

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
Independence – Freedom – Happiness

Po E, April 26th, 2016

**AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN FOREST MANAGEMENT, PROTECTION AND
DEVELOPMENT IN PO E COMMUNE**

Between

**Po E Communal People's Committee
Thach Nham Protection Forest Management Board
Kon Plong's Forest Protection Department**

and

Communities from H'rê ethnic minority villages in Po E commune

Based on practical needs for forest co-management on the foundation of integration between the community's customary laws and state's Law on Forest Protection and Development towards attachment of forest management to sustainable livelihood of the H'rê ethnic minority villagers in Po E commune, Kon Plong district, Kon Tum province.

Today, April 26th, 2016 at the Po E's People's Committee office, we are representatives of:

- Po E's People's Committee (hereafter called Po E's CPC);
- Thanh Nham Protection Forest Management Board (hereafter called Thach Nham PFMB)
- Kon Plong's Forest Protection Department (hereafter called Kon Plong's FPD);
- H'rê villagers from Violak, Vi K Oa, Vi K Tau, Vi Po E 1, Vi Po E 2, Vi K Lang 1 and Vi K Lang 2 villages of Po E commune.

After thorough discussions, we agreed to coordinate to manage, protect and develop forests within Po E commune in order to achieve the following objectives.

Article 1. Objectives

To obtain a model of cooperation in forest management and protection between Po E's CPC, Thach Nham PFMB and Kon Plong's FPD on the basis of integration between customary law and statutory law in order to build up a model of sustainable forest co-governance to contribute to improvement and development of the community livelihood towards a good material and spiritual life attached to the forests in Kong Plong district.

To obtain a model of enhancing capacity of the stakeholders in forest and land management via forest management collaboration based on the community's local knowledge and state's law to contribute to forming and developing cultural – ecological – tourist villages in Po E commune under the strategy of developing Kong Plong district into a tourist and ecological destination.

To obtain a model of forest co-management and appropriate forest land use strategy on the basis of restoring local tree species, building up nurseries of local species and planting local species under the canopy and in the vacant land areas in order to enrich the forest attached to sustaining the village's livelihood identity for further sharing and replicating;

Article 2. Principles

Respect and comply with the state's guidelines and policies on use, management and protection of forest attached to forestry land;

Respect traditional culture, customs and local wisdom of the ethnic minority communities in management, use and development of forest and forestland on the basis of sustaining social order, defence security and livelihood security;

Respect and integrate traditional sites into the state's land use planning and allocation mapping.

Article 3. Contents

1. Establish a network for forest co-management and protection which shall undertake the following tasks:

- Collaborate to make plans for monitoring, supervising and patrolling forests on a periodical basis;
- Collaborate to implement activities to enrich the natural forests by collecting local tree species and building up nurseries of local species for new plantings in the vacant land areas;
- Collaborate to recommend solutions, initiatives to deal with violations arising during the forest co-management process between the parties.

2. Conduct surveys and researches, and implement pilot models of forest enrichment based on community's knowledge and local tree species, and models of community economic development based on under-canopy bio-diversity attached to agro-ecological enterprising to consolidate and build up cultural villages living harmoniously with the forests;

3. Conduct researches and surveys on some models of forest use, management, protection and development which is typical for the local ethnic minorities;

4. Collaborate to organize or directly participate in seminars and workshops on results of implementation of forest co-management, protection and development at district, provincial and national levels.

Article 4. Tasks and responsibilities

Po E's CPC

- Coordinate parties to schedule joint forest patrol and protection activities;

- Make plan for periodical patrolling in accordance with crops, rituals and ceremonies calendars of the villages;
- Make periodical reports and update information, especially of urgent matters, to the parties;
- Make records and deal with violation cases related to forest management and protection;
- Establish a young eco-farmer network and set out its operational regulation in villages in preparation for setting up a bank of native tree species and bio-diversity gardens in the villages;
- Organize campaigns on expansion of local tree species plantings and sharing and exchanges among the young eco-farmer network;
- Take initiative in launching campaigns on collecting seasoning spirit seeds among youth and teenagers with incentives in order to form a treasure of endangered local spirit tree species; collaborate with the young eco-farmers to conduct training courses on skills of bio-diversity gardening in the villages.

Thach Nham MBPF

- Collaborate to organize forest patrolling and protection activities;
- Organize training courses on planting, taking care of local forestry trees for villagers;
- Disseminate and communicate state's policies on forest management and protection;
- Engage in organization of field researches and implementation of models of forest enrichment, restoration and planting of local forestry tree species at the community; models of farming under canopy, agro-forestry, models of development of potential traditional forest and forestland based products for livelihood.

Kon PLong's FPD

- Conduct training courses on state's policies on forest management, protection and development;
- Give advice in dealing with forest violation cases;
- Engage in conducting field researches and implementation of models on forest enrichment, restoration and planting of local forestry tree species; models of farming under canopy and agro-forestry;

Villages Communities

- Fully comply with provisions of the community's Regulation and law's regulations;
- Organize scheduled forest patrolling and monitoring by parties;
- Engage in conducting field researches and implementation of models on forest enrichment, restoration and planting of local forestry tree species; models of farming under canopy and agro-forestry;
- Build up nurseries of local forestry tree species;
- Form a key farmer network on bio-diversity gardening to secure ecological livelihood for the villages;
- Actively engage in campaign on collecting local spirit tree species launched by the CPC.

Article 5. Other provisions

All parties agree to fully implement this Agreement within each's tasks and responsibilities, and shall inform one another of orientation and plans of activities for further cooperation in the following years;

This Agreement includes five pages and is made in four copies which are legally equal. Each party shall retain one copy.

This Agreement takes effect from the signing date./.

**Agriculture & Rural Development
of KonPlong District**

Vice Director Mr Trịnh Xuân Quý (Signed)

Po E Communal People Committee

Vice- President - Mr A Sáp (Signed)

Thach Nham Watershed Management Board

Head: Mrs Chu Thị Phiến (Signed)

Village's Representative

Village Traditional Leaders (signed)