

Sustainable forest management, biodiversity and carbon: The case for REDD+?

Robert Nasi

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Outline



- The international forest “agenda”
- Biodiversity, tropical forests, degradation
- Management for multiple values
- Policy recommendations
- The REDD+ case



The international forest agenda



It is... **REDD**

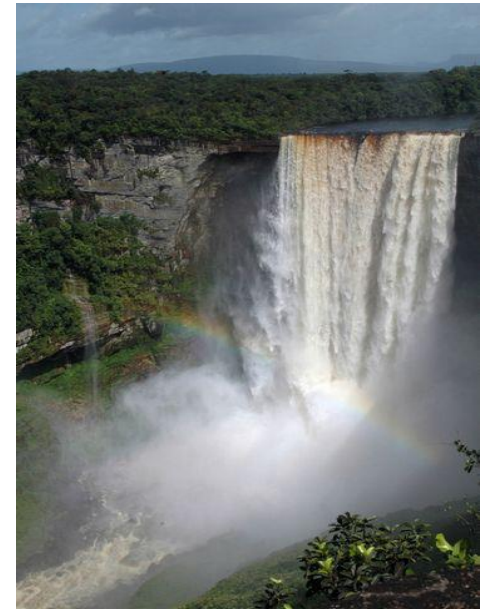
- Climate change is driving but
- Fundamental issues remain the same:
 - Unsustainable use
 - Corruption, weak law enforcement
 - Rights and tenure issues
 - Loss of biodiversity and forest areas
- Compounded by new issues:
 - Carbon-based management?
 - SFM = degradation?
 - Biofuels?





Biodiversity, tropical forests and degradation

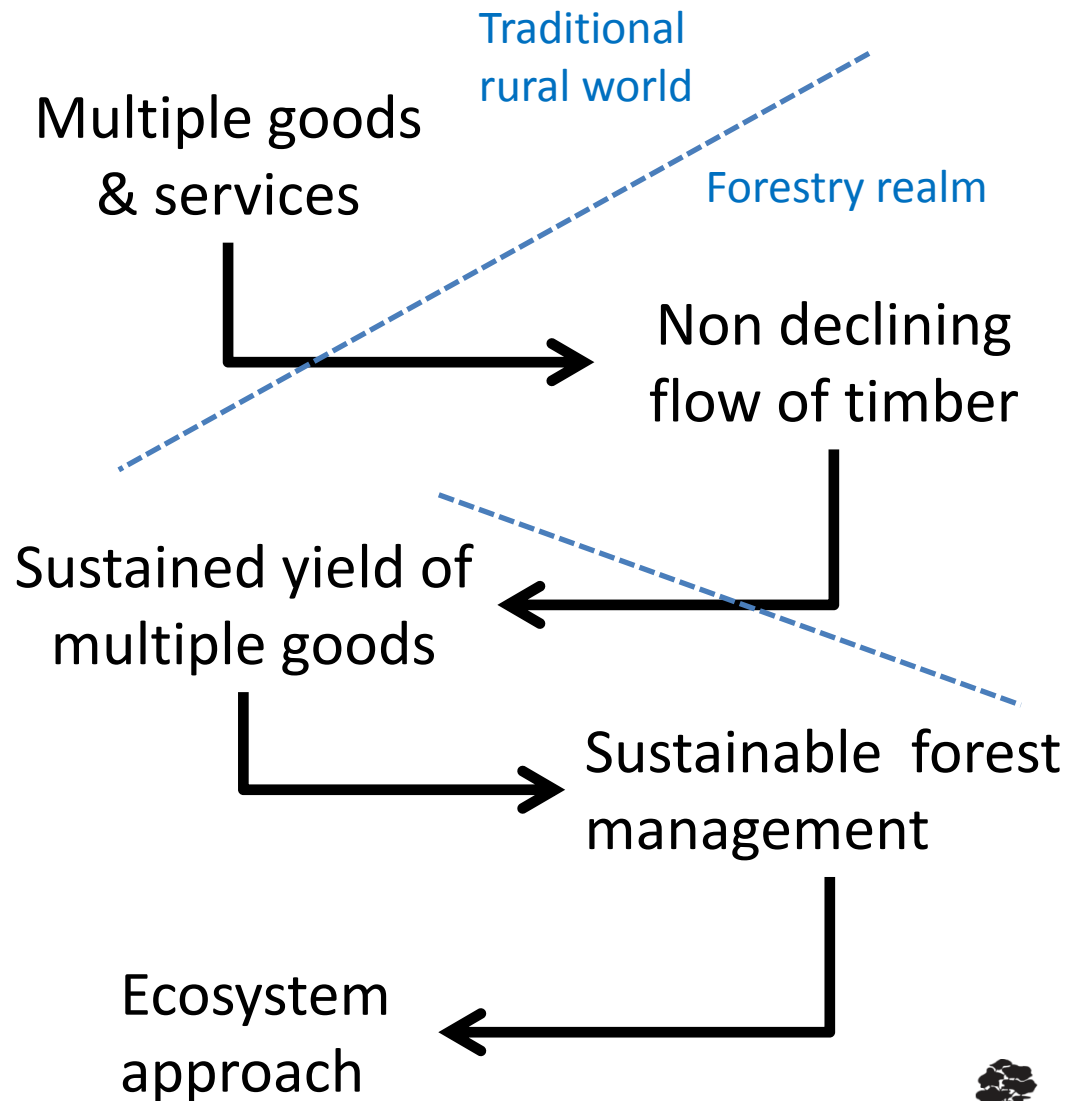
Forests: more than timber



...or carbon



- Management paradigms evolved...





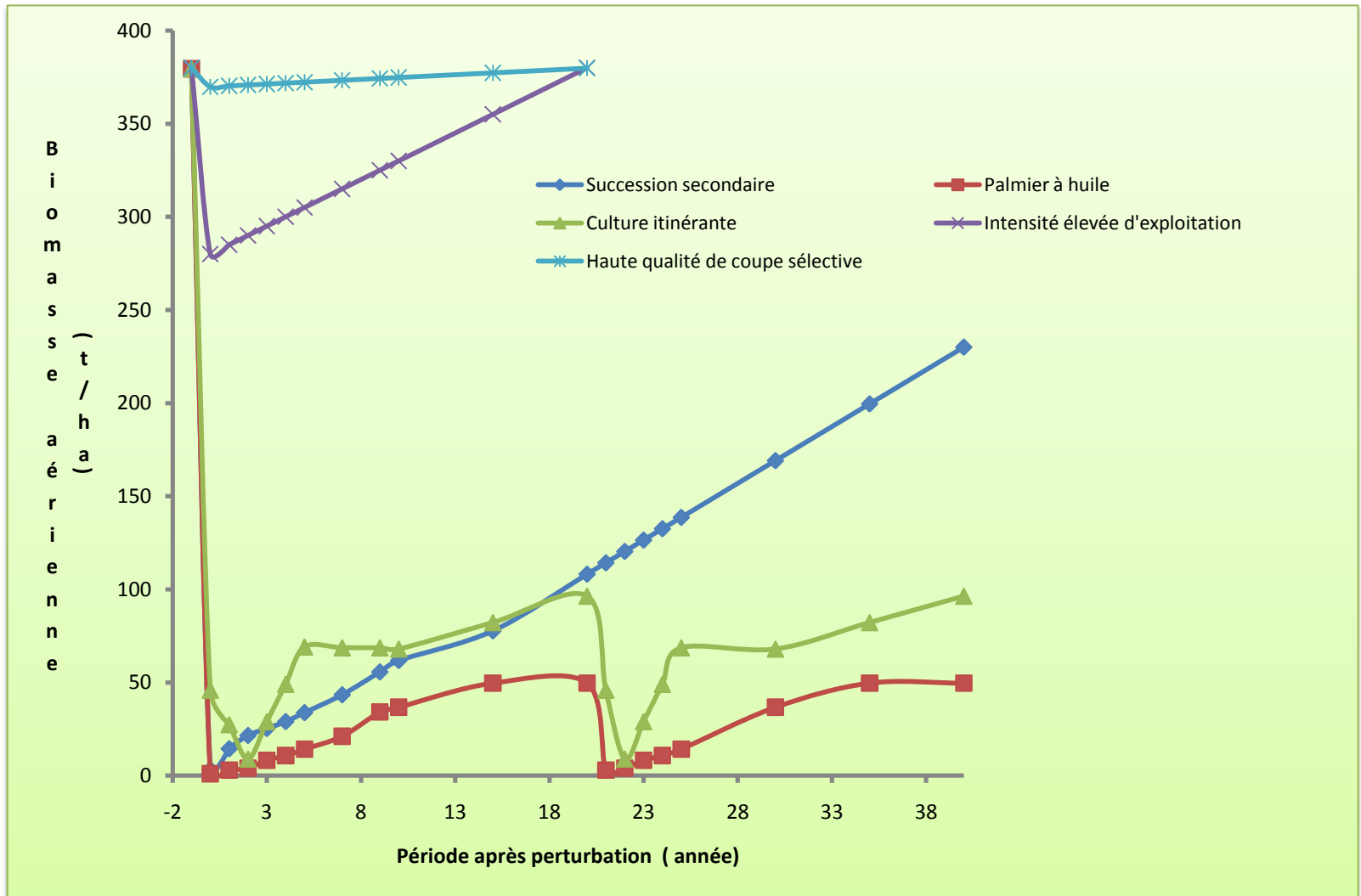
Paradigms have evolved...but:

- Emphasis is still on non-declining even flow of limited goods
- Timber remains the main commodity
- Multiple-use management is rare
- Focus is generally at stand level with limited attention to larger spatial aspects that affect stand productivity
- Ecosystem approach is not an operational concept
- Maximizing short term profits remains the “norm”
- There is limited attention to capital substitution possibilities

Forest degradation

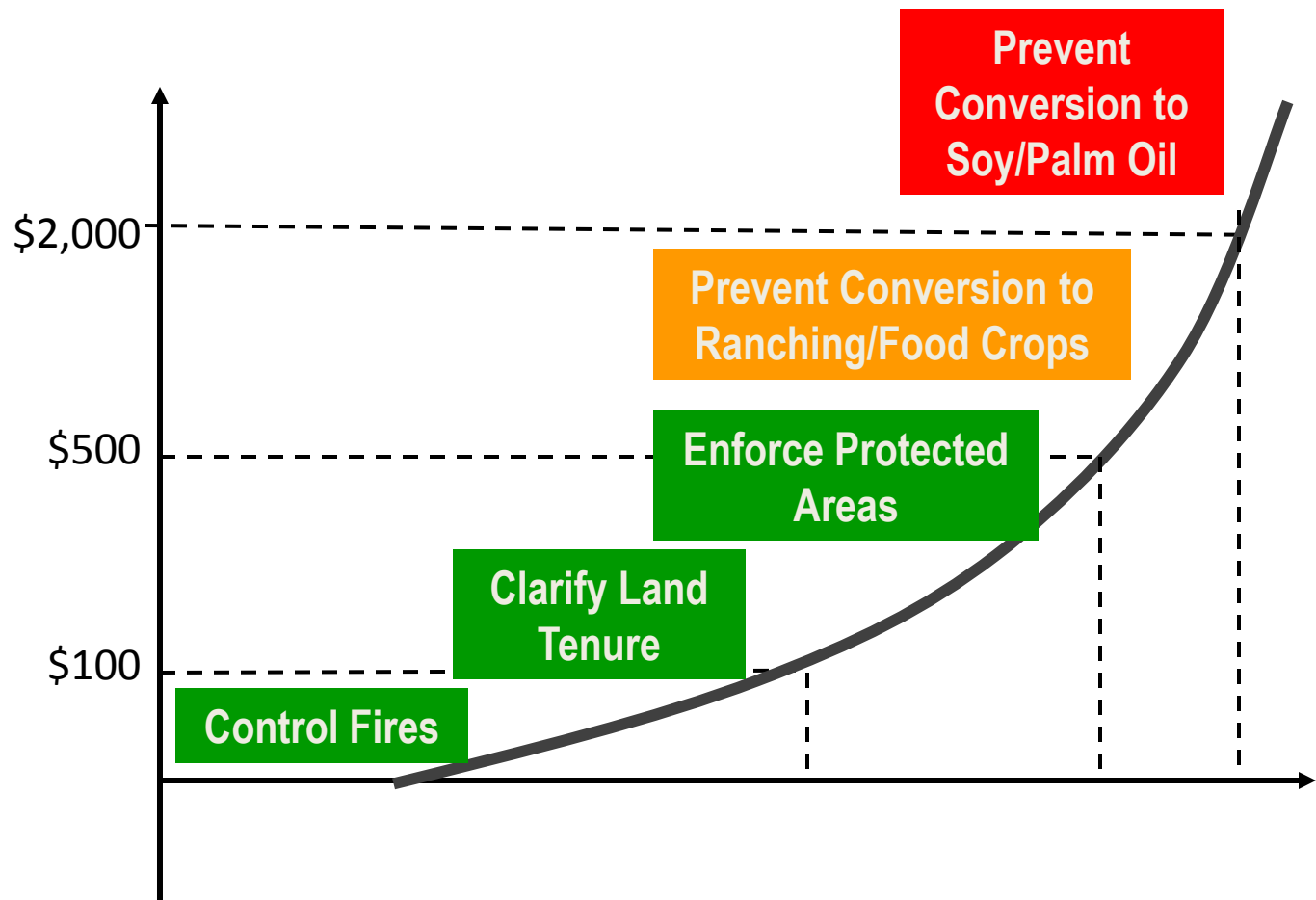


THINKING beyond the canopy



Nasi et al., 2009

- Price Carbon \geq Opportunity Cost of land
- Low-hanging fruit seen as opportunity





Management for multiple values and carbon

Barriers to SFM

■ Governance

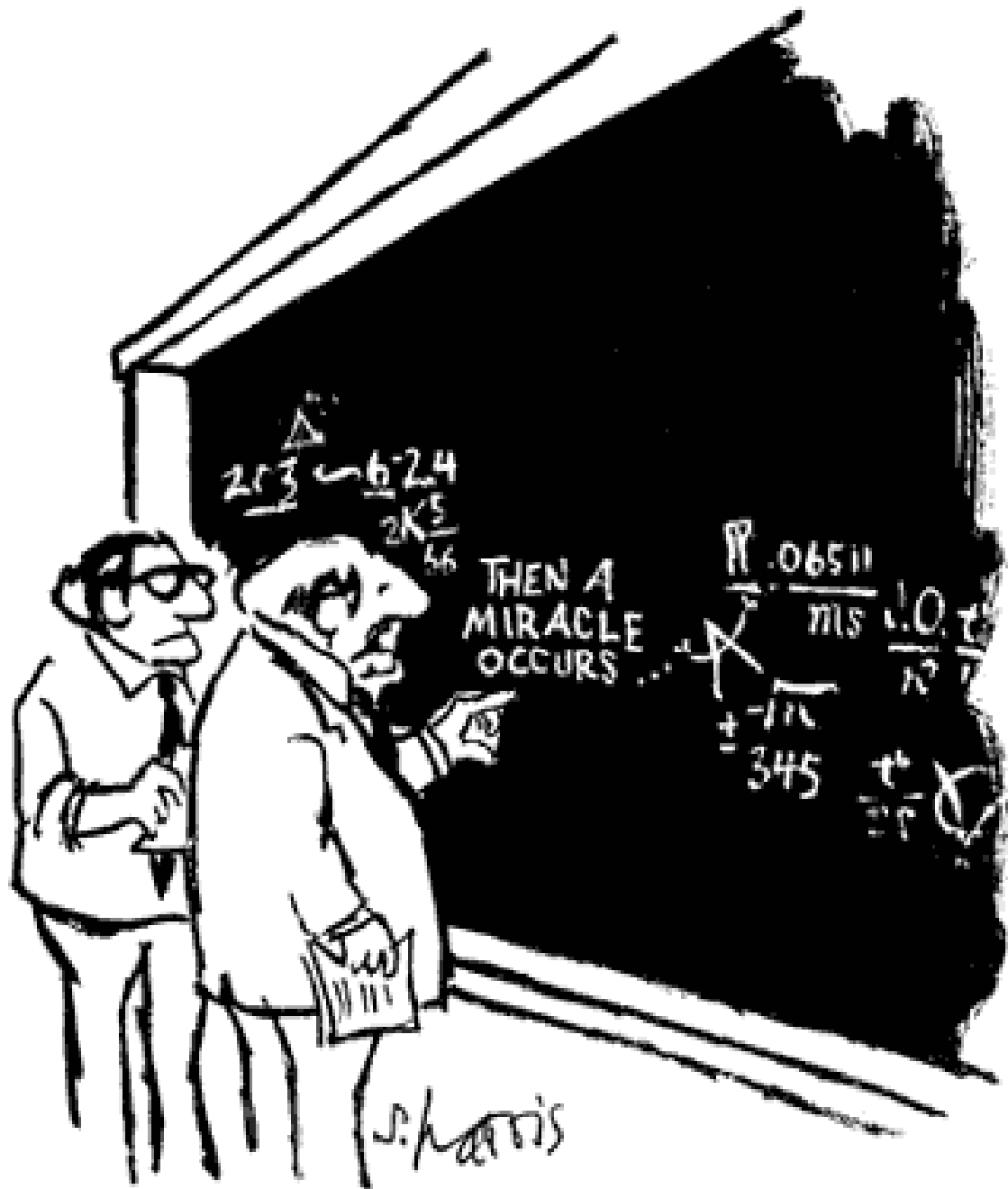
- Lack of serious intent by the major stakeholders (governments, industry, communities);
- High opportunity costs of maintaining forests as forests;
- Lack of tenure security or unclear tenure and resource rights.

■ Economy

- Excessive costs and lack of clear financial benefits from improved management vs. Business as usual;
- Inappropriate wage systems for forest workers;
- Inefficiency and waste in the forest and along the market chain.

■ Knowledge and technical guidance

- Inadequate information or knowledge about improved management;
- Improved management regulations appear too complicated or unrealistic;
- Lack of trained staff to implement improved management.



Key “lessons”

Go beyond the obvious, identify:

1. The different components / facets of forests of relevance to human and environment welfare
2. The relevant spatial scales for management of these components / facets
3. The capacity for substitution or damage remediation over different temporal scales



Policy recommendations



- Use reduced-impact logging techniques
- Carry out post-logging silvicultural treatments where necessary
- Train forest workers and reward them appropriately
- Develop incentives to enhance carbon stocks in over-logged, burned and otherwise degraded forests

Policy recommendations



- Increase security of tenure and resource access for forest owners and concessionaires
- Increase sector efficiency through appropriate taxation
- Develop incentive policies or market-based instruments to improve management
- Foster third-party certification

A case for REDD+?

- Management practices leading to sustainability are only likely to be adopted where good governance exists and effective enforcement of management regulations is backed by financial incentives:
 - the case for REDD+
- At the same time all the recommendations remain valid even if REDD+ didn't exist. We need to use the actual agenda and available funding opportunities to foster our SFM goals.



Pictures: CIFOR, R. Nasi, IRD Iwokrama International Center, D. Sheil, C. Doumenge, D. Wilkie, P. Frost. M. Guariguata, S. Wunder, P. Pacheco

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