

Building biodiversity knowledge for action in Southern Africa

The SBAPP Regional Project



- ▶ **Spatial Biodiversity Assessment**
- ▶ **Prioritisation**
- ▶ **Planning**



in South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique and Malawi

Southern Africa is home
to some of the richest ecosystems in the world



Project aim:

To develop and enhance national Spatial Biodiversity Assessments, Prioritisation and Planning (SBAPP) processes and products in South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique and Malawi to strengthen the national knowledge base on biodiversity; and ensure this knowledge informs land-use planning and decision making, assists with the development of environmental policy and strategies, and provides a basis for future biodiversity monitoring.

With the need to report against the international goals and targets in the Convention of Biological Diversity's Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, it is essential that countries use relevant and adequate tools to define ambitious yet achievable biodiversity-related objectives.

The project is funded by Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM).



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SBAPP processes and products

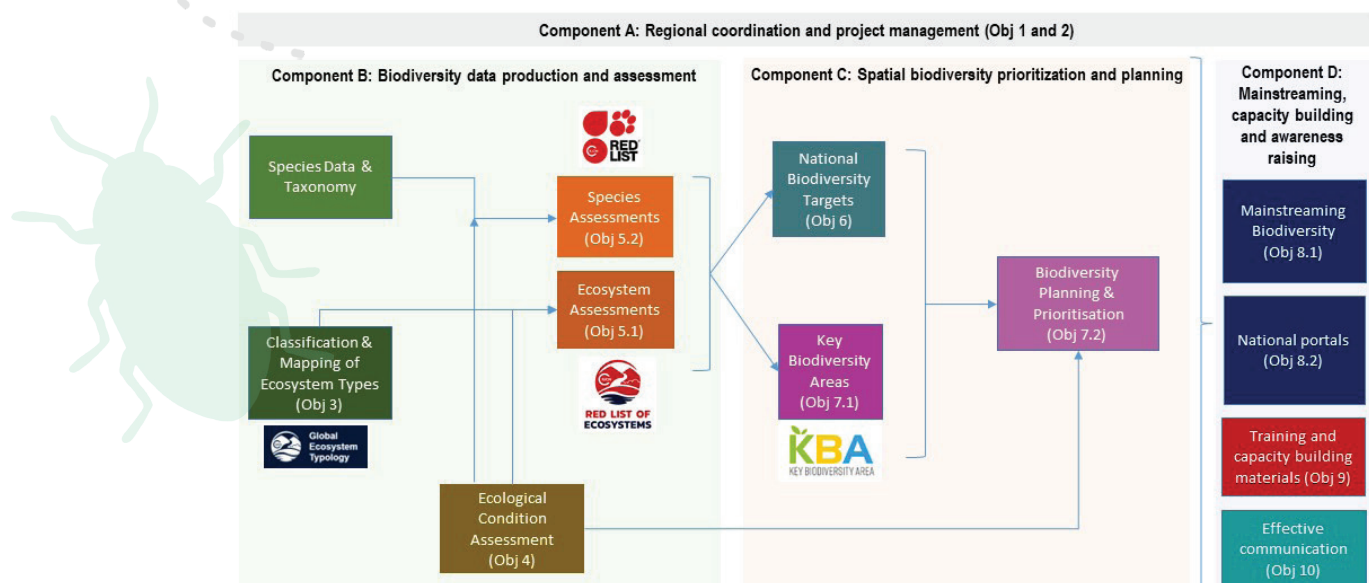
SBAPP processes use several important data sets (e.g., maps of ecosystem types and ecological condition; species distribution maps and population level data) in conjunction with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List standards. The categories of the IUCN Red List aim to be an easily and widely understood system for classifying species and ecosystems at high risk of extinction. The resulting Ecosystem Red List and Species Red List classify ecosystem types or species according to their threat status (Critically Endangered, Threatened, Vulnerable or Least Concern).

These assessments are used to spatially identify priority areas for biodiversity conservation and inform land-use planning processes. In addition, the processes can identify sites that are important for biodiversity globally through Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) identification.

The development of SBAPP products, and their endorsement and mainstreaming into decision making is an iterative and ongoing process. The project supports associated capacity building so that SBAPP products can be further developed in the countries in future.

The project has 4 components, 10 objectives, and 17 expected outputs. The diagram below shows the project's expected outputs and their dependencies.

The SBAPP Regional Project's 4 Components, 10 Objectives, 17 Expected Outputs and the linkages between them



South Africa ©Angus Burns



Namibia ©supplied by MEFT

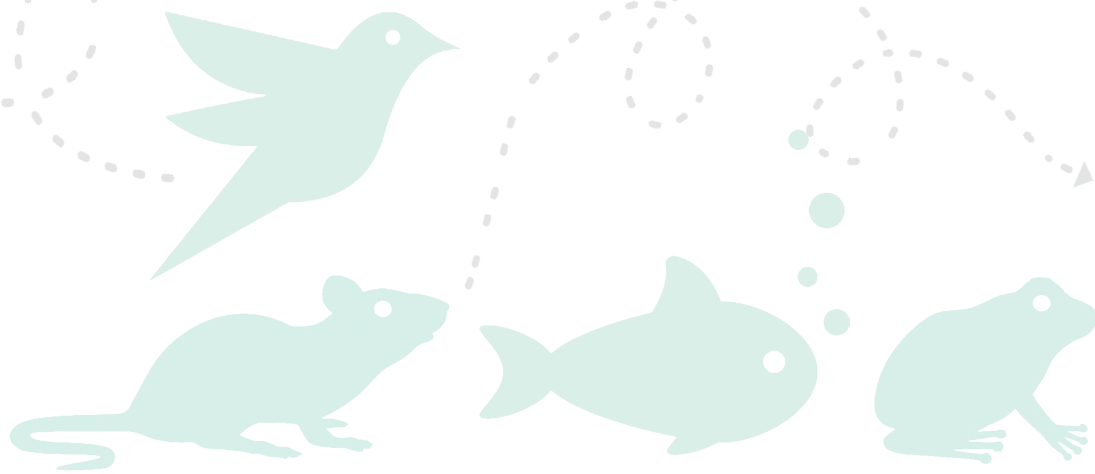
How are SBAPP products used?

The information produced through spatial biodiversity assessment processes has multiple applications for biodiversity strategies and action planning at a national scale, such as informing national target setting processes or identifying national priority areas for biodiversity conservation and management.

The SBAPP information is crucial for mainstreaming biodiversity requirements into other sectors and informing land use and development planning at national and subnational scales.

The SBAPP processes produce maps, graphs, datasets, and analyses that communicate the state of biodiversity in national reports.

Through this project, the countries will improve spatial data on biodiversity that will enable them to make informed decisions and policies on land-use planning and biodiversity protection in their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, a requirement for parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). In addition, the information from the SBAPP processes will be used to report against the international goals and targets in the CBD's Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.



South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique and Malawi all share ecosystems and species across their borders. Together, these countries have a huge range of environmental settings, from deserts in the west through savanna woodlands to coastal forests in the east. Aligning our ecosystem types and examining ecological conditions on a cross-border basis are crucial for the region.



Mozambique ©Valdemar Jonasse



Malawi ©Chinga Miteche



About the SBAPP role players

Biodiversity conservation is a priority for the southern Africa region, and collaboration is essential for the countries (South Africa, Mozambique, Malawi and Namibia) to strengthen their data, information systems and capacity for biodiversity science. The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) is the project's lead implementing agency, and works closely with the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. Country coordination is by the Namibian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism; the Wildlife Conservation Society country office in Mozambique in coordination with the National Directorate of Environment from the Ministry of Land and Environment; and the Malawi University of Science and Technology in collaboration with the Malawian Environmental Affairs Department.

Lead implementing agency

The South African National
Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)



Country implementing agencies

Ministry of
Environment, Forestry
and Tourism (MEFT)



Wildlife Conservation
Society (WCS)



Malawi University of
Science & Technology
(MUST)



and multiple other partners

For more information

Please contact the Regional Project Manager, Carol Poole, (c.poole@sanbi.org.za) or find out more on the institutional web-pages for the project:

<https://www.sanbi.org/biodiversity/building-knowledge/biodiversity-monitoring-assessment/the-sbapp-regional-project/>

<https://mozambique.wcs.org/>

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