



Regional Workshop for African Countries on the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM)

5-9 May 2014 Buea, Cameroon



Background on the Clearing-House Mechanism

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What is the CHM?
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What is the CHM?

CBD Strategic Context

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What is the Clearing-House Mechanism?

- It is the information exchange platform of the CBD
- It was established in accordance with Article 18.3 to promote scientific and technical cooperation
- It has evolved into a global network of websites consisting of:
 - CBD website
 - National CHMs
 - Partner organizations
- Its implementation is guided by COP decisions
 - Decision X/15
Mission, goals and objectives of the period 2011-2020
 - Decision XI/2, B
Work Programme for the CHM in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

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Article 18. Technical & Scientific Cooperation

1. The Contracting Parties shall promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, where necessary, through the appropriate international and national institutions.
2. Each Contracting Party shall promote technical and scientific cooperation with other Contracting Parties, in particular developing countries, in implementing this Convention, inter alia, through the development and implementation of national policies. In promoting such cooperation, special attention should be given to the development and strengthening of national capabilities, by means of human resources development and institution building.
- 3. The Conference of the Parties, at its first meeting, shall determine how to establish a clearing-house mechanism to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation.**
4. The Contracting Parties shall, in accordance with national legislation and policies, encourage and develop methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention. For this purpose, the Contracting Parties shall also promote cooperation in the training of personnel and exchange of experts.
5. The Contracting Parties shall, subject to mutual agreement, promote the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of this Convention.

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Art. 13 - Education & Public Awareness

Art. 16 - Access to & Transfer of Technology

Art. 17 - Exchange of Information

Art. 18 - Technical & Scientific Cooperation

CHM

... Other Relevant Articles ...

Art. 26 - Reports

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... Other Relevant Articles ...

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CHM

Various definitions

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/clearinghouse>

A central agency for the collection, classification, and distribution especially of information; broadly: an informal channel for distributing information or assistance

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/clearinghouse>

A central institution or agency for the collection, maintenance, and distribution of materials, information, etc.

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/clearing-house>

A central organization which collects and sends out information for other people or organizations

→ **Information exchange services**

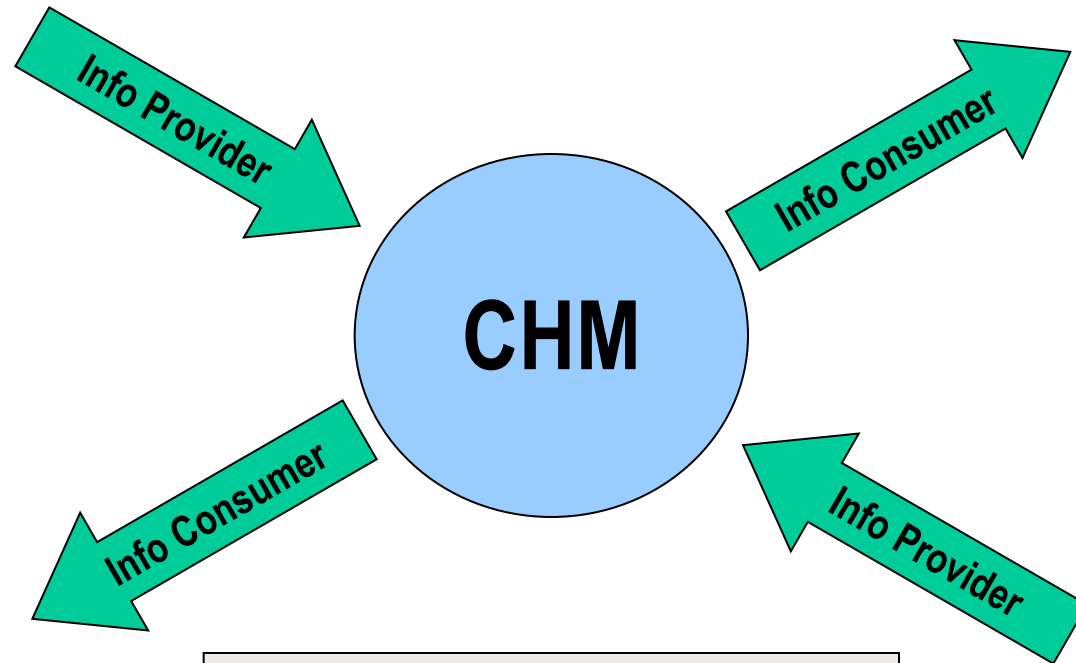
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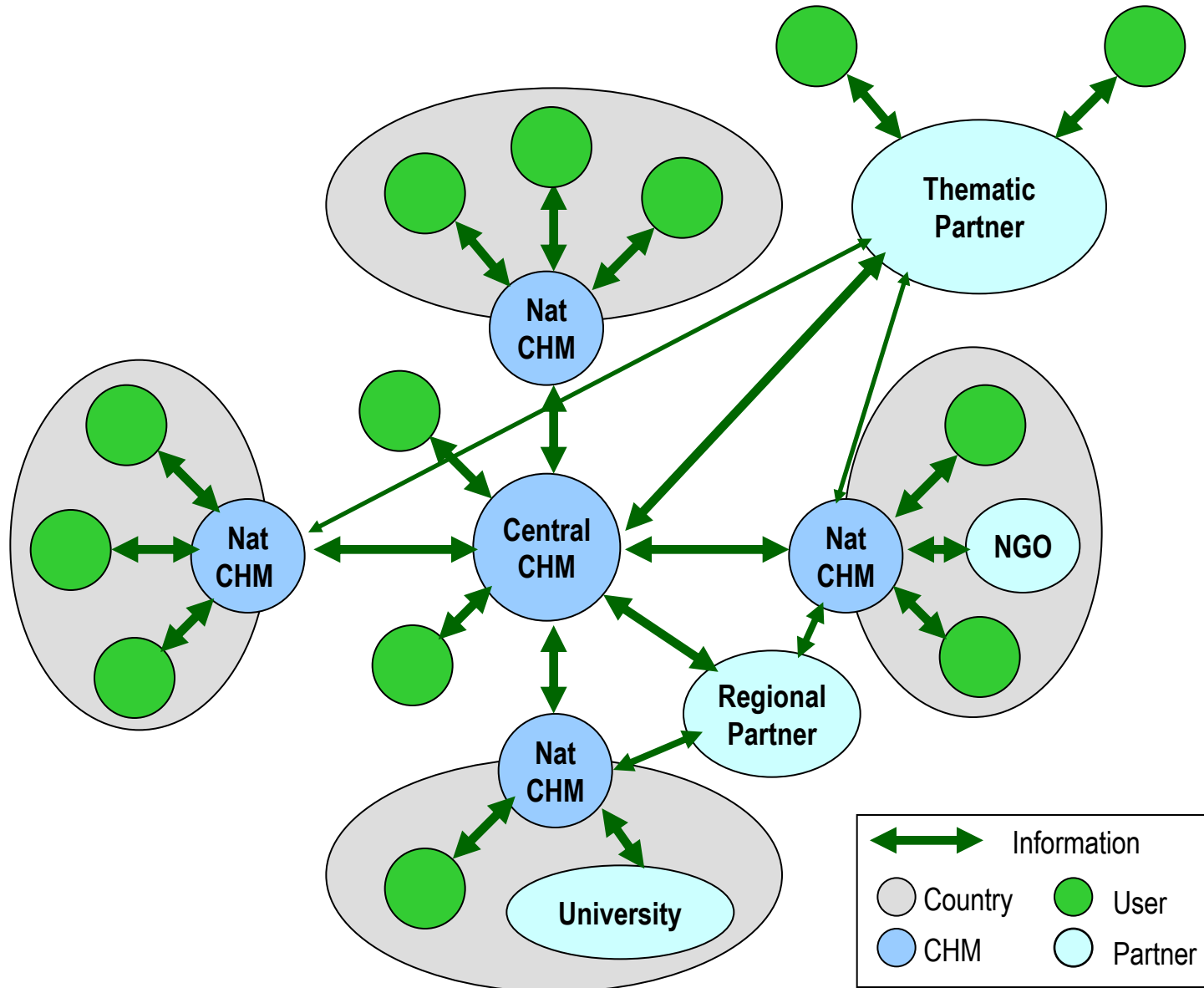


Two-way exchange

- ✓ Search engine
- ✓ Submission
- ✓ Aggregation
- ✓ Interoperability
- ✓ Match-making

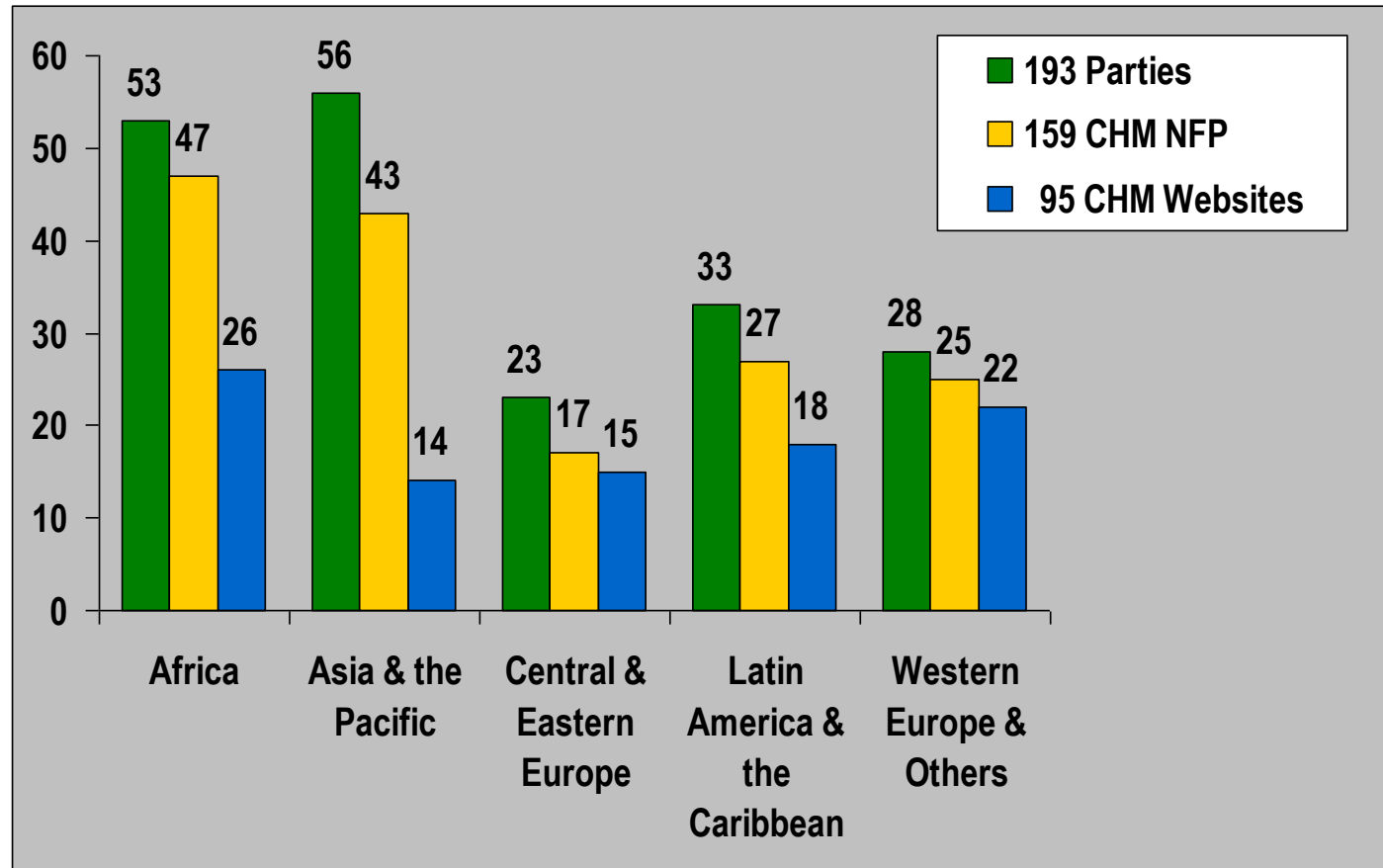
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Vision

By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.

Mission

Take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication ...

STRATEGIC GOAL A:

Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity

STRATEGIC GOAL B:

Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

STRATEGIC GOAL C:

Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

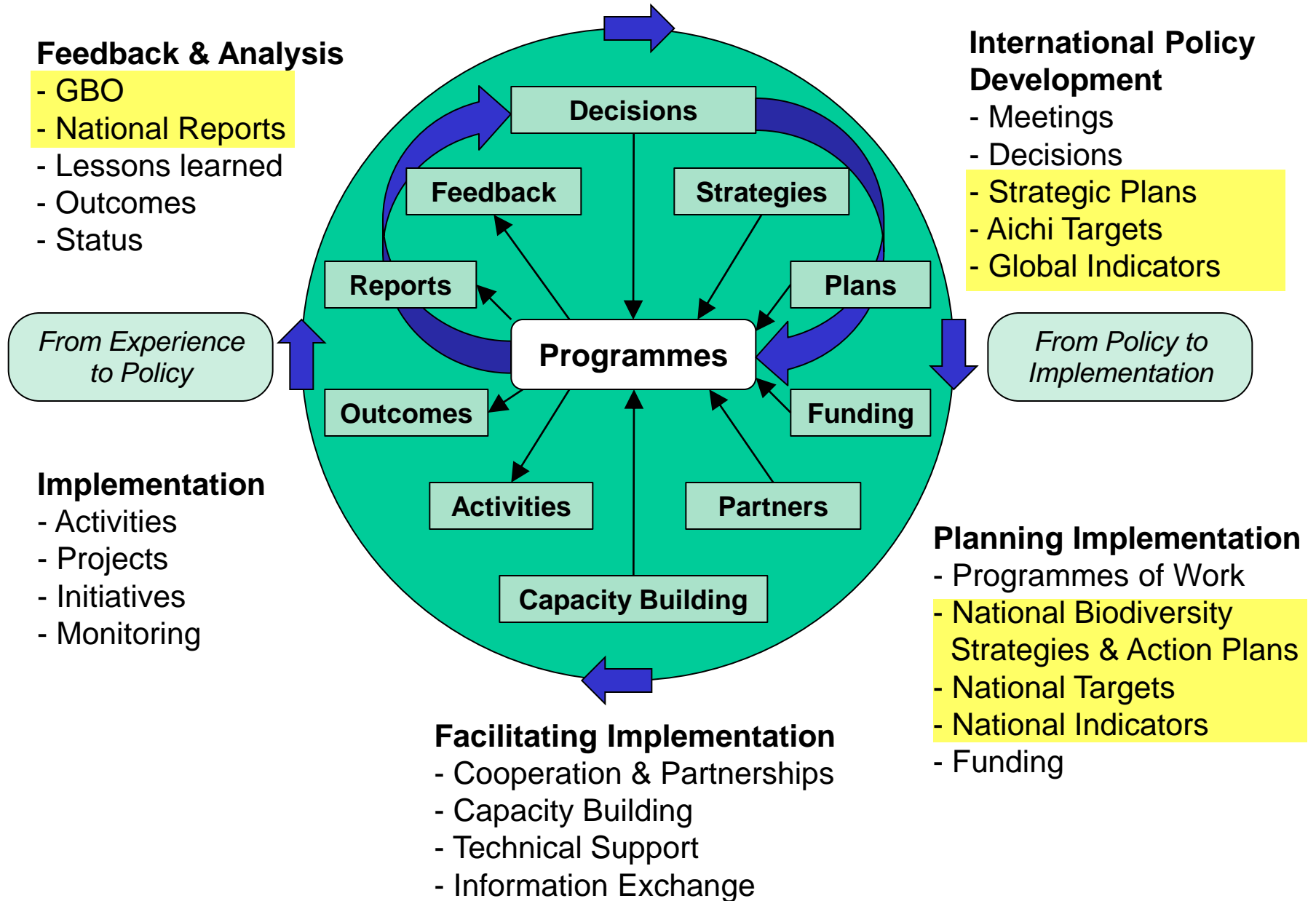
STRATEGIC GOAL D:

Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

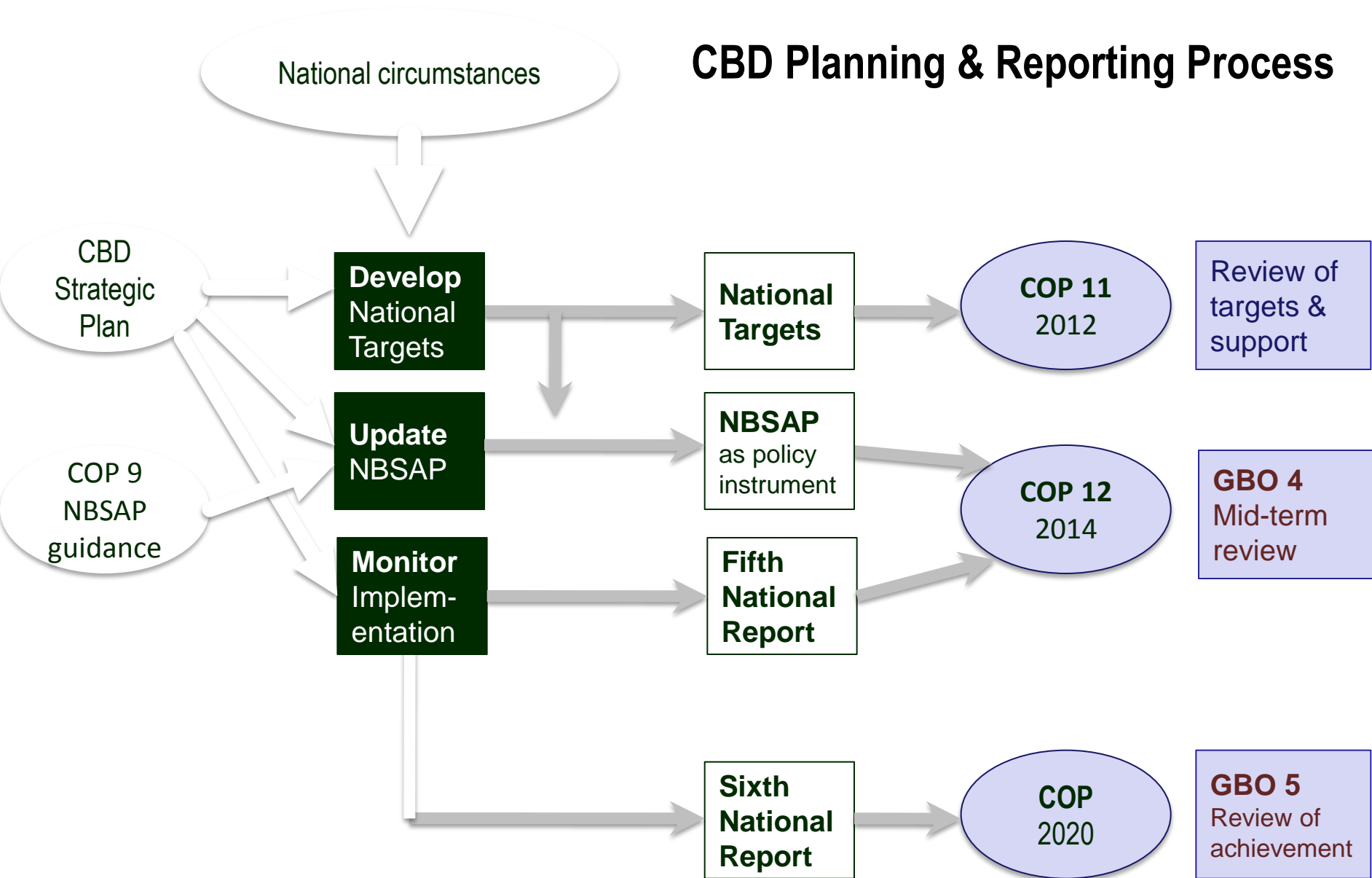
STRATEGIC GOAL E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building

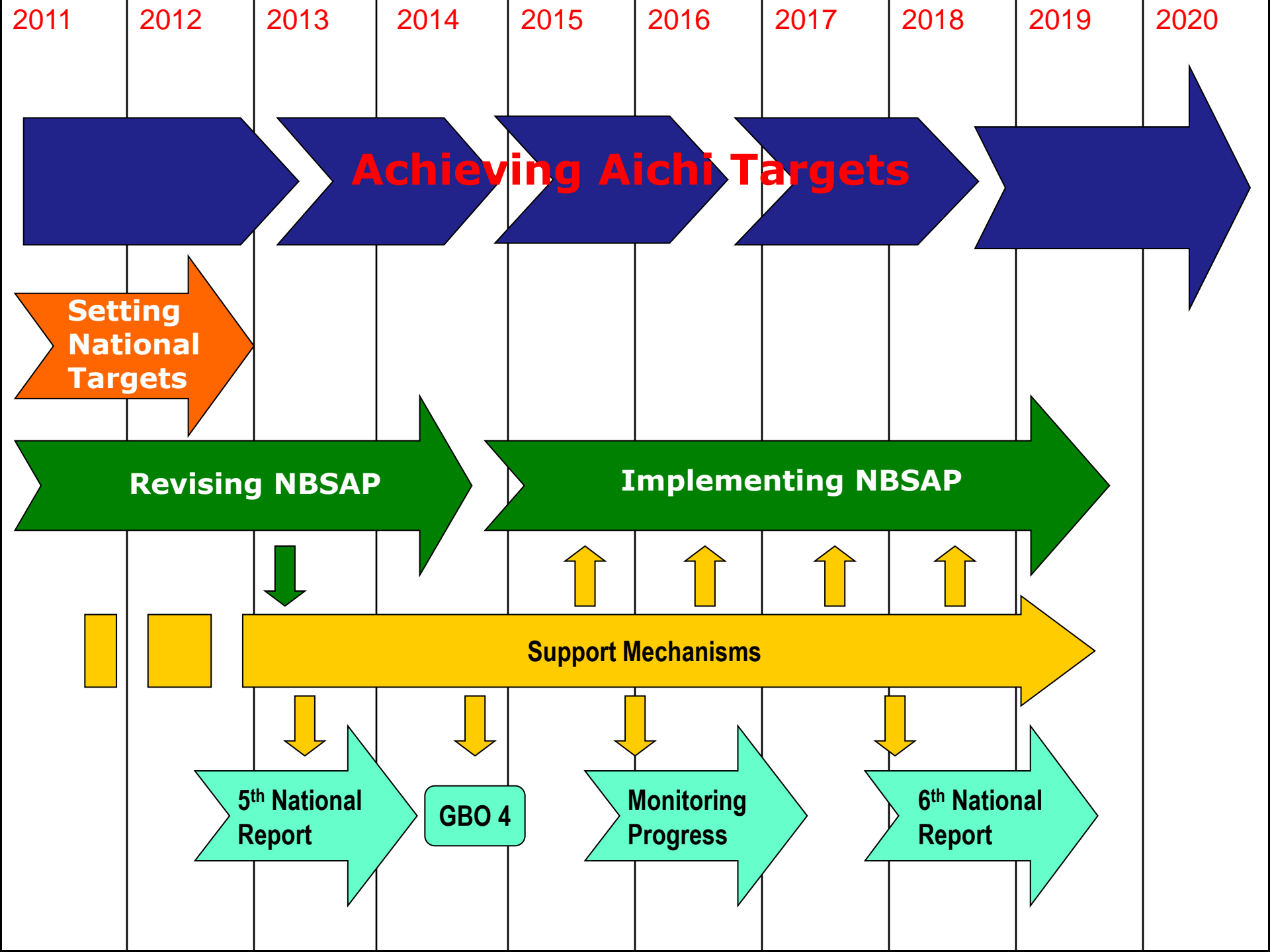
Support Mechanisms

CBD Policy & Implementation Cycle



CBD Planning & Reporting Process





2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Achieving Aichi Targets

Setting National Targets

Revising NBSAP

Implementing NBSAP

Support Mechanisms

5th National Report

GBO 4

Monitoring Progress

6th National Report

COP Guidance on CHM Supporting Role

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- **COP 9**
 - **Decision IX/30, paragraph 2(c)**
Encourages Parties to develop their national CHMs as a key means for the implementation and review of their NBSAPs
- **COP 10**
 - **Decision X/2, VI, paragraph 22 of Strategic Plan**
Vision of the CHM as a support mechanism
 - **Decision X/15, CHM Goal 2 for 2011-2020**
National CHMs provide effective information services to facilitate the implementation of NBSAPs.
- **COP 11**
 - **Decision XI/2, B, paragraph 11**
Welcomes the work programme for the CHM in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/31)
 - **Decision XI/2, B, paragraph 11(c)**
Calls upon Parties to share through national CHMs or other relevant mechanisms, information on results from the monitoring of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets....

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VI. Support Mechanisms, Paragraph 22

- Collectively those involved in implementing the Convention have a **wealth of experience** and have developed many useful **good practice cases, tools and guidance**. There is additional useful information beyond this community.
- A **biodiversity knowledge network** will be developed including a **database and network of practitioners**, to bring together this knowledge and experience and to make it available through the clearing-house mechanism to facilitate and support enhanced implementation of the Convention.
- **National clearing-house mechanism** nodes comprising **networks of experts** with **effective websites** should be developed and sustained so that in each Party, all have access to the information, expertise and experience required to implement the Convention.
- **National clearing house mechanism** nodes should also be **linked to** the **central clearing-house mechanism** managed by the Convention Secretariat, and **information exchange** between these should be facilitated.

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To contribute significantly to the implementation of

- the Convention on Biological Diversity*
- and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020*

through

- effective information services*
- and other appropriate means*

in order to promote and facilitate

- scientific and technical cooperation,*
- knowledge sharing,*
- and information exchange*

and to establish a fully operational network of Parties and partners

3 Goals representing 3 levels of implementation

1. *The central CHM provides effective global information services to facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020*
2. *National CHMs provide effective information services to facilitate the implementation of the NBSAPs*
3. *Partners significantly expand the CHM network and services*

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National Planning & Reporting Processes

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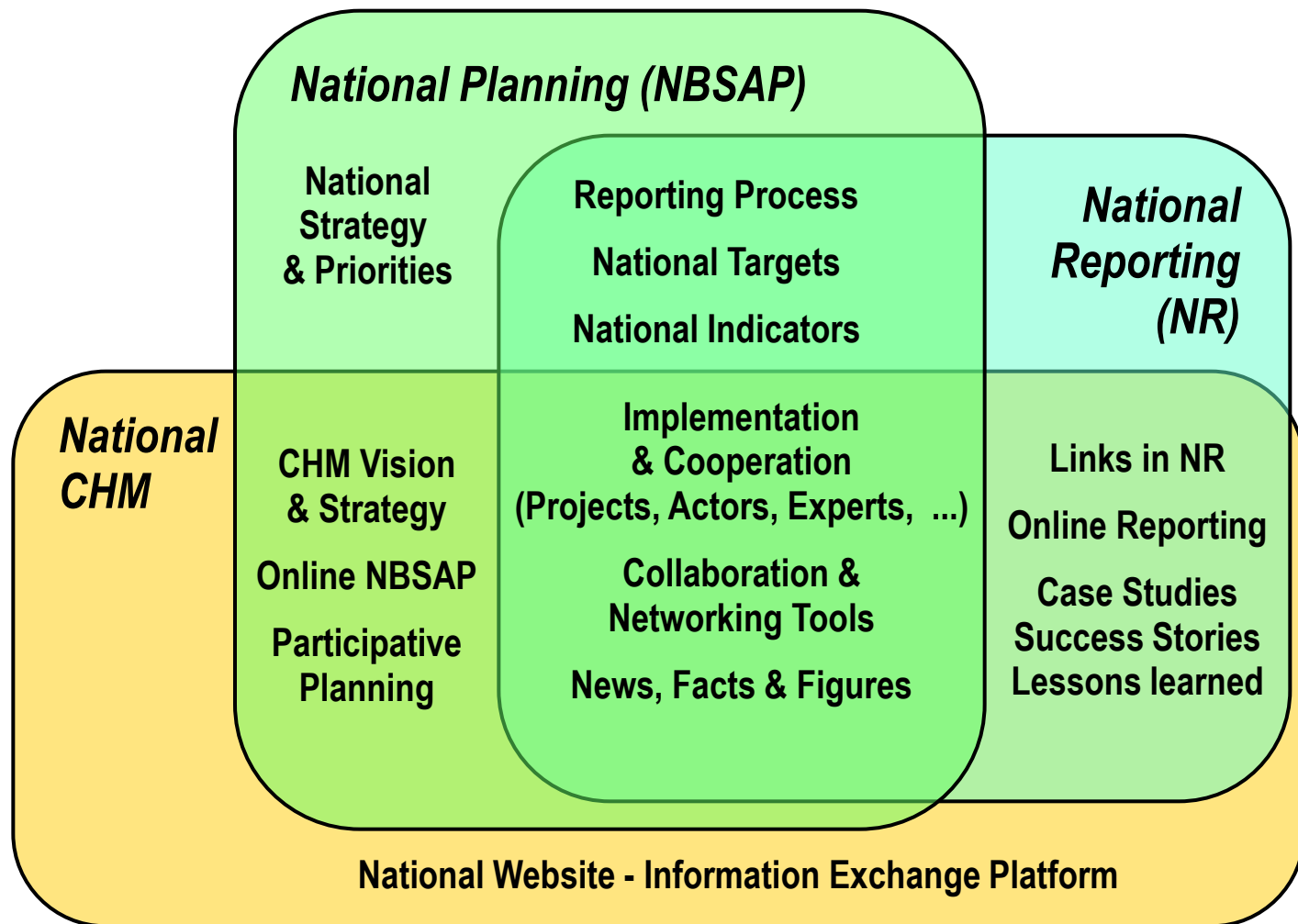
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- **NBSAP → Adaptation of Strategic Plan to the national level**
 - Takes into account country specificities and priorities
 - National targets contributing to Aichi targets
 - Key to mainstreaming biodiversity across various sectors
- **Planning, implementation and reporting**
 - Assessing needs and priorities
 - Participative approach
 - Revising and updating
 - Implementing the action plans & monitoring progress
 - National reporting against national targets
- **National planning & reporting processes and the CHM**
 - The CHM is an information exchange platform which can contribute to planning, implementation and reporting
 - The NBSAP should define the strategic vision of the CHM
 - The CHM can be used to share NBSAP information
 - The CHM can be used to collect and share reporting information

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2.1. All Parties have the capacity to sustain effective national clearing-house mechanisms.

2.1.1....

2.1.2. Identify a national structure, as appropriate, to coordinate the development of the clearing-house mechanism with participation of relevant biodiversity-related organizations and stakeholders.

2.1.3. Prepare a realistic national implementation strategy for the clearing-house mechanism, where appropriate, preferably as a component of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan, based on identified needs and anticipated resources.

2.1.4. Mobilize and allocate resources for strengthening the institutional capacity to implement the national clearing-house mechanism and for sustaining its operations.

2.1.5. Define roles and responsibilities for collecting, reviewing and disseminating information, managing website content, and for outreach activities, where appropriate.

2.1.6....

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- **Some national strategies for the CHM**
 - Burundi, Morocco, Madagascar → on CBD website
 - Others under preparation
- **Case of Burundi**
 - Large document in French
 - Extracts en English for the CHM workshop
 - Document UNEP/CBD/CHM/WS/2014/1/INF/1
 - Strategy → Section IV.1
 - National vision of the CHM
 - Strategic axis and objectives



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NBSAP → National CHM Strategy (Burundi)

- **National vision for the CHM in Burundi**

Between now and 2020, all actors will be provided with information on scientific and traditional knowledge, tools, methods, innovations, technologies and best practices for the analysis and implementation of the NBSAP

- **4 strategic axis**

1. Effective and efficient **Dissemination** of information, knowledge, data, tools, technologies and awareness-raising practices for the implementation of the Convention
2. **Strengthening** the capacities of the national CHM
3. Facilitation and strengthening of **scientific and technical cooperation**
4. Establishment of a **financial mechanism** for the national CHM



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- **National CHM → NBSAP**
 - **Raising public awareness** on national challenges and priorities
 - **Participative planning** through stakeholder consultations to collect views, comments and suggestions
 - **Dissemination of NBSAP** to stakeholders and the public
 - Mobilization of support for participation and implementation
 - Getting feedback on existing NBSAP for review and further planning
- **National CHM → NR**
 - **Central collection** of stakeholders' inputs for national reports
 - Provision of relevant **sources of information/data** for reporting
 - **Online collaboration** to collect comments/suggestions on draft report
 - Sharing case studies and success stories
 - **Dissemination and promotion** of national report
 - Providing **up-to-date content for links** in national reports

Potential Menu for a National CHM Website

Biodiversity [Country]

Overview

- Introduction
- ...

Ecosystems

- ...

Species

- ...

Threats

- ...

Protected Areas

- ...

Strategy & Implementation

NBSAP

- Vision
- Priorities
- Targets
- Indicators

Actions

- Initiatives &
Projects
- Progress
- Reports

Actors

- Government
- Others

Cooperation

- National & Local
- Regional
- International

References & Services

For

- Everyone
- Educators
- Journalists
- Government
- Scientists

About

- Protected Areas
- Species
- Indicators data
- More >

References

- Events
- Directories
- Publications
- Legislation
- Databases
- Maps
- Videos
- Links

Participate & Contribute

Your actions

- Suggestions
- Join us
- Your opinion

For members

- Forum
- Share data
- ...

About

Us

- Who we are
- Our mission

CBD

- Strategic Plan
- Aichi Targets

CHM

- Information
Exchange
- Network

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CBD NFP	CHM NFP
Political role <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Government representative- Diplomat skills	Technical role <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Project manager- Entrepreneur skills
Decision-making process <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Negotiation- National Policy- National Planning	Implementation process <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Scientific & tech. cooperation- Information Management (gathering, disseminating)- Webmaster

- Both roles are important & time-consuming
 - Adequate capacity to be effective
- Importance of collaboration between CBD & CHM NFPs
 - **CHM NFP should serve the CBD NFP**

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- **Recommended discussions between participants**
 - What should your national CHM do for your country?
 - How to best coordinate the development of your national CHM?
- **Contribution to the:**
 - Strategic vision of the national CHM
 - Roadmap to develop the national CHM
- **Questions or comments**

Thank you



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