



**SHARP**



# **A different model for sustainable smallholder development of tree crops in Liberia**

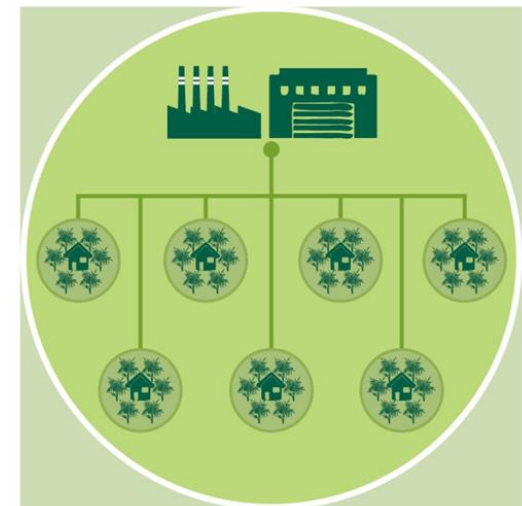
Oct 2015



# Managed Nucleus-Plasm model for outgrower development in oil palm concessions

## Challenges

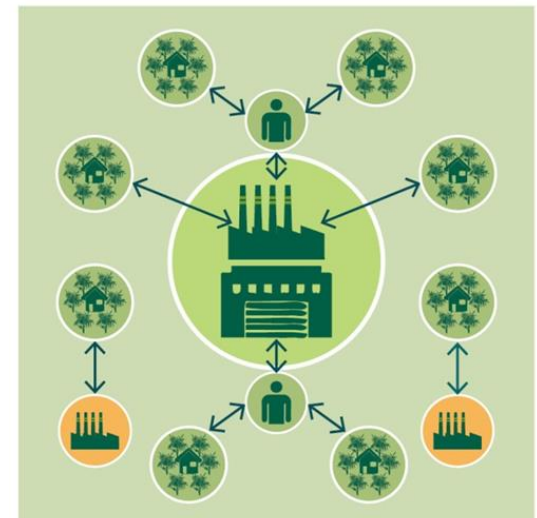
- Land tenure, FPIC and equitable access to economic opportunity
- Conversion of intact forest > intensification of production on degraded land
- Companies need partnership with DFI to share risk



# Independent Smallholder Model for tree crop development

## Potential

- Empowering smallholders on decisions of scale and crop diversification
- Questions of land zoning/access/title in hands of local actors
- Land use intensification in disturbed, low carbon stock landscapes
- Crop choice would include palm oil, but could extend to rubber, cocoa and other tree crops, all integrated with farmers food crop production
- Achievement of food security and generate new economic opportunities
- Companies concentrate on creating a secure market for the produce and provide technical support on tree crop management



# Independent Smallholder Model

## Conditions for Success

- Secure market for and supply of produce (via contract farming)
- Technical support on sustainable tree crop management
- Concessionary loan finance for SH tree crop development
- Commitment of labour, land and assets by SHs/Communities

# Independent Smallholder Model

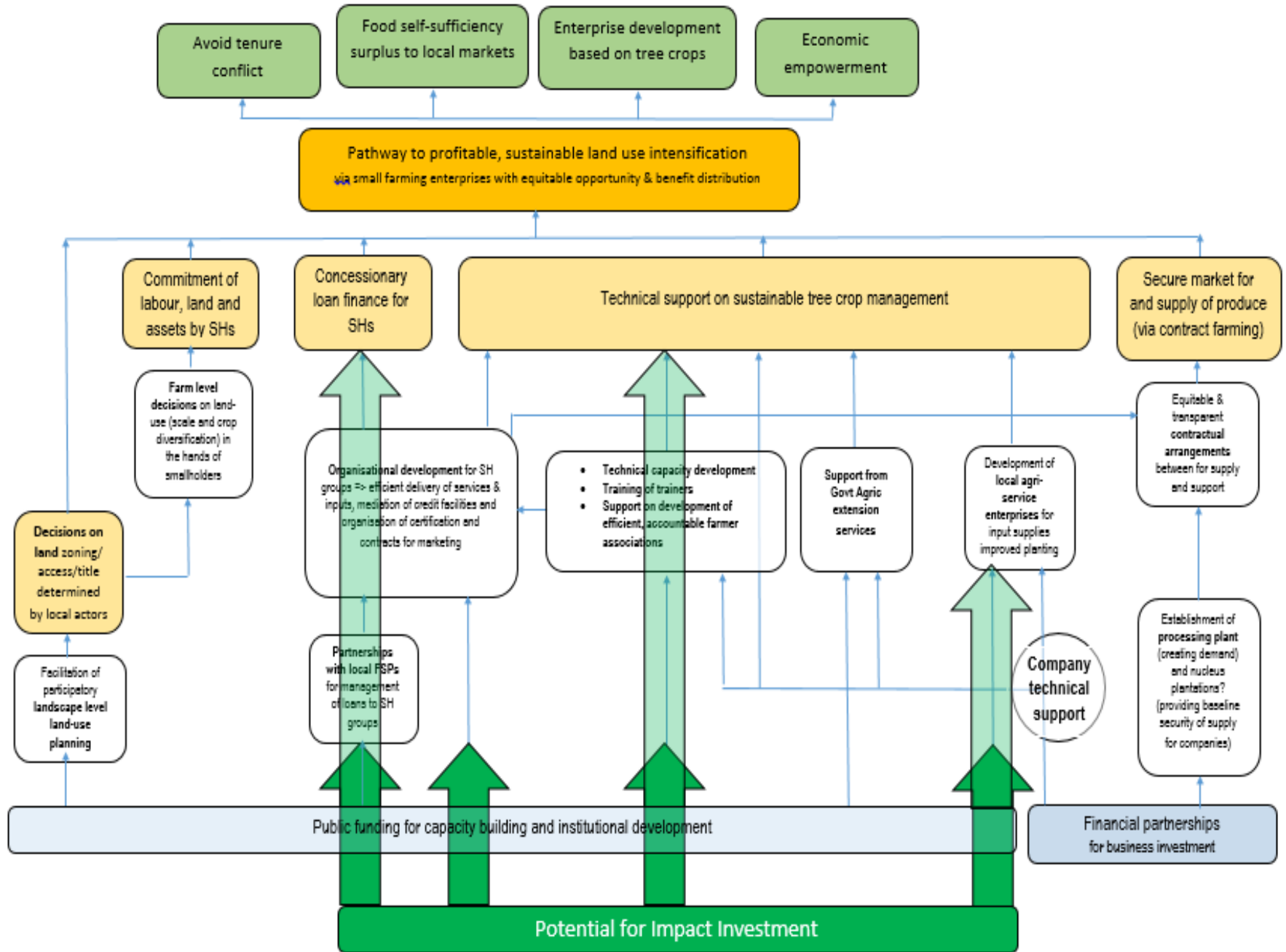
## Stakeholders

- Smallholder farmers/communities
- Companies
- Govt of Liberia (numerous agencies)
- Development Finance Institutions
- Credible, capable CSOs with field presence

# Independent Smallholder Model

## Some Open Questions

- Company buy in for model very different from successful SE Asia model? Or could different models complement each other?
- Financial viability for each party in a low input-low output model?
- How to overcome the constraint of poor public road network?
  - Coordination with plans for public infrastructure development
  - Series of small mills (as per 8DN and Volta Red in Ghana) to utilised decentralised supply base
- What business relationship between grower and processing industry?
- Synergy or competition between formal and informal palm oil sectors?
- Role for informal, as well as formal Financial Service Providers to finance smallholder tree crop investment?
- What national policy/interpretation for High Carbon Stock in Liberia? How to disseminate and translate in practical terms for smallholder farmers? What incentive to modify decisions on land clearance to conserve HCS?





# SHARP



## All Done – Thank You

[www.sharp-partnership.org](http://www.sharp-partnership.org)