



Energy and Environment Group
Bureau for Development Policy

UN
DP

National Sustainable Development Strategies



Arab State Regional Workshop on NSDS and indicators

Panel 1 UN PERSPECTIVE of
NSDS in the region

Linda Ghanime
www.UNDP.org/fssd/

Outline

1. Perspective on NSDS
2. Regional Challenges
3. Progress in Development and Implementation of NSDS
4. Good practice examples
5. The way forward



Energy and Environment Group
Bureau for Development Policy

U N
D P

Our Perspective on NSDS

Convergence of the social, economic and environmental agenda around the national development and budget process is the most effective route for human development



Our Perspective on NSDS

- Country – based and led umbrella strategy:
- a set of coordinated mechanisms and participatory processes;
- develop vision, long term goals, priorities and targets for lasting human development;
- review progress and effectiveness;
- in a continual learning system.
- Good governance underpins and is essential.

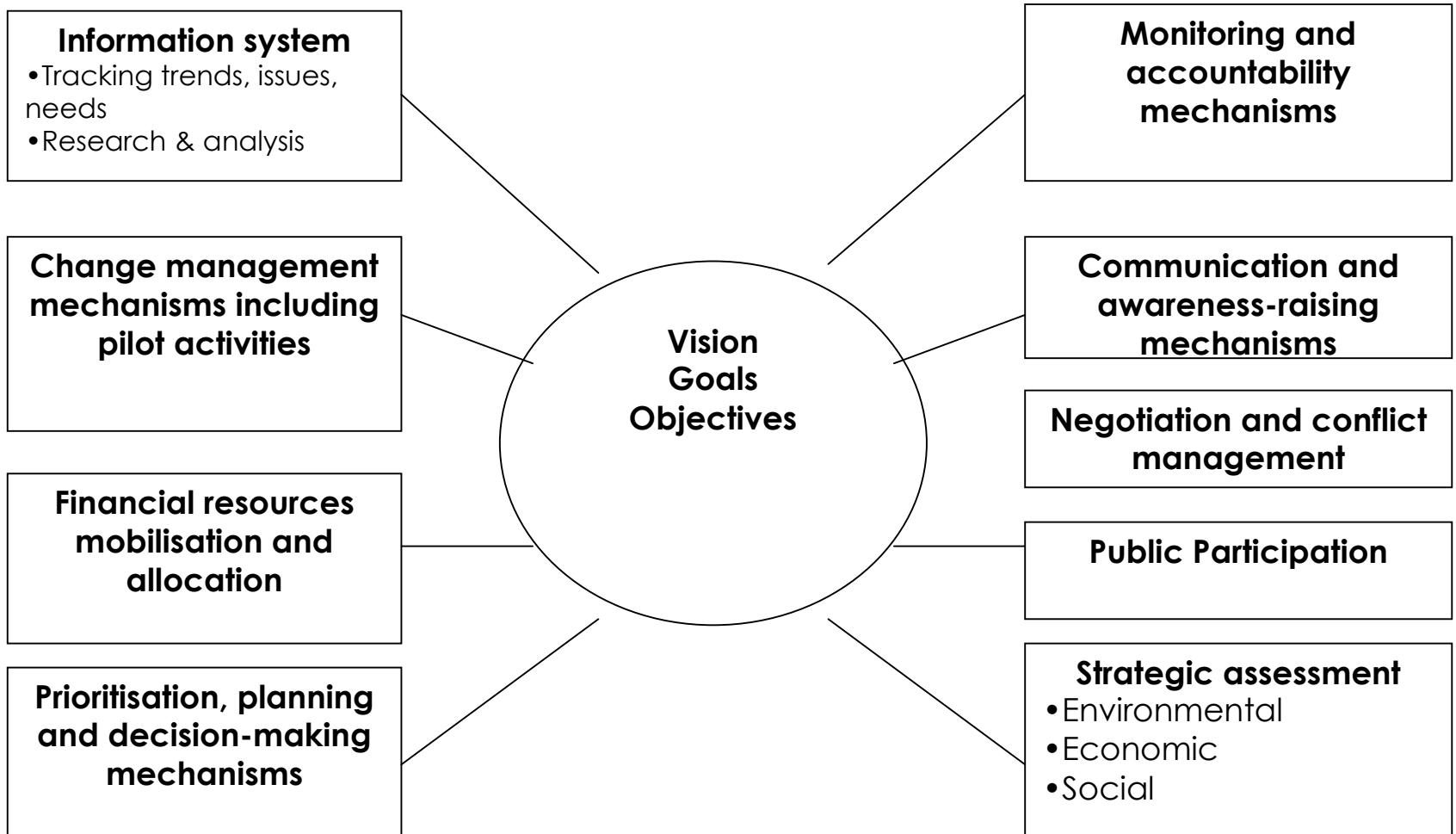
Changing approaches to strategies

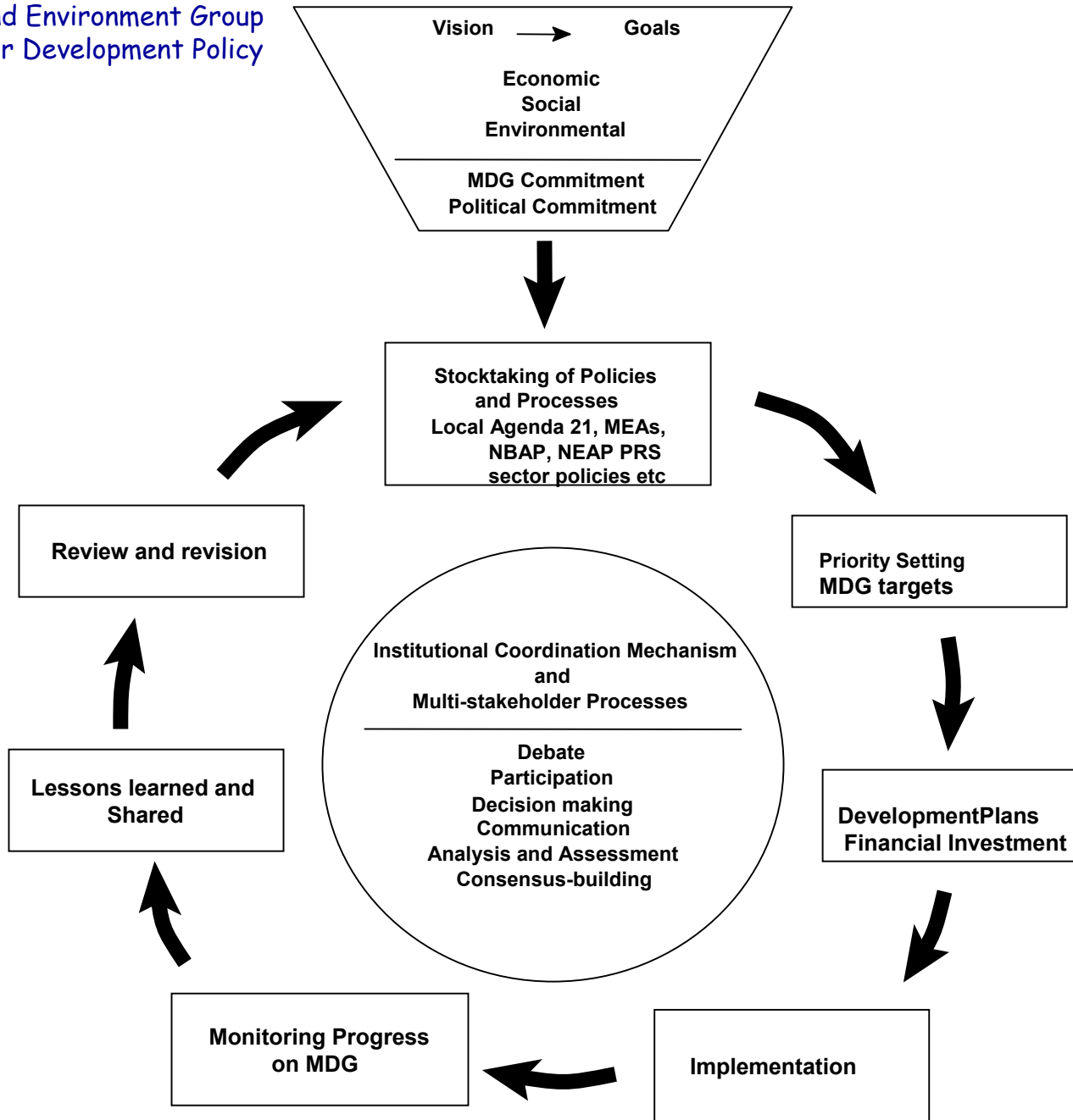
THINGS TO AVOID	THE OUTLOOK
Developing and implementing a single ' master plan ' for SD (that gets increasingly out of date)	Building a system of coordinated mechanisms & processes dealing systematically with SD priorities
Fixed ideas and solutions from outside	An adaptive, country-led and context-specific learning system
One-off planning initiative to produce a document	A continual improvement process
Management based on precedent or evidence only	Experimentation and managing uncertainty
State alone is responsible	Open form of governance with active engagement of CSOs and private sector
Narrow participation	Multi-stakeholder approach
Focus on outputs (projects, laws, etc.)	Focus on development outcomes for maximum positive impacts and the quality of participation and management processes
Sector-based research and planning	Integrated cross-sectoral research and planning through partnerships
Focus on costly 'projects' (and a consequent dependence on external assistance)	Focus on value for money, often leading to cost savings and domestically-driven and financed investment and development

Mechanisms Contributing to an NSDS

Institutional coordination

Multi-stakeholder Mechanisms





GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Target	Global Framework Indicators
<p>9 - Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</p>	<p>25 - Proportion of land area covered by forest 26 - Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity 27 - Energy use per unit of GDP 28 - Carbon dioxide emissions and consumption of ODCs</p>
<p>10 - Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.</p>	<p>30 - Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural 31 - Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation</p>
<p>11 - Have achieved, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.</p>	<p>32 - Proportion of households with access to secure tenure</p>

Progress on MDG 7

Country-led tailored systems to review set, measure and achieve measurable targets

- maintain key natural capital resources
- limit policies and actions which regress progress
- meet the countries commitments to global environmental agreements
- use the growing corpus of developing country experiences.

MDG is a Results-oriented framework

MDG-7 Reporting so far

- * Lack of appropriate data and limited capacities have prevented many countries from reporting effectively on issues of environmental sustainability (MDG 7)
[UNDP 2003 Evaluation report on MDGR](#)
- * Only a dozen countries so far have set measurable targets and selected indicators tailored to their own context.
[E&E BDP review of 70 reports](#) and [network discussions](#)
- * Only 12 of the 28 full PRSPs present some baseline and targets aligned with MDG7, with water and sanitation taking the bulk of the attention.

[World Bank assessment](#)

MDG7 monitoring challenges

- * Global MDG targets and indicators do not fully capture the Country level realities and priorities
- * Weak understanding of interrelationship between global, regional, national, sub-national and local
- * Difficulties in establishing national benchmarks or standards
- * Lack of visibility and explicit integration of environment in national policy, planning and budgetary frameworks
- * Weak coordination of monitoring efforts across sectors, line ministries and UNDP practices;
- * Data gaps for many indicators due to unreliable systems of data collection and quality assurance
- * Insufficient resources

Moving forward on MDGs

- * **Translating goals into national targets**
- * **Facilitating implementation of SSD with realistic and measurable national targets**
- * **Improved accessibility of information to indicators and data banks**
- * **Reliable system of baseline, data collection and accessibility**
- * **Capacity building on data management and reporting**
- * **Standard definitions on criteria and indicators**
- * **Sharing of methodologies and experiences**
- * **Adequate policy environment at the national level**
- * **Investment in the environment sector**
- * **Political Commitment**



Sustainable Development Challenges for the Region

- Diversity of ecological systems
- Water stressed region by geography exacerbated by pollution and water use patterns;
- Shortage of arable land with land degradation, desertification and competing land uses
- Environmental management mainly limited to command and control instruments; weak water demand management and economic incentives for equitable use
- Limited implementation success & weak integration of environmental sustainability into policy and practice
- Regional Challenges: inequalities, political instability and conflict, environmental deterioration, population growth, and disease, and of integrating environmental sustainability into development policy and practice.



Indicators of progress

- Despite environmental problems, only five states have adopted environmental protection strategies
- Protected areas to maintain biodiversity is less than 5% in most countries
- Mixed results in Energy efficiency.
- Green house gas emissions increasing
- Reduction in Ozone Depleting Substances in most countries
- 6% increase from 1990-2002 in total improved drinking water coverage - 95% urban, 74% rural
- Decrease in improved sanitation coverage – from 1990-2002, 96 to 95% urban, 52-49% rural



Emerging country-specific target-setting in MDG Framework

- Bahrain – “fully utilise recycled wastewater of the expected effluent of 200,000 m³/day by 2010.
- Egypt – “increase the proportion of areas covered by natural protectorates by 25% by 2015”
- Lebanon – “90% of homes to have sustainable access to water by 2015”
- Syria – “increase the use of renewable sources of energy in gross production of electricity from 29% in 1999 to 33.6% in 2015”
- Tunisia – “Increase proportion of land covered by forest by 115,000 hectares from 2002-2006”



Promising regional strategies for environmental protection

1. Prioritizing work on rigorous scientific basis
2. Halting Causes of environmental Degradation
3. Bolstering Arab ability to use tools of modern environmental economics and market mechanisms
4. Adopting strategy for cleaner production using less energy, natural resource in consumption and production
5. Increasing public participation in environmental-protection action plans
6. Working on both short and long-term time frames



Good Practice example: Jordan

- Adoption of environmental strategies and plans (ie. National Capacity 21, National Environmental Strategy and Action Plan)
- 14 new projects that link poverty to environment, SGP \$470,000
- Ratification of most international environmental agreements
- Shown improvements of MDG7 Targets from 1990 to 2002
 - forest cover – .44% to .84%
 - land for biodiversity - .14% to .44%
 - ODS – reduced from 835 to 251 tons
 - access to water source – 92.8% to 97%
 - access to improved sanitation – 48% to 60.1%
 - access to secure tenure – 72% to 76.2%
- Increased environmental awareness and participation of CSOs
- Engagement of international organizations
- Global and regional financial support and active involvement of media
- Integration of environmental concerns in educational curricula
- Promotion of eco-tourism
- Preparation of environmental programs within peace process framework



Morocco Example

- National Action Plan for Environment, June 2003
- Westlands protection laws endorsed and special unit for coastland management
- Sustainable & renewable energy services: Morocco-Market Development for the production of Solar Water Heaters
- Partnership conventions with academic institutions, local municipalities and associations signed
- Regional Agenda 21 Programme covering 16 small cities launched
- Capacities of NGOs and CBOS enhanced for managing climate change and biodiversity
- New partnership agreement with National Forestry school for research and training activities
- UNDP/UNEP Programme on Clean Development Mechanism (CDM): sustainable development criteria developed



Yemen Example

National policy, legal and regulatory frameworks

- NEAP incorporated into national capacity building programme, and increased commitment to implementation of international conventions
- Mainstreaming of environment into poverty alleviation and governance programmes.
- Support provided to the creation of a Water Ministry
- Background studies conducted for preparation of Water Management Plans for Sada and Turban/Abyan completed. Brackish water study conducted for Taiz. System for licensing of wells designed for four areas
- Global Compact Initiative - model approach to rural water supply and sanitation developed with the private sector

Institutional frameworks

- Management plans for protected areas in Socotra in place and managed by local NGOs
- Governance aspects address by programme as cross-linkage with ongoing governance programme
- Socotra Conservation Fund established and operational
- EPA's role in EIA of major development projects strengthened with creation of a local planning and impact assessment working group



Future Outlook

- Focus on Implementation and refining development outcomes for improved Human Development
- Emerging regional strategy
- Upcoming 2005 MDG review MDG 7: opportunity for reaffirming national priorities and targets, reconciliation of global commitments and local actions into national policy agenda