



# Understanding of the Two Concepts:

- Participatory Forest Management*
- Forest General Management Plan*

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# **Participatory Forest Management**

# Definition of PFM

**The Tanzanian Government defines PFM as:**

- *“The arrangements for management that are negotiated by multiple stakeholders and are based on set of rights and privileges recognized by the government and widely accepted by resource users; and the process for sharing power among stakeholders to make decisions and exercise control over resource use.”*

# Definition of PFM

- (PFM) is simply a strategy to achieve sustainable forest management;
  - by encouraging the management or
  - co-management of forest and woodland resources
  - by the communities living closest to the resources.

# Definition of PFM

- Participatory forest management (PFM) is an overall term for decentralised forest management models:
  - a genuine shift of management over forest resources from government to local community.

# Two distinct set-ups for PFM:

## **(i) Community Base Forest Management (CBFM)**

- Takes place in 'village land'
- Villagers takes full ownership and management responsibilities
- Villagers collect forest royalty from sale of forest products

## **(ii) Joint Forest Management (JFM)**

- Takes place in Government Forest Reserves
- Is a collaborative management approach: divides management responsibility between Gov and the communities.
- The community gets user rights through signing of formalized management agreements

# Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Tanzania

- Participatory Forest Management (PFM) was introduced into law with the passing of the Forest Act of 2002
- The Act provides a clear legal basis for;
  - communities, groups or individuals across mainland Tanzania
  - to own, manage or co-manage forests under a wide range of conditions.

# Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Tanzania

- The law recognizes two different types of PFM which;
  - (1) Enable local communities to declare – and ultimately gazette;
    - Village, Group or Private Forest Reserves
    - commonly referred to as Community Based Forest Management (CBFM)

- **Community-based forest management;**
  - encompasses the management of forest lands and forest resources by or with local people,
  - individually or in groups, and
  - for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

# Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Tanzania

- (2) Allow communities to sign joint forest management agreements with government and other forest owners
  - commonly referred to as “ Joint Forest Management ” or JFM

# Community Based Forest Management (CBFM)

- The first form of PFM (CBFM) takes place on village land – or private land, and
- the trees are owned and managed by either
  - a village council (through a village natural resource committee),
  - a group, or
  - an individual.

# Community Based Forest Management (CBFM)

- Most of the costs and benefits relating to management and utilization are carried by the owner.
- The role of central government is minimal – and districts only have a role in monitoring.

# Joint Forest Management

- The second form of PFM, Joint Forest Management, takes place on “reserved land”
  - Land that is owned and managed by either central or local government.
  - Villagers typically enter into management agreements to share responsibilities for the management with the forest owner.

# History of PFM in Tanzania

- Different models of PFM have been supported by projects, NGOs, districts and national government since the early 1990s
- But they were first formalized following the passing the Forest Act in 2002.
- Since then, PFM has been implemented in a wide range of circumstances and in most of the districts of Tanzania.

# Why PFM in Tanzania

- The government was lacking the sufficient capacity to sustainably manage forest and hence there was a need to involve communities in forest management
- Improved livelihoods through increased forest revenues and secure supply of subsistence forest products
- Improved forest quality through sustainable management practices
- Improved forest governance at village and district levels through effective and accountable natural resource management institutions

# Status of PFM Implementation Based on 2006 Survey

- Total area of forest covered by PFM arrangements 3,672,854 ha
- Percentage of total forest area under PFM 10.8%
- Number of villages involved in PFM 1,821
- Percentage of total villages involved in PFM 17.5%
- Number of villages with approved management plans or signed Joint Management Agreements 531
- Number of districts with ongoing PFM processes 57

# Major Challenges

- PFM has been largely supported by donor funding;
  - either through NGOs,
  - area based projects, or
  - donor funds channeled through the Forestry and Beekeeping Division.
- However, in recent years, there is a move away from site-based projects to mainstreaming donor funds;
  - through local or national government institutions.

# Formalization of Forest Management

- While many villages are participating in PFM across the country;
  - relatively few have formalized their forest management in line with the Forest Act of 2002.
  - The Act requires that villagers have an approved management plan or signed Joint Management Agreement for their forest land

# Formalization of Forest Management

- The Forest Act allows for a range of different forest management arrangements under the overall authority of the Village Council,
- But to date the greatest majority are Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFRs).
- To date, 329 VLFRs have been declared by village and district councils.

# Formalization of Forest Management

- The Forest Act allows for “gazettment” of VFLRs by central government
- But only 53 have been through this process (mostly in Iringa Region, following support from the HIMA project).

# Formalization of Forest Management

- The route followed by villagers towards protecting their forests seems to vary from place to place
- In many cases is not yet fully “legalized”.
- For example, villagers may develop by-laws, without a forest management plan, or vice versa
- In other cases, villagers declare a village land forest reserve, but they have yet to identify and demarcate their “village land” boundaries.
- In other cases, villages have yet to elect Village Natural Resource Committees.

# Extent of JFM

- With the exception of mangrove forest blocks along the coastal strip and some Local Authority Forest Reserves,
  - there are relatively few examples of JFM operating in production forests – either natural or plantation.
  - This is largely due to uncertainties regarding benefit sharing mechanisms and
  - How much of the forestry royalties (central government revenue) from timber harvesting can be shared with local communities.

# Extent of JFM

- Despite the large area of forest being covered by JFM and the high number of participating villages— only a small number of agreements have ever been signed.
- This is partly due to uncertainties over cost and benefit sharing arrangements.
- Without signed agreements the basis for equitable Joint Forest Management is questionable.



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