Lok Vaniki Kisan Samiti is a unique society of 50 members located in Dewas district, Madhya Pradesh state in India. Founded in 2001, the society’s main objective is to innovate new ways of sustainable links between environmental preservation, poverty alleviation and economic growth for the local communities of Dewas district. To meet this objective, Lok Vaniki Kisan Samiti acquired a FSC certificate in the fall of 2013, and are currently managing 175 hectares of certified forest.

FSC certification – a successful step

FSC certification brought an exceptional opportunity to Vaniki Kisan Samiti society. With certification, the society was able to meet the strict forest management plan requirements of the Madhya Pradesh Lok Vaniki Adhiniyam Act of 2001 and they now harvest teak and other timber species from their private forests (forests owned by individuals with full tenure rights). Harvesting of Teak is a successful step that has not been possible for decades under the Indian forest management laws.

Exploring business opportunities

Lok Vaniki Kisan Samiti is the only certified group in India that sells certified teak (Tectona grandis) logs since the beginning of 2014 and their main buyer is the state government of Madhya Pradesh. At the moment, the society is limited to selling their certified teak logs only to the domestic market because Indian law does not permit export of round logs of teak without any further processing into other products.
To overcome this barrier, Lok Vaniki Kisan Samiti looks forward to establishing a joint venture with an interested foreign corporation that can set up a processing unit within the Lok Vaniki Kisan Samiti’s area of operation. Also, the society plans to intensify inclusion of other timber species in their supply such as Terminalia tomentosa, Dalbergia sissoo and the giant bamboo (Dendrocalamus strictus) which are desired by the furniture industry.

Plans for the future

Lok Vaniki Kisan Samiti plans to use the Small and Community Label Option (SCLo) and to explore the possibilities for cooperation with international companies who can help to add value and create a market for their certified teak and other timber species.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FACTS

Certificate Holder
Lok Vaniki Kisan Samiti

Certificate details
SCS-FM/COC-004729

Size of certified area
175 hectares

Species
Tectona grandis, Terminalia tomentosa, Dalbergia sissoo, Dendrocalamus strictus

Products
Logs (Tectona grandis)

Volumes obtained and sold so far in 2014
Approximately 200 cubic meters