

Technology Fact Sheet

Forest Fire control by geographical positioning system (GPS) and remote sensingⁱ

1) Technology description

The geographical positioning system (GPS) consists of three parts: signal receivers, handy self-recording device, and computer with data processing software. The self-recording devices will collect data at specific positions and send signals to the receivers; the signals will be coded and sent to computer, where they will be processed and synthesized by software.

2) Socio-economic and environmental benefits

- Reducing costs and increasing efficiency in wildfire control.
- Meeting the demand for continuous, up-to-date information on forest status in large and complex areas.

3) Status of technology

GPS and GIS technologies have been applied in many industrial fields, not just forestry. Technology improvements have been new advances of great help for the executive management and other jobs.

4) Application potential

This technology is a priority in forest fire control as it can meet the demand for access to information of a large area.

5) Barriers

- Requiring qualified technical staff.
- High prices due to expensive satellite images.

6) Costs

Implementation and technology application costs

- Currently there is no research that shows the cost of implementing the technology application per unit area of forest.

Incremental costs to adapt to climate change (compared to conventional technology)

- Undefined.

ⁱ This fact sheet has been extracted from TNA Report - Adaptation for Vietnam. You can access the complete report from the TNA project website <http://tech-action.org/>