

An evaluation of POLEX (CIFOR's Forest Policy Experts Listserv)

Targeting key forest agenda-setters

Michael J. Spilsbury and Nina Haase



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Executive summary

A relatively small number of policymakers and opinion leaders in government departments, donor agencies, development banks and NGOs make many of the most important and far-reaching decisions about forests and forest policy; these individuals have a great deal of influence over other decision makers and significantly affect the allocation of resources to forest initiatives. POLEX, the Forest Policy Experts listserv, specifically targets this audience.

POLEX messages are written by David Kaimowitz, the Director General of CIFOR, and are disseminated in English, Spanish, French, Indonesian and Japanese once or twice a month. The messages have a journalistic style and present short summaries of recent research about forest issues whilst highlighting their significance for policy. The subscription list includes nearly 12,000 individuals and reaches very large proportion of the world's most influential policymakers, opinion leaders and researchers concerned with forests, forest policy and conservation. Since 1997, when the service began, over 150 POLEX messages have been circulated. Approximately half of the POLEX messages are based on research by CIFOR and its collaborators; the rest on research by scientists working in a multitude of other organisations around the world.

As part of a global readership survey and impact assessment of the POLEX listserv, 5,689 surveys were sent by email to a stratified random sample of approximately 63% of the POLEX English subscription list, yielding 504 responses. For the Spanish, French and Japanese POLEX listservs the entire subscription lists were canvassed and a further 419, 465, and 163 survey responses, respectively, were received. In addition, 42 key informant telephone interviews were conducted with subscribers perceived to be 'highly influential' individuals in international forest policy and research.

The survey returns show that patterns of organisational affiliation vary across POLEX language lists. Generally, subscribers were most frequently affiliated with research institutes (18%), followed by NGOs, government agencies and the private sector. The POLEX *Français* list showed a low proportion of readers affiliated with international agencies, multinational development organizations and the private sector. Within POLEX *Español*, subscribers were most frequently affiliated with private sector organisations, closely followed by multilateral

development banks. The organisational affiliation of Japanese POLEX readers was dominated by donor/development assistance agencies (mainly from JICA), followed by research institutes and universities.

People read POLEX. The frequency of readership reported across all surveys was extremely high, with 88% reading 'all' or 'most' messages. Further dissemination of POLEX messages by recipients was also very high, with 83% 'frequently' or 'occasionally' forwarding messages. Two-thirds of respondents forward POLEX to fewer than five people. However, 5% forward POLEX messages to more than 10 people—we estimate that each POLEX message will, on average, be circulated to an estimated total of **4,100 additional** individuals beyond the subscription list. POLEX messages are circulated on several other listservs. For example, the subscribers to the Spanish version of POLEX alone collectively forward POLEX messages to over 5,000 additional recipients including several office or association mailing lists such as The Association of Forestry Engineers of Pichincha, Ecuador; the mailing list of the forest engineers of the National Agrarian University La Molina, Peru; and the technical administrative staff of INAB, Guatemala.

Generally, POLEX messages are sent on to colleagues in the same institution or among networks of professionals working on the same topic or issue. POLEX messages are also reproduced in a large number of different newsletters and publications around the globe, further increasing its reach and readership.

On average, subscribers read approximately three of the original articles highlighted by POLEX summaries per year. The majority of readers refer back to previous POLEX messages. Over three-quarters of those refer to messages saved on their own computer, with a very small percentage preferring to make exclusive use of the online CIFOR POLEX archive.

POLEX is professionally relevant. A very high percentage (73%) of respondents find POLEX 'usually' or 'always' relevant for their professional work. This is quite extraordinary given the diversity of professional positions and disciplinary backgrounds among respondents and the wide range of subjects covered by POLEX messages. Five percent of respondents even report that the information provided by POLEX summaries has '*helped shape policies and make decisions*', whilst a further 12% have used specific POLEX messages directly in their work. A large proportion of respondents (40%) reported that POLEX had helped them '*improve their understanding and shape their opinions*' and a further 38% reported that POLEX messages helped them stay informed of new policies and debates. This high level of usage coupled with the collective 'power and influence' of POLEX subscribers suggests that the indirect effects on policy and decision making have been substantial.

Some examples of more direct outcomes stemming from the use of POLEX summaries were reported by respondents and include the following:

'In South Africa we are in the process of dramatically rethinking policies and the experiences from other parts of the world that POLEX reports on has helped us understand where similar policies have succeeded or failed.'

'POLEX has influenced the programming of EC aid in the forest sector and the setting of priorities for EC interventions. I have also drawn on POLEX briefings when preparing briefings, proposals for strategy documents and other activities'

'My role in overseeing IUCN's programme means that I need to have a strong overview of current debates and issues. POLEX has helped shape some of my views and this has translated into IUCN's forest-related work.'

The POLEX service was singled out by the World Bank as an example of 'best practice' in knowledge management/information dissemination. POLEX messages are most frequently noted for their engaging, interesting, non-academic, complete and concise summaries. Furthermore, POLEX is commended as a good tool to help professionals 'stay up-to-date' as it disseminates relevant recent information quickly and efficiently. POLEX was also noted for its choice of a broad variety of relevant subjects, the scientific quality of articles featured, and the 'non-mainstream' information it often provides. POLEX is perceived as a trusted source of information produced by a reputable research organisation.

When POLEX survey respondents were asked to highlight publications that have been influential in shaping national and international debates about forests, the list of publications mentioned largely reinforced earlier findings on this topic. The documents most often mentioned point to a small number of highly influential organisations and processes. Those most commonly mentioned were those in relation to the Earth Summit in Rio, the Brundtland Commission and the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). FAO publications hold the lead in terms of the number of most influential publications from a single organisation. The classics such as Hardin's 'Tragedy of the Commons', Ostrom's work on institutions, Duncan Poore's book 'No Timber without Trees' and Repetto and Gillis' work, are also frequently mentioned. Respondents included some CIFOR publications in this category of influential publications: the work of Wunder on the link between deforestation and macroeconomics, Kaimowitz and Angelsen for their work on agricultural technologies and tropical deforestation, Barr on pulp paper and corporate due diligence and Cossalter on 'Fast Wood' forestry plantations.

Respondents also identified a number of ‘emerging issues’ thought to be of increasing significance for forests and forest policy. Of common concern were the effects of globalisation on forests in its various forms. The emerging issues most frequently identified by survey respondents were:

- Community-based forest management, including such issues as land tenure, traditional or indigenous rights and knowledge and participation in forest management.
- Governance, including decentralization or devolution, democratisation, illegal activities and means for their prevention.
- Environmental services, including water, carbon and recreation functions and payments for environmental services. Some less established issues highlighted by respondents included biofuels and ecotourism (see Appendix F).

POLEX has been hugely successful. It reaches a large audience that includes a very high proportion of the world’s most influential shapers of policy and decisions affecting forests. POLEX is frequently read, regularly disseminated onward and is perceived to be of significant professional relevance to subscribers. POLEX messages are frequently used and re-used. In some cases POLEX summaries have had direct influence on policy processes and decision making, but its largest impact stems from its success in ‘shaping opinions’ on key policy-relevant topics across a global audience of influential policymakers and opinion leaders in government departments, donor agencies, development banks and NGOs. POLEX helps to shape conventional wisdom about forests and the policies that affect them.

Introduction

POLEX, the Forest Policy Experts listserv, provides short summaries of recent research about forest issues, highlighting their significance for policy. POLEX messages are sent to nearly 12,000 people around the world once or twice a month. The subscribers to the listserv include many of the world's influential policymakers, opinion leaders and researchers concerned with forests, forest policy and conservation. The messages are written in a journalistic style, presenting short summaries of recent research about policies affecting forests. Since 1997, when the service began, over 150 POLEX messages have been circulated. Approximately half of the POLEX messages are based on research by CIFOR and its collaborators, the rest on research by scientists working in a multitude of other organisations around the world.

How is the POLEX message service perceived? How useful is it? Does it help shape opinions among its readers? What do readers like about POLEX and what could be improved? These initial questions motivated a global in-depth evaluation of POLEX's effectiveness, influence and impact. The aim of the study was to help improve the service provided to POLEX readers, to understand how and when POLEX messages are used, and the significance of that use. Information was canvassed from featured authors and four of the five POLEX language lists (English, French, Spanish and Japanese). Additional telephone interviews were conducted with key informants, all selected as being highly influential and respected internationally in forest policy, development or research.

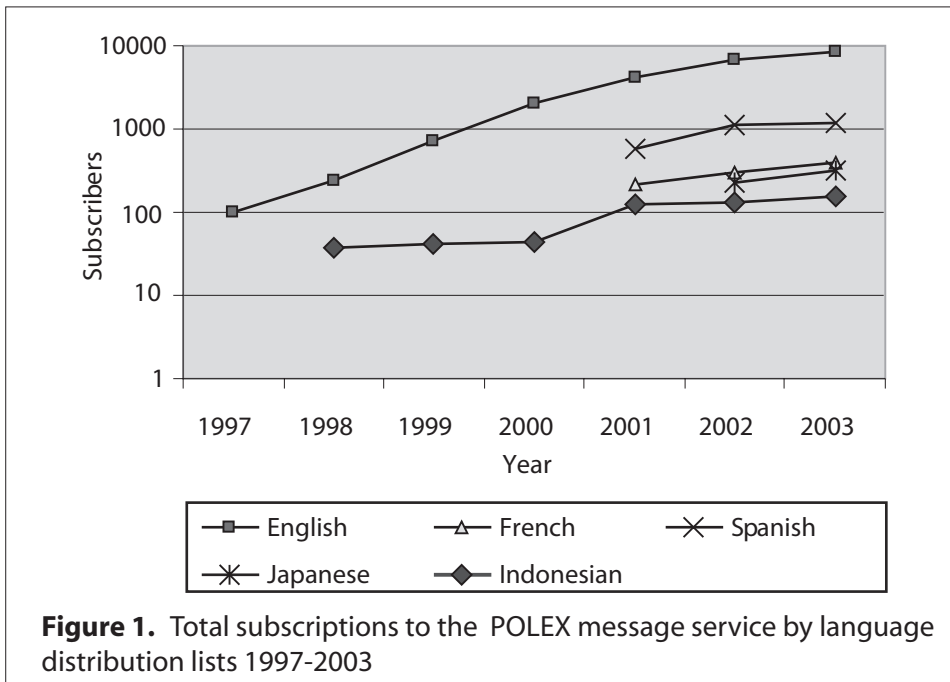
This report summarizes the findings from this work. Separate reports are available for each of the POLEX surveys conducted (authors, key respondents, English, French, Spanish and Japanese POLEX lists).

A brief history of POLEX

The POLEX message service was initiated in 1997 and distributed in English. In 1998 POLEX translation and distribution in Indonesian began. List servers providing translated POLEX messages in Spanish and French were instigated in 2001 and, since 2002, POLEX has also been available in Japanese.

Figure 1 shows the net subscription totals for all POLEX lists between 1997 and 2003. POLEX subscription lists have been growing continuously since inception, with the English POLEX not only being the largest, but also the fastest growing with close to 9,100 subscribers at the time of survey. POLEX *Español* had 1,600 subscribers, POLEX *Français* had close to 500 subscribers, Japanese POLEX had almost 400 and POLEX in Bahasa Indonesia had 250 subscribers. POLEX subscriptions continue to grow.

POLEX recipients have the option to terminate their subscriptions to the service at any time. Clearly, for all POLEX lists, new subscriptions have been far greater than the number choosing to terminate their subscriptions (data on subscription by language list are presented in Appendix G).



What POLEX disseminates

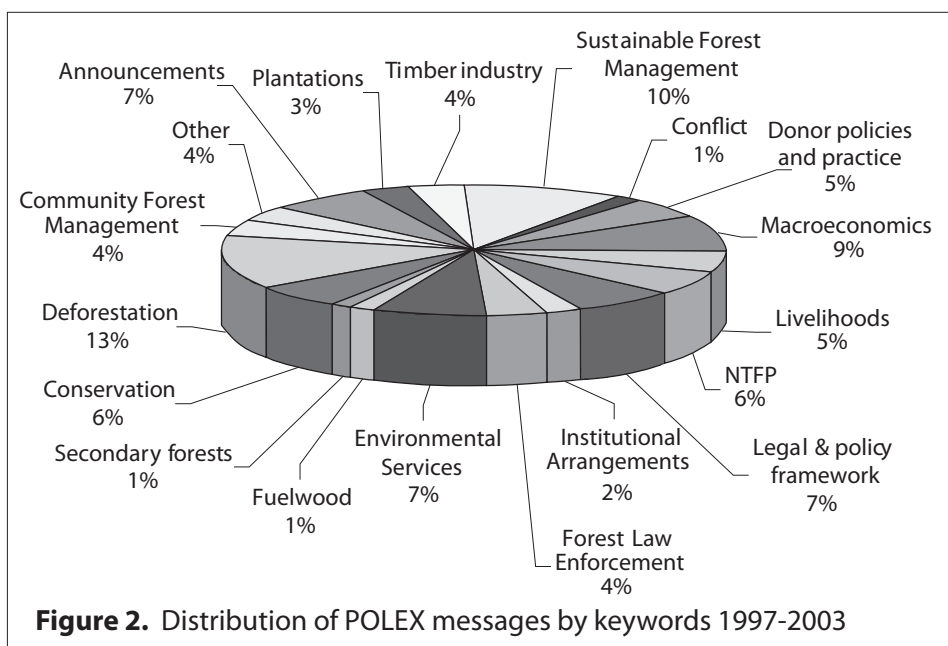
Dr. David Kaimowitz, Director General of CIFOR, is the founder, writer and editor of the POLEX message service. He personally selects all source documents, and prepares the summaries in his own inimitable journalistic style. He considers a number of factors when selecting the source documents:

'I try to keep a balance of about 50% related to CIFOR's work and about 50% from outsiders, although the exact percentages vary somewhat over time. I also try to keep a regional balance and a balance in topics. If I have recently done a message about a topic I am unlikely to return to that topic for some time. Whenever I get material with a lot of statistics I prefer it. People like to see numbers. Another balance I try to keep is between things that are about production forestry, conservation, community forestry, and how trends outside the forestry sector affect forests. I prefer pieces that are controversial or question conventional wisdom and I prefer developing country authors. People often send me things suggesting that I write a message about them. I usually have a backlog. I try to do one message every two weeks.' (D. Kaimowitz)

Thematic focus

What topics have featured on POLEX? What is the balance between topics? Have some topics received more attention than others and if so, which ones are these?

POLEX messages distributed from 1997 until August 2003 were analysed. The featured publications were classified according to the presence of keywords appearing in the summaries (Figure 2). Generally, POLEX messages have covered a wide range of issues and have been fairly evenly distributed across categories grouped by keywords. Messages related to particularly prominent and broad issues such as sustainable forest management and deforestation have featured more frequently than the other categories (23%). POLEX addresses a wide range of issues; no obvious thematic biases were evident.



Geographic focus

The geographical focus of POLEX messages was also examined and specific references to countries were tallied. Global issues or topics recorded the largest proportion of the total tallies (26%). POLEX featured Latin American, Asian and African countries with almost equal frequency, each continent receiving 22%, 22%, and 19% of the tallies respectively. Countries in other continents combined were mentioned in less than 11% of the total tallies. This distribution is closely aligned with CIFOR's strategic and geographic focus on issues of significance related to forests and forest policy in the developing tropics and subtropics.

Table 1. References made in POLEX messages to countries (aggregated by region where appropriate)

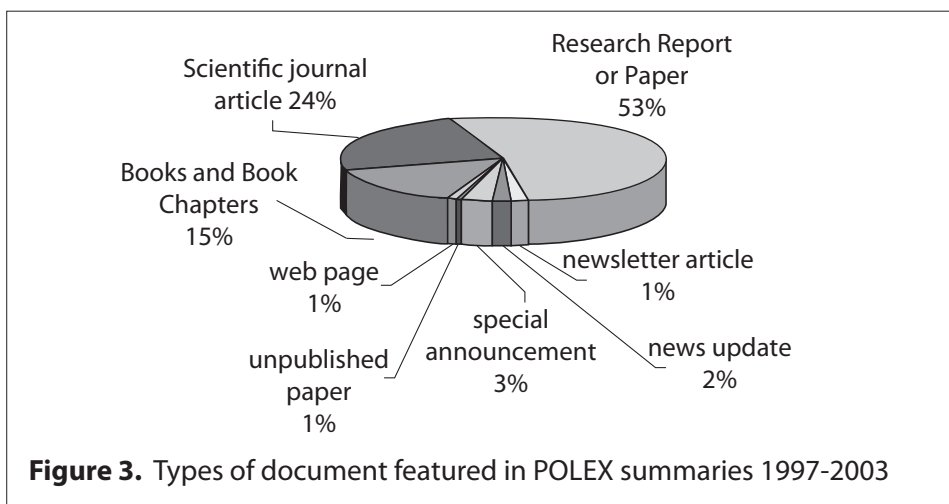
Continent	Count	%
Global	51	26
Latin America	44	22
Asia	44	22
Africa	37	19
Oceania & Pacific	7	4
Europe	6	3
North America	6	3
Russia	1	1
Total	196	100

Documents by developing country authors feature in 24% of POLEX messages, with the rest produced by developed country authors, most frequently from the United States or the U.K. The overwhelming dominance of developed country authors has been noted more generally in documents that have been influential in shaping the international forest agenda. Of the sixty most influential documents identified by Spilsbury and Kaimowitz (2000), less than 1% were the product of developing country authors. In this context, the proportion of developing country authors featured by POLEX is relatively high. Unsurprisingly, the majority of authors featured on POLEX were associated with research institutes (54%), followed by academia (22%), and NGOs (10%). Authors affiliated with other types of organisations each constitute 5% or less.

Type of documents featured

Documents are usually featured on POLEX before they are published elsewhere. In many cases POLEX makes final, soon-to-be-published drafts available. This approach has helped POLEX to establish a 'niche' providing policy 'alerts'; very recent research is highlighted and its relevance for policy explained.

Figure 3 shows the types of documents featured on POLEX. Most became published research papers (working papers, occasional papers, reports etc.). Almost one-quarter of source documents were published in scientific journals and 15% are books or book chapters. POLEX has, on occasion, featured special announcements, news updates, newsletter articles, and has reviewed web pages.



POLEX evaluation study methods

The study methods for the evaluation of the POLEX message service were straightforward. Survey instruments (questionnaires) were prepared for distribution to the authors of articles featured by POLEX and also for readers registered as POLEX subscribers. Reader survey forms were prepared in English and translated into Japanese, French and Spanish. Survey forms were sent to all authors and the entire subscription lists for the French, Spanish and Japanese POLEX lists. French and Japanese subscriber lists received the survey form as an email attachment; the Spanish subscribers received an invitation to complete on online web-based survey form. The questionnaire for the English language POLEX list (see Appendix D) was initially sent as an email attachment to a stratified random sample of 1,916 recipients on the distribution list. Respondents were classified by the institutional affiliation implied by their email address into the following categories: international organisations, government organisations, donors, NGOs and ‘miscellaneous’ (a large group since organisational affiliation is not always evident from an email address). The ‘miscellaneous’ group was further stratified by country where possible. Respondents were selected at random from these categories in proportion to the percentage that the categories represented in the listserv total. Due to low response rates for the English survey, a second sample of 2,270 questionnaires was sent (this included 520 new email addresses and 1,750 reminders from the first sample). An additional 3,253 POLEX recipients were later invited to participate in the POLEX survey through completion of an online web-based version of the survey form. Sample sizes and response rates for the various POLEX lists are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. POLEX Listserv size, survey sample size, respondent numbers and response rate

	POLEX (English)	POLEX (Español)	POLEX (Français)	POLEX (Japan)
Subscriber Total	9,100	1,652	465	289
Surveys sent	5,689	1,652	465	289
Replies	504	419	80	163
Response to surveys sent %	9%	25%	17%	56%
Response as % of total subscribers	5.5%	25%	17%	56%

POLEX Indonesia, with 250 subscribers, was not surveyed.

Total surveys sent = 8,095

Total replies = 1,166

Total Aggregated POLEX Survey Response Rate: 14.4%

An additional 94 individuals were identified for key informant interviews via telephone (Appendix C). The key informants were chosen from the 'DG's top 400 list' containing what CIFOR believes to be the 400 most influential policymakers, decision makers and researchers in international forestry and development. Forty-two key informants were available and provided responses to questions posed during telephone interviews. The questions addressed the same core issues as the email-based POLEX questionnaire. To keep the interviews short, questions focused on their POLEX reading habits, further dissemination of POLEX, subsequent referral to source documents, professional relevance and utility of POLEX summaries, strengths and weaknesses of POLEX and emerging forest issues.

In addition to receiving feedback from forest-related policymakers and researchers of the highest calibre, the interviews provided useful insights and detail, especially with regard to how POLEX is used and the impacts that have stemmed from this.

A further survey explored author experiences in terms of the requests for articles or comments they received from POLEX subscribers following the dissemination of POLEX messages summarising their research.

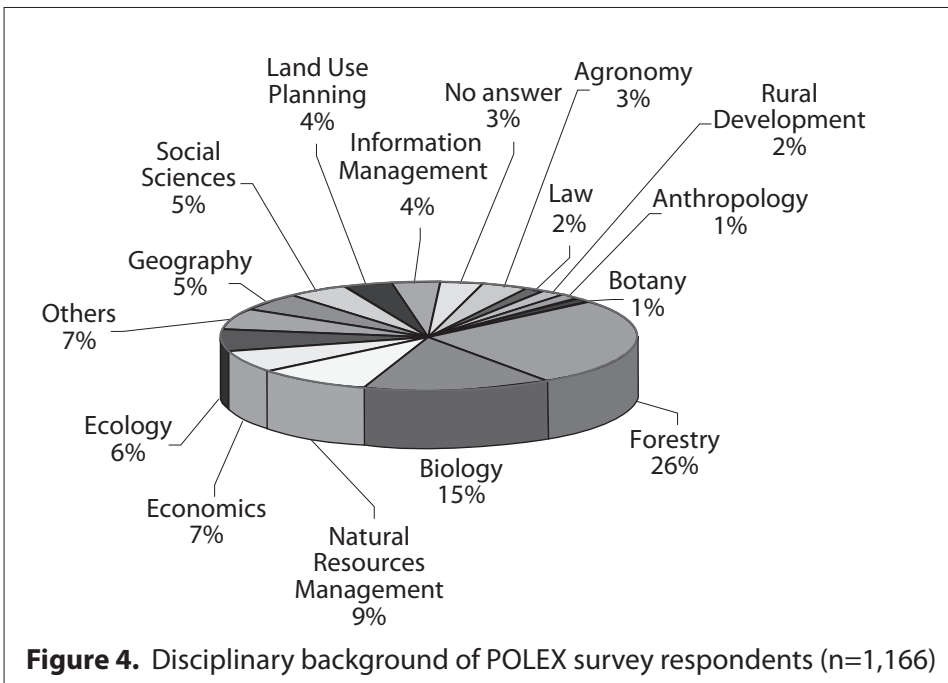
Findings from POLEX surveys & key informant interviews

Audience structure

Who are the POLEX readers? What is their disciplinary background and what types of organisation do they work for?

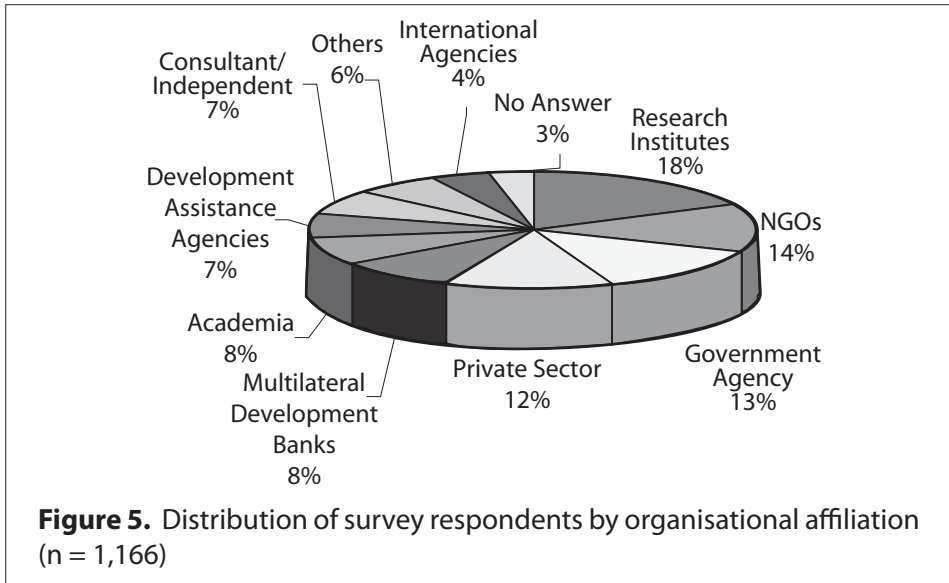
Disciplinary background

POLEX focuses on forest issues and it is therefore unsurprising that the single largest group of recipients—just over one-quarter—have a forestry background. Respondents with disciplinary backgrounds in biology and natural resources management accounted for 15% and 9% respectively. Generally there is a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds among the recipients of POLEX. However, one unexpected result occurred in the POLEX *Español* list: recipients with a biology background were the largest group and were three times more numerous than those citing their disciplinary background as forestry.



Institutional affiliation

The highest proportion of subscribers (18%) are affiliated with research institutes, followed by NGOs, government agencies and the private sector—all between 12% and 14% (Figure 5).



Institutional affiliation patterns vary across POLEX lists, suggesting a different clientele for different lists. The POLEX *Français* list shows a low level of subscription for international agencies, multinational development organizations and the private sector (all at 5% or less). One interpretation of these figures is that the French translation caters for a less internationalised audience. On the other hand, the absolute number of key individuals that are interested and/or involved with forest policy issues in government agencies and bilateral donors that are also obligate French speakers is likely to be relatively small in comparison to the other categories covered. Non-obligate French speakers in key POLEX target organisations are more likely to receive POLEX in English, largely because it was established first and influential individuals in international agencies and development agencies were identified as a key target audience.

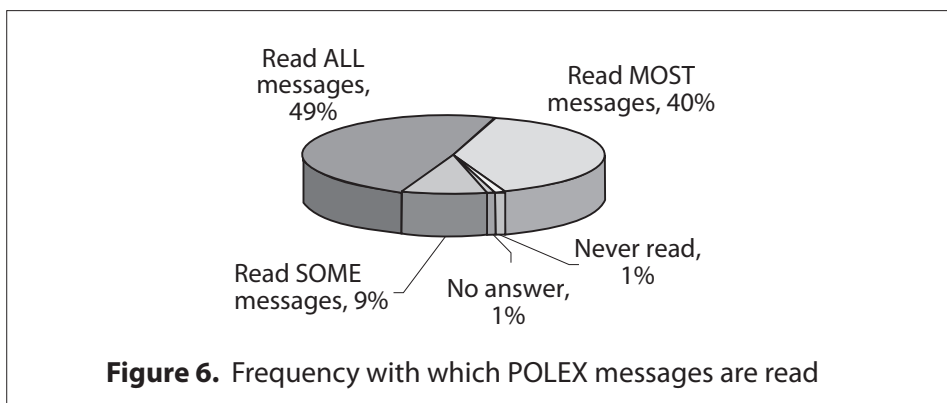
In the POLEX *Español* survey, the largest proportion of respondents was affiliated with private sector organisations, closely followed by multilateral development banks. In contrast with other POLEX lists, academia represented only 2% of responses, and research institutes not at all. It is possible that many influential scientists are fluent in English and might therefore be subscribed to the POLEX English language list. The survey findings suggest that POLEX *Español* could expand its reach among universities and research organisations. It is, however, surprising that multilateral development banks represented a larger proportion of respondents than researchers.

Comparison of CIFOR's 'top 400' list with the listserv subscriptions suggests that large majority of influential policymakers and scientists in the international arena are subscribed to the POLEX English list. Subscribers from the Indian subcontinent were also most commonly recipients of POLEX in English. Most POLEX *Español* respondents tend to have a professional focus within Latin America. Subscribers working in or on African issues are divided between POLEX *Français* and POLEX English.

Level of readership

How many of the messages sent to POLEX subscribers are read by the recipient? Do recipients pick and choose depending on the subject or read all POLEX messages?

People read POLEX. Messages are frequently read by recipients across all language lists. Fully 88% of all survey respondents read 'all' or 'most' POLEX messages, 10% read 'some' POLEX messages and 2% either never read POLEX messages or did not respond to the question (Figure 6).

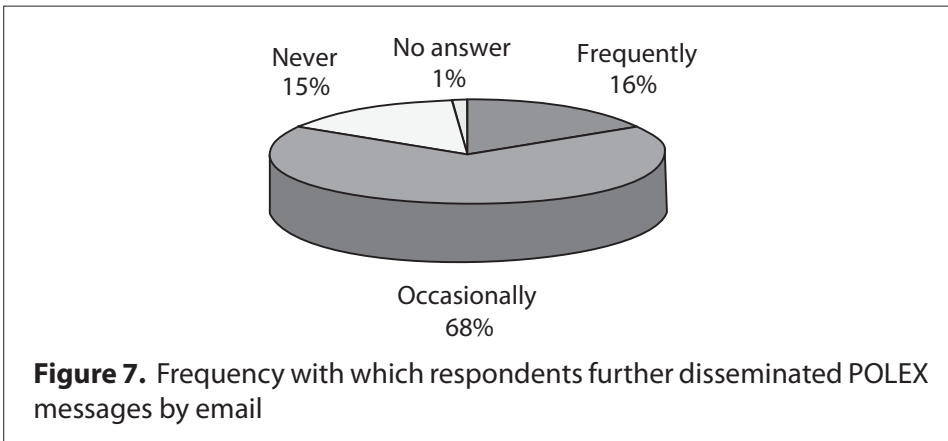


This extremely positive response could, however, be influenced by a strong element of confirmation bias. A survey sent in the same manner as a regular POLEX message will, of course, have difficulties reaching those that do not read POLEX messages, nor can this approach capture the views of those that chose to 'unsubscribe' from POLEX. In addition, survey respondents are more likely to be those that value the service POLEX provides. However, it appears that the findings are broadly representative of the larger subscriber list. In a series of telephone interviews conducted with a separate sample of 42 key respondents drawn from CIFOR's 'top 400' list, high levels of readership were also reported. Sixty percent of the key informants read 'all' or 'most' POLEX messages. Only 2% 'never' read the POLEX messages, while the remainder 'occasionally' read POLEX. This is a very positive finding, especially if one considers that these were senior donor representatives, policymakers and scientists who have broad responsibilities and limited time to read technical information items.

Further dissemination of POLEX

Are POLEX messages passed on? If so, how frequently do recipients further distribute POLEX messages by email? How many people are POLEX messages typically forwarded to, and to whom are they sent?

The survey findings suggest that over two-thirds of recipients ‘occasionally’ forward POLEX messages, 16% ‘frequently’ forward messages and 15% ‘never’ forward messages (Figure 7). Of those that forward POLEX, 59% send them to less than five people, 13% send them to between five and ten people and 5% send POLEX to more than ten people (Figure 8). Additional qualitative comments provided in survey responses show that POLEX messages are mostly circulated within the immediate work environment of recipients. These can be colleagues working in the same organisation or working in other organizations but on related issues. Similar patterns were found from the key informant interviews, with a number of individuals disseminating POLEX widely within their work environment.



What does this mean in terms of the additional ‘reach’ of the POLEX list serve? If we assume that the behaviour with respect to ‘forwarding’ messages among respondents is broadly representative of all subscribers (over 11,700 individuals), and that ‘frequently’ forwarding messages corresponds to a probability of 0.33 (forwarding 1 message in 3) and ‘occasionally’ forwarding messages corresponds to a probability of 0.1 (forwarding 1 message in 10), then with no ‘cross-posting’ **approximately 4,100 additional people** receive each POLEX message.

Table 3. Indicative figures for additional third party recipients of 'forwarded' POLEX messages

Number of third party recipients to which POLEX messages are 'forwarded'	% from survey (respondents)	Additional third party recipients	
		'Occasionally forward messages' - 68% of responses (P=0.1)	'Frequently forward messages' - 16% of responses (P=0.33)
< 5 (avg. 2.5 people)	59% (6903)	1,174	828
> 5 < 10 (avg. 7 people)	13% (1521)	724	511
> 10* (avg. 12 people)	5% (585)	477	37
Totals	77% (9009)	2,443	1,692

*Assumes a range of > 10 < 15 (an underestimate)

The above calculation assumes that most forwarding of POLEX messages happens within small groups. However a few individuals 'post' POLEX messages to far larger numbers of individuals. For example, additional comments provided by respondents to the Spanish language POLEX survey highlighted that they collectively forward POLEX messages to over 5,000 additional recipients. These are typically office or association mailing lists, such as the Association of Forestry Engineers of Pichincha, Ecuador, the mailing list of the forest engineers of the National Agrarian University La Molina, Peru and the technical administrative staff of INAB, Guatemala. During the telephone interviews with key respondents it became clear that POLEX messages are also further disseminated in a formalized manner on the English POLEX: some respondents receive and circulate the POLEX messages on their general organizational email lists (e.g. Forest Trends and ITTO).

Distribution through reprints and websites

POLEX messages are frequently reprinted in newsletters, articles, websites and other list servers. Simple searches using the term 'POLEX' in common search engines generate a large number of 'hits'. A selection of these are shown in Appendix B.

The numbers of POLEX reprints respondents reported varied across POLEX language lists. For the POLEX English list over one in ten remembers having seen reprints of POLEX messages whilst the equivalent figure for the Spanish POLEX respondents was 8%. There were no such reports from POLEX *Français* and Japanese respondents.

The publications where survey respondents reported seeing POLEX reprints included:

- Canadian Institute of Forestry Journal ‘The Forestry Chronicle’, which has a circulation of nearly 3,000 including 400 subscribers worldwide.
- FAO's NWFP-Digest (email journal)
- Commonwealth Forestry Association newsletters
- International Society of Tropical Foresters Newsletter
- In NIS, a network about international forestry issues run by the Swedish Forestry Society, with at least 1000 subscribers
- Dutch Organisation for Tropical forests list server
- In WWF communications
- Alternatives to Slash and Burn (ASB) – a global list
- Discussion papers from the Royal Swedish Academy of Agri- and Silvicultural Sciences
- Community Forestry E-news (RECOFTC)
- Community Conservation Coalition distribution list
- Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group distribution list
- Conafor magazine (Mexico)
- Voluntary Forest Certification Group Bulletin (Bolivia)
- Honduran Business Council for Sustainable Development
- CESDRRC news
- Mekonginfo website
- ISTF newsletter
- FTTP in-country publications
- In the National University of HCMC
- FAO NTFP bulletin
- enviro-vlc MDG List
- Environmental Sociology listservs
- <http://www.energia-verde.com.ar>
- www.grupoChorlavi.org
- Bioplan

Further dissemination of POLEX messages happens in other ways including through seminars, formal discussions at meetings and informal discussions among colleagues. One respondent writes:

‘On occasion I bring printouts of POLEX messages to meetings when I feel the message would be of interest to others.’

Another respondent writes:

‘I frequently discuss the latest article with colleagues shortly after it comes out.’

Many comments showed that POLEX messages are used for teaching and are forwarded to students. For example:

'I use the messages in my university classes. We discuss these messages as a way to study current topics in forestry. The messages work extremely well in class discussions.'

POLEX messages are widely disseminated, frequently read and often discussed within communities of professionals linked to forest issues. The POLEX listservs themselves target a highly influential audience, and recipients further disseminate POLEX to their colleagues or post POLEX messages on other professional circulation lists. POLEX messages are also reprinted in a variety of websites, publications and newsletters.

Referral to source documents featured on POLEX

How often do POLEX readers consult the original source document after reading a POLEX summary?

The majority of POLEX recipients 'sometimes' request the original article. Just over one in ten 'always' or 'usually' requests source documents and close to one-third of respondents never request the source document.

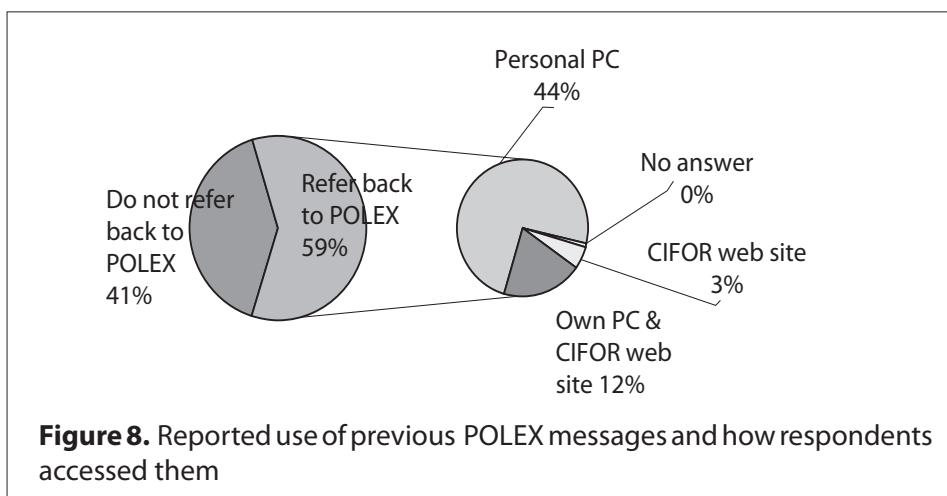
The POLEX English recipients surveyed read on average three original articles per year (i.e. just under 12% of articles highlighted per year). The additional comments provided by respondents in the survey questionnaires were cross-checked through telephone interviews and it appears that the relatively low number of original papers read is often a reflection of time constraints. In addition, POLEX summaries are perceived to be of high quality and this makes many readers happy to digest the summary rather than invest additional effort in referring to the original article.

Use of previous POLEX summaries

The main purpose of POLEX is to highlight new developments and research findings relevant to forest and forest policy. Besides its value as a policy alert, what is the value of previous POLEX messages as reference material?

The majority of subscribers (59%) refer back to POLEX messages at a later date. This trend prevails across all language lists. The key informant interviews with 'influential individuals' revealed that 95% of this key audience refers back to earlier messages. POLEX summaries appear to have a lasting value.

Over three-quarters of those referring back to 'old' POLEX messages have stored the messages on their personal computer. Whilst the CIFOR web page offers a publicly available archive of POLEX messages in five languages¹, this is not much used (Figure 8). Close to one-quarter of recipients make some use of the archive of POLEX messages available on the CIFOR web page, but only 3% use the web archive alone. Additional comments provided by respondents indicated that not many subscribers were aware of the archive. Readers generally prefer to refer back to already preselected and filed messages on their personal computer. Respondents suggested that the online archive could become more attractive if search features by key word, authors and geographical focus area were available. The current sorting by date of issue and title of POLEX message alone is not very convenient for users. A surprisingly large number of respondents reported printing the POLEX messages and filing them as paper copies.

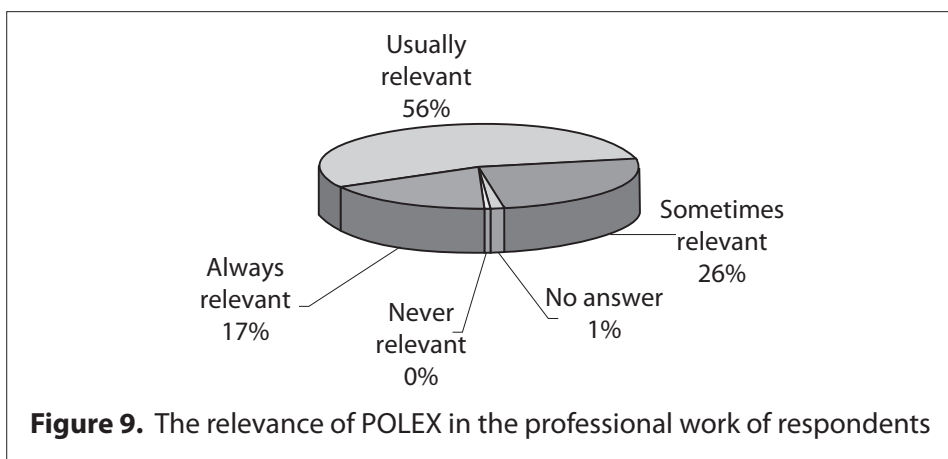


Importance for professional work

The subscribers to the list server include many of the world's influential policymakers, opinion leaders and researchers concerned with forests, forest policy and conservation. How relevant is POLEX to their professional work?

POLEX is professionally relevant. The majority of respondents (73%) across all language lists find POLEX 'usually' or 'always' relevant. A further 26% find POLEX 'sometimes' relevant, whilst only 1% of respondents found POLEX not relevant for their professional work (Figure 9).

¹ http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/docs/_ref/polex/index.htm



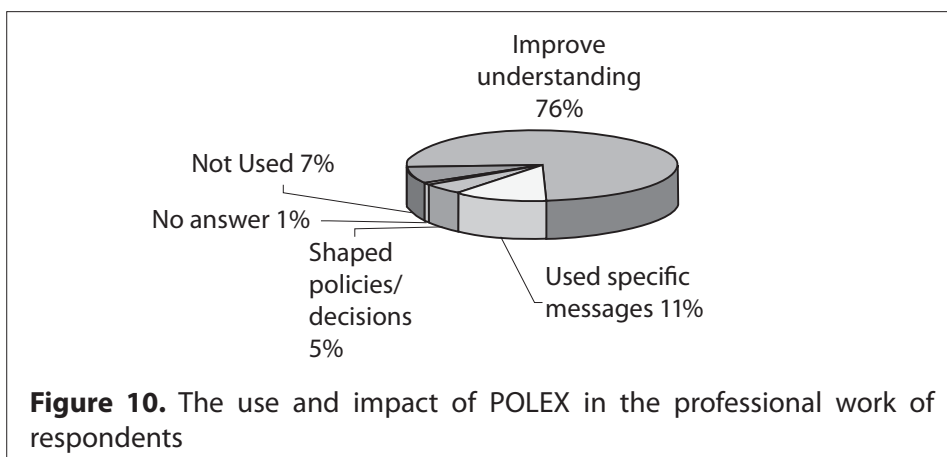
This is a very significant and positive finding given the diversity of professional positions, the varied disciplinary backgrounds among respondents and the wide range of subjects covered by POLEX messages. The general findings from the survey questionnaires are strengthened by the findings from the key informant telephone interviews, over 40% of the ‘influential individuals’ interviewed stated that they found POLEX messages ‘always relevant’.

Impact of POLEX

What impact do POLEX messages have? Do they mainly inform and help shape opinions? Are there examples of POLEX messages influencing decisions and policies?

Over three-quarters of recipients find that POLEX messages ‘help improve their understanding and shape their opinions’ (76%). In conducting the key informant telephone interviews it became apparent that the initial survey questionnaires had not provided an option for qualifying POLEX’s value solely as information provider. In all subsequent survey forms the above response option was subdivided into: ‘POLEX has helped me stay informed of new policies and debates’, and ‘POLEX has helped me improve my understanding and shape my opinions’. The survey data shows that the proportions of respondents selecting either of these responses occurred with almost equal frequency. Approximately 38% of all respondents perceive that ‘POLEX has helped me improve my understanding and shape my opinions’.

More than one in ten respondents has used specific POLEX messages in their professional work. A small proportion of respondents (5%) even stated that POLEX summaries had helped them ‘shape policies and make decisions’. Only 7% reported not making any use of POLEX messages directly in their work (Figure 10).



Again, a higher proportion of the ‘influential individuals’ (key informants) interviewed by telephone said that the information provided by POLEX has helped ‘shape policies and make decisions’ (13%), and 17% of key informants had used specific POLEX summaries in their work. Whilst the sample of influential individuals was relatively small it does represent more than 10% of CIFOR’s ‘top 400’ list and appears to show that POLEX summaries had greater influence/impact among this key target audience.

Comments received from respondents highlight some examples where more direct effects have stemmed from the use and application of POLEX summaries. These go beyond the catalytic effects of POLEX as a discussion starter or as a means of improving the accessibility to new policy-relevant research. Selected examples are given in Box 1.

Several key informants noted that information provided by POLEX had ‘*helped shape policies and make decisions*’. POLEX is regarded as a credible and reputable information source that has helped improve understanding and shape opinions.

Quality and relevance of POLEX over time

How has POLEX performed over time? Has its performance been consistent?

A very large proportion of respondents (84%) found the overall quality of POLEX to have remained constant or to have improved over time. A mere 1% found the quality to have decreased and 15% had no opinion or did not respond to the question.

Box 1. Outcomes and influences stemming from the use of POLEX summaries

'POLEX has influenced the programming of EC aid in the forest sector and the setting of priorities for EC interventions. I have also drawn on POLEX briefings when preparing briefings, proposals for strategy documents and other activities...'

'My role in overseeing IUCN's programme means that I need to have a strong overview of current debates and issues. POLEX has helped shape some of my views and this has translated into IUCN's forest-related work.'

'I have made references [to POLEX] in my advice to the minister of environment.'

'The information disseminated by POLEX is discussed by policymakers, at international meetings and conferences.'

'I use especially information specific to countries which I am in charge to design (GTZ) projects.'

'Used the article on forest fires to illustrate that the 2003 fire season was nationally lower in Canada than previous year. This was to counter sensational articles/statements generalizing catastrophic BC fire season.'

'Issues relating to community participation (social forestry) have been presented to colleagues in Tanzania as we work to develop PFM as part of policy development.'

'...use the [POLEX] summaries in my work with governments (mainly Nicaragua) as part of a wider influencing strategy...'

'POLEX messages influenced the decision to create a forestry code in Democratic Republic of Congo. The draft code has been finalized in August 2002 and is currently being studied to produce a final accepted version.'

'In South Africa we are in the process of dramatically rethinking policies and the experiences from other parts of the world that POLEX reports on has helped us understand where similar policies have succeeded or failed.'

'POLEX was used to convince partners and colleagues to take a certain path in forest policy in Tunisia.'

'Relevant information from POLEX helped me to support decisions.'

'[I use POLEX] Mostly to sharpen our advocacy work - to make it more sound and relevant.'

'POLEX serves as a source of useful technical information. Therefore even though it does not really shape policies in my work, it does serve as useful background information.'

'[I use POLEX for] making presentations to policymakers.'

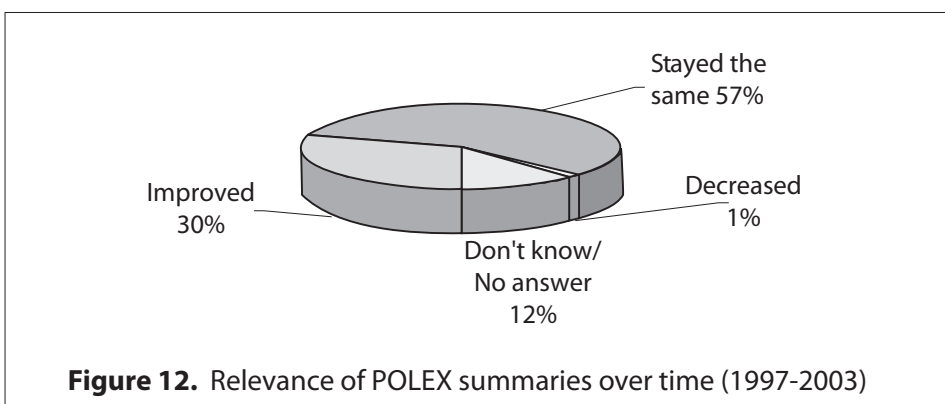
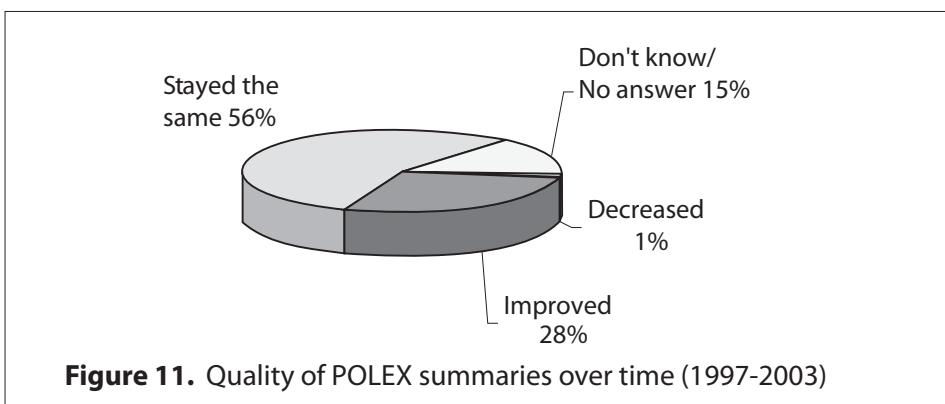
'[POLEX provided] convincing support for technical advice [given] to a forestry department.'

'I have shared POLEX articles with colleagues to re-define our research strategies, but also with policymakers to discuss issues similar to those presented in the POLEX summaries.'

'When presenting natural resources research to the public (in popular books or articles) I am frequently influenced by the general awareness created by the POLEX series of bulletins.'

'POLEX messages have focused attention on certain issues, which influenced the direction of some programs. This happened with the issues of land restoration and the importance of a landscape approach.'

When asked about the relevance of POLEX messages, the responses were similar: the large majority (87%) of respondents found the overall relevance of POLEX to have remained constant or to have improved over time. A mere 1% found the relevance to have decreased and 12% had no opinion or did not respond to the question. The results were similar across the different POLEX language lists.



POLEX has performed consistently over time. Respondents perceive that both the quality and relevance of summaries have either been improved or maintained since inception.

Strengths of POLEX

Everyday we receive more information than what we can read or process. What distinguishes POLEX from other information sources? What do readers like about POLEX? Why is POLEX read?

POLEX messages are most frequently noted for their engaging, interesting, non-academic, complete and concise summaries and their attention-grabbing titles.

Since the inception of POLEX, CIFOR has continued to receive a steady stream of unsolicited correspondence attesting to the utility and relevance of POLEX (Appendix A).

Some examples of comments provided by respondents:

- ‘The only service of its kind on offer, most of the international development list serves are too oriented towards US/EU policies and issues.’
- ‘The issues are timely and the texts are rather brief and give answers to the questions that arise from the international debate.’
- ‘Targeting policymakers and resource managers with short, concise, palatable nuggets of salient information with the backing of a respected research organization.’
- ‘The research presented is very practical and helps to inform our donor projects.’
- ‘Shows some independent and out-of-the-box thinking.’
- ‘A bridge between science and policy.’
- ‘It synthesizes important information for managers that don't have time to immerse themselves in technical details.’
- ‘I like the fact that many of the issues that the research addresses are framed within the broader context of development.’
- ‘David Kaimowitz has a keen ability to discover and highlight in POLEX seminal research reports that otherwise would have not been noticed beyond a reduced circle of colleagues in their own disciplines.’

Weaknesses

Nothing is perfect and therefore we were interested to solicit opinions on how POLEX could be improved and made more useful to its readers.

While some value POLEX specifically for its wide range of subjects, others find it too diverse and lacking a connection between messages. A range of suggestions were made on how to provide a better ‘context’ to the POLEX messages, such as:

- Add a short summary of viewpoints and arguments that allow readers to situate a specific message in the general debate.
- In the case of controversies, it would be better to outline the ‘positions’ and who advocates them (e.g. by geographic regions or organization/group).
- Explain the choice of articles featured. This could counter criticisms that POLEX focuses too strongly on the work done by CIFOR and address perceptions that topics for POLEX are chosen opportunistically and do not offer a balanced coverage of global forestry issues.
- Provide further references and links on the same subject (presumably available from the reference section of the featured article).

The emphasis placed on different types of forests was questioned; there were suggestions that POLEX should focus a little less on tropical forests whilst other respondents suggested that POLEX tends to neglect certain forest types (e.g. mangroves). Some respondents thought that insufficient attention was paid to the 'mainstream' forestry issues of forest management and plantations, others expressed the opinion that POLEX focuses too strongly on social issues around forestry and on conservation.

Concerning the content of POLEX messages:

- POLEX is riding a thin line between a catchy, short summary written in popular language and losing the seriousness and complexity of the underlying issues. Some found POLEX messages, occasionally, to be superficial, vague or too general on certain topics.
- POLEX provides more than a summary; it also includes personal opinion. Some respondents like this; others would like POLEX to be more neutral.
- Some find POLEX too research-oriented and academic.

Author survey on POLEX effectiveness

An additional survey questionnaire was sent as an email attachment to authors of the documents featured on POLEX. The survey was aimed at understanding whether POLEX improved the dissemination process and, if so, how. Authors were canvassed for their perceptions of how POLEX affected the number of comments and requests they received for their work. A total of 111 surveys were sent and 41 replies were received, yielding a survey response rate of 37%.

The overwhelming majority of authors (90%) found that having their research findings featured on POLEX led to increased interest in their work. In a number of cases it proved difficult to definitively estimate the difference POLEX made to the dissemination process as effects were confounded by other dissemination and distribution efforts that took place prior to, or concurrently with, circulation of the POLEX research summary. However, authors reported that requests for articles featured on POLEX increased, on average, by a factor of 14. Comments and enquiries relating to featured articles increased 8-fold. Many of the positive outcomes authors reported after having their research featured on POLEX were the result of reaching influential individuals. Besides raising awareness (40%) and improving citation rates (29%), POLEX messages also led to invitations for authors to present their work (15%) and in some cases even led to increased financial support (8%) for their research.

The collective ‘power and influence’ of POLEX subscribers is substantial. Authors were often impressed by the number of well-known scientists and other influential individuals contacting them after their work was featured on POLEX. Many author respondents commented that POLEX had helped them to form links with people working on the same topic or issue—and helped link authors to policy processes. This suggests that that value added by POLEX goes beyond the provision of appealing and concise summaries of new and interesting policy-relevant research; POLEX helps to facilitate more direct interactions between the research providers and their key scientific and policy-oriented audiences globally.

Keeping POLEX relevant

What was influential in the past?

To continue to keep POLEX messages relevant in the future it is helpful to understand what documents have been influential in the past. POLEX survey recipients were asked: ‘*Please cite three articles, books, or documents that you believe had significant influence on international or national debates concerning policies towards forests in the last 20 years.*’ This was intended to follow up on an earlier survey conducted via POLEX on this topic (Spilsbury and Kaimowitz 2000). The total number of documents cited was 180. However, 130 documents were cited just once. Those documents that received 5 or more citations are shown in Table 4.

The trends identified by Spilsbury and Kaimowitz are reinforced, and highlight the dominance of a few organizations including UN organizations and processes, FAO, World Bank and WRI. Authors from the north continue to exert the largest influence on the international forest agenda (See full details in Appendix E). Additionally, English language publications seem to have more influence; respondents to the French questionnaire cited only two documents written in French from among a total of 42 citations from that survey. FAO featured prominently in French, English and Spanish survey responses, perhaps in part because of its accessibility in each of these languages.

The documents most often mentioned from the aggregated data were those related to the Earth Summit in Rio, and to the Bruntland Commission. FAO publications hold the lead in terms of number of most influential publications from one organisation. A number of ‘classic’ texts remained on the list of influential publications; these included:

- Poore et. al.: ‘No Timber without Trees’
- Repetto and Gillis: ‘*Public Policy and the Misuse of Forest Resources*’
- Hardin’s ‘The Tragedy of the Commons’
- Peters et. al.: ‘Valuation of an Amazonian Rainforest’
- Westoby’s ‘The Purpose of Forests – Follies of Development’

Table 4. Documents cited by respondents as having had ‘significant influence on international or national debates concerning policies towards forests in the last 20 years’

Authors	Name of document	Number of Citations
UNCED	United Nations. Rio Agenda 21 Forest Principles and UNCED related documents.	27
Poore, D., Burgess, P., Palmer, J., Rietbergen, S. and Synnott, T.	No Timber Without Trees: Sustainability in the Tropical Forests. Earthscan Publications Ltd., London. (1989)	14
FAO	FAO’s State of the World’s Forests series	10
Repetto, R. and Gillis, M.	Public Policy and the Misuse of Forest Resources. Cambridge University Press, New York. (1988)	8
Ostrom, E.	Governing the Commons. Cambridge University Press. (1990)	8
WCED Brundtland Commission	Our Common Future. The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development. (The Brundtland Report). Oxford University Press, Oxford. (1987).	8
World Bank	World Bank Forest Strategy: Striking the Right Balance. OED. (2000)	8
Wunder, S.	Oil Wealth and the Fate of Forest: A Comparative Study of Eight Tropical Countries. Routledge, London. (2003)	7
Angelsen, A. and Kaimowitz, D.	Agricultural Technologies and Tropical Deforestation. (2001)	6
Chambers, R.	Rural Development: Putting the Last First. John Wiley and Sons, New York. (1983)	5

Some CIFOR publications were also cited and included the work of Wunder on the links between oil wealth and the fate of forests; Kaimowitz and Angelsen on agricultural technologies and tropical deforestation; Barr on pulp paper and corporate due diligence; and Cossalter on ‘Fast Wood’ forestry plantations (for a full details see Appendix E).

Qualitative inspection of the survey returns suggests that some respondents limited their selection of documents only to those featured by POLEX. Since this vastly reduces the choice of ‘influential documents’ and POLEX features approximately 50% of CIFOR articles, the relative ranking of citations of ‘influential documents’ is therefore skewed in favour of CIFOR publications.

What are the forest issues of the future?

Respondents provided many ideas and suggestions on what they believe are the emerging issues relevant to the global forest agenda and forest policy. The majority of suggestions related to well-established and familiar issues, and we understood these responses to imply that respondents expect these issues to remain important in the near future.

Those issues most frequently mentioned by survey respondents were:

- Community-based forest management, including such issues as land tenure, traditional or indigenous rights and knowledge and participation in forest management.
- Governance, including decentralization or devolution, democratisation, illegal activities and means for their prevention.
- Environmental services, including water, carbon and recreation functions and payments for environmental services. Some less established issues highlighted by respondents included biofuels and ecotourism.

The issues highlighted point to another general trend: forest-related problems and solutions are no longer considered solely 'within forests' or within the forest sector. Many forest issues, including those at the heart of 'traditional forestry', such as sustainable forest management, forest rehabilitation/restoration, secondary and plantation forest management, are considered as issues that have multiple dimensions (ecological, political, social, economic etc.). Multidisciplinary or integrated approaches to solving problems and formulating effective policy have become more prominent.

A common concern across issues were the effects of globalisation on forests in its various forms, be it trade, the 'consumption footprint' or the influence of northern/international agencies and NGOs on policies and resource use in the tropics.

Conclusions

POLEX has been a hugely successful initiative. Summaries of recently completed policy-relevant research reach large numbers of people around the world through POLEX. Messages are sent to nearly 12,000 subscribers globally and the subscription lists continue to grow. Conservative estimates suggest that a further 4,000 people receive each POLEX message as subscribers further disseminate POLEX to other third party peers and colleagues. In addition, POLEX messages are circulated on other organizational mailing lists, professional listservs and websites. POLEX summaries are reprinted in a variety of forest-related publications including journals and newsletters. The total ‘reach’ of POLEX across all media is unknown; it is likely that it reaches double the number of email subscribers.

POLEX messages are frequently read by subscribers are perceived to be of high quality and lasting relevance. The messages are frequently re-used by recipients at a later date and are regarded as being of significant professional utility for nearly all recipients. Fully 5% of survey respondents reported that POLEX had helped to *‘shape policies and make decisions’*.

The responses derived from key informant interviews with highly influential individuals on the POLEX subscription lists generated findings that support and strengthen those drawn from the larger readership surveys. Among this key target audience, 13% of the ‘influential individuals’ interviewed by telephone said that the information provided by POLEX has helped ‘shape policies and make decisions’, and 17% had used specific POLEX summaries in their work. Whilst the sample was relatively small it appears to show that POLEX summaries had greater influence/impact among these influential individuals than among a more general readership.

POLEX reaches a large audience that includes a very high proportion of the world’s most influential shapers of policy and decisions affecting forests. In some cases POLEX summaries have had direct influence on policy processes and decision making, but its largest impact stems from its success in shaping opinions on key policy relevant topics across a global audience of influential policymakers and opinion leaders in government departments, donor agencies, development banks and NGOs. POLEX helps to shape conventional wisdom about forests and the policies that affect them.

References

Spilsbury, M.J. and Kaimowitz, D. 2000 The influence of research and publications on conventional wisdom and policies affecting forests. *Unasylva* 203: 3–10. http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/X8080e/x8080e02.htm#P0_0

Appendix A.

Unsolicited responses to POLEX

Each time a POLEX message is sent, many unsolicited responses are received. This is a very small selection of what people have said about POLEX:

*Dear David,
I always enjoy reading your Porex contributions and it remains to be one of the few list servers that I continue to subscribe to and keep up with.
With best regards,
Bruce Cabarle
Director, Global Forest Program, WWF-US*

*Thank you for all this great information that you send out. Keep up the good work.
Dr Raquel Thomas
Guyana*

*I am a keen reader of your supplement and although I am not a forester by profession, I am an interested party in its development and conservation.
John Mukoza*

*Beautiful!
Thanks for forwarding this article to us. I look forward to others.
Sincerely,
Lois Ikome
Cameroon Mountains Conservation Foundation (CAMCOF)*

*David,
Just to thank you for your frequent yet highly digested and useful Emails. You should teach a course in appropriate Emailing!! I have already requested, received, and read several publications based on reviews you have sent.
Best regards,
Lider Sucre
ANCON (Environmental NGO), Panama*

*David,
Thanks for an extremely timely and interesting Porex!
Douglas Kneeland
from FAO on the POLEX message "Adjusting our Environment"*

Loved the recent Poley on tacos, tequila... and terrific tiny-town timber, and am looking forward to seeing your response to Ricardo Carrere on Sven Wunder's book!

James Mayers

Director, Forestry and Land Use programme

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Greetings from Tbilisi, Georgia,

I greatly enjoy your periodic suggestions and clear analyses. You are to be greatly commended for getting the basic ideas communicated for busy people.

J. David Stanfield

Land Tenure Center

Some interesting ideas on seeking biodiversity services and protection from outside the national parks. A similar idea is the services that national parks provide: in CRica a citrus company pays the park for the environmental service a nearby park provides in terms of increased pollinization of the citrus trees, compared to other areas where there are no forests, and they have to bring in bee hives for pollinization.

Cheers,

Martin F. Raine

Sector Leader

Environmentally & Socially Sustainable Development

World Bank on the POLEX message Birds, Bees and Trees on Farm

Dear David,

I always enjoy receiving your document reviews, 2 out of 3, I request. Your summaries are witty and challenge your readers to actually get them.

Daan Vreugdenhil

Hello!

I have received the POLEX newsletter for many years and I really enjoy it. I am a forester, researcher and consultant and POLEX publications are most of the time of very high interest to me.

Some years ago you asked your subscribers "Which document/publication has had the strongest influence on forest policy (or your view on forest policy) during the latest ten years". This produced a list which was then published by you. Later I read almost all of the publications that was on the list. Very interesting to get good recommendations for reading from such a big group with interest in forest policy.

Kind regards

Susanne von Walter

ORGUT Consulting AB

And, it works!!

You've built quite a constituency of readership –

D.Kaimowitz is fast becoming a household name - its a folder name in my homecomputer..and probably one in zillions of others on the poley listserve.

Shantanu Mathur

Thanks. This type of quick email summary is exactly the right approach for my info needs (which are always juggled against daily crisis mgmt).

Curt Reintzma

Dear Mr. Kaimowitz,

I just wanted to let you know that I find your newsletter extraordinarily interesting and useful. Keep up the good work!

Best wishes

Bengt Kriström

Keep up the Porex, it is the best thing going.

Douglas. Kneeland

Dr. Kaimowitz,

Thanks for the information you send out from time to time. I can assure you that it is both interesting and helpful to us here at NRCan/CFS.

Regards,

Cameron Clarke

Thanks for this advice David. I continue to find your e-mail news service very useful on key SFM issues. Keep up the great effort.

James Griffiths

Director, Sustainable Forest Products Industry & Biodiversity

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

on the POLEX MESSAGE "Illegal Logging and the Europeans"

Dear David,

I was reflecting the other day on the role which your newsletter played the other year in catalysing the formation of a digital FRA user community, which actually led to a significant shift by FAO in the presentation of FRA statistics. Are you aware of having any other world shattering impacts?

Yours,

alan

I am not going to react every time that I am effectively alerted by your porex, but this time your title is even more spot on than usual, I have to react. This is gonna be a classic ! Keep them coming, very useful, also to trigger some in-house/email debate !

Best,

Cor Veer

RECOFTC

P.O. Box 1111, Kasetsart University

Bangkok 10903, Thailand

Estimado David

Después de haber conseguido tanto correos con información, quiero agradecer su esfuerzo. La información tal como esta presentada me parece bien y no sobrecargado, lo que permite y ayuda en profundar discusiones conceptuales con mis colegas aquí. De repente seria buena idea incluir en la lista el Comité de Desenvolvimento Sustentável de Porto de Moz que actualmente tienen la dirección electrónica cgemaq@aol.com. Aparte de un saludo desde Guatemala. De repente nos vemos algún día en otra parte del mundo.

Georg Roling

DED-Guatemala

Coordinador Sociedad Civil/Poder Local

I just want to inform you that we are posting the katalogue of your excellent POLEX messages on our website www.rio10.dk with link to the CIFOR website.

Best regards,

Misha

Dear David ,

I am giving away the notes you sent, to the participants of a training course in Biodiversity Conservation conducted by our institute presently.

Thanks for the wonderful information sent to us.

Regards,

Dr Biswas on POLEX Message "Do jobs grow on trees?"

By the way, I circulate to all C. Americans in the Bank, and the big bosses, your pearls of wisdom on book/report reviews.

Un abraso!

Martin F. Raine

Sector Leader

Environmentally & Socially Sustainable Development

Central America Country Management Unit at the World Bank

I have been wanting to contact you for some time over the general issue of promoting some of the results you have highlighted on your POLEX distribution list. I find the information on POLEX extremely useful to my work both as editor of the International Forestry Review, and Coordinator of the Tropical Forest Resource Group, and I have found myself increasingly contacting authors of the works to see if there is some way of working together on further promotion.

Keep up the good work with POLEX, it is greatly appreciated.

With best wishes

Alan Pottinger Editor, International Forestry Review

Dear Dr. Kaimowitz,

I would like to ask for your kind permission to reproduce in the next issue of Policy Matters—the magazine of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy—your recent review of the book by Sally Jeanrenaud, who is a member of the Commission. Many thanks for letting me know at your earliest convenience.

Warm regards,

Grazia

Dr. Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend

Chair IUCN CEESP Collaborative Management Working Group

Co-chair CEESP/WCPA Theme on Communities, Equity and Protected Areas

Appendix B.

Websites citing or featuring POLEX

A selection of the many websites citing or featuring POLEX

Institution	Country	Website
Rio 10	Denmark	www.rio10.dk/
Ambientico	Costa Rica	www.una.ac.cr/ambi/AmbienTico/90/polex.htm
Forest Trends	US	www.forest-trends.org
Bhutan-e forest	Bhutan	groups.yahoo.com/group/bhutan-eForestgroups.yahoo.com/group/j_bamboo
Floresta-L	Brazil	www2.ipef.br/pipermail/floresta-l/
UNDP Vietnam	Vietnam	www.undp.org.vn/mlist/envirovlc
UNDP		www.sdnv.undp.org/mirrors/lc/hon/foros/forestal
	US	csf.colorado.edu/envtecsoc
	Indonesia	mywin.institute.co.id/ysampurna/db/index
Bear Folks		bears.org/pipermail/bearfolks/
		www.pfsq.org/folkforest.htm
RETCOFTC	Thailand	www.recoftc.org/documents/Eletter_documents
CARPE	US	carpe.umd.edu/congo_basin_news
	UK	www.ednet.co.uk/~tga
GTZ	Germany	www.gtz.de/forest-policy/english/Policy_Dialogue_
		www.gtz-asia-online.org/hdp/Announce.nsf
		www.sidsnet.org/latestarc/biodiversity-newswire
UNEP	Mexico	www.rolac.unep.mx/centinf/esp/noticias
UNEP	Kenya	www.cep.unep.org/pubs/cepnews/
FAO	Italy	www.fao.org/forestry/FOP/FOPW/NWFP/Digest
		www.sfaa.net/committees/policy/policymakers
SLU	Sweden	www-trees.slu.se/news/45/pdf/45books.pdf
IIED	UK	www.iied.org/forestry/links.html
		www.povertymap.net/publications/povertytimes

Institution	Country	Website
Engref	France	www.engref.fr/Interne/centres/montpellier/pages/liens_frt.html
IFCAE		www.ifcae.org/ntfp/databases/links/mailling
POAM		www.poam.org/mhonarc/red/doc/msg00297
		www.virtualcentre.org/es/enl/keynote2.htm
IUFRO	Austria	www.iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/iufro.net/d6/wu60304/noticias-2001
		www.gm-unccd.org/FIELD/Research/CIFOR/FR_FSP.htm
	Switzerland	www.diskussionsforen.ch/Waldforum/newsflash%
Mekinginfo	Vietnam	www.mekonginfo.org/hdp/announce.nsf
		www.foresters.org/fiu/2001/30.htm
		www.forestflash.ch/links.php
Vegan Blog: The (Eco) Logical Weblog		getvegan.com/blog/2003_02_02_archive.php
The CESDRRC News		www.chinaeol.net/ts/book_en/Downloads/news02_jan.pdf
	Canada	www.pfc.forestry.ca/management/cfntools/infomgt/intro/examples
		www.equilibriumconsultants.com/publications/society.html
	Sweden	www.tidningenskogen.com/lasvart/eskogen/030508.htm
IUCN	Ecuador	www.sur.iucn.org/webtools/noticia_lista.cfm
		www.biolatina.org/Parques.rtf
UNEP		stapgef.unep.org/Roster/NewCVs/New%20CV%20Kaimovitz%20cifor.doc
		newnet2000.de/News/Recent_Publications/Summaries/summaries.html
		www.illegal-logging.info/Documents/CIFORForestLawEnf.doc
Stanford University	US	www.stanford.edu/class/anthsci167/Tools/CertificationTools/ForestCertificationLinks/CertificationLinks.htm
UNEP		www.unep.org/bpsp/bioplan_archive/BIOPLANS-JUL-2001/BIOPLAN
Bolivia		www.elmundoforestal.com/labolsaforestal/100nr.html
Japan		kyotoreview.cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/cgi-bin/link.cgi?tit=all
		www.nssd.net/pdf/Overview_Annexe.PDF

Institution	Country	Website
		www.interchange.ubc.ca/munoz/PERSONAL.htm
		nuf.boku.ac.at/knoten/tf/newsletter/novdez2002/novdez2002.htm
		www.tropischebossen.nl/links/index.asp
		www.sea-user.org
Canada		www.canadian-forests.com/news.html
World Bank		www-esd.worldbank.org/reimp/maindocs/ActivityReport2000/2000-famillesthematiques.htm
International Forestry Students Association		www.ifsa.net/~ifsaweb/services/ep/offchoiceall.html
		www.geocities.co.jp/NatureLand-Sky/8290/journal/geodiary_indo.html
		www.conservation.org/xp/CIWEB/publications/books_papers/books/ntfpdir.pdf
		www.cfl.scf.rncan.gc.ca/bib-lib_internet/sitesscientifiques/e/Discussion.htm
		www.panchayats.org/discgroup/dnrm_miscellaneous16.htm
		www.encapafrica.org/EGSSAAsectionsMarch2003/forestry.pdf
United Nations University		www.unu.edu/env/plec/pnv/PNV20www.pdf
Biodiversity Support Project		www.bsponline.org/bsp/publications/aam/MaxYieldSpanish/aprender.pdf
IFPRI		www.ifpri.org/training/newsletter/2002/train_news_0802.htm
		www.cbnrm.net/pdf/cbnrmnet_004_newsletter016.pdf
		www.rntsa.com/mainconsul.htm
		www.kenyaforests.org/news/SeptNewsletter.pdf
		www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/forestry/Newsletter_Pages/Winter2001.pdf
		www.riverpath.com/library/pdf/shaping_forest_management.pdf
		www5b.biglobe.ne.jp/~change-c/WSSD/UNFF.html
		www.ecoforestry.org.pg/downloads/lko_Sept.pdf
		worldtwitch.virtualave.net/web_lists.htm - 87k - Sep 12, 2003
WWF		www.panda.org/downloads/forests/fastwood.pdf

Institution	Country	Website
WRI		www.wri.org/pdf/rep_si_forcam3.pdf
		www.apfcweb.org/Publications/2001-08.pdf
		www.pili.or.id/news/1998/incl1_26.html
		whiteoak.abi.org
		www.forestry.se
ETFRN		www.etfrn.org
		www.forestryandtimber.org
		infoagro.net
		www.renewingindia.org
		www.tropenbos.org
		www.wisard.org
		www.sensyu.ne.jp
		www.frameweb.org
		www.virtualcentre.org
		www.newnet2000.de
		www.nssd.net
		www.cfl.scf.rncan.gc.ca
		www.pili.or.id/news/1998/incl1_26.html

Appendix C.

List of key informants and breakdown of featured authors nationality

Key informants for the telephone interviews

Name (last, first)	Job Title
Keipi, Kari J.	Senior Natural Resources Specialist, IADB
Bennett, Andrew	Executive Director, Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture
MIR, Javed H.	Forestry Specialist, Forestry Natural Resources, ADB
Fortmann, Louise	Professor, University of California, Berkeley
Winkel, Klaus	Head of Department, MFA/Danida
Patterson, Anne	Director, USAID Indonesia
Cassells, David	Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank
Paveri-Anziani, Manuel	Chief of Forestry Policy Institutions, FAO
Dudley, Mike	Head of International Policy, Forestry Commission, UK
Zandstra, Hubert	Director General, CIP, CGIAR
Douglas, James	Forestry and Natural Resources Adviser, World Bank
Pironio, Enrico	European Commission DG VIII
Leitmann, Josef	Lead Environmental Specialist/EASEN Coordinator for Indonesia, World Bank
Boot, René G.A.	Director, Tropenbos Foundation, Netherlands
Jenkins, Michael	Executive Director, Forest Trends
Harding, Paul E.	Executive Secretary, European Commission
Van Tuyll Van Serooskerken, Cornelis Baron	Programme Coordinator, GTZ Mekong
Kumari, Kanta	Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank
MacKinnon, Kathy	Biodiversity Specialist, World Bank
Clements, Bob	Executive Director, Crawford Fund for International Agricultural Research
Chomitz, Ken	World Bank
Mulongoy, Jo	Principal Officer, Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat - UNEP
El-Lakany, Hosny	Assistant Director-General, FAO
Lundgren, Björn	Board Chairman of UNU/INRA, ICIPE
Sene, El Hadji M	Anthropometry and Human Genetics Unit
Knudsen, Odin	Forest Team, Senior Adviser to ESDVP, World Bank
Haug, Ruth	Director of Research, Agricultural University of Norway
Aho, Markku	Counsellor, Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Bazill, John	International. Forest Policy, European Commission
Thoppil, Jacob	CIDA responsible for CGIAR

Name (last, first)	Job Title
Sarre, Alastair	Editor, ITTO
Bengtsson, Bo	Ex Chairman of the Board of Trustees of CIFOR
Maginnis, Stewart	Head, Forests Conservation Programme, World Conservation Union
Boyle, Tim	Consultant to UNDP
Cohen, Sheldon	Director, The Nature Conservancy
Mulongoy, Jo	Principal Officer, Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat - UNEP
Reiche, Mathias	Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und
Crompton, Heather	Manager IARC Program ACIAR
Spears, John	Forest Team, World Bank
Mathur, Shantanu	Technical Adviser/Research Grants Coordinator, IFAD
Martins, Paul	Forest Conservation Specialist, Policy Branch, CIDA
Scotland, Neil	European Commission

Nationality of Authors

Country of author nationality	Count
USA	16
British	6
Australian	2
Bolivian	2
Brazilian	2
German	2
Indian	2
Belgian	1
Costa Rican	1
Danish	1
Finland	1
French	1
Indonesian	1
Irish	1
Peruvian	1
Swedish	1
Zimbabwe	1
Total	42

Continent of author origin	Count
USA	16
Europe	14
Australia	2
Total developed countries	32
South America	6
Asian	3
Africa	1
Total developing countries	10

Appendix D.

POLEX questionnaire

Reader feedback survey for POLEX

POLEX messages are sent to about 10,000 people around the world once or twice a month. The subscribers to the list server include many of the world's influential policymakers, opinion leaders and researchers concerned with forests, forest policy and conservation. The messages are written in a journalistic style presenting short summaries of recent research about policies that affect forests. POLEX messages are sent in English, Spanish, French, Indonesian and Japanese. Since 1997, when the service began, over 130 POLEX messages have been circulated. Approximately half of the POLEX messages are based on research by CIFOR and its collaborators; the rest on research by scientists working in a multitude of other organisations round the world. Please take 10 minutes of your time to help us improve the service POLEX provides.

Please complete the included questions by answering in the grey fields, **save the file**, and **return the document to** N.Haase@cgiar.org as an **email attachment**.

Thank you for your cooperation!

<p>Your Name:</p> <p>Organization Name:</p> <p>Type of Organization:</p> <p>Job Title:</p> <p>Disciplinary Background:</p>

- 1) Please **select ONE** statement which best matches your view from among the following:
- I read **ALL** of the POLEX messages I receive.
 - I read **MOST** of the POLEX messages I receive.
 - I read **SOME** of the POLEX messages I receive.
 - I **NEVER** read the POLEX messages I receive (go to 3.).
- Additional comments (optional):
-

2a) How often do you email ('forward') POLEX messages?

- a. **FREQUENTLY**
 b. **OCCASIONALLY**
 c. **NEVER**

2b) When you forward POLEX messages you usually send them to

- a. **FEWER THAN 5** people.
 b. **BETWEEN 5 AND 10** people.
 c. **MORE THAN 10** people. If so, how many?

2c) Do you forward POLEX message to the ...

Please provide their email addresses if you think they would like to receive POLEX messages

Additional comments (optional):

3) How often do you request, or otherwise obtain, a copy of the original article that POLEX summarises?

- a. I **ALWAYS** obtain the original article.
 b. I **USUALLY** obtain the original article.
 c. I **SOMETIMES** obtain the original article.
 d. I **NEVER** obtain the original article.

IF 'B' OR 'C' PLEASE SPECIFY

approximately how many of the original articles have you read?

Additional comments (optional):

4) Do you refer back to old POLEX messages?

Yes No

If yes

- a. I refer to previous POLEX messages that I have **stored on my computer.**
 b. I refer to the catalogue of POLEX messages on **CIFOR's web site** (<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org>).
 c. I use **both** 'a' and 'b' above depending on the occasion.

Additional comments (optional):

- 5) How does POLEX relate to your professional work?
- a) Please select **one** statement that best reflects your opinion.
 - a. POLEX **ALWAYS** presents topics of professional relevance to me.
 - b. POLEX **USUALLY** presents topics of professional relevance to me.
 - c. POLEX **SOMETIMES** presents topics of professional relevance to me.
 - d. POLEX **NEVER** presents topics of professional relevance to me.

 - b) Please **select the statements** that best reflect your opinion (you may select one or more)
 - a. I have not used the information provided by POLEX summaries directly in my work.
 - b. POLEX summaries provide information that has helped improve my understanding and shape my opinions.
 - c. I have used certain specific POLEX summaries in my professional work.
 - d. I have used POLEX summaries in my work and the information helped to shape policies and decisions.

IF 'C' OR 'D' PLEASE SPECIFY

Additional comments (optional):

6a) According to you, what are POLEX's strengths?

6b) And what are its weaknesses?

7) POLEX over time

- a) During the time I have received POLEX summaries, the **OVERALL QUALITY** of the messages has
 - a. **IMPROVED**
 - d. **DECREASED**
 - c. **STAYED THE SAME**

- b) The **RELEVANCE/INTEREST** of articles featured has
 - a. **IMPROVED**
 - b. **DECREASED**
 - c. **STAYED THE SAME**

Additional comments (optional):

-
- 8) Have you seen reprints of POLEX in newsletters, list servers or else where?
Yes No

If yes WHERE?

-
- 9) We wish to understand which research documents you think have influenced national and/or international debates on policies concerning forests. Understanding which **Articles, Reports & Books** have been influential in the past will help us to keep POLEX relevant in the future.

Please cite three articles, books, or documents that you believe had significant influence on international or national debates concerning policies towards forests in the last 20 years.

- a.
b.
c.

- 10) What do you think are the most important **EMERGING** policy-related **ISSUES** concerning forests?

- 11) In what language **WOULD** you **PREFER** to receive POLEX?

English Spanish French Indonesian Other, please specify:

-
- 12) Other suggestion(s) to improve POLEX

Thank you for supporting POLEX.

Appendix E.

Publications that have had influence on forest policy

POLEX Survey recipients were asked: *‘Please cite three articles, books or documents that you believe had significant influence on international or national debates concerning policies towards forests in the last 20 years.’* The total number of documents cited was 180. However, 130 documents were cited just once. Qualitative inspection of the survey returns suggests that some respondents limited their selection of documents to those featured by POLEX. Since this vastly reduces the choice of ‘influential documents’ and POLEX features approximately 50% of CIFOR articles, the ranking of citations of ‘influential documents’ is skewed in favour of CIFOR publications. Nevertheless, the earlier trends identified by Spilsbury and Kaimowitz (2000) are reinforced, and highlight the dominance of a few organizations: UN organizations and processes, FAO, World Bank and WRI. Authors from the north continue to exert the largest influence on the international forest agenda.

Authors	Name of document	Number of citations
UNCED	United Nations. Rio Agenda 21 Forest Principles and UNCED related documents.	27
Poore, D., Burgess, P., Palmer, J., Rietbergen, S. and Synnott, T.	No Timber Without Trees: Sustainability in the Tropical Forests. Earthscan Publications Ltd., London. (1989)	14
FAO	FAO’s State of the World’s Forests series	10
Repetto, R. and Gillis, M.	Public Policy and the Misuse of Forest Resources, Cambridge University Press, New York. (1988)	8
Ostrom, E.	Governing the Commons. Cambridge University Press. (1990)	8
WCED Brundtland Commission	Our Common Future. The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development. (The Brundtland Report). Oxford University Press, Oxford. (1987)	8
World Bank	World Bank Forest Strategy: Striking the Right Balance. OED. (2000)	8

Authors	Name of document	Number of citations
Wunder, S.	Oil Wealth and the Fate of Forest: A Comparative Study of Eight Tropical Countries. Routledge, London. (2003)	7
Angelsen, A. and Kaimowitz, D.	Agricultural Technologies and Tropical Deforestation. (2001)	6
Chambers, R.	Rural development: putting the last first. John Wiley and Sons, New York. (1983)	5
World Forestry Congress	World Forestry Congress Proceedings	4
Pagiola, S., Bishop, J. and Landell-Mills, N. (eds.)	Selling Forest Environmental Services: Market- Based Mechanisms for Conservation and Development. Earthscan, London. (2002)	4
IPCC	IPCC Third Assessment Report - Climate Change. (2001)	4
Eba'a Atyi, R. and Simula, M.	Forest Certification: Pending Challenges for Tropical Timber. ITTO Technical Series Number 19. ITTO Yokohama, Japan. (2002)	4
FAO	Forest Resources Assessment. (2000)	4
Arnold, J.E.M. FAO – FTTP	Community Forestry - Ten Years in Review: Community Forestry No.7. FAO Rome. FAO –FTTP. (1991)	4
Westoby, J.	World Forestry Congress presentation The Purpose of Forests (1978) and The Purpose of Forests – Follies of Development. Basil Blackwell. (1987)	4
Peluso, N.	Rich Forests, Poor People: Resource Control and Resistance in Java. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA. (1992)	3
Hardin, G.	The Tragedy of the Commons. Science 162: 1243–1248. (1968)	3
Bryant, D., Nielsen, D. and Tanglely, L.	The Last Frontier Forests: Ecosystems and Economies on the Edge. World Resources Institute, Washington, D.C. (1997)	3
Upton, C. and Bass, S.	The Forest Certification Handbook. Earthscan Publications, London. (1995).	3
Peters C., Gentry and Mendelsohn	Valuation of an Amazonian Rainforest. Nature 339 (29): 655–6. (1989)	3
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	3
White, A. and Martin, A.	Who Owns The World's Forests? Forest Tenure and Public Forest In Transition. Forest Trends. (2002)	3

Authors	Name of document	Number of citations
Barr, C.	Banking on Sustainability: Structural Adjustment and Forestry Reform in post-Suharto Indonesia. WWF Macroeconomics Program Office, Washington, DC. and CIFOR. (2001)	3
IPF	IPF and IFF reports	3
FAO	Tropical Forest Action Plan (TFAP): A Call for Action. (1985)	3
Wunder, S.	The Economics of Deforestation: The Example of Ecuador. MacMillan and St. Martin Press in association with St. Anthony's College, London, UK. (2000)	2
United Nations	United Nations. Kyoto Protocol	2
Scott, J.C.	Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed. Yale University Press. (1998)	2
Myers, N.	Threatened Biotas: 'Hotspots' in Tropical Forests. The Environmentalist 8: 1–20. (1988)	2
Guha, R.	The Unquiet Woods: Ecological Change and Peasant Resistance in the Himalaya. University of California Press. (2000)	2
Geist, H.G. and Lambin, E.F.	What Drives Tropical Deforestation? A Meta-Analysis of Proximate and Underlying Causes of Deforestation Based on Subnational Case Study Evidence. LUCC International Project Office, LUCC Report Series no. 4. Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. (2001)	2
Forest Stewardship Council	FSC Principles and Criteria. (2000)	2
Fredericksen, T. and Putz, F.	Silvicultural Intensification for Tropical Forest Conservation. Biodiversity and Conservation 12: 1445–1453. (2003)	2
Ferraro, P.J.	Global Habitat Protection: Limitations of Development Interventions and a Role for Conservation Performance Payments. (2000)	2
Cossalter, C.	Fast Wood Forestry - Myth and Realities. CIFOR. (2003)	2
Arnold, J.E.M.	Forestry, Poverty and Aid. Occasional Paper No 33. CIFOR	2
United Nations	United Nations Millennium Development Goals	2

Authors	Name of document	Number of citations
Landell-Mills, N. and Porras, T. I.	Silver Bullet or Fools' Gold? A Global Review of Markets for Forest Environmental Services and their Impact on the Poor. Instruments for Sustainable Private Sector Forestry series. International Institute for Environment and Development, London. (2002)	2
IPCC	Special report on LULUCF	2
CIFOR	CIFOR's C&I Toolbox series (1999)	2
Angelsen, A. and Kaimowitz, D.	Economic Models of Tropical Deforestation: A Review. CIFOR (1998)	2
World Bank	World Bank Forest Policy (1991)	2
WRI	WRI's World Resources Series	2
Winterbottom, R.	Taking Stock: The Tropical Forestry Action Plan after Five Years. WRI (1990)	2
Myers, N.	The Primary Source. Tropical Forests and Our Future. W. W. Norton, NY. (1984)	2

Appendix F.

Emerging issues of significance for forest policy

Survey respondents made the following suggestions for emerging issues of significance for forest policy

Emerging Issues suggested by survey respondents	Number
Sustainable forest management	
How to improve marginal profitability of forestry projects, TIMS (Timber Investment Management Funds)	1
Financial viability of sustainable forest management and connected to this the marketability and value of tropical timber and other goods and services from the forest	1
Certification (forests, NTFPs, oil palm, rubber)	2
Plantations	
Clearing of tropical forests and replacement of natural forest with monoculture plantation. Concern about too little diversity in species planted	1
Privatization and stronger private sector involvement in forest issues	3
Landscape approaches	
Overcoming the problems in implementing the landscape approach	1
Forest and Livelihood in a landscape context	1
Integrated management of forest in wider context of land management issues	1
Governance Issues	
Governance issues (illegal logging, corruption, illegal activities)	8
Governance sector in relation to forest law enforcement and the regional FLEG processes	1
Enforcement and illegal activities	1
Building capacity for enforcement at federal and local level; relying more on local communities for enforcement	1
Land use issues: how to allocate land between forest and agriculture, how to enforce land use allocations	1
Legal framework for forest management and conservation; the role of law and law enforcement	1
Decentralization	1
Community-based forest management	
Community forestry and how and where it works and why	4
Local forest management and Community rights	2

Macro structures and processes that inhibit community forestry from working	1
Empowerment of local communities and local ownership of forests; forest tenure; reclamation of state land by community and tribal demands; understanding the power struggle around community forestry	4
Forests and Poverty	
Cement the link between forests and poverty alleviation and the understanding that forest issues are the domain of a much larger audience than is currently assumed. Role of forestry in poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods	5
Pro-poor forest policy	1
Forests and economic development	
How can forests assist the wider development process?	3
Possible implication for new development agendas (e.g. poverty and water)	1
Global convention on Forest/UNFF	
UNFF and whether or not it is going to be effective; is a global convention on forests needed?	3
Forest convention and, linked to this, the question of how to finance these activities	1
Valuation/Economic contribution of forestry sector	
How subsidies (e.g. agricultural) in developed countries adversely impact forestry by undervaluing the forestry sector and thus making it uncompetitive	1
Forest taxation	1
Economic value of forests	2
Clearer valuation of forest and forest products and services as the key to forest conservation: "What does not pay does not last"	1
Viability of forest restoration depending on forest sector valuation	1
Environmental Services	
How to make environmental services work for the poor	1
What can be done to attract greater investment in environmental services	1
Payments for Environmental Services - reflection of all forest-related values economically	1
Climate Change	
Climate Change, CDM, ecosystem services - much information available, but very little action	1
Climate change and forest policy as adaptation tool and/or for mitigation—not only Kyoto-driven, but more on the local level	1
Forest and Water	1
Trees outside of forests	
Growing trees outside of forest by farmers	1
Importance of the tree resources outside of forests	1
Other topics	
Globalisation	1
Harmonization of policy paradigms	1
How to communicate forestry issues to the non-forest community (the environmentalists have been successful at this)	1

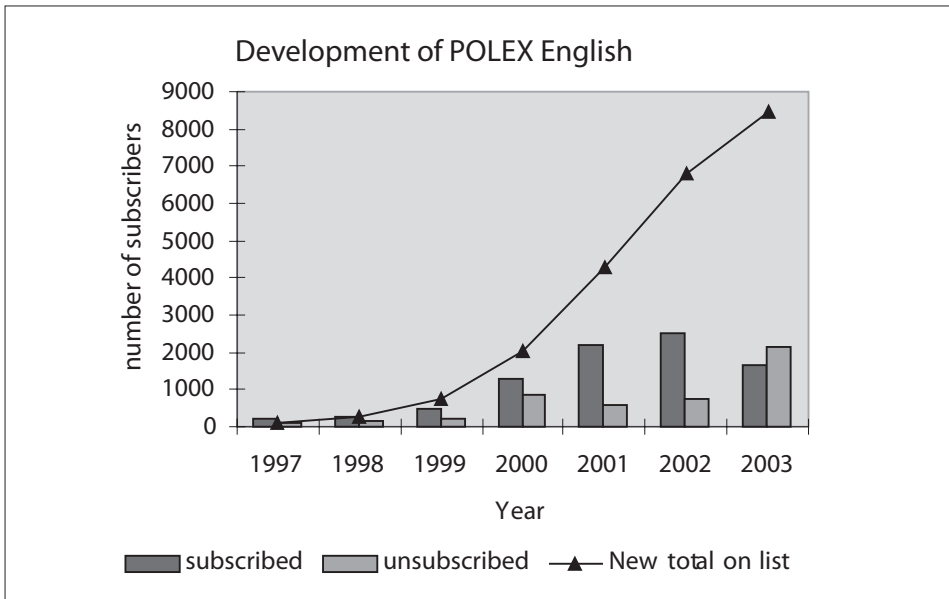
Appendix G.

Subscriptions data POLEX 1997-2003

Development of POLEX list server from 1997 to 2003

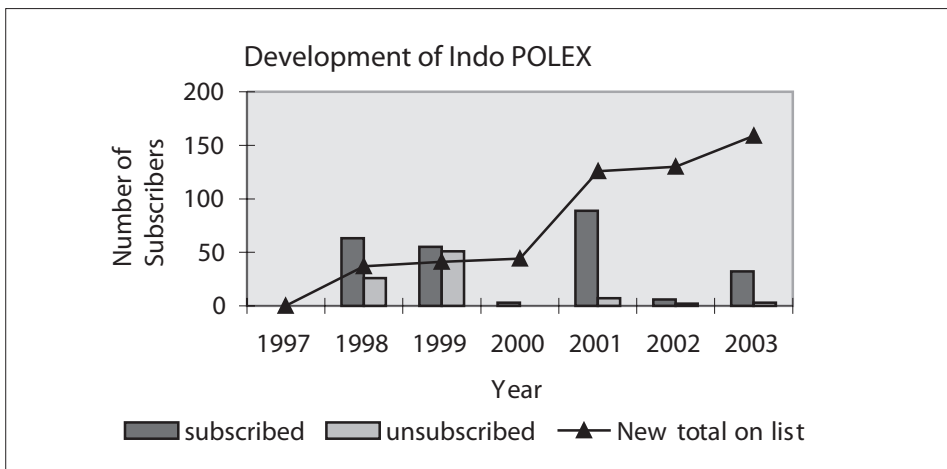
The tables and graphs are based on the logs of new subscriptions and those unsubscribing, provided by the listserv administrator CGNET.

1) English POLEX



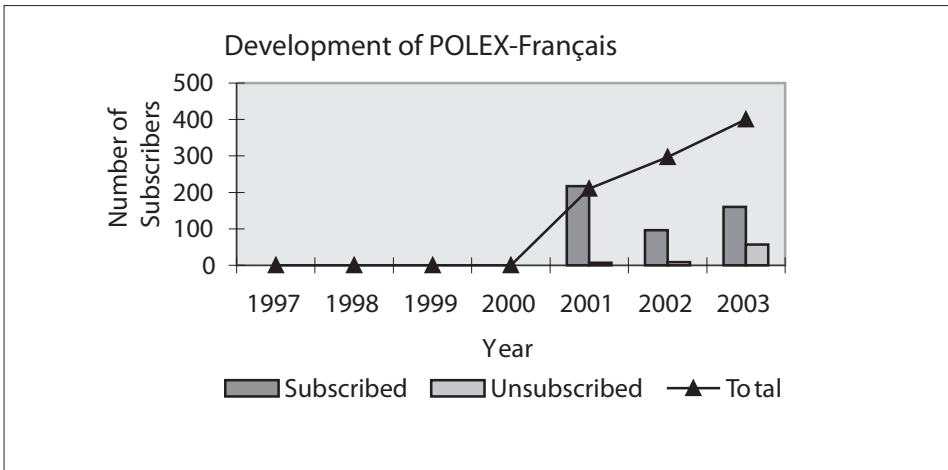
POLEX English				
Year	Subscribe	Unsubscribe	New total on list	% Unsubscribe of total subscribers
1997	205	103	102	50
1998	282	141	243	37
1999	496	193	739	26
2000	1302	849	2041	42
2001	2220	592	4261	14
2002	2532	772	6793	11
2003	1669	2153	8462	25

2) Indonesian (Indo) POLEX



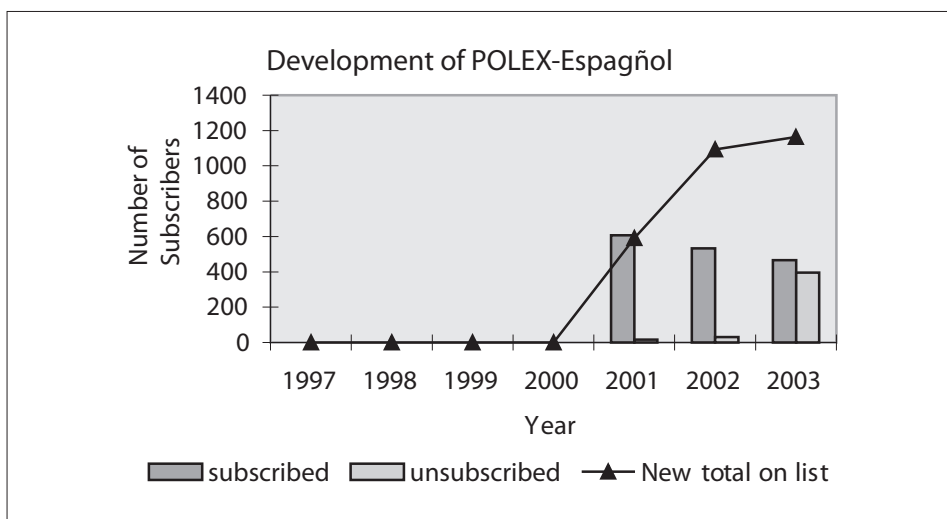
IndoPOLEX				
Year	Subscribe	Unsubscribe	New total on list	% Unsubscribe of total subscribers
1997	0	0	0	0
1998	63	26	37	41
1999	55	51	41	55
2000	3	0	44	0
2001	89	7	126	5
2002	6	2	130	2
2003	32	3	159	2

3) French POLEX



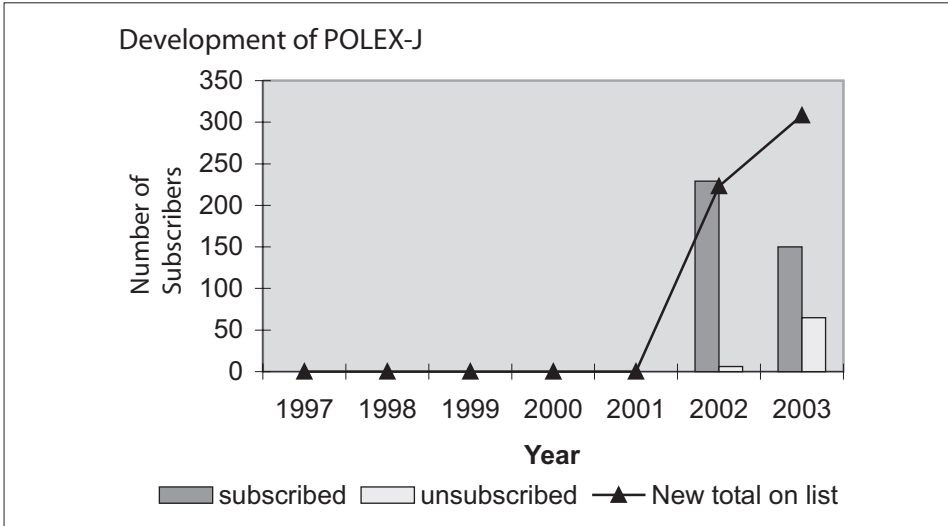
POLEX-Français				
Year	Subscribe	Unsubscribe	New total on list	% Unsubscribe of total subscribers
1997	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0
2001	217	7	224	3
2002	96	9	305	3
2003	160	57	417	12

4) Spanish POLEX



POLEX-Español				
Year	Subscribe	Unsubscribe	New total on list	% Unsubscribe of total subscribers
1997	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0
2001	607	16	591	3
2002	533	31	1093	3
2003	466	396	1163	25

5) Japanese POLEX



POLEX-J				
Year	Subscribe	Unsubscribe	New total on list	% Unsubscribe of total subscribers
1997	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0
2002	229	6	223	3
2003	150	65	308	17

Appendix H. Details of featured articles on POLEX 1997-2003

Year	POLEX title	Organization publishing the original article	Publishing Date of Article	Title of original article	Author	Document type	Name of journal
2002	Folk forests European style	Working Group on Community Involvement in Forest Management	2001	Communities and Forest Management in Western Europe. <i>In: Forest, People and Policies</i>	Sally Jeanrenoud	Book	
1998	A road map to European forestry assistance	ODI (Overseas Development Institute)	1999	EU Forestry Sourcebook. ODI	Gill Shepherd and David Brown, Michael Richards, and Katherine Schreckenber	Book	
1998	Can using forests sustainably help protect them?	Ohio State University	1998	Tropical Forest Conservation: Economic Assessment of the Alternatives in Latin America. Oxford University Press.	Douglas Southgate	Book	

Year	POLEX title	Organization publishing the original article	Publishing Date of Article	Title of original article	Author	Document type	Name of journal
1998	Have small farmers deforested West Africa?	CIFOR	1998	Reframing Deforestation, Global Analysis and Local Realities: Studies in West Africa. Routledge.	James Fairhead and Melissa Leach	Book	
1998	More jobs mean more forests in Peninsular Malaysia	Harvard Institute for International Development)	1997	Environmental and Development in a Resource-Rich Economy, Malaysia Under The New Economic Policy.	Jeff Vincent and Rozali Mohamed Ali	Book	
1998	Taxes, bans, bonds and behaviour	CIRAD	2002	Economic Instruments for Tropical Forests: The Congo Basin.	Alain Karsenty	Book	
1999	Can you manage forests well and still make money?		1999	The Business of Sustainable Forestry. Island Press.	Michael Jenkins and Emily Smith	Book	
1999	Russia's forest industries back to future forward to the past		1999	Word Forests, Society, and Environment, Volume 1. Kluwer Academic Publishers.	Matti Palo and Jussi Uusivuori	Book	
2000	Forest or fallow? Secondary re-growth in tropical Latin America	CIFOR	2001	Secondary Forests and Integrated Resource Management in Colonist Swidden Agriculture in Latin America. <i>In: World Forest, Markets and Policies.</i> Dordrecht. Kluwer Academic Publishers.	Joyotee Smith <i>et. al.</i>	Book	

Year	POLEX title	Organization publishing the original article	Publishing Date of Article	Title of original article	Author	Document type	Name of journal
2000	How Finland made forest owners follow the law	CIFOR	2003	Can Law save the Forests? Lessons from Finland and Brazil.	Sofia Hirakuri	Book	
2001	Deforesting Ecuador: Cows, crops, charcoal and chainsaws	IUCN/CDR	2000	The Economics of Deforestation: The Example of Ecuador. Macmillan Press.	Sven Wunder	Book	
2001	Do higher yields mean more forest?	CIFOR	2001	Agricultural Technologies and Tropical Deforestation.	David Kaimowitz	Book	
2001	Legalizing community forest rights in Africa	IUCN	2001	Land, People, and Forests in Eastern and Southern Africa at the Beginning of the 21st Century.	Liz Wily and Sue Mbaya	Book	
2002	Brazil's mayors get money thanks to forests		2002	The Ecological Value Added Tax: Municipal Responses in Parana and Minas Gerais, Brazil. <i>In: Selling Forest Services: Market-based Mechanisms for Conservation and Development.</i> Stefano Pagiola, Joshua Bishop and Natasha Landell-Mills (eds.) Earthscan.	Peter H. May, Fernando Veiga Neto, Valdir Denardin and Wilson Loureiro	Book	
2002	In good times & bad: company-community partnerships	IIED	2002	Company-Community Forestry Partnerships: From Raw Deals to Mutual Gains?	James Mayers and Sonja Vermeulen	Book	

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2002	Uma Lele's Greatest Hits	World Bank	2002	Managing Global Resources: Challenges of Forest Conservation and Development. Vol. 5 in: The World Bank Series on Evaluation and Development. Transaction Publishers. London, UK.	Uma Lele	Book	
2003	Adjusting our environment	CIFOR	2003	Oil Wealth and the Fate of Forests. Routledge.	Sven Wunder	Book	
2003	Birds, bees and trees on farms		2004	Agroforestry and Biodiversity Conservation in Tropical Landscapes - a Synthesis. In: Agroforestry and Biodiversity Conservation in Tropical Landscapes. Götz Schroth, Gustavo Fonseca and Celia A. Harvey (eds.) Island Press.	Götz Schroth, et. al.	Book	
1999	The Asian Crisis and the Forests of Indonesia	CIFOR	2002	Effects of Crisis and Political Change on Indonesia Forest Sector, 1997-99. In: Carol Pierce Colfer and Ida Aju Pradnya Resosudarmo (eds.) Which Way Forward? Forests, Policy and People in Indonesia.	William Sunderlin	Book	

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2000	What happened to forests when Ecuador went bananas?	Self-financed	2001	Ecuador Goes Bananas: Incremental Technological Change and Forest Loss. <i>In: Angelsen and Kaimowitz. Agricultural Technology and Tropical Deforestation.</i>	Sven Wunder	Book	
2000	Wise spotted owls prefer federal forests	Auburn University	1998	US Pacific Northwest. <i>In: B. Wilson, G.C. Van Kooten, I. Vertinsky, and L. Arthur (eds.) Forest Policy, International Case Studies.</i> CABI Publishing.	Benjamin Cashore	Book	
2000	The Giant Sucking Sound of Chinese Forestry Imports	Chinese Academy of Social Science	2000	WTO and Chinese Forestry: An Outline of Knowledge and Knowledge Gaps.	Changjin Sun	Paper	
1998	Breaking news Asia's crisis and Indonesia's forests	CIFOR		News update	David Kaimowitz	News update	
1998	Has the World Bank kept its commitment to a multisectoral forestry approach?	World Bank	1998	News update on OED evaluation of World Bank's implementation of 1991 forest sector policy	Uma Lele	News update	
1998	World Bank Forestry Policy Review	World Bank		Special news update	David Kaimowitz	News update	

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2001	India's villages need power, not just 'participation'	FAO	2001	Disempowerment in the Name of Participatory Forestry? Village Forest Joint Management in Uttarakhand. FAO. Forests, Trees and People. Newsletter No. 44.	Madhu Sarin	Newsletter article	FAO - Forests, Trees and People
1998	Can roads and tropical forests be compatible?	CIFOR	1999	Road Infrastructures in Tropical Forests: Roads to Development or Road to Destruction? ATIBT/FAO.	Jean-Jacques Landrot	Newsletter article	International Technical Association for Tropical Woods
2001	Log it or lose it?	Conservation International	2001	Sustainable Forest Management: A Review of Conventional Wisdom. Advances in Applied Biodiversity Science 3. Published by Conservation International.	Richard E. Rice, Cheri A. Sugai, Shelley M. Ratay and Gustavo A.B. da Fonseca	Paper	
2002	Not all logging bans are created equal	FAO	2001	Forests Out of Bounds: Impacts and Effectiveness of Logging Bans in Natural Forests in Asia-Pacific.	Chris Brown, Patrick B. Durst and Thomas Enters	Paper	
2001	Fussing and fighting about FAO's forest figures	WRI	2001	Understanding The FRA 2000.	Emily Matthews	Paper	

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2001	Aceh goes wild about logging	CIFOR	2000	Wild Logging: The Rise and Fall of Logging Networks and Biodiversity Conservation Projects on Sumatra's Rainforest Frontier. CIFOR. Occasional Paper No. 31.	John F. McCarthy	Paper	
2002	Carbon markets for the poor	CIFOR	2002	Forest Carbon and Local Livelihoods: Assessment of Opportunities and Policy Recommendations. CIFOR. Occasional Paper No. 37.	Joyotee Smith and Sara J. Scherr	Paper	
1997	Structural adjustment and Bolivian forests	CIFOR, CIP and CEDLA	1999	The Effects of Structural Adjustment on Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Lowland Bolivia. World Development 27(3): 505-520.	David Kaimowitz, Graham Thiele and Pablo Pacheco	Scientific journal	World Development
1997	'Dutch disease' and forests in Ecuador	CIFOR and CDR (Center for Development Research)	1997	From Dutch Disease to Deforestation: A Macroeconomic Link? A Case Study from Ecuador.	Sven Wunder	Paper	
1997	Forests under adjustment in Bolivia, Cameroon and Indonesia	CIFOR	1998	Considering the Impact of Structural Adjustment Policies on Forests.	David Kaimowitz, Ousseynou Ndoye, William Sunderlin, Pablo Pacheco and Erwidodo	Paper	

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1997	What can tropical deforestation models tell us?	CIFOR	1999	Rethinking the Causes of Deforestation: Lessons from Economic Models. The World Bank Research Observer 14(1). World Bank.	David Kaimowitz and Arild Angelsen	Paper	
1998	Economic criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management		1998	Rational Exploitation: Economic Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests. CIFOR Occasional Paper No. 17.	Jack Ruitenbeek and Cynthia Cartier	Paper	
1998	Is it really worth it to try and find out how much forest is worth?	CIFOR			Chris Bennett	Paper	
1998	Local governments and forests in Bolivia	CIFOR, CEDLA and BOLFOR	1998	Local Government and Biodiversity Conservation in the Bolivian Tropics.	David Kaimowitz, Gonzalo Flores, James Johnson, Pablo Pachecho, Iciar Paves, J. Montgomery Roper, Cristian Vallejos and Roger Velez	Paper	
1998	Myths about forests and floods	IWMI, World Bank	1998	Water Resource and Land Use Issues.	Ian Calder	Paper	

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			1998	The Domestic Benefits of Tropical Forests, A Critical Review Emphasizing Hydrological Functions.	Chomitz and Kanta	Paper	
1998	Secondary forests the bright side of 'slash and burn'	Agricultural University La Molina in Peru, CIFOR and CIAT		Can Secondary Forest Mitigate Primary Forest Depletion? Implications from Small-Scale Farms in the Peruvian Amazon	Joyotee Smith <i>et.al.</i>	Paper	
1998	Timber certification in Mexico and Central America		1998	Certification in Latin America: Experience to Date. Rural Development Forestry Network. Network Paper 23c. ODI.	Ronnie de Camino and Marielos Alfaro	Paper	
1998	What if Sweden had received forestry assistance?	CIFOR		From Industrial Forestry to National Resources Management: Lessons Learned in Forestry Assistance.	Reidar Persson	Paper	
1998	What's the situation with forest certification in Europe?	Free University of Brussels			Jean-Pierre Kiekens	Paper	

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1998	When does technological change in agriculture promote deforestation?	CIFOR	2001	When Does Technological Change in Agriculture Promote Deforestation, 89–114, in D.R. Lee and C.B. Barrett (eds.) Tradeoffs and Synergies? Agricultural Intensification, Economic Development and the Environment. CAB International Publishers. Wallingford, Oxon, U.K.	Arild Angelsen and David Kaimowitz	Paper	
1999	Brazilian forest clearing comes in clumps	(Brazilian Space Agency) INPE	1999	An Analysis of the Geographical Patterns of Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon in the 1991–1996 Period.	Diogenes Alves	Paper	
1999	Forests and flies: little flies, big consequences	International Livestock Research Institute			Robin Reid	Paper	
1999	How can we save the forests?	Overseas Development Institute and European Commission	1999	Internalising the Externalities of Tropical Forestry: A Review of Innovative Financing and Incentive Mechanisms. ODI and the EC	Michael Richards	Paper	
1999	Jump-starting the Guyanese economy before installing the brakes	The Forest Peoples Programme	undated. Probably 1999.	Social Exclusion and Development Domination: The Underlying Causes of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Guyana.	Marcus Colchester	Paper	

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1999	Oil palm displaces forests and smallholders in Indonesia	University of Adelaide	1998	Tree Planting in Indonesia: Trends, Impacts, and Directions.	Leslie Potter and Justin Lee	Paper	
1999	The troubling truth about Brazilian forest fires	Woods Hole Research Center, IPAM and IMAZON	1999	Investigating Positive Feedbacks in the Fire Dynamic of Closed Canopy Tropical Forests.	Mark Cochrane and Dan Nepstad	Paper	
1999	Win-lose' on the Nicaraguan frontier	Harvard Institute for International Development	1999	Deforestation and Land Use on the Evolving Frontier: An Empirical Assessment. Development Discussion Paper No. 678.	Robert Faris	Paper	
1999	World Bank tells tropical countries improve forest policies 'or else'	WRI (World Research Institute)	1999	The Political Economy of Environmental Adjustment: The World Bank as Midwife of Forest Policy Reform. Background working Paper. Presented at a Conference on "International Institutions: Global Processes - Domestic Consequences". Duke University April 9-11.	Navroz Dubash and Frances Seymour	Paper	

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1999	Would you buy a forest from a used carbon salesman?	CIFOR	1999	Harnessing Carbon Markets for Tropical Forest Conservation: Towards a More Realistic Assessment	Joyotee Smith, Kalemani Mulongoy, Reidar Persson and Jeffrey Sayer	Paper	
1999	Your subsidies are my incentives	IADB (Inter-America Development Bank)	1997	Financing Forest Investment: The Issue of Incentives/Forest Resource Policy in Latin America	Olli Haitia and Kari Keipi	Paper	
2000	Dubious dogmas: Indonesia study questions conventional wisdom on forest policy	CIFOR	2000	Will HPH Reform Lead to Sustainable Forest Management? Questioning the Assumptions of the Sustainable Logging Paradigm in Indonesia.	Christopher Barr	Paper	
2000	Gorillas in the midst (of war)	International Gorilla Conservation Program (IGCP)	2000	Building Partnerships in the Face of Political and Armed Crisis.	Annette Lanjouw	Paper	
2000	Indonesian pulp giants gamble with other people's money and forests	CIFOR	2000	Profits on Paper: The Political Economy of Fibre Finance and Debt in Indonesia's Pulp and Paper Industries.	Christopher Barr	Paper	
2000	Southern African forests—the poor people's safety net		2000	Empirical Regularities in the Poverty-Environment Relationship of African Rural Households.	William Cavendish	Paper	

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2000	The nuts & bolts of checking for carbon leaks	Noel Kempff Climate Action Project	1999	Technical Operating Protocols for Carbon Monitoring, Leakage Monitoring, Accounting and Reporting and Verification and Supervision.	Margo Burnham	Paper	
2000	The World Bank's Old Testament of Forestry		1999	A Review of the World Bank's 1991 Forestry Strategy and its Implementation.	Bank's Operations Evaluation Department (OED)	Paper	
2000	Top-down decentralization in Zimbabwe's woodlands	University of Zimbabwe	2000	Forging (Un) democratic Resource Governance Systems from the Relic of Zimbabwe's Colonial Past.	Alois Mondondo	Paper	
2000	Tree plantation trivia	FAO	2000	The Global Outlook for Future Wood Supply from Forest Plantations.	Christopher Brown	Paper	
2001	Filipinos move uphill, forests beware	Not available	undated	Population Pressure, Poverty, and Deforestation: Philippines Case Study.	Maria Concepcion J.Cruz	Paper	
2001	Forest crimebuster tips	CIFOR	2001	Forest Law Enforcement, An Overview.	Arnoldo Contreras-Hermosilla	Paper	

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2001	Hunting for tonight's dinner	World Bank	2000	Hunting of Wildlife in Tropical Forests: Implications for Biodiversity and Forest Peoples. World Bank Environment Department. Biodiversity Series-Impact Studies. Paper No. 76.	Elizabeth Bennett and John Robinson	Paper	
2001	Is selling non-timber forest products a dead-end for women	CIFOR	2000	Commercialisation of Non-Timber Forest Products: Review and Analysis of Research.	Roderick P. Neumann and Eric Hirsch	Paper	
2001	Paying to conserve Mother Nature	IADB	2000	Financing Biodiversity Conservation. Sustainable Development Department Technical Paper Series.	Ricardo Bayon	Paper	
2002	Certification: plain and simple	ITTO	2002	Forest Certification: Pending Challenges for Tropical Timber.	Richard Eba'a Atyi and Markku Simula	Paper	
2002	Do jobs grow on trees?	ILO	2001	Social and Labour Dimensions of the Forestry and Wood Industries on the Move.	Peter Poschen and Mattias Lovgren	Paper	
2002	Even Costa Rica has illegal logging	CATIE	2001	Illegal Logging in Costa Rica, An Analysis for Discussion.	Jose Joaquin Campos A.	Paper	
2002	Forest valuation: from science fiction to money on the table	GEF	2002	Forest Ecosystem Services: Can They Pay Our Way Out of Deforestation?	Robert Nasi, Sven Wunder and Jose J. Campos A.	Paper	

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2002	Should we mine nature's treasures?	WWF	2002	To Dig or Not to Dig, Criteria for Determining the Suitability or Acceptability of Mineral Exploration, Extraction and Transport from Ecological and Social Perspectives.	Nigel Dudley and Sue Stolton	Paper	
2002	The meaning of Johannesburg	USAID	2002	USAID's Nature, Wealth, and Power in Africa	Jon Anderson	Paper	
2002	The riddle of when rules and rights conserve forests	International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI) Research Program	2002	An Institutional Approach to the Study of Forest Resources.	Amy Poteete and Elinor Ostrom	Paper	
2002	What carbon could do for rural India	Indiana University	2001	Communities and Climate Change: The Clean Development Mechanism and Village-Based Forest Restoration in Central India	M. Poffenberger, N.H. Ravindranath, D.N. Pandey, I.K. Murthy, R. Bist and D. Jain	Paper	
2002	When you decentralize, democratise	World Resources Institute (WRI)	2002	Democratic Decentralization of Natural Resources, Institutionalising Popular Participation.	Jesse C. Ribot	Paper	
2002	Who owns the world's forest?	Forest Trends	2002	Who Owns The World's Forests? Forest Tenure and Public Forest In Transition.	Andy White and Alejandra Martin	Paper	

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2003	Globalizing Global Communities	CIFOR	2003	Bridging the Gap: Communities, Forests, and International Networks. CIFOR Occasional Paper No. 41.	Marcus Colchester <i>et al.</i>	Paper	
2003	Illegal logging and the Europeans	CIFOR and Resources for the Future	2003	China's Forests, Global Lessons from Market Reforms.	Bill Hyde, Brian Belcher and Jintao Xu (eds.)	Paper	
2003	Looking for canaries	NAEA, IPAM, CIFOR	undated	Animal Indicators, a Tool to Assess Biotic Integrity After Logging Tropical Forests?	Caludia Azevedo-Ramos, Oswaldo De Carvalho Jr. and Robert Nasi	Paper	
2003	Low budget forest in Africa	FAO	2003	State of the World's Forests.	Adrian Whiteman	Paper	
2003	Poverty and the wild beasts	Livestock and Wildlife Advisory Group in DFID's Rural Livelihoods Department	2002	Wildlife and Poverty Study.	Joanna Elliott, Richard Grahm, Gayathri Sriskanthan and Catherine Arnold	Paper	
2003	The Conservation of Donors	Conservation International	2003	Striking a Balance, Ensuring Conservation's Place on the International Biodiversity Assistance Agenda.	Nicholas Lapham and Rebecca Livermore	Paper	

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2003	The fuelwood crisis revisited	CIFOR	2003	Fuelwood Revisited: What Has Changed in the Last Decade? CIFOR. Occasional Paper No. 39.	Mike Arnold, Gunnar Kohlin, Reidar Persson, Gillian Shepherd	Paper	
2003	Will the eucalypts eat your children?	CIFOR	2003	Fast-Wood Forestry, Myths and Realities.	Christian Cossalter and Charlie Pye-Smith	Paper	
2003	Certifying the Little Guys	Forest Trends	2003	Forest Certification and Communities: Looking Forward to the Next Decade.	August Molnar	Paper	
2000	Costs, benefits, forest, and water		2000	Economics Analysis of Land-Use Change in a Watershed Context. Paper for UNESCO Workshop on Forest-Water- People in the Humid Tropics, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July 31–August 4.	Bruce Aylward	Paper	
2001	Should Brazil allow more agriculture in the humid Amazon?	World Bank, AMAZON and Brazilian NGO	2001	Sustainable Amazon: Limitations and Opportunities for Rural Development. World Bank Technical Paper 515.	Bob Schneider	Paper	
1997	The impact of fuel collection on forest	CIFOR, IITA	1997	La Place du Bois de Feu dans un Systeme Agroforestier.	Adrienne Demenou	Paper	

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1997	Willingness to pay for environmental services	CIFOR, CIAT, ICRAF and CSERGE	1997	Willingness to Pay for Environmental Services Among Slash and Burn Farmers in the Peruvian Amazon: Implications for Deforestation and Global Environmental Markets.	Joyotee Smith, Susana Mourato, Erik Veneklaas, Keneth Reaegui, Glendy Sanchez and Ricardo Labarta	Paper	
2001	FAO's millennium forest findings	FAO	2001	The Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000 Summary Report.	Robert Davis	Paper	
2001	Feeling the heat: climate change and the rural poor	IPCC	2001	Climate Change Impacts, Assessment, and Vulnerability, A Summary for Policymakers.	IPCC	Paper	
2001	The dating game: wood processors court local farmers	Australian National University (ANU Forestry)	2000	Global Survey and Analytical Framework for Forestry Out-grower Arrangements.	Helen Desmond and Digby Race	Paper	
2003	Making concession to conservation	Rice University	2002	Rethinking Green Consumerism in: Scientific American, May 2002	Jared Hardher and Richard Rice	Scientific Journal	Scientific American

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2000	Protecting our children's heritage		2000	Tropical Forest Biodiversity and the World Heritage Convention. <i>Ambio</i> , A Journal of the Human Environment 29(6): 302–309.	Jeffrey Sayer, Natarajan Ishmaran, James Thorsell and Todd Sigaty.	Scientific journal	<i>Ambio</i>
2003	Disturb forests for their own good	BOLFOR, CIFOR	2003	Silvicultural Intensification for Tropical Forest Conservation. <i>Biodiversity and Conservation</i> 12: 1445–1453.	Todd Frederickson and Francis Putz	Scientific journal	<i>Biodiversity and Conservation</i>
2001	Guess what? Parks work	CI and Center for Applied Biodiversity Science	2001	Park Effectiveness in the Tropics. <i>Science</i> Vol. 291.	Aaron Bruner, Ted Gullison, Richard Rice and Gustavo Fonseca	Scientific journal	<i>Biodiversity Science</i>
2003	Chainsaws in the drugstore	CIFOR	2003	The Impacts of Forest Degradation on Medicinal Plant Use and Implications for Health Care in Eastern Amazonia. <i>BioScience</i> 53 (6): 573–584.	Patricia Shanley and Leda Luz	Scientific journal	<i>Bioscience</i>
2002	Making concessions to poor forest management in Cambodia	CDRI	2002	Questioning Sustainable Concession Forestry in Cambodia. <i>Cambodia Development Review</i> 6 (1).	Bruce Mckenney	Scientific journal	<i>Cambodia development review</i>

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2003	Illegal logging and the Europeans	FERN and The Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA)	2002	Controlling Imports of Illegal Timber, Options for Europe. Conservation Biology 17 (3).	Duncan Brack, Chantal Marijnissen and Saskia Ozinga	Scientific journal	Conservation Biology
2001	Paying cash for biodiversity	Cornell University	2001	Global Habitat Protection: Limitations of Development Interventions and the Role of Conservation Performance Payments. Conservation Biology 15(4): 1–12.	Paul J. Ferraro	Scientific journal	Conservation Biology
2001	Salvaging timber from burnt forests	CIFOR and Section Plant Ecology, Utrecht University	2001	The Ecological Consequences of Logging in the Burned Forests of East Kalimantan, Indonesia. Conservation Biology 15(4): 1183–1186.	Mark G.L. van Nieuwstadt, Douglas Sheil and Kuswata Kartawinata	Scientific journal	Conservation Biology
2003	Tacos, tequila and community forests	SEMARNAT	2003.	Mexico's Community - Managed Forests as a Global Model for Sustainable Landscapes	D. Barton Bray, et. al	Scientific journal	Conservation Biology
1998	Cameroon's economic crisis fuels forest clearing	DFID	2002	Economic Crisis and Forest Cover Change in Cameroon: The Roles of Migration, Crop Diversification and Gender Division in Labor. Economic Development and Cultural Change 50(3): 581–606.	William Sunderlin and Jacques Pokam	Scientific journal	Economic Development and Cultural Change

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1999	The secret of their success (with Non-Timber Forest Products)	CIFOR	1999	A Methodology to Analyse Divergent Case Studies of Non-Timber Forest Products and their Development. Forest Science 45(1).	Manuel Ruiz-Perez and Neil Byron	Scientific journal	Forest Science
1999	Malawi meets Malthus?		2001	Agricultural Land Expansion and Deforestation in Malawi. Forests Trees and Livelihoods 11: 167–182.	I. Minde, D.Ngugi, J. Luhanga and Godwin Kowero	Scientific journal	Forest Trees and Livelihoods
1998	Been thinking a lot about China lately?	The Forestry Economics and Development Research Center of Chinese Government		Introduces 'Forestry Economics,' a Chinese magazine		Scientific journal	Forestry Economics
2001	Is the party over? Life after the logging boom	CERC, School of Forest Resources and Conservation-University of Florida; Botany-New York Botanical Garden; Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazonia, Belem, Brazil	2001	Post Boom Logging in Amazonia. Human Ecology 29(2).	Miguel Pinedo-Vaquez, Danile J. Zarin, Kevin Coffey, Christine Padoch and Fernando Rabelo	Scientific journal	Human Ecology

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1998	A behind the scenes look at Indonesia's plywood cartel	CIFOR	1998	Bob Hasan, The Rise of Apkindo, and the Shifting Dynamics of Control in Indonesia's Timber Sector. <i>Indonesia Journal</i> 65.	Christopher Barr	Scientific journal	Indonesia
1997	Policies affecting bamboo in China	CIFOR and CAF (Chinese Academy of Forestry)	1996	Policy Change in China: The Effects on the Bamboo Sector in Anji County. <i>Journal of Forest Economics</i> 2 (2): 149–176.	M. Manuel Ruiz-Perez, M. Fu, J. Xie, B. Belcher, M. Zhong and C. Xie.	Scientific journal	Journal of Forest Economics
2000	More on war: the fight for Colombia's jungle	Columbia University	2003	Forest in the Time of Violence: Conservation Implications of the Colombian War. <i>Journal of Sustainable Forestry</i> 16 (3/4): 49–70.	Liliana M. Davalos	Scientific journal	Journal of Sustainable Forestry
1998	Cameroon's non-timber forest product markets	CIFOR	1997	The Markets of Non Timber Forest Products in the Humid Forest Zone of Cameroon.	Ousseynou Ndoye, Manuel Ruiz Perez and Antoine Eyebe	Scientific journal	ODI Rural Development Forestry Network Paper
1999	Will economic development bring back tropical forests?	Rutgers University	1998	Is There a Forest Transition? Deforestation, Reforestation and Development. <i>Journal of Rural Sociology</i> 63(4): 533–552.	Tom Rudel	Scientific journal	Rural Sociology
2000	Is sustainable timber production viable in the tropics?	CSERGE	2001	Forests Out of Bounds: Impacts and Effectiveness of Logging Bans in Natural Forests in Asia-Pacific.	David Pearce, Francis Putz and Jerome Vanclay	Scientific journal	Sustainable Forest Futures

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1999	Forest products mean cash in hand to Tanzanian villagers	Sokoine University Agriculture	1998	Household Livelihood Strategies in the Miombo Woodlands: Emerging Trends. Tanzania Journal of Nature Conservancy 73: 17–33.	G.C. Monela, G.C. Kajembe, A.R.S Kaoneka and G. Kowero	Scientific journal	Tanzania Journal of Nature Conservancy
2001	Nicaragua's mayors set their eyes on the forests	CIFOR	2002	Natural Resources and Decentralization in Nicaragua: Are Local Governments up to the Job? World Development 30(1): 17–31.	Anne M. Larson	Scientific journal	World Development
1999	Looking behind the bamboo curtain	CIFOR	1999	The Role of Bamboo Plantations in Rural Development: The Case of Anji County, Zhejiang, China. World Development 27(1): 101–114.	Manuel Ruiz Perez, Zhong Maogong, Brian Belcher, Xie Chen, Fu Maoyi and Xie Jinzhong	Scientific journal	World Development
2001	Forests and poverty - a glass half-empty?	CIFOR	2001	Poverty Alleviation and Tropical Forests - What Scope for Synergies? World Development 29 (11): 1817–1833.	Sven Wunder	Scientific journal	World Development
1997	Why do so many forestry aid projects fail?	CIFOR	1997	International Development Assistance in Forestry and Land Management: The Process and The Player. Commonwealth Forestry Review 76(10): 61–67.	Neil Byron	Scientific journal	Commonwealth Forestry Review

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2003	Beefing up the Brazilian Amazon	CIFOR, CIRAD, EMBRAPA, Université d'Avignon-Avignon, France	2002	Crossing Spatial Analysis and Livestock Economics to Understand Deforestation Process in the Brazilian Amazon: The Case of Sao Felix do Xingu in South Para. <i>Agricultural Economics</i> 27(3): 269–294.	Benoit Merteens, R.Poccard-Chapuis, M.-G. Pilletty, A.-E.Lacques and A. Venturieri	Scientific journal	<i>Agricultural Economics</i>
2002	152 snapshots of disappearing forests		2002	Proximate Causes and Underlying Driving Forces of Tropical Deforestation.	Helmut J. Geist and Eric F. Lambin	Scientific journal	<i>Bioscience</i>
2002	Arise ye forest dwellers of Asia	IFAD	2002	Historical Perspectives on Forestry Policy Change in Asia: An Introduction. <i>Environmental History</i> 6(2): 190–212.	David Edmunds	Scientific journal	<i>Environmental History</i>
2001	Paving roads with good intentions in the Brazilian Amazon		2001	Road Paving, Fire Regime Feedbacks, and the Future of Amazon Forests. <i>Forest Ecology and Management</i> 154: 395–407.	Dan Nepstad <i>et.al.</i>	Scientific journal	<i>Forest Ecology and Management</i>
2003	Filipinos think locally, act locally	CIFOR	2002	Collective Action and Learning in Developing a Local Monitoring System. <i>The International Forestry Review</i> 4(3): 184–195.	Herlina Hartanto, Maria Cristina B. Lorenzo and Anita L. Frio	Scientific journal	<i>International Forestry Review</i>

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1998	A few comments for the road			Comments received from readers		Special announcement	
1999	Brazil forest clearing comes in clumps revisited			Special announcement		Special announcement	
2002	CIFOR happenings & headhunting			Special announcement		Special announcement	
2003	CIFOR's New Kids on the Block	CIFOR		Special announcement		Special announcement	
2001	Forest for when the rice runs out		2001	Human Ecology and Rural Livelihoods of Laos.	John Raintree	Unpublished paper	
1999	Forest trade factoids for a few friends	Robert Flynn & Associates	1999	Global Forest Products Trade Trends & Their Impact on Asia.	Bob Flynn	Web page	
2000	Columbia takes the lead in payment for environmental services		2000	Funding Colombia's Green Plan: Challenges and Opportunities.	Manuel Rodriguez and Eugenia Ponce de Leon	Paper	

Year	POLEX title	Organization publishing the original article	Publishing Date of Article	Title of original article	Author	Document type	Name of journal
2000	COP - 6 in the Hague: Should forests be in or out?	World Bank	2000	Evaluating Carbon Offsets From Forestry and Energy Projects: How do they Compare? Working Paper of the World Bank: Country Economics Department Paper number 2357.	Kenneth M. Chomitz	Paper	
2000	Some controversies never die: Eucalyptus in Ethiopia	International Food Policy Research Institute	2000	The Role of Trees for Sustainable Management of Less-Favoured Lands: The Case of Eucalyptus in Ethiopia.	Pamela Jagger and John Pender	Paper	
2000	The road to Darien is paved with good analysis	IADB		Spatial Econometric Analysis and Project Evaluation: Modelling Land Use Change in the Darien.	Gerald Nelson, Virginia Harris and Steve Stone	Paper	
2000	Watch out for paper cuts	Worldwatch Institute	1999	Paper Cuts: Recovering the Paper Landscape. Working Paper 149.	Janet Abramovitz and Ashley T. Mattoon	Paper	

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An evaluation of POLEX

Many of the world's most important and far-reaching decisions about forests and forest policy are made by a relatively small number of people. They are predominantly policymakers and opinion leaders in government departments, donor agencies, development banks and NGOs. These individuals exert considerable influence over other decision makers and significantly affect how resources are allocated to forest initiatives. POLEX, the Forest Policy Experts listserv, specifically targets this audience. As part of a global readership survey and impact assessment of the POLEX listserv, 5,689 surveys were sent by email to a stratified random sample. The study shows that POLEX has been hugely successful. It reaches a large audience that includes a very high proportion of the world's most influential shapers of policy and decisions affecting forests.

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