



# Global forest and community tenure trends

Progress, slowdown, and climate outcomes

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University of Gothenburg seminar

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THE CENTER FOR PEOPLE AND FORESTS



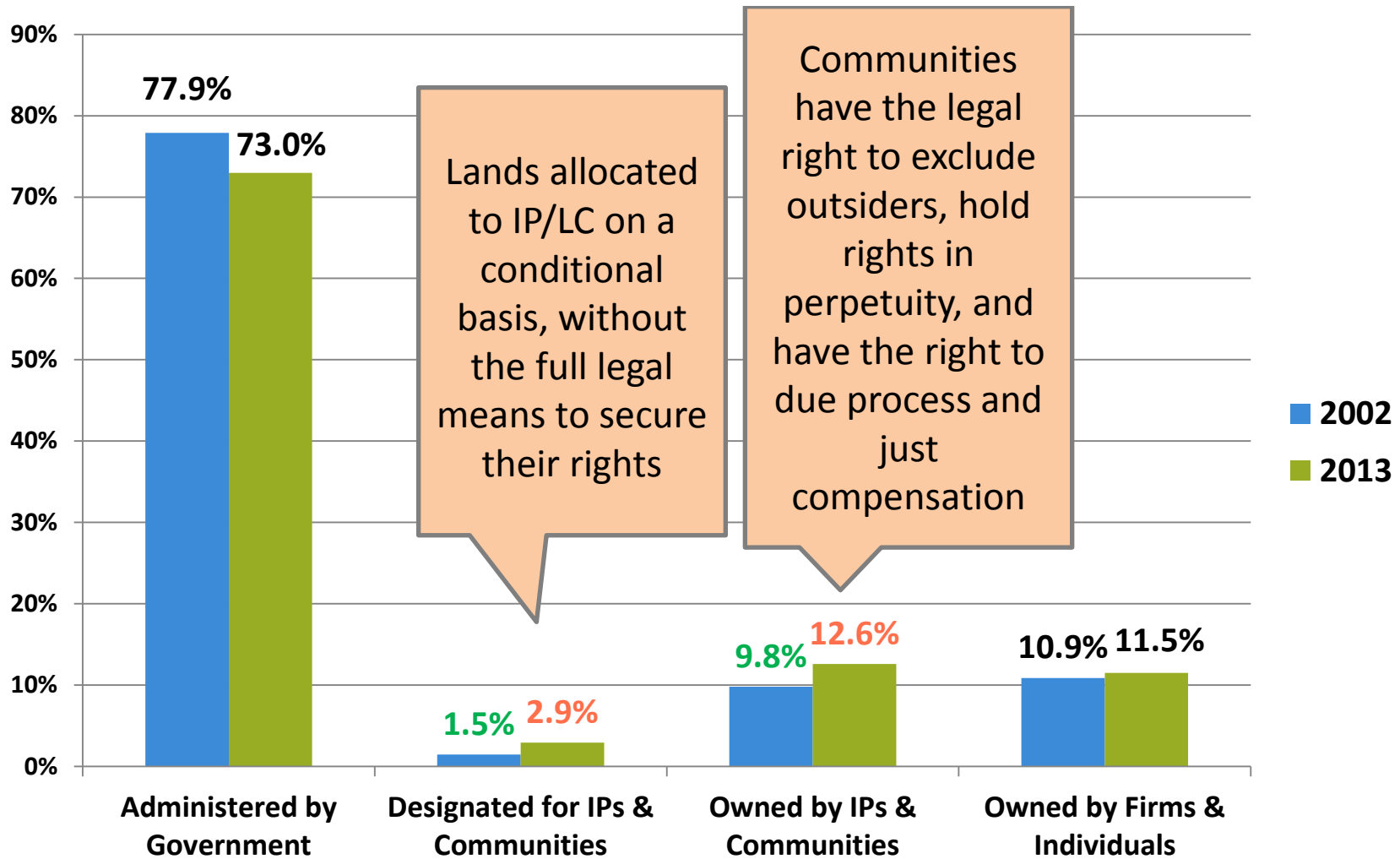
# Introduction

Findings from 2 recent publications - focused on centrality of community forest rights as to the future of forests

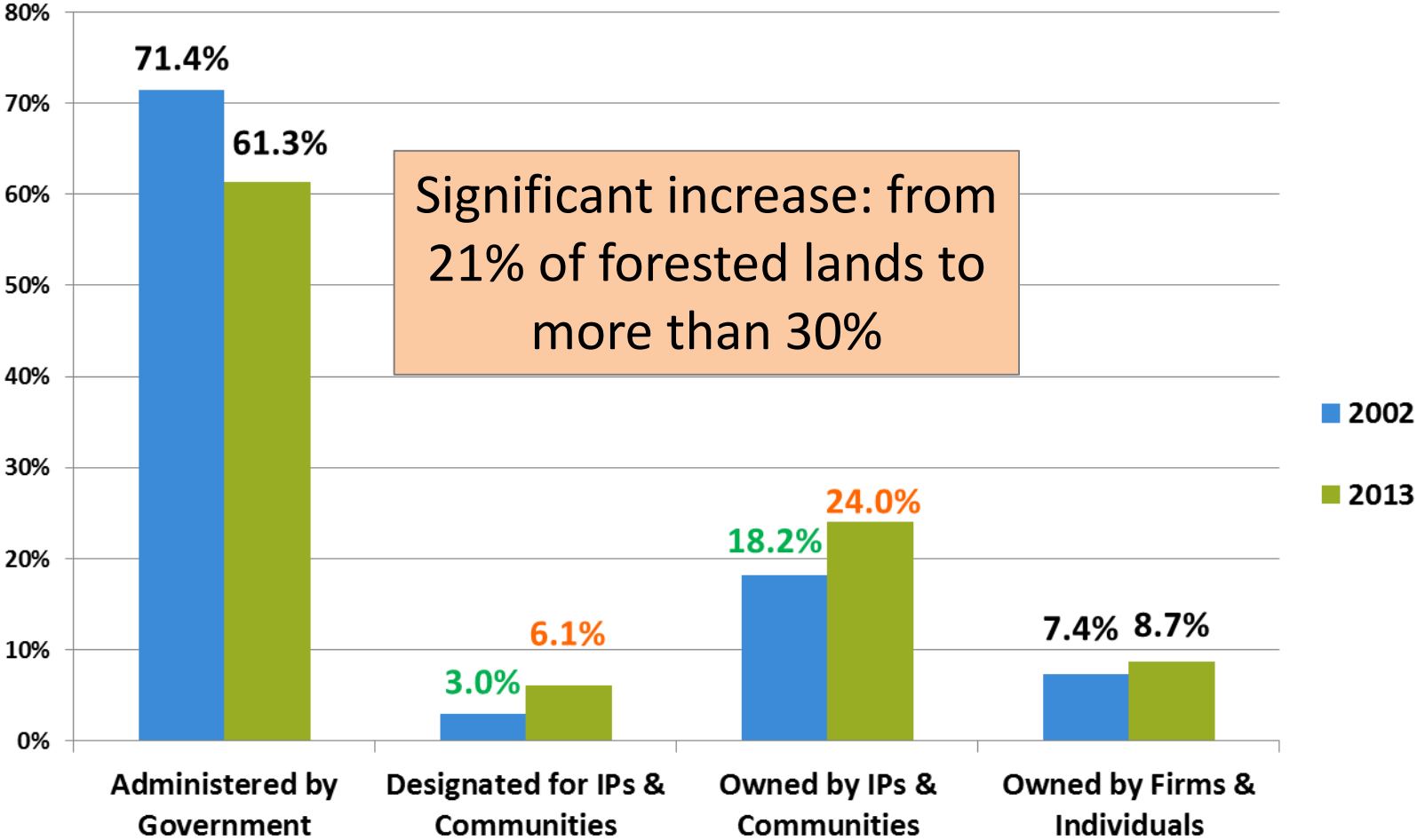
- *What Future for Reform? (RRI 2014)* – tracking forest “tenure transition”
  - Human Rights basis – recognition of customary rights to forests
  - Growing recognition of effectiveness of community management
- *Securing Rights, Combating Climate Change (WRI-RRI 2014)* – importance of community forest rights as a climate change solution

# What Future for Reform? – 2002-2013

## Global forest tenure transition has continued

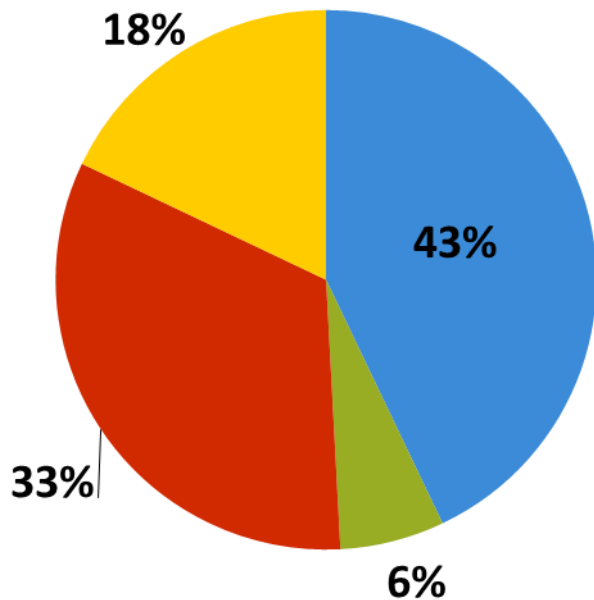


# Forest tenure transition in LMICs 2002-2013

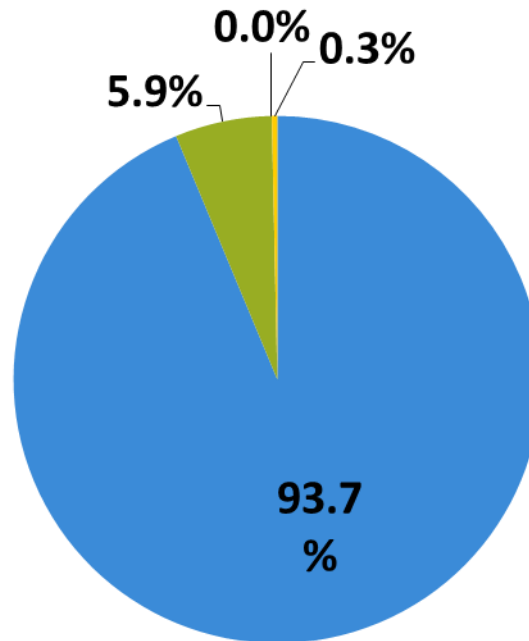


# Uneven progress across regions (2013)

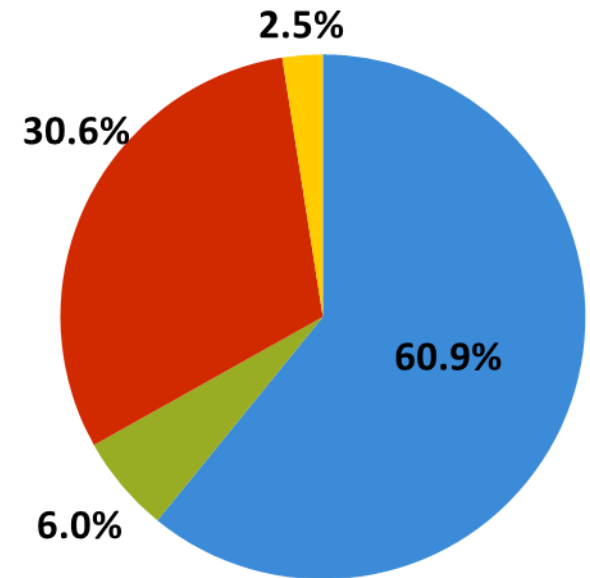
### Latin America



### Africa



### Asia



■ Administered by Government

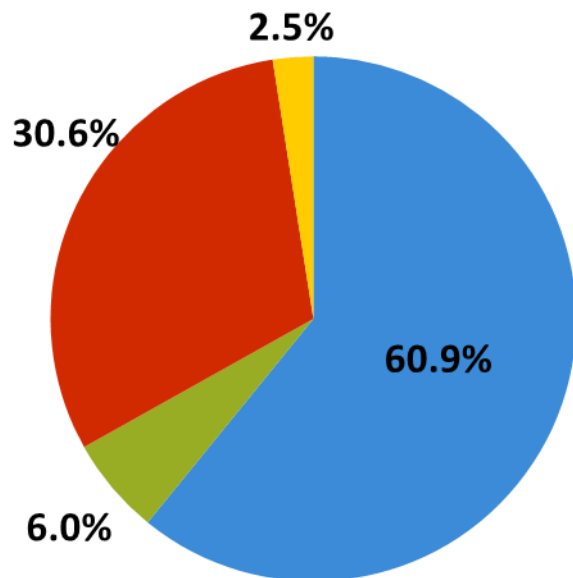
■ Owned by IPs & Communities

■ Designated for IPs & Communities

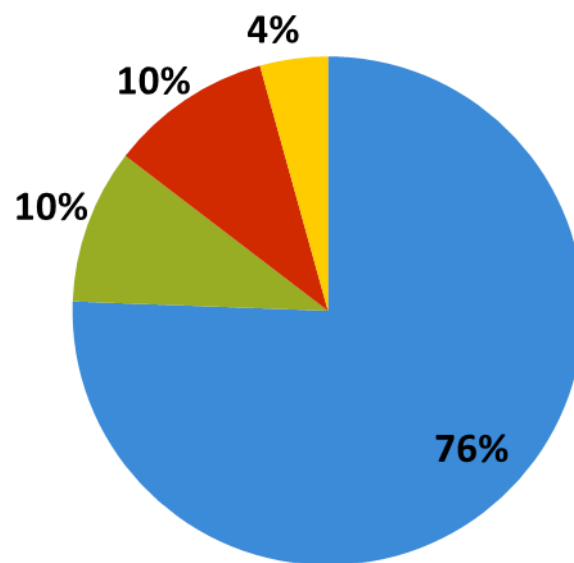
■ Owned by Firms & Individuals

# Uneven progress within Asia (2013)

### Asia



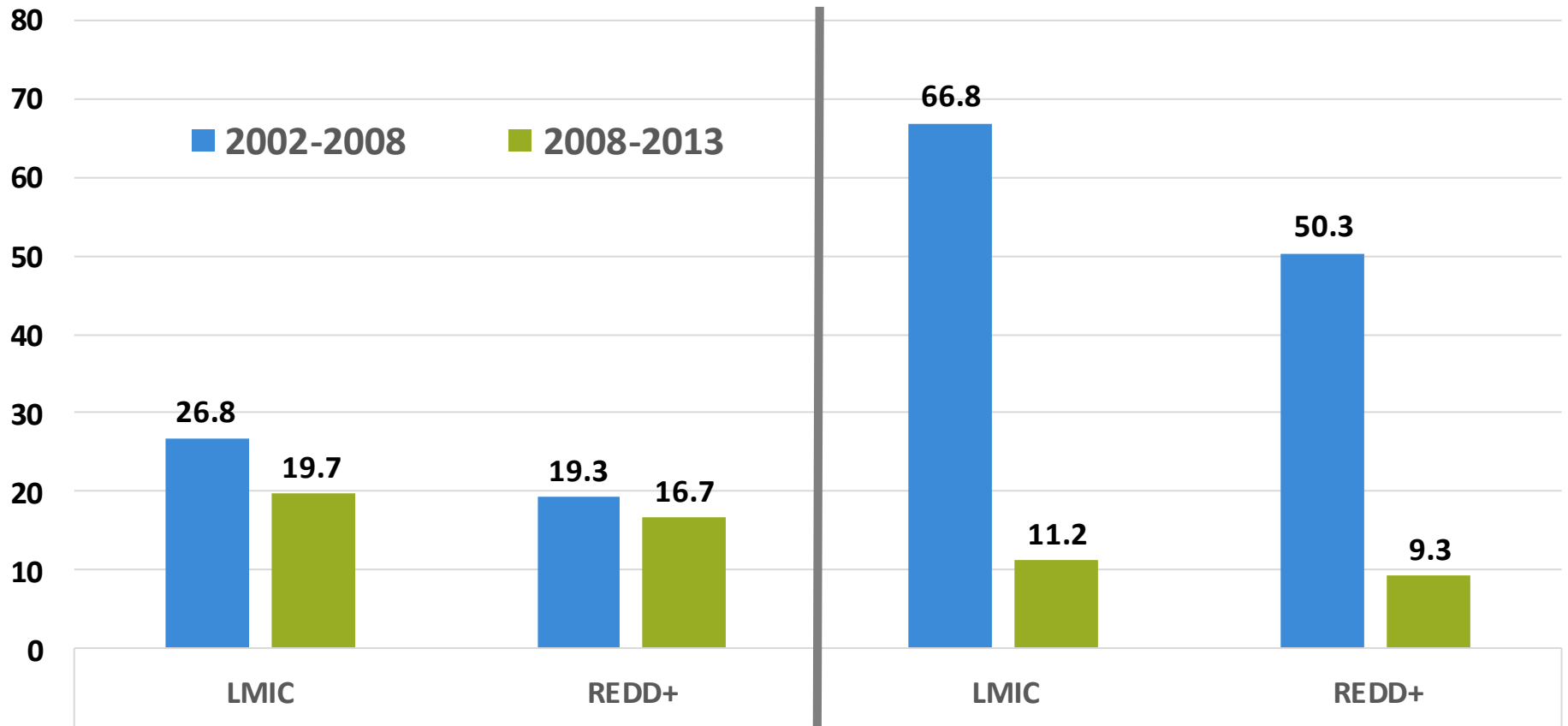
### Without China



- $\frac{3}{4}$  of forests owned by communities in Asia are in China's rural collectives
- High proportion of customary lands and very limited recognition in Indonesia, peninsular SE Asia.

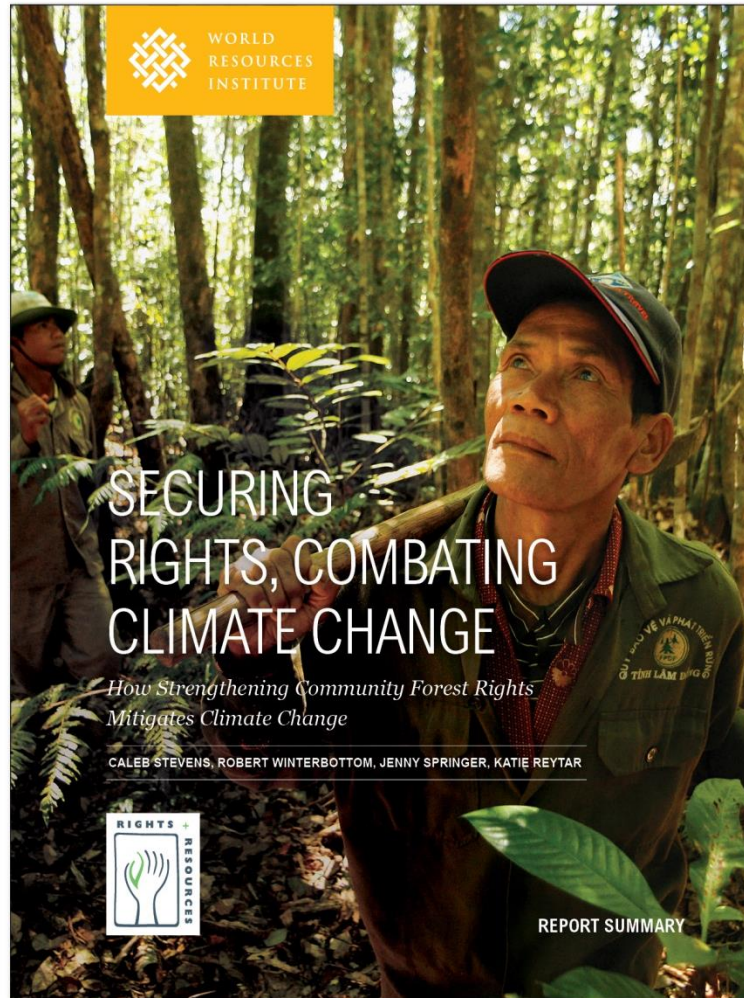
# And recognition has slowed since 2008...

Increase in area recognized by time period and tenure category, in Mha



No legal frameworks created since 2008 confer ownership

# Securing Rights, Combating Climate Change: A WRI & RRI REPORT





# Community forests sequester massive amounts of carbon



*15.5 percent of the world's forest (513 mil ha)*

WHICH CONTAIN

**37.7  
BILLION  
TONNES OF  
CARBON**

WHICH IF RELEASED

**29x**



**THE ANNUAL CARBON FOOTPRINT OF ALL PASSENGER VEHICLES IN THE WORLD**

# Deforestation rates inside indigenous & community forests with legal recognition and strong government protection are significantly lower than in forests outside these areas

BRAZILIAN  
AMAZON

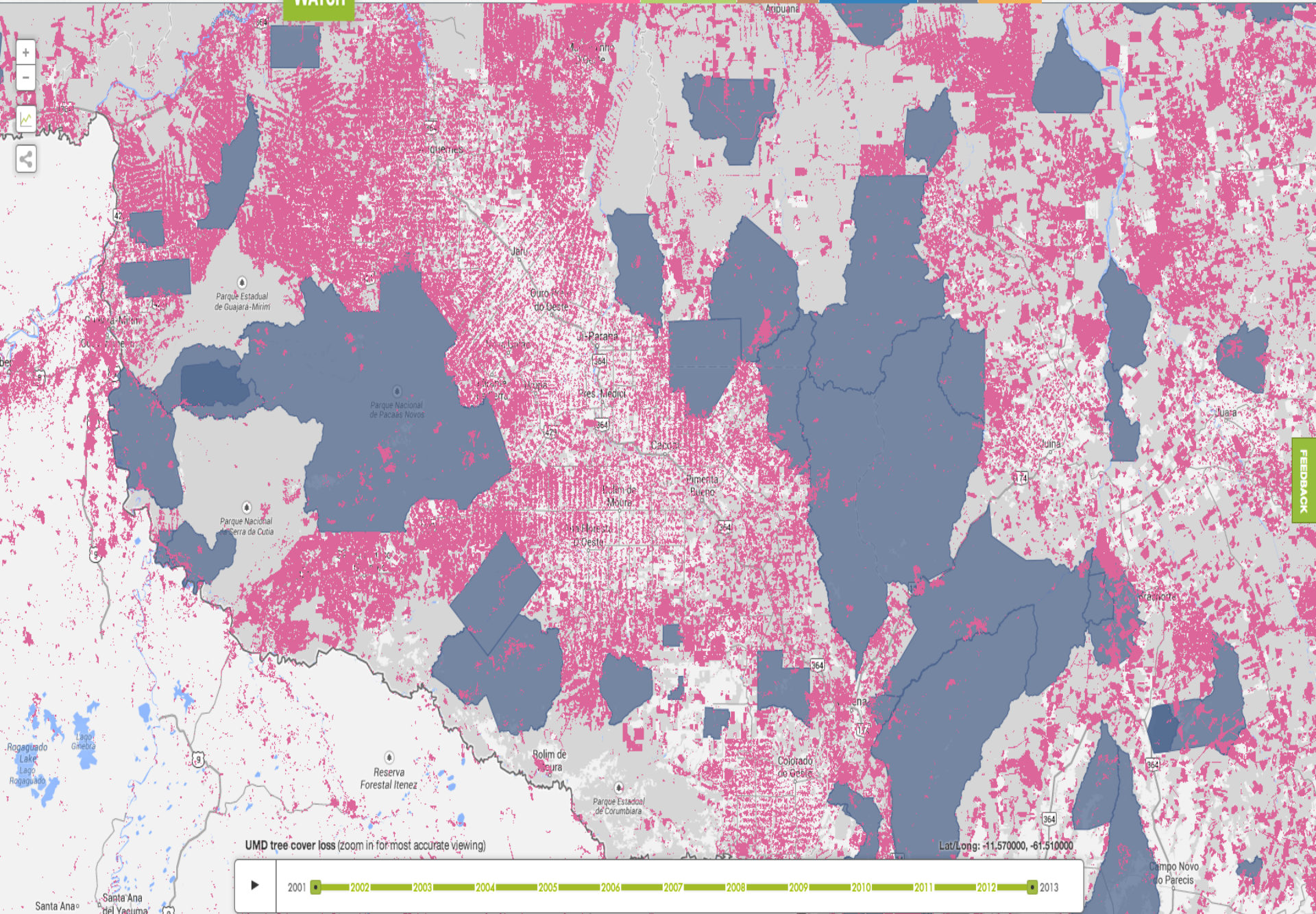


BOLIVIAN  
AMAZON



GUATEMALA  
(PETÉN)





UMD tree cover loss (zoom in for most accurate viewing)

Lat/Long: -11.570000, -61.510000



FEEDBACK

# What's needed?

## legal recognition & government support

| COUNTRY                | LEGAL RIGHTS | GOV. ACTION | FOREST OUTCOMES |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Bolivia (Amazon)       |              |             |                 |
| Brazil (Amazon)        |              |             |                 |
| Colombia (Amazon)      |              |             |                 |
| Ecuador (Amazon)       |              |             |                 |
| Guatemala (Petén)      |              |             |                 |
| Honduras (Rio Platáno) |              |             |                 |
| Mexico                 |              |             |                 |

| COUNTRY             | LEGAL RIGHTS | GOV. ACTION | FOREST OUTCOMES |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Nicaragua (Bosawas) |              |             |                 |
| Peru (Amazon)       |              |             |                 |
| Niger               |              |             |                 |
| Tanzania            |              |             |                 |
| Nepal               |              |             |                 |
| Indonesia           |              |             |                 |
| Papua New Guinea    |              |             |                 |

### CHART KEY

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>LEGAL RIGHTS</b>      |  |
|                          | = Legal Recognition                                |
|                          | = No/Weak Legal Recognition                        |
| <b>GOVERNMENT ACTION</b> |  |
|                          | = Positive Government Action on Strength of Rights |
|                          | = Negative Government Action on Strength of Rights |
| <b>FOREST OUTCOMES</b>   |  |
|                          | = Positive Forest Outcomes                         |
|                          | = Negative Forest Outcomes                         |

# Concluding Recommendations

1. Recognize & support community forest rights and management – call to national governments
  - Continuing in - and moving beyond - Latin America
2. Provide more concrete support from climate initiatives – valuing CF rights as a climate solution
3. Engage private sector corporations and investors in respecting community forest rights
  - Slowdown coinciding with industrial concession expansion
4. Catalyze broad-based change by including community land rights in the post-2015 development agenda

# Thank you!

For more information, visit  
[www.rightsandresources.org](http://www.rightsandresources.org)