

FRR



FRR – Biodiversity and Protected Areas

How do you strike a balance between government agendas for development and poverty alleviation and the long term need for environmental and biodiversity conservation?

FRR's stance is that while there is a clear need for rural development in many countries and regions, equally there is a need to conserve the environment upon which rural populations ultimately depend. Moreover, we have shown - in countries right around the world - that these two aims can be resolved, that the diverse needs of local populations, commercial interests and host governments can be met without losing the diversity of ecosystems and wildlife.

We regularly assist governments to establish sustainably managed environments, where human populations coexist alongside protected areas, with an ultimate aim of improving rural livelihoods as well as conserving biological diversity.

Our extensive background in sustainable forestry puts us in a strong position to work towards integrated community development with conservation in forested landscapes, both temperate and tropical. FRR only works with forestry companies or organisations that include sustainable management as an operational goal.

FRR is actively working to support the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), and its development through international forums such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002). By fulfilling government and private projects, we assist resource transfers to biodiversity-rich countries and the equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources.

BIODIVERSITY IN ACTION

FRR works with both government institutions and local populations, finding a balance between strict protection and meeting the needs of rural populations for natural forest products. We strongly support the development of co-management approaches, but we also assist protected area authorities to maintain the integrity of natural areas.

FRR works both to conserve whole ecosystems and to develop action plans for particular endangered species.

- In **Vietnam**, we are providing technical support to design and implement biodiversity conservation measures in five provinces, and we are assisting in the development and implementation of action plans for endangered species such as the saola and Tonkin snubnose monkey.



The first photograph ever taken of the endangered saola: Pu Mat, November 1998

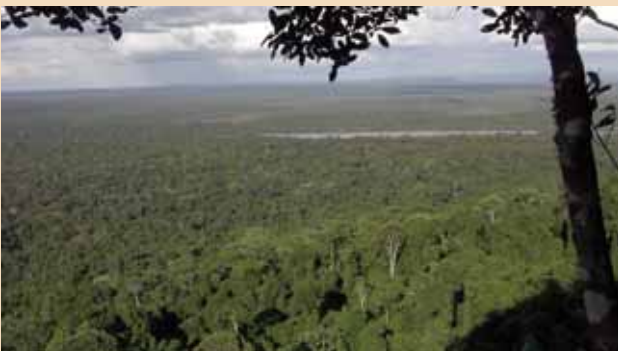
PROTECTING SENSITIVE AREAS

FRR assists with the development of national planning for protected areas and building the capacity of protected area authorities.

- In **Vietnam**, FRR is providing technical support to develop landscape ecology approaches at three sites. A process of participatory rural resource planning has been introduced which evaluates both conservation and development criteria. Community responsibilities for forest protection are being enhanced, and co-management of river and lake resources is ensuring sustainable fish harvesting.
- In **Ghana**, FRR has developed model business plans to assist the sustainable management of national parks. These will significantly increase the capacity for important protected areas to generate revenue within a broader social and conservation context.

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY

Everyone acknowledges the crisis now facing the world's biodiversity and that protected areas alone are insufficient to conserve, long-term, more than a fraction of the total biodiversity. We also all recognise that solutions need to be shared. This is why we support landscape ecology approaches that redistribute responsibilities for conservation away from just a few government departments.



Iwokrama, Guyana: a landscape managed for forest protection, sustainable utilisation and tourism.



*Nick Pyatt, Executive Director, FRR Ltd, Brockley Combe, Bristol BS48 3DF
Tel: +44 (0)1934 862861 Fax: +44 (0)1934 863666 Email: n.pyatt@frr.co.uk
Web: www.frr.co.uk*

- In **Belize**, FRR has assisted with national level planning for sustainable forest management alongside government and community managed protected areas.
- In **Indonesia and Guyana**, FRR has provided technical support for the design of monitoring systems that ensure conservation criteria are defined for landscapes that encompass timber and NTFP harvesting and tourism development.
- In **Vietnam and Papua New Guinea**, FRR is working with GEF to improve protected area management at the national level.

FUND MANAGEMENT

In recognition of the need to complement government activity by that of NGOs and other civil society organisations, trust funds have become an important tool for supporting biodiversity conservation objectives. FRR has extensive experience of managing challenge funds and in Papua New Guinea is providing technical support to a conservation trust fund to enable community development in biodiversity sensitive areas that both develops livelihoods and sustains the biodiversity.

FRR SERVICES

FRR's services for **donors** include:

- conservation project design;
- developing participatory management systems towards livelihood improvement and poverty alleviation;
- conservation project review and evaluation.

FRR provides services for **governments** such as:

- design, development and management of protected area systems;
- developing viable solutions for conservation in human-dominated landscapes;
- capacity building, institutional support and training.

FRR's services for **existing projects** embrace:

- design and implementation of baseline biodiversity surveys;
- developing cost-effective monitoring systems for assessing human impacts on biodiversity.