Reducing Emissions from Deforestation in Developing Countries

A workshop to discuss methodological and policy issues

Bad Blumau / Austria
10-12 May 2006



Organized and Co-funded by

JOANNEUM RESEARCH

Union of Concerned Scientists
Citizens and Scientists for Environmental Solutions

CIFOR

INSEA

Global Carbon Project

- 80 participants
- 28 countries

Rationale and Objectives

- COP11 mandate
  Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action
  - 2 year process
  - 31 March submissions
  - SBSTA workshop later this year
- Elaborate policy and methodological approaches for reducing emissions from deforestation
- Informal discussions of 31 March submissions
- New ideas to feed into SBSTA discussions
- Brainstorm about possible paths in next 2 years

Concerns leading to exclusion to date

- Targets were negotiated first, then mechanisms
- Scale
- Uncertainties
- Baselines
- Leakage
- Permanence

What has changed since

- Recognition that CO2 stabilization not possible without addressing DD
- Recognition of key emissions source; new inventories available
- GPG 2003, IPCC 2006 GL, CDM AR Methodologies
- Sectoral CDM discussed
- Post 2012: chance to discuss targets and mechanisms in an integrated way
- Initiative by developing countries
- Political will

Key features of negotiated solutions

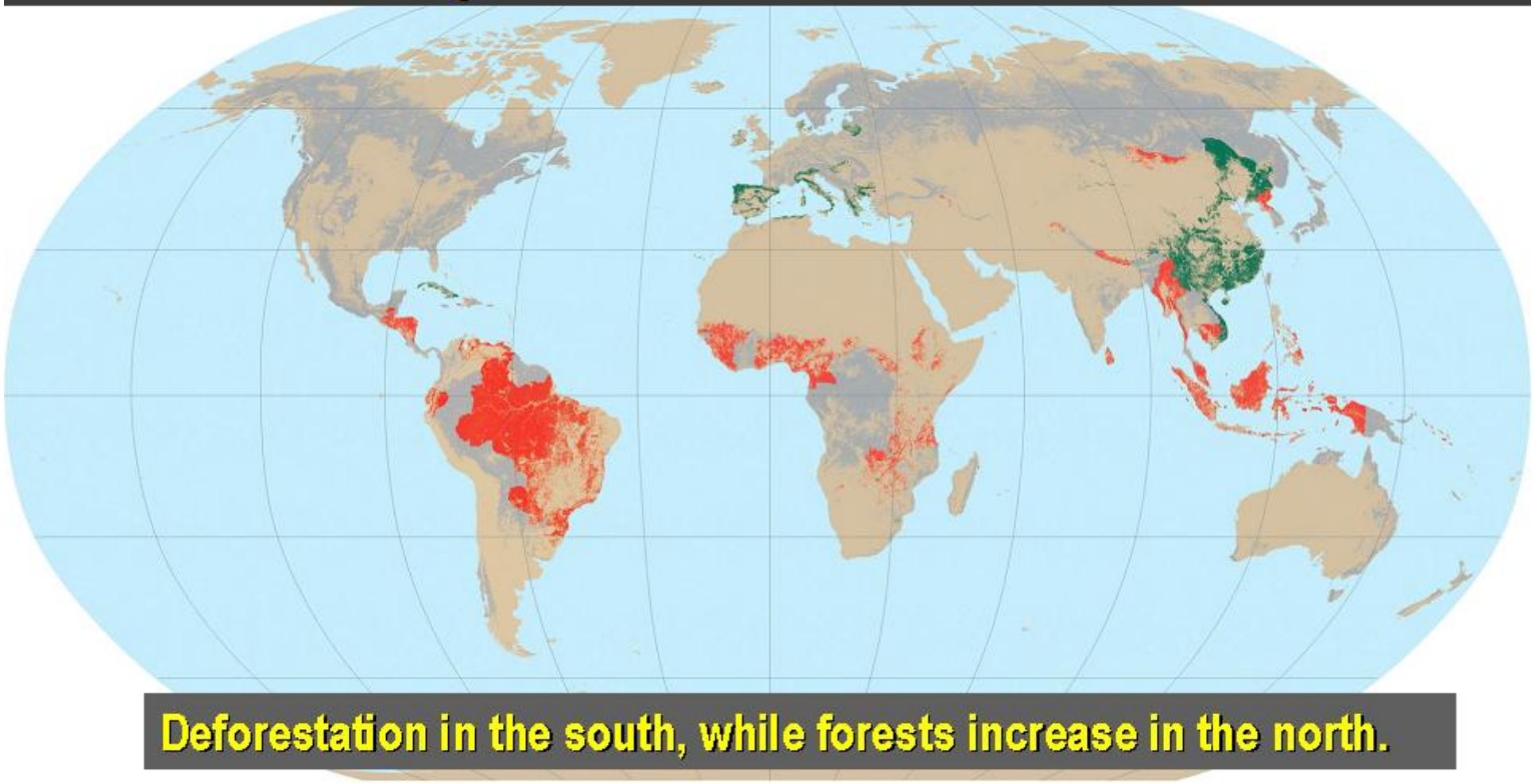
- Promote participation by countries
- Incentives for improvements within countries
- Practicality

Topics in plenary

- Magnitude of the problem, underlying causes
- Lessons learned
- The role of REDD in avoiding dangerous climate change
- Approaches how deforestation could be addressed
- Policy approaches and incentives within a country – an example from Brazil
- Methodological Issues related to accounting of REDD
- Detection, monitoring and mapping of deforestation and associated emissions
- Costs, potentials, impacts on carbon prices

I. Context:

Dynamic in forested areas 2000-2005: hotspots of deforestation and forestation



Source: FAO, 2006

I. Context:
Deforestation in the tropics

China, SE-Asia:

Agroindustry (Oil palm), Pulp (China)

West Africa:

- Shifting cultiviation, conflicts, timber extraction

Congo Basin:

- Timber extraction, roads, shifting cultivation

Central America:

- Shifting cultiviation, land speculation

Amazonas Basin:

- Land speculation, Agroindustry (Soja, livestock), shifting cultiviation, conflicts, planned and unplanned colonisation

Country (FRA-2005 – FAO 2006)	Deforestation (ha) (annual average 1990-2005)	Trend 00-05
Brazil	2,821,900	**?**
Indonesia	1,871,500	-
Sudan	589,000	-
Myanmar	466,500	-
DR Congo	461,400	**?**
Zambia	444,800	-
Tanzania	412,300	-
Nigeria	409,700	-
Zimbabwe	312,900	-
Venezuela	287,500	-
Other 68 countries	3,257,400	?
Total	**11,334,900**	

S. Wunder

Common rationales

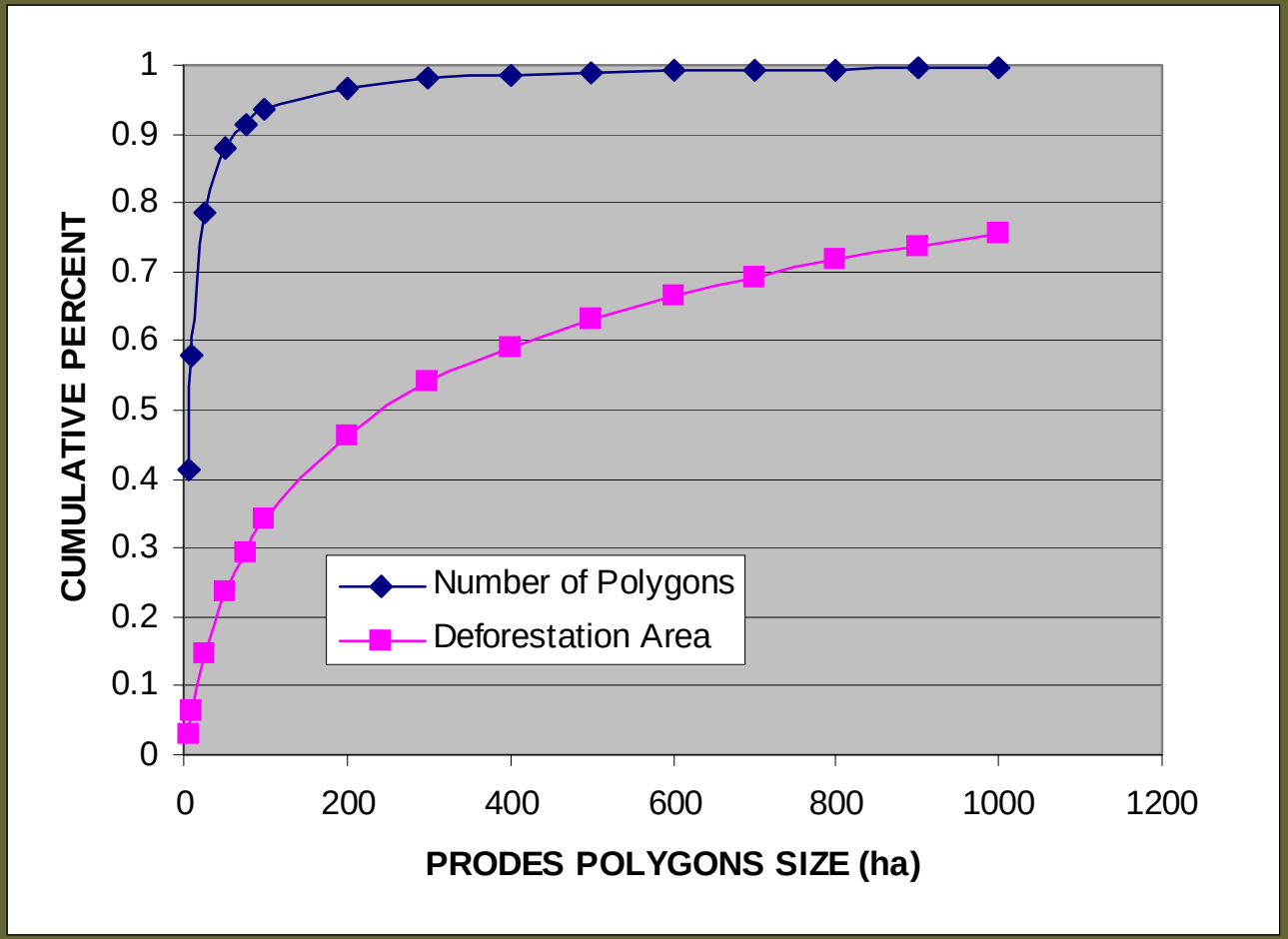
S. Wunder

- Deforestation happens seldom only because of “perverse incentives” (except roads, credit)
- It normally benefits the landholder: higher returns from alternative uses than from forests

=> deforestation is **more rational** than we thought

Importance of large clearings

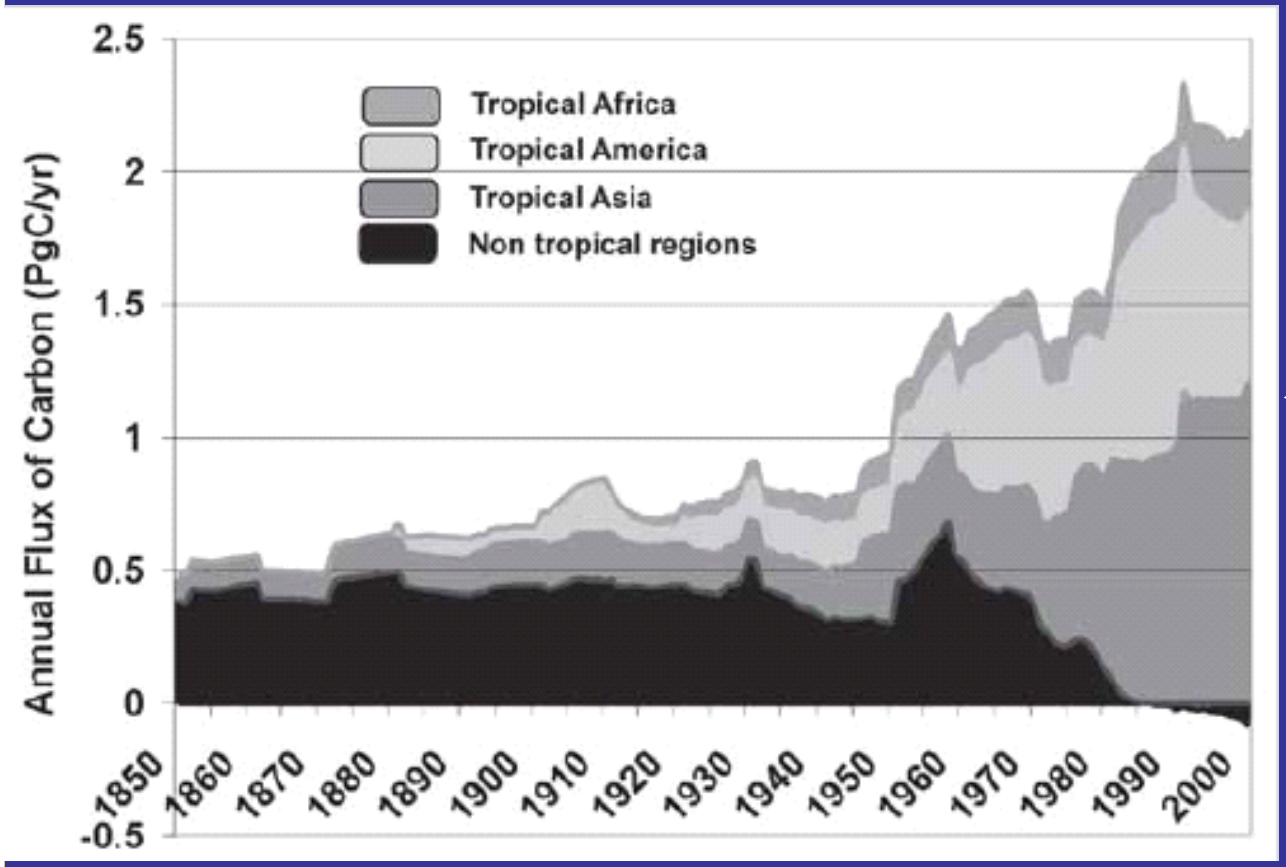
- Only 20% of deforested polygons are greater than 25 ha but account for 80% of deforested area
- But this does not include clearings ≤ 6 ha or any logging



Amazon deforestation polygons merged from Brazil INPE PRODES 2001-04

GOFC-GOLD

Large emissions from deforestation across tropics, high variation in specific estimates



Est. tropical emissions 1990's, PgC/yr

← Houghton 2003

← Gurney et al 2002

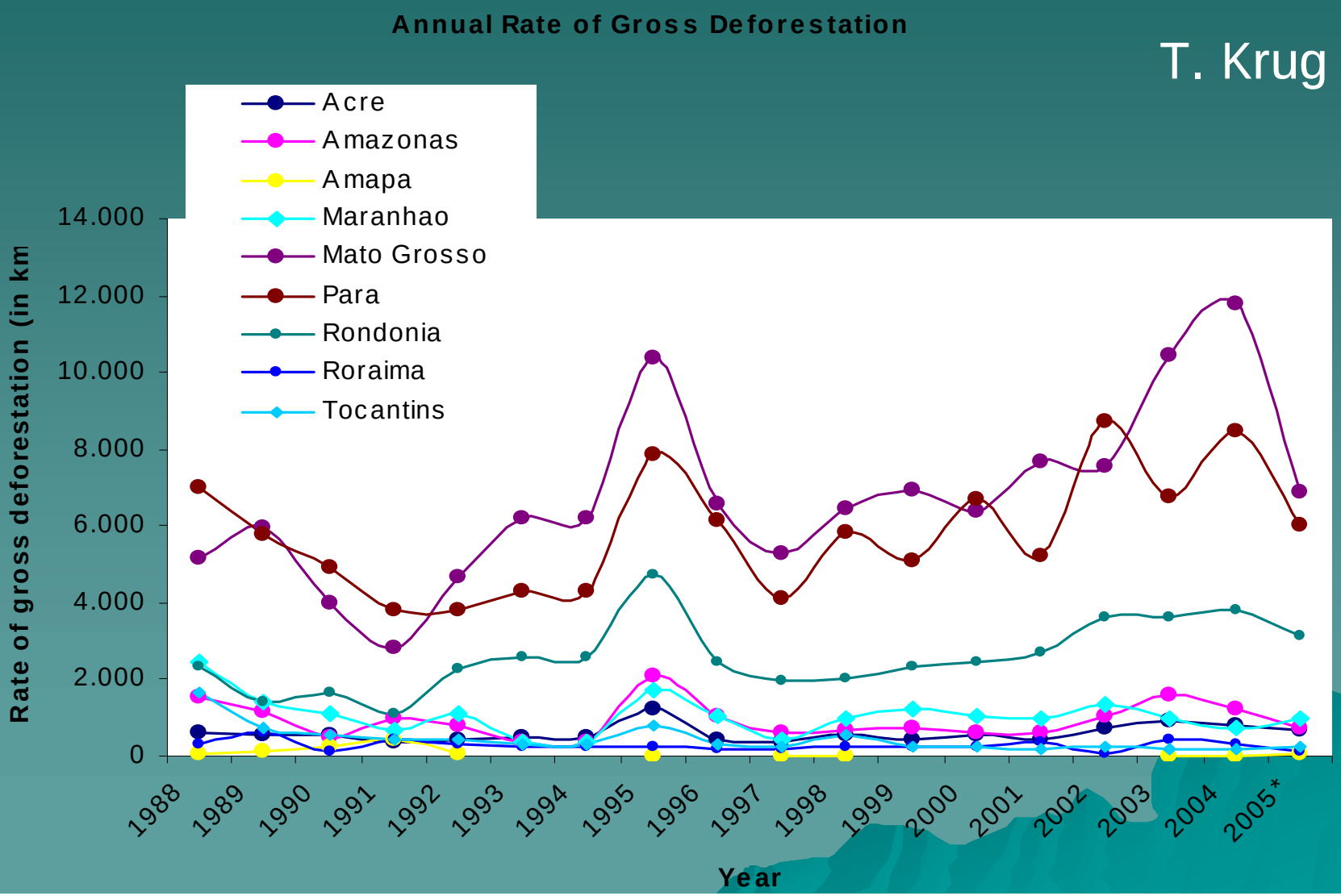
← Achard et al 2004

Frumhoff:
role of REDD
in avoiding dangerous
climate change

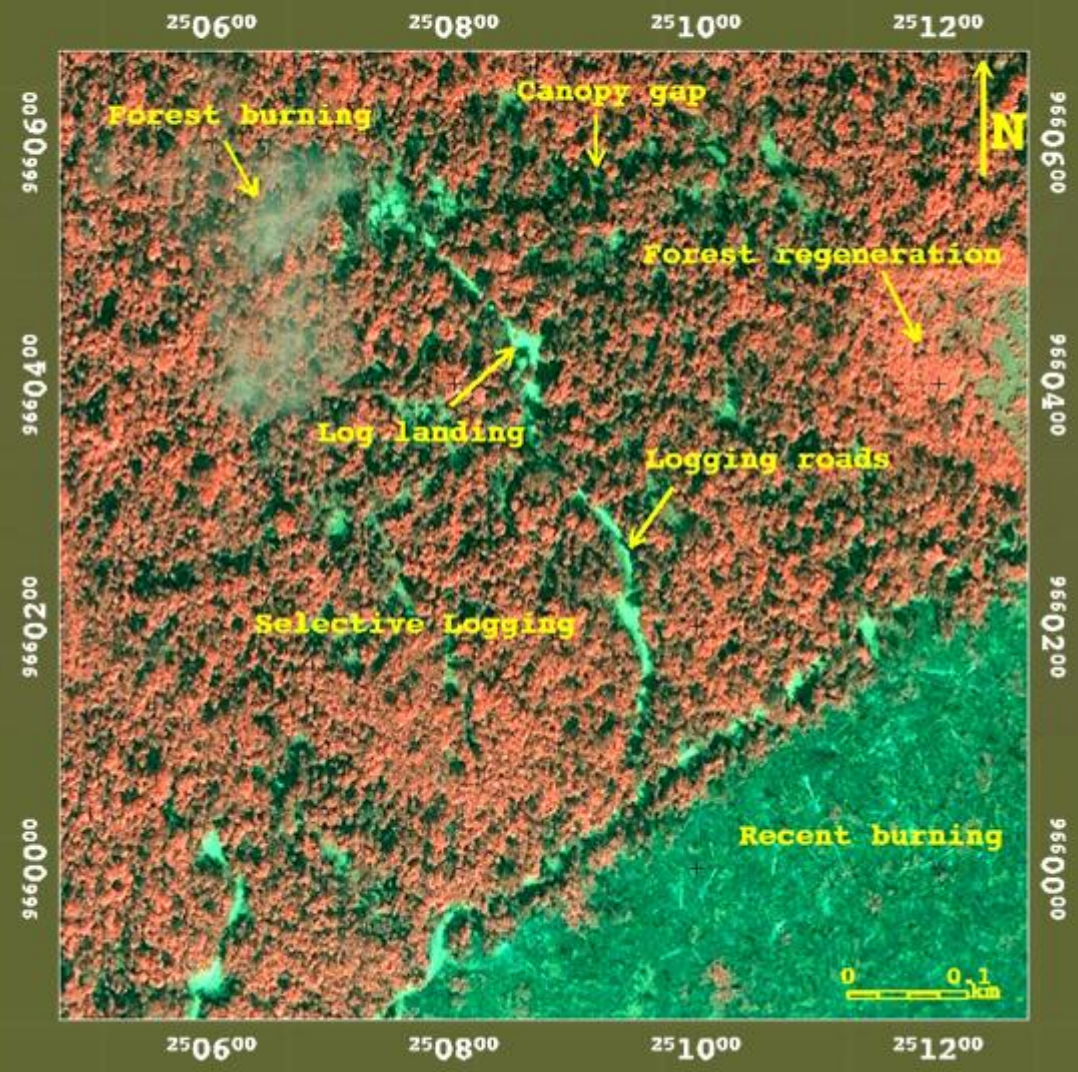
Houghton, 2005

Evolution of the Deforestation Rate by State – 1988 – 2005* (INPE, 2005)

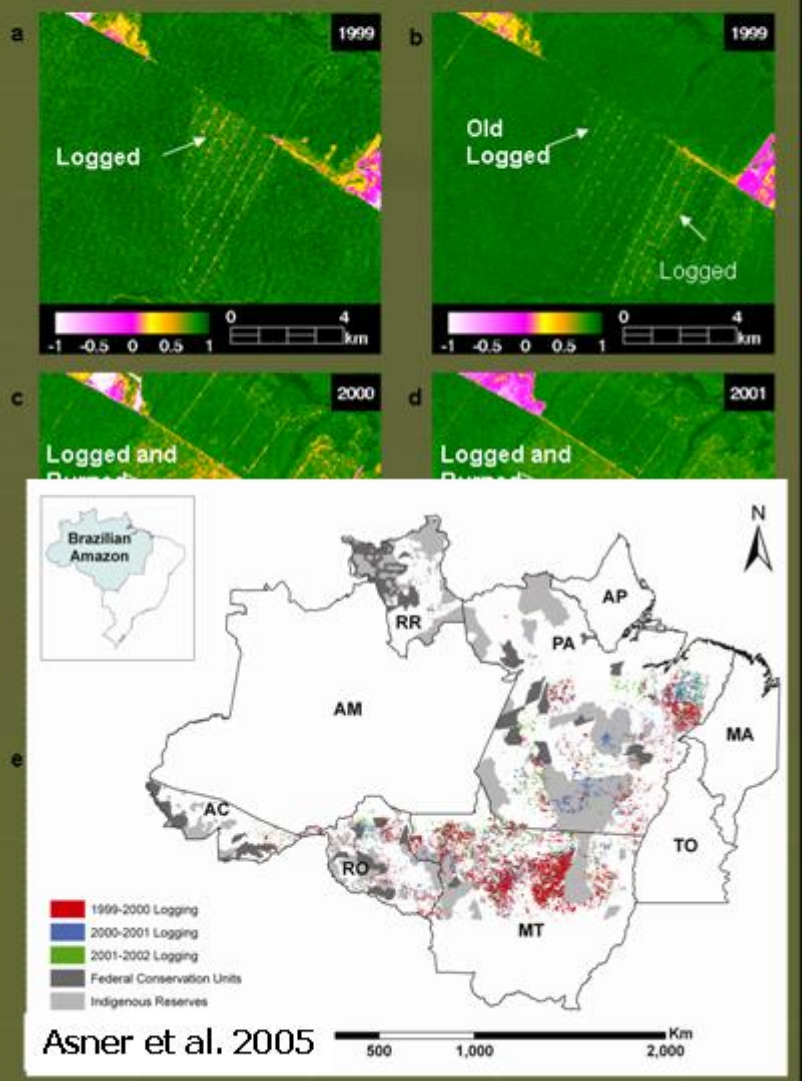
T. Krug



Monitoring forest degradation

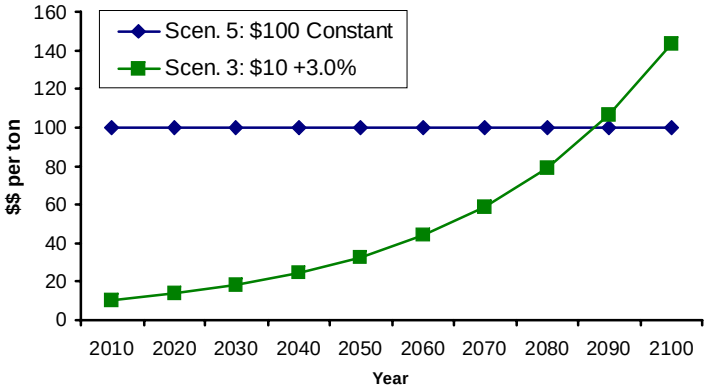


Source: De Souza and Roberts, 2005

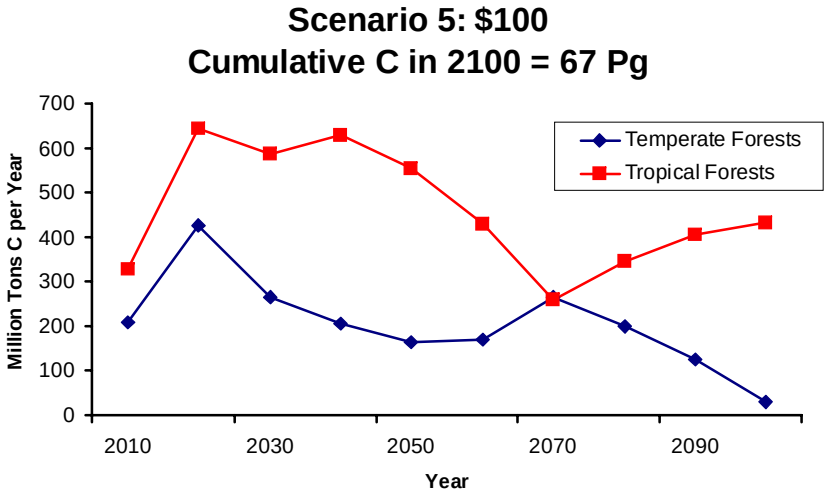


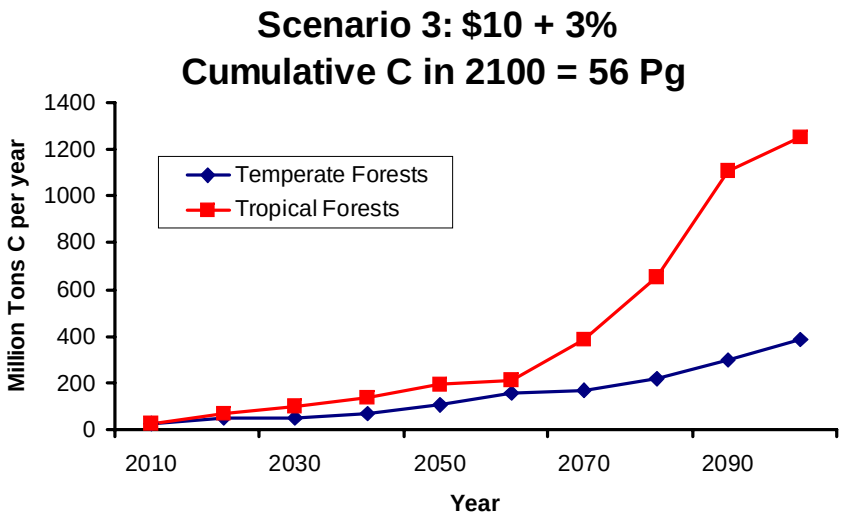
GOFC-GOLD

If Society Wants to Pay A Lot (>$100/tC), LUC in Tropics can mean 300 – 650 Tg C/yr



Sohngen and Sedjo (2006)





Key issues emerging from day 1 (presentations)

- National level preferable to project level (fewer meth. issues ...)
- Two policy approaches:
  - Quantitative (GHGs), with connection to markets
  - Not connected – New ODA sources, P&Ms
- Some favor process under “UNFCCC Dialogue”, others under Article 3.9
- Underlying causes need to be understood before taking action to reduce it

Key issues emerging from day 1 (presentations)

- Need to learn from past experience
- Deforestation often cannot be tackled without looking at degradation
- REDD could be blueprint for sectoral “no lose targets”
- May initially focus on long-hanging fruit
- Voluntary, flexible, step-wise approach
- Policy decisions will affect meth and tech aspects of implementation

Key issues emerging from day 1 (presentations)

- Quantitative approach: baselines or projections, to factor in past emissions and trends
- Remote sensing capabilities exist for monitoring land conversions
- Need combination with methods for stock-change detection and non-CO2 GHGs
- National and international capacity building; certain no-regret activities
- Pilots; case studies of existing activities
- In-depth, small expert meetings on specific issues

Working Groups

1. Trends, Causes and Counter-measures at National Level
   Ewald Rametsteiner, IIASA; and Margaret Skutsch, University of Twente

2. Methodological and technical issues
   Daniel Murdiyarso, CIFOR, and Ken Andrasko, US Environmental Protection Agency

3. International Implementation
   Tracy Johns, Union of Concerned Scientists and Claudio Forner, CIFOR

- Presentations and working group findings: www.joanneum.at/REDD
- Short summary available
- Extended workshop report forthcoming
- Electronic platform for discussing pilots; discussion list; expand REDD website