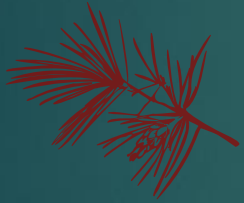


Carbon
Tracking to
Promote
Climate-Smart
Forest
Products-
USDA Grant Proposal



EDIE SONNE

HALL

JUNE 7, 2022



A NEW OPPORTUNITY

USDA announced details of the Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities opportunity on February 7, 2022

- ▶ USDA will finance partnerships to support the production and marketing of climate-smart commodities via a set of pilot projects lasting one to five years.
- ▶ Pilots will provide technical and financial assistance to producers who implement climate-smart practices on a voluntary basis on working lands; pilot innovative and cost-effective methods for quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas benefits; and market the resulting climate-smart commodities.



Our Objective

To create a new system to measure and track carbon through the entire supply chain so we can validate climate-smart outcomes in both forests and forest products



A close-up photograph of a tree trunk cross-section, showing concentric growth rings in shades of brown and tan. The texture is natural and organic.

Who are we helping?

Over 40 Project Partners who represent a wealth of subject matter expertise, resources and stakeholders.

Landowners:

- ▶ Develop and pilot test user-friendly decision-support tools for measuring the carbon impact of industry practices
- ▶ Provide data to calibrate remote sensing of biomass changes

Research Organizations and Universities:

- ▶ Collaborate on the development of measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification tools
- ▶ Peer review findings and data methodologies

Forest products manufacturers:

- ▶ Contribute data to enhance the quality of environmental product declarations and life-cycle assessment tools

Underserved and Minority Community:

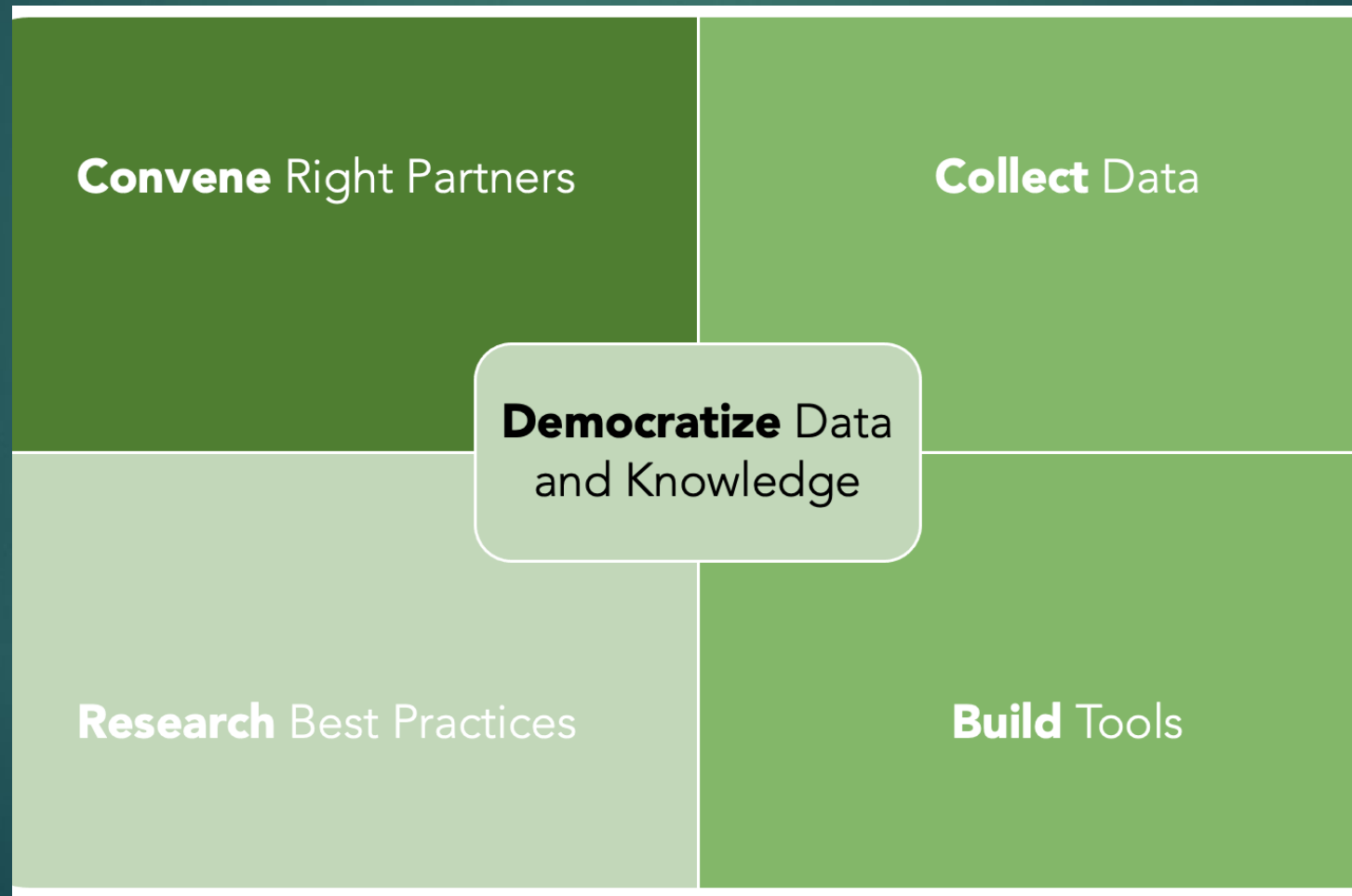
- ▶ Facilitate access to tools and peer-to-peer learning to support landowners and develop a diverse talent pipeline

How will we do it?

- ▶ Curate, research, and build climate smart tools and best practices to support landowners.
- ▶ Develop a unified data platform so the full carbon story, from the forest to wood products in a building, is clear to all.
- ▶ Share findings and tools, invite feedback. Listen. Repeat.



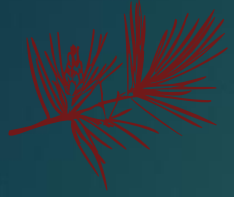
Our Model: Democratize Data and Knowledge



Data Analysis

- ▶ Much of this data already exists - in silos.
- ▶ We'll build on USDA data to create tools that improve the both precision and accessibility of monitoring, measurement and reporting/verification information.
- ▶ The project's data analysis team will include experts in data mining, artificial intelligence, and other leading approaches.
- ▶ The information will be analyzed, communicated transparently, and made accessible to all sector stakeholders.





MMRV

1. Entity-level forestry guidance and cost-effective, user-friendly carbon-reporting tools that transparently quantify and track carbon through the value chain
2. Common, nonproprietary methods to measure long-term carbon storage in forest products and update end-use data and yield factors
3. Incorporate embodied carbon and displacement factors to understand the full, systematic climate effects
4. Deliver verifiable data to commodity users to ensure confidence in the performance of climate-smart forest commodities



Plan to Pilot CSAF Practices



Identify

Identify forest management practices that deliver climate-smart outcomes

Build, test, and demonstrate

Build, test, and demonstrate decision-support tools to help forest owners and managers adopt practices that will both sequester carbon and deliver market value

Design and implement

Design and implement a coordinated pilot program for USDA to deliver results from practice review and decision-tool development

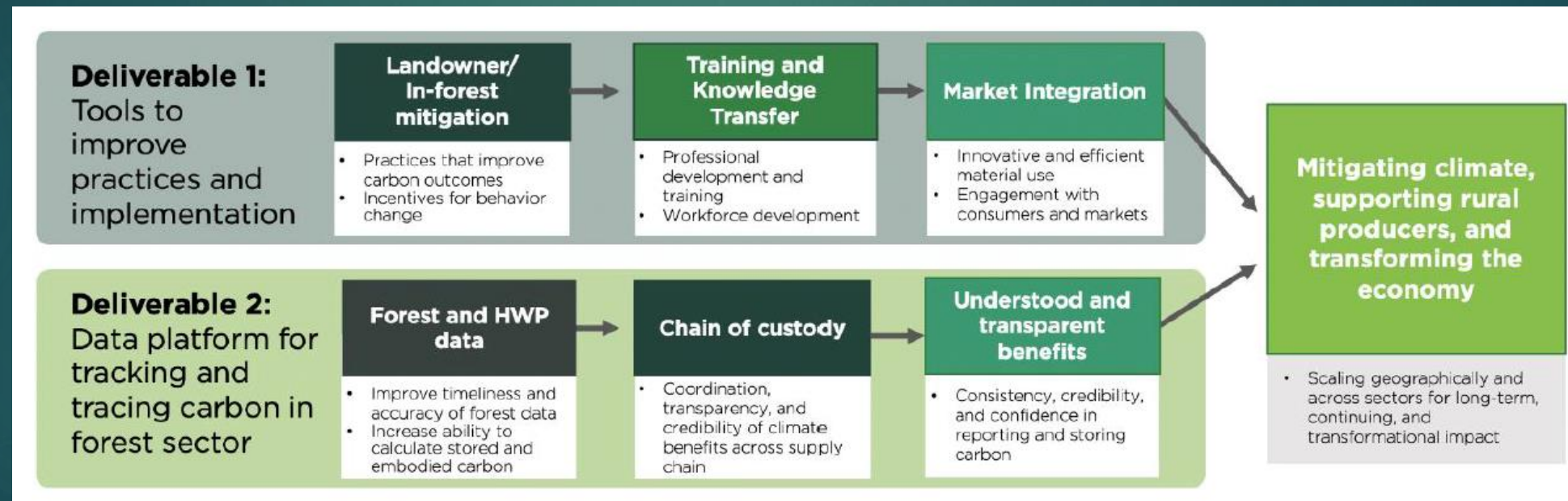
Technology and Innovation

- ▶ The technology software platform created by this project will be developed from the ground up with input from the forestry industry and end users.
- ▶ The information will be shared through an easy-to-use site or app and other data delivery tools.
- ▶ The data will be stored on a public ledger so that companies and consumers can quickly verify the climate credentials of products and import the data into their own systems.



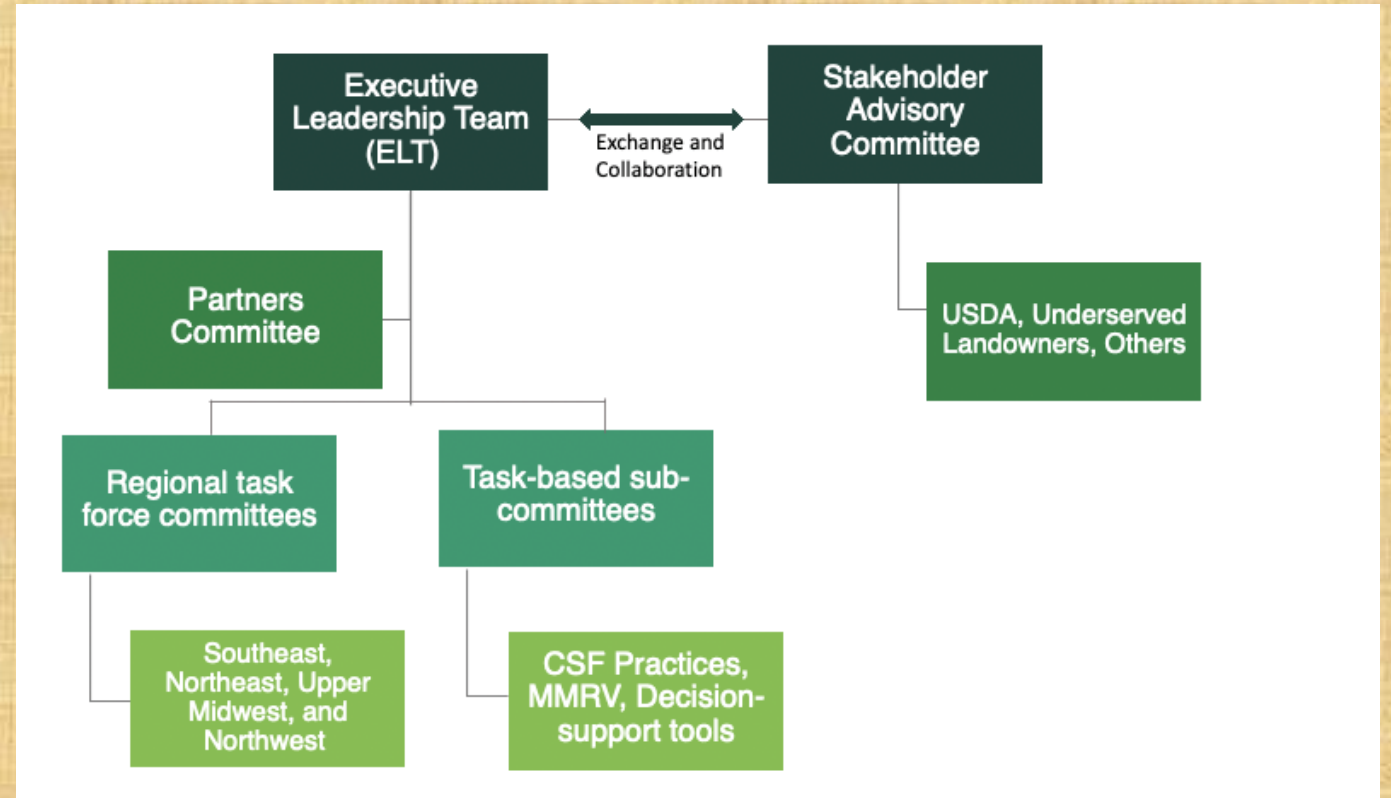
Deliverables

- Forest products customers and investors can use the results to make climate-smart decisions.
- Conservation organizations can use the data for optimizing investments for conservation benefits.
- The predictive analytics generated through implementation monitoring and data aggregation could even forecast challenges to working forests.

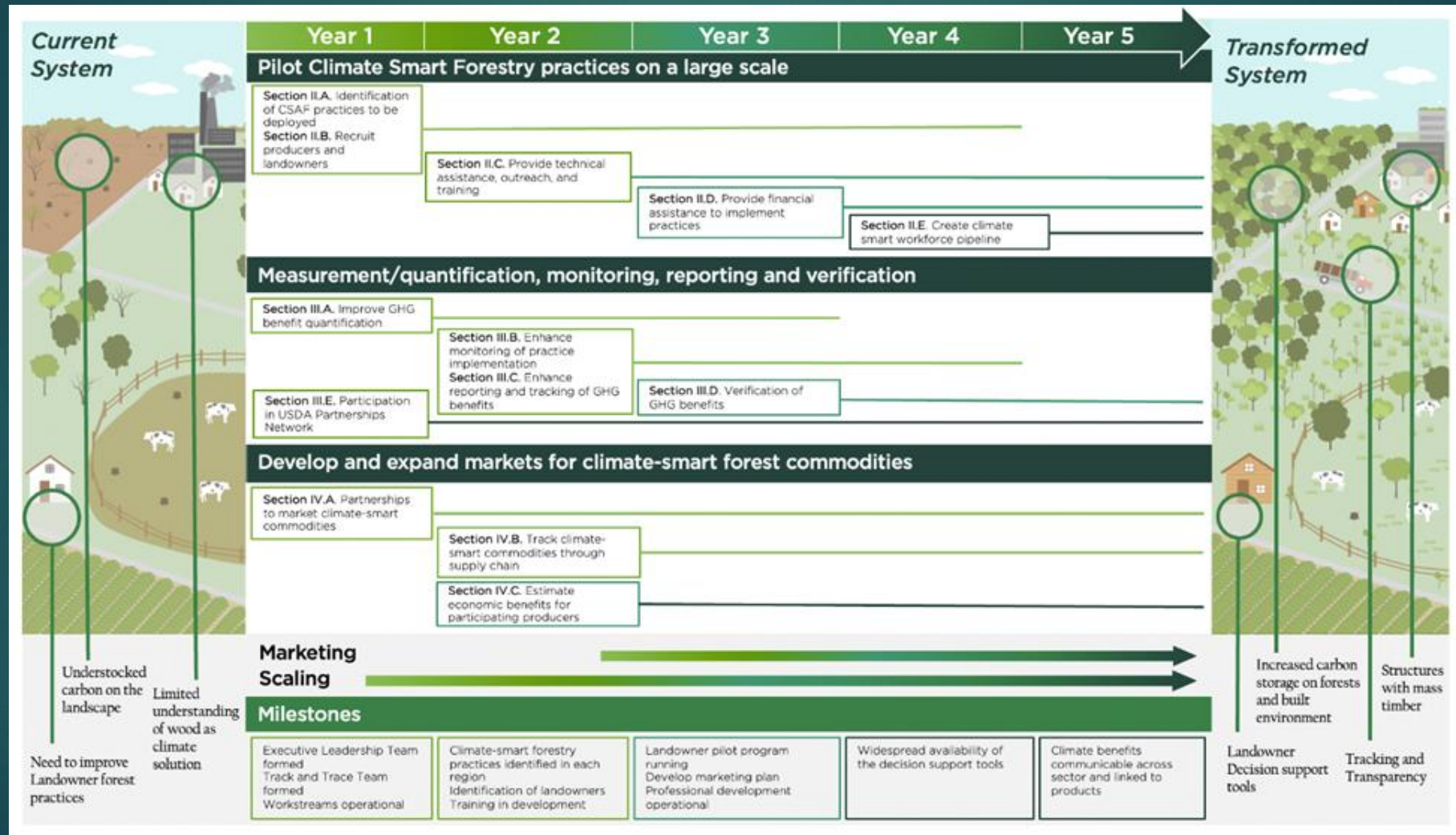


Executive Team

- ▶ Project management
- ▶ Data integrity
- ▶ Partner engagement



Timeline



Thank you

