

Blue Carbon Efforts in Ghana – Opportunities in REDD+ and NAMAs

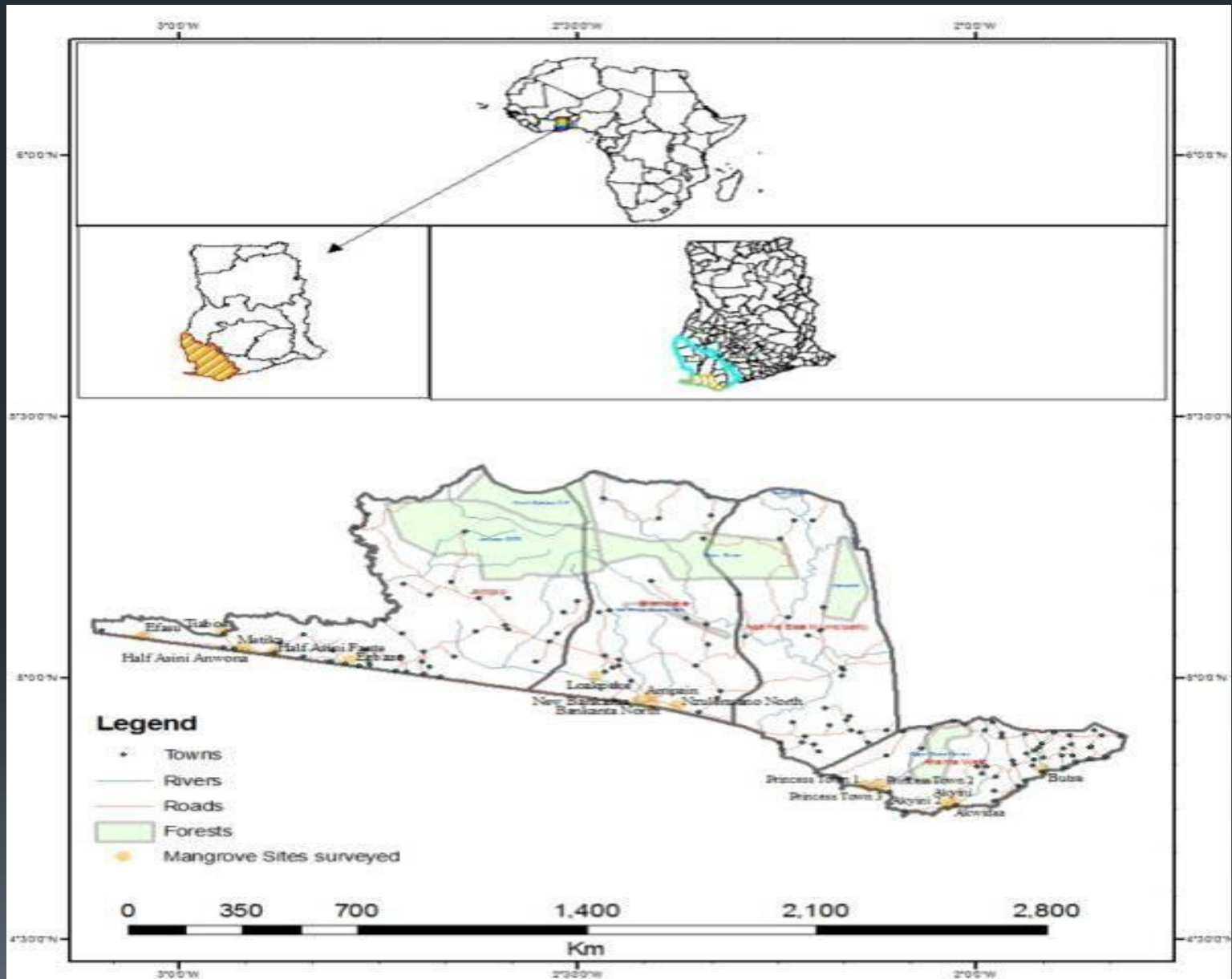


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Outline

- Status and extent of mangrove/swamp forest in Ghana
- Threats
- Blue Carbon activities in Ghana - NGO – led
 - Scientific surveys/assessments
- Opportunities for blue carbon projects in Ghana
 - REDD+ readiness activities
 - NAMA development
- Gaps and challenges for national Blue Carbon policy development and implementation
 - possible ways to address the challenges and gaps





Threats

- Globally, over 50% of mangroves have been lost
- Mangroves contribute to 10% of current global CO_2 emissions associated with land-use change
- In Ghana, communities have observed that 50% of mangroves have been lost over the past 20 years
 - Through:
- Firewood – fish smoking, local gin etc
- Charcoal production
- Galamsey – illegal gold mining
- Oil and Gas – gas pipeline project bonyeri
- Potential threat from oil leakage/spills
- Illegal harvesting of swamp forest trees

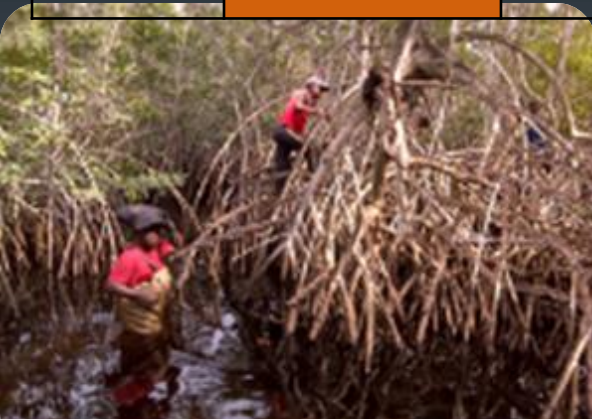


Blue carbon Activities in Ghana - NGO – Led

- Coastal Resources Centre (CRC) doing baseline carbon assessment on mangrove and swamp forest

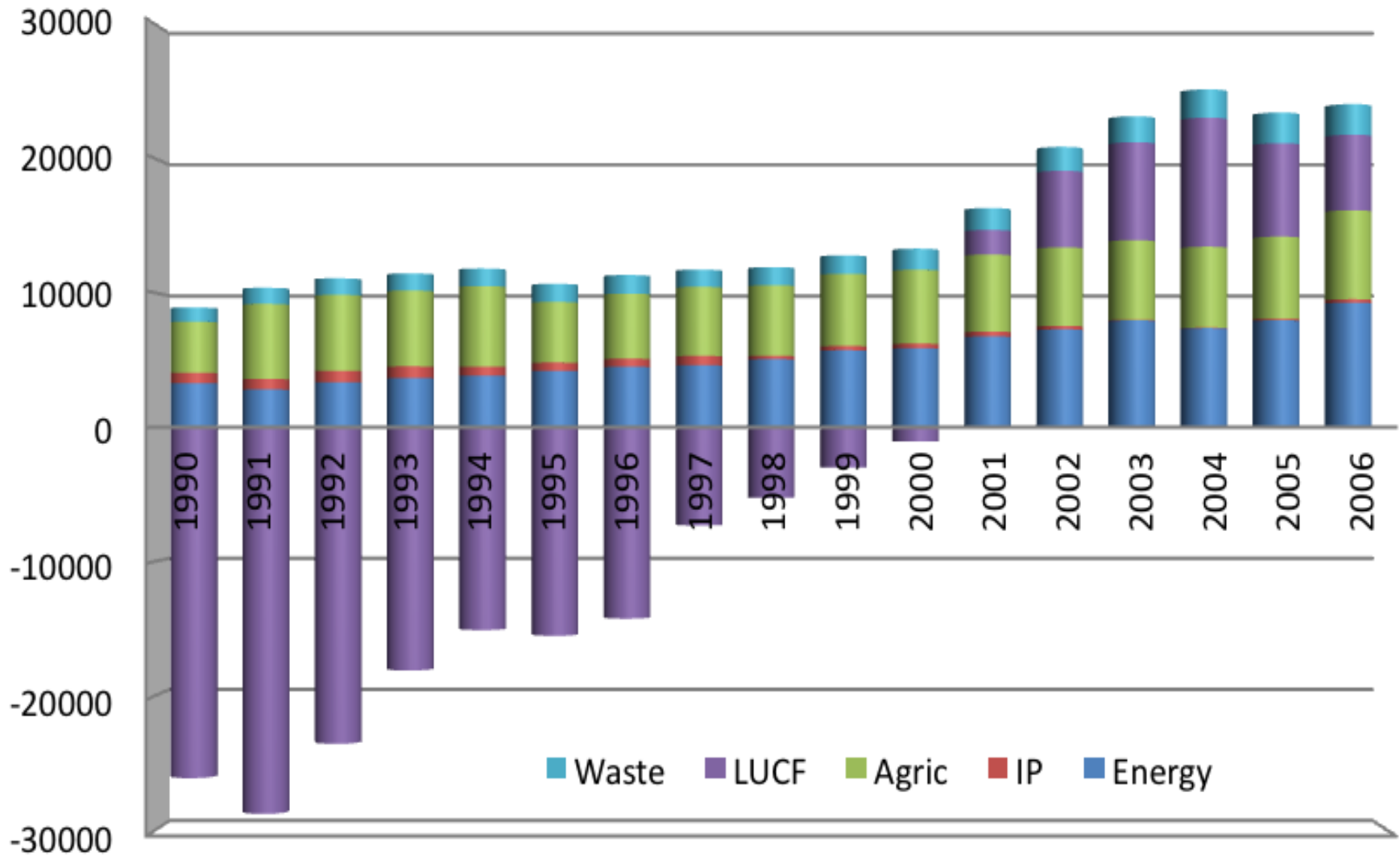
Results:

Mangrove forest			Estimated emissions	Swamp forest – no soil data	
Site condition	Mean carbon stocks/ha (ABG & BG)	Mean carbon stocks/ha (Soil)		Site condition	Mean carbon stocks
Intact	927 mgc/ha	1209 mgc/ha		Intact swamp forest	100 mgc/ha
Degraded	440mgc/ha		486mcg/ha or 1781 MgCO _{2e}	Degraded swamp forest	55 mgc/ha



Stress test of Ghana's low carbon development opportunities

GHG Emissions Profile in Mt.... without projections and deviations???



Blue Carbon Opportunities in Ghana cont...

Decarbonizing Ghana's development path - Low Emission Strategies + Sustainable Development + Propel Growth

Supported
Actions

Domestic
actions

MRV system, Registries, Review
of impact of actions

Increasing
accountability

**Phased-approach implementation – readiness,
implementation, result-based crediting**

Blend-option

Market-based

Fund-based

Sustainable land
management

REDD+ – forestry sector

NAMAs – programme, policy, sector-wide
(major emission sectors)

Agriculture

CDM/PoAs

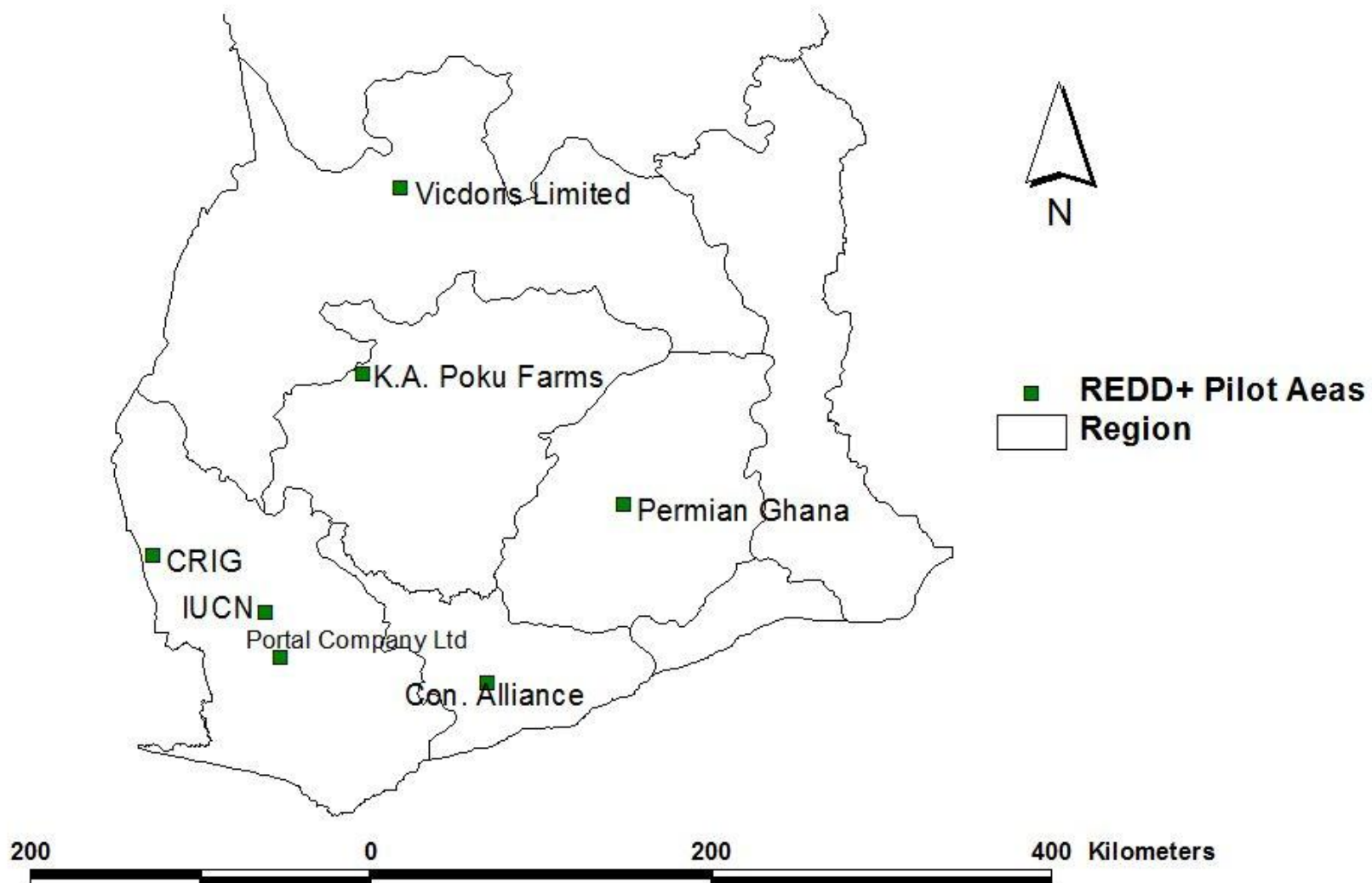
Project based

Programme based,
economy wide

Sectoral
Approach????

Climate Mitigation mechanisms

REDD+ Pilots Areas



Gaps and Challenges of national blue Carbon development and implementation

- **Policies, legal & institutional barriers**
 - Lack of clear policy on mangrove and swamp forest habitats
 - Absence of integrated national policies and strategies
- **Baseline information/data**
 - Lack of clear patterns and rates of exploitation
 - Livelihood options for indigenous and local communities
 - Identification of key stakeholders, including traditional authorities

Solution:

- Policy review to include mangrove and swamp forest habitats in forest definition
- Promote inter-sectoral collaboration
- Build capacity of local governance system
- Provide alternative economic/incentive packages
- Embark on massive tree planting (mangrove restoration) campaigns

Gracias



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Acknowledgement:

1. Coastal Resources Center (CRC) – Ghana
2. Nature Conservation Research Centre (NCRC) - Ghana