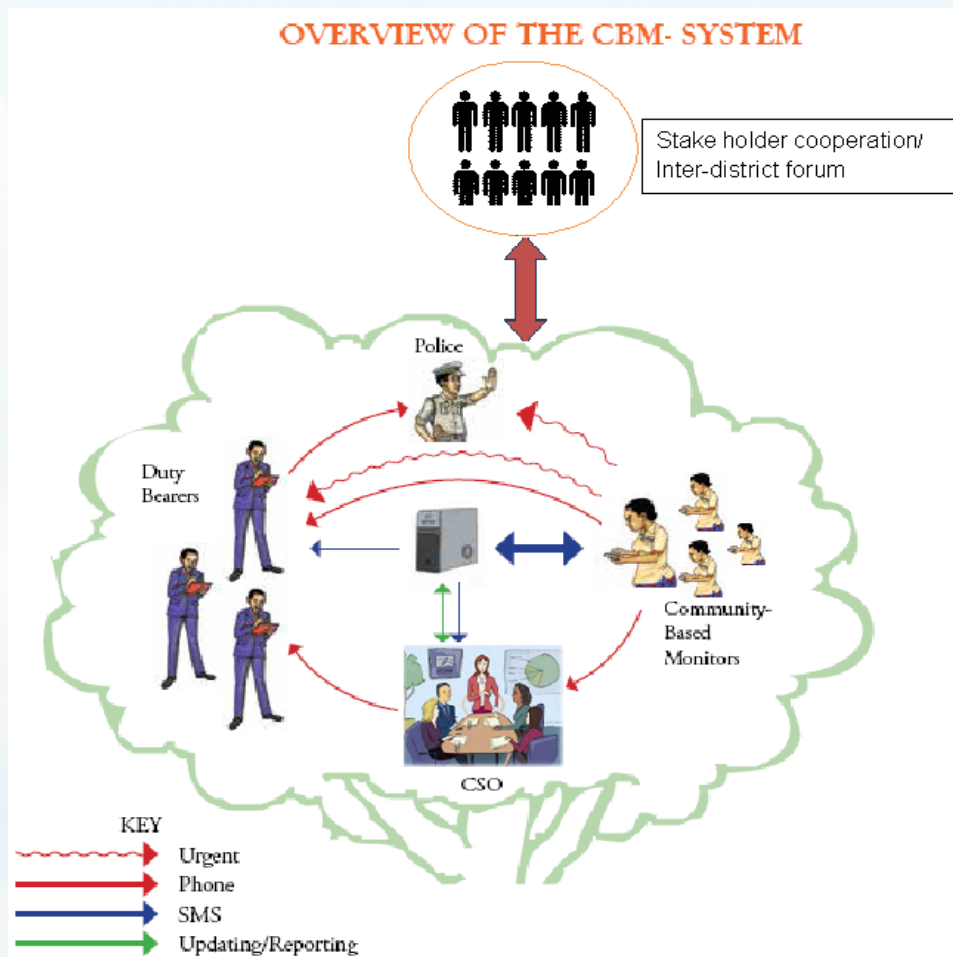


Building civic competencies to increase transparency and accountability in the forest sector:

Securing commitment from stakeholders to promote good governance in the forestry sector, involves civil society effectively monitoring and advocating for appropriate forest laws, coordination, networking, multistakeholder collaboration and promoting community Based Monitoring (CBM). (Akandole@co.care.org)



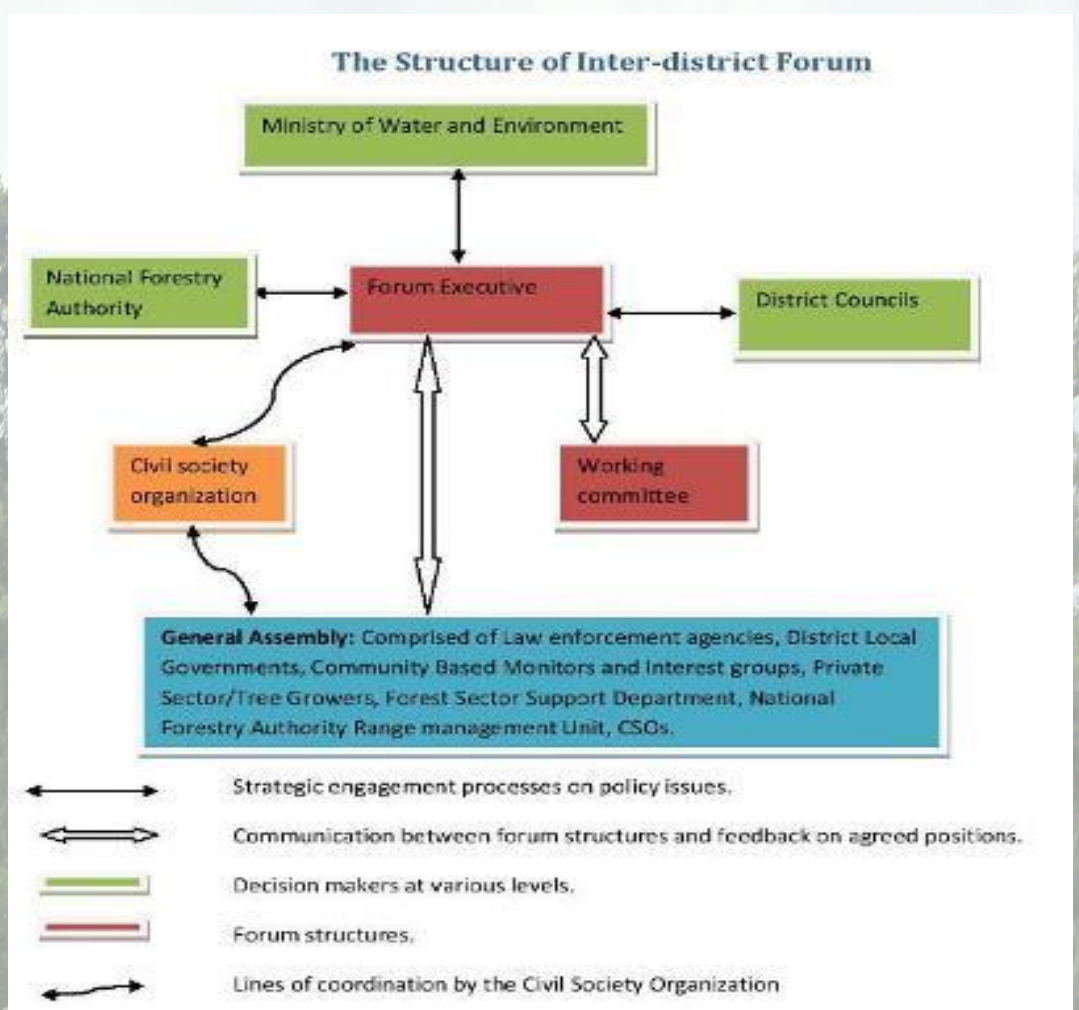
Facilitating forest governance through ICT and building civic competence

- ✓ Training of community based monitors CBMs to perform a watchdog.
- ✓ Establish an Information Communication Technology platform with following components:
 - Server hosted by the civil society organization to receive and transmit messages.
 - A toll free short code (e.g. 6006 for the programme)
 - Negotiated partnership with telecom companies.
- ✓ Ensure availability of telephones for users.
- ✓ Communities send messages on forest illegalities and abuse of human rights on the server (6006) using ordinary and smart phones.
- ✓ The server registers complaints and sends alerts to decision makers promptly.

System link: www.fcbmuganda.org.

<http://accu.or.ug/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CBM-bookletlayoutfinal.pdf>

PHOTO below shows community monitors have arrested illegal forest users.



About the forum

- ✓ Forum is a mechanism for coordination, building coherence and synergies.
- ✓ It provides a platform where community monitors interface with forest management agencies.
- ✓ Is an advocacy platform for lower administrative units to engage with central government?
- ✓ Information sharing and dissemination is prompt.
- ✓ Opportunities for exposing corruption and abuse of the forest sector are enhanced.
- ✓ Communities and other stakeholders openly demand institutions to fulfill their mandates (accountability and transparency).
- ✓ The forum has raised the profile of forest governance issues and influenced national policies.

