmental systems that forests support.

The activities implemented under the Bangladesh Forest Inventory process are collaboration between several national and international institutions and stakeholders. National partners from multiple government departments and agencies assist in providing a nationally coordinated approach to land management. International partners, including the United Stated Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) are supporting the development of technical and financial resources that will assist in institutionalizing the process.

The results will allow the Forest Department to provide regular, updated information about the status of trees and forests for a multitude of purposes including for assessment of role of trees for firewood, medicines, timber, and climate change mitigation.

CONTACTS:

Md. Zaheer Iqbal
National Project Coordinator
Bangladesh Forest Department
Email: z.iqbal60@gmail.com

Matieu Henry
Chief Technical Advisor
Food & Agriculture Organization of The United Nations
Email: matieu.henry@fao.org

Suggested Citation: Faruk, I. and Chakma, N. 2017. Report on Launching of Socioeconomic Survey of Bangladesh Forest Inventory. 12 December 2017, Dhaka, Bangladesh Forest Department and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Disclaimer

This report is designed to reflect the activities and progress related to the project GCP/GD/058/USAID "Strengthening National Forest Inventory and Satellite Forest Monitoring System in support of REDD+ in Bangladesh". This report is not authoritative information sources – it does not reflect the official position of the supporting international agencies including USAID or FAO and should not be used for official purposes. Should readers find any errors in the document or would like to provide comments for improving its quality they are encouraged to contact one of above contacts.

Executive summary

The Bangladesh Forest Inventory (BFI) aims at collecting both biophysical and socio-economic data and information to assess the functional relationship between people, tree and forest resources. It also aims at assessing the role of tree and forests for the livelihood of the community people through regularly assessing the status of trees and forests and human interactions. Integration of biophysical and socio-economic information will provide better understanding of the ecosystem services and contribute to national policy and strategy processes and forestry planning. To assess the primary tree and forest resources a replicable survey design and survey materials were prepared to collect the household's data from the field. A service provider was hired to collect the socioeconomic data and launched the socioeconomic survey of the Bangladesh Forest Inventory following the agenda (annex-1) with a view to inform socioeconomic survey of forestry in Bangladesh, share the information on socioeconomic survey design of BFI and field data collection procedure to public and media, handover of field data collection manuals and equipment's to field team leaders and to seek cooperation from all the agencies for smooth operation of the field work. A total 76 participants (male-63 and female-13) attended (annex-2) in the launching programme. According to survey design, 6,400 households will be interviewed across the zones. In addition, 100 community survey will be conducted. The results of socioeconomic survey will assess primary tree and forest ecosystem services to support sustainable forest management.

Contents

Report on

Launching of Socioeconomic Survey of the Bangladesh Forest Inventory
Venue: Korobi Conference Hall, Bana Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka
December 12, 2017

1. Background

The Forest Department of Bangladesh leads actions to improve forest management and conservation, adopting forward thinking, innovative approaches in its management of approximately 1.6 million hectares of land across the country. It is well-documented that trees and forests play an important role for the livelihoods of people by providing numerous ecosystem services (ES) such as food, timber, energy, fodder, water and recreation. At present, the available resources and demand related to tree and forest products and services in Bangladesh are not well known, and thus are not properly reflected in the country's national accounting system. To quantify the value of ES and interaction between people and tree/forest resources, a consistent, replicable and cost-effective approach is required. In this context, Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) with the technical support of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is implementing the project named "Strengthening National Forest Inventory and Satellite Land Monitoring System in support of REDD+ in Bangladesh" (hereinafter referred to as BFI) with a view to achieve a robust forest monitoring system for the BFD, supporting forest policy and critical decision making processes, and actions including for climate change adaptation and mitigation in forestry.

The biophysical data and information are currently being collected through a comprehensive nationwide inventory of forest and tree resources. For this purpose, the whole country is divided into five forest zones, namely, Hill, Sal, Coastal, the Sundarbans and Village. The socio-economic survey will be conducted in the same zones. FAO indents to launch socioeconomic survey of Bangladesh Forest Inventory at national scale.

2. Number of households to be surveyed

Total number of households to be surveyed is 6400 in which 1280 in Hill, 1280 in Sal, 1280 in Coastal, 1280 in Villages and 1280 in Sundarban periphery zone (Table-1). All those will be surveyed during December-2018-June 2018

Table 1: Number of HHs to be sampled in each stratum of the zone for the socioeconomic survey

Zone	Strata	Number of unions	Total numbers of Households to be surveyed from each stratum
Coastal	Coastal1	16	320
	Coastal2	16	320
	Coastal3	16	320
	Coastal4	16	320
Hill	Hill1	16	320
	Hill2	16	320
	Hill3	16	320
	Hill4	16	320
Sal	Sal1	16	320
	Sal2	16	320
	Sal3	16	320
	Sal4	16	320
Village	Village1	16	320
	Village2	16	320
	Village3	16	320
	Village4	16	320
SundarbanP	SundarbanP1	16	320
	SundarbanP2	16	320
	SundarbanP3	16	320
	SundarbanP4	16	320
Total		**320**	**6400**

3. Inauguration session

The Introduction of the participants

The participants have given introduction at the start of the launching ceremony. Then **Mr. Aminul Islam** has presented the keynote paper and mentioned that forest Resources is very important. FAO and USAID supporting this program in collaboration with Bangladesh Forest Department, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), University of Dhaka and Arannayk Foundation. Center for Natural Resource Studies (CNRS) will collect the socioeconomic data from the field as per survey design. To measures the value of ecosystem services is important to know. BBS working for this activity at the national level. He said that

survey findings will help for national level decisions. Total 6,400 households will be surveyed by CNRS with the guidance of BBS and FAO. He wished successful implementation of the survey with tangible results.

Mr. Zaheer Iqbal has been briefly presented the NFI and its activities. NFI has three major components: (a) Land Cover Mapping, (b) Bio physical data collection, (c) Socioeconomic Survey. The project has prepared land cover map. This has help for monitoring the Forest Reference Emission level, Biophysical plots (1085 plots surveyed in three zones till to date). Second round of NFI biophysical data collection will be continued soon.

Further he mentioned that question, methodology, coordination and facilitation by BBS to cover 6400 households. The households are location in 5 zones. For this purpose, training is going on Sunday to prepare the field team. The survey will be completed by next May 2018. The survey will provide tree and forest ecosystem services.

Patrick Mayer, USIAD expressed that the significance of the socioeconomic activity. Bangladesh has made prosperity in developing forest management practice. The survey will help that the findings and results will help policy makers. USAID takes program to reduce the ecosystem losses in Bangladesh. Planning of the survey is really significant to reduce the wider points to solid results from this survey.

Prof Shahadat thanked to FAO and FD for team works. He expressed that he has been sitting for 7 times for engaged with this for pure statistics point of view. He has learnt that how this survey process takes social aspects of forest and forest aspects in to these socioeconomic aspects. The sample size of 6400 is can be challenged and 100 FGDs could be another challenges to justify and triangulation. One issue, related to data, which is not a local issue rather its and global issue. Further he suggested the survey authority to keep arrangement that the data can be accessed.

Farid Uddin Ahmed explained a story about data about the data collection. When 1985, forest cover became 9 percent. Last inventory 2005-207 it became 9.5. Because different time different sources added the forest cover areas. FD is now trying to cover all the information in collaboration with BBS. Arannayk Foundation conducted the biodiversity monitoring and has worked with CNRS. For socioeconomic survey it's a good initiative to work and collect data on households' level and community as well.

Kristofer Johnson thanked all the delegates and said that team of consultants have worked together have strong collaboration with different institutions particularly CEGIS, CNRS, BBS, forest inventory, land cover mapping and socioeconomic aspects. How many people are dependent on tree and forests? Socioeconomic part is going to address. The interactions of supply and demand will be an opportunity to measure. Further he said that the project formed AA/QC team to be in the field to check and will measure, check the collected data to ensure quality. After collection of data there will be data cleaning process. The data collection team are being supported by international consultant.

3.1 Instruments handover and conclusion session

The socioeconomic survey materials were handed over to Team Leaders of socioeconomic data collector by Ms. Marufa Akhter, Patrick Mayer, Professor Syed Shahadat Hossain, Farid Uddin Ahmed and Dr. Zahidur Rahman Miah.

Ms. Marufa Akhter, Chief Guest
Forest department have often conducted the inventory. Socio-economic survey has been rarely taking place. Statistics of socioeconomic information of forestry is very important policy planning level and sustainable forest management. Previously, Forest Department has been conducting the forest inventory with limited information about socioeconomic information. The social aspects of forest need to address, and the contribution of tree and forest resources must be evaluated. This collected data will be the property of BBS, however BBS will allow FD to use the data for different purposes. Despite of weather, the enumerators have encouraged to participate and conduct the survey. Request the QA/QC to ensure the data collection, quality and prospects. Further she thanked FAO, CNRS and other organization who have attended this socioeconomic survey launching programme.

Chair Dr. Zahidur Rahman Miah
Upcoming socioeconomic survey will generate data and help us to take effective measure on socioeconomic monitoring of forestry. Thanks to USAID for their financial support to conduct the socioeconomic survey. He wished successful conduction of socioeconomic survey across the country.

4. Pictures of launching ceremony

Annex 1: Agenda of the launching ceremony

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Time	Events	Presenter/Facilitator
10.00 AM	Guest take their seats	Korobi room, Bana bhaban, Agargoan
10.30-10.45 AM	Welcome remarks	**Ms Umme Habiba,** Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forest Division, Dhaka
10.45-11.00 AM	Brief on NFI Project and Socio-Economic Survey	**Mr. Md. Zaheer Iqbal,** Deputy Conservator of Forests, RIMS and National Project Coordinator of BFI
11.00-11.15 AM	Remarks by representative of USAID	**Dr. Patrick Meyer** Science and Environment Advisor, USAID
11.15-11.30 AM	Remarks by Socio-economic Expert Group Member	**Dr. Professor Syed Shahadat Hossain** Professor of ISRT, University of Dhaka
11.30-11.45 AM	Remarks by Socio-economic Expert Group Member	**Mr. Farid Uddin Ahmed** Executive Director, Arannayk Foundation
11.45-12.00 PM	Remarks NFI project	**Dr. Kristofer Johnson** Acting CTA of NFI and International Consultant
12.00-12.15 PM	Socioeconomic instruments handover to enumerators	**All the delegates**
12.15-12.30 PM	Remarks by Chief Guest	**Ms. Marufa Akther,** Conservator of Forests, Social Forest Division, Dhaka,
12.30-12.40 pm	Remarks by Chair	**Dr. Md. Zahidur Rahman Miah** Deputy Conservator of Forests, Forest Department
12.40 PM	Lunch	

Annex 2: Participants list

Sl	Name of Participants	Gender	Designations & Organization	Mobile Number	Email Address
1	Mokhlesur Rahman	M	ED, CNRS	01711549460	mokhles_cnrs@yahoo.com
2	Anisul Islam	M	Director, CNRS	01711813407	anis@cnrs.on.bd
3	Wahidul Islam	M	Statistical officer, BBS	01816189080	wislam98@gmail.com
4	Shalega Khatun	F	Deputy Director, BBS	01716596194	shaleha.du@gmail.com
5	Md. Enamul Kabir	M	Professor, Khulna University	01776300400	menamulkabir@gmail.com
6	Retad Haq	M	FD	01719977814	
7	Shyamal Kumar Ghose	M	FD	01711015945	
8	Zaheer Iqbal	M	FD	01711443750	
9	Syed Shahadat Hossain	M	Professor, Dhaka University	01747816856	shahhadat@isrt.ac.bd
10	Md. Tariq Aziz	M	Research office FD	01790284328	tariqaziz29718@gmail.com
11	Mahammudah Roksana Sultana	F	ACF, FD	01761494621	shultana_rakhi@yahoo.com
12	Afroza Begum	F	Research officer, FD	01711283846	b.afroza@yahoo.com
13	Shah Abdus Salam	M	Executive Director Development Wheel	01715120140	dewsalam@gmail.com
14	Ashraful Haque	M	Country Coordinator SilvaCarbon BD	01715425164	Aashraful@silvacarbon.bd.com
15	Persia Nargis	F	Program Officer	01735442409	pershia@silvacarbon.bd.com
16	Md. Sayedur Rahman	M	DCF Wild life circle. BFD, Dhaka	01712290921	sayedurrahman67@gmail.com
17	Kris Jonson	M	FAO		krisjonson@fao.org
18	Patrick Meyer	M	USAID		pmeyer@usaid.org
19	Dr. Abdullah Al Mamun Chowdhury	M	FAO	01711943614	

SI	Name of Participants	Gender	Designations & Organization	Mobile Number	Email Address
20	Nasima Sultana	F	Research Officer, FD	01552365800	nasimasultana@gmail.com
21	Rokeya Begum	F	ACF, FD	01715862576	rupa_zaman@yahoo.com
22	Ziauddin Ahamed	M	Joint Director, BBS	01552411302	ziaulbd@yahoo.com
23	Shamima Begum Shewli	F	Sr Research Officer FD	01931407861	shewlibfd@gmail.com
24	habonti Hira	F	RS& GIS Consultant	01717943167	hira.shrabonti@gmail.com
25	Md Aminul Islam	M	Sociologist FD	01712859311	aminul.sociologist@yahoo.com
26	Abdul Kala, Azad	M	Director BBS	01726880498	azadbbs@yahoo.com
27	Mohsina Begum	F	ACF, FD	01726880498	moshinabegum1324@yahoo.com
28	Md. Mahabubur Rahman	M	Deputy Director, BBS	01839974315	mahabubspn@yahoo.com
29	Marufa Akter	F	CF,FD	01712561817	marufaakther@gmail.com
30	Md. Ariful Hoque	M	ACCF,BFD	01712115625	
31	Imran Ahamed	M	ACCF,BFD	01999000004	imranisrat@gmail.com
32	Md.Maruf Hossain	M	ACF	01919450211	maruf.914@gamil.com
33	Kazi Tariqur Rahman	M	ACF	01751180388	tariqurrahman107@gmail.com
34	Rafiqa Sultana	F	ACF, FD	01843889000	rafiqas2016@gmail.com
35	Md.Asraful Hossain	M	Budget Officer FD	01711231648	ashraful@gmail.com
36	Falgonee Mondol	M	FAO		
37	Md. Aktaruzzaman	M	Emumarator	01712657276	mahsbubul1982@gmail.com
38	Azharul Islam	M	Emumarator	01757502553	
39	Hasan Iqbal	M	Emumarator	01716816484	
40	Amrita lal Gupta	M	Emumarator	01776761596	tormalami67@gmail.com
41	Dr. M.Mahfuzur Rahman	M	CU	01846823233	mahfuzusa@yahoo.com
42	Dr. Md Abdul Quddus	M	Arannyak	01715023283	quddus@arannayk.org
43	Farid Uddin Ahamed	M	Arannyak	01713040583	farid@arannayk.org
44	Dr. Laskar Maqsudur Rahman	M	FAO	01732998449	laskar.rahman@fao.org
45	A.N.M Hossain	M	BFD	01711189877	
46	Rajib Muhammad	M	FAO	01819066191	rajib.mahammd@fao.org
47	Md. Mostofa	M	FAO	01720083019	
48	Ajoy Halder	M	CNRS	01710827172	

Sl	Name of Participants	Gender	Designations & Organization	Mobile Number	Email Address
49	Aloke Mistry	M	CNRS	01721893911	
50	Snce Babul Chandra Das	M	CNRS	01791774425	
51	Md. Mokhlesur Rahman	M	CNRS	01714648458	
52	Md. Mahububer Rahman	M	CNRS	01720374859	
53	Abdul Rashid	M	CNRS	01727928755	
54	Rahat Mahmood	M	CNRS	1712798422	
55	A.S.M Saiful Alam	M	CNRS	01712821741	saiful.cnrs@gmail.com
56	Modasser Hossain	M	CNRS	01716423045	
57	Md. Masud Rana	M	FD	01816573740	masudranafd@yahoo.com
58	Md. Shorifur Rahman	M	FRO	01717122414	
59	Rupanta Chakma	M	FRO	01556750094	
60	Lab Keri Mrong	M	FRO	01751088037	
61	Alamgir Hossain	M	CNRS	01736416307	
62	Abu Hera Mostofa	M	CNRS	01719444856	
63	Md. Habibur Rahman	M	CNRS	01727935570	
64	Tanvir Islam	M	CNRS	01711236158	
65	Md. Sayed Ali	M	CF(Admin and Finance)	01999000002	
66	Dr. Ruma Hossain	F	R.O	1711442325	
67	Md. Aminul Islam	M	DFO		
68	Md Akram Hossain	M	CEE	01727401569	
69	Md. F.M Ali	M	CEE		
70	Md. Yusuf	M			
71	Gobindo	M			
72	Faruk Hossain	M	BFD	01721899568	
73	Md Hossain	M	BFD	01922453197	
74	Md. Joyrul Abuh	M	BFD	01717628328	
75	Md.Golam Rabbani	M	BFD	01999000145	
76	Farah Tasnim	F	FAO	01740787672	