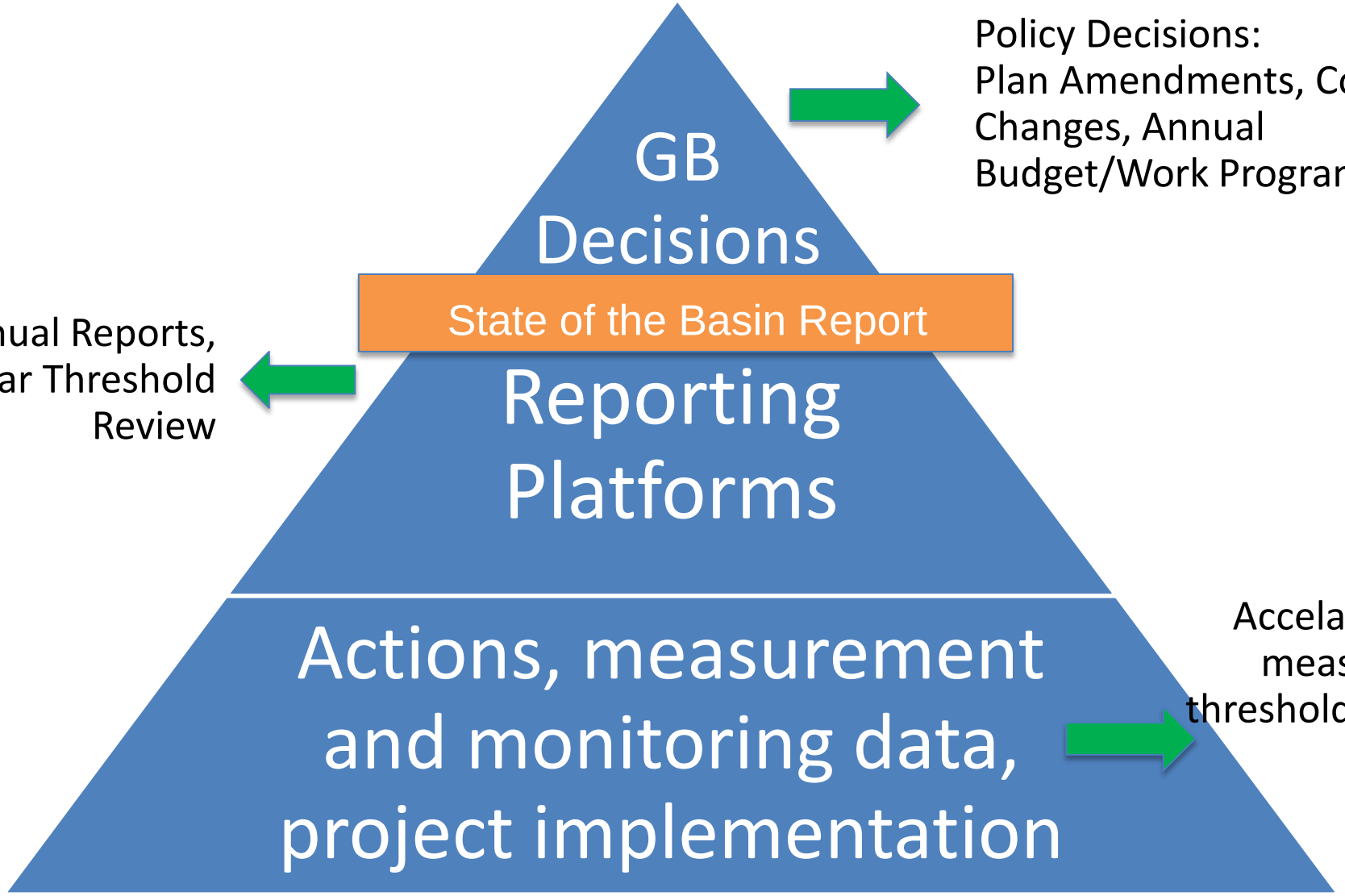
Monitoring Strategy To Measure Regional Plan Progress

November 2012




GB Decisions
State of the Basin Report
Reporting Platforms
Actions, measurement and monitoring data, project implementation
Policy Decisions: Plan Amendments, Code Changes, Annual Budget/Work Program
Annual Reports, 4-Year Threshold Review
Accela, RPU measures, threshold data

Current Threshold Monitoring System

- 151 environmental standards
- Pathway estimated $10 million/year to fully monitor all indicators
  - Streamlined to $3 million/year PLUS startup costs of $4 million
  - During last decade, invested $1.9 million/year across partnership
  - Funding dropping by $650k/year
  - CA Legislature directing review of all thresholds by Tahoe Science Consortium

Sources of Monitoring Mandates

Current

- TRPA Resolution 82-11 and Regional Plan
- TMDL - NPDES Permits
- Other – e.g., National Forest Management Act

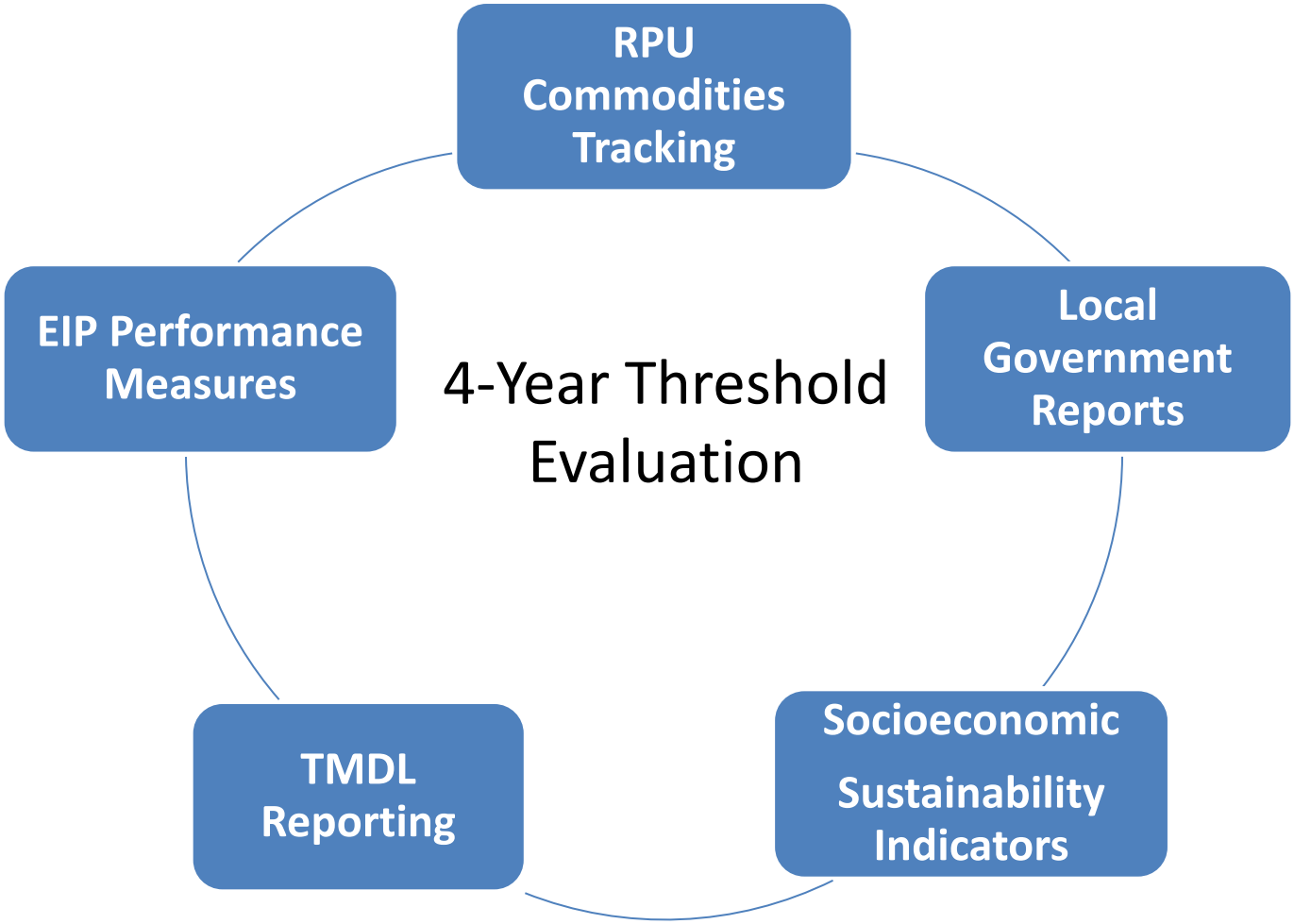
Pending

- Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (reauthorization)
- California Budget Trailer Bill Language
- Strategic Growth Council – Sustainable Communities Program Grant

Air Quality Monitoring

- New comprehensive monitoring strategy prepared.
- 6 AQ sites operational throughout Tahoe Basin. Each site monitors different standards.
- We have a monitoring plan for air quality -- adding 2 stations and consolidating others.
- AQ all partners spend $165K today. Need one-time startup investment of $80-$100,000 . Proposed system to operate at same or lower cost.
- $2.5 million invested in AQ research over 10 years.

Annual Reports: Regional Plan Performance Benchmarks



Regional Plan Commodities Tracking

RPU Commodities Tracking

Commodities and transfers to be tracked:

- Commercial floor area
- Tourist accommodation units
- Residential allocations and development rights
- Existing units of use
- Bonus units used in incentive programs

Local Government Area Plan/MOU Reports

Local Government Reports

Code of Ordinances Requirements:

- Building permit information
  - TRPA to review sample of permits
- Governing Board annual review of Area Plans
  - Certify
  - Certify with corrective actions
  - Revoke

Lake Tahoe Sustainable Communities Program/SGC Socioeconomic Indicators

Socioeconomic Indicators/ SGC Grant

- Air/Water Quality
- Public health
- Unemployment
- Transportation
  - Transit ridership
  - Bicycle trail volumes
- Water and energy conservation
- Housing
  - Affordability

33 EIP Performance Measures

EIP Performance Measures

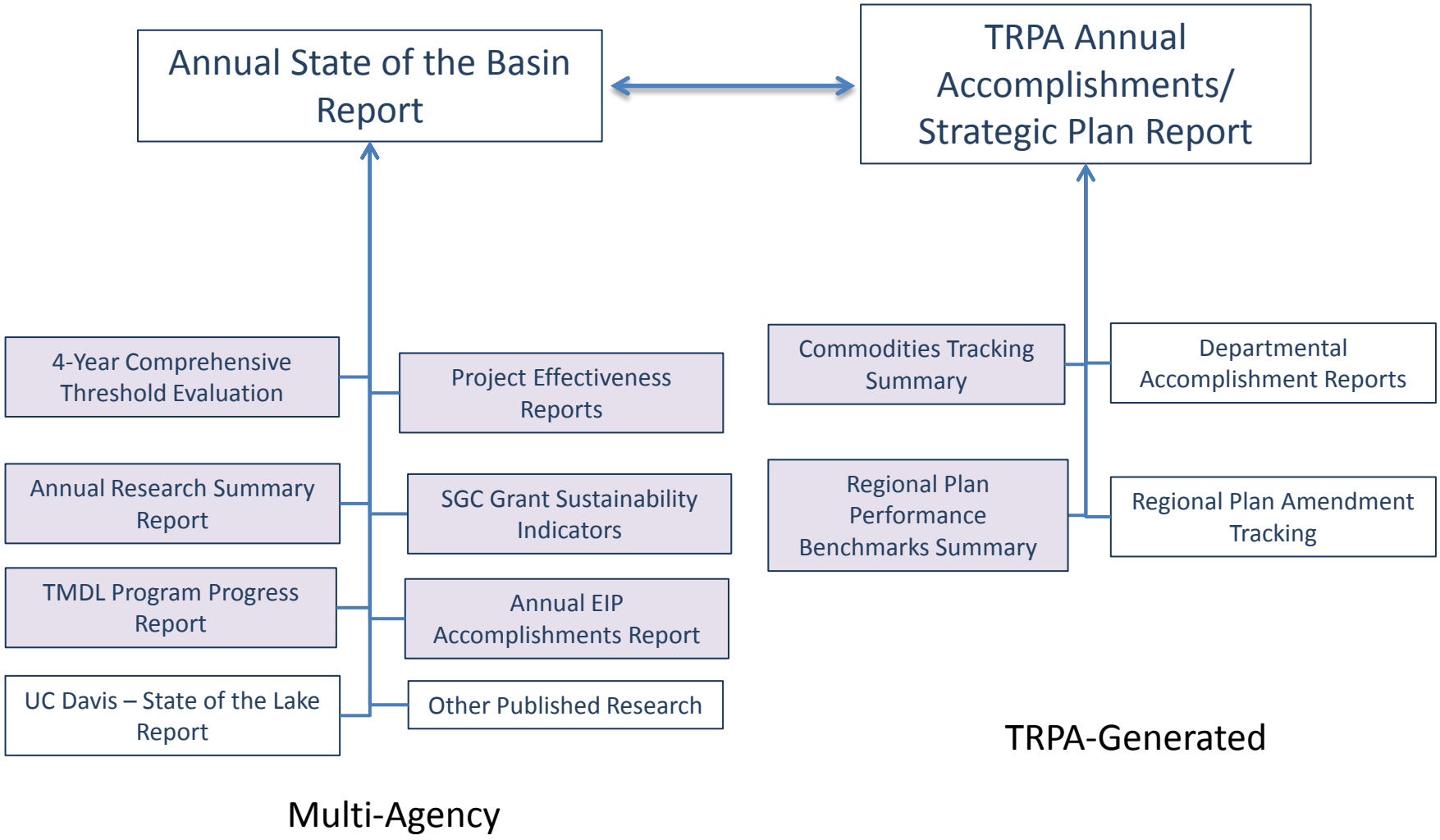
1. Fine Sediment Load Reduction Achieved
2. Nitrogen Load Reduction Achieved
3. Phosphorus Load Reduction Achieved
4. Parcels With Stormwater Retrofits
5. Miles of Road Treated
6. Linear Feet of Stream Habitat Restored or Enhanced
7. Special Status Species Sites Protected or Re-Established
8. Acres of Habitat Protected
9. Acres of Habitat Restored or Enhanced
10. Acres Treated for Invasive Species
11. Watercraft Inspections for Invasive Species
12. New Invasive Species Locations Detected
13. Acres of Forest Fuels Reduction Treatment
14. Parcels With Defensible Space
15. Number of Projects Completed
16. Acres of Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquired
17. Acres of Invasive Species Inventoried
18. Tons of Biomass Utilized
19. Non-Compliant Wood Stoves Removed or Retrofitted
20. Miles of Pedestrian and Bicycle Routes Improved or Constructed
21. Miles of Trails Developed or Improved
22. Length of Public Shoreline Added
23. Educational and Interpretive Programs Produced
24. Miles of Utility Lines Buried Underground
25. Projects Meeting Scenic Quality Standards
26. Facilities Improved or Created
27. Funds Expended
28. Pounds of Air Pollutant Removed or Avoided by Project
29. Tons of Greenhouse Gases Reduced
30. People Served
31. Miles of Street Sweeping
32. Impervious Coverage Retired
33. Fish Planted

TMDL Annual Reporting

TMDL Reporting

- State of California and Nevada reports
  - Urban Stormwater:
    - Modeled estimates of pollutants reduced: nitrogen, phosphorus, fine sediment by catchment/jurisdiction
  - Non-urban sources (forest upland runoff, stream channel erosion, atmospheric deposition):
    - Load reduction activities and projects – planned and completed

Reporting Framework



= required by TRPA Regional Plan, EIP Update, TMDL, CA Budget, or other agency plans

Key Monitoring Questions

- What is the condition (health) of Basin environmental and socioeconomic systems?
- What is the status of key threats to Basin environmental and socioeconomic systems?
- What policies and actions are being implemented in response to conditions and threats?
  - Are key policies and actions effective?