

Joint Forest Management

Manual for facilitators, NGOs and projects based on Experience with implementing participatory forest management as practiced in Tajikistan between 2006 and 2015



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Abbreviations

CBO	Community based organization
JFM	Joint Forest Management
GBAO	Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Region
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
masl	meters above sea level
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Products
SBA	Savings Book Account
SFE	State Forestry Enterprise
TJS	Tajik Somoni
USD	US Dollar
VO	Village Organization

Explanation of terms used

- **A forest user** has leased a forest plot from the SFE under a JFM contract. One individual signs the contract but usually the whole household (or even extended family) contributes to and benefits from its implementation, with several generations supporting the work in the forest during planting and harvest season, and family members substituting for each other when one of them leaves the village to work elsewhere. In some cases several households or the entire community is entering a JFM agreement with one representative signing the contract. The term “forest user” therefore refers to the whole household, a group of households or a community in the following text.
- **Forest user group** is a group of individual forest users with plots close by. A forest user group appoints a head, who is then in charge of communication with the SFE and organizes joint work.
- **SFE staff** means the foresters employed by the SFE. They are the main contact persons for the forest users/group. Their task is to provide consultation on forest management techniques, develop annual and management plans and monitor the fulfilment of those plans. One forester is usually responsible for the forest areas surrounding several villages.
- **Extensioner** means a person belonging neither to the local village population nor to the SFE, but intermediating between both. In general, extensioners are staff of NGO.
- **Community representatives** include staff of the municipality (jamoat) and formally elected heads of Village and Community based Organizations (VOs, CBOs), as well as elders and respected village inhabitants with informal authority.



1. Background

1. Background

Joint Forest Management (JFM) is a participatory forest management approach that allows the local population – either individuals or groups – to become involved in forest management and support rehabilitation of degraded natural forests on state forest fund land over the long term.

The application of Joint Forest Management plans is a key issue under the new forestry sector development strategy: 40000ha of forests will be allocated to at least 3500 households between now and the year 2030, utilizing the JFM approach.

According to the Forest Code (2011, Article 45-49) and the provisions on Joint Forest Management, a JFM contract can be issued for 20 years. Long-term management and annual activity plans, indicating the forest management activities that need to be undertaken by the forest user and the State Forestry Enterprise (SFE), as well as the amount of forest products that can be sustainably taken from the forest, are mandatory elements under the JFM contract. The harvest from the forest plot will be shared between the SFE and the forest users according to a prior agreement between both parties.

The differences between the currently widely applied ways of cooperation between the local population and state forest enterprises are the following:

Current plans of cooperation	JFM approach
Short term contracts or no formalized contracts and just oral agreements	Long term contract (20 years with possibility for extension)
Forest users perceived as workers undertaking certain silvo-cultural activities and getting a share from the harvest instead or cash payments. SFE staff supervises the forest users.	Forest user/group is in an eye-to-eye relationship with SFE and both parties are responsible for forest management
Only certain silvo-cultural activities are undertaken by the forest users – in most cases harvesting activities.	Forest user/group jointly with SFE undertake year round forest management activities aimed at forest rehabilitation and protection.
Activities are derived from the overall annual plan of the respective State Forest Enterprise.	Activities are based on 5-year plans, and annual plans are developed separately for each plot and agreed upon between the forest user/group and the State Forest Enterprise.
No investment in forest rehabilitation and protection	Provides for long term in kind investment in forest rehabilitation

JFM has been and can be practically applied in all forest types and areas of Tajikistan. Plot sizes and incentives provided to the forest user will vary in order to ensure sufficient income generation from the first year of the contract.

Experience has shown that for introduction of JFM the support by external facilitators (extensioners) is indispensable. This Manual therefore describes all steps needed for successful implementation of JFM contracts for extensioners. Contact data of experienced extensioners and NGOs, as well as experts and organizations providing technical support, can be found in section 5.





2. Introducing Joint Forest Management to the community

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It is suggested that the extensioner [first seeks the general expression of interest in JFM implementation by the respective SFE during a personal talk to the director of the SFE or its deputy. It is important that the role of the extensioner as facilitator is explained. Based on the general interest of the SFE, the process of facilitation to introduce JFM can start. This chapter explains the steps to be taken by extensioner in a new village or district to introduce JFM.

2.1. Field Visit

The first field visit serves the purpose of evaluating the overall feasibility of implementing JFM in the given district. Staff of the SFE and community representatives are involved in all steps as they can offer valuable information about the history and current use of the forest. To prepare a field visit, satellite images and maps of the SFE can be used to get a first overview of the site.

During the field visits the following information is collected:

- **Condition of the forest in the past:** The condition of the forest before and during Soviet time may show which tree species grow well in the respective area. This information can be used when rehabilitating the forest. Sources of information are the maps and books of the last forest inventory and management planning (lesoustroistvo) which every SFE still has. In most cases experts of the National Forestry Agency in Dushanbe, the Forest Institute, or Tajiklesservice Ltd., can provide support and information.
- **Current condition of the forest:** As harvesting is a key incentive for the forest user and the SFE to participate in JFM, the forest should have enough biomass or harvest potential of nuts or fruits to ensure that some firewood and non-timber forest products can be harvested after one year. In case revenues are delayed into the future, the provision of incentives is highly important.
- **Current use of the forests:** It is important to know who uses the forest, for which purpose it is used (for firewood, as pasture, etc.), and whether there are any formal or informal rules concerning forest use. Under certain conditions, pre-existing lease contracts can be a good basis for the introduction of JFM. However, they can also have a negative effect, e.g., if the reallocation of illicitly acquired plots is resisted. In most regions, SFE issues individual and seasonal permits for forest use. These might be the permits to harvest walnuts or pistachio or seasonal use of forests as pastures.

- **Socio-economic situation of the village:**

This analysis should indicate

- whether there are enough villagers physically capable of carrying out the work in the forest;
- whether the villagers have enough disposable time to work on the forest plots;
- attention should be paid to whether, due to labour migration, the work load for women is increased without a respective increase of income and the opportunity to decide on the use of this income;
- whether the benefits potentially gained from JFM (not only financial income or subsistence firewood for the household, but also ecological or spiritual benefits for the village) can be expected to sufficiently motivate villagers to rehabilitate and manage the forest;

- **Location of the forest plot:** Experience has shown that it is easier for forest users to work on a nearby forest area. It is recommended that a given forest area close to a village is brought completely under JFM in order to avoid overuse of forests that the remain under open access.

- **Water supply:** It is important to clarify whether the forest or the forest regeneration depends on irrigation and how this irrigation can be improved or established (rehabilitation of old or construction of new channel, establishment of water reservoirs).



- **Leadership in the community:** The successful introduction of JFM greatly depends on the proper information and promotion activities at the community level. Therefore, it is important to identify formal and informal leaders in the community who can support the introduction process and mitigate potential conflicts among the villagers.
- **Availability of reliable and interested partners:** The successful introduction of JFM depends on partners in the village (local SFE staff, village representatives, potential forest users) who understand, welcome and support the approach. If the community is split and unable to find compromises, this will hinder the effective implementation of JFM.
- **Informal pasture and animal grazing:** It is a usual case that forest plots are (informally) used as pasture. In this situation, introducing JFM may provoke dissatisfaction and disagreement among villagers. Therefore, it is important to define the current extent of informal pasture use within the given community and assess whether there are sufficient alternative grazing areas.

At the end of the field trip, the information collected is documented and enables a decision to be made on the introduction of JFM in the respective forest area. Reflecting on the (better) conditions of the forest in the past (in comparison with present) can greatly help to promote the JFM concept among both the villagers and foresters.

2.2. Information Seminar

If JFM seems to be feasible for a certain forest area, an information seminar is conducted no more than three or four weeks after the field trip. The extensioner agrees with the village representatives and the SFE staff upon the time and place for the information seminar. The use of a projector (for showing Google Earth images and maps of the forest areas) has proven to be an efficient tool to support the decision-making process of the people. For some areas, Google Earth provides an opportunity to compare satellite images shot in different years. Standardized information material and power point presentations are available in Russian and Tajik.

The information seminar includes:

- **Joint Evaluation of the situation of the forest.** The participants of the meeting reflect on the condition and the necessary improvements of the nearby forest area.

- **Overview of JFM.** The basic principles (sharing of responsibilities and benefits between forest users and SFE) and the elements of JFM are outlined.
- **Explanation of the contract.** For this purpose, a short version of the contract can be used, which outlines the main points in a customized manner.
- **Explanation of access rights.** Whereas forest users receive long-term use rights for forest plots, the access of other households to the forest is restricted. The implications for harvesting firewood and grazing in the forest need to be discussed.
- **Explanation of the responsibilities of the forest users.** Potential forest users should understand the rights and obligations related to this role. They should realistically assess the extent to which their individual household is able to perform work in the forest. Examples of forest users in other villages can be presented.
- **Realistic picture of the expected benefits.** The work performed in the forest is not paid for in cash, but forest users partially own the harvest. In the first years, benefits from forest management are often limited. Potential forest users should understand that they will only be allowed to harvest if they perform their tasks as agreed in the plan.
- **Introduction of the community agreement.** The participants get acquainted with the implications of JFM for the village as a whole and with the community agreement to be discussed and signed.
- **Discussion of open questions.**
- **List of potential forest users.** If the community already agrees on the introduction of JFM during the information seminar, a list of potential forest users can be immediately drawn up. In case some households explicitly state that they are not interested in JFM, this shall be recorded as well.

In order to create maximum interest among staff of the SFE they should be involved from the very beginning in the introductory process. This way the staff will feel themselves responsible for the introduction of JFM. The role of the extensioner has to be made clear from the very beginning to villagers and SFE staff. NGOs should spark the interest, to assure a transparent implementation and the use of possibilities and rights as provided by the forest legislation. The process of JFM implementation should then be driven by the SFE and the forest users.

There are several concerns about and fears towards the JFM approach at both sides, the potential forest users and the SFE. The most common ones are listed below. The extensioners should be well prepared for questions and problems arising, and constantly support law enforcement and trust building.

Common fears towards the JFM approach by potential forest users:	What needs to be considered?
Forest users are often sceptical about the potential income from JFM.	It is therefore highly important to give a realistic understanding of the benefits, and to demarcate plots properly, so that income can be generated from the first year.
Potential forest users are afraid that they will rehabilitate the area, and later SFE will take the plot back from them.	It is therefore important to follow up immediately on any infringements of the JFM contract. Contracts should be concluded for 20 years. The legal basis for contract extension/contract cancellation needs to be explained. It is often helpful to invite a representative of the National Forestry Agency to explain the legal aspects of the JFM contract. Further, the establishment of Forest user groups is suggested in order to empower forest users, see section 3.6.
Potential forest users are afraid that the SFE will not properly perform its responsibilities in accordance with the contract	It is therefore important to follow up immediately on any violations of the JFM contract. The establishment of Forest user groups is suggested to empower forest users, see section 3.6.
Potential forest users are afraid that the SFE will take a greater share than agreed upon.	It is therefore important to follow up immediately on any violations of the JFM contract. In case of consent at both sides, amendments can be made to the JFM contract, including on harvest share. The establishment of Forest user groups is suggested to empower forest users, see section 3.6.
Potential forest users are afraid of being allocated an inferior plot and of intransparent JFM plot distribution.	See advice given under section 1.3.
Concerns about tax payment	See advice given under section 3.5.
Common fears towards the JFM approach by SFE:	
SFE is afraid that by concluding JFM contracts, the contract holder will sooner or later privatize the land.	Even if privatization of SFE Land has been the case in the past, there is no legal basis for this. The more SFE contributes to forest rehabilitation and supports the forest user, the less the forest user will strive to privatize the land and cheat SFE.

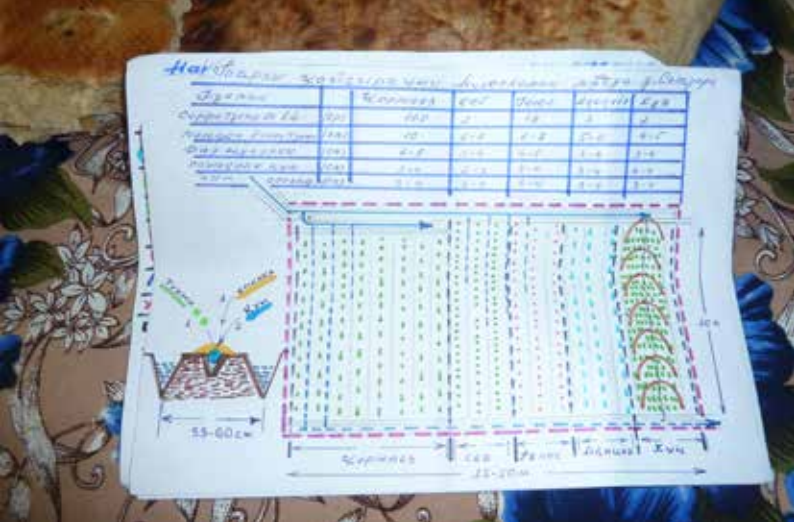
2.3. Community agreement

As the introduction of JFM has implications not only for the JFM contract holders but for all villagers, e.g., restricted access to firewood and grazing areas, the informed consent of the community as a whole is crucial.

Extension staff should make sure that all villagers (including non-participants of the information seminar) are informed about the suggested changes in forest management, and that everybody has the opportunity to apply for a forest plot. Otherwise hidden conflicts within the community might lead to the exclusion of some households or groups of households from the allocation of forest plots. In order to avoid a misunderstanding, villagers can be requested to sign in a list that they have been informed about the date and time of the community meeting.

In villages that were resettled after the Soviet time, the communities are informally split into old-residents and new-comers. This can cause a real challenge in community mobilization and provoke conflicts linked to allocation of forest plots. The mobilization and information work should be done with leaders of both old-residents and new-comers.

Before the contracts between the SFE and the forest users are concluded, an agreement between the community and the SFE is signed. The community agreement states that the community is willing to support JFM, and it defines the responsibilities



of the SFE. Where community based organizations (CBO), like Village Organizations, are in place, they should be contacted for the agreement.

The community agreement is introduced during the information seminar. Sometimes the villagers sign it during the information seminar; sometimes they need time to discuss it, and a second meeting must be scheduled. Details of the decision-making process significantly depend on the customary law of the community, and no general rules can be given. The individual contracts should not be developed unless the community agreement is signed by the Chairman of the Village Organization and other community representatives.

2.4. Definition and demarcation of JFM plots

The community, i.e., the village assembly, together with SFE staff and strong support of the extension staff, decides how to divide the forest area. The following approaches have been applied in various villages and regions:

- **Continuation of pre-existing demarcation.** In some villages the SFE had previously leased forest plots or allotted use rights to individual households, or individual households had fenced a forest plot and started rehabilitating it without formal use rights. In such cases, the introduction of JFM may only bring a formalization of pre-existing use patterns, and the establishment of management and planning mechanisms. However, it might be that sometimes the SFE is neglecting the JFM contracts (compare section 3.5.on managing conflicts).
- **Demarcation of plots with similar harvest potential.** This may mean that plots on good forest areas are smaller, whereas plots on degraded forest areas are larger. Allocation may be done according to the preferences of the selected forest users (if consent can be achieved) or by lot.
- **Demarcation of plots with similar features.** This may mean that plots are similar in size and quality and that they include both good and degraded forest areas. Allocation may be done according to the preferences of the selected forest users (if consent can be achieved) or by lot.
- **Demarcation of plots where JFM is a useful management approach for SFE.** The main motivation of SFE for conclusion of JFM contracts is to gain an additional work force for forest rehabilitation and especially forest protection. While a part of the forest plot shall provide sufficient income to motivate the forest user, a sufficiently large area which needs labour input shall be allocated. Allocating only the “better pieces” of the forest land must be avoided.

The following table shows some characteristics of common forest types in Tajikistan, with respect to their management and potential plot size under JFM:

Forest Type	Allocation under JFM
Riparian Forests: Forests of this type are located on the river banks of major river systems, e.g., in the Zerafshan Valley, the Pianj Valley or along the Vaksh River, often in the vicinity of densely populated areas. Such forests are mostly composed of willow, poplar, tamarix and seabuckthorn.	Usually riparian forests are allocated to many forest users and plot size is quite small. Typically, the plots have a size of 0.5ha to 3ha . From a silvo-cultural perspective, the management is based on natural regeneration potential of the typically fast growing tree species. The management objectives are usually to regulate the grazing activities and produce firewood.
Fruit and Nut Forests: These very diverse and unique forest types grow in central Khatlon in the districts of Baljuan, Khovaling, Muminabod and Shurabod. Several wild relatives of cultivated fruit and nut tree species, e.g., wild apple and wild pear, grow in these forests. Many of these species are rare and endangered.	In fruit and nut forests, plot sizes managed under JFM range from 10ha to 30ha . Degradation by unsustainable grazing is not so much a problem as in other areas. Rather, maintaining the rich natural biodiversity is the main priority and should therefore be the focus of management activities.
Pistachio Forests: A widespread forest type in Tajikistan located in the upper regions of watersheds in southern Khatlon.	Under JFM, the management goal of these forests should be the rehabilitation of the degraded forests and pasture through protection and the planting of new trees. Once harvested, the nuts provide the possibilities for high income with already established local market opportunities. Given the low density of trees, JFM plots from 30ha up to 100ha are common. The plots should include both established forests for direct harvest and potential planting ground for further development. This is necessary as harvesting pistachio is not possible until 15 years after planting.
Juniper Forests: In terms of area coverage, the most predominant forest type in Tajikistan. Very common in higher altitudes of the Zerafshan range in Pendjikent and Aini. Juniperus forests are highly important for protection against erosion and water regulation.	Juniper Forests are usually allocated to entire communities. Size can vary between 500ha up to 2500ha . Usually the leased plots comprise not only forests, but also open forest land, hay making areas in between, and pasture land. The low increment rates and the vulnerability of the ecosystem limit the use of fuelwood resources. Incentives for a regulated use by communities can be the harvest of NTFP, the establishment of productive woodlots with irrigation facilities, and the allocation of grazing grounds. Therefore, in the JFM contract, activities on non-forested areas, afforestation, sustainable grazing and production of non- timber forest products need to be carefully defined. The allocation of productive woodlots for fuelwood or (bitter) almond production is often combined with allocation of large areas of juniperus forests to gain additional work force for protection of those forests.

It is important that external extension staff moderates the discussion in order to ensure that everybody's voice in the community is heard. The discussion on distribution should be based on a map of the whole forest area. It is necessary to define "practical" boundaries, meaning that natural borders like rivers, mountain ridges, etc., serve as given borders. The use of Google Earth images and the delineation of boundaries with GIS have proven to serve as efficient tools in this context.

The exact demarcation of the plots in the field is then done by a representative of the SFE in the presence of the affected forest users. The SFE staff and the forest user must clearly mark the boundaries of the forest plot in the field in order to avoid later quarrels. The boundaries of the individual forest plot are recorded using GPS, and the size of the plot is measured.

As mentioned earlier, in some cases the individual plots are too big in size to be circled on the ground. In that case it is easier to develop the borders based on satellite imagery using clearly visible landmarks as borders.

The demarcation process provides an opportunity for a rapid assessment of the forest plots, i.e., identification of main types and quantities of fruit and timber trees, shrubs, and marking of degraded and eroded areas. This information will later serve as a good basis for the planning of activities.

Experience has shown that a demarcation based on hand-drawn maps or forest planning maps of the 1980s doesn't provide sufficient certainty for contractual security. It has proven to be efficient to develop maps on the basis of satellite images as freely available in Google Earth.

2.5. Selection of forest users

Villagers both willing and able to perform the tasks necessary to rehabilitate and manage a forest plot are selected to become forest users. After internal discussions in the village assembly and signing of the community agreement, the community representatives provide to the extensioner a list of households interested/or not interested in becoming JFM forest users.

The number of JFM forest users is based on the potential number of the demarcated forest plots (as defined under previous step 1.3.) and the number of willing and capable forest users.

The following criteria have proven to be relevant to assess the expected performance of a potential forest user:

- *Physical capability*: At least one member of a well-performing household is physically capable of forest work.

- *Time*: At least one member of a well-performing household has enough time for forest work. Employment, migration and the size of owned or leased arable land influence the availability for forest work.

- *Experience*: Experience in forestry techniques and with forest management is an asset (usually of former SFE staff and their descendants).

- *Long-term thinking*: An individual who considers long-term benefits of the forest (timber, the children's access to natural resources, etc.) will perform better than one who only thinks of short-term benefits (firewood, hay, etc.).

- *Motivation*: A well-performing household usually does not exclusively think of its own benefit, but also of the general interest, e.g., the general ecosystem functions of the forest.

- *State of Mind*: Many of the well-performers are elder men with strong emotional ties to their village who intend to stay in the villages and have an intrinsic motivation on being leaders for the young generation.

In case a whole community is applying for a JFM contract, the above listed criteria should be met by at least one third of the community and a strong leader should be present.



The actual selection of the forest users then follows two steps:

- **Interviews with potential forest users.** Based on the above-mentioned criteria, a questionnaire is developed and used to interview the potential forest users included in the list provided by the community. In order to make the selection procedure transparent and acceptable to all affected households, it is recommended that the interviews be conducted by external extension staff.
- **Selection of forest users.** The selection committee is made up of an SFE representative, a community representative, and an external facilitator. The committee evaluates the answers documented in the questionnaires and selects the forest users. Each questionnaire is signed by all members of the selection committee. If a candidate is not selected, the reason is documented on the questionnaire.

In some cases, several people from the same household or close relatives apply to be forest users under JFM only to gain a bigger forest plot all together. Therefore, the external extension staff should have close contacts with the village leaders to identify these details and prevent the capture of big plots by single families. When plots of different sizes are to be distributed, it is a **capacity oriented approach** should be used. For example, larger plots may be allocated to those forest users who have more time for working in the forest, or more experience with forestry techniques, than others.

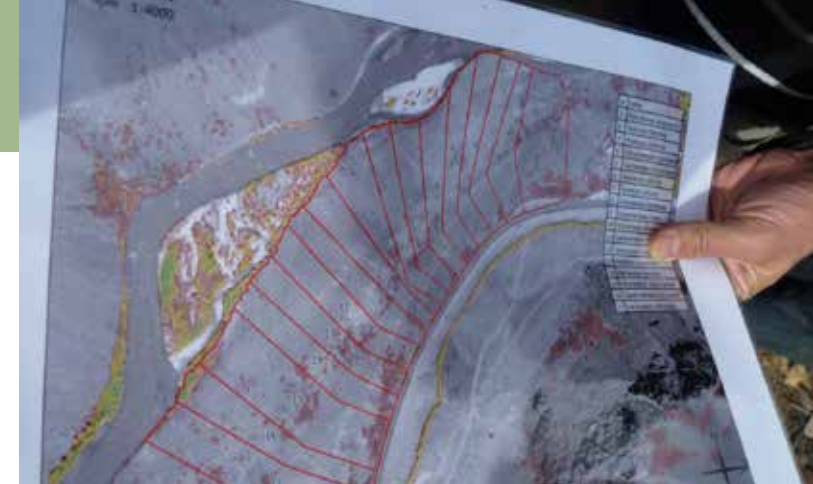
2.6. JFM contract

After the division of the forest area into individual plots and their allocation to forest users, the JFM contract is signed by the SFE and the forest user. The SFE staff (in the field and in the office) and the forest users can only effectively cooperate in the framework of JFM if both sides fully understand the content of the contract. Based on the Forest Code and its respective By Law on JFM, the JFM contract is supposed to include the following points:

- The size and exact location of the plot as indicated on a map of sufficient quality.
- The name of the management unit or compartment of the SFE and the person responsible for monitoring the work of the forest user.
- The objectives of JFM. It is important to point out that the focus of JFM is on both forest protection and an increase of forest productivity of a natural forest, not the establishment of orchards or timber plantations.

- Rules for the development and the contents of the management plan.
- Rules for the sharing of the harvest (percentages to be received by the SFE and the forest user in the first, second, third, etc., year).
- Rights and obligations of the SFE and the forest user. Within the framework of management and annual plans, the forest user is allowed to independently manage the plot, while the SFE is supporting the forest user and monitors the use and protection of the plot.
- Contract period and rules for extension. The period should be sufficiently long to give appropriate incentives for forest rehabilitation, the benefits of which will be available only in the long term. According to the Forest Code of 2011, contracts are concluded for 20 years, with right of extension.
- The conditions for the cancellation of the contract and for changes in the contract.

It is very important that the forest users clearly understand their rights and responsibilities as JFM forest users before signing the contract. Enough time should be invested to assure this. Where the harvest sharing percentages have to be newly negotiated between the SFE and the forest users, the negotiation should already be initiated at the stage of contract explanation so that all details have been clarified at the points of formal contract signature. The extensioners are strongly advised



not to determine the shares, or to support one party of the contract only. The full process of negotiation of shares should be steered by the SFE and forest users themselves. Extensioners should be prepared to provide calculations of potential income and the annual (in kind) investment of both sides, demonstrating the costs and efforts that need to be made to rehabilitate the forest and to generate the income.

2.7. Management plan and annual plan

The five-year management plan and the annual plan serve as tools for forest management planning and for the monitoring of activities and results. They are developed jointly by SFE staff and the respective forest user for each individual plot.

Ideally, planning would be based on data from a forest inventory in order to assess the biomass growth and the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) of fuelwood/timber and the harvest potential of non-wood forest products.

The following table shows key characteristics of both kinds of plans:

	Management plan	Annual plan
Period	Five years	One year
Purpose	Strategic planning tool for the development of the forest plot in the mid-term. It is used as a basis for the annual plan.	Short-term planning tool. Non-fulfilment can be a possible cause for the cancellation of the contract. On the backside, usually the fulfilment of the plan is documented.
Contents	Description of the condition of the forest plot Development of targets for the forest plot General work necessary to reach these targets	Description of the detailed tasks of the forest-user over the year, indicating the location and time for each task Determination of the harvest amounts, indicating the shares of the SFE and of the forest user
Relation to JFM contract	Forms part of the JFM contract.	Does not form part of the JFM contract.
Time of development	Developed after signing the contract.	Developed together with the first management plan, and later on at the end of each year.
Monitoring	After five years, the plot is re-evaluated, and a new management plan is developed.	The SFE staff records how well the forest user performed the tasks defined in the annual plan. At the end of the annual plan a final session of monitoring evaluates the progress of the forest user’s work. Based on this monitoring the potential for improvement is discussed and a new annual plan is developed for the following year.

The templates for the management plan, the annual plan and the annual monitoring are designed in such a fashion that SFE staff and forest users can easily understand and fill in the forms. Therefore, they mainly require inputs such as “yes/no”, “high/low”, etc., allowing comments.

Typical tasks specified in the annual plan are measures to protect the plot from livestock grazing, digging of small irrigation channels and cleaning of existing irrigation channels, or establishment of reservoirs, planting of trees, harvesting, pruning and felling. Further, the annual plan specifies the harvest shares of the SFE and the forest user according to the percentage defined in the contract.

The first management and annual plans should be developed with facilitation by external extension staff in order to get both sides used to a participatory process. It is necessary that the actual planning is done not in the office of the SFE or house of the forest user but physically in the forest plot, where both sides can directly inspect the area including the scope of necessary works.

There is a risk that during the stages of planning and harvesting informal agreements between the forest user and the forester are made. Therefore, the key role of the extensioner is to ensure transparency of the process.





3. Implementation of Joint Forest Management

3. Implementation of Joint Forest Management

Facilitating the conclusion of JFM contracts is only a first step towards a successful implementation of JFM. It will take at least another year of external support to forest users and SFE to sustainably anchor JFM into the mind of both sides. This chapter explains key elements of JFM and important aspects to consider in the framework of the further management of forest plots under JFM.

3.1. Monitoring of annual plans

SFE staff records whether and in what quality the forest user performed the tasks defined in the annual plan. The final annual monitoring and the development of the annual plan for the following year are usually done in autumn (October – December). For this, SFE staff and the forest user jointly complete a form to compare the actual achievements with the annual plan.

According to the contract, non-fulfilment of the annual plan or the violation of the JFM contract can result in its cancellation. The severity of a breach of the annual plan and an impending cancellation of the contract should be transparent to the affected forest user, and arbitrary decisions should be avoided. In accordance with the By-Laws on JFM, two warnings have to be issued by the head of the State Forest Enterprise before cancelling the contract.

It has proven useful to enter the aggregated monitoring data into a simple excel database. This helps SFE staff to report demanded figures, e.g., on afforestation activities to higher levels and at the same time serves as a reporting tool for the assisting NGO.

3.2. Technical consultation

Many JFM forest users have no prior forestry experience; thus, supporting them with technical consultation is a precondition for effective management of their forest plots. This is first of all the task of the local foresters or the forest engineer of the SFE. The extensioners may help the SFE to organize training events for the JFM users. In case the SFE doesn't have the necessary knowledge itself, external trainers can be engaged and both SFE staff and forest users participate in the training.

It is of course crucial to increase the knowledge of the local foresters in the medium and long term. For this purpose, SFE can be advised and supported to let their foresters participate in a vocational education training

course. Such courses are now available and can be offered by either the Adult Training Centre or specialised organizations like Tajiklesservice Ltd.

In this context it is very important to support the SFE in its change from a control entity to a management entity supporting and supervising forest users. Only continuous support enables them to develop a new understanding of their roles and responsibilities and the technical capacities as the basis of sustainable forest management in the context of JFM and beyond.

Technical training for forest users and SFE staff may include:

- **Training on silvo-cultural techniques:** SFE and extension staff support the forest users with training on planting, fencing, pruning, felling of trees and harvesting of non-timber forest products like dog rose and sea buckthorn. Such training units can be open to all villagers, who usually grow trees in their private gardens, in order to make the whole community benefit from JFM.

- **Training on nursery management:** The establishment of back yard nurseries is a possibility to ensure the future availability of necessary planting material. A specific training on private small nurseries can be beneficial for the JFM forest users as well as other interested villagers beyond the context of JFM. Especially fruit tree seedlings can provide income possibilities. However, the common demand of forest users to enrich their plots with cultivated fruit tree species should be taken



with care, as planting fruit trees on forest land dissolves the distinction of forestry and horticulture. Experienced trainers for nursery management come from the nursery of Vakhdat.

- **Training on rights and responsibilities of SFE staff:** In many cases staff of SFE have no formal background in forestry education. They do not have sufficient knowledge on the rights and responsibilities that are part of their duties. Training in this field gives local foresters security in communication with forest users. Qualified trainers can be recruited from the NGOs or Tajiklesservice.

- **Training on biodiversity conservation and management of rare fruit tree species:** Qualified trainings in this field can be conducted, e.g., by the department for Horticulture at the academy of Science in Dushanbe or Tajiklesservice.

Numerous training materials are already available: A handbook on forestry techniques relevant in riparian forests has been compiled and distributed to many forest users. Additionally, a guide on important tree species in the nut and fruit tree forests of Khovaling and a pocket guide on all tree and shrub species have been developed. For the specific management of pistachio forests, a short manual has been designed which points out the main management techniques for cultivation, planting, and harvesting of pistachio.

3.3. Financial Support to Forest Management

Often, additional financial resources are needed to support the implementation of management and annual JFM plans, or pasture plans (see section 3.5.) and provide the necessary incentive. The most common activities where financial support is usually needed are

- **Nursery development:** The establishment of back yard nurseries is a possibility to ensure the future availability of necessary planting material. Finances are usually needed for construction materials and high quality seeds.

- **Provision with seeds and seedlings:** In case quality seedlings cannot be grown and seeds cannot be selected by the forest users themselves, they can be provided either by the SFE or need to be purchased additionally.

- **Provision with specified equipment:** For example, good quality clippers for pruning activities, or transportation devices like motorbikes or bicycles to ease patrolling of the area.

- **Infrastructure measures for afforestation, forest rehabilitation and protection and sustainable use:**

- **Rehabilitation, construction and maintenance of irrigation channels or water reservoirs.** The idea is to divert spring water at higher altitudes to provide sufficient irrigation for forestry or to capture springs and store the water.

- **Construction of dams in riparian forests.** This is often demanded by communities as a precondition to engage in forestry. It is feared that without protection, reoccurring floods will destroy the results of forest management.

- **Construction of fences.** The fencing of individual plots is not recommended; better is the fencing of several plots, or plots of very big size and only sides which have a high risk for cattle entering into the forest, for example, along cattle tracks.

- **Pens for cattle retention.** Pens of this kind have been established, e.g., in Pendjikent in Shohbod village. They are used by the forest users to detain illegally grazing cattle until the owner is identified.

- **Fencing of monitoring areas.** Fencing a small plot of the forest to demonstrate the damaging impact from grazing cattle on the one hand can motivate the forest user to protect the forest and on the other hand helps to monitor the results of the protection measures of the whole plot.

- **Forest Ranger.** In case of big community plots, a ranger can be hired and paid by the community, ensuring that cattle are kept away from the forest plot. In case the community is unable or still insufficiently convinced, the salary of such a ranger can be paid out of a Savings Book opened up for one representative of the community and supported by a Donor organization. This has been the case in Penjikent's juniperus forests, Zimtud village.

- **Storage points for firewood,** as constructed in Ishkashim (GBAO), to promote legal fuelwood trade.

- **Collection, drying and processing devices** to increase the income from Non-timber forest products.

- **Infrastructure measures for increased pasture productivity or access to alternative grazing grounds or fodder:**

- **Water-points for cattle.** When integrated in a concept of pasture planning, water points for cattle can be

used to locate cattle in areas outside of forest resources.

- **Natural and artificial reseedling** to increase the productivity of pastures.
- **Construction of bridges, or hay cables** to ease the access to more distant pastures/ hay areas.
- Hiring of a **professional herder**.
- **Savings Book Approach:** Wherever JFM is not an option, e.g., if sustainably managed forest resources don't provide sufficient benefits for people to be interested in JFM afforestation, measures can be financed directly. The Savings Book Approach (SBA) is a result-based concept for afforestation which has been piloted on a barren 20ha plot in the community of Vush in GBAO. Given the contradictory concepts, the SBA approach and JFM are difficult to be combined within one community. The approach has also been implemented in Zimtud village (Voru Jaomat) Penjikent, where a savings book is used to pay a ranger and construct water reservoirs.

When asked by the communities to finance infrastructure or material in the above-manner, it should always be considered that the concept of JFM implies that SFE and forest users jointly support the implementation of necessary infrastructure measures financially or with contribution in kind.

Experiences of the past years have shown that in the context of promoting JFM the given commitment by NGOs and donor organisations on financial support for infrastructure development and result-based payment for work schemes (SBA) has often triggered unrealistic expectations among individuals, communities and the SFE.

The result was a situation in which the interest of JFM participants to continue their engagement in JFM was strongly reduced after the financial support ended. Activities which were formerly agreed on as the forest users' and/or SFE's contribution to the management plan, e.g., fencing, planting, etc., were asked to be remunerated. To avoid this situation, financial support should be limited to cases where the joint contribution of the SFE and forest users is not an option.

3.4. Harvest and sales of forest products

The type and amount of forest products to be harvested from individual forest plots is defined in the annual plan. The forest user and the SFE share the harvest according to the quota defined in the JFM contract. As

defined in the By-laws on JFM, the system of defining the shares can become quite complex because shares depend on the forest product and sometimes change within the period of contract duration. It is recommended that the share mechanism be kept as simple as possible.

To improve the marketing of forest products and thereby increase the income from JFM for both the SFE and forest users, a thorough market analysis is the basis. The chances and challenges of the most common products are pointed out in the following:

Fuelwood: The rural and mountainous regions of Tajikistan are characterized by a high demand for firewood by:

- Public institutions (schools, municipality administrations, military bases, etc.) which receive fuel budgets from the government.
- Private households in (JFM) villages. Most of the households use firewood from their gardens, but some need additional fuel wood. They buy it from the forest users in their village or might illegally cut it in the forest.
- A significant proportion of the households in towns still use firewood for heating and cooking. They get their firewood from private gardens, neighbours, relatives from the villages, or buy it from the villages.

The high demand and the allocation of government funds to public institutions for them to procure



fuelwood opens opportunities for the development of a firewood value chain, preventing illegal cuttings by those who demand firewood, and providing financial incentives (income) to forest users.

A successful practice in the Ishkashim district is to conclude contracts between a group of JFM forest users (to jointly provide the demanded amount) and one public institution on the supply of the yearly allocated firewood budget. It is recommended that these contracts be concluded as early as possible in the year. After harvesting the firewood, the forest users bring the harvest share owed to the SFE and the sellable part of their own share to the collection point. The firewood is stored there, dried, and finally sold to both public institutions and private buyers.

One of the key obstacles to the development of a free firewood market is the governmentally fixed and non-competitive prices for firewood which are binding for the SFE. This problem has not been solved so far.

Fruits and Walnuts: Especially the forests in the central districts like Khovaling, Muminobod and Shurobod provide a big variety of NTFP in the form of fruits, e.g., Wild Apple, Wild Pear, Plums or berries like Sea buckthorn and also nuts. The economically most valuable surely are Walnuts.

The strong demand of Walnuts is driven from both the local buyers (intermediaries) and bulk buyers coming from other regions of Tajikistan

In an early stage of developing value chains for the forest products, especially the fruits, it is very important to help the forest users to improve the quality of their processing practices of collecting and drying, and thus the quality of the products. Only this ensures that the products are competitive at market price. Bringing the forest users together for joint marketing can also help them to access external (bigger) markets and gain more profit, through avoiding intermediaries. .

Pistachio: Pistachio need to be harvested within a given period in time in order to ensure a standard in quality. The main producers in Tajikistan are the SFE in southern Khatlon, which engage local villagers in the harvesting, giving them a certain percentage of the harvest. The SFE sells its shares to international and national traders. The remaining pistachio nuts are sold on local markets. Generally there is a high local and international demand. This situation allows JFM forest users to either sell their share of Pistachio to the SFE or organize the marketing themselves.

Medicinal herbs: Medicinal herbs like Cumin and Ferula may provide more substantial additional income opportunities on a shorter term than afforestation and forest rehabilitation activities. However, sustainable

collection practices are an absolute must in order not to degrade those resources further. It is possible and even highly recommended to support forest users in reseeding of such herbs. Medicinal herbs production within open forests can incentivize the protection from grazing.

3.5. Managing upcoming cases of conflict

Based on the fact that forest users start enforcing their right and obligation to protect the forest plots, e.g., against violation of grazing regulations, experience has shown that in an early stage following the conclusion of JFM contracts conflicts are likely to occur between forest users and non-JFM participants of the community, or between the community entering a JFM contract and neighbouring villages.

Then, later in the ongoing stage of JFM implementation, conflicting issues are likely to arise between JFM forest users and the SFE. This is commonly the case when the SFE is monitoring the fulfilment of annual and management plans and both share the agreed harvests. SFE staff often falls back into old patterns of forest governance, ignoring their obligations towards the JFM forest users and the eye-to eye relationship.

In the following, frequently observed types of conflict and approaches to mitigation are outlined:



- **Illegal cutting of firewood by other villagers, who are not forest users:** In many cases, villagers continued the illegal cutting of firewood on forest areas to which they formerly had had open access. Conflicts can be prevented by fostering information exchange between the SFE and the forest users on one side, and the other villagers or community representatives on the other side, if necessary, supported by external extension staff. In the case of conflict, reference to the community agreement can be made. It states that the whole community agreed to the implementation of JFM and that the forest users are responsible for the protection and sustainable management of their forest plots. It is also helpful if those who do not want to conclude a JFM contract have already stated their negative decision in the community agreement (see section 2.3.).

- **Illegal grazing on JFM plots:** Both the forest legislation (Forest Code, §59) and the JFM contracts forbid all grazing because it harms the newly growing shoots and is extremely detrimental to the regeneration of the forest. In many villages, however, the local population is used to letting their livestock graze in forest areas, especially in winter and spring, when alternative pastures are not available and fodder is scarce. Whenever livestock is found grazing on a JFM plot, the SFE staff fines its owner and – in case the plot has not been properly protected – also the forest user responsible for the plot. When there is a problem identifying the owner of the cattle, the cattle are retained until the owner comes to claim them. For this purpose paddocks (Zagon skota) can be established, where the cattle can be stored for a while until the owner is identified. If a livestock owner does not pay the fine within a set period, the case is brought to court. The enforcement of a general grazing ban has proved to be difficult due to the long distances and the limited mobility of SFE staff, the unwillingness of SFE staff to damage their social relations by fining their fellow villagers, the lack of alternative pastures, and the delays in the settlement of cases by the court. As a complementary measure to the grazing ban, natural grass could be sown between the trees and harvested in autumn in order to produce a sufficient amount of winter fodder. Whenever cattle grazing is likely to become an issue of conflict, the development of pasture management/grazing plans with the cattle owner/pasture user group can be facilitated. Additionally, financial support might be provided to implement these plans and to enable access alternative pastures or to improve the productivity of existing pastures.

- **Demand of SFE to fulfil old use agreements:** In many regions of Tajikistan, forest management is based on informal or semi-formal agreements in which the SFE grants forest users the right of using local forest resources (compare section 1.1 Field visit). Unlike the formalized JFM contracts, these agreements are only of limited legal value. When JFM contracts are concluded, they sometimes replace the existing agreement, usually to the perceived disfavour of the SFE. In times of harvest when the forest enterprise has to fulfil its management plans, it sometimes neglects the signed JFM contract and insists on fulfilment of the old use agreements (often because of pressure of the National Forestry Agency to deliver certain quantities

of forest products). An open dialogue between SFE management and its local staff is necessary to foster understanding and ownership for the JFM approach on the side of SFE staff and to build trust. At the same time, SFE management has to demonstrate its readiness and willingness to sanction any violation of JFM rules by its own staff. External extension staff play a crucial role in documenting violations of JFM contracts by the SFE or the forest user.

- **Non-performance of a forest user:** In case a forest user is not fulfilling the tasks outlined in the annual plan or violates the use limits, this not only affects negatively the rehabilitation of the forest plot, but can also negatively affect the attitude of the other forest users. According to the JFM regulations, SFE is to issue 2 warnings, and in case of non-fulfilment of the prescriptions, the contract is to be cancelled.

- **Taxes:** According to the JFM By-law, the forest user is responsible for tax payments from his income. In some cases the SFE has been requested to pay taxes for all income from Forest Fund Land, including the income of the forest user, unless evidence of tax payment is provided by the forest user. Therefore, it is likely that in the future the SFE will request Forest users to provide proofing documents on tax payment.

3.6. Establishment of Forest User Groups

In many regions of Tajikistan, community-based organizations like Mahalla Committees or Village



Organizations (VOs) or similar structures have been implemented to enhance and structure community development. Different councils (subgroups) can be formed by community members to address given issues in community development and natural resource management specifically. Examples are subgroups for women, for agriculture, and for pasture.

The idea is to support the establishment of Forest User Groups (FUGs) in every community where JFM is in place. Where possible they should be formally integrated into the existing structures of VOs. Members of FUGs can jointly organize work to improve forest and irrigation infrastructure, mutually monitor the fulfilment of annual plans, and establish a community fine system for illegal grazing and cutting. Additionally, they disseminate information about JFM within the village and solve conflicts between forest users.

In many villages, all forest users use the same forest infrastructure for the management of their individual plots, or could manage them more effectively if they cooperated. For example, they could

- Jointly work on constructing and maintaining the irrigation systems or develop grazing schemes and patrols,
- Save much time and work if they built a common good quality fence along the forest area,
- Benefit from the collective marketing of forest products, especially in remote areas where access to markets is limited and public institutions can be attracted as customers.

Furthermore, the leader of a forest user group acts as an intermediary between SFE staff and the individual forest user. Local foresters communicate information only to the leader of the forest user group who then disseminates it among its members.

Some forest user groups function very well, while others do not function at all. Groups which function well have a strong and accepted leadership, and the group members recognise the advantages of cooperating in a group. A very good example of a functioning FUG is in the village of Langar (Ishkashim). In general the willingness of villagers to be part of formal forest user groups as, e.g., subgroups of Village organisations, varies greatly among communities.





4. Open Dialogue on JFM

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Staff of the Forestry Agency under the Government of Tajikistan, of the SFE, and of local and international NGOs have a long history of supporting the introduction of JFM into different districts of Tajikistan. Jointly they provide a valuable pool of knowledge and experience on the practical challenges emerging in the process of implementing JFM.

Regular exchange between field staff of different organisations and staff of the SFE involved in the implementation of JFM and the National Forestry Agency provides the opportunity to work on solutions to common challenges in forest management. Each NGO has specific knowledge on working with the local governmental organizations and civil stakeholders in their respective area of work.

Intensive communication and cooperation with the Forestry Agency in Dushanbe will be necessary. With the institutional changes in the beginning of 2014 and the establishment of the Forestry Agency as an entity independent from the Committee for Environment Protection, the SFE gained the status of a governmental enterprise having more independence in the management decisions. However, a number of outdated formal and informal administrative linkages between the different levels still exist (compare section 2.2).

Possible activities which promote communication between different organizational levels within the forestry administration and between field staff of implementing organizations are:

- Organisation of regular meetings of organisations involved or interested in forest management and JFM. Participants are staff of the SFE, staff of the National Forestry Agency, and scientific support organisations and field staff of NGOs.
- Exchange visits between staff of the SFE from different regions and representatives of different forest user groups. This is especially of use in the beginning of JFM implementation to provide a practical showcase.
- Organisation of local training events with staff of the National Forestry Agency as experts (compare section 2.2), e.g., on the rights and responsibilities of staff in the context of new developments in the forestry sector.
- Participation of SFE staff and forest users in jointly organised training events, e.g., on usage of GPS or management plan development.





5. List of experts and organizations

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To this point in time, the following extensioners and NGOs have been involved in facilitation of JFM implementation in Tajikistan.

Name of the organization and contact data	Short description of main expertise and experiences
ATO Saidali Teshae, Director. +992985162593, saidali060680@mail.ru	This NGO has been formed by former members of CESVI working on environmental and land management projects. Since 2013 the staff was involved in and supported CESVI in implementing the JFM activities in the Khovaling district. The key experts of the organization have been involved in KfW project implementation in the Khovaling district. Since 2011 the staff has been actively involved in pasture management activities in the Khovaling district.
Azal 124 Nusratullo Makhsum-street, app.40, Dushanbe 734064 Telefon/ Email / + 992 902 55 55 05 nazarov.azal@mail.ru azal.rashtvalley@mail.ru	Part of a former project on land management which German Agro Action implemented. The staff of AZAL have gained experience in implementing JFM in villages bordering the protected area of Kamarob in Rasht on the basis of an intensive exchange with the GIZ project on JFM in GBAO. Since 2014 they are engaged as an independent NGO in piloting JFM in selected villages of Tavildera and Jirgetal. They have special capacities in the integration of pasture management into JFM.
CAMP Tabiat Branch of the Public Foundation CAMP Alatoo in Tajikistan 9, Sohibnazarov Str, 736000 Khorog, GBAO, Tajikistan	The former field mobilization staff of the GIZ project on the development of JFM in GBAO starting from 2006 onwards have founded the NGO CAMP Tabiat. In their roles as mobilization staff and NGO members, they supported SFE GBAO in the conclusion of more than 400 JFM contracts. In this context they successfully developed a firewood marketing system for GBAO. As an NGO they are now implementing activities on climate change adaptation in forestry and pasture management in Vanj. They have also gained experience in piloting the Savings Book Approach (SBA).

CARITAS Switzerland Caritas Switzerland Country Office 20, Pavlova Str. 734003 Dushanbe Tajikistan	CARITAS Switzerland has implemented JFM in the districts of Far-khor and Dangara as part of the GIZ implemented project on Adaptation to Climate Change through sustainable Forestry in the years 2013 – 2014. In this period, about 30 contracts with forest users of the Pistachio forests were concluded. Experience was gained in developing sustainable management plans of pistachio forests which focus on both regenerating the degraded pastures and forests as well as using the potential of the mature pistachio stands.
CESVI Tajikistan Country Office 16, Firdavsi st. Dushanbe	As part of the GIZ implemented project on Adaptation to Climate Change through sustainable Forestry, the Italian NGO CESVI has implemented JFM in the district of Khovaling in the years 2013 – 2014. About 60 contracts with forest users have been signed in the villages of Kulolon and Sangdara. They have gained valuable experience in adapting the approach to the conditions of the fruit and nut forests of central Tajikistan.
Green leaf Khatlon, Baljuvon district, center of district, Tajikistan greenleaf.tj@gmail.com	This NGO has been formed by former members of German Agro Action working on a land management project and was registered in October 2013. While mainly dealing with projects in the field of sustainable pasture management and rural development in general, since July 2014 Green Leaf is active in JFM dissemination to Baldjuan.
Jangal Parvar Dushanbe, Ul Dusti Khalkho 62 918181825 jamoliddin-M.I@mail.ru	This young NGO consists of a pool of young experts who have been trained as extension staff for JFM or as field monitoring experts. The NGO has been working in Romit and is currently engaged in Penjikent on JFM implementation in Juniperus Forests. The NGO has strong support by senior forest experts.

Name of expert	Short description of main expertise and experience and Contact Data
Saimurodov Akmal	Active in community mobilization for JFM since September 2014; working experience in Romit and Baldjuan; Contact data: Phone - (+992) 907 726626; E-mail: saimurodov.akmal@mail.ru
Ashurov Bakhtiyor	Working as community mobilizer for JFM implementation from November 2013 until December 2014 in Farkhor. Contact Data: Email: bakhtiyora@list.ru, Phone: 992 32 32 08
Abdurakhimov Najmiddin	Working as community mobilizer for JFM implementation from February 2014 until December 2014; Contact Data: Email: najmidin.abdurakhimov@mail.ru, Phone: +992 900027211
Shodizoda Furuzon	Working as community mobilizer in Penjikent since August 2014; Contact Data: Phone: 931113177
Shohin Odinaev	Working as community mobilizer in Penjikent since March 2015; Contact Data: Phone: 931113181
Dilbar Zevarova	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since May 2010 until present; Contact Data: Phone: 93 444 69, Email: dilbar.zevarova@gmail.com
Qumriya Vafodorova	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since August 2009 until present; Contact Data: Phone: 93 444 52 70, Email: qumriya.vafodorova@gmail.com
Mohiolam Zamirova	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since January 2014 until present, with focus on Gender issues; Contact Data: Phone: 93 404 56 04, Email: mayakhorog@gmail.com
Donish Donayorov	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since August 2009 until present; Contact Data: Phone: 93 444 52 71, Email: donish.donayorov@gmail.com
Fakhriddin Dilshodov	Working as community mobilizer in Roshtqala in GBAO since August 2009 until present; Contact Data: Phone: 93 444 52 73, Email: fakhriddin.dilshodov@gmail.com
Habib Qadamshoev	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since May 2010 until end of 2012; Contact Data: currently in Dushanbe

Badakhshon Alibekov	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since May 2010 until end of 2013; Contact Data: currently in Shugnan
Parvina Muborakshoeva	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since August 2009 until October 2011; Contact Data: Phone: 93 857 41 05
Zaynura Shodmonbekova	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since August 2009 until present; Contact Data: Phone: 93 502 28 58; Email: zainura.shodmonbekova@gmail.com
Haqrizo Nurmamad	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since August 2009 until present; Contact Data: Phone: (+992) 93 444 52 77; E-mail: haqrizo.nurmamad@gmail.com skype: haqrizo.nurmamadov
Saidakbar Rahmatov	Working as community mobilizer in Jirgital and Rasht since April 2014 until present; Contact Data: Phone: (+992) 902 55 55 02; Email: saidakbarjon62@mail.ru
Bahrom Rustamov	Working as community mobilizer in Tavildara since April 2014 until present; Contact Data: Phone: (+992) 902 55 55 03; Email: bakhrom-rustamov@mail.ru
Aslam Munakov	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since August 2009. From August 2013 he has been supervising JFM dissemination in different districts; Contact Data: Phone: (+992) 935751161; Email: aslamm72@gmail.com
Sorbon Kholiknazarov	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since August 2009. From August 2013 he has been supervising JFM dissemination in different districts; Contact Data: Phone: (+992) 937358968; Email: sorbon.kholiqnazarov@gmail.com
Saidali Teshae	Working as community mobilizer in Khovaling since September 2013. Contact Data: Phone: +992985162593, Email: saidali060680@mail.ru
Tolib Akhrorov	Working as community mobilizer in GBAO since September 2013. From August 2013 he has been supervising JFM dissemination in different districts; Contact Data: Phone: +992918529782, Email: t_ahrorov@mail.ru
Zarifkhon Culchinov	Working as community mobilizer in Roshtqala in GBAO since August 2009 until present; Contact Data: Phone: 93 514 88 94, Email: zarifkhon.gulchinov@gmail.com

To this point in time, the following experts and organizations have been providing technical advice and support to JFM implementation in Tajikistan.

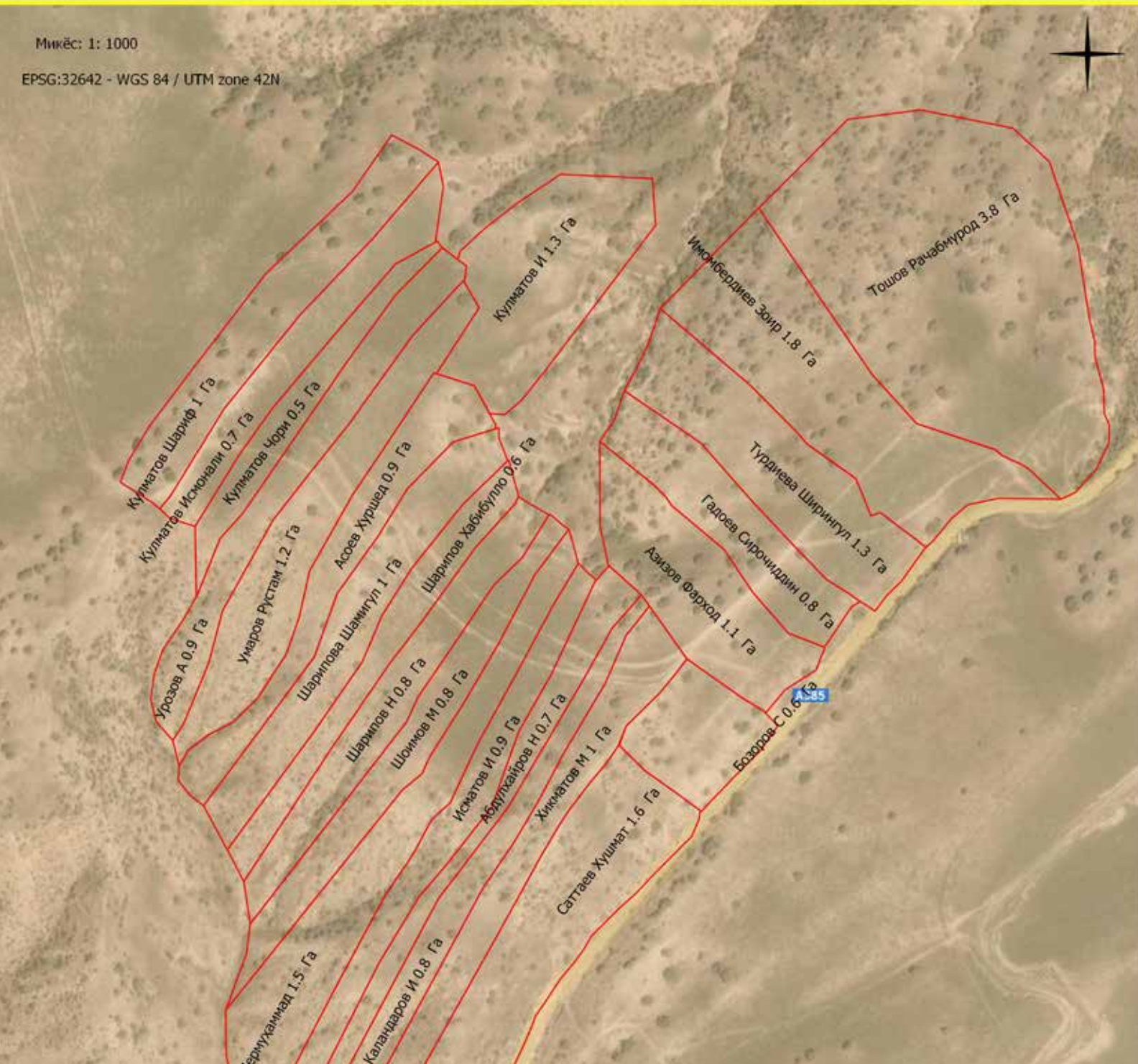
Name of the organization and contact data	Short description of main expertise and experiences
Zan wa Zamin	Sang wa Samin specializes in women group mobilization for wild fruit collection and processing, establishment of nurseries of traditional fruit species and conservation of local biodiversity. Sang wa Samin has strong expertise on biodiversity conservation.
Tajiklesservice Ltd.	Tajiklesservice was established in May 2015 and is a service that first of all provides trainings, consultations and professional assessment of forest stand, forest inventory and forest management planning. The organisation is also well placed to foster dialogue between SFE and the National Forestry Agency and the reform process.
National Forestry Agency	The National Forestry Agency was established as a separate ministerial structure under the Government of Tajikistan in February 2014. The Agency has a Forest Department, responsible for political decision and supervision of the sector, development of laws and policies.
Forest Institute	The Forest Institute is a Subordinated Structure to the Forestry Agency. It has strong expertise in Pistachio selection.
Nursery Vakhdat	The Nursery in Vakhdat is the biggest and most professional nursery in Tajikistan, producing seedlings on an area of 26 ha.

Expert, Name	Main expertise and experiences with relevance to JFM and contact data
Boboev Davlatsho	Forest Code, By-laws, Forestry Management filing and documentation, retired (former FA).
Saidov Davlat	Pruning of Pistachio forests Head Forester Farkhor SFE. Contact data: Phone: +992 900 10 78 00
Rahimov Safarbeg	Ferula seed selection and cropping techniques, Tajik State University (Biology Department). Contact data: Phone: +992 907 94 60 40
Boboev Tillo	Seed selection, stratification and maintenance (pistachio), Kulob Botanical Garden of Kulob. Contact data: Phone: +992 918 63 51 14
Boboeva Mohpari	Use of forest products (herbs) from medicine view, Kulob Central hospital of Kulob (pharmacist). Contact data: Phone: +992 907937130
Sadafmo Alieva	Gender Expert, pistachio processing. Contact data: Phone: +992 900006624
Qanoat Boymamadov	GIS plot demarcation, 03/2012-2015, Ishkashim. Contact data: Phone: 50126 2180; Email: qanoat1991@gmail.com
Nasim Fozilov	Technical engineer, 05/2010-present, Khorog. Contact data: Phone: 93 444 69 04; Email: nasim.fozilov@gmail.com
Sharipov Davlatali	Roles and responsibilities of forest users and SFE. Facilitation of conflicts between SFE and National Forestry Agency. Pistachio Planting. Contact data: Phone: + 992919634188; Email: davlatali_sharipov@mail.ru
Abdusalom	Pistachio forests management Contact data: Phone: 918268497
Saidov Madibron	Roles and responsibilities of forest users and SFE. Legal and political advice. Facilitation of conflicts between SFE and National Forestry Agency. Contact data: Phone: 918896808; Email: saidov_madibron@mail.ru

Ivan P. Ustyan	Seed and seedling management. Assessment of forest stand conditions; Planting and pruning practices. Contact data: Phone: 919944270
Khairudin Safarov	GIS plot demarcation and mapping. Contact data: Phone: +992918973086; Email: khairuddin-88@mail.ru
Negmat Mukhamadiev	Backyard nursery establishment; Assessment of forest stand conditions; Tree planting techniques. Contact data: +992919766991
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6. Attachments

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The following documents related to the implementation of JFM have been developed by different organizations supporting the implementation. They are available on the CD-Rom attached:

No.	Description of document	Description of document
01-1	Short version of JFM contract	Tajik
01-2	Short version of JFM contract	Russian
02	Community agreement	Russian
03-1	Questionnaire for the selection of forest-users	Tajik
03-2	Questionnaire for the selection of forest-users	English
04-1	JFM contract	Tajik
04-2	JFM contract	Russian
04-3	JFM contract	English
05-1	Management plan	Tajik
05-2	Management plan	Russian
06-1	Annual plan	Tajik
06-2	Annual plan	Russian
07-1	Monitoring Table on implementation of activities	Tajik

07-2	Monitoring Table on implementation of activities	Russian
07	Warning	Tajik
08	Final warning	Tajik
09	Contract cancellation	Tajik
10-1	Shares of the harvest of the forest products of the SFE and of forest users	Tajik
10-2	Shares of the harvest of the forest products of the SFE and of forest users	Russian
10-3	Shares of the harvest of the forest products of the SFE and of forest users	English
11-1	Handbook on forestry techniques	Tajik
11-2	Handbook on forestry techniques	Russian
12	Tree species guide Khovaling	English
13-1	Pocket tree species guide	Tajik
13-2	Pocket tree species guide	Russian
14	Handbook of pistachio management	Russian
15	Handbook on Ferula production and harvesting	Tajik
16-1	Forest Code 2011	Tajik
16-2	Forest Code 2011	Russian

16-3	Forest Code 2011	English
17-1	By-laws on JFM	Tajik
17-2	By-laws on JFM	Russian
18-1	Forestry Sector Development Strategy 2016-2030	Tajik
18-2	Forestry Sector Development Strategy 2016-2030	Russian
18-3	Forestry Sector Development Strategy 2016-2030	English
19-1	Action Plan 2016-2020 to the Forestry Sector Development Strategy	Tajik
19-2	Action Plan 2016-2020 to the Forestry Sector Development Strategy	Russian
19-3	Action Plan 2016-2020 to the Forestry Sector Development Strategy	English



