

SFM C&I : Turkish Experience

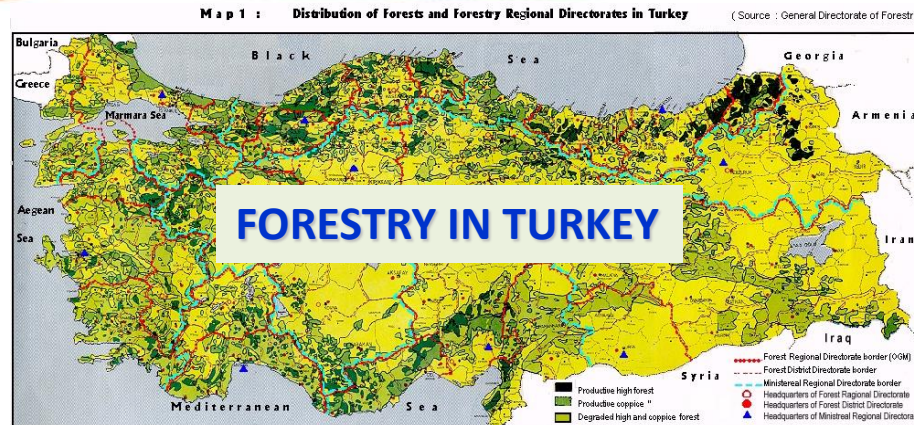
Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Georgia



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THE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND WATER AFFAIRS

General Directorate of Forestry

General Directorate of Nature Protection and National Parks

General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion Control

LEGAL STRUCTURE : Two forestry articles in the constitution, one main forestry law, three forest related laws

FOREST RESOURCES: 22.342.935 Ha area (56.6 % closed), 1.6 billion m³ volume, 46 million m³ increment

Turkey and Sustainable Forest Management C&I Process

1997

Alignment to international developments on forestry

1998



GDF's
Strategy
Towards
2000s

GDF prepared a strategy document in 1998.

This document mainly aims to strengthen financial, technical and institutional capacity of GDF in response to IPF/IFF proposals and MCPFE (Forest Europe) resolutions.

The document recommends;

- ✓ throughout analysis of the forestry sector
- ✓ and start of SFM C&I implementation in Turkey.

1998

1999-2001

Strategy document triggered the preparation of Forestry Sector Review through a World Bank project:

Primary subjects analyzed were:

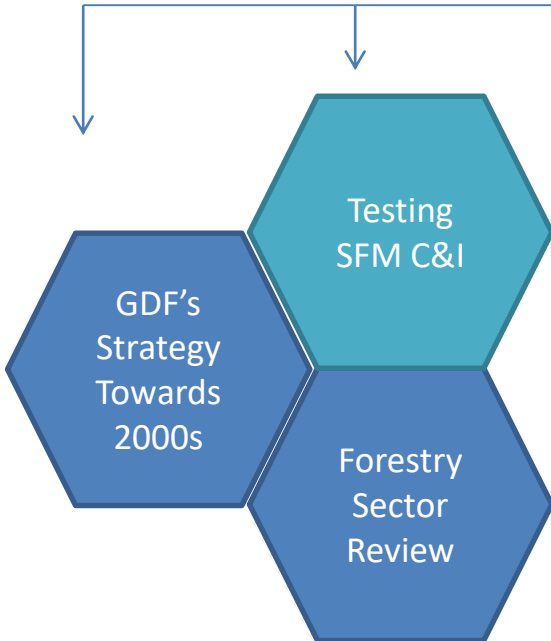
- ✓ Sector's financial structure
- ✓ Social aspects
- ✓ Forest management planning
- ✓ Institutional and legal frame
- ✓ Protected areas

More than 600 rural community representatives, 10 Governors, 125 Village Headman, 17 Heads of Unions, 100 forest workers, many representatives of public organizations, representatives of Treasury, experts of State Planning Organization were interviewed and a survey conducted in 120 villages and a series of workshops were organized.

GDF's
Strategy
Towards
2000s

Forestry
Sector
Review

1998 1999-2001



The Department initiated the testing phase of SFM C&I

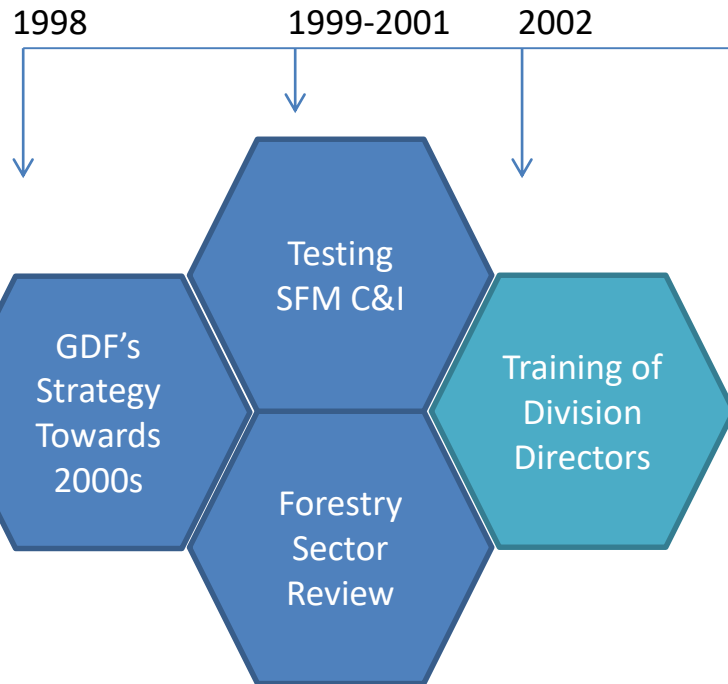
- ✓ Pan-European and Near East SFM C&I sets were harmonized
- ✓ The indicators were not changed only irrelevant ones excluded
- ✓ A form was designed and send to all forestry units to be filled

Results of the test:

- ✓ The forestry units out of the GDF were not able to provide the data and information for the indicators within their scope of work. These indicators are mainly about biodiversity, protective functions of forests and social aspects of forests.
- ✓ Many forestry units under GDF were also failed to provide decent data and information.
- ✓ There was a huge gap in data availability.
- ✓ Cross checks against data from other sources shown that there were also substantial discrepancies.
- ✓ Particularly data in time series was unusable

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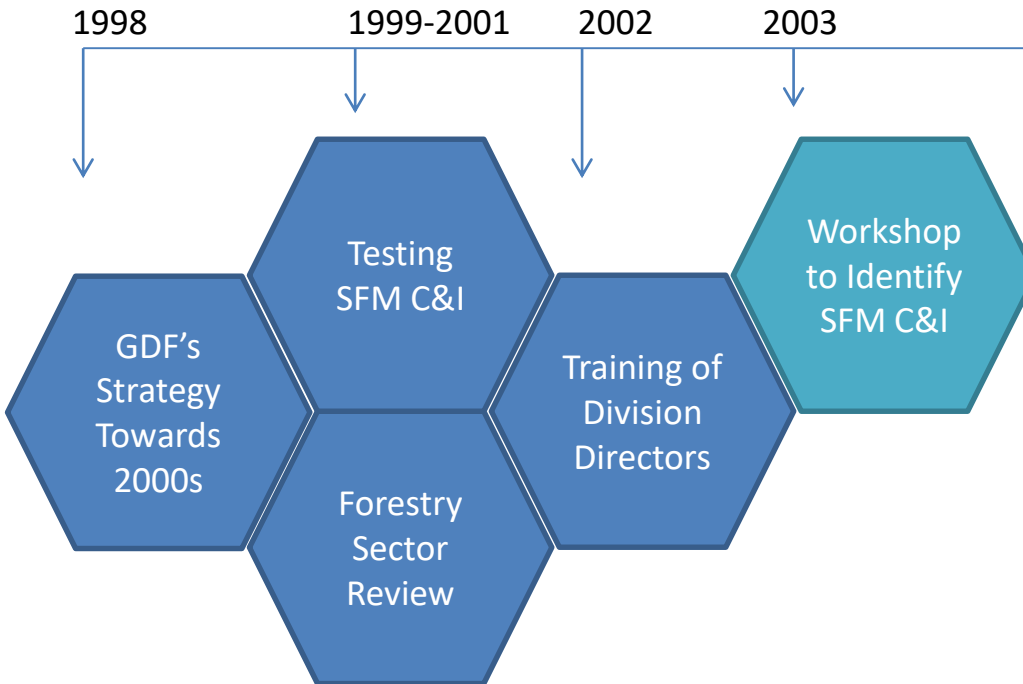
It was clear that most of the related division directors were not familiar with the SFM C&I implementation. The indicators thought to be the means of international reporting only.

The department organized a training program on the sustainable forest management and implementation of C&I in Gumuldur.

All of the related division directors of the regional directorates, who will coach the subsequent activities in their regions, were trained.

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The General Directorate of Forestry decided to proceed towards the development of SFM C&I within its jurisdiction and not to wait for the integration of other units.

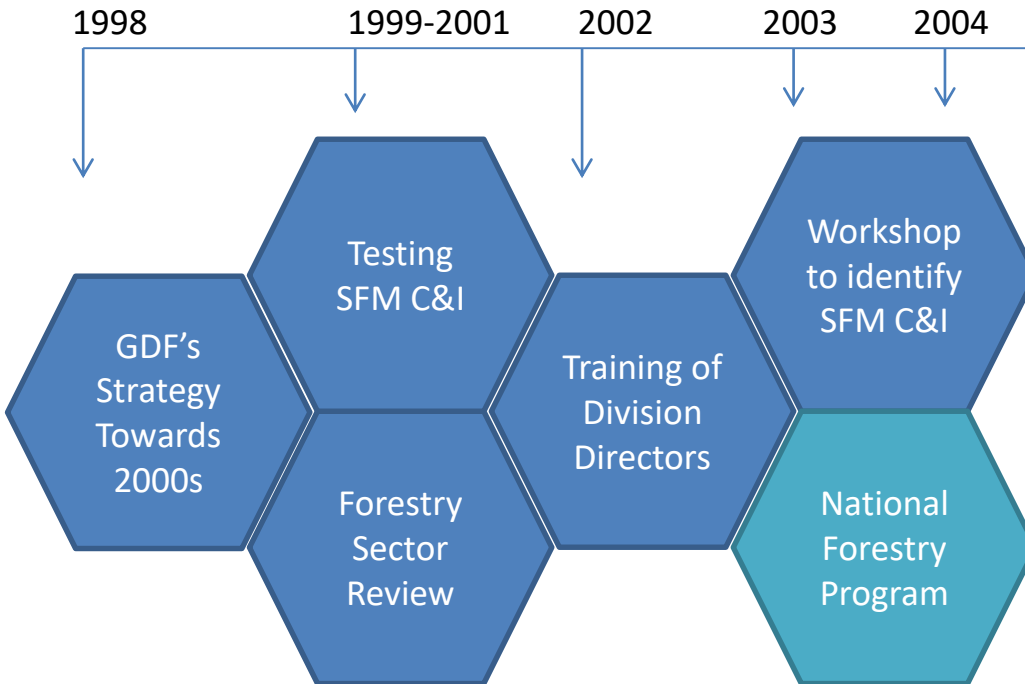
The department invited all representatives of the stakeholders, other forestry units and public organizations to the workshop organized in Bursa.

Three working groups (each for 2 criteria) were set to handle identification of the indicators.

The set of 6 criteria and 28 indicators were identified and sent to all stakeholders for their comments, and finally, agreed and declared in 2003.

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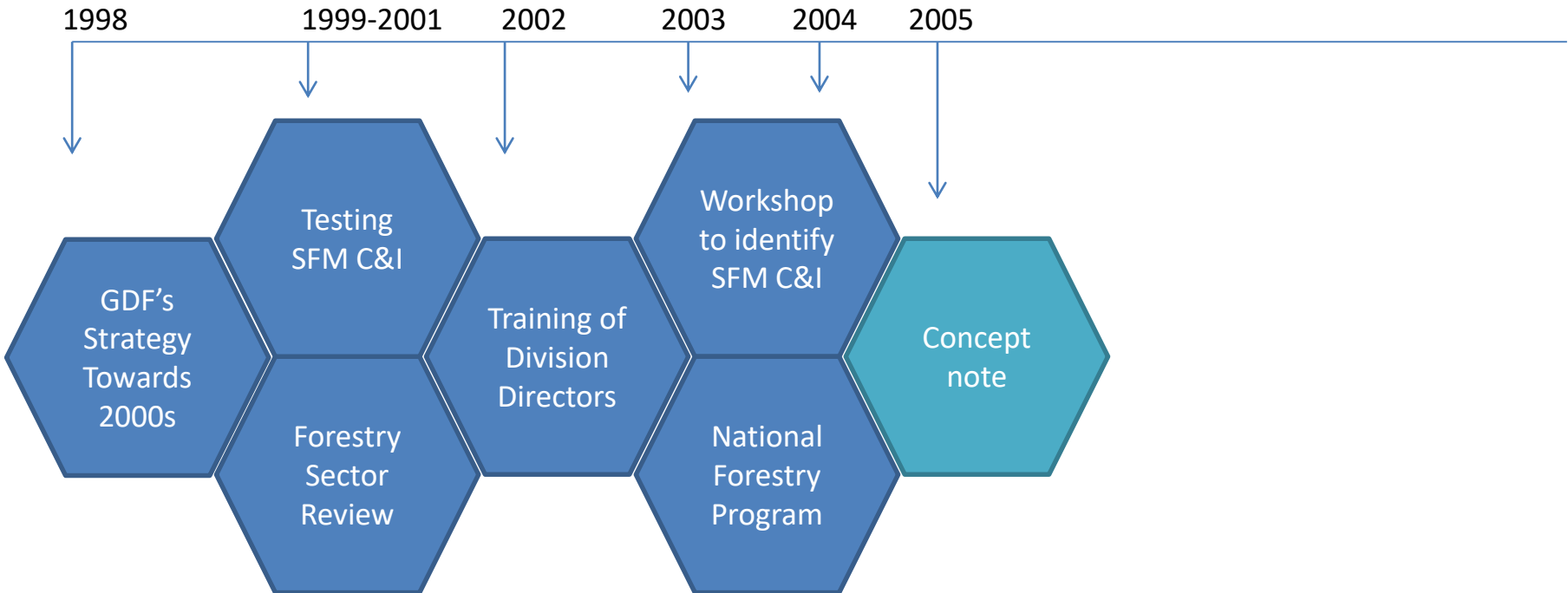
The preparation of the National Forestry Program was an important milestone.

The program establishes National Advisory Board composed of high level representatives of the public and private stakeholders.

The program also provides a legal ground for the SFM C&I implementation.

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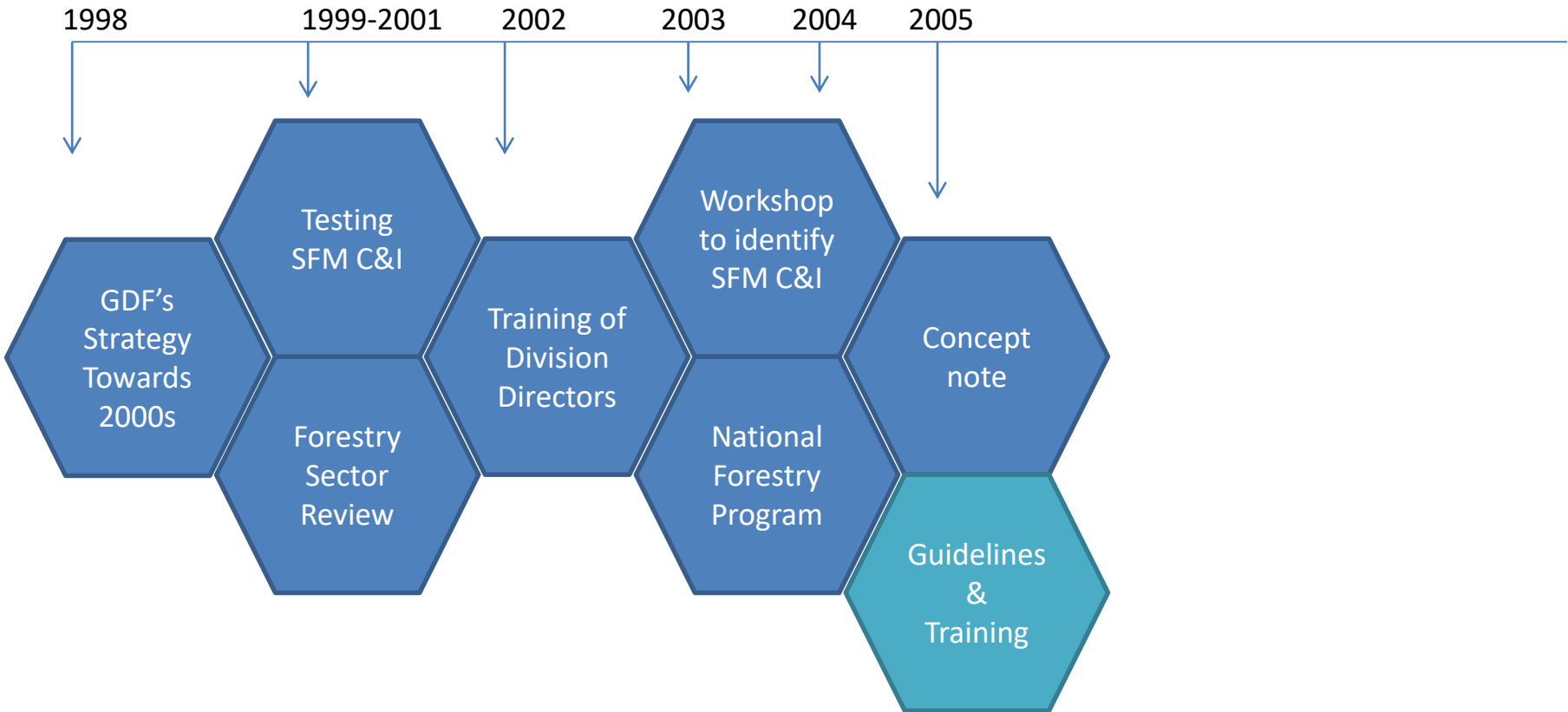


A concept note was prepared and made available to all stakeholders. Mainly the followings were explained:

- ✓ The overall process of SFM C&I development
- ✓ What does it mean to implement SFM C&I
- ✓ Policy driven nature of Turkish SFM C&I implementation
- ✓ The importance of participation, transparency, applicability
- ✓ Dynamic nature of the C&I

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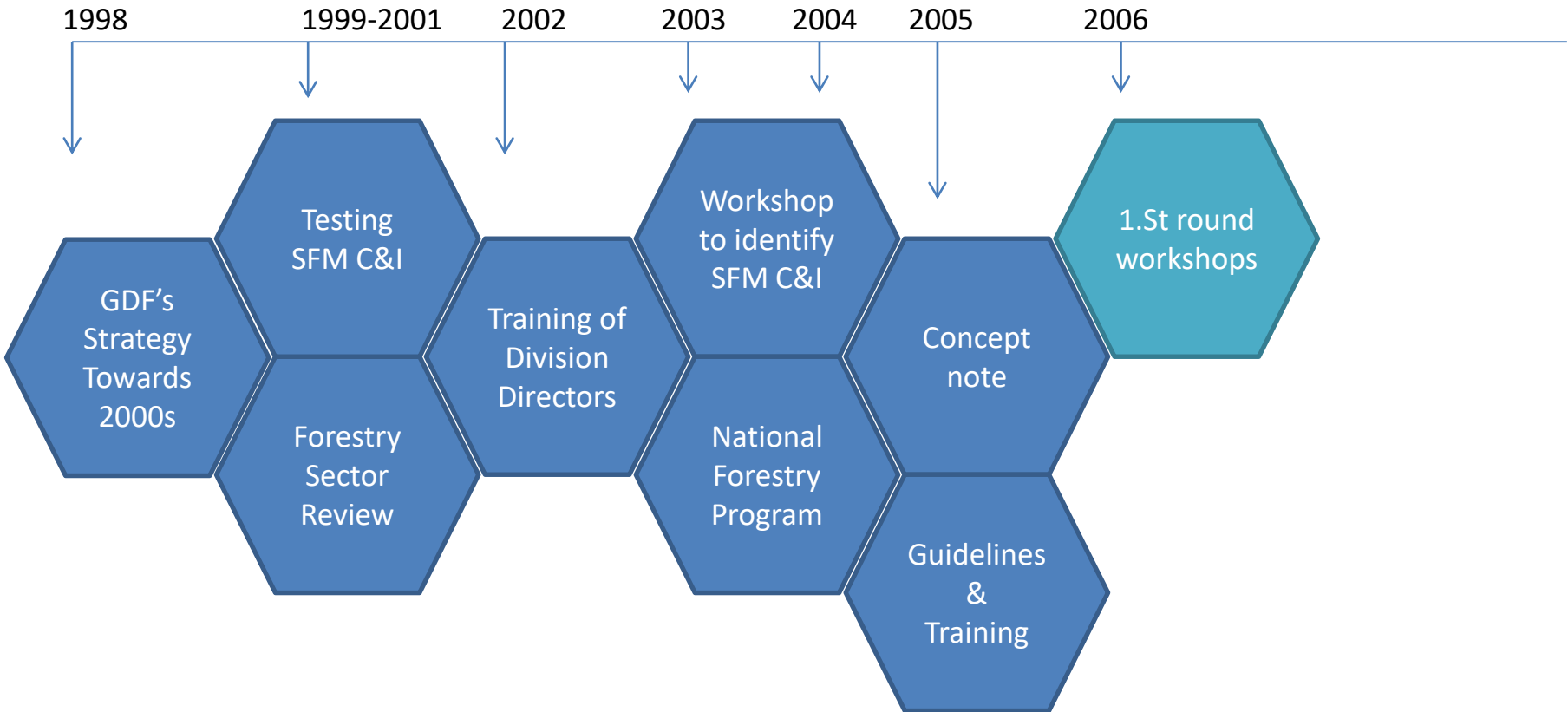
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In 2005, a kick-off workshop was organized, the related division directors were trained and a guideline, particularly, about the conduct of the workshops was introduced.

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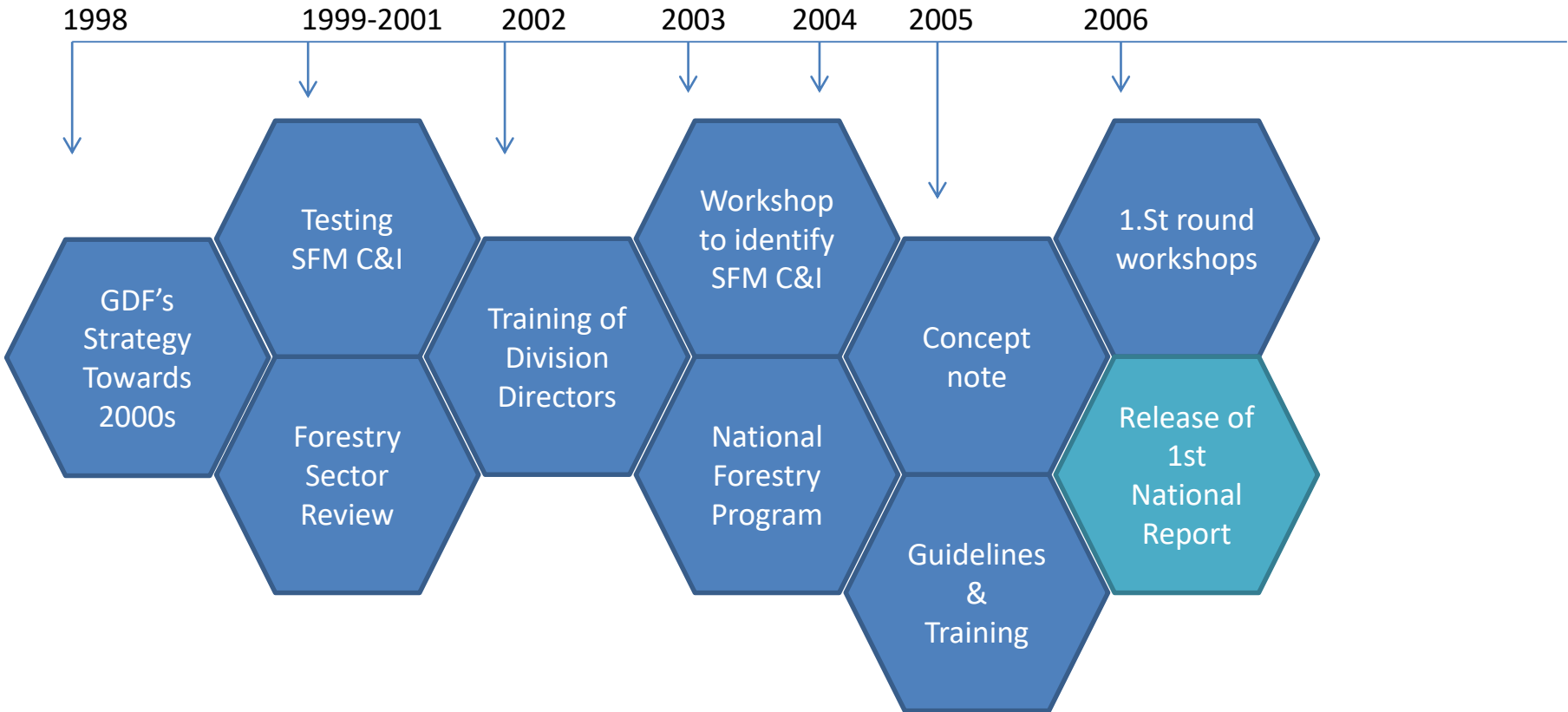


Workshops at management unit level (provinces) were organized to assess and report the findings based on collected data and information structured within the frame of C&I.

The participation was very satisfactory. 547 from forestry sector, 1214 from other sectors (389 village headman, 104 from municipalities, 118 from universities and research institutions, 97 from unions, 94 from NGOs and environmental organizations, 209 from other public organizations, 51 from private sector, 7 from military, 34 from press, 111 students, individuals, religious men etc.)

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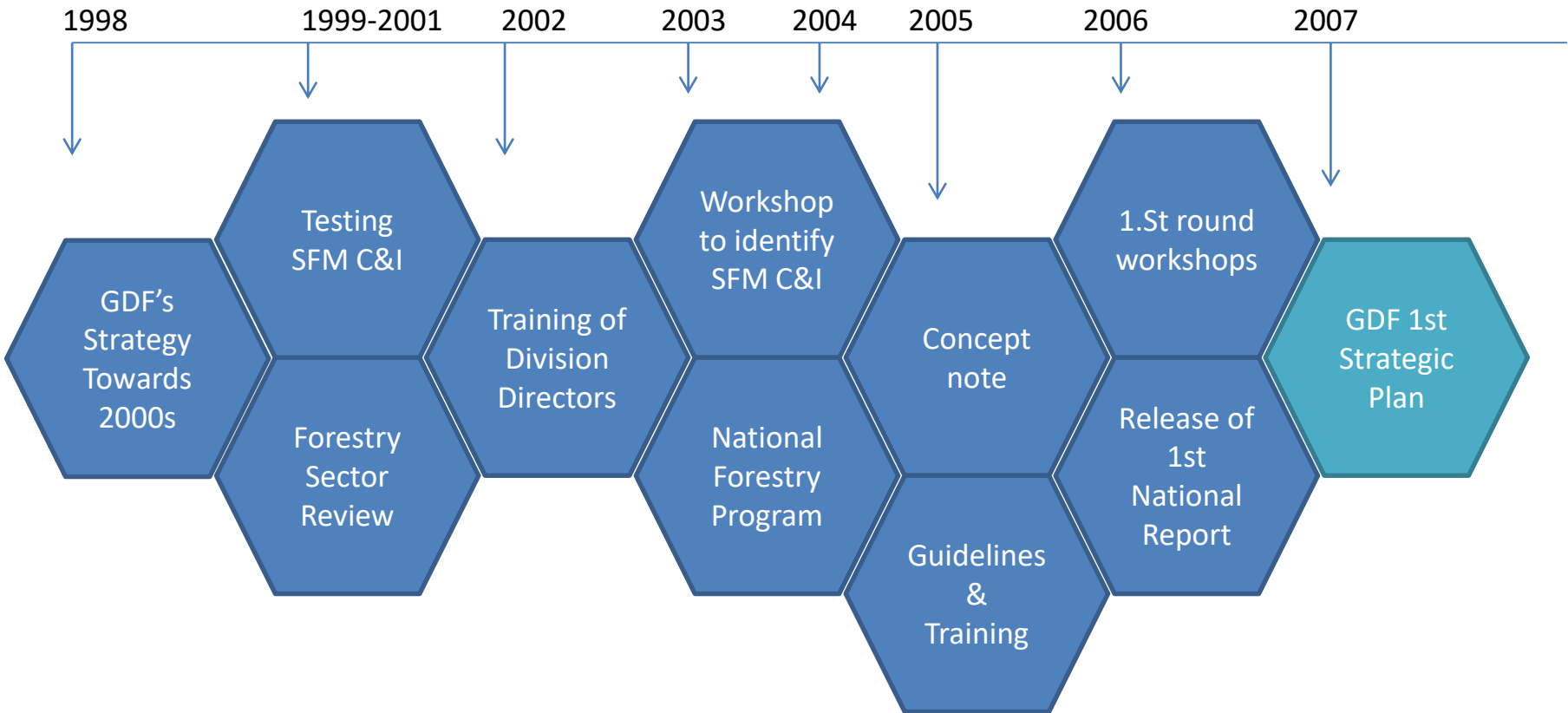
Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Georgia



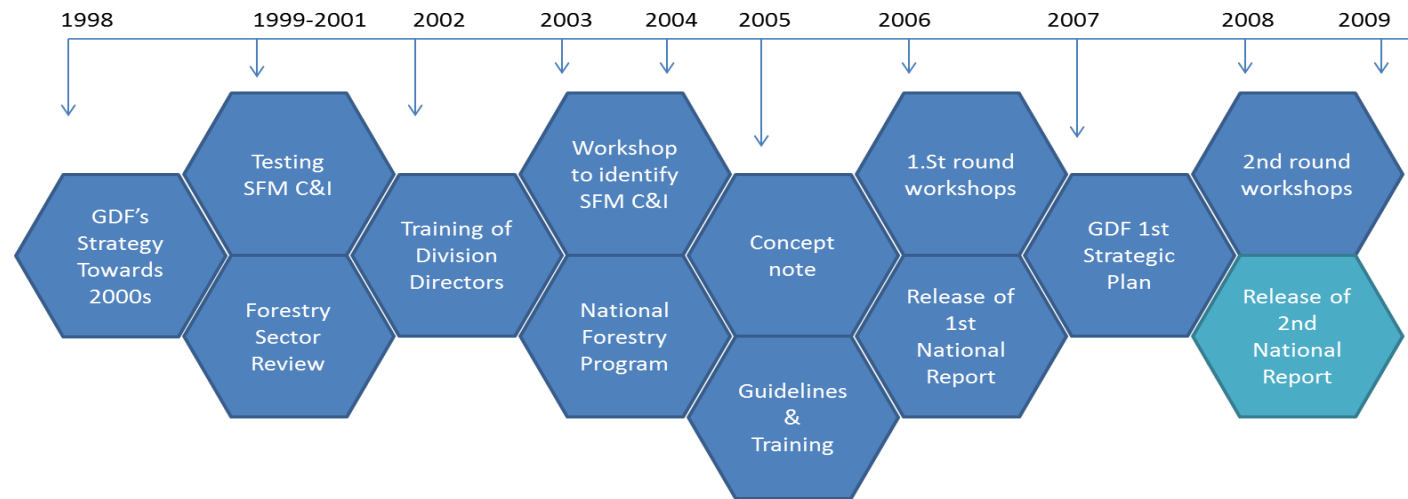
The first national report was prepared based on the reports came from management unit levels. The report was sent to all stakeholders for their comments, finalized and officially released.

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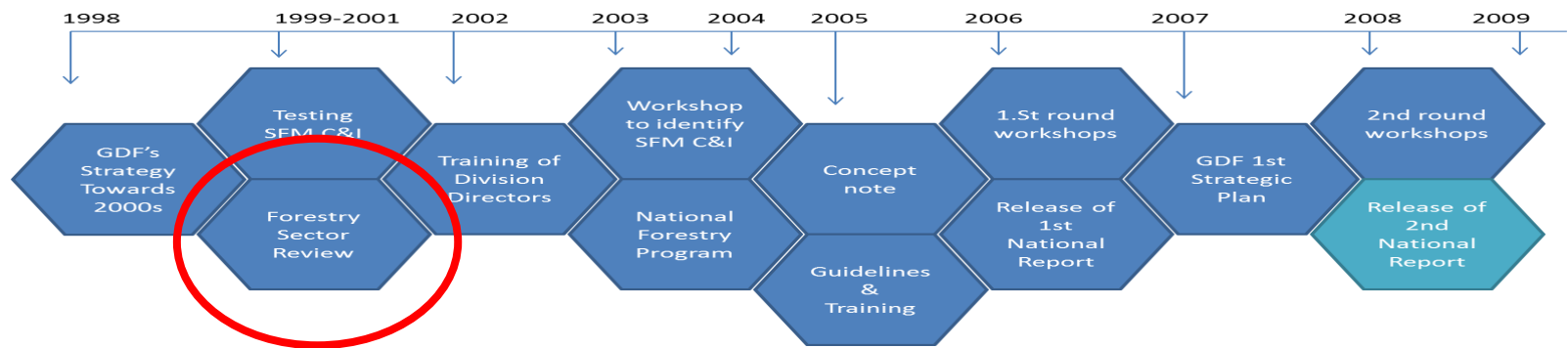


The strategic plan for GDF, which is legally compulsory, was prepared in 2007 and put into implementation . The plan was valid for 5 years and mainly based on the findings and recommendations of the National Report on SFM C&I.



Change in the Ministry's structure led to the suspension of the process in 2011. It was planned to reorganize the mechanism by inclusion of the other forestry units (Nature Protection National Parks and Combating Desertification Erosion Control).

Now the department plans to revive the process through an ongoing GEF project. The new process will involve inclusion of the newly developed indicators from Forest Europe Process and implementation at 5 pilot forest districts.



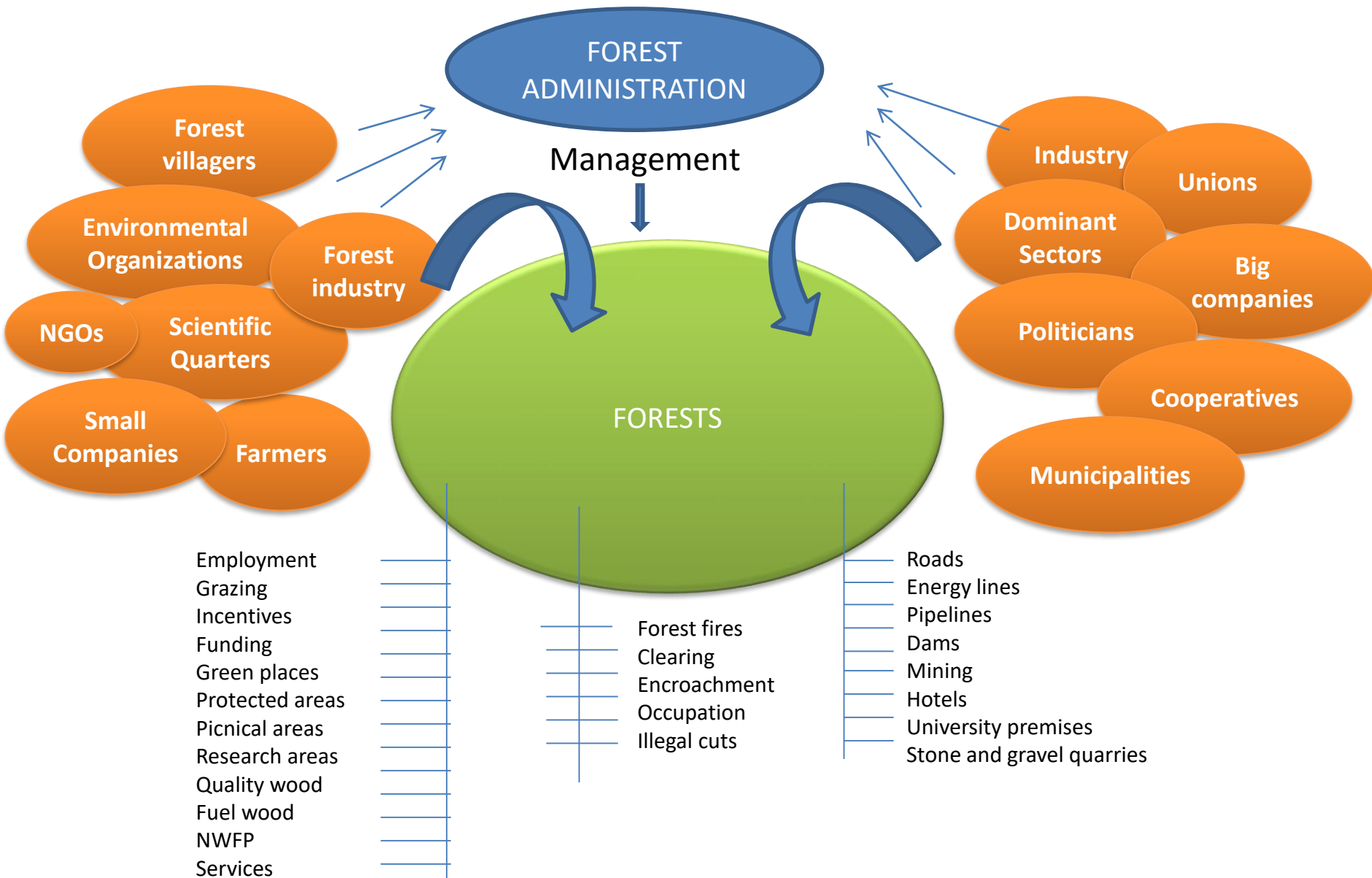
Management



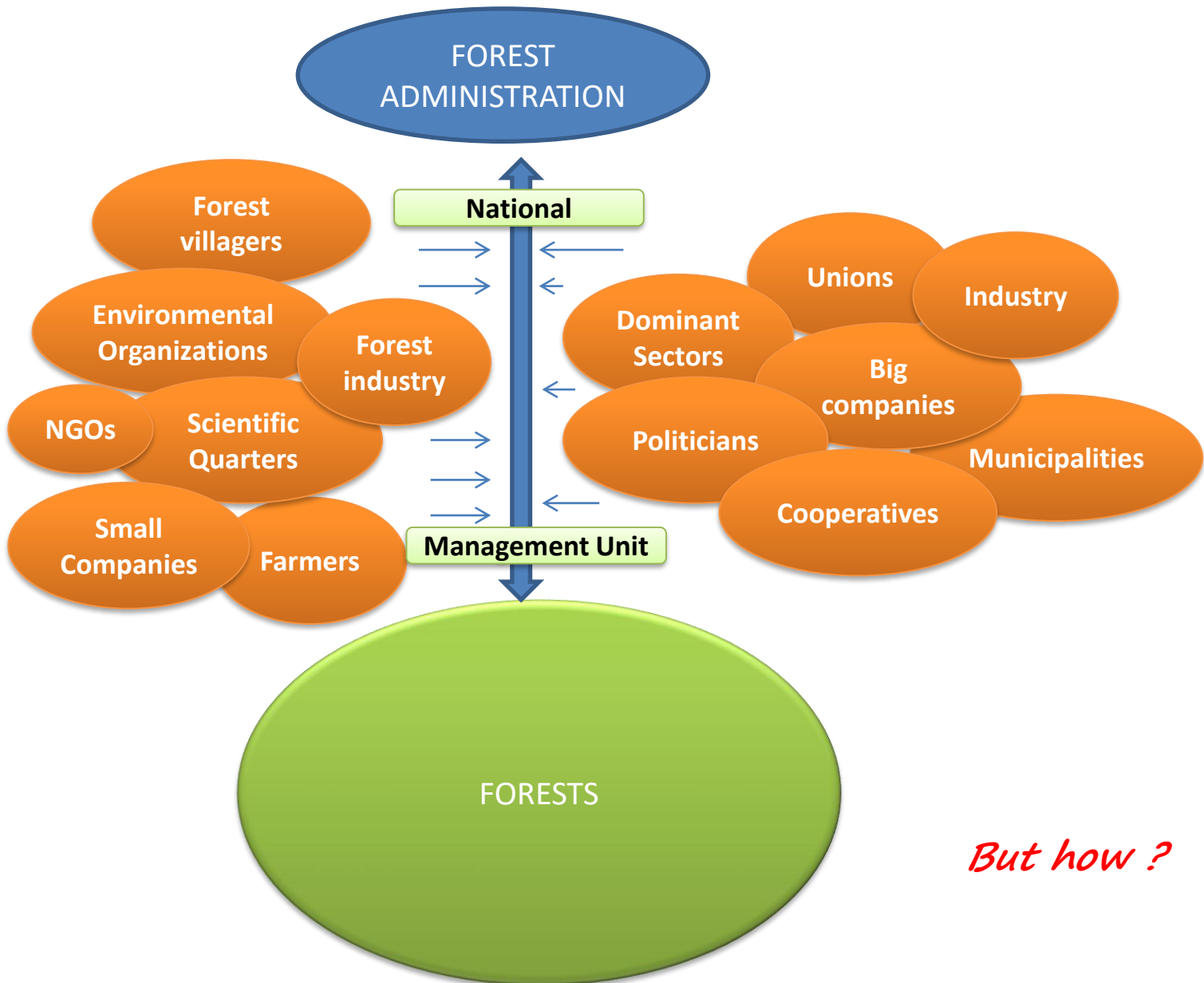
Constitution
Laws
International Agreements
Regulations
National program
Management plans

Organization
Personel
Budget
Machinery
Technology
Education

Current situation !



The aim ..

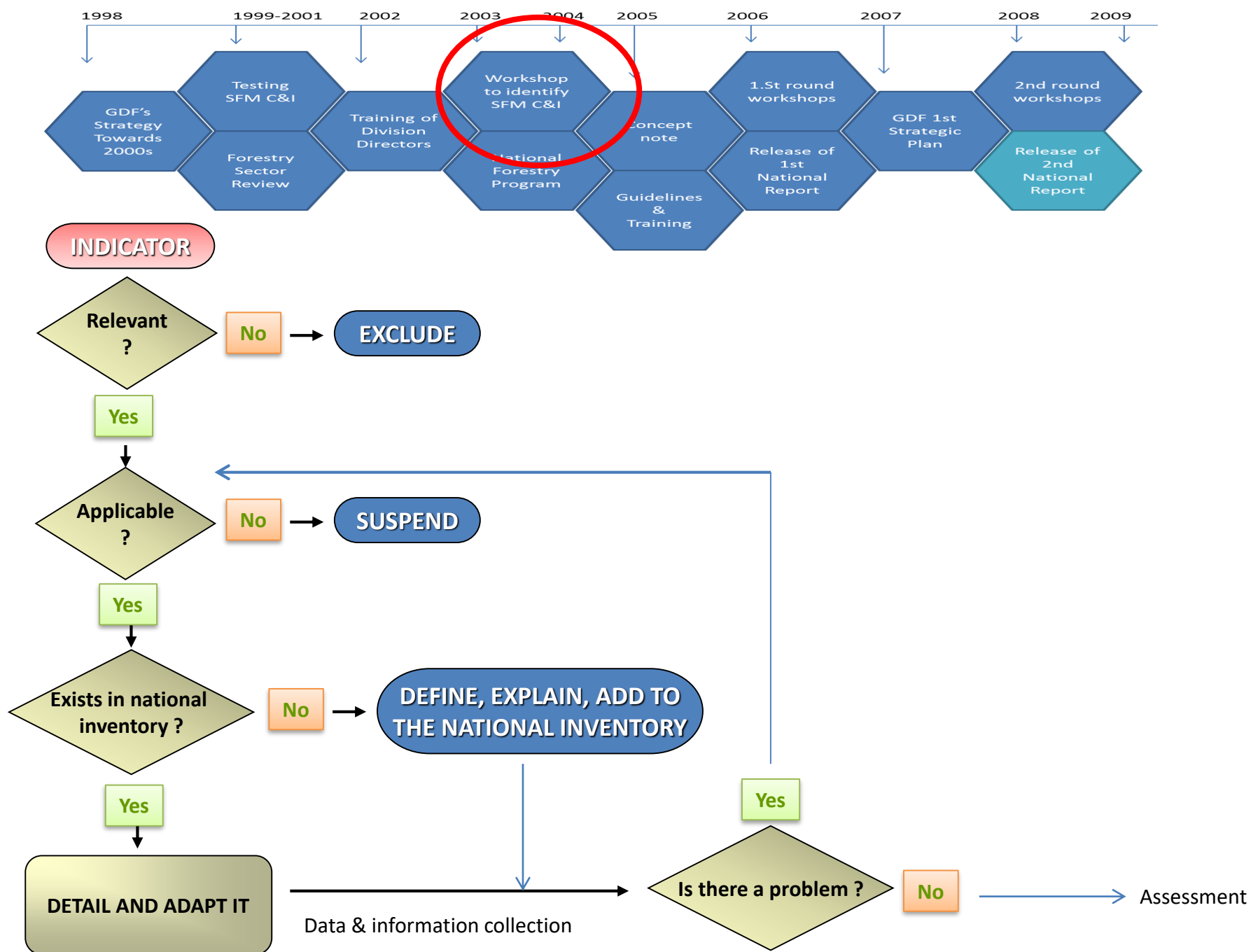


But how ?

SFM C&I implementation is the tool and driving factor to achieve consensus and compromises between stakeholders

What we need are:

- ✓ Political will
- ✓ Properly designed criteria and indicators
- ✓ Provision of reliable data and information - transparency
- ✓ A ground for assessment and discussion - participation
- ✓ A system and mechanism to solve problems and balance conflicting interests
- ✓ Tools to implement agreed activities at both national and local levels



SFM C&I SET OF TURKEY

C 1 : FOREST RESOURCES

Indicators		Unit
1.1	Forests and other wooded land (FOWL)	Ha
1.2	Growing stock, biomass, carbon stock	m ³
1.3	Increment	m ³
1.4	FOWL managed with management plans	Ha
1.5	FOWL with completed cadastre	Ha

SFM C&I SET OF TURKEY

C 2 : BIODIVERSITY

Indicators		Unit
2.1	Forest fragmentation	Num
2.2	Silviculturel tending	Ha
2.3	Regeneration reliability	Ha
2.4	Seed provenances	Ha

SFM C&I SET OF TURKEY

C 3 : FOREST HEALTH, VITALITY AND INTEGRITY

Indicators		Unit
3.1	FOWL affected from natural factors	Ha
3.2	Successful natural regeneration	Ha
3.3	Encroachment and occupation	Num-Ha
3.4	Fuel wood consumption	Ster
3.5	Forest fires	Num-Ha
3.6	Grazing damage	Ha
3.7	Permissions and easements	Num-Ha

SFM C&I SET OF TURKEY

C 4: FOREST PRODUCTION CAPACITY AND FUNCTIONS

Indicators		Unit
4.1	FOWL managed with integrated forest management plans	Ha
4.2	Wood production	m ³
4.3	Increment and harvesting balance	m ³
4.4	Non-wood forest products production	Ton

SFM C&I SET OF TURKEY

C 5: FOREST PROTECTIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL FUNCTIONS

Indicators		Unit
5.1	Protected protective forests	Ha
5.2	Protected watershed areas	Ha
5.3	Soil conservation areas	Ha

SFM C&I SET OF TURKEY

C 6 : FOREST SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS

Indicators		Unit
6.1	Value of wood harvested	TL
6.2	Value of non-wood forest products produced	TL
6.3	Employment generated	Num
6.4	Forest communities and civil societies	Num
6.5	Forest crimes committed	Num

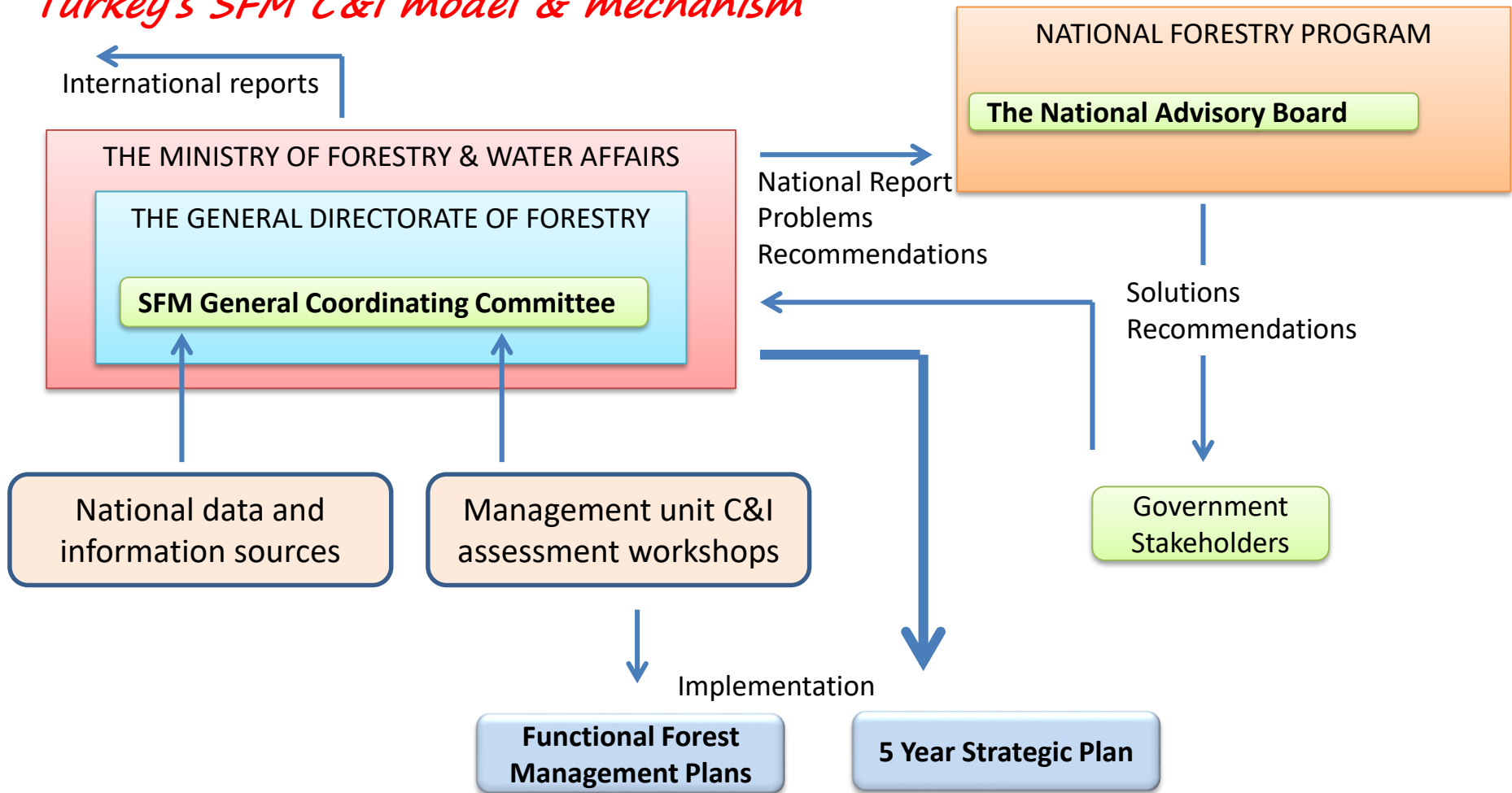
A mechanism is needed !

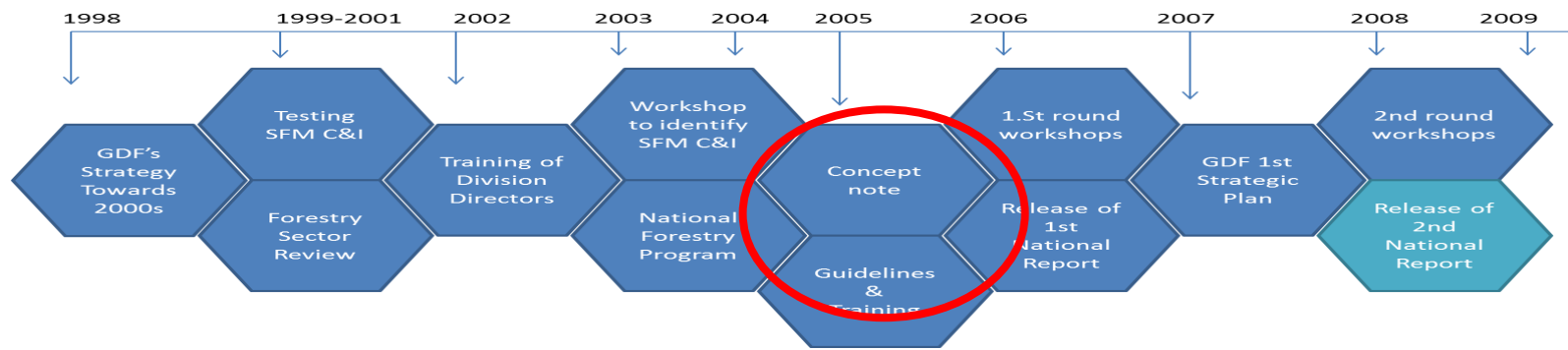
Identification of C&I is not an end in itself.

There must be a mechanism to supervise and coordinate the whole implementation process (data & Information gathering, assessment, reporting and implementation).



Turkey's SFM C&I model & mechanism





Who will do what and how ?

SFM General Coordinating Committee

STEP 1

Identification of SFM C&I

STEP 2

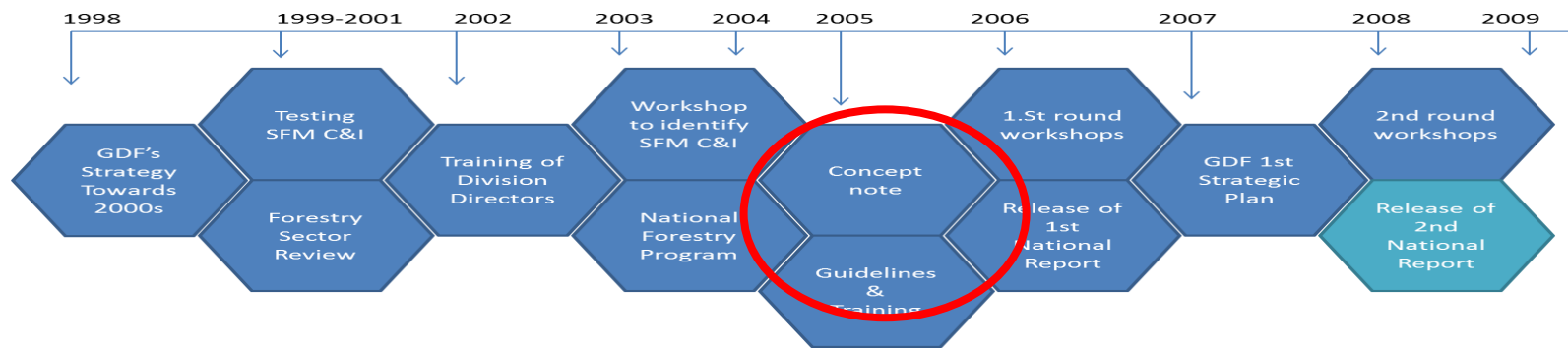
Starts data and information collection from national resources, databases, statistic institutes etc

Asks forest management units to

- ✓ collect data and information in their area, compile it in time series within the frame of SFM C&I
- ✓ Identify stakeholders in the area and organize a local workshop in compliance with the guidelines provided
- ✓ Inform the participants prior to the workshop about the content and provide the compiled information
- ✓ Provide help to participants who are not able to attend to the workshop (transport etc)
- ✓ Assign panelists or presenters for each criterion (if possible) and have them prepared for workshop

Asks forest management planning department to facilitate the participation of management teams to the WS

Declare the workshop date and program for those interested to participate voluntarily

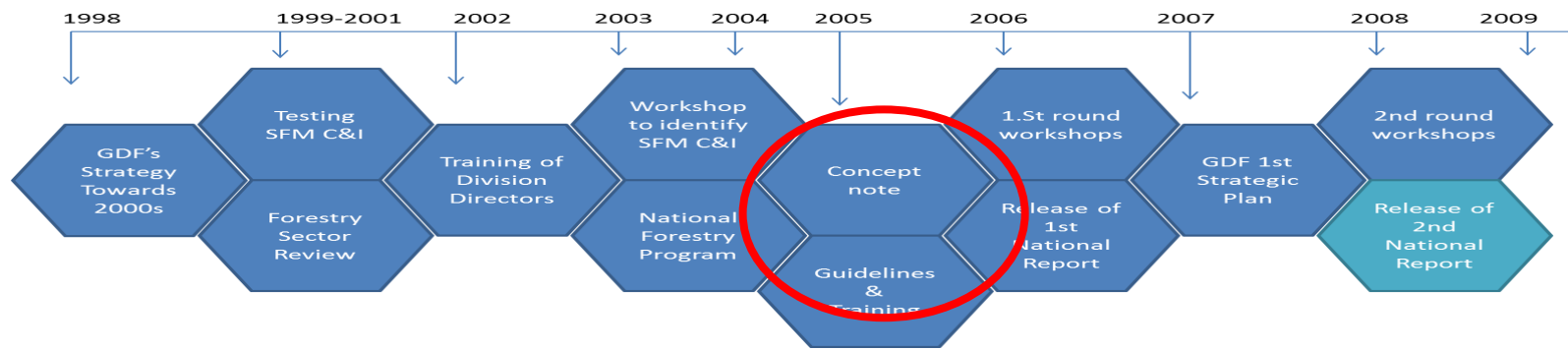


Who will do what and how ?

Management Unit C&I Assessment Workshops

STEP 3

- ✓ Presenters provide the information for each criterium and explain the trend, how things happen, why
- ✓ Moderator facilitates discussion, tries to find out solutions to the problems, provides ground for dialog
- ✓ Stakeholders raises their interests and expectations, take part in win-win mutual agreements and trade offs
- ✓ Voluntary participants propose innovative solutions and come forward for collaborative actions if possible
- ✓ Forest management unit directors sign protocols for the issues solved or agreed locally
- ✓ Forest management planning team members take note of the things that will be considered during planning
- ✓ Workshop report is prepared on consensus with all data, information, discussion, results, solved problems
- ✓ The report also include the things cannot be solved locally and possible conflicts for the attention of GCC
- ✓ The report is made publicly available for all local stakeholders and sent to GCC



Who will do what and how ?

SFM General Coordinating Committee

STEP 4

- Collects all the reports from FMUs, examine and refine them
- Adds the data and information collected at national level with expert comments and prepare the national report
- Sends the report to all stakeholders for comments and for verification
- Finalize the report based on SFM C&I and make it publicly available
- Prepares the reports demanded by international processes
- Contributes to the preparation of 5 year Strategic Plan
- Raises the problems or conflicts that cannot be solved within its jurisdiction to the attention of National Advisory Board

National Advisory Board

STEP 5

- Reviews the report
- Finds solutions for disagreements between stakeholders
- Make recommendations to Government

LESSONS LEARNED

Difficulty in informing high level managers

The process actually run by middle managers, who usually participated to the international processes. Establishing a consistent communication between two levels was not always easy.

In countries like Turkey, where the management model based on a strict hierarchy, field level managers are highly depend on the high level behavior. If they do not sense a commitment they refrain from taking action to promote the process.

In Turkish case, the result was failure in unification of all forest related general directorates. Some general directorates hid behind the pretext that they didn't have the necessary technical and financial capacity. Some other implied that they had already managing the forests in sustainable way, so there were no need to devise new things that would bring burden on them.

LESSONS LEARNED

Supportive policy documents help

It was the document called «Forestry Strategy towards 2000s» that gave the way to the whole process. This document led to the preparation of «Forestry Sector Review» and in turn the report of the review triggered the SFM C&I process.

National Forestry Program established the National Advisory Body and made a call for the implementation of SFM C&I. This became a legal reference for the activities.

Thus, there was no need to create a new legislation or amend a law. This saved us from extra efforts and lengthy bureaucratic processes.

And also those who had not involved in the process felt obliged to participate.

LESSONS LEARNED

Concept note was very helpful

The concept note included:

- the summary of whole international process related to SFM C&I,
- national response to this international move
- national approach and the model of the implementation
- how it was planned, why and what were the expectations

Concept note served as reference tool and it saved the stakeholders from searching and examining hundreds of pages of texts about international processes, proposals for actions, resolutions etc. And every actor was aware of his role and responsibilities.

LESSONS LEARNED

Practical and policy driven C&I identification phase had positive and negative aspects

- ✓ the indicator identification phase was quick, it saved a lot of time
- ✓ it was easy to conduct, the results were effective
- ✓ and it was affordable in financial terms

But

- ✓ the participation was low
- ✓ the participants had little knowledge about the process
- ✓ because of the short time, most of the participants were not well prepared
- ✓ and generally they were not delegated by their supervisors to make clear commitments
- ✓ because of its policy driven nature, the scientific quarters' contribution was kept at minimum levels

LESSONS LEARNED

Guidelines for local level managers was very helpful

Local level managers, such as district directors and subdistrict chiefs, were among the least knowledgeable about the process. They were the key actors in the achievement of the SFM. But because of their heavy burden of conventional duties and many other responsibilities, they were not able to digest this new management approaches.

This guidelines described the work assigned to them and things that must be taken care during workshops and after. The result was good:

- ✓ the organization and conduct of workshops were done successfully in 81 provinces
- ✓ the participation reached record levels, this promoted the popularity of the process and became subject to the news in local press and media
- ✓ the participants usually raised their expectations from the administration rather than assessing criteria, but this was already expected,
- ✓ the main objective was to gradually involve them in the assessment process and this was achieved, they were happy to be a part of this process

LESSONS LEARNED

Insufficient communication pose a risk at management unit level

Some of the local managers perceived the SFM C&I assessment at local level as an inspection tool that their performance would be judged so they avoided to report negative trends.

This had no substantial effect on the eventual national report since all the data and information came from management unit levels were also verified by other reports and data sources.

It is understood that special effort should be made to assure the local managers that the assessment process solely aims to achieve the sustainable forest management not to rate their performance.

LESSONS LEARNED

Effective use of technology is needed for monitoring

Because of the unavailability or ineffective use of technologies, some of the indicators were not easily measured and therefore not properly assessed.

For example «The level of fragmentation in forests» can only be quantified through GIS programs and these tools were not available at that time.

And in addition:

Some indicators under socio-economic functions, such as «value of nonwood products», «employment provided» were also problematic indicators.

Variation in the periodicity of data gathering for some indicators complicated the assessment of the related criterion, in particular, forest resources are inventoried in ten year intervals, whereas other indicators under the same criterion are gathered in different time intervals.

IMPACTS

Despite many shortcomings and problems, the implementation of the SFM C&I resulted in many **positive developments**.

Although it can not totally be attributed to the SFM C&I, it is believed that the implementation has contributed to:

- ✓ Visible increase in forest resources
- ✓ Increase in rehabilitation of forests
- ✓ Introduction of ecosystem approach
- ✓ Transition to multi functional and integrated forest management planning system
- ✓ Increase in forest products and services
- ✓ Sharp decline in forest fires and other illegal activities
- ✓ Improved information management system and GIS technology
- ✓ Many partnership schemes between stakeholders
- ✓ and increase in awareness across stakeholders

THE END OF THE PRESENTATION

THANK YOU