# APF Net Curriculum 3 INternational dialogue on forestry issues

## **Lecture 3 Global effective policies to promote SFM and Linkages between international, national, and local forest management policies Part A Transcripts Duration: 00:12:01**

### Slide/Screen 1:

This is the third lecture of Module 1 for this course on the International dialogue on forestry issues. Please see the videos attached to this lecture.

### Slide/Screen 2

[Module 1: Lecture 3 Part A]

### Slide/Screen 3

In this lecture, I will be talking about the need for global effective policies to promote sustainable forest management. That's one part. Second part would be about the linkages between International, national and local forest management policies. If we look at the needs, why do we need policies to promote sustainable forest management internationally? After all, the management of the forests is a responsibility of the country, but as we said in the first lecture, yes, the countries can manage it on forests, but it has a global dimension for this. Whatever you do in your forests, it is not your business alone, it's becoming an international business. There is some pollution somewhere that affects your forests. If you do your deforestation of your forest, then it will have consequences globally. In other words, we need to promote international forest to promote sustainable forest management. Unfortunately, in many parts of the world, forests continue to be managed in a conventional way with single or a few objectives. If you look around the world, you find that most of the forest in the world today are continually managed to produce timber, and that is nothing wrong with this except if it is on the expense of other forest goods and services. In other words, if you continue to manage your forests or a country continues to manage its forests, just to extract timber, it will not be sustainable. We have to look at the other three mentions of sustainability, which is as I said in the last lecture, not only the economic use, but also economic, environmental and social. On the other hand, if you switch completely to environmental aspects of managing the forests, like you say all these forests is not going to do anything, I'm not going to cut trees, I'm not going to do anything, this is a protected forest theoretically, which means that in certain cases, you literally close the forest to any use. The forest is not going to be, it's not going to supply for long. In some cases, if it is the forest that is just left on its own without management, without taking care of the people who live in the forest and in some cases, even in some protected areas, some countries kicked out the people who live in the forest because it is a protected forest, that was wrong. It's not the way to manage it. So the conventional ways of managing your forests, whether it's only for products like timber or for environmental purpose, protection for protection, it is not sustainable. In the meantime if you want to implement sustainable forest management, you will need some effected policy and regulatory framework. You just cannot do this without any policy. The country has to have a policy, which is important to cater for its own needs, but in the meantime the agreement on forest management internationally because they cannot live in isolation. And there must be, if you have a policy, you have to have a regulatory framework, laws and regulations how to manage this forest and in a sustainable way.

### Slide/Screen 4

So why can't we implement this easily? Why does it take a lot of efforts to implement sustainable forest management? There are several reasons. One is the market distortions because sometimes the market is distorted in the way to support agriculture, for example, if there is a great demand to convert forests to soybeans that's happening in many parts of the tropics, or for oil palm plantation, or for rubber plantation, or for bio-energy, or for conversion to pastures to produce needs. The money or the earning that the owner or even the country who owns this forest and converted from a forest to agriculture land, soybean or palm oil, the return from this is much higher than the value of the forest as it was, so this is a distortion. If the government does not protect its forest, it would be converted to palm oil production, or soybean production, so there must be a national policy to say this land would have to be remained as a forest, this piece can't be converted if it is economically, or this piece could be protected completely, no interference there. So we have to eliminate this market distortion in order to implement sustainable forest management. And the second reason as I mentioned before, is the lack of ownership and secure land tenure. If the people who live in the forest are not entitled for the land if they don't have a tenure shift of the land, if they don't own it, it would be very difficult to implement sustainable forest management for various reasons. People are not going to take care of the forest if they don't own it, especially they live there. Imaging people who live in forest community, they live in the forest and they don't own it. So it's not going to be collusive to protect the forest. And the third reason why sustainable forest management implementation is a little bit difficult is that the poor governance. As I said, some governments even allow or do not prevent illegal logging, illegal activities. There is a lot of corruptions in some countries and some places and there is a weak governance, there is a weak implementation of the laws because of, you know, shortage of human and financial sources. This is not the picture in every country by the way, there are many countries around the world, they have their laws and regulations to protect the forest and decurve forestation or illegal logging. It's quite successful in many many countries and there are many agreements between producers and users of the forest and forest products to maintain legality and good governance. As I mentioned, sustainable forest management would be very difficult if you don't put values on forest goods and services. It's not only the value of timber, but the values of all the services produced by the forest, we will talk about this later on. But do we get in terms of services from the forest in addition to the goods such as timber and non-timber forest products?

### Slide/Screen 5

As I said before, a major part of the forest is biodiversity, or there is a lot, 60-80% of the global biodiversity is found in the forest. So we need to sustain biodiversity and all other environmental services. And the system before was to encourage protected area, even there was an agreement that each country allocated 12% of its forest areas as protected areas. This is nice, it is good in theories, but in practice it was a bit difficult. Why? Because there are a lot of competing uses for the land than determining how much protected area we can allocate. Many countries allocated the protected areas in remote parts of the country, inaccessible and said ok, this is 12% of our areas protected because nobody lives there, nobody can be there, that's fine, but that's not the ideal thing. If you protect an area with a lot of biodiversity in the middle of the forest area, there will be a lot of competing demands, either to log it legally or illegally, or to convert it to agriculture and so on. So this competition for land use affects the productive areas, and makes it sometimes beyond the control. What you can do about this is to manage the protected area as in managing the forest sustainably. Protection again does not mean that you lock the forests, stop and go home, you leave it on its own, because protected areas needs to be managed as a protected forest area. You have forest area for utilization, you have forest area for protection, for conservation, but there are rules, regulations and methodology well in place to manage the area as a protected forest. And in addition to that, you have to have cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination in order to achieve sustainable forest management. In other words, if you have a large piece of forest and you want to manage it sustainably as a forest, and there is another interests many through agriculture, for example, decide to remove the forest to cultivate, to turn it into agriculture land that would be a bit contradiction of policies, so it is legitimate of course to produce food, maybe legitimate to convert part of the forest to produce food to feed the people, that's kind of feasible. But it has to be in a system, a comprehensive system, which means that the forest policy to achieve sustainable forest management must be coordinated with the agriculture policy, must be coordinated with the water policy for the country or the bio-energy policy, for example, because you have to avoid competition by proper land use plan. If it's a forest land, large or small, you have to have a land use plan for the country so that there would be contradiction between the different policies. Otherwise we need to achieve coordination among all the policies related to natural resources, mining for example, is another example, it could be this piece of forest could be very valuable as mines, but when you go for mining, you just destroy the forest and start mining. Is this a good policy? We don't know. Most likely no. It is not a good policy, so you have to coordinate between the policy tools, allocate concessions for mining with the forest policy. Maybe later on you come and replant the mining area, maybe. But there must be a coordinated policy work.

### Slide/Screen 6

[End of Module 1, Lecture 3, Part A. Thank you for watching.]