

## Appendix 8: Procedure in Species Selection for Poverty Reduction

To meet the requirement of farmers, the following procedures to select tree species for planting are suggested:

- identification of community needs;
- evaluation of the species currently used;
- ranking of the primary uses (products and services) provided by the species;
- identification of a limited number of priority species;
- valuation and ranking of tentative priority species.
- selection of priority species for planting.

### *Select high-value species*

There is a tendency now to promote high-value species in order to increase farmer income.

- Most farmers do not (yet) apply fertilizer, insecticide or herbicide. A lot of added value thus has to come from the tree itself.
- Markets for 'natural' products are increasing.
- Even without markets high-value, and especially 'multi-purpose tree species' can be beneficial.
- A word of caution: ... one needs to be realistic with farmers.

There are different methods to obtain high-value trees and their products:

- Add value to existing trees and tree derived products (quality improvement by pruning and thinning, on- farm processing, replacement of poor performance trees)
- Gradually replace low value trees with high value tree species
- Diversify tree species on farms to reduce risks.