

Analysis of presented papers for 10 years at the conference of Traditional Forest Knowledge and Culture in Asia

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Abstract

The annual conferences on traditional forest knowledge and culture have been alternately held in China, Japan and Korea since 2008. This conference is the first time for ASEAN countries to host. It may be meaningful event to strengthen the Asian Networks of Traditional Forest Knowledge (ANTFOK). We reviewed the presentation papers and analyzed the keyword of title in the presentation papers. In terms of recent global change including Paris Agreement in UNFCCC, indigenous peoples would face a crisis on the conservation of traditional forest knowledge and culture (TFK). In this perspective, this conference gives a chance of discussion on conservation of the TFK and watching future direction of TFK of Asia. From the 1st to 10th conference, total 223 papers including 80 and 54 papers in Korea and China have been presented. We suggested important keywords entitled at the title as “case”, “management”, “village”, “conservation”, “culture”, “landscape”, “community”, “sustainable”, and “biodiversity”. Until now, IUFRO, APAFRI, NIFoS and two universities (Seoul National University in Korea, Renmin University in China) have supported networks in financial and scientific aspects. In the future, participation of national and/or public research organization can intensify the networks more than now in financial and academic ways.

Keywords : *ANTFOK, Indigenous people, Keywords Analysis, Network*

Introduction

The international conferences on traditional forest knowledge and Culture in Asia have been alternately held by the three East Asian countries —China, Japan, and Korea— since 2008. The fourth symposium was held on Jeju in the year of 2011. In the Jeju symposium, three countries—China, Japan, and Korea—concluded a mutual agreement to establish the Asian Center for Traditional Forest Knowledge (hereafter; ACTFOK) for sharing the TFK information and operating the sustainable research networks actively. ACTFOK is established for the purpose of the promotion of academic meetings propelled by a sound network of East Asian countries and of the enhancement of joint research on TFK. In 2012 meeting at Seon of China, ACTFOK made a small step to share the shoulder with the ASEAN countries. This paper was intended to review proposed papers and analyze the keyword of presented papers and to suggest future direction on the Asian Network of Traditional Forest Knowledge (hereafter; ANTFOK).

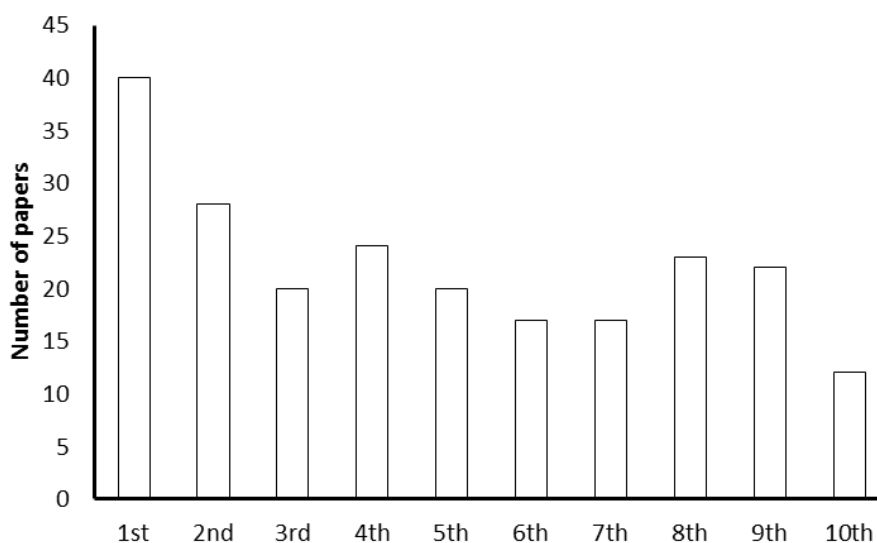


Fig. 1. Number of presented papers from 1st to 10th conference

Table 2. Results of keyword analysis of presented papers from 1st to 10th conference

Word	Count	Density (%)	Word	Count	Density (%)
forest	93	3.20	japan	8	0.28
traditional	89	3.06	forestry	8	0.28
knowledge	66	2.27	medicinal	7	0.24
case	33	1.14	research	7	0.24
village	32	1.10	satoyama	7	0.24
management	30	1.03	ecological	7	0.24
Korea	29	1.00	cultural	7	0.24
study	28	0.96	uses	7	0.24
conservation	26	0.89	nontimber	7	0.24
china	24	0.83	practices	7	0.24
culture	22	0.76	food	7	0.24
community	21	0.72	role	7	0.24
korean	19	0.65	west	6	0.21
landscape	17	0.58	asia	6	0.21
sustainable	15	0.52	landscapes	6	0.21
biodiversity	14	0.48	diversity	6	0.21
local	14	0.48	maeulsoop	6	0.21
forestrealted	13	0.45	areas	6	0.21
province	13	0.45	mountains	6	0.21
resources	12	0.41	natural	6	0.21
forests	12	0.41	development	6	0.21
yunnan	12	0.41	restoration	5	0.17

people	11	0.38	plant	5	0.17
related	11	0.38	protection	5	0.17
Philippines	11	0.38	ethnobotany	5	0.17
communities	10	0.34	rural	5	0.17
indigenous	10	0.34	system	5	0.17
Malaysia	10	0.34	comparison	5	0.17
ethnic	10	0.34	proverbs	5	0.17
application	9	0.31	wood	5	0.17
plants	9	0.31	change	5	0.17
ecosystem	9	0.31	villages	5	0.17
policy	9	0.31	status	5	0.17
national	9	0.31	utilization	5	0.17
groves	9	0.31	park	5	0.17
Indonesia	8	0.28	resource	5	0.17
mountain	8	0.28	villagers	5	0.17
services	8	0.28	nature	5	0.17
minority	8	0.28	life	4	0.14

First step of networks

In the period of initial stage of Asia networks on the traditional forest knowledge and culture, three countries — Korea, China and Japan have conducted the joint symposium on the traditional Forest Knowledge in 2008. Sixteen countries had participated at the scientific conference until now. All participated experts in the network estimated around 200 personals. In 2012, the Asian Center for Traditional Forest Knowledge was established in National Institute of Forest Science Korea (NIFoS, former KFRI, Korea Forest Research Institute) The Center contributed to share the information of TFK and support new platform for Asian countries since 2014 (Fig. 2). Korea and China hosted the conference three times and Japan hosted two times respectively. Each conference consisted of one or two day symposium and one night-two day's field tour. Participators in each country exchanged information on the traditional forest related knowledge and culture in each local area. This chance provided the mutual comprehension on the different and particular forest knowledge and culture (Table 3).

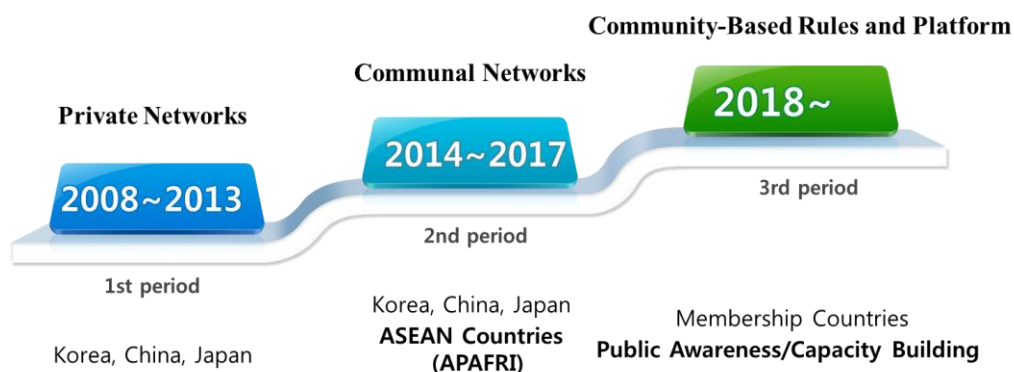


Fig. 2. Three periods of Asian network of traditional forest knowledge

Table 3. Host country, place and number of participated countries of each conference until the 10th conference

Conference	Year/Month	Country	Place	Participated countries
1 st	2008 (Oct.)	Korea	Seoul	5 countries
2 nd	2009 (Nov.)	China	Kunming	7 countries
3 rd	2010 (Dec.)	Japan	Kanazawa	6 countries
4 th	2011 (Nov.)	Korea	Jeju	4 countries
5 th	2012 (Nov.)	China	Yangling	7 countries
6 th	2013 (Nov.)	Japan	Miyazaki	6 countries
7 th	2014 (Sep.)	Korea	Jeonju/Wanju	8 countries
8 th	2015 (Nov.)	China	Nanjing/Taixing	8 countries
9 th	2016 (Sep.)	Indonesia	Bogor	6 countries
10 th	2017 (Oct)	Korea	Seoul	11 countries

Financial support from NIFoS

NIFoS has started financial support through APAFRI to the networks for activation of the related research and networking on TFK since 2012. The network had acted the research links well among Renmin University of China and Seoul National University of Korea. However, NIFoS's fund such as ODA should pay the national institutes or public level organization not private one. Finally, NIFoS would suggest new frameworks for ANTFOK as bellows in Fig. 3. IUFRO working group 9.03.04 and 0.5 deal with the traditional forest knowledge in tropical and temperate regions. If possible, the Asian Networks of Traditional Forest Knowledge would be connected with IUFRO WG above. The present committee members including researchers and professors may act as an advisor committee for the ANTFOK. ACTFOK play a role on executing the ANTFOK with technical committee, conference committee, advisory committee and cooperatives of APAFRI and AFoCO.



Fig. 3. Proposed modified networks scheme (ANTFOK, Asian Networks for Traditional Forest Knowledge)

Future direction of ANTFOK

Most of Asian countries experienced a sudden urbanization, development pressure. Those situations resulted in the decreasing population in indigenous local communities (ILC) at specific areas. TFK plays a very important role in conserving and sustaining the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local community. Also, TFK of indigenous peoples and local communities contribute to enhancing biodiversity. To use limited resources and overcome this changing situation, we would suggest the importance of TFK not only in the management of useful resources, but also in the excavation of invaluable spirits embedded on the commons of Asian forests. We should consider the new paradigm based on TFK in each country, and share the information on TFK from a local community and regional step to Asian level. Traditional forest knowledge has been highlighted at all over the world during IUFRO related meeting. Therefore, the importance of traditional forest knowledge has been overemphasizing; however, we are now at a primary level in sharing and applying the TFK on forest management in the field. In the early and mid-20th century, all countries have experienced the common problem such as rapid urbanization coupled with rural exodus due to occidental civilization and institutions. Rapid urbanization has caused to declining traditional forest knowledge and culture transcended at rural community from generation to generation. However, we can consider the excavation of the traditional spirits and way remnant in the forests all over the world. Each country has its own typical culture handed down from old generation. Therefore, we need to find the similarities and dissimilarity of

TFK among local, regional and global level. We need to establish the criteria and indicator of TFK to compare the TFK of each country. NIFoS Korea has been conducted the preliminary tentative Criteria and Indicators to categorize and construct the database on TFK to activate the research and conduct the related policy.

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