

Monitoring and Assessment: Challenges at the National and International Levels

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Horizontal National Knowledge Management

- How can governments more effectively use knowledge management to prepare and implement their NAPs?



Horizontal National Knowledge Managememe

- Capacity Building: Challenges
 - Often sectoral in nature or related to a specific treaty (UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC, etc)
 - Need for cross-sectoral capacity
 - Lack of institutional memory/capacity



Horizontal National Knowledge Management

- Collaboration and information sharing
- Challenges
 - Vertical integration between scientists and researchers
 - Greater understanding of the UNCCD, NAPs by scientists
 - Greater collaboration among non-governmental entities and national governments



Horizontal National Knowledge Management: Recommendations

- Establish a clearinghouse mechanism or some other national-level “institutional memory.”
 - Retain existing scientific, traditional and local knowledge and data
 - Would make this knowledge accessible to domestic user groups
 - Would reduce duplication of efforts due to lack of information.





WOCAT

World Overview of
Conservation Approaches
and Technologies

- Example: WOCAT
 - Standardized system to document and collect information on sustainable land management
 - Developed over 15 years.
 - 60+ partner institutions worldwide in all UNCCD regions.

Horizontal National Knowledge Management: Recommendations

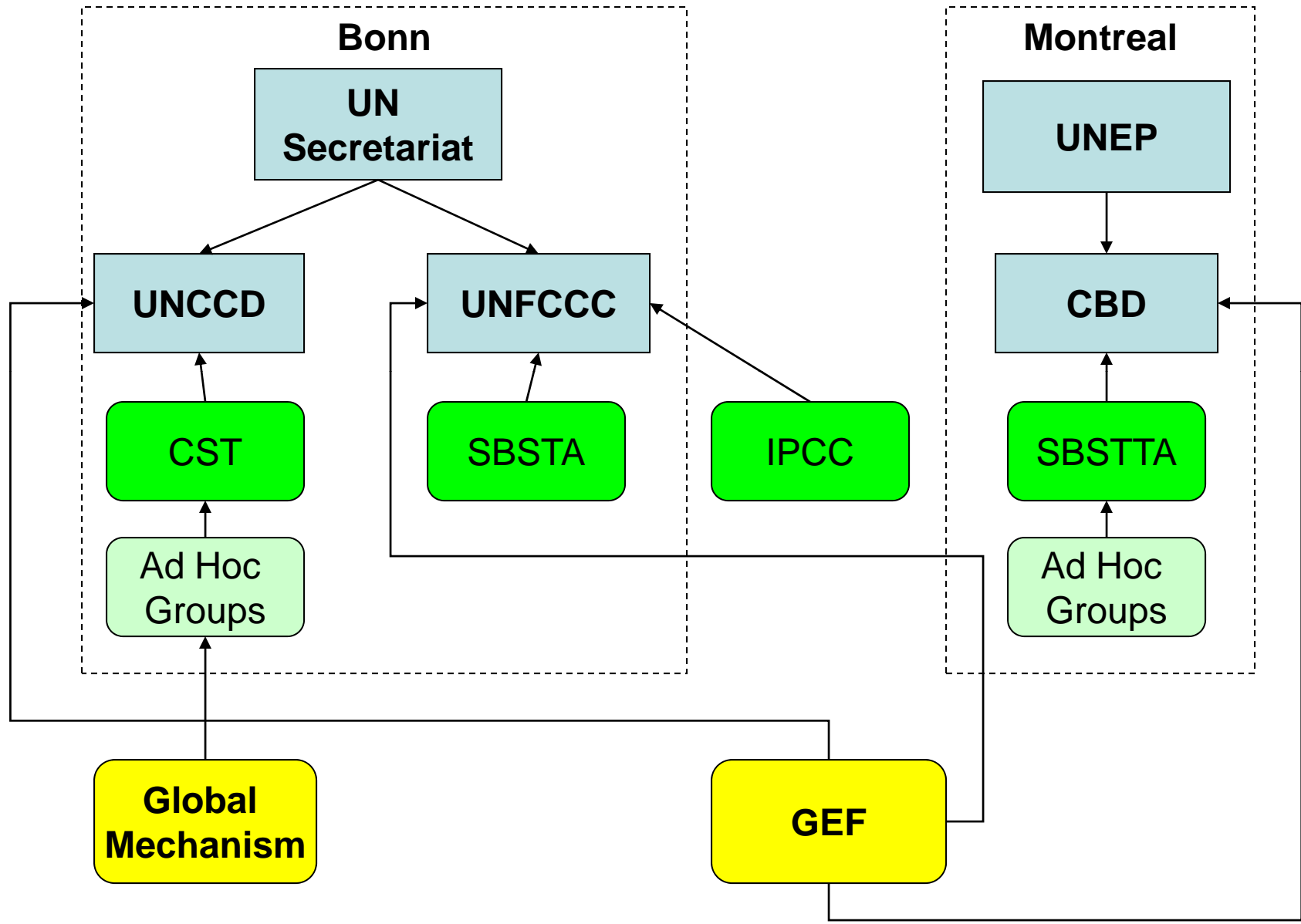
- Better knowledge management across MEAs at the national level
- Collaboration between scientists and focal points
- Maintenance of national databases to allow greater information sharing.



Horizontal International Knowledge Management

- Improve knowledge management between the scientific bodies of various MEAs





Proliferation of global assessments

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
GIWA											
	MA										
WWDR				WWDR2				WWDR3			
	FRA 2005					FRA 2010					
	LADA										
IPCC3			IPCC4						IPCC5		
				GBO2				GBO3			
				CAWMA							
GEO2	GEO3		GEO4								
						IAASTD					
						AoA (GMA)					

GIWA - Global International Waters Assessment; MA – Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; WWDR – World Water Development Report; FRA – Forest Resources Assessment; LADA – Land Degradation Assessment; IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; GBO – Global Biodiversity Outlook; CAWMA – Comprehensive Assessment of water management in agriculture; GEO – Global Environmental Outlook; IAASTD – International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development; AoA (GMA) – building the foundations for a Regular Process for the Global Reporting and Assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects.



Improve knowledge management between soil conservation initiatives and agreements

- 1972 European Soil Charter
- 1982 FAO/UNEP World Soil Charter and World Soils Policy
- 1996 FAO/World Bank Soil Fertility Initiative
- 1998 Soil Protocol (Alpine Convention)
- 2002 International Union of Soil Scientists Global Soils Agenda
- 2005 Iceland/IUCN declaration for a soil protocol under the CBD
- 2006 European Union Soil Thematic Strategy

Improve knowledge management between the UNCCD and other international and regional institutions

- Within UN system
- Funding agencies
- Outside UN system
(international and regional organizations)





Improve synergies between scientific and technical bodies at the international level

- Recommendation: create a new independent, multidisciplinary body of scientists to work alongside the CSD and other bodies to publish regular science reviews.



Precedents for a Scientific Body

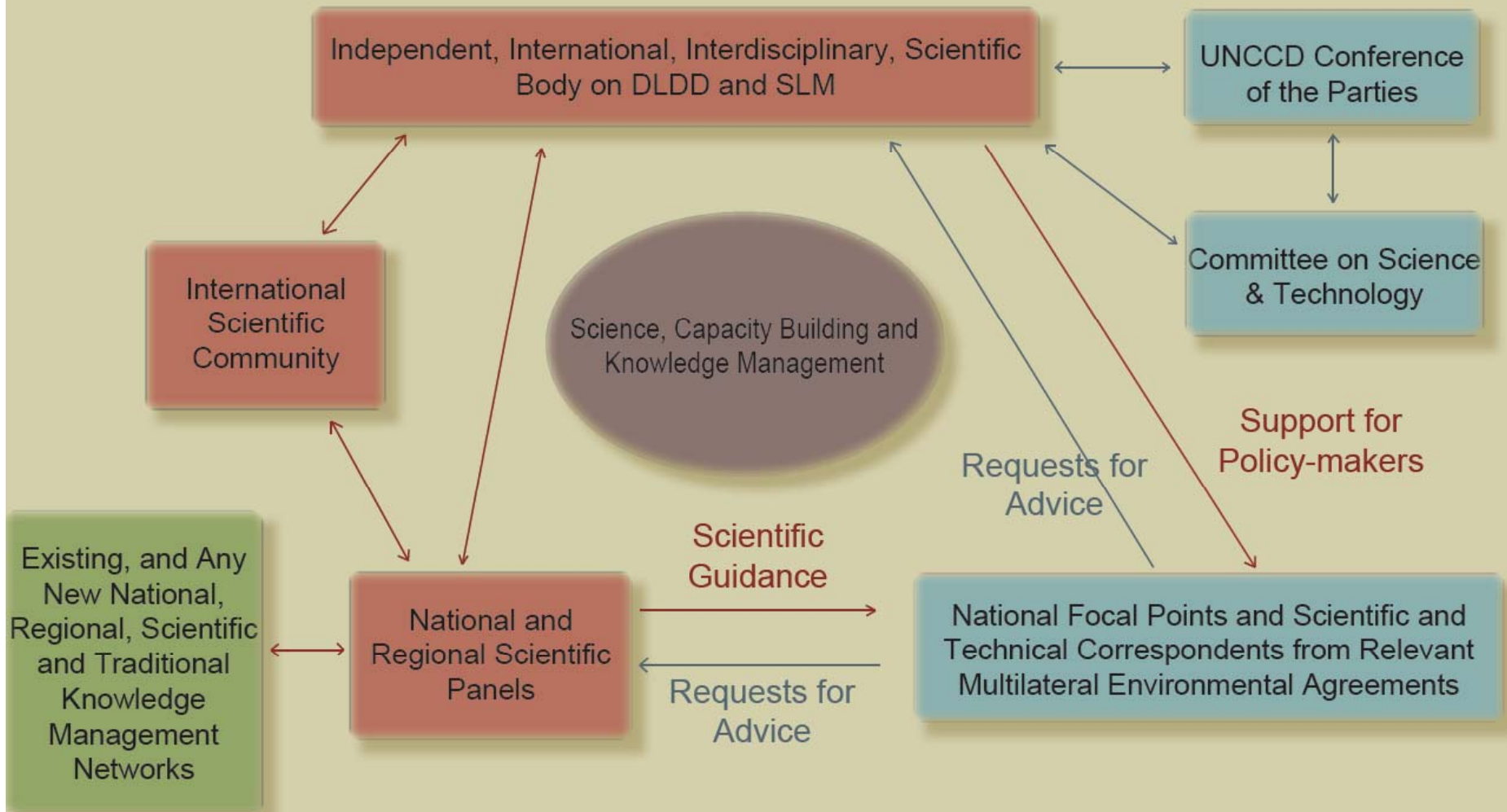
- UNCCD Article 17:
 - “The Parties undertake...to promote technical and scientific cooperation in the fields of combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought...”
- UNCCD Article 25
 - Networking of institutions, agencies and bodies will be promoted by the CST

Precedents for a Scientific Body



- **2000**: side event at COP4 - Intergovernmental Panel on Soils proposed by the German Advisory Council on Global Change)
- **2001**: 21st session of Governing Council of UNEP/Global Ministerial Environment Forum recommended establishing an Intergovernmental Panel on Land and Soil (IPLS)
- **2001**: proposal for IPLS discussed at UNCCD COP5 with a draft decision to establish an IPLS from G77 and China
- **2001**: European Commission stated that an IPLS could provide necessary scientific and technical background for soil protection
- **2005**: repeated call for an Intergovernmental Panel on LD as a Joint Panel of UNU and UNEP

Proposal for the Establishment of an Independent, International, Interdisciplinary, Scientific Body



Thank you!

