

Proceedings of an International Conference

3–7 September 2007, Bangkok



# Poverty Reduction and Forests

Tenure, Market, and Policy Reforms

Edited by Bob Fisher, Cor Veer, and Sango Mahanty





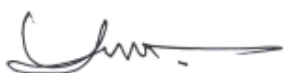
# Foreword

A great deal of discussion in recent years has focused on the role of conservation, and more specifically, sustainable forest management, in contributing to poverty reduction. A number of conferences and workshops have picked up on this theme including the International Conference on Poverty Reduction and Forests: Tenure, Market and Policy Reforms.

The importance of policies that support rights to forest resources and reforms to markets has been recognized as essential to enabling more effective contributions from forests to poverty reduction. Recognition of the need for such policy reforms led to the establishment of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), a coalition of organizations working together to encourage greater global action on forest policy and market reforms, with the aim of increasing household and community ownership, control, and benefits from forests.

RECOFTC and other RRI partners proposed this Conference because we recognize the need for exploring real experiences in connecting forest policy reforms and poverty reduction, both by giving positive examples and examining the constraints. The Conference provided a valuable opportunity to share the experiences from practitioners throughout the world, with cases from Asia and the Pacific, Africa, and Latin America. These proceedings contain selected papers from the Conference and convey much of the richness of the discussions in Bangkok.

On behalf of RECOFTC and the RRI partners, we would like to congratulate the authors on their thoughtful contributions. We are sure that these proceedings will contribute to further discussion, policy reform, and other necessary action to ensure sustainable forest management reaches its potential to contribute to poverty reduction.



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*Executive Director of RECOFTC  
and Chair of the Conference Program Committee*



Andy White  
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# Acknowledgements

The success of the Conference was due to the considerable and collaborative efforts of many organizations and individuals. RECOFTC and RRI would like to express sincere gratitude to those involved and apologize in advance if any acknowledgements have been omitted.

We particularly wish to acknowledge the financial support from the Ford Foundation, the Department for International Development (DFID), the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV), and RECOFTC's three core donors—the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Without their support the Conference would not have been possible.

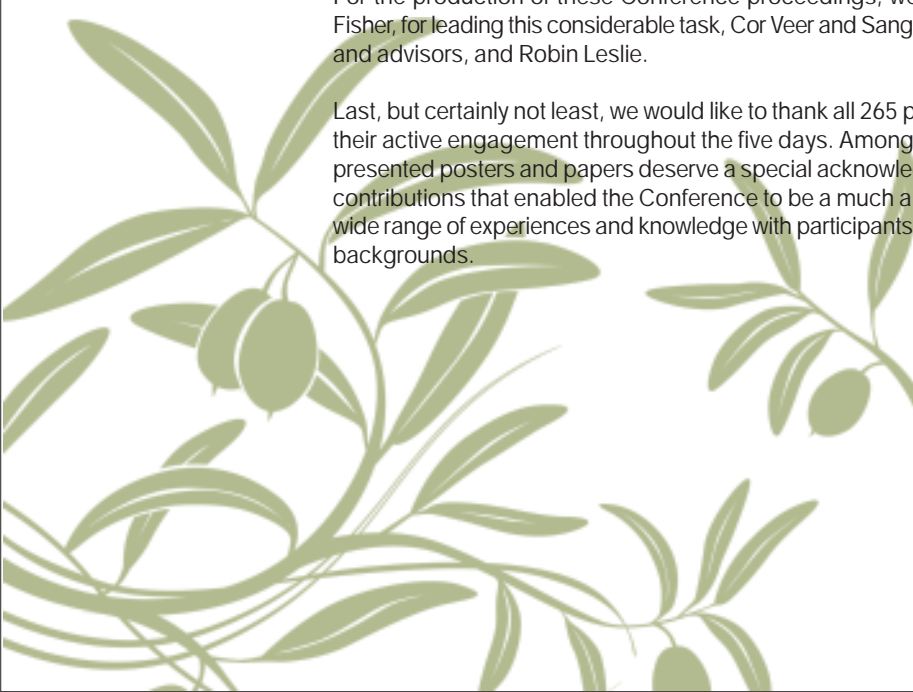
For Conference planning and organization, we acknowledge valuable inputs from the Asia Forest Network (AFN); the Food and Agriculture Organization's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO-RAP); the World Bank, Bangkok; IDRC; JICA; the Embassy of Finland, Bangkok; and the Ford Foundation, Indonesia.

Sincere gratitude goes to Arvind Khare, Chip Fay, Henry Purnomo, Hein Mallee, Helena Ahola, Peter Jipp, Hiroto Mitsugi, Patrick Durst, Peter Walpole, Stewart Maginnis, and Ujjwal Pradhan, who as members of the Program Committee contributed valuable guidance throughout the planning process.

Substantial work was undertaken by members of the Conference Secretariat that included Pimpakarn Serithammarak, Tina Sanio, Cor Veer, Bob Fisher, and Chun Lai—many thanks to you all. Also, for the contributions from session facilitators; panel members; and all RECOFTC staff, particularly Noelle O'Brien, Mark Sandiford, Peter Stephen, John Guernier, Somying Soontornwong, Sanjiv Ray, Petcharat Na Chiangmai, and Ronnakorn Tiraganon.

For the production of these Conference proceedings, we would like to acknowledge Bob Fisher, for leading this considerable task, Cor Veer and Sango Mahanty who acted as reviewers and advisors, and Robin Leslie.

Last, but certainly not least, we would like to thank all 265 participants (from 38 countries) for their active engagement throughout the five days. Among them, the numerous people who presented posters and papers deserve a special acknowledgement. It was the quality of their contributions that enabled the Conference to be a much appreciated opportunity to share a wide range of experiences and knowledge with participants from many different countries and backgrounds.







# Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACICAFOC	Asociación Coordinadora Indígena y Campesina de Agroforestería Comunitaria Centroamericana
AFN	Asia Forest Network
APFC	Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission
ASFN	ASEAN Social Forestry Network
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CBO	Community-based organization
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
DFID	Department for International Development
FAO-RAP	Food and Agriculture Organization's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forestry User Groups in Nepal
HuMA	Association for Community and Ecologically-based Law Reform
IASC	International Association for the Study of the Commons
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
INTERCOOPERATION	Swiss Foundation for Development and International Cooperation
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
PES	Payments for environmental services
REDD	Reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
RRI	Rights and Resources Initiative
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNV	Netherlands Development Organisation



# Introduction

The International Conference on Poverty Reduction and Forests resulted from recognition that the potential of forests to contribute to poverty reduction is at present only partially realized. There is also growing recognition that this will continue to be the case unless critical issues are addressed such as the need for greater tenure security, market reform, and other supportive changes in policy to improve access to resources and markets by the poor.

The Conference, jointly organized by RECOFTC and the RRI,<sup>1</sup> focused on these. It had the following objectives:

- To support discussion on and exchange of the critical factors surrounding forests and poverty and current efforts to reduce poverty through forest management and use
- To strengthen existing, and help build new, strategic networks with key stakeholders to advance tenure, market, and policy reforms in support of poverty reduction
- Based on the evidence and experiences shared at the Conference, to invite participants to craft a common agenda of priorities to strengthen reforms for poverty reduction and forests in Asia. Additionally, to consider arrangements at the national and regional level to support the implementation of the agenda.

These proceedings contain a selection of papers presented at the Conference, along with a reflection on some of the main themes discussed. This introduction provides a background to the Conference and discusses the outcomes, including country presentations.

## Participants

Participants were reached through Conference announcements and calls for papers. In addition, participants were invited as resource persons for selected topics, as representatives from specific stakeholder groups, and/or priority countries of interest. Of the more than 200 abstracts submitted to the secretariat, 60 papers and 79 posters were accepted for presentation.

The Conference was attended by 265 participants, 216 were based in Asia, 26 from Africa, the Pacific, and Latin America and 23 from Europe and North America.

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<sup>1</sup> The members of the Rights and Resources Initiative are: ACICAFOC, CIFOR, FECOFUN, the Forest People's Programme, Forest Trends, the Foundation for People and Community Development, ICRAF, IUCN, Intercooperation, and RECOFTC.

## The Program

The Conference involved an opening session, five thematic sessions, and 24 subsessions. In the opening session, Dr. Yam Malla (Chair of the Program Committee and Executive Director of RECOFTC) welcomed the participants and His Excellency Mr. Paiboon Wattanasiritham, Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Social Development and Human Security. Mr. Paiboon in his keynote address emphasized the importance of addressing poverty based on a proper understanding of the issue. His experience in working on poverty reduction has indicated the need to address not only the income aspects of poverty but also to address its social and political aspects. He also shared his expectation that the long-awaited Community Forestry Bill will soon be ratified in Parliament and thereby will create better conditions for addressing poverty issues through forestry in Thailand.

A panel comprising Dr. Phouang Parisak Pravongviengkham (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao People's Democratic Republic), Prof. Benchapun Ekasingh (Chiang Mai University, Thailand), Ms. Sandra Moniaga (HuMA or Association for Community and Ecologically-based Law Reform, Indonesia), Mr. John Samuel (Action Aid Regional Office, Bangkok) and Mr. Ghan Shyam Pandey (Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal, FECOFUN) set the stage for the Conference discussions. They presented the main opportunities and constraints for forestry to contribute to poverty reduction from their perspectives. They highlighted the need to address policy constraints to recognition of the rights of the poor as well as the need to adopt a cross-sectoral approach to addressing rural poverty.

In four of the five main sessions that followed the Conference opening, key issues were presented and discussed through thematic presentations in the plenary, followed by parallel discussion subsessions, which included poster presentations. The main conclusions from these discussions were then shared in plenary wrap-up meetings. These sessions were essentially about situation analysis—reviewing what we know, looking at definitions, reflecting on experiences, and (in Session 4) exploring the potential for various actors<sup>2</sup> to contribute to poverty reduction through forestry, including what limits this potential, and how this can be addressed.

Session 5 focused specifically on what can be done in practice and took the form of discussions and presentations by country participants.

The topics that guided Conference presentations and discussions are summarized hereunder:

- Poverty and Forests: Issues and Concepts
- Lessons from Pro-Poor Forestry
- Opportunities and Threats for Pro-Poor Forestry
- Capacity for Pro-Poor Forestry Reforms
- Forestry Reforms for Poverty Reduction—Agenda and Process for Future Action

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<sup>2</sup> Local people, forest departments, international agencies, and so forth.



## Outcomes

In preparation for the final session, participants were requested to discuss emerging issues for forests, forestry and poverty reduction in their country groups. In the final session, action plans were presented by country teams (See CD for these).

For government actors, key areas for action include governance reform and institutional/cultural change within government agencies. In terms of governance reform, there was a commonly felt need to open up policy- and decision-making processes, to feed into the effective design/reform and implementation of policies that support forest use by the poor. Key areas for action included more active support for decentralization processes such as forest land allocation. In addition, there is a need for more effective, open, and transparent land-use planning, fairer taxation systems to enable benefits from forest resources to reach resource users, and a need to reduce the transaction costs of implementing laws and policies that guide the marketing of forest products.

In terms of institutional change, common issues flagged by country teams included the need for better linkage between the forest sector and other sectors so that forest-related programs and policies intersect poverty reduction and rural development strategies. Attitudinal change within government together with “bureaucratic reengineering” to enable more flexible processes based on multistakeholder participation were seen as central to the development of more inclusive, democratic, transparent, and accountable governance systems and processes. The Nepali team pointed out that policy-makers needed to see poverty as a rights-related issue rather than a technical issue.

Civil society organizations were perceived to play two crucial roles. Firstly, they could support capacity development amongst themselves and for the stakeholders with whom they work to foster democratic approaches and processes, and build the number and quality of facilitators involved in community-based resource management. An important aspect of this was the facilitation of learning networks and platforms, for example the community forestry networks in Thailand and FECOFUN in Nepal. Secondly, civil society was seen to play a crucial role in advocating for the rights of communities, particularly women and marginalized groups, at the community level and to maintain a critical engagement in policy processes so that community perspectives could be channelled and heard in policy discourses.

Local people and community-based organizations (CBOs) were considered important actors in addressing poverty in forested landscapes. They need to take an active role in building awareness of their rights and organizing to claim them. Local governance systems, for example in user groups, need to be democratized to include the poorest. Additionally, support and exchange through alliances, networks, and federations were viewed as important vehicles for gaining voice in policy processes as well as capacity building.

Although private sector participation in the Conference was limited, the important supportive role that the private sector could play in poverty reduction was commented upon several times. There was a plea by many of the country teams for private sector actors to focus on social and environmental responsibility alongside profits. Specific actions could include: providing market linkages for communities, developing private sector-community partnerships, investing in community-managed enterprises, and strengthening entrepreneurship amongst the poor.

Finally, international organizations need to play an ongoing role in developing the capacity of various national stakeholders. Country teams felt that international agencies were well placed to support the structural changes needed to reduce poverty with appropriate knowledge, innovative financing models, technology development, and policy research. However, they also need to consider the long-term support models required, as the task calls for longer engagement than the typical three- to five-year project model. Plenary discussions highlighted that regional forums are extremely useful to exchange learning and experience, and that organizations such as RECOFTC should continue to provide such opportunities for exchange.



## Reflection on the Conference<sup>3</sup>

The reflections are based on the complex discourse that took place during the Conference. It is necessarily a simplification of the many rich discussions from the plenary sessions and sub-sessions, many of which included small group discussions. They aim to capture major issues and areas of convergence, to draw out some underlying issues and themes, rather than attempt to address every area of discussion.

Please note that the Proceedings draw on selected papers presented at the Conference. Where the following text refers to presentations not included in the proceedings, this is indicated. Papers included in the Proceedings are numbered in text and listed in the final section.

## Themes Emerging at the Conference

The causes of poverty<sup>4</sup> and the factors that connect poverty and forestry are complex and depend on context. Solutions to poverty are often dependent on intervening factors such as politics and power, institutional arrangements, governance and rights, rather than forestry per se.

In the first presentation, Mary Hobley (1) asked whether forestry has a role in poverty reduction, with the answers, “yes” and “no”, or perhaps more precisely, “yes sometimes” and “no, often”. Perhaps a fuller answer emerging from working group discussions was “it depends on context.” Although the evidence on the spatial overlap between forests and poverty is strong, the causal linkages between forests<sup>5</sup> and poverty reduction are complex and less easy to untangle.

A suggestion in one summary presentation<sup>6</sup> was to think in terms of a “black box” connecting poverty and forests. If we imagine a diagram with an arrow between forests (as a cause) and poverty or poverty reduction (as a result), there is a box between the two. It is a black box because we tend to ignore what is inside. Inside the box there is a range of factors such as institutions, tenure, power<sup>7</sup> relationships, market systems, and sometimes improved silvicultural practices. If we change these factors, then the outcomes can be different. Depending on what goes on inside the black box, forest management practices could lead to poverty reduction or increased poverty. For example, changing property rights, or reducing market regulations could mean that the poor are able to capitalize on resources.

3 The reflections were drafted by Bob Fisher, Sango Mahanty, and Cor Veer.

4 Poverty is often defined by measurements such as income per day. However, it is increasingly understood as having multiple dimensions. The World Bank (2001) identifies three dimensions of poverty: lack of assets, vulnerability, and powerlessness. This paper uses this definition, reflecting, we believe, the broad understanding at the Conference.

5 Although definitions of forest were not explicit at the Conference, it is clear that differing views of what constitutes forest may have different implications to the potential of forests to contribute to poverty reduction. Of particular importance is whether tree stands in agricultural systems are counted as forests. FAO (2006) defines forests as “Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 metres and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent”, which effectively excludes tree stands in agricultural production systems. They can be further differentiated as *frontier forests* at the diffuse edge of agriculture and *forests beyond the agricultural frontier*, and areas of *forest-agriculture mosaic* (Chomitz et al. 2007).

6 Much of the following section is based on the presentation “Keeping Track” by Bob Fisher in Session 3.1.

7 We understand power as “the capacity to have a meaningful (effective) input into making and implementing decisions about how forests are used and managed” (Fisher 2003: 20).

By implication, it is a complex interplay of factors that mediates the relationship between forests and poverty, and it is therefore most useful to focus on this “black box” of critical factors that interact to define the relationship between rural communities, forests, and poverty in a given context.

In many ways changing what happens in the “black box” captures the focus of the Conference on tenure, market, and policy reforms.

It was pointed out several times that income generation, in itself, is not the same as poverty reduction. We know we can have economic growth and we know we can have communities making money, but neither ensure that benefits reach the poor. There is ample evidence that income generated at a community level is not necessarily shared equitably, a point that is often forgotten in discussions on poverty reduction in a forestry context. Effective targeting mechanisms are required to make this happen. In many cases, some form of positive discrimination is required for the poor to benefit at all.

Another related issue emerged from the sub-session on payments for environmental services (PES), in which it was observed that there is also nothing intrinsically pro-poor about PES. Quite apart from the overall viability of PES schemes (still open to question), the transfer of funds in PES would not necessarily reach the poor, or could even make them worse off. To achieve this, schemes would need to be designed with inclusion and distribution of benefits to the poor in mind to have an impact on poverty reduction. Again, it would be necessary to change what happens in the “black box”-in other words to develop appropriate institutional arrangements.

The notion of targeting the poor emerged during the Conference as a very important aspect of designing forest-related programs aiming to achieve an impact on poverty reduction.

**The heterogeneity of communities and other stakeholders needs to be understood and addressed in poverty-reduction initiatives.**

A key theme was the issue of homogeneity versus diversity at the community level. This issue was also raised at the outset in the speech by the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, Mr. Paiboon Wattanasiritham. Mary Hobley (1) argued that we need to deconstruct poverty and the different forms it takes for different groups within rural communities, rather than talk about poverty as if it is one thing. Related to this is the point that communities are not homogenous and that without factoring this into the design of poverty-reduction activities, benefits are often captured by elites. Others reminded Conference participants that this does not necessarily imply that all elites in a community are anti-poor. Basundhara Bhattarai (25) explored the experiences of a community forestry user group in Nepal, which show that elites can be motivated to work in the interests of the poor.

Staff from forest departments and other agencies are not homogenous either. While a forest department may have an official policy position, in practice different people within that department implement the policy in different ways, or sometimes attempt to modify it in the field, or even ignore it. It is much more complex than just being a case of having communities on one side and forest departments on another. It is important to think about different actors, their interests, and what capabilities and power they have.

The main point made was that it is necessary to understand why particular people are poor in order to know how to address their poverty. Are they short of assets? Are they short of power? Do they need increased capacity? Often it will be a combination of such

factors. The actions taken could then target the specific and most pressing factors that need to be addressed to improve the opportunities of a particular group of people.

Tenure and resource rights are important, but political rights, individual capacities, and other governance constraints also need to be addressed if people are to benefit from stronger resource rights.

Tenure was a dominant theme throughout the Conference. There was a question about whether the reform of tenure and resource rights actually results in poverty reduction. This was another case of the answer being more complex —“it depends” rather than simply “yes” or “no.” There was considerable agreement that tenure does not reduce poverty by itself—it is a necessary but not sufficient condition. Apart from tenure, people need such things as capital (in order to invest), capacity development, or, often, political power in order to reduce poverty.

In his presentation, Don Gilmour (7) pointed out that there is a difference between community forestry and pro-poor forestry. He indicated that people first talked about community forestry as a way to contribute to livelihoods and improve forest management—no explicit link to poverty reduction was mentioned. The explicit emphasis on poverty reduction in community forestry is relatively recent and not yet universal. The implication is that poverty reduction is not an automatic outcome of community control. Again, it depends on legal and policy frameworks (including tenure) and factors such as community governance processes. Community control must be shaped to positively target the poor, and ways to achieve this need to be found.

An important issue related to tenure was the question of existing uses and rights. As Madhu Sarin pointed out in her presentation (Subsession 2.1: Forest Rights, Tenure and Land Classification—a New Law in India), governments often pass laws that simply override, ignore, or replace existing forest use patterns, moral rights and customary rights. Existing rights to an area may be complex and overlapping and therefore need to be addressed in the process of clarifying resource rights. William Sunderlin (Subsession 1.2: Why Forests Are Important for Global Poverty Alleviation: a Spatial Explanation) highlighted that the meaning of tenure differs in country contexts, and that it is important to clarify what we mean by tenure and rights.

Another theme that underpinned much of the discussion is the idea that rights are not just about resource tenure. There is a much more important notion of human rights and justice. As argued by Marcus Colchester (2), discussions on resource rights need to also consider the political and human rights of communities. Indeed this idea that resource rights, political rights, and human rights are closely intertwined was something of an emerging theme of the Conference.

### Income generation, transaction costs, and financial constraints.

The paper by Regan Suzuki, Patrick Durst, and Thomas Enters (15) about small-scale harvesting and processing, presented findings from a recent conference on benefiting the poor through forest harvesting and processing (Oberndorf et al. 2007). The paper suggested institutional factors pose a key constraint for community-level small-scale harvesting. Policy and regulatory requirements for harvesting and transporting forest products, for example, can be too onerous for small-scale harvesters to comply with and have high transaction costs.

There was considerable discussion about the transaction costs involved when communities attempt to reap the benefits from forest products. Very often community members, especially the poor, are hampered when they try to follow onerous administrative or legal requirements. For example, detailed management plans are costly and complicated to prepare; sometimes

people need multiple permits to begin or continue forest harvesting and marketing activities. One pertinent example was from Paul Ongugo (8) who pointed out that the Kenya Forest Department insists that communities prepare detailed management plans for forests, when the Forest Department has never yet produced a single management plan itself. Juan Pulhin (Session 2, Plenary: Institutional Constraints for CBFM in the Philippines) provided another example from the Philippines where detailed management plans were required from small-scale producers that had the same level of complexity and detail as the plans produced by large-scale producers.

The general point is that forest departments and other agencies often demand higher standards of accountability and planning from communities and individuals than they are capable of or willing to meet themselves.

The question that arises here is whether this constraint is just about poor practice on the part of the authorities (demanding unrealistic and unnecessary standards) or whether the standards are kept unnecessarily high so as to maintain control over the resources and communities. An implication of this point, and much of what was discussed at the Conference, is that there is a need to target issues of power and control over forest resources much more directly if forests are really to be used in the battle against poverty.

Linkages between various actors, including communities and the private sector also need to be facilitated to overcome issues such as financial constraints. At times, capacity constraints, for example in knowledge and skills about manufacturing processes or business skills, can also be significant. However, it is important to be careful in assuming somehow that a lack of capability within the community is the key constraint. Regarding community capacities in timber harvesting, we need to ask ourselves whether this means much if people do not have access to timber harvesting in the first place. This again takes the spotlight back to wider issues of power and governance.

### Pro-poor policies are needed that can be implemented and operationalized in practice.

There were many interesting ideas about for policy development. One key cross-cutting point was that for policy to contribute to pro-poor forestry, it needs to be implementable. It needs to be practical and also needs to be operationalized by the government. Having good policies that either cannot be implemented due to impracticalities or that just have not been implemented because of inaction by key actors is no better than having poor policies. Policy reform therefore needs to look beyond formulating good policy to its implementation in the wider governance context.

To implement policy, institutional change is often needed. In probably every country that has tried community forestry, experience shows that to implement policies for community forest management, institutional changes are needed involving the cultures, structures, and processes of government agencies.

While this process of change is often expressed in terms of “capacity development” and “institutional strengthening,” an alternative view was expressed that sometimes what is really needed is “institutional weakening” (Bob Fisher, Plenary 3.1, Keeping Track). The required change is that government institutions become less controlling and more participatory. Changing the way forest departments and other agencies do business is important, but this is not necessarily about making them stronger in the usual sense of the word.



## What does reform mean?

There was an interesting tension at the Conference about an underlying difference in the way people understand policy reform. These differences were implicit rather than explicit.

One way of looking at policy reform is that it is about getting the mixture of policies correct. In this light we do not quite know what the best policies are, but we keep reforming them on the assumption that there is a technically correct answer. For example, if we can identify the set of conditions under which forests contribute to poverty reduction, we can implement the appropriate policies. Another way of looking at policy is to recognize that forests are contested resources and people want to use them for different purposes. Decisions about policy reform do not necessarily revolve around what policy is best for a particular purpose, but about competition between people who want forests used for different purposes. Policy reform is not just a technical process for achieving the “right” policy so much as an outcome of interacting and competing agendas. An implication is that there is a need to open up policy processes to enable interests to be debated in a more transparent manner.

## Closing Remarks

In conclusion it is useful to refer to some of the points made by Andy White in his closing remarks to the Conference:

- During the Conference a key theme was that the terms and concepts of 20 years ago are outdated and provide obstacles to addressing today's challenges. This theme began on the first day with Mary Hobley's presentation that stressed the need to question more deeply what we are saying and doing. It was also evident during country presentations and comments. We have learned much but some of our terms have not caught up with new ways of thinking. One key learning point has been that the focus on communities and forestry does not serve us. This is not arguing that we forget communities, but reminding us that we need to keep larger forces in mind such as concessions and other actors.
- It is clear that all stakeholders need to play a role in addressing poverty reduction, but this also requires that the playing field is levelled. This should be the purpose of forestry reforms discussed in this Conference and should be our goal for the future.



## References

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**Oberndorf, R., Durst, P., Mahanty, S., Burslem, K. & Suzuki, R., eds.** 2007. *A Cut for the Poor. Proceedings of the International Conference on Managing Forests for Poverty Reduction: Capturing Opportunities in Forest Harvesting and Wood Processing for the Benefit of the Poor*. Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, 3-6 October 2006. Bangkok, FAO, RECOFTC, and SNV.

**World Bank.** 2001. *World Development Report 2000/2001: Attacking Poverty*. Washington DC, The World Bank.



# Selected Papers

The following papers are on the accompanying CD.

## Session 1: Poverty and Forests: Issues and Concepts

- Paper 1: Does Forestry Have a Role in Poverty Reduction?  
*Mary Hopley*
- Paper 2: Beyond Tenure: Rights-based Approaches to People and Forests. Some Lessons from the Forest People's Programme  
*Marcus Colchester*
- Paper 3: Human Rights and the Global Forest Regime: Does the UNFF 'non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests' Provide Support for Pro-Poor Forestry?  
*Sheelagh O'Reilly*
- Paper 4: Surfing on Waves of Opportunities: Resilient Livelihood Strategies of Dayak Benuaq Forest Users in East Kalimantan, Indonesia  
*Christian Gönner*
- Paper 5: Supporting Forest Communities in Times of Tenure Uncertainty: Participatory Mapping Experiences from Bolivia and Indonesia  
*Peter Cronkleton, Christian Gönner, Kristen Evans, Michaela Haug, Wil de Jong, and Marco Antonio Albornoz*
- Paper 6: Patrimonial Perceptions of Local Communities and Forest Management: Case of the Monogaga Protected Forest, Côte d'Ivoire  
*C. Y. Adou Yao, E. Ake-Assi, J. Ipou Ipou and E. N'Guessan Kouakou*

## Session 2: Lessons from Pro-Poor Forestry

- Paper 7: Regulatory Frameworks for Community Forestry, With Particular Reference to Asia  
*Don Gilmour*
- Paper 8: Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Kenya: Is There Anything for the Poor?  
*Paul Ongugo*
- Paper 9: Community-based Forestry and the Changes in Tenure and Access Rights in the Mayan Biosphere Reserve, Guatemala  
*Iliana Monterroso and Deborah Barry*
- Paper 10: Forest Tenure in Africa and South and Southeast Asia: Implications for Sustainable Forest Management and Poverty Alleviation  
*Dominique Reeb and Francesca Romano*
- Paper 11: Forest Tenure Reform in Viet Nam: Experiences from Northern Uplands and Central Highlands Regions  
*Nguyen Quang Tan, Nguyen Ba Ngai, and Tran Ngoc Thanh*
- Paper 12: Rural Household Diversity and the Implications for Small-scale Forestry Development in Leyte Province, the Philippines  
*Nick Emtage, John Herbohn, and Steve Harrison*
- Paper 13: Community Forestry in Bhutan Contributes to Poverty Reduction While Maintaining the Sustainability of the Resources  
*K.J. Tempfel and Hans J.J. Beukeboom*

- Paper 14: Pro-poor Development Policy and Natural Resource Management in PostConflict Afghanistan: Changes and Challenges  
*Mohammad Hossein Emadi*

### Session 3: Opportunities and Threats for Pro-Poor Forestry

- Paper 15: Poverty Reduction in the Forestry Sector: Timber Harvesting and Wood Processing—the Answer to Rural Poverty?  
*Regan Suzuki, Patrick B. Durst, and Thomas Enters*
- Paper 16: A Note on Forest Land Concessions, Social Conflicts, and Poverty in the Mekong Region  
*Keith Barney*
- Paper 17: Why Hasn't Participatory Forest Management Helped the Forest-dependent Poor out of Their Poverty? Evidence from Eastern India.  
*Oliver Springate-Baginski, Ajit Banerjee, and Kailas Sarap*
- Paper 18: PESA, the Forest Rights Act, and Tribal Rights in India  
*Sanjoy Patnaik*
- Paper 19: Watching the Tree Grow: Participatory Forest Management Takes Root in Africa  
*T. Tsegaye, A. Arsema, and B.C. Irwin*
- Paper 20: Lao Land Concessions, Development for the People?  
*Cor. H. Hanssen*
- Paper 21: Incorporating Certification into a Pro-poor Forestry Agenda: Lessons From, and Options for, the Asia-Pacific Region  
*Henry Scheyvens, Kazuhiro Harada, and Kimihiko Hyakumura*
- Paper 22: Creating Space: The Effects of an Adaptive Collaborative Management (ACM) Approach on Leveraging Poor People's Access, Rights and Benefits from Community-Based Forest Enterprises in the Eastern Hills of Nepal  
*Bishnu Hari Pandit, Cynthia McDougall, Brian Belcher, Chetan Kumar, and Manik Maharjan*
- Paper 23: Can Market be Part of the Decentralization Process? A Review of Nepal's Buffer Zone Programme  
*N.S. Paudel*

### Session 4: Capacity for Pro-Poor Forestry Reforms

- Paper 24: The PROFOR Poverty-Forests Linkages Toolkit  
*Gill Shepherd and Jill Blockhus*
- Paper 25: What Makes Local Elites Work for the Poor? A Case of a Community Forestry User Group in Nepal  
*Basundhara Bhattarai*
- Paper 26: Federation of Community Forest User Groups in Nepal: An Innovation in Democratic Forest Governance  
*Hemant Ojha, Dil Raj Khanal, Naya Sharma, Hari Sharma, and Bharati Pathak*
- Paper 27: Discourses on Poverty Reduction from Forestry in Nepal: A Shift from Community to Household Approach?  
*Sindhu Prasad Dhungana, Bharat Kumar Pokharel, Basundhara Bhattarai, and Hemant Ojha*
- Paper 28: Emerging Roles of Community Forest Associations in Kenya: The Cases of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Adjacent Dwellers Association (ASFADA) and Meru Forest Environmental and Protection Community Association (MEFECAP)  
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The Rights and Resources Initiative is a global coalition to advance forest tenure, policy, and market reforms. RRI is composed of international, regional, and community organizations engaged in conservation, research, and development. The mission of the Rights and Resources Initiative is to promote greater global action on pro-poor forest policy and market reforms to increase household and community ownership, control, and benefits from forests and trees. RRI is coordinated by the Rights and Resources Group, a non-profit organization based in Washington D.C.

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