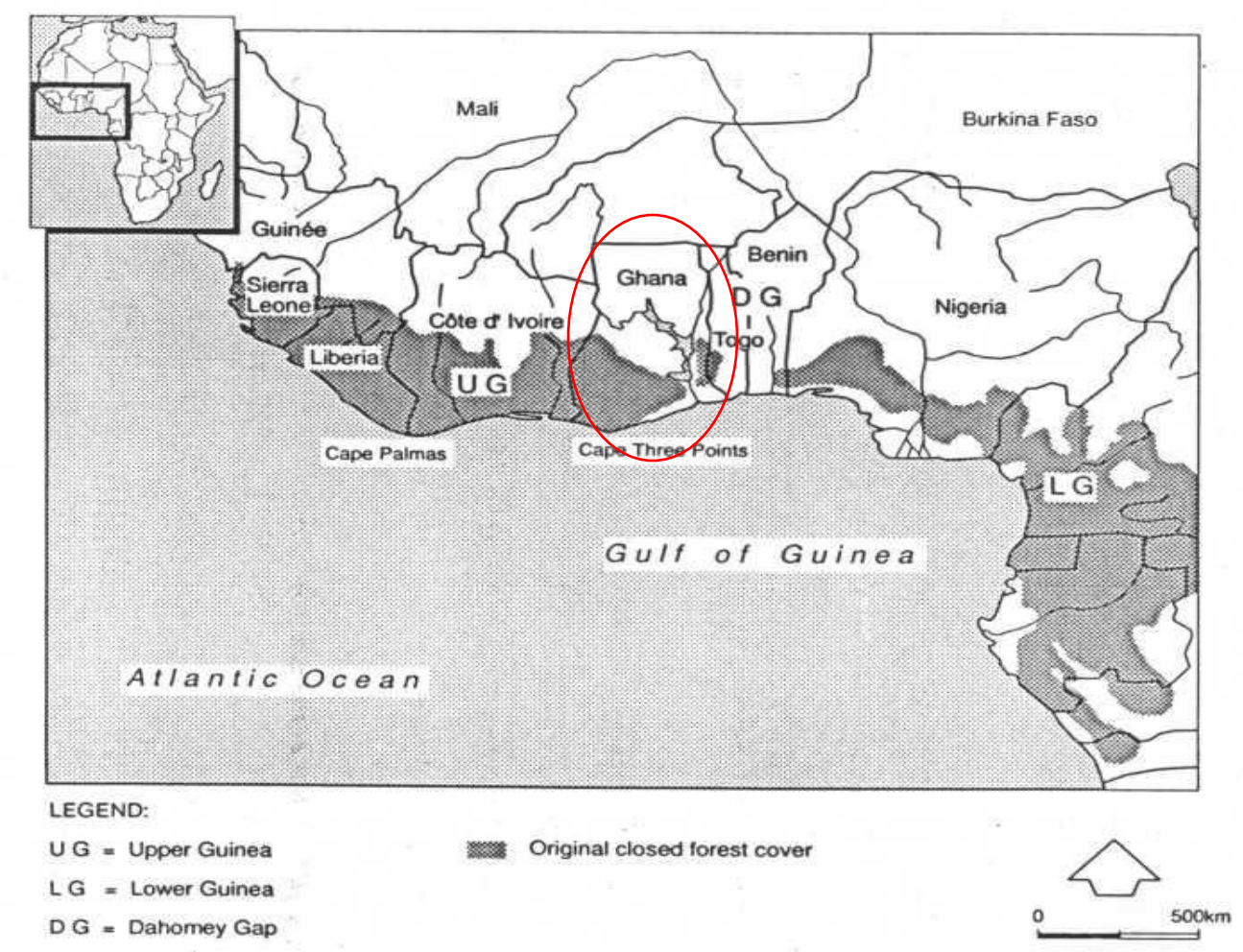
Relationship Between The Dedicated Grant Mechanism & Forest Investment Programme in Ghana

Brasilia, 2012

Ministries of Lands & Natural Resources
and Environment Science & Technology

MAP OF WEST AFRICA SHOWING GHANA AND TROPICAL HIGH FOREST ZONE



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

TENURIAL SYSTEM IN GHANA

UPDATE ON DGM & FIP PROCESSES IN GHANA

LINKAGES BETWEEN DGM AND FIP PROCESSES

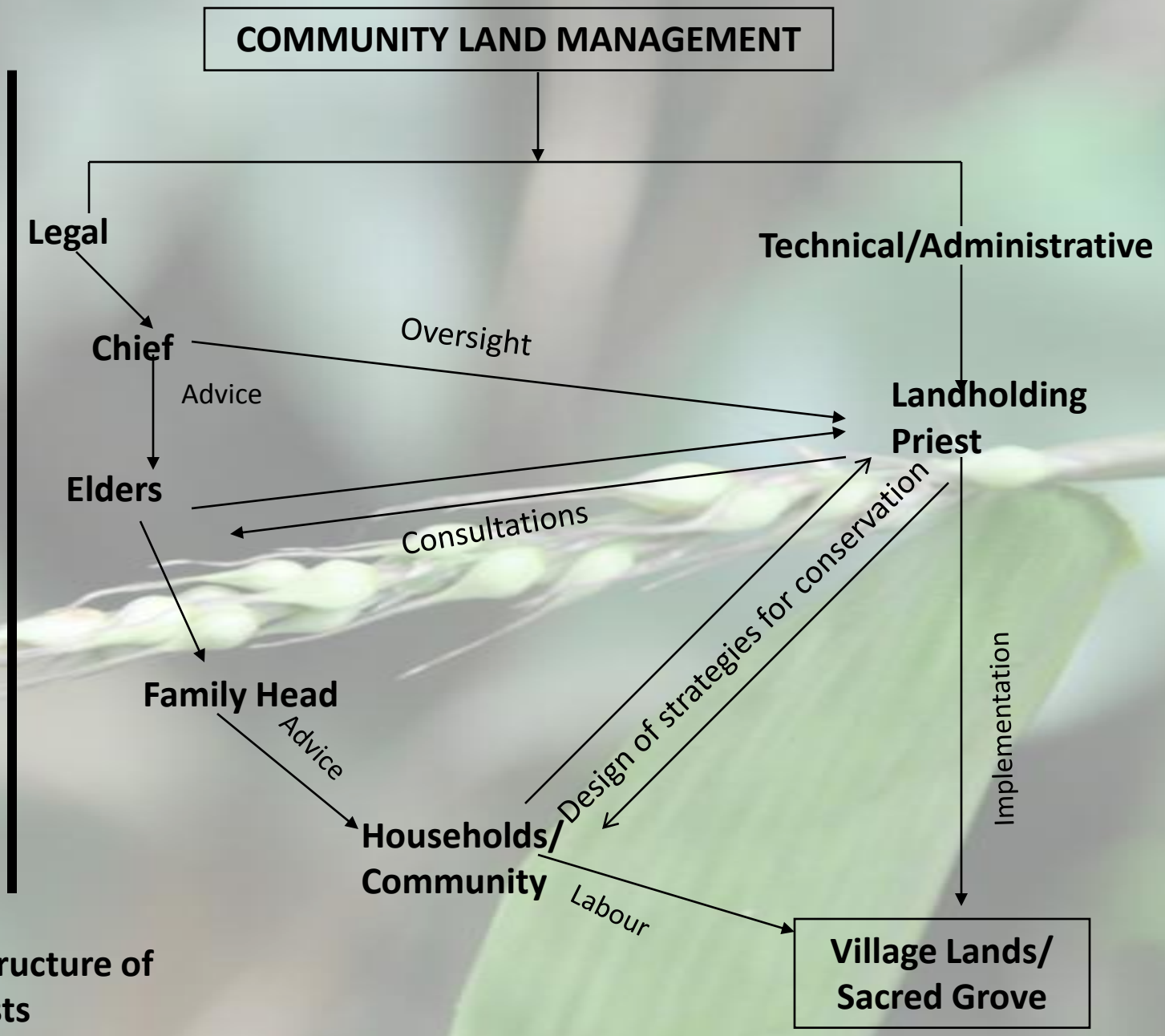
CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

LAND OWNERSHIP

CATEGORY	PERCENTAGE
STATE (Public Acquired Lands)	2%
VESTED LANDS (Community owned but State Controlled)	18%
COMMUNAL LANDS (Communities and Family Lands)	80%

LANDOWNERSHIP STRUCTURE

1. King
2. Paramountcy
3. Divisional Chiefs
4. Village Chief
5. Regent
6. Divisional Chiefs
7. Family Head



Management structure of communal forests

Forest Tenure

- The allodial title holder of land in Ghana is the land owning community represented by the skin or stool.
- Land tenure for the individual or group of persons is acquired by virtue of belonging to the stool or skin.
- Statutory laws currently regulate rights over land acquired from allodial title holders and their rightful subjects.
- The state has the right to appropriate land for national purposes in return for compensation or certain benefits as is the case of forest reserves.
- In forestry terms, tenure rights is linked to whether the land is within a reserve or off-reserve area.

DEDICATED GRANT MECHANISM

PHOTO: STEVE JOHNSON (ITTO)

Dedicated Grant Mechanism

Worldwide 8 countries selected to take part in DGM of which 3 in Africa: Ghana, Burkina Fas & DRC

November 2010	Africa Regional Conference, formulation of the DGM
April 2011	Meeting in Bangkok, bringing all 8 countries together
September 2011	Washington DC, finalization of the DGM proposal
November 2011	FIP Sub-Committee approves DGM

DGM in Ghana

- Importance of DGM because of tenurial complexities
- communities recognized in forest-related initiatives – because they own land
- There Important to stress the role of DGM in participating in the development and implementation of the FIP
- Ghana has an active working group which is planning for the official launch of DGM (May 2012). The launch will:
  - Disseminate of information on DGM to communities & traditional leaders
  - Plan for further regional meetings
- Planning towards harmonization of On-going projects, FIP, FCPF & DGM under the REDD+ Agenda.

GFIP PROCESS

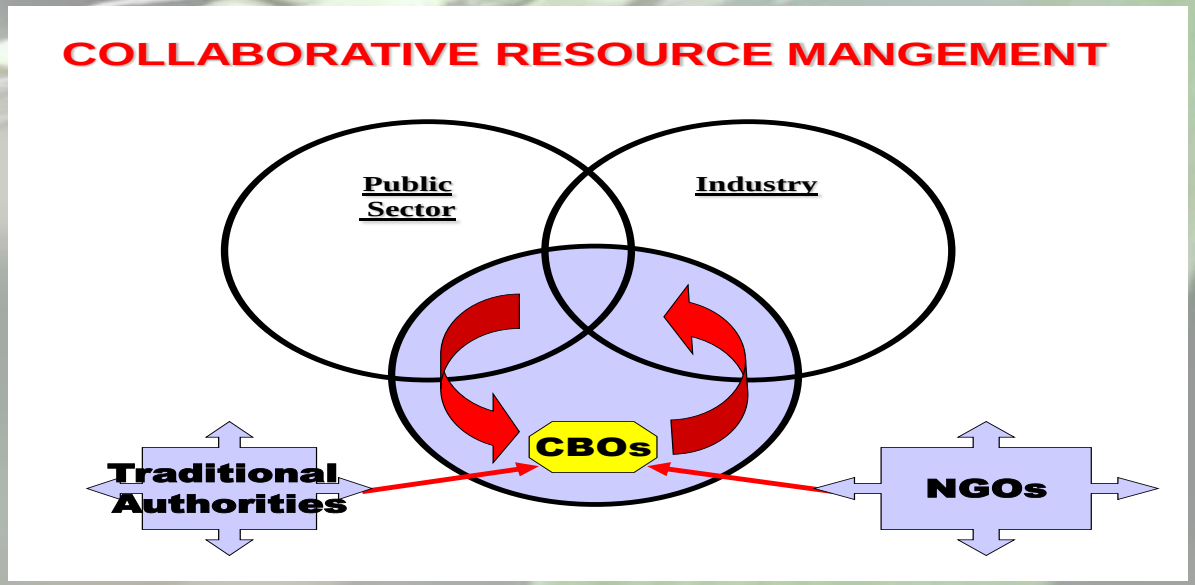
GHANA'S APPROACH

- Formation of Project Preparation Committee
  - Representatives from Public Sector Agencies
  - Representatives of Civil Society Groups
    - Civic Response is currently leading the consensus building on tree tenure and benefit sharing

- FIP Validation Committee
  - Public Sector Agencies
  - Civil Society Groups
  - Local Community Representatives
  - Traditional Authorities

GHANA'S APPROACH - 1

- Bottom up Approach
  1. Awareness Creation on purpose and expected outputs – necessary to create a discussion and decision-making platform where all actors are informed and able to participate equally



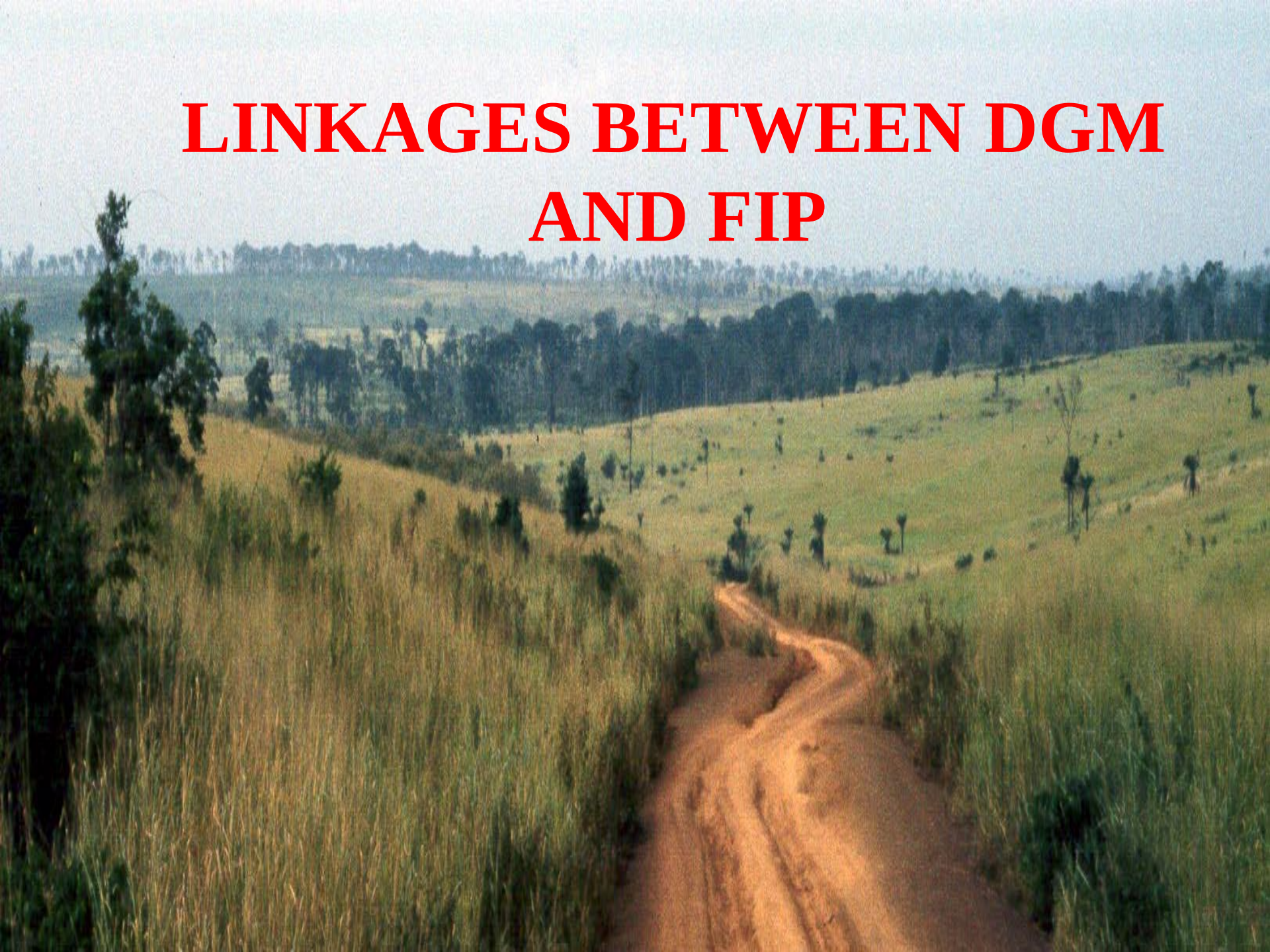
GHANA'S APPROACH - 2

- BUILDING ON EXISTING STRUCTURES
  - Forest Forum
  - Multistakeholder Committee (MSIC) under the VPA-FLEGT
  - NREG TCC^{+}
- REDD^{+} Consultative Platform
  - 5 Technical Working Groups
  - Subject Matter Working Groups

GHANA APPROACH - 3

- Feedback Mechanism
  1. Step 1: Different stakeholders were first of all identified and consulted
     - Stakeholder Groups consulted include traditional authorities, community groups, environmental NGOs; private sector, particularly the timber industry & cocoa sector; and Ghana's Development Partners
  2. Step 2: Their concerns and proposals for action were compiled and synthesized
  3. Step 3: Feed back Mechanism where synthesized and recommendations were discussed at meetings of representatives of identifiable groups

LINKAGES BETWEEN DGM AND FIP



KEY LESSONS

- Even though DGM has not been officially launched the process has taken off and is active in Ghana
- DGM process seen as being complementary to GFIP process
- DGM input into GFIP has been appreciable
  - Community and civil society
- DGM process will further help
  - Build capacity of local communities
  - Build consensus and facilitate tenurial and benefit sharing arrangements
  - Strengthen Decentralisation process

CHALLENGES

- DGM has lagged behind the preparation of the GFIP
  - However will be actively involved in implementation
- Complementary Processes – How to create a joint mechanism towards development and implementation of GFIP whilst at the same time maintaining their independence / autonomy
- Poor capacity of local community and civil society groups to support the GFIP.

THANK YOU