
IEO
Independent
Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
ENHANCING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THROUGH EXCELLENCE IN EVALUATION


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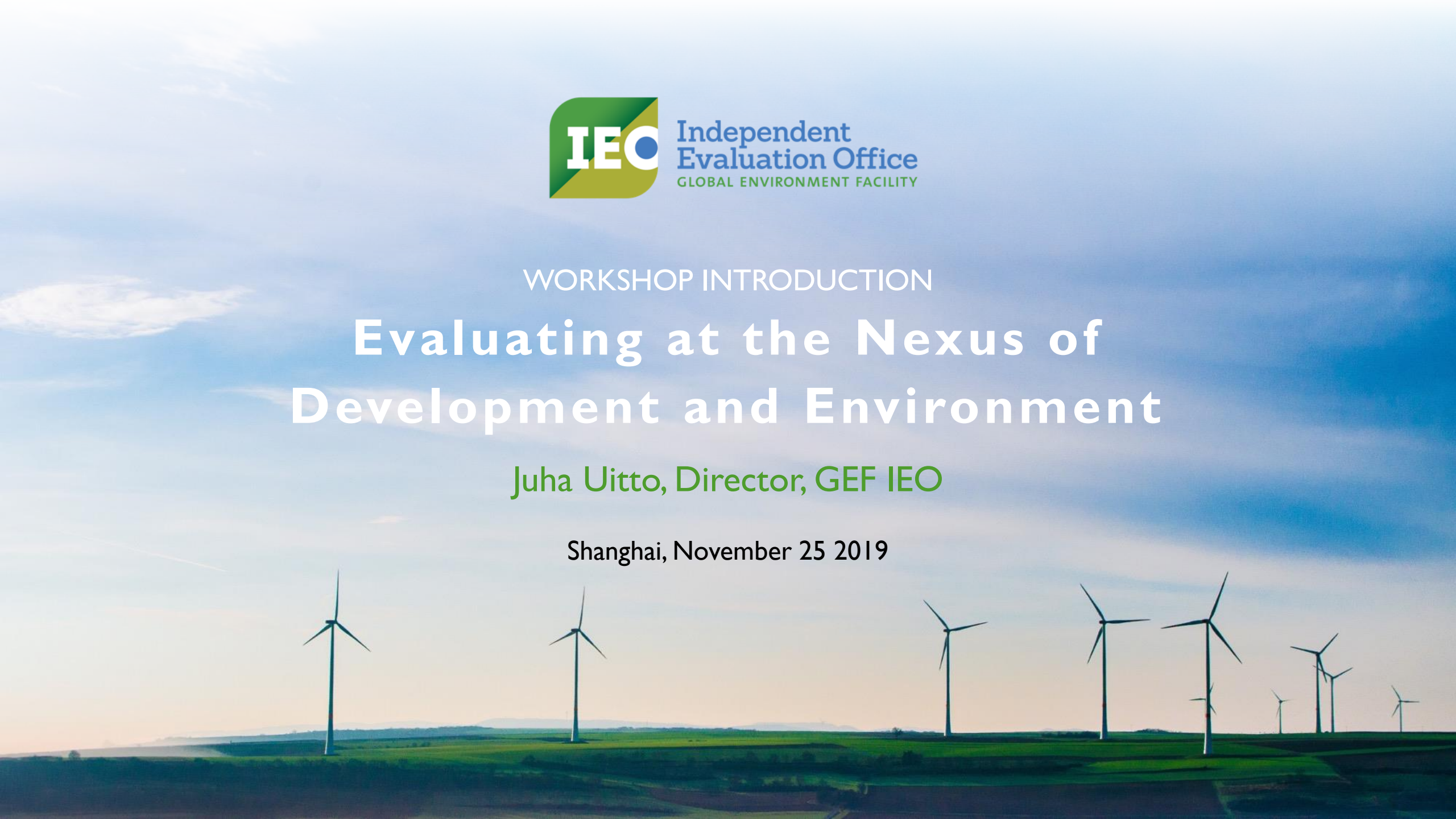



WORKSHOP INTRODUCTION

# Evaluating at the Nexus of Development and Environment

Juha Uitto, Director, GEF IEO

Shanghai, November 25 2019

# *Workshop Learning Objectives*

Specific challenges in evaluating environmental programs

Identify approaches and tools

# *Outline of the Workshop*

November 25

1. Introduction
2. Complex socio-ecological systems
3. Evaluation approaches and methods
4. Application of innovative approaches to evaluation

November 26

5. Evaluating environment and socio-economic co-benefits
6. Additionality and scaling up
7. Evaluating transformative change
8. Conclusions, discussion and workshop evaluation

# *Introductions*


**Juha I. Uitto**, Director

**Anupam Anand**, Evaluation Officer

**Kate Steingraber**, Evaluation Officer

**Kseniya Temnenko**, Knowledge Management Officer

# *Introductions*

- What is your name?
- What city do you come from?
- What is your experience in evaluation?
- What is your experience in environmental programs?
- What are your expectations for the workshop?

# *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

People • Planet • Prosperity
Peace • Partnerships

193 countries (2015)

Sustainable Development Goals
Social • Economic • Environmental

# *Major related milestones*

**Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**, 2015-2030

**Paris Agreement on Climate Change** – Effective 2016; 195 signatories

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): Special Report** 2018

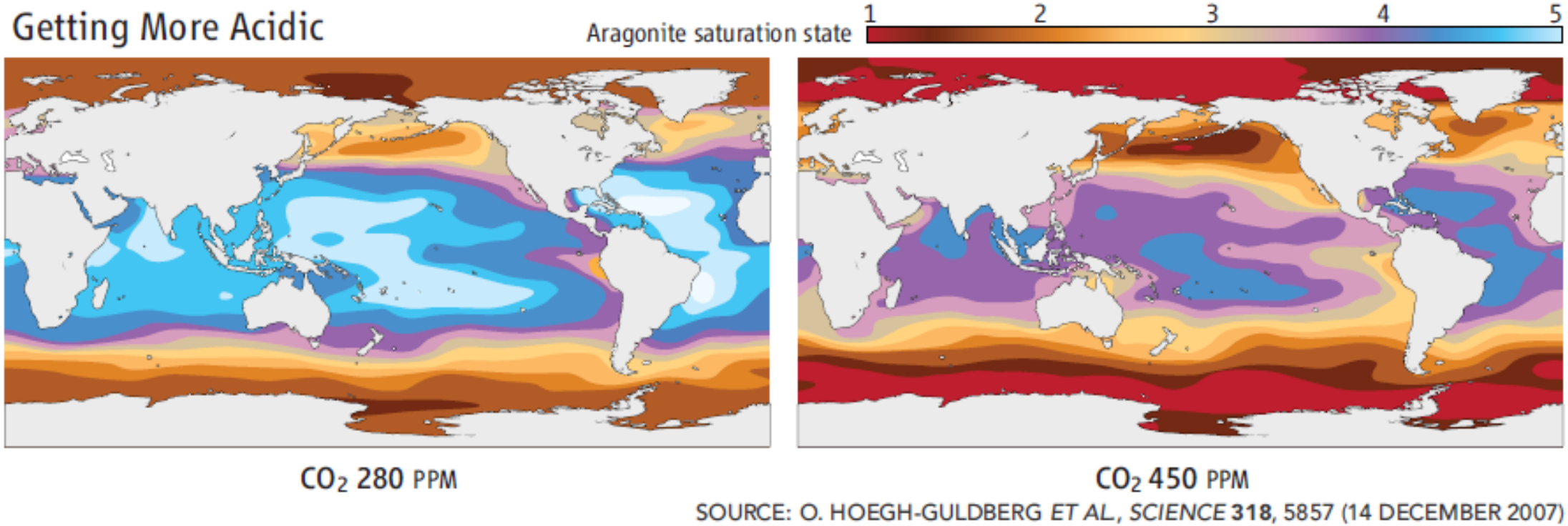
**Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services** 2019

**Global Chemicals Outlook II: From Legacies to Innovative Solutions** 2019

**IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land** 2019

**Global Commission on Adaptation: Adapt Now! Report** 2019

# *Transgressing safe boundaries*




Source: Steffen et al. 2015

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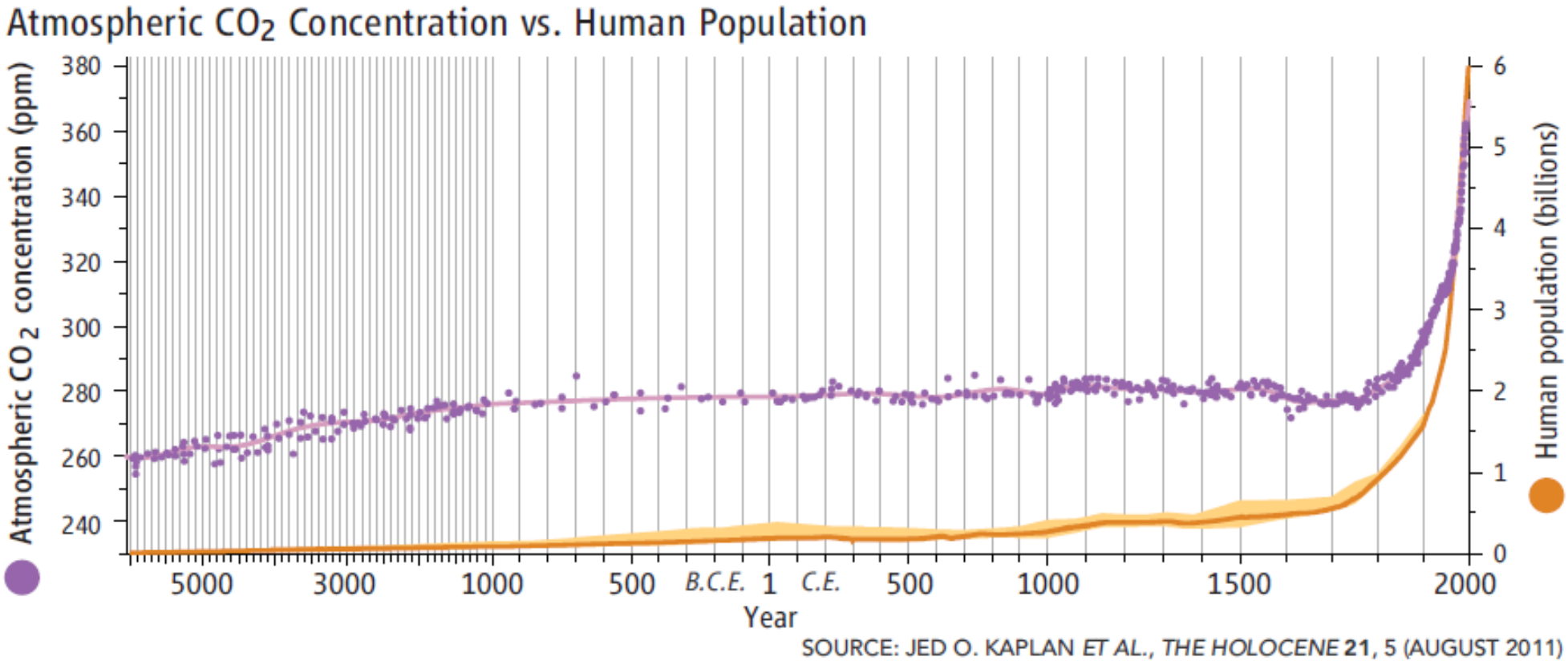


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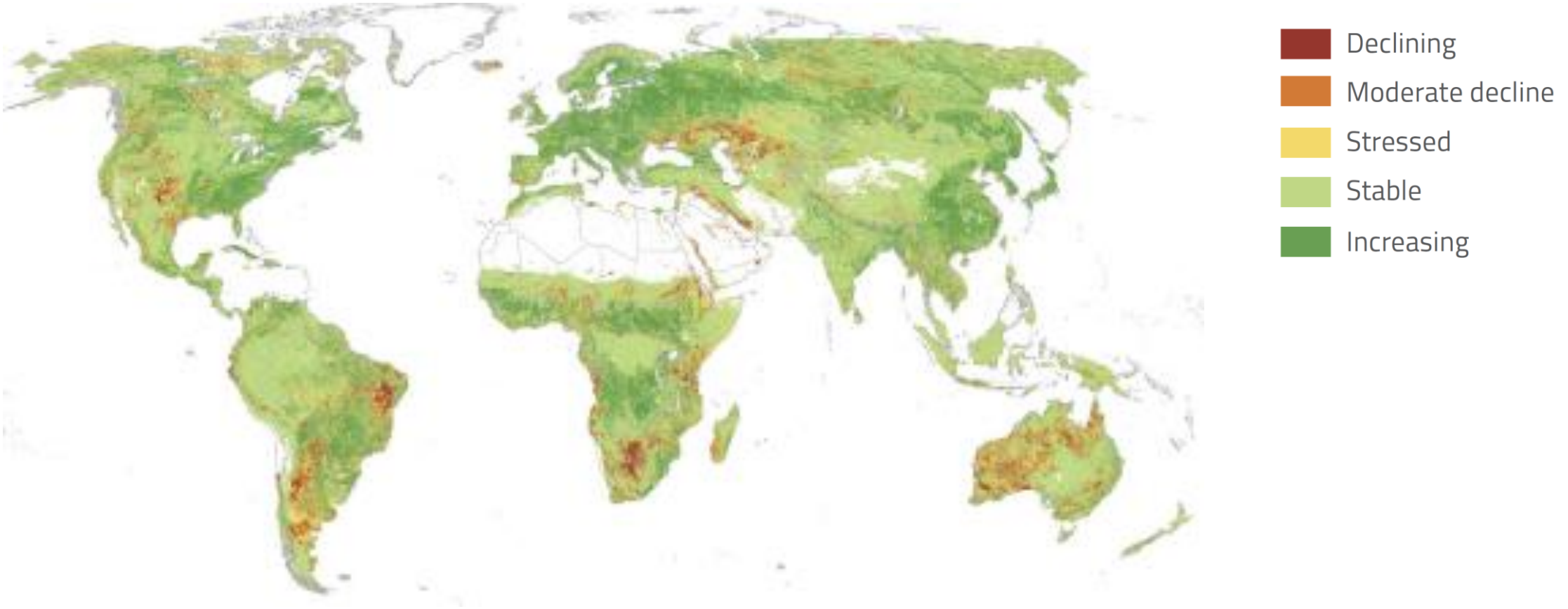


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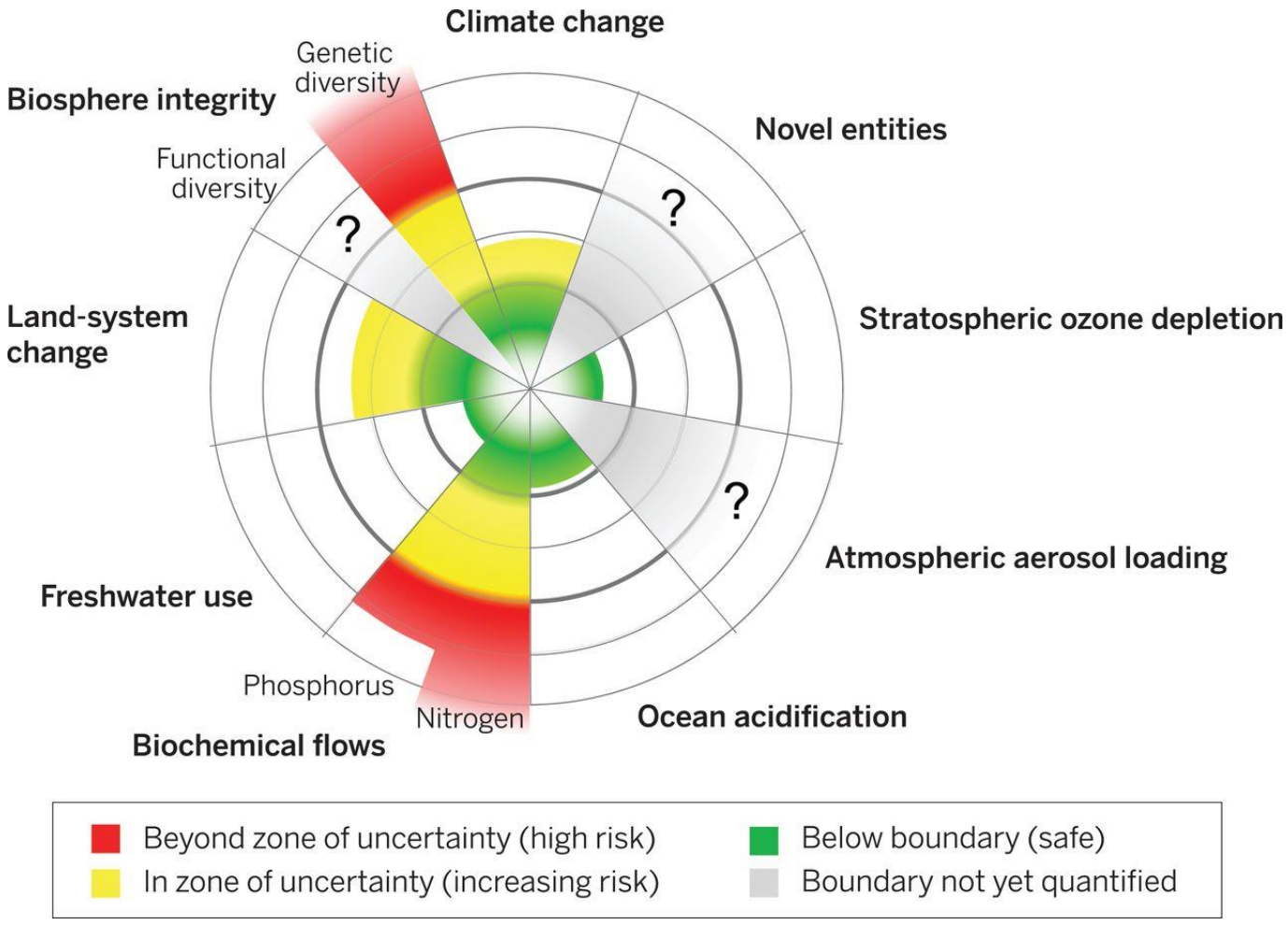



Source: Steffen et al. 2015

# *The SDGs*


Credit: Stockholm Resilience Centre

# *The GEF and the SDGs*


Credit: GEF


## Established in 1992

US$14.5 billion

US$75.4 billion leverage

## Innovator and catalyst

4,000 projects in 167 countries

## Unique partnership

18 implementing agencies

## Financial mechanism

5 major environmental conventions

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Convention on Biological Diversity

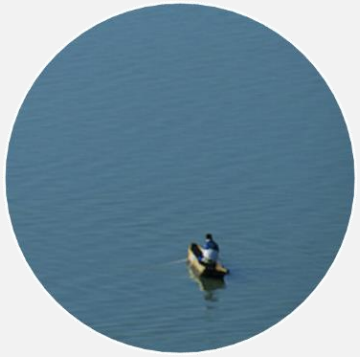
Stockholm Convention on persistent organic pollutants (POPs)

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNEP MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

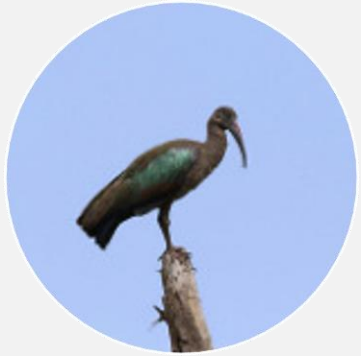
# *Thematic areas*

International waters



Land degradation

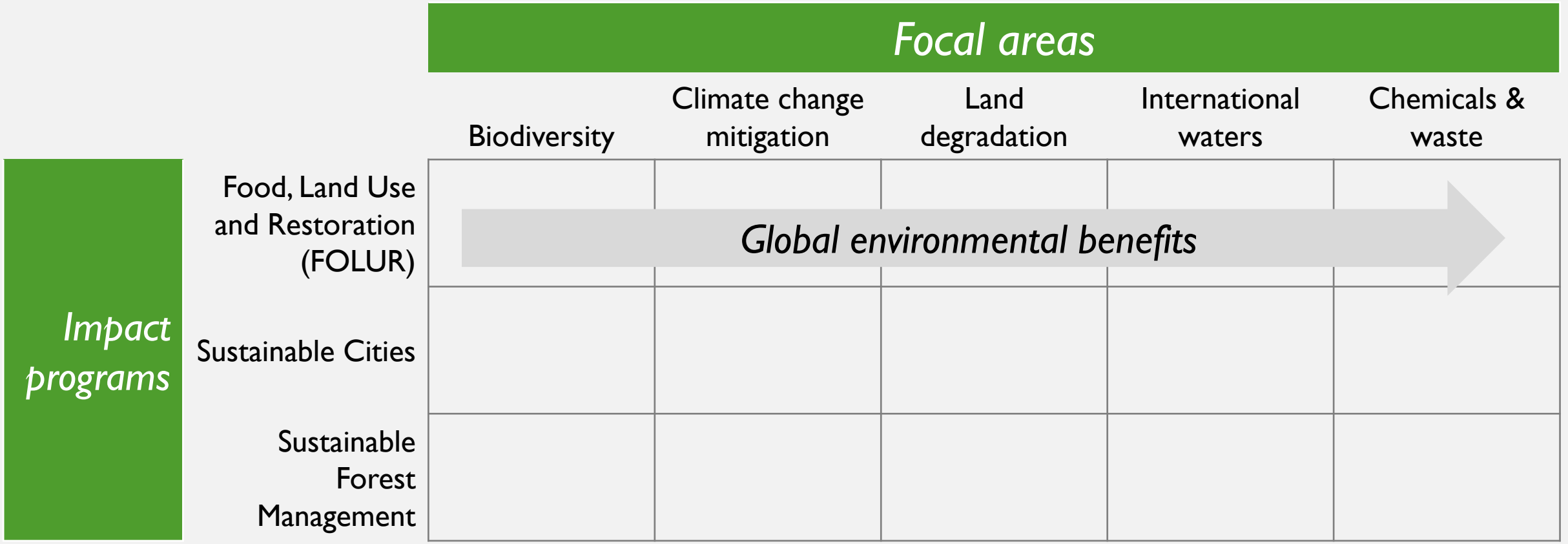
Biodiversity



Chemical and waste

Climate change

# *Thematic areas (contd.)*

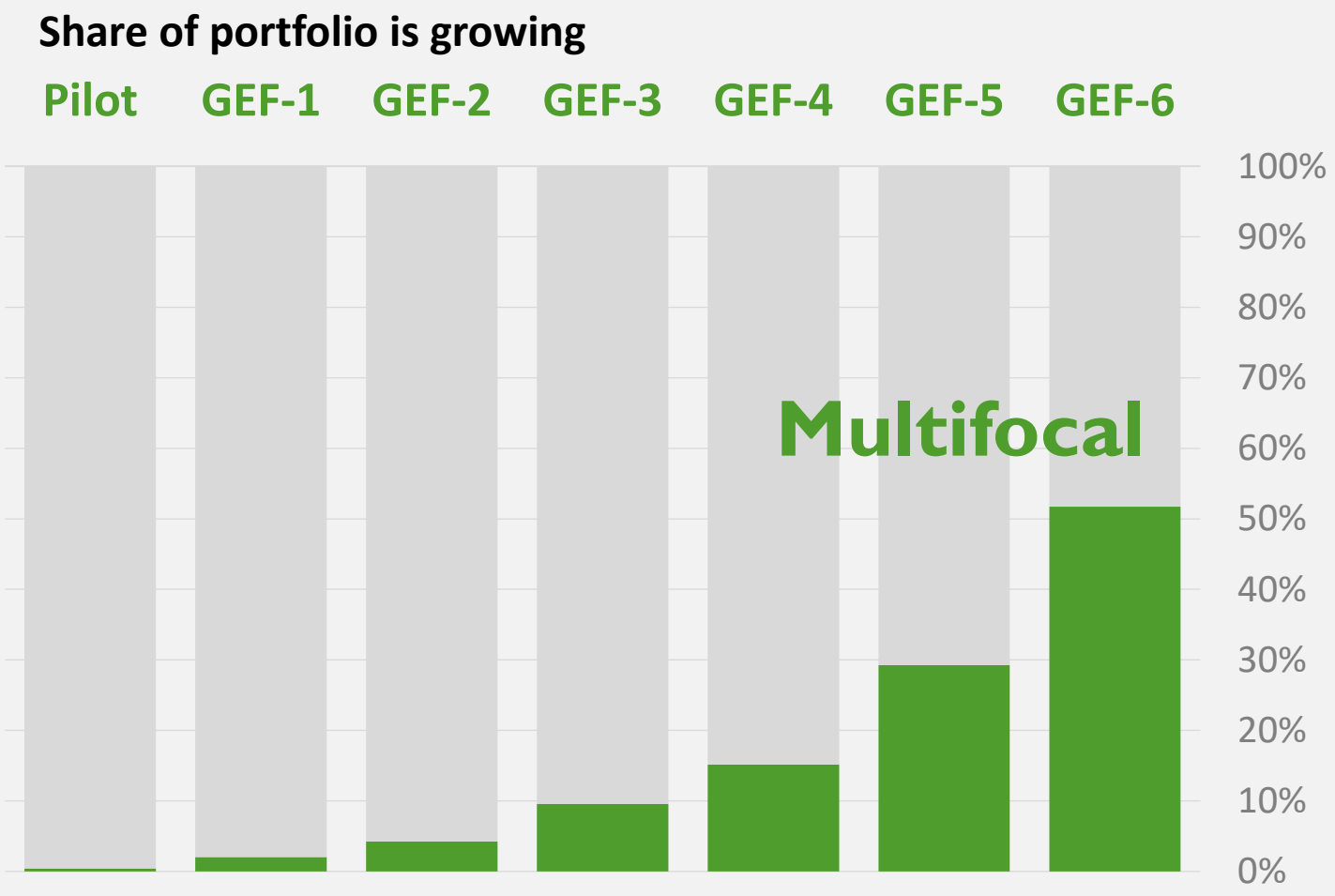


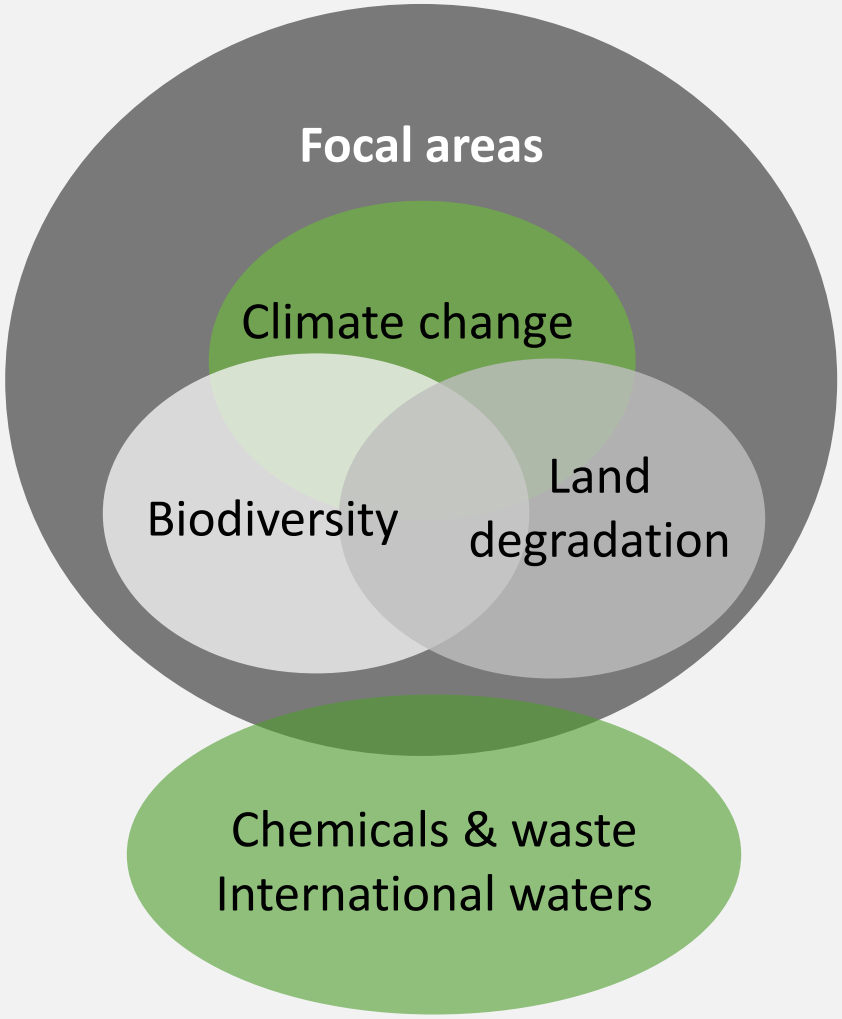
# *What do we mean by integration?*

Integration across environmental domains

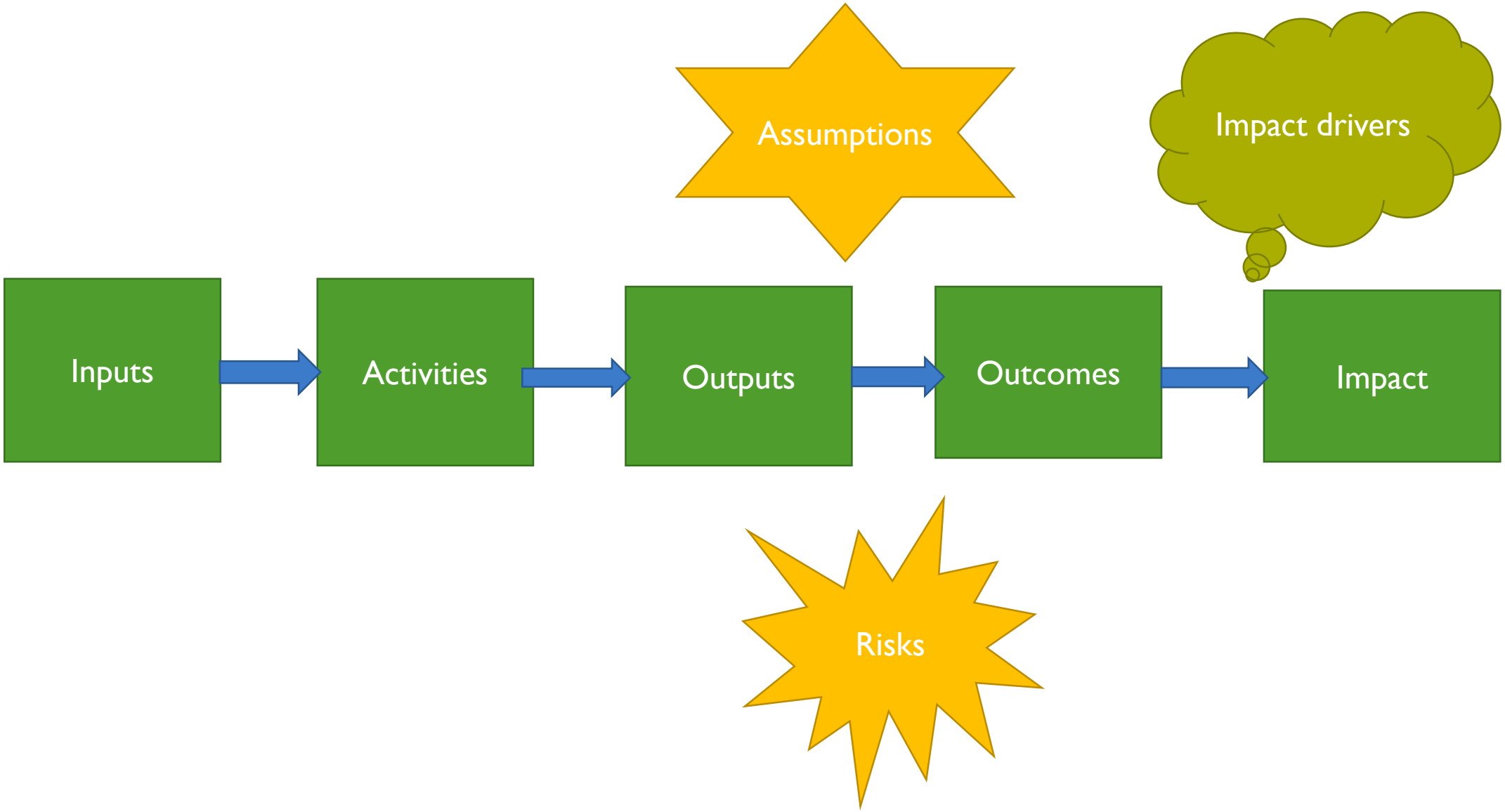
Integration between natural and human systems: *environmental, social, economic*

# *Towards more integration*

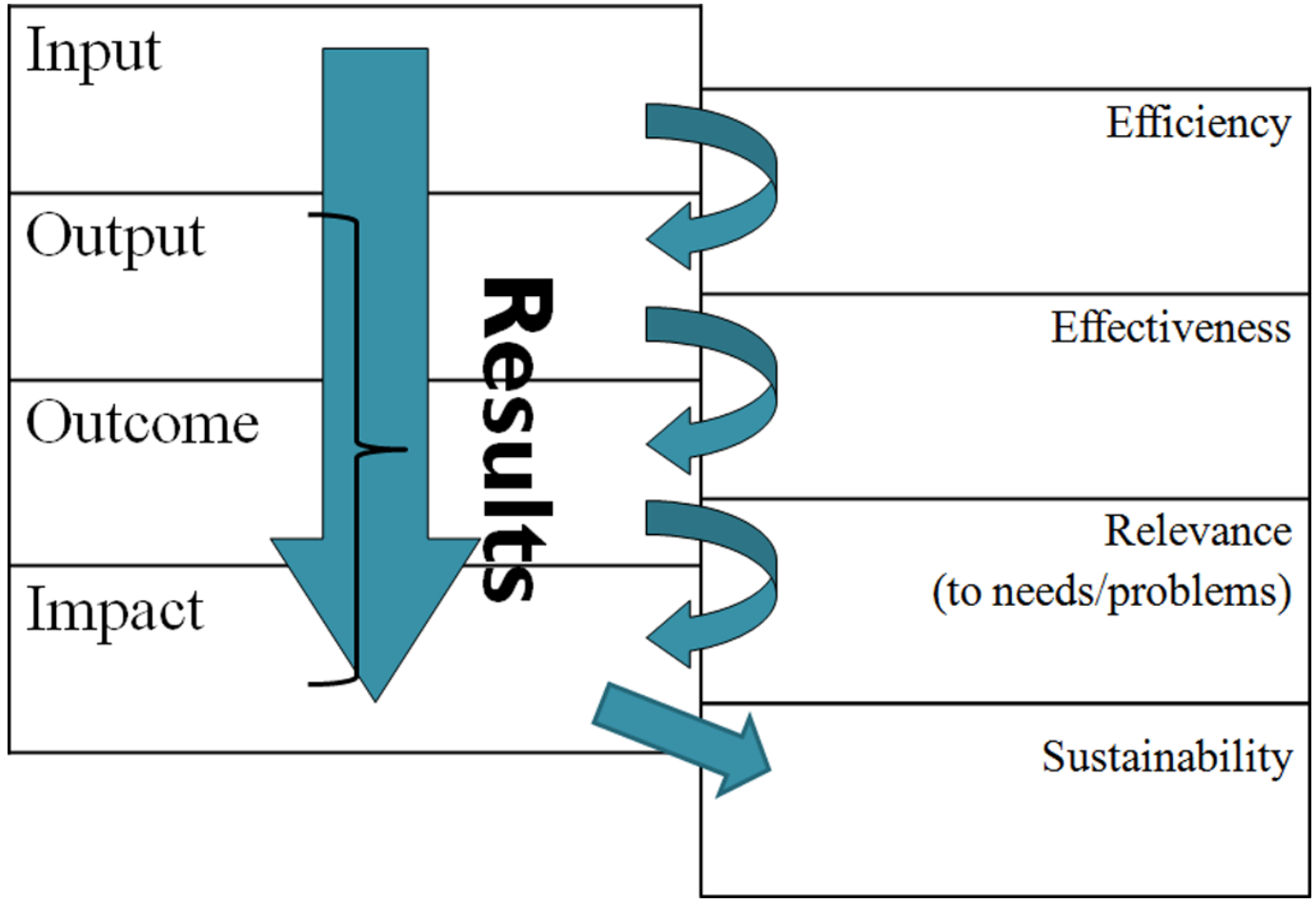


# Generic Theory of Change



# Evaluation criteria




After van den Berg 2011

# *Challenges for evaluation at the nexus*

Differing geographies

Data and measurements

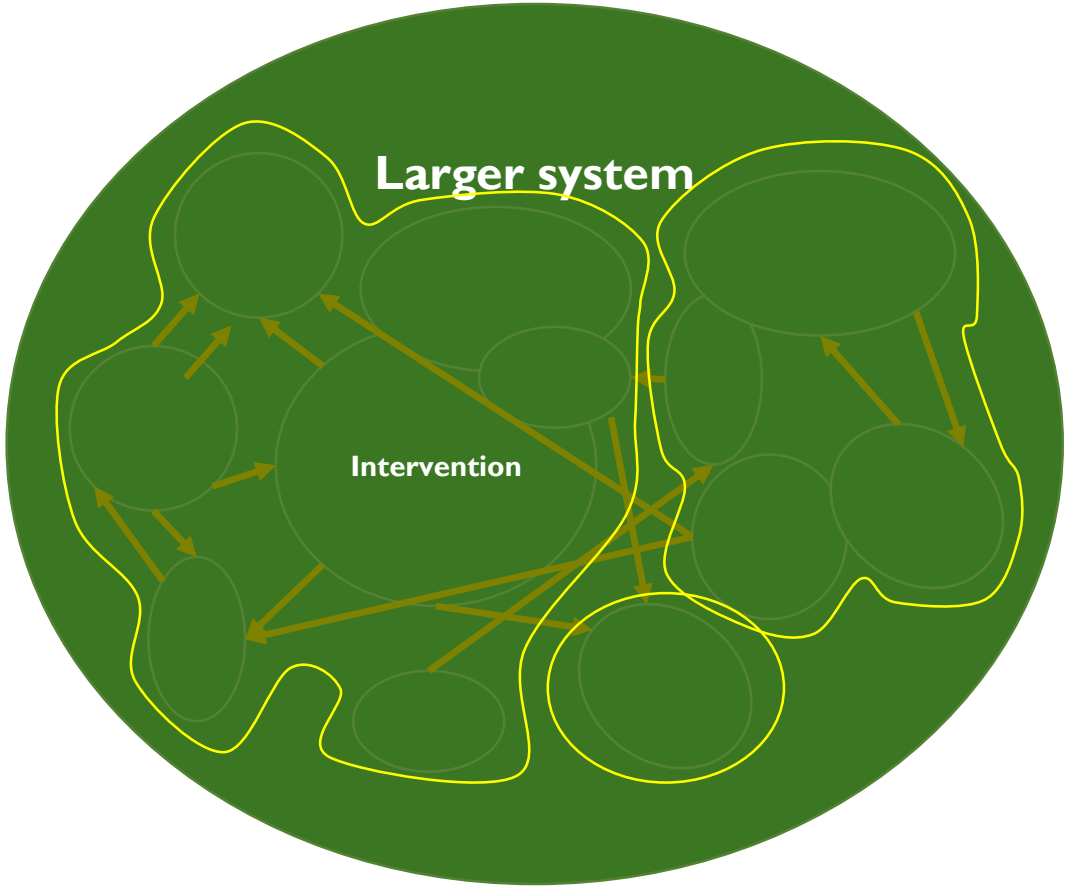
Time scales

# *Coupled human and natural systems*

- Complex interactions
- Mismatched time and space scales
- Influence each other and create feedback loops
- Create non-linear, unpredictable outcomes

# Elements we need to understand

- Boundaries
- Components
- Interactions
- Emergent properties

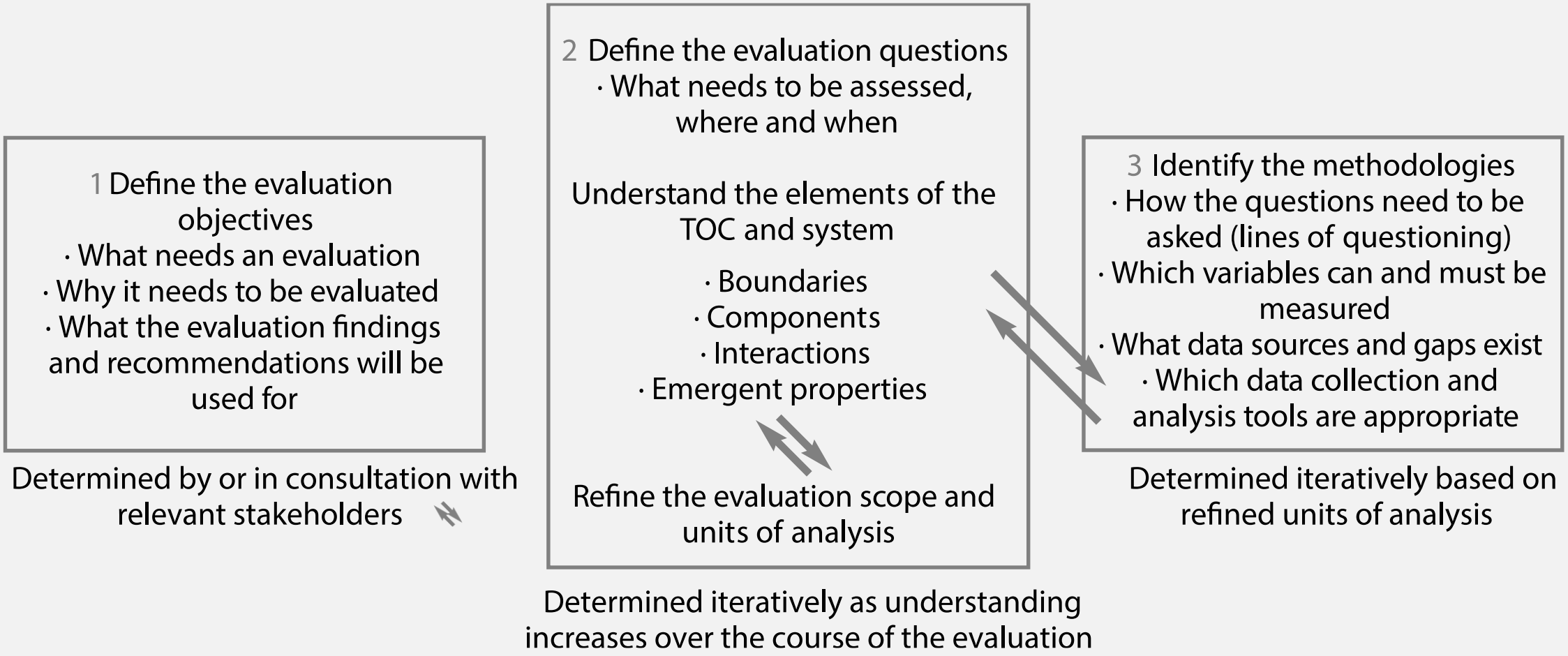


# Attribution vs. Contribution

**Attribution:** The precise causal link to changes in development results flowing from an individual intervention.

**Contribution:** The changes in development results that can be credibly linked to an intervention. Contribution implies a logical cause-and-effect relationship that points to the meaningful input of an intervention to the development result(s).

# *Designing evaluation at the nexus of human and natural systems*




Source: Garcia and Zazueta, 2015

# *Approaches and Methods*

- Evaluations must be scoped to encompass a systems perspective: Open theory of change
- What is known in advance through science, literature, other evaluations
- Define system boundaries — systems perspective (place evaluand in broader landscape)
- Look for unintended consequences (positive and negative)
- Different stakeholders have different priorities and perspectives
- Understand synergies and tradeoffs
- Use mixed methods: quantitative and qualitative

# *Sustainable development lens!*

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