Evaluation of GEF Land degradation Focal Area

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Key Questions

- Relevance of the intervention- is it in the right context?
- Is it effective -Trends in performance and impacts
- Factors associated with impact
- Sustainable-Likelihood of sustaining the benefits
- Does the intervention deliver value for money?

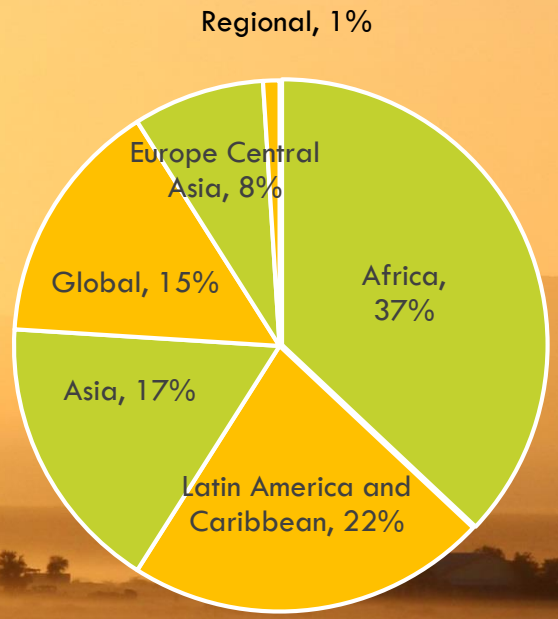
LAND DEGRADATION

Portfolio

$3.4 billion (co-financing 1:6.7)

618 projects with an LD component (58% multifocal)

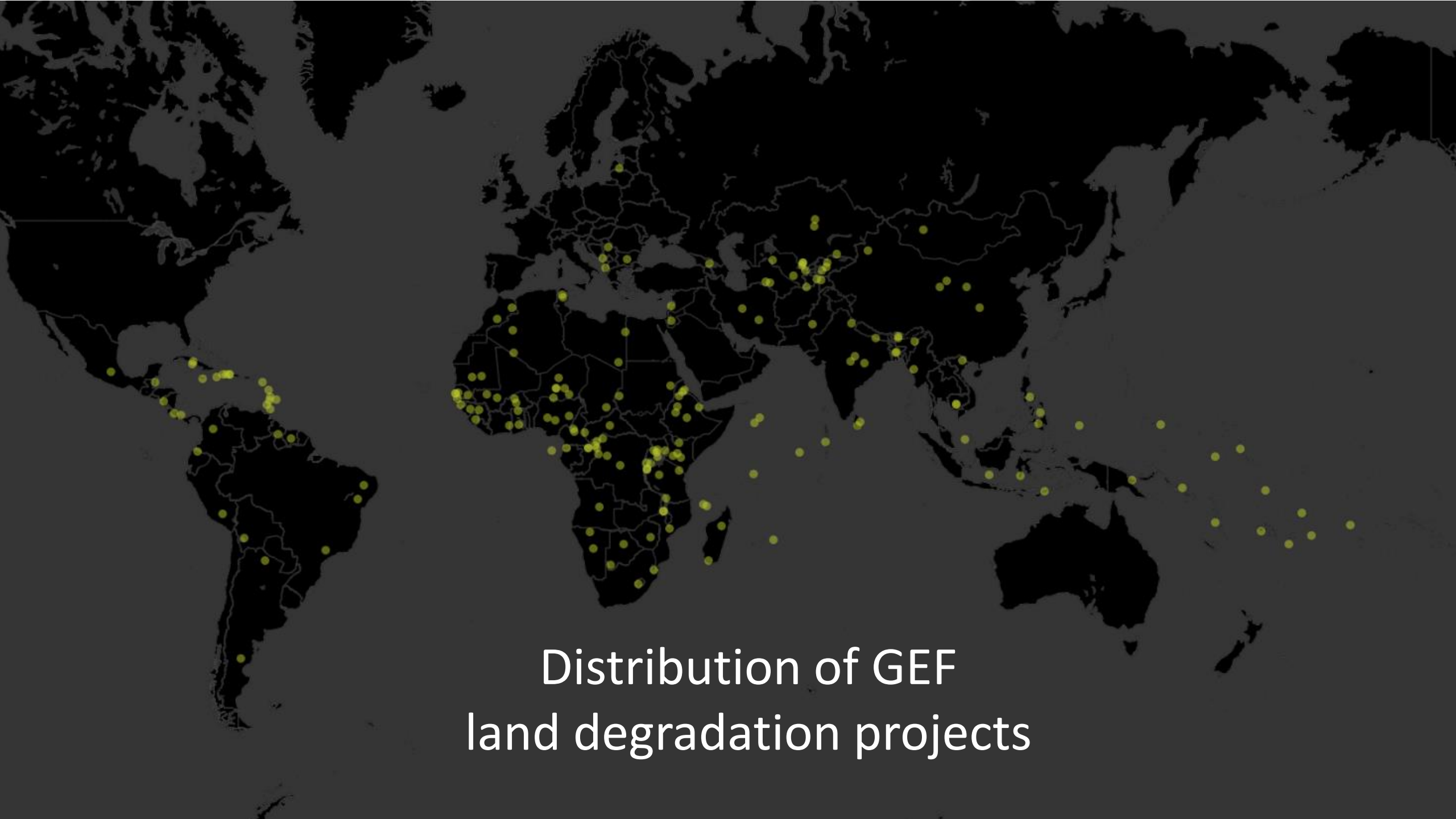
Supports UNCCD strategic priority (LDN) and SDG 15.3



Proportional effort in Africa

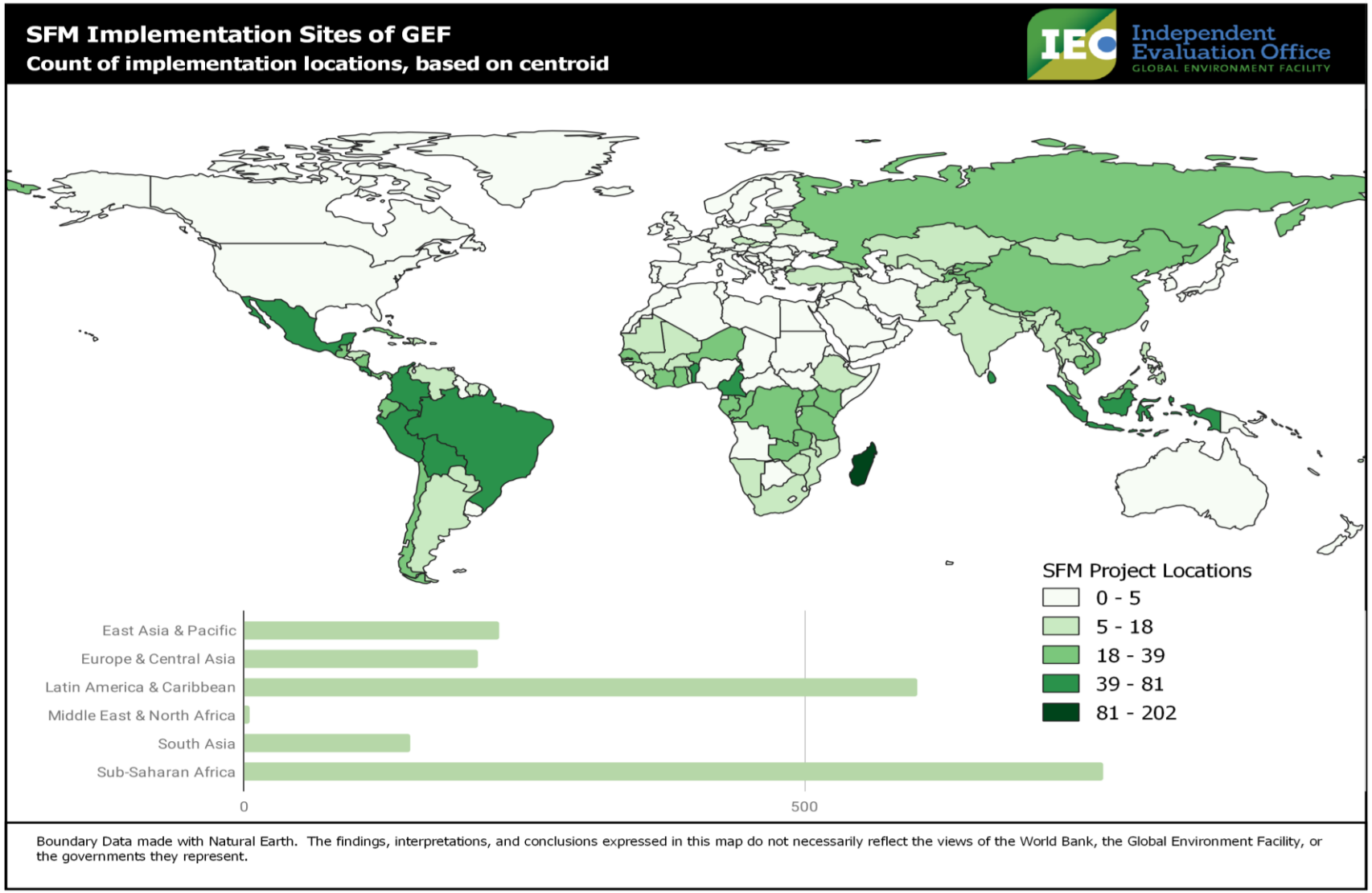
Shift towards integrated landscapes

Addresses the local socioeconomic drivers



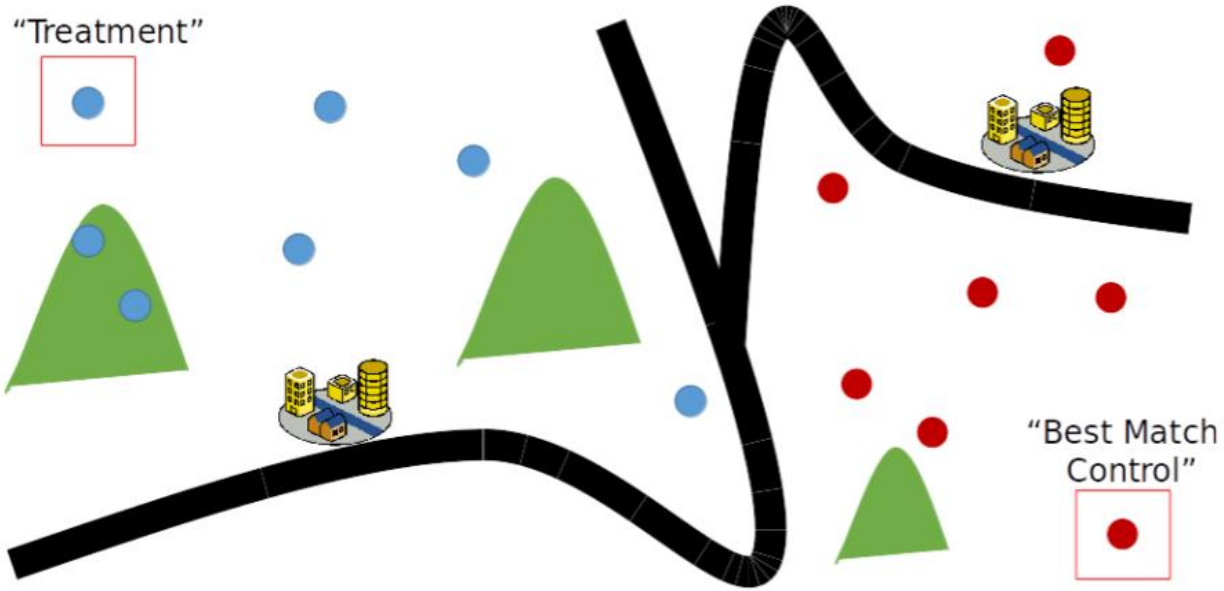
Distribution of GEF
land degradation projects

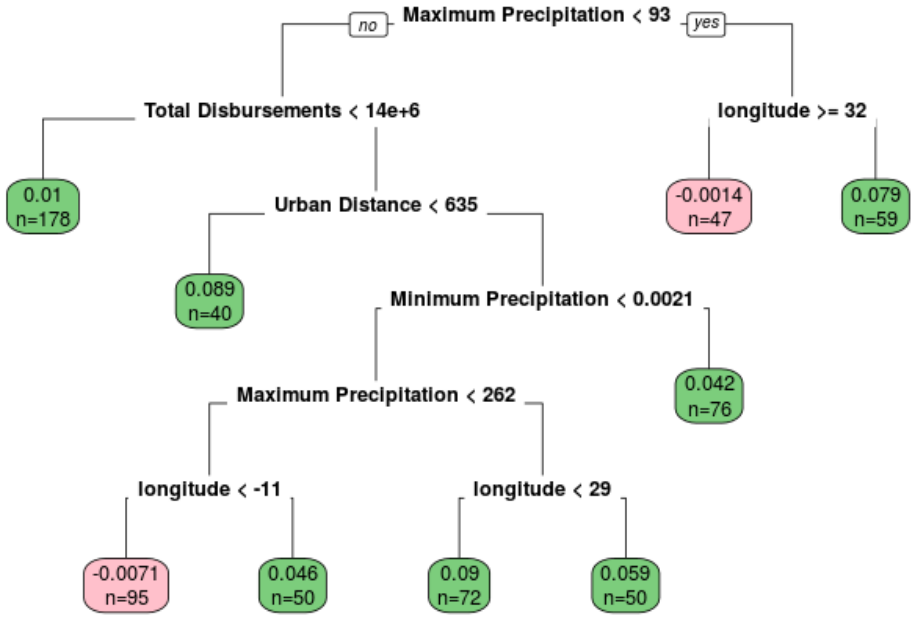
Sustainable Forest Management: Portfolio



Impact Assessment
Quasi-experimental method

Factors Associated
Machine learning and causal tree





Impact and Value for money

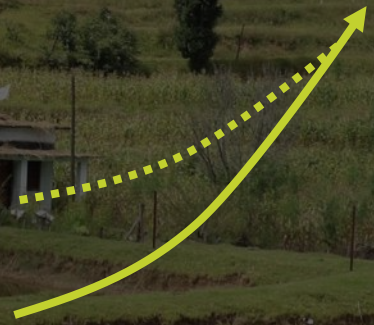
LD
$1:1.08

SFM
$1:1.17

73%
Satisfactory

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

\+

Vegetation productivity

\−

forest loss and land fragmentation

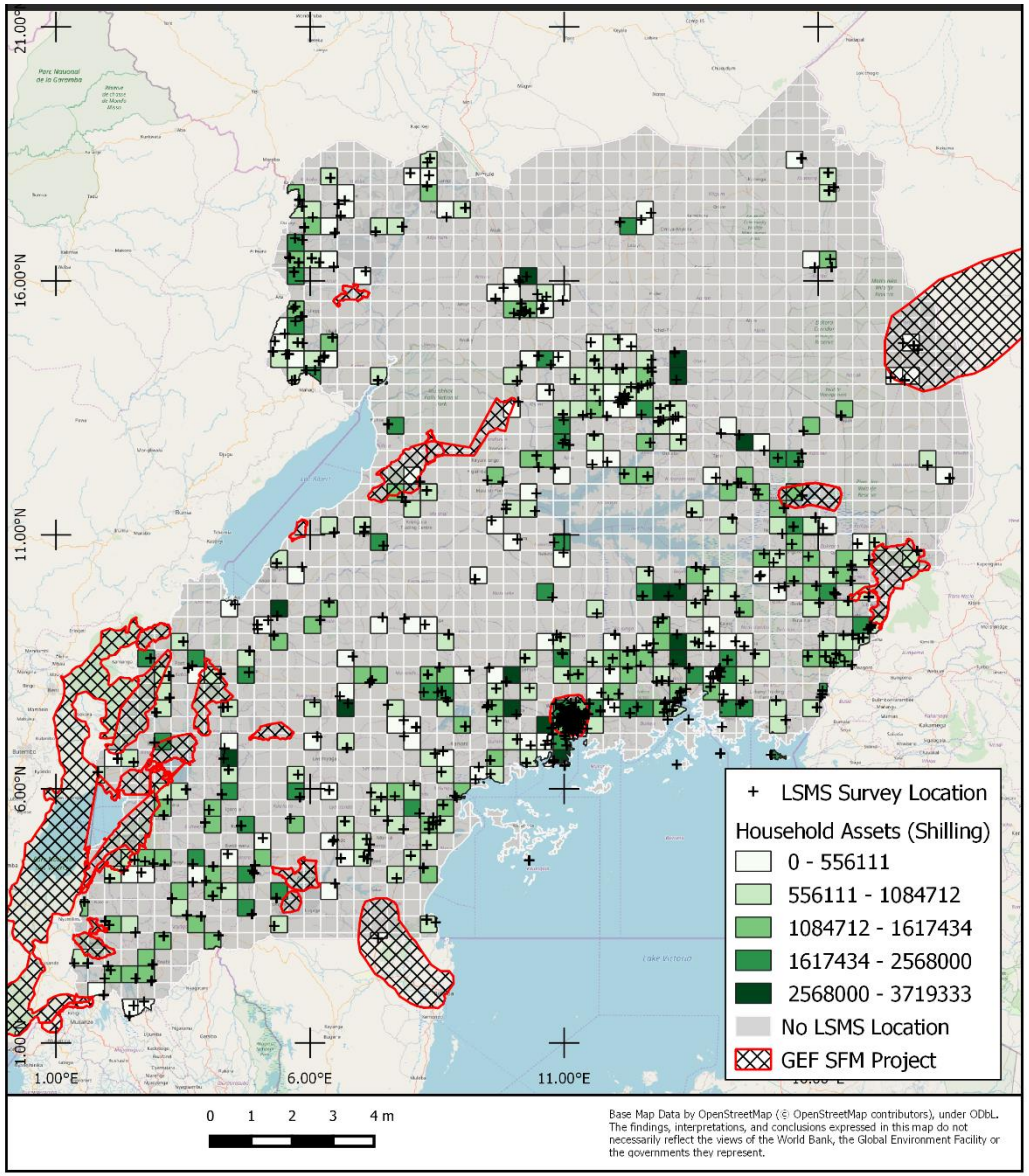
SFM:Value For Money

Key Findings : Socioeconomic Co-benefits

- Neutral to slightly positive impact of GEF interventions at the portfolio level on socioeconomic benefits as proxied by nighttime lights

- In Uganda households in proximity to GEF SFM interventions have approximately **$310 USD** more in **Household Assets** as compared to households further away.

Positive Correlation with GEF, not causation



A transformative Land Degradation Program

Case Study: Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management Partnership PROGRAM (SLEM), India

What Worked: Relevance

- Adopted a multipronged and tailored approach – multifocal, multiple agencies, and diverse context, and issues
- Promoted participatory and inclusive approaches to decision making

SLEM-MP focused on rehabilitation of degraded bamboo forests

SLEM-U targeted 20 micro watersheds while working with Van Panchayats

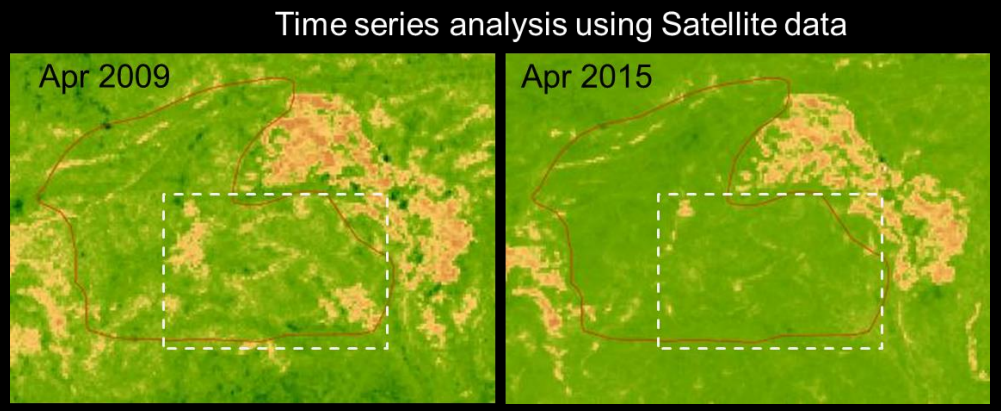
SLEM- N sustainable shifting cultivation through participatory planning

A transformative Land Degradation Program

Case Study: Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management Partnership PROGRAM (SLEM), India

What Worked: Effectiveness, Impact and Sustainability

- **Delivered multiple environmental and social benefits**
- **Promoted sustainability and scaling-up of good practices**



SLEM-MP helped improve vegetation cover; vegetation index (NDVI) increase by 10% 2009-15; significant improvement inside project area than outside.

SLEM-U helped reduce fire-affected areas by 61 percent

SLEM -Provided livelihood benefits, supported land rights and tenure reforms, and gender equality

A transformative Land Degradation Program

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Opportunities for Improvement

- Encourage strong government ownership at multiple administrative levels
- Requires private sector involvement, and market transformation for sustaining positive impacts
- Consider climate risks in design and management of land degradation initiatives
- Systematic monitoring of results to inform adaptive change and learning

Video on SLEM Nagaland Projects in India

Conclusion

current conceptualizations constrain the combat against underlying drivers

Shift towards land degradation **neutrality**

Inadequate **monitoring & evaluation** system

GEF-7 responds to recommendations.....

GEF-7 strategy focuses on underlying drivers socio-economic benefits, conflict, tenure security

Support to LDN and SDG 15.3, including LDN Target Setting Programme(TSP)

Spatial data and new core indicators introduced


Thank you
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