Making HCV work for companies and communities

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The requirement

• New plantings since November 2005 have not replaced primary forest or any area required to maintain or enhance one or more High Conservation Values.

• HCV4. Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).

• HCV5. Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).

• HCV6. Forest areas critical to local communities’ traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).
Legality and management

- Problem legally securing HCVAs when permits are given to plant and not to conserve
- Managing HCV 4-6: not clear who has responsibility: company being certified or the community which owns/claims the area?
- Legally securing HCVAs as community conserved areas another challenge
Progress of Ad Hoc Working Group

• Expanded meeting in February (detailed report available)
• Detailed legal review done
• Dialogues with government officials
• The main legal obstacles to the protection of HCVs in HGU Conservation Values in are now well identified
• Legal options identified to secure HCVs both within current laws and through legal reforms.

• Field study in KalTeng in May identified important progress in provincial laws to allow HCV set asides (detailed report available)
• Model MoU between one company and provincial government
• More widely there are major problems overall due to massive forest clearance and little law enforcement
• Also problems for communities (next slide)
Making room for livelihoods

- Securing *ladang* is also necessary
Without land people will enter HCVAs

‘We didn’t know about HCV in the past, but we knew how to take care of our environment. [The company] know about HCV, but they have destroyed the swamps and polluted the rivers. [The HCV assessor] agreed that we could manage the HCV as long as we didn’t pollute it. We wanted to plant rubber, but [the company] refused, saying it was HCV. There are human beings to think about too; not just nature. You protect the monkeys, but what about the humans?’
Recommendations

• More land needs to be set aside for livelihoods: as smallholdings, as community lands (HCV 5) and so ensure other HCVs and estates are not at risk

• We need to improve tool kits and guidance for HCV assessment and management: especially for HCV 4, 5 and 6

• We must maintain dialogue with Governments to identify legally secure options for securing HCVs as company set asides and as community conserved areas

• We need to increase training of community and company personnel
Thank you