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the FALLOW Model Application in Muara Sungkai, Lampung, Sumatra, in a 'Clean Development Mechanism' context

Desi Ariyadhi Suyamto, Meine van Noordwijk, Betha Lusiana, Andree Ekadinata and Ni'matul Khasanah

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Prospects of adoption of tree-based systems in a rural landscape and its likely impacts on carbon stocks and farmers' welfare: the FALLOW Model Application in Muara Sungkai, Lampung, Sumatra, in a "Clean Development Mechanism" context¹

Desi Ariyadhi Suyamto, Meine van Noordwijk, Betha Lusiana, Andree Ekadinata and Ni'matul Khasanah²

ABSTRACT

Environmental services provided by a landscape, including carbon stocks stored, depend on land use patterns. Adoption of land use practices among choices of land use systems in a rural landscape depends on farmers' strategic decisions in allocating land and tactical decisions in allocating labour, both likely to be based on the results farmers expect to obtain, and strongly conditioned by capital availability. Their expectations gradually change on the basis of local experience, and are influenced by external information sources (knowledge diffusion from elsewhere and 'extension' or the priming of expectations for land use practices that are not yet widespread). At the local community scale, specific restrictions on land use options are set, and issues such as fire control are determined by the cohesiveness of the local community. Prices of the various commodities and their volatility are determined by the surrounding economy, as does the wage rate for off-farm and out-of-the-landscape labour opportunities. The overall outcome of the dynamic land use mosaic determines the amount of biomass and carbon stocks of the landscape. The FALLOW model was designed to provide a comprehensive description of the factors and interactions described above, to allow the testing of hypotheses about 'causal' explanations (including the various direct and indirect feedbacks) and to evaluate 'scenarios' of 'baseline' and policy-change land use evolution. Baselines are important in the discussion of 'environmental service rewards', while the likely response to 'rewards' can include 'perverse incentives' and 'leakage', if additional capital relieves constraints to the development of less-environmental friendly land use options. This paper reports results on prospective analyses using the FALLOW model on adoption of land use systems by transmigrant and local farmers in lowland peneplain of Muara Sungkai, Lampung, Sumatra. Specific focus was to compare a 'project' (rapid tree planting in a limited area) approach to a programmatic one (facilitating spontaneous tree adoption in a larger area) in terms of carbon-stocks gains and projected effects on farmers' welfare, in a 'clean development mechanism' context. The results suggested that a 'project' approach was likely able to increase carbon stocks without leakage in a short-term monitoring period. However a reduction of carbon stocks below baseline ('leakage') can be expected in the longer term if the tree planting approach did not provide off-farm employment opportunities to surrounding farmers. If costs of 'extension' and 'social control on fire' are assumed to be zero, the 'programmatic' approach to removing constraints to spontaneous smallholder adoption was likely able to increase both carbon stocks and farmers' welfare better than the simulated 'project' approach.

Keywords: carbon, 'clean development mechanism', farmers' decision, farmers' welfare, landscape, model, 'project' approach, 'programmatic' approach.

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INTRODUCTION

Much of the rural landscape of Southeast Asia has been developed from a basis of 'shifting cultivation' and fallow-crop rotations into a diverse mosaic of permanent cropping, agroforestry systems, forest patches (used for non-timber products as well as timber harvesting) and fire-climax *Imperata* grasslands. The primary agents of change are the farmers who make their strategic decisions on land use patterns and tactical decisions on labour allocations, both likely to be based on the results they expect to obtain, and strongly conditioned by capital availability. Their expectations gradually change on the basis of local experience, and are influenced by external information sources (knowledge diffusion from elsewhere and 'extension' or the priming of expectations for land use practices that are not yet widespread). At the local community scale, specific restrictions on land use options are set, and issues such as fire control are determined by the cohesiveness of the local community. Prices of the various commodities and their volatility are determined by the surrounding economy and its infrastructure, as does the wage rate for off-farm and out-of-the-landscape labour opportunities. The overall outcome of the dynamic land use mosaic determines the amount of biomass and carbon stocks of the landscape, the way incoming rainfall is processed into river flow (peak flow and base flow) and the opportunities for flora and fauna of pioneer-to-late successional species groups to make a living along with the people in the landscape.

The FALLOW model (Van Noordwijk, 2002; Suyamto and Van Noordwijk, 2005) was designed to provide a comprehensive description of the factors and interactions described above. The main purpose of designing the model was to allow the testing of hypotheses about 'causal' explanations of response to specific interventions (including the various direct and indirect feedbacks) and to evaluate 'scenarios' of 'baseline' and 'policy-change' conditions for their effect on land use evolution (Figure 1). Gladwell (2005) described the process of reducing complex information supply into a core set of essentials as 'thin slicing' and this is what modeling in essence is about: leaving out as much of the complexity of reality as we dare to do (through formal assumptions) to still maintain the essential features of our system of study. As precaution, evaluation of scenarios in this context is not intended as 'prediction', because prediction means: "speaking about the future before it happens" that in the end will degenerate into speculation when it deals with complexity and uncertainty (Peterson *et al.*, 2003; Voros, 2005). Instead, such evaluation is similar to what was termed by Voros (2005) as prospection or forward viewing, based on a specific constellation of driver variables or scenarios to provide foresight of drivers' changes, reveal the implications of baseline trajectories, and illuminate options for 'future' action (Peterson *et al.*, 2003). Baselines are important in the discussion of 'environmental service rewards', while the likely response to 'rewards' can include 'perverse incentives' and 'leakage', if additional capital relieves constraints to the development of less-environmental friendly land use options.

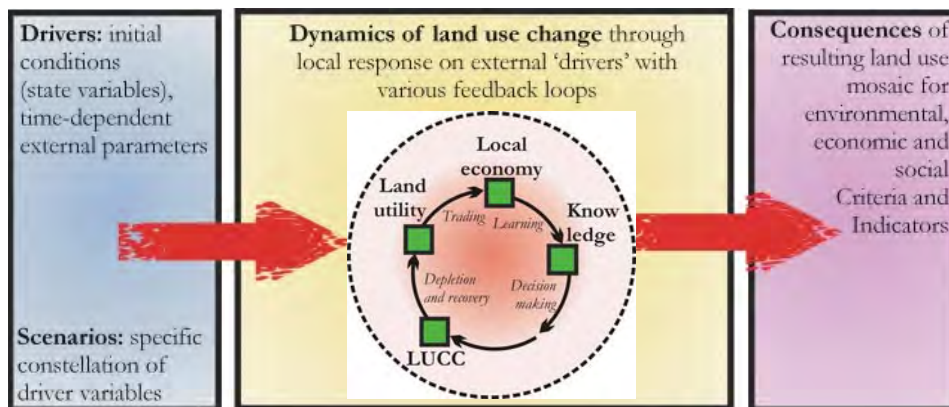


Figure 1. Generic structure of a model that translates 'driver' or exogenous variables to the time bound responses in a landscape, which has consequences ('externalities' in as far as they are not part of the feedback loops in the dynamic section) for criteria and indicators of system performance; scenarios refer to specific combinations of driver variables that represent changes in higher level systems. Source: Suyamto and Van Noordwijk (2005).



Figure 2. Location of Muara Sungkai study area as part of Lampung province in Sumatra, Indonesia

This paper reports results on prospective analyses using the FALLOW model on likely adoption of land use systems by transmigrant and local farmers in the lowland peneplain of Muara Sungkai, Lampung, Sumatra. (Fig. 2). This area was selected as the 'degraded lands' benchmark for the Alternatives to Slash and Burn program in 1993 (Van Noordwijk et al., 1995) and has subsequently become the focus of the 'Smallholder Agroforestry on Degraded Soils' (SAFODS) research project that compares smallholder timber production with those aimed at transitions to rubber or oil palm production. The tree-based systems are expected to become a more profitable and sustainable land use compared to the cassava and sugarcane production that were the main

stay of the local economy in the 1990's. In fact these tree crops are already gaining in importance, but there are set backs through uncontrolled fire, conflicts over land (Budidarsono et al., 2005) and uncertainty by farmers on the choice of new technologies in the absence of effective extension services

Specific focus of our modeling effort was to compare a 'project' (rapid tree planting in a limited area) approach to a 'programmatic' one (facilitating spontaneous tree adoption in a larger area) in terms of carbon-stock gains and projected effects on farmers' welfare, in a 'clean development mechanism' context.

OBJECTIVES

Five steps in the prospective analyses were done to answer the following questions:

Do we understand the actual changes on the basis of the ‘drivers’ in the model for 1990-2002 period?

What is the likely ‘baseline’ for land use change, c-stocks and income for 2002-2031 period?

What can we expect from better fire control for 2002-2031 period?

Which changes in drivers are required for rapid adoption of smallholder timber systems, as form of ‘clean development mechanism’ for 2002-2031 period?

What ‘additionality’ and ‘leakage’ can we expect for a ‘timber plantation’ project approach, potentially replacing the existing sugarcane plantation, for 2008-2012 (commitment) period and for longer period (2002-2031)?

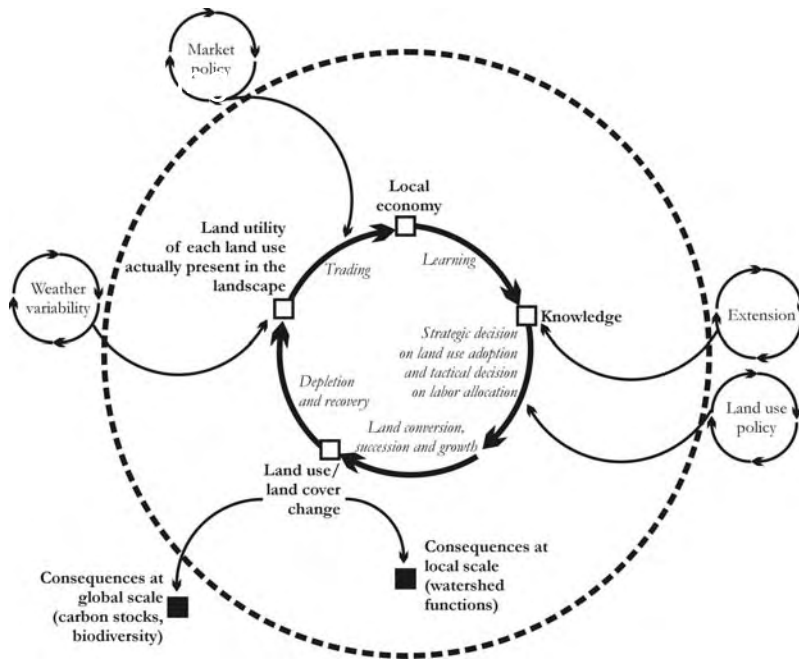


Figure 3. Key relationships considered in the main dynamic loop of the FALLOW model (land utility, local economy and land use decision) that determine the spatial pattern of land cover, and the modules that translate this pattern into consequences for environmental service functions such as C storage. External ‘drivers’ (small loops) may take a role in the dynamics by affecting local response through trading (e.g. market policy made by distant agents), knowledge (e.g. extension conducted by distant agents), decision-making process (e.g. land use policy made by distant agents) or land utility (e.g. weather variability as results of global climatic processes). Source: Suyanto and Van Noordwijk (2005).

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE FALLOW MODEL

FALLOW Model is a spatially explicit model of landscape dynamics. It is a ‘thin-slice’ understanding on farmers’ decision making with regards to choices of land use systems on a landscape by simulating: (i) how those land use systems extract natural stocks, (ii) how the natural stocks replenish, (iii) how farmers learn about the benefits of existing options of land use systems, (iv) how they make deliberate decisions regarding capital allocation on each land use system, and (v) what are the consequences on such landscape dynamics processes (Figure 3).

RESULTS

1. Model validity test: can we trace the limiting capitals steps for the early

adoption of rubber-based systems that start to transform landscape dynamics in Muara Sungkai?

When the landscape of Muara Sungkai was still dominated by *Imperata* grasslands, as the likely patterns found in 1990, the adoption of smallholder rubber plantations was strongly conditioned by lack of financial capital for establishment of (Figure 4). Thus, without financial aid from others, it was impossible to have the landscape patterns that have been achieved in the most recent state, where rubber plantation systems have been largely adopted by farmers. Figure 4 shows the likely landscape dynamics if farmers did not get financial aid for rubber plantation establishment at the early stage of adoption when the system was not yet widespread.

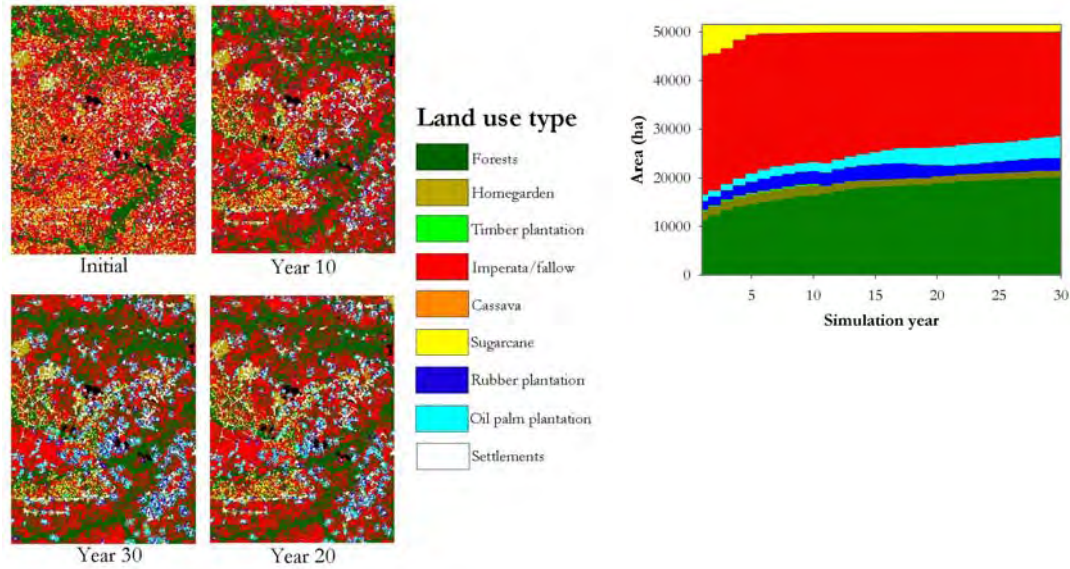


Figure 4. Prospects of landscape dynamics from rubber-based systems adoption scenario at early stage over 3 decades without financial aid.

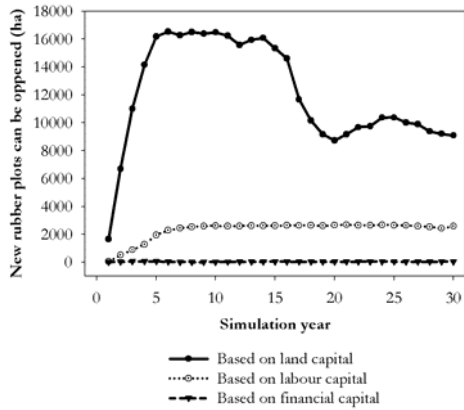


Figure 5. Limiting capitals in rubber-based systems adoption at early adoption stage over 3 decades without financial aid.

Once financial aid in form of grant (Rp 5,000,000 per year) was given to farmers for rubber plantation establishment, the rubber adoption was revolutionarily boosted until more than half of the landscape was dominated by rubber (Figure 6). The

limiting capitals of rubber plantation systems adoption shifted from financial capital to land and labour capitals starting from the year 13, which indicated the effective period of financial grant disbursement (Figure 7).

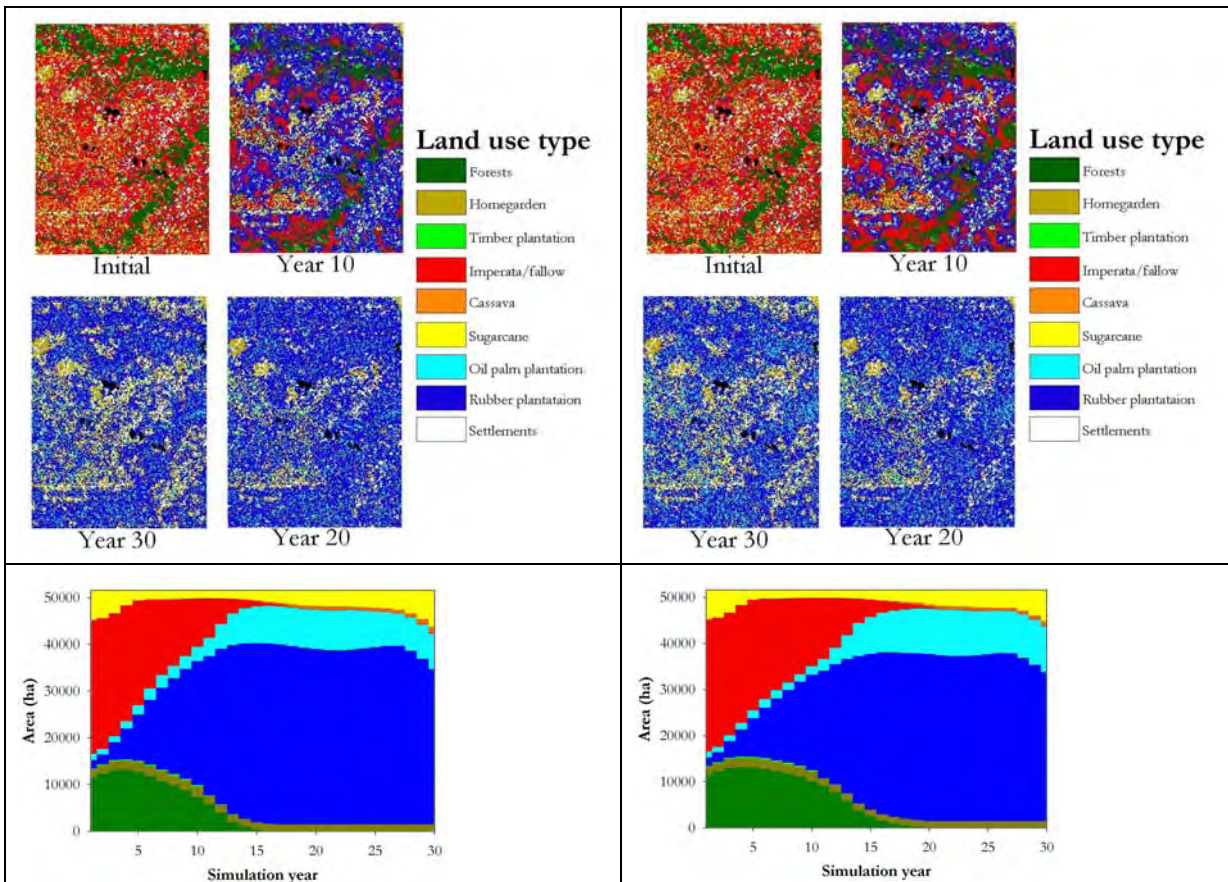


Figure 6. Prospects of landscape dynamics from rubber-based systems adoption scenario at early stage over 3 decades with financial aid in form of grant (left) or loan (right).

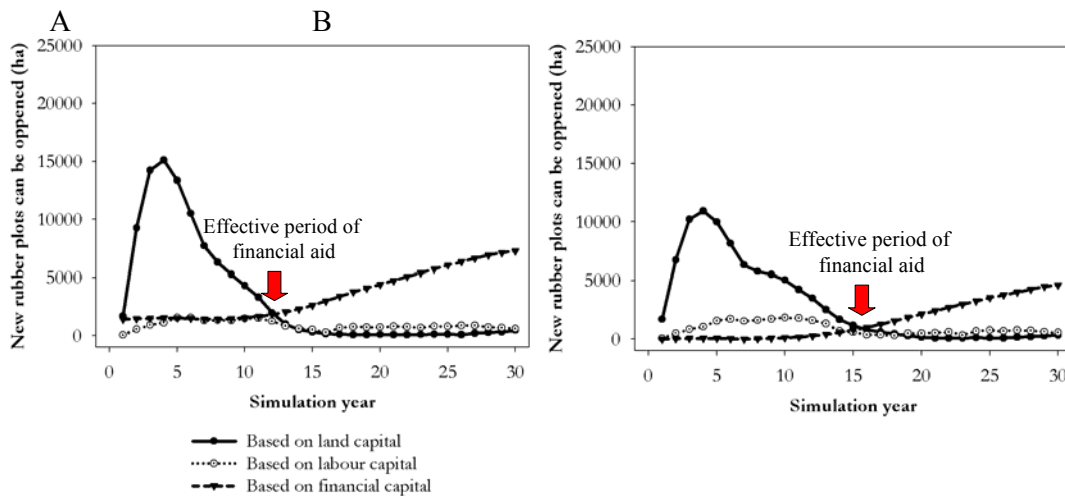


Figure 7. Limiting capitals in rubber-based systems adoption at early adoption stage over 3 decades with financial aid in form of grant (A) or loan (B)

Similar prospect on revolutionary rubber plantation adoption was found when financial aid was given in form of loan (Figure 6B). The limiting capitals of rubber plantation systems adoption shifted from financial capital to land and labour capitals starting from the year 16, which indicated the effective period of financial loan disbursement (Figure 7B).

Farmers likely stopped taking the loan for rubber plantation establishment starting from the year 14 (Figure 8).

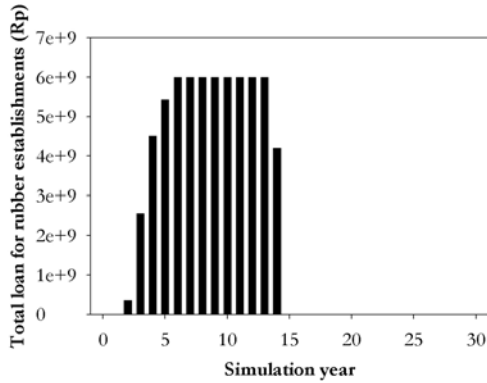


Figure 8. Total loan taken by farmers for new rubber plantation establishments

Compared to condition when farmers did self-financing in rubber plantation establishment at the early stage of adoption, financial aid in form of grant or loan likely depleted landscape c-stocks within the first 2 decades due to large-scale rubber plantation establishments, but would replenish landscape c-stocks in the last decade when most of rubber plantations have reached the ‘mature’ state (Figure 9).

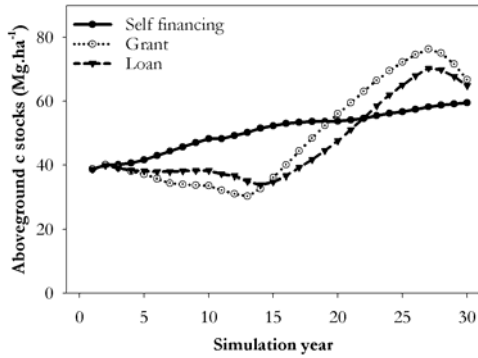


Figure 9. Prospects of c-stocks dynamics at various financial generating scenarios for rubber-based systems establishment at early adoption stage over 3 decades. term of improving farmers’ welfare, financial aid in form of grant or loan for rubber plantation establishment likely increased non-food expense of farmers

starting from the first decade, compared to condition without financial aid (Figure 10).

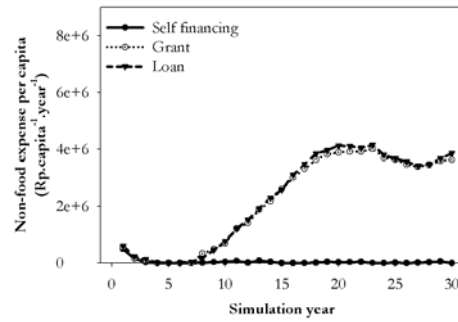


Figure 10. Prospects of farmers’ welfare at various financial generating scenarios for rubber-based systems establishment at early adoption stage over 3 decades.

It can be concluded that current rubber plantation adoption by farmers in Muara Sungkai was due to financial aid (can possibly be in form of either grant or loan) for its establishment at the early stage of the adoption, although the simulation was not able to suggest the precise amount of such aid due to lack of historical data on it. For the ‘baseline’ projection presented in the next part, which was initialized using actual land cover map of the area in the year 2002, it is assumed that farmers have generated financial capitals by themselves without financial aid at all for the new rubber plantation establishment.

2. Prospecting the baseline

Initialized using land cover map of the area in the year 2002, baseline projection was made over 3-decade period, in order to prospect the likely ‘baseline’ landscape dynamics. If the ‘drivers’ do not change from the ‘baseline’ setting, the landscape patterns of Muara Sungkai will likely be dominated by rubber plantations, competing with oil palm plantations and sugarcane plantations (Figure 11).

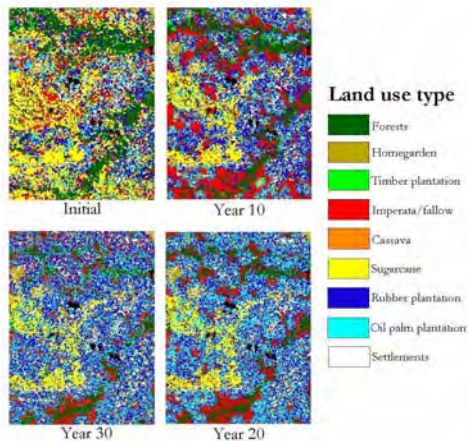
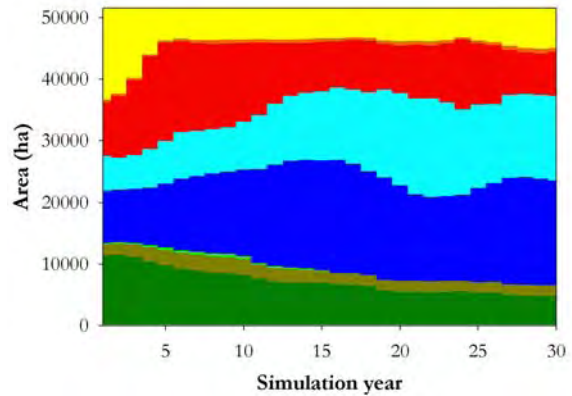


Figure 11 Prospects of landscape dynamics from the baseline simulation over 3 decades



From visual comparison between simulated land cover map of the year 2005, which was colored in green palette, and the satellite imagery of the area taken from Google Earth in the same year, the

general patterns of the ‘baseline’ projection seemed approaching the general patterns of the actual map, although not in a good precision (Figure 12).

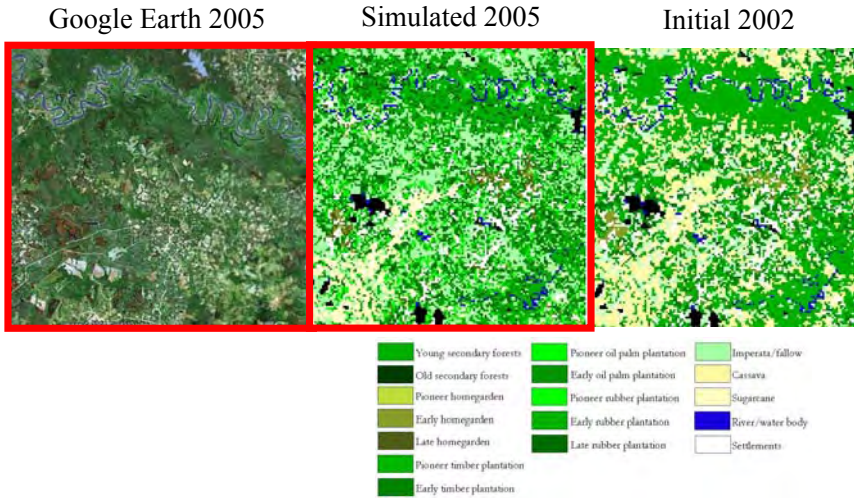


Figure 12. Visual comparison between simulated baseline and satellite imagery of the year 2005.

Relatively slow increases in either c-stocks (Figure 13) or farmers’ welfare (Figure 14) were resulted by ‘baseline’ projection. Therefore, ‘scenario-based

simulations’ in the next parts were aimed to prospect possibility to increase both c-stocks and farmers’ welfare in the area.

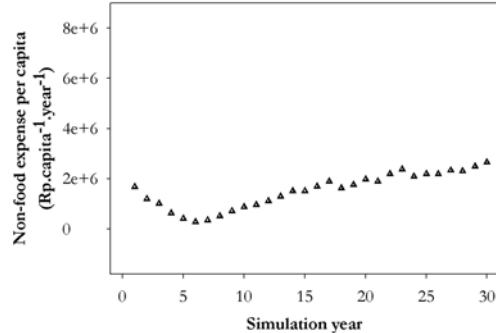
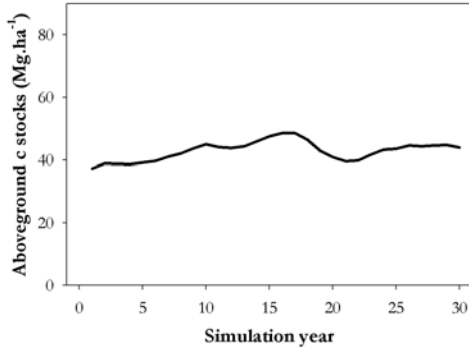


Figure 13. Prospects of c stocks dynamics and farmers’ welfare from the baseline simulation over 3 decades.

3. Prospecting the social control on fire

Based on validation of simulated fire from the ‘baseline’ projection to the actual fire data obtained from NOAA, it was found that effective radius of social control on fire in the landscape of Muara Sungkai was around 2.5 km from the settlements (Figure 14). Thus, this part was aimed to prospect the gains in c-stocks and farmers’ welfare if social quotient in controlling fire is getting worst or getting better from the ‘baseline’ setting.

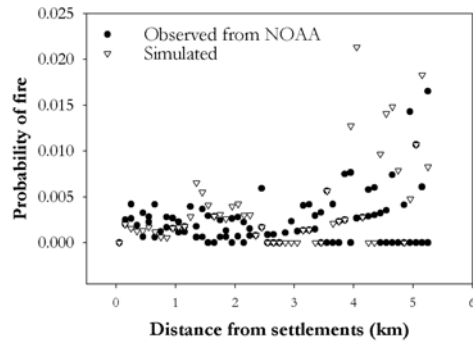


Figure 14. Fire validation from the baseline simulation.

When the community can do better control on fire, fire-climax Imperata grasslands can significantly be reduced from the landscape (Figure 15). But, it does not imply that better social control on fire corresponds to more tree-based systems adoption (Figure 16), causing to relatively small increase on

landscape c-stocks (Figure 17). Unchanged farmers' welfare when community took better control on fire (Figure 18) may explain on slow adoption on fire control managements (introduced by some related projects) by farmers.

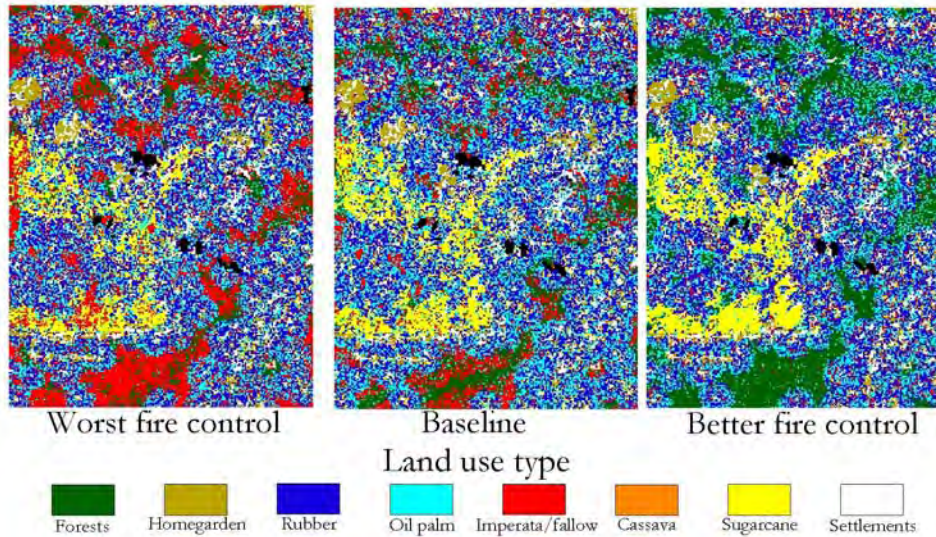


Figure 15. Prospects of final patterns of simulated landscape in the year-30 at various fire control scenarios.

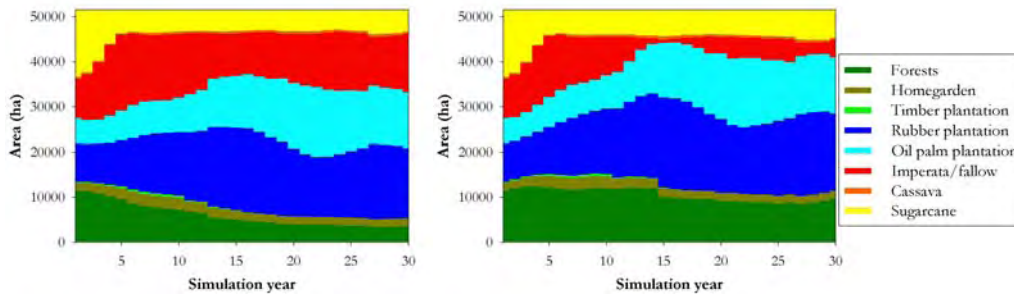
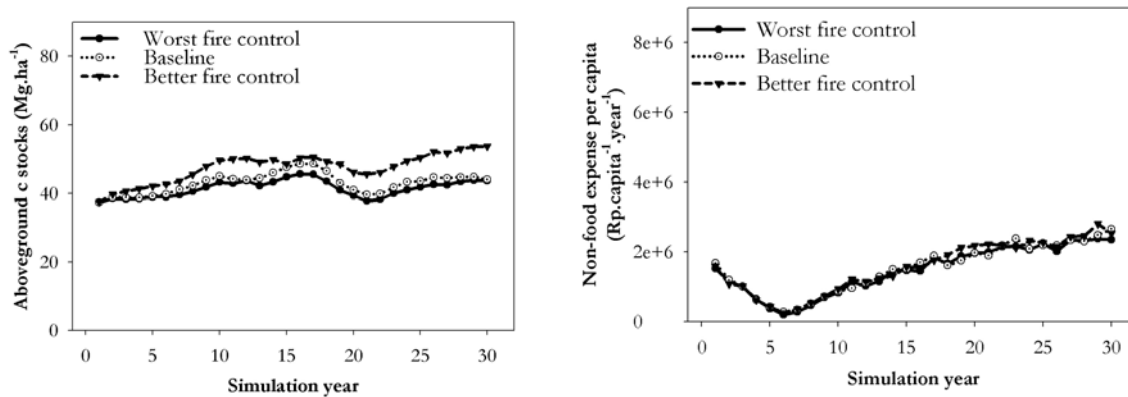


Figure 16. Prospects of landscape dynamics at various fire control scenarios over 3 decades.



Figures 17 & 18. Prospects of c-stocks dynamics and farmers' welfare at various fire control scenarios over 3 decades.

4. Prospecting the adoption of smallholder timber-based systems

In this part, adoption of smallholder timber-based systems was prospected, to explore the most significant driver to boost the adoption: whether it is related to market attraction of timber or to extension. Combined effect of market attraction, extension and better fire control was also prospected.

Improvement on timber market as such would likely not attract farmers to adopt timber-based systems (Figure 19 A and Figure 20 A), since the risk due to

relatively long time lag of timber-based systems would affect farmers' priming on expectation. When extension on smallholder timber-based systems was able to convince farmers by reducing their aversion to the risk, adoption of timber-based systems was boosted significantly (Figure 19 B and Figure 20 B). Combined effect of better timber market and extension would likely speed up the timber adoption (Figure 19 C and Figure 19 C). If better fire control was part of the effort, Imperata grasslands could be reduced (Figure 19 D and Figure 20 D).

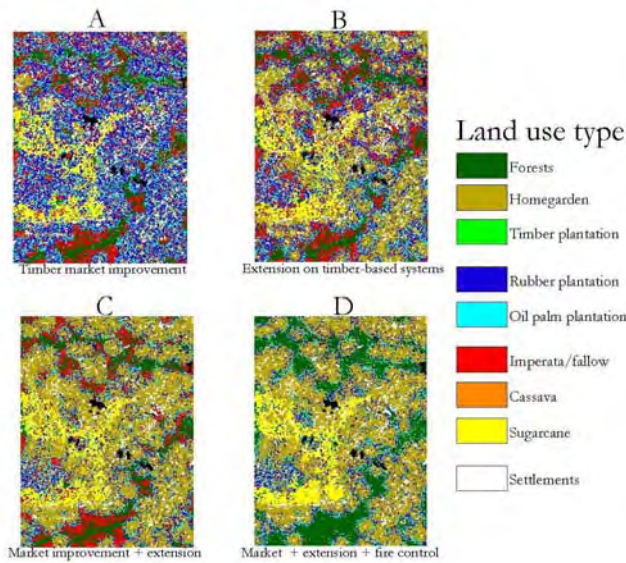


Figure 19. Prospects of final patterns of simulated landscape in the year-30 at various smallholder timber-based systems adoption scenarios.

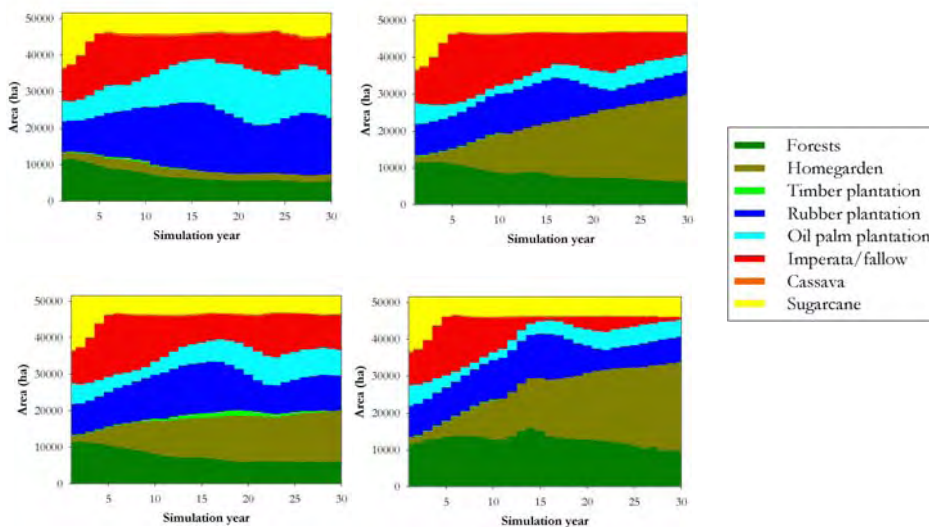


Figure 20. Prospects of landscape dynamics at various timber-based systems adoption scenarios over 3 decades.

From all scenarios in this part, farmers would likely prefer to adopt timber species in homegarden systems, instead of in monoculture plantation

systems (Figure 21), due to reasons related to controlling costs.

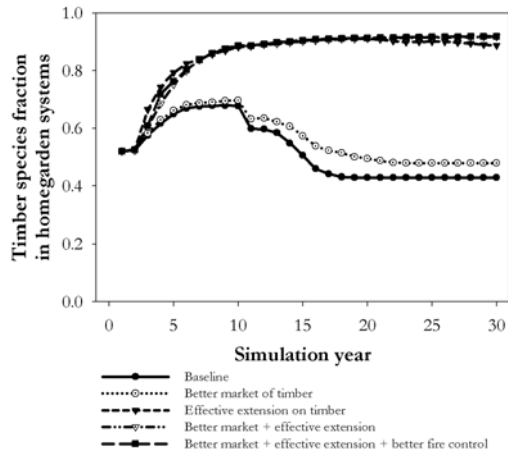


Figure 21. Prospects of timber-species adopted within homegarden systems at various timber-based systems adoption scenarios over 3 decades.

Impacts of timber-based systems revolution in the landscape would likely increase landscape c-stocks, as well as farmers' welfare (Figure 22), compared to the 'baseline'.

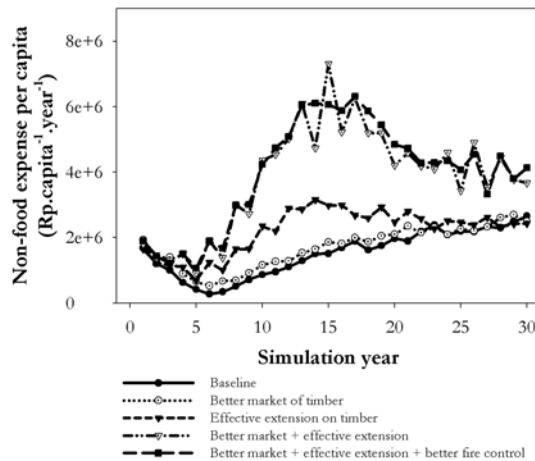
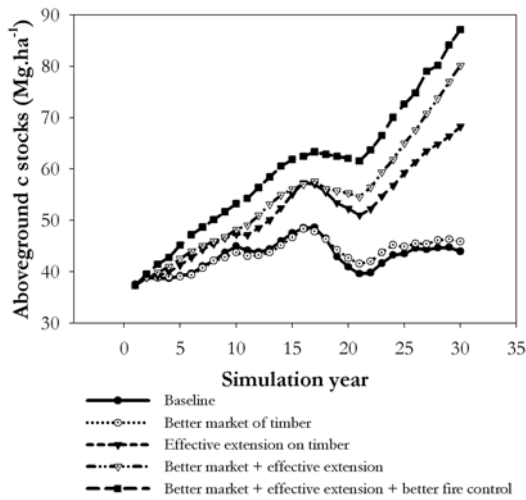


Figure 22.. Prospects of c stocks dynamics and farmers' welfare at various timber-based systems adoption scenarios over 3 decades.

5. Prospecting the timber plantation (HTI) projects

In this part, prospects of timber plantation (HTI) project approach were explored in a 'clean development mechanism' context. A 4256-ha hypothetical project boundary was set (Figure 23) replacing large-scale sugarcane plantation area, occupying 13% of knowledge zone 2 that covers transmigrants villages in the center of the study site (Negara Jaya, Tegal Mukti, Bima Sakti and Karang Sakti), 5% of knowledge zone 3 that covers local villages in the southern part of the study site (Ujung

Karang and Karang Mua), and 0% of knowledge zone 1 that covers local villages in the northern part of the study site (Sri Menantui and Negeri Besar). Four types of projects were prospected, which were stratified based on harvesting cycle and off-farm employment: (i) HTI project with long harvesting cycle (30-year rotation) without employment; (ii) HTI project with long harvesting cycle (30-year rotation) with employment; (iii) HTI project with short harvesting cycle (10-year rotation) without employment; and (iv) HTI project with short harvesting cycle (10-year rotation) with employment.

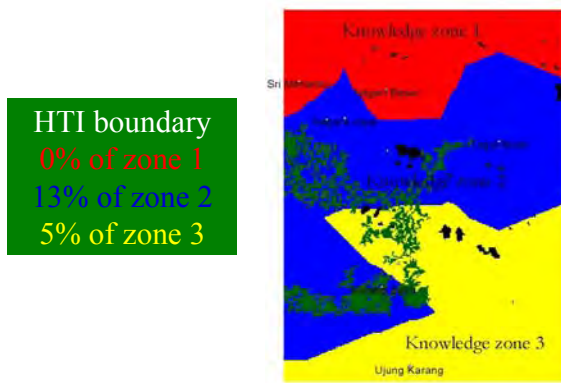


Figure 23. Hypothetical HTI boundary project used for simulations.

In term of landscape dynamics, it is clear that projects with employment would likely save the landscape refugia (remaining forests in the

landscape) than projects without employment (Figure 24 and Figure 25).

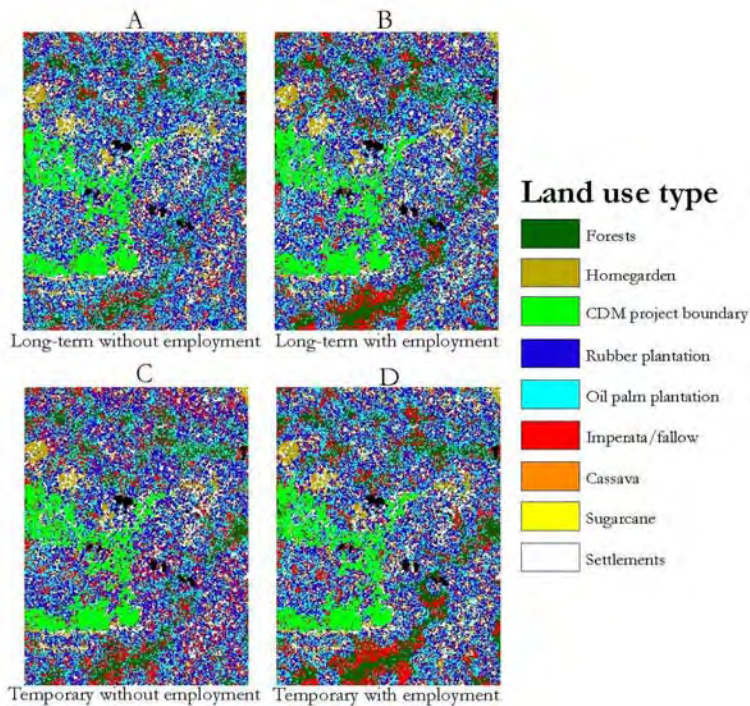


Figure 24. Prospects of final patterns of simulated landscape in the year-30 at various HTI scenarios.

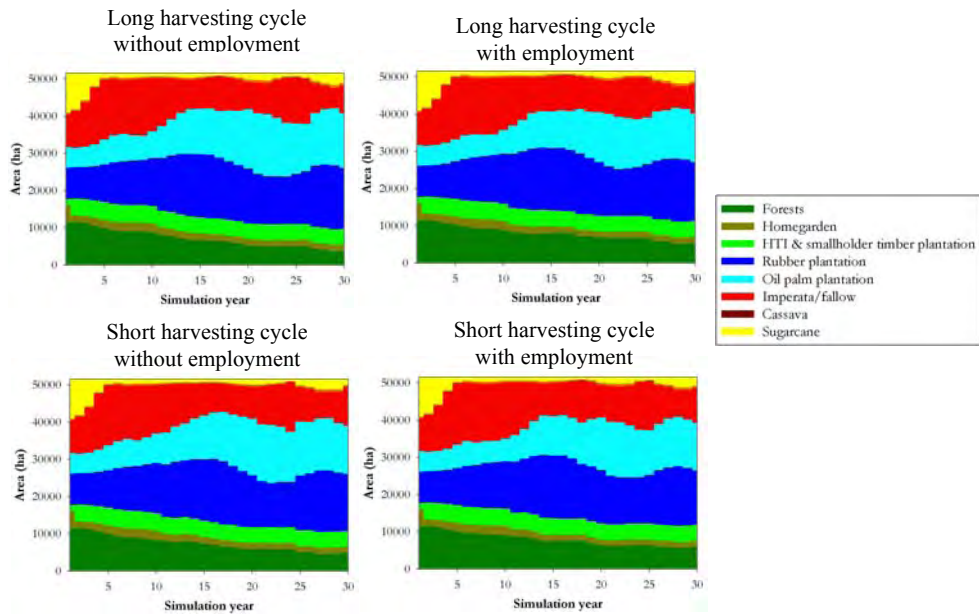


Figure 25. Prospects of landscape dynamics at various HTI scenarios over 3 decades.

In term of c-stocks within the project boundary, all types of projects would likely gain carbon higher than the 'baseline', with variation in sequestration dynamics related to cutting rotations (Figure 26). No significant difference was found in carbon gains outside the project boundary from all types of projects compared to the 'baseline' (Figure 27A). But, relatively small difference was found in landscape c-stocks, where projects with employment would likely increase carbon from the 'baseline' a bit higher than ones without employment (Figure 27B), because farmers would likely shift their labour allocation into new development of lower-carbon land use system of oil palm plantation, when the projects did not create off-farm employment.

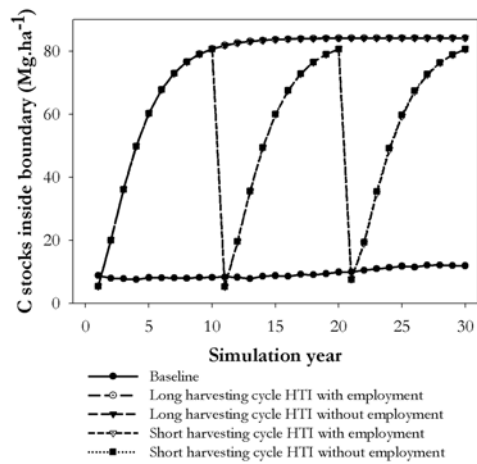


Figure 26. Prospects of c stocks dynamics within project boundary at various HTI scenarios over 3 decades.

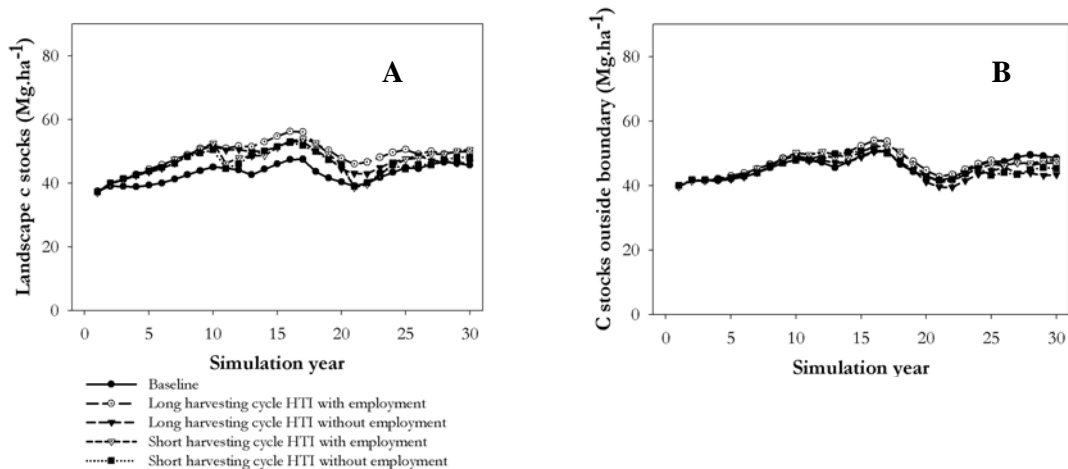


Figure 27. A. Prospects of c stocks dynamics outside project boundary at various HTI scenarios over 3 decades; B. Prospects of overall landscape c stocks dynamics at various HTI scenarios over 3 decades.

In term of impacts of the projects on farmers' welfare, it was obvious that all projects would likely decrease farmers' welfare from the 'baseline', since such projects would reduce on-farm areas for surrounding farmers (Figure 28). From the

simulation results, knowledge zone 2 was the most affected zone, followed by knowledge zone 3. When the project created off-farm employment for surrounding farmers, crash on welfare could likely be abated.

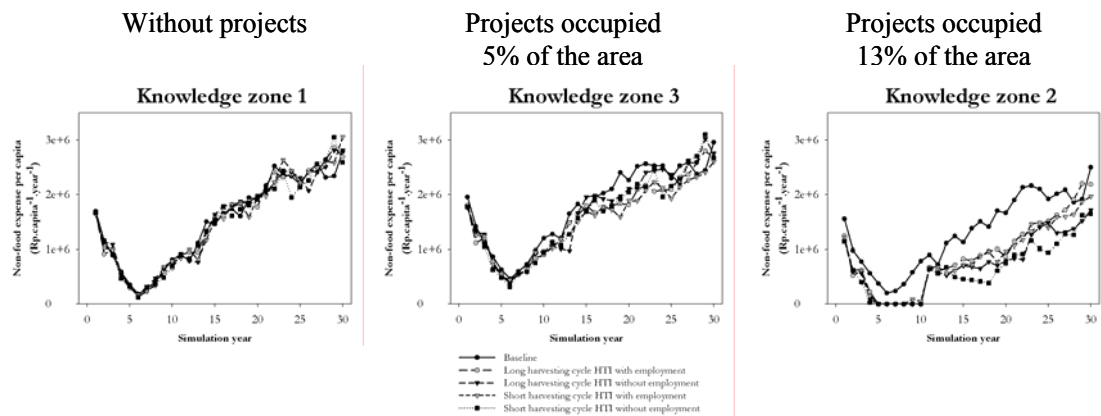


Figure 28. Prospects of farmers' welfare within 3 knowledge zones at various HTI scenarios over 3 decades.

CONCLUSION

Summaries of carbon and welfare based on the results from all scenario-based simulations were made with regards to 'clean development mechanism' context, to compare a 'project' approach to a programmatic one. Two monitoring periods were made to compare the approaches with the 'baseline': (i) short-term monitoring period of 2008-2012, referring to Kyoto commitment period (Table 1 and Table 2) and (ii) long-term monitoring period of 2002-2031, to prospect the 'real resilience' of CDM (Table 3 and Table 4). The results suggested

that a 'project' approach was likely able to increase carbon stocks without leakage in a short-term monitoring period (Table 1 and Figure 28 A). However a reduction of carbon stocks below baseline ('leakage') can be expected in the longer term if the tree planting approach did not provide off-farm employment opportunities to surrounding farmers (Table 2). If costs of 'extension' and 'social control on fire' are assumed to be zero, the 'programmatic' approach to removing constraints to spontaneous smallholder adoption was likely able to increase both carbon stocks and farmers' welfare better than the simulated 'project' approach (Figure 29).

Table 1. Summary of carbon and welfare due to HTI projects approach over commitment period of 2008-2012.

Project approach (HTI)	Increase time averaged of c-stocks at project scale over commitment period 2008-2012 (Gg)	Increase time averaged c-stocks at landscape scale over commitment period 2008-2012 (Gg)	Carbon leakage over commitment period 2008-2012 (%)	Increase time averaged of non-food expense per capita over commitment period 2008-2012 (Rp.capita ⁻¹ .yr ⁻¹)	Increase time averaged of non-food expense per capita relative to baseline over commitment period 2008-2012 (%)
Short harvesting cycle without employment	233.15	234.82	-0.72	-2.22.E+05	-31.57
Long harvesting cycle without employment	298.34	324.21	-8.67	-1.80.E+05	-24.31
Short harvesting cycle with employment	233.13	308.84	-32.48	-1.92.E+05	-28.18
Long harvesting cycle with employment	298.34	354.36	-18.78	-2.17.E+05	-31.19

Table 2. Summary of carbon and welfare due to programmatic approach over commitment period of 2008-2012.

Programmatic approach	Increase time averaged of c-stocks at landscape scale over commitment period 2008-2012 (Gg)	Increase time averaged of non-food expense per capita over commitment period 2008-2012 (Rp.capita ⁻¹ .yr ⁻¹)	Increase time averaged of non-food expense per capita relative to baseline over commitment period 2008-2012 (%)
Better social control on fire	220.65	7.77E+04	9.65
Timber market improvement	-39.40	2.64E+05	44.84
Effective extension on timber-based systems	162.50	1.09E+06	168.39
Better timber market + effective extension on timber-based systems	207.37	2.52E+06	367.11
Better timber market + effective extension on timber-based systems + better social control on fire	459.82	2.65E+06	393.66

Table 3. Summary of carbon and welfare due to HTI projects approach over 30-year period (2002-2031).

Project approach (HTI)	Increase time averaged of c-stocks at project scale over 30-yr period (Gg)	Increase time averaged of c-stocks at landscape scale over 30-yr period (Gg)	Carbon leakage over 30-yr period (%)	Increase time averaged of non-food expense per capita over 30-yr period (Rp.capita ⁻¹ .yr ⁻¹)	Increase time averaged of annual non-food expense per capita relative to baseline over 30-yr period (%)
Short harvesting cycle without employment	192.98	169.28	12.28	-2.88.E+05	-22.03
Long harvesting cycle without employment	275.58	218.36	20.76	-2.26.E+05	-17.11
Short harvesting cycle with employment	192.56	218.72	-13.58	-2.42.E+05	-18.16
Long harvesting cycle with employment	275.58	321.93	-16.82	-2.06.E+05	-16.81

Table 4. Summary of carbon and welfare due to programmatic approach over 30-year period (2002-2031).

Programmatic approach	Increase time averaged of c-stocks at landscape scale over 30-yr period (Gg)	Increase time averaged of non-food expense per capita over 30-yr period (Rp.capita ⁻¹ .yr ⁻¹)	Increase time averaged of annual non-food expense per capita relative to baseline over 30-yr period (%)
Better social control on fire	246.38	4.58E+04	2.78
Timber market improvement	21.90	1.84E+05	21.30
Effective extension on timber-based systems	481.81	6.86E+05	73.41
Better timber market + effective extension on timber-based systems	646.06	2.32E+06	195.13
Better timber market + effective extension on timber-based systems + better social control on fire	937.47	2.46E+06	206.56

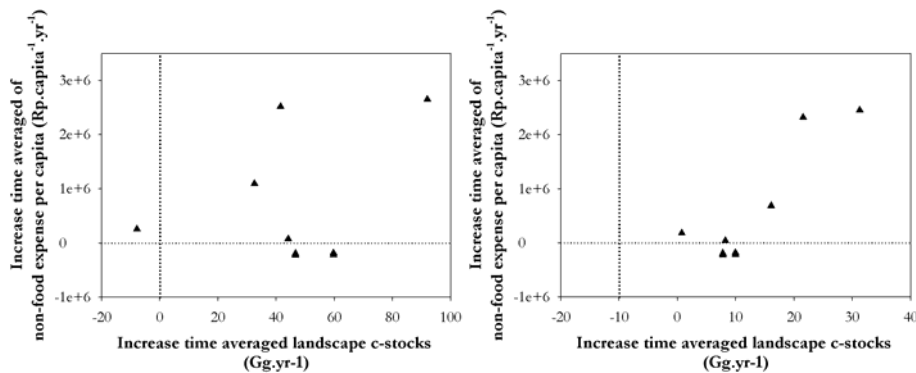


Figure 29. Summary of carbon and welfare due to programmatic approach and project approach.

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Our Vision is an 'Agroforestry Transformation' in the developing world resulting in a massive increase in the use of working trees on working landscapes by smallholder rural households that helps ensure security in food, nutrition, income, health, shelter and energy and a regenerated environment.

Our mission

Our mission is to advance the science and practice of agroforestry to help realize an 'Agroforestry Transformation' throughout the developing world.



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