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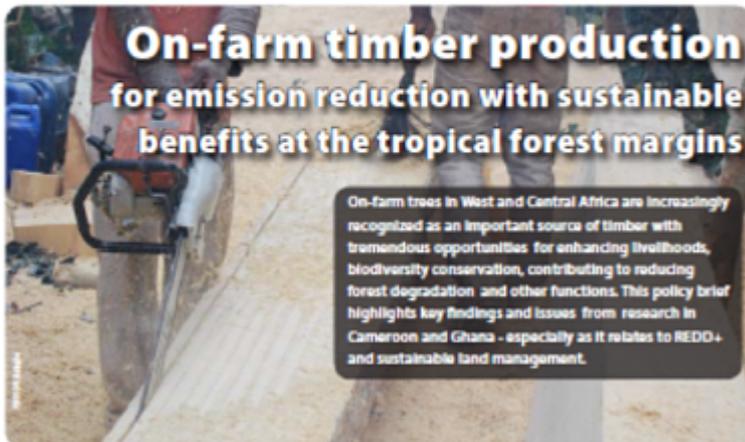
On-farm timber production for emission reduction with sustainable benefits at the tropical forest margins

Resource
2011

Themes

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Key findings

- 1. Smallholders' mixed agricultural mosaic hosts a significant amount of timber trees.**
Traditional smallholders' practice of preserving multi-purpose forest trees on-farms has produced rural land rich in timber resources.
- 2. Smallholder production systems hold a significant share of the national timber production.**
In timber producing countries like Ghana and Cameroon, on-farm timber is largely harvested to supply the domestic and export market.
- 3. Smallholders do not benefit from on-farm timber harvesting**
Trees are perceived as a resource in transition, whose future is not to be secured.
- 4. Farm-grown timber has potential for reducing forest degradation and enhancing carbon stocks, thereby contributing to NAMAs**
The ecological benefits of on-farm timber production consist not only in diverting part of the logging from the forest, but also in mitigating the effects of forest loss due to agricultural expansion.

Implications

- An assessment of the importance of non-forest timber production and its potential is needed in order to define sustainable timber resources management strategies.
- Particular attention should be paid to the link between smallholder agriculture and opportunities to associate timber with agricultural production.
- Policies and incentive systems are needed for enhancing sustainable on-farm timber production.
- Tree-based farming systems need to be encouraged as part of a low-carbon emissions development pathway and adaptation strategy.

PDF



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Summary

On-farm trees in West and Central Africa are increasingly recognized as an important source of timber with tremendous opportunities for enhancing livelihoods, biodiversity conservation, contributing to reducing forest degradation and other functions. However, policies and incentive systems are needed for enhancing sustainable on farm timber production.

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