

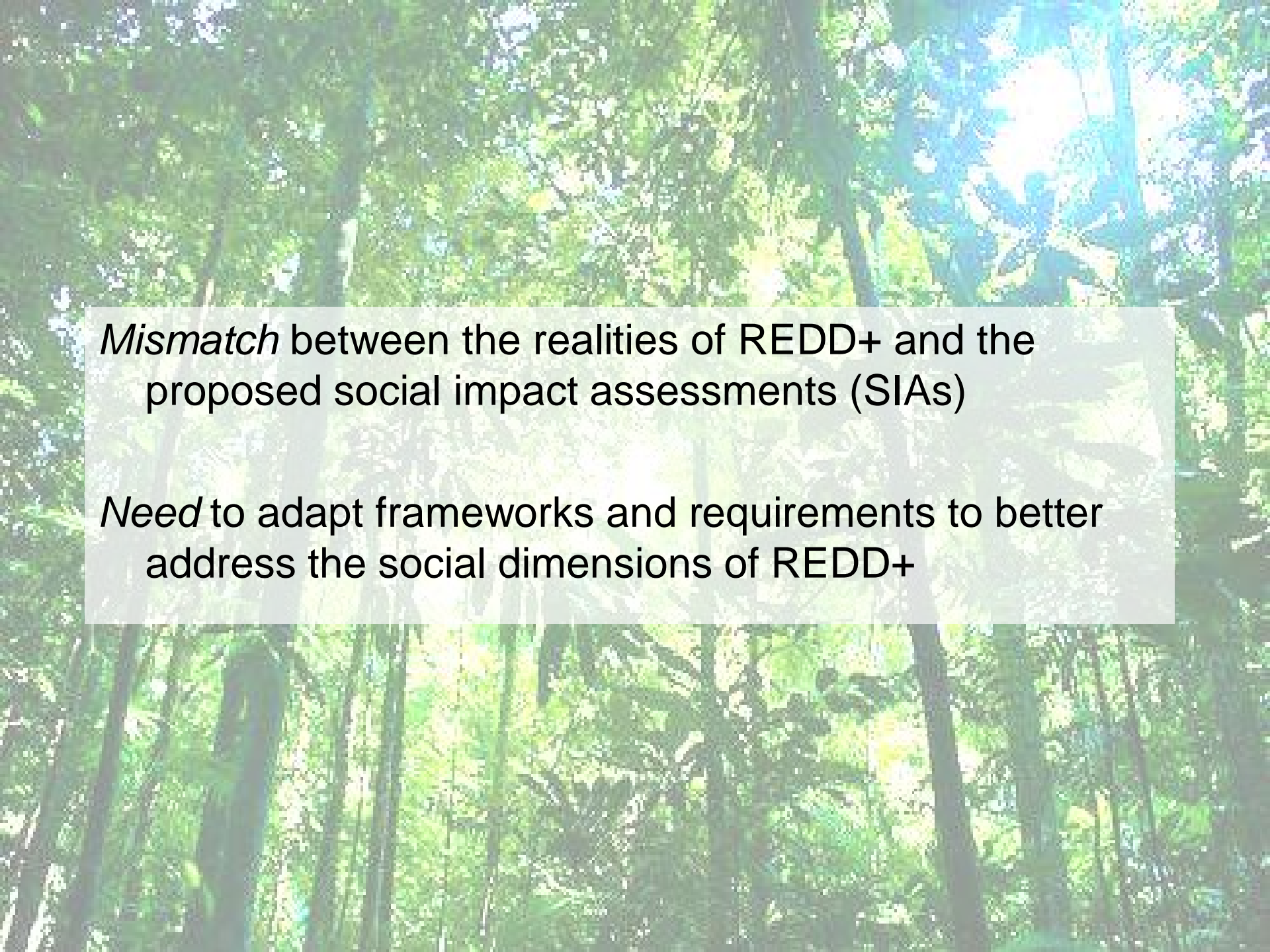


# A Minus in REDD+: The Challenge of Social Impact Assessments

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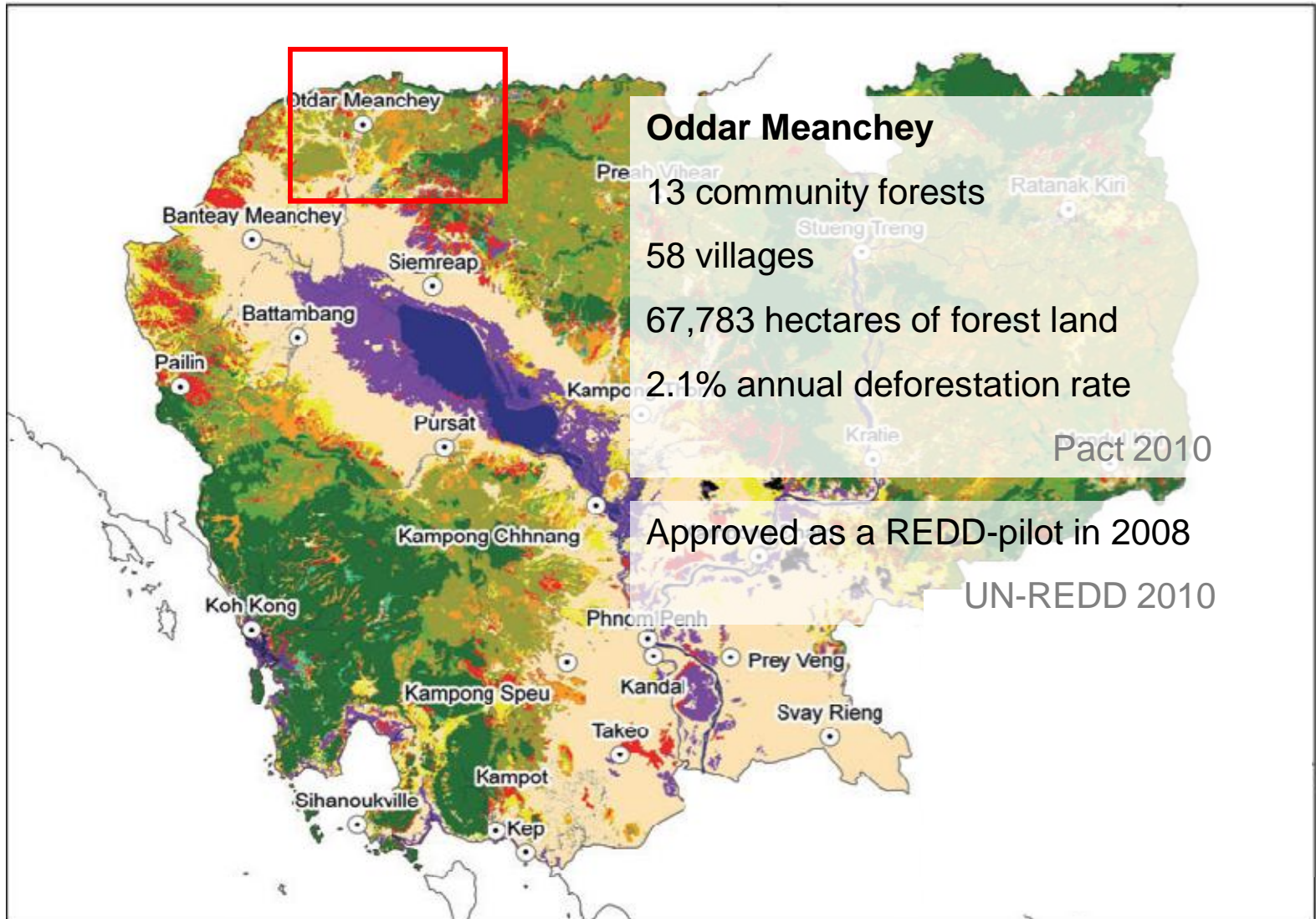
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*Mismatch* between the realities of REDD+ and the proposed social impact assessments (SIAs)

*Need* to adapt frameworks and requirements to better address the social dimensions of REDD+

# Examples from a Cambodian context







# Explaining the Mismatch

**Context** of poverty, subsistence, population growth, weak governance, post-conflict, marginalization

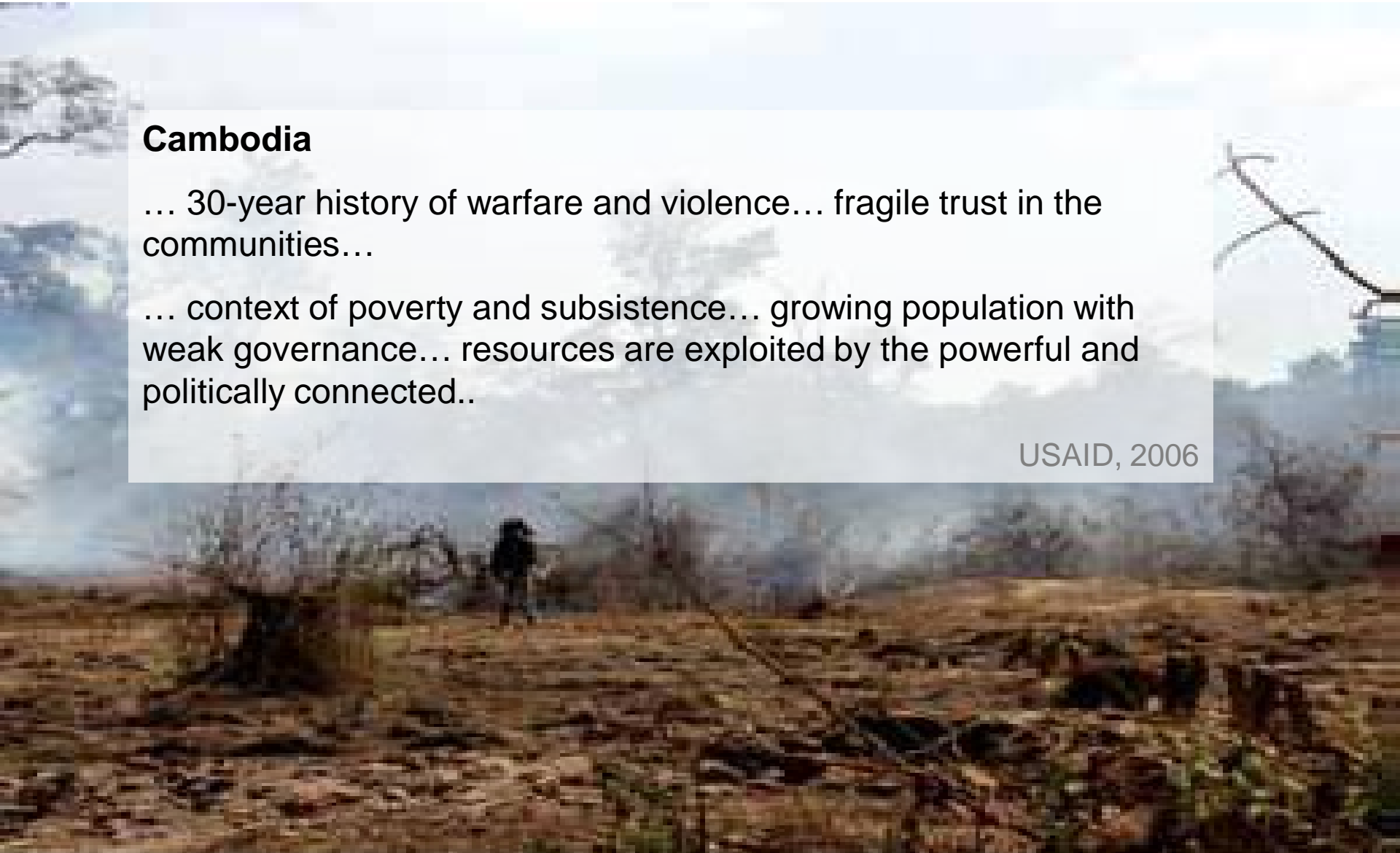
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## **Cambodia**

... 30-year history of warfare and violence... fragile trust in the communities...

... context of poverty and subsistence... growing population with weak governance... resources are exploited by the powerful and politically connected..

USAID, 2006



**Context** of poverty, subsistence, population growth, weak governance, post-conflict, marginalization

**Complex and unique characteristics of REDD+**

- Extensive scale
- Rapid pace
- Insecure tenure
- Equity concerns
- Incentive based

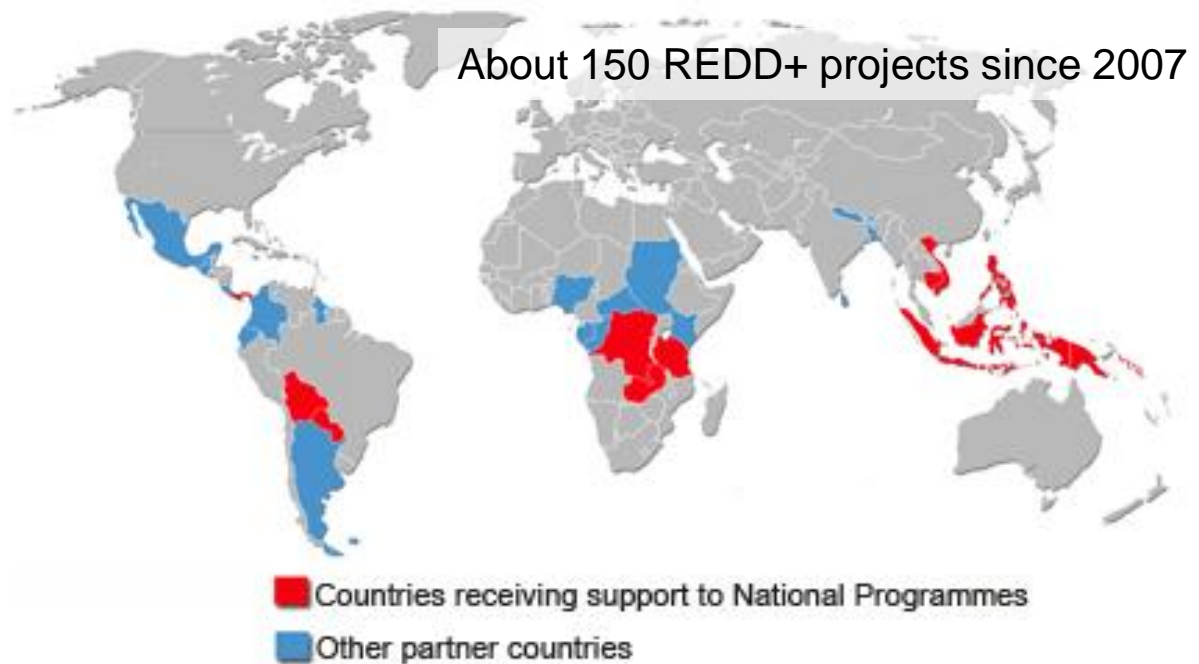


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About 150 REDD+ projects since 2007



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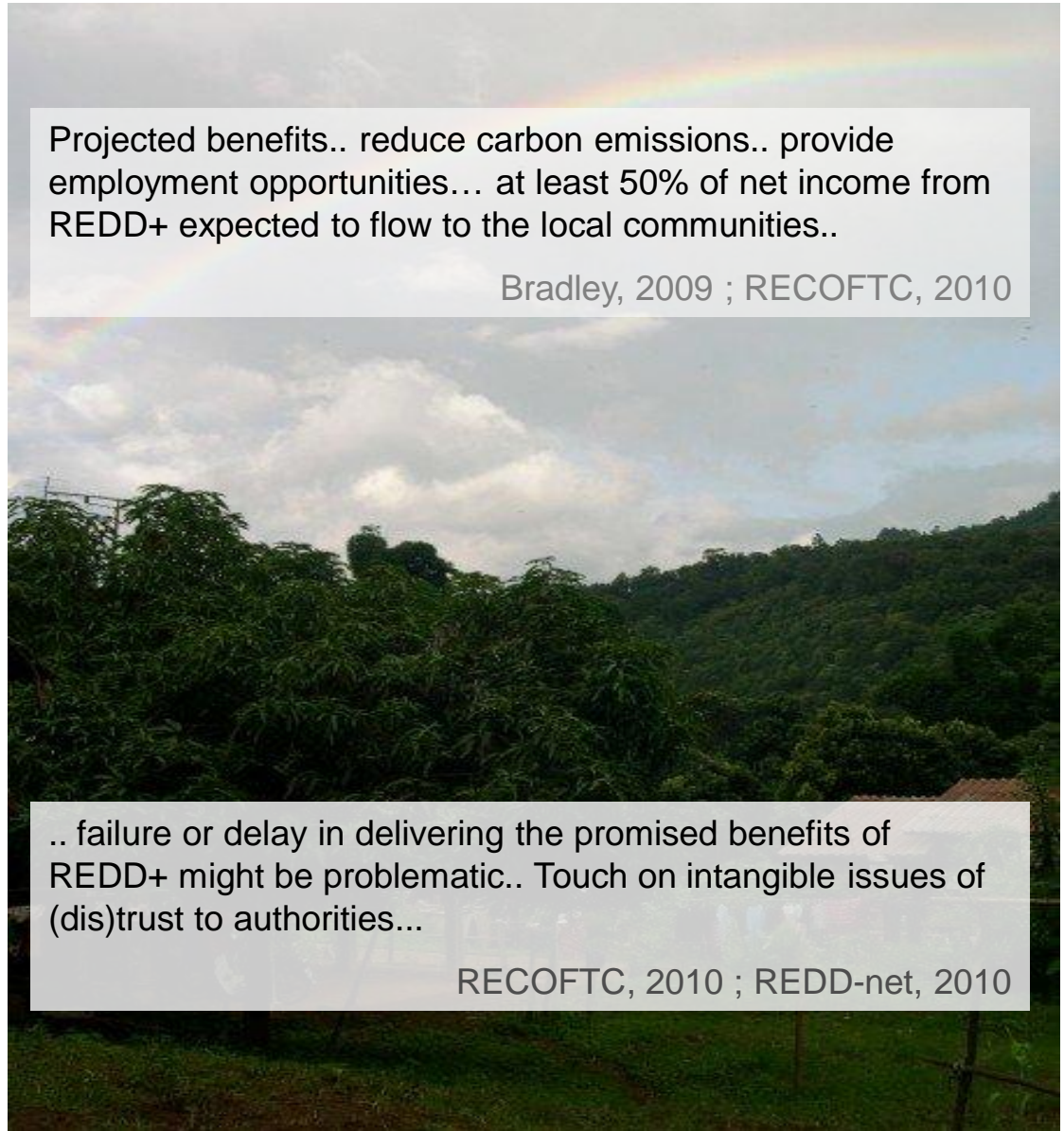
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Projected benefits.. reduce carbon emissions.. provide employment opportunities... at least 50% of net income from REDD+ expected to flow to the local communities..

Bradley, 2009 ; RECOFTC, 2010

.. failure or delay in delivering the promised benefits of REDD+ might be problematic.. Touch on intangible issues of (dis)trust to authorities...

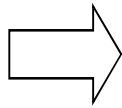
RECOFTC, 2010 ; REDD-net, 2010



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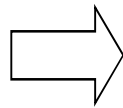
**Potential social effects of REDD+ (examples)**

- Impact livelihoods
- Risk of elite capture
- Affect conflict dynamics
- Influence trust patterns

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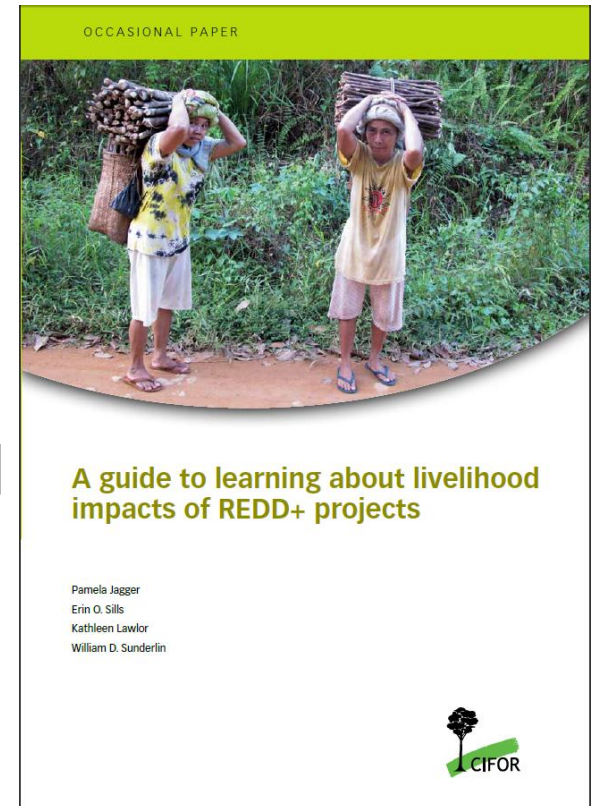
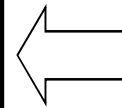
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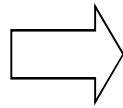


- Development projects, poverty, protected areas, private sector..
- Causal Models, Sustainability Frameworks, Matching methods..
- Preference towards BACI approach and quantitative data..

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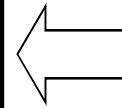
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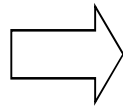
**Current Social Impact Assessment (SIA) frameworks**

- Lack of common approach
- Rely on baseline/control data
- Few qualitative indicators

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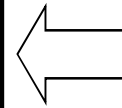
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**Current Social Impact Assessment (SIA) frameworks**

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- **Inadequate national regulations**

... Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) could be required for REDD+ in Cambodia based on the existing legal framework, there is no clear statement on this issue...

... ESIA regulations are poor and there is a lack of implementation...

... REDD+ Task Force has been established... develop assessment frameworks with environmental, socio-economic and governance indicators to monitor co-benefits... expected by July 2012... more than four years *after* the implementation began of the first Cambodian REDD+ project in Oddar Meanchey..

UN-REDD, National Programme Document for Cambodia, 2010

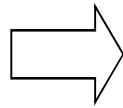


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Mismatch between the realities of REDD+ and the proposed SIAs

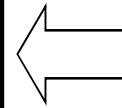
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Need to adapt frameworks to respond to the complex and unique challenges of REDD+

## ***Mismatch* between the realities of REDD+ and the proposed social impact assessments (SIAs)**

- Why is there a mismatch and how is it evident at the project level?
- How does REDD+ differ from other interventions?
- What are the consequences of such a mismatch?

## ***Need* to adapt frameworks and requirements to better address the social dimensions of REDD+**

- Is there a need for a *new* common framework for assessing social impacts in REDD+?
- How can intangible social effects of REDD+ be captured?
- What kinds of disciplines or methods should be integrated?

## Case study in Oddar Meanchey 2011

- ... conflict aspects of tenure and equity concerns... emphasize relations and impacts at the intra-household level, as well as political impacts at the intra-community level... intangible issues and qualitative indicators..
- ... structured around two theoretical frameworks; conflict assessment framework (Daniels et al, 2009) and an access theory framework (Ribot and Peluso, 2006)...
- ... various methods; participant observation, interviews, surveys etc.