

Baltic Peat Producers Forum, Palanga, September 5, 2019



Facing & Shaping the Future of Peat & Peatlands

*Gilbert Ludwig
International Peatland Society*



Facing & Shaping the Future Peat & Peatlands

- **Availability & Supply** of peat expected to decline gradually
 - Decline is driven by international political will
 - GHG Goals & Biodiversity: Paris 2015 Agreement - Climate Change Mitigation - Environmental actions
 - Policy Development at International Convention Level - Political Decisions– Spatial Planning
 - Increase in negative decisions of licensing procedures
 - European Union currently most affected, e.g. Ireland, Germany, Baltics, Finland...
 - Plans to globally re-wet/restore damaged peatlands by 2050
 - Plans to globally phase out peat production by 2030-2050

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□ Global Demand of peat 2020-2050 for



Growing Media



Energy & Heat

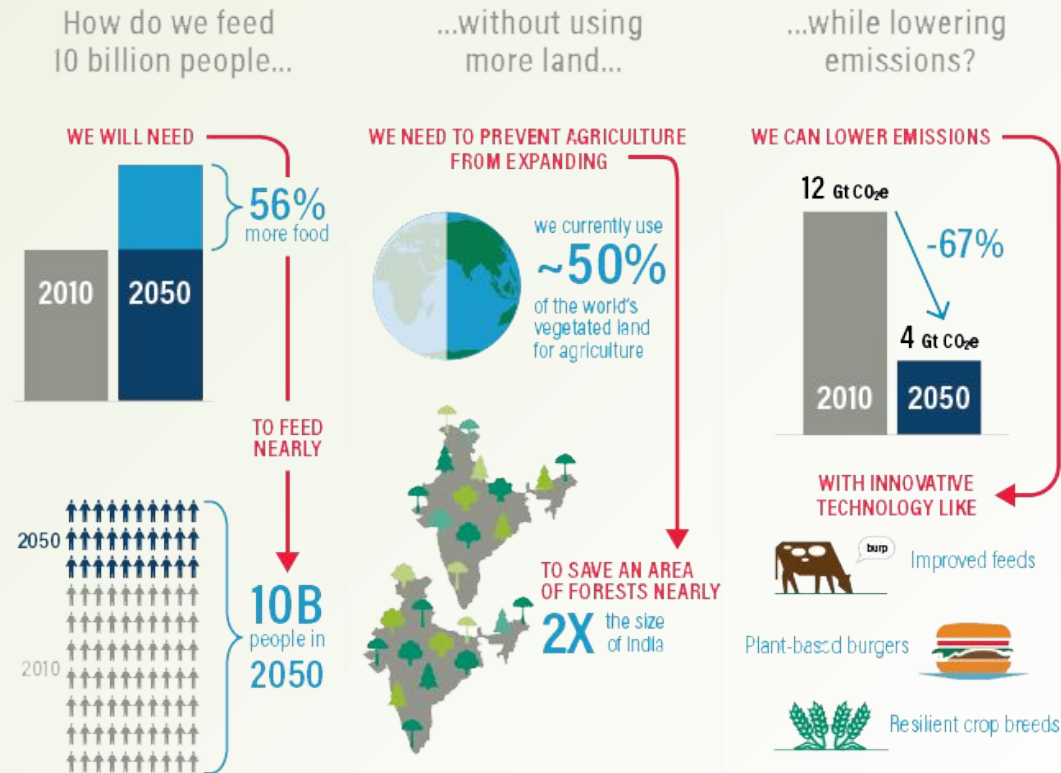


Other uses (e.g. for Activated Carbon, Bedding Materials, Humic Substances)

□ Strong **opposing** trends in global demand and availability of horticultural peat 2020-2050

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Global Peat Demand: Growing Media & Food Security



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

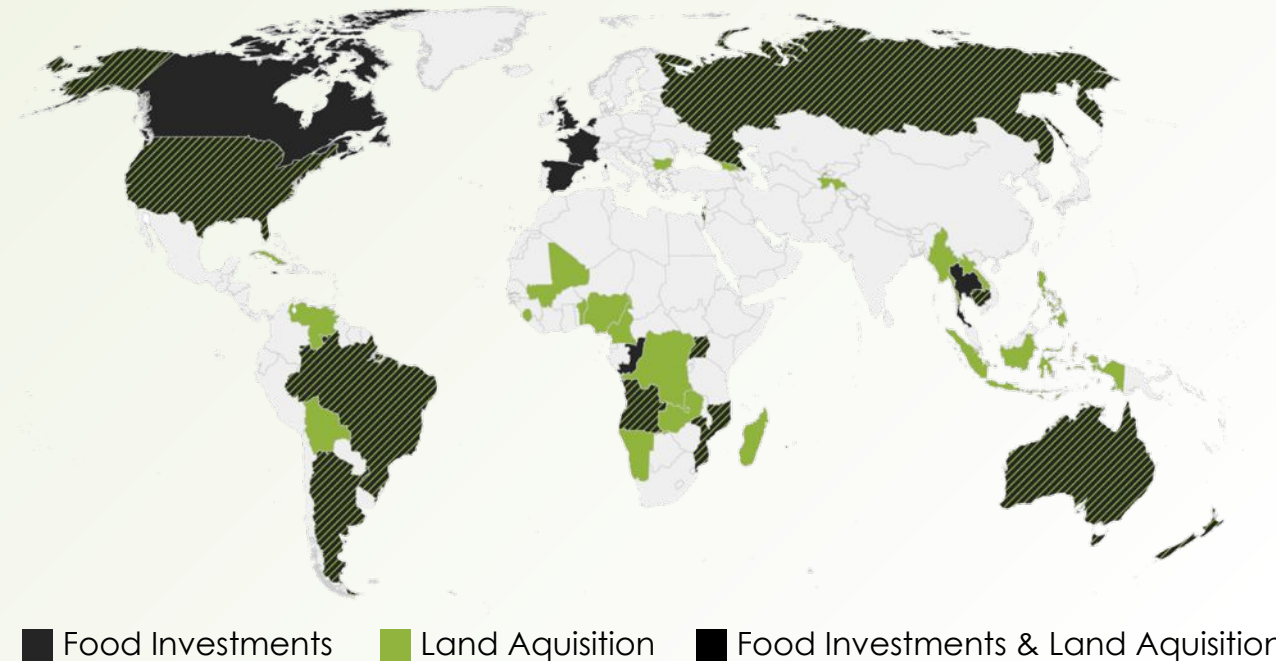


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Global Peat based Growing Media Demand: Case China

Agriculture Crisis

- Long-term monocultures, lack of crop rotation, pollution and wind erosion has led to extensive soil impoverishment
- Only about 0.1 ha of arable land/citizen (0.5 ha/ citizen needed in US)
- Collapse of vegetable production end of 20th Century



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- Strategy driven by China Government
 - Seedling nurseries for vegetable (greenhouse), fruit & paddy fields/rice (≈ 65 mio m^3 /year)
 - Soilless cultivation (≈ 20 mio m^3 /year)
 - Soil Improvement/Peat-Mineral Fertilizer (≈ 12 mio m^3)
 - Vertical Greening (≈ 5 mio m^3)
- **Expected total GM demand by 2030: 100 mio m^3**
- **Comparison: Total global production of horticultural peat in 2018 ≈ 40 -50 mio m^3**





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027 County Rd

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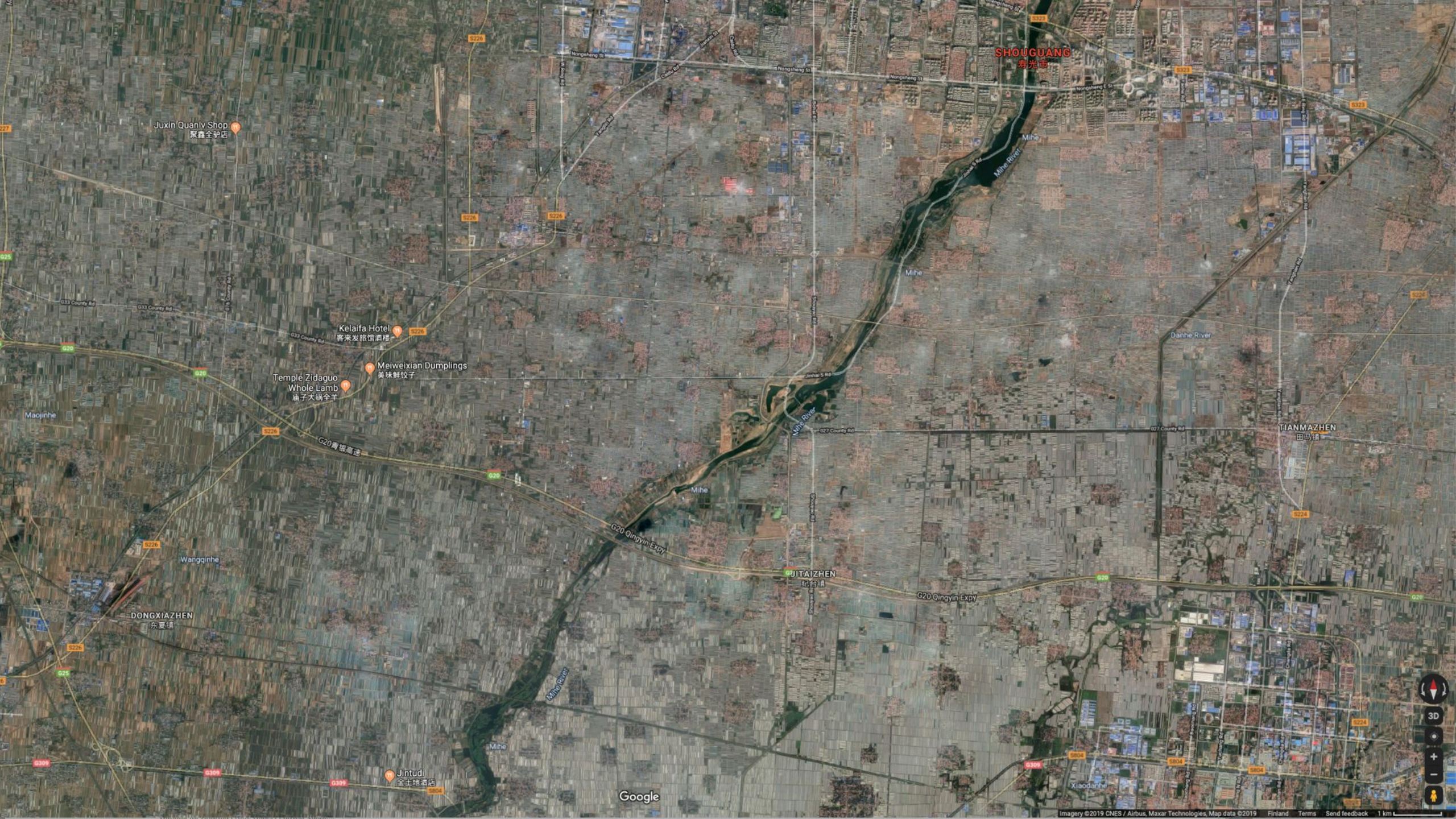
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SHOUQUANG
寿光市

TIANMAZHEN
田马镇

JITAI ZHEN
季台镇

DONGXIAZHEN
东夏镇

Juxin Quanlv Shop
聚鑫全驴店

Kelaifa Hotel
客来发旅馆酒楼

Temple Zidaguo
Whole Lamb
庙子大锅全羊

Meiweixian Dumplings
美味鲜饺子

Jintudi
金土地酒店

Google



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□ Pressure & responsibility to increasingly substitute peat with alternatives

□ Challenges of alternative materials

- Quantity/availability
- Quality (and consistency thereof)
- Price/Economical Worthiness
- Ecological Footprint and social accountability
- Health Effects

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□ Wise Use Thereafter

□ From peat resource management to peatland management

□ RPP & Veriflora

□ Energy peat case (Ireland & Finland)



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□ Peatland strategy & policy development at international and national level

□ Role of MEAs, International Conventions & Organizations



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Convention on
Biological Diversity

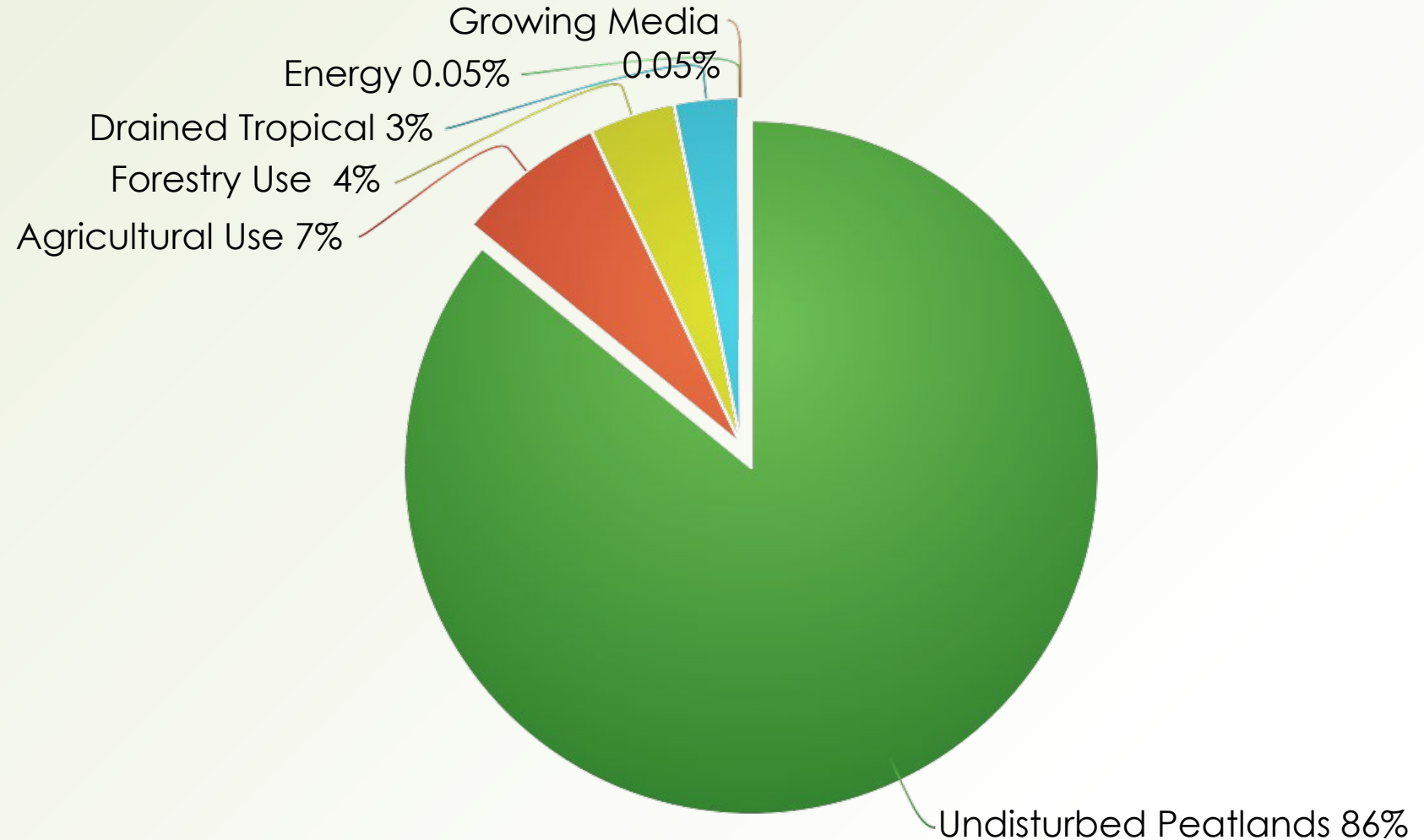


□ Political will vs Reality

□ Interpretation gaps between stakeholders for key concepts, e.g. SDGs

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Peatland Use Worldwide



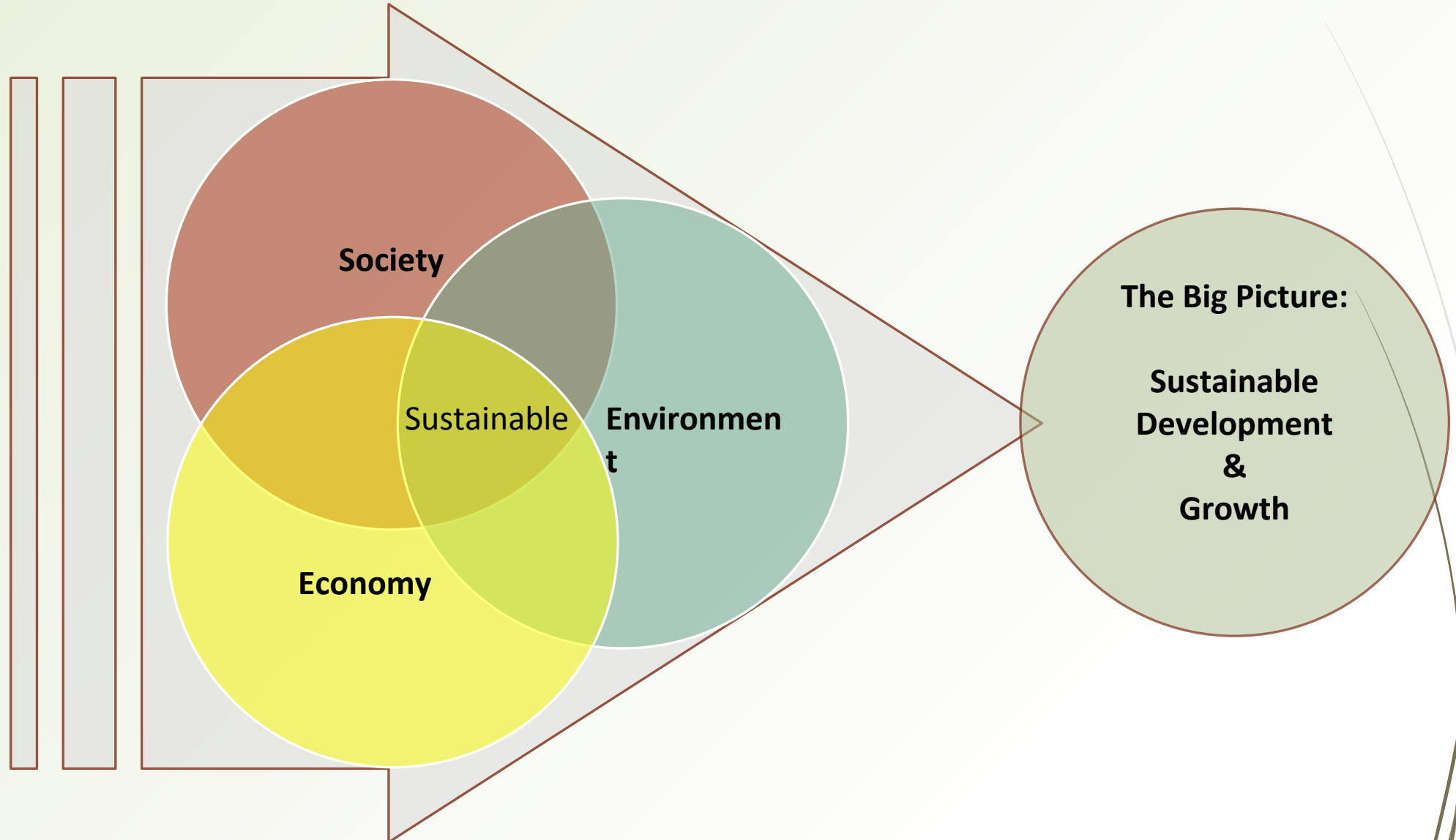
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- Globally, the peat & growing media industry is not a big industry
 - Easily attacked
 - “Used” by policy makers to get fast results
 - Get all the support you can possibly get
 - Need to work and stick together

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- Demand is not the problem, policy impact on availability is
 - Problem to be solved by the industry:
 - Safeguarding adequate availability of peat for growing media (in the absence of **viable** alternative GM solutions □ fit for the purpose) while meeting the demands of GHG emissions?
 - How to adapt to possible decline in availability of peat for growing media?

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“The perception of development vs. conservation is not just unnecessary, but actively counterproductive to both ends”

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- Achieving all-encompassing sustainable development is increasingly dependent on our ability to **secure both thriving human communities and abundant and healthy natural ecosystems**
- The environment we live in as well as human and economic development are ultimately **central factors in the same equation**
- As a NGO that is related to both ends, the **IPS**, together with its members and stakeholders, is in a key position to **support and drive** this view and produce viable solutions

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- Short- & midterm objectives
 - **Strengthening International Convention work**
 - Improve the quality of dialogue related to current challenges by convening relevant stakeholders and knowledge providers
 - Create a platform for exchange of fact-based arguments and data on these issues
 - Promoting and activating relevant research (eg related to GHG emissions)
 - Promoting the importance of peat based growing media
 - Acknowledging the increased need for peat alternatives in GM
 - Recognizing legitimate differences between interests of different actors

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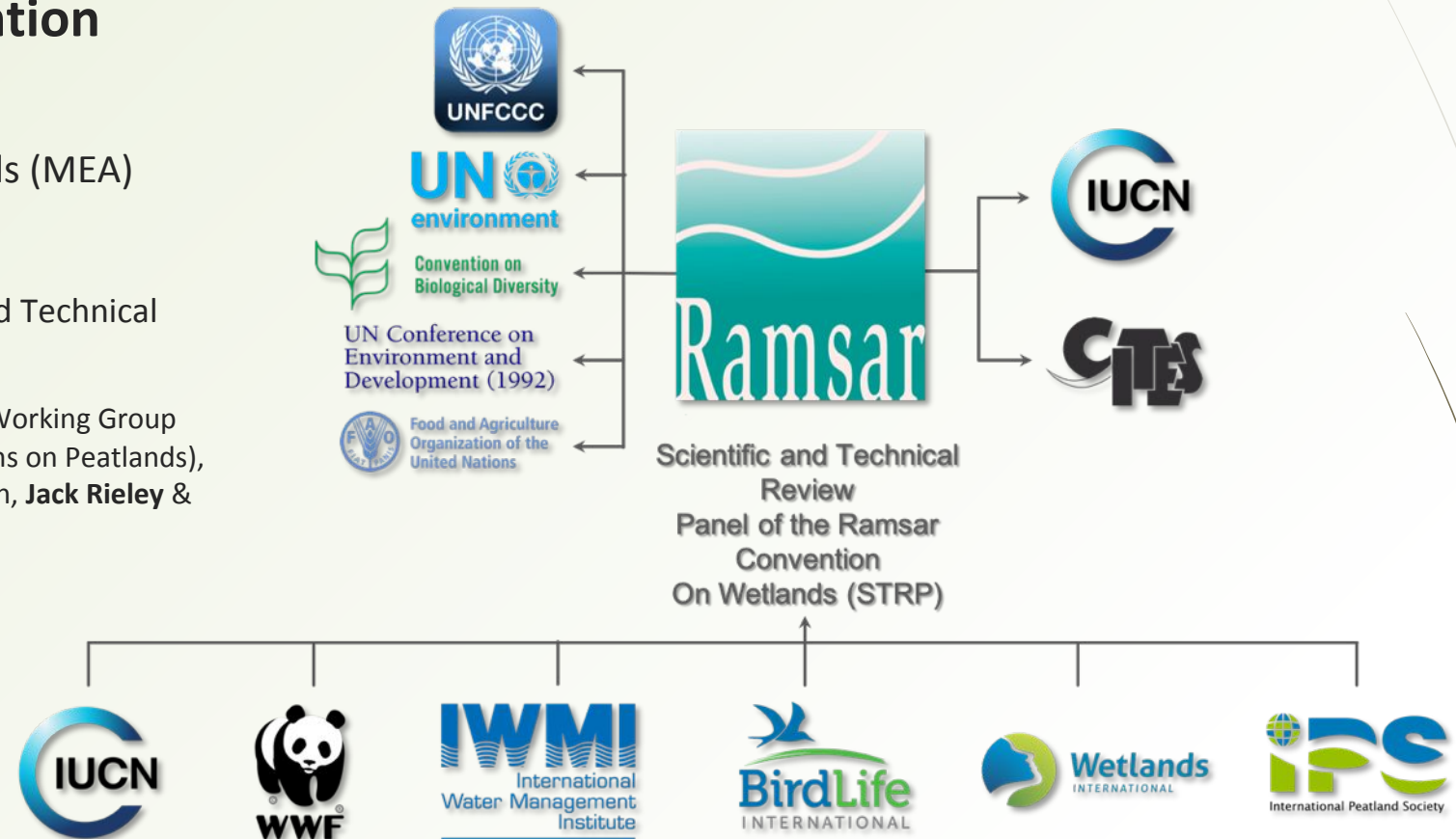
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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IPS core activities: Convention Work

- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (MEA)
 - Observer status
 - Member of STRP (Scientific and Technical Review Panel)
 - Re-establishment of GGAP Working Group (Guidelines for Global Actions on Peatlands), co-ordinated by Lars Dinesen, **Jack Rieley** & Hans Joosten



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□ IPS core activities: Convention Work

- UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)
 - Observer Status
 - Eligible to attend Conference of Parties



- FAO (Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations)
 - Liaison Status: Observer in specialized meetings, conference and council; right of speech in FAO forums
 - Growing Media & Food Security



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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□ IPS core activities: Convention Work

- IPBES (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services)
 - IPS participation in review process of the *IPBES Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*

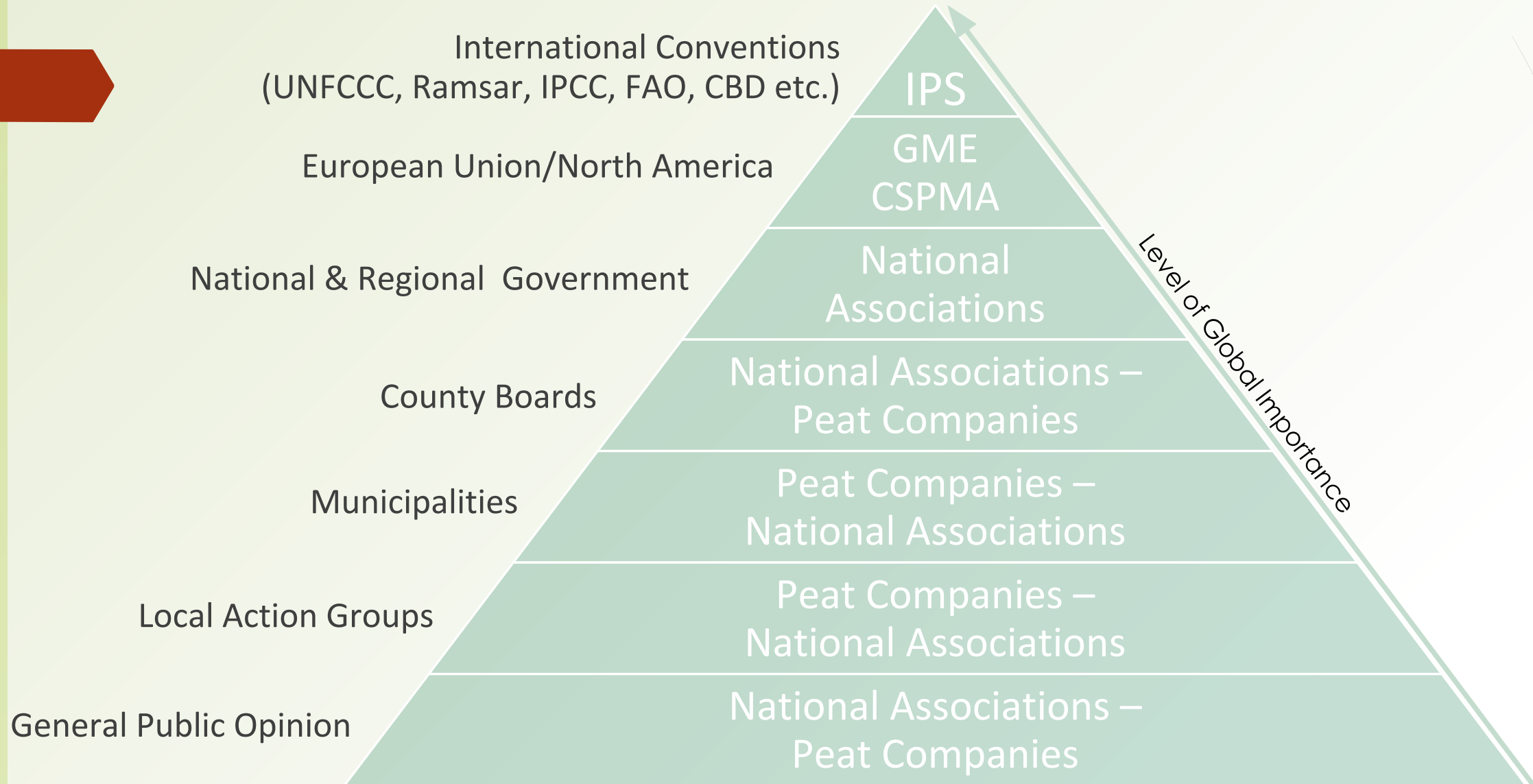


- Expert Workshop: **Exploring Synergies for Peatlands** – Detecting and enhancing the global importance of peatlands in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

- Increasing collaboration between environmental stakeholders
- Significant interpretation issues



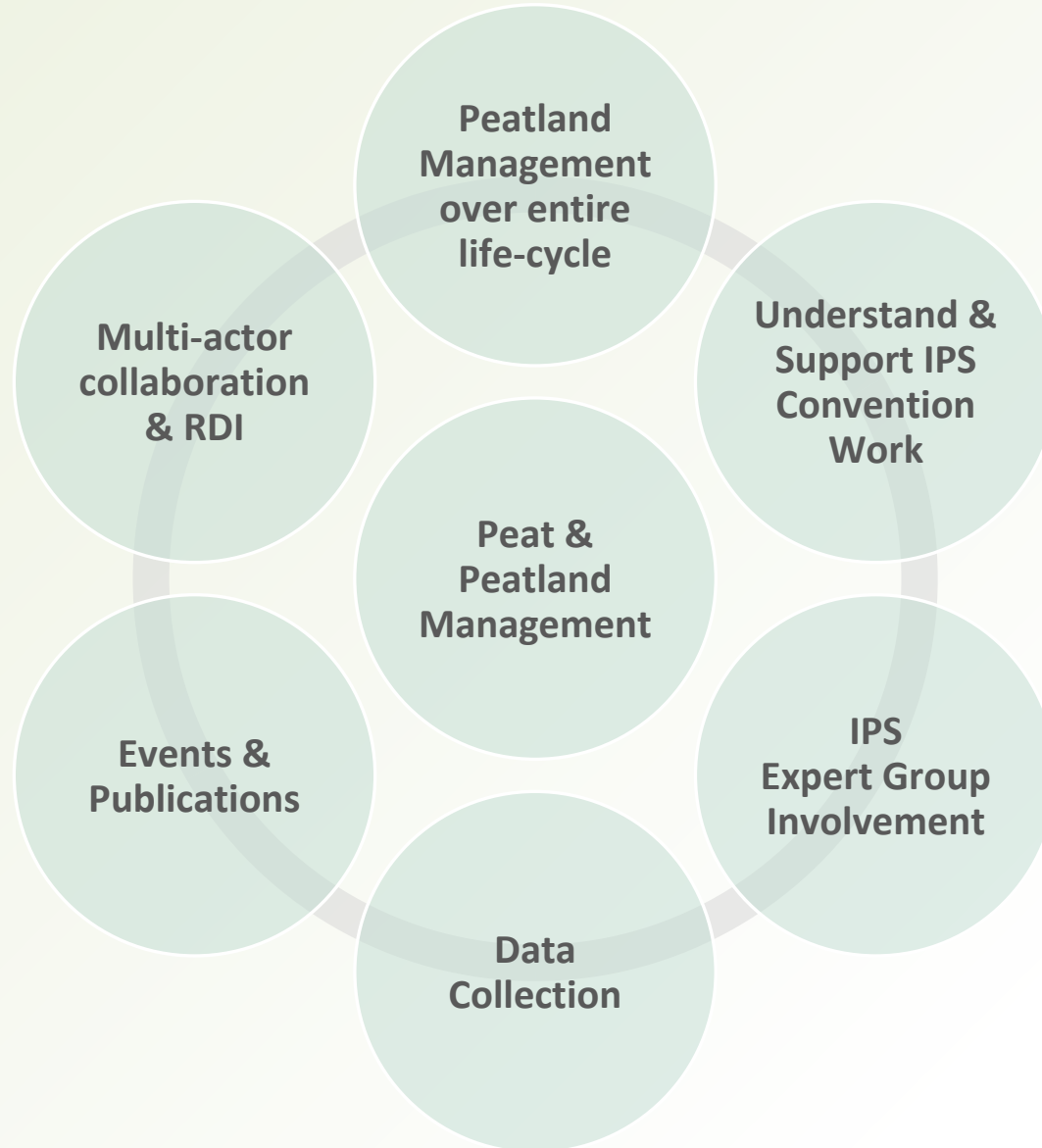
Peat Governance Pyramid



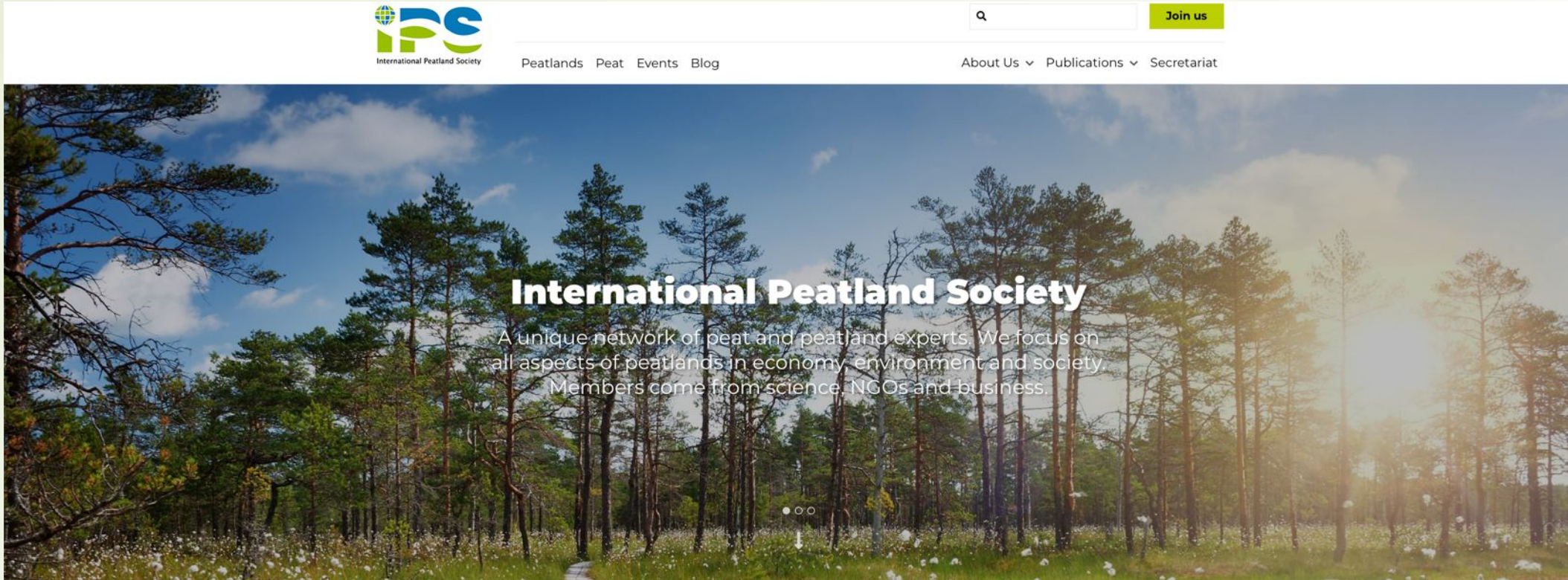
What can the peat industry do for itself with the support of IPS



Members of Baltic Peat Producers Associations are also members of IPS



New IPS Website – www.peatlands.org



This is the IPS



Constituted in 1968, in Québec, Canada. Today we are registered as non-profit NGO in Finland, supported by 16 national committees.



Individual, institutional and corporate members dedicated to the responsible management and Wise Use of peatlands and peat.



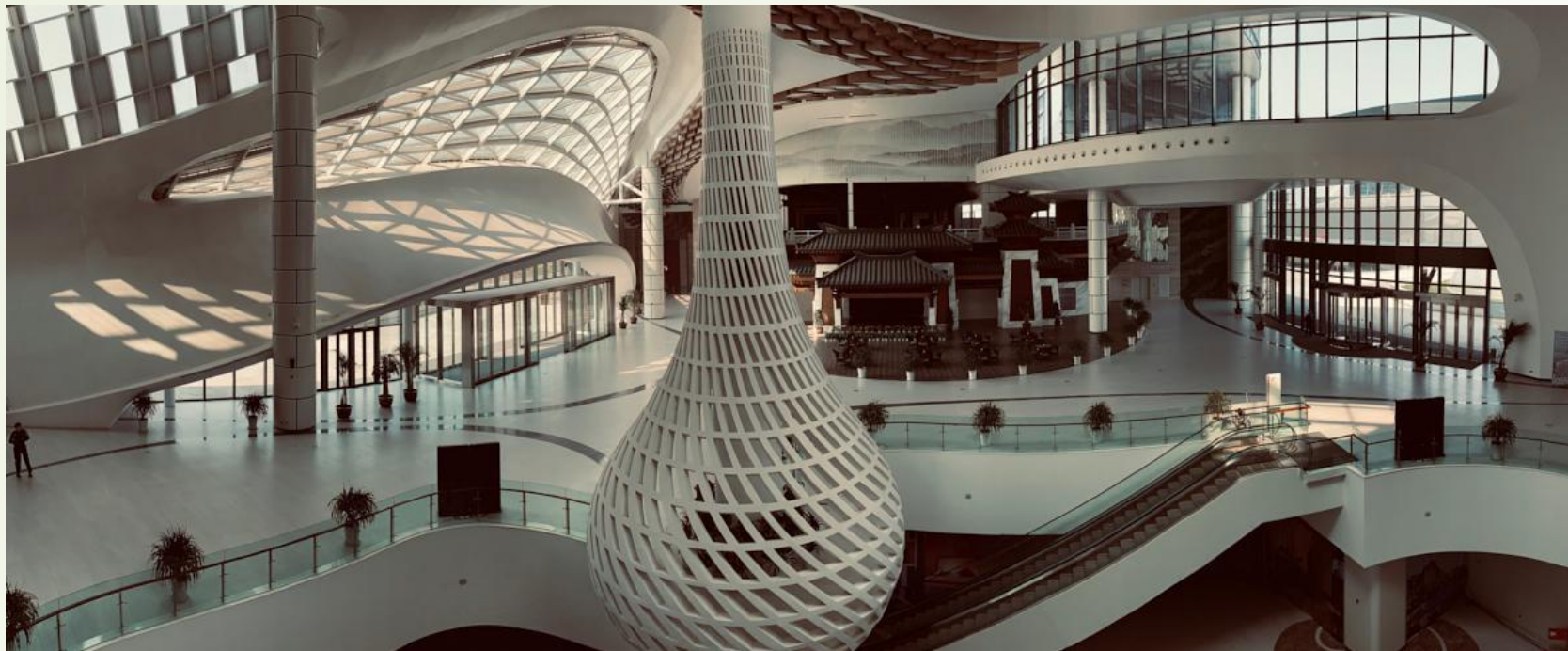
We serve as a forum to bring together experts from all fields of peat and peatland management, worldwide and equally.



We organize events, publish peat and peatland knowledge, share data and provide facts and opinions for decision-making.

Facing & Shaping the Future Peat & Peatlands

- IPS Symposium „Growing Media for Food and Quality of Life & 1st International Peat Based Products and Technology Expo in China”
- September 16-21 2019, Qingdao, China - www.ips-cnc.com



Facing & Shaping the Future Peat & Peatlands

- International Peatland Congress
 - June 2020 Tallinn – www.ipc2020.com



Thank You!



International Peatland Society

