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論文題目　：Efficacy of participatory forest management on poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods: Findings from Sal forests, Bangladesh
（貧困緩和と持続的な生活向上に対する参加型森林管理の有効性：バングラデシュ・サルフォレストでの考察）

区　　分　：甲

論 文 内 容 の 要 旨

Decentralization in forest management policies started as a response to institutional malfunction; and during the last decade, institutional changes like participatory forest management (PFM) paradigms have become major policy trends in many of the world's developing countries. Forest resources and their management are also increasingly observed to play a role in rural development, providing the resources necessary to drive local poor livelihoods improvement and poverty alleviation strategies. Bangladesh, with a forest cover of 17.08% land surface area, has experienced severe degradation of its forest resources and a considerable change in its land cover. It was recognized in Bangladesh that social factors affect forests degradation, and combating poverty is a prerequisite for forest resource management. Therefore, the government of Bangladesh has set utmost priority on PFM starting since 1980s, and this approach was commenced in the degraded Sal forest areas in 1989. This study first identifies the institutional set-up and different actors' involved in PFM process, and then explores the impacts of PFM on the livelihoods and poverty alleviation of forest dependent people. It also analyzes the nature and extent of local people's participation in Sal forests management and resources conservation. Finally, this study critically analyzes on institutional and socio-economic dimensions of Indian PFM programs in order to learn lessons for the case of Bangladesh.

In this research approach, a multi-agent analysis of institutional, social and economic complexity of PFM was developed in the case of main Sal forests of Bangladesh located at the central part of the country. The theoretical approach draws from theorizing on actors, livelihoods, poverty and participation in forest management. The study comprises of quantitative and qualitative data collected through household interviews, discussions with local people, focus group discussions, literature reviews, expert and Forest Department (FD) staff interviews during 2009 to 2011.

The institutional context of PFM analysis shows that power and other social relations within and between the central governments, forest department and other mid-level actors have notably determined who will be excluded and who will be included and what knowledge will be acknowledged. Despite this, there are shortcomings in the exercise of a bottom-up approach, and the dominant roles followed by a top-down approach from top-level actors who are often hindering the success and main goals of PFM. Moreover, the poor people's involvement in PFM has a deep-rooted dependency on the local political leaders and elites, and often these mid-level actors builds a strong network together with forest officials in order to influence the participant selection process and to enjoy undue benefits by including non-poor in PFM process.

Regarding to livelihood improvements, PFM programs are mainly attributed to the financial capital of the participants, although other livelihood capitals face constraints and difficulties. In addition, inequity issues and social capital differences created between the ethnic and non-ethnic participants and a lack of

commitment by the local FD results in PFM program's having limited success in creating sustainable livelihoods for the participants. Therefore, the overall results revealed that PFMs are not sufficient to develop sustainable livelihoods of participants and conserve Sal forests. Income inequalities are also found in the ongoing PFM programs and out of the two major programs, agroforestry program is observed to be the best option for the forest dependent people so as to meet subsistence and economic outcomes. The study also analyzes the ability of agroforestry program towards poverty alleviation at local level and the results shows that agroforestry program alleviated 63.36% poverty compared to the previous situation of participants and 32.87% compared with control farmers. To find out the reason for income inequalities and different poverty incidences among the participants, the study finds that income differences in poverty reduction can be explained mainly by the outcomes of PFM programs. With regards to the constraints as perceived by the participants, bureaucracy and illegal money demanded by the FD officials, middle-man interferences, uncontrolled market system and violation of social forestry rules were considered to be the main problems affecting the reduction of poverty.

Against the general trends of PFM programs, recently FD initiated a forest management project at the study area involving the local forest dependent people through effective participation and capacity building. All participants were appointed as paid community forest workers with incentives and they established a good relationship with FD, which in effect dismissed participants' forest offences and mobilized their participation. Moreover, protection of human intervention into Sal forests and substantial reforestation went hand in hand in a synergistic way that made the project initially successful. Nevertheless, community empowerment issue will need more attention by the FD with a view to ensure the sustainability.

Finally, based on the study's overall findings and Indian experiences, it would be highly recommend to promote agroforestry program with proper government facilities and also empowering local community in which local people plays the central role in governing all of their development activities.