



Independent
Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

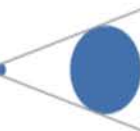
Evaluation of the GEF Civil Society Organization (CSO) Network

50th Council meeting
June 2016

Some member CSOs are singular entities, while others are networks unto themselves.

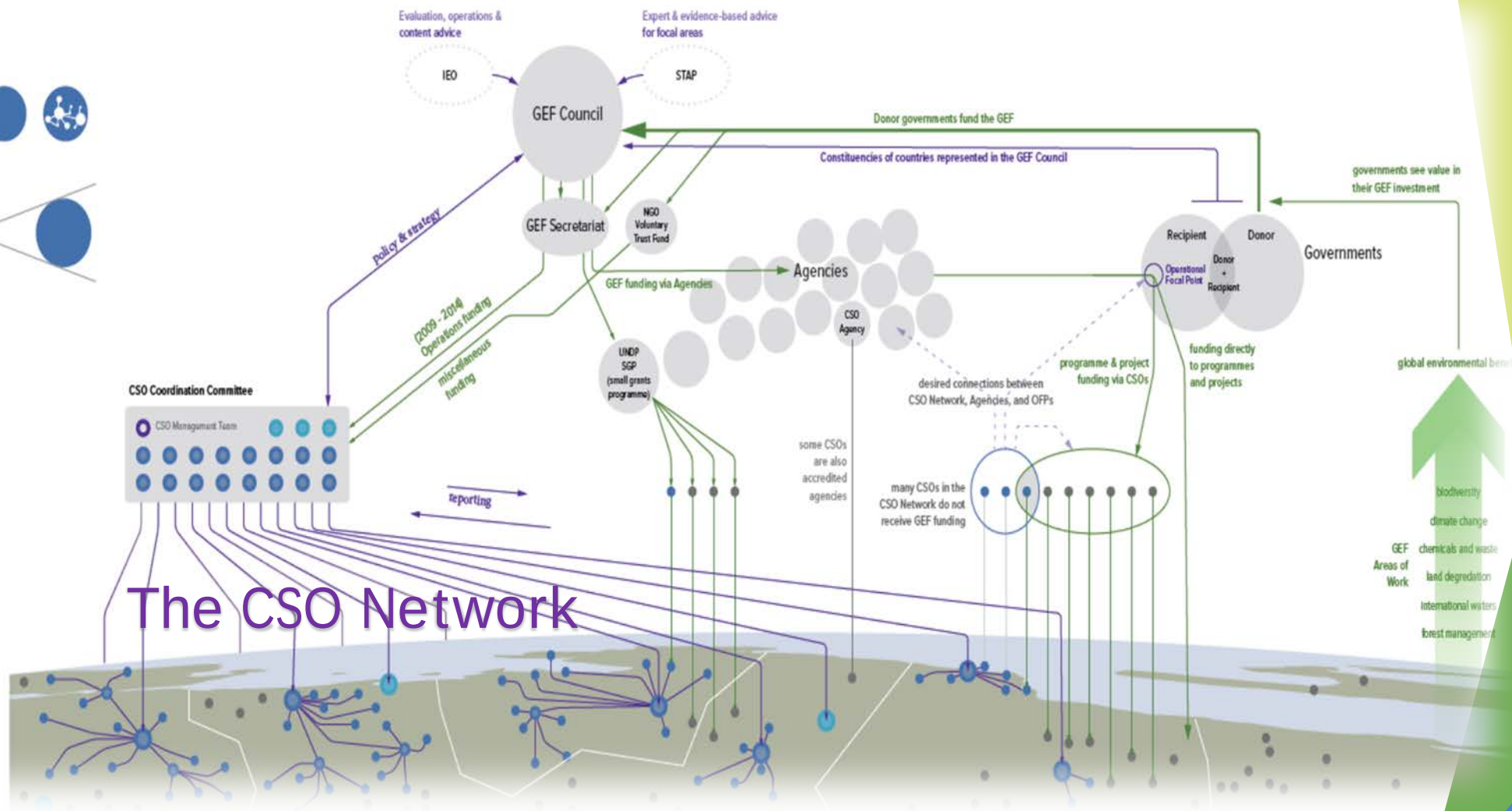


CSOs range in scale from small, localized action groups to large international NGOs.



The CSO Network

- Funding Link
- Network Link
- Indigenous Peoples Focal Point
- Regional Focal Point
- Country Contact Point
- Member CSO
- Non-member CSO



The CSO Network

New structure. Oct. 2015

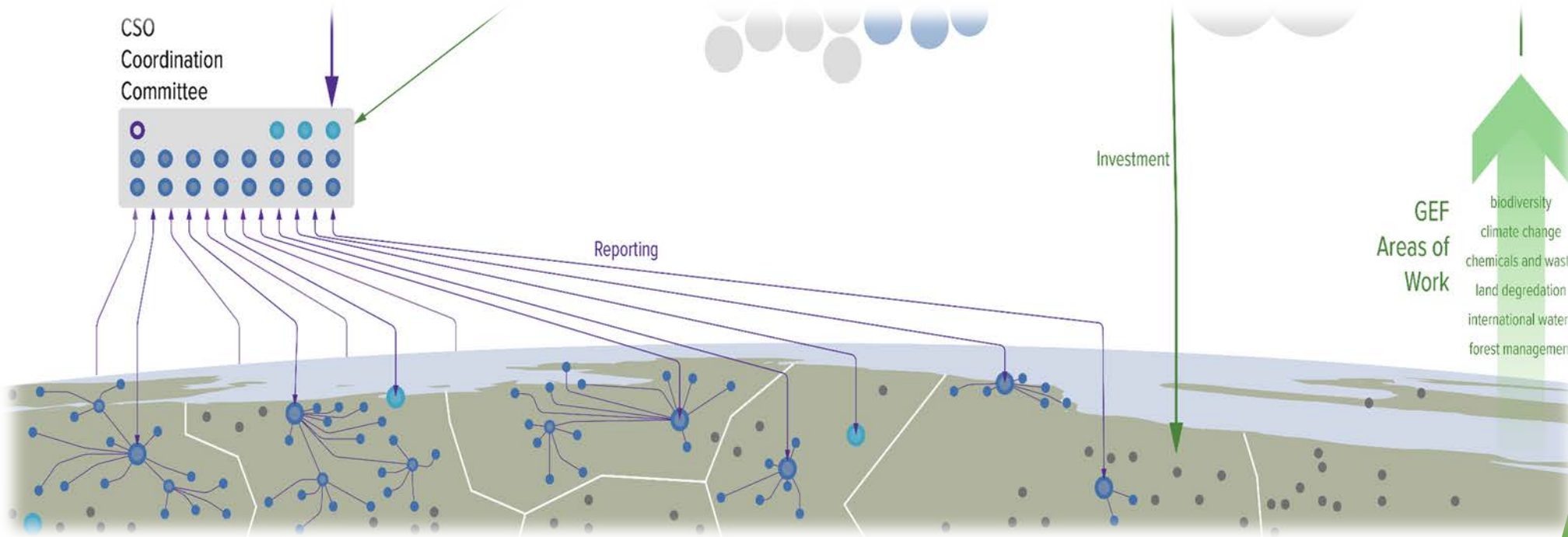
Prepared and reported on the CSO community in countries and regions

Four sub-committees

16 RFPs

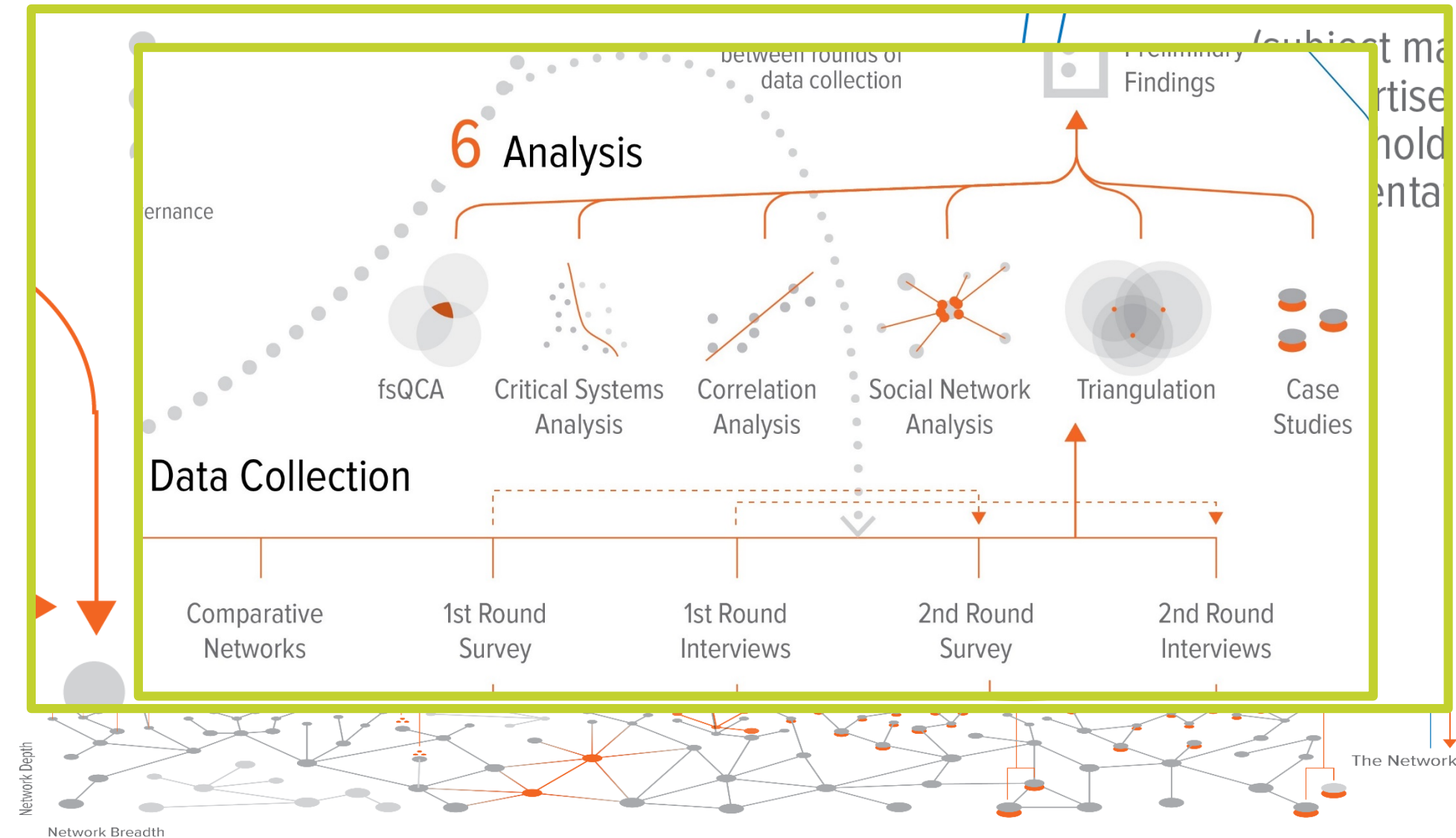
3 IPFS

- enhancing the role of civil society in safeguarding the global environment,
- strengthening GEF Program implementation through partnership with civil society
- building the capacity of the GEF CSO Network



474 member organizations
across 122 countries
Country Contact Points in 20 countries

Approach for Evaluation of CSO Network



Key Evaluation Questions

Performance

- **1. To what extent is the CSO Network meeting its strategic objective and adding value to the GEF Partnership and its membership?**
- **2. How are features of the GEF CSO Network contributing to effectiveness and efficiency?**

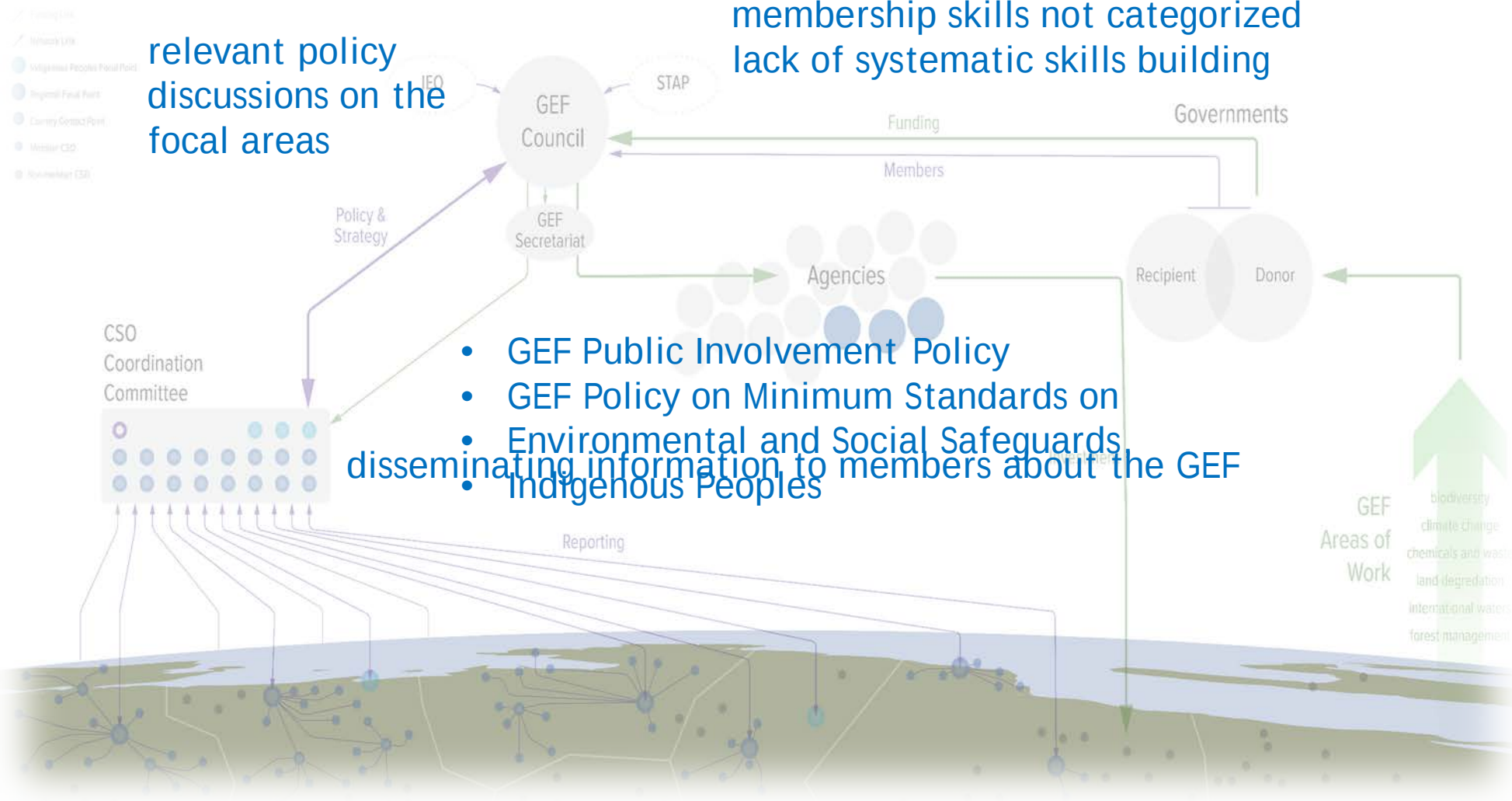
Learning

- **3. What are the implications for the next phase of the development and evolution of the CSO Network?**

Conclusions:

- **Conclusion 1:** Network remains relevant and is delivering results
- **Conclusion 2:** Network is distant from the country level. As such, the Network's is compromised in its ability to bring forward country perspectives.
- **Conclusion 3:** The CSO Network operating in an expanding GEF Partnership without a shared contemporary vision of its role.
- **Conclusion 4:** Within an increasingly complex operating environment, the Network has strengthened, organizationally but governance challenges remain.

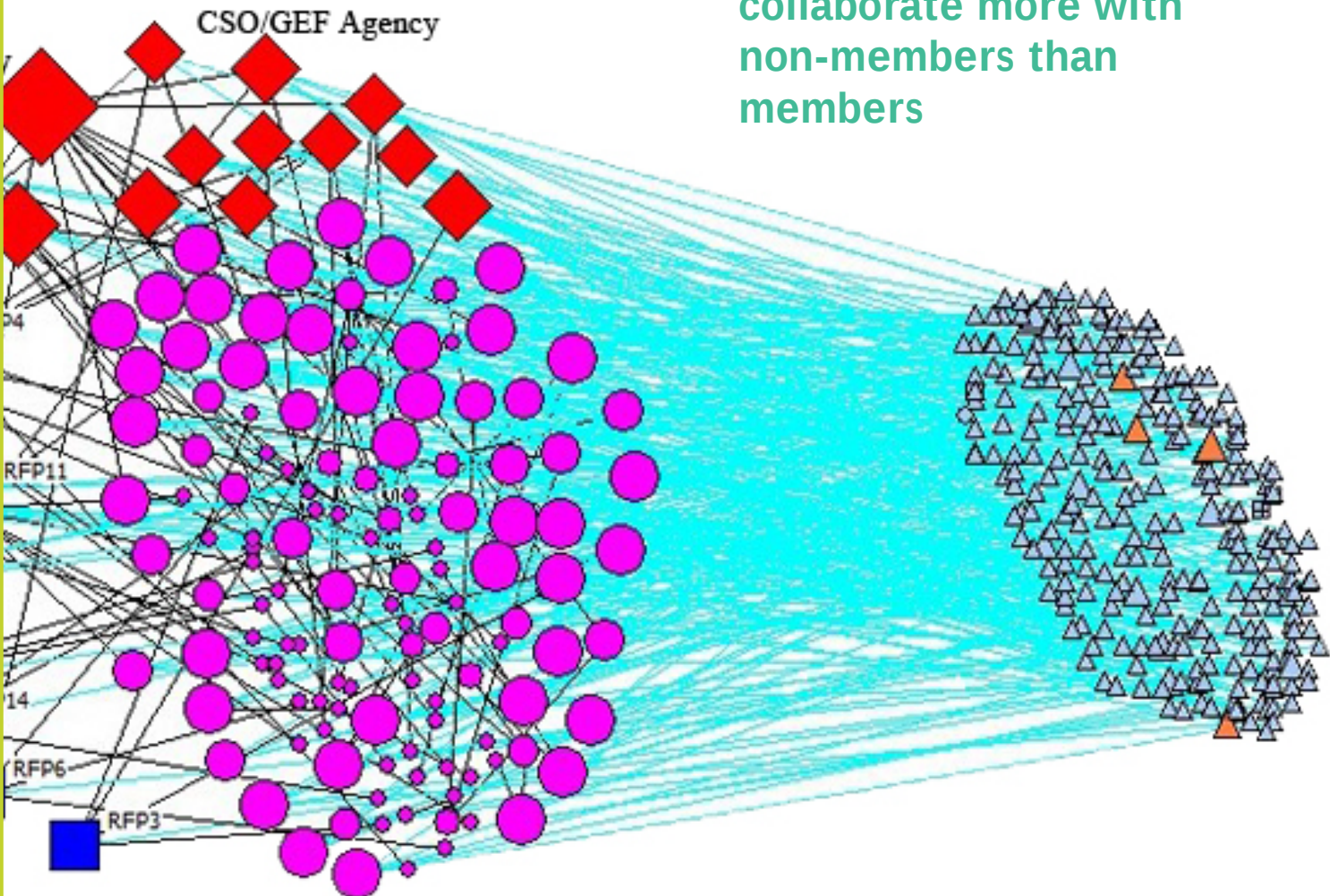
Conclusion 1: Network plays a relevant role in the GEF Partnership and delivers results



- GEF Public Involvement Policy
- GEF Policy on Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards
- disseminating information to members about the GEF Indigenous Peoples

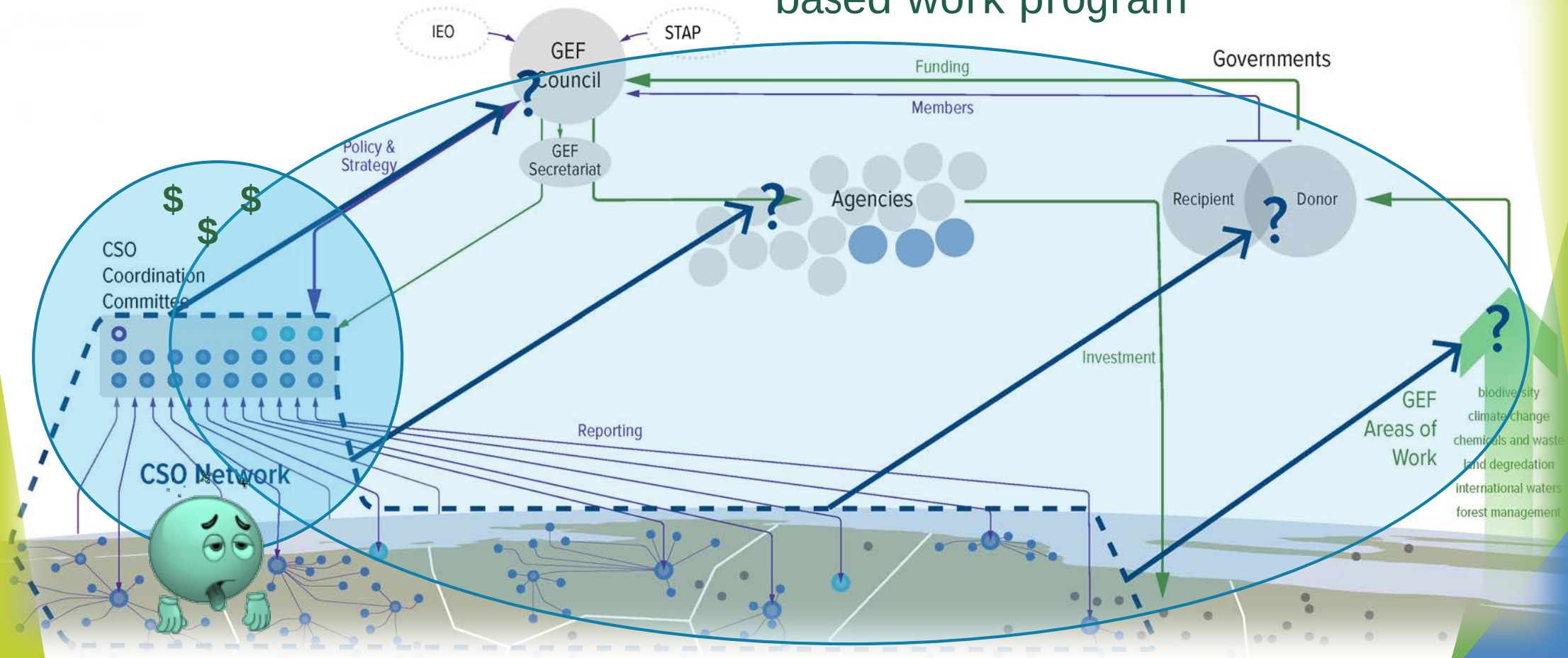
Conclusion 2: Network activities are distant from country level

member CSOs
collaborate more with
non-members than
members

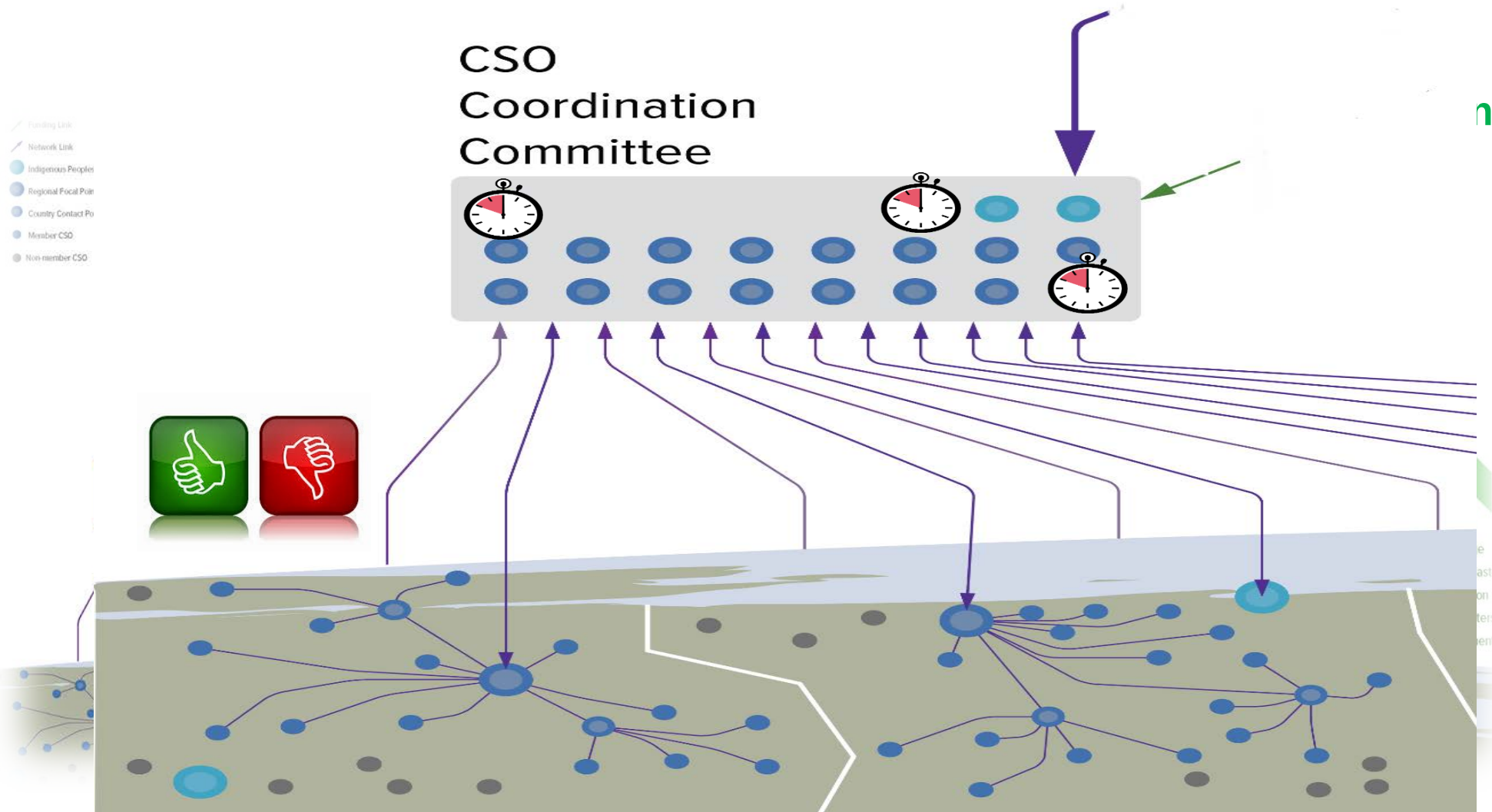


Conclusion 3: Lacking contemporary vision for the CSO Network in a changing partnership

Network role in the Partnership is not articulated in the context of a results based work program



Conclusion 4: Network has strengthened organizationally but governance challenges remain



Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Create a contemporary vision

Recommendation 2: The GEFSEC and CSO Network should develop clear rules of engagement which guides cooperation and communications.

Recommendation 3: The CSO Network should continue to build itself as a mechanism for strengthening civil society participation in the GEF

Recommendation 4: The CSO Network should strengthen its governance

Recommendation 1: Create a Contemporary Vision for the Network within the new GEF Architecture

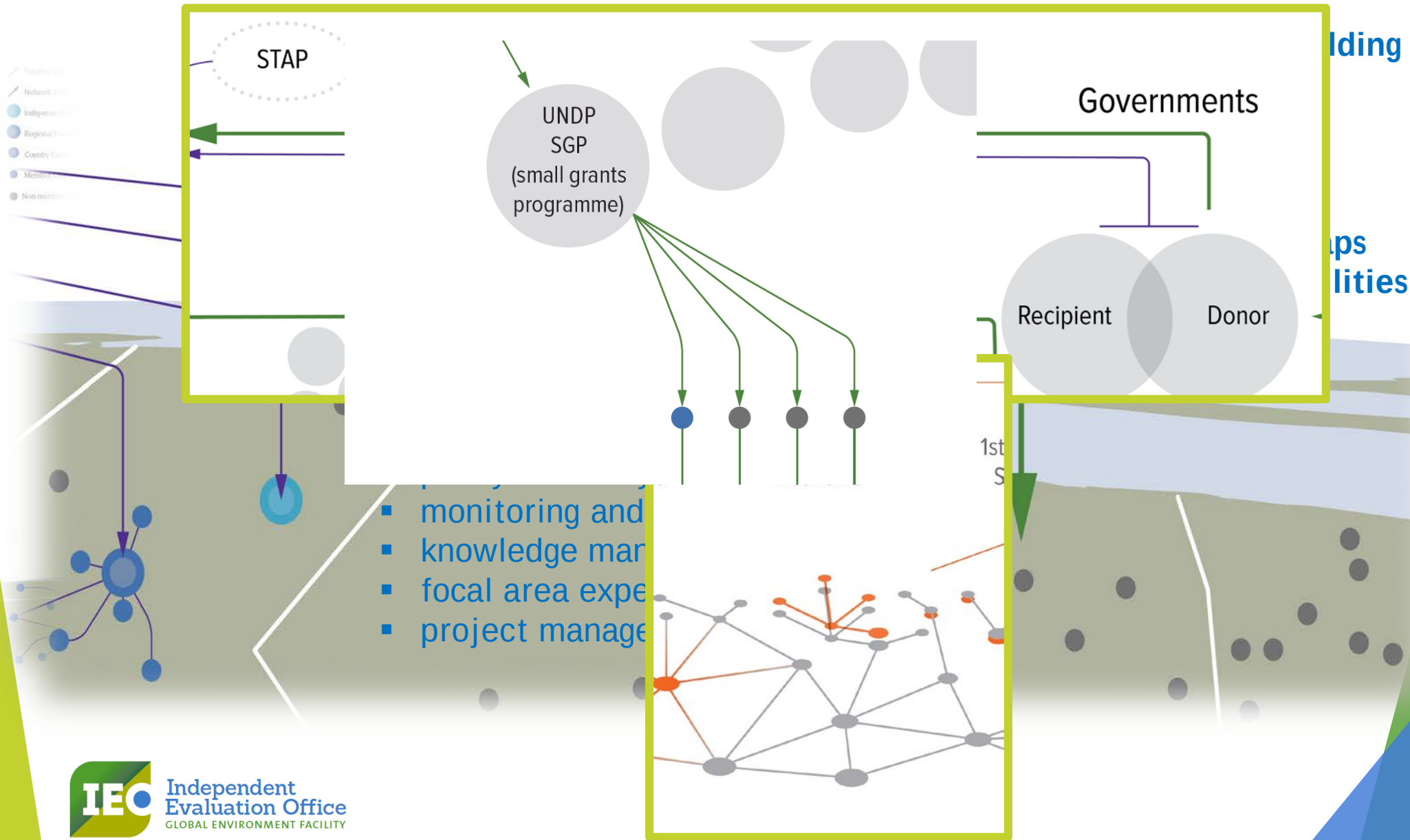
Consider:

engagement with the Network is not through the shared understanding of the Network's contribution to toward regional and country level activities without compromising with GEF level endeavors who are also network member CSOs

**guide cooperation
adjusted as needed
with a means to review
against expectations**



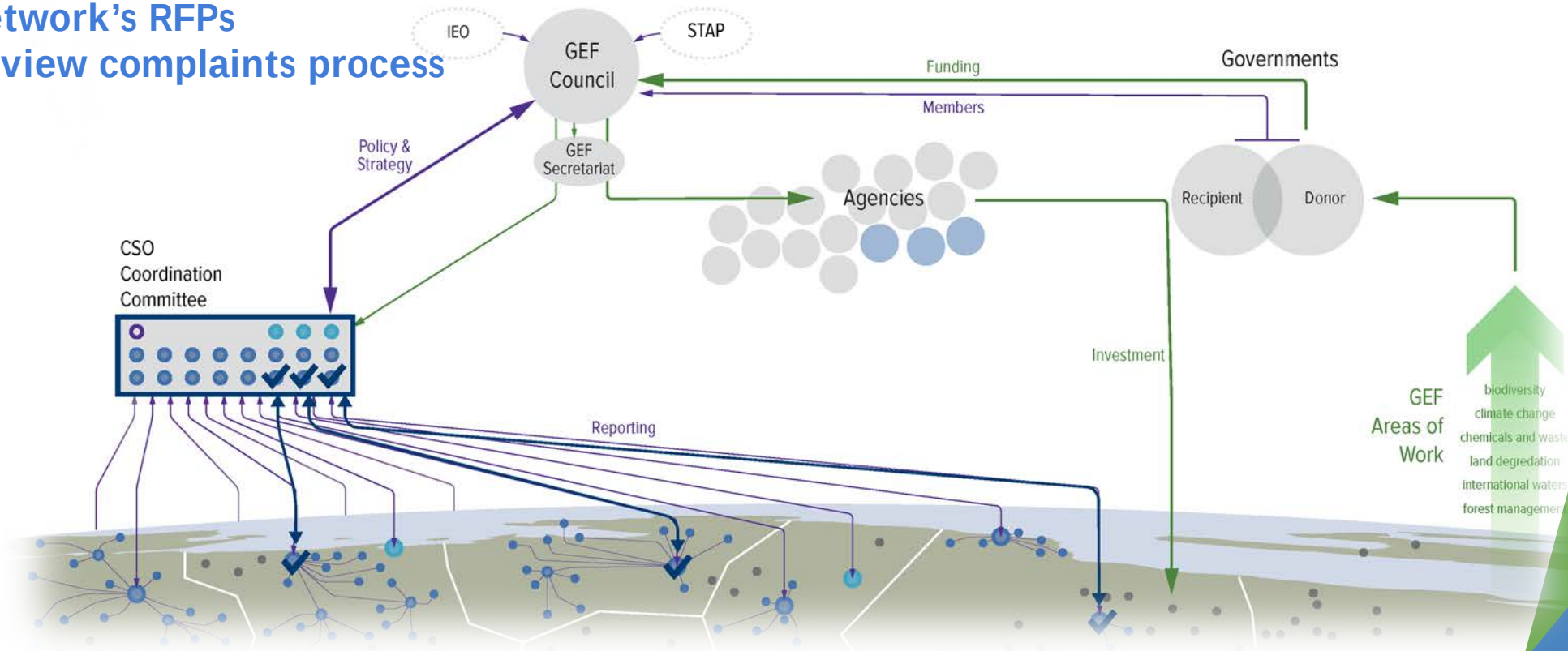
Recommendation 3: Continue to strengthen the Network as a mechanism for strengthening civil society participation in the GEF



Recommendation 4: The CSO Network should continue to strengthen its governance

- Make progress on annual work plans
- Cooperate more with IPAG to reinforce prominent issues
- Review terms of service for the Network's RFPs
- Review complaints process

- Independent arbitrator to consider:
- Membership application grievances
 - Veracity of complaints



A scenic landscape featuring a coastal mountain range. The foreground shows a grassy slope with some dry, yellowish grass. The middle ground consists of steep, green mountainsides that descend towards a calm blue sea. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, with some blue visible. The overall mood is peaceful and natural.

Thank you!

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