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Evaluation of the IIASA Model of the Global Forest Sector

Peter Cardellichio and Darius Adams. 1988

Summary

Between 1980 and 1985, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg, Austria conducted an extensive study of the world's forest sector. The Forest Sector Project (FSP) focused on modeling the economic behavior of forest products markets and the economic system that links the forest resources of the world. In addition to the core team of scientists assembled at IIASA to work full time on the FSP, the reseatch included a collaborative network of approximately 300 forest scientists from all parts of the world.

Shortly after the FSP was formally completed CINTRAFOR acquired the IIASA Global Forest Sector Trade Model (GTM) and conducted an in-depth analysis of the model's usefulness as a tool for forest industry research, prediction, and policy analysis.

This monograph provides an extensive evaluation of the GTM. The central issue concerns the behavior and performance of the model. The purpose of this work is to deepen our understanding of the GTM (both its current state and its potential) so to determine its usefulness in forest economics research, forest industry applications, and forest policy analysis.

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