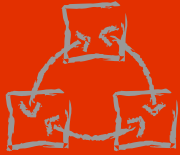# Developing Country Capacity for environmental management

- ## National Capacity Self-Assessment
  - To **assess** capacity needs for environmental issues relevant to MEAs
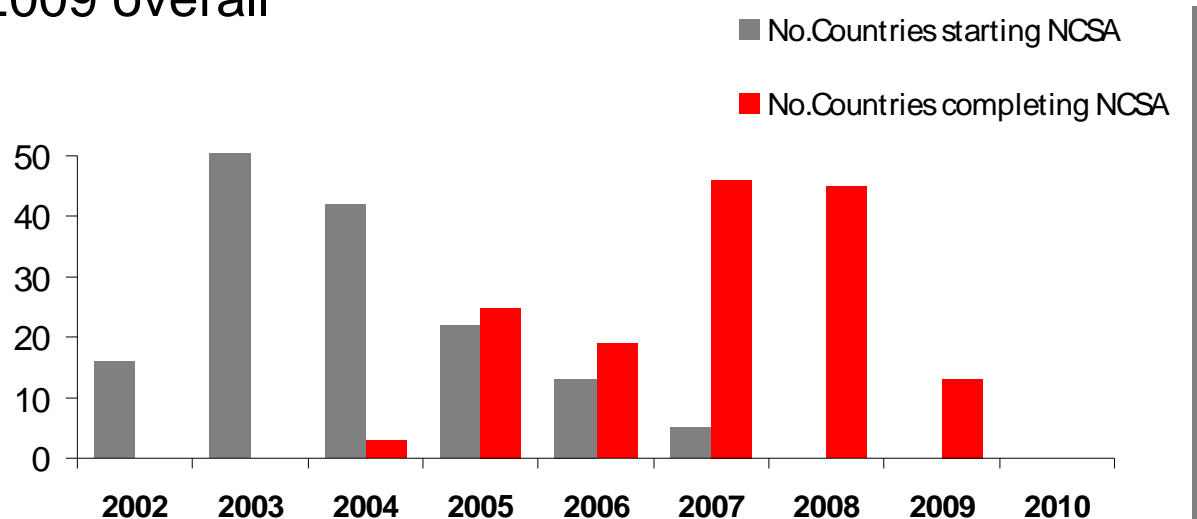 - To **plan** for a capacity development strategy for environmental management
- ## Emerging Lessons
  - Connect to other Enabling Activities
  - NBSAPs can benefit from NCSA in fast-tracking review, update, planning and strategizing
  - A capacity-focus supports mainstreaming of environmental strategies into national development planning
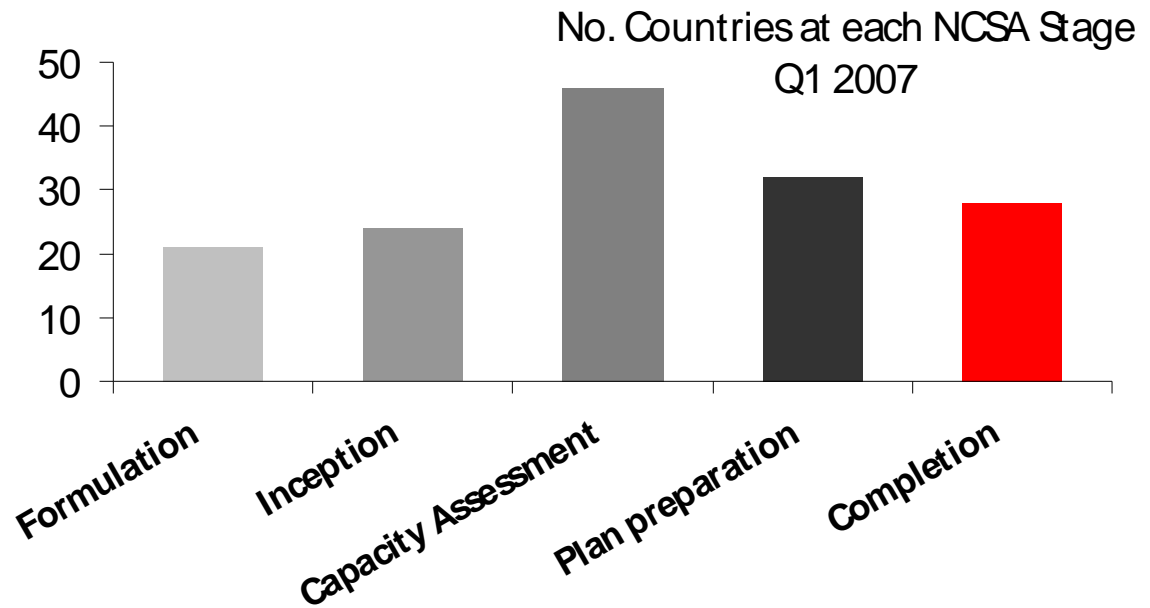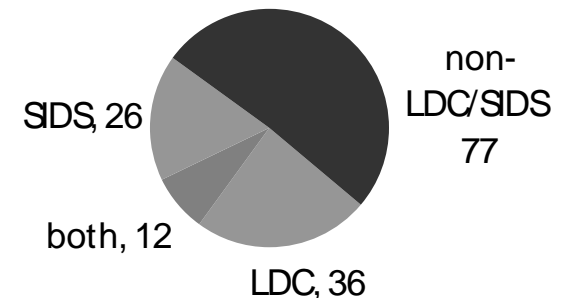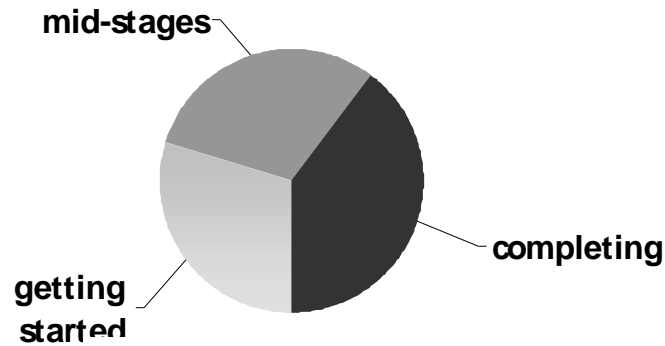
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NCSA - Programme implementation
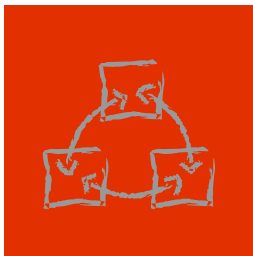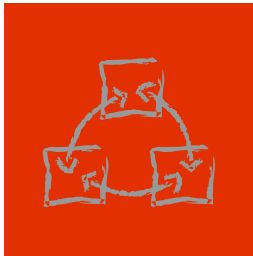
- **GEF Enabling Activity**
- **152 countries**
  - 116 UNDP + 35 UNEP (+1 WB)
- **Duration**
  - intended 12-18 months; actual 15-60 months;
  - median increasing from 24 to 36 months.
- **2002 – 2009 overall**

Legend:
- No.Countries starting NCSA
- No.Countries completing NCSA

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NCSA - Programme status - Q1 2007

mid-stages

getting started

completing

SIDS, 26

both, 12

LDC, 36

non-LDC/SIDS 77

No. Countries at each NCSA Stage Q1 2007

50				
40				
30				
20				
10				
0				

Formulation Inception Capacity Assessment Plan preparation Completion
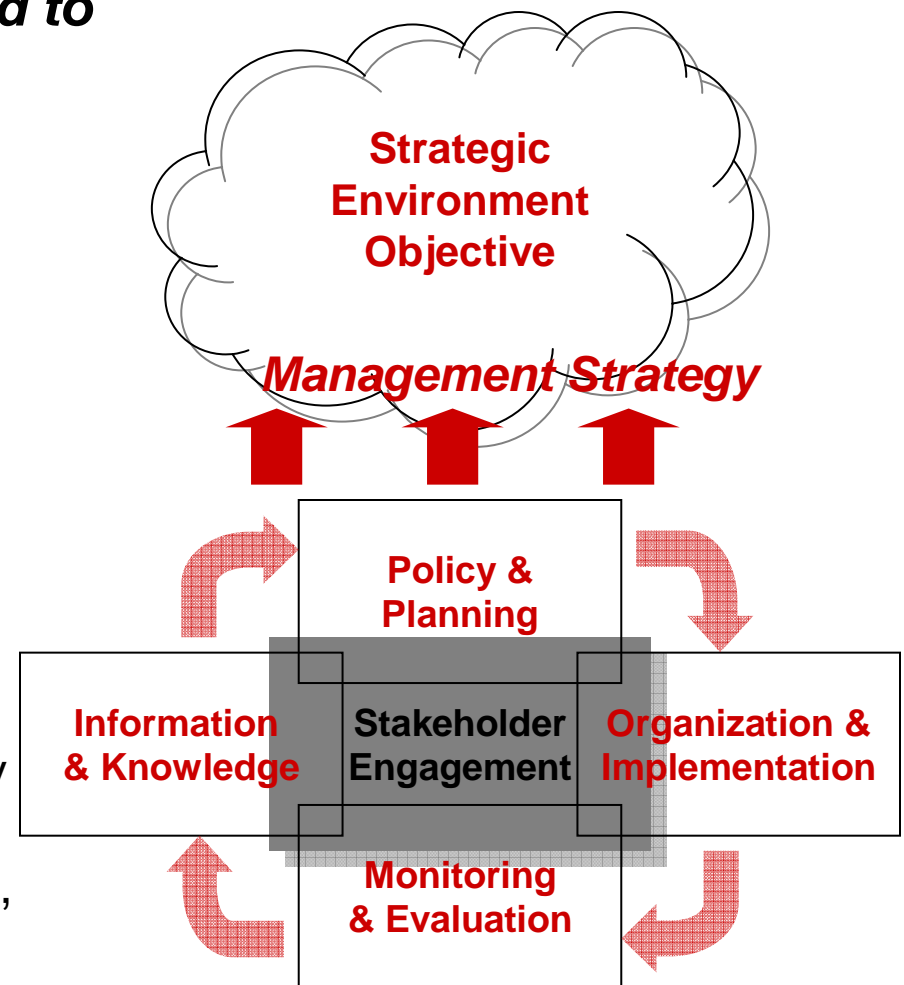
Synthesis - What Capacity needs?

A set of capacities needed to establish and uphold a management system…
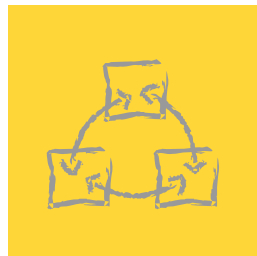*…to address priority environmental issues*
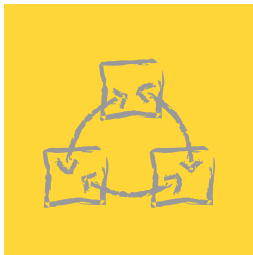
Five linked Capacity Sets:
1. for **stakeholders** to engage with one another
2. to access and use **information**, to diagnose and communicate
3. to **plan**, form strategy, design solutions, set policy
4. to organize and **implement** actions, to test, introduce and sustain solutions
5. to **monitor, evaluate**, learn and adapt.

Strategic Environment Objective

Management Strategy

Policy & Planning

Information & Knowledge

Stakeholder Engagement

Organization & Implementation

Monitoring & Evaluation

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Synthesis - What Capacity needs ?
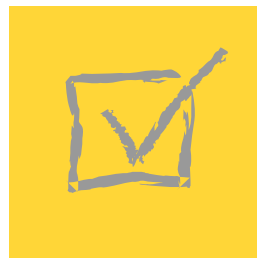
Stakeholder Engagement

Mandates; organization of lead agency; co-management arrangements; cooperation between stakeholders; partnerships

Information & Knowledge

Research, science; Information access & sharing; communications; awareness; traditional knowledge

Planning & Policy

Planning and strategy development; decision-making; regulatory frameworks

Organization & Implementation

Mobilization of resources; technical skills & technology transfer; execution of programmes and projects

Monitoring & Evaluation

Monitoring, evaluation, feedback & learning

Synthesis - Capacity for What ?

- Capacity development is not an end in itself but needs to serve a substantive environmental objective

BD examples from the NCSA action plans:

- biodiversity conservation
- sustainable use of BD
- endangered species
- invasive alien species
- de-forestation
- agro-biodiversity
- habitat damage
- bio-safety
- access & benefit sharing

Lessons - for NCSA/ EA implementation

- Agree on a clear, strategic purpose with key stakeholders

- "Institutionalize" the planning process
  - to create engagement & inter-agency coordination & ownership….

- Use Enabling Activities to actually enhance your capacities
  - E.g. in stakeholder engagement, information management, planning & policy development, project & process management, M&E

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Lessons - for an effective action plan

- Prepare a **plan** that will be **acted upon**
  - Structured as a broad framework with a hierarchy of objectives - a logical framework approach.
  - Specifying how and by whom its implementation, monitoring and continuation will be managed.
  - Aimed towards substantive environment & sustainable development objectives.
  - Connected to other national environment & development plans and strategies.
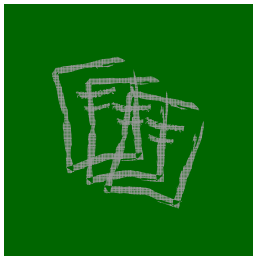
Lessons - for an effective Capacity action plan
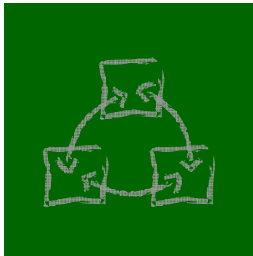
- Determine management and capacity development strategy for environmental priority issues (A. B. C.)

- Identify common CD needs across several strategies.

Management Strategies			
Objective: CD Action	Issue A.	Issue B.	Issue C.
1.			
2:			
3.			
4.			
5.			

CD Action 2.
Objective 2.
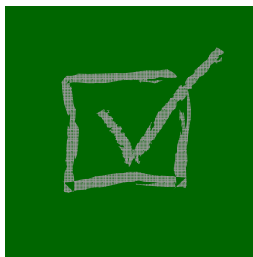Indicators
Outputs 2.1 – 2.4
Actions

CD Action 4.
Objective 4.
Indicators
Outputs 4.1 – 4.4

Management Strategy - Issue A.
Objective A.   Indicators
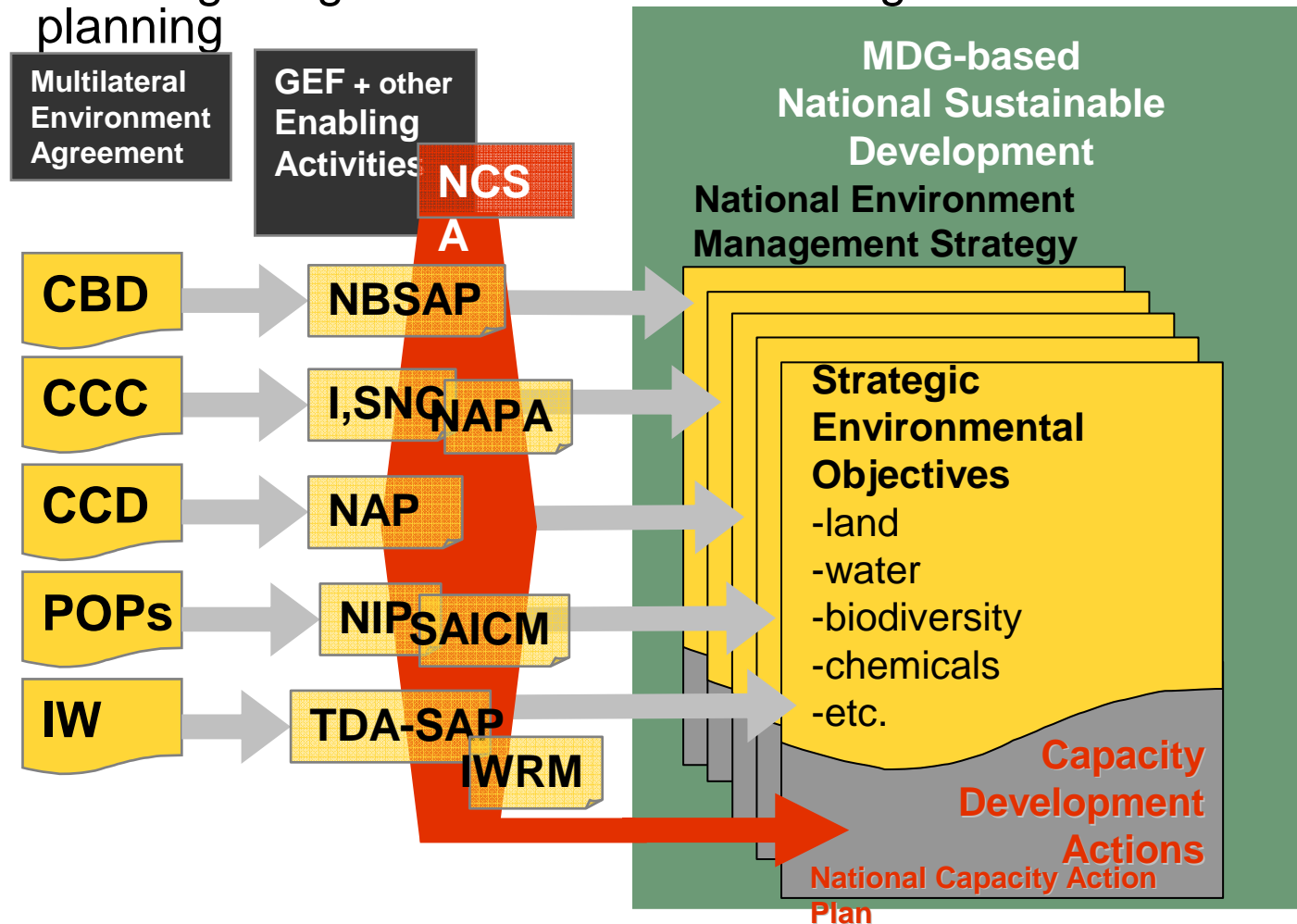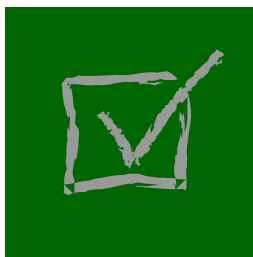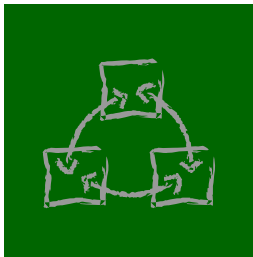Outputs A.1 – A.5
CD Actions A.1 – A.5

Management Strategy - Issue C.
Objective C.   Indicators
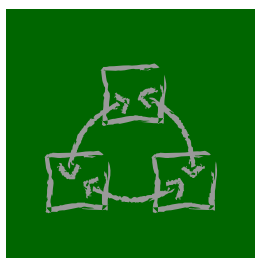Outputs C.1 – C.5
CD Actions C.1 – C.5

Lessons - connect with and build on other EAs

- 152 NCSA countries
- 1117 Enabling Activities to date; up to 11 per country
- enabling integrated environment management planning

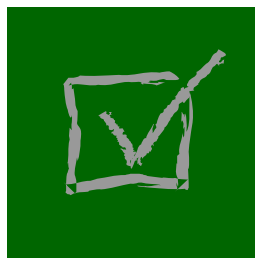# Lessons - using the NCSA/ EA to mainstream...

- **Develop capacity**
  - To strengthen integrated environment planning and programming across MEA focal areas.
  - To link environmental management and sustainable development.
- **Strengthen national capacities for environmental management**
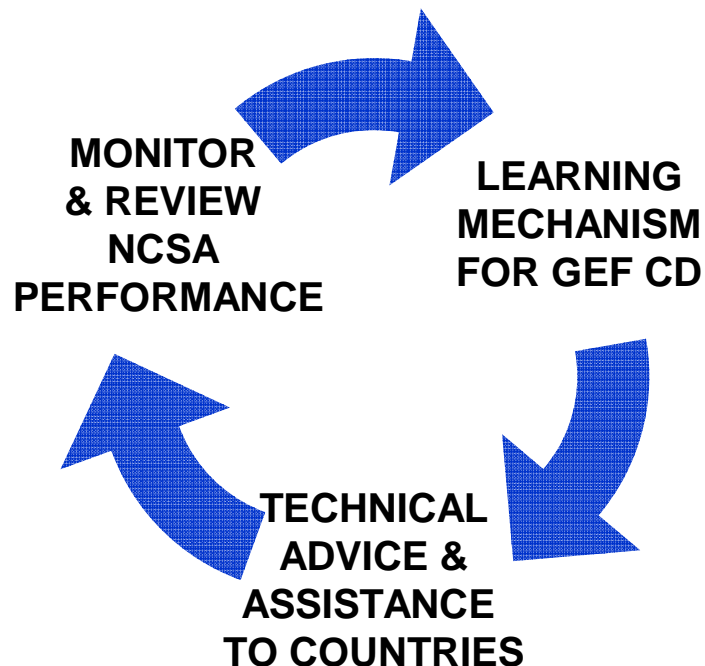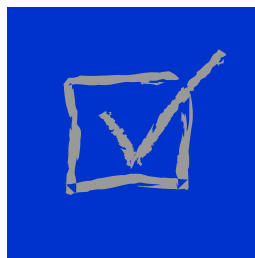 - To allow for issue-specific projects and programmes to gain a foothold.
  - To provide a more sustained contribution to national development and global environmental issues.

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Global Support Programme 2005 - 2008
NCSA & Capacity Development   Mid-term Q1 2007

MONITOR
& REVIEW
NCSA
PERFORMANCE

LEARNING
MECHANISM
FOR GEF CD

TECHNICAL
ADVICE &
ASSISTANCE
TO COUNTRIES

- Country capacity database
- NCSA network outreach
- network list-serves
- newsletter
- NCSA workshop series
- NCSA self-evaluation tool
- review & analysis of NCSA outputs
- reports – results, synthesis, lessons

Website:
http://ncsa.undp.org

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