

Appendix 2. Description of the methods used to collect forest biomass data.

Training provided to the community members	Manual for professional trainers and check-list for community members	Data processing by community members	Timing and location of the data collection	Equipment	Definitions
<p>An intermediary organisation trained community members in the use of GPS functions to mark the boundaries of the forest strata and to locate the permanent plots. Teams of 3-7 community members were trained for 1-2 days.</p>	<p>A manual for establishing and implementing community monitoring of biomass has been produced to guide the professional trainers. This manual also includes all information a professional forester needs for conducting monitoring of biomass, including information on how to map forest strata, how to use measurements from pilot plots to calculate the number of plots needed within each stratum, how to measure the trees, etc. The villagers are not expected to read this manual and a check-list has been produced to help the villagers remember what they have learned during the training.</p> <p>Check-list. Before going to the forest: 1. Organise the team members; 2. Check the equipment. 3. Purchase ropes with 9 and 15 m marked on them; In the forest: 4. Locate plot; 5. Mark trees; 6. Measure trees; 7. Enter data in form. Back in village: 8. Copy forms; 9. Store forms safely; 10. Hand forms to intermediate organisation.</p> <p>In Laos and Vietnam, community members numbered each tree individually, and these were re-measured by the foresters.</p>	<p>Field data forms were checked by community members and handed over to an intermediary organisation who processed the data (and who returned the results to the community).</p>	<p>Community monitoring: Indonesia (Sep. 2011), China (Nov. 2011), Laos (Feb. 2012), Vietnam, Moi (Oct.-Nov. 2011), Vietnam, Diem (Nov.-Dec. 2011).</p> <p>Professional monitoring: Indonesia (Sep. 2011 - Jan. 2012), China (Nov.-Dec. 2011), Laos (May 2012), Vietnam, Moi (Jan. 2012), Vietnam, Diem (Jan. 2012).</p>	<p>GPS device, ordinary measuring tape, rope for measuring plots, paint, field forms, pencil.</p>	<p>By forest stratum, we mean a 'homogenous forest area in terms of tree species composition and level of degradation'.</p> <p>By DBH, we mean 'diameter at breast height' of the main stem of the tree.</p>