

# Liberia



## Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)

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Oslo, Norway, June 2011

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# Background Information

- Population is 3.5 million (2010)
- GDP estimated at US \$190
- 85% of the population live on less than \$1.25 a day.
- Total land area is 9.58 million ha
- Forest cover is **4.5 million ha**
  - This constitutes about 43% of the Upper Guinean Tropical Rainforest – a recognized biodiversity hotspot
- These forests are considered a priority for global conservation
- Civil conflict ended in 2002 (1990 to 2002)
  - Had caused widespread breakdown of law and order, extensive damage to national infrastructure and key sectors (including agriculture)
  - A decade of rebuilding and rehabilitation has followed

# Threats and Drivers of Deforestation & Degradation

## □ Drivers

- Commercial Logging;
- Chainsaw logging;
- Shifting cultivation;
- Plantations & Permanent Agriculture;
- Mineral extraction and Mining (and Oil);
- Charcoal production

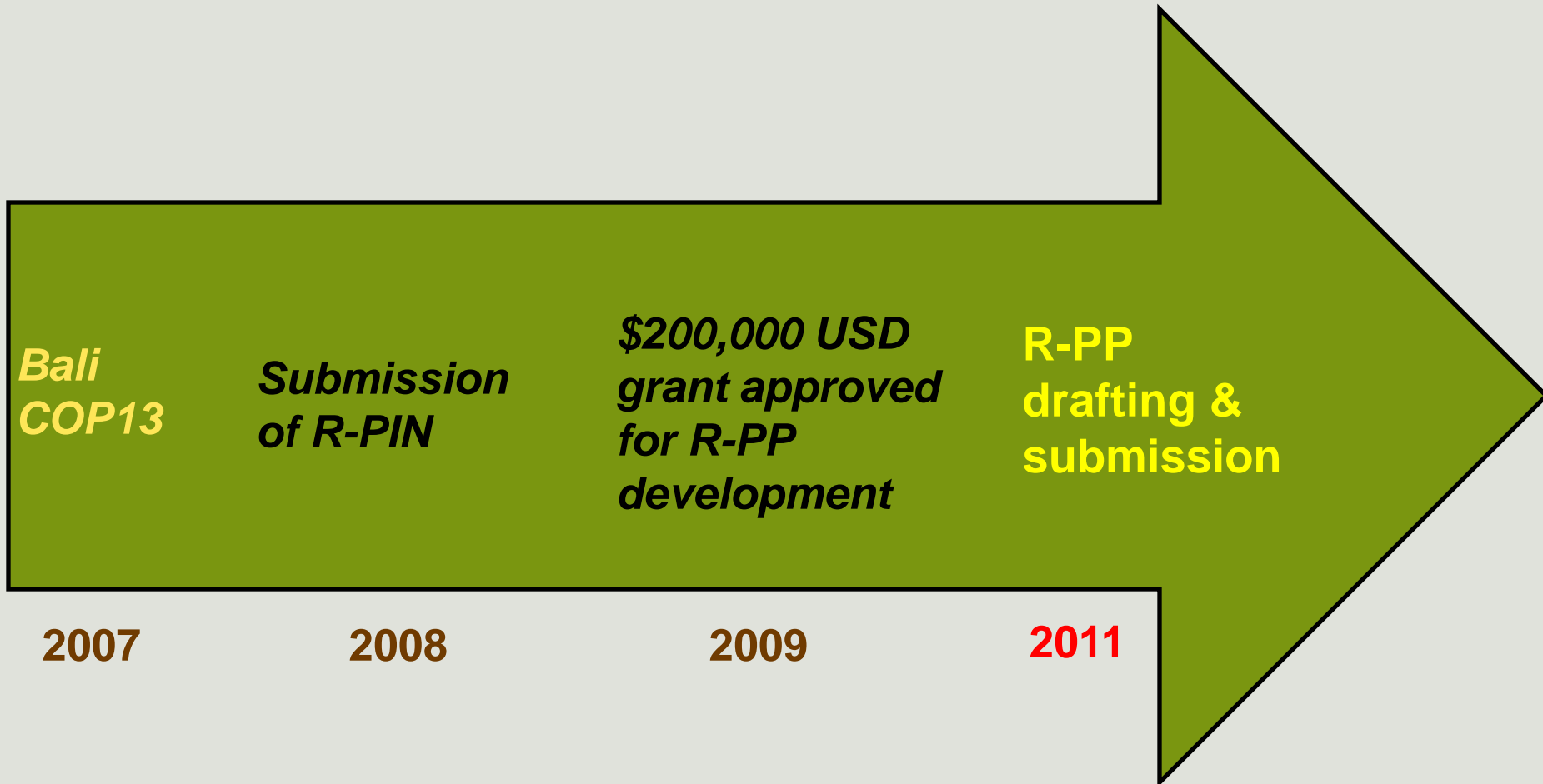
## □ Threats:

- Policy, Governance and Institutional issues;
- Economic & Market Factors;
- Landlessness & Unclear Allocation Rights / Tenure;
- Demographic Factors;
- Other socio-economic & Cultural factors;

# REDD & A Low Carbon Development Strategy

- Present the overall context of how REDD fits within the national development agenda
- Liberia's REDD+ goals are in synergy with:
  - Low carbon development strategy
  - PRS I
  - Vision 2030
- Whilst the PRS explicitly recognizes forest conservation, it is important that REDD areas be seen as contributing to national economic recovery program.

# REDD+ development in Liberia



*Bali  
COP13*

*Submission  
of R-PIN*

*\$200,000 USD  
grant approved  
for R-PP  
development*

*R-PP  
drafting &  
submission*

2007

2008

2009

2011

# Component 1: Organize and Consult

## 1a. National Readiness Management Arrangement

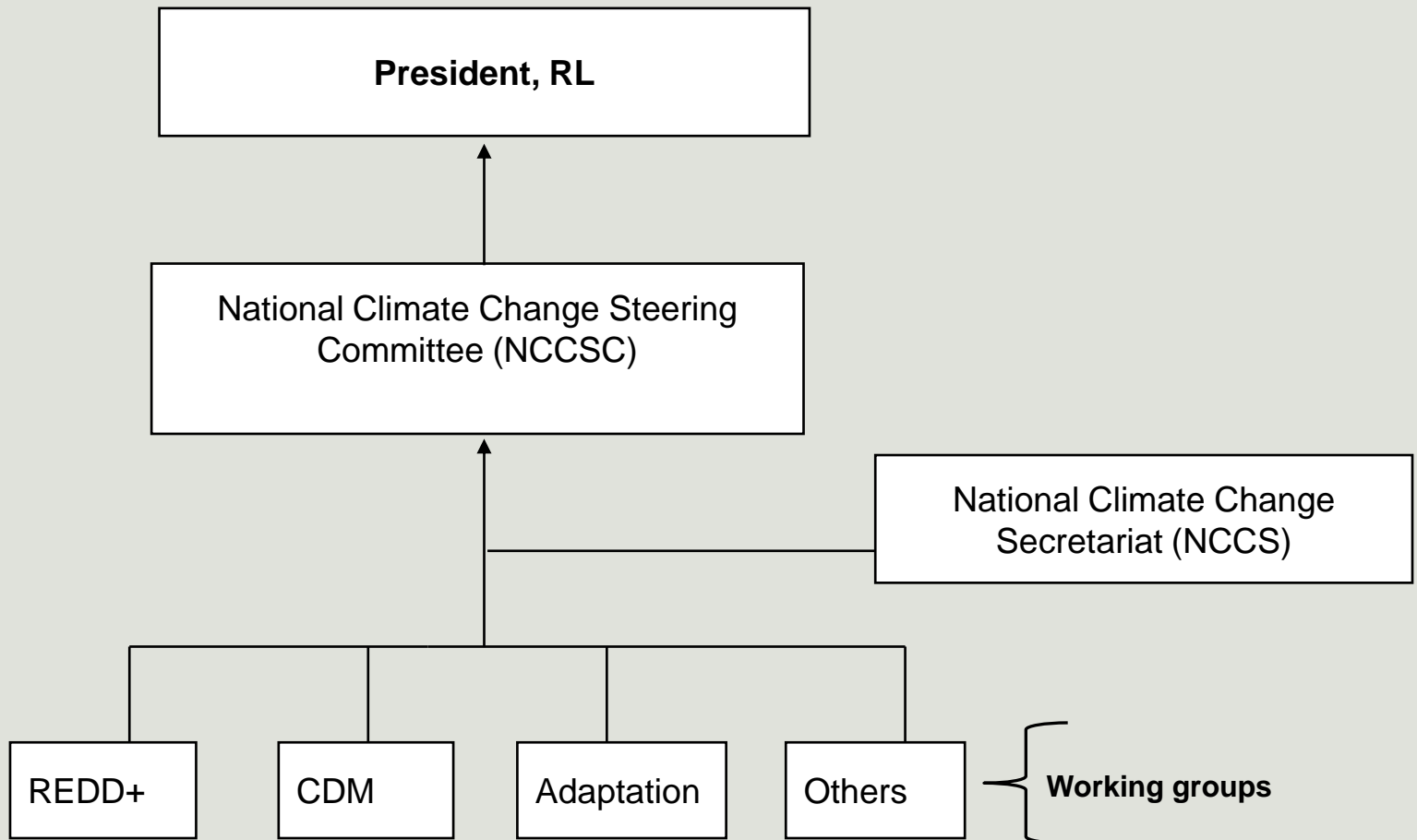
### □ 3 Levels of organization and coordination

1. Policy Formulation and Coordination
2. Consultation and Advisory
3. Implementation

# Component 1 Cont.

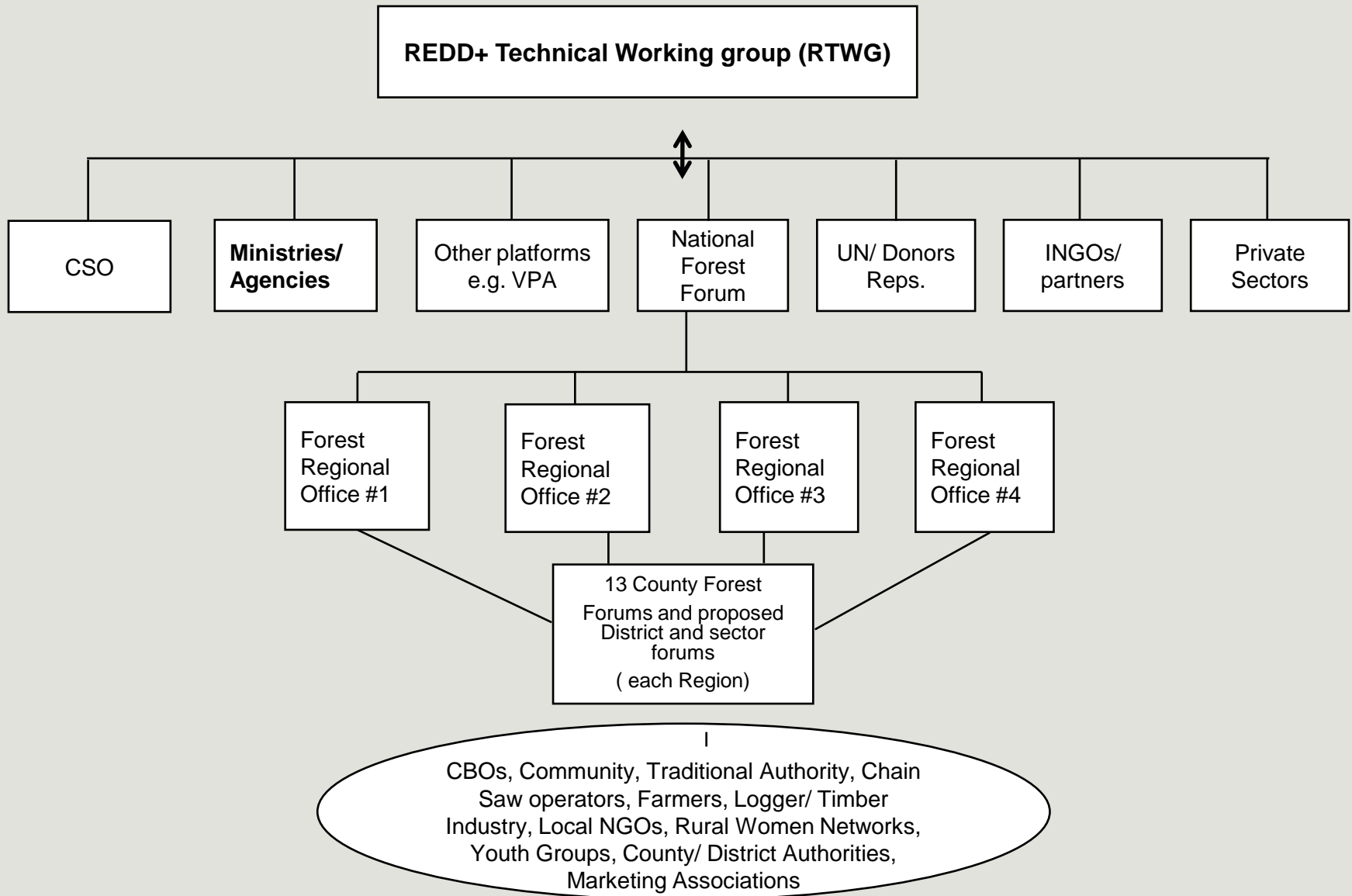
## Policy Formulation and Coordination

### National Climate Change Policy Framework for Liberia





# Component 1 Cont.



# Component 1 Cont.

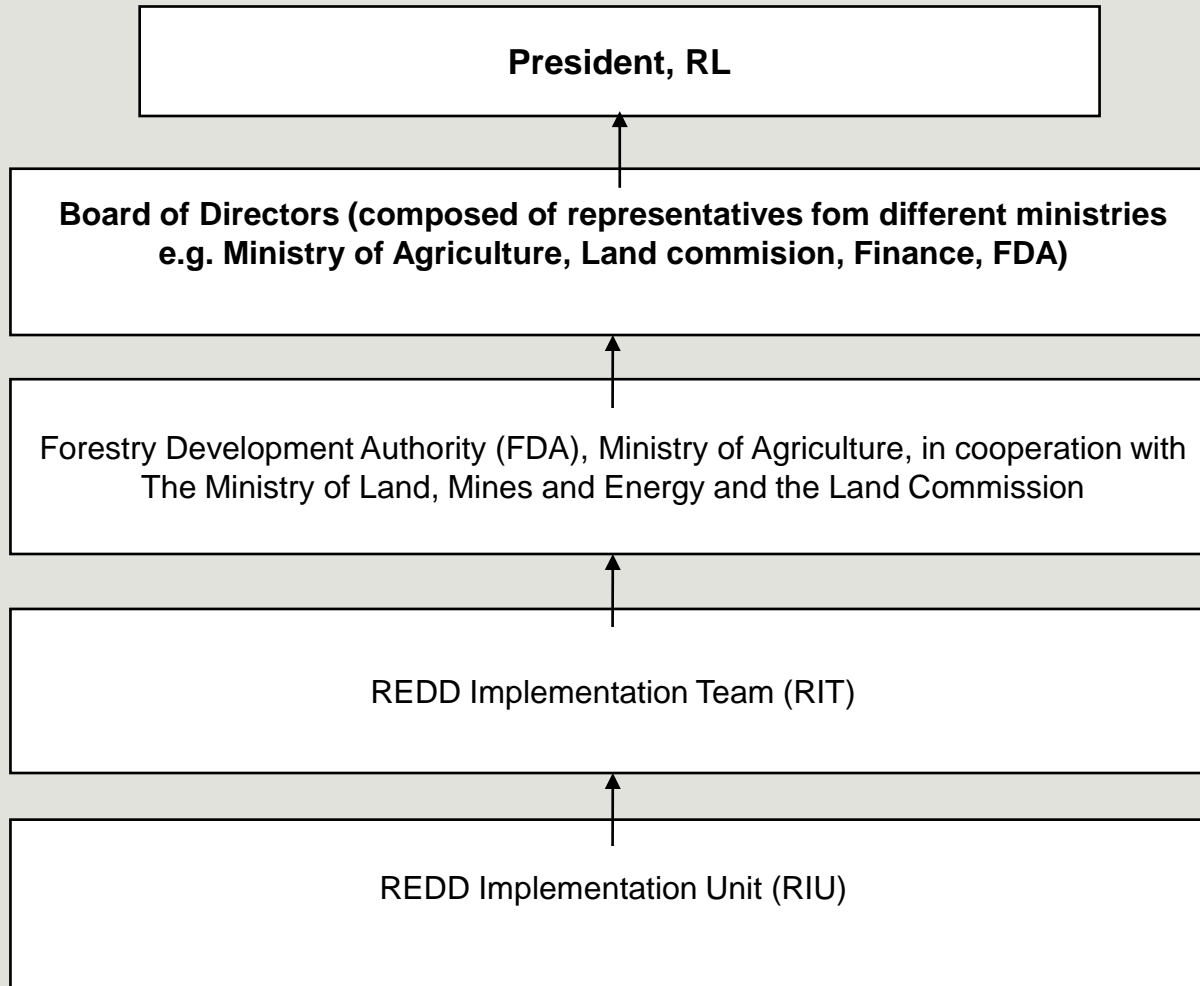
## RTWG participants include:

- **GoL:** Forest Development Authority (FDA)/ Environment Protection Agency (EPA); LISGIS; Office of the President
- **Line ministries:** MoA / MoGD / MIA / MoPEA / MLME
- **Donors:** UNDP; USAID; Norad
- **INGOs:** Fauna and Flora International; Conservation International; IUCN; Birdlife International
- **CSOs:** Skill and Agricultural Development Services (SADS); federation of Liberian Youth (FLY), Action Against Climate Change (AACCC), Green Advocates and Sustainable Development Institute; and University of Liberia (UL)
- **R-PP drafting team:** FDA; EPA; FFI; CI; SADS; UNDP

# Component 1 cont.

## Implementation

### Proposed REDD+ Implementation Framework for Liberia



# Component 1b: Information Sharing and Early Dialogue

- A consultation and participation taskforce was created
- Stakeholder analysis was conducted to identify the relevant stakeholders engage in REDD+
  
- **Workshops held at:**
  1. Four regional dialogue and information R-PP workshops with local community members were held:
    - Tubmanburg (June 17 - 18, 2010 ); Zwedru (22 – 23, April 2010) ; Gbarnga (20 - 21, May 2010) ; and Kakata (January 13-14, 2011) targeting local authorities, rural women nets works, farmer associations, etc.
  2. National stakeholder early dialogue and information sharing Conference (August 10, 2010)
  3. National Civil Society REDD+ dialogue initiated (22, July 2010 );
- R-PP consultation and participation has been built on processes designed for the VPA (FLEGT), LEITI consultation process, Benefit Sharing Mechanism and the SEA of forestry sector.

## Component 1b cont.

- ❑ Revision of R-P seven times to accommodate inputs from various stakeholders in workshops attended
- ❑ Development of a communication and outreach strategy:
  - ❑ Use of community radio using 13 local languages
  - ❑ Media TV
  - ❑ Newspaper publication
  - ❑ Brochure
- ❑ Set up Grievance and redress Mechanisms at local (village Palava huts), regional using religious institutions and traditional structures as well as national courts and judicial systems



# Component 1c: Consultation and Participation Plan (To be implemented during readiness preparation phase)

- ❑ **A Consultation and Participation Plan was developed**
  
- ❑ **Goal of C&P Plan:**
  - ❑ Increased Awareness
  - ❑ Participatory Decision Making
  - ❑ Involvement in Implementation
  - ❑ Integration with safeguard measures (SESA)
  
- ❑ **Key Stakeholders to be consulted during implementation phase includes:**
  - ❑ Government agencies (national, county, local)
  - ❑ Law enforcement agencies such as police & prosecutors
  - ❑ Private sector (loggers, energy producers, industry, etc.)
  - ❑ Civil Society Organizations
  - ❑ Vulnerable groups (women, youth, etc)
  - ❑ Local communities, farmers who depend on forests for livelihoods
  - ❑ Development Partners

# Component 2: Prepare the REDD-plus Strategy

## 2a. Assessment of Land Use, Forest Law, Policy and Governance

### Policy

### Governance

#### Forestry

#### Agriculture

#### High level stakeholders participation

- 3C approach
- National forest Policy
- National Forestry Reform Law 2006
- Community Rights Law
- Draft Wildlife and Conservation Law

- Food and Agriculture Policy and Strategy 2008 (FAPS)

- National Forest Forum, CFF, DFF
- Land Commission
- CFDC
- Community Assemblies
- Community Forestry Management Bodies

#### Energy

- The National Energy Policy (NEP)

- Chain of Custody (FLEGT / VPA)
- Benefit Sharing Mechanism
- Inclusion of Forestry within LEITI allows transparency and accountability

# Component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options

## Summary of REDD+ Strategy Options

### Forestry Sector

- Raising commercial logging standards;
- Reducing its area footprint;
- Regulating and managing chainsaw logging;
- Integrating of Conservation and Protected Areas into REDD and acceleration of the timeline;
- Enhancement of carbon loading in degraded forest areas

### Agriculture Sector

- Transforming shifting cultivation into permanent or semi-permanent agriculture to reduce land use and forest degradation;
- Ensuring that plantation and permanent agriculture development is located on degraded forest lands

### Energy Sector

- Regulating and managing fuel wood energy;
- Introducing more efficient kilns and cooking stoves



## Component 2b Cont: ongoing initiatives and stakeholders relevant for Liberia REDD+

- REDD management Structure
- FLEG-T / VPA
- National Forest Program Facility/Community Forest Forum
- Liberia Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (LEITI)
- Poverty Reduction Strategy / National Visioning for 2030
- Liberian Forestry Initiative (LFI)
- Agricultural Coordination Committee (ACC)
- Key Government Agencies (EPA, FDA,MOA,MIA,MLME, MPEA, MOF, MOJ)
- CSO Networks
- Private Sector
- National Traditional Council

# Component 2c: Proposed REDD+ Implementation Framework

- Establish coordination mechanism & ensure harmonisation of policies / implementation with MoA and other line ministries (involved in LULUCF)
- Develop and implement monitoring, reporting, and verification structures and capabilities
- Establish REDD+ program institutional and fund management structures
- Develop an effective enforcement system for REDD+
- Ensure that access to information, participation, and justice are integral components of Liberia's REDD+ program
- Develop national accounting system
- Rolling out national capacity building

# Component 2d: Strategic Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (SESA)

- ❑ SESA TOR Developed
- ❑ Activities to be undertaken by SESA Team, include:
  - ❑ Legal and policy reviews
  - ❑ Stakeholder consultation
  - ❑ Establish social/ environmental baselines
  - ❑ Impact assessments
  - ❑ Avoidance, alternatives and mitigation studies
  - ❑ Management (and land-use) planning supported



# Component 3: Reference Scenario

## Steps used to define and develop the reference scenario

*Step 1*

*Step 2*

*Step 3*

*Step 4*

*Step 5*

*Forest  
Inventory  
and  
Definition*

*Calculation of  
Deforestation  
&  
Degradation  
Rate(s)*

*Biomass  
Assessments  
(sample plots)*

*Predictive  
Spatial  
Modeling*

*Technical  
Capacity  
Assessment*

# Component 4a: Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System

## Emissions and Removals

- Establish **Forest Monitoring Unit (FMU)** at the Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)
- Develop mechanism for activity data
- Establish emission factors
- Develop an MRV System



## Component 4b: Multiple Benefits and Impacts

- Increased forest cover provides direct benefits that include:
  - wildlife habitat,
  - ecotourism industry,
  - soil conservation and sustainable agriculture,
  - protection of water resources, and
  - availability of non-timber forest products to local communities.
  
- Forests play an important role as safety net for vulnerable and marginalized people, especially those living around forest areas
  
- Significant social and environmental benefits beyond climate change mitigation, both at a national and local level, including the provision of resilience (adaptive capacity) to climate change.
  
- **Activities:** (1) Monitoring social and environmental impacts;  
(2) Monitoring governance factors relevant to REDD implementation;  
(3) Assessment and Refinement

# Component 5: Schedule and Budget

- The total funding requested from the **FCPF** is **\$3,398,000 USD**
- A further \$1,456,000 USD will be sought from FFI, CI, IUCN and the Government of Liberia giving a total project budget of **\$4,854,000 USD** ( **This is a minimum estimate**)
- Further funding will be sought as national needs are identified to seek supports from bilateral and multilateral donors



# Component 6: M&E Framework

- ❑ Chain of Custody for Forestry which involves the independent monitoring by SGS;
- ❑ Harmonize with other developing framework's monitoring e.g. FLEG-T and Voluntary Partnership Agreement programmes;
- ❑ PRS monitoring unit within the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs- LRDC
- ❑ Monitoring of land use planning effectiveness and land use change in forestry and agricultural sectors
- ❑ Monitoring of social / environmental safeguards, with key role for civil society (e.g. The Multi-stakeholder Monitoring Group)





# Component 6: Cont.

## Example Component 1a

Expected Results	Indicators	Means of Verification	Risks and assumptions
<p><i>From country Results Framework or R-PP components</i></p>	<p><i>From Results Framework or R-PP components. Baselines are an indicator at the start of the joint programme</i></p>	<p><i>From indentified data and information sources</i></p>	<p><i>Summary of assumptions and risks for each result</i></p>
<p>1.a National Readiness Management Arrangements</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Secretariat fully established, staff recruited and operational</li> <li>2. RTWG meeting regularly and providing appropriate guidance</li> <li>3. Carbon consultative group established and regularly meeting</li> <li>4. REDD+ management arrangements (roles and responsibilities) are developed between various institutions</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Meeting minutes</li> <li>-Staff Contracts completed</li> <li>-Attendance lists</li> <li>-MOUs for REDD management</li> <li>-Quarterly and Annual reports</li> <li>-NCCSC review meeting records</li> </ul>	<p>Roles and responsibilities are still in preliminary stage and will need agreement among various government entities.</p> <p>This also assumes appropriate funding will be sourced at the appropriate time for these actions</p>

# Final Revisions – Addressing Issues

- The **TAP's** final comments focused on the need to assess carbon pools beyond mature forests (as per the IPCC carbon pools, relating to forest / agriculture - land use and change)
  - This need is now reflected in the R-PP with draft methodologies suggested - to be updated and developed with FCPF funds
- The **PC's** final comments focussed primarily on the need for ToRs detailing much of the specialist work (activities) outlined in the R-PP
  - These will be developed as a priority, once funding for Readiness is secured
- Land ownership / tribal rights / **tenure** insecurity remain critical issues and potential barrier to successful REDD+ implementation.
  - The inclusion of the **Land Commission** in the final version of the R-PP will be critical in addressing these issues, but will require coordination between the commission, FDA and line agencies/ ministries
  - Key role of the Community Rights Law (CRL)
  - Upcoming national tenure assessment by the Land Commission

# R-PP: Next Steps

- The RPP is the first step to prepare the "ToR" for the REDD+ Strategy that will be developed with the \$ 3.4 million.
- Pilots will not be financed by the \$ 3.4 million, instead it will be the creation of a strategy.
- The implementation of the REDD strategy will be financed by new / additional funds that need to be raised.
- Capacity building (technical, physical and managerial) for GoL - and all stakeholders - remains the key theme and main priority of the R-PP strategic vision for REDD+ Readiness in Liberia

# THANKS

