

GHANA REDD READINESS PREPARATION PROPOSAL (R-PP)



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Overview of Ghana R-PP

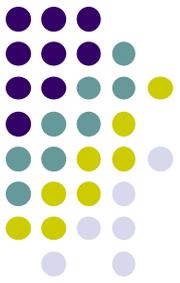


Ghana's Approach to REDD+

- Ghana has opted for REDD+ which is a complex concept that is evolving at both local and international level.
- Stakeholder consultation and participation will be continuous in all phases to make the REDD+ process country-driven.
- Ghana's R-PP is a first step in the REDD+ capacity building process and presents an overview of the current situation, the challenges and steps towards developing a national REDD+ strategy.



Overview of Ghana R-PP (contd.)



- The aim of the R-PP is to act as a proposal for:
 - National REDD+ management arrangements & intended consultations
 - Series of studies & research work for addressing REDD+ challenges
 - Policy reviews
 - Capacity building on REDD+
 - REDD+ strategy, implementation framework & demonstration activities
 - Reference Emission Level
 - MRV system etc.

to support Ghana's preparations for REDDplus over the coming years and become "REDDplus ready."

- This document should be seen as a living document to be updated as REDDplus evolves both within Ghana and internationally.

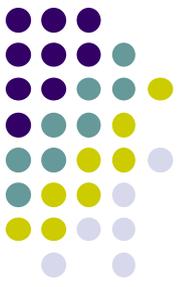


National Management Arrangements

- At the moment the role of the National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) is very clear and is properly positioned within the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. **(Elevation of NRSC)**
- The NRSC is Chaired by the Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and Co-chaired by Professor J. G. K. Owusu of KNUST. **(Approved mandate of NRSC)**
- A proposed Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Council (ENRAC) Chaired by the Vice President of Ghana will act as an important body for high level policy coordination and coherence for environment, natural resources, climate change and sustainable development. **(An apex body)**



Organisation of R-PP and Challenges

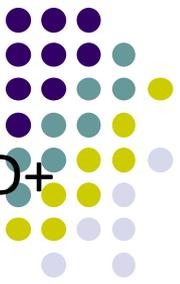


Component 1: Organisation and Consultation for REDD+ Readiness Preparations

- Consultation and Participation (C&P) activities were undertaken since May, 2009 during the development of the R-PP.
- These include principles for consultations for the R-PP implementation, lessons for REDD+ consultation and participation processes and a work plan for the R-PP implementation.
- Major outcomes of C&P for R-PP development:
 - Development of an outline C&P Plan for Preparation Phase
 - Identification of key drivers of deforestation & forest degradation
 - Identification of potential activities to address drivers with stakeholder mapping conducted to identify groups impacted
 - Revision of R-PP draft components by expert working groups and the NRSC
 - Consultation and Participation Working Group
 - Methodology Working Group
 - Strategy Working Group



Stakeholder Mapping & Consultation Process



- Key Stakeholders identified are those to be affected by REDD+ and those that will implement REDD+ activities and other interested parties:
 - Government – State level and statutory level with a focus on cross-sectoral linkages
 - Private Sector – timber industry and wood workers associations but also those involved in charcoal production, fuelwood collection, agriculture, and finance
 - Civil Society – with a focus on forest fringe communities
 - Local Communities (forest fringe communities), Traditional Chiefs & Traditional Councils
 - Development Partners

Further consultations were conducted in collaboration with NGO & Inter. NGOs (Tropenbos, Hatof Foundation, IUCNj Forest Dialogue, Forest Trends/Katoomba etc.) involving the National Houses of Chiefs, Regional Houses of Chiefs, Forest Dependent communities and civil society in the run up to Copenhagen and after. Ongoing process.



Issues raised at the consultation workshops



Concerns made by the Landowners and Traditional Authorities include:

- How would REDD+ activities provide most benefits to the nation and local people?
- Which part/ area or size of forests must be committed to REDD?
- What are the implications of REDD+ for timber revenues (local and national levels), given the high contribution of timber to the national economy?
- Forest reserves should rather be put under the REDD-plus initiatives
- High possibility for loss of arable lands to REDD-plus in off-reserve areas
- The 'plus' component of REDD-plus could lead to expansion of trees into their farms and hence reduce the availability of farm lands.
- The participants also expressed a wish to have cocoa plantations captured under REDDplus as cocoa trees can also capture carbon dioxide. (Ref: pages 26-31 of the annexes)



Issues Consulted on

Consultations focused on a variety of topics including:

- Scope and nature of REDD+
- The R-PP Process, including
 - REDD+ Consultation & Participation Plan
 - Consultation Structures
 - Responsibilities for Consultation and Participation
- Coordination with other land-use management programmes' consultation processes
- Cross-cutting issues including
 - Land Use Rights / Land Tenure Systems
 - Forest Governance
 - Benefit Sharing systems
- Coherence with other initiatives (FLEGT/VPA, NLBI (FAO/UNFF), GFP (IUCN), etc.).

The synergy with other forest governance initiatives that have consultation processes is recognized in the R-PP document (ref. page 33 of Annexes). The R-PP indicates the need to look into these other initiatives to benefit from their experiences and lessons regarding C&P processes.



Three Step Approach within Consultation and Participation



Step 1: Analysis, Preparation and Consultation

Step 2: Piloting and Testing

Step 3: Becoming Ready

2009 2010 2011 2012/13

Existing and new initiatives e.g. VPA, NLBI

Stakeholder led National awareness raising:
Government
Civil Society
Private Sector

National Expert Consultations

Allocation of Carbon Rights

Supply of Timber

National Working Groups

Local Market Timber Supply

REDD+ Friendly Cocoa Production

Low Carbon Agro-Indust Development

Charcoal and Fuelwood

Definition of Strategy

Continued Awareness Raising During consultation and information dissemination

Pilot Projects

Ongoing review of pilot projects

Stakeholder led and focus group consultation on legal and institutional changes

Establishment of Institutions, legislations, and Operational Plan

Continued Multi-stakeholder engagement

Consultation with key decision makers on main outputs of REDD+ Preparation Activities

International Negotiations

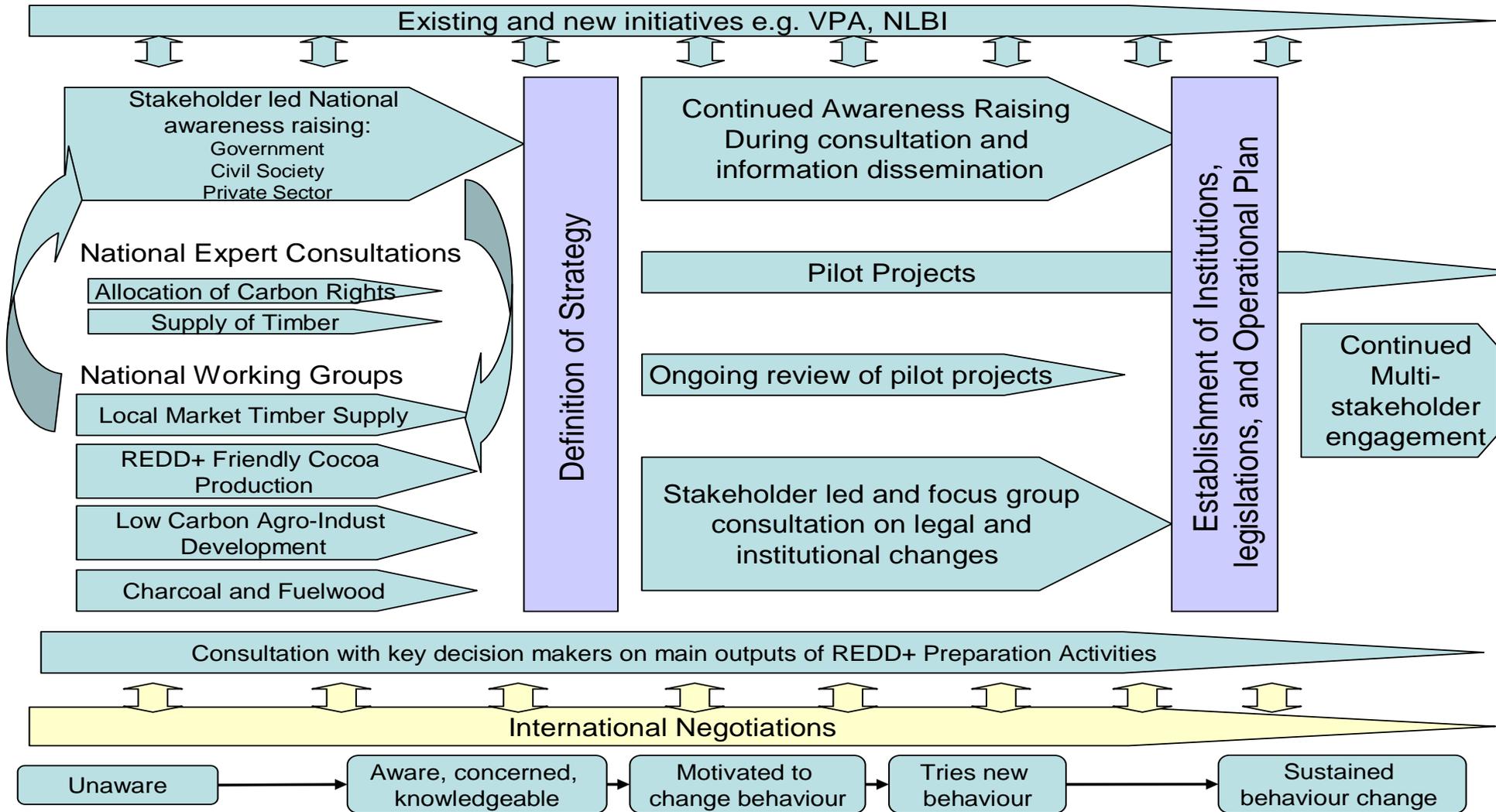
Unaware

Aware, concerned, knowledgeable

Motivated to change behaviour

Tries new behaviour

Sustained behaviour change



Component 2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation

The document highlights drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and the means to address them.

- Key drivers
 - Agricultural expansion & small scale agriculture
 - Unsustainable harvesting of timber (illegal logging & illegal chainsaw operations)
 - High demand for fuelwood and charcoal
 - Wildfires
 - Population & development pressures
 - Mineral exploitation & mining (large-scale & artisanal/galamsey)
- Underlying causes include policy & institutional, demographic changes and economic factors
- REDD+ strategy will complement existing efforts and processes (e.g. FLEGT/VPA, GPRS, NREG, Sustainable Land Management, Ghana Cocoa Carbon Initiative, CREMAs, National Forest Plantation Development Programme etc.)
- Need for broad cross-sectoral and cross-agency cooperation to address e.g. cocoa, mining etc.
- Separate strategies for:

Actions that require extensive inter-sectoral coordination

Actions that are mainly within one sector

Actions that are field based and experimental in nature



REDD+ STRATEGY OPTIONS



- The R-PP presents various REDD+ strategy options and proposes components of a research program to identify the appropriate options.
- The REDD+ components of the National Strategy for Ghana fall into 2 broad thematic areas:

Theme A: Timber policy and supply

1. On reserve timber supply) e.g. governance reform (VPA/FLEGT), carbon impacts
2. Off-reserve timber supply e.g. governance reform (VPA/FLEGT), carbon impacts, review of tree tenure to optimize incentives for conservation and tree planting, land tenure, carbon rights, .
3. Potential REDD+ payments for improved management, RIL and emission reduction performance

Theme B: Wider Aspects of Forest Policy including Agroforestry and Carbon Conserving Activities

5. Potential agriculture actions e.g. cocoa sector
6. Agro-industry
7. Sustainable Charcoal Production



REDD+ Implementation Framework



1. Development of a central management information depository to
 - streamline information
 - reduce overlaps and inefficiencies in the management of the REDD+ system
 - bring transparency to REDD+ progress.
2. Design of central carbon credit accounting registry, in order to track carbon emissions/removals monitoring (reporting protocols per Comp. 4)
3. Development of a national REDD+ credit 'buffer' system including best practice so that the government can help to insure forest credits from risks and losses
4. Designation of authority to give permits for REDD+ actions, including clarification of criteria for credits
5. Identification of priority areas for achieving REDD+ (low hanging fruit)
6. **Roles and responsibilities of existing and potential entities involved in policy formulation and implementation of REDD+ are clearly defined in the Annexes 1a-1 to 1a-8).**



Financial Management Arrangements



- When REDD+ strategies are selected, demonstration activities can test revenue distribution mechanisms to learn the best way to manage funds in local conditions to ensure fair and transparent benefit sharing.
- Existing constitutional formula for tree revenue sharing between District Assemblies, Stool and Traditional Authorities will be a basis.
- WB's financial management and procurement procedures will apply.
- Internally, GoG procurement rules will apply and Public Finance Management System will be used for disbursement control of funds.
- FCPF resources will build on the achievements of the first three years of sector linked budget support (NREG) to reduce transaction costs and improve transparency.

REDD+ funds from FCPF will be administered in the project mode using the World Bank guidelines. There will be a systematic process to examine institutional arrangements and financial mechanisms for REDD+ with the support of a new Climate Network initiative. MoFEP's role and experience with sector budget support and MTEF preparation and application is essential.

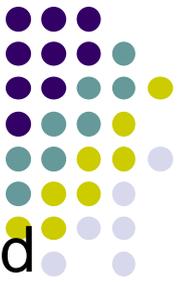


2d. Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA)

- Ghana has an established procedure for strategic environmental assessment undertaken by EPA.
- Other work is proposed on the social dimensions of climate change, building on initial work undertaken by the WB-managed case study on the Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change in Ghana and the impact assessment for the FLEGT VPA.
- The guidelines for SESA under the FCPF will be reviewed and applied in this context.
- A ToR for a SESA is elaborated in the document and explains how it should be executed.
- A 3-person Impact Assessment Team with technical expertise and led by EPA is proposed in the R-PP. The team will create the necessary capacity to implement the WB safeguards.



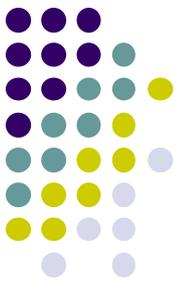
Activities of SESA Team



- Initial diagnostic survey and analysis
- Consultative or field-based stakeholder analysis and discussion will be conducted during R-PP implementation.
- This will demonstrate ownership for the assessment.
- Analysis of WB Social & Environmental Standards will include:
 - Forests – rights and welfare of FDPs
 - Environmental Assessment with respect to national SEAs
 - Involuntary resettlement
 - Local community rights etc.
- National SESA Workshop
- On-going SESA monitoring



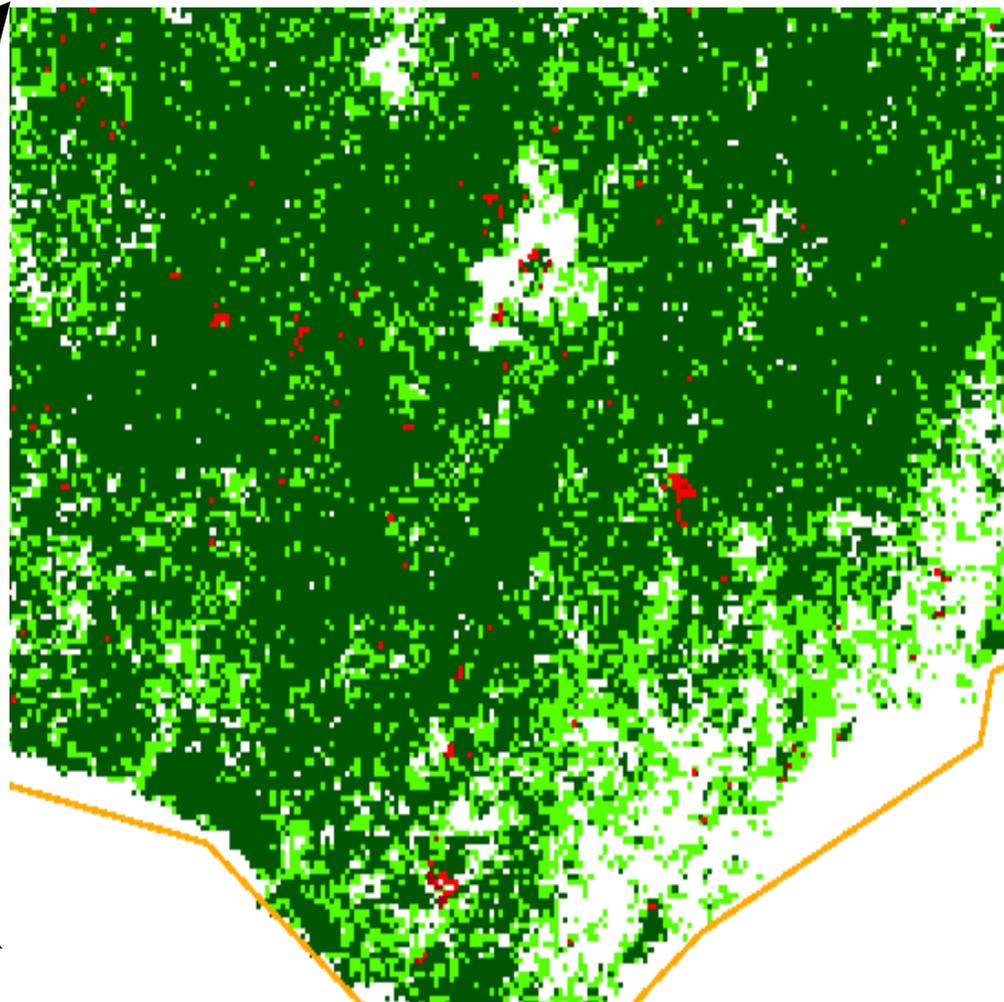
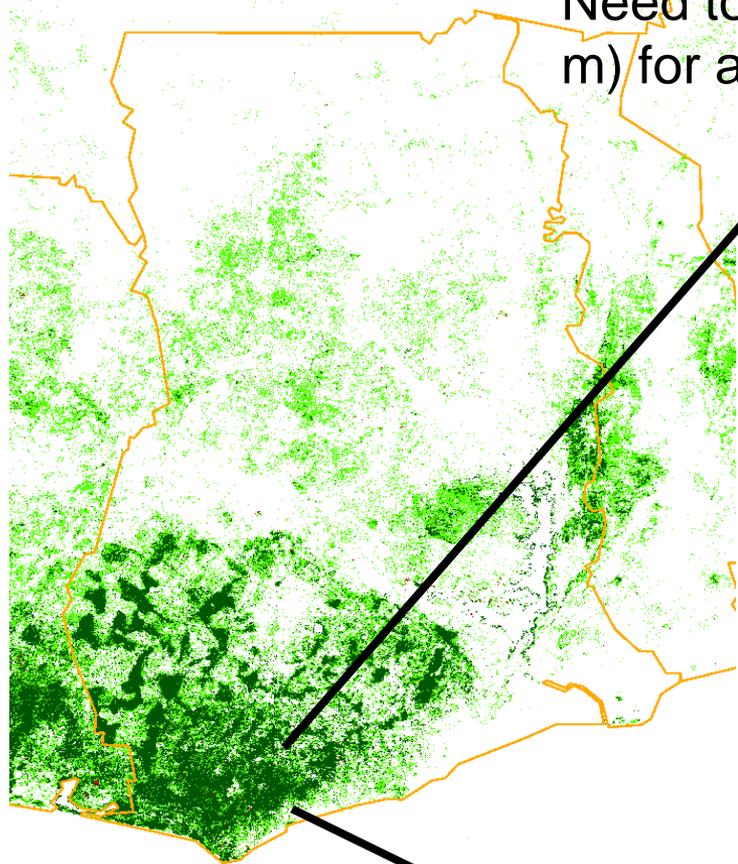
Component 3: Reference Scenario



- Existing data on forest area:
 - Ghana's forest area: 6.1 million ha in 2000 (FAO FRA 2005)
 - Deforestation estimated as 115,000 ha per year between 2000-2006 → based on original area estimates for 1990 and 1996
 - Satellite imagery for Ghana 2001-2002 was used to design an inventory of high forest reserves – no more recent imagery available in-country
 - No suitable data on hand to do a credible historic emission level



MODIS imagery (500 m scale) as shown here is **too coarse** to develop a historic emission level. Need to interpret imagery with higher resolution (30 m) for a recent time period.

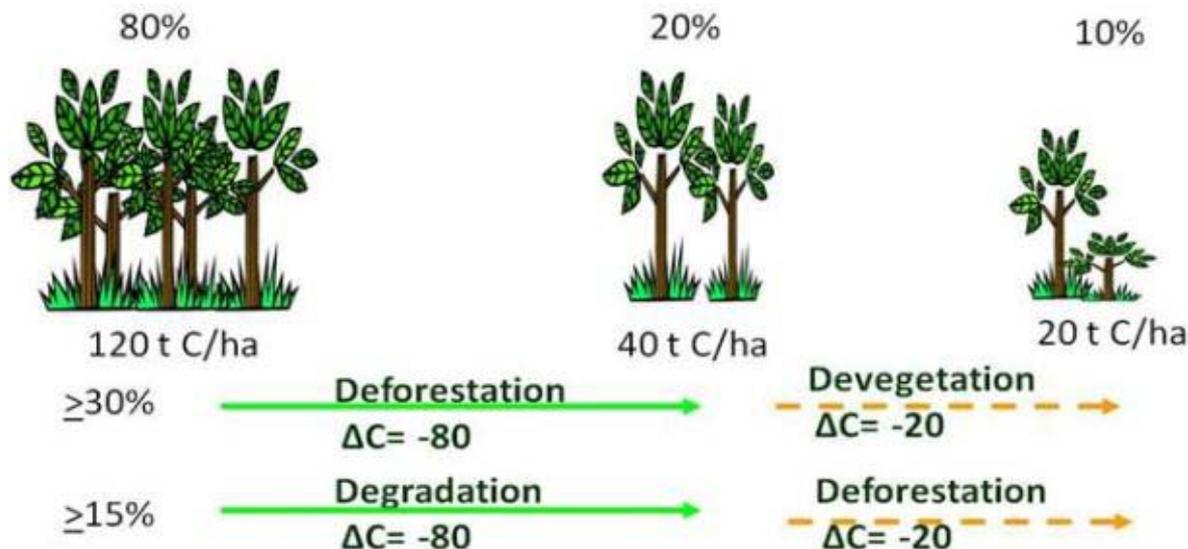


Dark green = >30% canopy cover
Light green = >15% canopy cover
Red = deforestation

Estimating Historic Land Cover Change

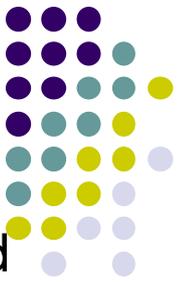


- Canopy cover is chosen to cover emissions from both deforestation and degradation
- Use IPCC framework (2003 IPCC GPG) for estimating emissions from deforestation, degradation, and forestation
- Forest definition: What canopy cover threshold to use for designing Ghana's national REDD strategy?
 - 10%? (FAO)
 - 15%?
 - 30%?



To be investigated:
Different forest definitions for different zones (high forest zone vs. transition zone)?

Requirements for REL Setting



- What is needed to prepare Ghana's historic emission level?
 - Enhanced in-country capacity on collecting, analyzing, synthesizing and reporting necessary data on forest area and carbon stocks
 - New software/hardware for analyzing imagery and other spatial data is required
 - Remote sensing data for estimating deforestation, degradation, and forestation – can be acquired free from US Geological Service (USGS)
 - The three main Landsat products needed (with wall to wall coverage) will be:
 - Maps of deforestation for 2000-2004 & 2004 – 2009
 - Maps of new areas of forest for 2000-2004 & 2004-2009
 - Maps of forest degradation every 2 years
 - Decision will be taken on which key carbon pools to include.
 - Ghana will use at least a Tier 2 level of data for its estimate of historic emissions/removals
 - Principle of conservativeness will be used in deciding which pools to include in reference scenario and MRV
- Historic carbon stock data for key pools – will likely need to collect new field data – no existing data are sufficient



Future Emission Trajectory



- How to go forward for Ghana's future trajectory?

Step 1: Estimate historic emission level based on

- land cover change in Ghana (deforestation, degradation, forestation)
- Emission factors for each type of conversion using C stock data that will be collected during preparation phase
- Development of a field-based forest carbon map is being undertaken by RMSC of Forestry Commission in collaboration with Oxford University with support from Forest Trends/Katoomba Group

Step 2: Develop future trajectory by adjusting historic emission level by different economic and development scenarios (GDP, population growth, agric. expansion, forest industry growth, sectoral devt. plans, investment programs, adjustment factors etc.) –details to be determined based on experience in other FCPF countries



Component 4: MRV system



- A National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification system will be developed for which reporting every 2 years is required under the Copenhagen Accord.
- Ghana will build upon IPCC framework i.e. GHG inventory for National Communication for determining historical emissions
- Members of MRV Working Group composed of Ghana Meteorological Agency, CERSGIS & RMSC will have access to the use and application of 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National GHG Inventories for AFOLU and the 2003 IPCC GPG for LULUCF (GPG-LULUCF)
- UNFCCC Principles will be adhered to: Consistency; Transparency, Comparability; Completeness; Accuracy
- The MRV Working Group will conduct an assessment of monitoring systems currently in place in other countries (developing and developed) to develop a credible system for transparent accounting of emissions and removals of CO₂ compared against projected reference scenarios

When MRV system is in place, key stakeholders from government MDAs, civil society, local government authorities, private sector, forest dependent communities and traditional rulers will be trained and engaged in the system as appropriate.



Reporting & Verification Standards



- Report GHG reductions:
 - Estimate GHG reductions achieved compared to the reference scenario at a national scale
 - Also reportable at regional scales
 - Web-based national registry will allow transparent viewing of data, information and analyses

- Verification by third party:
 - Results of each monitoring event will be documented and reviewed by both national and international experts



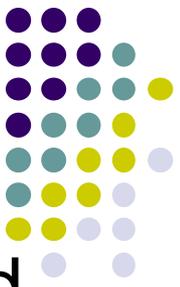
Component 5: Schedule & Budget



- The schedule covers the full range of activities to be undertaken in terms of capacity building, training, technical support, infrastructure as well as the time frame for implementing the activities.
- The budget indicates which funding source is available for what activities and the resources required.



Component 6: Design a Program M & E

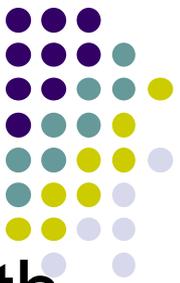


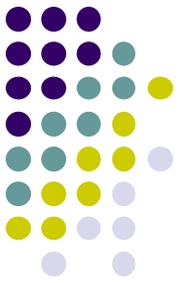
- The Program M&E framework will be designed to monitor the schedule of activities to be undertaken, the outputs and the final outcome.
- Verifiable indicators will be used to monitor performance of the R-PP activities implementation over time.
- The M&E system will provide real time feedback to the government and other stakeholders on how the preparatory work towards REDDplus readiness is progressing”.



Next Steps

- Develop a work plan to move forward with the implementation of the proposals made in the different components of the R-PP.
- Re-align R-PP with the outcomes of COP16
- Review lessons and experiences of other country R-PPs, MRV systems and REDD+ pilot projects.





● Thank You

