



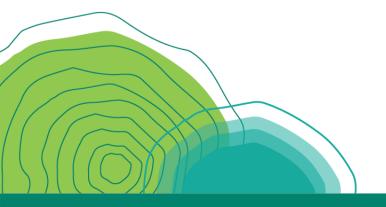








Training reportCapacity Building on Implementation of SFM and FCS Certification





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ABBREVIATIONS

SFM Sustainable forest management

FC Forest certification

PFMB Protect forest management board

SFMP Sustainable forest management plan

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Introduction

The training "Capacity Building on Implementation of SFM and FCS Certification" was held for 2.5 days in Hue city, with the participation of 16 trainees, including 11 males (69%) and 5 females (31%). They are representatives of the forest management units, forest company and project management boards of Phu Yen, Binh Dinh and Quang Tri province.

The general goal is building initial capacity, providing forest owners with knowledge to help forest owners in the process of achieving and implementing FSC forest certification. Specific goals are:

- Help forest owners understand the concepts of SFM and FC and the need to implement SFM and FC;
- Access to the content and requirements of the FSC VN NFSS V1.0 (2018) standard in the implementation of FSC FM forest certification in Vietnam;
- Help forest owners have basic awareness of the process of implementing the SFM certificate according to FSC standards

To achieve these goals, a training materials was developed with 8 lessons, which are:

• Lesson 1: Concepts of SFM and FC

- Lesson 2: Introduction of Forest Certification Scheme
- Lesson 3: Overview of policies related to SFM and FC
- Lesson 4: The establishment of national standards for forest assessment in Vietnam FSC VN STD NFSS V1.0 (2018)
- Lesson 5: The important indicators of the national standards for forest assessment in Vietnam FSC VN STD NFSS V1.0 (2018)
- Lesson 6: Requirements of the NFSS V1.0 standard in implementing FSC FM certification
- Lesson 7: FSC FM certification process and auditing procedure
- Lesson 8: Experience in implementing FSC FM forest certification in Vietnam

Interspersed between the theory sections are discussions and group exercises to help trainees understand and absorb the important knowledge.

At the end of the training, an assessment was made by the participants to assess the level of basic knowledge acquisition, the ability to apply the learned knowledge as well as the organizational quality of the training.

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1. Training results

1.1. Assessment of the knowledge acquisition

A short test was conducted to assess the trainees' level of basic knowledge acquisition. The results showed that 56% of trainees answered 6/6 questions correctly, 38% of trainees answered 5/6 questions correctly, 6% trainees answered 4/6 questions correctly and no trainees answered. 3 or more questions wrong. (**Figure 1**)

Trainees are also asked to self-assess their understanding of each lesson (rated from 1 to 5, where 5 is the highest level of understanding). The results show that most of the trainees have a level of understanding of lesson 4 or 5 (accounting for 80% to 94%), a small number of trainees have a level of understanding of the lesson 3. Only 1 student has not yet understood the lesson of the important indicators of the standard. (**Figure 2**)

Although this result cannot assess the entire level of trainees' acquisition, it shows that trainees have mastered the basic knowledge as a premise for expanding their knowledge in next step.

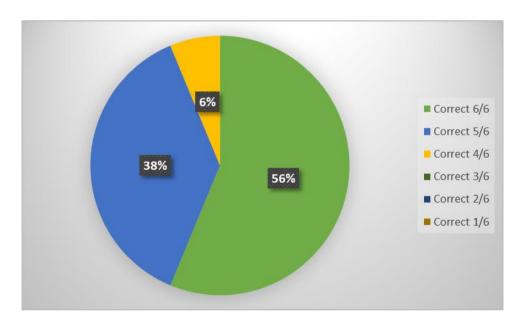


Figure 1. Correct answer rate

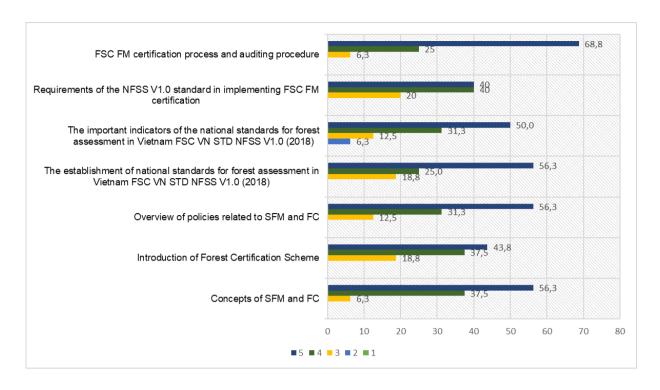


Figure 2. Trainees' self-assessment of their understanding of the lesson

1.2. Assessment of the ability to apply knowledge and roadmap

Assessment of the ability to apply the knowledge from the training in practice showed that 56% of the participants would definitely apply, while 31% would probably apply. This is an encouraging rate for the project's follow-up activities to promote sustainable forest management and forest certification. However, 13% (2 trainees) said that they have not intend yet to apply the knowledge from the training to their work. This is explained as these two trainees are not directly involved in the forest management activities of the organization and it is the first time they have chance to participate in the SFM training. (**Figure 3**)

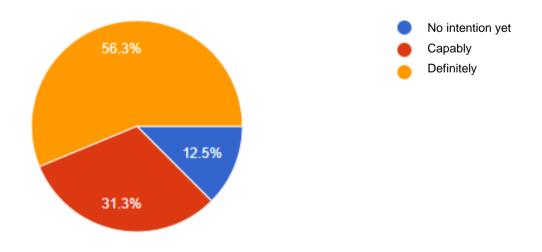


Figure 3. Assessment of the ability to apply knowledge

Developing a roadmap for implementing sustainable forest management and forest certification was a group activity that was carried out on the last day of the training after all the training contents had been presented. This exercise is intended to help the trainees better remember the knowledge as well as get the first ideas for planning of SFM and FC for their organization. Some results of this exercise are presented below.

Song Cau Protection Forest Management Board

The Song Cau PFMB has developed a sustainable forest management plan according to regulations, but there is no specific plan for the implementation of forest certification. The trainees of Song Cau has initially identified some activities that need to be carried out (**Table 1**). The organization's available resources for FC implementation include: 1. Concentrated forest area, 2. Guaranteed human resources and 3. Support from local authorities. However, the organization faces challenges related to financials sources and havesting mechanisms

Table 1. Roadmap of Song Cau PFMB

No	Activity	
1	Update the plan for sustainable forest management	
2 Determining the scope of forest certification implementation (about 5,000 h		
3	Determining the scope of forest certification implementation	
4 Identify and enhance financial resources		
5	Choose the right certification body to apply for a certificate	
6	Submit an application to a certification body	

• Dong Xuan Protection Forest Management Board

Dong Xuan PFMB has updated the sustainable forest management plan (SFMP) according to Circular 28/2018/TT-BNNPTNT for the period 2021-2029 and is submitting it to the Provincial People's Committee for approval. According to the SFMP, the organization aims to achieve forest certification by 2025. However, this goal has not been widely disseminated to all employees in the unit. The group of trainees of Dong Xuan has developed some activities to be carried out which are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Roadmap of Dong Xuan PFMB

No	Activity	Responsibility
1	Update plan on sustainable forest management for the period of 2021 - 2029 (under submission to the Provincial People's Committee for approval)	Consulting organization

2	Determining the area and resources to implement FC	General responsibilityy
3	Organize capacity building training courses	Planning & Technical Division
4	Looking for a consulting unit (local units are preferred)	Accounting Division/ Director
5	Identify financial sources for forest certification	Planning & Technical Division/ Director
6	Establish an implementation team to issue forest certificates	Director/ Reprentative of Division
7	Apply for a certificate	Planning & Technical Division/ Director

• Ben Hai Protection Forest Management Board

Ben Hai has no specific plan for forest certification. Some of the activities for roadmap by Ben Hai' trainees are listed in Table 3.

Table 3. Roadmap of Ben Hai PFMB

No	Activity	Responsibility	Duration
1	Systematization of records and documents	Planning Division	6/2023
2	Investigate, evaluate and select areas for forest certification	Technical Division	8/2023
3	Choose a qualified consultant	Planning Division	9/2023
4	Establish a steering committee to implement FSC	Planning Division	9/2023
5	Internal capacity building training	Planning Division	10/2023
6	Prepare the site for certification	Technical Division	11/2023

• Thach Han Protection Forest Management Board

The Thach Han group identified the organization's available resources, including: Well-trained human resources, good infrastructure, forests and forest land with legal use rights. The organization also has many advantages in implementing forest certification such as: the map system and records are available, technical staff can use GPS and digitize maps proficiently. However, the organization is also facing difficulties in finding financial resources for forest certification.

Table 4. Roadmap of Thach Han PFMB

No	Activity	Responsibility	Duration
1	Formation of a group to implement forest certification	Management board	6/2023
2	Determining the scope and area of forest certification	Technical Division	6/2023

3	Systematization of records and maps	Technical Division	8/2023
4	Capacity building training (gender equality, occupational safety, environmental impact assessment)	Consultant	10/2023
5	Building a certificate implementation process	Consultant	9/2023
6	Choose the consultant	Management board	9/2023
7	Select a certificating body	Management board	2028

Song Kon Forest Company

Song Kon Forest Company had quite clear goals when the implementation of the certificate was initially included in the company's operation plan from April 2023 and this goal was also widely disseminated to the labors. The company has also identified the main activities but has not determined the exact implementation time for each specific activity.

Table 5. Roadmap of Song Kon PFMB

	1 3		
No	Activity		
1	Establish a specialized working group to monitor the implementation of forest certification		
2	Assign specific tasks to each department		
System of related documents (forest area, map, design file, exploitation record management and protection record)			
4 Preliminary report on the situation of resources, activities, production and bus			
5	Contact the consultant to support the initial capacity assessment and remedial		
6	Realization of capacity building activities		
7	Prepare documents and applications for certificates		
8	Internal audits and non-compliance fixes		
9	Select a certification body		
10	Maintain the certificate annually		

Based on the results of the group exercise on developing a roadmap for forest certification, it can be seen that although the level of knowledge acquisition of different groups of trainees is different, the trainees have mastered the basic knowledge about sustainable forest management, forest certification and implementation process. This will be a good start for further technical in-depth training courses.

1.3. Overall assessment of the training course

The general assessment criteria for classes are given including: 1. Class organization (objectives, logistics, venue); 2. Quality of training (materials, trainers, interactive activities) and 3. Gender issues (gender issues in forest management are mentioned, fairness in giving opinions). In general, the assessment results show the satisfaction of the trainees when 100% agree or strongly agree with the given criteria (**Figure 4**). Trainees also gave positive feedback to the training contents and the trainers.

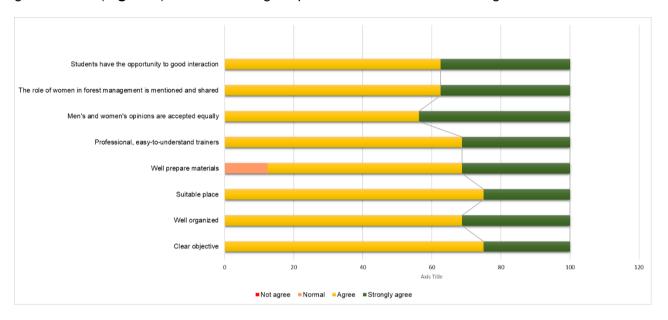


Figure 4. Overall assessment of the training course

From the trainer's point of view, the training has achieved all expected outcomes. The training course contributes importance to improving basic knowledge and skills and helps the participants have the ability to implement sustainable forest management and forest certification.

The good experience is inviting a sufficient ratio of female participants for SFM training. GIZ realizes the fact that the majority of men will be often assigned to participate in SFM training, while women are reluctant to participate. GIZ worked with CPMU and PPMU to request at least 30% of female participants are going to be invited for this training. This is the best way to encourage female to join the training and to involve in SFM practice.

1.4. Limitation of the training

In addition to the positive feedback, participants also gave some recommendations for the next training of the project, if any. First, the number of trainees should be expanded so that knowledge is more widely disseminated and financially effective. Besides, with the same amount of knowledge, the training time should be longer to ensure the absorption of the trainees. Finally, 2.5 days of training is a good start for promoting the implementation of sustainable forest management and forest certification. However, after this training, trainees still need technical guidance to implement SFM in

practice. Therefore, the project should have more technical trainings and technical support for forest management units.

2. Conclusion and Recommendation

2.1. Conclusion

The training was carried out with assurance in terms of content, time and objectives. The training also received positive feedbacks from the participants in terms of organization as well as quality.

2.2. Recommendation

• Recommendations to participants and local partners:

Sustainable forest management and forest certification are an integrated area. With the initial capacity building objective, the training is not yet able to provide all the knowledge related to implementation of SFM and FC. Therefore, organizations and trainees still need to continue to learn and improve their capacity in specific aspects of SFM.

The protection forest management boards and forestry companies participating in the training have all developed sustainable forest management plans, but in order to achieve forest certification, the sustainable forest management plan needs to be updated according to the requirements of the standard.

Recommendations to GIZ's project:

To ensure that the results of the training are maintained and effective for the participating organizations, the trainers recommends that the project should continue to organize more advanced trainings focusing on each technical aspects of the SFM. SFM and FC are still a challenging area for local forest management units, which need to be approached gradually, therefore the duration and content of the training also need to be arranged appropriately so that the trainees can absorb the knowledge. In addition, the participants in the training should be selected to ensure the same level of knowledge as well as the effectiveness of absorbing the lecture.

Annex 1. List of participants

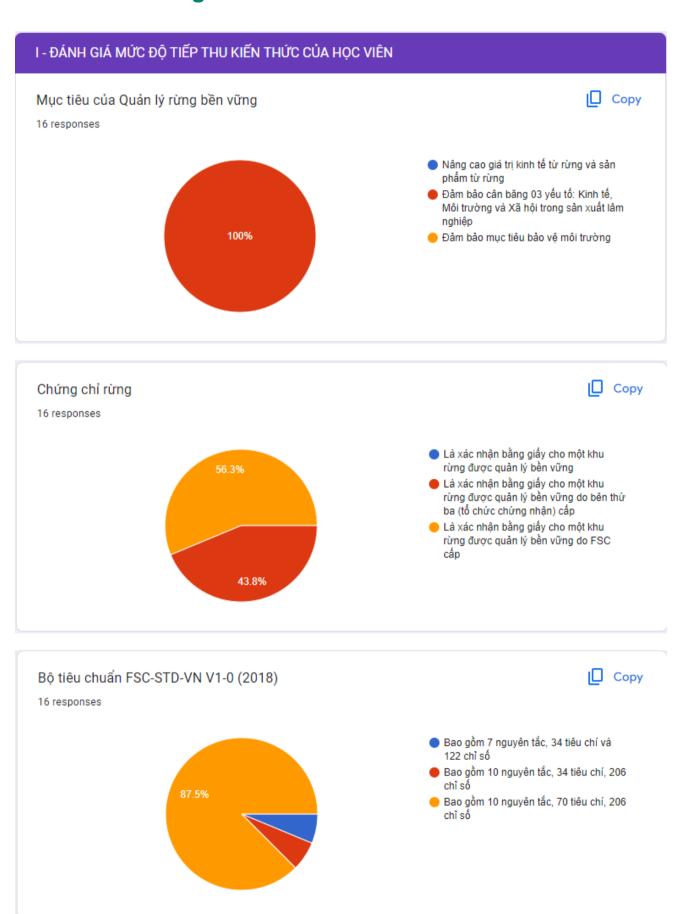
No	Organization	Number of participants
1	Phu Yen Provincial Project Management Unit	01
2 Song Cau Protection Forest Management Unit 02		02
3	Dong Xuan Protection Forest Management Unit	03
4	Song Kon Forest Company	03
5	Quang Tri Provincial Project Management Unit	01
6	Ben Hai Protection Forest Management Unit	03
7	Thach Han Protection Forest Management Unit	03

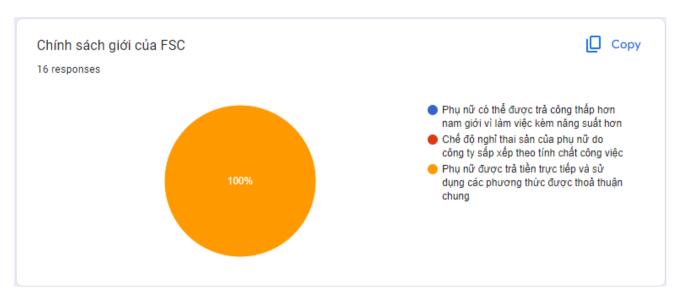
Annex 2. Training Agenda

Dungtion	Contents	Responsibility		
Duration	Contents	Main lecturer	Lecturer's assitant	
First day: Sund	ay , 28 th May			
	Concentration	GIZ SFM Project		
Second day: Mo	onday, 29 th May			
7:30-8:00	Trainees' registration	GIZ SFM Project		
8:00 – 8:10	Opening speech	PMU		
8:10 – 8:40	Project introduction	Dr. Le Thien Duc		
8:40 – 9:00	Participants' introduction	Dr. Le Thien Duc		
9:00 – 9:30	The concepts of SFM and FC	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	
9:30 - 9:45	Tea break	All participants		
9:45 - 10:15	Introduction to forest certification shemes	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	
10: 15 - 11:00	Overview of policies related to SFM and FC	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
11:00 – 11:30	Discussion	Lecturers and trainees		
11:30 - 13:30	Lunch	All participants		
13:30 - 13:45	Ice-breaking activities	All participants		
13:45 – 14:15	The establishment of national standards for forest assessment in Vietnam FSC VN STD NFSS V1.0 (2018)	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
14:15 – 15:00	The important indicators of the national standards for forest assessment in Vietnam FSC VN STD NFSS V1.0 (2018)	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
15:00 – 15:15	Tea break			
15:15 – 16:15	The important indicators of the national standards for forest assessment in Vietnam FSC VN STD NFSS V1.0 (2018)	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
16:15 – 17:00	Discussion	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
Thirst day: Tuesday, 30 th May				
8:00 – 8:15	Recap of day 1	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	TS. Đào Công Khanh	
8:15 – 9:15	Requirements of the NFSS V1.0 standard in	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	

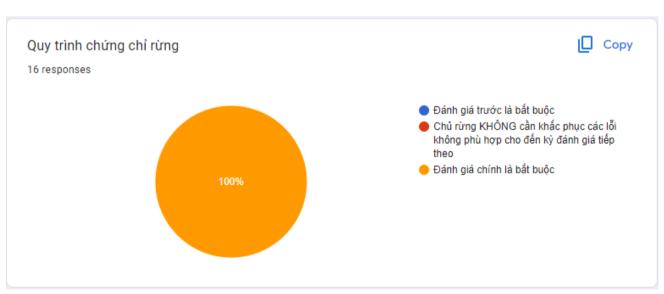
	implementing FSC FM			
0.45	certification			
9:15 – 9:30	Tea break			
9:30-10:45	Requirements of the NFSS			
	V1.0 standard in	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
	implementing FSC FM	Dr. Dao Gorig Mianin	West Bas Es Hayeri Harig	
	certification – Cont.			
10:45-11:30	Discussion	Lecturers and trainees		
11:30-13:30	Lunch	All participants		
13:3- 13:45	Ice-breaking activities	All participants		
13:45 – 15:00	FSC FM certication process and auditing procedure	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
15:15 – 15:30	Tea break	All participants		
15:30 – 16:45	FSC FM certication process			
	and auditing procedure -	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
	Cont.	9	, ,	
16:45 – 17:00	Discussion	Lecturers and trainees		
Forth day: Wedi	nesday, 31 st May			
8:00 – 8:15	Recap of day 2	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	
8:00 - 9:00	Experience in implementing	Dr. Dan Conn. Khanh	Ma Daalalluusa Trans	
	FSC FM forest certification in Vietnam	Dr. Dao Cong Khanh	Ms. Dao Le Huyen Trang	
9:00 - 10:00	Group work: Developing a	a Lecturers and trainees		
	roadmap to implement the	ne		
	SFM certificate			
10:00 – 10:15	Tea break	All participants		
10:15 – 11:00	Group presentation	Lecturers and trainees		
11:00 – 11:15	Training course assessment	Trainees		
11:15 – 11:30	Closing	GIZ SFM project		

Annex 3. Training evaluation result from G-Form

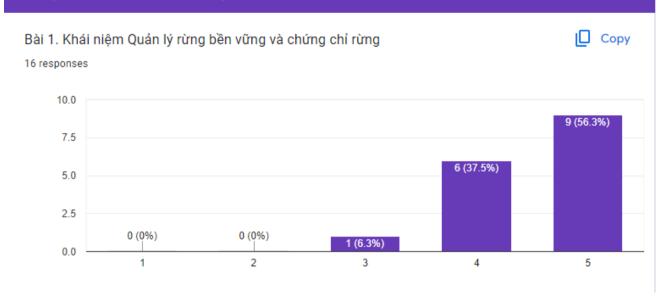


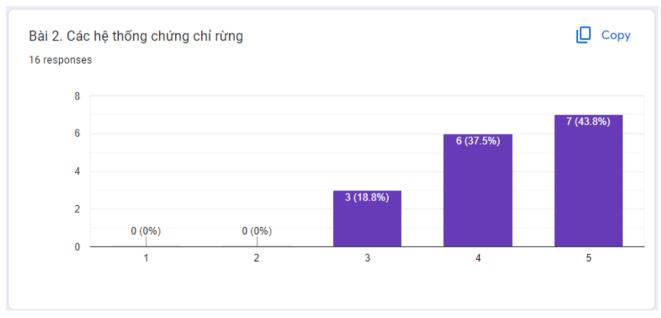


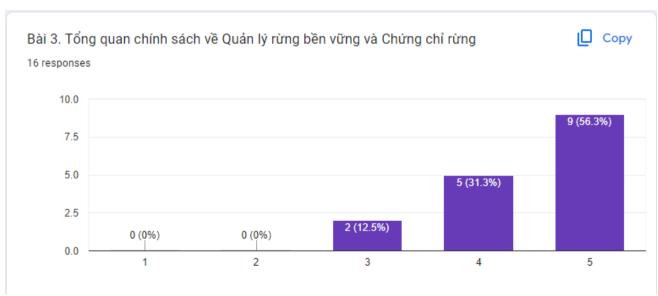


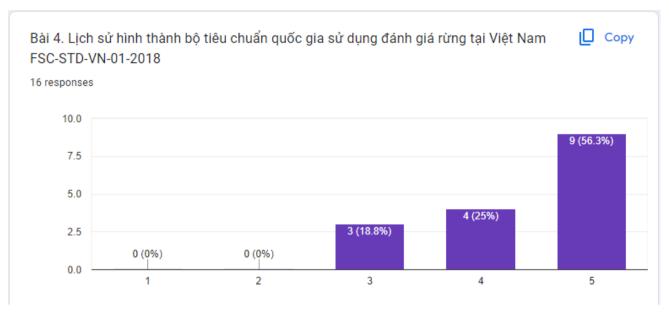


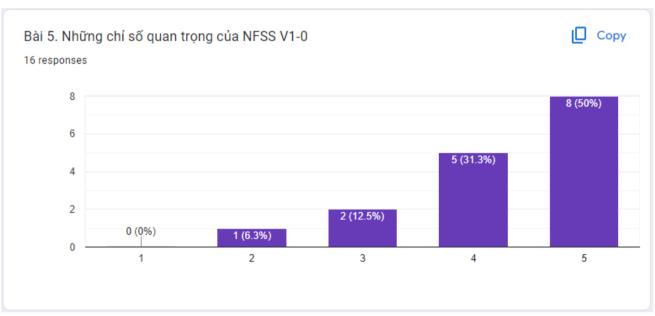
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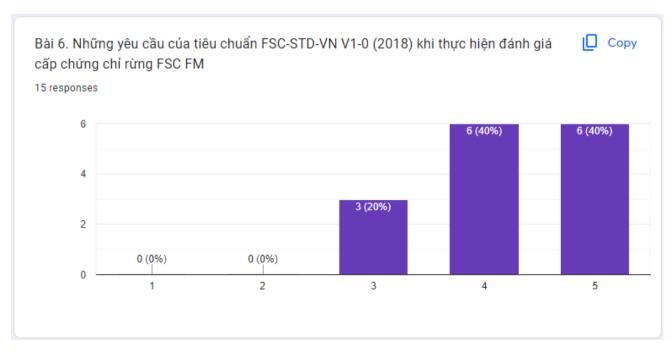




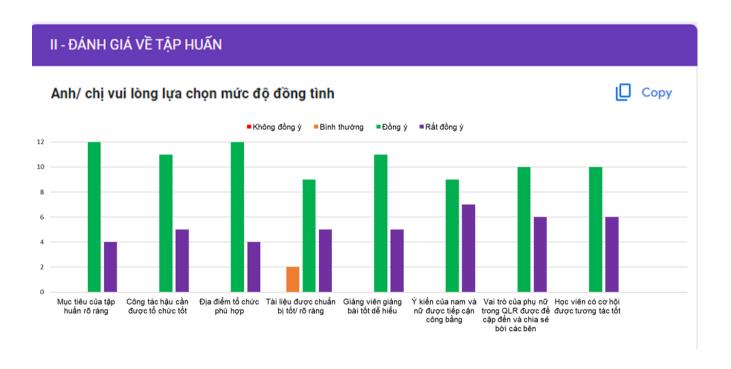












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Project "Upscaling of Sustainable Forest Management and Certification"

