



5th UN-REDD Regional Lessons Learned Workshop on Forest Monitoring Systems and Reference Levels for REDD+

20-22 October 2014
Hanoi, Viet Nam

Fiji REDD Plus Activities

Samuela Lagataki





Population: 896,758) as of 2013.

322 islands and over 500 small islets.
Around 110 are inhabited,

87% of the population lives on the two
biggest islands Viti Levu and Vanua
Levu.

The islands are spread over 194,000
km² of which 18,270 km² (less than
10%)

Major industries are tourism and
sugar. Exports also include garments,
gold, timber and fish.





Fiji National Forest Area

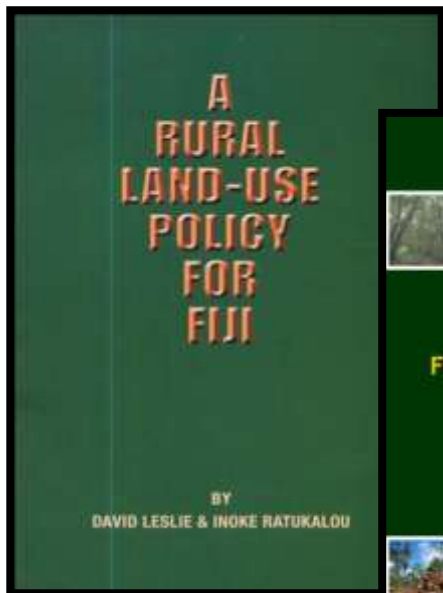
National class	Forest Area (ha)	% Forest Cover
Closed Forest	526,453	29
Open Forest	388,415	21
Pine plantations	48,000	4
Hardwood plantations	50,000	3
Total land area	1,827,000	57 %



2005

Policies

2007



2010



2012





Fiji REDD+ Milestones

- **2009** – Fiji REDD Plus Scoping Study
- **2009 – ongoing:** Wide awareness-raising and training for involved sectors and local communities & Training of relevant technical officers in technical areas
- **2010:** Endorsement of Fiji National REDD+ Policy (developed through extensive stakeholder consultation); Establishment of First Project Site (7,000 ha)
- **2011:** Formalisation of the Fiji REDD+ Steering Committee – an official body, with multi-sectoral membership, to guide and monitor REDD+ activities in the country; Establishment of Second Project Site (2,000 ha)
- Inclusion of carbon measurements in Fiji PSP data collection



Fiji REDD+ Milestones

- **2011:** Carbon financing and formal approval process for forest carbon projects added into draft Forest Decree
- **2011–2012:** Calculation of Fiji carbon stock and forest cover change; including staff capacity building
- **2011-2013** Drafting of the National REDD+ Strategy through multi-stakeholder consultation process
- **2012** The Government of Fiji provides capital funding of FJD 300,000/year for REDD+ preparedness activities.
- **2013** Fiji Presents R-PP at the FCPF Participants Committee; Consultation on carbon rights
- **2014** Signing of the FCPF Agreement for funding of Fiji REDD Plus Readiness Activities (US\$3.8m) for 4 years.
- Fiji Accepted as UNREDD Program Partner Country



REDD Scoping: 2009

● May—Project Planning Workshop

● REDD Identified (3 Phases)

- Policy & Scoping: REDD+ Policy
- Detailed Planning: National REDD Strategy
- Implementation: MRV & Pilot Projects

● Aug-Sep—REDD Policy Scoping

● Recommendations

- Finalise REDD+ Policy
- Develop National REDD Strategy
- Undertake Forest Area Change Assessment
- Develop REDD Communication Strategy
- Undertake Capacity building
- Establish Pilot Projects
- REDD+ Implementation





REDD Scope

- **Reducing deforestation through improved forest management**
- **Reducing forest degradation through forest protection and improved forest management**
- **aforestation & reforestation**
- **Forest energy sector linkages; biomass-energy**
- **Forest agriculture linkages**
- **Combination of Aforestation and reforestatiaon**



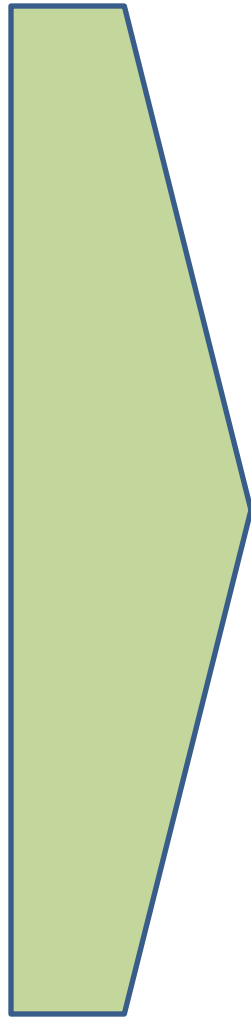
REDD Linkages

**Climate Change
Adaptation and
Mitigation**

Conservation

**Ecosystem
Services**

**Forest Products
Timber & NTFP**



Sustainable Forest Management

1. Extent of Forest Cover
2. Forest Biodiversity
3. Forest Health & Vitality
4. Protective Functions of Forests
5. Productive Functions of Forests
6. Socio-economic Functions
7. Legal, Policy & Institutional Framework
 1. Clear Policies and Mandates
 2. Forest Governance
 3. Law Enforcement
 4. Transparent Processes



REDD Plus Policy

● Policy Objectives:

- The Fiji REDD+ Policy has the overall objective of enhancing the national forest-based carbon balance by:
 - Supporting and strengthening initiatives that address the drivers of forest-based carbon emissions and:
 - Encouraging the drivers of forest-based carbon sinks





REDD Plus Policy: (contd.)

Policy areas:

1. Safeguards
2. Scale of Implementation
3. Scope of REDD+ Activities
4. Financing of REDD+ Activities
5. Governance
6. Measuring Reporting and Verification (MRV)
7. Pilot Projects
8. Engagement and Communication
9. Training
10. Research





REDD Plus Policy (contd.)

REDD+ Activities:

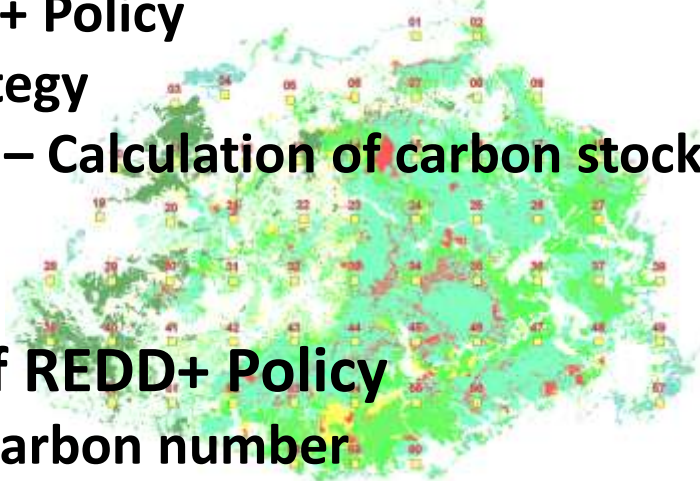
- a) Development of a National REDD Strategy
- b) At least one carbon/climate related contract arising from a pilot project
- c) Assessment of historical changes in forest carbon at the national level for the establishment of the national reference level.
- d) Design and implement national forest carbon monitoring programme
- e) Establishment of legal and institutional infrastructures associated with REDD+.
- f) Independent, external, expert third party review of the Fiji REDD+ Programme





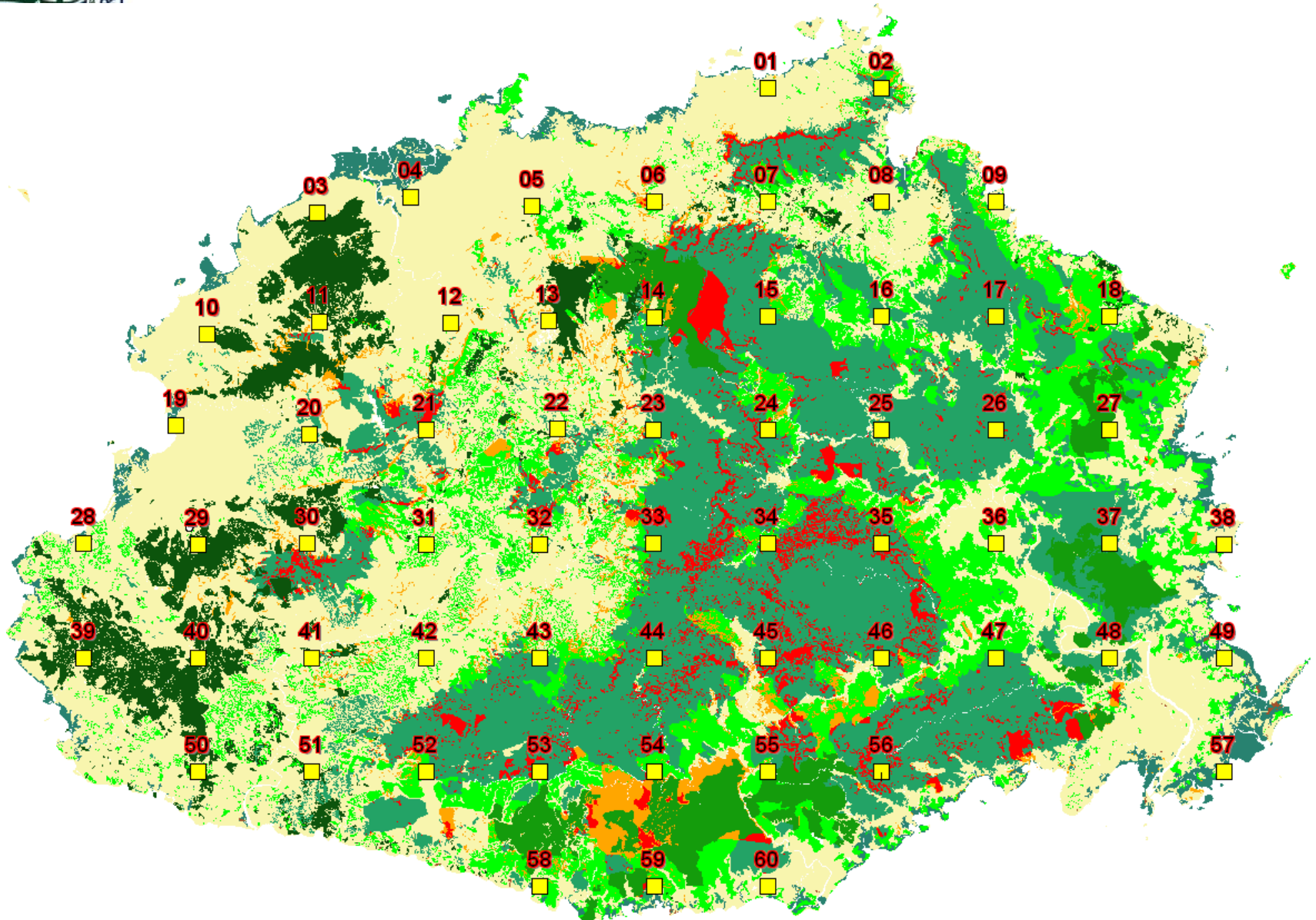
Activity Summary

- **2009: REDD Scoping**
 - Draft REDD+ Policy
- **2010: Cabinet Endorsed REDD+ Policy**
 - Finalise the REDD+ Policy
 - Draft REDD+ Strategy
 - Capacity Building – Calculation of carbon stocks
 - CI REDD+ Activity
 - BMU REDD
- **2011: Launching of REDD+ Policy**
 - Arrive at the Fiji carbon number
 - Finalise REDD+ Strategy
 - REDD+ Strategy Implementation
 - Establishment of the MRV System
 - Other REDD Initiatives, UNREDD, Live & Learn





Plot Distribution: Viti Levu (60)





Tackling the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation

- For Fiji to successfully undertake REDD+, the country will need to:
 - address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and
 - promote drivers of forest expansion and conservation.
- The 3 main forms of **deforestation** in Fiji are:
 - Agriculture clearance
 - Infrastructure development
 - Settlement establishment
- The 2 main forms of **forest degradation** are:
 - Selective logging
 - Bushfires



Fiji National REDD+ Programme

- Driven by government and stakeholders, and follow international guidelines and standards.
- Began in 2009, and its activities are guided by the National REDD+ Policy, the National Climate Change Policy and the draft National REDD+ Strategy.
- The Ministry of Fisheries and Forests is the lead agency for the National REDD+ Programme and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation is the national climate change lead agency and political focal point.



Current REDD+ Activities

- Capacity building program under UNREDD; MRV, NFMS, Inventory; GIS & RS; Forest Stratification, Regional Web-GIS Portal
- FCPF Activity Planning for 2015
- Land security



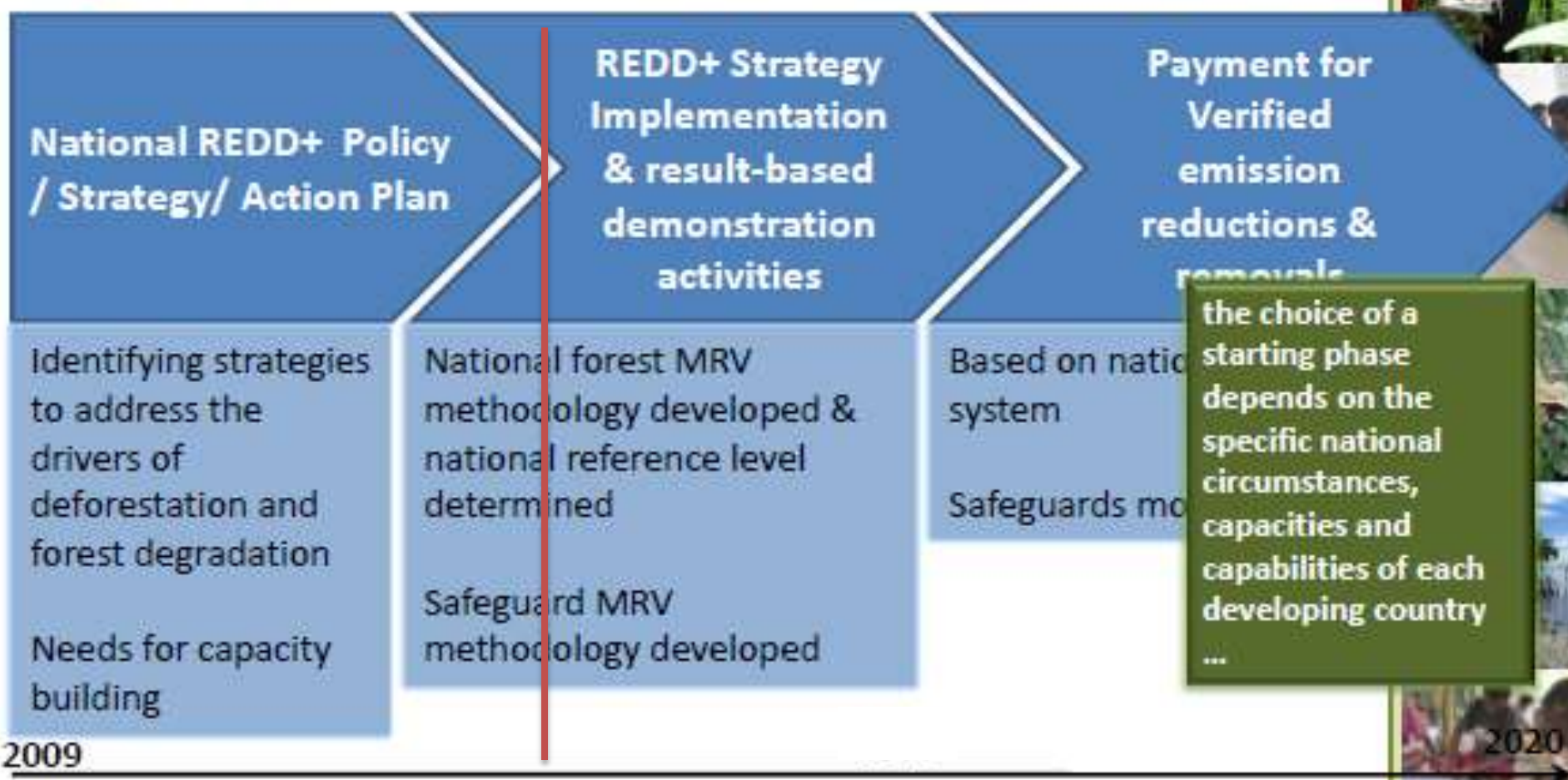
Current Partners

- 2009:
 - GIZ
- 2010:
 - CI REDD+ Activity
 - BMU REDD
- 2011:
 - Live & Learn
- 2013
 - FCPF
- 2014:
 - UNREDD





PHASED IMPLEMENTATION



SAFEGUARDS

GOVERNANCE

MEASURING REPORTING & VERIFICATION of carbon emissions and removals



Issues & Challenges

- Understanding Forest Carbon Rights
- Land Tenure and long term security
- Finding the best approach and building a paradigm that will be more sustainable
- Fully understanding what Fiji really needs out of all these and work towards it
- Fully understanding and managing the expectation of forest owning communities



Thank you for your attention