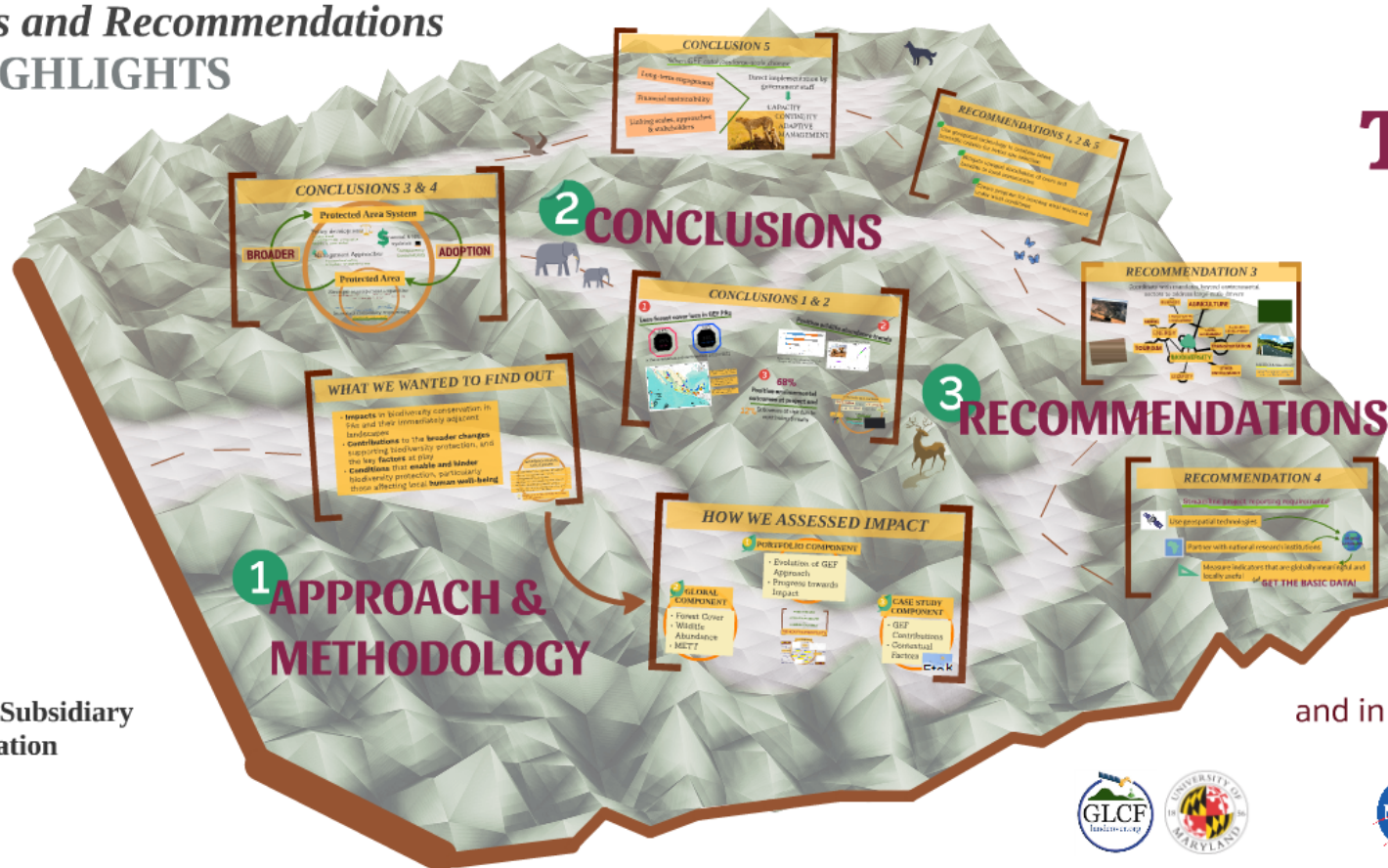


Impact Evaluation of GEF Support to Protected Areas and Protected Area Systems

Conclusions and Recommendations HIGHLIGHTS



THANK YOU!

First meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation

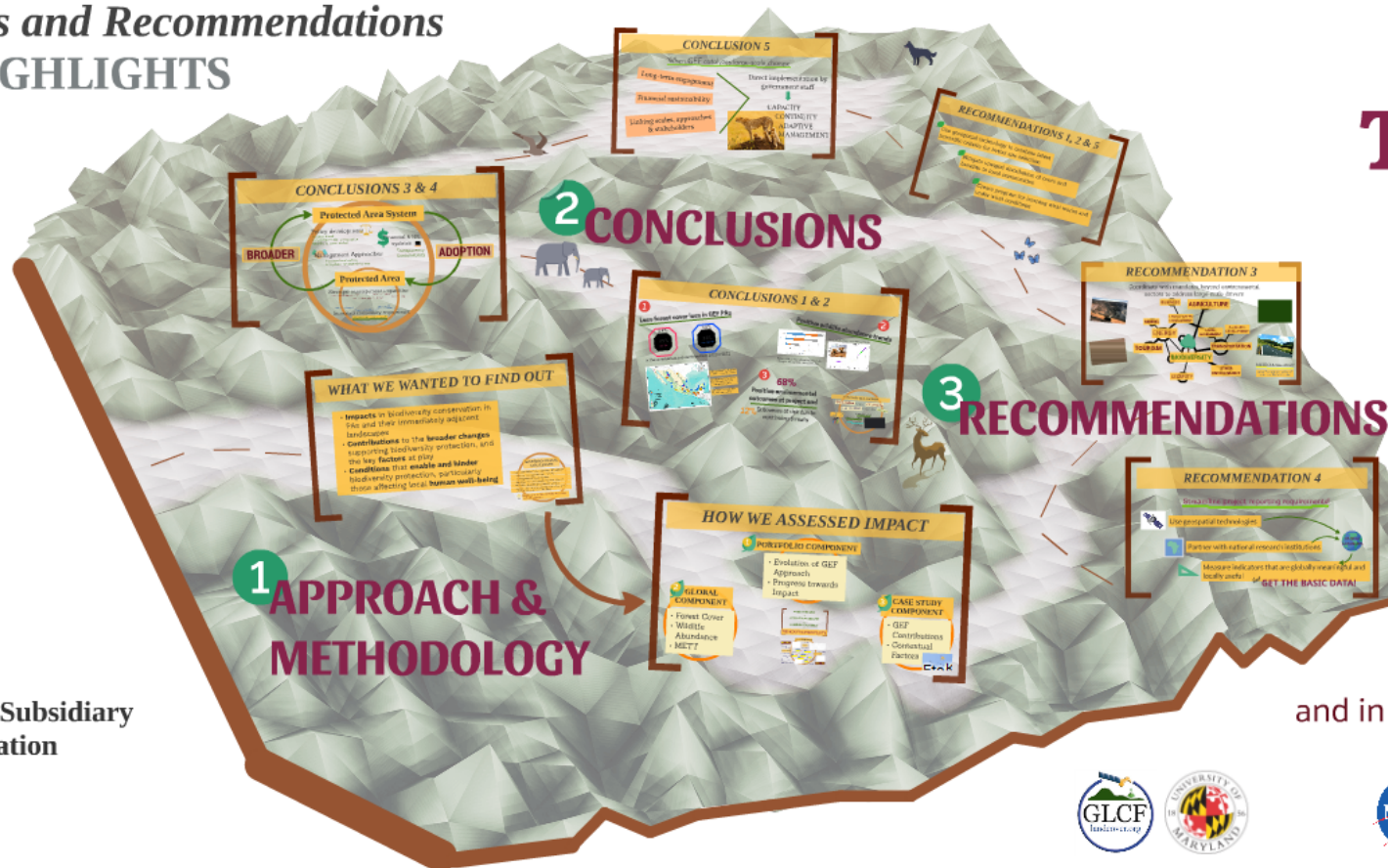
02 May 2016
Montreal, Canada

and in collaboration with



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WHAT WE WANTED TO FIND OUT

- **Impacts** in biodiversity conservation in PAs and their immediately adjacent landscapes
- **Contributions** to the **broader changes** supporting biodiversity protection, and the key **factors** at play
- **Conditions** that **enable and hinder** biodiversity protection, particularly those affecting local **human well-being**

METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES

- Substantial information gaps on GEF support
 - Uneven reporting in project documents and METTs
- Limited global time-series data
 - Not always matching with time periods or areas of GEF support
- Difficulties in estimating counterfactuals
 - Made more difficult by lack of certainty on "GEF-supported" and "non-GEF"
 - Spillover effects and no clear-cut successes/ failures



Mitigated by multidisciplinary and mixed methods approach

EXTENT OF GEF SUPPORT

US\$ 3.4 billion in grants to **137 countries**

US\$ 12.0 billion in cofinancing for **618 projects**

2,785,350 sq km

GEF support evolving
with latest science

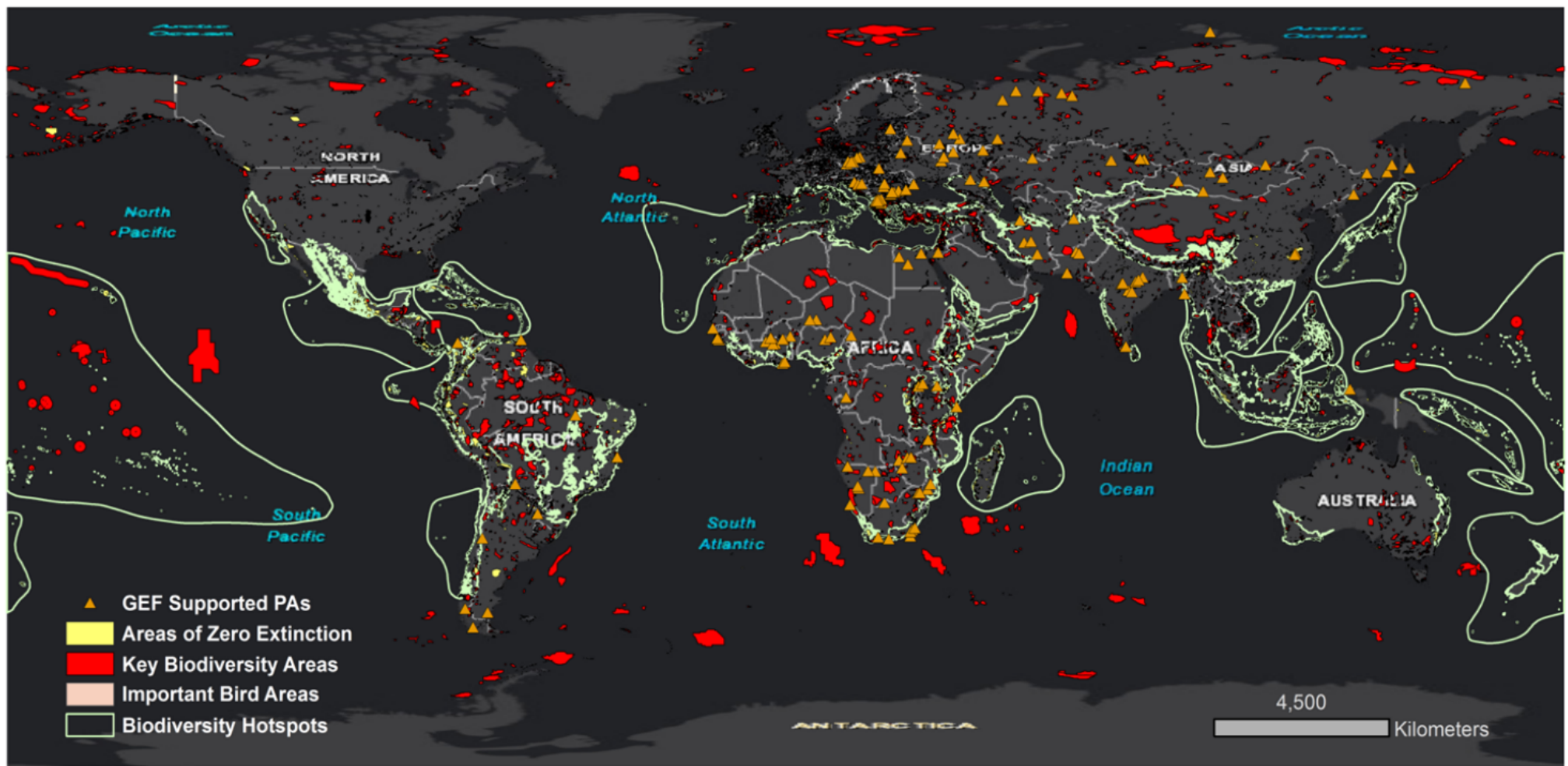


1,292 non-marine PAs

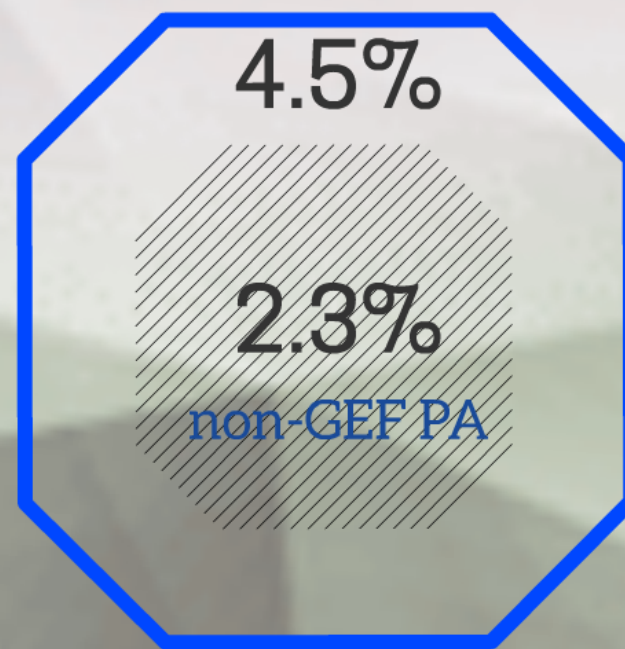
58% Key Biodiversity Areas

31% other international
designation





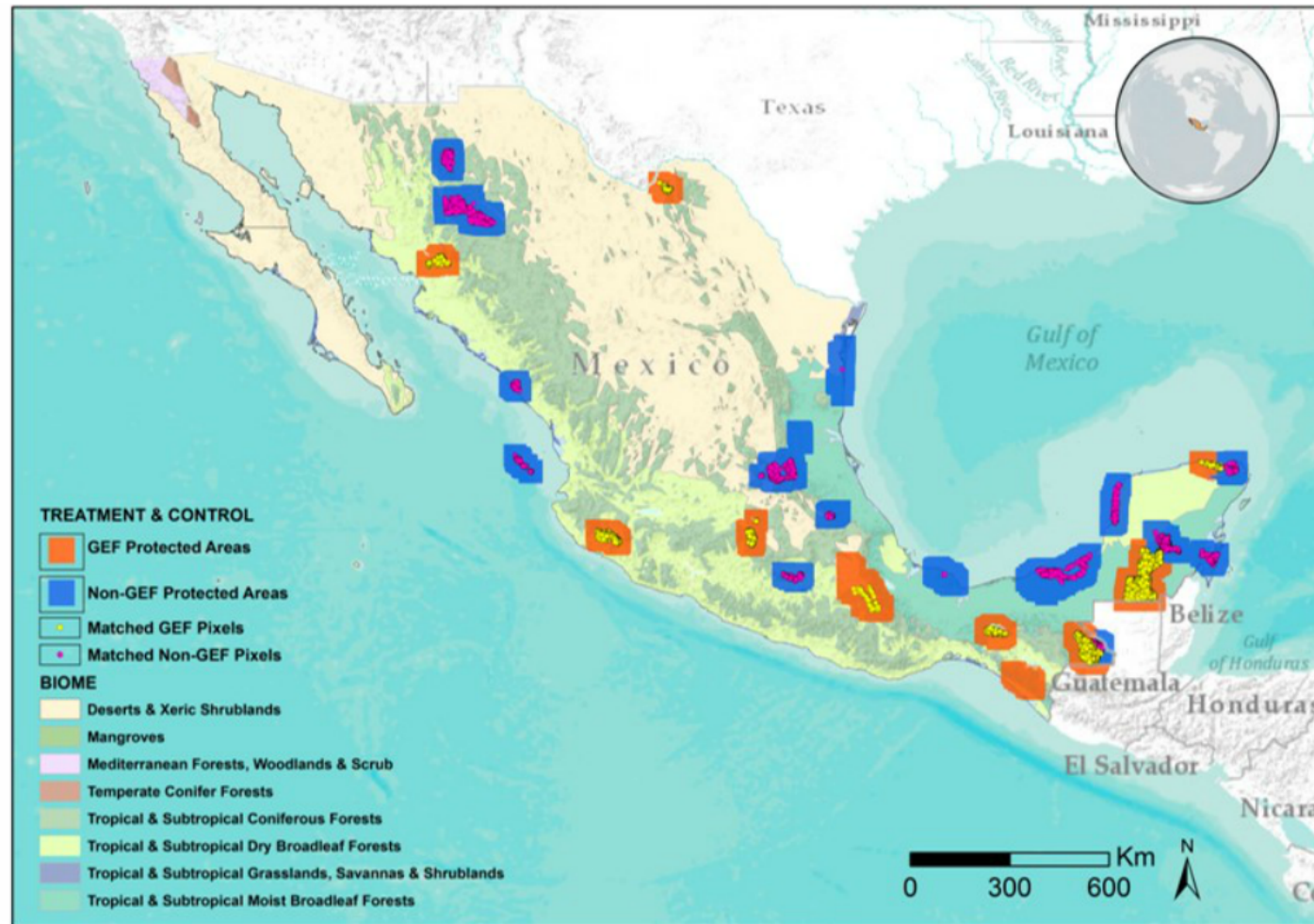
Less forest cover loss in GEF PAs



in the same biomes and countries from 2001 to 2012



in the same biomes and countries from 2001 to 2012



23% less forest loss than non-GEF PAs across all Mexico PAs

up to **28%** avoided forest loss in tropical and subtropical coniferous forest biome

20% more forest in non-GEF PAs in mangrove biome

CONCLUSIONS 3 & 4



CONCLUSION 5

When GEF catalyzes large-scale change

Long-term engagement

Financial sustainability

Linking scales, approaches
& stakeholders

Direct implementation by
government staff



CAPACITY
CONTINUITY
ADAPTIVE
MANAGEMENT



RECOMMENDATIONS 1, 2 & 5



Use geospatial technology to combine latest scientific criteria for better site selection



Mitigate unequal distribution of costs and benefits to local communities

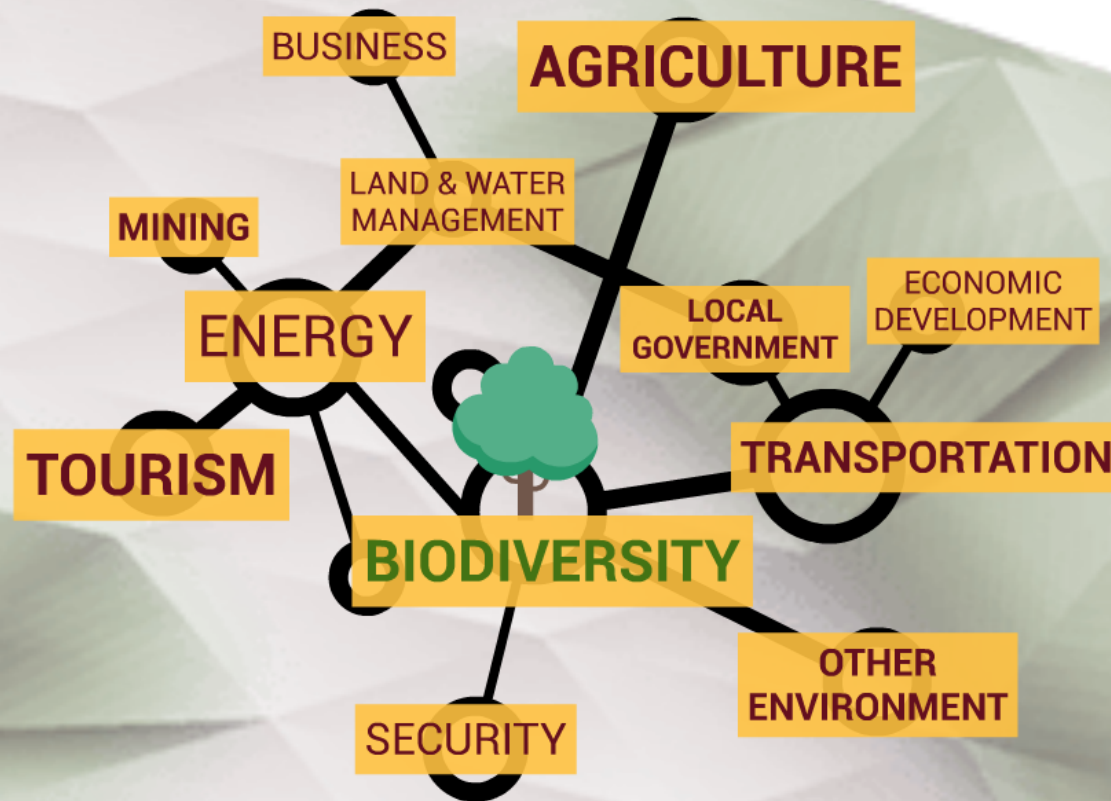


Create program for learning what works and under what conditions



RECOMMENDATION 3

Coordinate with mandates beyond environmental sectors to address large-scale drivers



MEXICO case study

largest funding and number of projects on PAs & PA system

RECOMMENDATION 4

Streamline project reporting requirements!



Use geospatial technologies



Partner with national research institutions



Measure indicators that are globally meaningful and locally useful

but

GET THE BASIC DATA!



Impact Evaluation of GEF Support to Protected Areas and Protected Area Systems

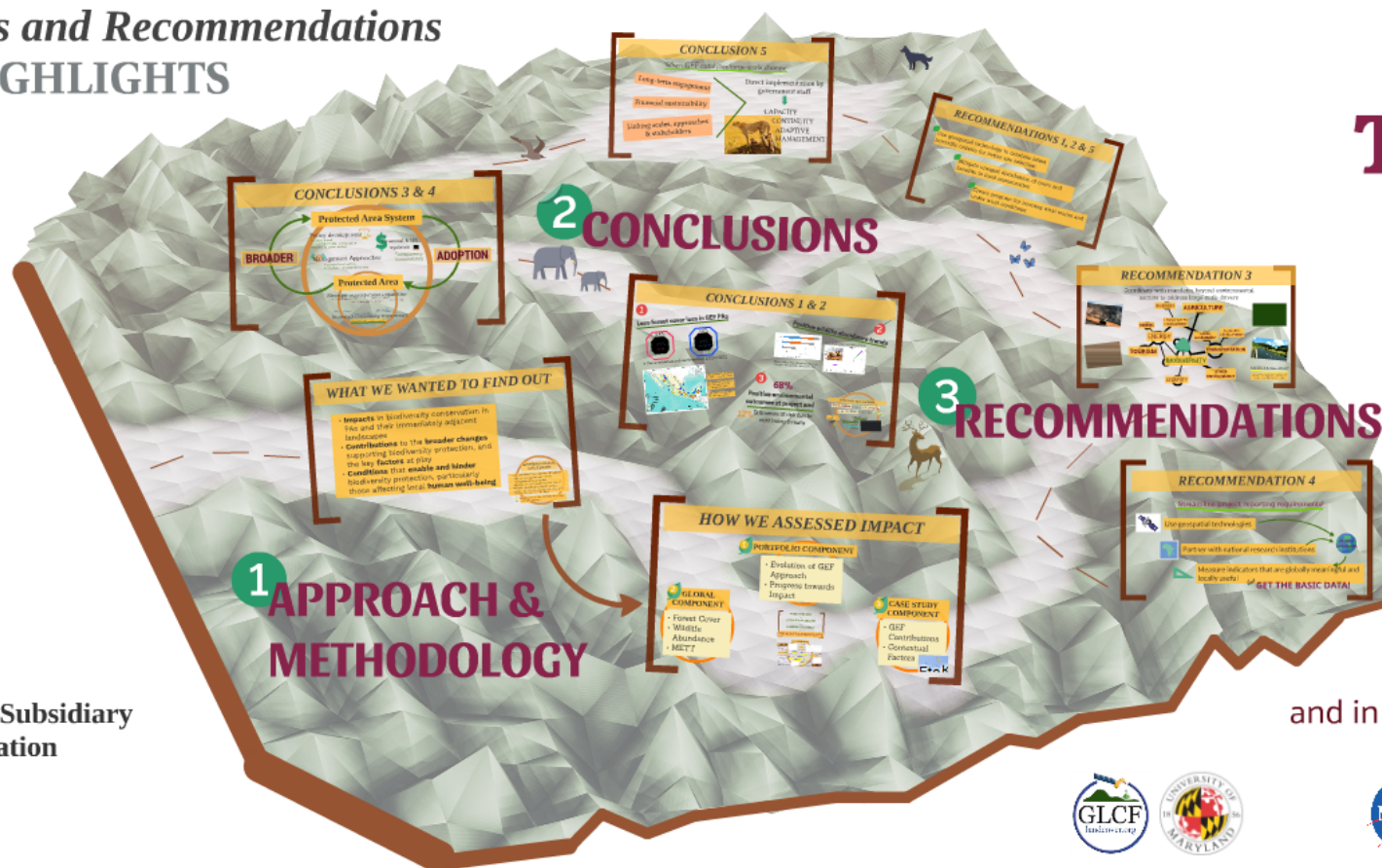
Conclusions and Recommendations HIGHLIGHTS

gef IEO Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

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