



popolinsieme
accogliere persone, costruire comunità

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Human rights and environment

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Outline

Background info

a. Policy processes to protect environment

b. A global approach: MDGs and SDGs

A small exercise

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A growing awareness

Global risks ranked by severity over 2 and 10 years

Environment issues
perceived as a priority area
for policy action

Risk categories

- Economic
- Environmental
- Geopolitical
- Societal
- Technological

2 years



10 years



Source

World Economic Forum Global Risks
Perception Survey 2023-2024.

https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_The_Global_Risks_Report_2024.pdf

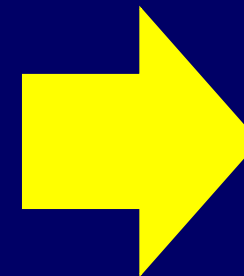
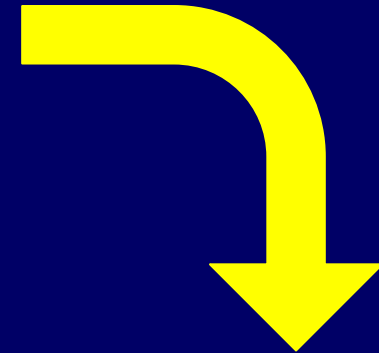
How international agreements are working?

Legally Binding Agreements (LBA):

- The country representatives are signing the agreement
- The Parliament/government is approving the agreement
- A set of enforcement rules is approved
- The agreement is implemented (periodical reports) and eventually updated, with enforceable obligations

Non-Legally Binding Agreements:

- The country representatives are signing the agreement
- The Parliament/government is approving the agreement
- The agreement is implemented (periodical reports) and eventually updated, based on voluntary compliance and cooperation among states



Public scrutiny

("naming and shaming" and "mobilization of shame")

Naming and shaming = a common strategy to compel and deter changes in State behavior. It is a prevalent strategy when States engage in human rights abuses. It has also been used to compel improvements in environmental policies

Enforcement mechanisms

- **Incorporation into Domestic Law:** countries that ratify a legally binding convention are required to incorporate its provisions into their national laws and regulations
 - **Monitoring and Reporting Mechanisms.**
 - **Dispute Resolution Mechanisms:** formal mechanisms for resolving disputes between parties, such as arbitration, mediation, or adjudication by international courts, e.g. the International Court of Justice (ICJ) resolves disputes between States over treaty violations
 - **Economic and Political Sanctions:** non-compliance can lead to diplomatic pressure, trade restrictions, or economic sanctions imposed by international organizations or other States, e.g. the United Nations Security Council can impose sanctions for violations of international law
 - **International Courts and Tribunals:** some conventions have dedicated judicial bodies that can prosecute violations, such as the International Criminal Court and the World Trade Organization
 - **Conditional Assistance:** some international financial institutions (e.g., the World Bank, IMF) tie financial aid or loans to compliance with international conventions.
- + (common to Non-LBA): **public scrutiny**



Public scrutiny: reporting, protests, testimonials



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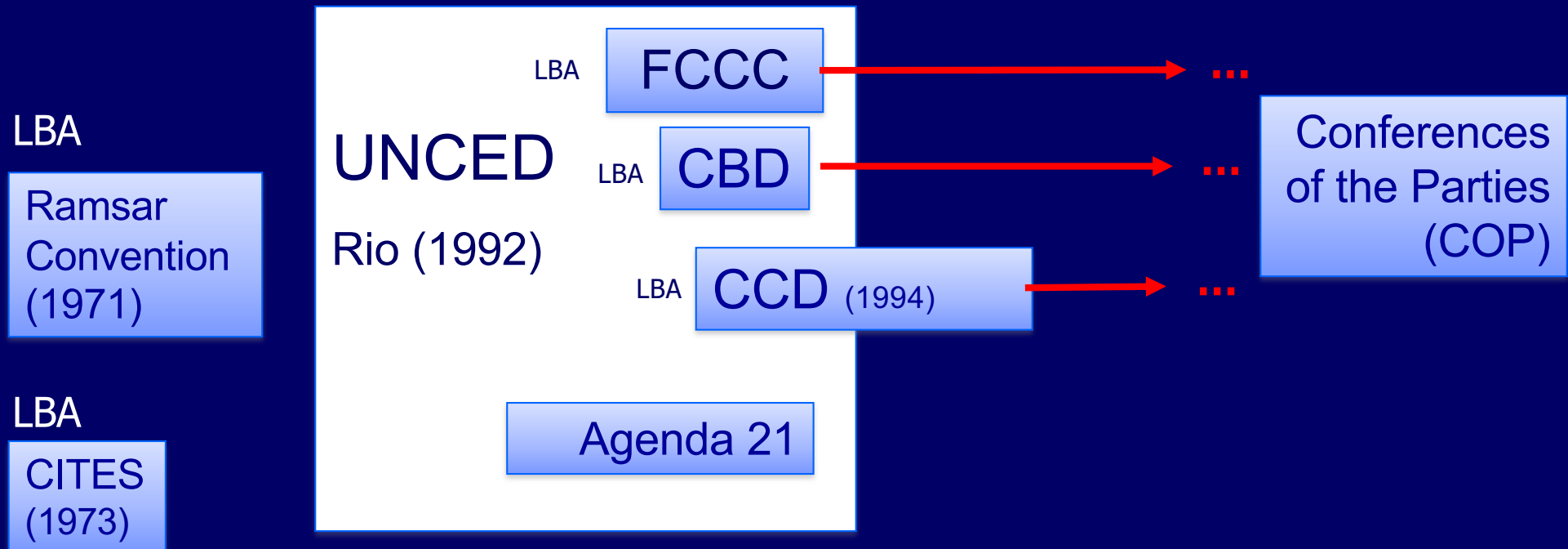
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Policy processes to protect environment

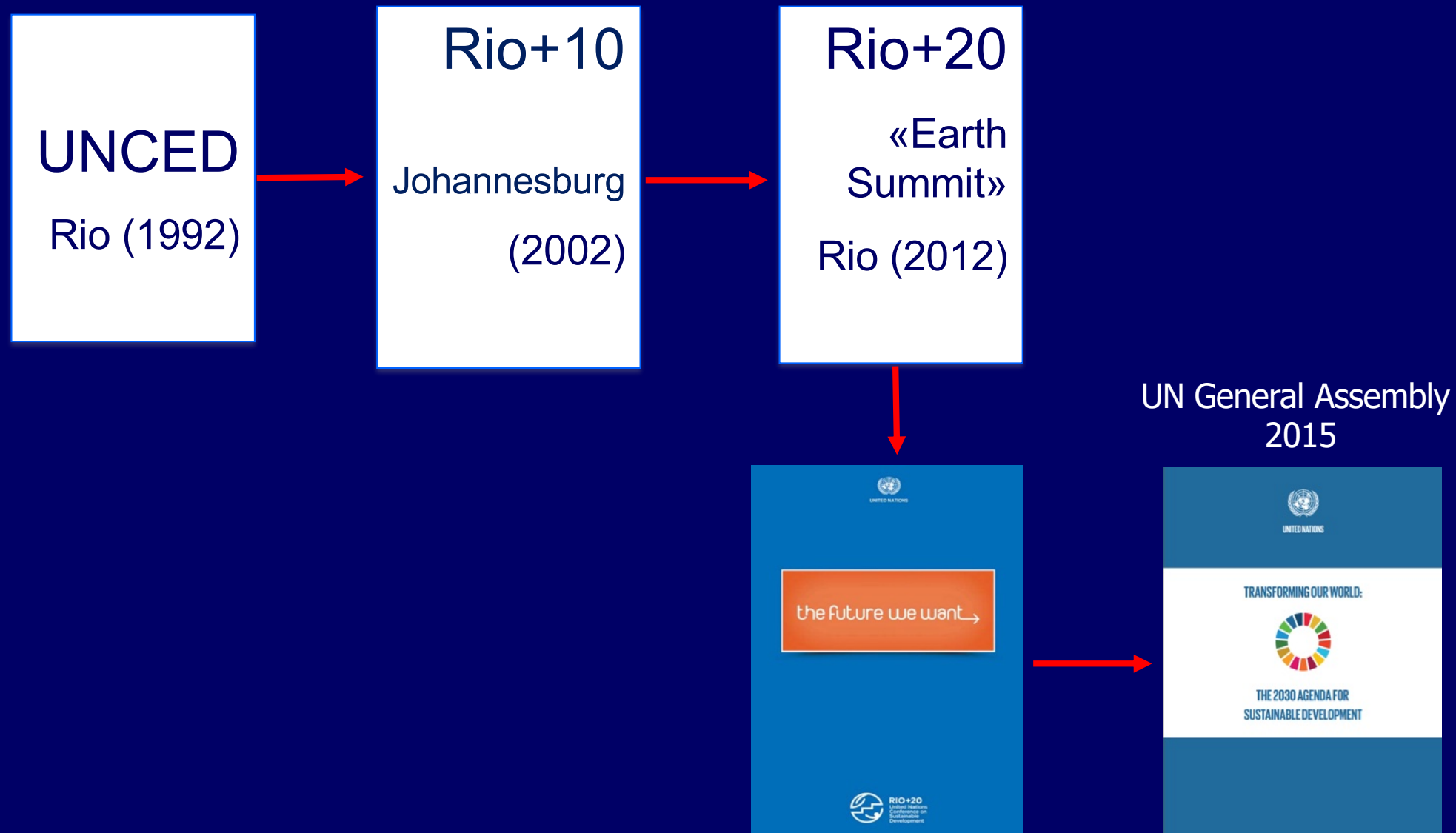


- FCCC: Framework Convention for Climate Change
- CCD: Convention to Combat Desertification
- CBD: Convention on Biological Diversity
- + CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and Ramsar Convention:

climate

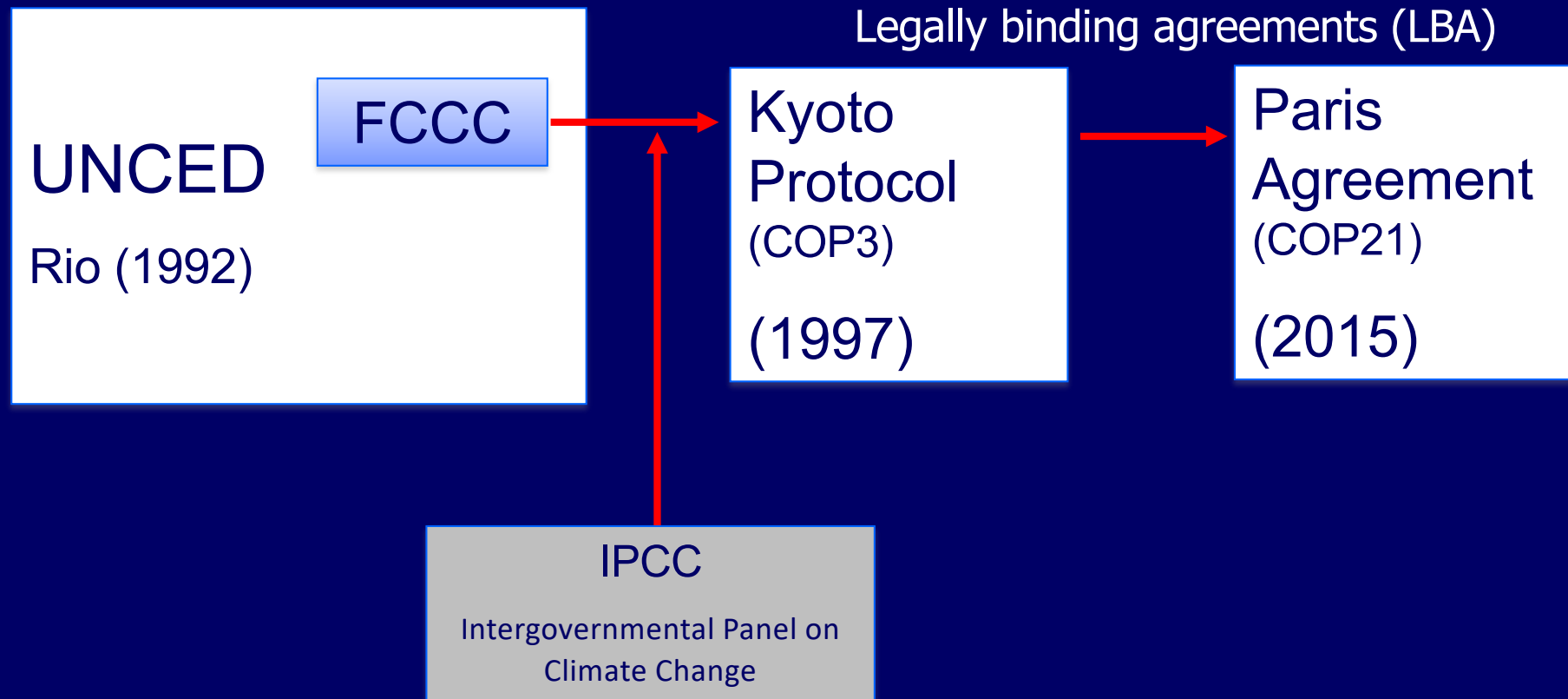
biodiversity

A global policy process



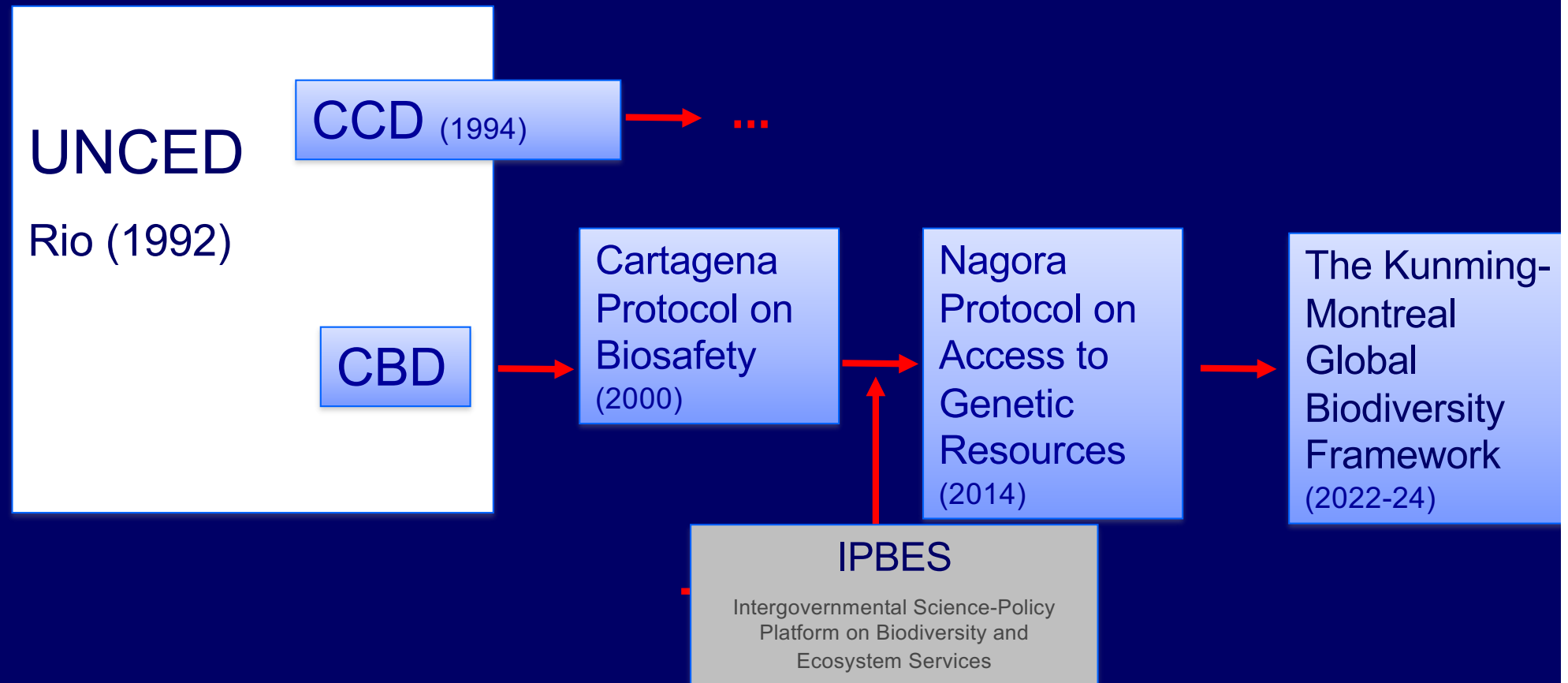
Legally non-binding agreements

A policy process on climate



FCCC: Framework Convention for Climate Change

Policy processes on biodiversity



CBD: Convention on Biological Diversity
CCD: Convention to Combat Desertification

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)

- An outcome of the 2022 CoP 15 of the CBD
- Defined as the «Paris Agreement for Nature»: a sign of the increasing cooperation between FCCC and CBD (IPCC and IPBES)
- The previous agreement on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets largely failed to achieve their targets for biodiversity loss.
- GBF supports the achievement of the SDGs

■ 4 goals:

- Conserve and restore biodiversity.
- Ensure sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Share benefits fairly and equitably.
- Enable transformative change.

■ 3 themes:

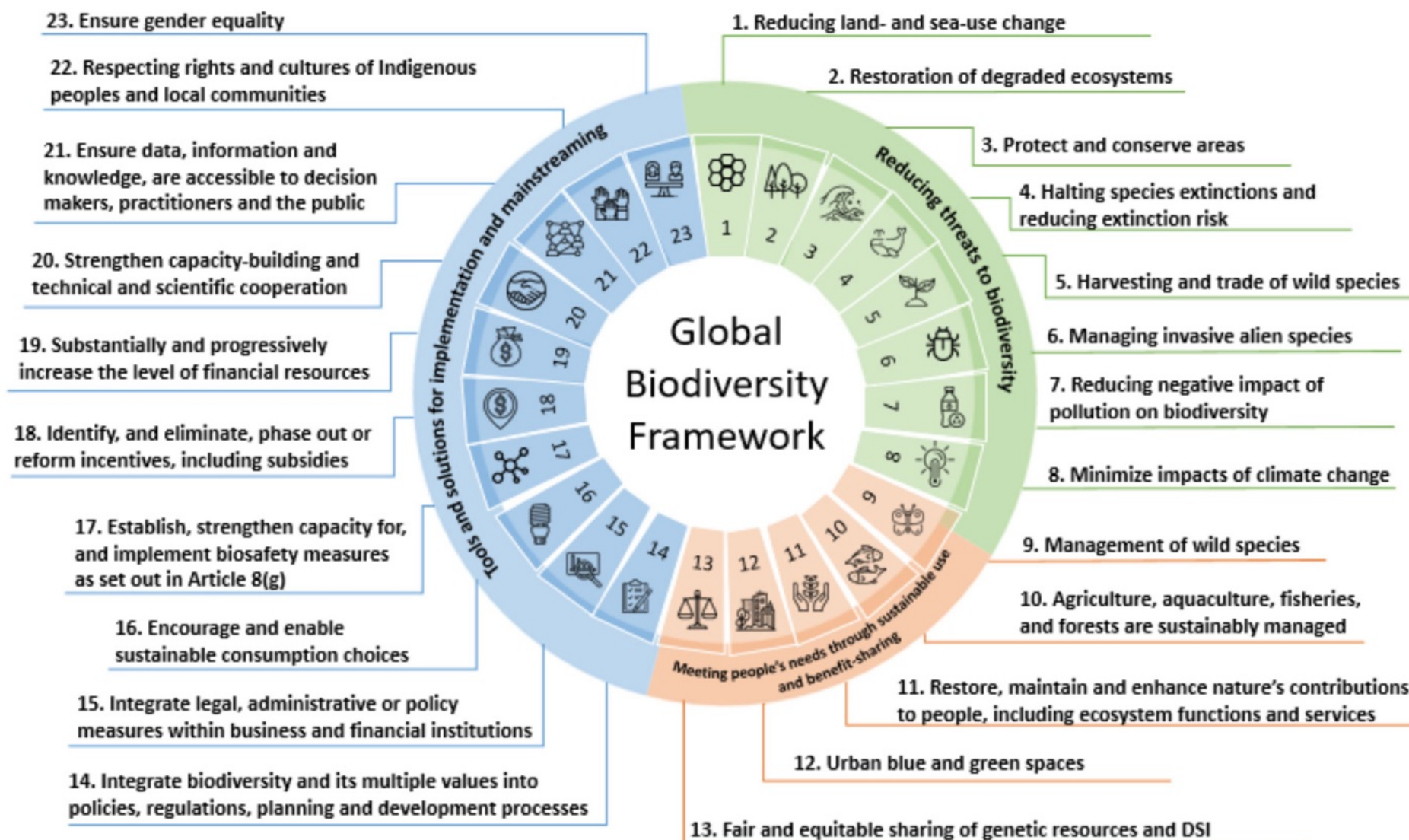
- Reducing threats to biodiversity.
- Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing.
- Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming

■ 23 targets

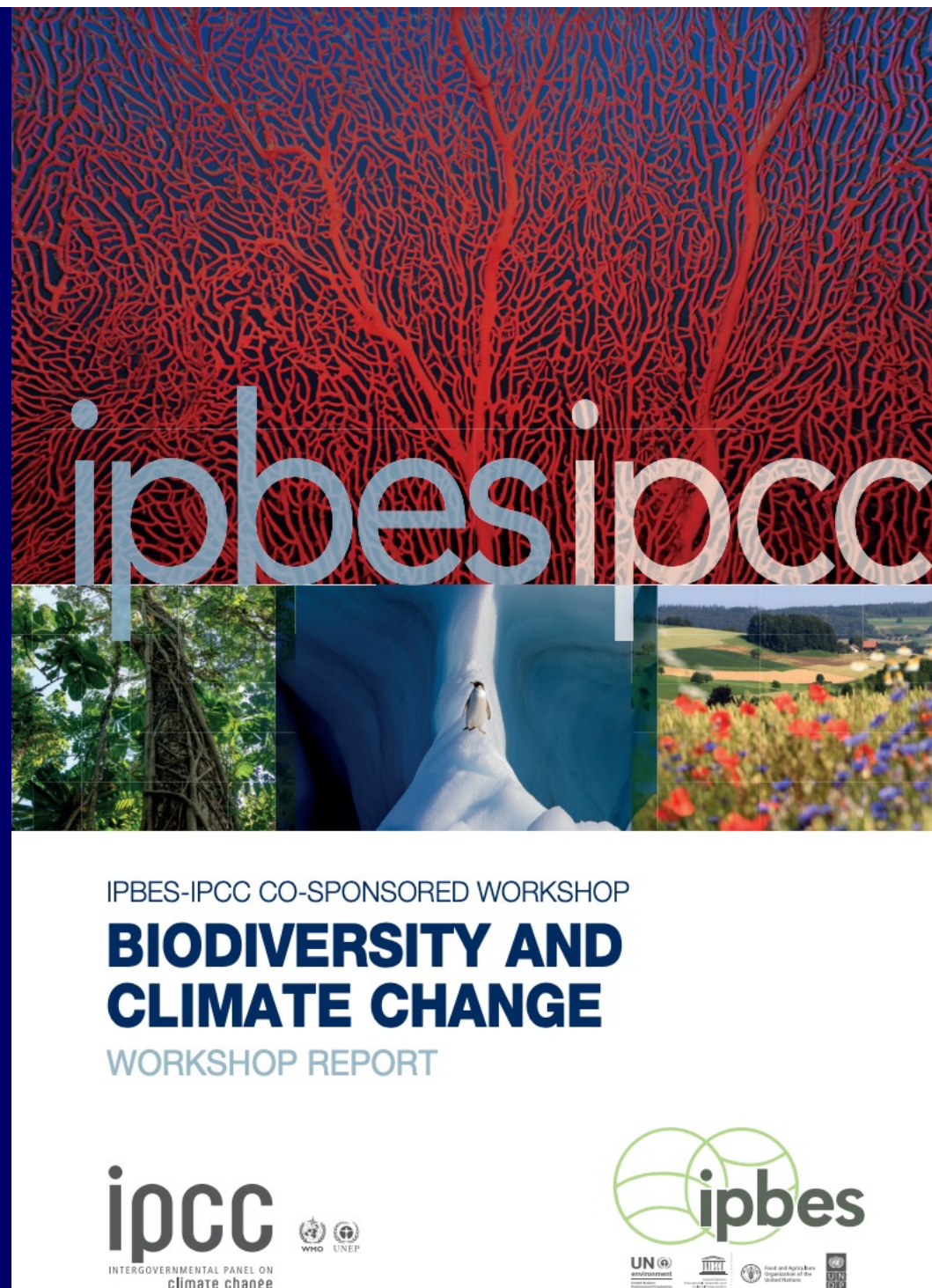
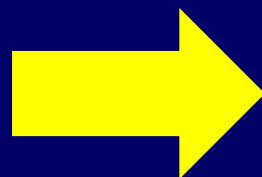
and a slogan: “30 for 30”

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Themes and Targets



**A very positive
development:
a new shared
vision (by
scientists)**



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A global approach: MDGs and SDGs

From

the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** with a deadline in 2015 and **developed countries only involved**; centered on poverty alleviation

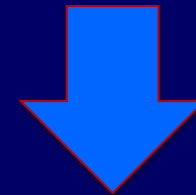
... to ...

the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** approved in 2015 based on 17 Objectives. **Deadline in 2030** (reporting also at 2020), **all countries** involved, relevant involvement of **private actors** (non-financial reporting)

The background

After the experience of the **Millennium Development Goals** (mostly directed to developing countries, not giving much importance to environmental issues), the Rio+20 conference (the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development) in Rio de Janeiro, 2012), develop a new set of **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs)

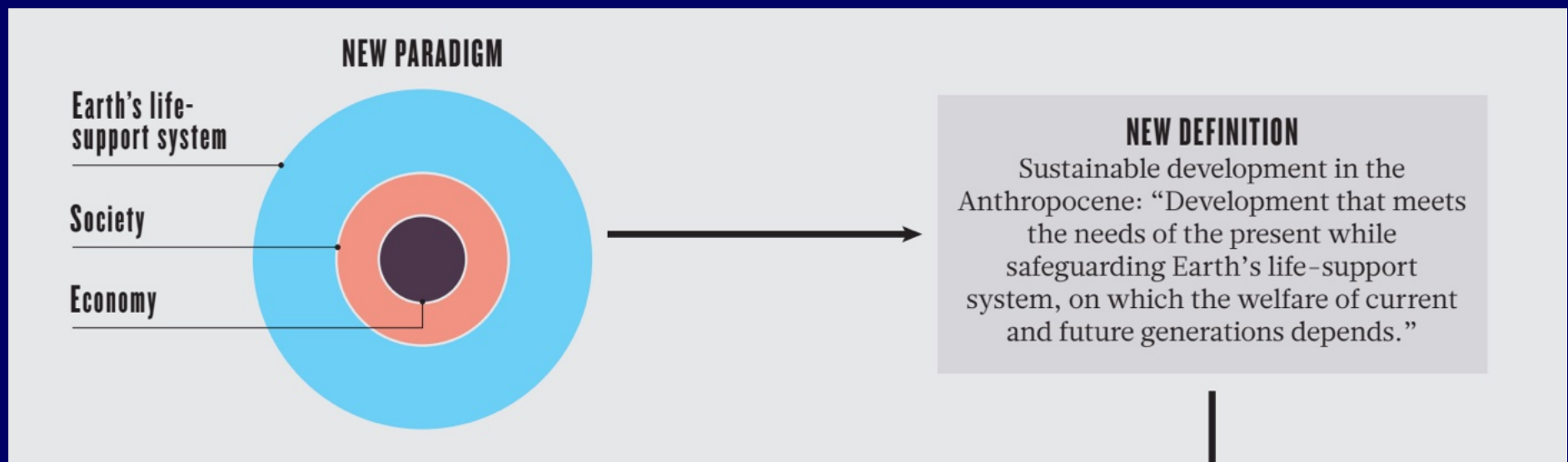
Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 2000-2015



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDG: A slightly new definition of Sustainable development



Source: Griggs, 2013

The international proposal: 'Transforming our world'

Approved in **2015**

There are **similarities** regarding the format of the MDGs and the SDGs – e.g., each framed the international development agenda for a **15-year period** – but the SDGs have significantly expanded on the **scale and contents** of the MDGs

Applicable to **all countries** of the world, removing the “developing” vs. “developed” dichotomy



The 5 Ps

The main goals focus on 5 interdependent **Ps**:

- **People**: the wellbeing of all people
- **Planet**: protection of the earth's ecosystems
- **Prosperity**: continued economic & technological growth
- **Peace**: securing peace
- **Partnership**: improving international cooperation

Environmental issues

The focus on People (5 Goals)

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

The focus on the Planet and on Prosperity (10 Goals)

6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of **water and sanitation** for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, **sustainable and modern energy** for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make **cities and human settlements** inclusive, safe, **resilient and sustainable**

(cont.)

The most detailed and authoritative list of human rights related to environmental resources

12. Ensure **sustainable consumption** and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to **combat climate change** and its impacts
14. Conserve and **sustainably use the oceans, seas** and marine resources for sustainable development
15. **Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

The focus on Peace (1 Goal)

16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

The focus on Partnerships (1 Goal)

17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

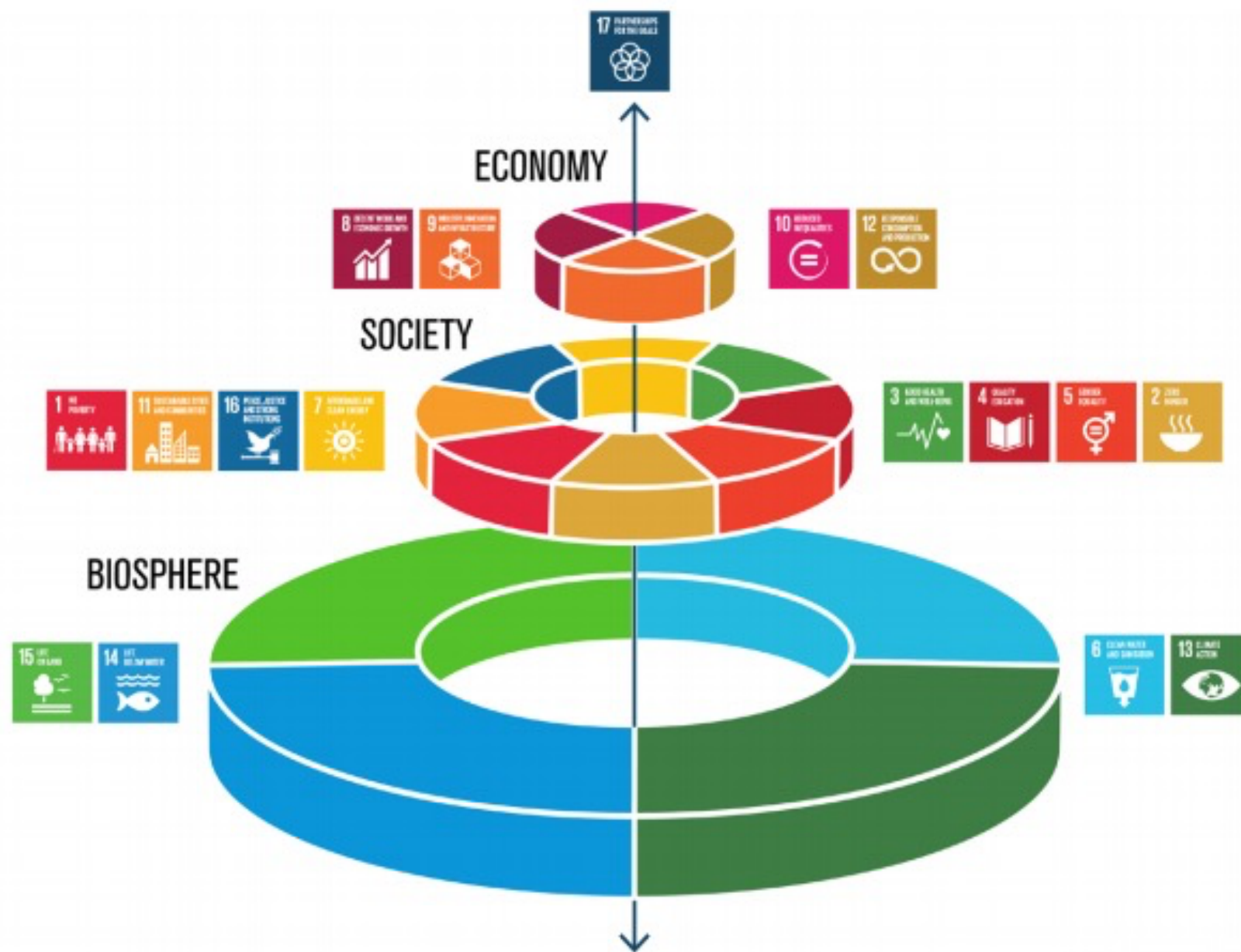


Figure 1. The layers of Sustainable Development Goals that form the basis for a circular bioeconomy strategy.
Source: Azote Images for Stockholm Resilience Centre.



Central role

15. Life on land. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Tropical forests shelter most of the world's terrestrial biological diversity

Have a look to <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/biodiversity/>
(see the targets and the links: FAO and New York Declaration on Forests)



<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>

Making the 17 goals operational:

- 169 targets
- more than 230 indicators

THE TARGETS

Everyone can help to make sure that we meet the Global Goals. Use these twelve targets to create action to protect and restore life on land.



TARGET 15.1

CONSERVE AND RESTORE TERRESTRIAL AND FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.



TARGET 15.3

END DESERTIFICATION AND RESTORE DEGRADED LAND

By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.



TARGET 15.5

PROTECT BIODIVERSITY AND NATURAL HABITATS

Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.



TARGET 15.7

ELIMINATE POACHING AND TRAFFICKING OF PROTECTED SPECIES

Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.



TARGET 15.9

INTEGRATE ECOSYSTEM AND BIODIVERSITY IN GOVERNMENTAL PLANNING

By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts.



TARGET 15.8

FINANCE AND INCENTIVIZE SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation.



TARGET 15.2

END DEFORESTATION AND RESTORE DEGRADED FORESTS

By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.



TARGET 15.4

ENSURE CONSERVATION OF MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS

By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.



TARGET 15.6

PROMOTE ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND FAIR SHARING OF THE BENEFITS

Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits



TARGET 15.3



TARGET 15.4



TARGET 15.6

15 LIFE ON LAND



THINGS TO DO



Find a Goal 15 charity you want to support. Any donation, big or small, can make a difference!



Don't shop for pets! Visit your local animal shelter and adopt an animal there.



Recycle paper, glass, plastic, metal and old electronics.



Clean your local parks and forests. Organise your own or join an existing clean-up event to sustain the ecosystem of your local green space.



Volunteer with street animal organizations or shelters: Help to sustain diversity and save lives of animal species by volunteering in organizations helping these pets as well as endangered species.



Reduce your use of paper. Avoid printing and substitute it with electronic devices or carriers.



Don't buy products tested on animals: Check the labels on the products you buy.



Compost. Composting food scraps can reduce climate impact while also recycling nutrients.



Don't use pesticides. To protect and sustain the quality of soil, don't use chemicals while growing plants.



Stay informed. Follow your local news and stay in touch with the Global Goals online or on social media at [@TheGlobalGoals](#).

SDGs implementation

- Implementation of the SDGs started worldwide in **2016**. This process has been called "**Localizing the SDGs**".
- In each country, governments **translate the goals into national policies and legislation**, develop a plan of action, establish **budgets**
- At the same time governments should actively **search for partners** with the active involvement of **all kind of organizations** (public agencies, universities, NGOs, ...) to work on several goals at the same time.



SDGs implementation → reporting



ABOUT

NEWS & INSIGHTS

REPORTS



BertelsmannStiftung



Sustainable Development Report 2020

The Sustainable Development Goals and Covid-19

Jun 30, 2020

The Sustainable Development Report 2020 presents the SDG Index and Dashboards for all UN member states and frames the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in terms of six broad transformations. It was prepared by teams of independent experts at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung.

Download

Explore the SDR 2020 Dashboards



The interactive SDR 2020 Dashboards provide a visual representation of countries' performance by SDGs to identify priorities for action.

Resources

- Rankings
- Executive Summary
- Country Profiles
- About the Authors
- Press Release
- Download the Data
- GitHub

<https://www.sdgindex.org>

→ reporting = goal scoring

[illegible]

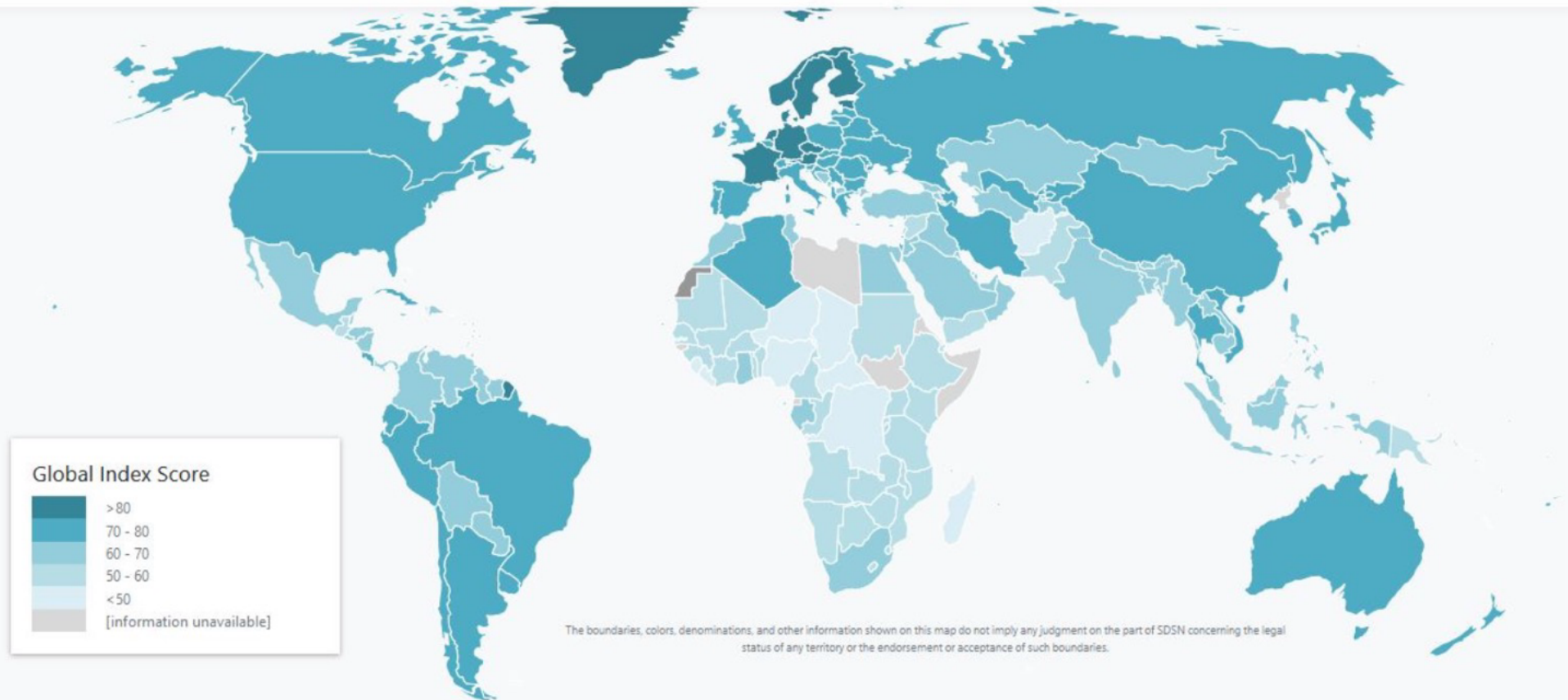
→ reporting = goal scoring and ranking

Sustainable Development Report Dashboards 2019

Transformations to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

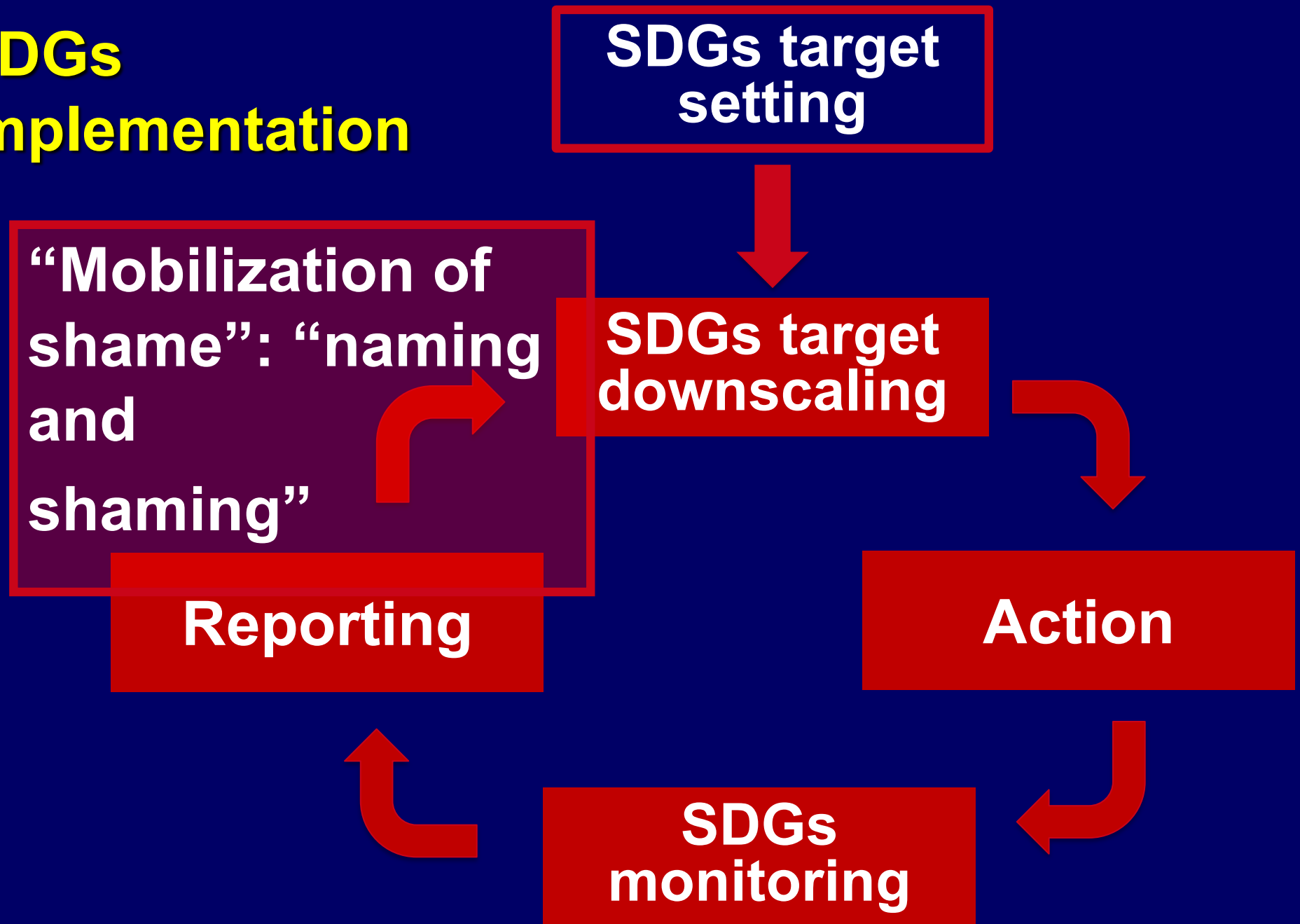


BertelsmannStiftung



World map showing countries that are closest to meeting the SDGs (in dark blue) and those with the greatest remaining challenges (in the lightest shade of blue) in 2018. Data from the Sustainable Development Report.

SDGs implementation



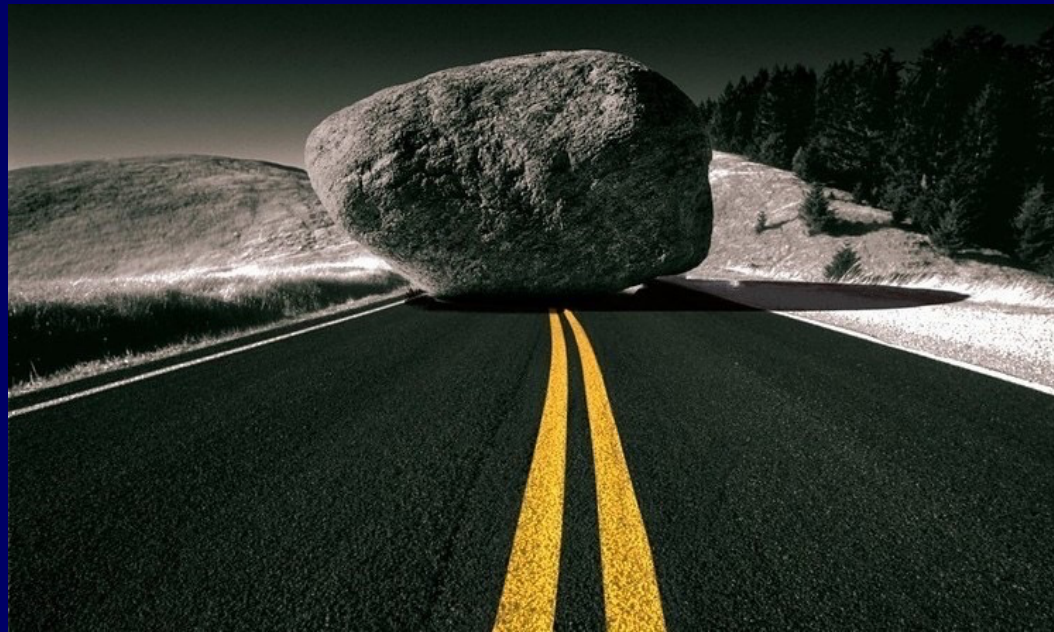
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Why do these well-structured processes encounter new problems and obstacles in their implementation?



Recent trends in environmental governance:

- **Crisis of multilateralism** (Trump policy) in front of **poli-crisis conditions** (wars and extreme events like Covid-19, floods, fires, ...)
- **Proliferation of international commitments** by governments («**Targets Olympics**» like in Glasgow CoP 26) that makes difficult the process of «naming and shaming» by civil society
- Numerous **voluntary initiatives** led by civil society are now being **supplanted by public regulatory initiatives**: new strong normative frameworks (e.g., environmental reporting, eco-labelling, EU Deforestation Regulation, ...) → bureaucratisation
- **Lack of a long-run, strategic vision** = *"Between the end of the month and the end of the world, I think about the end of the month"* (reduced interests of the majority of society from the political processes)
- The already **few testimonials** (pope Francis, Greta Thumberg) are becoming **weaker**?