



Making Forest and Landscape Restoration Operational:

FAO's FLR Mechanism

**CBD workshop for Eastern and Southern Africa on
Ecosystem Conservation and Restoration
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Summary



I. Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) at a Glance

II. Background: FAO and FLR

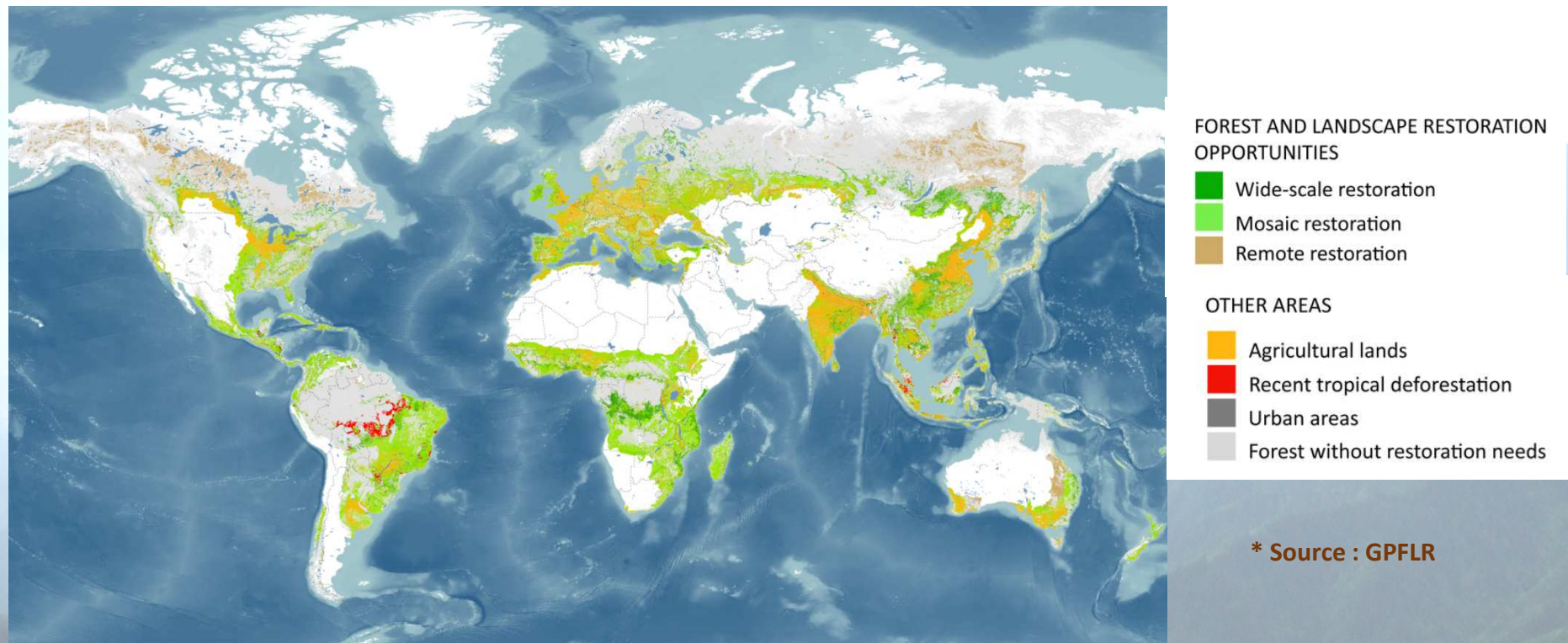
III. FLR Mechanism



FLR at a Glance



✓ Up to 2 billion hectares of deforested and degraded land – size of South America. Much can be restored (GPFLR)



* Source : GPFLR

FLR at a Glance

Forest and Landscape Restoration – FLR

A comprehensive response

*“An active process that brings people together to identify, negotiate and implement practices that restore an agreed optimal balance of the ecological, social and economic benefits of forests and trees within a broader pattern of land uses.”
(GPFLR)*



FLR at a Glance

Key FLR Principles

- ✓ Balancing **ecological functions** with **human development** needs
(multi-functionality)
- ✓ Enhancing **resilience**
- ✓ Continuous **learning process**
- ✓ Engaging **multiple stakeholders**



FLR is a process, not only an objective



FLR at a Glance

Global FLR Initiatives

- ✓ The Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration (GPFLR)
- ✓ Landscapes for People, Food and Nature (LPFN)
- ✓ International Model Forest Network (IMFN)
- ✓ Bonn Challenge (2011)
- ✓ CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (5, 11 and **15**)





FAO and FLR

FAO experience in FLR

Long History and Experience in Forest and Landscape Restoration

- Reforestation, Agroforestry, Conservation agriculture, Integrated watershed management etc.
- Great Green Wall in Sahara and Sahel Initiative
- Silva Mediterranea/Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests
- LADA – Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands

FLR Tools/Manuals/Guidelines/Database available at FAO

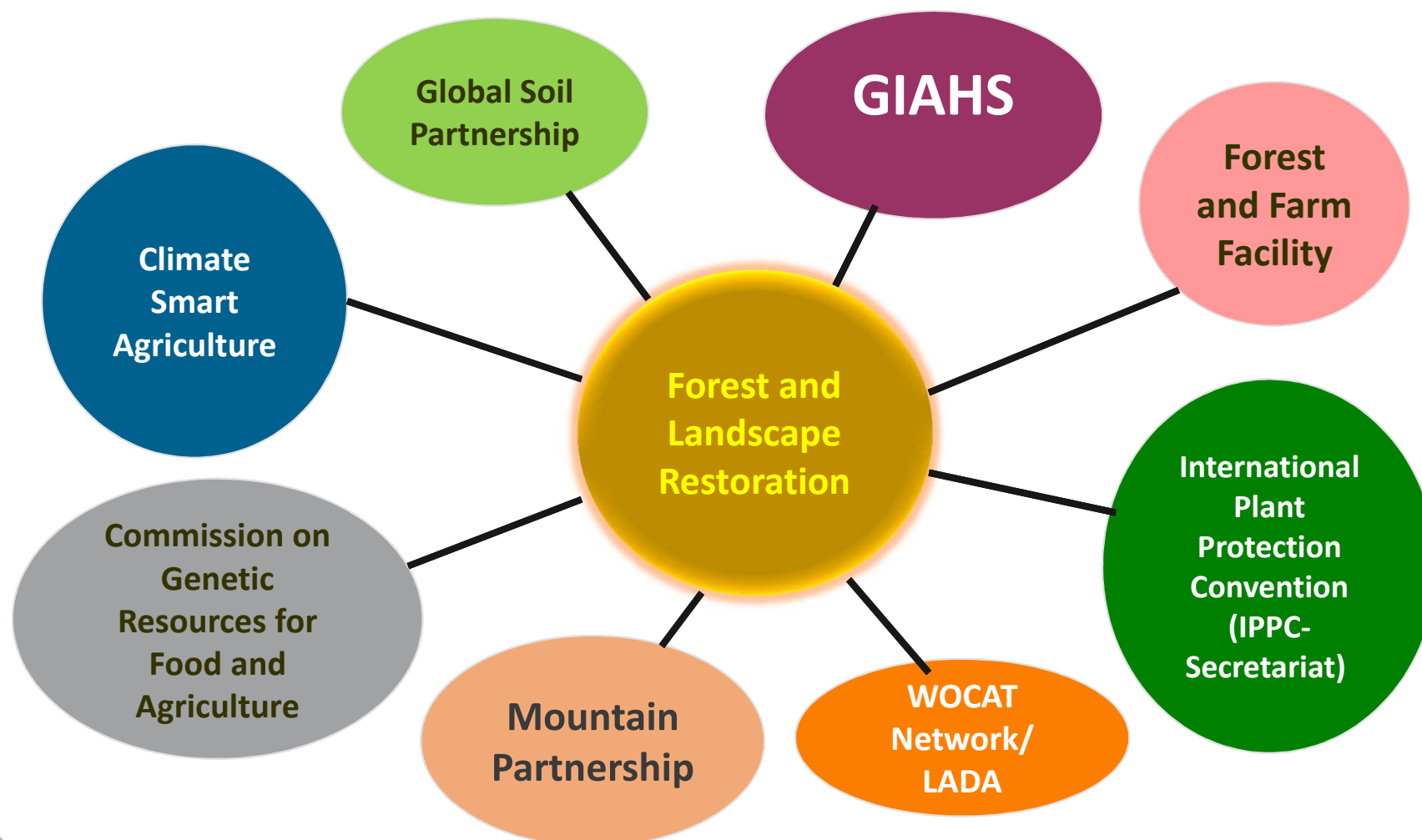
Technical Tools:

Methodology; Policy; Guidelines; Framework; Manuals; Training modules; Software; Database; Information system; e-learning

Thematic clusters: Land; Forestry; Fisheries; Agriculture; Climate Change; Gender & local knowledge; Policy and Governance



Major FAO Initiatives contributing to FLR





FLR Mechanism

Context

- ✓ FAO is GPFLR member – reflection on best possible role FAO could play to help GPFLR achieve goals and objectives
- ✓ Lots of success in raising awareness at global level – Bonn Challenge, Aichi Targets, etc.
- ✓ **But scattered progress on the ground and huge need to scale-up**
- ✓ Mandate from FAO's governing body for forestry (COFO) to identify best role for FAO in GPFLR, increase support to field programme - result is FLR Mechanism

Official launch of FLR Mechanism - June 2014 at COFO

FLR Mechanism



Goal

To support the planning, funding and implementation of FLR mainly at country level

Key considerations

- ✓ We know the “what”, now we need to **focus on the “how”**
- ✓ Will work mainly at country level to maximize impact **on the ground**
- ✓ Fully consistent with key partners to **avoid duplication**
- ✓ Initial phase will span a seven year period (2014-2020)

Operations/Approach at country level

- ✓ Facilitating a **multi-stakeholder process** to define **the needs, challenges and opportunities for FLR** at country level
- ✓ Leading to establishment of a **national FLR Action Plan**
- ✓ **FLR Implementation Planning**
(Resources mobilization & identification of clear roles of all actors)
- ✓ **FLR Implementation**
(Mosaic of activity & combined effort)
- ✓ **Monitoring and evaluating (M&E)**

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



Institutional Setting

- ✓ Identify relevant land use sectors and stakeholders for FLR (Forestry, Agriculture, Livestock/Rangeland, Energy, Mining, etc.)
- ✓ What planning processes are under way (CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, NFPs, etc.)
- ✓ What about other entry points? Food security, livelihoods, health, poverty alleviation?
- ✓ Are there existing mechanisms to engage in dialogue?

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



Assessment of Degradation and Restoration Opportunities

- ✓ ROAM, LADA, etc.
- ✓ Stocking taking of successful interventions

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



Enabling Environment

- ✓ Analysis of Policies, Laws, Regulations, etc.
- ✓ Are they adequate? Are they complementary?
- ✓ What support would be needed to help draft, revise, harmonize legislation/policies?

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



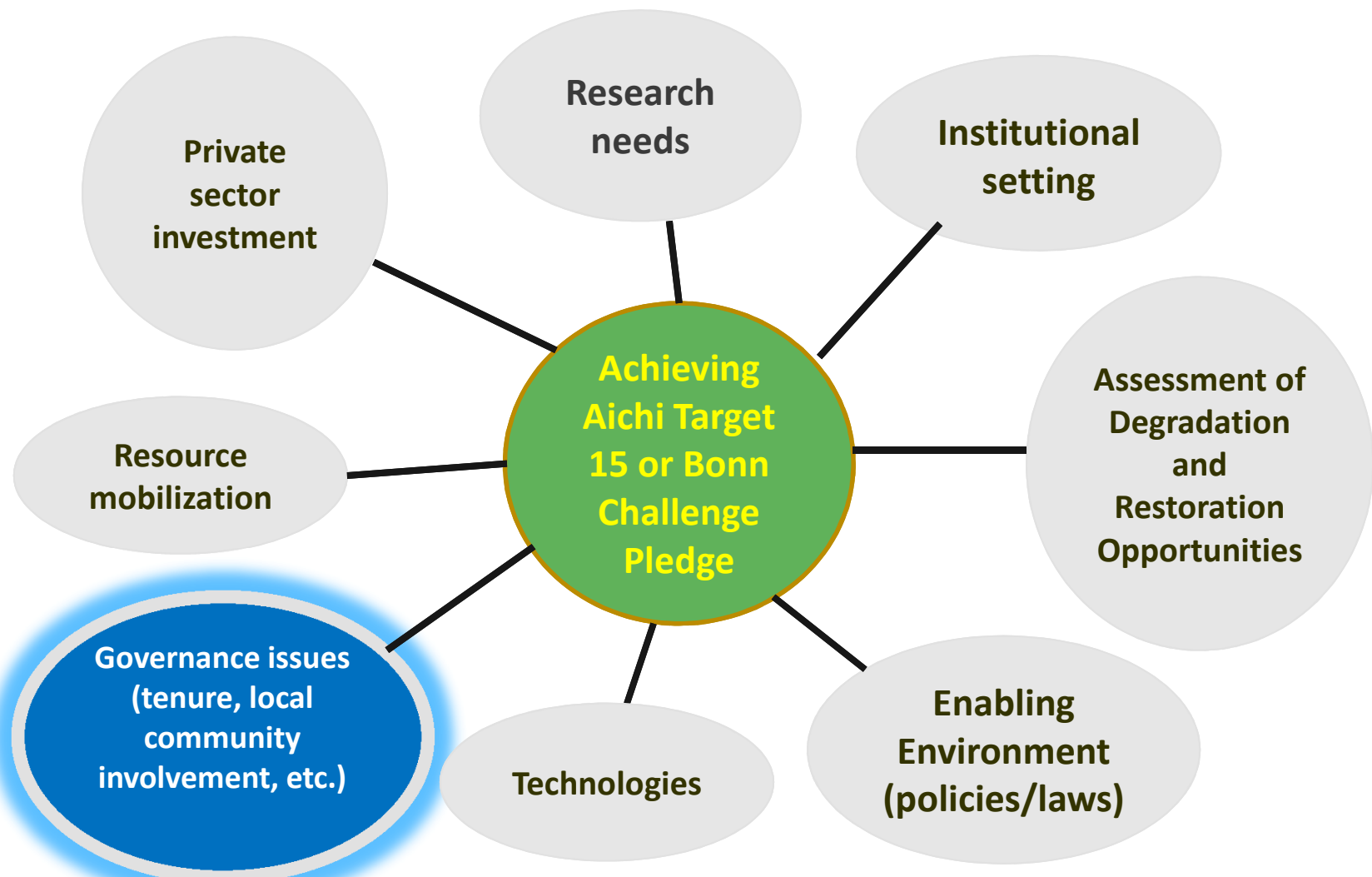
Technologies and approaches

- ✓ Stocking taking of existing technologies and approaches for sustainable land use (Reforestation, Assisted Natural Regeneration, Agroforestry, Climate Smart Agriculture, etc.)
- ✓ And successful experiences and approaches already carried out – build on what is already proven to work.
- ✓ Where are the gaps?
- ✓ Opportunities for new technologies (Water Boxx)?

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



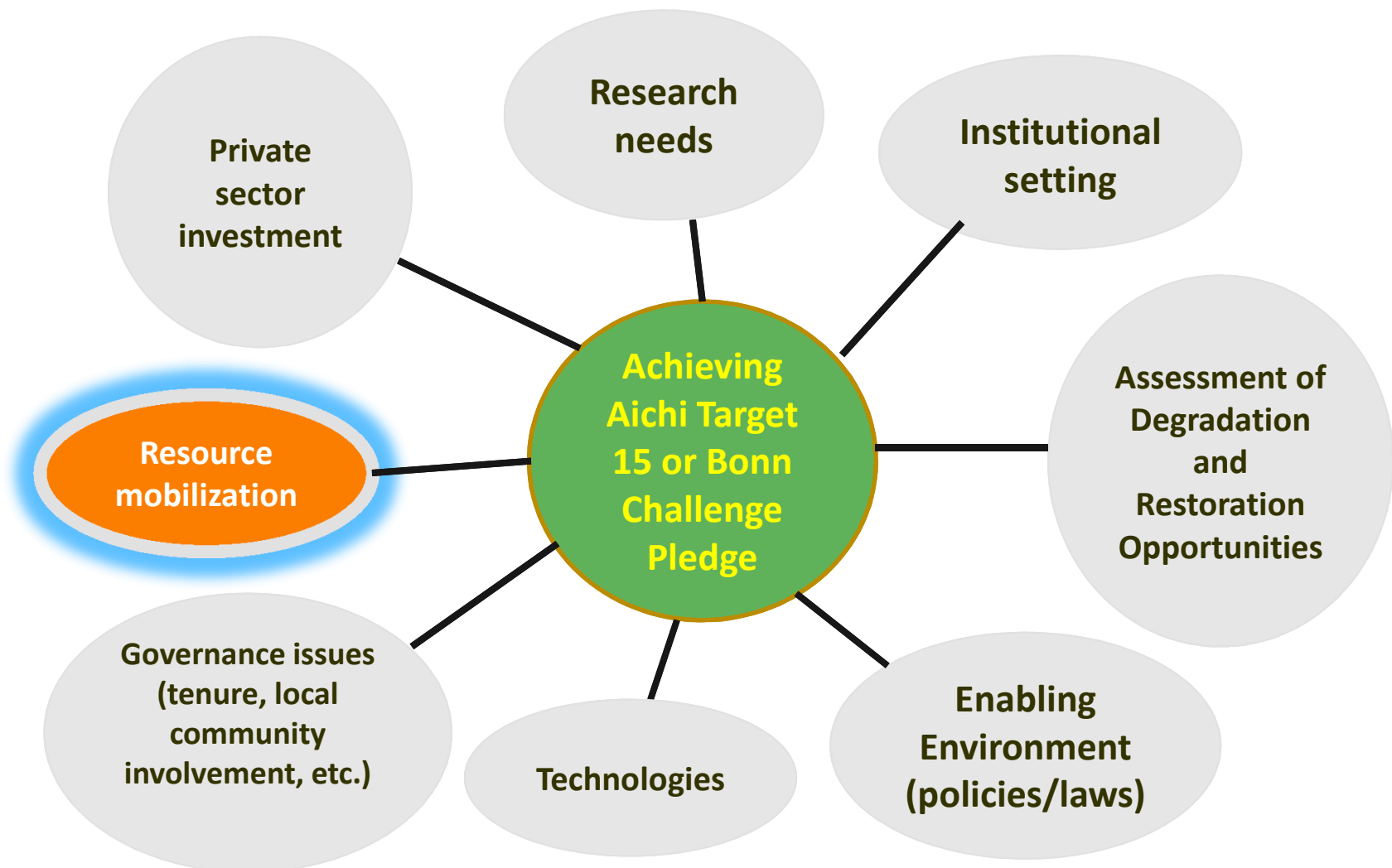
Governance

- ✓ Assessment of Land Tenure
- ✓ Analysis of decision-making processes
- ✓ Engagement of all relevant stakeholder groups

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



Resource Mobilization

- ✓ What resources are already available through existing national/sub-national programmes/projects?
- ✓ Coordinated approach to informing/sensitizing potential donors (multi-lateral, bi-lateral, foundations)
- ✓ Support to develop new project concepts and proposals (could be comprehensive or specific to a single sector/type of support)
- ✓ Goal is to have a well-connected, cohesive and coherent set of projects and programmes that complement each other and collectively address the variety of interventions required

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



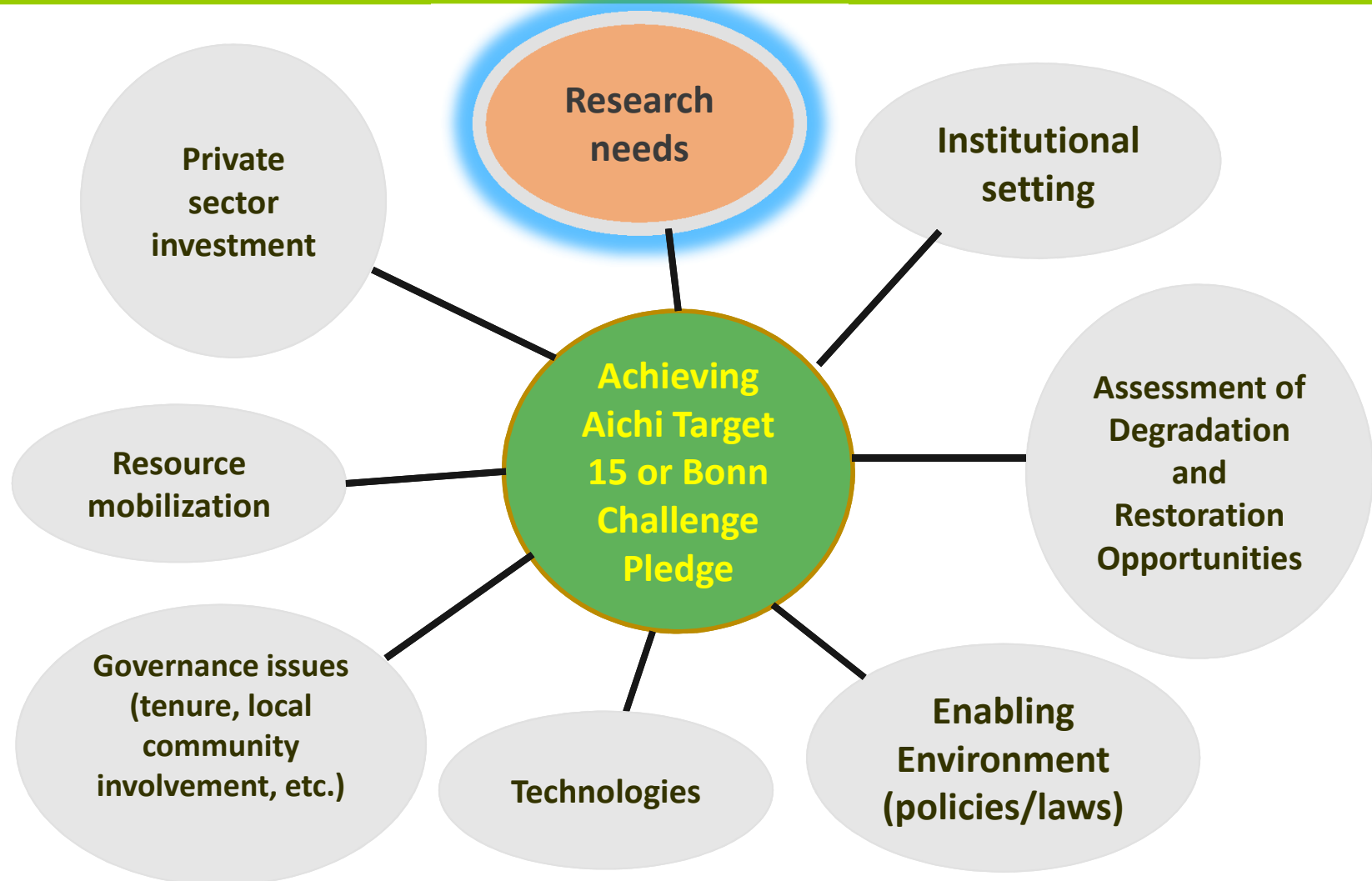
Private Sector role

- ✓ Understand scope of private sector involvement in FLR already underway in country
- ✓ Ensure that Private Sector is around the table early on in the process
- ✓ Seek to embed FLR activities in economically viable enterprises (at all scales) as much as possible
- ✓ This will be key to sustainability!!

FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



Research needs

- ✓ Are there gaps in knowledge that research institutions could address more effectively?
- ✓ Bio-physical, socio-economic, etc.

FLR Mechanism



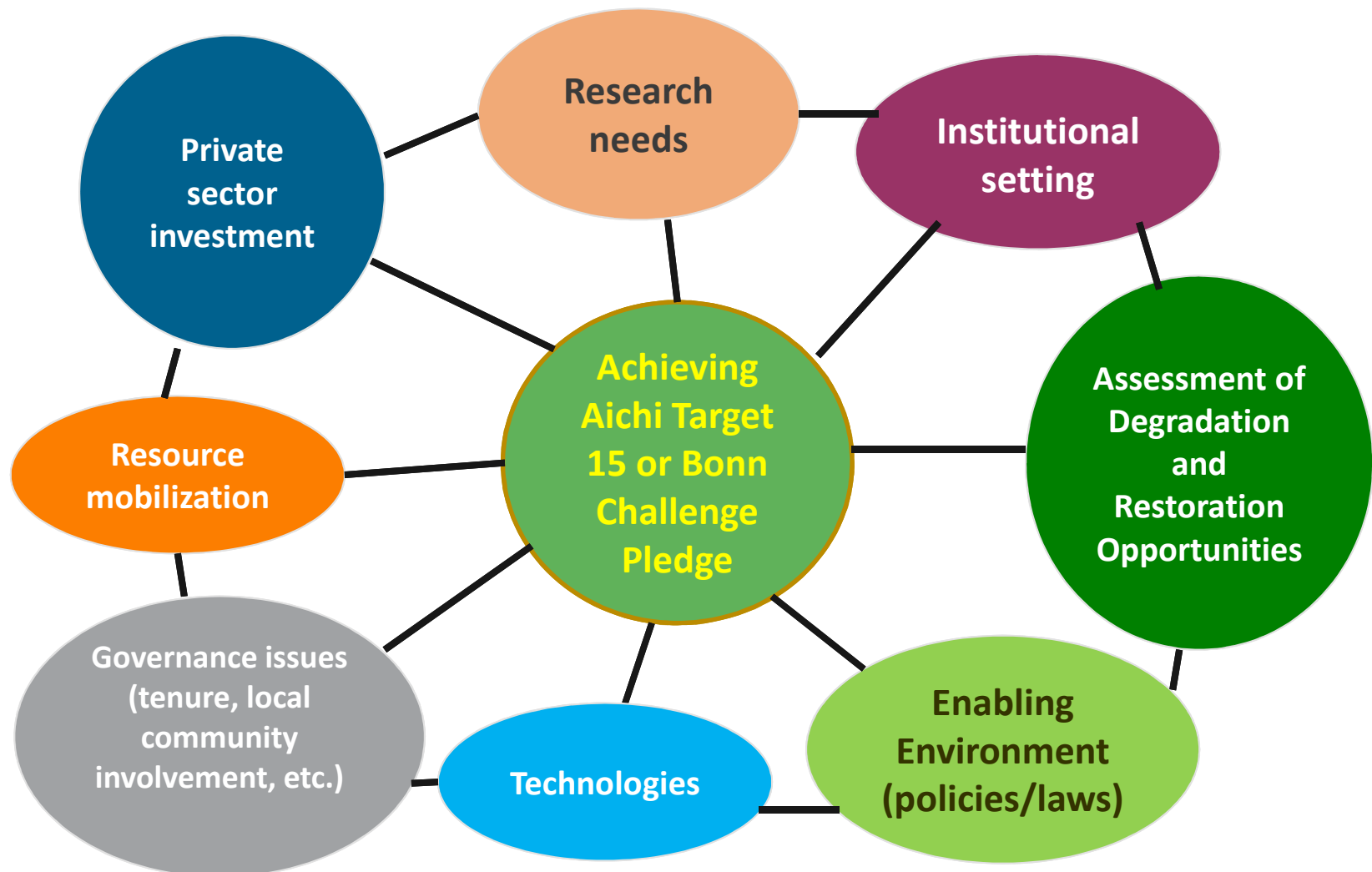
Process at country level



FLR Mechanism



Process at country level



FLR Mechanism – country level support



The way forward

- ✓ As workshop follow-up, determine level of interest from countries for FLR Mechanism support
- ✓ Determine feasibility, potential partners, etc. in each country
- ✓ Develop PIFs/project proposals for funding under GEF6
- ✓ Provide start-up funding through FAO-TCP projects and/or FLR Mechanism where possible
- ✓ Launch country programmes starting in late 2014 and throughout 2015.
- ✓ Target: 20-25 countries globally

Key elements of process

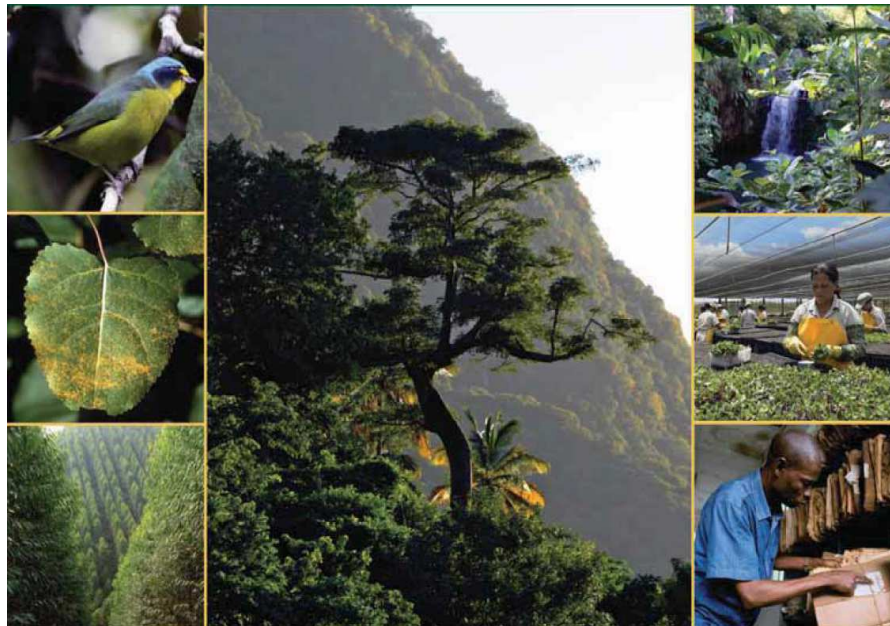
- ✓ **Systematic approach** that considers and connects **all aspects** of the FLR process – tailored to specific context in each country
- ✓ **Intensive effort** with **long term perspective** and much attention to **mobilizing needed resources**
- ✓ External **partners** working through **more effective and well connected collaboration**, building on strengths and comparative advantage of each
- ✓ Provides strategic planning framework **fully linked to ongoing planning processes** (NBSAP, NAPA, NFP, etc.) and **builds synergies at country level**

Operations/Approach at global level

- ✓ **Financial intelligence** function
- ✓ Development of **guidelines & standards** for baselines and verification of successful efforts
- ✓ Contribution to **more effective reporting** to RIO Conventions and any other relevant international organizations, processes, initiatives.
(e.g. UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC, etc.)

FAO's Comparative Advantage

- ✓ Convening capacity in key FLR sectors
- ✓ Strong field presence
- ✓ Long experience and technical competence in FLR, agroforestry, reforestation, fire mgt....



But not FAO alone - **partnership** will be key to success

Next Steps



Next Steps

- ✓ Official Launch of **FLR Mechanism** at COFO in June 2014
- ✓ Partnering with CBD for **Aichi Target Workshops** in 2014
- ✓ **Initiate planning process** in selected countries
- ✓ **Resource mobilization**
- ✓ High level event on FLR at **CBD COP 12** in October 2014 (RoK)



thank you!