

Sustainable Development Goal 15: Life on land

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UN

July 13, 2018



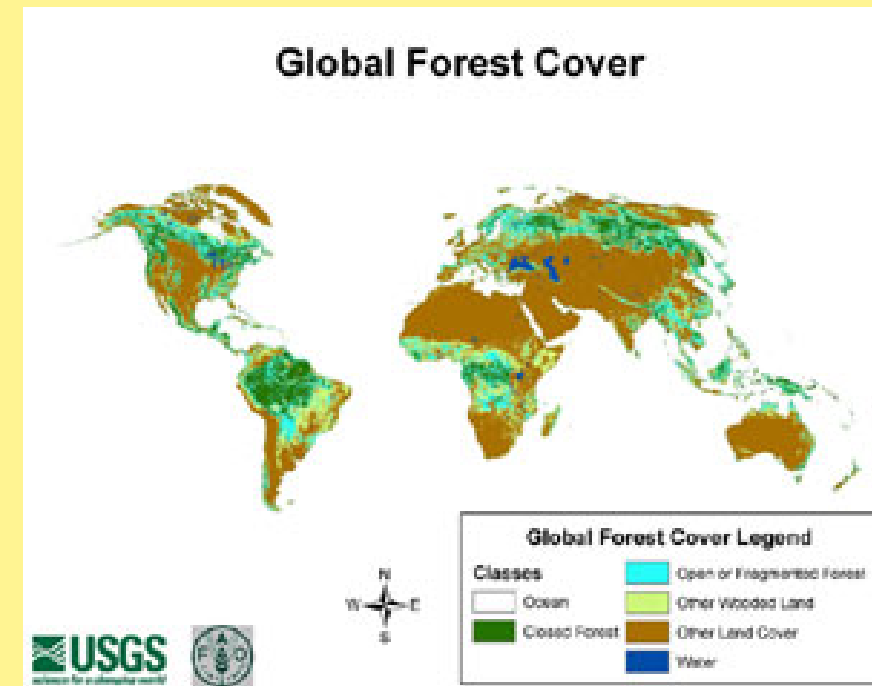
SDG 15 is concerned with how we protect and manage Earth's resources



- Achieving sustainable use
- Addressing problems of equity, intergenerational and intragenerational
- Dealing with
 - problems of the Commons
 - effects of climate change

SDG Goal 15, Specifics

- Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems
- Sustainably manage forests
- Combat desertification
- Halt and reverse
 - land degradation
 - biodiversity loss



Outline of remarks

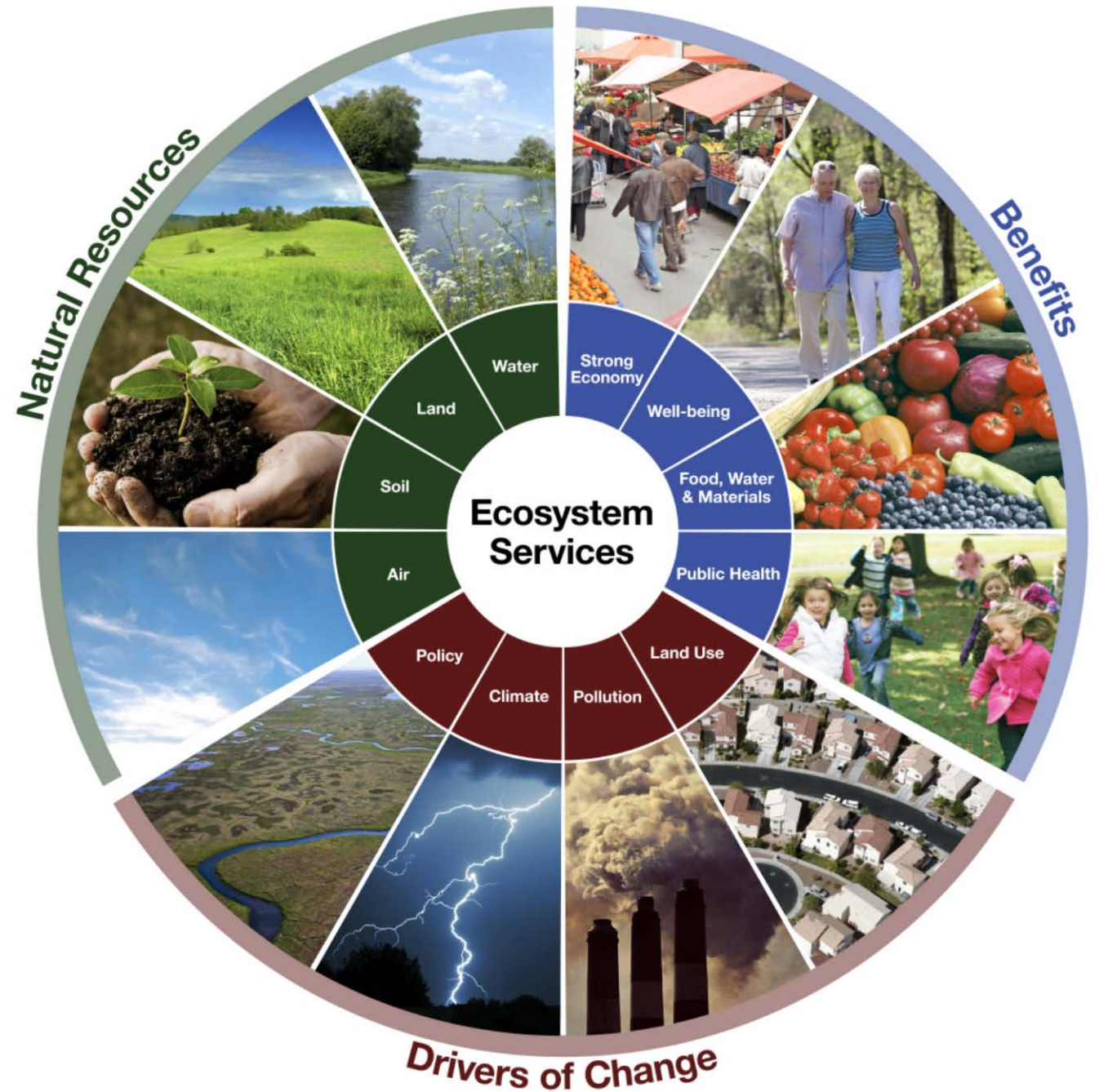
- Why is SDG important?
- How are we doing with it?
- Prospects and challenges going forward

Why is SDG 15 Important?

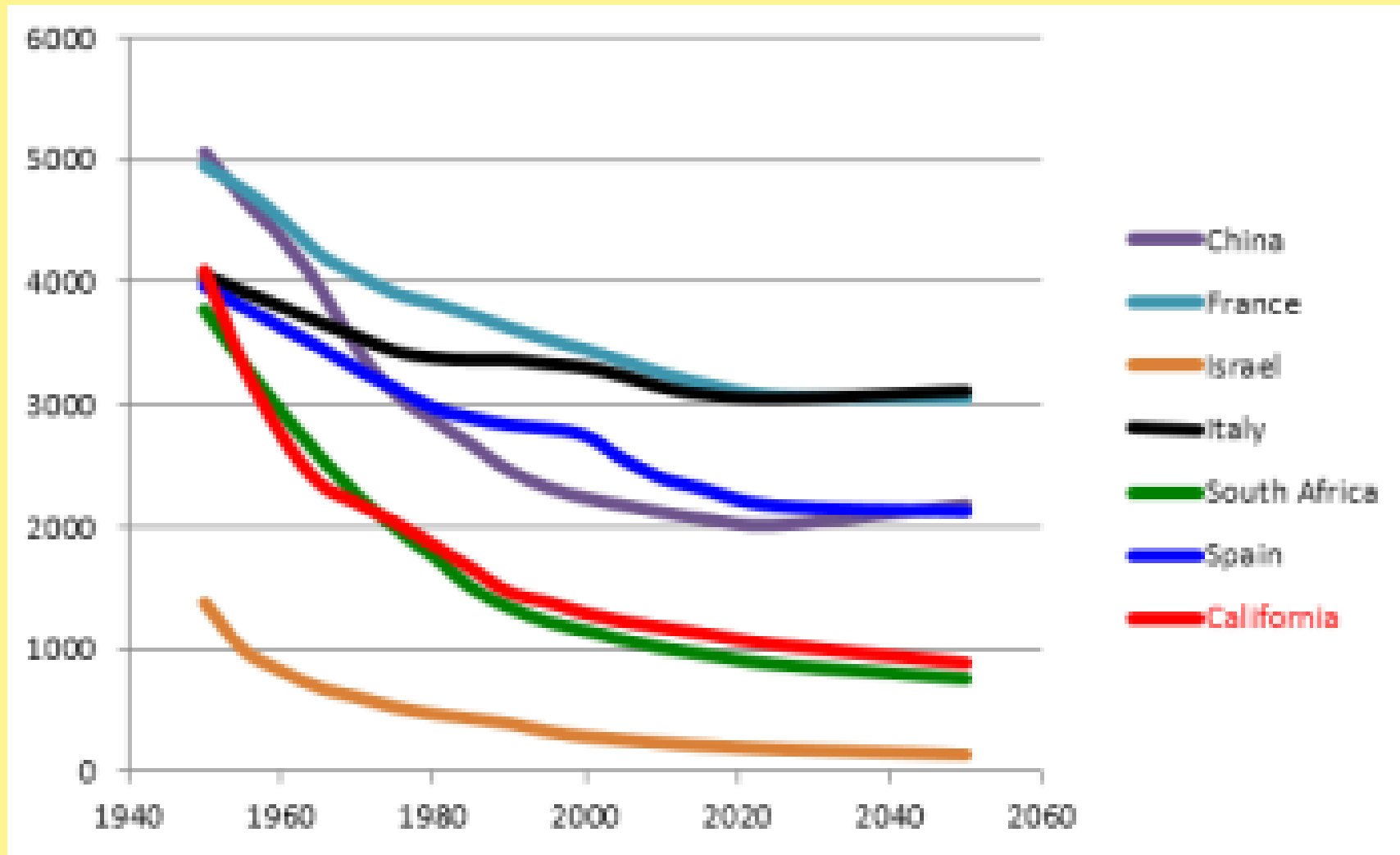
- The global population is growing, but our ability to sustain it is eroding
- We are continuing to lose biodiversity at unprecedented rates, and with it the services natural systems provide us
- We are faced with a problem of the Commons, and must find pathways to cooperation in preserving our environment.



Ecosystem services (EPA.gov)



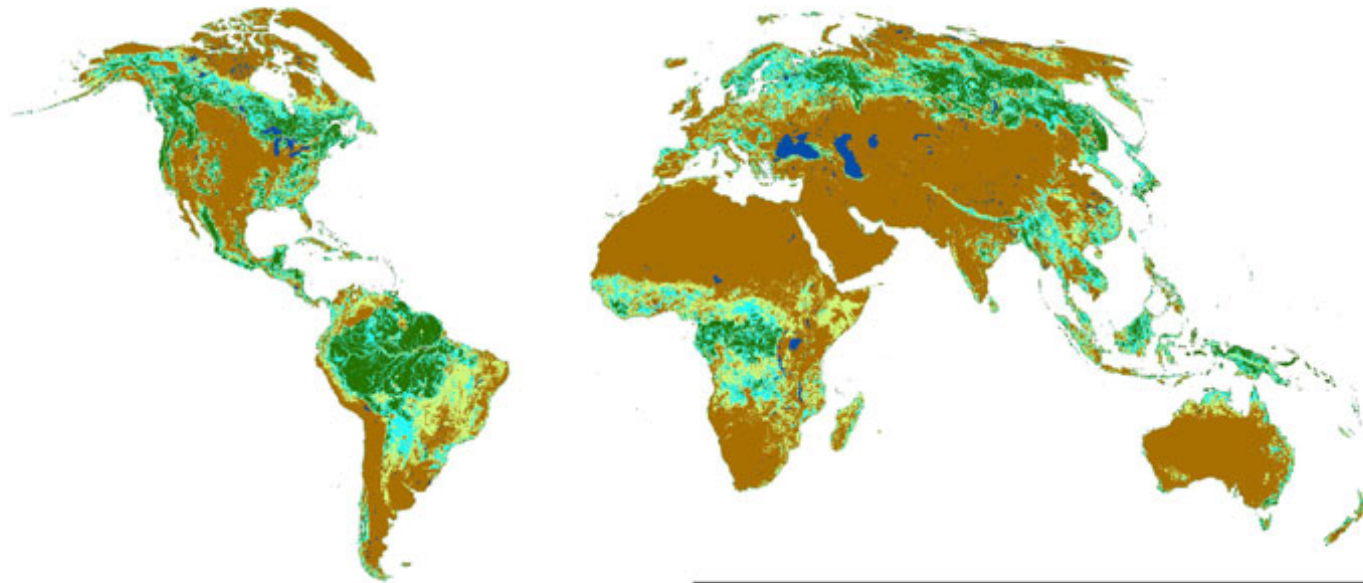
Projected renewable water resources, 1950-2050 (m³ per capita)



Dinar, A. 2016. "Dealing with Water Scarcity: Need for Economy-Wide Considerations and Institutions." Choices. Quarter 3.

Global forest cover is changing

Global Forest Cover



Global Forest Cover Legend

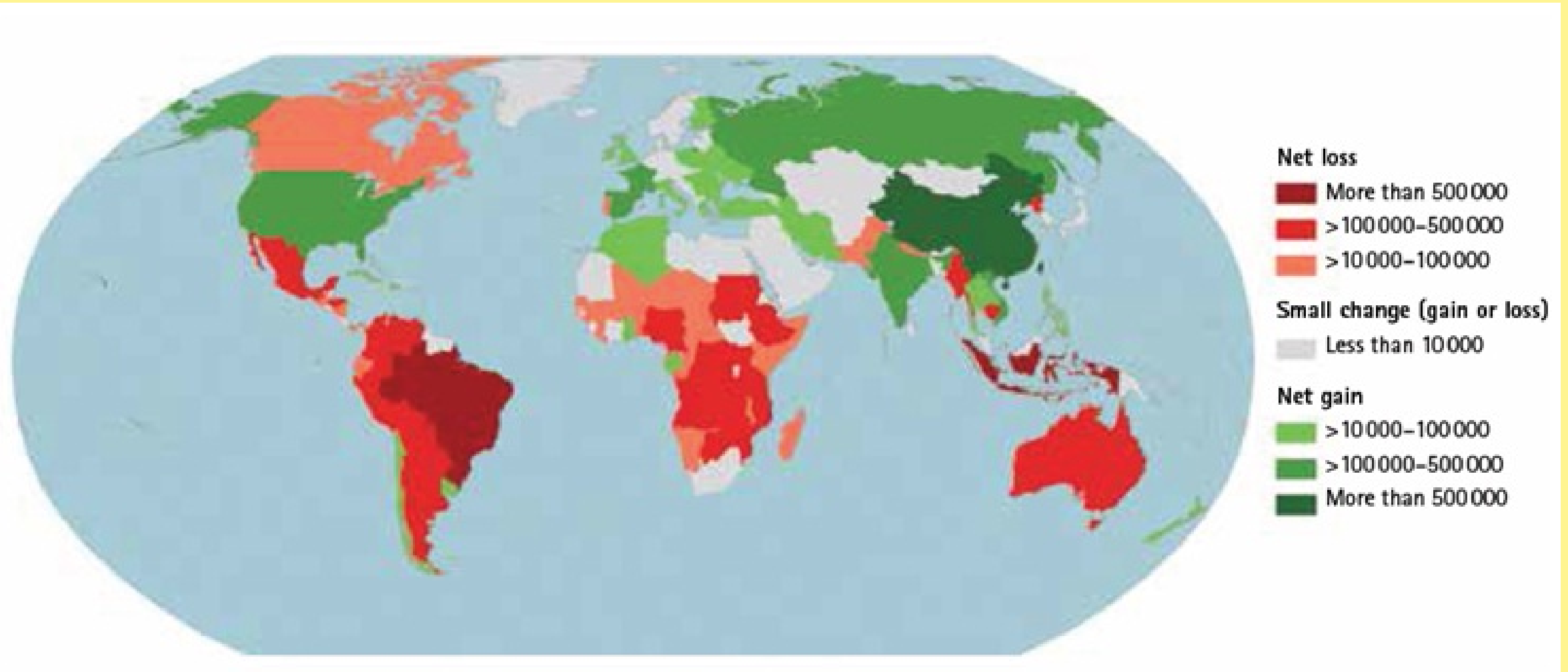
Classes

	Ocean		Open or Fragmented Forest
	Closed Forest		Other Wooded Land
	Other Land Cover		Water

Outline of remarks

- Why is SDG important?
- How are we doing with it?

Annual net forest gain/loss (ha) by country (1990–2015) Source: FAO FRA 2015



Brief summary

- Pace of forest loss has slowed

But,

- Declining land productivity
- Continued biodiversity loss
- Poaching and wildlife trafficking a continuing challenge

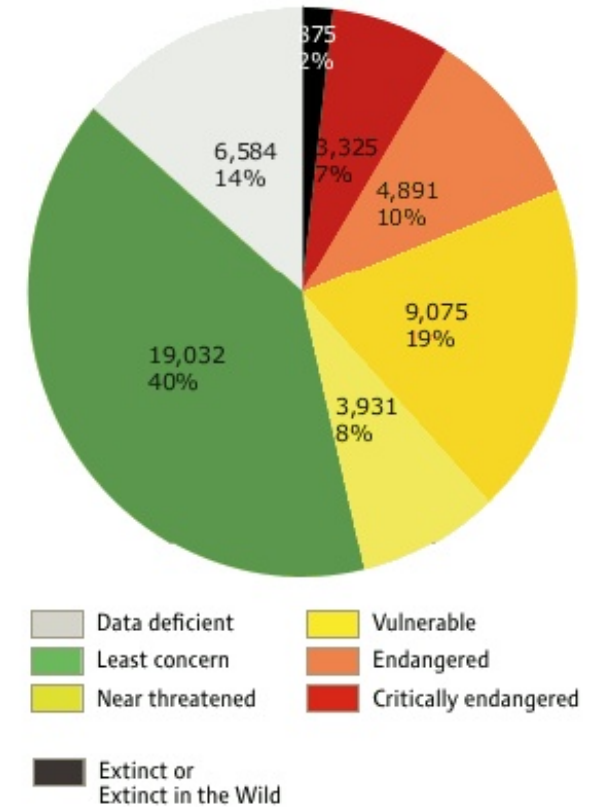


EP

Causes

- Habitat loss and degradation
- Climate change
- Excessive nutrient load and other forms of pollution
- Over-exploitation and unsustainable use
- Invasive alien species

(UN's 3rd Global Biodiversity Outlook, 2010)



Proportion of all assessed species in different threat categories of extinction risk on the IUCN Red List, based on data from 47,677 species. Source: IUCN, pie chart compiled by Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2010) Global Biodiversity Outlook 3, May 2010



SUSTAINABLEDEVELOPMENT KNOWLEDGEPLATFORM



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



**VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS
DATABASE**



SEARCH INPUTS TO THE HLPF

Expert group conclusions

- Progress positive on actions (# protected areas)
- Not good on status (red list #s, state of species)
- Monitoring framework inadequate
- Need better metrics for quality

Progress

- PROTECTED AREAS

- Terrestrial increased from 16.5% to 19.3%
- Freshwater from 13.8 to 16.6%
- Mountain ecosystems from 18.1% to 20.1%

- SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

- Growth of about 20% /year

NEGATIVE SIGNS

- Biodiversity and protected species have declining probability of survival, especially in South Asia
- Forest coverage down overall, especially in
 - Latin America and Caribbean
 - South Asia
 - Subsaharan Africa
 - Southeast Asia

Outline of remarks

- Why is SDG important?
- How are we doing with it?
- **Prospects and challenges going forward**

Challenges

- Institutions
- Governance
- Social values and preferences
- Equity for indigenous people

Coupled Human and Natural Systems



Interconnected ecological,
social and economic
systems



Complex Adaptive Systems

HLPF: Many of the challenges derive from conflicts among differing priorities

- How do we trade off multiple uses?
- How do we value the services we derive from natural systems?
- How can we develop cooperative agreements among nations, and within nations that
 - Maintain intergenerational and intragenerational equity?
 - Empower women and indigenous peoples?
 - Create a sustainable pathway forward?

Steps forward (HLPF)

- Evidence-based knowledge, disaggregated data
- Priority setting based on sound knowledge
- Involve multiple regional and global stakeholders
- Adjust government structures to cross boundaries
- Better monitoring and enforcement
- Systems perspective



Holistic and integrated approaches to achieving SDG 15

Ecosystem approaches require holistic thinking and cross-sectoral actions to achieve success in the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems.