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DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 2423 **26 August 2022**

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: BIODIVERSITY ACT, 2004 (ACT NO. 10 OF 2004)

PUBLICATION OF THE REVISED NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK 2019 – 2024 FOR IMPLEMENTATION

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby publish the revised National Biodiversity Framework in terms of section 38 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), as set out in the Schedule hereto, for implementation.

forestry, fisheries & the environment
Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

2030 NDP

South Africa's National Biodiversity Framework

2019 - 2024

CONTENTS

Section 1: Introduction to the National Biodiversity Framework

The National Biodiversity Framework (NBF) is a requirement in terms of section 38 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), hereafter referred to as the 'Biodiversity Act').

1.1 Purpose of the NBF

The overall purpose of the NBF is to **coordinate and align** the efforts of the many organizations and individuals involved in conserving and managing South Africa's biodiversity in support of sustainable development**.**

Section 39 of the Biodiversity Act specifies that the NBF must:

(a) provide for an integrated, co-ordinated and uniform approach to biodiversity management by organs of state in all spheres of government, non-governmental organisations, the private sector, local communities, other stakeholders and the public;
(b) be consistent with- this Act; the national environmental management principles; and any relevant international agreements binding on the Republic and;
(c) identify priority areas for conservation action and the establishment of protected areas; and
(d) reflect regional co-operation on issues concerning biodiversity management in Southern Africa.

The NBF is a short to medium-term coordination tool that shows the **alignment** between the strategic objectives and outcomes identified in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP v.2, 2015) and other key national strategies, frameworks and systems that currently guide the work of the biodiversity sector and identifies mechanisms through which this work is **coordinated**. It also identifies a set of interventions or "acceleration measures" that can unlock or fast-track implementation of the NBSAP and indicates the **relative roles** of the many agencies involved in implementing these activities.

The purpose of the NBF is not to provide a comprehensive review of all work currently being undertaken in the biodiversity sector, nor to list all the actions required to conserve and manage South Africa's biodiversity in support of sustainable development.

1.2 Informants of the National Biodiversity Framework

The primary informants of the NBF are the latest versions of the **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan** (NBSAP), which is South Africa's long-term strategy for ensuring sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity; the **National Biodiversity Assessment** (NBA), which provides the status of South Africa's ecosystems and biodiversity through headline indicators and a spatial assessment of ecosystems and species; and, the **National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy** (NPAES), which is a long-term strategy for guiding cost-effective expansion of the country's protected area estate. The NBF is also informed by numerous other national and provincial strategies, frameworks and systems that guide the work being carried out in the biodiversity sector – an overview of these is presented in section 3 of this Framework.

1.2.1. Overview of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (version 2, 2015)

An NBSAP is a requirement that all contracting parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1992) are obliged to fulfil. South Africa's NBSAP 2015 sets out an integrated and coherent national strategy for the conservation, management and sustainable use of the country's biodiversity to ensure equitable benefits to the people of the country. It outlines how South Africa will fulfil the objectives of the CBD and contribute to the global sustainable development agenda. It also provides a framework for the integration of biodiversity considerations into national development plans and a wide range of other sectoral strategies, placing wise management and protection of biodiversity at the heart of the sustainable development agenda.

The NBSAP 2015 – 2025 (GoS, 2015a) identifies **6 strategic objectives**, under each of which key **outcomes**, **activities** (designated as high, medium and low priority), and medium to long-term **targets** are described in detail – see ***Figure 1*** for a summary of the strategic objectives, and ***Table 1*** for a more detailed listing of the outcomes.

The Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the NBSAP, with the support of the environmental Minister and Members of the Executive Council (MinMEC) Committee, the Ministerial Technical Committee (MinTech) and their various Working Groups (WGs), in particular WG 1 (Biodiversity and Conservation) – these are described in more detail in section 4 of this document.

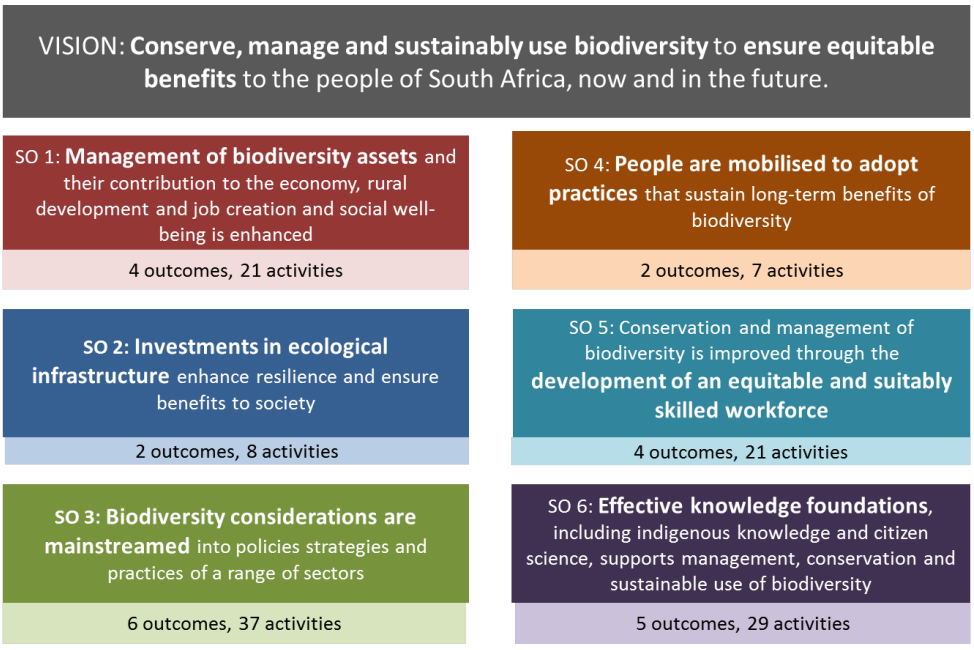

Figure 1: Summary of the six strategic objectives described in the NBSAP 2015 - 2025

Table 1: Core strategy of the NBSAP 2015 to 2025

Strategic objectives	Outcomes
1. **Management of biodiversity assets** and their contribution to the economy, rural development, job ceation and social well-being is enhanced	1.1. The network of **protected areas and conservation areas** includes a representative sample of ecosystems and species, and is coherent and effectively managed. 1.2. **Species of special concern** are sustainably managed. 1.3. The **biodiversity economy** is expanded, strengthened and transformed to be more inclusive of the rural poor. 1.4. Biodiversity conservation supports the **land reform agenda and socio-economic opportunities** for communal landowners.
2. Investment in ecological infrastructure enhances resilience and ensures benefits to society	2.1. Restore, maintain and secure important **ecological infrastructure** in a way that contributes to rural development, long-term job creation and livelihoods. 2.2. **Ecosystem-based adaptation** (EbA) is shown to achieve multiple benefits in the contxt of sustainable development.
3. Biodiversity considerations are mainstreamed into policies, strategies and practices of a range of sectors	**3.1.** Effective **science-based tools inform planning and decision-making.** 3.2. Embed biodiversity considerations into **national, provincial and municipal development-planning and monitoring.** 3.3. Strengthen and streamline development **authorisations and decision-making.** 3.4. **Compliance** with authorisations and permits is monitored and enforced. 3.5. Appropriate allocation of resources in key sectors and spheres of government facilitates **effective management** of biodiversity, especially in biodiversity priority areas. 3.6. **Biodiversity considerations are integrated** into the development and implementation of policy, legislative and other tools.
4. People are mobilised to adopt practices that sustain the long-term benefits of biodiversity	4.1 People's **awareness of the value of biodiversity** is enhanced through more effective coordination and messaging. 4.2 **People are mobilised** to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.
5: Conservation and management of biodiversity is improved through the **development of an equitable and suitably skilled workforce**	5.1. Macro-level **conditions enabled for skills planning, development and evaluation** of the sector as a whole. 5.2. An **improved skills development system** incorporates the needs of the biodiversity sector. 5.3. **Partnerships are developed and institutions are capacitated** to deliver on their mandates towards improved service delivery.
6: Effective knowledge foundations, including indigenous knowledge and citizen science, support the management, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity	6.1. Relevant **foundational data sets** on species and ecosystems are in place and well-monitored and available to the public in a useful format. 6.2 The **status of species and ecosystems** is regularly monitored and assessed and communicated. 6.3 **Geographic priority areas** for the managament, conservation and restoration of biodiversity assets and ecological infrastructure are identified based on best available science. 6.4 Management-relevant and policy-relevant **research and analysis is undertaken** through collaboration between scientists and practitioners. 6.5 **Knowledge base is accessible** and presented in a way that **informs decision-making.**

1.2.2. Overview of the National Biodiversity Assessment

The purpose of the National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA) is to assess the state of South Africa's biodiversity based on best available science, with a view to understanding trends over time, and informing policy and decision-making across a range of sectors. The NBA is a product of high scientific importance, developed through a five-year process of research and consultation that is led by the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), working in collaboration with DFFE and several other partner organizations. The NBA deals with all three components of biodiversity (genes, species and ecosystems), and assesses biodiversity and ecosystems across terrestrial, freshwater, estuarine and marine realms. The NBA is a primary informant of the NBSAP, the National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES), and its provincial counterparts), provincial and metropolitan systematic biodiversity plans, bioregional plans, and other biodiversity and spatial planning tools. It also links closely with the developing National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework (see ***Table 4***, Section 3.1), which establishes a consistent set of headline biodiversity indicators for the country, including ecosystem threat status and ecosystem protection level. The NBA provides spatial focus and impetus for taking forward a programme of work to measure these indicators and synthesises them periodically at the national scale.

The NBA 2018 (published in 2019) follows from the National Biodiversity Assessment 2011 (which informed the NBSAP 2015). Both of these were preceded by the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment (NSBA, 2004), which informed the NBSAP 2005. The NBA process culminates in the publication of a Synthesis Report, a popular report (which makes the results available to non-specialists), a number of technical reports, peer-reviewed papers in journals, data and metadata – all of which are made publicly available.

The findings of the NBA 2018 confirm a wide range of interventions that are priorities for managing and conserving biodiversity as highlighted in the NBSAP and NBF. The key priorities for improving the effectiveness of interventions emerging from this NBA include the need to improve compliance with existing laws, strengthen cross-sectoral planning, strengthen adaptive management, improve implementation of conservation projects, and build and maintain capacity.

The NBA 2018 technical reports per realm elaborate some of these interventions in more detail and articulate additional priority actions resulting from the NBA findings. The following are, however, several general priority actions identified in the NBA (2018) that support the successful implementation of many of these interventions, and ultimately affect South Africa's ability to meet the NBSAP and NBF goals.

The following priority actions were identified by the NBA (2018) for managing and conserving South Africa's biodiversity:

(a) Spatial biodiversity priorities
(b) Priority interventions, clustered into the following themes:
    (i) Strengthening compliance and enforcement;
    (ii) Strengthening cross-sectoral and cross-realm planning;
    (iii) Strengthening evaluation for adaptive management;
    (iv) Conservation project implementation; and
    (v) Maintaining and further strengthening capacity

(a) Knowledge gaps:
    (i) Research priorities;
    (ii) Monitoring needs; and
    (iii) Data management and sharing imperatives.

The NBA, furthermore, directly supports the implementation of Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 3 of the NBSAP and NBF; and further has direct links with Strategic Objective 6, while most of the other objectives are also informed or supported by the NBA[1]. Strategic Objective 1 focuses on managing biodiversity assets, and includes outcomes related to expanding the protected area network and management of species of special concern. Strategic Objective 2 focuses on maintaining and restoring ecological infrastructure, including key ecological infrastructure features highlighted in the NBA. Strategic Objective 3 includes the science-based planning and decision-making tools that the NBA is major contributor to, including maps of threatened ecosystems which are a key input into land-use planning and environmental authorisations. The NBA headline indicators of threat status and protection level are key indicators as to whether interventions are making progress towards achieving the outcomes for these strategic objectives. Several of the outcomes and activities in Strategic Objective 6 directly strengthen the NBA, i.e. if relevant foundational datasets are continually being updated through research and monitoring programmes and such data are available, then the indicators in the NBA can be calculated more regularly and with a higher confidence of accuracy.

The above mentioned NBA (2018) priorities will be addressed through a set of **key interventions,** called '**accelerators'** as contained in ***Table 5*** of the NBF. These **'accelerators',** can make a significant contribution to fast-tracking implementation of the NBSAP, NBF and related strategies and are presented as *recommendations* to guide priority-setting by institutions and organise collective action within the biodiversity sector.

1.2.3 Overview of the National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy

The goal of South Africa's NPAES is to achieve cost-effective protected area expansion for improved ecosystem representation, ecological sustainability, and resilience to climate change. The NPAES highlights how we can become more efficient and effective in allocating the scarce human and financial resources available for protected area expansion. It sets protected area targets, maps priority areas for protected area expansion, and makes recommendations on mechanisms for achieving the targets. This is particularly important in the context of South Africa's globally exceptional biodiversity richness on the one hand, and significant financial and human resource constraints on the other. The common set of targets and spatial priorities provided by the NPAES enable co-ordination between the many role-players involved in protected area expansion. Detailed spatial planning and roll-out to achieve the protected area targets is carried out at provincial level, guided by provincial systematic biodiversity plans and protected area expansion strategies, where these exist (DEA, 2018[2]).

The NPAES is a 20-year strategy with 5-year implementation targets aligned with a 5-year revision cycle whereby each new revision of the NPAES refers to a rolling 20-year period. In short, provision is

[1] Refer to Table 16 of the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018: The status of South Africa's ecosystems and biodiversity. Synthesis Report (NBA 2018)
[2] Gazette Notice 4210 (Notice Number 667 of 2018)

made for the review and updating of the NPAES every 5 years The first NPAES, which was published in 2008, has recently been updated to include the following:

(a) New biodiversity data and newly declared protected areas as well as updated Provincial Conservation Plans (PCPs) and Provincial Protected Area Expansion Strategies (PAES). This was updated with the aim to improve the setting of targets and the identification of priority areas for meeting theses targets.
(b) A review of the performance of protected area institutions in protected area expansion for the first implementation phase of the NPAES (2008 – 2014).
(c) A description of the priority activities, with explicit performance targets, for the second implementation phase (2018 – 2022) of the NPAES (DEA, 2018).

The NPAES is intended to be used by all those who play, or could play, a role in protected area expansion, including protected area institutions, agencies and managers, conservation Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and funding agencies, policymakers in relevant national departments, municipalities and the private sector.

1.3 Overview of the National Biodiversity Framework

South Africa's first National Biodiversity Framework (**Government Gazette No 530, Notice No. 32474, 3 August 2009**) was based on the first NBSAP (DEA, 2005), and the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment (NSBA, 2004). It identified a set of 33 high priority activities to guide the work of the biodiversity sector over the period 2008 to 2013. The NBF, along with the updated National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA 2018), in turn, became an important informant in the process to update the first NBSAP, and has played an important role in guiding conservation action in the biodiversity sector.

Differences in the policy context prevailing now, compared to when the original NBF was developed, have made it necessary to take a different approach in the revised NBF. In particular, a range of national policies, strategies, frameworks and other systems is now in place – and others are being developed – to guide work in certain areas of the biodiversity sector, such as management of invasive species, protected area expansion, biodiversity stewardship, ecosystem-based adaptation, the biodiversity economy, and water resource management. Some of these strategies include detailed action plans (in which specific activities with targets, roles and responsibilities are identified), whilst others are more conceptual (outlining a broad approach or set of principles which should guide the development of more detailed implementation plans). The NBSAP makes reference to some of these strategies (those that were developed before 2015), and has identified priority actions that are well-aligned with them, but other strategies have been developed since, and there is a need to align these with priorities of the NBSAP, which is the 'umbrella strategy' for the sector.

For these reasons, and to achieve its primary purpose (which is to provide an integrated framework for coordinating the work of the biodiversity sector), the revised **National Biodiversity Framework** for the period 2019 to 2024 takes a two-pronged approach, which includes:

(a) providing an overview of key national strategies, frameworks and systems that guide the work of the biodiversity sector, and indicating their relevance to the strategic objectives,

outcomes and priority activities of the NBSAP. This is complemented by an overview of key, national-level co-ordination mechanisms and communities of practice through which sector role-players can coordinate their work and exchange information and experiences.

(b) identifying a set of interventions (called 'accelerators') that can be used to **accelerate implementation** of high-level **priorities of the NBSAP** over the next five years.

In taking this approach, the NBF brings together key elements of the NBSAP and other relevant strategies. The NBF is underpinned by a strong scientific foundation (provided by the NBA, the NPAES and the research that underpins several of the other strategies included in the overview) and builds on the consultative processes through which all of these other products were developed.

The NBSAP and NBF highlight a wide range of interventions that are priorities for managing and conserving biodiversity. These are confirmed and reinforced by the findings of the NBA 2018.

Development of the revised NBF has been carried out through a thorough **analysis of the NBSAP** and **30 other strategies, frameworks and systems**, and a **targeted consultation process** involving key stakeholders in government and civil society (with emphasis on those institutions that carry a government mandate to manage and protect biodiversity and other natural resources and ensure their sustainable use). The relationship between the NBF, NBSAP, NPAES and other key strategies is illustrated in ***Figure 2.***

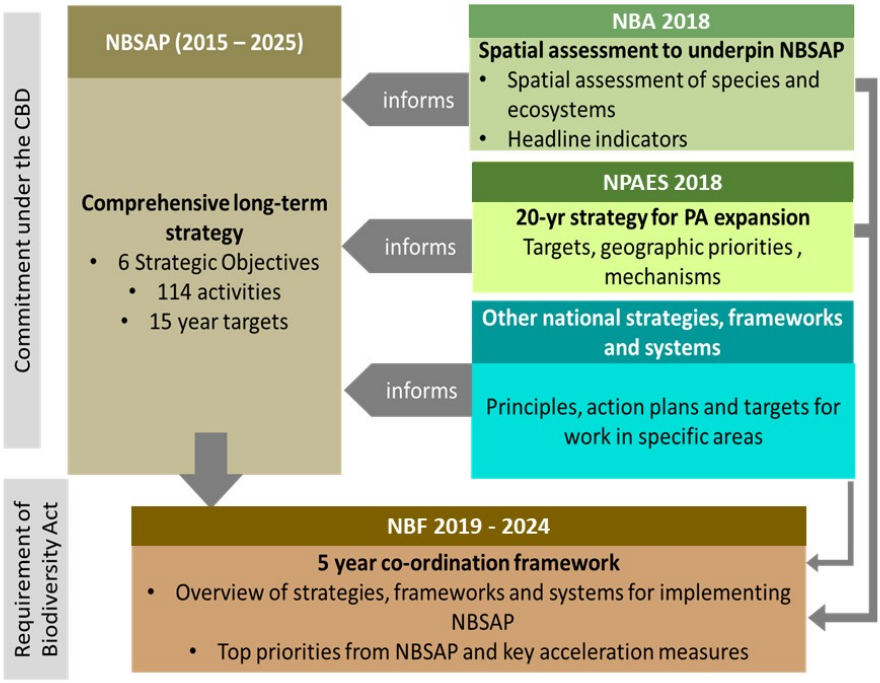

Figure 2: Informants of the revised National Biodiversity Framework

1.4. Users of the NBF

The primary users of the NBF are institutions whose **core business is biodiversity conservation and environmental management**. Broadly, the users may include organs of state in national, provincial and local spheres; government-led programmes, such as those to restore and rehabilitate ecosystems; NGOs and CBOs; and, multi-stakeholder conservation and development programmes and projects, such as multi-partner landscape-level initiatives and other flagship projects (see ***Table 2***, for a summary of the key role-players).

The NBF may also have some relevance for stakeholders whose core work is not biodiversity conservation, but whose business either impacts on the status of biodiversity and ecosystems, or depends on biodiversity assets, ecosystem services and ecological infrastructure – for example, sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, water and sanitation, mining, energy, rural development and land reform, urban development, local economic development, and education.

It also has relevance for government departments which are not responsible for direct or indirect management of natural resources, but play an important role in establishing policies and practices that impact on biodiversity management and conservation, and the implementation of the NBSAP (such as the Presidency; National Treasury; Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA); Department of Higher Education Science and Technology (DHEST); Department of Trade Industry and Competition (DTIC); the Department of Basic Education (DBE); and, the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture (DSAC).

Table 2: Key institutions directly involved in biodiversity management and conservation

Government Entities	
National departments and public entities	**Provincial conservation agencies, parks boards or other conservation authorities**
• Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, (DFFE) • South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) • South African National Parks (SANParks) • iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority • World Heritage Site Authorities • Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation (DHSWS) *Research entities* • The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) • The Water Research Commission (WRC) • The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) • The South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON)	• **Western Cape**: CapeNature • **Kwazulu-Natal**: Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (EKZNW) • **North West**: North West Parks and Tourism Board (NWPB) • **Eastern Cape**: Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency (ECPTA) • **Limpopo**: Limpopo Tourism and Parks Board (LTPB) • **Mpumalanga**: Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA)
Provincial environment and/or conservation departments	**Key government-led national environmental programmes**

<table>
<tr>
<td>

Western Cape: Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)
Northern Cape: The Department of Environment Affairs and Nature Conservation (DENC)
Free State: Department of Economic Development, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs
Eastern Cape: The Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT)
KwaZulu-Natal: Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA)
Gauteng: Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)
Mpumalanga: Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)
North West: Department of Rural, Environmental and Agricultural Development (NW READ)
Limpopo: Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET)

</td>
<td>

Working for Water (WfW)
Working on Fire (WoF)
Working for Wetlands (WfWet)
Working on Ecosystems (WonEco)
LandCare
Working for the Coast (WftC)
Community-based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM)
People and Parks Programme
Man and Biosphere Reserve Programme (MAB)

Local governments
All local governments in South Africa (including Metropolitan, District and Local Municipalities) play an increasingly important role in spatial planning and land-use management (including biodiversity management and integrated environmental management). They also provide a strategic opportunity to mainstream biodiversity into sustainable development through the integration of nature-based opportunities (aligned with the NBSAP) into integrated development plans
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td colspan="2">NGOs, the private sector, civil society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td colspan="2">African Conservation Trust (ACT); BirdLife South Africa, The Botanical Society of Southern Africa (BotSoc); Conservation-South Africa; Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT); IUCN in SA; Peace Parks Foundation (PPF), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA); World Wide Fund for Nature South Africa (WWF-SA); Wildlands Conservation Trust; Wilderness Foundation; ICLEI; Biosphere Reserve management agencies; community-based organizations; businesses and other private sector role-players; landowners</td>
</tr>
</table>

1.5. Structure of the NBF

The NBF is presented in five sections, as follows:

Section 1 provides an introduction to the NBF, including its purpose, its relationship to the NBSAP, NBA and other national strategies, its intended users, and its overall structure.

Section 2 describes the context for implementation of the NBF, including a brief description of key pressures on South Africa's biodiversity and opportunities for addressing these; the institutional context; alignment with national policies and international commitments under multilateral agreements; and guiding principles.

Section 3, which is the core of the NBF, has two components: (i) an **overview of key national strategies, frameworks and system**s that guide the work of the biodiversity sector, and provide effective vehicles for implementing the provisions of the NBSAP; and, (ii) a brief description of **key acceleration measures** that can be used to remove bottlenecks or barriers or provide opportunities for fast-tracking implementation of high priority activities identified in the NBSAP. These measures include a combination of enabling and other types of activities, some of which are specific to particular strategic objectives of the NBSAP, key priorities of the NBA2018, and others of which are cross-cutting, and hold the potential to achieve multiple NBSAP objectives simultaneously.

The information in this section is presented in a combination of summary tables (organised under the Strategic Objectives and Outcomes of the NBSAP), accompanied by brief narrative description.

Section 4 deals with mechanisms for co-ordination and co-operation (including national and regional priorities), communities of practice for promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing, and implementation arrangements.

Section 5 is a set of annexures providing additional or supplementary information including references, a list of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs), and a list of acronyms and abbreviations used in the document.

Section 2: Context for implementation of the NBF

2.1. Status of South Africa's biodiversity

South Africa is one of the world's most diverse countries in terms of ecosystems and species, with nine different terrestrial biomes (Fynbos, Grassland, Savanna, Nama Karoo, Succulent Karoo, Forest, Subtropical Thicket, Indian Ocean Coastal Belt, and Desert), a wealth of freshwater ecosystems, diverse marine ecosystems and a rich store of marine resources, and over 95 000 known species of living organisms. In addition to their own intrinsic value, these ecosystems and species are critical natural assets that provide a range of goods and services to people, such as producing food and clean water, regulating climate and disease, supporting crop pollination and nutrient cycles, and delivering cultural benefits and recreational opportunities. Maintaining the biodiversity assets and ecological infrastructure that provide these benefits in good ecological condition is fundamental to achieving South Africa's social and economic development objectives. A brief overview of the status of South Africa's biodiversity and ecosystems is provided in ***Table 3***. All the information in the table has been extracted from the NBA 2018, unless otherwise stated.

Table 3: Status of South Africa's ecosystems and species, at a glance

Ecosystem/element	Status, at a glance
Terrestrial Ecosystems:	
Ecosystem threat status (NBA 2018):	22% of ecosystem types are threatened, with highest proportion of threatened ecosystems in the Indian Ocean Coastal Belt, Grassland and Fynbos Biomes
Ecosystem protection level (NBA 2018):	26% of ecosystem types are well-protected, 25% not protected at all
Key ecosystem services:	Rangelands; fertile soil; pollination; ecotourism; medicinal plants; wild food sources; resources for the wildlife and natural products industries; cultural, recreational and spiritual resources
Main pressures:	Clearing natural vegetation for croplands, human settlements, mining and plantations; with overutilisation of rangelands, altered fire regimes, biological invasions and climate change as additional pressures.
River ecosystems	
Ecosystem threat status (NBA 2018):	64% of all river ecosystem types are threatened, two-thirds of these being Critically Endangered
Ecosystem protection level (NBA 2018):	13% of river ecosystem types are well-protected, 42% not protected at all; only 12% of Strategic Water Source (high water-yield) Areas are protected
Key ecosystem services:	Fresh water, South Africa's most scarce natural resource; food and other materials that support livelihoods

Main pressures:	Changes to the hydrological regime, water pollution, loss and fragmentation of natural habitat, and invasive species. Climate change exacerbates existing pressures - increasing temperatures affect the hydrological cycle.
Wetland ecosystems	
Ecosystem threat status (NBA 2018):	79% of wetland ecosystem types are threatened, three-quarters of these being Critically Endangered
Ecosystem protection level (NBA 2018):	6% of wetland ecosystem types are well-protected, 61% not protected at all
Key ecosystem services:	Water purification; flood regulation; natural resources for food and livelihoods
Main pressures:	Changes to the hydrological regime, water pollution, loss and fragmentation of natural habitat, and invasive species. Climate change exacerbates existing pressures - increasing temperatures affect the hydrological cycle.
Estuarine ecosystems	
Ecosystem threat status (NBA 2018):	86% of estuary ecosystem types are threatened
Ecosystem protection level (NBA 2018):	18% of estuary ecosystem types are well-protected, 14% are not protected at all
Key ecosystem services:	Nurseries for fish, various raw materials for food and livelihoods, recreation
Main pressures:	Freshwater flow modification; pollution; overfishing and bait collection; inappropriate land use and development in the EFZ and catchment; overfishing and bait collection; and invasive species.
Marine and coastal ecosystems	
Ecosystem threat status (NBA 2018):	63% of inshore marine ecosystem types and 28% of offshore marine ecosystem types are threatened
Ecosystem protection level (NBA 2018):	Inshore ecosystem types: 34% well-protected, 5% not protected; offshore: 29% well-protected, 19% not protected
Key ecosystem services:	Fish and other marine resources, recreation, trade and transport, ecotourism, coastal protection
Main pressures:	Fishing, ports and harbours, coastal development, mining, mariculture, pollution and reduced fresh water flow. Climate change and invasive species exacerbate other pressures.
Species of Special Concern	
Current statistics have the number of South African animal species estimated at 67 000, while 20 401 plant species have been described. Red List assessments were conducted for 23 314 indigenous taxa from 11 taxonomic groups using the IUCN Red List of Species categories and criteria. Of the assessed taxa, 0.2% are extinct (48 taxa) and a further 3 156 taxa are threatened with extinction (14%). 11% of birds, 17% of mammals 6% of reptiles, 13% of amphibians, 10% of butterflies, 13% of dragonflies, 36% of freshwater fishes, 21% of seabreams (Sparids), 9% of corals and 14% of plants are threatened. Loss of natural habitat, invasive alien species, over-harvesting, over-abstraction of water, and climate change are the main pressures placing the survival of species at risk.	
Protected areas	
9.09% of South Africa's terrestrial surface currently falls within protected areas (information extracted from the South African Protected Areas Database). Of the 969 recognised ecosystem types representing all realms, for example freshwater and marine, 21% are well protected, 13% are moderately protected, 30% are poorly protected and 37% are not protected. 23% of the coastline and 0.4% of offshore marine habitat is protected (information extracted from NPAES 2018).	

Key pressures on South Africa's biodiversity

The most recent national assessment of South Africa's biodiversity and ecosystems (NBA 2018) has shown that, despite an impressive baseline of innovative policies, numerous conservation programmes, extensive efforts, and significant advances made in the biodiversity sector over the last

decade in particular, South Africa's biodiversity remains under high pressure from a variety of human-induced factors and disturbances.

The major pressures on South Africa's biodiversity include:

(a) Loss and degradation of natural habitat in terrestrial, freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems due to unsustainable land-use and ocean-use practices, inappropriate or poorly-located land uses and ocean uses.
(b) Disruptions to hydrological regimes of rivers wetlands and estuaries, including over-abstraction of water and pollution of aquatic ecosystems
(c) invasive alien species (both plant and animal)
(d) destructive and over-harvesting of species, especially in the marine environment
(e) illegal wildlife trafficking and other illegal resource use
(f) disruption of natural drivers of ecosystem functioning (such as fire cycles)
(g) impact induced by climate change.

The social and economic costs of not managing ecosystems in a sustainable manner are high, as evidenced by accelerated land degradation and biodiversity loss, lowered land productivity, weakened ecological (and social) resilience, declining availability and quality of freshwater, increased infestation by invasive alien species, collapsing fish stocks, and increased air and water pollution. These impacts are all increased by an increasingly unpredictable climate and an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, which cause severe social and economic disruption, increased food insecurity due to crop and stock losses and lower yields, damage to infrastructure, and even loss of life.

These impacts compromise the nation's ability to fulfil its social and economic growth goals, and impacts on the quality of life of all South Africans especially the rural poor who rely daily on biodiversity resources to meet their subsistence needs. Responding to this requires a development path which minimises pressures on ecosystems and species, and strengthens resilience to climate change, whilst providing opportunities for addressing poverty, securing essential ecosystem services and addressing other social improvement needs (Cadman *et a*l., 2010).

Coordinated implementation of the strategies identified in this NBF will contribute meaningfully to achieving these goals.

2.2. Institutional context for biodiversity management and protection

South Africa has adopted a landscape approach to conserving biodiversity, which involves good alignment and co-operation between diverse role-players and effective mainstreaming of biodiversity considerations into planning, decision-making and daily practice in multiple sectors. The NBF sets out a framework for achieving this co-ordination at national level. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) has been assigned to coordinate State's efforts to fulfil its obligations under section 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 108 of 1996 (Constitution) to protect the environmental for the benefit of current and future generations through legislative and other reasonable measure that prevent pollution and ecological degradation; promote conservation; and secure ecologically sustainable development and the use of natural resources, while promoting justifiable economic and social development.

However, responsibility for managing, conserving and ensuring sustainable use of South Africa's biodiversity assets is shared by a large number of entities in government, and, increasingly, civil society and the private sector. These organisations include those whose core business is biodiversity management and protection, and a growing number of entities whose core business is some kind of productive activity that either relies or impacts on natural resources and biodiversity. (See ***Table 1*** for a summary). Many decisions affecting biodiversity are taken outside of the biodiversity or environmental sector (for example, agriculture, mining, energy and urban development), which makes it all the more important to adopt a framework for integrated, policy-aligned decision-making.

A full description of the institutional context for biodiversity management, protection and sustainable use in South Africa is provided in the NBSAP 2015, pages 10 – 15.

2.3. Alignment with national policy and legislation

The NBF forms part of the robust policy and legislative framework that guides and governs the conservation, management and sustainable use of South Africa's biodiversity assets. For this reason, the NBSAP, the implementation of which the NBF sets out to support, has been designed to align with key national legislation and policy in the broader environmental sector.

The overall framework for environmental governance is provided by the South African Constitution and its associated Bill of Rights. Although the Constitution does not specifically refer to 'biodiversity', it enshrines certain environmental rights and specifies the powers and functions of national and provincial governments in terms of 'the environment,' 'nature conservation,' and 'natural resources,' such as soil, water, forests and marine resources.

Section 24 of the Constitution inter alia, requires the State to enact legislation and to take other reasonable measures aimed at the protection of the environment. A suite of environmental legislation has been enacted by Parliament to give effect to that obligation. A range of non-legislative measures have also been taken by Government as required by the Constitution.

In addition, there are several other Acts of Parliament relating to water, forests, marine resources and coastal management that are of relevance, especially to Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 3 of the NBSAP. These are summarised here in Box 1, below.

Box 1: Key legislation of relevance to biodiversity conservation, management and sustainable use
Over-arching legislation and policies:
The Constitution of South Africa, 1996
White Paper on Environmental Management Policy for South Africa (1998)
Core legislation dealing with the conservation of biodiversity:
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), as amended
National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), as amended
National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004), as amended
National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)
Key legislation governing natural resource management:
Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998)

The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983)
National Forest Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998) as amended
National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), as amended
World Heritage Convention Act, 1999 (Act No. 49 of 1999)
Mountain Catchment Areas Act, 1970 (Act No. 63 of 1970)
Genetically Modified Organisms Act, 1997 (Act No. 15 of 1997)

Relevant spatial planning legislation:
Sub-division of Agricultural Land Act, 1970 (Act No. 70 of 1970)
The Spatial Planning and Land-Use Management Act,2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013)
National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008), as amended

To fulfil its vision of conserving, managing and using biodiversity sustainably to ensure equitable benefits to all the people of South Africa, the NBSAP has also been designed to ensure alignment with national policies and frameworks that guide the broader sustainable development agenda in the country. Key among these is:

(a) the **National Development Plan** (NDP) 2030 (in particular Chapter 5)
(b) the **Medium-Term Strategic Framework** (MTSF) outcomes of the Presidential Delivery Agreement, which is updated at regular intervals
(c) the **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** (NSSD), 2002.

The vision of the NDP is that South Africa's transition to an environmentally sustainable, climate-change resilient, low-carbon economy and just society will be well-progressed by 2030 (MTSF, 2014 – 2019). The NDP proposes a multi-dimensional framework, including ten critical actions, to address the principal challenges of poverty and inequality. As part of this process, it specifically identifies the need to use water and other natural resources more sustainably, emit less carbon, and protect oceans, soils and wildlife, in ways that buoy up the economy and create employment opportunities. This aligns closely with the vision and strategic objectives of the NBSAP.

The Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF 2019-2024) developed by the Presidency translates the NDP vision and priorities into a set of sector-specific outcomes, outputs and targets. Those relevant to the environmental sector are reflected as seven electoral priorities adopted by government as:

(a) Building a capable, ethical and developmental state
(b) Economic transformation and job creation
(c) Education, skills and health
(d) Consolidating the social wage through reliable and quality basic service
(e) Spatial integration, human settlements and local government
(f) Social cohesion and safe communities
(g) A better Africa and world

Priority 5: Spatial integration, human settlements and local government, makes reference to South Africa's national policy and strategic context, which has provided a solid foundation for supporting environmental sustainability. However, despite this strong foundation, environmental management

remains a weak area of core policy and implementation. Part of the challenge is capacity to manage intersecting environmental crises, mounting resource pressures, climate change and environmental degradation, and the transition to a growth path in a manner that lessens our environmental impact and resource use.

There are, however, several opportunities for transitioning South Africa to a development path that actively pursues environmental sustainability as a core value. In order to advance the NDP, which identified ecosystem protection as a guiding principle, South Africa has improved its capacity to monitor environmental management through participation in key platform such as the SDGs and various international conventions. We need to ensure that there are targeted actions to safeguard our unique natural resource base and mitigate risks related to climate change. To achieve this, the MTSF 2019-2024 focuses on four interrelated outcomes:

(a) GHG emission reduction.
(b) Municipal preparedness to deal with climate change.
(c) A just transition to a low carbon economy.
(d) Improved ecological infrastructure.

The close alignment of these four interrelated outcomes means that the framework and acceleration measures outlined in this document contribute directly to achieving the targets in Priority 5 of the MTSF. In addition, many of the accelerated measures of the NBF will also address a number of other Government Priorities set out in the MTSF 2019-2024 and ultimately contribute towards the objectives of the National Development Plan.

2.4. Alignment with international commitments

The priorities identified in the NBF are aligned with the priorities identified in the international conventions, treaties, protocols and many other agreements and programmes of work relating to biodiversity management and protection to which South Africa is a signatory.

Key among these is:

(a) The **UN Convention on Biological Diversity** (CBD, ratified by South Africa in 1995) including:
  (i) The CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs) – see Annexure 6.4.
  (ii) The Cartegena Protocol on Biosafety (governing the movement of living modified organisms, resulting from biotechnological intervention, from one country to another).
(b) The Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use
(c) The **UN Convention to Combat Desertification** (UNCCD, ratified by South Africa in 1997).
(d) The **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change** (UNFCCC, ratified by South Africa in 1997).
(e) The **UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna** (CITES, ratified by South Africa in 1975).
(f) The **International Plant Protection Convention** (IPPC, ratified by South Africa in 1952)
(g) The **RamSar Convention on Wetlands** (Ramsar, ratified by South Africa in 1971)
(h) The **World Heritage Convention** (WHC, ratified by South Africa in 1972)

(i) The **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture** (ITPGRFA, ratified by South Africa in 2004)

(j) Other international agreements and programmes:

(i) The UN Agenda 2030 for **Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals** (SGDs) – See Annexure 6.3

(ii) The UNESCO Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme

(iii) The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

Alignment of the NBF with these international commitments is indicated in ***Table 4*** in Section 3 of this document.

2.5. Principles of the NBF

This NBF is firmly seated on a number of core principles that are aligned with those articulated in the NBSAP, and that should guide the work of all role-players in the biodiversity sector. These include, though are not limited to:

(a) The national environmental management principles set out in section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) NEMA, including the principles that the disturbance of ecosystems and loss of biological diversity are avoided, or, where they cannot be altogether avoided, are minimised and remedied; and that a risk-averse and cautious approach is applied in environmental decision-making.

(b) *A landscape and seascape approach to biodiversity conservation and management*, which involves working both within and beyond the boundaries of protected areas to manage a mosaic of land and ocean uses including protection, restoration, production and subsistence use, in order to deliver ecological, economic and social benefits that are equitably shared by all citizens of South Africa.

(c) *A consistent and strategic approach guided by the principles of representation and persistence*, in which a representative sample of ecosystems and species is conserved along with the ecological processes that allow these biodiversity patterns to persist over time. This is achieved through identification of strategic spatial priorities, based on best available science, in national, provincial and municipal systematic biodiversity plans that guide the spatial focus of the sector's work. These spatial priorities take the form of, amongst others, Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs), Ecological Support Areas (ESAs), Strategic Water Source Areas, Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (FEPAs), and priorities for protected area expansion.

(d) *Biodiversity has intrinsic value and constitutes critical natural capital which is essential for sustainable and resilient economic and social development*. Management of biodiversity and ecological infrastructure should be directed to meet conservation objectives and should also be people-centred and strive to meet multiple transformational benefits, by placing strategic protection, wise management, and sustainable use of natural capital at the core of the country's sustainable development agenda.

(e) *Partnerships that enable cooperation and collaboration across institutional and administrative boundaries* are essential for managing ecosystems effectively at the landscape and seascape scale.

Section 3: Integrated framework for coordinating work in the biodiversity sector

South Africa's NBSAP is the overarching or 'umbrella' strategy guiding the work of the biodiversity sector. It is complemented by a wide range of other **national strategies, frameworks and systems** that have been developed to guide work in particular parts of the sector (for example, management of biological invasions, biodiversity information management, or ecosystem-based adaptation) and that provide effective vehicles for implementing the NBSAP. Some of these strategies and frameworks are more conceptual in nature (providing principles, high-level strategic objectives or general approaches), whilst others also provide detailed sets of activities, with indicators, timelines and institutional responsibilities clearly spelt out. Because there is such a proliferation of strategies in the sector, this Framework provides an overview of those that align most closely with the NBSAP, indicating what the purpose of each strategy is, how it is aligned with the strategic objectives, outcomes and priority activities of the NBSAP, how they cross-link with each other, and how they align with international commitments under multilateral agreements to which South Africa is a signatory, and programmes in which South Africa participates. This information is presented in ***Table 4.***

Table 5 presents a set of **accelerators**, which are those measures that can most effectively remove bottlenecks and/or systemic or underlying barriers to implementation, or that provide the best opportunities for fast-tracking implementation, or achieving multiple goals simultaneously. These are presented as *recommendations* and should be used to guide priority-setting by institutions and organise collective action within the biodiversity sector.

It is also important to note the acceleration measures identified here do not represent new activities that institutions must implement in addition to their already-heavy workloads; rather, they represent a collation of priorities that have already been identified, but in numerous, separate documents and plans, or through consultation with stakeholders.

Table 6 presents an overview of national guidelines that support the implementation of the acceleration measures identified in Table 5.

3.1. National strategies, frameworks and systems in the biodiversity sector

Table 4 presents an overview of 30 strategies, frameworks and systems that exist in the biodiversity sector (see Annexure 2 for a full document references). Only those strategies that are of relevance at the national scale to the biodiversity sector at large, and that are readily available in the public space, have been included. Provincial, local or institution-specific strategies, whilst important, have generally been excluded from the overview, though cross-linkage to them is indicated where this is known and relevant.

TABLE 4: Overview of strategies, frameworks and systems guiding work in the biodiversity sector

SO = Strategic Objective; ABTs = Aichi Biodiversity Targets; SDGs = Sustainable Development Goals; all other acronyms described in Section 6

1. The National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners (bold = lead)**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2016	DFFE	**DFFE**, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities, land owners, CPAs, NGOs	2016 - 2025	Targets to be updated every 5 years
Description: The NPAES (first edition 2008, revised 2016) is a **20-year strategy** (updated every 5 years) to guide **cost-effective expansion of protected areas in South Africa** to increase **ecosystem representivity**, promote **ecological sustainability**, **strengthen resilience** to climate change, and support diversification of rural livelihoods and **local economic development**. It sets **national-level protected area expansion targets** (for ecosystems), provides **maps** of priority areas for expansion, **identifies gaps**, and **recommends mechanisms** for achieving the targets. Detailed spatial planning and roll-out to achieve the targets is carried out at provincial level, through provincial protected area expansion strategies and biodiversity plans. The NPAES **enables coordination** between the many role-players involved in protected area expansion by providing a common set of targets and spatial priorities.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross linkage to other strategies/frameworks***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 1 Outcome 1.1 (activities 1.1.1 and 1.1.2)	• The Phakisa MPSG Strategy • Provincial Protected Area Expansion Strategies • SANParks Protected Area Expansion and Land Consolidation Strategy • National Buffer Zone Strategy for National Parks • The Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship • The National Plant Conservation Strategy, • The National Biosphere Reserves Strategy	ABT: 11 SDGs: 14 and 15

2. The Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2015	SANBI/DFFE	**DFFE**, **SANBI**, SANParks, Provincial conservation authorities, NGOs and landowners	2015 - 2020	Not specified
Description: The Business Case is a Report that presents the economic rationale for increasing **investment in biodiversity stewardship** in South Africa. It outlines the role of biodiversity stewardship as a key tool for contributing to **cost-effective expansion of protected areas**, and placing priority biodiversity areas under **improved, long-term management** with **benefits for landowners**, **diversification of rural livelihoods**, and **enhanced local economic development.** The Business Case makes **six key recommendations** relating to: resourcing of provincial biodiversity programmes; incentives; partnerships for implementation (with a focus on NGOS), promoting the land reform agenda, technical support and strengthening the community of practice for implementation of biodiversity stewardship.			***Relevance to NBSAP*** NBSAP SO 1 Outcome 1.1 (activities 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3.) Outcomes 1.3 and 1.4 (cross-cutting)	***Cross-linkages*** • NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • National Buffer Zone Strategy for National Parks • National Biodiversity Economy Strategy (incorporating the Wildlife Economy Strategy) • National MAB Strategy • People and Parks Co-management Framework • BIOFIN Plan	***International alignment*** ABT: 11 SDGs: 1, 8, 14, 15
3. National Buffer Zone Strategy for National Parks (Government Notice 106 of 2012)	**date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Time period**	**Likely revision**
	2012	DFFE	**DFFE**, **SANParks**, Provincial conservation authorities, biosphere reserves, landowners, communities	Open-ended	Not specified
Description: This document sets out the South African government's national strategy on the **establishment and management of buffer zones around national parks**. The purpose of the strategy is to: **inform the public** of the government's objectives in respect of buffer zones, and how it intends to			***Relevance to NBSAP*** NBSAP SO 1	***Cross-linkages*** • NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • National MAB Strategy	***International alignment*** ABTs: 11, 14, 16 SDGs: 1, 2, 8, 15

meet these; and, to **guide government agencies and organs of state in developing plans** to achieve these objectives. The **vision** for buffer zones is to provide for **integration of national parks into local landscapes** for the benefit of those living adjacent to the protected areas. In support of this vision, the strategy describes **8 goals**, with recommendations for how they should be achieved. **The goals relate to** the kinds of areas that should be included in buffer zones, and mechanisms for their inclusion; suitable and unsuitable land uses in buffer zones, and ways of incentivizing and optimizing sustainable land-use practices; the development of community-based management initiatives and other partnerships that increase the flow of benefits to communities.			Outcome 1.1 (activities 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3) Outcome 1.3 (activities 1.3.2 and 1.3.5) Outcome 1.4 (activities 1.4.2 and 1.4.3)	• National Biodiversity Economy Strategy • People and Parks Framework for Co-Management	
4. People and Parks Co-Management Framework	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2010	DFFE/SAN Parks	**DFFE, SANParks**, Provincial conservation authorities and other protected area management authorities	Not specified	Not specified
Description: The purpose of this framework is to ensure **effective redress of land rights** in a fair and equitable manner to persons or communities who own restituted land (in terms of the Land Restitution Act) within protected areas or other biodiversity priority areas. The Framework sets out **principles**, **models** and a **beneficiation framework** to guide the relationship between protected area management authorities and land claimants, drawing on the draft co-management strategy developed under the People and Parks Programme, and the Isimangaliso Co-Management Agreement.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 1, Outcome 1.4 (activity 1.4.2)	• NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • National MAB Strategy • Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship	ABTs: 11 SDGs: 8, 15
5. The Operation Phakisa Marine Protection Services and Ocean Governance Focus Area (MPSG)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2014	DFFE	DHEST, DMRE, DoDMV, DFFE, DoT, DTIC, SANBI, SANParks, CSIR, Council for Geoscience, DIRCO, iSimangaliso, Provincial Departments and Conservation Agencies	2014 - 2033	Not specified

Description: The MPSG informs the implementation an **overarching, integrated governance framework for sustainable growth of the ocean economy** that will maximise **socio-economic benefits**, whilst ensuring adequate **ocean protection** over the next five years. It identifies **10 key initiatives** to achieve this objective. Key amongst these are the establishment of 22 **offshore marine protected areas**, the development of **marine spatial planning tools** to enable a sustainable ocean economy; **implementation plans** and **enforcement measures** for regional and sub-regional marine spatial plans; a **fine-scale marine management plan** to enable a sustainable economy; and, a **review of ocean-related legislation** (Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management Act and the Oceans Act).			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 1, Outcome 1.1 (activity 1.1.1) Outcome 1.3 (activity 1.3.3)	• NPAES (and counterparts in coastal provinces) • Operation Phakisa and Presidential 9-point Plan	ABTs: 6, 11 SDG: 14
6. South Africa's Strategy for Plant Conservation	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2015	SANBI and BotSoc of Southern Africa	**SANBI,** BotSoc, other NGOs, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities, academic institutions, citizen scientists	2015 - 2020	tbc
Description: South Africa's Strategy for Plant Conservation is structured around **16 outcome-oriented targets**, clustered under **5 objectives** relating to: understanding and documenting South Africa's plant diversity (targets 1 to 3); conservation (targets 4 to 10); sustainable and equitable use (targets 11 to 13); education and awareness (target 14); and capacity development and public engagement (targets 15 and 16). The Strategy specifies **key outputs** under each target and provides a detailed analysis of the cross-linkages between these and the NBSAP Outcomes and Activities.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross linkages***	***International alignment***
			SO 1 Outcome 1.1 (activity 1.1.1) Outcome 1.2 (activities 1.2.2 and 1.2.4) Also has relevance under SO 3; SO 4; SO 5 and SO 6 (see table 1 in the Strategy for details)	• NPAES (and provincial counterparts)	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) CITES ABT: 12, 13 SDGs: 15
	Date	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**

7. The National Man and Biosphere Reserve Strategy and Implementation Plan (MAB Strategy)	2016	DFFE	**DFFE**, **NGOs appointed as management authorities of the biosphere reserves**, SANParks, Provincial conservation authorities, NGOs, private sector partners, communities	2016 - 2020	To be determined
Description: This is South Africa's first national strategy for the Biosphere Reserve Programme. It builds on lessons learnt over 20 years, complemented by a comprehensive situation analysis and extensive consultation process. Its main purpose is to **enable biosphere reserves to reach their full potential as model landscapes for implementing integrated approaches to environmental protection and sustainable socio-economic development**. The Strategy defines the overall strategic direction for the Biosphere Reserve Programme, under **three strategic objectives** relating to **conservation** of biodiversity, ecosystems and cultural heritage; building **sustainable communities**; and promoting **awareness and adaptive capacity**. It identifies cross-cutting issues and interventions through which the objectives can be achieved and describes their expected outputs. It also describes enabling conditions for successful implementation of the Strategy, including financing, communication and capacity-building needs, and includes a framework for nomination of new Biosphere Reserves. The Strategy is supported by a comprehensive *Implementation Plan, and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework,* which sets **priorities**, specifies practical **activities** and institutional **responsibilities** for implementation, **indicators** and **timelines** for implementation.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			SO 1 Outcome 1.1 (all activities, but especially 1.1.2 and 1.1.3) Outcome 1.3 (activity 1.3.5) Outcome 1.4 (activity 1.4.3)	• NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • National Buffer Zone Strategy • Business case for Biodiversity Stewardship • People and Parks Co-Management Framework • National Biodiversity Economy Strategy • BIOFIN Plan	UNESCO World Heritage Convention and Biosphere Reserve Strategy The AU Convention on Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (2012) ABTs: 8, 19, 20 SDGs: 1, 3, 8, 14 and 15
8. The National Biodiversity Economy Strategy (NBES)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2017	DFFE	**DFFE**, Multiple partners in government, the private sector and civil society	2015 - 2030	Not specified

Description: The NBES is a 14-year framework the purpose of which is to provide **structural coordination and direction** to guide the **sustainable growth and transformation of the wildlife and bioprospecting industries**. It provides for the creation of inclusive **biodiversity-based economic activities** that can **accelerate development of the rural economy,** improve social well-being and ensure **equitable access to and sharing of benefits from biological resource**s, while **maintaining the ecological resource base.** The NBES has set an overall industry growth goal of 10% per annum to be achieved through implementation of **20 enabling activities** (10 each for the wildlife and bioprospecting industries), that will: facilitate the formation of cooperative partnerships between government, the private sector and communities to open up opportunities in various market segments; address development and growth constraints; enable skills transfer; and manage the wildlife and bioprospecting sectors sustainably. Working through a **nodal approach**, the NBES identifies **priority activities**, outlines **stakeholder roles**, and sets out a **detailed, results-based monitoring framework.**			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO1 Outcome 1.3 (activities 1.3.1, 1.3.2, and 1.3.5)	• Strategy for investing in Ecological Infrastructure • Framework for investment in Environment and Natural Resource Management for a Green Economy • The BIOFIN Plan • The National Plant Conservation Strategy • National MAB Strategy • People and Parks Co-Management Framework	Nagoya Protocol of the CBD AU Guidelines for Co-ordinated implementation of the Nagoya Protocol ABTs: 4, 6, 13,16 SDGs: 1, 2. 5, 8, 10, 11, 12
9. The National Botanical Garden Expansion Strategy	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2020	DFFE & SANBI	**DFFE, SANBI**, SANParks, Isimangaliso Wetland Park Authority, Provincial conservation authorities and parastatal institutions	2019- 2030	Not specified
Description: A Strategy for the establishment, **expansion and maintenance of a representative network of botanical gardens** across South Africa, with the purpose of **raising awareness** of the importance of biodiversity and its status, **strengthening *ex situ* conservation** (especially of threatened species and habitats, and medicinally/economically useful species),			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross linkages***	***Alignment international***
			NBSAP SO 1 Outcome 1.2 (activities 1.2.2 and 1.2.3)	• The National Plant Conservation Strategy	Global Pant Conservation Strategy

enhancing **environmental education and recreational opportunities** for the public, and creating '**green lungs'** in urban areas to strengthen resilience to CC. The strategy identifies gaps in the current coverage of the NBG network, a broad set of priorities for addressing these, and the mechanisms through which the Strategy will be implemented. The **overall aims of the Strategy** are to: • Establish at least one NBG in each of the nine provinces of South Africa (with priority given to Limpopo and North West) • Establish botanical or demonstration gardens representative of each biome (with priority given to Desert and Indian Ocean Coastal Belt) • Expand existing gardens to incorporate additional species/habitats, conserve adjacent natural habitats and create natural corridors that serve as refugia for plants and animals in urban areas.			Also has broad relevance to SO4 (raising awareness)		ABTs: 12 and 13 SDGs: 8 and 15
10. Strategic Framework and Overarching Implementation Plan for Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in South Africa	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2016	DFFE & SANBI	**DFFE, SANBI**, DHEST, the 'Working For' programmes, CSIR, WRC, ARC, DAFF, CoGTA, SALGA, NIE, Provincial governments, local governments, NGOs and experts	2016 - 2021	Not specified
The overall aim of this Strategy is to place Ecosystem-based Adaptation at the core of South Africa's overall approach to climate change adaptation, to enable a **long-term, socially-inclusive transition to a climate-resilient society and economy**. As **context** for the Implementation Plan, the Strategy provides an overview of relevant literature and issues; alignment with policies (international, national, provincial and local) and programmes; and the institutional context for implementation of Ecosystem-based Adaptation.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBAP SO 2 Outcome 2.1 (activities 2.1.2 to 2.1.5) Outcome 2.2 (activities 2.2.1 and 2.2.2)	• Climate Change Adaptation Plans for Biomes in South Africa • The Biodiversity Sector Climate Change Response Strategy • Strategy for investment in Ecological Infrastructure	ABT: 15 SDGs: 8, 13, 15 UNFCC (Decision 1/CP.16)

It sets out a **vision** and **four key outcome areas**, related to: co-ordination, communications and learning; research, monitoring and evaluation; mainstreaming into policy and practice; and demonstration projects. Under each of these outcome areas, the Framework sketches low, medium and high-road financing options for a set of priority activities, for which **institutional roles, timeframes and resource requirements** are clearly described. The Strategy also identifies a number of key **areas that should be strengthened** to promote more effective implementation of Ecosystem-based Adaptation, in particular: monitoring the effectiveness of Ecosystem-based Adaptation; vulnerability assessments; improved communications to encourage peer learning and capacity development; and better co-ordination of ground-level projects.			Also broadly relevant to NBSAP SO 3, Outcomes 3.5 and 3.6	• Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy	Paris Agreement 2015 UNCCD (arts. 8 and 10) 10-YFP (Objectives 1,2 &3) UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Nairobi Work Programme 2015
11. Framework for investing in Ecological Infrastructure (EI)	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2014	SANBI	**SANBI**, DFFE, CoGTA, DHSWS, Municipalities, irrigation boards, disaster management centres (national, provincial and municipal), National Treasury, the Presidency and the National Planning Commission, research institutions, provincial environmental affairs departments and conservation authorities, NGOs, and businesses	Not specified	Ongoing
The purpose of this framework is to **guide action and support collaboration** for investing in ecological infrastructure (EI). **Seven principles make up the core** of the Framework. These include that investment in EI should take place in ways that: build on existing			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Other cross-linkages***	***International commitments***
			NBSAP SO 2, Outcome 2.1 (all activities)	• Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy	UNCCD UNFCCC

programmes and experiences; optimise job creation and rural development; promote socially sensitive participation; achieve clearly defined outcomes and benefits; focus on systematically identified, strategic spatial priority areas; and, involve transdisciplinary collaboration. In addition, the framework provides a brief **background** to **what is meant by ecological infrastructure** and investment in ecological infrastructure and how this **contributes to national development goals**; it identifies **key role players** and describes some **key programmes and practices** into which investment in EI can be integrated; it outlines the scope for **resource mobilisation** for investing in ecological infrastructure, identifies **research needs** going forward, and briefly outlines **next steps** for advancing progress in this field. This Framework is not static and will be added to and expanded as experience in this field is gained.			Outcome 2.2 (activity 2.2.1) NBSAP SO 3 Outcome 3.2 (activities 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.4, 3.2.6, 3.2.7 Outcome 3.5 (activities 3.5.2, 3.5.3, 3.5.5) NBSAP SO 1 Outcome 1.1 (activity 1.1.3) Outcome 1.3 (activity 1.3.5) Outcome 1.4 (activity 1.4.3)	• Biodiversity Sector Climate Change Response Strategy • NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship • NBES • BIOFIN Plan • The national REDD+ programme led by DFFE/DAFF	ABTs: 5, 9, 14, 15 SDGs: 1, 8, 13, 15
12. A Framework for investment in Environmental and Natural Resource Management (ENRM) for a Green Economy	**Date**	**Lead developer (s)**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2016	DHEST, DFFE, DBSA (developed by CSIR)	**DHEST, DFFE, DBSA**, Relevant role-players in the private sector, DAFF, DHSWS, the " Working For' programmes, donors, NGOs	Not limited	Not Specified
This Framework has been designed to **guide catalytic investment in Environmental and Natural Resource Management** (ENRM), particularly as it relates to the **green economy**. The specific aim is to support ENRM initiatives that protect and enhance biodiversity and the resilience of the country's ecosystems, in ways that promote – and capitalise on - the job creation potential of the natural resource management sector. The Framework is based on research and a consultation process. It provides a **comprehensive analysis of the current context** for enabling investment in ENRM, **lists examples** of key initiatives, and i**dentifies key**			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 2 Outcome 2.1 (activities 2.1.3, 2.1.5) NBSAP SO 1 Outcome 1.3 (activity 1.3.1, 1.3.5) Outcome 1.2 (activity 1.2.3)	• Strategy for investing in Ecological Infrastructure • Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy • NBES • BIOFIN Plan	ABTs: 5, 9, 14, 15 SDGs: 8, 13, 15

challenges and opportunities. The Framework identifies **four key themes**, under which **short, medium and long-term investment options** are specified. **The four themes are to: enhance government coordination** of South Africa's transition to a green economy; enable greater **private sector investment** in ENRM **support catchment-based studies** to integrate principles of a green economy into **restoration and conservation of ecological infrastructure**; and enhance technical and financial **support for small business development** in the biodiversity economy					
13. National Strategy for dealing with biological invasions in South Africa	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2014	DFFE	**DFFE**, SANBI, DHSWS, DoH, DALRRD, CoGTA, Trade & Industry, SANParks, Provincial conservation authorities and departments, Customs, 'Working For' programmes, CMAs	10 years	Not specified
This Strategy identifies **11 objectives and 19 high-level interventions** (supported by **priority actions**) to achieve **integrated and cost-effective management of biological invasions** at the **national scale** in South Africa, over the medium to longer term (10 years). It provides a comprehensive **overview** of biological invasions and their **management**, the legislative and regulatory environment, and broad **principles** for effective management. It elaborates on the need for strengthened **management capacity** and **collaborative governance** amongst the different spheres of government responsible for management of invasive species, the need to increase understanding through **research and monitoring**, raise **awareness** of the problem, and equitably **distribute the costs** of management. It addresses all aspects, including the introduction, establishment and spread of invasive species in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, and describes approaches that can be targeted at species, areas of invasion and pathways of movement. Its overall goal is to **protect the natural capital** of the country, in the interests of achieving and sustaining the goals of the National Development Plan.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 2 Outcome 2.1 (activity 2.1.3)	• National Strategy for Plant Conservation • Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy • Framework for Investing in Ecological Infrastructure • Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy	ABT: 9, 14, 15 SDGs: 8, 14, 15

14. The Biodiversity Sector Climate Change Response Strategy	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2014	DFFE	**DFFE** and stakeholders sector-wide	Open-ended	Not specified
Description: This Strategy, which is aligned with the National Climate Change response Policy/Framework (2011), outlines principles and key elements of the biodiversity sector's strategic response to the risks posed by climate change. It serves as an over-arching national strategy to guide policy development and to inform the development of more specific implementation plans by sector departments. The Strategy identifies **three strategic dire**ctions, under each of which clusters of relevant activities are listed (without specification of indicators, timeframes or institutional roles). The directions and key kinds of activities are as follows: **Monitoring and Evaluation** (with emphasis placed on strengthening relevant research, including impact-monitoring) **Ecosystem-based Adaptation** (with emphasis placed on maintaining key ecological infrastructure in good ecological condition, restoring degraded EI, improved land-use planning (incorporating CC criteria), improved vulnerability assessment and climate-proofing communities) **Protection of natural capital** (with emphasis on measures to keep CBAs, ESAs and FEPAs intact – or to restore degraded ones and increasing the extent of the protected area estate). The strategy identifies **intersectoral coordination** through the development of regional and local partnerships as a key mechanism for ensuring delivery of the recommended actions.			***Relevance to NBSAP*** Cross-cutting relevance to NBSAP SOs 1, 2, 3 and 6 SO 1, Outcomes 1.1 and 1.2 SO 2, Outcomes 2.1 and 2.2 SO 3, Outcome 3.1, 3.2 and 3.6 SO 6, Outcome 6.1 and 6.4	***Cross-linkages*** • The Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy • The strategy for investing in ecological infrastructure • Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy • The NPAES • The Climate Change Adaptation Plans for Biomes in South Africa • BIOFIN Plan	***International alignment*** UNFCCC UNCCD Paris Agreement UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Nairobi Work Programme
15. National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Implementing partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**

	2019	DFFE	DFFE, DWS, SANBI, Conservation Agencies, research institutions, NGOs and the private sector, DSI, provincial government departments, municipalities.	10-year plan	Every five years.
This document – South Africa's NCCAS – is intended to be the cornerstone for climate change adaptation in the country and to reflect a unified, coherent, cross-sectoral, economy-wide approach to climate change adaptation. It outlines priority areas for adaptation, both to guide adaptation efforts and to inform resource allocation. The strategic objectives of the NCCAS are as follows: ● Objective 1: Build climate resilience and adaptive capacity to respond to climate change risk and vulnerability. ● Objective 2: Promote the integration of climate change adaptation response into development objectives, policy, planning and implementation. ● Objective 3: Improve understanding of climate change impacts and capacity to respond to these impacts. ● Objective 4: Ensure resources and systems are in place to enable implementation of climate change responses.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 2; Outcome 2.2.; Activities 2.2.1 and 2.2.2	• National Climate Change Response Policy • The Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy • The Climate Change Adaptation Plans for Biomes in South Africa • Biodiversity Sector Climate Change Response Strategy	UNFCCC Paris Agreement UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Nairobi Work Programme SDG 13
16. Climate Change Adaptation Plans for South African Biomes	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Implementing partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2015	DFFE	**DFFE** and stakeholders sector-wide	Not limited	No specified
This document summarizes the **current state of knowledge about climate change threats, drivers and vulnerabilities**, relevant to each of the nine biomes in South Africa and **identifies appropriate, biome-specific adaptive actions.**			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 2,	• Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy	UNCCD

The adaptive actions are grouped into **four categories**: (i) **spatial planning** approaches, which indicate where different land-uses should best be located; (ii) **management** approaches, which influence how the land uses are executed; (iii) **ecosystem-based** approaches, which reduce the stressors that compromise the capacity of ecosystems to buffer social and biological systems form the effects of climate change; and, (iv) **biodiversity stewardship** approaches, through which adaptive capacity outside of protected areas can be enhanced by more sustainable land management.			Outcomes 2.1 and 2.2 (cross-cutting) NBSAP SO 1 Outcomes 1.1, 1.3 and 1.4 (cross-cutting)	• Framework for investing in ecological infrastructure • Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy • NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • NBES	UNFCCC ABTs: 14, 15 SDGs: 13, 15
17. The National Water Resource Strategy v 2 (NWRS)	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Implementing Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2013	DHSWS	**DHSWS**, DFFE, SANBI, SANParks, Working for Wetlands, Working for Water, WRC, provincial environmental departments, local governments, Catchment Management Agencies	Five to ten years	Not specified
The NWRS2 builds on the first NWRS which was published in 2004. The purpose of the NWRS2 is to **ensure that national water resources are protected, conserved, used, developed, managed and controlled in an efficient, equitable and sustainable manner**, to meet South Africa's development goals over the next five to 10 years. It identifies **three objectives**, **six key principles** and **seven strategic themes**, one of which focuses on environmental protection and conservation of water resources (which is covered in Chapter 5). Of particular relevance to the biodiversity sector are **strategic actions identified in Chapter 5 on Water Resource Protection,** including those to: invest in **Strategic Water Source Areas** (SWSAs); maintain and rehabilitate water ecosystems; maintain **Fresh Water Ecosystem Priority Areas** (FEPAS) in a good ecological state; protect **riparian and wetland buffers** and **groundwater recharge** areas; **rehabilitate** strategic water ecosystems to maintain water quality and quantity; and **monitor** ecological health to inform management.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 2 Outcome 2.1 (activity 2.1.1)	• NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • Framework for Investing in Ecological Infrastructure • Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy • Biodiversity Sector Climate Change Response Strategy • Water RDI RoadMap • National Water Security Framework	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands ABTs: 9, 11, 14, 15 SDGs: 1, 6, 8,9, 13, 15

18. Water Research, Development and Investment (RDI) Roadmap	**Date**	**Lead Developer (s)**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely Revision**
	2015	WRC, DHSWS, DHEST	**DHSWS, DHEST, WRC**, DFFE, SANBI	2015 - 2025	Not specified
This Roadmap **provides strategic direction** (through a set of research, development and deployment focal areas), a set of **action plans** and an **implementation framework to guide, plan, manage and co-ordinate South Africa's portfolio investment for the next ten years**. It is a **high-level** planning tool that facilitates and guides re-focussing of research and funding and helps synergize existing initiatives and the resources of new ones that optimize the water innovation system. Through its focus on RDD activities that can improve water supply, it interfaces strongly with and provides an effective **vehicle for increasing investments in water-related ecological infrastructure.**			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 2, Outcome 2.1 (all activities, and especially 2.1.6)	• NWRS v2 • Framework for investing in ecological infrastructure • Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy • National Water Security Framework	ABTs: 9, 11, 14, 19, 20 SDGs: 6, 15, 17
19. The Biodiversity Finance Plan (BIOFIN)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2017	DFFE	**DFFE**, SANBI, National Treasury, national and provincial conservation authorities and other protected area management agencies, government, private sector and civil society groups sector-wide	Not specified	Not specified
Description: The overall aim of the Biodiversity Finance Plan is to **ensure adequate funding of conservation and management interventions** to protect and maintain South Africa's unique and valuable biodiversity. Based on a rigorous selection process and a systematic approach, South Africa has prioritised 15 finance solutions the Plan which are vehicles for attaining sustainable development and creating jobs through strengthened biodiversity conservation and management. The 15 solutions are clustered around three biodiversity outcomes, as follows:			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross linkages***	***International alignment***
			Relevant to all NBSAP objectives, outcomes and activities, and especially SO 3, Outcome 3.5	Cross-cutting, but especially: • Framework for Investing in Ecological Infrastructure	BIOFIN global programme ABTs: 3, 20 SDGs: 8, 10, 15, 17

Protected areas: PA revenues; property rates reforms; revolving land trusts; biodiversity tax incentives; biodiversity offsets; and, making the case for public funding of Pas **Ecosystem Restoration**: government grants for ecological infrastructure; water tariffs; NRM value-added industries; global climate funding; carbon tax offsets; NRM land-user incentives **Sustainable Use:** Tourism Conservation Funds; biodiversity-related fines and penalties; wildlife-ranching. The BIOFIN plan also provides concise technical proposals on how to operationalize the financial solutions and consolidated estimates of expected results.				• Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy • NPAES (and provincial counterparts) • The Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship • Water RDI Roadmap	
20. National Integrated Strategy to Combat Wildlife Trafficking (NISCWT)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Implementing partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2017	DFFE	**DFFE, SAPS**, DIRCO, SARS, SANParks, Provincial conservation authorities (PCAs), Dept of Justice, SSA, private security companies, NGOs, NICC, SANDF	2017 - 2021	Not specified
This Strategy has been developed to **direct law enforcement structures across multiple departments/agencies and empower them to reduce and prevent wildlife trafficking.** The Strategy promotes an **integrated, multidisciplinary and consolidated law enforcement approach** to strengthen enforcement capacity across government and within society more broadly, to address the serious threat posed by wildlife trafficking to biodiversity and national security. The Strategy includes an **Implementation Plan** that identifies objectives, key performance areas (with short, medium and long-term options for activities), outcomes, institutional roles and responsibilities, indicators, and timeframes.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 3 Outcome 3.4 (activity 3.4.4)	Monitoring and Enforcement Strategy for the EMI	CITES ABT: 5, 12 SDG: 14 ,15, 16
21. Environmental Sector Local Government Support Strategy (LGS)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2019	DFFE	**DFFE**, SANBI, CoGTA, SALGA, Treasury, Local Governments, provincial environment departments, SA Cities Network, ICLEI, NGOs	2019-2024	Not specified

Description:	*Relevance to NBSAP*	*Cross-linkages*	*International alignment*
This strategy **provides for a coordinated and structured approach to strengthening environmental governance, environmental sustainability and climate-resilience at local government level**. It clarifies **legal mandates** and policy imperatives, identifies **challenges**, and then details a **vision, goals** and **five-year implementation and monitoring plan**. The strategy includes common set of environmental sector **priorities** and identifies **opportunities** to enable maximum impact and collective action in which environmental sector support is integrated into the local government development agenda. The vision of the Local Government Support Strategy (LGSS) is to create climate change resilient and environmentally sustainable municipalities through **intervention focusing on three broad goals**: improved environmental governance; sustainable and efficient management and use of natural resources, and climate change response. To achieve this, nine sector-specific interventions will be implemented: a proposed municipal prototype structures and staffing process; a revised Legal Framework to include the latest developments in environmental legislation; establishment of a DFFE/SALGA and partners task team for lobbying for the allocation of funding for the municipal environmental management function by National Treasury; develop a capacity building and environmental education strategy; the sector to assist identified municipalities to develop legislated sector tools/plans to enable them to plan for environmental interventions using reliable scientific evidence; continue the sustained agenda interventions to improve local government's management and use of natural resources across all thematic areas; support municipalities to discharge their compliance and enforcement functions; craft a process for the introduction of favourable timeframes for the review and approval of municipal capital projects on EIA's; and continue its efforts to mainstreaming environmental management and climate change into municipal planning frameworks.	NBSAP SO 3 Outcome 3.1 (activity 3.1.3) Outcome 3.2 (activities 3.2.5 and 3.2.6) Outcome 3.3. (Activity 3.3.1) Outcome 3.4 (activity 3.4.2 and 3.4.3) Outcome 3.5 (activity 3.5.3) NBSAP SO 2, Outcome 2.1 (activity 2.1.3) Outcome 2.2 (activity 2.2.1)	• The Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy • Framework for investing in ecological infrastructure • Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy • BIOFIN	Local Agenda 21 of the CBD ABT: 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 14, 15 SDGs: 6, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17

22. Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy (BHCDS)	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2010	DFFE/SANBI/Lewis Foundation	**DFFE, SANBI**, NESPF, DHST, CATHSSETA, EWSETA, all universities, NGOs, training providers, NRF, GreenMatter, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities	2010 - 2030	Reviewed every five years
Description: This strategy contributes to the **growth of an equitable and skilled workforce of biodiversity professionals and technicians** who can optimally implement the sector's expanding and complex mandate. It was informed by a comprehensive sector analysis, research and stakeholder consultation process and is intended as a 'living strategy' that should be reviewed every five years. It provides for a **systemic approach to capacity development** that promotes co-ordination and synergy, builds on existing strengths and addresses gaps through sector-wide initiatives. It identifies **9 core principles**, **4 goals** and **7 strategic objectives**, under which particular **activities** are recommended. The implementation architecture for the Strategy includes mechanisms for **broad sectoral engagement** and **dedicated co-ordination**.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross linkages***	***International alignment***
			Cross-cutting, but with relevance to NBSAP SO5, Outcome 5.2 (activities 5.2.1 and 5.2.2)	• Environmental Sector Skills Development Plan • Environmental Sector Gender Mainstreaming Strategy • Biodiversity Sector Research and Evidence Strategy	ABT: cross-cutting SDGs: cross-cutting, but especially SDGs 4 and 17
23. The Environmental Sector Skills Development Plan for South Africa (Summary Document)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2010	DFFE	All sector institutions in government, the private sector and civil society	Not time-bound	Needs-driven
Description: The summary document brings together key information and recommendations drawn from numerous, underlying working documents, all of which are accessible via DFFE's Environmental Learning Forum webpage (www.envirolearningforum.co.za). It includes a description of skills needs and their drivers, factors influencing the supply of skills, and objectives and recommendations for environmental skills development-planning. This Plan provides the overarching context for human capital			***Relevance to the NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***Alignment***
			SO 5, cross-cutting	• Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy	SDG 16 and 17

development strategies for sub-sectors within the environmental filed, including the Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy.					
24. Strategy for gender mainstreaming in the environmental sector	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2016	DFFE	All sector institutions in government, the private sector and civil society	2016 - 20201	Not specified
Description: This strategy has been developed to **promote a gender-sensitive management approach** in the environmental sector, and to ensure that gender analysis and gender equity underpins the development of policies and the design of environmental programmes and projects. Though not developed specifically for the biodiversity sector, it has important implications for it (outlined in Section 6.5) and **should guide biodiversity-specific capacity building, policy-development and project cycle management**. The Strategy identifies **12 key strategies** for promoting gender empowerment and includes a **framework of interventions** (a gender mainstreaming 'toolkit') that can be used to put these into practice across all stages of the project cycle. It also includes an enumeration of **funding opportunities**, and a set of **indicators** to be used for monitoring and evaluation.			***Relevance to the NBSAP*** Cross-cutting, but with specific linkage to: NBSAP SO5 Outcomes 5.1 (activity 5.1.1) Outcome 5.2 (all activities) Outcome 5.3 (activity 5.3.4)	***Cross linkages*** Cross cutting, but with specific linkage to: • Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy • Environmental Sector Skills Development Plan • SA's national Policy Framework for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality	***International alignment*** The Gender Plan of Action of the CBD (2008) The UN Women's Strategic Plan 2014 - 2017 The SADC Protocol on Gender Development SDGs: 5 and 10
25. Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Programme (IPBES)	**Date**	**Lead Agency**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	Established 2012	DFFE, CSIR	All sector role-players	Not time bound	N/A
Description: The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is a global initiative of which South Africa is a founding and participating member. IPBES aims to s**trengthen capacity for the effective use of science in decision-making at all levels,** and to address the needs of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) that are related to biodiversity. Working through a system of **expert groups,**			***Relevance to NBSAP*** Relevant under various NBSAP SOs, but particularly: SO 6, Outcomes 6.1, 6.2, 6.4 and 6.5	***Cross-linkages*** • Environmental Sector Research, Development and Evidence Strategy	***International alignment*** IPBES (global) ABT: 19 SDGs: 16, 17

forums, task teams and technical support units, IPBES works to **produce, review, assess and critically evaluate relevant information and knowledge** on the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services to sustainability generated by government, academia, scientific organizations, NGOs and indigenous communities. The IPBES Work Programme includes **18 deliverables**, organized under **4 objectives.** DFFE serves as the national focal point for IPBES in South Africa, and the CSIR, with support from DFFE, hosts the IPBES Technical Support Unit for Africa.			SO 5, Outcomes 5.2 and 5.3 SO 3, Outcome 3.6 SO 2, Outcome 2.1	• Biodiversity Research Development and Evidence Strategy • BHCDS • National Biodiversity Information System • National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework	
26. National Biodiversity Research and Evidence Strategy	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2015	DFFE	**DFFE**, SANBI, CSIR, Research Institutions, NRF, SAEON, DHEST, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities, NGOs, experts	2015 - 2025	Updated every 5 years
Description: The central goal of this strategy (which flows from the Environmental Sector Research, Development and Evidence Strategy – see Item 26) is to **ensure that research and evidence provides appropriate and sufficient support to decision-making and policy-development in the biodiversity sector**. The Strategy outlines **key principles** to guide the research agenda, including the need to **link research priorities to policy priorities**, adoption of an evidence-informed approach to planning, reporting and budgeting, the importance of following participatory approaches and long-term investment in institutional strengthening, capacity development and innovation. The strategy identifies **two clusters of strategic evidence objectives**, linked to short, medium and longer-term **outcomes,** and a set of **priorities**, which are to: address taxonomic gaps, develop the green economy, identify and address trade-offs between conservation and development, respond to global change, strengthen risk mitigation, and identify drivers of behaviour change.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			Of cross-cutting relevance, but with specific relevance to: NBSAP SO6 Outcome 6.1. (activity 6.1.8) Outcome 6.2. (all) Outcome 6.4 (activity 6.4.1)	• The Environmental Sector Skills Development Plan • IPBES • The National Biodiversity Information System • National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework • SANParks research data repository	ABT: 19 SDG: 14, 15, 17

The Strategy is accompanied by an **annual implementation plan** which details evidence requirements for the short and medium term.					
27. The Environmental Sector Research, Development and Evidence Strategy	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2012	DFFE	**DFFE, SANBI, DHEST**, CSIR, SANParks, ARC, WRC, SAEON**,** research institutions	**Not determined**	**Not specified**
***Description*:** This framework addresses the need for a common approach to the collection of solid evidence that can be used in support of environment sector policy decisions and for the achievement of sector priorities. The framework seeks to develop a more rigorous approach that gathers, critically appraises and uses high quality research evidence to inform policy-making and professional practice. The context for this framework is to implement the national R&D goals through responding to the Environmental Sector Plan and Outcome 10 evidence needs, while ensuring a coordinated common approach for developing thematic strategies. The Framework sketches the strategic context for research development and evidence in the environmental sector, outlines a preferred approach, sets 6 objectives, identifies priorities informing evidence needs, knowledge sharing and human capacity development, and includes an implementation and monitoring plan. It sets the broader context for the Biodiversity Sector Research and Evidence Strategy. The Framework will be implemented in phases.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 6 Cross-cutting	• IPBES • Biodiversity Sector Research and Evidence Strategy	ABT: 19 SDGs: 14, 15, 17
28. National Biodiversity Information System (NBIS)	**Date**	**Lead Agency**	**Implementing partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	Since 2004	SANBI	**SANBI**, DFFE, DHEST and other sector departments in government, civil society, the private sector, research institutions, conservation authorities	Open-ended	Updated continuously

Description: The National Biodiversity Information System is intended to **harness, organize, refine, synthesise and manage biodiversity information and knowledge**, to ensure that it is widely **accessible** and **supports research**, **policy-development** and **decision-making** in the biodiversity sector. As part of its core mandate determined by the Biodiversity Act, SANBI is leading the development of the System, working in partnership with a wide range of data providers and stakeholder institutions in government, private sector and civil society. As part of this process, SANBI is building on existing **tools that allow quick and easy access to biodiversity knowledge resources**, such as: **The Biodiversity Advisor**: a web-based platform that provides access to a wide range of reports, checklists, training materials, databases, virtual forums, webpages and other sources of non-spatial information, such as: the Plants of Southern Africa (POSA)database; Red Lists; the iSpot citizen-science portal, and many others **BGIS** (Biodiversity-GIS): a webpage through which users can access spatial biodiversity data and supporting contextual information. The online interactive map component of BGIS allows users to query data, print and add maps. **SABIF (the South African Biodiversity Information Facility)**: which hosts primary biodiversity data and is a node of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			Cross-cutting, but of particular relevance to SO6, Outcomes 6.1 (activity 6.1.1) and 6.5 (activity 6.5.1)	• The National Scientific Collections Facility • IPBES • The Biodiversity Sector Research and Evidence Strategy • The National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework • The National Ecosystem Classification System	ABTs: 18 and 19 SDGs: cross-cutting support, and especially 16 and 17 Encyclopaedia of Life Biodiversity Heritage Library Global Biodiversity Information Facility
29. DHEST/SANBI National Scientific Collections Facility	**Date**	**Lead developer /agency**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2017	DHEST, SANBI	**DHEST, SANBI**, Museums, herbaria, universities	Not determined	Not determined
Description: This is a **virtual facility for natural science collections**. Its purpose is to build a **network** of South Africa's institutions holding natural history collections, with a central coordinating base in SANBI. Launched in 2017,			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 6, Outcome 6.1 (activity 6.1.1)	• National Biodiversity Information System	ABT 19

it is one of 13 infrastructure facilities identified in South Africa's Research Infrastructure Roadmap.				• Biodiversity Sector Research and Evidence Strategy	SDGs: 17 Biodiversity Heritage Library
30. National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2021	SANBI	**SANBI, DFFE,** SANParks, provincial environmental departments and conservation authorities, local governments, experts, NGOs	Not time-bound	Regular updating of indicators according to need
Description: The goal of this framework is to lay the foundation for a national biodiversity observation and monitoring system, built on collaborative efforts, which allows for global, national and provincial level reporting on key aspects of the state of biodiversity to inform policies that support decision making and guide research. There are three key objectives of the framework: **Objective 1**. A regularly updated and accessible suite of biodiversity indicators that are sensitive to change, clearly interpretable and aligned with South Africa's national and international monitoring and reporting commitments is in place. The wide array of data underpinning the indicators are collated, curated and freely available. The methods of data collection, cleaning and analysis are clearly presented, defensible and repeatable. **Objective 2**. Ensure the biodiversity observation and monitoring system is a cooperative effort connecting people, sites and projects. Develop and maintain a register of contributors and reviewers along with clear			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			Cross-cutting, but with particular relevance under NBSAP SO6 (Outcome 6.2).	Cross-cutting, but with particular links to: • National Biodiversity Assessment • National Biodiversity Information System • National Ecosystem Classification System	Supports all ABTs SDGs: 14, 15, 17

protocols for data curation, refinement and update of methods, review of outputs, and interpretation of the indicators. **Objective 3**. Gaps in the monitoring system are identified and filled through collaborative projects focused on input data and methods. Emerging monitoring and reporting needs are met through the development and or implementation of new indicators. *[under development at the time of writing, to be finalized during 2021]*					
31. National Coastal Management Programme	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2015	*DFFE*	**SANBI,** DFFE**,** SANParks, provincial coastal environmental departments and conservation authorities, local governments, experts, NGOs	2015 to 2021	2nd NCMP in development and planned for publication by the end of the 2021/22 financial year
Description:			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
Among the myriad of implementation tools that are available within the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008) (ICM Act), Coastal Management Programmes (CMPs) are arguably the most powerful integrating instruments in an ICM toolbox. A CMP is a policy directive for the management of the coastal zone, inclusive of strategies and plans for the effective implementation of the ICM Act that will enable organs of state to plan accordingly, to set a course for the coastal environmental future of a nation by addressing the resolution of current management problems and user-conflicts. The National Coastal Management Programme (NCMP) is the most important tool within the ICM Act for integrating coastal management in			Cross-cutting, but of particular relevance to: NBSAP SO 3, Outcome 3.1 (activities 3.1.1; 3.1.2) Outcome 3.2 (activities 3.2.1; 3.2.3; 3.2.6; 3.2.7) Outcome 3.3 (activities 3.3.1; 3.3.2) Outcome 3.4	• National Biodiversity Assessment • Framework for Integrated Coastal Management • NPAES (and counterparts in coastal provinces) • Operation Phakisa and Presidential 9-point Plan	ABTs: 6, 11 SDG: 14

South Africa. It provides the direction and guidance towards a structured and standardised approach to coastal management in South Africa, including an appropriate cooperative governance framework – a critical element for effective implementation of integrated coastal management. The NCMP establishes a new vision for the coast: one that encapsulates the ultimate goal for the effective management of the coast – what we want the coastal zone to look like, stand for, achieve and contribute to and for the people of South Africa. However, this vision does not stand alone. For the vision to be realised in the future, tangible and iterative steps need to be made in the present and near future to lead us toward this vision. It is for this reason that the NCMP deliberately sets forth priority areas, including facilitation of coastal access, the management of estuaries, planning for coastal vulnerability to global change, the management of pollution, establishing effective compliance and enforcement, developing and enhancing the facilitation of coastal information and research, strengthening awareness, education, and training, as well as fostering and enhancing effective collaborations and partnerships for ICM. Each priority area is accompanied by sets of management objectives and actions with committed timeframes for delivery. The NCMP, therefore, represents the commitment of DFFE and government towards realistic and tangible goals that - both on their own and as puzzle pieces of larger systems and networks – will benefit the coastal environment and ensure its sustainability.			(activities 3.4.5; 3.4.6)		
32. Marine Spatial Planning Framework	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2017	DFFE	**SANBI,** DFFE**,** SANParks, provincial coastal environmental departments and conservation authorities, local governments, experts, NGOs	Not specified	Not specified
Description:			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***

The provides the framework for marine spatial planning in South Africa's ocean space. It provides high-level direction for undertaking marine spatial planning in the context of the South African legislation and policies as well as existing planning regimes. It contains a dedicated section on biodiversity management on the oceans, in which it is stated that the approach for biodiversity planning and management in respect of the terrestrial realm needs to be adopted for the ocean realm to ensure appropriate representation, especially within the coastal region where land and sea planning initiatives overlap.			Cross-cutting, but of relevance to: NBSAP SO 1, Outcome 1.1 (Activity 1.1.1) NBSAP SO 3, Outcome 3.1 (Activities 3.1.1; 3.1.2) Outcome 3.2 (Activities 3.2.1; 3.2.3; 3.2.6; 3.2.7)	• NPAES (and counterparts in coastal provinces) • Operation Phakisa and Presidential 9-point Plan	ABTs: 6, 11 SDG: 14
33. National Water Security Framework	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2020	National Planning Commission	DWS, DFFE, SANBI	Not specified	Not specified
Description: The National Water Security Framework (NWSF) responds to the question of the extent of the threat and the actions required in the short, medium and long term to mitigate or offset the threat. It frames a national pathway to a water secure country up to 2050 to enable inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and reducing inequality, in line with the National Development Plan (NDP) imperatives. The NWSF guides, complements and dovetails with existing national policies and strategies. It enhances the water security component of the National Water Resources Strategy II (NWRS2), South Africa's blueprint for the management of its water resources, as well as the National Water and Sanitation Master Plan (NWSMP~~)~~ of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), which is the positioned as an implementation plan for the NWRS2 and NWSF.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***International alignment***
			NBSAP SO 2, Outcome 2.1 (activity 2.1.1)	Strategic water source areas: management framework and implementation guidelines for planners and managers	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands ABTs: 9, 11, 14, 15 SDGs: 1, 6, 8,9, 13, 15
34. South African National Ecosystem Classification System	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**

	Initiated 2013	SANBI	**SANBI**, DFFE, DHSWS, CSIR, SAEON, WRC, SAIAB, SANParks, Provincial conservation authorities	To be developed over five years	Not specified
Description: National ecosystem types are important units underpinning the work of the South African biodiversity sector. They form the basis of systematic biodiversity plans that inform policy, management, monitoring and decision-making, including the national biodiversity assessment, development of protected area expansion strategies, listing of threatened ecosystems and environmental impact assessment; they provide the basis for ecosystem accounting, and the development of biodiversity offsets; and are strategic informants of a wide-range of surveys and research activities. Currently, a standardised set of terrestrial ecosystems based on vegetation types is well-developed in the country, but further development of the classification system is necessary to incorporate freshwater, estuarine, coastal and marine systems. The South African National Ecosystem Classification System (SA-NECS) provides a **consistent set of ecosystem types** for terrestrial, freshwater, estuarine, coastal and marine ecosystems that is stable over time, and endorsed by national scientific community. The system provides spatial data and maps, a unique code and name for each ecosystem type, a description and list of associated species. The classification system is overseen by the National Ecosystem Classification Committee (NECC), which is convened by SANBI, and various subcommittees, which are working according to a five-year plan, feeding into the current National Biodiversity Assessment (to be published in 2019) and the listing of threatened ecosystems in terms of the Biodiversity Act.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***Alignment with international commitments***
			Of cross-cutting relevance under SOs 1, 2, 3 and 6, and specific relevance to SO 6, Outcome 6.1 and activity 6.1.5	• National Biodiversity Assessment • NPAES and provincial counterparts • National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework • National Biodiversity Information System	ABTs: 8, 18, 19 SDGs: 14, 15
35. National Natural Capital Accounting Strategy: A ten-year strategy for Advancing Natural Capital Accounting in South Africa.	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2021	Statistics South Africa	DFFE, DMPE, DSI, DWS, NBI, National Treasury, SANParks and WRC	2021 to 2031	Not specified

Description: The purpose of the strategy is to respond to the need to focus the efforts of Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) and other institutions engaged in National NCA on developing priority natural capital accounts and effective statistical systems and institutional mechanisms to inform South Africa's sustainable development policy objectives.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***Alignment with international commitments***
			NBSAP SO 3, Outcome 3.1 *NBSAP SO 4, Outcome 4.1* *NBSAP SO 6, Outcome 6.5*	• National Biodiversity Assessment • NPAES and provincial counterparts • National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework	***ABT: 1, 2, 19***
36. Strategic water source areas: management framework and implementation guidelines for planners and managers	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2018	WRC	CSIR, DWS, DFFE, SANBI	Not time-bound	Not specified
Description: This Management Framework and Implementation Guideline Report is intended to facilitate and support well-informed and proactive land management, land-use and development planning in these nationally important and critical areas. The aim or primary principle is to protect the quantity and quality of the water produced by maintaining or improving the condition of the SWSAs.			***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***Alignment with international commitments***
37. Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Strategy for South Africa (EIAMS)	**Date**	**Lead Developer**	**Partners**	**Timeframe**	**Likely revision**
	2014	DFFE	DWA, Provincial Competent Authorities and Local Authorities; NGOs; Environmental Law Association; Chamber of Mines; Business Unity South Africa (BUSA); SALGA; Academic sector; the South African affiliate of the International Association for Impact Assessment.	Not specified	Not specified

Description:	***Relevance to NBSAP***	***Cross-linkages***	***Alignment with international commitments***
The Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Strategy (EIAMS) aims to provide a more effective and efficient IEM system that is supported by a range of EM instruments and tools. The strategy process considered the desired future state for the IEM system and sought to define the way to achieve it within the mandate provided by Chapter 5 of NEMA – as far as possible – and largely within the context of existing environmental policies.	NBSAP SO1, SO2, SO3, SO4 and SO6 Outcome 10 (Output 4)	National Biodiversity Assessment Ecosystem service: -preservation of biodiversity -provision of livelihood to people -preservation of human cultural history/religious sites	Convention on Biodiversity Diversity Ramsar CMS

3.2. Accelerators for implementing the NBSAP priorities

Given the ambitious nature and breadth of the objectives and priorities identified in the NBSAP and related strategies, and in light of the implementation constraints (financial, technical and human resources) facing government and other partners in the sector, setting priorities for action is essential. While progress across the full spectrum of strategic objectives and outcomes is necessary, not all can be pursued with the same emphasis, in parallel. Priority should be given to measures which have the greatest potential to speed up progress across goals and targets, taking into account their integrated nature, the specific national context, and the imperative of achieving economic, social and environmental harmony.

'**Accelerators'** are measures that can most effectively remove bottlenecks and/or systemic or underlying barriers to implementation, or that provide the best opportunities for fast-tracking implementation, or achieving multiple goals simultaneously.

The set of acceleration measures recommended in ***Table 5*** was identified through a process which included: (i) detailed analysis of the NBSAP to extract the high priority activities; (ii) cross-referencing these with priorities identified in other strategies; and (iii) a stakeholder consultation process involving 19 key institutions in the biodiversity sector, and other selected stakeholders identified on a targeted basis. During the consultation process, stakeholders were asked what they are already doing to implement priorities identified in the NBSAP (or other strategies), and what they envisage should or could be done to accelerate implementation in the next five years. These inputs were used to identify the measures that are included in Table 5, but it is important to recognize that there may also be other suitable measures that were not identified during the consultation process, but that might serve as effective accelerators.

It is also important to note the acceleration measures identified here do not represent new activities that institutions must implement in addition to their already-heavy workloads; rather, they represent a collation of priorities that have already been identified, but in numerous, separate documents and plans, or through consultation with stakeholders. ***Table 5*** brings these together in one place, in a way that enables alignment between the NBSAP and NBA and other strategic priorities to maximise impact.

Table 5: Recommended acceleration measures, organized by NBSAP Strategic Objectives, Outcomes and high priority activities

NBSAP SO 1: Management and conservation of biodiversity assets and their contribution to the economy, rural development, job creation and social well-being is enhanced	
Relevant national strategies/frameworks/systems: The National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy, 2016; The Operation Phakisa Marine Protection and Governance Strategy, 2014; The Man and the Biosphere Reserve Strategy and Implementation Plan, 2016; The National Buffer Zone Strategy for National Parks, 2012; The People and Parks Co-Management Framework , 2010; The National Botanical Garden Expansion Strategy, 2020; The National Plant Conservation Strategy, 2015; The Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship, 2015; The National Biodiversity Economy Strategy, 2017 (incorporating the Wildlife Economy Strategy)	
NBSAP Outcome 1.1: The network of protected areas and conservation areas includes a representative sample ecosystems and species, and is coherent and effectively managed	
High priority NBSAP activities: *1.1.1. Expand the protected area estate across all ecosystems* *1.1.2. Expand the network of conservation areas through mechanisms under the Biodiversity Act* *1.1.3. Strengthen capacity for Biodiversity Stewardship Programmes*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
1.1.1. Expand the protected area estate across all ecosystems • **Ensure that the NPAES is published** • **Achieve 5-year national targets in the NPAES for % representation of ecosystems included in protected areas**: through: **(i)** **Declaration of priority offshore marine protected areas** in line with the Phakisa MPSG and NPAES, and coastal MPAs that have an offshore component (e.g. Addo and Namaqua MPAs) **(ii)** **Expansion of national parks** as per the SANParks expansion strategy and 3-year Land Inclusion Plan (focus on under-represented ecosystems: Nama Karoo, Grasslands and Succulent Karoo) **(iii)** Implementation of protected area expansion plans as per **provincial conservation authority** operational plans, including through identifying and declaring priority biodiversity stewardship sites **(iv)** Declaration (in terms of the National Forestry Act) of **prioritized forests as forest nature reserves**	• DFFE (i) DFFE (MCM), Oceans Secretariat (ii) SANParks (iii) Provincial conservation authorities, CPAs, NGOs (iv) DAFF, provincial conservation agencies, private sector partners

1.1.2. Expand the network of conservation areas through mechanisms under the Biodiversity Act • Institutionalize, resource and implement the **buffer zone function within SANParks** • Develop and apply **biodiversity management plans for priority ecosystems**	• DFFE, SANParks • National and provincial conservation authorities, SANBI, scientists, landowners, CPAs
1.1.3. Strengthen capacity for Biodiversity Stewardship Programmes • **Implement the recommendations of the Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship**, beginning with an assessment of the specific resource requirements of each provincial biodiversity stewardship programme • **Implement the recommendations of the first National Biodiversity Stewardship Conference** held in September 2017, as endorsed by MinTech and the Protected Area CEO's Forum and the key recommendations from the National Land Reform and Biodiversity Stewardship Learning Exchange held in February 2020. • Convene a **national biodiversity stewardship conference** or forum annually • **Implement the 2019 Biodiversity Stewardship Guidelines**, and develop and mainstream a **Biodiversity Stewardship Implementation Framework** • Develop and implement a **sustainable finance mechanism for provincial biodiversity stewardship programmes** • Explore innovative models for expanding areas brought under protection, such as **Locally Managed Marine Areas** (LMMAs)	**DFFE, SANBI**, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities, BDS TWG, DALRRD, NGOs, landowners and community representatives
NBSAP Outcome 1.2: Species of Special Concern are sustainably managed	
Relevant NBSAP high priority activities: *1.2.2. Sufficient ex situ conservation of threatened and useful species* *1.2.4. Maintain an effective Scientific Authority*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
1.2.2 Sufficient ex situ conservation of threatened and useful species • Secure budget, formalize and maintain relevant institutional partnerships to **support expansion of South Africa's botanical garden network**, specifically to **operationalize the Kwelera National Botanical Garden and National Botanical Garden in Limpopo Province** • **Expand *ex situ* collections** to **increase representation of threatened and other species of special concern**	SANBI, EPWP, ECPTA, DEDEAT, LEDET, Treasury, NBGs, RBG Kew, botanical researchers and experts
1.2.4. Maintain an effective scientific authority • Assess the effect of trade on priority species and populations (in order to undertake non-detriment findings)	• Scientific Authority

• **Develop listing proposals** for species threatened by international trade but not-yet CITES-listed and , **early warning systems** to flag new species potentially threatened by trade implemented • **Develop, implement and sustainably fund** Biodiversity **Management Plans** for CR and EN species that are being unsustainably harvested	• Scientific Authority • SANBI, SANParks, provincial authorities, local governments
Outcome 1.3: The biodiversity economy is expanded, strengthened and transformed to be more inclusive of the rural poor	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *1.3.1. Strengthen the contribution of the natural products sector to the national economy and the NBES* *1.3.2. Strengthen the contribution of the wildlife sector to the national economy and the NBES* *1.3.5. Pilot Biodiversity Economy transformation nodes to demonstrate multiple benefits*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
1.3.1. Strengthen the contribution of the natural products sector to the national economy and the NBES • **Launch and operationalize BioPANZA**, and develop a **Bioprospecting Charter** for the sector, including principles for environmental sustainability • **Co-ordinate research and surveys of species used in bioprospecting and biotrade and** develop management tools to ensure sustainable use • **Explore options (for example through feasibility studies)** for cultivation of indigenous trees and plants that are used for medicinal purposes to secure resource supply and reduce pressure on wild populations, with community participation	• DFFE, DTIC, DHEST, DALRRD, DAFF, provincial conservation departments, sector stakeholders – private sector and communities) • DFFE, DHEST, ARC, CSIR, Private Sector, Provincial Conservation authorities; research institutions, NGOs, communities • BioPANZA, SANBI, the Scientific Authority, research institutions, national and provincial conservation agencies
1.3.2. Strengthen the contribution of the wildlife sector to the national economy and the NBES • **Expand membership of the Wildlife Forum**, re-position it to serve as an effective interdepartmental/industry coordination platform, with the NBES as its implementation mandate • **Streamline the regulatory environment and permitting system**	• DFFE, Wildlife Forum, sector stakeholders

• **Map priority areas for transformation of the wildlife sector** within the BENS and use these to guide implementation of the Biodiversity Economy Strategy • **Strengthen links** between the wildlife economy and biodiversity stewardship • **Develop and implement relevant policy, guidelines or minimum requirements for ecologically friendly wildlife ranching**, possibly linked to certification • **Work with local communities to develop and implement business plans** for wildlife economy projects in priority BENs (as determined in the NBES)	• DFFE, provincial conservation authorities • DFFE, SANBI, SANParks, CPAs, DALRRD, District and Local municipalities • Wildlife Forum, provincial conservation authorities, CPAs, NGOs, private sector role-players, local chambers of commerce.
1.3.5. Pilot Biodiversity Economy transformation nodes to demonstrate multiple benefits • Undertake **detailed mapping, determine strategic priorities, uptake areas and community priorities to operationalize at least 2 BENS** (guided by the priorities identified in the NBES and WES), in conjunction with the Biosphere Reserve Programme and biodiversity stewardship programmes (including the Land Reform Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative)	• DFFE, SANBI, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities, biosphere reserves, CPAs, NGOs, private sector
Outcome 1.4: Biodiversity conservation supports the land reform agenda and socio-economic opportunities for communal landholders	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *1.4.1. Strengthen the Land Reform Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative including approval of guidelines, strategies and implementation plans developed through the DFFE-DALRRD-SANBI alliance* *1.4.2. Facilitate settlement of land claims in protected areas and the conservation estate*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
1.4.1. Strengthen the Land Reform Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative including approval of guidelines, strategies and implementation plans developed through the DFFE-DALRRD-SANBI alliance • **Finalise, formalise and implement the national strategy for the land reform and biodiversity stewardship initiative (LRBSI)** • **Resource and implement the Land Reform and Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative** • **Facilitate learning opportunities related to land reform and biodiversity stewardship** with a focus on knowledge exchange and skills development for building a biodiversity economy: convene the National Land Reform and Biodiversity Stewardship Learning Exchange annually.	• DFFE-SANBI-DALRRD • DFFE-SANBI-DALRRD • DFFE-SANBI-DALRRD

1.4.2. Facilitate settlement of land claims in protected areas and the conservation estate • **Finalize settlements and biodiversity stewardship agreements** on land of high biodiversity value and set co-management agreements in place, according to provincial priorities identified in protected area expansion plans • **Support land claimants on restituted land** with the identification and development of sustainable wildlife economy or nature-based enterprises	• National and provincial conservation authorities • Provincial conservation authorities, SANParks, biosphere reserve management agencies
NBSAP Strategic Objective 2: Investments in ecological Infrastructure enhance resilience and ensure benefits to society	
Relevant national strategies/frameworks/systems: The Framework for Investing in Ecological Infrastructure, 2014; The Overarching Strategy and Implementation Plan for Ecosystem-based Adaptation, 2016; The National Action Plan to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation and Mitigate the Effects of Drought (version 2, 2016, in draft); The National Water Resource Strategy v.2, 2013; National Water Security Framework, 2020, Strategy for dealing with biological invasions in South Africa, 2014; Framework for investment in environmental and natural resources (ENRM) for a green economy, 2016; Climate Change Adaptation Plans for Biomes in South Africa, 2015; The Biodiversity Sector Climate Change Response Strategy, 2014; the Water RDI Roadmap, 2015; National Climate Adaptation Strategy; Strategic water source areas: management framework and implementation guidelines for planners and managers; National Natural Capital Accounting Strategy: A ten-year strategy for Advancing Natural Capital Accounting in South Africa.	
Outcome 2.1: Investments in ecological infrastructure enhance resilience and ensure benefits to society	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *2.1.1. Support the implementation of Chapter 5 (water resource protection) of the National Water resource strategy* *2.1.2. Develop a systematic approach including methods, techniques and expertise for mapping and prioritising ecological infrastructure* *2.1.3. Scale-up and improve integration efforts to restore degraded ecological infrastructure and maintain ecological infrastructure in good condition*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
2.1.1. Support the implementation of Chapter 5 (water resource protection) of the National Water resource strategy • **Secure Strategic Water Source Areas** (SWSAs) through a range of mechanisms, including formal protection, land-use planning and environmental authorisations	• DALRRD, EPWP, Working For programmes, DFFE, DHSWS, CMAs, SANParks,

• Accelerate implementation **of intensive wetland rehabilitation programmes**, to protect priority wetlands and stimulate job creation • Implement the UNDP-supported, and GEF-financed multi-partner projects that addresses multiple objectives and high priority activities such as the Ecological Infrastructure for Water Security. • Finalise and implement the emerging Green Climate Fund (GCF) supported project on securing of the Strategic Water Source Areas as an adaptation measure to climate change exacerbated water scarcity.	provincial conservation authorities, municipalities • DFFE, DHSWS, EPWP, SANBI, SANParks, Provincial conservation authorities, CMAs
2.1.2. Develop a systematic approach including methods, techniques and expertise for mapping and prioritising ecological infrastructure • **Continue to invest in improving the National Wetland Inventory** as part of the National Ecosystem Classification System • Develop and apply **ecological infrastructure maps** (including a focus on inland aquatic and coastal EI), as part of provincial spatial biodiversity planning, National Biodiversity Assessment, and other relevant projects (such as the Ecological Infrastructure for Water Security project).	• SANBI, WfWet, CSIR, WRC, DHEST, SAEON, Research institutions, national and provincial conservation authorities, NGOs • SANBI, CSIR, WRC, SAEON, NGOs, researchers, scientists in national and provincial conservation authorities
2.1.3. Scale-up and improve integration efforts to restore degraded ecological infrastructure and maintain ecological infrastructure in good condition • Develop and implement **strategic plans for maintenance and restoration of ecological infrastructure at a range of appropriate scales, including national, provincial and local** • **Integrate investment in ecological infrastructure into Catchment Management Strategies** • Establish a **National Alien and Invasive Species Co-ordination Forum** • **Strengthen the EI community of practice** through knowledge sharing and information exchange, building on existing forums	• DFFE (including DFFE's Environmental Programmes); SANBI; SANParks; provincial authorities; municipalities • DHSWS, CMAs, DFFE, provincial authorities, municipalities • DFFE, SANBI, DHSWS, Provinces, municipalities, CMAs, stakeholders

	• DFFE, SANBI, DHSWS, Provinces, national and provincial conservation authorities, municipalities, CMAs, stakeholders
Outcome 2.2: Ecosystem-based adaptation is shown to achieve multiple benefits in the context of sustainable development	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *2.2.1: Develop, fund and implement an implementation plan for ecosystem-based adaptation in the context of climate change adaptation and sustainable development*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
2.2.1 Develop, fund and implement an implementation plan for ecosystem-based adaptation in the context of climate change adaptation and sustainable development • **Establish and maintain co-ordination mechanisms for implementation of the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy**, including the cross-sectoral Coordination Steering Committee (CCS) • Build an **active community of practice** for Ecosystem-based Adaptation • **Implement priority activities of the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Strategy** in line with resource availability • Finalize and implement the emerging GCF supported project on securing of the Strategic Water Source Areas as an adaptation measure to climate change exacerbated water scarcity. • Strengthen the focus on Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) and other sector relevant adaptation measures to enhance resilience to climate change	• DFFE, SANBI, stakeholders • SANBI, DFFE, Adaptation Network, NGOs • DFFE, SANBI, stakeholders
NBSAP SO 3: Biodiversity considerations are mainstreamed into policies, strategies and practices of a range of sectors	
Relevant national strategies/frameworks/systems: The National Biodiversity Economy Strategy, 2017; Framework for investment in ENRM for a Green Economy, 2016, The Biodiversity and Climate Change Response Strategy, 2014; The National Strategy for dealing with Biological Invasions, 2014; The National Strategy for Combatting Wildlife Trafficking, 2017; Phakisa MPSG, 2014; The Compliance and Enforcement Strategy for the Environmental Monitoring Inspectorate, 2015; BIOFIN Plan, 2017; Water RDI Roadmap, 2015; Biodiversity messaging strategy; Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Strategy for South Africa; National Natural Capital Accounting Strategy: A ten-year strategy for Advancing Natural Capital Accounting in South Africa.	
Outcome 3.1: Effective science-based biodiversity tools inform planning and decision-making	

Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *3.1.1. Develop new science-based tools to inform planning and decision making* *3.1.2. Maintain new and existing science-based policy tools*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
3.1.1. Develop new science-based tools to inform planning and decision making • Revise provincial spatial biodiversity plans regularly, to ensure that they are up to date and able to provide the basis for science-based tools to inform planning and decision-making Develop and apply **biodiversity planning tools**, including biodiversity sector plans, bioregional plans and biodiversity management plans (according to provincially determined priorities) • Develop **biome-specific Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans** (building on the recommendations in DFFEs 2015 Report on CCA Plans for South African Biomes)	• Provincial conservation authorities, SANBI • SANBI, DFFE, CSIR, researchers, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities, municipalities, NGOs, • DFFE, SANBI, CSIR, SAEON, researchers, provinces
3.1.2. Maintain new and existing science-based policy tools • **Review and update provincial biodiversity sector plans and published bioregional plans** in line with provincially determined plans and priorities, and mainstream into land-use planning and decision-making	• SANBI, DFFE, provincial conservation authorities, municipalities
Outcome 3.2: Embed biodiversity considerations into national, provincial and municipal development-planning and monitoring	
NBSAP Priority activities: *3.2.1: Integrate biodiversity into tools being implemented to support environmental decision-making for SIPs* *3.2.3. Integrate biodiversity priority areas into integrated coastal management plans and offshore plans* *3.2.4 Develop and publish guidelines for invasive species monitoring, control and eradication plans* *3.2.6. Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
3.2.1 Integrate biodiversity into tools being implemented to support environmental decision-making for SIPs • Ensure that appropriate biodiversity information is included in **Strategic Environmental Assessments for SIPs** • Ensure application of the **new EIA screening tool** [3]by EAPS	DFFE, The Presidency, SANBI, provincial environment departments

[3] The 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Regulation. 16 [1][b][v]) require that all applications for an environmental authorisation be accompanied by, *inter alia*, a report generated by the national, web-based environmental screening tool. The screening tool uses spatial environmental data (with different categories of

	and conservation authorities, other relevant government departments and public entities, EA consultants
3.2.3 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into integrated coastal management plans and offshore plans • Ensure that appropriate biodiversity information is included in **marine spatial plans** developed in terms of the marine spatial planning framework • Develop and apply **implementation plans and enforcement measures for the marine spatial planning framework** (as per Phakisa MPSG)	Oceans Secretariat, DFFE (MCM), SANBI, DALRRD, sector bodies, provincial environmental departments and municipalities coastal
3.2.4 Develop and publish guidelines for invasive species monitoring, control and eradication plans • Develop and implement **National Control Plans for listed species** in priority areas determined by the relevant authority • Develop **invasive species control plans for all national parks and buffer zones and prioritised provincial nature reserves**	DFFE, SANBI, provincial environment departments, municipalities
3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes • **Support inclusion of biodiversity priority areas into planning instruments** developed in terms of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 2013 (SPLUMA, Act No. 16 of 2013) • Finalise and support implementation of the **standard requirements for biodiversity information as part of the environmental layer in SDFs** • **Integrate biodiversity priorities into land capability and agricultural zoning** through mainstreaming of systematic biodiversity plans • Develop **ecosystem guidelines**[4] for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental management and land-use planning	• DFFE, SANBI, DALRRD, provincial conservation authorities • DFFE, SANBI, DALRRD, provincial conservation authorities • DFFE, SANBI, DAFF, provincial departments and conservation

data applicable to different kinds of applications), to determine if the application for authorisation (Basic Assessment, Scoping or Environmental Impact Assessment) has considered the major environmental issues at the proposed land-use site.

[4] Ecosystem Guidelines provide practical guidance and a consistent framework for addressing the biodiversity-related aspects of land-use planning, landscape management and environmental regulation. They enable users to contextualize and interpret spatial biodiversity priorities, understand the key drivers of ecosystem functioning, understand what the acceptable limits of change are in particular ecosystems or landscapes, and interpet how those need to be managed and monitored to ensure that biodiversity and ecosystem processes are adequately safeguarded. Ecosystem Guidelines have been developed for the Western Cape and for the Grassland Biome, and new guidelines are planned for the Savannah and Thicket Biomes.

• **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors	authorities, municipalities • SANBI, researchers, provincial environment departments and conservation authorities, municipalities, environmental assessment practitioners • DFFE, SANBI, training institutions, NGOs, government departments in all spheres, private sector
Outcome 3.3: Strengthen and streamline development authorisations and decision-making	
Relevant high priority NBSAP Activities: 3.3.3. *Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited • Complete the process for **delineating one or more of Strategic Water Source Areas and publishing restrictions or prohibitions** in relation to those SWSAs in terms of Section 24 (2A) of NEMA	• DFFE, DHSWS, DMR, relevant provincial conservation authorities, CSIR, NGOs
• **Use CBA Maps and accompanying land-use guidelines** to identify and inform decision-making about areas where development that results in loss of natural habitat should be avoided	• Competent environmental authorities in terms of NEMA, provincial conservation authorities, SANBI
• **Capture ecological infrastructure features in provincial biodiversity plans/biodiversity sector plans/bioregional plans**	• SANBI, Provincial conservation authorities municipalities
Outcome 3.4: Compliance with authorisations monitored and enforced	

Relevant high priority NBSAP activities *3.4.1. Strengthen environmental regulatory and compliance frameworks* *3.4.2. Implement the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Strategy* *3.4.4. Improve the enforcement of trade regulations*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
3.4.1. Strengthen environmental regulatory and compliance frameworks • **Update and apply the national legal framework** for monitoring and enforcement • Strengthen links between EMI institutions and make them more accessible to the public (for example through use of the **E-Legislation** (NEMA/SEMA) tab on the DFFE website)	DFFE, SANParks, provincial conservation agencies, provincial environment departments
3.4.2. Implement the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Strategy • Secure approval for, implement, and monitor **the Compliance and Enforcement Strategy for the Environmental Management Inspectorate**[5]	DFFE, DALRR, DHSWS, SAPS, SSA, provincial conservation agencies and environmental departments, customs, municipalities
3.4.4. Improve the enforcement of trade regulations • Approve and implement the **National Integrated Strategy to Combat Wildlife Trafficking** • **Implement CITES decisions and amended resolutions** relating to all species of special concern • **Maintain CITES inspection and permit issuing offices in provinces**	• DFFE • DFFE, Scientific Authority, SANParks, provincial conservation agencies, provincial conservation authorities and environmental departments
Outcome 3.5: Appropriate allocation of resources in key sectors and spheres of government facilitates effective management of biodiversity, especially in biodiversity priority areas	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *3.5.2. Develop a resource mobilisation strategy for biodiversity*	

[5] A *National Compliance and Enforcement Strategy for the Environmental Management Inspectorate* was developed by DFFE in 2014. It is based on 7 core principles to guide the work of the Inspectorate, and enhance its effectiveness between 2015 and 2020.

Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
3.5.2. Develop a resource mobilisation strategy for biodiversity • Implement and update resource mobilize action plan • Revise the **BIOFIN Finance Plan to align to CBD outcomes**	• DFFE, National Treasury, SANBI
Outcome 3.6: Biodiversity considerations are integrated into the development and implementation of policy, legislative and other tools	
Relevant NBSAP high priority activities: *3.6.1. Develop, implement, review and update legislative and other tools that ensure the protection of species and ecosystems* *3.6.2. Integrate the value of biodiversity into national accounting and reporting systems* *3.6.3. Integrate biodiversity into sector policies and legislation*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
3.6.1 Develop, implement, review and update legislative and other tools that ensure the protection of species and ecosystems • Finalize, approve and publish the **amendments to NEMA** that are currently under development • Complete, approve, publish, and implement the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline to guide the consistent implementation of biodiversity offsets in the country.	DFFE
3.6.2. Integrate the value of biodiversity into national accounting and reporting systems • Develop and **undertake a strategic set of studies** to assess the contribution of biodiversity conservation and management to the economy, building on existing work • Implement the priorities identified in the National NCA Strategy. • Develop natural capital accounts for Strategic Water Source Areas, ecological infrastructure assets and water resources.	• DFFE, CSIR, SANBI, relevant experts • Statistics South Africa, SANBI, DFFE, DHSWS
3.6.3. Integrate biodiversity into sector policies and legislation • Support **inclusion of biodiversity priority areas in agricultural policy, legislation and spatial tools** • **Support implementation of the Mining and Biodiversity Guideline**	• DFFE, DAFF, SANBI, • DFFE, DMR, SANBI

NBSAP SO4: Mobilise people	
Relevant national strategies/frameworks/information systems: National Plant Conservation Strategy, 2015; National MAB Reserve Strategy, 2016	
Outcome 4.1: People's awareness of the value of biodiversity is enhanced through more effective co-ordination and messaging	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *4.1.1. & 4.1.2. Develop, fund a co-ordinated national biodiversity communication, education and awareness strategy, implementation plan and monitoring framework* *4.1.3. Strengthen environmental literacy through citizen science programmes*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
4.1.1. & 4.12. Develop, fund a co-ordinated national biodiversity communication, education and awareness strategy, implementation plan and monitoring framework • Develop, resource and implement a **co-ordinated national biodiversity communication, education and awareness strategy, implementation plan and monitoring framework** to co-ordinate communication work in the sector, building on the work done in the "Making the Case" project previously undertaken by DFFE and SANBI	• DFFE, SANBI, NGOs, tertiary and research institutes
4.1.3 Strengthen environmental literacy through citizen science programmes • Strengthen the work of citizen science programmes by establishing a **national citizen science forum for information exchange, learning, strategic prioritization** • **Strengthen support to Biosphere Reserves, Marine Hope Spots, and other landscape-initiatives** as vehicles for promoting awareness and behaviour-change and supporting citizen science programmes, especially through engagement of youth	• SANBI, DHEST, NGOs, national collections institutions (museums, herbaria) • DFFE, SANParks, Conservation authorities, NGOs
NBSAP SO5: Conservation and Management of Biodiversity is improved through the development of an equitable and suitably skilled workforce	
Relevant strategies/frameworks/systems: The Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy, 2010; Environmental Sector Skills Development Plan, 2010; Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming in the Environmental Sector, 2010; IPBES	

Outcome 5.1: Macro-level conditions enabled for skills planning, development and evaluation	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *5.1.3. Develop and integrate existing mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity human capital development initiatives* *5.1.4. Ensure that national strategies receive adequate finding and support*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
5.1.3. Develop and integrate existing mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity human capital development initiatives and 5.1.4. Ensure that national strategies receive adequate finding and support • Support the further development and implementation of an effective and sustainably-funded **national-level co-ordination mechanism for biodiversity human capital development and monitoring**[6] • Ensure that **capacity building needs for implementation of IPBES recommendations** are matched with resources through catalysing financial and in-kind support	• DFFE, NESPF, SANBI, DHEST, DHSWS, DBSA, DPME, NRF, Greenmatter • DFFE, NESPF, DHEST
Outcome 5.2: An improved skills development system incorporates the needs of the biodiversity sector	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *5.2.1. Develop and implement an updated BHCD Plan in support of the BHCDS*	
Recommended acceleration measure	Implementation
5.2.1. Develop and implement an updated BHCD Plan in support of the BHCDS • Develop an updated **Biodiversity Human Capital Development Implementation Plan**	• DFFE, SANBI, NESPF, GreenMatter
NBSAP SO6: Knowledge foundations	
Relevant national strategies/ frameworks/systems: IPBES; The National Biodiversity Research and Evidence Strategy, 2015; Environmental Sector Research, Development and Evidence Strategy, 2015; The National Plant Conservation Strategy, 2015; The National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework; The National Biodiversity Ecosystem Classification System; The National Biodiversity Information System	
Outcome 6.1: Relevant foundational datasets on species and ecosystems are in place and well-co-ordinated	

[6] South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). 2019. National Biodiversity Assessment 2018: The status of South Africa's ecosystems and biodiversity. Synthesis Report suggests potential indicators that should be monitored on a regular basis to inform the human capital development strategy and financial resource allocations for the environmental sector (Box 14).

Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *6.1.5. Maintain and formalise the National Ecosystem Classification System* ***(with relevance to Outcome 6.5)***	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
6.1.5. *Maintain and formalise the National Ecosystem Classification System* • Formalize, implement and maintain the **National Ecosystem Classification System**	SANBI, DFFE, SANParks, DHEST, NRF, CSIR, provincial conservation authorities, universities, NGOs, other participants in Ecosystem Classification Committees convened by SANBI
Outcome 6.2: The status of species and ecosystems is regularly monitored and assessed	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities *6.2.1. Develop and implement methods and approaches for assessing the status of ecological infrastructure* *6.2.2. Regularly map key pressures on biodiversity, including landcover change, pressures in the marine environment (fisheries, trawling, mining) and distribution of invasive species* *6.2.3. Monitor and report on the state of ecosystems and species, including the status and trends for priority harvested marine resources, impact of trade in wildlife and wild plants on biodiversity including change in TOPS- and CITES-listed species, invasive alien species and their impacts and the effectiveness of control measures, change in status of Red Listed species, impacts of GMOs on biodiversity assets and ecological infrastructure, and the impacts of climate change on species and ecosystems.* *6.2.4. Revise and update the National Biodiversity Assessment at least every seven years*	
Recommended acceleration measures	
Cross-cutting: • **Complete, adopt and apply (identify, develop and build further on large-scale, long-term monitoring datasets) the National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework** (under development, due for release in 2021); • **Complete and publish the NBA 2018** [7], and mainstream into policy and planning at provincial and local levels	• SAEON, SANBI, DFFE, CSIR, research institutions and centres of excellence, SANParks, Provincial conservation

[7] South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). 2019. National Biodiversity Assessment 2018: The status of South Africa's ecosystems and biodiversity. Synthesis Report, published October 2019 and available online: http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org/planning-and-assessment/national-biodiversity-assessment-nba-2018/

• Undertake foundational research that supports the sustainable development of the wildlife economy (such as research on ecological impacts of game farming and ranching) • Undertake foundational research that supports investment in ecological infrastructure (such as research on critical thresholds for the functioning of ecological infrastructure).	authorities and environment departments • SANParks, provincial conservation authorities SANBI, DFFE, SANParks, Provincial conservation authorities and environment departments • SANBI, DFFE, SANParks, DHEST, NRF, CSIR, provincial conservation authorities, universities, NGOs, other participants in Ecosystem Classification Committees convened by SANBI
Outcome 6.4: Management-relevant and policy-relevant research and analysis is undertaken through collaboration amongst scientists and practitioners	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *6.4.3 Engage with funding agencies and research community to align funding grants in support of priority projects.*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation
• Mobilise additional resources for the Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme	• DFFE, SANBI, DSI
Outcome 6.5: Knowledge base is accessible and is presented in a way that informs decision-making	
Relevant high priority NBSAP activities: *6.5.1. Develop infrastructure that facilitates serving various forms of information and tools in an appropriate format for decision-making to as broad a group of users as possible.*	
Recommended acceleration measures	Implementation

• Ensure adequate resourcing to facilitate ongoing **development and expansion of the National Biodiversity Information System**	• SANBI, DFFE, DHEST, data-providers in partner institutions

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3.3. National guidelines that support the implementation of the identified acceleration measures

In addition to the national strategies, frameworks and systems that guide the work of the biodiversity sector discussed in Section 3.1, various guidelines have also been developed to support and strengthen the conservation and management of biodiversity and to ensure sound practice within the biodiversity sector. These include guidelines, norms and standards, and other forms of guidance. ***Table 6*** presents an overview of 22 guidelines that support the implementation of the acceleration measures identified in this Framework. Only those guidelines that support the implementation of the acceleration measures identified in this Framework, and that are readily available, have been included in the list of 22 guidelines. Provincial, local or institution-specific guidelines, whilst important, have been excluded from the overview.

Table 6: Overview of national guidelines that support the implementation of the acceleration measures identified in the NBF.

1. Ecosystem Based Adaptation Guidelines	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2017	DFFE & SANBI	DFFE & SANBI	*2.2.1 Develop, fund and implement an implementation plan for ecosystem-based adaptation in the context of climate change adaptation and sustainable development* • **Establish and maintain co-ordination mechanisms for implementation of the EbA Strategy**, including the cross-sectoral Coordination Steering Committee (CCS) • Build an **active community of practice** for EbA • **Implement priority activities of the EbA Strategy** in line with resource availability *3.1.1. Develop new science-based tools to inform planning and decision making* • Develop **biome-specific Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans**
The Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) Guidelines provide clarity about the scope of EbA, the principles that define it, criteria for identifying appropriate EbA projects, safeguards to maximise the chances of successful outcomes and processes for user groups to develop or enhance interventions. The Guidelines are intended for use when undertaking adaptation planning nationally, when designing projects and research programmes, when assessing eligibility for EbA funding and when determining opportunities for convergence with existing government policies and programmes of work. The EbA Guidelines are intended to be used by four broad user groups				

i.e. project and programme planners and implementers; the private sector and government; researchers; policy-makers and funders of EbA projects and research.				
2. Mining and Biodiversity Guidelines	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2013	DFFE & DMRE	Chamber of Mines, South African Mining and Biodiversity Forum, and SANBI	3.6.3. Integrate biodiversity into sector policies and legislation • **Support implementation of the Mining and Biodiversity Guideline**
The guideline provides best practice guidance on how to integrate biodiversity priorities and considerations into mining projects, from exploration through to mine closure. It uses spatial information on biodiversity priority areas as a fundamental starting point, interpreting this information specifically for a mining audience to provide a detailed national map of four levels of risk for mining from a biodiversity perspective.				
3. Technical Guidelines for Critical Biodiversity Areas Maps: Guidelines for developing a map of Critical Biodiversity Areas & Ecological Support Areas using systematic biodiversity planning	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2017	SANBI	None	*2.1.2. Develop a systematic approach including methods, techniques and expertise for mapping and prioritising ecological infrastructure* • Develop and apply **ecological infrastructure maps** (including a focus on inland aquatic and coastal EI), as part of provincial spatial biodiversity planning and the National Biodiversity Assessment *3.1.1. Develop new science-based tools to inform planning and decision making* • Develop and apply **biodiversity planning tools**, including biodiversity sector plans, bioregional plans and biodiversity management plans (according to provincially determined priorities) *3.1.2. Maintain new and existing science-based policy tools* • **Review and update provincial biodiversity sector plans and published bioregional plans** in line with provincially determined plans and priorities, and mainstream into land-use planning and decision-making

				3.2.3. Integrate biodiversity priority areas into integrated coastal management plans and offshore plans • Ensure that appropriate biodiversity information is included in **marine spatial plans** developed in terms of the marine spatial planning framework *3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • **Support inclusion of biodiversity priority areas into planning instruments** developed in terms of the SPLUMA • Finalise and support implementation of the **standard requirements for biodiversity information as part of the environmental layer in SDFs** • **Integrate biodiversity priorities into land capability and agricultural zoning** through mainstreaming of systematic biodiversity plans • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental management and land-use planning *3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited* • **Use CBA Maps and accompanying land-use guidelines** to identify and inform decision-making about areas where development that results in loss of natural habitat should be avoided • **Capture ecological infrastructure features in provincial biodiversity plans/biodiversity sector plans/bioregional plans** • **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant

				institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors *3.6.3. Integrate biodiversity into sector policies and legislation* • Support **inclusion of biodiversity priority areas in agricultural policy, legislation and spatial tools**
This document provides guidelines for biodiversity planning practitioners in South Africa on how to develop and present a map of Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs), or "CBA Map", based on a systematic biodiversity plan. These guidelines set out the rationale for CBA Maps and provide minimum technical requirements as well as recommended good practice for developing these maps, based on the collective experience of the biodiversity planning community in South Africa over more than a decade. These guidelines are designed to be used by biodiversity planning practitioners in South Africa, including government officials who are tasked with developing provincial biodiversity plans, biodiversity sector plans or bioregional plans, and consultants who are appointed as service providers to assist in these processes.				
5. Guidelines regarding the determination of the Bioregions and the Preparation of and Publication the Bioregional Plans	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2009	DFFE	SANBI	*3.1.1. Develop new science-based tools to inform planning and decision making* • Develop and apply **biodiversity planning tools**, including biodiversity sector plans, bioregional plans and biodiversity management plans (according to provincially determined priorities) *3.1.2. Maintain new and existing science-based policy tools* • **Review and update provincial biodiversity sector plans and published bioregional plans** in line with provincially determined plans and priorities, and mainstream into land-use planning and decision-making *3.2.6. Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks,*

				integrated development plans and land-use schemes • **Support inclusion of biodiversity priority areas into planning instruments** developed in terms of the SPLUMA • Finalise and support implementation of the **standard requirements for biodiversity information as part of the environmental layer in SDF** *3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited* • **Capture ecological infrastructure features in provincial biodiversity plans/biodiversity sector plans/bioregional plans**
The purpose of this Guideline is to provide guidance on the manner in which bioregions should be proposed and bioregional plans drawn up for the Minister to support designation or publication. It sets out the process to be followed by those wishing to have an area determined as a bioregion or wishing to draw up and have published a bioregional plan. It is intended to be used by provincial conservation authorities and/or national or provincial environmental affairs departments; bioregional programmes or NGOs; and organs of state, NGOs, planning consultants, or members wishing to develop or facilitate the development and publication of bioregional plans or the designation of a bioregion.				
6. Making the case for Biodiversity: the biodiversity case study development toolkit	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2016	SANBI	SANBI	*4.1.1. & 4.12. Develop, fund a co-ordinated national biodiversity communication, education and awareness strategy, implementation plan and monitoring framework* • Develop, resource and implement a **co-ordinated national biodiversity communication, education and awareness strategy, implementation plan and monitoring framework** to co-ordinate communication work in the sector, building on the work done in the "Making the Case" project

				previously undertaken by DFFE and SANBI *4.1.3 Strengthen environmental literacy through citizen science programmes* • Strengthen the work of citizen science programmes by establishing a **national citizen science forum for information exchange, learning, strategic prioritization** • **Strengthen support to Biosphere Reserves, Marine Hope Spots and other landscape-initiatives** as vehicles for promoting awareness and behaviour-change and supporting citizen science programmes, especially through engagement of youth
The purpose of this toolkit is to equip researchers for the collection of compelling information and the formulation of evocative case studies. An overview of the factors that contribute to effective communication as well as a case study preparation framework and a case study collection worksheet are provided.				
7. Norms and Standards for Biodiversity Management Plans for Species (BMP-S)	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2009	DFFE	SANBI	*1.2.4. Maintain an effective scientific authority* • **Develop, implement and sustainably fund Biodiversity Management Plans** for CR and EN species that are being unsustainably harvested *3.1.1. Develop new science-based tools to inform planning and decision making* • Develop and apply **biodiversity planning tools**, including biodiversity sector plans, bioregional plans and biodiversity management plans (according to provincially determined priorities)
The purpose of these Norms and Standards is to provide a national approach and minimum standards for the development of biodiversity management plans for species and to set indicators to measure compliance with these norms and standards. The norms and standards sets and				

provides the scope of BMP-S; the process for developing BMP-S; standardised format of BMP-S; steps involved in approval of the BMP-S; and conditions for the implementation of BMP for species**.**				
8. Norms and Standards for Biodiversity Management Plans for Ecosystem	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2012	DFFE	SANBI	*3.1.1. Develop new science-based tools to inform planning and decision making* • Develop and apply **biodiversity planning tools**, including biodiversity sector plans, bioregional plans and biodiversity management plans (according to provincially determined priorities)
The published Norms and Standards for BMP-Es seeks to provide a consistent approach across the country in the way in which BMP-Es are developed, while being sufficiently flexible to accommodate the variability of ecosystems and their management requirements. These Norms and Standards provide guidance to the stakeholders desiring to contribute to biodiversity management through Biodiversity Management Plan for Ecosystem (BMP-E) on the set process for developing BMP-Es. It is, therefore, the intentions of these Norms and Standards to ensure that all the BMP-Es developed within the country are based on the best available science and that are understood and used by a wide range of people, organisations or organs of state desiring to contribute to biodiversity management.				
9. Draft Biodiversity Stewardship Guidelines	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2019	SANBI, DFFE & BirdLife SA	Cape Nature; Wilderness Foundation, Conservation Outcomes & WWF-SA	*1.1.3. Strengthen capacity for Biodiversity Stewardship Programmes* • **Implement the Biodiversity Stewardship Guidelines (2019),** develop and mainstream a **Biodiversity Stewardship Implementation Framework** • Develop and implement a **sustainable finance mechanism for provincial biodiversity stewardship programmes**. *1.4.1. Strengthen the Land Reform Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative including approval of guidelines, strategies and implementation plans developed through the DFFE-DRDLR-SANBI alliance* • Finalise, formalise and implement the national strategy for the Land Reform and Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative (LRBSI)

				• Resource and implement the Land Reform and Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative • Facilitate learning opportunities related to land reform and biodiversity stewardship with a focus on knowledge exchange and skills development for building a biodiversity economy
The revised guidelines provide a comprehensive approach to implementing biodiversity stewardship across the country. This guideline provides the community of practice with structured, best practice approach to the implementation of the stewardship approach. It includes the significant role of NGOs in implementing biodiversity stewardship, through their support to conservation agencies, private and communal land owners; a focus on land reform and biodiversity stewardship; as well as incentives and considerations to be taken into account when working with communal land owners. The intended audience for these Guidelines includes the biodiversity stewardship and protected area expansion staff; managers and planners in conservation agencies within national and provincial government, as well as in conservation NGOs; environmental assessment practitioners; municipal spatial planners and private sector property developers.				
10. Draft Guidelines for Integrating Biodiversity into Land Use (zoning) Schemes	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2019	SANBI	DFFE, The Presidency, SANBI, provincial environment departments and conservation authorities, other relevant government departments and public entities, EA consultants	*3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • **Support inclusion of biodiversity priority areas into planning instruments** developed in terms of the SPLUMA • Finalise and support implementation of the **standard requirements for biodiversity information as part of the environmental layer in SDFs** • **Integrate biodiversity priorities into land capability and agricultural zoning** through mainstreaming of systematic biodiversity plans • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental

				management and land-use planning *3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited* • **Use CBA Maps and accompanying land-use guidelines** to identify and inform decision-making about areas where development that results in loss of natural habitat should be avoided
The Guidelines aim to provide a step-by-step guide on how a municipality can incorporate biodiversity into their land use (zoning) scheme. These Guidelines will also provide details on how overlay zones can provide for the protection of priority biodiversity areas and provide some guidance on the types of restrictions the municipality can impose on that overlay zone. Once completed, the guidelines will ideally form an annexure to the National Land Use Scheme Guidelines which have been developed by the DRDLR.				
11. NFEPA Implementation Manual	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2011	CSIR, SANBI, WRC, DWA, DFFE, WWF, SAIAB & SANParks	CSIR, SANBI, WRC, DWA, DFFE, WWF, SAIAB & SANParks	*2.1.1. Support the implementation of Chapter 5 (water resource protection) of the National Water resource strategy* • **Secure Strategic Water Source Areas** (SWSAs) through a range of mechanisms, including formal protection, land-use planning and environmental authorisations • Accelerate implementation **of intensive wetland rehabilitation programmes**, to protect priority wetlands and stimulate job creation *2.1.2. Develop a systematic approach including methods, techniques and expertise for mapping and prioritising ecological infrastructure* • **Continue to invest in improving the National Wetland Inventory** as part of the National Ecosystem Classification System

				• Develop and apply **ecological infrastructure maps** (including a focus on inland aquatic and coastal EI), as part of provincial spatial biodiversity planning and the National Biodiversity Assessment *3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited* • Complete the process for **listing one or more of Strategic Water Source Areas** in terms of Section 24 (2)(a) of NEMA • **Capture ecological infrastructure features in provincial biodiversity plans/biodiversity sector plans/bioregional plans**
The purpose of this implementation manual is to provide guidance on how to use the FEPA maps in the water sector, the biodiversity sector and other key sectors whose planning and decision-making impacts on freshwater ecosystems. They indicate how many rivers and wetlands, and which ones, should remain in good condition (equivalent to an A or B ecological category as defined by DWA). It is aimed at those involved with, or contributing to, any planning or decision-making process that should take freshwater ecosystems into account. Intended users include water resource planners, land use planners, and those involved in conservation and rehabilitation.				
12. Minimum Environmental Requirements for Spatial Development Frameworks	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2019	DFFE, SANBI & DRDLR	DFFE, SANBI & DRDLR	*3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • **Support inclusion of biodiversity priority areas into planning instruments** developed in terms of the SPLUMA • Finalise and support implementation of the **standard requirements for biodiversity information as part of the environmental layer in SDFs** • **Integrate biodiversity priorities into land capability and agricultural**

				zoning through mainstreaming of systematic biodiversity plans
The document aims to provide guidance on how municipalities can integrate environmental requirements, including biodiversity into the SDF's. In addition, the document provides the information portal where municipalities can get the information and provides a step-by-step guide on how they can incorporate this information into their SDF. If a municipality develops its SDF in line with this document and the Provincial Environmental Affairs Department signs off on the SDF, that SDF can be adopted as an environmental management instrument and be used to delist activities from the NEMA Listing Notices.				
13. Guidelines for the Monitoring, Control and Eradication Plans for Listed Invasive Species by Management Authorities of Protected Areas and Organs of State	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2015	DFFE	DWS, SANPARKs, KZN Wildlife, Eastern Cape Parks Board, Cape Nature, SANBI, Provincial Departments, Municipalities, Isimangaliso, MTPA, North West Parks Tourism Board	*3.2.4 Develop and publish guidelines for invasive species monitoring, control and eradication plans* • Develop and implement **National Control Plans for listed species**, as per priorities determined by DWS • Develop **invasive species control plans for all national parks and buffer zones and prioritised provincial nature reserves** *2.1.3. Scale-up and improve integration efforts to restore degraded ecological infrastructure and maintain ecological infrastructure in good condition* • Develop and implement **strategic plans for maintenance and restoration of ecological infrastructure at a range of appropriate scales, including national, provincial and local** • **Integrate investment in ecological infrastructure into Catchment Management Strategies** • Establish a **National Alien and Invasive Species Co-ordination Forum**

				• **Identify, develop and build further on large-scale, long-term monitoring datasets**
The Guidelines have been developed particularly to provide guidance on the development of the "Control Plans" for the management of the Alien and Invasive Species published in terms of section 70 (1) of the Biodiversity Act. These Guidelines include a generalised Table of Contents of a Control Plan, as a template which the Protected Area Management Authorities and other organs of state in all spheres of government, including all municipalities may adopt while developing the "Control Plan". Of importance is that these Guidelines have been kept as simple and straight-forward as possible with minimal use of specialized terminology and acronyms. They are relevant regardless of the type of statutory body that is responsible for the land parcel, the size of the land parcel, the ecosystems it includes, and the type of Listed Invasive Species that are to be managed in the land parcel. The Guidelines are intended to be used by any landowner or manager.				
14. National Guideline Towards the Establishment of Coastal Management Lines	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2017	DFFE		*3.2.3 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into integrated coastal management plans and offshore plans* • Ensure that appropriate biodiversity information is included in **marine spatial plans** developed in terms of the marine spatial planning framework • Develop and apply **implementation plans and enforcement measures for the marine spatial planning framework** (as per Phakisa MPSG)
The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to Lead Agencies of Coastal Provinces on the establishment of Coastal Management Lines by the Members of Executive Council (MECs). These Guidelines are intended to serve as an advisory / guiding document for institutions involved in coastal management, when determining CMLs. The document unpacks Section 25 of the ICM Act; identifies additional legislation that needs to be considered; provides guidance on the process to follow for the establishment of CMLs; provides a broad overview of risk and its components; propose a potential process for the establishment of CMLs; identifies the broad research areas to be considered; provides additional considerations when delineating CMLs for estuaries; identifies relevant stakeholders; discuss available data that can be used in the process; and finally provides information regarding the inclusion of CMLs into planning tools. The Guidelines will be useful to the coastal managers, policy makers, planners, engineers, researchers, spatial information practitioners, developers and those involved in the decision -making process.				
15. Guidelines for the Development of Provincial,	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**

Regional and Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks and Precinct Plans	2014	DRDLR		*3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • **Support inclusion of biodiversity priority areas into planning instruments** developed in terms of the SPLUMA • Finalise and support implementation of the **standard requirements for biodiversity information as part of the environmental layer in SDFs** • **Integrate biodiversity priorities into land capability and agricultural zoning** through mainstreaming of systematic biodiversity plans • **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors
These Guidelines are intended to establish and clearly communicate the expectations of the SDF's role, resources, content, and use as per the requirements set out in the SPLUMA. The Guidelines serve to clarify the roles and responsibilities of government spheres in preparing SDFs at provincial, regional, municipal and local scales. These SFD Guidelines provide a framework for evaluating the effectiveness of SDFs as a spatial transformation instrument. The SDF guidelines are intended for the use by national, provincial and municipal officials responsible for the development of SDFs; public sector officials whose work has a spatial dimension; political office bearers responsible for the preparation, approval and implementation of SDFs; and community and business stakeholders who have an interest in or are affected by SDFs, such as civic associations and the property development industry.				
16. Draft Species Protocol Best Practice Guidelines	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2019	DFFE	SANBI & Provincial departments of environmental affairs	*3.2.1 Integrate biodiversity into tools being implemented to support environmental decision-making for SIPs* • Ensure that appropriate biodiversity information is included in **Strategic Environmental Assessments for SIPs**

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				• Ensure application of the **new EIA screening tool** by EAPS *3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited* • **Use CBA Maps and accompanying land-use guidelines** to identify and inform decision-making about areas where development that results in loss of natural habitat should be avoided
The DFFE has developed a web-based EIA Screening Tool to enable pre-screening of environmental sensitivities across the landscape before the applicant submits an EIA application. Protocols (inclusive of the Terrestrial Ecosystems, Aquatic Ecosystems, Plant and Animal Protocols) are associated with the sensitivity rating of the environmental features identified on the proposed site. Protocols provide a consistent framework for approaching specialist assessments in the EIA process by setting out minimum information requirements and on -site assessments required for the environmental assessment process. The purpose of the Species Protocol Best Practice Guidelines is to give comprehensive background to the framework provided in the protocol to guide specialist assessments in EIAs.				
17. Draft Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecosystems Protocol Best Practice Guidelines	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2019	DFFE	SANBI and Provincial departments of environmental affairs	*3.2.1 Integrate biodiversity into tools being implemented to support environmental decision-making for SIPs* • Ensure that appropriate biodiversity information is included in **Strategic Environmental Assessments for SIPs** • Ensure application of the **new EIA screening tool** by EAPS *3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental

				management and land-use planning • **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors *3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited* • **Use CBA Maps and accompanying land-use guidelines** to identify and inform decision-making about areas where development that results in loss of natural habitat should be avoided
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18. Mainstreaming Biodiversity: Key Principles from the Grassland Programme	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2013	SANBI	SANBI, GEF and UNDP	*3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • **Support inclusion of biodiversity priority areas into planning instruments** developed in terms of the SPLUMA) • Finalise and support implementation of the **standard requirements for biodiversity information as part of the environmental layer in SDFs**

				• **Integrate biodiversity priorities into land capability and agricultural zoning** through mainstreaming of systematic biodiversity plans • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental management and land-use planning • **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors *4.1.1. & 4.12. Develop, fund a co-ordinated national biodiversity communications, education and awareness strategy, implementation plan and monitoring framework* • Develop, resource and implement a **co-ordinated national biodiversity communications, education and awareness strategy, implementation plan and monitoring framework** to co-ordinate communication work in the sector, building on the work done in the "Making the Case" project previously undertaken by DFFE and SANBI
The document provides summary of the successes and lessons learned from implementing the Grasslands Biome Programme, an $8.3 million GEF investment. The focus of the Grasslands Programme has been chiefly on mainstreaming biodiversity in key production sectors, including mining, forestry and urban development, to reduce their footprint and prevent further loss of biodiversity priority areas in the grassland biome. Some of the successes highlighted in the document include notable achievements made in securing areas important for biodiversity conservation, influencing policies and regulations, strengthening institutional capacity, and catalysing pilot projects that demonstrate biodiversity gains across sectors. The constraints and				

opportunities for mainstreaming biodiversity into the production sectors are also explained in the document. Most importantly, the document identifies and summarises six key ingredients that emerged as common when biodiversity was successfully mainstreamed into production sectors.				
19. Fynbos Forum Ecosystem Guidelines for Environmental Assessment in the Western Cape	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2005	*SANBI*	Fynbos Forum	*3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental management and land-use planning
These ecosystem-specific guidelines have been prepared to assist all stakeholders in the Western Cape who are involved in land-use planning and environmental assessment to take biodiversity concerns into consideration. The Guidelines aim to answer key questions about biodiversity that should be asked by a planner, environmental assessment practitioner and/or landowner embarking on a plan, project or activity, whether urban, industrial, agricultural or recreational.				
20. Grassland Ecosystem Guidelines	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2013	SANBI	WWF	*3.2.6. Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • **Integrate biodiversity priorities into land capability and agricultural zoning** through mainstreaming of systematic biodiversity plans • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental management and land-use planning

				3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited • **Use CBA Maps and accompanying land-use guidelines** to identify and inform decision-making about areas where development that results in loss of natural habitat should be avoided • **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors
The Grassland Ecosystem Guidelines are a practical guide that provides a consistent benchmark and framework for addressing the biodiversity-related aspects of land-use planning, landscape management and environmental regulation in South Africa's grasslands. They address key questions about grassland biodiversity that should be asked when planning or embarking on an activity in grassland. These Guidelines are designed for use by a wide range of individuals and institutions whose activities take place in, or impact upon, grasslands including decision-makers in national, provincial or local government and other regulators of land-use; spatial planners; environmental assessment practitioners; property developers; all industry or sector role-players; and agriculture and conservation extension officers, and other specialist advisors.				
21. Draft Ecosystem Guidelines for the THICKET Biome	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2019	SANBI	DFFE	*3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental management and land-use planning • **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant

				institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors *3.3.3. Identify areas of high sensitivity where certain types of development are prohibited* • **Use CBA Maps and accompanying land-use guidelines** to identify and inform decision-making about areas where development that results in loss of natural habitat should be avoided
Ecosystem Guidelines provide practical guidance and a consistent framework for addressing the biodiversity-related aspects of land-use planning, landscape management and environmental regulation. They enable users to contextualize and interpret spatial biodiversity priorities, understand the key drivers of ecosystem functioning, understand what the acceptable limits of change are in particular ecosystems or landscapes, and interpret how those need to be managed and monitored to ensure that biodiversity and ecosystem processes are adequately safeguarded. To date the Ecosystem Guidelines have been developed for Fynbos and for the Grassland Biome, and new guidelines are planned for the Thicket Biomes.				
22. Draft Ecosystem Guidelines for the Savanna Biomes	**Date**	**Lead developer**	**Partners**	**Linkages of the Guidelines to recommended accelerated measures**
	2019	SANBI	DFFE	*3.2.6 Integrate biodiversity priority areas into spatial development frameworks, integrated development plans and land-use schemes* • Develop **ecosystem guidelines** for environmental assessment and land-use planners and decision makers, and mainstream their use in integrated environmental management and land-use planning • **Develop and implement relevant training programmes** to strengthen capacity in all relevant institutions for use of existing and new tools to integrate biodiversity into planning and decision making in multiple sectors

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Section 4: Mechanisms for Co-ordination, Cooperation and Implementation

The importance of working through strong, collaborative partnerships is a key principle underlying this NBF. Cross-institutional partnerships create a sense of common purpose, facilitate alignment and more strategic allocation of limited resources, and build cohesion at a larger scale. They also make it possible to leverage greater implementation capacity than is possible when institutions act in isolation.

4.1. National mechanisms for coordination in the sector

National mechanisms for co-ordinating the work of the biodiversity sector include government-led committees, working groups and task teams that facilitate strategy and policy coherence, and co-operation between key institutions responsible for biodiversity management and conservation. The work of these structures is complemented by numerous other structures and task teams that operate provincially, locally, or internally within specific institutions or multi-stakeholder programmes, to co-ordinate implementation and operational workplans. Some of the key **national-level structures** relevant to co-ordination of the work of the biodiversity sector are included in ***Table 7,*** below.

Key amongst these, in the context of the NBF, is **MinMEC**, **MinTech Working Group 1 (Biodiversity and Conservation)**, whose remit includes expansion of the conservation estate, mitigation of threats to biodiversity and ecosystems, ecosystem services, biodiversity legislation and regulation, and sustainable use of ecosystems. However, given the broad scope of the NBSAP, and the other strategies and frameworks that are in effect in the biodiversity sector, the deliberations of other working groups also have relevance, in particular WG 3 (Planning and Coordination), WG 4 (Compliance and Enforcement), WG 5 (Environmental Impact Management and Water Affairs), WG 6 (Environmental

Jobs), WG 7 (Education, Development and Information Management), WG 8 (Oceans and Coasts), and WG 10 (Climate Change).

Table 7: Key national coordination mechanisms operating in the biodiversity sector

Committee/Task Team	Role, participants, frequency of meetings
Minister and Members of Executive Councils (MinMEC) Committee	Committees to promote co-operative governance between national ministers and their counterparts (MECs) at provincial level. The Environmental MinMEC comprises the Minister of Environmental Affairs, the Director-General of DFFE, and the provincial MECs for Environmental Affairs. MinMEC committees meet quarterly.
Ministerial Technical Committee (MinTech)	Forums to facilitate coordination, policy and strategy coherence between national and provincial departments. The environmental MinTech comprises the DG of DFFE, representatives of public entities including SANBI and SANParks, and heads of provincial departments responsible for environmental management and biodiversity conservation. MinTech committees meet quarterly.
MinTech Working Groups	These working groups bring together senior officials in national and provincial government at quarterly meetings to discuss and advise on technical issues relating to Biodiversity and Conservation (WG1), Air Quality (WG2), Planning and Coordination (WG3), Compliance and Enforcement (WG4),Environmental Impact Management and Water (WG5), Environmental Sector Jobs (WG6), Education, Development and Information Management (WG7), Oceans and Coasts (WG 8), Waste and Chemical Management (WG 9), Climate Change (10), Environmental Policy and Law Reform (WG11), Communications (WG12). Ad hoc task teams are convened under these working groups to DFFE with specific issues, according to need.
Protected Area CEO's Forum	Convened by DFFE, with the DDG: Biodiversity and Conservation as chairperson, this Forum promotes co-operative governance between national and provincial government departments and agencies in relation to protected area management. It serves as an advisory body to Environment MINTECH and MINMEC. The broad remit of the Forum is to co-ordinate the development of protected areas in ways that promote synergies on operational and strategic issues, support effective protected area management, build capacity and promote transformation in the sector. The Forum is responsible for coordinating the implementation of protected area expansion strategies, implementing strategic decisions of relevant international and regional bodies and programmes, setting up monitoring programmes, and for sharing information, ideas and experiences on issues of common interest to protected area management authorities. Membership of the Forum includes the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and nominated representatives from Protected Area Management Authorities, and nominated delegates from DFFE, SANBI and provincial departments. The Forum may appoint sub-committees and task teams to address specific issues and may engage technical experts as needed. The Forum convenes twice yearly.

Committee/Task Team	Role, participants, frequency of meetings
Protected Areas Technical Task Team (PATTT)	This Task Team serves to ensure cooperation and implementation of MinMEC recommendations relating to legal and spatial issues affecting protected areas in the country (for example determination of protected area boundaries), and to ensure effective alignment of activities of all protected area management authorities in terms of the Protected Areas Act. Some of its specific functions are to: provide technical inputs to the development of relevant norms and standards and regulations, review the NPAES and the development and implementation of provincial counterparts, coordinate annual reporting to MinTech WG1 under Outcome 10, and share databases and information. The Task Team is convened at least twice a year by DFFE, and participants include SANParks, Isimangaliso Wetland Park Authority and representatives of provincial conservation authorities and Provincial government responsible for environmental affairs issues.
Biodiversity Stewardship Technical Working Group (BDS TWG)	This working group, which is convened twice a year by SANBI, addresses technical, legal, policy and operational challenges faced by biodiversity stewardship programmes that are operating in the provinces. The working group refers relevant issues to the Protected Areas Task Team for further consideration and action. Membership of the working group includes SANBI, DFFE, SANParks, provincial conservation authorities, relevant NGOs.
People and Parks Steering Committee	The People and Parks Steering Committee, which is convened by DFFE at least once a year, oversees the operations of the People and Parks Programme. It deals with issues relating to the settlement of land claims in protected areas; strengthening governance, participation, access and benefit sharing; and the development and implementation of an awareness-raising and capacity building strategy. Membership includes government and community representatives. A number of Regional Committees and Park Forums (convened by SANParks) meet quarterly, or at intervals specific to particular Parks, to engage communities and address issues that have bearing on the collective good of the Park and its adjacent communities
The South African Biosphere Reserve Committee	Chaired by the DDG: Biodiversity and Conservation within DFFE, this Committee operates in accordance with an approved terms of reference to oversee implementation of the Man and Biosphere Programme in South Africa. It oversees the implementation of the MAB Strategy and Implementation Plan, reviews effectiveness, and deals with strategic issues. It also promotes cooperation, coordination and communication between biosphere reserves. Meetings take place twice a year. Membership includes representatives from DFFE, biosphere management agencies and provincial forums, provincial conservation authorities, SALGA, CoGTA and a representative from the SA national commission to UNESCO. Operating in association with the Committee is a small Management Committee (to implement resolutions) and provincial MAB Forums, which are platforms for cooperation, networking, information exchange and lesson-sharing relevant to specific Biosphere Reserves.

Committee/Task Team	Role, participants, frequency of meetings
Interdepartmental Committee on Inland Water Ecosystems	This committee was formed in 2011 to share and effectively influence joint water resource management issues and decisions regarding inland water ecosystems, in a proactive manner. It is convened by DHSWS, with membership drawn from: DHSWS, DFFE, SANBI, SANParks, WRC and CMAs. It meets twice a year.
The Scientific Authority	The Scientific Authority has been established under section 60 of the Biodiversity Act, to assist with regulating and restricting trade in TOPS- and CITES-listed species. It is administered by SANBI. Membership includes representatives from DFFE, SANBI, provincial conservation authorities, SANParks and national zoological gardens. Meetings are held twice a year, with special meetings convened according to need. The Authority is active in all provinces, and participates in relevant international meetings (e.g. CITES). Its main functions are to monitor the legal and illegal trade in listed species; make recommendations to issuing authorities on applications for permits to undertake restricted activities with TOPS species; make and publish non-detriment findings on the impact of trade on the survival of species in the wild; assist with identifying species in trade and issue certificates in which the identification of a specimen is verified as being taxonomically accurate.
National Ecosystem Classification Committee	The National Ecosystems Classification Committee, which is chaired by SANBI, is a technical working committee that oversees the ongoing development of the National Ecosystem Classification System. It has subcommittees that deal with specific realms, including freshwater, estuarine, coastal and marine ecosystems. The work of these committees is to identify, map and describe a standardised set of ecosystem types that will serve as consistent units of reference in a wide range of assessment, planning, policy, decision-making and management processes in the biodiversity sector. Participants include relevant experts from SANBI, DFFE, DHSWS, DALRRD, SANParks, PCAs, CSIR, SAEON, WRC, SAIAB and universities.

4.2 National communities of practice for knowledge sharing

Communities of practice are vital mechanism for co-ordinating, enriching and advancing the work of the sector and ensuring a consistent approach in the operating environment. As such, they are directly relevant to supporting the purpose of the NBF. There are numerous communities of practice operating at different scales in the country; those included in ***Table 7***, below, are the key *national forums* of relevance under the six strategic objectives of the NBSAP.

Table 8: Communities of Practice that operate nationally to facilitate cooperation, lesson-sharing and knowledge exchange in the biodiversity sector

Name of CoP	Convenor(s)	Participants	Frequency of meetings
People and Parks Forum	SANParks/DFFE	SANParks, local communities, private sector role-players, provincial conservation authorities, local businesses and other stakeholders living adjacent to national parks	Every two years
Core business: The People and Parks Forum brings together all relevant role-players at a conference every two years to share experiences and best practices, exchange information, identify issues of common concern and propose solutions with regard to implementation of the People and Parks Programme. Issues of key concern include co-management arrangements and other aspects of landscape management, settlement of land claims, access and benefit-sharing, developing opportunities for strengthening the rural economy, youth conservation and the Kids in parks project, and other issues of mutual interest and concern. Aligned with NBSAP SO 1, Outcome 1.1, 1.3 and 1.4			
Marine Protected Areas Forum	DFFE; Oceans and Coasts	Government, MPA Management Agencies (SANParks, provincial conservation agencies, metros), Research Organizations (SAIAB, SAEON, ORI) and Academia, NGO's (WWF), Coastal Communities	Annual Forum, and training events
Core business: To foster collaboration and information sharing between MPA stakeholders in Southern Africa to enable implementation of an integrated, multi-stakeholder approach to MPA Governance in Southern Africa, and improve MPA management effectiveness and capacity development. The mission of the South African MPA Forum is to work with all the role players in the SA MPA sector to maintain and improve communication, management and training of staff in all our MPAs. The Forum, which is managed by a Secretariat which identifies priority projects that require implementation by the full-time MPA Coordinator. Aligned with NBSAP SO 1, Outcome 1.1			
The Wildlife Forum	DFFE	DFFE, DAFF, provincial conservation and environmental authorities, SAPS, representatives of the organized and wildlife hunting industry	Quarterly
Core business: The Wildlife Forum's purpose it to promote conservation through sustainable use of renewable wildlife resources; contribute to building a responsible, self-regulatory wildlife and hunting sector; promote sustainable growth in wildlife-related tourism, with equitable benefit sharing; and create enabling conditions for transformation of the sector. The Forum makes inputs to relevant law-making processes, alerts government to issues on which collaboration or improvement is required and facilitates collaboration and cooperation within the industry. The Forum appoints standing or *ad hoc* sub-committees or technical teams to DFFE with specific issues according to need. Aligned with NBSAP SO 1, Outcome 1.3 and 1.4			

Name of CoP	Convenor(s)	Participants	Frequency of meetings
BioPANZA (Bioproducts Advancement Network)	DFFE, and co-chaired by DHEST and DTIC	Government and industry role-players	Twice per year
BioPANZA has been established as a mechanism to promote applied research, local processing, innovation and product development in the bioprospecting/biotrade sector. The network brings together relevant government and industry role-players in partnerships to harness existing initiatives, address the innovation chasm and ensure access to bioproducts resources and equitable benefit-sharing. BioPANZA will work closely with the Bioprospecting Forum. Aligned with NBSAP SO1, Outcomes 1.3 and 1.4			
Bioprospecting Forum	DFFE	Industry, traditional knowledge holders, academia, NGOs and relevant government institutions	Twice per year
Core business: The Bioprospecting Forum (the formation of which was identified as a priority in the National Biodiversity Economy Strategy), is a platform that promotes coordination and facilitates formal communication and information exchange between sector role-players on matters and challenges facing the bioprospecting/ biotrade industry. Forum membership is by invitation from the Secretariat (DFFE), but other individuals/institutions may be invited to make presentations at Forum meetings, upon request from the members. The Forum has two objectives: (i) implementation of the bioprospecting/biotrade aspects of the National Biodiversity Economy Strategy; and (ii) the implementation of the Biodiversity Economy Indaba Action Plan (this is an Action Plan arising from the Biodiversity Economy Indaba, which is convened annually). A number of Working Groups also operate under the aegis of the Forum, to tackle specific issues and propose possible solutions, in relation to Discovery, Bioprospecting Best Practices in the Natural Products Sector; Permitting; and Traditional Knowledge and Benefit-Sharing. Working Groups are convened on a needs-driven basis, and participation is open to all relevant, interested parties. Aligned with NSAP SO 1, Outcomes 1.3 and 1.4			
The Adaptation Network	Environmental Monitoring Group	Government, public and private entities, civil society groups, academics, businesses	variable
Core business: Founded in 2009, the Adaptation Network is a creative platform for sharing experiences, learning opportunities and practical approaches and frameworks relating to climate change adaptation. Its operation is governed by a Steering Committee which is elected at annual general meetings. Aligned with NBSAP SO 2, Outcome 2.2			
Freshwater Ecosystem Network	SANBI	Representatives from government, national and provincial agencies, NGOs and the private sector.	Annual

Name of CoP	Convenor(s)	Participants	Frequency of meetings
Core business: The Freshwater Ecosystem Network (FEN) was established in 2013 and is a community of practice related to freshwater ecosystems. The idea for the network emerged from a consultation process involving key role-players in the freshwater ecosystem sector. The forum serves to stimulate and support collaborative efforts and networks and is a platform for joint learning, coordination and networking around freshwater ecosystems. Aligned with NBSAP SOs 2 and 3			
The National Biodiversity and Business Network (NBBN)	EWT (in partnership with DFFE)	Founding partners, supporting partners and members draw from the business community and NGO networks	Annual Biodiversity and Business Indaba, and other meetings as relevant
Core business: The aim of the Network is to assist businesses from various sectors to integrate and mainstream biodiversity issues into their strategies and operations. It is designed to be an open and inclusive association of likeminded organisations that have recognised the need to raise awareness of, and stimulate conversation about, biodiversity issues amongst the business community. The primary role of the Network is to bring national stakeholders in business and biodiversity together to share ideas and engage in dialogue, with the following objectives: provide a national platform to facilitate strategic discussions about biodiversity and business; create national momentum about mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into businesses; facilitate the development of a national agenda in terms of biodiversity and business; facilitate cohesion and integration in the discussion and agenda about biodiversity and business; and, facilitate focused, pragmatic and useful interventions to support businesses in the mainstreaming process. The EWT is spearheading the activities of the NBBN in alignment with the model of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity and in collaboration with the founding and supporting partners, as well as the other members of the Network. Aligned with NBSAP SOs 1 (especially Outcome 1.3), 2 and 3			
Biodiversity Planning Forum	SANBI	Biodiversity planners in government, NGOs and private sector; scientists; land-use managers and conservationists; students	Annual conference
***Core business**:* The Biodiversity Planning Forum was established in 2004. It provides an opportunity for individuals, agencies and departments involved in spatial biodiversity planning to share and synthesise valuable lessons from biodiversity planning projects across South Africa. The Forum is intended primarily for those involved in producing or using biodiversity planning products. Although the core focus of the Forum is on systematic biodiversity planning a key theme is planning for implementation. The Forum attracts practitioners, scientists and managers from a range of institutions and organisations including national, provincial and local government, conservation NGOs, universities and research institutes and independent biodiversity planning consultants. The Forum encourages students and interns to attend and offers funding, when possible, to support student involvement. Each year the Forum identifies key issues that are presented, discussed and debated in plenary and parallel sessions.			

Name of CoP	Convenor(s)	Participants	Frequency of meetings
Aligned with NBSAP SOs 1,2,3 and 6			
Provincial and Metro Biodiversity Planning Working Group	SANBI	Biodiversity planners from government departments, provincial environment departments and conservation authorities, local governments, private consultancies and NGOs, individual experts	Workshop approximately annually, more frequently if required.
Core business: The Working Group convenes approximately annually to discuss and resolve technical and process issues related to biodiversity planning and to ensure sufficient consistency across provinces and metros to maintain the usefulness and integrity of biodiversity plans. Its work draws from and feeds into the Biodiversity Planning Forum. Aligned with NBSAP SOs 3 and 6			
SA Mining and Biodiversity Forum	Minerals Council South Africa	Mining industry role-players, conservationists, government departments	¾ times per year
Core business: The Mining and Biodiversity Forum was established in 2005 to enhance biodiversity management in the mining industry. The Forum brings together all key role-players with the aim of facilitating cross-sectoral interaction and cooperation to improve biodiversity management and conservation, management and performance of the mining sector. The Forum was a key partner in the development of the Mining and Biodiversity Guidelines published in 2015. Aligned to NBSAP SO 3, especially Outcome 3.5			
National Environmental Skills Planning Forum (NESPF)	DFFE	Relevant government departments and other public entities, NGOs, institutes and universities	Quarterly
Core business: The Forum brings together role-players that are actively engaged in catalysing and supporting nationally relevant skills development planning interventions. The Forum has 3 goals, which are to: raise and deliberate on matters that need to be addressed at national level; initiate action to ensure that resources are allocated to address these issues; and respond to the absence of a dedicated SETA and skills-focussed professional boy in the environmental sector and advise on implementation of the Environmental Sector Skills Plan. Aligned with NBSAP SO 5 (cross- cutting)			
National Biodiversity Evidence and Research Indaba	DFFE	Government departments (national, provincial, local), SANBI, CSIR, NRF, universities and research institutions, NGOs, business partners	Annual

Name of CoP	Convenor(s)	Participants	Frequency of meetings
The Indaba provides an annual opportunity to report on progress and share knowledge and experiences related to research and evidence needs and priorities identified in the National Biodiversity Research and Evidence Strategy. Aligned with NBSAP SO 6			
Biodiversity Information Management Forum	SANBI	Biodiversity information managers form local, provincial and national government departments, universities, research institutions, museums, conservation bodies and NGOs	Annual
Core business: The Biodiversity Information Management Forum (BIMF) is the only national platform dedicated to discussing biodiversity information management issues. The BIMF brings together key role-players in biodiversity information management to ensure initiatives are aligned, co-ordinated and relevant in a rapidly changing world. The BIMF offers opportunities for strategic thinking, innovation, knowledge sharing, training and networking. It is primarily aimed at people who are involved in mobilising, managing, serving and using biodiversity information. While the primary focus is on South African issues, the forum has been enriched by delegations from African and other countries that have shared their knowledge and expertise and brought an international perspective. Aligned with NBSAP SO 6			
Management, Research and Planning Forum (MAREP)	SANBI	Researchers, planners, managers and practitioners involved in natural resource management	Several times a year
Core business: The MAREP brings together researchers, managers and other practitioners involved in natural resource management, including in DFFE's Environmental Programmes. MAREP meetings are held at both national and regional levels, and DFFE with a range of strategic thematic areas relevant to natural resource management, providing a platform for strengthening the links between research and practice. Aligned with NBSAP SO 2			
Biodiversity Economy Indaba	DFFE	Government departments (national, provincial, local), Funders, Universities and research institutions, NGOs, business partners, civil society.	Bi-annual
Core business: Biodiversity Economy Indaba is a biennial platform that aims at bringing together various stakeholders from bioprospecting and wildlife sectors to discuss challenges facing these sectors and trying to find solutions. Aligned with NBSAP SO 1			
National Natural Capital Accounting Forum	SANBI and Stats SA	DFFE, DPME, DRDLR, DWS, and National Treasury, SANBI, Stats SA and NGOs.	Annual

Name of CoP	Convenor(s)	Participants	Frequency of meetings
Core business: It aims to explore how natural capital accounting can support South Africa's progress towards a green economy, including its linkages to South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) and the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The National Forum is an important step for natural capital accounting in South Africa and a model for creating a productive dialogue on this important topic. Aligned with NBSAP SO 3			
National Indaba on Ecological Infrastructure	SANBI and Water Research Commission	Government departments (national, provincial, local), SANBI, WRC, DBSA, CSIR, Universities and research institutions, NGOs, business partners, civil society.	Annual
Core business: The event is a platform for showcasing the alignment of the concept and practice of investing in ecological infrastructure for water security across sectors. It has had a strong focus on ecological infrastructure for water security to date, but could be expanded to include a broader focus, for example on ecological infrastructure for food security, in future. Aligned with NBSAP SO 2			

Strengthening and expanding communities of practice

Strengthening opportunities for lesson-sharing and knowledge exchange is identified as a priority activity in most of the strategies reviewed in the NBF. Some areas of work currently do not have established communities of practice at national scale, and these should be prioritised. Amongst these is biodiversity stewardship (see below). It is further recommended that priority be given to identifying and addressing other gaps in the community-of-practice network, with special attention to ensuring greater social inclusiveness.

Building a national community of practice for Biodiversity Stewardship

Biodiversity stewardship has become firmly established as a cost-effective and socially-inclusive way of bringing land of high biodiversity value under protection or improved biodiversity management, with benefits for stimulating rural economies (SANBI, 2017b). The NPAES 2018 reveals that biodiversity stewardship agreements account for 67 percent of the land that has been added to the protected area estate over the last 10 years, and that biodiversity stewardship is likely to be the dominant mechanism for achieving further expansion and consolidation of protected areas into the future.

It is a direct recommendation of the Business Case for Biodiversity Stewardship (SANBI, 2017b) that the community of practice for biodiversity stewardship should be strengthened and expanded. Currently, the National Biodiversity Stewardship Technical Working Group plays a role in creating a community of practice to support sharing of experience and lessons, and biodiversity stewardship working groups operate in some provinces, such as the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. Two successful national biodiversity stewardship conferences were convened by SANBI and partners in 2017 and 2018 as well as a National Land Reform and Biodiversity Stewardship learning exchange in 2020. Great strides have been made to establish a national community of practice.

However, more work is needed to formalise, national-level community of practice for biodiversity stewardship to promote co-learning, and sharing of legal, training and knowledge resources.

Following the recommendations made in the Business Case, it is ***recommended*** that priority should be given to supporting the further development of a fully-fledged national community of practice for biodiversity stewardship that meets annually (in a manner similar to the Biodiversity Planning Forum).

4.3 Mechanisms for co-ordination at sub-national level

There are many forums, communities of practice and other partnerships and networks operating at sub-national level in the biodiversity sector. The NBF identifies two main areas of opportunity for enhancing co-ordination at regional and sub-regional scale, to achieve greater site-level impact. These are: linking the NBSAP to action plans at provincial and local level; and strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships.

4.3.1 Linking the NBSAP to action plans at provincial and local level

Provinces and municipalities may choose to develop Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (PBSAPs and LBSAPs). The NBSAP and its sub-national counterparts should be well-aligned and mutually strengthening. Provincial and local biodiversity strategies and action plans (PBSAPs and LBSAPs) provide an opportunity to select from and adapt national-level objectives, outcomes and priorities to the provincial or local context, to achieve impact on the ground. In the South African context, it is also important that PBSAPs and LBSAPs be informed by and well-aligned with the other national strategies and frameworks that guide work in the sector.

The information presented in the NBF contributes to achieving this alignment. Furthermore, the NBF recommends a nominal list of acceleration measures that can be used as a starting point to inform the identification of priorities and targets at provincial and local level. Indicators identified in the National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework may also be useful informants of PBSAPs and LBSAPs.

4.3.2. Strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships

Over the past decade, the biodiversity sector has demonstrated the effectiveness of working through multi-stakeholder (and often cross-sectoral) partnerships that operate at different scales to address biodiversity conservation and social development challenges in an integrated way. These partnerships are a powerful mechanism for co-ordination of the work of the biodiversity sector at sub-national level, across government, private sector and NGO lines and provide excellent opportunities for addressing multiple NBSAP priorities simultaneously. Multi-stakeholder partnership programmes can be determined spatially (landscape-scale initiatives) or thematically (large-scale projects dealing with particular aspects of biodiversity conservation or management), or a combination of these criteria.

Landscape initiatives

Multi-partner, landscape-level initiatives operate in biodiversity priority areas that include a mosaic of land uses and include interventions that operate at a variety of spatial scales. They provide opportunities for broadening stakeholder participation to be more socially inclusive, and to cross sectoral boundaries. They also enable local partnerships and communities of practice to emerge and

flourish, and many examples of these exist. Landscape initiatives include corridor programmes (such as the Barberton Tourism and Biodiversity Corridor, BATOBIC), Biosphere Reserves, Marine Hope Spots, and others such as the Umngeni Ecological Infrastructure Partnership and a large number of other projects, many led from within the NGO sector.

Biosphere Reserves are model landscapes for testing the landscape approach to biodiversity conservation and management and achieving multiple outcomes of the NBSAP and related strategies (such as the People and Parks Strategy of SANParks). They provide practical mechanisms for integrating protected areas into broader landscapes, reconciling the potentially conflicting interests of diverse stakeholders, and testing and demonstrating diverse approaches such as strengthening biodiversity stewardship, supporting development of Biodiversity Economy Nodes, raising community awareness, and involving people in improved landscape management, with equitable sharing of benefits. Biosphere Reserves hold great potential for leveraging additional capacity for implementation as they operate through collaborative partnerships, often involving a large cohort of volunteers drawn from business, citizen science groups, and the public at large. They hold the additional benefit of being linked to a well-established international programme with clear governance and reporting mechanisms and have access to a large pool of expertise and best practices that can be adapted for the local context. Although funding is a challenge for local biosphere reserves, being part of the UNESCO MAB programme does facilitate access to a diversity of potential funding avenues, which otherwise would not be available.

It is recommended that support to Biosphere Reserves can be enhanced by:

(i) Conducting a thematic learning review of the benefits of biosphere reserves and capturing these in appropriate knowledge products to raise the profile of biosphere reserves within government, and the public.

(ii) Providing support to facilitate more opportunities for lesson-sharing and information exchange between biosphere reserves (involving stakeholders on the ground, as opposed to high-level interactions), including, but not limited to, the possibility of establishing a local chapter of the MAB Youth Forum.

UNDP-supported, GEF-financed and Green Climate Fund supported multi-partner projects

The implementation of a number of GCF supported, GEF-financed, and UNDP supported projects is currently underway in South Africa. These include projects dealing with Biodiversity and Land Use (aligned with NBSAP SO 3), Protected Area Management Effectiveness (NBSAP SO 1), Nagoya Protocol Access & Benefit Sharing (NBSAP SO1) , Sustainable Land Management (NBSAP SO2), the Orange River Senqu Basin (regional, with a South African Secretariat; NBSAP SO2), Operation Phakisa marine governance and protection projects (NBSAP SO 1), Biodiversity and Illegal Wildlife Trade (NBSAP SO 1 & 3), Ecological Infrastructure for Water Security (NBSAP SO 2) towards enhancing adaptation to climate change exacerbated water security. The Ecological Infrastructure for Water Security Project also involves work on Natural Capital Accounting (NCA). These are large, five-year interventions with dedicated resources and governance and implementation capacity, involving multiple stakeholders with a high level of institutional commitment. Support for these initiatives should continue to be prioritised as an effective means of addressing multiple objectives and high priority activities identified

in the NBSAP and NBF, through coordinated activity of multiple role-players operating across the broader landscape/seascape.

4.4 Strengthening biodiversity monitoring and reporting

The biodiversity sector in South Africa is well-established, institutionally complex and extremely active. Currently, the conservation outcomes of this activity are not monitored in a consistent way across institutions, or areas of work. Although many institutions have systems for monitoring in place, different sets of indicators are used to monitor the implementation of different strategies in different parts of the sector (though some of the objectives are common), and in different reporting systems (for example, internal reporting such as State of the Environment reporting, and accounting to international bodies such as the Convention on Biological Diversity). This makes it difficult to obtain a clear picture of the impact that the work of the sector is having in terms of conservation outcomes on the ground (i.e. the state of biodiversity), which, in turn influences work-planning, prioritisation and allocation of resources.

The National Biodiversity Assessment provides a five to seven-yearly assessment of the status of ecosystems and species using high-level headline indicators, but these cannot be used for all monitoring and reporting requirements. The **National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework** is being developed to address this. It identifies an operational set of trackable indicators that can be applied consistently across institutions and reporting processes, to reflect status and trends with respect to biodiversity conservation and management outcomes, on a regular basis. The indicator framework will be updated frequently in response to reporting requirements.

It is recommended that the National Biodiversity Monitoring Framework be adopted and implemented within DFFE, national and provincial conservation bodies, and local governments, as a matter of priority, as it will contribute in significant measure to strengthening coordination with respect to biodiversity monitoring, thus improving the effectiveness with which the sector operates.

4.5 Regional priorities and mechanisms for co-ordination

A number of the issues affecting biodiversity conservation and management in South Africa transcend the national boundaries. This means that it is important to identify regional priorities and mechanisms to promote coordinated action on issues of common interest or concern and build synergy and facilitate lesson-sharing within the Southern African region. South Africa is an active member of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Union (AU), is a strong supporter of NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development), and an active participant in numerous regional, biodiversity-related initiatives led by international organizations such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). These provide multiple opportunities for addressing regional issues that influence South Africa's ability to address transboundary threats and risks to biodiversity, maintain the integrity of ecosystems at landscape scale, fulfil the vision of its NBSAP, and contribute meaningfully to ensuring that natural resources continue to provide the basis for socio-economic development in the broader southern African region.

Priorities for regional cooperation are to:

(a) Strengthen transboundary management of water resources

(b) Collaborate in combatting illegal wildlife trafficking
(c) Strengthen development of integrated management and tourism plans for trans frontier conservation areas and transboundary World Heritage Sites, with benefits for developing rural economies
(d) Improve collaboration and monitoring at border points to reduce biological invasions
(e) Develop, implement and strengthen programmes to promote international collaboration, sharing of information, technology transfer, and biodiversity training
(f) Collaborate on the adoption of ecosystem-based approaches to strengthen ecological and social resilience to climate change.

To this effect, the following priorities for Africa over the next ten years has been adopted:

(a) Ecosystem restoration;
(b) Climate change and biodiversity;
(c) Coastal and marine biodiversity and the blue economy;
(d) Mainstreaming biodiversity into relevant sectors;
(e) Invasive alien species;
(f) Natural capital accounting;
(g) Access and benefit-sharing and traditional knowledge;
(h) Biosafety;
(i) Strategic environmental assessment (Article 14 of the Convention on Biological Diversity); and
(j) Poaching and illegal wildlife trade.

Relevant strategies/mechanisms for promoting regional cooperation and coordination include:

(a) The SADC Regional Biodiversity Strategy (developed in 2002, and still in effect)
(b) The AU Guidelines for Co-ordinated implementation of the Nagoya Protocol
(c) The AU Convention on Natural Resource Conservation
(d) NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency investment programmes, and the NEPAD Strategic Framework (2016 – 2020)
(e) The Nairobi Workplan on Ecosystem-based Adaption (2015)
(f) The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
(g) The Peace Parks Foundation Advisory Committee
(h) The Leadership for Conservation in Africa Initiative (co-led by IUCN, DFFE and SANParks)
(i) The UNP-supported, GEF-financed Senqu Basin project

4.6 Mobilising finance for the biodiversity sector

Limited financial resources (for example, for funding biodiversity stewardship programmes or protected area management) is one of the ongoing challenges compromising the ability of institutions in the biodiversity sector to fulfil their mandates (NBSAP, 2015). Additional resources can be mobilised by: (i) increasing allocations from existing sources (the national fiscus and non-state resources); (ii) improving the effectiveness with which existing funds are used (through more strategic allocations and reducing costs); and (iii) mobilising resources from new sources (DEA, 2017b: the BIOFIN Plan).

The BIOFIN Biodiversity Finance Plan for South Africa (DEA, 2017b, hereafter referred to as 'the Plan'), has been developed to identify and support the implementation of innovative **biodiversity finance**

solutions that augment existing sources of funding from government, the private sector and other sources. The Plan has been developed under the auspices of the UNDP-led Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), being implemented in South Africa through DFFE with collaboration of National Treasury. A systematic process and detailed analyses were used to identify and prioritise **15 finance solutions,** each of which has significant impact on aligning incentives, increasing financing, and improving cost effectiveness and service delivery. Collectively – and in combination with strong commitment and financing by the public sector, and technical and financial support of the private sector, foundations, donors, and NGOs – these finance solutions will serve as effective accelerators for strengthening biodiversity management, creating jobs and supporting the achievement of South Africa's development agenda as set out in the National Development Plan, and the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Implementation of the Plan will require a coordinated effort and technical capacity from key institutions including the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, (DFFE), national and provincial conservation authorities, National Treasury, the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), a broad range of Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), other government agencies and civil society groups. Monitoring of the Plan will be coordinated by DFFE using existing collaborative or new frameworks (DEA, 2017).

In addition, financing of the biodiversity sector priorities should involve a high-level analysis of budget allocations of different departments responsible for biodiversity conservation and management, identify opportunities for synergies and rationalization, and investigate new models for resourcing implementation.

The COP: CBD post 2020 GBF process has unlocked guidance on good practice approaches to resource mobilisation that can usefully be incorporated into the fast expanding work on resource mobilisation that is unfolding across the sector. The new Global Biodiversity Framework is currently under development, and for the first time, this framework is unlocking the means of implementation as a priority and standalone goal. The draft GBF timeframe of 2020-2030, coincides with the UN- Decade on ecosystem restoration and has a strong emphasis on resource mobilization. The identification of key priority areas for action on restoration such as the reduction of damaging incentives, spending existing funds more effectively, and unlocking new funding flows, should inform national priorities. In addition, as we further refine our approach to resource mobilisation in South Africa, we recognise that the responsibility for funding the safeguarding and maintenance of the natural capital that underpins South Africa's development agenda must be seen as a shared responsibility across a range of sectors, thus positioning mainstreaming as a crucial part of biodiversity finance as we engage with a wide range of partners'.

The case for investing in ecological infrastructure maintenance and rehabilitation: There is a mounting body of evidence demonstrating that investing in ecological infrastructure (and specifically the management of invasive alien plants - IAPs - in strategic catchments above major dams) represents a highly cost-effective means of enhancing water security, ensuring demands are met through increased supply. The contribution that the maintenance and rehabilitation of ecological infrastructure offers to disaster risk reduction -both in terms of the costs incurred to the fiscus in times of draught, and the role ecological infrastructure plays in safeguarding and extending the lifespan of built infrastructure - is significant and can be seen as a cost saving measure as opposed to a cost to the fiscus. We can be

guided by our Critical Biodiversity Area maps and delineated SWSAs in prioritizing many of the areas critical for maintaining good ecological functioning.

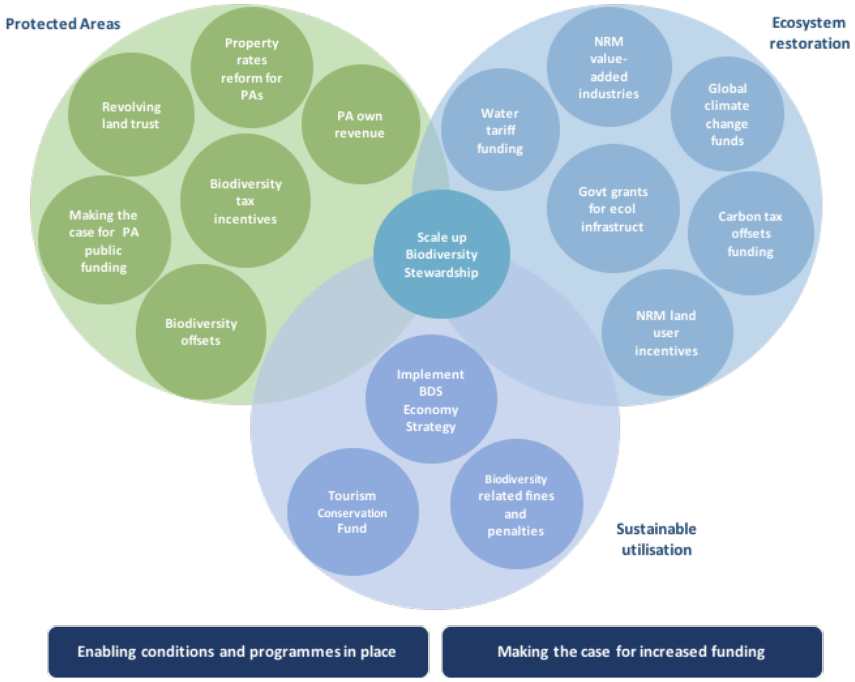

Figure 3: The 16 biodiversity finance solutions proposed in the BIOFIN Finance Plan for South Africa *(from DEA, 2017b)*

4.7 Implementation and monitoring of the NBF

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment carries overall responsibility for overseeing implementation and monitoring of the NBF, but catalysing the actions listed in the NBF is the joint responsibility all role-players in the sector. As the NBF is a framework for co-ordination, and not an action plan, its implementation does not have to be monitored in the same way as the NBSAP.

Section 5: Annexures

5.1. List of strategies and frameworks reviewed in the NBF
5.2. List of guidelines that support the implementation of the acceleration measures
5.3. References
5.4. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
5.5. The 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs)
5.6. Acronyms and abbreviations

Annexure 5.1: List of strategies, frameworks and systems included in the overview presented in the National Biodiversity Framework

The strategies are listed in the sequence in which they appear in Table 4. Where they are commonly referred to in abbreviated form, the abbreviation appears at the start of the reference, followed by full citation details, where these apply. Active weblinks are provided to enable easy access by users.

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Annexure 5.2: General References

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Annexure 5.3: The Sustainable Development Goals (or Global Goals)

SDG	Description
1	End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10	Reduce inequality in and among countries
11	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12	Ensure sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns
13	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

For a full description of the goals, their targets and indicators, visit:
http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

Annexure 5. 4: The Aichi Biodiversity Targets

CBD Strategic Goal	Target	Description
A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	**1**	Awareness of biodiversity increased
	2	Biodiversity values integrated
	3	Incentives reformed
	4	Sustainable consumption and production
B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	**5**	Habitat loss halved or reduced
	6	Sustainable management of aquatic resources
	7	Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry
	8	Pollution reduced
	9	Invasive alien species prevented and controlled
	10	Ecosystems vulnerable to climate change
C: Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity	**11**	Protected areas
	12	Reducing the risk of extinction
	13	Safeguarding genetic diversity
D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	**14**	Ecosystem services
	15	Ecosystem restoration and resilience
	16	Access to sharing benefits form genetic resources
E: Enhance implementation through participatory panning, knowledge management and capacity building	**17**	Biodiversity strategies and action plans
	18	Traditional knowledge
	19	Sharing information and knowledge

The Aichi Targets

For full descriptions of the goals, their targets and indicators, visit: www.cbd.int

Annexure 5.5: Acronyms and Abbreviations

ABT	Aichi Biodiversity Target
ACT	African Conservation Trust
ARC	Agricultural Research Council
AU	African Union
BDS TWG	Biodiversity Stewardship Technical Working Group
BHCDS	Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy
BioPANZA	Bioproducts Advancement Network of South Africa
BotSoc	The Botanical Society of South Africa
CATHSSETA	Culture, Arts, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport Sector Education Training Authority
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBNRM	Community-based Natural Resource Management
CBO	Community-based Organisation
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CMA	Catchment Management Agency
CoGTA	Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
CPA	Community Property Association
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DSAC	Department of Sports, Arts and Culture
DALRRD	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
DARDLEA	Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, and Environmental Affairs
DBSA	The Development Bank of Southern Africa
DFFE	The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
DEA&DP	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (Western Cape)

DEDEAT	Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (Eastern Cape)
DEDTEA	Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environment Affairs (KwaZulu-Natal)
DENC	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (Northern Cape)
DHEST	The Department of Higher Education, Science and Technology
DIRCO	The Department of International Relations and Cooperation
DMRE	The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DPME	The Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
DoDMV	The Department of Defence and Military Veterans
DoH	The Department of Health
DOJ&CD	The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development
DoT	The Department of Transport
DALRRD	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
dtic	Department of Trade Industry and Competition
DHSWS	Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
EA(P)	Environmental Assessment (Practitioner)
EbA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
ECPTA	Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Authority
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EKZNW	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
EMI	Environmental Monitoring Inspectorate/Inspector
ENRM	Environmental and Natural Resource Management
EPWP	Expanded Public Works Programme
EWT	Endangered Wildlife Trust
FEPA	Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area
GDARD	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GSPC	Global Species Conservation Programme
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IPBES	Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
LBSAP	Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
LEDET	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
LRBSI	Land Reform and Biodiversity Stewardship Initiative
LTPB	Limpopo Tourism and Parks Board
MAB	Man and Biosphere (Programme)
MEC	Member of the Executive Council
MinMEC	Minister and Members of the Executive Councils Committee
MinTECH	Ministerial Technical Committee
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
NAP	National Action Plan
NBA	National Biodiversity Assessment
NBBN	National Business and Biodiversity Network
NBES	National Biodiversity Economy Strategy
NBF	National Biodiversity Framework
NBG	National Botanical Garden

NBIS	National Biodiversity Information System
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NDP	National Development Plan
NECS	National Ecosystems Classification System
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NESPF	National Environmental Skills Planning Forum
NICC	National Implementation Coordinating Committee
NISCWT	National Integrated Strategy for Combatting Wildlife Trafficking
NIE	National Implementing Entity (of the Adaptation Fund)
NPAES	National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy
NPCS	National Plant Conservation Strategy
NPO	Non-profit Organization
NRF	National Research Foundation
NSBA	National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment
NSSD	National Strategy for Sustainable Development
NW READ	North West Department of Rural, Environmental and Agricultural Development
NWPB	North West Parks Board
NWRS	National Water Resource Strategy
PATTT	Protected Areas Technical Task Team
PBSAP	Provincial Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
PCA	Provincial conservation authority
PPF	Peace Parks Foundation
RDI	Research, Development and Innovation
RBG	Royal Botanic Garden
SADC	South African Development Community
SAEON	South African Environmental Observation Network
SAHRC	South African Human Rights Commission
SAIAB	South African Institute for Aquatic Biology
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
SANDF	South African National Defence Force
SANParks	South African National Parks
SAPS	South African Police Service
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEEA	System of Environmental-Economic Accounting
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal (or Global Goal)
SIPS	Strategic Infrastructure Projects
SO	Strategic objective
SPLUMA	Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013)
SSA	State Security Agency
TOPS	Threatened or Protected Species
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Department
WESSA	Wildlife and Environment Society of Southern Africa
WfW	Working for Water
WftC	Working for the Coast
WfWet	Working for Wetlands
WHS	World Heritage Site
WonEco	Working on Ecosystems
WRC	Water Research Commission
WWF-SA	World Wide Fund for Nature South Africa