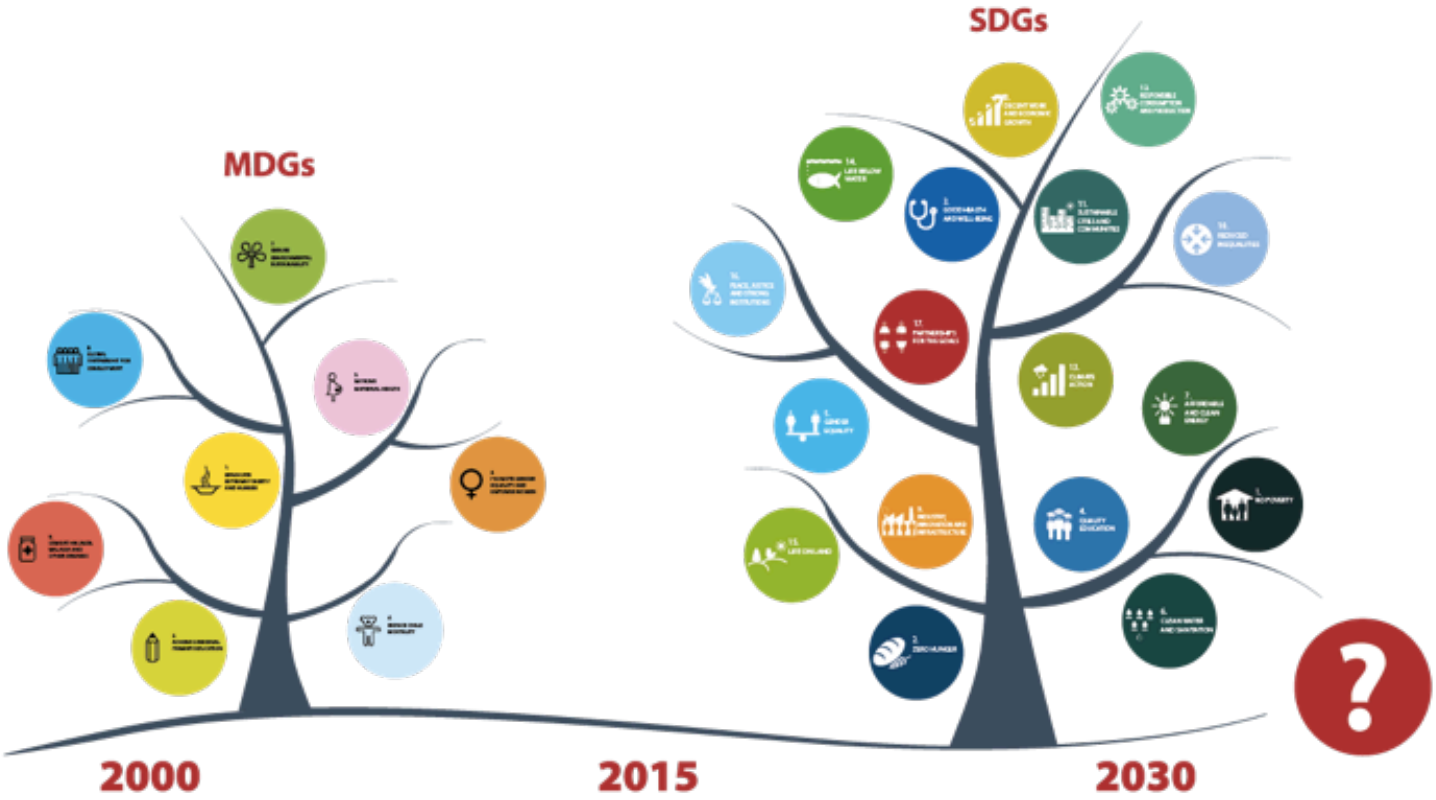
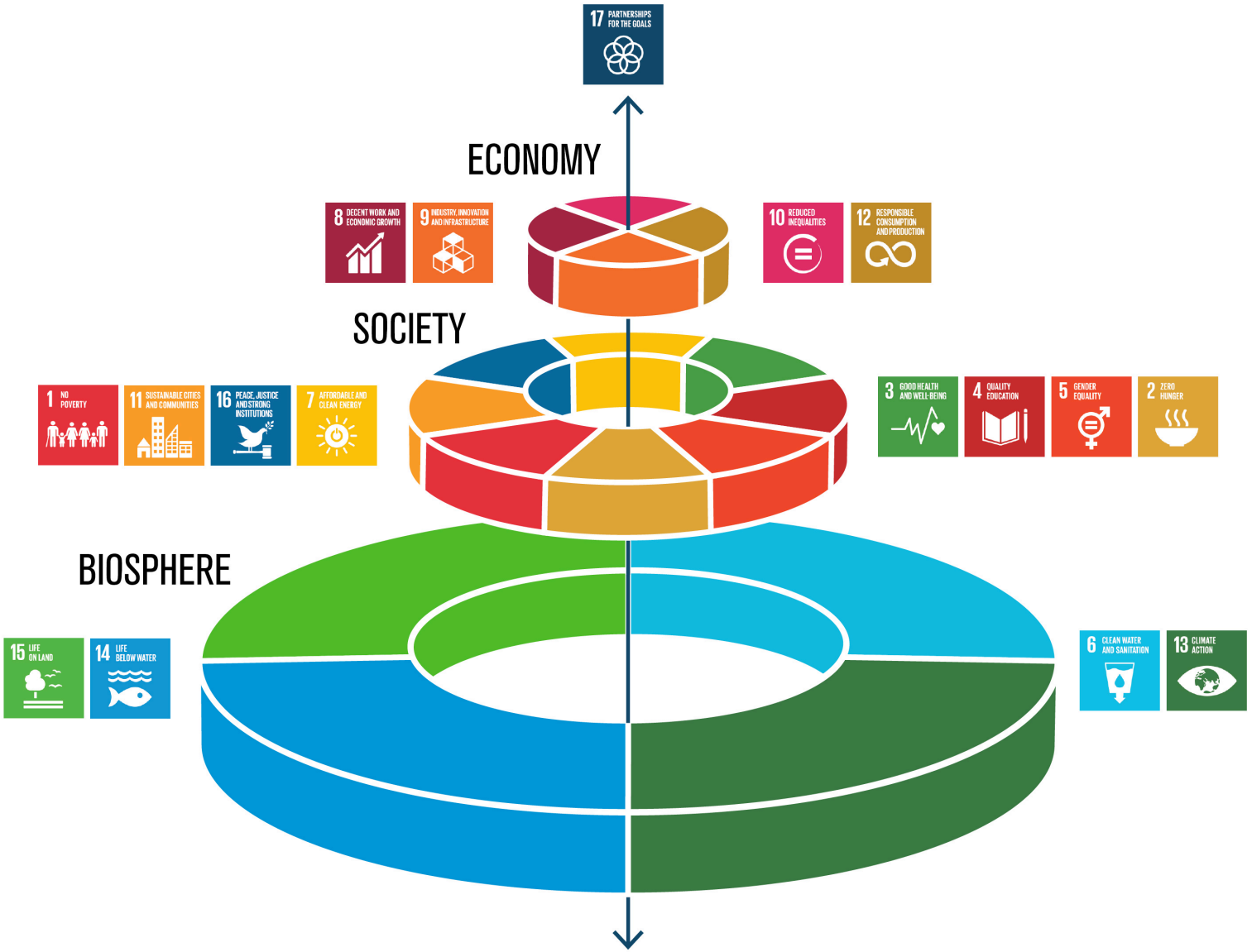
The future of the SDGs:
An environmental perspective



Cristián Samper, PhD
President and CEO
Wildlife Conservation Society

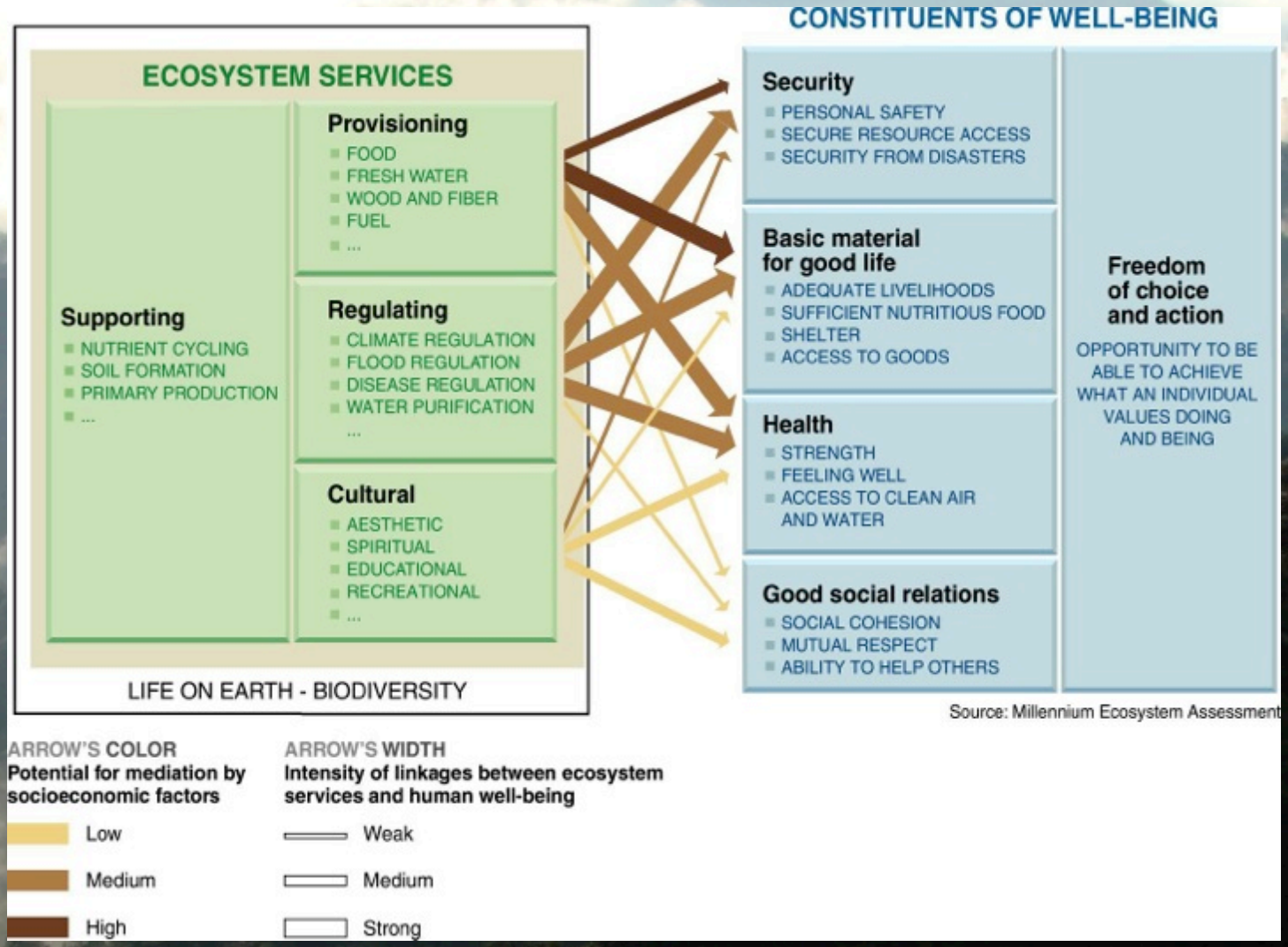
UN ECOSOC
19 July 2019

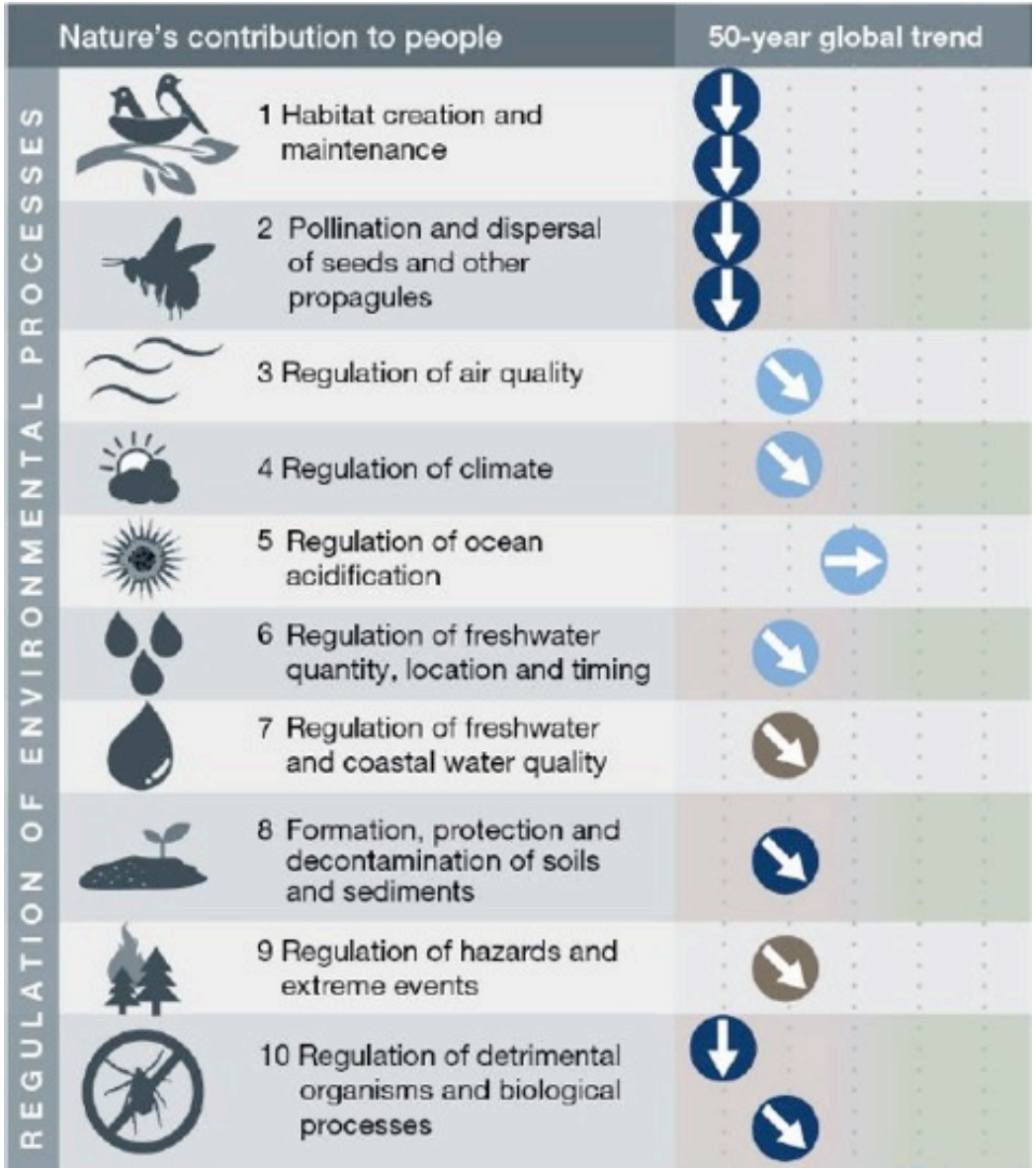

1 NO POVERTY
2 ZERO HUNGER
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION
14 LIFE BELOW WATER
15 LIFE ON LAND
16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Stockholm Resilience Institute 2016

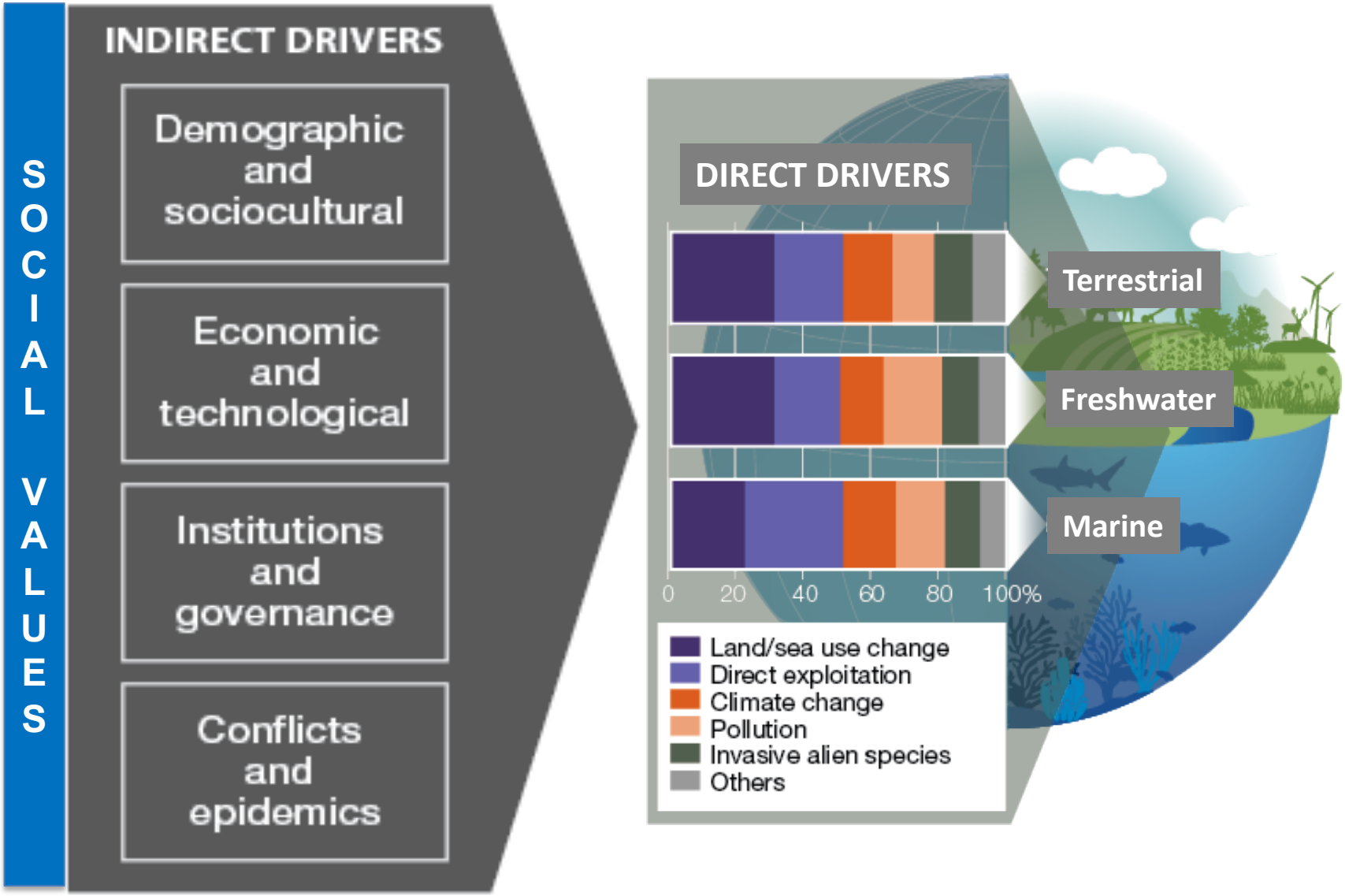
Intact ecosystems are critical for providing the full range of ecosystem services essential to support life.

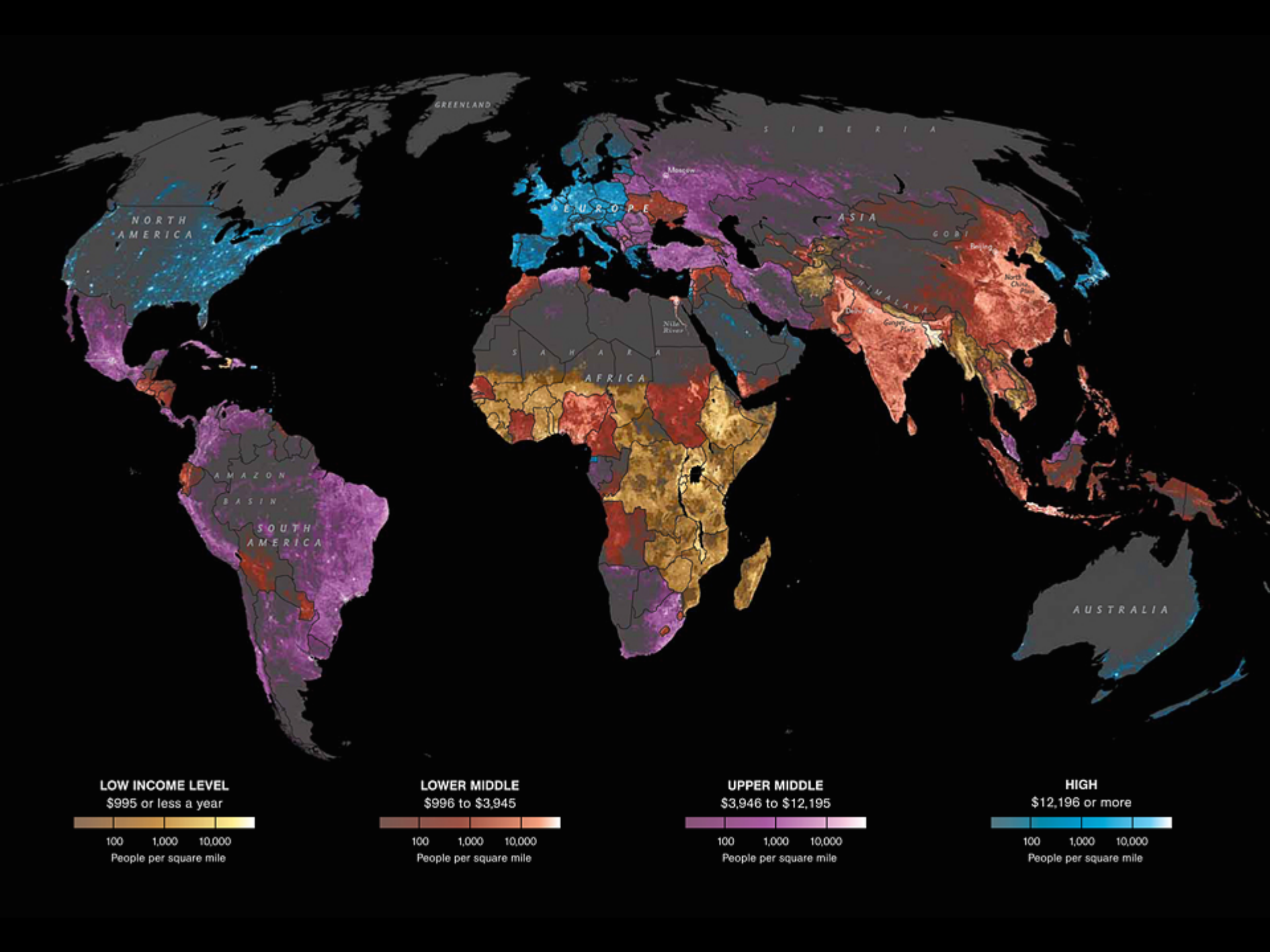


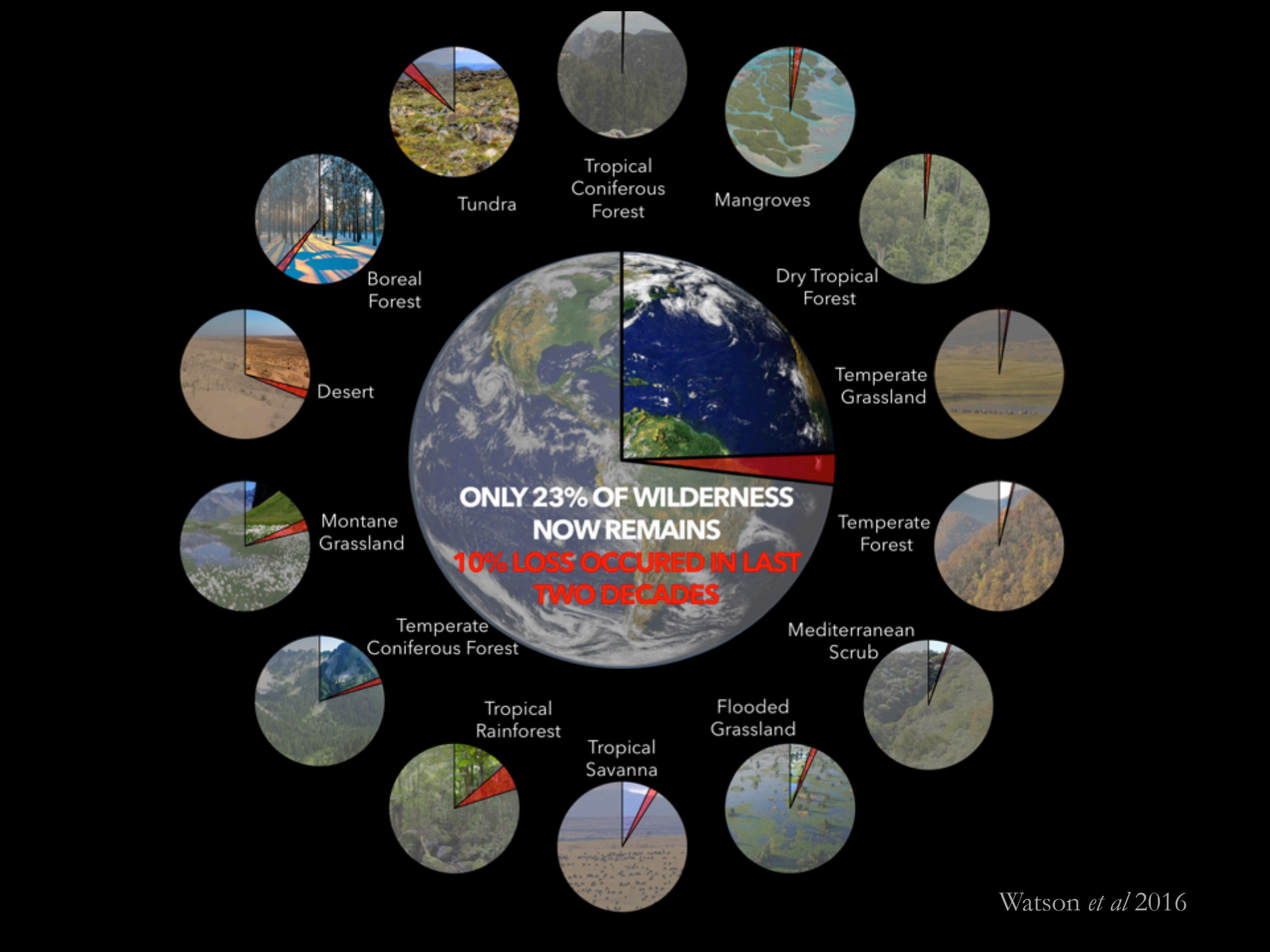

Nature's contribution to people
50-year global trend
REGULATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESSES
1 Habitat creation and maintenance
2 Pollination and dispersal of seeds and other propagules
3 Regulation of air quality
4 Regulation of climate
5 Regulation of ocean acidification
6 Regulation of freshwater quantity, location and timing
7 Regulation of freshwater and coastal water quality
8 Formation, protection and decontamination of soils and sediments
9 Regulation of hazards and extreme events
10 Regulation of detrimental organisms and biological processes

IPBES 2019

Underpinning the proximate causes of deterioration in nature are the root causes, or indirect drivers of change.

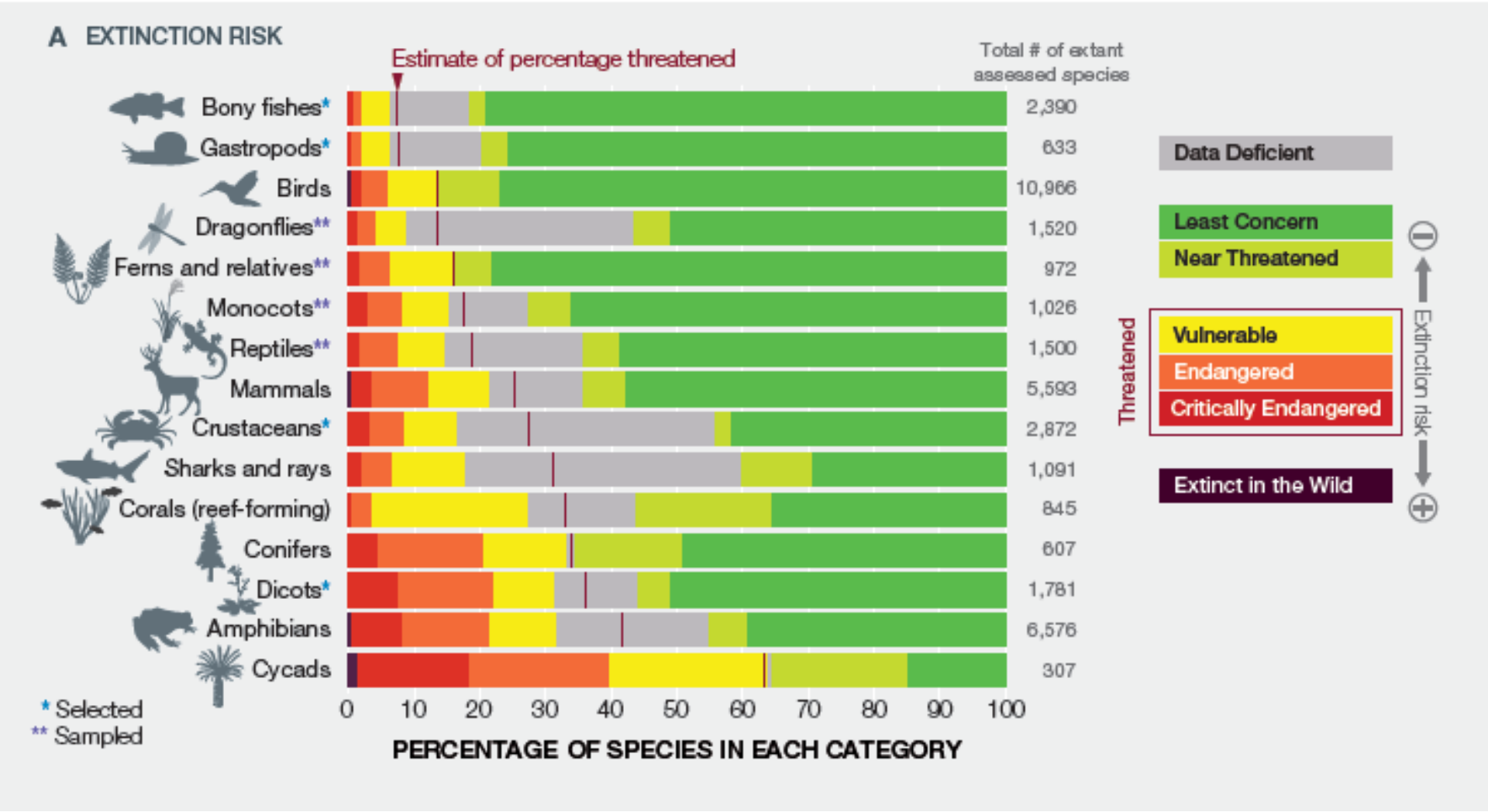



GREENLAND
SIBERIA
Moscow
EUROPE
ASIA
NORTH AMERICA
GOBI
Beijing
HIMALAYA
Nile River
SAHARA
AFRICA
AMAZON BASIN
SOUTH AMERICA
AUSTRALIA
LOW INCOME LEVEL
$995 or less a year
100 1,000 10,000
People per square mile
LOWER MIDDLE
$996 to $3,945
100 1,000 10,000
People per square mile
UPPER MIDDLE
$3,946 to $12,195
100 1,000 10,000
People per square mile
HIGH
$12,196 or more
100 1,000 10,000
People per square mile



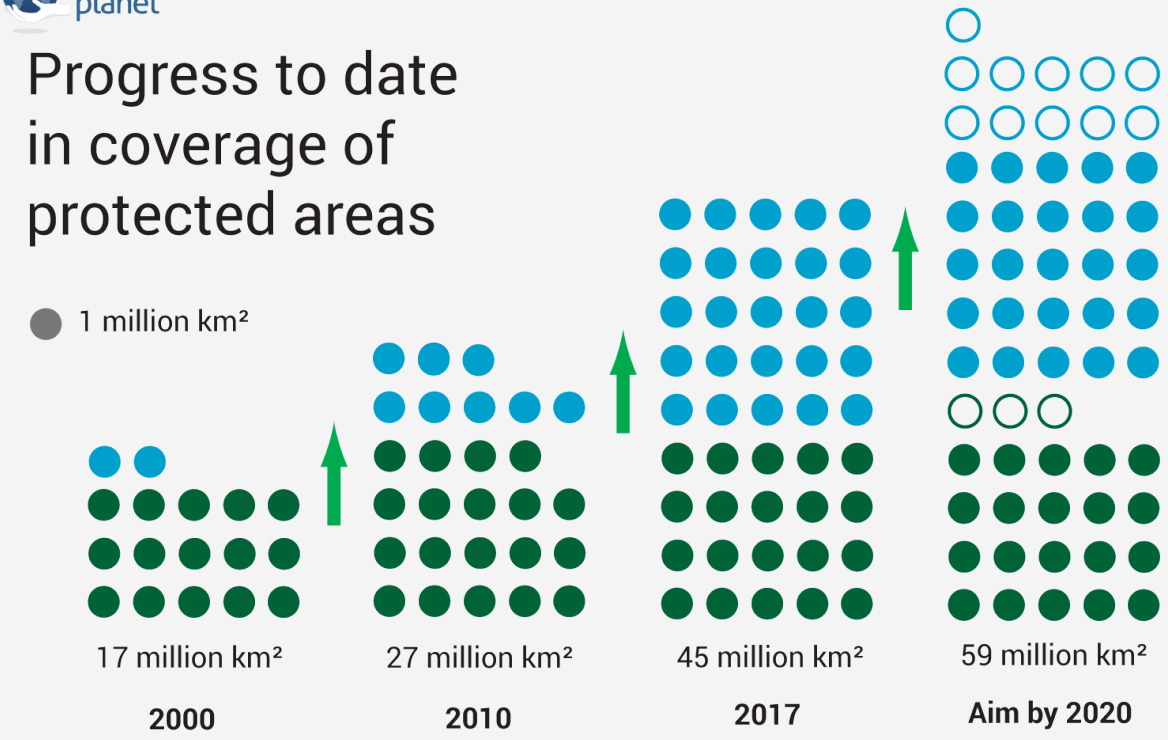
Watson *et al* 2016

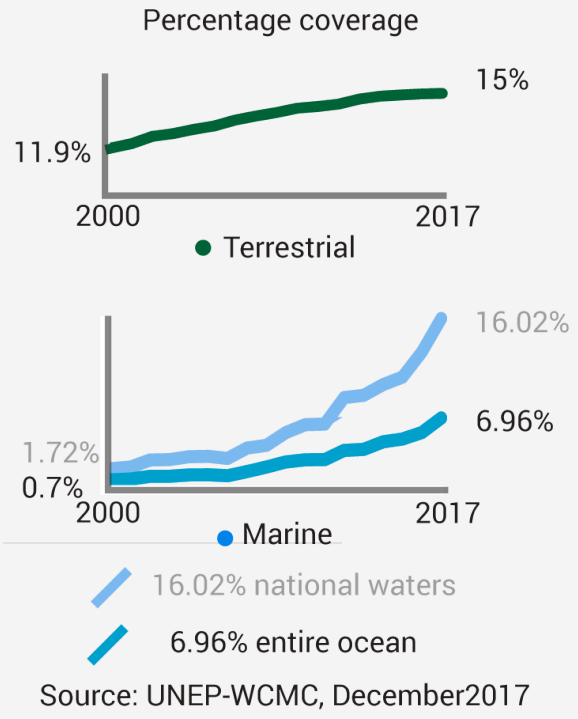
More species of plants and animals are threatened with extinction now than at any other time in human history



protected planet

Progress to date in coverage of protected areas





Source: UNEP-WCMC, December2017

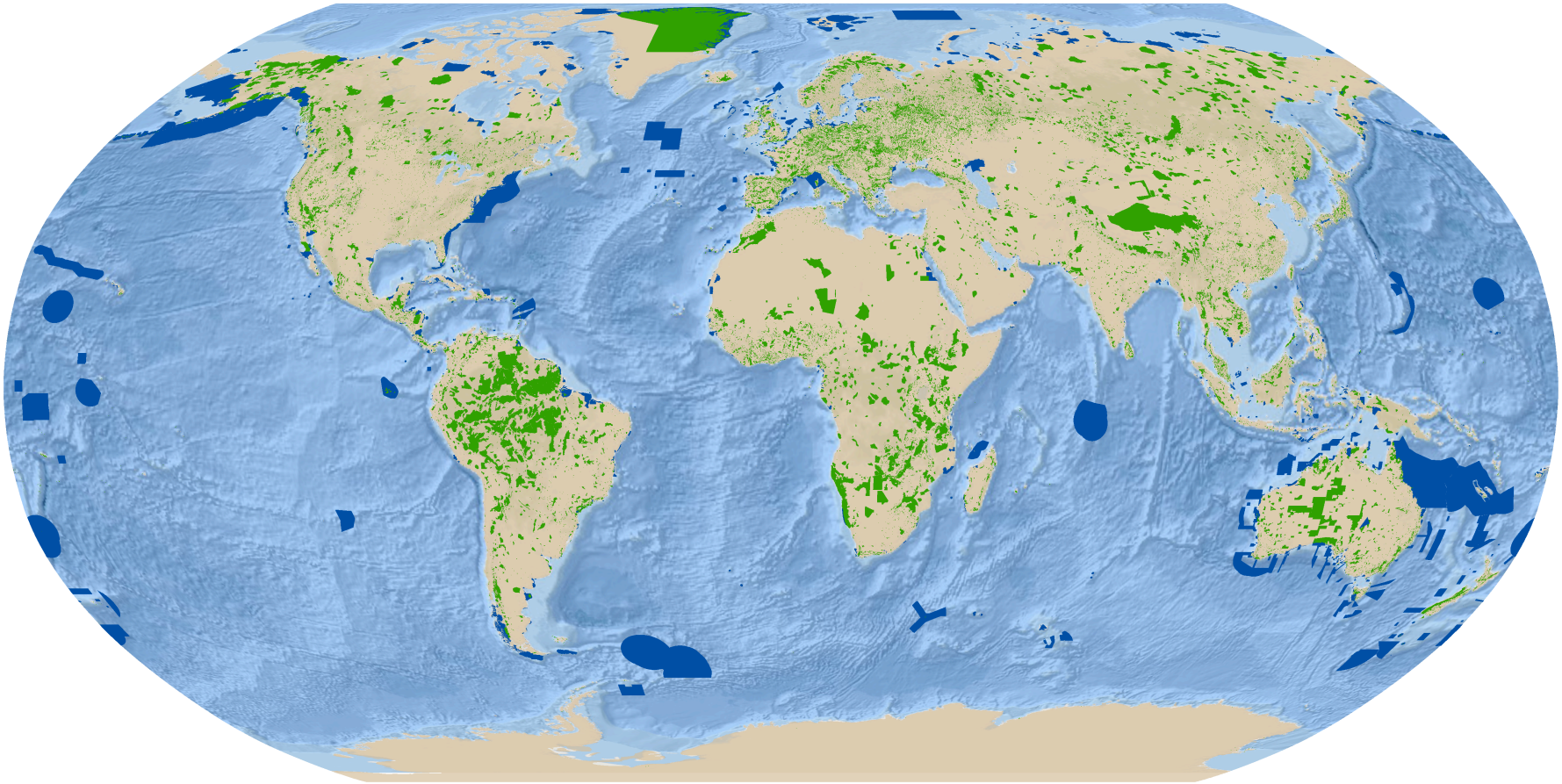
UN environment WCMC

Conserving areas for global biodiversity conservation

@Protected Planet
@protectedplanet

Protected Areas of the world

protected planet



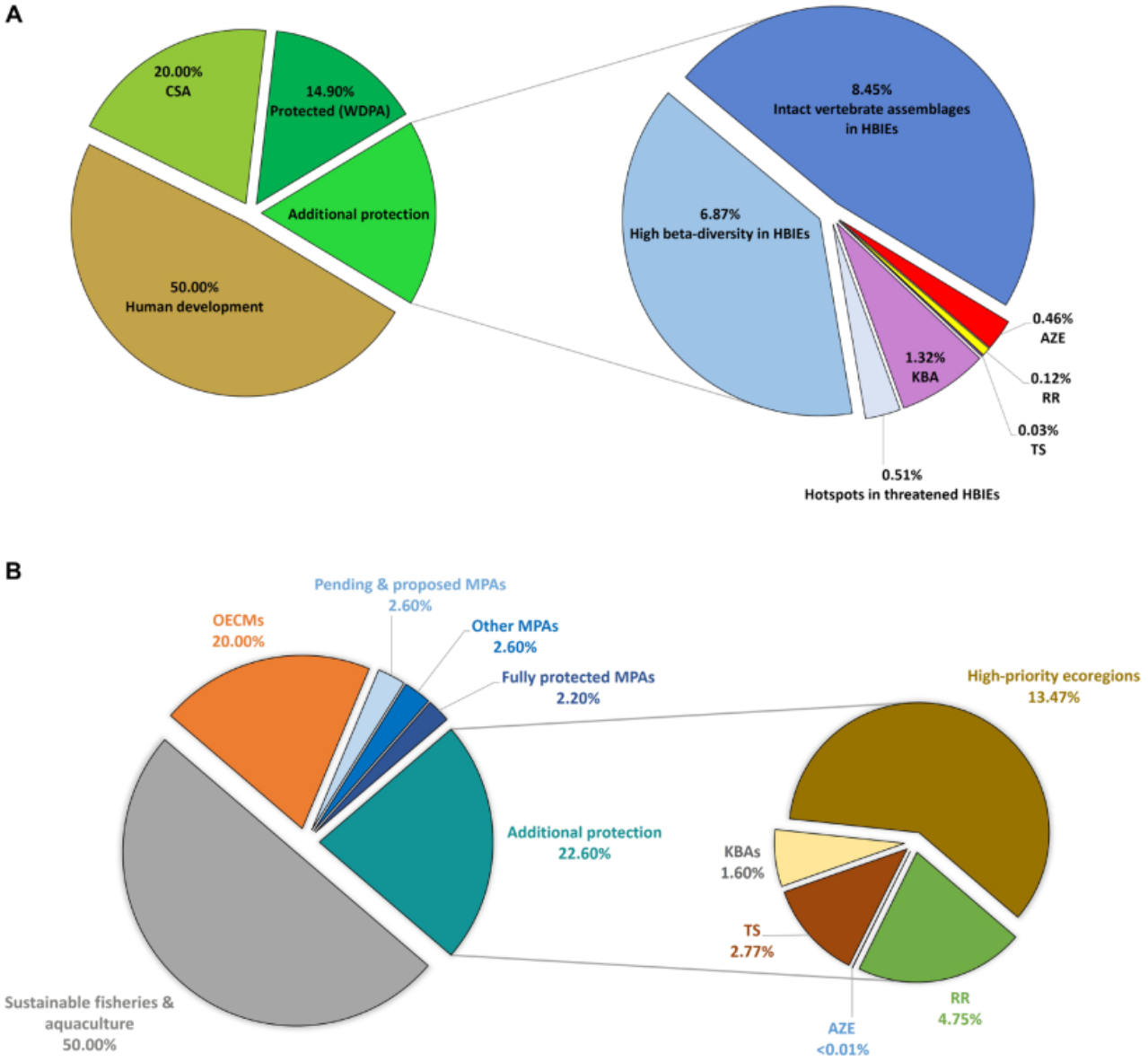
Source: IUCN and UNEP-WCMC (2016). The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) [On-line], April 2016, Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC. Available at wwww.protectedplanet.net

UNEP WCMC

Terrestrial protected areas Marine and coastal protected areas

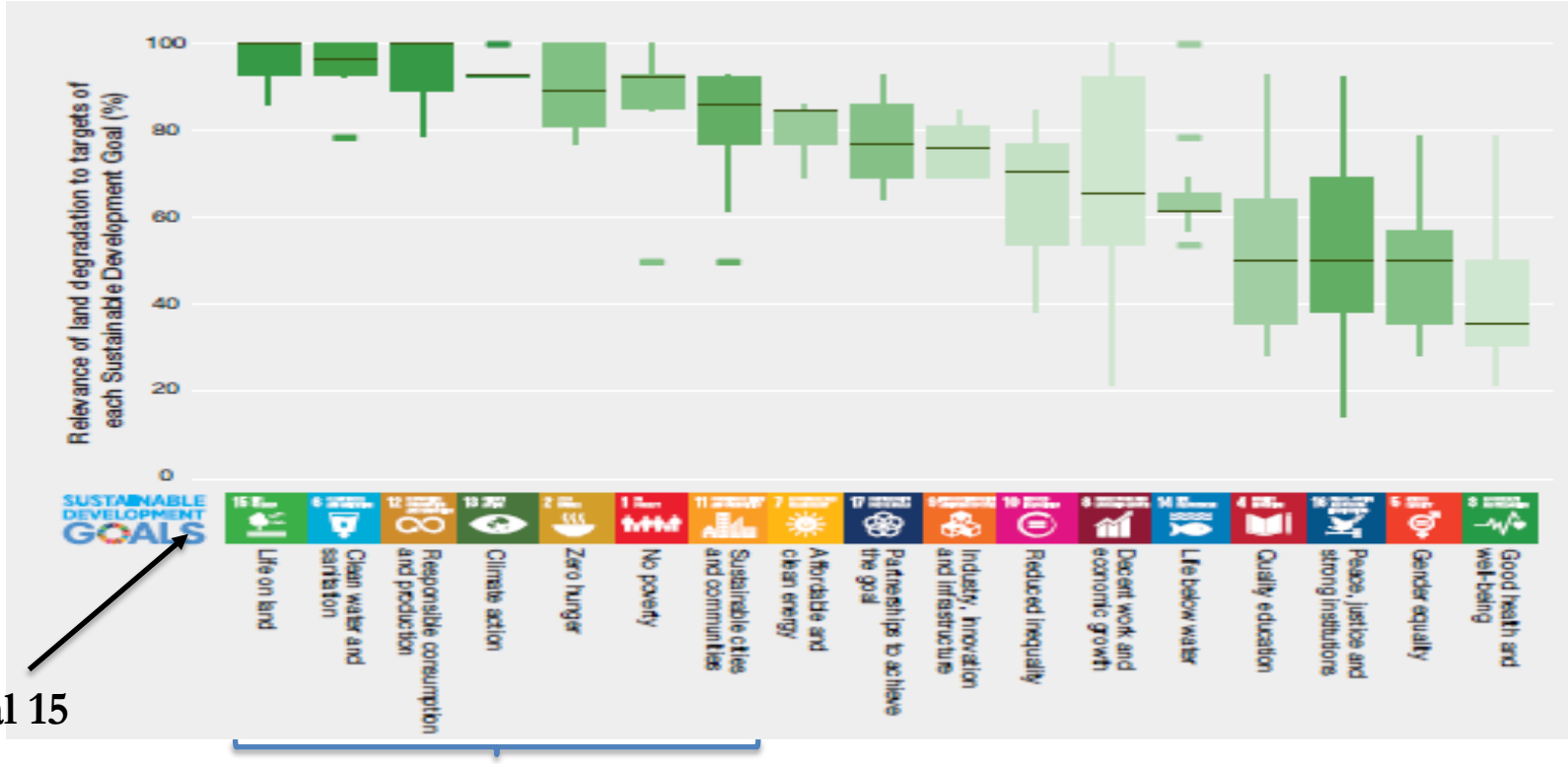
IUCN WCPA WORLD COMMISSION ON PROTECTED AREAS

30% conserved by 2030



Dinerstein *et al* 2019

Successfully addressing the Sustainable Development Goals requires simultaneously halting and reversing land degradation.



Goal 15

Goal 15 also links to **water, consumption, climate, hunger, poverty and cities**

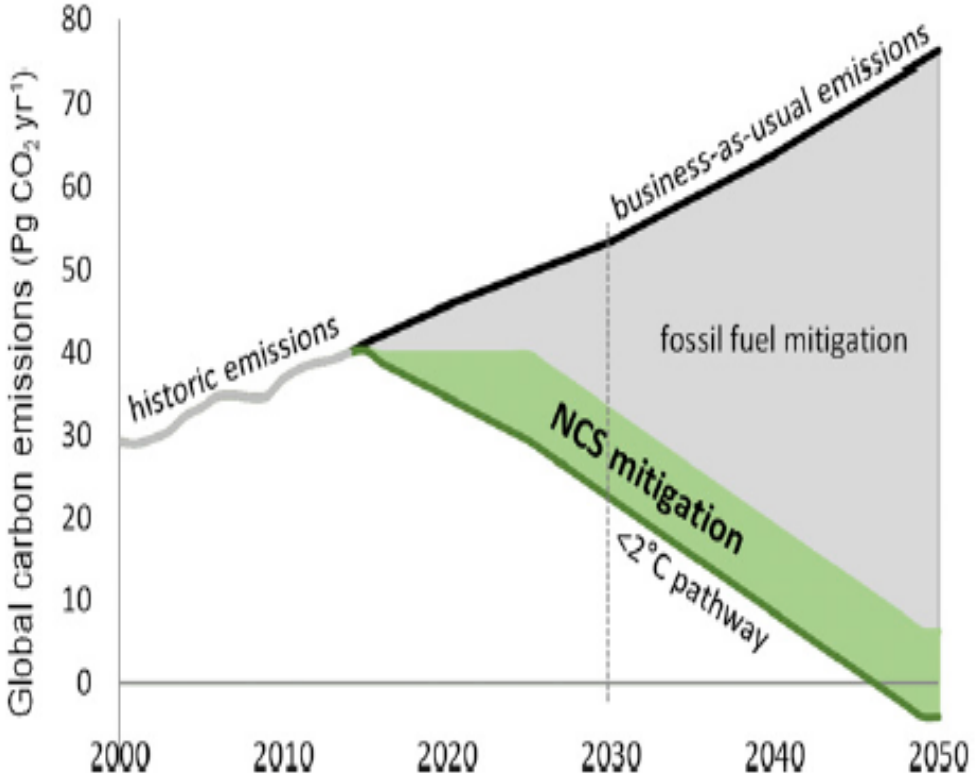
Intact forests can be a Nature Based Solution (NBS) for conserving biodiversity, helping to address climate change, and supporting sustainable development.

NBS can deliver at least 30% of cost-effective carbon dioxide mitigation needed by 2030 for a greater than 66% chance of holding global warming below 2°C this century.

Forests
- Reforestation
- Avoided Forest Conv.
- Natural Forest Mgmt.
- Improved Plantations
- Avoided Woodfuel
- Fire Mgmt.

Ag. & Grasslands
- Biochar
- Trees in Croplands
- Nutrient Mgmt.
- Grazing - Feed
- Conservation Ag.
- Improved Rice
- Grazing - Animal Mgmt.
- Grazing - Optimal Int.
- Grazing - Legumes
- Avoided Grassland Conv.

Wetlands
- Coastal Restoration
- Peat Restoration
- Avoided Peat Impacts
- Avoided Coastal Impacts



Griscom *et al* 2017

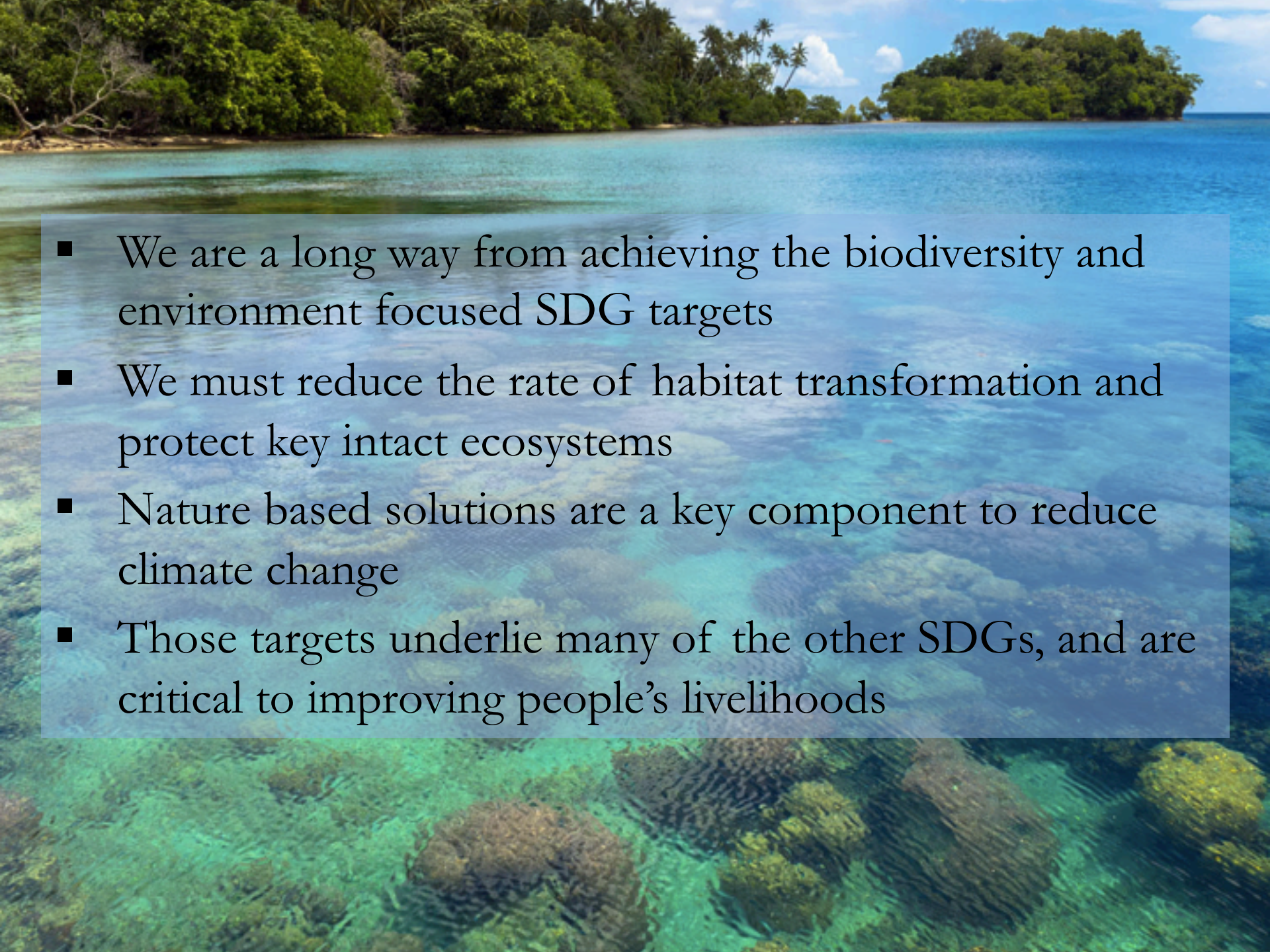
Why are intact forests so important to climate, biodiversity and sustainable development?

1. Hold immense carbon stocks (equal to 9 years' worth of human-caused emissions) and sequester over 1/4 of the world's annual emissions—equivalent to 11GtCO2e (SDG 13 &15)

2. Strongholds for biodiversity, vital for adaptation and global resilience (SDG 14 &15)

3. Help secure the livelihoods, health and cultures of indigenous peoples and local communities (SDG 1, 2, 3 & 6)

4. Preserve the vital ecological services that support sustainable water supplies and clean air globally (SDG 6 &13)



- We are a long way from achieving the biodiversity and environment focused SDG targets
- We must reduce the rate of habitat transformation and protect key intact ecosystems
- Nature based solutions are a key component to reduce climate change
- Those targets underlie many of the other SDGs, and are critical to improving people's livelihoods