Challenges of Scaling for FREL/FRL and Monitoring: Case Study of Several Countries

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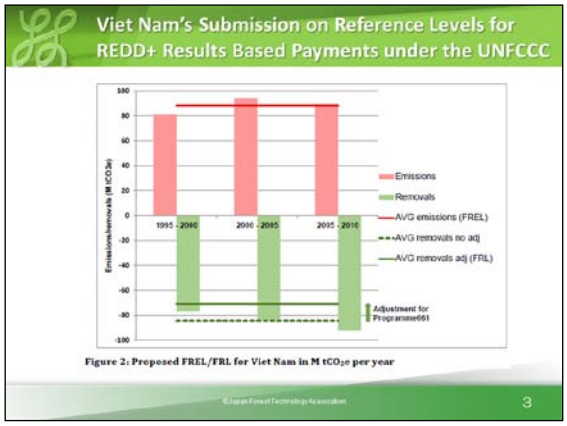
My presentation is comprised of two elements. The first part is in how reference levels will be treated going forward towards 2020 and beyond. The second part is the role of REDD within the INDC process and how reference levels are going to be monitored and utilized. I will be focusing on monitoring in the second part of my presentation using several cases from various countries.

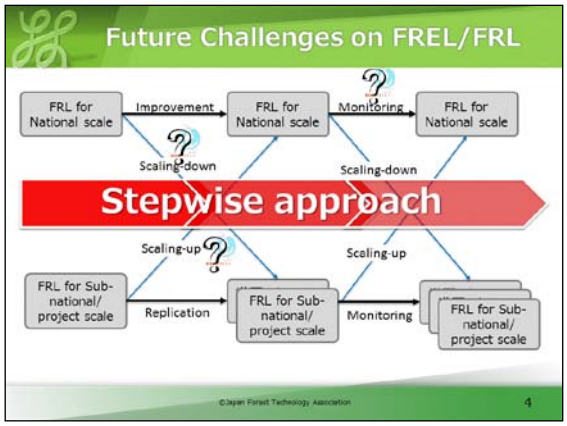
Submission Status of FREL/FRL

This shows the status FREL submissions. There are only a few countries from Africa that have submitted FREL, but you can see that the submissions are ongoing.



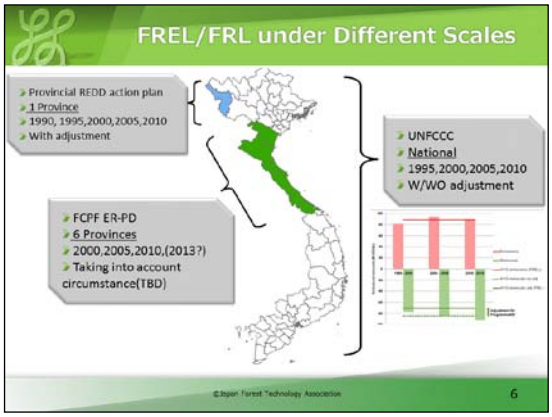
This is one recent example from Vietnam. They have submitted their reference levels. They have used the data that JICA has provided support to compile. Removals and emissions have been separated and adjustment made. In the case of Vietnam, this data was created at the national level.

Future Challenges on FREL/FRL



This chart shows the future pat of reference levels past 2020. Some countries that have submitted at the national level are going to scale down to the sub-national level in the future. On the other hand, those countries that have submitted at the project or sub-national level will have to scale up to the national level. Another important point is that the reference level itself is also going to improved and will also be monitored. Based on the step-wise approach, there will be scaling activities going on past 2020.

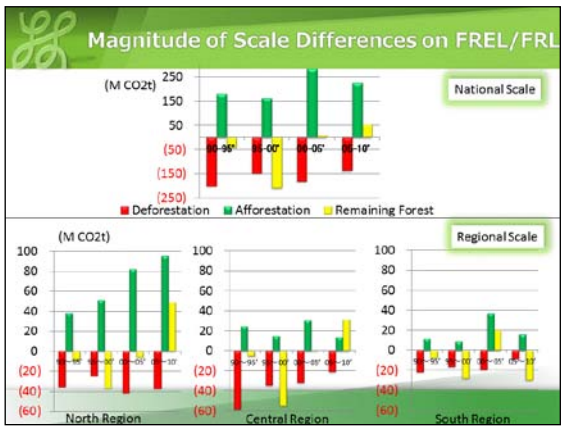
FREL/FRL under Different Scales



I will offer an example of what is happening with scaling.

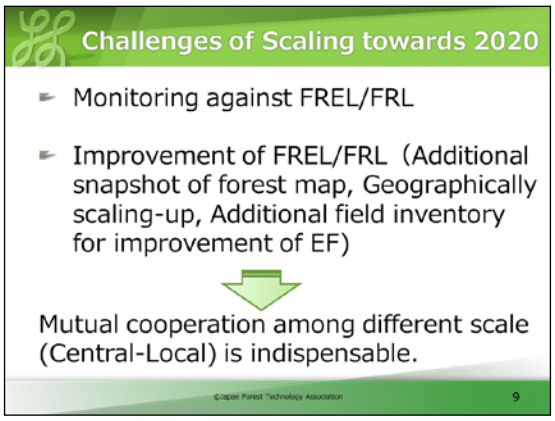
This is an example from Vietnam that I am involved in. The answer to the problem here was already provided by Naomi in the previous presentation. There are three reference levels that have already been completed in Vietnam. One is in a province in the northwestern part where a reference level has been developed. These were made for the purpose of the provincial REDD action plan. The second is the reference levels for central six provinces. The third is the national reference levels that I just talked about. Three reference levels have already been developed in Vietnam.

Of course, they have different boundaries, so the results and form of the reference levels show different trends. How are they going to make adjustments among the three and how are they going to distribute the benefits? That will be a challenge. For example, the methodology for the national level is from 1995, while the FCPF methodology dates from the year is 2000, so methodologies are already different between the regional and national levels.



Looking at the numbers, reference levels at the national scale are shown at the top. However, if you look at the regional level, absorption is shown by the bars above the zero line and you can see that the regional trends differ from the national trend. How are we going to make adjustments and how are we going to make distinctions between the benefits? One answer was provided already by Naomi.

Monitoring and Revision of FREL/FRL



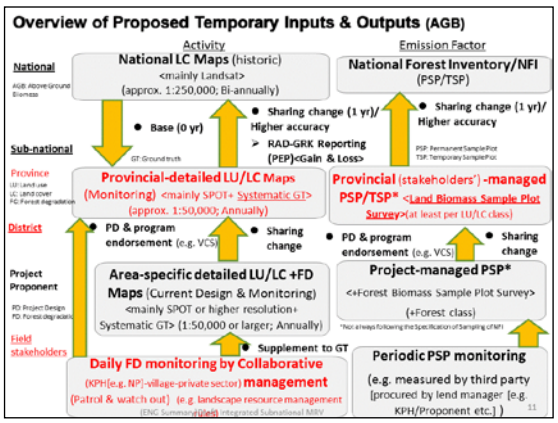
The second point I would like to talk about is monitoring. Once reference levels are submitted, they would have to be improved in the future. At a certain point in time the reference levels will be monitored, which will then lead to results-based payments. However, we can anticipate some challenges in doing so.

First of all, what kind of reference level monitoring will be conducted? As for the improvement of reference levels, you could increase the number of time points, increase its geographical size, and create an additional field inventory.

If this happens, it is an issue of how we are going to handle different scales when we first go into an area and start our activities. Taking the case of the maps from Vietnam, some are created locally while others are national, so are we going to use the same maps or are we going to use a different maps? How is it going to be aligned with the national inventory? This is something that has to be considered from a technical viewpoint.

What are the measures that are being taken? Let me use some case studies from a few countries.

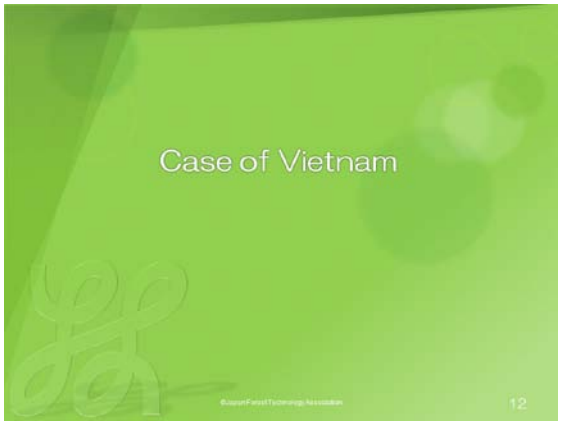
The Case of Indonesia

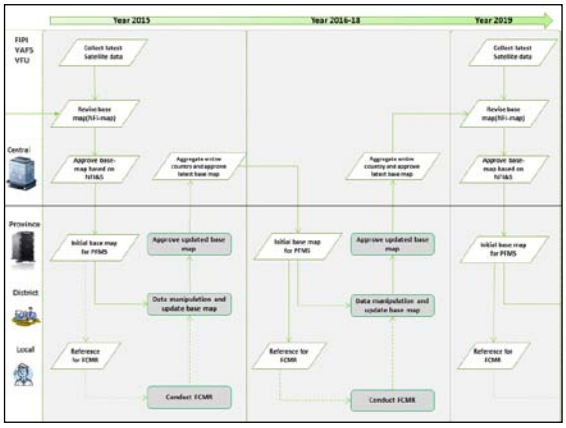


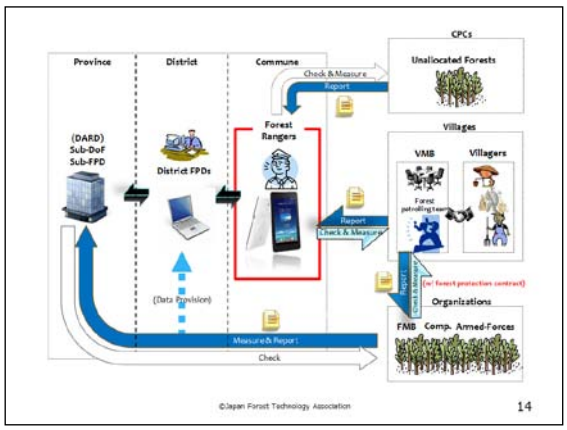
This shows the JICA REDD project in Indonesia, but it is not officially authorized and is just a draft.

If you take a look at this chart, you can see that you can divide the scales into national, province, district, and project levels. Moving vertically, you see how maps are handled as well as emission factors that cover aboveground available biomass in base units. How those two different sets of data can be treated nationally and sub-nationally is an issue. In Indonesia there is the 'one map policy', which is an idea that a consistent map should be made at a 50,000:1 scale for the entire country, which will then become a common platform. In addition, regarding field surveys, the national forest inventory is being done. However, at the regional level there are efforts being made to improve accuracy, so supplementary measures are required to maintain the consistency of methodologies.

The Case of Vietnam







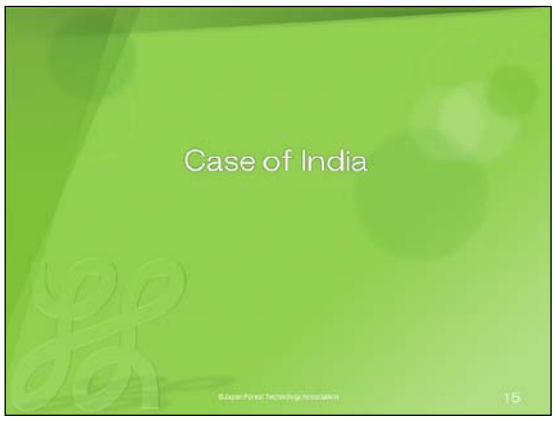
Next is the case of Vietnam.

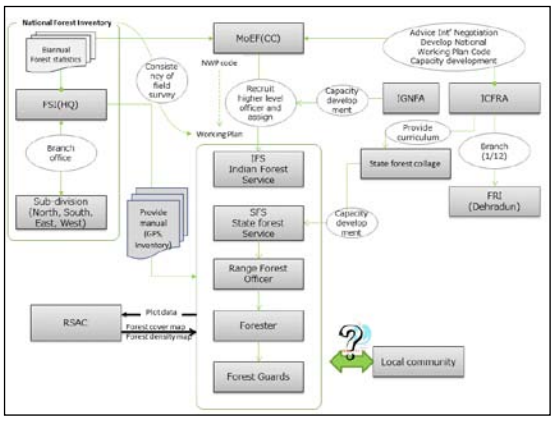
The horizontal axis is time and the vertical axis is scale showing national, provincial level, district, and local levels. In order to have uniform maps, in the center they will be revising the map every five years at the national level. For lower levels, annual revisions are done. The residents and the forest managers are in charge of revising the map on a local level every year so that national level can be revised every five years, but this is still a concept. However, this is just at the planning phase and has

not yet been implemented. By doing so, data consistency can be maintained and monitoring enhanced.

This chart shows what happens at the regional level in Vietnam. I said that revisions at the national level in Vietnam every five years and regional level every year, so below the province level, maps are renewed every year. How will the data be collected? Key players at the regional level include forest rangers. They have tablet PCs and they collaborate with the local residents to report on changes in the forests. This data is then submitted to the provincial level. This system has already been implemented, and through JICA's support it is going to be expanded throughout the country.

The Case of India



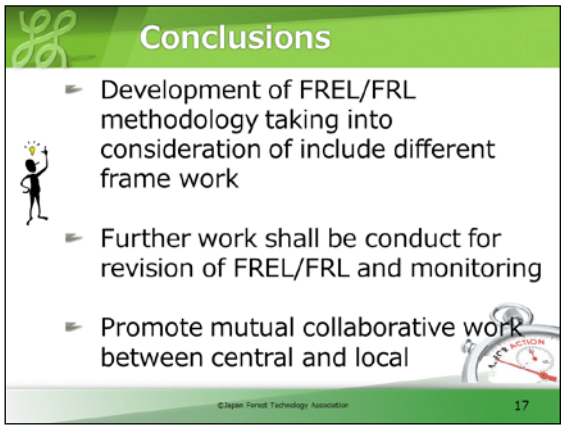


Finally, let me show you the case of India.

The survey is currently underway. In the case of India, central data is handled entirely by the Forest Survey of India[1]. At the regional level they have the forest service and foresters collecting data. However, central data and regional data do not match quite yet. Therefore, there is a need to enhance the collaboration between the regional and national levels.

[1] http://fsi.nic.in/

Conclusions



When creating reference levels, you have to find a methodology that allows for different frameworks and scales. One solution was included in Naomi's presentation earlier. Also, once you develop the reference level, you have to monitor and revise it. Beyond 2020 those efforts would have to be implemented. In doing so, the regional and national levels would have to be linked effectively and be monitored. Unless you consider that linkage, reference level improvement and monitoring will not be possible. When you work on the ground, you have to always bear in the mind the connection between national and regional levels.