

Policy Session

Local Forest Management & Tenure Reform: Experience from Africa and Asia

Fifth World Congress of Environmental
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In Much of Asia and Africa Rural Households and Communities are Highly Integrated with Forests



Who Owns Forests? Who Governs
Them? Who Controls Them?

Does it Matter?



Answer Seems to be Yes....and Devolution has been the Trend

- RRI (2014) reports that communities control 15.5% of world forests and the trend is increasing
- Devolution not only to communities but also to households has become important

Possible Improvements Compared with Centralized Control Due to Better Incentives

- Has led to major experiments, often out of desperation due to low and declining forest stocks
 - Nepal
 - India
 - Ethiopia
 - Tanzania
 - Kenya
 - China

Community Forest Quality Likely Depends on Collective Action

- *Activities group members undertake together to improve forests* when forests are **common resources**
- How does this collective action take place? Can it be spurred from the outside? How important is it?

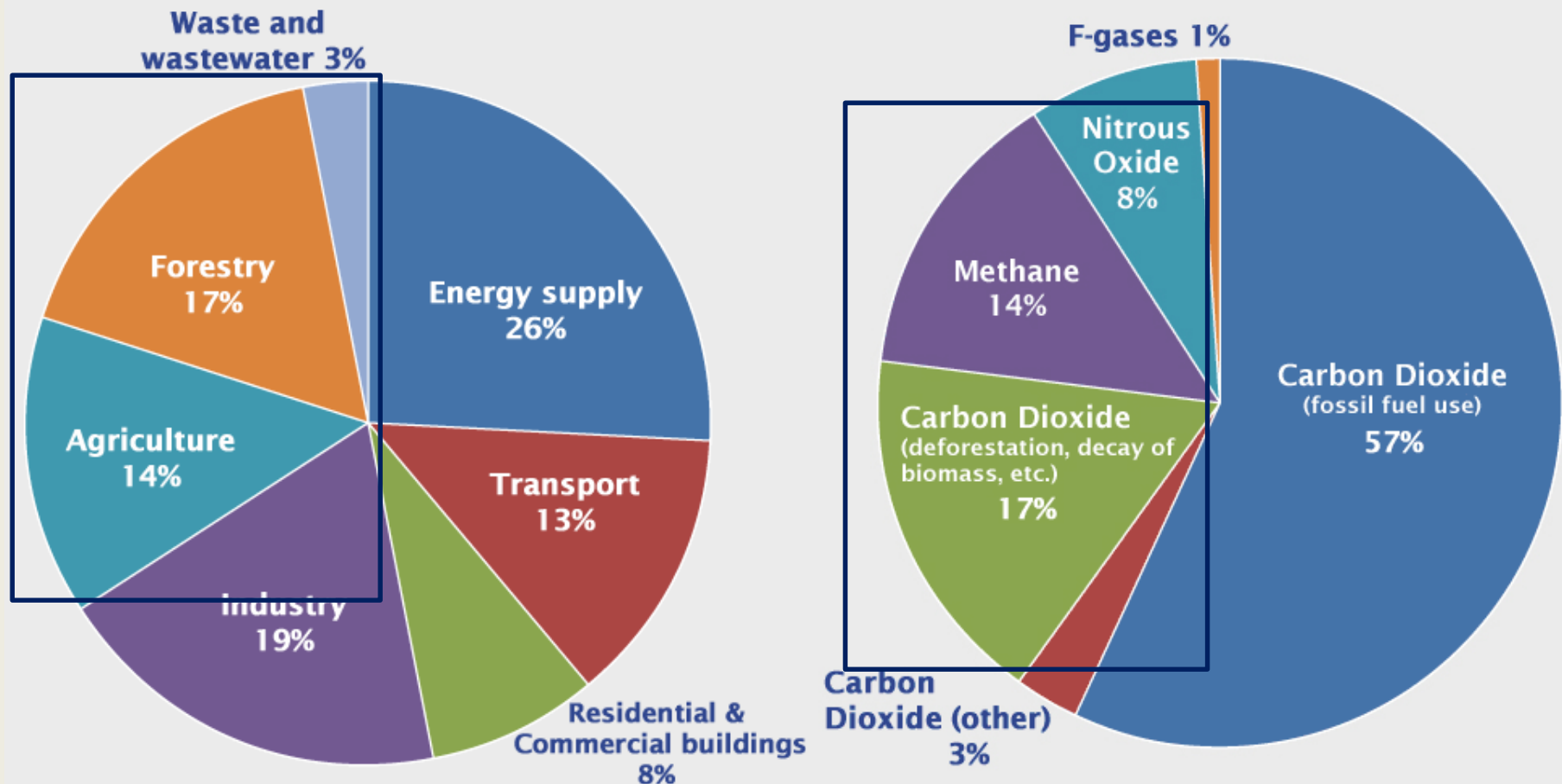


UNFCCC





Emissions from Land Use, Land Use Changes and Forestry (LULUCF)



Source: USEPA/IPCC

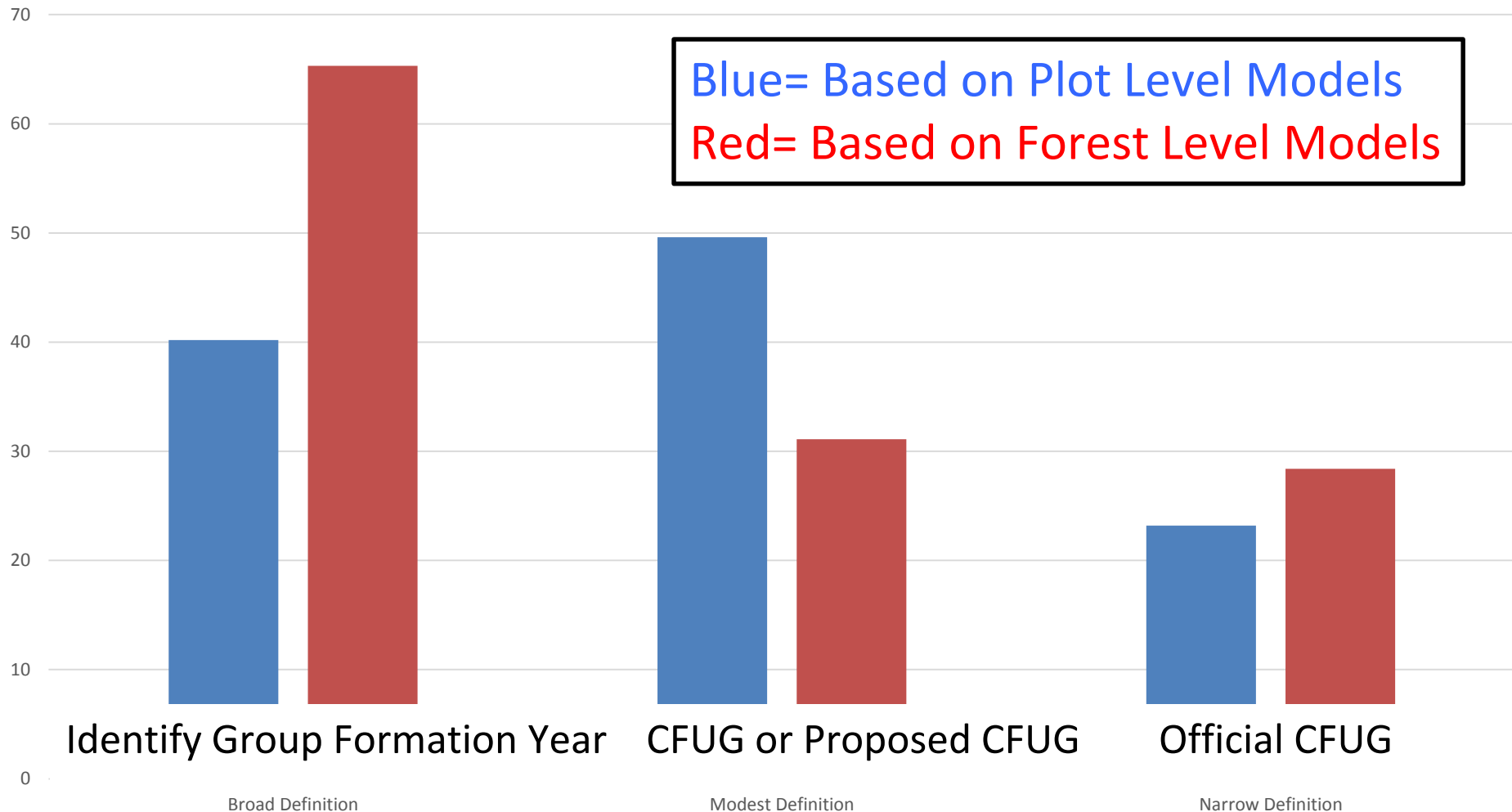
Community Forests and REDD+

- About 20% of world forests are community owned, managed or controlled
- Reaching climate stabilization goals may require community forest input.
- Can community forests contribute?

In Preliminary Joint Work in Nepal, Answer Appears to be Yes



Estimated Additional Carbon per Hectare (tons) by Collective Action Definition (CFUG = Community Forest User Group)



What about Devolution to
Households and Individuals? Can
that Form Contribute under
REDD+?

For Detailed Discussions, Please See

**Forest Tenure Reform in Asia and Africa
Local Control for Improved Livelihoods,
Forest Management, and Carbon
Sequestration**

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