

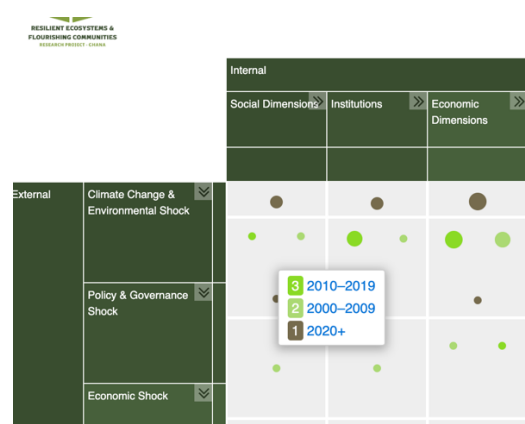
Evidence Gap Map User Guide

The REFLoC Evidence Gap Map (EGM) was developed by Leiden University students and staff through a 2025 Research Clinic to systematically organise and visualise the current state of research on the resilience and wellbeing of forest-dependent communities (FDCs) across key internal and external dimensions identified during the scoping and screening process. The primary aim of the Evidence Gap Map is to support community members, researchers, and policymakers in understanding the current state of knowledge and to identify priorities for future research. This map is unique in its comprehensive integration of diverse research methods, geographic focuses, and types of research within a single platform.

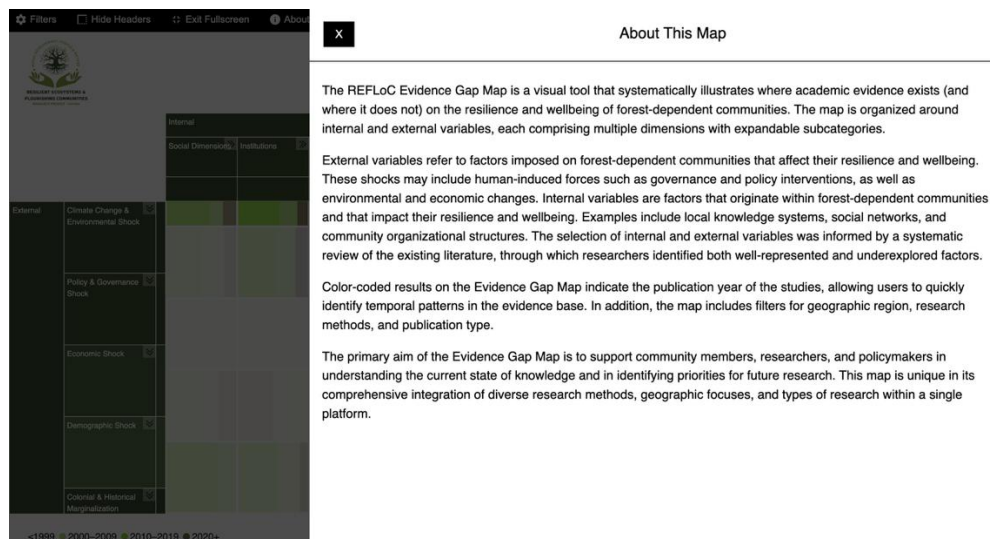
“Internal variables” originate within forest-dependent communities and impact their resilience and wellbeing. Examples include local knowledge systems, social networks, and community organizational structures. “External variables” refer to factors imposed on FDCs that affect their resilience and wellbeing. These shocks may include human-induced forces such as governance and policy interventions, as well as environmental and economic changes.

The selection of variables was grounded in the conceptual framework we developed earlier in the project, ensuring that each dimension and subcategory reflects the core constructs emerging from the literature. Studies were coded according to predefined criteria, including dimension (internal vs. external), thematic subcategories (e.g., under social dimensions: relationships, group cohesion, collective action), publication year, geographic focus, methodological approach, and study type (empirical, theoretical, or methods-focused). In total, 97 records were included in the final EGM. Each article was screened and classified consistently using this structure to ensure transparency and replicability. The purpose of the map is to show where evidence exists, but also to highlight where gaps remain across dimensions, time periods, and contexts.

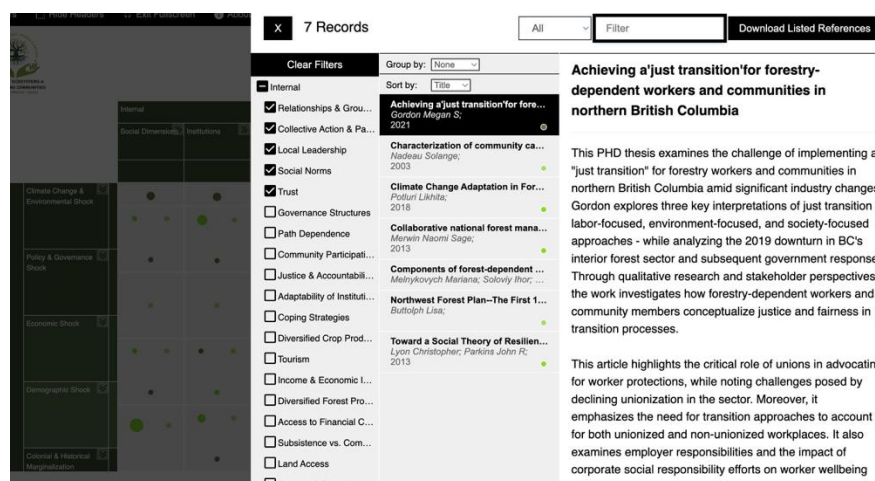
Visually, the map is designed to be intuitive. The EGM is hosted as an HTML file, making it fully interactive. When first opened, the map displays the overarching internal and external dimensions. Users can expand each category to view subcategories. Hovering over icons reveals explanations of what each quadrant represents, supporting ease of navigation.



A short introductory description appears at the top to explain the purpose and scope of the EGM.



Users can click on any of the 97 records to access key details, including the study title, abstract, and relevant classification information.



The map also includes filter functions, allowing users to sort studies by publication year, methodology, geographic region, and study type.

Filters

update

close

Filter mode

☒ Default (OR within sections, AND across sections)
 ☐ And
 ☐ Or

Filters

☐ Time Period

☐ ≤1999
 ☐ 2000–2009
 ☐ 2010–2019
 ☐ 2020+

☐ Method

☐ Case study
 ☐ Ethnography
 ☐ Household survey
 ☐ Key-informant interviews
 ☐ Mixed methods
 ☐ Quasi-experimental
 ☐ Randomized experiment
 ☐ Program evaluation/monitoring
 ☐ Policy analysis
 ☐ Systematic review / Map

Clear Filter

About

View Records (9)

tutions

Economic Dimensions

Demogra Dimensions

This structure allows users to explore patterns in the evidence base and quickly identify concentrations of research as well as underexplored areas.

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