

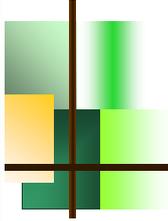
Forest Landscape Restoration Opportunity Assessment for Uganda

Presented at Workshop on restoration of
forests and other ecosystems - Durban,
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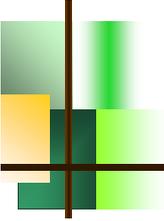
Introduction

- Uganda Bonn Challenge pledge: restore 2.5 million hectares of deforested and degraded land
- The primary target is to restore forest cover from the current 9% to a national target of 24% of Uganda's land cover



Forest Landscape Restoration

- Regaining ecological functionality and enhancing human well-being in deforested or degraded landscapes.
- In order to carry out FLR, it was important to identify the sites in the different landscapes of the country which are deforested and degraded, determine their size and the most socio-ecologically and economically optimal restoration options or interventions

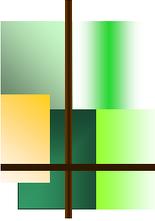


FLR

- Conducted a study to comprehensively assess the potential for FLR in Uganda
 - Ministry of Water and Environment
 - IUCN
 - WRI
- (ROAM) –was used to guide processes of developing forest restoration interventions at landscape level

Specific Objectives of the assessment

- Determine deforestation and land degradation trends in Uganda.
- Determine site specific forest landscape restoration options for various ecological landscapes of Uganda
- Identifying priority areas for forest landscape restoration.
- Determine the profitability of selected landscape restoration options for Uganda
- Determine existing and non-existent success factors for restoration interventions in Uganda.
- Determine strategies to address major policy and institutional bottlenecks that may affect forest landscape restoration interventions

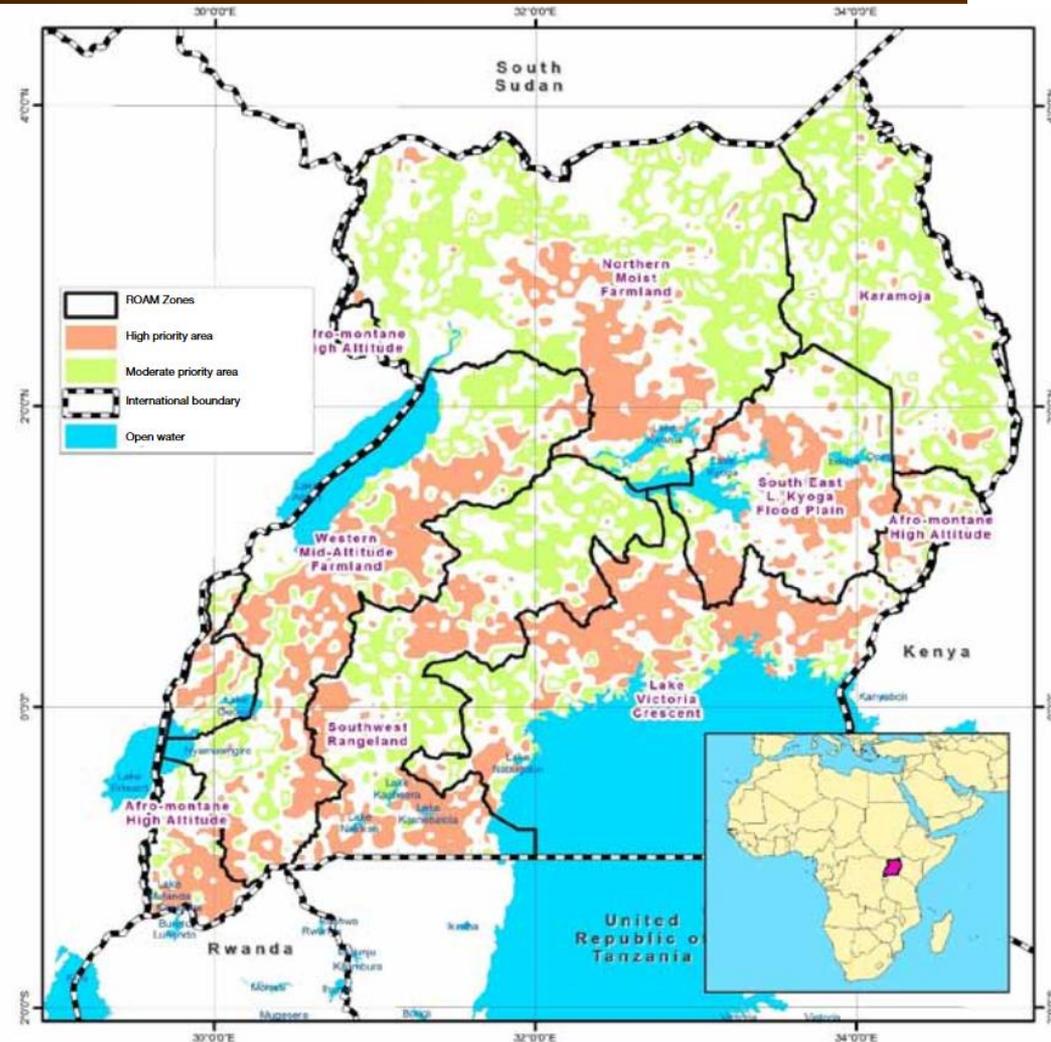


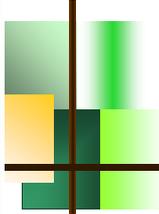
Findings

- Uganda has a total of 8,079,622 ha of land with opportunities for forest landscape restoration.
- Afforestation (planting of trees in areas not under forest for the last ten years), reforestation, agroforestry and natural regeneration are the most preferred restoration options.
- Agroforestry has a higher likelihood of creating benefits that far outweigh the costs compared to other options.

Findings

- 22 priority areas identified for FLR - the areas that had:
 - severe deforestation and degradation in the last 15 years
 - high socio-ecological value
 - low population density





Findings

Success factors already in place:

- Legal and policy requirements of FLR, suitable ecological conditions and suitable market conditions.

Missing success factors:

- awareness of FLR and its role among local communities
- well defined tree and forest tenure under customary land tenure system
- resources committed to restoration and monitoring system for restoration interventions

Strategies for addressing major bottlenecks

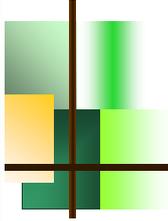
- Providing forest extension services to local communities
- providing market-based incentives to those involved in restoration and promote value-addition forest-based industries.
- enhancing capacity of and coordination among responsible bodies
- enhancing security of forest and tree tenure
- integrating the value of forests as natural capital into national accounting systems

The strategies for addressing major bottlenecks

- Site-species matching inventories
- Regular monitoring of restoration interventions
- Avoid conversion of other natural ecosystems (e.g. wetlands and grasslands) into forests
- Involvement of non-state actors (companies, traditional institutions and CSOs)

Recommendations

- Planting of mainly native/indigenous species from different functional groups necessary under all restoration options. Subsidies in form of planting materials important.
- In encroached protected areas, agroforestry used in the transition phase can overcome socioeconomic and ecological obstacles to restoring former forest lands that were turned into agriculture.



Recommendations

- Subsidies in form of planting materials, training and forest extension services will be critical in implementing restoration interventions in all the landscapes
- There is need for a policy and legal requirement for all landowners who degrade forests to restore them and there should be a mechanism to monitor their progress to minimize fragmentation



Thank you