



Enhancing the GEF's Contribution to Sustainable Development

STAP's Working Paper for the 1st GEF-6 Replenishment Meeting

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Our era: the Anthropocene

GEF's mandate:
delivery of global environmental benefits

STAP's proposal for GEF's mission:
Secure the sustainable delivery of global environmental benefits through investments in collective action to sustain Earth's life-support systems, resulting in improved human well-being and social equity



GEF's role

The GEF's challenge:

- deliver on obligations to Conventions
- remain innovative
- “partner of choice” within evolving global framework for development and environmental finance.

Fundamental focus:

Maintain and enhance Earth's life support systems for human well-being

GEF's niche: working with developing countries and economies in transition to address *the inter-connected global challenges* central to sustainable development:

- *climate change,*
- *food, water, energy, land-use nexus*
- *pollution and waste*



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From Silos to Synergies

Need for integration to achieve systemic change

- **across space: national/ regional/global**
- **across domains: environmental and socioeconomic**
- **in project and programme design**

A better way to achieve integration across Focal Areas



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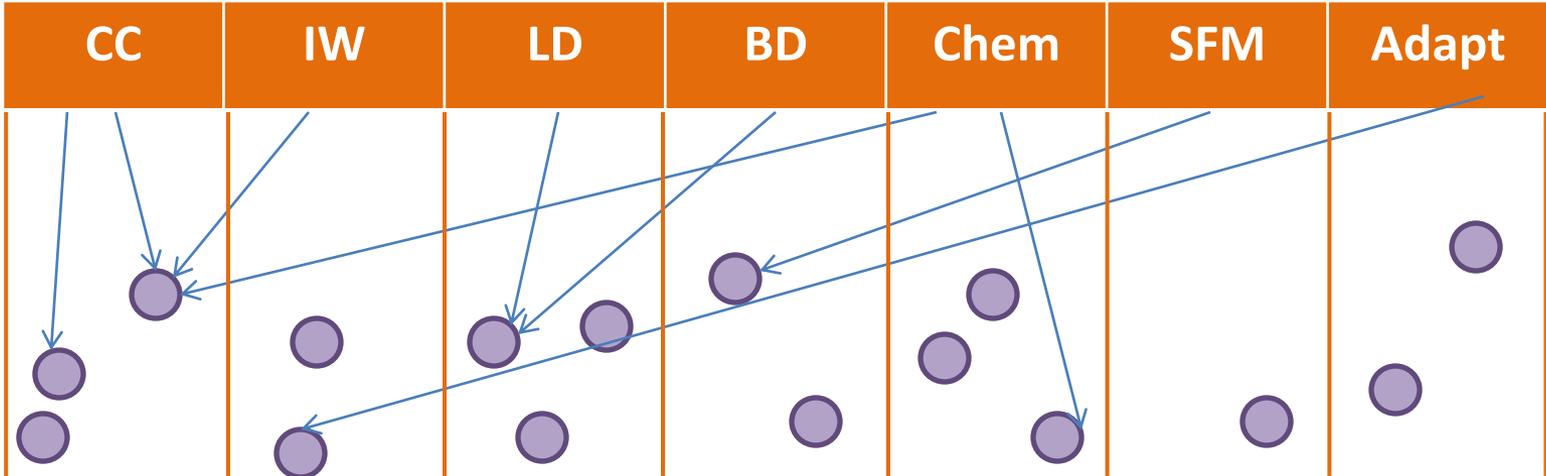
STAP's proposal

A novel conceptual framework to improve the relevance and effectiveness of the GEF support to the emerging **post-2015 global sustainable development agenda**.



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The existing GEF-5 Results Chain in which projects/programs are developed within focal areas/programs (including SFM) and results are reported within to one or multiple focal areas.

Four Themes of a New Framework

STAP proposes the following **synergistic themes**, which address the key environmental challenges of sustainable development, that could become the **outcomes of future GEF programs** :

- **Green Cities**
- **Smart Food Systems**
- **Healthy Oceans and Coasts**
- **Resilient Ecosystems**



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PROPOSED GEF MISSION



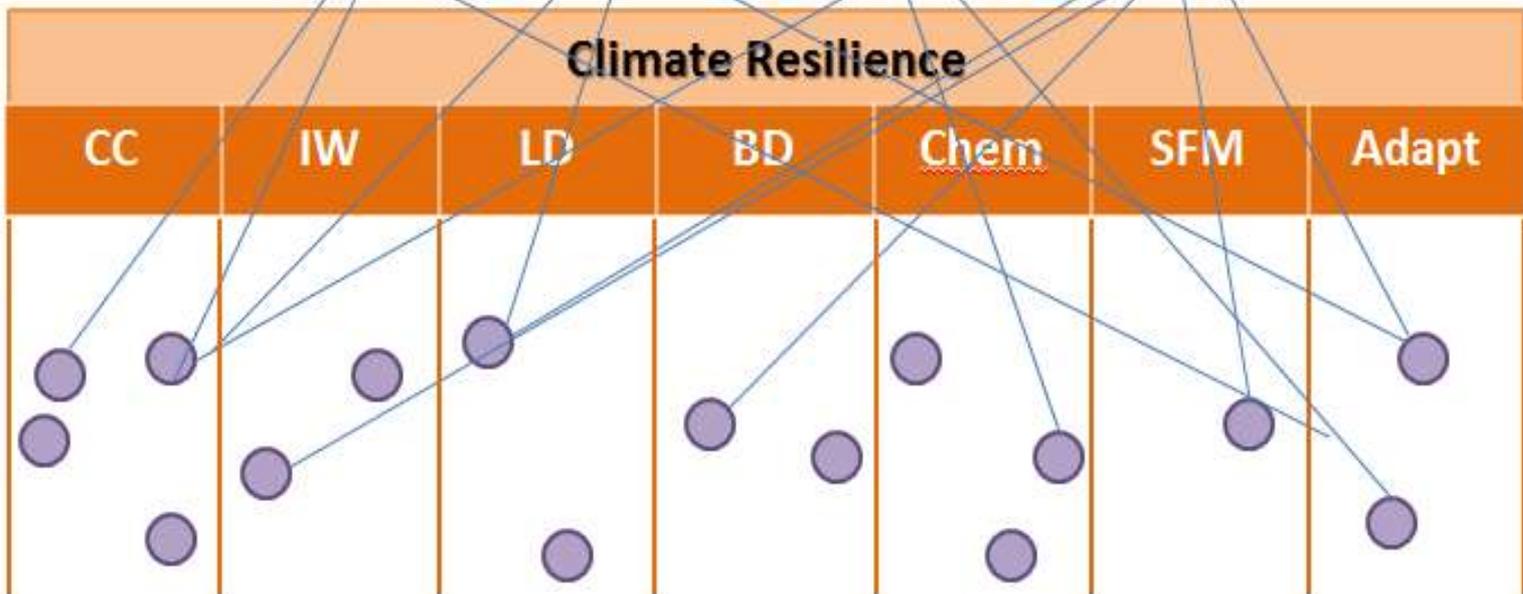
KEY THEMES/OUTCOMES
CONTRIBUTING TO
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
[POTENTIAL GEF STRATEGIC
GOALS]

Green
Cities

Smart Food
Systems

Healthy
Oceans &
Coasts

Resilient
Ecosystems



Projects
and
Programs

Introducing a New Framework

- Projects and programs within single or several focal areas to remain the foundation of GEF operations.
- GEF overall delivery focused towards achieving one or more of the four outcomes.
 - stimulate innovative design of projects and programs, including across regions, whilst providing incentives for designing multifocal area projects and programs in a bottom-up approach.
- Programs and projects that work at the systemic level with aggregate objectives and indicators.



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Four Themes of a New Framework

Chosen to address the key environmental challenges of sustainable development:

- **Green Cities**
- **Smart Food Systems**
- **Healthy Oceans and Coasts**
- **Resilient Ecosystems**



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Green Cities

Integrated and innovative approaches for greening cities, to reduce ecological footprints, improve climate resilience.

Support for:

- city governance frameworks integrating information, energy, water use and materials streams;
- urban design, planning and infrastructure;
- investments in improved and integrated natural resource usage and waste management.



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Smart Food Systems

A sustainable land and water management brings complementarities between food security, ecosystem resilience, climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation, and management of chemicals. Consider:

- recognition of interconnectedness of water, energy, nutrient flows
- approaches that support farmers' knowledge of technologies and providing better access to climate information at the local and national levels;
- support for links between agricultural production and climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- linking agricultural production, consumer demand and public health considerations;
- balancing the trade-offs between food production and climate change mitigation responses; and
- employing technology to optimize use of fossil fuels, water, chemicals.



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Healthy Oceans and Coasts

Ecosystem-based approaches (EBA) that support actions to reduce the drivers of degradation and maintain or restore the structure and function of coastal and open ocean ecosystems while simultaneously promoting sustainable use.

Includes:

- Supporting integrated coastal zone management, marine spatial planning and other area-based conservation tools;
- Supporting SIDs in greening their economy, focusing on the integrated development of small-scale fisheries and aquaculture, tourism, management of water, energy, waste;
- Addressing the management of groundwater;
- Supporting coastal implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries



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Resilient Ecosystems

Building resilience to climate change can help sustain GEF investments through enhancing the adaptive capacity of bio-physical resources such as forests, soils, water, as well as local communities subject to climate variability – thereby mitigating effects of future climate change.

Ecosystem restoration and adaptation: “the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change” (CBD)

Coordinated actions for:

agro-ecosystems, selected marine environments, forest and tropical ecosystems, and coastal settlements and other communities that are especially vulnerable to climate change.

STAP report on Climate Resilience to 39th GEF Council



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Expected Benefits of a New Framework

- Improved focal area synergies leading to GEF projects having greater and sustained impacts;
- Improved targeting of issues at the environment/development nexus to enhance broader developmental benefits;
- Maximize value from engagement, leading to enhanced financial efficiency (achieving more with less).



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