



Scientific and technical Draft Resolutions proposed for transmission to COP11

Heather MacKay, STRP Chair

43rd Meeting of the Standing Committee
Gland, Switzerland, 31 October – 4 November
2011

Scientific and technical products for delivery to COP11

Subsets of COP11 products:

- i. Package of “science management” DRs
 - ii. Package of scientific and technical DRs focused on wetlands
 - iii. Package of scientific and technical DRs related to other sectors’ interactions with wetlands
- Supporting information documents where indicated
 - *12 sci & tech DRs in total*

Science management “package”



- [DR?] Review of STRP role in science delivery and uptake across the Convention
 - how scientific priorities will be decided and delivered into Convention processes *[SC42 decision]*
- DR: modus operandi
 - how STRP will manage and execute their scientific work *[SC43-18]*
- DR: future priorities
 - what scientific work the Convention will do *[SC43-19]*
- Proposed DR on IPBES engagement *[SC43-19.Add1]*

DRs focused on wetlands

- *DRXI.xx Revised Ramsar Information Sheet and Strategic Framework – approved by SC42*
- DR: Integrated Framework for avoiding, mitigating and compensating for wetland losses *[SC43-23]*
- DR: Climate change and wetlands *[SC43-21]*
- DR: Rice paddy, wetlands and pesticides *[SC43-26]*

DRs related to other sectors

- DR: Wetlands and energy issues *[SC43-20]*
- DR: Integrated framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication *[SC43-22]*
- DR: Principles for urban planning and wetlands *[SC43-24]*
- DR: Wetlands and health *[DR43-25]*
- DR: Wetlands and tourism *[DR43-27]*

Science management “package”



1. Review of STRP role in science delivery and uptake across the Convention *[recommend no standalone DR, reflect outcomes in next two DRs and Information paper].*
2. DR: modus operandi – how STRP will manage and execute their scientific work *[SC43-18]*
3. DR: future priorities – what scientific work the Convention will do *[SC43-19]*
4. Proposed DR on IPBES engagement *[SC43-19.Add1]*

Scientific processes across the Convention

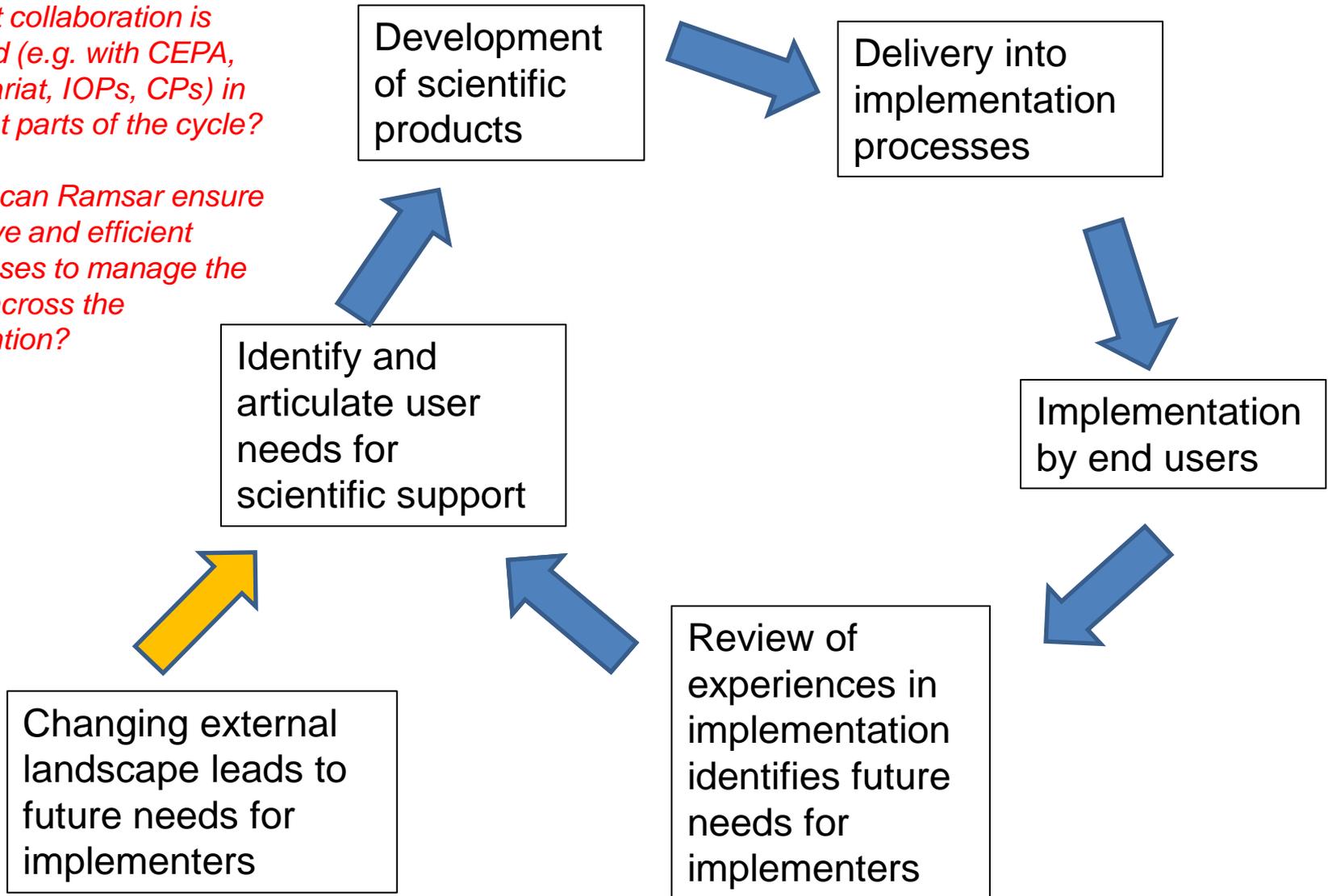
- Building on ongoing discussions in STRP in 2009-2011, findings of the review of utility of guidance (2007), and small working group established after SC42;
 - a) Understand the science-policy-management process across the Convention and the roles of different bodies in this;
 - b) Establish mechanisms to clarify needs of different end user groups for scientific products/support, prioritize work and determine who should lead the delivery (not always STRP);
 - c) Establish internal mechanisms to improve/ensure transparency, quality, credibility, independence and utility of STRP's work.
- DR on *STRP modus operandi* and DR on *Future scientific & technical priorities* already reflect some of this new thinking and discussion.

The science-policy-implementation cycle (modified...)

Q1: What are roles and functions of STRP in different parts of the cycle?

Q2: What collaboration is needed (e.g. with CEPA, Secretariat, IOPs, CPs) in different parts of the cycle?

Q3: How can Ramsar ensure effective and efficient processes to manage the cycle across the Convention?



Working group process

1. Small group established after SC42
2. Initial analysis to inform discussion (in progress):
 - Review of STRP processes, participation and modalities to identify issues to be addressed, strengths and weaknesses
 - Benchmarking against other similar conventions and bodies
3. Some initial actions targeted at obvious issues:
 - Clarify different categories of scientific products and end users in developing future scientific priorities for the Convention
 - Try to facilitate discussion at regional pre-COP meetings to get structured, clear input on implementation needs and priorities.
4. Working group discussions over next few months to prepare recommendations
 - Specific recommendations related to STRP structure and processes to be integrated into STRP modus operandi
 - More general recommendations on scientific processes across the Convention to be addressed in a policy paper or information paper.

Different categories of products/support



For different parts of the science-policy-implementation cycle:

1. New or revised Ramsar guidance for Contracting Parties
 - Resolutions, handbooks
2. Technical support and advice to Parties – ongoing and ad hoc
 - e.g. Ramsar Advisory Missions, training materials & programmes, Ramsar Technical Reports
3. Scientific wetlands-related inputs to other global and subglobal or sectoral processes & assessments
 - e.g. IPCC, biodiversity indicators, CBD water & biodiversity task, IPBES
4. Advice on new and emerging issues
 - e.g. Briefing Notes
5. Scientific or technical products/initiatives undertaken by other relevant organizations
 - e.g. TEEB synthesis, GlobWetlands

Ensuring transparency, quality, credibility, independence and utility of STRP's work:

1. Support Service redevelopment.
2. Internal procedures for oversight, peer review, document management, publication and communication.
3. Especially for new guidance, always begin with user needs assessment and scoping of product to meet those needs.
 - e.g. animal diseases manual, revision of restoration guidance, RIS, urban planning
4. Strengthen mechanisms for communication between implementation and scientific functions
 - central: regional advisers ⇔ STRP
 - regional & national: AA focal points ⇔ STRP NFPs

Scientific and technical products for delivery to COP11

Subsets of COP11 products:

- i. Package of “science management” DRs
 - ii. Package of scientific and technical DRs focused on wetlands
 - iii. Package of scientific and technical DRs related to other sectors’ interactions with wetlands
- Supporting information documents where indicated
 - *12 sci & tech DRs in total*

Request:



- Standing Committee is requested to consider each DR and annex (if any), and approve for transmission to COP11.
- For each DR, please provide feedback on:
 - i. Content as well as the layout/presentation of material in the DR
 - ii. What technical support might be needed at COP11, e.g. STRP technical briefings, reports, advice
 - iii. What implementation support might be needed for the DR e.g. information resources, CEPA, training