

# Foundational Concepts for a Nuclear Security Detection Architecture

Nuclear Security Detection Architecture  
Module D

# Nuclear Security Detection Architecture

## Foundational Concepts

Pathway View

Competent Authorities

Detection Strategy

Legal Framework

### Design & Development

Capabilities & Needs

Design Attributes

### Detection by Instrument Alarm

### Detection by Information Alert

### Operational Implementation

Concept of Operations

Instrument Deployment

Roles & Responsibilities

Searches & Surveys

### Initial Assessment of Alarms and Alerts

Operations/Analysis Centers

Adjudication Flowcharts

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Awareness, Training, and Exercise

### Sustainability

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Methodologies

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# Threat/Risk Assessment

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# Module Objectives

Participants will become familiar with foundational concepts of a nuclear security detection architecture, including:

- The pathways view of the architecture
- Identifying competent authorities
- The basis of a nuclear security detection architecture
- The nuclear security detection strategy
- The legal framework for a nuclear security detection architecture

# Country Self-Assessment Checklist

This module will enable or motivate the following questions:

1. Has a nuclear security detection strategy been established?
2. Has your country determined the scope and priority of the nuclear security detection architecture?
3. Have the results of a threat or risk assessment been factored into the development nuclear detection strategy?
4. Has a legal framework for a nuclear security detection architecture been established, including defining relevant criminal acts?
5. Has a coordinating body or mechanism for the nuclear security detection architecture been identified?

# What is Detection?

Detection includes a known encounter between the threat and the defensive countermeasures

A detection event includes:

- Instrument alarms
- Information alerts
- Collection of information concerning the alarm or alert
- Integrating information from additional sources
- Initial assessment of the alarm or alert

# What is a Nuclear Security Detection Architecture?

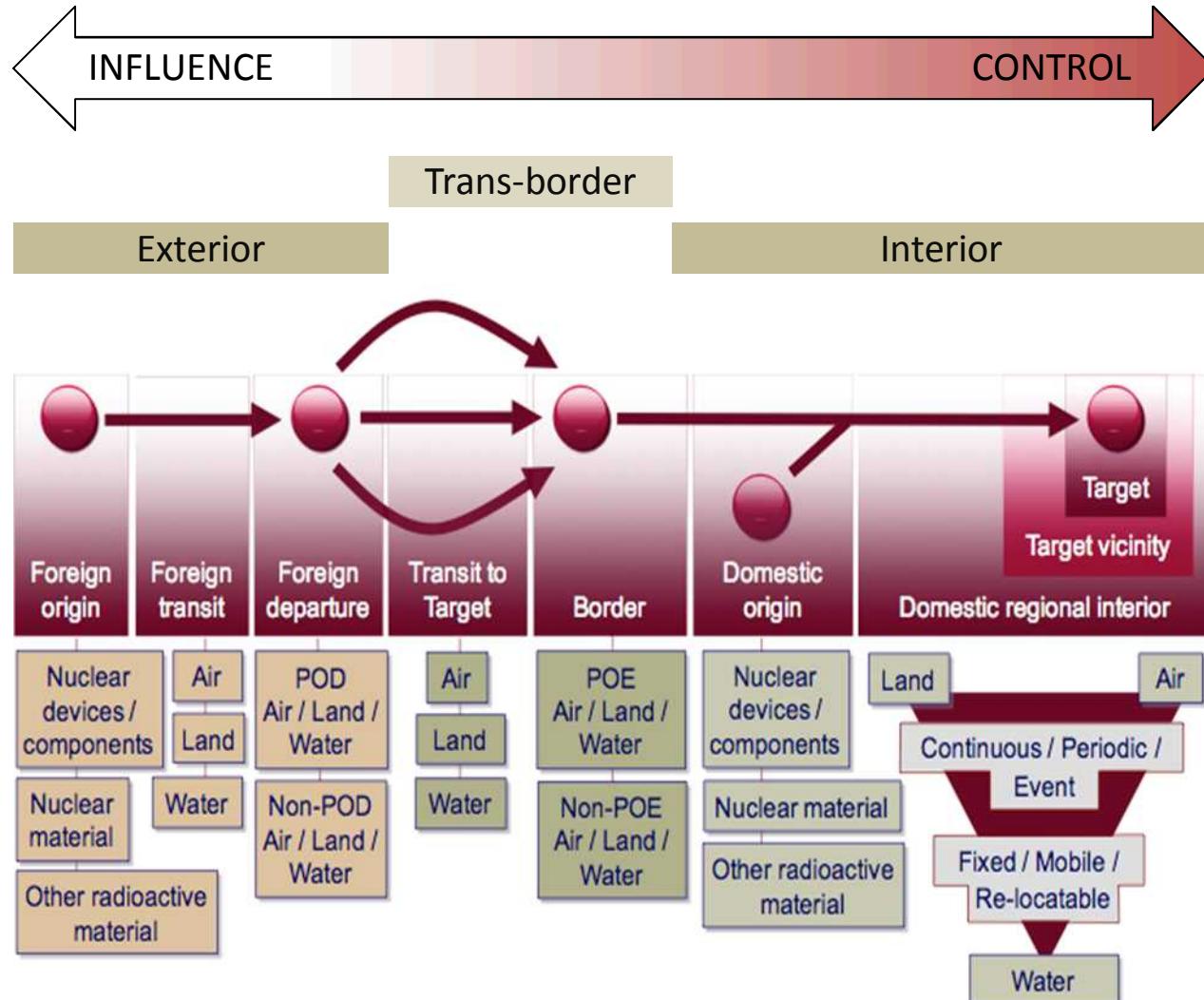
The integrated set of nuclear security systems and measures, based on an appropriate legal and regulatory framework, needed to implement a national strategy for the detection of nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control

# Spectrum of Nuclear Security Activities

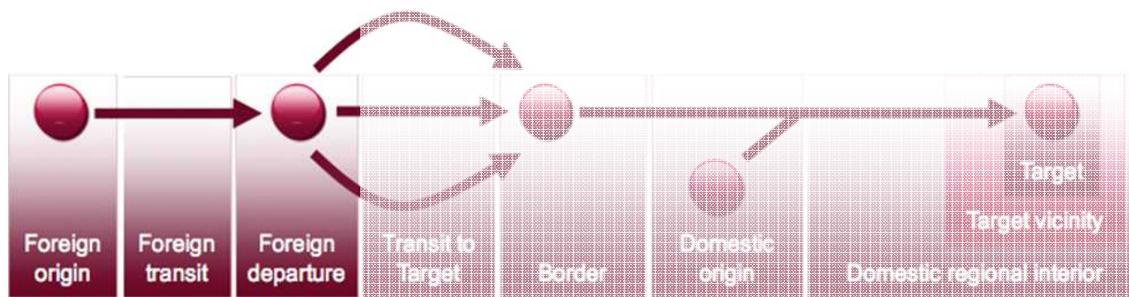


- The full nuclear security spectrum includes prevention, detection, and response activities
- The scope of a detection architecture includes:
  - Threat assessment
  - Detection
  - Assessment of the alarm/alert

# A Pathways View of the Architecture



# Exterior Layers

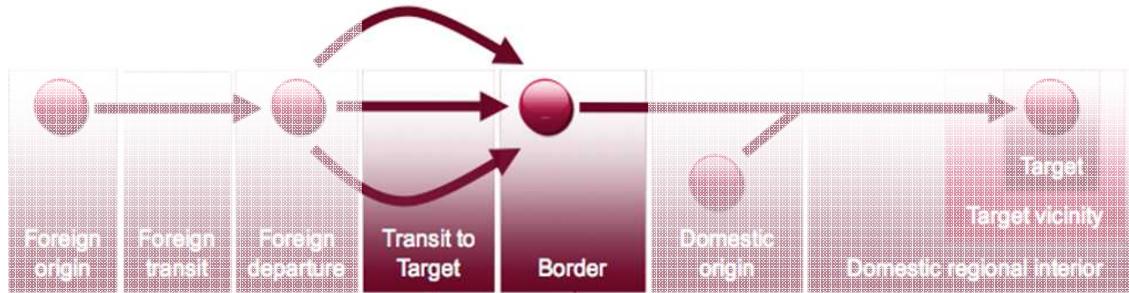


**Foreign Origin:** locations in other States where nuclear and other radioactive material are stored, used or produced

**Foreign Transit:** transport of material with or between States from point of origin to last point of exit prior to reaching the target State

**Foreign Departure:** the last possible departure point through which traffic will pass through prior to entering the State.

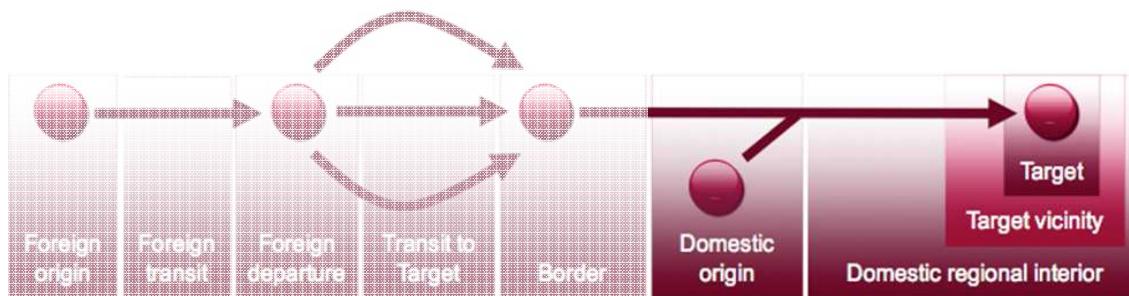
# Trans-border Layers



**Transit to Target:** The passage of material from the last foreign port of departure to point of entry into the State

**Border:** air, land, and maritime points of entry and the area between points of entry; often the geographic boundary of the State

# Interior Layers



**Domestic Origin:** locations within the State that store, use, or process radioactive material

**Domestic Interior:** the pathways that exist within a State, including roadways, airports, rail lines, etc.

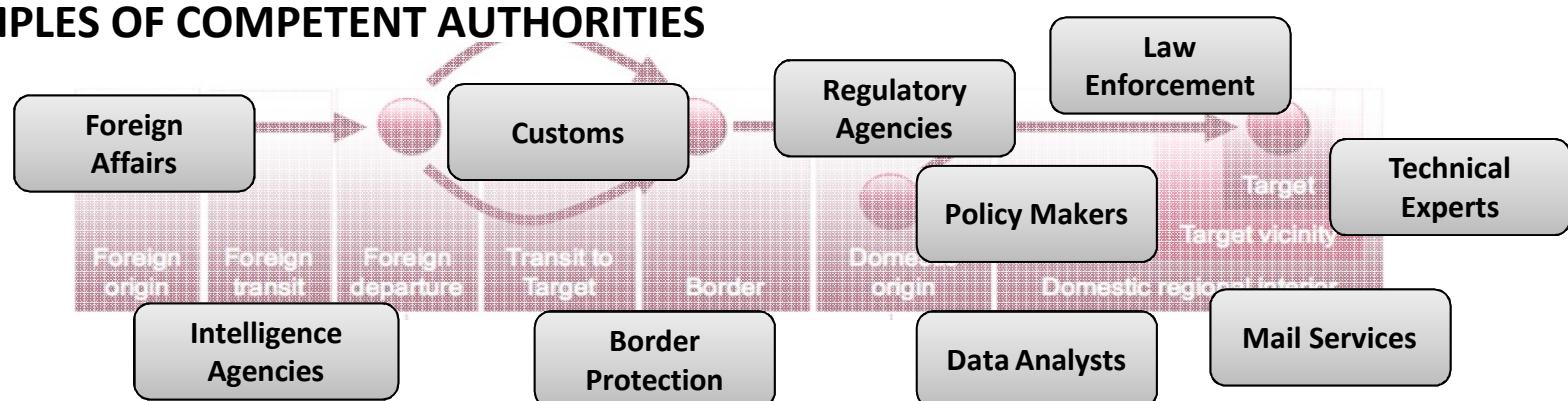
**Target Vicinity:** a layer that surrounds the target with sufficient standoff distance to protect targets

**Target:** the target can include special events, infrastructure, points of interest, ports of entry, etc.

# Competent Authorities

- Competent authorities are governmental organizations or institutions that have been designated by a State to carry out one or more nuclear security functions
- The pathways view can be used to identify competent authorities within a State's institutional hierarchy
- The term “stakeholders” is also used, which includes the competent authorities as well as other, non-governmental organizations or institutions (such as members of the public or industry)

## EXAMPLES OF COMPETENT AUTHORITIES



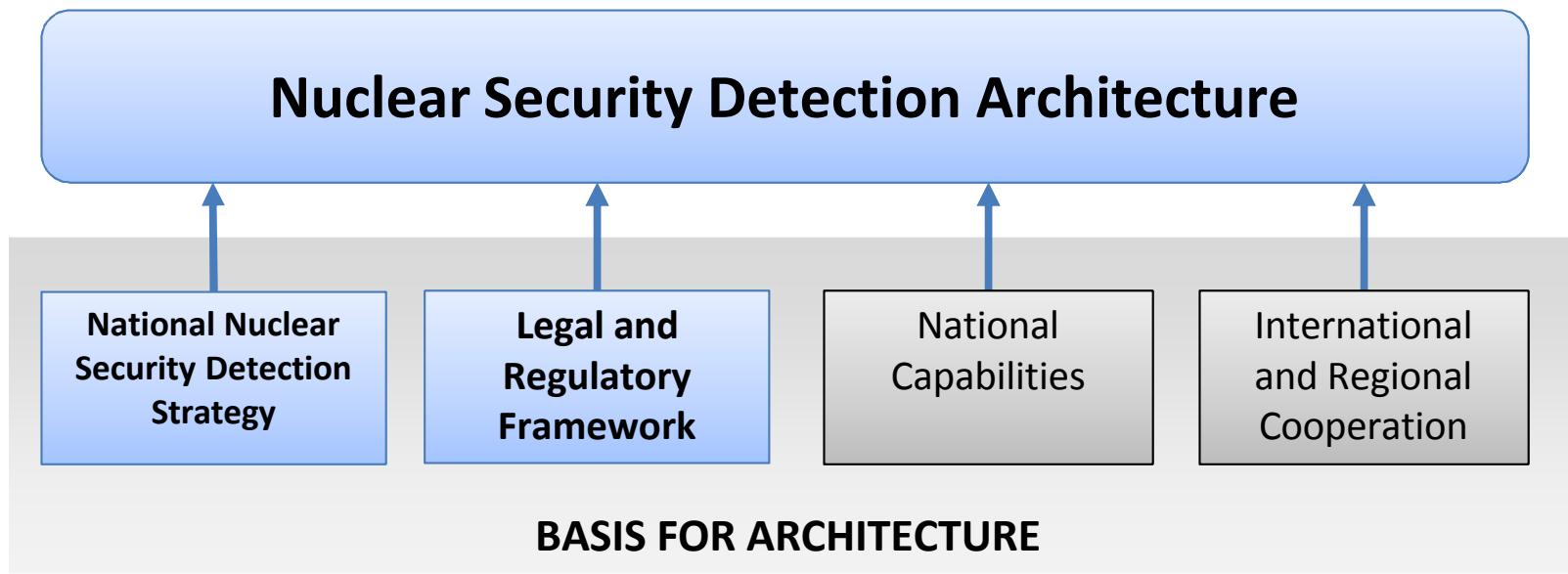
# Coordinating Body or Mechanism

- A committee comprised of representatives from relevant competent authorities
- Ensures necessary institutional support for the detection strategy and architecture
- Can be established at various levels in the government structure (national, regional, or local)



# Basis of a Nuclear Security Detection Architecture

Various elements of a nuclear security regime form the basis and help frame and motivate the architecture



Covered in this module

Covered in subsequent modules

# What is the Nuclear Security Detection Strategy?

- The nuclear security detection strategy can:
  - Determine the scope and priority of the architecture
  - Articulate objectives for detection systems and measures
  - Provide the basis for the assignment of functions
  - Include a policy on sensitive information and assign responsibilities for information security
  - Include opportunities for international and regional cooperation
- Development should be assigned to the coordinating body or mechanism

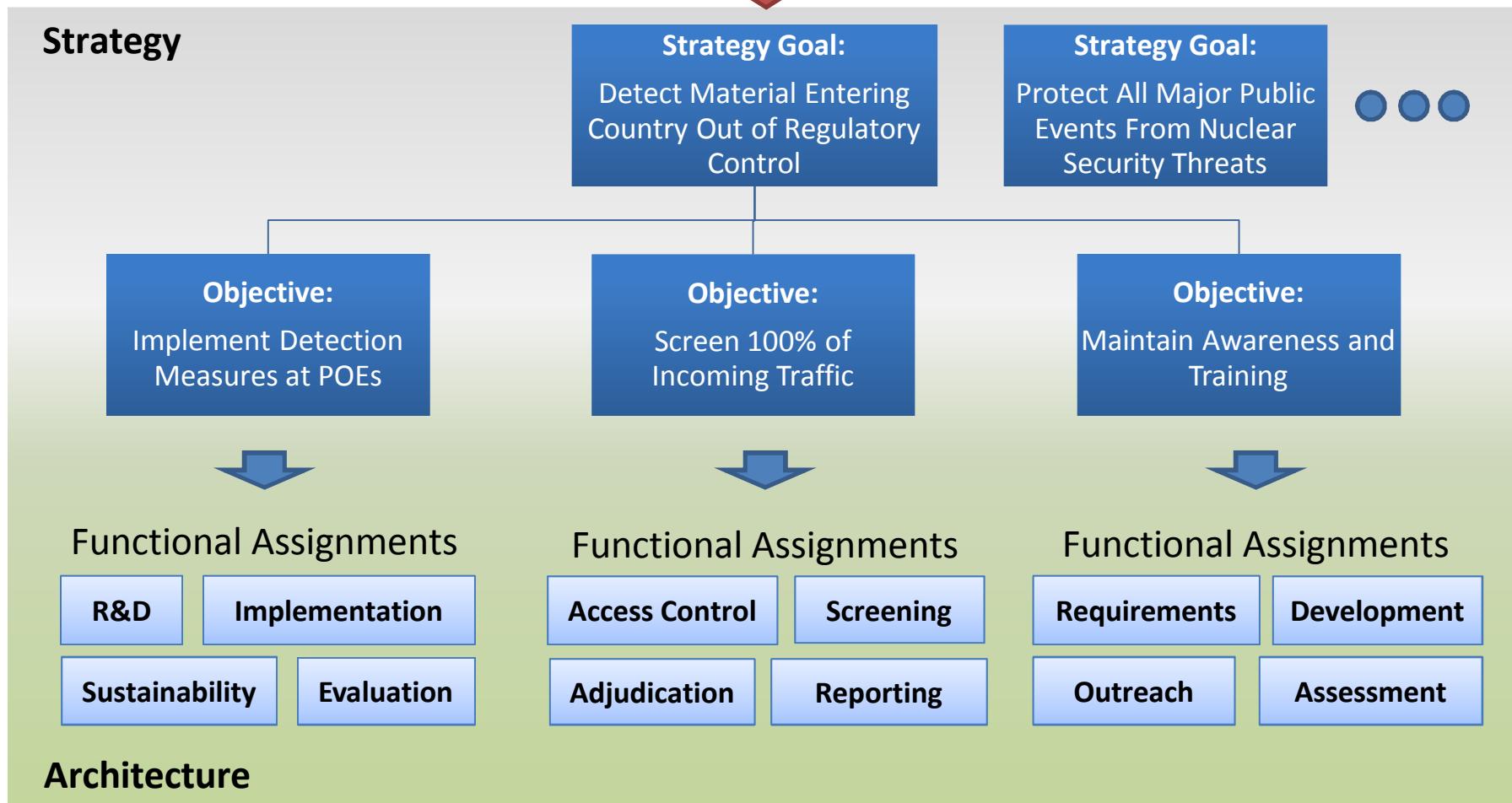
An effective architecture is derived from a comprehensive, integrated national strategy

# Nuclear Security Detection Strategy Principles

- The strategy should be informed by a threat or risk assessment, accounting for:
  - All threat possibilities (IND, RED, and RDD)
  - All potential levels of adversary sophistication and motivation
  - The possibility that even a low-risk state can be used as an originating point or transit route for material
- The strategy should be updated:
  - Periodically to reflect new information and changing conditions
  - When threat or risk assessment changes

# From Strategy to Architecture

**Threat/Risk Assessment:** Country Faces External Threat from Trafficking of Radioactive Materials



# Legal Framework for Detection

Provides the legal basis for the nuclear security detection architecture and defines the conduct or actions that are considered to be a criminal act with nuclear security implications, including:

- The actual attempt or commitment of an act
- The threat of act, whether an actual threat or a hoax



# Provisions for Detection in the Legal Framework

Additional provisions in the legal framework that can be leveraged by the detection architecture include:

- Protection of source material
- Import and export controls
- Customs and borders protection
- Assign authority to relevant competent authorities
- The ability to search and screen for nuclear or radioactive material

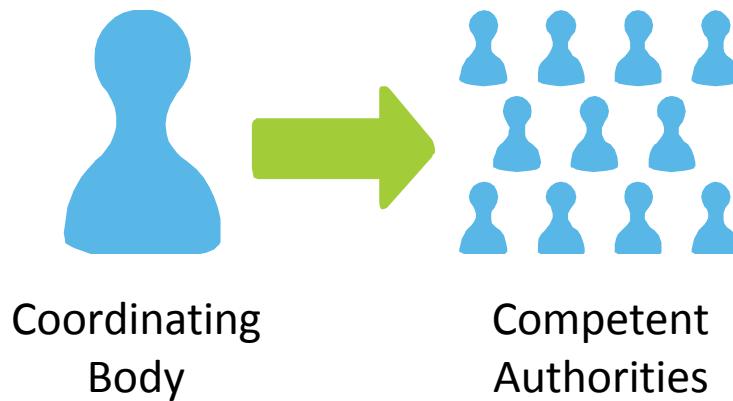
# Roles and Responsibilities

The legal framework should also define roles and responsibilities and assign authority to relevant competent authorities. Related functions include:

- Contributing to the national detection strategy
- Developing, operating, and maintaining the detection systems and assessment procedures
- Providing training to implementers
- Sustaining detection capabilities and ensuring operational preparedness
- Developing sustainable channels of communication among stakeholders

# Communicating Strategy to Stakeholders

After a strategy and architecture have been approved it is important to communicate relevant aspects to stakeholders in an appropriate and timely manner



Communication methods include:

- Officially documenting and distributing the strategy
- Developing awareness courses and workshops on the strategy

# Module D Summary

