



National Reports



CMS COP11
Regional Preparatory
and Negotiations
Workshop for Africa

Harare Zimbabwe
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Chapter 6: National Reporting (NR)

The National Reporting Process is an integral part of the overall **implementation** process of the CMS Family Instruments

National Reports are the official documents by which countries report to the decision-making bodies of the CMS Family and/or its instruments on the measures they have undertaken to **implement** the priorities of the instruments.

National Reports provide an official record of national **implementation** of each instrument over time and collectively they draw the picture of the overall **implementation** of the instrument.

Why have National Reporting at all?

- Benefits of National Reporting for the Reporting Country
- When and what to report?
- Who reports and how to report?
- Steps for compiling the National Report
- Submitting the National Report and follow up

How National Reporting Fits into the Overall Implementation Process

- This process usually occurs at the end of the intersessional period before the COP
- The process should be seen as a continuous underlying process influencing the planning of activities, their implementation and the assessment of progress.
- For CMS and its Agreements, reporting is an **obligation** for each party.

Benefits of National Reporting for the Reporting Country

- It is an incentive for the systematic collection of data and information
- Can provide a unique framework for collating and archiving data and information
- It is a tool for sharing information- both within a country and internationally
- It allows countries to identify conservation issues that need to be tackled within their own country, in a region or internationally

Scope

- The data collected in the National Report provide information against indicators of the Strategic Plan (NBSAP NIP)
- Provides information on progress made towards achieving the Aichi targets
- Governments can use the information to inform their decision-making
- NGOs can use the information to direct their priorities for activities on the ground.

The Online Reporting System

- The format of National reports for CMS is online and in the three working languages of the COP (English, Spanish, and French)
- The ORS is a versatile web-based platform that is flexible and easy to use.
- It allows for easy creation and modification of customized national reporting templates
- The system includes a **delegate function**, which allows the NFP to assign sections or individual questions of the report to different contributors.
- All national contributors can access and work on the same national report simultaneously.

- The information inserted flows directly into a database from which the data can be easily extracted and analyzed by the Secretariat/Coordinating Unit.
- This system saves substantive resources and time in comparison to the Microsoft-Word or Adobe-PDF based formats.
- In the future: the ORS will be complemented with an analytical tool module.
- The analytical tool envisioned will be accessible by any internet user and will allow automated analysis across time and different user records.
- The ORS is also being considered for use by other MEAs
- Can facilitate harmonization of reports, reduction of the costs associated with maintaining

Benefits of filing a National report

Incentive for the systematic collection of data and information regular updating of these data and information;

**Comparison and archiving of data and information;
Increased knowledge**

Identification of gaps in knowledge

Tools for sharing information – bring the data and information collected to the public domain.

Allows countries to identify National conservation issues

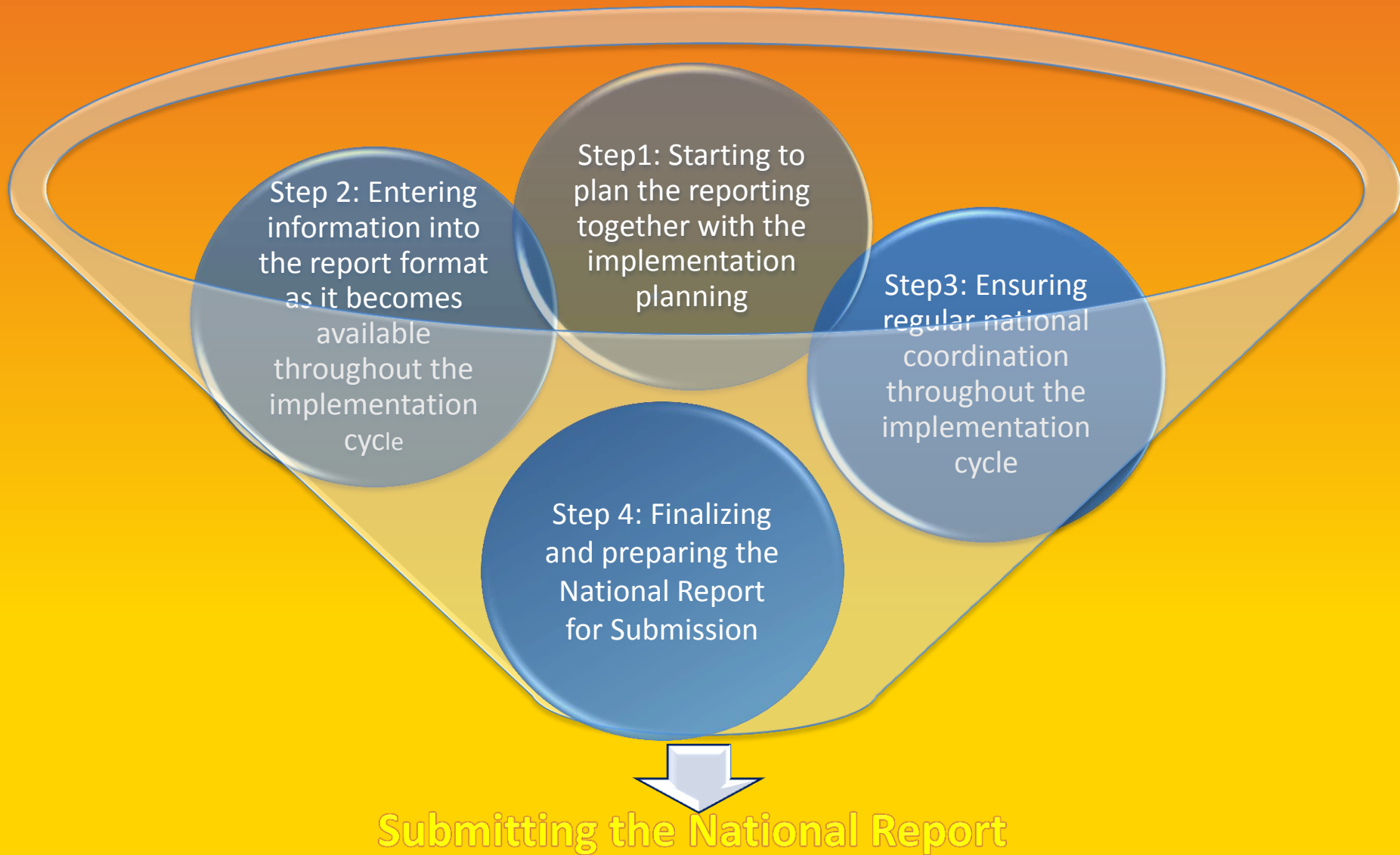
Starting point for planning and implementation activities

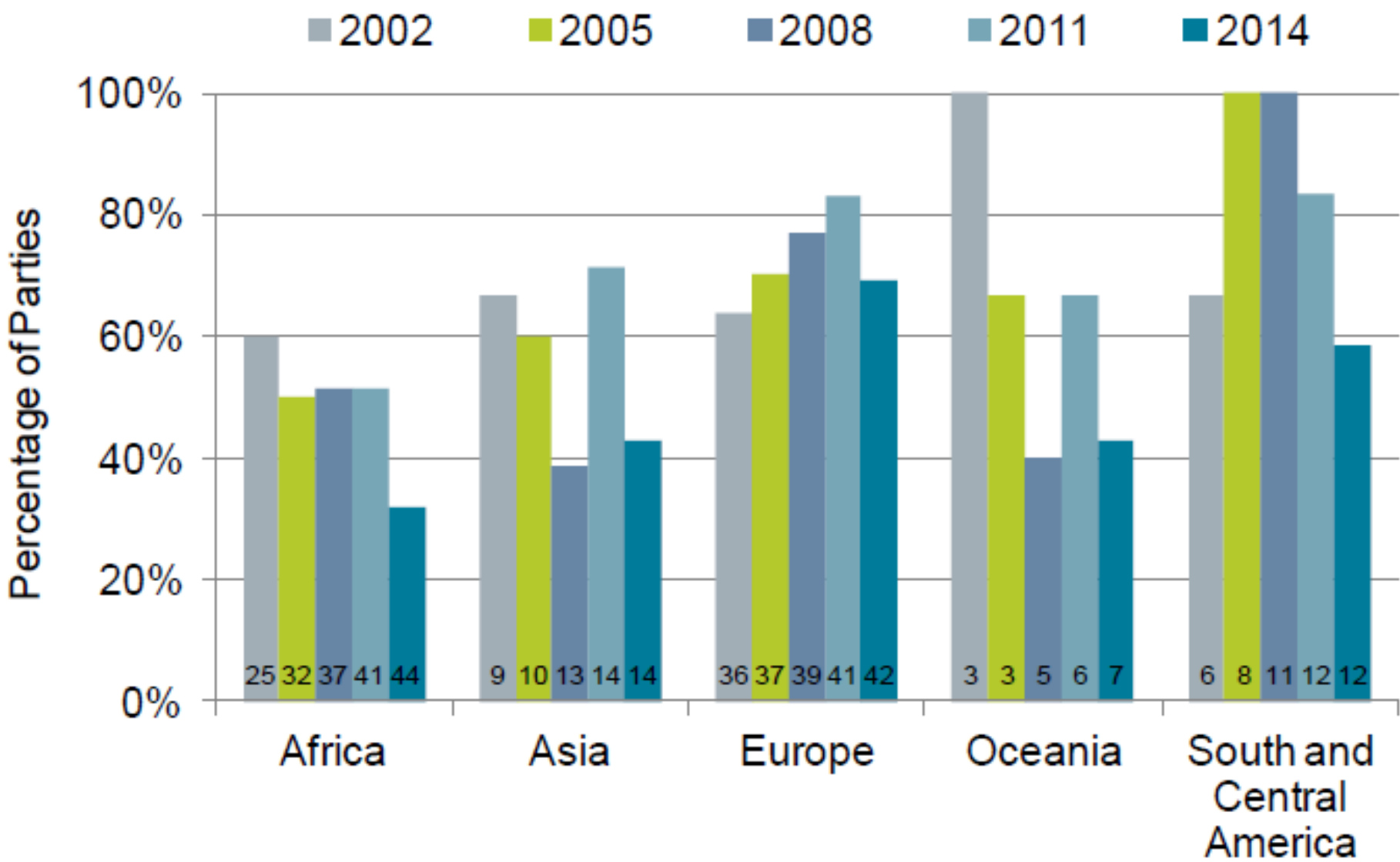
What Happens after the National report has been Submitted?

- The submission of the National report marks the beginning of a *new reporting cycle*.
- The full report will be published and made available on the CMS website
- All national reports submitted by countries will be uploaded on a central webpage
- National Reports will be further distributed and made available through online portals such as InforMEA (www.informeia.org)
- Here they will become part of the global information base of National Reports submitted to MEAs.

Steps for Compiling the National Report

- 1 Starting to plan the reporting together with the implementation planning
- 2 Be clear on what needs to be reported
- 3 Identify who can help and contribute to the process of compiling information
- 4 Determine how to obtain the relevant information for the national report
- 5 Enter the information into the report format as it becomes available throughout the implementation cycle
- 6 Ensure regular national coordination throughout the implementation cycle.
- 7 Keep in mind the deadline for submission
- 8 Finalize and prepare the national report for submission
- 9 Utilize the final national report as a basis for future input





National Report Analysis – COP11

- Activities related to Appendix I species
- Potential new species listings
- Development of new Agreements
- Protected areas
- Satellite telemetry
- Mobilisation of resources
- Implementation of Resolutions and Recommendations

Recommendations on National Reporting

- Encourage uptake of the ORS for national reporting across CMS Agreements to promote streamlined reporting
 - Reduced duplication of effort
- Revised national report form
 - Tailor questions so that responses relate to specific objectives
 - Ensure collection of most relevant information

Review

- What are National Reports?
- How can governments use the data from the National Reports?
- Which of these best describes the National Reporting process??
- A) Irregular and Static; B) Rolling and Iterative