



# **Social, Tenure and Rights Dimensions of REDD Plus**

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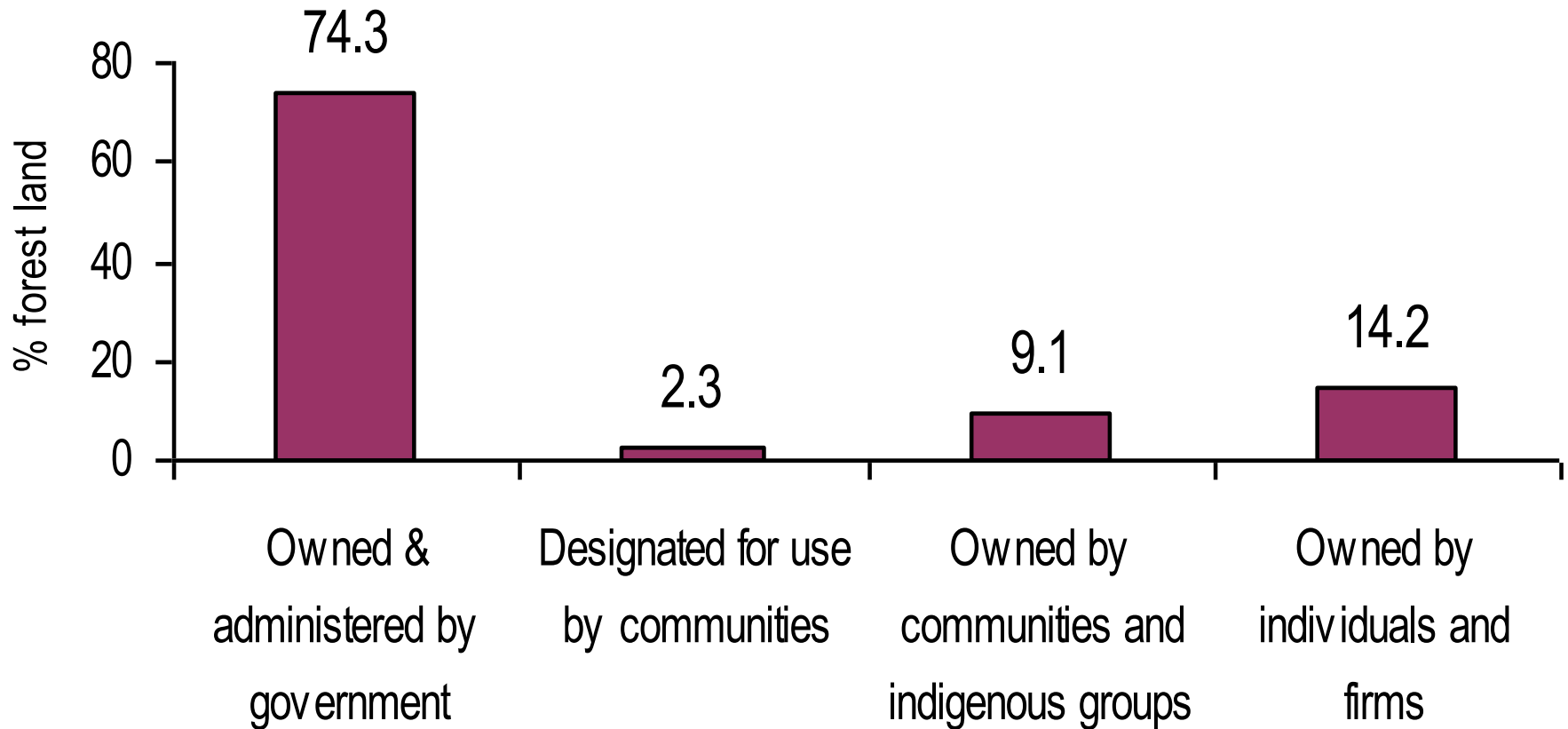


# Outline

- Community Rights - Status and Issues
- Potential impacts of REDD Plus
- Way forward



# Community Rights - Status and Issues (1)



**Source:** Sunderlin, Hatcher and Liddle, 2008

# Community Rights - Status and Issues (2)

- A large part of government administered forests, rights of the communities have not been settled
  - In India- 18% forests in the Unclassed category
  - Competing claims and conflicts -statutory and customary tenure
- Even in community owned forests, rights might be restricted
  - PNG- logging concessions
  - India- restrictions on harvest, transit and trade
  - Carbon rights not defined

# Community Rights - Status and Issues (3)

- In areas designated for communities under different participatory programmes
  - Unequal partnerships- Decision making /management
  - Restricted use rights

## **In addition.....**

- Weak governance - lack of enabling policies/ institutions/ poor implementation
- Conflicts in forest areas
- Civil and political rights not recognized
- Lack of awareness and skills in indigenous groups and communities

# Potential Impacts of REDD Plus (1)

Given this, if REDD Plus is implemented

- Land and forest resources will become more valuable
- Elite capture of forest resources- State/ private sector
- Process of recognition of community rights might be slowed
- Strengthening of 'guns and guards' approach to conservation
- Impact on biodiversity- implications for livelihoods/ rights

# Potential Impacts of REDD Plus (2)

- Impact on livelihoods and socio-cultural rights
  - Shifting cultivation, sacred groves
- Increase in conflicts- Impact on resource management
- Marginalization of indigenous groups and local communities



# Way forward

- Recognize community rights with security of tenure
- Strengthen governance mechanism- Enabling policies, institutions
- Recognizing and strengthening civil and political rights of indigenous groups and communities
- REDD Plus should be consistent with international agreements recognizing rights of indigenous groups and local communities- UNDRIP, UNDHR, CBD, etc
- Building capacities of the communities- strengthening their participation at each level with right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent
- Monitor more than Carbon- strengthened national and international monitoring mechanisms



**Thank you!**

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