



Potential for small holder planted forests and trees to rerstore degraded mosaic landscapes in Uganda

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At the YALE FOREST FORUM WEBINAR

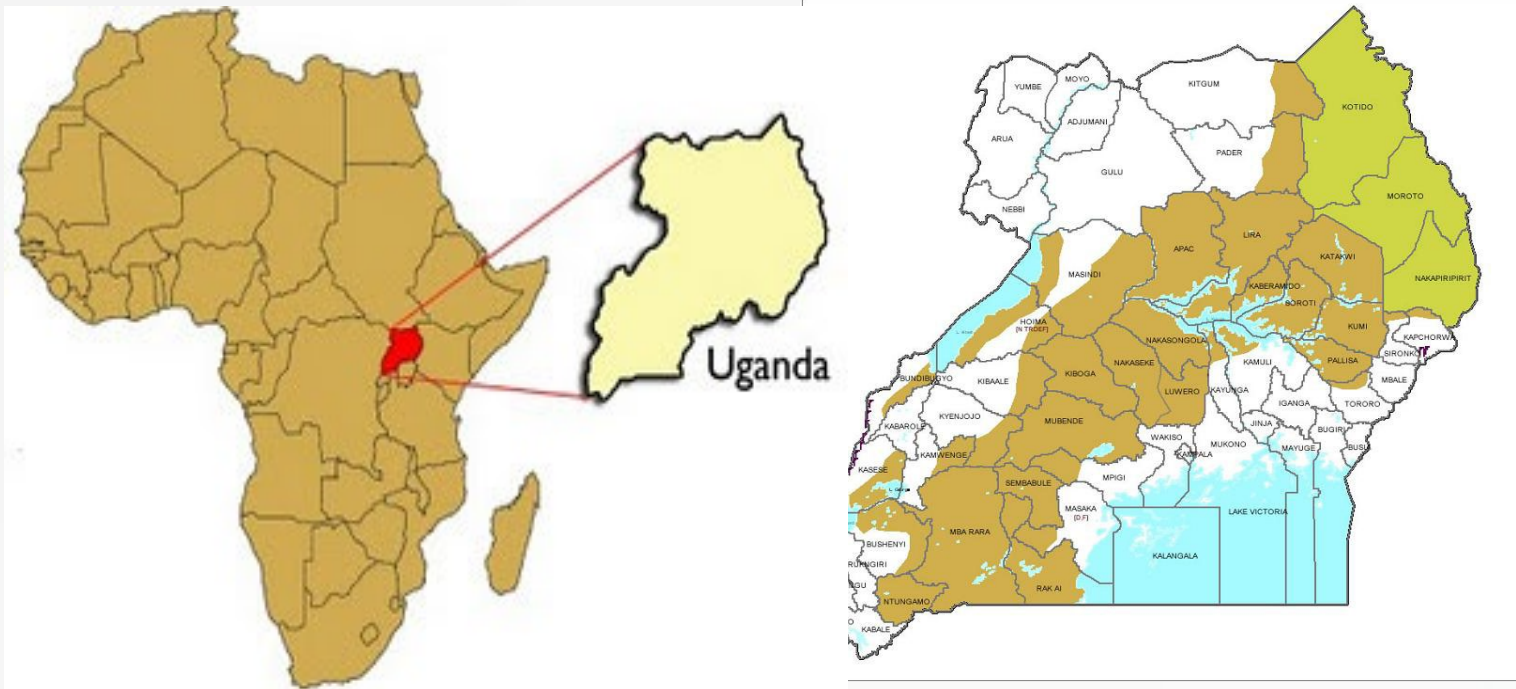
24th January 2023



Presentation plan

- ❖ **Back ground/ Country situation**
- ❖ **Forest Cover trends/Land Cover Map in Uganda**
- ❖ **What are small holder planted forests & Why small holder planted forests and trees?**
- ❖ **Policy and legal enabling environment for planted forests**
- ❖ **Small holder planted trees and the gender perspective**
- ❖ **A case of private sector involvement in tree growing: The Sawlog Production Grant Scheme-SPGS**
- ❖ **Enabling environment for small holder planted forests and trees, beyond the policies**
- ❖ **Constraints to further growth in small holder planted forestry**
- ❖ **What the future should have?**

Background/ Country Situation



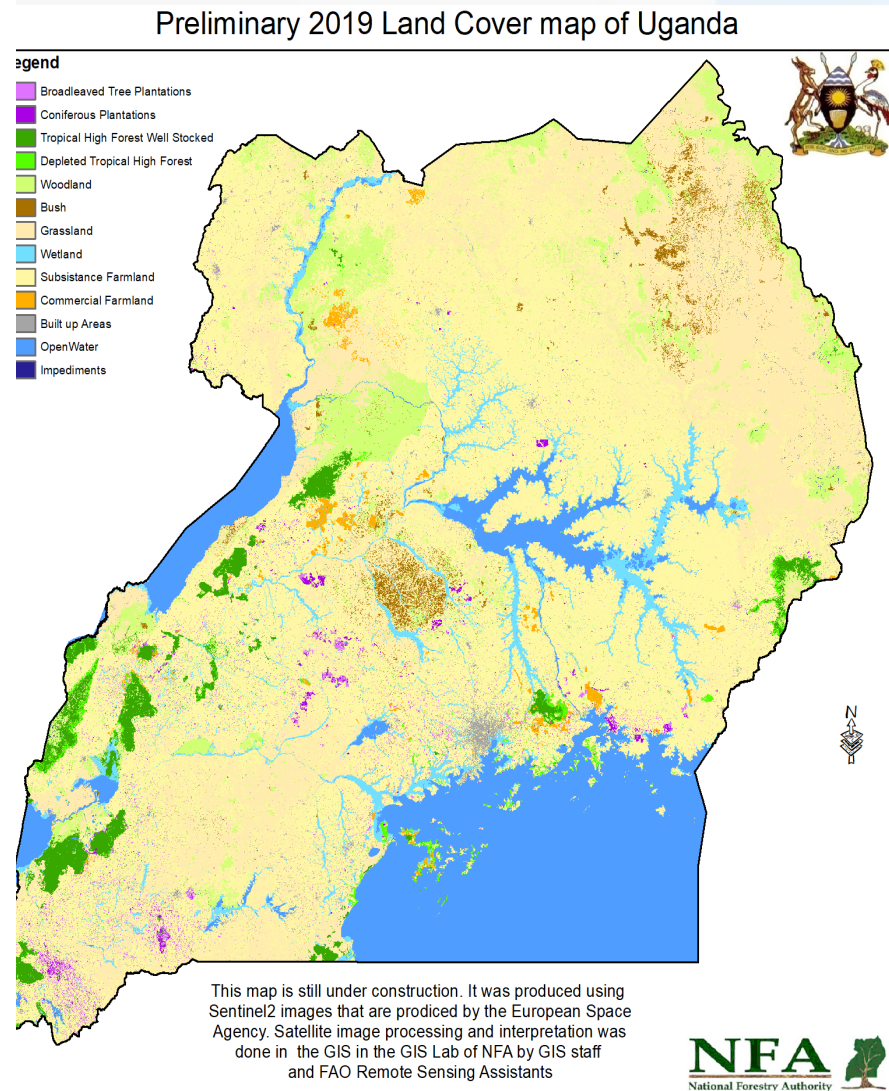
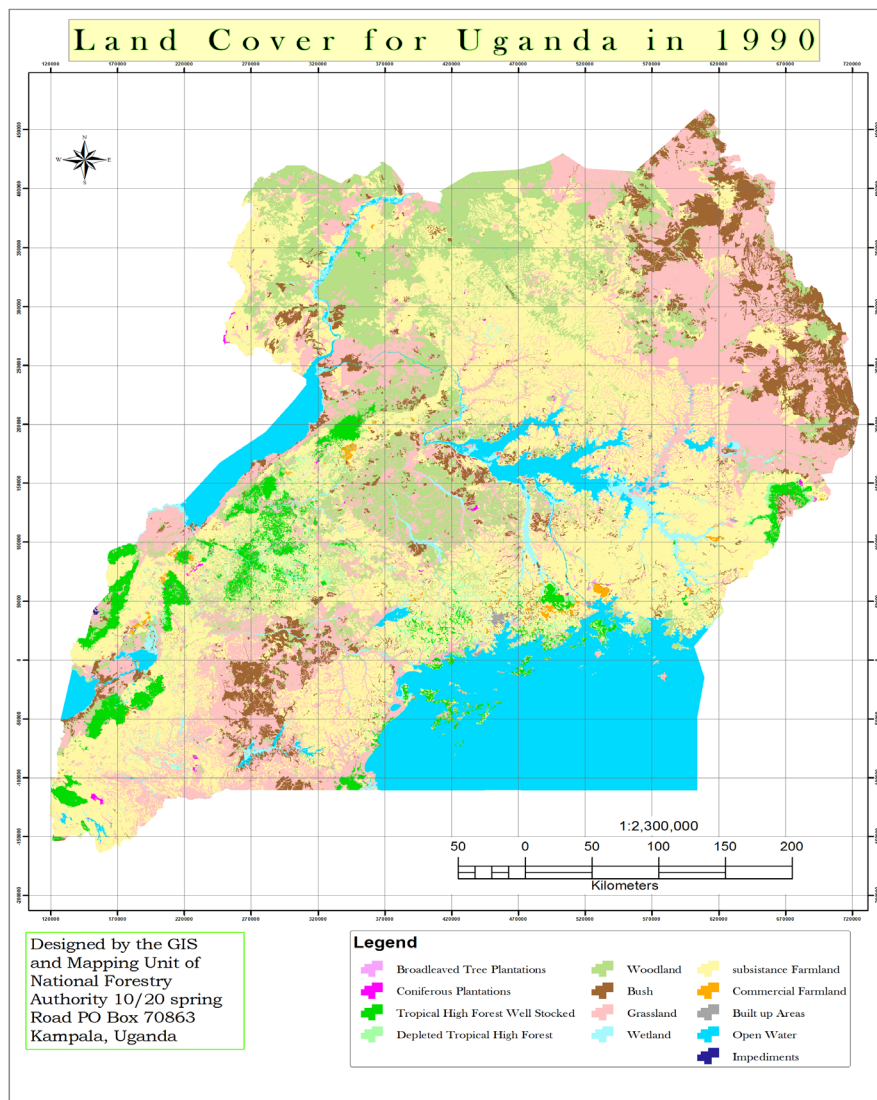
- Total 241,038 Km²
- Landlocked country
- Popn of approx. 48,582,334(2.82% growth rate)

Country situation: Forest cover trends in Uganda

LULC class	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2017	2019
Broadleaved plantations	18,682	9,844	14,786	20,995	43,733	84,137	228,118
Coniferous plantations	16,384	11,498	18,741	43,743	63,546	75,801	86,236
THF high stocked	651,106	703,926	600,955	564,948	525,134	524,189	518,073
THF low stocked	273,060	226,549	191,693	120,756	104,592	102,150	156,774
Woodlands	3,974,498	2,834,730	2,778,044	1,448,869	1,201,985	1,239,176	1,739,958
Bushland	1,422,254	4,007,891	2,968,685	2,371,776	1,970,692	1,664,429	273,405
Grassland	5,115,446	2,793,950	4,063,594	5,068,269	5,103,796	5,121,004	5,531,494
Wetland	484,028	838,537	753,038	810,445	716,721	785,703	877,337
Subsistence farmland	8,401,550	8,916,053	8,847,640	9,772,224	10,275,557	10,483,258	10,607,875
Commercial farmland	68,446	103,327	106,629	134,915	255,934	182,396	165,003
Built up	36,571	26,315	97,270	98,449	135,593	138,722	259,502
Water bodies	3,689,580	3,680,870	3,706,467	3,689,346	3,750,237	3,746,221	3,701,338
Impediment	3,741	1,857	7,804	10,614	7,828	8,162	10,235
Total Area of Uganda	24,155,346.98	24,155,346.98	24,155,346.98	24,155,346.98	24,155,346.98	24,155,346.98	24,155,346.98

Forest Cover	4,933,730	3,786,547	3,604,219	2,199,309	1,938,990	2,025,453	2,729,159
Land Area	20,465,766.99	20,474,477.38	20,448,880.00	20,466,001.26	20,405,110.01	20,409,126.46	20,454,009.45
Forest % of land area	24%	18%	18%	11%	10%	10%	13%

Country Situation: Land cover map for Uganda, 1990 & 2019



Country Situation: Status of Forest Cover in Uganda

- Forest cover reduced from 24% in the 1990 to 13% in 2019
- Subsistence agriculture is main cause of this decline in forest cover
- Subsistence agriculture land increased from 8 million ha in 1990 to 10.6 million ha in 2019.
- Other drivers include excessive extraction of wood as a source of fuelwood, wildfires, commercial agriculture and settlements
- The relative composition of the land cover types is indicative of the potential livelihood strategies of Uganda's population.

DEFINITION OF SMALL HOLDER PLANTED FORESTS

There is no universally accepted definition, different countries and communities define Small-Scale forests differently,

- In the USA, United States of America, The term usually adopted for small-scale forests in the USA is non-industrial private forests (NIPF). These are usually thought of as forestlands owned by farmers, other individuals and corporations that do not operate wood-processing plants
- In Europe, some of the traditional private forestry are regarded as small, and they adopt the term 'non-industrial' forestry.
- In Austria, small scale farm forestry are a private forest holding of between 1 and 200 hectares where the proprietor is a normal (and not juristic) person

Why Small holder planted forests/trees?

- The natural forest cover is decreasing globally and particularly in tropical regions.
- With population expansion, urbanization and economic growth, the demand for industrial wood will increase but availability of land to produce wood is not secured.
- The high population growth also calls for increased demand for woodfuel for cooking, and this the immediate supply is the farmlands.
- The urgent need therefore to balance both food production and energy supply, and so the need to integrate trees on farm(Agroforestry)
- Planted forests are expanding at an average of 5 million ha per year, most of which are small holder planted forests and trees.
- Global CC and restoration strategies call for increased tree planting

Policy and legal enabling environment for planted forests

Global perspective:

- ✓ Central American Forest Convention emphasises forest mgt for subsistence purposes
- ✓ EU Forest Policy & Strategy, 2020-2030, part of the European Green Deal to plant 3bn trees by 2030

Policy and legal enabling environment for planted forests

Africa regional perspective:

- ✓ Sustainable Forest Mgt framework for Africa 2020-2030, part of the Agenda 2063(The Africa we want)
- ✓ Southern Africa Development Cooperation- SADC Forestry Protocol
- ✓ IGAD Forestry Policy and Strategy
- ✓ ECOWAS and COMIFAC Convergence Plan
- ✓ EAC Forest Policy and Strategy

Policy and legal enabling environment for planted forests

Uganda Perspective:

Uganda National Forestry Policy, 2001, Policy Statement 3 on Commercial Forest Plantations aims at promoting Profitable and productive forest plantation businesses

- The private sector will play the major role in developing and managing commercial forest plantations. This may either be through large-scale industrial plantations on government or private land, or through small-scale plantations on farms.
- The role of government will be to support and regulate this development.

The Strategy to be employed will include encouraging small to medium-scale commercial plantation development, to foster local economic benefits, especially for the poor, women and the youth.

Policy and legal enabling environment for planted forests

Uganda Perspective:

1. National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003, Part II, Section 22 on Private Forest plantations

(1) A person may register with the District Land Board, a plantation forest situated on land owned in accordance with the Land Act 1998, or a forest or land in respect of which a license is granted in accordance with this Act.

(2) All forest produce in a plantation forest registered under subsection (1) belongs to the owner of the plantation and may be used in any manner that the owner may determine, except that forest produce shall be harvested in accordance with the management plan and regulations made under this Act.

Other national motivations to promote small holder planted forests and trees

- 122,000ha lost each year on average(private lands most affected)
- Bonn challenge commitment, 2.5M ha
- ROAM assessment providing options for restoration as well as restoration sites
- Vision 2040 aspirations, revert back to 24% of forestry cover as of 1990, by 2040.
- 40 million tree campaign/Running Out Of Trees-ROOTs

Small holder planted trees: A gender perspective

- Gender is a vital determinant of participation in the value chains of timber and non-timber products.
- Women and youth make up a large percentage of the agriculture and forestry plantation labor force but are disadvantaged in productive asset ownership i.e land and control of productive inputs including access to credit
- Forestry tends to be perceived as male dominated although women are heavily involved in forest work such as gathering fuelwood, medicinal plants and other non-timber forests products, collecting food for family consumption as well as for income, and in processing secondary wood products.

Small holder planted trees: A gender perspective

- Though varying among communities, women's use of forest resources tend to center on low-return products and activities, while men control the production and commercialization of more profitable forest resources.
- Forests provide monetary and non-monetary benefits to men, youth and women in forest communities around the world.
- Men and women often have different roles in managing forests, different knowledge about them, different access to forests and different ways of using forest resources
- Women and men's practices, knowledge and priorities in forest resource use are different. The gender division of labor gives women and men expertise in different parts of the tree and forestry depending on how the activities are distributed between them.
- One of the main factors that has created a differentiated impact between men and women is the unequal access to ownership and control of forestry resources.

Private sector Plantation and small holder tree planting in Uganda: The case of the Sawlog Production Grant Scheme-SPGS

1. In 2004, the forestry sector in Uganda received funding from the European Union (EU) through a newly established programme, the Saw log Production Grant Scheme (SPGS).
2. This was started as a joint initiative between the Government of Uganda and EU. The scheme was used to advocate, empower and build capacity of private tree growers.
3. The efforts towards plantation development in the country have been with the Government of Uganda through the National Forestry Authority (NFA), and its development partners.
4. In the first phase of the project (Oct. 2004-June 2009), SPGS triggered a major interest in commercial tree planting in Uganda, with some 11 000 ha established to the required standards.
5. The Government of Norway also joined in the funding of the second phase of SPGS (Sept. 2010-2013) and has already supported the establishment of 6 000 ha of timber plantations. This phase had an ambitious target of establishing 30 000 ha of plantations by the end of the project.
6. The SPGS has been a key mover in commercial plantation development by providing technical training about tree growing right from establishment through tending and management. In addition, it provides a grant of UGX 850 000/ha (US\$ 340) for growers in the category of 25-500 ha, and UGX 600 000/ha (US\$ 240) for growers in the category of 501-3 000 ha. The money from these grants was only paid out after site visits by SPGS project staff to check for against agreed standards. The payment was made over a 3-year period.

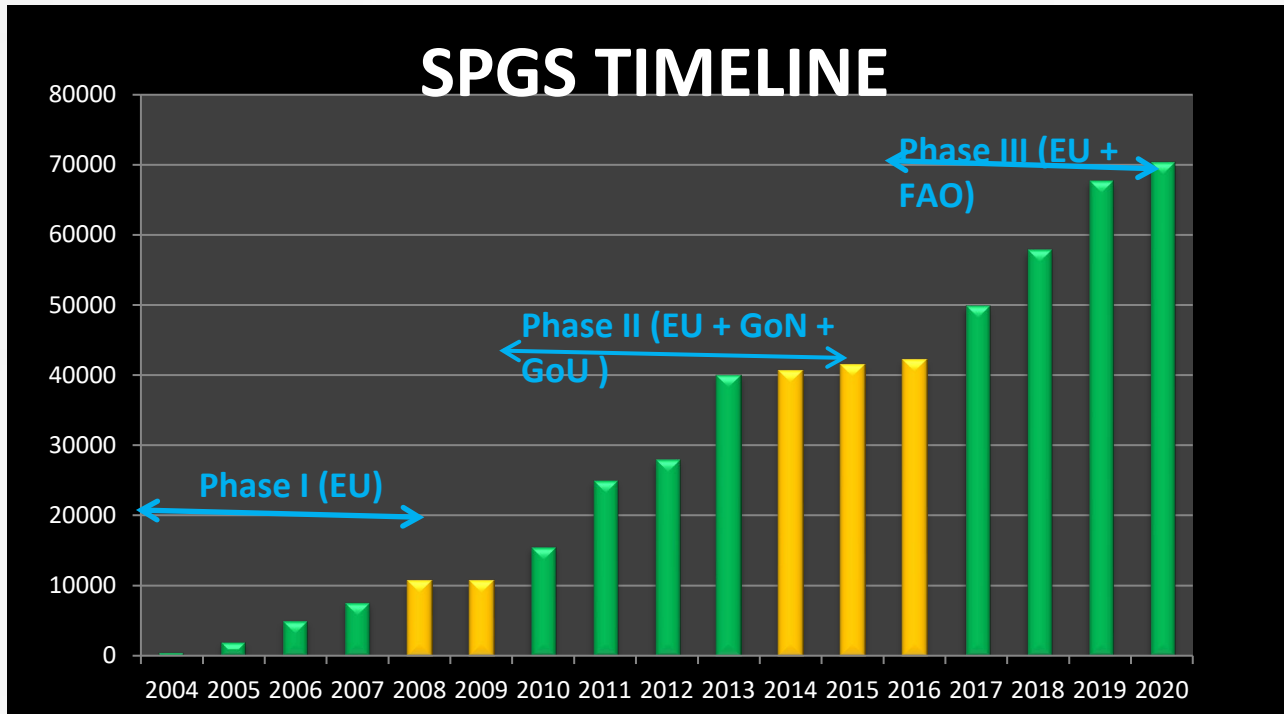
SPGS Model SPGS



SPGS Project achievements



Increased forest plantation cover for the country to meet demand for wood



Phase I (2004- 2008)= 10 000 ha

Phase II (2009- 2015)= 36 000ha

Phase III (2016- 2021) = 35 000ha

Total area to date= 81 000ha

Stimulating interest from the private sector to invest in commercial forestry



Formation and institutional strengthening of Uganda Timber Growers' Association (UTGA)



Developing capacity and Skills for industry Service Providers

Certified Forest Contractors



Certified Forest Contractors



Increased knowledge and information on forestry investment



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



MODULAR DOWNSTREAM- INTEGRATED SAWMILL MODEL FOR UGANDA

Summary

February 2021



August, 2020

A POSITION PAPER ON THE TAXATION OF COMMERCIAL FORESTRY BUSINESSES IN UGANDA

Owen E. Sseremba
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Makerere University

Commissioned by
Uganda Timber Growers Association
Plot 116 Bukoto Street,
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Tools

Tools , Standards and Guidelines to Support industry development

The screenshot shows the homepage of TimberMartUG. At the top left, there are links for 'Login' and 'Register'. The TimberMartUG logo is prominently displayed on the left. To the right of the logo are two green buttons: 'Browse' and 'Post An Ad'. The main heading reads 'Uganda's Largest Timber Marketplace' with a sub-heading 'Search From 34 Awesome Verified Ads!'. Below this is a search bar with four input fields: 'What Are You Looking For', 'Your Location', 'Select Category', and a 'Search Now' button.

The image shows the cover page of a 'DRAFT UGANDA STANDARD' document. The title is 'DRAFT UGANDA STANDARD' with the reference number 'WDUS 2162' and 'First Edition 2018-08-12'. The main title of the standard is 'The chain of custody procedures for timber and timber Products'. A large diagonal watermark reads 'FINAL DRAFT STANDARD'. At the bottom left is the UNBS logo, and at the bottom right is the reference number 'WDUS 2162:2019' and the copyright notice '© UNBS 2019'.

Enabling factors/Opportunities to small holder planted trees development in Uganda: Beyond the Policy

1. Vision 2040 calls for a medium income status for Uganda's population by the year 2040.
2. High demand for timber and with the Build Uganda Buy Uganda Policy, where government is calling for local production to supply industry.
3. The profit and the relatively low risk associated with tree growing as a business as well as the incentives provided by some government led schemes e.g the Sawlog Production Grant Scheme.
4. The financial and technical support provided in some cases.
5. Supply of fuel wood has become more important as the small to medium processing and service industries increase.
6. Available guidelines and standards for tree planting and wood products respectively has improved quality of forestry products and attracted higher premium.

Constraints to expansion of small holder planted forests/trees

1. Security of tree and Land tenure systems.
2. Lack of technical assistance to farmers particularly those not directly supported by projects.
3. Competing interests for those depending on home labour alone. Food crops normally take first priority over trees when it comes to tending e.g planting and weeding;
4. Difficulty in accessing good markets to get a good return on the .
5. High costs involved in Managing of trees by farmers to achieve maximum production and quality.
6. Limited access to financing institutions

What should the future for small holder planted forests and trees have?

1. More tree planting is needed to take care of the deficit
2. More of Value addition and processing industry growth, while utilising the standards for both soft and hard woods
3. Policy improvements to cater for incentivising development of small holder planted forestry e.g marketing and technical support provision, outgrower schemes
4. Promote forest certification
5. Formation of Cooperatives and associations: these would help with registration, reduce isolation in small-scale forestry by providing information, advice and management support, as well as chances for networking and communication.



THANK YOU

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