# APF Net Curriculum 3 INternational dialogue on forestry issues

## **Lecture 12 Recent developments in global issues and**

## **processes related to forests (2014-2015)**

## **Part 2 Transcripts Duration: 00:10:55**

### Slide/Screen 1:

So there is trade-off, you see in the picture there's a good tradeoff. There is a forest that was cleared for making a road and growing crops, mostly this is soy bean. So who made this decision, how did we trade-off, how wide did we cut the forest and turn it into something else. That's very important. If you look at the right hand side, a lot of people say, let's conserve this forest, towards forest we conserve it as a forest, another say, we need money, we need to eat, so let's convert it for agriculture production, that's a good example of the trade-off. Who decides? There must be a planning for that. Should we meet the demand for timber, we cut the forest and sell it as timber or stop losing the forest, that's a measurement decision and I'm now talking about from the global to the national level. Should we look for energy supply, the energy demands or reduce greenhouse gas emissions? In other words we have a forest that is sequestering and storing a lot of carbon and if we cut it, if we deforest it, we would increase the emission of greenhouse gases. But in the meantime, our country, our region, our local needs money from converting the forest to producing bioenergy products, that's another tradeoff. It's not tradeoff, it's a trade for 1 to 1, we have to study this, what's the hint, what's the benefits and kind of harmful effects that we would have. Now we talk about physically the land, how about the people who live there? We need to protect the rights of forest dependent communities vs. encouraging private sector investment, it's a dilemma also. Many communities around the world, forest communities when they see somebody coming, an agent took some money and say OK, I will take your forest and convert it to something else, coming to you, these people have the right to think should we get you know, the most we can get from the forest is $10 a hectare per year, for example, if somebody's offering $100 to convert it, this is giving us 10 years in advance, but we will lose the forest. So we have to study the tradeoff and the governments and the local NGOs and institutions should help those communities to think to see what is how can we get the benefit to both, that's a big science. And there's another dilemma facing many forest communities and even countries to look at this, which is the competing demands for natural resources vs. valuing forests. Should we quite out the forest because we do mining underneath the forest to get money, because the forest has no value. Well, that is very important. The forest has a value but we cannot put it in paper, it's not valued. There is a value but there's no valuation of the forest. If we leave this piece of land as a forest and we encourage eco-tourism without cutting the forest, we can make a hundred euro or a hundred dollar a year, for example per hectare. But this is the value of the forest. But nobody's really talking about this as a value, biodiversity value, bio eco-tourism, all of these, but if you ask somebody, say what is the value of timber in this forest? You will get a figure for that. So valuing the forest is very important if we want to protect it or convert it to something else. Just for these tradeoffs, we should not look at the geographical location of the forests, we should look at the people and other land use props.

### Slide/Screen 2

The second subject I want to talk about, which everybody's talking about, I'm talking about the year 2014-2015, this is a sustainable development goal. You heard me before talking about millennium development goal. Your country where you live is part of this international discussion. Your country, maybe president or prime minister or minister will be in New York in September 2015 to try to look at these sustainable development goals which is something agreed among the nations, what are we going to do in the future but maintaining, sustaining our development. It is going to be, these SDGs or sustainable development goals are going to be one of the most important guiding frameworks to help the world prosper. That's the premise, that's what we were talking about in the U.N. We need some goals in order to help us in developing the world. The idea started after Rio+20, 2012 of the millennium development goals that the countries got together and say, let's have, there was a big conference in the U.N. in 2012 we called Rio+20, what I mentioned about the first earth summit in 1992. 20 years later there was a little bit of sustainable development so the countries got together. And they said we should have the sustainable development goals. And there was a lot of discussions, a lot of meetings in the U.N. and outside the U.N., in countries and so on but the 13th and final session in July 2014, they agreed the countries, they have a working group, we call it Open Working Group which means that any country can sit there. Working group to formulate and draft these goals, what are our goals for the future. This group of any eminent people and politicians and diplomats and technicians and so on, they agreed preliminary, I'm talking about July 2014, this will change, not change but will be either approved and modified in September 2015. There are 17 goals for sustainable development with 169 targets, and each target there are some indicators and measurable outcomes for each one.

### Slide/Screen 3

Well where do we fit forestry in these sustainable development goals, where do we fit? First of all, in target 6.6, the target, the countries will, who want to agree by 2020 protect and restore water related ecosystems including mountains, forests and water， wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes. This is one of the targets. This is where forest is mentioned, to protect it and restore it. Then goal number 15, protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. All of these goals are related to forest, or forest has a very important role. In other words, in the future from now on, the guiding principle for any development in any country would be those sustainable development goals. That's why it's so important to know them globally. You may say I have nothing to do with the U.N., what they agreed on the U.N. does not affect me. No, it would affect you to affect your country, your country policies, your country strategies, your country finances, getting money from outside, getting support, technical support, all of these would be affected. If your country or your company is working outside of these goals, it's very unlikely that you would get support, either nationally or internationally, that's why you see, you should know where forestry or forests fit into these.

### Slide/Screen 4

OK, these are the two current subjects under discussion, I hope that you find it quite useful. This is the end of this course with 12 lectures. I just hope that you have enjoyed taking this course and you benefit from it and enjoying it. There would be contact information from the Asia Pacific Forest network and University of British Columbia and others. This would be decided by the organizers of this course. I have enjoyed the lecture and I hope you benefit it and you could understand what I was talking about, it's not so difficult, you also have the privilege of going back and start from lecture 1 if you find it quite useful and repeat it, you also have the privilege of consulting some of these references. I wish you best of luck and you career would progress to be an international player in forestry.

### Slide/Screen 5

I'm giving you some readings that would give you good ideas about what's happening in some of these like the U.N. declaration, the last one related to sustainable development goals. You will find it's updated if you visit the U.N. sites and look for for sustainable development goals no matter when even in 10 years’ time, I think you would get the update. Thank you.

### Slide/Screen 6

[End of Module IV, Lecture 12]