REDD +
An introduction

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Guido Broekhoven
Connie Espinosa
Carole Saint-Laurent

- What is “REDD”?

  Reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation

- What is “plus”?

Conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks

- Why is it important?
- **Part of biggest international negotiation in many years**
- **Impacts on the planet**
- **Impacts on human development**
- **Impacts on access to funding**

REDD+ and IUCN

- REDD+ is important for IUCN
  - Our mission: To influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world **to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature** and **to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable**
  - Members' decisions

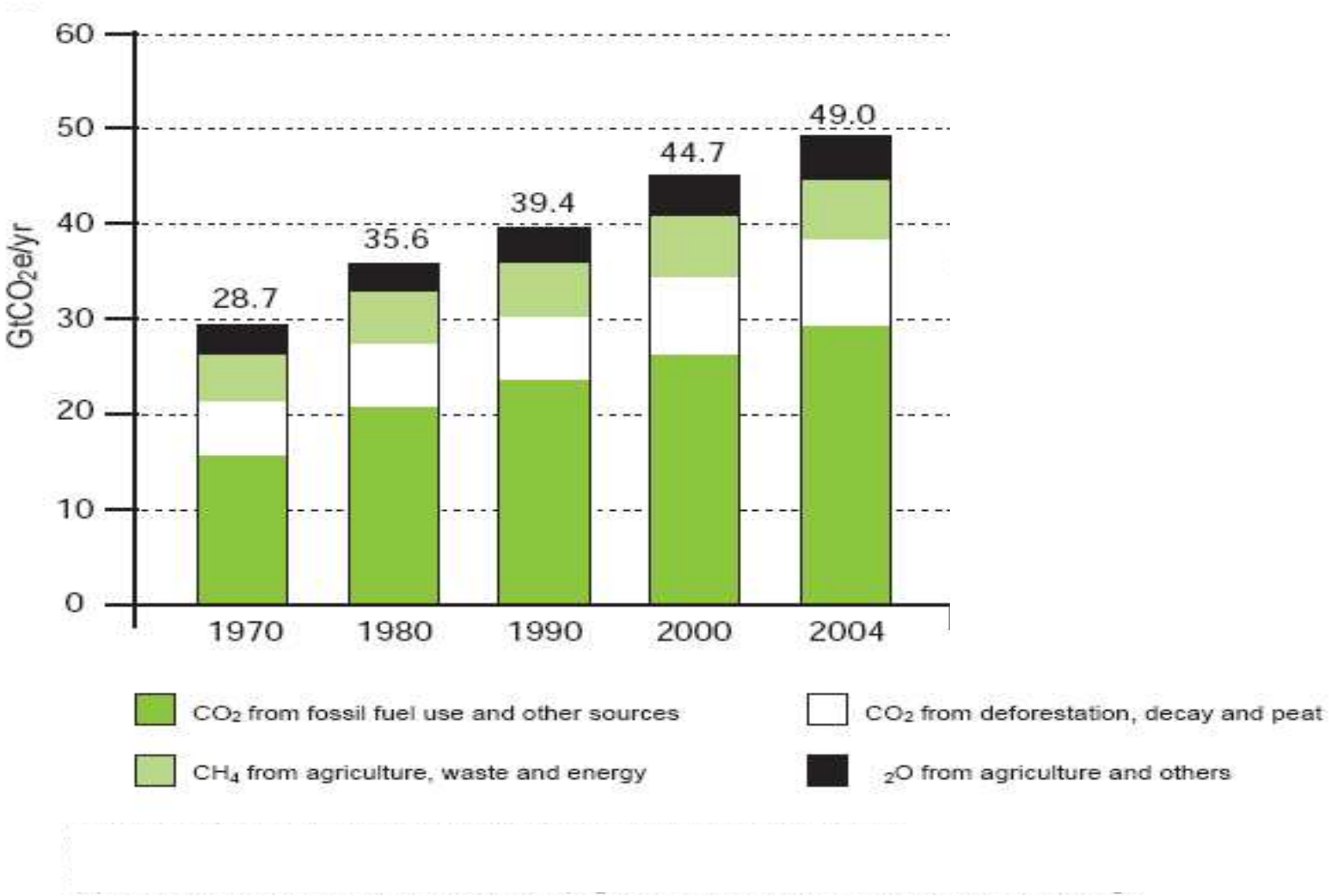
- IUCN's work on REDD+
  - Supporting the readiness phase – good forest governance
  - Poverty – REDD+
  - Forest Landscape Restoration – REDD+
  - Advocacy and Technical Advice

Content

1. Why forests are important in climate change discussions
2. Status of the negotiations about REDD+
3. Focus on 2 aspects:
   - 3.1 Scope of REDD+
   - 3.2 Phased approach

1. IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS

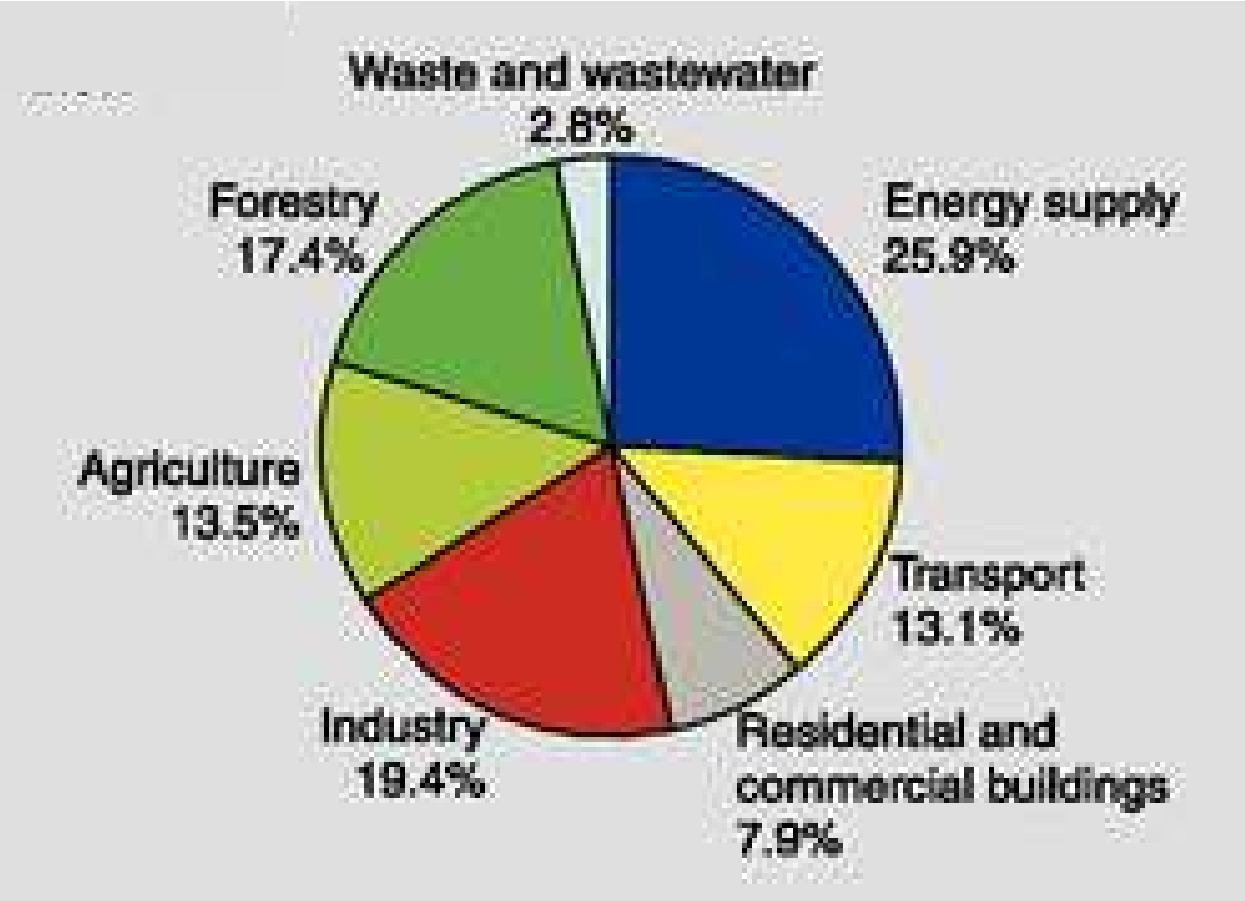
IPCC – sources of emissions



Source: IPCC (2007) AR4 Synthesis Report

IPPC – sources of emissions - sectors

- Forest disappear - about 7 million hectares per year
- Around 96% of annual emissions from forests come from developing countries in the tropics

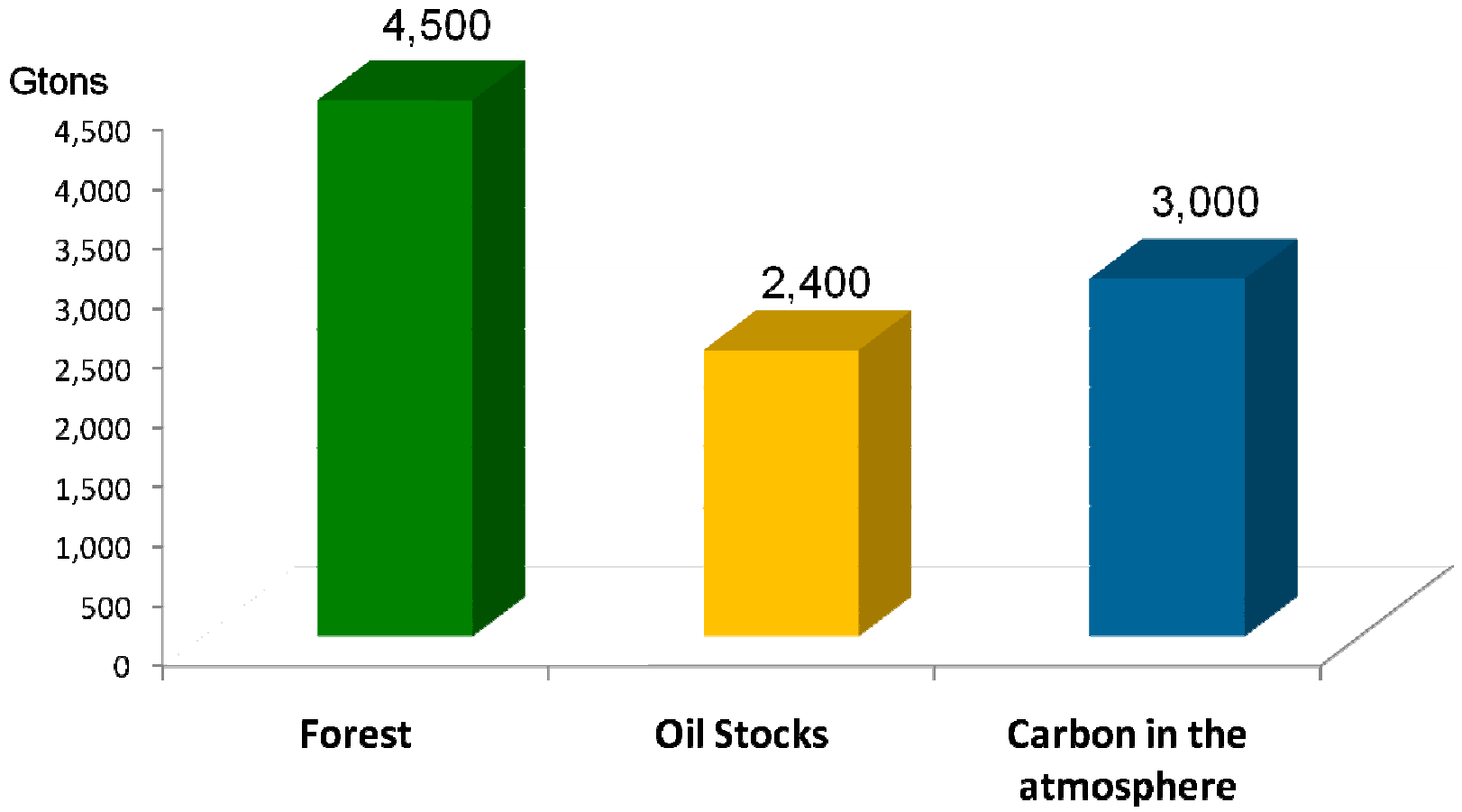


Source: IPCC (2007) AR4 Synthesis Report

Carbon storage (1)

- Forests represent the most significant terrestrial **carbon stock** (Eliasch Report): They contain:
  - 77% of all carbon stored in vegetation
  - 39% of all carbon stored in soils
- Forests **sequester** and **store** more carbon per hectare **than any other type of land cover**

Carbon storage (2)



From emissions to atmospheric concentrations

- Current atmospheric CO_2e levels stand at 433 ppm
- To avoid the worst effects of CC **(2℃ target)** levels of atmospheric CO_2e should stabilise at **445-490** ppm
- For that, we need an emission reduction of **17 Gtons/yr**

… the importance of forests in reducing emissions…

- ‘Business as usual’: emissions from forest will increase atmospheric CO_2e levels by around 30ppm by 2100.
- Reduced deforestation (and peatland conservation) can potentially lead to an emission reduction of 7 Gtons/yr.

Reducing forest emissions can be achieved at **relatively low cost** compared with abatement in other sectors.

…and in increasing carbon stocks.

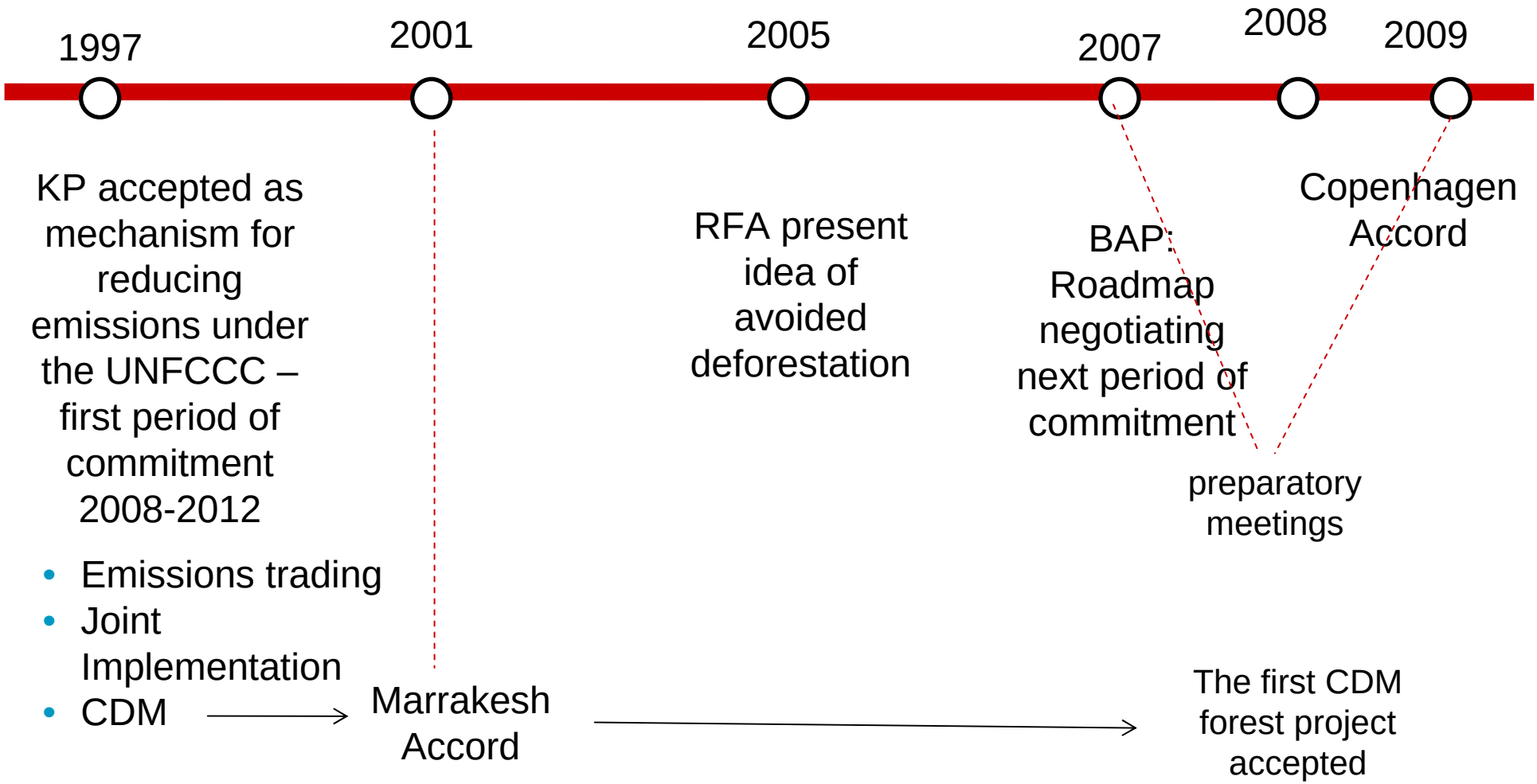
In 20 years time, forest restoration could sequester as much as and possibly up to twice as much carbon as avoided deforestation.

Conclusions:

- The potential of forests as a mitigation option (both reducing emissions and increasing sequestration) is huge.
- Forests need to be part of any global climate change deal (Stern, Eliasch, Meridian).

2. FORESTS IN THE UNFCCC NEGOTIATIONS

Background on forests in the UNFCCC



Next steps

- Resumption of negotiations in preparation for the Cancun UNFCCC COP in November-December 2010

- Further development of complementary initiatives, such as the Norway/France initiative leading to the Oslo Forest and Climate Conference in May 2010

Progress in negotiations on forests

- REDD-plus negotiations leading up to Copenhagen widely regarded as one of more positive developments – agreement reached on most points
- Two key issues:
  1. Scope of REDD-plus
  2. The implementation of REDD by phases

3.1 SCOPE OF REDD+

2009: shift in thinking from avoided deforestation only to Bali Action Plan description of ‘plus’

1. **Reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation**
   Protecting existing forests from immediate and/or medium term threats

2. **Conservation:**
   Protecting existing forests, especially primary forests, including those that face no immediate threat from deforestation and degradation but could in future

3. **Sustainable management of forests:**
   Safeguarding, and as appropriate, expanding existing carbon stocks in both community and industrial working forests against long-term decline

4. **Enhancement of forest carbon stocks:**
   Not only afforestation and reforestation but broader restoration of forests

1. Reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation

Examples of possible measures:

- Adoption and enforcement of laws to reduce deforestation and forest degradation
- Establishment of protected areas or community-managed forest reserves
- Activities outside the forest sector to reduce the pressure on forests

2. Conservation

Examples of possible measures:

- Improved protection and management of protected areas and corridors
- Conservation actions by forest dependent communities, including indigenous peoples
- Payments for ecosystem services

3. Sustainable management of forests

Examples of possible measures :

- Certified production of timber, and low impact logging
- Sustainable production of non-timber products
- Active silvicultural interventions to safeguard forests against anthropogenic and destructive alterations

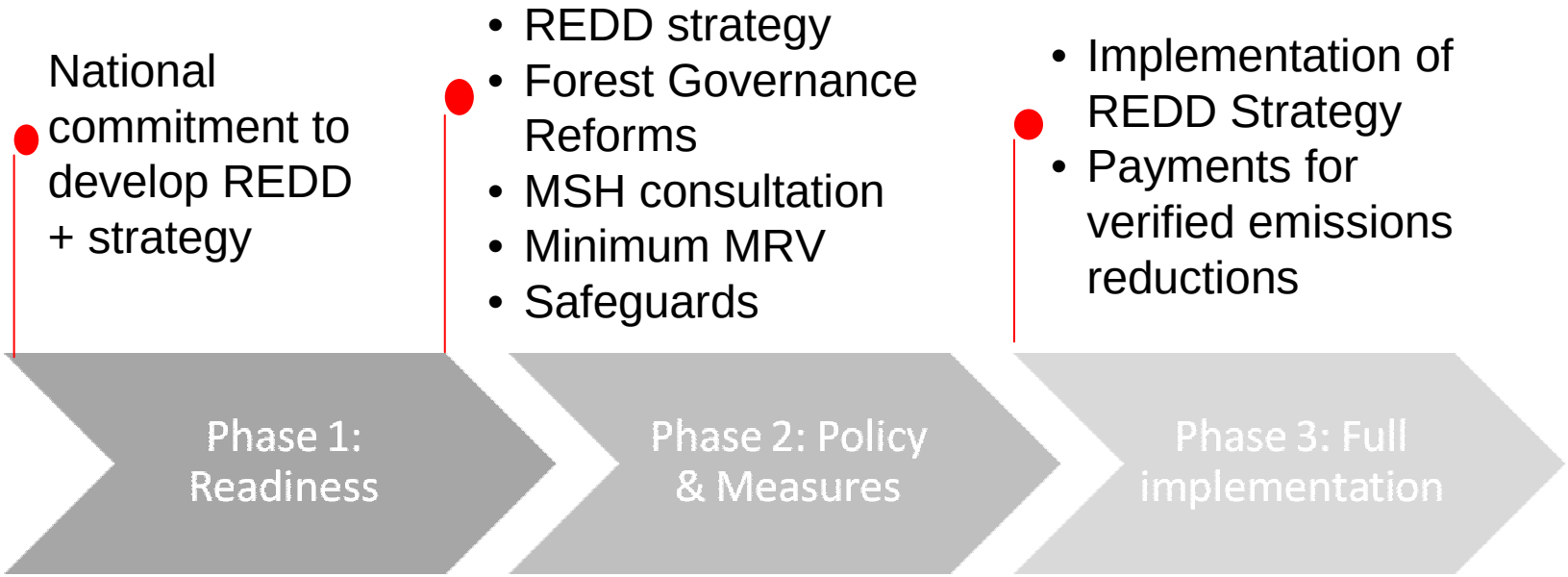
4. Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

Possible measures:

- Regeneration areas, restoration of watersheds, agro-forestry
- Well-managed commercial and community plantations established on degraded lands

3.2 A PHASED APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTATION

Phases for REDD



Phase One: the readiness

- What is the “case” for REDD in the county
- Multi-stakeholder consultations
- Analysis of forest governance gaps, and drivers
- Clarification regarding the rights over the carbon – links with land and tree tenure
- Capacity building assessment – initial actions
- Developing a system for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)
- Discussion and agreement on safeguards
- Analysis of integration with sectoral policies, including development and environmental plans

REDD Readiness Initiatives

- **FCPF (WB):**
  - 37 countries approved
  - 9 countries have presented readiness preparedness plans
  - To date, USD10.4 million approved to fund preparation of REDD strategies in DRC, Ghana and Mexico

- **UN-REDD Program** (FAO, UNDP and UNEP):
  - 9 countries pilot countries and 13 observers
  - Six countries presented their national plans and have been approved
  - Programme recently approved US$14.7 million for national REDD plans in Bolivia, DRC and Zambia

- **HARMONIZATION EFFORTS:** Formats, guidelines, processes.

Phase Two: Enabling Policies and measures

- Design / change / update of policies, measures, instruments, incentives for REDD
- Development of national REDD portfolio
- Capacity building
- Design of benefit sharing mechanisms
- Pilot projects / small-scale projects
- Social and environmental audits of the readiness
- Testing and implementing MRV system
- Development of rules for performance-based payments - Proxy indicators

Phase Three: Full implementation

- Countries can prove and report on reductions of forest emissions
- Performance-based payments
- Third-party verification of emission reductions and carbon-stock enhancements
- Social and environmental impact assessments
- Benefit distribution mechanisms implemented and assessed

CONCLUSION

Complex process, with many people and institutions, including IUCN, working to ensure that:

- REDD+ agreements and arrangements provide opportunities for the **full scope of REDD+ actions**, including restoration
- REDD+ funding provides **incentives** (1) to **protect and conserve natural forests**, (2) to **deliver co-benefits** for people and biodiversity, and (3) to **engage indigenous peoples and local communities**
- REDD+ funding provides **incentives to those people who actually need to implement the REDD+ actions** so that lasting reductions or enhancements can be achieved.

http://www.iucn.org/what/tpas/climate/