The Global Status of Genetically Engineered Tree Development. A Growing Threat

A recent report from the Campaign to Stop GE Trees alerts that the global release of genetically engineered (GE) trees is closer than it has ever been. The report exposes how using GE trees in plantations, and even releasing GE trees into the wild, is being proposed despite the serious risks and vast uncertainties that would impact forests and forest-dependent populations. Most current GE tree research is driven by the pursuit of more profitable plantations for industrial purposes such as pulp and paper production, timber and biofuel production. Moreover, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification scheme has begun a process that could allow certified companies to profit from GE trees. The report alerts that such decisions by certification schemes could pave the way for the use of GE trees globally. Read the report in English, Portuguese and Spanish here.