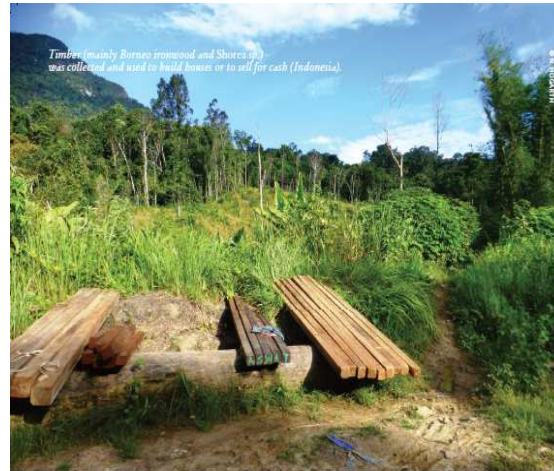# Socioeconomic surveys in forestry

Illias Animon
Forestry Officer, FAO

15 November 2018, Rome

'Data data everywhere'; scarce to super-abundant (The Economist, 2010)

Timber (mainly Borneo ironwood and Shorea sp.) was collected and used to build houses or to sell for cash (Indonesia).

Woman and her baskets. The basket materials were collected from the forest (Indonesia).

If we cannot measure,.....

Structure

- **What** (some surveys/data)

- **Why** (national socioeconomic surveys in forestry)

- **Which** (aspects the modules for national socioeconomic surveys in forestry cover)

- **Where** (surveys done)

Housing raised on stilts for protection from floods and wild animals (Indonesia).

What

Some relevant surveys

The Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS)

- Data on household living standards in developing countries
- Enable integrated analysis of household livelihood strategies
- Representative of the national population
- Forestry data limited

Some relevant surveys

LSMS Integrated Surveys on Agriculture

- For strengthening the agricultural data
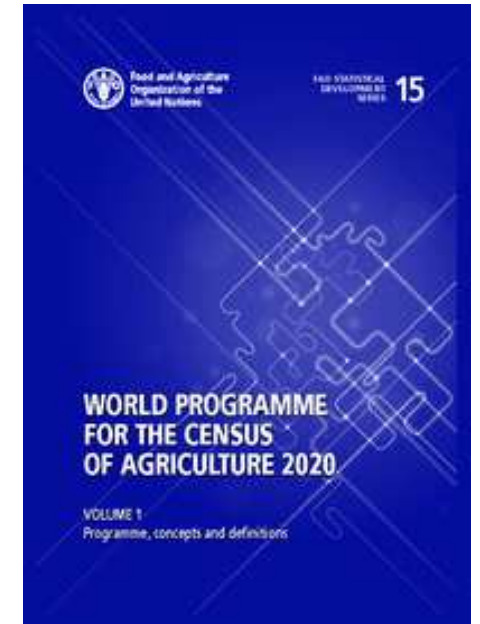
- 12 general forestry variables (Russo, 2014)

PARTNER COUNTRIES

MALI
BURKINA FASO
NIGER
NIGERIA
ETHIOPIA
UGANDA
TANZANIA
MALAWI

Some relevant surveys

World Programme for the Census of Agriculture

- Internationally comparable data on agriculture

- At least once every 10 years

- Covers some forestry-relevant aspects

Some relevant surveys

Land use monitoring supported by FAO that had socioeconomic aspects

- The Integrated Land Use Assessment in Zambia

- National Forest Monitoring and Assessment programme in Gambia

- Socioeconomic monitoring in Ecuador, Peru, United Republic of Tanzania, Vietnam and Zambia (FAO-Finland Programme)

- National Forest and Tree Resources assessment (2005-2007) in Bangladesh; ongoing BFI

Photo: http://www.fao.org/forestry/fma/en/

FAO support to Forest Monitoring and Assessment

Some relevant surveys

The Poverty-Forests Linkages Toolkit (PROFOR, 2010)

- Focus on forest and natural resource issues
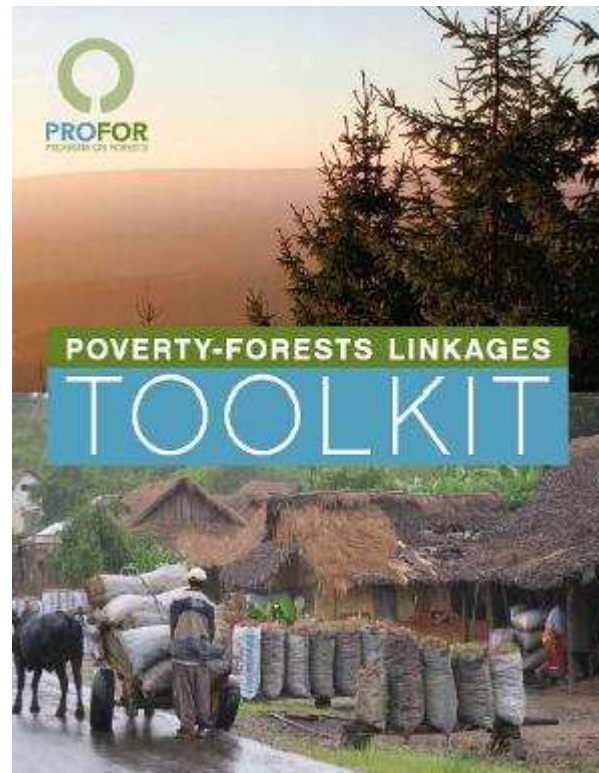
- IUCN used it in 23 countries

Some relevant surveys

Poverty Environment Network (Centre for International Forestry Research)
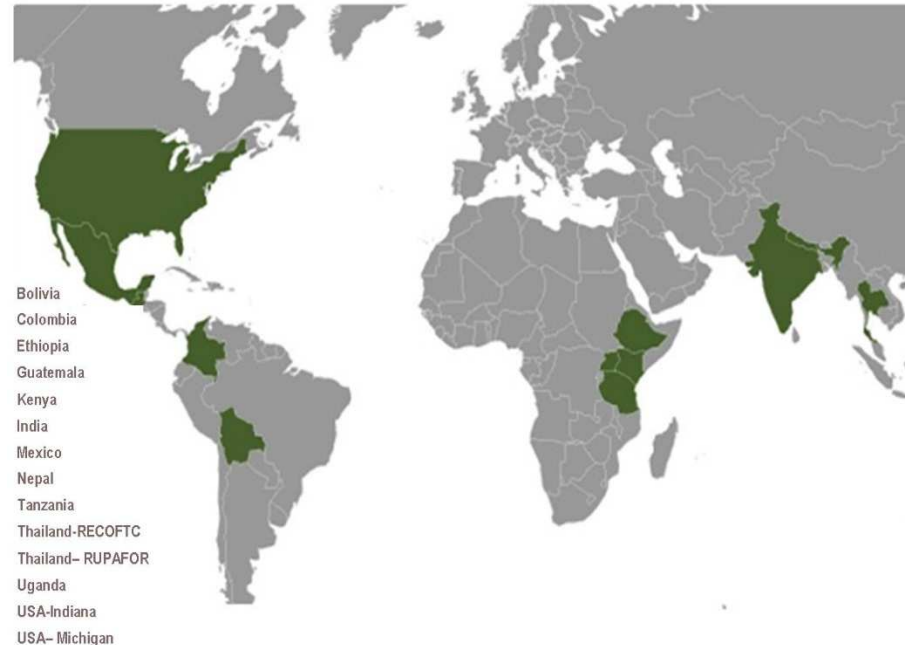
- A consistent methodology; measure the multiple contributions of forests and non-agricultural lands in household income
- 58 sites in 24 developing countries (Wunder *et al.*, 2014; FAO *et al.*, 2016)
- Results are not representative of the population in the country

Photo: https://www.cifor.org/pen/
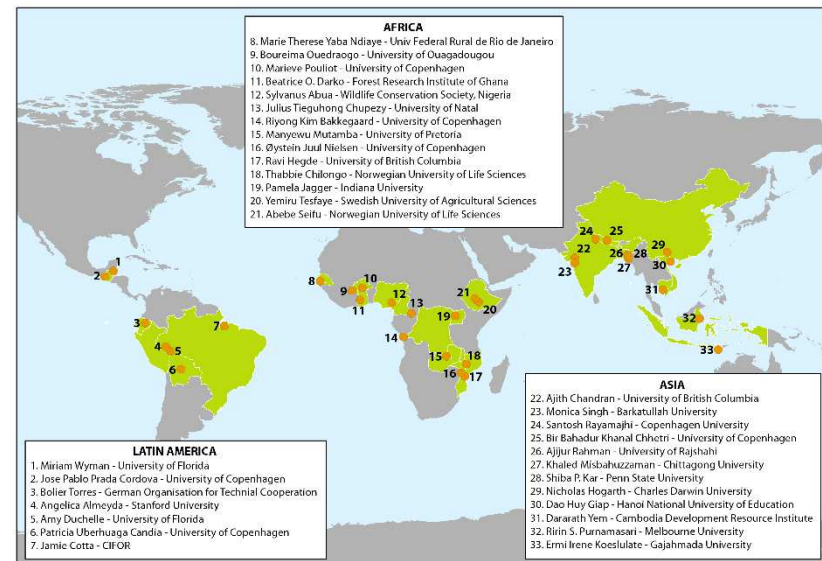
Some relevant surveys

International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI) research:

- Collect socioeconomic and institutional data

- Examine the relationships among forest use, management and institutional structure, and socioeconomic aspects in forest-dependent communities (Wertime *et al.*, 2008)

Bolivia
Colombia
Ethiopia
Guatemala
Kenya
India
Mexico
Nepal
Tanzania
Thailand-RECOFTC
Thailand– RUPAFOR
Uganda
USA-Indiana
USA– Michigan

Photo: http://www.ifriresearch.net/

Challenges?

- **Aggregation, disaggregation and comparison of data generated from different surveys difficult**

- **Some not representative of national population and coverage of forestry aspects limited**

Why

Dayak man (in Indonesia) repairing a basket used to store the newly harvested upland rice.

Collective responsibility; leave no one behind

- **The Global Forest Goal 2**

- **Sustainable Development Goals**

- **Many Criteria and Indicator processes**

- **National and sub-national targets**

- **Social safeguards (e.g. REDD+, ESM guidelines)**

- **Several initiatives (e.g. UN Decade of Family Farming)**

Data gaps

- Forest and environmental income: 28 % of total household income; roughly the same as from crops (Angelsen *et al.,* 2014)

- Forest products: shelter for 1.3 billion people, 2.4 billion people cook with woodfuel (FAO, 2014)

- Lack of reliable socioeconomic data (FAO, 2014), especially at national level

- Consequences for policies and investment measures; visibility amidst integration

- Address data gaps and broaden evidence base
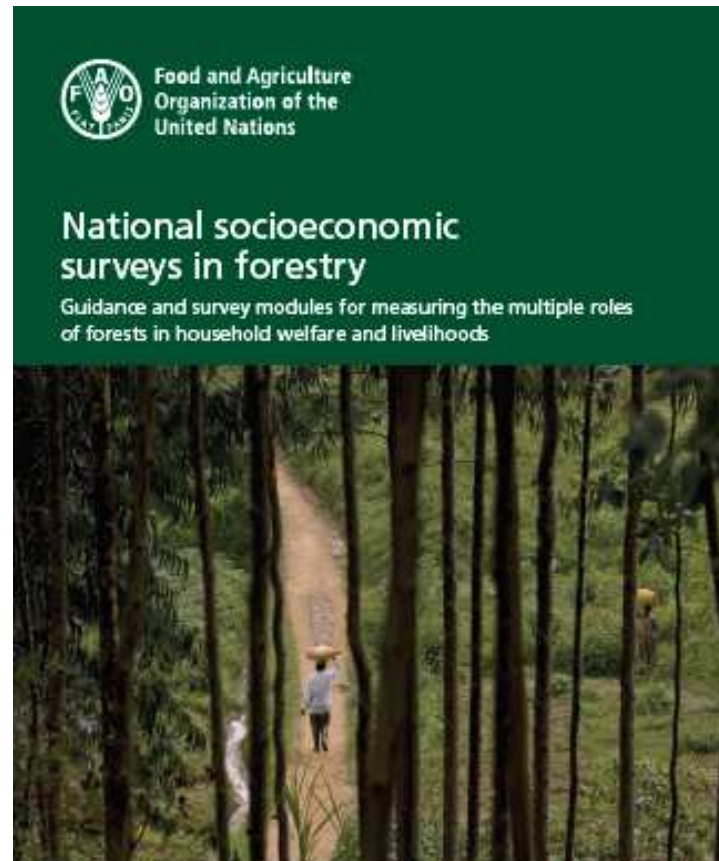
Source: FAO et al. (2016)

Modules for National socioeconomic surveys in forestry

http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6206e.pdf

Modules for National socioeconomic surveys in forestry

- **Assess the contributions of forests and trees in household welfare and livelihoods**

- **Modules field-tested in Nepal, Tanzania and Indonesia**

- **English and Spanish versions released; French version soon**

Source: FAO et al. (2016); photo source- FAO (2014)

Which

A villager drying Puri (Kratom Borneo, Mitragyna speciosa) leaves. Villagers in Indonesia collect the leaves from the trees that grow in the swampy forests, dry them under the sun, and sell them for cash income. Puri is used for medicinal purposes to reduce pain and uplift mood and for recreational purposes.

Source: FAO et al. (2016**)**

Modules for National socioeconomic surveys in forestry

Standard community questionnaire

Module A: Seasonal calendar

Module B: Most important forest and wild products

Module C: Units and pricing

Module D: Community benefits
    D1. Practices
    D2. Support

Modules for National socioeconomic surveys in forestry

Extended community questionnaire

Module E: Governance
 E1. Forest institutions
 E2. Enforcement and penalties

Module F: Community environmental services
 F1. Perceptions of climate change

Modules for National socioeconomic surveys in forestry

Standard household questionnaire

Module A: Income
A1. Income from forest and wild products
A2. Other forest-related income sources, including payment for environmental services (PES) programmes

Module B: Forest resources – energy, health and construction
B1. Forest resource base
B2. Forests and energy – fuelwood and charcoal
B3. Forests and health
B4. Forests and construction

Module C: Food shortage and crises
C1. Food shortage
C2. Shocks and crises

Modules for National socioeconomic surveys in forestry

Extended household questionnaire

Module D: Forest changes and clearance
   D1. Forest changes
    D2. Forest clearance

Where

A villager drying Puri (Kratom Borneo, Mitragyna speciosa) leaves. Villagers in Indonesia collect the leaves from the trees that grow in the swampy forests, dry them under the sun, and sell them for cash income. Puri is used for medicinal purposes to reduce pain and uplift mood and for recreational purposes.

Source: FAO et al. (2016)

Modules implemented in different contexts: examples

- **Adapted modules; Turkey**

- **Adapted modules; the national Forest Inventory in Bangladesh**

- **Selected modules in Trinidad and Tobago (project level)**

- **Likely in Tunisia (Forest Inventory/ agricultural census?)**

Source: UDA Consulting (2016)
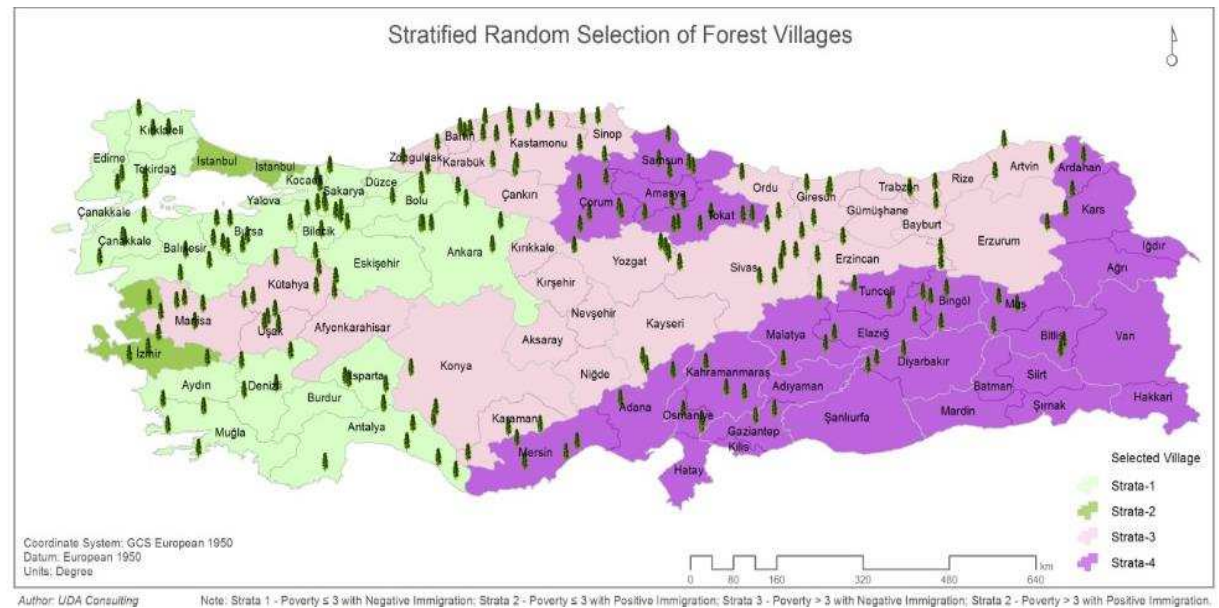
Socioeconomic surveys in Turkey

- **2, 037 households across 203 villages (World Bank, 2017)**

- **Over 60 percent of surveyed households reported income derived from the sale or use of forest products; forest income: the largest income share of poor households**

- **Evidence-based policy recommendations**

- **Feeding to policy-relevant documents (e.g. Forest Policy Note, Turkey's Forest Strategic Plan).**

Socioeconomic surveys in Forest Inventories

- Forest inventory: supply side ⟶ **Sustainability**

- Socioeconomic data: demand side ⟶

**Integration:
bio-physical + socioeconomic aspects**

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Socioeconomic surveys in the National Forest Inventory, Bangladesh

- **Surveys in five zones**

- **100 community-level surveys**

- **6 400 households (Islam *et al.*, 2018)**

- **Opportunities for post-stratification**

Wild fruits collected by households, from forests and the surrounding environment (United Republic of Tanzania).

Source: FAO et al. (2016)

Socioeconomic surveys in NFIs

- **Complexities (e.g. diversity of products, lack of definitional clarity, informal transactions, seasonality & recall period)**

- **Information needs and analytical framework**

- **Partnerships going beyond project cycle (NSO, NFD, NAD etc.)**

Source: FAO et al. (2016)

Socioeconomic surveys in FIs

- Avoid "reinventing": adapt the forestry modules, building on the existing data sources, expertise and lessons learnt

- Being realistic

  - Flexibility
  - Specialized surveys
  - Different components informing each other

Enhancing uptake

- Mapping out existing data and finding data gaps; making best use of data
- Integrating forestry modules in upcoming surveys
- Sharing lessons learnt and building capacities (e.g. through e-learning courses)
- Knowledge platform and expert network

Implementing the forestry modules in different contexts: relevant in better understanding the socioeconomic contributions of forests and their role in achieving our goals.

Let us generate & use more forestry-relevant socioeconomic data

Source: FAO et al. (2016)