Rapid overview of REDD+ in Africa (*)
& a proposed quick REDD+ assessment methodology

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(*) This overview is incomplete and it just serves to illustrate some key elements for the REDD+ Academy initiative.

Coordination & Stakeholder engagement

- Specific national REDD+ units established (most countries)

- Civil society platforms for REDD+ & climate change established; *e.g.*:
    - ✓ GTCR (DRC)
    - ✓ CACO-REDD (Republic of Congo)
    - ✓ Stakeholder Forum on REDD+ (CRS, Nigeria)

- Provincial networks of stakeholders for REDD+ (Zambia)

- Joint FLEGT/REDD+ platform (Côte d'Ivoire)

- REDD+ roadmap (Malawi)

- Inter-ministerial Task Force (Côte d'Ivoire)

- REDD+ universities (DRC, Nigeria)

- *Chaminuka Protocol* (Zambia)

REDD+ Strategy work (I)

- Key <u>analytical work</u>; such as:

  ➢ Assessment of drivers of deforestation (with geographic declination) [FAO]

  ➢ Economic evaluation of forest ecosystems services [UNEP]

  ➢ Reforestation potential [FAO]

  ➢ REDD+ & the Green Economy [UNEP]

  ➢ Institutional & Context Analysis [UNDP]

  ➢ Forests, agriculture, charcoal & livelihoods dimensions [FAO/UNDP/UNEP]

REDD+ Strategy work (II)

- <u>DRC</u>: A comprehensive REDD+ strategy, with pillars, RLs, targets *et al.* (adopted by Council of Ministers, 2012) – then declined in a solid REDD+ Investment Plan (2014-2016)

- <u>Tanzania</u>: An action plan for REDD+

- <u>Zambia</u>: National REDD+ Strategy under formulation (for 2014)

- <u>Ethiopia</u>: Climate Resilient & Green Growth Strategy (adopted, under sectoral design)

- <u>Republic of Congo</u>: Ongoing REDD+ strategic work (for 2014)

- <u>Nigeria</u>: REDD+ Strategy roadmap for Cross River State in design (sub-national approach)

➢ Diversity of approaches, yet importance of a robust work (technical analysis --- national consensus --- political commitment)

➢ UN-REDD considering to prepare a methodological guidance for building REDD+ strategies, and to support south-south exchanges for the building of REDD+ strategies.

National Forest Monitoring Systems, Safeguards Information Systems & related work

- NFMS designed, partly operational, with a web interface (DRC, Zambia)

- National Carbon Monitoring Centre conceived/established (Tanzania)

- REDD+ Portal & REDD+ *wiki* (Zambia)

- Spatial analysis of multiple benefits of REDD+ (Tanzania, Nigeria, DRC, Republic of Congo)

- REDD+ Registry (DRC, forthcoming in Kenya and other countries)

REDD+ institutions & measures
REDD+ Governance / REDD+ Finance

- Corruption risk assessments & anti-corruption measures (DRC, Kenya)

- REDD+ Governance analytical series (Kenya)

- Participatory Governance Assessment (Nigeria)

- National REDD+ Fund established & operational (DRC)

- Planned REDD+ finance options work (Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire)

- REDD+ indicators in *Economic Governance Matrix* (DRC)

- South-south exchange series on REDD+ Finance (DRC & Ethiopia representing Africa; soon Kenya & Republic of Congo to join)
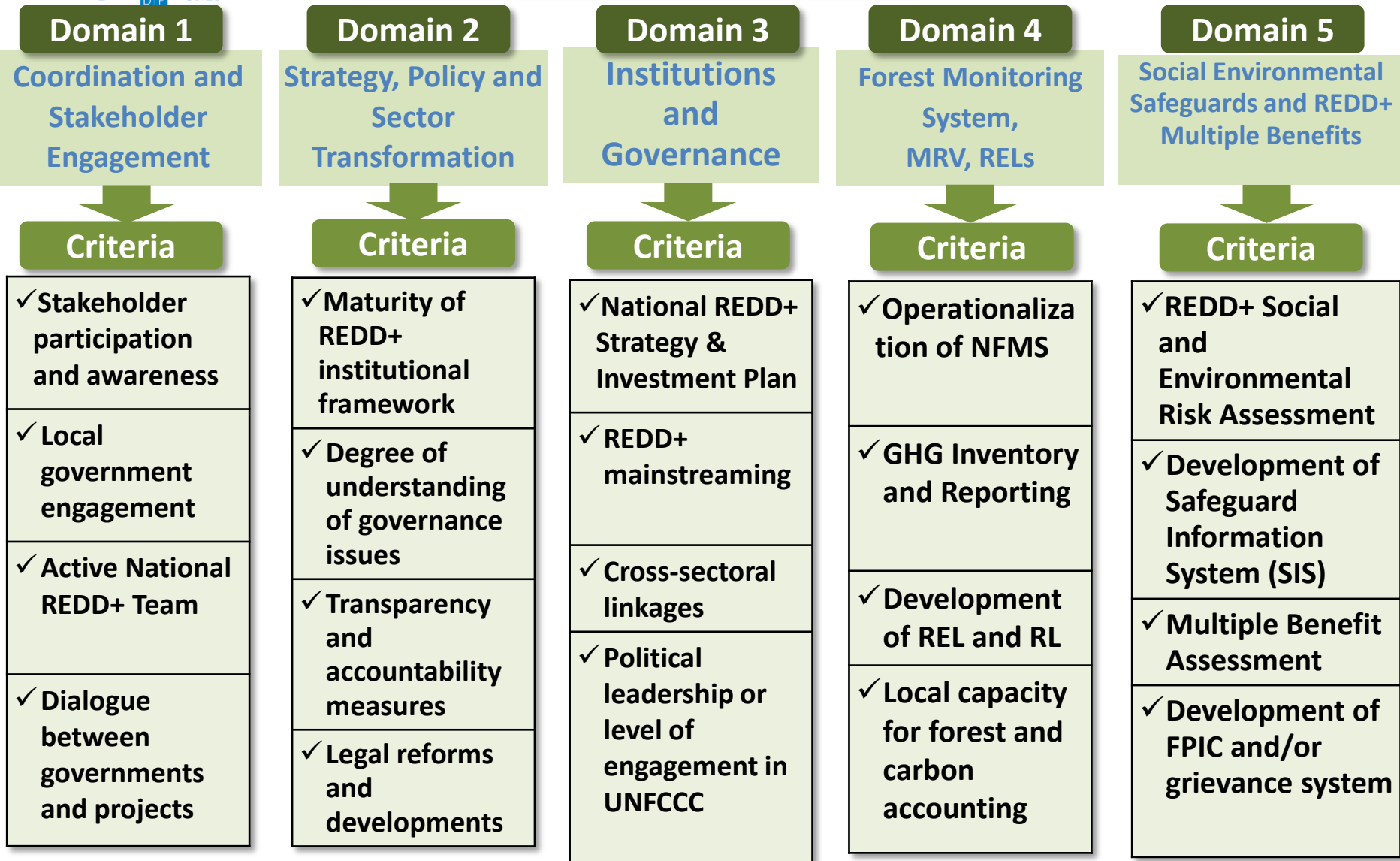
International engagement

- DRC: Leader of Africa caucus in UNFCCC / REDD+ negotiations

- Joint Declaration of Intent

- Host of UN-REDD and FCPF executive boards: Kenya, Republic of Congo

- Nigeria: co-chair of UN-REDD Policy Board (2013-2014)

- Nigeria REDD+ & Climate Change Diplomacy initiative (forthcoming)

Quick REDD+ readiness assessment

- Context & rationale:

  - Countries wish to know where they stand in terms of progress in REDD+

  - Existing methodologies too complex or for advanced processes only

  - Focus on enabling factors for moving towards REDD+ investments & finance

- Status: In advanced design phase with preliminary use/testing

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REDD+ Readiness

| Domain 1	Domain 2	Domain 3	Domain 4	Domain 5
Coordination and Stakeholder Engagement	**Strategy, Policy and Sector Transformation**	**Institutions and Governance**	**Forest Monitoring System, MRV, RELs**	**Social Environmental Safeguards and REDD+ Multiple Benefits**
Criteria	**Criteria**	**Criteria**	**Criteria**	**Criteria**
✓ **Stakeholder participation and awareness** ✓ **Local government engagement** ✓ **Active National REDD+ Team** ✓ **Dialogue between governments and projects**	✓ **Maturity of REDD+ institutional framework** ✓ **Degree of understanding of governance issues** ✓ **Transparency and accountability measures** ✓ **Legal reforms and developments**	✓ **National REDD+ Strategy & Investment Plan** ✓ **REDD+ mainstreaming** ✓ **Cross-sectoral linkages** ✓ **Political leadership or level of engagement in UNFCCC**	✓ **Operationalization of NFMS** ✓ **GHG Inventory and Reporting** ✓ **Development of REL and RL** ✓ **Local capacity for forest and carbon accounting**	✓ **REDD+ Social and Environmental Risk Assessment** ✓ **Development of Safeguard Information System (SIS)** ✓ **Multiple Benefit Assessment** ✓ **Development of FPIC and/or grievance system**

Example of diagnostic questions and guided assessment

Thematic Domain 2: Strategy, Policy and Sector Transformation

	Criteria	Diagnostic Questions	Weight Classification	
5	Adoption of national REDD+ Strategy and Investment Plan	• Has the national REDD+ Strategy/Roadmap been adopted, after a due participatory, transparent process (including analysis of key drivers of D&D, and strategy options)? • Have REDD+ investment plans been designed, and are ready for financing (transformational investments, in relevant sectors, and aligned to the national strategy)?	Highly advanced	REDD+ Strategy and Investment Plan both adopted for implementation
			Advanced	REDD+ Strategy finalized/issued, Investment Plan under development
			Progressed	REDD+ Strategy drafted
			Initiated	REDD+ Strategy under development and consultation
			Planned	REDD+ Strategy planned
6	REDD+ Mainstreaming into overall framework	• Has REDD+ been mainstreamed into overarching national climate change and/or development policy?	Full	REDD+ mainstreamed into CC policy and development plan
			Partially	REDD+ partially mainstreamed into CC policy and development plan
			Planned	REDD+ mainstreaming planned
7	Transformation (Establishing cross-sectoral linkages)	• Is there a solid cross-sectoral collaboration for REDD+, whether for policy coherence or joint investments?	High	Cross-sectoral linkages established
			Medium	Cross-sectoral linkages under development / consultation
			Low	Weak cross-sectoral linkages
8	Political leadership /level of engagement in UNFCCC REDD process	• Is the country a prominent actor in international REDD+ dialogue? (example: active negotiating party, regular share of policy and process lessons)	High	The country engages prominently and demonstrates leadership
			Medium	The country engages substantially
			Low	The country has limited engagement or low visibility in the process

Possible visual outputs of the quick assessment methodology
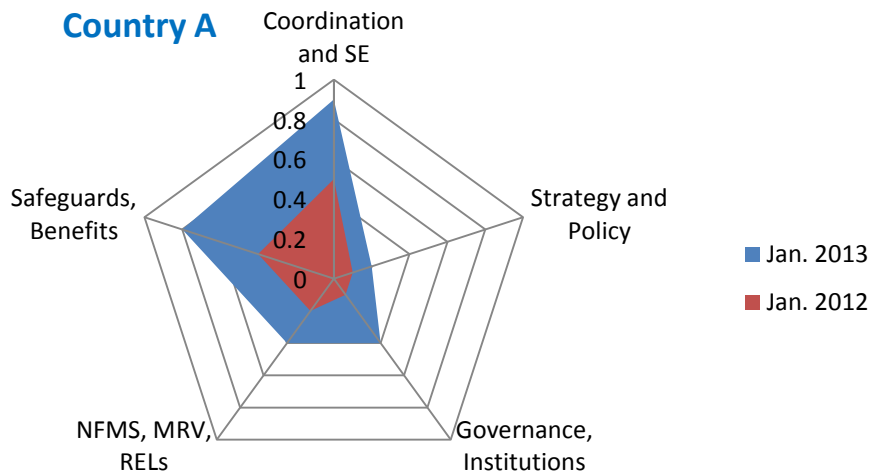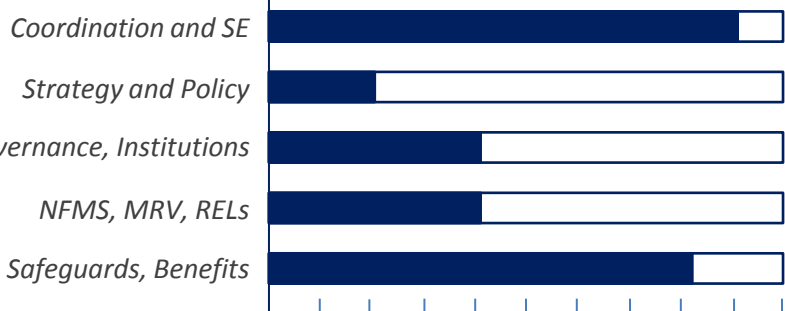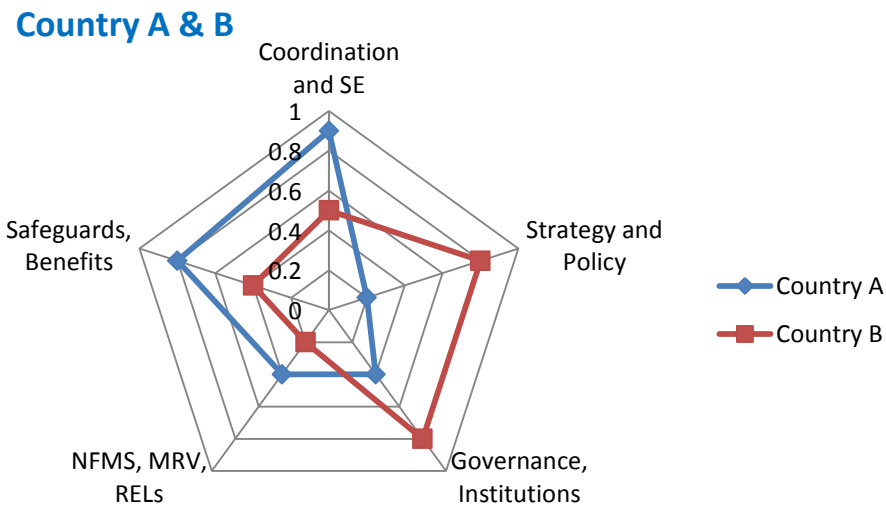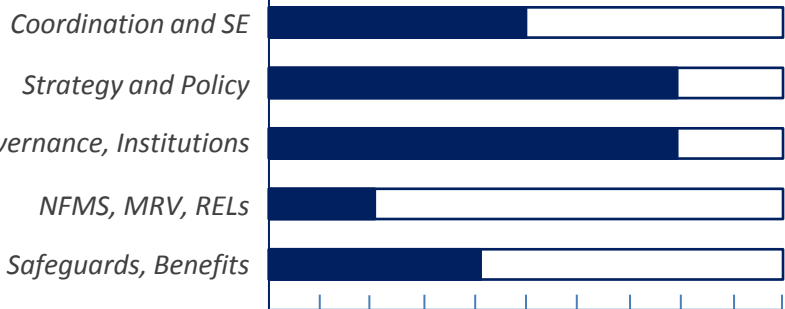
Synopsis of the quick REDD+ readiness assessment methodology

- **Simple, handy and quick:** 5 domains, 20 Qs with simple qualification

- **Consistency:**
  - ➢ UNFCCC requirements (Cancun Agreements *et al.*)
  - ➢ Alignment with work areas of UN-REDD Strategy Programme 2011 -2015
  - ➢ Coherent with the FCPF's R-Package

- **A policy analysis tool**
  - ➢ self-assessment (countries, diverse stakeholders, UN-REDD)
  - ➢ foster multi-stakeholder analysis and dialogue on REDD+
  - ➢ quick-fix unbalances in REDD+ readiness,
  - ➢ identify work streams with less progresses – guide technical & financial support
  - ➢ sustain dialogue between governments, partners and donors
  - ➢ provide guidance for programme reviews and capacity-needs assessments
  - ➢ identify opportunities for south-south exchanges

Application and prospects
of the quick REDD+ readiness assessment

- **Preliminary use**:
  - ➢ Tanzania (REDD+ gap assessment)
  - ➢ DRC (perhaps for forthcoming UN-REDD DRC final evaluation)
  - ➢ Offered for the Capacity Needs Assessment (voluntary)
  - ➢ An online survey is under design

- **Early insights**:
  - ➢ In some domains, countries have similar patterns of REDD+ progress
  - ➢ In other domains, countries diverge in progress and outputs

- **Potential**:
  - ➢ Help enabling South-South exchanges
  - ➢ Assist REDD+ academy to identify areas that require capacity-building, and countries that can be "teachers" of specific REDD+ components