



Hi, Kwinoro. I'm Sky!

Welcome! I'm glad you could come to see the **FORESTS of MONORO**

Papa says that you learned how to use your forest well. I want to see.

Well, Sky, my people live in the high mountains. They have always depended on forests.

We get honey from forest bees. We collect plants, which cure diseases. We find fruits and vegetables too.

Village craftsmen get wood from the trees.

Most importantly, our leaders wear the wonderful feathers of the Lupi Lupi bird. The feathers give them power!



Several years ago people interested in conservation decided that they had to protect the Lupi Lupi birds and the forest.

A plan was made to protect the forest but the plan did not include my people! A boundary was created to keep us out!

We needed a plan that permitted us to use the forest.



We continued to enter the forest. But we didn't have a plan.

This isn't good!

It's even worse.



I don't want to be a hat.

MONORO NATIONAL PARK  
No Entry  
Animals and Plants Only



Soon we realised that we would be happier and healthier if we planned together.

Planning began slowly at first. It took a long time.

We all needed things from the forest.

We all wanted the forest to be healthy and productive.

So we had to work together.

It took us a long time to trust each other.



We helped to make new rules for the forest. Together, we decided on boundaries and ways to use and protect trees.

We can continue to collect honey and plants but we must do less farming in the forest.



We tested the new laws, and experts helped find ways to use the forest better.

But things then happened which were not in the plan. The plan had to change.

Then the Government began making money by permitting the forest to be cut for timber!

This meant we needed less forestland for farming. More trees could grow.

People from the city began collecting bark. They took too much and we began to die!

It was terrible!



We met again to solve the problem. We agreed on new rules and new forest boundaries. We permitted logging only in certain areas and protected the forest from outsiders.



Our plan included careful logging of the forest. The money we received was used to build this new hospital.



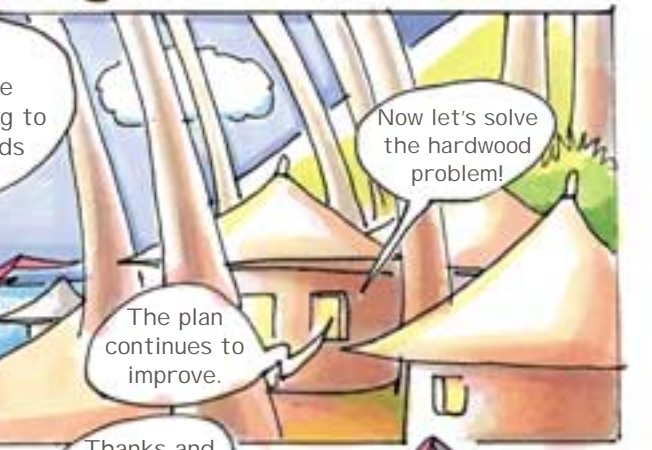
Carvers throughout the forest soon complained that the rules were too strict. They couldn't get enough hardwood!



Five years have passed and we have faced many challenges. Our community is taking more responsibility for the forest in exchange for the right to use it.



Not everyone remains happy with the plan all the time. But, we continue talking to one another about our needs and concerns.



Now let's solve the hardwood problem! The plan continues to improve.



Planning has taken a long time. But the forest remains healthy and the people are happy. We all have a part in caring for the forest. We are all responsible for its management. We depend on one another and we learn from one another.



Thanks and good-bye! Thanks, Kwinoro. I've learned a lot. Good luck! Now that you know how to use your forest wisely, it is time to get started! Good luck!