



## Forest Agencies in Transition

Global Issues in Governance  
MegaFlorestais  
Grey Towers



# Forest Agencies - History

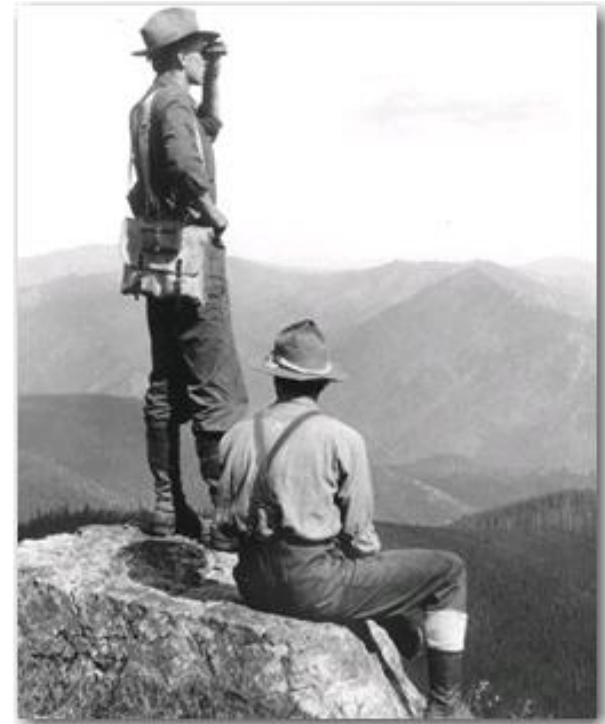
## Created a long time ago:

3 Categories:

1. European roots (e.g. Russia (1800s); US (1900));
2. Models extended to “colonies”, Asia, Africa, LA;
3. created anew post revolution (e.g. China, Mexico, Brazil)

## Lots has changed since then:

1. The purpose of forests— what is expected
2. Scientific/knowledge basis for forestry
3. Land ownership, political basis for forestry



**Lots more will  
change in  
the future...**

# The Purpose of Forests, What is Expected of Forest Agencies

## From:

- Land, forest control for use by elite
- Conservation/protection – water, wildlife - hunting
- Timber, (avoiding “timber famine”)
- Industrialized production for economic growth



## To:

- Non-timber/bioenergy products (over timber)
- “Ecosystem services/management”
- More local “participation”
- Climate change mitigation
- Local jobs, enterprises, development



# Scientific Basis has Changed

## From:

- “professional, modern, science”;
- “we”, foresters, know

## To:

- Multiple sources, bases of knowledge
- “we all” know
- “knowledge is power”





# Land, Political Basis Has Changed

## From:

- Forest owned by the state/public, centralized
- (support to private forests an offshoot)



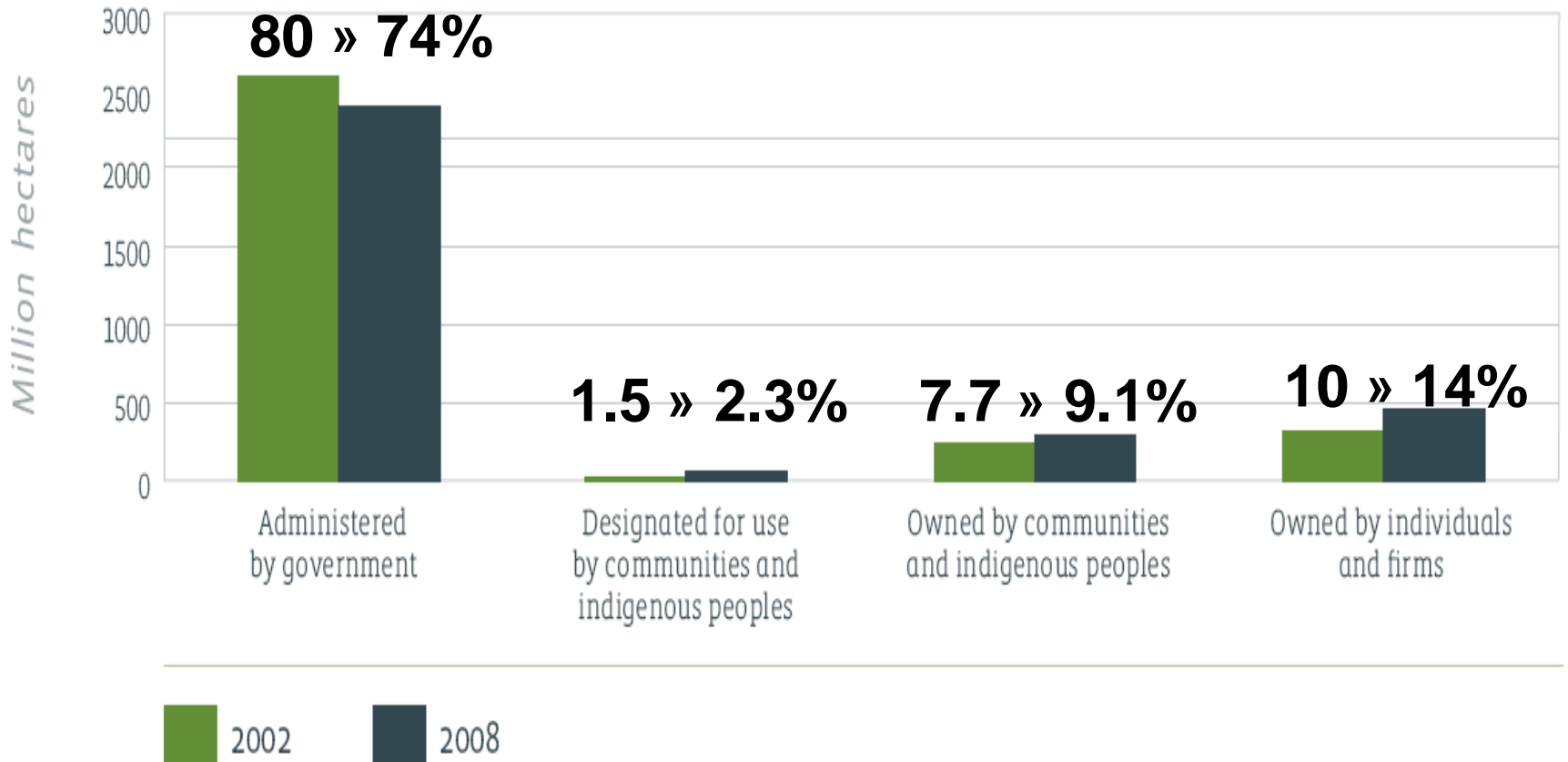
## To:

- Forest owned by many different entities
- Recognition of land rights, “territories of Indigenous Peoples”; “decentralized” – to states, households
- Democratization: citizen voice/choice, transparency, accountability



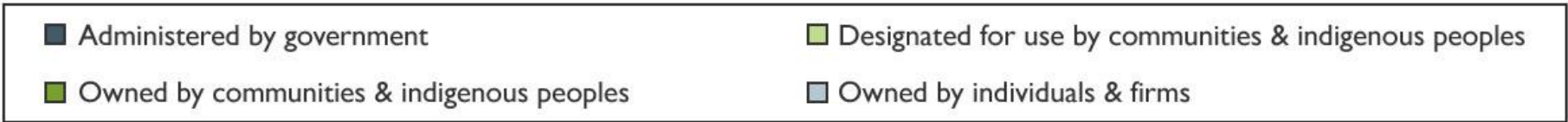
# Status of Forest Rights – State Dominated but Changing

FOREST TENURE DISTRIBUTION BY TENURE CATEGORY IN 25 OF THE 30 MOST-FORESTED COUNTRIES, 2002–2008

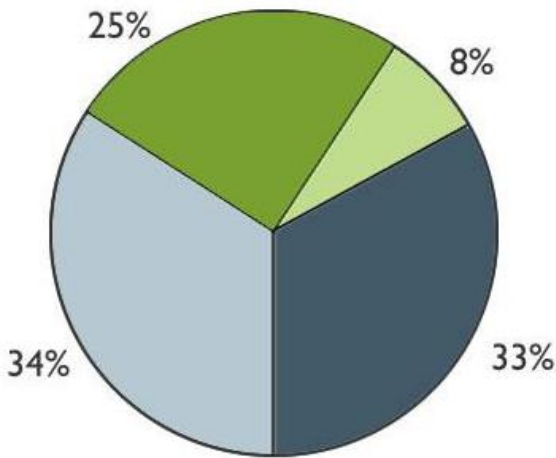


Source: Sunderlin, W., J. Hatcher and M. Liddle. 2008. *From Exclusion to Ownership?: Challenges and Opportunities in Advancing Forest Tenure Reform*. Washington D.C.: Rights and Resources Initiative.

# Rights by Region – Asia and Africa Behind

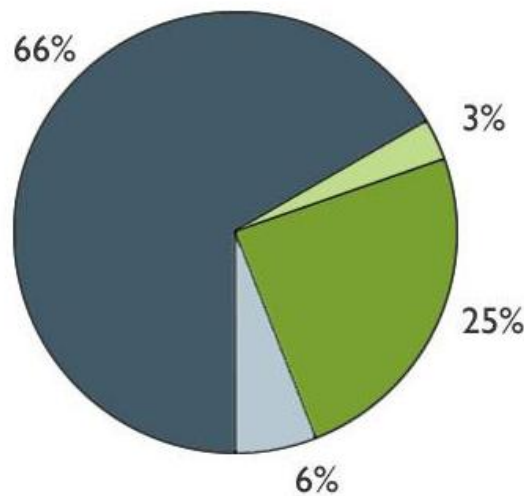


**Fig. 1: Latin America**



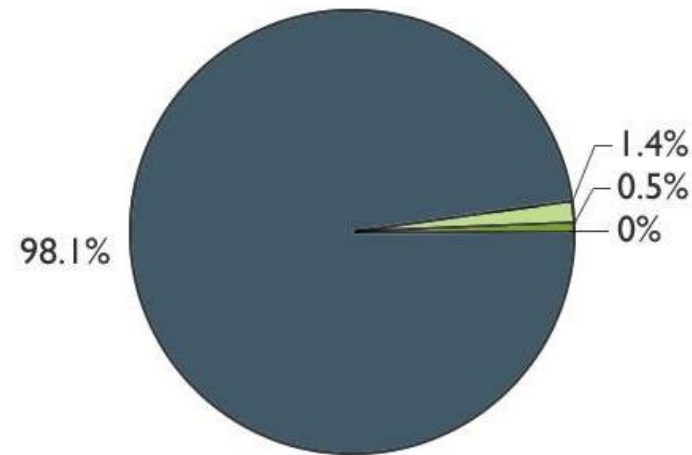
(Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia & Venezuela; accounts for 78% of Latin American forests.)

**Fig. 2: Asia**



(China, Australia, Indonesia, India, Myanmar, PNG & Japan; accounts for 78% of Asian forests.)

**Fig. 3: Africa**



(DRC, Sudan, Angola, Zambia, Tanzania, CAR, Congo, Gabon & Cameroon; accounts for 67% of African forests.)

# Implications for Agencies

1<sup>st</sup> – change in forest purpose, relatively easy to react to

2<sup>nd</sup> – change in forest science/knowledge, harder, but “logical”, can adapt

3<sup>rd</sup> – land ownership and democratization –

transformative, much, much more challenging

- can be fundamentally disempowering to public agencies.



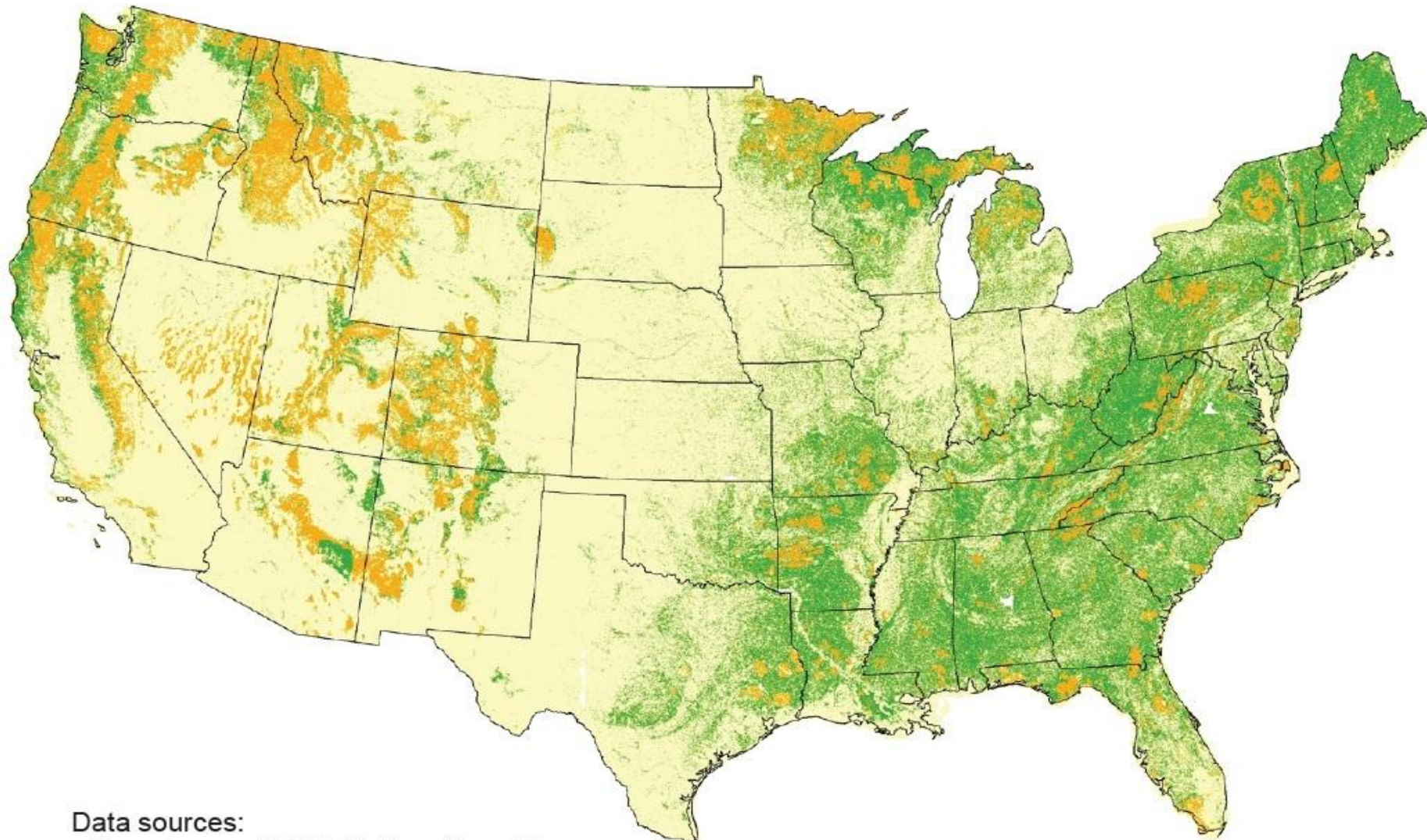
# Lots More Change in the Future

- population growth – 9 billion?
- double agricultural production by 2030?
- booming demand for bioenergy
- increased urbanization
- increased risk of violent conflict
- So:
  1. pressure on forest areas from 2 sides – agriculture and energy
  2. much greater expectations and power of local people
  3. Innovation, reinvention will be required to remain socially, politically relevant, and effective land managers

***How, or will, forest agencies manage this change?***

# Forest Ownership in the Coterminous United States, 2006

■ Private forest land   ■ Public forest land   ■ Nonforest



## Data sources:

Forest area - USGS National Land Cover Database 2001  
Ownership - CBI Protected Areas Database, Version 4.0  
State and countries - ESRI Data & Maps 2006

## Produced by:

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