**Draft -STAP/GEF: Delivering Global Environment Benefits for Sustainable Development**

**GEF Assembly**

**Cancun, Mexico**

**May 27, 2014 – 5:45 pm**

Side event – 1½ hours

**Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (STAP/GEF)**

**Delivering Global Environment Benefits for Sustainable Development**

**Description**

The session will focus on the multiple and critical links between global environmental benefits and sustainable development. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) acknowledges a catalytic role in generating multiple benefits through integrated approaches between the focal areas, and across its adaptation funds – the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). In its upcoming sixth phase, the GEF will encourage further interlinkages through multiple focal area projects. Programs, integrated approaches, also will offer systemic planning addressing the complex and multiple interactions between humans and the environment, as a means of sustaining resilience of ecosystems while improving livelihoods. Embracing integration supports ongoing innovation in the GEF as it builds on its catalytic roles – to generate multiple benefits across environmental domains, and between the environment and sustainable development.

The session is designed to highlight these vital linkages between global environmental benefits and sustainable development, providing examples from the recent work by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the GEF (STAP).

Two themes are covered that exemplify STAP’s vision for innovation and integration between the global environment and sustainable development:

1. Design of policies, programs and projects to encourage testing of innovative ideas, their demonstration and deployment for further adoption and scaling-up
2. Improving learning and knowledge management by the GEF partnership

Through this session, the aims are to:

1. Demonstrate the benefits of investing in integrated approaches, and why the GEF’s investments in this area will enhance further its catalytic role on environmentally sustainable development.
2. Encourage innovation through the design and delivery of systemic integration, building on the GEF’s integrated approaches, and including priority issues identified by STAP in its report to the GEF Assembly “Delivering Global Environmental Benefits for Sustainable Development”.
3. Consult project developers and country representatives on issues related to environmentally sustainable development and implementation in GEF-6.

**Agenda**

Naoko Iishi, GEF CEO (tbc)

Welcome remarks

Rosina Bierbaum, STAP Chair

* Brief introduction to STAP
* Key messages from STAP’s report to the GEF Assembly

STAP’s approaches & examples on integration

(The objective is for the Panel to synthesize their advice on the integrated approaches, as well as present examples of their work, as appropriate, on global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits and sustainable development.)

* Rosina Bierbaum – Climate change and development, drawing from the U.S. National Climate Assessment Report (10 minutes)
* Henk Bouwman and Ralph Sims– Sustainable cities (10 minutes)
* Annette Cowie – Food security (5 minutes)
* Sandra Diaz – Biodiversity mainstreaming (5 minutes)
* Anand Patwardhan – Climate resilience (5 minutes)
* Jakob Granit – Environmental security and governance (5 minutes)

Moderators: Michael Stocking and Tom Lovejoy

This interactive session aims to draw from our scientific understanding of integration, as presented previously, and the types of interventions that exemplify the inter-connectivity between global environmental benefits and sustainable development. The following points will prompt the discussion between the Panel and the audience:

* Why integration matters for the future of the GEF?
* What might encourage, or prevent integration initiatives to be developed (e.g. .multiple focal area projects, integrated approaches)?
* Provide examples where cross-cutting initiatives have worked, and explain why they worked (or not).
* How often do you work with other branches of government to solve problems on environmental issues, and sustainable development?
* What policies, practices and incentives will be required to strengthen integration initiatives, such as multiple focal area projects, integrated approaches, and other types of cross-cutting efforts?