



Switzerland  
Indonesia  
South Africa  
México  
Ukraine

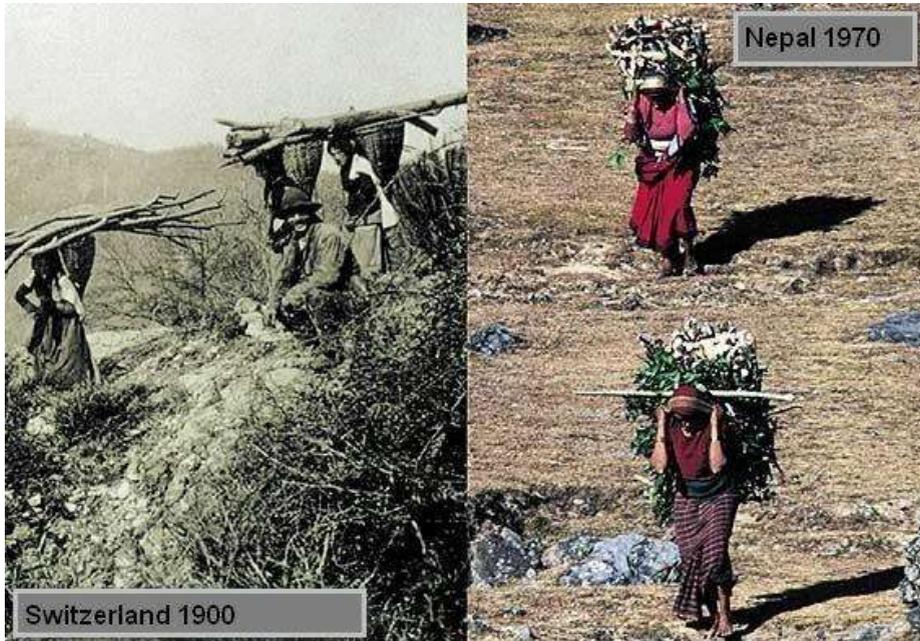
2004 The Interlaken CLI  
2006 The Yogyakarta Workshop  
2008 The Durban CLI  
2010 The Oaxaca CLI  
2012 The Lviv CLI

# Building on 10 years of global exchange on forest governance

A thematic introduction to  
the Interlaken + 10 Country-Led Initiative in support  
of the UNFF

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## A Flashback to 2004 & Beyond



## The Universal & the Local Come Together



And the local remains complex...with landscapes



## & with human beings



## Basic definitions & conceptual threads

- Governance – The ways & institutions that allow individuals & groups to express their interests, exercise their rights & obligations, & mediate their differences.
- Forest governance – The ways these functions are accomplished in regard to forests & the people living in/from them.
- Political decentralization – groups at different governmental levels --- central, sub-national (meso) & local --- are empowered to make decisions about what affects them.

## Review of five Workshops & Country-Led Initiatives



- **The Interlaken CLI 2004** - Conceptual & operational aspects, decentralization
- **The Yogyakarta Workshop 2006** - Requisites for economically & technically viable decentralization & governance reform in Asia & the Pacific
- **The Durban CLI 2008** - Governance & decentralization links with livelihoods, conservation & financial flows in Africa
- **The Oaxaca CLI 2010** - Governance & decentralization in Latin America (REDD)
- **The L'viv CLI 2012** - Role of governance, a pathway to a green economy in Eastern Europe & Northern & Central Asia

## What is to come?

- A. Forest governance & decentralization in the 2015 context: multi-level governance & issues at different levels
- B. Decentralization & Forest Governance: initiatives & lessons
- C. Implications & Recommendations

## A. Forest governance & decentralization in the 2015 context:

multi-level governance & issues at different levels



### Bridging scales, knowledge & values in multi-level governance (i)

- **National & global trends** influence social, political, economic interactions at local level; similarly, **local realities** influence how such national & global forces play out
- **Increased fragmentation** in dealing with forests at all level & scales, including protective, productive & social functions; differentiated view of SFM

## Bridging scales, knowledge & values in multi-level governance (ii)

- **The values & benefits of forests accrue at different scales**
  - Decentralization *should* facilitate the provision of local values, but power imbalances can interfere
  - National/global values (e.g. biodiversity, climate & hydrological regulation, soil protection)
  - Goal: balance & sustainability of values, benefits across scales
- **Main drivers of deforestation** - multiple scales, generally outside forestry sector; need effective cross-sectoral policies.

### Issues & perspectives at different levels:

#### (i) Local level communities & local stakeholders

- **Locally sustainable forest management** – local communities need benefits, not only burdens (timber, REDD+, for. conservation)
- **CBFM** - Empowerment, capacity-building, community support (IK, local capabilities, tenure) → viable livelihood strategy & means to address SFM & climate change.
- **Forest law, locally:** Inconsistent/conflicting rules, unrealistic prohibitions, burdensome (& corrupt) bureaucratic reqs, high transaction costs --- all interfere with compliance with the law
- **Complaint/conflict resolution mechanisms** needed - to guarantee local management rights are respected, in design / implementation of REDD+, PA management & land-use decisions



## Issues & perspectives at different levels: (ii) Landscape level & cross-sectoral coordination

- **Landscape transformation** driven by national/global policies & markets, plus changing consumption (all levels) & expansion of transnational traders & investors.
- **Different landscape actors & production systems**, each with different, dynamic social contexts → different land uses, each requiring appropriately calibrated interventions, incentives, sanctions.
- **Landscape approaches add complexity.** Engagement of women & the vulnerable more difficult. Differing landscape features & admin. boundaries increase conflict. But cultural similarities across landscapes may be source of insights, cooperation.

## Issues & perspectives at different levels:

### (cont) Landscape level & cross-sectoral coordination

- **Need holistic & comprehensive approach to governance reforms** → bring more coherence/consistency to policies in spheres that affect forests & forest peoples.
- **Cross-sectoral integration of policies** must avoid adversely affecting communities, ideally contributing to forest & human health & development.



## Issues & perspectives at different levels:

### (iii) National level: central government roles & constraints

- **Inconsistencies in policies/laws/regulations** create/worsen grey areas where corruption & illegality can flourish; effective CA can improve regulation & enforcement.
- Central governments **profess the wish to decentralize**, but tend simply to devolve responsibility with little or no authority or finance.
- **Dysfunction of public institutions** - a stumbling block to governance reform; institutional innovations (e.g., 3rd-party certification, independent observers, MRV approaches for REDD+) can promote change---as can bottom up pressure from an informed, empowered & proactive population.

## Issues & perspectives at different levels:

### (cont.) National level: central government roles & constraints

- **National Role** includes: providing guidelines, interacting with international actors, promoting information flow, financing & monitoring.
- Some **command & control measures** can protect & help sustainably manage forests; best based on science & robust analysis of local human & natural conditions; with transparency & accountability.



## Issues & perspectives at different levels:

### (iv) International level: regional & trans-national cooperation

- Increase governmental role in **stimulating markets** for sustainable products (e.g., certified wood products, wood energy, NTFPs) & services (incl. carbon offsets).
- **Enhance trans-boundary cooperation** in forest protection, forest law enforcement, data analysis & research; sharing resources for regional capacity building also key.
- Establish/reinforce **regional learning platforms** (channels for exchange) on forest issues among regional stakeholders of all stripes → regional cooperation, strategy development & concerted action.

## Issues & perspectives at different levels:

### (v) Global level: governance of the world's forests

- **Lack of a comprehensive stewardship for forests:** common discourse/reference frames growing, but global forest governance regime still fragmented.
- Translate stated national commitments into **concrete actions**.
- Increase **efficiency, effectiveness & capacity of global platforms** dealing with forest issues to deliver equitable outcomes.
- More effectively **connect global platforms to regional platforms**.
- Acknowledge **power & potential of lower level actors**, as they interact with higher level policies; need increased flexibility, feedback & learning in policy/implementation processes at all levels.

## B. Decentralization & Forest Governance: initiatives & lessons



## Overall trends & initiatives to improve forest governance (i)

Local forest mgmt. & decentralization slowly moving towards:

1. Securing rights to forest resources, sustaining livelihoods, capturing/sharing revenues from commercial activities.
2. Forest governance in (an inclusive) green economy: Greater focus on ecosystem services (e.g., REDD+/carbon, but other non-carbon services/benefits also getting more attention).



## Overall trends & initiatives to improve forest governance (ii)

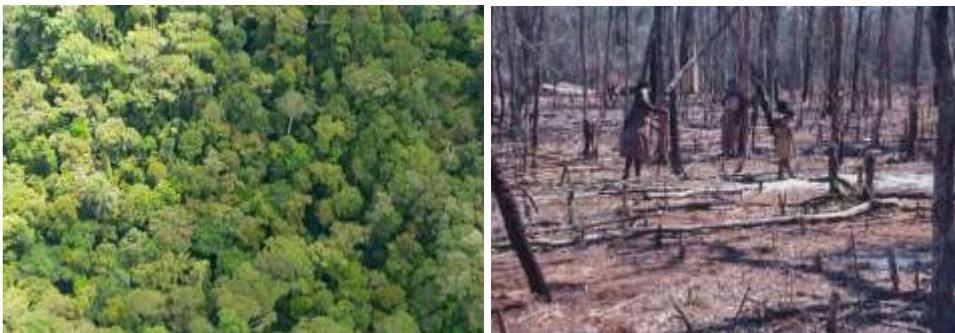
Local forest management & decentralization slowly moving towards:

3. Integration within broader landscapes: Broadened framing from forests to forest ecosystems; use of landscape approach (with implications for global resource governance & the future IAF).
4. Linking of forests with SDGs → broader political scrutiny, potential for forests to be integrated in wider governance framework.

## Examples of efforts to promote improved forest governance

- Harmonized framework for benchmarking, Assessment & Monitoring Forest Governance (e.g. FAO/PROFOR framework)
- Development of standards & safeguards (e.g. Forest Governance Framework for REDD+, CCBA Standards, UNFCCC/FCPF/UN-REDD safeguard approaches)
- Certification, VPAs and Legality Verification (in context of SFM)
- Forest law compliance & governance, building on FLEG, FLEGT & legal implications (e.g., Amended Lacey Act & EU-TR)
- Stronger foundation for tenure reform (UNDRIP, Rights & Tenure Review, FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Tenure Reform, RRI Tenure Facility)
- New partnerships & professed commitment to action (NY Declaration on Forests 2014; from Lima to Paris COP, Forest Legality Alliance, Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 hosted by WEF, etc.)
- Numerous local & landscape level efforts, working collaboratively with communities (e.g., CIFOR's Landscape Mosaics Project; ICRAF/CIFOR's AgFor Project; Adaptive Collaborative Management).

## C. Implications & Recommendations



## Continuing challenges & opportunities for forest governance post-2015 (i)

- **SFM & REDD+:** Addressing degradation & forest conservation, sustainably managing forests & enhancing carbon sinks in REDD+; Requires
  - new knowledge, skills, policies & fundamental changes in attitudes & behavior at all levels
  - institutionalized safeguards to sustain these changes
- **Strengthening representation of vulnerable groups (esp. indigenous peoples & women) → means to strengthen decentralization, via**
  - proactive, creative inclusion (seeing social variation)
  - attitudinal change among government actors

## Continuing challenges & opportunities for forest governance post-2015 (ii)

- **Innovation** in forest-based products & services → create new markets & promote a greener, more equitable economy, in partnerships with sectors like renewable energy, water, food, health & agriculture.

Requiring:

- R&D support, technology sharing & knowledge exchange
- Patient investment & flexible financing
- Tapping the expertise & resources of enlightened corporate & local actors
- Channels for easy access to such resources especially for small & medium scale producers.

## TO RECAP: Six recommendations for local, landscape & national levels:

### Addressing livelihood concerns & local development (i)

1. Develop appropriate approaches to maintain **PFE and protected areas while enabling traditional use by**, & recognizing tenure of, indigenous & local peoples;
2. **Promote SFM/REDD+** - with judicious use of market tools (e.g., transfer payments & partnership agreements); & equitable collaboration with affected communities.
3. **Address barriers** & improve the access of local communities to markets & forest revenues, including through better distribution of fiscal resources;

## Recommendations for local, landscape & national levels:

### Addressing livelihood concerns & local development (ii)

4. Further promote the **valuation of forest environmental services & forest goods** & encourage fair compensation (e.g. for REDD+), including thru market mechanisms;
5. Enhance the **transparency of forest law enforcement** policies & actions, including holistic anti-corruption efforts at all levels;
6. **Strengthen the human & institutional capacity** of all stakeholders, with a range of methods for sharing knowledge.

## Early recommendations for IAF/UNFF post 2015

Within an overall mandate of stewardship of forests to promote the vital significance of forests globally, the IAF *should*:

- Share relevant experiences & lessons learned from governance reform.
- Encourage countries to adopt a harmonized framework (e.g. PROFOR/FAO model) - a common starting point for assessment & monitoring of forest governance.
- Encourage countries to adopt standards & collaborative governance practices to promote greater equity in the distribution of benefits along forest products value chains.

