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

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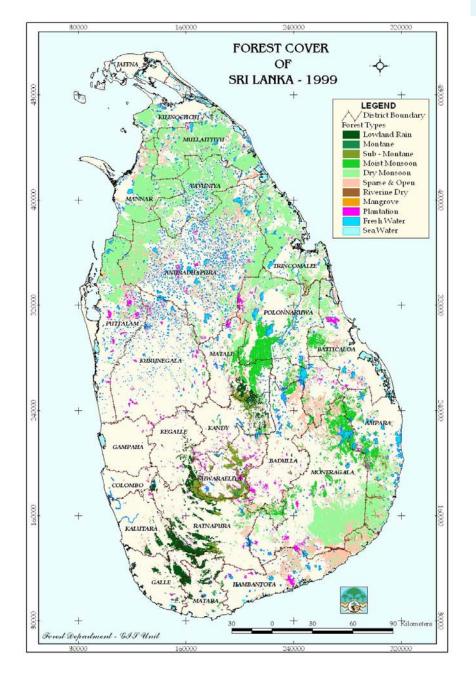# Forest Cover of Sri Lanka

- **Tropical rain forests**
- **Dry Monsoon forests**
- **Montane forests**
- **Sub-montane forests**
- **Riverine forests**
- **Mangrove forests**
- **Forest Plantations**

FOREST COVER OF SRI LANKA - 1999

LEGEND

District Boundary

Forest Types
- Lowland Rain
- Montane
- Sub - Montane
- Moist Monsoon
- Dry Monsoon
- Sparse & Open
- Riverine Dry
- Mangrove
- Plantation
- Fresh Water
- Sea Water

Forest Department - GIS Unit

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

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Forest Administration

- 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

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Issues and Limitations

- High rate of land use change and lack of proper mechanism to moniter the forest landscape changes

- Policy and legislation to be revised as appropriate

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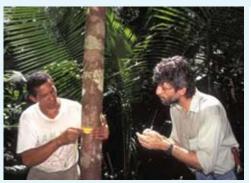
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Initiatives to be undertaken

- 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

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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

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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

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Way forward ....

REDD will be incorporated into the national forestry programme to ensure the sustainability

Thank you for listening!