

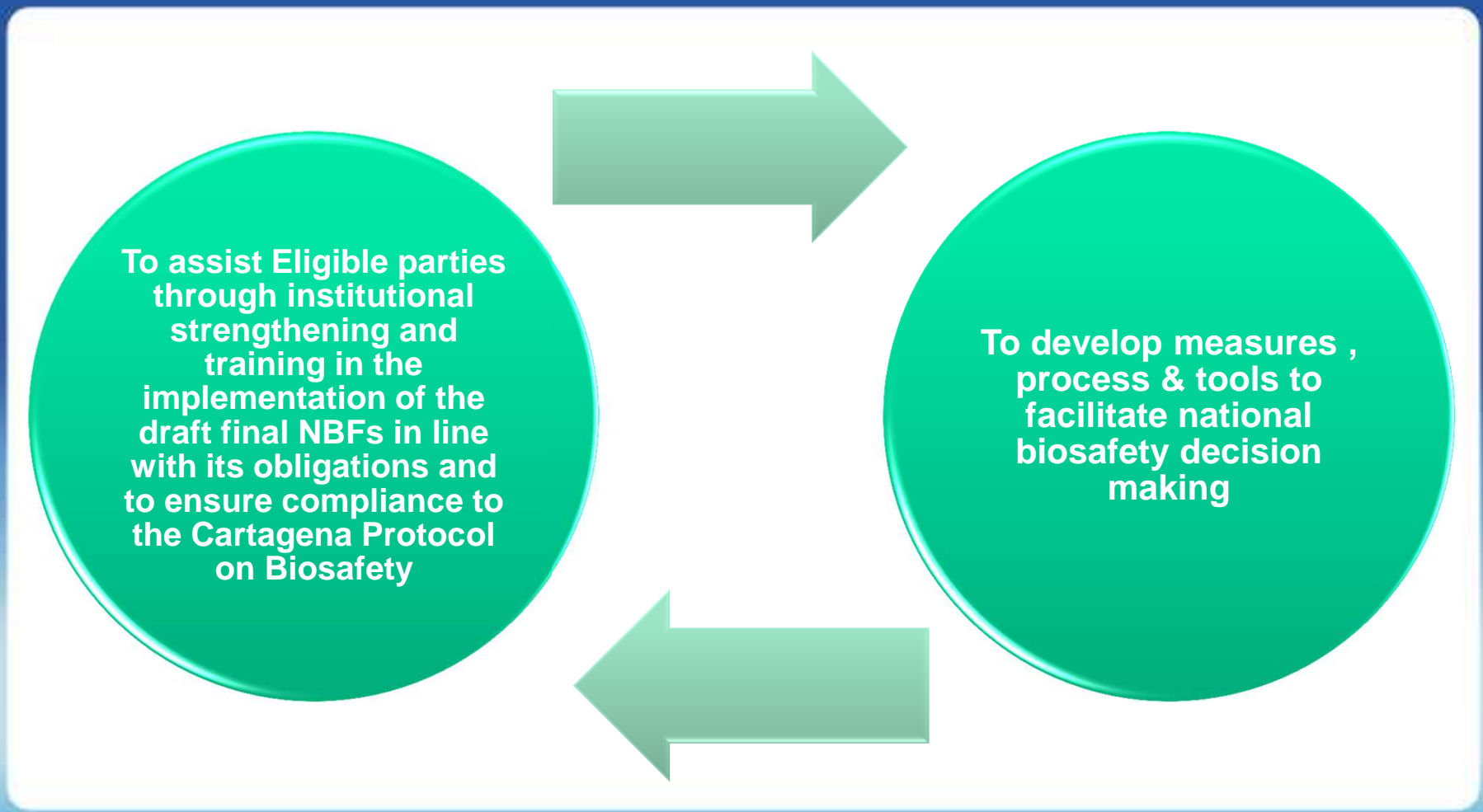


Mainstreaming Biosafety – Opportunities and Obstacles

WANA Meeting, Dubai,
UAE

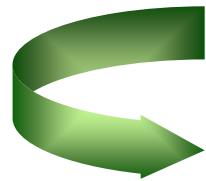
16 – 20 November 2014

Objective(s)



Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

A balanced approach toward Modern Biotechnology



Embrace Benefits



Ensure adequate safety



Key Provisions of the Protocol

CBD

Precautionary Approach

Objective: Safe Transfer, Handling and Use of LMOs

- ***Procedures:***
 - ***AIA Procedure***
 - ***Procedure for LMOs-FFP***
- ***Decision-making***

- ***Risk Assessment***
 - ***Risk Management***

- ***Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification:***
 - ***Documentation for Shipment***
 - ***Standards***

- ***Information Sharing***
 - ***Public Awareness & Public Participation***

Supporting Mechanisms:

Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) , Capacity-Building, Compliance and COP-MOP

UNEP-GEF Biosafety Projects

Development of NBFs :pilot enabling activities in 18 countries

1. Development of NBFs
123 countries developing an NBF

2. BCH Project I & II
...Up to 139 countries to help use and access BCH; 50 in phase II

3. Biosafety National Reporting
2NR - 123 countries
3NR??

http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_nareports.shtml

4. Implementation Projects

- ❖ *... 8 demonstration projects (out of 12) on Implementation of NBF*
- ❖ *60 New Implementation Projects [GEF 4 - 5]*
- ❖ *New Projects in GEF 6*



United Nations
Environment Programme

UNEP-GEF Biosafety Projects



Global Environment
Facility

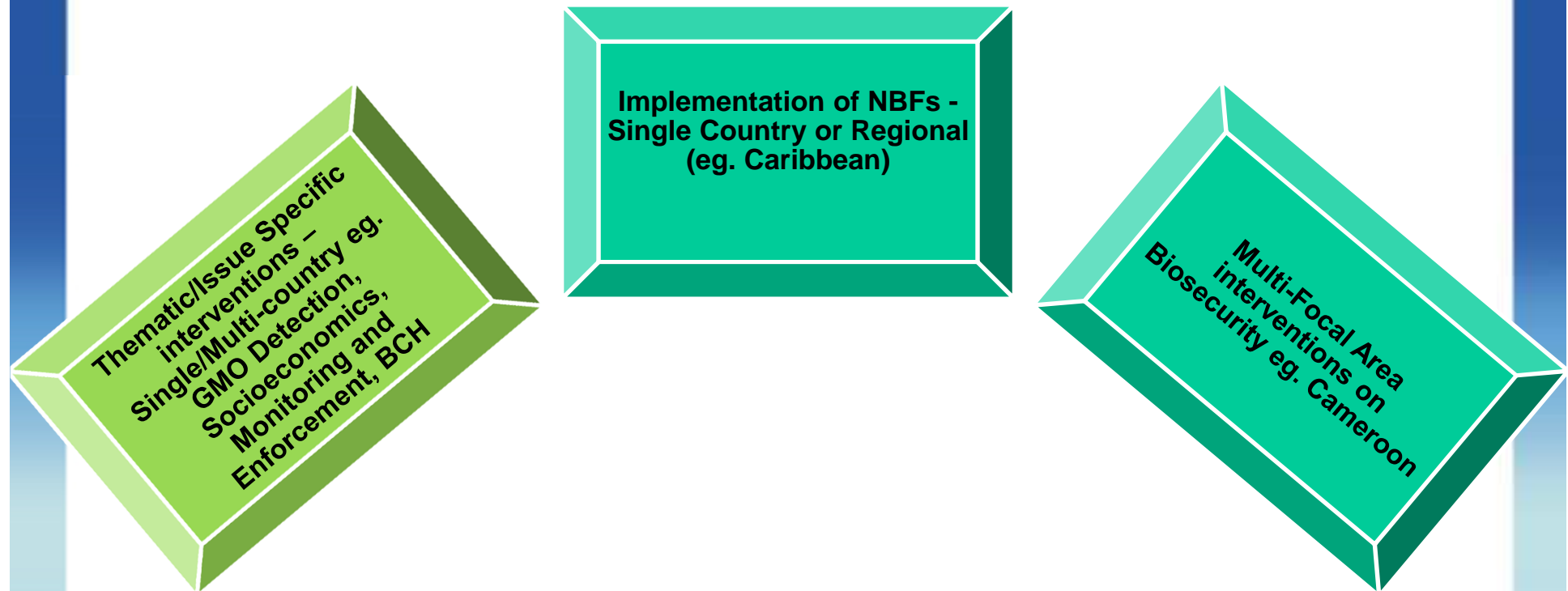
Our Target(s)



Achieve the Project Goal.....Biosafety Framework is operational

Disseminate recommendations, best practices and feedback for replicationbuild capacities

Project Interventions



Status of Biosafety Interventions through UNEP

| Project Type | Completed | Ongoing | New/Planned | Remarks/links |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Pilot Phase | Egypt, Mauritania, Tunisia, | N/A | N/A | http://www.unep.org/biosafety/Pilot_project.aspx |
| Development Project | Algeria, Iran, Lebanon. Libya, Jordan, Syria, Turkey, Yemen | Oman (own resources) | | http://www.unep.org/biosafety/Development_Projects.aspx |
| National Reports (2 nd NR). 3 rd NR | All GEF Eligible countries | | | http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_nareports.shtml |
| Implementation Projects | Tunisia | Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan, Iran, Turkey, Syria (yet to start) | Mauritania (GEF 5 PIF approved, Yemen – GEF 6 Sub regional Regional Project (WANA)???) | http://www.unep.org/biosafety/Implementation_Projects.aspx |
| | | | | |

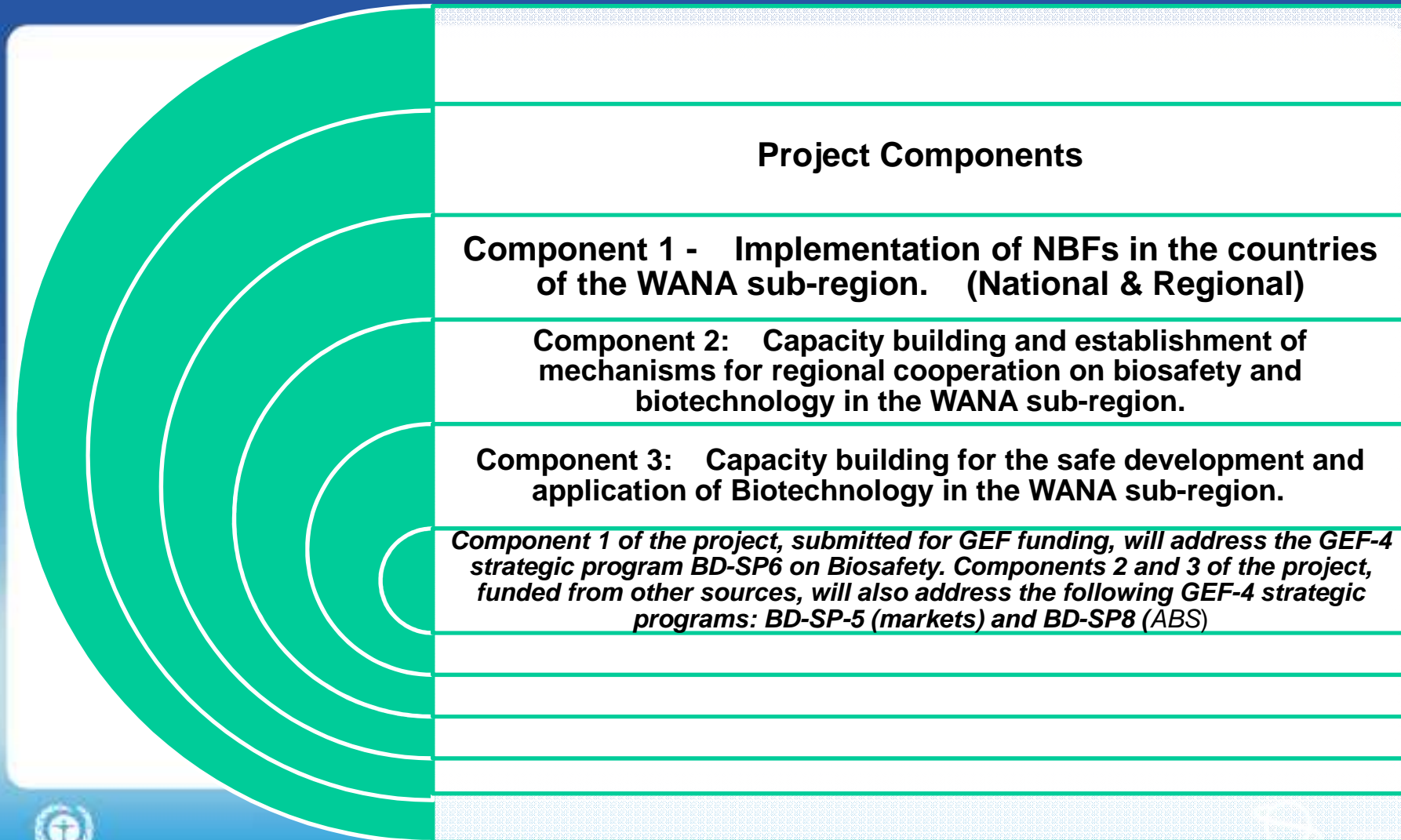
WANA Project [I]

Objective

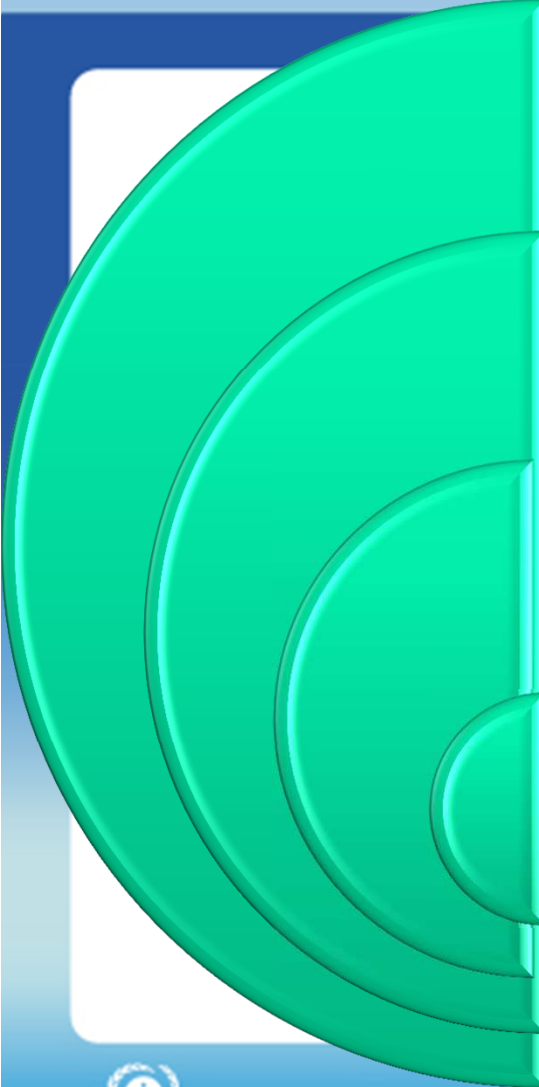
To develop and strengthen biosafety capacity in the countries in West Asia and North Africa (WANA) sub-region to promote agricultural and environmental sustainability through the implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks (NBFs), capacity building for the safe development and application of biotechnology, information sharing, regional cooperation, and strengthening of regional institutions and cooperation.

- **MULTI COUNTRY:**
 - ❑ **West Asia NBF Implementation (5): Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen; NBF Development (2): Iraq, Palestinian Authority.**
 - ❑ **North Africa NBF Implementation (8): Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia**
 - ❑ **Other partner countries (4): Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia.**

WANA Project [II]



GEF 6 - Core Program 5: Biosafety



Implementation of activities that are identified in country stock-taking analyses and in the COP guidance to the GEF, in particular the key elements in the recently adopted framework and action plan for capacity building for effective implementation of the CPB at the sixth COP serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the CPB (COP-MOP-6) and the recently adopted Strategic Plan for Biosafety, 2011-2020 agreed at COP-MOP 5.

By GEF 5 - 64 countries will have received support for implementation of their National Biosafety Frameworks (NBFs);

Another 71 eligible countries have yet to request support to implement their NBFs. **GEF-6 will provide the opportunity for these countries to seek support for these initial phases of basic capacity building to implement the CPB.**

GEF 6 - Core Program 5: Biosafety

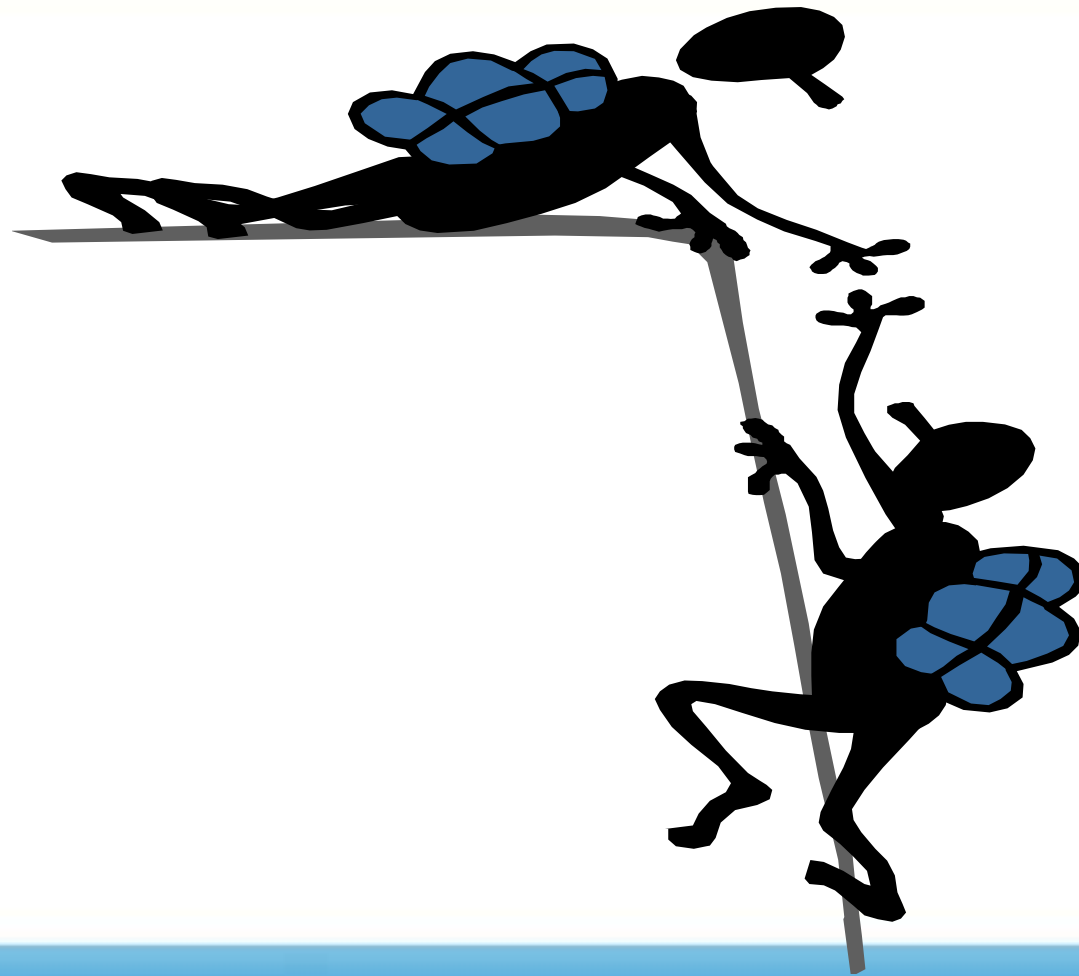
Implementation of NBF for remaining countries

- i. Assessed in the stock-taking analysis recommend a national approach
- ii. Support to Regional or sub-regional projects based on cost effective sharing resources and coordination between biosafety frameworks
- iii. Stocktaking assessments should support potential for: coordinating biosafety frameworks, interchange of regional expertise, and capacity building of common priority or thematic areas

Core Program 5: Biosafety

The GEF will support a number of thematic projects addressing some of the specific provisions of the Cartagena Protocol. These projects should be developed at the regional or sub-regional level and be built on a common set of targets and opportunities to implement the protocol beyond the development and implementation of NBFs.

The GEF will support the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the CPB.



Political/Societal Obstacles

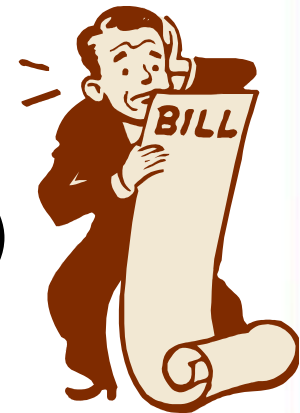
- a. Lack of political will and support to facilitate implementation of CPB**
- b. Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement**
- c. Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors, including use of tools such as environmental impact and risk assessments**
- d. Political instability**
- e. Lack of precautionary and proactive measures, causing reactive policies.**

Institutional, technical and capacity related obstacles

- a. Inadequate capacity due to institutional weaknesses**
- b. Need for additional human resources**
- c. Strengthened mechanisms for transfer of technology and expertise**
- d. Inadequate scientific research capacities**

Policy Frameworks and Financial Resources

- a. **Limited financial and human resources**
- b. **Fragmentation of GEF and Gov't financing (different obligations?)**
- c. **Need for economic incentive measures**
- d. **BS – hindrance to biotechnology and loss in benefits**



Cooperation/Collaboration

- a. Need for synergies at the national and international levels**
- b. More horizontal cooperation among stakeholders**
- c. Need for effective partnerships**
- d. Conscious engagement of scientific community**



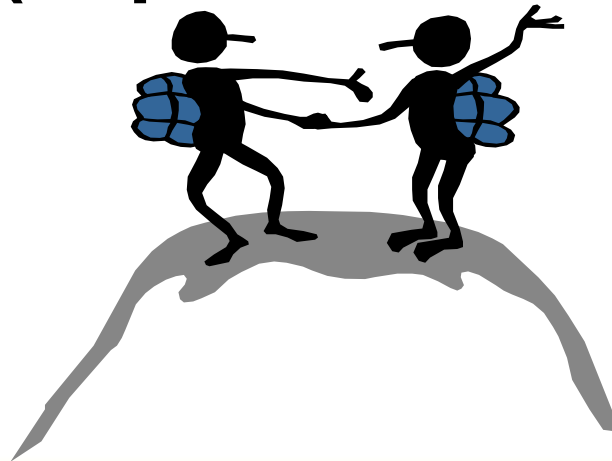
Policy and Legal Impediments

Need for focused policies and laws

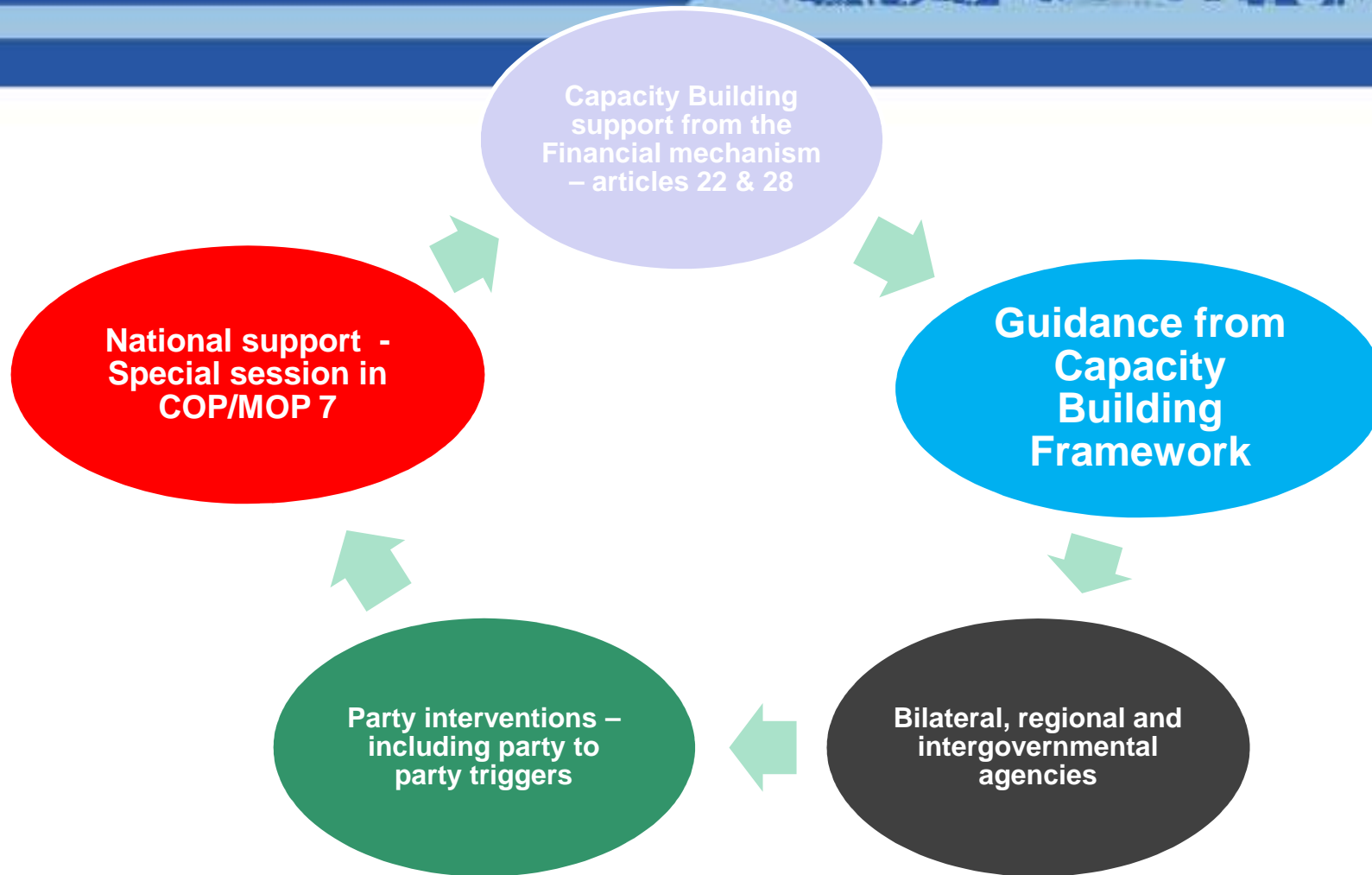
*(The Environment, Health, Agric, Sci. R & D
versus trade discourse)*

Challenges

**Turning obstacles to opportunities
(Experience sharing)**



Opportunities



Key Principles to mainstreaming

- **Identify an entry point**
- **Find a “champion”**
- **Ensure commitment through planning and finance mechanisms**
- **Assemble country specific evidence or precedence**
- **Perform integrated policy appraisals including cost/benefit analysis**
- **Engage key sector agencies**
- **Consider capacity of lead agency(ies)**
- **Provide mechanisms for sustained support**

Concluding Remarks

- **The Protocol provides an important international framework for safety in the transboundary movement of LMOs**
- **It is important for Parties to get well acquainted with their rights and obligations under the Protocol**



- **UNEP: A Partner in Building Biosafety Capacity for the Implementation of the Biosafety Protocol**



UNEP-GEF Biosafety Projects



Thank You

www.unep.org/biosafety



Contacts for Further Information

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