



# WFC2015

XIV World Forestry Congress

*Forests and People: Investing in a Sustainable Future*



7-11 SEPTEMBER 2015 Durban | South Africa



## Background

On Monday September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Dr. Tachrir Fathoni discussed “*The way forward via integrated South-South cooperation*” with Dr. Zacharie Tchoundjeu (Cameroon), Dr. Alexandre X. Ywata de Carvalho (Brazil), Dr. Coert Geldenhuys (South Africa) and Dr. Stephan A. Pietsch (Austria) at a side event of FAOs XIV World Forestry Congress in Durban South Africa. The event, organized by Dr. Pietsch on behalf of the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and partners, brought together experts in the field to discuss current success and limitations of South-South Cooperation (SSC) in forestry. The event was sponsored by the REDD-PAC project ([www.redd-pac.org](http://www.redd-pac.org)) and is part of IIASAs Tropical Flagship Initiative (<http://www.iiasa.ac.at/web/home/research/tropical-flagship-initiative.html>).

## Participants

**Dr. Tachrir Fathoni:** Director-General for Natural Resource and Ecosystem Conservation, Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK), Republic of Indonesia. Tachrir- one of nine Director-Generals in the KLHK- was appointed to his current position in June 2015. Prior to the merger of Ministries of Forestry and Environment, Tachrir served as Head of Research and Development at the Ministry of Forestry.

**Prof. Dr. Zacharie Thoundjeu:** Regional Director for West and Central Africa of the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF). Zac has built a reputation in the participatory tree domestication, conservation and management of agroforestry trees in the forest and agricultural landscapes of West and Central Africa, and is. Furthermore he is founder of the Higher Institute of Environmental Sciences (HIES) and was the winner of National Geographic/Buffer awards in June 2012.

**Dr. Alexandre Xavier de Carvalho Ywata:** Chief Technical Advisor of the Presidency at the Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), which is a federal public foundation linked to the Secretariat of Strategic Affairs of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil. Alexandre provides technical and institutional support to government actions – enabling the formulation and reformulation of public policies and Brazilian development programs.

**Prof. Dr. Coert Geldenhuys:** Extraordinary Professor at the University of Pretoria and CEO of Forestwood bk. Coert has over 40 years’ experience in research, resource use management, forest rehabilitation and education/ training in the natural forests and woodlands of southern, eastern, western and central Africa as well as of Brazil.

**Prof. Dr. Stephan A. Pietsch:** Research Scholar at the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and External Professor at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU). Since 2002 Stephan integrates field work and modelling in tropical Africa on issues of forestry, resource management, climate change mitigation, education and training.

## **Course of events**

After setting up the theme, Prof. Dr. Pietsch opened the floor to stimulating keynotes from Dr. Carvalho, Prof. Dr. Tchoundjeu and Prof. Dr. Geldenhuys. The following panel discussion was opened by Dr. Tachrir Fathoni giving insight into Indonesia's position on, and current initiatives within South-South cooperation. Afterwards a vivid and productive discussion developed among the panelists, which was fueled by stimulating questions and comments from the audience.

## **Statement from Dr. Tachrir Fathoni**

In the forestry sector, Indonesia engages in SSC through initiatives including a Memorandum of Understanding on technical cooperation between Indonesia and Timor Leste. Among other items, the cooperation comprises the exchange of knowledge, views, information and data, policies, practices, analysis and operating programs, regarding forestry, and the development of joint programmes.

Through the Heart of Borneo (HoB) Initiative, the member governments- Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia- are committed to creating the enabling conditions needed to make the transition to a green economy for the prosperity of our respective countries, the island of Borneo and the global community. The member countries will continue to develop programmatic, policy and financing solutions that work on the ground to meet the goals of conservation and demands of sustainable economic development across the HoB. Focusing on five pillars- trans-boundary cooperation, protected areas, sustainable natural resource management, ecotourism development and capacity building- HoB strives to deliver lasting conservation and sustainable development.

Indonesia will continue to advance SSC in the context of Social Forestry via ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN) with a willingness to have knowledge exchanges with African Countries to broaden the social forestry network. Other opportunities for SSC include capacity building for small and medium enterprises to increase cooperation, and developing sponsorship and fellowship exchanges for forester skill development.

## **Statement from Dr. Alexandre Xavier Ywata de Carvalho**

It is becoming clearer nowadays that production and demand in different regions and countries in the world are tightly related. As properly captured by global land use models, such as GLOBIOM ([www.globiom.org](http://www.globiom.org)), world demand for land related products is supplied by specific regions, where production and transportation costs are lower. It implies that, when production costs raise in one country, it is likely that production will shift to other regions. Therefore, simulations show that local policies to reduce deforestation, for example, in Brazil, will incur in more deforestation pressure in countries in Africa and Latin America.

The interactions between production, demand and trade imply the need for global strategies for deforestation reduction and biodiversity conservation. South-South collaborations will be progressively more important, and many initiatives can be implemented between the directly involved countries, with or without participation of international institutions. Brazil already has several initiatives, managed by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Brazilian collaboration so far includes, for example, satellite construction (with China), agriculture technology (with several countries in Africa), land surveillance and deforestation detection (with countries in Africa and Asia), and land use modelling (with countries in Africa).

For more efficient and effective sustainable global actions, it is necessary to move forward with more South-South collaboration schemes.

### **Statement from Prof. Dr. Zacharie Tchoundjeu**

In the global South major emphasis was given to cash crops such as cocoa, coffee, rubber, cotton etc. Farmers involved in the cultivation of these cash crops usually experience price volatility as they neither understand nor master the value chain of the conventional cash crops on global markets. ICRAF and partners had been working for more than two decennia on the improvement of high-value indigenous fruit trees using simplified vegetative propagation techniques, such as rooting, grafting and marcotting were developed which were taught to farmers. By adopting these techniques farmers have been able to incorporate the fast and early fruiting indigenous fruit trees into cash crop plantations, achieving the diversification which produces the most stable agroforestry systems. Moreover the value chain of indigenous fruit trees had been developed and well understood on local, regional and international markets. Such projects help resource -poor farmers to understand and master the transformation, storage and marketing of products derived from indigenous crops. Farmers, hence, generate substantial income and become less vulnerable when prices of cash crops fluctuate on international markets.

### **Statement from Prof. Dr. Coert Geldenhuys**

There are many foreign aid contributions and other useful financial towards sustainable development in the global South. The discussions around the South-South Cooperation at the WFC 2015, emphasized the need for and usefulness of such cooperation. But it is also, also important to consider a number of critical points or issues to help make best use of such foreign aid.

Africa as continent, for example, has a northern and southern part with similar vegetation types e.g. Sudanian (north) and Zambezian (south) woodlands. Collaboration between north and south in Africa could be boosted by taking on such north-south collaboration in the south via appropriate collaboration between different individuals and institutions from different parts of Africa; with similar vegetation types and ecology, or in numbers of research and training institutions. The areas have large numbers of rural people depending on woody ecosystems for their livelihoods, and any kind of improvement of resource use in management systems makes definite and significant contributions. Developments initiated in different areas have demonstrated contribution towards sustainable development.

The incorporation of local ecological/cultural knowledge leads to the development of local resource use management systems. Globally, there is a need to work in collaboration with people and institutions in southern latitudes (Congo Basin in Africa, Amazon in South America, Asian systems) – even with some people showing vast differences in cultures and traditional resource management systems - for maximizing mutual benefits within SSC.

### **Summary (Prof. Dr. Stephan A. Pietsch)**

The event “The way forward via integrated South-South Cooperation” (SSC) focused on the role of SSC within the forestry sector and the inter-connected issues of food security and climate change mitigation. Besides an overview of past and present SSC success stories, the session provided a forum for exchange among ongoing SSC projects in the training, education, science and policy sectors and enhanced SSC within forestry.

We all agreed that the collaborative integration of all stake holders and a fluid transfer of local and regional development achievements is key for future SSC success at the economic, environmental and political level. Forestry-SSC is an important vehicle for socio-economic development and food security by profiting from southern experiences on the integration of forests and other land uses. As prerequisites for SSC success we identified joint efforts in governance improvement by capacity building and cooperation for improved decision making. Using SSC to foster product innovation and sustainable trade provides us with a promising pathway for building resilience with forests: Resilience in an ecological sense, but equally well in an economic, sociological and political sense in order to ensure sustainable futures for the global South. The side event promoted such solutions to increase the visibility and impact of ongoing SSC at the local, regional, continental and global level.

### **Pictures:**



Prof. Dr. Tchoundjeu describing indigenous NTFPs as high income alternative for high risk cash crops.



Dr. Ywata de Carvalho presents the China-Brazil satellite program for studying Land use in Africa



Prof. Dr. Geldenhuys stressing options of intra-African SSC



Dr. Fathoni presents Indonesian initiatives within South-South cooperation.



Panel discussion on the way forward via South-South Cooperation at FAOs XIV World Forestry Congress in Durban, South Africa on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Panelists from left to right: Prof. Dr. Stephan Alexander Pietsch (IIASA), Prof. Dr. Zacharie Tchoundjeu (ICRAF), Dr. Alexandre Xavier Ywata de Carvalho (IPEA), Prof. Dr. Coert Geldenhuys (UOP) and Dr. Tachrir Fathoni (Ministry of Environment and Forestry)



Summary and closure of the panel discussion by Prof. Dr. Pietsch from IIASA