Community of Practice:

"REDD+ and best practices integrating forests and tree-based mitigation and adaptation in response to climate change in Africa"

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REDD+ and AFR100 initiative: Synergies, differences and contribution to the NDCs

By

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Context

Forests play an essential role in global climate regulation as well as catchment protection; conservation of biodiversity; food availability, availability of fuelwood for local communities.

They play an essential role in the carbon cycle (approximately one-third of global carbon emissions is absorbed annually by forests).

Deforestation and forest degradation account for about 10 to 12% of total global anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions responsible for climate change (Le Quéré et al. 2015, Hansen et al. 2013).

Context

The increase in the rate of deforestation and forest degradation in recent decades has raised concerns due to many reasons: loss of biodiversity, contribution to climate change, negative impacts on rural livelihoods and damage to ecosystem services such as water supply.

The loss and degradation of forests exacerbate impacts on already vulnerable populations with direct repercussions on their livelihoods.

Forests are thus crucial in the response to climate change, preserving biodiversity, enhancing resilience of local forest depending communities.

Therefore, halting global forest loss and degradation, while stepping up forest restoration, are important solutions to meet the Paris Agreement

Context

The aim of capitalising on the potential of forests to mitigate climate change while strengthening the resilience of people in forest areas, gave rise these recent decades to several forest-related or tree-based climate initiatives.

These include: REDD+ AFR100 initiative as well as other landscape restoration initiatives, the “Great Green Wall”, the "zero deforestation" commitment etc.

Although they are different in their conception, and to some extent their implementation, in reality there are several common aspects between them.

Context

This presentation focuses on two of the best known of these initiatives in Africa, namely the REDD+ process and the AFR100 initiative, to explore their synergies and potential contribution to the NDCs of the various countries

Presentation of the 2 concepts (REDD+ & AFR100)

What is REDD+ ?

REDD+ is a concept initiated within the context of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that can be summarised as:

"Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries" (UNFCCC, 2010).

What is REDD+?

In concrete terms, it is a mechanism that aims to reward financially actions in developing countries that aim to:

- *Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation;*
- *Promoting conservation and sustainable management of forests;*
- *Increasing and enhancing forest carbon stocks*

The main result indicator is the amount of CO2 reduced

What is AFR100 ?

AFR100 (the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative) is a country-led effort to bring 100 million hectares of land in Africa into restoration by 2030. It was then launched at the 2015 CoP of UNCCC by a group of African nations and technical partners including the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and the World Resources Institute (WRI).

AFR100 contributes to the Bonn Challenge, the African Resilient Landscapes Initiative (ARLI), the African Union Agenda 2063, the Sustainable Development Goals and other targets.

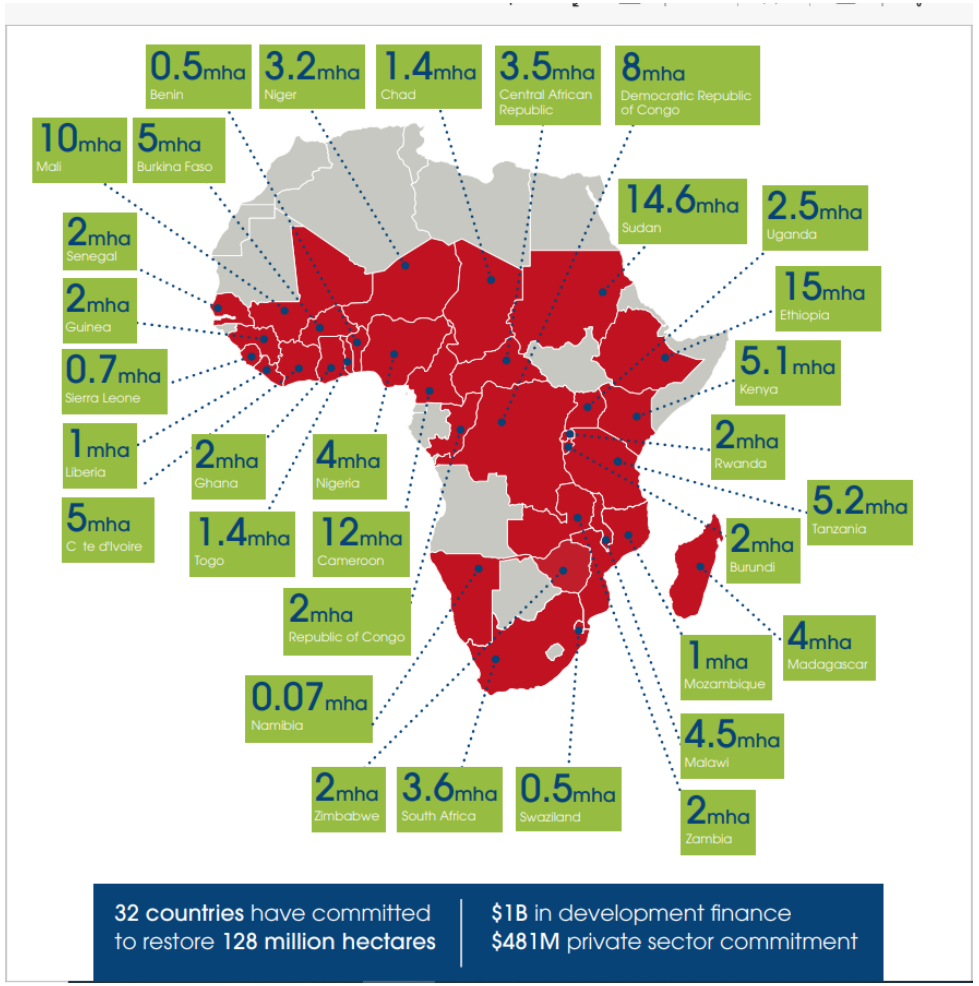
The initiative connects political partners with technical and financial support to scale up restoration on the ground and capture associated benefits for food security, climate change resilience and poverty alleviation.

What is AFR100 ?

➢ What is AFR100 ?

To date, 30 African nations have signed onto AFR100 and committed a combined 126 million hectares of land to be restored. Financial and technical partners support partner countries to assess restoration opportunities, develop strategies and accelerate implementation on the ground.

The main outcome indicator is the area of degraded landscape restored



Implementation Approach

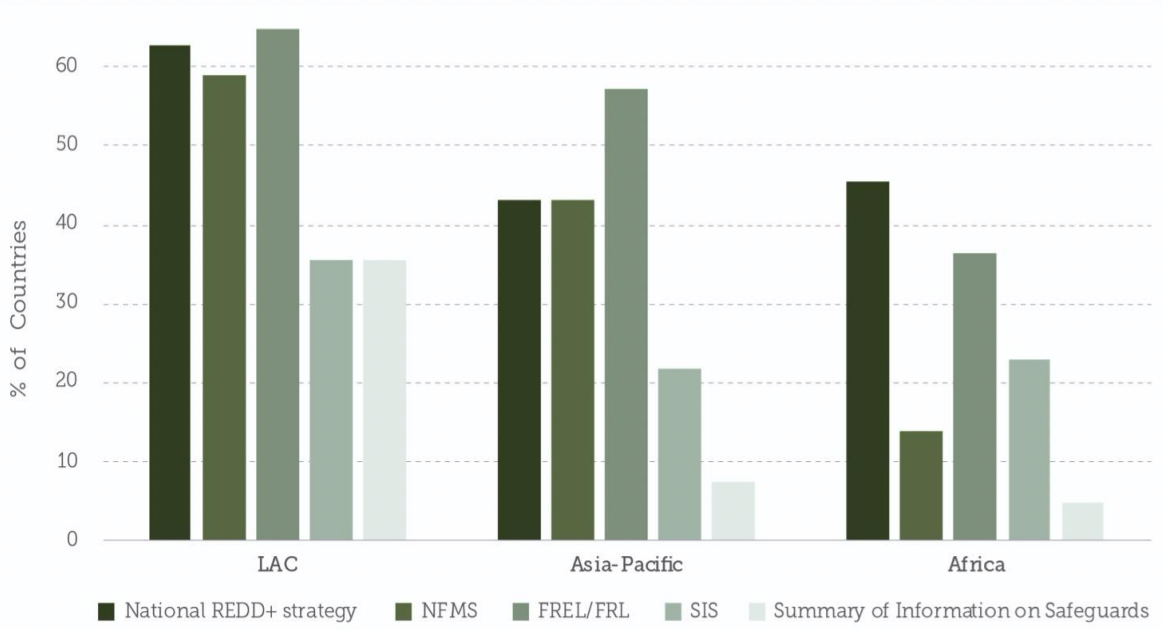
REDD+ : A rigid phased Approach for implementation

Phases		Characteristics	MRV activities
Phase 1	Readiness	National strategy or action plan formulation, development of policies and measures and capacity building	Capacity-development needs; roadmap development
Phase 2	Transition, implementation, and capacity building	Implementation of national policies and measures and national strategies or action plans (further capacity building); technology development and transfer and results-based demonstration activities	Demonstration activities; monitoring system development
Phase 3	Full implementation	Implementation of national policies and measures on the whole national territory; results-based actions that should be fully measured, reported, and verified	national performance monitoring system; Fully operational MRV system to report REDD+ mitigation performance in CO_2e

REDD+ : A rigid phased Approach for implementation

As REDD+ is a performance-based payment initiative, a good demonstration of the implementation of the different phases, especially phase 1, through good documentation and clear approaches is needed to move forward.

Countries committed to REDD+ must complete the Warsaw framework to qualify for certified emission reductions (CERs)



Regional REDD+ progress towads achieving the Warsaw famework accordin to GCF survey in 2019

AFR100 : A highly flexible adaptive approach

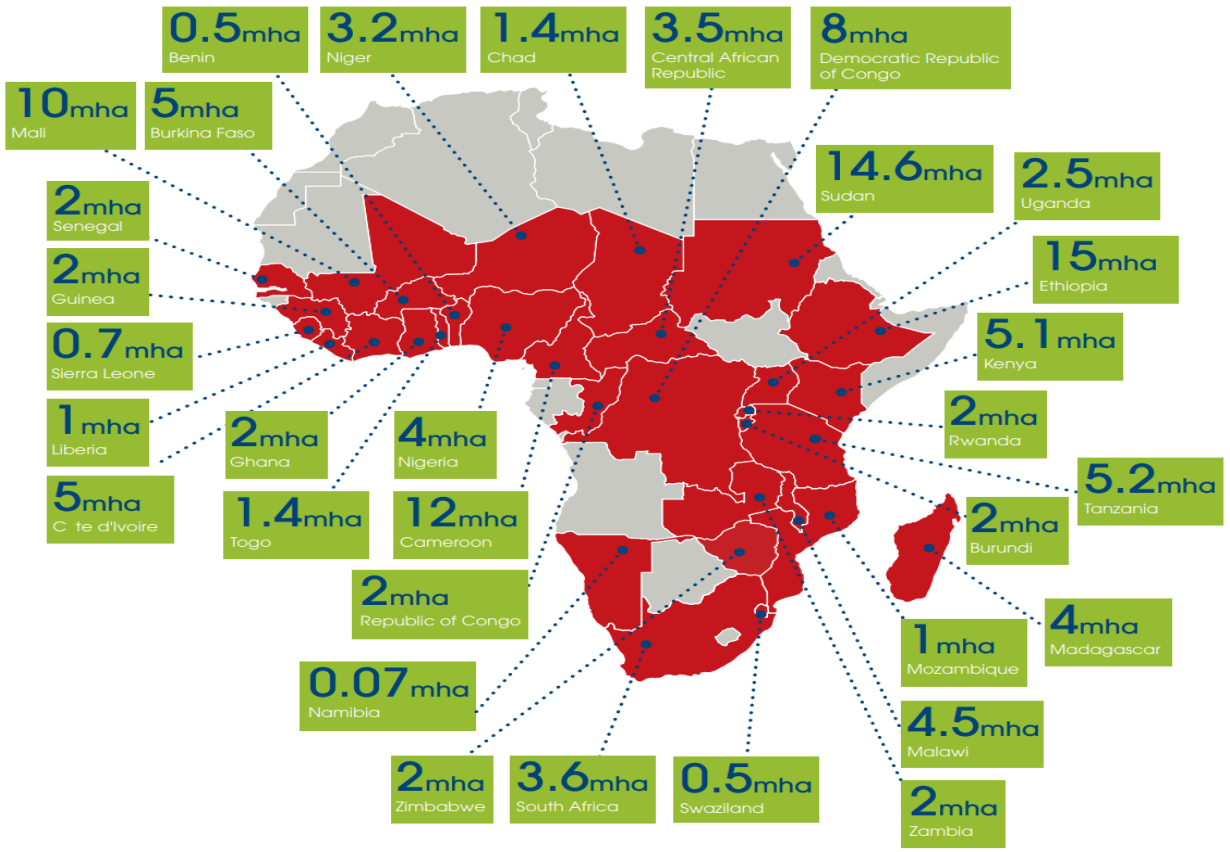
The 6 fundamental principles guiding a Landscape Restoration process:

- Principle 1: Priority to landscapes
- Principle 2: Stakeholder engagement and support for participatory governance
- Principle 3: Restore multiple functions to achieve multiple benefits.
- Principle 4: Maintain and enhance natural ecosystems within landscapes.
- **Principle 5: Adaptation to the local context by various means**
- Principle 6: Agile management for long-term resilience

There is no supreme body that validates compliance with any of the principles

AFR 100 Key success factors in Africa

Status of African countries commitments for AFR 100



32 countries have committed to restore **128 million hectares**

$1B in development finance
$481M private sector commitment

Key success factors for FLR in Africa:

- Local ownership and stakeholder engagement;
- High-level political support;
- Champions to generate the momentum and bring in more stakeholders;
- Access to finance;
- Relevance to and linkage with other priorities, (climate change, desertification, biodiversity, food security and disaster risk reduction);
- Knowledge-sharing and lesson-learning;
- Favorable policy environment for long-term sustainability;
- partnerships and collaboration

REDD+ and AFR100 Contribution to climate change adaptation

- The objective of restoring a degraded forest landscape is to restore its ecological integrity or to enhance the ecological and socio-economic functions of a landscape. To this end, the main benefits expected from restoration are the contribution to the resilience of the population and the environment.

- **AFR100 and REDD+ provide the same contribution to climate change adaptation**

REDD+ and AFR100 Contribution to climate change adaptation

AFR100 & REDD+ thus have the potential to:

- Promotion of sustainable farming practices with agroforestry systems;
- Promotion of sustainable agricultural production;
- Biodiversity enhancement;
- Promotion of participatory governance of sustainable harvesting and marketing of NTFPs;
- Promotion of ecotourism activities with communities engagement;
- Improved water supply in the community

Indirectly, carbon payements from REDD+ could be insvested in productive sectors like agriculture development, thus fostering population resilience against Climate Change

Contribution of REDD+ and AFR100 to climate change Mitigation: What contribution to NDC?

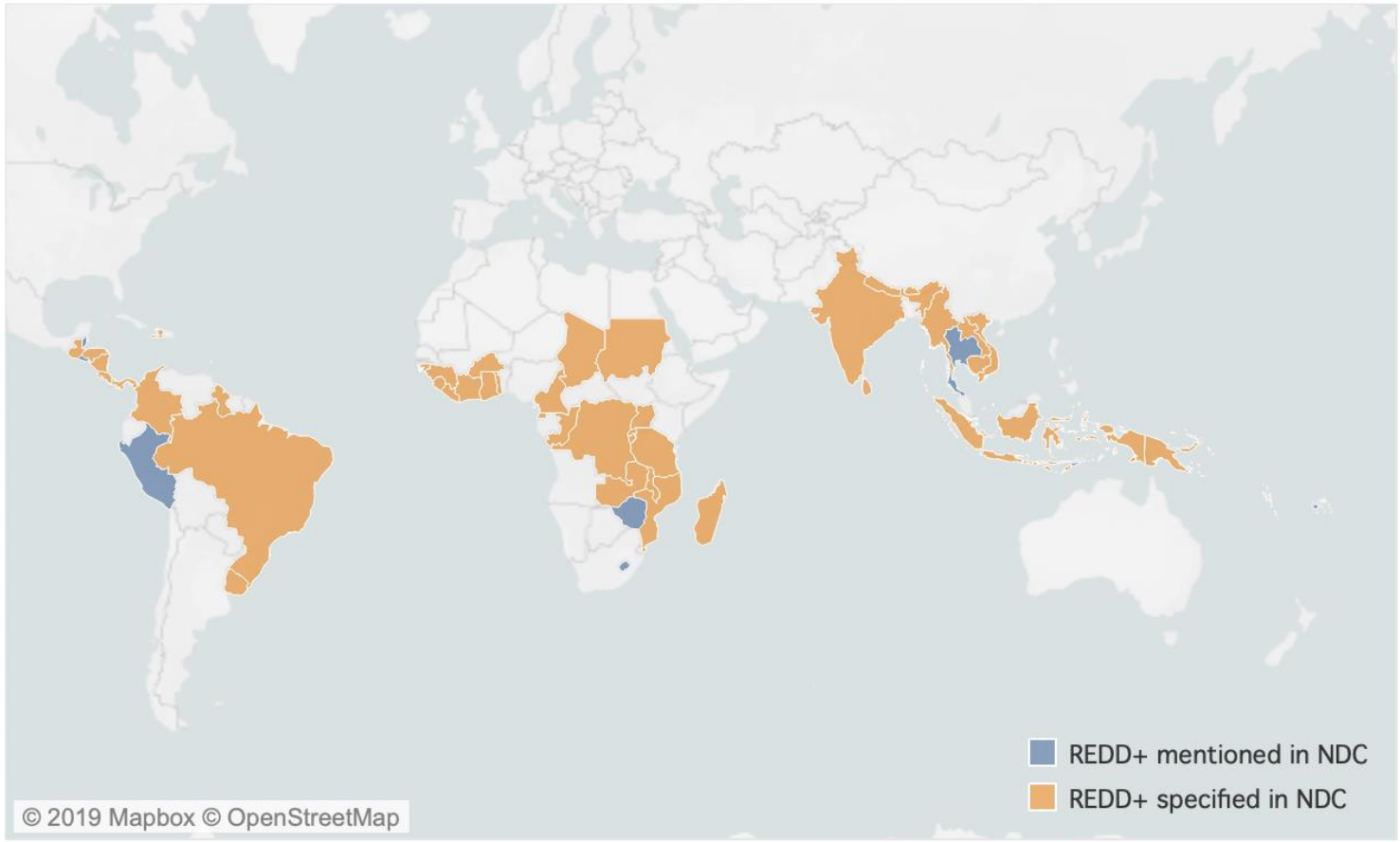
REDD+ Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation

The main objective of REDD+ is contribution to GHG emission Reduction (Climate Change Mitigation)

- REDD+ could contribute to encrease forest carbon storage and prevent millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide from reaching the atmosphere and contributing to global climate change.
- REDD+ offers a great opportunity for meeting the 1.5°C temperature reduction target stated in the Paris Agreement.

REDD+ Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation

Through their existing NDCs, several countries have communicated that their mitigation efforts in the forest sector will be coordinated through their REDD+ frameworks, highlighting the importance of REDD+ in national efforts of reducing global emsisions of GHG.



AFR100 Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation

- Through tree planting (reforestation, agroforestry, etc.), the AFR100 initiative contributes to the strengthening of carbon stocks and thus to the absorption of GHG emissions into the atmosphere
- By preserving certain landscapes (Assisted Natural Regeneration), the AFR100 initiative contributes to the conservation of carbon stocks and thus to the reduction of GHG emissions into the atmosphere

AFR100 Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation

- **Landscape restoration thus contributes to the AFOLU sector's contribution to national NDCs**
- A review of Nationally Determined Contributions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) found that some form of restoration is present in 122 of the first set of 165 (Roe et al. 2019).
- However, the fact that the AFR100 initiative does not have international emission reduction commitments with UNFCCC means that its contribution to mitigation is often neglected as it is not measured

REDD+ & AFR100 in Brief

Initiative	Key Objective	Key performance indicator	Implementation approach	Contribution to NDC
REDD+	Mitigation	Emission reduction	Rigid phasing	Yes
AFR100	Adaptation	Area restored	Flexible adaptive approach	Yes

Synergy Between NDC, REDD+, AFR100

In 2015, 196 countries collectively decided under the Paris Agreement to transform their development trajectories in order to reduce global emissions.

The agreement requires countries to prepare, communicate and maintain increasingly ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

By April 2018, 197 countries had submitted their NDCs or Intended NDCs (INDCs). Although implementation of the measures in these submitted (I)NDCs is expected to result in considerably lower global emission levels than business-as-usual scenarios, the committed reduction policies and measures are not sufficient to meet the Paris Agreement target.

Synergy Between NDC, REDD+, AFR100

- In countries where both initiatives are implemented, Cross-sectoral collaboration is facilitated by using REDD+ or NDC institutions as an umbrella for regrouping different state agencies.
- The development and application of safeguards in REDD+ might be something that AFR100 could benefit from in the future.
- REDD+ and AFR100 could work together to address land-related issues that affect them in the same way in their implementation
- Working with almost the same stakeholders, these processes should build common strategies for stakeholder mobilization and engagement
- AFR100 should benefit from the methodologies and technologies developed (carbon stock assessment, satellite land monitoring, land use mapping, etc.) in the framework of REDD+ for its implementation
- AFR100 could serve as strategic option to achieve REDD+ objectives (Provisions of Non-carbon benefits and other incentives necessary for stakeholder engagement, etc.

Synergy Between NDC, REDD+, AFR100

As agriculture, forestry and other land uses (AFOLU) are responsible for roughly a quarter of global emissions, the forest sector will need to play an even larger role in reducing emissions (Smith *et al.* 2014), and therefore should be well covered within any climate agreements (Seymour and Busch 2016), including (I)NDCs.

In order to meet targets for the AFOLU sector, approximately 56 countries have made an explicit link or included a REDD+ and other Nature Based Solution, in their first NDCs.

How REDD+ and AFR100 could contribute to NDCs in Africa?

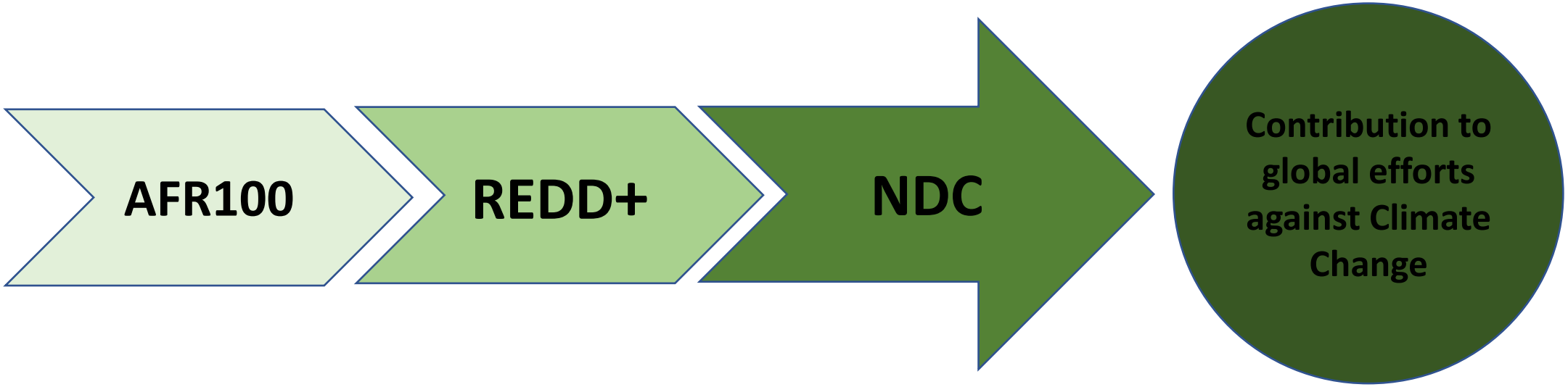
Synergy Between NDC, REDD+, AFR100

- Policies and measures developed under REDD+ and AFR100 are useful to achieve NDCs objectives
- Monitoring and evaluation tools developed under REDD+ & AFR100 will help monitor and tackle drives of deforestation and forest degradation to achieve NDC objectives
- REDD+ and AFR100 funding and other resources contribute to the achievement of NDCs
- Mapping existing/or potential funding help countries consolidate their fundraising efforts
- Understanding, who shares the costs of REDD+ and AFR100 implementation, and who will gain from it will help governments develop a comprehensive estimate of funding resources required to implement NDCs.

Synergy Between NDC, REDD+, AFR100

- The safeguards systems, improvement of forest governance and land tenure developed under REDD+ and AFR100 are useful to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
- Clarification of rights and responsibilities among sectors and actors in REDD+ and AFR100 would also help to improve implementation of current NDCs.
- REDD+ and AFR100 initiatives would help to improve cross-sectoral collaboration necessary for the implementation of NDCs
- REDD+ and AFR100 can provide incentives for reducing emissions, thereby creating motivation for behavioural change in forest management

Synergy Between NDC, REDD+, AFR100



- How NDCs could tap more into REDD+ and AFR100 in our countries?

Thank you