



Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM)



***Introduction to the CHM
and Links to the
Planning and Reporting Processes***

*Olivier de Munck
Programme Officer, CHM, CBD Secretariat*



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What is the CHM?

CBD Strategic Context

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CHM Workshop & Joint Sessions



CHM

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

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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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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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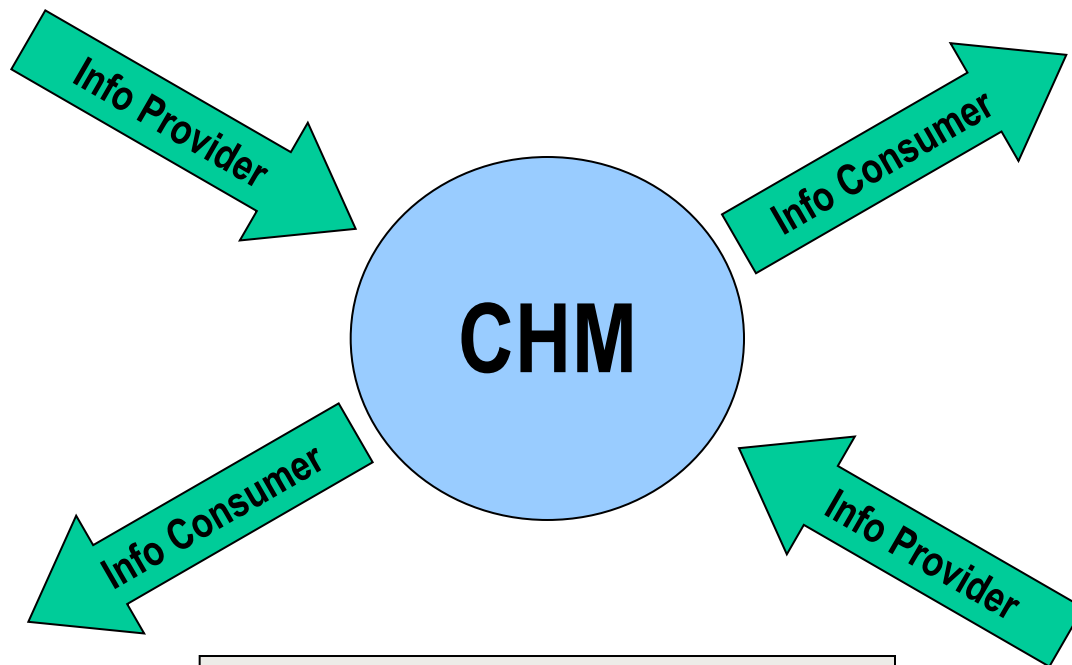
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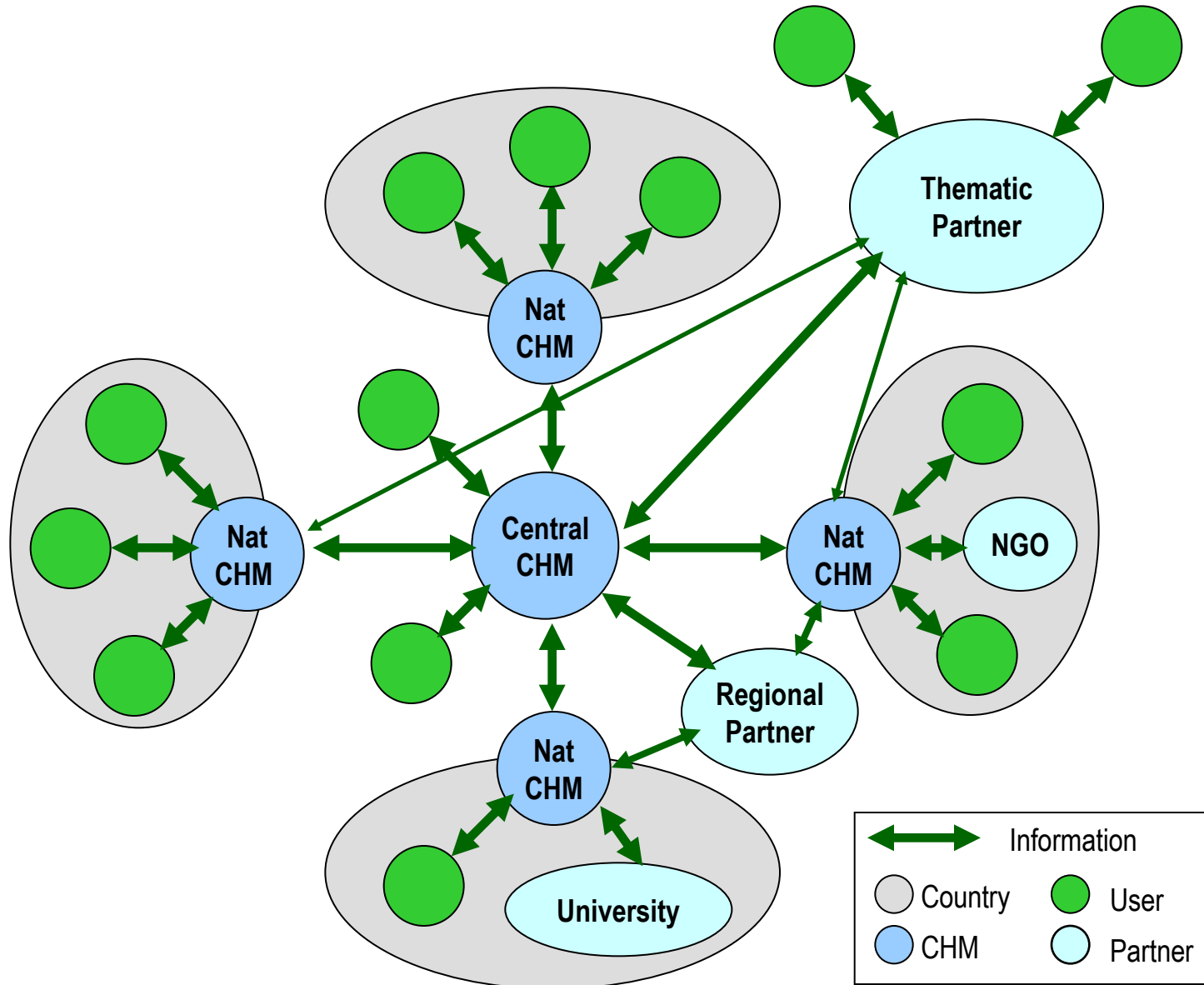


Two-way exchange

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

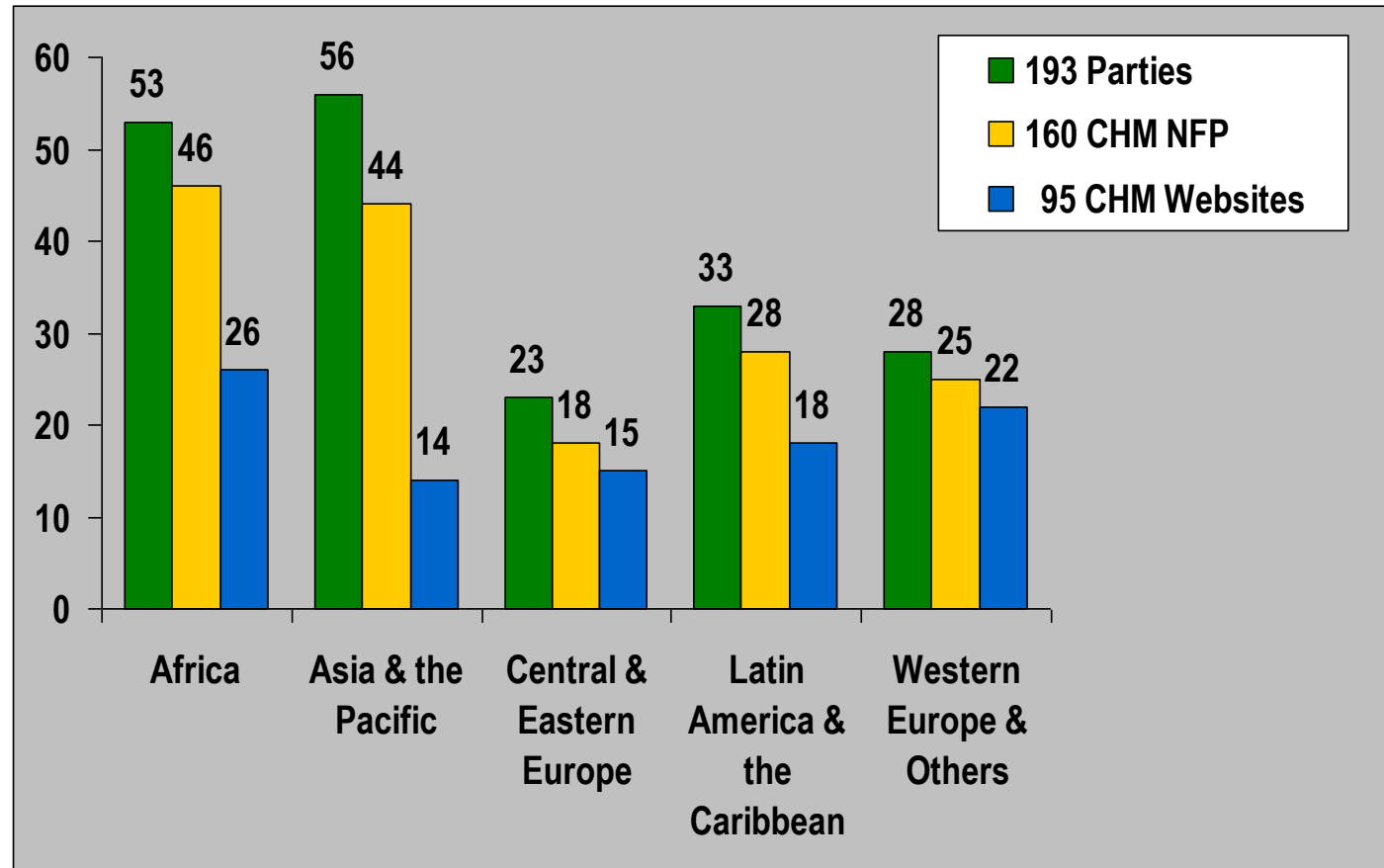
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- **Adopted at COP 10** (Decision X/2)
- **Vision for "living in harmony with nature"**
By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people
- **5 Strategic Goals & 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets for 2020**
 - A. Address the **underlying causes** of biodiversity loss by **mainstreaming** biodiversity across government and society
 - B. **Reduce the direct pressures** on biodiversity and promote **sustainable use**
 - C. **Improve the status** of biodiversity by **safeguarding** ecosystems, species and genetic diversity
 - D. **Enhance the benefits** to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services
 - E. **Enhance implementation** through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building
- **Section VI on support mechanisms** (paragraphs 20-25)

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

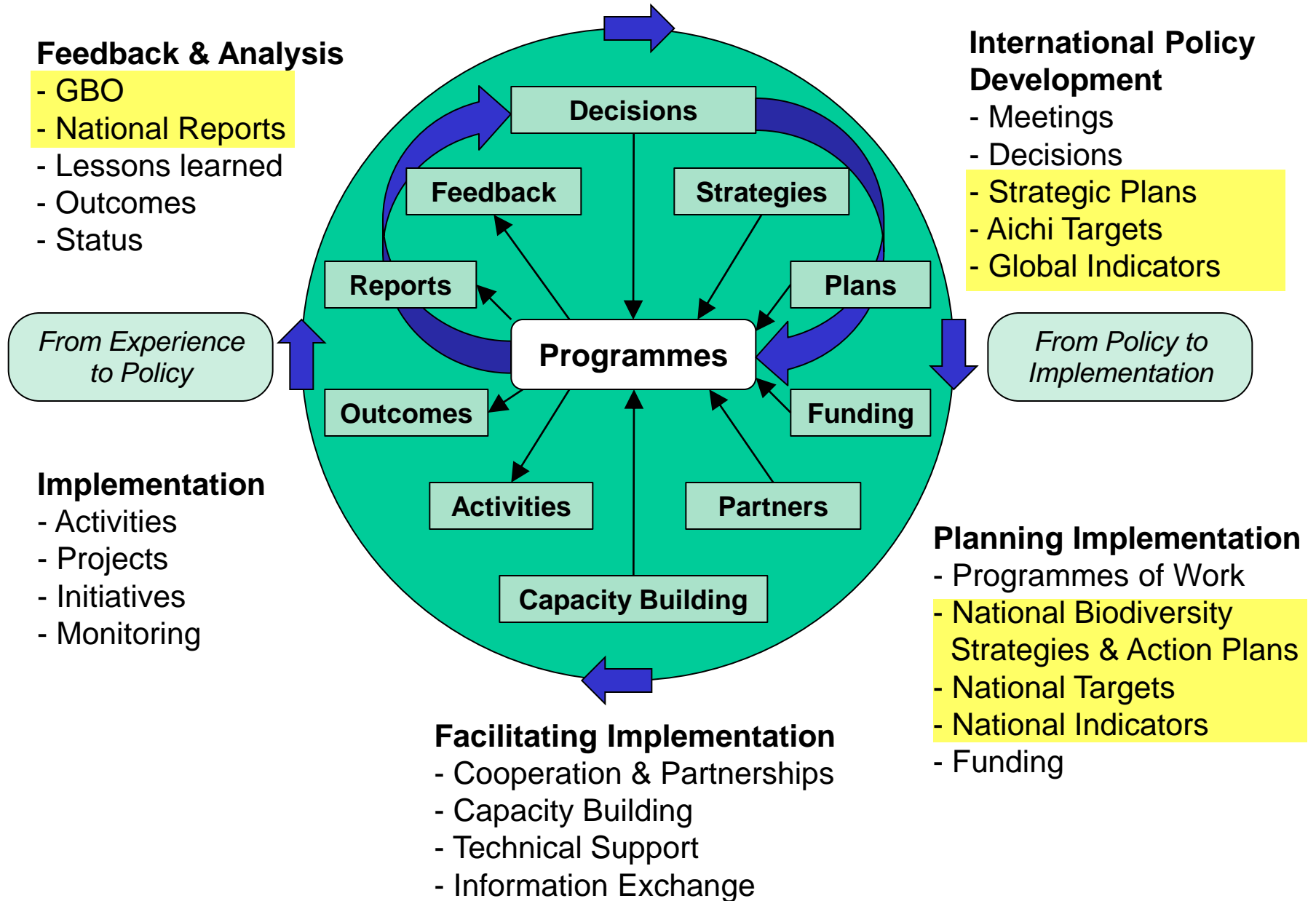
STRATEGIC GOAL D:

Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

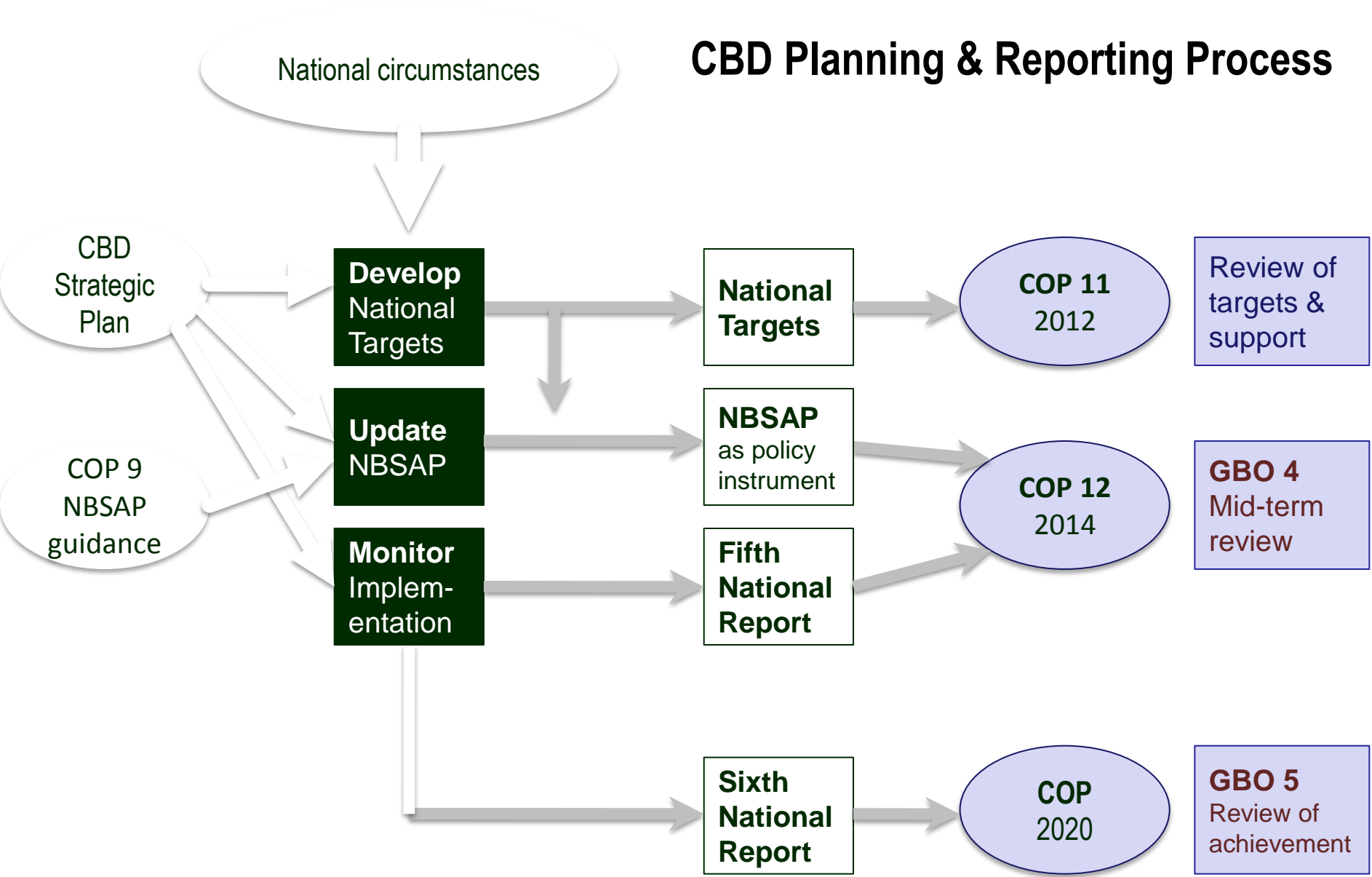
STRATEGIC GOAL E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building

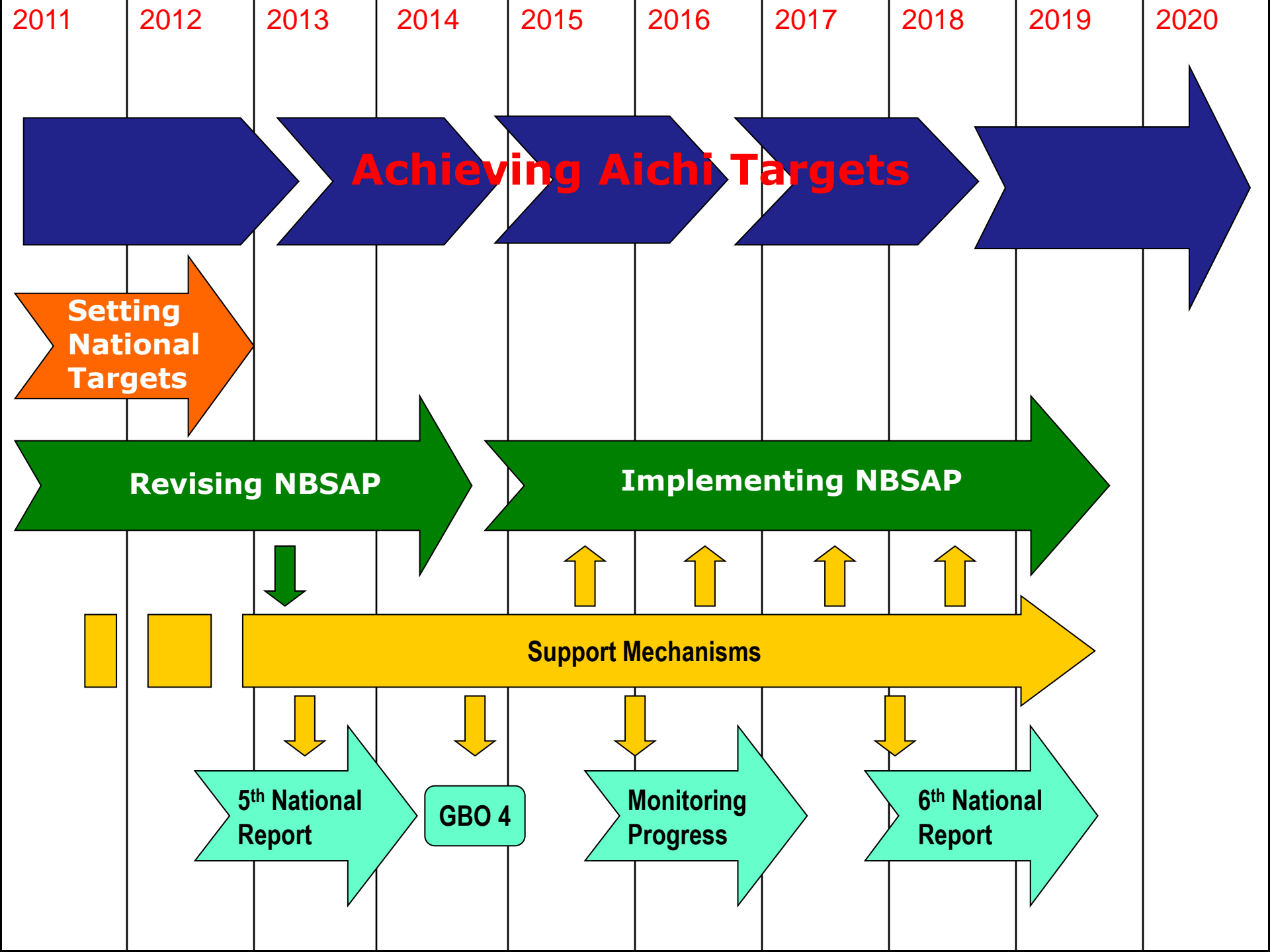
Support Mechanisms

CBD Policy & Implementation Cycle



CBD Planning & Reporting Process





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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....

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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CHM

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 2011-2010*
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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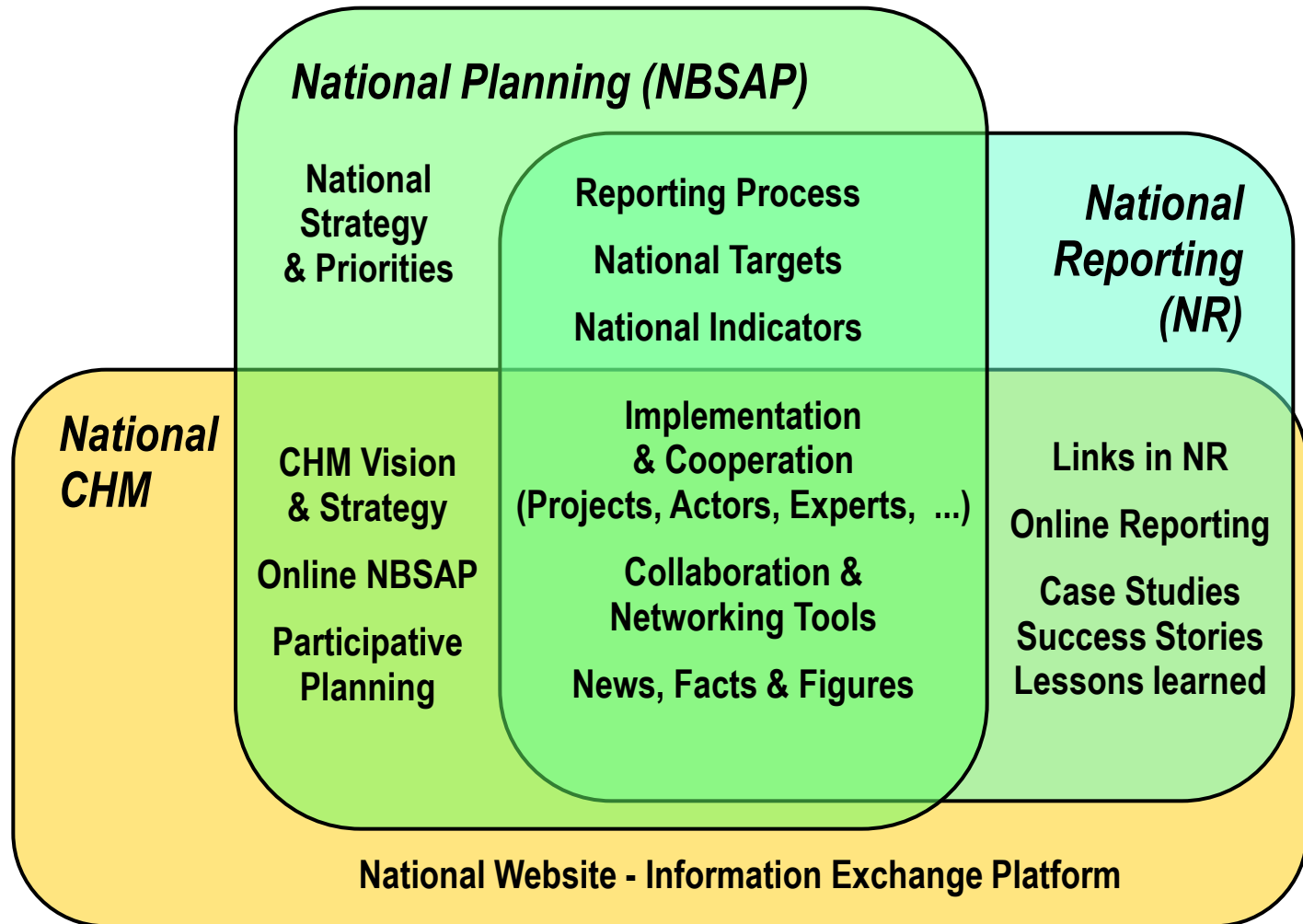


- **NBSAP → Adaptation of Strategic Plan to the national level**
 - Takes into account country specificities and priorities
 - National targets contributing to Aichi targets
 - Key to mainstreaming biodiversity across various sectors
- **Planning, implementation and reporting**
 - Assessing needs and 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

Links between NBSAP, NR & the CHM

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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/RW/2013/CAR/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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- **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
- **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

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- **Reported in 4th NR**

- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Namibia
- Thailand
- Vietnam



- **Stakeholder consultations through Canadian CHM (2012)**

- <http://www.biodivcanada.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=A0B7E306-1>
- To seek views on proposed 2020 biodiversity goals and targets
- Emails to aboriginal groups and a wide range of stakeholders
- Link to online questionnaire and background information



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- **UK Biodiversity Action Reporting System (UK BARS)**
 - Operational
 - <http://ukbars.defra.gov.uk>
- **EU online reporting system**
 - Under development
 - To track progress in implementation of regional biodiversity strategy and towards both regional and global targets for 2020.



Potential Menu for a National CHM Website

Biodiversity [Country]	Strategy & Implementation	References & Services	Participate & Contribute	About
<p>Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introduction- ... <p>Ecosystems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ... <p>Species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ... <p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ... <p>Protected Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ...	<p>NBSAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Vision- Priorities- Targets- Indicators <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Initiatives & Projects- Progress- Reports <p>Actors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Government- Others <p>Cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- National & Local- Regional- International	<p>For</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Everyone- Educators- Journalists- Government- Scientists <p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Protected Areas- Species- Indicators data- More > <p>References</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Events- Directories- Publications- Legislation- Databases- Maps- Videos- Links	<p>Your actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Suggestions- Join us- Your opinion <p>For members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Forum- Share data- ...	<p>Us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Who we are- Our mission <p>CBD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strategic Plan- Aichi Targets <p>CHM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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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- **General objective**

Strengthen the capacity to establish and maintain effective national CHMs so that they can better support the NBSAP implementation process

- **Objectives for each country**

- Increase the capacity to develop the national CHM
- Have a **strategic vision** on how to develop the national CHM so that it can support the NBSAP implementation process
- Have a **roadmap** to develop the national CHM
- Know how and where to find assistance

- **Objectives for all (CHM & NR participants & SCBD)**

- Understand the supporting role of the national CHM
- Learn from the experiences and challenges of other countries
- Identify opportunities for collaboration, support and cooperation (at the national, regional and international levels)

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- **Official**
 - UNEP/CBD/CHM/RW/2013/CAR/1
Provisional agenda
 - UNEP/CBD/CHM/RW/2013/CAR/1/Add.1
Annotations to the provisional agenda
 - UNEP/CBD/COP/11/31
Work programme for the clearing-house mechanism
in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020
- **Information**
 - UNEP/CBD/CHM/RW/2013/CAR/1
Extracts from the national strategy and action plan
for the clearing-house mechanism of Burundi
- **Other**
 - Information note for participants

→ www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=chm-rw-2013-car

CHM Workshop - Agenda & Joint Sessions

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1. Opening of the workshop
2. Objectives and programme of the workshop
3. Links between the national planning and reporting processes and the CHM
 - a) Updating NBSAPs
 - b) Experiences and lessons learned from the 4th National Report
 - c) Preparation of GBO 4
 - d) Preparation of the 5th National Report
 - e) Use of indicators for monitoring and reporting
4. Work programme of the CHM
5. Experiences of national CHMs
6. Guidance for national CHMs
7. Strategic vision and roadmap for national CHMs
8. Pending matters
9. Synthesis and report of the workshop
10. Closure of the workshop

Proposed organization of work

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

Gros Islet, Saint Lucia, 16-20 September 2013

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00 10.30	1. Opening 2. Objectives & programme	3(d) Preparation of the 5 th NR 4. Work programme of the CHM	3(d) Preparation of the 5 th NR 6. Guidance for National CHM	7. Strategic vision and roadmap for national CHM	8. Pending matters
11.00 12.30	3. Links between national planning, reporting & CHM 3(a) Updating NBSAP	5. Experiences of national CHM	6. Guidance for National CHM	7. Strategic vision and roadmap for national CHM	9. Synthesis and report of the workshop
2.00 3.30	3(b) Experiences from the 4 th NR	3(d) Preparation of the 5 th NR 5. Experiences of national CHM	7. Strategic vision and roadmap for national CHM	<i>Field Trip</i>	9. Synthesis and report of the workshop
4.00 5.30	3(c) Preparation of GBO 4	5. Experiences of national CHM	3(e) Use of indicators 7. Strategic vision and roadmap for national CHM	<i>Field Trip</i>	10. Closure

 Joint session with the Regional Workshop for the Caribbean Countries on the Preparation of the 5th National Report

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- **Why parallel workshops?**
 - NBSAP, NR and CHM share the same strategic context
 - To include the CHM dimension in the NR workshop
 - To include the NR dimension in the CHM workshop
 - To promote exchanges between participants
 - Joint sessions on topics of common interest
- **Recommended discussions between national participants**
 - ¿What should your national CHM do for your country?
 - ¿How to best coordinate the development of your national CHM?
- **Contribution to the work of the CHM workshop**
 - Strategic vision of the national CHM
 - Roadmap to develop your national CHM
- **Questions or comments**

Thank you



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