



MONITORING FOREST DEGRADATION: A SPECIAL STUDY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GLOBAL FOREST RESOURCES ASSESSMENT 2010 (FRA 2010)

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Informal Meeting of Experts on Methodological Issues
relating to Reducing Emissions from Forest Degradation in
Developing Countries, Bonn 20-21 October 2008

Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005

Progress towards sustainable forest management

FAO
FORESTRY
PAPER

147



1946

TIMBER



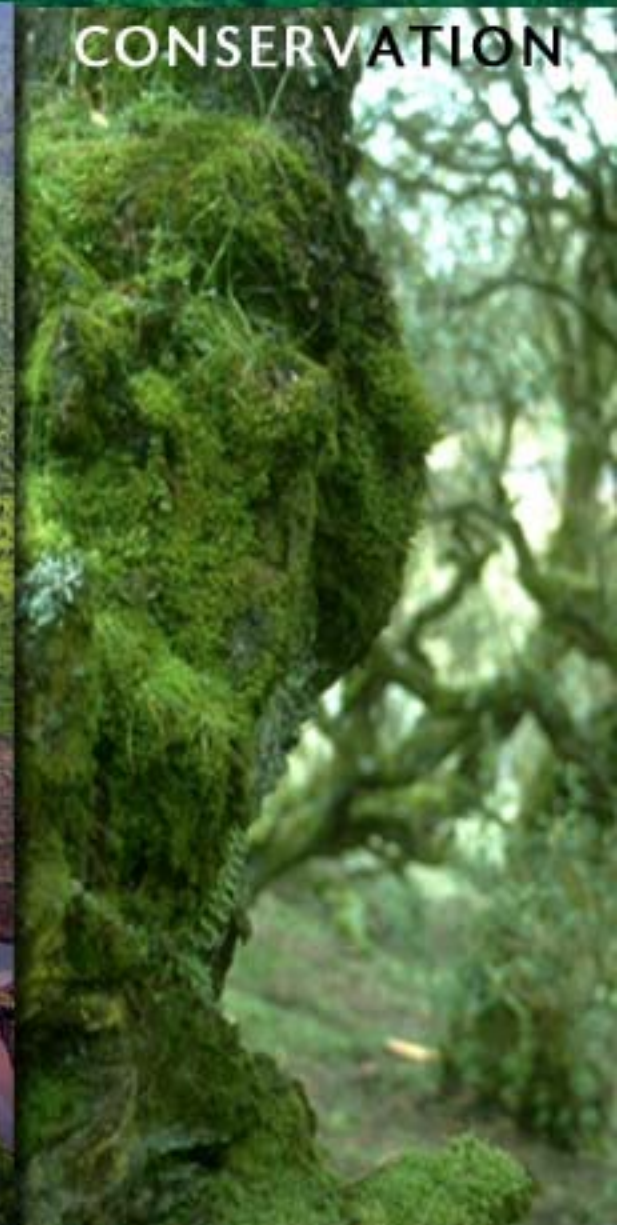
1980

DEFORESTATION



2000

CONSERVATION





A CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

- **COFO**
- **Kotka I-V**
- **Advisory Group**





FRA 2010

Guidance from Kotka V:

- Thematic elements of SFM
- Inputs to CBD Target 2010
- Global remote sensing survey
- National correspondents
- Harmonization of reporting

Guidance from COFO:

- Endorsement of Kotka V
- UNFF Global Objectives

Kotka V





UNFF GLOBAL OBJECTIVES (1)

1. Reverse the **loss of forest cover** through sustainable forest management, protection, restoration, **afforestation** and **reforestation** and increase efforts to prevent **forest degradation**
2. Enhance **forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits**



DEFINITIONS

- **Many definitions (Lund 2007)**
- **2nd Expert Consultation:**
 - Forest degradation is the reduction of the capacity of a forest to produce goods and services
- **Broad definition, not operational**
- **Even more perceptions**









POSSIBLE PARAMETERS

- **Fragmentation**
- **Change within the forest:** naturalness, structure; crown cover; species composition; stocking
- **Reduction of capacity to provide:** Specific goods and services
- **Time scale:** specified duration
- **Cause:** human-induced; natural
- **Reference state:** natural forest site; carbon stock at initial date...



POSSIBLE FRAMEWORK

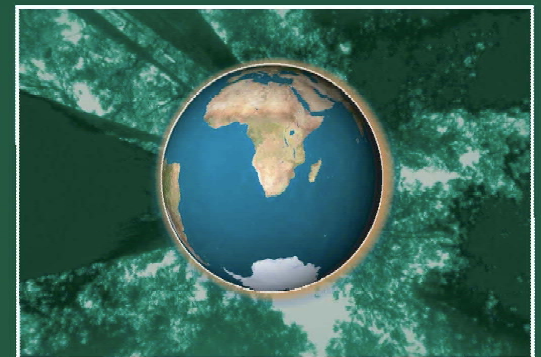
- **Extend of forests**
- **Forest and the carbon cycle**
- **Forest health and vitality**
- **Biological diversity**
- **Productive functions**
- **Protective functions**
- **Socio-economic and cultural functions**



FOREST DEGRADATION

- **Identification of parameters**
- **Documentation of existing - and promising potential - monitoring methods**
- **Technical review (2009)**
- **Sharing of knowledge**

Forests and Climate Change Working Paper 5



Definitional issues related to reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries

