Forestry, People and Places:
Selected Writing from Five Decades

By Dennis Richardson.
Business Media Services Ltd

Motueka-based Professor Richardson has collected his many and varied writings in this special collection.

The work includes essays, papers and addresses prepared during a career extending from the early days of modern forestry practice to the jungle tribes of Irian Jaya, the islands of the Pacific, and the highways and by-ways of European forestry.

Professor Richardson’s special interest in forestry in China is highlighted among the works, while trends in forest research receive a broadside.

All works written in Professor Richardson’s usual insightful and readable style.

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Asia-Pacific forestry information

The Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) has issued a series of useful brochures highlighting its recent increase in activity. Created in 1949, the APFC is one of six FAO Region Forestry Commissions that cover the world’s major geographic regions.

The APFC is a forum for advising and taking action on key forestry issues, focusing on the Asia-Pacific region. Examples of major APFC activities include:
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- a shift to devolution of forest management
- increased investments in forestry
- focus on environment and sustainability
- Code of Practice for Forest Harvesting
- Forest Sector Outlook Study

Among the brochures issued, is one on the Code of Practice for Forest Harvesting in Asia-Pacific. The brochure provides a useful brief insight into the 133-page published Code, which is a comprehensive guide for sound forest harvesting.

For further information, contact Patrick B. Durst, Regional Forestry Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. 39 Phra Atit Road, Bangkok 10200, Thailand. Email: Patrick.Durst@fao.org

Carbon Dioxide Offset Investments

Opportunities and Constraints

Joint publication of RWEDP and FAO's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Field Document No.53, RAP Publication: 1998/9

Growing concern about the effects of climate change has led to increasing research, policy initiatives, and development of innovative programs and projects around the world. Developing policy, program and project measures that reduce human-induced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (i.e., CO2, N2O and chlorofluorocarbons [CFCs]) are of particular interest.

Storing carbon in trees and forests is one option for offsetting the gases released by fossil fuel burning, and for mitigating the potential effects of global warming. Under the Kyoto Protocol negotiated in December 1997, recognition is given to this option. Countries that have agreed to specific greenhouse gas emission limits will be eligible to receive credit for certain domestic forestry and land-use activities that increase the storage of carbon in sinks.

Moreover, under the Kyoto Protocol, countries will be able to earn emission reduction credits by carrying out collaborative carbon-storage activities in other countries.

These credits, in turn, can be used to “offset” greenhouse gas emissions in their home countries to partially meet emission reduction commitments. In this report “carbon offset” project activities are referred to as certified Emission Reduction Credits (ERC).

Numerous issues related to the new international negotiations and agreements remain unclear, however. Many questions remain over the economics, politics, and mechanisms under which the new agreements will be implemented.

Nonetheless, it is apparent that forestry could play a significant role in the global strategy for mitigating the threat of global climate change.

This report discusses opportunities and constraints in forest sector ERC projects in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The report discusses wood energy development as one of the options for ERCS. In fact, the global climate will benefit twice if the investments are directed to plantations that supply wood energy.

The full report can be downloaded from http://www.rwedp.org/fd53.html.