



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

Land and the Environment: Relevant Global Initiatives

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IALC Virtual Conference
Day 2 Land and natural environment
Panel Discussion
25 May 2021

From land degradation to land restoration

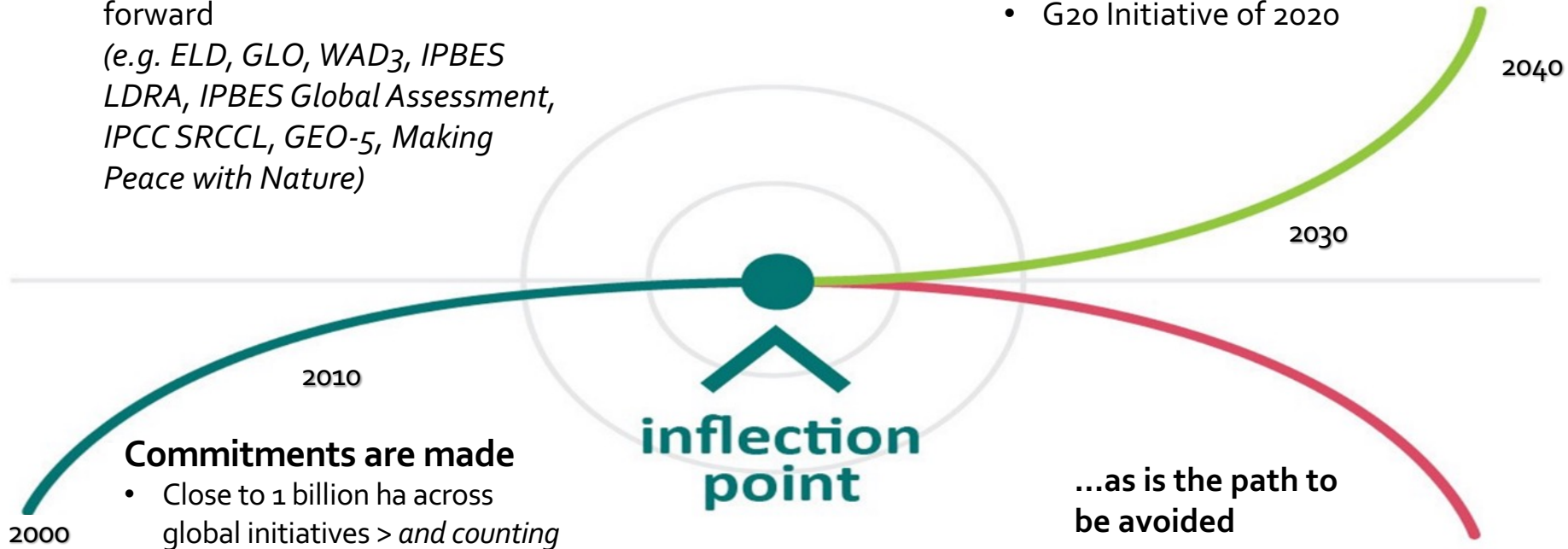
The problem becomes clear

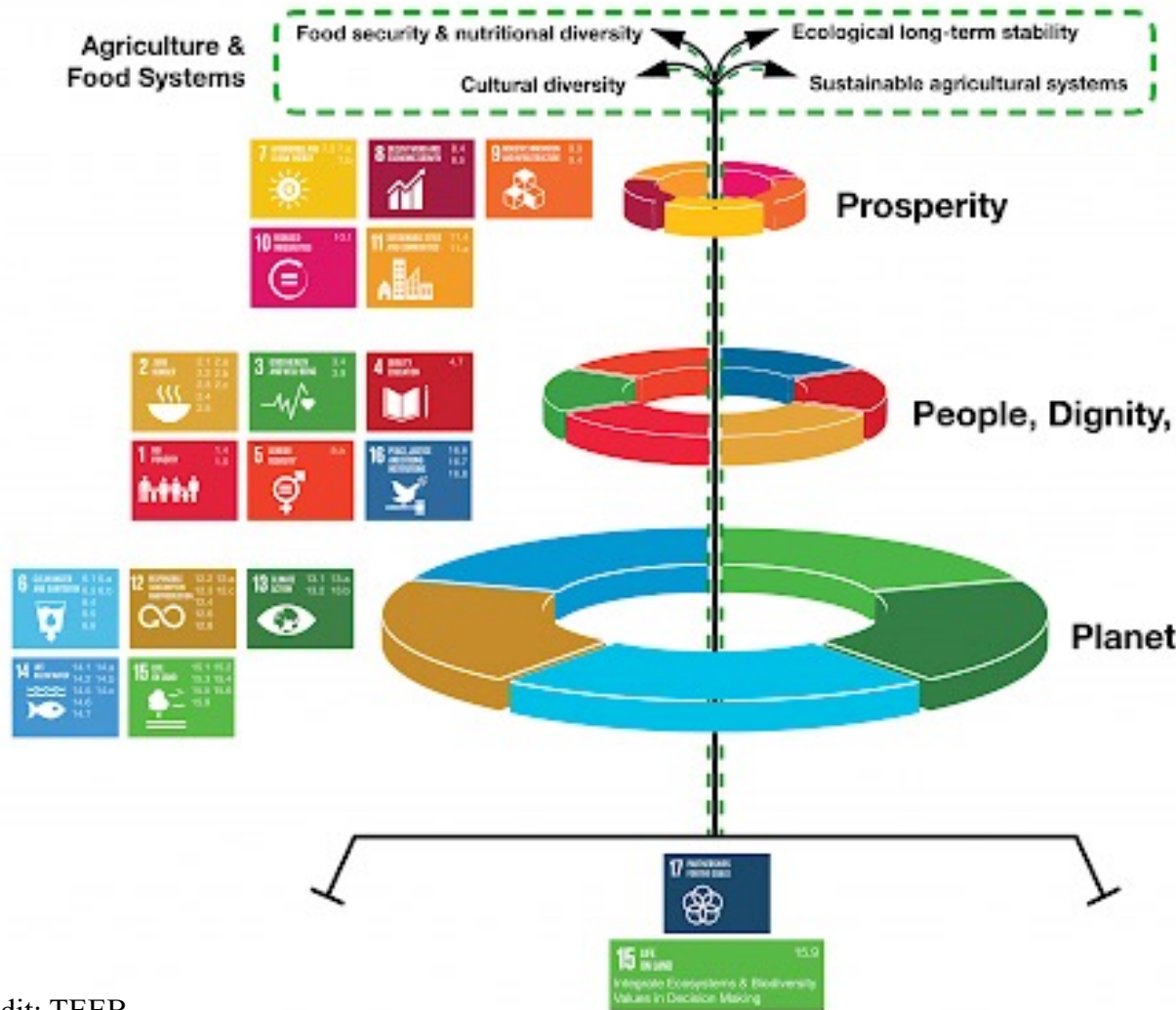
- UN Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification
- Major assessments document the problem and chart a way forward

(e.g. ELD, GLO, WAD3, IPBES LDRA, IPBES Global Assessment, IPCC SRCCL, GEO-5, Making Peace with Nature)

The path forward is also clear

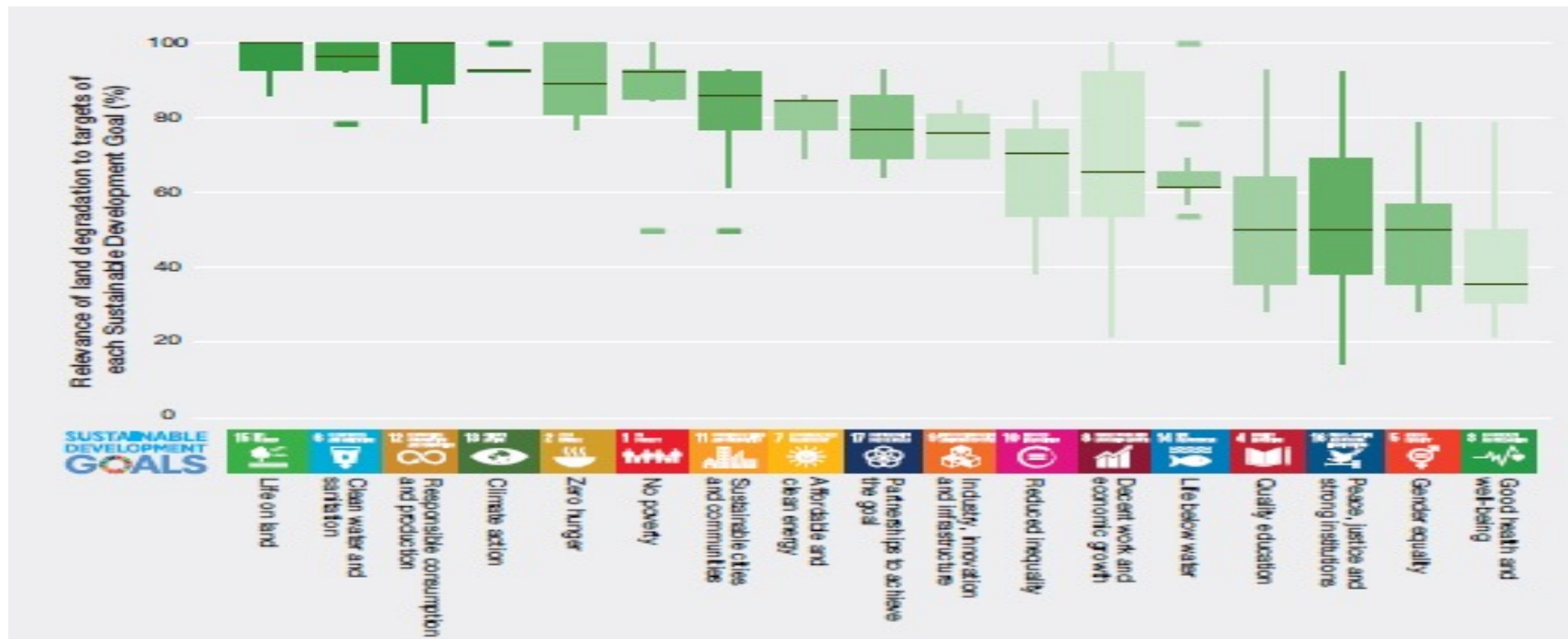
- UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration
- Agenda 2030
- Green Recovery/Build Back Better
- G20 Initiative of 2020





**Agenda 2030:
Land is the
foundation for
achieving the
SDGs**

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



Monitoring global land degradation



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”

SDG Indicator 15.3.1:

Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area.

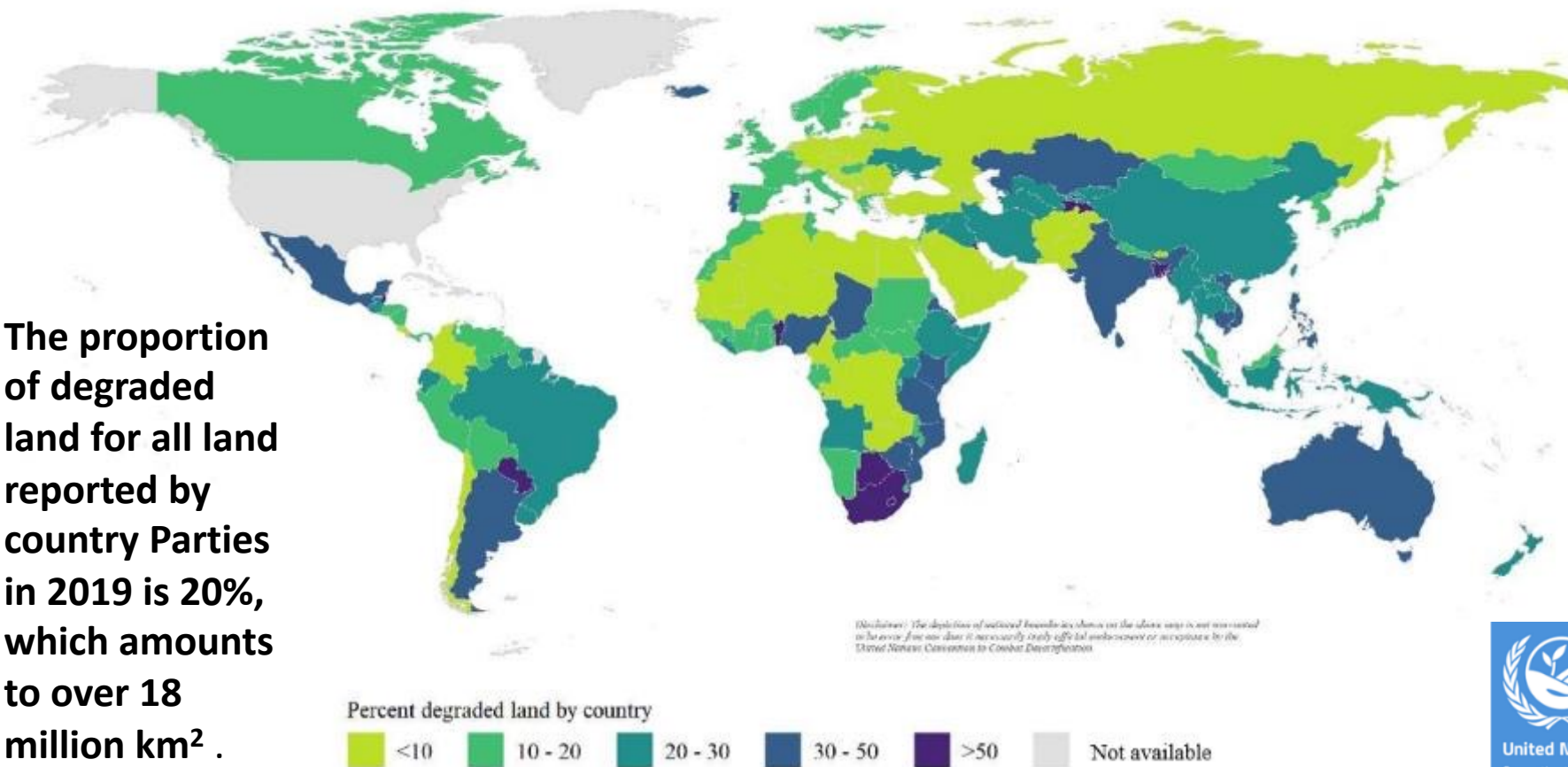
Sub-indicators:

Land cover change, land productivity dynamics and soil organic carbon



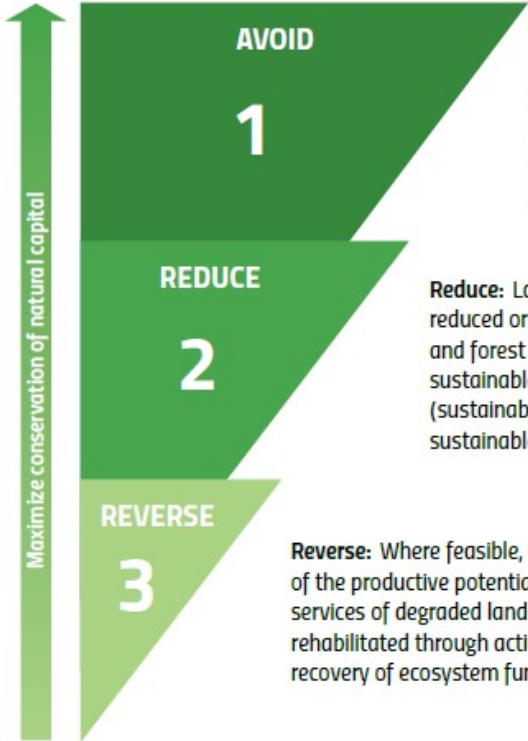
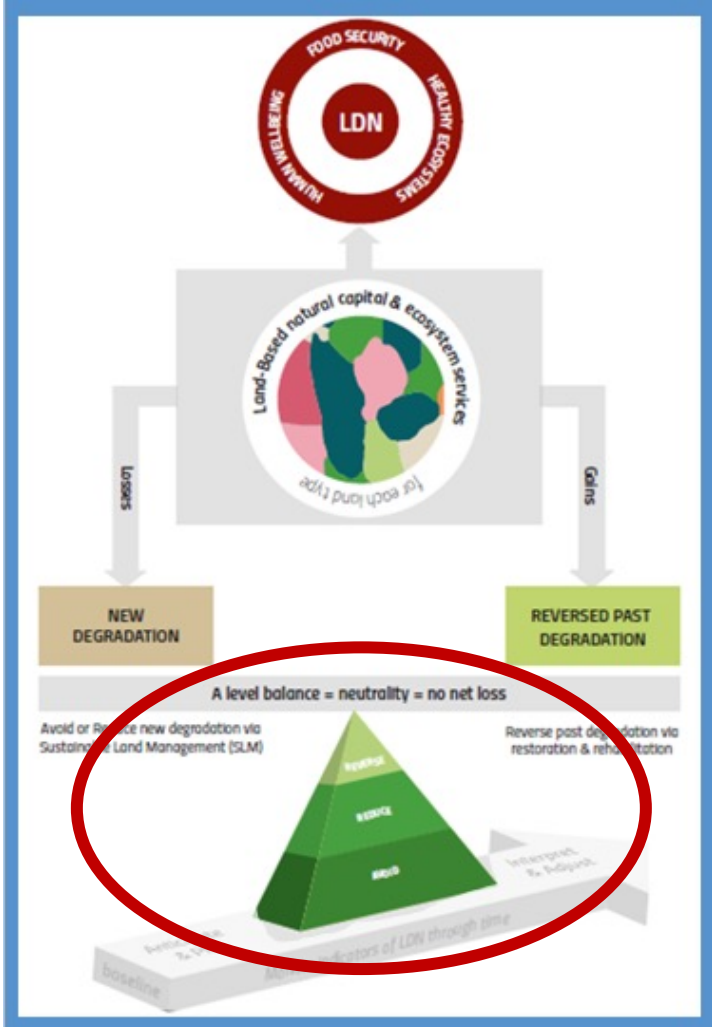
SDG indicator 15.3.1: Proportion of degraded land

The proportion of degraded land for all land reported by country Parties in 2019 is 20%, which amounts to over 18 million km².



Land Degradation Neutrality

Prevention is better than cure



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.



Join #GenerationRestoration

Preventing, halting and reversing the degradation of ecosystems worldwide.

Initiatives such as Land Degradation Neutrality, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs – Paris Agreement), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and the Bonn Challenge add up to global restoration commitments of 1 billion hectares.



The **G20 Global Initiative** on Reducing Land Degradation and Enhancing Conservation of Terrestrial Ecosystems

- Launched by the G20 Leaders at the G20 Riyadh Summit, 21-22 November 2020 – discussed and developed in the Environment Deputies meeting
- Aims to support existing efforts to prevent, halt, and reverse land degradation and habitat loss
- Building on existing initiatives, G20 leaders share the ambition to achieve a 50 percent reduction of degraded land by 2040, on a voluntary basis



THE HIGH-LEVEL
DIALOGUE ON
DESERTIFICATION,

LAND

DEGRADATION
AND DROUGHT.

14 JUNE, 2021

This President of the UN General Assembly event will be broadcast live through UN WebTV and streamed through the UNCCD Facebook (@UNCCD).





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What about drought?

The UNCCD Drought Initiative

- National drought preparedness plans
- Regional efforts to reduce drought vulnerability and risk, and
- Toolbox to boost the resilience of people and ecosystems to drought



Desertification & Drought Day

**Desertification
& Drought Day**



17 JUNE
2021



Restoration. Land. Recovery.

We build back better with healthy land



**Desertification
& Drought Day**

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Restoration. Land. Recovery.
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Thank you!



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#DesertificationAndDroughtDay

#RestorationLandRecovery

