GEF-8 Amazon, Congo & Critical Forest Biomes
Integrated Program

Rationale of the Program

- Primary forests store more carbon than other forests and they are irreplaceable in terms of biodiversity. They are also critical for other ecosystem services (water) and IPLCs.
- The Amazon and the Congo Basin are globally critical for biodiversity, carbon storage + provide livelihoods and subsistence to IPLCs.
- Beyond the large intact biomes, some regions are also home to smaller patches of primary forests that are vital as biodiversity refugia and can serve as cornerstone for ecological restoration efforts in fragmented landscapes.
- 1/3 of the forests globally -> But these primary forests are being lost and degraded.
- We know the causes: The IP will address the drivers and barriers through systemic and biomes specific approaches.

GEF-8 Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes IP

Goal: Maintaining the integrity of the globally important tropical forests

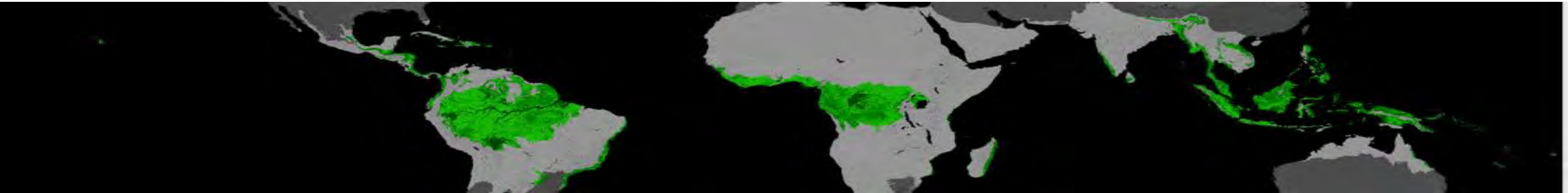
Objective: Conservation of the last and globally important primary tropical forests

Priorities on Amazon, Congo, and other Critical Forest Biomes

Biggest IP of GEF-8: $357 M (incl. $44 M for regional platforms)

Multiple levels of intervention with a focus on Jurisdictional / landscape level with a mix of institutional and incentive tools to protect primary forests and reduce the pressures in the landscape:

- Expand, strengthen the management of protected areas + OECM beyond PAs
- Develop enabling conditions (governance, policies, law, ILUP…)
- Alternative and improved livelihood
- Catalyze multi-stakeholder engagement at different levels to enable transformational changes
- Resource mobilization: Develop/catalyze finance and other incentives for forest protection while eliminating perverse incentives (PES…)
- Empowerment of IPLCs
- Regional cooperation, incl. support for coordinated management with neighboring countries (corridors)

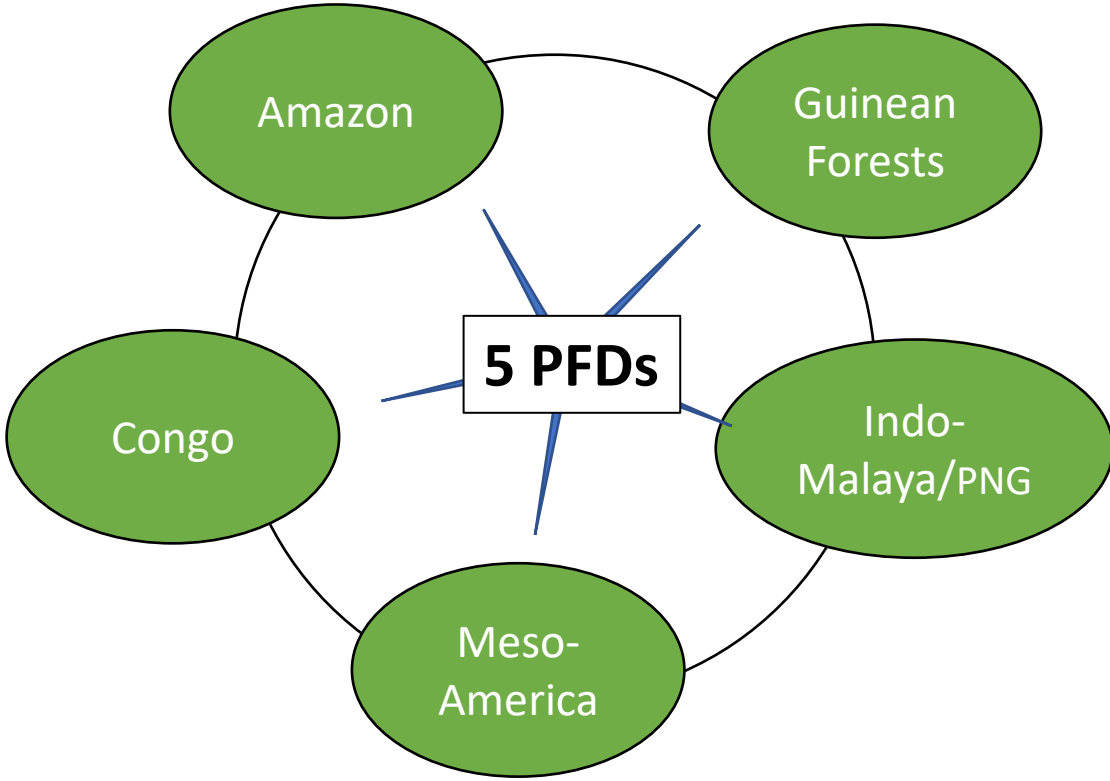


Selection criteria of the national child projects

- Evidence of globally important biodiversity + High carbon storage and removal capacity
- Potential for restoring ecosystem integrity
- High threats
- Willingness from the country to develop ambitious policies that will prioritize the maintenance of forest integrity
- Strong baseline and co-financing opportunities
- Contribution to the MEAs
- Potential for enhanced and transparent co-management strategies with IPLCs and marginalized groups
- Existing lessons and best practices about the protection and governance of IFLs
- Added value of a programmatic approach / Contribution to the IP goals (including transboundary/regional connectivity)

Regional level Platforms: expected functions to deliver program level objectives

- Knowledge generation and exchange
- Building coherence and synergies between CPs
- Policy support
- Mobilization of finance (incl. link with existing initiatives CAFI, Glasgow Declaration…)
- Strengthening public and private sector engagement
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Communication and outreach beyond the Program



Targeted Geographies and potential countries

Amazon

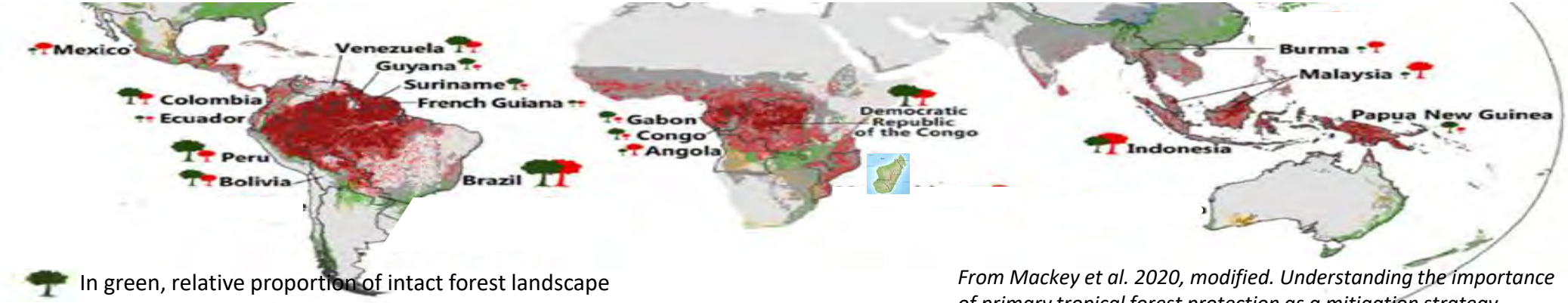
- Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, Suriname, Guyana, Ecuador, and Venezuela

Congo basin

- Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Central Africa Republic, Angola, and Sao Tome and Principe

Other Critical Forest Biomes

- *Indo-Malaya/PNG Biome*: Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Bhutan, Lao, Vietnam, and Cambodia.
- *Mesoamerica Biome:* Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama, and Nicaragua.
- *Guinean forests Biome:* Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria.



In green, relative proportion of intact forest landscape
In red, relative rate of forest loss

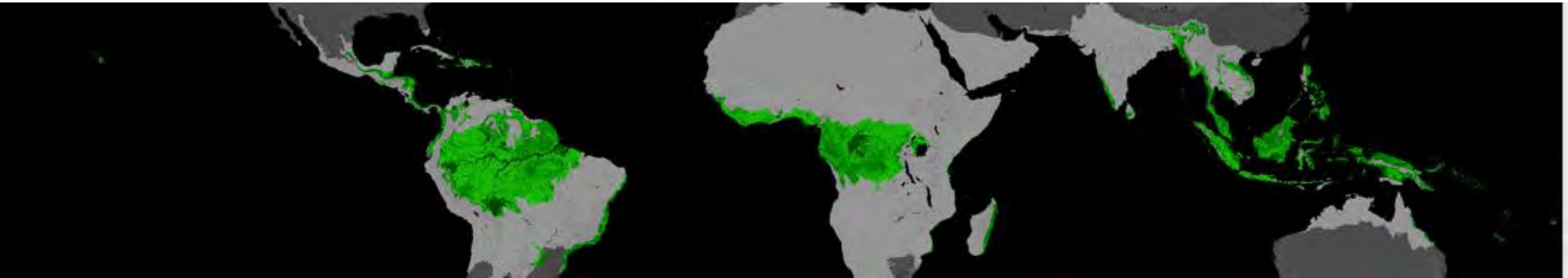
From Mackey et al. 2020, modified. Understanding the importance of primary tropical forest protection as a mitigation strategy

Criteria for selecting a lead agency for each PFD

- A recognized leadership on forest conservation, relative to the target biomes and geographies
- A convening power for all relevant sectors, engaging specific stakeholders relevant to the IP agenda, notably from the private sector, platforms, CSO, Indigenous People…
- A systems vision and strong track record of transformative actions to safeguard and sustainably use tropical forests.
- A strong baseline of investments in the biome, with the capability of leveraging its own resources
- Evidence of experience with developing and supporting ambitious policies to conserve primary forests
- Recognition of knowledge management and innovations

Expected results / Core Indicators

- ✓ CI-1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management: **54 Mha**
- ✓ CI-3 Area of land restored: **1 Mha**
- ✓ CI-4 Area of landscapes under improved practices: **43 Mha**
- ✓ CI-6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated: **207 Mt CO2e**
- ✓ CI-7 Number of shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management: **1**
- ✓ CI-9 Reduction of chemicals of global concern and their waste: **10 kt**



Thank you for your attention

Questions?

Critical Forest Biomes IP

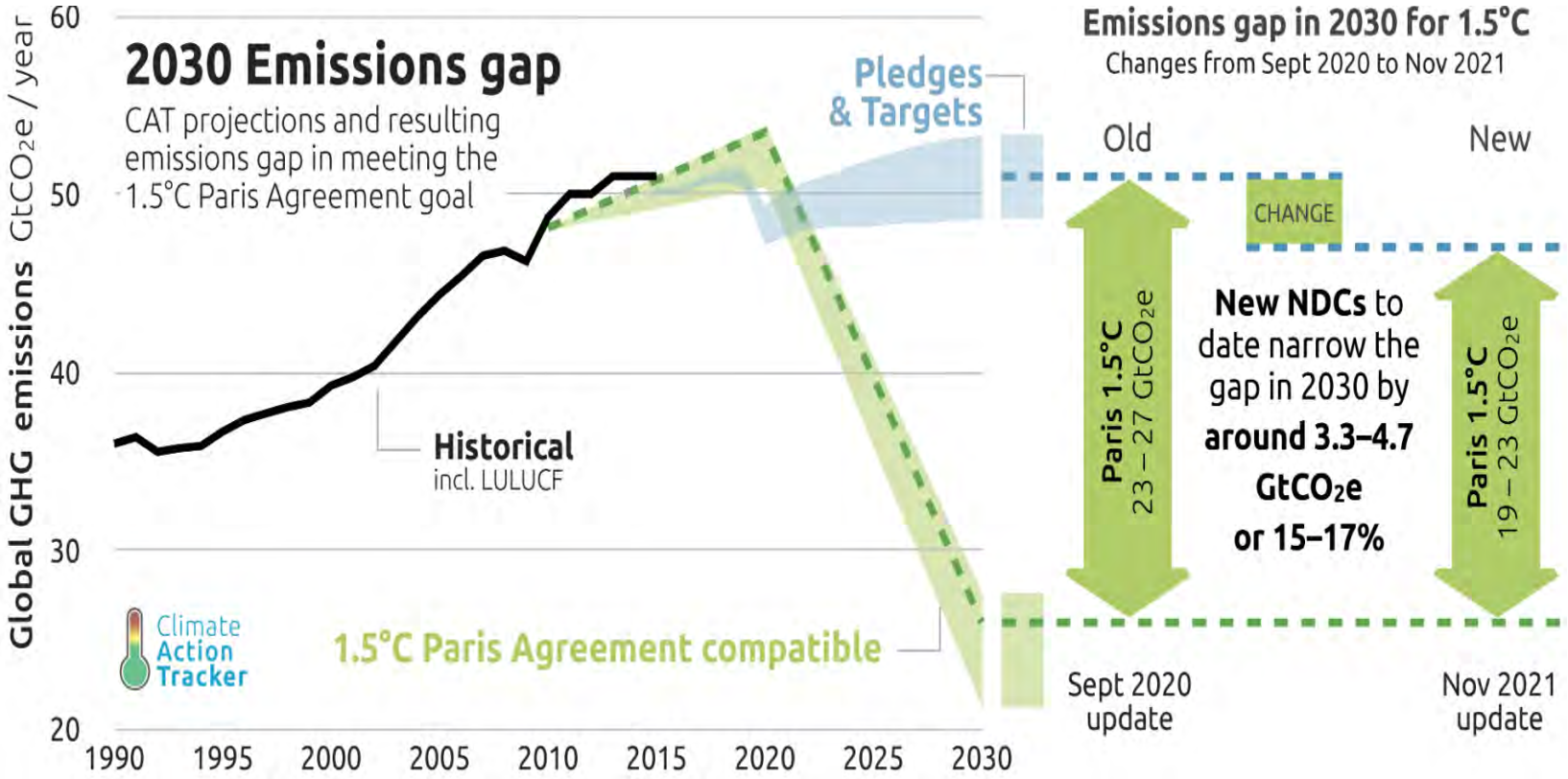
Contact for Congo and other Biomes — Jean-Marc Sinnassamy: jmsinnassamy@thegef.org

Contact for Amazon — Pascal Martinez: pmartinez@thegef.org

NZNP Accelerator Integrated Program

Global Environmental Problem:

- The current **ambition gap** between climate science and climate action is significant and need to be addressed urgently.
- Despite clear interconnections between climate and biodiversity crisis, **climate and biodiversity responses are often not coordinated**, resulting in missed opportunities to maximize synergies and minimize trade-offs.



NZNPA Integrated Program

Overarching Goal:

To accelerate implementation of nature-positive, net-zero pathways by investing in nature and new technologies.

The IP will support the goals of the Paris Agreement by pushing the ambition of national climate plans beyond the current levels and contributing to close the gap that currently exist between the expected combined impacts of adopted NDCs and the "well-below 2^{o}C degrees" path.

The IP will also support the goals of the CDB and the CCD by ensuring that climate mitigation policies are also fostering biodiversity conservation and land degradation goals.

NZNPA Integrated Program

Specific Objectives:

- Support the adoption of **net-zero long-term strategies and policies** that are **coordinated with** national **biodiversity and land degradation** strategies.
- Promote to the effective **integration of the climate and nature agendas** at the national and global level.
- Invest in **NZNP-aligned pipelines of projects** that generate multiple global environmental benefits.
- Support the development of **robust data systems to monitor progress** towards NZNP targets.

NZNPA Integrated Program

Proposed Activities:

Each child project will include a country-specific combination of:

1. Upstream component:
    a. **Cross-ministerial coordination processes** for the development and/or implementation of NZNP long-term strategies
    b. **Socio-economic analysis** and scenario modeling of cost-benefits of decarbonization options
    c. Preparation and adoption of **net-zero strategies / LTSs** and/or policies, that are coordinated with national biodiversity conservation and land degradation strategies and objectives
    d. **Capacity-building** activities needed to translate long-term strategies into enforceable domestic policies and investments
    e. Support the development of **robust data systems** to monitor progress towards NZNP targets.
2. Downstream component:
    1. Development of sectoral **NZNP investment plans** and pipelines
    2. Technical assistance for **project preparation**
    3. **Co-investment of GEF resources** in specific projects that can deliver (at portfolio level) multiple global environmental benefits

NZNPA Integrated Program

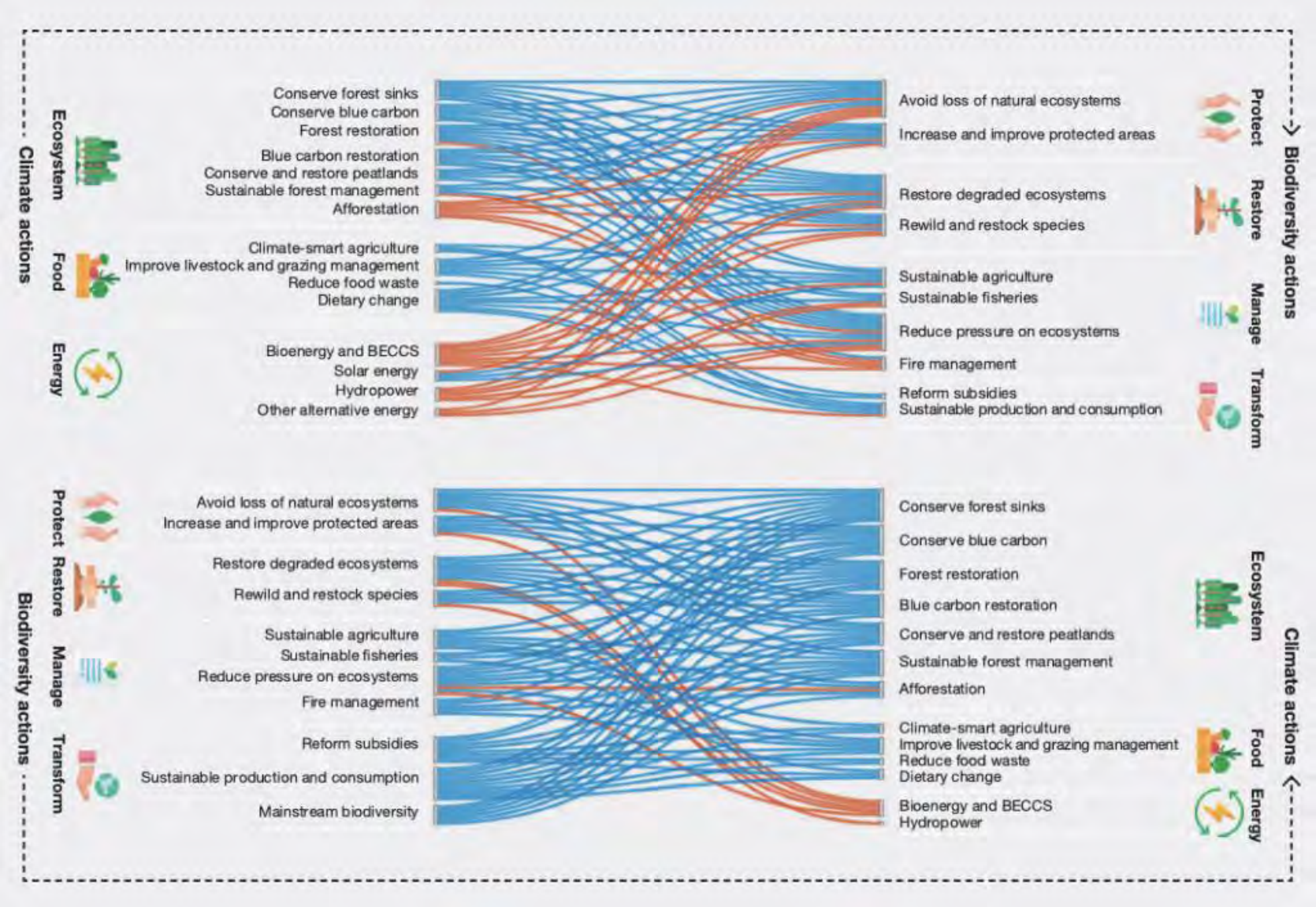
Priority Areas for Downstream Investments:

→ prioritized as part of the long-term planning process through the upstream component.

→ may include one or more of the following sectors, depending on country priorities and emissions profiles:

- Nature-based Solutions
- Agriculture and food
- Energy systems
- Built environments
- Industry and manufacturing
- Zero-emission mobility

NZNPA Integrated Program



A graphic illustrating how actions to tackle climate change (top) could have positive (blue) or negative (red) impacts on biodiversity and how actions to tackle biodiversity (bottom) loss could impact climate action. Credit: IPCC-IPBES (2021).

NZNPA Integrated Program

Global Platform:

1. Outreach and communication: engaging with other providers of knowledge and technical assistance long-term planning for climate and nature objectives.
2. Knowledge generation and exchange: development of methodologies, tools and lessons learned from national experiences to be captured and consolidated at global platform level, contributing to global knowledge on design, planning and implementation of NZNP strategies.
3. Policy support: support at child project level to be provided, when feasible, through the global platform helpdesk.
4. Mobilization of finance: connecting the global development and climate and nature finance community with local needs.
5. Monitoring and evaluation: development and management of the program M&E and reporting system.

NZNPA Integrated Program

Selection Criteria For Countries

1. Commitment to long term deep decarbonization action:
   i. NDC aligned with a net-zero path?
   ii. around-2050 net-zero target or long-term strategy?
   iii. made commitments / announced intention to adopt a net-zero target/LTS at highest political levels?

2. Potential of the proposal to effectively integrate nature-positive practices and approaches, including biodiversity and land restoration, into climate mitigation and net-zero plans, thus generating multiple global environmental benefits.

3. Direct participation in the project governance of multiple ministries relevant to long-term planning for NZNP goals and willingness to engage at the highest-level of policy decision-making.

4. Potential of the proposal to engage with and mobilize private sector actors and investments at scale.

5. Commitment to ensure a broad national stakeholder consultation, to ensure wide acceptance and sustainability of the proposed interventions including the impacts on women and girls.

6. Consideration of measures to promote behavioral change, compatible with nature-positive net-zero goals, including with respect to dietary and mobility habits, will also be encouraged.

NZNPA Integrated Program

transformative changes in systems:

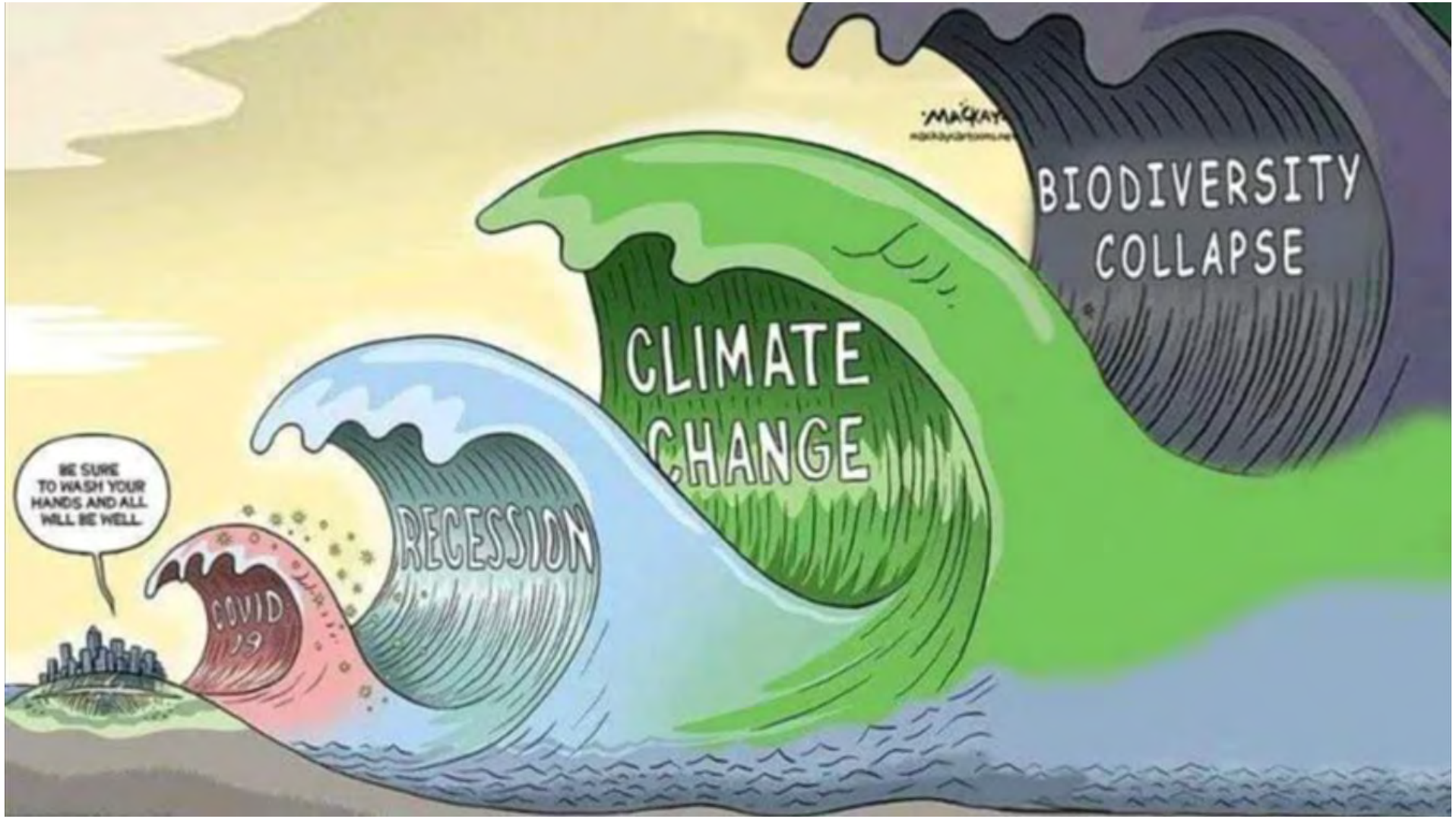
- Food
- Natural
- Energy
- (Urban)

levers to influence systems transformation:

- Governance and Policies
- Financial Leverage
- Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues
- Innovation

GEF 8 indicators:

- CI.3 land restored: 0.1 Mil Ha
- CI.4 improved land practices: 4.5 Mil Ha
- CI.6 GHG mitigated: 104 MtCO2e



Thank you.

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Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development Integrated Program (GRID)

GEFSEC Leads: Mark Zimsky and Hannah Fairbank

GRID Goal

Enable countries to meet transportation infrastructure needs and the economic and social benefits critical to achieving the SDGs and Paris Agreement goals.

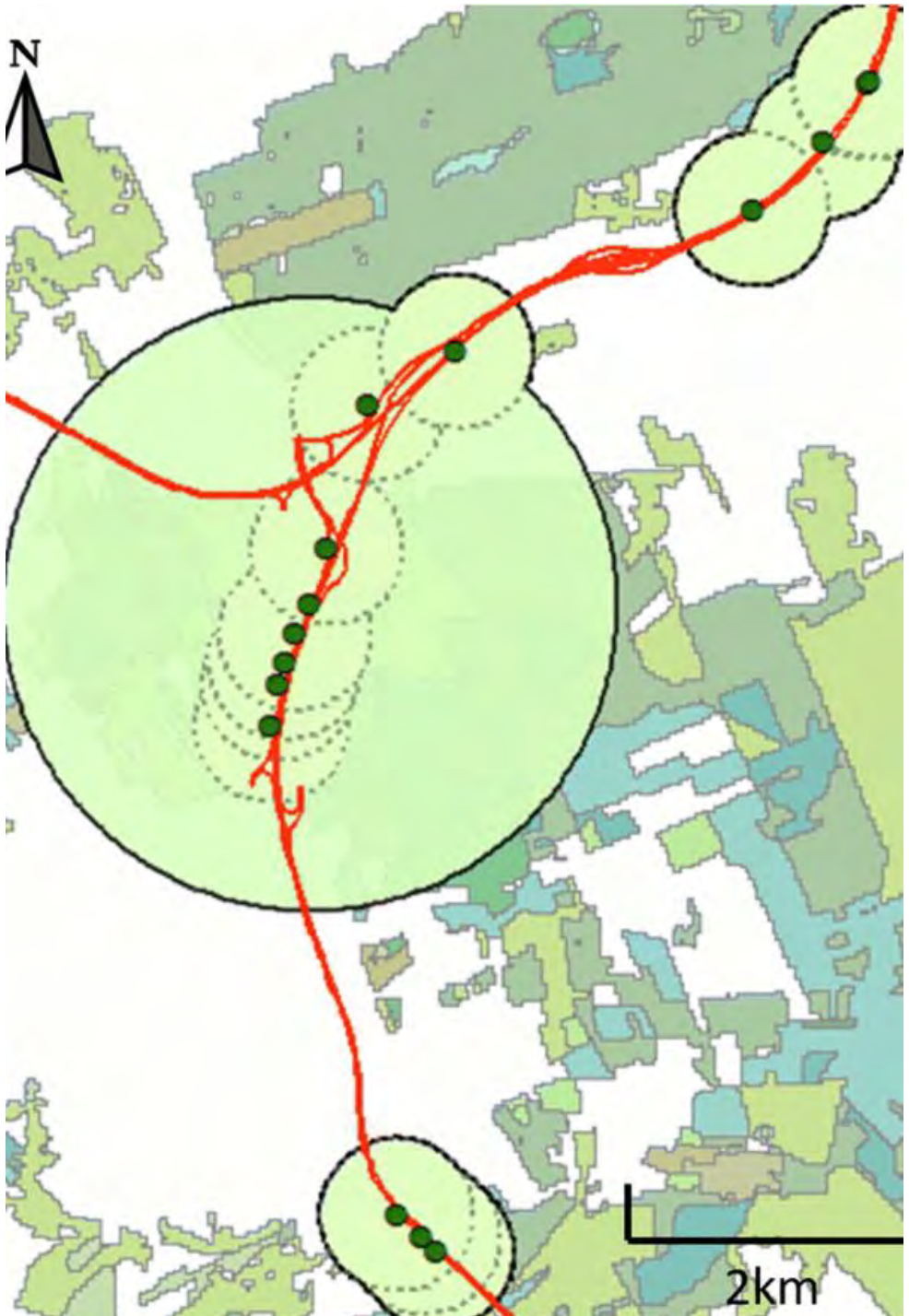
GRID Objective

Enable countries to develop portfolios of transportation infrastructure projects that build in sustainability from inception.

GRID Upstream Approach: The How (1)

Improve **infrastructure-related planning, regulatory, financial, and institutional and management frameworks** geared to the differential needs of countries and landscape specificities.

Framework elements will include whole-life costs, resilience, and other elements deemed essential for a well-operating transportation infrastructure industry ***and*** for embedding sustainability into infrastructure development from inception.



GRID Upstream Approach: The How (2)

- At the country and landscape/seascape scale, the program will simultaneously target three key areas:
  - Improve the policy enabling environment for decision-making and investing in the delivery of transportation infrastructure services through integrated and sustainably engineered approaches.
  - Strengthen integrated, multisectoral, and participatory upstream planning and design.
  - Enhance financing and de-risking mechanisms for delivery of sustainably engineered approaches to providing transportation infrastructure services.

GRID Key Outputs/Outcomes

Transportation infrastructure projects emphasize biodiversity, avoided land degradation, and climate change mitigation benefits through:

- avoiding placement of transportation infrastructure in globally important and particularly sensitive ecological areas,
- biodiversity restoration around the right of way of a road;
- maintaining flows / connectivity for fluvial transport;
- maintaining or enhancing wildlife crossings or other natural infrastructure to increase connectivity and facilitate the movement of animals;
- ecological services maintained to serve infrastructure needs, such as free flowing rivers that enable multi-modal transport systems, or reduce risks to engineered infrastructure, such as forested slopes that protect roads from landslides and erosion;
- balancing between investment in new transportation infrastructure and maintaining existing assets to meet sustainable infrastructure service delivery requirements.

GRID Global Platform

- Delivers program level objectives by:

- Assessing and promoting the true environmental costs of traditional transportation infrastructure and the value of integrated, multi-sectoral sustainable transportation infrastructure planning and development, including solutions that secure and do not degrade ecological services provided by nature;

- Learning around the design of sustainable transportation infrastructure that is biodiversity-positive; and

- Shared understanding of innovative approaches to facilitating the financing of sustainable infrastructure.

GRID Country Selection Criteria

- Desire and political will to apply the approach;
- Experience working on upstream policies that create enabling conditions for sustainable infrastructure and/or biodiversity mainstreaming in sectors like forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, extractive industries;
- Large-scale transportation infrastructure investment aspirations in the sub-sectors of greatest impact: Roads, railroads, and ports;
- Intact habitats providing high biodiversity and/or climate benefits in areas where infrastructure could possibly be placed (high potential for maintenance of GEBs and avoided loss of GEBs).
- Demonstrated country capacity in developing and implementing successful biodiversity mainstreaming policy initiatives with GEF or other support.

GRID-IP contributions to the GEB Core Indicators

2.5 million hectares of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management (CI 1)

0.5 million hectares of marine protected areas created or under improved management (CI 2)

2.5 million hectares of landscapes under improved management (excluding protected areas) (CI 4)

0.5 million hectares of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas) (CI 5)

17 million metric tons of CO_2 eq GHG emissions mitigated (CI 6)

Clean and Healthy Oceans IP

contact: Andrew Hume, Ahume@theGEF.org

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Clean and Healthy Oceans IP

The issue

- Coastal pollution from land-based activities is one of the most serious threats to the world's coastal ecosystems. It directly impacts health, livelihoods, biodiversity, and ecological goods and services.
- One of the main threats to coastal waters is the increasing levels of nutrients reaching the ocean from point source and/or diffuse land-based sources, such as cities and agricultural activities.
- According to recent estimates, 70-80% of global wastewater is discharged untreated into the ocean, either directly or via rivers transporting pollution loads to the coast
- Globally over 500 dead zones have been identified covering an area roughly the size of the EU

:

Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program

Goal:

The goal of the IP is to contribute to a sustainable blue economy by curbing the inflow of land-based-pollution into the coastal environment, thereby advancing the ecological, social, and economic well-being of countries situated along the coasts of the world's Large Marine Ecosystems.

Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program

Objective:

The Objective of this Integrated Program is to address hypoxic zones by curbing coastal pollution from agricultural, industrial and municipal sources through policy and regulatory measures and infrastructure investments combined with Nature Based Solutions.

Two-prong Approach:

- A global multi-stakeholder platform
- Significantly Scale-up Action in LMEs

Potential Focus of the Global/Regional Platform

Strengthen and or create MS dialogues to inform economic and social perspectives critical in understanding the drivers, opportunities and limitations to achieving better nutrient management at global and regional scales (incl. the private sector, civil society groups, etc.)

Science to policy platforms: Inform global discourse on *multifaceted impacts and benefits/costs of inaction* of addressing untreated wastewater and agricultural run-off

Accelerate and facilitate action on global and regional commitments to curb land-based sources of pollution (incl. UNEA 4 and 5 resolutions among other)

Advancing new financial tools and products to stimulate private sector banking and pension funds to invest in grey and green pollution reduction facilities *(incl. facilitate stepping up corporate reporting on nutrient and water footprint across supply chains)*

Facilitating KM and sharing of lessons learned between national, regional and global stakeholders (incl. South-South and North-South exchanges and twinning).

Development of "how to" guides, that will focus on policy formulation, different technical solutions, as well as ecosystem health indicators to enable the measurement of the IP interventions.

Stimulate innovation and technology development through e.g., moonshots and other innovation platforms among technology and solution providers from SMEs and large conglomerates (e.g. such as LME based competitive innovation grant mechanisms).

Examples of type of country/LME-level actions supported

Policy and regulatory reforms

- Cross-sectoral coordination and coherent policy and regulatory instruments
  - Form inter-ministerial committees (IMCs)
  - Address competing subsidies across sectors
  - Revise building codes where needed to allow for innovative solutions in cities
- Incentivize investments in pollution prevention
- Build awareness and alliances across neighboring countries – Source-to-Sea Management requires transboundary cooperation

Domestic finance

- Quantify environmental externalities through valuation of true costs of pollution
- Facilitate increased domestic finance allocation for wastewater collection and treatment

Investments in Nature Based Solutions (NBS):

- Nature based solutions (low cost, flexible, locally adapted, in centralized or de~ setting)
- Combine NBS/green with existing grey infrastructure for treatment of industrial, municipal effluents and agricultural run-off

Innovation:

- Innovative nutrient recycling approaches and water and waste~ reuse and biosolids to energy systems
- Zero or low energy input NBS, to allow deployment in off-grid and remote settings;
- Innovation platforms (e.g. competitive innovation marketplace) among technology and solution providers & encourage SME's and start-ups to commercialize innovations
- Financial tools and products to stimulate private sector banking and pension funds to invest in grey and green pollution reduction investments

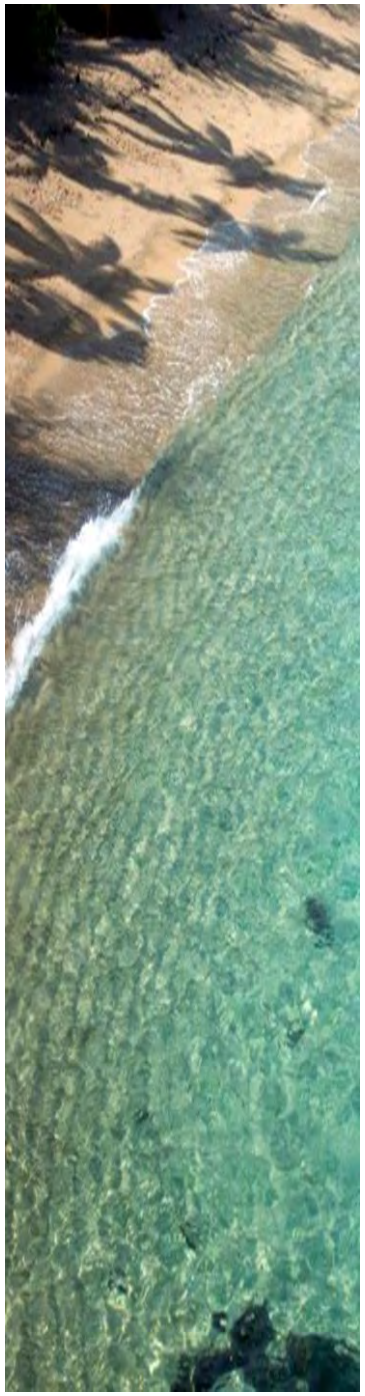
Focus on countries contributing to the pollution load *in 2 and maximum 3 Large Marine Ecosystems, one of which prioritizes the needs of SIDS*. A focus on a limited number of LMEs allows to focus the IP and deliver measurable impact which can be scaled up in a region.

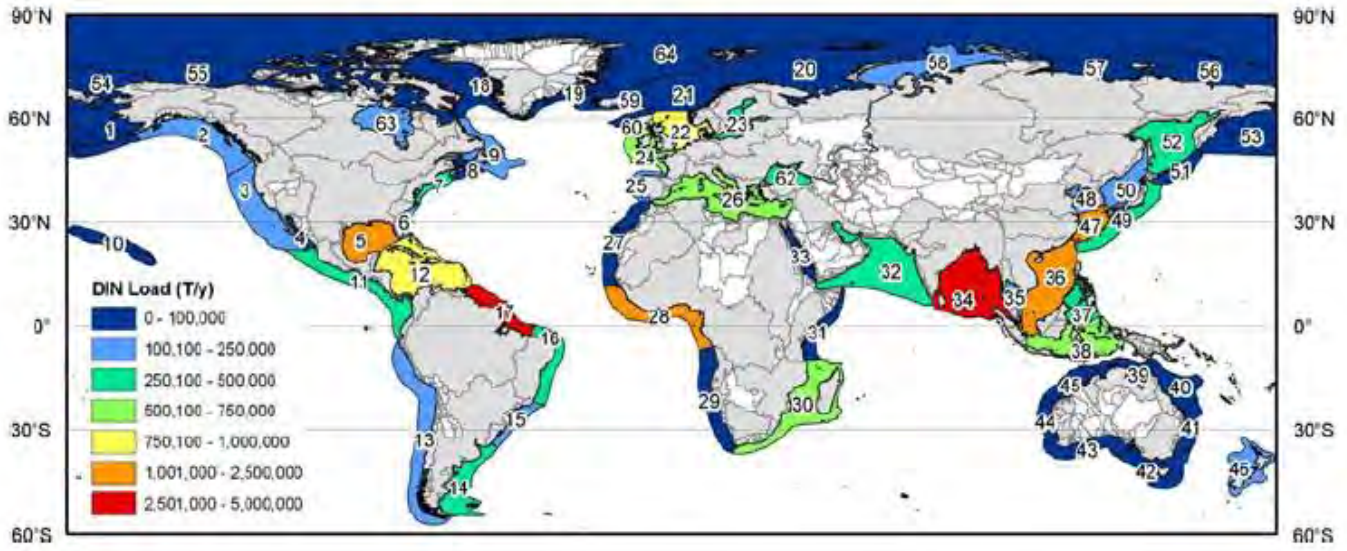
Total of $98M for the 2 or 3 LME projects. If $10-$11M/country, then can have:
= 3 LMEs with 3 countries each (3 x 3 x $11M = $99M) *or*
= 2 LMEs with 5 countries (2 x 5 x $10M = $100M).

To qualify, the Large Marine Ecosystem in question must have a **ministerially endorsed Strategic Action Program** (SAP). *Also, IP countries may include a) activities at country level aligned with the LME SAP priorities; and b) upstream countries discharging via rivers into the LME.*

Approximately 3-5 countries within each LME will be considered, including by applying the below selection criteria:

- **Countries that show political leadership** and aspire towards **cross sectoral planning** to address coastal pollution, including by advancing NbS solutions that deliver on multiple GEBs and enhance of coastal systems.
- **Ability to leverage financing** (e.g., domestic resources, private capital, loans, grants).
- **Advancement of innovative approaches** with potential for resource reuse and pollution avoidance and likelihood for upscaling and delivery of multiple global environmental and socio-economic benefits.
- **Private sector engagement** to leverage its expertise and resources for innovation and scalability of sustainable solutions.



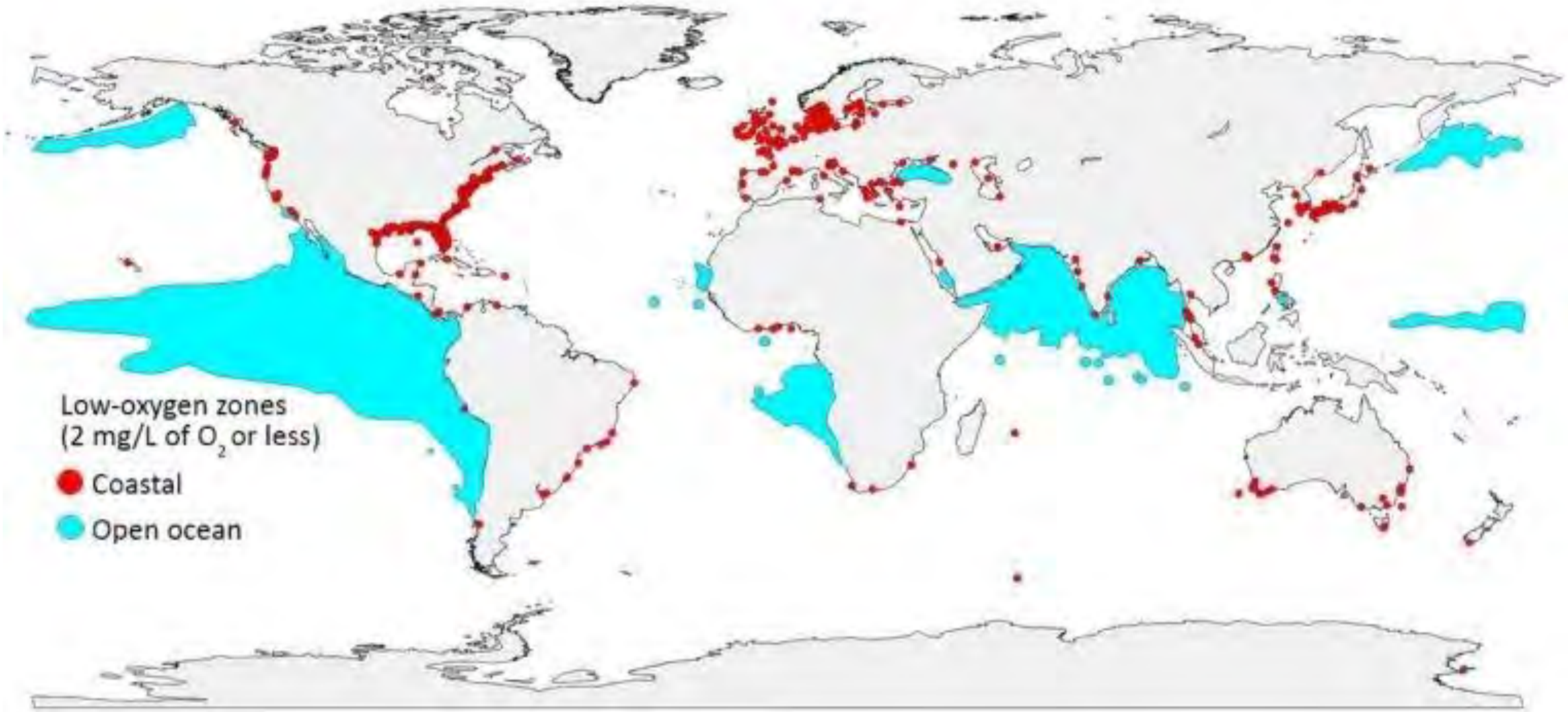


Illustrative Examples of what potential LME selection decisions may include:

> To secure measurable impact the criteria restrict the focus of the IP to 2-3 LMEs, including one of which should prioritize the needs of SIDS. With an expected investment envelope per country of approx. $10 million, the IP will consider approximately 3-5 countries per LME. </= $98M total for countries

> Specific to **SIDS**, choosing the CLME+ region, which includes two LMEs, namely the Caribbean & North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems, will be the most obvious choice based on SIDS proximity and pollution loads. The CLME+ is bordered by over 35 States and Territories and its vast marine area (4.4 million km^2) is a major contributor to regional economic development and is key to many globally relevant ecological processes.

> The other 1 or 2 LMEs in this IP will **need to emerge from demonstrated country and regional leadership to address the urgency of nutrient pollution and subsequent hypoxic zones**. Based on major nutrient loads *alone*, this could be the Bay of Bengal LME which is bordered by Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand and which holds natural resources of considerable social and economic importance to the bordering countries. Other LMEs of **potential** relevance/high loads include the West African Guinea Current LME and the Southwest African Agulhas Current LME.



World Economic Forum, 2018

Clean and Healthy Oceans - Contribution to Core indicators

The causes of nutrient pollution require a cross-sector approach and will result in benefits across human and environmental health. With regard to the GEF-8 core indicators the program is expected to contribute to

Core Indicator 4: landscapes under improved practices (ha)
Core Indicator 5: marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (ha)
Core Indicator 6: tons of CO2e of greenhouse gas emissions mitigated
Core Indicator 7: 2 -3 shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management

and w/ possible co-benefits to CW; health and livelihoods

Clean and Healthy Oceans - Funding

Summary of Negotiations of the 8th Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (p 267)

Table 3. Notional Breakdown of Country Amounts for Integrated Programs

GEF-8 Integrated Programs	BD	CCM	LD	IW	CW	TOTALS
Food Systems	123	5	91	11	0	**231**
Ecosystem Restoration	5	7	91	0	0	**103**
Sustainable Cities	59	54	57	0	0	**170**
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes	290	16	0	7	0	**313**
Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution	11	16	0	47	0	**74**
Blue and Green Islands	75	8	6	0	0	**89**
Clean and Healthy Ocean	43	8	0	47	0	**98**
Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	107	12	0	0	0	**119**
Net-Zero Accelerator	26	82	11	0	0	**119**
Wildlife Conservation for Development	112	0	5	0	0	**118**
Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains	5	9	5	11	26	**57**
Focal Area Totals to Countries	**855**	**217**	**266**	**124**	**26**	**1489**

Clean and Healthy Oceans

contact: Andrew Hume, Ahume@theGEF.org

Thank you!

Questions?

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

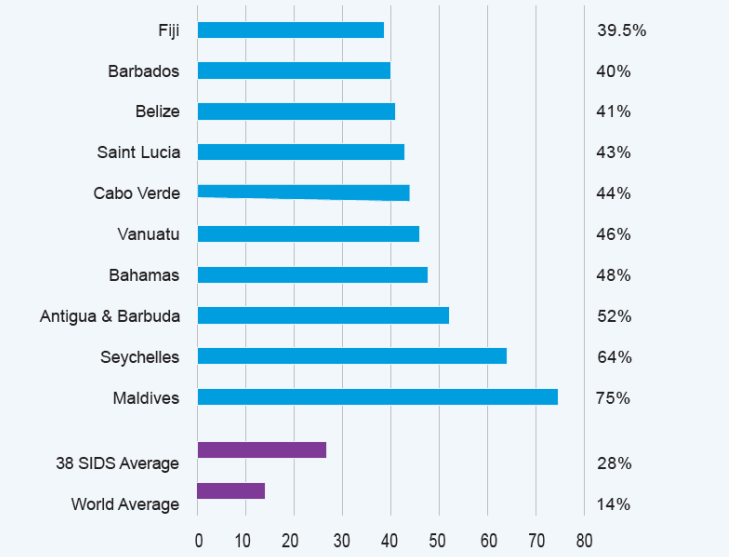
Context:

Nature is the foundation of livelihoods and economic development in the SIDS, but its integrity and ability to provide for future generations is **undermined by unsustainable practice**s and decision making.

There are **multiple drivers of ecosystem degradation** affecting the SIDS, in particular key economic sectors including **tourism, food (both agriculture and fisheries), and growing urban development**.

This has led to **loss of key biodiversity** in particular in areas of high endemism, **diminished soil health, loss of forests** and vegetative cover, **increased pollution** from hazardous chemicals and associated **wastes**, all compounded by a high vulnerability to climate change.

Top 10 Worldwide Travel and Tourism Total Contribution to GDP (%) (2018)



Source: Travel and Tourism Total Contribution to GDP World Bank 2018

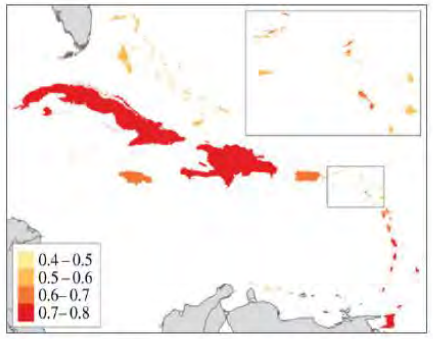
Source: FAO2017

Of the 27 countries and territories most vulnerable to coral reef degradation and loss, 19 (70%) are small island states, where people are more likely to depend on reefs.

The Economic Benefits of Tuna Fishing for Pacific SIDS Party to the Nauru Agreement

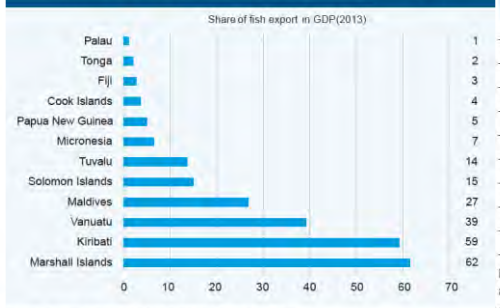
Country	Licence Fees (million $)	Government Revenue (%)
Kiribati	118.3	66
Tuvalu	23.4	62
Marshall Islands	29.2	60
Micronesia (FSM)	63.2	56
Nauru	27.8	28
Solomon Islands	41.6	9.8
Palau	6.8	8.7
Papua New Guinea	128.8	4.9

Source: SPC Policy Brief SPC 2019 Figure 1



Source: Coral Bleaching in the Caribbean 2019–Royal Society Figure 3a

Export in Fisheries: A significant source of income for many SIDS



Source: Export in fisheries Chart 5 (SIDSin Numbers 2017)

Top 10 Largest Marine Protected and Conserved Areas in SIDS by Size (2019)

Rank	Country	Site	Size (km²)
1	Palau	Palau National Marine Sanctuary	503522
2	Kiribati	Phoenix Islands Protected Area	408146
3	Seychelles	Amirantes to Fortune Bank	137482
4	Palau	Domestic Fishing Zone	83080
5	Seychelles	Aldabra Group	69954
6	Dominican Republic	Santuario de los Bancos de La Plata y La Navidad	35472
7	Bahamas	Southeast Bahamas Marine Managed Area	24450
8	Bahamas	Cay Sal Marine Managed Area	16840
9	Palau	Coastal State Waters	13597
10	Guinea-Bissau	Bolama- Bijagòs	9033

Note: There are 893 marine protected and conserved areas in SIDS—5.2% of the total number of marine protected and conserved areas in the world.

Source: Top 10 marine protected and conserved areas in SIDS UNEP-WCMC and IUCN 2019

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

The goal of the IP is to demonstrate the transformational potential of incorporating the value of nature into decision-making and using innovative Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to achieve development and MEA goals and address SIDS challenges related to food security, climate change mitigation and adaptation and reduction and of hazardous chemical pollution.

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

The objective of the IP is to *reduce ecosystem degradation* and *facilitate nature-positive development*, by applying Nature-based Solutions in key ecosystems that support socio-economic development in SIDS, with specific application to the food, tourism and urban sectors.

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

National projects will have two main areas of work:

1. Integration of nature in key economic sectors through targeted economic, governance and financial interventions:

- **Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) and Ecosystem Service Valuation**
- **Integrated and Comprehensive Planning**
- **Enhancing Financing Options** supporting domestic resource mobilization and innovative financing mechanisms .

2. Scaling up landscape and seascape level nature-based solutions:

- **Tourism** - Conservation and sustainable use of critical ecosystems; restoration of coastal and marine habitats and ecosystems; marine and terrestrial protected areas management; engaging tourism enterprises in the care and restoration of nature; and developing insurance mechanisms.
- **Food** - Engage in activities to maintain, improve and restore agro-ecosystems in support of food production including value chains and livelihoods; engage in regenerative agriculture and integrated pest management to reduce agrochemical use; apply NbS to curb sources of land-based pollutants including POPs; and improve community-based and commercial fisheries management, aquaculture and/or marine and terrestrial protected areas management.
- **Urban** - Innovative nature-based solutions to wastewater management, water security, urban flooding, solid waste management, renewable energy; and restoration of degraded productive landscapes in peri-urban and rural areas. The solutions may take place in ecosystems that support urban spaces (such as forests and coastal areas) and which can deliver ecosystem service and resilience benefits.

3. Knowledge Management and Exchange

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

The global/regional platform will deliver program level objectives through:

- Targeted and SIDS specific technical support around valuation, NCA, NBS (expertise, data etc.)
- Capacity building at the sub-regional and national level, including harmonized learning, tools and guidance to enhance institutional capabilities around NBS, valuation and policy coherence
- Support for domestic and external resource mobilization through targeted guidance on domestic finance/investment decision making, developing financial mechanisms and support for engagement of private sector
- Coordinated engagement with private sector to support mechanisms to scale up innovative NBS in a SIDS context
- Support existing/develop new inter, intra-regional and global SIDS multi-stakeholder partnerships and governance platforms to facilitate integrated interventions, sustained and scaled up action and build linkages with external platforms and initiatives
- Develop (or build on existing) communication and knowledge management systems around valuation/NCA and NBS for south-south learning, knowledge exchange and collaboration
- Monitoring and evaluation of program level objectives and results

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

Funding Envelope – $ 89M (STAR + Incentive) + $ 12M (GCP) = $101M
38 Eligible Countries- Caribbean, Pacific, AIS

The program will contribute to the GEB Core Indicators as follows:

CI1: 390,000 ha Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use
CI2: 50,000 ha Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use
CI3: 250,000 ha of land restored
CI4: 3 million ha of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)
CI5: 36 million ha of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity
CI6: 42 million metric tons carbon sequestered, or emissions avoided in the AFOLU
CI7: 1 shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management
CI8:10,000 metric tons of globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels
CI9: 10 thousand metric tons reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals
CI10: 243 gTEC reduction of emissions of persistent organic pollutants to air from point and non-point sources

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

The selection criteria for countries will include:

1. Ability to generate multiple and significant environmental and societal benefits through nature-based solutions across biodiversity, land degradation, chemicals and waste pollution, and climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.
2. Countries which can demonstrate to one or more of the following: i) clear evidence of threatened or degraded ecosystems, ii) intact ecosystems of biodiversity or other GEB significance; iii) threats to GEBs
3. Projects that will build on pilots of existing NBS initiatives to deliver results at a larger scale.
4. Demonstrated political will across key ministries/agencies (agriculture, environment, forests, finance, tourism, investment etc.) to engage in integrated and cross-ministerial approaches at national and sub-national levels for nature-positive development.
5. Solid evidence of existing ability to engage and mobilize the private sector with a view to meaningful involvement through investments, application of innovative nature-based solutions and/or involvement in rolling out sustainable finance mechanisms.
6. Potential and willingness to engage in multistakeholder partnerships at national, inter-regional and intra-regional levels across SIDS sub-regions as well as effectively include IPLCs, women and youth.
7. Opportunities to mobilize both private (domestic and external) and public sector financing.
8. Demonstration of innovation in nature-based solutions and the potential to drive transformational change at the national level.

Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program

The program will support transformative change in the following systems:

Nature
Urban
Food

The program will target the following levers to influence systems transformation:

Governance and Policies
Financial Leverage
Multistakeholder Dialogues
Innovation and Learning

Blue and Green Islands IP

Thank You!

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Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution

Integrated Program

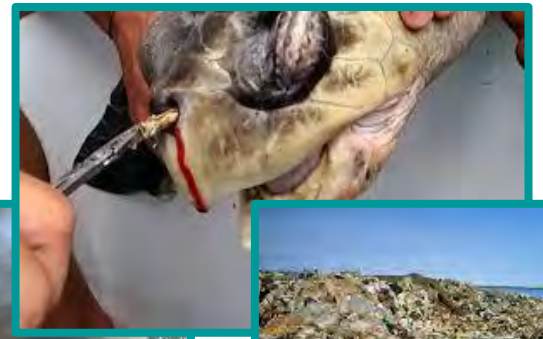
contact: Leah Karrer, Lkarrer@theGEF.org

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP

The Rationale

Oil & Gas Extraction:
POPs & GHG Emissions

Transportation:
GHG Emissions



Burning Waste:
POPs & GHG Emissions

Waste into Environment:
Freshwater & Marine Ecosystem Degradation

Goal: catalyze circular economy approaches to reduce plastic production, consumption and disposal

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP

Goal: catalyze circular economy approaches to reduce plastic production, consumption and disposal

focusing on packaging, particularly single-use related to the food and beverage sector.

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP

Objectives:

- **eliminate unnecessary plastic products,** shift to sustainable materials
- **innovate for circularity** by designing for extended life (reuse, refill, repair, rent, repurpose) and for recycling
- **circulate products** by shifting consumer behavior, by improving recycling systems, and by fostering markets for recycled material
- **create cross-cutting enabling conditions** through coordination along the plastic value chain

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP

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- **create cross-cutting enabling conditions** through coordination along the plastic value chain

Refuse

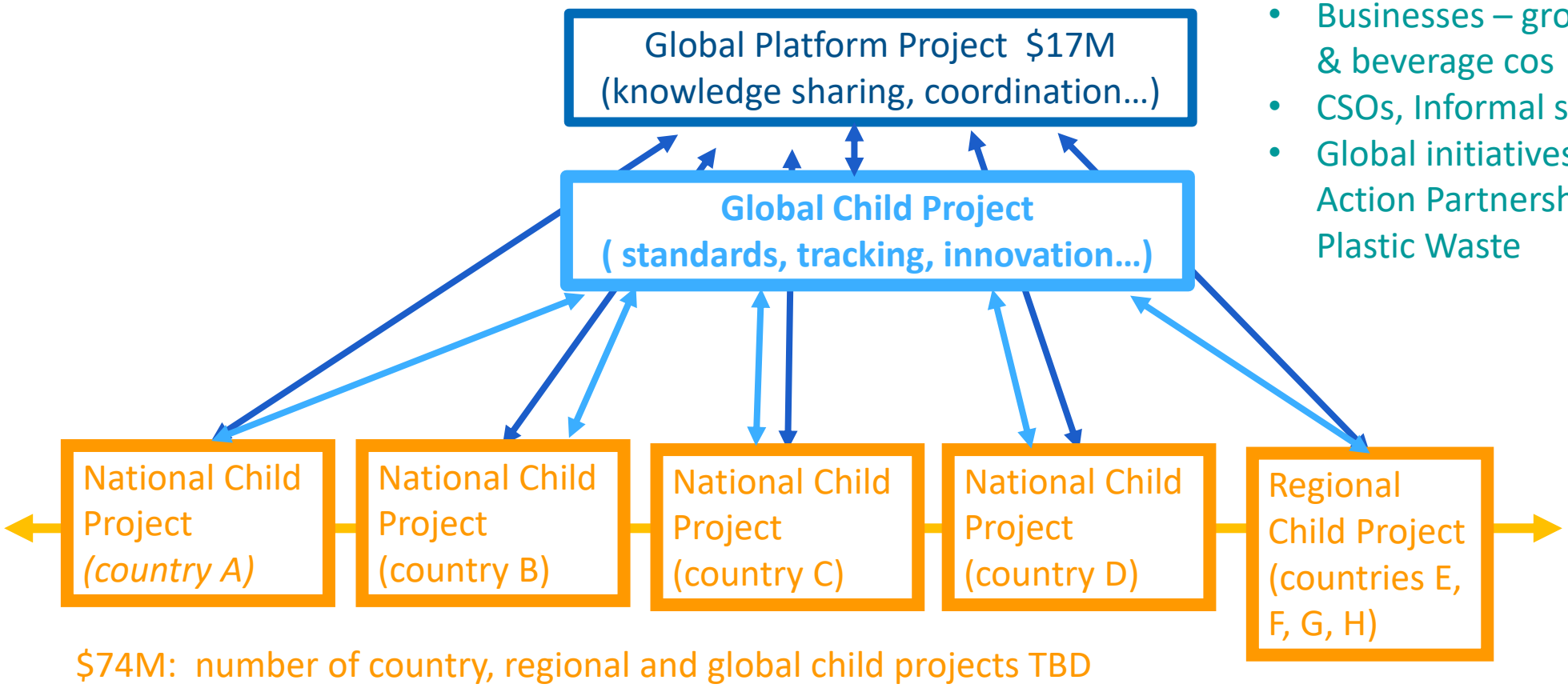
Reduce

Reuse/Return

Recycle

Responsible Disposal

Program Design



$74M: number of country, regional and global child projects TBD

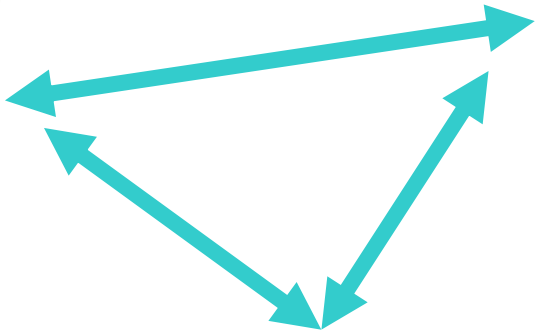
Partnerships & Collaborations:

- Governments
- Businesses – grocers, restaurants, food & beverage cos
- CSOs, Informal sector
- Global initiatives e.g. Global Plastic Action Partnership, Alliance to End Plastic Waste

National and Regional Child Projects

Material flow assessment, multi-stakeholder engagement process, national/city action plans, execution

Government policies – create enabling conditions and execute regulations and incentivizes for circular solutions (e.g. bans, grants), build reuse, refill and more efficient recycling systems and establish circular public procurement policies



Business practices (i.e. grocers, eateries, food and beverage cos)– scale and mainstream innovative, circular start-ups (e.g. reusable take-out containers), hold large corporations accountable to their plastic-reducing commitments (e.g. refillable foo packaging), foster EPR schemes

Public awareness and collective activism – shift consumer mindsets and behaviors, foster collective action from consumers to urge plastic-free business practices and government policies by pursuing major public influencers (e.g. museums, film and tv, celebrities)

PLASTIC FREE JULY®
By Plastic Free Foundation

Financing – foster investments beyond conventional city and national government agencies and philanthropic sources, such as impact investors, multilateral development banks, plastic credit schemes and decentralized autonomous organizations

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP

Selection criteria for countries

* Contribution to the **global state of plastic pollution** based on high and escalating levels of virgin plastic production, importation, consumption and/or non-recycled waste;
* Opportunity to address **multiple global environmental benefits**, including reduction of POP and GHG emissions, and improved marine habitats as well as drive socioeconomic benefits, such as greater livelihood options, economic growth, and improved human health;

*** Political commitment** (e.g. as evidenced by national action plans) to tackling plastic pollution throughout the lifecycle of plastics, including taking measures related to importation, production, consumer behavior tied consumption, collection, recycling, creating demand for recycled materials, and raising public awareness on the need to reduce plastic production and consumption and improve waste management;
* **Private sector engagement** in reducing plastic pollution by major producers of single use plastic products (e.g. Nestle, Pepsi, Coca-Cola) and/or by emerging innovators for system change (e.g. refill food packaging systems in a country);
* Creation **of public-private, cross-sector, interagency collaborations** to mainstream plastic-reducing practices and ensure policy coherence across varying government agencies and business sectors;
* Commitment to engage in **cross-cutting projects** that will foster innovative, systemic change that will provide insight and tools to benefit multiple countries;
* Leveraged **financing** from both public resources and private capital to achieve large scale impact; and,
* **Engagement in regional and global fora (e.g. Global Plastic Action Partnership, PACTs)** to share and catalyze change beyond national boundaries, such as serving as regional centers of excellence.

Global child projects

Establish transparent tracking mechanisms for the global trade (import of consumer goods, export of waste) of plastic products from production to consumption to waste to foster reuse, recyclability and composability at end of life;

Develop voluntary international benchmarks and standards to foster sustainable materials, extended life and recyclability of traded plastic products; and

Algramao, Innovation Prize Winner

Foster innovation through global challenges, moonshots, incubators and accelerators that scale enterprises worldwide.

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP

The Global Platform = "the whole is greater than the sum of the parts"

Knowledge generation & exchange – facilitate sharing of experiences among child projects, synthesize key messages and disseminate widely within and beyond the child projects to contribute to global knowledge on circular solutions to plastic pollution
Technical assistance- respond to child projects' specific technical requests, such as legal support, identify and provide training and expertise on emerging and critical issues to inform the child projects (e.g. the pros and cons of waste-to-energy, definitions of "bioplastic"), and connect the projects with innovative business solutions (e.g. seaweed-based materials, refill systems, Holy Grail recycling facilities)

Coordination - build coherence and synergies among the child projects
Communication and outreach - promote the achievements of the Program drawing on the child project experiences
Coalitions – actively engage in, and strengthen, multi-stakeholder coalitions
Corporate engagement – connect the global corporations that have made plastic-reducing commitments with the regional and national child projects to ensure their products are designed for circularity in the importing countries

Financing - connect the finance community, such as impact investors, MDBs, and emerging investors (e.g. plastic credits, blockchain), with child project needs, and advance financial tools and products to stimulate further investments

Monitoring and evaluation - develop, synthesize and manage the Program-level M&E based on the child project data and
Metrics – support the development of metrics along the value chain of plastics, including guidance to governments and businesses to evaluate progress along the value chain toward achieving circular solutions to reduce plastic pollution as well as to assess GHG emissions, hazardous chemicals and ecosystem impacts and guidance on green accounting to incorporate plastic footprints into decision-making;

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP

Funding

Table 3. Notional Breakdown of Country Amounts for Integrated Programs

GEF-8 Integrated Programs	BD	CCM	LD	IW	CW	TOTALS
Food Systems	123	5	91	11	0	**231**
Ecosystem Restoration	5	7	91	0	0	**103**
Sustainable Cities	59	54	57	0	0	**170**
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes	290	16	0	7	0	**313**
Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution	11	16	0	47	0	**74**
Blue and Green Islands	75	8	6	0	0	**89**
Clean and Healthy Ocean	43	8	0	47	0	**98**
Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	107	12	0	0	0	**119**
Net-Zero Accelerator	26	82	11	0	0	**119**
Wildlife Conservation for Development	112	0	5	0	0	**118**
Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains	5	9	5	11	26	**57**
Focal Area Totals to Countries	**855**	**217**	**266**	**124**	**26**	**1489**

Core Indicators

- ✓ Shared water ecosystems under improved governance (IW, CI7): **1 shared water ecosystem**
- ✓ Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated: **16 Mt CO2e**
- ✓ Hazardous chemicals eliminated: **10 Mt**
- ✓ POP emissions reduced: **1,400 gTEQ**

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution

Integrated Program

Contact: Leah Karrer, lkarrer@thegef.org

Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program (WCD IP)

2022

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Hannah Fairbank
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Goal

Conserve wildlife and landscapes by transforming the drivers of species loss and ensuring that countries and communities are benefiting from these natural assets.

Wildlife Conservation for Development

Integrated Program (WCD IP)

Objectives

Increase wildlife populations and the ecological connectivity and integrity of wildlife landscapes

Reduce the risk of zoonotic spillover

Increase sustainable benefits from wildlife and landscapes

Wildlife Conservation for Development
Integrated Program (WCD IP)

GEF-8 Wildlife Conservation for Development IP framework

Secure wildlife populations and landscapes for the benefit of people & planet

Healthy Planet, Healthy People

Human-Wildlife Coexistence	Conserve key wildlife landscapes	Landscape integrity & connectivity increased
	Wildlife health monitored	Wildlife populations maintained
	Prevent and mitigate human-wildlife conflict	
Illegal & high-risk wildlife trade	Reduce poaching	Zoonotic spillover risk reduced
	Disrupt trafficking	
	Reduce demand	
Wildlife for prosperity	Diversified sustainable livelihoods	Sustainable livelihoods increased
	Wildlife-based economies	

Cross-cutting: Social and behavioral change, knowledge management, gender, indigenous people and local communities

i) targeted support to national projects on **behavioral and social science approaches**;
ii) **interdisciplinary partnerships** to support wildlife conservation and human health;
iii) **knowledge management and learning**, and innovative and appropriate technology;
iv) **capacity building** to increase technical capabilities and strengthen local institutions;
v) **critical analytics** and natural capital assessments;
vi) **monitoring and evaluation** for the entire program; and
vii) **fostering strong** interagency, intersectoral, and regional **collaboration** including increasing transparency and data sharing.

The global/regional platform will deliver program level objectives through

(i) **Role of the country in supply chains** of globally significant wildlife species, including those that pose a high zoonotic risk;
(ii) Presence of **high poaching risk** at sites of global significant biodiversity;
(iii) **Increasing/emerging threat of illegal trade** including shifting consumer demand;
(iv) **Potential benefits** for conservation and livelihoods from wildlife-based economies;
(v) **Potential to cooperate with other countries** to address threats to wildlife, habitats and ecological connectivity;
(vi) **Opportunity for strong multifocal area interventions** producing multiple benefits while contributing to GEF focal area objectives; and
(vii) **Testing and scaling innovations** for wildlife management, human wildlife conflict, sustainable livelihoods, wildlife monitoring, enforcement, and zoonotic surveillance.

Country selection criteria

WCD-IP contributions to the GEB Core Indicators

17.85 million hectares of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management (CI 1)

157,000 hectares of area of land restored (CI 3)

13.65 million hectares of landscapes under improved management (CI 4)

44 million metric tons of CO2 eq GHG emissions mitigated (CI 6)

Eliminating Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains Integrated Program

- **Goal:**

- The goal of this IP is to significantly reduce or eliminate the environmental degradation of globally significant supply chains,

- **Objectives:**

- Enable the greening of supply chains.

- Enable zero pollution and zero waste, nature based and carbon neutral supply chains.

The program will support transformative change in :

- Fashion
- Construction

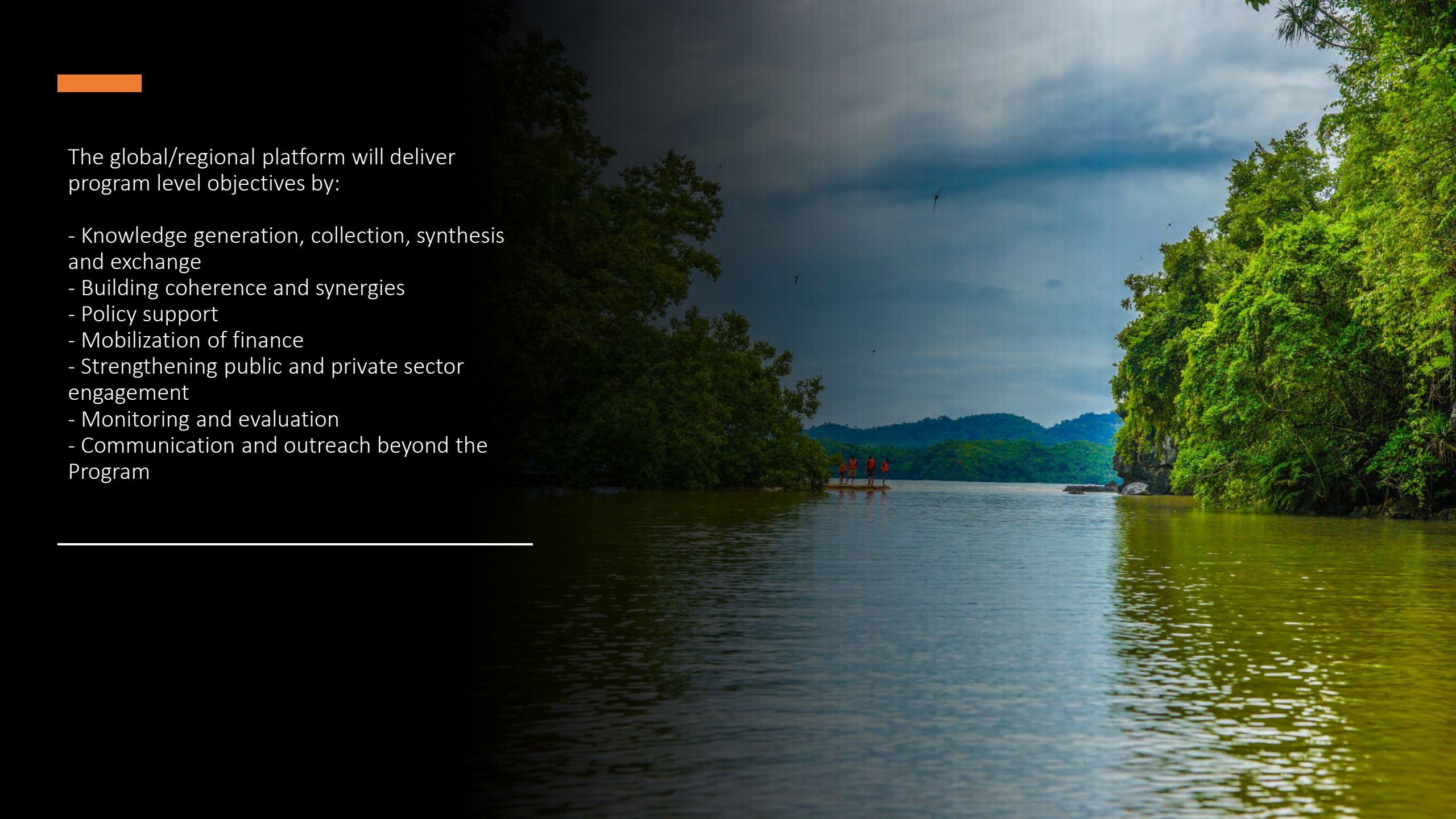
The goal and objectives will be achieved through the following actions/strategies:

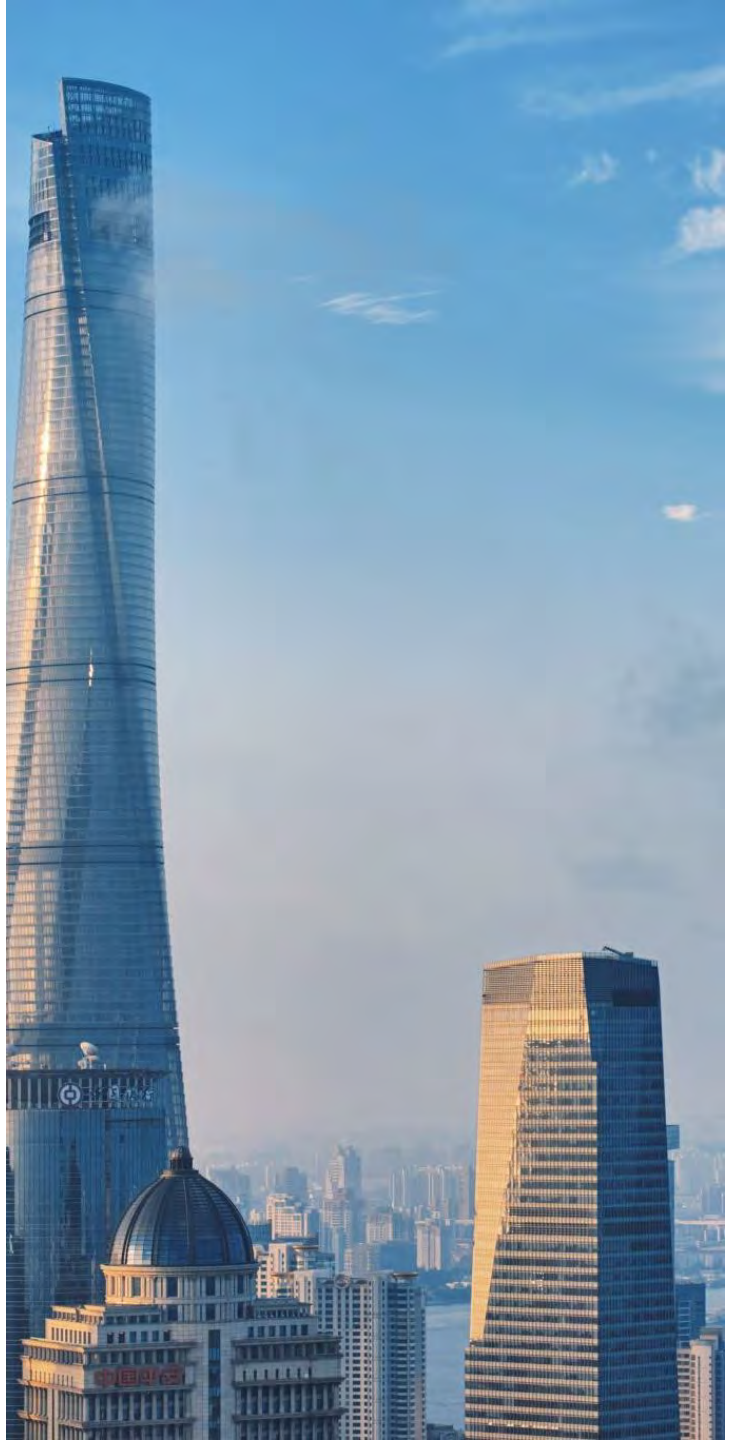
Policy Coherence for the Management of Sustainable Supply Chains: Fostering and supporting transparency in the supply chains of materials for decision making by key actors along the supply chain including governments, and the private sector including the finance sector. Supporting harmonized regulatory systems, environmental standards and access to finance allow for more uniform management of supply chains to prevent release of hazardous chemicals, protection of biodiversity, reduction of land degradation, reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases and prevention of water pollution at all stages of the life cycle.

Green by Design: Supporting and accelerating sustainably produced and sourced inputs into the supply chains of interest.

The global/regional platform will deliver program level objectives by:

- Knowledge generation, collection, synthesis and exchange
- Building coherence and synergies
- Policy support
- Mobilization of finance
- Strengthening public and private sector engagement
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Communication and outreach beyond the Program





Selection Criteria:

Countries that can demonstrate the large global environmental benefits for the chemicals and waste focal area.

Supply chains that have the highest percentage of hazardous chemicals will be prioritized.

Projects must at a minimum have global environmental benefits for chemicals and waste MEAs and meet multiple global environmental benefits under other MEAs including CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD.

Projects that bring together the major private sector partners that are engaged in the supply chain or sub-supply chain.

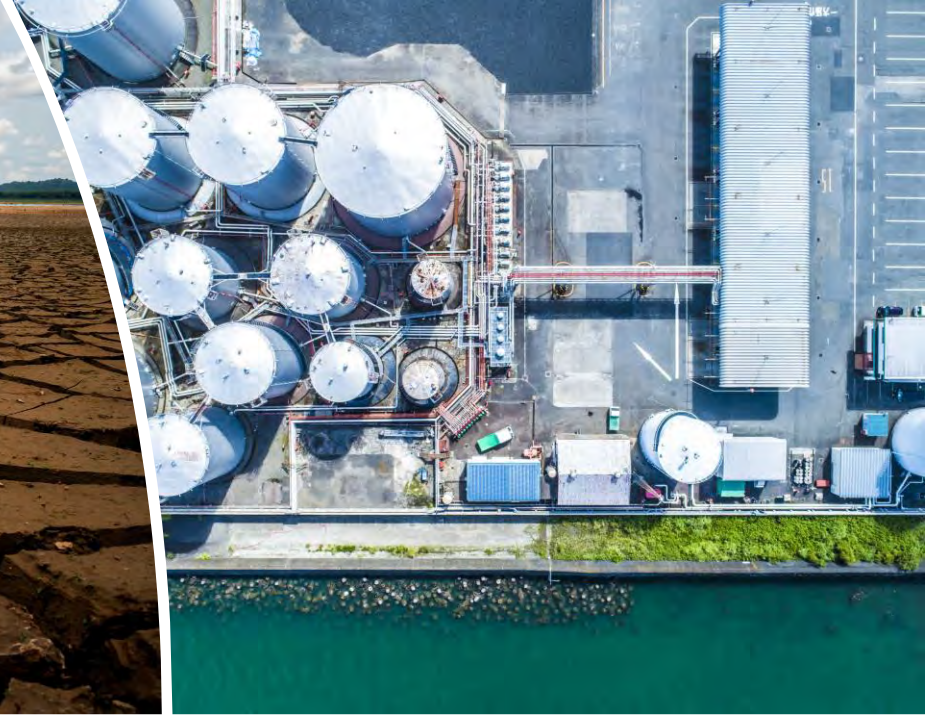
Projects that use regenerative design, implement reverse logistics and green procurement as a base component to transform the supply chains.

Projects that can influence behavioral changes in consumer, private sector, and government to facilitate responsible sourcing of materials and products.

Countries that have a commitment to greening of supply chains.

The program will contribute to the GEB Core Indicators as follows:

CI4 Area of landscapes under improved practices: 1 Mha
CI6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated: 6 Mt CO2e
CI9 Reduction of chemicals of global concern and their waste: 25,000 t
CI10 Reduction of POPs to air: 246 gTEQ



Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program

Context:

An estimated 2 billion ha of agricultural land, pasture, forest, and woodland are degraded globally, with negative impacts on food systems, ecosystem services, and habitats for wildlife. While restoration efforts are underway in many regions, degradation continues at a large scale.

There has thus never been a more urgent need to arrest further degradation and to restore and heal ecosystems.

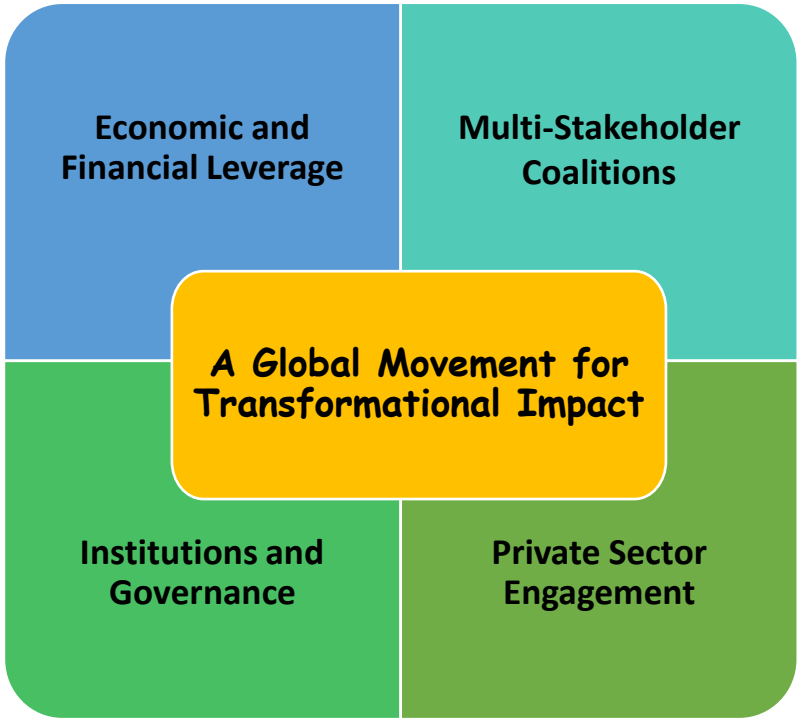
Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program

Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program

Goal: Achieve healthy and resilient ecosystems to foster green recovery and secure livelihoods

<u>Objective</u>: Generate multiple environmental and socio-economic benefits by restoring degraded landscapes through an integrated approach

<u>Approach</u>: Technical assistance interventions complemented by programmatic support for policy, catalyzing finance, multi-stakeholder platforms, and private sector engagement



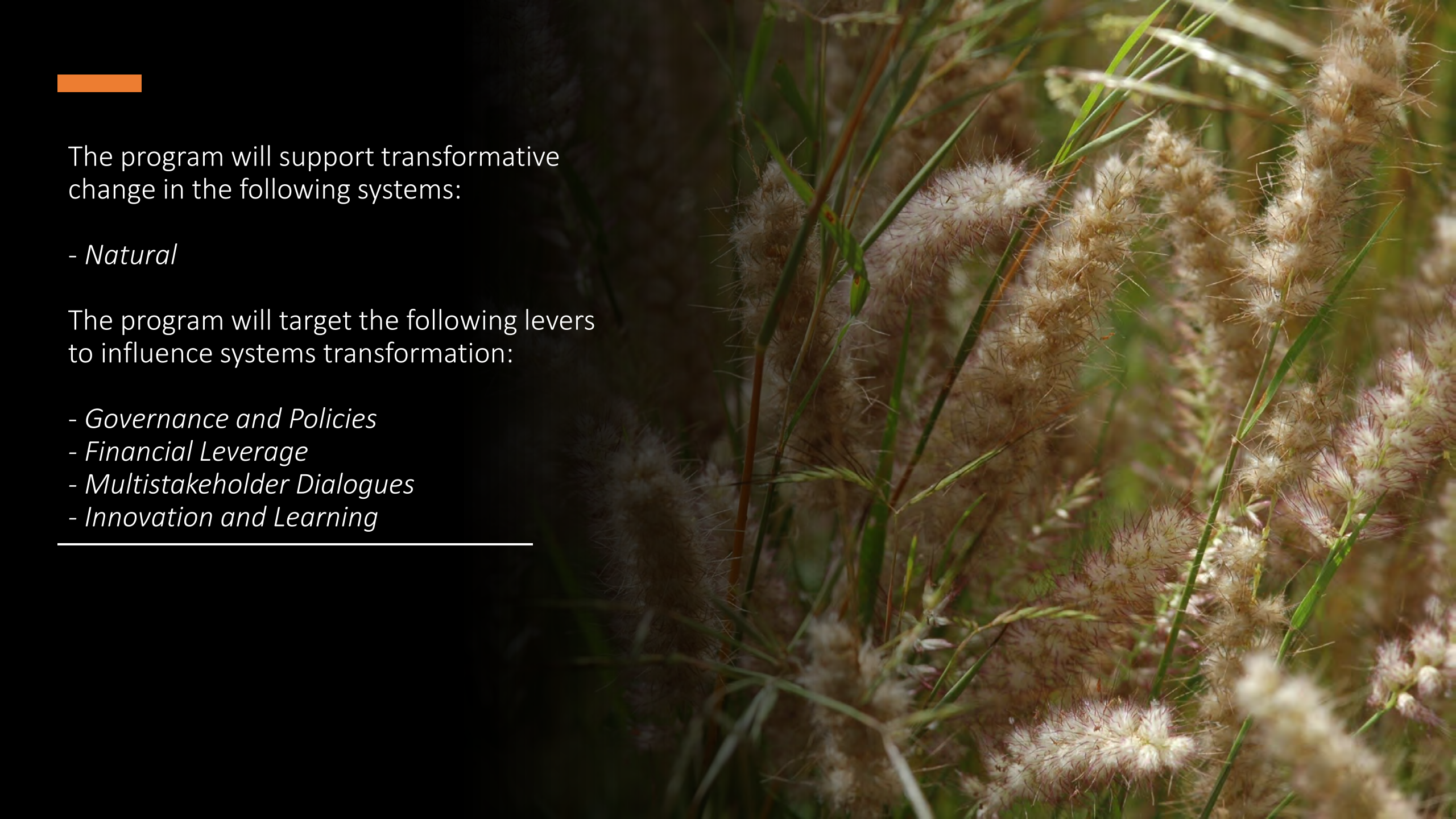
=> Multi-objective and multi-criteria selection of landscapes for major contributions to all 3 Rio Conventions

The program will support transformative change in the following systems:

- *Natural*

The program will target the following levers to influence systems transformation:

- *Governance and Policies*
- *Financial Leverage*
- *Multistakeholder Dialogues*
- *Innovation and Learning*



The objectives of the IP are to generate multiple environmental and socio-economic benefits by applying integrated approaches for restoration of degraded ecosystems.

To address this objective, the focus of the program will be guided by a multi-criteria selection of participating countries and areas for ecosystems restoration within these countries.

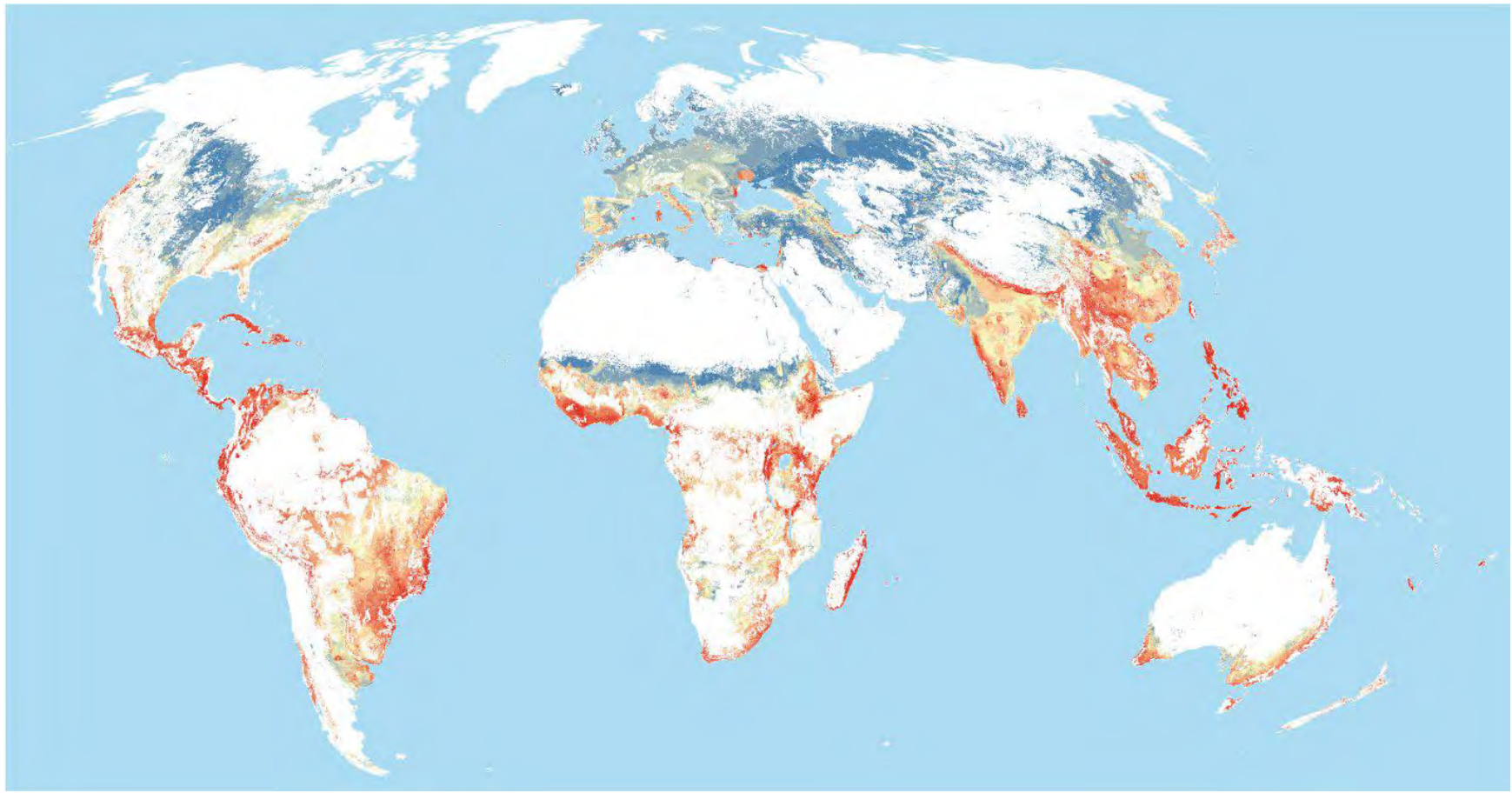
Ecosystem
Restoration
Integrated
Program

Selection Criteria

Focus on restoration of ecosystem types with a high potential to generate multiple benefits (see Strassburg et al. 2020 optimization approach based on various criteria)

Prospects for multiple benefits in biodiversity, sustainable land management, climate change mitigation and adaptation to support sustainable development and secure livelihoods

Investments will be based on existing restoration targets set by countries and will require strong baselines for success such as potential leverage of public and private sector funding, engagement opportunities with the private sector, involvement of local actors and IPLCs, gender equality and women's empowerment, and potential for scaling up



Strassburg et al. 2020: Global priority areas for ecosystem restoration. *Nature*.
https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-2784-9

Programmatic Approach (PFD)

- Spatial targeting
- Integration across objectives
- Improved monitoring
- Innovation & Private Sector Engagement

The global coordination project will serve as a platform to deliver program level objectives by:

- Outreach and communication
- Knowledge generation and exchange
- Policy support
- Mobilization of finance
- Monitoring and evaluation

Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program

Actions in national child projects

• Promoting policy coherence and providing advisory support for sectoral integration;

• Integrating spatial land use planning into the existing planning frameworks (e.g. NBSAP, NAP, NDC, etc.) and participatory land-use planning over a range of governance models to meaningfully involve all stakeholders;

• Community mobilization and CSO involvement (including vulnerable groups, women, youth, IPLCs);

• Building capacity to restore and maintain functional landscapes and avoid degradation and promoting decision support tools such as environmental and economic valuation systems.

• Developing monitoring and information systems including baselines, and targeted research on impacts, trade-offs, and costs-benefit analysis of restoration;

• Resolving land tenure and resource use rights issues that are barriers to achieve restoration objectives and promoting good governance in view of land rights and access to natural resources, gender equality, and livelihoods

• Implementing restoration activities and solutions on the ground by active involvement of local stakeholders, in particular local actors, smallholders and IPLCs through gender responsive community-based approaches;

• Scaling up PES initiatives and setting up effective systems and mechanisms ensuring the smooth flow of financial resources between and among the PES actors.

The program will contribute to the **GEB Core Indicators** as follows:

- CI 3: **4.3 million ha under restoration**
- CI 4: **9.4 million ha under improved management**
- CI 6: **80 million t CO_2eq sequestered / avoided**
- CI 7: **One shared freshwater ecosystem** under new / improved cooperative management

Food Systems Integrated Program

Peter Umunay – pumunay@thegef.org

Issues and Challenges

- ✓Agriculture occupies about 37% of the world's total land area and unsustainable agricultural expansion has resulted in :
  - Loss of forests and biodiversity (70% of terrestrial and 50% of freshwater)
  - Land and soil degradation
  - Water pollution which runs off into aquatic ecosystems and coastal areas
  - Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (23%)

- ✓Increased negative impacts in food systems with:
  - A rising global population and changes in consumption patterns towards higher protein diets
  - Limited access of small-scale producers and Agri-enterprises to viable markets
  - High levels of food loss and waste; increased incidences of food safety, and animal and human health issues
  - Increased energy-intensity and ecological footprint associated with the lengthening and industrialization of food supply chains

Food Systems Integrated Program

- The **Goal** of the FS Integrated Program is to **catalyze the transformation to sustainable food systems** that are nature positive, resilient, and pollution-reduced
- The IP will seek to reduce environmental degradation and negative externalities in food **production systems** and on the demand side across **supply chains**
- Priorities and Focus for Transformative Change : Livestock Systems; Sustainable & Regenerative Agriculture; Aquaculture
- **Contributions to MEAs:** major contributions to all 3 Rio Conventions and the IW FA GEBs

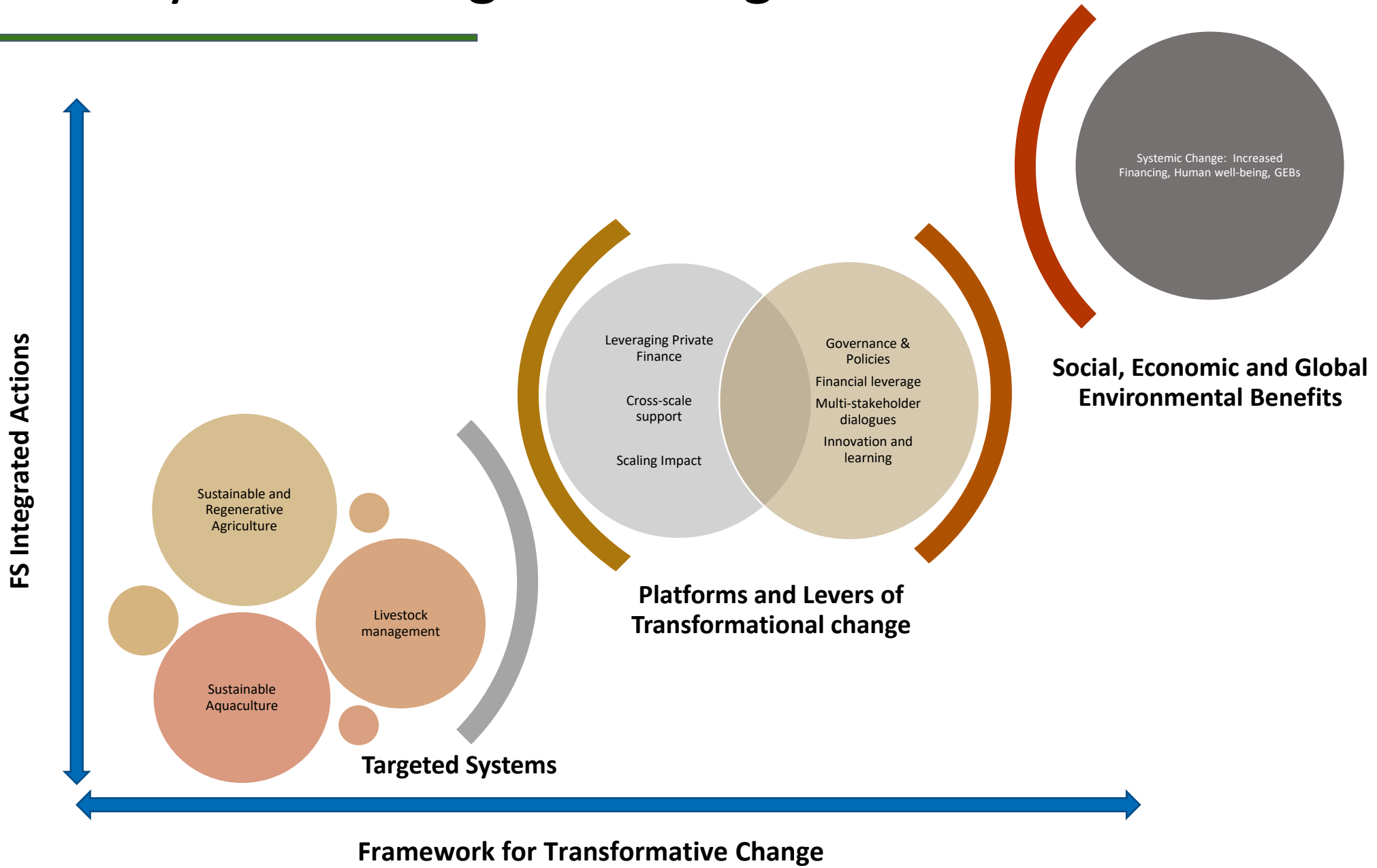
Food Systems Integrated Program

Major Objectives:

- Create enabling environment to shift towards **sustainable and regenerative** food production
- **Reducing livestock's** impact on the environment & contribution to zoonotic spillover, and supporting production of alternative protein sources
- Expanding investment in **sustainable aquaculture** management that is explicitly linked to land-based practices impacting freshwater and coastal marine ecosystems.

Priorities and Focus for Transformative Change

Food Systems Integrated Program



Food Systems Integrated Program

✓The program will target the following **Levers** to influence systems transformation:

- **Governance and Policies** (strategic pathways at national level)
- **Financial Leverage** (including important engagement of the private sector, de-risking strategies)
- **Multistakeholder Dialogues** (including commodities/crops platforms at global and regional levels)
- **Innovation** (agri/aquaculture practices, sustainable value chains, markets)

Food Systems Integrated Program

✓The program will contribute to the GEB Core Indicators as follows:

- CI3 Area of land restored: 0.42 Mha
- CI4 Area of landscapes under improved practices: 21.1 Mha
- CI6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated: 233.1 Mt CO2e
- CI7 Number of shared water ecosystems: 1
- CI9 Reduction of chemicals of global concern and their waste: 21.0 Mt

Food Systems Integrated Program

✓ **The selection criteria for countries will include:**

- National strategy underpinned by science with clear long-term pathways for sustainable food systems
- Enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to generating positive results;
- Private sector entities with the ability to have on-the-ground impact are interested and willing partners;
- Support for women farmers and their rights to the land they cultivate;
- Results from smallholder, farm and landscape can be reasonably sustained and converted into larger scale impact at subnational and national levels;
- Strong safeguards in place or can be developed to ensure that the techniques applied do not increase likelihood of negative environmental impacts, or leakage;
- Ability to adopt food systems value chain approaches that recognize the risks of environmental impacts and zoonotic pathogen transmission, including potentially from livestock production;
- Willingness to factor crop and systems resilience and prevention, reduction, and reuse of food waste along the length of the food systems value chain.

GEF-8 Sustainable Cities Integrated Program

Background

CHALLENGES

Unprecedented scale and pace of urbanization:

- 80% of global GDP
- 2/3 of global population will live in cities by 2050
- Unplanned expansion > urban sprawl

Drivers of environmental degradation:

- 70% of GHG emissions
- Biodiversity loss, threatening biodiversity hotspots
- Rapid increase in solid & toxic waste & pollution
- Increased vulnerability to climate extremes

Rising inequality in cities:

- 1/3 of city dwellers without reliable and affordable access to urban services
- Urban poor hit hard by COVID-19

OPPORTUNITIES

Scale and nature of cities:

- Naturally integrated systems with multiple entry points for sustainability

Leadership, partnership and innovation:

- Growing city and national leadership in environmental stewardship
- Global city networks and platforms
- Innovation in technology, policies and business models

Importance for global goals:

- All MEAs recognize fundamental role of city/local governments to achieve their goals

Goal and Objectives

GEF-6
Sustainable Cities Integrated Approach Pilot

→

GEF-7
Sustainable Cities Impact Program (UrbanShift)

→

GEF-8
Sustainable Cities Integrated Program

Goal: Advance integrated and systems-based approaches towards building net-zero carbon, nature-positive, inclusive and climate resilient cities.

GEF-8 Ambitions and Priorities:

- Enable sustainable urban transformation and raise cities' ambition aligned with global 2030 goals.
- Accelerate adoption of integrated approach to include nature and circularity principles for action on climate, biodiversity, and chemicals and waste.
- Support solutions and partnerships that enable increased flow of investments to cities for implementation of sustainable solutions and global green recovery.
- Promote a people-centric approach to integrate gender, health, and inclusion.

Strategic Priorities

Integrated land use planning and governance

- Support institutional coordination and collaboration between sectors
- Develop integrated spatial plans

Integration of nature in urban development

- Support enabling policy and regulatory environment to bring nature into cities
- Demonstrating urban Nature-based Solutions

Decarbonization of the built environment

- Development of plans, policies, and strategies for decarbonization
- Catalyze investments in urban infrastructure, such as buildings, energy, waste and transportation.

Circular economy approaches

- Support policies and physical infrastructure
- Focusing on building materials, water and waste management, urban food systems, plastics, and industries

Innovative financing

- Financing models to increase flow of finance to cities
- Collaboration with financial institutions and the private sector

Cross-cutting Themes

Inclusion

- Support approaches for inclusion and environmental justice across urban planning and sustainability.

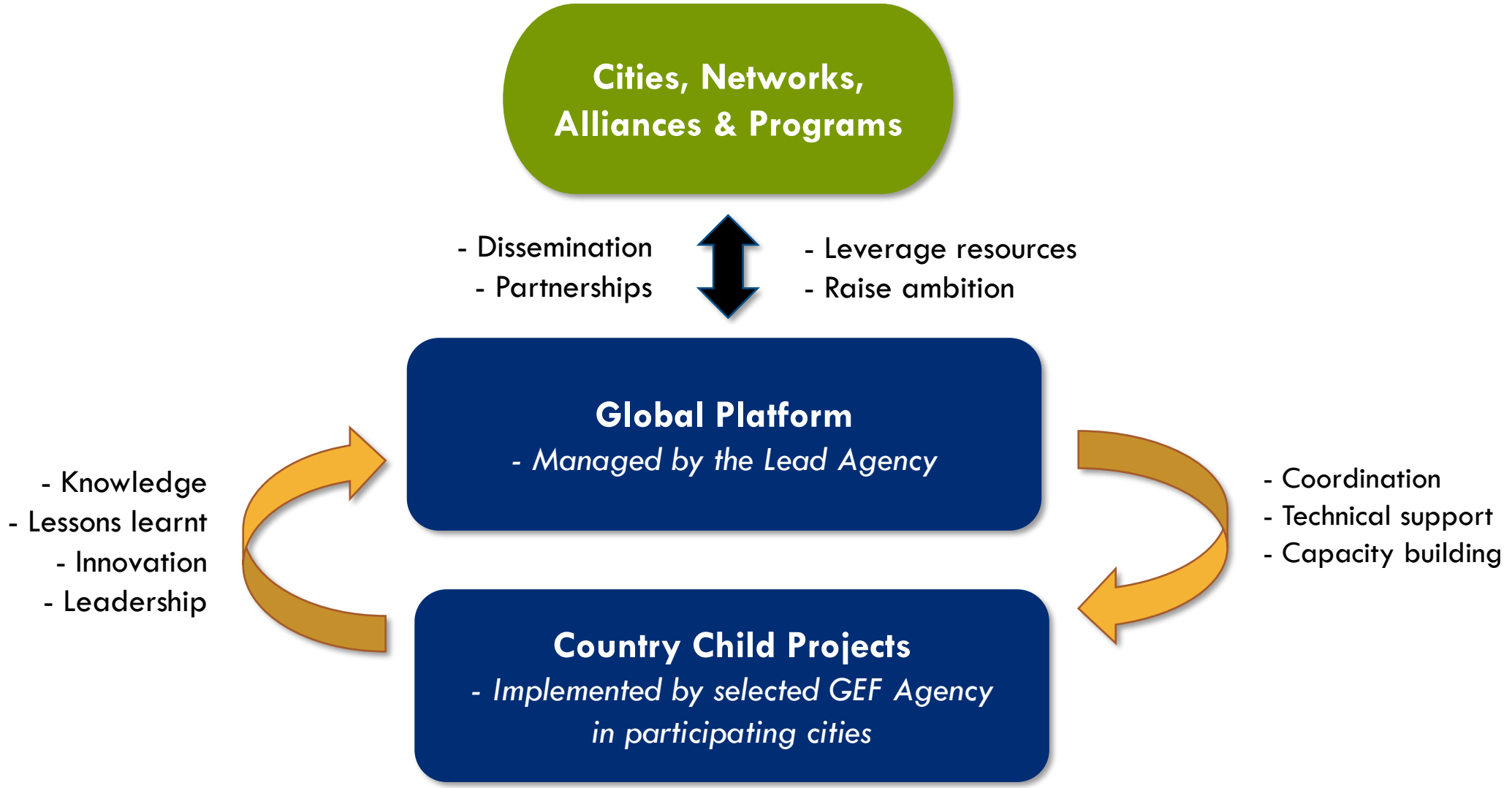
Gender

- Integrate gender-responsive and gender-inclusive approaches in urban decision making.

Private Sector Engagement

- Innovate, finance and scale up urban sustainability
- Mechanisms of private sector engagement across various levels:
  - *Global level:* Multi-stakeholder platforms.
  - *National/sub-national level:* Public private partnership models.
  - *City level:* Opportunities for businesses, start-ups, universities, etc.

Implementation Approach



Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs)

Biodiversity and Land

- **Core Indicator 3:** Land under restoration
- **Core Indicator 4:** Landscapes under improved practices (excl. protected areas)

Chemicals and Waste

- **Core Indicator 10:** Avoidance of emissions of persistent organic pollutants

Climate Change Mitigation

- **Core indicator 6:** Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases

Key Co-benefits

- Strengthened climate resilience of vulnerable communities
- Reduced air and water pollution
- Human health and wellbeing

Selection Criteria for Cities and Child Projects

1. Cities in urbanized and rapidly urbanizing regions, especially LDCs & SIDS
2. Enabling National and city level policies and governance models for policy coherence and delivering GEBs in relation to MEAs.
3. Demonstrated political leadership (cities and national government), cross sectoral collaboration and whole of government approach to tackling environmental degradation.
4. Ability of cities and partners to leverage financing from domestic and international public and private resources.
5. Integrated approaches aligned with entry points in the programming strategy to deliver large scale and multiple GEBs.
6. Potential to deliver key socio-economic co-benefits such as strengthened climate resilience, inclusion, and reduced air pollution.
7. Sound engagement and partnership with multiple stakeholders including private sector and civil society.

GEF-8 Sustainable Cities Integrated Program

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