



ClimDev-Africa

# Deliberating REDD+ institutions and governance in Africa

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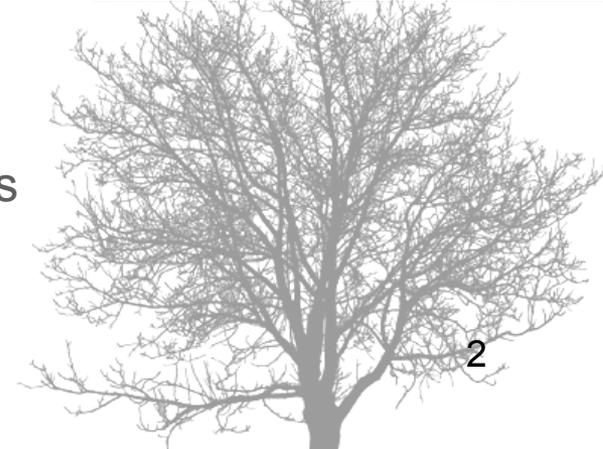
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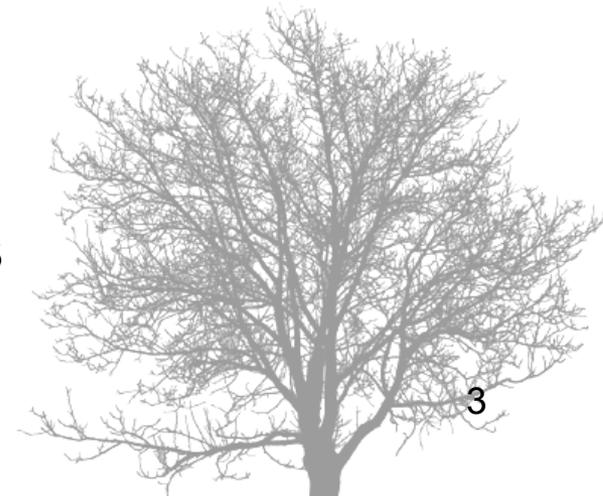
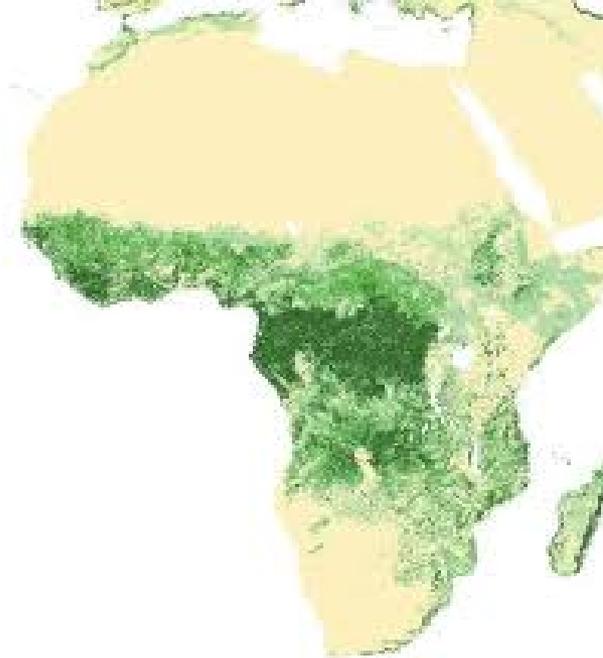
# The context of REDD+

- 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

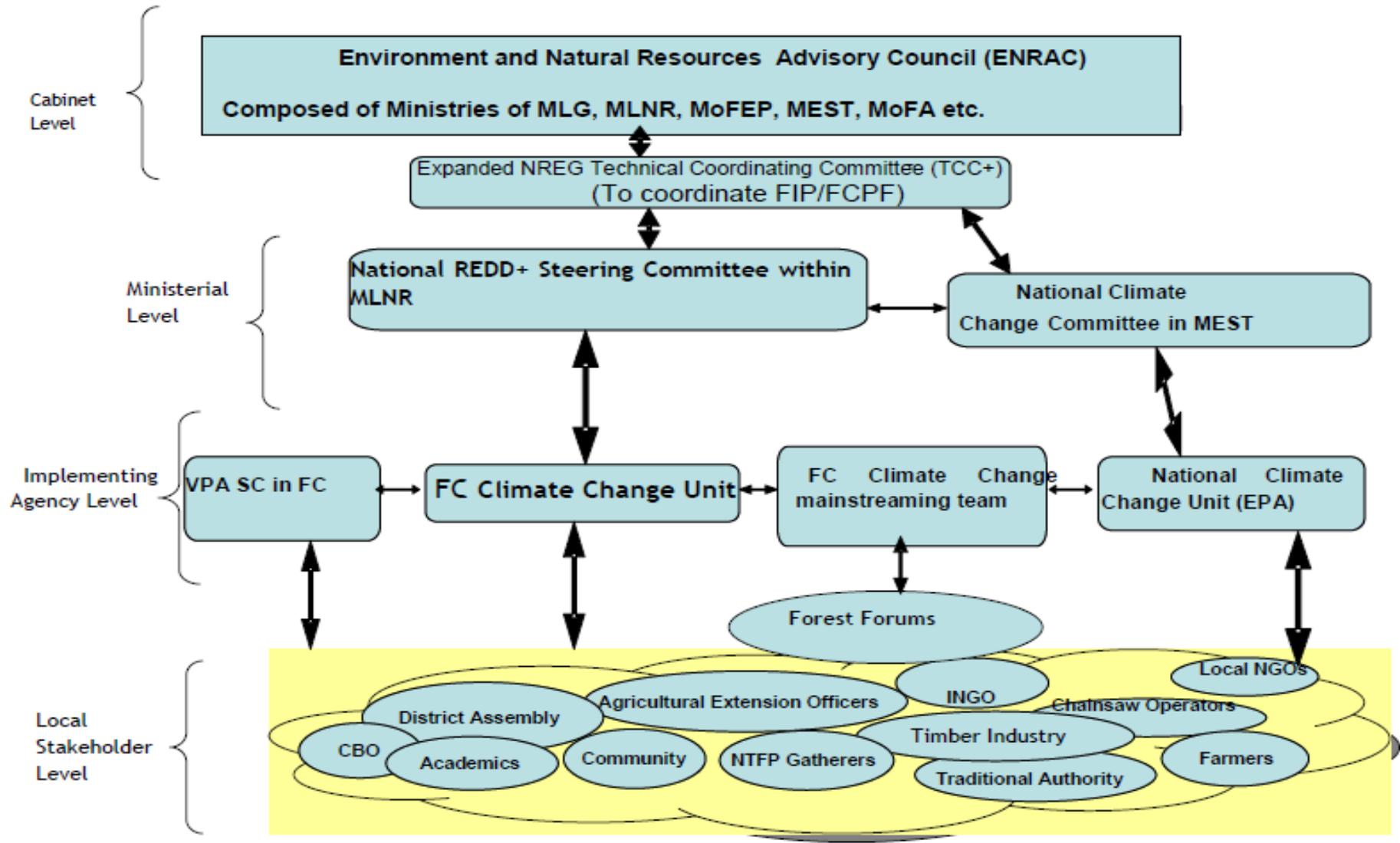


# The case of Ghana and DRC

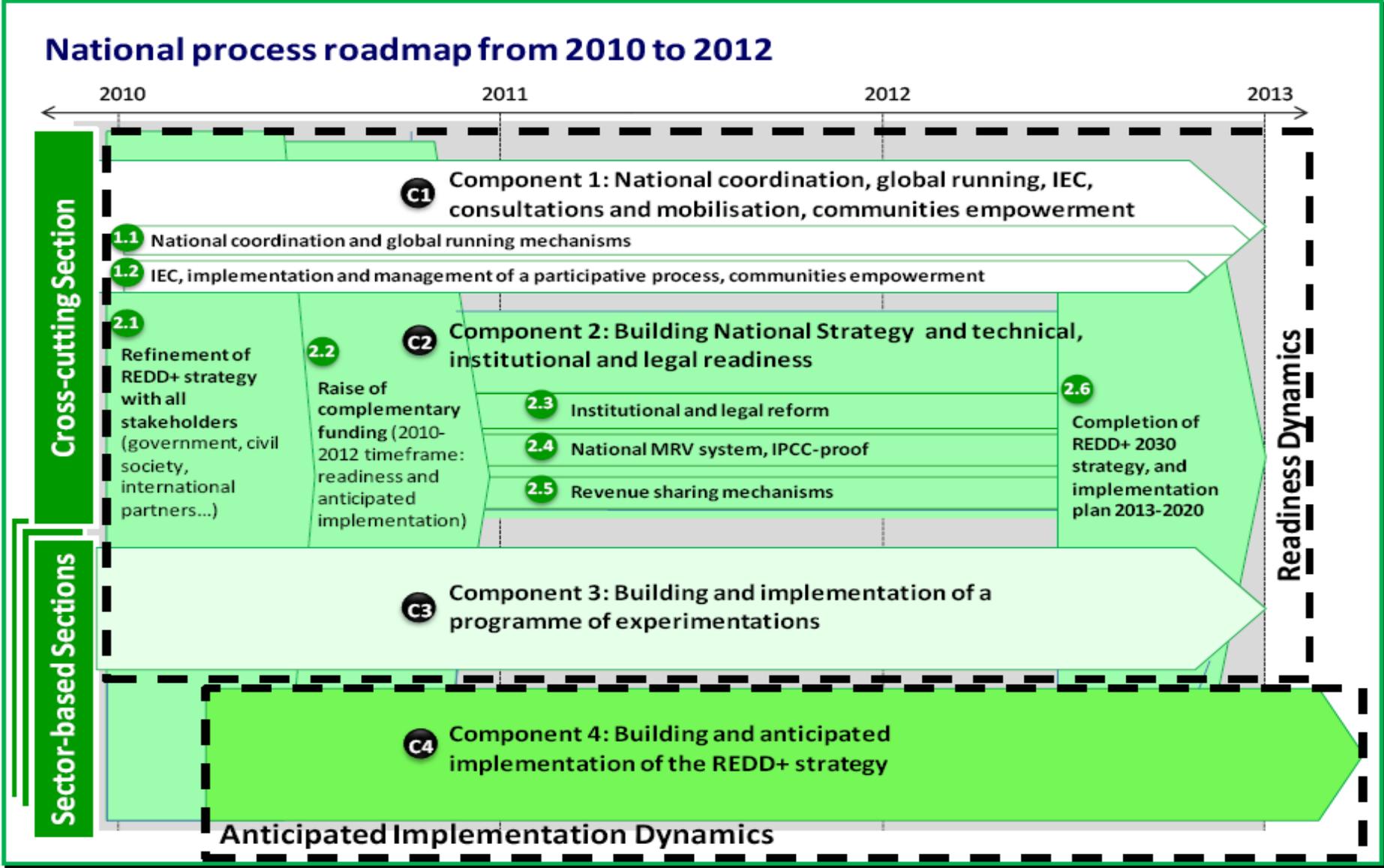
	Ghana	DRC
<b>Forest data</b>		
-Forest cover	4.9 million ha	154 million ha
-% of land area	22 %	68%
-Deforestation rate (%)	2.1%	0.2%
-Carbon stock	77 tons per ha	127 tons per ha
<b>Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small- and large-scale permanent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



# 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

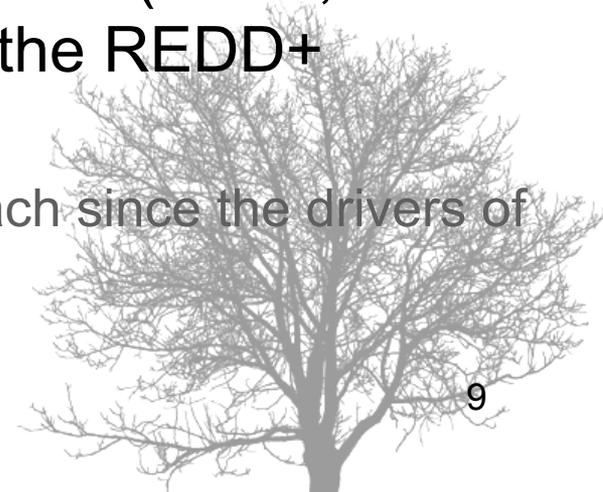
# What should we focus on?

- 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?

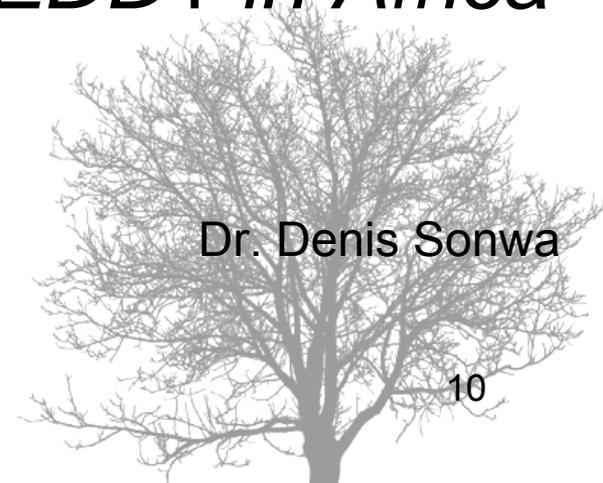
- Safeguarding the **rights and livelihoods** of forest-dependent communities
  - Guaranteeing forest access of indigenous peoples and livelihoods under the REDD+ regime
- **Capacity building** (technical and managerial) in MRV
  - Long term technical capacity needed for carbon accounting
- **Intersectoral 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!*

Dr. Denis Sonwa



# Thank you

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