GEF Regional Programming and Strategy Workshop for LDCs
April 25, 2023      Dakar, Senegal
Rosina Bierbaum, Ph.D. STAP 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.

2. Reviews projects above $2mn & Integrated Programs

(https://stapgef.org/resources)
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

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)

1. Apply systems thinking and theory of change
2. Engage the right stakeholders
3. Pursue integrated outcomes
4. Foster intentional behavioural change
5. Invest in purposeful innovation
6. Scale for systems transformation
7. Ensure robustness to future change
8. Support learning with knowledge management

Linking to maximize enduring benefits from GEF investments

STAP’S Enabling elements, 2022.
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.
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

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)

- Mali (10687): Climate security and sustainable management of natural resources in the central regions of Mali for peacebuilding

- Benin (10166): Strengthening human and natural systems resilience to climate change through mangrove ecosystems conservation and sustainable use in southern Benin
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 benefits

• Simple future narratives are therefore a must!
Thank you!

Tiny cub pawprints of West African lions once again dot the soil in Senegal’s Niokolo-Koba National Park thanks to Florence, a 10-year-old lioness deemed the Park’s matriarch. 3 cubs! HAPPY EARTH DAY!