Nature, People and Rubber

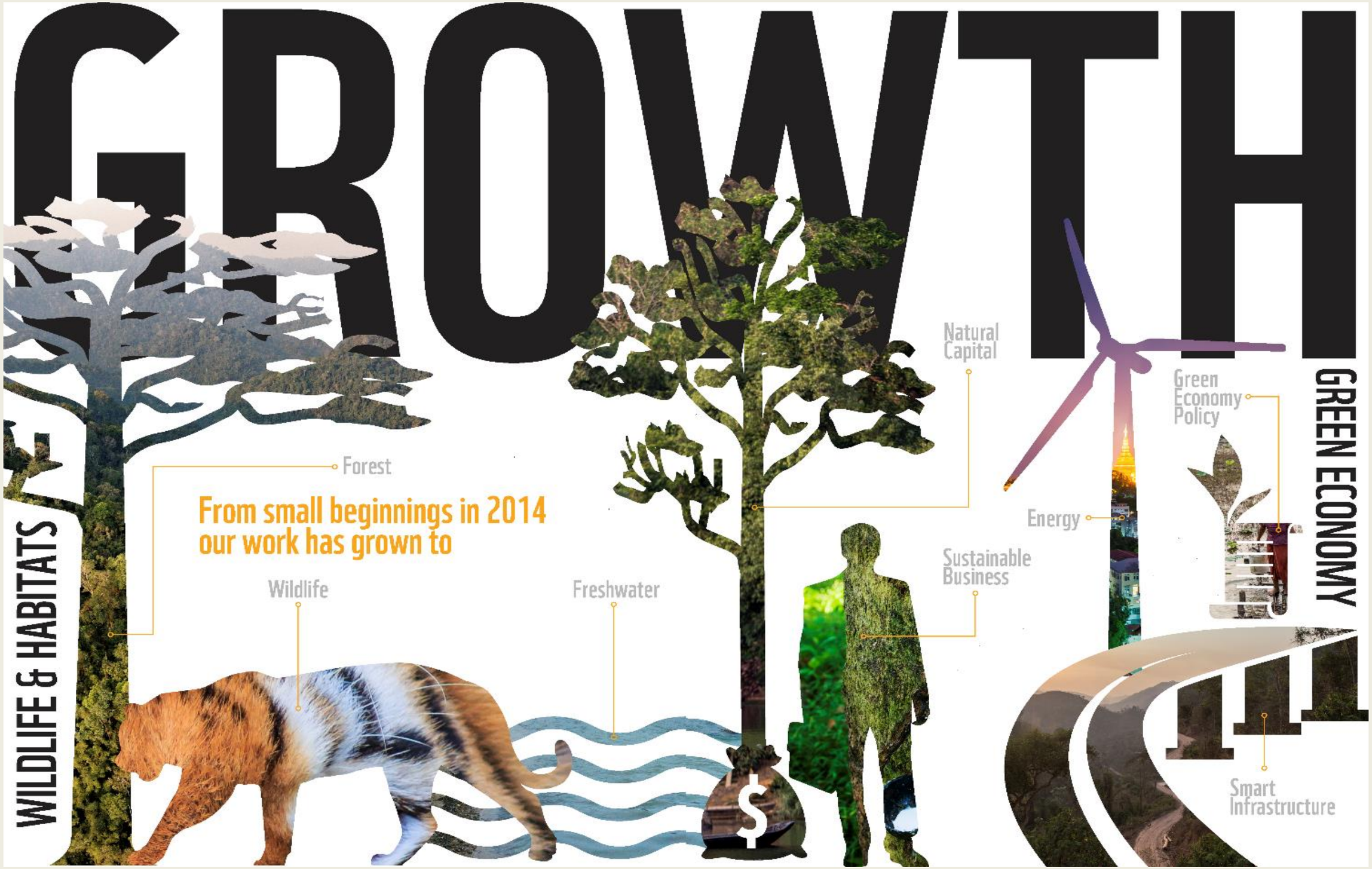
Securing a sustainable future of rubber production

Gaurav Gupta
Sustainable Market Manager
WWF Myanmar

Development vision: A prosperous nation integrated into the global community (2030)

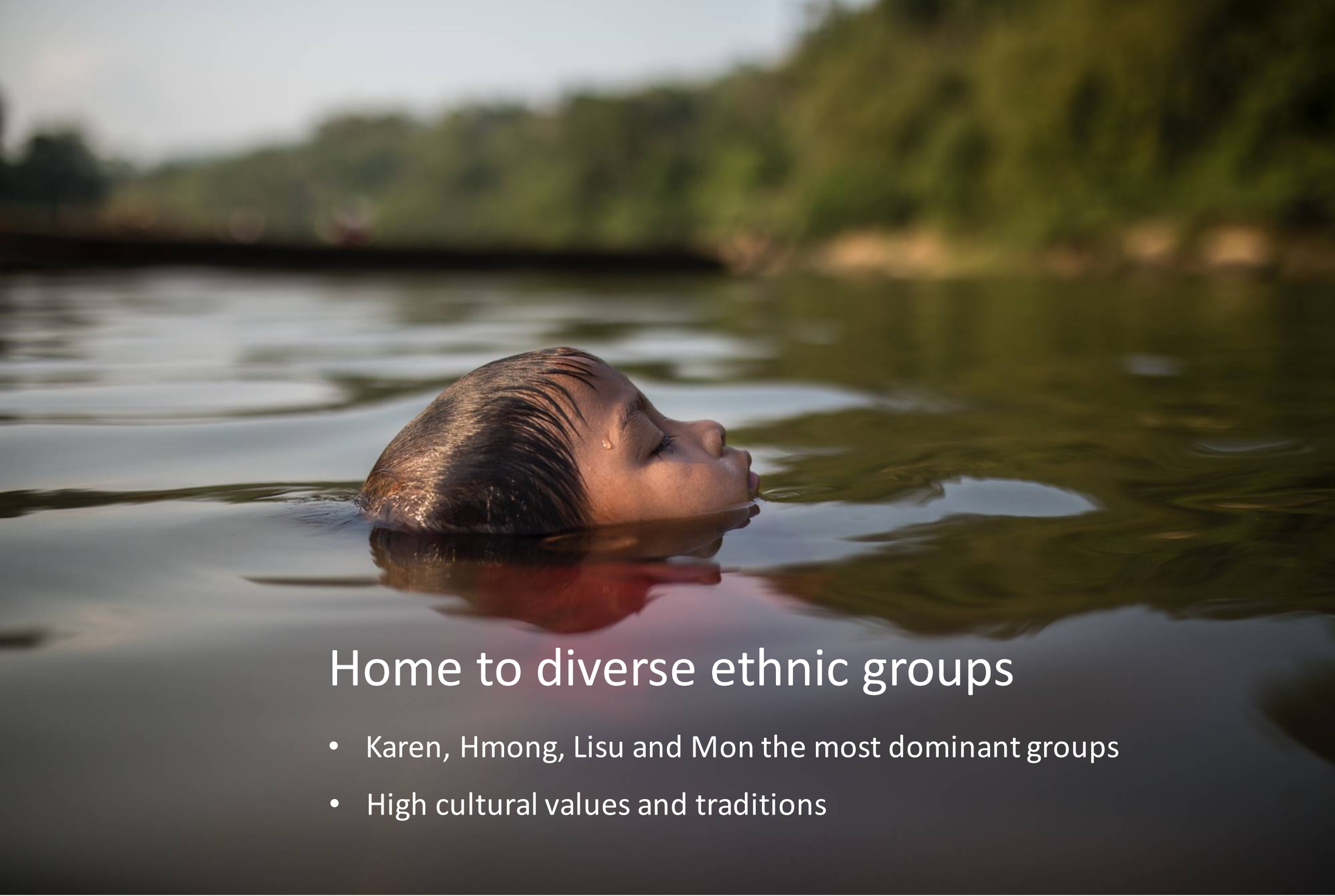
- National Comprehensive Development Plan

Government of Myanmar


GROWTH
WILDLIFE & HABITATS
GREEN ECONOMY
Forest
From small beginnings in 2014
our work has grown to
Wildlife
Freshwater
Natural
Capital
Sustainable
Business
Energy
Green
Economy
Policy
Smart
Infrastructure

This is Dawna Tenasserim Landscape

- Over 10 million hectare, the largest high conservation forest ecosystem in SE Asia
- Provides range of ecosystem services: freshwater, flood control, pollination to millions of people

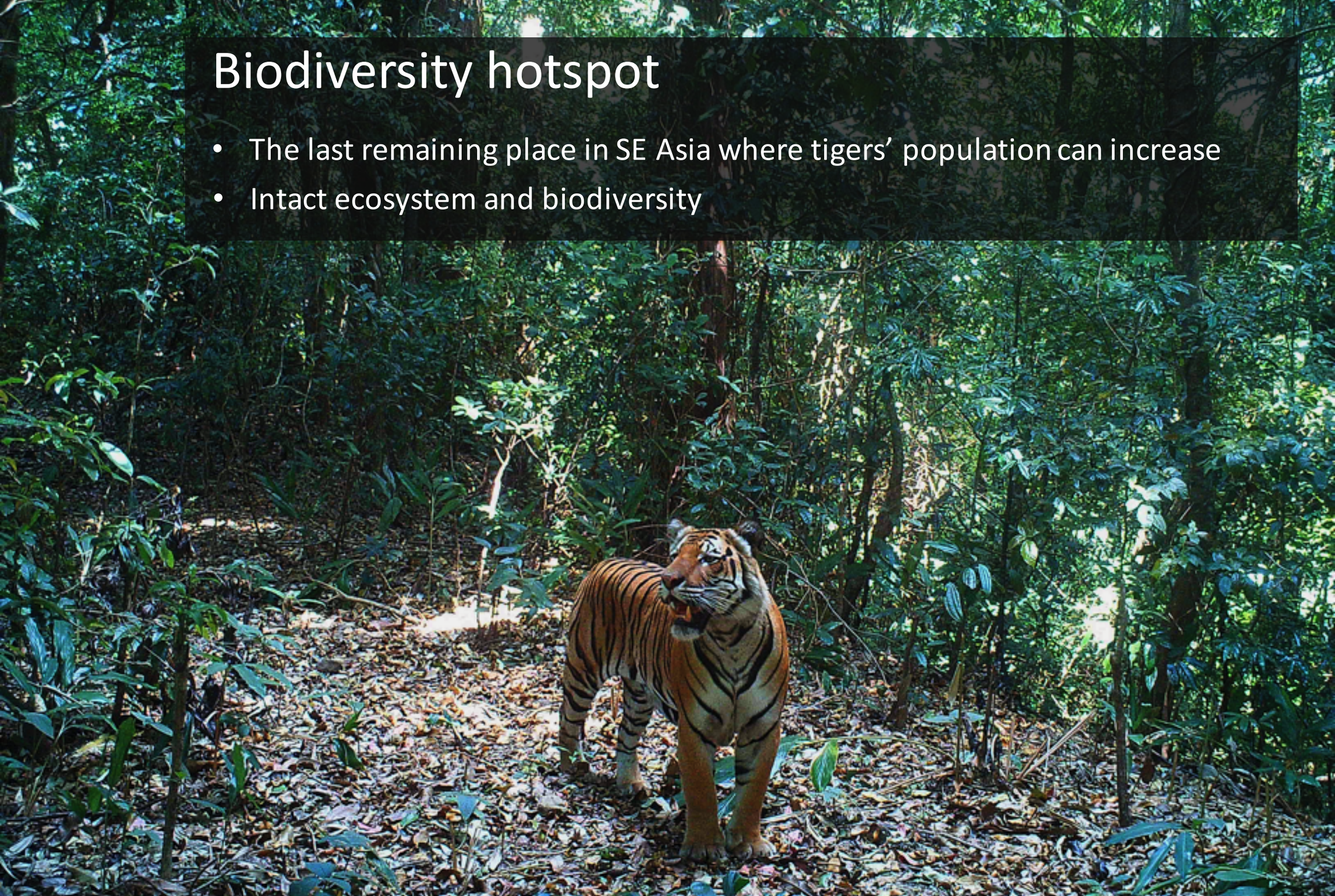


Home to diverse ethnic groups

- Karen, Hmong, Lisu and Mon the most dominant groups
- High cultural values and traditions

Biodiversity hotspot

- The last remaining place in SE Asia where tigers' population can increase
- Intact ecosystem and biodiversity



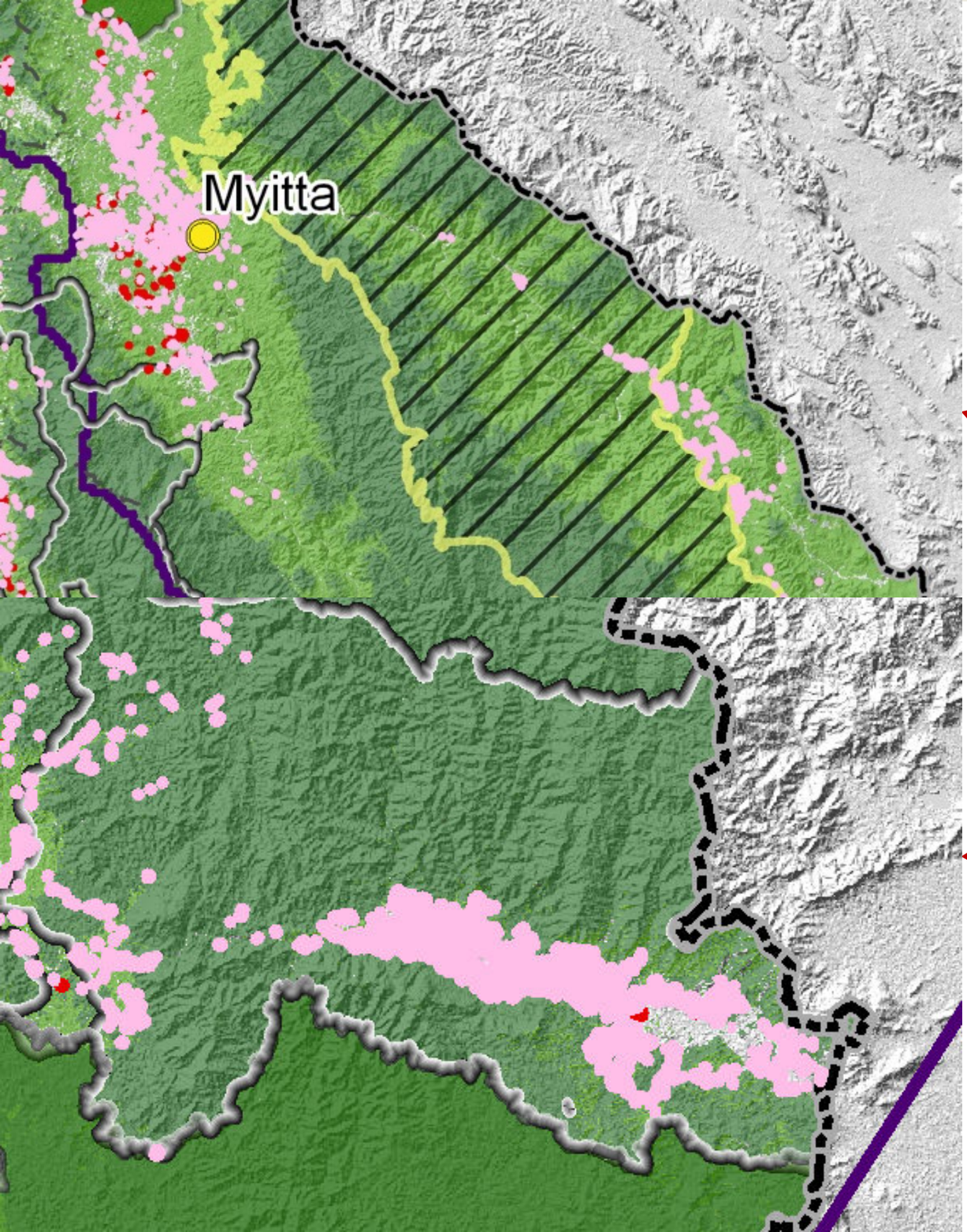

4/5/2016 6:36 AM ID:44
Cuddeback Digital

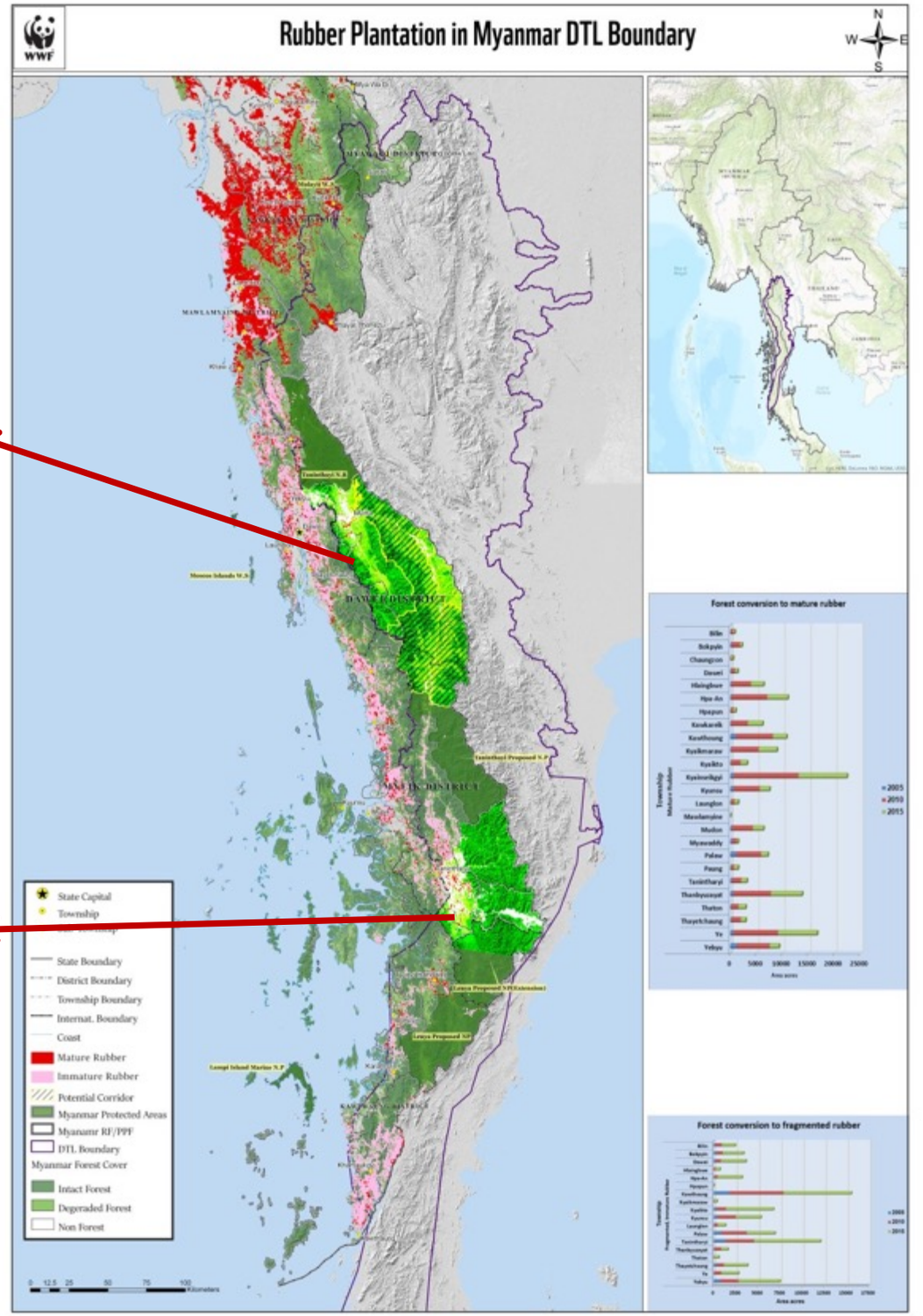

3/14/2016 10:06 AM ID:15


3/22/2016 5:32 AM ID:35
Cuddeback Digital

Rubber driving deforestation

- Rubber poses one of the biggest threats to our forests in DTL
- Over 100,000 hectare of High conservation forest has been lost to rubber since 2000 in Tanintharyi alone


Myitta


Rubber Plantation in Myanmar DTL Boundary
WWF
N
W
E
S
Forest conversion to mature rubber
Forest conversion to fragmented rubber
State Capital
Township
State Boundary
District Boundary
Township Boundary
Internat. Boundary
Coast
Mature Rubber
Immature Rubber
Potential Corridor
Myanmar Protected Areas
Myanmar RF/PPF
DTL Boundary
Myanmar Forest Cover
Intact Forest
Degraded Forest
Non Forest

Rubber farmers livelihoods distressed

- Aung kyaw family works at a 4 hectare plantation in DTL
- Monoculture, low market access, no GAP(Good Agricultural Practice), no access to loans, no collectivisation, no bargaining power

Low quality and value addition

- Family supports in making USS（Unsmoked Sheet）from latex
- Children have dropped out of school

Increased dependency on NTFP

- Farmers extract more NTFP when livelihoods not met

When rubber prices are low, farmers extract more NTFP from the forest

Wildlife sold to neighboring countries

Easier access for professional poachers

- Economic activities in and near forest makes poaching easier

Rubber production has increased dramatically

But yield, quality and market access remain weak

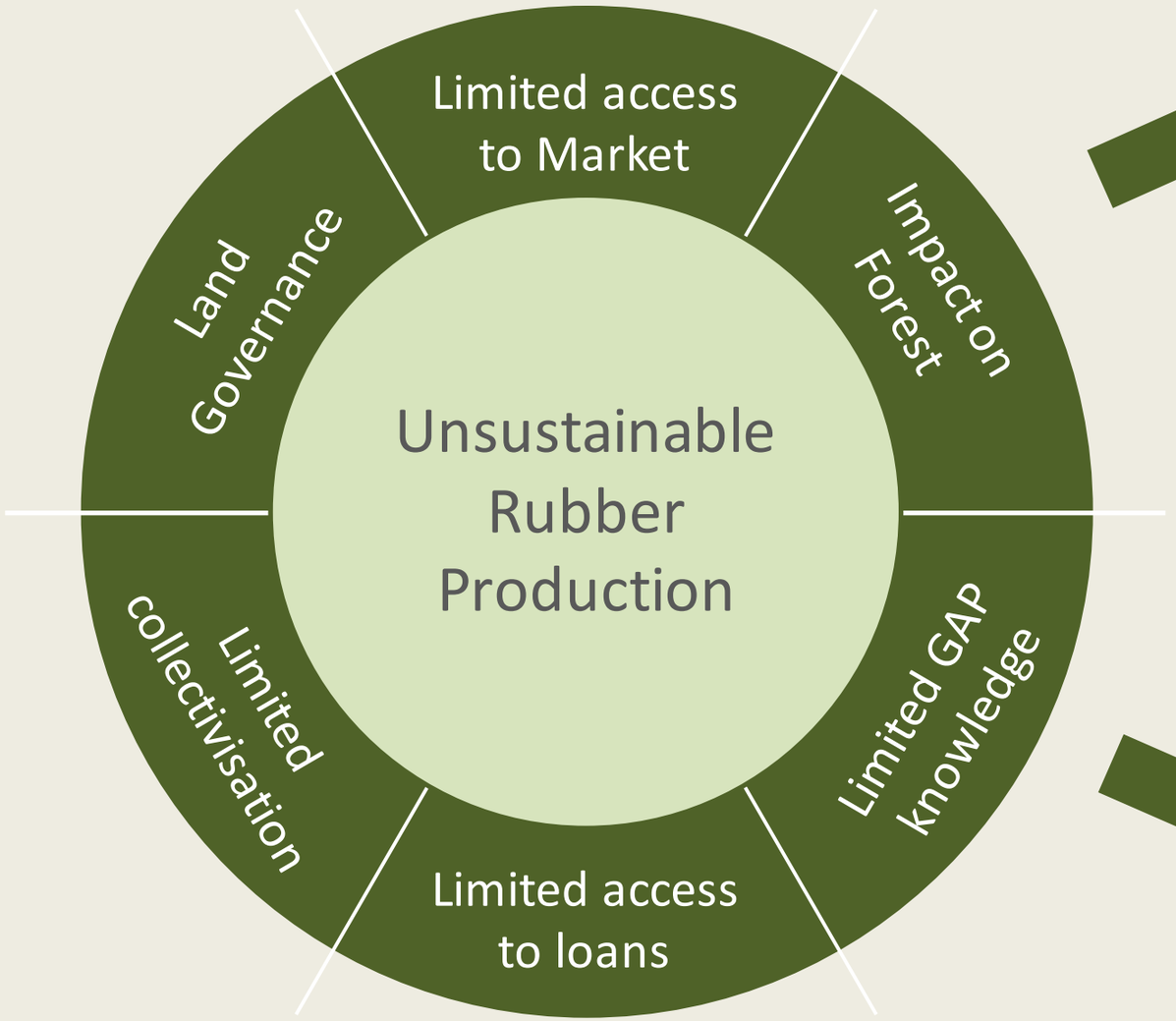
Year	Planted Area (Ha.)	Productive Area (Ha.)	Yield (Kg /Ha.)	Production (metric tons)
2005-2006	226,043	108,124	594	64,238
2006-2007	294,745	122,987	596	73,355
2007-2008	378,705	138,779	633	88,528
2008-2009	427,913	144,245	647	93,207
2009-2010	462,729	166,604	670	111,673
2010-2011	504,454	186,466	686	127,921
2011-2012	543,170	198,357	754	149,619
2012-2013	581,101	213,550	770	164,426
2013-2014	609,808	231,779	763	176,915
2014-2015	641,069	258,789	766	198,022
2015-2016	650,504	280,965	754	212,089

Majority of rubber is immature. It underscores recent scale of expansion and deforestation

One of lowest yields (and quality(in the world

Total production expect to increase 2-3 folds

Rubber sustainability issues and impact on supply chain



Supply chain risk

Sustainability Risk

Solution: Decouple rubber production from deforestation

- Reduce horizontal expansion and improve productivity

- Sustainable rubber production
  - Zero Deforestation
  - Zero human and labour rights violation
  - Zero land grab and FPIC
  - Traceability and transparency

Rubber agroforestry

By 2020, communities in and around DTL to produce rubber sustainably

Policy & Planning

Habitat & Wildlife

Rubber agroforestry

- Technical Capacity of the system – agricultural extension, farmers cooperatives, research institutions – on rubber agroforestry
- Greater collectivization and value addition by communities
- Communities' Commitment to Zero deforestation and zero poaching
- Demand from International buyer to source sustainable rubber

Progress:

- Tapping training: 20% increase in yield
- CSO and community consultation

Dr. Buncha, Expert from Price of Songkla University, explaining rubber agroforestry to Ministry of Agriculture of Myanmar

- Land use planning and land governance by local community
- No concession in HCVF, HCS and Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA)
- Value addition, collectivization, finance and climate resilience

Progress:

- Draft rubber law requires zero deforestation
- Study tour to Thailand

Policy & Planning

Ministry of Agriculture commits to Zero Deforestation (16 Nov 2016)

Why international companies should source sustainable rubber from Myanmar

- Opportunity to demonstrate a “best practice” for sustainable rubber supply chain
- Strong political will to promote sustainable rubber
- Yield improvement and access to market would incentivize communities to protect forests
- Emerging market for rubber production
- Agreement with communities, government and other stakeholders to produce rubber sustainably

Gaurav Gupta
WWF Myanmar
Gaurav.gupta@wwf.panda.org