

GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS OF SOUTHERN U.S. FOREST SECTOR



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
Warnell School of Forestry
& Natural Resources

A McIntire-Stennis project initiated to help enhance the role of the southern U.S. forest sector as the leading global supplier of forest products and services.

The southern U.S. is home to the largest forest sector in the world. No other region or country supplies more wood products. Forest resources and wood-based industries are of great importance to the economy and society. These benefits occur in addition to a vast array of other ecosystem services provided by southern forests. Despite its position as the leading global wood supplier, the southern U.S. forest sector has faced several challenges. These range from changing local resource conditions such as forest fragmentation to global factors such as international competition.

This project is assessing the global competitiveness of the southern wood products industry, analyzing the degree of integration of global forest products markets, analyzing timber stumpage markets based on detailed timber sales data, assessing the role and challenges faced by large family forest landowners, and analyzing urban forest carbon project opportunities and supply of ecosystem services in urban and ex-urban forests. The project is developing new policy approaches to enhance the competitiveness of the southern U.S. forest sector.



About McIntire-Stennis

The McIntire-Stennis program, a unique federal-state partnership, cultivates and delivers forestry and natural resource innovations for a better future. By advancing research and education that increases the understanding of emerging challenges and fosters the development of relevant solutions, the McIntire-Stennis program has ensured healthy resilient forests and communities and an exceptional natural resources workforce since 1962.



COLLABORATION

We are collaborating with scientists at other universities and state and federal agencies, forestry firms, and forestry consultants to advance our understanding of global forces affecting competitiveness.



3 States

Cooperators in Georgia, Mississippi, and North Carolina have contributed to the project.

IMPACT

Important findings for policy formulation help develop programs and regulations conducive towards increasing efficiency and economic and environmental sustainability of forest sector operations.



Deep understanding of domestic and international markets is critical for realizing competitive forest returns.



Economic effects of improved understanding of global threats and opportunities helps maintain and enhance the position of southern U.S. forest sector in global markets.



Forest landowners and resource managers will benefit from improved understanding of markets for their products and better policy designs aimed at helping address most pertinent challenges.