



REDD-PLUS : **OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIA**

Group 6, IFS (P), 2015 Batch

Forest & Climate Change Module

18th October 2016

OUTLINE

- REDD+: concept, objectives and framework
- Current status of negotiations & future outlook
- Indian forests as a strength w.r.t. REDD+
- Likely opportunities under REDD+
- India's preparedness for REDD+
- Challenges in implementation
- Case study of REDD project
- Conclusion

REDD+

REDD+ helps to mitigate climate change through forests, and provides social and environmental benefits. It includes these essential components: creating incentives for not clearing standing forests, maintaining and expanding forest cover, sustainably managing forest and recovering degraded lands.



+ Stands for

- Conservation
- Sustainable management of forest
- Enhancement of forest carbon stock

REDD+ NEGOTIATIONS

- COP16, Cancun, 2010: REDD+ emerged from REDD and was taken as a mitigation mechanism
- COP18, Doha, 2012: Debates were on measurement, reporting and verification (MRV)
- COP19, Warsaw, 2013: REDD+ framework adopted
- COP21, Paris, 2015: REDD+ finalized
- Decisions on safeguards, non-carbon benefits and non-market mechanisms pending

REDD+ & CONSERVATION

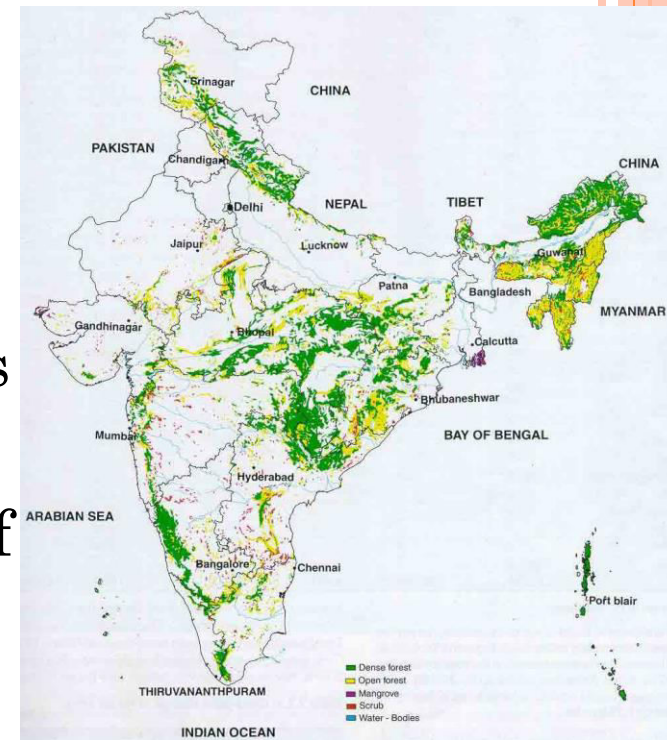
- Forests - 75% of terrestrial biodiversity
- 97% of all emissions from deforestation occur in tropics & sub-tropics
- Carbon sinks & natural reservoirs
- Target 5 under Aichi Targets

“... the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero...”
- More than a mere plantation – brings back full complementarity of plant & animal species



REDD+ AND INDIA

- More than 70mn ha under natural forests
- Addition of around 3mn ha of forest and tree cover over the last decade
- One of the 17 megadiverse countries with 4 global biodiversity hotspots
- Inline with National Forest Policy of achieving 33% forest cover
- Large degraded forest area and wastelands



LIKELY OPPORTUNITIES UNDER REDD+

- ✓ Carbon trading involving community for plantation through JFM groups
- ✓ PES for community protecting watershed areas
- ✓ Discourage 'slash & burn' cultivation
- ✓ Degraded forests & wastelands can be upgraded
- ✓ Agroforestry
- ✓ Capacity building of local communities
- ✓ Awareness on climate change
- ✓ More stringent FCA?

INDIA'S PREPAREDNESS FOR REDD+

○ Institutional

- National REDD+ Coordinating Agency established
- Technical group/committee formed
- NGT institutionalized
- JFMs conceptualized

○ Policy

- REDD+ elements incorporated in NAPCC
 - Green India Mission
- National Afforestation Program
- Biannual forest assessment
- REDD+ in conformity with Forest Policy and related Acts
 - National goal to increase forest cover to 33%
- CAMPA Bill passed

CHALLENGES FOR REDD+ IN INDIA

- Financing
- Leakages
- Permanence
- Equity
- Additionality
- MRV mechanism
- Crashing carbon market
- National Sovereignty and Native Land Rights

CASE STUDY: KHASI HILLS REDD PROJECT

- Baseline: Carbon stock using biomass survey and satellite image analysis
- Project Scenario
 - 1st Phase: degradation to reduce by 33%
 - 2nd Phase: degradation to reduce by 57%
- Steps to contain leakages due to firewood collection, agricultural expansion, grazing etc.
- Verification: Annual monitoring using satellite data and field verification
- Benefit: 318,246 tCO₂e over 10 years; biodiversity; cultural conservation; poverty alleviation

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?