



## INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2025

### **Community Based Watershed Rain-Forest Co-Governance, 3R Landscape Based in Agro-Ecology in Land Use Planning, Mapping, Digital Technological Skill & Carbon Stock Measurement, Horizontal Social Advocacy Awareness & Vertical Policy Change. (MASS, KMSS, SCCF & SPERI)**

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(February 19 to April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025)

## SUMMARY REPORT

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*Two Key impact achievement indicators of the two months internship program from Feb 19 to April 14<sup>th</sup> 2025 should be addressed. One is a symposium which took place in HEPA Eco-Farming School on April 10<sup>th</sup> coordinating 8 inter-stakeholders from Grass-Root to Central Government level to dialogue on the program. The Effective indicator of this symposium is the reaching out of **vertical policy lobbying and social awareness advocacy**. The second effective indicator was a platform which took place in Cao Quang People Committee building on March 09/Sunday organizing 100 participants representing 65 forest protections groups and other concerned stakeholders. The Impact achievement indicator of this platform was consolidating and **empowering the horizontal network of CBO (Community Based Organizational Development-OD) & CBI (Community Based Institutional Development-ID) in watershed forest/land co-governance in Cao Quang and their neighbors.***

#### National Media Broadcast:

<https://nongnghiepmoitruong.vn/video/phat-thai-rong-bang-0-la-co-hoi-de-chuyen-doi-kinh-te-ben-vung-tv747536.html>

<https://hatinh.tv.vn/tin-bai/van-hoa-van-nghe/vi-mau-xanh-nui-rung>

<https://nongsanviet.nongnghiep.vn/can-cuoc-cach-mang-xanh-chuyen-nong-nghiep-cong-nghiep-sang-nong-nghiep-sinh-thai-d747445.html>

#### SPERI Video:

<https://co2justice.org/en/speri-and-mass-on-the-field-visit-from-april-8-to-12-2025.html>

<https://co2justice.org/en/en/internship-program-2025.html>

## I. Background and Overviewing

During the two months Internship, 4 different but integrated topics were addressed in order to contribute to the understanding of Fair Ecological Transformation for Rural Area (FETRA). These topics were:

- 1) What is Co-governance and how is it practiced and strengthening customary law in watershed forest areas where IP are living?
- 2) What is Agro-ecology and how is it applied in Watershed forest land-use master planning to contribute to land health, daily livelihood sovereignty of IP as well as preserving and enriching natural seed variety nurseries and local knowledge?
- 3) How do local farmers in Cao Quang measure timber volume, carbon accumulation, and carbon credit potential in their territory's forests?
- 4) What and how do these above achievement indicators contribute to social awareness raising, local governance advocacy and policy change?

*To answer the 4 above mentioned questions*, the Interns have been living harmoniously with local key farmers, sharing daily accommodation and enthusiastically observing and learning, additionally, interviewing different local authorities. This principle for learning was well practiced by the 4 interns of KMSS during 27 days from February 19 to March 14!

## II. Subject Analysis: Outcomes, Effectives and Impact Indicators:

### II.1. Co-Governance

**II.1.1. Understanding *Co-Governance*** in the context of Cao Quang commune where **996 households** are living with **11,440 hectares** of the natural forest in a limestone mountain landscape needed the interns to approach both horizontal diverse actors and vertical leadership in the commune. Interns also overviewed via Cross Landscape Transect Cutting the whole Cao Quang landscape from the peak of the forest to upland Acacia plantations to the bottom of the river valley, comparing this with Cao Quang Administrative Land and Natural Resource Category Mapping and participating in deep discussion with specialized staff and authorities to figure out what, how and who are the key actors and actions in the Co-Governance of such a huge natural forest landscape in Cao Quang Commune.

**II.1.2. The outcome achievement indicator** of the above disciplinary approach was a platform which was organized on March 09 (Sunday), 2025, with 100 participants representing **65 Co-Forest Protection and Preservation Groups**, the leaders of 08 villages, members of the Women's, Farmer's, and Youth Unions, key farmers, Forestry, Land Representative staff and different authorities for the 'reflections' of the KMSS Interns on Lessons Learned of Co-Governance after 22 days of learning and understanding. <https://co2justice.org/en/lessons-learned-from-kmss-interns-2025.html>

**II.1.3. The effect achievement indicator** of the above platform, has been the enriching of social awareness raising with regards to "a wise advocacy method" by SPERI approach, encouraging local solidarity and voluntarism as well as convincing **KMSS interns in trusting the Co-Governance Methodology**.

**II.2. Understanding *Agro-Ecology*** toward Watershed forest land-use master planning that contributes to land health and daily livelihood sovereignty of IP as well as preserving and enriching natural seed variety nurseries and local knowledge. *First*, the Interns have been learning the theoretical basis of Mapping, Mapping Methodology and Map Reading Skills such as: 1) Direction, Latitude, Longitude, Map Coordinates and Ratio of Contour lines to Terrain Slope; 2) Map symbols and colors representing the natural situation. *Second*, 3) How to translate from Map into Diagram; and 4) How to figure out from Diagram to Landscape Transect cutting. This topic needed much time for the Interns' group discussion and drawing, as well as individual essay assignments.

**II.2.1. The outcome achievement indicator** of above topic: The interns gained confidence in observing and realizing the 5 steps of observation, 7 principles of systematic master landscape planning and 9 details of agro-ecological designing behavior. **Particularly, KMSS interns now understand the Cao Quang 3R (Rung- Ray- Ruong) based landscape in terms of its significance for FETRA.** The lessons learned during their time in Cao Quang were presented by the KMSS group in the symposium in April 10, 2025 as well).

**II.2.2. The effect achievement indicator of Agro-Ecology** during 27 days associated with native seedling and nursery technical lessons, was evident at the symposium is held in April 10 where 8 different stakeholders were present: 1) Key Farmers; 2) Local authorities in different Levels; 3) Foresters; 4) Agriculture Department Director of Ha Tinh Province; 5) Media of the newly merged Ministry of Environment and Agriculture; Television channels of VTV, HTVT and New Day of Border TVT/HT; 6) Watershed Forest Management Board's official staff; 7) Security Police who came to participated the Symposium, particularly to pay special attention in *listening to the* 8) *KMSS interns' presentation on three topics: Co-Governance, Agro-Ecology in Land Use Planning and; Native Species Nurseries* .

**II.2.3. Understanding *agro-ecology with NTPFs<sup>1</sup> enterprising*** by key farmers. There are a series of successful niche market networks between farmers and consumer via Cao Quang Agro-Ecology Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/caoquangagroecology>) for a variety of local product such as: peanut, sesame, chilly, pepper, fish, herbal mushroom and honey.

**II.2.4. An added value of Agro-Ecology is *natural nursery capital under the Mother Trees*** both in Cao Quang Commune and HEPA Eco-Farming School. Interns of KMSS have been deeply impressed by that. Interns went cross-landscape transect cutting from the top peak forest down to the middle up-land to the River Valley and were impressed by the level of natural nurseries around Mother Trees. This valuable resource today is functioning very well both for children from different schools coming for learning as well as a social awareness raising platform. Furthermore, interns also well understood and practiced nursery identification according to three natural yang (+) energy flows: Sun, Water and Wind, as well as Jing (-) energy flow: Micro-Organism. Interns have also been seeing for themselves how to design and inter-act between nursery Bed and Pathway, how to measure the water contours to balance upper bed and lower bed to ensuring the top soil and the second soil layer always has enough moisture for young seedlings to grow.

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<sup>1</sup> Non-Timber- Forest Product

*The outcome achieved indicator to convince all participants in April 10 'Symposium' was that the interns both MASS and KMSS have left behind an amazing young nursery with ratio between Bed and Pathway which saves moisture inside the soil structure during the time the young seedling need it.*

**II.3.** Understanding how to measure ***'Timber Volume and Carbon Accumulation and Carbon Credit equivalent'*** via random sample identification using skills in 1) map and digital technical reading and positioning; 2) translating them into diagrams; 3) Transitioning from diagram to landscape of 3R transect cutting; 4) Contour clarifying and 5) Global Positioning. Interns had a very special and highly curious concern for learning, therefore, there was an assignment for the KMSS group to prepare a *'presentation by PPT* of supporting documents during the internship program. However, due to too limited time available and pressure of the schedule, interns could not complete this theme. A special recommendation for this course in the future is that it needs to take place in HEPA Eco-Farming School for another two weeks for senior coordinator of KMSS next. *Link both technically curriculum & Vinh xuan field practical measurement learning between Vinh xuan Key Farmers & KMSS Interns.*

**II.4. A Symposium strategy** connecting and influencing ***inter-stakeholder awareness raising and advocacy as well as contributing to vertically policy change.***

A symposium was held on 10 April at HEPA connected 8 groups of stakeholders representing: 1) Key Farmers; 2) Forestry; 3) Agriculture, 4) Authorities at commune, district, province and Ministry levels; 5) Television Media (provincial and national) and Journalists from three publications (The journal of the new merged Ministry of Environment and Agriculture”, “The Leader Magazine”, and “The National Political Truth” magazine published by the government) ; 6) Provincial Security Police; 7) Government researcher, and 8) Interns from MASS-Indian NGO and KMSS - Myanmar Community Development Workers, HEPA and University of Waikato New Zealand. The Symposium topics addressed were 1) Co-governance; 2) Agro-ecology and Land Use Planning through 3R based Landscape Designing; 3) A history of agriculture from the Green revolution to Agro-ecology; 4) Carbon stock in above ground biomass calculation. The Symposium deeply reflected the four topics covered by the Interns over two months with lessons learnt at Cao Quang and HEPA. The outcome achievement indicators of this Symposium were: 1) Three channels of Television have been broadcasting over the country (Please visit the link????); 2) Three articles from provincial to national magazines have been published; 3) Recommendations from different levels of the official staffs have been suggested for enlarging these lessons learned to different provinces where there are rich watershed forest resources in need of co-governance.

**II.4.1. The Progress Impact indicators of the Symposium** are evident in a series of broadcasts by television and magazine articles (see link) about the symposium. In different articles they say the Vietnam government should prioritize and pay serious attention to Agro-ecology in land use planning in the highland regions of Vietnam, which occupied 70% of the country's natural landscape. [https://co2justice.org/upload/files/1\\_%20April%2010\\_%202025\\_%20Symposium%20Strategy\\_%20Internship%20Program\\_%20KMSS\\_MASS\\_SPERI\\_%20SCCF.pdf.pdf](https://co2justice.org/upload/files/1_%20April%2010_%202025_%20Symposium%20Strategy_%20Internship%20Program_%20KMSS_MASS_SPERI_%20SCCF.pdf.pdf)

In summary and overviewing the two months internship program, our key objective is achieved, particularly, the results have seen both horizontal social advocacy empowering and vertical policy maker awareness. <https://co2justice.org/en/internship-program-2025.html>

### III. Legal concerns for further cooperation.

SPERI has been focus on Highland Watershed where Indigenous Society is since the beginning of operation 1995 and the Indigenous Community Rights in their traditional Wisdom, Customary and Knowledge in Landscape Resources (religion and customary daily livelihood and water spirit of land, forest and rivers) are the key concern and strategy to engage in our journey). Therefore, the legal procedure for any visitor is always need a professional, transparent and systematically in order to make sure that we/SPERI is purity and no terrorism! **Link:** <https://co2justice.org/en/legal-procedure-for-kmss-myanmars-internship-program.html>

The following legal indicators:

- Labor Contract of Intern;
- TOR agreement between Parties;
- Legal Financial Contribution Agreement & Signed;
- Action, Monitoring and Evaluation Planning;
- Expert profile associated with their curriculums for lecturing and reporting;
- Website, online reporting, publishing and fair sharing responsibility!.

### IV. Conclusion.

Need further cooperation amongst partners of FETRA in order strengthen practically in Digital-Tech Application of Community Territorial Boundary for Co-Governance Strategy with regards to Fair for the Natural Watershed Forest – Landscape & Fair for both Indigenous Communities and down stream Societies towards Planet & People Prosperity!.

**“Only The Natural Rain-Forest The ROCK MOUNTAIN Protector!”**

*A key Farmer of Cao Quang Commune Said to KMSS Intern While Field Transect Cutting Feb 21<sup>th</sup>, 2025).*