Protecting forest values as economic integration advances – The importance of regional collaboration

Consequences of economic integration for natural forests without environmental controls or incentives

Factors driving intraregional trade and investment
- Differences in factor endowments
- Dwindling supplies from natural forests and their replacement with supplies from planted forest
- Growing regional demand for wood products and materials

Formal integration processes
- Tariff reduction/elimination
- Removal of non-tariff trade barriers
- Trade facilitation
- Investment liberalisation and financial sector integration

Massive pressure on forests and forest lands
Creating responsible regional markets and production chains: Strategic demand and supply side measures and linkages

- Industry and consumer awareness on how deforestation is linked to their spending decisions
- Responsible public and private procurement policies
- Green building
- National timber legality licensing

- Reviewing forest and land development laws and strengthening implementation
- Making certification more accessible and attractive to forest managers
- Certification of ‘forest risk’ agricultural commodities
- Responsible banking and investment

Examples of Chinese investor and banking guidelines

A Guide on Sustainable Overseas Silviculture by Chinese Enterprise
Guidelines for Environmental and Social Impact Assessments of the China Export and Import Bank’s Loan Projects
Environmental Assessment Framework
Green Credit Guidelines
Key actors for building responsible regional markets and production chains for forest products in the context of regional integration

- Global pressure and support
- Japan as a regional champion for the environment
- Building on existing instruments, policies and partnerships
- Regional processes – EGILAT, ASOF
- Industry, NGO, civil society coalitions