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Supporting Sustainable Livelihoods and Inclusive Green Development Through Ecosystem Management and Assessment: The International Policy Demand

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Ecosystem Accounts & Sustainable Development

- More than 1 billion poor depend on ecosystems and natural resources for sustainable livelihoods and well-being
- Without a paradigm shift in how natural resources are valued and managed, inequality and instability will deepen, human development gains may be reversed
- There is growing policy demand for ways to measure and manage ecosystems more efficiently and sustainably as part of integrated long-term development planning
- SEEA central framework and experimental ecosystem accounts are key to meeting the needs of people living today without comprising the wellbeing of future generations.

Initiatives To Use and Generate Data

- Poverty Environment Initiative
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- UNDP Biodiversity Framework
- UN-REDD Programme
- Green Low-Emission Climate Resilient Development Strategies
- Human Development Indices
- Post-2015 SDG Data Needs

UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative

A global UN-led programme that mainstreams poverty-environment linkages into national development planning.

PEI gathers hard evidence on the economic benefits of poverty-environment integration and undertakes advocacy for policy-makers.

For example **Mali:**

- Data management system and poverty-environment indicators developed
- Sectoral environmental assessments conducted
- Green accounting promoted.

PEI reflects and generates demand for the SEEA and can help implement ecosystem accounts in pilot countries

IPBES - Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

- A new and evolving global body to address gaps between science and policy on biodiversity and ecosystem services
- UNEP, FAO, UNESCO, UNDP and partners supporting IPBES to develop country capacities; generate knowledge; conduct sub-global assessments; etc.

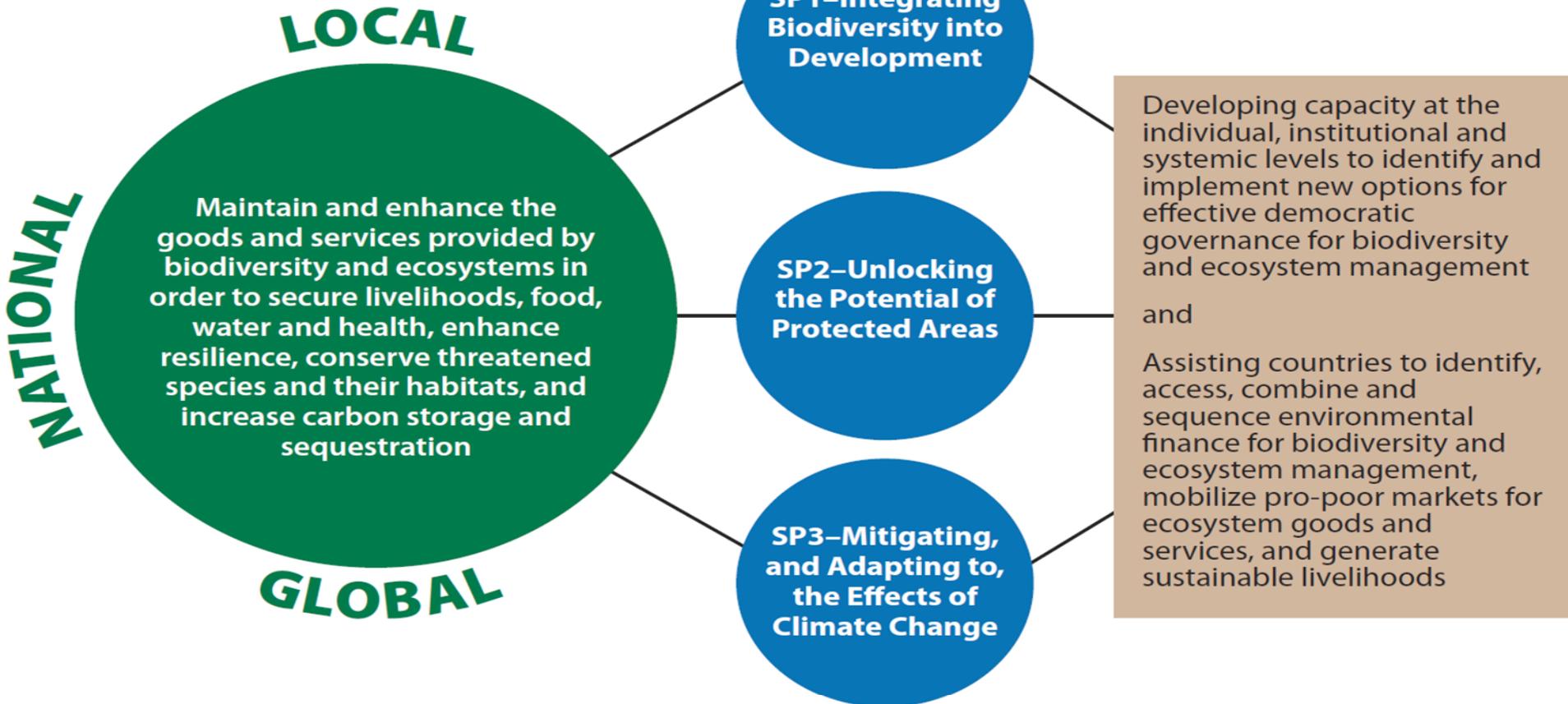
IPBES reflects demand for national, regional, global ecosystem accounts data and SEAA could be linked to IPBES indicators and monitoring systems

UNDP Biodiversity & Ecosystems Global Framework

Strategic Objective

Signature Programmes

Two key approaches that underpin each Signature Programme



Reflects country demand for ecosystem data *and* can help develop capacities to implement experimental accounts

UN-REDD Programme

The United Nations Collaborative Programme on **Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation** in Developing Countries

Established 2008 by FAO, UNDP and UNEP - A response to Bali Action Plan call for REDD+ instrument in post-2012 climate change agreement

REDD+ can generate a wide range of benefits alongside climate change mitigation

- **Contributing to biodiversity conservation**
- **Securing ecosystem services**
 - Hydrological services; Soil conservation & control of sedimentation; Provision of timber and NTFPs; Pollination; Local climatic benefits
- **Enhancing social benefits**
 - Improved livelihoods; Clarified rights to resources; Economic growth

REDD+ reflects demand for and builds capacities to use ecosystem data *and* over time could help provide a range of such data for SEEA

UNDP Green Low Emission Climate-Resilient Development Strategies

- Supports MDGs and poverty reduction through shift to green, low-emission, climate-resilient development
- Undertakes 4-step process:
 - 1: Identify Mitigation, Adaptation Options
 - 2: Assess Key Barriers to Technology Diffusion
 - 3: Determine Appropriate Policy Mix
 - 4: Select Financing Options for Enabling Policy Environment

SEEA can help meet demand for environmental accounting for integrated investment planning and cost-benefit analysis and GLECRDS can help advocate for and develop the capacities needed to support SEEA implementation

Greening HDI

- How to link present choices with future choices - do they have same weight?
- How to reflect 'planetary boundaries', 'tipping points' given that climate change in particular is imposing significant costs on poor nations and communities?
- How to capture issues of global responsibility while ensuring equal rights of all citizens?

Comparable sets of national ecosystem accounts data are key and HD indices can advocate for ecosystem data, and show links between ecosystems and HD

Post-2015 Development Goals and Data Needs

- MDG focus and progress needed through 2015
- Debates on Sustainable Development Goals and discussions have begun on goals and targets that could build on and succeed the MDGs, including environment goals.
- Goals, targets, and indicators still to be decided through extensive stakeholder consultations

Whatever targets and indicators are agreed upon in the coming years, demand for comparable national sustainable development data sets, including ecosystem accounts, will continue to grow



Thank you