Experience in dune fixation

Fighting sand encroachment – lessons from Mauritania. C.J. Berte. 2010. FAO Forestry Paper No. 158. Rome, FAO. ISBN 978-92-5-106531-0.

One of the main challenges of desertification is encroachment of moving sands, which has devastating environmental and socio-economic impacts. It reduces arable land, grazing land and availability of water resources, threatening agricultural productivity and yields and the food security and standard of living of local populations. Other impacts include large-scale migration of people, infrastructure damage and substantial economic losses. Mauritania, as one of the most severely affected countries in sub-Saharan Africa, has accumulated a great deal of experience in combating sand encroachment over the past several decades. This publication synthesizes the lessons learned, particularly in the implementation of a recently concluded project for the rehabilitation and extension of the Nouakchott Green Belt, carried out by FAO and the Government of Mauritania with support from the Walloon Region of Belgium.

The publication describes sand encroachment processes and control techniques from preliminary studies to nursery methods to dune fixation techniques – both mechanical and biological – and protection of reforested areas. Project management and institutional aspects are also addressed, with an emphasis on the use of a participatory approach. Annexes include profiles of local woody and grassy species used in sand dune fixation, and tables used to manage activities and budgets and monitor progress, which can serve as a model for future efforts.

The lessons described in this book can be adapted to other countries facing similar challenges. The publication will be of interest to technicians, project managers, local communities and indeed all stakeholders engaged in combating desertification.

The publication is available online at: www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1488e/i1488e00.htm

Forest industry and climate change

Impact of the global forest industry on atmospheric greenhouse gases. R. Miner. 2010. FAO Forestry Paper No. 159. Rome, FAO. ISBN 978-92-5-106560-0.

Commissioned by FAO and the International Council of Forest and Paper Associations, this publication examines the numerous and complex connections between the global forest products industry (taken here to include roundwood production, pulp and paper, and wood processing) and the global carbon cycle, with the objective of characterizing the carbon footprint of the sector. Each chapter attempts to quantify a main type of industry

New editions of FAO statistical publications

FAO Yearbook of Forest Products 2008. 2010. Rome, FAO. ISBN 978-92-5-006544-1.

The yearbook is a multilingual compilation of statistical data on basic forest products for all countries and territories of the world. This sixty-second issue contains annual data on production and trade in forest products for the years 2004–2008 and on directions of trade in 2007 and 2008. Also available online: www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1521m/i1521m00.htm

Pulp and paper capacities – survey 2009–2014. 2010. Rome, FAO. ISBN 978-92-5-006597-7.

This annual survey presents pulp and paper capacities by country and by product, and production tables by country. It is based on the survey replies of country correspondents (mostly pulp and paper associations or paper companies) from 34 countries, representing about 70 percent of the world's paper and paperboard production. Also available online: www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1666t/i1666t00.pdf

impact: carbon sequestration and storage in forests and forest products; greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing facilities or from electricity producers supplying these facilities; other emissions attributable to product manufacturing, product transport and use; emissions associated with end-of-life management; and emissions avoided elsewhere in society, when, for example, forest products substitute more greenhouse gas intensive alternatives or displace fossil fuels. Detailed calculations supporting the analysis are provided in an annex. A second annex provides an overview of carbon accounting of harvested wood products for national greenhouse gas inventories under the Kyoto Protocol.

The analysis finds that the industry's main sources of emissions are manufacturing (mostly because of fossil fuel consumption and electricity purchases) and disposal of used products in landfills.

Globally, the impact of the industry on carbon in forests cannot be described quantitatively because of the lack of data in many parts of the world and the complexity of the industry's raw material supply chain. Data from some countries, however, suggest that sustainable forest management practices can be effective in keeping forest carbon stocks stable over time. Some of the carbon removed from the forest remains stored in forest products, providing significant benefits. Indirect greenhouse gas benefits resulting from the activities or products of the forest products industry, while difficult to measure, can be large and could be increased.

The publication can be downloaded at: www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1580e/i1580e00.htm

Bioenergy: legal frameworks ...

Case studies on bioenergy policy and law: options for sustainability. E. Morgera, K. Kulovesi & A. Gobena. 2009. FAO Legislative Study No. 102. Rome, FAO. ISBN 978-92-5-106455-9.

Sound policy and legal frameworks for bioenergy are necessary to ensure that socio-economic and environmental sustainability considerations are taken into account in the production, promotion and use of bioenergy, with a view to minimizing risks of negative impacts and maximizing benefits in the immediate and long term.

Through a series of country case studies, this publication aims at identifying specific recommendations for policy-makers and legal drafters to ensure that policy and legal instruments on bioenergy contribute to food security, rural development and environmental sustainability.

The study begins by mapping out international commitments that are relevant to bioenergy production, promotion and use, with special emphasis on three areas of international law: trade, climate change and biodiversity. The international legal instruments were selected based on their likely influence in shaping national legal frameworks for bioenergy. They are addressed to varying degrees in the case studies.

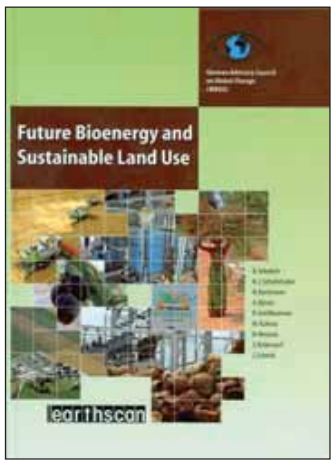
Part II consists of the case studies, which profile bioenergy policy and legislation in Argentina, Brazil, Estonia, Mexico, the Philippines, the United Republic of Tanzania and Thailand. Part III compares and analyses the main findings and explores legal and other options for ensuring economic, social and environmental sustainability in bioenergy development.

The publication is available online at: www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1285e/i1285e00.htm

... and issues of sustainable land use

Future bioenergy and sustainable land use. R. Schubert, H.J. Schellnhuber, N. Buchmann, A. Epiney, R. Grießhammer, M. Kulessa, D. Messner, S. Rahmstorf & J. Schmid. 2010. London, UK, Earthscan. ISBN 978-1-84407-841-7.

Compiled by the German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU), an independent, scientific advisory council to the German Federal Government, this large and detailed report examines the issues surrounding bioenergy from a global perspective and demonstrates how the sustainable use of bioenergy can help minimize risks to food security, nature



conservation and climate change. WBGU sees bioenergy as having the potential to contribute up to one-quarter of the world's present primary energy consumption and suggests that bioenergy policy should be geared primarily towards climate change mitigation and the elimination of "energy poverty".

The first section describes some sustainability constraints for bioenergy using the concept of "guard rails", which are quantitatively defined damage limits for a range of both ecological and socio-economic variables. Exceeding these limits would be intolerable or potentially catastrophic. Subsequent chapters include analyses of land use trends, bioenergy systems and the competition for land use for energy crop cultivation. The report distinguishes among traditional biomass use, biogenic wastes and residues, and energy crops. It also assesses more than 60 bioenergy pathways, from resource extraction to energy delivery. The final chapters discuss global bioenergy policy in detail and recommend a broad range of criteria for bioenergy standards in production and trade.

For policy-makers, this book opens with an 18-page summary and closes with five detailed recommendations for further research and six recommendations for policy and regulatory action.

Two on tenure

Forests for people – community rights and forest tenure reform. A.M. Larson, D. Barry, G.R. Dahal & C.J.P. Colfer, eds. 2010. London, UK, Earthscan. ISBN 978-1-84407-918-6.

Since 1985, governments in developing countries have transferred tenure rights for at least 200 million hectares of forests to communities living in and around them. Among the reasons for this apparently international trend is the growing recognition that forest conservation, environmental sustainability and enhanced livelihoods for those that have traditionally depended on forests can be complementary goals.

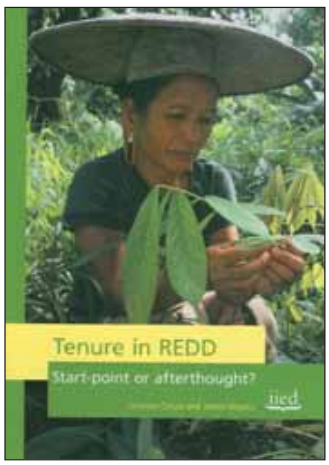
Based on the findings of a three-year study in over 30 communities in ten selected countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, this book synthesizes what is known about efforts to grant new tenure rights to communities living in or near forests. The findings are not simply presented as country case studies, however; rather, each chapter draws on findings from across a range of countries to address themes that are central to forest tenure reform. Issues covered include the processes and outcomes of granting new rights; the roles of local organizations, regulators, regulations and markets; and the specific outcomes for livelihoods, forest condition and social equity. Each chapter includes a literature review that grounds the analysis of field research in the historical and cultural context.

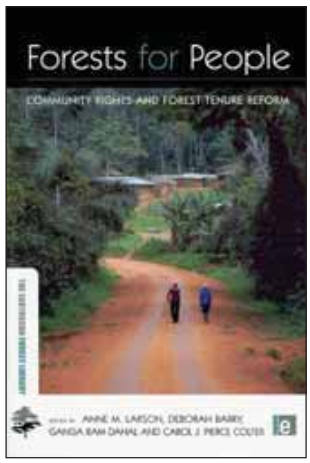
Forests for people is a scholarly and succinct analysis of forest tenure reform based on evidence from around the world. As such it is an important resource for those working in forest policy reform, both planners and practitioners.

Tenure in REDD: start-point or afterthought? L. Cotula & J. Mayers. 2009. Natural Resource Issues No. 15. London, UK, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). ISBN 978-1-84369-736-7.

As new mechanisms for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) are being negotiated in international climate change talks, resource tenure must be given greater attention. Tenure over land and trees – the system of rights, rules, institutions and processes regulating their access and use – will affect the extent to which REDD and related strategies will benefit or marginalize forest communities.

This short report draws on experience from seven highly forested tropical countries (Brazil, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guyana, Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea) to develop a typology of tenure regimes across countries. It explores tenure issues in each country and identifies key challenges to be addressed if REDD is to have an equitable and sustainable impact. Individual chapters address governance; land and carbon rights; State ownership; private ownership and use rights; customary rights and indigenous people; community ownership; and sharing of



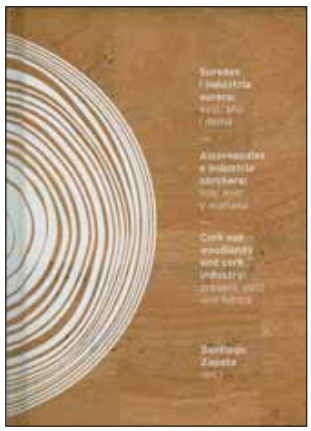


benefits. Some general recommendations are made for the effective development of REDD strategies. An annex provides detailed country profiles outlining the context of land and forest tenure issues.

All about cork

Cork oak woodlands and cork industry: present, past and future. S. Zapato, ed. 2009. Barcelona, Spain, Museu del Suro de Palafrugell. ISBN 84-923581-3-0.

This large multilingual book is a collection of 49 research papers presented at the International Congress of Cork Plantations, Factories and Traders, held in February 2005 at Palafrugell, Spain. Subtitled *present, past and future*, the collection is divided into two parts – forestry and industrial aspects (28 papers) and economy and history (21 papers). Authors include university researchers and cork industry representatives based in France, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia. Themes include silviculture, production growth models, pests and diseases, propagation techniques, harvesting, quality control, fire management, manufacturing, economic analysis, agroforestry, industry standards and aspects of the history of industrial development and international trade in selected cork-producing Mediterranean countries.



The papers are published in Catalan, English, French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish, but each includes an English abstract. This attractive publication is illustrated in colour and bound with a unique cork veneer cover. It will be of interest to cork specialists in research and industry, as well as those with more historical interests.