



# Sustainable Forest Management

Leading forestry companies across the globe recognise the need for sustainable forest management and the important role it can play in securing their license to operate. Earth Systems works to understand and address the complex economic, environmental and social challenges associated with the development and management of industrial forestry projects.

The rapid expansion of plantation forestry across the globe to accommodate rising demands in wood / fibre-based products provides challenges and opportunities for the industry, government authorities, and various stakeholders. Earth Systems' core expertise in forestry, ecology, and social sciences facilitates management planning that promotes sustainable environmental and social outcomes. We work with clients to meet the rigors of legislation, standards, and certification body obligations to maximise benefits for stakeholders and minimise impacts in project' area of influence. We provide for forest rehabilitation programs for project de-commissioning / closure or for biodiversity offset, combining our geotechnical expertise, with our forestry, botany, and ecology skills to promote the development of natural habitat.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

- Environmental and social due diligence / gap analyses for acquisitions and/or project finance against national legislation, select international performance standards (e.g. IFC Performance Standards and Equator Principles);
- Assessment for forest certification body requirements (e.g. FSC Principles and Criteria, FSC Chain-of-Custody requirements, PEFC Standards);
- High Conservation Value (HCV) Forest assessment and management planning;
- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Management and Monitoring Planning to meet legislative and international standards;

- Development and implementation of ISO 14001:2015 compliant Environmental and Social Management Systems;
- Assistance with community engagement and development including free, prior and informed consent approaches and community development initiatives.

## SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Relevant project experience includes:

- Environmental & Social Impact Assessment of the Burapha Agroforestry and Mill Projects, Burapha Agroforestry Company;
- Social Impact Assessment of Stora Enso Eucalypt Plantation Project in Southern Lao PDR, United National Development Program
- Environmental and social due diligence assessments / gap analyses for numerous eucalyptus plantation forestry projects to inform acquisition and potential project financing and associated E&S Action Planning to meet national and select international standards;
- Facilitating private sector leadership to address land governance issues in the eucalypt and tea plantation sectors, Mekong Land Governance Project;
- Environmental and social due diligence of the Viet-Lao Rubber Company Industrial Rubber Plantation for Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD);
- ISO 14001:2015 pre-certification audit and environmental and social management planning, Stora Enso Lao



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