REDD in Sri Lanka

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Outline of Presentation

• Introduction
• Present Status of Forestry sector in Sri Lanka
• Issues and Limitations
• Proposed REDD initiatives
Forest Cover of Sri Lanka

- Tropical rain forests
- Dry Monsoon forests
- Montane forests
- Sub-montane forests
- Riverine forests
- Mangrove forests
- Forest Plantations
Status of Forests

- Natural forests occupy about 30% of the total land area
- High biological diversity
- Exists as highly fragmented ecosystems
- 30 – 40% are considered as degraded
90% of forests are on state lands and administered by two state agencies under the ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

- Forestry sector Master plan – 1995
- National Policies
- Legislations

Forest Administration
Issues and Limitations

• High rate of land use change and lack of proper mechanism to monitor the forest landscape changes

• Policy and legislation to be revised as appropriate

• Lack of information on forest health and vitality
Initiatives to be undertaken

- Policy and legislations to be reviewed to address the issues related to climate change
- Multistakeholder approach in forests and tree management
- Monitoring and reporting system to be introduced with baseline information
- Biological status of forest to be assessed and monitored
Initiatives related to REDD

- Awareness building among different stakeholders on REDD including local communities
- Institutional and Political commitment
- Applied to join UN-REDD Programme, Sept. 2009
Possible role for UN-REDD

- Facilitating and catalyzing coordinated action among bilateral and multi-lateral development partners

- UN Agencies supporting costs of developing REDD roadmap

- Knowledge sharing and networking
REDD will be incorporated into the national forestry programme to ensure the sustainability
Thank you for listening!