

Integrated Aboriginal Contribution Management Framework

- § The Integrated Aboriginal Contribution Management Framework serves to bring all DFO programs for Aboriginal Organizations under common Terms and Conditions. It is a renewed approach that emphasizes greater accountability and simpler administration thereby better serving our clients.
- § The IAMCF reflects the feedback provided by Aboriginal groups over the past 3 to 4 years – including the Blue Ribbon Panel, the Treasury Board Aboriginal Directive Working Group, the Working Group on AAROM Reporting and Evaluation, and various other national and regional workshops. The Treasury Board Directive applies across all federal departments.

Key Messages

It is not about new money but rather more effective use of **existing** program resources, aligned with 2008 Treasury Board Directive on Transfer Payments

Does **not change** the fundamental priorities and objectives of our aboriginal programs

Allows for **greater flexibility in reporting and financial transactions** where recipient accountability and performance are clearly demonstrated:

§ For groups that show ongoing accountability and results, there will be **clear benefits** in terms of program and funding flexibilities.

§ For those groups that strive to increase their capacity, there will be a **clear road map** for areas to develop

Improved new business tools are being phased in, beginning April 1, 2010

Action Plan to Reform the Administration of Grants & Contribution Programs

Where we were	Where we are heading
"One size fits all" reporting and oversight	Recipient based monitoring and accountability leading to reduction in reporting burden; program funds tracked separately
Multiple audits of same recipient	Audits rationalized, risk based, deliberate and coordinated
Duplicative information requirements	Streamlined and standardized reports, forms and applications
Focus on process and standards	Focus on achieving results
Difficulty for recipient groups to collaborate with government	Transactions simplified, trust rekindled

DFO is developing a suite of tools in response to the Government Action Plan

DFO Aboriginal Program – Key Improvements

	Improvements	Outcome
1	A single set of Eligible Activity and Costs categories will allow for common contribution agreement and reporting structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlined and standardized applications, agreements, and reports Stable funding arrangements and payments Rationalized, assessment-based, and coordinated financial controls Reduction in reporting and administrative burden for recipients Shift from reporting on transactions to reporting on results Strong incentives to develop and maintain high administrative and operational capacity Building positive, collaborative relationships
2	Agreements will be drafted from a common template (underway)	
3	Common reporting template/format for use across all programs (underway - interim reporting template completed for April 2010)	
4	A recipient capacity assessment will assist staff in determining what type of agreement to negotiate with a specific recipient group (underway)	
5	A continuum of 4 agreement types, based on the group's capacity level will be available (underway)	
6	Where recipients strive to increase their capacity, there will be an incentive for groups to work with DFO staff to improve their capacity	
7	No longer a requirement for monthly reporting for larger agreements	
8	Compliance monitoring requirements will be tied to the performance and the assessment	
9	Common program service standards for DFO staff will contribute to administrative streamlining	

Assessment



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- DFO has developed a draft “Recipient Capacity Assessment” that looks at capacity in terms of **7 assessment factors**.
- The draft “Recipient Capacity Assessment” has been designed to assist Aboriginal Organizations and DFO identify strengths and challenges, and establish capacity building goals.
- DFO must assess program recipients - a new activity for staff

Recipient Capacity Assessment

Management Structure

Day-to-Day Functional Capacity

Previous Results

Previous Financial Performance

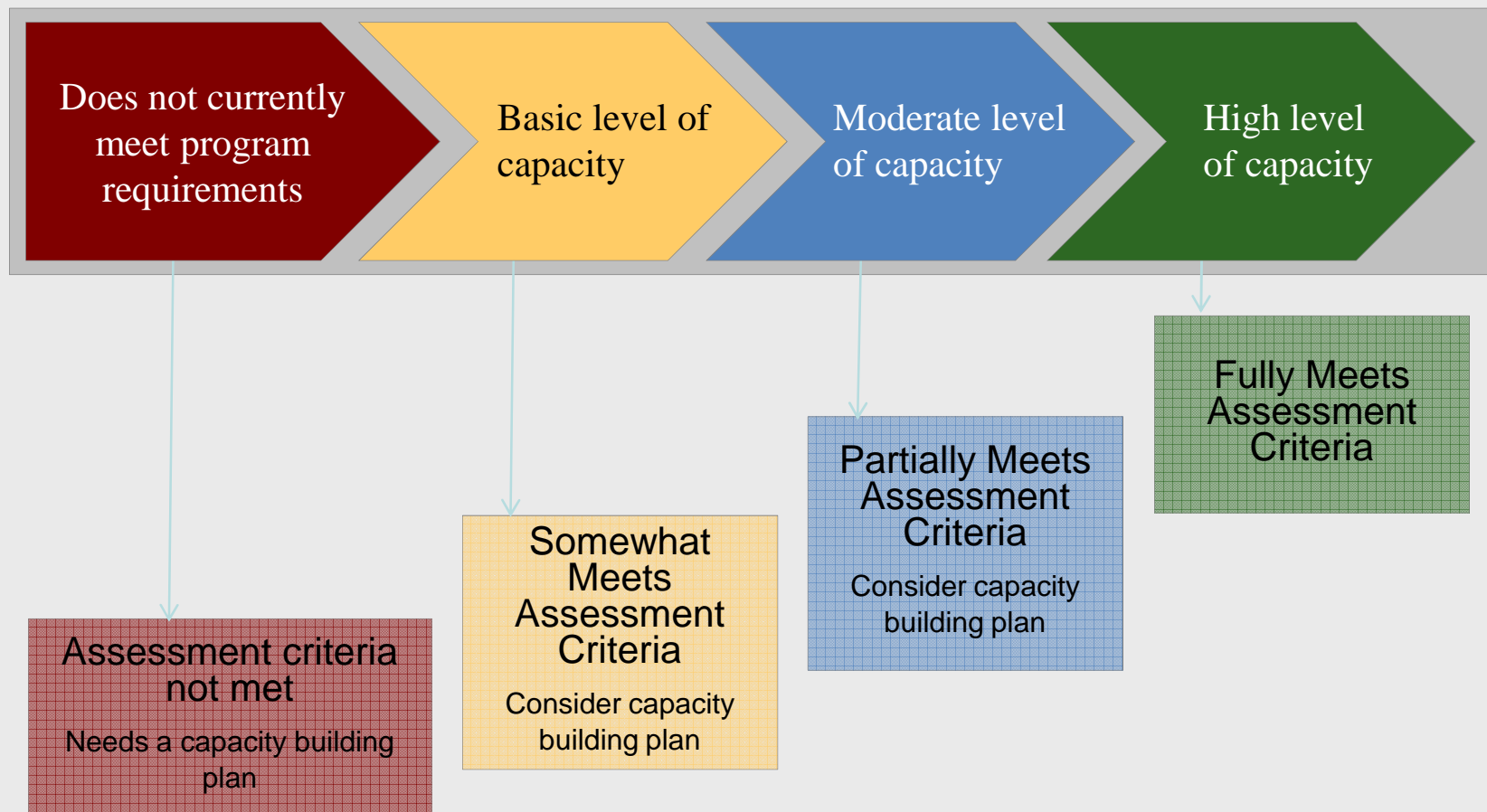
Previous Reporting

Workplan Assessment

Average Annual Dollar Value

Recipient Capacity Assessment - Outcomes

- There are four possible outcomes of a recipient capacity assessment – basic, moderate, high level of capacity or not a candidate for contribution funding.



Application or Agreement Renewal



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Guide to be developed to assist clients in applying for contributions or renewing a Contribution Agreement based on existing program processes and procedures

Joint Planning



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Workplanning

- Working with Aboriginal organizations to help build both operational and administrative capacity in aquatic resource management
- Activity plans and capacity plans (optional) incorporated in the Contribution Agreement; they are developed **jointly** with DFO
- DFO Program Officers will conduct follow up evaluations to **assess progress**. This may trigger changes to an existing agreement or provide input towards a future arrangement
- The common CA under development will include a **guide** on how to prepare activity and capacity plans as well as evaluation of agreements and service standards on an ongoing basis

Contribution Agreement



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A common Contribution Agreement template and Companion Guide are being developed

The CA Working Group is reviewing the CA to identify practical options to achieve flexibilities and greater accountability through:

- clearly defined results and reporting requirements**
- cash flow and reporting frequency**
- single or multi year**
- ability to move funds between activities and fiscal years**

STATUS – May 7, 2010:

All sections in the body of the Contribution Agreement and some of the Annexes and Schedules have been reviewed

NEXT STEPS:

Review Financial Management, Payments and Reporting (Schedule 2) to:

- **discuss specific agreement types and determine their requirements**
- **identify refinements to assessment and reporting templates if required**

Review by each Program, IACMF Steering Group, IACMF Operations Committee, Aboriginal Focus Group

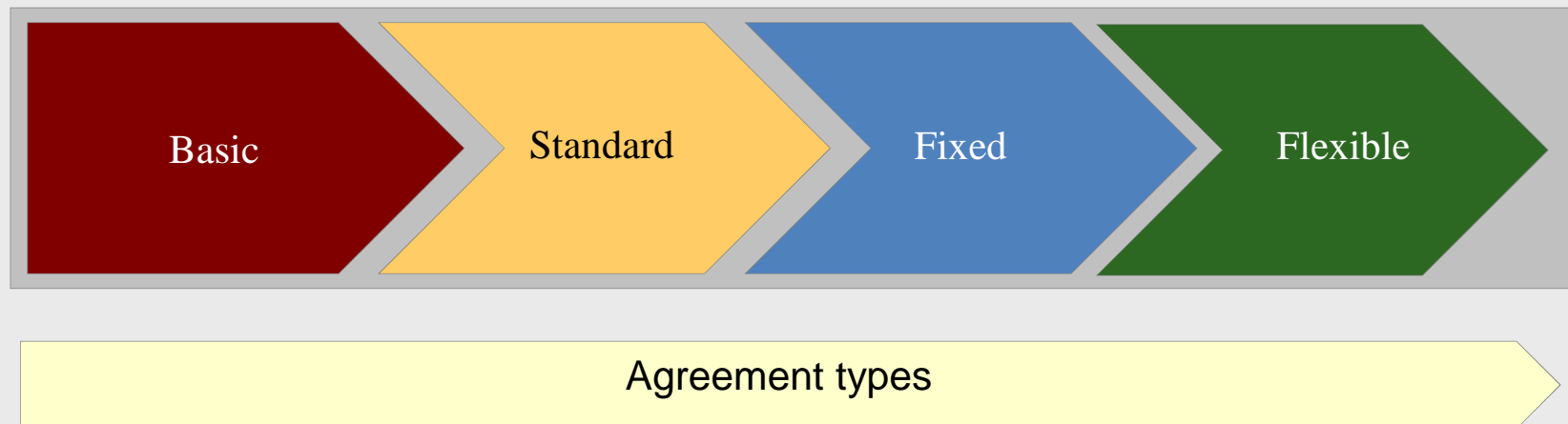
Information / training sessions late Fall 2010

Contribution Funding Approaches

Allows for **greater flexibility in reporting and financial transactions** where recipient accountability and performance are clearly demonstrated:

§ For groups that show ongoing accountability and results, there will be **clear benefits** in terms of program and funding flexibilities.

§ For those groups that need to build this capacity, there will be a **clear road map** for areas to develop



Results



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DFO and Recipients will be working together to deliver on commitments laid out in Contribution Agreements. A Reporting Guide is under development.

Recipients: Reporting template to incorporate deliverables, eligible costs and performance information required

DFO: Results-based reporting based on existing reporting AND reflecting IACMF performance indicators

Conclusion



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INTEGRATED ABORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK – KEY MESSAGES TO STAFF

Staff

- Staff should not wait for the new templates to complete negotiation of this year's agreements.
- We are attempting to make templates easier to read using regular language.
- User Guides for these tools and templates are being developed.
- Mid-agreement reporting will be streamlined in many cases.
- Focus Group sessions were held in Ottawa on Jan.26-28, 2010 with Aboriginal organization representatives from across the country and by teleconference on April 13, 2010.
- We will be following this with a regional engagement strategy involving information &/or training sessions for both DFO staff & Aboriginal Organizations.





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INTEGRATED ABORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK – KEY MESSAGES TO RECIPIENTS

Recipients

- Responds to TB direction and Aboriginal Organizations
- Does not change the fundamental priorities and objectives of our Aboriginal programs.
- Not about new money but rather more effective agreement administration and improved accountability
- The key improvement sought is adoption of a risk-based approach, using assessments to determine agreement flexibilities and capacity building needs.
- Offers flexibility to recipients where accountability and performance are demonstrated (available now)
- Assessment will be ongoing.
- Gradual implementation in 2010-11

IACMF GOVERNANCE

May 6, 2010

Body	Responsibility	Desired Outcome / Completed By
Steering Group	Regular meetings and communication	Clear, prioritized and monitored implementation of the IACMF across all 7 Aboriginal Funding Programs of the Ecosystem & Fisheries Management Sector
	Review & Finalize all documentation	
	Tasking Working Groups	
APG Operations Committee	Review tools & guides	
APG Policy Committee	Not applicable	
Contribution Agreement Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review proposed common contribution agreement structures and propose a common model Create a common reporting template for application across all programs nationally 	<p>Interim common Reporting Template (March 2010)</p> <p>Common Contribution Agreement Template</p>
Assessment Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review Assessment Tool and provide workplan to Steering Group Complete development of Assessment Tool and Guide 	Assessment Tool
		Assessment Tool User's Guide
Aboriginal Focus Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review IACMF products 	A forum for Aboriginal organizations to provide advice to DFO