

Decentralization and REDD in Brazil

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**WORKSHOP ON
FOREST GOVERNANCE, DECENTRALIZATION AND REDD+ IN LATIN
AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

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Questions

- Do decentralization processes expand opportunities for REDD+?
- Which subnational levels might be involved in REDD+ ?
- What kind of involvement?
- What are the cross-scale coordination issues?
- Impacts of REDD+ on livelihoods of forest dwellers?

Decentralization

- Transfer of powers and resources from central to democratically elected subnational governments
- Advantages:
 - Improves effectiveness of policies and efficiency of service delivery;
 - Increases equity, local participation, and local democracy;
 - Strengthens local governments.

Decentralization

- Risks:
 - Narrowing of the political agenda;
 - Elite capture and exclusion of the powerless;
 - Local governments lack incentives, capacity, and resources.
- Risks may offset advantages

REDD vs Decentralization

- REDD+ includes elements that call for both recentralisation and decentralisation;
- Decentralization has advantages and disadvantages for REDD+:
 - Driving forces of deforestation operate at different scales (effectiveness and efficiency);
 - Carbon accounting and leakage monitoring transaction costs (effectiveness and efficiency);
 - Imposed vs. locally agreed rules (effectiveness, efficiency, equity).
- Coordination or competition.

Municipal Governments and Forests in LA

	LAW	Local Offices	Permits/concessions	Land owners
BOL	1996	Forest in 110 mun.	In Municipal Forests	Mun. Forest Reserves
BRA	2006	Some Envir.	Not Yet	Small areas
GUA	1996	Forest in 1/3 Mun.	No	Ejidos
HON	2008	Few Forest	In ejidos	Ejidos
NIC	2003	Some envir.	in Aut. Regions	Small areas

Source: Larson *et al.*, 2007

Municipal Governments and Forests in LA

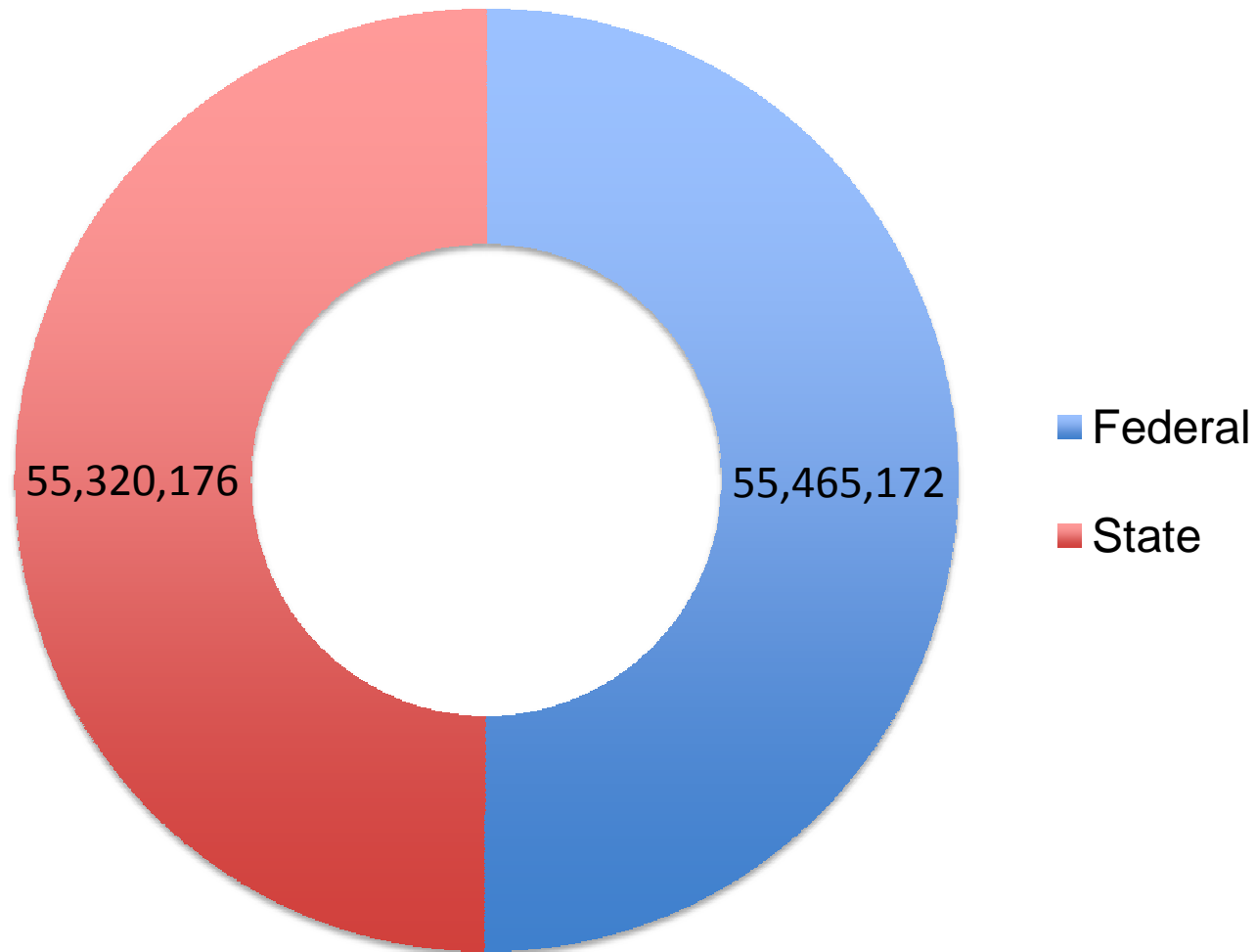
	Revenues Logging taxes	Services	Supervision
BOL	12 -21% forest fees	Yes, small scale loggers	Yes in all mun. with forest offices
BRA	No	In a few mun. agroforestry	No
GUA	~50%	Yes	By agreement
HON	1%	Yes, by contract	Only by contract
NIC	25% - 35% in aut. regions	Exceptionally	In aut. Reg. or by contract

Source: Larson *et al.*, 2007

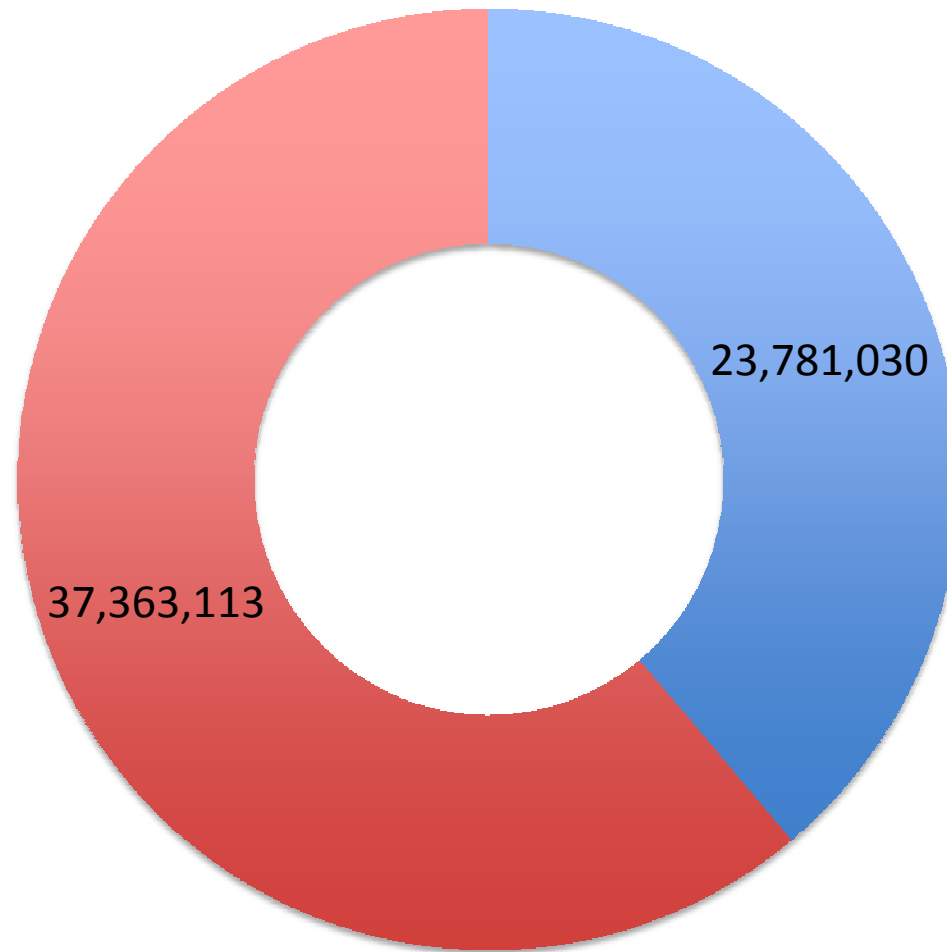
Municipal Governments and Forests in LA

- Powers over resource allocation remain at the central level;
- Varying capacities of local governments;
- Involvements in forest activities limited – lack or powers, resources, and incentives.

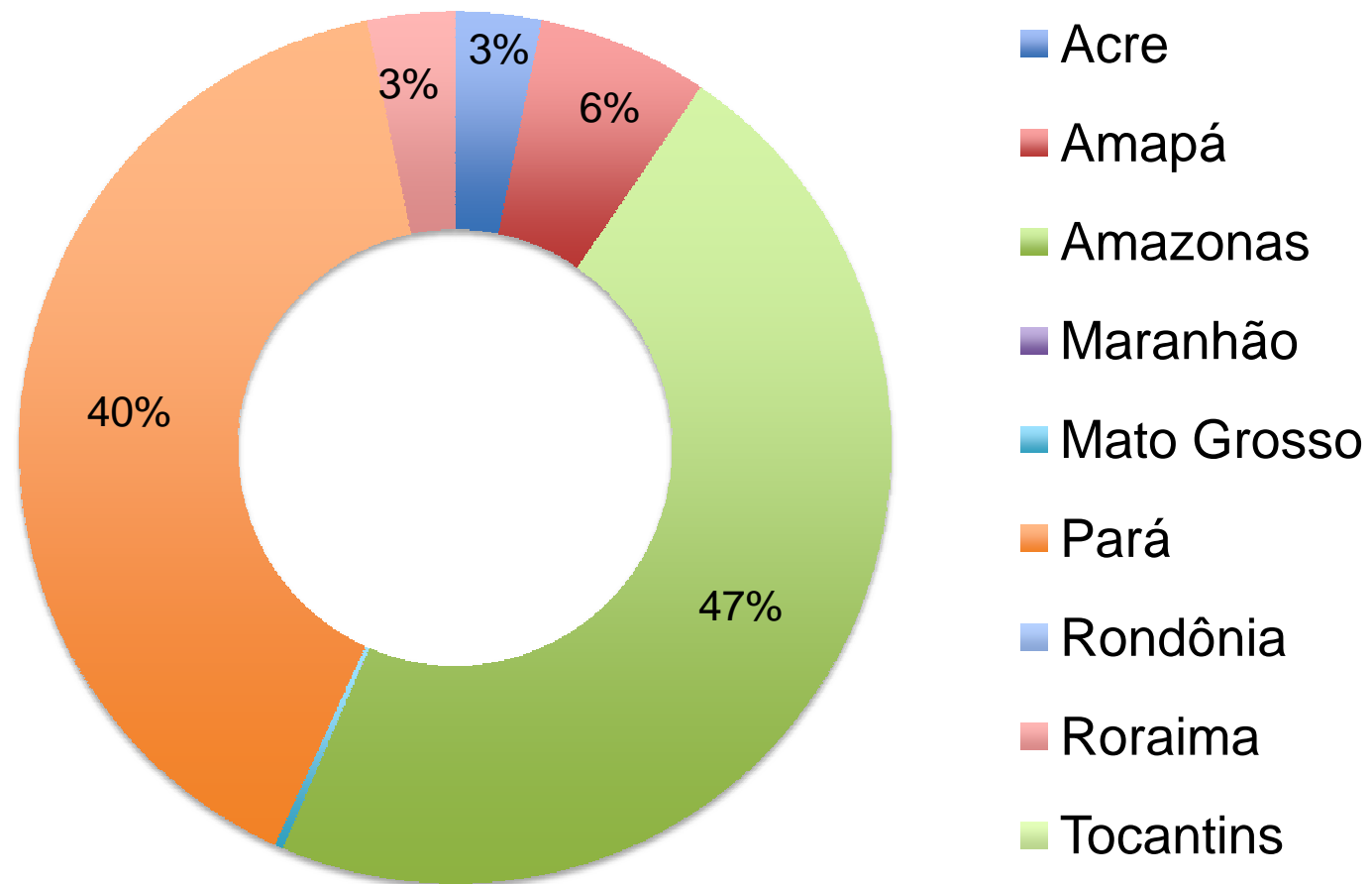
Protected Areas in Amazonia Total in 2009 (HA)



Protected Areas Created between 2003-2009 in Amazonia (HA)



State protected areas created in Amazonia 2003-2009 (% of total, by state)



Conclusions

- Equity is as important as effectiveness and efficiency – imposed and unfair rules = broken rules;
- Subnational governments increase effectiveness;
- Subnational governments need incentives;
- Coordination or competition determined by political/institutional factors;
- Multiple governmental layers may protect interests of multiple actors.