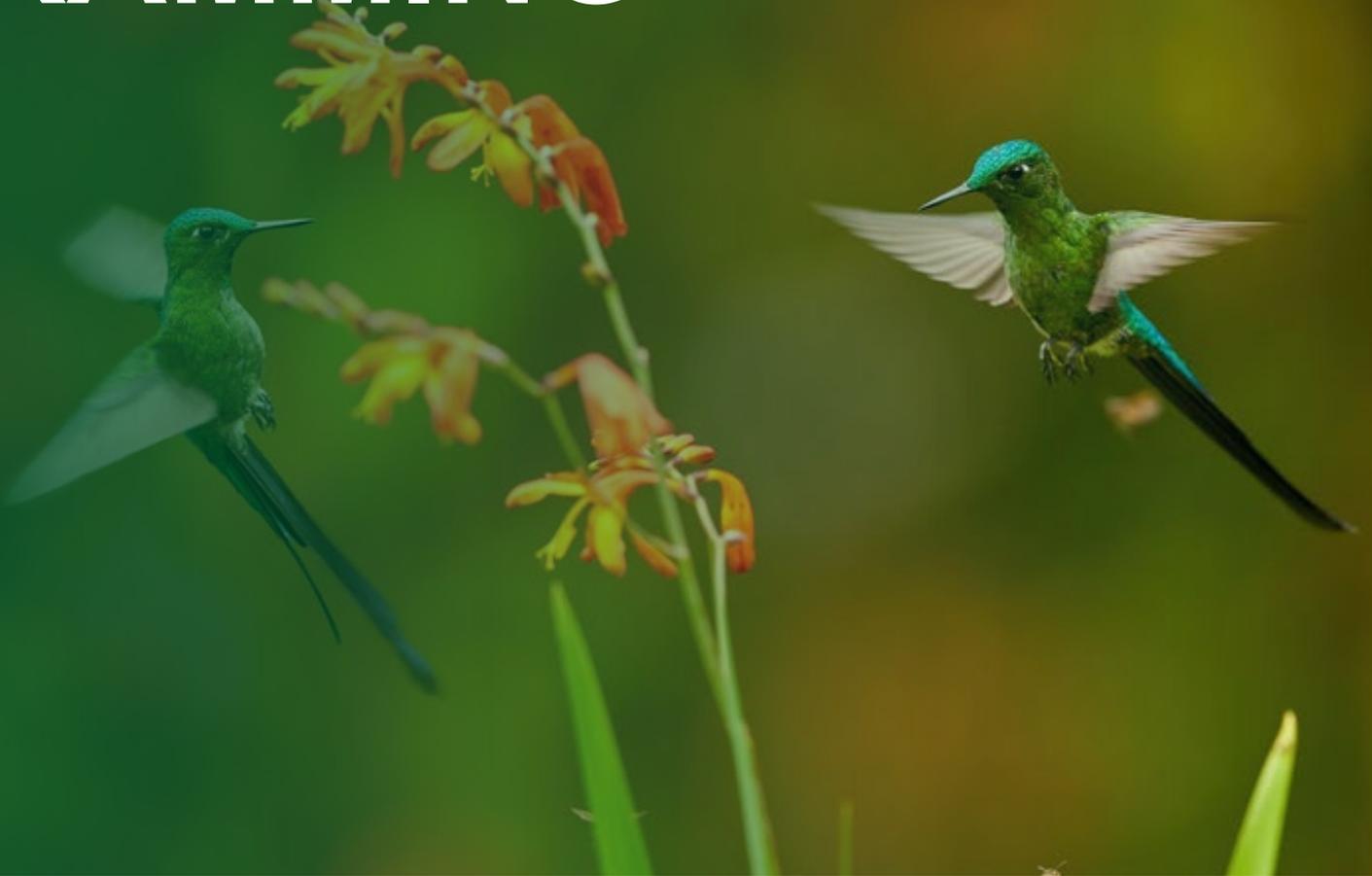




GEF-9 PROGRAMMING DIRECTIONS

First Replenishment Meeting

May 20, 2025



Fred Boltz, PhD
Manager, Programming Division



THE ROAD TO 2030

2030

GEF-7

GEF-8

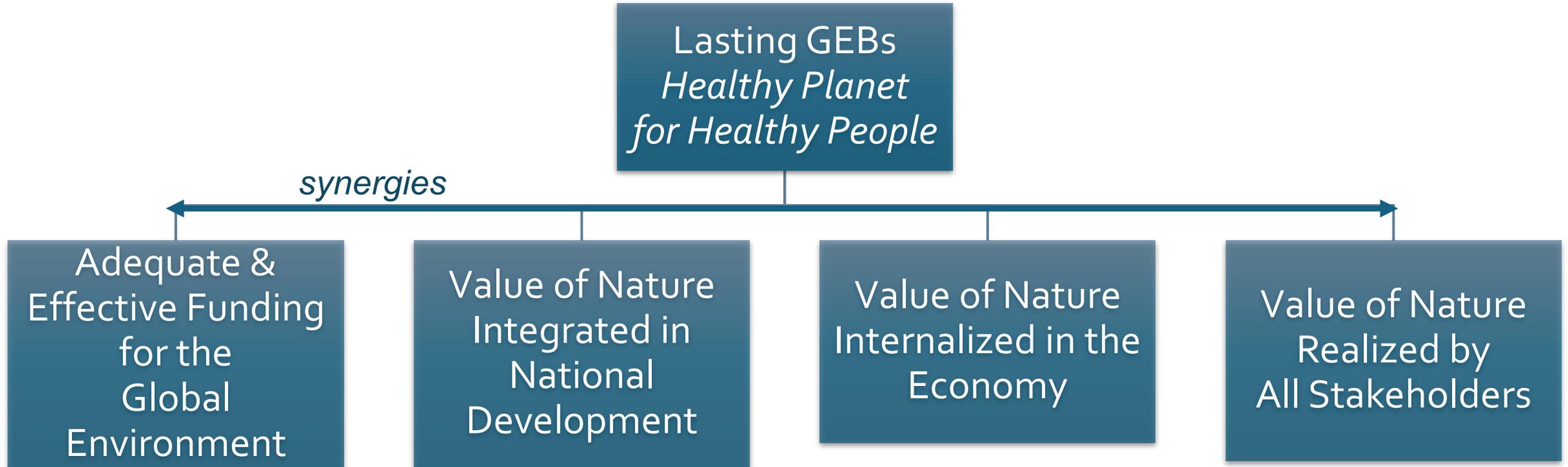
GEF-9

***Global Environmental and Sustainable Development Goals
2030 target date***

GEF's 2030-focused, adaptive strategy over 3 cycles addresses these pivotal goals



GEF-9 Goal & Outcome pathways



Cross-cutting Themes framing GEF-9

GEF Family of Funds

- GEF Family of Funds offer flexible, synergistic financing for country needs

Innovation and Risk

- Operationalize innovative solutions through GEF-9 high-risk appetite for impact and leverage

Whole of Government and Policy Coherence

- Mainstream policy coherence into Programming and country portfolio planning

Blended Finance and Private Sector engagement

- Raise ambitions for increased use of non-grant instruments, particularly with MDBs and the Private Sector

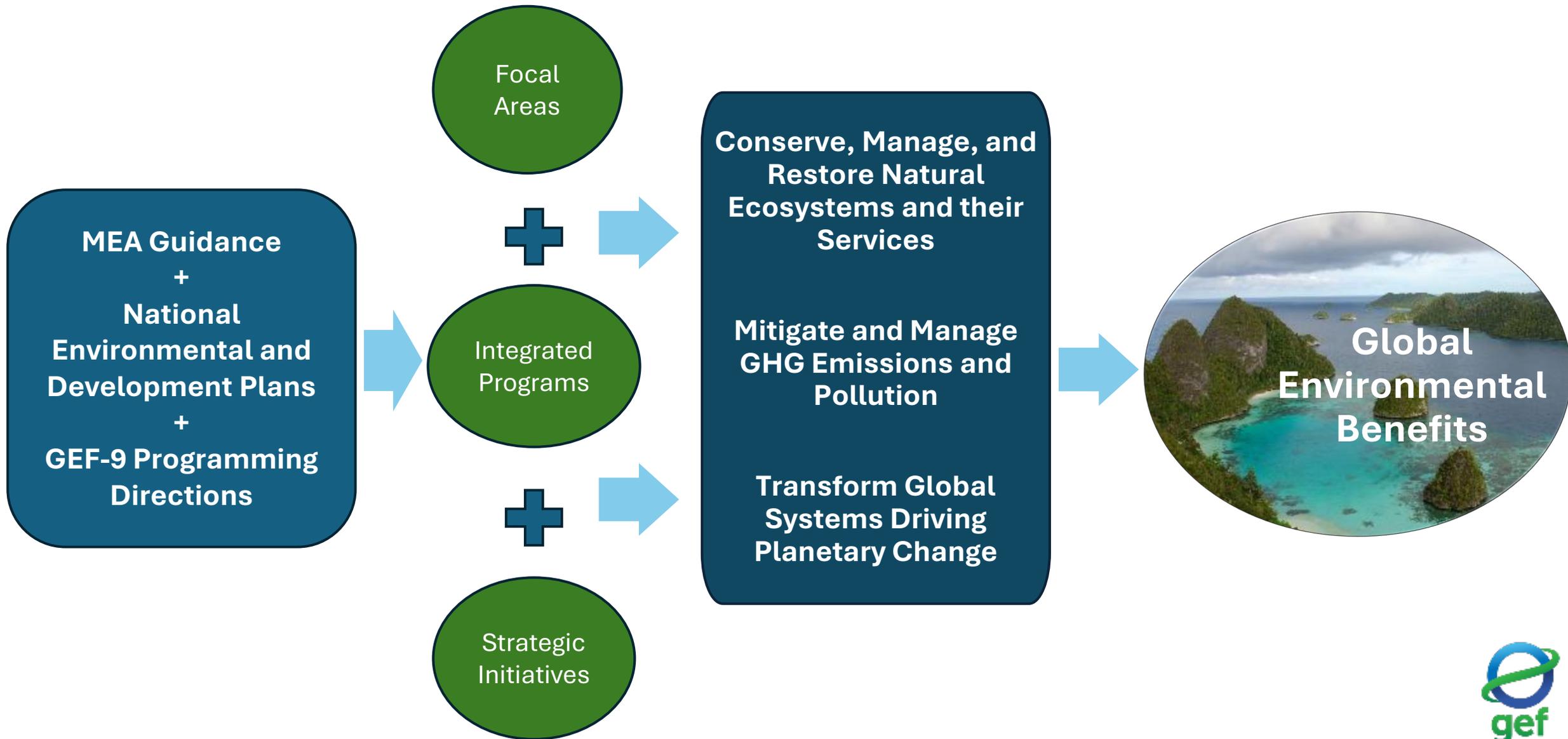
Whole of Society

- 10% of GEF-9 resources to support CSOs, Indigenous Peoples, women and youth

Knowledge and Learning

- Generation and application of knowledge from GEF projects and programs in adaptive management

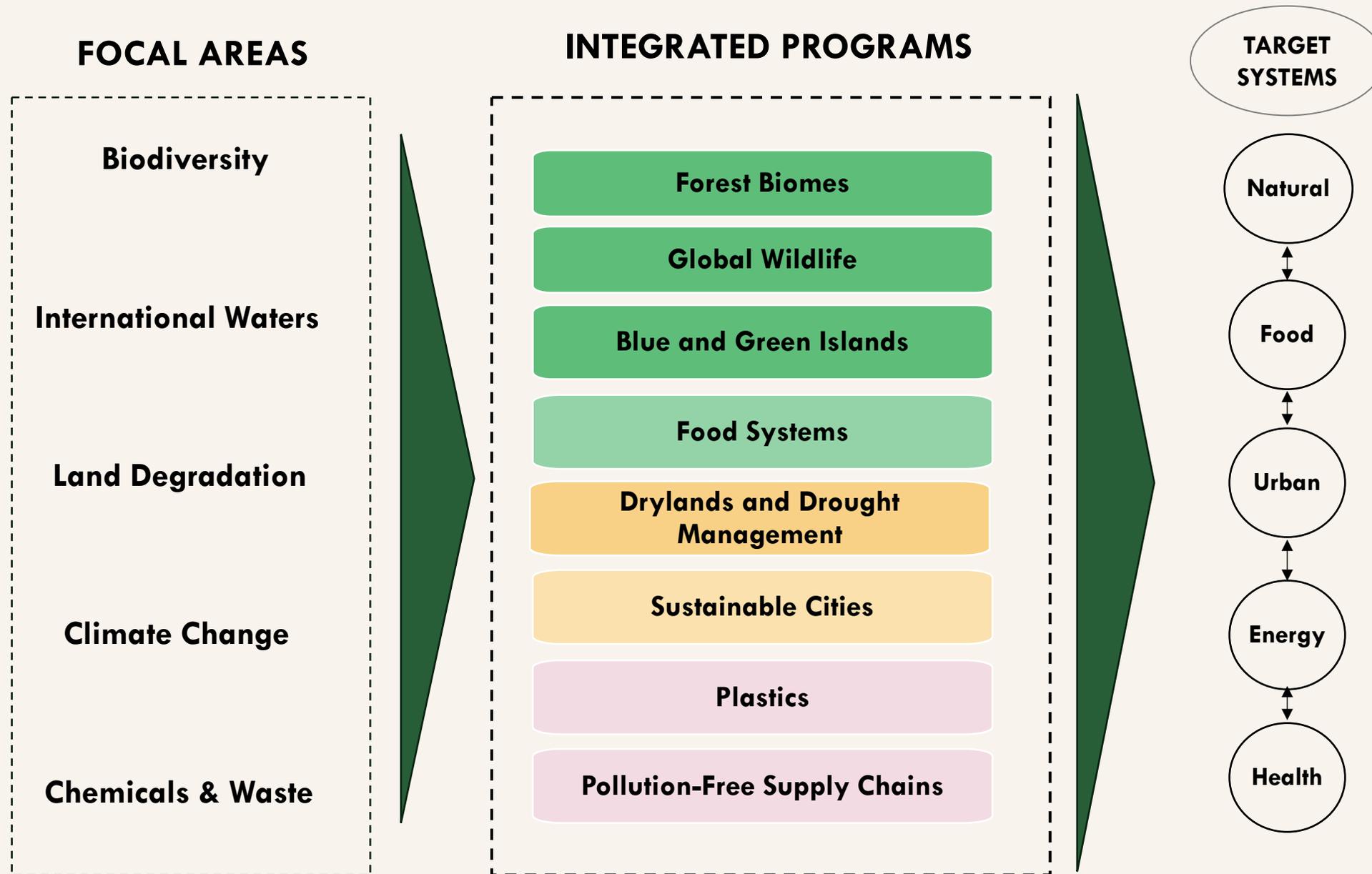
GEF Trust Fund Programming Pathways



Integrated Programs



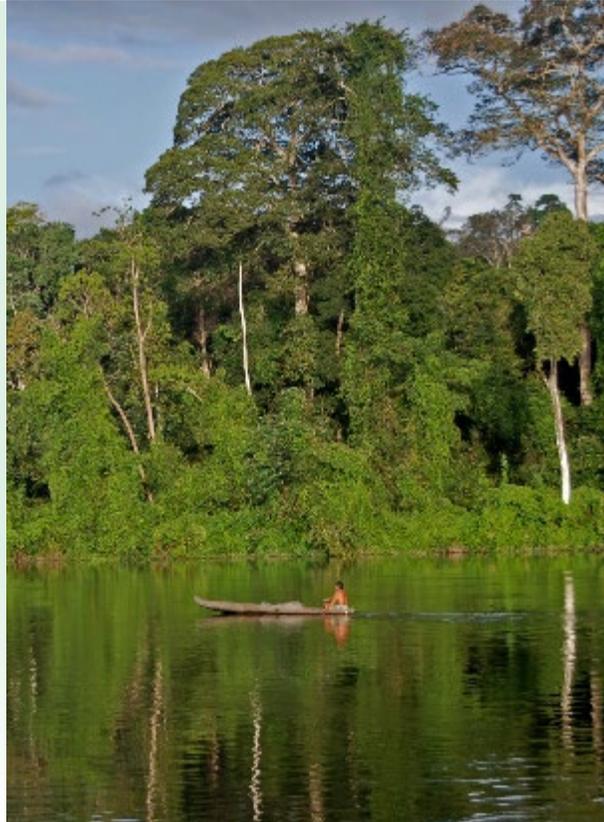
GEF-9 Integrated Programs



Critical Forest Biomes

Conserve globally critical tropical forest biomes and their environmental services

- **Continuity** in Amazon, Congo, Guinean Forests, MesoAmerica, Southeast Asia
- Mainstream GEF-8 IP priorities for **ecosystem restoration and infrastructure**
- Increased **IPLC engagement** and support



Global Wildlife for Development

Conserve wildlife and wildlife landscapes and foster human-wildlife coexistence.

- **Policy coherence** - wildlife positive incentives
- Application and scaling of **technology and innovation**
- **Transboundary** and multi-country collaboration on trade, conflict, and ecological connectivity

Blue and Green Islands

Improve terrestrial and marine ecosystem health through a source-to-sea approach

- **Source-to-sea** integrated land, fresh water and ocean management
- Increased **marine ecosystems** emphasis
- **Domestic financing** (public and private)



Sustainable Cities

Promote nature positive urban development

- Integrate GEF-8 **infrastructure and net zero nature positive** IP priorities
- Support **beyond city limits** through a regional approach
- **Policy coherence and domestic financing**

Food Systems

Drylands and Drought Management

Scale-up transformational changes towards nature-positive food systems

- **Regenerative** agriculture
- **Integrated** crop and livestock/ aquaculture systems
- **Private sector partnership** and leveraged financing



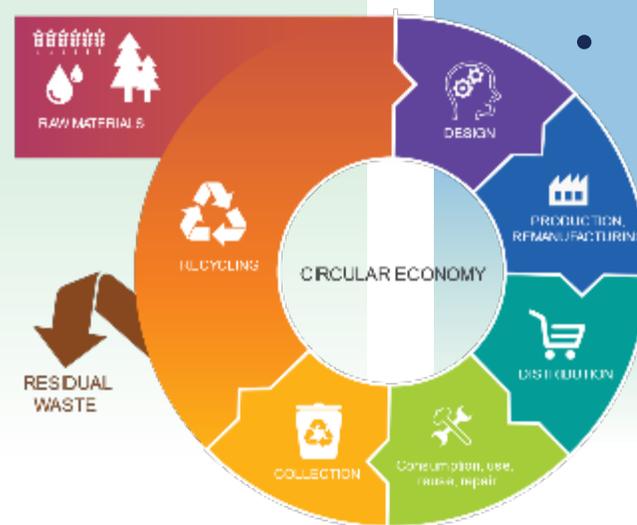
Manage drought and build drylands resilience

- **Effective drought resilience policies**
- **Drought-smart land management**
- **Sustainable water and groundwater management**

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution

Accelerate the circular economy of plastics and prevent plastic pollution

- **Beyond food and beverage** to all major plastic categories
- **Circular economy** approach to address all aspects of the plastics supply chain
- **Private sector** partnership



Pollution-Free Supply Chains

Prevent pollution in global supply chains and domestic manufacturing

- **Phase out** hazardous chemicals (*POPs, heavy metals, and PFAS*)
- Green chemistry and **advanced technologies**
- **Private sector** and blended finance

Focal Areas



Biodiversity

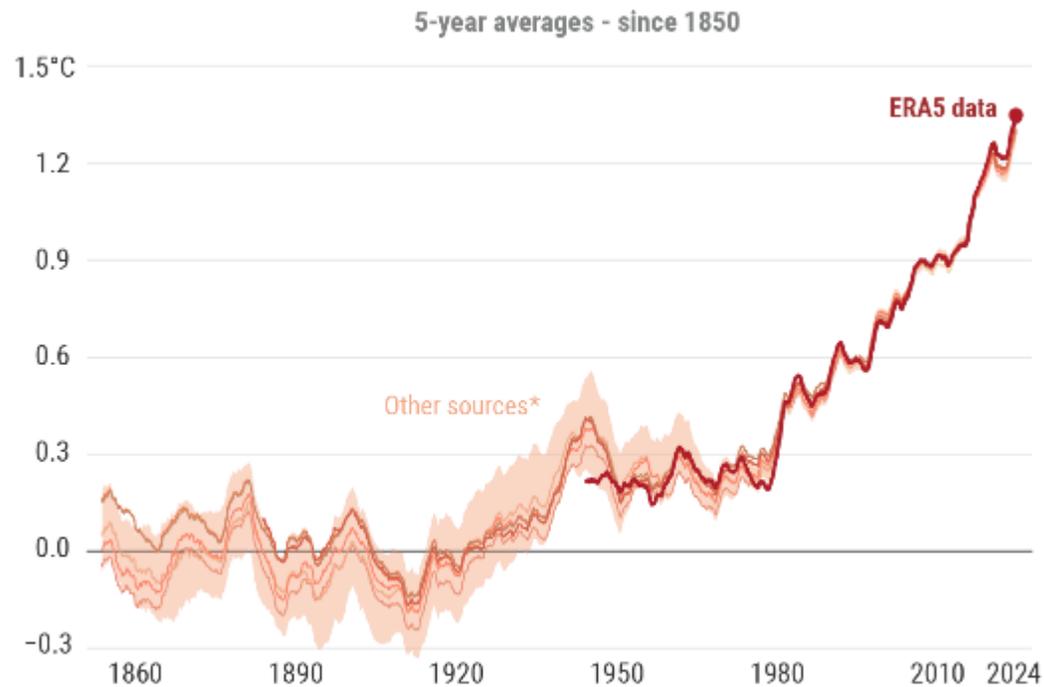


- **Landscape & seascape approaches**, integrating BD with GBFF, MFA, MTF investments
- **Innovative biodiversity finance and domestic resources** for biodiversity
- Support implementation of the **Cartagena** and **Nagoya** protocols.

Climate Change

Global surface temperature increase above pre-industrial

Reference period: pre-industrial (1850–1900) • Credit: C3S/ECMWF



PROGRAMME OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION



- **Resource efficiency:** energy and materials
- **Decarbonized power systems** and energy access
- Scale up **zero-emission mobility** of people and goods.
- **Nature-based solutions** for climate mitigation
- Capacity-building for **transparency** under the Paris Agreement
- Support relevant **Convention obligations** and enabling activities

Land Degradation



- **Restore** degraded ecosystems and lands
- Strengthen **drought management**
- Advance **sustainable landscape management** across land uses
- Promote **inclusive governance** of land and water resources
- Support relevant **Convention obligations**

International Waters



- Protection and management of **transboundary marine** ecosystems, notably: LMEs, sustainable fisheries, ocean threats in ABNJ
- Support to the **BBNJ Agreement**
- Protection and management of **transboundary freshwater ecosystems**
increased emphasis on **groundwater**

Chemicals & Waste



- Mobilize **private sector** and blended financing
- Drive **innovation and technology** scaling
- Transform **supply chains and markets**
- Strengthen **policy and regulatory** frameworks
- Ensure a **just transition**



Strategic Initiatives



Blended Finance (NGI)



- Increase the **Blended Finance Global Program** funding window
- Expand Blended Finance through the **GEF family of funds**
- Increase relevant and timely **technical support** to countries through Focal Areas and CES

Country Engagement Strategy

Country Ownership

- Empower **OFPs** with training, financial resources, recognition
- Enhance **Upstream Technical Dialogues** for portfolio planning

Whole of Society

- Engage key stakeholders in **Expanded Constituency Workshops**, mobilize CSOs
- Expand the **Fonseca Leadership Program** for young environmental leaders

Whole-of-Government

- **National Steering Committees** and align National Dialogues for integrated planning
- Expand **Country Platforms** and MDB leverage

Communications and Learning

- Empower OFPs with **Knowledge Management** tools and networks
- Amplify the voices of a global network of **GEF Project Communicators**

Small Grants Programme (SGP)



- Enhance the scale and scope of **SGP core program**
- Establish a **SGP global learning program**
- Increase **CSO participation** in GEF-9 IPs and Focal Areas execution

Innovation Window



Identifying **novel solutions** and **upscaling proven innovations** for transformative environmental impact , particularly:

- **Technological innovation**, with a focus on emerging solutions, such as the use of AI, blockchain, monitoring and early warning
- **Business Model innovation** notably blended finance instruments and internalizing environmental values in markets

Thank you

