

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, GENDER, JUSTICE AND TENURE (EGT) 2017 RESEARCH PRIORITIES

USAID, Washington

October 26, 2016



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry

EGT in 2016-2025 CIFOR Strategy

- **Understanding obstacles to the devolution of forest rights**
- **Promoting investment in forest landscapes**
- **Gender integration across CIFOR's work**



MAJOR RESEARCH INITIATIVES

- **Global Comparative Study-Tenure:** Field data collection and analysis nearly complete for Peru, Uganda and Indonesia, moving into write-up and intensive policy engagement in 2017. Research in tier 2 countries—Colombia, Kenya, Nepal—underway (EC & GEF)
- **Mangrove tenure and governance project** (USAID-funded) completed in August, includes global review of literature and field-based research reports on Tanzania and Indonesia. Mangrove governance research included in SWAMP 2, beginning in 2017.
- **GCS-REDD+ Module 1.** Climate policy. (Norad & IKI)
- **Engendering RSPO standards** (Oxfam)
- **Impacts of large-scale land acquisitions on women's land and forest rights in Indonesia (RRI)**
- **Addressing the gender gap** in participation and representation in community forestry (ADA)
- **Gender integration** and gender-responsive research (Dfid KNOWFOR)
- **Nepal forest rights devolution** and effects of on investment and livelihoods (Germany)

SELECTED 2017 RESEARCH PRIORITIES

- **What's holding up effective forest rights devolution in some countries, and accommodating it in others?**
- **How do current rights and governance arrangements affect conservation and other outcomes in mangrove systems?**
- **What are the contributions of non-state actors** to UNFCCC forest climate policy and country NDC climate goals, and how can climate policy take better account of non-state contributions?
- What are the forest and water management benefits of Community Forest Associations and Water Resources Water Associations in Kenya?
- **What are the internal and external investment effects** of long-term common property reform initiatives that have successfully devolved forest rights to communities?
- **How is indigeneity a factor** in community-level forest outcomes? (EBF)

RESEARCH, ENGAGEMENT, CAPACITY

- Research is collaborative with national and local partners, and **builds partner capacity**
- **EGT scientists learn from our partnerships** and bring learning into the research
- **In 2017 GCS-Tenure team will take findings and insights into policy debates**, presenting findings at important policy forums, such as the World Bank Land and Poverty Conference and the International Association for the Study of the Commons conference. Research taken up by **CIFOR partners such as RRI and ILC**
- **Mangrove tenure and governance research will be integrated into SWAMP web-learning platform**
- **USAID/Indonesia-funded CIFOR scholars** will do masters thesis field research on CIFOR research projects, accompanied by their professors in many cases. (Florida, Northern Arizona, Missouri, Yale)

MANGROVE GOVERNANCE & TENURE

A CIFOR—USAID TGCC PROJECT

- **Mangrove forest ecosystems are highly productive, rich in biodiversity, and adapted to the harsh and variable interface between land and sea.**
- **Mangroves fulfill important socioeconomic and environmental functions including:**
 - the provision of a large variety of wood and non-timber forest products;
 - coastal protection against the effects of wind, waves and water currents; conservation of biological diversity, including a number of endangered mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds;
 - protection of coral reefs, sea-grass beds and shipping lanes against siltation; and
 - provision of habitat, spawning grounds and nutrients for a variety of fish and shellfish, including many commercial species (FAO, 2007)
- **Mangrove forests are rich in carbon, which is stored largely in soils.**
- **They sequester between 5 and 8 times the amount of carbon per hectare than terrestrial forests and constitute about 19% of all sequestered carbon attributed to forest systems (Donato et al., 2011).**

MANGROVE DISTRIBUTION

- **Global mangrove forest area estimated (2003) at 152,360 km² distributed across a total of 123 countries and territories (ITTO, 2012).**
- **Indonesia (21% of the global total)**, Brazil (9%), Australia (7%), Mexico (5%) and Nigeria (5%) are 5 countries with largest areas of mangroves. *World Atlas of Mangroves* (Spalding et al., 2010)
- **Most mangroves (42%) are found in Asia**, followed by Africa (20%), North and Central America (15%), Oceania (12%) and South America (11%). About 75% of all mangrove forests are found in just 15 countries (Giri et al., 2011).

MANGROVE LOSS & REHABILITATION

- **By 2001, at least 35% of the area of mangrove forests was lost over just two decades**, (Valiela, Brown and York, 2001).
- **Conversion** to mariculture, agriculture, aquaculture, overharvesting, coastal and urban development, and natural disasters as well as overharvesting and conflict, are some of the drivers of mangrove deforestation and degradation especially in South-East Asia and East Africa ([Saenger et al. 1983](#), [Fortes 1988](#), [Marshall 1994](#)).
 - Mangrove rehabilitation is gaining currency among conservationists and community development practitioners alike. Effort most likely to succeed where there is:
 - a match between site characteristics and species choice,
 - there is meaningful community involvement and commitment and where tenure is secure (Orchard, Stringer and Quinn, 2015; Walters et al, 2008)

GOVERNANCE & TENURE INNOVATION

- Authority over mangrove conservation management is overwhelmingly vested in state institutions, and conservation and protection are central objectives. However multiple uses, including collection of firewood, charcoal production, and fishing, are allowed in some cases.
- Frameworks and mechanisms for coordinating across agencies and governance levels are uncommon, and where they exist, they are difficult to put into practice.
- In Africa, customary rights and systems of use and management are often unrecognized by statutory systems.
- In Latin America, local, indigenous rights are often recognized by the state, and in some cases full ownership, including titles, is issued to communities.
- In Asia, long duration leases are sometimes granted to households and communities; these leases often offer a broad range of rights in the bundle, sometimes including transfer rights.

EMERGING REFORMS, GENDER GAPS

- **There is increasing experimentation with community-based approaches motivated primarily by continued mangrove degradation and loss under strict protection regimes, and increasing interest and involvement of NGOs, international organizations and development funders.**
- **Community concessions and extractive reserves that accord full ownership or longer-term rights appear to be more effective in mangrove conservation.**
- **Programs involving communities jointly with NGOs, research organizations and those that provide other incentives (e.g. capacity building, technology) appear to generate better outcomes in terms of mangrove rehabilitation.**
- **Where customary rights are not respected or recognized and are actively undermined, or community institutions are subject to government interference, mangroves tend to deteriorate.**
- **Studies show that there is gender differentiation in the type of products harvested, the economic value of products harvested, and the places where harvesting is conducted.**
- **Community-based rehabilitation programs are increasingly integrating gender and some are even focused solely on empowering women.**

CASE STUDY ON FOREST RIGHTS IN NEPAL

- Nepal embarked 25 years ago on a major reform of forest tenure, devolving a significant share of management and use rights to local communities.
- Seen as remedy to extensive forest and landscape degradation in the Terai and mountain regions of Nepal.
- Significant donor and government support for establishment of Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs)
- Strong evidence that forest degradation has been arrested and reforestation through natural regeneration fairly extensive in many areas.
- Out-migration, reduced population densities and pressures seen as a co-factor in explaining forest and landscape recovery.
- Little knowledge of the investment effects of the tenure reform.
- CIFOR research in partnership with ForestAction, funded by Germany.









कंकाली सामुदायिक वन, पौडी पोखरी
 KANKALI COMMUNITY FOREST SWIMMING POOL NOTICE

प्रवेश बिना परमिशन बिना /
 NO ENTRY WITHOUT PERMISSION.
 आपकी जिम्मेदारी अपने हाथों में रखें /
 SWIMMING AT YOUR OWN RISK.
 कंकाली पोखरी में स्नान करने के लिए सुरक्षित है /
 SWIMMING AT KANKALI POOKHARI IS SAFE.
 स्नान करने से पहले स्नानघर का उपयोग करें /
 USE SHOWER BEFORE SWIMMING.
 हमेशा स्नानघर में स्नान करें /
 ALWAYS CHANGING ROOM.
 स्नान करने के लिए स्नानघर का उपयोग करें /
 USE SHOWER BEFORE SWIMMING.
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PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Transferring forest rights to communities was a necessary precondition to the investments that have occurred.
- Nearly all investments have been spawned or sanctioned and approved by the Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs).
- The regulatory burden remains considerable; regulations are applied inconsistently by DFOs.
- Reasonably strong provision is made by CFUGs to ensure that disadvantaged communities benefit from investments and enterprises.
- Rights over forests have restored and deepened community cohesion and catalyzed collective problem solving.

COMING IN 2017!

- “Restoring Forests, Restoring Communities”
- Mangrove governance & tenure a key element in SWAMP 2
- CIFOR to play leading role in IFPRI-led Policies, Institutions, Markets (PIM) flagship, Governing Natural Resources.
- GCS-Tenure findings presented at World Bank Land & Poverty Conference, Washington, March 20-24, 2017

THANK YOU



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