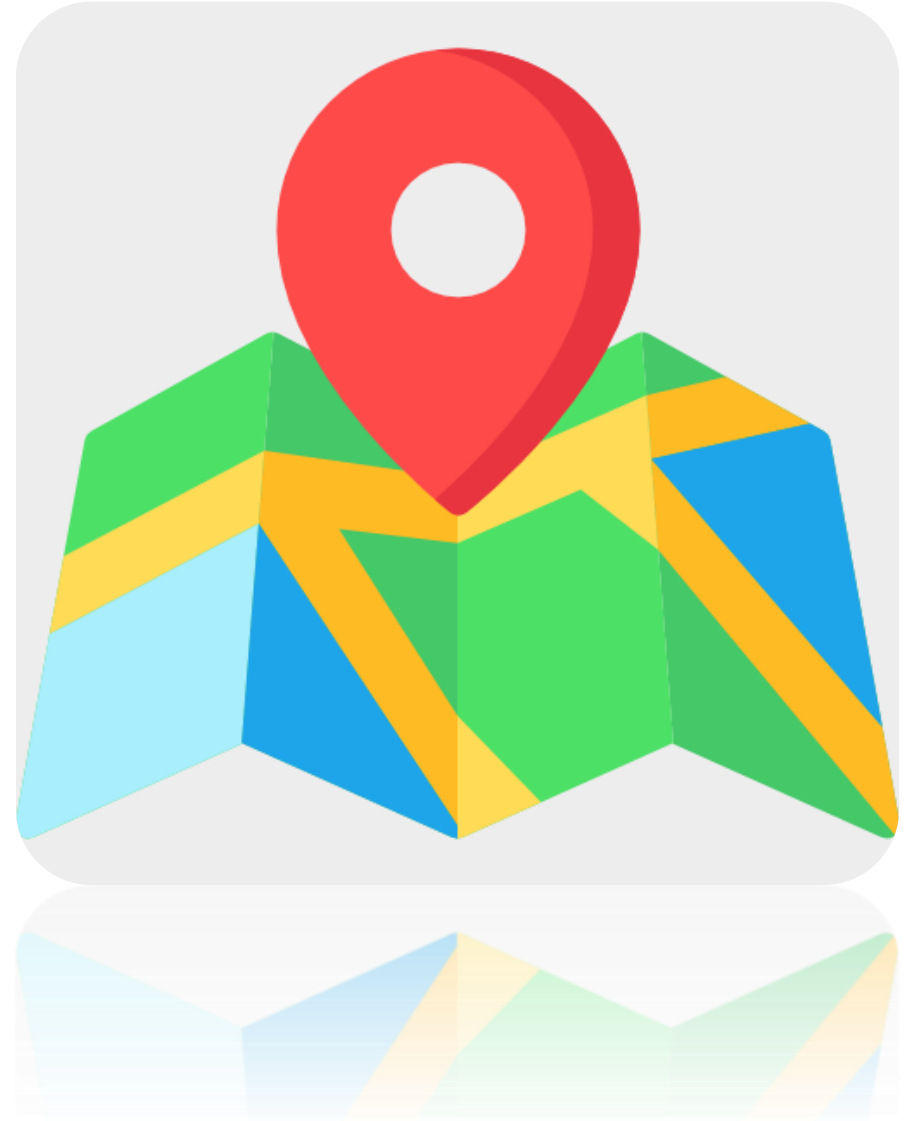


ESTABLISHING A MULTI-PURPOSE NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM TO IMPROVE LAND USE MONITORING CAPACITIES IN GHANA

—— Thomas Gyambrah-Manager MRV and Programmes, Climate Change Directorate, Ghana Forestry Commission

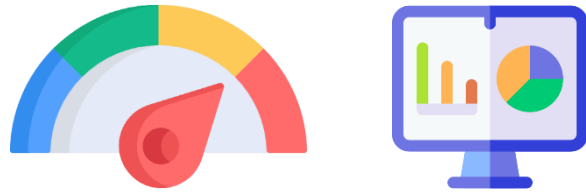
OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Ghana's NFMS
- Objectives
- Stakeholders and Actors
- Success factors
- Challenges
- Going Forward



INTRODUCTION

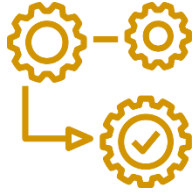
- Globally, countries have made substantial advancement geared towards developing and operationalizing their National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS), which is to comply with the [measurement, reporting and verification \(MRV\) framework](#) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).



- Efforts in developing NFMS have been fundamental to increase transparency, and lessons learnt will be useful to implement the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) under the [Paris Agreement](#).



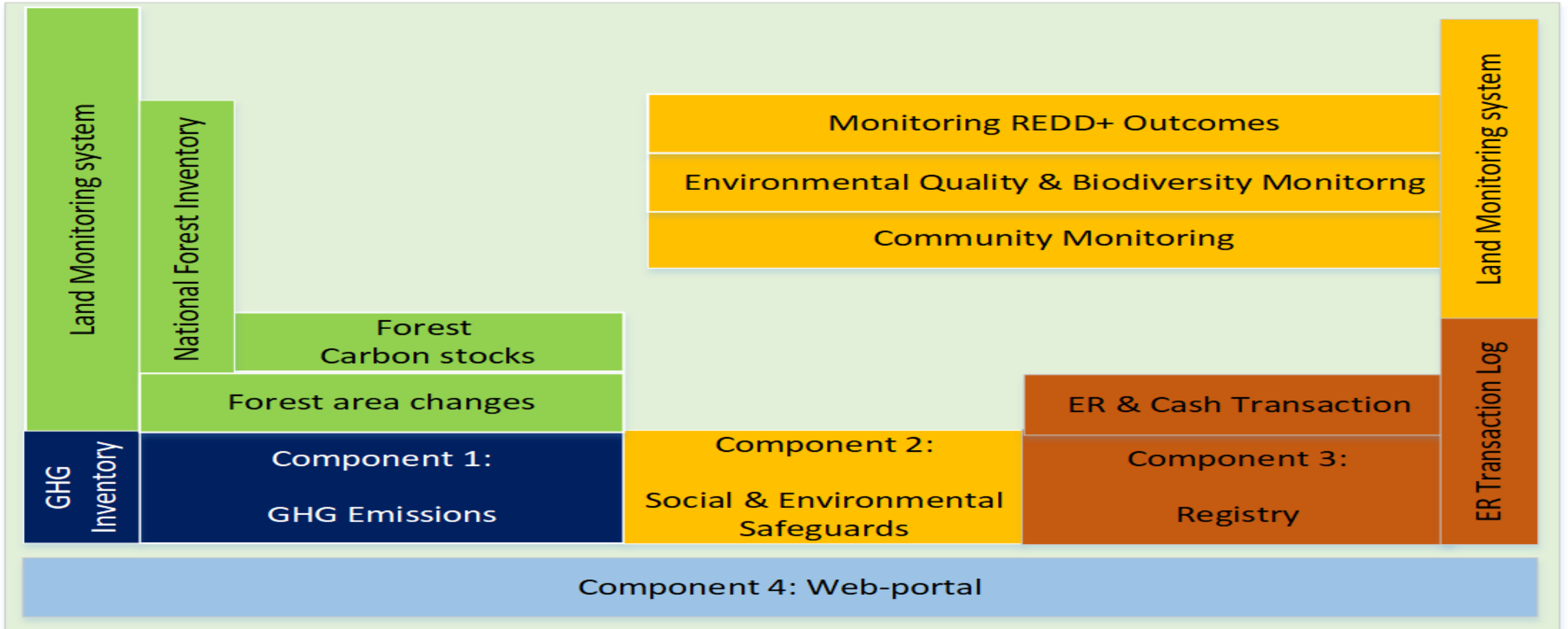
GHANA'S NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM (NFMS)



- Ghana has developed an NFMS framework document which is a blueprint for the development of an NFMS web portal.
- three main components of NFMS web portal namely:
 - (1) Greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for the REDD+ accounting and the land use sector inventory,
 - (2) Environment and social safeguards and
 - (3) The registry sub-system.
- Good progress has been made in transitioning from ground based forest inventories to remote sensing based approaches that are combined with ground-based sampling for estimating changes in forest carbon stocks.



Elements of the proposed REDD+ NFMS



OBJECTIVES OF THE NFMS

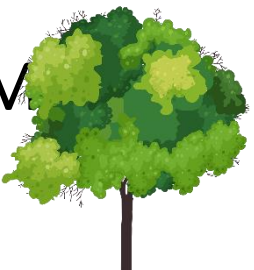
- **Serve as the main source of data for the land use sector**
- **Provide information on REDD+ and related activities to the public**
- **Generate reports and regular publications depending on the specific needs.**





STAKEHOLDERS AND ACTORS

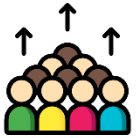
- The Government (Forestry Commission under the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources) is responsible for the development, operationalization and management of the national forest monitoring system (NFMS).
- Technical Support is received from both the Resource Management Support Centre (RMSC) and the Information Technology Department (IT) of FC
- In addition, the accessibility and accuracy of forest monitoring is technically and financially supported by FAO and FCPF under common projects.
- National REDD+ Secretariat provide overall coordination for Ghana's NFM



SUCCESS FACTORS



- **Integration of and consistency with existing information sources:** A technical and operational review of existing NFMS was conducted to inform the design and utility of the NFMS.



- **In 2017 and 2021** Ghana submitted two national forest reference levels to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as part of efforts to monitor progress in emissions reduction as well as attract payments from REDD+ initiatives.



- **NFI institutional arrangements:** Formation of the MRV Working Group (members from Academia, RMSC, Forestry Research Institute)





CHALLENGES

- The main challenges are linked to the lack of sustainable and predictable funding for National REDD+ Secretariat and REDD+ investments.
- The current financial support is largely donor-dependent.
- The establishment of the NFMS will require institutional support and capacity for data processing and analysis.



GOING FORWARD

- In order to ensure that the institutional architecture is formalized, the NRS intends to **conclude MoUs** with all the key agencies to ensure that all relevant institutions fully acknowledge their assigned roles and have adequate capacity to implement.
- Undertake technology, technical and capacity needs assessment

CONCLUSION

- Ghana is putting in place the necessary protocols to develop a transparent, robust and comprehensive NFMS which will offer multiple stakeholders benefits according to specific needs.