

# UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES)



# Key elements of UNDP's SES

## Overarching Policy and Principles

- Principle 1: Human Rights
- Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
- Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability

## Project-Level Standards

- Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management
- Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions
- Standard 4: Cultural Heritage
- Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement
- Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples
- Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency



## Policy Delivery Process and Accountability

- ✓ Quality Assurance
- ✓ Screening and Categorization
- ✓ Assessment and Management
- ✓ Stakeholder Engagement and Response Mechanism
- ✓ Access to Information
- ✓ Monitoring, Reporting and Compliance

**2008 – 2010:**  
screening procedure design phase

**2011:** testing phase

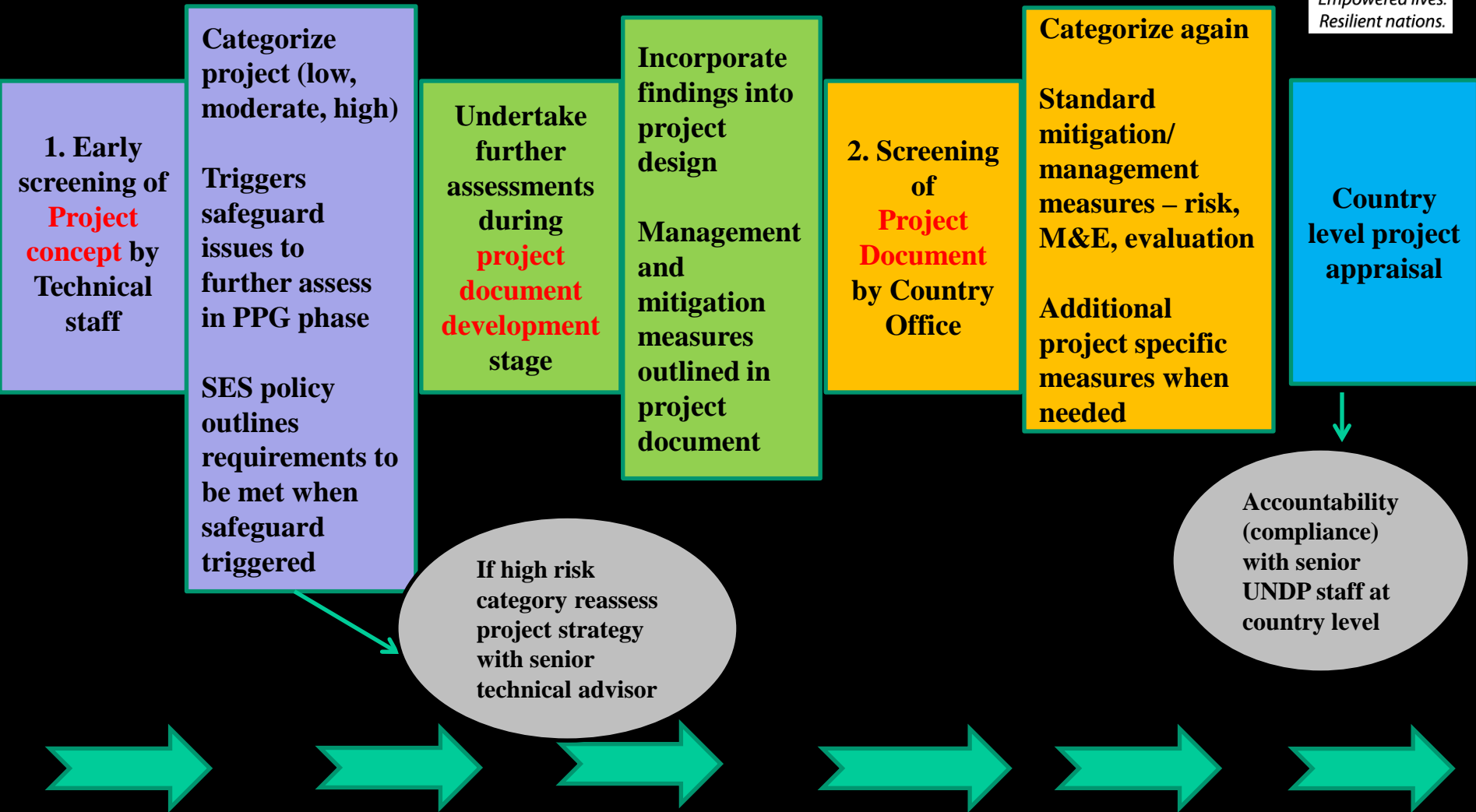
**2012:** screening procedure adopted

**2013/2014:**  
consultation on SES

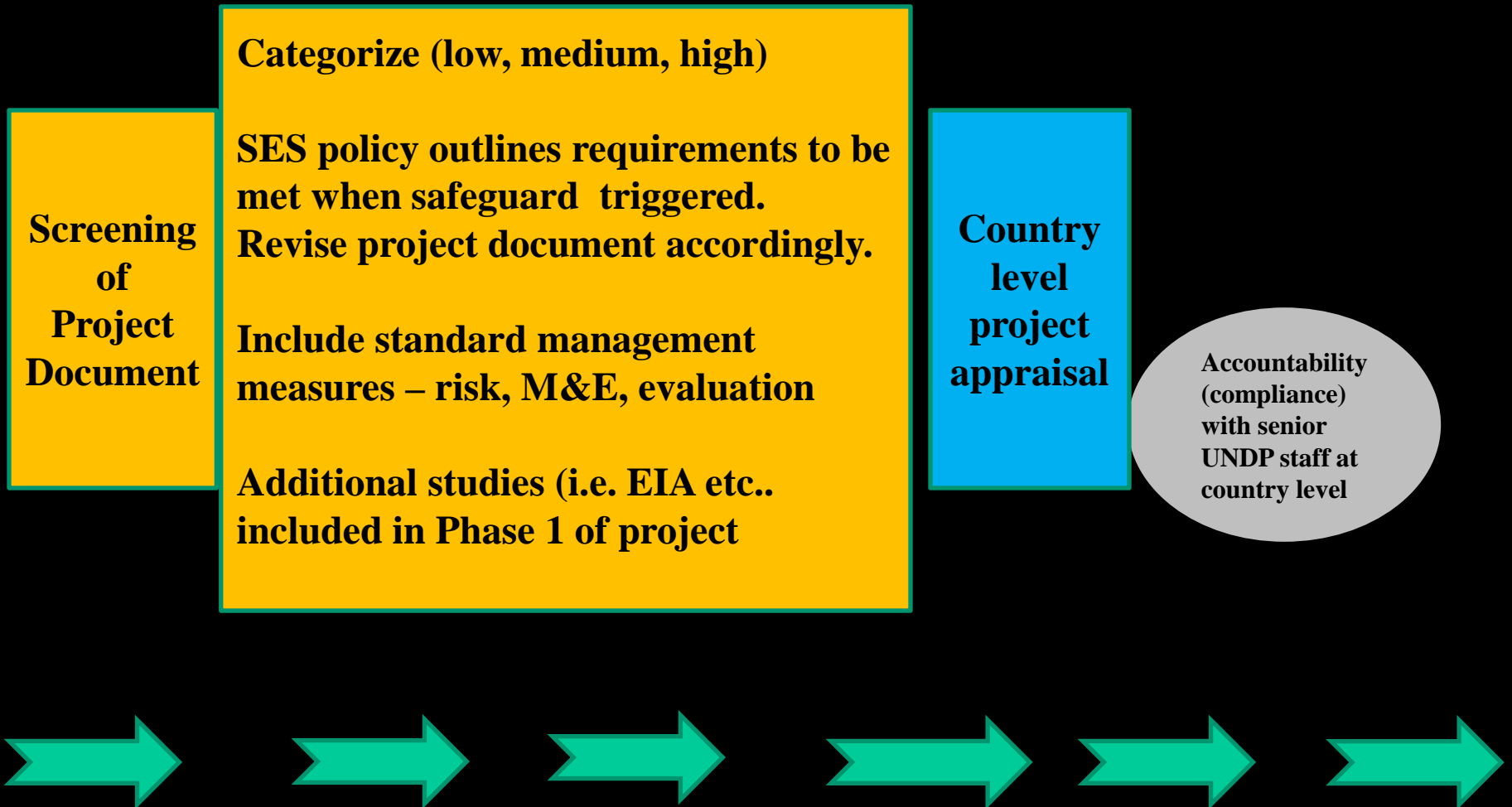
**June 2014 – SES**  
adopted

**End 2014:** roll out and compliance with GEF safeguards policy

# UNDP process for “two-step” project approval cycle



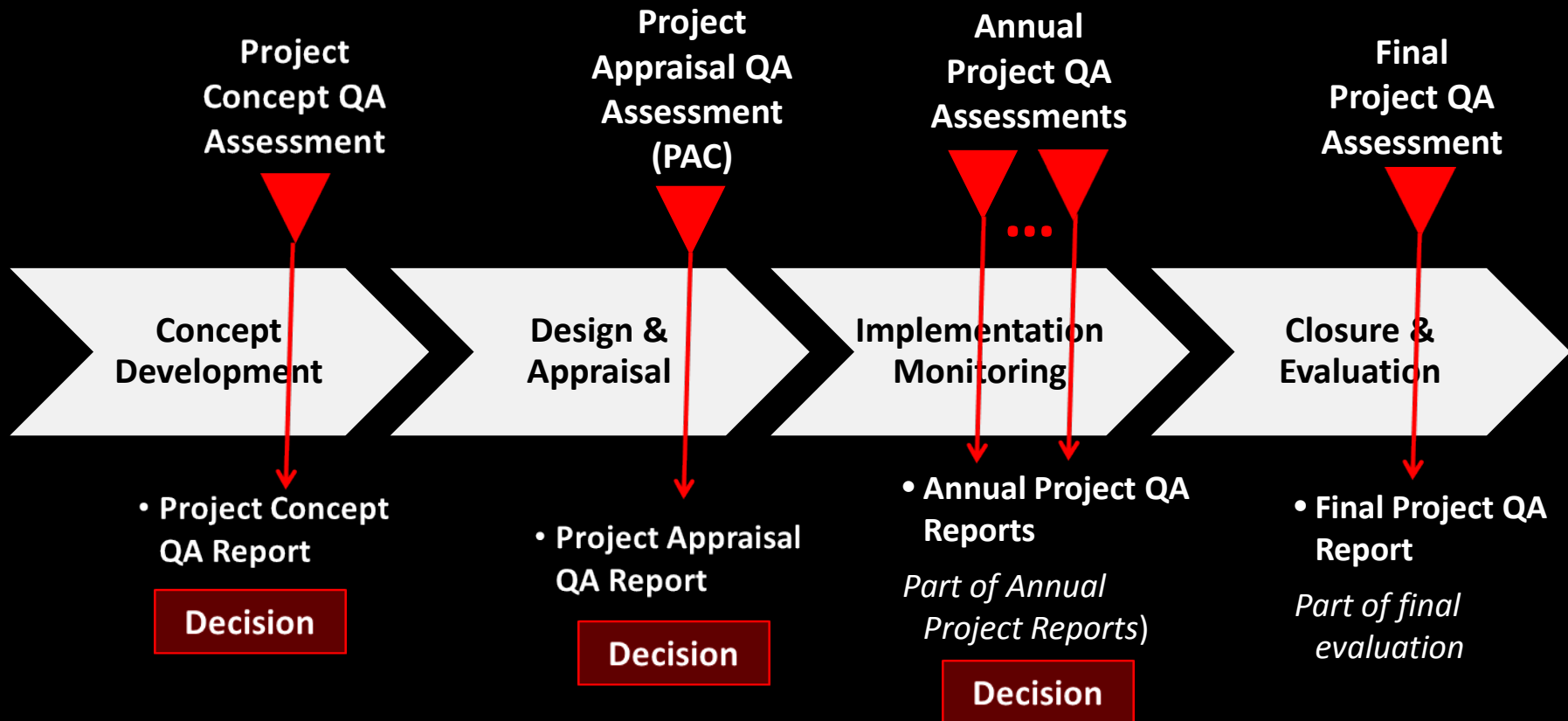
# UNDP process for “one-step” project approval cycle



# UNDP project cycle



*At the end of Concept Development, Design & Appraisal, and Closure & Evaluation, and at least annually during Implementation Monitoring stages, project QA assessments are conducted to review and rate the project, and make a decision regarding moving forward.*



# ANNUAL PROJECT MONITORING QA REPORT

	⌘	DECISION:	CONTINUE
OVERALL PROJECT QUALITY RATING:	SATISFACTORY ●●●●○	TREND:	CONSISTENT →
RESULTS ACHIEVEMENT STATUS:	EXPECTED ☑	TREND:	IMPROVING ↗

## PROJECT QUALITY ASSURANCE CRITERIA

STRATEGIC	RELEVANT	MANAGEMENT & MONITORING	EFFICIENT	EFFECTIVE	ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL STANDARDS	SUSTAINABILITY & NATIONAL OWNERSHIP
HIGH ●●●●●	SATISFACTORY ●●●●○	SATISFACTORY ●●●●○	POOR ●●●●○	SATISFACTORY ●●●●○	SATISFACTORY ●●●●○	SATISFACTORY ●●●●○
CONSISTENT →	CONSISTENT →	DECLINING ↘	DECLINING ↘	IMPROVING ↗	CONSISTENT →	CONSISTENT →

## QA SUMMARY

- Since the last quality assessment, project quality has diminished in Management & Monitoring and Efficient criteria. Project management and monitoring has been less than effective due to a 4-month gap without a UNDP Project Manager and changes in government personnel involved with the project. Project outputs are being achieved per plan (an improvement), but efficiency is unclear and a long-term view of sustainability of benefits is lacking.
- Efficiency in procurement of consultancy services is 40% over budget to date.
- Most Management Actions identified in the previous quality assessment have been addressed, though not all achieved by defined target dates. Actions remaining to be addressed include: articulation of a clear sustainability and transition plan for the project, annual project indicator measurements confirmed by national counterparts, and ongoing management the risk management plan including mitigation measures.

## KEY RESULTS HIGHLIGHTS

- Key results for 2014 include training of over 4,000 government staff from 15 Districts, and transition of 5 Districts to full government ownership and management of the MDG agenda.
- Output achievement is on track and within quality criteria, with the exception of delays in training scheduled for the 4 Southeast Districts due to regional flooding.
- 2 of 5 project outputs are achieved, with appropriate levels of quality.

## KEY RESULTS DETAILS

- Following a change in approach in 2014, more rapid training was planned following a training team travelling to each District rather than a "train-the-trainer" approach. Through these efforts, the project removed 500 staff-days of training time, and saved \$25,000 in training budget. The training team reported a set of lessons and conclusions based on their events in 15 Districts; very helpful for future trainings and shared through *Team works* as "An Approach for Increasing the Effectiveness and Efficiency of Country-wide Training Rollouts."

## MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Jul-2015	J. Abrams	Quarterly risk monitoring to begin Q4-2015, following briefings with Ministry leadership to emphasize the importance of government participation and ownership.
Aug-2015	J. Abrams	A sustainability and transition plan to be developed and reviewed for government approval. The implementation of this plan may require additional project budget.

# Issues identified during screening of project concept

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**Gender:** Differences in the way women and men would access and benefit from changing freshwater availability

## **Impact:**

- Changed investment technology as it could have led to other environmental impacts
- Focus on ‘proper use’ training when pesticides/herbicides involved in small scale agriculture
- Siting of early warning system/other equipment

**Indigenous Peoples**

**Relocation**

## Lessons learned

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- **Context** - safeguards are about achieving better development results
- **Risk management** - helped us to better define and monitor/manage risks
- **Clear accountability** – who is responsible for what
- **Clarity on which safeguards apply** - National EIA or ESIA and/or UNDP SES
- **Compliance and dispute resolution** – also ensure policy gets implemented