Forestry, Rural Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction: Results from Earlier Dialogues



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The Forests Dialogue

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TFD Priority Issue

- Role of forestry in rural economic development and poverty reduction
- Bring together stakeholders from industry, community, government, NGOs, finance sectors to identify barriers and possibilities
- Dialogues in South Africa, Indonesia, Bolivia and Russia

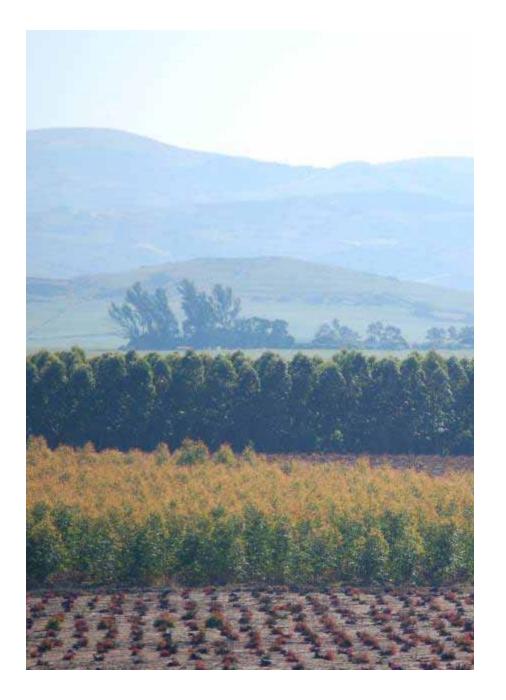




Forestry's Role

- Forestry can play a larger role in sustaining rural communities and improving quality of life
- New models and approaches may be necessary to realize the benefits
- Draw from the experience of forestry firms all over the world that are addressing this issue





South Africa

- Small-grower scheme for pine and eucalyptus production
- •Employing locals in small-medium forestry enterprises
- •Confronting high rates of unemployment, HIV/AIDS, poor infrastructure

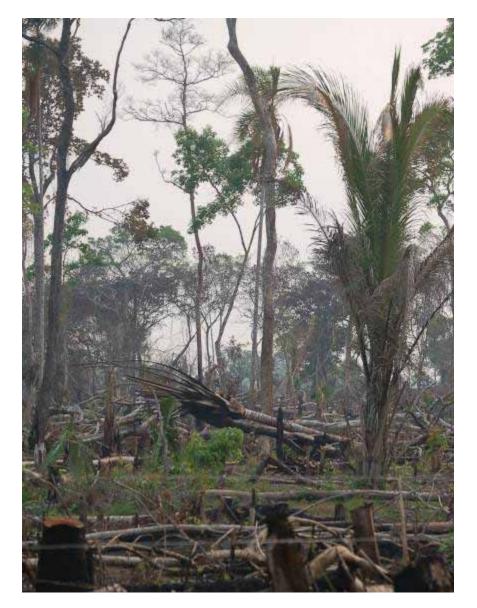




Indonesia

- Small-grower scheme for fiber production
- Heavy reliance on contract labor, not employees
- Tension between locals and migrant laborers
- Companies must provide services and infrastructure not supplied by government

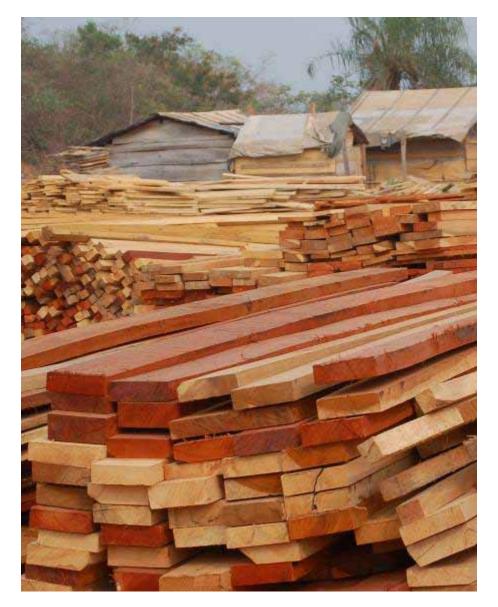




Bolivia

- Developing relationships between forest industry and indigenous communities
- Limited markets, poor infrastructure
- Role of forest certification and international funders
- Government anti-poverty policies sometimes hostile to forest industry





Commercial forestry has real potential to produce wealth

- •Focus has been on non-timber forest products, not timber
- •Must address equity in corporate-community relationship, and in relationship with informal employees





Pro-poor forestry can take many forms

- •Must find balance between profit optimization and equitable benefit sharing
- Authoritative conflictresolution process necessary





Models of propoor forestry

- •Public forests managed for community benefit
- •Small-medium enterprises run by or employing locals
- Large enterprises
 engaged in equitable
 partnerships with local
 communities





Enabling conditions and key drivers

- Policies and institutions
- •Social and labor movements
- Long-term partnerships between sectors





Enabling conditions and key drivers

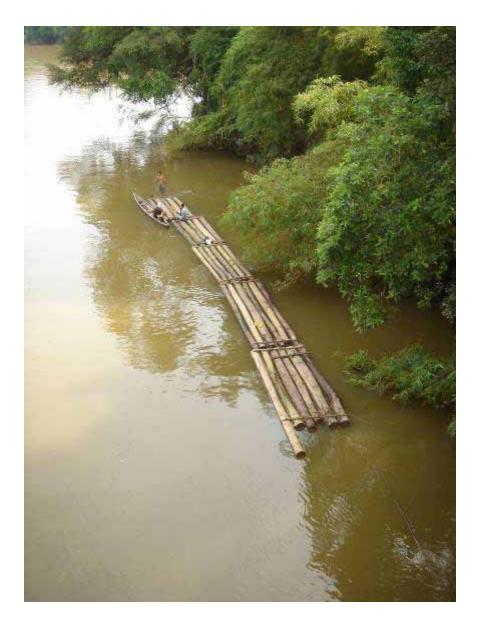
- •Effective leadership and advocacy for social issues
- •Well-developed markets for "ecosystem services"
- •Well-defined standards and indicators of progress, baseline data and monitoring



Barriers

- •Lack of established channels for collaboration
- •Scale excludes small-medium enterprises
- •Finance difficult to procure





Questions and Comments

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- •Peter Gardiner-Mondi
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