



The Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Management of Planted Forests

Purpose, Principles & Uses

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Objectives

To provide an economic, social, environmental and cultural and framework of principles and guidelines for planted forests to enhance their contribution to sustainable livelihoods and land-use

To be used for policy development, NFPs, strategic planning



Users

Primary Users

- Policy makers
- Senior Decision Makers
- Senior Managers

Secondary Users

- Research scientists
- Academics & Teachers
- Communities
- Donors & Funding Agencies



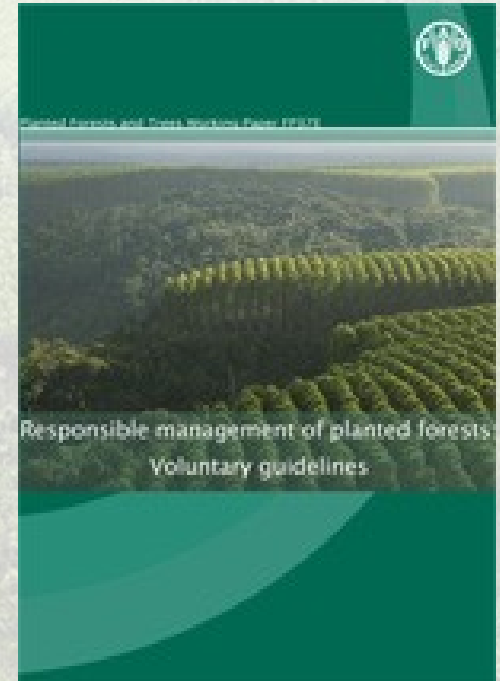
Scope

- Productive Purposes (Industrial)
 - Corporate (public and private)
 - Small and Medium Scale
- Protective Purposes (Non-industrial)
 - Protection/Ecological
 - Conservation
- All Planted Forest Planning & Management
 - Integrated land-use, social & environmental planning
 - Reproductive materials, nursery, site preparation, establishment, tending, silviculture, protection, harvesting etc
 - Links & Responses to Markets, Industry & Trade



Structure of Voluntary Guidelines

- A: Background
- B: Framework – Int./National
- C: Guiding Principles
 - Institutional
 - Economic
 - Social & Cultural
 - Environmental
- D: Key Implementation Considerations
- Annexes
 - Origin
 - Glossary
 - Classification of Planted Forests
 - Important Conventions, Agreements and Declarations
 - Bibliography of references & websites



Institutional Principles

- **Good Governance** (Consistent, clear, supportive policy/legal/regulatory framework)
- **Integrated Decision-making & Multi-stakeholder Approaches** (transparent, stakeholder participation, more inter-sectoral considerations)
- **Enhanced Organizational Capacity** (strengthening policy/legal/regulatory frameworks, technical support & extension)



Economic Principles

- **Recognition of Value of Goods & Services** (incl. market & non-market values i.e. social, cultural and environmental services)
- **Enabling Environment for Investment** (stable investment conditions – confidence to invest, acceptable levels of risk)
- **Recognition of the Role of the Market** (responses to market opportunities & demand)



Social & Cultural Principles

- **Recognition of Social & Cultural Values** (incl. welfare & empowerment of adjacent communities, workers & stakeholders)
- **Maintenance of Social & Cultural Services** (balancing competing objectives by planning, management, utilization and monitoring mechanisms to avoid adverse impacts)



Environmental Principles

- **Maintenance & Conservation of Environmental Services** (Carbon sinks, water & soil protection, rehabilitation of degraded lands etc)
- **Conservation of Biological Diversity** (avoid replacing natural forests with planted forests, maintain buffer zones, corridors, riparian reserves etc)
- **Maintenance of Forest Health & Productivity** (invasive insects, diseases, other pests; fire, fertility etc)



Landscape Principles

- **Integrated, intersectoral and multi-disciplinary planning and management** (planted forests impact other sectors & other sectors impact planted forests, incl. local communities, land-uses etc)
- **Landscape or watershed approaches** (consideration of upstream & downstream issues & impacts)



Potential Uses

- Transforming Int. Agreements & Recommended Actions to afforestation/reforestation principles/guides
- Mainstreaming afforestation/reforestation into wider development goals
- Catalyzing multi-stakeholder dialogue
- Providing a framework for review of policy, legal or regulatory frameworks, NFPs & strategic decisions
- Balancing social, cultural, environmental & economic benefits in planted forest management
- Integrating planted forests in the landscape



Implementation examples

- Regional capacity building workshops in Asia and Latin America → Implementation frameworks
- Incorporation into projects in Central Asia, Northern Africa, Armenia, Burundi
- China: implementation through the NFP (translation to Chinese; development of National Guidelines and implementation workshops)
- New Zealand: derived national guidelines for plantation forestry, using VGs as starting point
- Pan-European Guidelines for Afforestation and Reforestation



Conclusions and recommendations

