

Biodiversity and Climate Change: GEF Funding for Adaptation to Climate Change

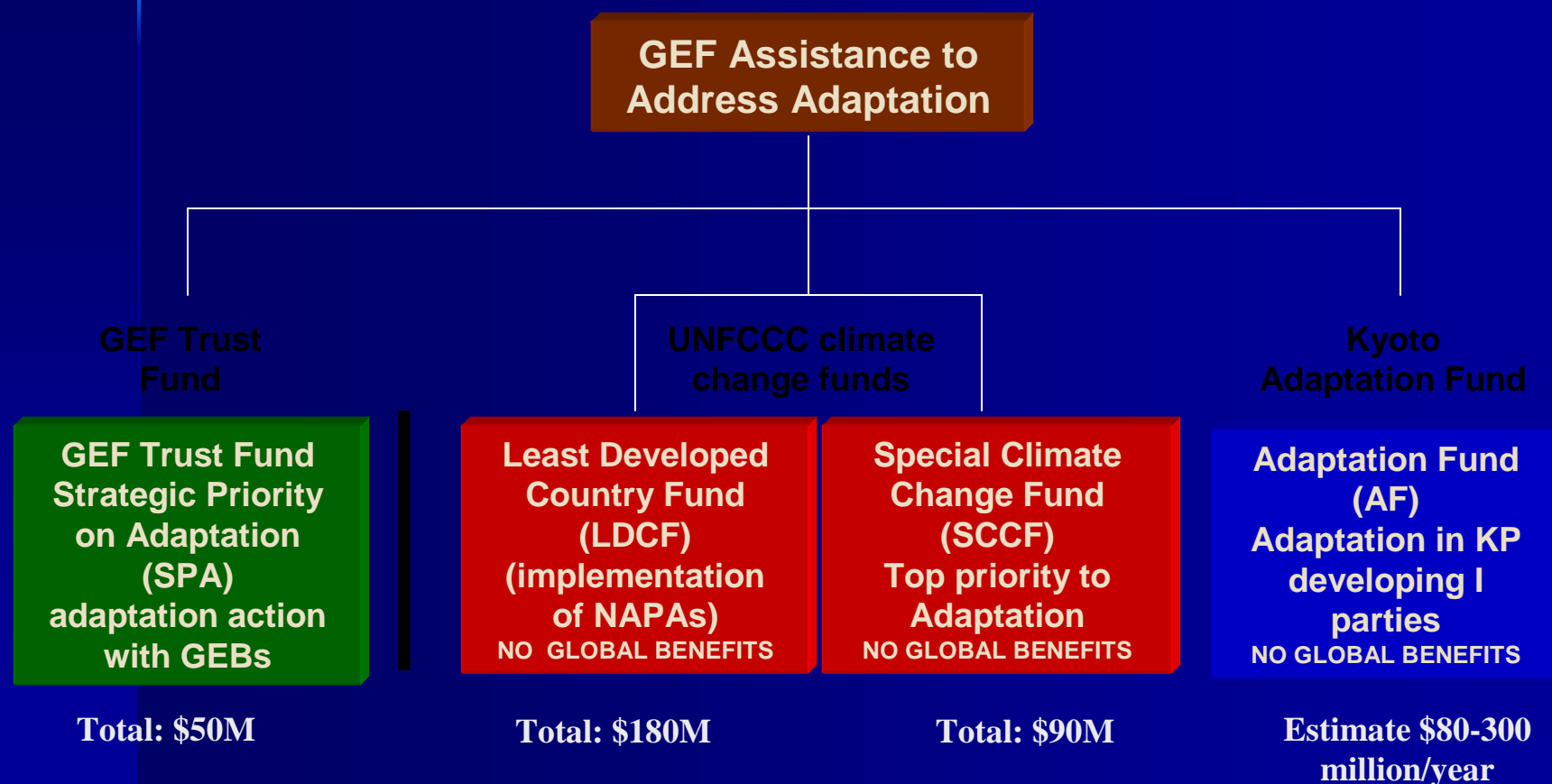
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Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity

- Climate change significantly affects biodiversity and ecosystem integrity in a number of ways, including:
 - Changes in species distribution;
 - Increased extinction rates;
 - Changes in reproduction timings;
 - Changes in length of growing seasons;
 - Habitat fragmentation
- GEF has and will continue to support biodiversity related projects under its funding sources for climate change adaptation

GEF and Adaptation

Four funding sources for Adaptation



“Piloting an Operational Approach to Adaptation” (SPA)

- Projects that *"Show how adaptation planning and assessment can be practically translated into projects that provide real benefits"*.
 - SPA Projects target Global Environmental Benefits (including Biodiversity & LD)
 - Other GEF adaptation funds focus primarily on development
- Initial Allocation of \$50 million
 - as of May 2008 all funds are allocated
 - after an evaluation of the pilot the program will evolve

Examples of SPA adaptation projects w/ BD Benefits

- **SPA - 'Implementation of Pilot Adaptation Measures in Coastal Areas of Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent & the Grenadines' (WB – Total GEF grant \$2.616 million)**
 - Water demand measures to prevent impacts of reduced run-off to coastal ecosystems.
 - Measures for stabilization of mangrove and coral reef ecosystems to increase their resilience to climate change.

Examples of SPA Projects w/ BD Benefits (2)

- **SPA – ‘Implementing Pilot Climate Change Adaptation Measures in Coastal Areas of Uruguay’ (UNDP – Total GEF grant \$1.1 million)**
 - Updated land use zoning to increase resilience of coastal environments
 - Updated fisheries management and coastal protected zones to reflect habitat changes for important marine species caused by a climate change induced shift in the saline front.

SPA Examples: BD (3)

- **SPA – ‘Sustaining Agricultural Biodiversity in the Face of Climate Change (Tajikistan)’ (UNDP – Total GEF grant \$1.1 million)**
 - Extension services, local training/awareness raising and market creation activities promotes local cultivation of traditional, and more climate resilient, crop varieties in Tajikistan (which harbors the genetic base for numerous traditional crops), thus both increasing the resilience of local development and preserving an important - climate resilient - genetic pool of agro-biodiversity for future generations.

SPA Project w/ BD: Colombia Integrated National Adaptation Plan: Mountain Ecosystems, Insular Areas, and Health (4)

High Mountain Ecosystems: Glacial melt

- Former H₂O storage system disrupted—glaciers & moors
- Run-off increased: water & ecosystem disruption
- Hydroelectric dispatch becomes unreliable

Coastal areas: Sea-level rise

- Salt-water intrusion—water intake problems
- Mangrove restoration—coastal defenses—coral bleaching

Increase of standing water in cities—storm

- Expansion of environment for vector-borne diseases—malaria incidence doubled since 1970

Mixture of Local and Global Impacts

Adaptation Funds: LDCF

■ Least Developed Countries Fund

- Implementation of National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs) – *urgent and immediate needs*
- LDCF has supported NAPAs in 47 LDCs and will support priority actions
- Existing resources, including new pledges: \$180 million
- Addressing Biodiversity loss can be financed by the LDCF if identified as a priority by the NAPA

Adaptation Funds: SCCF

Special Climate Change Fund

- Adaptation in water, land management, agriculture, health, infrastructure development, fragile ecosystems, integrated coastal zone management, disaster risk management and prevention
- Total resources, including new pledges: \$90 million
- Biodiversity loss can be addressed in projects financed under the SCCF, as it includes fragile ecosystems, including mountain ecosystems

Next Steps:

SPA—Adaptation Projects w/ GEB's

- GEF will continue to seek resiliency to CC in outcome of its projects
- Evaluation of SPA
- Adaptation screening for all GEF projects
- Funding for adaptation projects with GEB's (?)

LDCF/SCCF and Biodiversity (?)

Possible, but not likely

Adaptation Fund and BD (?)

Wait and see



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Thank you

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