



# Setting the scene: sustainability of traditional wood energy

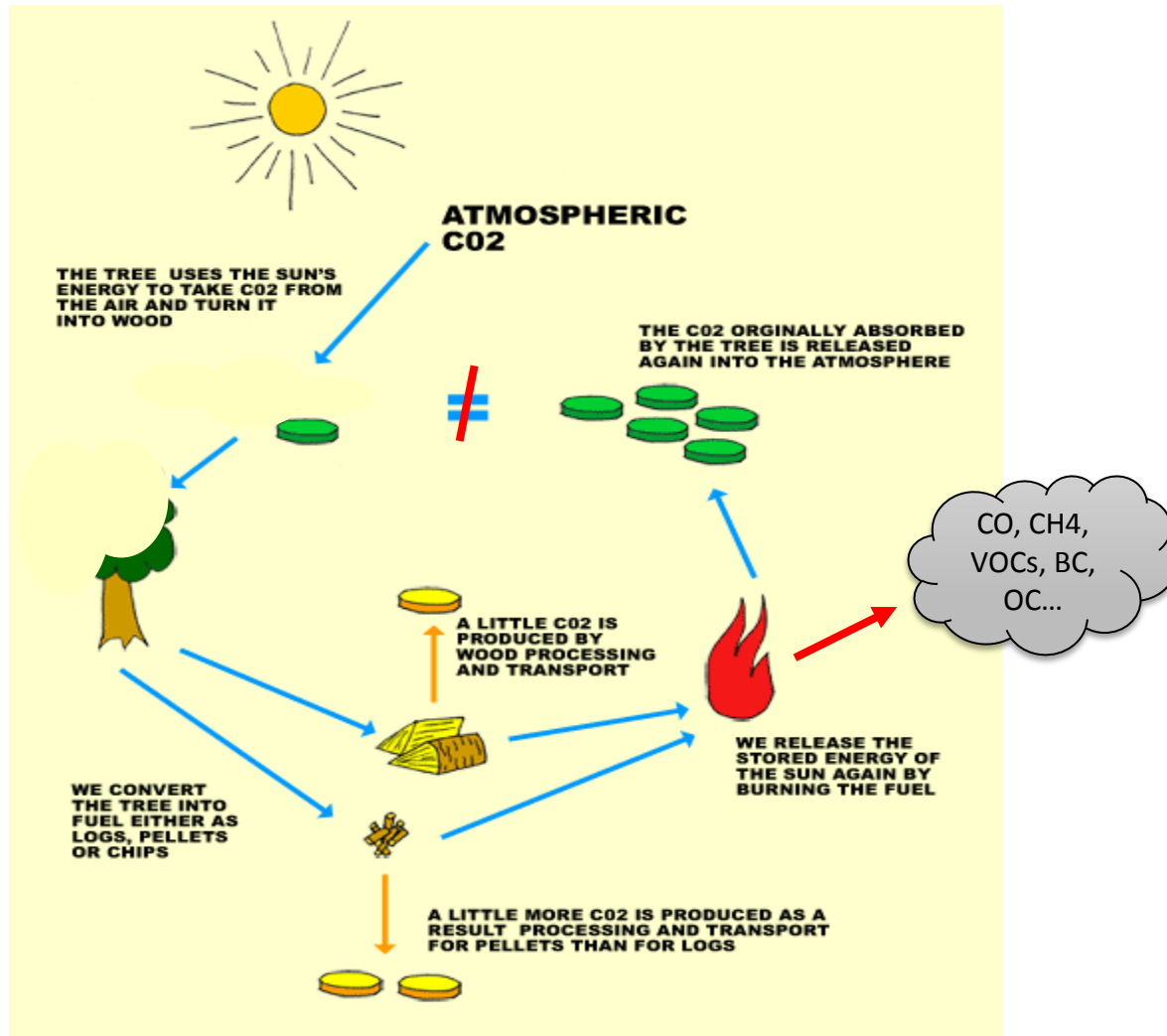
Rob Bailis, Rudi Drigo, Omar Maserá, and Adrian Ghilardi

Expert Exchange Workshop on the Promotion of Sustainable  
Wood Energy Value Chains in Development Cooperation  
March 1st - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Frankfurt am Main

Organised by

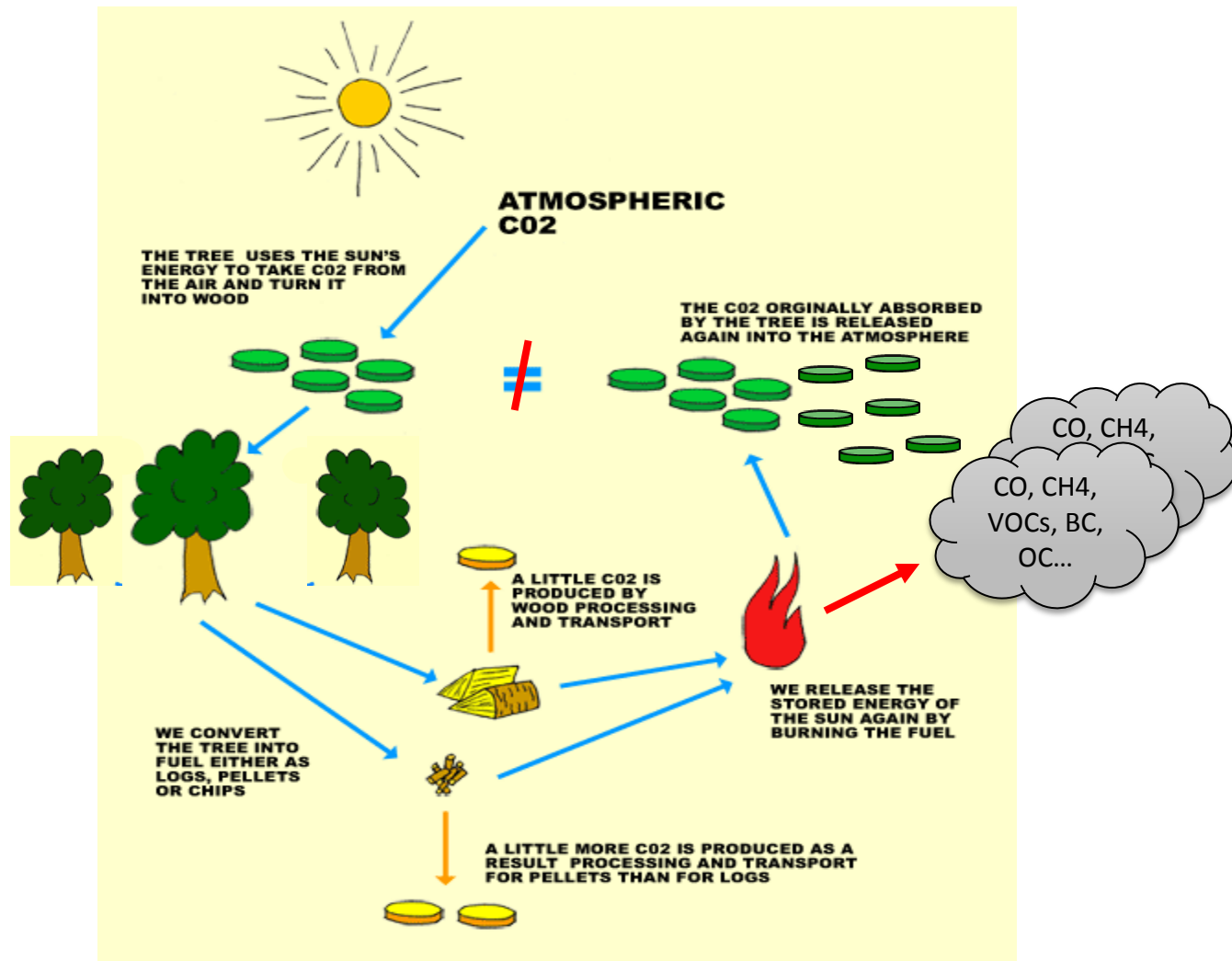


# What is “non-renewable biomass”?





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Biomass harvested in excess of the landscape’s productive capacity is **non-renewable**.

If the landscape can produce  in a year,

But we harvest this,



Then NRB =



+



# What is “non-renewable biomass”?

We can estimate emission reductions using the **ratio of NRB to total consumption** or “fNRB”

$$f_{NRB} = \frac{\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Tree} \\ + \\ \text{Tree} \end{array} \right)}{\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Tree} \\ \text{Tree} \\ \text{Tree} \end{array} \right)}$$

For example, Gold Standard uses fNRB to quantify GHG emissions:

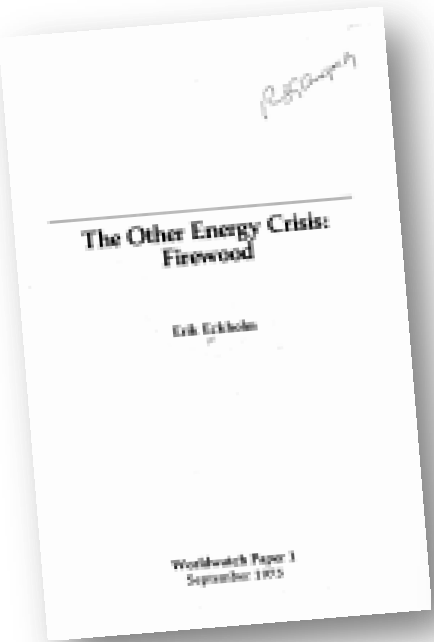
$$PE_{j,y} = B_{j,y} \cdot \left( \underline{f_{NRB,j,y}} \cdot EF_{fuel, CO2} \right) + EF_{fuel, nonCO2} \cdot NCV_{fuel}$$



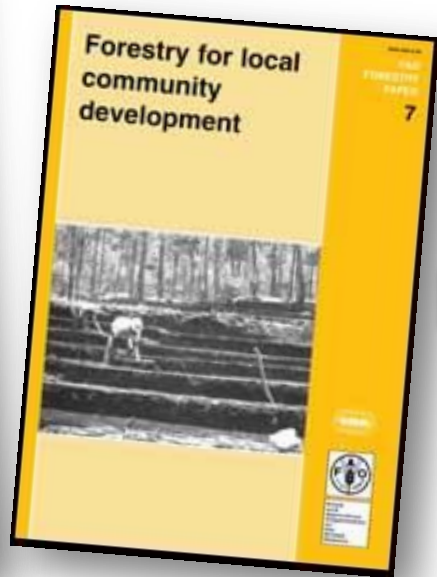
# Is this really a problem?

In the 70s and 80s, woodfuels were considered major drivers of deforestation...

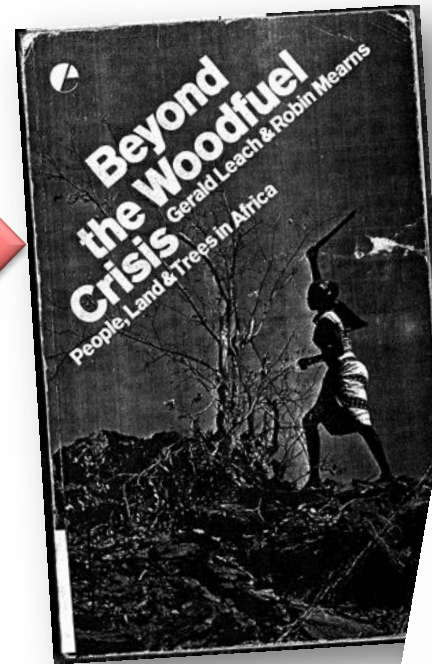
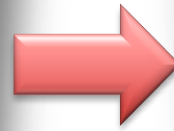
By the 1990s a different story emerged...



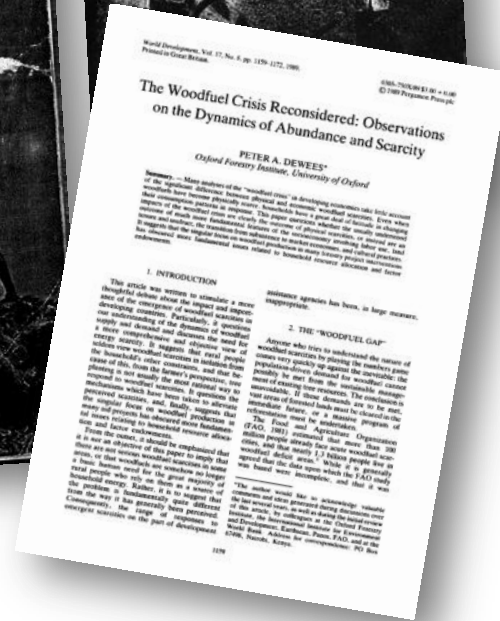
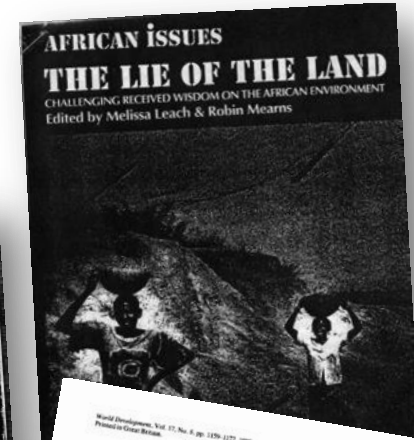
The "Other Energy Crisis"  
Worldwatch 1975



...leading to "treeless wastes in peri-urban areas in many parts of Africa"



FAO 1978





# More recent studies? Still ambiguous...

Woodfuels are...

“not a significant cause of deforestation” and provide “important livelihood opportunities” in **Botswana**

Hiemstra-Van der Horst & Hovorka, 2008

causing “severe deforestation” in **India (Uttarakhand)**

Singh et al., 2010

driving “wave-fronts” of degradation in **Tanzania**

Ahrends et al., 2010

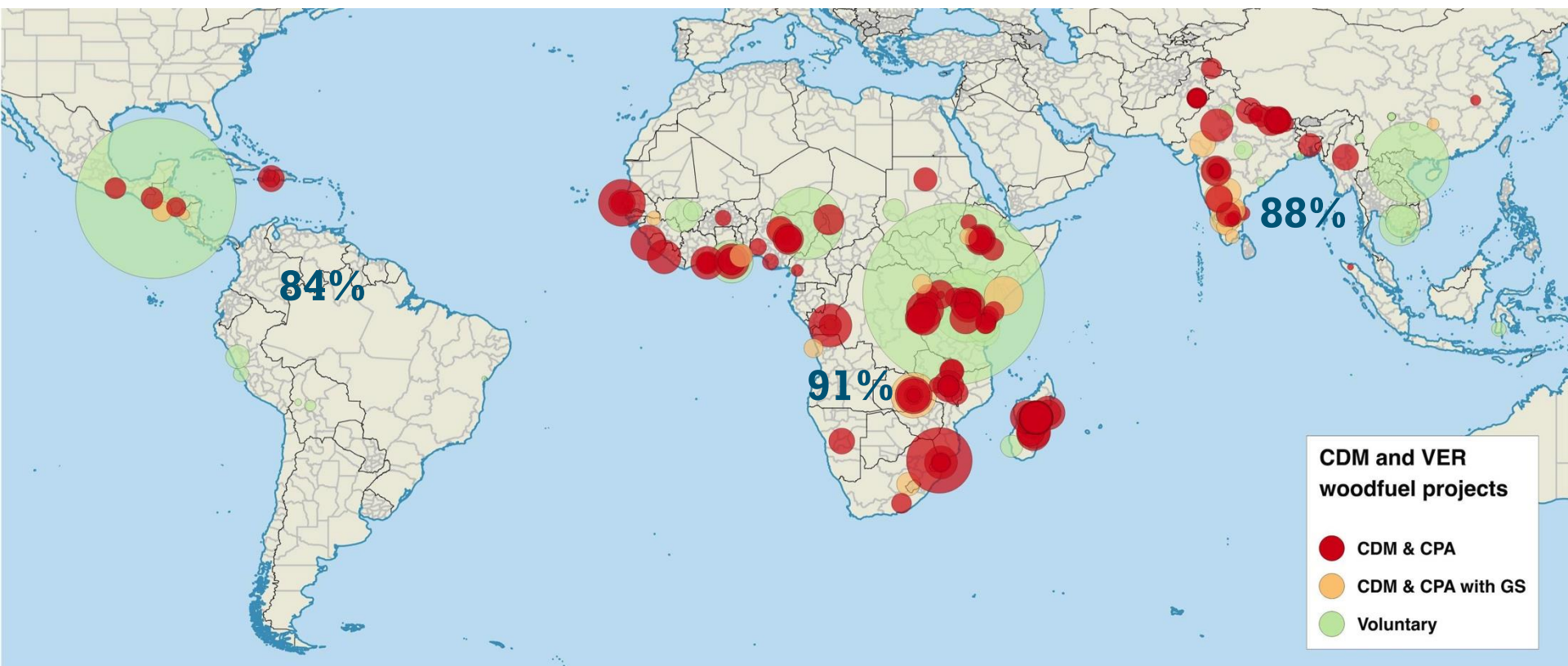
“adapted to changing circumstances” and likely to provide “continued cheap fuel supply” in **Mali**

Hansfort & Mertz, 2011

“the main degradation driver for the **African continent**, and...small to moderate importance in **Asia** and **Latin America**”

Hosonuma et al, 2012

# Project developers assume the worst...



Global median fNRB of 287 carbon projects is 88%

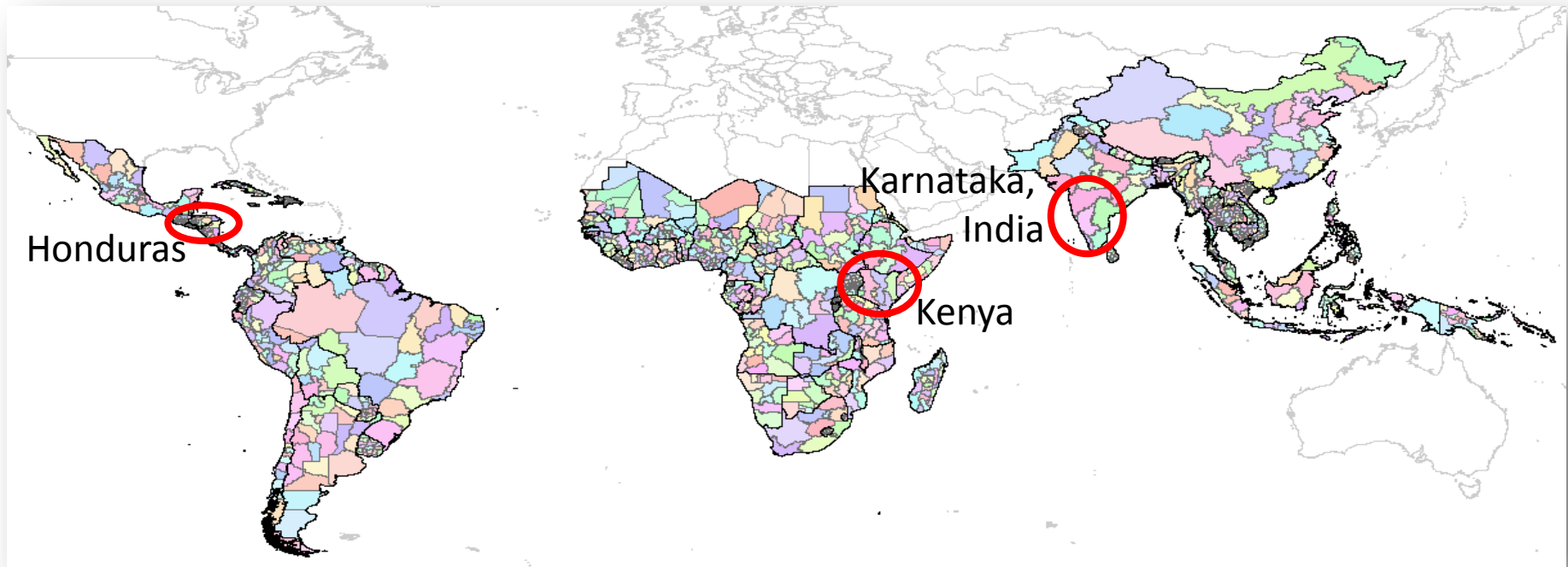


# Can we get a clearer picture?

- ❧ How sustainable is woodfuel consumption?
- ❧ Where are likely woodfuel “**hotspots**” and how many people are affected?
- ❧ What are **climate impacts** and potential for mitigation?



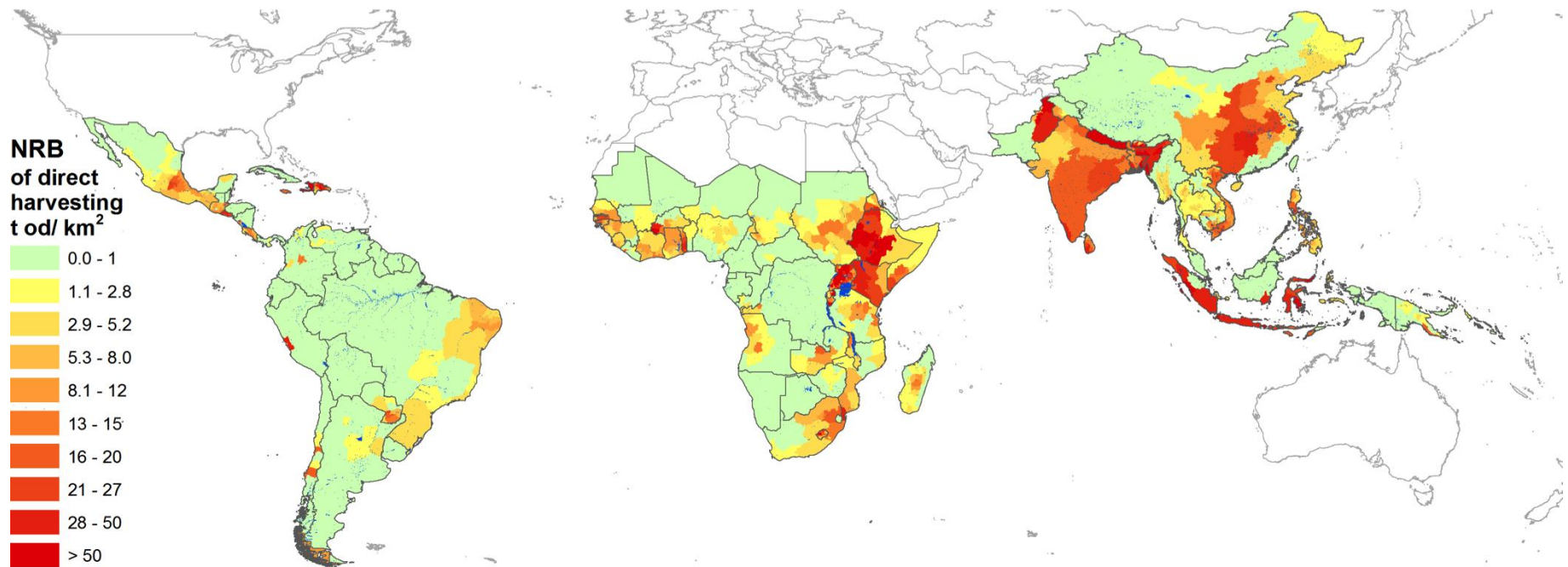
# Project Scope



- 🌀 “Global” assessment: 88 countries; 1482 sub-nat’l units
- 🌀 Based on “WISDOM” methodology
- 🌀 3 meso- and local-scale case studies
- 🌀 Local case studies are **dynamic**

# Results of the global assessment

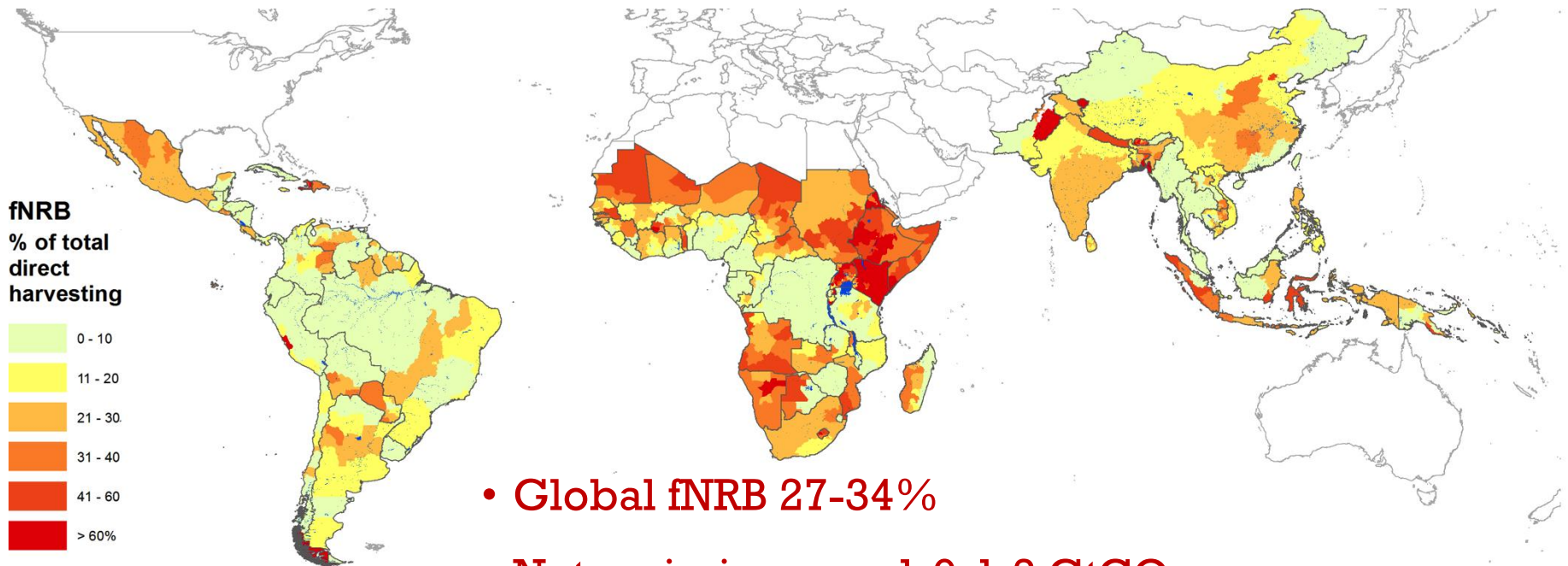
## NRB



- Current woodfuel demand is ~1.4 Gton/yr \*
- Global NRB is 300-350 Mton/yr

# Results of the global assessment

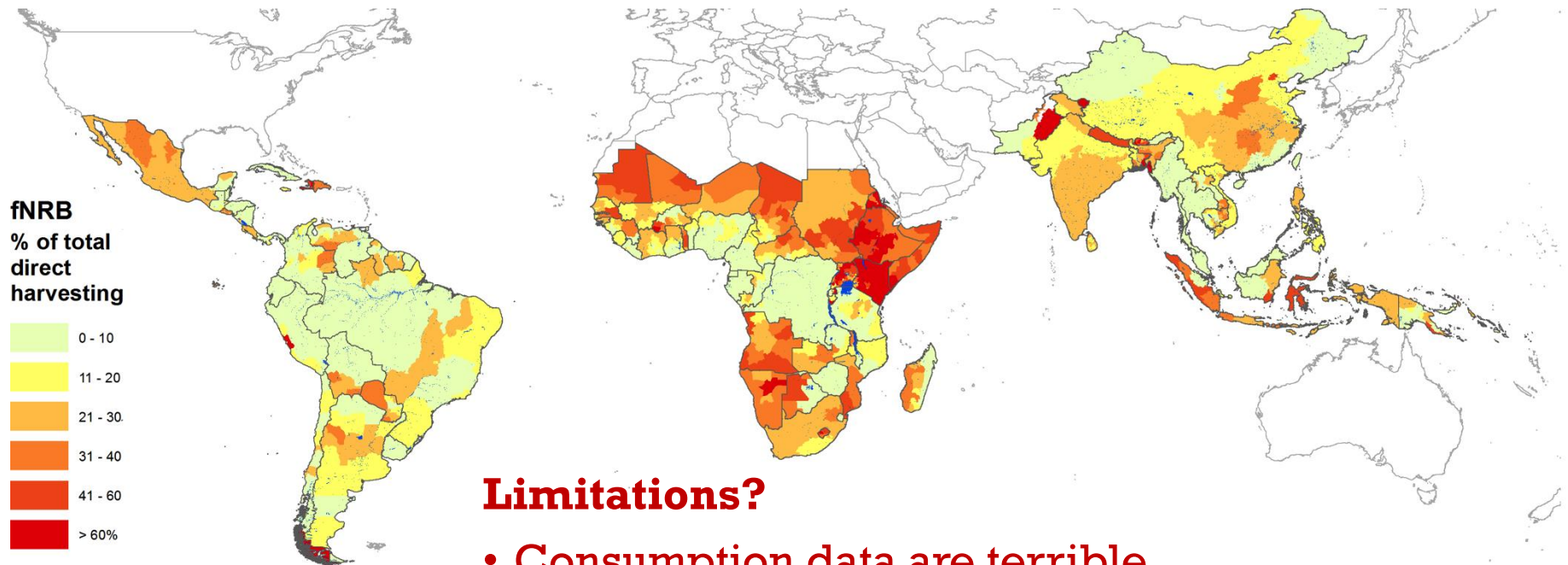
## fNRB



- Global fNRB 27-34%
- Net emissions are 1.0-1.2 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e
- Hotspots: fNRB > 50% in E Africa, S Asia
  - 275 million people affected

# Results of the global assessment

## fNRB



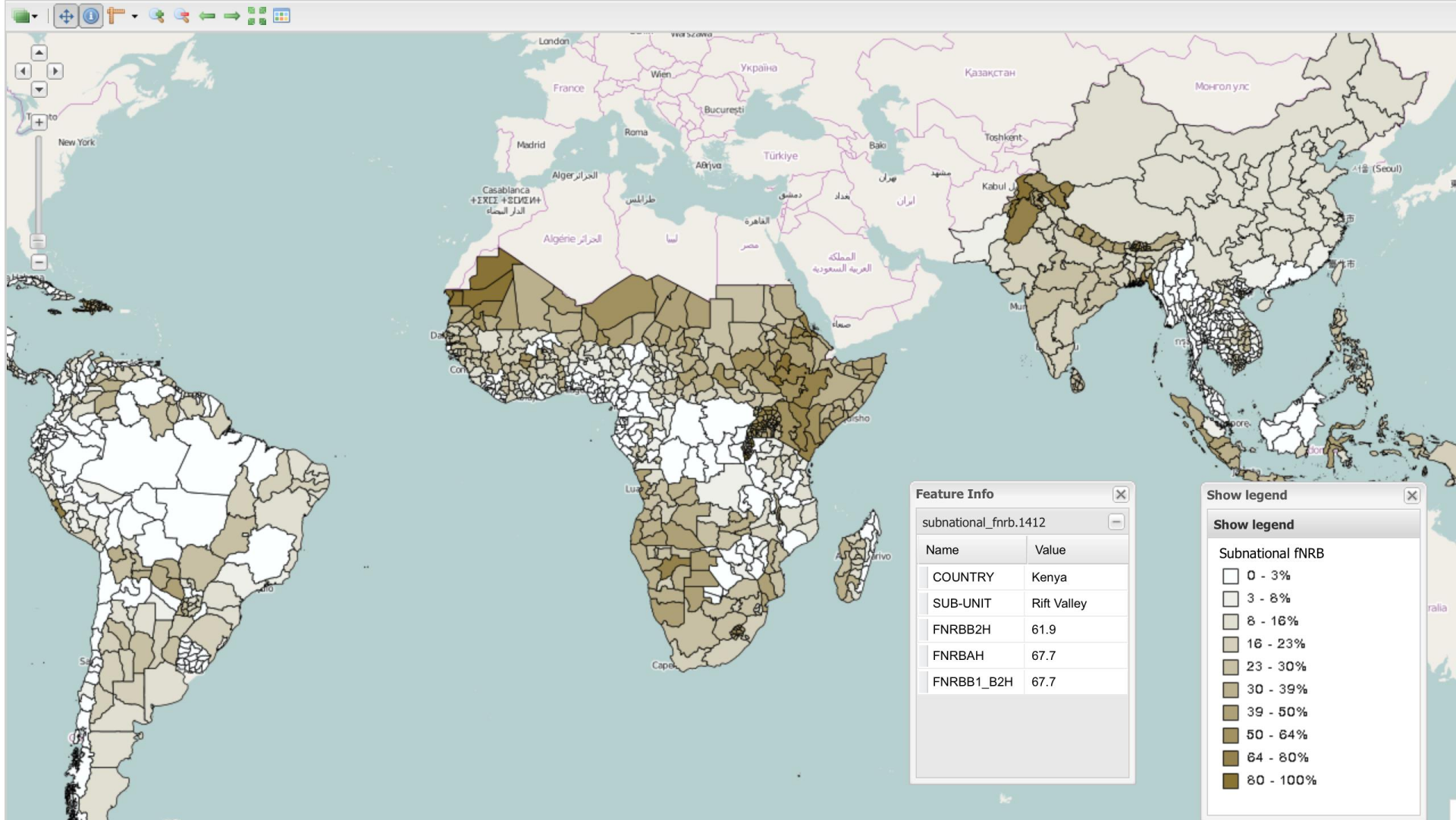
## Limitations?

- Consumption data are terrible
- Assumptions are largely untested
  - Other drivers of LUC?
  - Sub-optimal harvesting?



# Web-based map: <http://redd.ciga.unam.mx/webtool/>

redd.ciga.unam.mx/webtool/ — The carbon footprint of traditional woodfuels



Feature Info

subnational\_fnr.1412

Name	Value
COUNTRY	Kenya
SUB-UNIT	Rift Valley
FNRBB2H	61.9
FNRBAH	67.7
FNRBB1_B2H	67.7

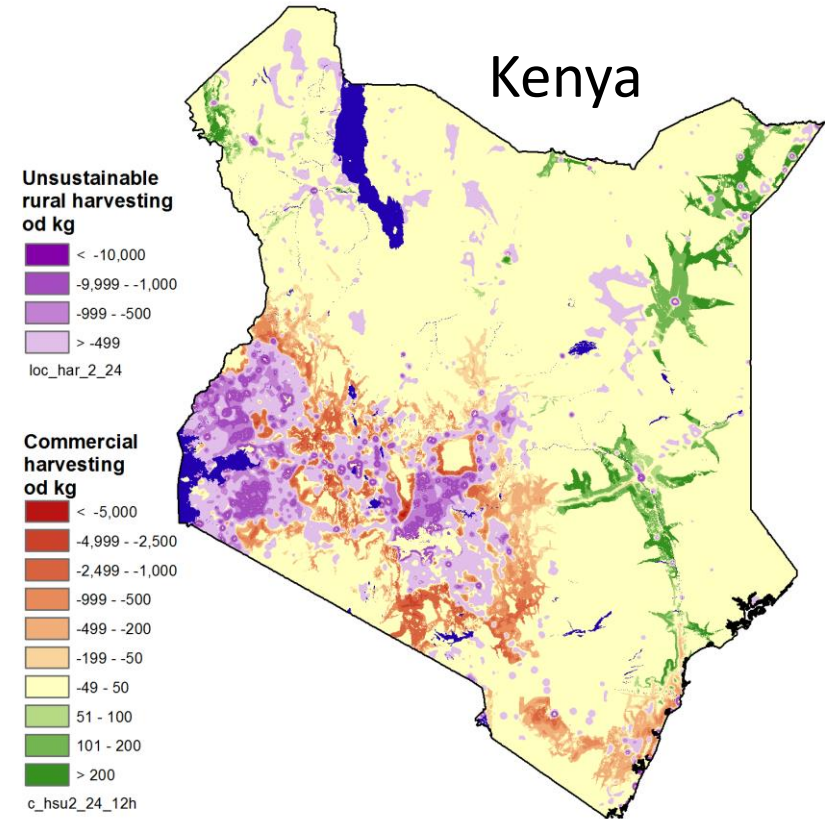
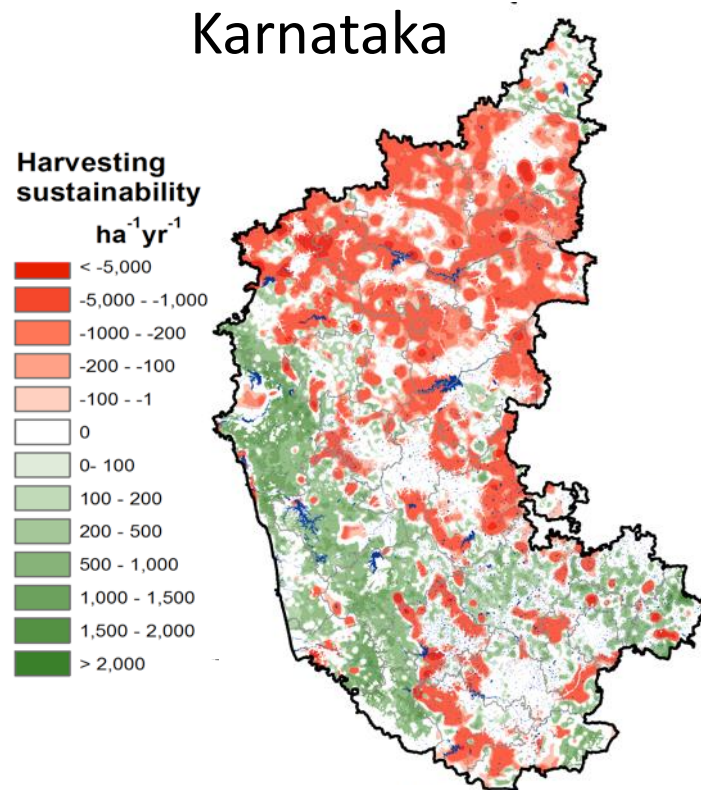
Show legend

Show legend

Subnational fnrb

0 - 3%
3 - 8%
8 - 16%
16 - 23%
23 - 30%
30 - 39%
39 - 50%
50 - 64%
64 - 80%
80 - 100%

# Meso-scale studies



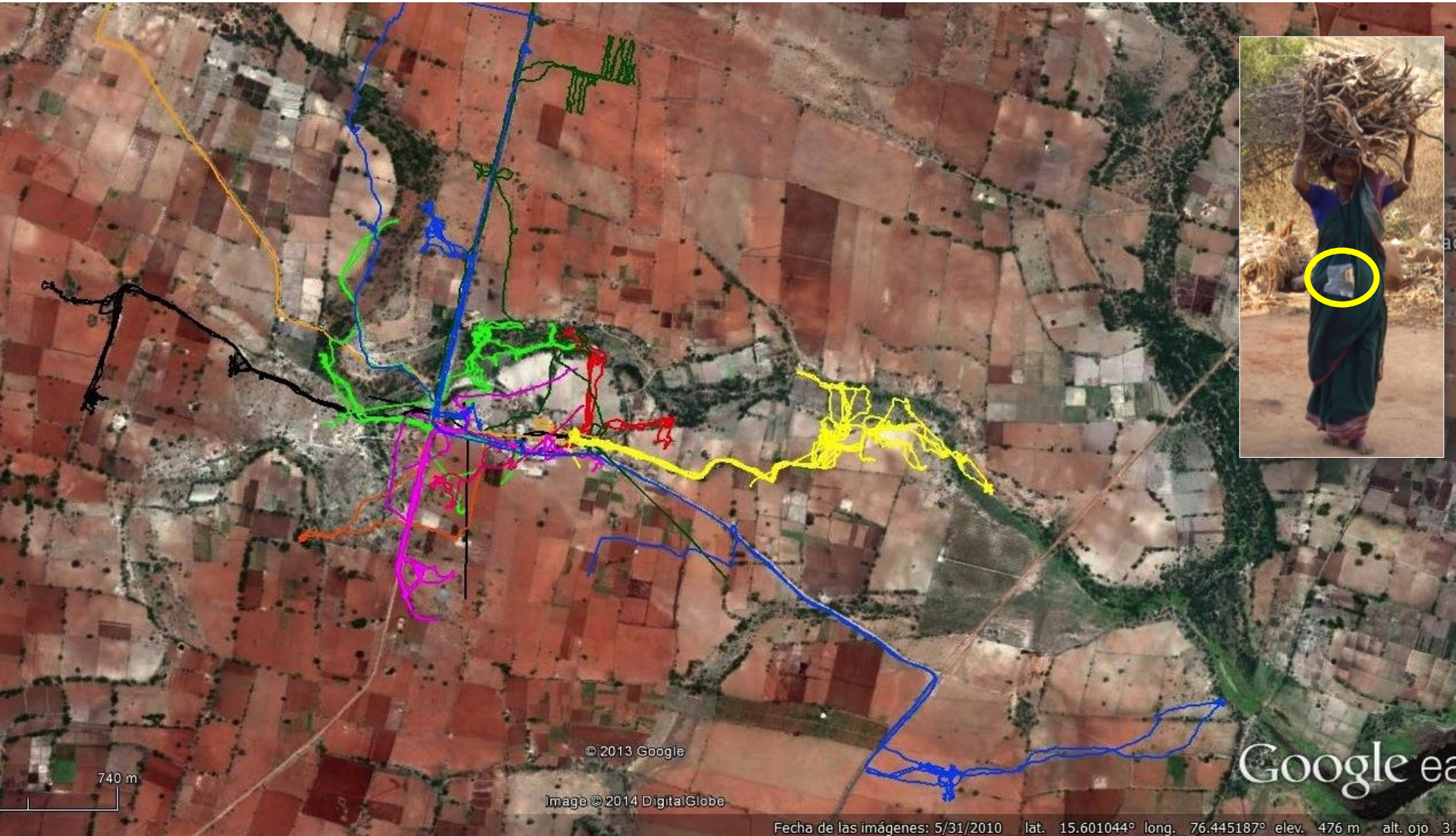
- Same approach with more detailed data, expert consultations, etc
- Incorporate more contextual assumptions
- “Validate” global assessment

# Micro-scale: data from real people





# Wood collectors' paths in Central Karnataka



Data Type: WMS Service  
WMS Server: <http://bhuvan5.nrsc.gov.in/bhuvan/wms?>  
Service Name: GeoServer Web Map Service

Geographic Coordinate System: GCS\_WGS\_1984  
Datum: D\_WGS\_1984  
Prime Meridian: Greenwich  
Angular Unit: Degree

Fallow

“Wastelands”

Cropland



- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Builtup, Urban          | Grass/Grazing   |
| Builtup, Rural          | Barren/unculturable/Wastelands, Salt Affected Land    |
| Builtup, Mining         | Barren/unculturable/Wastelands, Gullied/Ravinous Land |
| Agriculture, Crop land  | Barren/unculturable/Wastelands, Sandy area            |
| Agriculture, Plantation | Barren/unculturable/Wastelands, Barren rocky          |
|                         | Wetlands/Water Bodies, Inland Wetland                 |
|                         | Wetlands/Water Bodies, Coastal Wetland                |
|                         | Wetlands/Water Bodies, River/Stream/Canals            |
|                         | Wetlands/Water Bodies, Reservoir/Lakes/Ponds          |

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 km

# NRB.v1.0 model at meso- and micro-scales

## Dynamic simulations

- Explicit LUC component
- Uncertainty and stochasticity



## All freeware platforms

### 3 levels of user interaction:

1. Use default supply data, input basic demand parameters (no GIS expertise needed)
2. Input some supply parameters from a given study area (some GIS expertise needed)
3. Customize geoprocessing algorithms (GIS and R- expertise needed)

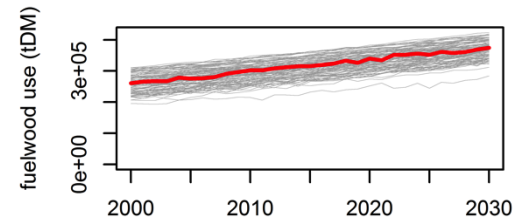
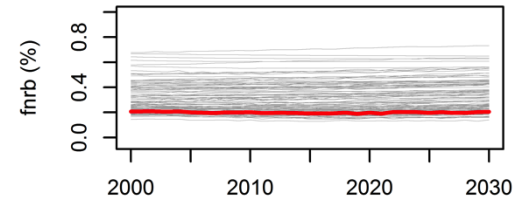
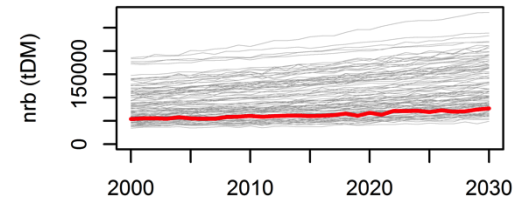
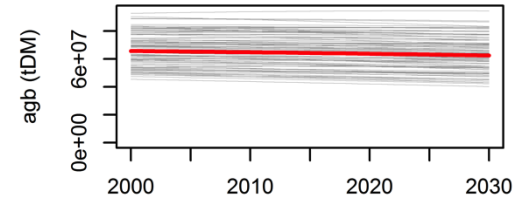


Trial version for GACC project  
 Parameters set by user:  
 StartUp year = 2000 Sim. length = 30 yr MC = 100 runs  
 Initial Stock = Tree cover as a % of K  
 Initial Stock w/MC = Not applicable  
 Annual Cumulative FW savings = 0 %  
 Iteration length = 48 weeks ( 12 months )  
 Tree cover map provided? Yes  
 Accounting for fuelwood from deforestation? Yes

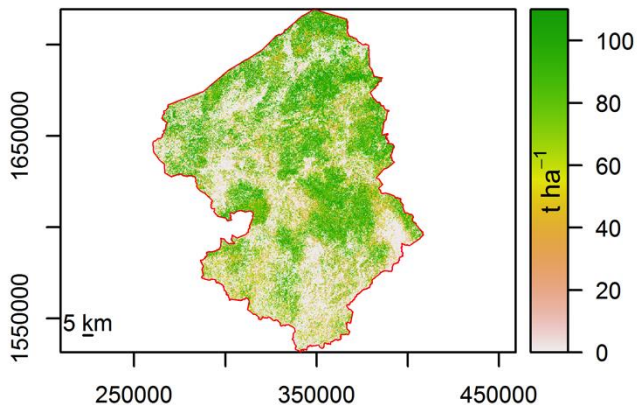
# Model Outputs

🔥 Using empirical measurements of:

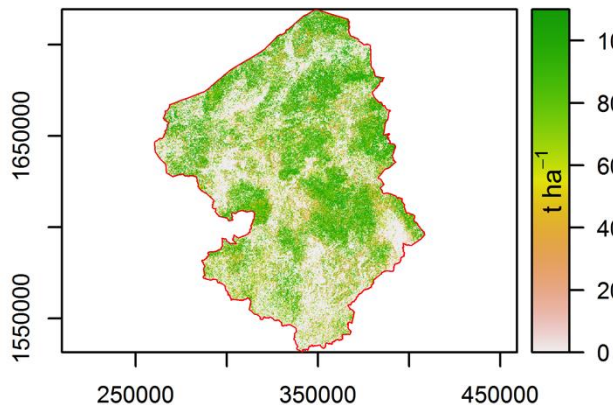
- Fuel consumption
- Biomass growth
- Travel velocities etc etc...



Aboveground Biomass 2000



Aboveground Biomass 2030



# Next steps...

## Research

- 🌀 Validate model using independent datasets and field assessments
- 🌀 Incorporate multiple LUC drivers
- 🌀 Include behavioral elements

## Outreach

- 🌀 Make modeling more user-friendly for non-technical practitioners
- 🌀 Trainings and workshops
- 🌀 Advocate change in C/VER methodologies?

# For more information:

## NRB case studies in 20+ countries

- <http://www.wisdomprojects.net/global/cs.asp>

## Global NRB Assessment

- <http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nclimate2491.html>
- <http://www.wisdomprojects.net/global/csdetail.asp?id=31>

## Global NRB map

- <http://redd.ciga.unam.mx/webtool/>

## NRB.v2.0 – coming soon

Thank You!

# NRB.v1.0 workshops

 Argentina

 Kenya

 Mexico

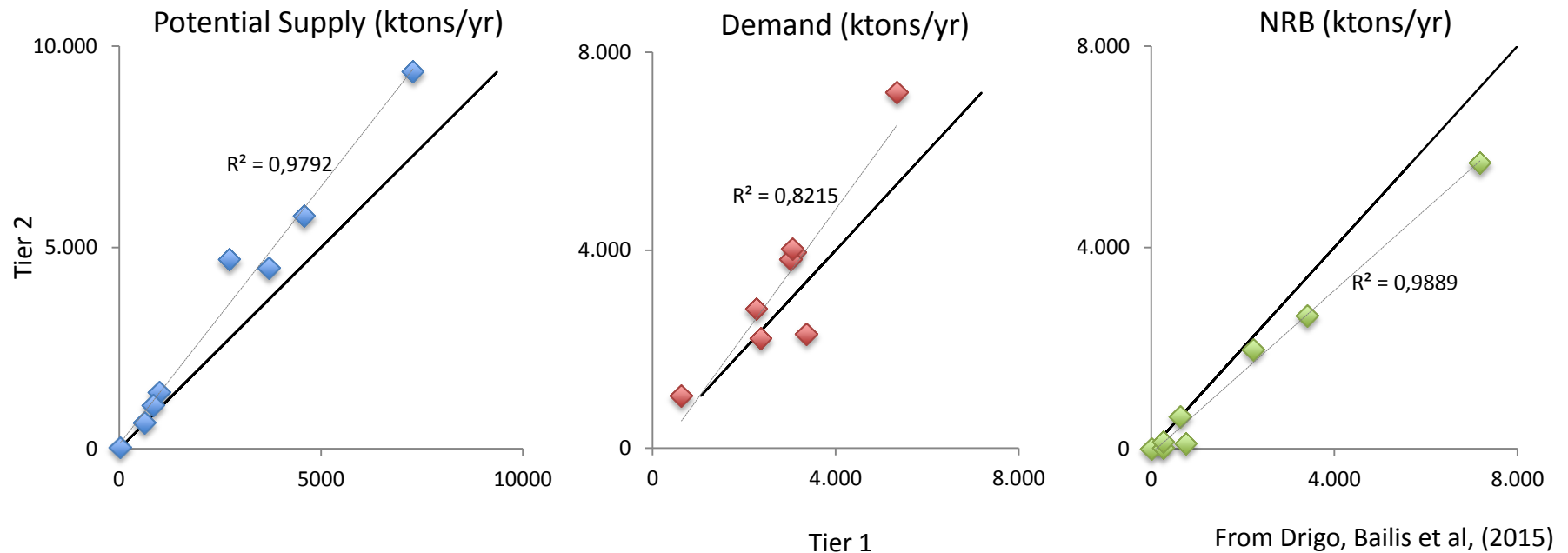
 Ghana





# Intermediate-scale analyses

## Comparison of Provincial-level results in Kenya



- Potential supply was consistently higher in Tier 2 assessment
- Demand was also higher except in Nbi and Coast (urban influence)
- NRB was lower in all Provinces except Central