



# Advancing Systems Transformation in the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

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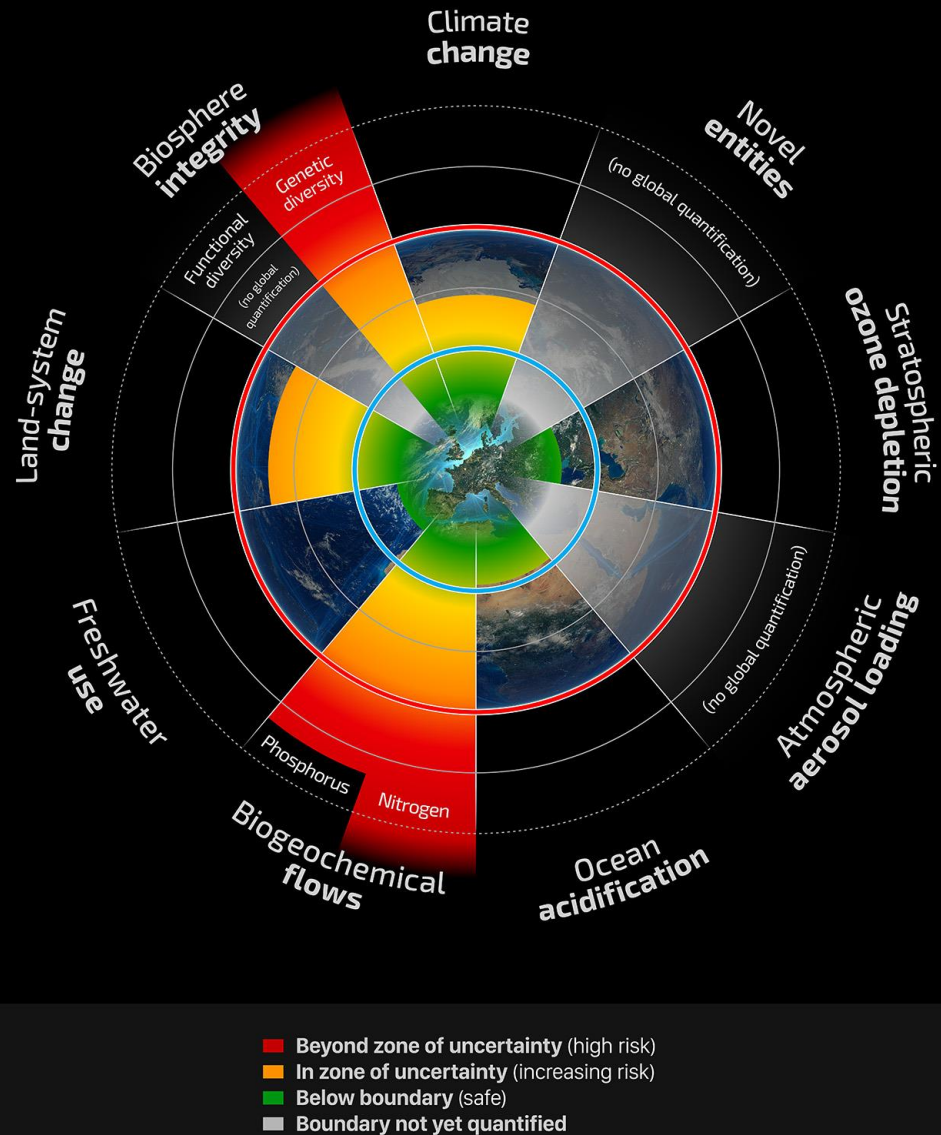
CIF - TCLP WORKSHOP on “Transformational Change and Climate Finance: Moving from Emerging Concepts to Advanced Practices”  
May 25-26, 2011

# Key Questions

1. What does a systems change approach mean to the GEF?
2. Why did the GEF pursue a systems change approach?
3. What has this shift enabled? What has been challenging?
4. What does a systems change approach look like in practice?
5. How do you envision the GEF will use and evolve this systems change approach and framework into the future?

# Planetary Boundaries

A safe operating space for humanity



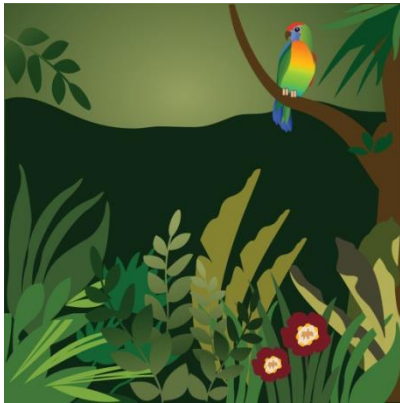
These trends are likely to be exacerbated by three global megatrends:

- a growing population, which will exceed 9 billion by 2050;
- a rapidly rising global middle class resulting in a tectonic shift in consumption and diet patterns; and
- rapid urbanization that is expected to add 1 billion new residents to the world's cities.

To de-couple the impact of these megatrends on the global environment, the GEF identified four systems that are critical because of their impact on the planet: **food, energy, urban, and production/consumption.**

**A radical transformation** of these systems will be required to stay within the Planetary Boundaries.

# GEF Focal Areas



**Biodiversity**



**Climate Change**



**Land  
Degradation**



**International  
Waters**



**Chemicals and  
Waste**

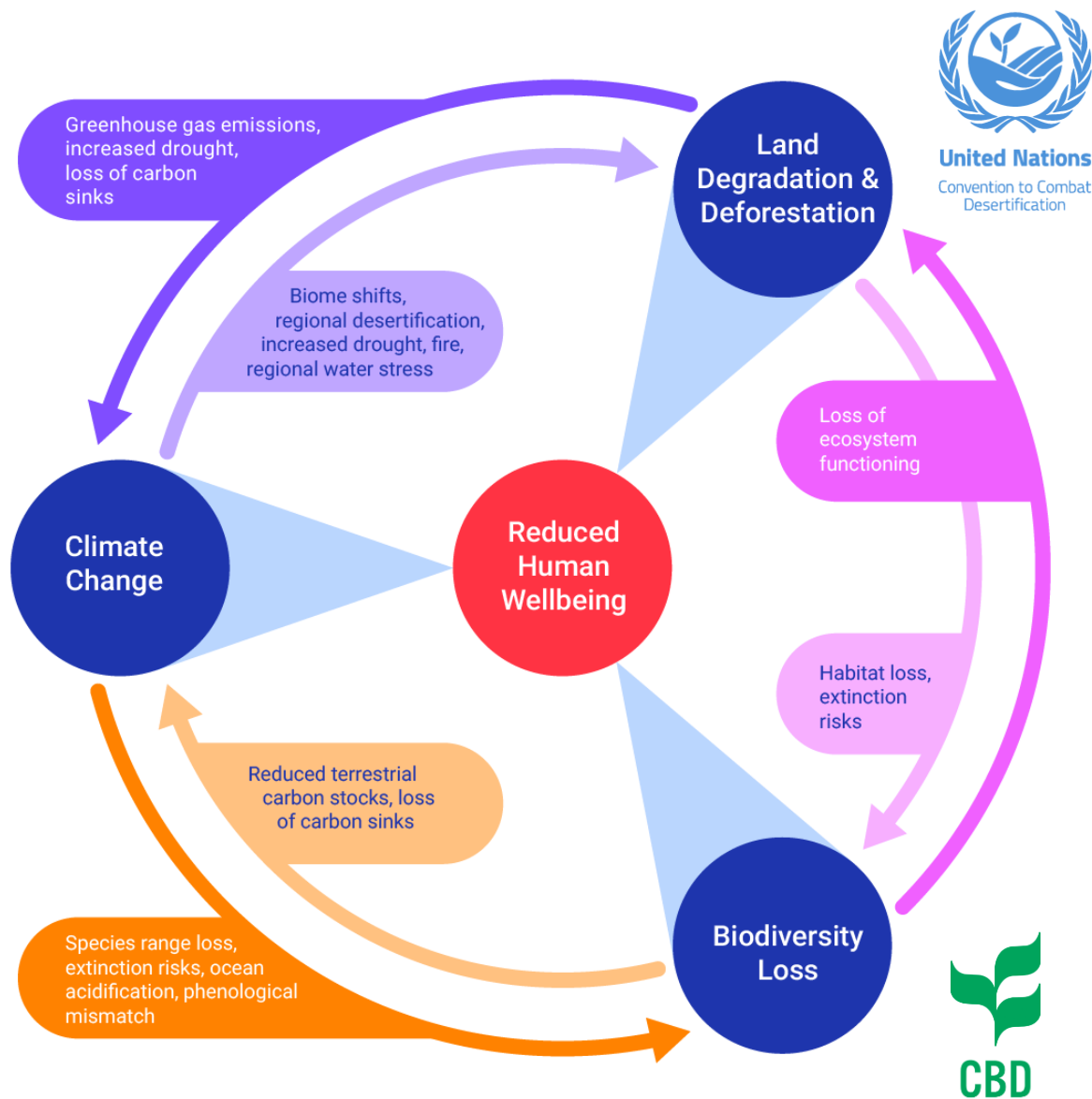
*Much has been achieved through focal area investments,  
but transformational change calls for “**integration**” .....*



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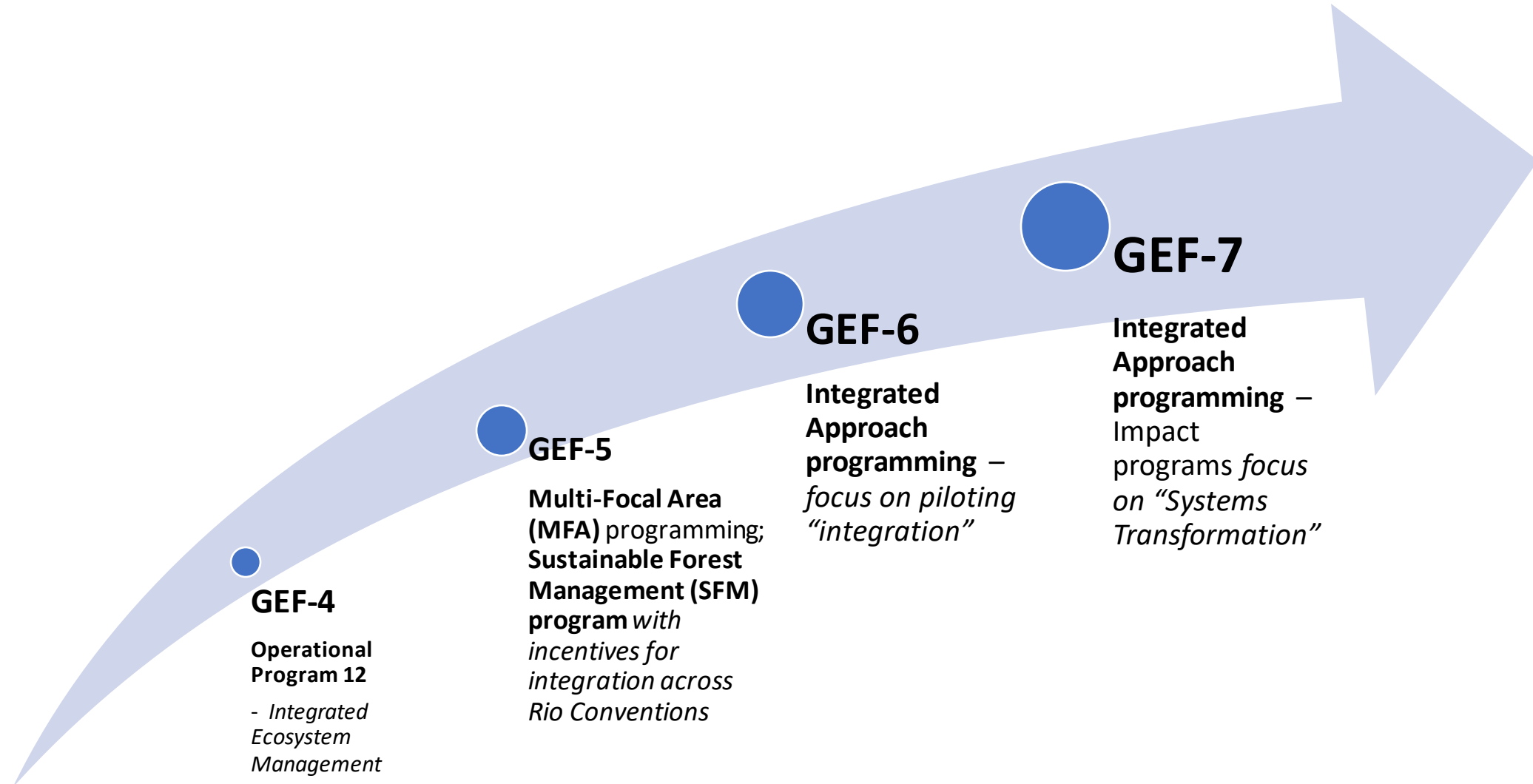
*....such as reflected by interactions among **Rio Conventions Themes.***

# Integrated Programming in the GEF

- Promote focal area and MEA **synergies** and **linkages** at a higher strategic level
- Position the GEF to more effectively to address key **drivers** of environmental degradation
- Programming opportunity for environmental challenges in systems that require **multi-scale interventions**
- Open new opportunities for greater **multi-stakeholder engagement** and enhanced **financial leverage**
- Direct **relevance** to the Sustainable Development Goals and other global commitments



# Evolution of Integrated Programming in the GEF





# GEF-6

## Integrated Approach Pilot (IAP) Programs

### - *Focus on integration*

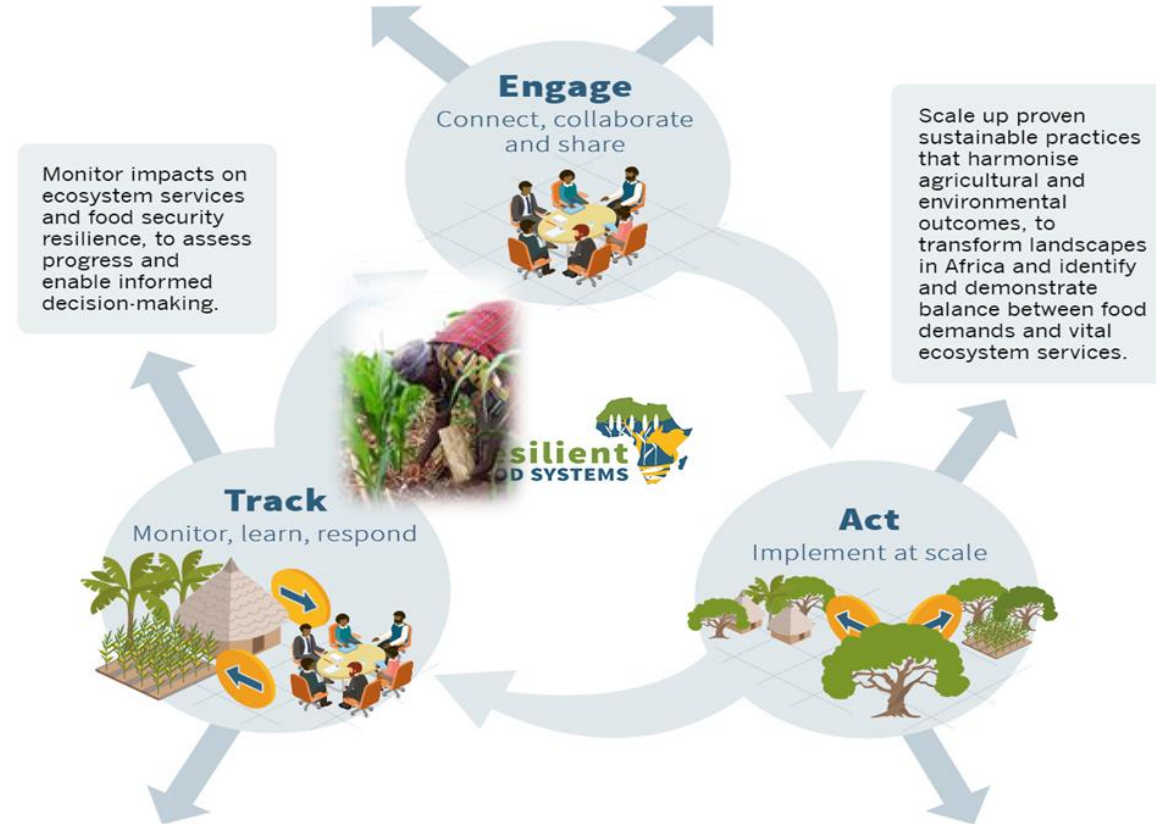
- **Deforestation-free commodity supply chains** (beef, palm oil and soy) – global with four major producer countries (Brazil, Indonesia, Liberia and Paraguay)
- **Sustainability and resilience for food security in Africa** – focus on smallholder farming systems in the drylands
- **Sustainable Cities** – focus on advancing integrated solutions to urban challenges





# Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for food security in Africa

Stakeholder engagement frameworks – across sectors and scales; Policies and incentives



Framework for multi-scale assessment; capacity and institutions

Increasing area under integrated management (NRM and SLM)



# Taking Deforestation out of Commodity Supply Chains



# Sustainable Cities Program



## Vertical integration

Alignment between **national and local government** towards a common sustainability goal

## Horizontal integration

Cooperation and collaboration **across sectors** in planning, financing and delivery of services

## Natural and Human System Integration

Synergy between **natural resources** and built environment

## Social Integration

**Gender** consideration and **inclusion of vulnerable** to ensure equitable sustainability benefits

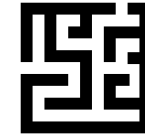
## Dual support

- Global Project: Global Platform to a) coordinate with country projects b) create knowledge, facilitate city-city learning, partnerships, global advocacy & value-added support to cities on integration and innovation.
- Country Projects: Direct support to selected cities for integrated urban planning and innovative sustainability investments.

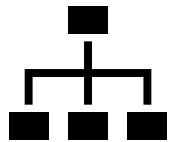
# Emerging Lessons from the Pilot Programs: Opportunities and Challenges



Value-add of the GEF



Dealing with complexity



Program additionality –  
*whole > sum of parts*



Institutional frameworks for  
Stakeholder Engagement



Achieving results by  
promoting systemic shifts



Leveraging the private sector



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# GEF-7

## Impact Programs

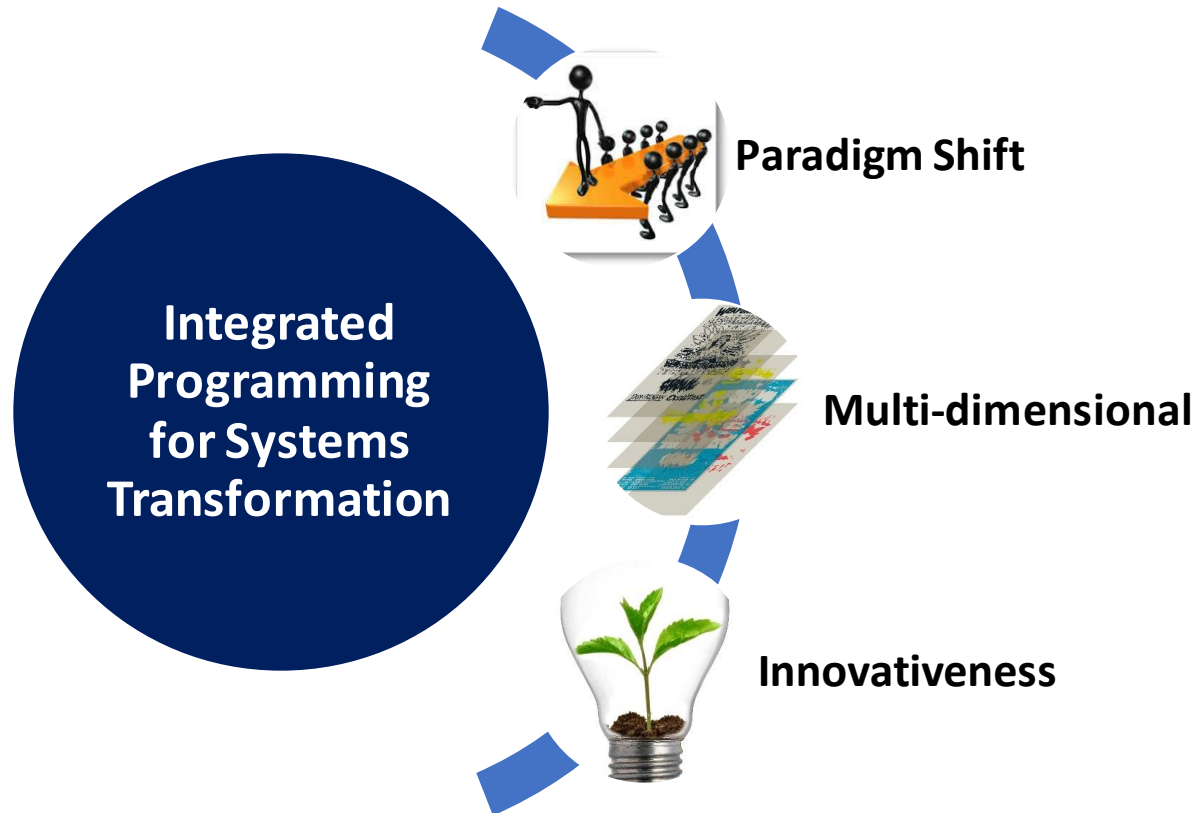
### — *Focus on Systems Transformation*

- **Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration** – Production practices and supply chains for commodities and food staples with greatest impacts on environment
- **Critical Forest Ecosystems** – Sustainable management of forests across large landscapes
- **Sustainable Cities** – Transforming Urban Systems, building on the GEF6 IAP Program





# Looking Ahead to GEF-8



- Addressing **drivers** of environmental degradation at global or regional scales;
- **Integration** of actions - across GEF focal areas; sectors, and supply chains;
- Deliver **multiple** global environmental benefits;
- Complementing country-level investments with **transboundary** action and impact at **regional** or **global** scales;
- Mobilizing diverse **coalition** of stakeholders from relevant sectors for system transformation;
- Promoting greater **private sector** engagement;
- Fostering **knowledge** sharing and learning.



WORLD  
RESOURCES  
INSTITUTE

SYSTEM CHANGE  
NOT  CLIMATE CHANGE

OP  OUR  
Planet BURNING

It's getting  
hot in here

WE MIGHT

# THE OPPORTUNITY

Photo: Chris Yakimov/Flickr



# THE SYSTEMS CHANGE REVOLUTIONS WE NEED



Energy



Transport



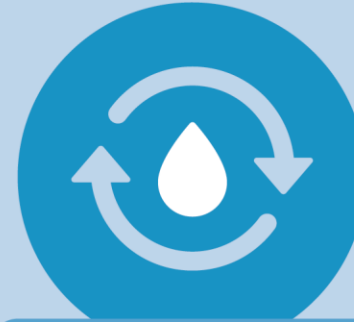
Cities & The Built Environment



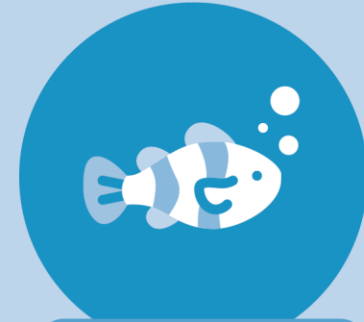
Sustainable Production & Consumption



Land, Forests, and Food Management



Freshwater Management



Ocean Management

# THE SYSTEMS CHANGE REVOLUTIONS WE NEED



Financial Systems



Measuring Progress



Inclusion, Equity and  
the Just Transition



Governance for the  
Global Commons



## Energy

- Increase efficiency and reduce energy use
- Electrify the economy
- Decarbonize power
- Drive down the cost of energy storage for electricity
- Develop new fuels and solutions for hard-to-abate sectors
- Scale up carbon removal and carbon capture and storage



## Cities & The Built Environment

- Adopt compact urban design and transit-oriented development
- Ensure all new buildings are net zero carbon by 2030 and all existing buildings are decarbonized by 2050
- Shift to transport modes that are zero emissions, have zero road deaths and zero exclusions
- Build zero waste cities
- Strengthen urban resilience while supporting population growth of 80% in the world's cities by 2050



## Transport

- Eliminate the internal combustion engine
- Transition to new zero- or low-emission fuels for heavy transport, shipping, and aviation
- Shift from road to rail and shipping
- Shift to public and shared transport, and to biking and walking



## Sustainable Production & Consumption

- Adopt circular product design, production systems, and supply chains
- Use pure, nontoxic, and regenerative material flows
- Shift to circular business models and a sharing economy
- Reduce materialism and unsustainable consumption







## Land, Forests, and Food Management

- Protect 30% of forests and other land by 2030
- Restore degraded landscapes
- Sustainably manage land, including reducing water and chemical inputs and keeping pace with climate impacts
- Increase yields by 40% from current levels by 2050 without expanding agricultural land
- Halve food loss and waste by 2030
- Shift diets and ensure equitable access to nutritious food to feed 10 billion people by 2050
- Ensure supply chains are sustainable, including localizing value chains where possible
- Avoid overexploitation of species
- Stop invasive species



## Freshwater Management

- Practice comprehensive water assessments and management
- Radically improve water efficiency
- Protect freshwater ecosystems
- Avoid overexploitation of freshwater species
- Stop invasive species



## Ocean Management

- Ensure 30% of the ocean is fully protected by 2030
- Sustainably manage fisheries and aquaculture and avoid overexploitation of marine species
- Sharply reduce marine litter and pollution
- Stop invasive species



## Financial Systems

- Measure, disclose, and manage climate and other types of environmental risks
- Scale up public climate finance
- Unlock private investments in sustainable, resilient infrastructure
- Extend financial services to underserved groups
- Eliminate harmful subsidies
- Price GHG emissions and other environmental goods



## Measuring Progress

- Leverage the digital revolution and improve data systems, including tracking equity of progress
- Advocate for and accept new measures of progress and well-being



## Inclusion, Equity and the Just Transition

- Provide universal access to basic services and opportunities
- Shift to prosperity being defined by inclusive well-being
- Shift to a new decision-making model, with more inclusive, community-driven leadership

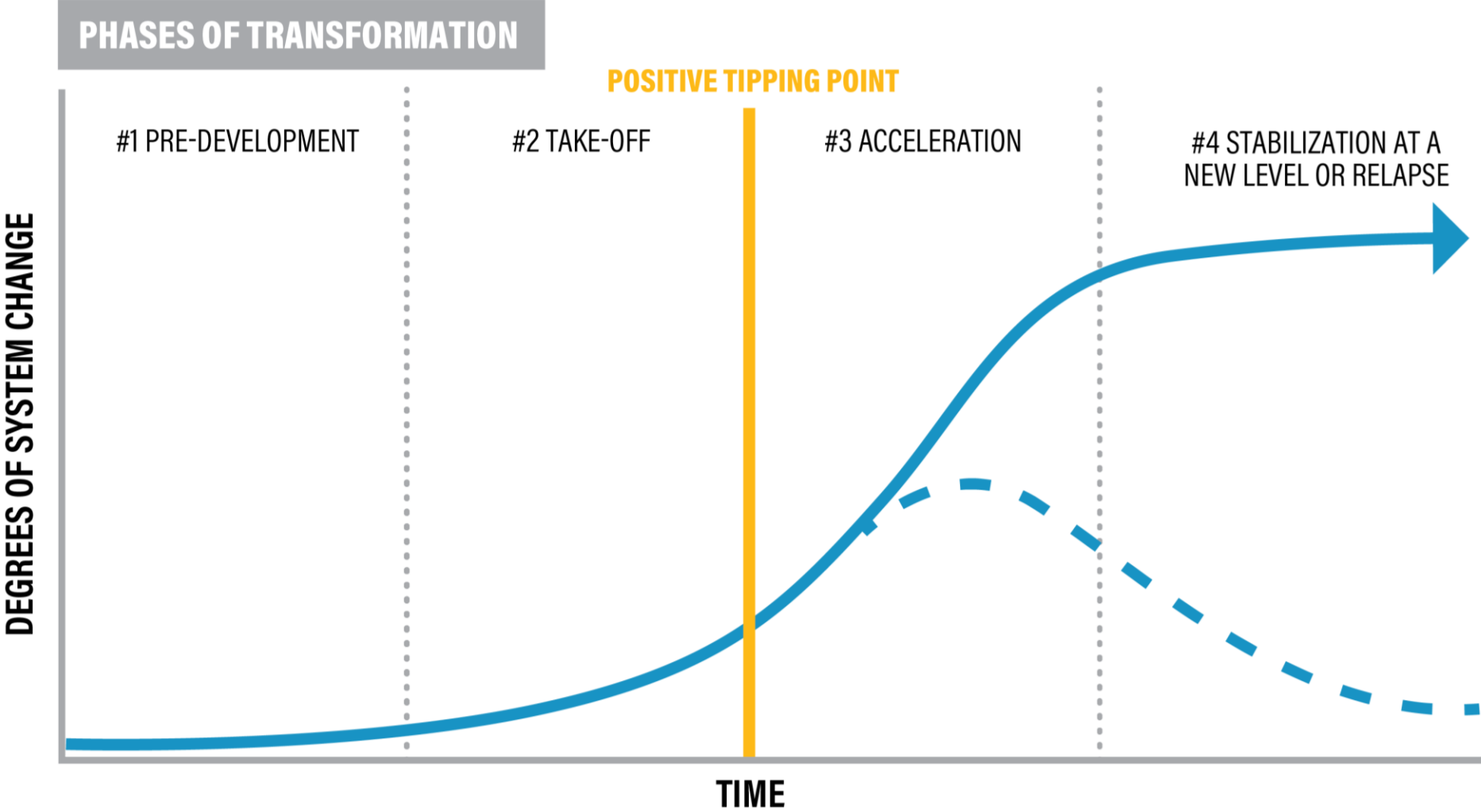


## Governance for the Global Commons

- Make global architecture more fit-for-purpose to address challenges
- Reset the social contract among government, corporations, and citizens



# THE TRAJECTORY OF SYSTEMS CHANGE



Adapted from ICAT 2020.

# DRIVERS OF CHANGE



- New practices, approaches, and techniques
- Investments in education, science, and research and development
- Interdisciplinary networks of experts
- Technologies

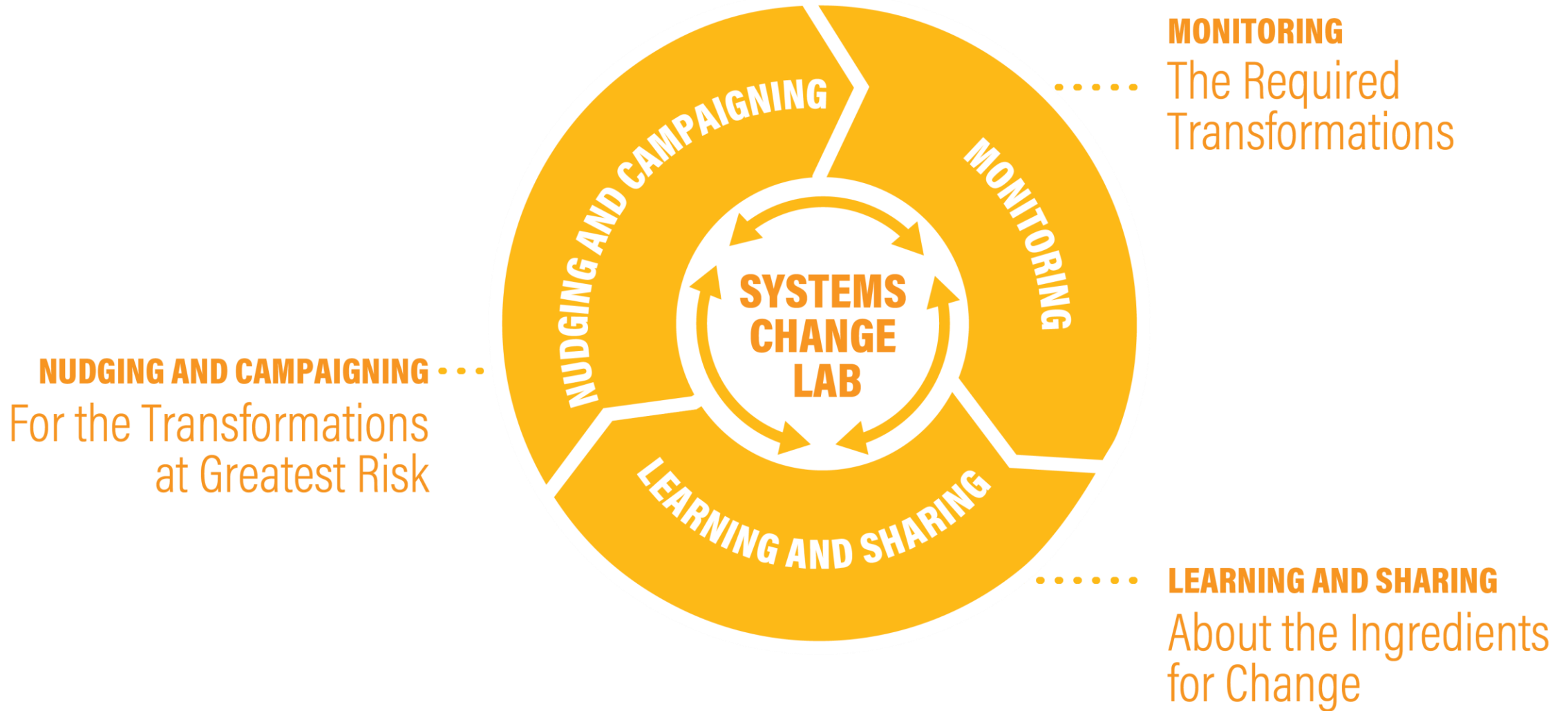
- Economic benefits and costs
- Non-economic benefits and costs

- Leadership from businesses, government, and civil society
- Beneficiaries
- Multi-stakeholder coalitions
- Citizen-led action

- Enabling policies, laws, and regulations
- Strong institutions
- Vertical and horizontal policy integration

- Well-communicated evidence of the problem
- Demonstrations that solutions are possible and attractive
- Behavior changes

# A NEW SYSTEMS CHANGE LAB







# THANK YOU!

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