

Global enclosures? Exploring the dynamics of forest- based climate mitigation

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The aim

- ✦ develop conceptual framework for examining the dynamics of forest-based climate mitigation
 - ✦ REDD+, voluntary offset market, CDM
- ✦ identify important dimensions of these dynamics
- ✦ help to understand actual dynamics

Property is significant

- ✦ debates about forest-based climate mitigation
 - ✦ carbon rights (Skutsch 2010, Cotula et al. 2011)
 - ✦ forestland rights (RRI 2011)
- ✦ but: is preoccupation with tenure rights enough?
- ✦ employ property as analytical lens
 - ✦ focus on practices
 - ✦ look get at dynamics of 'propertizing'?

Parliamentary enclosures

changes in property rights interact with changes in:

- ✦ authority relations

 - ✦ common law replaces customary ideas and practice

- ✦ attributions of value

 - ✦ from subsistence to profit

- ✦ land

 - ✦ landowners employ new agricultural techniques

 - ✦ new ways of viewing land and countryside

Property and authority

- ✦ property and authority constitute each other (Sikor and Lund 2009)

- ✦ property requires sanctioning by authority

- ✦ authority gains legitimacy through endorsing property

- ✦ forest-based climate mitigation

- ✦ new global regulations (carbon measurements, 'safeguards')

- ✦ private certification schemes

- ✦ re-emergence of nation states?

Property and value

- ✦ property and value are in dynamic interplay (Sikor et al. in preparation)
 - ✦ property refers to objects considered valuable
 - ✦ property claims attribute value to particular objects and help to constitute value regimes
- ✦ forest-based climate mitigation
 - ✦ commodification of carbon
 - ✦ forests as global good, climate sink, etc.
 - => revalorization of forests (kinds and significance of values)

Property and forest landscape

✦ property and landscape

- ✦ landscape: ecological and political-economic dynamics; individual and 'gestalt'-like features (Mitchell 2002)
- ✦ landscape defines 'what's up for grabs' (Sturgeon 2004)
- ✦ property practices help to make landscapes

✦ forest-based climate mitigation

- ✦ carbon stocks as emergent feature of forests
- ✦ move towards carbon forestry redefines forest landscapes and affects forest ecology
- ✦ carbon-rich forests modify 'what's up for grabs'

Wrapping up

- ✦ conceptual framework for examining the dynamics of forest-based climate mitigation

- ✦ property offers useful lens

- ✦ if set in relation to changes in authority, value and landscape

- ✦ if combined with focus on actual practices

- ✦ implications

- ✦ for activists: it isn't just about land/carbon rights

- ✦ for scholars: we don't know the outcomes yet

Thank you!