

IUFRO World Series Volume 17

Forests in the Global Balance – Changing Paradigms

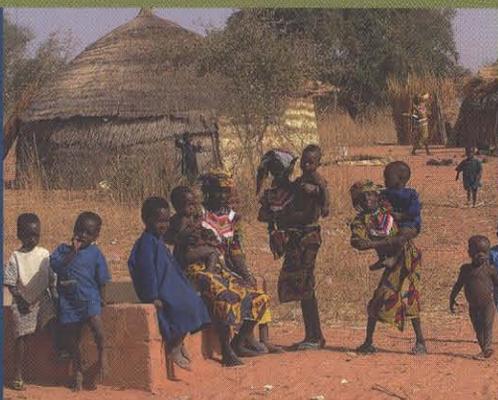
Editors:

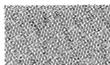
Gerardo Mery

René Alfaro

Markku Kanninen

Maxim Lobovikov





Foreword

The IUFRO Board decided in 2001 to accommodate World Forests, Society and Environment (WFSE) within its structure as a new Special Project. WFSE had already shown its collaborative and scientific capabilities by organizing an extensive global network and publishing three valuable volumes; however, there were some doubts whether the new project would create any net benefit to IUFRO.

After being part of the IUFRO structure for three and half years, the Project has provided a substantial contribution not only to IUFRO but also to the forest sector as a whole and to the forest research community. The Project has maintained, and through the IUFRO structure even intensified its collaborative network and produced several important reports. These publishing activities culminate in this volume.

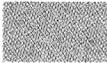
Most valuable is the fact that the Project has not merely produced scientifically valuable material, but has also paid significant attention to the dissemination of its results and the interface between science and policy. The Project has commendably understood that if the scientific community is not able

to communicate its research for the enhancement of the knowledge and expertise of policy and decision makers, the scientific findings will be of little practical value.

The 133 authors of the different articles and chapters have worked hard to produce this volume. It has been a challenging task but it is even more challenging to coordinate the work and edit a book like this. In addition to thanking the authors, I wish to extend my special gratitude to the editors. Gerardo Mery has led both the international editorial team and the WFSE Project. Together with his colleagues at the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla) and the IUFRO Headquarters he has looked after thousands of details that are often invisible, but critical for a creditable outcome. On behalf of IUFRO, I also want to thank the WFSE partner organizations, which have set an excellent example of successful collaboration for other IUFRO members. Finally, I thank the main sponsors of the Project, the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla) and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

Risto Seppälä

President, International Union of Forest Research Organizations



Preface

This book, *Forests in the Global Balance – Changing Paradigms*, is the third publication produced by IUFRO's Special Project on World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO-WFSE). The book will be launched at the XXII IUFRO World Congress that will be held in Brisbane, Australia, 8–13 August 2005.

The World Forests, Society and Environment research project led to three published volumes in the "World Forests" series during 1996–2001, in response to increasing demand for research information related to the world's forest issues. In the current phase of the project, 2002–2005, under the structure of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), we are focussing our analyses on current concerns in forest related issues, approaching them from a broad and global perspective, whilst maintaining an independent and non-governmental point of view.

The present book gives cause for some reflection on the changing paradigms that have become apparent in the field of forestry over the past two decades. The new social values and perceptions have been integrated into a holistic approach for the study of forest related issues, from an intersectoral and wider angle including social, economic, and environmental factors.

The book intends to contribute to international scientific discussions and to reflect on how changing paradigms are resonating in global arenas, specifically concerning new concepts of forest governance, ecological services, planted forests and the contribution of forestry in rural development, and the livelihoods of rural inhabitants and the reduction of their poverty and marginalisation. The maintenance of healthy forest ecosystems and biological diversity has also been an important consideration in the chapters of this publication, as well as the role of several cross cutting issues in enhancing sustainable forest management. The repercussions of these on-going processes on different continents have also been addressed in the section that provides regional analyses. The compilation of all these analyses, presented in 17 chapters and 54 boxes, has been completed with the highest quality, objectivity, and scientific independence.

The contents of this book followed a unique and innovative path valuing the involvement and input of a variety of different contributors. The project was initiated at CIFOR's headquarters in Bogor, Indonesia in May 2002, when members of the Steering Committee identified globally relevant topics to be

addressed by the project. At the next Steering Committee Meeting (SCM), at IUFRO's headquarters in Vienna in October 2002, the nine project partners nominated recognised scientists to lead the research teams engaged in the critical review of each chapter. The nominations of the Convening Lead Authors were ratified and completed in another SCM in Quebec, in September 2003. The outline of each chapter was requested from each research group, which received the first evaluation by the editors.

Three workshops were organised for the Convening Lead Authors and editors to present the proposed contents of their articles, and collectively discuss the guiding research principles and editorial focus of the project. In January 2004, the first project Workshop was organised in Helsinki, co-sponsored by the Finnish Forest Research Institute (METLA). The second Workshop was generously co-sponsored and organised by the United Nations University, Japan. An open, collaborative network of researchers was created, and numerous colleagues from different continents provided valuable contributions to the writing of the articles. The third workshop was generously sponsored by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and held in Victoria, Canada, in January 2005. Once the articles were finalised, they were evaluated by the editors. After a second evaluation by the editors, the chapters were peer-reviewed by anonymous external reviewers. The entire process was formulated to ensure the highest quality of the material.

In August 2005 we will initiate the dissemination of this book to a wide audience of scientists, professionals, policy makers, and the public. IUFRO will play a central role in the distribution of the publication, as will the following partners who will actively cooperate in the distribution of the book to numerous organisations and interested individuals: CATIE, CIFOR, EFI, INBAR, METLA, and NRCan.

In conjunction with this book, the authors of the chapters collaborated in the composition of a policy brief, *Forests for the New Millennium – Making Forests Work for People and Nature*. The policy brief was launched at the 5th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF 5) in May 2005. The publication provides a consensual view of the policies required for forested land to be managed more sustainably for the benefit of both people and nature.

We would like to express our satisfaction as editors of this book for the successful completion of this unique experience. We think that the book will certainly make a contribution by presenting a most

interesting set of research findings emerging from the comprehensive and dedicated work done by 132 authors of this publication. We are indebted to all of them. We also wish to express our gratitude to the

reviewers, prestigious scientists, whose names are listed in the following list, who proficiently contributed to further improving the level of the articles.

Gary Bacon
Bryan Belcher
Edouard Bounkougou
Ronnie de Camino
Ben Chikamai
Dean Current
Allan R. Ek
Klaus von Gadow
Peter Kanowski
Guide Lund

Misa Masuda
Peter Mayer
Anssi Niskanen
Pablo Pacheco
José Rente Nascimento
Olli Saastamoinen
Jobst-Michael Schroeder
Goetz Schroth
Olman Segura
Risto Seppälä

Peggy Smith
Oudara Souvannavong
Dietmar Stoian
Larry Teeter
Eric Teissier du Cros
Victor Teplyakov
Iipo Tikkanen
Ilan Vertinsky
Sen Wang

Acknowledgements

Our gratitude to Pia Katila, doctoral student of Forest Sciences at the University of Helsinki, who devoted a large portion of her time for the copy editing of the chapters; her knowledge and advice on many matters made this volume a success. Samuel Chopo expertly designed the maps and many of the graphs, and assisted in the copy editing. Majella Clarke competently assisted with the administration of the project and Yared Admassu collaborated in work related to the edition. Pirjoritta Lind provided invaluable secretarial services. The English language revision was done by Dr. Kitty Hoffman, to whom we express our appreciation for her excellent work. The design and layout of the book was stylishly prepared by Seppo Oja. We acknowledge the diligent work of all of them.

We wish to sincerely thank the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland for providing the funding that made possible to accomplish many activities of this project, including the publication and distribution of this book and the policy brief. We also express our gratitude to IUFRO for backing our endeavours and providing access to research networks in numerous fields.

We also wish to emphasise our recognition of the support provided by all the partners for their

generous assistance to the project; in particular we want to thank their representatives in the Steering Committee for their guidance in administrating the IUFRO-WFSE project and their constructive advice in conceiving the present book. The project partners constitute a core group of nine institutions that mobilised the participation of the research community in the book-making process by creating a forum for compiling the relevant research findings and produce meaningful analyses. The partners are: Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), Costa Rica; Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Indonesia; Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD-Forêt), France; European Forest Institute (EFI), Finland; International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR), China; Federal Research Centre for Forestry and Forest Products (IWF/BFH), Germany; the Finnish Forest Research Institute (METLA), Finland; Natural Resources Canada/ Ressources naturelles Canada (NRCan/RNCan), Canada; and the United Nations University (UNU), Japan. In addition, the project benefitted from the collaboration of many other international organizations and universities.

Many thanks to all the people and organisations mentioned above that allowed us to successfully complete the edition of this book.

June 2005, editors

Gerardo Mery *René Alfaro*
Markku Kanninen *Maxim Lobovikov*

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