



ARE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT CONVERGING IN ASIA?

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*SFM: sustainable use and conservation of forests to maintain & enhance multiple forest values through human interventions. **People are at the center of SFM because it aims to contribute to society's diverse needs in perpetuity***
(FAO 2016)

- Dynamic, evolving concept
- Maintain & enhance **Economic, Social and Environmental values** for present & future generations
- Multidimensional: Economic, social, cultural & environmental

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- Plan of action for people, planet and prosperity
 - **People:** end poverty and hunger, fulfill potential, healthy, dignified lives, equality
 - **Planet:** Sustainable management, responsible consumption & production, urgent action on climate change
 - **Prosperity:** prosperous, fulfilling lives in harmony with nature
- Peace: peaceful, just, inclusive societies, free from violence
- Partnership



Overarching goals

1. End poverty

2. Protect the planet

3. Ensure prosperity

‘Enabling conditions’ for forests to deliver sustainable development through SFM (iied 2014)

1. Social justice within secure forest stewardship arrangements



2. Fair, accessible and responsible market systems



'Enabling conditions' for forests to deliver sustainable development through SFM (iied 2014)

3. Organizational capabilities to manage multi-functional landscapes



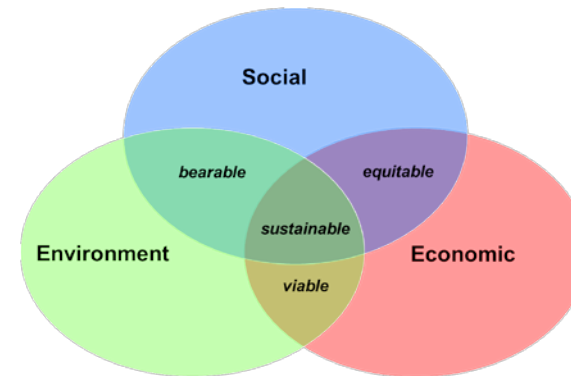
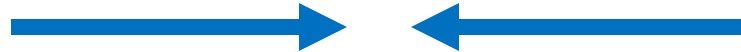
4. Incentives and practical metrics



Conclusion of latest book: **Alignment between policies and policy implementation **favors positive outcomes****

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From an intentionality perspective, clear convergence



But what about in implementation?

Examples of progress – *positive convergence*

- SFM policies in most countries
- Tenure & use rights: Nepal (1.7 M ha – 27% forest area - over 18,133 CFUGs)
Vietnam (3.94 M. ha - 29% forest area - under mgt. local people), China
massive creation of community forest enterprises & forest cooperatives
- Examples of economic and livelihood benefits and protection of forest resources
- Increase in forest area, primarily through industrial plantation and rehabilitation programs in China and India, for example

But, many aspects constrain progress

Industrial forestry & plantations

- Agricultural and tree species
- Source of employment
- Common conflicts with env. & social aspects

Local forest-based development

- Conflicting policies – agriculture & mining, for example
- Lack of tenure - many countries or rights w/out empowerment
- Onerous bureaucratic proc. & high transaction costs
- Inadequate capacities and business concerns, finance

Strict protection

- Environmental services
- Limited econ. benefits to communities
- Often restricts livelihood options

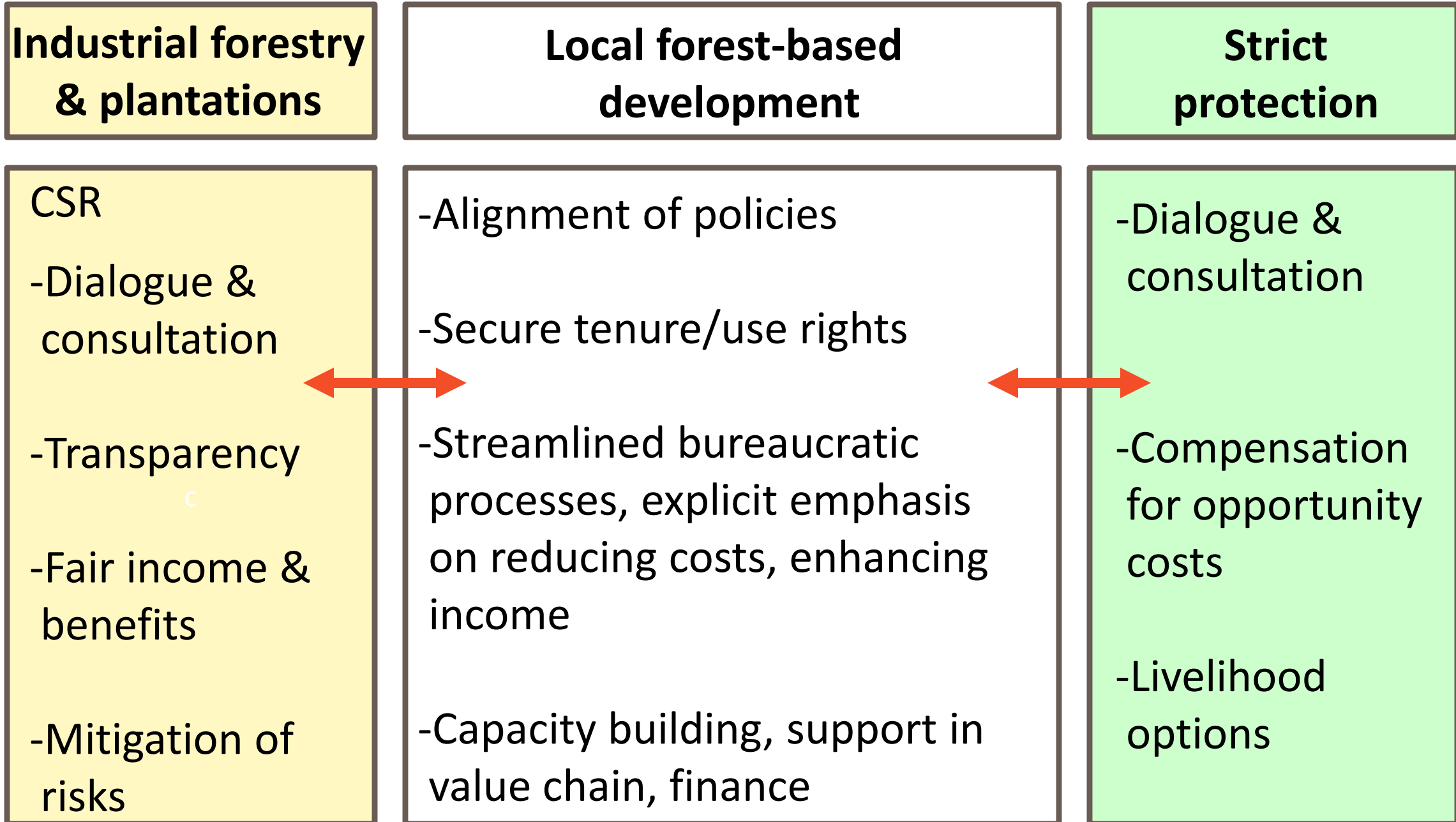
Local, forest-based development

While perhaps best embodying the goals and intentions of SFM and the SDGs, it has been fraught by constraints and unfavorable conditions:

- Exclusion and marginalization of local actors
- Increased costs and loss of income
- Reduced production (arbitrary harvesting limits or lengthy process for securing permits) also impacting income
- Lack of capital and unfavorable market arrangements

Outcomes documented in cases across the Region – favor return to illegality

Examples of measures for SFM



Necessary to address aforementioned constraints to avoid a “negative convergence” between SFM & the SDGs

Trade-offs inherent in the SDGs could also lead to a “negative convergence”

- Pursuit of economic growth, but at the expense of local social, cultural & natural capital
- Imposition of strict protection but w/out PES

*Whether in a positive or negative sense,
the SDGs and SFM will converge*

SFM offers important lessons for the attainment of the SDGs

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development



Conclusions

- The SDGs and SFM will converge in Asia. The question is whether this convergence will follow a “positive” or “negative” path
- Past and ongoing research into SFM offer important lessons for present & future efforts to progress towards the SDGs
- On the other hand, efforts to achieve the SDGs will hopefully increase attention on constraints impacting progress in SFM

Question for reflection/discussion

Taking into account the challenges that have characterized SFM,
what measures would you recommend to implement the more ambitious
Agenda for Sustainable Development, embodied in the SDGs?

Sources

FAO website and associated publications on SFM

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PowerPoints presented in this session by Pia Katila, Wil de Jong, Pablo Pacheco, and Pham Thu Thuy et al.



Thank you



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