

NbS and Land Degradation Neutrality:

The need to harmonize and share data, methods and tools



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Convention to Combat
Desertification

United for land



UNEA NbS definition

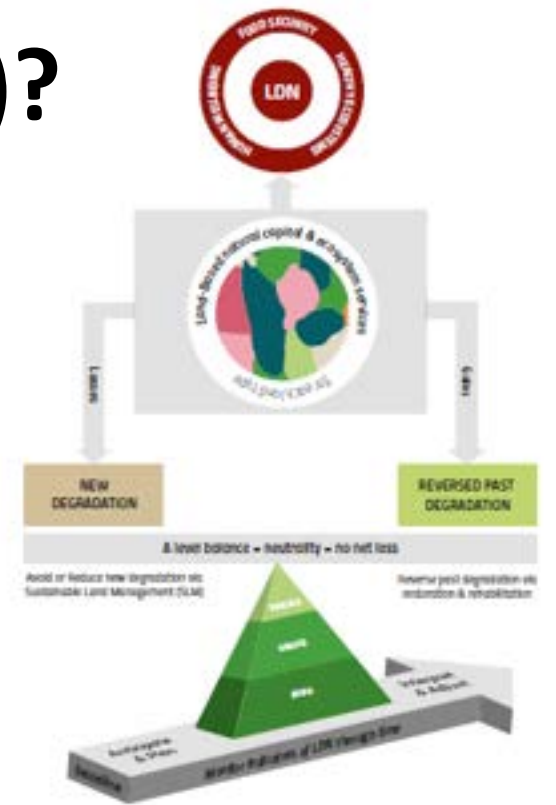
Nature-based solutions are actions to **protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems** which address **social, economic and environmental** challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing **human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefit**
(UNEP/EA.5/Res.5, para 1)

UNCCD & NbS

Invites Parties to explore complementarities within relevant MEAs, within their respective mandates and goals, **in the achievement of the objectives of the UNCCD** at the national level, including, as appropriate, in the implementation of **sustainable land management, ecosystem-based approaches or nature-based solutions**
(Decision 18/COP.15, para 6)

What is Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)?

“A state whereby the **amount and quality of land resources** necessary to support ecosystem functions and services and enhance food security **remain stable or increase** within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems” (decisions 3/COP.12 & 18/COP.13)

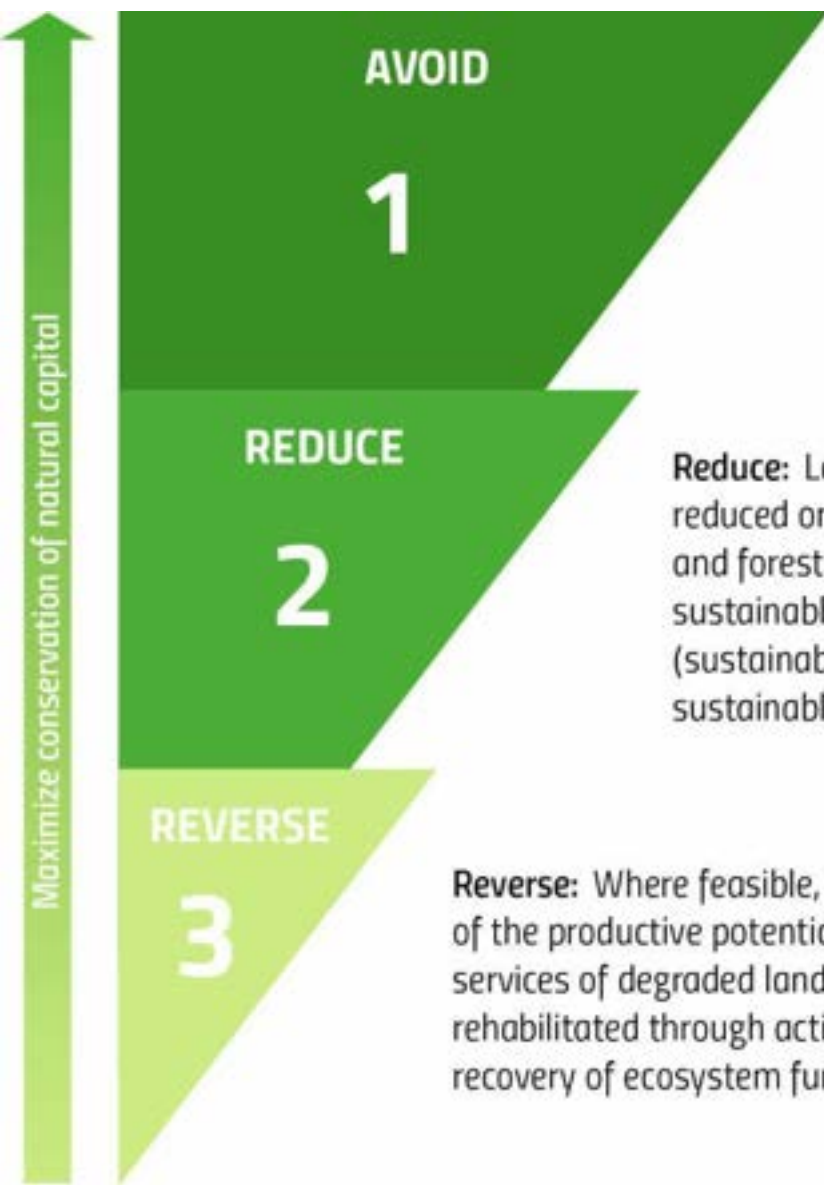


What is SDG Target 15.3?



“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**”

The LDN Response Hierarchy and NbS, UNDER & GLO



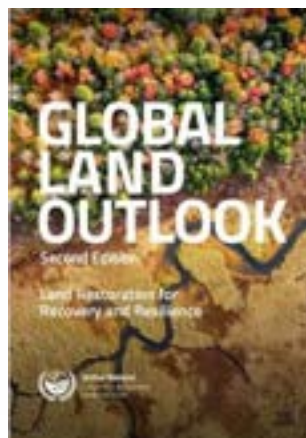
Avoid: Land degradation can be avoided by addressing drivers of degradation and through proactive measures to prevent adverse change in land quality of non-degraded land and confer resilience, via appropriate regulation, planning and management practices.

Reduce: Land degradation can be reduced or mitigated on agricultural and forest land through application of sustainable management practices (sustainable land management, sustainable forest management).

Reverse: Where feasible, some (but rarely all) of the productive potential and ecological services of degraded land can be restored or rehabilitated through actively assisting the recovery of ecosystem functions.

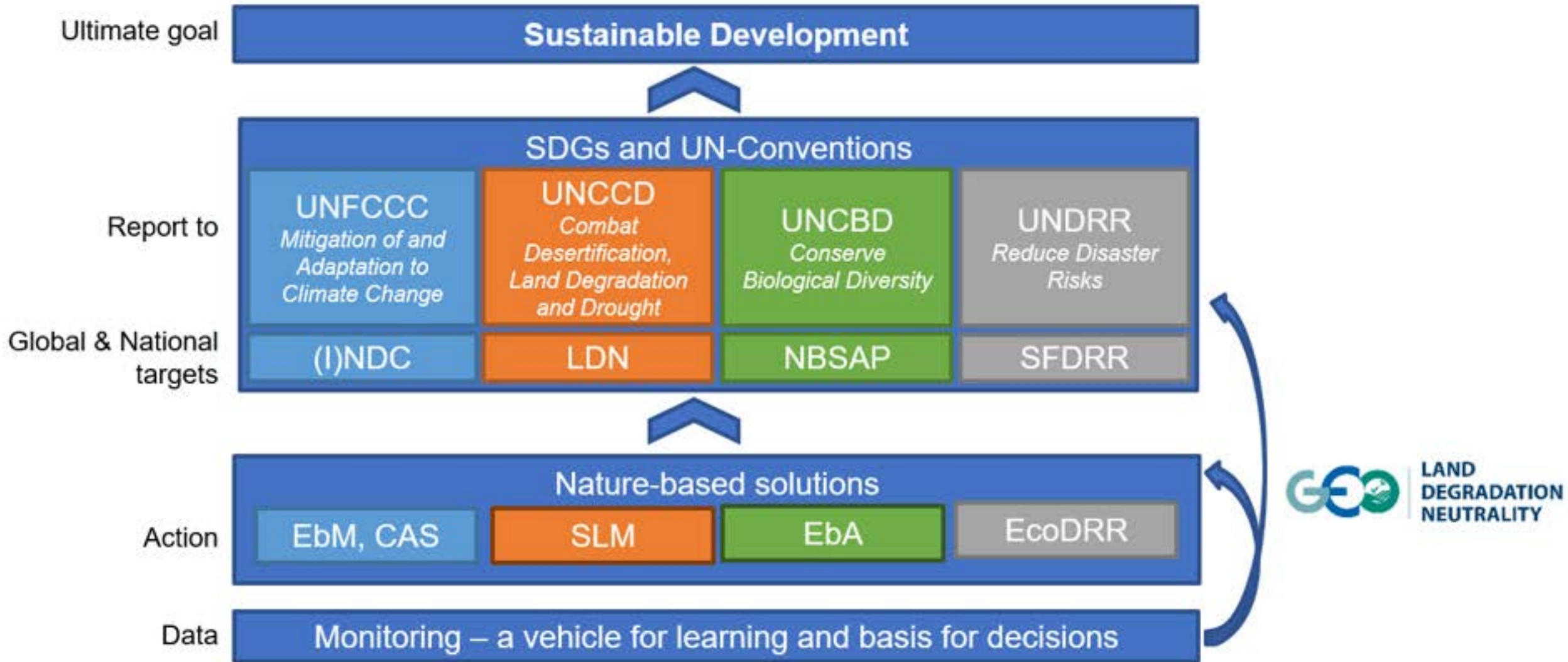
UNEA Resolution 5/5: “Nature-based solutions are actions to **protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage...**”

UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration: “Preventing, halting and reversing the degradation of ecosystems worldwide”



Global Land Outlook: Land restoration is the process of **avoiding, reducing, and reversing** land degradation to recover the biodiversity and ecosystem services that sustain all life on Earth.

LDN is an integrative value-addition to NbS action



Why GEO?



- The 197 Parties of the UNCCD need more than comparable data.
- They need ownership of how those data are selected, analyzed and used.
- And at the national to local level, they need to ensure relevance.



- GEO brings together governments and organizations
- GEO is the platform that makes it possible for all of these partners to contribute to the achievement of LDN



LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY

- ...is a unique **stakeholder-driven initiative** with a clear policy mandate from UNCCD
- ...helps national and local actors in all countries **use Earth observations to achieve LDN**
- ...promotes/supports **collaborative development, provision & use** of EO datasets, quality standards, analytical tools, capacity building
- ...**harmonizes methodologies & tools** and arrive at broad consensus to **accelerate** the achievement of **multiple benefits** from **healthy land**

A portfolio of partners & tools are needed to support the achievement of LDN

- **Data analysis needs vary** depending on the decision context
- For example, in integrated land use planning:
 - Different phases have different requirements
 - Varying needs depending on top-down vs bottom-up, stakeholder involvement, etc.
- A “**federated**” approach allows all the opportunity to contribute



Enablers of GEO LDN success

- **Stakeholder-driven** (UNCCD) and **user-centered** (policy makers, project developers, land managers, land planners)
- **Agile** (formative, iterative and participatory development)
- **Impact and quality-focused** (demanded by three intergovernmental processes: UNCCD, Agenda 2030 & GEO)
- **Everyone can play** (collaborative, consensus-based, open access, open source, common core methods/standards with **opportunity to add value**)
- **Global in scope**, with the aim of **accelerating national/local action**
- **Generous initial financing** (courtesy of the German government)



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Thank You.
Medaase pii.
Oyiwala dɔŋŋ.

