

# Global Environment Facility Introduction Seminar

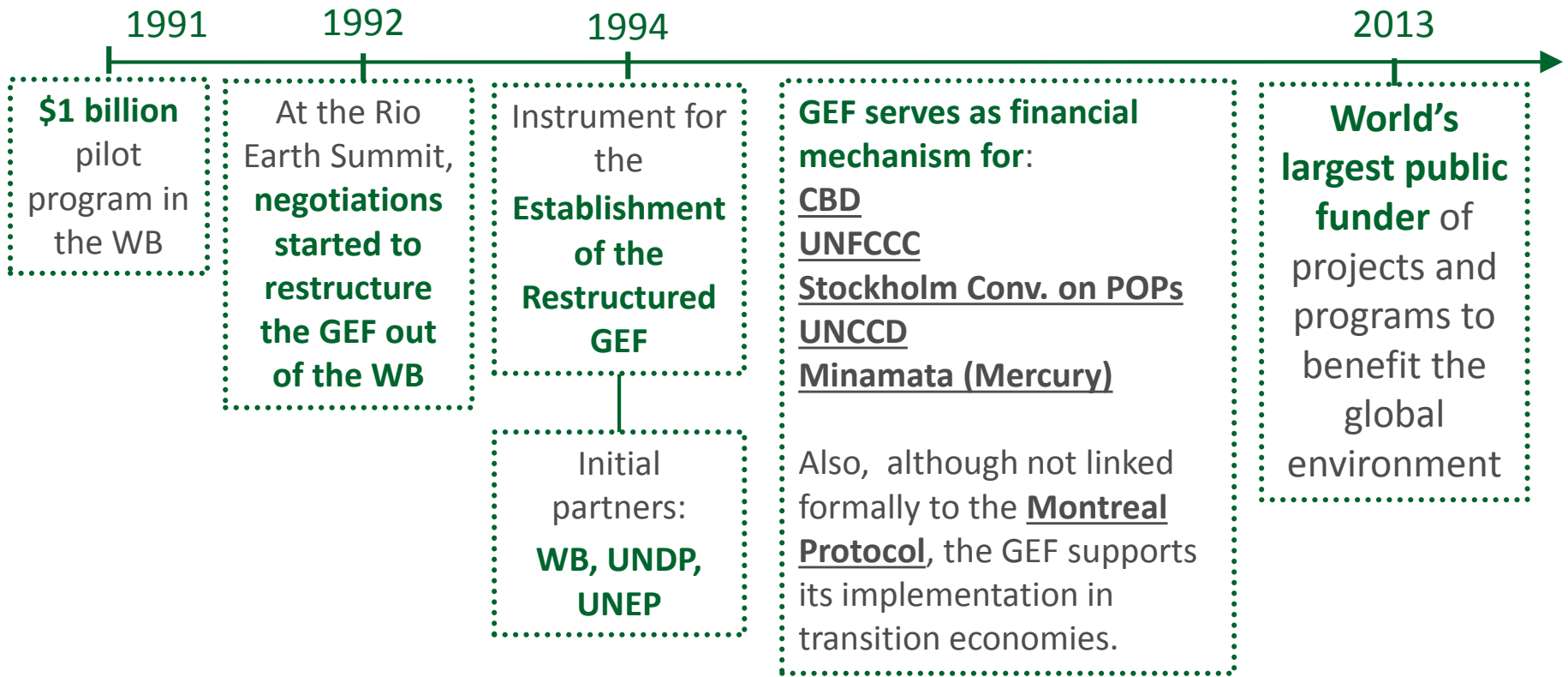


What is GEF?  
Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup>  
9:15 – 09:45

History, Mission, Governance, Institutional  
Framework, Council, Key Partners  
*William Ehlers – Head, External Affairs*

January 20 - 22, 2015

# History of the GEF



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# GEF Goal and Mission

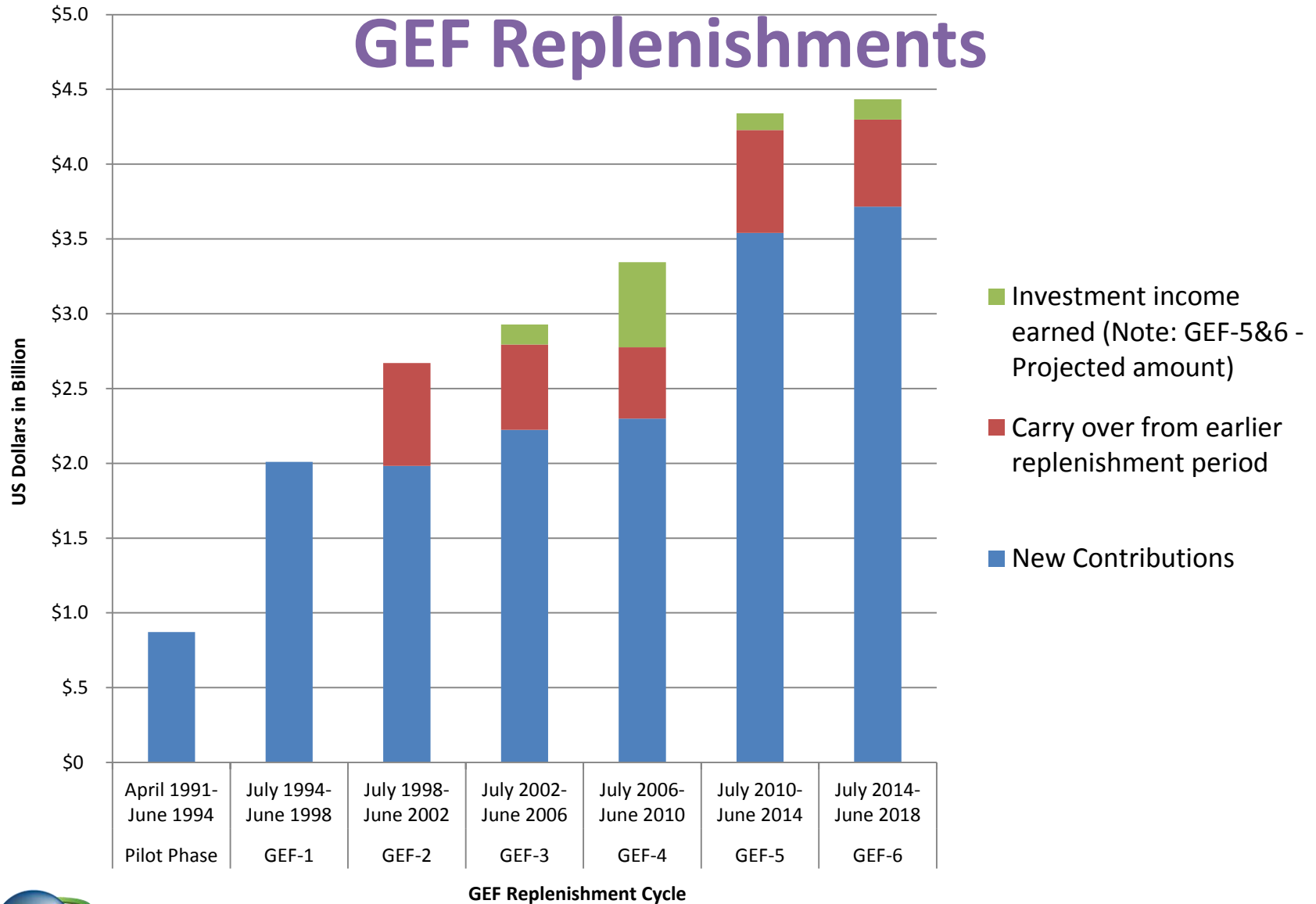
**Goal:** to address global environmental issues while supporting national sustainable development initiatives.

**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 measure to achieve agreed global environmental benefits.



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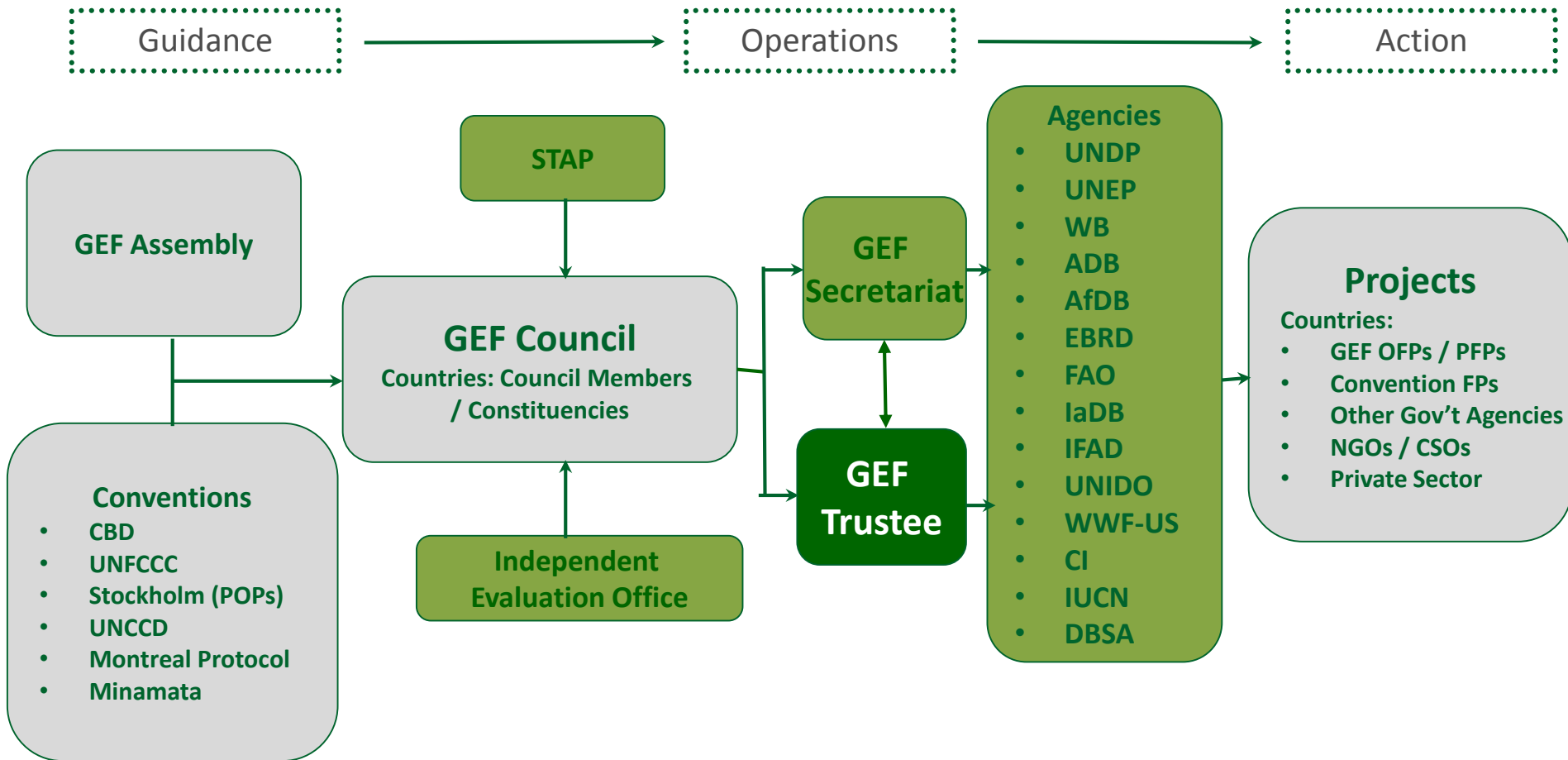
# GEF Replenishments



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# GEF Trust Fund

## *Institutional Framework*



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# GEF Organizational Structure (1 of 4)

- GEF Participants: 183
- GEF Assembly:
  - All members represented.
  - Meets every 4 years.
  - Reviews and evaluates policies the operation of the GEF, and its membership.
  - Amends Instrument (on Council recommendation)
  - Agencies participate (side events, booths, exhibitions)
- The **instrument**: is the document that established the GEF and set the rules by which the GEF operates.



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# GEF Organizational Structure (2 of 4)

- The **Council** is the GEF's governing board of directors, responsible for developing, adopting, and evaluating policies and programs for GEF-financed activities → approves the Work Program
- 32 constituencies – 16 from developing countries, 14 from developed countries, 2 from countries with economies in transition.
- Takes place twice a year – adopts decisions by consensus (by mail if needed) and evaluates GEF activities, in accordance with the directives from the Instrument
- Representatives from the CSOs, Agencies, Trustee, STAP, IEO and the Conventions are invited
- Agencies provide perspectives regarding Council matters



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# GEF Organizational Structure (3 of 4)

- GEF Secretariat:
  - Headed by CEO.
  - Reports directly to the GEF Council and the Assembly
  - Evaluates and recommends projects for CEO and/or Council approval
  - Coordinates the formulation of projects included in the work programs, oversees their implementation, and makes certain that operational strategies and policies are followed.
  - Agencies interact with GEF staff on a regular basis (project prep.)
- STAP - Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (presentation):
  - Provides strategic scientific and technical advice to the GEF on its strategy and programs
  - Screens projects and if needed, Agencies can engage with STAP members to address major comments



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# GEF Organizational Structure (4 of 4)

- GEF Agencies:
  - Operational work. Accountable to Council for their project activities.
- Independent Evaluation Office (presentation):
  - Reports directly to the Council; reviews GEF work and evaluates its effectiveness; establishes evaluation standards; provides quality control for M&E of Agencies
- CSOs (see last slide):
  - Participate at policy and project level
- GEF Trustee:
  - Administers the GEF Trust Fund in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Instrument and decisions of the GEF Council.



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# Responsibilities of Convention Secretariats (1 of 2)

- The GEF serves as "financial mechanism" to five conventions.
- The Memorandum of Understanding is the means through which the Conventions and the GEF cooperate.
- The conventions, for which the GEF serve as financial mechanism, provide broad strategic guidance to the GEF
- The GEF Council responds to this broad guidance by developing operational criteria for GEF projects



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# Responsibilities of Convention Secretariats (2 of 2)

- The Secretariat of the Conventions and the GEF Secretariat consult as necessary in the guidance that the COPs provide
- In particular, in accordance with the GEF project cycle, the Secretariat of the Conventions are invited to comment on the project proposals under consideration for inclusion in a proposed work programme.
- The GEF Secretariat prepares a report on GEF activities to be presented on each COP on a regular basis. This report is previously reviewed and approved by the Council



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# GEF Partner Agencies



WORLD BANK GROUP



European Bank



CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL



WWF



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# GEF and Civil Society

- GEF actively engages CSOs in its programs, projects and policies
- The GEF has several policies 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 and Assembly with the right to speak on all substantive issues
  - CSOs have participated at every Expanded Constituency Workshop
  - 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



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# Thank you for your attention!

## Questions?

### **The Global Environment Facility**

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