



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

**MINAMATA CONVENTION
ON MERCURY**



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**



Stockholm Convention
on persistent organic
pollutants (POPs)

Facilitating synergies in implementing multilateral environmental agreements towards sustainable development

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop
for Southern Africa

22 February 2017



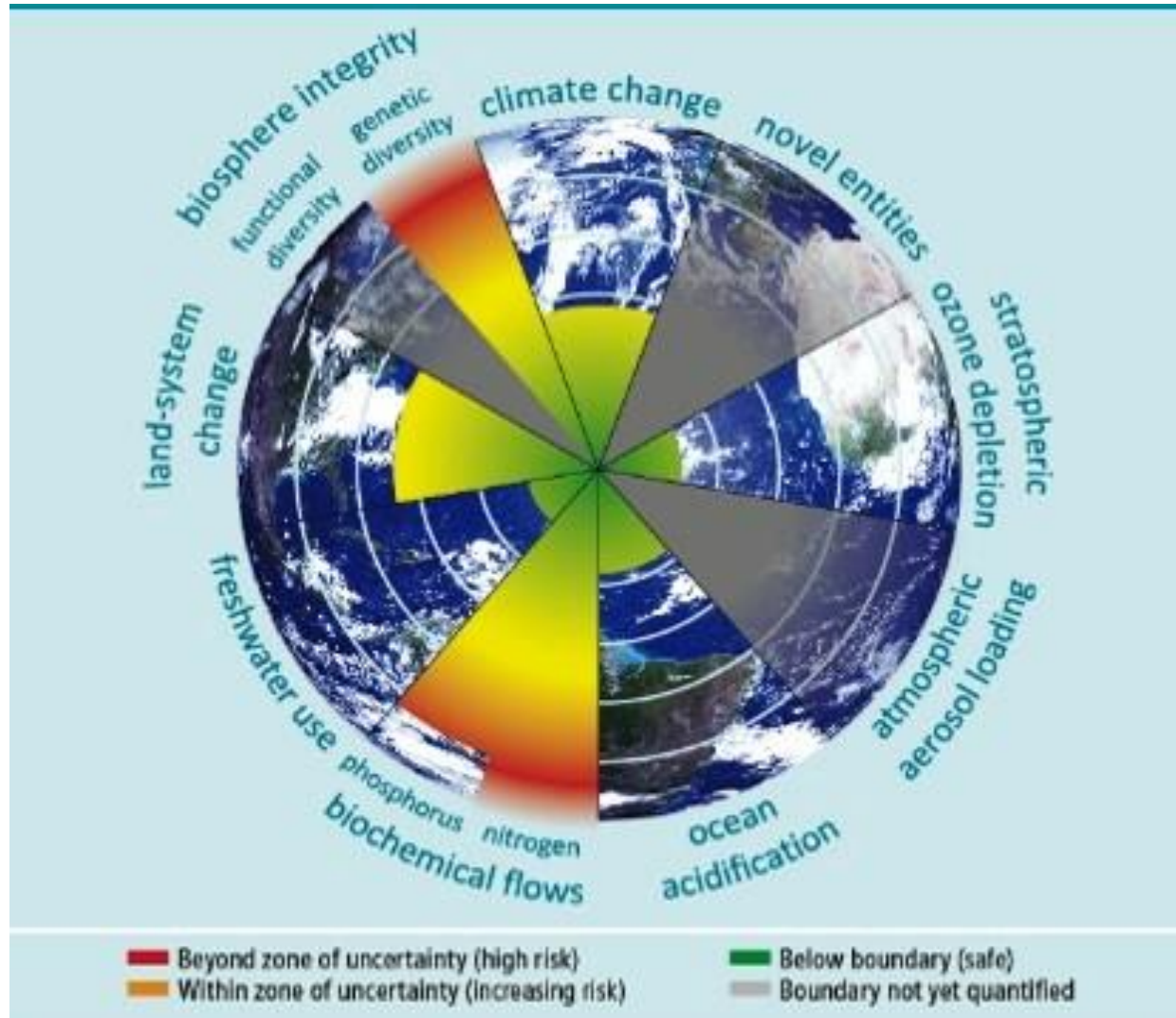
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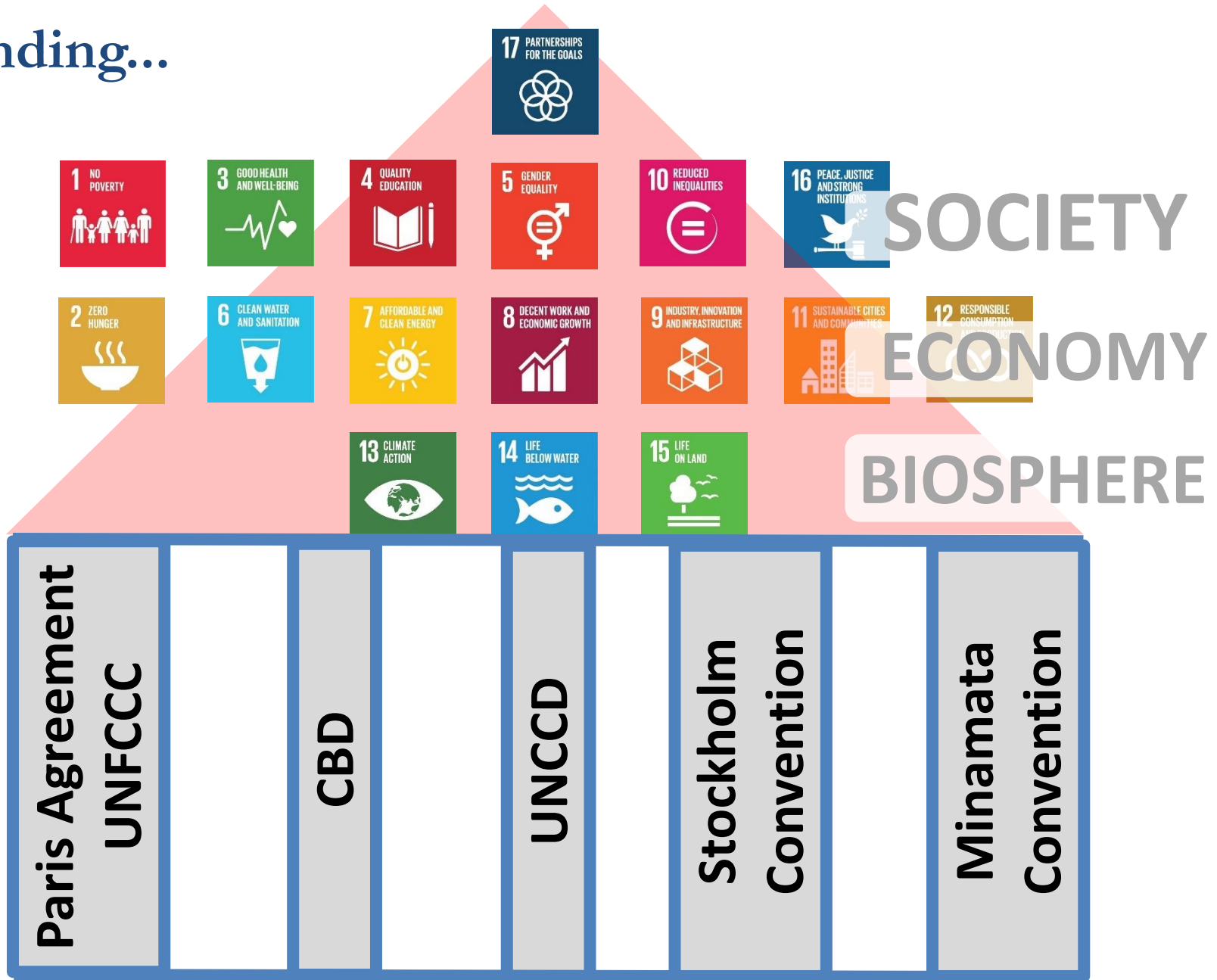
MEAs and SDGs: Coordinating response to safeguard planet

Continued, rapid deterioration of the **global commons...**

- Holocene → Anthropocene
- Urgent action required to avoid tipping points and irreversible damage



The world is
responding...



Session objectives?

1. To understand **milestone global agreements** and **recent MEA guidance** to the GEF;
2. To **enhance synergies among MEAs** and **promote GEF program integration**;
3. To discuss needs, barriers, and **country priorities to integrated programming**.



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1. Key agreements & GEF guidance

- MEA & GEF secretariats
- MEA guidance

2. GEF tools and modalities to support synergy elements

- GEF presentation

3. Country ideas and perspectives on programming

- hands-on discussion on programming
- reflections & questions



Time for Conventions...



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

UN General Assembly:

- Noted the **need for enhanced cooperation among the Rio Conventions** (2009);
- Adopted **The Future We Want (Rio+20)**, encouraging **coordination and cooperation between MEAs**.



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

Convention on Biological Diversity:

“Encourages Parties to **promote synergies between biodiversity and climate-change** policies and measures” (*decision XI/21*);

“Requests the Global Environment Facility [...] to **support projects and activities to improve synergies** among relevant multilateral environment agreements” (*decision XI/6*);



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

Convention on Biological Diversity:

GEF to provide financial resources for:

“**Capacity-building** with the aim of increasing the effectiveness in addressing environmental issues through their **commitments** under the **CBD, UNFCCC, and the UNCCD**, inter alia, by **applying the ecosystem approach**”

“**Developing synergy-oriented programmes** to conserve and sustainably manage all ecosystems, such as forests, wetlands and marine environments, that also contribute to poverty eradication”

(decision X/24)



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change:

“Encourages the Global Environment Facility [...] to align [...] programming with [...] nationally determined contributions, where they exist, during the seventh replenishment, and to **continue to promote synergies across its focal areas.”**

“Requests the Global Environment Facility [...] to **take into consideration climate risks in all its programmes and operations [...].”** *(decision 11/CP.22)*

✓ *(I)NDCs frequently mention biodiversity, ecosystem-based approaches, land degradation...*



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

Stockholm Convention and Minamata:

“Stressed that the **sound management of chemicals and wastes has a global environmental benefit** and is an essential element of sustainable development;

“Encouraged the Facility to **continue to enhance synergies in its activities**”

“Identification of possible elements of guidance from the Stockholm Convention to the GEF that also address the relevant priorities of the Basel and Rotterdam conventions.” *(decision SC-7/21)*



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Land as a central element

SDG 15, Target 15.3: Land Degradation Neutrality

→ “by 2030, combat desertification, and restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land-degradation neutral world.”

- Land agenda embodies the importance of tackling complex, interdependent issues in an integrated manner
- How we protect and manage land resources sustainably will have impacts on multiple goals
- UNCCD COP 12 (2015):
 - ✓ Addressing LDN will be priority area for GEF support;
 - ✓ LDN guiding principle for implementation of Convention.



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Key agreements and GEF guidance

UN Convention to Combat Desertification:

“Invites the GEF to continue its support for the implementation of the convention [...] in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, **in particular target 15.3**”;

“Invites the GEF to [...] consider technical and financial support for voluntary **national land degradation neutrality target-setting**”

“Invites country Parties to formulate and **integrate in their National Adaptation Plan voluntary targets to achieve LDN** in accordance with their specific national circumstances and development priorities.” *(COP 12)*



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Seeking Synergy and Multiple Benefits



- Growing interest by countries in cross-cutting projects with multiple benefits
 - ✓ 47 out of 74 land degradation projects (FY13-15) are multi-focal;
 - ✓ \$227 million from land degradation, \$300 million from biodiversity, climate change, SFM, etc.
 - ✓ 41 more projects addressing land agenda supported by funds for climate change (LDCF, SCCF, AF)
 - ✓ \$297 million from climate-related funds
- Synergy among Rio Conventions on the ground



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Seeking Synergy and Multiple Benefits

Example of institutional arrangements at the national/regional level:

- ✓ Informal and/or formal **committees** to coordinate between national focal points, different ministries and agencies, and other stakeholders.
- ✓ **National GEF committees** as mechanisms for national focal points to foster the coherent implementation of the MEAs and SDGs.
- ✓ **National strategy for the implementation across MEAs and SDGs.**
- ✓ **Regional initiatives** including learning and peer-to-peer exchange, regional centers of excellence in data monitoring and reporting, implementation of large-scale, cross-cutting impact programs.



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Seeking Synergy and Multiple Benefits

Additional entry points for synergies at the national level:

- ✓ **Sustainable Development Goals:** Coordinating framework for achieving multiple goals. Integration of MEAs and SDGs in national development.
- ✓ **Implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation:** EbA enable people to adapt to the impacts of climate change by sustainably managing, conserving and restoring ecosystems.
- ✓ **National planning and reporting** (e.g. links between UNFCCC NAPs, CBD NBSAPs, and UNCCD NAPs, national reports)
- ✓ **Sustainable land management:** links with biodiversity, climate change and land degradation, relevant to all 3 Rio Conventions.
- ✓ **Ecosystem restoration:** contributes to biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation and combatting land degradation, relevant to most MEAs.



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GEF-6 Programming Structure

Integrated Approach Pilots:

- Sustainable Cities
- Food Security
- Commodity Supply Chain

Other cross-cutting initiatives:

- Sustainable fisheries
- Illegal wildlife trade
- Amazon sustainable landscapes

Biodiversity

Land Degradation

Climate Change

Sustainable Forest
Management

International Waters

Chemicals & Waste



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Assessing **national priorities** as expressed in INDCs, NBSAPs and COP guidance

| | AFR | ASIA | ECA | LAC | SIDS | Total |
|------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-------|
| Restoration and Reforestation | 98% | 100% | 96% | 100% | 97% | 98% |
| Energy | 98% | 100% | 88% | 90% | 97% | 95% |
| Food Security | 98% | 100% | 83% | 100% | 91% | 94% |
| Sustainable Cities | 96% | 94% | 83% | 80% | 94% | 91% |
| Environmental and Water Security | 94% | 100% | 58% | 95% | 91% | 88% |
| Resilience | 98% | 100% | 63% | 80% | 91% | 88% |
| Fisheries | 75% | 82% | 67% | 85% | 85% | 78% |
| Natural Capital | 73% | 76% | 50% | 85% | 71% | 71% |
| Healthy Oceans and Coastal Systems | 58% | 71% | 54% | 80% | 76% | 66% |
| Green Financing | 60% | 65% | 50% | 80% | 56% | 61% |
| Green Infrastructure | 40% | 53% | 25% | 60% | 29% | 39% |
| Commodities | 6% | 18% | 0% | 50% | 3% | 12% |
| Amazon Landscapes | - | - | - | 89% | - | 89% |



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Questions for today's discussion

- 1) What is an example of cross-cutting/integrated GEF financing in your country, past or present, and was it helpful?

10 min discussion in small groups (each table)

...then short reporting back (1 person per table)



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Questions for today's discussion

- 1) What is an example of cross-cutting/integrated GEF financing in your country, past or present, and was it helpful?
- 2) **What cross-cutting, transformational impact programs could be most helpful in your country/region and could be practically feasible in GEF-7?**

10-15 min discussion in small groups (each table)

...then reporting back with short list of priorities for

GEF-7 programming

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