

NEA

NATIONAL  
ECOSYSTEM  
ASSESSMENT  
**INITIATIVE**



# Use of NEA findings



Supporting the integration of NEAs  
in decision-making & policy processes

IMAGINE



WORST CASE SCENARIO

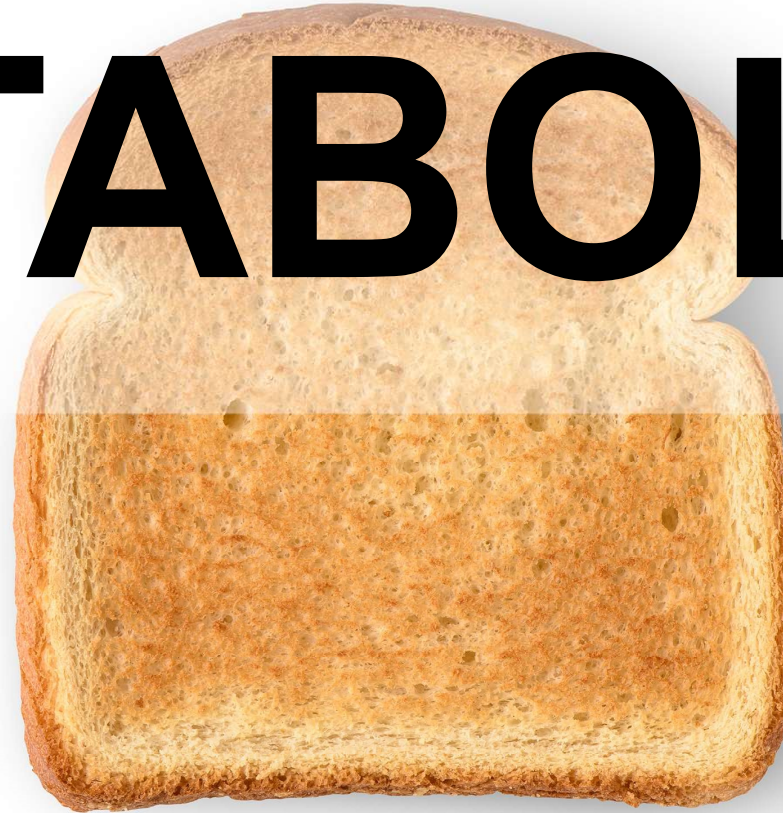
FADE OUT

**BEST CASE SCENARIO**

**UTOPIA**

**MIXED SCENARIO**

**METABOLISM**



# IMAGINE

# Policy Entry Points

Windows of Opportunity to Support Decision-making



# Using NEA findings in Policy

*NEA findings should be useful for decision-making & policy processes*

This is why the NEA process aims to:

- Develop & answer ‘policy questions’
- Maintain policy relevance
- Evaluate knowledge, identify priorities
- Disseminate Summary for Policymakers (SPM)
- Strengthen science-policy interface

# Outline

## Policy Entry Points & NEAs

1. NEAs & 'mainstreaming': inclusion in policy
2. What are policy entry points?
3. Different types of policy entry points
4. What outcome/change do you want to achieve through each policy entry point?

## Use of NEAs in policy

# What is 'mainstreaming'?

“Mainstreaming is the process of **embedding biodiversity & ecosystem services** considerations into **policies, strategies,** and **practices** of key actors that **impact** or rely on biodiversity, so that it is **conserved & sustainably used...**”

*Global Environmental Facility, 2016*

Mainstreaming NEA findings is **including its knowledge** in the **policies,** plans and activities of **key sectors** and processes that impact or rely on nature...

## Use of NEAs in policy

# Levels of integration in policy

### 1. Conceptual

Written policies & plans account for biodiversity. Documents underpinning national and sectoral policies/plans explicitly or implicitly take biodiversity into account & recognise biodiversity as underpinning elements of human wellbeing

### 2. Operational

Measures or instruments are identified and in place for biodiversity mainstreaming within national or sector policies

### 3. Implementation

Measures or instruments to achieve biodiversity mainstreaming are implemented on the ground in actual policy-and decision-making situations (e.g. funding, monitor their effectiveness and adopt changes if needed).

How can your findings support biodiversity integration at each level?

## Use of NEAs in policy

# Means to support policy processes

### 1. Information instruments

- Data, science-policy assessments + evaluations of knowledge (including ILK)
- Biodiversity indicators, monitoring
- Mapping, accounting, valuations

### 2. Decision-support instruments

- Planning and targeting (e.g. river basin and flood risk management plans)
- Reporting;
- Impact assessments, risk assessment and analysis;

### 3. Implementation instruments

- Dedicated laws, regulations & standards
- Spatial instruments: Protected areas & OECMs
- Public investments
- Market-based instruments

NEAs & policy entry points

# What are 'policy entry points'?

'Policy entry points' are:

- Windows of **opportunity to influence decision-making**
- Across all levels of governance & policy processes
- Relevant to policymakers, key stakeholders or broader public on biodiversity & ecosystems services

## NEAs & policy entry points

# Levels of policy entry points

<b>National-level</b>	<b>Sectoral</b>	<b>Sub-national</b>
National governments Development agencies	Sectoral ministries Private sector Investment/financial agencies	Local government Local business/industry Indigenous & local community leaders

# NEAs & policy entry points

## National-level entry points (examples)

### **National government:**

- National Vision (long-term development plans)
- Five-year national development plans
- National sustainable development strategies
- Sustainable Development Goals
- National budgets & expenditure

### **Development assistance agencies:**

- UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Assistance Framework
- Bilateral Country Assistance Strategies (i.e. USAID, GIZ)



# NEAs & policy entry points

## Sectoral entry points (examples)

### **Sectoral ministries**

- Sectoral ministries investment plans & strategies
- Sectoral ministries' policies
- Ministry-level budgets & expenditures

### **Private sector**

- Company-wide policies & strategies
- Environmental & social reporting
- Corporate social responsibility plans

### **Investment/financial agencies**

- Investment standards & safeguards
- International financial institutions investments & strategies (World Bank, GEF)

# NEAs & policy entry points

## Sub-national entry points (examples)

### Local governments

- District development plans
- Local / district budgets
- Decentralised sectoral policies
- Indigenous & local governance systems

### Local industry & private sector

- Site-level strategies, policies and activities
- Local certification schemes
- Site-management plans
- Site-level monitoring & evaluation

# What is your desired policy outcome?

*What type of change do you want to achieve through your policy entry point?*

## Upstream

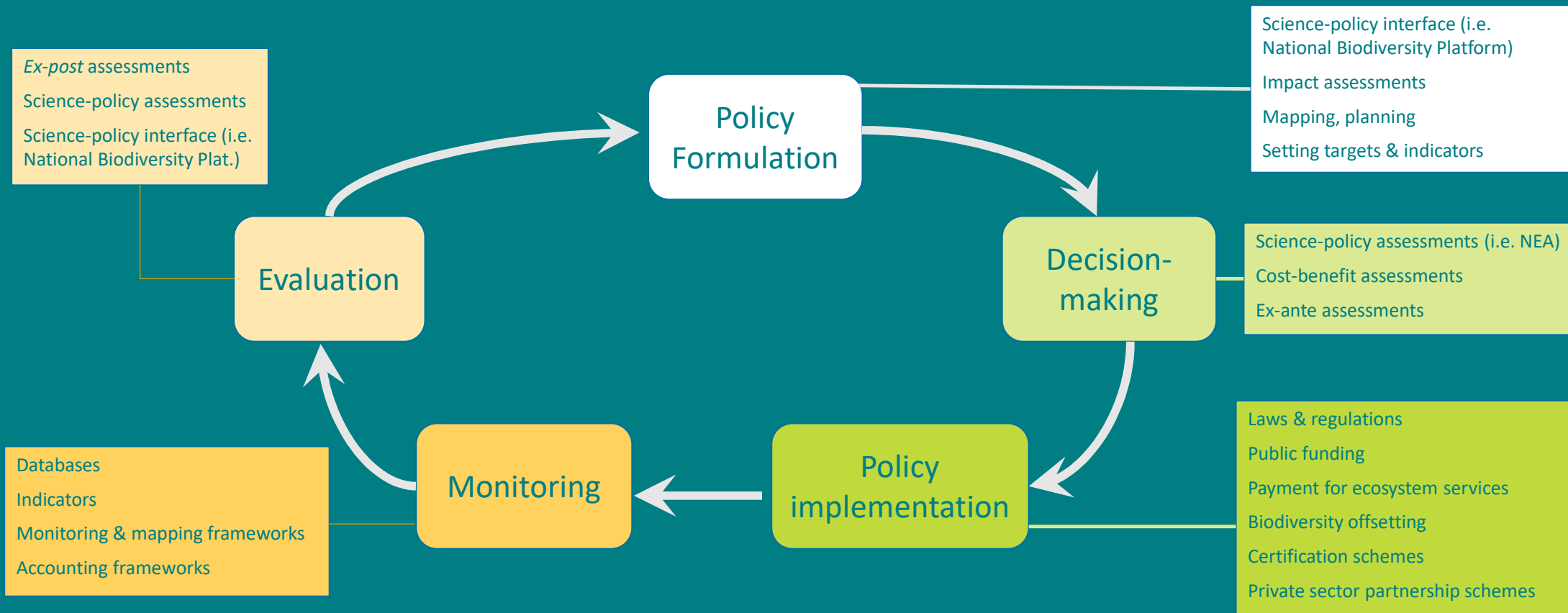
- Governance outcomes
- Policy / political outcomes
- Planning outcomes
- Institutional & capacity outcomes
- Budgets & investments
- Enabling environments for change

## Downstream

- Implementation of plans & actions on the ground
- Changes in impact(s) of sectoral practices & activities

	Outcome	
<p style="text-align: center;">UPSTREAM</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">DOWNSTREAM</p>	Governance outcomes	e.g. Improved involvement of directly biodiversity-dependent (sometimes vulnerable) stakeholders
	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 outcomes	e.g. evidence of public-private sector resource mobilisation, inclusion of development-biodiversity linkages in national public and sector budgets
	Institutional and capacity outcomes	e.g. strengthened capacity within biodiversity-related institutions to understand development and economic processes and interact in a constructive manner
	Investment outcomes	e.g. Improved domestic resource mobilization 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 and ecosystem management outcomes	e.g. maintenance/restoration/enhancement of pro-poor ecosystem services, such as medicinal, cosmetic or edible plants; healthcare, wild foods, soil fertility; traditional breeds and crop varieties; water purification
	Ultimate (biodiversity and developmental) impacts of these outcomes	e.g. improved productivity and sustainability of use of biodiversity assets and ecosystem services on which the poor depend; protection and management of targeted species populations

# Where in the policy cycle do you want to include NEA findings?



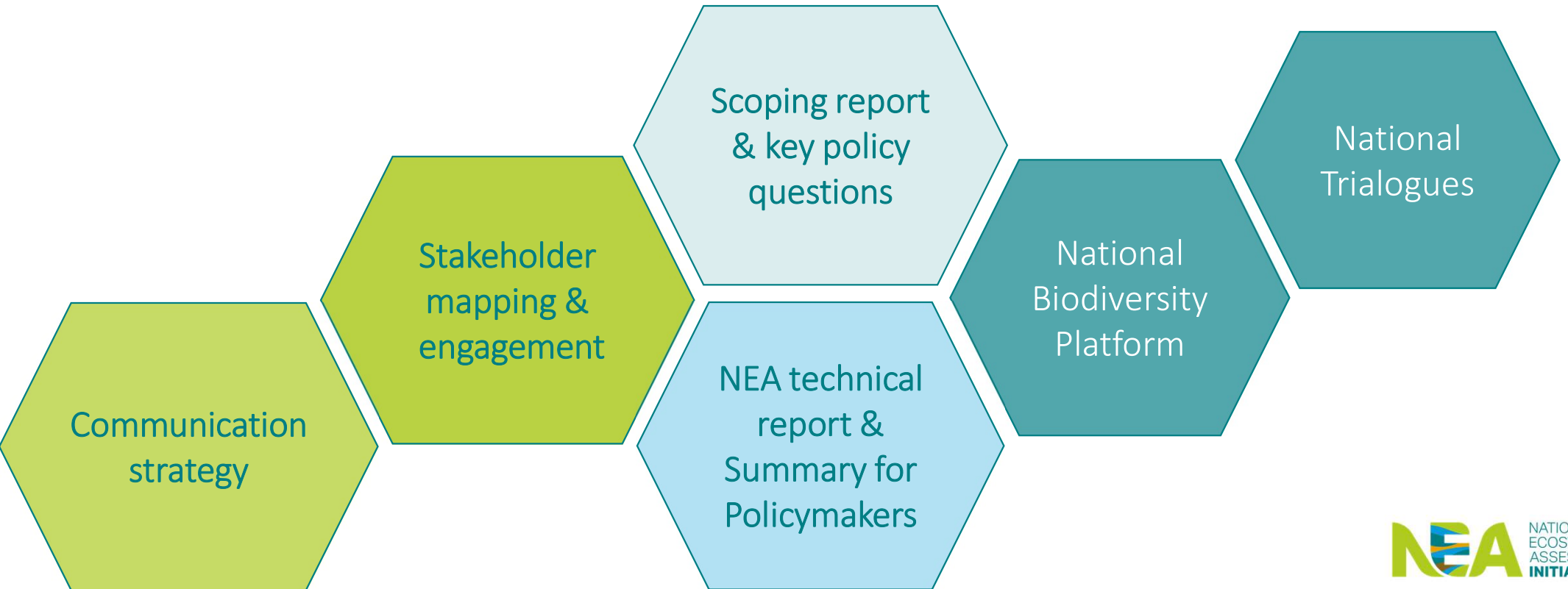
## NEAs & policy entry points

# Framework for policy entry points

1. How do you want NEA findings to be *used*?
2. Who are the *institutions / stakeholders* that can support the use of NEA findings?
3. What are the *policy entry points* for integrating NEA findings?
4. What are the *key messages* for these policy entry points?

## NEAs & policy entry points

# Refer back to other NEA outputs



# Questions?



# *Identifying windows of opportunity for using the assessment*



## Step 1: HOW

How do you want the NEA to be used in policies / decision-making processes?

## Step 2: WHO

Who are the key stakeholders / institutions that should be using the assessment?

## Step 3

What is YOUR role?  
How would you like to contribute?

# 1. HOW do you want the NEA to be used?

Think about how you want the NEA to be used. For example:

- Environmental planning, reporting & decision-making
- Research agendas?
- Civil society, NGOs, advocacy?
- Fundraising, grant-making, new projects?

## 2. WHO

are the key stakeholders / institutions that should be using the assessment going forward?

Who are the key stakeholders, institutions or organisations that should be using the assessments findings & recommendations?

Specific departments in government ministries? (i.e. Biodiversity department in Ministry of Environment; environmental departments in health ministries, etc.)

Leaders from local governments and IPLCs? (local leaders, district representatives, members of parliament, etc.)

Specific UN organisation country offices or focal points for international agreements?

# 3. YOUR ROLE

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What is your role going forward?

What do you need?

Thank you!

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