

# Threshold Update Initiative: Threshold Assessment

ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION  
MAY 10, 2017



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# Threshold Update Initiative

## Challenge:

- The majority of the standards were adopted in 1982, based on science that is now over 40 years old
- Cost of comprehensive monitoring is beyond the resources of the agency and its partners

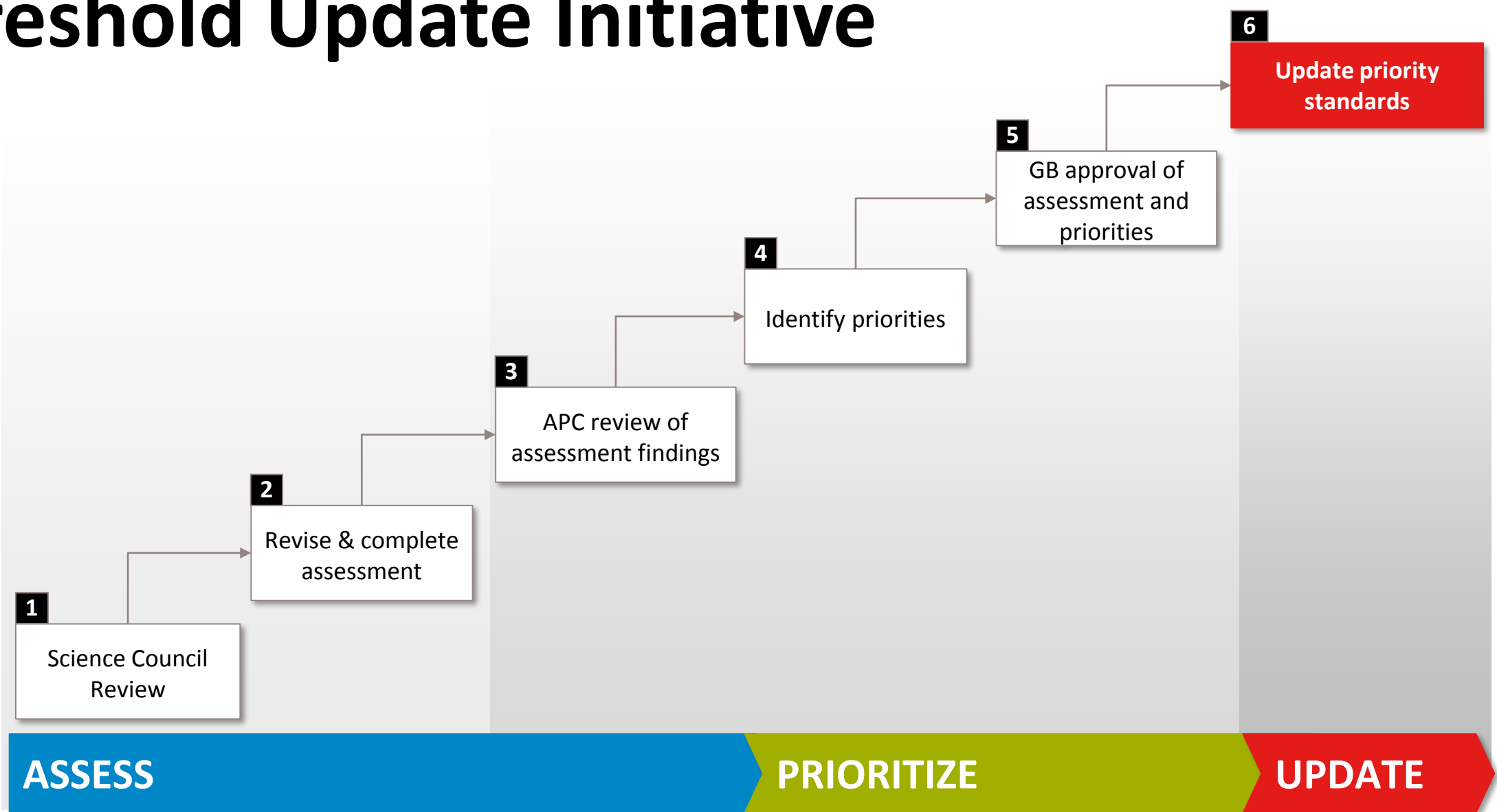


## Goals:

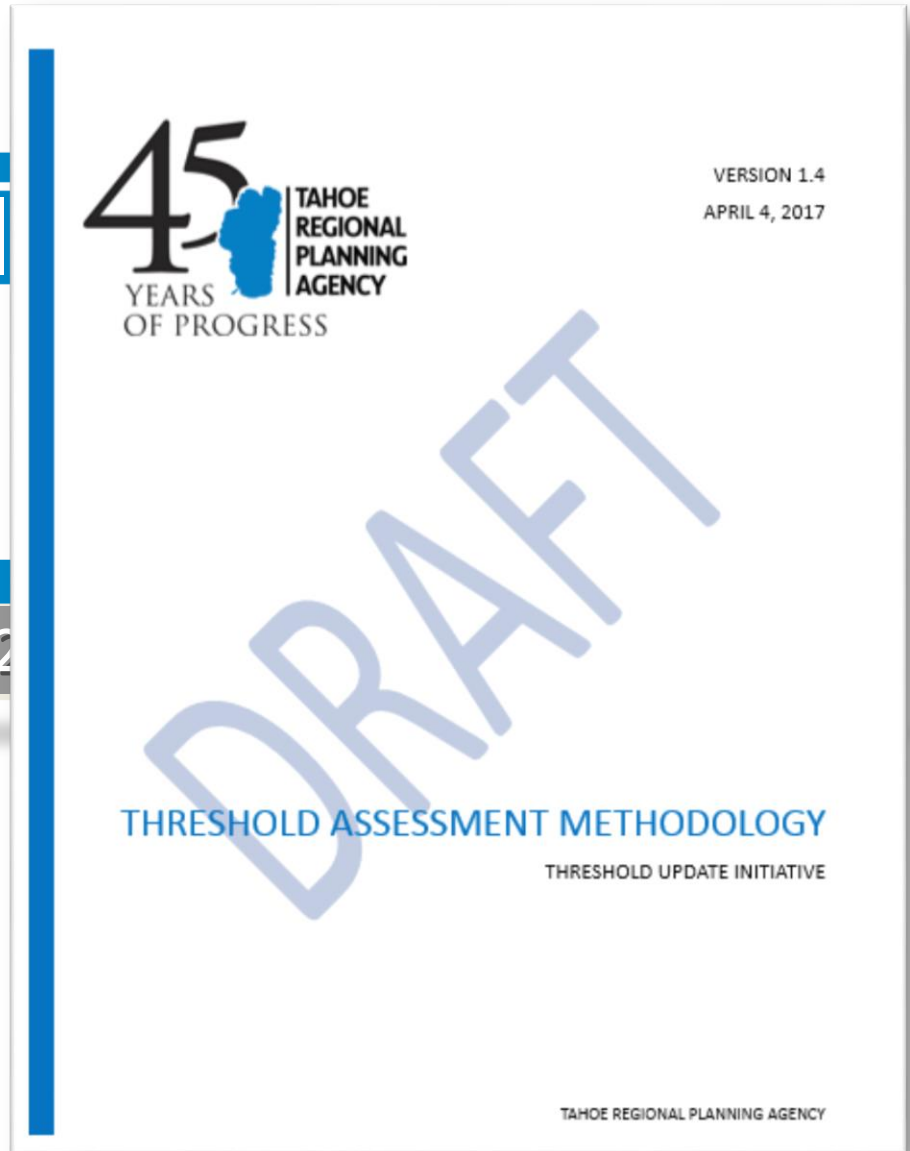
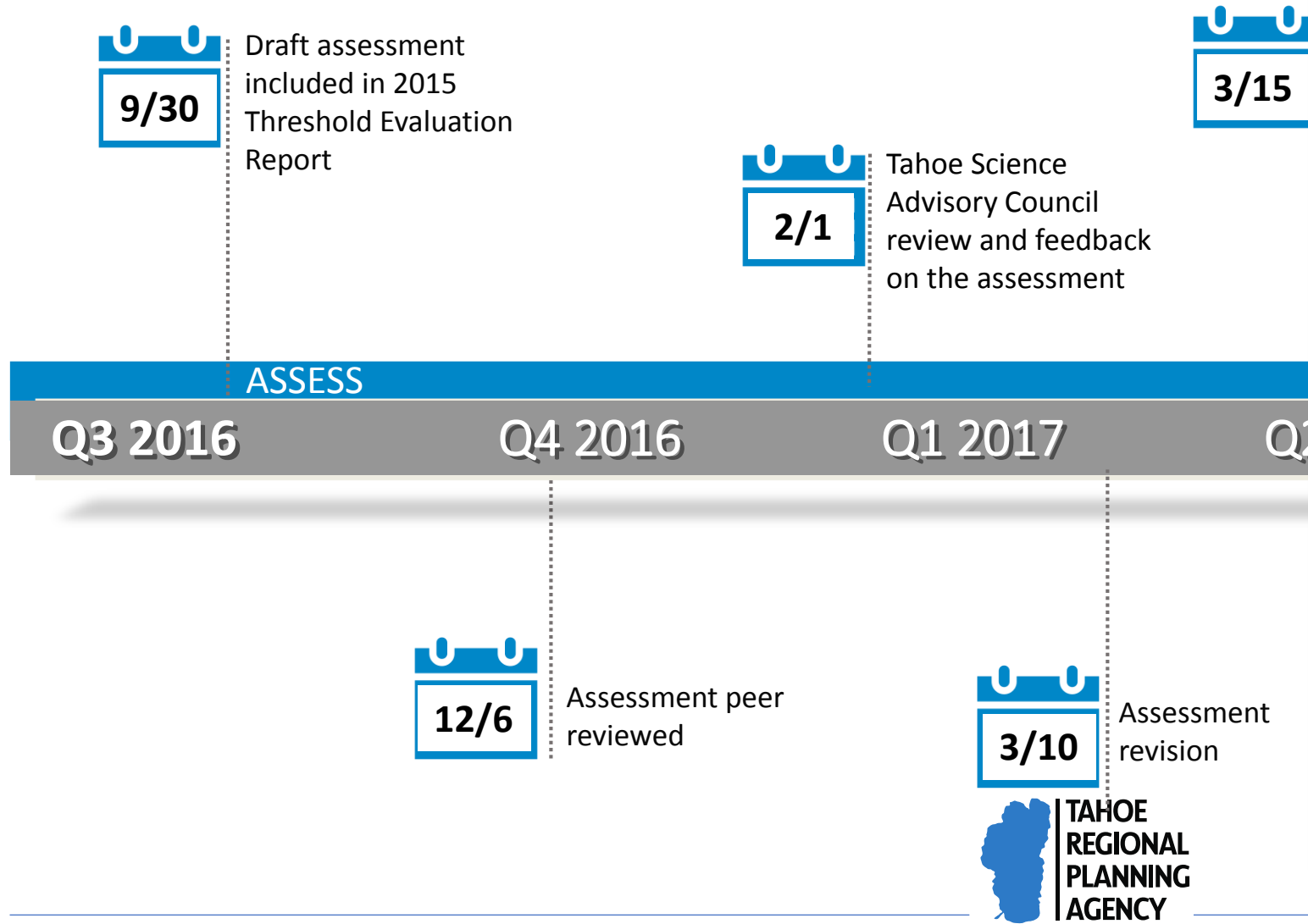
- Representative, relevant, and scientifically rigorous threshold standards
- A cost-efficient, feasible, and informative monitoring and evaluation plan
- A robust and repeatable process for standard review



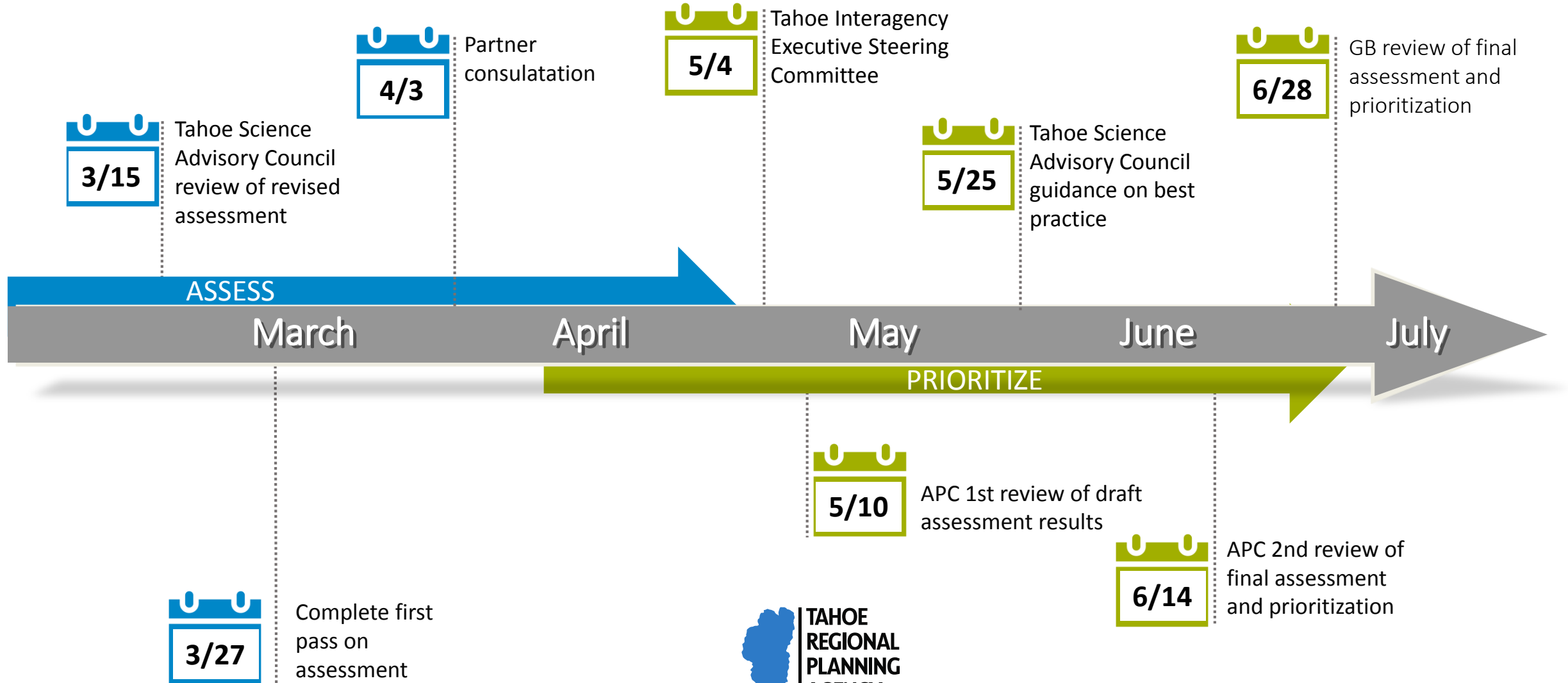
# Threshold Update Initiative



# Threshold Assessment History



# Initiative Milestones



TAHOE  
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# Threshold Assessment: Standard Categorization

**Focus** – What is the standard designed to measure?

**Input** – Ex. Miles of street sweeping

**Intermediate Result** – Reduced pollutant load

**Outcome** – Ex. Improved Lake Clarity

**Causal-basis** – How strong is the supporting scientific evidence?

1 2 3 4 5

**Overlap** – Do other standards relate to similar focus area?

Yes Or No



# Threshold Assessment: SMART criteria

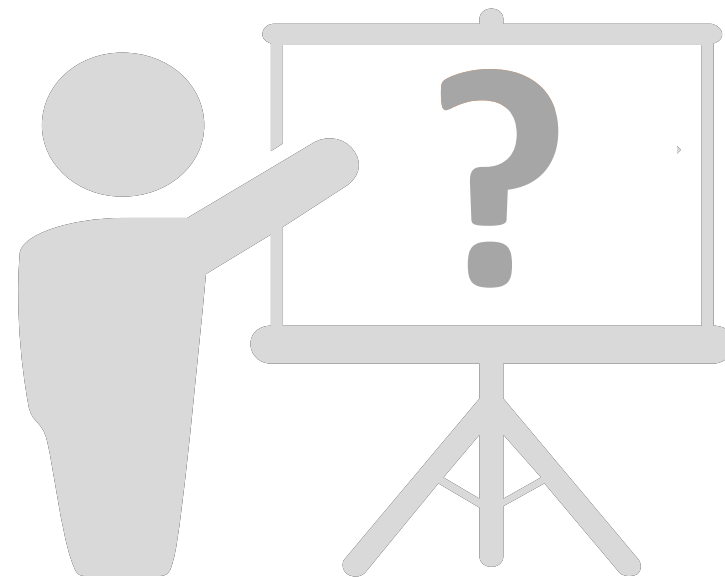
Each standard will be evaluated based on compliance with best practice in establishing environmental objectives.

|   | Less | ← | → | More |   |
|---|------|---|---|------|---|
| <b>Specific</b> – Defined/understood the same way by all people                             | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4    | 5 |
| <b>Measurable</b> - Able to measure progress towards achievement                            | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4    | 5 |
| <b>Attributable</b> – Outcomes can reasonably be credited to the activities                 | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4    | 5 |
| <b>Relevant</b> – Goal/standard relates to priority issues and is used to inform management | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4    | 5 |
| <b>Time Bound</b> - Clearly linked to a specific time when achievement is expected          | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4    | 5 |

# Relevancy



Relevant to whom ?



Relevant for what?

Relevant for the partnership to review at this time?





# Draft Threshold Assessment Findings



# Findings

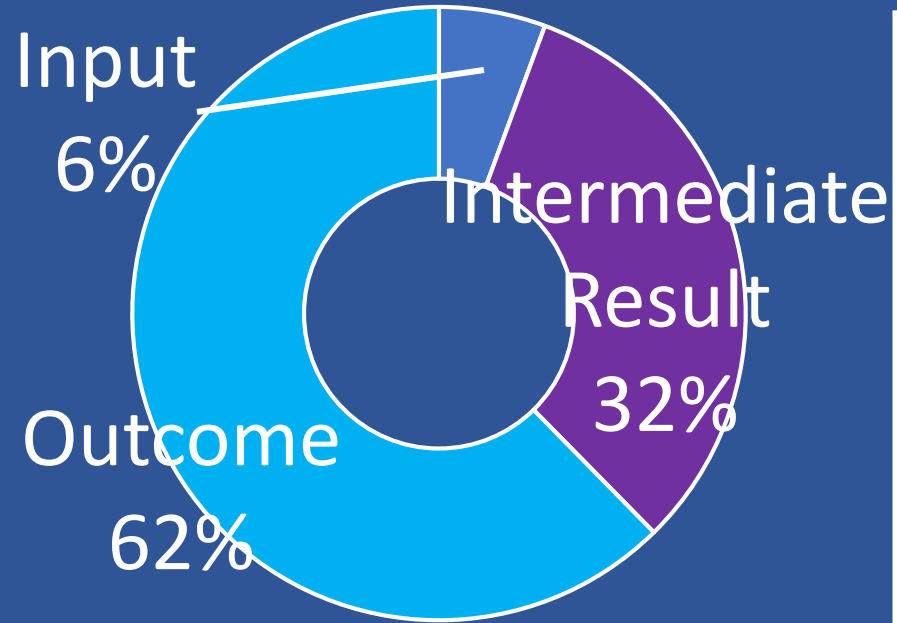
- Room for improvement in all areas
- No standard received a perfect score
- 55% (98 of the 178) were found to be both specific and measurable
- 43% (77 of the 178) were found to be specific, measurable and based on the latest science



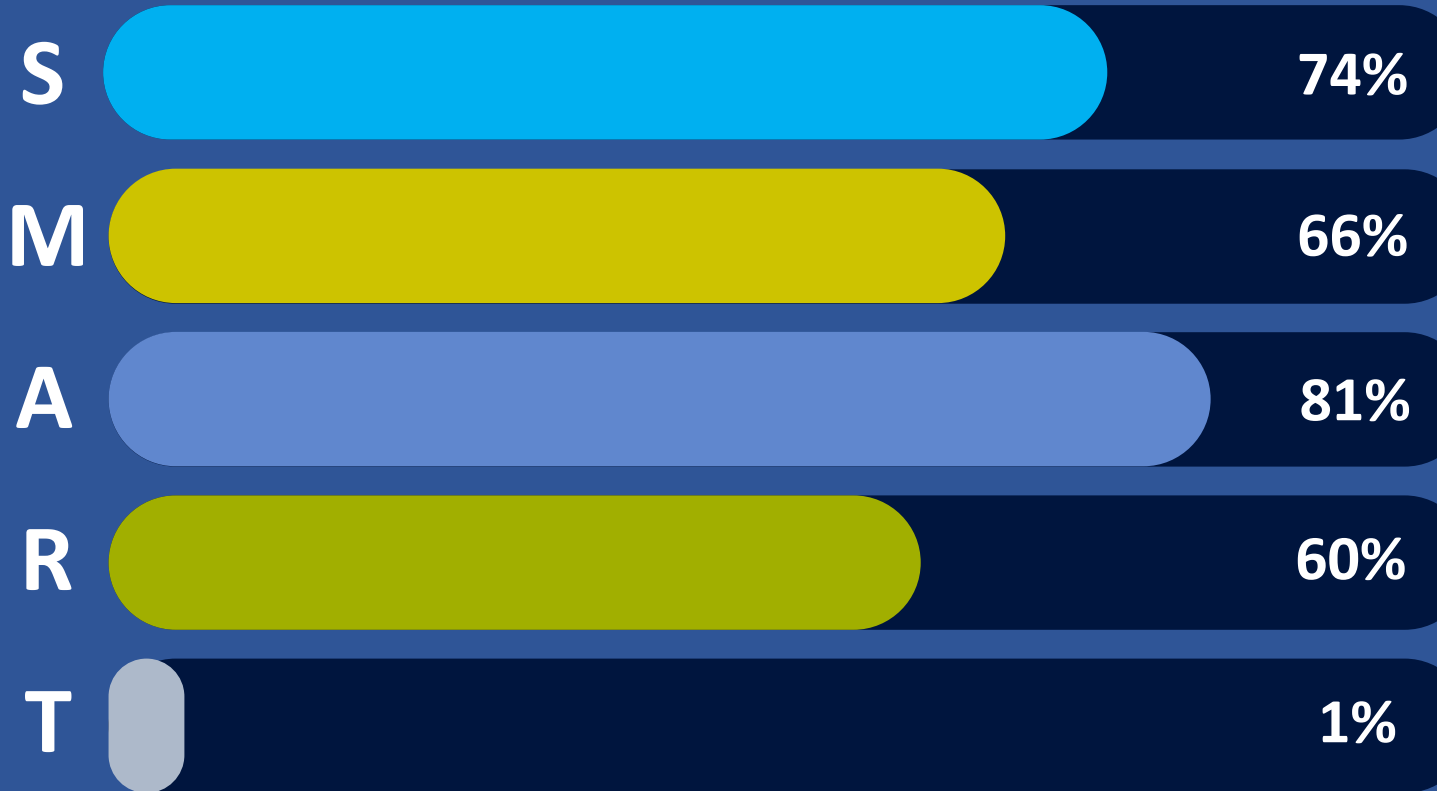
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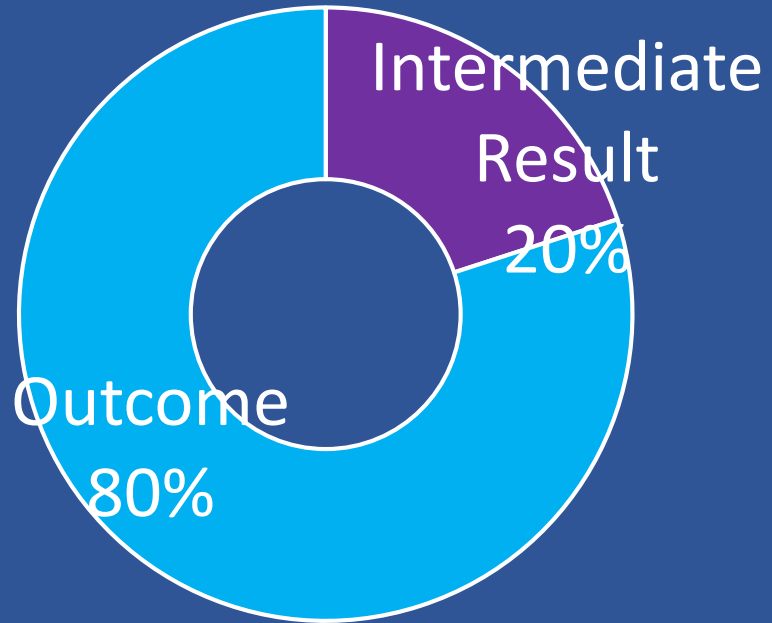
# Threshold Standards



Causal-basis: 3.7  
Overlap: 25%



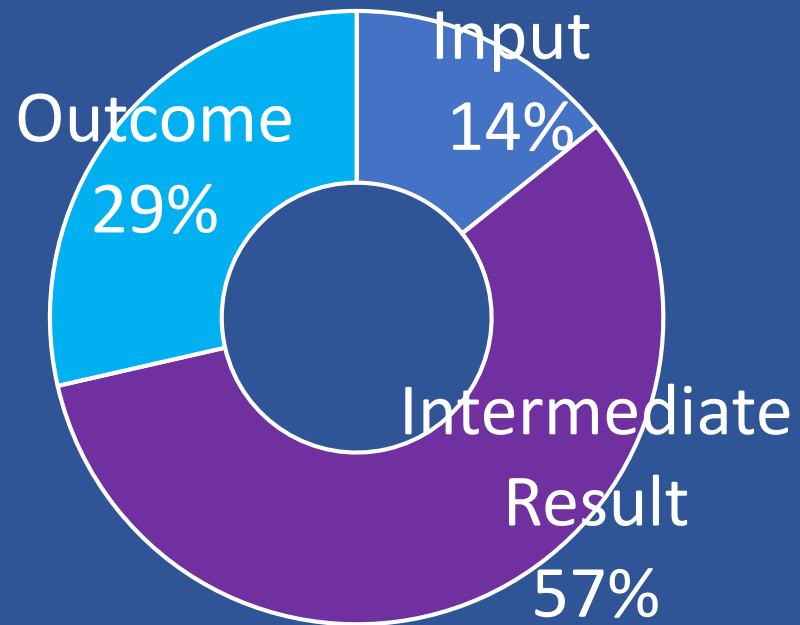
# Air Quality



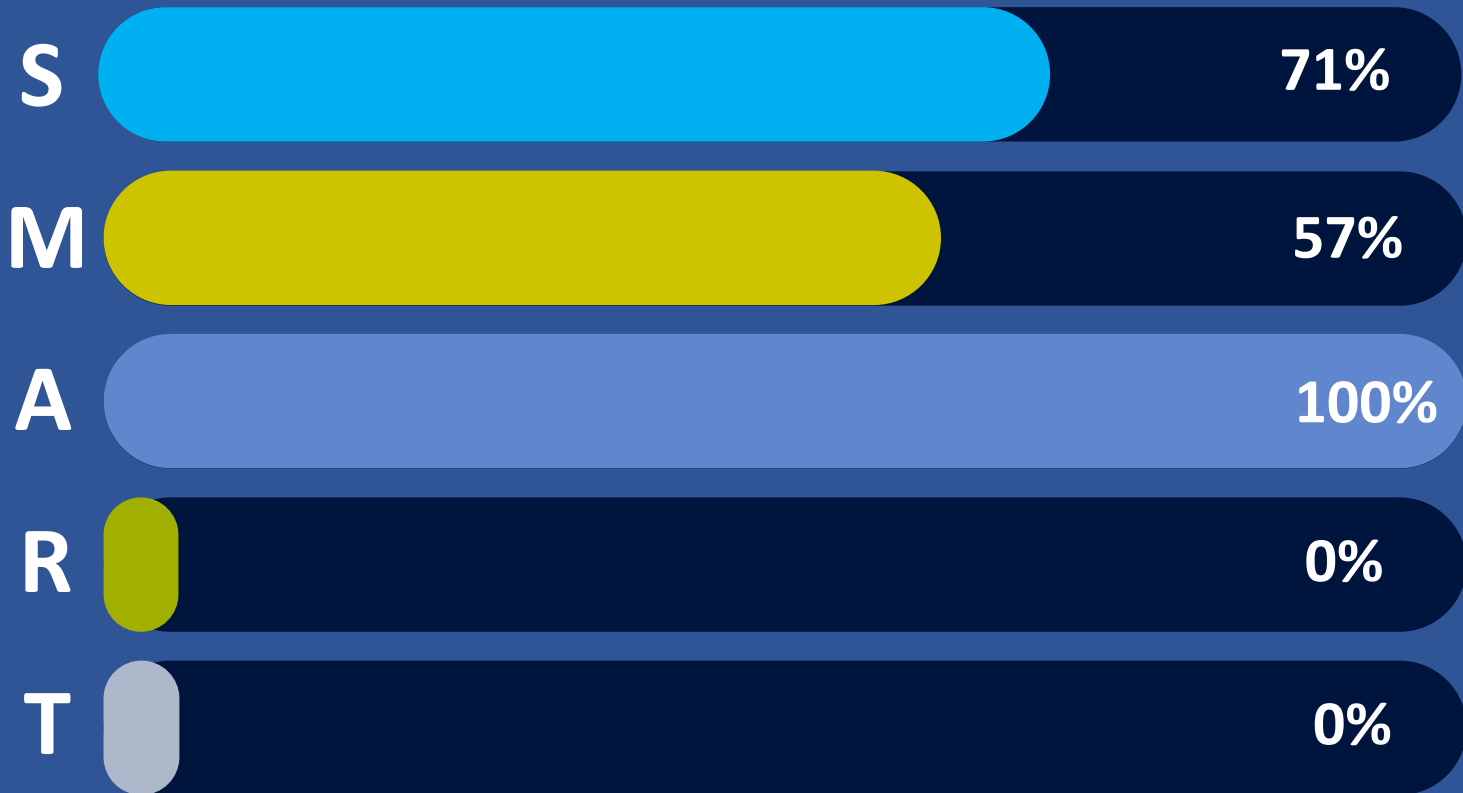
Causal-basis: 2<sup>nd</sup> highest  
Overlap: 10%



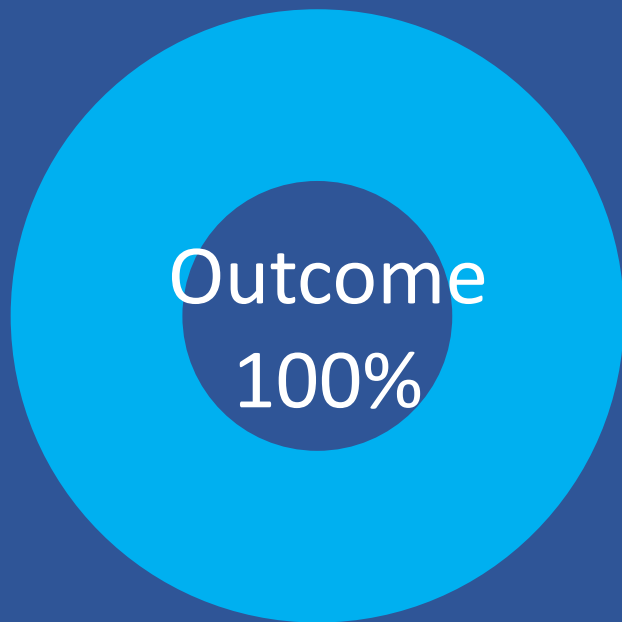
# Fisheries



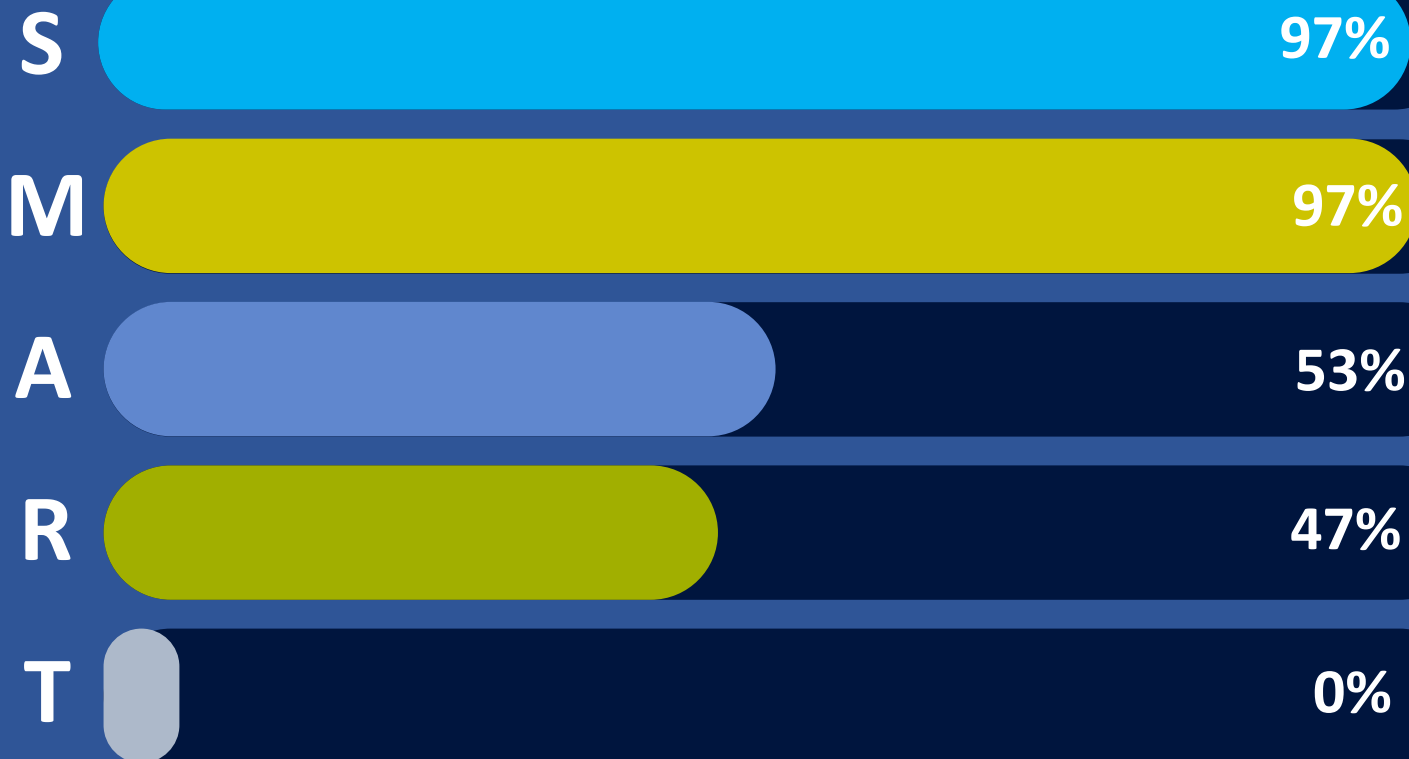
Causal-basis: 5<sup>th</sup> of 9  
Overlap: None



# Noise



Causal-basis: 3<sup>rd</sup> of 9  
Overlap: None



# Recreation



Causal-basis: 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest  
Overlap: None



# Scenic Resources

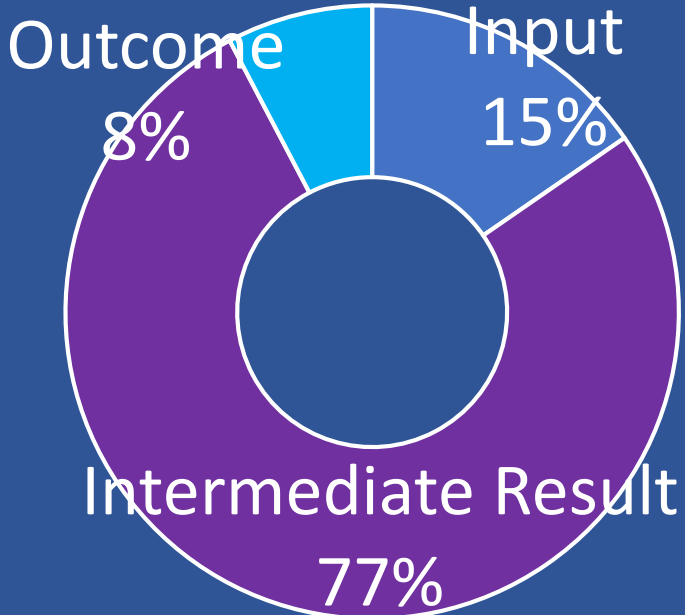


Causal-basis: Highest  
Overlap: None

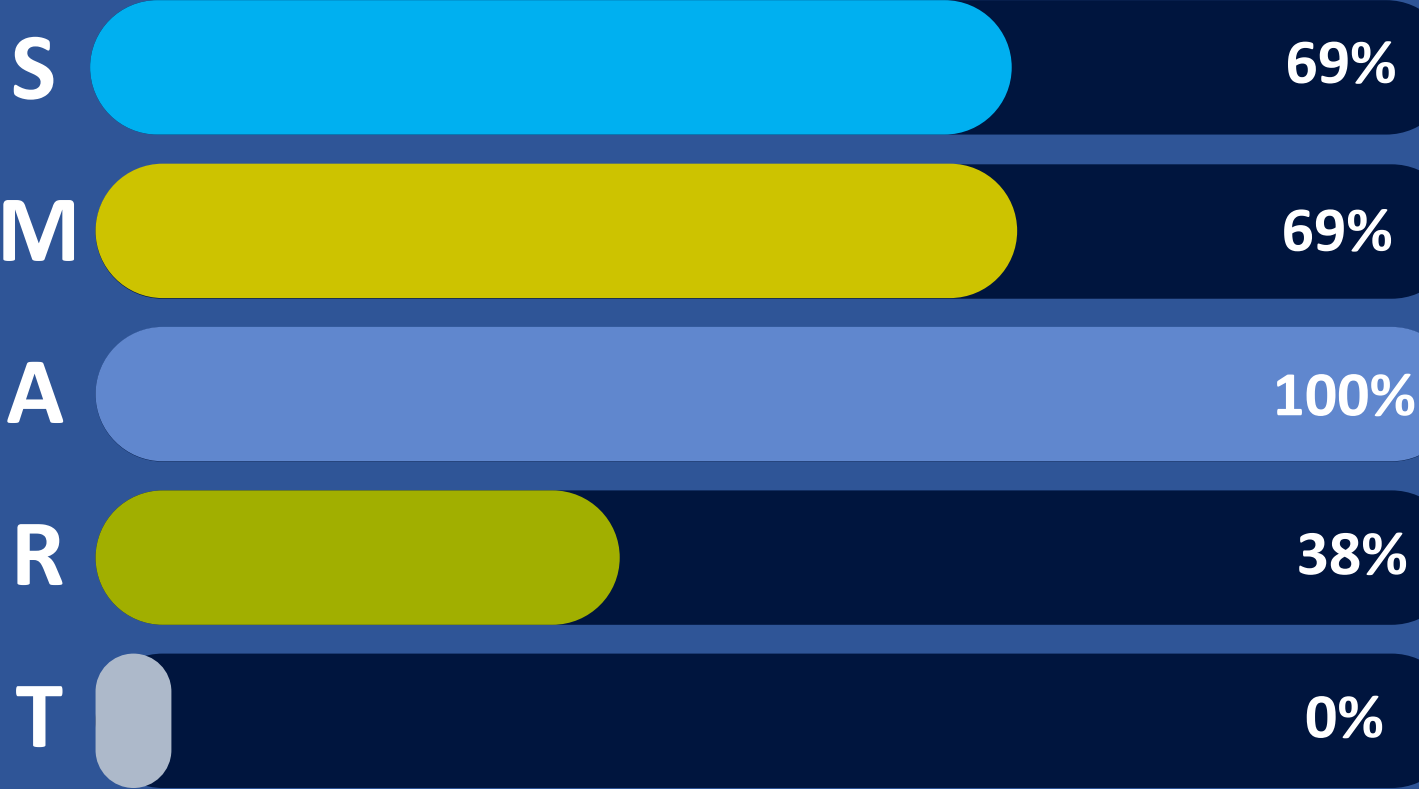




# Soil Conservation

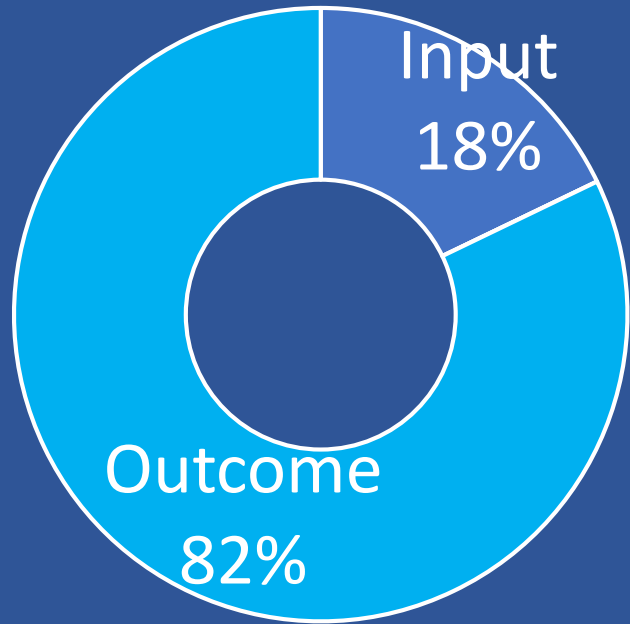


Causal-basis: Lowest  
Overlap: 31%

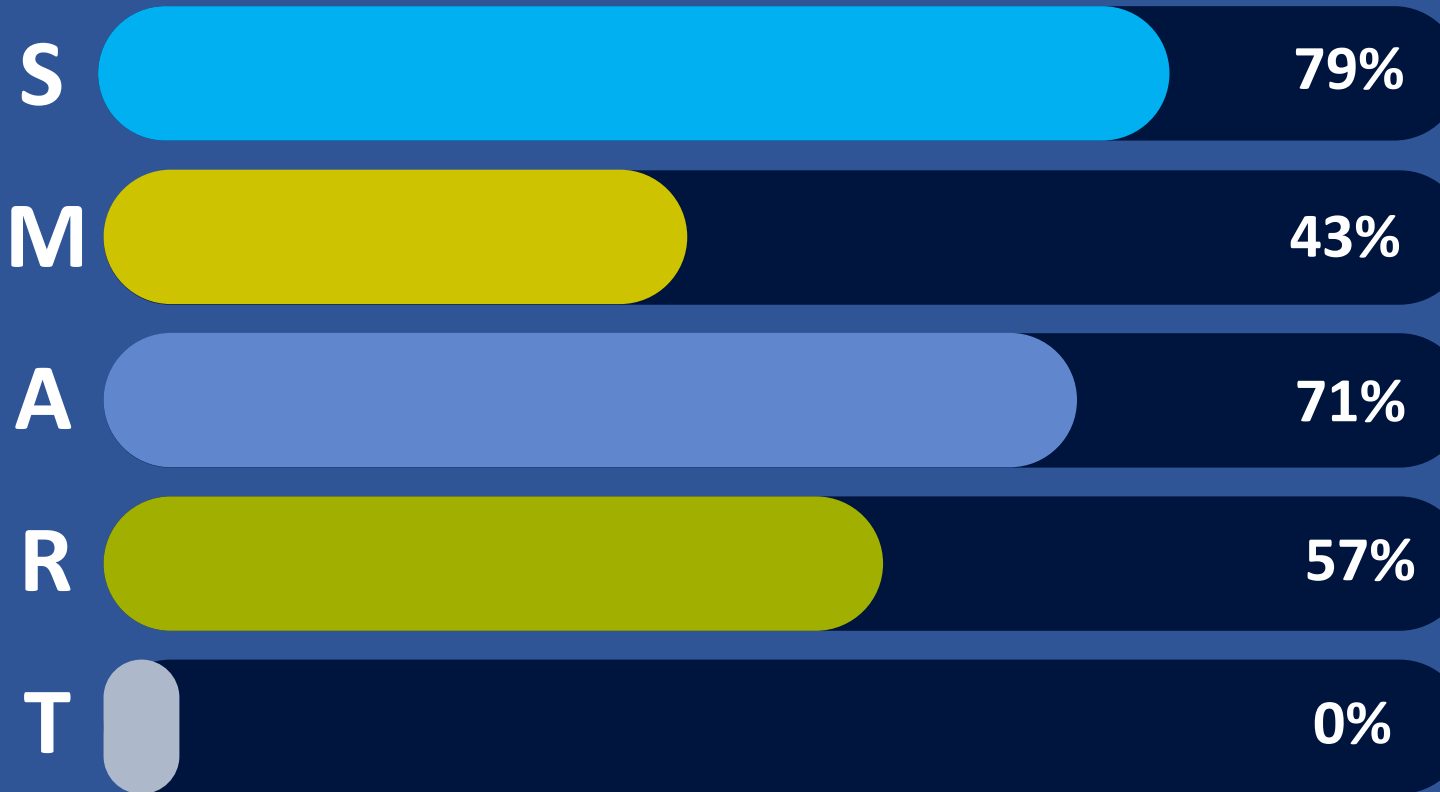


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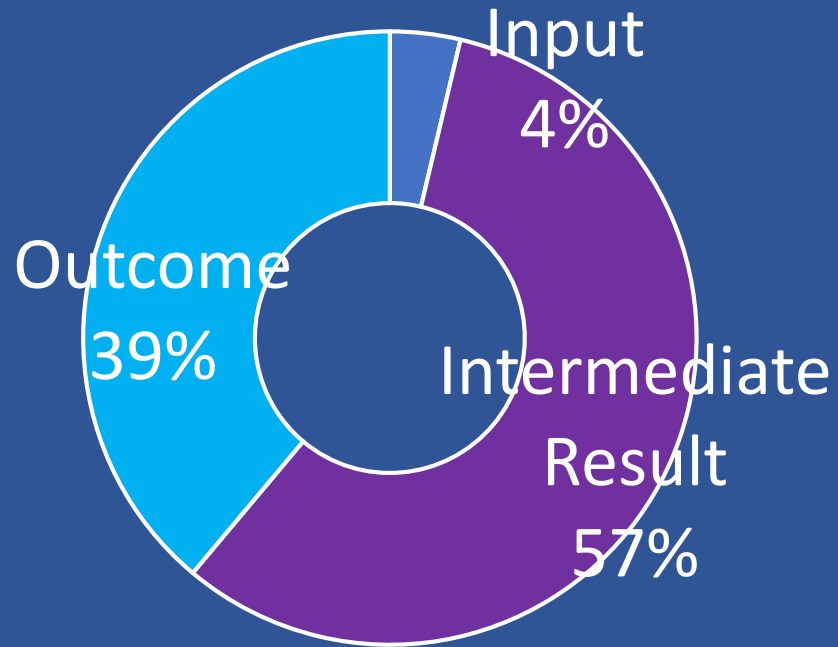
# Vegetation



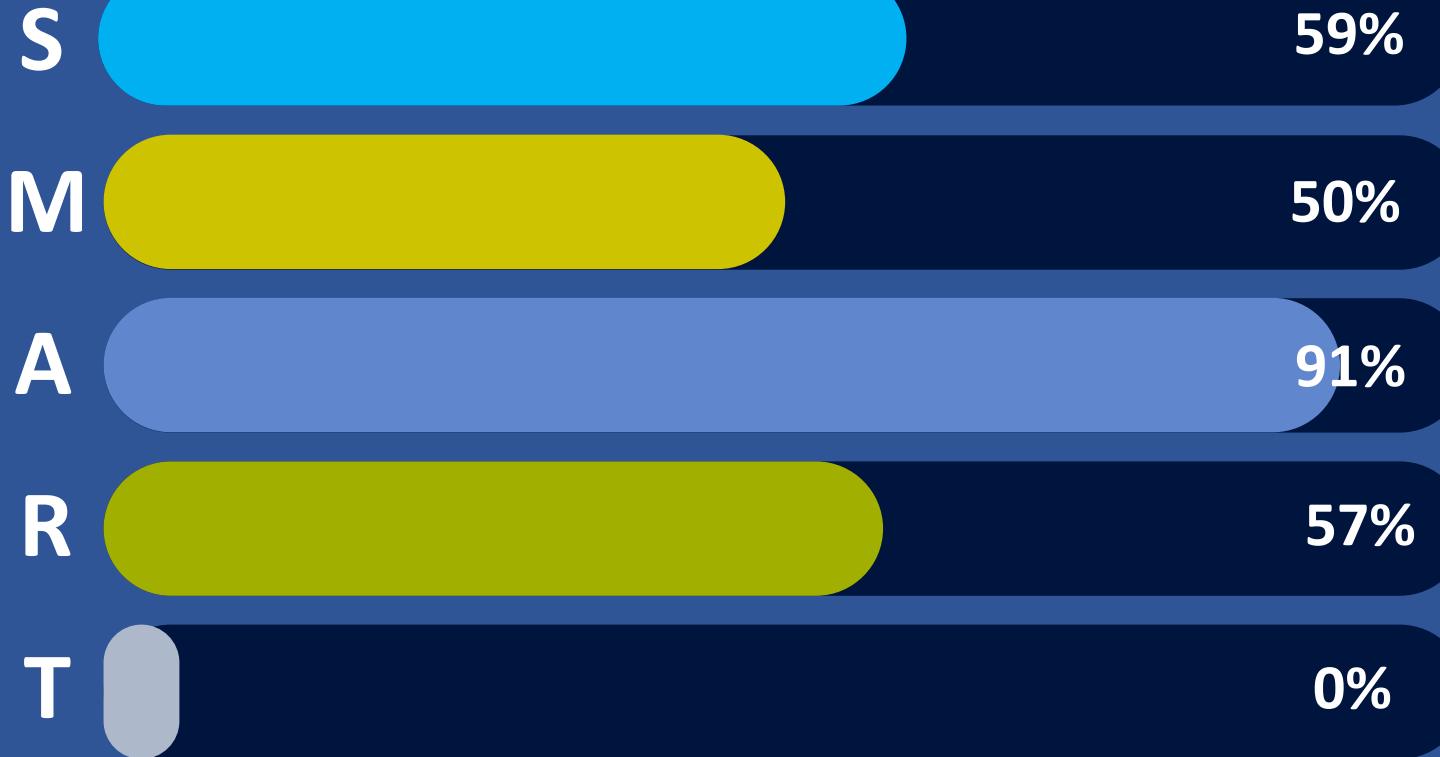
Causal-basis: 5<sup>th</sup> of 9  
Overlap: 36%



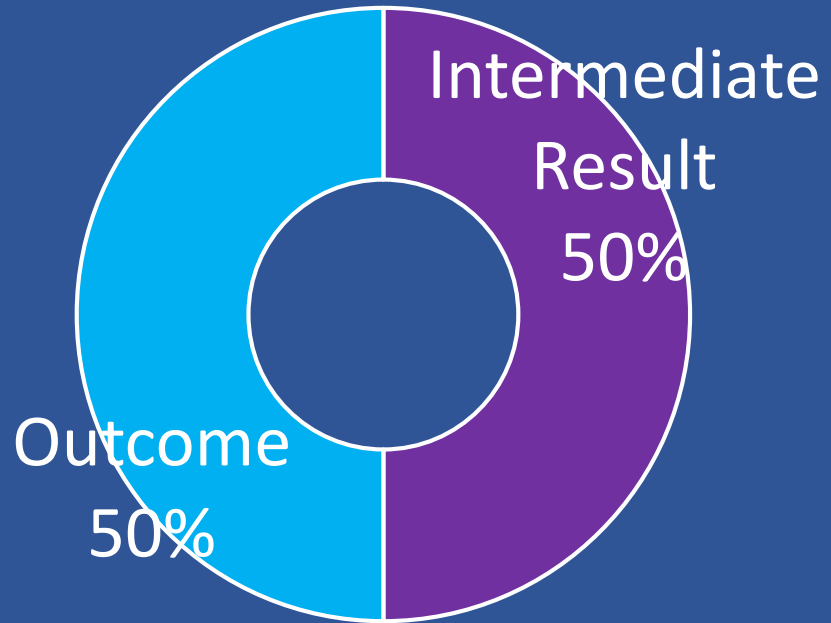
# Water Quality



Causal-basis:  
Overlap: 46%



# Wildlife



Causal-basis: 4.00

Overlap: 13%

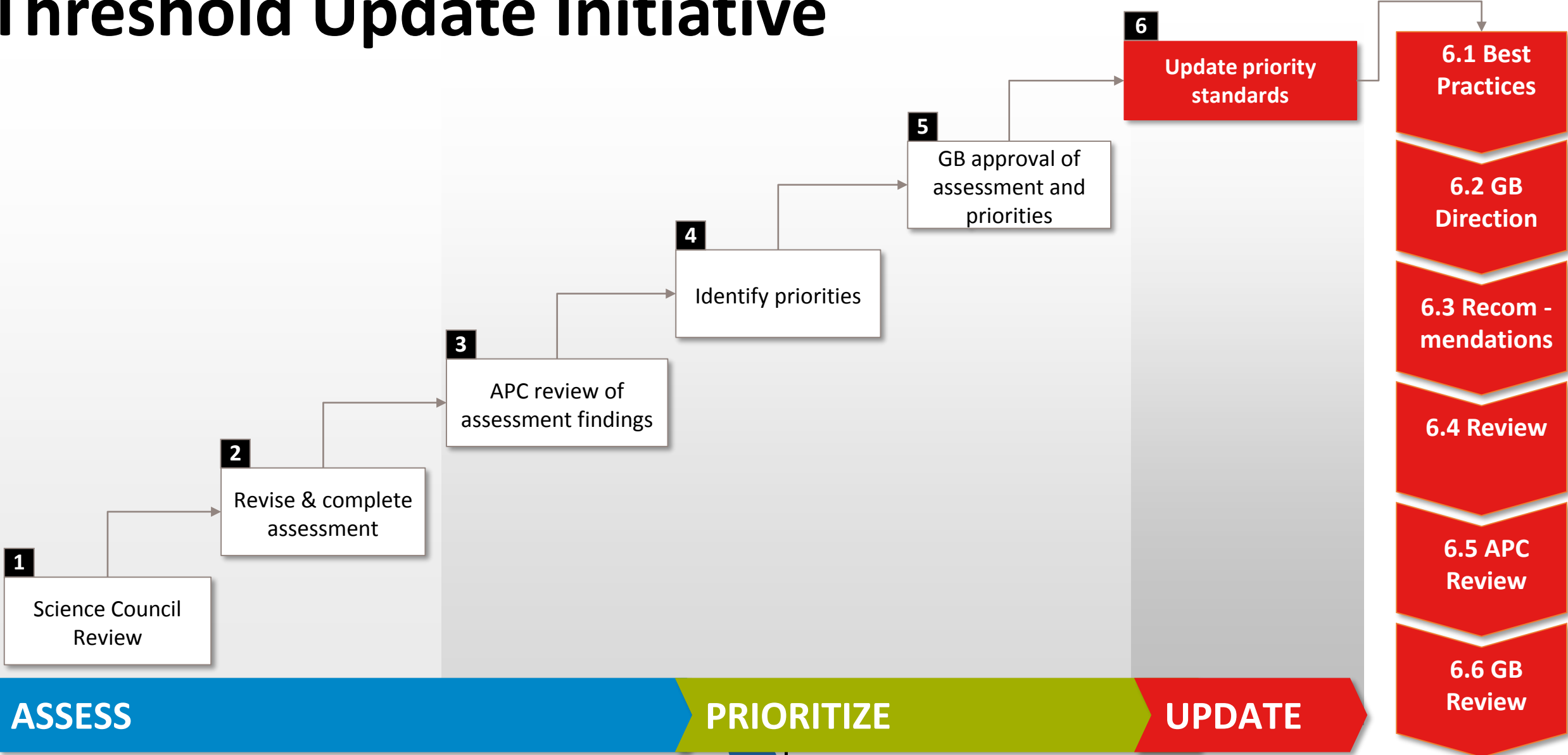


# Road Ahead

- Review of preliminary findings (5/10 to 6/7)
- Final assessment findings and recommendations (6/14 APC)
- Governing Board direction (6/28)



# Threshold Update Initiative



**ASSESS**

**PRIORITIZE**

**UPDATE**



# Process for Updating Priority Standards

## 6.1 Best Practices

Prepare report on best practices and alternatives for the standard/goal(s)

## 6.2 GB Direction

GB direction on best practices to be considered, process for proceeding with revisions, and appropriate working group

## 6.3 Recommendations

Technical working group prepares recommendations based on GB direction on best practices to be considered and process to be used

## 6.4 Review

Review of recommendations by partners, public, and/or Science Council depending on measures being addressed, and modifications if any

## 6.5 APC Review

APC review and recommendation to GB once working group has considered comments from review of their recommendations, and forwarded their final recommendations

## 6.6 GB Review

Governing Board review and approval, or approval with modifications, of APC recommendations

# Thank you



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