

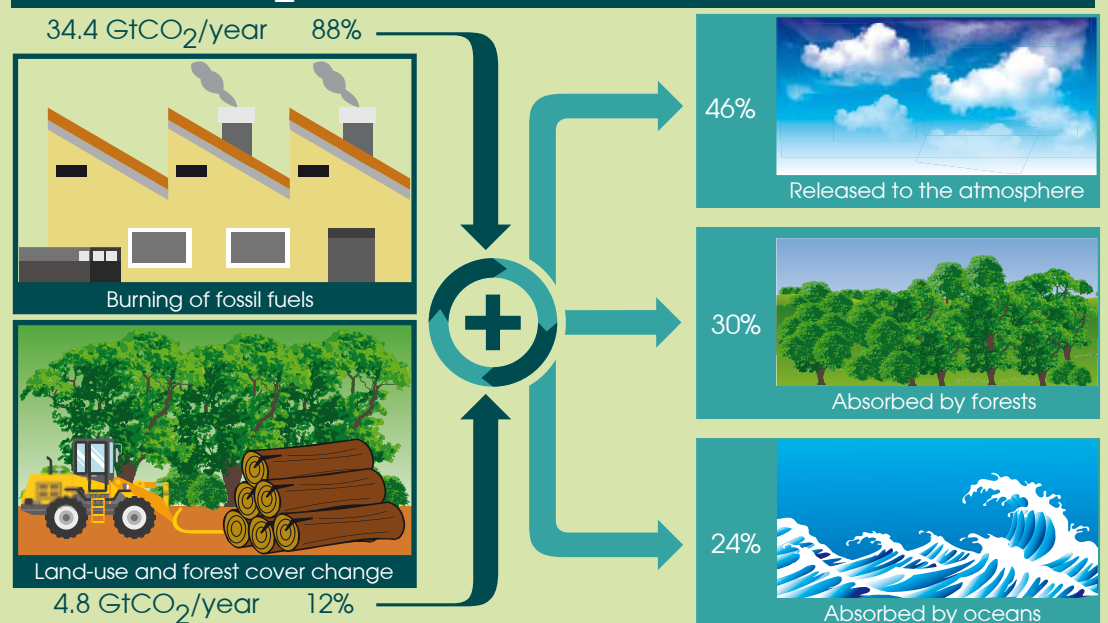
Forests slow climate change

Papua New Guinea's (PNG's) forests are crucial in the global fight against climate change, the development of PNG as a nation and the livelihoods of our communities.

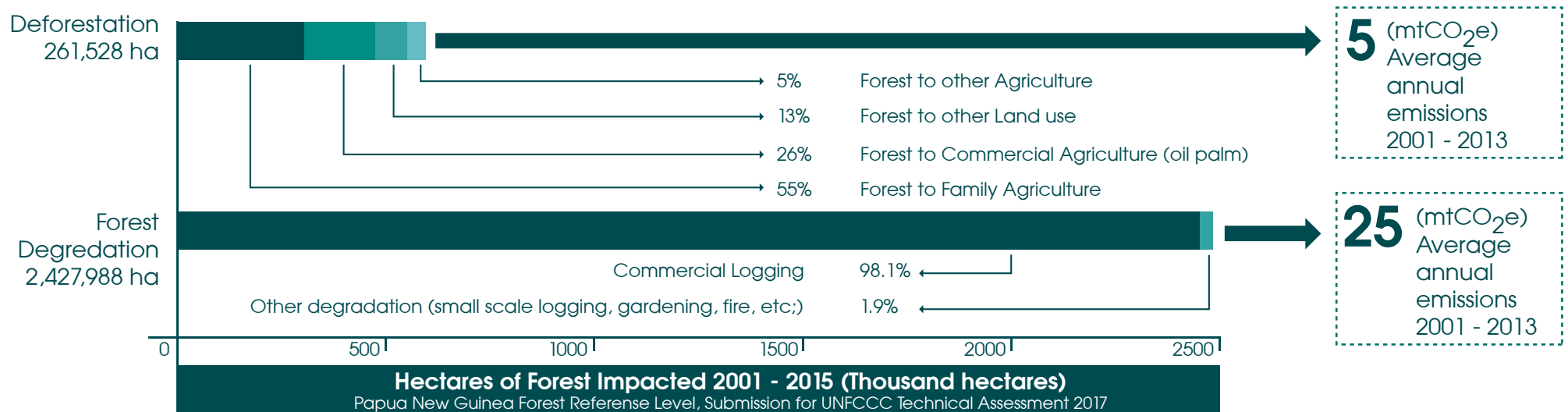
They act as a 'sink' for greenhouse gases (GHG) that cause climate change, as they absorb them from the atmosphere. Their presence can also help stabilise weather patterns and reduce the impact of climate change.

The clearing or degradation of forests, acts as a source of GHG releasing them into the atmosphere and contributing to climate change.

Human CO₂ Emissions: Sources & Sinks (2007-2016)



Source: CDIAC; NOAA-ESRL; Houghton et al 2012; Giglio et al 2013; Le Quéré et al 2014; Global Carbon Budget 2017

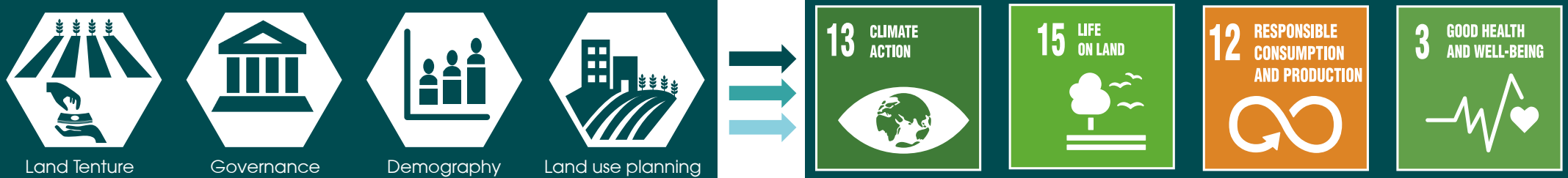


PNG has one of the world's largest areas of forests, which play an important role in addressing global climate change and stabilising PNG's climate. Deforestation to make way for agriculture, and forest degradation through logging, however, result in significant emissions of GHG and together are the largest sources of emissions in PNG.

To maximise the climate benefits, we must keep more forest landscapes intact, manage them more sustainably and restore lost forests.



Improving land-use planning, environmental management and the management of the agriculture and forest sectors by strengthening existing policies can help PNG address the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation while strengthening PNG's economy. PNG is vulnerable to climate change but ensuring the strong management of its forests means it can help address its impacts locally and globally.



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