



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

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# Institutional Structure of the GEF

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# Presentation Outline

- History
- Mission
- GEF Focal Areas
- Role of the GEF
- Organizational Structure
- Institutional Framework
- Country Ownership



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# History

- Established in 1991
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development- Earth Summit, 1992
- Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured GEF- March 1994
- Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund:
  - GEF-1 (1994) \$2 billion
  - GEF-2 (1998) \$2.75 billion
  - GEF-3 (2002) \$3 billion
  - GEF-4 (2006) \$3.13 billion
  - GEF-5 (2010) \$4.34 billion
- World Bank is the Trustee of the GEF Trust Fund



# GEF Goal and Mission

**Goal:** To address global environmental issues while supporting national sustainable development initiatives.

**Mission:** The GEF is a mechanism for international cooperation for the purpose of providing new, and additional, grant and concessional funding to meet the agreed incremental costs of measures to achieve agreed global environmental benefits.



# GEF links to the Global Environmental Conventions

- GEF is the designated “financial mechanism” for the
  - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
  - Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
- The GEF is a designated mechanism for the
  - Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD)
- The GEF collaborates closely with other treaties and agreements to reach common goals (International Waters, Montreal Protocol)



# GEF Focal Areas and Cross-cutting Issues

## Focal Areas

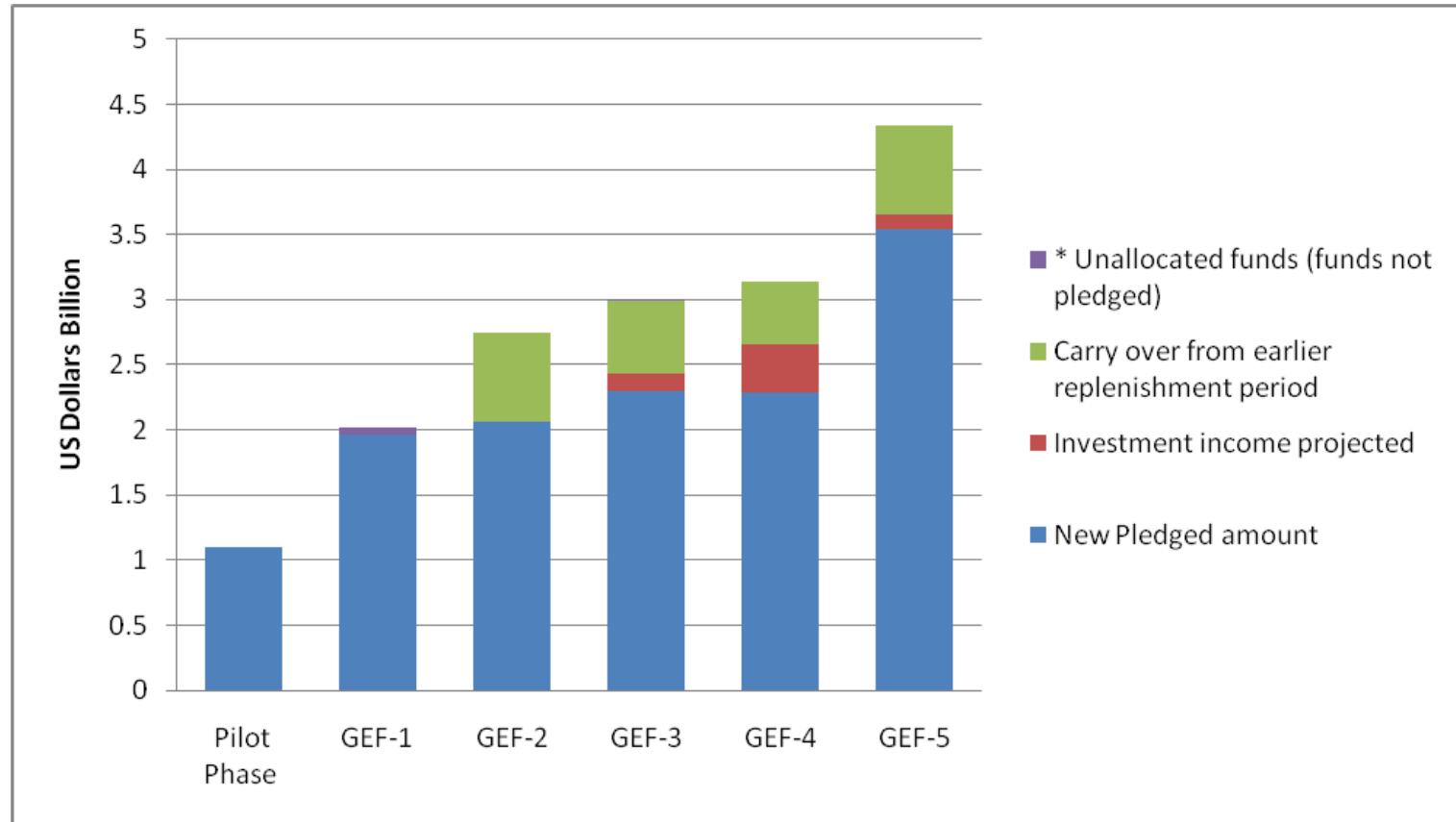
- Biodiversity
- Land Degradation
- International Waters
- Persistent Organic Pollutants
- Ozone Depletion (only countries in transition)
- Climate Change

## Cross-Cutting Issues

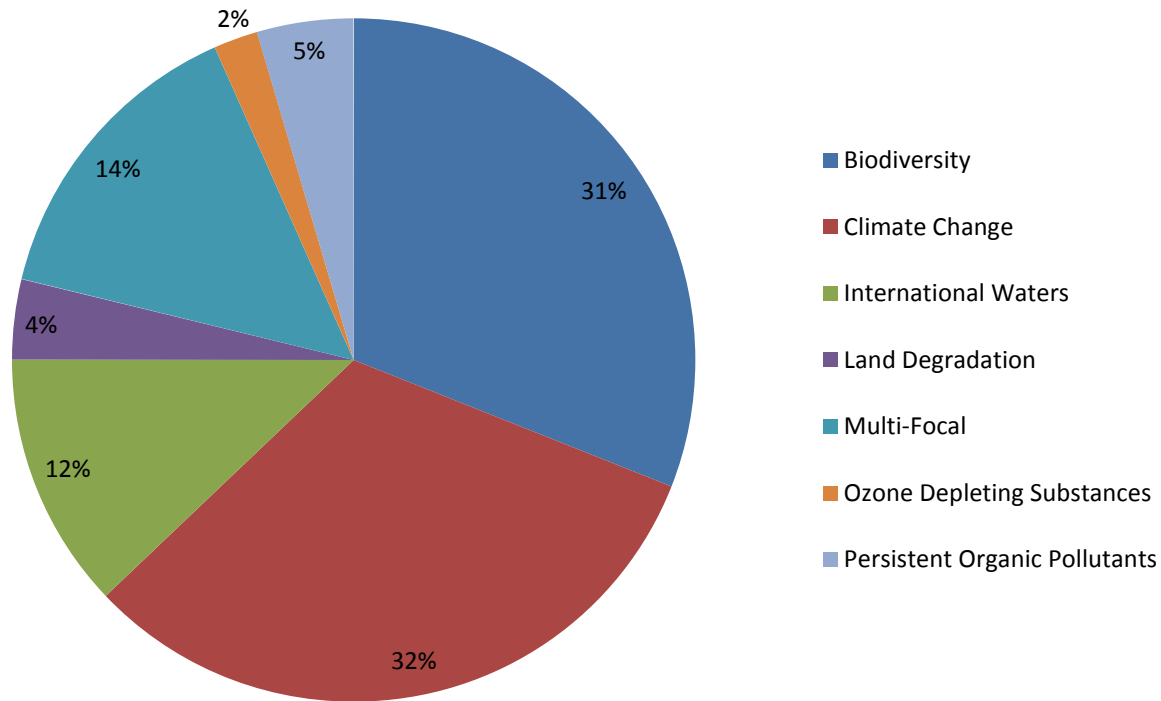
- Sustainable Forest Management
- Sound Chemicals Management and Mercury Reduction
- Capacity Development



# GEF Replenishments



# Total Funding Percentage by Focal Area





# GEF Organizational Structure (1 of 2)

- GEF Member Governments:
  - 182
- GEF Council:
  - 32 Members. Main governing body of GEF
- GEF Assembly:
  - All members represented. Meets every 4 years. Reviews and evaluates policies and operations. Amends Instrument (on Council recommendation)
- GEF Secretariat:
  - Headed by CEO. Administrates the Fund. Evaluates and recommends projects for CEO and/or Council approval



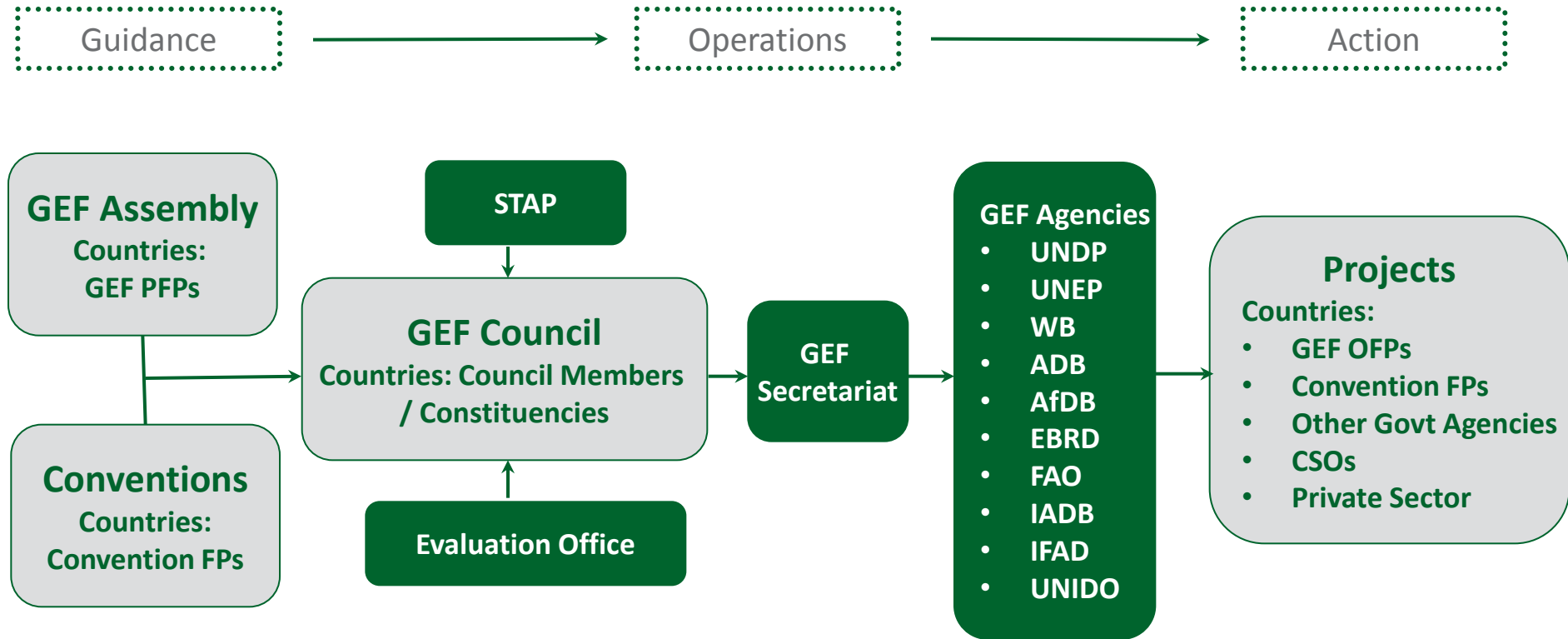
# GEF Organizational Structure (2 of 2)

- GEF Agencies:
  - Operational work. Accountable to Council for their project activities.
- Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP):
  - Reviews projects and provides advice
- Evaluation Office:
  - Reports directly to the Council; Reviews GEF work and evaluates its effectiveness; establishes evaluation standards; provides quality control for M&E of Agencies
- CSOs:
  - Participate at policy and project level



# GEF Trust Fund

## GEF Institutional Framework



# GEF Agencies



Broad primary roles  
identified in the GEF Instrument



Granted access to GEF resources  
and assigned more definite roles  
based on specific business needs  
of the GEF



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# Country Ownership

## GEF PROJECTS MUST BE COUNTRY DRIVEN:

- Based on national priorities
- Designed to support sustainable development

### How is this achieved?

- Political and Operational Focal Points
- Country Support Programme
- GEF Newsletter and Publications
- Participation of CSOs and Local Communities



# GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)

- The SGP is implemented by UNDP;
  - Global level - managed by a Central Management Team (CPMT)
  - Country level - National Coordinator (NC) and one assistant
- Projects approved only at national/sub-regional level by National Steering Committee
- National Steering Committee composed of:
  - Representatives from civil society and community based organizations (always in majority)
  - Representatives from government (usually OFP or his/her delegate);
  - NC serves as secretariat for National Steering Committee
- SGP provides small grants up to \$50,000 USD to civil society and community based organizations
- The program is funded by the GEF from its replenishment agreement
  - 140 million USD in GEF-5
  - Some countries with mature SGP programs finance them through their STAR allocations



# GEF and Civil Society

- The GEF has a policy for civil society participation
- The GEF provides an opportunity for civil society to participate in many different ways:
  - At the operational level - CSOs have participated many projects
  - At the political level – CSOs send representatives to Council Meetings with the right to speak on all substantive issues
  - CSOs have participated at every Expanded Constituency Workshop
  - The GEF requires that OFPs have at least one meeting a year with civil society
  - The NPFE process was designed to include CSO consultations
- In addition, GEF agencies have policies regarding the participation of civil society and the GEF also works to include their participation through those policies



# Thank you for your attention!

## Questions?

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