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Keys to Success and Scale: Removing Barriers and Innovative Strategies to Enable and Promote Community Forest Enterprises

Dryad Initiative in Cameroon: main lessons learnt



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Content

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- Short presentation of Dryad initiative
- Process
- Where we are
- What the keys to success in promoting CFEs?
- Conclusion and perspectives

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What is Dryad?

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- DRYAD is a system to provide financial support, training and technical assistance to sustainable Community Forestry Enterprises (CFEs) via a network of locally based Implementing Organizations (IOs) that include Non-governmental organizations and research institutions.
- DRYAD does not make investments like a bank or private asset manager, but the system nevertheless seeks a “return” on its commitment of public capital.
- This “return” is not measured in money, but rather, by indicators showing the fulfillment of important social, commercial and environmental objectives.



Partners

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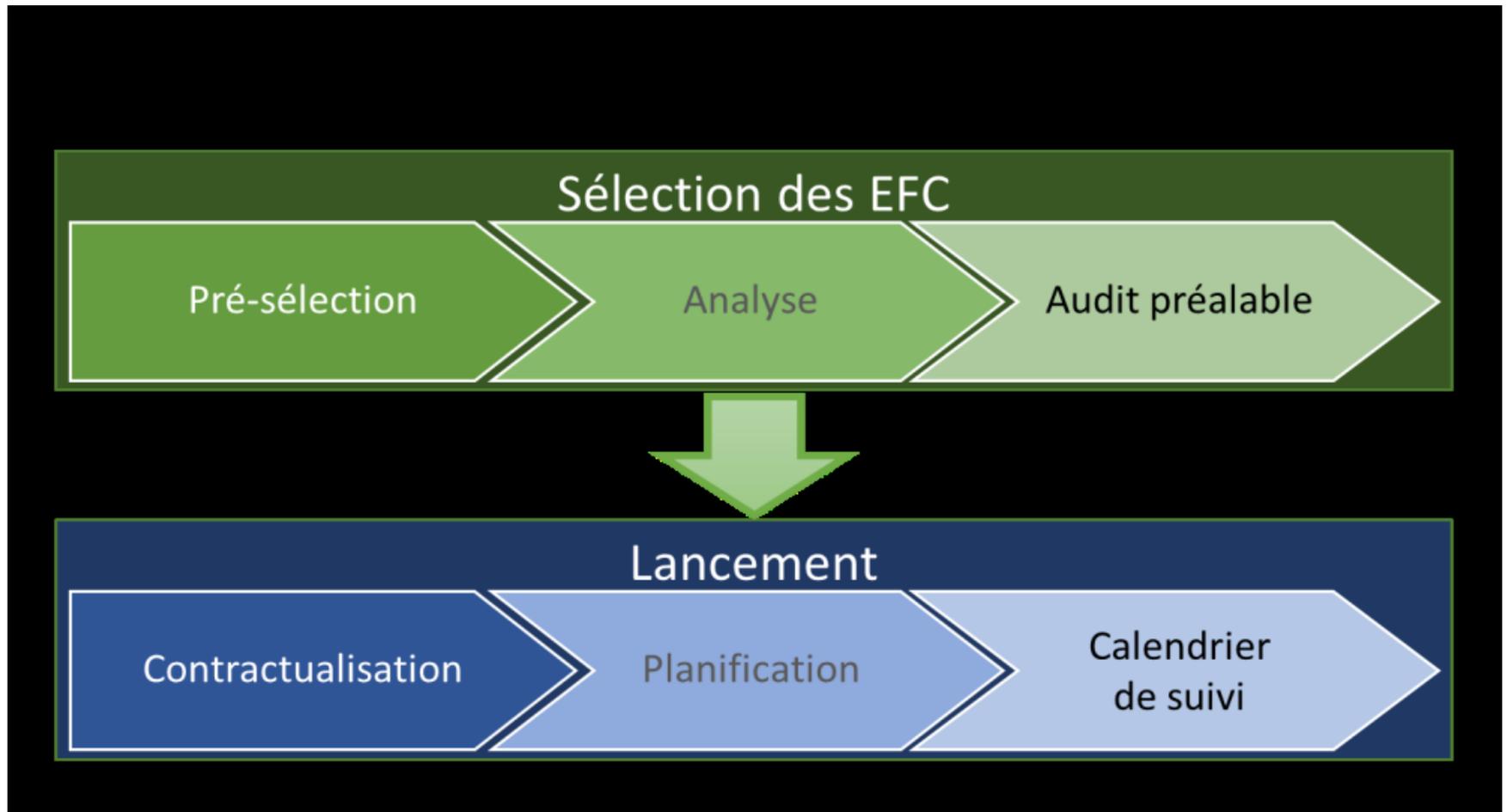
- **The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF):**
 - Lead coordinating institution
 - Lead the action research within the project
- **TMP systems:**
 - Creators of the DRYAD concept
 - Facilitate the technical aspects of the project
- **Implementing Organizations (IOs) : 4 organizations**
 - Cameroon Ecology
 - CAFT
 - CAFER
 - ERUDEF
- **Community Forest Enterprises (CFEs):** 20 CFEs identified so far



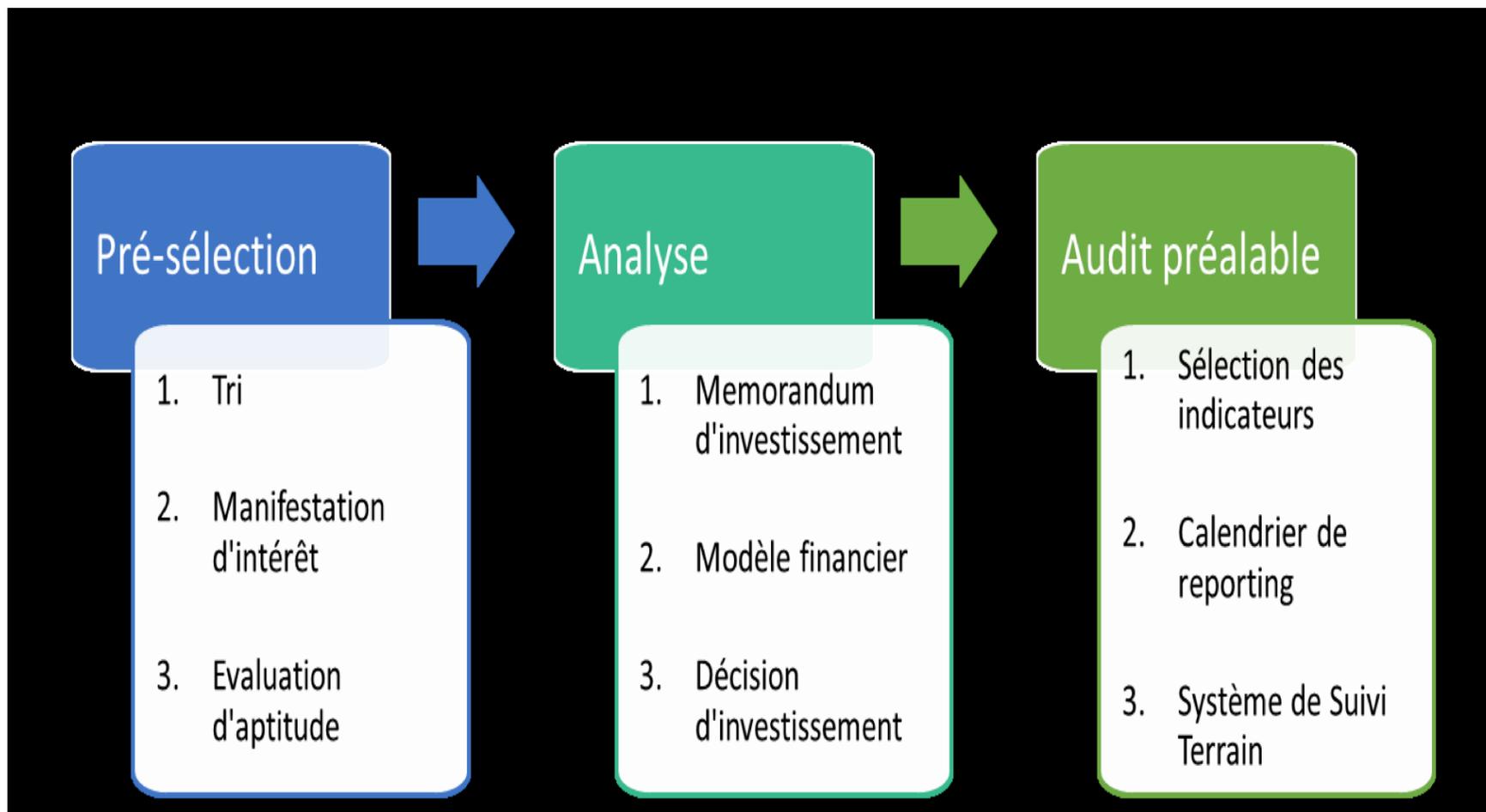
Expected impact *MEGAforestais* 2017

- Creating a community of practice around forest enterprise could help generate employment, build knowledge and skills and help improve living standard and reduce poverty
- Communities that are empowered economically, socially and environmentally will contribute to Cameroon's overall progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets
- The project will contribute towards forest conservation and sustainable forest management efforts in the country with benefits for emission reductions through reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) and adaptation to climate change.

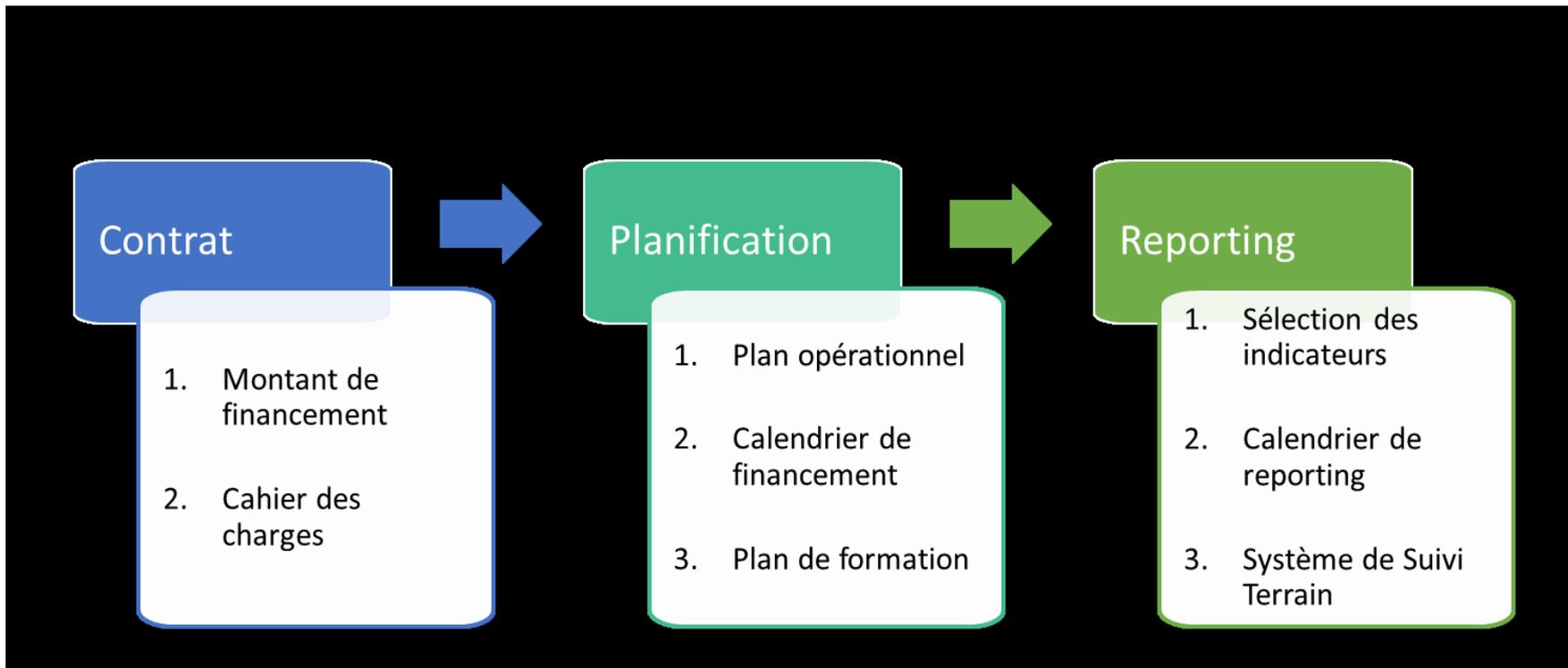
The process



Process (2)



Process (3)





Where are we?

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Some statistics (July 2017)

- **28** business proposals received
 - 12 community forests
 - 13 types of business
- **19** financial models analysed
 - 2 investment agreements signed off (women business)
 - 4 further investments approved subject to due diligence
 - 13 proposals in pipeline
- **6** proposals rejected



Where are we (2)

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- **Variety of models**
 - Timber: harvesting, waste wood processing
 - NTFPs: njansang, bush mango, honey, herbal tisanes, rattan products
 - Agriculture: manioc, plantain, livestock
- **6** approved models project significant economic and social benefit
 - 210 waged jobs
 - XAF 688 million projected profit



Keys to success in promoting CFEs

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1) Political will:

- In 2014, CFEs state in MINFOF:
 - **265** Agreements signed
 - **70** Provisional Agreements
 - Total area: **544 807 ha**
- In 2016:
 - **284** Agreements signed
 - **162** Provisional Agreements
 - Total area: **988 518 ha**



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2) Engagement and commitment to invest on CFEs

- Need many Dryad ...

3) Engaging communities and providing adequate support

- Technical, financial, organizational, institutional ..

4) Facilitating access to forest for communities including women

- Tenure security
- Community forestry schemes

5) Enabling environment:

- Laws, regulations

6) Engaging the Private sector



Conclusion

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- **The future of Forests is with community forestry, forest small holders and women producers:**
 - Sustainable management of forests
 - Fight against climate change
 - Poverty reduction
 - Food security and nutrition, etc...
- **We need a global and collective commitment to invest on CF schemes:**
 - Adequate financial resources for CFEs
 - Empowerment of local communities, women, youth and IP's!
- **We need political will to create enabling environment!!**



Thank you!

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