KU LEUVEN

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Governance Challenges and Opportunities in the Implementation of Result-based Mechanisms for Forest Conservation

A case study of the implementation of REDD+ in the Peruvian amazon

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Context: Forest Commons in Peru

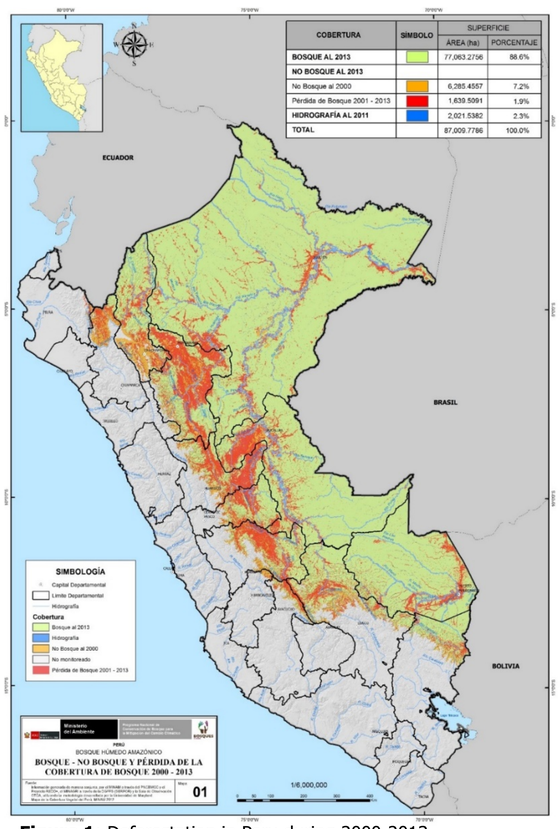


Figure 1: Deforestation in Peru during 2000-2013..
Source: Ministry of Environment of Peru, 2015.

- Low deforestation rate with high pressure for land-use change: small and big agriculture (50%), cattle ranching (20%), mining (5%).
- 50% of deforestation occur in land w/o titled.
- Structural causes: corruption, lack of law enforcement, little state capacity.

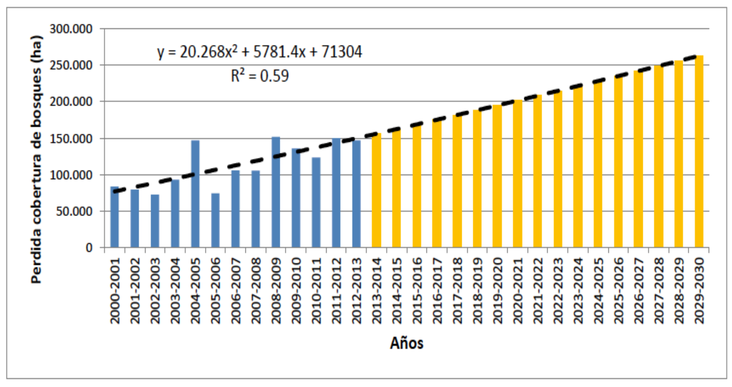


Figure 2: Deforestation trend in Peru for the period 2013-2030.
Source: Ministry of Environment of Peru, 2013.

Contemporary policy tools for forest governance

Forest Certification	**REDD+: Reducing Emissions from deforestation and degradation**
Protected Areas	National conservation program
ICDP – Integrated Conservation Development Projects	PES - Payment for Ecosystem Services
	CDM – Clean Development Mechanism
Activity-Based	***Result-Based***

Literature Review

- Climate change has created new spaces of negotiating and power dynamics *(O'Brien et al, 2009).*
- REDD+ as a 'project in construction' that has created space for haggling and negotiations of forest and climate policies *(Aguilar-Støen et al, 2016).*
  (+) Empirical case (Zanzibar): REDD+ is negotiated in the ground resulting on hybrid outcomes *(Benjaminsen, 2014).*
  (-) Literature review analysis: During REDD+ readiness and implementation phases, abuses on indigenous rights have been identified *(Sarmiento and Larson, 2017).*
- Gap in current research: Impact of multi-scalar indigenous governance in the REDD+ making.

Research Question

How does the making of REDD+ governance create opportunities to enhance the sustainable socio-ecological development in indigenous territories?

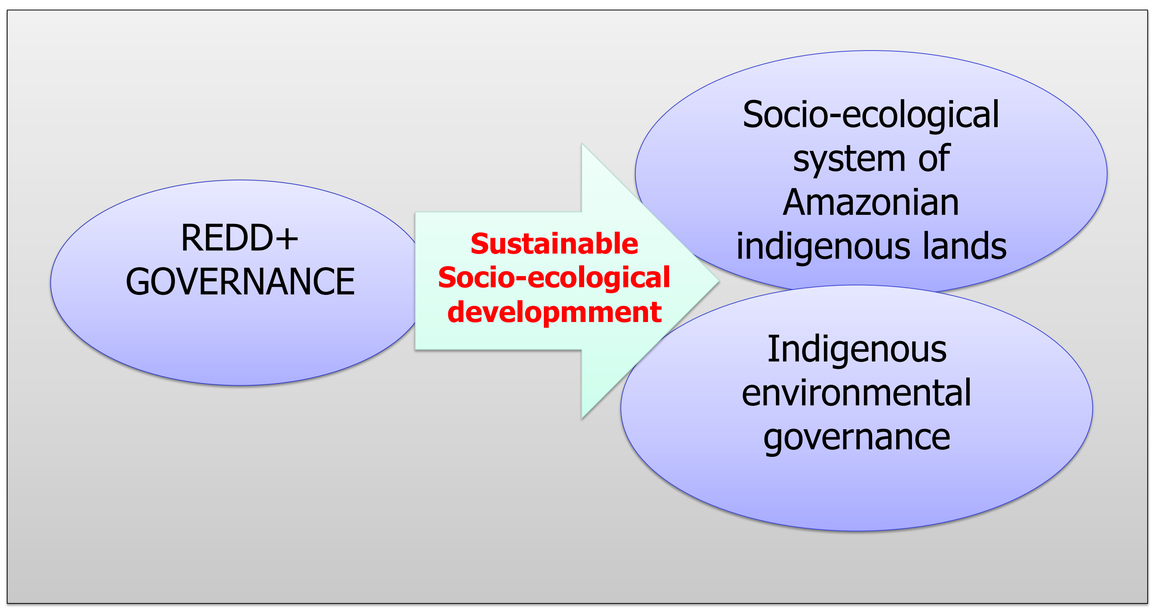
Conceptual Model

Theoretical Framework

Cultural Political Economy *(Jessop & Sum, 2001)*

Political Ecology *(Neumann, 2005; Robbins, 2012)*

Social Innovation *(Mehmood & Parra, 2013; Moulaert et al., 2013; Parra & Moulaert, 2016)*



Methods

- Surveys and in-depth interviews
- Participant observation
- Case study research
- Discourse and content analysis
- Historical analysis

Case Study

San Martin region

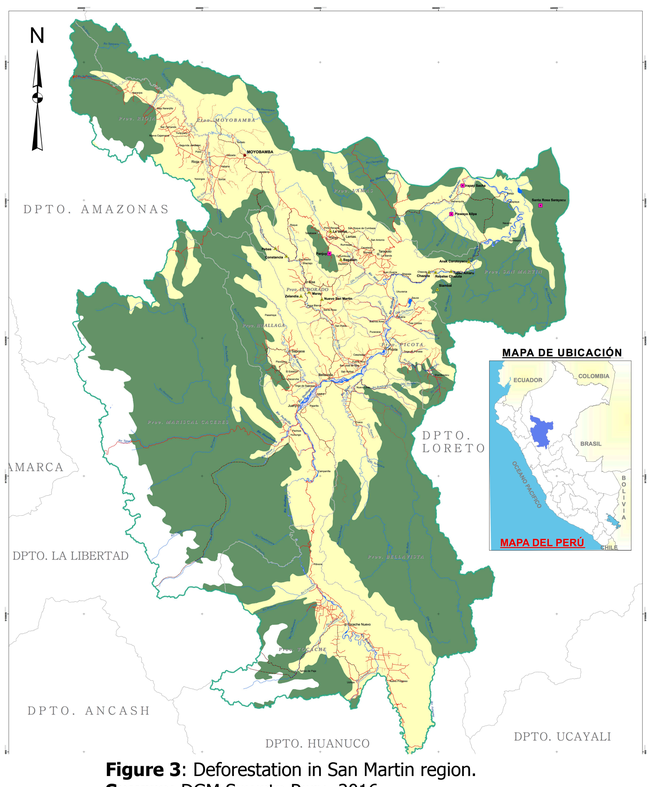


Figure 3: Deforestation in San Martin region.
Source: DGM Saweto Peru, 2016.

Commons in LAC

- Forest and ecosystems services can be framed as a both LAC and world commons.
- The crucial role of indigenous environmental governance and its impact on forest commons.

Policy and practice approach

- Provide concrete **recommendations** to foster adaptive institutions and governance strategies that take into account local (indigenous) agency in the REDD+ making.