BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

Scaling-up Finance Mechanisms for Biodiversity

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Why is finance important?

- Declining biodiversity trends at global level
  - *OECD Environmental Outlook to 2050* projects a further 10% loss by 2050 under business as usual. Yet biodiversity and ecosystem service benefits are high.

- Adverse impacts to environment, health, economic growth… human well-being

CBD Context

Widely recognised that 2010 biodiversity targets were not met. CBD COP10 led to agreement on 2011-2020 Aichi Targets.

- Will need to significantly scale up biodiversity outcomes…

CBD refers to six "innovative financial mechanisms":

- Environmental fiscal reform
- Payments for ecosystem services
- Biodiversity offsets
- Markets for green products
- Biodiversity in climate change funding
- Biodiversity in international development finance

Questions examined

- What are these mechanisms, their purpose and applicability?
- How much finance have they mobilised and what opportunities are there to scale-up?
- What are the key design and implementation issues to help ensure:
  - environmental effectiveness;
  - cost effectiveness; and
  - distributional equity
  - ➢ i.e. **environmental** and **social safeguards**?

How do the finance mechanisms compare?

Finance mechanism	Scope of finance	Source of finance	Direct vs. indirect finance	Impacts on drivers	Beneficiary vs. polluter pays
Environmental Fiscal Reform	Local National	Private (& public)	Direct	Yes - direct	Polluter
Payments for Ecosystem Services	Local National International	Private & public	Direct	Yes - direct	Beneficiary
Biodiversity offsets	Local National	Private (& public)	Direct & indirect	Yes - direct	Polluter
Markets for green products	Local National International	Public	Indirect	Yes - indirect	N/A
Biodiversity in climate change funding	Local National International	Public & private	Indirect	Depends	Polluter
BD in int'l development finance	International	Public (& private)	Indirect	Depends	N/A

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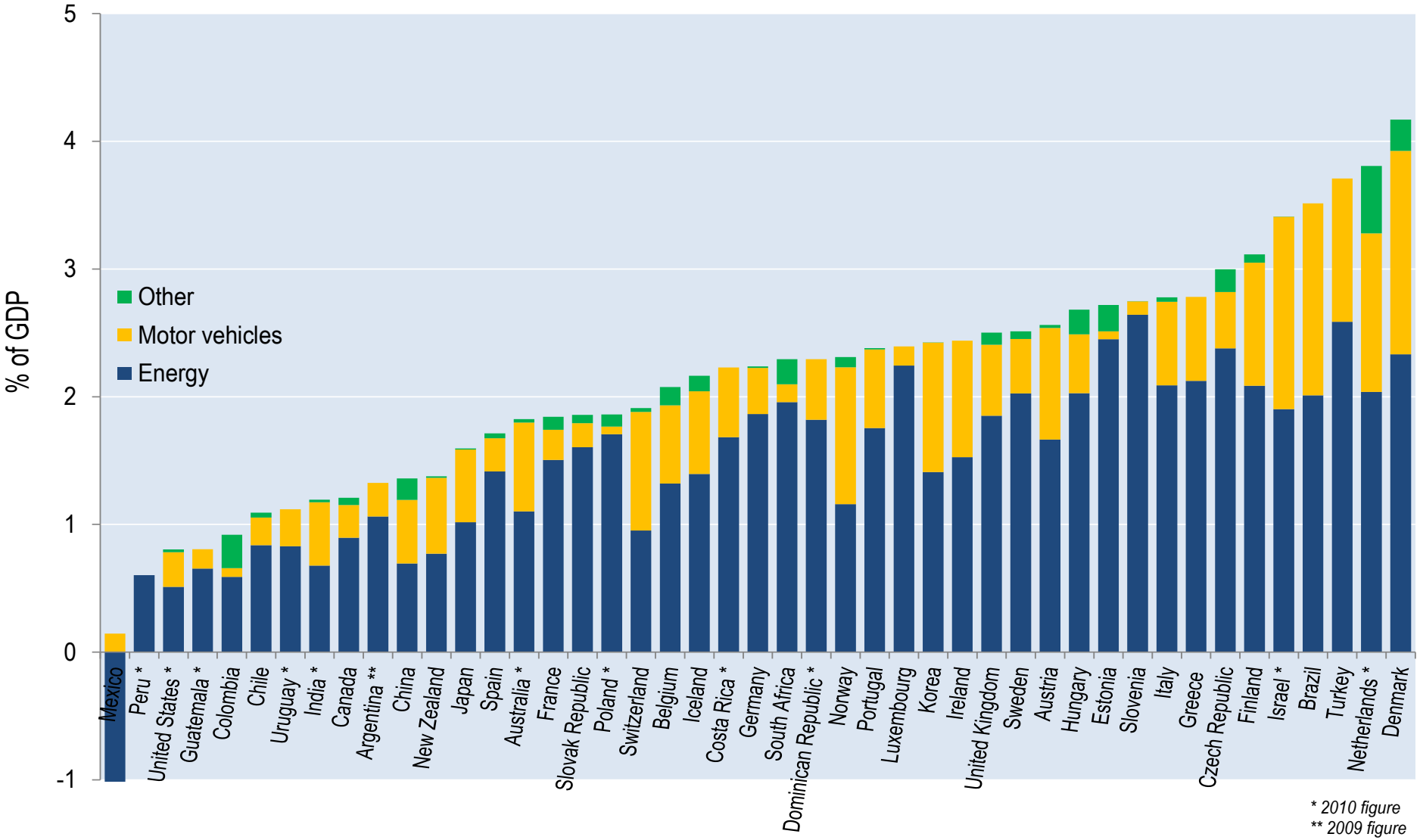
How much finance have they mobilised?

Finance mechanism	Finance mobilised (*Handle with care* - complete data not available!)
EFR	Total revenue from environmentally related taxes in OECD countries in 2010: slightly below USD 700 billion. But taxes on "other" (i.e. pollution and resources) small fraction of this
Payments for Ecosystem Services	5 national programmes alone channel > USD 6 billion p.a. (OECD, 2010) Payments for watershed services > USD 9 billion in 2008 (Parker and Cranford, 2010) …More than 300 PES programmes worldwide
Biodiversity offsets	USD 2.4-4 billion in 2011 (Madsen et al, 2011) ~ 45 programmes worldwide
Markets for green products	N/A . Green commodity markets on the rise - *some* fetch price premiums
Biodiversity in climate change funding	Estimated total climate change finance USD 70-120 billion in 2009-2010 (north to south flows) (Clapp et al, 2011); Biodiversity related climate finance *may* approximate USD 8 billion
BD in int'l development finance	Biodiversity related ODA (development finance) estimated at USD 6.1 billion per year over 2010-2012 (OECD DAC, 2014)

Revenues from environmentally related taxes

in per cent of GDP, 2011

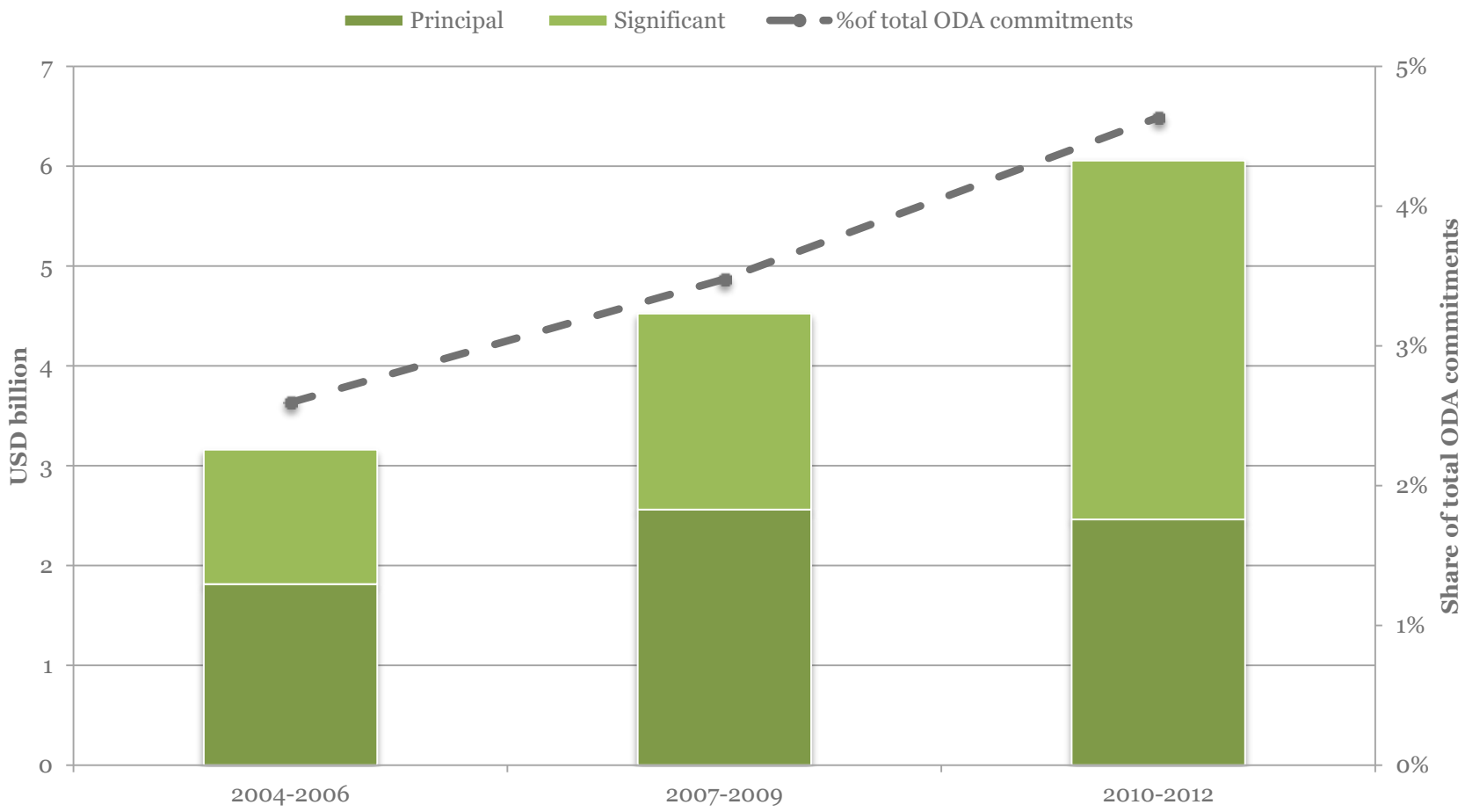


* 2010 figure
** 2009 figure

Source: OECD/EEA database on instruments for environmental policy; www.oecd.org/env/policies/database.

Trends in biodiversity-related ODA

3-year averages, 2004-2012, bilateral commitments, USD billion, constant 2011 prices



Source: OECD DAC Statistics, March 2014

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Design and implementation issues - some examples

- Determining business-as-usual **baselines** is important for many of these mechanisms (e.g. PES, biodiversity offsets, biodiversity in climate change funding)

- **Prioritise/target finance** to areas with high biodiversity benefits, high risk of loss, low opportunity costs

  e.g. Targeting payments in the Forest Conservation Fund programme in Tasmania, Australia led to 50% increase in cost-effectiveness i.e. greater biodiversity benefits given a fixed budget

- Robust **monitoring, reporting and verification…** to evaluate programmes, assess progress, and improve over time.

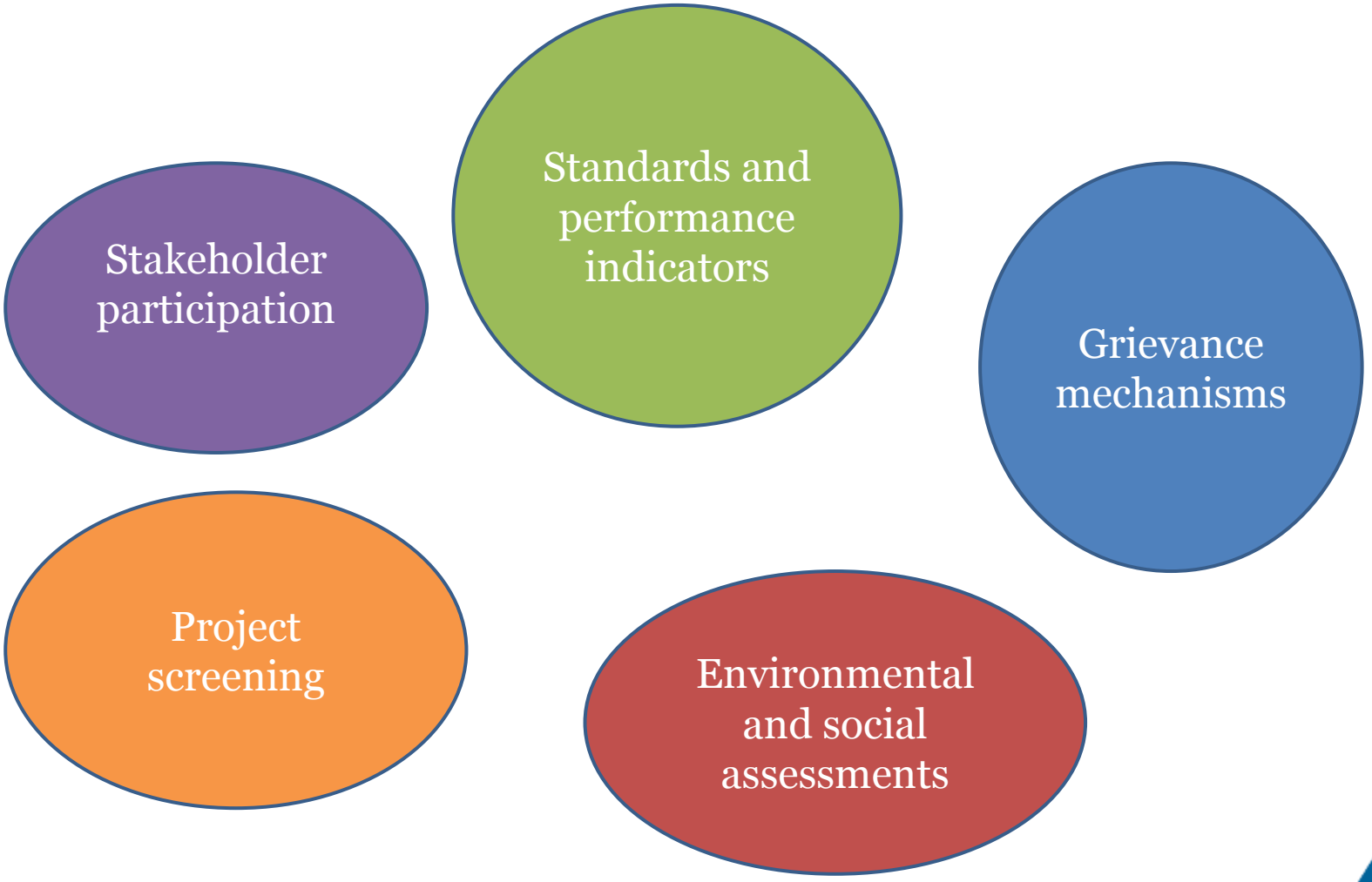
  > Biodiversity related ODA can play a key role

Design and implementation issues – some more examples

- Leakage, permanence?
  - e.g. for PES, biodiversity offsets, etc

- Identify **winners and losers** of policies ex-ante – then, build in well-targeted compensatory measures for low-income households; tax free threshold for essential use… (i.e. social safeguards)

On environmental and social safeguards...



Take-away: key messages

- Given that costs of inaction are in many cases considerable, urgent need for:
  i. Broader and more ambitious application of policies and mechanisms – including those that engage the private sector
  ii. More efficient use of existing financial resources channelled to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

- All six mechanisms have an important role to play in scaling up biodiversity outcomes
  – some raise revenue directly, others help mainstream, others are least cost …and some can do all three

- Attention to how mechanisms are designed and implemented is key to ensure effective outcomes

Take-away: key messages II

Introduction of *any* new policy instrument (economic, trade-related, environment) can impact on other policy areas and sectors of the economy

- ➢ Identify potential impacts in advance, and put in place appropriate safeguards to address any possible trade-offs

- For **new-comers**: start small, e.g. with well-designed pilots, phase-in over time
- For **old-timers**: review programmes and adjust to improve – then scale-up

Developing a national green growth strategy for biodiversity

Assess business-as-usual projections for biodiversity

Develop a long term vision (goal)

Identify least cost policies

Implement the strategy

Monitor and review over time

High level political support

Broad stakeholder engagement

Thank you!

For further information on OECD work on the economics and policy of biodiversity and ecosystems, visit:

www.oecd.org/env/biodiversity

Key areas of OECD work on biodiversity:

- Biodiversity Indicators, Valuation and Assessment
- Economic Instruments, Incentives and Policies for Biodiversity
- Biodiversity Finance, Development and Distributional Issues

- *Recent and forthcoming work: Paying for Biodiversity: Enhancing the Cost-Effectiveness of Payments for Ecosystem Services (OECD, 2010); Biodiversity offsets (OECD, forthcoming 2014); Policy Response Indicators for Biodiversity (OECD, forthcoming 2014).*

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