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INSTITUTIONAL AND STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

An extract of the NCSA-Africa Assessment Report prepared by the Economic Commission for Africa

1.1 The Institutional Framework

Global

UNCED established the high-level UNCSA and pronounced its mandate as follows: “Provide for the active involvement of organs, programmes and organizations of the United Nations System, international financial institutions and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, and encourage the participation of non-governmental organizations, including industry and the business and scientific communities”. The main function of UNCSA is to monitor progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and related activities. WSSD called for the strengthening of UNCSA and emphasized that the body should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations and should serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

The UNCSA coordinated the preparations for WSSD at the global level. At its eleventh Session following the Summit in September 2002, it adopted a 10-year programmatic cycle for the review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of WSSD, organized around key thematic areas and crosscutting issues. Since then, it has organized review and policy sessions based on the programmatic cycle, with the involvement of all Regional Commissions.

Regional and sub-regional

ECA and the Africa Committee on Sustainable Development

At UNCED, it was recognized that regional and sub-regional cooperation is important for the implementation of the outcomes of the Conference. In this regard, the Regional Commissions of the United Nations and other regional institutions were called upon to inter alia, promote the integration of environmental concerns in regional and sub-regional development policies. Regional bodies were also requested to consider improving regional and sub-regional consultative processes to facilitate the exchange of data, information and experience in the implementation of Agenda 21. At WSSD, Regional Commissions were tasked to facilitate and promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development into their work, and into the work of regional, sub-regional and other bodies. Further, it was indicated that this could be done by facilitating and strengthening the exchange of experiences, including national experiences, best practices, case studies and partnership experiences related to the implementation of Agenda 21.

In the context of the mandate given to it, and in conformity with its status as the UN regional arm in Africa, ECA has played, and continues to play, an important role in the implementation of the sustainable development agenda in the region. In 1997, the Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning in Africa established the Committee on Sustainable Development (CSD), now referred to as the Africa-CSD (A-CSD). Since then, a number of institutional strengthening measures have been taken at the Ministerial and Committee levels as well as at the level of the Commission to enable it respond adequately to this mandate:

The first meeting of the A-CSD in 1999 recommended that the body should serve as Africa's regional forum of experts that deals with all the fields mandated by the UN General Assembly to the UNCSD. Further, the A-CSD should also serve as the regional advisory arm to the UNCSD on cross-sectoral activities in Africa as well as on proposed activities and follow-up actions in the implementation of international programmes.

The thirty-first session of the ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, held in October 2002, decided to strengthen the A-CSD by incorporating the Committee on Natural Resources, Science and Technology (CNRST). This broadening of the mandate of the A-CSD provides a more comprehensive platform for advocacy and assessment of follow-up activities by African Governments to regional and global sustainable development-related agreements.

The third meeting of the A-CSD convened from 7 to 10 October 2003, revised the constitution and functions of the Committee to address the multi-stakeholder and participatory requirements of sustainable development and to take into account the outcomes of WSSD. Meetings of the Committee will henceforth include sessions dedicated to reviewing regional implementation of thematic areas being addressed in the UNCSD programme of work. The timing of the meetings of the A-CSD will now be decided taking into account the need to feed relevant outcomes of the Committee meetings to the meetings of the UNCSD. The ECA and partner institutions sponsored African CSOs with sustainable development related mandate to attend the Pan-African Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water (PANAFCON), which provided the platform for the Regional Implementation Review Meeting (RIM) on Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements, as well as the twelfth session of the CSD (CSD-12).

Furthermore, the Office for Policy and Programme Coordination (OPC) was established in 2003 under the Office of the Executive Secretary to enhance inter-divisional and interoffice (ECA-SROs) coordination and collaboration, in the development and implementation of programmes. This should ensure that the broad and crosscutting nature of sustainable development is addressed in a holistic and integrated manner within the Commission.

Other Regional and Subregional Bodies

Many regional and sub-regional bodies including UN agencies operating at the regional level support African countries in their implementation of the sustainable development agenda:

The African Union (AU) was established by a Constitutive Act adopted during the Summit of its predecessor, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Lome, 2000, and the official transformation was done in July 2002, under the banner "Peace, Prosperity, and Development" (NEPAD Secretariat, 2003a). The AU's mission is to promote accelerated socio-economic integration of the continent, which will lead to greater unity and solidarity between African countries and peoples. It is supported by many Organs and specialized Technical committees in the execution of this mission. NEPAD was adopted as a Programme of the AU at the Lusaka Summit in 2001 <http://www.africa-union.org/home/Welcome.htm> 19-08-05. The AU is taking its mandate and responsibilities very seriously, and African leaders are helping to make it an effective organization, not only by providing it with additional resources, but by ensuring that it conducts its affairs competently, procedurally and transparently. The Union has made key changes in the way it leads the resolution of conflicts and managing peace building in war torn and conflict countries. Key organs of the Union have been reinforced in terms of their mandates, budgets and leadership (Nkuhlu, WL, 2005).

The NEPAD Secretariat was established to coordinate the implementation of the regional framework for sustainable development. With the support of UN Agencies and other development partners, the Secretariat has

elaborated Action Plans in key areas. The ¹seven Regional Economic Communities (RECs) recognized by the African Union, as the implementing bodies of NEPAD, have been involved in the design and implementation of programmes and sub-regional projects. The African Capacity Building Foundation is conducting capacity building needs assessments for all RECs. This includes determination of funding required to implement programmes. However, a prerequisite to strengthening the effectiveness of RECs as drivers of regional economic integration is reducing the number of groupings and eliminating multi-membership (Nkuhlu, WL, 2005).

Many African countries have taken steps to create national NEPAD focal points for co-ordination, monitoring and integrating NEPAD programmes and their national development plans at country level. Examples of these countries include Algeria, Rwanda, Nigeria, Mozambique, South Africa, Senegal, Ghana, Kenya and Gabon. These countries have designated ministers or set up ministries as focal points for NEPAD in their respective countries. The NEPAD Secretariat is supporting the national structures through workshops and other forms of interaction (NEPAD Secretariat, 2004^b).

African, Civil Society Organizations (ACSOs) have over the years, become more involved in sustainable development issues. The Informal Regional Network of African NGOs was launched in 2002, to provide NGOs with the necessary tools to contribute to the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) both operationally and by adding a broad based NGO perspective to the deliberations of the body. The WSSD process served as a valuable lesson for African CSOs on the need to be better organized in terms of pushing the continental agenda forward. (NESDA/WSSD Civil Society Secretariat, 2003). The Forum for African Civil Society on Sustainable Development (FACS-SD), which was launched in October 2003, has proved to be a valuable partner in articulating the needs of Africa and in paving the way to sustainable development on the continent. The Forum is recognized as ECA's entry point to CSOs working on sustainable development-related issues on the continent. With regard to civil society involvement in the NEPAD process, the NEPAD Secretariat continues to interact with civil society groups at various levels. A civil society desk has been established at the Secretariat with a view to having a one-stop focal point for civil society (NEPAD Secretariat, 2004^b).

UN Offices operating in the Region such as UNEP- Regional Office for Africa (UNEP-ROA), the UNDP Capacity Building Programme for Sustainable Development Africa Office, based in Dakar as well as the AfDB, have been working closely with the Commission in enhancing regional and national implementation of the sustainable development agenda.

National

Effective national-level implementation of the sustainable development agenda is key to the attainment of agreed goals and targets. In this regard, Chapter 38 of Agenda 21 invites States to consider setting up a national coordination structure responsible for the follow-up of its programmes otherwise known as National Councils for Sustainable Development (NCSDs) and WSSD recommended that States should continue to promote coherent and coordinated approaches to institutional frameworks for sustainable development at all national levels.

NCSDs should have a clear mandate which take into account the three dimensions of sustainable development as well as the broad and cross cutting nature of issues in a holistic and integrated manner. This mandate should be reflected in the activities of the NCSDs. Furthermore, NCSDs should be located at an appropriate level within the government administrative structure in order to promote consensus building and ensure that sustainable development issues are addressed in a holistic and integrated manner. In keeping with the subsidiarity principle,

¹ Arab Maghreb Union (AMU); Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); Southern African Development Community (SADC); Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD); Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); Economic and Monetary Union of West Africa (UEMOA); and the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC).

NCSDs should be decentralized to levels that provide the appropriate setting for addressing sustainable development issues.

Box 1

The composition and roles of NCSDs may vary depending on national and regional specificities. However, key common features are their multi-stakeholder character and integrative approach. According to the Earth Council Report 2000, common roles of NCSDs include:

Facilitating the focused participation and cooperation between civil society and governments;

Integrating economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as policy and action at different government levels;

Localizing global agreements and other international, regional and sub-regional conventions related to sustainable development;

Assisting governments in decision-making and policy formulation, and providing clear guidance on policy tools, regulations and indicators of sustainable development;

Disseminating information to relevant stakeholders; and

Monitoring and evaluating progress in the implementation of the sustainable development agenda, including noting of best practices and milestones.

Source: ECA, (2005) as adapted from the Earth Council, 2000

In view of the importance of national-level implementation and the Commission's role in supporting this process, the Commission conducted a study from 2003 to 2005 to assess the functioning of NCSDs in Africa. The study involved 37 countries. A questionnaire survey provided information on ²23 countries (survey countries), while a desk review provided information on ³14 others (non-survey countries), as well as additional information on the survey countries. The findings of the study are highlighted below.

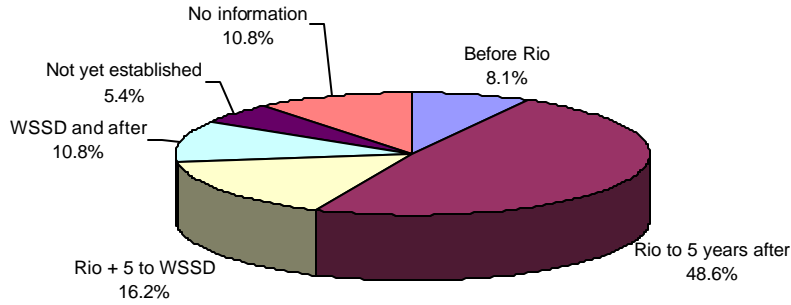
Institutional Framework

Most countries have established NCSDs. Of the 37 countries studied, only two (Zambia and Burundi) have not yet established such an entity. UNCED provided a major impetus to the establishment of these bodies (see Figure 1). Among the survey countries, 36 percent have bodies that are multi-stakeholder entities with names mirroring NCSD or closely related. *However, it is striking that none of these has a broad mandate with corresponding broad-based activities that address all three dimensions of sustainable development.* Further, among the 35 NCSDs, 43 percent are multi-stakeholder environment-related entities or single environment agencies, and 46 percent have environment-related mandates. Notwithstanding, it is encouraging to note that eight of the countries that have established NCSDs have recognized that their bodies are not NCSDs in the strict sense; an additional two indicated that their bodies were of an interim nature, and seven were in the process of establishing "proper" NCSDs.

² Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

³ Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo, Sao Tome and Principe, Tunisia, Uganda,

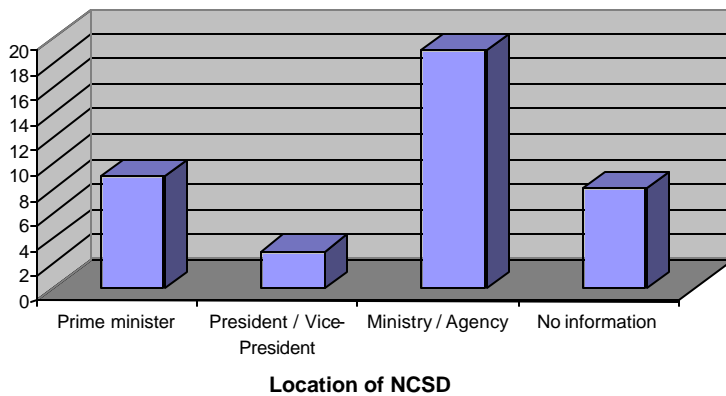
Figure 1: Establishment of NCSDs relative to the 3 major global forums on sustainable development



Location of NCSDs within government administrative structure

All countries with bodies located under the Office of the President/Prime Minister consider that the high level positioning ensures effective coordination. With respect to NCSDs located in ministries (see Figure 2), it is suggested that such location ensures continuity and effective collaboration with other sectoral ministries. However, inter-ministerial rivalries present a major threat to the effective functioning of such NCSDs. Seventy-eight per cent of NCSDs, chaired by the Prime Minister, President or Vice President, or located under their Offices, execute environment-related activities. This is also true for those NCSDs with broad mandates. Thus, the observation that the location of the body within government administrative structure is useful, but a weak indicator compared to the actual policy influence of the body, and invariably, the demonstrated political will is quite pertinent.

Figure 2: Location within government administrative structure



Representation to NCSDs

Membership of government institutions to most NCSDs cuts across all sectors. Representation from environment and natural resources, planning and finance-related government ministries and agencies, and is quite satisfactory. However, representation from social sector-related ministries and agencies could be

improved. Major groups are represented in most NCSDs (see Table 1). However their representation is generally not broad and more needs to be done in terms of the representation of certain major groups, particularly workers and trade unions, parliamentarians, indigenous people, farmers, women and youth groups.

**Table 1: Representation from major groups⁴
- survey countries**

Representation of major groups	Countries
All 9 major groups	-
6-8 major groups	Botswana
4-5 major groups	The Gambia**
2-3 major groups	Benin, Ghana* Kenya, Malawi Nigeria*, Seychelles, Swaziland, Ethiopia, Morocco, South Africa, Zimbabwe*
1 major group	Egypt, Lesotho, Tanzania
No major group	Algeria, CAR, Cameroon, Mauritius
Not specified	Mozambique++

* = development partners represented

** = development partners and parliamentarians represented

++ = 5 Individuals. & NGOs and 6 professional organizations

Source: ECA, 2005

Participation of Major Groups

UNCED and WSSD principles and agreements support the institutionalization of participatory processes and broad-based involvement in furtherance of the goals of sustainable development. Agenda 21 recognizes major groups as important partners in the implementation of its programmes. The Johannesburg Declaration and the JPOI also recognize the importance of broad-based participation and the need to involve all major groups in policy formulation, decision-making and implementation at all levels.

Although none of the survey countries has a specific strategy for stakeholder participation, this has been institutionalized through incorporation in thematic, national and sectoral policies and strategies, and as a matter of standard practice. The criteria used to determine membership of major groups in NCSDs are quite pertinent, as they largely relate to the relevance of their interventions to sustainable development issues as well as expertise, experience, effectiveness and overall contribution to the implementation of the sustainable development agenda. Major groups undertake a wide range of activities, which are quite relevant to the sustainable development agenda. Countries are aware and appreciate the power of IEC in promoting sustainable development objectives. In this regard, countries use a combination of IEC tools, strategies and approaches in empowering individuals, major groups, communities and relevant stakeholders to play active roles in the implementation process.

Table 2: Activities of major groups

Activity grouping	Countries
Capacity building (including institutional strengthening, skills development and training)	Cameroon, The Gambia, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania
Sensitization and various forms of stakeholder consultations	Cameroon, Egypt, The Gambia, Ghana, Lesotho, Nigeria, Swaziland, Tanzania
Sectoral or thematic issues	Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe

Source: ECA, 2005

Table 3: Major groups' engagement in sectoral and thematic activities

⁴ The Major Groups identified in Agenda 21 are: women, children and youth; indigenous people; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and trade unions; business and industry; scientific and technological community; and farmers.

Country	Sectoral / Thematic Activities
Kenya	Governance
Malawi	Promotion of sustainable consumption practices
Morocco	Desertification campaigns
Mozambique	Debt relief, HIV/AIDS
Nigeria	Renewable energy
South Africa	Agriculture and food security, research and marketing, minerals, mining and sustainable development, cleaner production, waste minimization, trade and sustainable development, renewable energy among others
Tanzania	Poverty reduction and environmental conservation
Zimbabwe	Equal distribution of land

Source : ECA, 2005

Non-survey countries

Major Groups in non-survey countries are also engaged in similar activities: Information dissemination and sensitization through seminars, discussion forums and the electronic media (Mauritania); protection of forests, waterways, flora and fauna and preventing the proliferation of crude waste dump sites (Comoros); management of irrigation networks and communal grazing land (Tunisia); family planning services, HIV/AIDS advocacy, advocacy for democratization, and delivering skills training to the youth (Togo). In planning for the implementation of its NSSD, Niger identified some key activities that major groups could be involved in. These include: the identification of community needs, information dissemination and sensitization as well as the mobilization of local resources and communities in the identification, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities.

Collaboration, Coordination and Integration

There is generally a good level of collaboration in the execution of activities, and mechanisms for coordination have, to varying degrees, been established in a large majority of survey countries (see Table 4). Kenya and Malawi have established donor-government working groups and institutionalized regular coordination meetings. Countries use coordination, participatory, consultative and sensitization mechanisms and approaches to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development into their work. Many countries also cited Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as an integrative tool. It was noted that the use of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for integration at the level of policies, programmes and plans was mentioned only in the case of Ghana and Benin.

Table 4: Coordination and collaboration modalities – survey countries

Coordination and Collaboration Modalities	Countries
Multi-stakeholder committees	Benin, Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique, Zimbabwe
Various consultative and information sharing forums (briefing sessions, press conferences, meetings, round table discussions, workshops and seminars)	Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Lesotho Nigeria
Donor/government working groups	Kenya, Malawi
Involvement in projects and various activities	Cameroon, The Gambia, Mauritius, Morocco, Seychelles, CAR

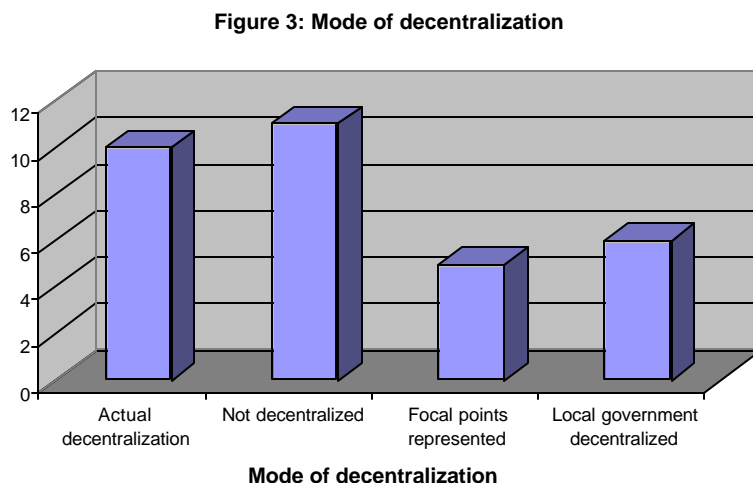
Source: ECA, 2005

Decentralization of NCSDs

Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, by extension, supports the handling of sustainable development issues at the appropriate level, and the Johannesburg Declaration resolved to strengthen and improve governance

at all levels for the effective implementation of Agenda 21, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the JPOI. The JPOI recommends countries to establish institutions, including at the local level, and enhance local institutional arrangements for sustainable development. The JPOI also recommends enhancing the role and capacities of local authorities in implementing Agenda 21, and support for local Agenda 21 programmes.

Figure 3 shows that more than half (55 percent) of the countries have decentralized their NCSOs. However, a



good number (45 percent) of countries do not have decentralized bodies. It is striking to note that apart from Small Island States (Mauritius and Seychelles) and CAR, which has an interim body, all countries that have not decentralized their bodies belong to the Southern Africa sub-region. This may partly be explained by the fact that in comparison to countries in other sub-regions of Africa, many countries in this sub-region attained independence and embarked on the democratization process relatively recently. Decentralization is mainly in two forms; by establishment of sub-national bodies, and by virtue of local government decentralized structures.

Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi are currently working on decentralized structures, while Swaziland's respondent opined that the country is small and national institutions are functioning effectively and addressing local-level needs. However, it is noted that Swaziland has local-level focal points represented in its body, which in effect, is a form of decentralization. No reasons were advanced for the absence of decentralized structures in Lesotho and Botswana. Nigeria's specified body – the Federal Ministry of Environment, has an elaborate decentralized system, which is not surprising given the size of the country, its population and federal system

The Strategic Framework

Chapter 8 of Agenda 21 articulates the requirement for integrating environment and development at policy, planning and management levels for improved decision-making, while Chapter 37 invites States to prepare national action plans for the implementation of Agenda 21. Further, WSSD urged States to take immediate steps to advance in the formulation and elaboration of NSSDs and to begin their implementation by 2005.

Sustainable development policies constitute statements of intent guiding government's interventions and actions and are a measure of government's commitment to addressing issues of concern in the field of sustainable development. Statements should be clear and embody the principles of sustainable development and should be accompanied by strategies and action plans to provide a clear road map on

implementation approaches and requirements. It is important to regularly review, update and revise these policies and strategies to ensure that they are responsive to emerging needs and issues. Decentralization is necessary to bring the decisions and actions to the doorstep of those that are most concerned.

Survey countries

Policies, strategies and plans in place

Countries indicated various combinations of policies, strategies and plans (Table 5 and Annex 1). Among these, all except Ghana, Zambia, and South Africa included environment-related policies and plans on their lists, probably demonstrating the understanding that sustainable development goes beyond environment issues, and the need for a holistic and integrated approach.

At the other extreme, Botswana, Egypt, Seychelles and Zimbabwe, cited environment-related policies and plans only. This could be explained by the fact that their NCSDs are environment-related entities and / or by their location within government administrative structure. However, in Seychelles WSSD country report, it is acknowledged that sustainable development goes beyond environmental issues and the development of a national plan that addresses issues of sustainable development was recommended. In Egypt's additional comments annexed to its completed questionnaire, it was disclosed that the country's Ministry of Planning has prepared a poverty reduction strategy for the country. Within the context of this strategy, Egypt has initiated the integration of poverty reduction and gender mainstreaming into the activities of its Ministry of Environmental Affairs.

Nigeria, Malawi, Ethiopia and Lesotho cited policies and plans related to national development, environment and poverty issues, which represent a good grouping of sustainable development-related policies. In the case of the Gambia, and Swaziland a broad range of policies and plans related to national development, poverty, environment, agriculture and natural resources, governance and social issues (population and youth) were listed, reflecting a broad and crosscutting view of sustainable development. The Central Africa Republic (CAR) cited an institution-related policy indicating that the country is still preoccupied with institutional development, having only recently established its NCSD. The rest provided lists of policies and plans that are mainly in the Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources sectors.

Nine out of 12 countries (75 percent) that included PRSPs among their lists of strategies also recognize these (in addition to others) as sustainable development strategies. Tanzania's completed questionnaire indicates that the country has adopted a PRSP, but this was not included on its list of strategies. In addition to its PRSP, Malawi has also developed a NSSD.

The PRSPs are considered as good starting points for NSSDs. However, their weaknesses in terms of process and content need to be addressed to ensure that they represent good NSSDs.

⁵Thirty-one African countries embarked on the PRSP process. As at 29 July 2005, 26 had completed PRSP documents, while four (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Cote D'Ivoire and Lesotho) had completed Interim PRSPs (IPRSPs). Two (Burkina Faso and Uganda) had completed their PRSP II (second phase of PRSPs) documents.

<http://web.worldbank.org/wbsite/external/topics/extpoverty>, 3 August 2005. The PRS approach was intended to be country-driven, results-oriented, comprehensive, partnership-based, and with a long-term perspective on development and poverty reduction.

PRSP processes in countries have been criticized for not ensuring adequate participation of stakeholders and for not mainstreaming key sectors and issues such as environment, women and children. An

⁵ Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Cote D'Ivoire, Djibouti, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

independent review commissioned by the World Bank in 2003 states that countries have focused more on completing documents, which give them access to resources, than on improving domestic processes. On the other hand, other quarters allege that progress has been particularly hamstrung by the continuing financial conservatism of the IMF and World Bank, thus failing to make the radical changes needed to make development work for the poor. In view of this, the 2005 PRS Review to be conducted by the IMF and the WB is indeed timely. The review intends to draw upon the experiences of countries in preparing and implementing poverty reduction strategies and of donors in supporting these efforts (World Bank /IMF, 2005).

Table 5: Sustainable Development Policies, Plans & Strategies and National Development Plans (survey countries)

Type of Policy, Plan, Strategy	Countries	Countries that indicated that the stated policies represent their National Development Plans (NDPs)
Environment-related only	Botswana, Egypt, Seychelles, Zimbabwe	Egypt
Environment and natural resources	Mauritius, Mozambique	-
Environment and economic sectors and National Vision	Tanzania	-
Addressing all three pillars including National Visions/ Development Plans and PRSPs	The Gambia, Swaziland	-
Covering all three pillars	Namibia	-
Environment- related and PRSPs	Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho	-
Environment- related and National Visions / Development Plans	Algeria, Nigeria	Mauritius
Environment-related and rural development plan	Morocco	Morocco
Environment-related, NSSD and PRSPs	Malawi	-
Environment-related, NSSD, PRSPs and National Vision		Malawi
PRSPs and National Visions	Ghana, Zambia	Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria
PRSPs only		Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique
National Development Plans / Visions only	South Africa	Botswana, The Gambia, Seychelles, Swaziland, Tanzania, South Africa, Zambia
Other	CAR*	

* - Inter-ministerial framework document on SD

Source: ECA, 2005.

1.2 Incorporating sustainable development issues in national development policies/ plans

Given that the NCSDs of most countries are biased towards the environment sector in terms of institutional set up, policies and strategies adopted, it is important to know how well sustainable development concerns are integrated in national development policies and plans through which a country's development priorities are implemented.

Except for Zimbabwe, all countries that responded to the policy-related questions stated that they have national development plans addressing sustainable development issues. Malawi, Lesotho, Ethiopia, Ghana and Kenya recognize their PRSPs as both a sustainable development strategy and a national development plan, while Namibia, Nigeria and Mozambique recognize their PRSPs as their national development plans, but not

sustainable development strategies (Table 5). This demonstrates the different perceptions held of sustainable development strategies and plans.

All countries with the exception of Namibia indicated that their national development policies include sustainable development principles in the preamble or main objectives. However, it was opined that the country's constitution makes explicit reference to sustainable development, particularly regarding the use of its natural resources. With regard to the national development plan having a specific chapter addressing sustainable development issues, Zambia, Namibia and Mozambique responded negatively, but stated that sustainable development principles are integrated throughout. Mainstreaming sustainable development principles and objectives throughout the plan is considered the best approach.

The question on why survey respondents believe that sustainable development principles have been integrated throughout the policy/plan elicited very interesting responses and these include: sustainable development issues are crosscutting and are addressed as such; poverty reduction is central to sustainable development; policies/plans embody principles of participation, pro-poor growth and integrated development; policies / plans are a national translation of UNCED and WSSD agreements; sustainable development is one of the national planning objectives; and sustainable development is central to a stable national economy. In spite of the deficiencies in the institutional framework of their NCSDs, these responses demonstrate a good understanding of sustainable development principles and requirements.

1.3 Integrating the MDGs, WEHAB initiatives and the JPOI

Among the countries that responded to the question on integration of global agreements/initiatives (twenty), 50 percent indicated that such integration had already been made into national or sectoral policies, strategies and plans (Table 6). However, it is noted that some policies, strategies, and plans cited predate some of the global initiatives and agreements (The Gambia's Poverty Alleviation Strategy of 1999, Seychelles Environmental Management Plan of 2000, Tanzania's PRSP of 2000 and Morocco- various strategies; but most recent was adopted in 2000). Algeria, Mauritius and Namibia did not provide dates. Future reviews of these policies; strategies and plans should therefore take into account the need to integrate relevant global initiatives and agreements. Indeed, in countries like Swaziland, this is considered an important way forward.

National consultations that have been organized or were in the process of being organized to develop national response strategies and road maps are considered appropriate responses. Actions undertaken by the Southern Africa sub-region are particularly encouraging and should motivate countries in other sub-regions to do the same

Table 6: Actions to integrate the WEHAB initiative, MDGs and the JPOI into policies, strategies and plans

Actions Taken	Countries
Consultations that led to the drafting of response strategies	Lesotho, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Consultations began or underway	Cameroon, Egypt ^W , Kenya
Currently being integrated in national strategies and visions under preparation	Botswana, Mozambique, Nigeria, Swaziland ^W
Already integrated in national and sectoral strategies and national visions	Algeria, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia ^W , Seychelles, Tanzania

^W = Focus on the WEHAB Initiative

Source: ECA, 2005.

Box 2: Meeting Sustainable Development Goals and Objectives through the PRSP, Long Term Vision and Sectoral Policies and Strategies in Zambia:

The PRSP is perhaps the strategy that came near to the equivalent of a NSDS if it were not for its medium term nature. The PRSP is a medium term policy framework and strategic plan, which applies a multi-dimensional perspective to fighting

poverty. Top premium is placed in measures designed to stimulate economic growth on the understanding that it is impossible to fight poverty under a stagnant economy. The key sectors identified in the PRSP are agriculture, tourism, mining and manufacturing. Education, health and HIV/AIDS are identified as key areas for increased investment in order for the country to make progress in the sphere of social development. Environment is one of the cross-cutting issues identified. The PRSP also integrates the MDGs. The preparation of the PRSP was broad-based, drawing representatives of major groups from all over the country in the consultations that led to its preparations and in its implementation.

Together with the 5th NDP, the Government has decided to prepare a National Long Term Vision (NLTV) or Vision 2030. This will set the horizon for developing the medium-term plans and also provide the gravitational pull to achieve long-term objectives. Both the 5th NDP and NLTV have taken planning to the district level in line with the Decentralization Policy adopted by Government in 2003. This policy aims at devolving service delivery from central government to district level. In this way, it is believed, participation of the people in planning and implementation of programmes will facilitate better and sustainable development processes.

Policies addressing various sectors and thematic areas have been developed are at various stages of implementation. These policies are meant to guide implementation of programmes by various stakeholders and guide expenditure of public finances. However, the level of implementation of these policies varies from sector to sector but generally is constrained by inadequate institutional capacities, lack of resources and enabling legislations.

Source: Aongola, L., 2005

Decentralization

All countries except Mauritius, Seychelles, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Cameroon, Swaziland, Lesotho and Mozambique have decentralized their policies and strategies. Except in the case of Cameroon, the reason for non-decentralization can be explained by the absence of appropriate structures in these countries as discussed under the section on NCS D decentralization above. It is however encouraging to note that other countries are increasingly decentralizing their policies and strategies to sub-national levels. Information provided by the 21 countries that responded to policy-related questions indicates that 14 countries have decentralized these or are in the process of doing so. In Namibia, the proposed Presidential Initiative on Vision 2030 is designed to contain a strategy for sub-national decentralization of the National Planning Commission- the specified NCS D of the country. The objective of Ghana's decentralization programme is to devolve planning and development function to sub-national bodies (especially the District Assemblies (DAs), and to leave decision-making at the doorstep of every community.

1.4 Revision of policies

Among the countries that responded to the policy-related questions, eight (Kenya, Morocco, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, Swaziland, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Ethiopia) stated that their policies and plans have not been revised. While some of these policies and plans were adopted only recently (2002-2003) and can explain their non-revision, others date back ten years or more (1993 – 1994) and should be subjected to a review. The Gambia, Egypt and Namibia indicated that their policies and plans are subjected to regular review and revised as necessary. South Africa, Tanzania Seychelles and Mauritius, provided examples of some of their policies and plans that have been revised and the objectives of these revisions. As indicated in Box 3, the objectives of the various revisions embody the principles of sustainability, participation, integrative, efficient, and harmonized development.

Box 3.: Some examples of revised policies / plans and the revision objectives

South Africa: Integrated Rural Development Plan of 1999 revised to Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Plan of 2002, to strengthen coordination and to ensure collective implementation.

Tanzania: Energy policy of 1992 revised in 2003 to address efficient energy production, procurement, distribution and end use systems in an environmentally-sound manner; water policy revised in 2001 to provide adequate clean and safe water within reach of all Tanzanians.

Seychelles: Environmental Management Plan 1990, revised in 2000 to cater for greater public participation & stakeholder driven priorities.

Mauritius: Land Use Plan of 1991 revised to engender non-conflicting development in built-up areas, industrial areas, and agricultural zones.

Source: ECA, 2005

Non-survey countries

The desk review revealed that all 14 non-survey countries have adopted many national policies, strategies and plans in various sectors of the economy. Uganda and Rwanda have adopted National Visions. Mauritania, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Togo, Rwanda and Madagascar have adopted poverty reduction / eradication policies and programmes, while Sao Tome and Principe and Burundi were in various stages of elaborating these. Burundi intends to address poverty reduction in the context of sustainable development. Burkina Faso was in the process of revising its PRSP to incorporate a more holistic and integrated approach with a view to providing a framework for its NSSD. Niger and Tunisia have already adopted their NSSDs.

The NSSD programmes of Niger were mainly in the environment and natural resource sector. However, programmes in the social and economic sectors were in the process of being elaborated. The main objective of Tunisia's NSSD is poverty reduction and it has programmes addressing all three dimensions of sustainable development. Senegal and Togo were in the process of elaborating NSSDs. All countries, with the exception of Burundi and Guinea Bissau, had, at one time or another, adopted National Environment Policies, Strategies or Plans. Rwanda and Madagascar revised their environmental policies and plans in 2003, in the context of their respective PRSPs.

Legislation

Legislation is an important instrument of policy implementation. Policies on sustainable development are increasingly incorporating principles of participation and consensus building to promote ownership of these policies with a view to ensuring smooth implementation. Notwithstanding, it is important that these desirable approaches be complemented with the necessary legal backing that inter alia, provides for the establishment of the NCSD, its mandate and matters relating to its functioning. Legislation should also be revised periodically to cater for emerging issues of sustainable development.

Legal framework addressing sustainable development-related matters

Annex 4 presents legislation indicated by countries as providing the legal framework within which they address sustainable development matters.

Survey countries

All countries, except CAR, Seychelles and Zambia, indicated that they have a legal framework within which sustainable development issues are being addressed. CAR intends to make legislative proposals for consideration by its Head of State; Seychelles recognizes that its Framework Environmental Legislation addresses environmental issues; and the desk review revealed that Zambia has an Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act of 1990, that addresses the environmental dimension of sustainable development.

Table 7 shows that most countries (45 percent) indicated their framework environmental legislation as providing the legal basis for sustainable development. A further 20 percent indicated many pieces of environment-related legislation. Most bodies (64 percent) were also established by the framework environmental legislation. This is a further indication that the environment dimension dominates countries' sustainable development agenda. Those countries that indicated presidential / executive decrees/orders demonstrate a more neutral perception (though a decree is usually of an interim nature), while those that indicated their national constitutions recognize the need

for a more overarching and holistic framework. Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia and Tanzania, acknowledged that sustainable development issues are addressed through many pieces of sectoral legislation.

Table 7: Legislative framework

Type of Legislation	Legal Framework for Sustainable Development	Percentage	Legislation that Established Body	Percentage
The Constitution	Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa	15.0	South Africa	7.1
Presidential / Executive Decrees / Order	Algeria, Nigeria	10.0	Algeria, Ghana, Morocco Nigeria	28.6
Framework Environment Law	Benin, Botswana ^D , Cameroon, Kenya, Lesotho ^D , Malawi, Swaziland, Tanzania ^D , Zimbabwe	45.0	Benin, Cameroon, Egypt, The Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Swaziland,	64.3
Many pieces of environment-related legislation specified	Egypt, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique	20.0		
Many pieces of cross-cutting legislation specified	The Gambia	5.0		
Other	Namibia ⁺⁺	5.0		

Source: NCSO completed questionnaires, 2003/2004

⁺⁺ = National Planning Commission Act; ^D = In draft

Other sustainable development-related legislation indicated by countries, are provided in Annex 5.

Non-survey countries

From information obtained, all non-survey countries except Guinea Bissau have a framework environmental law (or code) that addresses the environmental dimension of sustainable development (Annex 4). In their respective WSSD country reports, the framework environmental legislation of Burkina Faso and Sao Tome were indicated as providing the legal basis for sustainable development, while the national Constitution of 1999, the environmental framework law of 1998 and the rural code of 1993 were indicated in the case of Niger.

Revision of legislation

Mauritius, The Gambia, Morocco, Egypt, Ghana and Tanzania indicated that their respective legislation (including sectoral ones), have been revised. Malawi and Seychelles reported that they are in the process of revising their framework environmental legislation. All these indicated that the revision of legislation was done to take into account emerging issues of sustainable development including sectoral ones. Morocco and Seychelles did not provide reasons for non-revision. South Africa asserted that although its constitution has not been revised, several sectoral legislation have been passed on the basis of this framework legislation. In the case of Kenya, it was indicated that its framework environmental legislation was quite recent and adequately addresses sustainable development issues including emerging ones, hence the reason for non-revision.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The foregoing indicates that African countries, to varying degrees, have made progress in establishing institutions and putting in place the necessary instruments and other relevant processes to facilitate the implementation of the sustainable development agenda. However, these institutions do not adequately

fulfil the role of NCSDs and a lot remains to be done to strengthen them, particularly with regard to eliminating the environmental bias and addressing the three dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic and integrated manner. Countries have adopted many policies, strategies and plans, but perceptions and approaches are different. Furthermore, countries are yet to rationalize these to ensure that they complement each other and to avoid multiple planning processes and duplication of efforts and resources. Capacity ((institutional, financial, human and technological) is a major constraining factor to the effective functioning of NCSDs as well as to the implementation of policies, strategies and plans. In light of this, the following are recommended.

- ECA and partners should collaborate and coordinate efforts in assisting countries to establish or strengthen (as appropriate) NCSDs. The name, mandate, location and organizational structures of newly established NCSDs should allow for horizontal and vertical linkages, and ensure that the three pillars of sustainable development are appropriately addressed. In restructuring and strengthening NCSDs, it should be ensured that structures and achievements of existing ones are built upon and continuity assured.
- The composition of NCSDs should be broad-based taking into account countries' respective sustainable development priorities and specificities. Trade unions, indigenous peoples, parliamentarians, farmers, women and youth groups should be better represented in NCSDs, and private sector representatives should be encouraged to be more actively engaged in activities.
- The Africa-CSD is an important link between national-level action and global-level processes on sustainable development. In this regard, the participation of all member States at meetings of the regional body is very important to ensure that all members have equal opportunities to express issues of concern, contribute to discussions and arrive at the same level of understanding on issues tabled.
- Since many countries may not have adequately internalized what constitutes sustainable development policies, strategies and plans, it is necessary to assist them in putting these in place. The multiplicity of policies, strategies and plans should be carefully considered and rationalized in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to save on scarce resources. If existing strategies are found wanting, they should be strengthened taking into account sustainable development principles, country needs, priorities, specificities and lessons learned, rather than initiating completely new processes.
- National Visions should embody a country's long-term sustainable development ideals and goals, PRSPs that embody sustainable development principles could be adopted as a country's NSSD, and within which framework; a country's rolling national development plan should be drawn.
- The design of policies and strategies should include investment plans that adequately address resource requirements. Countries should also be assisted to identify and establish/ strengthen innovative financing mechanisms to supplement government and donor funds. The scarcity of financial resources also calls for well targeted spending and prudent management of resources.
- Capacity must be enhanced. Equally important is the prioritization of needs and actions in light of available capacity and to ensure that the most relevant and pressing needs are dealt with first, and adequately.
- The effective implementation of international recommendations on sustainable development institutions, policies and strategies calls for new and better ways of doing things. It requires accountability on the part of governments including the management and allocation of resources

for development. This can only be realized if the political will exists to effect the necessary changes and undertake relevant actions to promote sustainable development.

- New and additional resources required to implement sustainable development strategies are considerable and are above the capabilities of African countries. In this regard, the provision of appropriate and adequate development assistance to African countries is pertinent.

ANNEXES

- 1 NCSOs, Dates Established, Mandates**
- 2 Representation – Government Institutions and CSOs**
- 3 List of Policies, Strategies and Plans**
- 4 Legal Framework Addressing Sustainable Development –Related Matters**
- 5 Other Sustainable Development-Related Legislation**

Annex 1: Names, Dates Established, Mandates and Activities

Survey countries

No	Country	Name	Date	Mandate	Programmes/ Projects/ Activities
1	Algeria	High Council for Environment and Sustainable Development	1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define national strategies for the protection of the environment and for the promotion of sustainable development - Regularly assess the state of the environment - Regularly evaluate the implementation of environmental laws and regulations and decide on appropriate measures - Follow the evolution of international policies on the environment and ensure the undertaking of relevant studies to guide interventions - Present to the President of the Republic an annual report on the state of the environment and an evaluation of the implementation of decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan of Action for Environment and Sustainable Development - Municipal Waste Management Programme - Industrial Waste Management Programme - Environmental Sensitization and Communication Programme - Environmental Education Strategy
2	Benin	National Commission on Sustainable Development	1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advise government on all development policies and strategies likely to affect the environment, natural resources, biological diversity prior to their adoption - Contribute to the eradication of poverty - Suggest measures for the prevention of wastage and irrational consumption patterns that favor a sound sustainable development - Contribute to proposing measures for the improvement of health, education, agricultural production, human settlements and the quality of life - Promote clean technology in industries and contribute to the control of air, water and soil pollution - To initiate as necessary, and play a consultative role in the drafting of legislation related to environment and development - Monitor the implementation of the national policy on sustainable development - Closely cooperate with sub-regional and international organizations, the private sector, local authorities, NGOs and other principal actors involved in sustainable development matters - Promote and coordinate the synergistic implementation of development related conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No response
3	Botswana	National Conservation Strategy Board	1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foster sustainable development through the conservation of natural resources / capital in providing for present and future generations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A National report on Rio + 5 - A National Report on Rio+ 10
4	Cameroon	National Consultative Commission for Environment & Sustainable Development	1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist government in the elaboration of national policies on environment and sustainable development - Coordinating and monitoring the implementation of policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the Interministerial Committee on the Environment
5	Central Africa Republic	Environment and Sustainable Development Agency (Interim body)	2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinate the implementation of Agenda 21 and other agreements as well as WSSD outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None indicated (established 2003)

6	Egypt	Egyptian Environmental Affairs & Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs	1982 & 1987	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issuing environmental standards for sustainable development - Application of Environmental Protection Law - Reviewing EIA for new projects - Coordination with other sustainable development bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GEF funded project established after WSSD for assessment of biodiversity, desertification and climate change
7	Ethiopia	**Environmental Protection Agency	1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formulate policies, strategies, laws and standards, which foster social and economic development in a manner that enhances the welfare of humans and the safety of the environment. - Spearhead and ensure the effectiveness of the implementation process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation strategy of Ethiopia - Developments of three legislations - Development of national action plan for combating desertification - Ecological sustainable industrial development project - Preparation of State of Environment Report
8	The Gambia	High Level Economic & Social Council and the National Environment Management Council*	*1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy-making related to sustainable development issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activities are implemented at different levels by the various actors based on the policies and strategies and action plans adopted
9	Ghana	National Committee for the Implementation of Agenda 21	1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harness sector plans in a sustainable manner and particularly, mainstream all environmental concerns into national planning processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village Infrastructure Project - Agric Services Sector Investment Programme (Ag. SSIP) - Ghana/UNDP Capacity 21 Programme - Ghana / UNDP Environmental Resources Management Programme
10	Kenya	National Environmental Management Authority	2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exercise general supervision and coordination over all matters relating to the environment - Act as the principal instrument of government in the implementation of policies relating to the environment - Promote integration of environment considerations into development policies, plans, programmes and projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation EIA guidelines - Drafting of Environmental standards, guidelines and regulations - Preparation of State of the Environment Report - Development of an Environmental Education Strategy
11	Lesotho	National Environmental Secretariat	1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that all developments are environmentally and socio-economically sustainable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conserving Mountain in Southern Lesotho - Environmental Management for Poverty Reduction - Maluti Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation and Development Project
12	Malawi	National Council on the Environment	1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the three pillars of sustainable development are integrated adequately in national programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None indicated
13	Mauritius	National Network for Sustainable Development	2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the protection and management of environmental assets so that their capacity to sustain society and its development remains unimpaired - Foster harmony between quality of life, environmental protection and sustainable development for present and future generations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of NEAP - Implementation of Integrated Environment Investment Plan

14	Morocco	National Environmental Council	1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assure environmental protection - Ensure the integration of environmental concerns in the process of economic and social development with a view to achieving sustainable development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation and protection of soils and water - Treatment of used water - Protection and planning of river basins
15	Mozambique	National Council for Sustainable Development	1997	<p>In an advisory capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pronounce upon sectoral policies related to the management of natural resources, and proposals for the ratification of international conventions related to the environment - Issue comments on legislative proposals related to the environmental framework law and those pertaining to establishment or revision of sectoral legislation on natural resources - Prepare proposals for the creation of financial or other incentives that would stimulate economic agents to adopt environmentally sound procedures in the use of natural resources and propose mechanisms for the licensing of natural resource use - Formulate recommendations to the ministers responsible for natural resources in different sectors - All other duties under the environmental framework law and other environmental legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of Mozambique's participation to WSSD - Formulation of the environmental strategy for sustainable development - Review of formulation of environmental legislation
16	**Namibia	National Planning Commission	1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare and coordinate annual, medium and long-term national development plans - Provide appropriate planning guidelines to ministries and regional councils - Coordinate sectoral policies and programmes - Mobilize and coordinate the allocation of international and public sector resources - Appraisal, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes - Liaise and consult with the private sector, labour movement and NGOs on macro-economic, sectoral and development planning issues and programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None indicated
17	Nigeria	Federal Ministry of Environment	1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinate sustainable development activities in the country in the context of its three pillars - Coordinate the implementation of the National Policy on the Environment with the goal of achieving sustainable development - Coordinate environmental protection and natural resources conservation for sustainable development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional Workshop on Implementation of Agenda 21 - Development of National Agenda 21 for Nigeria - National Forum on Sustainable Development - National Assessment of implementation of sustainable development projects in respective establishments through the participatory approach

18	Seychelles	National Environment Advisory Council	-	- Promote, coordinate and integrate sustainable development programmes that cut across all sectors of society in order to achieve sustainable development	- Waste Management Programme - National Parks & Wildlife Conservation - Coastal Management Programme - Environmental Information Education & Training
19	South Africa	International Relations, Peace and Security (Interim body)	2003	- Setting up a permanent coordinating mechanism for sustainable development - Coordinating interim efforts towards the development of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development - Development of a national sustainable development institute to address the country's sustainable development research capacity needs - Interim coordination of the country's global and national follow-up to the major sustainable development multilateral agreements - Marketing and communication	- None indicated (established 2003)
20	Swaziland	Swaziland Environmental Authority	1992	- Ensure that Swaziland's development is economically and socially sustainable by means of promoting sound environmental policies, practices and development which meets appropriate national and international standards	- Swaziland Environment Action Plan - Formulation of National Solid Waste Management Strategy - Montreal Protocol Implementation Program - CBD Implementation Programme
21	Tanzania	Division of the Environment	-	- Coordinate and give policy guidance to all matters related to the implementation of Agenda 21 - Coordinate the implementation of National Environmental Policy - Coordinate the implementation of MEAs - Coordinate implementation of sustainable development activities - Coordinate implementation of activities related to poverty reduction	- Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project - Lake Tanganyika Biodiversity Project (preparatory phase) - Formulation of a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan; - East African Cross-border Biodiversity Project. - Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership Project
22	Zambia	Not yet established		-	
23	Zimbabwe	National Sustainable Development Committee	2002	- Coordinate all sustainable development activities	- None indicated

Source: 1-23 NCS D completed questionnaires, 2003/2004;

** Recognize that body is not an NCS D in the strict sense

Non-survey countries

No	Country	Name	Date	Mandate
1	Burkina Faso	National Council for Environmental Management	1995	- Integrate environmental concerns in the social, economic and cultural development process
2	Burundi	Not yet established		-

3	**Comoros	Inter-Ministerial Consultative Committee on the Environment	1994	- Analyzing and commenting on all environmental issues including formulating recommendations on environmental policies - Approving the annual report on the state of the environment and assessing regulatory texts governing the environment
4	**Djibouti	National Committee on the Environment	1993	- Coordinate and harmonies institutional structures in charge of urban management - Direct thinking on the environmental policy and to monitor its implementation
5	Guinea Bissau	National Council on the Environment	1992	- Coordinate activities relating to environment and sustainable development such as research, planning and management of natural resources
6	Madagascar	Inter-Ministerial Committee on the Environment (CIME) & National Committee on the Environment. (CNE)	-	- Oversee and coordinate sustainable development issues
7	Mauritania	National Council for Environment and Development	1995	- Provide direction on matters pertaining to the environmental strategy
8	Niger	National Council on Environment for Sustainable Development	1996	- Coordination and monitoring the national policy on environment and sustainable development
9	Rwanda	Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee	2000	- Coordinate matters related to sustainable development
10	**Sao Tome and Principe	National Commission on the Environment	-	- Monitor the implementation process and actions aimed at attaining sustainable development, including the enforcement of legislation
11	Senegal	National Commission on Sustainable Development	1995	- Coordinate sustainable development matters
12	**Togo	Interministerial Commission on the Environment (ad hoc)	1988	- Provide policy directions on matters related to the environment, forests, fauna and pollution control
13	Tunisia	National Commission on Sustainable Development	1993	- To reflect and make proposals on matters related to sustainable development - To regularly validate and adjust national and sectoral objectives of sustainable development
14	**Uganda	National Environment Management Authority	1995	- Oversee environmental policy formulation and integration into all programmes and activities

Madagascar and Rwanda: ECA, 2003; other countries: WSSD Country reports – www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/prep_process/natlassessmentrep.html

** Recognize that body is not an NCSD in the strict sense

Annex 2: Representation

No	Country	Government institutions				Major Groups									Others	
		Env. & Nat.Res.	Economic	Social	Others (cross-cutting)	Child. & youth	Women	Ind. people	NGOs	Local authorities	Workers & trade unions	Business and ind.	Scient. & Tech. Comm..	Farmers		
1	Algeria	Yes-2	Yes-5	Yes-1	Yes-4										6 people – based on competence	
2	Benin	Yes-1	Yes-5	Yes-1	Yes-7		Yes		Yes							
3	Botswana	Yes-2	Yes-3	Yes-1	No			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
4	Cameroon	Yes-1	Yes-3	No	Yes-2											
5	Central Africa Republic	Yes-2	Yes-2	Yes-1	Yes-1											
6	Egypt	Yes-2	Yes-6	Yes-1									Yes			
7	Ethiopia	Designated members at national, reg. and state									Yes	Yes				
8	The Gambia	Ministries in all sectors				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes					Devpartners & parliamentarians	
9	Ghana	Yes-5	Yes-4	Yes-2	Yes-3				Yes		Yes		Yes		UNDP	
10	Kenya	Yes-3	Yes-4	Yes-4	Yes-3				Yes				Yes			
11	Lesotho	Yes-3	Yes-3	Yes-1	Yes-2				Yes							
12	Malawi	Yes-2	Yes-1	Yes-1					Yes			Yes	Yes			
13	Mauritius	Yes-2	Yes-2	Yes-2	Yes-2											
14	Morocco	About 31 ministries and decentralized units							Yes	Yes						
15	Mozambique	Yes -3	Yes-5	No	Yes-2	11 representatives of civil society (5 individuals and 6 NGOs/Professional associations)										
16	Namibia	None specified. NPC not really an NCSD. However, relevant institutions represented in steering committees of the different development projects. Lead role varies.														
17	Nigeria	Yes-2	Yes-10	Yes-3	Yes-10				Yes			Yes	Yes		UNDP	
18	Seychelles	Yes-2	Yes-3	Yes-2	Yes-2				Yes			Yes				
19	South Africa	Lead national departments – not specified							Yes	Yes			Yes			
20	Swaziland	Yes - 2	Yes- 2	Yes - 1				Yes	Yes			Yes				
21	Tanzania	All government ministries- not specified							Yes							
22	Zambia	NCSD not yet established														
23	Zimbabwe	Government ministries – not specified							Yes			Yes	Yes		Donor Agencies - observers	

Survey countries

No	Country	Government institutions				Major Groups									Others
		Env. & NR	Economic	Social	Others cross cutting	Child. & youth	Women	Ind. people	NGOs	Local authorities	Workers & trade unions	Business and ind.	Scient. & Tech. Comm	Farmers	
1	Burkina Faso	Government ministries in the environment sector						Yes	Yes			Yes			Religious bodies & others – based on competence
2	Burundi	NCSDs not yet established													
3	Comoros	Not specified													
4	Djibouti	Government ministries - not specified				The technical committee comprises representatives from the private sector and other associations									
5	Guinea Bissau	Different ministries - not specified							Yes			Yes			
6	Madagascar	CIME comprises Secretary Generals of all Ministries. CNE comprises parliamentarians, civil society including the private sector and NGOs													
7	Mauritania	All ministries concerned with environment and development - not specified. However the technical committee comprises structures in charge of environment and development., civil society, and NGOs and cooperation agencies													
8	Niger	All state agencies						Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Dev. Partners & Associat.
9	Rwanda	Government ministries - not specified													
10	Sao Tome and Principe	Government agencies – not specified				Other members of civil society			Yes	Not specified					
11	Senegal	Government agencies – not specified				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Parliamentarians
12	Togo	Members of inter-ministerial committee – not specified													
13	Tunisia	Ministries, national organizations							Yes		Yes				
14	Uganda	Ministerial policy committee - not specified				NEMA's board comprises representatives from government agencies, NGOs and the private sector									

Non-survey countries

Madagascar and Rwanda: ECA, 2003; other countries: WSSD Country reports –
www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/prep_process/natlassessrep.html

Annex 3: Sustainable development-related Policies, Strategies and Plans

	Country	Policy/Strategy	Year of Adoption.
1	Algeria	Government Programme Government Programme Decennial Strategic Framework 2001-2011 for Environment and Sustainable Development	1996 1999 2001
2	Benin	-	-
3	Botswana	National Policy on Natural Resources, Conservation and Development National Conservation Action Plan Vision 2016	1990 1998 -
4	Cameroon	National Environmental Management Plan Poverty reduction Strategy paper Biodiversity Strategy	1996 1998
5	Central Africa	Inter-Ministerial Framework Document on Sustainable Development	2003
6	Egypt	Environmental Policy Egyptian National Environmental Strategy Plan 5-year Action Plan for the Environment Agency National Plan for Combating Marine Pollution National Plans for Combating Environmental Disasters	2000 - - 1998 2000
7	Ethiopia	Environmental Policy of Ethiopia Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme Conservation Strategy of Ethiopia Regional Conservation Strategies	1997 2002 1997 varies
8	The Gambia	The Gambia Environmental Action Plan The Health Policy Vision 2020 National Forestry Policy National Policy for the Advancement of Gambian Women National Governance Policy and Programme National Youth Policy and Action Plan Agriculture and Natural Resource Policy Strategy for Poverty Alleviation	1992 1994 1994 1995 1999-2009 1999-2004 2001/2 1999-2008

9	Ghana	Vision 2020 Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy Social Investment Fund - Community-Based Poverty Reduction Approaches	2001 2000/1
10	Kenya	Kenya National Environmental Action Plan Sessional Paper on Environment and Development National Action Plan to combat Desertification Kenya National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan National Poverty Eradication Plan Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation	1994 1999 2001 2000 2001 2003
11	Lesotho	Agenda 21 Implementation Plan Environment Policy Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	1994 1998 1999
12	Malawi	Vision 2020 National Environmental Policy National Environmental Action Plan National Poverty Reduction Strategy National Strategy for Sustainable Development Revised National Environmental Action Plan Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy	1996 1996 and 2002 2001 2003 2001 2001
13	Mauritius	National Environmental Action Plan National Environmental Investment Programme Institutional Arrangements for Environmental Management Land Use Policy	1991 1991 1991 1991
14	Morocco	National Irrigation Plan Rangeland Development Strategy Water Provision to Rural Population Programme National Roads Construction Programme National Plan of Conserving Arable Land National Electrification Programme Plan for the Management of Watersheds National Reforestation Plan National Plan for the Rehabilitation and Development of Palm Plantations National Plan for Desertification and Drought Control Rural Development Strategy 2020 Water Resources Development Strategy	1993 1993 1995 1995 1995 1996 1996 1997 1998 2001 1999 2000

15	Mozambique	National Environmental Policy National Environment Management Plan National Water Policy National Tourism Policy National Agrarian Policy National Land Policy Fisheries Policy Wild Life and Forestry Policy Industrial Policy Action Plan for Reduction of Absolute Poverty	1995 1995 1995 1995 (Rev. in 2003) 1996 1996 1996 1997 1997 1994
16	Namibia	Conservancy policy and Legislation Community Based Tourism Policy Land Policy and Draft Legislation Water Policy and Draft Legislation National Agriculture Policy National Environmental Health Policy National Population Policy for Sustainable Human Development Regional Planning and Dev. Policy Inland Fisheries Bill and Policy Aqua culture Policy Namibia's 12 Point Plan for Integrated and Sustainable Environmental Management. The Tourism White Paper and the Tourism Policy Land Use Planning Policy Conservation and Biotic Diversity and Habitat Protection Policy National Policy on Research, Science and Technology Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) Policy Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Demand Management Policies	-

17	Nigeria	Nigeria's National Rolling Plans and Budget Vision 2010 National Policy on Environment National Agenda 21 Ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity Participatory Approach State Environmental Action Plans National Action Plan and Strategy for Biological Diversity for Nigeria National Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	1993-2003 1997 1999 1997-1998 (being finalized) 2003
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18	Seychelles	Vision 21	2001-2010
19	South Africa	Reconstruction and Development Programme National Environmental Policy Integrated Development Programme (IDP) Integrated Rural Sustainable Development Programmes Urban Renewal Programme Ten Year Vision (to be adopted in 2004) The JPOI Response Strategy	1994 1996 1999 2001 2004-2014
20	Swaziland	Economic and Social Review Agenda Swaziland Environment Action Plan Sectoral Policies (Population Policy, National Environment Policy, National Land Policy, National Agricultural Policy and National Water Policy) National Development Strategy National Poverty Alleviation Strategy and Action Plan	1999 1997 Being developed 1997 Being developed
21	Tanzania	Energy Policy National Environmental Policy Sustainable Industry Development Policy Livestock Policy Agricultural Policy Forest Policy Vision 2025 Tanzania Tourism Policy National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Water Policy	1992 1997 1997 1997 1998 1998 1999 1999 2000 2001
22	Zambia	Transitional National Development Plan PRSP National Poverty Alleviation Strategy and Action Plan (being developed)	2003-2008 2002-2005
23	Zimbabwe	National Environment Education Policy Environmental Health Policy National Environment Policy	2002 2002 2003

Source: NCSD completed questionnaires (2003/2004)

Annex 4: Legal Framework

Survey countries

	Country	Legislation	Year of Enactment
1	Algeria	Presidential Decree on Environment and Sustainable Development	1994
2	Benin	Environmental Framework Law	1999
3	Botswana	Draft Environmental Assessment bill and an over-arching Environmental Management .. Act underway	In draft
4	Cameroon	Environmental Framework Law	1996
5	Central Africa	No response	No response
6	Egypt	Several environmentally related including Environmental Protection Law, 1994 Executive instrument of 1996 established the SD body	1994
7	Ethiopia	No specialized legislation but Supreme Law of the Land	-
8	The Gambia	Several environment and natural resources, infrastructure, land planning and local governance related legislation including National Environmental Management Act, 1994	1987 and 1994
9	Ghana	National Constitution-1992, various, GPRS-2000/1 compelling force of law (SD body established by Executive instrument in 1996)	1992
10	Kenya	Environment Management and Coordination Act	2000
11	Lesotho	Environmental Act (not operational)	2001
12	Malawi	Environmental Management Act	1996
13	Mauritius	Several environment and land planning related legislation including Environmental Protection Act, 2002	2002
14	Morocco	Several environmentally related legislation including Natural Resource Conservation law, 1995 and Environmental Protection Law, 2003 (Decree of 1995 established SD body)	1995 and 2003
15	Mozambique	Several environmentally related including Environmental Framework Law, 1997	1997
16	Namibia	National Planning Commission Act (SD addressed by several pieces of legislation.)	1994
17	Nigeria	Decree 58 on the Environmental Protection Agency and Executive Order of the President	1988 and 1999
18	Seychelles	None indicated (but have an Environmental Protection Act of 1994)	
19	South Africa	National Constitution and the Bill of Rights	Both 1993
20	Swaziland	Natural Resources Act and Environmental Management Act	1951 and 2002
21	Tanzania	Framework Environmental Legislation in Draft (*had one enacted in 1983)	In draft
22	Zambia	Stated indicated (but have an * Environmental. Protection and Pollution Control Act of 1990)	
23	Zimbabwe	Environmental Management Act	2002

Source: NCSD completed questionnaires, 2003/2004

Non-survey countries

	Country	Legislation	Year of Enactment
1	*Comoros	Environmental Framework Law	1994
2	*Djibouti	Environmental Framework Law	2000
3	*Mauritania	Environmental Framework Law	2000
4	*Senegal	Environmental Codes (Prime Ministerial Order of 1995 established the body)	1983 and 2001
5	*Togo	Environmental Code	1988
6	*Uganda	National Environment Statute	1995
7	Burkina Faso	Environmental Management Act	1997
8	Burundi	Environmental Code	No information
9	Guinea Bissau	No Information	No information
10	Madagascar	Environmental Charter	1999 and 1997
11	Niger	Constitution – 1999, Environmental Management Act- 1998; rural code - 1993 (Decree of 2000 established the NCSD)	See adjacent column
12	Rwanda	Environmental Framework Legislation	In draft as at 2003
13	Sao Tome and Principe	Basic Law of the Environment	1998
14	Tunisia	*Law Establishing EPA, 1988 & Presidential Initiative 1993- established the body	See adjacent column

Source: Madagascar and Rwanda, Nexus country reports; Burkina Faso, Niger and Sao Tome and Principe,
WSSD Country reports – www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/prep_process/natlassessrep.html; *Moutondo, E. G. 2004,
Draft Consultancy Report prepared for UNEP – Application of environmental framework law approaches in African countries: An overview.

	Country	Other legislation addressing SD issues
1	Algeria	Energy Control Law, 1999; Waste Legislation, 2001; Land Planning and Sustainable Development Law, 2001; Coastal Zone Management and Development Law, 2002; Law on Creation and Planning of New Cities, 2002; Law on Environmental Protection in the Framework of Sustainable Development, 2003.
2	Benin	Many including Workers Code 1998 and Artisan Code, 1998
3	Botswana	Agricultural Resources (Conservation) Act; Aquatic Weeds (Control) Act; Atmospheric Pollution (Prevention) Act; Diseases of Animals Act; Fencing Act; Fish Protection; Forest Act; Herbage Preservation (Prevention of Fires) Act; Industrial Development Act; Land Control Act; Locusts Act; Mines, Quarries, Works and Machinery Act; Monuments and Relics Act; Noxious Weeds Act; Plant Diseases and Pests Act; Pounds Act; Public Health Act; Sleeping Sickness Act; State Land Act; Tourism Act; Town and Country Planning Act; Tribal Land Act; Water Act; Waterworks Act; Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act
4	Cameroon	Water Law, 1988; Mining Law, 2001; Fauna, Forests Fisheries Law, 1994; Modern Biotechnology, 2003; Land Act, 1981
5	Central Africa Republic	-
6	Egypt	Many including: Law for protection of river Nile and water streams and canals, 1982; Ministerial decision for sustainable development of Nasser Lake, 2002; Decision for disposal of sanitary drainage on lands, 2000; Decision for housing matters, 1975; Decision for Agricultural matters, 2000
7	Ethiopia	Proclamation establishing EPA ; Proclamations on EIA, Pollution Control and other pieces of legislation directly related to SD
8	The Gambia	EIA Regulations and Guidelines (1999); International Conventions and Agreements; Land Tenure and Land Use Regulations like the Local Government Act; Infrastructure and Industrial Legislation; Public Health and Pollution Regulations; Decentralization Act; Other Natural Resources Management Legislations such as the Fisheries Act, Conservation Acts, Forestry Act,.
9	Ghana	-
10	Kenya	Many including: Agriculture Act (cap. 318) – agriculture/land degradation; Water Act (2002) – water resources management; Forest Act (cap. 385) being reviewed – forestry/biodiversity. Wildlife Management and Coordination Act(cap.376) being reviewed; Mining Act(cap. 306) – being reviewed – mining; Fisheries Act (cap.378 – being reviewed fisheries; Public Health Act (cap. 242) – health
11	Lesotho	-
12	Malawi	Forestry Act; Decentralization Act; Fisheries Act and their policies and Water Resources Act
13	Mauritius	Wastewater Management Act, 2002; The Waste Management Act, 2004; Public Health Act, 1925; The Town and country Planning Act, 2004; Wildlife and National Parks Act, 1993; Occupational Safety, Health and Welfare Act, 1989
14	Morocco	Water Resources Act, 1995; EIA Act, 2003; Water Pollution Act, 2003; Agricultural Land Preservation Act, 1990; Laws on Air, Water and Waste
15	Mozambique	Forestry and Wild Life Law, 1999; Mining Law, 2000; EIA Regulation, 1998; Environmental Auditing Regulation, 2003; Water Law, 1993; Oil Law, 1998; Investment Law, 1993
16	Namibia	Conservancy policy and legislation; Draft policy on the sustainable use and management of wildlife; Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Bill and Environmental Management Policy; Community Based Tourism Policy; Forestry Policy and Act; Land Policy and draft legislation; Water Policy and draft legislation; National Agriculture Policy; Cooperatives policy and legislation; National Environmental Health Policy; National Policy and Strategy for Malaria Control; National Population Policy for Sustainable Human Development; Regional Planning and Development Policy; Marine Resources Act; Inland Fisheries Bill and Policy; Aqua culture Policy; Namibian Trade Policy; Namibia's 12 Point Plan for Integrated and Sustainable Environmental Management; The Tourism White Paper and the Tourism Policy; Land Use Planning Policy; Conservation and Biotic Diversity and Habitat Protection Policy; Wildlife Management, Utilization and Tourism in Communal Area; National Policy on Research, Science and Technology; National Land Policy; Communal Land Reform Bill; White Paper on Science and Technology Policy; Biosafety Policy and Biosafety Bill; Prospecting and Mining in Protected Areas and National Monuments; Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) Policy; Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Demand Management Policies; Environmental Management Bill and Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill; Access to genetic resources and the associated traditional knowledge Bill
17	Nigeria	-
18	South Africa	Bill of Rights of 1993
19	Sevchelles	Environmental Protection Act of 1994

Annex 5: Other sustainable development-related legislation

Source: NCSD completed questionnaires (2003/2004)