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Knowledge Sharing Workshop Strengthening the Environment Dimensions of the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific

**21-22 February 2018
Bangkok, Thailand**

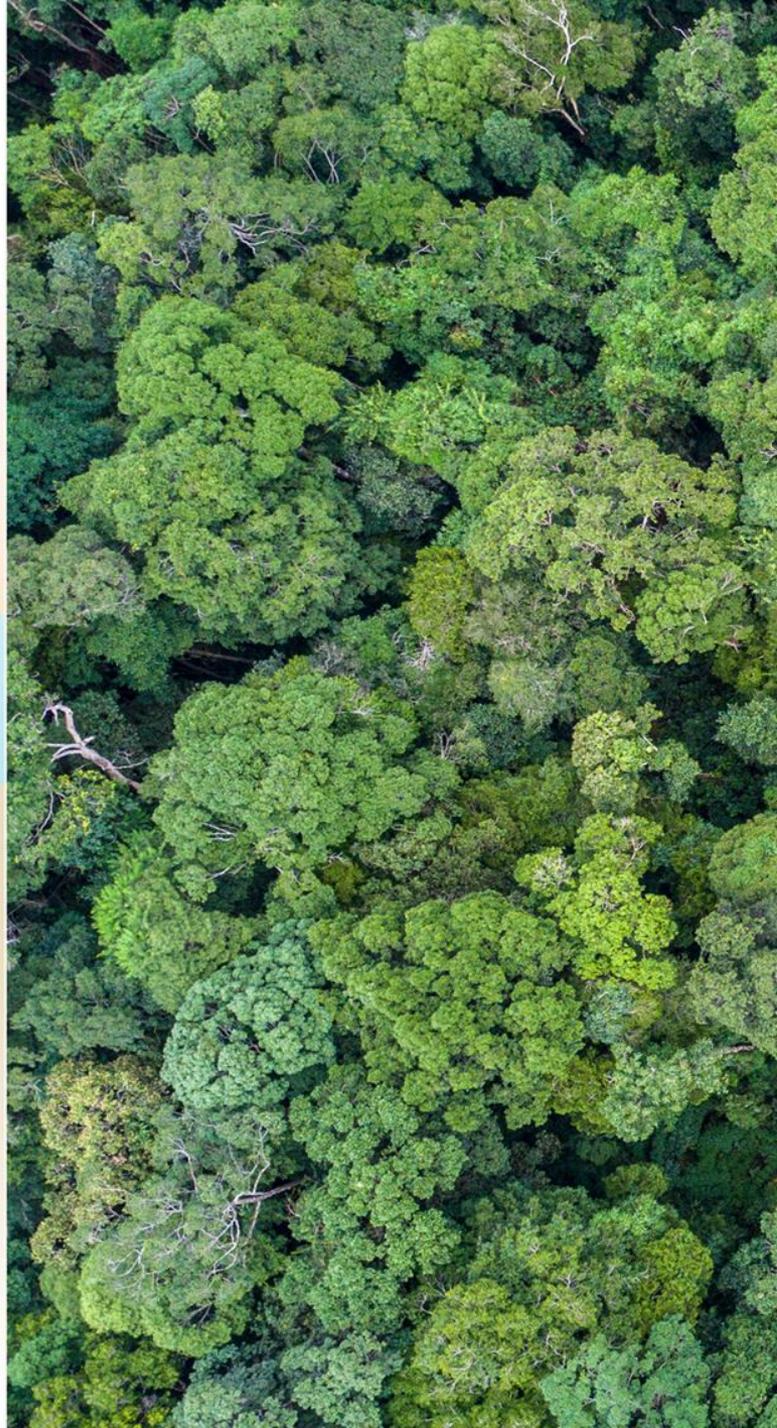


**Environment
in SDGs
Asia-Pacific**

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**



IN
COLLABORATION
WITH





**GREATER MEKONG
SUBREGION
CORE ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAM**

Landscape Management and Regional Collaboration in the GMS

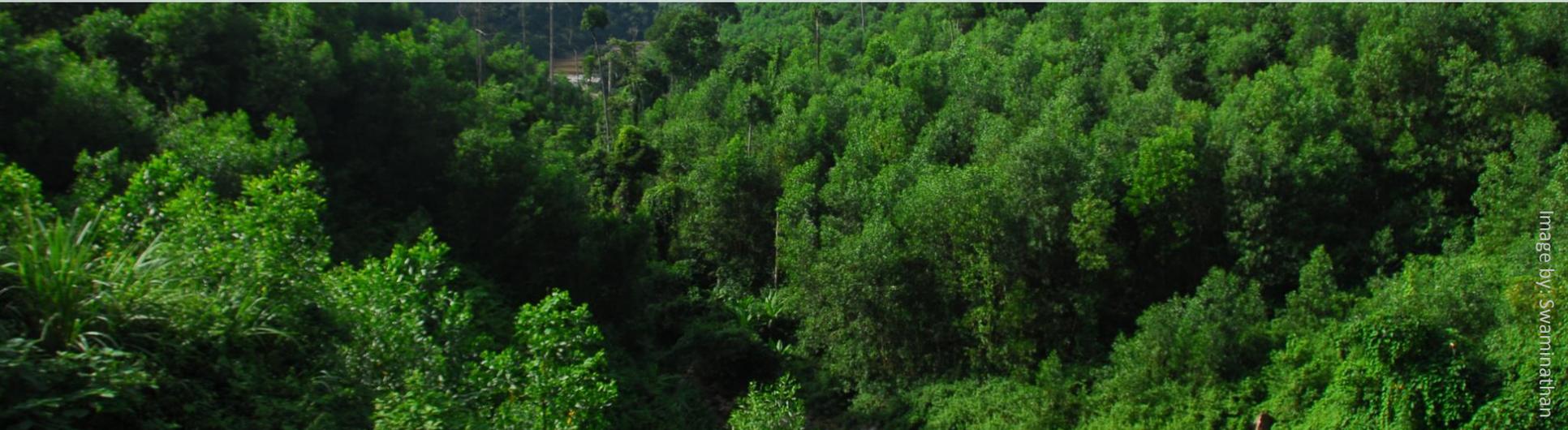


Image by: Swarnrathan

**Sumit Pokhrel, Deputy Technical Program Head
GMS Environment Operations Center**

GMS Economic Cooperation Program



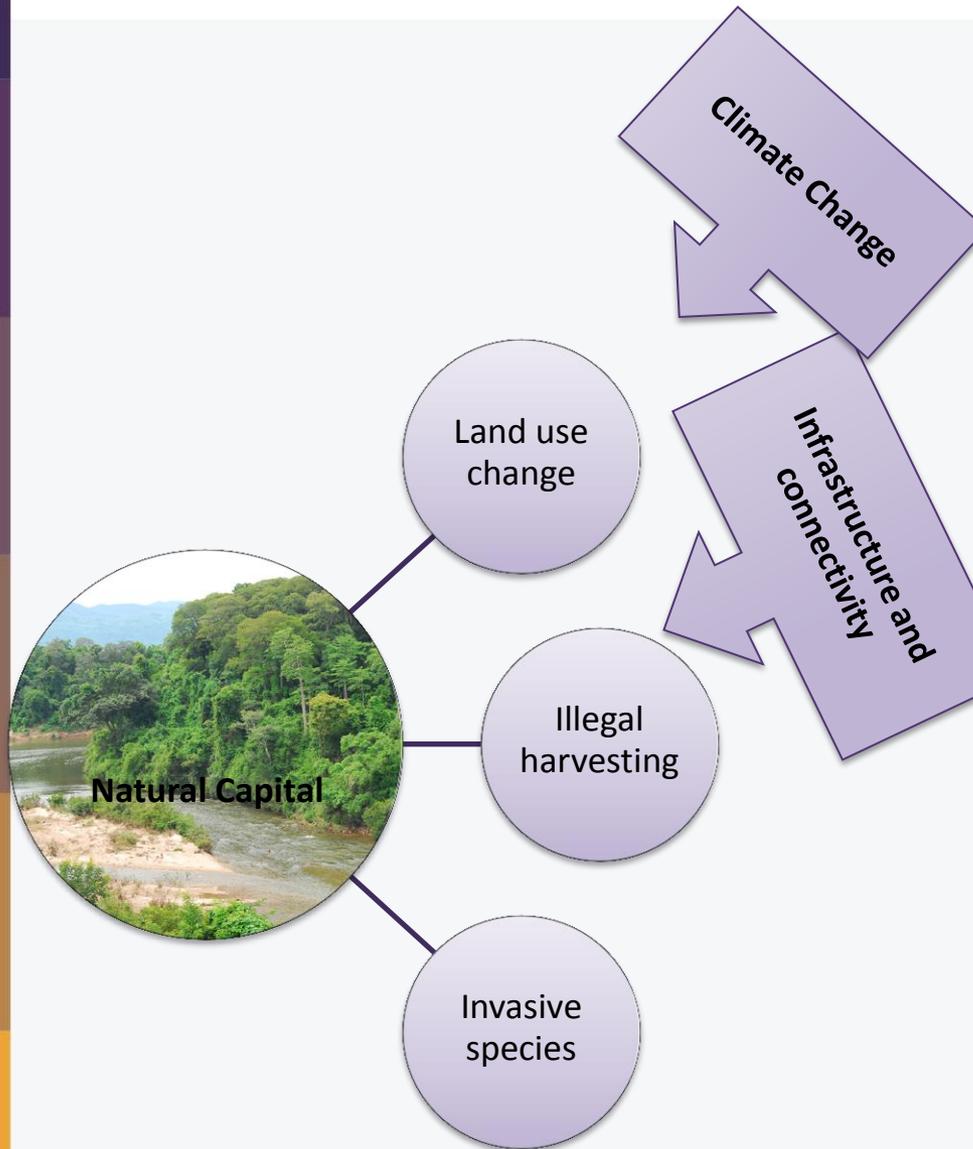
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- Ha Noi Action Plan (HAP) 2018–2022 and Regional Investment Framework 2022 (RIF 2022) has identified a pipeline of GMS projects valued at \$64 billion
 - Environmental risk to and from investment projects needs urgent actions to ensure sustainability



...Window for making the right infrastructure choices is narrow. Once infrastructure investment decisions are made, capital and technology is “locked-in” for many decades

Natural Capital at Risk in the GMS



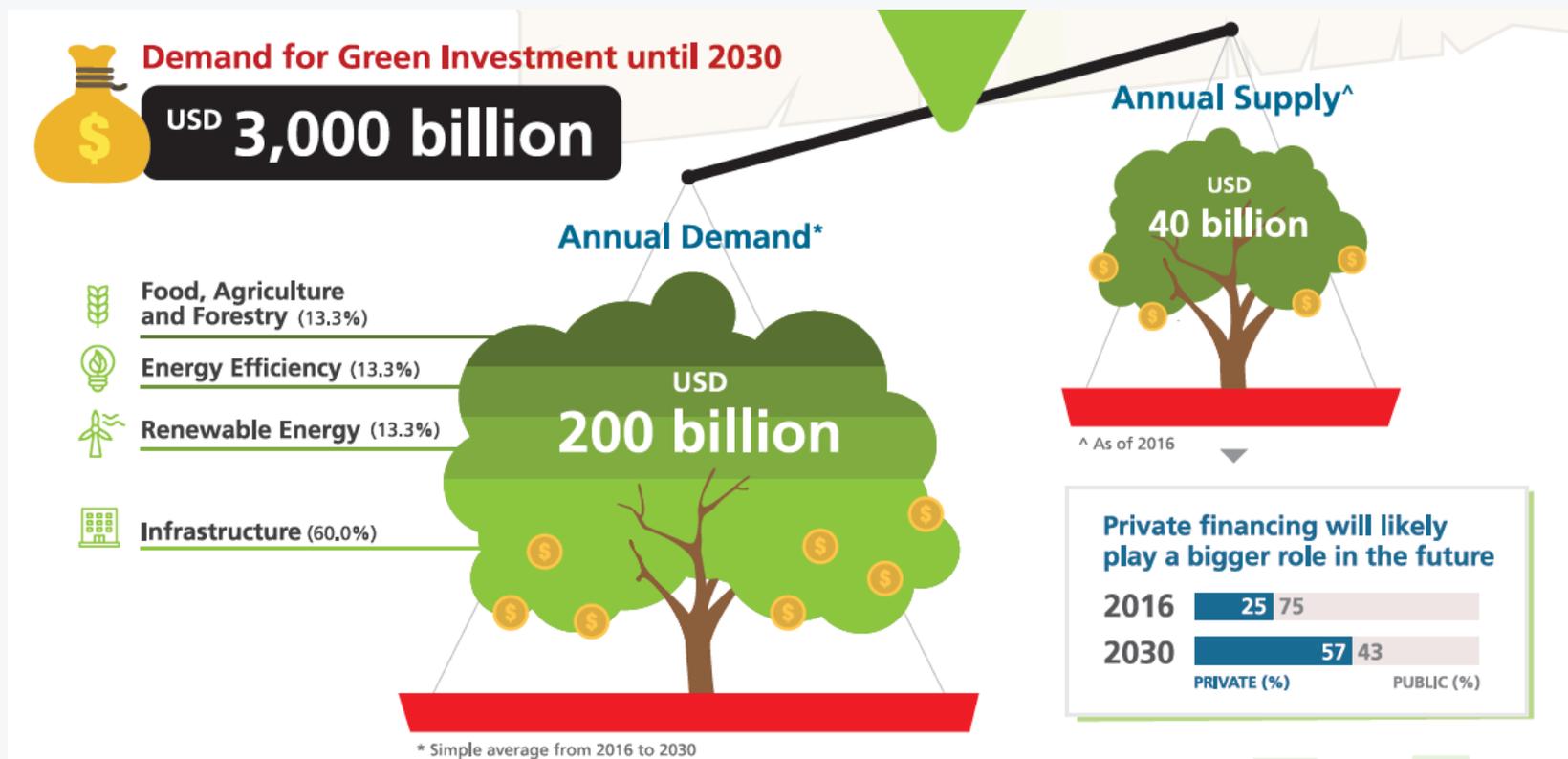
- Capital city
- Province capital (PR China)
- National border
- Province border (PR China)
- EC roads
- Protected Area
- TRANSBOUNDARY BIODIVERSITY LANDSCAPES

Boundaries are not necessarily authoritative.

Green Investment Demand

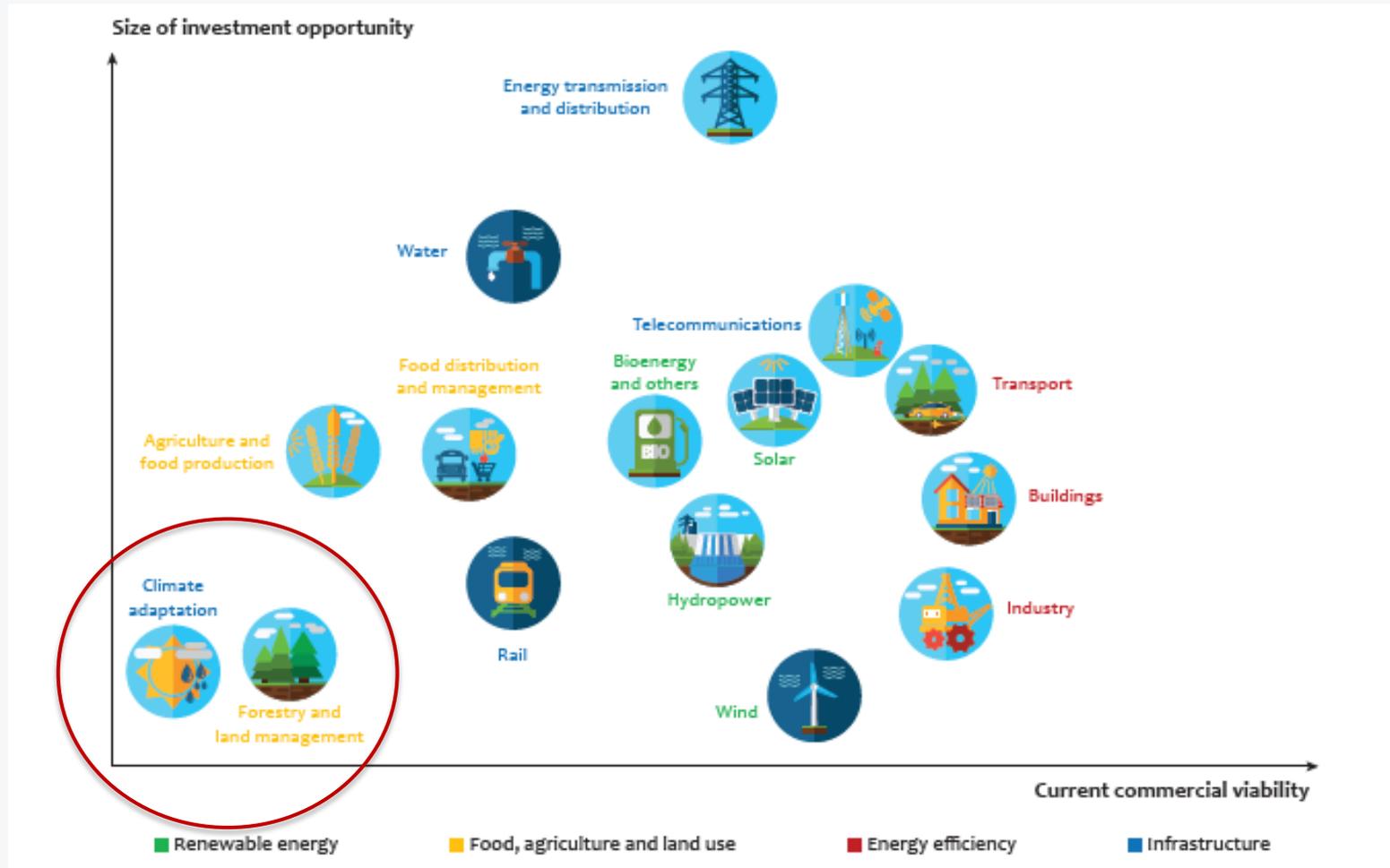


Figure: Demand for Green Investment until 2030 in ASEAN



Role of private sector is crucial...

Investment Challenge in Public Goods



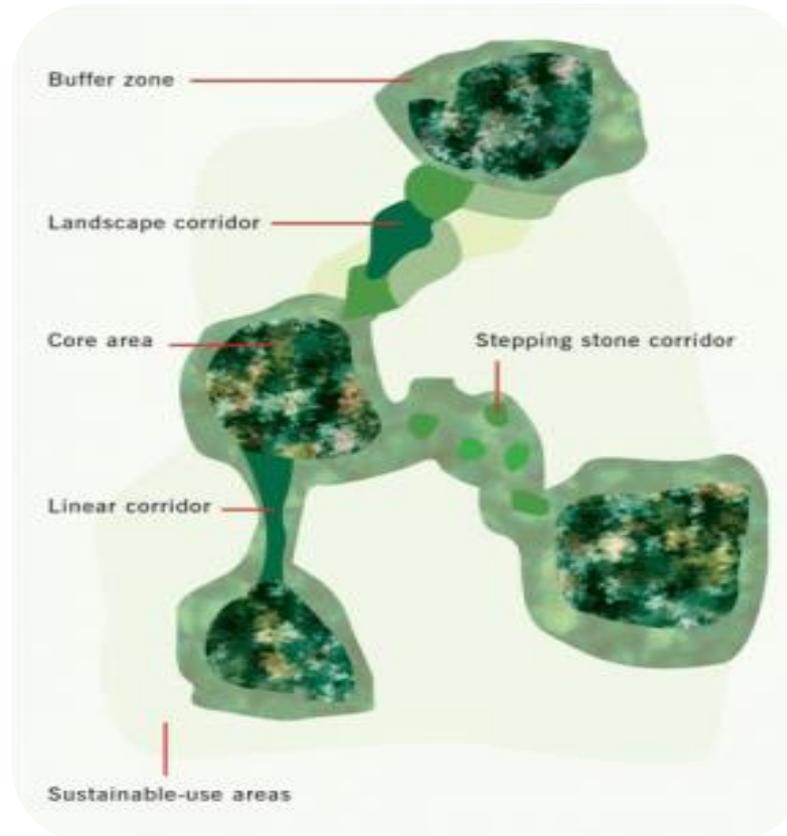
Source: Green Finance Opportunities in Asian, DBS and UN Environment 2017

GMS CEP is catalyzing changes in conservation paradigm...



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Protected
Area

Biodiversity
Corridor

Landscape
Management

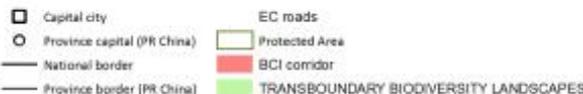
...by facilitating investment



...To date CEP has leveraged over US\$ 120 million investment in NRM and climate change...

...Total value of ecosystem services assessed in biodiversity conservation corridor areas amounts to US\$ 9.3 billion...

...Huge potential for value chain development and employment generation....



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Landscape Management: GMS CEP's Approach



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Guiding principles

- ✓ ***Secure** natural capital stocks*
- ✓ *Optimize **allocation** of scarce resources and manage **competition***
- ✓ *Enhance **efficiency and resilience** of supply chain that is dependent on or affects scarce resources*
- ✓ *Improve **inclusiveness** and equitable benefit sharing*
- ✓ *Promote integrated management of resources **across international borders***

Operationalizing landscape approach:

- Shift from project based approach to more upstream strategic planning (spatial prioritization and optimization of program/ project portfolio) and adaptive management
- Cross-sector/ multisector approach (SEA is an effective tool)
- Promote investment incubation, market based mechanisms and private sector engagement
- Build system's capacity (Policy and knowledge support)

Promoting Investment

- Move from grant / public financing
 - Performance based conditional financing
 - Private sector engagement and market mechanism
- CEP is supporting PES readiness capacity building

Required enabling conditions:

- Market demand induced by policy interventions,
- Clear management objectives to avoid malpractices,
- Equal emphasis on avoiding and minimizing degradation (vis-à-vis compensation),
- Bundling of ecosystem services,
- Clear land tenure /ownership,
- Equitable benefit distribution,
- Transparent and clear performance standards, pricing structure and monitoring, reporting and verification systems



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Thank you

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