



Dying from hunger in food-exporting Argentina BBC 6 april 2011

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-12973543>

At least 10 indigenous children have died from malnutrition in north-west Argentina this year

Since ancient times the Wichi have been a tribe of hunter-gatherers. The forests provided them with food high in protein, like fish and fruit, which kept them in good health.

Between 2000 - 2006, 600,000 hectares of forest was flattened in the region by farming corporations that harvest soy beans, corn or other grains and cereals.

Large fields of soy beans have been planted where forests used to grow



UN Convention to Combat Desertification COP 10 Mtg (Oct. 2011, Korea)

Agriculture land degradation of 12 M ha /year will result by 2035 in 12 % less food production and 30 % price increase, but land degradation can be reversed as shown by 2 examples of farmland restoration

- 6 M ha in Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso 200 million trees added bottom up
- Chinese example ([movie](#)) top down

Policies against Hunger

Food security and access to natural resources

WG. 4 Safe and fair access to resources for food security and nutrition - Forests

**Using Tree and Forest-based solutions
to increase food security and nutrition**

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<http://www.fao.org/forestry/nwfp/en/>

Overview presentation from global to local

- **Global**
 - Food from Forests
 - Enabling Policy Instruments governing production of and access to forest foods
- **Local** example of Central Africa project
 - NWFP Directives (law blueprint for countries in region)
 - Right to Food

Forests

- “forests” : 1/3 global land area (3.6 B. ha)
 - 56% (**sub-**tropics) (of which 1/3 “dry-open” forests
 - important for grazing/fodder) **greatest challenge**
 - facing severe deforestation and degradation
 - approx. 500 million people now, X 2 by 2030
 - 80 % **public** owned, devolution to comm/private
- food / feed security (FAO) :
 - Population 9 B. by 2050, with highest increase in the (sub-) tropical regions
- [climate change, biodiversity, global trade,.....]





forests provide

- “land” for shifting cultivation
- fuelwood , charcoal
- grazing/ fodder
- industrial wood, poles
- Non Wood Forest Products (NWFP)
- services (cultural sites, water, etc....)

FOOD FROM FORESTS:

FOODS: nuts, fruits, mushrooms, bushmeat, edible insects, leaves, roots and tubers, honey / and used for food, spices, colorants, medicinals, herbs, fodder for livestock,.....

- [Non-Wood Forest Products](#), NTFP's, emerging-, underutilized-, uncultivated, indigenous-crops,..
- NWFP Global reported removal value: US\$ 18.5 billion (underestimation) (eq. value of global apple production (FAOSTAT))





USES OF TREES AND FORESTS FOR FOOD SECURITY

Direct consumption

- Subsistence
- Supplement to diets

Income generation

- Livelihood diversification
- Enterprise development
- Employment

Safety net

- Buffer food and fodder source
- Water and wood fuels
- Natural resources as income supplement

Environmental services

- Regulate temperature
- Soil fertility
- Water source

FOOD FROM FORESTS: characteristics & dynamics

- most farmed species originated from forests and have their origin still wild growing in the forests: f.ex.: apple, coffee, tea, ananas,....
 - importance of “wild” species for genetic improvement of farmed species
 - “domestication” process still ongoing ! (particularly of tropical species) *Macademia nuts, Theobroma grandiflora,...*
- direct food contribution + provides diversity in diets (proteins: bushmeat, edible insects, fish,.. /vitamins: fruits, leaves,.. / fats: nuts,...)
- Forests and trees provide indirect protection of farmland & water supplies, grazing for cattle

FOOD FROM FORESTS:

Major challenges

- **majority produced from gathering/hunting on “public”-owned lands** (“tragedy of commons” - leads to species depletion (large fauna spp./flora: medicinal plants) – open access resources restrictions)
- **conflicts among forest user stake holders:** “timber – versus food” (ex.: sapelli wood versus edible caterpillars: logging companies versus indigenous peoples)
- **fragmentation of NWFP production**, + local importance
- poor institutional, legal, policy and regulamentary framework (most of production/sector is “**informal**” and for subsistence use)
- low technological level and limited value added by producers, reduced investment options
- indigenous knowledge and practices are disappearing (deforestation, rural exodus, changing food habits, substitution/ competition from other materials or from farming,)
- global (free) trade (increased demands / cheaper imports)

FOOD FROM FORESTS:

- reduced access and resource availability due to deforestation / degradation of natural forests in developing countries, establishment of (tree) plantations or through logging concessions (limiting gathering and hunting practices of local people)

Enabling Policy Instruments governing production of and access to forest products and foods

Forestry

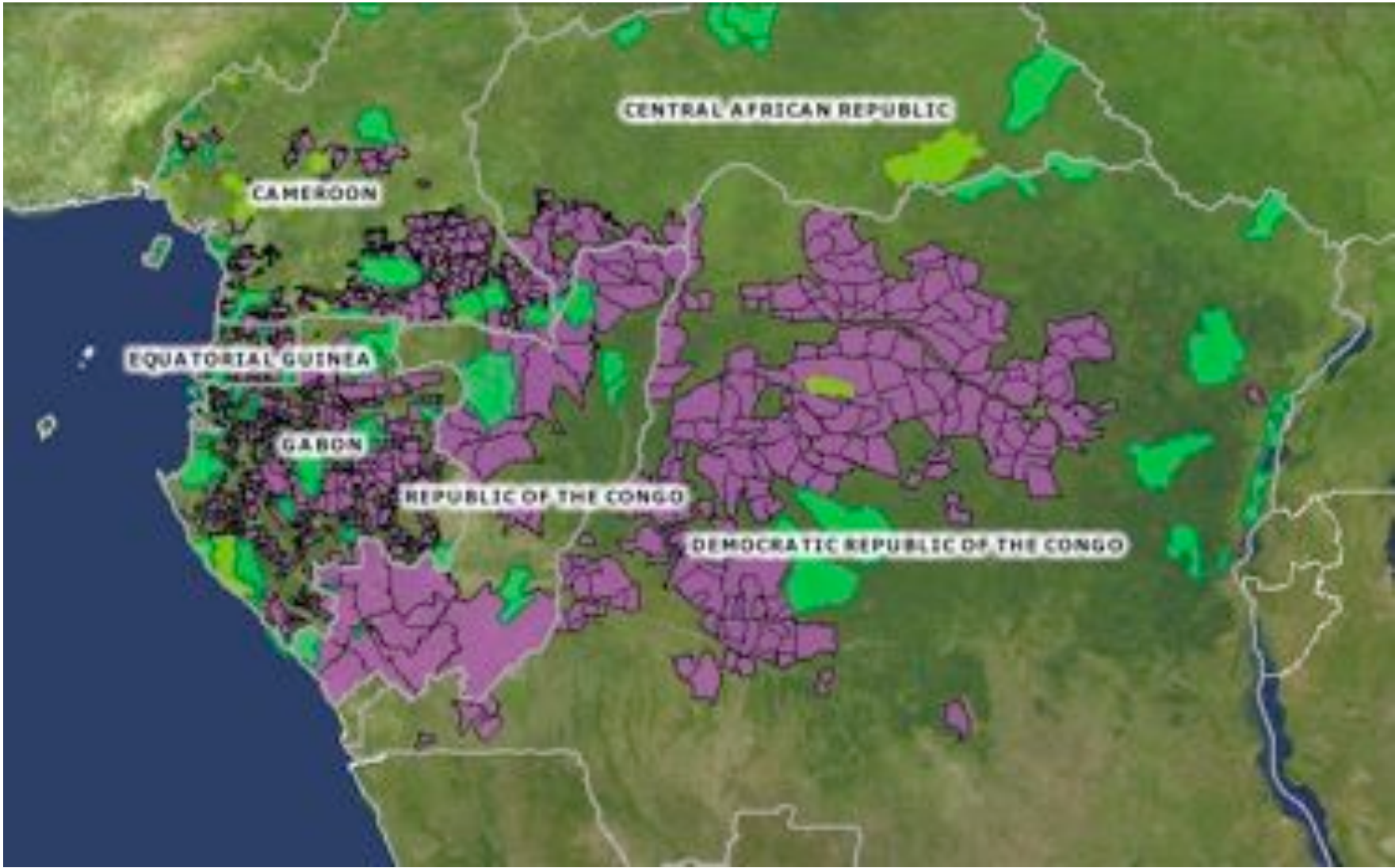
- Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)
- Forest Certification
- Forest policies/ law and regulations

Human rights based approaches

- Right to Food

LOCAL Example of a project in Central Africa

- [Enhancing the contribution of NWFP to poverty alleviation and food security in Central African countries](#)
- Funded by German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
- develops policy and institutional frameworks that govern the access of local people to resources and markets for NWFP ([NWFP model law](#))
- integrate NWFP into national planning and strategies for **poverty alleviation, food security** and **Right to Food**.





Thanks for your attention

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Forest Production

- Global wood production: 3.4 billion m³
(1.7 Industrial; 100 B. \$ of which tropical timber: 11 B \$)

Industrial Roundwood – (fuelwood) (mill. M³ 2005)

- Approx. 250 M m³ (900 M cm)
 - Africa: 30 (300)
 - Asia: 100 (464)
 - Latin Am.:125 (139)
- Global reported NWFP value : 18 B \$
- (of which from (sub-) tropical countries: 7.5 B \$)

