Public Lecture:
Avoiding Corruption in Schemes to Reduce Carbon Emissions from Deforestation: A Framework for Analysis

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12.00-1.00pm, Monday 28 February 2011
Theatre 2, Hedley Bull Centre, Liversidge Street, ANU

There is an increasing international interest in schemes to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradations (REDD). There is also concern about the risks of corruption in such schemes. The idea of paying people not to cut their trees down is simple to explain, but is also seems simple to cheat. Some of the countries signing up for REDD have poor reputations for corruption in government.

Peter Larmour pairs diagnosis of corruption with the cures they suggest. If corruption is a rational choice, for example, then it may be cured by changed incentives. If it is the result of bad systems, then it may be cured by administrative reform. And so on. Peter then considers how these various diagnosis might apply to REDD schemes, and suggest way of reducing corruption risks in them.

The project is part of an ARC grant with Luca Tacconi, Frank Jotzo, Emma Aisbett and PHD students Patrick Doupe and Fiona Downs.

Peter Larmour teaches a course on ‘Corruption and Anti Corruption’ in the Crawford School, and is co-editor with Barry Hindess and Luis de Sousa of Governments NGOs and Anti Corruption: the New Integrity Warriors (Routledge 2008). His book, Interpreting Corruption: Culture and Politics in the Pacific Islands will be published by the University of Hawaii Press later this year.

The Transnational Research Institute on Corruption (TRIC) was established in 2010 as a cross disciplinary Centre to bring together ANU expertise in the study of corruption. Its prime focus is research, though it will develop capacity on teaching about corruption and corruption prevention, as well as technical assistance. This is the first of a series of public lectures by TRIC for 2011.

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