

CDR and Tropical Forestry: Fighting Climate Change One Cubic Meter a Time

CDR Carbon Dioxide Removal, are products that remove atmospheric CO₂ and change it into products with long lifespan to society. At the tropics there are large availability of hardwoods, the ones with the largest lifespan between timbers, which make them very attractable to consumers wishing to have long term wood at their homes, offices and industries. The consumption of tropical timber products would help reducing the overall carbon footprint of construction globally, supplying woods with large lifespan enhancing the Society stocks of carbono.

Tropical forestry productivity is directly linked to silvicultural practices. The school of forestry was born out of the realization that letting forest stands to regenerate by themselves, or unexploited, resulted on their doom. Increasing productivity is a way to remove atmospheric CO₂ and transform it into industrial and energy wood that can reduce overall global emissions towards consumption. When we have consumption enough it will sustain a permanent cover on forest side, assuring permanence of carbon way over the 100 years required.

The current stocks of around 100B m³ of dying mature trees ready to harvest on Brazilian Amazon regions alone, have the capacity to remove close to 100B tCO₂e from the atmosphere, just by turning them into timber and having new ones planted. This would also generate millions of Jobs and trillions of dollars in revenue over the next decades. Tropical forests hold capacity to regenerate after harvesting and the much this would mean is directly related to silvicultural practices, which will impact global GHG balance positively.

Undisturbed tropical forest sites over the last 50 years lost between 15-25% of total volume to secondary invasive vegetation, making them net emitters of CO₂. When this behaviour is kept, in the next 50 years tropical sites are to loose other 15 to 25% of its volume to the increasing volume of secondary vegetation. With this, large protected áreas at isolated áreas in the Amazon regoin kept um-managed should hold 30-50% less volume than managed and plantation ones. The CO₂ fertilization is uptake much faster by secondary vegetation and the trees are losing their competitiveness yearly, without harvesting and silvicultural treatments they are to vanish.

Harvesting and consumption of tropical timber products stimulates productivity, reverting the degradation process due to increase of secondary invasive species volume, and generate profits, helping to reduce deforestation. Therefore, tropical timber is a value added CDR that can reduce degradation and deforestation, while increasing CO₂ removals. We need to have production and consumption of tropical timbers witin the framework off accepted CDR for global carbon Market



development. Countries need to have an annual quota of tropical timber products purchase in order to contribute to halting forest degradation and land use change and promote an increase of carbon stocks within society. The more tropical timber is consumed, the better for the climate. The same goes for all tropical agriculture and pasture products, which are CDUs and CDRs resulting from uptaking atmospheric CO₂ and turning it into useful goods for humanity.

CDR and Tropical Forestry: Fighting Climate Change One Cubic Meter at a Time

Note: <https://youtu.be/iSBhtityxUU>