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Presentations	Session 3.3	<i>Individual presentations: Forest Land Use and Land Use Change.</i>

Abstract Session 3.3 – The political economy of forest governance, forest sector reforms and their outcomes in East Africa.

Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania have in recent years entered reforms of their forest sector resulting in major changes and transformations in policies, institutional design, organizational structures and with significant impacts on land and forest resources. The forest reforms entered as a part of broader governance reforms undertaken in Africa in the 1990s, partly driven by hegemonic global actors and then funded and kept running by multiple donors under diverse conditionalities. Reforms followed similar paths in the three countries, initiated in Uganda. Many objectives of the reforms to stipulate sustainable forestry, reduce deforestation and advance delivery of multiple ecosystem services from the forest estate, however, have not materialized. The forest sector encompasses a nation's forest resources, the environmental services they deliver, as well as the multiple institutions and organizations necessary for their governance. States allocate their forest estate into various governance systems, often shaped and defined by institutional structures such as property rights to land and policy objectives. Such governance systems are comprehensive systems of actors and their powers, institutions and forest resources and their interactions define and shape performance and outcomes. The study performs a comparative analysis of the main forest governance systems in the East African countries. It analyses multiple political and institutional factors that have contributed to their outcomes and identifies weaknesses to counter multiple environmental changes and societal drivers impacting the forest sector, despite its recent reforms. If current forest, environment and development policies in East Africa are going to materialize, the forest sector needs multiple changes to improve its governance.

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