

FAO/UN-REDD activities

Experience and key developments

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Outline



- FAO and its role in REDD+
- Part 1 - Lessons and experience from NFMS and MRV capacity building
- Part 2 - Overview of current & future activities in the governance work area
- Concluding remarks



FAO and its role in REDD+

- ❑ FAO's key role in REDD+ readiness is to help countries develop, implement and operationalize their National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)
- ❑ FAO also assists countries in the enhancement of national governance systems (incl. the development of policies and measures) for REDD+ implementation

Key principles of FAO's support

- National ownership
- Alignment with the UNFCCC process
- Step-wise approach that allows for improvement over time
- Builds upon existing capacities, available data and systems in place
- Use of open-source, freely available data and tools as much as possible
- Strengthening of national capacities (learning-by-doing)

Part 1 - Lessons and experience from NFMS and MRV capacity building

Charlotte Jourdain (FAO)



FAO's approach to NFMS and MRV for REDD+

Through the UN-REDD Programme, FAO published a guidance document on REDD+ National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS) in early 2013*

NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM (NFMS)

MONITORING FUNCTION

Remote Sensing

WEB Interface

Community Monitoring

Other monitoring systems related to forest

MRV FUNCTION

Satellite Land Monitoring System

National Forest Inventory

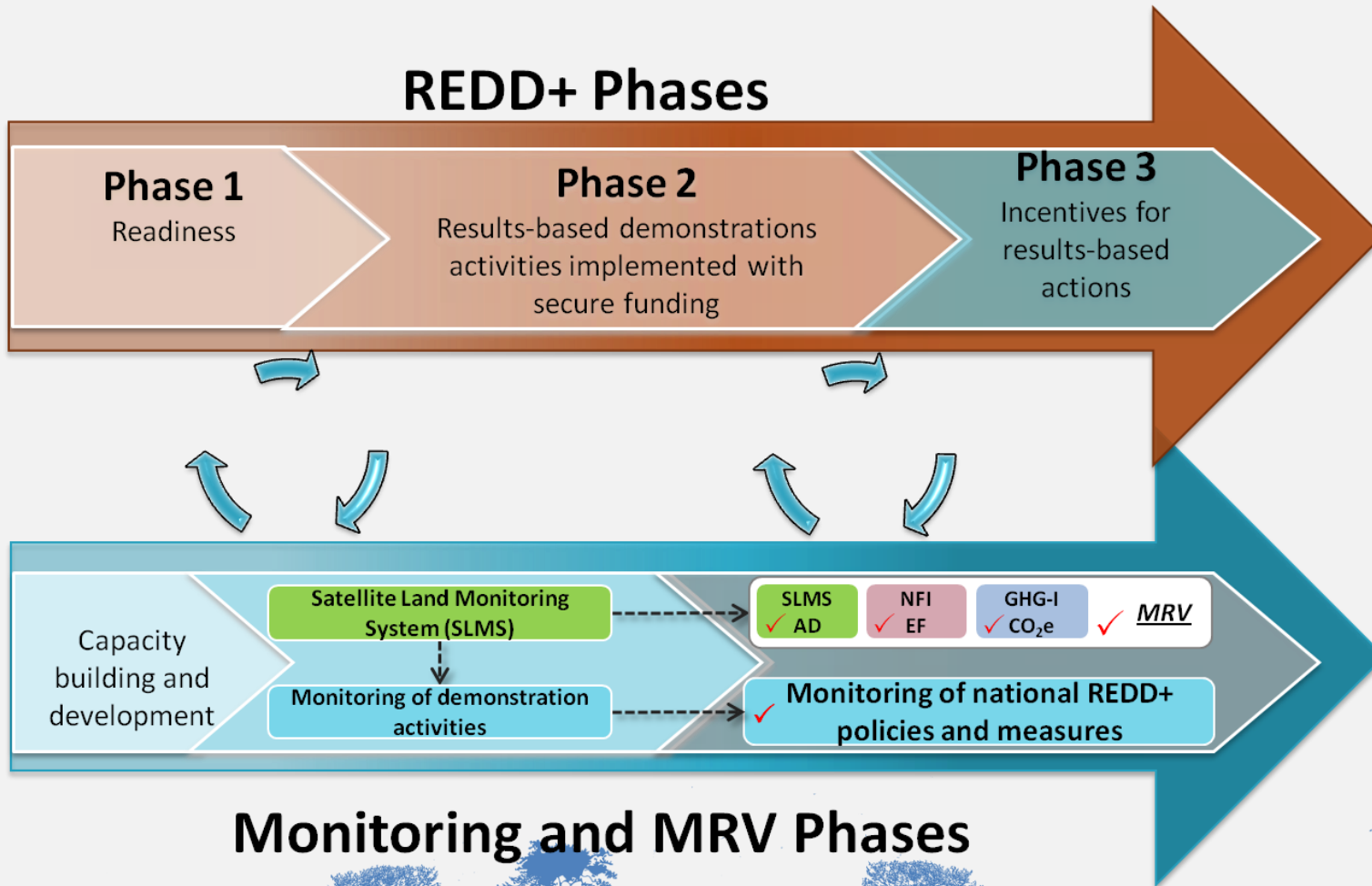
GHGs Inventory

System to provide information on Safeguards (SIS)

* <http://www.un-redd.org/UNREDDProgramme/InternationalSupport/MeasurementReportingandVerification/tabid/1050/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

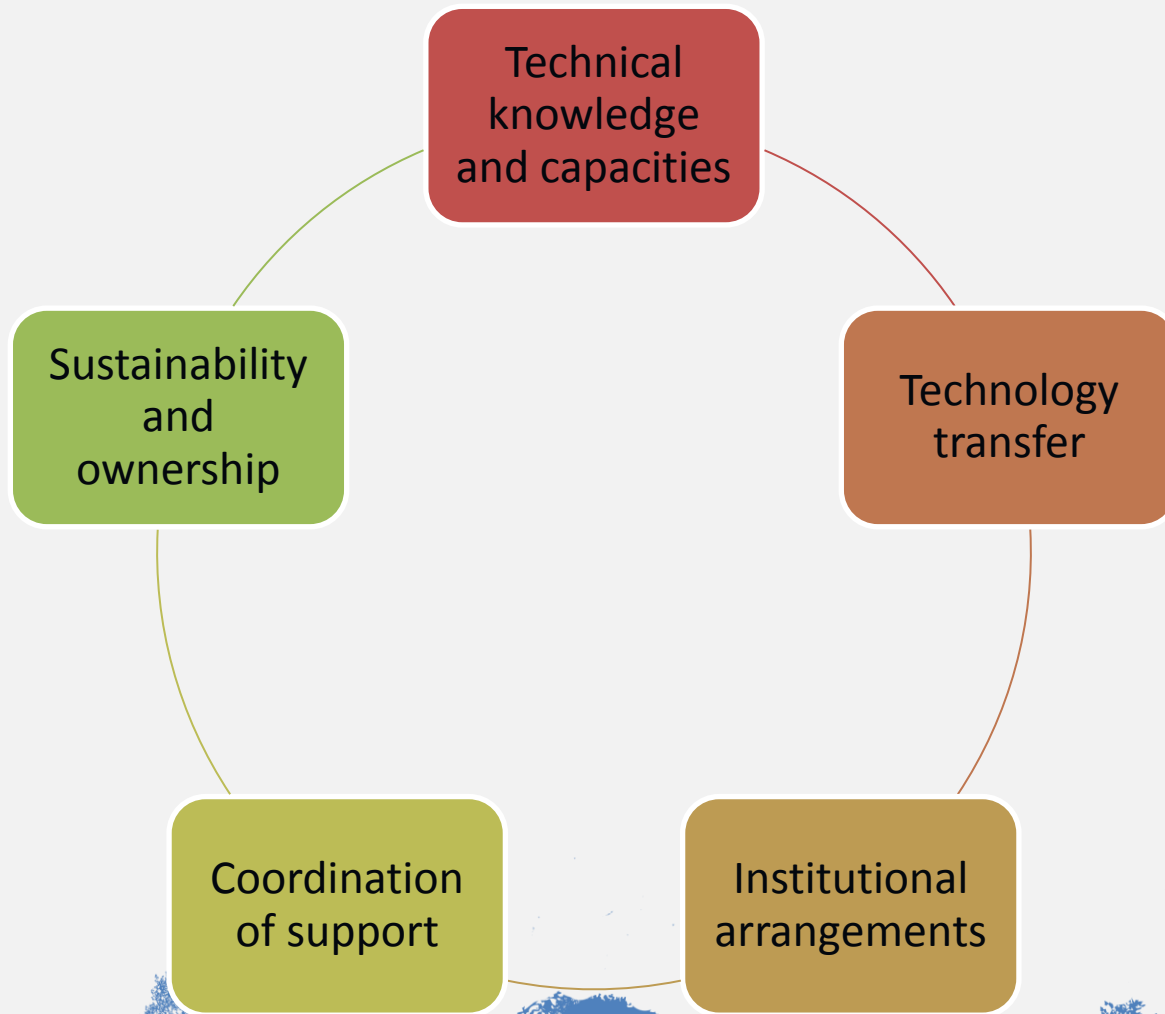
Phased implementation of the NFMS

REDD+ Phases



Monitoring and MRV Phases

Key considerations in FAO's capacity building experience on REDD+



Countries require strong technical skills in the field of forest monitoring and MRV to implement REDD+

Experience

- Capacities are highly variable, ranging from low to medium
- Donors, NGOs and investors may compete for skilled technicians
- Capacity is volatile: High turn around of skilled people in government institutions
- Short-term capacity building projects/activities yield limited impacts if basic capacities are low

Lessons learned

- National capacities are often over-evaluated
- Promoting learning-by-doing is essential
- Longer-term capacity building exercise, with daily support or regular follow up is necessary
- Country-presence is highly desirable
- Long-term commitment is necessary to achieve durable results

Methodologies and technology for NFMS and MRV

Countries require easy and inexpensive access to technology and tools to develop their NFMS

Experience

- Access to technology is quite limited, particularly for remote-sensing technologies and data
- The basics are often missing (e.g. steady electricity, high-speed internet, performing computers, software packages)
- Certain technologies are costly (e.g. HR images, Lidar, commercial software packages), limiting large-scale deployment and sustainability

Lessons learned

- Not promote specific tools/data sets but provide overview of available options
- Help governments make informed decisions
- Support country decisions and tailor best available approaches while maintaining consistency and comparability of results
- Heavy reliance on complex & costly technology may not be in all developing countries' best interest
- Open source, free software and data set that meet REDD+ requirements are available. If not, new tools can be developed

Countries supported on MRV

NPs

- **Ongoing:** Panama, Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Nigeria, RoC, Zambia, Philippines, Cambodia, Sri Lanka,
- **Finalized:** Indonesia, Vietnam, Tanzania, DRC

Targeted support

- Paraguay, Argentina, DRC, Coast Ivory, Salomon Is., PNG, Pakistan, Buthan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Sri Lanka



Country example: Republic of Congo

Main challenges

- **Additionality (forest cover: 66%; deforestation rate <0.1%)**
 - Focus on degradation
 - Bilateral agreements
 - Reference scenarios
 - Project-based activities
 - Manage expectations
- **MEFDD-skewed**
 - MRV cells
- **Implementation bottlenecks**
 - Improve coordination
 - Increase capacity

Main assets and next steps

- Strong national leadership and ownership
- Law on REDD+
- FAO Congo Basin MRV project: MRV team merging
- Advanced NFI
- Allometric equations workshop
- Focus for 2014
 - MRV Action Plan
 - Reference level/scenario
 - Workshop on forest definition. Basis for studies on drivers and forest change monitoring.



Regional capacity building in 2014



- 3 workshops to share NFMS experiences:
 1. Africa: Feb 24-28 Zambia, 17 countries, UNDP LECB
 2. Latin America – date April/May tbc
 3. Asia – poss Sept / Oct tbc
- Global synthesis and lessons-learned workshop
 - Rome – Dec 2014?
- Coordination with other organizations/projects
 - Internal – FAO CC work, FAO-Finland, NFMA, MICCA, etc
 - External - CD-REDD, SilvaCarbon, bilaterals, etc.

Part 2 - Overview of activities and future plans in the governance work area

Emelyne Cheney (FAO)



FAO/UN-REDD governance activities

Participatory
Governance
Assessments

Legal
Preparedness

Tenure

REDD+/FLEGT
linkages

Safeguards
Information
Systems



Governance Assessments (PGAs)

- Collaboration with UNDP
- FAO: providing technical support on *governance data collection* during the assessments
- 4 PGA countries: Ecuador, Indonesia, Nigeria, Viet Nam
- New pilots coming up (Paraguay)
- PGA Practical Guide due for release in 2014

Legal Preparedness



- Building on the approach of [FAO's Development Law Service](#)
- Providing legal advisory services on all aspects of REDD+ readiness
- Activities in DRC, Kenya, Honduras, Guatemala (+ CAR and Colombia)
- **Scaling up!** New targeted support in Africa and Asia in 2014



Tenure

- Delivered by FAO Tenure team, following the [Voluntary Guidelines for the Governance of Tenure](#)
- Analytical work in 2013 (see [UN-REDD Policy Brief](#))
- Providing country-tailored assistance to develop enabling tenure conditions for REDD+
 - Expected start of six targeted support projects in 2014
- REDD+ & Tenure Specialist due to start in Feb

REDD+/FLEGT



- In collaboration with FAO FLEGT team
- Strengthening linkages between REDD+ and FLEGT national processes (upon country request)
- Country studies on [CAR](#), [Cameroon](#), Liberia and Ghana (2012-2013)
- Follow up activities in Cameroon & Ghana (currently)



Safeguards

- Common vision defined through the UN-REDD Safeguards Coordination Group & [UN-REDD Framework for Supporting the Development of Country Approaches to Safeguards](#)
- FAO: focus on Safeguards Information Systems (SIS)
- Costa Rica – joint targeted support with UNDP & UNEP
 - Overall support to the development of safeguards approach
- Zambia – FAO targeted support, in close collaboration with NP team
 - Synergies between SIS & NFMS
- Growing demand from countries – new targeted support expected in 2014



Summary of key points



- FAO's approach – emphasis on national ownership and on strengthening national capacities
- NFMS/MRV: Alignment with the UNFCCC process, building on existing capacities.
- Scaling up support to countries in the development of legal frameworks, tenure systems and safeguards information systems



THANK YOU!

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