



## European Commission – Indonesia Forestry Programme (ECIFP)

The European Commission (EC) has been a long standing supporter of Indonesia's forestry sector and one of the main donors to the sector since 1990. From 1976 to 2000, the EC commitment to development aid in Indonesia has amounted to nearly € 300 million, over one third of which related to the forestry sector.

From the mid-1990s until 2008, EC cooperation to Indonesian forestry was coordinated under the **European Commission - Indonesia Forestry Programme (ECIFP)**. This assistance was part of a co-ordinated response to the problems identified by the Government of Indonesia. Through a process of dialogue with the Ministry of Forestry, the EC developed a series of project interventions that aimed to support each of the main areas of concern identified by the Ministry. In summary these were Sustainable management of forest concessions; Management of protected areas and biodiversity conservation; Forest fire control and management; Prevention of illegal logging, and Social forestry and the rehabilitation of degraded land and forests.

Projects included under the ECIFP included:

- The South and Central Kalimantan Production Forest Project
- The Leuser Ecosystem Management Project
- The Illegal Logging Response Centre
- The Participative Management of Natural Resources in Berau and Bulungan
- The Forest Liaison Bureau
- The South Sumatra Forest Fire Management Project

All these projects have now been completed but they have brought a large number of lessons. Transfer of knowledge and techniques from the individual projects to the Government of Indonesia to enable the implementation of new or revised policies and practices has been a central key objective of all these projects.

Lessons from these projects have also been used by the EC for the design and implementation of new projects. Some of the key recommendations drawn from the ECIFP include:

- The need to systematically promote participation, transparency and accountability in projects management (making work plans and reports available...)
- To adopt a process approach and integrate lessons learned into implementation (more focus and systematic dissemination of any lesson)
- Stronger focus on exit strategy and sustainability, to be considered from day 1 of projects implementation



- Re-orientate assistance from Forestry to Natural Resource Governance
- Support appropriate development areas such as spatial / land use planning, development of outcome-based policies and regulations, more effective and inclusive community involvement.