

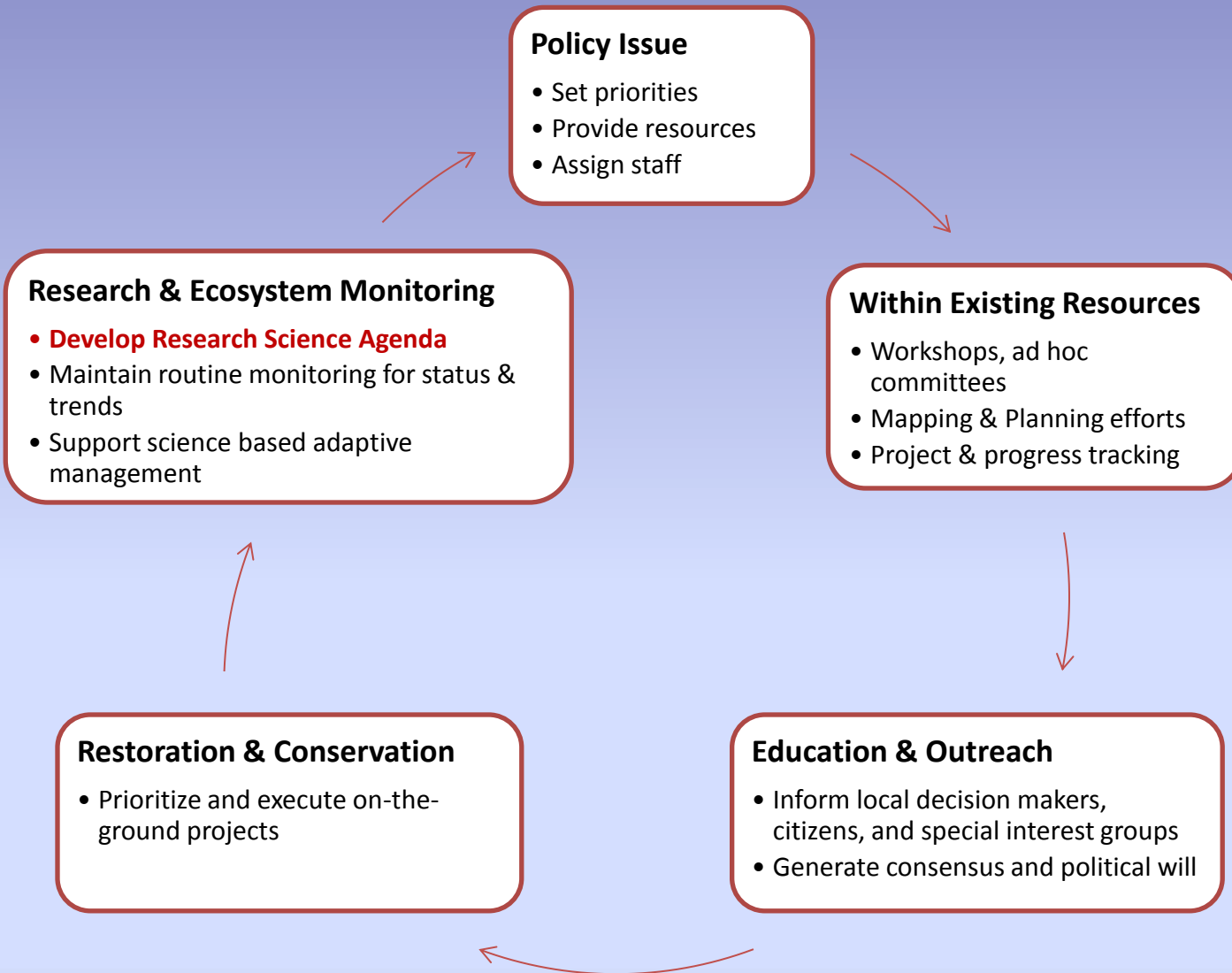
# Coastal Bays Management Plan 2025

- Four meetings held with the Implementation Committee in 2013
  - **Water Quality** (TMDL & Nutrient Reduction Strategy)
  - **Fish & Wildlife** (Expand the Ecosystem Health Assessment to include terrestrial monitoring)
  - **Recreation & Navigation** (Adopt & implement a Coastal Bays Sediment Management Plan)
  - **Community & Economic Development** (Expand the State of the Bays Report to include social & economic indicators. Anticipate & plan for sea level rise and coastal resiliency)

# Partners

- Coastal Bays staff
- Worcester County
- Maryland Dept's of Natural Resources, Planning, Environment, Agriculture, Energy Admin.
- University of Maryland
- USDA NRCS, EPA, Army Corp of Engineers, USGS
- Assateague National Seashore
- Worcester Soil Conservation District
- Maryland Historic Trust
- Towns of Ocean City & Berlin

- Old CCMP = 505 actions (overall 78% completed)
- New CCMP = 218 actions
- Each action is categorized for implementation
  - Policy Issue
  - Within Existing Resources of the lead partner
  - Education & outreach
  - Restoration & Conservation projects
  - **Research & Ecosystem Monitoring**



CE 4.1.12 MCBP STAC will develop a long-term Science Agenda and Ecosystem Health Assessment (State of the Coastal Bays Report) every five years.

# Water Quality Research

- TMDL nutrient reduction BMPs and credits (#s of N or P reduced). Interagency mapping of all known BMPs. Changes in imperviousness. Nutrient and sediment flow via ditches.
- Groundwater monitoring & modeling for sustainability, nutrient load, effects of land use.
- Atmospheric inputs of nutrients

# Fish & Wildlife

- Fish stock assessments compared to regional targets & threshold levels
- Oceanic living resources & habitats
- Estuarine resources: terrapins, seals, shorebirds, HABs, SAV
- Climate change impacts to habitats & living resources
- **Terrestrial monitoring plan**: upland resources, FIDS, game harvest, BioNet (diversity) etc.

**Imperative - DNR Wildlife & Heritage, Coastal & Chesapeake Services, and other terrestrial primary investigators will need to be engaged by STAC.**

# Recreation & Navigation

- Combine multiple mapping efforts: Sensitive Areas, Blue Infrastructure, Coastal Atlas, etc.
- Coastal Bays Sediment Management Plan
  - Areas that need dredged
  - Areas that need fill (including new islands or broadcasting on sinking wetlands)
  - Holding areas for sediment
  - Federal, state, local channel jurisdiction
  - Permits, funding, community expectations

# Community & Economic Development

- Economic contributions of natural resources
  - Farming, fishing, forestry, marine related business, tourism
- Value of natural ecosystem functions
  - Flood attenuation, carbon sinks, nutrient processing
- Climate change indicators
  - Chemical, ecological, spatial



# Science Agenda

- Choices
  - Approve the list of 38 actions that have been vetted already by the Implementation Committee as the basis of the science agenda. Commit time and effort to these specific needs.
  - Or review each action item for STAC discussion to add additional research & monitoring action items
  - ❖ Note that the science agenda is fluid, this list is not the universe of research needs or potential partners!