



# *Regional Workshop for the Pacific on the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM)*

*13-17 June 2016    Nadi, Fiji*



## ***Background on the Clearing-House Mechanism***

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**Government of Fiji**  
Ministry of Local Government,  
Housing and Environment



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What is the CHM?  
Strategic Context  
CHM Role  
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Final Comments



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*What is the CHM?*

*CBD Strategic Context*

*CHM Supporting Role*

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# What is the Clearing-House Mechanism?

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- 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
  - *Decision XII/2 B*  
Award for national CHMs, online reporting, interoperability, ...

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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

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... Other Relevant Articles ...

Art. 26 - Reports

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... Other Relevant Articles ...

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# What is a Clearing-House?

## 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.

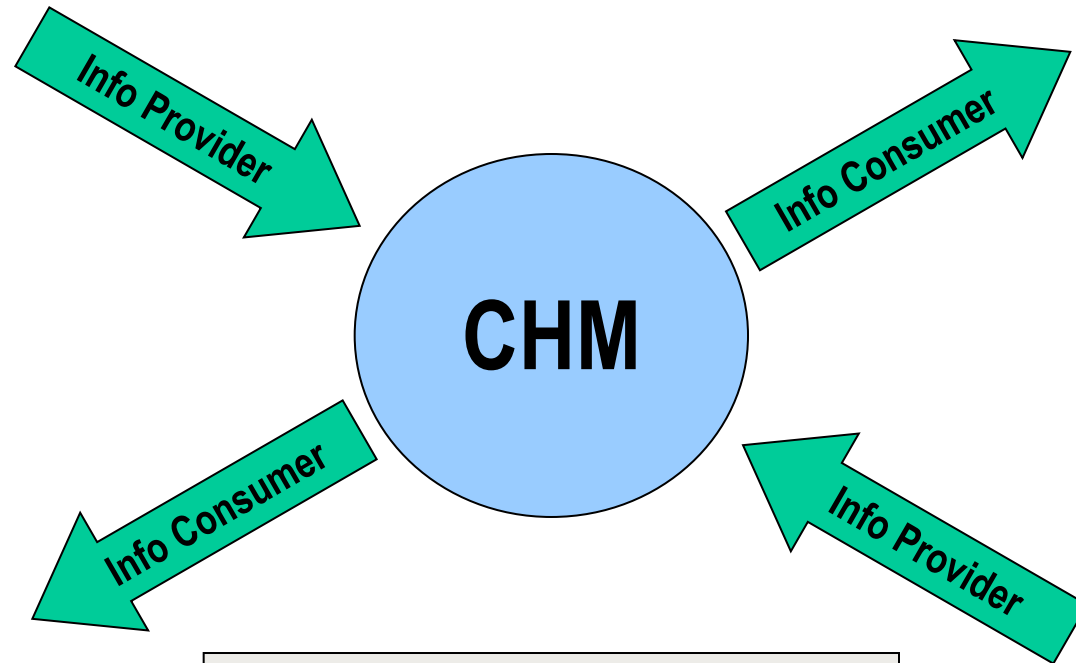
<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/clearing-house>

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

→ **Information exchange services**

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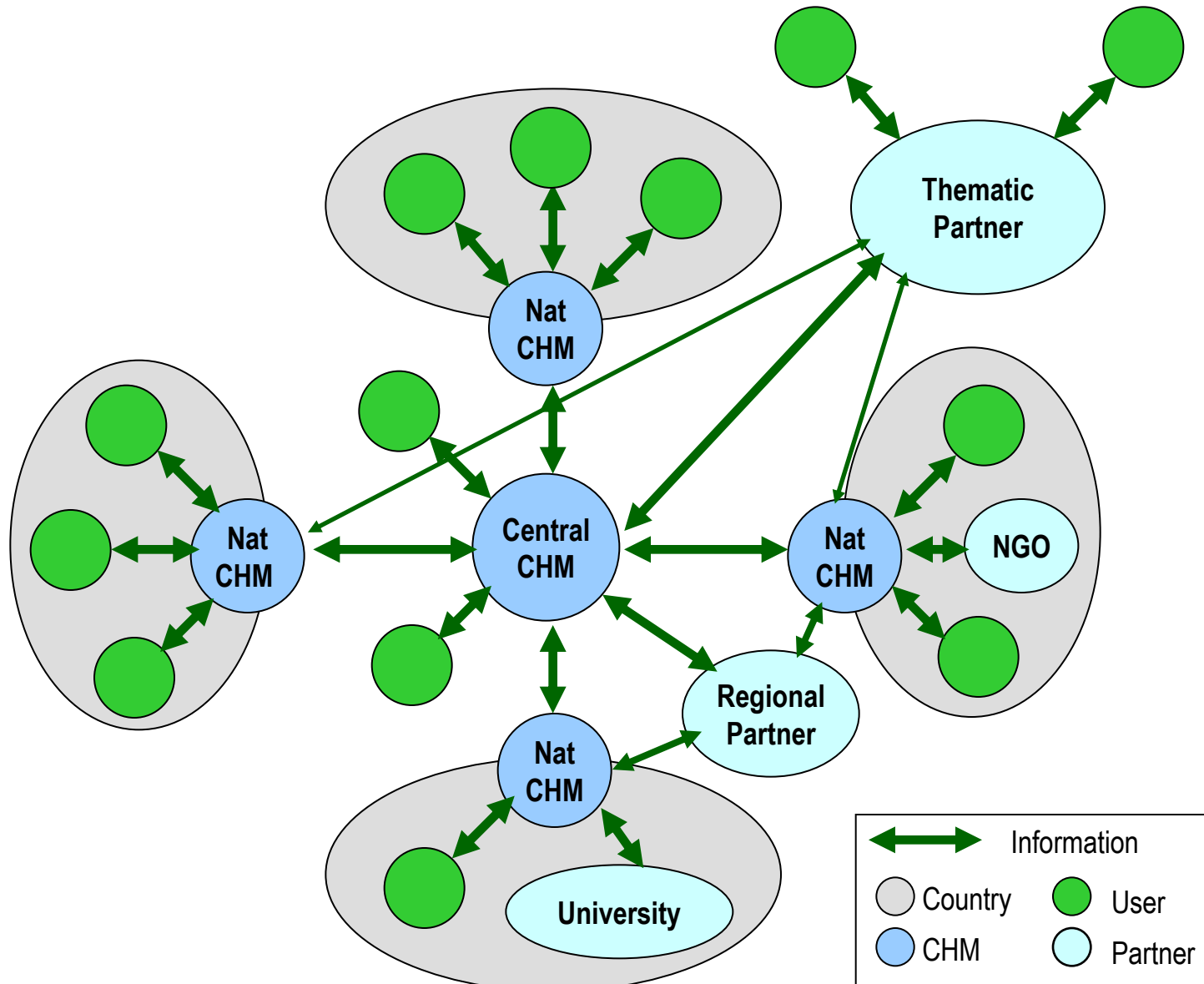
### Two-way exchange

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



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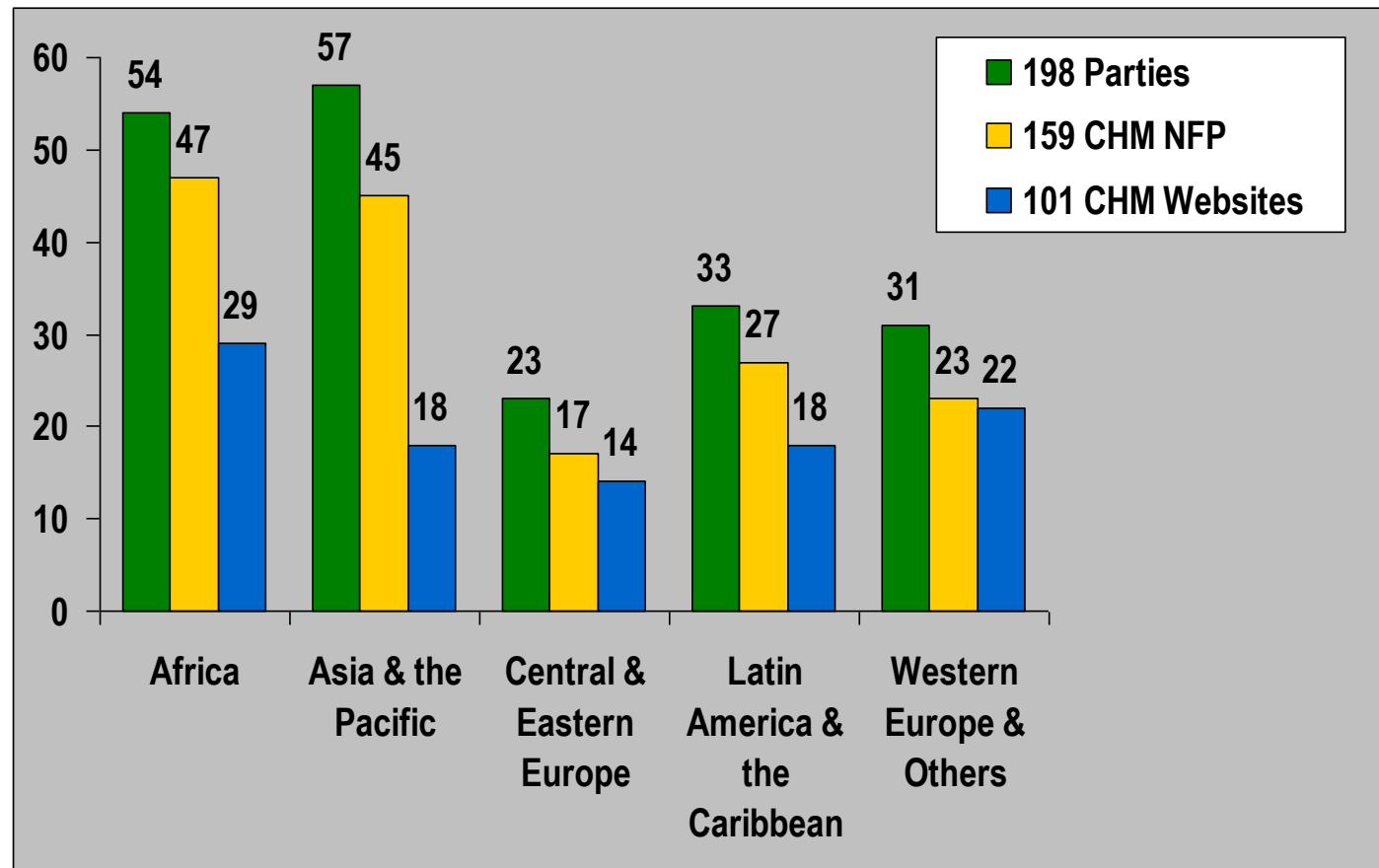


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## National CHM Network Status



## 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:

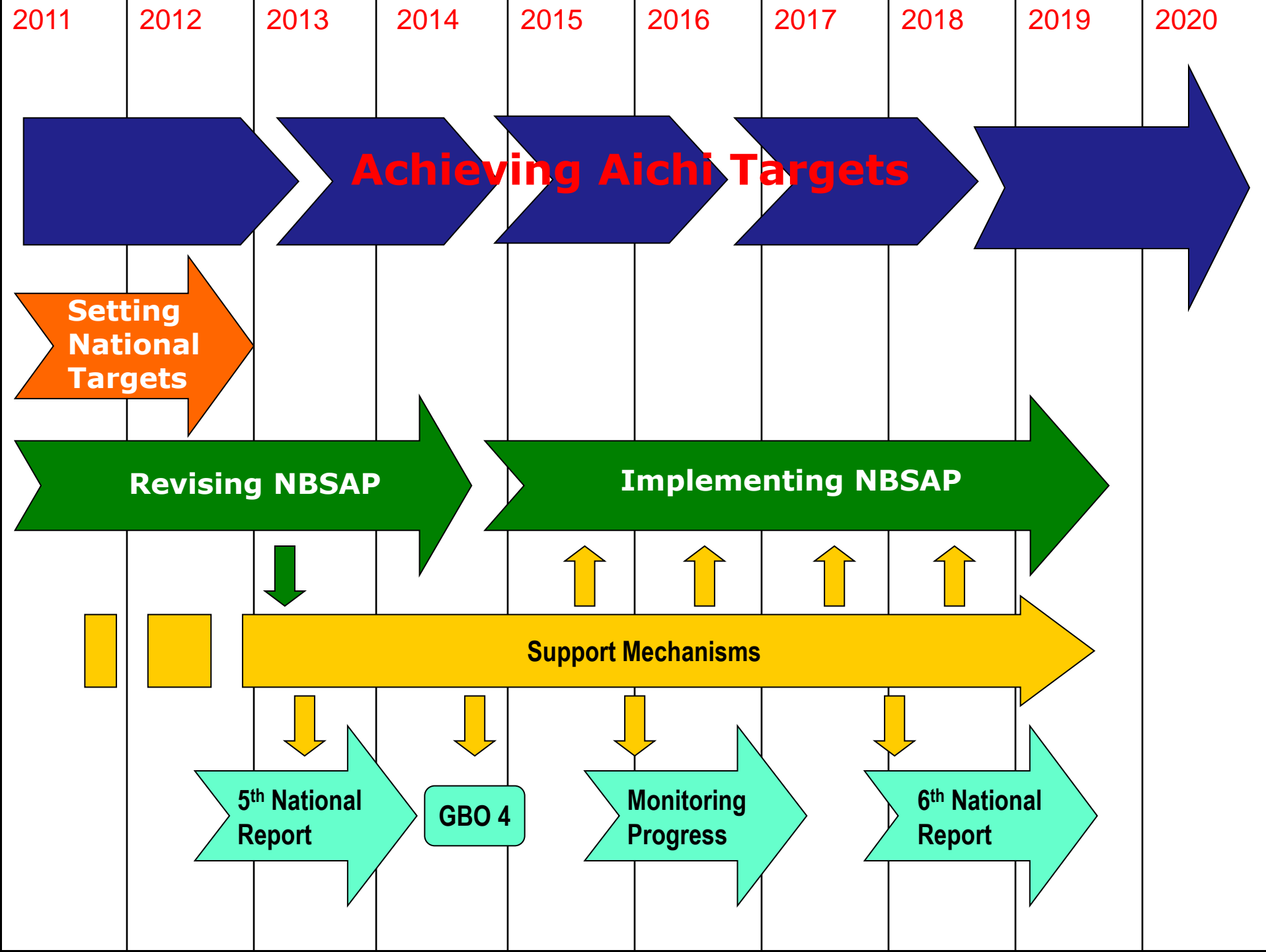
Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

### STRATEGIC GOAL D:

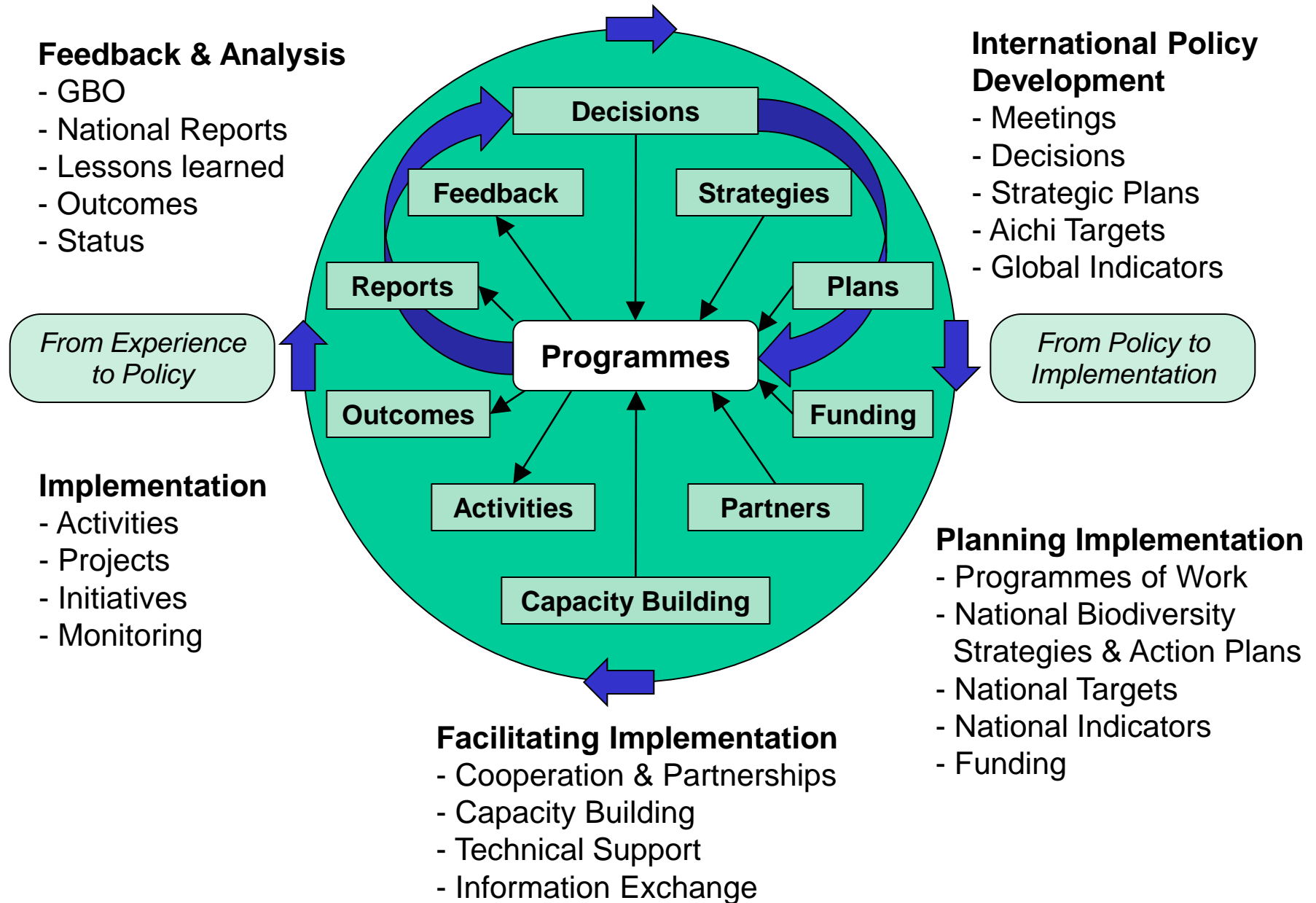
Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

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

**Support Mechanisms**



# CBD Policy & Implementation Cycle



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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*

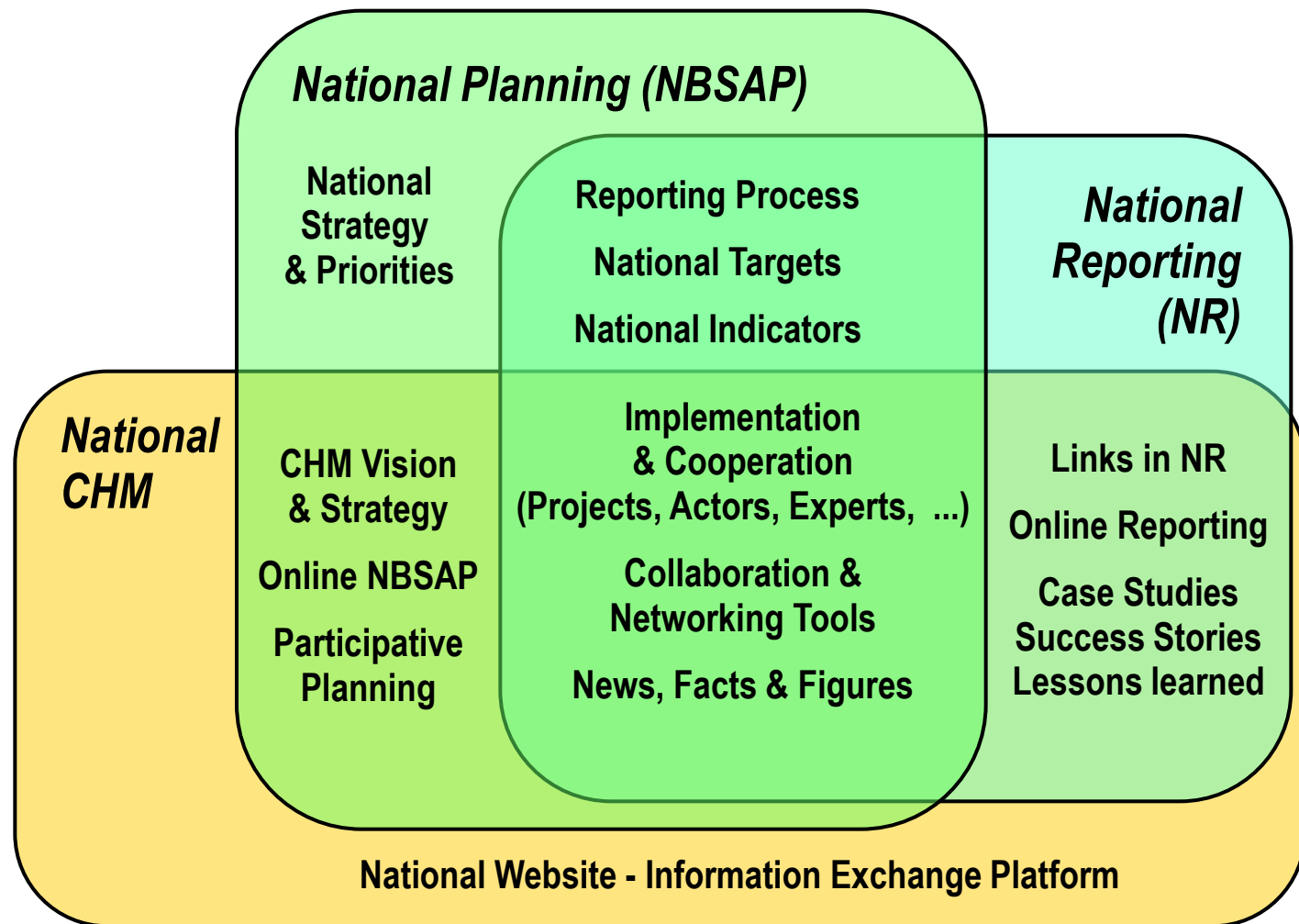




# Support to National Planning & Reporting

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# Potential Menu for a National CHM Website

Biodiversity [Country]	Strategy & Implementation	Information Center	Participate & Contribute	About
<b>Overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Introduction</li><li>- ...</li></ul> <b>Ecosystems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ...</li></ul> <b>Species</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ...</li></ul> <b>Threats</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ...</li></ul> <b>Protected Areas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ...</li></ul>	<b>NBSAP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Vision</li><li>- Priorities</li><li>- Targets</li><li>- Indicators</li></ul> <b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Projects</li><li>- Progress</li><li>- Reports</li></ul> <b>Actors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Government</li><li>- Others</li></ul> <b>Cooperation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- National &amp; Local</li><li>- Regional</li><li>- International</li></ul>	<b>References</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Events</li><li>- Directories</li><li>- Publications</li><li>- Databases</li><li>- Maps</li><li>- Videos</li><li>- Links</li><li>- ...</li></ul>	<b>Your actions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Suggestions</li><li>- Join us</li><li>- Your opinion</li></ul> <b>For members</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Forum</li><li>- Share data</li><li>- ...</li></ul>	<b>Us</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Who we are</li><li>- Our mission</li></ul> <b>CBD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Strategic Plan</li><li>- Aichi Targets</li></ul> <b>CHM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Information Exchange Network</li></ul>

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

- 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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