

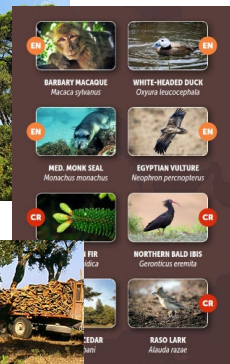
Land Degradation Neutrality: a commitment in motion

INDUCING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Mediterranean region: resources and challenges

- 6.5 % of global land area
- 2.2 % of the world's total forest area in 2015
- 7.3 % of the global population in 2016
- 6.0 % of global carbon emission in 2014
- 9.6 % of global organic-production holdings in 2015

Extraordinary biodiversity, including a large number of endemic species



Increasing pressure driving environmental degradation and affecting livelihoods

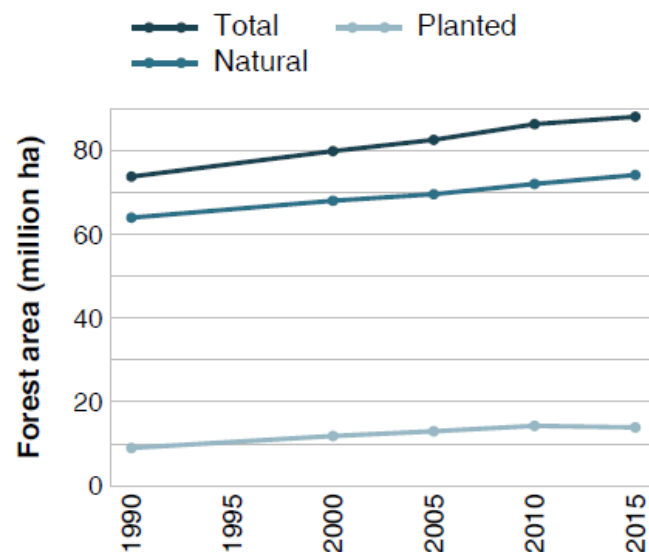
- ➔ **Human pressure and Climate change are the primary drivers of degradation**
- ➔ **Mediterranean forests are particularly endangered**

Source: State of Mediterranean Forest 2018

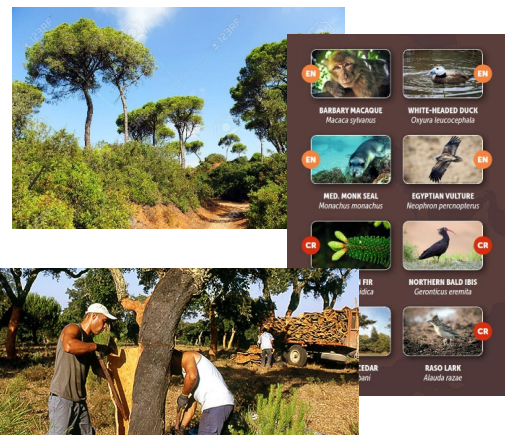
Mediterranean forests: resources and challenges

2.2 % of the world's total forest area in 2015

State of Mediterranean Forests



- 88 million ha of forest area
- 0.85 %/yr net increase
- 64 % of the region's forests located in Spain, France, Turkey and Italy



Mediterranean forests: Global and regional commitments



Forest sector mainstreamed within
the **Global commitments**



**United Nations
FORUM ON
FORESTS**



— GLOBAL —
FOREST
— GOALS —



Regional initiatives for Mediterranean Forests:

❑ The Ankara Initiative

➔ Strengthen the UNCCD implementation to achieve LDN

❑ The Agadir Commitment (Fifth Mediterranean Forest Week, Agadir, March 2017)

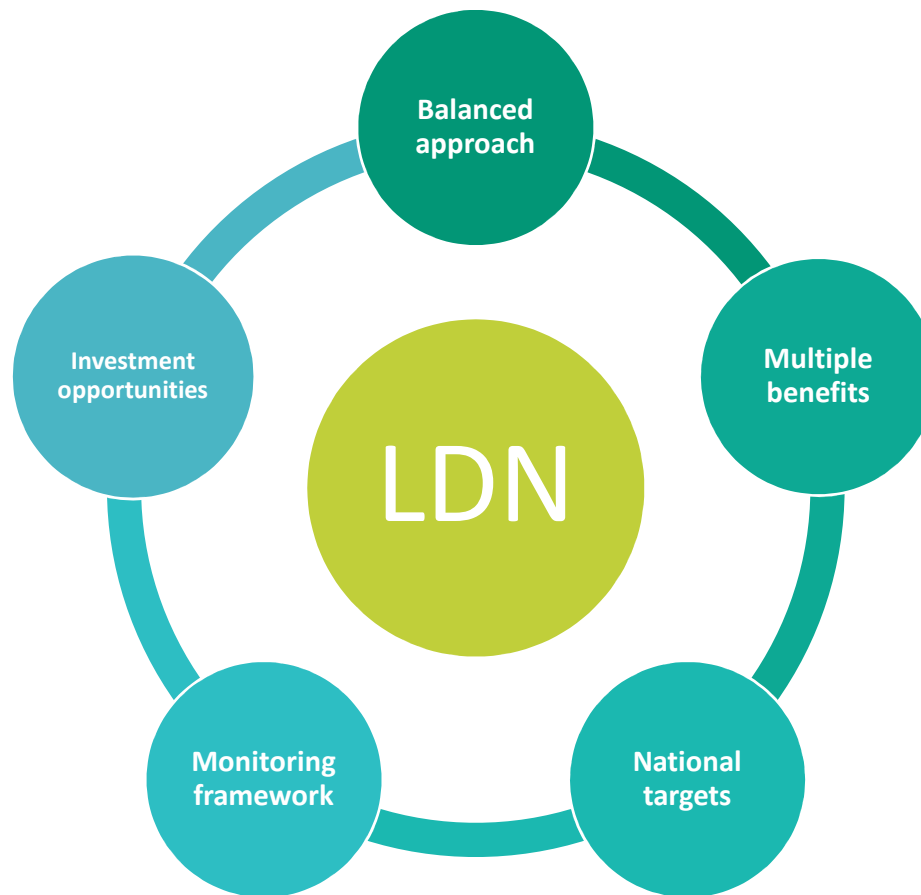
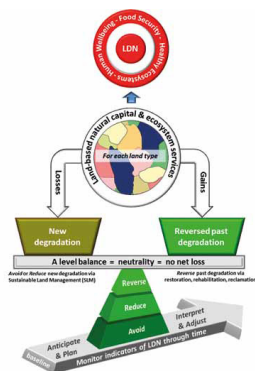
➔ Restore at least **8 million** hectares of degraded forest ecosystems by 2030



Land Degradation Neutrality: Opportunities for Mediterranean Forests



**LDN Scientific
 Conceptual
 Framework endorsed
 by UNCCD COP 12 in
 Turkey in 2015**

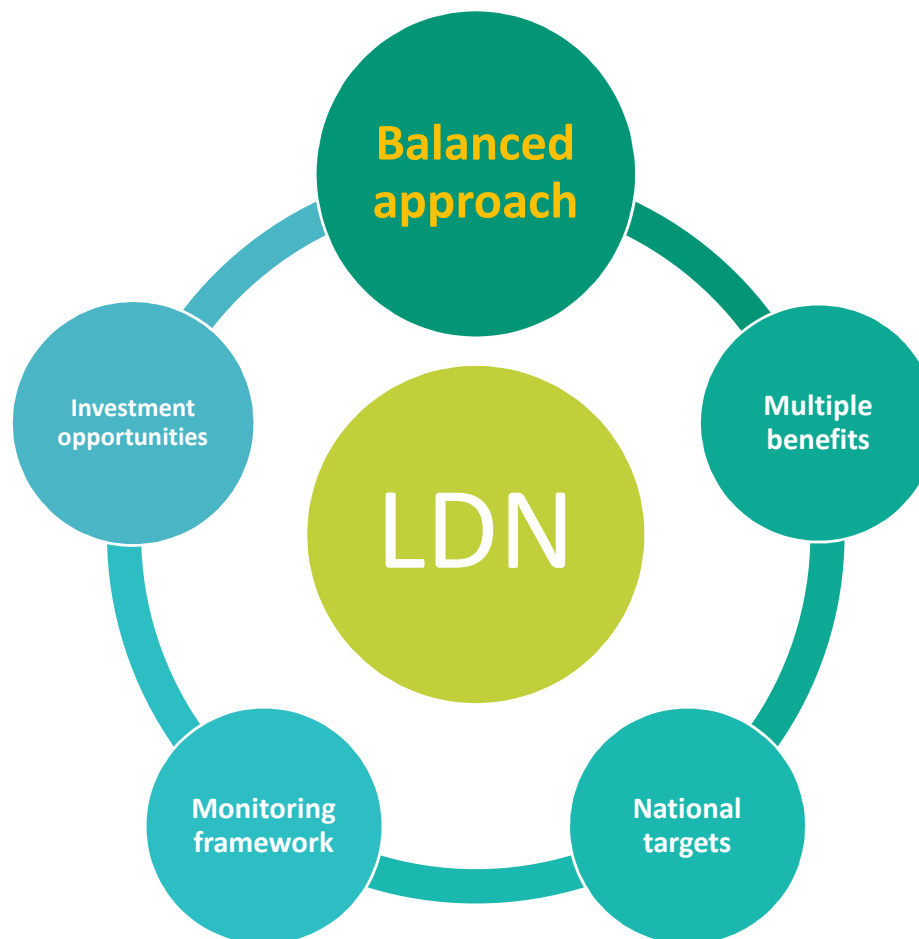
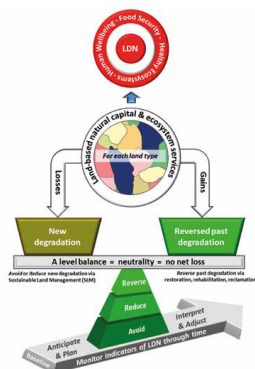


LDN :
 Moving from a
scientific concept to
 a **reality** on the
 ground

Land Degradation Neutrality: Opportunities for Mediterranean Forests

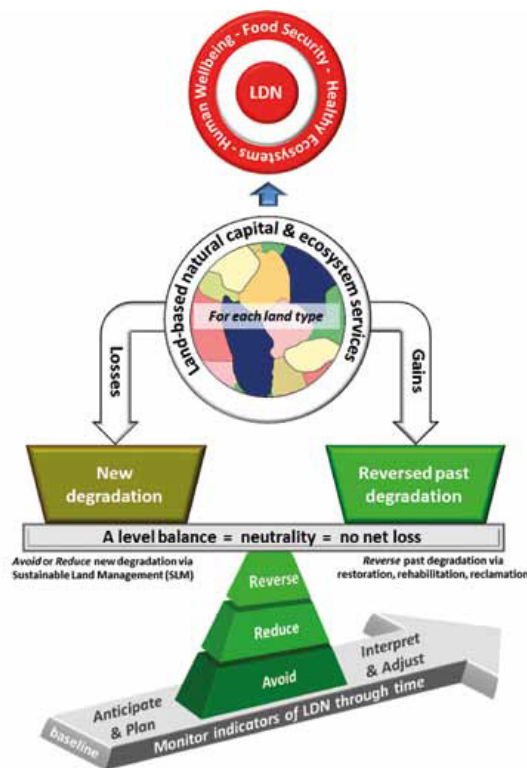


**LDN Scientific
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LDN :
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Land Degradation Neutrality: a balanced approach

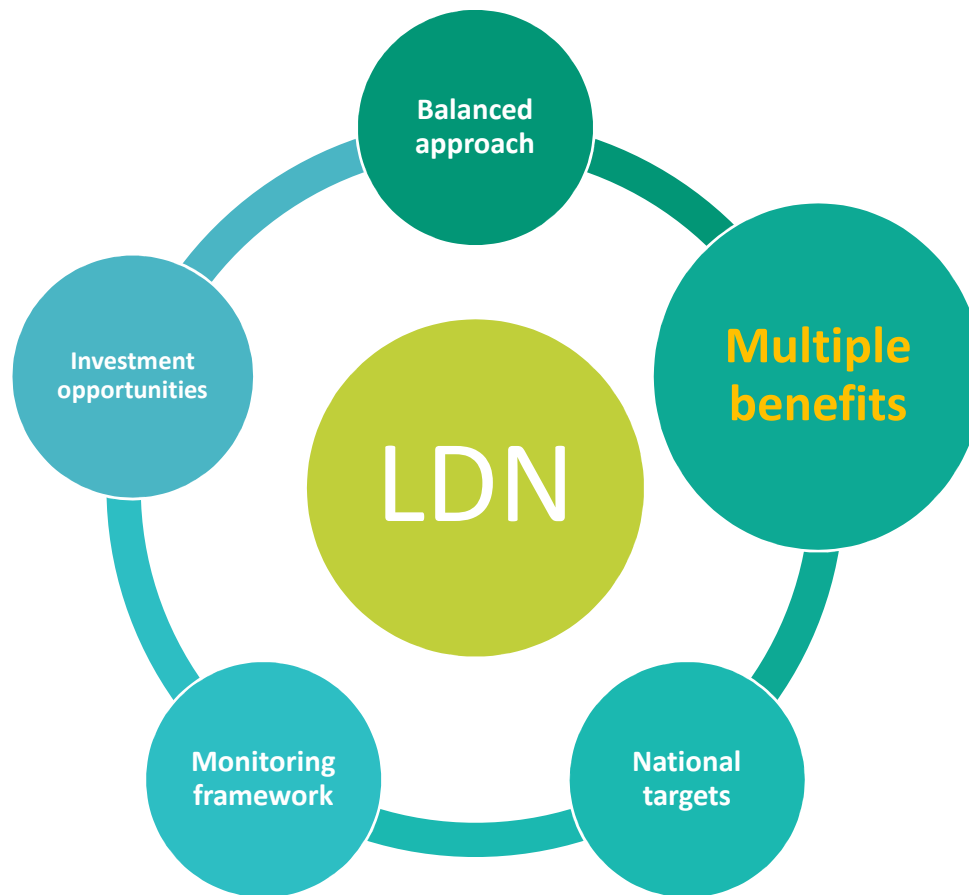


LDN aims to **maintain or enhance the land based natural capital** and associated ecosystem functions and services :

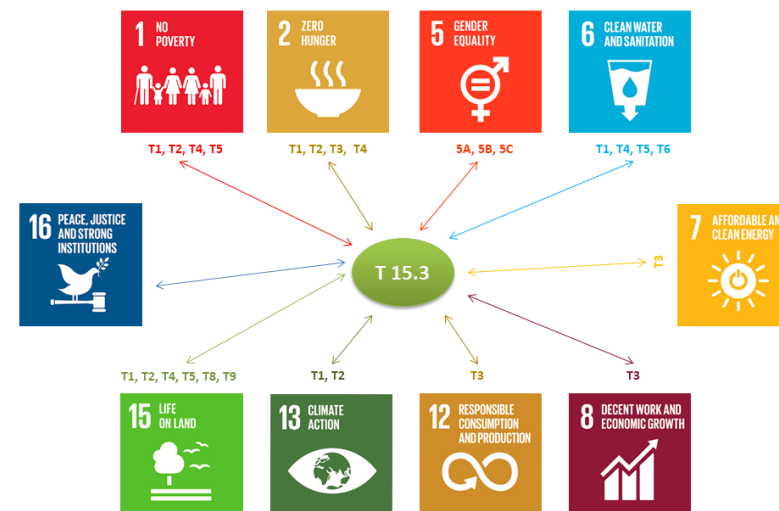
- ➔ Anticipates **new degradation** even as we plan to **reverse past degradation**
- ➔ Considers **tradeoffs** among **competing interests** across the **landscape**
- ➔ Based on the **LDN response hierarchy**: avoid, reduce, reverse land degradation

Neutrality = “no net loss” (at least)

Land Degradation Neutrality: Opportunities for Mediterranean Forests



Land Degradation Neutrality: Multiple benefits



LDN: an accelerator of Sustainable development

➔ Provides a Way to Achieve SDGs in the **Most Efficient** and **Environmentally Sustainable** Way

Land Degradation Neutrality: Multiple benefits

Strong complementarity with global commitments in terms of:

Forests, food security, poverty alleviation, NRM, climate change mitigation and adaptation, financing opportunities, access to water, mitigating the impacts of flood and drought risks ...



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**



UNISDR
The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



**VI MFW
Mediterranean
Forest Week**

Land Degradation Neutrality: Multiple benefits

Forest

- Integrated approach tackling land and forest resources together
- Facilitate FLR actions
- Minimize trade-offs between forest ecosystem services and forests and other land use systems

Urbanization

- Sustainable cities and communities
- Strengthened rural-urban link
- Green spaces in urban areas and improvement of life quality
- Better preparedness for flood risks

LDN

Energy

- - Improving the use of renewable energies
- - Mitigation of the impacts of conventional energy sources
- - Reducing pressure on forest resources for firewood

Drought

- Preparing for & respond to droughts
- Ensuring water for all uses incl. ecosystems are not threatened during droughts
- Outlining a triggering mechanism of actions for an efficient preparedness and response to drought
- Shifting drought management approach from re-active to pro-active

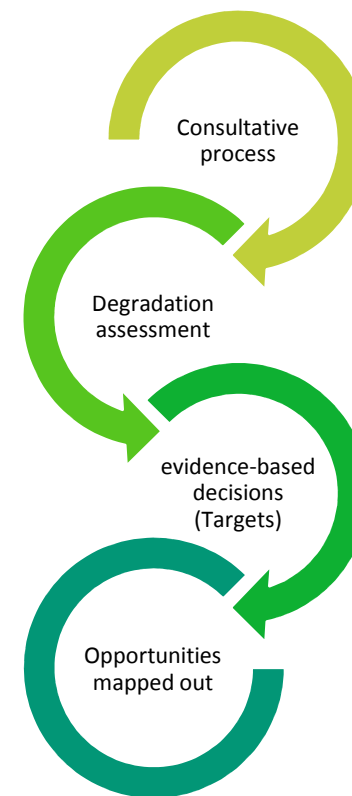
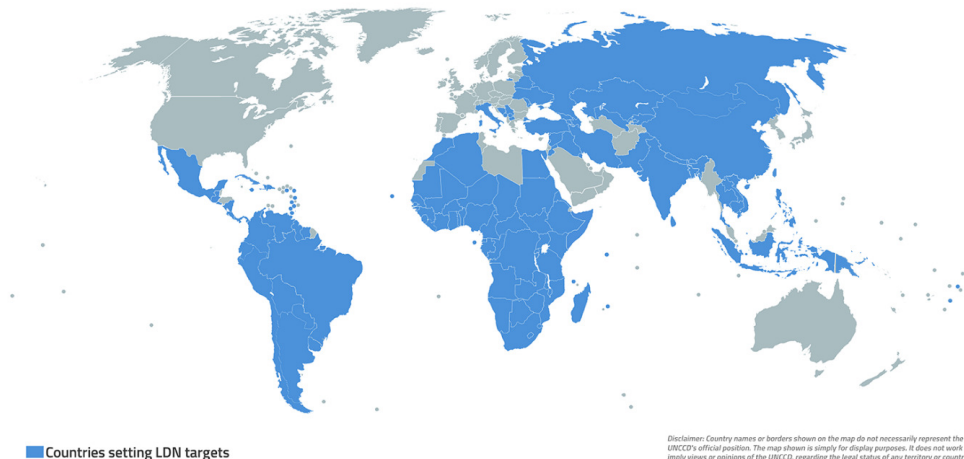
Land Degradation Neutrality: Opportunities for Mediterranean Forests



Land Degradation Neutrality: Target Setting Process (LDN TSP)

To date, 121 countries committed to set LDN targets

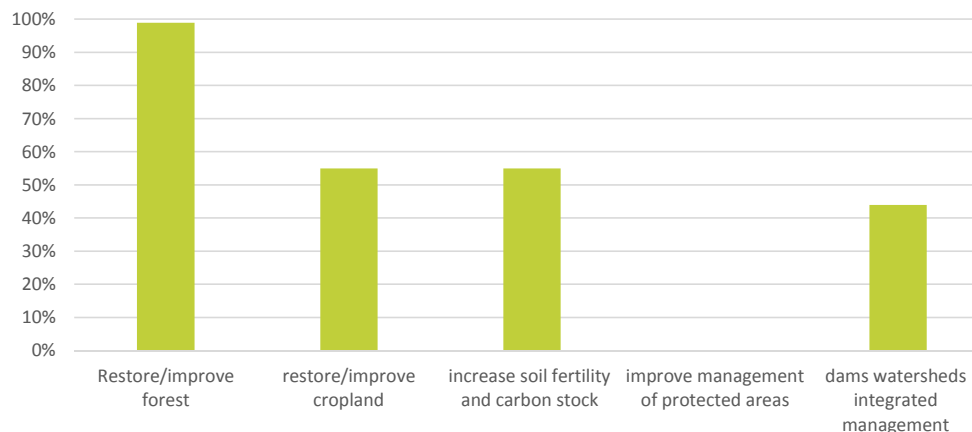
- 83 countries (70 %) have set LDN Targets and associated measures
- 50 countries (40 %) have adopted LDN targets by Government



Land Degradation Neutrality: Target Setting Process (LDN TSP)

11 Mediterranean country have engaged in the process (Algeria*, Bosnia Herzegovina*, Egypt*, Italy*, Jordan, Lebanon*, Montenegro, Morocco, Serbia, Syria and Turkey*)

→ 6 countries have already set their LDN Targets*



Frequency of LDN Targets aggregated by main categories

Most of the LDN-TSP countries have set forest-related LDN targets – such as increasing the area of forests or boosting the productivity of forest lands

National reports are available on the UNCCD Website: <https://knowledge.unccd.int/home/country-information/countries-with-voluntary-ldn-targets>

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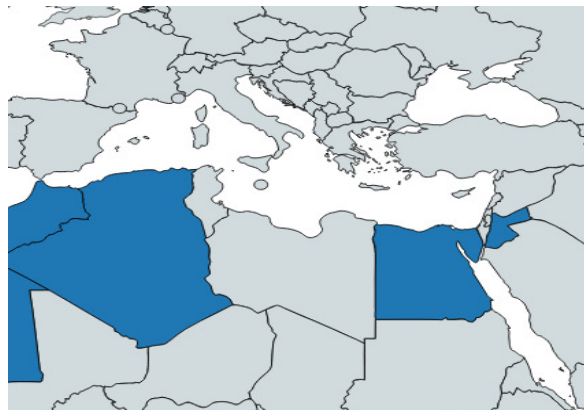
Country	Forest-related targets (examples)
Algeria	D'ici 2025, 475 000 ha seront reboisés, conformément au plan de reboisement validé en conseil interministériel
Bosnia Herzegovina	The area of forests and forest lands of the Republic of Srpska to reach 53% by 2030 Increase of afforested areas for Brčko District by 2030
Egypt	Increase by 25% forest cover / tree cover through agroforestry and SLM in existing forests by 2030 as compared to 2015
Italy	Rehabilitation measures on 200 km2 of dryland forests by 2030
Lebanon	Restore forest landscapes through reforestation and afforestation on at least 10,000 hectares
Turkey	Increase the ratio of country's forest land by 5% by 2030



National Drought Plans in the Mediterranean Region

Five countries engaged in the Drought Initiative from the Mediterranean region:

- Algeria
- Egypt
- Jordan
- Mauritania
- Morocco

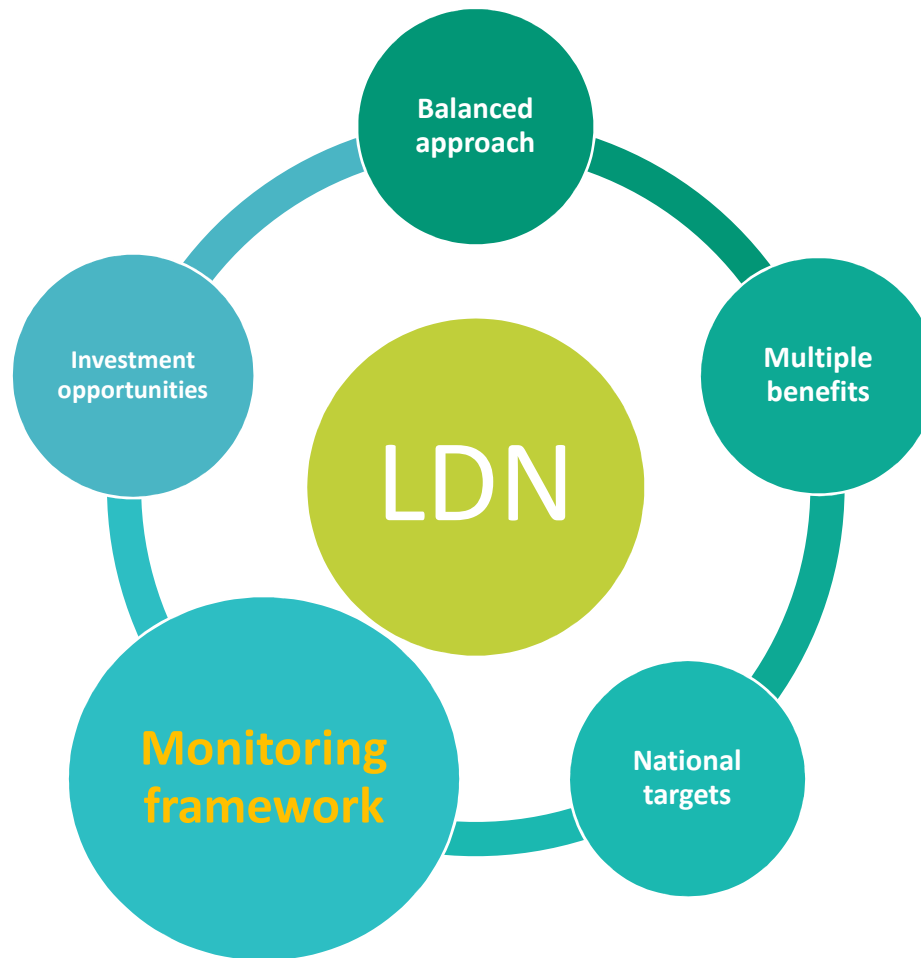


Drought impacts on Forest

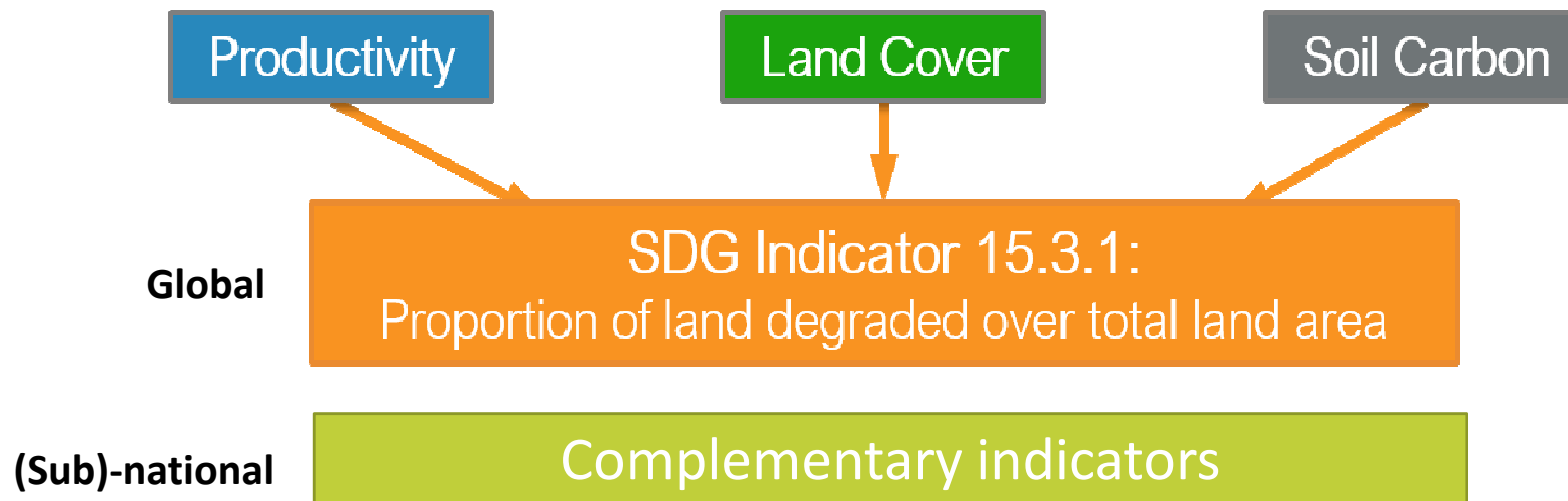
Drought severity and drought-associated forest disturbances increase with **climatic change**

- **More intense drought and increased temperatures**
 - => reduce **tree growth** and drive **tree dieback** and **mortality**
 - => reduce **carbon exchange** between atmosphere and biosphere
- **Drought can also promote plant invasion**
 - => modifying the environment to favor **non-native species**
- **Indirect effects of drought on forests can be:**
 - => **Insect** and **pathogen outbreaks**
 - => Increased **wildfire** (risk with protracted effects that include significant timber market losses)

Land Degradation Neutrality: Opportunities for Mediterranean Forests



UNCCD is the custodian agency for SDG indicator 15.3.1



The LDN target setting process has allowed the countries to establish their **LDN baseline** and complete the **land degradation trend analyses** based on the 3 indicators and their associated metrics

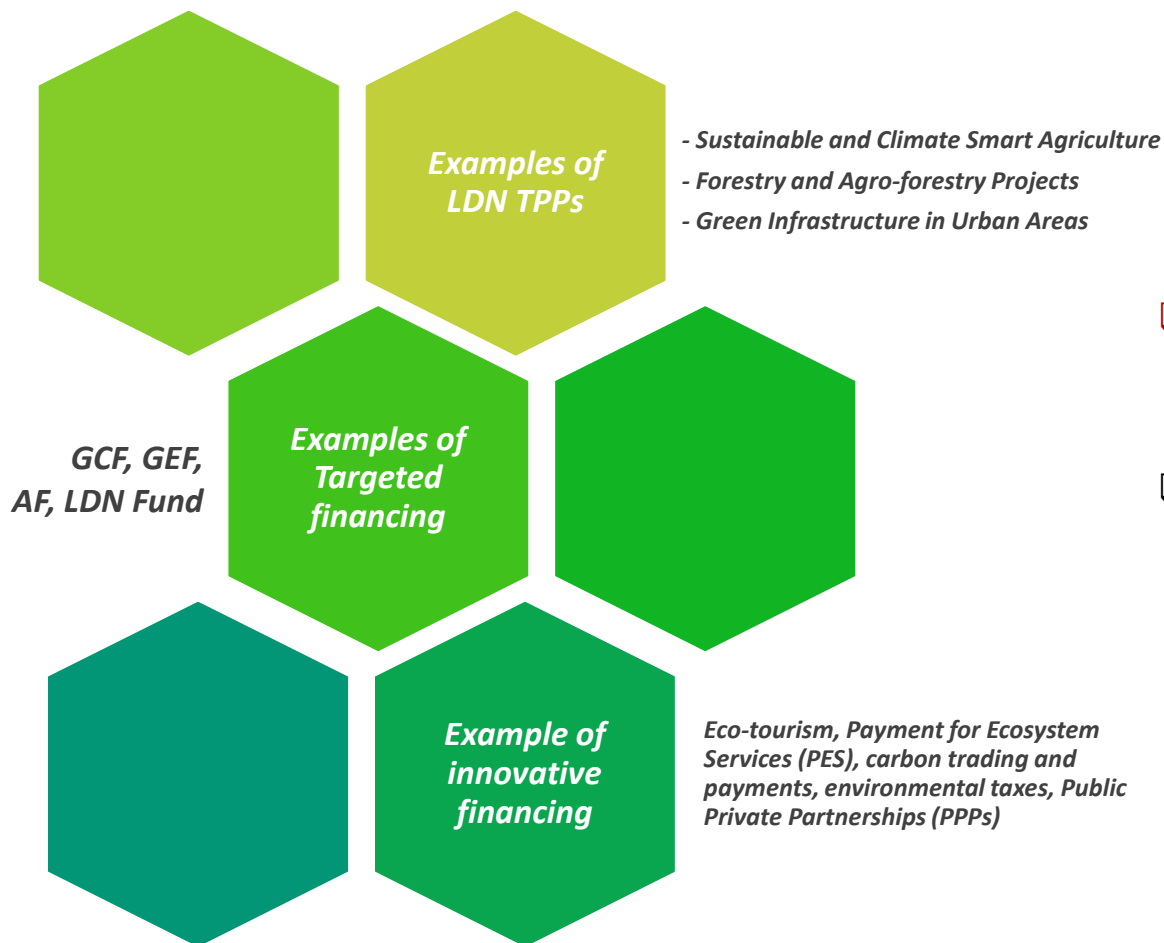
➔ To day, 9 Mediterranean countries have established their baseline report

To be further developed in session 4

Land Degradation Neutrality: Opportunities for Mediterranean Forests

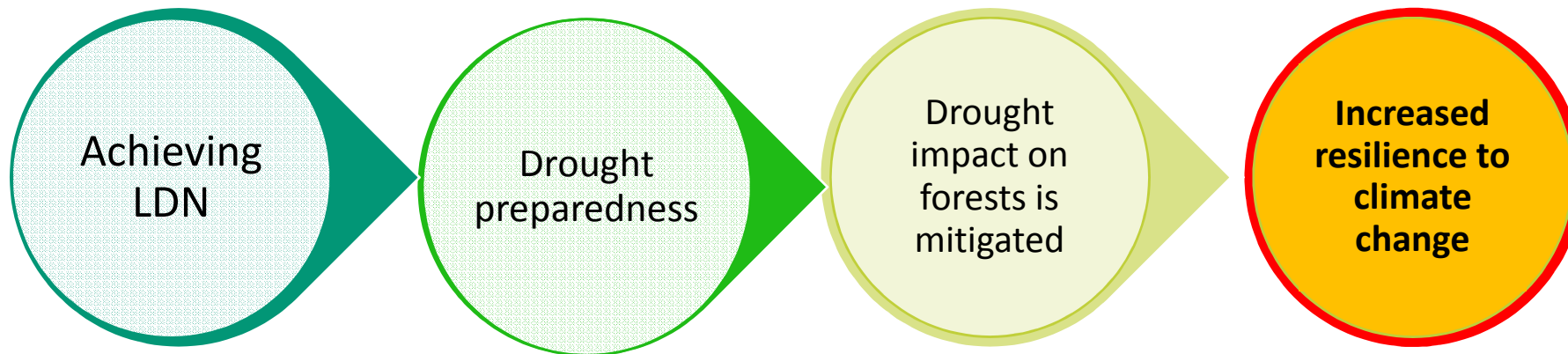


Achieving LDN: Transformative Projects and Programmes



- ❑ 4 Mediterranean countries have **mapped out** opportunities for LDN transformative projects/programmes
- ❑ At least **3** Mediterranean countries are **engaged** in the process of elaboration of LDN TPPs proposals
 - ➔ Lebanon
 - ➔ Tunisia
 - ➔ Turkey

Achieving LDN + Increasing drought preparedness = Increasing resilience to climate change in the Mediterranean



Smart, coordinated land and water management provides a cost-effective, long-term solution to enhance climate change resilience in the Mediterranean.



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



THANK YOU