Strategic planning for improving environment statistics

ESCAP Diagnostic Tool and Inventory Template

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Readiness for environment statistics

- Environment statistics are relatively new to many countries
  - NSO **not traditionally taking a role**
    - Largely collected by other government agencies
  - Many '**inventories**', little '**statistics**'
- They are also interdepartmental & interdisciplinary
  - Establish **partnerships** and focus on **priorities**
  - Link **supply with demand**
    - Want statistics to be **used**
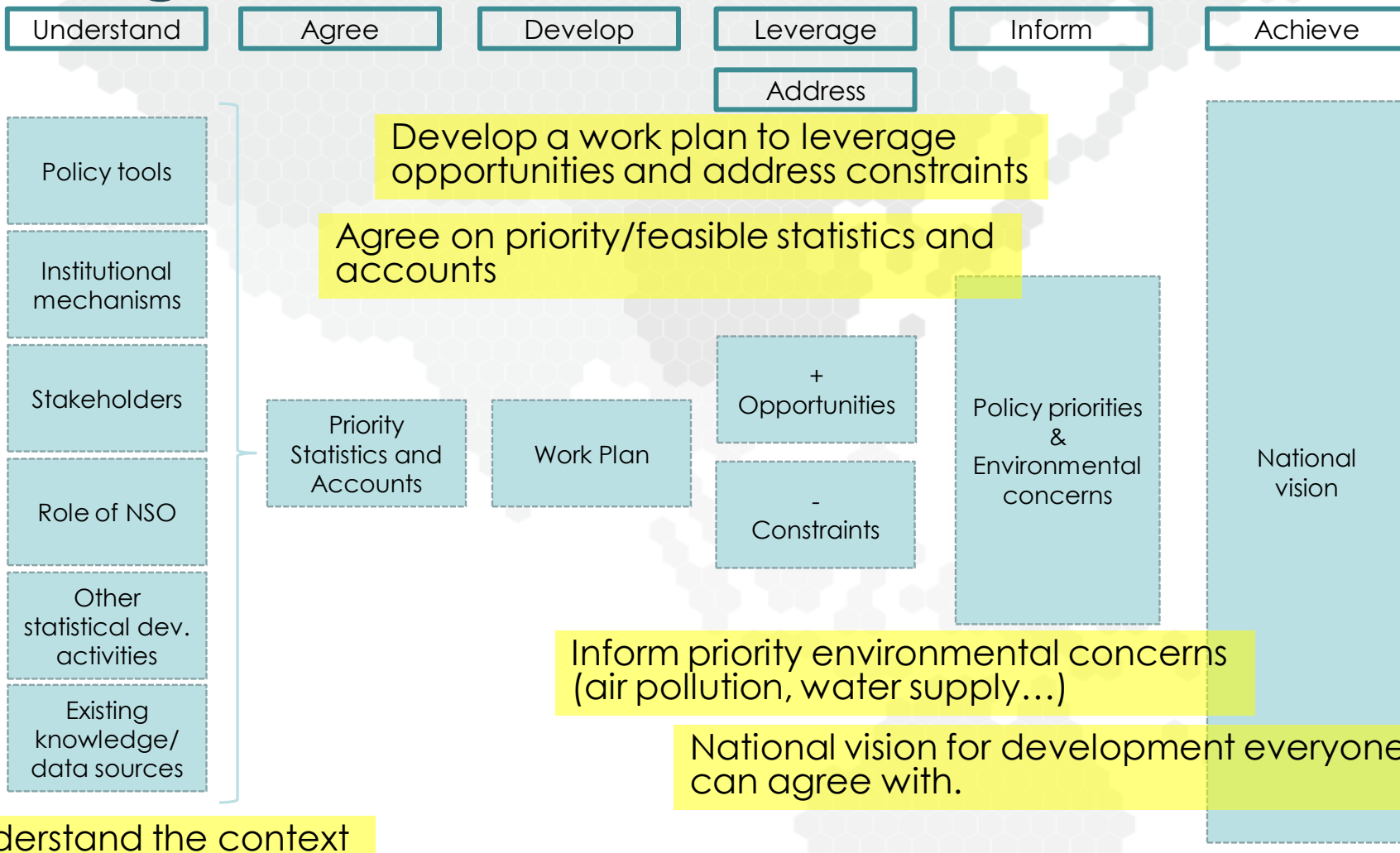
The tools

- Diagnostic Tool
  - Focuses on strategic planning for implementing environment statistics
  - Guides structured conversations among stakeholders
  - Identifies policy priorities, foundational information, stakeholders and institutional mechanisms
    - Necessary to develop a national work plan for improving environment statistics

- Inventory Template
  - Systematically describes statistical activities*
    - Documenting their contents, concepts, methods and means of access in a statistical "supply chain"
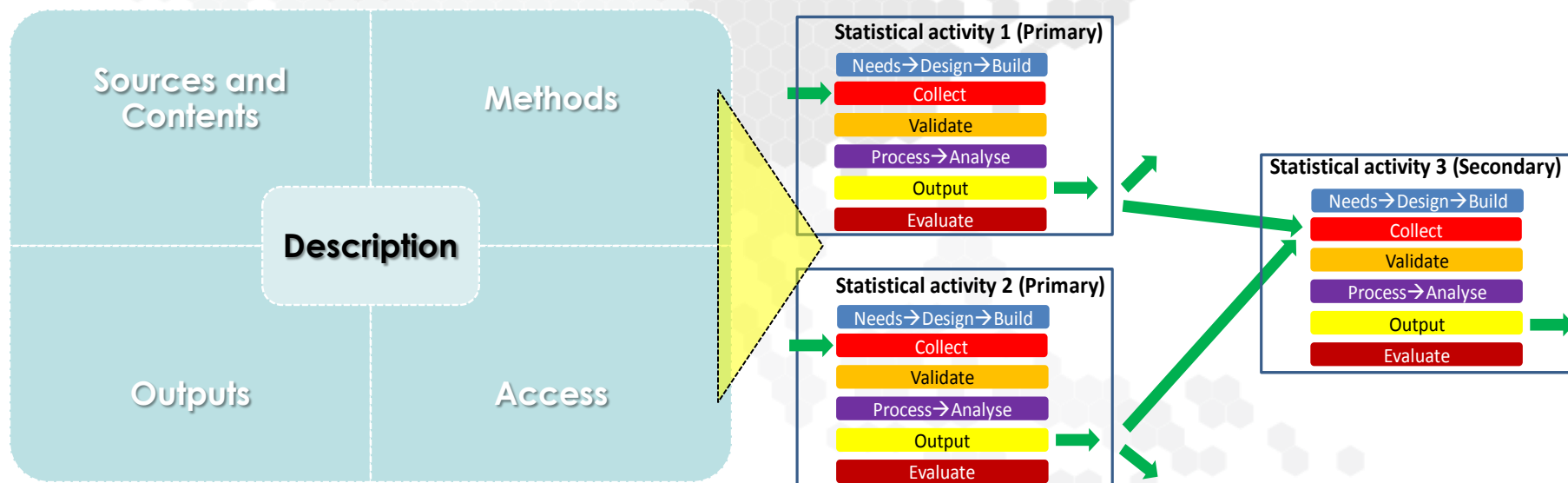
* A statistical activity is an original data collection or significant analytical activity (e.g., compilation, modelling and accounting) that collects or transforms environment data.

Diagnostic Tool

Understand	Agree	Develop	Leverage	Inform	Achieve

Address

Develop a work plan to leverage opportunities and address constraints

Agree on priority/feasible statistics and accounts

- Policy tools
- Institutional mechanisms
- Stakeholders
- Role of NSO
- Other statistical dev. activities
- Existing knowledge/ data sources

Priority Statistics and Accounts

Work Plan

+ Opportunities

- Constraints

Policy priorities & Environmental concerns

National vision

Inform priority environmental concerns (air pollution, water supply…)

National vision for development everyone can agree with.

Understand the context
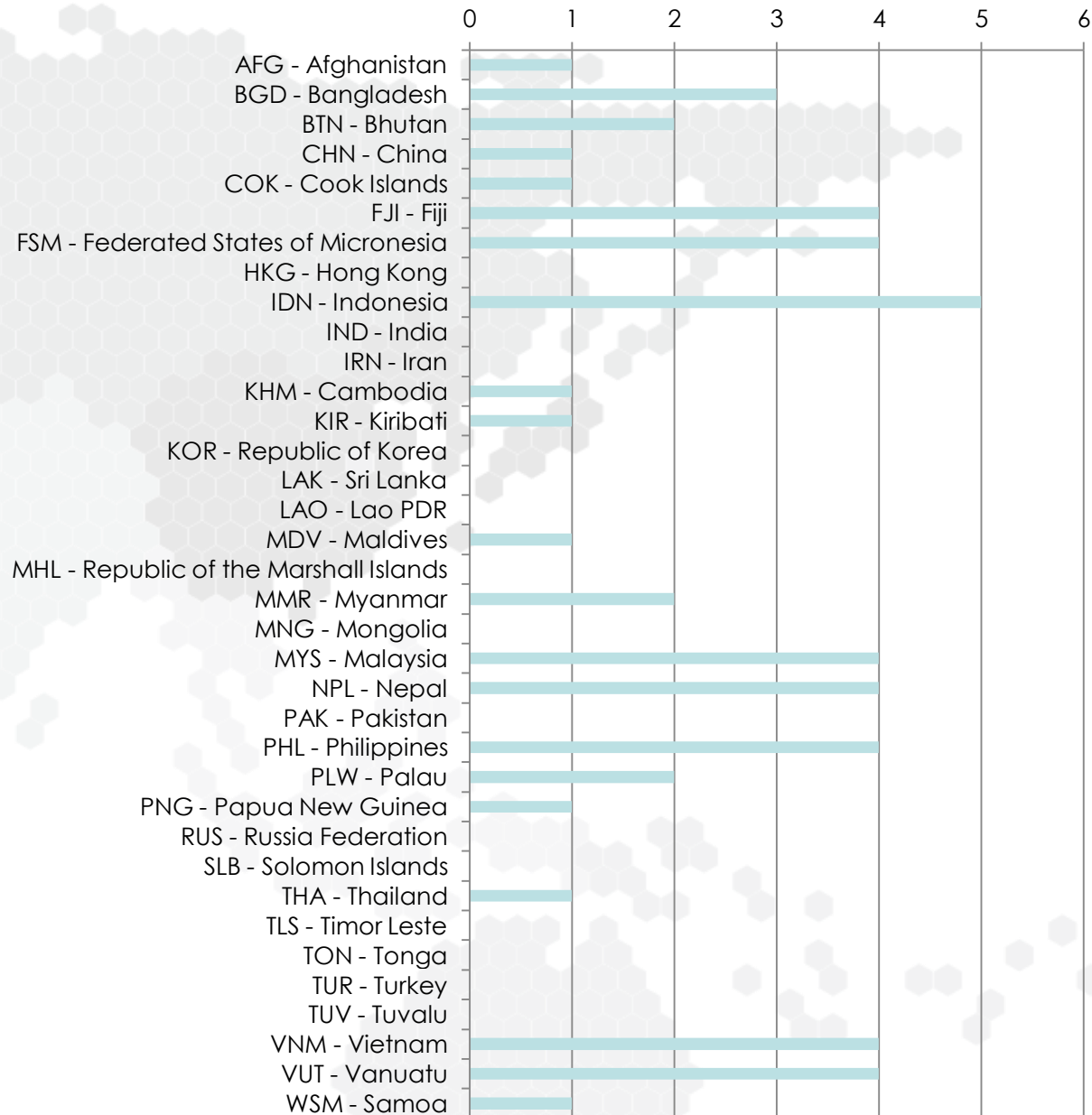
Inventory Template

Statistical activities' supply chain

Progress

Countries with completed self-assessments

Stage
1. Institutional mechanism
2. Completed assessment
3. Work plan
4. Piloted accounts
5. Completed accounts
6. Used in planning

Bar chart showing progress by country:

Country	Value
AFG - Afghanistan	1
BGD - Bangladesh	3
BTN - Bhutan	2
CHN - China	1
COK - Cook Islands	1
FJI - Fiji	4
FSM - Federated States of Micronesia	4
HKG - Hong Kong	0
IDN - Indonesia	5
IND - India	0
IRN - Iran	0
KHM - Cambodia	1
KIR - Kiribati	1
KOR - Republic of Korea	0
LAK - Sri Lanka	0
LAO - Lao PDR	0
MDV - Maldives	1
MHL - Republic of the Marshall Islands	0
MMR - Myanmar	2
MNG - Mongolia	0
MYS - Malaysia	4
NPL - Nepal	4
PAK - Pakistan	0
PHL - Philippines	4
PLW - Palau	2
PNG - Papua New Guinea	1
RUS - Russia Federation	0
SLB - Solomon Islands	0
THA - Thailand	1
TLS - Timor Leste	0
TON - Tonga	0
TUR - Turkey	0
TUV - Tuvalu	0
VNM - Vietnam	4
VUT - Vanuatu	4
WSM - Samoa	1

Preliminary summary

- Most commonly planned & **piloted** accounts and statistics:
  - Water (AFG, BGD, BTN, KHM, **FJI**, IND, IRN, LAO, **MYS**, MDV, NPL, PAK, PLW, **WSM**, LAK, THA, VUT, **VNM**)
  - Land/Forest (AFG, BGD, IND, **IDN**, IRN, LAO, MDV, **MMR**, **NPL**, PAK, **PHL**, LAK, **VUT**, **VNM**)
  - Energy (AFG, BTN, KHM, **FJI**, **FSM**, IND, IDN, LAO, MNG, **MYS**, MDV, NPL, PAK, PLW, **PHL**, LAK)
  - Waste (BGD, KHM, **FJI**, PLW, THA, TUR)
  - FDES (**BDG**, BTN, CHN, **IDN**, IND, MMR, **MNG**, **MYS**, **NPL**, **PAK**, **PHL**, LAK, THA, VNM)

- Most common constraints
  - Institutional: data sharing & collaboration
  - Capacity: knowledge across NSS, too few people, no GIS in NSO

Integration and parts

*"Both the science of **parts** and the science of the* **integration** *of parts are essential for understanding and action.*

Those more comfortable in exercising only one of these have the responsibility to **understand** *the other.*

Otherwise the science of parts can fall into the trap of providing **precise answers to the wrong question** *and*

the science of the integration of parts into providing **useless answers to the right question**.*"

(CS Holling, 1998, Two cultures of ecology)

Thank you