

FACTORS THAT DRIVE CHANGES IN THE AIM, ORIENTATION, AND PRIORITY OF SHIFTING CULTIVATION IN ROUTA FROM UPLAND RICE PRODUCTION TO LAND TENURE

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ABSTRACT

In the past, the main aim, orientation, and priority of shifting cultivation were how to produce food, especially upland rice and other foodstuffs to meet daily needs. In addition, shifting cultivation was still applying rotary and fallow systems, where the cultivators abandoned their areas to open up others for the following farming period. In contrast to the above, our research in Routa showed the opposite results. The main aim, orientation and priority of shifting cultivation in Routa are now to acquire farmland. In addition, shifting cultivators in Routa are not familiar with both rotary and fallow systems. Changes in the aim, orientation, and priority of shifting cultivation from producing upland rice to land tenure are driven by the presence of investors, migrants from the South, and the increasing number of new wealthy people in Routa who practice land tenure, which then encourages shifting cultivators to get involved and involve themselves in land tenure contestation. This research used descriptive-qualitative approach.

Keywords: Shifting cultivation, land tenure, and adaptation and change in aim, orientation, and major priorities.