Current Trends & Prospects for the Future of Chinese IMPFs

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The trends

• Increased Chinese’s government supports toward:
  – Wood based industry development (pulp, paper and solid wood)
  – IMPF development

• Increased efforts from Chinese industry to form partnerships with timber producing countries
Issues

• Economic and ecological footprints

• Impact of Chinese wood-based industry development on forests in other countries

• Conversion of natural forests with high conservation values into IMPF
Issue #1: Economic and Ecological Footprint

- Growth in China economy means more demand for natural resource-based products from other countries:
  - *Economic spill over to other countries through linkage effects*
  - *More ecological footprint*

- Growth of imports of large markets of Europe and North America from China
  - 70% of China’s timber imports is for re-exports
  - *Creates ecological footprint indirectly through China’s industrial sector, hence, don’t blame the Chinese (only)*
Issue #2: Impact of Chinese wood-based industry development on forests in other countries

• *Increased growth in China’s pulp and paper industry + increased partnerships with timber supplying countries*

• *Lack of current and future domestic supply of timber will create more demand for timber from neighboring countries:*
  – Lack of land availability and slow(er) growth of trees
  – Need to check if industrial development is based on overly optimistic supply scenario
  – *Impacted forests: Indonesia, Russia, Australia*
Issue #3: Impact on High Conservation Value Forests

• Pulp industry vs. IMPF development:
  – Is the sustainability action plan credible enough?

• Potential risks: fall back on timber from HCFV (Indonesia, Russia, Australia)