



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Stockholm Convention
on persistent organic
pollutants (POPs)

MINAMATA CONVENTION
ON MERCURY

Facilitating synergies in implementing multilateral environmental agreements towards sustainable development

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop
for Eastern & Central Europe

Lviv, Ukraine, 07 March 2017



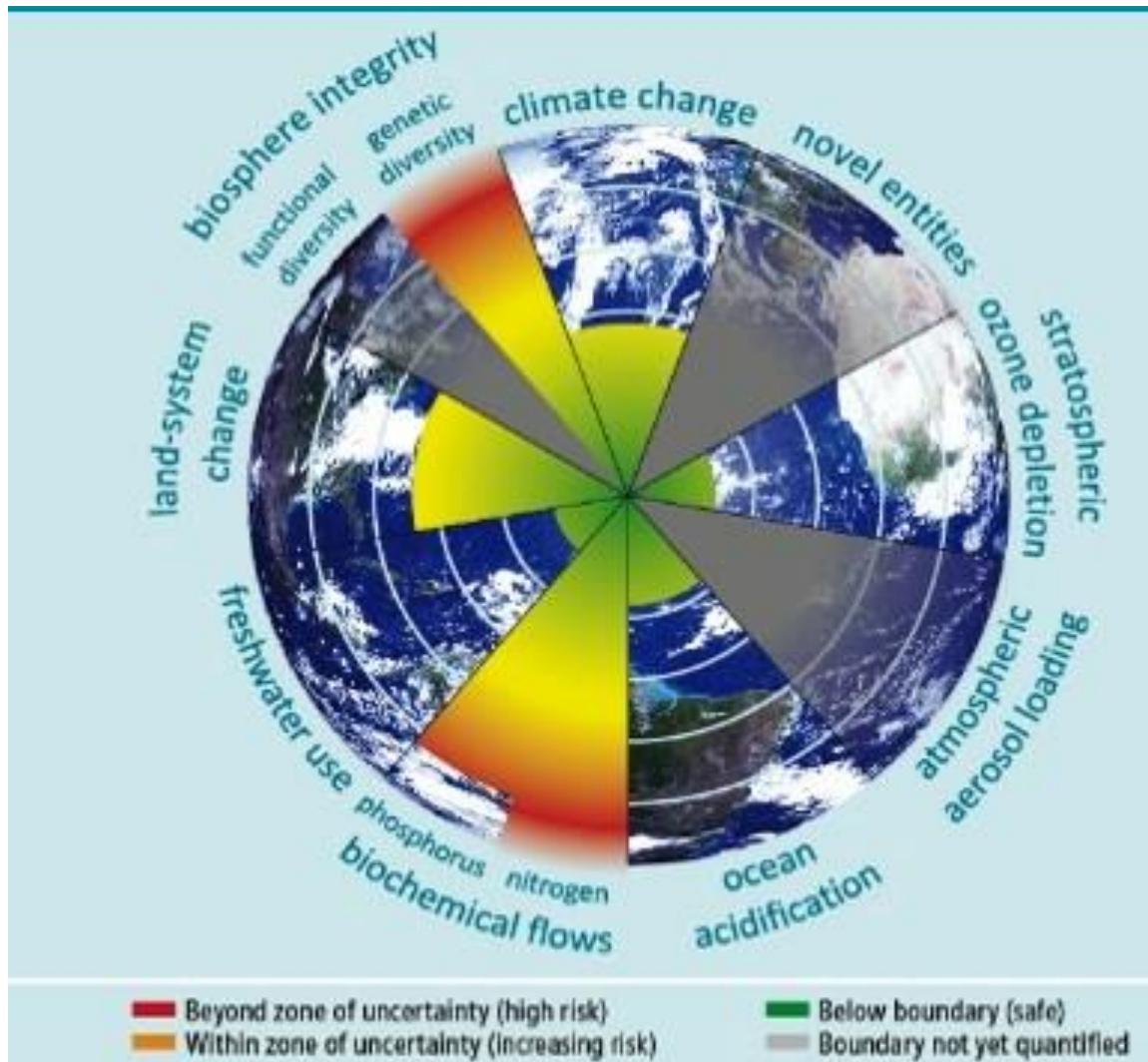
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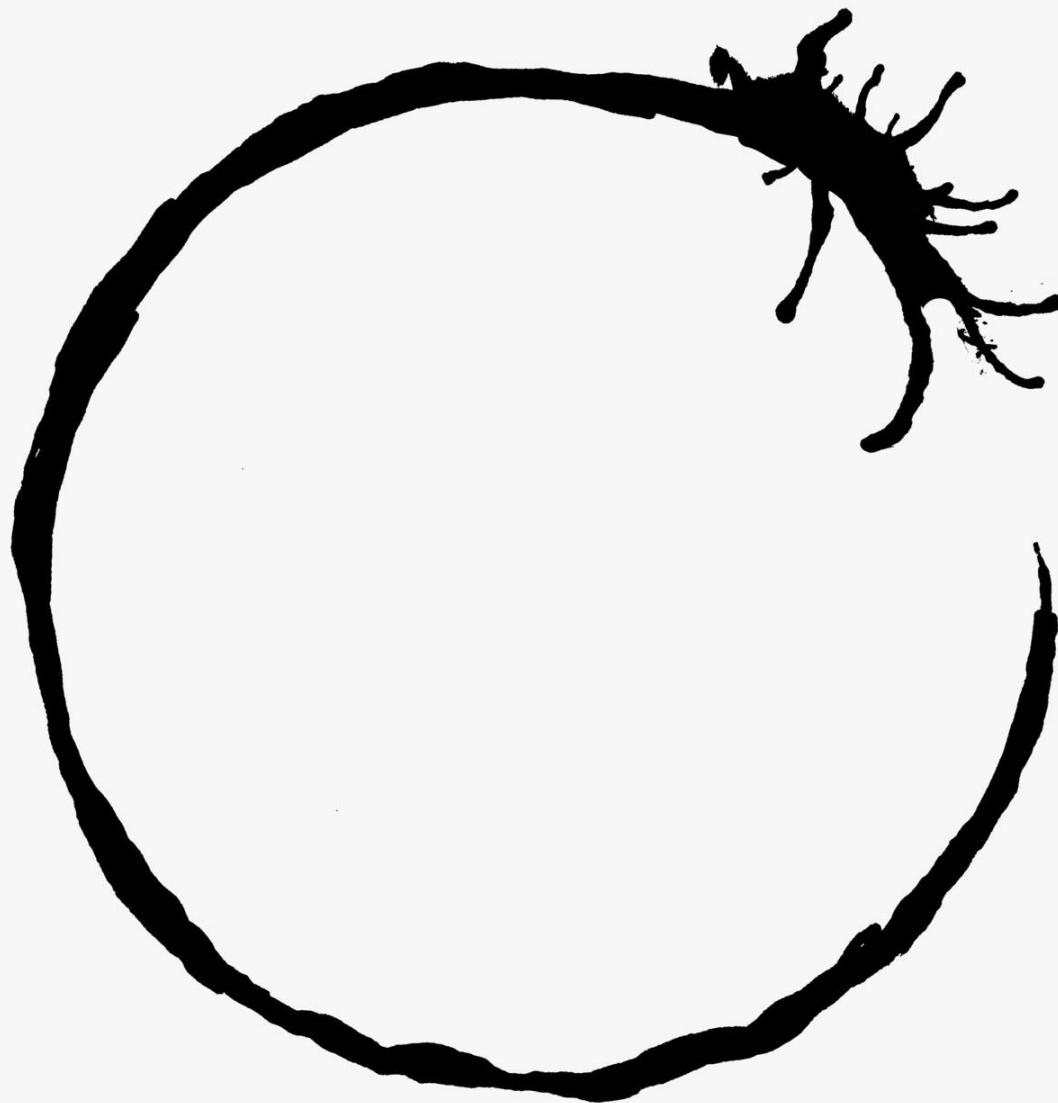
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MEAs and SDGs: Coordinating response to safeguard planet

Continued, rapid deterioration of the global commons...

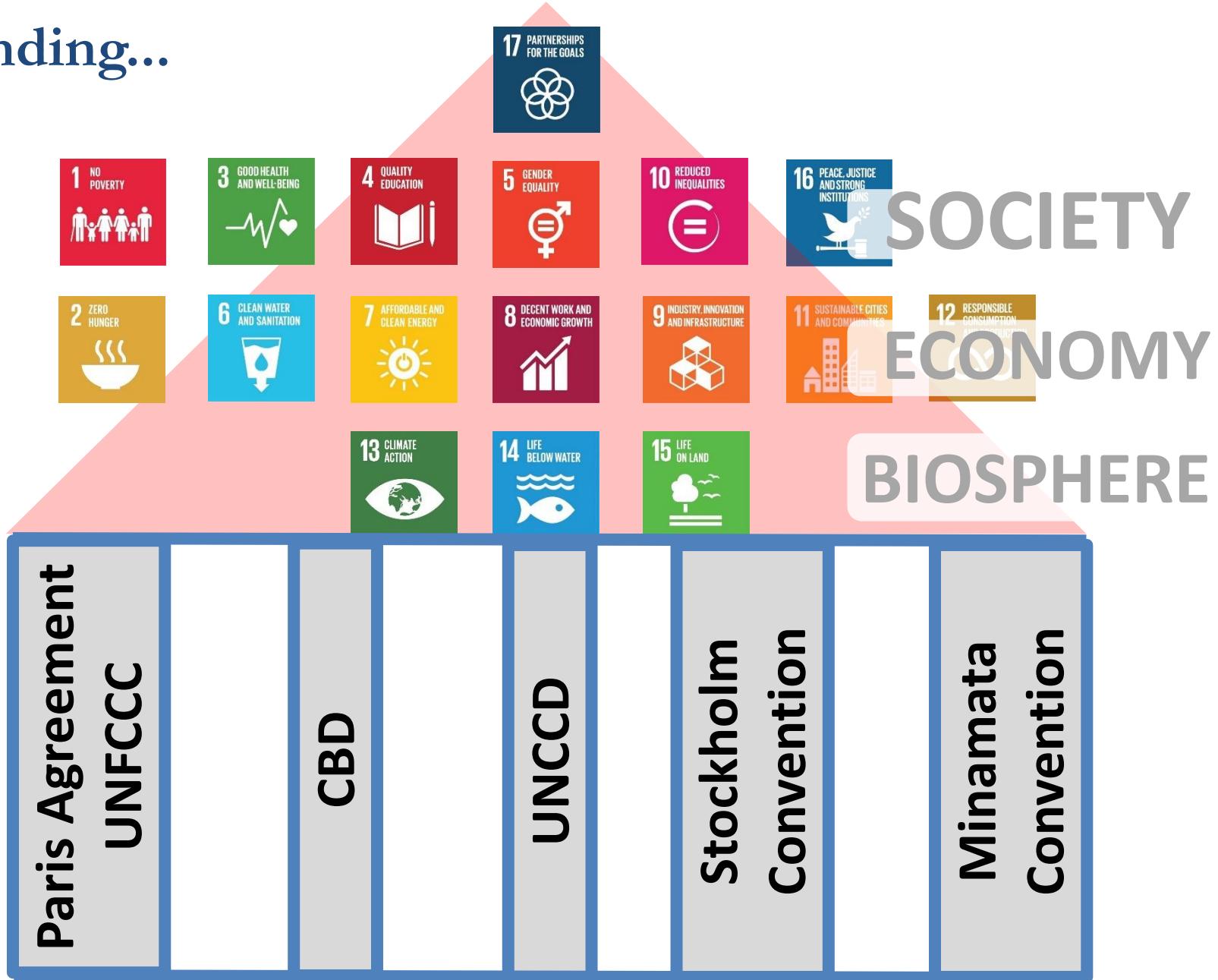
- Holocene → Anthropocene
- Urgent action required to avoid tipping points and irreversible damage







The world is responding...



Session objectives?

1. To understand **milestone global agreements** and **recent MEA guidance** to the GEF;
2. To enhance synergies among **MEAs** and promote **GEF program integration**;
3. To discuss needs, barriers, and **country priorities** to integrated programming.



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1. Key agreements & GEF guidance

- MEA & GEF secretariats
- MEA guidance



2. GEF tools and modalities to support synergy elements

- GEF presentation



3. Country ideas and perspectives on programming

- hands-on discussion on programming
- reflections & questions



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Time Slot for Conventions...



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

UN General Assembly:

- Noted the **need for enhanced cooperation among the Rio Conventions** (2009);
- Adopted The Future We Want (Rio+20), encouraging **coordination and cooperation between MEAs**.



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

Convention on Biological Diversity:

“Encourages Parties to **promote synergies between biodiversity and climate-change policies and measures**” (*decision XI/21*);

“Requests the Global Environment Facility [...] to **support projects and activities to improve synergies among relevant multilateral environment agreements**”
(*decision XI/6*);



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

Convention on Biological Diversity:

GEF to provide financial resources for:

“Capacity-building with the aim of increasing the effectiveness in addressing environmental issues through their **commitments under the CBD, UNFCCC, and the UNCCD**, inter alia, by applying the ecosystem approach”

“Developing synergy-oriented programmes to conserve and sustainably manage all ecosystems, such as forests, wetlands and marine environments, that also contribute to poverty eradication”
(decision X/24)



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change:

“Encourages the Global Environment Facility [...] to align [...] programming with [...] nationally determined contributions, where they exist, during the seventh replenishment, and to **continue to promote synergies across its focal areas.**”

“Requests the Global Environment Facility [...] to **take into consideration climate risks in all its programmes and operations [...].**” (*decision 11/CP.22*)

- ✓ *(I)NDCs frequently mention biodiversity, ecosystem-based approaches, land degradation...*



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

Stockholm Convention and Minamata:

“Stressed that the **sound management of chemicals and wastes has a global environmental benefit** and is an essential element of sustainable development;

“Encouraged the Facility to **continue to enhance synergies in its activities**”

“Identification of possible elements of guidance from the Stockholm Convention to the GEF that also address the relevant priorities of the Basel and Rotterdam conventions.” (*decision SC-7/21*)



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Land as a central element

SDG 15, Target 15.3: Land Degradation Neutrality

→ “by 2030, combat desertification, and restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land-degradation neutral world.”

- Land agenda embodies the importance of tackling complex, interdependent issues in an integrated manner
- How we protect and manage land resources sustainably will have impacts on multiple goals
- UNCCD COP 12 (2015):
 - ✓ Addressing LDN will be priority area for GEF support;
 - ✓ LDN guiding principle for implementation of Convention.



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

UN Convention to Combat Desertification:

“Invites the GEF to continue its support for the implementation of the convention [...] in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, **in particular target 15.3**”;

“Invites the GEF to [...] consider technical and financial support for voluntary **national land degradation neutrality target-setting**”

“Invites country Parties to formulate and **integrate in their National Adaptation Plan voluntary targets to achieve LDN** in accordance with their specific national circumstances and development priorities.” (*COP 12*)



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Seeking Synergy and Multiple Benefits



- Growing interest by countries in cross-cutting projects with multiple benefits
 - ✓ 47 out of 74 land degradation projects (FY13-15) are multi-focal;
 - ✓ \$227 million from land degradation, \$300 million from biodiversity, climate change, SFM, etc.
 - ✓ 41 more projects addressing land agenda supported by funds for climate change (LDCF, SCCF, AF)
 - ✓ \$297 million from climate-related funds
- Synergy among Rio Conventions on the ground



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Seeking Synergy and Multiple Benefits

Example of institutional arrangements at the national/regional level:

- ✓ Informal and/or formal **committees** to coordinate between national focal points, different ministries and agencies, and other stakeholders.
- ✓ **National GEF committees** as mechanisms for national focal points to foster the coherent implementation of the MEAs and SDGs.
- ✓ **National strategy for the implementation across MEAs and SDGs.**
- ✓ **Regional initiatives** including learning and peer-to-peer exchange, regional centers of excellence in data monitoring and reporting, implementation of large-scale, cross-cutting impact programs.



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Seeking Synergy and Multiple Benefits

Additional entry points for synergies at the national level:

- ✓ **Sustainable Development Goals:** Coordinating framework for achieving multiple goals. Integration of MEAs and SDGs in national development.
- ✓ **Implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation:** EbA enable people to adapt to the impacts of climate change by sustainably managing, conserving and restoring ecosystems.
- ✓ **National planning and reporting** (e.g. links between UNFCCC NAPs, CBD NBSAPs, and UNCCD NAPs, national reports)
- ✓ **Sustainable land management:** links with biodiversity, climate change and land degradation, relevant to all 3 Rio Conventions.
- ✓ **Ecosystem restoration:** contributes to biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation and combatting land degradation, relevant to most MEAs.



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GEF-6 Programming Structure

Integrated Approach Pilots:

- Sustainable Cities
- Food Security
- Commodity Supply Chain

Other cross-cutting initiatives:

- Sustainable fisheries
- Illegal wildlife trade
- Amazon sustainable landscapes

Biodiversity

Land Degradation

Climate Change

Sustainable Forest
Management

International Waters

Chemicals & Waste



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Assessing national priorities as expressed in INDCs, NBSAPs and COP guidance

	AFR	ASIA	ECA	LAC	SIDS	Total
Restoration and Reforestation	98%	100%	96%	100%	97%	98%
Energy	98%	100%	88%	90%	97%	95%
Food Security	98%	100%	83%	100%	91%	94%
Sustainable Cities	96%	94%	83%	80%	94%	91%
Environmental and Water Security	94%	100%	58%	95%	91%	88%
Resilience	98%	100%	63%	80%	91%	88%
Fisheries	75%	82%	67%	85%	85%	78%
Natural Capital	73%	76%	50%	85%	71%	71%
Healthy Oceans and Coastal Systems	58%	71%	54%	80%	76%	66%
Green Financing	60%	65%	50%	80%	56%	61%
Green Infrastructure	40%	53%	25%	60%	29%	39%
Commodities	6%	18%	0%	50%	3%	12%
Amazon Landscapes	-	-	-	89%	-	89%



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Questions for today's discussion

- 1) What is an example of cross-cutting/integrated GEF financing in your country, past or present, and was it helpful?

10 min discussion in small groups (each table)

...then short reporting back (1 person per table)



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Questions for today's discussion

- 1) What is an example of cross-cutting/integrated GEF financing in your country, past or present, and was it helpful?
- 2) **What cross-cutting, transformational impact programs could be most helpful in your country/region and could be practically feasible in GEF-7?**

10-15 min discussion in small groups (each table)
...then reporting back with short list of priorities for
GEF-7 programming



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