

**INDONESIA'S PRIORITY
(SPATIAL) INFORMATION NEEDS
TO ENHANCE FOREST
GOVERNANCE**

FOREST GOVERNANCE AND SPATIAL INFORMATION

MoF has regularly used satellite imageries and GIS to support its planning and decision making processes.

Up-to-date spatial Information helps MoF improving its forest governance. It will enhance:

- Transparency, accountability, participation, strategic vision and equity.
- Responsiveness, effectiveness & efficiency.
- Rule of Law.

FOMAS—AN INDONESIAN INITIATIVE THAT SEEKS TO ENHANCE FOREST GOVERNANCE

MoF recognizes that up-to-date, transparent information can improve forest governance and it is currently leading a multi-stakeholder initiative known as FOMAS (Forest Monitoring Assessment System) to address this issue. FOMAS seeks to:

- Make relevant, reliable, accurate and up-to-date forest sector information continuously available to MoF decision makers and the general public.
- Assist decision makers in better decision and policy making based on daily use of better-managed information.
- Build the capacity of civil society to hold the government accountable.

CORE COMPONENTS OF FOMAS

The core components of FOMAS are:

- An **information management process** that generates and archives reliable, accurate and up-to-date information on Indonesia's forest and timber resources.
- A **comprehensive disclosure policy** that clearly articulates what information can be publicly disclosed.
- **Effective disclosure mechanisms** that allow multiple stakeholders to access reliable, accurate and up-to-date information on Indonesia's timber and forest resources.
- An **improved decision-making process** designed to use up-to-date and accurate forest sector information within daily operations in the Ministry of Forestry.

COLLECTION OF SPATIAL INFORMATION

The FOMAS consortium is currently helping MoF to collect and analyze a range of spatial information, including:

- Up-to-date digital maps of large-scale forest concessions boundaries;
- Up-to-date digital maps of large-scale timber plantation boundaries;
- Up-to-date digital maps of forest areas allocated for conversion to agriculture;
- Up-to-date satellite maps of forest cover change;
- Up-to-date maps of forest categories (production, conversion, protection and conservation forest boundaries);
- Up-to-date digital maps of annual and five year work plans for large-scale logging concessions.

SIGNIFICANCE OF SPATIAL INFORMATION

Once up-to-date spatial information has been collected it will be analyzed and used to:

1. allow decision makers to make informed decisions about forest use;
2. detect, prevent and suppress illegal logging;
3. accurately determine deforestation rates and measure carbon emissions resulting from forest cover change;
4. devise appropriate strategies and policies that support sustainable forest management.

DISCLOSURE OF SPATIAL INFORMATION

- After the Ministry of Forestry has collected and systematically archived up-to-date spatial information it plans to disclose this information to the general public.
- The Minister of Forestry issued a statement on transparency in February 2006.
- Disclosure needs to be carried out in a systematic way and the Ministry of Forestry will initiate multi-stakeholder consultations in the near future to develop an effective and comprehensive disclosure policy.
- Cost-effective mechanisms will also be developed to ensure that spatial and other relevant forest sector information can be disbursed to the general public.