REDD+ National Strategies
& Action Plans (NS/AP)

Structure of the presentation

- **What does UNFCCC say on NS/AP?**
- **Flexible approaches towards NS/AP**
- **Some considerations towards a quality NS/AP design process**
- **Integrating the main readiness workstreams**

What does the UNFCCC say on NS/AP?

National Strategy (NS) or Action Plan (AP)

NFMS including MRV

Safeguard Information system (SIS)

FREL / FRL

… for REDD+ implementation and to access results-based payments (*Decision 1/CP16, para 71*)

REDD+ NS/AP → describes how emissions will be reduced &/or how forest carbon stocks enhanced, conserved &/or sustainably managed

CP16 requests on NS/AP design & implementation

- No <u>specific</u> guidance on content

- But **when developing (phase 1) and implementing (phase 2) their NS/AP, developing countries are requested to address**, inter alia (*D1/CP.16, para 72*):

  - ✓ Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation

  - ✓ Land tenure issues

  - ✓ Forest governance issues

  - ✓ Gender considerations

  - ✓ Safeguards

  - ✓ Full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia, indigenous peoples and local communities

CP16 Guidance on the 5 REDD+ activities

(D1/CP16, Appendix 1)

The 5 REDD+ activities should:

- *Contribute to **stabilizing GHG concentrations***

- *Be **country-driven***

- *Be consistent with the **objective of environmental integrity** and take into account the **multiple functions of forests** and other ecosystems*

- *Be undertaken in **accordance with national development priorities, objectives and circumstances and capabilities** and should respect sovereignty*

CP16 Guidance on the 5 REDD+ activities

- *Be consistent with **national sustainable development needs and goals***

- *Be implemented in the **context of sustainable development and reducing poverty**, while responding to climate change*

- *Be consistent with the **adaptation needs of the country***

- *Be supported by **adequate and predictable financial and technology support**, including support for capacity-building*

- *Be **results-based***

- *Promote **sustainable management of forests***

-> relevant to NS/AP aiming to achieve them!

Content of a Strategy

→**No prescription from UNFCCC:** full flexibility left to countries regarding the content and structure of the document, **depending on preferences & national context!**

In groups please answer the following question:

What could the content of a National REDD Strategy be?

What issues could it cover?

Existing strategies in A-P

- Indonesia, June 2012, prepared by the REDD+ Task Force

- Philippines, 2010, The Philippines REDD-plus Strategy Team spearheaded by Department of Environment and Natural Resources Forest Management Bureau and CoDe REDD-plus Philippines (more than 30 organizations involved, 50 authors)

- Viet Nam, June 2012, Decision on the National REDD Action Program by the Prime Minister

Existing strategies

Item	Countries
Introduction	Ina, RP, Tnz, VN
Objectives (Strategic directions)	Ina, RP, Tnz, VN
Global context	Tnz, VN
Domestic context/drivers of deforestation and degradation	Ina, RP, Tnz, VN
Legal/policy framework required for REDD+	Ina, RP, VN
Implementation measures	Ina, RP, Tnz, VN
Safeguards (including FPIC)	Ina, VN
MRV and REL/RL	Ina, RP, Tnz, VN
General governance issues	Ina, RP, Tnz, VN
Institutional arrangements	Ina, Tnz, VN
Benefit distribution system	RP, VN

Existing strategies

Other issues	Countries
Strategy development process	Tnz
Strategy revision process	-
Communications and awareness raising	Tnz
Research requirements	Tnz
Establishment of new Agency	Ina
Human resource development requirements	RP, Tnz, VN
Pilot projects	-
FLEGT	VN

Proposed content (Cambodia)

|	Chapters
1	Objective of the strategy (target)
2	Background
3	Institutional arrangements
4	Policies and measures to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
5	Safeguards and grievance mechanisms
6	Benefit sharing
7	Natl. REDD+ fund or another approach to receive and disburse international funding
8	National forest monitoring system
9	National REL/RL
10	National system to report on GHGs
11	Possible role for sub-national implementation in a national REDD+ strategy
12	Financing options for the implementation of the REDD+ strategy

Ideal content?

There is none!

CP19 request regarding NS/AP

- **A link to the NS/AP should be posted by the Country on the Information Hub on the UNFCCC REDD+ Web Platform**

  → No review process or endorsement required from the UNFCCC

  → Still important to ensure quality to build trust and buy-in from national and international stakeholders

 → Opportunity to attract results-based payments (RBP)
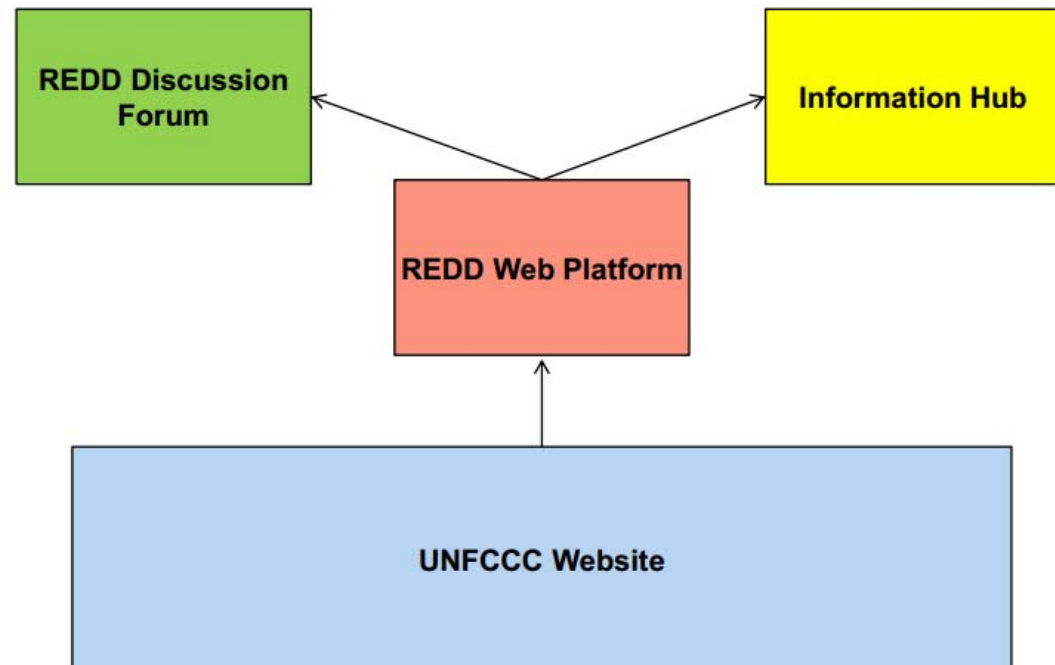
Flexible approaches towards NS/AP

Full flexibility left to countries

- **Different approaches by countries to NS/AP:**
  - ➤ **NS/AP as a general framework** with long-term vision, then refined through Investment Plan (e.g. DRC, Tanzania)
  - ➤ **More directly operationally-oriented** (e.g. Ecuador)
- Most countries so far seem to have used the Why / What /How as a logical guiding **structure for the NS/AP document**
- Some have been more specific than others
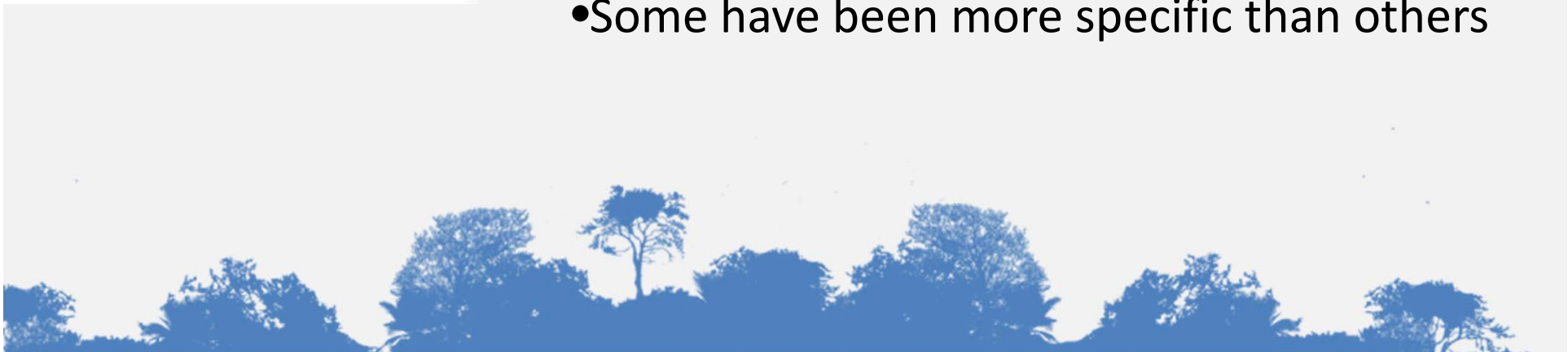
Questions guiding the design process

Why?

- **Development context and objectives** of the country?
- **Deforestation context** (trends and related drivers)
- → **Country vision for REDD+?**
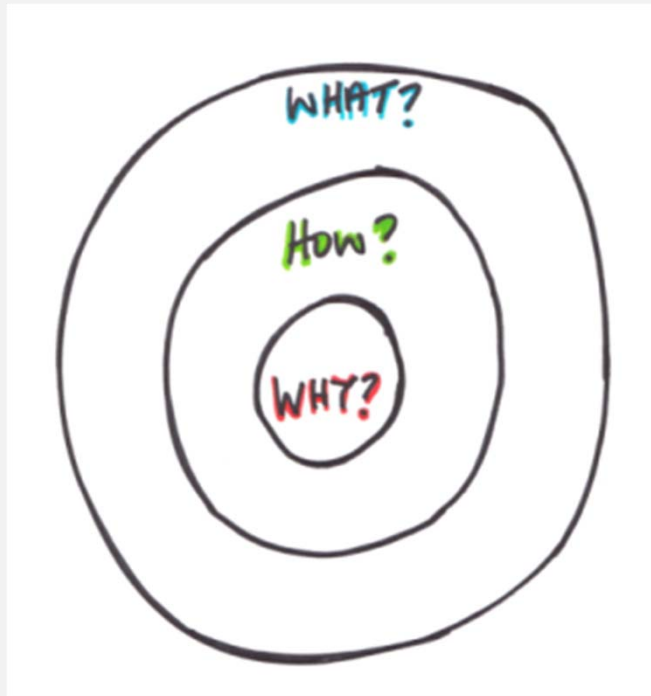
What?

- **Policies & Measures** (reforms & RBAs) considered by the country towards results
- How do they **build on/supplement/change existing P&Ms?**

Questions guiding the design process

How?

• **how will this be achieved?** (piloted/coordinated, funded, implemented, monitored)
→ **through credible, pragmatic & efficient institutional, financial & legal arrangements**

Integrating REDD+ in broader Green Economy

Green Economy: "an economy that results in improved human well-being & social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks"

- REDD+ can generate socio-economic & environmental benefits for countries beyond climate mitigation

  → RBAs for RBP also beneficial to country economy & population

- **Achieving REDD+ → Step in shifting development pathway towards a Green Economy** (low-carbon, resource efficient and equitable economy)

- Gain acceptance about REDD+ & integrate in relevant government actions **across ministries** to increase chance of success

- Involve Private Sector: P&Ms that shape **operating models** that deliver emission reductions (reduce DD in supply chains)

Strategy & Development pathway

UN-REDD PROGRAMME

Vision
(long-term development objectives)
e.g. Prospective study "Vision Country 2035"

Brown growth

Green growth

Development strategy

| Agriculture policy | Education policy | etc |

Current & potential capital assets

Natural Capital	**Human Capital**	**Social Capital**
Minerals Agriculture Forests, …	Education Health, …	Cohesion Trust, …

Produced Capital	**Financial Capital**
Roads Schools Fabrics…	Currency Bank deposits Loans, …
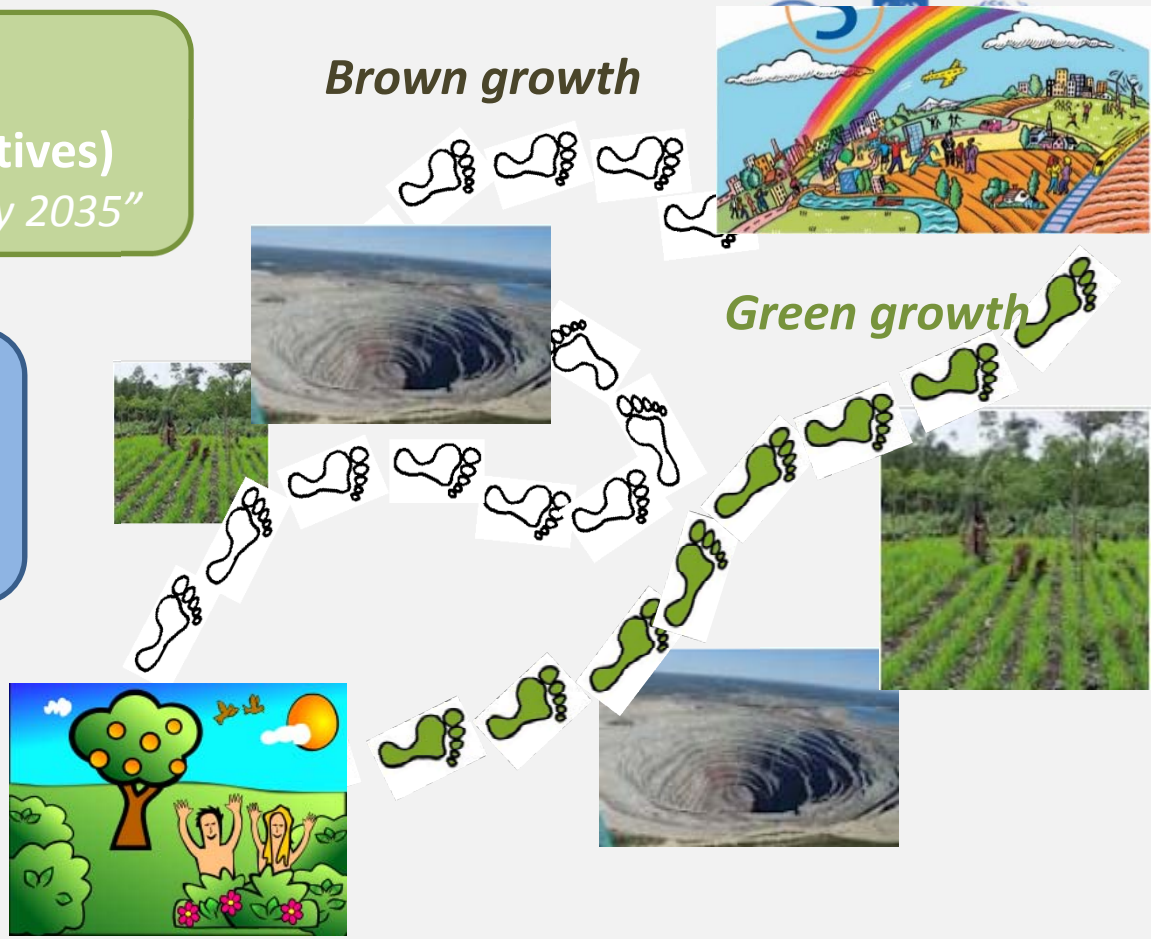
Depending on conditions & choices → reaching or not vision, +/- fast, with very different short/medium/long-term economic, social & environmental impacts

Reducing deforestation AND sustaining growth???

Brazil demonstrated that it is feasible!

Amazon Deforestation X GDP
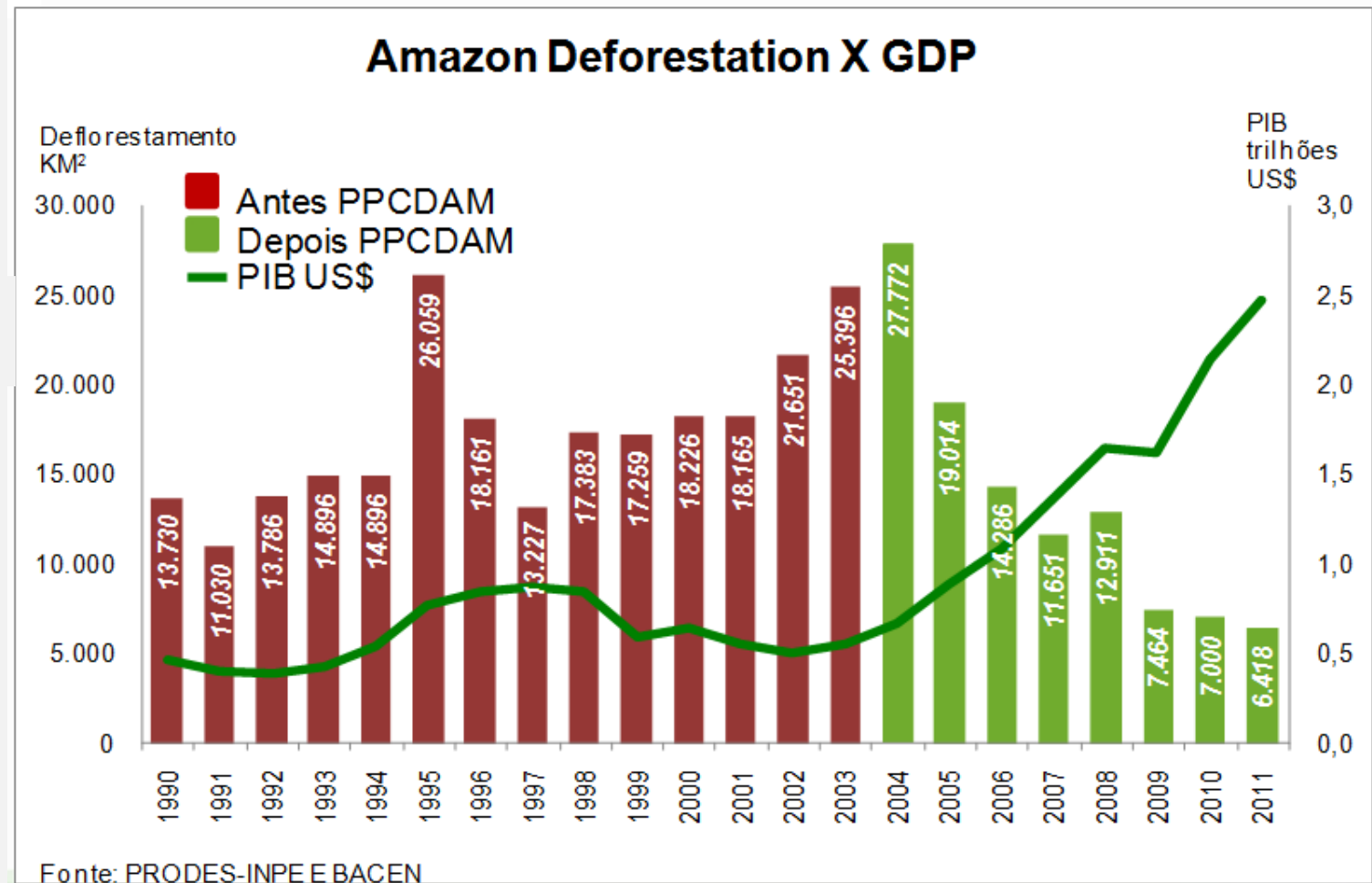
→ **Requires a coherent & integrated national REDD+ strategy, effectively embedded into national development strategy, with high-level political support and strong inter-sectoral coordination**

Explaining success

- **Accurate, transparent deforestation monitoring**
- **High-level political support**
- **Understanding the drivers of deforestation**
- **Professional, politically relatively neutral, police force (and/or Armed Forces)**
- **Adaptability**

Source: Environmental Defense Fund

Some considerations towards a quality NS/AP design process

The NS/AP decision process: an opportunity

→ Quality of design Process as important as Product!

Opportunity to:

- **Build high-level political support and wide support base** (national and international stakeholders)

- **Make REDD+ more tangible**

- **Demonstrate a transformative while pragmatic vision for REDD+ towards a green economy**

- **Catalyze REDD+ Results-Based Finance** (and investment)

- Better **coordinate and integrate various elements of readiness** (incl. NFMS, FRL, safeguards) -> efficiency!

Considerations for quality design process

- **Iteration**:

  Analysis ⟷ Consultations ⟷ Policy Dialogue

- **Step-wise approach:**

  - **Start simple**, but with coherence and ambition.

  - **Upgrade & expand scope over time according to capacity** (geographical coverage, activities, pools, drivers considered)

- **Multi-stakeholder**

  Multi-sectoral: (Envt, Agri, Energy, Planning, Finance etc.)

  Participatory: non-governmental actors are also crucial

  Mobilising expertise to feed the process

- **Integrate national development objectives, processes, documents**

- **Leadership and Coordination from Government / national level**

Iteration

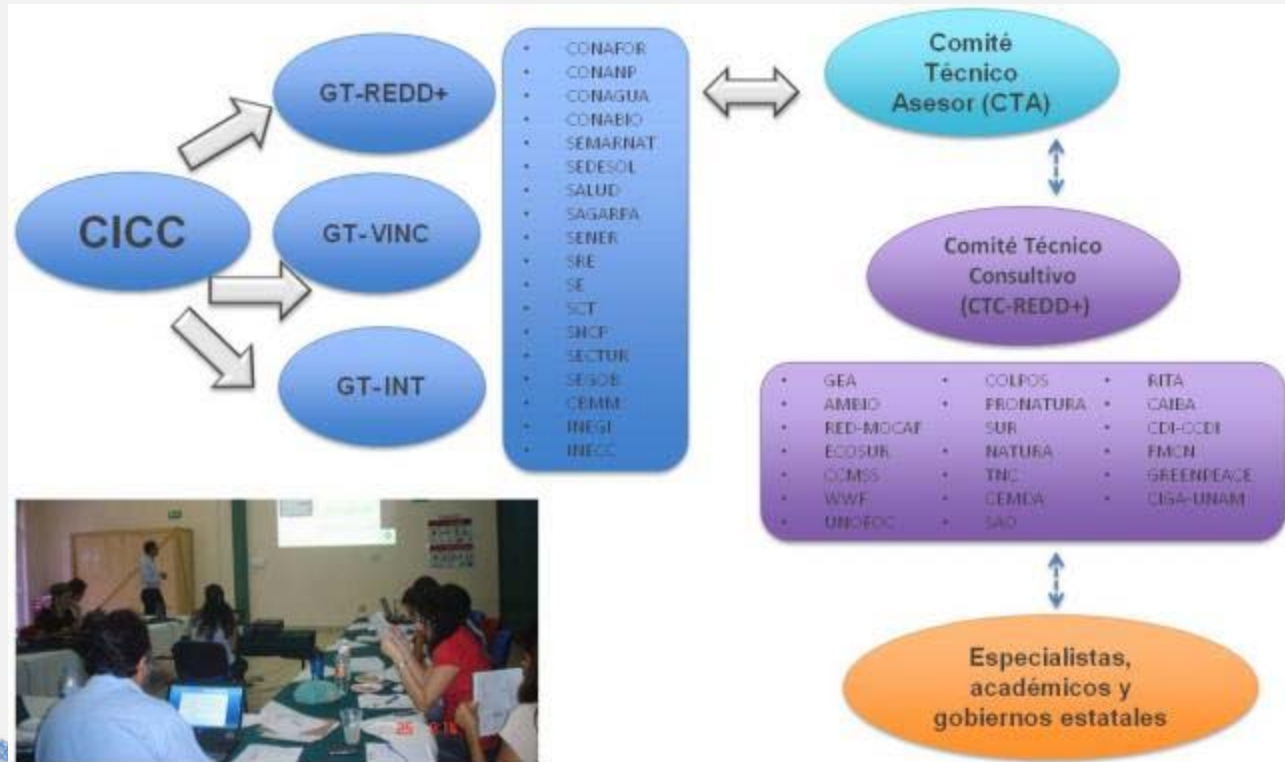## Analysis ⟷ Consultations ⟷ Policy Dialogue

**Example Mexico
-> Various platforms
-> currently draft 3 of
strategy, since 1st doc
in 2010**

**CICC = Cross-sectoral
Commission for
Climate Change**

REDD+ Readiness Roadmap development Myanmar

- **developed by 3 TWGs between December 2012 and May 2013**

- **TWG were on 1) Policy; 2) MRV; and 3) Stakeholder engagement**

- **2 national and 4 sub-national validation workshops**

Step-wise approach: a pathway towards phase 3

- **Start simple, pragmatic and conservative**, but with coherence and ambition

- **Upgrade and expand scope over time according to capacity** (*e.g.* geographical coverage, activities, pools, drivers considered)

Brazil → High capacity but pragmatic step-wise approach
- 1st strategy focusing 'only' on:
  - ✓ Activities: Deforestation (current NFMS capacity, but working on integration of Degradation)
  - ✓ Geographical scope: Amazon biome (working on future extension to Cerrado)
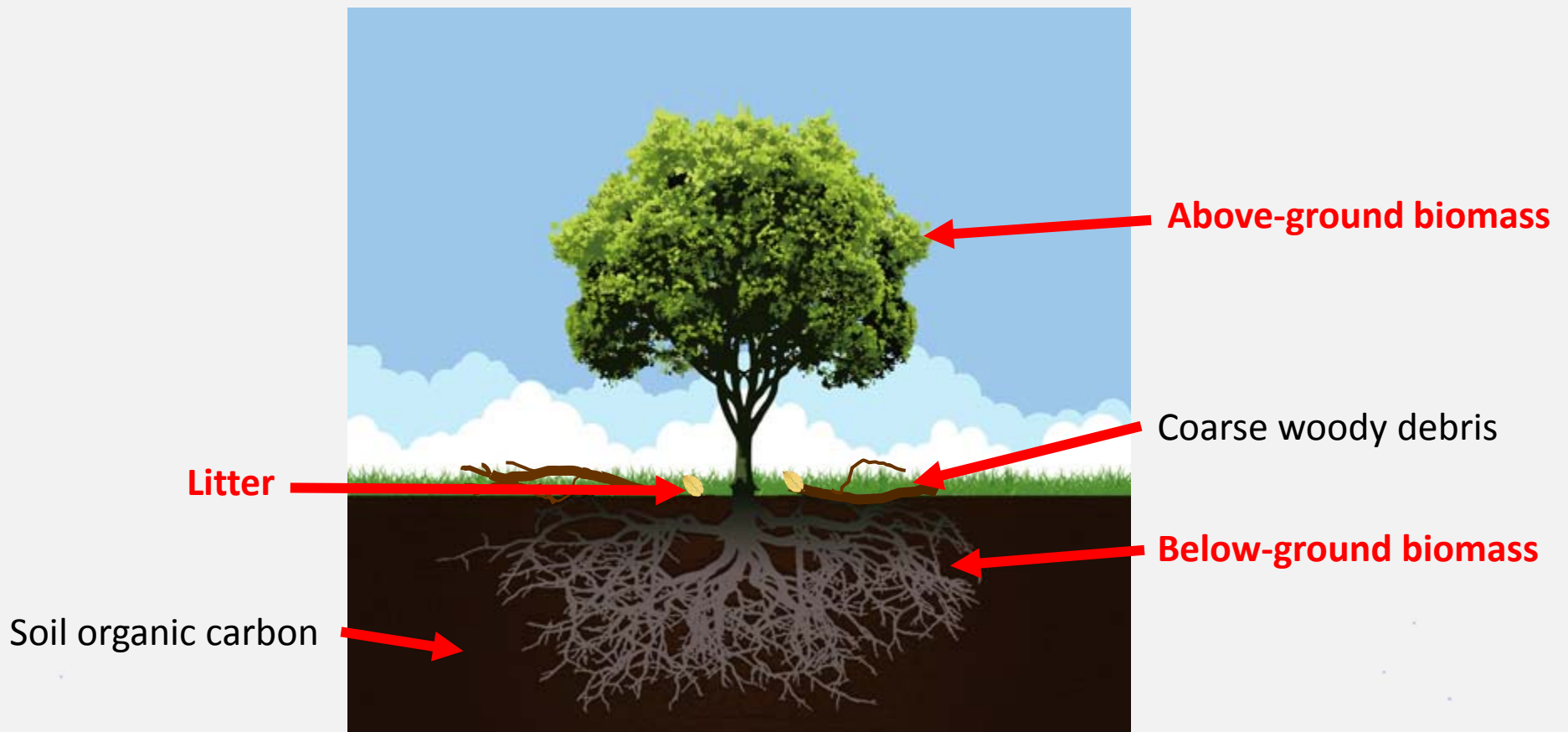 - **Already planning & working on future expansion**

Step-wise approach: a pathway towards phase 3

The five C-pools (the 3 used by Brazil in red, bold

Above-ground biomass

Coarse woody debris

Litter

Below-ground biomass

Soil organic carbon

Multi-sectoral & multi-stakeholder

Building consensus, support & collaboration

- **Most Drivers of Deforestation outside forests and forest sector**

- **Multi-sectoral engagement & coordination is crucial** (Readiness AND Implementation)

  - <u>Sectoral Ministries & Private Sector</u> (Environment / Forestry, Agriculture, Energy) -> Esp. direct drivers of DD

  - <u>Transversal Ministries</u> (Presidency, PM Office, Planning, Finance etc) -> Esp. underlying drivers, decision-making, coordination

- **Strategic reach-out efforts & high-level political support required**

  - **Make business case of REDD+ -> REDD+ as opportunity not threat**

Multi-sectoral & multi-stakeholder

Building consensus, support & collaboration

- **<u>Participatory</u>**: non-governmental actors support is essential; private sector engagement; views from the grassroots (reality check)

- **<u>Mobilizing expertise</u>**: researchers, prospective analysts, statistics office...

→ **A good multi-sectoral & multi-stakeholder process will facilitate final validation and appropriation of the NS/AP**

Integrate national development objectives, planning processes & documents

- **Make business case for REDD+** (highlight contribution to various development objectives) **to build credibility, visibility** of and **broad commitment** for REDD+

- Integrate various **sectoral and transversal planning processes and plans** (long-term development vision, sectoral policies and programs) **and legal framework**

- **Build high-level political support**

  → REDD+ NS/AP as a **process/means to reach national as well as international objectives**

  → Will help **capturing domestic financing** for implementation

Leadership & coordination from Government at national level

→ **Ensuring Efficiency & Coherence**

- Coordinate & harmonize contributions from **multiple actors at various levels of governance** to feed the NS/AP and facilitate future implementation (*data acquisition, capacity building, demonstration activities, etc.*) → Challenging!

- **Importance of national-level policy reforms and measures** to tackle underlying (indirect) and direct drivers of deforestation

- Watch **articulation between the national level and sub-national actions** → Essential role from national level for Consistency!!!

What else to integrate with?

Integrate various **sectoral and transversal planning processes** and plans!

In groups please answer the following question:
What sectoral plans or strategies do you believe are important to consider?
Come of with 5 key plans or strategies

Important plans and strategies

- **Biodiversity strategy and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)**

- **Adaptation strategy and action plan**

- **National Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)**

- **Forest Protection and Development Plan (VN)**

- **Social and Economic Development Plan (VN)**

Integrating the main REDD+ Readiness workstreams

Technical inputs

- **Good technical inputs enable informed decision making and policy design** and contribute to the validity of the NS/AP

- **To define entry points, prioritize intervention areas, understand costs & benefits** (not only financial), and **risks**

  → **financial & technical viability, political acceptability**

- Some basic technical inputs necessary, but **don't wait for optimum inputs** to start design process

  → **Required to start: Basic consensus on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation**

  → **Planning improvement,** from simple towards more complete, **based on national capacities** and their strengthening
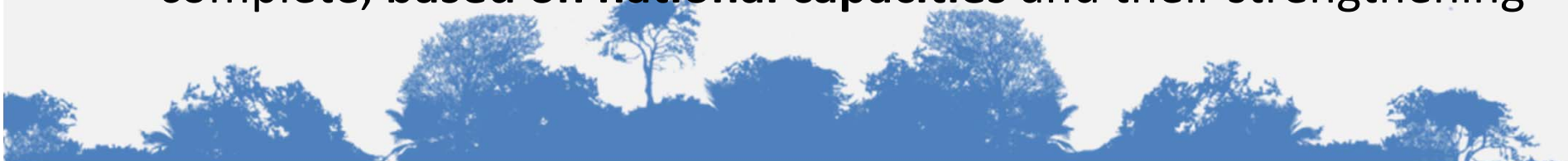
REDD+ as a process to achieve emission reductions and contribute to national objectives

- Extent and location of forest
- Time series
- Land use and forest change
- Forest types
- Deforestation rates and drivers of DD
- Forest emissions and absorptions
- Economic analyses (cost and benefits)
- Spatial analyses
- Safeguards information systems
- Other?

Strategies/ Action plans

REDD+ measures, policies and actions
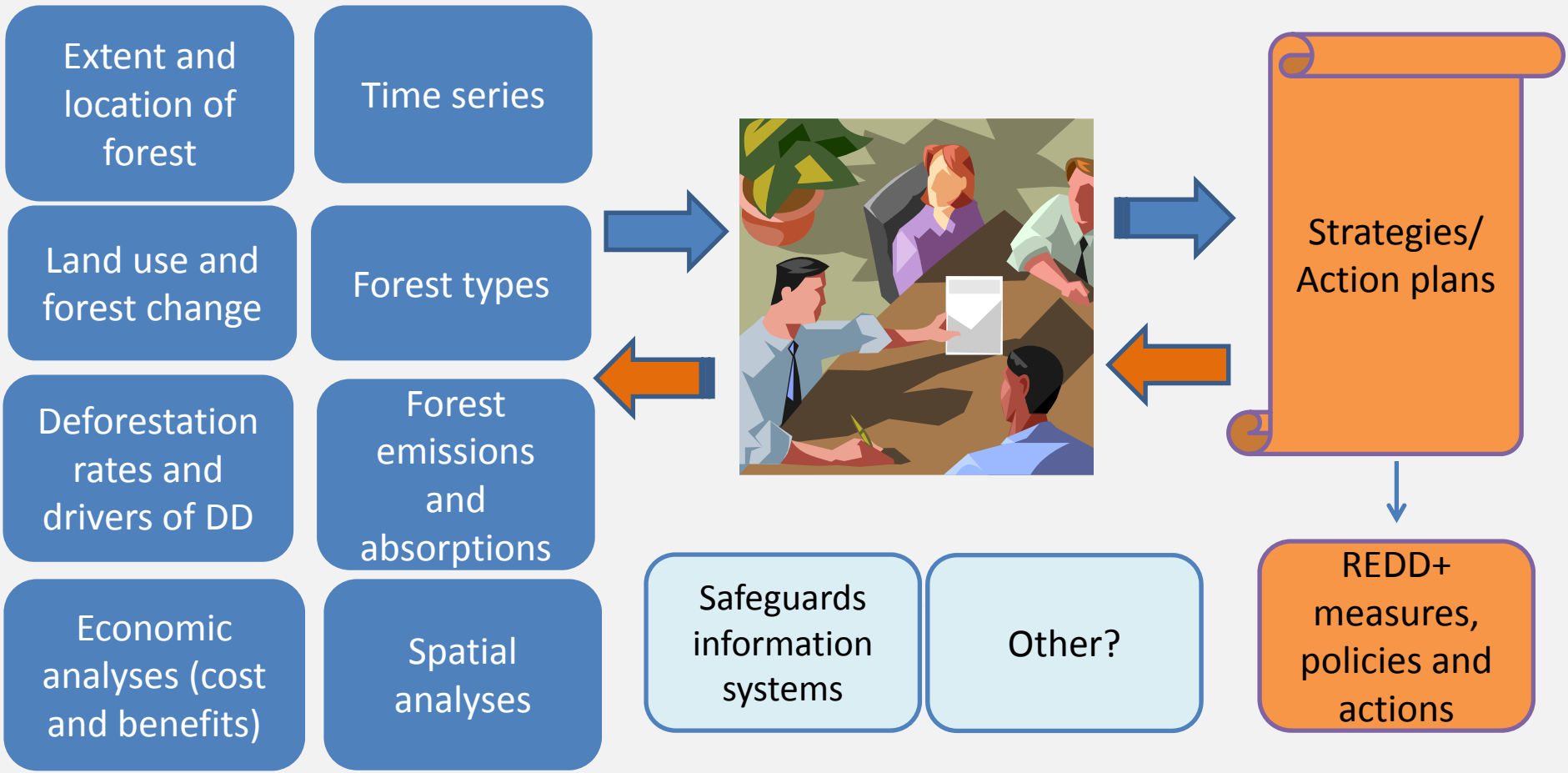
Examples of potential technical inputs

- **Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation (DDFD)**
  - Analyzing direct and underlying (indirect) DDFD is critical to define suitable result-based actions (RBA)
  - Towards thorough analysis of agents and DDFD and related causes, processes, locations and intensities (quantitative)
- **Forward-looking analysis** (modeling, etc)
  - can be **powerful instrument to support dialogue** (inter-sectoral, multi-stakeholders) **and decision-making**
  - → Importance of **robust relevant national data**, consistent with the national monitoring system
  - →**Handle results with care and communicate appropriately**

Ex: DDFD study in Colombia

- **Extensive analytical work** on DDFD

- **Qualitative & Quantitative analysis, diaggregated in homogenous regions**

- **Identified inter-relations:** Underlying drivers, agents, direct & indirect impacts, for various direct drivers

- Included **analysis on expected future drivers**

- Feeding work on **FRL**

- **Maps of risks of DD** (modeling)

- **Using all inputs to define intervention strategy -> Vision Amazon** (post-conflict conservation & sustainable development)

Ex: Land Use Modeling & optimization in Colombia

- Objective to advise on ways to **lessen impact from country objectives of oil palm expansion on agricultural & environmental objectives**

- **Analysis of various scenarios, from business as usual (BaU) to best compromise between various objectives**

Oil palm conversion priority

Low ▬▬▬ High

- Very marginal or not suitable for oil palm
- Areas not suitable for oil palm (Elevation > 1000 m)
- Current oil palm plantations
- NoData
- Administrative divisions
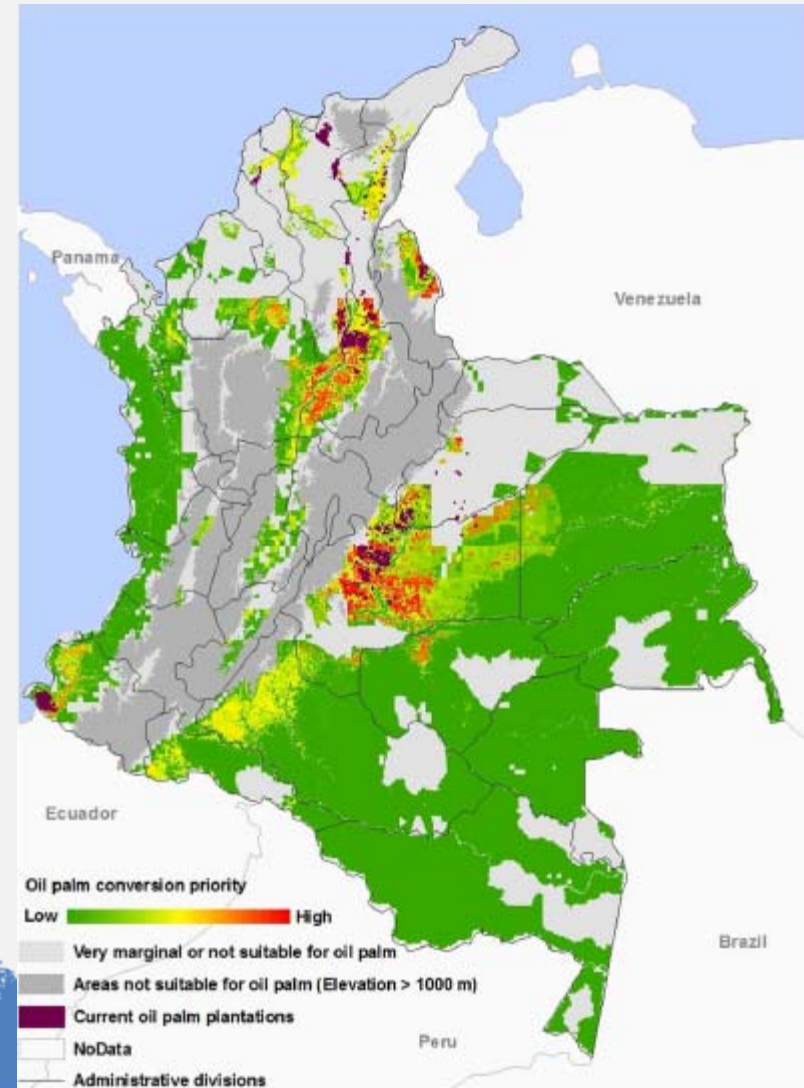
Examples of potential technical inputs

- Assessment of **legal, institutional, financial and fiscal context of DDFD** (negative and positive incentives), **incl. existing P&Ms**
- Study of **costs, benefits, risks of potential REDD+ action**
- Study of **financing options, required incentives** (and, if relevant in 1st iteration of NS, benefit sharing options)
- Assessment of **institutional capacities and capacity building needs**
- **Etc**

→ **Relevant technical inputs highly dependent on country context!**

Integrate REDD+ at inter-ministerial level: use key analysis to embed REDD+ across Ministries

Ministry of Forestry / Environment

Lead in implementing REDD+ at national level

Ministry of Planning

Multiple benefits/spatial planning

Ministry of Finance

Finance sector regulation; deforestation from financial supply chains;

Office of Statistics

e.g. Scenarios for RBA leading to RBP; National/corporate natural capital accounting

Ministry of mining

Embed ecosystem compensation as part of mining development; smart planning

Ministry of Agriculture

e.g. Strip deforestation from agricultural supply chains

→ **Establish dialogue, and national inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms!!!**

Understanding costs, (multiple) benefits & risks of REDD+ actions

- **Identify & quantify potential positive/negative economic, social & environmental impacts** (e.g. employment, impact on livelihoods of specific sections of the population) **& related risks**
- Heavily dependent on national & local **context**
- I**dentify and prioritize options** (REDD+ activities and actions, geographical targets) **and define mechanisms to**:
  - **Minimize costs and negative impacts**
  - **Maximize benefits** (incl. contributions to local & national development & shift towards Green Economy)
  - **Minimize or mitigate risks**
→ **Important elements for stakeholders buy-in** (incl. political support and credibility towards other sectors)
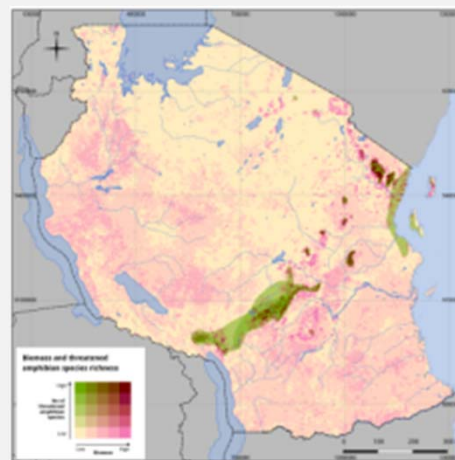
Benefits vary geographically

→ **Spatial analysis helps to identify priority areas for REDD+ RBAs**
→ **Support to large-scale land use planning** (national/subnational)
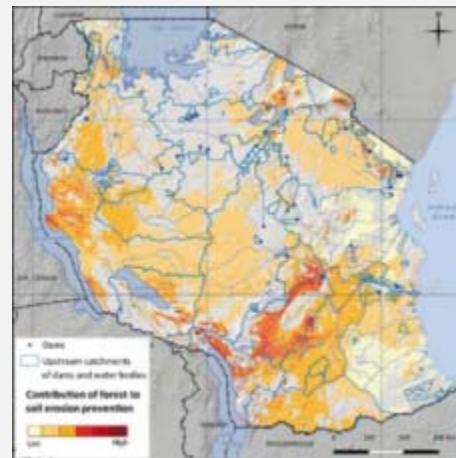
Biomass carbon stocks

Importance for biodiversity

Importance for NTFPs

Importance for soil erosion

- Identify the relevant questions, e.g.:

– Which areas are most under current/future pressure?

– Where can the desired benefits be achieved?

– Where might risk of unsuccessful implementation be high?

– What are the costs?

– etc

Ex: REDD+ cost-benefits analysis in Ecuador

1. Analysis of land uses & drivers of DD (Context of each macrozone) (Based on secondary info & interviews) √

2. Strengths & existing initiatives √

3. Analysis of Opportunity Costs & externalities (Based on secondary info & field work) √

4. Identification of potential Strategic REDD+ Options, Measures & Actions & at the national level √

5. Analysis of implementation & transaction costs √

6. Valuation of main multiple benefits √

7. Analysis of REDD+ revenues & other benefits √

8. Comprehensive analysis: Quantitative, qualitative & spatial √

9. Identification of REDD+ policies & instruments √

Relevance of NFMS and FREL/FRL in the design of national REDD+ strategies

- **Knowledge of sources, emissions/removals**, and their monitoring to evaluate **REDD+ potential** (ERs) **& assess results**
- Good **monitoring enables performance analysis**
  - → Important to **refine and improve strategy over time**
  - → Reporting to the UNFCCC required to **access RBPs**
- **Transparency** is essential
- Centralization of data to avoid inconsistencies & double counting
- → **Conditioning scope of strategy** (i.e. REDD+ activities addressed):
  - **NFMS capacity to monitor REDD+ activities** (e.g. Degradation)
  - **FRL: availability of historical data** on these activities

Implementation framework
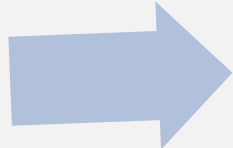
Legal framework for REDD+

- Objectives
- Implementation app
- Roles & responsibilit
  institutions
- Rights & duties of pa
  REDD NS/AP implem
- Budget
- Fiscal means

- Are existing laws adequate?
- Have laws & regulations taken reg. REDD+ NS/AP implementation?
- What the the evidence that they are respected?

National manage
mechanisms of N
implementation

- Accountability & transparency
- Intersectorial Co
- Technical super
- Law enforceme
- Fiduciary mana
- SIS
- NFMS
- Information sh
  mechanism
- Other tools

-Institutional arrangements?

-Mandates clearly defined?

- Budget available?

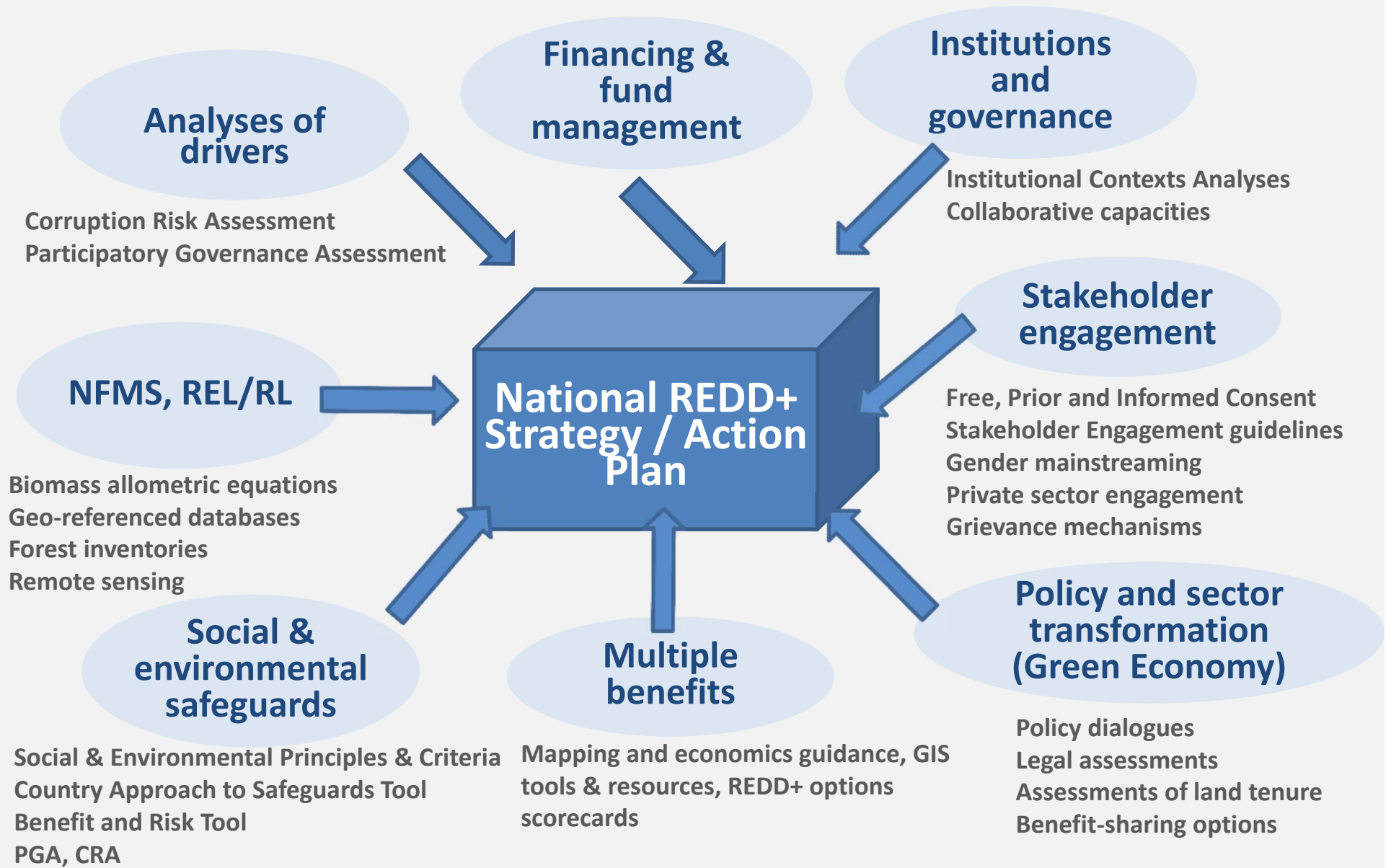- Technical capacity to achieve the mandate?

Legal, institutional & financial arrangements

- **Define institutional arrangement with clear mandate, budget and legal base** (for NS/AP Readiness / for implementation: piloting, implementation, monitoring)

  → Anchoring of strategy implementation may not be the same as readiness (e.g. Presidency, Ministry of Planning)

- **Prepare financial structure & processes** to improve opportunities to access RBF, and **funding strategy**

- **Inter-operational legal mechanisms required**: Alignment of national and international mitigation legal frameworks to receive RBF under the UNFCCC (allow flexibility!)

→ **Build on what you have (existing laws, institutions, processes & tools), and modify or supplement as required!**

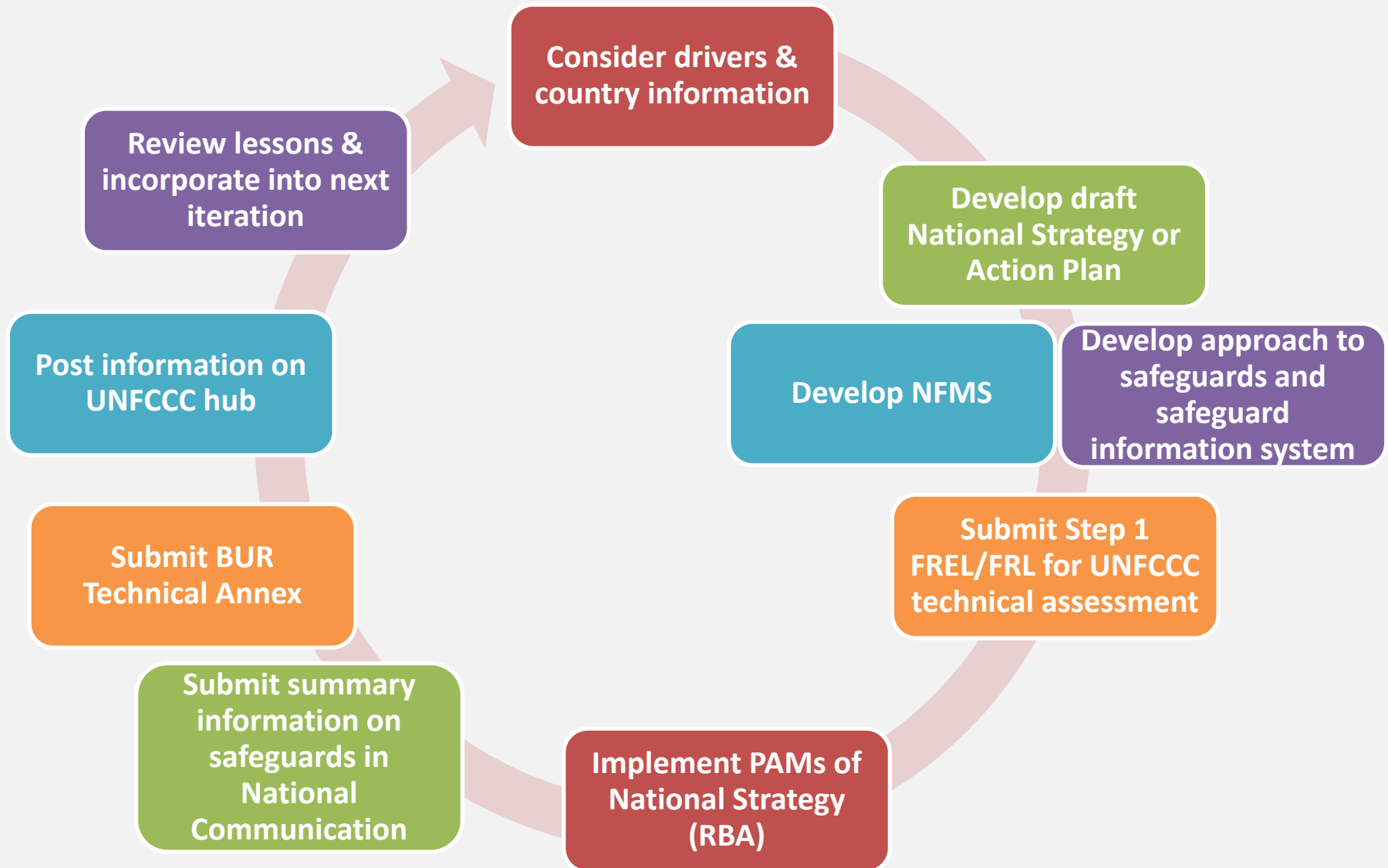# Common thematic areas for REDD+ NS/AP Design, & tools to support

Analyses of drivers

Corruption Risk Assessment
Participatory Governance Assessment

Financing & fund management

Institutions and governance

Institutional Contexts Analyses
Collaborative capacities

NFMS, REL/RL

Biomass allometric equations
Geo-referenced databases
Forest inventories
Remote sensing

National REDD+ Strategy / Action Plan

Stakeholder engagement

Free, Prior and Informed Consent
Stakeholder Engagement guidelines
Gender mainstreaming
Private sector engagement
Grievance mechanisms

Social & environmental safeguards

Social & Environmental Principles & Criteria
Country Approach to Safeguards Tool
Benefit and Risk Tool
PGA, CRA

Multiple benefits

Mapping and economics guidance, GIS tools & resources, REDD+ options scorecards

Policy and sector transformation (Green Economy)

Policy dialogues
Legal assessments
Assessments of land tenure
Benefit-sharing options

A step towards REDD+ phase 3

NS/AP development: an iterative process

→ **Use improved data and lessons learnt to continuously improve and expand the scope the strategy, towards phase 3**

REDD+ Results-Based Actions