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INDIA'S READINESS ON REDD PLUS

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Forest Cover in India –
net gain but degradation has increased

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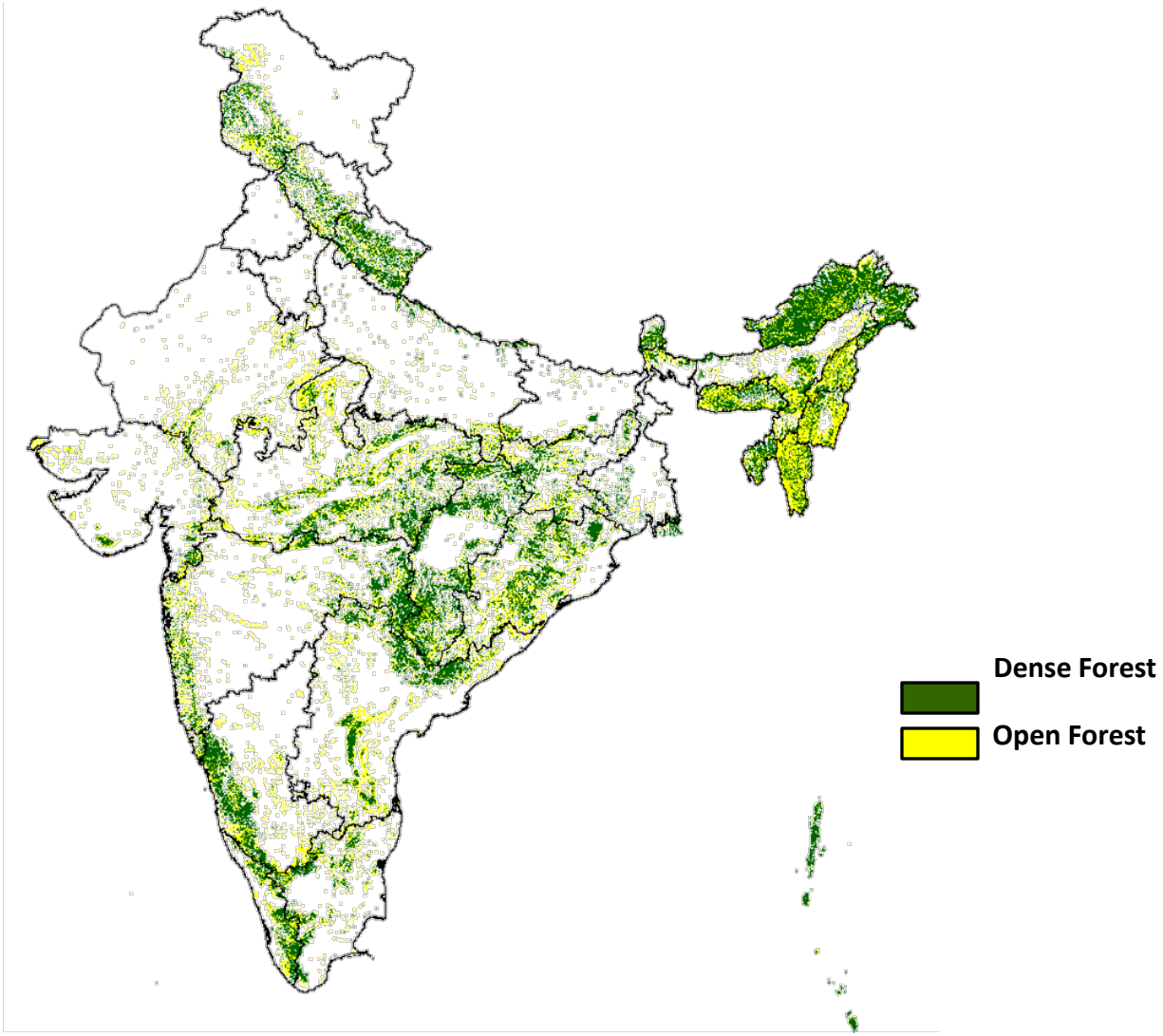

REDD+ in India

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- Applies more to forest degradation than deforestation
- GIS data is available to ensure the baseline (1990) or later for the assessment of carbon stock
- Community Based Forest Governance provides mechanism for the flow of financial incentives directly to the Community
- Around 35-40 million hectare of forests would be the Community Forest Resource
- Indian Forestry is pro-conservation but recognizes sustenance and livelihood needs of Forest Dependent Communities
- National REDD+ Cell established in the MoEF, GoI

Issues and Challenges for REDD+ in India

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- **Community forest governance**
  - Management through JFMCs- more than 100000 JFMCs are managing more than 22 million hectare
  - Gram Sabha Based Forest Governance under FRA, 2006
  - Government of India has resolved the conflict by putting JFMCs under Gram Sabha
  - Mechanism to marry both institution together is awaited

Issues and Challenges for REDD+ in India

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- **Dependence on forests**
  - 300 million cattle graze in forests
  - 40% of population depends on the fuel wood (200-300 mt of fuelwood is extracted from natural forests)
  - 100 million people derive 30 to 50% income from MFP
- **Capacity constraints**
  - Lack of capacity of Community to manage forests sustainably
  - Inadequate Financial Resources for implementing Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

Piloting REDD+ in India

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TERI's Pilot Studies for Project Design on REDD+

- **Magra-5 ,Mussoorie Forest Division, UK**
- **Renukoot, Sonbhadra, UP**
- **Sundarban, WB**
- **Angul, Odisha**
- **Chindwara, MP**
- **Initiating pilot studies in Nagaland ,Gujarat and Rajasthan**

Renukoot Forest Division

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- Part of vast Vindhyan tract
- Covered with dry deciduous forests
- Catchment of the Son river
- Tribal population about 30%
- Fragmentation of forests due to settlement during 1986-1995

People around the forests

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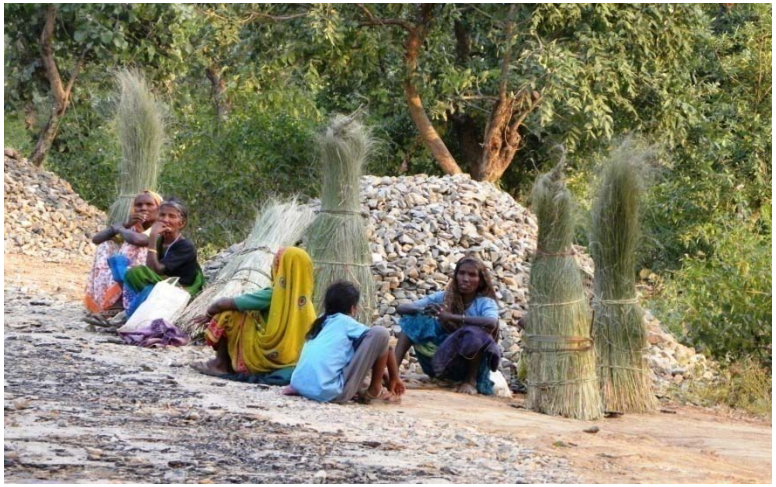
- Mostly tribal and forest dwellers, wage laborers, MFP collectors & subsistence farmers

- Demand of fuelwood, small timber & MFPs very high compared to sustainable supply from forests

- Small timber demand high for house roofing & fencing

- Rainfed cropping only



GHG Emissions

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- Fuelwood burning
- Heavy cutting of small timbers for roofing and fencing
- Decrease in growth of forest carbon due to pole stage cutting
- Forest cover shrinkage due to encroachment
- Forest Fires

REDD + Challenges in Renukoot

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- Conflict between conservation & sustenance needs and livelihood needs

- Unsustainable harvest of fuel wood (150 T) and pole stage cutting

- Growing population in villages around forests
- Poverty
- Forest rights

REDD + Opportunities in Renukoot

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- Reduction in pole stage cutting of forest trees may result in high rate of carbon sequestration

- Tradition of forest based livelihood practices exist e.g. Tasar & lac culture

- Potential of agro forestry & farm forestry practices exists

How to Implement REDD + in Renukoot

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- Project formulation by State FD
- Implementing agency to be the Forest Department through JFMC
- Sensitization of REDD + to all stakeholders
- Monitoring & reporting with help of synergized efforts of FSI, NRSA, ICFRE
- Capacity building for participatory monitoring by the JFMCs
- Funds may be augmented under MNREGS

Thank You……

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