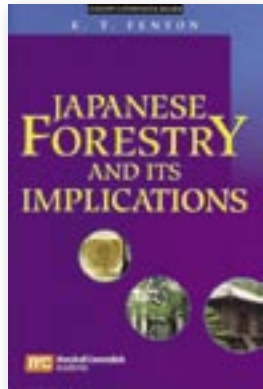


Reviews and information on new publications

Compiled by
Hana Rubin

► **Fenton, R.T. 2005. Japanese forestry and its implications. Marshall Cavendish Academic, Singapore. ISBN 981 210 424 0.**

Available from: Marshall Cavendish International (S) Pte Ltd, Academic Publishing Times Centre, 1 New Industrial Road, Singapore; mca@sg.marshallcavendish.com; www.marshallcavendish.com/academic



This book, the result of several years of research in Japan by the author, presents a comprehensive picture of forests and forestry in ITTO's host nation. Despite a recent drop in overall consumption due to a declining population and a slow growing economy, Japan remains one of the biggest importers of wood and wood products in the world, with only the US and Germany eclipsing its \$17 billion worth of primary and secondary wood products imports in 2005. While production from its domestic forests has fallen dramatically from close to 50 million m³ per year in the early 1960s to current levels of under 17 million m³ per year (accounting for less than 15% of total roundwood equivalent consumption), wood from these forests still plays a key role in shaping Japanese wood products demand, including consumer taste and fashions. This publication provides a fact-filled guide to anyone interested in Japan's forest sector, be they exporter, researcher or interested layperson.

The book commences with interesting sections on the impact of Japan's unique geography on its forests and forest sector, and on the long history of forestry in the country, including descriptions of the use of wood in many historical shrines and pagodas, some of which are still standing and may be among the oldest wooden structures in the world. Fenton then provides detailed introductions to the main softwood and hardwood tree species, with particular emphasis on the endemic softwoods sugi (*Cryptomeria japonica*) and hinoki (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*). Chapters on the natural and plantation forest resource follow, with detailed statistics on, for example, growing stock, silviculture operations, growth, production and (for plantations) age classes and planting rates provided. The author is from New Zealand, and his frustration with Japan's inability to maintain its extensive plantations through regular thinning and pruning interventions is evident in a chapter titled 'The Thinning Problem'. According to Fenton, prescribed thinning are not being carried out on at least 50% of plantation areas, leading to gross overstocking and loss of merchantable timber. Anyone who has ever hiked through the darkness of an unthinned sugi or hinoki plantation on the lower slopes of one of Japan's many mountain-sides will know what he is talking about. The problem has a number of

causes, including low prices for wood from thinnings, shortage and aging of the labour force (resulting in increased labour costs) and limited markets for wood from thinnings. The chapter concludes by proposing several options for overcoming the problem, including focusing efforts only on high value species (eg sugi and hinoki), thinning to waste, and transferring productive plantations in environmentally sensitive areas to protected area status.

The final chapters of the book focus on conservation issues (protected forests, plus Japan's significant national and international efforts towards forest conservation/sustainability), forest labour (availability, wages, accident rates, etc.), roading, transport and forest machinery, and plantation/forest economics (including information on subsidies). The concluding chapter summarizes the author's recommendations for dealing with Japan's overstocked plantations and concludes that despite the establishment of 20–40 billion trees in plantations over the past 60 years, Japan will have insufficient wood to supply its domestic needs for the foreseeable future, a situation he deems "a management failure on a grand scale".

Bob Fenton is one of the rare individuals who reads statistical reports religiously and finds meaning (and often errors) in them, even when those reports are, in the case of most of the materials reviewed for this book, in Japanese. Although some of the statistics presented in *Japanese forestry and its implications* are slightly dated, all of the trends identified remain accurate. If you are interested in Japanese forestry, read this book.

Reviewed by Steve Johnson, ITTO Secretariat

► **Humphreys, D. 2006. Logjam: deforestation and the crisis of global governance. Earthscan, London, UK. ISBN 1 84407 301 7.**

Available from: Earthscan, 8–12 Camden High Street, London NW1 0JH, UK; earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk; www.earthscan.co.uk



Why and how have global forest mechanisms failed to collectively address deforestation problems? David Humphreys explains existing global forest processes and their failure to prevent ongoing deforestation in his new book, *Logjam: Deforestation and the crisis of global governance*. Humphreys analyses the global public goods literature and offers new insights on saving the world's forests by proposing a new model of democratic governance.

Humphreys develops the central argument that "neoliberalism drive[s] excessive exploitation of forests [and] also

establishes the parameters of policies that set out to arrest deforestation". He elaborates on this argument by using a comparative case study methodology to explain how, over the period 1995 to early 2006, global processes such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, the World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development, the UN Forum on Forests, certification, and criteria and indicators have attempted to curb deforestation. While Humphreys clearly explains the history and limitations of these approaches, he notes that "governmental and intergovernmental politics, far from being abandoned, should be reclaimed, revitalized and democratized".

Humphreys also notes that "neoliberalism is still a powerful ideological framework that plays an essential role in framing international policy". He discusses how forest processes have been polarized by "business-based constitutionalism" and those promoting the global principles of human rights. The ideological battle that exists between these two driving principles in the forest debate, Humphreys argues, has created the central void in forming a global governance mechanism. As a result, a variety of *ad hoc* approaches exist to address deforestation.

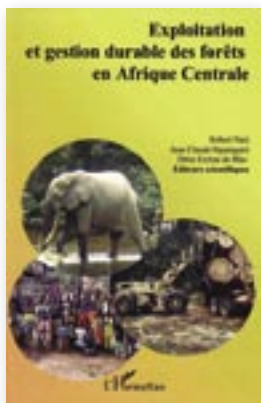
Until this void is addressed, Humphreys notes that social practices that "place severe pressure on forest spaces" will be left uncontrolled. To promote the protection of global public goods such as forests, Humphreys calls for "a new body of international law [to] ... regulate corporations rather than states". He further suggests that a new form of public accountability combine elements of an enforceable "Transnational Convention on Corporations" and a legal mechanism to ensure compliance with it. Such a mechanism would work in collaboration with greater decentralized decision-making, to promote and utilize local participation in such decision-making procedures. This, he argues, would help promote more equitable and long-term global mechanisms to address global public goods problems.

David Humphreys' well researched and timely book is a valuable resource to all involved or interested in international forest policy; Humphreys' theoretical framework using a global public goods approach is particularly useful. *Logjam* offers readers a new perspective on the causes of fragmentation in global forest policy, a discussion of the current challenges at hand to solving political and technical forest issues, and the possibility that new governance mechanisms can help save the world's forests.

Reviewed by Lauren Flejzor, ITTO Secretariat

► **Nasi, R., Nguinguiri, J-C., and Ezzine de Blas, D. (eds) 2006. *Exploitation et gestion durable des forêts en Afrique Centrale*. L'Harmattan, Paris France. ISBN 2 296 01617 0.**

Available from: L'Harmattan, 5-7 rue de l'Ecole-Polytechnique, 75005 Paris, France; diffusion.harmattan@wanadoo.fr; www.librairieharmattan.com

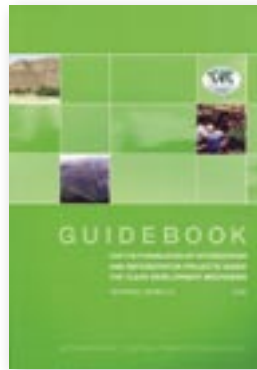


This report derives from the implementation of ITTO Council Decision 10(XXXII) on the promotion of sustainable forest management in the Congo Basin. With 35 contributors as well as input from 20 national institutions in Central Africa, this volume focuses on promoting SFM in the Congo Basin, but has relevance to SFM in tropical forests in general. The focus of the study is on forest concessions in five countries of the Congo Basin—Cameroon, Central

African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon and Republic of Congo. The volume is divided into three sections: (i) context, objectives and institutional reforms; (ii) regional and country monographs; and (iii) cross-cutting issues.

► **Pearson, T., Walker, S. and Brown, S. 2006. *Guidebook for the formulation of afforestation and reforestation projects under the Clean Development Mechanism*. ITTO, Yokohama, Japan. ISBN 4 902045 30 3.**

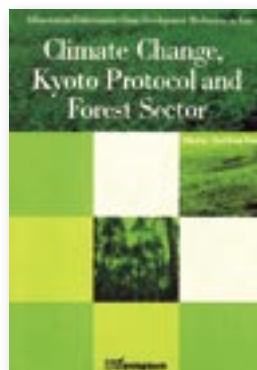
Available from: International Tropical Timber Organization, International Organizations Center, 5th Floor, Pacifico-Yokohama, 1-1-1, Minato-Mirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama, 220-0012, Japan; Tel 81-45-223 1110; Fax 81-45-223 1111; itto@itto.or.jp; www.itto.or.jp



This guidebook, developed by Winrock International in collaboration with ITTO, is a result of ITTO PROJECT PD 359/05 REV.1 (F), 'Building capacity to develop and implement afforestation and reforestation projects under the Clean Development Mechanism (A/R CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol in the tropical forestry sector'. It gives an introduction to the Kyoto Protocol and CDM, and provides recommendations for how to develop afforestation and reforestation projects through a step-by-step practical guide, which outlines each of the steps in the CDM project cycle. Finally, the guidebook gives an overview of the global carbon market and the potential sources of financing for A/R CDM projects. It also includes as an annex the CDM Project Design Document form with comments by the guidebook authors and the A/R Working Group of the CDM Executive Board under the Kyoto Protocol.

► **Youn, Y. (ed) 2006. *Climate Change, Kyoto Protocol and Forest Sector*. Korean Studies Information Co., Ltd, Paju, Korea. ISBN 89 534 5534 0.**

Available from: Korean Studies Information Co., Ltd, Gyoha-Ep Munbal-Ri Paju Bookcity 526-2, Paju-Si, Gyunggi-Do, Korea; Tel 82-31-908 3181; Fax 82-31-908-3189; publish@kstudy.com; www.kstudy.com



This volume is a result of ITTO PROJECT PD 174/02 REV.1 (1), 'International workshop on Clean Development Mechanism - opportunities for the forest industry sector in the Asia-Pacific region'. The chapters in this book are a selection of papers presented during three international symposia and workshops organized by Seoul National University

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Post graduate diploma in managing for sustainable forestry in the tropics in Sarawak, Malaysia

Forest management is becoming increasingly complex as forest industries move towards sustainable management practices and the need to meet multiple objectives from their forestry activities. This is especially so in the tropics.

Forest and logging managers are now being called on to deal not only with profitable forest operations, but as well, to deal with difficult environmental and social issues.

As a result, developing the appropriate skills to successfully manage logging operations that meet the goals of sustainable tropical forestry, which includes social and environment elements, has become an important requirement for managers in the forest sector.

To meet the skill needs of logging managers, the Sarawak Timber Association and Lincoln University in New Zealand, with cooperation from the Sarawak Forestry Corporation and the Sarawak Forest Department, have developed a Post Graduate Diploma for managers in Sarawak's logging industry.

The Post Graduate Diploma consists of six subjects offered by Lincoln University. The subjects are taught using a mixture of Lincoln University lecturers and local Sarawak forestry specialists. The Post Graduate Diploma will take two years to complete, with three subjects being offered each year.

The six subjects that make up the Diploma cover a wide range of topics: Forestry in Sarawak; Forest Economics and Policy; Forest Harvesting and Planning; Forest Sustainability—Theory and Practice; Forest Utilisation; and Silviculture. The teaching format of the Post Graduate Diploma is designed around the needs of working managers. All subjects will be taught in Sarawak and offered as intensive block courses.

Contact: Hugh Bigsby, Associate Professor, Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand; Tel 64-3-325 2811; Fax 64-3-325 3847; bigsbyh@lincoln.ac.nz or Barney Chan, General Manager, Sarawak Timber Association, Kuching, Malaysia; Tel 60-82-332 222; Fax 60-82-487 888; sta@sta.org.my

Online graduate certificate in sustainable natural resources

This 18-credit online certificate offered through Oregon State University, USA, is designed for all students, especially company, industry, or agency employees who desire more training in assessing and solving complex sustainability problems. Students complete an integrated course of study in a dynamic learning community under the mentorship of professionals, to design workable solutions for complex natural resource issues of local, state, regional, national and international importance.

Students should have a bachelor's degree in arts, humanities or science, and preferably have two years experience working in a natural resources-related field.

Courses are in English unless otherwise stated. By featuring these courses ITTO doesn't necessarily endorse them. Potential applicants are advised to obtain further information about the courses of interest and the institutions offering them.

▶ ... continued from page 29

and supported by ITTO, the Korea Forest Service and the Northeast Asian Forest Forum. The main sections of the book give a background on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol and its relevance to forestry; information on designing and implementing CDM forestry projects in developing countries; and case studies of five Asian countries (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines and China).

▶ **Price, W., Rana, N. and Sample, V.A. (eds) 2006. Plantations and protected areas in sustainable forestry. Food Products Press, Binghamton, NY, USA. ISBN 978 1 56022 138 8.**

Available from: Food Products Press, 10 Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904 USA; 1-607-722 5857; orders@haworthpress.com; www.haworthpress.com

Certificate overview and benefits:

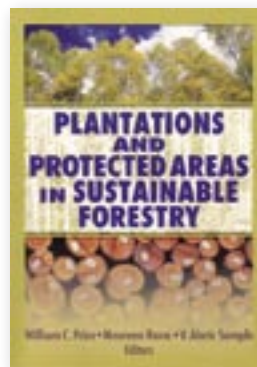
- enhance leadership skills and scientific expertise to meet the global demand for effective sustainable natural resource management;
- earn 18 graduate credits in integrated, diverse disciplines, including forestry, sociology, economics, ecology and philosophy;
- engage and network with university instructors, scientists and natural resource professionals;
- while completing coursework and under the guidance of OSU faculty, design and complete a capstone project that addresses a specific sustainability problem unique to your region or organization;
- work with an assigned mentor throughout the certificate program; and
- enjoy the flexibility of online delivery—study at times that fit your work schedule and personal life

Contact: Steve Radosevich, Professor and Program Director, Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Natural Resources, Department of Forest Science, Oregon State University; Steve.Radosevich@oregonstate.edu; campus.oregonstate.edu/online-degrees/graduate/sustainability

Erasmus Mundus Masters Course in Sustainable Tropical Forestry (SUTROFOR)

This MSc course is a two-year integrated program aimed at qualifying graduates to deal with the huge challenges in contemporary tropical forestry. The SUTROFOR Course is offered by a consortium of five European universities: (i) The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning, Copenhagen, Denmark, (ii) University of Wales, School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences, Bangor, Wales, UK, (iii) Dresden University of Technology, Institute of International Forestry and Forest Products, Tharandt, Germany, (iv) Institute of Forestry, Agricultural and Environmental Engineering, Training and Research Group 'Environmental Management of Ecosystems & Tropical Forests', Montpellier, France, and (v) University of Padova, College of Agriculture, Padova, Italy.

The Course consists of a first study year at one of three institutions (Bangor, Copenhagen, Dresden) and a specialising second study year with different topics offered by each of the five institutions. The students are required to spend the second year at a different university than the first one. Consortium fees per year are €4500 for EU/EEA-EFTA students and €8000 for other students. Around 20–30 Erasmus Mundus scholarships (€21 000 per year per student) are expected to be available for other students. Non-EU/EEA-EFTA students must submit applications no later than 1 February 2007. EU/EEA-EFTA students must apply no later than 17 August 2007. The next academic year starts around 1 September 2007 (depending on first year institution). The application form and more detailed information are available at www.sutrofor.net.



The chapters in this book reflect the discussion that took place during a two-day symposium convened by the Pinchot Institute, which explored the potential for a broader consensus on forest management in the US and discussed the continuous evolution of forestry concepts to fit changing needs and reflect new scientific knowledge. Also published simultaneously in the *Journal of sustainable forestry* (Vol 21, No 4, 2005), this volume explores several timely topics, including: the integration of protected areas, plantations and certification; the positive and negative socio-economic impacts on communities located near intensively managed plantations; and the mitigation of environmental and social impacts of intensive plantation forestry.