

Development of REDD+ Guidelines for JCM

Dr. Mitsuo Matsumoto

Director

REDD Research and Development Center,
Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (FFPRI)

Present Situation of REDD+

- Discussions and negotiations under UNFCCC are on-going but need more time to launch REDD+
- Host countries are working hard for Phase 1 activities
- REDD+ projects under voluntary schemes are increasing
- Practice and experience of early projects and actions will contribute to constructing REDD+ scheme and standards under UNFCCC

Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

- Japanese government is promoting the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) as an potential mitigation measure.
- The JCM facilitates diffusion of leading low carbon technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure as well as implementation of mitigation actions, and contributes to sustainable development of developing countries.
- The JCM is managed by the Joint Committee that is constructed under an agreement between Japan and host countries.



Quoted from the Web of “New Mechanism Information Platform”

Agreed Countries on JCM

- 10 countries agreed on JCM
 - Mongolia
 - Bangladesh
 - Ethiopia
 - Kenya
 - Maldives
 - Vietnam
 - Laos
 - Indonesia
 - Costa Rica
 - Palau

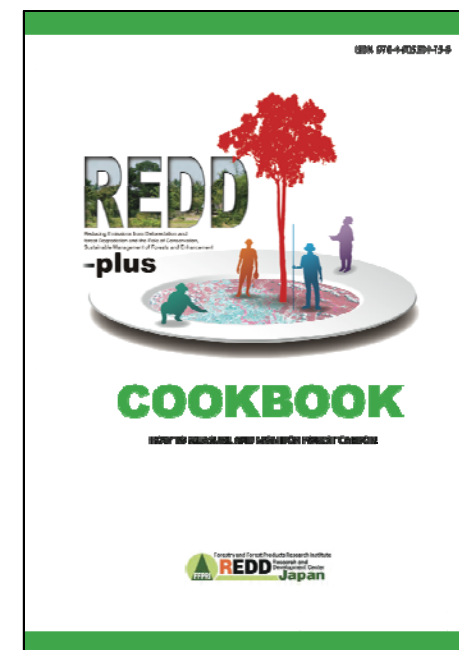
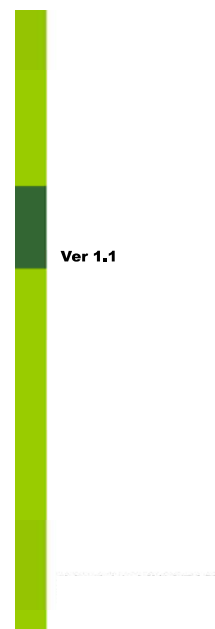


REDD+ under the JCM

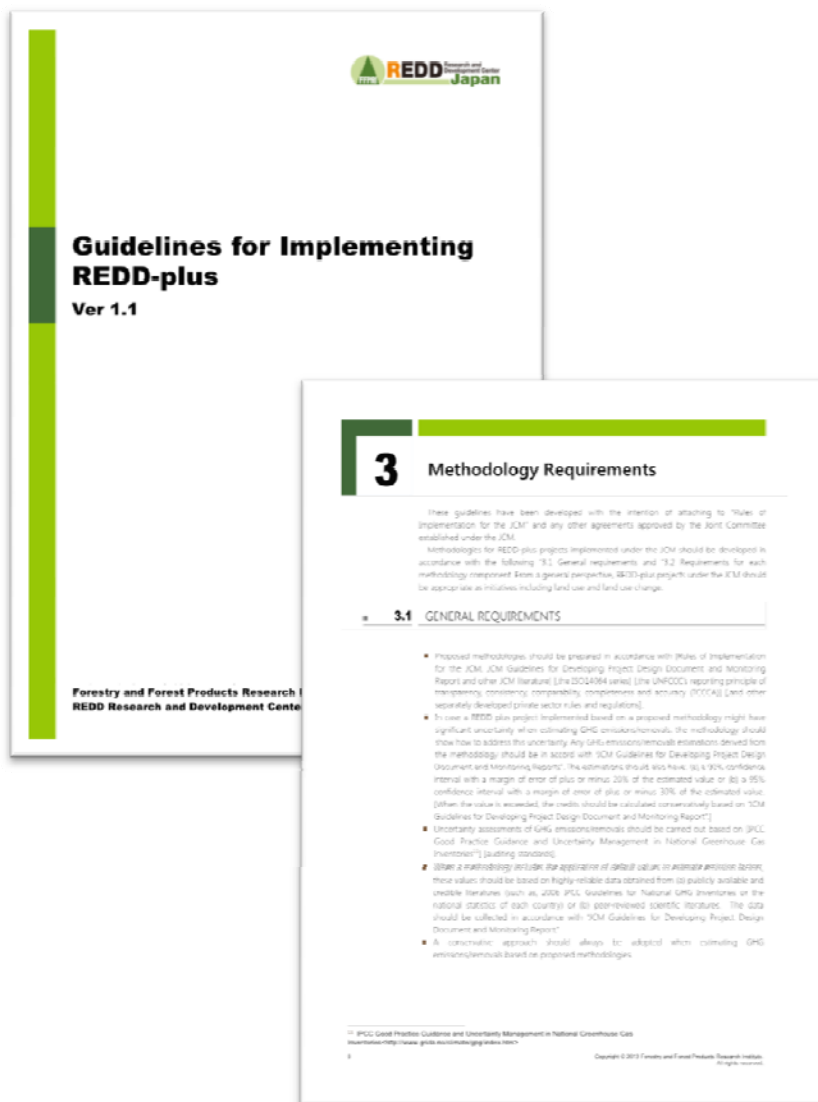
- Activities of the JCM are adopted by each Joint Committee
- REDD+ is not adopted at beginning of JCM
- One reason is that the methodologies of MRV for REDD+ have not developed enough
- Developing countries expect to start REDD+ under the JCM

Activities of REDD R&D Center

- REDD R&D Center in FFPRI supports REDD+ under the JCM
- REDD R&D Center developed
 - REDD-plus Cookbook
 - REDD-plus Guidelines



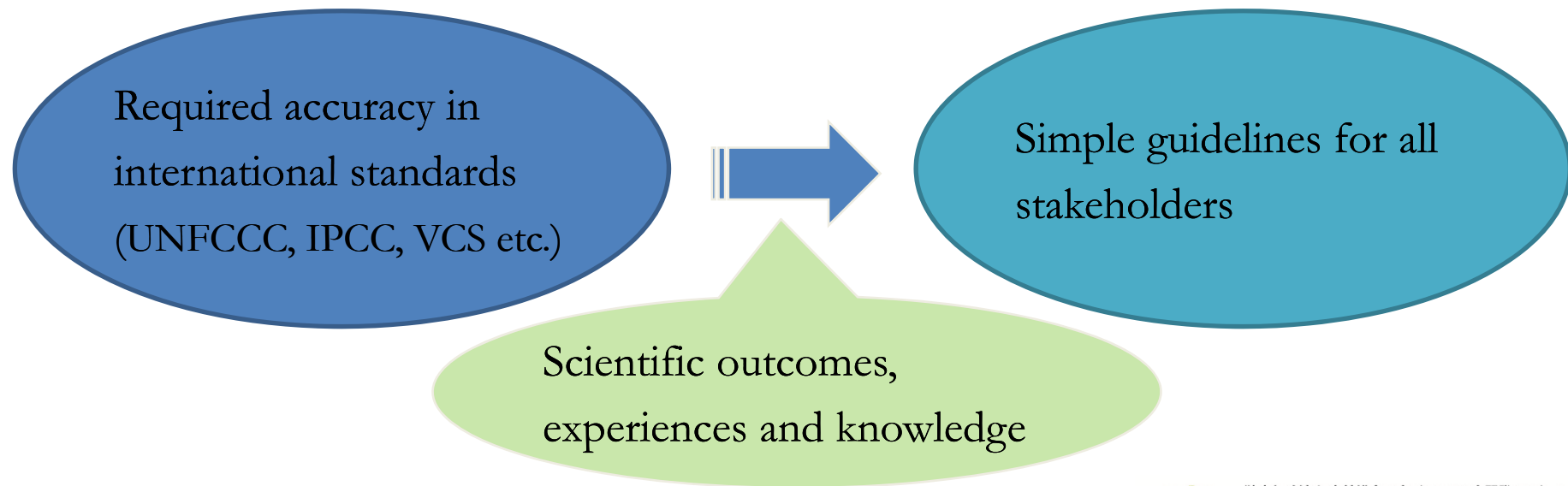
REDD-plus Guidelines for JCM



- “Guidelines for Implementing REDD-plus”
- Developed by FFPRI voluntarily
- It is expected to contribute to the formal guidelines which will be developed by the Joint Committees.
- Contents
 - Chap 1: Introduction
 - Background
 - Discussions on REDD-plus in Japan
 - Purpose of the guideline
 - Chap 2: Requirements to projects
 - Essential requirements
 - Requirements to elements of projects
 - Chap 3: Requirements to methodologies
 - Basic requirements
 - Requirements to elements of methodologies

Concept of the Guidelines

- Being operational and transparent
- Promoting participation of multi stakeholders
- Scaling up from project levels to sub-national levels
- Continuous improvement of the guidelines



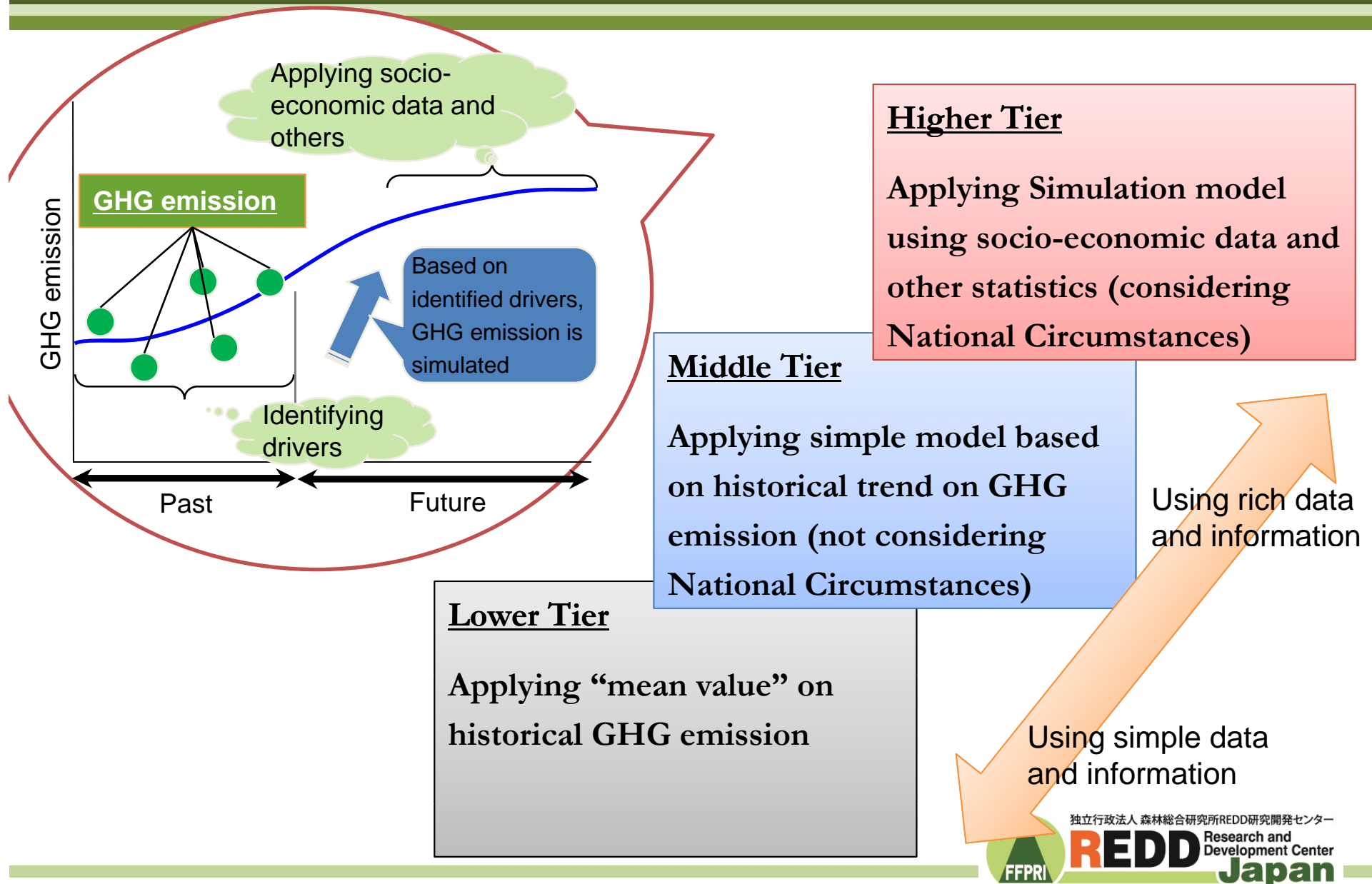
Key Points

- Required accuracy of forest map classification
 - International standards indicate “suitable accuracy” for estimation of GHG emission reductions and removals
 - Experiences and practices from projects and studies show feasible accuracy of forest map classification
 - The accuracy of classification of Forest/non-forest should be above 80%, and the one of each forest type should be above 70%.

Key Points

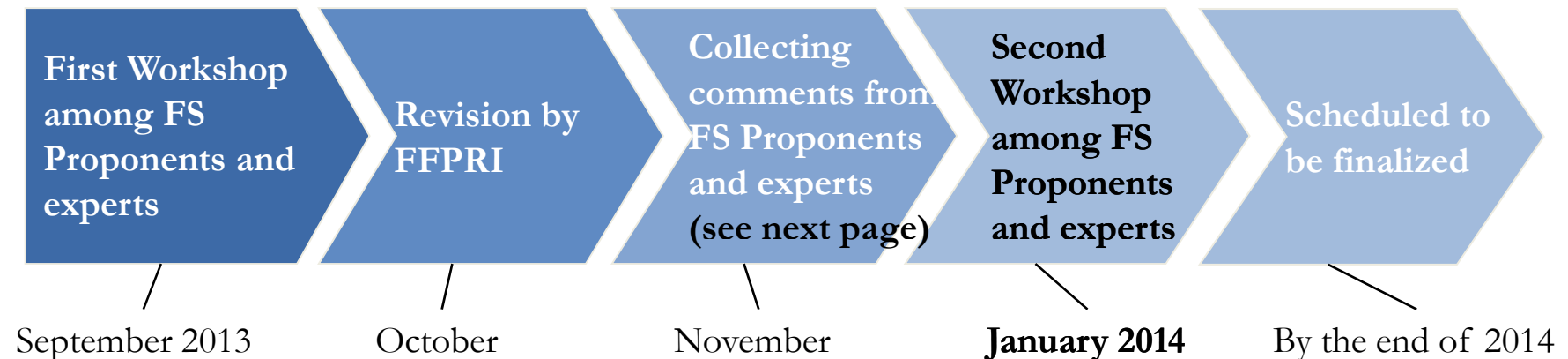
- Reference level
 - is established using the past data based on historical trend
 - is established at “Tiers” corresponding to national circumstances of host country
 - is established to be consistent with the national/sub-national reference level if already established
 - is updated at least 5 or 7 or 10 years intervals (not fixed yet)

Concept of Reference Level



Revision of the Guidelines

- To implement early action of REDD+, 34 of REDD+ Feasibility Studies (FS) have been implemented in host countries including Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia by funds of Japanese Government.
- Based on accumulated knowledge and experiences in FS and advises from experts, FFPRI is revising REDD+ Guideline (second draft).



Comments to the Guidelines

Comments from FS Proponents	Contents of Modification
<p>In addition to the Reference Emission Level (REL), Reference Level (RL) (for targeting sink-activities) should be included in the Guideline.</p>	<p>The guideline was modified as; “The REL/RL are calculated to be below business-as-usual (BaU) emissions and above BAU/ removals”</p>
<p>Removals from the atmosphere in activities of A/R and carbon enhancement should be included in the concept of land eligibility and the Guidelines should be revised to cover all of sink-activities.</p>	<p>The guideline may be modified in the near future with a notification of “Concept of Land Eligibility in case of afforestation and/or reforestation project should be defined according to further orders”.</p>
<p>Leakage (displacement of activities) should be estimated (never neglected). Leakage in case of Sub-national based REDD+ may be neglected.</p>	<p>The guideline was modified as; “When leakage estimation needs high cost and effort, leakage estimation may be calculated by using default value or simple method according to each developed methodology”. Regarding leakage in the case of Sub-national, FFPRI will analyze it in 2014.</p>

Comments to the Guidelines

Comments from FS Proponents	Contents of Modification
REL/RL should be established by considering national circumstances including efforts of host countries.	By using the concept of 'Tier 2 or 3 in REL/RL (slide 11), the proponents are able to consider national circumstances in REL/RL development.
Idea or concept how to expand the project base to sub-national base should be developed. VCS JNR should be referred by REDD Research and Development Center	FFPRI will analyze this matter in 2014.
Safeguard should be based on decision 1/CP.16 and should be considered more and more respecting other published literatures.	Words were revised respecting COP decision. The Guideline should be in the line of UNFCCC decision.

Comments from VCS

[Future activities of FFPRI]

- Are the Guidelines meant only for project activities? Is there a plan to expand it for jurisdictional approaches, or to provide guidance on project nesting?
- What is the process for completing the Guideline, or for it to be incorporated into the JCM?

[Linkage between JCM and VCS]

- Approach on Registry System (Buffer pool and Credit issuance) are similar with VCS. Do you foresee a project being able to use the VCS to demonstrate it?

Comments from VCS

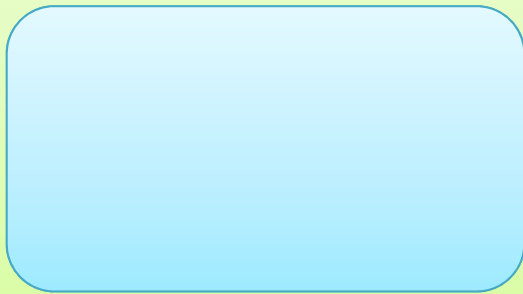
The followings are different points between the Guidelines and VCS JNR;

- VCS JNR does not allow to use Tier 1 emission factors.
 - FFPRI Guidelines allow to use Tier 1 emission factor.
- Start date for VCS JNR programs cannot be before 1st Jan 2006 (COP 11).
 - FFPRI Guidelines have not decided it.
- VCS JNR requires 3 points within the last 10 years. At least 2 years shall separate each of the three data points.
 - FFPRI Guidelines have not decided it.
- It seems that 100% of boundary would need to be clearly stated at validation stage.
 - FFPRI Guidelines have not decided it.

Concept of Scaling-Up and Reference Level

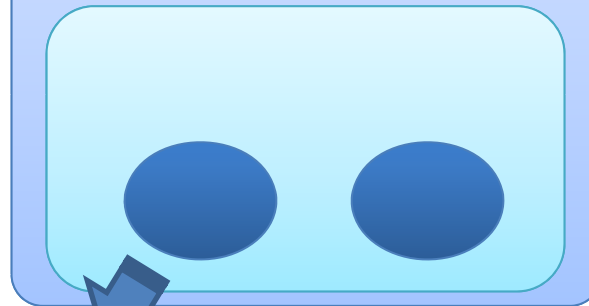
[Approach 1]

- REDD+ in sub-national base
- Land boundary is border of jurisdiction
- Reference level is jurisdictional base



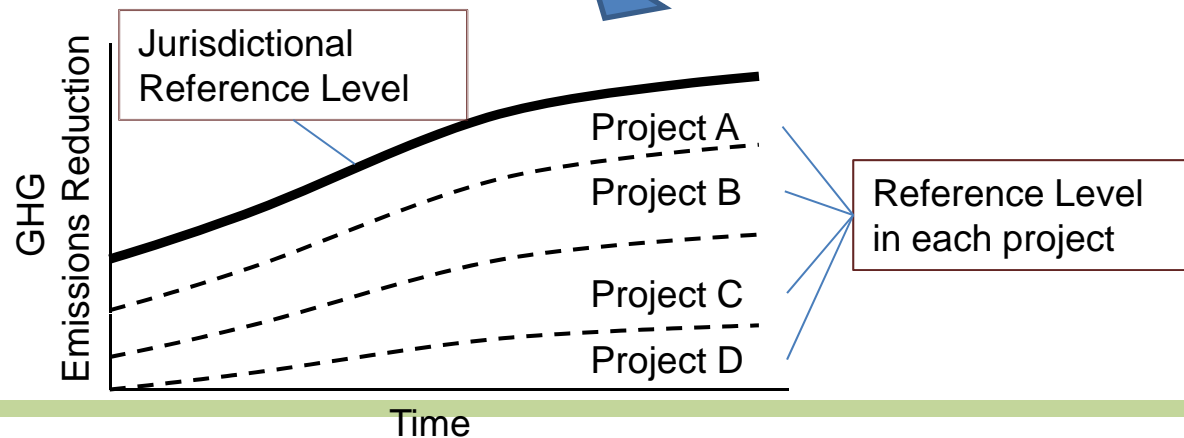
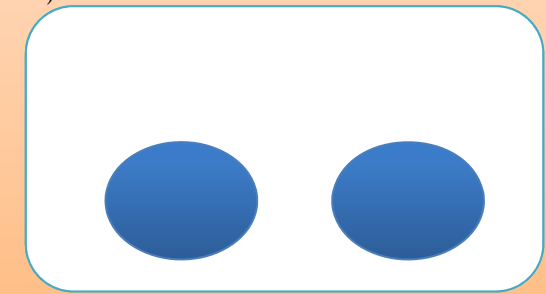
[Approach 2]

- REDD+ in project base
- Land boundary is border of each project
- Reference level is allocated from jurisdictional reference level



[Approach 3]

- REDD+ in project base
- Land boundary is border of each project
- Reference level is developed by each project and will be coordinated with one at jurisdictional reference level



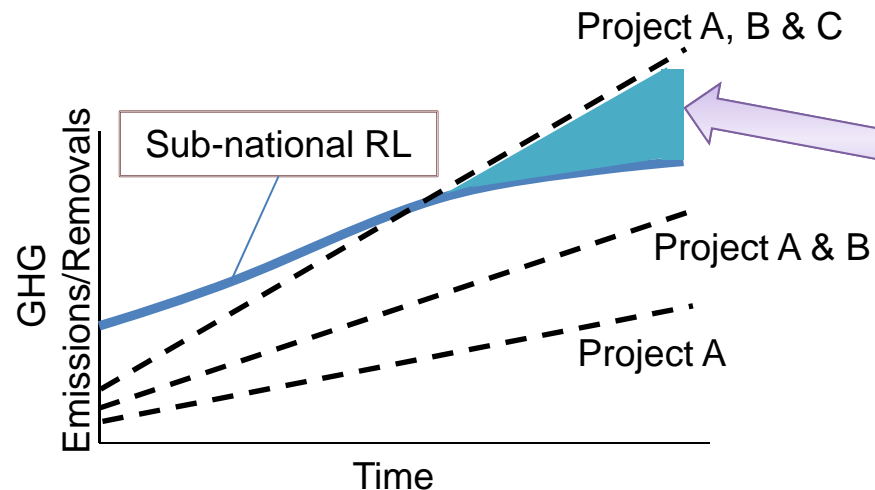
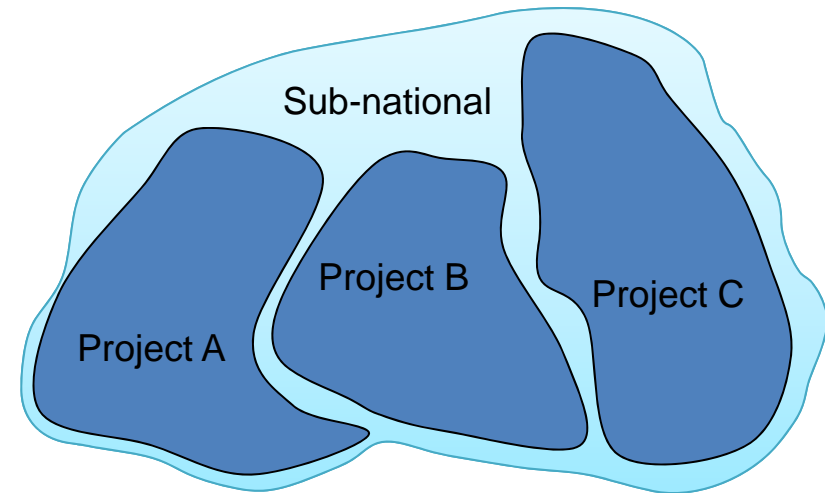
Discussion points

[Assumption]

Tier 3 for RL is used at Sub-national and Tier 1 is used at each project.

[Discussion point]

How to allocate GHG emissions/removals?



In reference scenario, total GHG emissions of projects may be more than the GHG emissions in Sub-national.

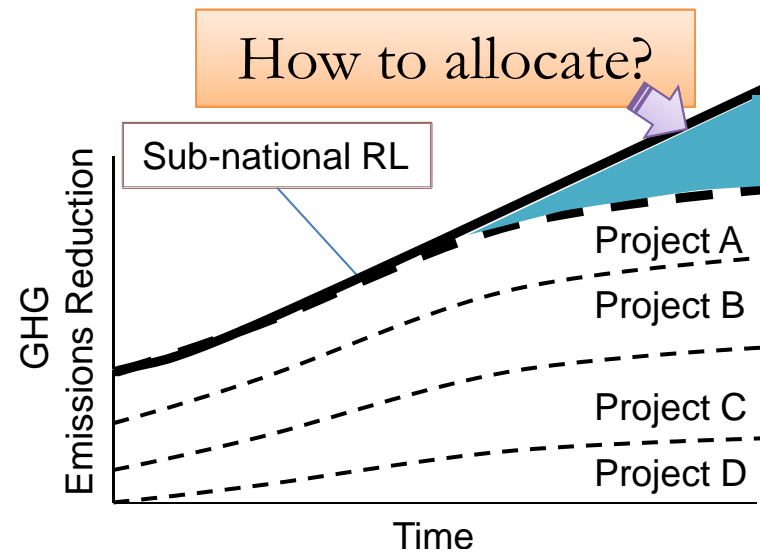
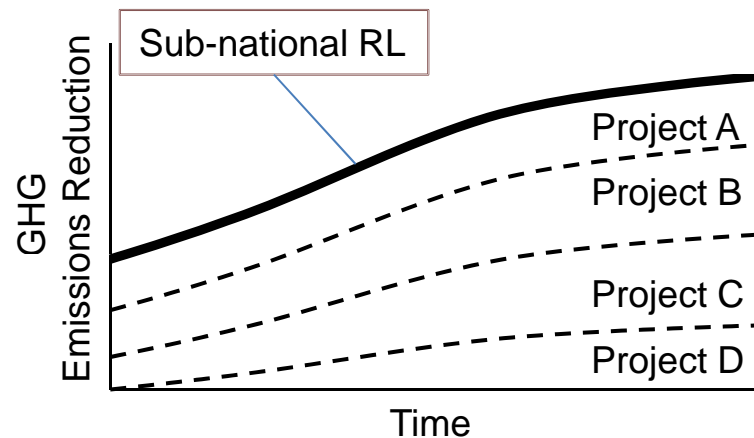
Discussion points

[Assumption]

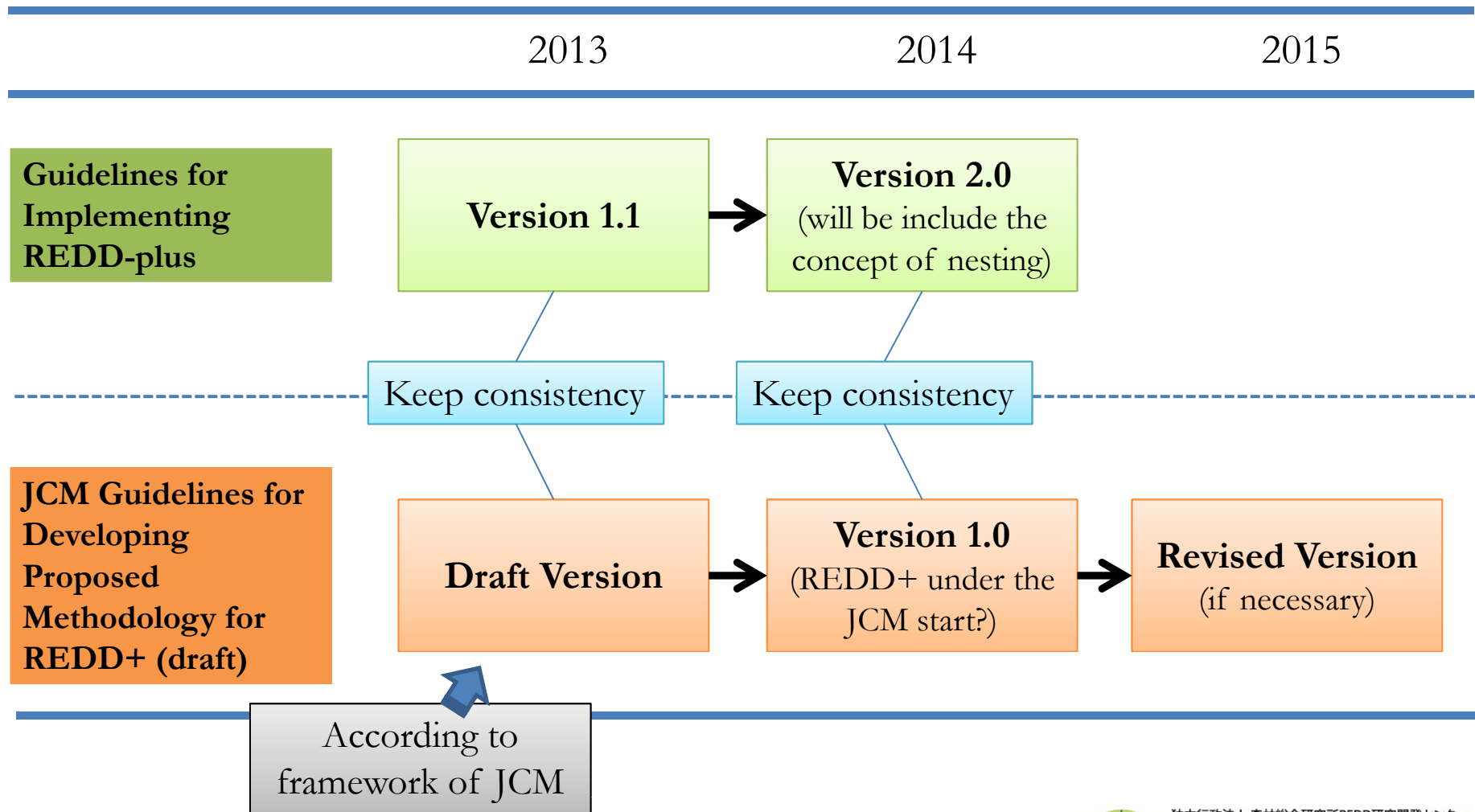
In case of Sub-national RL is developed at first, Sub-national RL should be allocated into RL of each project.

[Discussion point]

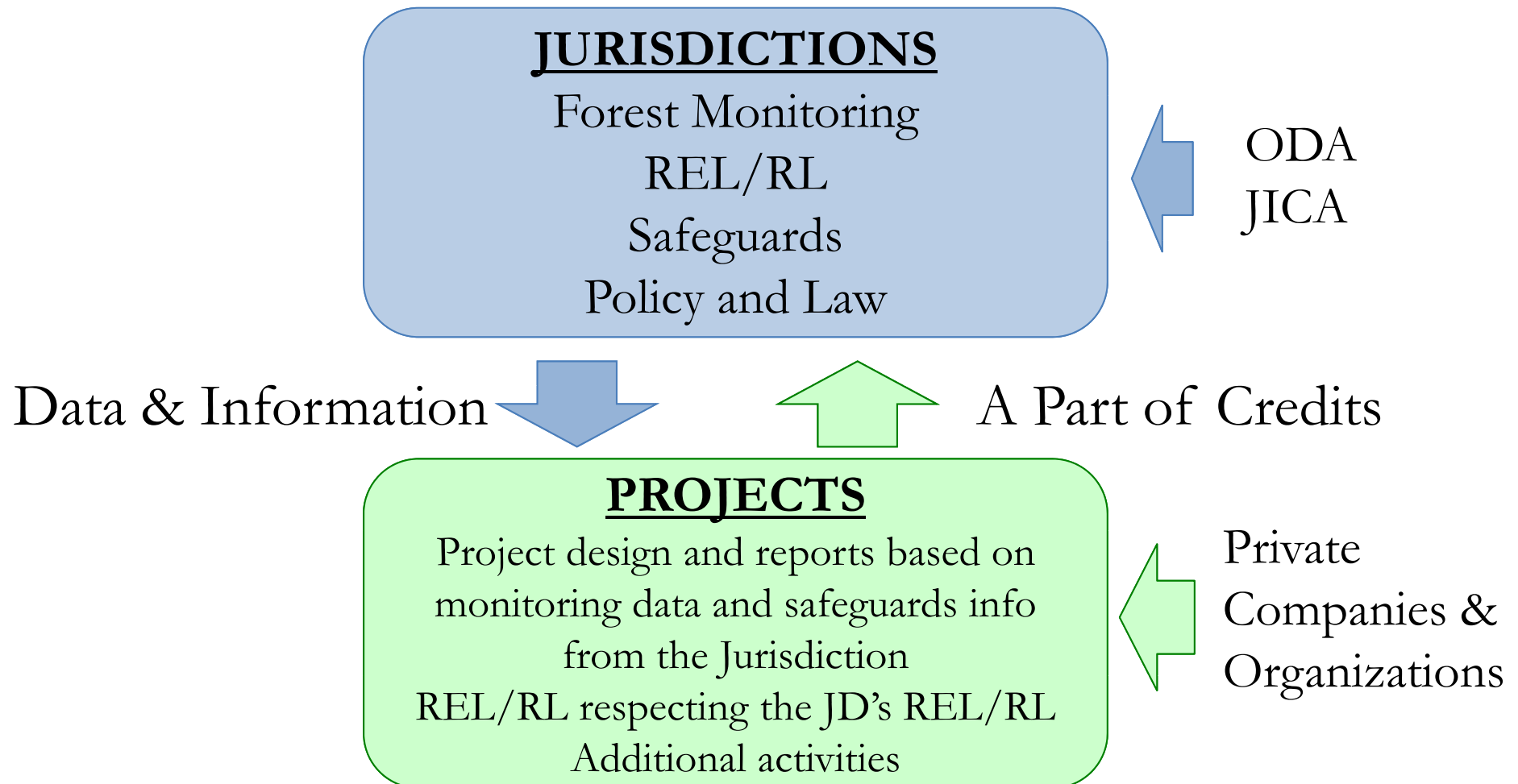
When Sub-national RL is revised after project implementation, do all of projects have to be revised according to Sub-national?



REDD+ Guidelines and JCM Guidelines



An idea: Cooperation of Jurisdictions and Projects



Conclusion

- Japanese government is promoting the JCM, and REDD+ is expected as an activity under the JCM.
- REDD R&D Center developed “REDD-plus Guidelines” to promote REDD+ under the JCM
- The Center is revising “REDD-plus Guidelines” respecting comments and advice from experts and organizations.
- We will release the revised Guidelines in a few months
- We hope that the guidelines will be used for JCM, and that experiences of REDD+ under the JCM will contribute a new framework and standards of REDD+.



Thank you

Visit the Web of REDD R&D Center
<http://www.ffpri.affrc.go.jp/redd-rdc/en/>