

Source-to-Sea Governance

Introduction to the Fundamentals

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Source-to-sea governance – addressing system linkages

Key flows connect the source-to-sea system from land to open ocean.



Source-to-sea governance considers the entire source-to-sea system – stressing upstream and downstream linkages and stimulates coordination across sectors and segments.



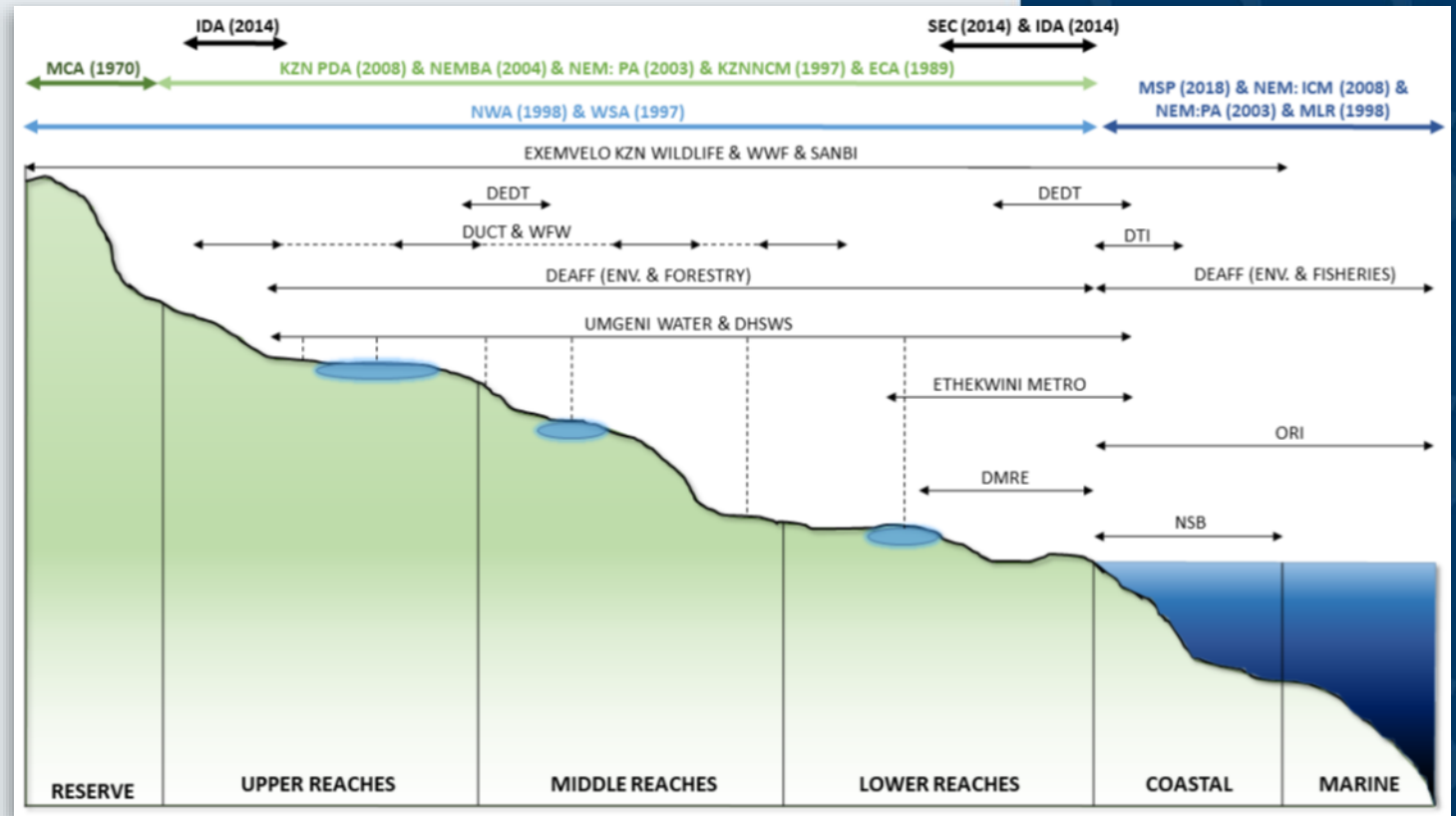
Activities on land affect freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems

- Eutrophication from excess nutrients from agricultural runoff and untreated wastewater
- Reduced groundwater recharge and poor water quality due to loss of wetlands
- Sinking deltas as a result of sediment trapping upstream or excessive groundwater use
- Plastic waste in rivers, on beaches and in the ocean
- Biodiversity loss from habitat fragmentation and loss of connectivity
- Decreased carbon sequestration due to ecosystem degradation



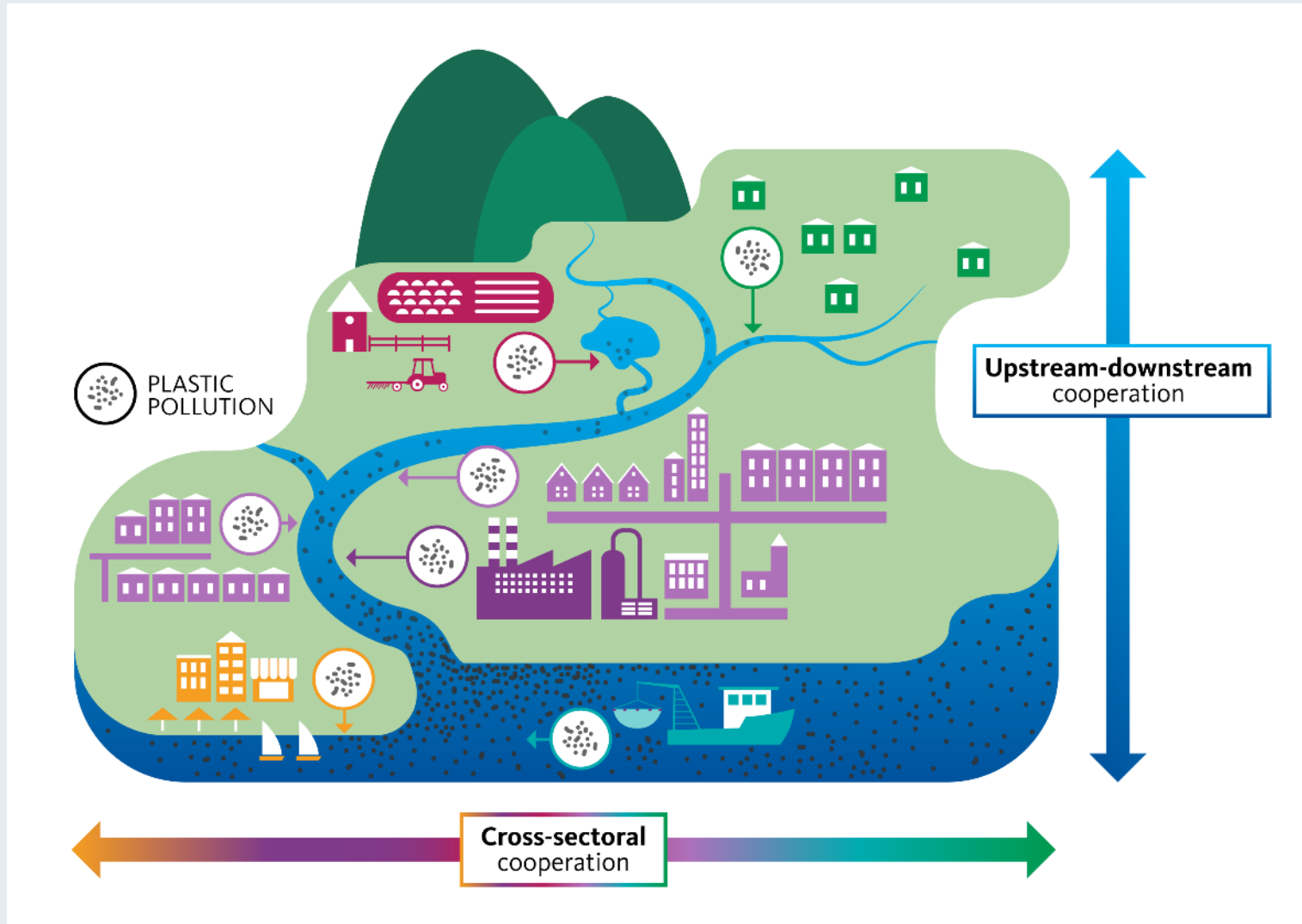
Why is source-to-sea governance needed?

Fragmented governance is undermining efforts toward sustainable development.



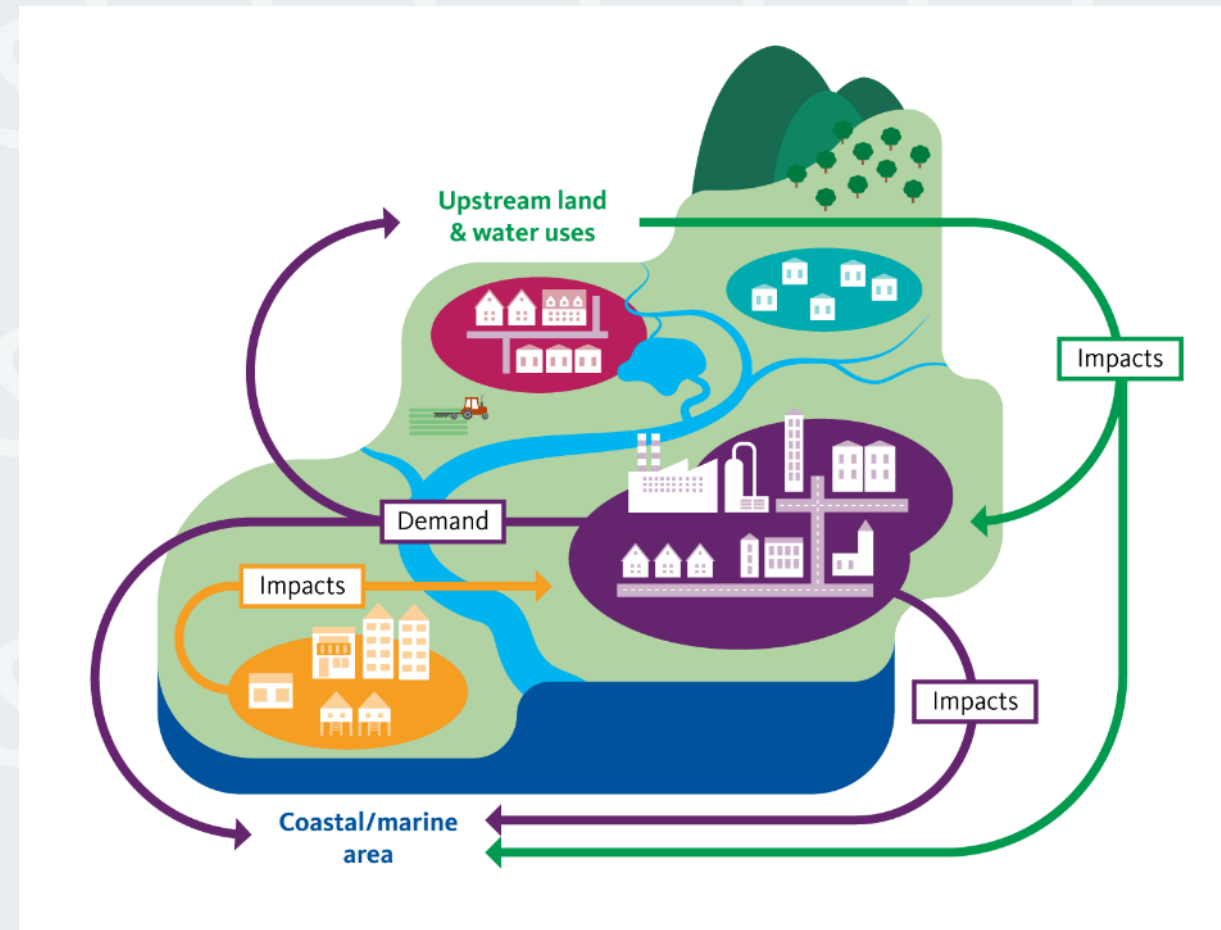
Source: Havs- och vattenmyndighetens rapport 2019:15

Source-to-sea governance

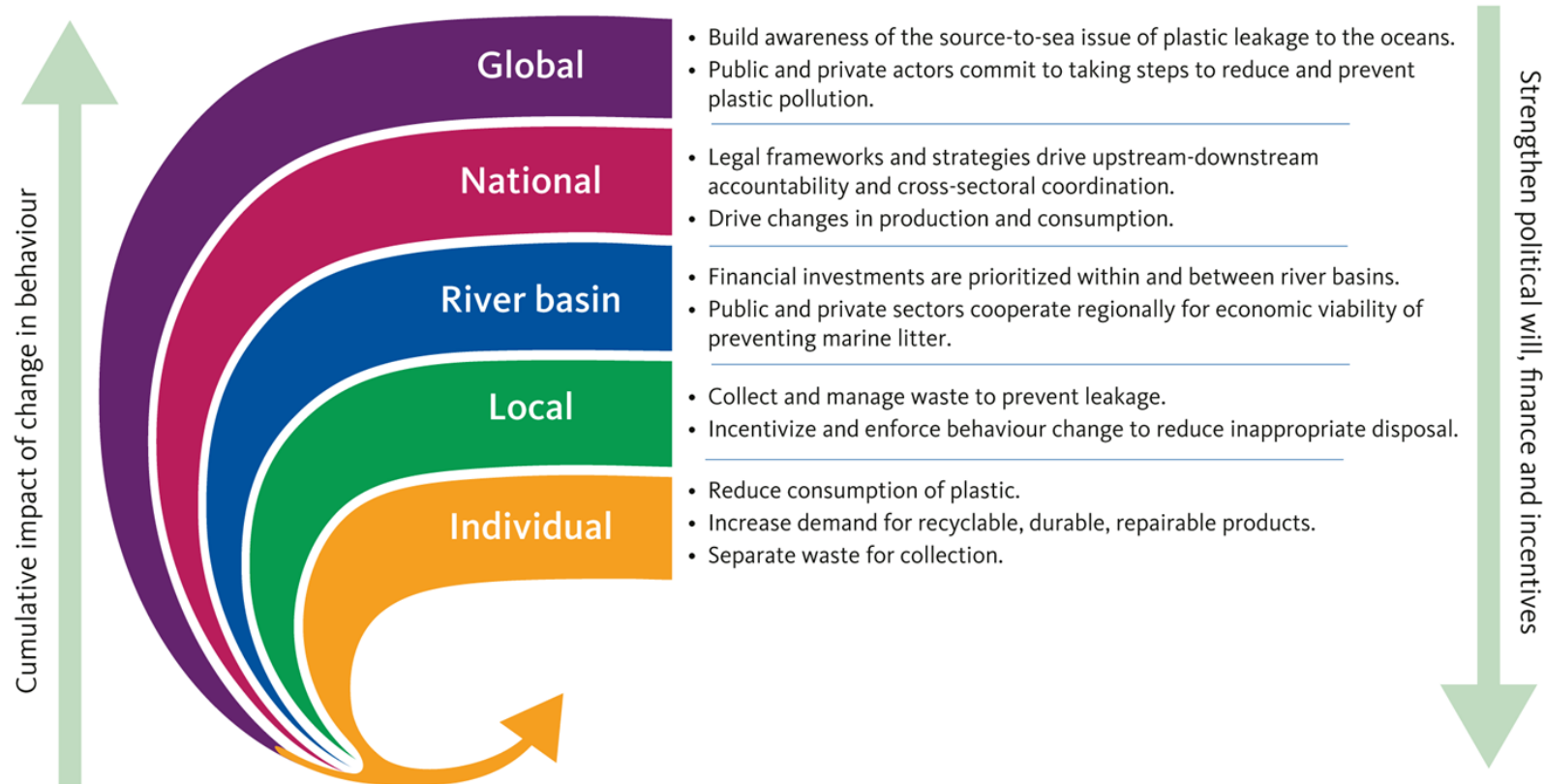


Benefits of source-to-sea governance

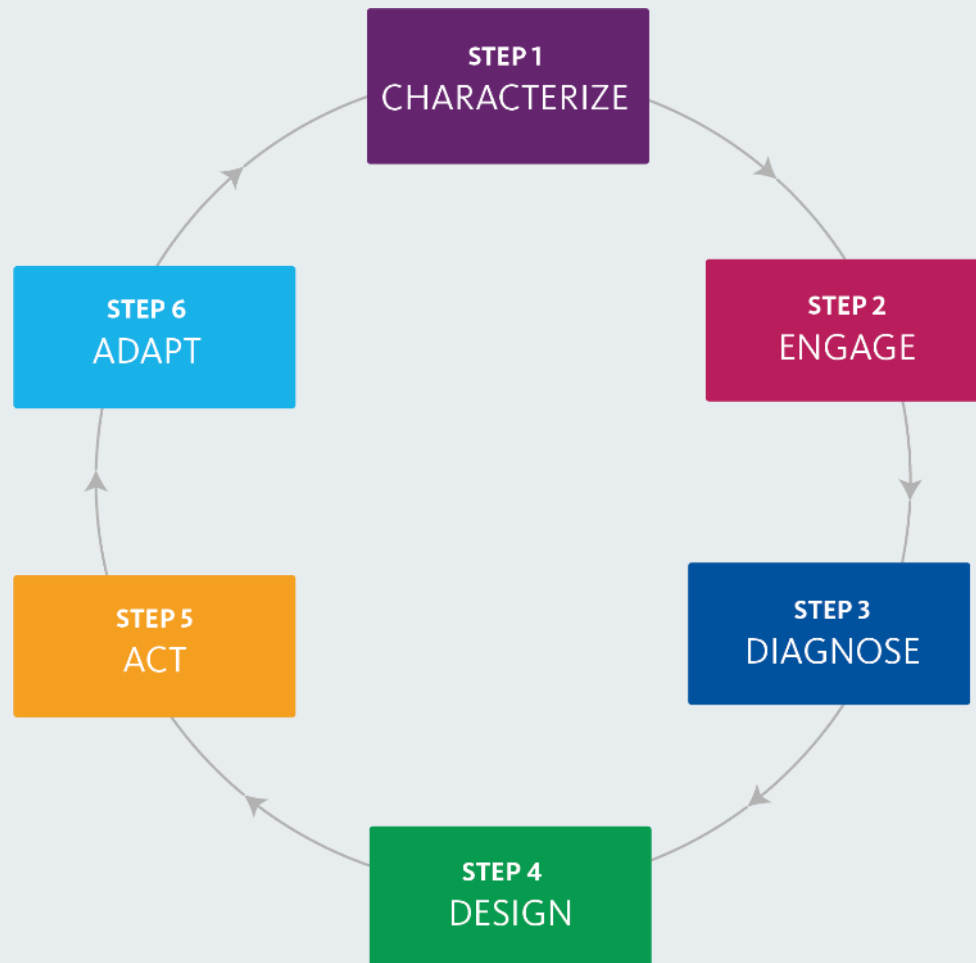
- Balances and protects development priorities from the source all the way to the sea.
- Links policies and practice across terrestrial, freshwater, coastal, and marine systems.
- Stimulates cooperation between upstream and downstream actors as well as coordination across sectors.
- Ensures outcomes of mutual benefit from source to sea by addressing challenges that span traditional land-freshwater-marine boundaries.



Cascading actions to address source-to-sea challenges



Source-to-sea approach



A six-step process that guides stakeholders in developing a shared vision and an action plan for achieving it.

Holistic
Context-dependent
Collaborative
Results-oriented
Participatory
Adaptive

Sources and impacts



Stakeholders



Institutions and instruments



Theory of change



Action plan



Shared vision

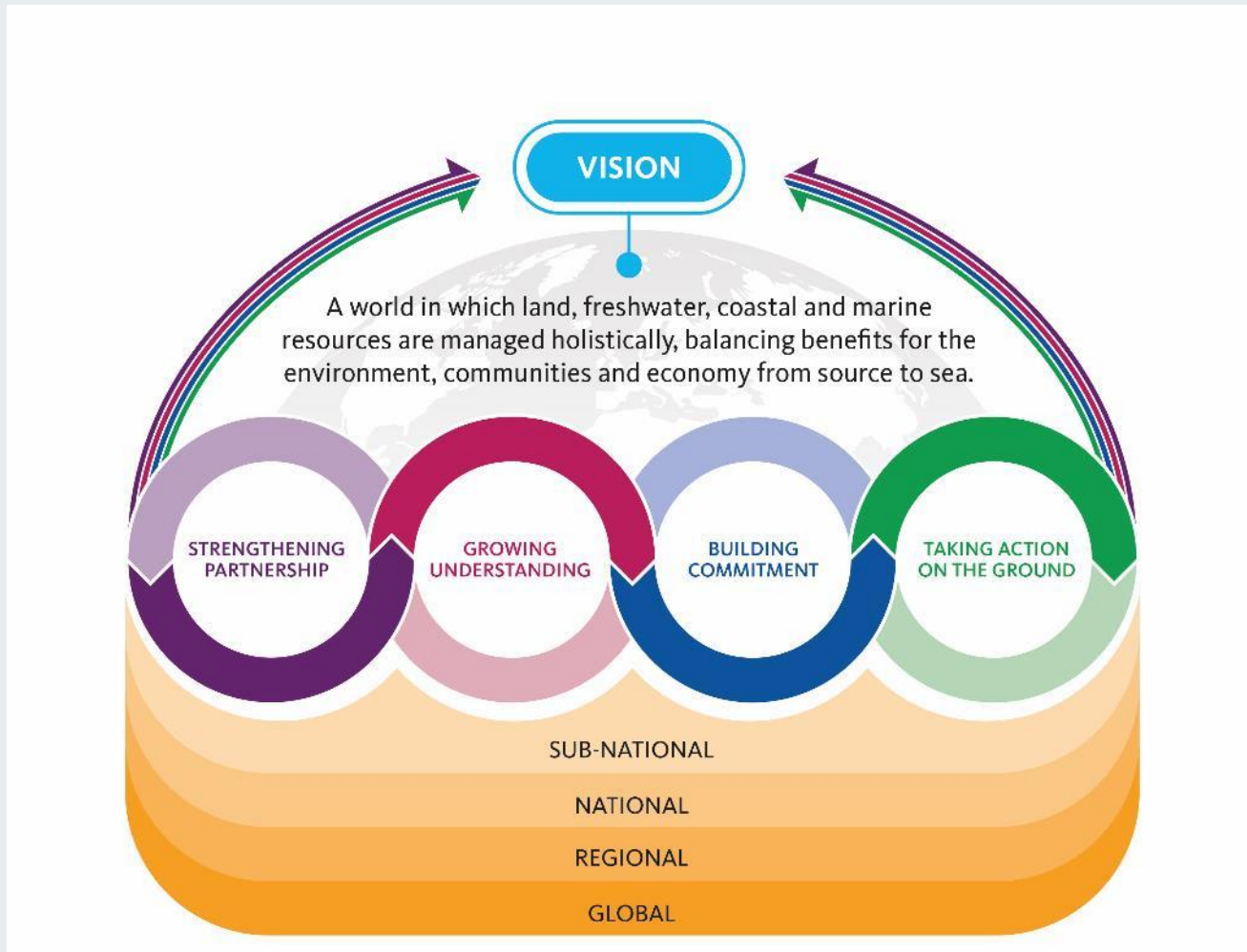


Co-creating an action plan

- Sector specific focus groups to deepen understanding of the local context
- Bring stakeholders together to share their perspectives
- Collect insights into the problem - barriers, gaps, challenges, opportunities
- Identify actions to address these
- Make agreements on roles and responsibilities
- Implement, monitor progress, learn and adapt



Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management (S2S Platform)



Resources on source-to-sea

