

# ***Agriculture and Sustainable Natural Forest Management***

***“Towards a national Forest Policy that Promotes Natural Forest values and  
Sustainable Rural Livelihood in Tanzania”***

**Presented in the 3rd TTCS National Workshop on  
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# Outline

- Background
- The sector-Link
- Sector Requirements
- Challenges in the Linkage
- Sustainability

# Background

- Tanzania has a rich natural resources for agricultural development. (94.5 million hectares of land of which 44 Arable)

## **Agriculture sector**

- Important catalyst for economic growth, poverty alleviation, and food security
- Livelihoods over 80% of population
- Generates about 24.1 percent of GDP,
- Contributes 30% of export earnings
- Employment 75 %

# Agriculture sector .....

## Characteristics

- Production dominated by small holders.
- Farm size 0.5-2 ha
- Rain fed
- Shift cultivation

**BUT**

**growth in agriculture production and productivity are critical for eradicating extreme poverty and hunger**



# Agriculture Requirements

## 1. Land

- At the expenses of Forest? Farm expansion/Fertile land??

## Hence –Shift cultivation

- **Shifting cultivation** has also resulted in encroachment of natural forest reserves.





# Agriculture Requirements.....

2. Water for irrigation....Catchment encroachment-vinyungu ???



# Agriculture Requirements.....

## 3. Technologies

- Enhance production-Farm implements (degrade forestland)

## 4. Policies

- Regulate System and mode of production by providing directives based on country vision and priorities

# Problem in the linkage

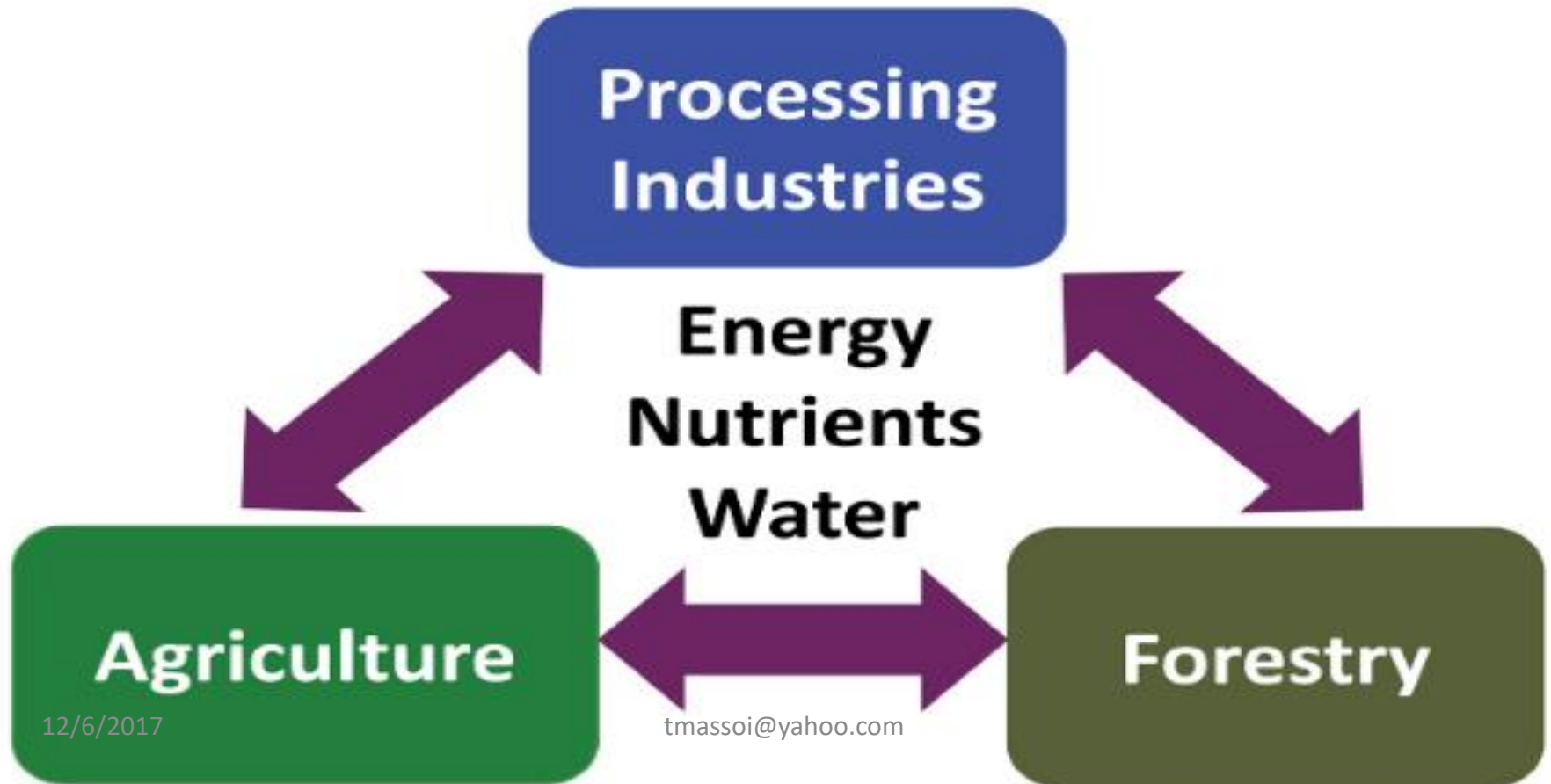
- Converting forestland to cropland,
  - Many forest ecosystems are at risk.

## Why????

- large-scale expansion of farm with increased demand for agricultural and forest biomass, is seen as a major threat
- Growing demand for food, fuel and fiber associated with population growth,
- Rising incomes and changing diets continues to drive deforestation



**Sustainability:** Integration of agriculture forest systems with processing industries increases opportunities for positive feedback loops that **reuse** and **recycle** mass and energy flows and improve system performance.



# Agriculture policy

- Vision: Agricultural sector that is modernized, commercial, highly productive and profitable; that **utilizes natural resources in an overall sustainable manner** (land water forest??)

## Some Specific Objectives

- Strengthen inter-sectoral coordination and linkages to increase efficiency and effectiveness;
- Protect and promote **integrated and sustainable utilization of agricultural lands**

# What is needed

- **Enhance policy harmonization:-**

Harmonizing forestry, Land and agriculture policies is fundamental for the implementation of integrated approaches to sustainable production and conservation

- **Enforcement of Laws/By-laws**

- **Agreements Implementation**

Internationally negotiated and ratified instruments are needed that systematically address integrated forestry/agriculture interactions. (CBD, UNCCD,

## What can be done...

- Strengthen practices and technologies that favor sustainable agriculture and Natural resources
  - **Smart Practices** eg :
    - Tree plantations
    - Agroforestry
    - Soil water conservation
    - Biogas



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**Thank you for  
listening**