

Managing Renewable Natural Resources in Developing Countries

Edited by
Charles W. Howe



Managing Renewable Natural Resources in Developing Countries

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Much of the improvement in material living standards in the Third World is attributable to the exploitation of nonrenewable resources such as fossil fuels and metallic ores, and to the exploitation of renewable resource systems at rates that cannot be sustained. This state of affairs presents a serious problem for the future; just as may be the case for the developed regions, a long-term perspective shows clearly that Third World countries must return to a greater dependence on renewable resources while also avoiding irreversible degradation of renewable systems and learning to manage these systems more productively.

The authors of this book examine major issues in the four main renewable resource sectors--fisheries, forestry, agriculture, and water--with emphasis on the problems and benefits attendant to various use patterns and management practices.

Dr. Charles W. Howe is professor of economics at the University of Colorado. He has been a visiting professor of economics at the University of Nairobi, Kenya, and director of the Water Resources Program for Resources for the Future, Inc., a Washington, D.C., research institute. He is author of Natural Resources Economics: Issues, Analysis, and Policy.



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Preface

The chapters of this book were originally given in a sequence of workshops in The Seminar on the Economics of Renewable Natural Resources sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fundación Chile in Santiago, Chile in December, 1980. The papers were so complementary, addressing an interlocked set of issues at the heart of development planning these days, that it seemed appropriate to expand them with the benefit of the seminar discussions and to publish them as a unit. The authors wish to thank the sponsoring agencies for the opportunity of working together in a stimulating environment, while emphasizing that the opinions expressed are those of the authors alone.

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