MOUNTAIN FARMING SYSTEMS

Discussion Paper Series

**SUSTAINABLE LAND USE INVOLVING TREES IN THE HIMALAYAN REGION:
PERSPECTIVES AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

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PREFACE

The paper highlights the convergence between the imperatives of mountain conditions such as fragility, diversity, inaccessibility, and the attributes of forest or tree-based systems (e.g., agro-forestry). However, the conventional approach to trees or forests that focuses mainly on terminal products, such as timber, tend to make forest/tree production a highly time and space-consuming activity to fit into the resource intensification needs of present times. By shifting the focus from trees to multi-period, multipurpose products, the 'space and time intensive' dimension of forests can be projected and utilised. This can be supplemented by some R & D on trees that have low maturity periods in order to enhance the role of trees in intensive but sustainable land use in the mountains.

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