



Independent  
Evaluation Office  
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

# The GEF Land Degradation focal area study

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## LAND DEGRADATION

# Evolution of the strategy

### GEF-1-2

Operational Program on Integrated Ecosystem Management  
LD seen as a “linkage activity”

### GEF-3

Operational Program on SLM.  
LDFA established as a focal area.  
GEF the financial mechanism for the UNCCD.

### GEF-4

Focal area strategy on LDFA  
Shift towards multifocal and programmatic approaches

### GEF-5

Focal area strategies linked with the UNCCD’s 10 year strategy

### GEF-6

Focal area strategies alignment towards LDN

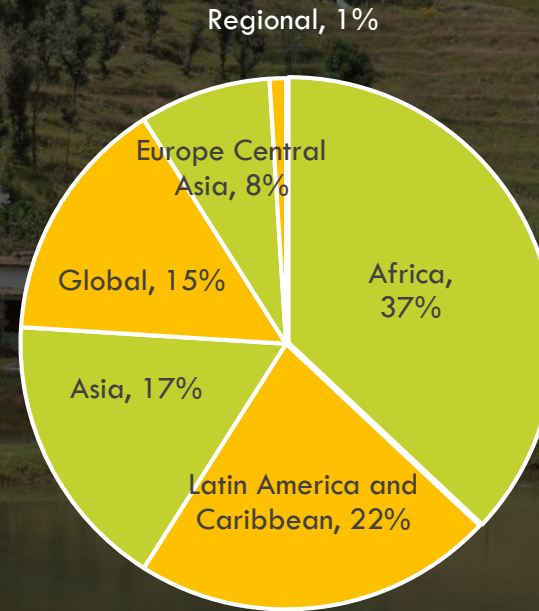
## LAND DEGRADATION

# Portfolio

**\$3.4 billion**

**618 projects  
with an LD  
component (58%  
multifocal)**

**Cofinancing  
20.4  
billion**



**Shift towards  
integrated  
landscapes**

LAND DEGRADATION

Highly relevant



United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

**Africa**

Addresses the  
local  
socioeconomic  
**drivers**

**LAND DEGRADATION**

**Value for money**

**\$1:1.08**

**43.52  
tC/ha**



Vegetation productivity

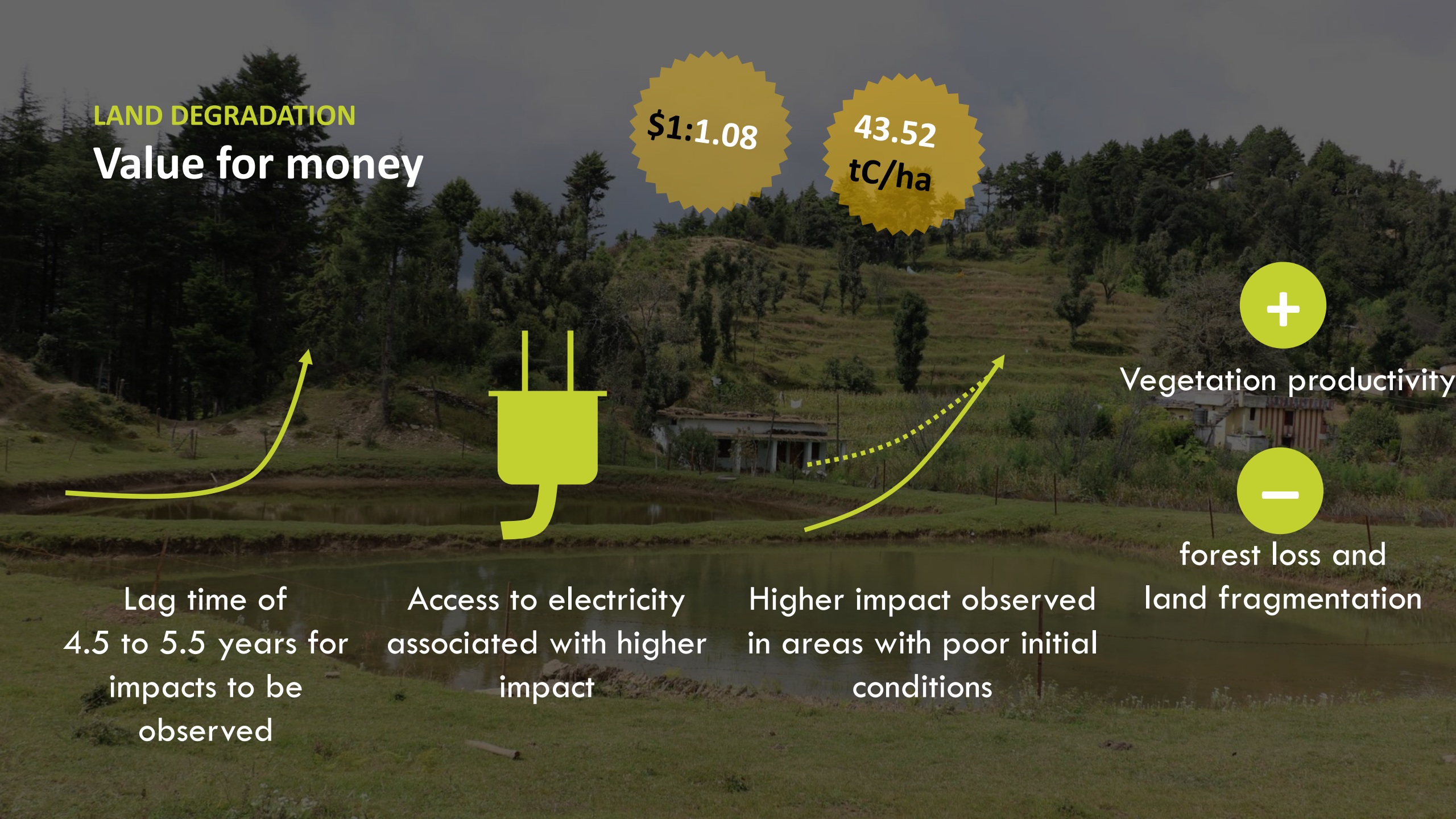


forest loss and  
land fragmentation

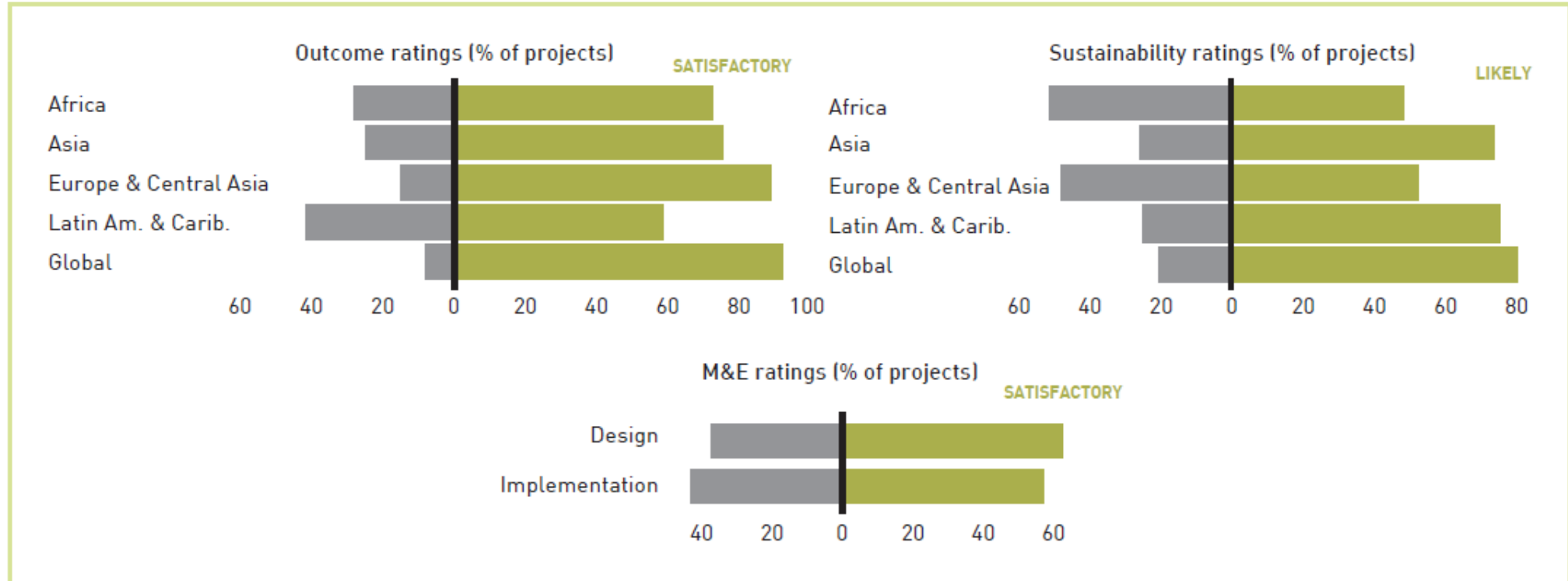
Lag time of  
4.5 to 5.5 years for  
impacts to be  
observed

Access to electricity  
associated with higher  
impact

Higher impact observed  
in areas with poor initial  
conditions

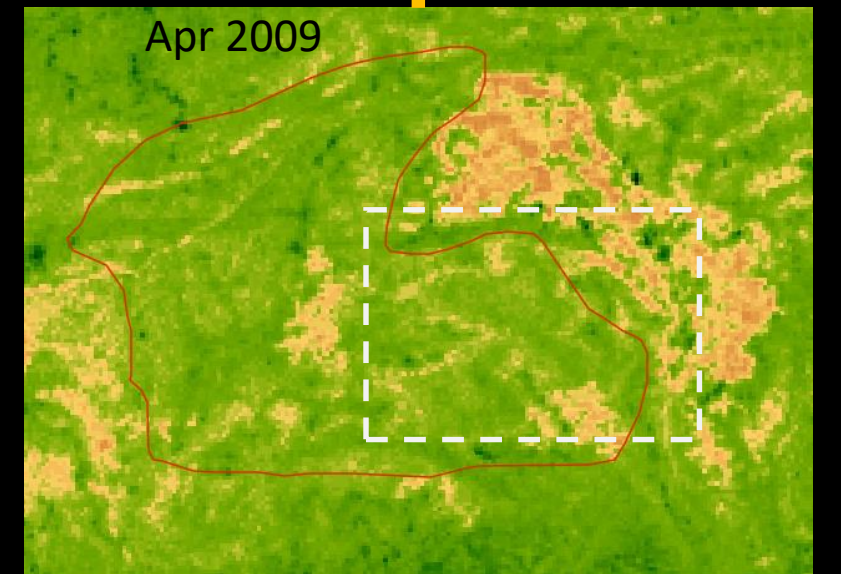
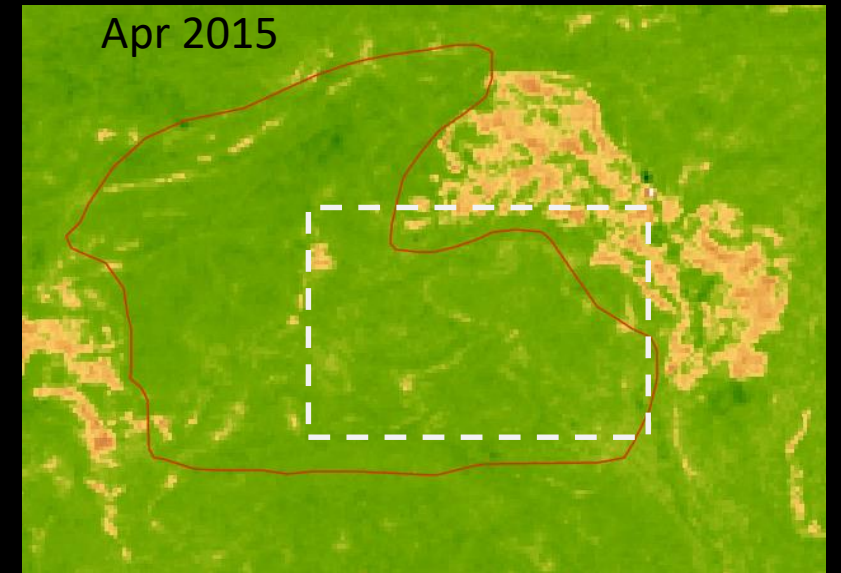
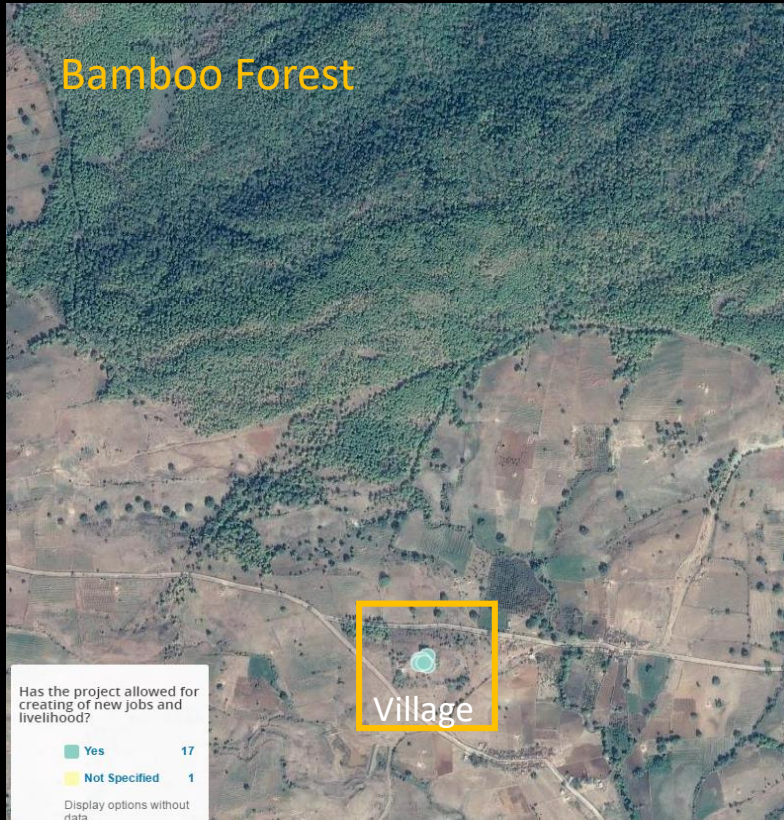


# Results: Performance



# INDIA CASE STUDY

## Combat land degradation in Madhya Pradesh



## LAND DEGRADATION

# Conclusion

Limited focus on  
**broader issues**  
e.g., land tenure

Shift towards  
land degradation  
**neutrality**

**Monitoring &  
evaluation** system  
not tracking long-  
term outcomes

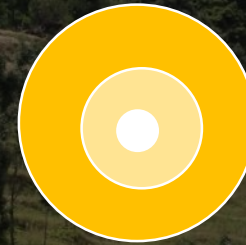


## LAND DEGRADATION

# Recommendations



Assess climate and other risks



Consider complex contextual factors within an integrated approach framework



Implement land degradation neutrality with an appropriate mix of interventions



Strengthen M&E tools, knowledge dissemination

