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


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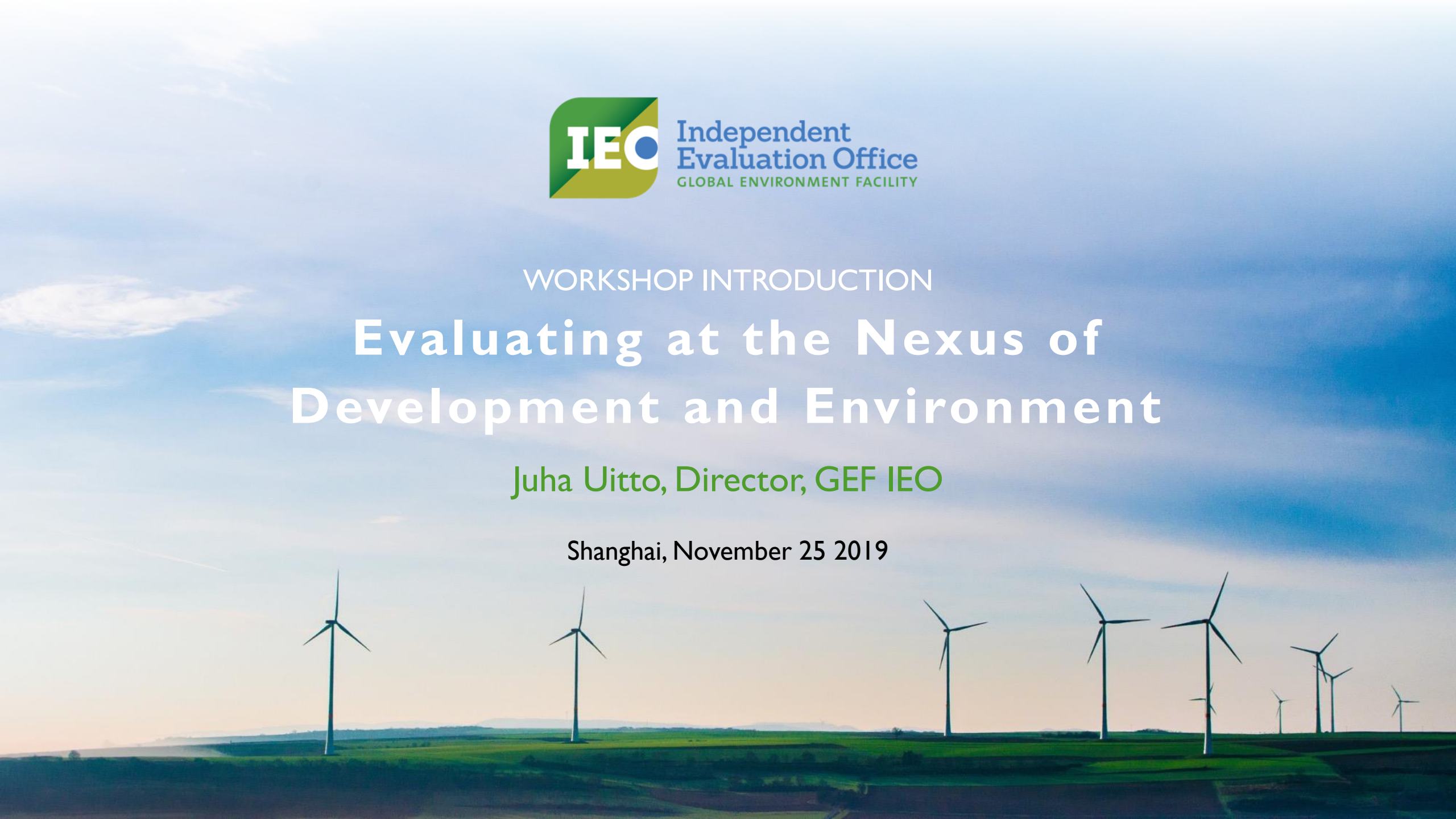

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GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

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

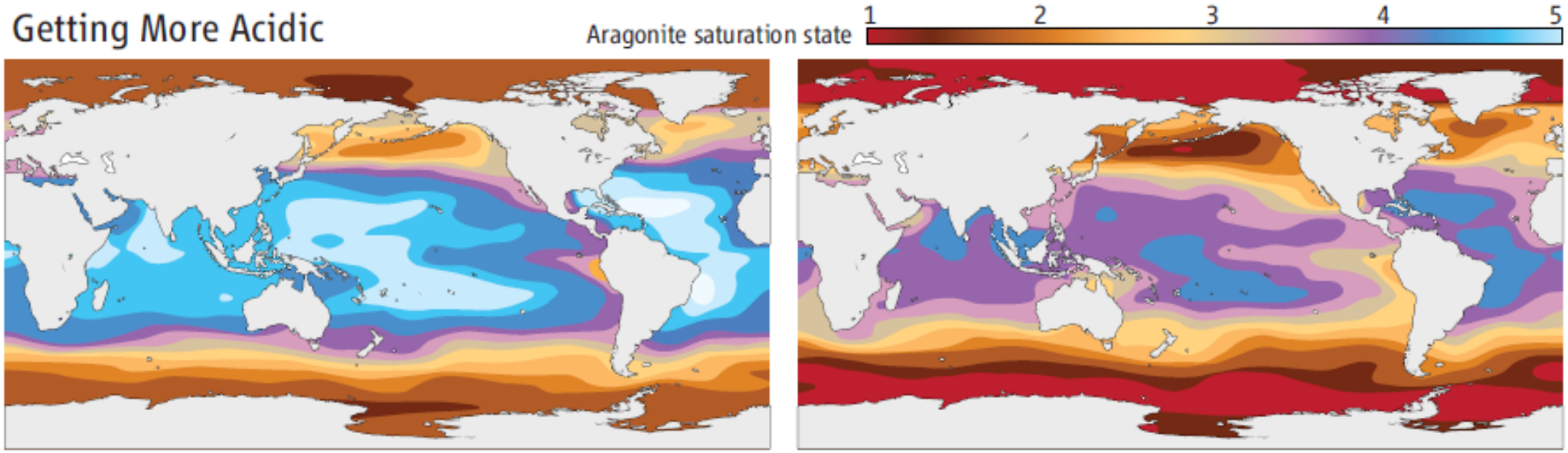
Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services 2019

Global Chemicals Outlook II: From Legacies to Innovative Solutions 2019

IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land 2019

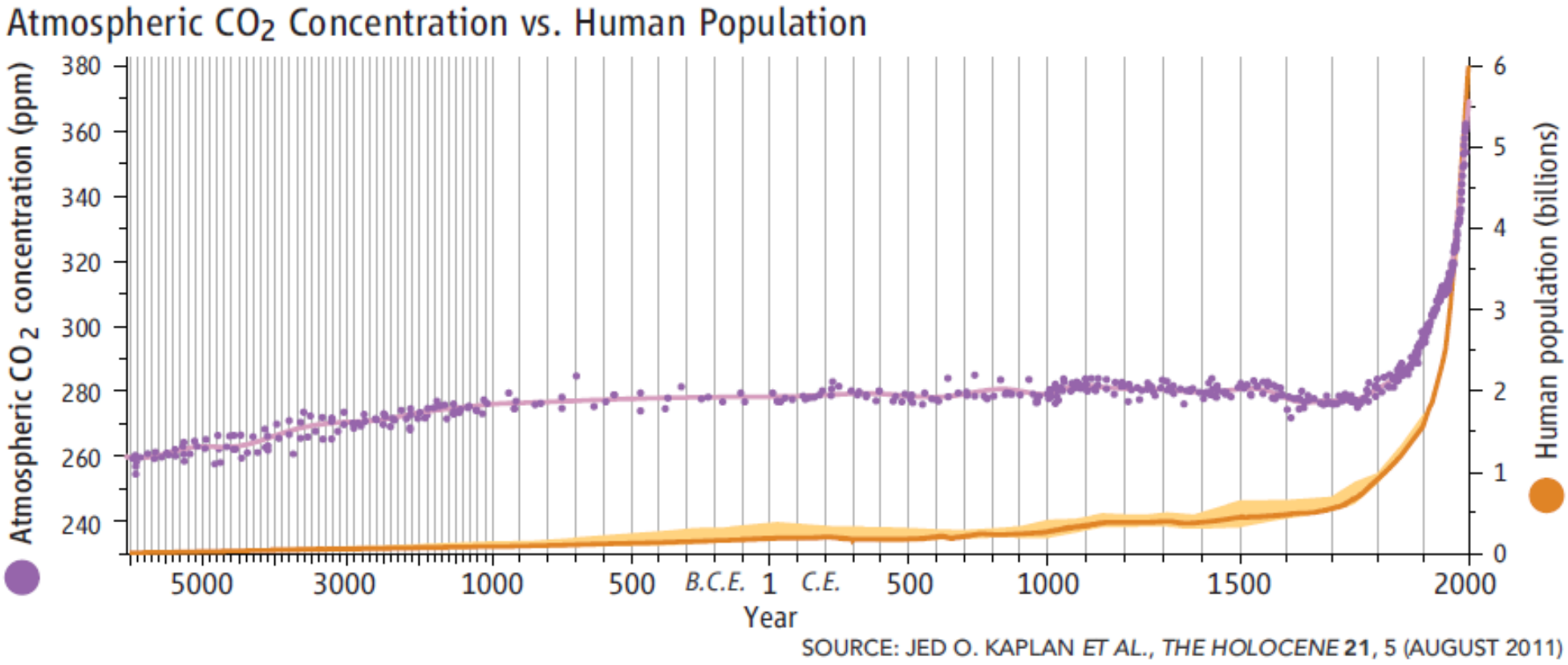
Global Commission on Adaptation: Adapt Now! Report 2019

Transgressing safe boundaries



Source: Steffen et al. 2015

Transgressing safe boundaries



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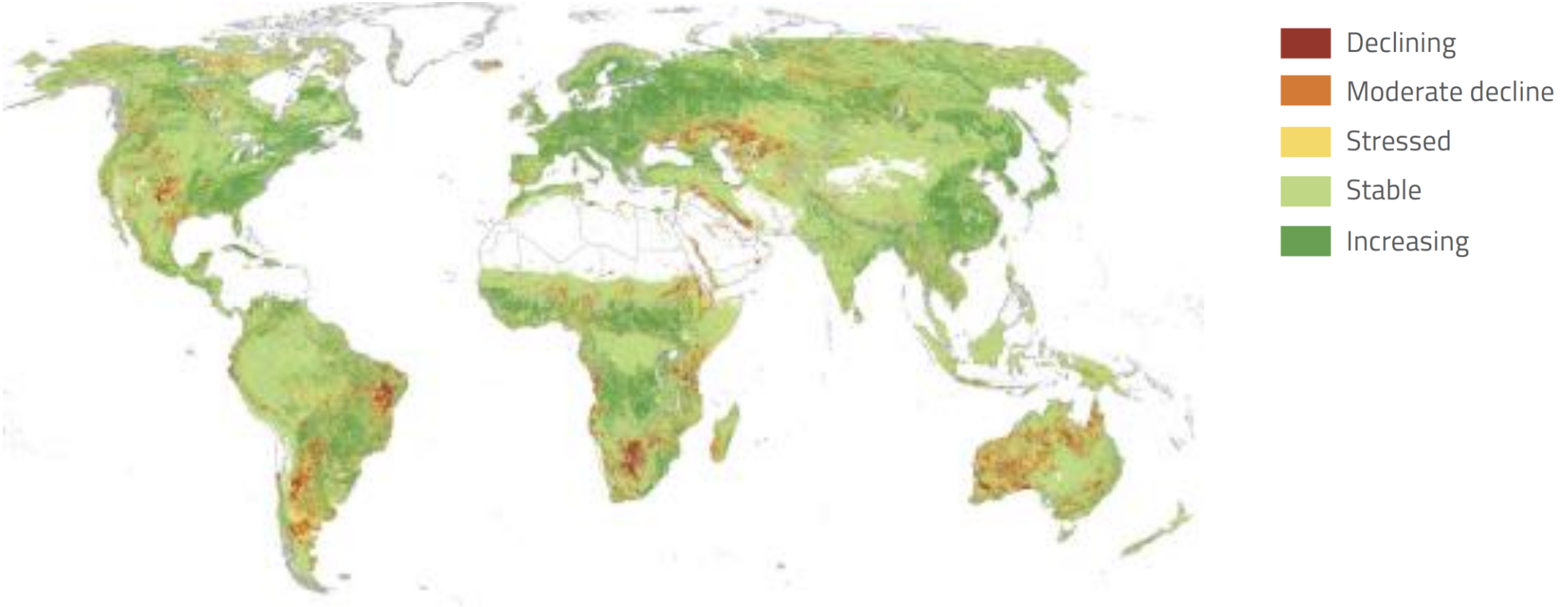

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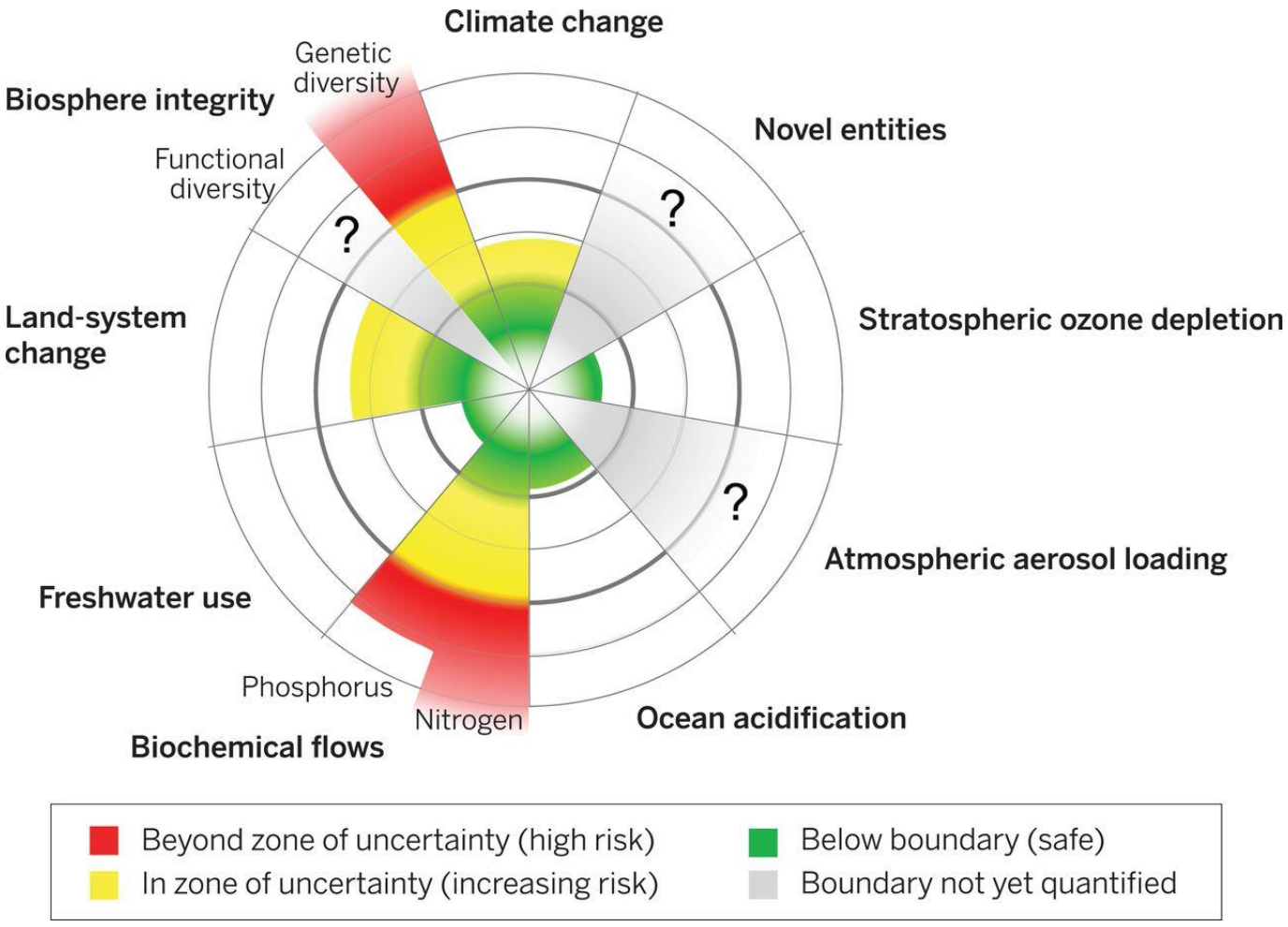


Source: Steffen et al. 2015

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

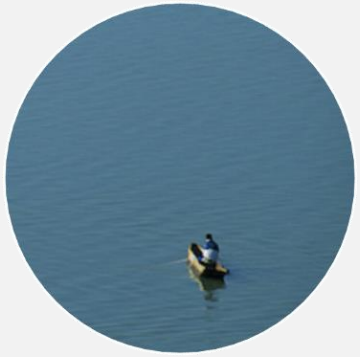
Stockholm Convention on persistent organic pollutants (POPs)

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNEP MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

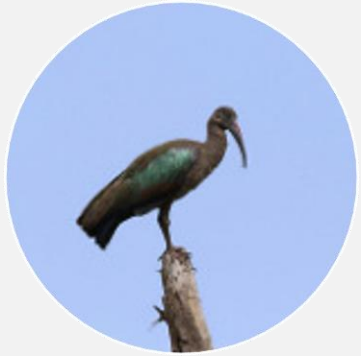
Thematic areas

International waters



Land degradation

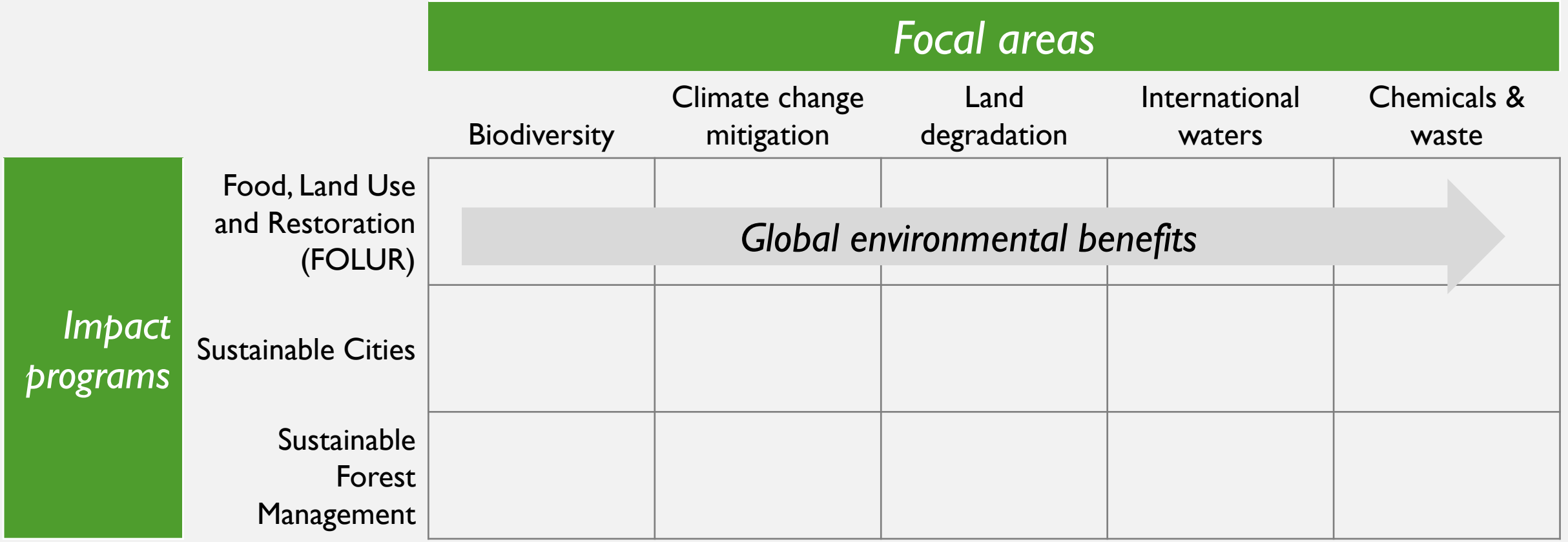
Biodiversity



Chemical and waste

Climate change

Thematic areas (contd.)

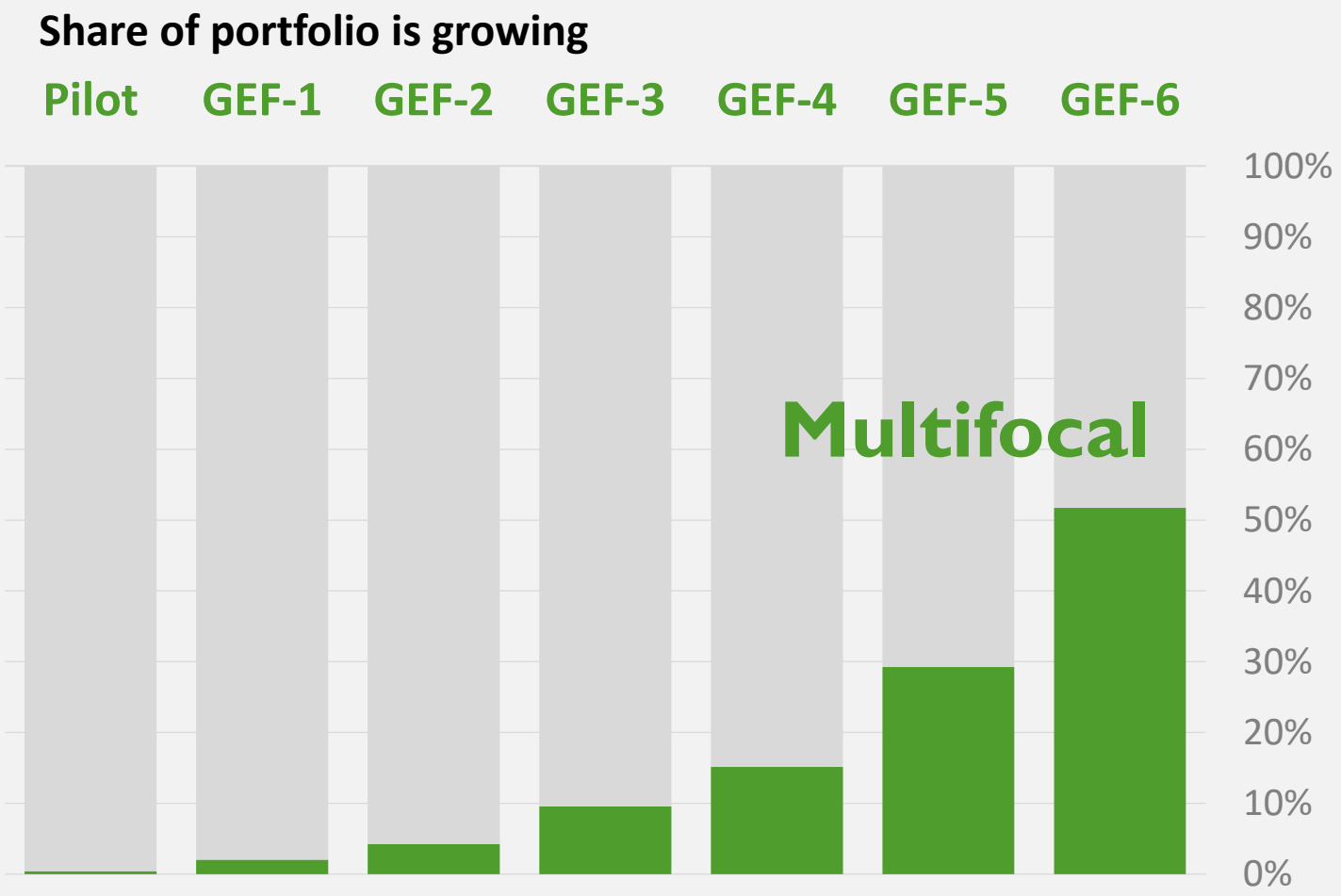


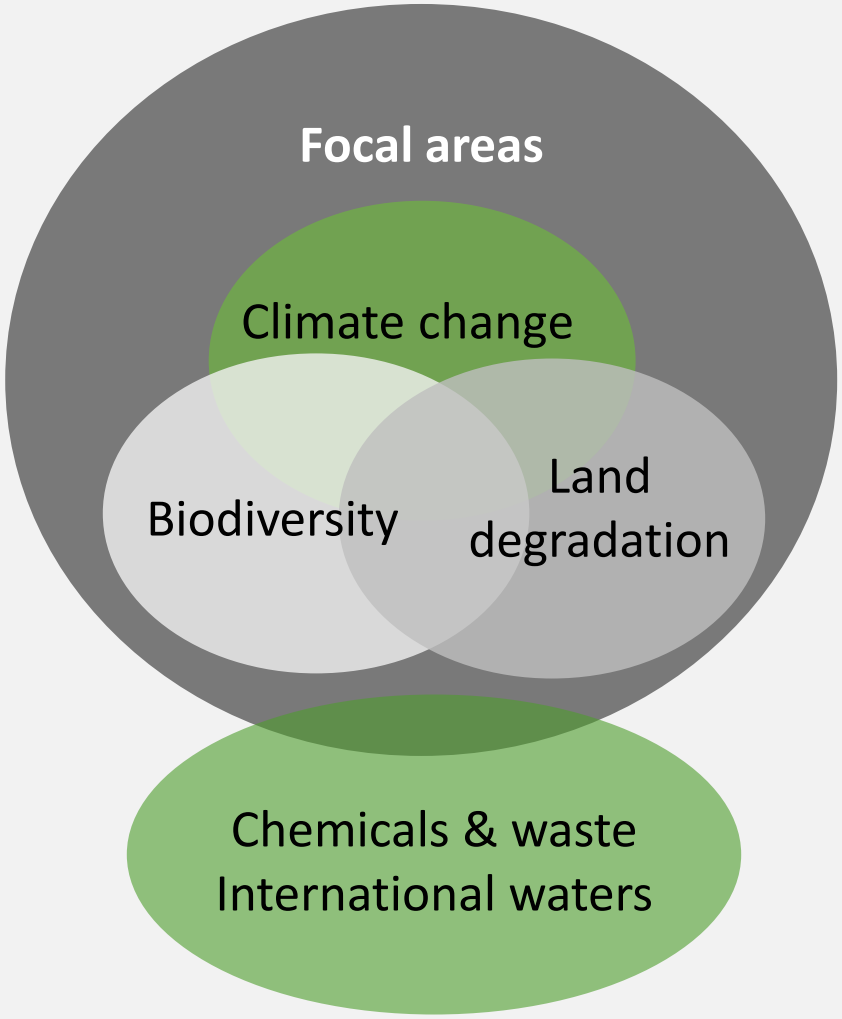
What do we mean by integration?

Integration across environmental domains

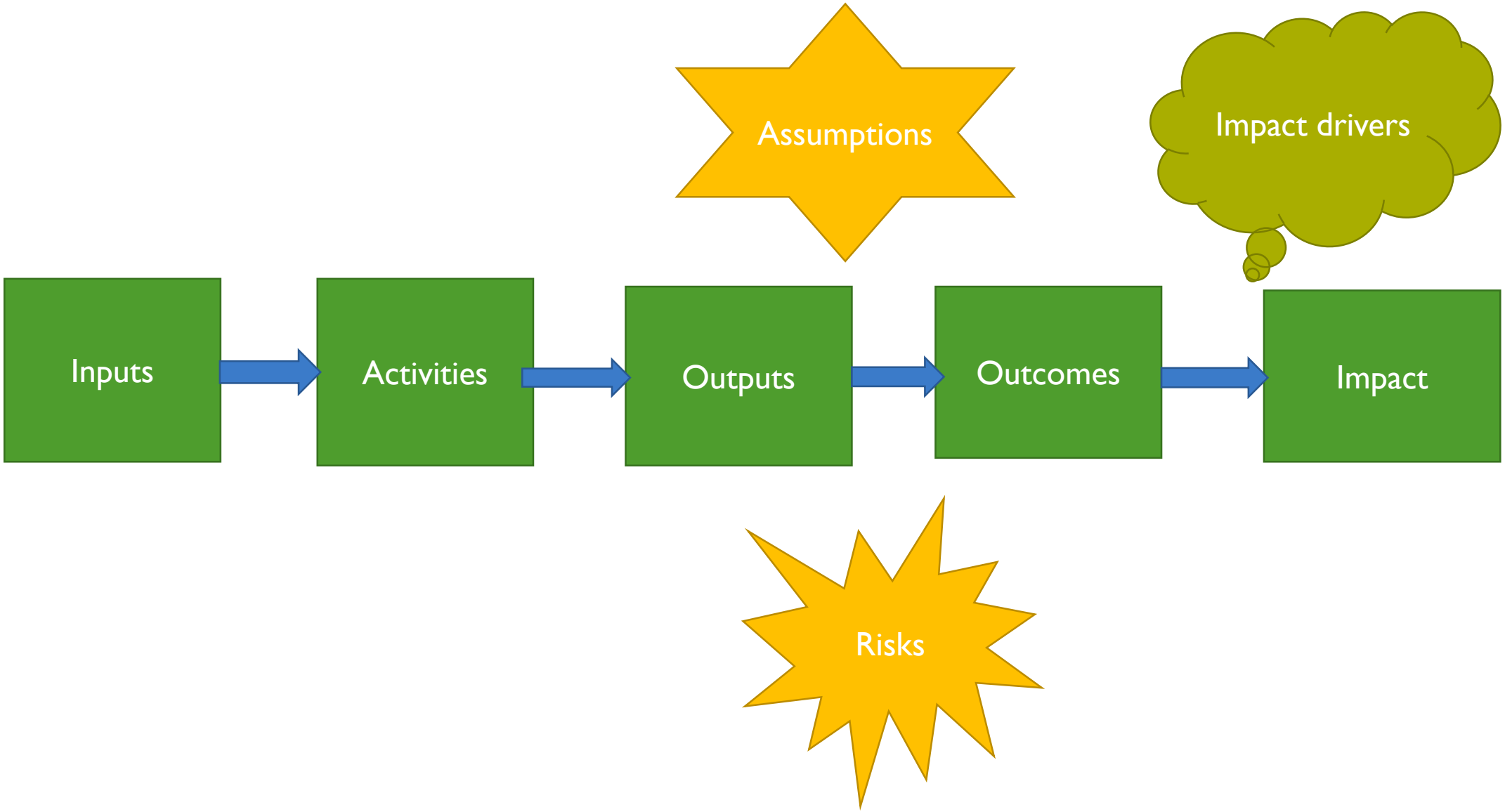
Integration between natural and human systems: *environmental, social, economic*

Towards more integration

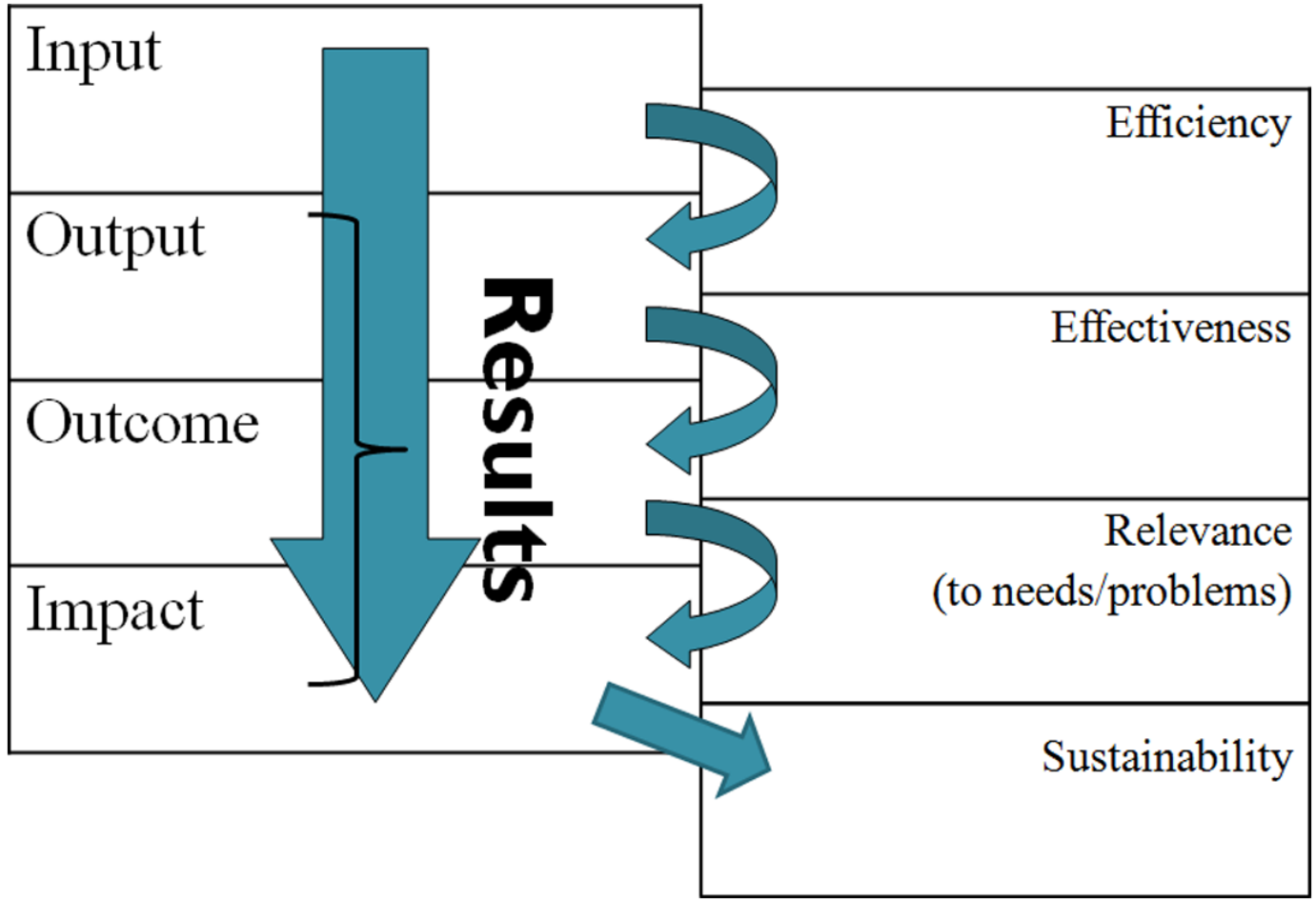




Generic Theory of Change



Evaluation criteria



After van den Berg 2011

Challenges for evaluation at the nexus

Differing geographies

Data and measurements

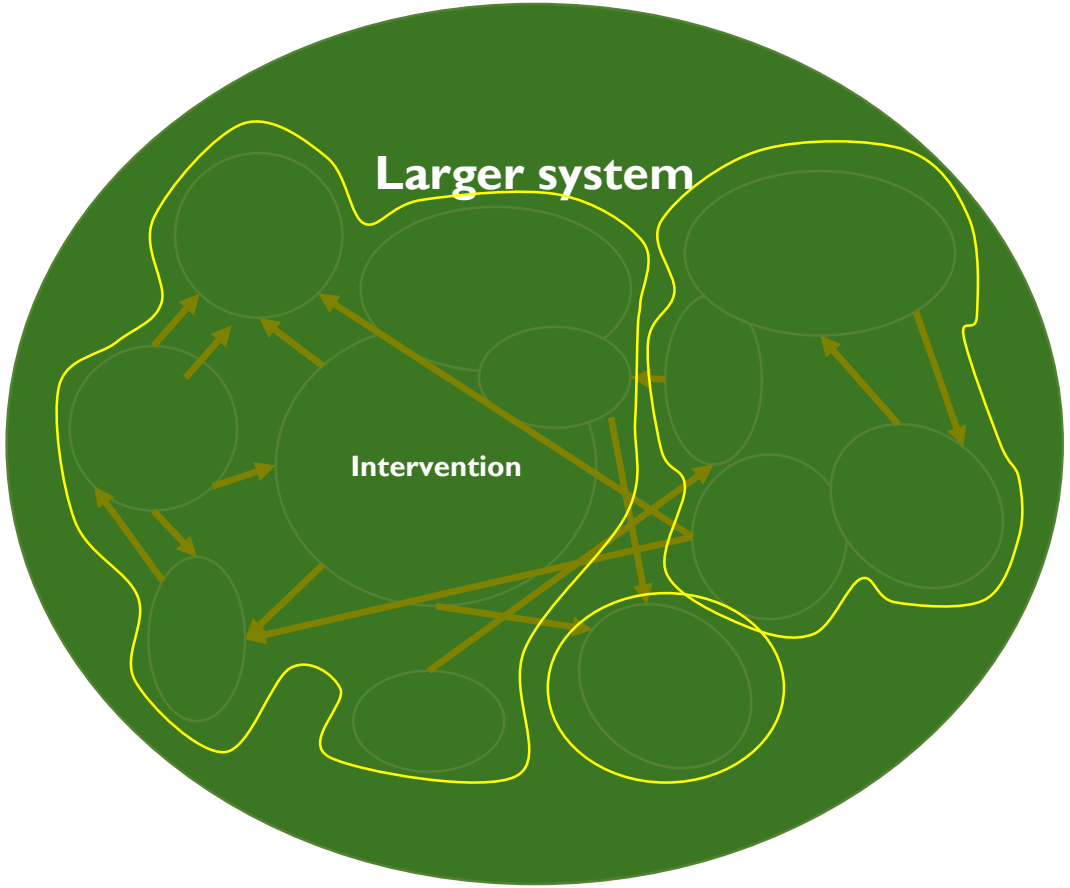
Time scales

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

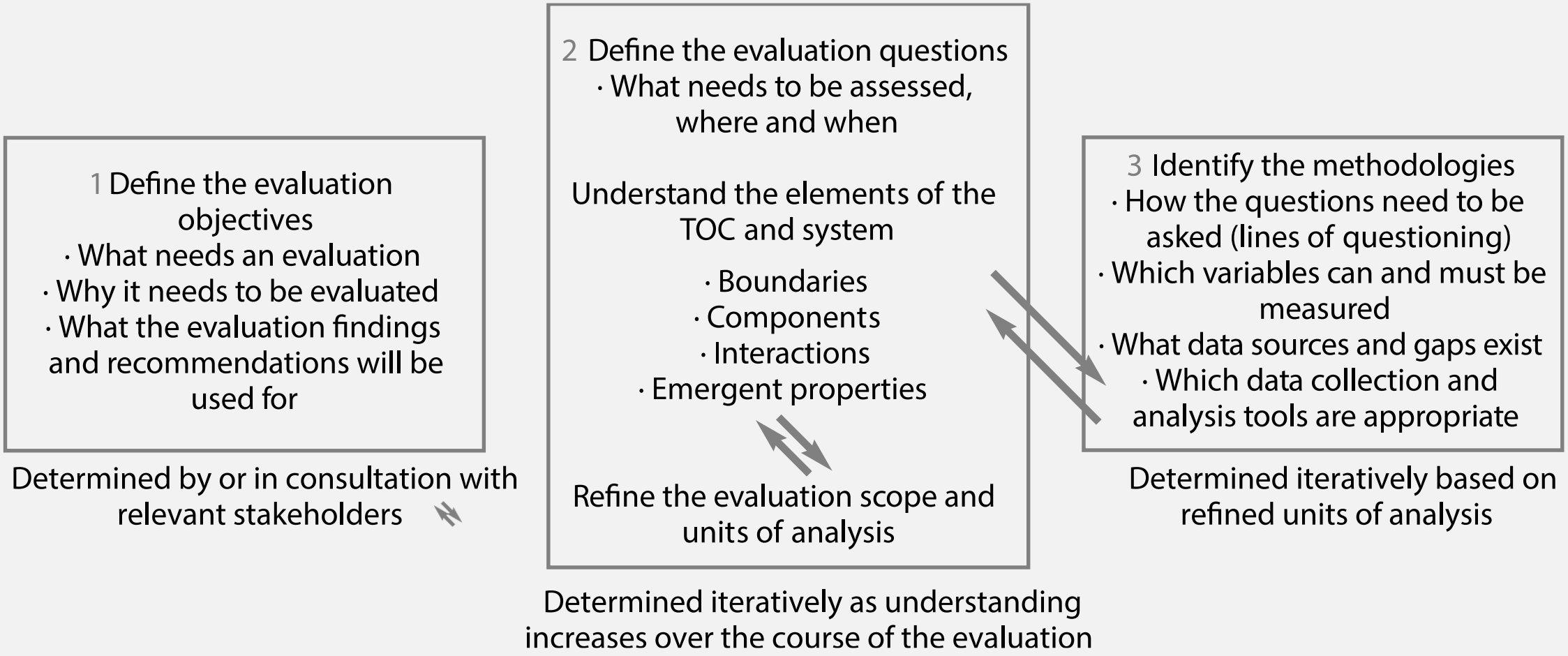


Attribution vs. Contribution

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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