

Forest Tenure Status, Trends , Issues & Policy Gaps : Nepal



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Outline of Presentation

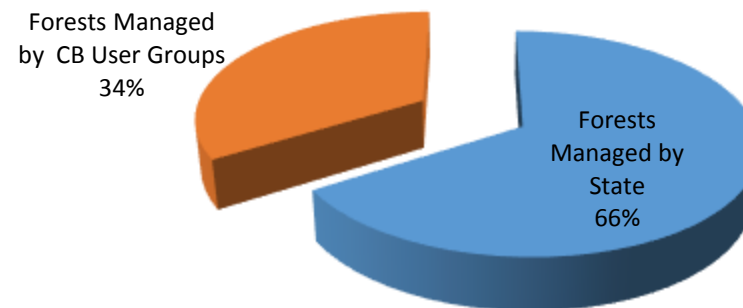
- Current status and trends of forest tenure
- Impacts of Forest Tenure Reform
- Policy gaps (Based on FAO TCP study)
- Potential Strategies
- and Key Recommendations

Current status and trends of forest tenure

- **Total Forest Cover in Nepal – 5.96 million hectare i.e. 40 % of total land mass 14.71 million Hectare**

Type	Total Number	Area covered (Ha)	Number of Benefitted Households
Community Forest	18,961	1798917	2392828
Collaborative Forest	23	60588	553262
Pro-Poor Leasehold Forest	7419	42735	75021
Religious Forest	36	2056	3600
Buffer Zone CF	677	198550	135400
Forests Under State Management		3.940298	
Forests Managed by Communities		2.021740	2.8 Millions hoiseholds

Proportion of forest institutional landscapes by area



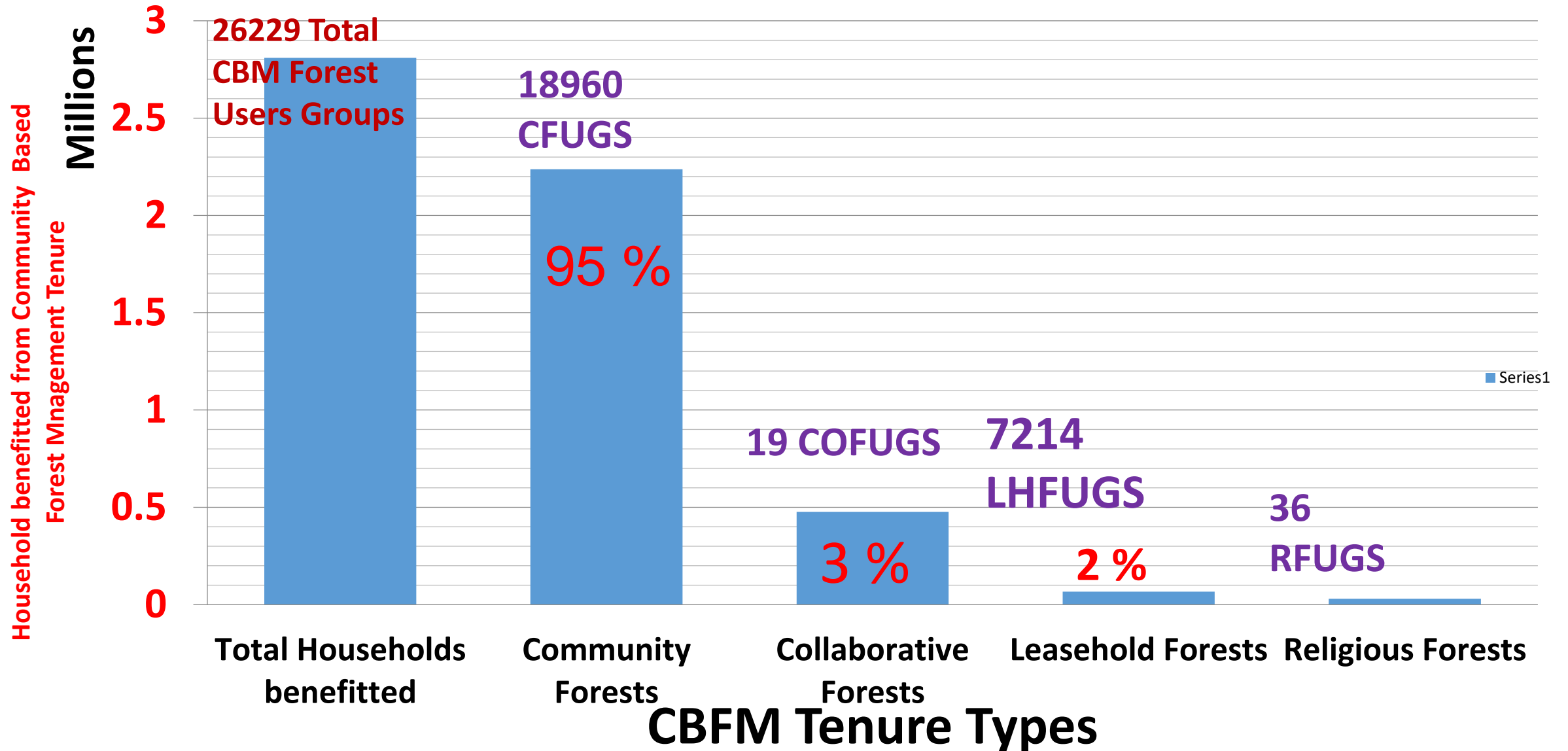
Total area of the country 14.7 M ha.

Total Population 26.49 M.

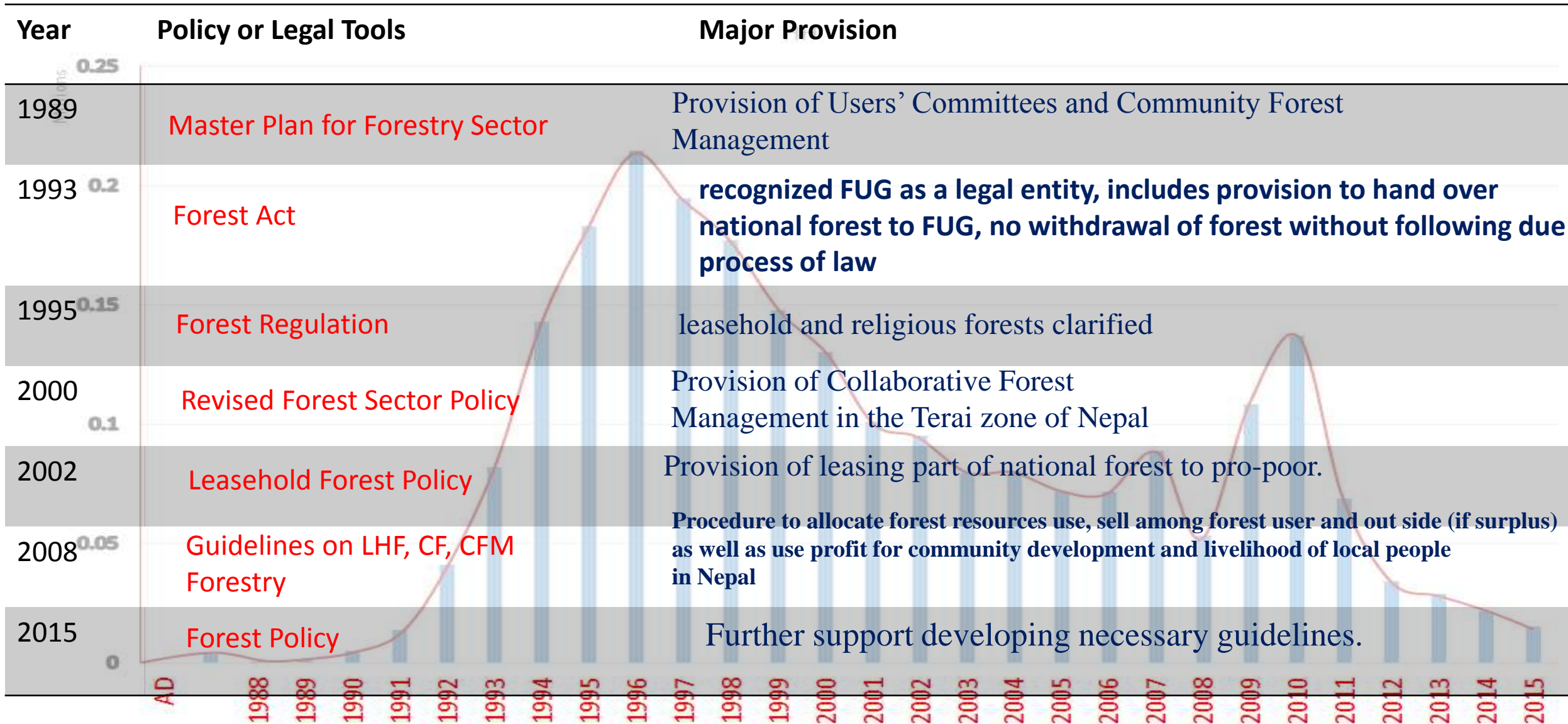
Total Forest Land 5.96 M ha. (39.6%)

Altitudinal Range <60m – 8848m.

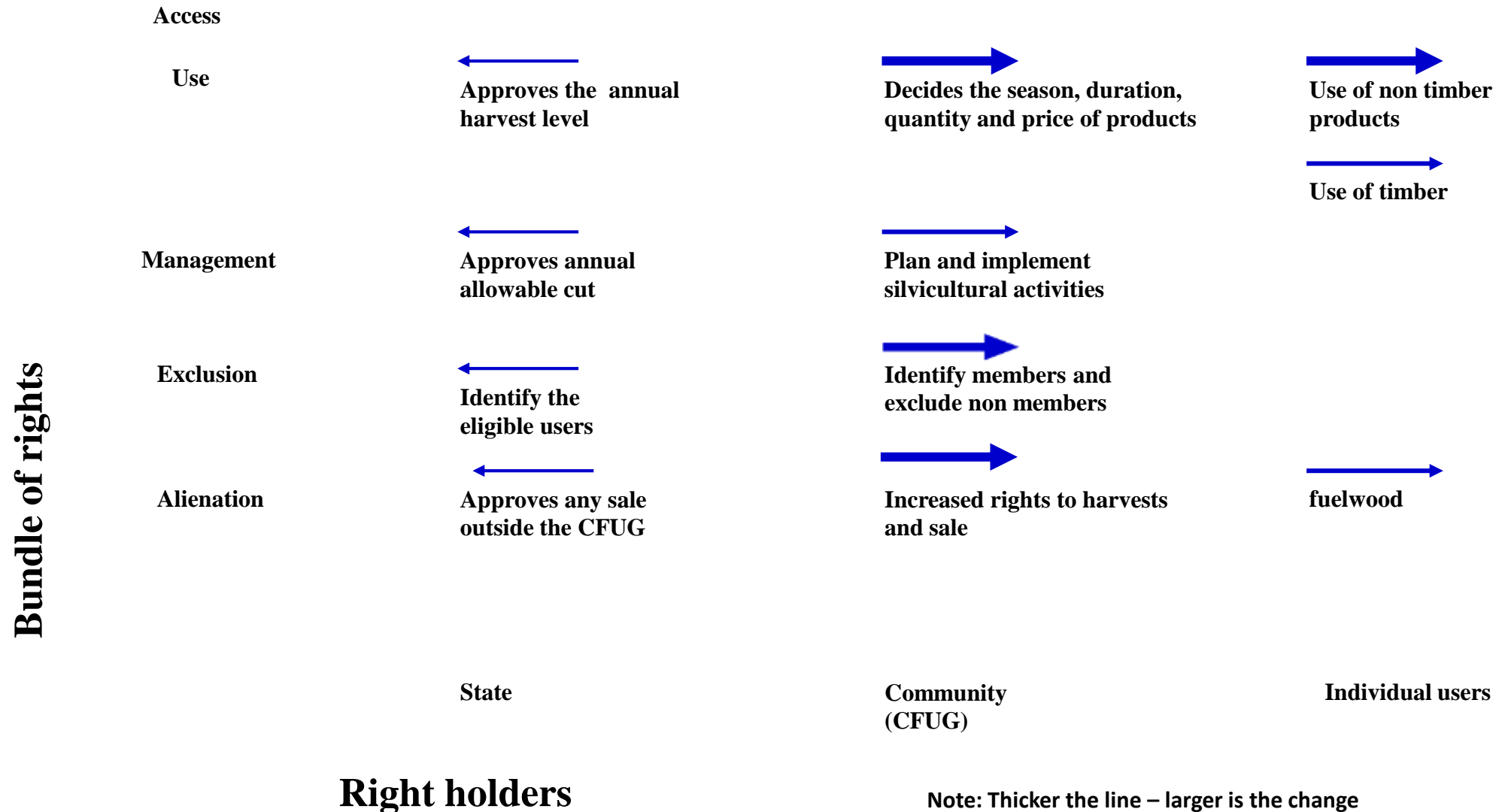
Current status and trends of forest tenure Contd



Current status and trends of forest tenure Contd



Trends – Change in bundle of rights after CF



Impacts of Forest Tenure Policies in the Livelihoods of Forest Dependent Community of Nepal

(1) Improved Forest Condition and Biodiversity

(2) Poverty Reduction and Community Development

(3) Transformation of Foresters' role



(4) Institutionalization : Participatory resource management

(5) Strengthen Good Forest Governance

(6) Increased Women Participation



1990/91

(7) Scope of Forest Based small enterprise

2000/2001



(Source: Community Forest Livelihoods Impact Study ,2011)

Issues, policy gaps and challenges pertaining to Forest tenure policy and reform (Based on FAO TCP Study)

- Overlapping , & Short Term tenure rights
- Weak participation of poor HH in decision making and planning process
- Power sharing between national, provinces and local governments is not clear under federal structure.
- No comprehensive HRD plan of MOFSC
- Limited entrepreneurship skills,
- Limited capacity to strengthen forest tenure.

Key recommendations

- Conducting National Policy dialogues in order to address the issues on overlapping, tenure rights.
- Developing a specific guidance to ensure access to poor, women and marginalized groups in the decision making and planning process for pro-poor activities,
- Recognition of customary rights and practices: eg. grazing for Yaks and sheep, shifting cultivation, rights to resource of wetlands, cultural use of forest resources etc.
- Capacity building on tenure rights: Institutional capacity building of CBF Groups and Restructuring and Capacity building of MOFSC and staffs.

Key Recommendations contd.....

- Promote and facilitate the process of regular updating of forest management plans.
- Mainstream forest tenure agenda in program design and implementation, Legal Provision of land allocation within all types of community-based forests
- Improvement on Forest Act/Bylaws and guidelines to strengthen Forest Tenure- advance forest based enterprises, private sector investment and the market



Thank You