

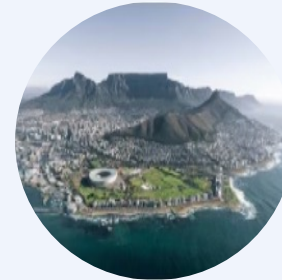
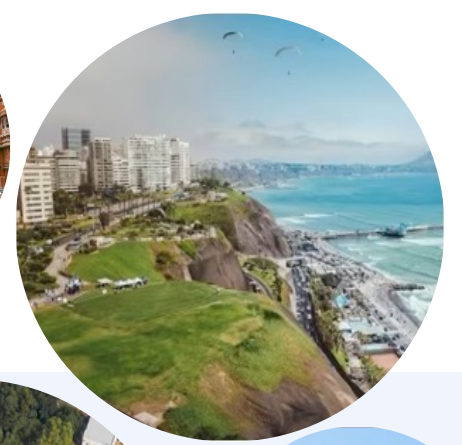
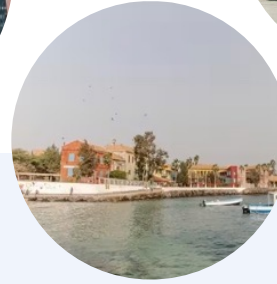


# Overview of GEF-8 Sustainable Cities Integrated Program: GPSC- From Program Design to Knowledge and Implementation Support

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# What we learned from GEF 6 Cities Program



# GEF-6 Sustainable Cities Integrated Approach Pilot (SC-IAP)

DUAL TRACK  
PROGRAM

**Track 1 - Global Platform for Sustainable Cities (GPSC).**  
**Track 2 – City-level Investment Projects:**

**GEF6**  
2016-2024  
(\$151M)  
11 Countries  
28 Cities

1. Brazil (UNEP) – 25M
2. China (World Bank) – 36M
3. Cote d'Ivoire (AfDB) – 6M
4. India (UNIDO) – 13M
5. Malaysia (UNIDO) – 3M
6. Mexico (IDB) – 15M
7. Paraguay (UNDP) – 8.25M
8. Peru (IDB) – 7.5M
9. Senegal (World Bank, UNIDO) – 9.5M
10. South Africa (DBSA, UNEP) – 9M
11. Viet Nam (ADB) – 9M

# 1. Working with Urban Planners to Integrate Sustainability into the Planning Process Is Critical for System Change

## Challenges

GEF projects traditionally engage single sectors, limiting their influence on overall city growth and land use planning

## What we have done

- Place integrated urban sustainability at the core of urban planning
- Positioning planning as a central, evidence-based program deliverable

## Recommendation

- Integrated Planning is essential for system change
- Integration is a governance and management challenge
- Systematic engagement of urban planners and the planning process is critical

## 2. Sector Transformation Requires Integration—Applying Systems Thinking in Transport, Waste, and Other Core Urban Services

### Challenges

Sector programs designed in isolation failed to unlock system-wide benefits, as they did not integrate multiple dimensions within and across urban sectors.

### What we have done

- **Transit-oriented development:** Applying system thinking by integrating land use and transport to shape compact, connected, and low-carbon urban growth
- **Circular waste system:** integrating service delivery resources recovery and the private sector engagement

### Recommendation

- Adopt an integrated approach to sector programs
- Complement sector teams with the right cross-cutting expertise
- Institutionalize coordination through clear roles, routines, and shared metrics/data

### 3. Integrating Nature and Biodiversity into Urban Development Is Essential for Resilient and Livable Cities

#### Challenges

Urban environmental action tends to overlook urban nature and biodiversity by treating it as a non-urban issue, limiting the integration of nature-based solutions into planning and infrastructure systems.

#### What we have done

Position urban nature as part of core infrastructure systems, supported by tools that enable integrated planning and investment.

#### Recommendation

- Adopt a network approach that connects green and blue assets with slow mobility corridors
- Strengthen the economic case and financing pathways by supporting cities to identify economic opportunities and revenue models linked to green infrastructure

## 4. Strengthening Investment Readiness and Municipal Finance Is Essential for Scaling Integrated Urban Solutions

### Challenges

Limited alignment with private sector requirements and weak revenue models constrained the ability to translate integrated plans into bankable urban investments.

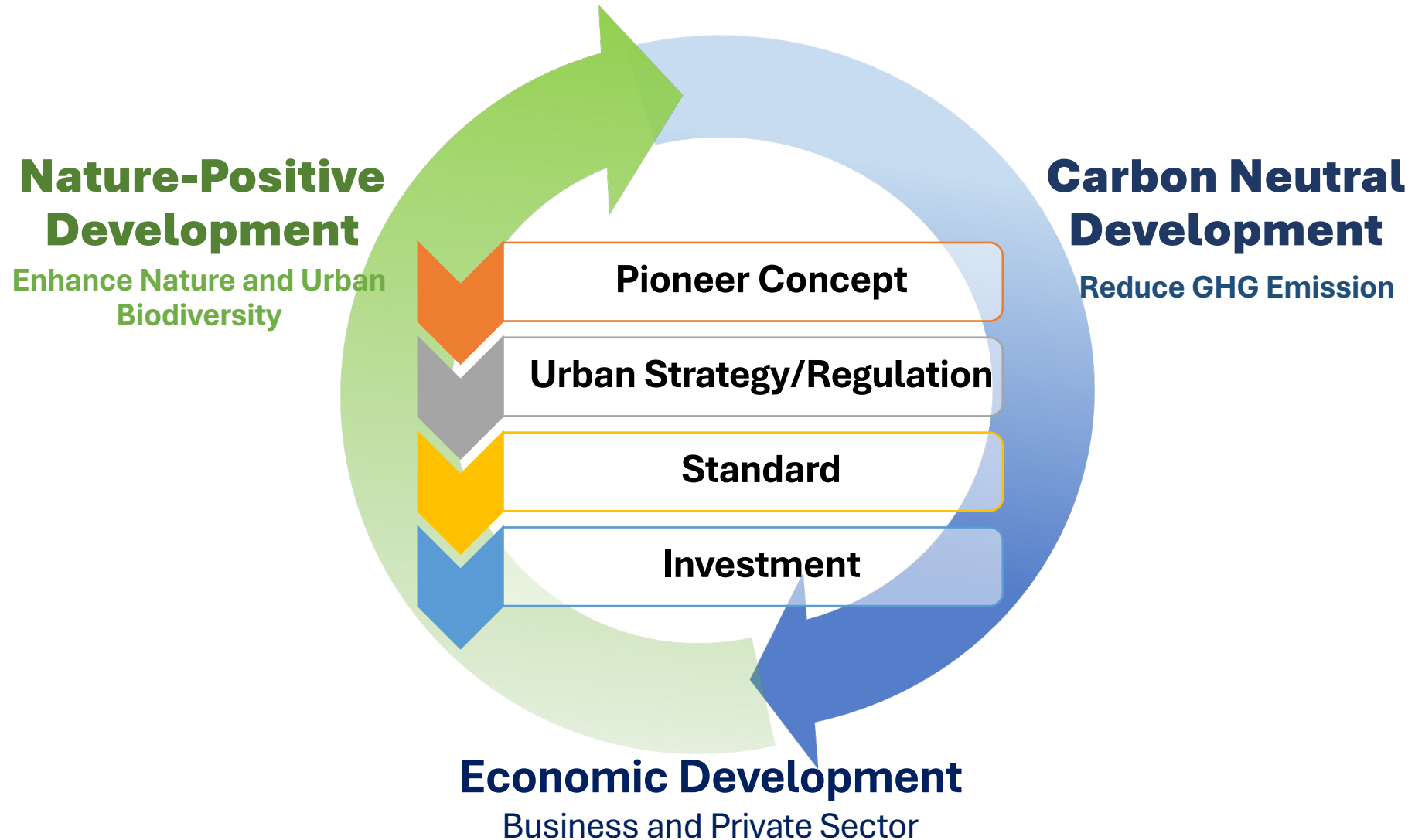
### What we have done

- Supported cities in assessing financial health and improving **investment readiness**
- Developed guidance and capacity for **structuring PPPs**, including risk allocation and project preparation to attract private investment

### Recommendation

- Strengthen municipal financial management and creditworthiness and build a pipeline of investment-ready projects
- Engage the private sector and financiers early in the project cycle
- Pair capacity building with transaction support (including engagement with financial institutions such as IFC and others)
- Where conditions allow, explore access to capital markets

# An Integrated Approach to Influencing System Thinking and Transformation



# GEF-6 Sustainable Cities- Lessons Learned

Conference Edition

# The Making of Sustainable Cities- Integrated Approach



**GEF-6**  
Sustainable  
Cities Integrated  
Approach  
Pilot (SC-IAP):  
Insights and  
Lessons



Global  
Platform for  
Sustainable  
Cities



Led by:

IBRD · IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP



Supported by:

global  
environment  
facility  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

**From GEF-6 Pilot  
to GEF-8 System  
Transformation**



# From Lessons Learned to System Transformation

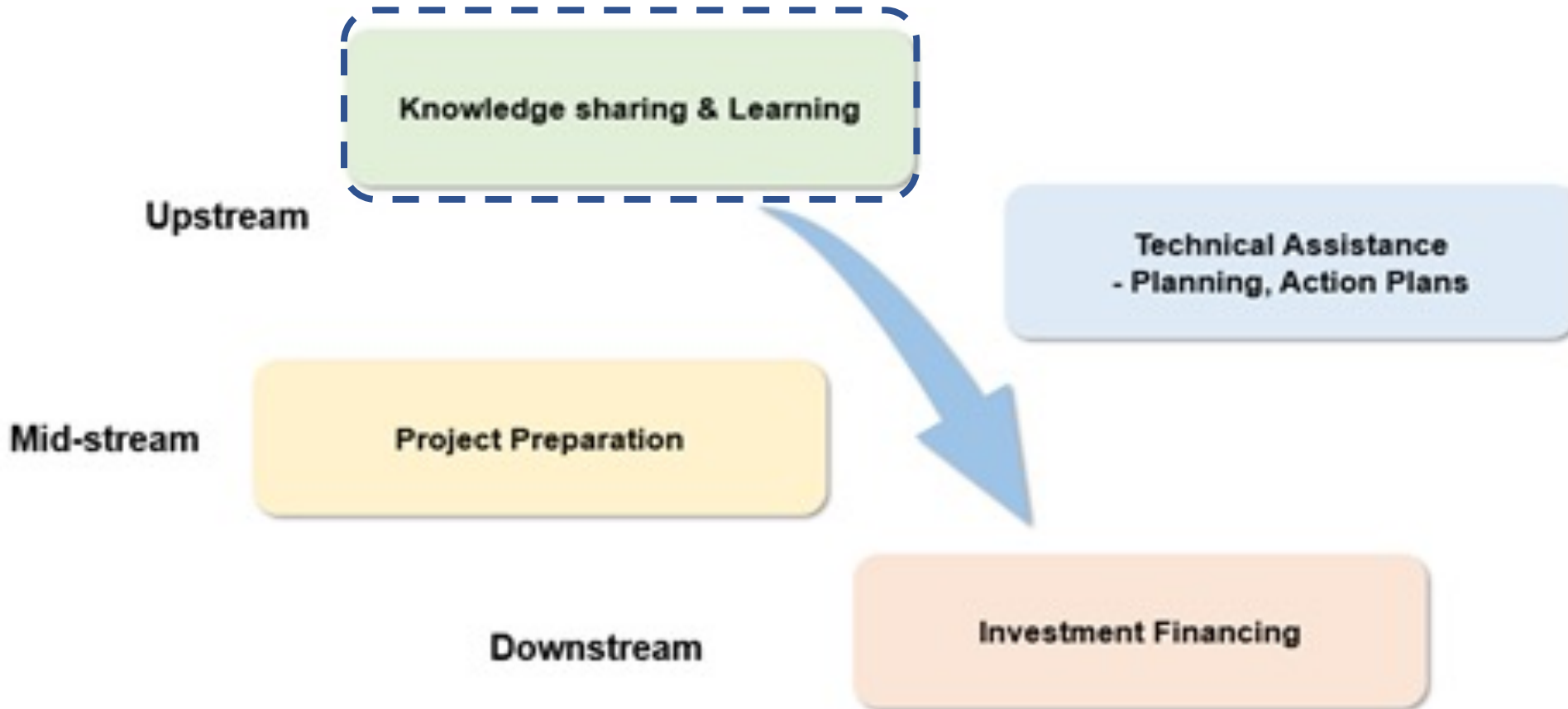
## *How GEF-8 Builds on the Experience of GEF-6*

 Translating Knowledge into Action

 Influencing Financing Flows

 A Global Program with Global Impact

# From Knowledge to Implementation: Support for Urban Development Value Chain



# How GPSC, as a knowledge platform, influences the Project Design and Implementation, and Raises Ambition

## **Technical Support**

- City Academies
- Knowledge Products & Tools
- Demand-driven Technical Assistance

## **Leadership Engagement**

- Mayors Forum
- Global Meetings
- Other High Level Convenings