Feasibility study of a participatory reforestation project on Lombok Island, Indonesia

(Japan International Forestry Promotion & Cooperation Center (JIFPRO))

(September, 2000 - February, 2001)

Executive Summary

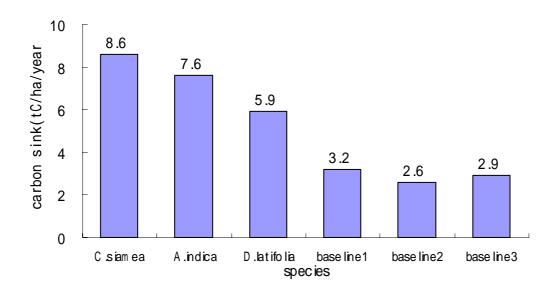
1.It is not yet decided whether the re-afforestation project would be included in the Clean Development Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol. But if it is included, it could be of great help for promoting the rehabilitation of deforested and degraded areas in the developing countries.

2. This feasibility study was made on the Lombok Island, Nusa Tenggara Barat. The site of field survey was chosen in the southeastern part of the island, where the Japan International Forestry Promotion and Cooperation Center (JIFPRO) had established a 350 ha of mixed broad leave forest (Friendship Forest) in cooperation with the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesian Government and the donor companies in Japan since 1997.

- 3.The main aims of the study are to examine the possibility of a Participatory Re-afforestation Project for Reinforcement of the Sink of Carbon Dioxide as well as to evaluate the cost and benefit of the Project, i.e. the expenditure for establishing and maintaining forests and the amount of carbon dioxide gas sequestered by them.
- 4.In addition, the possible effects of the project on the surrounding area were studied to ensure the positive influence on the living standard and natural environment of the region and to promote green product standard.
- 5.A field survey was made, from September 5th to 9th, 2000, to estimate the amount of carbon dioxide gas sequestered at the Friendship Forest. Some sample trees of three local species with the forest canopy closed were felled for analyzing the actual growth and the amount of CO₂ sequestered under the semi-arid conditions.

(Please see the photographs attached)

6.The baseline level of the carbon dioxide gas sequestered was also estimated by a project-specific method and it was found that the net sequestration rate of CO₂ by the forest trees are as the following figure and table:



Carbon Sequestration of the Lombok Friendship Forest

Species	Carbon sink (net) (tC/ha/yr)					
Imba (Azadirachta indica)	4.7					
Johar (Cassia siamea)	5.7					
Sonokeling (Dalbergia latifolia)	3.0					

7. The estimation was made for the expenditure on the establishment of the large-scale participatory re-afforestation in the vicinity of the Friendship Forest, taking due consideration on the relationship of the project with the local people and natural environment.

8.It was proposed that

- (1) the size of the annual planting area should be moderate in order to sustain the same level of the employment for a long period,
- (2) the various species should be planted to diversify the new forest ecosystem, and
- (3) some fruit trees should be included for the local people to get some cash crops as they get less harvest from agro-forestry due to negative impacts of trees.

9.A tentative 5 year plan of the participatory re-afforestation was formulated for a further evaluation as the following table:

Planting Program for the First Five Years

(Unit: ha)

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Imba	30	90	110	110	110	450
(A. indica)						
Johar	30	90	110	110	110	450
(Cassia siamea)						
Sonokeling	30	90	110	110	110	450
(D. latifolia)						
	20	60	30	20	20	150
Fruit trees						
	110	330	360	350	350	1500
Total						

10.Based on the planting program, a comprehensive plan of the participatory re-afforestation project for reinforcement of the sink of carbon dioxide was formulated for a period of ten years as shown in the table on the next page.

- 11. The followings were found from the comprehensive plan:
 - (1) The total area to be planted during the project period is 3,440 ha, of which 380 ha will be planted by fruit trees.
 - (2) The total amount of the project cost is about 20 thousand million Rp., of which 12.5 thousand million Rp. will be a direct cost for planting activities.

 (The average annual expenditure for the project will be around 2,000 million Rp.)
 - (3) The amount of carbon dioxide sequestered through the project in ten years' period will be about 75,500 tC(carbon equivalent tons) or 277,000 tCO₂.
 - (4) The total cost for one ton of carbon sequestered is therefore about 265 thousand Rp., while the cost for CO₂ sequestration is decreasing as the forest grows.
- 12. The importance of monitoring the achievements and various effects of the project was strongly emphasized in order to ensure the amount of carbon sequestered and to observe the natural and socio-economic effects of the project on the surrounding area.

Ten year plan of a participatory re-afforestation project for reinforcement of the sink of carbon dioxide

Items	Year	total in 10 years		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Planting Area	total	3,440		110	330	360	350	460	330	360	350	460	330
(HA)	Imba (A. indica)	1,020		30	90	110	110	140	90	110	110	140	90
	Johar (C. siamea)	1,020		30	90	110	110	140	90	110	110	140	90
	Sonokeling (D. latifolia)	1,020		30	90	110	110	140	90	110	110	140	90
	Fruit trees	380		20	60	30	20	40	60	30	20	40	60
Carbon sink	total	75,486	(tC/ha/yr)	462	1,848	3,412	4,946	6,942	8,328	9,892	11,426	13,422	14,808
(tC)	Imba (A. indica.)	70,400	5.7	171	513	627	627	798	513	627	627	798	513
(10)	Johar (C. siamea)		4.7	141	423	517	517	658	423	517	517	658	423
	Sonokeling (D. latifolia)		3.0	90	270	330	330	420	270	330	330	420	270
	Fruit trees		3.0	60	180	90	60	120	180	90	60	120	180
Direct Planting Cost (Million Rp)	total First 5 year	12,459 5,433		398	1,195	1,304	1,268	1,268					
	Second 5 year	5,433						398	1,195	1,304	1,268	1,268	
	Third 5 year	1,593										398	1,195
Maintenance and	total	7,525			400		400	- 40	405				
Related Costs	First 5 year	3,791		759	498	549	498	549	125	177	125	177	334
(Million Rp)	Second 5 year	2,477						258	498	549	498	549	125
	Third 5 year	1,257										759	498
Total Cost	(Million Rp)	19,984		1,157	1,693	1,853	1,766	2,473	1,818	2,030	1,891	3,151	2,152
Cost per Carbon sink	(Thousand Rp/tC)	265		2,504	916	543	357	356	218	205	165	235	145

- 13. The sustainability of the project is also examined and the following recommendations were made:
 - (1)More research/study should be made on how villagers can coexist with forests without degrading their capacity of carbon sequestration for a long period.
 - (Trial production of biomass charcoal and marketing research on tree fruits etc.)
 - (2) Cooperative activities should be made for the capacity building of human resources for the effective monitoring and management of the project.
 - (Development of OJT in the project and international training programs)
- 14.Regarding the feasibility of the project, some discussions were made as follows:
 - (1) Since the framework and rules of the Clean Development Mechanism are not decided yet, and therefore there is no price put on the emission rights of carbon dioxide, it is very difficult to judge the feasibility of the project at this moment.
 - (2) However, if the price is set above the cost of this project, there is a possibility of realizing the re-afforestation plan, on the condition that the governments concerned are willing to recognize the project as a CDM project.
- 15.In view of the environmental and social implication of this project, the following comments and recommendations were made by the Japanese experts concerned:
 - (1) The re-afforestation project for the environment tends to be less efficient in terms of carbon sequestration, because it is planned in the area where natural conditions are not so favorable as compared with the industrial plantations.
 - (2) However, in the case of the environmental plantation, felling will be restricted and carbon sink will be increasing continuously. Therefore this project may have more sustainability than the industrial plantation.
 - (3) We should take due consideration on such characteristics when the environmental plantation projects are compared with the industrial plantation.
 - (4)One of the key issues for the success of the project is how the carbon sink forests can merit the local people near the forest, especially after the forests are established to reduce the opportunities of employment for the project activities.
 - (5) Accordingly it will be of great importance for us to study, in cooperation with the Indonesian counterparts, how the environmental forest plantations can contribute in a sustainable manner to the livelihood of the people around them.

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