

# Enabling environment for community and smallholder forestry and the SDGs

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# Enabling environment for CSF

- ❑ Widely recognized as key to community and smallholder forestry
- ❑ *“Convergence of laws, policies and conditions that promote legal access to the resource base, provide incentives for sound forest management, support increased value adding, and promote the formation of human, social, physical and financial capital for effective forest and business management”* (Donovan et al. 2006)

# Categories of conditions that contribute to an “Enabling Environment”

- ❑ **Policies, institutions and governance**
- ❑ **Empowerment, capacities and culture**
- ❑ **Economic opportunities and access to markets**
- ❑ Extent and condition of natural resources

*Experiences in CSF reveal common constraints & barriers associated with these conditions*

Many SDGs and their targets align with these conditions: if acted upon would address associated constraints and barriers

- ❑ Progress on these SDGs would therefore support CSF
- ❑ Here, examples of SDGs and their targets that apply the broad categories of conditions that together make up the enabling environment

# Conditions relating to policies, institutions & governance

- ❑ Interplay among policies, laws, regulations, bureaucracies and administration & mechanisms of decision making are crucial to the success of CSF
- ❑ In reality, unfavorable institutional environments for CSF are common
- ❑ Progress in several SDGs would contribute to policies, institutions & governance to favor CSF



## Development of more effective, inclusive, transparent institutions & representative decision-making

- 16.3: Promoting rule of law and equal access to justice
- 16.5: Reducing corruption

# Land tenure and use rights – fundamental condition



Include targets on ownership & rights over natural resources

- ❑ **1.4** & **2.3**: Emphasis on equal rights to economic resources, ownership and control over land & other forms of property
- ❑ **5a**: Same but for women

# Cumbersome regulations and bureaucratic procedures often undermine CSF



- ❑ Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for SD, ... build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



- ❑ Emphasizes the need for policy and institutional coherence – will explore this theme further towards the end of the talk



# Conditions relating to empowerment, capacities and culture

CSF requires knowledge and skills strengthened through education & capacity building



- Targets the advancement of primary education & technical - vocational skills



- Draws attention to raising capacities – climate change mitigation, adaptation, reduction of impacts

# Local forest management – often rooted in local culture, knowledge & traditions

Few references in the SDGs to cultural aspects:  
widely recognized as important



- ❑ 2.5: fair & equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources & associated traditional knowledge



- ❑ Target 4.7: reference to cultural diversity and its contribution to SD

# Girls and women have an important role in CSF

Pillar of equitable sustainable development – Often involved in harvesting, use and commercialization of NTFP



- ❑ Promotes gender equality and empowerment of girls and women
- ❑ Also, equal rights, access and ownership of economic resources

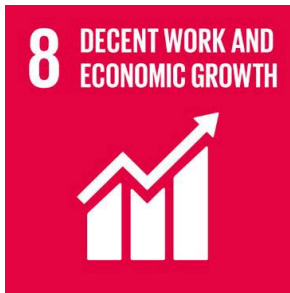


## Reduce inequalities by promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all

- ❑ Key to harnessing forest resources for poverty alleviation & increasing economic and social equity
- ❑ Relates again to access & use rights to forests and other natural resources
- ❑ CSF initiatives around the world have long strived to achieve this inclusion

# Conditions relating to economic opportunities & access to markets

Enabling environment for CSF includes opportunities to participate in sustainable & profitable supply and value chains

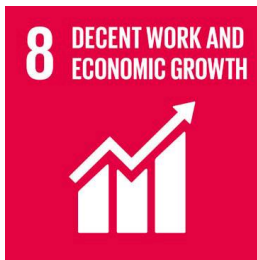


Promote productive activities, employment, entrepreneurship & innovation, encourage growth and formalization of small and medium sized enterprises

# SDGs - targets focused on economic opportunity creation & access to markets



1.4: Access to financial services, including microfinance for all



8.3: Policies that support job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, & formalization and growth of micro & SMFE, access to financial services

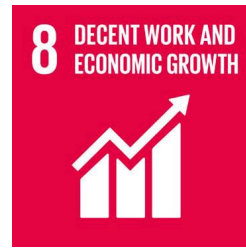


□ 9.3: Access of SMFE to affordable credit and integration into supply chains and markets

# The interrelated nature of the SDGs

- ❑ As indicated in the Agenda 2030, the SDGs are integrated & interrelated
- ❑ They do not act in isolation, and indeed, interact with each other in complex ways

Here, a few figures illustrating this point



## The “ideal” enabling environment for CSF

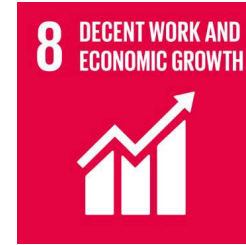


**Significant progress in all conditions discussed favoring desired outcomes**





**Modest progress in most conditions, lack of progress in others, perhaps small gains in income and conservation**



**Enabling environment not conducive to CSF**



**Interactions among conditions addressed by SDGs are not linear. One strongly negative condition can undermine CSF.**  
(Note: here could be a conflict or highly unfavorable institutional environment)

# Fostering mechanisms and partnerships to reach the SDGs

- Partnerships and collaboration among different stakeholders to address the complexity of the sustainable development agenda
  - government to governance institutions, multi-stakeholder processes, greater involvement of the private sector
  - Public-private partnerships
- Collaborative arrangements at different scales

## Creation of a favorable enabling environment involves the confluence of many SDGs

- ❑ SDGs focus attention on many conditions important for CSF, and associated constraints and barriers
- ❑ Alignment among SDGs can lead to synergies favoring desired outcomes
- ❑ Lack of progress in one or more SDG(s) can undermine efforts to promote successful CSF
- ❑ Experiences to date in CSF offer important lessons for the Agenda 2030