

TENTH EXECUTIVE FOREST POLICY COURSE

**REVISITING THE POVERTY REDUCTION AGENDA IN THE CONTEXT OF SDGs:  
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY**

15-25 MAY 2017  
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA



# INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

**Dr. C T S Nair**



# YOUR EXPECTATIONS

*Please write one most important expectation that you have from this course!*

I HAVE NO IDEA  
WHAT'S GOING  
TO HAPPEN.



AND I LOVE IT.



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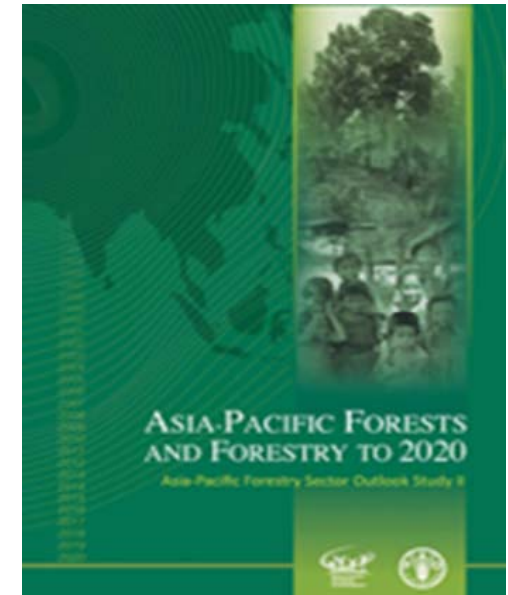


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# BACKGROUND

- ❑ Society – nature relationship is changing continuously and the speed of change is accelerating.
- ❑ More changes are in the horizon and what we may face in the next 5 years and beyond will be very different from what they are today.
- ❑ Formulation and implementation of natural resources management policies - including forests - are becoming more challenging.
- ❑ Assessment of the long term changes in the forest sector through the Asia-Pacific Forest Sector Outlook study.



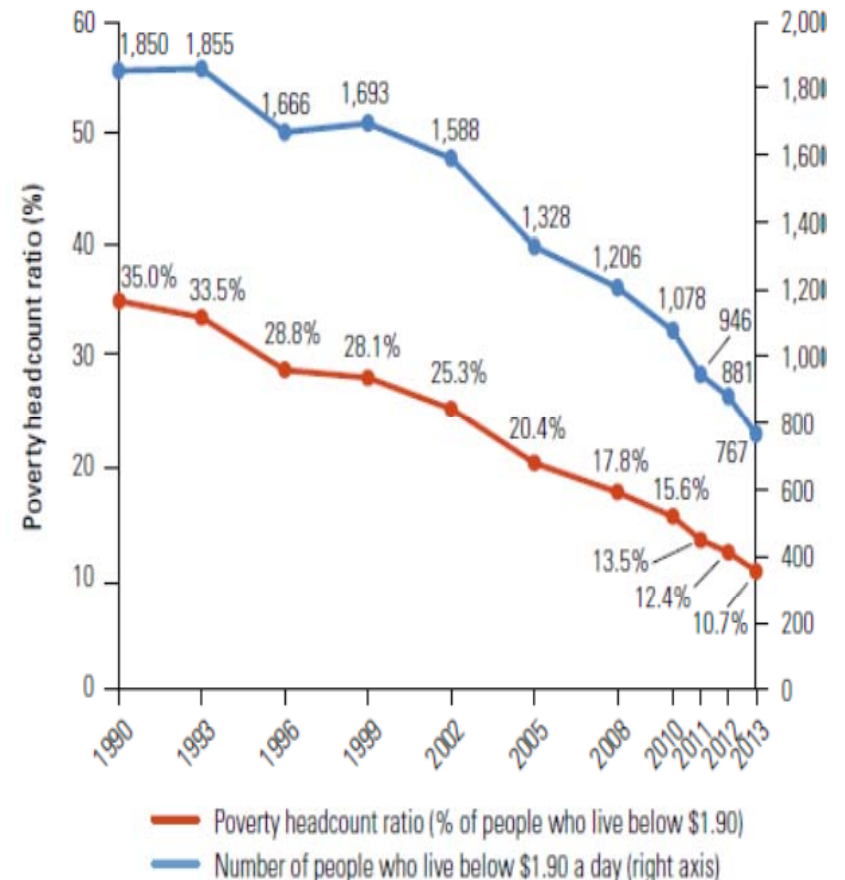
# BACKGROUND

- ❑ Adoption of Sustainable Development Goals with specific targets to be accomplished by 2030.
- ❑ Ending poverty and hunger by 2030 are the two most important of the seventeen goals of sustainable development.
- ❑ Most governments are in the process of mainstreaming SDGs in their development plans, strategies and priorities.
- ❑ It is in this context that we are revisiting the role of forests and forestry in poverty reduction.



# POVERTY: A MAJOR CHALLENGE

- ❑ During the last few decades there has been a significant decline in poverty in almost all countries (World Bank 2016).
- ❑ Yet the world is far from attaining a “zero poverty” condition as even in the most developed economies poverty persists.
- ❑ Considering that the world is now moving along a different path than what it followed during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century there is concern that poverty may still be with us for a long time.
- ❑ People in forested areas are probably the most poor in most countries. Persistence of the “Rich forests – poor people syndrome”.



# COURSE OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Gain an understanding of the larger changes taking place at global, regional and national levels and how these will impact forests and forestry in the coming decades;
- Understand the future scenarios for sustainable forest management in the Asia-Pacific region, focusing on related policies, institutions and science and technology giving due attention to poverty reduction;
- Learn how innovations in governance and technology are helping to address poverty reduction;
- Examine options to capture the full potential of forestry to reduce poverty and enhance its contribution to rural livelihoods in the context of climate change and SDGs; and
- Fine-tune policy analysis skills of forestry professionals , enabling them to better understand the larger changes in society and to enhance the effectiveness of interventions that could significantly improve the contribution of forests to poverty reduction.



# ISSUES/ QUESTIONS ADDRESSED

**Addressing poverty raises a multitude of issues/ questions:**

- How did we address poverty during the last few decades?
- Did it have any perceptible impact on reducing poverty?
- What are the lessons that we have learned from both successes and failures of our efforts to address poverty?
- Are there any other approaches that are more effective?

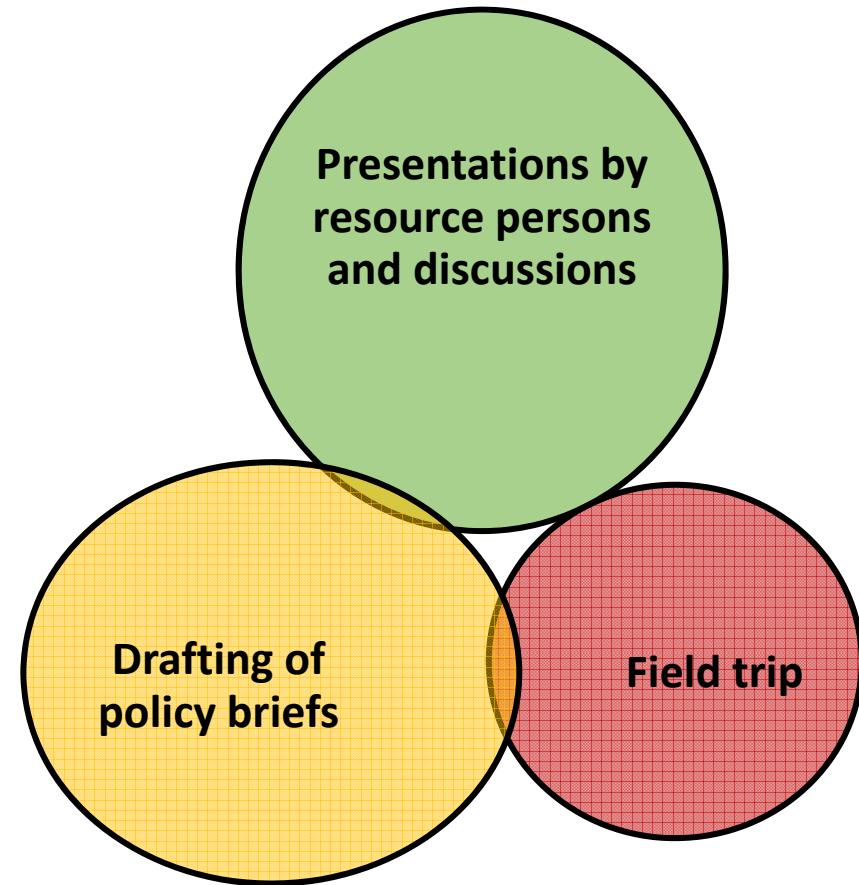
## **IS FORESTRY REALLY RELEVANT IN THE POVERTY REDUCTION AGENDA?**

*All these questions have different dimensions – Policy issues, economic aspects, technical aspects – etc.*

# OVERALL APPROACH

- ❑ Emphasis on fully tapping into the experience and knowledge of participants and resource persons.
- ❑ Keep an open mind and question conventional wisdom

Think Outside  
The Box





# COURSE MODULES

**Eight interlinked modules that will enable us to address most of the important forestry – poverty linkage issues**

- 1. Changing society, SDGs and poverty reduction.**
- 2. Forest governance and poverty reduction.**
- 3. Making forestry practices and programmes pro-poor**
- 4. Lessons from poverty reduction efforts through forestry interventions**
- 5. Economics of forestry interventions**
- 6. Tools for assessing forestry's impact on poverty**
- 7. Communication skills 1**
- 8. Communication skills 2: Preparation of policy briefs**

# DAILY SCHEDULE

- A short introduction to what we propose to do during the day.
- A 15 - minute synthesis of issues discussed during the previous day by two volunteers.
- Presentations by resource persons/ facilitators.
- Group work and interventions by participants.
- Preparation of policy briefs.
- Field trip.

# RECAP SESSIONS

Sessions on	Recap to be done on	By
Day 1: 15 May	Day 2: 16 May	Madeline & Nabin
Day 2: 16 May	Day 3: 17 May	Godfrey & Citra
Day 3: 17 May	Day 5: 19 May	Isabelita & Nimal
Day 4: 18 May – Field trip	Day 5: 19 May	Hany, Elizabeth & Jayaweera
Day 5: 19 May	Day 6: 20 May	Loraini, Khanjada & Wei
Day 6: 20 May	Day 7: 21 May	Mohammad, Tien Hai & Florence
Day 7: 21 May	Day 9: 23 May	Vansy, Noa, & Niroj
Day 8: 22 May – Field trip	Day 9: 23 May	Subasnghage, Samuel & Waheeda
Day 9: 23 May	Day 10: 24 May	Wilawan, Jessica and Yoga



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Forestry  
Commission



Forest Department  
Sri Lanka

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# SOME GROUND RULES

- Be on time!**
- Focus on the most critical issues and be very brief.**
- Do not monopolise the time – We want to make sure that every one gets a chance to share their knowledge and experience.**
- Listen to the views of others.**
- Build on issues raised and maintain the thread of discussion to arrive at logical conclusions.**

**Thank you and have fun!!**



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