



Initiative spotlight: New Zealand policy frameworks



LESSONS LEARNT:

Successful CSFEs consider community perceptions and important levers for local community engagement and impact.

- In New Zealand, the Māori, as the second-largest landowners with extensive knowledge of productive forest use, were involved end-to-end in the BI
- The Māori consider both plant and animal species when assessing the impact of climate actions. Instead of stating “7 million people affected,” they prefer to say, “30 million species affected.”

CSFEs can boost local communities' confidence in their approach and gain buy-in by connecting them with similar communities they have previously worked with.

- For example, this BI linked the Māori with indigenous people from the US Pacific Northwest, where CSFEP had an ongoing BI

CONTEXT

- New Zealand's Māori population faces poor living conditions and unemployment despite owning 30% of the country's hectares of plantation forestry

- International organisations presently manage the forests under long-term concessions, but with upcoming lease expirations, there was an opportunity to explore how the Māori can use the forests for their economic well-being and to promote forest regeneration and health

CSFEP'S APPROACH AND ROLE

- CSFEP partnered with The Connective to develop two policy frameworks: one (co-developed with Hikurangi Enterprises) focused on the future routes of the Māori managing forests for economic development, and another industry-wide framework looking at potential commercial use of the forests by the government
- This first framework was shared in ground-level workshops with the Māori tribes to gather their input, shaping the final framework design

CSFEP'S ROLE

- CSFEP funded the policy framework development and The Connective's on-ground engagement
- CSFEP connected the Māori community with a project team in the US Pacific Northwest that was working with indigenous peoples to exchange learnings

IMPACT

- With the help of the project, the community **crowdsourced money to set up small processing facilities**, e.g., sawmills, and gather the people to work in the facilities
- Beyond this project, the community could potentially **earn income by selling timber**