

# Evaluating Climate Change: Approaches, Challenges and Lessons

UNEG EPE 2025  
Tokyo, Japan

Tuesday 11 Feb 13:30-15:00



# Session Overview



## Objectives:

- Discuss approaches, methodological challenges and lessons learned from evaluation of climate-related interventions
- Identify good practices for mainstreaming climate considerations in evaluations
- Contribute to implementation of new "environmental" norm and the development of UNEG methods guidance



## Outline:

- Introductory presentations 45 min
- Group work 30 min
- Plenary 15 min

# Facilitators



**Luisa Belli**  
FAO Evaluation Officer



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Adaptation Fund TERG Secretariat  
Coordinator and Senior Evaluation Officer



**Janet Wildish**  
UNEP Evaluation Director a.i.



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UNICEF Evaluation Specialist



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FAO Senior Evaluation Officer

# Introduction

There is growing recognition that climate change is both a driver and a result of unsustainable practices in a wide spectrum of areas.

An increasing number of UNEG members have gained experience in, and developed guidance for, evaluating climate-related interventions.

Members of the UNEG Methods WG started discussion how this expertise could be shared.



# Contributing Agencies



**Adaptation Fund** is an innovative financing mechanism under the UNFFCC that supports developing countries and their most vulnerable communities in building resilience and adapting to climate change. AF-TERG is in charge of the independent implementation of the Evaluation Policy of the Adaptation Fund through evaluation generation, evaluation utilization and evaluation capacity building.



**FAO** supports countries to adapt their agrifood systems to climate change and to mitigate climate change by reducing or preventing greenhouse gas emissions, through its projects and programs and a wide range of knowledge products and services.



**UNEP** is the leading global authority on the environment; driving transformational change by drilling down on the root causes of the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss and pollution. UNEP's climate work covers, 1) climate science, data and transparency, 2) sectoral solutions to close the adaptation and emissions gaps, and 3) catalyzing finance to implement climate action.



**UNICEF** the United Nations agency for children, works to protect the rights of every child, especially the most disadvantaged and those hardest to reach. Across more than 190 countries and territories, we do whatever it takes to help children survive, thrive and fulfil their potential.

# UN action in support of climate change mitigation and adaptation

**13 CLIMATE ACTION**

**TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS**

**EARTH'S TIPPING POINT**

STANDING AT THE BRINK OF CLIMATE CALAMITY

**WHERE WE ARE**

THE WORLD WILL EXCEED 1.5°C BY 2035 AND FACES A 2.5°C WARMING BY 2100

**WHAT WE NEED**

DEEP, RAPID AND SUSTAINED GHG EMISSION REDUCTIONS BY 43% BY 2030 AND TO NET ZERO BY 2050

**Adaptation** involves modifying our decisions, activities and ways of thinking to adjust to a changing climate

**Mitigation** aims to reduce the causes of climate change

**Goals**

- Increasing our capacity to adapt
- Improving our ability to thrive under different climate conditions

**Examples**

- Forest protection
- Infrastructure and building design
- Flood protection
- Changing agricultural practices: Planting different crops to respond to changing growing seasons and temperatures, or planting a variety of crops to reduce damage from pests that could migrate northward

**Overlapping examples**

- Green infrastructure
- Water and energy conservation

**Goal**

- Cut down greenhouse gas emissions

**Examples**

- Energy efficient technology
- Sustainable transportation
- Industrial process improvements
- Renewable energy
- Creating community and home gardens: Increasing local agricultural capacity helps reduce the need to import food over long distances, and by extension the consumption of fossil fuels

**Climate Change: Adaptation and Mitigation**

For the whole Canada in a Changing Climate report, visit [Adaptation.NRCan.gc.ca](http://Adaptation.NRCan.gc.ca)

Ingenium | Let's Talk Energy | Canadian Geographic | Canada

# Using space and scale to identify evaluation approaches and methods

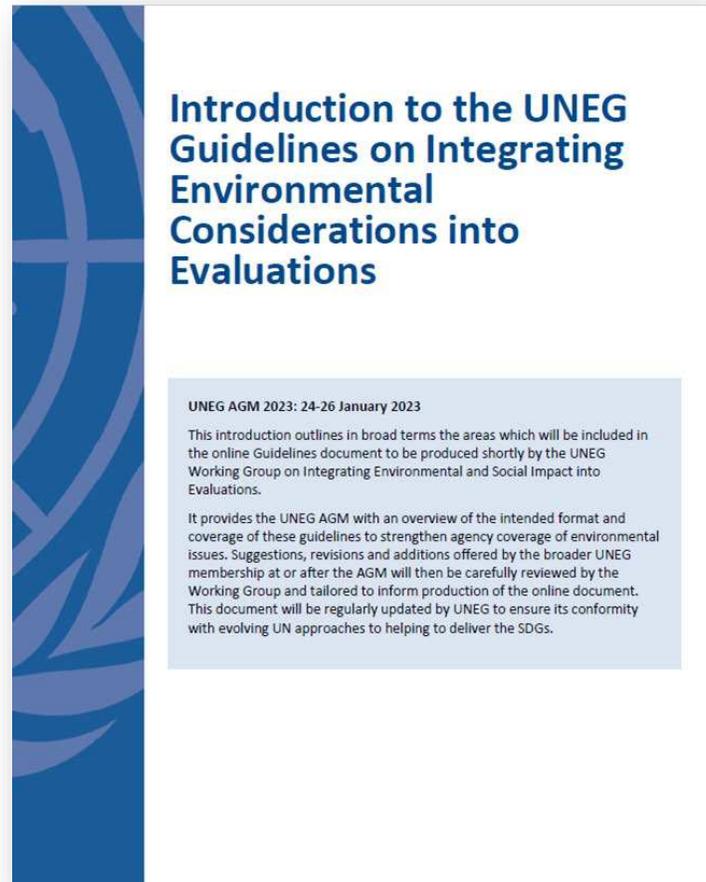
## Approaches

1. Ex-post evaluations of local interventions (**Adaptation Fund**)
2. Providing a framework to assess contributions at national level (**FAO**)
3. Evaluating a global sub-programme on climate action (**UNEP**)
4. Evaluating climate change mainstreaming (**UNICEF**)

<u>Space</u> \ Scale	One intervention	Multiple interventions	Enabling environment	Cross-cutting
Local	Experimental (RCT)		Systematic reviews	
National		Quasi experimental (contribution analysis)		
Regional		Big data / QCA / case study		
Global				

*Note: The table includes handwritten annotations: a blue oval around 'Local' and 'One intervention' (enclosing 'Experimental (RCT)'); a green oval around 'Local' and 'Enabling environment' (enclosing 'Systematic reviews'); a red oval around 'National' and 'Multiple interventions' (enclosing 'Quasi experimental (contribution analysis)'); and an orange oval around 'Regional' and 'Multiple interventions' (enclosing 'Big data / QCA / case study'). A vertical blue oval is drawn around the 'Scale' column header.*

# ESI Norm & Standard, and UNEG Guidance Development

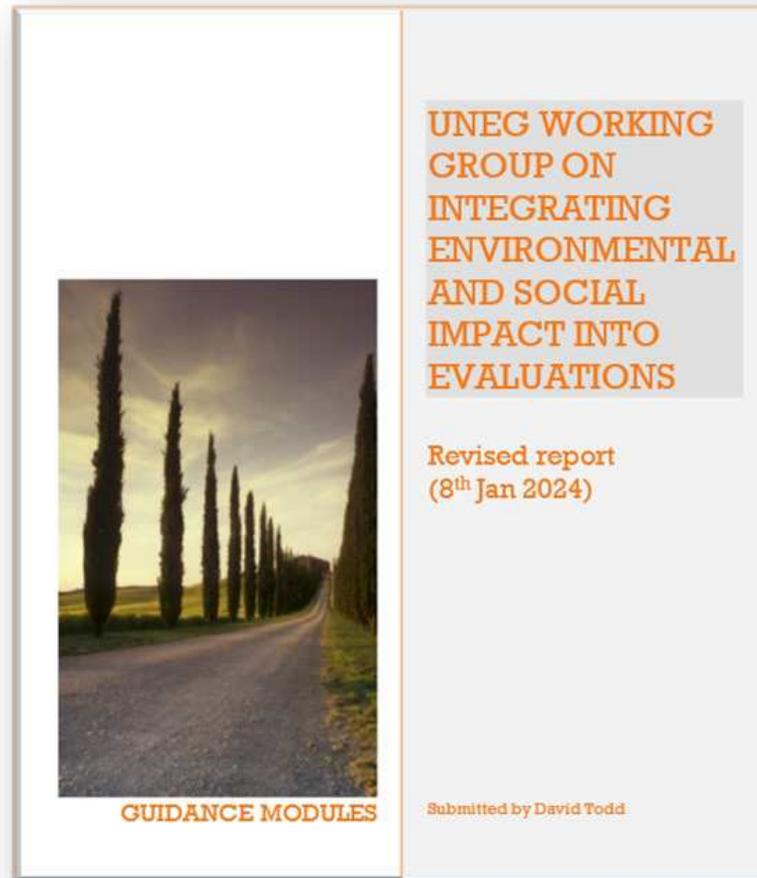


**Introduction to the UNEG Guidelines on Integrating Environmental Considerations into Evaluations**

UNEG AGM 2023: 24-26 January 2023

This introduction outlines in broad terms the areas which will be included in the online Guidelines document to be produced shortly by the UNEG Working Group on Integrating Environmental and Social Impact into Evaluations.

It provides the UNEG AGM with an overview of the intended format and coverage of these guidelines to strengthen agency coverage of environmental issues. Suggestions, revisions and additions offered by the broader UNEG membership at or after the AGM will then be carefully reviewed by the Working Group and tailored to inform production of the online document. This document will be regularly updated by UNEG to ensure its conformity with evolving UN approaches to helping to deliver the SDGs.



**UNEG WORKING GROUP ON INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT INTO EVALUATIONS**

**Revised report (8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024)**



**GUIDANCE MODULES**

Submitted by David Todd

Guidance will be disseminated as a **modular web-based system**, which will become more comprehensive as topic-specific modules are added.



**Technical Evaluation  
Reference Group**  
**ADAPTATION FUND**

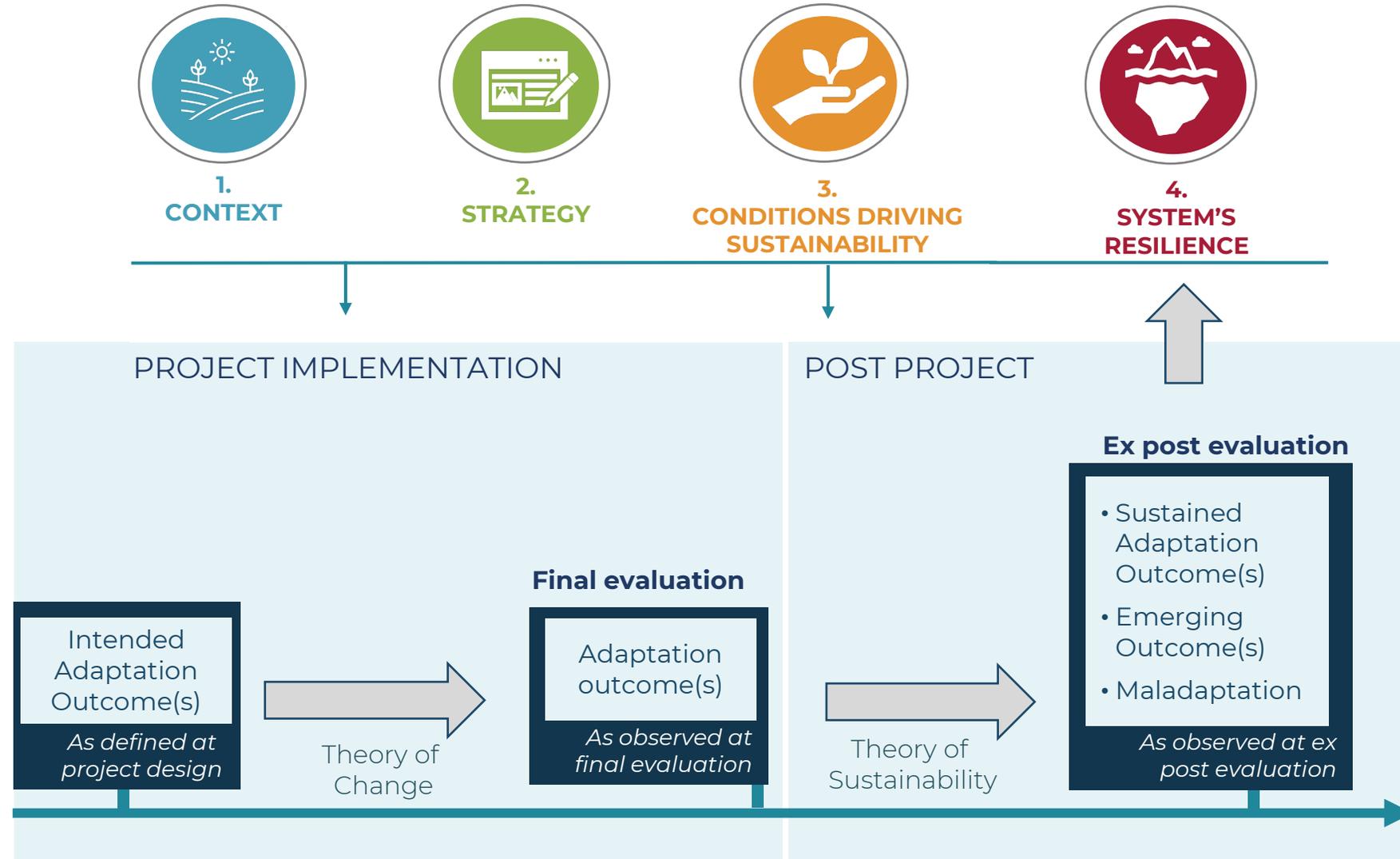
# 1. Defining ex post evaluation

“Evaluation of a development intervention **after** it has been completed”. (...)

“The intention is to identify the factors of success or failure, to **assess the sustainability of results and impacts**, and to draw conclusions that may inform other interventions”.

*OECD DAC (2022)*

## 2. Ex post framework



# 3. Conditions / Factors contributing to sustainability



01

Stakeholder  
**Ownership** of  
project outcomes  
and interventions

02

Availability of  
**Resources**  
(tangible and  
intangible)

03

Development and  
maintenance of  
**Capacities**

04

Development and  
maintenance of  
**Partnerships**

# 4. Contribution to resilience<sup>1</sup>



**Pathways** through which the sustained adaptation outcomes are influencing system resilience:

01

The temporal or spatial **scale** needed for systems to maintain or change their functions and/or structures in the face of climate disturbances.

02

**Redundancy**, i.e. the availability of resources, means, or options, or create new ones, to support resilience to climate risks.

03

**Diversity & inclusion**, including the variety of actors and inputs interacting towards common goals as well as equity.

04

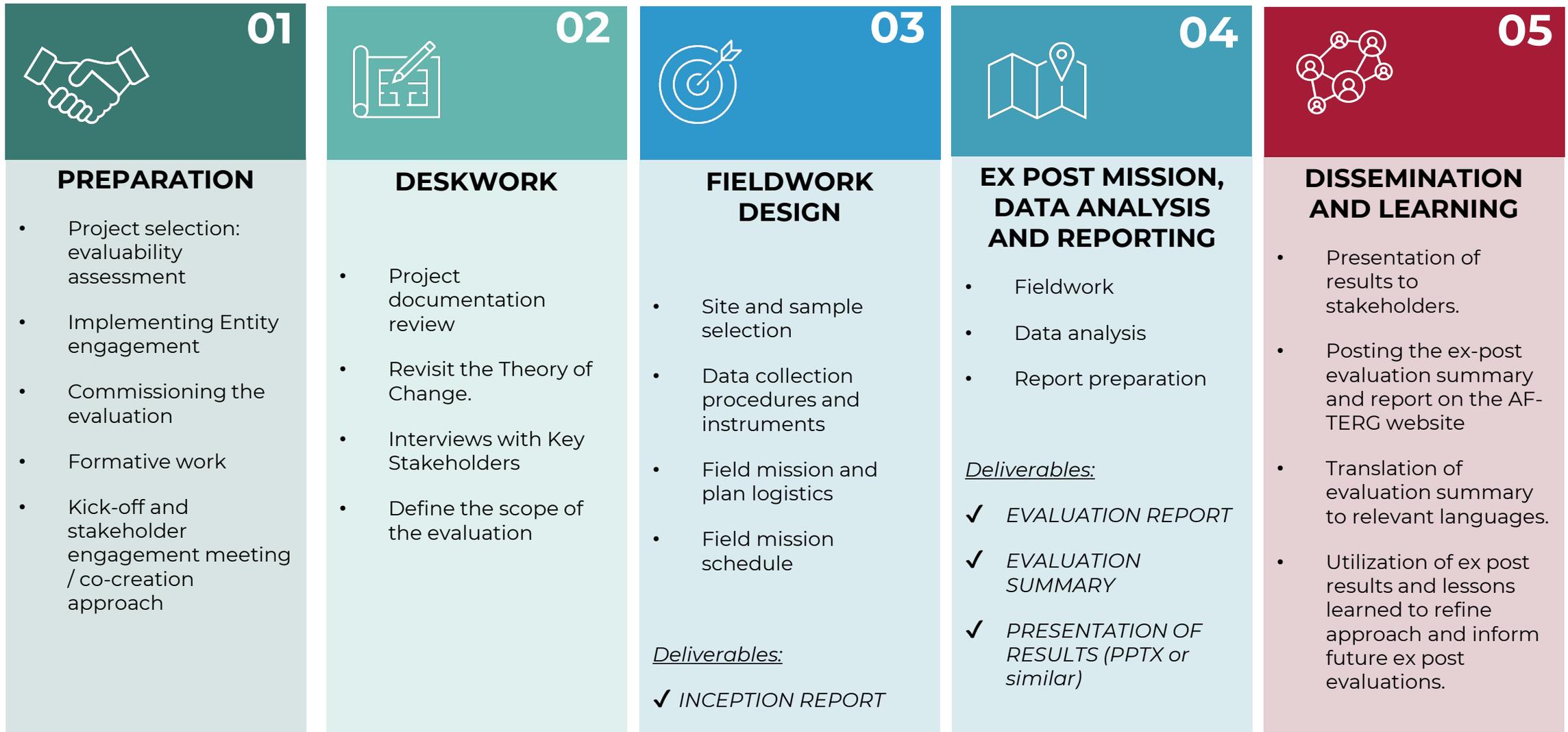
The system's **flexibility** in responding to uncertainty, tackling challenges, and seizing opportunities that may arise from change.

05

Supports **connectedness (feedback loops)** for access to information and partnerships to respond or adapt to shocks.

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Ospina & Kumari Rigaud, 2021

# 5. How to do it: Stages of ex-post



## 6. Some challenges

**Data quality and availability**

**Project Selection bias**

**Time Lag in Outcomes**

**Stakeholder engagement**

**Attribution of adaptation benefits**

**Changes in context**

**Limited funding**

# 7. Reflections: relevance of ex post evaluations

- ✓ Relevance to understanding various aspects of adaptation
  - How is the project contributing to building long-term adaptation goals?
  - What works and in what context?
  - Ambition
  - Adaptation limits
- ✓ Relevance to deepening country-level understanding of project sustainability and resilience, and for reporting to the UNFCCC.
- ✓ Relevance for designing next phases of programmes / scale up.
- ✓ Relevance for evaluation community on one potential ex-post methodology.



# Principles

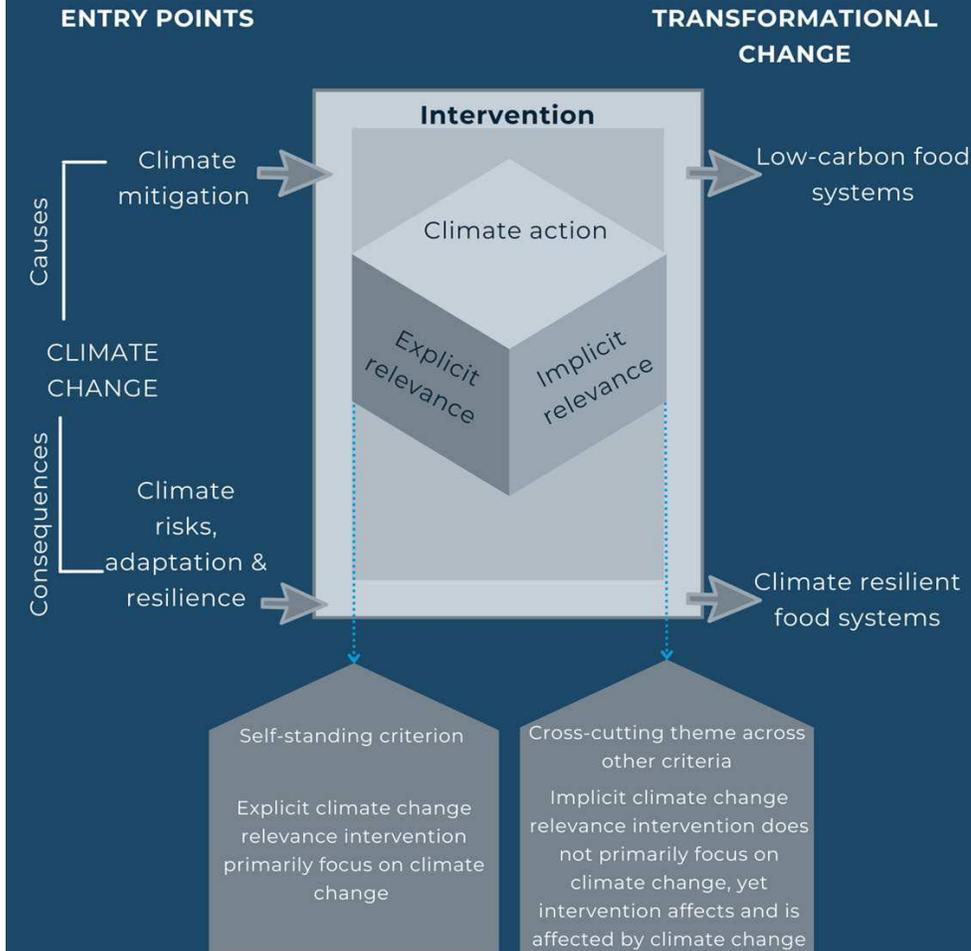
1. All interventions on food, agriculture, and nutrition affect and are affected by climate change.
2. Interventions should pave the way for transformational change in agri-food systems by developing low-carbon pathways in agriculture and building resilient food systems.

## Key steps

1. Defining the climate change relevance
2. Understanding the two dimensions of i) mitigation and ii) risk, adaptation and resilience.
3. Decide whether CC is a self-standing evaluation criterion or a cross-cutting theme

## Framework for Evaluating Climate Change

Climate change impacts upon food, agriculture and nutrition, therefore, affects directly or indirectly all interventions

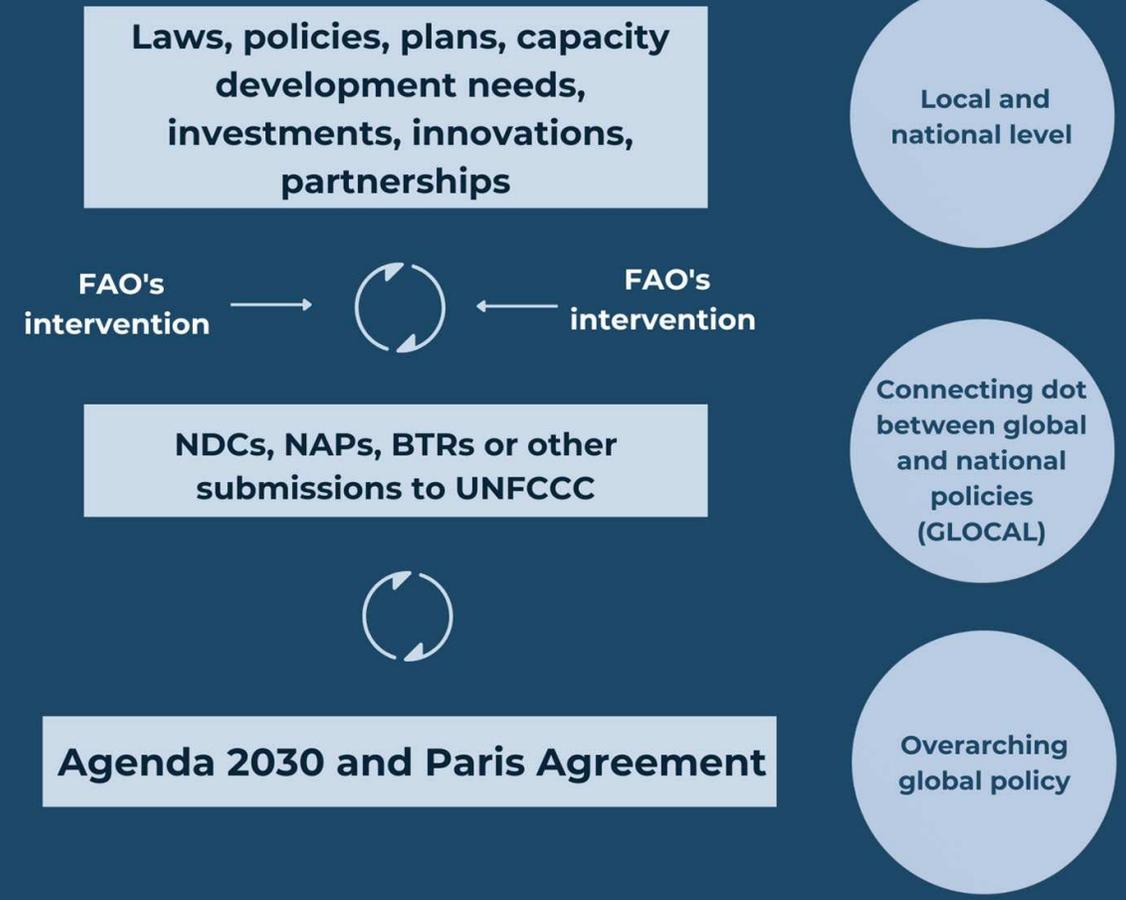


# UNFCCC instruments to guide the evaluation

Integration of **UNFCCC instruments** as a key pillar to guide the evaluation of any intervention.

Alignment with and contribution to UNFCCC instruments.

## Alignment of the intervention to UNFCCC instruments and the global context



# Example from Nigeria Country Programme Evaluation

**Objective:** Assess alignment of FAO's support with Nigeria's priorities for climate mitigation and adaptation as per Nationally determined contributions (NDC).

**Random sample of 21 (out of 69) projects analyzed**

- **10 projects (47.6%)** contributed to at least one NDC priority (7 adaptation, 6 mitigation).

## Findings:

- Adaptation priorities were less visible than mitigation in Nigeria's NDCs
- Two key actions (aeration of rice paddy fields and reduction of crop residues burnt) were not addressed

**Conclusion: climate action was not systematically undertaken despite the country's vulnerability**



# Framework's Opportunities, Challenges and Lessons Learned

## OPPORTUNITIES

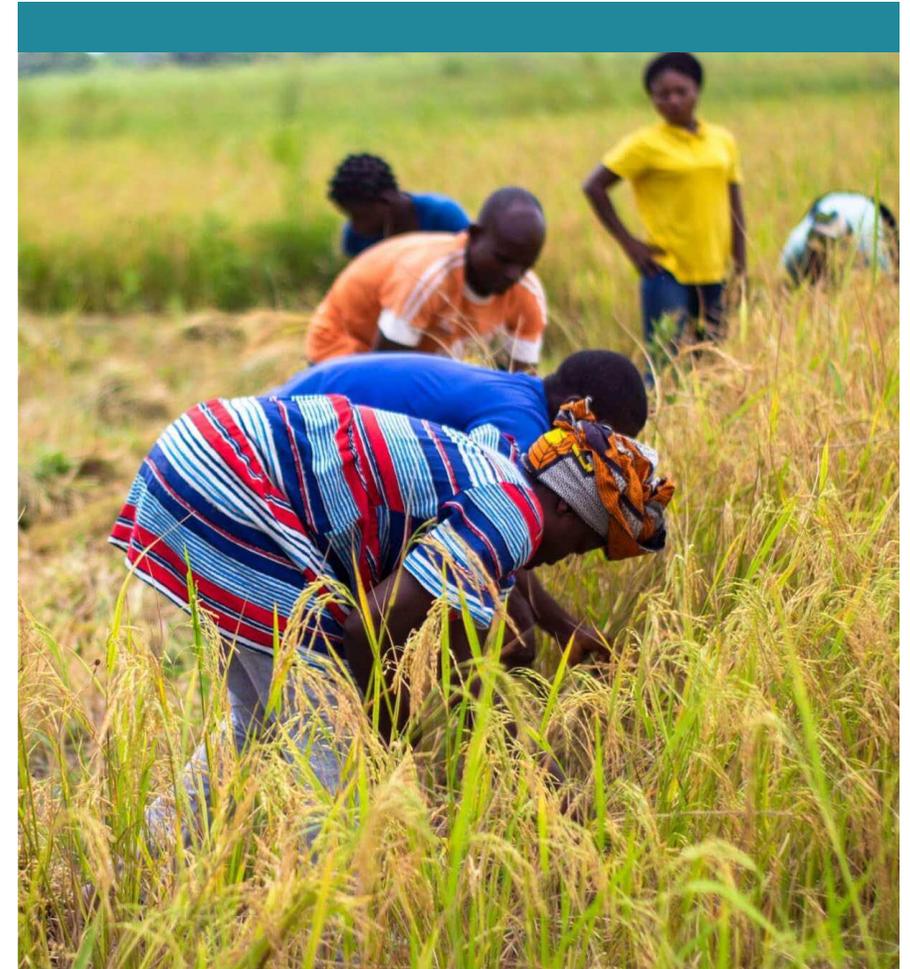
- Structured analysis to flag FAO's relevance of project portfolio to CC, through projects' alignment with NDCs and NAPs
- Guides flagging main gaps in FAO's programmes and can help framing forward-looking recommendations

## CHALLENGES

- Time and resources limited the sample size
- Adaptation priorities were less visible than mitigation in Nigeria's NDCs

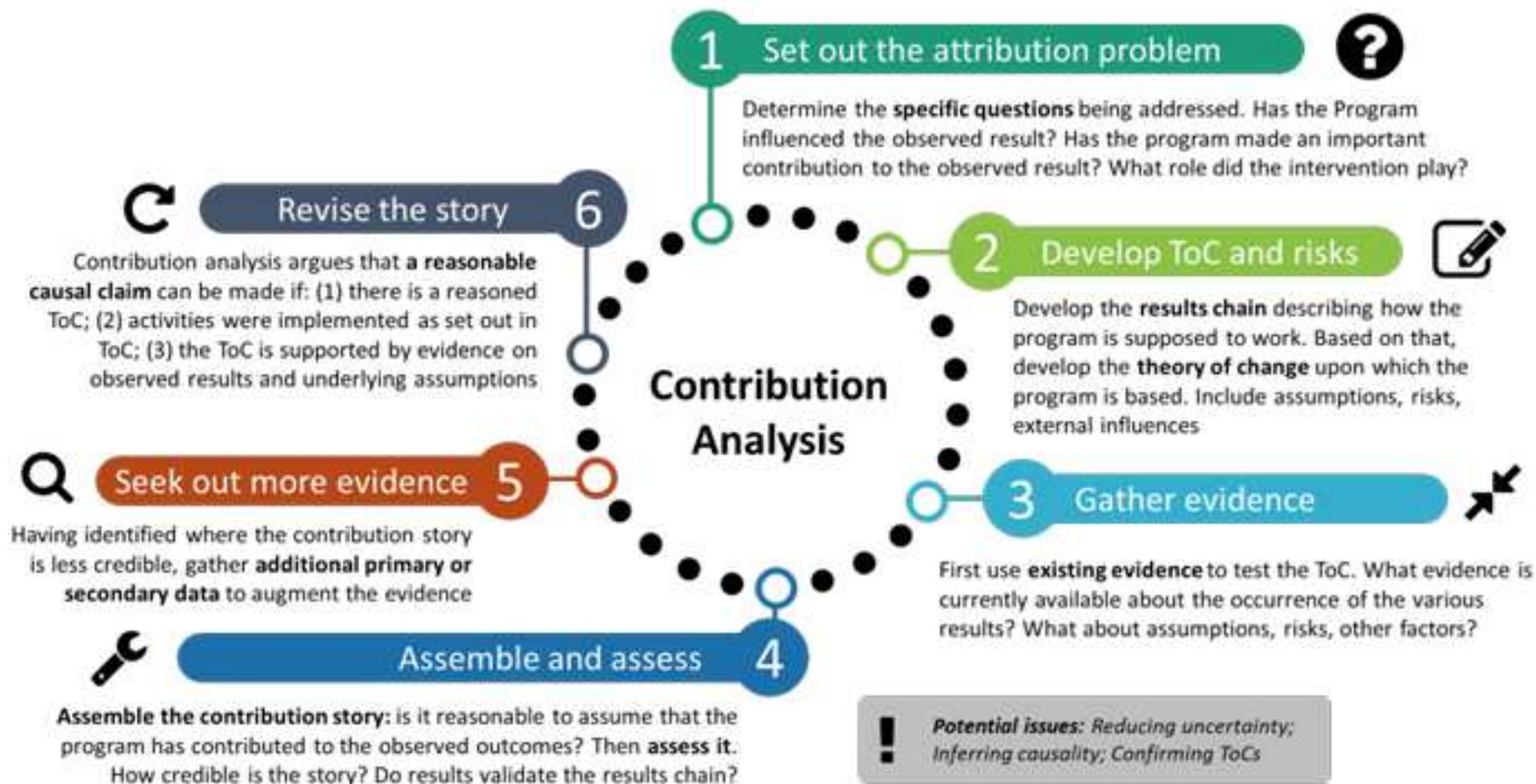
## LESSONS LEARNED

- Contextualize the analysis with a forward-looking approach, as analyzed projects may predate the latest NDC updates
- Allocate adequate time and resources for the analysis
- Engage a sector-level expert to guide or inform the study

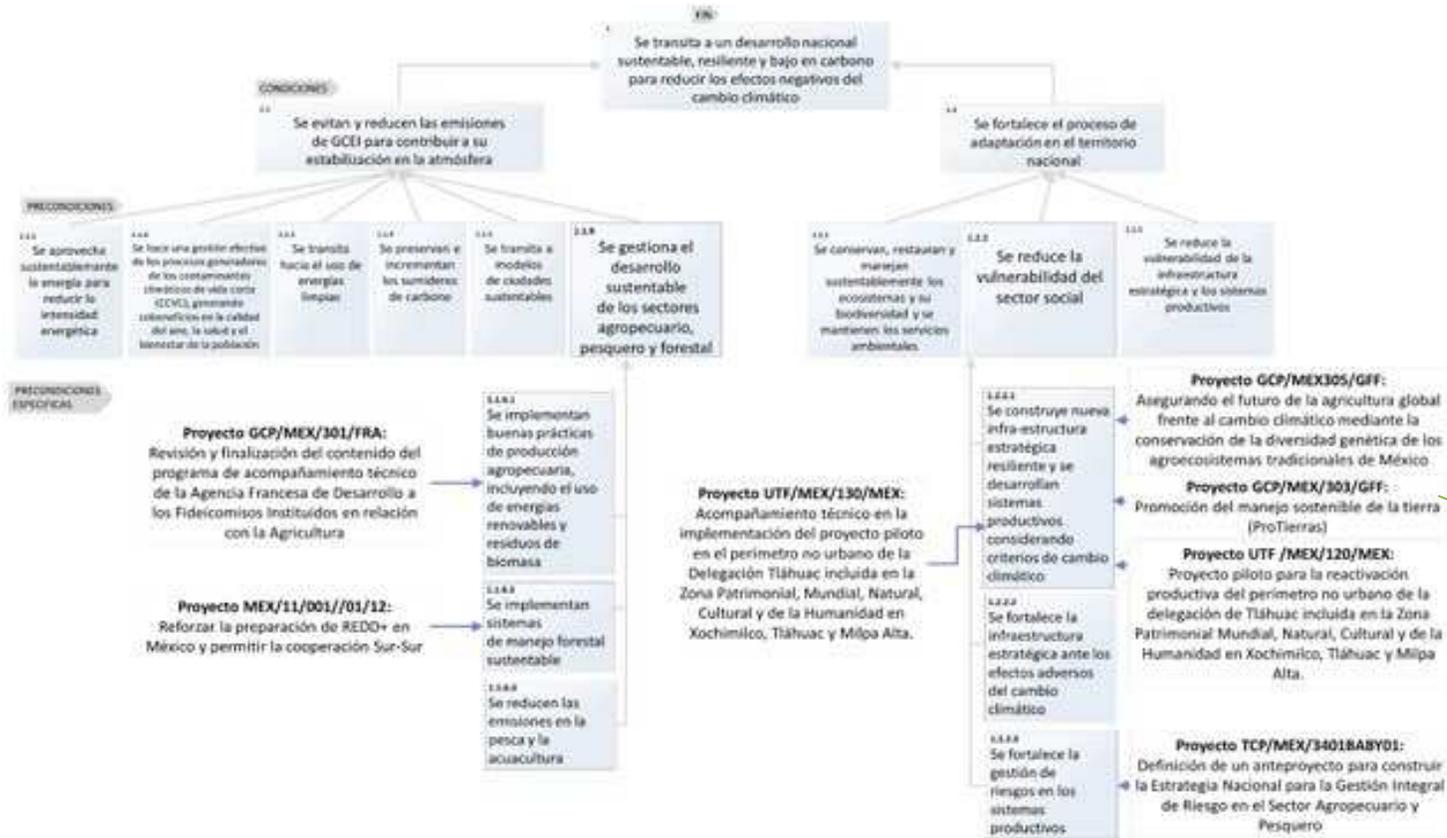


# Contribution analysis at national level

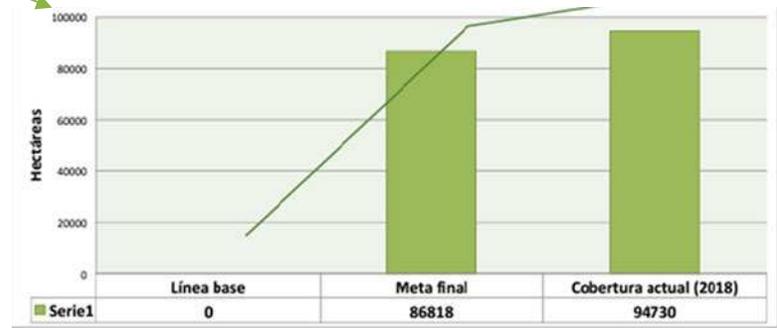
- Mexico's inclusive and sustainable green growth
- Kyrgyzstan's improved resilience in responding to climate change, crisis and disasters



# Challenges in contribution analysis

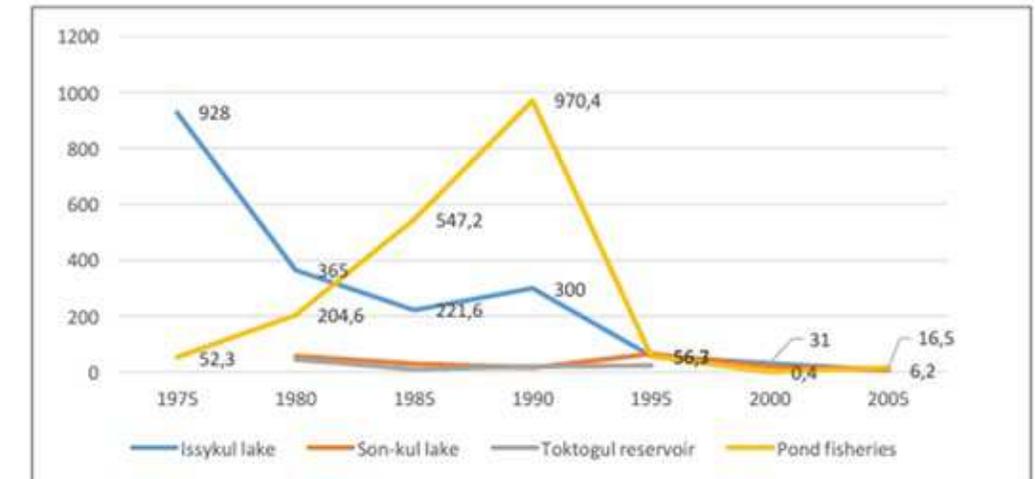
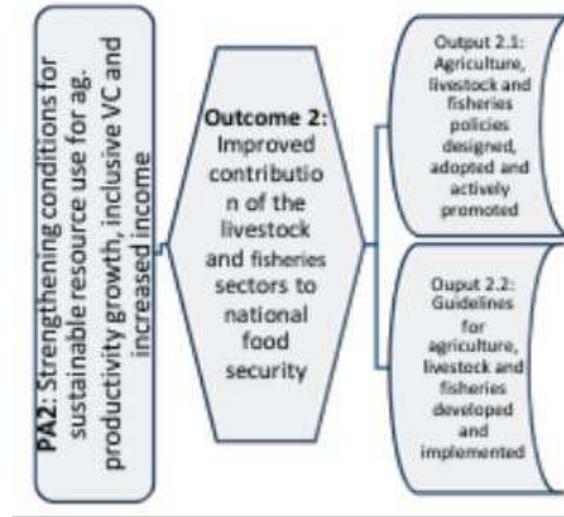


- Identifying the results chain(s)
- Availability of rigorous evidence
- Making reasonable causal claims



# Lessons learnt in contribution analysis

- Result chain(s) are key to refine questions and formulate appropriate methodologies for data gathering and analysis
- They help in developing a common understanding of the “evaluand” and the limits of the assessment
- Designing an evaluation at an early stage allows for the timely identification of evidence needs and gaps, as well as potential limitations of the exercise



**Figure 1:** Dynamics of Fish Captures in Kyrgyzstan (metric tons), 1975-2005

Source: Website of the Department of Fisheries under the MoAM<sup>12</sup>



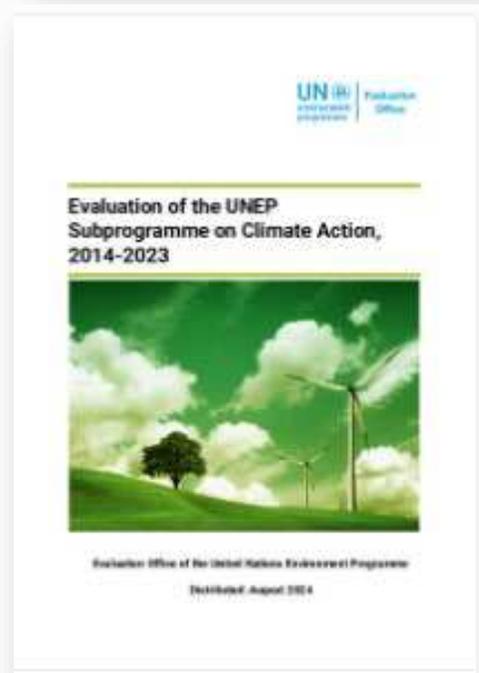
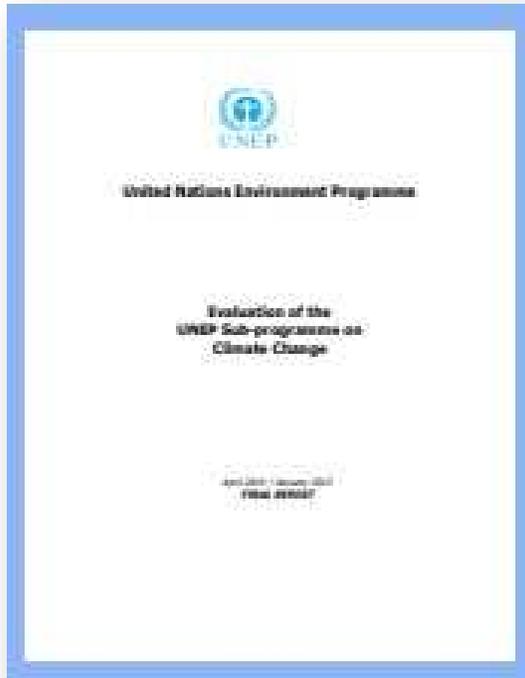
**Evaluation  
Office**

# UNEP: Two Subprogramme Evaluations of Climate Action (SP-CA)



## Climate Action

helps lower greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement while supporting states as they adapt to an already-changing climate, promoting sustainable development in the process.



- UNEP's mandate provides for environmental objectives to be mainstreamed in all of UNEP's work.
- Main types of evaluations conducted in UNEP are subprogramme, project and strategic evaluations.
- UN Secretariat requirement – each subprogramme evaluated every 6 years.
- About 1/3 of project evaluations conducted in UNEP are related to SP-CA.

Table 3. UNEP Climate MTS statements mirrored against the Articles of the Paris Agreement

Mandate from Paris Agreement (Article)	MTS 2014-2017	MTS 2018-2021	MTS 2022-2025
Stabilizing temperature increase, domestic mitigation measures, <u>Non-market</u> approaches (Art 2.1a, 4, 6.8, 6.9)	Low Emission Approaches (energy efficiency, renewable energy)	REDD+, energy efficiency, low-GHG development plans, increase in investments in clean energy (PoW ind.)	Climate stability as an objective, EA <a href="#">1A</a>
Voluntary cooperative approaches to transfer mitigation outcomes (Art 6)	<u>"carbon assets"</u> projects from past periods	(Projects)	(Projects)
Carbon sinks (Art 5.1), reducing emissions from forest stock (Art 5.2)	REDD+	REDD+ (EA), increase in countries that have secured financing for REDD	
Increasing the ability to adapt to climate change, Global Goal on Adaptation (Art 7, 2.1.b)	Ecosystem-based and supporting adaptation approaches	NAPs, EbA,	Climate stability as an objective, EA <a href="#">1A</a>
International cooperation on adaptation efforts, Cancun Framework (Art 7.6 – 7-8)		(Projects)	(Projects)
Making financial flows consistent with a pathway towards these goals (Art 2.1.c)	(Projects)	(Projects)	Indicators under EA 1.C
Climate Finance (Art 9)	Access to finance mentioned	access to climate finance (is a PoW ind. in all three fields)	Indicators under EA 1.C
Loss and Damage, incl. Early Warning Systems, climate risks and emergencies, Warsaw Mechanism (Art 8)	(Projects)	(Projects)	(Projects)
Technology Mechanism (Art 10)	CTCN, (TNA)	CTCN, (TNA)	(CTCN) (TNA)
Capacity Building (Art 11)	Planning and legislative advice; overall objective <sup>2</sup>	(Projects, CBIT)	EA 1.B, (CBIT)
Climate change education and awareness (Art 12)	Mentioned	Projects, other divisions/subprogrammes	Indicator iv under EA <a href="#">1B</a>
Enhanced transparency framework, national communications, Global Stocktake (Art 13, 14)	(Enabling Activities)	(Enabling Activities, CBIT)	EA 1.C, (CBIT)
nationally determined contributions	promoting integration of better approaches in national development planning processes		EA <a href="#">1A</a>
Observing and representing at the CMAs (Art 16.8)	x	x	x

Legend: Red: not mentioned and not implemented. Orange: not mentioned for the programming period but implemented.

# UNEP MTS SP-CA and the Paris Agreement

## Finding on Strategic Relevance:

“ The subprogramme addresses decarbonization, dematerialization and resilience efforts in a comprehensive way and covers the adaptation as well as the mitigation goals of the Paris Agreement including the transparency framework.

In fact, UNEP is much more important for the climate conversation in general and the evolution and implementation of the Paris Agreement in particular than its own narratives imply.” (2024)

Planetary sustainability for people, prosperity and equity



Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

**2030 outcome:** Government and non-government development action are compatible with the Paris Agreement's long-term objectives of "holding the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C" and "increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change".

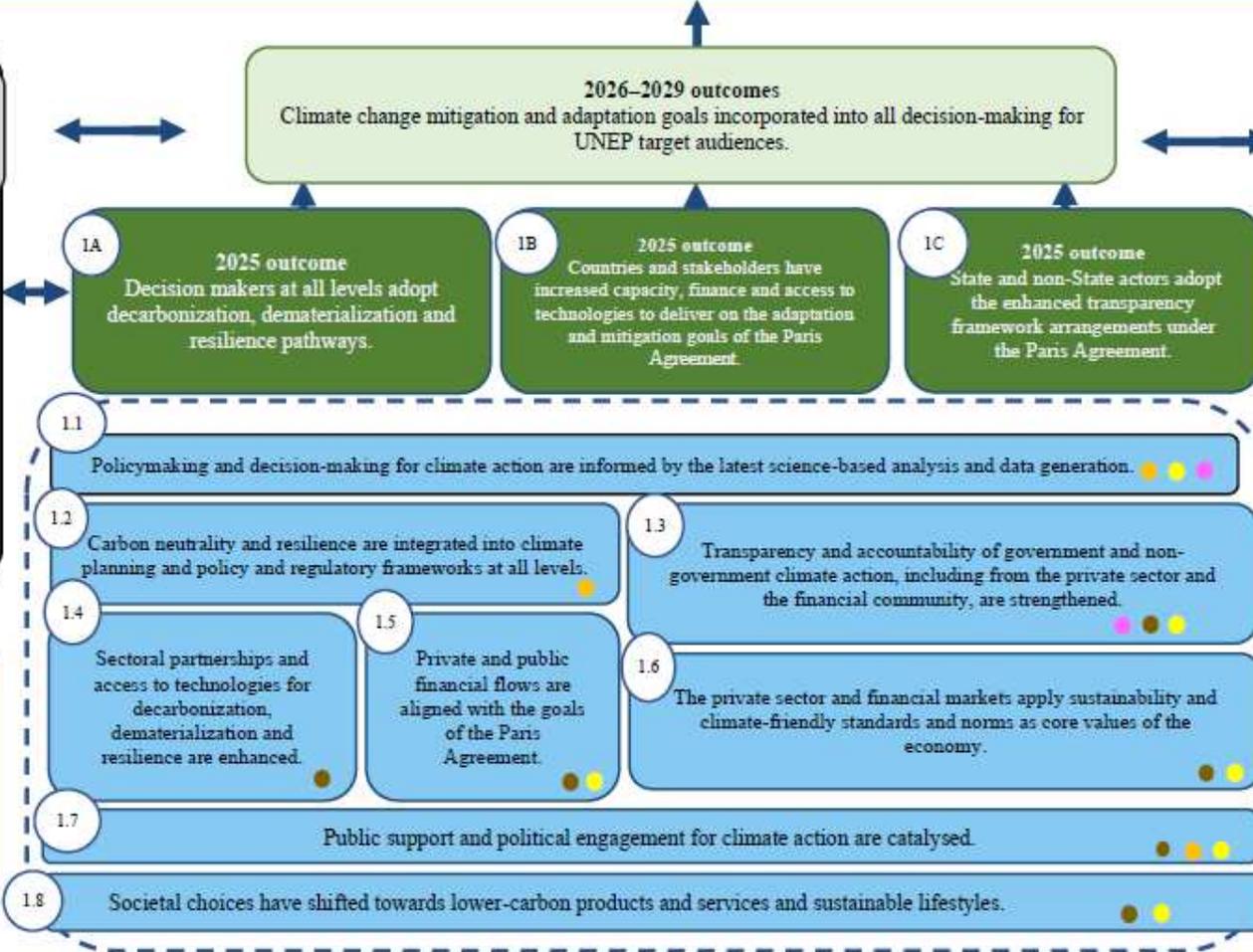
TOC  
SP-CA  
(2024)

**Assumptions**

- Governments ensure that the private sector internalizes the full costs of climate change.
- Research and education institutions generate data and know-how in support of climate stability.
- Governments are willing to follow through on global resolve and obligations.

**External risks**

- Economic and social impacts of COVID-19.
- Insufficient political commitment.



**Drivers**

- Enhanced transparency around climate change, air quality and health risks through digital means to catalyse public pressure for action.
- Synergies with global and regional multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant frameworks.
- Science-driven policy and public opinion.
- Climate action influenced by public opinion.
- COVID-19 recovery investments.
- Youth and private-sector leadership.

**Legend**

- Direct outcomes
- Science-policy contribution
- Environmental governance contribution
- Finance and economic transformations contribution
- Digital transformations contribution

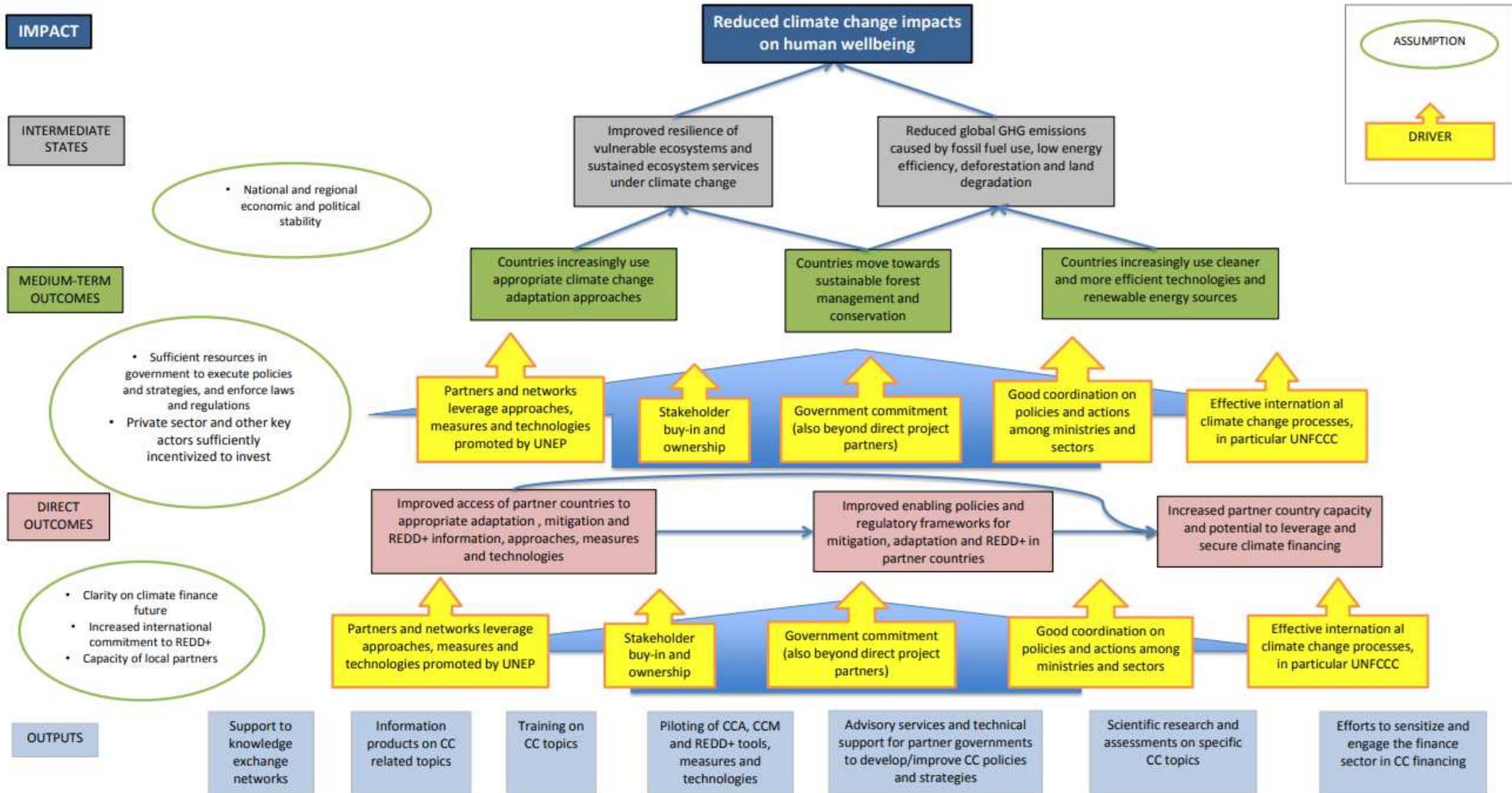
# Purpose/Scope of Subprogramme Evaluations

- Institutional learning and Member State accountability
- Future strategic direction
- Development of projects and portfolios
  
- **Strategic perspective:** SP design, structure, coherence, relevance, added value, etc.
- **Meta-analysis:** performance of projects; factors that affect performance.
- **Management:** coordination, efficiency, financial perspectives etc.

# Mixed Methods Approach

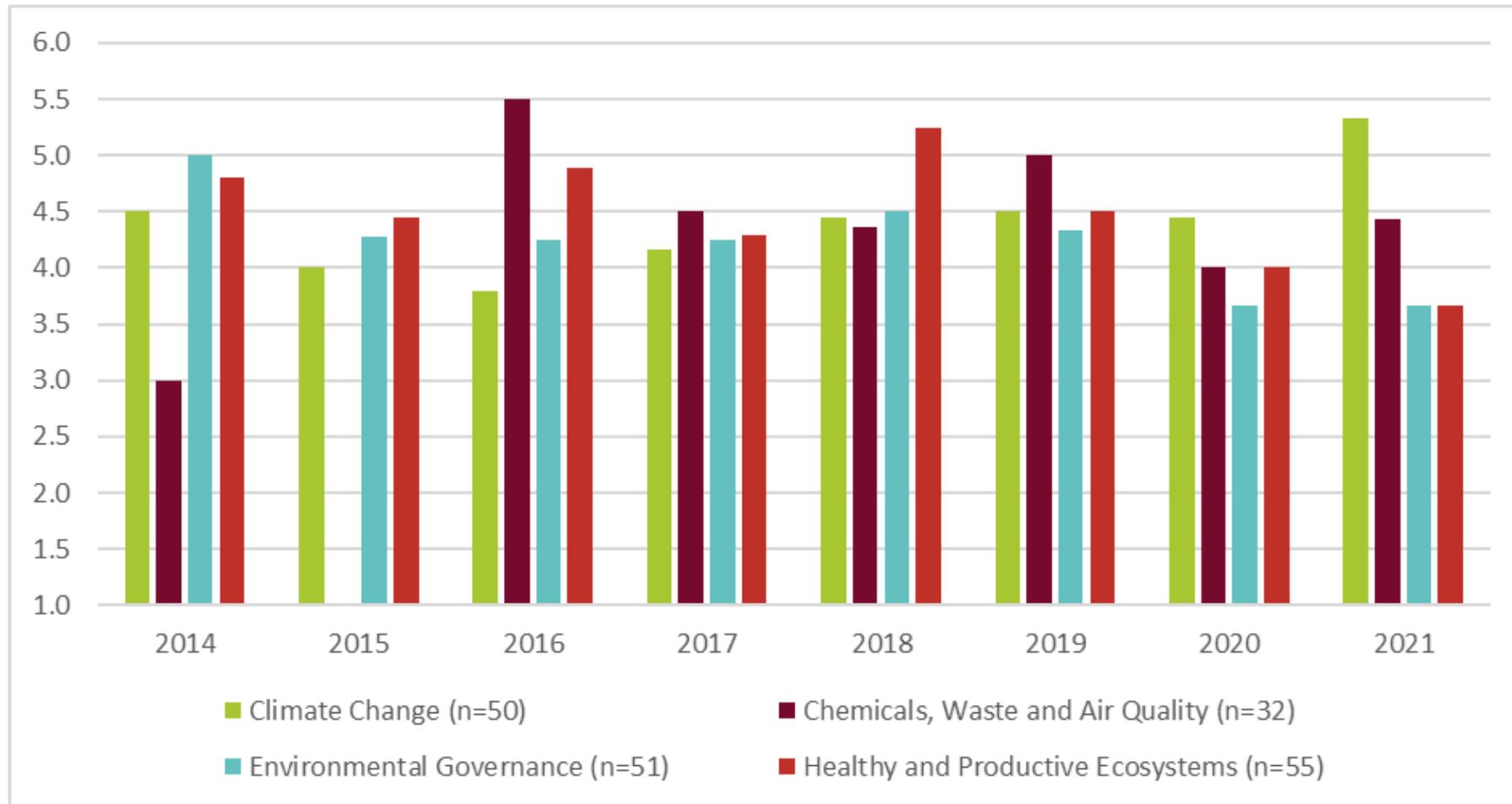
- Reconstructed the SP Theories of Change/Causal Pathways (over 6 - 10 year period)
- Contribution and process analysis
- Country case studies (2015): Albania, Bangladesh, China, Ghana, Montenegro, Peru, Tanzania, and Tunisia
- Deep dives (2024):
  - 1) *UNEP and ecosystem-based adaptation* – UNEP as leader on a specific issue globally and how it has translated expertise into tangible impact;
  - 2) *Science to policy* (emission gap,) science-based report series provides vital high-level context for the global response to climate change and fulfills UNEP's vision is to link science and policy to benefit the environment.
- Desk-based review of documents: project evaluations, SP monitoring reports (PPR), scientific publications, etc.
- Semi-structured interviews (UNEP staff and partners/stakeholders)
- Survey (UNEP staff and limited external stakeholders) (2015)

# Theory of Change SP-CA (2015)



# Evaluation Findings

Average project ratings for "Effectiveness" per year of project Completion (2014-2021)



# Challenges

- How then to set high-level results? Reflecting UNEP's mandate and comparative advantage (science into policy; environmental governance) or environmental benefits, when its difficult to identify specific contributions to global advancement.
- Leads to indicators that express 'reach' rather than UNEP's contribution towards 'closing the gap' or having an effect at a country level.
- How to set effective boundaries of the evaluand as effective response to climate change is synergistic (not just in one subprogramme) and SP changes over time with the institutional strategy (4-year MTS)
- Information of the SP-CA is fragmented and does not allow a fully systematic analysis and limited budget for SP evaluation (Environment Fund).
- Micro-macro paradox: Adding projects together may not equal social change or global environmental impact.
- SP Outcome indicator reporting seems to be transparent, but the spot check of the evaluation team was unable to reproduce the indicator counts or validate them with country level information.
- Coordinating the timing of SP evaluation with strategic design and planning processes is challenging

# Lessons Learnt

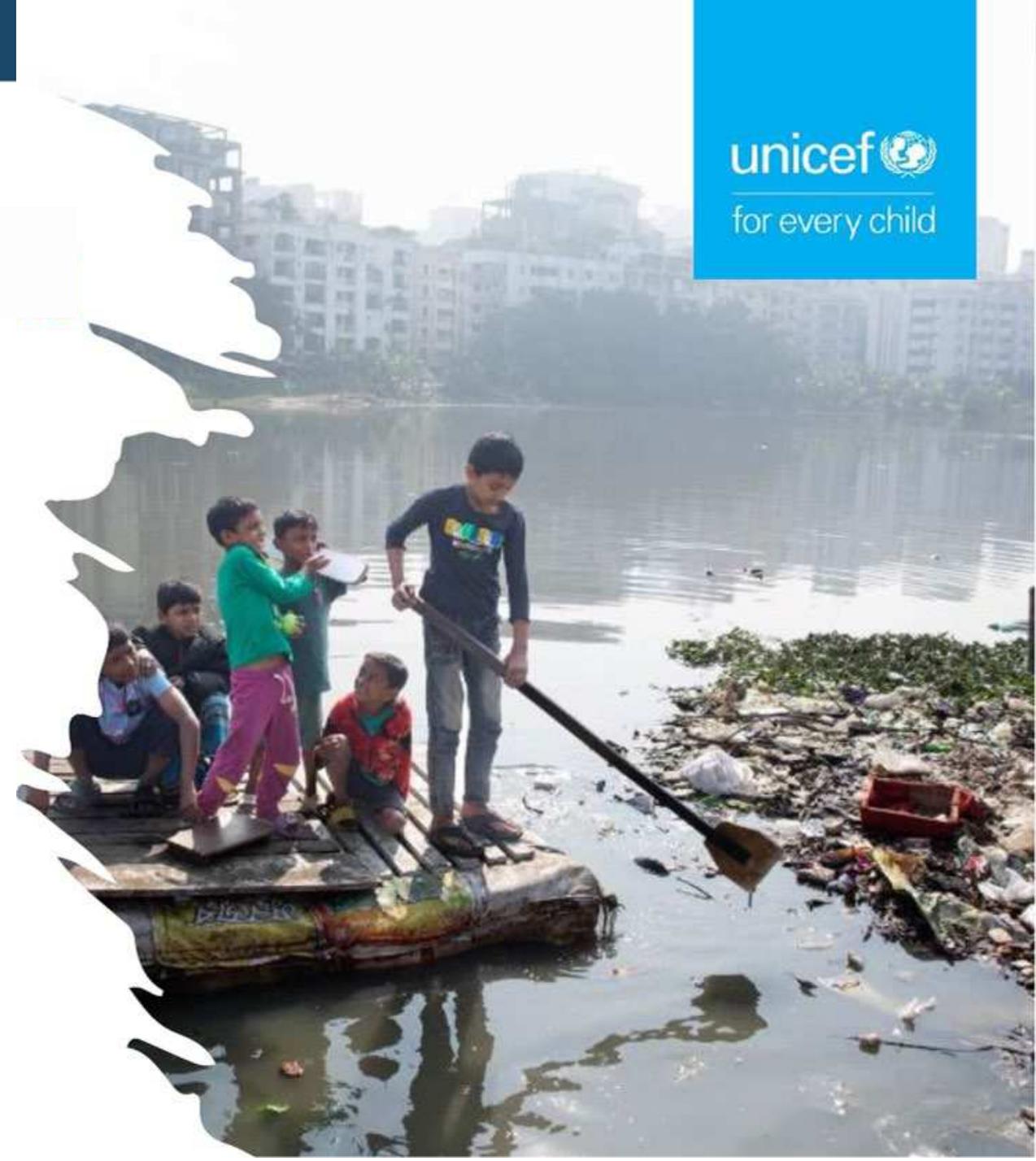
- Identify and articulate causal pathways underpinning the Subprogramme's Theory/ies of Change rather than reconstructing the SP Theory of Change.
- Analyse the 'contribution' made by the subprogramme to high level sectoral or global change (using causal narratives, timelines, TOCs, stakeholder analysis, 'mirror analysis' (MTS SP-CA statement and global agreement/ Paris Agreement).
- Make credible association (intentionality + causality) between UNEP's work and its contribution towards impact, sustainability and up-scaling with flagships and understanding leverage in the environmental space (does not allow this contribution to be (fully) quantified).
- Overcome lack of project generated data by use of academic literature e.g. fuel study.
- Moving forwards to more use of AI (MaxQDA) where there is a strong case that a meta analysis will answer the questions we want to address.

unicef 



# Approaches

- UNICEF is conducting the following climate-related evaluations:
  1. Global thematic evaluations
  2. Programme/project evaluations
  3. Evaluation syntheses
- Impact evaluations are envisioned/planned
- Specific activities in 2024-25 include:
  1. Development of UNICEF Guidance on Climate Integration in Evaluation (2024)
  2. Impact Feasibility Assessment of Climate Resilient WASH Interventions (2024)
  3. Global Evaluation of UNICEF Work in Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate (2025)



# UNICEF Guidance on Climate Integration in Evaluation

- The purpose of this document is to offer a 'how-to' for evaluating UNICEF-supported climate actions. These climate actions can relate to both mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change.
- The guidance offers practical advice for the evaluation planning, implementation, and reporting phases, along with useful tools included in the annex.



## **GUIDANCE ON CLIMATE INTEGRATION IN EVALUATION**

DRAFT FOR EVALUATION OFFICE

Final Draft – 25 January, 2025

# UNICEF Guidance on Climate Integration in Evaluation (Draft)

## Principle 1: Risk reduction

Place climate risk reduction at the heart of the evaluation process, focusing on the extent to which climate actions contribute to reducing climate risks, while recognizing the inherent challenges in measuring such outcomes.

## Principle 2: Child-sensitive and gender-responsive, social inclusion

Ensure that evaluations assess the extent to which climate actions are child-sensitive and gender-responsive, recognizing that climate change exacerbates existing vulnerabilities, especially of disadvantaged groups.

## Principle 3: Learning and complexity

Prioritize learning from its climate actions to enable adaptive management to maximizing results for children, especially in programs that adapt essential social services for the most vulnerable populations. Given the complexity in measuring risk reduction and in determining attribution, evaluation should help to understand what works, under what conditions, and why (or why not) for both retrospective and forward-looking evaluations.

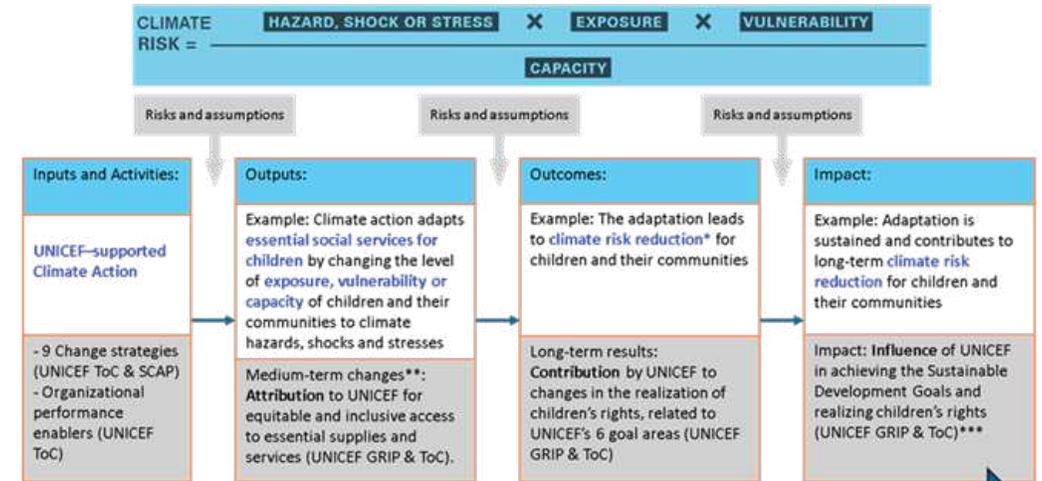
## Principle 4: Unintended consequences

Consider potential unintended consequences, including adverse environmental or social impacts that may arise from climate actions.

## Principle 5: Local alignment challenges

Evaluate the extent to which risk-reduction initiatives are informed by local risk-information and aligned with local capacities, plans and services.

Generic risk-informed ToC using the climate action “adaptation of essential services for children” as an example

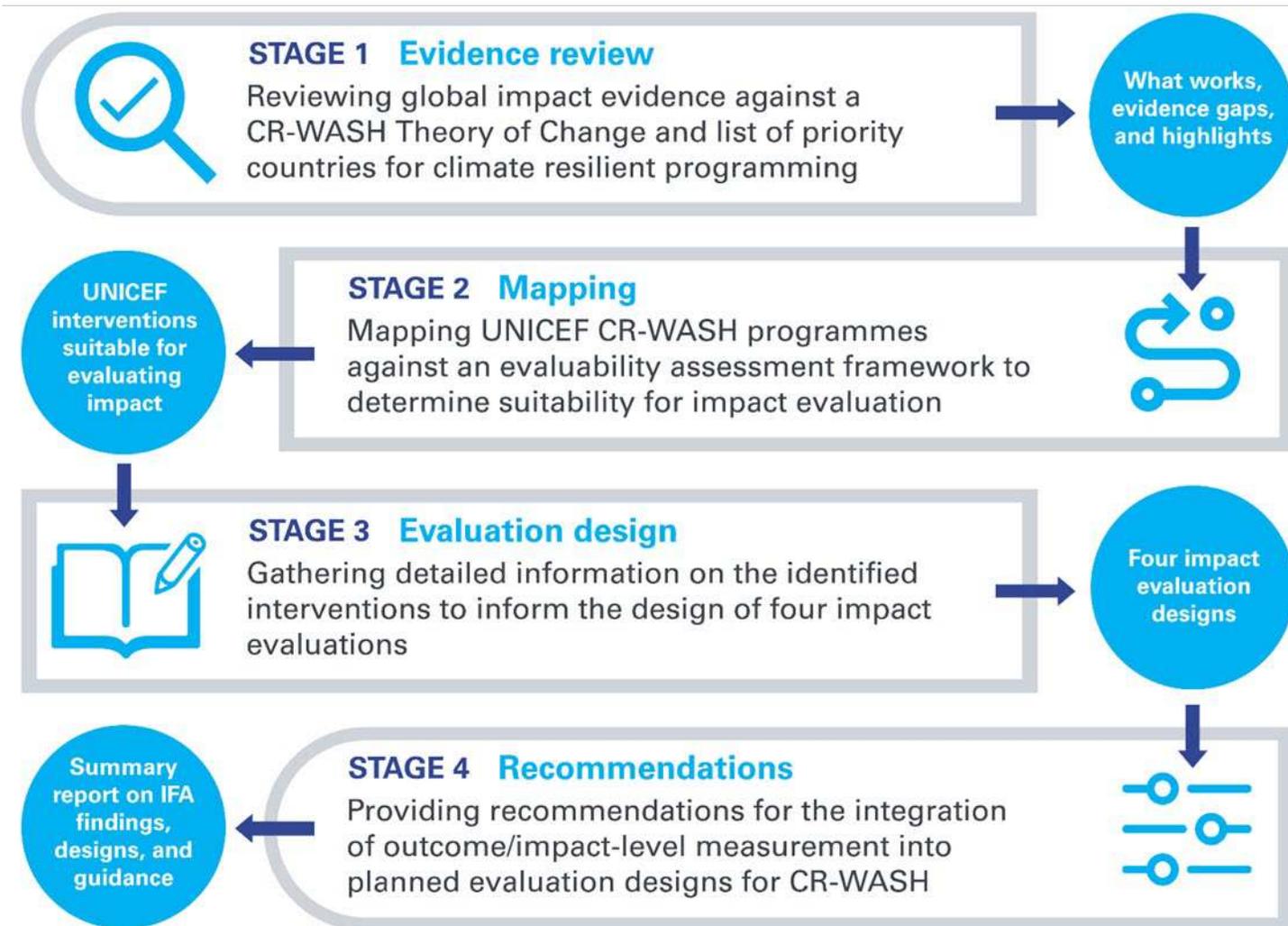


Decreasing management control, Increasing external influences, Increasing difficulty in demonstrating attribution

\*A results-framework & ToC should address the magnitude of the intended risk reduction. Climate actions that enhance a component score by 50% (in exposure, vulnerability or capacity) represent a considerable risk reduction (corresponding with as at least a 0.5 point drop in Children's Climate Risk Index). (See UNICEF CCRI)

\*\*This is an example; UNICEF has identified 9 additional types of medium-term changes (see UNICEF ToC)

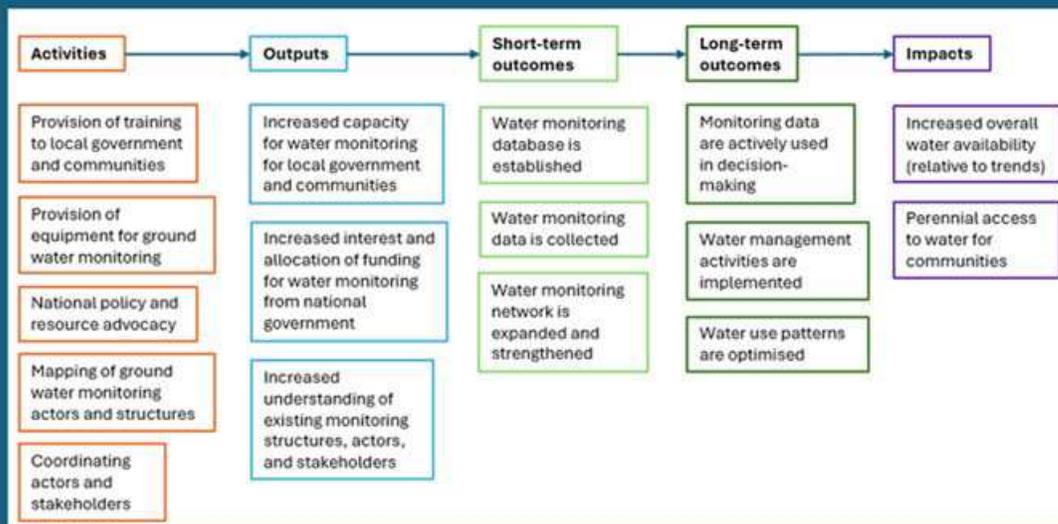
# Impact Feasibility Assessment of Climate-Resilient WASH Interventions



# Building Resilience in the Sahel (BRS)

- Programme aimed at supporting 14.2 million people by increasing their resilience across several thematic areas.
- As part of its water and sanitation work, the programme will support communities with the monitoring of water resources using a community-based integrated water resource management approach.

## Inferred Theory of Change for water monitoring intervention in BRS



# Proposed Evaluation Design



With changes in water resources likely to be affected by a range of anthropogenic and climate-related confounding factors, the best option might be a mixed methods approach.

Various design options could be considered, with a hybrid approach also a possibility:

- **Difference in Differences (DiD) analysis:**
  - The most viable quasi-experimental design, however, given control/treatment selection challenges, it is unlikely that it would be possible to establish levels of water monitoring in a treatment and control catchment that could show relative changes in water availability.
- **Longitudinal study:**
  - In lieu of a control catchment, reviewing the water resource monitoring data trends over several years presents a viable method for assessing trends in water availability over time.
- **Theory-based evaluation:**
  - In addition to the options above, it is recommended that a theory-based evaluation be undertaken to understand how the water monitoring and water management components of the programme design are performing.

# Climate Resilient Infrastructure for Basic Services (CRIBS)

- Programme seeks to increase the climate resilience of 1,000 public healthcare centres and schools in northwest Nigeria.

## Theory of Change for CRIBS programme

**Outcome:** Children and women in vulnerable communities of Northern Nigeria will have access to the services and safety of climate resilient and sustainable basic health, education and WASH facilities which support them to survive, thrive, learn and grow.

**Output 1.1:** Renovation and improvements of primary health care and education facilities in zero-dose and high out of school LGAs

**Output 1.2:** Health and education systems are strengthened for enhanced sustainability and provision of services.

**Output 1.3:** PHC and schools facilities assessed for vulnerability to, and sustainability in the face of, environmental and climate change issues.



# Proposed Evaluation Design



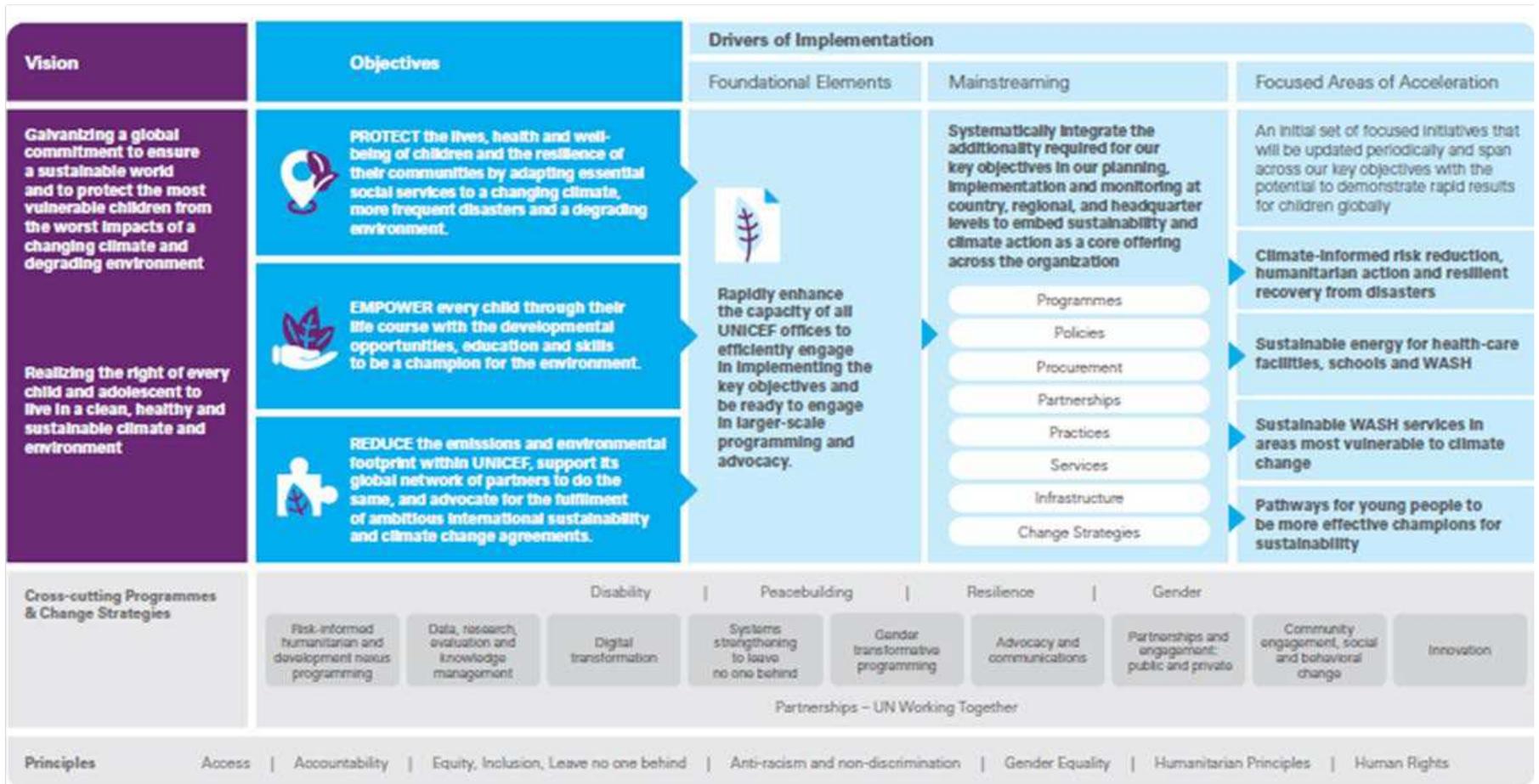
Strong scope for an experimental or quasi-experimental approach to impact evaluation:

- **Randomized controlled trial with matching:**
  - Experimental approach matching schools/PHCs with similar characteristics between the treatment group and facilities outside of the programme to create a control group.
  - Students/patients across both groups could then be randomized based on observable characteristics allowing for intervention impacts at the level of the individual to be measured over time.
- **Difference in Differences (DiD) analysis:**
  - Quasi-experimental approach that involves creating a control group using similar characteristics to the schools/PHCs receiving the treatment and comparing the differences in key outcome and impact results after the intervention.
  - Approach would focus on results produced at the facility-level, and additional data collection protocols would need to be introduced to collect data at the individual level.
- Both approaches would require pre-programme baselines, with data collection repeated periodically throughout and after programme completion.

# Global Evaluation of UNICEF Work in Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate

- First global evaluation of UNICEF Work in Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate and first global application of new climate evaluation guidance.
- Mixed methods evaluation targeted at providing a baseline and supporting the organization with building its programmes, accelerating its investments, understanding outcomes and closing data gaps.

## UNICEF's Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan (2023)



# Challenges & Lessons

- **Increase UNICEF's evidence on climate-related outcomes and impact** including information available on the costs and benefits of different types of climate-related interventions.
- **Build capacity of UNICEF staff and consultants** with evaluating the climate-related outcomes and impact of interventions. UNICEF interventions often have many objectives, with climate being one of several expected benefits and often not the main focus.
- **Openness to explore options** and awareness of the need to show evidence of climate outcomes and impact.
- The **complexity and costs** of measuring climate outcomes and impact, including the required timeframe, are constraints.

# Best Practices & Next Steps

- Need for **flexibility and a variety of approaches to assess climate impact** including outcome/impact evaluation but also enhanced programme and thematic evaluations.
- UNICEF is **investing in evidence on climate outcomes and impact**. This includes applied research and changes to monitoring, the upcoming global climate evaluation and efforts towards evaluation of climate impact.
- With the SP 2026-2029, UNICEF is expected to significantly **scale its climate programming**, offering both the opportunity, and further increasing the **need for robust evaluation data on climate**.

# Group work



Discussion questions:

1. Are (or can) these approaches be applied by your agency, and what other approaches do you use?
2. What are the challenges and lessons learned?
3. How can UNEG promote joint work and wider application of these approaches?

Thank you!

