

**SUNDERLAND, TERENCE** [S25-P105]

*The new agrarian change? Exploring the dynamic interplay between forest conservation, food security and commodity production in tropical forest landscapes*

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Given the global importance of food and nutritional security, biodiversity conservation and the provision of forest-based ecosystem services, there is a clear need for a more robust evidence-base to ensure that policy interventions have the greatest chance of success in multi-functional landscapes. Globally conceived land-use strategies (e.g. land sharing and land sparing trajectories) have been proposed to reconcile and integrate competing demands for food production and biodiversity conservation. However, we also need to advance our understanding of agricultural landscapes as social-ecological systems, and as such consider other system components such as local food and nutritional security, market access and relative poverty.

Focusing on the experiences of landscapes in six tropical countries exhibiting various combinations of agricultural modification, productivity, changing forest cover and integration with global commodity markets, the research presented here uses a landscape-level approach to explore the livelihood and food security implications of land-use change and agrarian change processes. To enable a global comparative analysis, a common set of research methods were applied in all six landscapes, where each landscape exhibited a gradient of agricultural modification and changes in forest cover. Qualitative, participatory and quantitative methodologies included land-use change analysis using remote sensing techniques, livelihood surveys, farm productivity surveys and biodiversity surveys. Here we present preliminary results and much needed insights into how agrarian change processes manifest locally once embedded into local histories, culture, and political and market dynamics.