

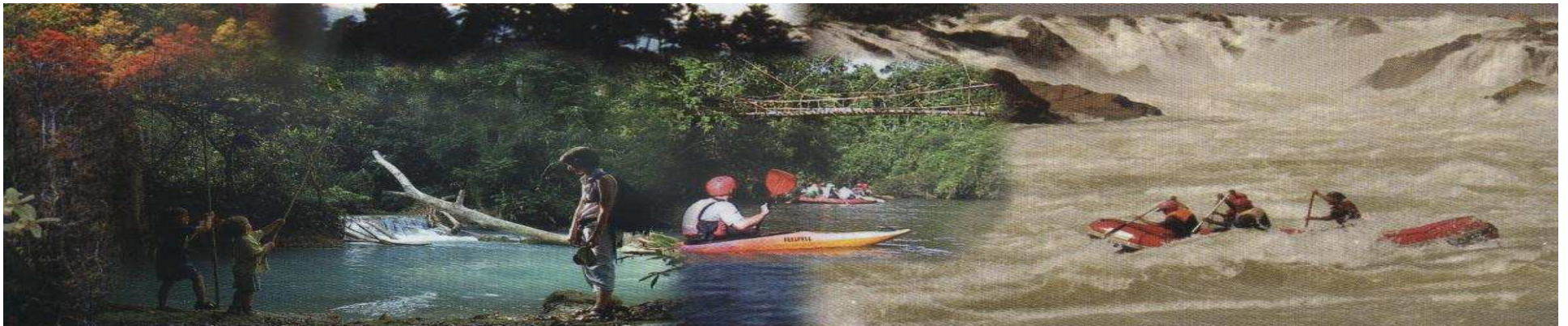
Challenges and Opportunities related to Forest Biodiversity and Climate Change

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Background

National Regulations:

- 1993: Established National Protected Areas System;
- 2003: Regulation on Protected Areas, Aquatic and Wild Animal Management;
- 2005: Forestry Strategy for 2020;
- 2005: Biological Diversity Strategy 2020 and Action Plan 2010;
- 2007: Forestry Law;
- 2007: Aquatic and Wild Animal Law;
- 2001: Environmental Law
- 2008: Readiness Plan Idea Note (R-PIN);

Background

International Conventions:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. World Heritage Convention | 1987 |
| 2. United National Framework Convention on Climate Change | 1995 |
| 3. Convention of Biological Diversity | 1996 |
| 4. Convention to Combat Desertification | 1996 |
| 5. Vienna Convention on the Ozone Layer and Montreal Protocol | 1998 |
| 6. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species | 2004 |
| 7. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands | Under consideration |
| 8. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants | Under consideration |
| 9. ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature & Nature Resources | |

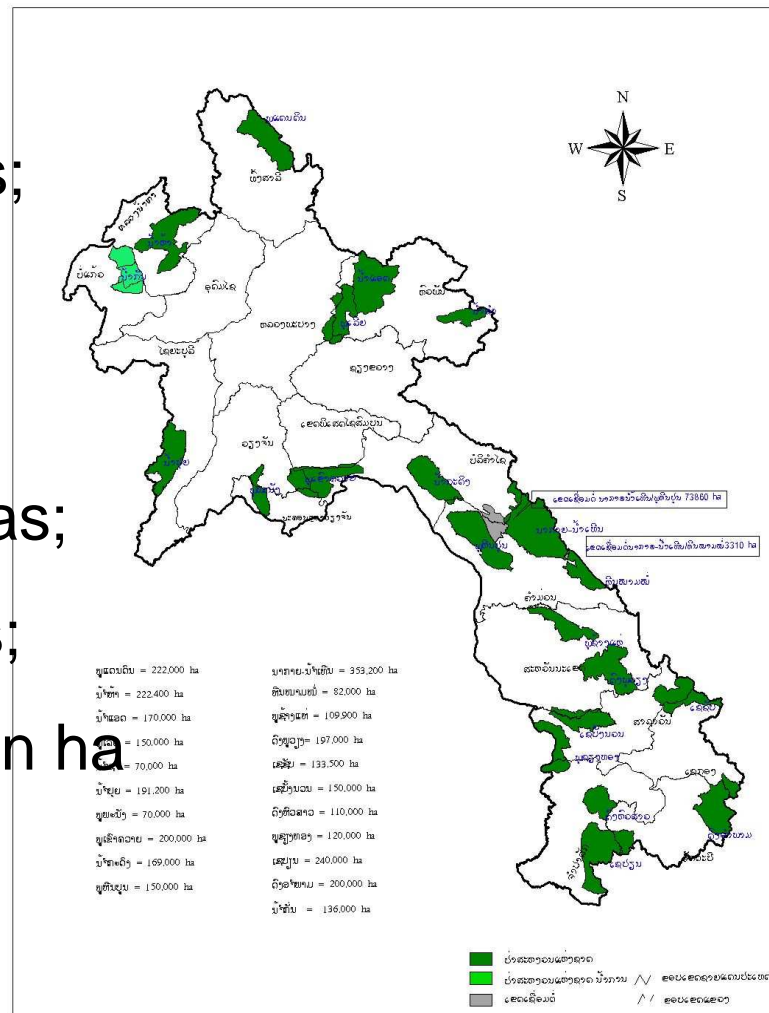
Lesson learned in implementing relevant CBD and UNFF

1. Great attention in project design needs to be given to clear and unambiguous objectives:
2. Projects should not be designed with direct reference and apparent linkage to unconfirmed future funding;
3. If a project involves the drawing up and adoption of government policy and legal framework, project formulation needs to be include resources to assist this process and milestones which will reflect on-going government commitment;
4. Much greater awareness of the needs of, and need for, biodiversity conservation is required at central & local level.

Opportunities on Forest Biodiversity

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Forest cover 41,5%;
 21 National Protected Areas;
 3 have proposed as NPAs;
 2 Corridor zone;
 57 Provincial Protected Areas;
 144 District Protected Areas;
 With area of about 4,7 million ha



Economic Values of Biodiversity

Direct

Indirect

Option Existence

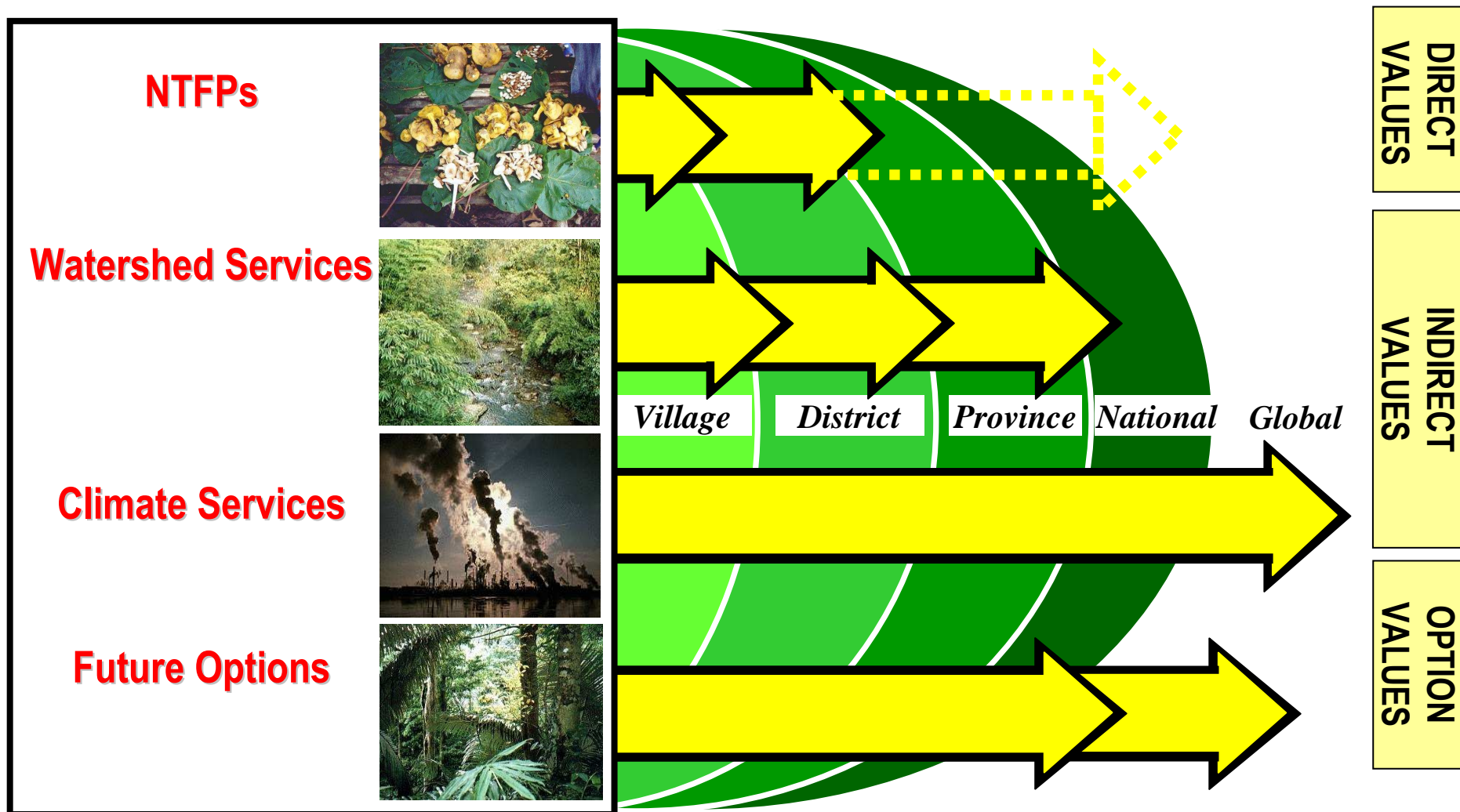
Firewood
Wild foods
Medicine
Handicrafts
Materials
-Fodders

H. habitation
W. habitation
Catchmen
Protection
Erosion Control
Carbon
sequestration

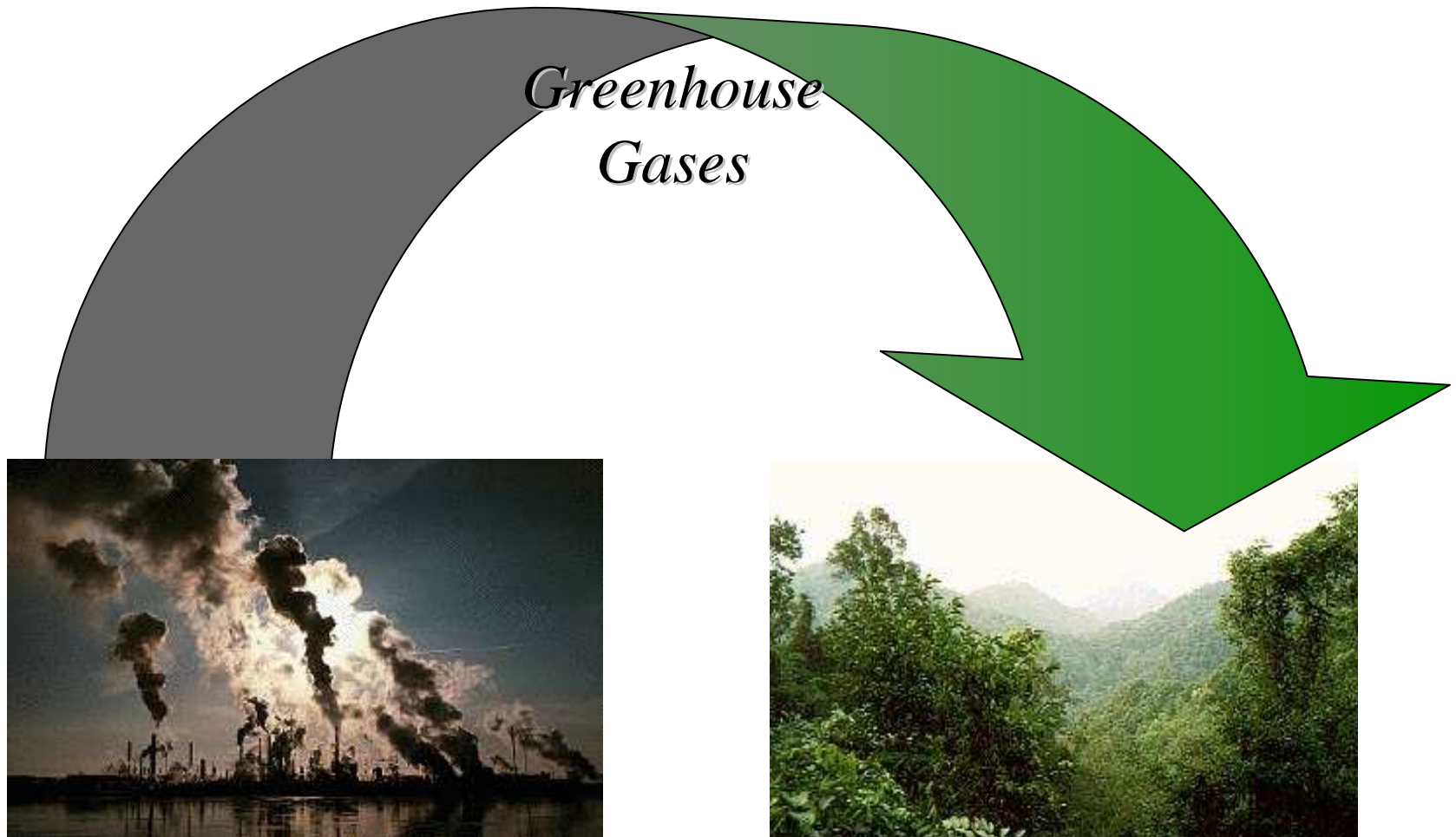
*Industrial
Agricultural
Pharmaceutical
Recreational
Wild Species
Genes.*

Landscape
Aesthetic
Heritage
Culture
Global Biodiversity

Linking to Economy



Opportunities of REDD:



Opportunities on REDD:

1. Lao became one of the 14 participating countries on Forest Carbon Partnership Facility in July 2008;
2. Lao has recently submitted an application to the initial grant of (\$200,000) for preparation of Readiness Preparation Proposal;
3. R-PP will be formulated with FCPF grant and supports from other projects/donors by March or April 2010;
4. After formulation and approval by FCPF, R-PP will be implemented with \$ 3-4 million from FCPF and other donors;

Opportunities on REDD:

5. Forestry Strategy Implementation Promotion Project (FSIP) has support to FCPF/REDD process through capacity building of REDD Task Force;
6. Sustainable Forestry & Rural Development Project (SUFORD);
 - Tests on the suitability of selected technologies on carbon monitoring (VTT method and Lidar);
 - Designed of a comprehensive national forest inventory system incorporating a methodology for carbon monitoring;

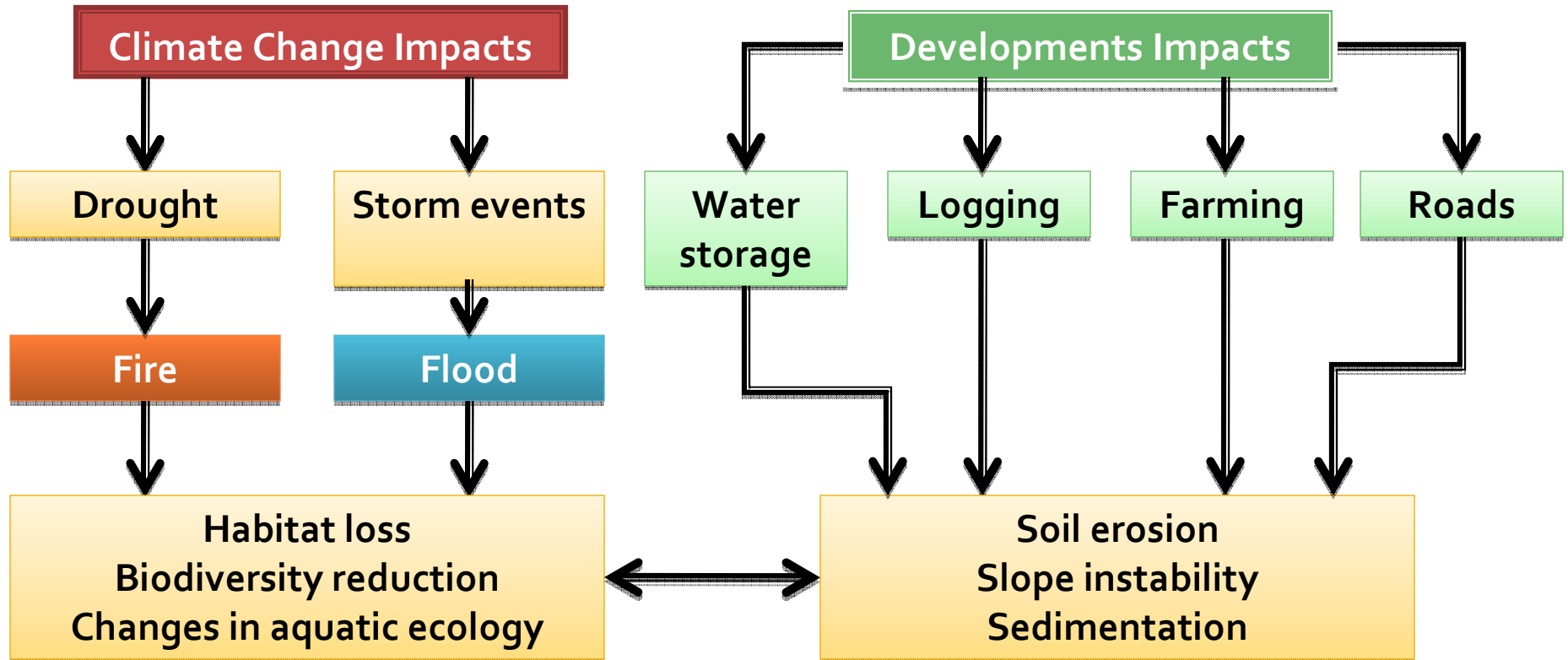
Challenges (1): on Forest Biodiversity

1. Government needs to retain and most effectively utilize its trained conservation professionals;
2. Protected Area levies need to be sufficient for the protected area management requirements and their use clearly defined;
3. There is a need to ensure that the expansion of protected area ecotourism development maximizes benefits to local communities and protected area authorities, and minimizes negative impacts on the conservation values of PA;
4. There is a critical need to ensure that NTFPs harvesting in specific PA zone is managed at sustainable levels;

Challenges (2): on REDD

1. To be ready for REDD there needs to be adequate monitoring and accounting observed; this is necessary for credits claimed under REDD to be meaningful;
2. There must be the actual mechanisms in place for reducing deforestation and forest degradation; this includes the development of alternative incomes for local communities, improved land use planning, and distribution of financial benefits.

Combined impacts on biodiversity / NR



Adaptation options

Priority

1. Protected areas enhancement;
2. Smart Infrastructure Planning
3. Integrated Water Resources Management
4. Landscape restoration / reforestation
5. Climate-tolerant agriculture (community-based)
6. Effective use of local knowledge

Additional

1. REDD and REDD+
2. Biodiversity planning
3. Improvement of Forest Fire Control System (community-based)
4. Invasive species control
5. NTFP-based livelihoods development

Capacity / Institutional Needs (1)

- **Protected Areas Management**
 - Capacity building and strengthen human resources
 - Funding to be diversified (Gov. NGOs, Private sectors) to setup new PAs and meet the need of current Pas
 - Improvement of Law Enforcement
- **Landscape restoration**
 - Infrastructure Planners consider restoration
 - Awareness raising for planners
- **Joint monitoring** for REDD, Invasive species, Forest Fire, Trans-boundary Trade and Climate Change indicator species

Capacity / Institutional Needs (2)

- **Awareness raising**
 - Community and authority at district / community level,
 - Participatory planning
 - Facilitate adaptive planning
- **Research**
- **Trans-boundary collaboration and cooperation**

Thank you for your attention

