

**Regional Programming and Strategy Workshop
for Asian Least Developed Countries
September 20, 2023, Siem Reap, Cambodia
Mark Stafford Smith, STAP
(*on behalf of Rosina Bierbaum, Chair*)**

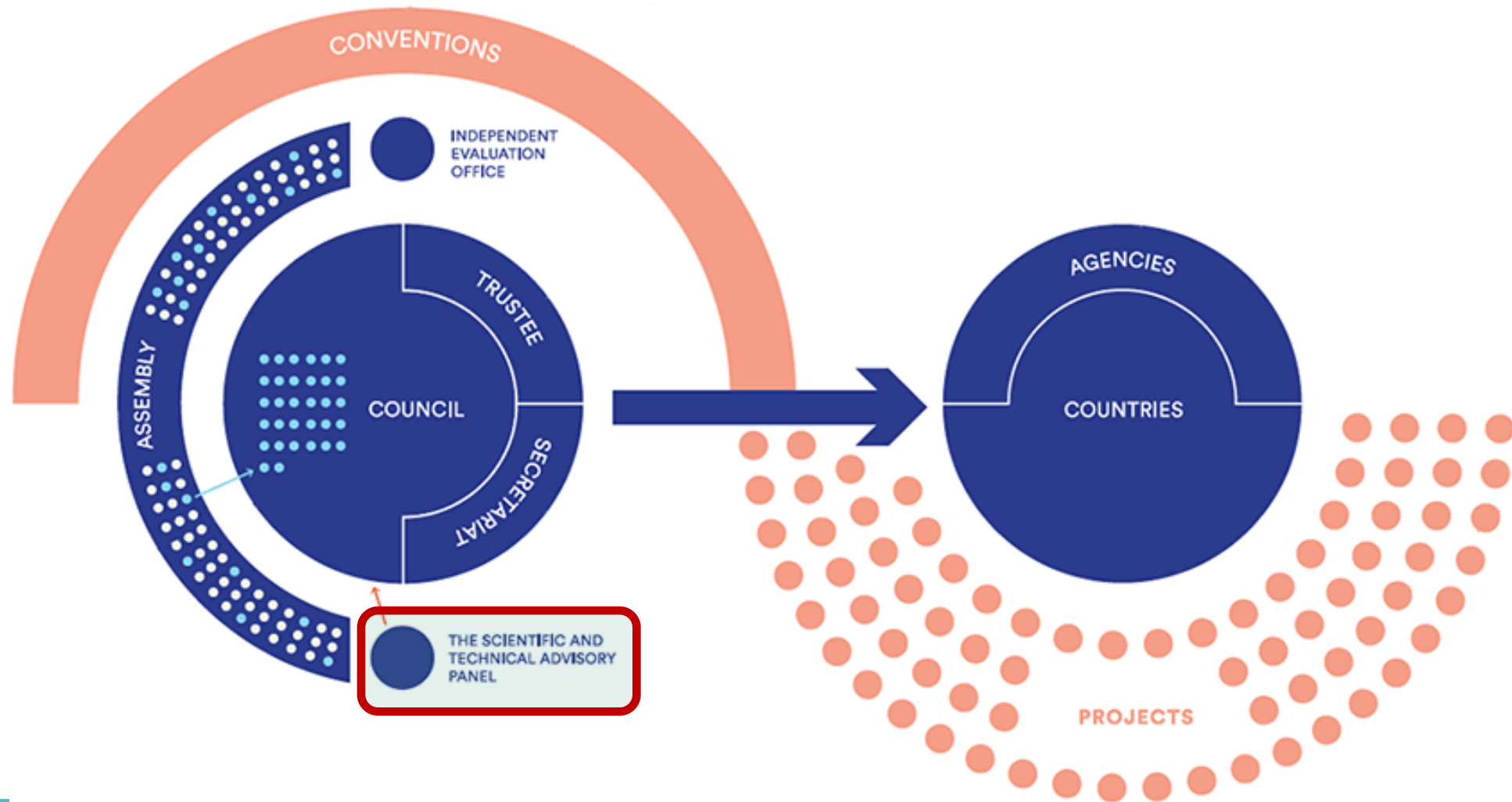


What is STAP ?

STAP provides independent scientific and technical advice to the GEF Council on projects, policies, and programs.



STAP in the GEF Partnership



Scientific Technical and Advisory Panel



Mark Stafford Smith
Advisor to Chair



Rosina Bierbaum
Chair



Chris Whaley
Advisor to Chair



Ngonidzashe Chirinda
*Climate Change
Mitigation*



Edward Carr
*Climate Change
Adaptation*



Miriam Diamond
Chemicals and Waste



John Donaldson
Biodiversity



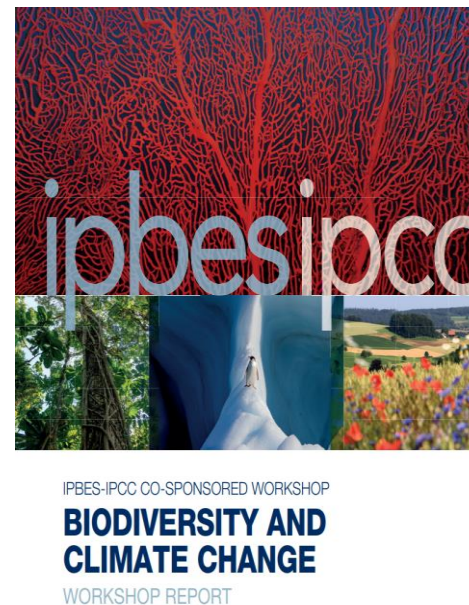
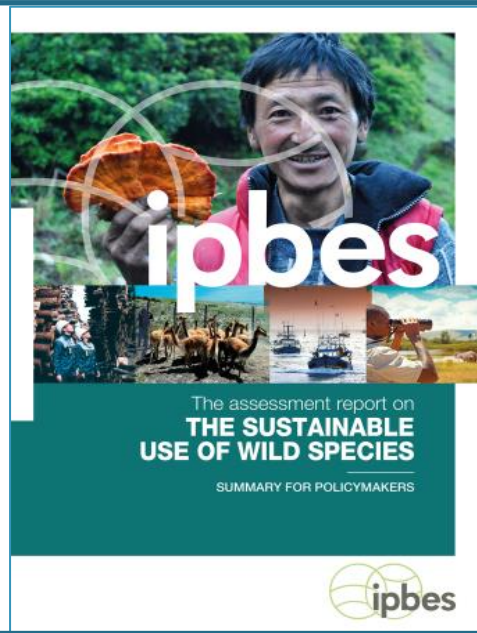
Graciela Metternicht
Land Degradation



Blake Ratner
International Waters

STAP has two main roles in the GEF Partnership

- 1 Advice**
- recent science
 - GEF's strategy
 - technical advice on good project design
 - topics, e.g. circular economy, nature-based solutions.
- (<https://stapgef.org/resources>)



- 2 Reviews projects above \$2mn & Integrated Programs**



STAP's role in screening projects

To ensure that:

- the principles of good project design are applied
- projects are scientifically and technically sound

➤ STAP's has a formal screening template

<https://www.stapgef.org/resources/advisory-documents/stap-guidelines-screening-gef-projects>

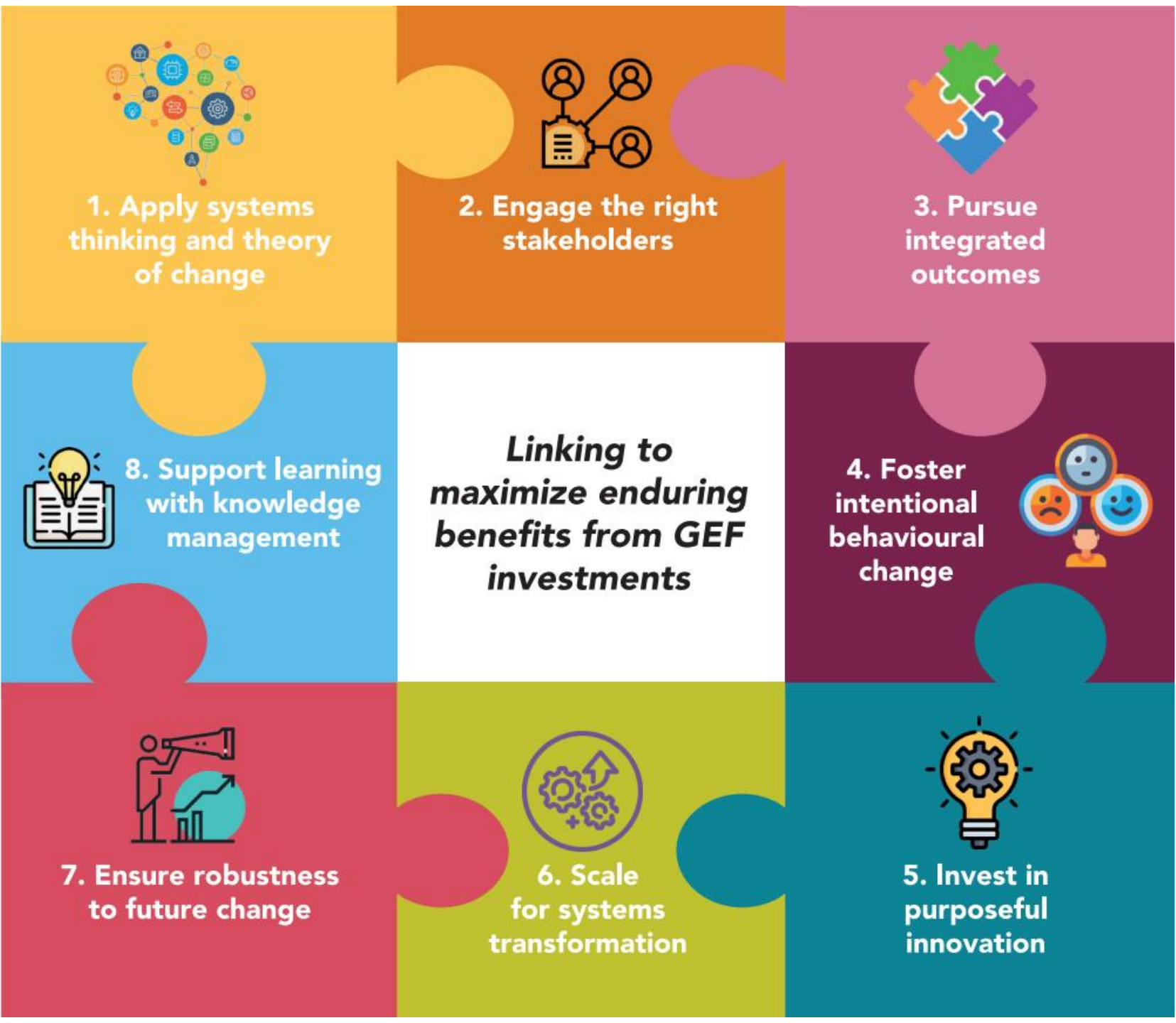


Príncipe Scops Owl (*Otus bikegila*)
São Tomé and Príncipe
Image credit: Philippe Verbelen

Eight enabling elements

Applied consistently but lightly at the PIF stage, in the *Project Rationale* and *Project Description*

Then developed more fully by CEO endorsement (and in implementation)



A typology of adaptation benefits

- IPCC noted that adaptation projects were often **fragmented**
- Adaptation projects need a clear rationale:
 - **exposure**
 - **sensitivity**
 - **adaptive capacity**



Mangrove reforestation project in Senegal.

(Image: Clement Tardif / Greenpeace). Accessed from [Chinadialogue.net](https://chinadialogue.net)

A decision tree for adaptation rationale

- Climate adaptation projects benefit from having a clear rationale
- STAP has developed a 'decision tree' to aid project with four main elements:
 - Decide whether adaptation is required
 - Identify projects to meet a recognized need
 - Ensure projects complement current efforts
 - Maximize synergies and minimize trade-offs



A rickshaw puller covers his face from the heatwave as temperature touches 44 degrees, in New Delhi on Wednesday. (ANI Photo)

India recorded the [hottest March in 122 years](#) in Delhi.

<https://stapgef.org/resources/advisory-documents/decision-tree-adaptation-rationale>

STAP advice in multi-trust fund projects

- Eritrea (10789): Climate resilience and sustainable natural resource management and livelihoods in Eritrea (South-Eastern Escarpments and Adjacent Coastal Areas)
- Benin (10166): Strengthening human and natural systems resilience to climate change through mangrove ecosystems conservation and sustainable use in southern Benin
- Mali (10687): Climate security and sustainable management of natural resources in the central regions of Mali for peacebuilding

Take away messages from multi-trust fund projects

- Adaptation (and scaling) requires attention to behavioral change - cultural values, norms, other social issues strong (but harder to achieve) levers of systems change
- Every GEF project requires thinking about adaptation consequences – key for **enduring** environmental and social benefits
- Simple future narratives of how key drivers (e.g. climate, population, demand) may play out are therefore a must for robust projects!



Thank you!