

TREES Research: Influence of land use governance on natural resources in Irodo Watershed, DIANA Region

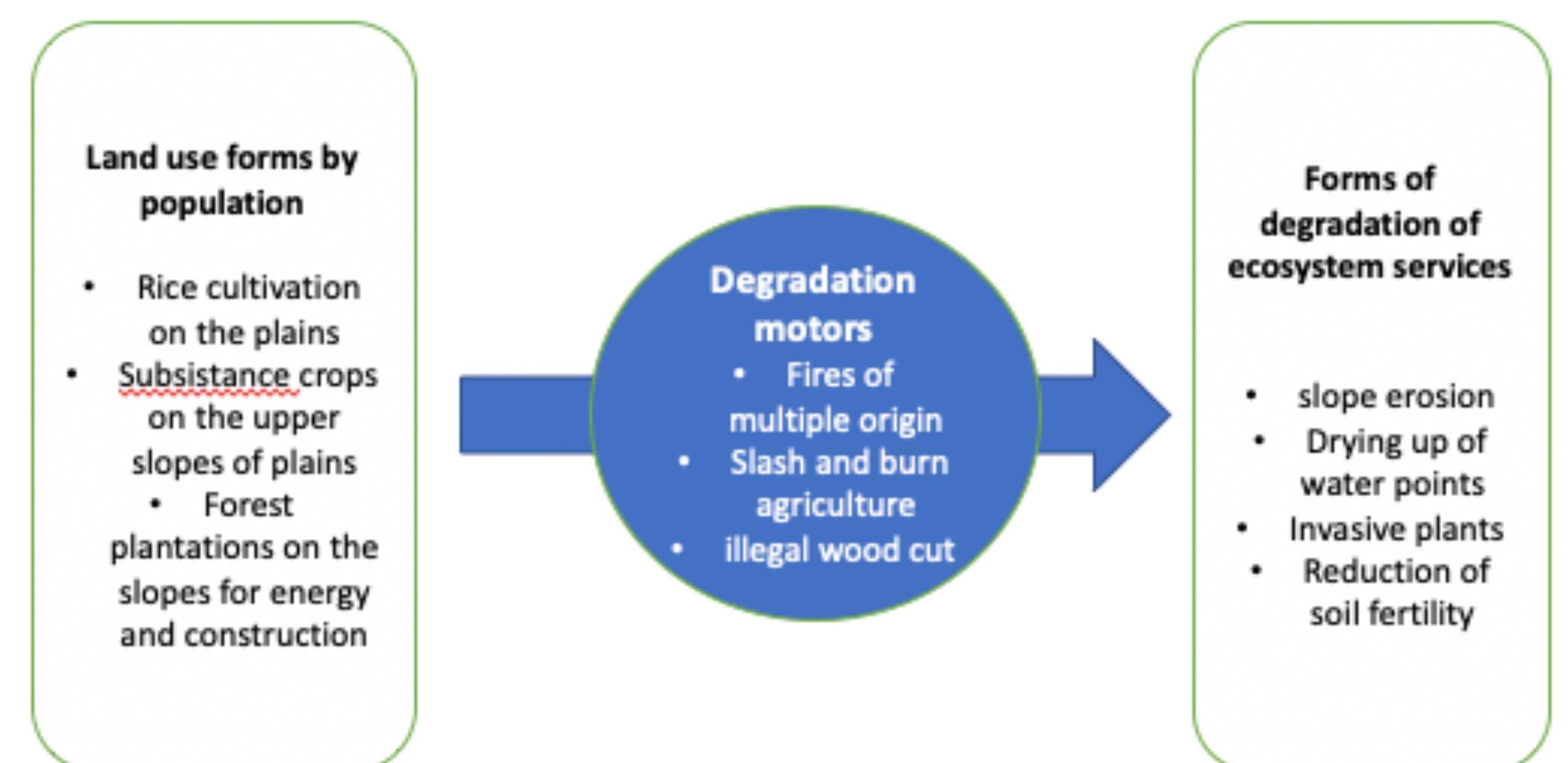
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Introduction

- Irodo watershed research site is located near 3 protected areas (Montagne d'Ambre National Park, Ankarana Special Reserve, Analamerana Special Reserve)
- Land use follows a dynamic that depends on several factors: socio-economic, political and environmental (physical)
- The patterns of degradation perceived at the watershed level are different for the upstream and downstream population
- Does the application of land use policies effective at the scale of the local population in the Irodo watershed?
- The research is part of Tropical Restoration Expansion for Ecosystem Services (TREES) project of Forest for Future (F4F) implemented by GIZ in Madagascar, Ethiopia and Togo

Results

Land use and land degradation



Land use planning and impact

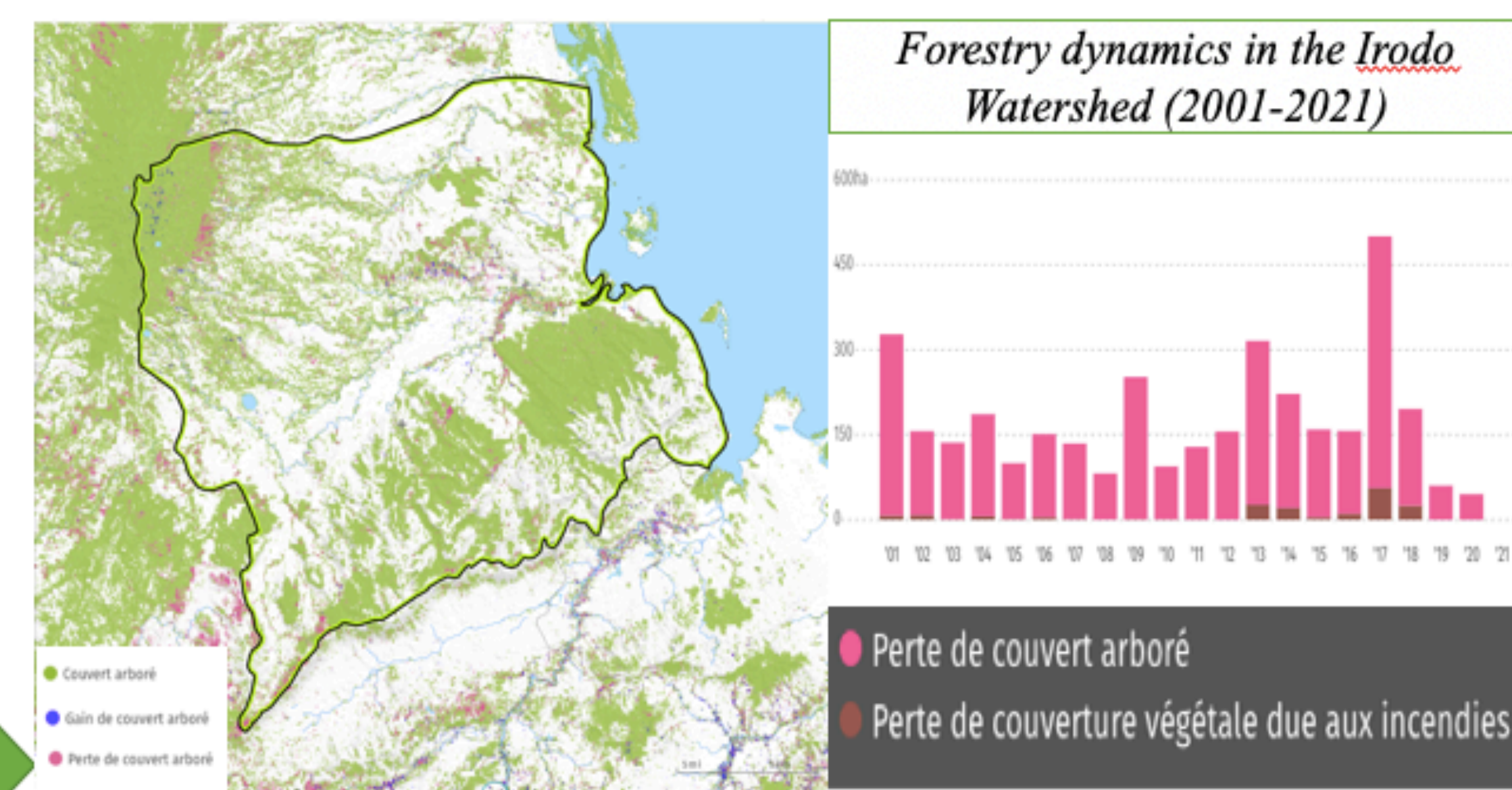
Figure: Irodo Watershed (© GIZ)

Aims

- To establish the link between the spatio-temporal dynamics of forests and the different forms of land use in the Irodo Watershed
- To show the importance of land use policies in forest governance

Methodology

- Step 1** Literature review: link between land use and forest management, agriculture means, land use policy
- Step 2** Data collection methods:
 - Semi structured interviews
 - Focus group discussions
- Step 3** Data treatment and analysis:
 - Qualitative content analysis
 - Spatio-temporal dynamics of forest cover loss (with Forest Global Watch)



Forestry dynamics:
Between 2001-2021:
3680 ha of forest cover loss, i.e. 0.53% of the total loss in the DIANA Region
178 ha of fire losses
Between 2001 and 2012:
534 ha of forest gain representing 0.62% of regional forest gain

Discussions

- Primary cause of deforestation and land degradation in Irodo watershed is agriculture and its methods linked to livelihoods
- Planning instruments influence the restoration or conservation of ecosystems but also maintain livelihoods in degraded landscapes by improving and re-establishing the flow of services

Bibliography

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