



GEF Familiarization Seminar 2013

United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)





UNEP in the GEF



1972-2012: Serving People and the Planet

- The only Implementing Agency of the GEF whose core business is the environment;
- Supports strategic and policy direction of GEF, and performs legal obligations in regards to the GEF Instrument;
- Helps operationalise the Trust Funds managed by the GEF by assisting countries and proponents to access funds (GEF, AF, LDFC, SCCF and NPIF);
- Work directly with countries ("direct" relations to executing partners without need for country presence)
- Leveraging significant partnerships to secure co-financing;
- Enhances scientific rigor and relevance, including by providing the secretariat of the STAP





UNEP's Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work



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- Climate Change – Mitigation & Adaptation
- Ecosystem Management
- Disasters and Conflicts
- Environmental governance
- Harmful substances and hazardous waste
- Resource efficiency





UNEP's GEF Portfolio



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Since the 1992, UNEP has developed 592 GEF projects

*with an additional two dollars leveraged for every GEF dollar





UNEP's Comparative Advantage in the GEF



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1. Scientific assessments, monitoring, early warning;
2. Linking science to policy (set norms and standards, develop capacities, provide legal support) at national, regional and global levels;
3. Technology transfer and support
4. Lift barriers to upscaling through leveraged partnerships;
5. Build capacities at country level to test and demonstrate innovative solutions;
6. Regional, transboundary and global cooperation;
7. Assist countries to meet obligations to conventions through Enabling Activities
8. Awareness raising, advocacy, and knowledge management.





Scientific Assessments, Monitoring, Early Warning



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- Carbon benefits of GEF projects (LD),
- Economic Assessment of Adaptation Options – CC
- Transboundary Water Assessment Program (TWAP)
– IW
- Bioindicators and biomarkers – POPs
- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment – BD
- Capacity for early warning systems – CC





Linking Science to Policy at National, Regional and Global Levels



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- Standardized Methodologies for Carbon Accounting
- Ecosystem Services valuation of Blue Forests
- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), followed by *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity* Initiative (see www.teebweb.org)





Innovation, Technology Transfer and Lifting Barriers



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- Technology Transfer Networks, e.g. phasing out Incandescent Lamps – global & countries - CC
- Greening the Tea Industry in East Africa – CC
- Voluntary Forest Certification & Ecosystem Services – BD
- Greening the Cocoa Industry – BD





Regional and Global Cooperation



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- Regional Assessment of Persistent Toxic Substances, Phasing out DDT and Introducing Alternatives – POPs
- Regional - Implementing Integrated Land, Water, & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS-IWeco
- Flyways-based wetland & bird conservation (Siberia to South China) – BD
- Regional Invasive Species Projects – BD





Enabling Activities



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- NBSAPs and National Invasives Strategy and Action Plans (BD)
- Biosafety Frameworks (BD)
- National Communications (NCs), Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs), National Action Plans for Adaptation (NAPAs) – CC
- National Implementation Plans (Stockholm Convention)
- National Action Plans, and National Reports (LD - UNCCD)





Awareness Raising, Advocacy, and Knowledge Management



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- Conservation Council of Nations (BD)
- Communities of Conservation – Safeguarding the World’s Most Threatened Species/AZE Sites (BD)
- IW: LEARN -International Waters Learning Exchange and Resources Network - IW





UNEP-GEF-5/emerging issues



Biodiversity : Access and Benefit Sharing; Invasive Alien Species; marine protected areas; ecosystem restoration; migratory species....

International waters : ABNJ; hypoxia and nutrient overload; marine litter & micro-plastics; coastal erosion & adaptation...

Climate Change : Mitigation : Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs); Black Carbon; Atmospheric Brown Clouds (ABC), hydrofluorocarbons. Adaptation : migration; modeling

Land degradation : Urban sprawl; Ecosystem restoration; Conservation agriculture

POPs and Ozone : Integrated life-cycle approaches, chem & waste

Synergies : Green economy; Convention obligations/reporting as one





UNEP at the Country Level comparative advantage



- Open new environmental agendas
- Innovation and pilot testing
- Respond to specific country requests (as long as country's baseline is clear)





UNEP GEF-5 country level project examples



- **Maldives** - Strengthening Low-Carbon Energy Island Strategies (Climate Change) – approved
- **Guatemala** - Access and Benefit Sharing (BD) – approved
- **Cambodia** - Mondulkiri Conservation Landscape (Multi-focal) – approved
- **St. Lucia** - Iyanola-Natural Resource Management of the NE Coast (Multi-focal) – approved
- **Bahamas** – Pine Islands - Forest/Mangrove Innovation and Integration (Multi-focal) – technically cleared.

