

Vietnam's priority needs for information and governance

Presentation for "An Inter-Regional Knowledge Sharing Series on Strengthening Forest Governance with Spatial Information Tools"

Dr. Pham Manh Cuong

Forest Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development, Vietnam

I. Forest Governance in Vietnam

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is responsible for forest management
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) is in charge of general NR&E management and land administration.
- MARD's forest administration systems:
 - At central level: Forest Department (FD) and Forest Protection Department (FPD), FIPI
 - At provincial, district and communal levels: sub-FD, sub-FPD and forest rangers

II. Current Information Flows



Forest Department: overall forest related data from sub-FDs, FPD and FIPI



Forest Protection Department: information about forest law enforcement, annual forest monitoring and statistical data collected from sub-FPDs – FD's database



Forest Inventory and Planning Institute: National forest inventory and assessment, every 5 year – FIPI's database

III. Issues and Challenges



Lack of close coordination between MARD, MONRE and Departments inside MARD – data discrepancies



Insufficient information about forest resources (status and changes), and illegal operations (i.e., logging and trade, conversion of forests into agricultural land, etc.)

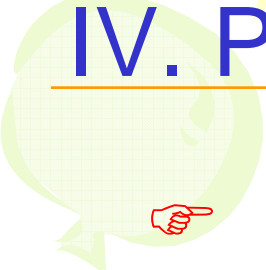


Insufficient capacity of forest management agencies in collecting, analyzing, synthesizing and reporting information, especially at local levels



Expensive spatial data (maps and high resolution remote sensing imagery)

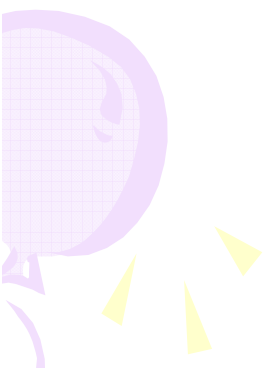
IV. Priority needs for spatial information



Establishment of forest-related information network between MARD, MONRE and Departments inside MARD – reorganization of sub-FDs to improve effectiveness of data collection and data sharing



Harmonization of definitions and criteria in forest sector



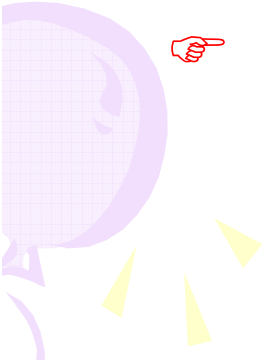
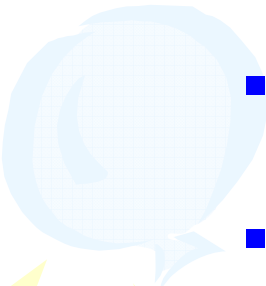
Establishment of common database: accurate and timely information on forest resources status and changes, and illegal activities to answer **where, what, why and how** questions

IV. Priority needs for spatial information



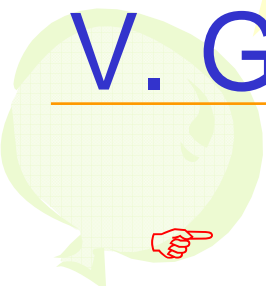
Development of Forest Monitoring and Information System (FOMIS) including:

- Up-to-date and large scale digital base maps
- Digital maps of forest categories: production forest, protection forest and special-use forest
- Reliable, up-to-date and large scale digital forest cover and land use maps
- Frequently acquired high resolution satellite images (i.e., SPOT 5)
- Reliable, up-to-date forestland allocation maps

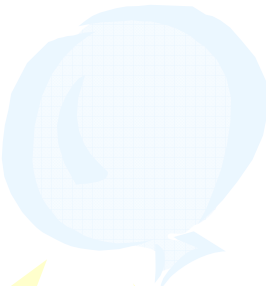


Capacity building for information providers: FIPI, sub-FDs, sub-FD, especially at local levels

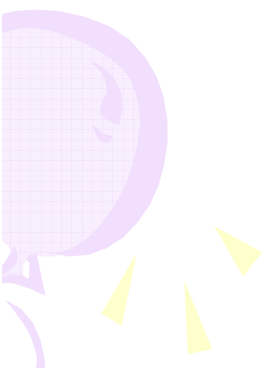
V. Government Actions



Gov.: Approved the Establishment of National System on Monitoring and Assessment of Natural Resources and Environment Project: installation of a ground receiving station to acquire high resolution remote sensing imagery



MARD: approved the project entitled “Application and development of IT in forest sector 2006-2010” and requested FD to improve the application of IT in forest protection



The background features several large, stylized, overlapping swirls in shades of purple, green, and light blue. Interspersed among these swirls are numerous small, yellow, starburst or triangular shapes, some pointing towards the center and others pointing outwards, creating a festive and celebratory atmosphere.

**Thank you very much for
your attention!**