



# Principles of Social and Environment Soundness from Natural Resource Management (NRM) for REDD+

## Session 3

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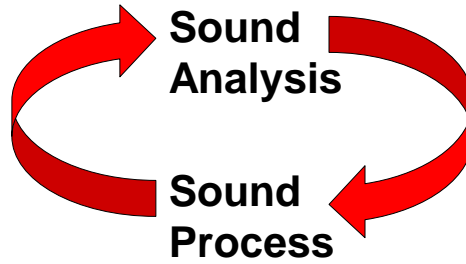


## Why does USAID care?

- **Align with USG and USAID GCC/REDD+ policies and strategies**
- **Follow the SES experts' workshop recommendations→**
- **Build on decades of NRM experience**



## Soundness



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## Principles

### 4Ss

- **Scale**
- **Systems thinking**
- **Stakeholder engagement**
- **Sustainability**

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## Scale

- Ecosystem services and critical habitat
- Matching ecosystem and social scales
- Financial and economic scales
- Critical mass and working “at scale”

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## Systems thinking

**An aid for understanding connections and flows among ecological and social variables, sectors, actors and impacts**

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**“When you are confronted by any complex social system ... with things about it that you’re dissatisfied with and anxious to fix, you cannot just step in and set about fixing with much hope of helping. This is one of the sore discouragements of our time.” –Lewis Thomas**



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## Conventional wisdom

- **Job training programs create jobs**
- **“Get tough” prison sentences reduce violent crime**
- **Food aid increases food security**
- **Reducing shifting cultivation reduces deforestation**



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## Unintended consequences

- Job training programs create jobs
- **Lack of jobs not related to lack of trained people**
- “Get tough” prison sentences reduce violent crime
- **Crime spreads in prisons**
- Food aid increases food security
- **Undermines markets and community safety nets**
- Reducing shifting cultivation reduces deforestation
- **Farmers without alternatives set fire to forest**

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## Why “obvious” solutions fail

- They may succeed in the short run but
- Short-term gains are undermined by long-term impacts
  - Negative consequences and backlash are unforeseen
  - Impacts can be undone by “outside forces” if we can’t see the link



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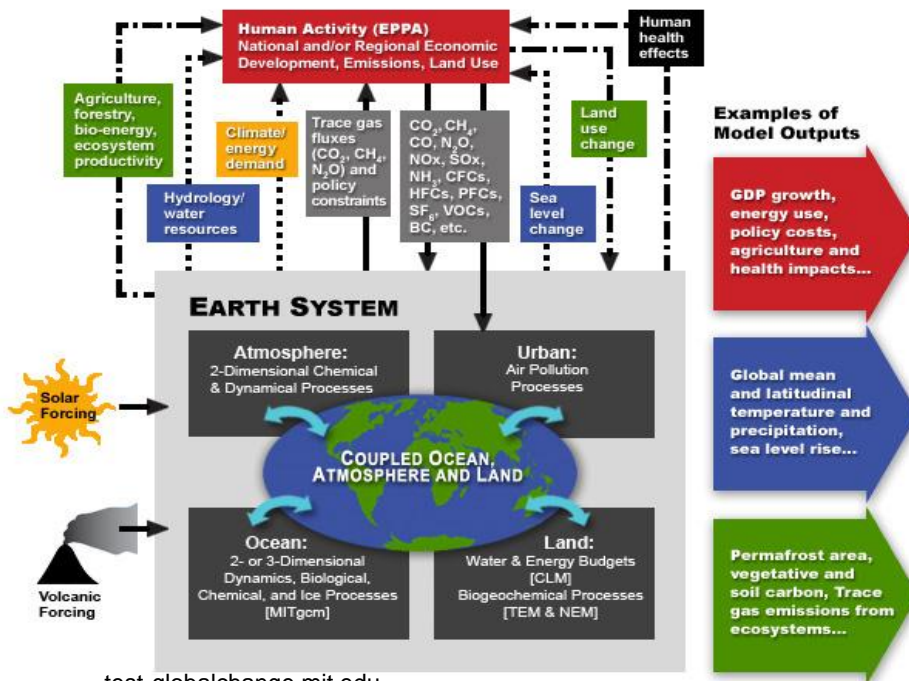


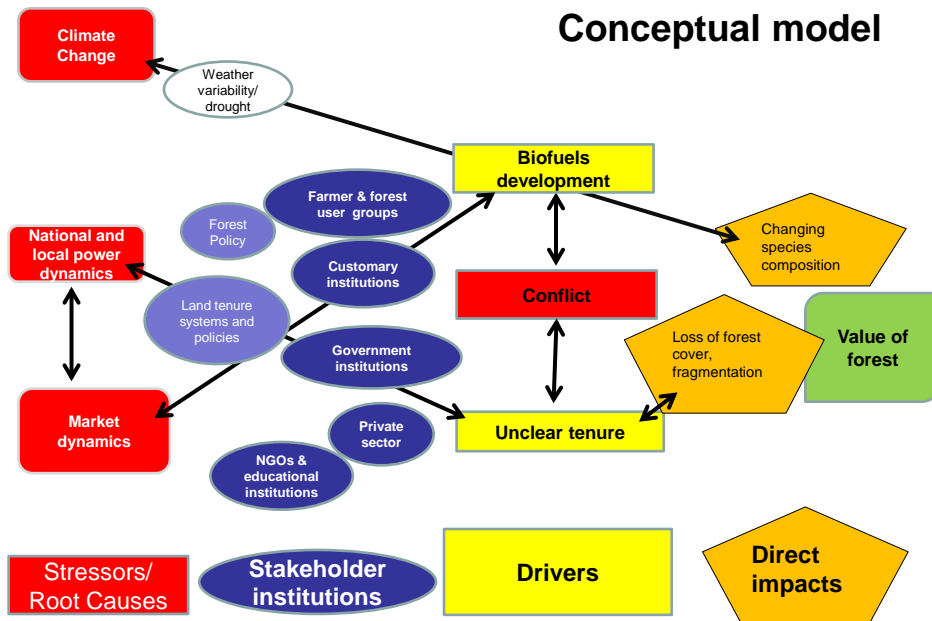
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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Systems thinking to the rescue

- ST complements and links **sectoral analysis**
- ST helps us produce a **model** to understand links among variables and map impact pathways (how actions will lead to change)

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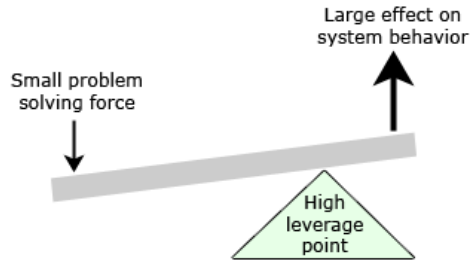
## System characteristics

- Systems change in **unpredictable ways**
- Changing **individual pieces** in a system is not likely to lead to sustainable change
- If you try to change one piece in a system, other forces parts may **counter the change** so need to understand system connections

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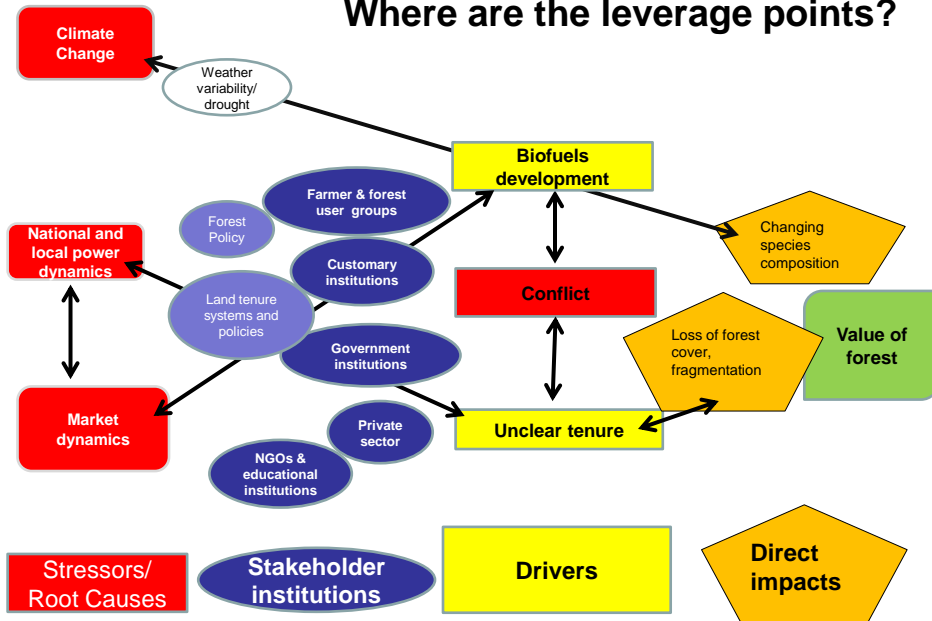


# Identifying system leverage points



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## Where are the leverage points?



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## Stakeholder engagement

- Map all key stakeholders
- Be precise about roles and incentives
- Analyze issues of legitimacy and representation



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## Assets based approaches



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## Sustainability

- **Environmental**
  - Do not deplete net natural capital/biodiversity
  - Introduce “no-go zones” in critical habitats/ecosystems



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## Sustainability

- **Financial and economic**
  - Increase financial capital available to those sustaining the resource
  - Support low emissions pathways
  - Address foundations of broad based economic growth
  - Decrease perverse incentives



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## Sustainability

- **Social**

- Build on and strengthen social capital
- Weave REDD+ into the social fabric
- Think about the next generation



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## Summary

- Determine critical scales
- Develop systems model of key components/variables impacting target
- Map impact pathways
- Map stakeholders and match roles and incentives
- Incorporate sustainability principles that contribute to *resiliency*



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