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# **Integrated Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting**

## **Presentation to CASA Coordination Workshop**

**by Alberta Environment  
September 29, 2010**

**Government  
of Alberta**

## Albert Poulette

Albert is currently the Director of the Integrated Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework project. He began his Alberta Environment career on June 30, 1975, as a source sampling tech with the Air Quality Control Branch. With one exception, his next 35 working years have been dedicated to Alberta Environment in various capacities and positions but all in the areas of compliance, emergency response and monitoring. The one exception was a one year secondment to Alberta Health & Wellness, where he helped develop their Compliance Assurance Program.

# Purpose/Agenda

- Setting the context for Cumulative Effects Management.
- Update on Integrated Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting (IMER) Project.
  - Context – Cumulative Effects Management and Knowledge & Performance Management.
  - Vision.
  - Progress and plans for detailed components of project.
- Feedback from Airshed Groups and discussion on collaborative next steps.

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# Cumulative Effects Management and IMER Project Context

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# A Cumulative Effects Management System

- **Outcomes/results-based;**
- **Risk-based; focusing greater resources and efforts on higher-risk environmental impacts;**
- **Considers health, economics and social values;**
- **Implemented /delivered using a place-based approach and a broader set of tools;**
- **Collaborative, involving many parties and sectors;**
- **Adaptive, with mechanisms built in to allow flexibility and assure achievement of outcomes.**



# Cumulative Effects Management System: Knowledge & Performance Management

## Why Are These Important?

- CEMS is knowledge-based.
- The system requires on-going acquisition and effective mobilization of data, information and knowledge.
- Model needs to be applied beyond AENV.
- Model relies on data, input and knowledge from groups outside of the GoA.

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# IMER Project Vision

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# Vision of the Future

**A monitoring, evaluation  
and reporting (MER)  
system to support  
decisions and assure GoA  
outcomes using a shared  
environmental data and  
information asset.**



# Integrated Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting Framework

## What Has Been Done?

- Draft Framework developed (September – December 2009)
- Internal and external engagement and review (September 2009 – March 2010)

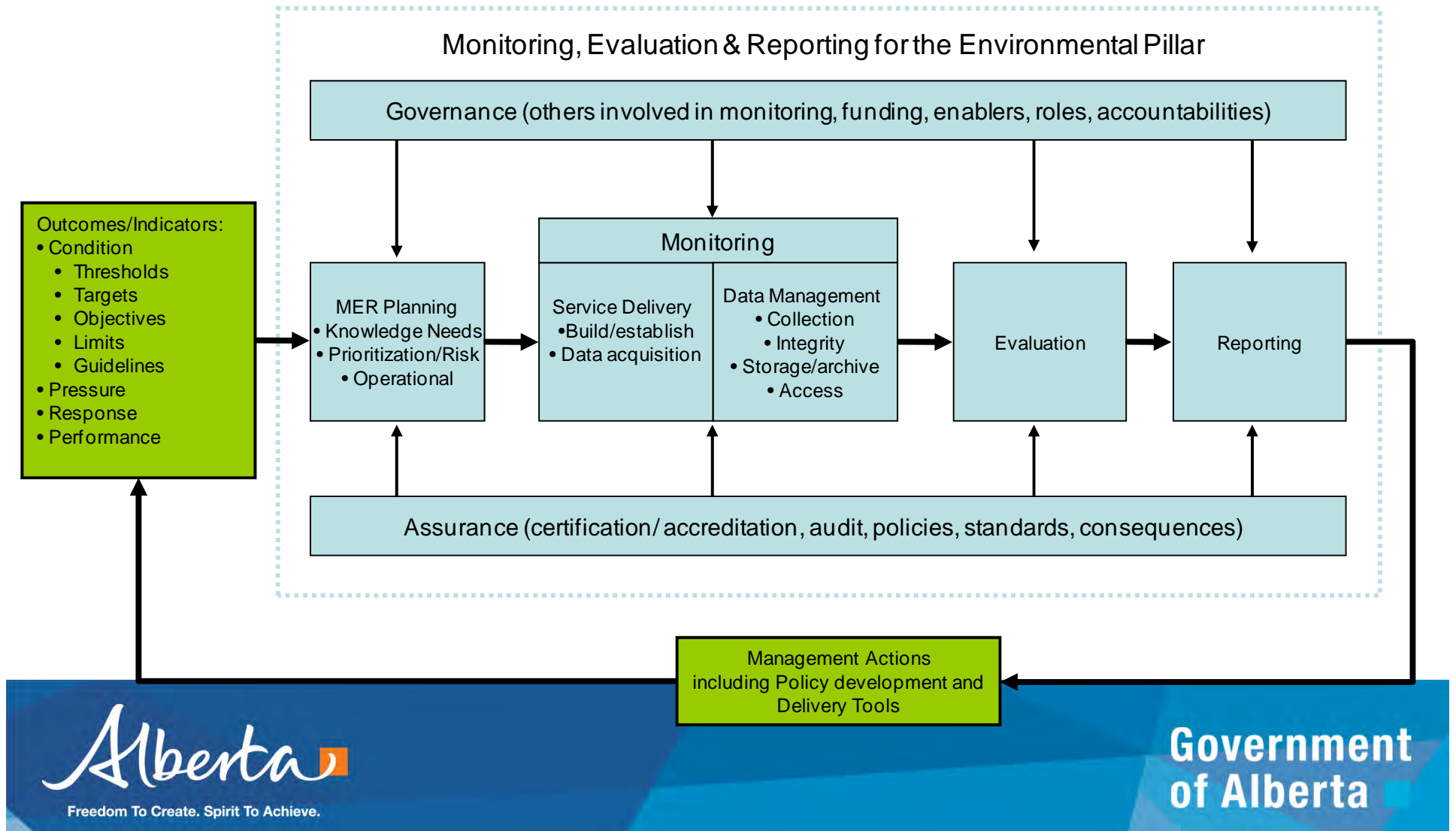
## Where Are We Now and What Happens Next?

- Ready for more in-depth external engagement
- Revisit Framework following external engagement

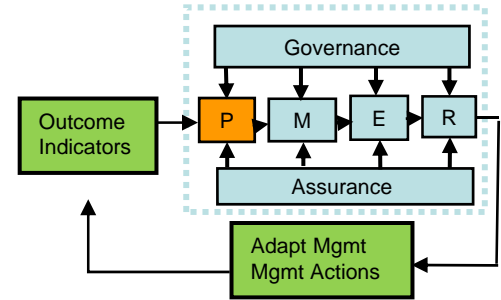


# Components of IMER Project

- **Inside Blue Dashed Box:** Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting, Governance, and Assurance



# Planning



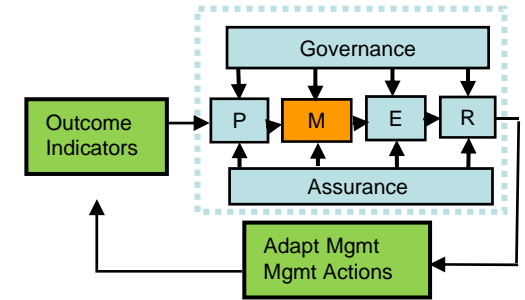
## Where Are We Now and What Happens Next?

- Work underway within AENV to build stronger links between MER operational planning and strategic intent.
- This work includes the development of a series of processes/ tools to assist MER planners and users.
- These processes/ tools will include a risk prioritization methodology, striving to achieve an optimum balance between MER needs and available resources.
- The ultimate goal of MER planning is to be participatory and to operate on the principle of inclusivity – intended to include diverse participation from people and organizations with knowledge, interest or stake.

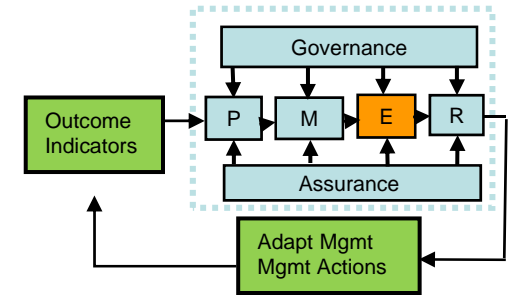
# Monitoring

## Where Are We Now and What Happens Next?

- Current monitoring activities are focused around Enterprise Data Management.
- First steps include:
  - An inventory of current data to purpose, including a 'catalogue' tool for accessibility.
  - Internal business case to support Enterprise Data Management.
- Ultimate goal is for environmental data to be easily discoverable and readily accessible to a broad range of users. It will:
  - Support strategy 6 of LUF
  - Include a 'one window' approach that contains all critical datasets.
  - Be the single source of data and information to make decisions.
  - Accept all data that meets standards.



# Evaluation

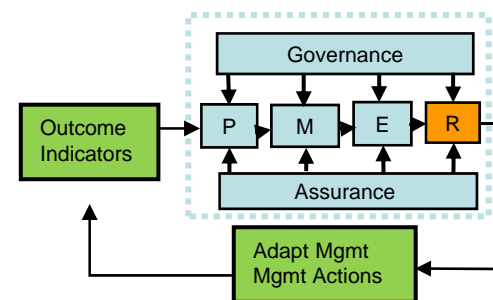


## Where Are We Now and What Happens Next?

- An Evaluation & Reporting Strategy has been developed, and beginning to execute on components of the strategy including to:
  - Pilot Performance Measurement and Evaluation (PME) for an existing AENV program to develop PME guidance and a capacity building and support program.
  - Map causal networks connecting desired outcomes to appropriate management actions through condition, pressure, response and performance indicators.
- Ultimate goal of evaluation is to advance methods to design, track performance of, and improve management actions to achieve their objectives, assure outcomes and reduce environmental risks and impacts.



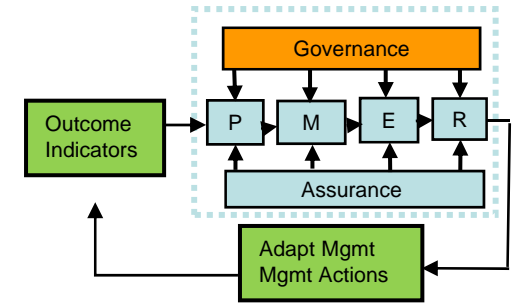
# Reporting



## Where Are We Now and What Happens Next?

- Through the Evaluation & Reporting Strategy, reporting includes:
  - Continuous update and enhancement of the State of Environment (SoE) website.
  - Enhancing the indicator selection process through the use of causal networks (i.e. identify indicators that represent causal relationships connecting desired outcomes with appropriate management actions).
- Ultimate goal of reporting is to maintain accountability and credibility through transparent reporting on environmental and organizational performance.

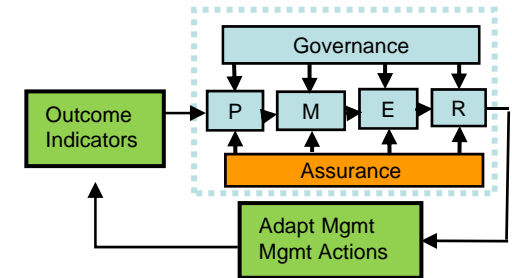
# Governance



## Where Are We Now and What Happens Next?

- Cross-Ministry Governance Team has been formed, and exploring a shift from individual ministry mandates to that of a ‘provincial base’.
  - Provincial base would include condition/ ‘state of’/ trends, and would support long-term decision-making; based in science.
  - Regional monitoring would still occur, and would likely be issues based.
  - Potential for regional and provincial base to be integrated where efficiencies, alignment with standards, etc. do exist.
- Related initiative within AENV to explore sustainable funding options for partnerships.

# Assurance



## Where Are We Now and What Happens Next?

- Cross-Ministry Assurance Team has been formed, and beginning to:
  - Conduct a client/ customer analysis.
  - Map current state processes, by media.
  - Perform a jurisdictional review regarding third party data and associated controls.
  - Develop the assurance vision, recognizing quality management principles and structure (e.g. ISO 9001:2008).
- The ultimate goal of assurance is to bring together the commonalities/ gaps identified in the client/ customer analysis and the process mapping, informed by the jurisdictional review to support a path forward for the broader GoA.

# Who Needs to be Involved in a MER System?

## Provincial Perspective:

- Alberta Environment's role in MER?
- GOA Governance structure in MER?
- Role of other parties (including federal government, industry, academia, institutes, multi-stakeholder partnerships etc.)?

## Regional Perspective:

- How might the MER Model work for Regional Plans?
- What will be required?
- Who needs to be involved?
- How will regional MER connect with provincial MER?

# Contact information

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## IMER Project Team

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The logo for the Government of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a white, cursive script font. To the right of the word is a small orange square with a white stylized 'A' shape inside.

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**Government  
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# Discussion & Questions

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