
There is a dramatic increase in the establishment of fast-growing plantations in Southeast China – and many of the new plantations are being established on collectively owned forest land. This paper first reviews the scale of new plantations and private sector investment underway in the region. It then reviews the experiences of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Bank projects to encourage community production – identifying the types of contracts engaged by communities, how these contracts are structured, and the experience from a community perspective – including how risks are distributed and incomes earned by communities as well as the role of the provincial and county forest departments in advancing such schemes. The paper concludes with a review of the advantages, disadvantages and risks to participating in company-community schemes from a community perspective, and identifies lessons for industry and policy makers regarding how these schemes could be improved.