



# REDD: Issues, concerns and ways forward for forest agencies

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# Outline

1. Key issues and concerns surrounding REDD
  - International design
  - Implementation
  - Civil society concerns
1. The role of tenure in achieving climate goals
2. Framework of actions
3. Questions for discussion

# International design: Baselines

- Most of the world's forest carbon emissions come from state-owned forest lands
- Slash and burn agriculturalists have a right to subsistence
- Institutional capacities are uncertain to effectively and equitably operate REDD in many countries
- Poor track record – what will be different now? Only technology?
- What can realistically be achieved in the next 10-15 years to reduce emissions?

# International design: : Assumptions

- Financing and speed is the solution
- Monitoring capacities are adequate
- REDD can scale up rapidly and private market will respond
- REDD can deliver all things to all people
- Whatever is decided in Copenhagen can be implemented: what about CDM A/ R?
- Cheap and easy (Paying off communities is cheap)



# International design: Benefits

- Being pitched as a benefit to the poor and window to development
- Industry will want its share
- Governments will want their share
  
- Is it a question of benefits, rewards, compensation or reparations?
  
- REDD+ is now on the agenda. What will it require to work in terms of technical capacity, institutional arrangements and compensation schemes?

# Implementation: Confusion

- Multitude of funds, agreements and projects
  - Australia bi-laterals
  - Norwegian funds
  - FCPF
  - UN-REDD
  - FIP
  - US legislation coming
  - Voluntary markets
- Creating spaces for corruption and tricky dealings (Liberia and Papua New Guinea)
- Pilots that cherry pick obfuscating some realities
- Bad information (climate change seedlings)

# Implementation: National strategies

- A lot of expectations being placed on forest agencies
- Institutional reforms needed to administer REDD
- Technical capacity
- Leading agencies and coordination
- Legislation
  - Carbon rights
  - Land tenure clarity

# Concerns from civil society

- REDD is just another form of colonialism
- Sub-prime carbon another bubble
- Market based REDD will put the climate in jeopardy
- People will be dispossessed of their lands and livelihoods
- Blame for climate crisis being shifted from industrial polluters to local communities
- Focusing on finance misses the picture: governance is the key





# Tenure is at the heart of reducing forest carbon emissions

- Contestation between customary and statutory tenure systems presents major challenge for forest governance
- Insecure tenure a known, but difficult to quantify, driver of deforestation (Eliasch Review 2008)
- Increased size of and greater authority in community forests leads to better outcomes for carbon, livelihoods and biodiversity (Agrawal 2008)
- Increasing pressure on forest land (agriculture, biofuels, water, etc) places pressure to clarify tenure
- Effectiveness and equity seriously compromised if the tenure rights of those living in forest areas are overlooked



# Growing recognition of tenure's importance in REDD

- Civil society: ethics and effectiveness
- Indigenous Peoples: historical grievances/ justice
- Private sector: investment security and knowing who to pay
- Governments: Norwegian OAR
- REDD programs (FCPF, UN-REDD)

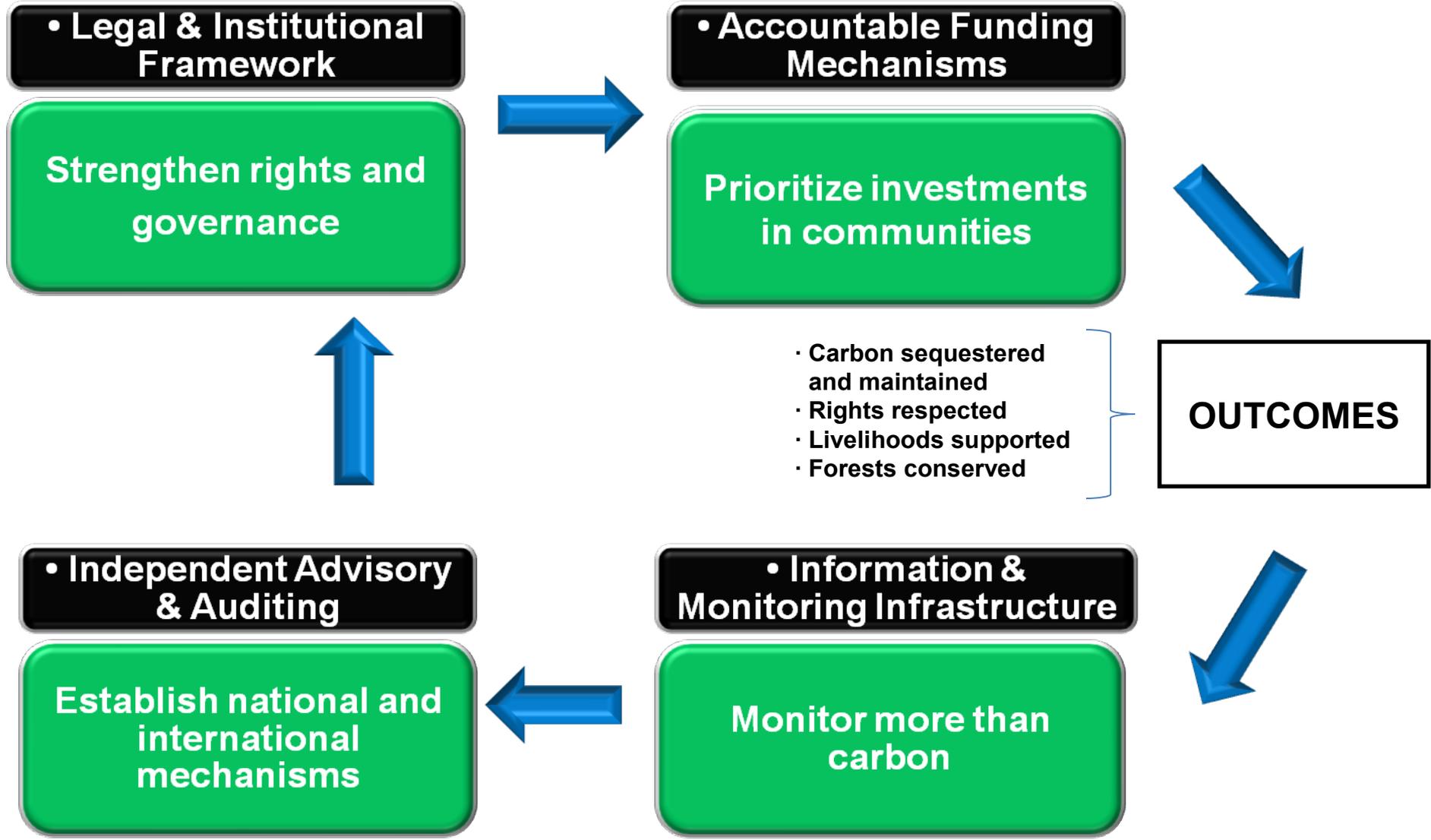
# REDD can provide an impetus

- For securing lands of Indigenous Peoples and other forest dependent communities/ individuals
  - Readiness phases
  - More money available
  - Effectiveness

Or

- Roll-back progress
  - State seizure of forest lands
  - Sale of carbon (and thereby the land use change) to foreign investors without local consent

# Framework for Ensuring Effective Investment in Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation in Forest Areas



# Questions for discussion

- How are forest agencies engaging in international and national program design and bringing their experience to the table?
- Are the expectations being built for forest agencies realistic? How will agencies handle the new burden/ responsibility?
- Can REDD deliver on all that's being promised?
- What will carbon monomania do to forest governance and other uses?

THANK YOU