

Forest Policies for the 21st Century

Sixth Executive Forest Policy Course

27 May - 6 June 2013, Thimphu, Bhutan

WOOD FUEL: WHAT FUTURE?

CTS Nair

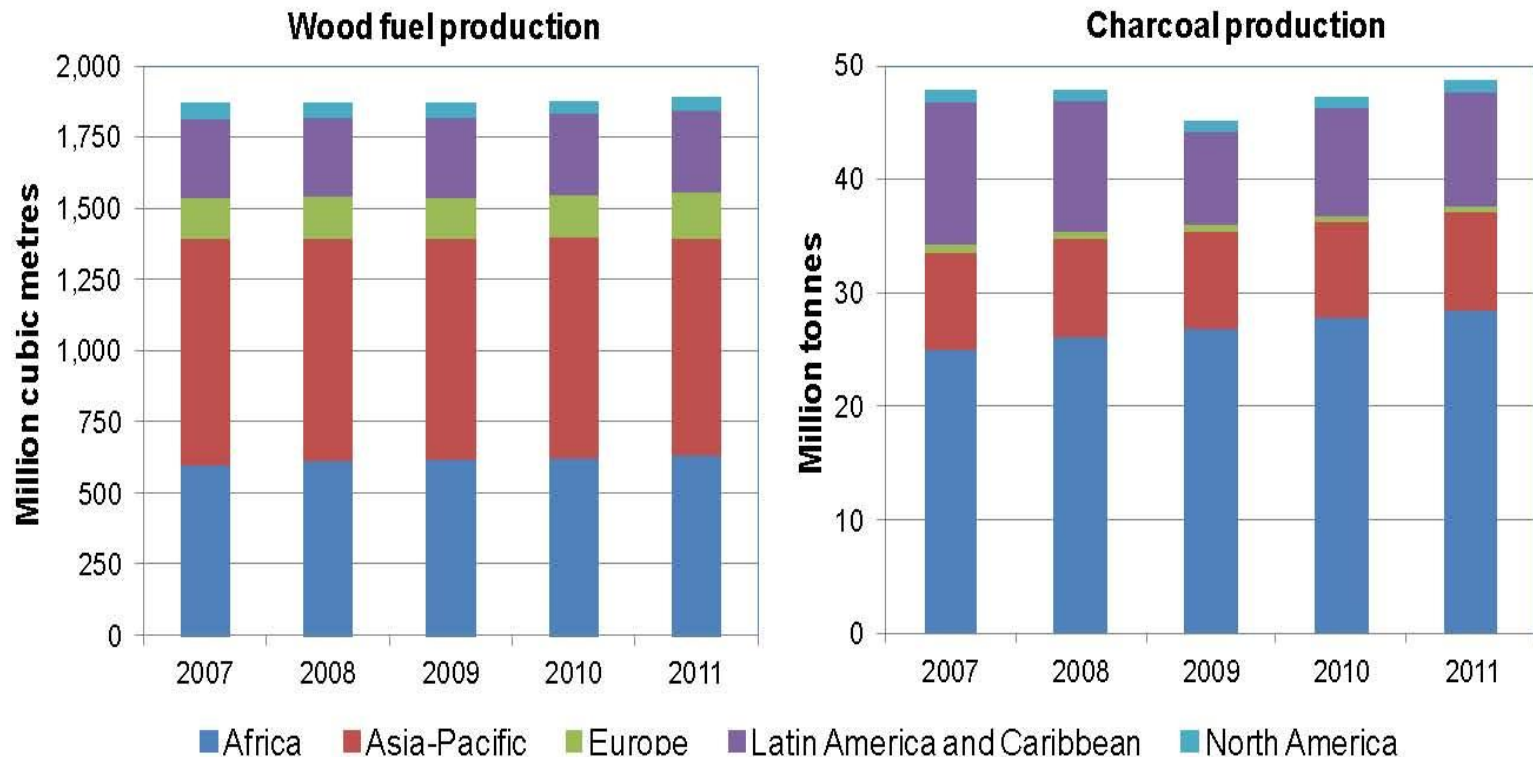
Organized by: Asia-Pacific Forest Policy Think Tank

- **Wood has been an important source of energy, especially in rural areas.**
- **Dependence of poor people on public resources for meeting their energy needs and the associated challenges.**
- **Forest policies have largely focused on controlling/ regulating subsistence woodfuel collection and to a limited extent in raising woodfuel plantations.**
- **A lot of emphasis on enhancing energy efficiency of devices, but impact of this has been at best mixed.**
- **Increasing income and moving up the “energy ladder”:**
- **Climate change policies reviving interest in the use of wood as a source of energy**

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

- **Discuss the trends in the use of wood as a source of energy.**
- **Assess the emerging challenges and opportunities as regards wood fuel production and use.**
- **Discuss implications on forest policies and what needs to be done.**

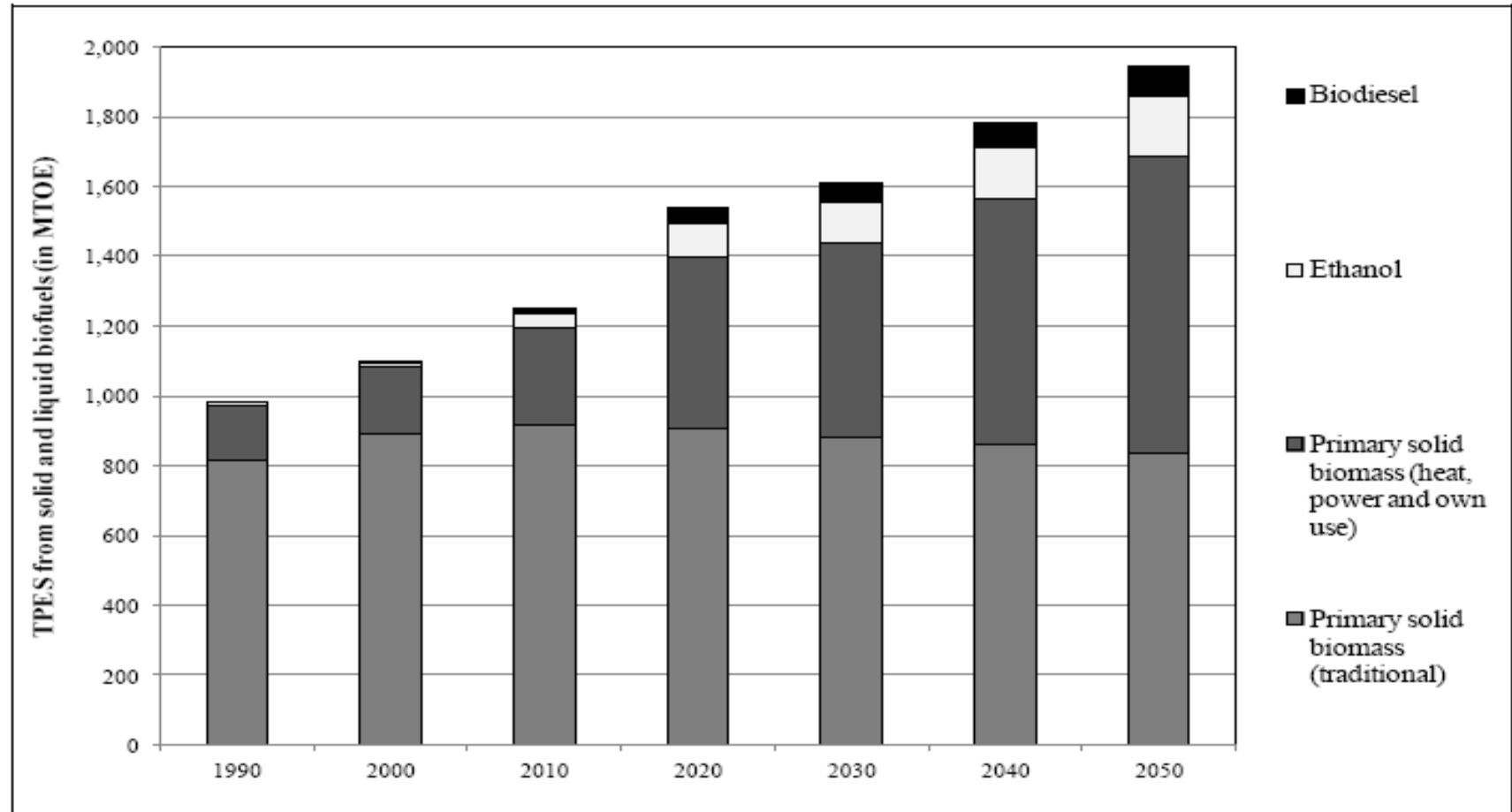
- **Reliability of information – Especially as regards production and use.**
- **Income – Energy use linkage : Impacted by a several market factors and policy interventions.**
- **Economic viability of wood energy: Competitiveness with other sources.**
- **What happens to wood energy will be largely determined by what happens outside the realm of forest policies.**



- Production and consumption of wood fuel (firewood + charcoal) has remained unchanged and consumption is stable.
- Largely this is related to a number of drivers (urbanization, increasing income and availability of better alternatives).

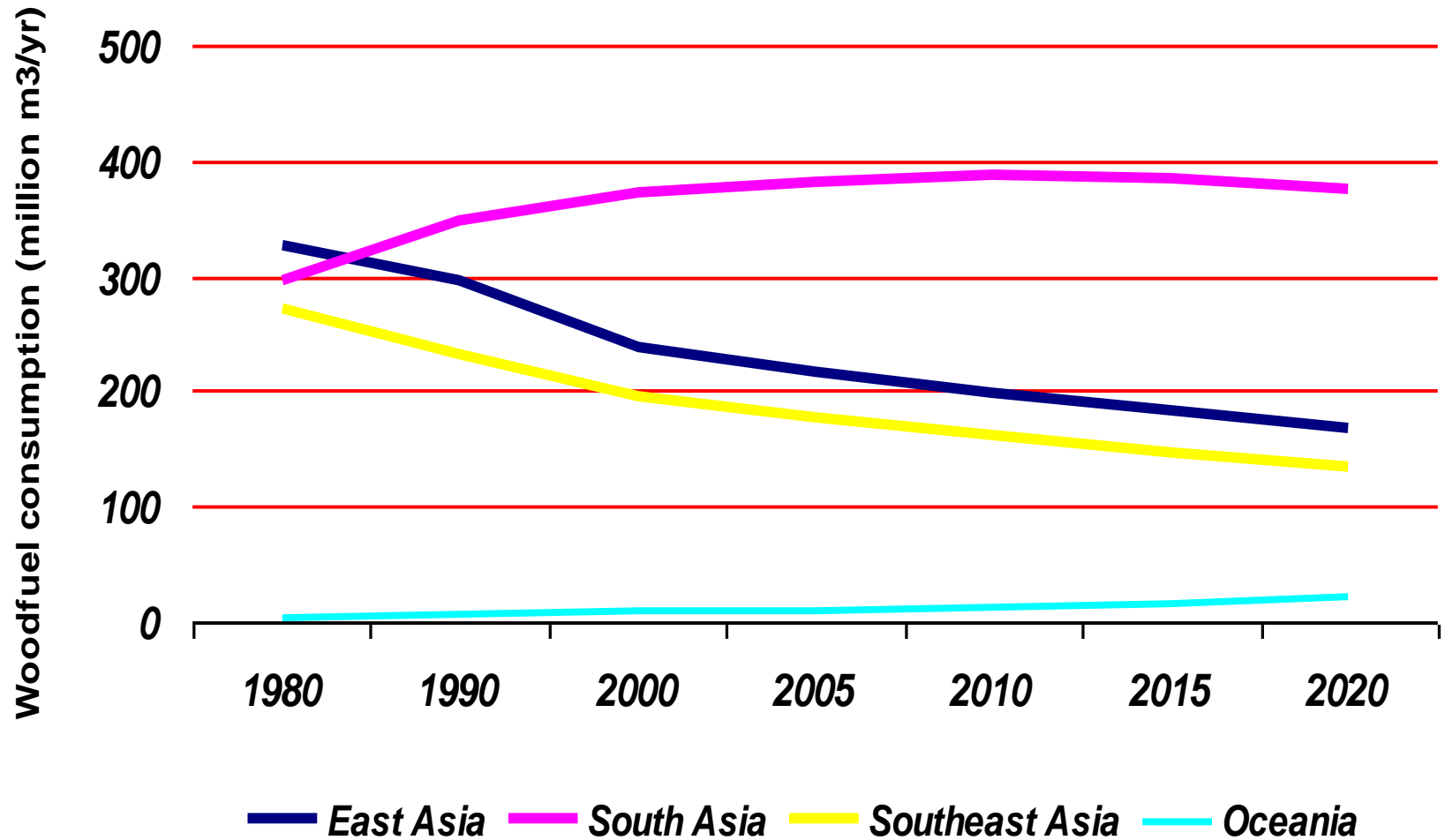
FORECASTS – GLOBAL WOOD ENERGY DEMAND

Figure 7 Global trends and projections for solid and liquid biofuel production, 1990-2050



Source: trends and projections to 2030 derived from Cushion et al (2010), with an extrapolation to 2050 based on IEA (2012). Note that these figures are for all biofuel and not just biofuels made from wood. MTOE = million tonnes oil equivalent.

SOUTH ASIA- WOODFUEL PRODUCTION TRENDS AND FORECASTS



ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

- **How should policy makers factor the changes in wood energy demand in forest policies? What should be done to enhance the synergy between energy and forest policies?**
- **Is there a need/ scope for wood energy plantations?**
- **What are the possible impacts of technological changes in the use of woodfuel?**
- **What are the impacts of climate change policies on wood energy in the Asia-Pacific? Are we going to see a revival of the use of woodfuel?**
- **How will forest policies in Asia be affected by the “greening policies” within and outside Asia?**
- **Are we going to see an increase in the trade of woodfuel?**

Thank You