

Republic of Liberia

Capacity Building for Liberia's REDD Readiness

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Presentation Outline

- **Liberia Background**
- **Current REDD Capacity and Needs**
- **Take-away Messages**



Liberia REDD Objectives

- **To contribute to the mitigation of climate change, conserve biodiversity, and build local livelihoods through REDD**
- **To raise sufficient funds to build national REDD accounting, field capacity and effective implementation**



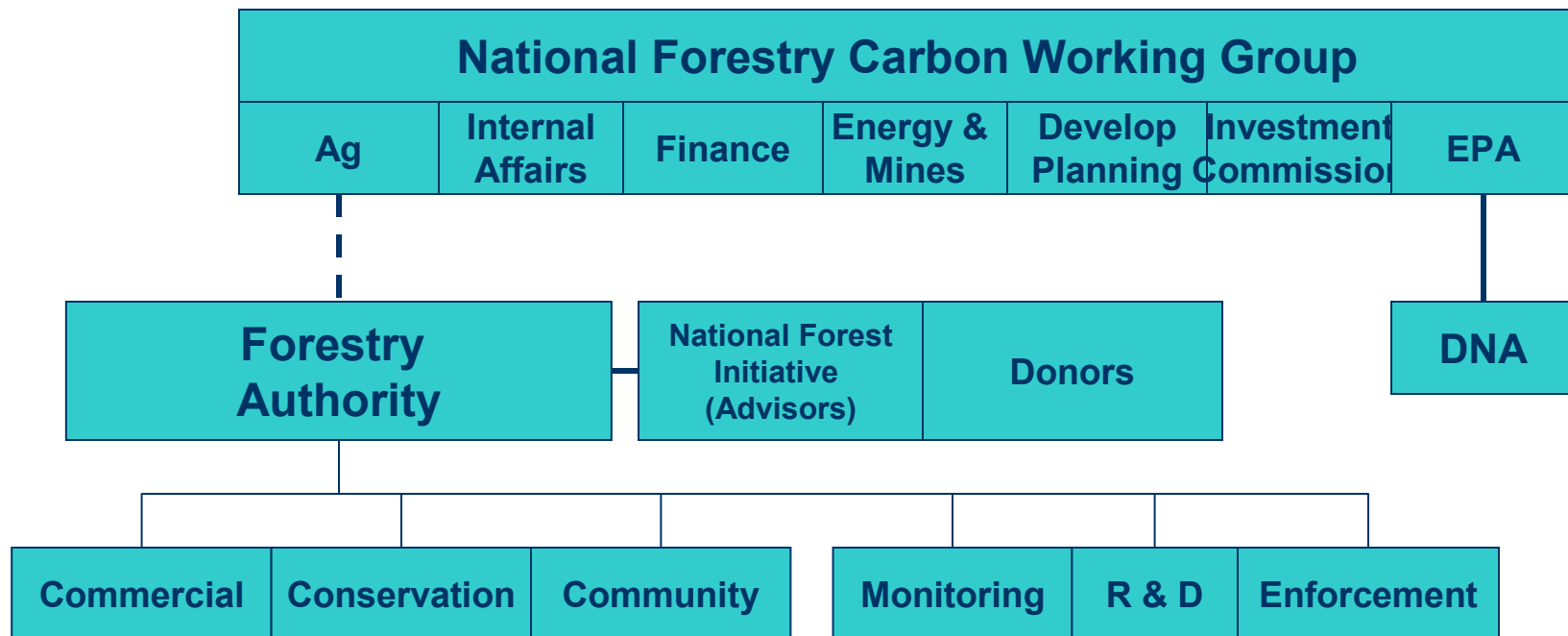
Liberia's National Context



- Population: 3.2 million
- Gross National Income: US\$140 per capita
- Forest area: 45%
- Illiteracy rate 85%
- Agricultural workforce 85%
- Passed Poverty Reduction Strategy for 2009-2011



Government Organization



EPA Goal: To Provide leadership in spearheading emission trading in an environmental field of business in Liberia



Liberia's REDD Capacity Status

- **Rapidly rebuilding capacity and forest governance after the civil conflict**
- **Need to build both national and field capacity quickly and in parallel**
 - **Across all government agencies**
 - **Growing civil society capacity**
 - **With international support of partners**



Liberia's Technical Capacity

- ✓ **Completed national forest change updates to 2006**
- ✓ **Established national monitoring plot network**
- **Technical capacity needs:**
 - Full forest inventory
 - Projected modelling of future emissions
 - Deforestation driver and actor analysis
 - Monitoring and evaluation procedures
 - South-south exchanges on remote sensing
 - Address degradation needs



Liberia's Institutional Capacity

- ✓ Created Liberia Forest Initiative (LFI) with a diverse consortium
- ✓ Implementing FDA and EPA strengthening
- Develop full functional Designated National Authority within the EPA
- Build economic analyses of alternatives to enable cross-ministerial consensus on REDD
- Dramatically increase field capacity of government and civil society for demonstration activities
- Coordinate with land tenure clarification processes
- Reduce low-production shifting cultivation by promoting integrated agriculture
- Implement chain of custody & sustainable forest management



Liberia's Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ **Completed stakeholder process for Forestry Reform Law of 2006**
- **Develop climate change public awareness and training particularly for demonstration activities and equitable benefits sharing**
- **Increase local community understanding**
- **Test and implement community-based forestry plans**



Take Home Messages

- Liberia holds great potential for national level REDD implementation assuming that:
 - REDD negotiations clarify steps forward
 - Adequate funding for capacity is provided
 - Potential for 'early action' incentives are realized
- Liberia has made significant progress preparing for REDD through forest policy and governance reforms
- Demonstration initiatives need to be designed to directly address threats to deforestation and ensure that benefits are equitably shared with local communities

Liberia



Thank You!



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