

The Relationship between the change of Satoyama in Japan and Forest in Southeast Asia: A Case Study of Incense Material

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In the mountainous areas of mainland Southeast Asia, local residents have actively used various forest resources since old times. In Laos, from the middle of 1990s, people have started to gather one species of tree bulk in response to Thai middlemen of agro-forest products. The tree bulk was *Tabunoki* trees (*Machilus* spp.), which is used as glue for incense such as joss stick and mosquito coils. As natural *Tabunoki* trees are now hard to find in the forest, people are trying to plant it in their land. In Laos, many *Tabunoki* bulks are purchased by foreign middlemen and then sent to China and Japan.

In Japan, originally *Tabunoki* trees were collected from *Satoyama* environment mainly in Western Japan, especially the coastal regions of Kyushu. However, *Satoyama* in Japan had been decreasing its use because of conversion energy from wood and coal to fossil fuel from 1950s. At the same time, conversion of forest species from broad-leaved trees to conifer has been implemented by forest policy in Japanese government. As a result, few locals use *Satoyama* and decrease in production of wood powder made from *Tabunoki* trees.

In this presentation, I would like to focus on *Tabunoki* tree to understand the relationship between forest use in Southeast Asia and forest demand in Japan, and try to clarify the structure of mutual dependence between the regions.

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