



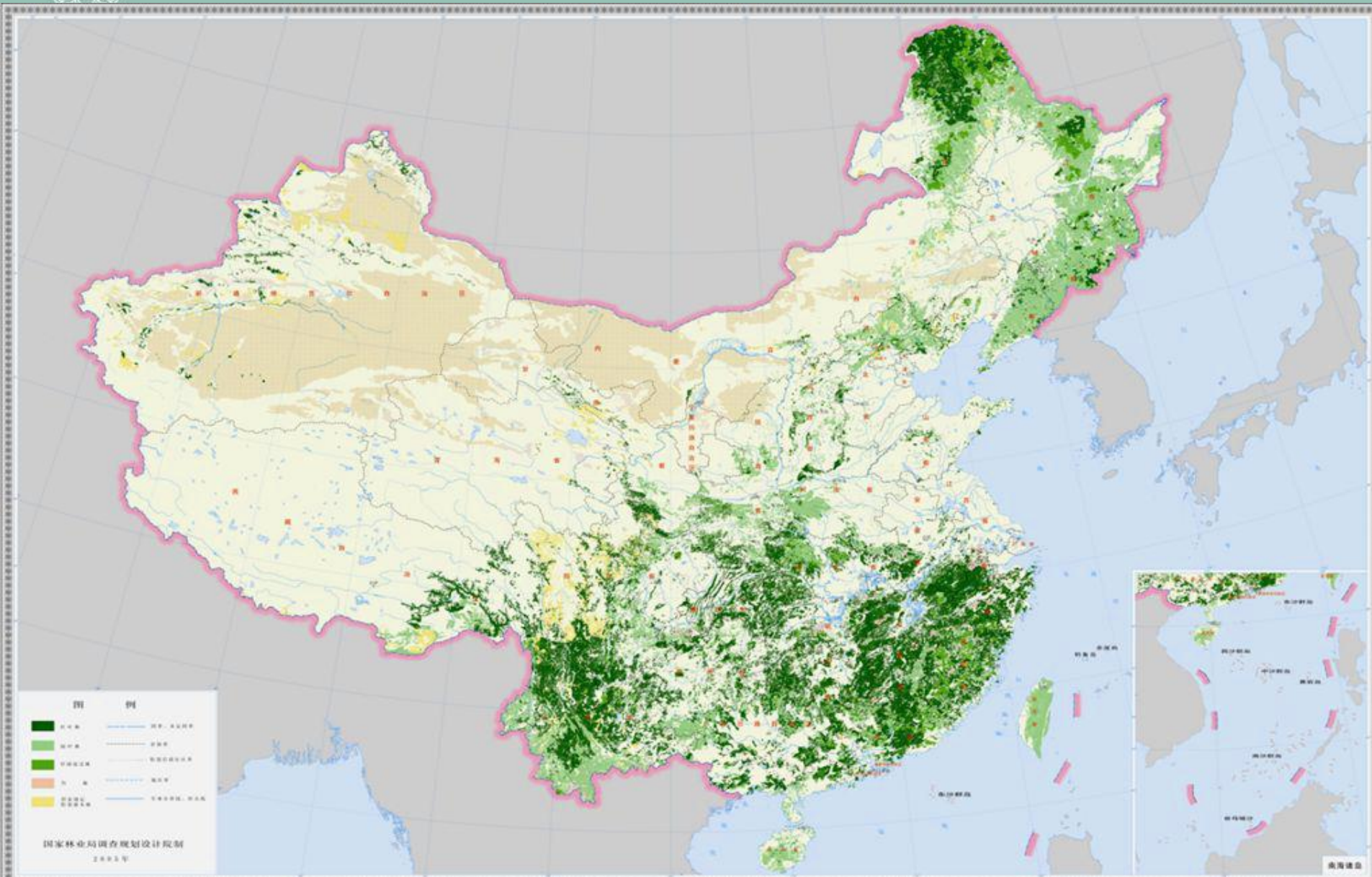
Collective Forest tenure reform in China

Li shuxin

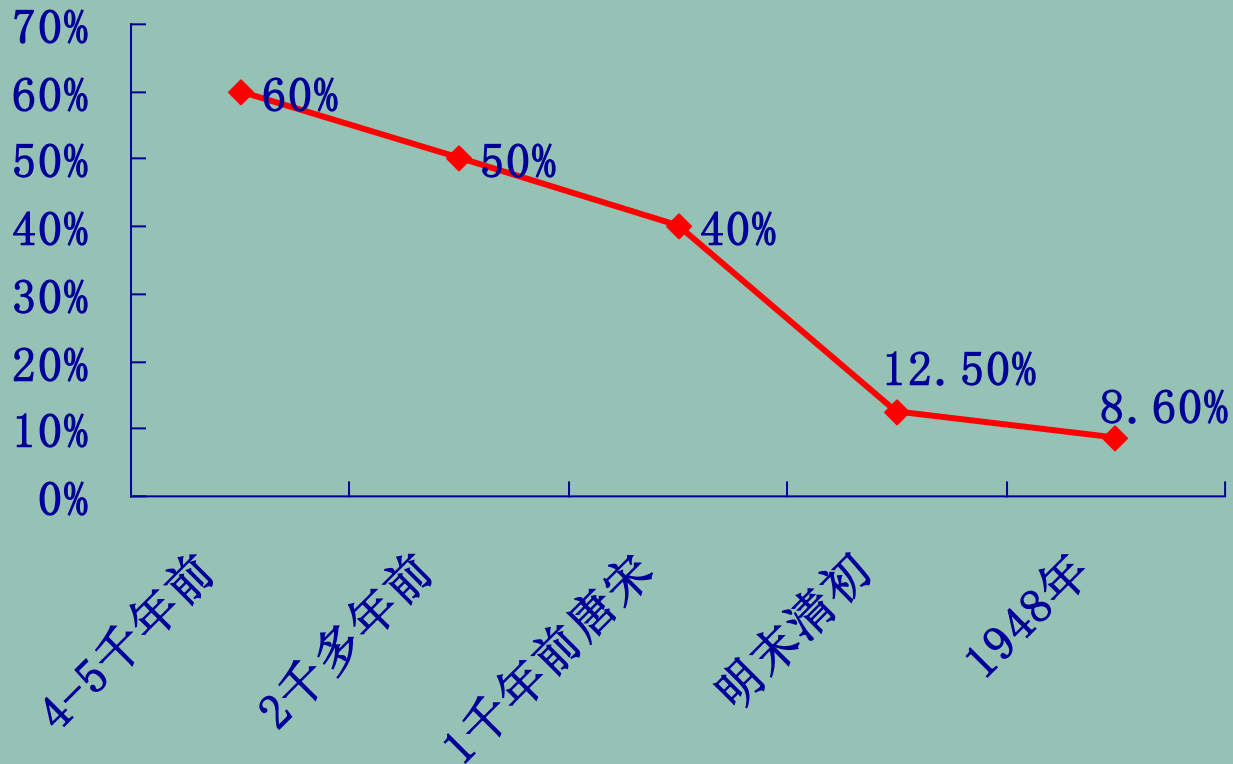
(2012-6-7, Whistler, Canada)



Forest resources



Forest Cover in Historic Period





Forest cover

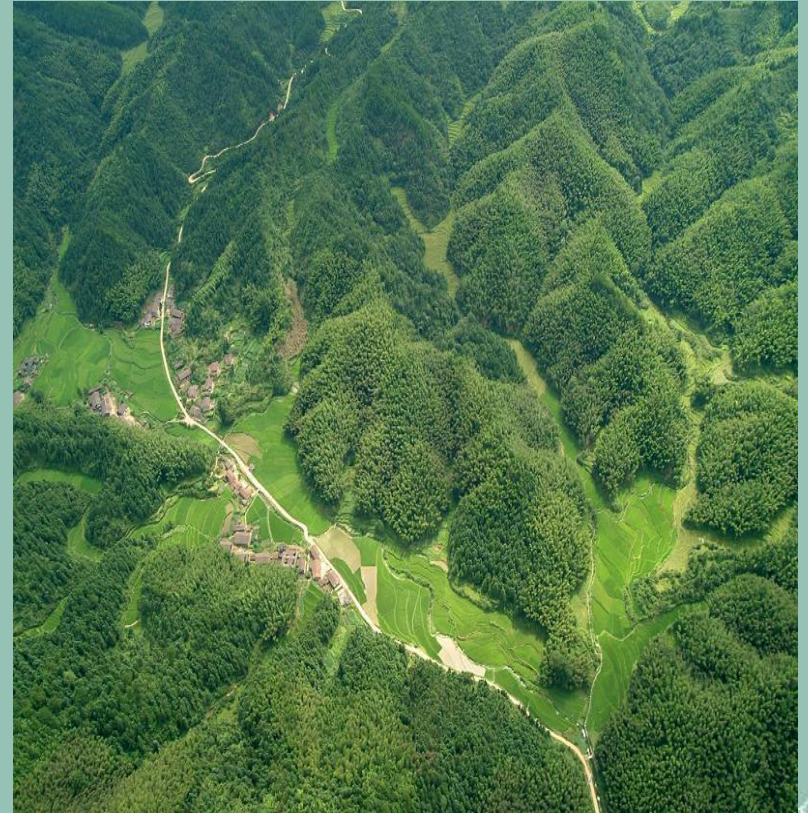


Forest area and Forest standing volume

China's forestry in world

- No.5 in terms of forest area, No.6 in terms of forest stocking volume.
- No.1 for forest plantation

----*Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010* by FAO





- Successful Forestry?





outline

- Why reform?
- Reform what?
- How to advance?
- What had happened?
- What can learn from?





Forest ownerships in China

◇ Land Ownerships

State-owned forest land


- 39.94% forest area and 65.77% volume;
- Managed by state forest enterprises and farms

Collective forest land

- 60.06% area and 34.23% volume(21.73% collective, 12.50% individual)
- Diversified models of forest management

◇ Diversified tree ownership





Reasons resulted in the reform

- Supply couldn't meet demand: ecological products and economic products. (No.144 for per capita forest area ,No.112 Per capita forest stocking volume.)
- Low productivity of forest land and poor quality of forest.
- Governmental investment and administrative measure are the main driver for forestry development . Lack of inner incentive.
- Imbalance between state-owned forests and collective forests.





Collective forestry problems


- Low output, low quality.
- Poor farmer
- Unease relationships:
 - famer and village leader.
 - farmer and forest sector.
 - farmer and local government.
 - farmers rely on agriculture and farmers rely on forestry





- *Something must be wrong with collective forest.*
- *Farmers have no interests on collective Forest management.*
- *Then what?*



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- large scale survey carried out by SFA.
 - Pilot:3 provinces
 - Get consensus and get focused
 - forest sector
 - cross sector
 - central government
 - central committee of communist party
 - Issuing document: goals, task, content ,measures, time line
-----2008





Reform What?

- Contents:

- Giving 70 years land use right to farmer for free or pay some money.
- Issuing forest rights certificate for farmer.
- empowering farmer with managing forest land right.
- safeguarding farmer get benefit from land use right
- Purposes: environmental concern--Increasing forest land and improving forest quality; economic and social concern—improving farmers' life.
- Timeline:5 years

----*No.10 Document issued by CCCP and state council*



How to advance?



- Implementation

- training: policy, technical

- supporting policies: subsidies to advancing reform; to afforestation; PES; Preferential monetary policies; insurance policies reform timber cutting policy.

- responding mechanism: problem solving.

- Monitoring

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- 26 provinces have finished the initial reform.
- Finishing issuing forest rights certificate to farmers in 2012.





Positive Results

- Increased Forest area.
- More income.
- Harmonized relationship.
- Forest sector from “control” to service
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Benefit for different stakeholders

- Government: forest and good environment, improving farmers' income
- Forest sector: position, recognition
- Local government: social stability, rich farmer, rich forest
- Enterprise: better environment and better supply
- Farmer: asset







Challenges

- Forest fragmentation;
- Lacking of skill and information
- Urbanization

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Rich farmer and sound environment





What to do next?

- Improving public policy toward forestry
 - afforestation subsidy policy
 - Infrastructure investment
 - increasing subsidy to public-benefit forest
 - reducing or exempt fees
- Improving forest administration policies and revising forest law.
- Supporting formation of forest farmer cooperative
- Providing better service to farmer

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Long way to go





Something to share

- Strong political willing to support reform from party, government and different sector.
- Setting clear goal and design steps.
 - identify problem;
 - participatory process
- Multi-win strategy.
- rules to follow.
 - observing law
 - respecting people's will
 -
- Not a single reform but a systematic one with supporting policies: subsidies; investment, tax and fees





Creating enabling Environment For Reform

- New countryside building:
 - Addressing Income gap
 - social security
 - democratic governance
 - culture construction
- Successful agriculture reform
- Legal systems
 - law on rural land contracting
 - law on village committee self-regulation
- Common desire for change: central government, forest sector, farmer





■ *Thanks !*

