



CALL FOR PAPERS
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
**THE STABILITY OF TROPICAL RAINFOREST MARGINS:
LINKING ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSTRAINTS
OF LAND USE AND CONSERVATION**



19 – 23 September 2005
at Georg-August-University of Göttingen, Germany

Jointly organized by:
Georg-August-University of Göttingen and University of Kassel (Germany)
Institut Pertanian Bogor and Universitas Tadulako (Indonesia)

Supported by:
DIVERSITAS (an international programme of biodiversity science)
LUCC (Land-Use and Land-Cover Change)
IHDP (International Human Dimensions Program on Global Environmental Change)

THEMATIC SCOPE

Tropical rainforests disappear at an alarming rate in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia causing unprecedented losses in biodiversity and ecosystem services. Despite an increased recognition of the value of these goods at national and international levels, rainforests continue to be seriously threatened by various forms of encroachments such as low-intensity harvesting of non-timber forest products by the rural poor, large-scale plantation forestry by the state or private actors, and the conversion of forested land by smallholder farmers, either temporarily through shifting cultivation or permanently through the establishment of agroforestry, cropping or grazing systems.

The stability of rainforest margin areas has been identified as a critical factor in the preservation of tropical forests. In this context, these areas include the forest rim and the belt of agricultural land use systems, which is usually surrounding the forests. Stability has an ecological, social and economic dimension. Understanding the ecological, social and economic determinants of land use change in tropical rainforest margins on different scales is the key to identify more suitable development objectives, such as nature conservation, poverty reduction, and economic development of rural areas.

OBJECTIVES

This international symposium provides an open platform for all leading scientists from socio-economic and natural sciences interested in the use and conservation of tropical rainforest resources. The research papers presented at the symposium will contribute to an improved understanding of the processes that have stabilizing or destabilizing effects on ecological and socio-economic systems of tropical rainforest margins. Interdisciplinary papers that strive to integrate environmental, technological and socio-economic issues are especially welcome. We will invite some of the excellent papers for a synthesis book (Springer) and a special issue of an international journal. The symposium will feature the following three interconnected thematic foci of interdisciplinary research.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Diogenes Alves (Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais, Sao Jose dos Campos SP, Brazil)
Gretchen C. Daily (Stanford University, Stanford, USA)
Konrad Fiedler (University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria)
Louise Fresco (FAO-Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy) (*invited*)
William L. Laurance (Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, University of Panama, Panama)
Ivette Perfecto (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA)

FOCUS 1: Integrated spatial modeling of land use in tropical forest margins

Rain forest margins around the world comprise a variety of land-use systems, with forest gardens, annual crops in slash-and-burn and agroforestry systems, as well as intensive cultivation, mostly in the valleys. An understanding of the dynamics of land-use change and related resource degradation under various policy scenarios is required, and strategies to reduce and potentially reverse degradation processes are to be developed. Papers presenting spatially explicit models or scenario analyses are especially welcome. Papers should focus on one of the following or related topics:

- Assess the influences of actors (e.g. households, social groups, institutions, government policies) on common pool or privately owned resources comparing different scales
- Analyze direct and indirect social, economic and environmental net benefits generated by different land use strategies
- Compare different types of resource use and land-use systems and their impact on the environment (ecology, hydrology, soils, nutrient and carbon fluxes)

FOCUS 2: Sustainable management of agroforestry systems

Low-intensity agroforestry may support high biodiversity stabilizing ecosystem functioning, in particular when shaded by natural trees and neighbored by natural forest. In contrast, high-intensity agroforestry with planted shade trees and in an agricultural landscape context may be characterized by less environmental benefits and high agrochemical inputs. In this focus, the ecological and socio-economic benefits of different management practices will be compared and related to patterns and processes in natural forests. Papers should address one of the following or related topics:

- Quantify biodiversity, ecosystem functions, and socio-economic driving forces in different types of agroforestry systems
- Identify differences of human-dominated tropical landscapes to forest areas with respect to biodiversity and environmental benefits
- Assess the relation of above- and belowground biodiversity to ecosystem services such as biological control, pollination and decomposition
- Identify ecological and socio-economic benefits or detriments of agroforestry systems and characterize improved management systems considering ecological and socio-economic objectives

FOCUS 3: Ecological and socio-economic impacts of different forest-use intensities

In this focus, ecological and socio-economic benefits and costs across different types of forest use will be analyzed. The consequences of low- and medium-intensity forest-use practices, such as selective timber and rattan extraction, for biodiversity and ecosystem functioning will be assessed. Papers may focus on trees and epiphytes, insects and soil biota in relation to socio-economic benefits and costs. The income derived from different types of forest use may change with socio-economic group differing in wealth, ethnicity, education, and other criteria.

- Assess forest-use intensities maintaining high biodiversity and recommend conservation concepts
- Identify differences and similarities in the response of plant and animal groups to forest-use changes and relate below- and aboveground biodiversity to ecosystem functioning
- Relate ecological and socio-economic benefits and costs to forest-use intensity

DATES & DEADLINES

Second call for papers:	01 March 2005
Deadline for submission of oral presentation/poster abstracts:	31 March 2005
Notification of acceptance of oral presentation/poster:	15 May 2005
End of early-bird-registration (reduced fee):	15 June 2005
End of possibility to change abstracts online; end of registration:	31 July 2005
Deadline for submission of invited papers: (for an edited book or special issue of international journal)	31 October 2005

FOR THE ORGANIZERS

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND REGISTRATION PLEASE SEE

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