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Shifting UNFCCC role from negotiation to implementation: why more synergies between Rio conventions are critical?

Towards more efficient negotiations, effective implementation at project and landscape levels, and sustainable financing for climate action.

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Workshop «IT'S THE END OF THE COP AS WE KNOW IT! »
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United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

N.B. the Rio conventions mentioned in this presentation refer to the UN environmental conventions born at the UN Earth Summit in 1992, namely the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD).

<https://www.cbd.int/>

<https://unfccc.int/>

<https://www.unccd.int/>



Towards joint negotiation processes

Similarities between the Rio conventions



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



Convention on
Biological Diversity



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

	Climate Change	Biological Diversity	Combating Desertification
Text content	26 articles	42 articles	40 articles
COPs	art. 7) COP1 in 1995 COP 25 in 2019	art. 23) COP1 in 1994 COP 14 in 2018	art. 22) COP1 in 1997 COP 14 in 2019
Secretariats	Bonn (art. 8)	Montreal (art. 21)	Bonn (art. 23)
Subsidiary bodies	SBSTA (art. 9) SBI (art. 10)	SBSTTA (art. 25)	CST (art. 24) CRIC
Financing mechanisms	GEF (art. 11); AF; GCF	GEF (art. 21)	GEF; GM (art. 21)
Science Policy Interfaces	IPCC	IPBES	SPI
Protocols	Kyoto	Carthagen, Nagoya	NA

The three Rio conventions are very aligned in their structure and operational processes, thus it seems very realistic to achieve more synergies and efficiency through joint negotiation processes



Converging concepts



Convention on
Biological Diversity

- REDD+ / LULUCF
- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Ecosystem-based Adaptation
- Land degradation neutrality
- Nature-based Solutions
- Access & Benefit Sharing
- Payments for Ecosystem Services
- Landscape / Ecosystem Restoration



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



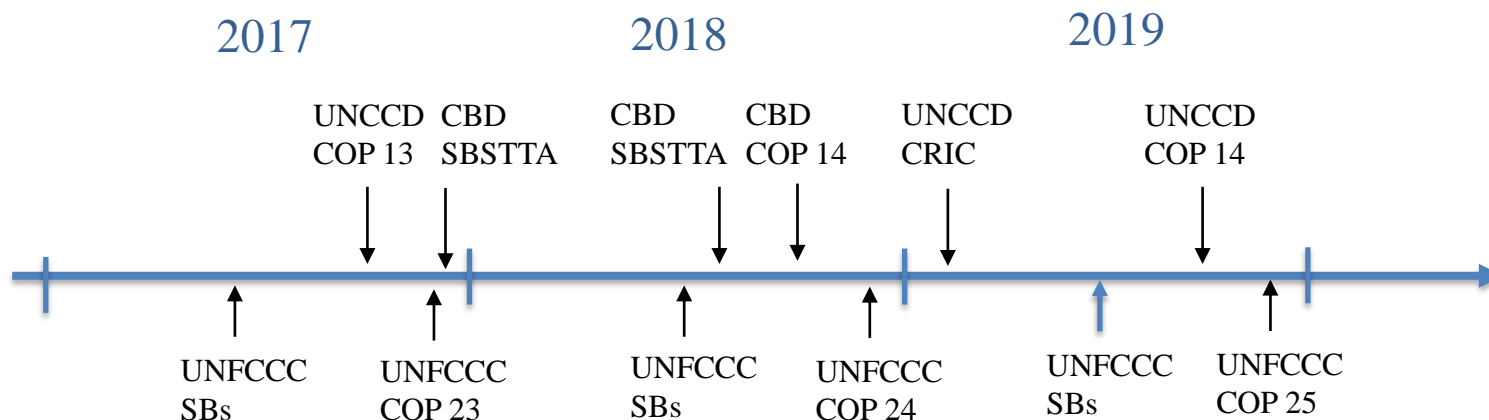
United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

With the land use sector as an example, key concepts of the 3 conventions are so closely interrelated it could make sense to organize more joint technical and scientific bodies' meetings



Towards joint negotiation processes ?

- **Current situation** : at least 8 global conferences every two years (COPs + SBs meetings)
- **Ideas for the future**
 - What about joint COPs every two years?
 - More digital meetings? (ex: Digital GLF Bonn Summit with + 5000 participants)
 - Country delegations composed of the 3 NFPs & teams
- **More resources for action**
 - Several hundreds of USD Millions could be saved every 2 years
 - Savings reallocated to implementation via global environmental funds such as GEF, Adaptation Fund and GCF



By chance in 2021 the 3 COPs are supposed to take place the same year. An opportunity to test a joint COP?

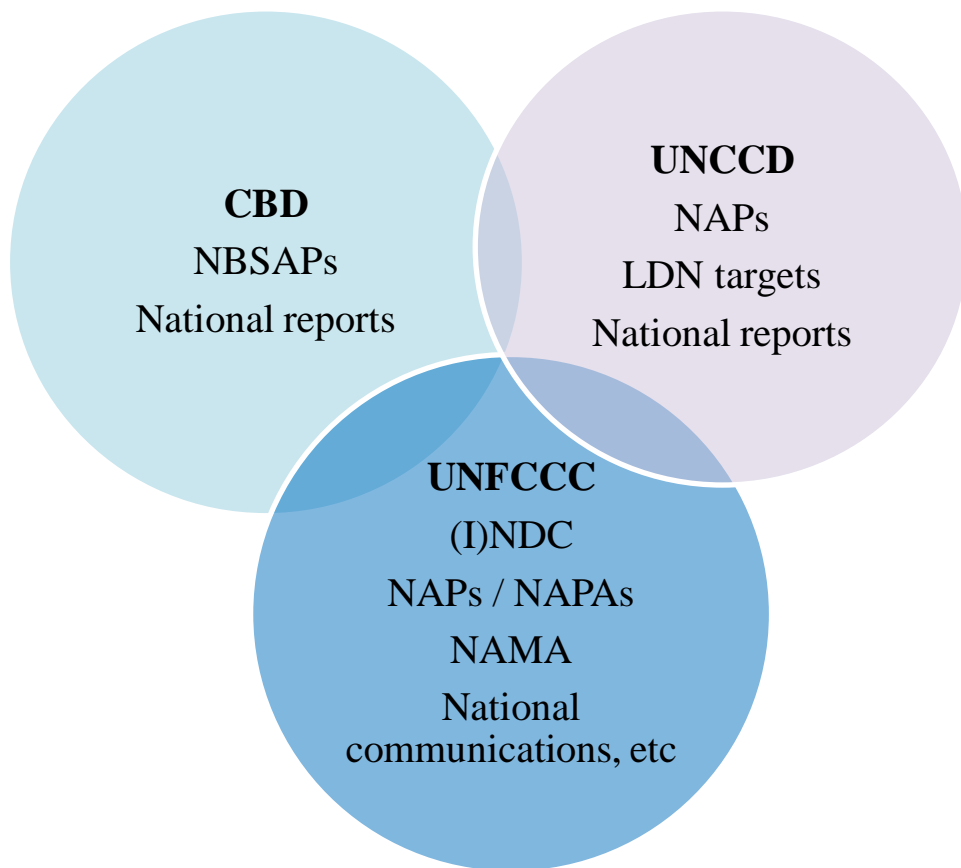




Potential implementation support at country level

Promoting joint policies and strategies

Supporting systematic country efforts in aligning/integrating NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs, NAP-CD and LDN targets, among key policies and strategies.

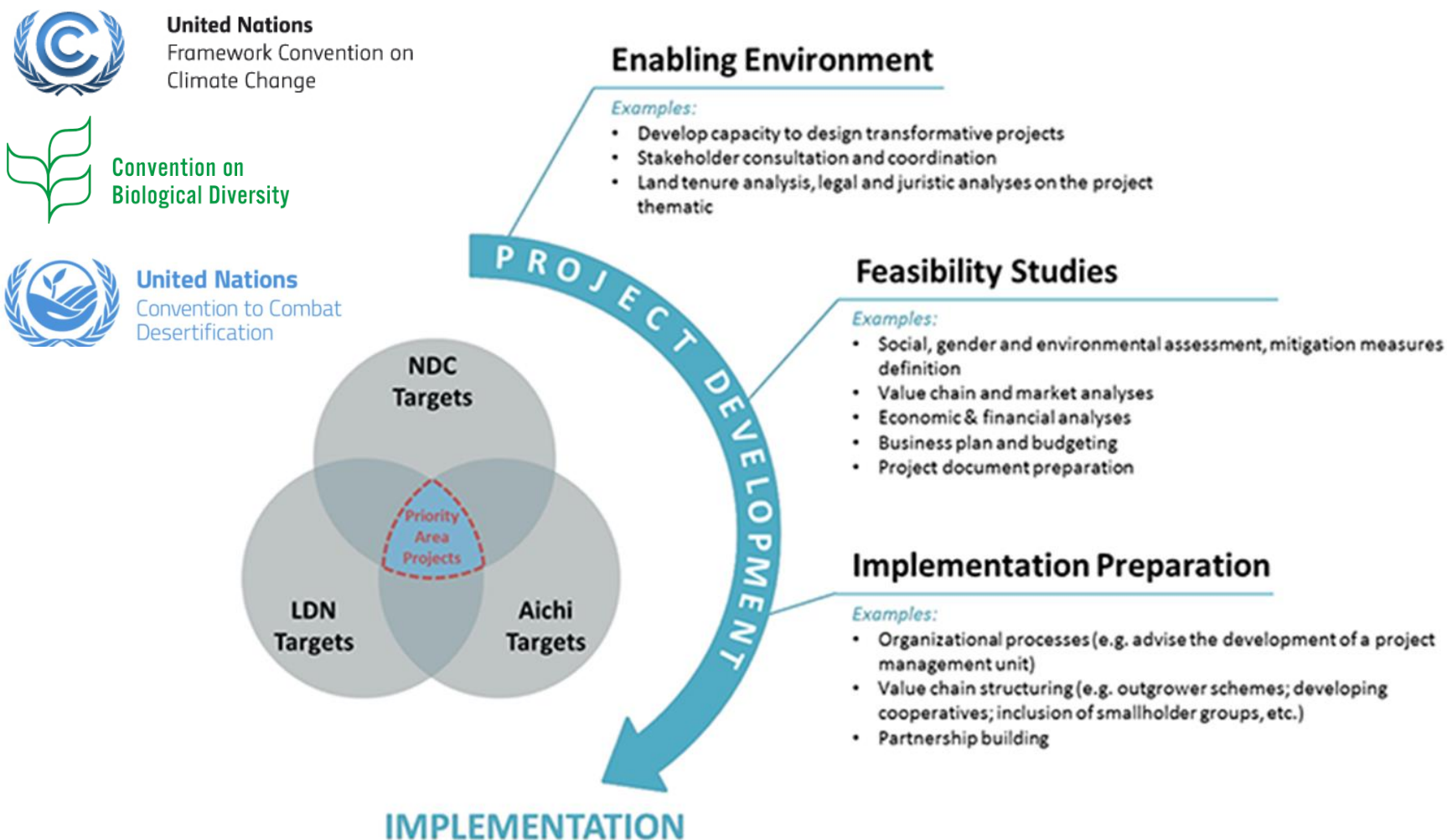


Need for joint national strategies and national reports & Stronger NFPs alliances at country level



Supporting project design

A Rio Conventions Project Preparation Facility (PPF)



Promoting countries' leadership and ownership in building synergies

Supporting stronger alliances and partnerships between NFPs at country level



Existing good practices



3 national Rio conventions focal points within the same team

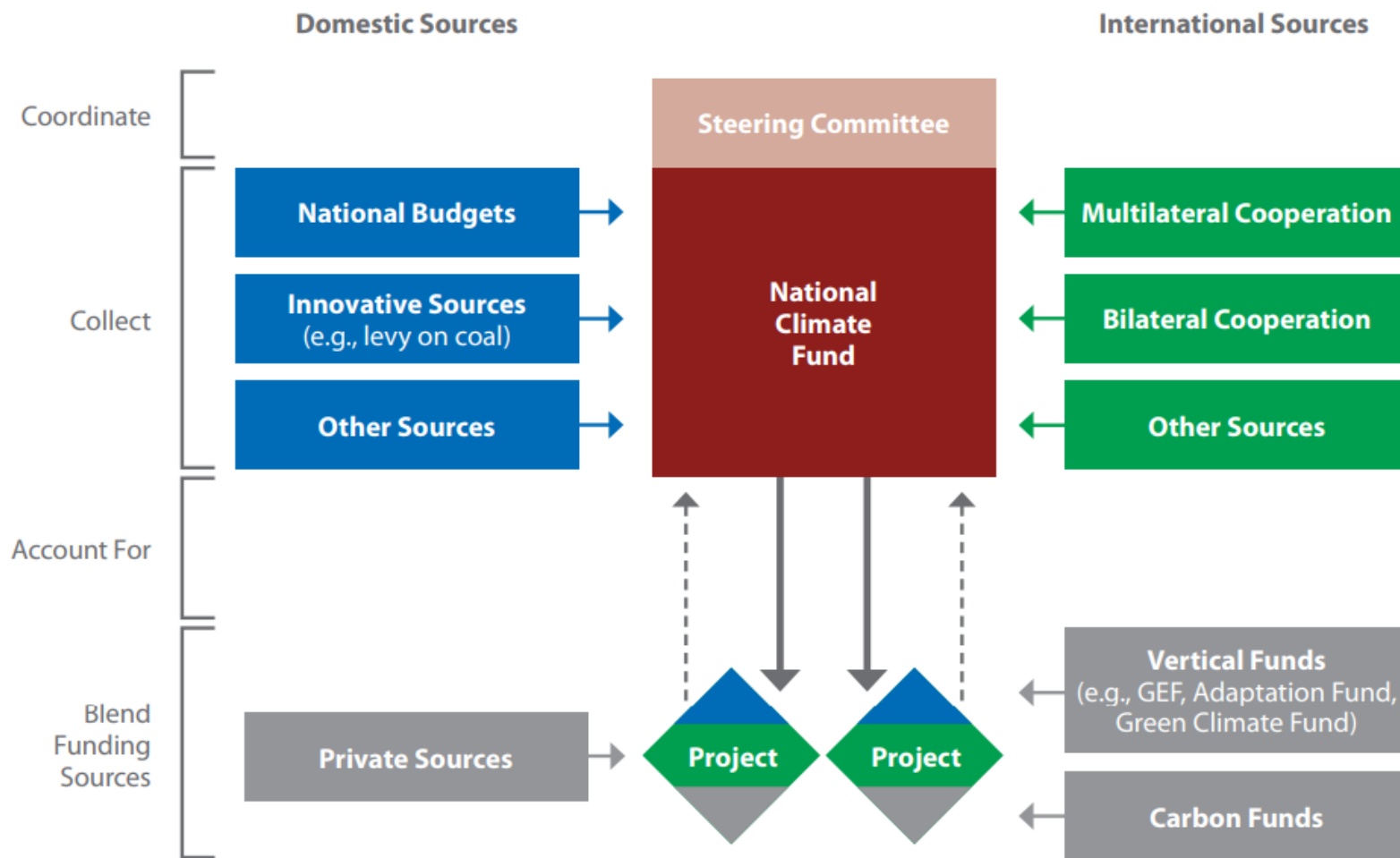


Working to build a solid coordination between the 3 NFPs



Potential financing support at country level

Design of National Financing Vehicles for Climate Action



Mainstreaming climate action in domestic funds

- Diversity of sectoral funds, including National Forest Funds, National Agriculture and Rural Development Funds, RE funds, etc
- « Accreditation » of domestic funds to global climate funds (GCF, AF, GEF, etc)
- National climate finance architecture



A way forward?

- **Importance of the Joint Liaison Group (JLG) work**
- **Implementing the multiple decisions on synergies between Rio conventions**
- **Testing joint negotiation processes**
- **Synergies with other MEAs as relevant**
- **Developing implementation arms (e.g. Global Mechanism of the UNCCD)**



Efficiency / Synergies.

Country ownership / Partnerships.

Domestic financing / Impacts.

Many thanks for your attention

