



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



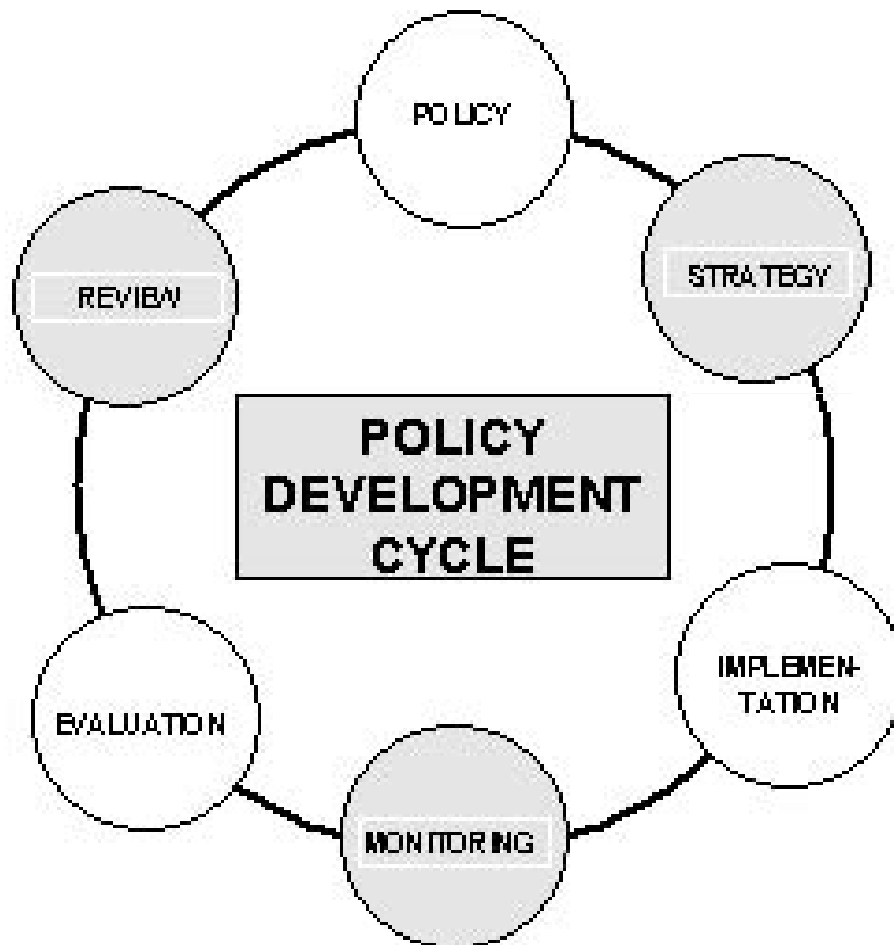
# Regional Workshop for the Middle East and North Africa on Updating and Revising NBSAPs

## NBSAPs as Policy Instruments

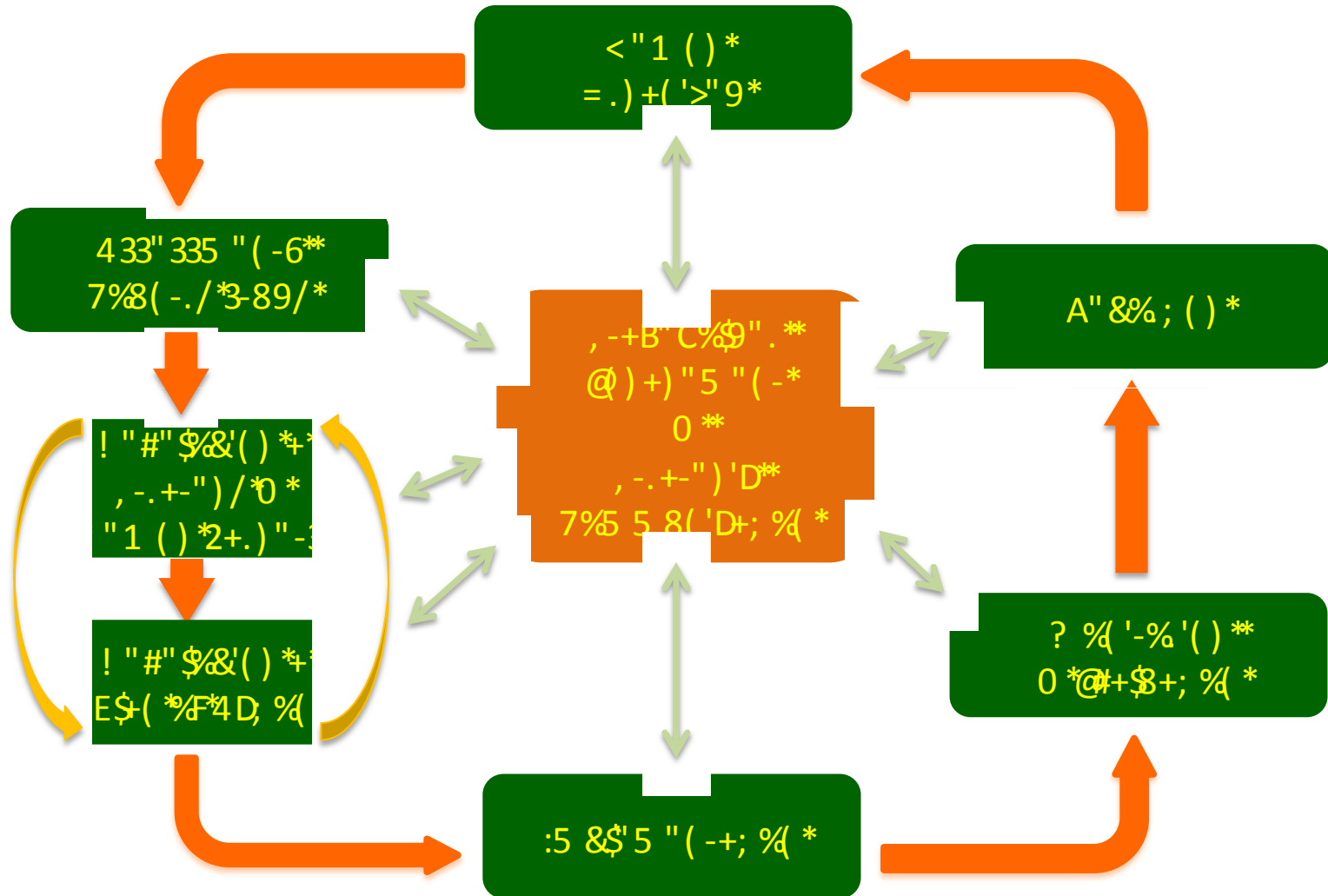
CBD Secretariat  
27-30 August 2012



# The Policy Development Cycle



# NBSAP Development Process



# NBSAP Development Process



## 1. Getting organised:

- Identify stakeholders who should be involved and bring them together;

## 2. Assessment of current conditions:

- A brief assessment of why biodiversity is important for the country:
  - Its contribution to human well-being;
  - Its economic and other values and the costs of its loss;
  - The drivers and underlying causes of its loss;
- Review relevant laws and policies;
- Lessons learned from the previous NBSAP;
- Gaps and unmet needs;

# NBSAP Development Process



## 3. Development of strategy:

- Principles;
- Values and beliefs underlying the NBSAP;
- Priorities;
- Clear alignment with the country's development and poverty reduction policies and strategies;
- National targets in support of the Strategic Plan;

## 4. Action Plan Development:

- Development of implementation plans;
- Identifying and securing the human, technical and financial resources necessary;
- Establishing indicators to measure and report on progress towards national targets and deciding on monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

# NBSAP Development Process



## 5. Implementation:

- Carrying out the agreed plan of action in the way envisaged, within the allocated time frame.

## 6. Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Development of monitoring and evaluation plan should be prepared at time of action plan development;
- Monitoring and evaluation is preferably done by a range of stakeholders or by independent bodies.

## 7. Reporting:

- Preparing a national report can help to:
  - Identify gaps in the NBSAP;
  - Identify issues which require special attention;
  - Provide the basis for a proposed revision of the NBSAP.

# Note on NBSAP Process and Target Setting + Mainstreaming



- Target setting and mainstreaming are integral parts of the NBSAP:
  - Targets should form part of the biodiversity strategy along with the vision, principles and goals;
  - Targets should be developed during the strategy development phase;
  - Mainstreaming follows the policy development cycle and should take place in step with the NBSAP process.

## NBSAP Content



In COP Decision X/2 Parties are requested to:

**Develop national and regional targets**, using the Strategic Plan and its Aichi Targets, as a flexible framework, in accordance with national priorities and capacities .... with a view to contributing to collective global efforts to reach the global targets, and report to COP 11 (2012).

**Review, and as appropriate update and revise, NBSAPs**, in line with the Strategic Plan and decision IX/9, and adopt as a policy instrument, and report thereon to the COP 11 or 12 (2012 or 2014);

**Use NBSAPs as effective instruments for the integration of biodiversity targets** into national development and poverty reduction policies and strategies, .... economic sectors and spatial planning processes, by Government and the private sector at all levels;

**Monitor and review** the implementation of NBSAPs ..... And report to the COP through their 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> national reports .....

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## NBSAP Content – Guidelines (Dec IX/8)



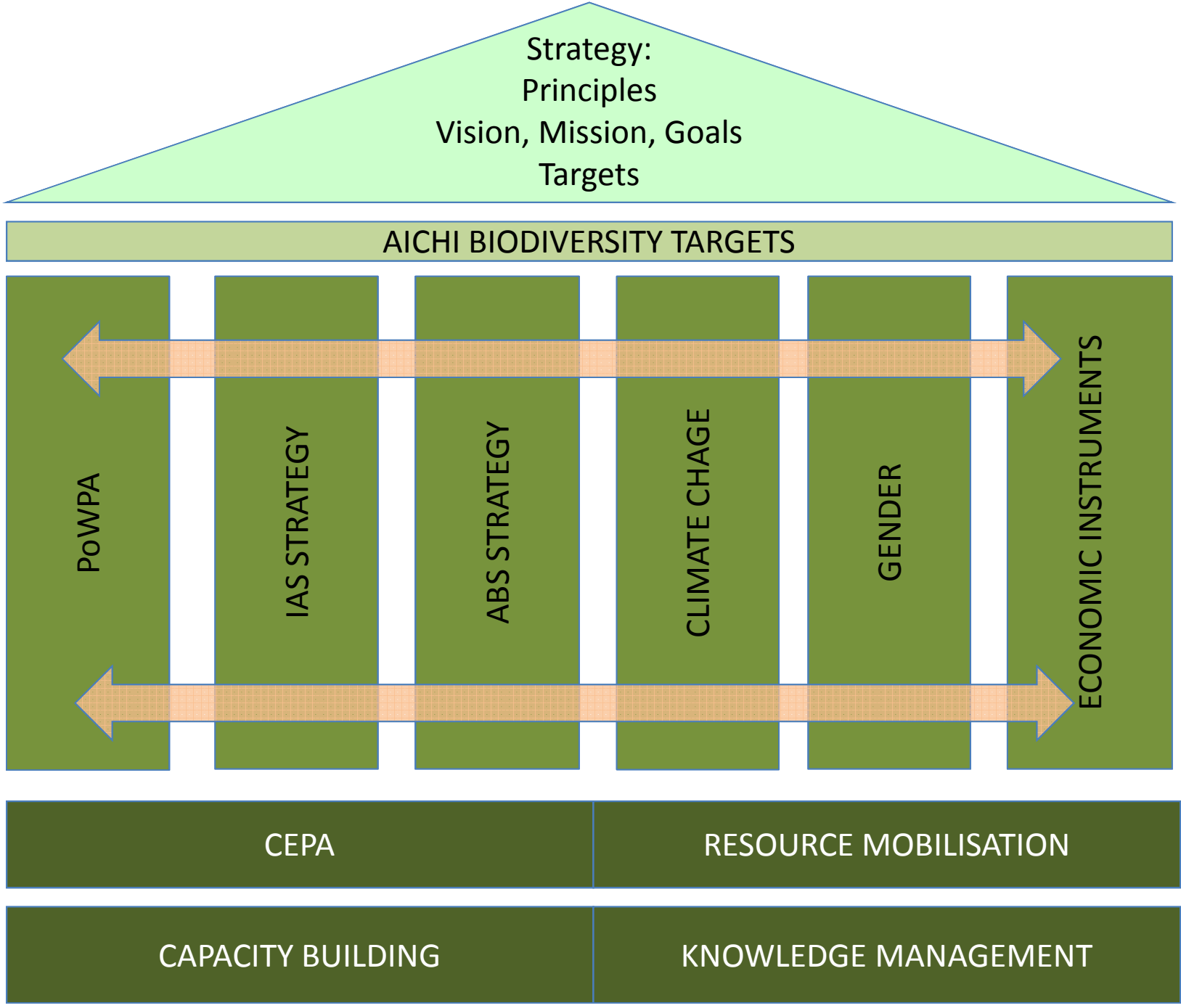
- a) NBSAPs are key implementation tools of the Convention. They must address **all three objectives** of the Convention:
- b) The NBSAP should highlight, and seek to maintain the **contribution** of biodiversity and ecosystem services **to human well being**.
- c) The NBSAP is a **strategic** instrument for achieving concrete outcomes, and not a study.
- d) To be effective the NBSAP should be jointly developed, adopted, and owned by the full range of **stakeholders** involved. It is also important that **high-level government support** be secured.
- e) The NBSAP should include measures to **mainstream** biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies and programs.
- f) **Biodiversity planning is a long-term, cyclical and adaptive process**. It will involve continual monitoring, evaluation, and revision, as progress is made, conditions evolve, and lessons are learned.

## NBSAP Content – Guidelines (Dec IX/8)



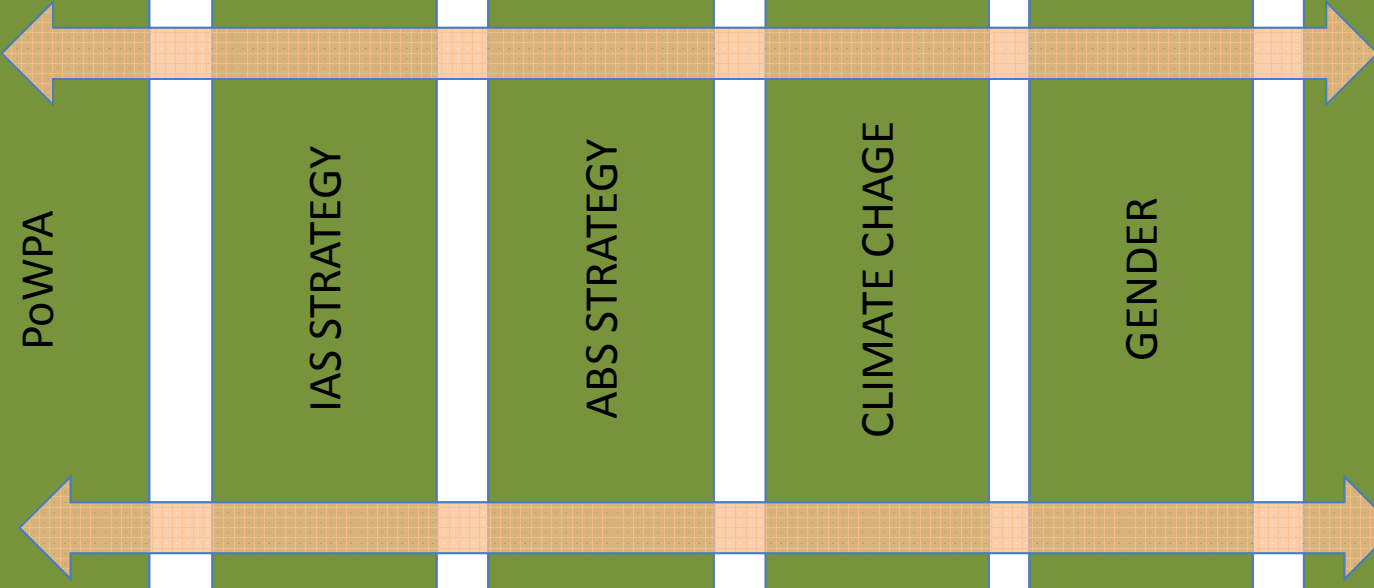
- 1) Rationale for the NBSAP (importance of biodiversity; identification of threats; national framework; lessons from previous experience)
- 2) Strategy, including priorities, principles and national targets
- 3) Action Plan, including application of strategy across sectors and at the local level
- 4) Plans for capacity building; communication and outreach and resource mobilization
- 5) Institutional mechanisms to support implementation, monitoring and review

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Strategy:  
Principles  
Vision, Mission, Goals  
Targets

AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS



PoWPA

IAS STRATEGY

ABS STRATEGY

CLIMATE CHAGE

GENDER

ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS

CEPA

RESOURCE MOBILISATION

CAPACITY BUILDING

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

# Who remembers the NEMS?

- early 1990s –National Environmental Management Strategies;
- many parallels with NBSAPs;
- broader scope, but in essence very similar; and
- most countries had completed NEMS and environmental law reviews by 1994.

# Old plans on dusty shelves

*“There is no escaping the fact that much hard work lies ahead of the central players if these NEMS are not to win the fate of many other planning documents gathering dust on some forgotten shelf.”*

Source: FSM Nationwide Environmental Management Strategy, 1993

# How can revised NBSAPs avoid this fate?

- General principles:
  - **Ownership, ownership, ownership;**
  - High-level political commitment;
  - Broad stakeholder engagement – NGOs as mediating institutions are very often a key to success;
  - Consistency and coherence – careful focus on highest priorities rather than a grab-bag of actions;
  - Integration with related plans and strategies such as National Sustainable Development Plans, National Adaptation Plans of Action, sectoral plans etc., either by cross-reference or **actual integration.**

# Examples of Specific Law and Policy

## Mechanisms

- Complete revision of core environmental policies and laws in direct response to NBSAP;
- Reference NBSAP within key legislation, e.g. objectives or preamble of key environment legislation;
- Require decision-makers to ensure decisions are consistent with the NBSAP when determining , e.g. EIA approvals, foreign investment permits, fishing licenses, forestry concessions, etc.;
- Provide appeal or review mechanisms for 3<sup>rd</sup> parties to hold government to account for those decisions;
- Negotiate donor funding to be country-driven and linked directly to NBSAPs implementation.

# Be bold – it's *your* NBSAP

“There is no ‘right or wrong’ way to produce an NBSAP, and no fixed criteria or ‘mandatory’ checklist that nations are required to follow. It is very much up to individual nation states what approach they feel best suits their needs and challenges.”

Source: COMSEC/SPREP Pacific  
NBSAP Review 2007







**Thank you for your attention!**

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**CBD**