

SANBI

Biodiversity for Life

South African National Biodiversity Institute

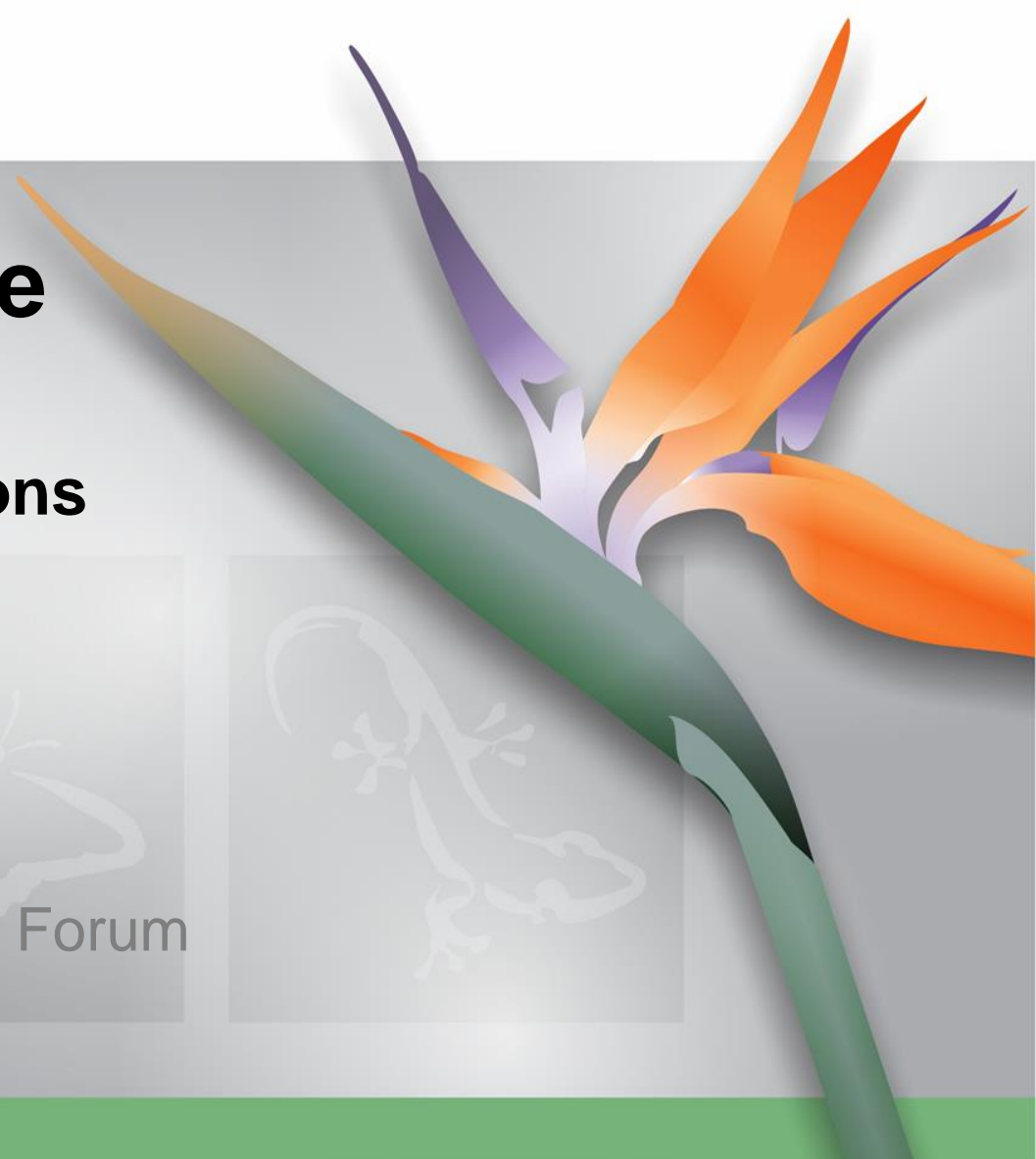


Technical Science Collaboration

SANBI: Examples, Lessons and challenges

Dr Tanya Abrahamse CEO

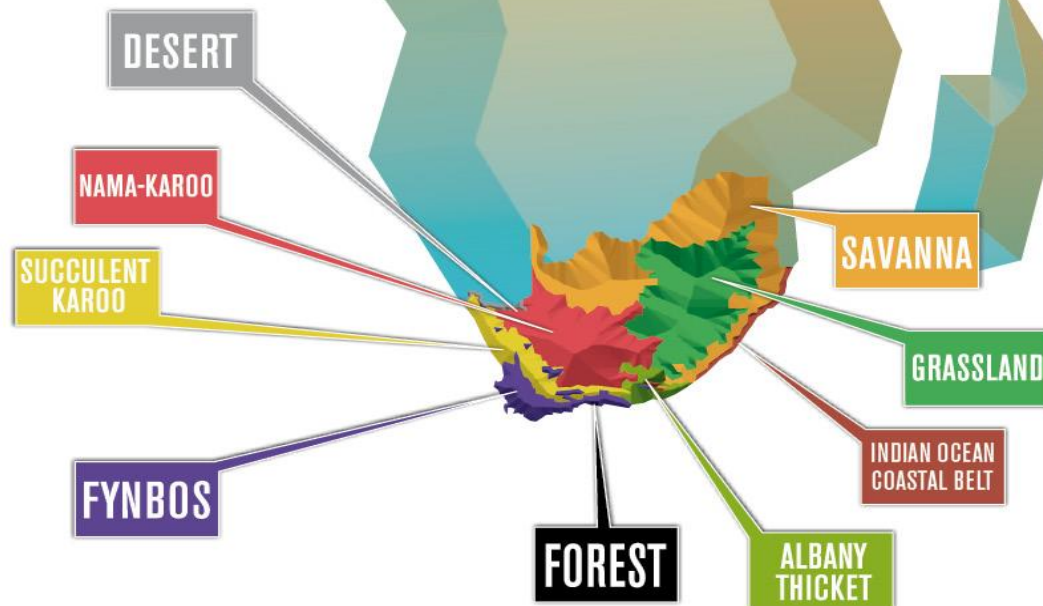
3rd Science for Biodiversity Forum
1-2 December 2016,
Cancun, Mexico



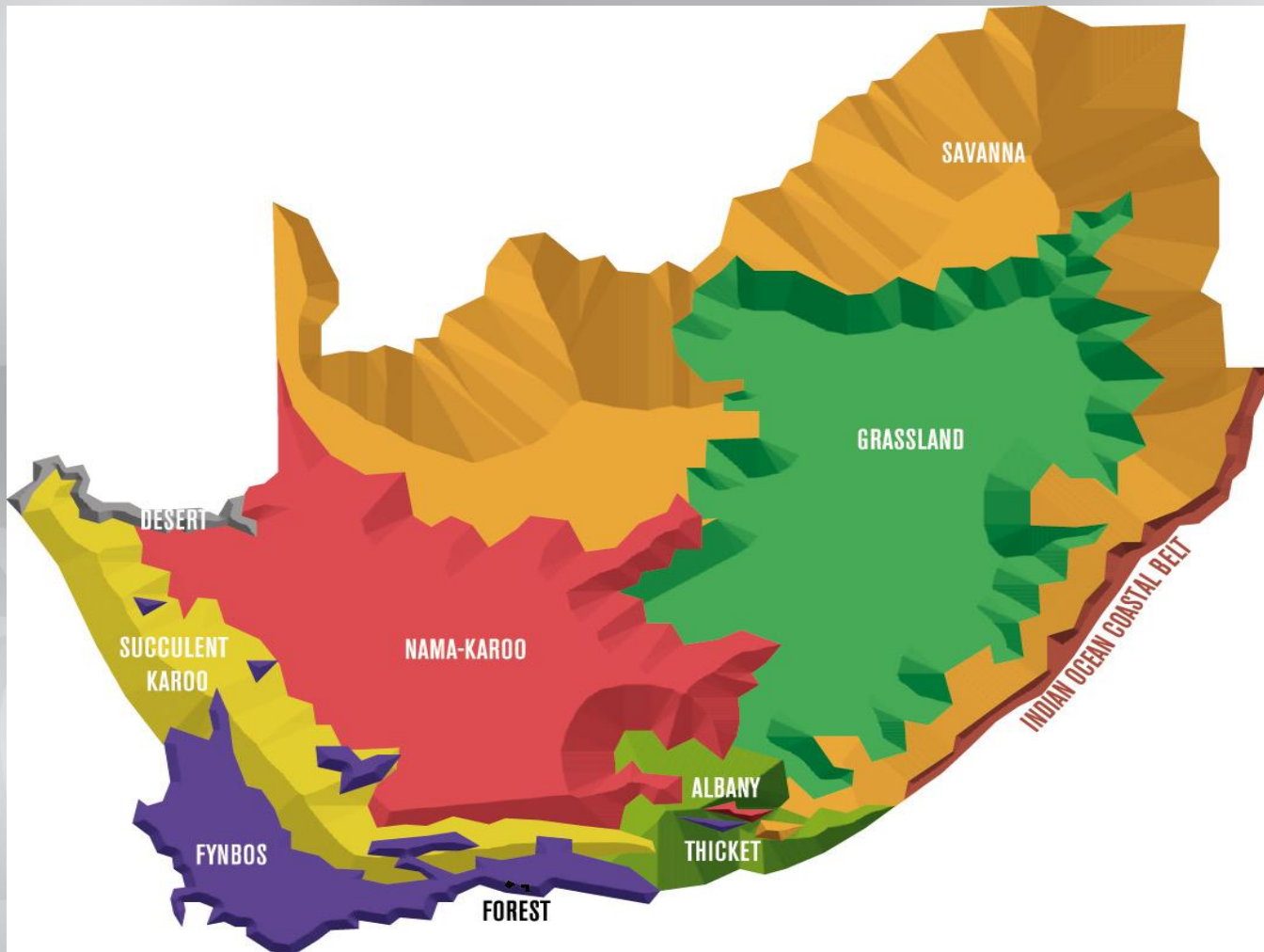
Some South African Facts

- 55m people
- Highest Gini co-efficient
- Youth bulge
- High unemployment
- Rapid urbanisation
- Unequal access to land & natural resources
- Biodiversity & conservation
 - Majority people historically excluded
 - many PA created through forced removals - land claims
 - Colonial and apartheid education

South Africa is made up of several Biomes...



Each biome is home to its own unique and rich diversity of flora and fauna, making South Africa the third most biodiverse country on the planet



SANBI Legislative & Governance

- **SANBI created by the National Environmental Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) of 2004 on the foundations of a 90 years old National Botanical Institute (NBI)**
- **Legal mandate includes Monitoring the State of Biodiversity through the the National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA), and also the Scientific Authority for CITES**
- **A Public entity reporting to the National Dept. of Environment and directly to the Minister of Environment. Eg the NBA report direct to Minister and forms basis of country' international reporting**
- **CEO and Board appointed by Minister & Cabinet**
- **Based on 12 campuses nation wide, head office Pretoria**

SANBI In brief & some outputs

Gardens management for leisure, tourism and education;
Biodiversity Research (in house and mainly in partnership);
One stop shop for biodiversity information – from citizens to researchers to decision makers ;
Imbedding biodiversity in the national and local planning system;
Developing Tools and Pilots to manage biodiversity better;
Lead human capital development, institutional strengthening and awareness

Some Outputs

Biodiversity Information Management Forum & Biodiversity Planning Forum (12 years !)

Provider of information for the SEAs of the strategic infrastructure programme of SA
Monitoring the State of Biodiversity and Reporting to Minister (NBA 2011 next 2018)

NIE For GAF and GCF

Link with SA's National Development Plan

Making the case for Biodiversity

WHAT WE INFLUENCE

Improved human wellbeing,
service delivery , economy & job creation
Science based evidence for all levels
Harnessing biodiversity value and enjoyment
Investment in ecological infrastructure
Ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change
Streamlined environmental decision-making

SCIENCE INTO POLICY / ACTION:

information | planning | policy advice | models | tools

BUILDING BIODIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE:

assessments | status | trends | monitoring |
modelling

FOUNDATIONS OF BIODIVERSITY:

collections | taxonomy | inventory | maps |
classification of ecosystems and species

WHAT WE DO

GARDENS

windows on biodiversity

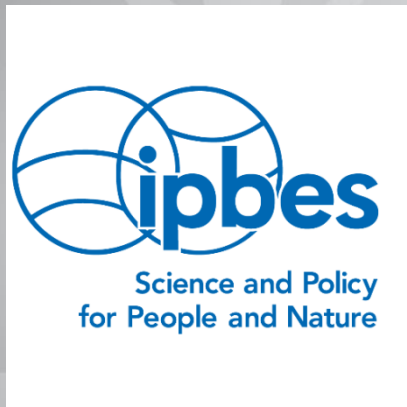
**HUMAN CAPITAL
DEVELOPMENT**

International Reporting

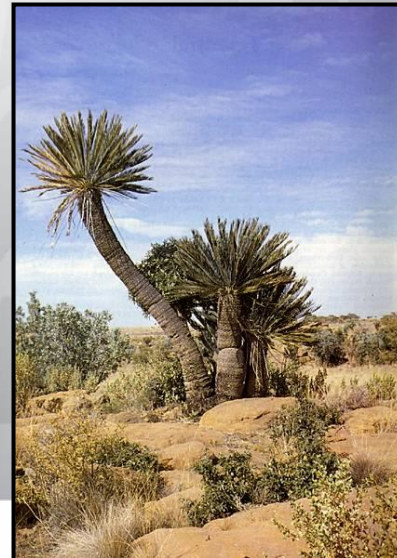
- CBD
- CITES
- SDG's
- IPBES



(Member of CSP)



- SANBI the secretariat and chair for the Scientific Authority
- Responsible for Non-detriment findings (NDF's) and Biodiversity Management Plans (BMP's) for CITES species
- 864 species of South African plants are listed on CITES (41 on Appendix I)
- 444 species of South African animals are listed on CITES (29 on Appendix I)



IPBES

SANBI's involvement

- Many lead authors on African Assessment
- Global pollination assessment
- Invasive species assessment
- Sustainable use assessment
- Capacity development strategy
- BESNET side event at the CBD-COP 13

Some examples of TSC – past , present and future

- **Grasslands Programme /GEF:** Mainstreaming biodiversity into production sectors (Mining, Agriculture, Forestry, Urban Development) – relationships, tools
- **Biodiversity primary data/GBIF/ JRS:** Mobilising data for assessment and development decision making in South Africa and on Continent – relationships, sharing
- **Land-use management/ GEF** (catchment management, land tenure, stewardship, biodiversity economy) - building on CEPF work
- **Adaptation** to climate change at community level (**GAF and GCF**) – innovation is local access to funds

Challenges & Lessons

- Co – development, co-production and co-communication
- Link with national development goals with lasting positive impact
- Grow individual science capacity and strengthen institutions
- Don't recreate 'the wheel', enhance existing laws and planning frameworks
- Note power differentials, the power of funds in scarcity, and the 'empty jug' syndrome
- Sharing of information in a form that's accessible, usable and useful (IT possible)
- South-South co-operation, sharing and learning (SANBI-CONABIO MOU)
- Respectful for each others information gathering systems
- Make the case, tell the story
- Simplify the language, confusing alphabet soup of orgs, systems, reports!!
- Display the information in an accessible way (from technical to popular)

Displaying the information

Technical Reports for Decision-makers

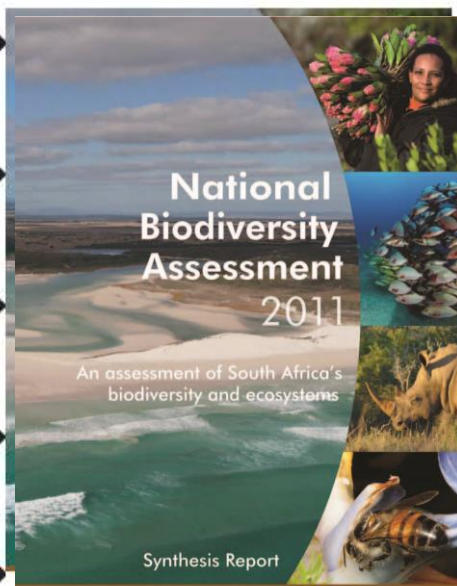
Terrestrial Report

Freshwater Report

Estuarine Report

Marine Report

Genetics Report



Synthesis Report

Increasing accessibility



LIFE: The state of South Africa's Biodiversity
A summary for general audiences

PLUS data
served by
SANBI

Increasing technical detail

Thank you for listening!

