



**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**



**United Nations**  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

# Let's build synergies between the three Rio Conventions !

## NAPs as a key entry point for synergies

Training session hosted by the 6<sup>th</sup>  
Capacity-Building Hub

Rio Conventions Synergies Day

November 19<sup>th</sup>, Baku, UNFCCC COP



# Agenda



Master of ceremony: <b>Marie Stephania Perrine</b> , UNFCCC secretariat		
Duration	Segment	Speaker & Affiliation
7 min	<b>Opening</b>	<b>Tristan Tyrrell</b> , CBD secretariat <b>Marie-Claire Graf</b> , Youth Negotiators Academy
15 min	<b>Presentation:</b> snapshot of entry points for building synergies	<b>Kazi Amdadul Hoque</b> , Friendship <b>Ludwig Liagre</b> , Rio Impact
18 min	<b>Guided group work:</b> divide audience into three groups with three different topics in line with the presentation	All participants
15 min	<b>Group sharing:</b> Each group has 3 min to share their insights, plus 6 min for all participants to react to other groups' outcomes	All participants
5 min	<b>Recap &amp; Closing</b>	<b>Alejandro Kilpatrick</b> , UNFCCC secretariat

# Follow us on the webpage of Rio Conventions Joint Capacity-building Programme!



A screenshot of the United Nations Climate Change website. The top navigation bar is dark blue with the UN logo and 'United Nations Climate Change' on the left, and 'Search' and 'English' on the right. Below this is a lighter blue navigation menu with links for 'Home', 'COP 29', 'Process and meetings', 'Topics', 'Calendar', 'Climate action', 'Documents and decisions', 'About us', and 'News'. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail 'Topics &gt; Capacity-building &gt; Projects' followed by the title 'Rio Conventions Joint Capacity-building Programme.' Below the title is a banner with the program name and logos for the United Nations Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.



## SAVING LIVES

*Floating Hospitals  
Healthcare for All  
Disaster Relief*



## POVERTY ALLEVIATION

*Capacity Building  
Access to Services  
Micro Entrepreneurship*



## CLIMATE ADAPTATION

*Climate Resilience  
Locally Led Adaptation  
Mangrove Afforestation*



## EMPOWERMENT

*Education & Gender Equity  
Awareness of Rights, Ethics & Dignity  
Access to Justice & Government Services*



# FRIENDSHIP

**Mangrove restoration:** A critical nature-based solution that enhances synergies between the Rio Conventions



Baen

Keora

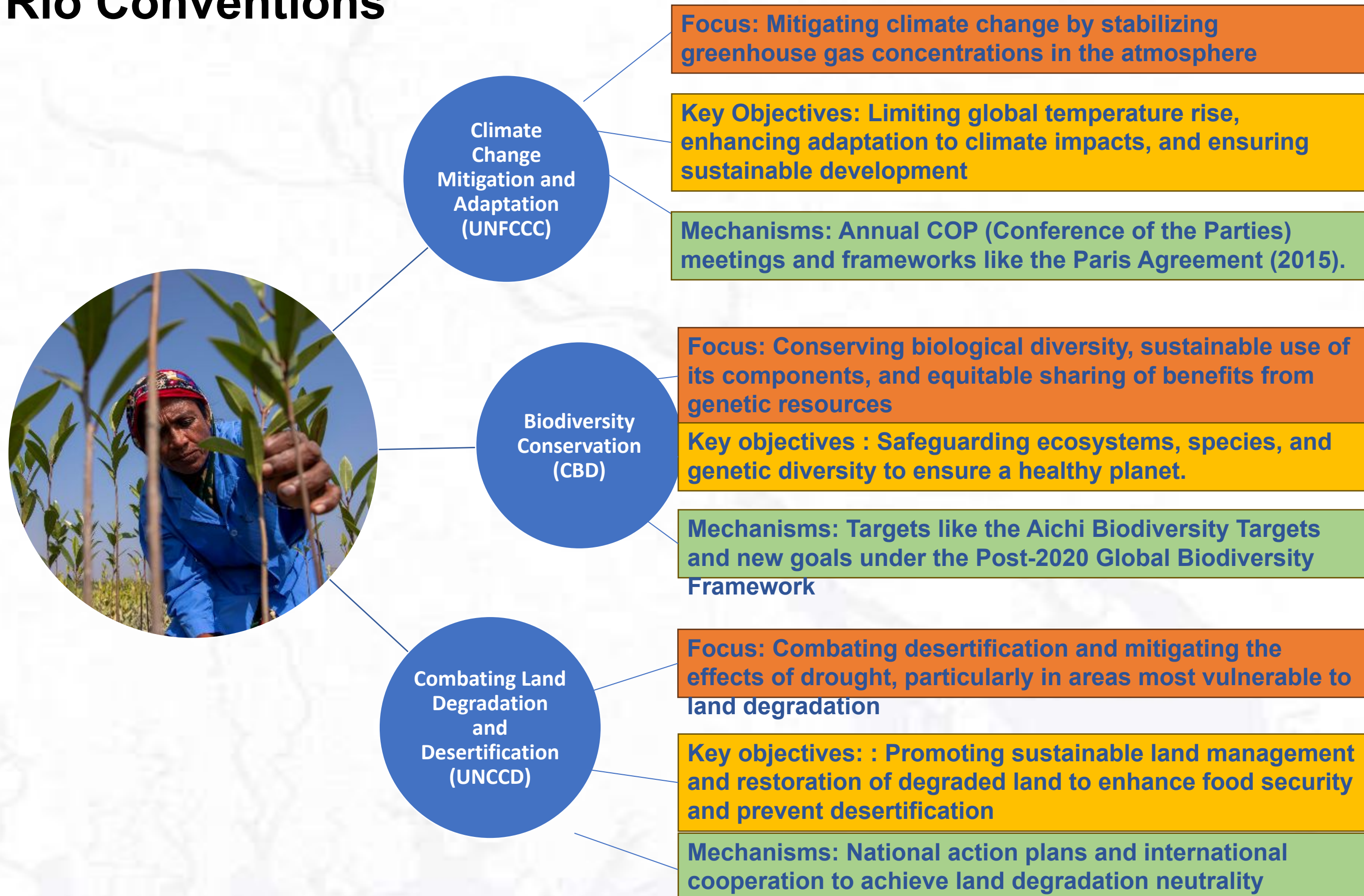
Khulshi

Kankra

Golpata

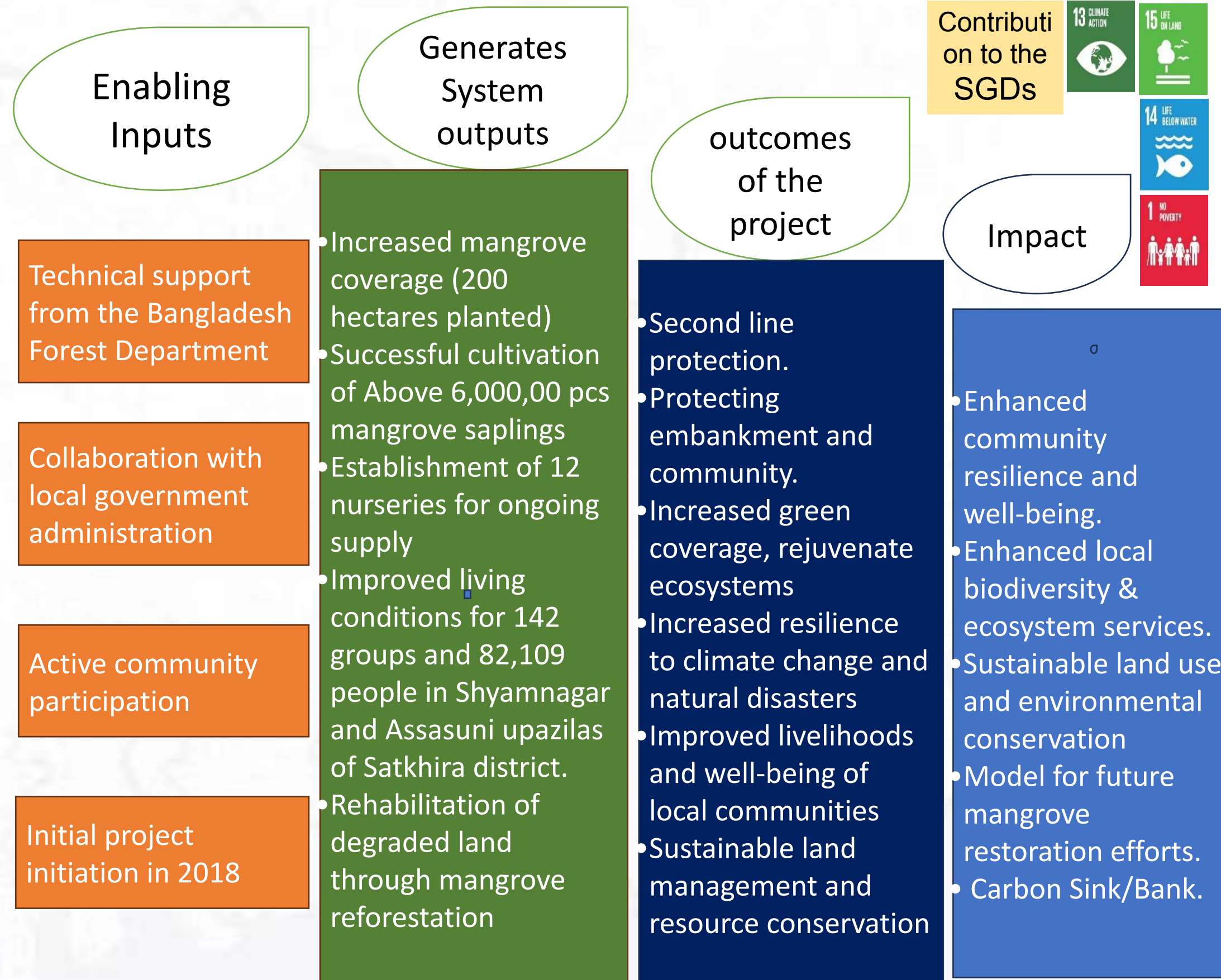
Goran

# How Mangrove contributes synergies between Rio Conventions



These conventions are interconnected, addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation, and promoting sustainable development through global cooperation

# Friendship Mangrove Restoration Milestones: Empowering Communities and Biodiversity Conservation



# Plantation of Mardarbaria, Sathkhira, Bangladesh by FRIENDSHIP with support from Local government and Bangladesh Forest Department.



November 2022



March 2024

# 1. Synergies between the Rio Conventions: Introduction



# Critical role of national focal points (NFPs) to build synergies

## Key Roles of NFPs

- Coordination and communication
- Policy integration and mainstreaming
- Facilitation of national reporting
- Capacity-building and awareness-raising

## Current Status (as of March 2024)

- 153 out of 198 Parties have NFPs for two or all three Conventions within the same ministry.
- 53 Parties have a single individual representing NFPs for multiple Conventions.

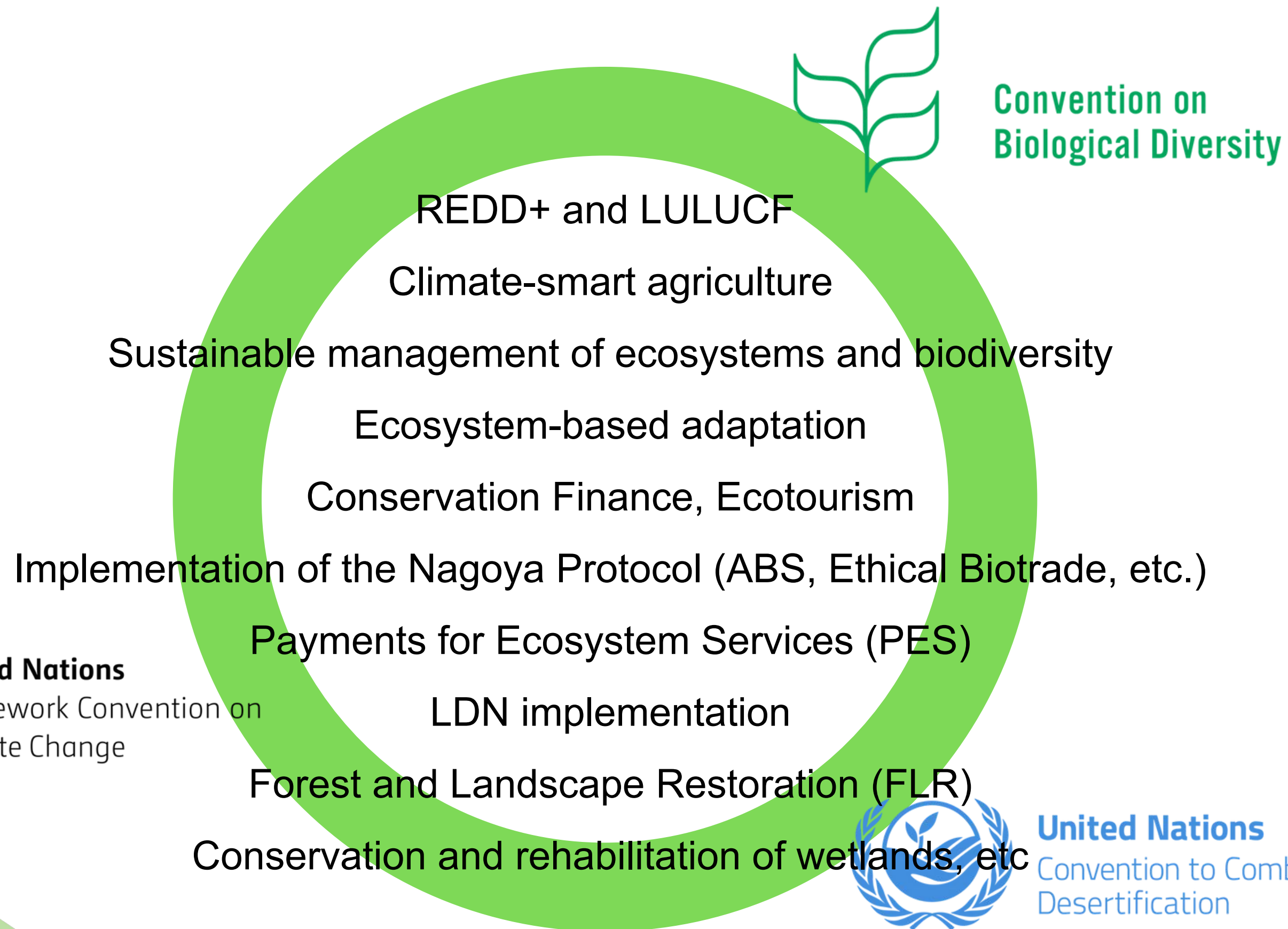
## Common Ministries for NFPs

- Foreign Affairs
- Environment and Sustainability
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

## Challenges and Recommendations

- Need for improved communication and coordination among NFPs.
- Support and encourage closer collaboration to enhance synergy with national development goals.

# Key topics for synergies



# National planning processes under the Rio Conventions



## NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDC)

Commitments by Countries:

- Reduce national emissions
- Adapt to the impacts of climate change

Submission Cycle:

- Every five years

Central Role:

- Achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement



## NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS (NAP)

Objective:

- Reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts
- Build adaptive capacity and resilience

Integration:

- Incorporate climate change adaptation into new and existing policies

- Applicable at all levels



## NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS (NBSAP)

Objective:

- Conserve biodiversity
- Promote sustainable use of biodiversity
- Equitably distribute biodiversity benefits

Alignment:

- National policies with global biodiversity goals

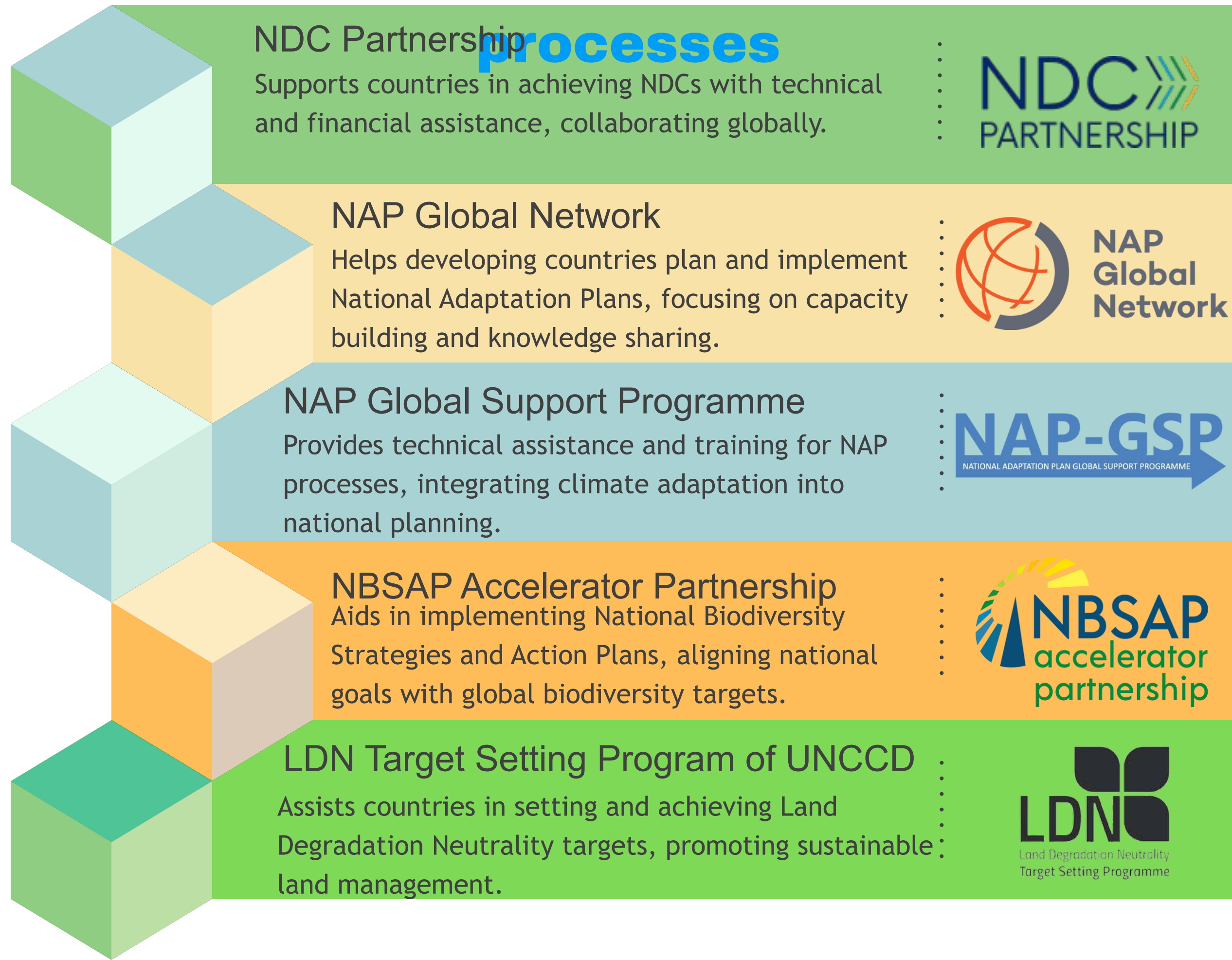


## LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY (LDN) TARGET SETTING

Objective:

- Set actionable targets to halt and reverse land degradation
- Achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)
- Maintain or increase healthy and productive land resources

# Initiatives to support Rio Conventions' planning



## 2. NAPs as key entry points for synergies



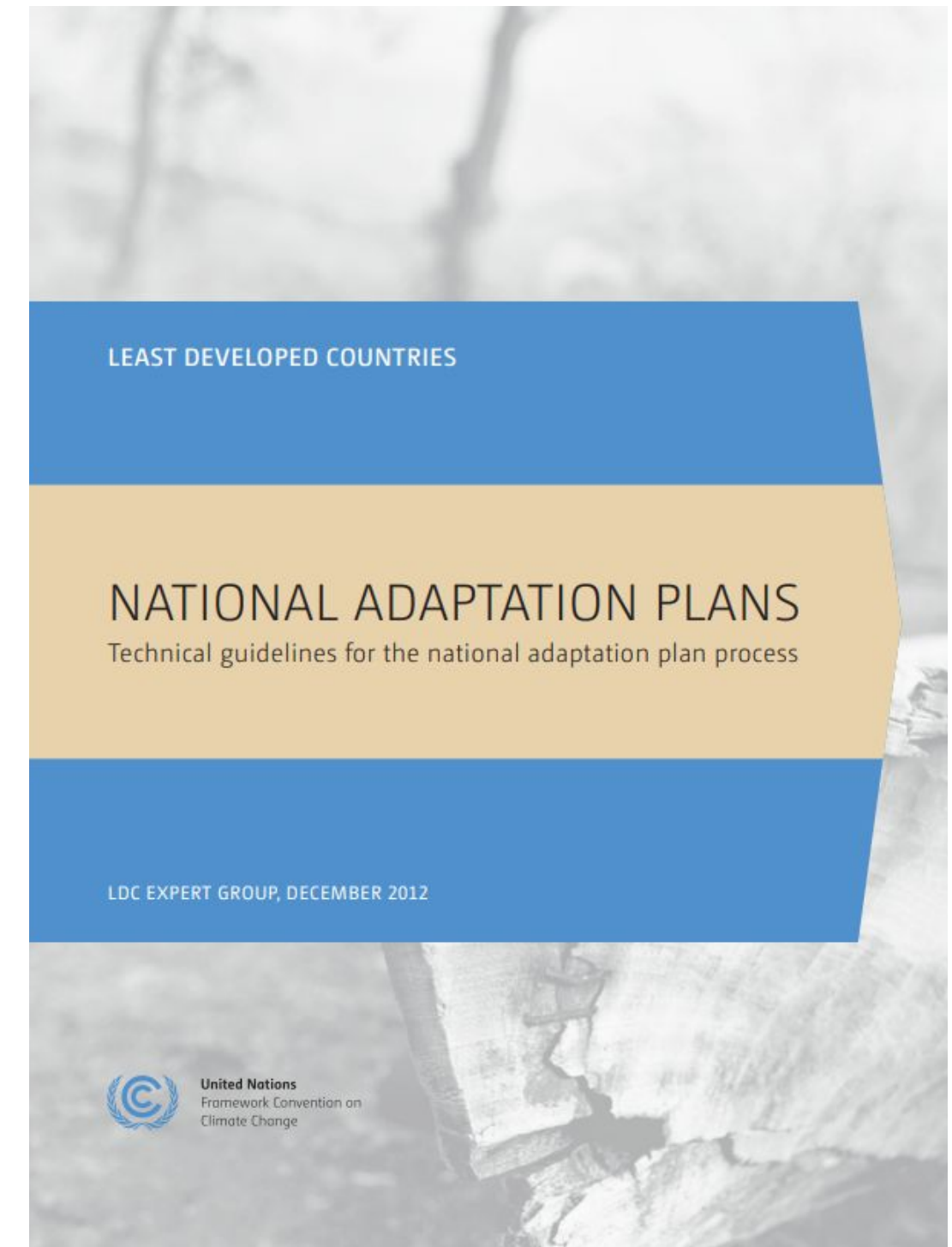
# NAPs as an entry point for synergies?

Climate adaptation has the potential to build resilience to climate change while promoting biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management.

Therefore, the national adaptation plan (NAP) process is key to foster and enhance synergies at the national level.

## Key topics

- Nature-based Solutions (NbS) & Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA)
- Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) & Sustainable Water Management
- Climate-smart Agriculture
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)



# Namibia: Sectoral integration and monitoring the NAP process

Kicked off NAP process in 2021

Seven major adaptation sectors, five of which involve co-benefits for biodiversity and land management

- **Water resources:** attract investment for blue forestry and urban greening
- **Agriculture:** ecosystem-based pest and disease management
- **Forestry:** Savanna restoration & biodiversity conservation
- **Coastal zone:** Wetlands and estuaries rehabilitation, prioritization of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas
- **Tourism:** Eco- and wildlife-tourism



## Republic of Namibia First Adaptation Communication

Namibia's Climate Change Adaptation Communication to the UNFCCC



Namibia's first adaptation communication to UNFCCC (2021)

Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) starts as early as

# Building synergies throughout the NAP process: A checklist based on UNFCCC NAP guidelines (1)

Steps	Checklist	Sample outputs
Element A. Lay the groundwork and address gaps • Steps 1-4		
Element B. Preparatory elements • Steps 5-9		
Element C. Implementation strategies • Steps 10-13		
Element D. Reporting, monitoring and review • Steps 14-17		

UNFCCC NAP guidelines:

- Four elements consisting of 17 steps throughout the NAP process, from planning to monitoring and evaluation
- Checklist of building blocks, outlining recommended actions to take
- Sample NAP outputs, demonstrating possible outcomes or indicators for reference

# Building synergies throughout the NAP process: A checklist based on UNFCCC NAP guidelines (2)

UNFCCC  
guidelines

NAP

E.g. Element Steps	Element A - Step 2 Checklist	Sample outputs

## Element A. Lay the groundwork and address gaps

- Step 2. Stocktaking: identifying available information on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation and assessing gaps and needs of the enabling environment for the NAP process

### Checklist of building blocks

- Stocktaking of adaptation activities
- Synthesis of available knowledge on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation
- Capacity gap analysis
- Barriers analysis

### Sample NAP outputs

- Report on synthesis of available information
- Geospatial database in support of the NAP process
- Knowledge-base of observed climate impacts, vulnerabilities and potential interventions
- Gap and needs analysis report
- Barrier analysis report

# Building synergies throughout the NAP process: A checklist based on UNFCCC NAP guidelines (3)

How-to NAP checklist for synergies:

E.g. Element A - Step2

Steps	Checklist	Sample outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same four elements to ensure consistency</li> <li>• Steps adjusted to reflect integrated actions</li> </ul>	Climate, biodiversity & land elements included	Synergy-oriented indicators & outputs

## Element A. Lay the groundwork and address gaps

- Step 2. Stocktaking: Identify available information on climate change impacts **while assessing knowledge and data gaps related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management.**

## Checklist of building blocks

- Synthesis of available knowledge on **climate impacts, ecosystem vulnerability, and land degradation**
- Capacity gap analysis in **integrating biodiversity and land actions into climate adaptation**

## Sample NAP outputs

- Geospatial and knowledge database supporting climate adaptation, biodiversity, and land management efforts
- Gap and needs analysis report for adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable land management

### 3. Accessing and Mobilizing Finance for Synergistic Projects



# Entry Points for Synergies for Different Global Funds



- STAR allocations
- Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF),
- Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF),
- The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)



GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND

## Prioritizing

- REDD+ programme
- NBS
- EbA projects



## Prioritizing

- Forest Investment Program
- Nature, People, and Climate program,
- The Scaling Up Renewable Energy in Low-Income Countries program



ADAPTATION FUND

## Prioritizing

- EbA
- Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA),
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR),
- Disaster risk management (DRM)
- NBS



# National and Local Financing Mechanisms

1

## Build domestic funding mechanisms

- Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund
- FAPBM (Madagascar), BIOFUND (Mozambique), and Biodiversity and Climate Fund (Papua New Guinea).

2

## Develop innovative domestic financing options

- Earmarking of fees, taxes, and royalties on the extractive industry and the tourism sector.
- Use of green bonds to address climate change, desertification, and biodiversity loss-related issues.

3

## Use existing national institutions and their experience.

- Direct Access Entities of the GCF
- National Implementing Entities of the Adaptation Fund
- Example: South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI).

# Case Study: SANBI

# SANBI

South African National Biodiversity Institute



Biodiversity for Life

01



Initially established for biodiversity policy and management.

Successfully implemented GEF-funded projects.



02

03



Gained AF and GCF Accreditation, enhancing access to climate financing.

Currently working on multiple synergistic projects with GCF.



04

# Example of Adaptation Fund project



## **A Micro-financing Facility for local climate action: directing adaptation to the field**

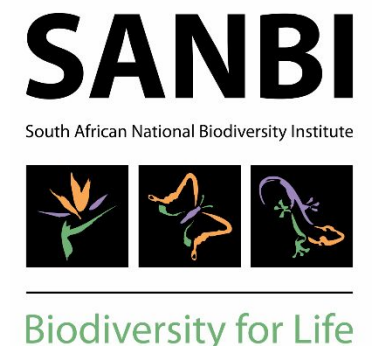
Component 1: Small grants -  
Microfinancing for Vulnerable Communities

Component 2: Institutional Capacity -  
Local Institutions Strengthened to Identify and Implement Adaptation Measures

Component 3: Lessons Learned - for replication and scaling of microfinance approaches

- ▶ Local adaptation funding  
Implication of civil society  
Direct payments to individuals/associations/companies (towards a PES approach?)  
Initiation of of a regional/local climate fund?
- ▶ Multiple benefits for land, biodiversity and climate

AF grant: 2.44 M USD.  
Direct access: SANBI/South Africa National Biodiversity Institute





## **Group exercise:**

# **How to build a NAP conducive for synergies?**

**Excerpts from a NAP document (illustrative case study)**

Three groups:

- **Group 1: Private sector engagement**
- **Group 2: NAP financing strategies**
- **Group 3: NAP monitoring and evaluation**

**QUIZZ**

-

**Synergies**

**between Rio**

**conventions**

**1) What is the name of the coordination body for the three Rio conventions' executive secretaries?**

A) Rio coordination committee (RCC)

B) Joint Liaison Group (JLG)



C) Conventions coordination group (CCG)

**3) Which ecosystem-based approach is recognized for its benefits across all three Rio conventions?**

**A) Renewable energy installations**

**B) Monoculture plantations**



**C) Landscape restoration**

### 3) Under which Rio convention is the REDD+ mechanism primarily developed, and what synergistic benefits does it offer to the other conventions?



A) UNFCCC; supports biodiversity conservation and reduces desertification risks

B) CBD; enhances carbon stocks and promotes sustainable land management

C) UNCCD; mitigates climate change and promotes biodiversity

## 4) Which ones of these global funds can support synergistic projects across Rio conventions?



GEF

GCF



AF

CIFs



**5) Among these acronyms, which one(s) do not refer to Rio conventions national planning processes?**

NBSAP

NAP

 EbA

NDC

 NBS

LDN targets

# Follow us on the webpage of Rio Conventions Joint Capacity-building Programme!



The screenshot displays the United Nations Climate Change website. The top navigation bar includes the UN logo, the text "United Nations Climate Change", a search icon, and a language dropdown set to "English". Below this, a secondary menu lists: Home, COP 29, Process and meetings, Topics, Calendar, Climate action, Documents and decisions, About us, and News. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: "Topics > Capacity-building > Projects". The page title is "Rio Conventions Joint Capacity-building Programme." Below the title is a banner with the program name and logos for the United Nations Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

# Thank you very much!



**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change

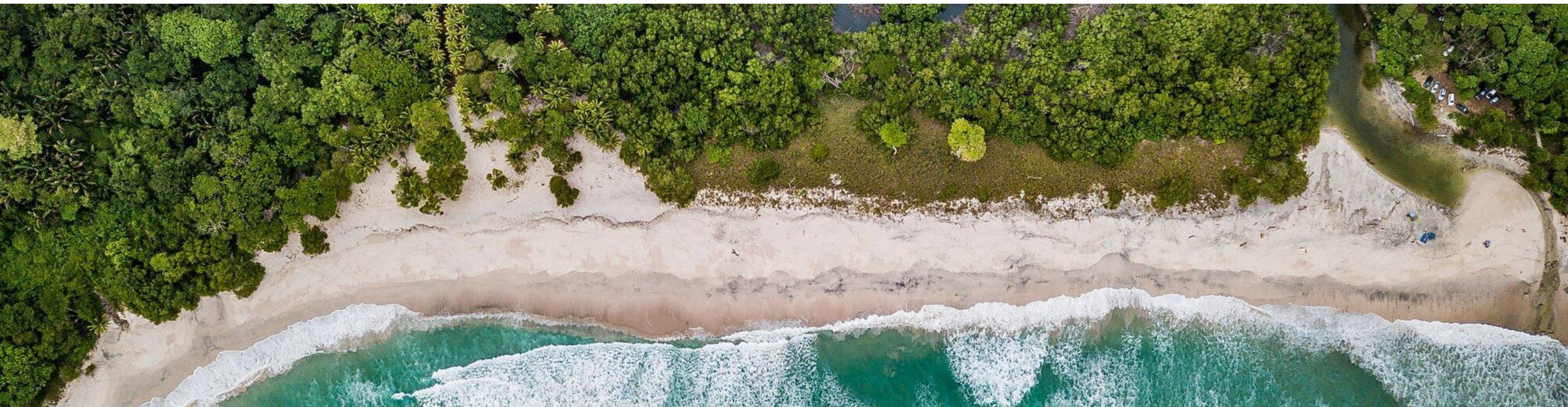


**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**



**United Nations**  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

# ANNEXES



# Nepal: Integrated approach for NAP

Kicked off NAP process in 2015, launched NAP 2021-2050 in 2023

- 64 priorities: eight thematic sectors + gender equality and social inclusion perspective

Integrated approach

- Aligning NAP with the objectives of:



- Cross-ministry/department NAP coordination at all levels:



Nationa



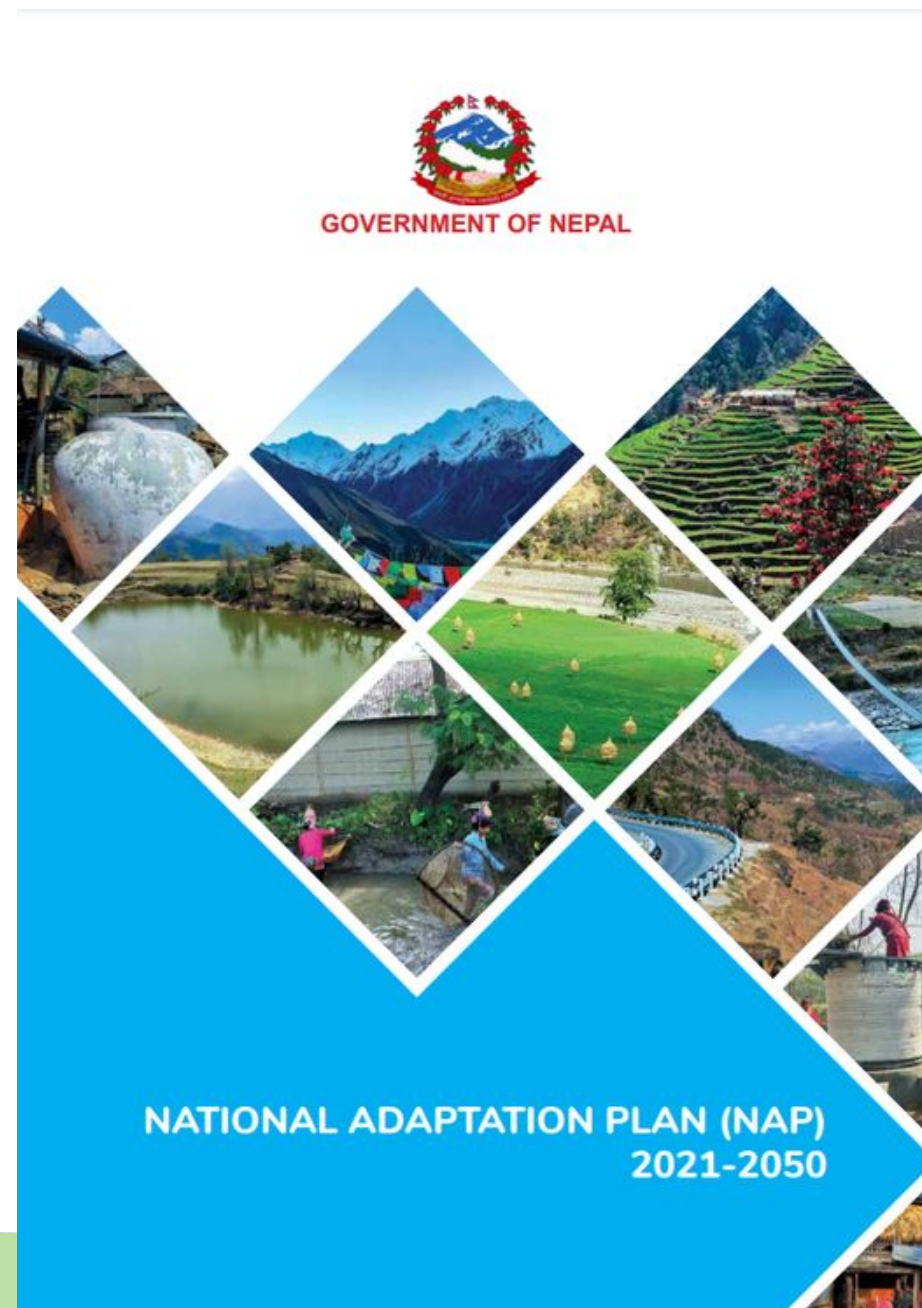
Federal



Provincial



Local



# What are the 3 Rio Conventions?

The Rio Conventions, established during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, comprise three major international treaties aimed at sustainable development:



## Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Aims to preserve biological diversity, promote sustainable use, and ensure fair benefit-sharing of genetic resources.

Introduced the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) with 23 targets to guide global biodiversity efforts.



Convention on Biological Diversity

## United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Seeks to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations to prevent climate change.

Facilitated significant global agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

## United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

Addresses desertification, land degradation, and drought, particularly in dry regions.

Custodian of SDG target 15.3 on Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)



United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

# Why synergies are important

1

## Integrated Planning

Combines different goals to avoid conflicts and overlaps.

- For example, a plan that considers climate, biodiversity, and land protection together will be more successful and beneficial than focusing on just one aspect.

## Co-Benefits

Working together on multiple goals can save money and increase efficiency, making it easier to get funding and support.

2

3

## Stakeholder Mobilization

Involves various groups, especially indigenous communities, bringing together different ideas and expertise to improve the overall efforts.

# Joint Liaison Group (JLG)

01

Sharing information and raising awareness; Providing information on interlinkages



02

Developing technical reports to clarify and elaborate on specific policy and technical issues



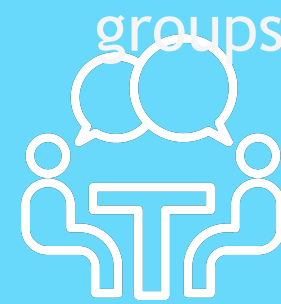
03

Contributing to relevant workshops mandated by pertinent bodies under each Convention



04

Encouraging and promoting better coordination among national focal points and stakeholder groups

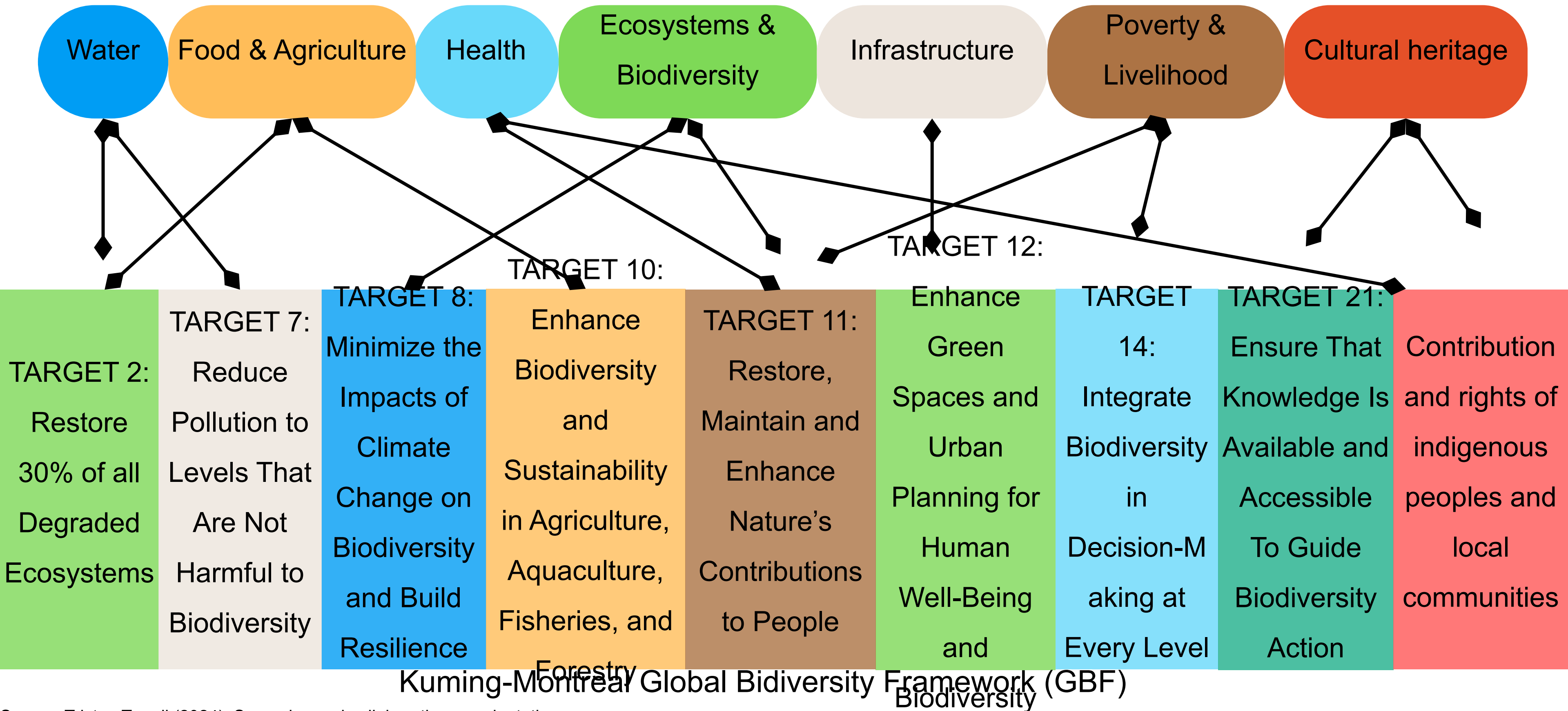


The Joint Liaison Group (JLG) was formed in 2001 by the secretariats of the three Rio conventions to collect, share information, and coordinate work. The JLG ToRs outline specific areas of cooperation.

# Example of Common targets: Adaptation &

## Biodiversity

UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience - framework for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)



# Subsidiary bodies, science policy interfaces & capacity-building portals of the Rio Conventions



Science Policy Interfaces

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Science-Policy Interface (SPI)

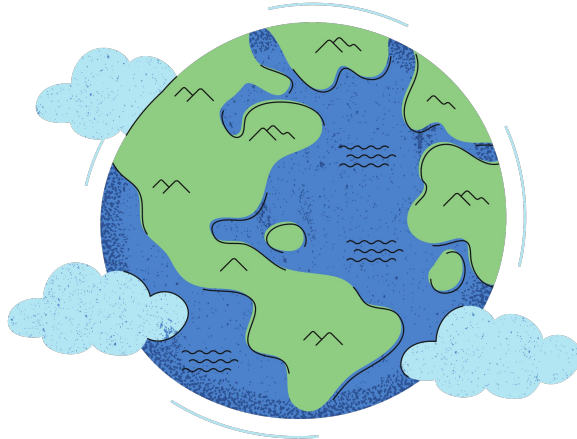
Capacity-building portals

UNFCCC Capacity-building portal

Biodiversity E-Learning Platform

UNCCD Data & Knowledge resources

# Subsidiary bodies, science policy interfaces & capacity-building portals of the Rio Conventions



Subsidiary bodies

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA)  
Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI)

Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)

Committee on Science and Technology (CST)  
Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC)

# COPs calling for synergies

## UN promoting synergies

United Nations General Assembly:

- Notes the need for enhanced cooperation among the Rio Conventions (Dec. 2009)
- Adopts "The Future We Want", encouraging coordination and cooperation among MEAs (July 2012)



## Multiple COP Decisions calling for synergies

XII/20 – decision on climate change – requests the SE to collaborate with the UNFCCC (among others) to promote ecosystem-based adaptation approaches to climate change adaptation

XI/21 - Decision on Climate Change - Encourages Parties to promote synergies between actions and policies on biodiversity and climate change

X/35 – Decision on Dry and Sub-Humid Lands - Para 5. Calls upon Parties to support activities that promote synergies among the Rio conventions at the subnational, national and regional levels

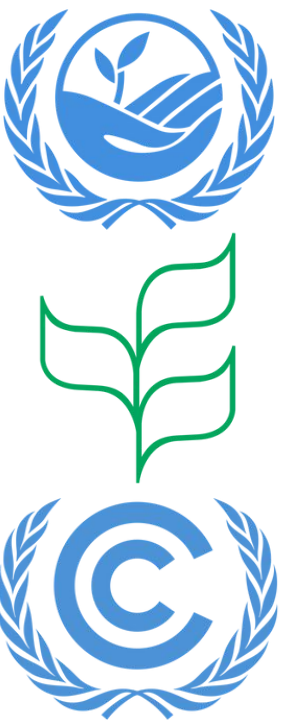


# Synergies of the Rio Conventions and sustainable development: A historical perspective

2023

Joint Statement of the Presidents of CBD COP15, UNCCD COP15 and UNFCCC COP27

Calls on Parties to the three Rio Conventions to collectively work to advance the intertwined objectives of the Rio Conventions in accordance with respective mandates of each Convention to ensure a sustainable future for humanity and the planet.



2024

Resolution on promoting synergies, cooperation or collaboration for national implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant environmental instruments (UNEP/EA.6/L.7)  
Encourages Member States to enhance synergies, thereby contributing to the effective implementation of national environment policies and actions, delivering global environmental benefits, contributing to the achievement of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



UNEA-  
6

# Example of Common targets: GBF + LDN

## Global Biodiversity Framework Targets

## Land Degradation Neutrality Targets

### Integrated planning

Target 1: Ensure participatory integrated biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes.



To foster and support integrated land use planning and integrated landscape management as a tool to achieve LDN targets.

### Land & Ecosystem Restoration

Target 2: Ensure by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded ecosystems are under effective restoration.



To implement land and ecosystem restoration as an essential part of land use planning to achieve LDN targets.

### Protected Areas and Conservation Measures

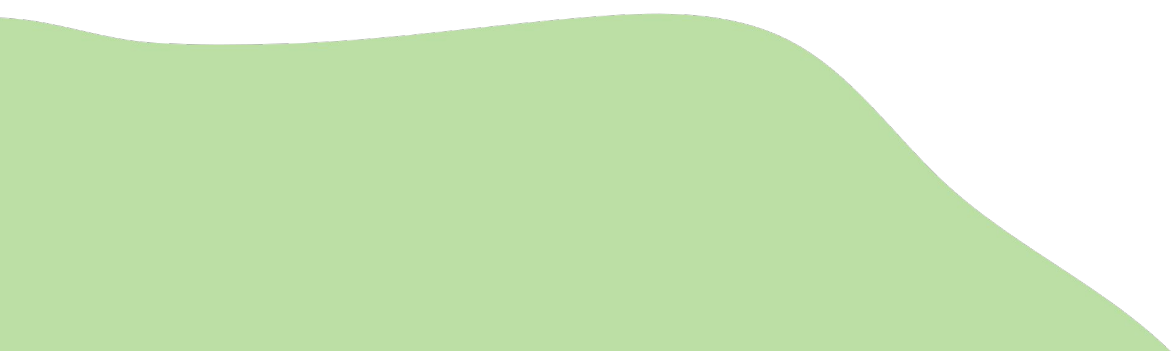
Target 3: Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas are conserved and managed through protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.



To avoid new degradation of land by addressing the direct and indirect drivers as well as protecting and conserving areas with critical biodiversity and ecosystem services.



**Synergies in practice:  
Case studies of Rwanda, Grenada,  
Benin & Peru**



# Grenada: Integrating Rio Conventions and SDGs in Climate Resilient Agriculture Planning

## Project Launch

- Year: 2019
- Objective: Mainstream biodiversity conservation in production landscapes and increase agricultural system resilience.

## Integrated Planning

- National Sustainable Development Plan 2020-2035:
- Integrates NBSAP, LDN, and NAP priorities and targets.
  - Aligns with SDGs: (SDG 5, 10, 13, 14, 15)

## Institutional Arrangements

- MEAs Coordination Meetings
- Ad-hoc Project Steering Committee

## Capacity-Building Efforts

### Challenges:

- Lack of qualified technical personnel for cross-sectoral coordination.
- Gaps in data collection, sharing, and management.

### Solutions:

- Extensive training programs
- Awareness-raising initiatives
- Knowledge management programs

## Key Message

Grenada's CRA project showcases the importance of integrated planning and capacity-building to enhance synergies between Rio Conventions and sustainable development goals.

# Rwanda: Revising NBSAP and Leveraging Land-focused Targets of LDN and NDC

## Overlapping Targets

- LDN: Conserve, sustainably manage, and restore 1,069,476 hectares of land.
- NDC: 805,000 hectares under sustainable management.
- NBSAP: Safeguard and reduce degradation of at least 50% of natural ecosystems.

## Current Opportunity

- NBSAP Revision: Align with the new Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
- Leverage Related Agendas: Enhance coherence, synergies, and efficiency.

## Economic Efficiency

- ELD Initiative Study Findings:
- Coordinated implementation can reduce transaction costs of land restoration by nearly 56%.
  - Estimated annual savings: \$45.6 million USD.

## Proposed Mechanisms

1. Joint Inter-agency Working Group
2. Information Exchange Platform
3. Joint Monitoring and Evaluation System
4. Joint Planning and Fund Mobilization
5. Joint Research on Land Activities

## Key Message

Coordinated implementation of land-focused activities under the Rio Conventions presents a significant opportunity for Rwanda to enhance economic efficiency and achieve sustainable development goals through strategic synergies.

# Benin: Building LDN around a biosphere reserve

## LDN Target Setting

Forest and Savanna Cover Reduction:

- 1990-2010: 21% decline
- 2010-2030: Aim to reduce decline to 5%

Wetland Conservation:

- Halt all conversion to other land uses

## NBSAP Commitments

- Deforestation Reduction: 20% reduction by 2020
- Expansion: Increase forests and protected areas
- Soil Fertility: Promote integrated soil fertility management techniques

## Synergy Initiative

Mono Transboundary Biosphere Reserve:

- Area: 345,000 hectares
- Location: Delta of the Mono River (Benin-Togo boundary)
- Significance: Protects endangered flora and fauna; Supports 2 million people; Addresses issues of unsustainable farming, fishing, and tree harvesting.

## Current Efforts

Projects for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services:

- Focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Support the livelihoods of local communities

## Key Message

Benin's harmonization of environmental policies through initiatives like the Mono Transboundary Biosphere Reserve demonstrates a commitment to sustainable land management, biodiversity conservation, and community support.

# Peru: Integrating Forests in Climate and Biodiversity

## Planning

### Forests' Role

- Carbon Sinks
- Resilient Ecosystems
- Biodiversity Preservers
- Sources of Ancestral Knowledge

### National Plans and Indigenous Stakeholder Engagement

- National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021–2030: Forests as one of the seven priority areas
- NDC: 26 measures linked to Nature-based Solutions (NbS)
- National Forest and Climate Change Strategy 2030
- Preparatory Work for National Climate Change Strategy 2050

### Indigenous Stakeholder Engagement

- Indigenous Peoples Platform for Climate Change (IPPCC)
- Key Examples: National Forest Conservation Programme for Climate Change Mitigation:
- IPPCC Participation in NAP Construction

### Key Message

Peru's integrated approach, linking forest conservation with climate change strategies and Indigenous knowledge, highlights the critical role of forests in achieving sustainable development and resilience.