



**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

[www.theGEF.org](http://www.theGEF.org)

# **GEF Strategies, Activities and Accomplishment: Land Degradation Focal Area**

**Mohamed Bakarr**

Senior Environmental Specialist / Cluster Coordinator

GEF Familiarization Seminar  
Washington, DC  
January 30-31, 2013

# Land Degradation Focal Area

**Mandate** – Finance efforts to arrest and reverse current global trends in land degradation, specifically **desertification** and **deforestation**.

**Focus** – **Sustainable Land Management (SLM)** in production landscapes

## **Impacts:**

- Flow of ecosystem services increased or maintained
- Sustained crop, livestock, and forest production (existing areas)
- Sustainable livelihoods (development benefit)



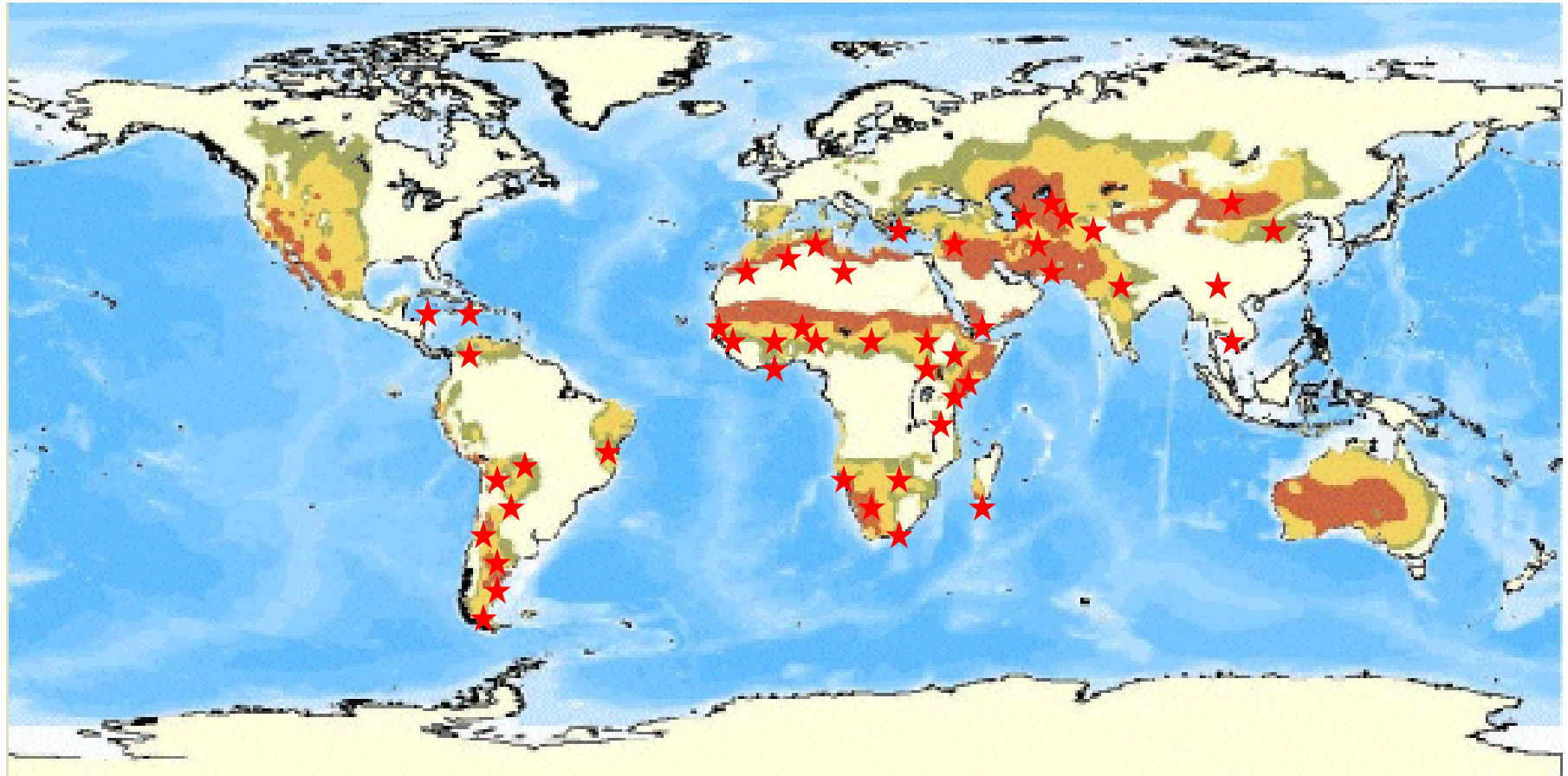
# GEF is a Financial Mechanism of the UNCCD



- **Land Degradation Focal Area** is main GEF financing window → **Sustainable Land Management**
- GEF financing leverages resources in agriculture, livestock, forestry for **global environmental benefits**
- Investing in **Sustainable Land Management** supports implementation of the UNCCD by affected country Parties



# Drylands of the World



■ Arid   ■ Semi-arid   ■ Sub-humid

★ GEF Projects focusing on SLM

Source: UNEP/GRID-Arendal Maps and Graphics Library (<http://www.wri.org/publication/content/8236>)



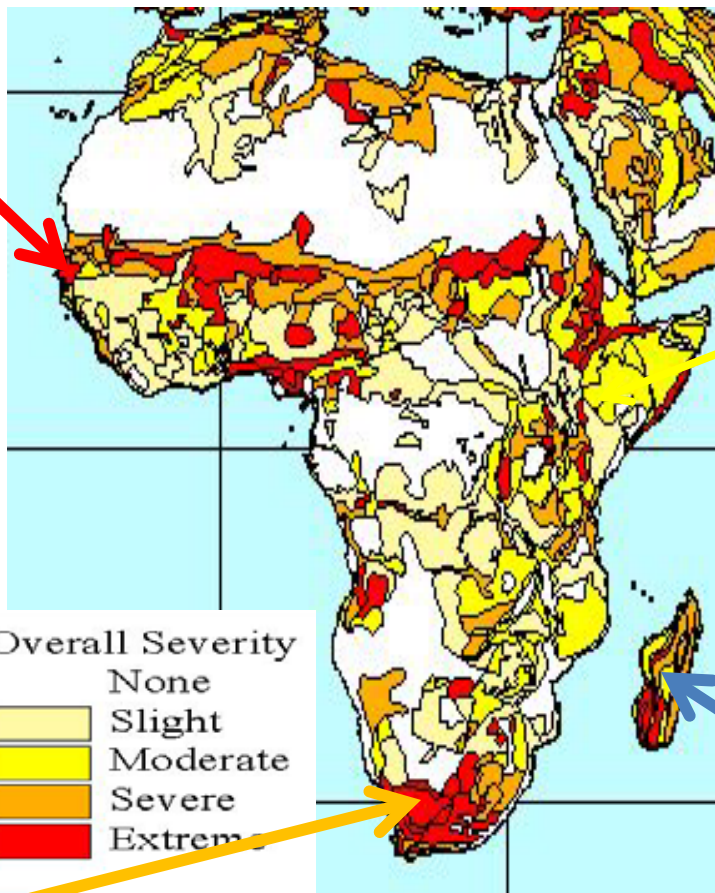
**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

# Contexts for GEF Financing

## - Land Degradation



**Desertification...**



**Deforestation**



# GEF-5 LD Focal Area Objectives

- 1 Maintain or improve flow of **agro-ecosystem services** to sustaining livelihoods
- 2 Generate sustainable flows of **forest ecosystem services in arid, semi-arid and sub-humid zones (drylands)**
- 3 Reduce pressures on natural resources from **competing land uses** in the wider landscape
- 4 Increase **capacity to apply adaptive management tools** in SLM



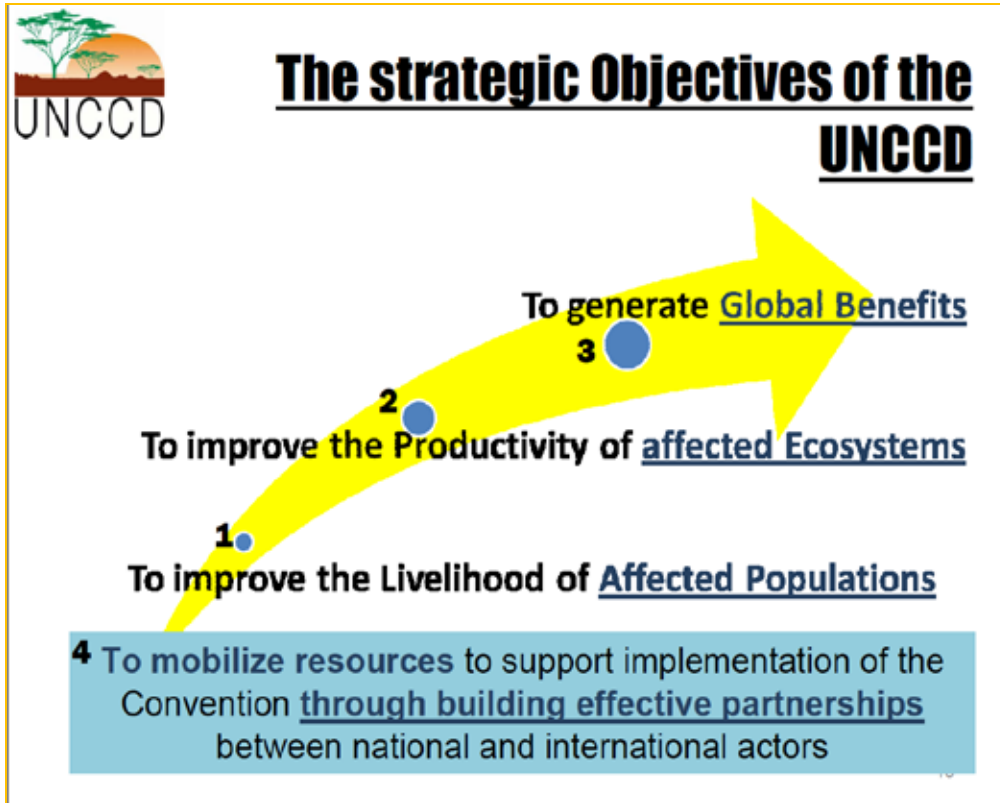
# GEF-5 Results-based Framework

\$405 million allocated to the LD Focal Area

Objectives	Targets
LD-1 Agro-ecosystems services flows	Sustainable management of <b>120 million hectares</b> (agriculture and rangelands)
LD-2 Forest ecosystem service flows	Sustainable management of <b>300,000 hectares</b> (forest production landscapes)
LD-3 Integrated management of wider landscapes	Integrated management of <b>150 million hectares</b> (mixed land uses)
LD-4 Adaptive project management for UNCCD and GEF	75% of all LD projects address priorities identified in UNCCD 10-year Strategy  50% of LD projects take up emerging knowledge from targeted research



# GEF and the UNCCD Ten-Year Strategy



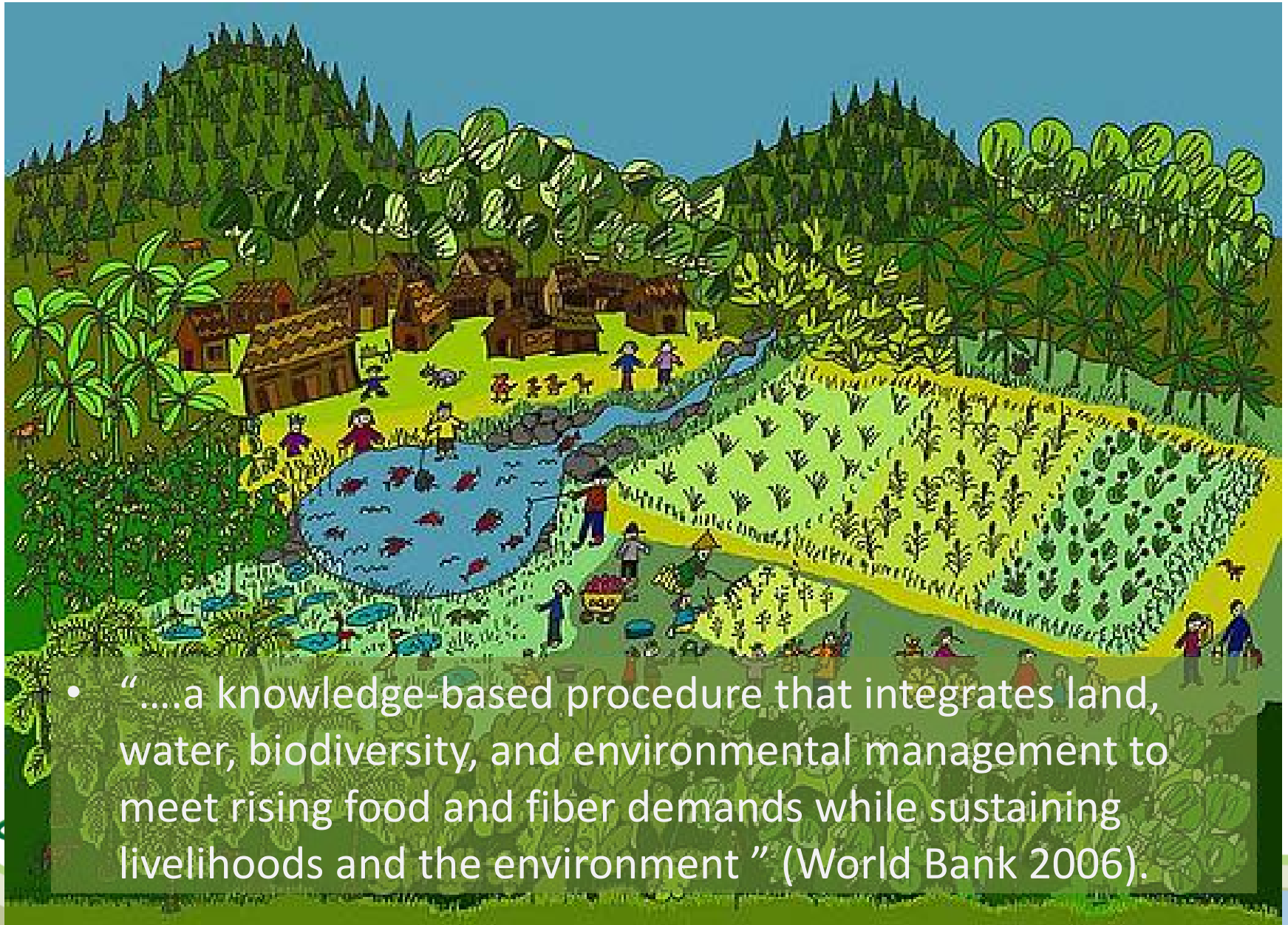
## GEF Objectives in the Land Degradation Focal Area

- 1 Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustaining livelihoods
- 2 Generate sustainable flows of forest ecosystem services in drylands
- 3 Reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses in the wider landscape
- 4 Increase capacity to apply adaptive management tools in Sustainable Land Management

**The GEF is a  
Financial Mechanism of the UNCCD**



# Sustainable Land Management



- “....a knowledge-based procedure that integrates land, water, biodiversity, and environmental management to meet rising food and fiber demands while sustaining livelihoods and the environment ” (World Bank 2006).

# Advancing SLM Implementation



Agroforestry



Forest Landscape Management



Rangeland Management



Forest Landscape Restoration



Living sand barrier



Contour Terrace

# Multiple Benefits in Production Landscapes

## Ecosystem Services in Production Systems

- Soil fertility restoration and enhancement
- Land and water conservation and improvement
- Biodiversity conservation - above and below ground
- CC mitigation: Reduced GHG emissions and Carbon sequestration

## Development

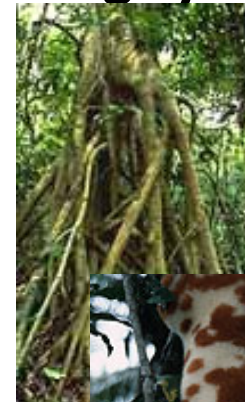
- Climate-resilient production systems (CC adaptation)
- Options for household food security and income



# Cross-focal Area Linkages

**Deliver multiple environmental and social benefits, seeking synergy:**

- BIODIVERSITY: Protected area management, sustainable use and mainstreaming in production, landscapes, seascapes, and sectors
- INTERNATIONAL WATERS: Integrated water resource management
- CC MITIGATION: LULUCF component for mitigating climate change.
- CC ADAPTATION (LDCF/SCCF): Resilience in production systems and practices



# SFM/REDD-plus Program

- **Goal:** achieve multiple environmental benefits from improved management of all types of forests
- Funding derives from three GEF Focal Areas (Biodiversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation)
- **Separate funding envelope created outside the STAR to provide incentive funding** for interested countries



# Typology of LD FA investments in GEF-5

LD-stand alone projects	Multifocal area projects	SFM/REDD+ projects
10 projects with ~ \$38 million LD resources (FY 11-12)	13 projects with ~ \$42 million LD resources (FY 11-12)	20+ projects with ~ \$80 million LD STAR resources (FY11-12)
#4332 Tajikistan: Upland Agricultural Livelihoods and Environmental Management Project	#4583 Turkey: Sustainable Land Management and Climate Friendly Agriculture	#4332 Azerbaijan: Sustainable Land and Forest Management in the Greater Caucasus Landscape
#4754 Pakistan: Sustainable Land Management Programme to Combat Desertification	#4584 Kazakhstan: Improving Sustainability of PA System in Desert Ecosystems through promotion of BD compatible Livelihoods in & around PAs	#4744 Mongolia: Securing Forest Ecosystems through Participatory Management and Benefit Sharing

## Programmatic Approaches

Roughly 40 million (25%) of the total \$160 million committed in FY11-12 have been programmed under programmatic approaches, including stand alone, MFA's and SFM/REDD+ projects.

<p><b>GMS Forests &amp; Biodiversity</b>                      #4945 Cambodia: Collaborative Management for Watershed and Ecosystem Service Protection and Rehabilitation in the Cardamom Mountains (LD )</p>	<p><b>MENA-Deserts &amp; Livelihoods</b>                      #5026 Jordan: Badia Ecosystem and Livelihoods Project (BD+LD+CC)</p>	<p><b>Great Green Wall Initiative</b>                      #4907 Nigeria: Erosion and Watershed Management Project                      #4908 Chad: Agriculture production support project (BD+LD+SFM/REDD+)</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

# Thank you for your attention

## Questions?



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET