Critical analysis of the forest policy development in Argentina and some incidences on the Delta del Paraná transformations

Abstract: The paper aims to analyze the development of forestry policies in Argentina and trace some reflections about the Delta del Paraná socio-economic transformations due to these policies.

Our revision showed that forestry is one of the agro-industrial subsectors that has been subject of an unusual un-interrupted economic and technological support by the State for more than seventy years. Moreover, the revision of laws and promotion programs enabled us to identify, that some constituent elements of the discursive argumentation as well as of some instruments of application of these policies remain valid from the period of Substitution of Imports (1930-1970). Based on a qualitative analysis of documents and interviews it has been possible to observe that a diagnostic based on a negative trade balance, the need of the industrial and labor development, still orient the definition of forestry expansion instruments in the current public policies such as the Law of Promotion of Cultivated Forests (Law No. 25080 passed in 1999 and extended until 2019)

At the territorial scale, in the last decades a rapid process of socioeconomic transformation in the Paraná Delta was registered, which, according to several studies, correlates among other factors with the expansion of forestry started in the 1970s. An increase of the scale of production and the emergence of new industrial producers with high technology and capital investment correlate with the disappearance of family producers. In this context, the paper also explores the incidence of the public policy frameworks in the Delta del Paraná region.