



ClimDev-Africa

Deliberating REDD+ institutions and governance in Africa

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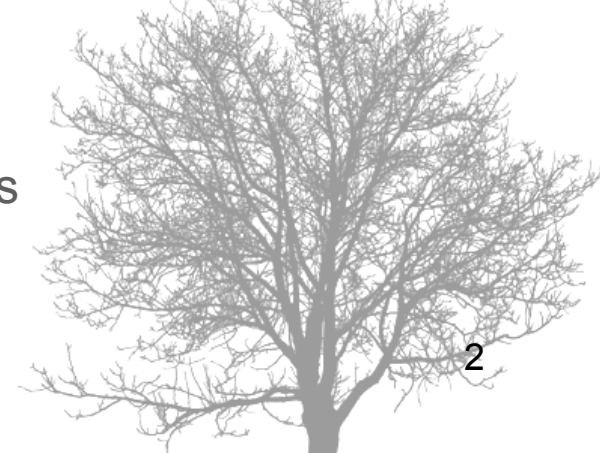
Wageningen University, the Netherlands

17-19 October, 2011



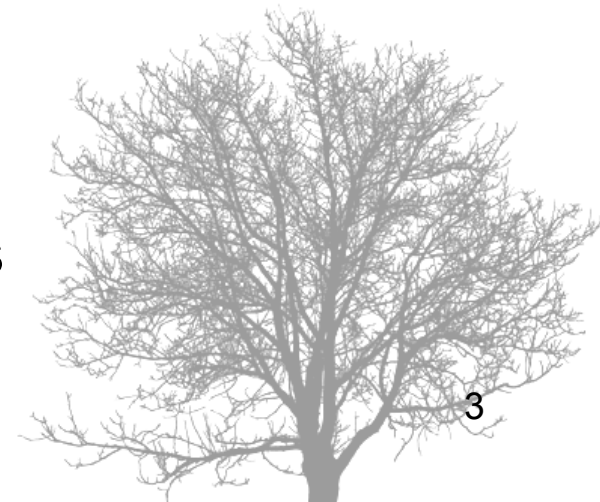
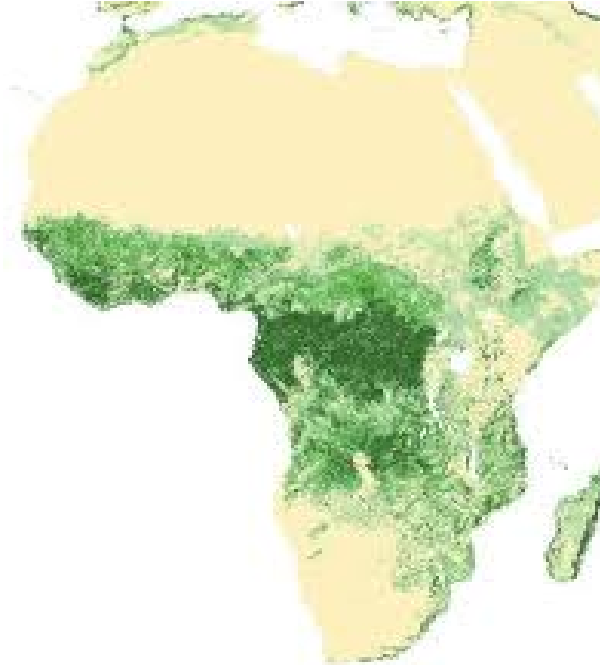
The context of REDD+

- REDD+ mechanism: *reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries* (UNFCCC, 2008)
 - Originated from the idea of “Avoided Deforestation” proposed to the UNFCCC in 2005 by a group of rainforest countries including a few African countries
 - Incentives for developing countries to protect and better manage their forest resources
 - cheap way of mitigating climate change
 - Many African countries have expressed their interests in the mechanism



Is REDD+ possible in Africa?

- African forests cover 650million ha \approx 17% of world's forest
- Deforestation rate at 0.5% p.a. \approx 3.4million ha lost annually (2000 - 2010)
- Weak legal and institutional framework
- Growing interest in sustainable forest management (e.g. Congo Basin forests)
- Urgency to contribute to global mitigation effort through REDD+
- Increasing awareness of role of institutions and governance

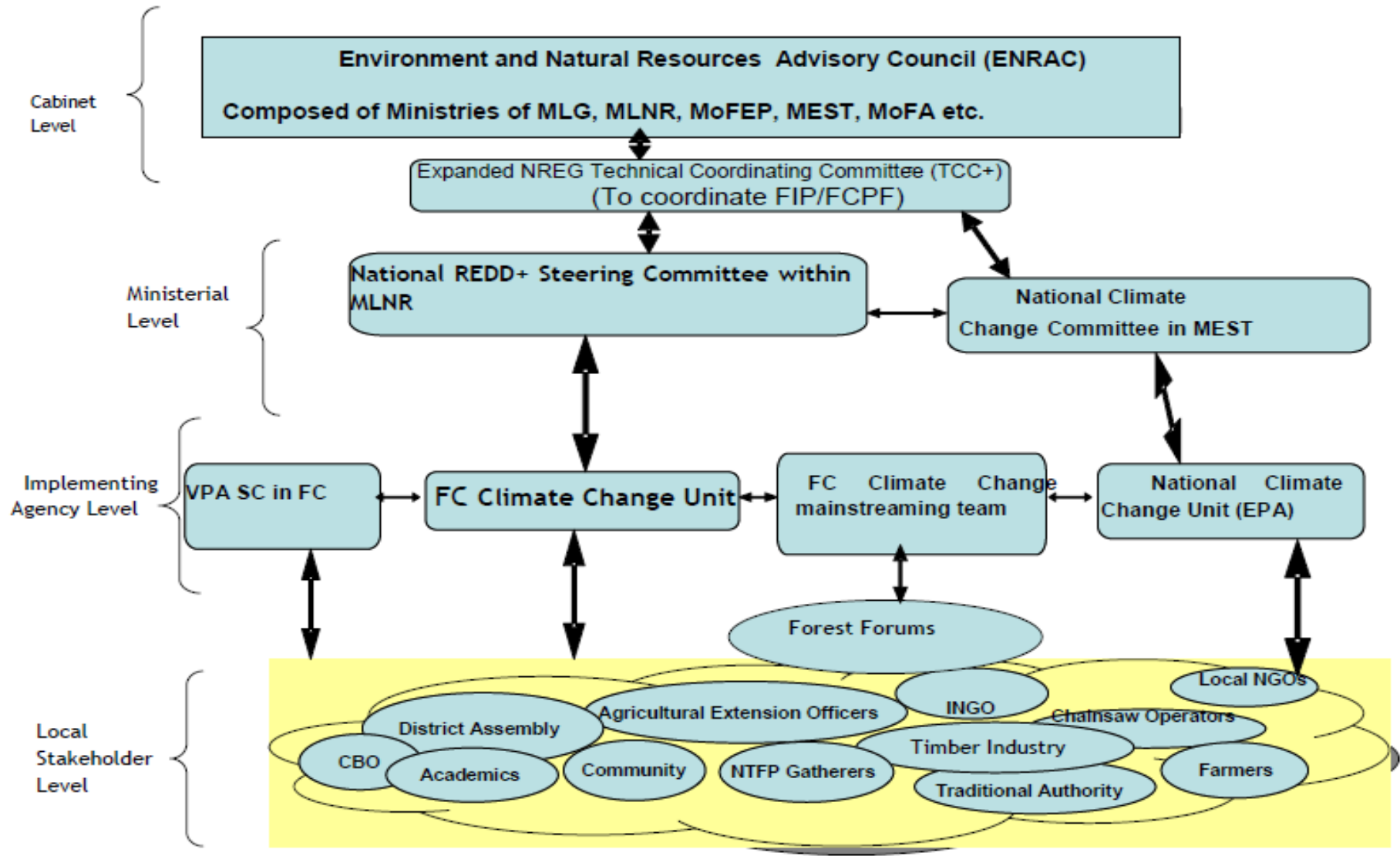


The case of Ghana and DRC

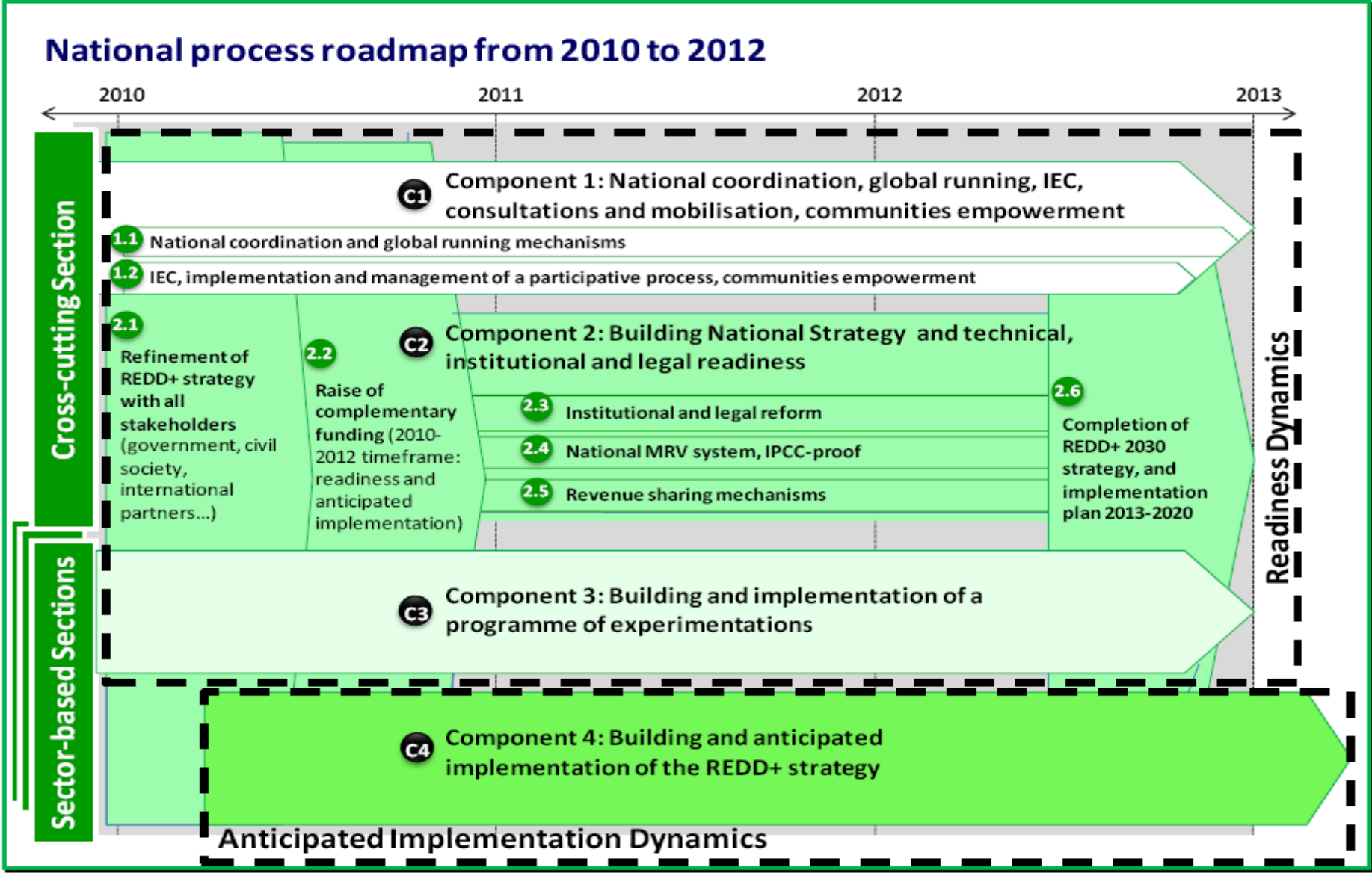
	Ghana	DRC
Forest data		
-Forest cover	4.9 million ha	154 million ha
-% of land area	22 %	68%
-Deforestation rate (%)	2.1%	0.2%
-Carbon stock	77 tons per ha	127 tons per ha
Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small- and large-scale permanent agriculture - Infrastructural development - Timber logging activities - Cocoa farming - Population pressures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shifting cultivation - Fuel wood consumption - Commercial logging and timber production - Illegal logging
Institutional challenges to forestry development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor forest stewardship and governance - Weakly implemented and conflicting laws - Land dispute challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Past civil and social conflicts - Poor law enforcement and capacity needs - Inadequate investment flows
REDD+ policy strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated forest and natural resources management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable forestry management
Expected REDD+ outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment flows for sustainable development - Institutional and policy reforms - Poverty reduction and economic development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic development e.g. contribution to GDP growth - Poverty reduction - Biodiversity conservation



Institutional linkages for REDD+ design in Ghana



REDD+ policy strategy for DRC



Source: DRC's R-PP

Governing REDD+?

RESEARCH SYSTEM

ACTORS

- National research Orgs
- Universities
- Int'l research Orgs
- Capacity building orgs

POLICY SYSTEM

ACTORS

- Regional political bodies
- Government ministries
- Parliament e.g. CC Commissions
- Policy makers

LINKING ENVIRONMENT

- Institutions, Participation
- Incentives, Innovation policy,
- Political systems and instruments
- Stakeholder platforms

ACTORS

- Advocacy orgs
- Civil societies (Nat. & Int'l)
- Private sectors
- Local communities

What should we focus on?

- Engaging diverse **stakeholders** in the design and implementation of REDD+ projects and policies
 - National rules and guidelines should be designed to structure roles and responsibilities of stakeholders
- Improving **forest governance** is central to maximizing returns from REDD+
 - Opportunities to learn from other **governance initiatives**: community forestry, certification schemes, FLEGT process
- Achieving **multiple benefits** (biodiversity conservation, poverty reduction) from the REDD+ mechanism should be given utmost policy attention



What should we focus on?

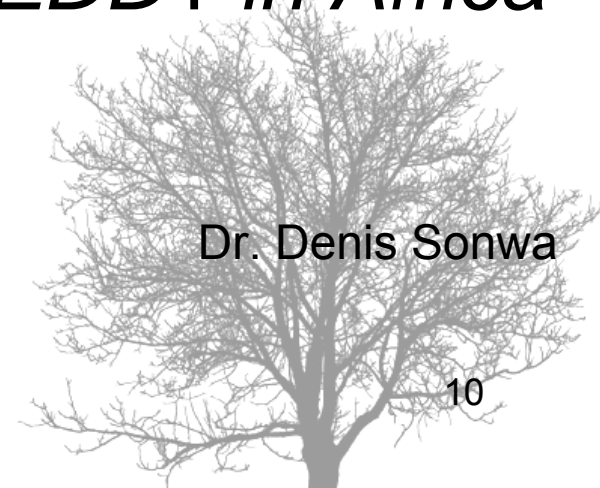
- Safeguarding the **rights and livelihoods** of forest-dependent communities
 - Guaranteeing forest access of indigenous peoples and livelihoods under the REDD+ regime
- **Capacity building** (technical and managerial) in MRV
 - Long term technical capacity needed for carbon accounting
- **Intersectoral coordination** of multiple sectors (forest, agriculture, energy, water, etc) involved in the REDD+ process
 - REDD+ should be given a multi-sectoral approach since the drivers of forest loss are often outside the forest sector



Final word !!!

The idea behind the REDD+ mechanism is simple and attractive. I believe its potential success in Africa would be to the extent that it delivered tangible benefits to the continent. Unfortunately, there is always a cost before every benefit. The cost of doing REDD+ in Africa is governance!

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Thank you

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