

Strengthening Zimbabwe's GBIF Node Through Collaboration with GBIF Spain

CESP PROJECT. 5-6 MARCH 2020. BINDURA.
ZIMBABWE

DATA FOR DECISIONS



DATA FOR DECISIONS: CHALLENGES

Decision Makers need:

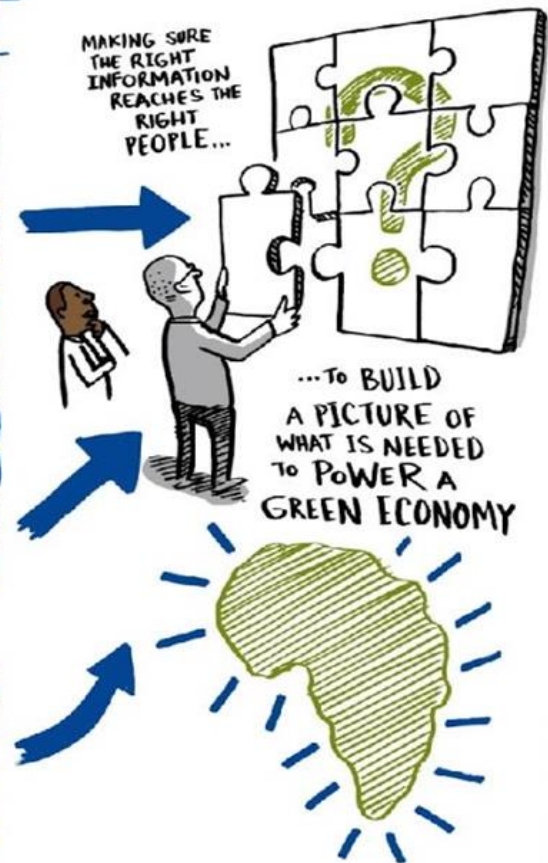
- Credible, legitimate and relevant information.
- Effective methods to interpret scientific information to make informed decisions

Scientific Community needs:

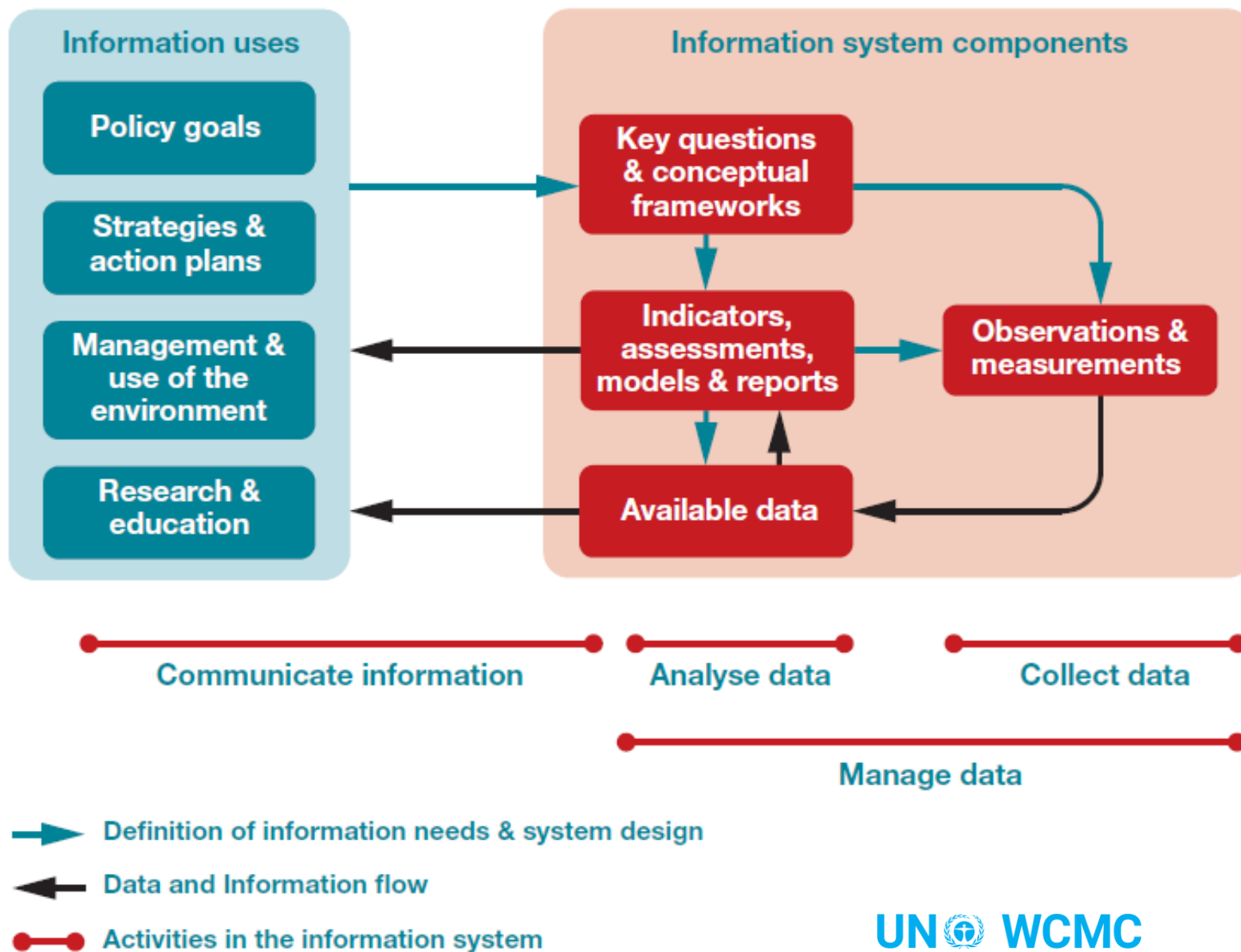
- To engage with decision makers, to provide useable information that meet their needs.



BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION IN DECISIONS



BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS



WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY MAINSTREAMING?

- Process of getting biodiversity concerns – potentials, needs and risks – fully reflected in development policies, plans and activities.
- Stakeholders: government, private sector, civil society organisations (CSOs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), politicians, the general public, communities, media and academia.

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

1. Problem assessment by stakeholders
2. Identify elements of biodiversity to be mainstreamed
3. Identify sectors and development goals into which biodiversity concerns are to be mainstreamed
4. Identify desired biodiversity and development outcomes
5. Shape a communication strategy
6. Identify and engage stakeholders who might support or undermine progress towards desired outcomes
7. Identify enabling factors for mainstreaming
8. Identify approaches to achieve dual biodiversity and development outcomes
9. Develop a business case that persuades the stakeholders who need convincing
10. Develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for biodiversity mainstreaming

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

1. Problem assessment by stakeholders

Problems could include:

- Unsustainable Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) harvesting
- Local hostility to protected areas
- Degradation of traditional subsistence crop varieties.

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

1. Problem assessment by stakeholders
- 2. Identify elements of biodiversity to be mainstreamed**

Depends on the problems identified which might concern particular species, populations, habitats, ecosystems and ecosystem services, and/or genetic diversity

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

3. Identify sectors and development goals into which biodiversity concerns are to be mainstreamed

**ENTRY
POINTS!**

Level	Planning/policy target
National	
National government	Poverty reduction strategy, national development plan, national vision
Development assistance agencies	UN Development Assistance Framework; Bilateral Country Assistance Strategies
Sectoral	
Sectoral ministries	Sector investment plans, sector strategies, policies and budgets
Private sector companies	Company-wide environmental and social reporting, certification schemes; management plans
Investment agencies	Investment standards and safeguards
Sub-national	
Local government	District development plans; decentralised sector policies
Private sector companies	Site/programme level corporate social responsibility reporting, certification schemes; site management plans

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

4. Identify desired biodiversity and development outcomes

Table 2: Upstream and downstream outcomes of biodiversity mainstreaming

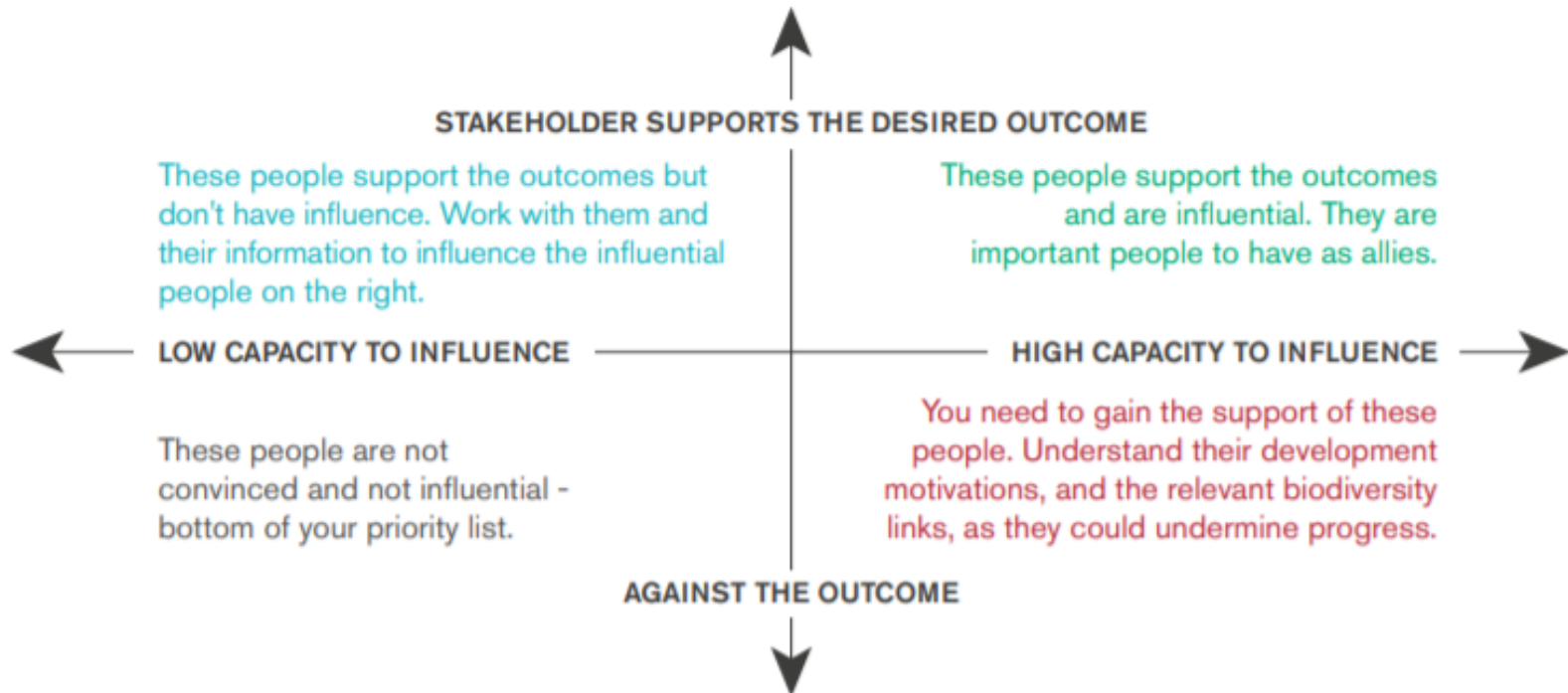
UPSTREAM	Governance outcomes	e.g.improved consideration of stakeholder's and rightholders' concerns (particularly those who are directly dependent on biodiversity)
	Policy and political outcomes	e.g. high-level sector, fiscal, development and social policies, constitutions and statements of national vision, include biodiversity considerations, and vice versa
	Plan outcomes	e.g.inclusion of biodiversity-poverty linkages in development and poverty reduction strategies and in biodiversity strategies
	Budget and accounting outcomes	e.g. evidence of public-private sector resource mobilisation, inclusion of development-biodiversity linkages in national public and sector budgets; inclusion of ecosystem services in national accounting systems
DOWNSTREAM	Institutional and capacity outcomes	e.g. strengthened capacity within biodiversity-related institutions to understand development and economic processes and interact in a constructive manner ; valuation of the economic importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the economic outcomes undertaken and used in decision making
	Investment and economic outcomes	e.g. improved domestic resource mobilisation for poverty-biodiversity investments or recognition of potential trade-offs in sector investments such as mining
	Behavioural outcomes	e.g. key patterns and processes of production, consumption and waste treatment in sectors and localities are informed by biodiversity and poverty considerations
	Pro-poor biodiversity management outcomes	e.g. pro-poor management of ecosystem services, such as medicinal, cosmetic or edible plants; healthcare, wild foods, soil fertility; traditional breeds and crop varieties; water purification; cultural or religious benefits from biodiversity realised
	Ultimate (biodiversity and developmental) impacts of these outcomes	e.g. improved productivity and sustainability of use of biodiversity assets on which the poor depend; protection and management of targeted species populations

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

1. Problem assessment by stakeholders
2. Identify elements of biodiversity to be mainstreamed
3. Identify sectors and development goals into which biodiversity concerns are to be mainstreamed
4. Identify desired biodiversity and development outcomes
- 5. Shape a communication strategy**

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

6. Identify and engage stakeholders who might support or undermine progress towards desired outcomes



Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

7. Identify enabling factors for mainstreaming

Existing enabling factors that need to be worked with might include:

- Political will and leadership
- Media and public perception and awareness of values
- Inter-sectoral coordination
- Lobbying by interest groups
- Transparent, accountable and inclusive governance
- Stakeholder participation,
- Availability of funding.

Absent factors should inform what you choose to do at step 8

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

6. Identify and engage stakeholders who might support or undermine progress towards desired outcomes
7. Identify enabling factors for mainstreaming
- 8. Identify approaches to achieve dual biodiversity and development outcomes**
9. Develop a business case that persuades the stakeholders who need convincing
10. Develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for biodiversity mainstreaming

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

6. Identify and engage stakeholders who might support or undermine progress towards desired outcomes
7. Identify enabling factors for mainstreaming
8. Identify approaches to achieve dual biodiversity and development outcomes
- 9. Develop a business case that persuades the stakeholders who need convincing**
10. Develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for biodiversity mainstreaming

Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

6. Identify and engage stakeholders who might support or undermine progress towards desired outcomes
7. Identify enabling factors for mainstreaming
8. Identify approaches to achieve dual biodiversity and development outcomes
9. Develop a business case that persuades the stakeholders who need convincing
- 10. Develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for biodiversity mainstreaming**

MAINSTREAMING

“The integration of biodiversity concerns into defined sectors and development goals, through a variety of approaches and mechanisms, so as to achieve sustainable biodiversity and development outcomes”

The NBSAP 2.0 Initiative works with eight countries to:

- Integrate **development priorities** into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
- Integrate **biodiversity priorities** into national and sectoral development plans



MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION INTO THE HEART OF GOVERNMENT DECISION MAKING

GLOBAL PROBLEMS

- Global environmental benefits are not being achieved
- National development potential is not maximised

NATIONAL PROBLEMS

- Decision making does not take sufficient account of biodiversity
- Biodiversity knowledge is not accessible to decision makers
- Biodiversity information has limited influence on policy

COMPONENT 1

DEMAND

Identify decision points or processes across government sectors where biodiversity information can be influential, and devise response strategies

COMPONENT 2

SUPPLY

Enable technical stakeholders to more effectively acquire, share and communicate relevant data for current and future information needs

COMPONENT 3

SUSTAIN

Embed/integrate necessary information into national development systems

NATIONAL OUTCOMES

- Decision making processes more explicitly account for biodiversity
- Biodiversity change is monitored and communicated more effectively
- Biodiversity information utilised to a greater extent within national-level policy processes, accounting systems and reporting

GLOBAL OUTCOMES

- Theory of change developed linking biodiversity information and mainstreaming
- Global investment into biodiversity mainstreaming optimised

← CONNECT →

THE PROBLEM

GLOBAL PROBLEMS

- Global environmental benefits are not being achieved
- National development potential is not maximised

NATIONAL PROBLEMS

- Decision making does not take sufficient account of biodiversity
- Biodiversity knowledge is not accessible to decision makers
- Biodiversity information has limited influence on policy



- Access
- Willingness
- Capacity
- Data

THE APPROACH



COMPONENT 1

DEMAND

Identify decision points or processes across government sectors where biodiversity information can be influential, and devise response strategies

COMPONENT 2

SUPPLY

Enable technical stakeholders to more effectively acquire, share and communicate relevant data for current and future information needs

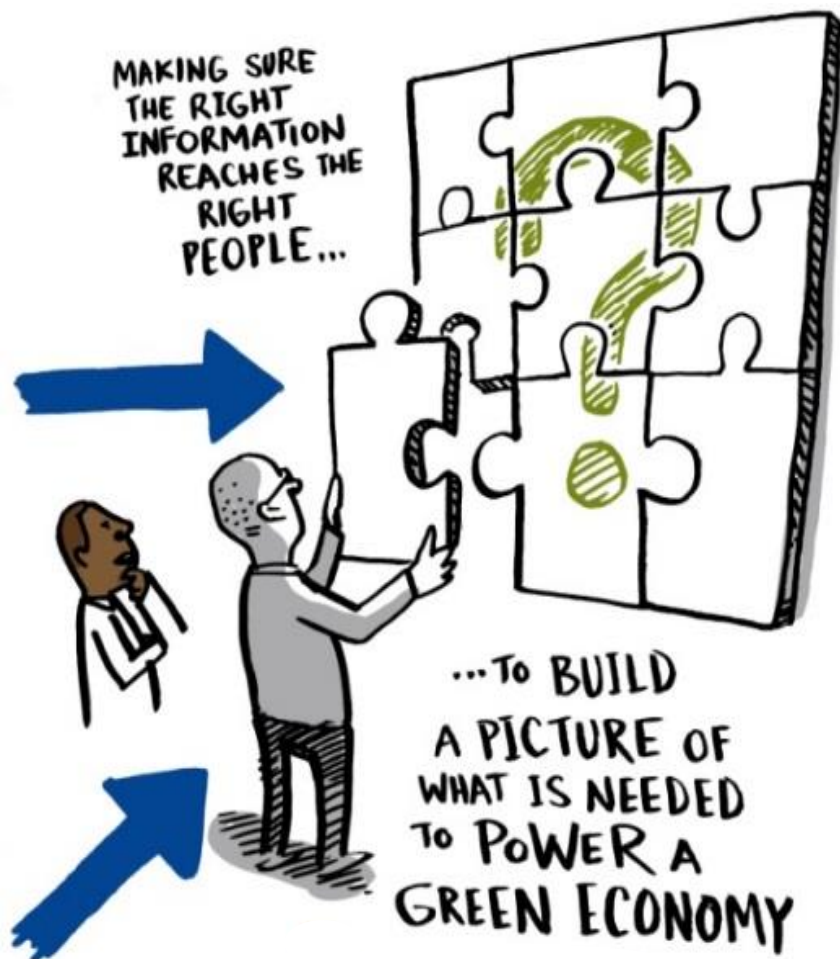
COMPONENT 3

SUSTAIN

Embed/integrate necessary information into national development systems

CONNECT

THE IMPACT



NATIONAL OUTCOMES

- Decision making processes more explicitly account for biodiversity
- Biodiversity change is monitored and communicated more effectively
- Biodiversity information utilised to a greater extent within national-level policy processes, accounting systems and reporting

GLOBAL OUTCOMES

- Proof of concepts developed linking biodiversity information and mainstreaming
- Global investment into biodiversity mainstreaming optimised

LESSONS LEARNED

Link biodiversity issues to high-priority national policy areas

Develop an action plan for mainstreaming. Long-term engagement for monitoring and reporting cycle is needed

Include Stakeholders from key economic sectors and development planning

Institutional arrangements e.g. inter-ministerial bodies, can vastly improve mainstreaming success

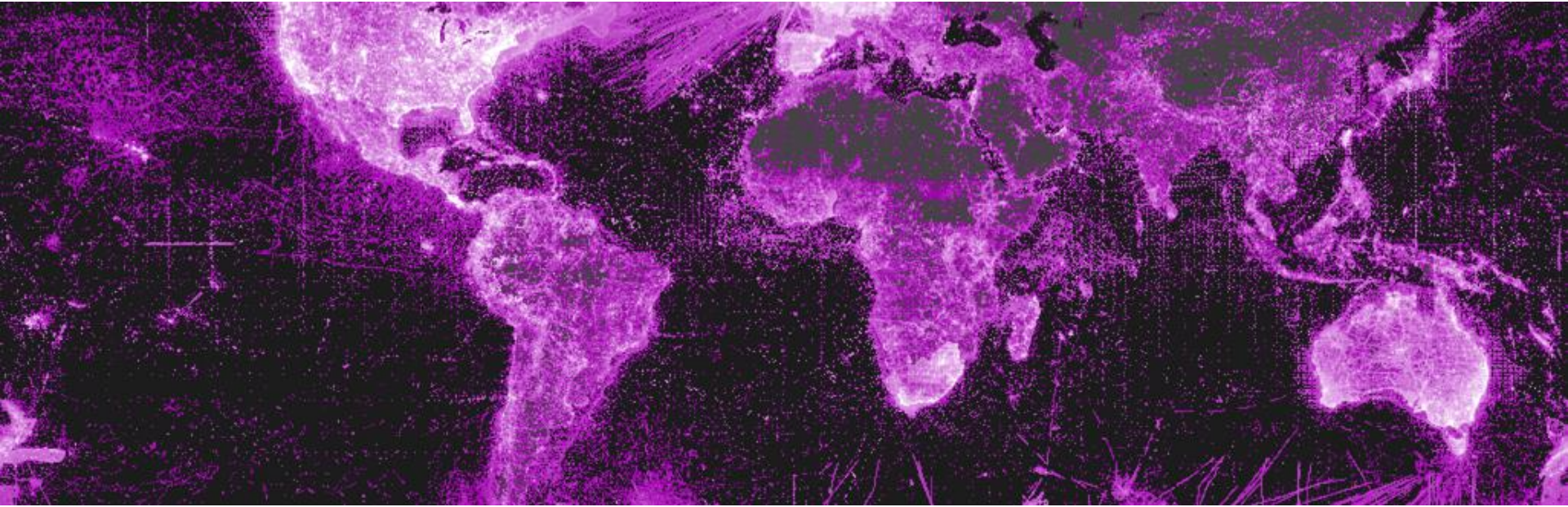
LESSONS LEARNED

Communicate, communicate, communicate

Continuously engage with decision-making processes and understand the political context

Assemble evidence

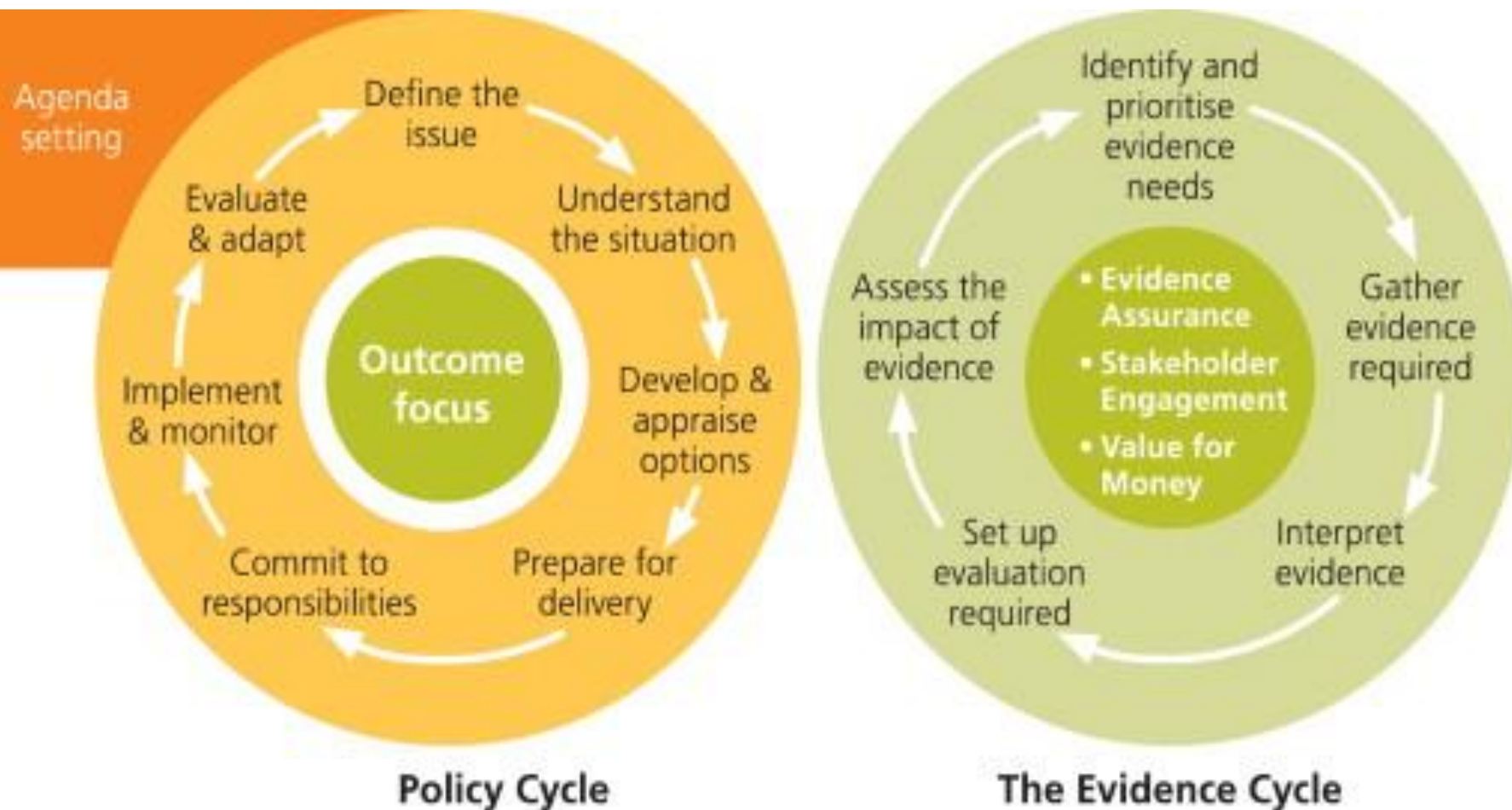
Use economic evidence to make a 'business case' for Biodiversity and justify budget allocations



Context and Policy Entry Points

Andrea Baquero

POLICY AND EVIDENCE CYCLES



MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION INTO THE HEART OF GOVERNMENT DECISION MAKING



COMPONENT 1

DEMAND

Identify decision points or processes across government sectors where biodiversity information can be influential, and devise response strategies

COMPONENT 2

SUPPLY

Enable technical stakeholders to more effectively acquire, share and communicate relevant data for current and future information needs

COMPONENT 3

SUSTAIN

Embed/integrate necessary information into national development systems

CONNECT

UNDERSTANDING DEMAND

- Assess the national situation / context
- Raise awareness and build partnerships
- Find suitable entry points for biodiversity information
- Develop an action plan



MAPPING CONTEXT FOR MAINSTREAMING

1. Development-Biodiversity links
2. Development policy and planning processes
3. Development implementation and finance
4. Stakeholders and their capacities
5. Development debate
6. Mainstreaming efforts to date

Exercise 9 - Identifying Policy Entry Points and Defining your Desired Outcome

1. Identify the **problem**
2. Identify elements of biodiversity to be mainstreamed
3. Identify **Policy Entry Points**
4. Identify desired biodiversity and development **outcomes**

Exercise 10

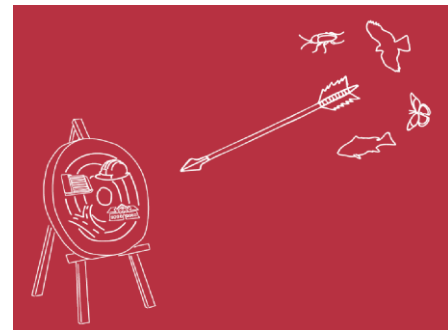
5. Shape a communication strategy
- 6. Identify and engage stakeholders** who might support or undermine progress towards desired outcomes
7. Identify enabling factors for mainstreaming
8. Identify approaches to achieve dual biodiversity and development outcomes
9. Develop a business case that persuades the stakeholders who need convincing
10. Develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for biodiversity mainstreaming

IDENTIFYING POLICY ENTRY POINTS

- **Identify the Entry Points.**
- Assess each Entry Point against the criteria.
- Agree a score (1-10) for each criteria.
- Select your priority Entry Point.



FOCUSING: TARGETING PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES OR ISSUES



1. High profile today
2. Future-relevant
3. Magnitude of likely outcomes
4. Tractable
5. Urgency
6. Learning and institution-building
7. Critical path



- **High profile today**
 - **Inspires or concerns many stakeholders e.g. jobs, poverty reduction**
- **Future-relevant**
 - **Will be more high-profile in future years e.g. resource shortages, SDGs**
- **Magnitude of likely outcomes**
 - **Affects prospects for many groups and many ecosystems e.g. farming**
- **Urgency**
 - **High threat of biodiversity and development problems if not tackled e.g. land conflicts**

GROUP EXERCISE: PRIORITISING ENTRY POINTS

- Identify the Entry Points.
- Assess each Entry Point against the criteria.
- Agree a score (1-10) for each criteria.
- Select your priority Entry Point.



Entry points and Stakeholders

Policy Entry Point	Primary Stakeholder	Prioritisation score 1-10 (10=high)				
		HP	FR	MG	UR	Total

AIMS OF STAKEHOLDER-DRIVEN DESIGN

- To increase mutual understanding and common ground
- To create collective commitment to an implementation partnership long after the biodiversity information product is complete
- To improve communication and engagement
- Agile development of the biodiversity information product

DESIGNING USER-RELEVANT PRODUCTS

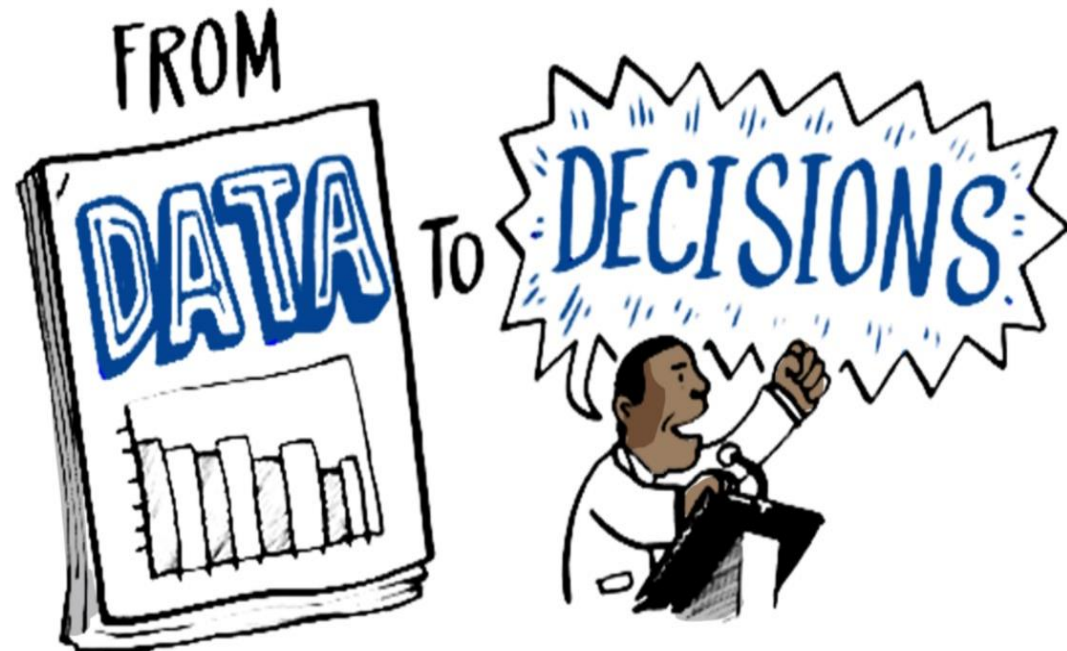
OUTPUTS MUST:

- Be explicitly linked to targeted policies
- Feed into day-to-day jobs and make it easier for users, not harder
- Where possible, biodiversity information products must be accompanied by recommendations and guidelines
- Include an iterative needs assessment

Take Five minutes to identify use case Stakeholders and select a primary stakeholder for each entry point

GROUP EXERCISE: MAINSTREAMING COMPONENTS

- The Problem
- The Approach
 - Demand
 - Supply
 - Sustain
- The Impact



The Approach

The proposed framework for this exercise is to first understand what the **demand** for biodiversity information is. This could be done at great expense, or on the back of an envelope, but the key is to try to appreciate the relevant context. Context analysis, also known as political economy analysis, is concerned with the interaction of political and economic processes in a society: the distribution of power and wealth between different groups and individuals, and the processes that create, sustain and transform these relationships over time (Collinson, 2003). So which policies are coming to an end of their cycle, who might be susceptible to your ideas, and where can biodiversity information be truly influential in a decision-making context? T

he **supply** part of the equation is what it says on the tin – what data exists and how can it be combined to generate information that can be easily digested by a non-technical audience? Does your target audience have any formal or informal rules about what data they can officially recognise and use in a decision-making context?

Finally, think about how to **sustain** what you have achieved. In some contexts a one-off intervention may have the desired effect, but if you are going to all the effort of developing constructive relationships with a catalogue of stakeholders, and you are developing an information product that addresses a specific agreed need, then finding a way to formalise the information flow adds value to everything you have done in perpetuity