

THE FUTURE OF NON-WOOD FOREST PRODUCTION

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Introduction

NWFPs include: All goods of biological origin other than wood derived from forests, other wooded lands and trees outside forests

- 1.2 B people dependent on NWFPs, 100 Million in India alone
- 90% living in extreme poverty
- Global Market – 10 B US\$
 - China – 3 B US\$
 - India – 0.6 B US\$

- 150 NWFPs in trade
- Value of NWFPs

Social : Poor, Tribal, Indigenous, Women, Children

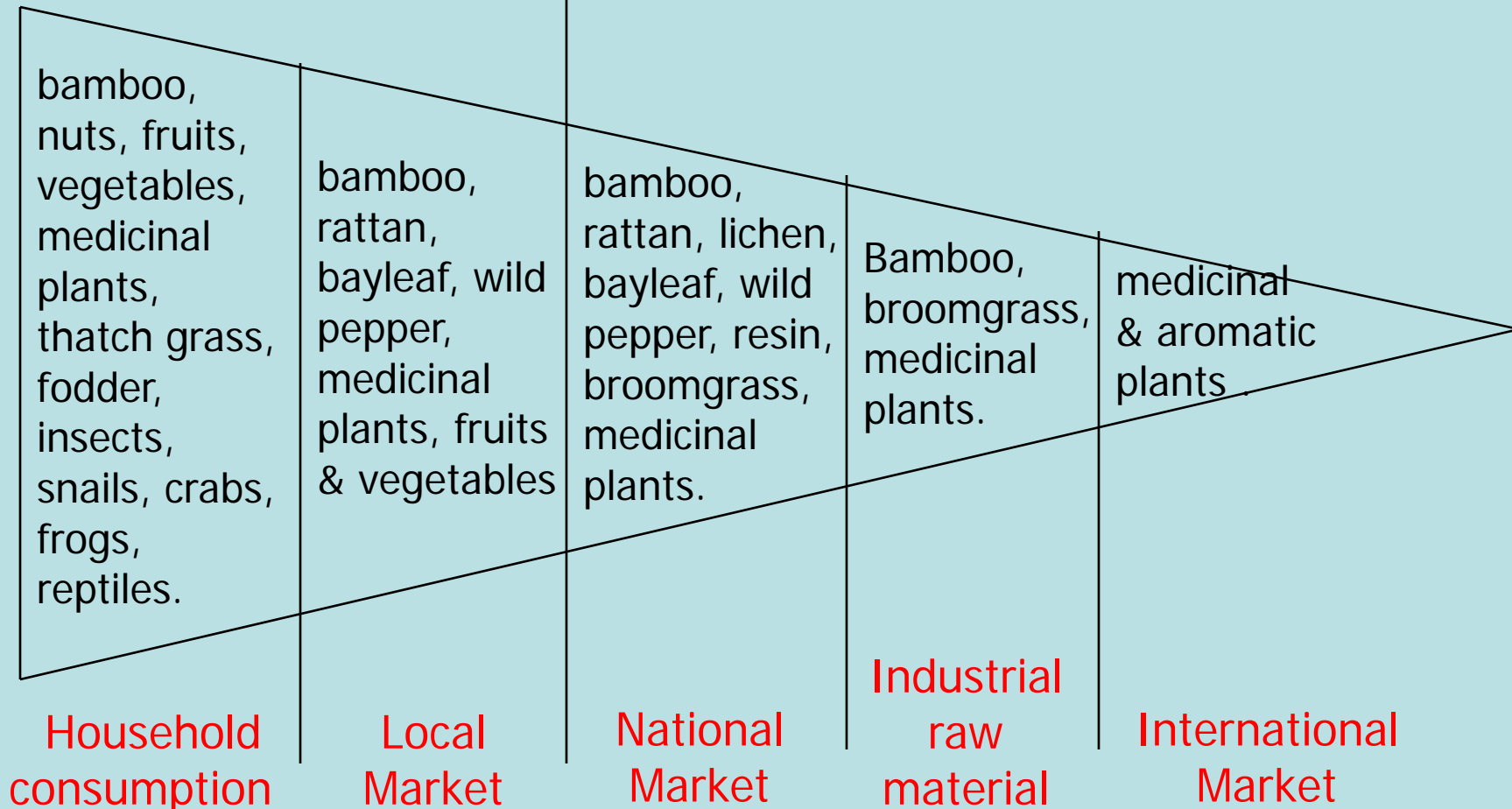
Economic: Food Security & Safety Net for Forest Dwellers Poor, Traders, Industrialists, Revenue to Governments

Ecological: Biodiversity, Incentive for forest conservation

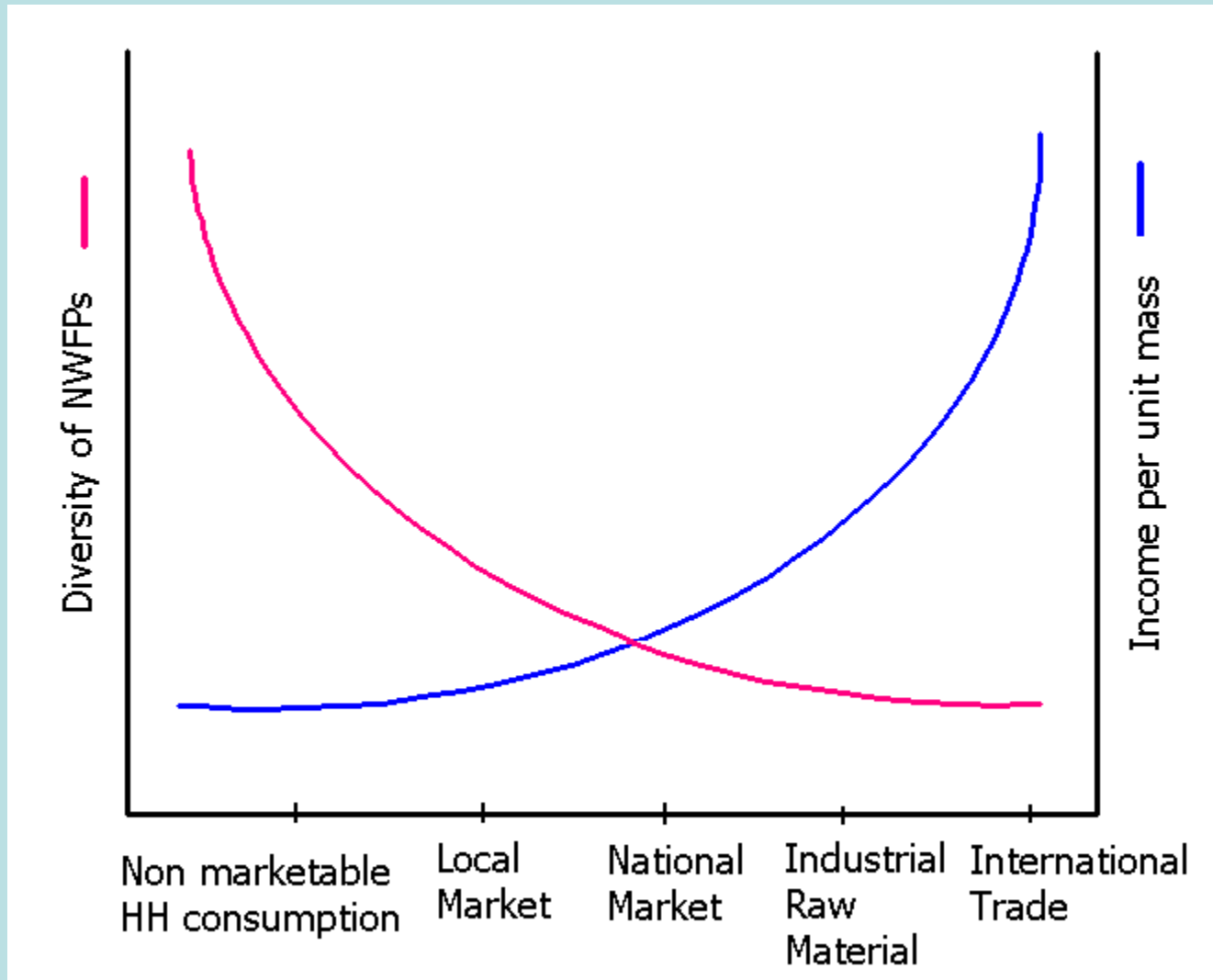
Subsistence and Commercial NWFPs

Subsistence NWFPs

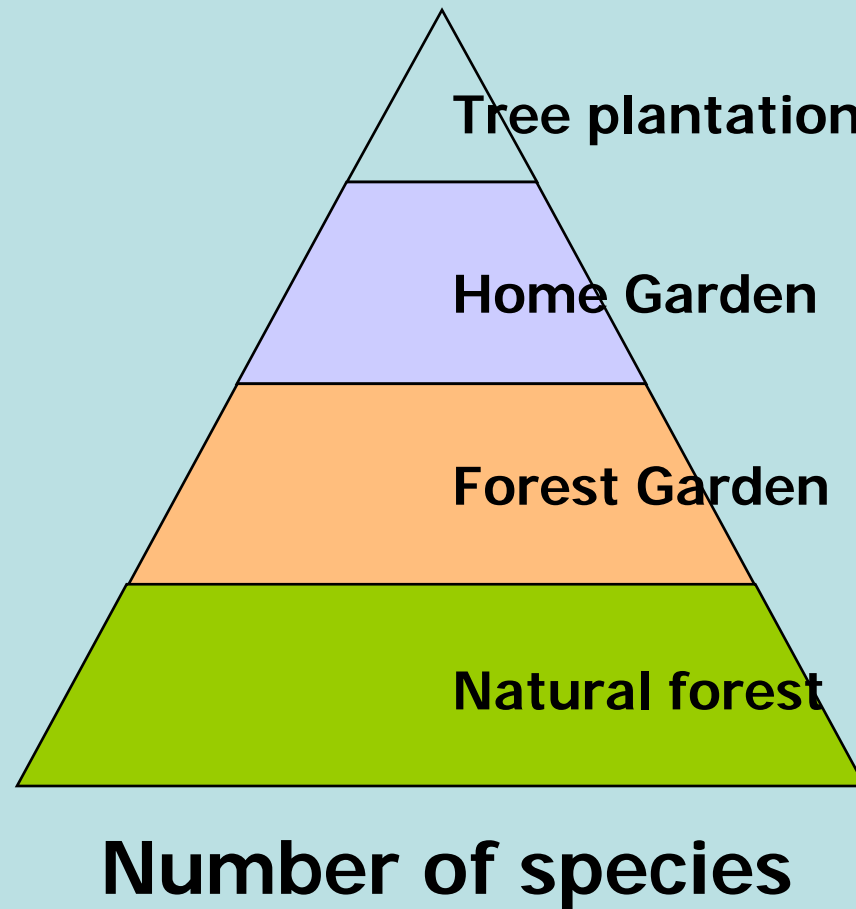
Commercial NWFPs



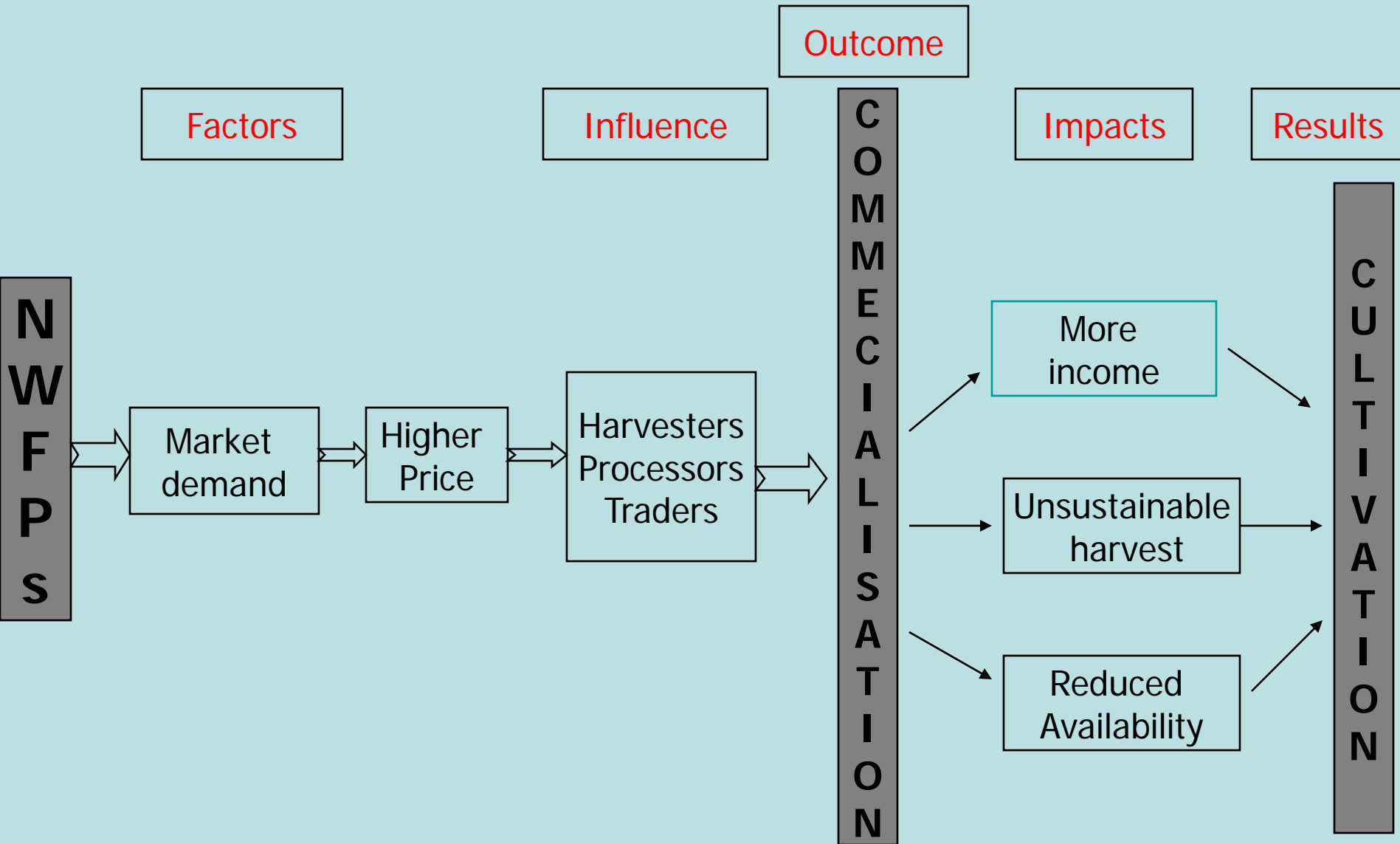
Diversity and Income relations



Distribution of NWFPs in forests across management gradient



Recent Trends in NWFP Sector



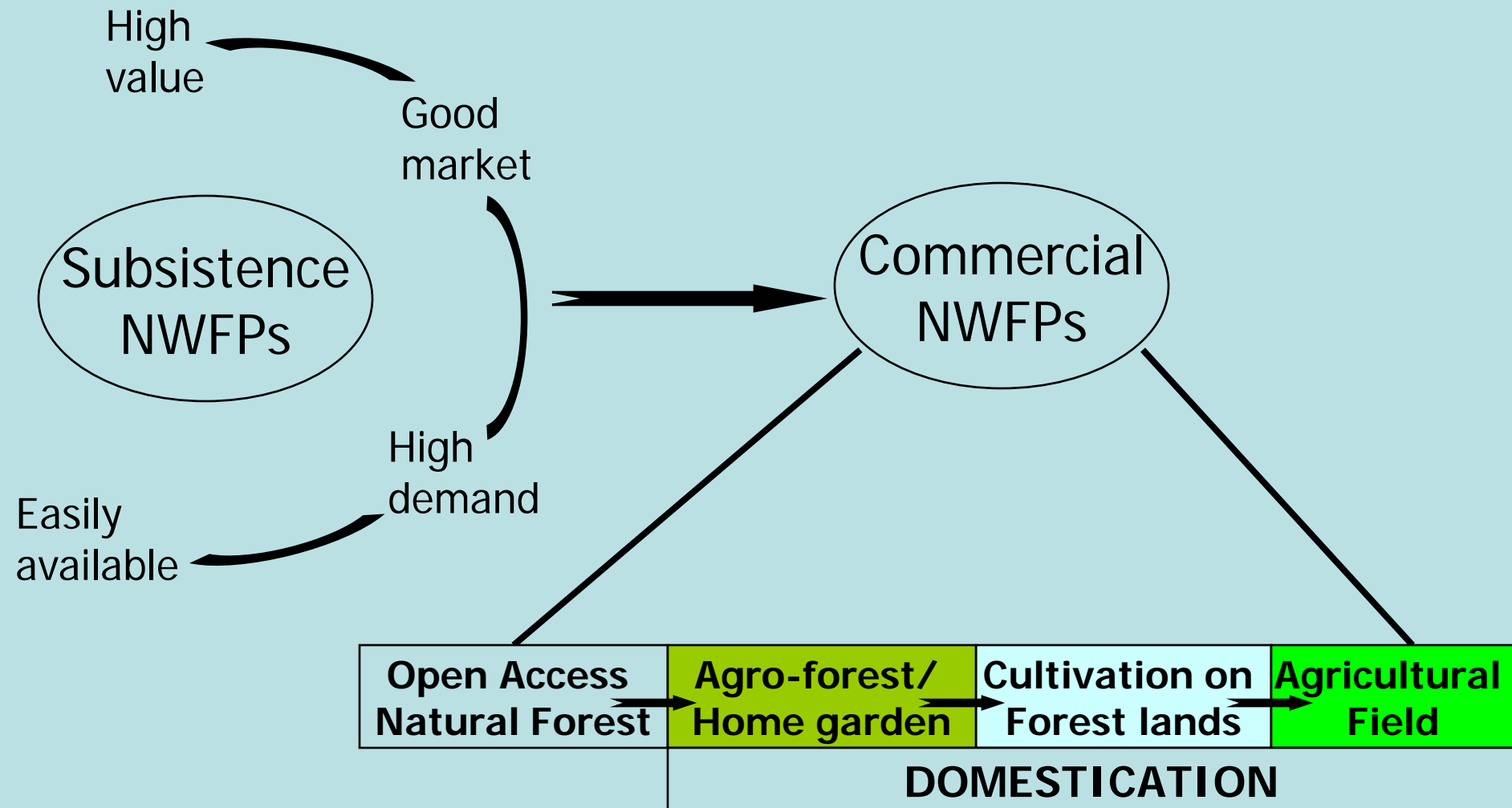
Implications of NWFP Commercialization.

- Distorted Benefits distribution
- Domestication of commercial NWFPs
- Weakening of traditional/customary management systems
- Unsustainable harvest practices
- Decline in importance of wild products
- Ecological effects

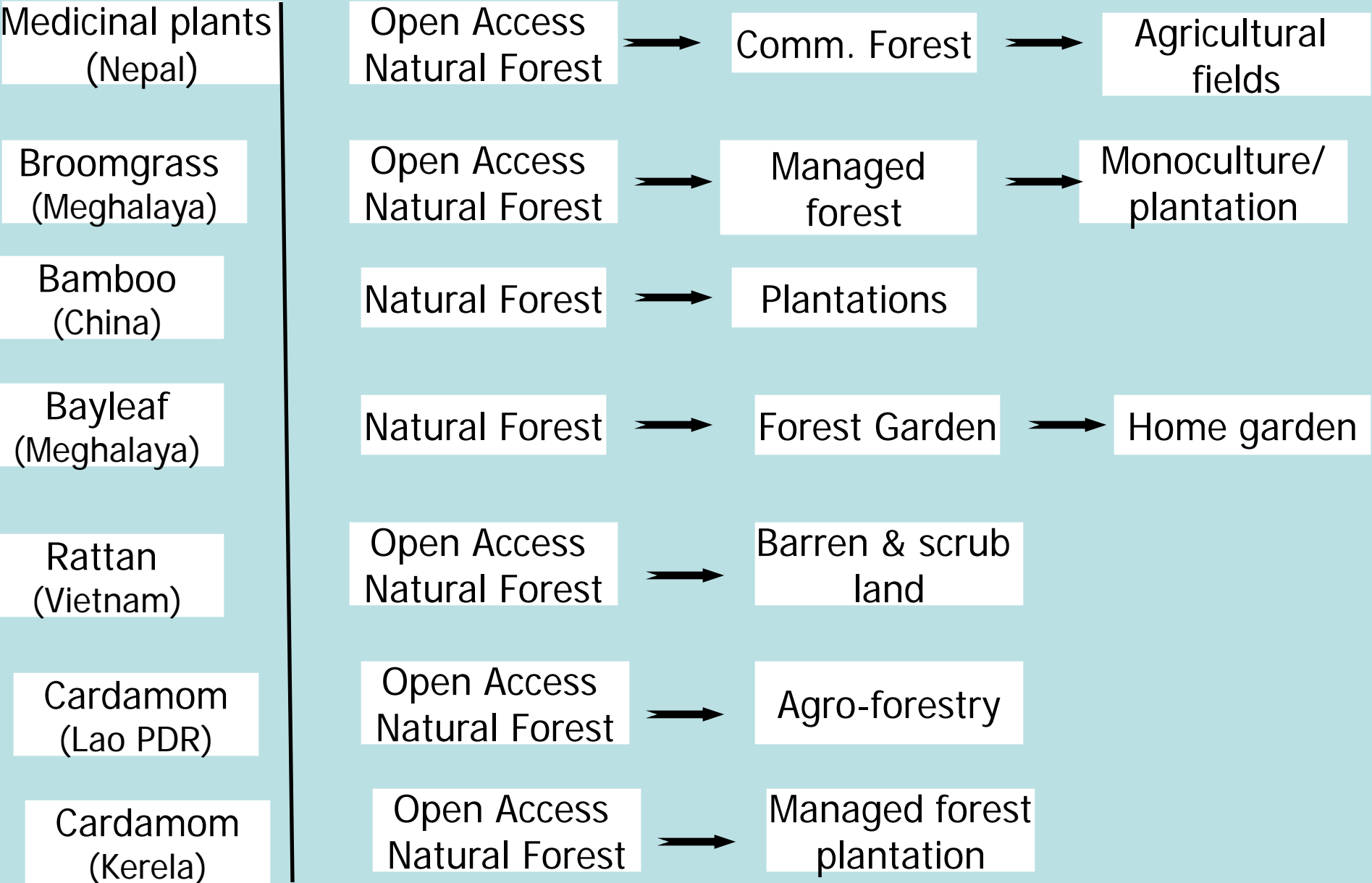
Sustainability of NWFP Commercialization

	Stage I Extraction from Natural Forest	Stage II Cultivation on Forest Lands	Stage III Cultivation on Agricultural Lands
Deforestation	Low	High	Nil
Production	Low	High	High
Sustainability	High	Moderate	Low
Productivity	Low	Moderate	High
Cash income	Low	Moderate	High
Equity & Gender	High	Moderate	Low

Future Options of Non Wood Forest Production



Market driven intensification of human interventions



Nepal : Cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants

- Cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) in the community and private land in Karnali zone in Nepal
- Grown along with the agriculture crops
- The NWFP cultivation 4.5 to 5.3 times more beneficial than agriculture crop

Source: Bhandari et al, 2006



Domestication of Bamboo in China (Anji County forest sector)

- 64% of county farmers managed bamboo as part of their daily activities.
- Increased economic return
- Total export of bamboo products amounted to US\$ 56.3 million
- Bamboo plantations had positive ecological effects as bamboo stands can be established on degraded lands
- Decrease in the local people's dependency on natural forests (e.g., for firewood).



Cultivation of Broomgrass in Meghalaya

- Important source of income for people of War and Bhoi areas
- High economic returns to the growers or collectors.
- Annual production of broomgrass in 2003-04 was 70,696.9 MT
- Cultivated in Shifting cultivation land



Assuring Sustainable Production of NWFP

- Promote certification of NWFPs
- Encourage cultivation
- Inventorying and research
- Strengthen institutional support and policies
- Encourage traditional conservation and management practices
- Introduce better harvest and processing technology
- Reduce storage and transportation losses
- Ensure equitable sharing of profits

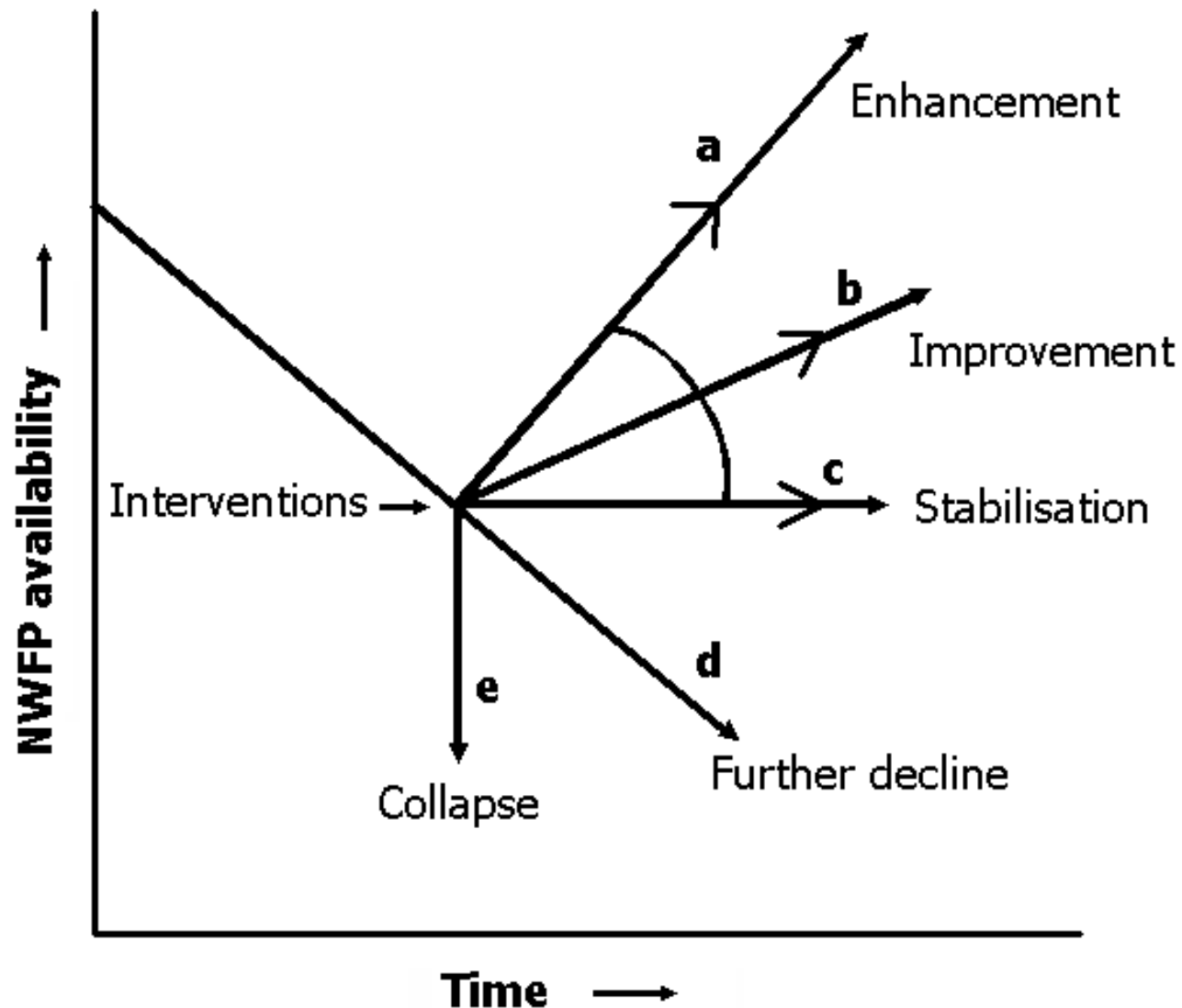
Key Factors affecting Success or Failure of NWFP based Enterprise

Success

- Availability of road, local market, trade chain
- Demand > supply for major products e.g. broom grass, bay leaf, bamboo
- Skilled labour for handicraft and industries
- Favourable policies

Failure

- Trade restrictions
- High royalties and taxations on forest products
- Poor access to market information
- Little or no access to modern technology for value addition & credit



Ensuring NWFP availability through external interventions.



Thank You