



NINTH EXECUTIVE FOREST POLICY COURSE

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND THE FUTURE OF FORESTS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC**

24 May - 2 June 2016, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

**FROM MDGS TO SDGS: EVOLUTION OF  
FOREST POLICIES IN THE GLOBAL  
CONTEXT**

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# BACKGROUND

- ❑ The larger changes in society and the influence of different drivers gets translated into action through policies at different levels (Global, national and even local) and in diverse sectors.
- ❑ National policies are very much influenced by what happens at the global level and *vice versa*.
- ❑ In the context of increasing inter-dependency of economies (especially as regards environmental and economic issues) the linkage between global policy making and national policy making becomes extremely strong.
- ❑ It is in this context that we propose to discuss forest policy process at the global level , especially in the context of the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals.



# ISSUES ADDRESSED

- Evolution of forestry in the context changing concepts and approaches to socio-economic development and environment
- International forest policy process: Where are we now?
- MDGs to SDGs and implications on forests and forestry.
- Building linkage between forest policies and national SDGs.



# EVOLUTION OF FOREST POLICIES IN THE LARGER CONTEXT



- ❑ To understand how the situation has reached the present state, it is important to look at key turning points in history.
- ❑ There is a close linkage between the approach to economic development – which has influenced agricultural and industrial development, infrastructure investments, trade, and so on.
- ❑ These have impacted both environment and forests.
- ❑ For convenience of analysis we may divide the post – Second World War period into the following:
  1. Post World War II to 1970
  2. 1970 – 1990
  3. 1990 – 2010
  4. Post 2010

# POST WORLD WAR TO 1970

Area	World War II - 1970
<b>Economic development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Early years of independence of most countries.</li><li>▪ Belief in the ability of national governments in addressing developmental issues.</li><li>▪ Emphasis on increased investments to promote economic growth.</li><li>▪ International support focused on technical and financial support (Largely following the Marshall Plan approach).</li></ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Environmental issues were largely neglected. Practically no reference to environment in any development efforts. It was assumed that once a certain level of economic growth is achieved environment will be taken care of.</li></ul>
<b>Forestry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Forests were seen from the perspective of meeting local and national needs.</li><li>▪ Source of wood, reserve land for agricultural expansion and a source of revenue to exchequer.</li><li>▪ Emphasis on technical assistance, especially focused on wood production and processing.</li></ul>



# 1970 - 1990

Area	1970 -1990
<b>Economic development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Emphasis on growth through structural reforms</li><li>▪ Neoliberal policies emphasizing on private sector and scaling down government involvement.</li><li>▪ Washington Consensus and structural adjustment</li></ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Stockholm Conference on Human Environment (1972)</li><li>▪ CITES 1975</li><li>▪ Ramsar Convention 1975</li><li>▪ World Conservation Strategy – 1980 by IUCN</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) which paved the way for UNCED 1992</li></ul>
<b>Forestry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The era of large scale plantations development.</li><li>▪ Focus on production of industrial wood</li><li>▪ International Tropical Timber Agreement - 1985</li><li>▪ Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP) -1985</li><li>▪ Master Plan for the Forestry Sector</li></ul>

# 1990 TO 2010

Area	1990 -2010
<b>Economic development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Globalisation and the growth in trade and investment.</li> <li>● Increasing thrust on social aspects</li> <li>● Human development index (1990)</li> <li>● Good governance</li> <li>● Millennium Development Goals (2000)</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<p><b>UN Conference on Environment &amp; Development (UNCED 1992)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Environment friendly markets (certification)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Kyoto Protocol</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> REDD+</li> </ul>
<b>Forestry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● National forestry action plans</li> <li>● Focus on social dimensions</li> <li>● Forest certification</li> <li>● Community participation</li> <li>● Rio – Forest Principles and wider acceptance of SFM -1992</li> <li>● Supporting international forest policy processes (IPF - 1995, IFF - 1997, UNFF -2000)</li> <li>● Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests 2007</li> </ul>

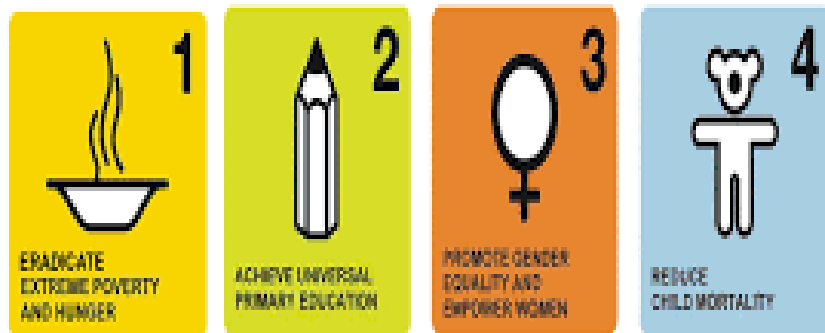
# POST 2010

Area	Post 2010
Economic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Slowing down of world economy</li><li>▪ Sustainable Development Goals (2015)</li></ul>
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Rio+20 (2012)</li><li>▪ Green economy</li><li>▪ COP 21 – Paris Agreement 2015</li></ul>
Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Integrating diverse objectives – Social, economic, environmental objectives</li><li>▪ Learning lessons from the fragmented approach</li><li>▪ Dealing with complexities through landscape approach</li></ul>

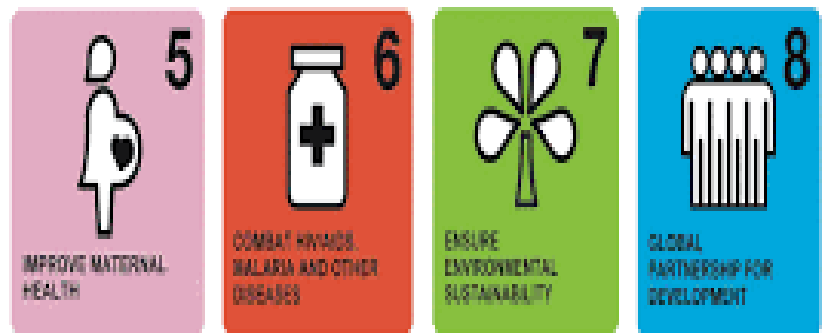




# MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## Millennium Development Goals



- During the Millennium Summit poverty alleviation was given the top priority and governments agreed to work together to halve the number of people living in absolute poverty by 2015.
- Forestry is referred to under Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability
- Improving the livelihood of forest dependent people.
- Linkage between ecosystem health and people's health.



- Poverty reduction strategy and poverty reduction strategy papers at best gave only limited importance to the linkage between forests and poverty alleviation.



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Partnership for the goals

• Peace , justice and strong institutions

Reduced inequalities  
Gender equality  
Quality education

Industry, innovation and infrastructure  
Decent work and economic growth

• Responsible consumption and production  
• Sustainable cities and communities

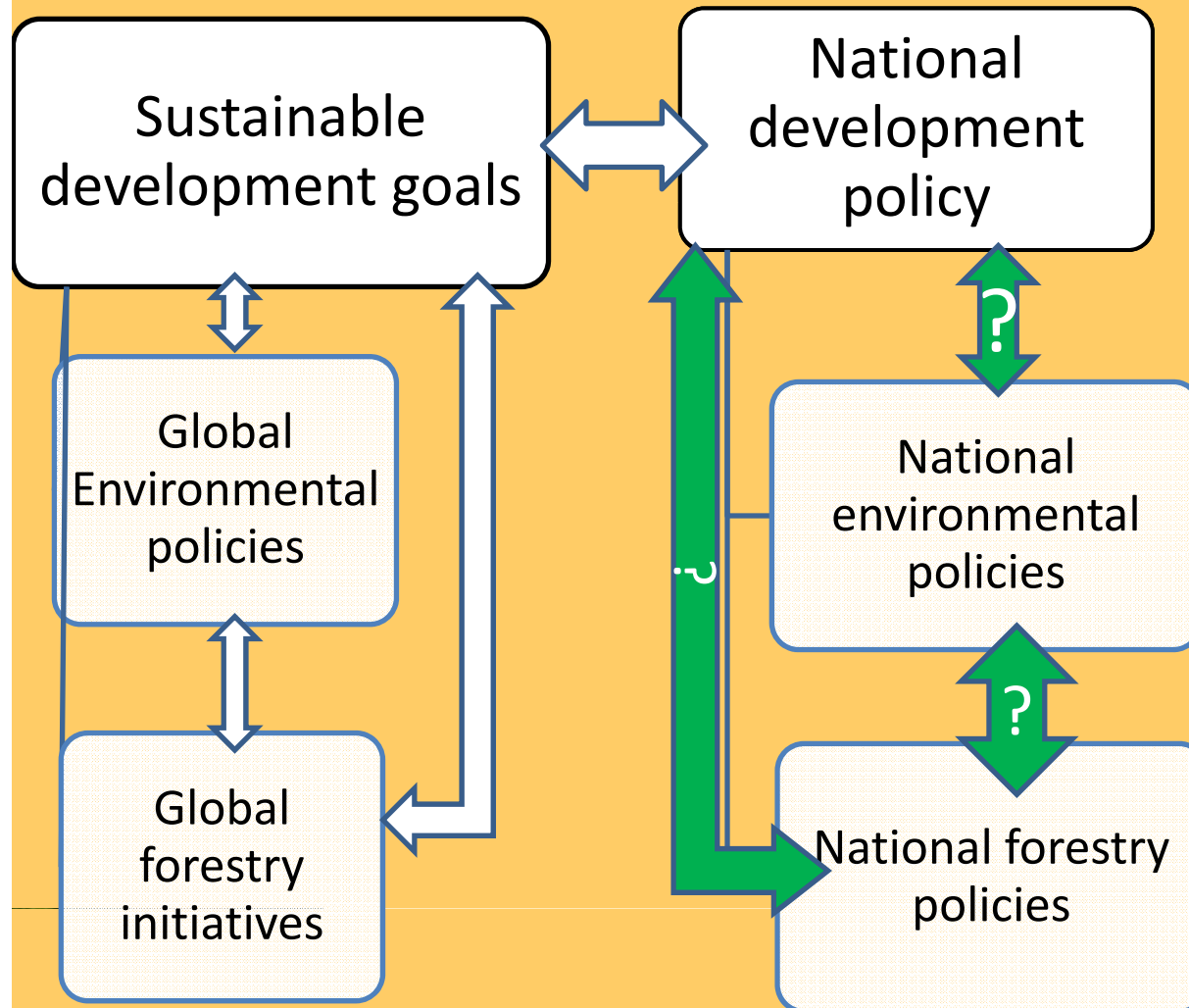
**No Poverty**  
**Zero Hunger**  
**Good Health and Well-being**

Clean water and sanitation  
Affordable clean energy

Climate action  
Life below water  
Life on land



# FORESTRY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



- Increasing convergence between overall socio-economic policies, environmental policies and forestry initiatives
- To what extent this convergence will be reflected at the national level?
- What could undermine a coherent approach at the global level (Investment and trade agreements thwarting SDGs and environmental goals?)
- What are the issues that could undermine synergy between policies at the national level?

# FORESTRY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- Need to reframe forest policies in the context of sustainable development goals.
- Establishing linkages - both backward and forward – between forest policies and the SDG goals and targets.
- Identifying trade offs between competing objectives.
- Avoid repackaging what we have been doing in the past in the new SDG cover.
- Improving the knowledge base for a realistic assessment of the linkages between land use (including forestry) and sustainable development.
- Avoid generalization and identify context specific linkages.





# SUMMING UP

- At last there seems to be a more holistic framework for sustainable development at the global level.
- Though there may be challenges in translating these to national development policies, eventually the philosophy and framework underlying SDGs will percolate to all levels.
- There will be an urgent need to develop more integrated approaches and forestry could decide whether it wants to be in the forefront or left behind.
- This will entirely depend on innovation – in governance and science and technology.
- The sectorial approach that we have pursued for long needs to be discarded.





# THANK YOU



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