

Ecosystem accounting in South Africa: Brief overview

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SEEA Ecosystem Accounting training workshop
Kigali, Rwanda
18 July 2022

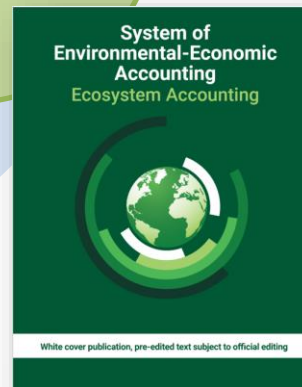
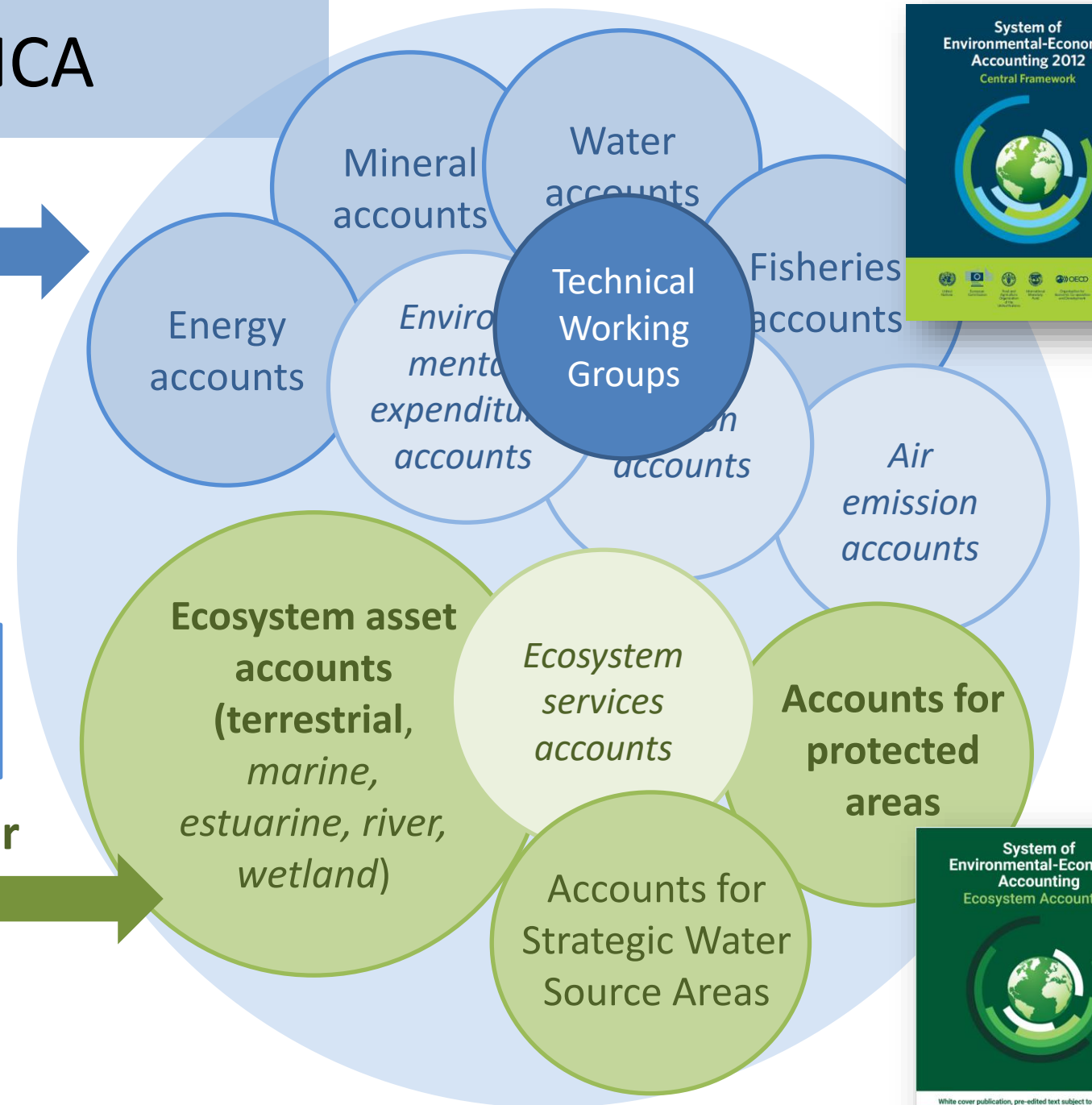


SA's state of play in NCA

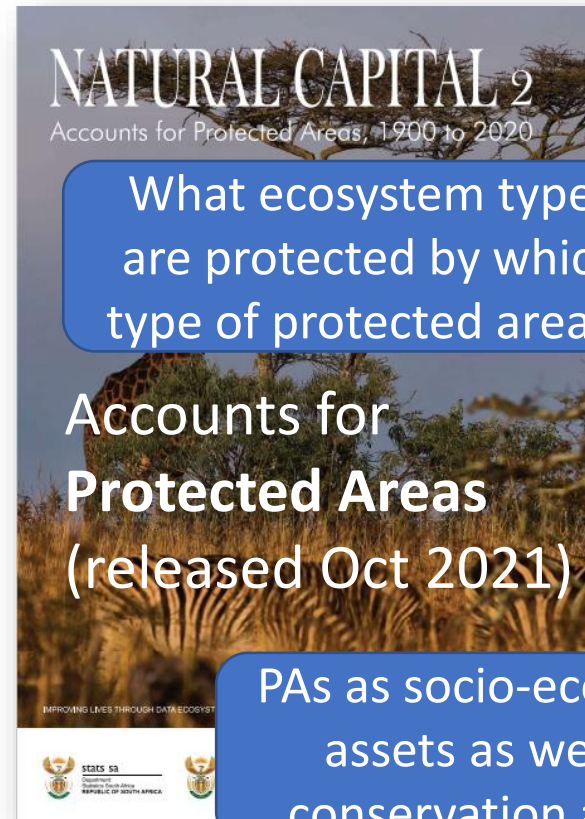
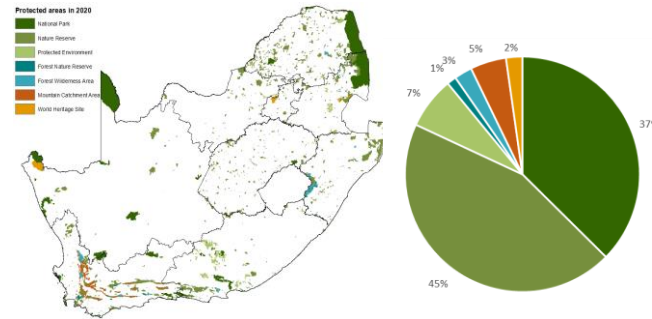
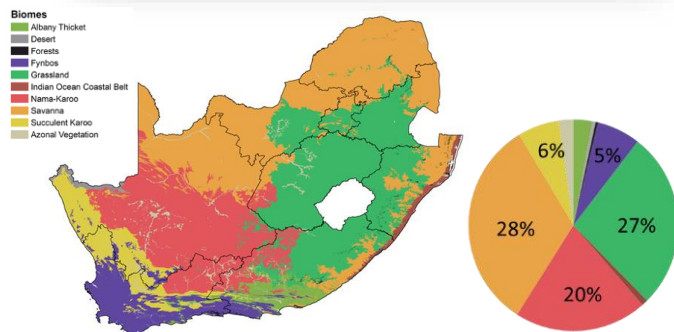
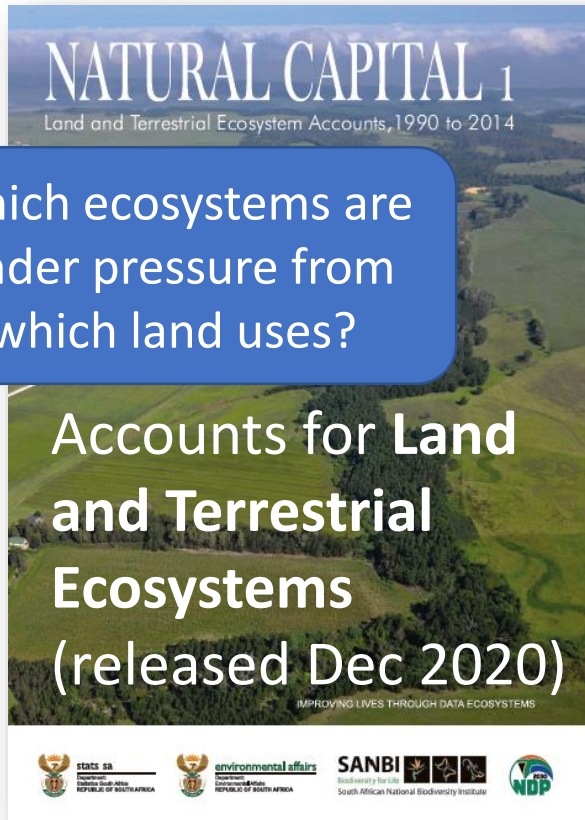
Stats SA leads overall on
Natural Capital Accounting



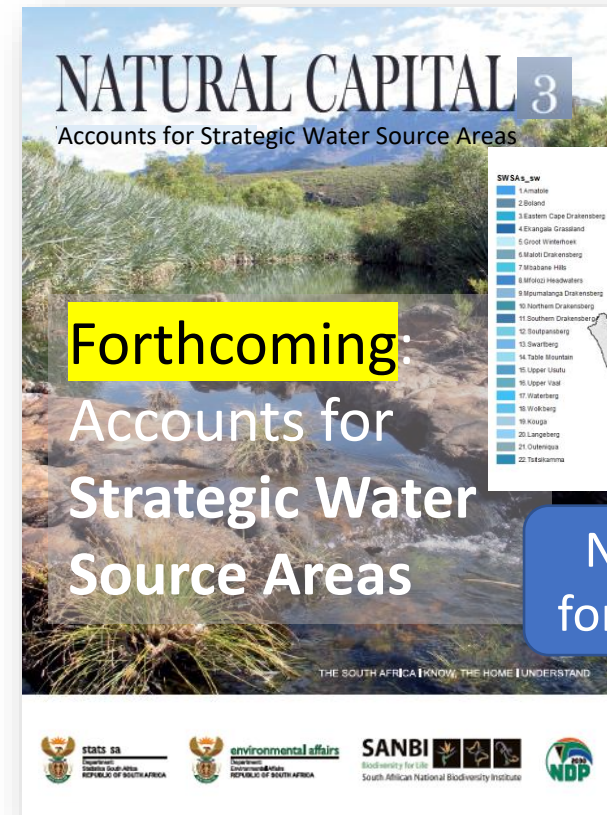
SANBI provides **technical leadership** for
ecosystem accounting



Natural Capital series launched by Stats SA in 2020



PAs as socio-economic assets as well as conservation assets



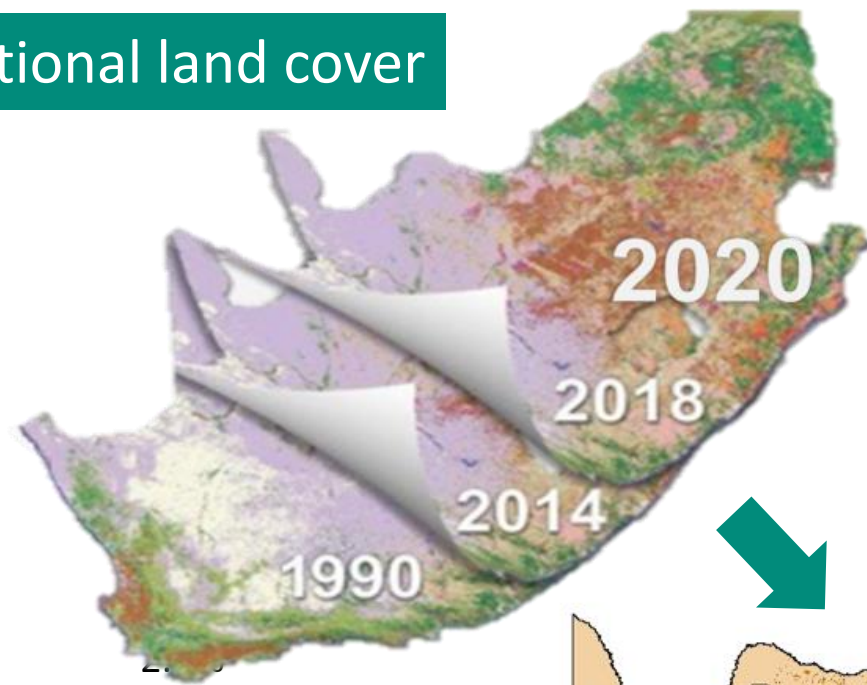
National assets for water security

Relevant to:

State of the Environment Reporting
South Africa's country reporting on the UN SDGs, post-2020 biodiversity targets

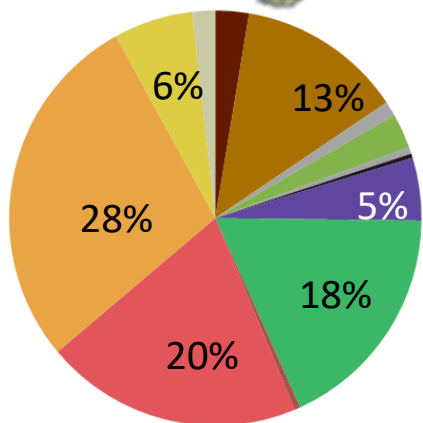
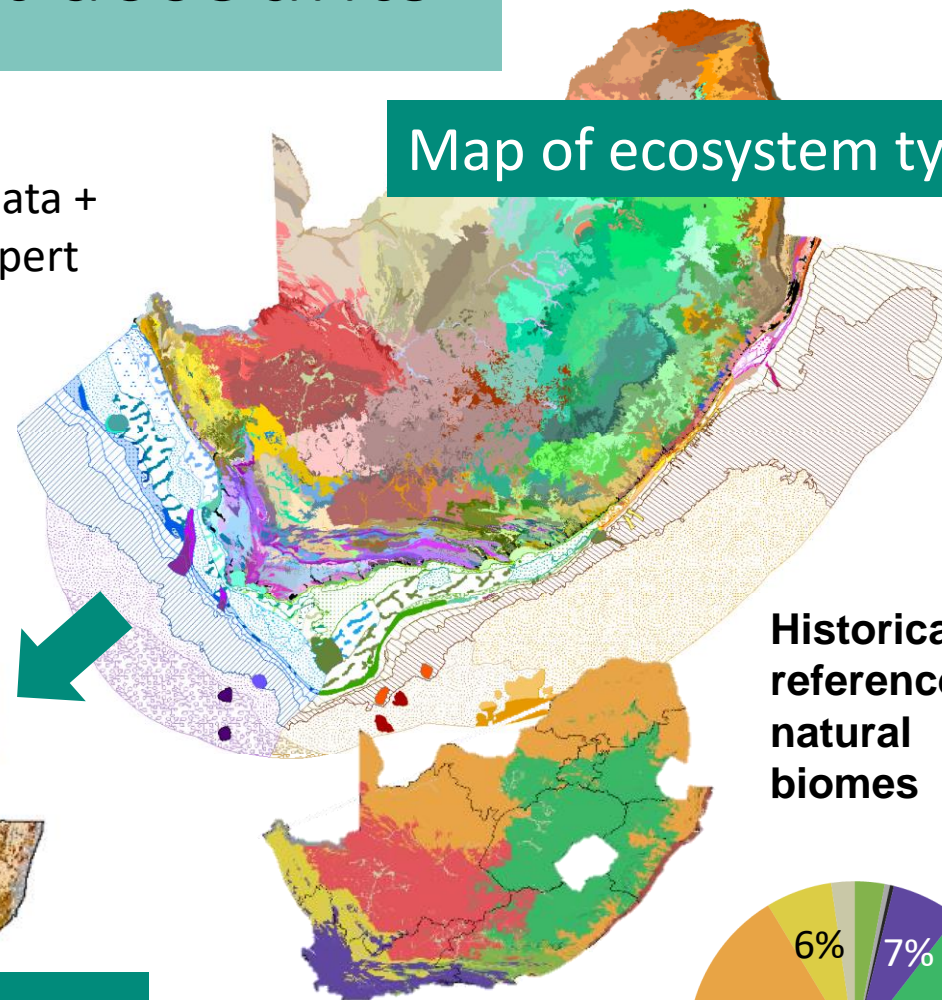
Key layers used in ecosystem asset accounts

National land cover

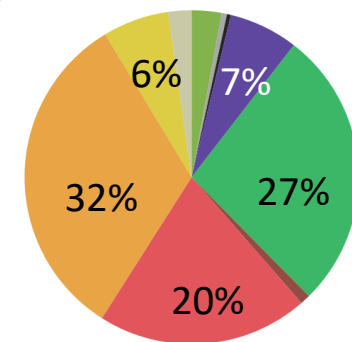
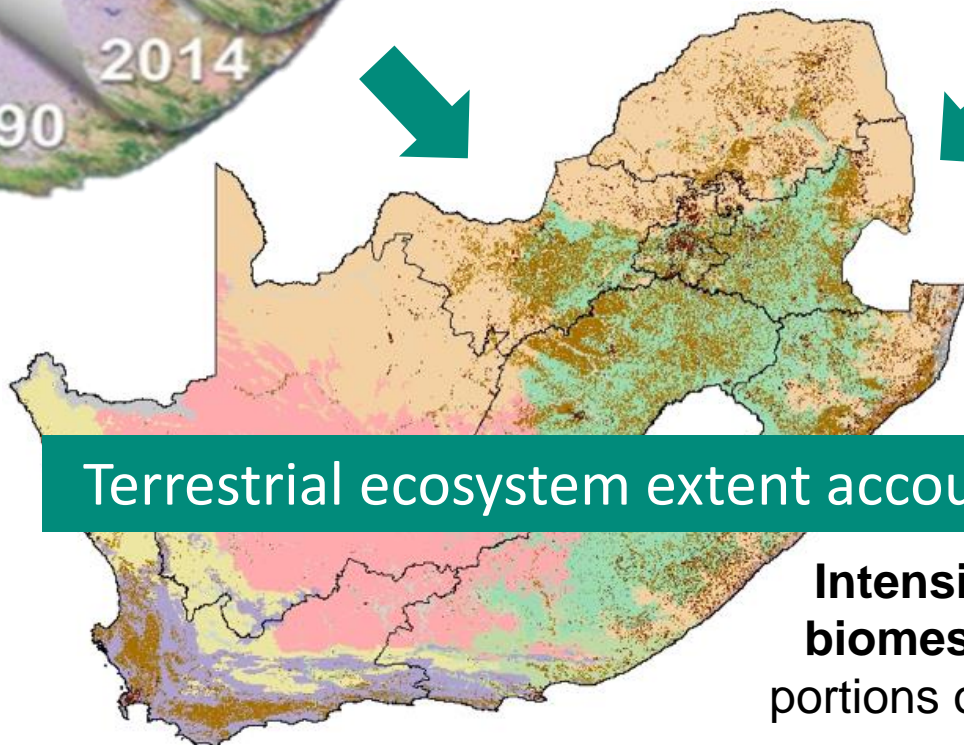


Earth observation data +
ancillary data & expert
input

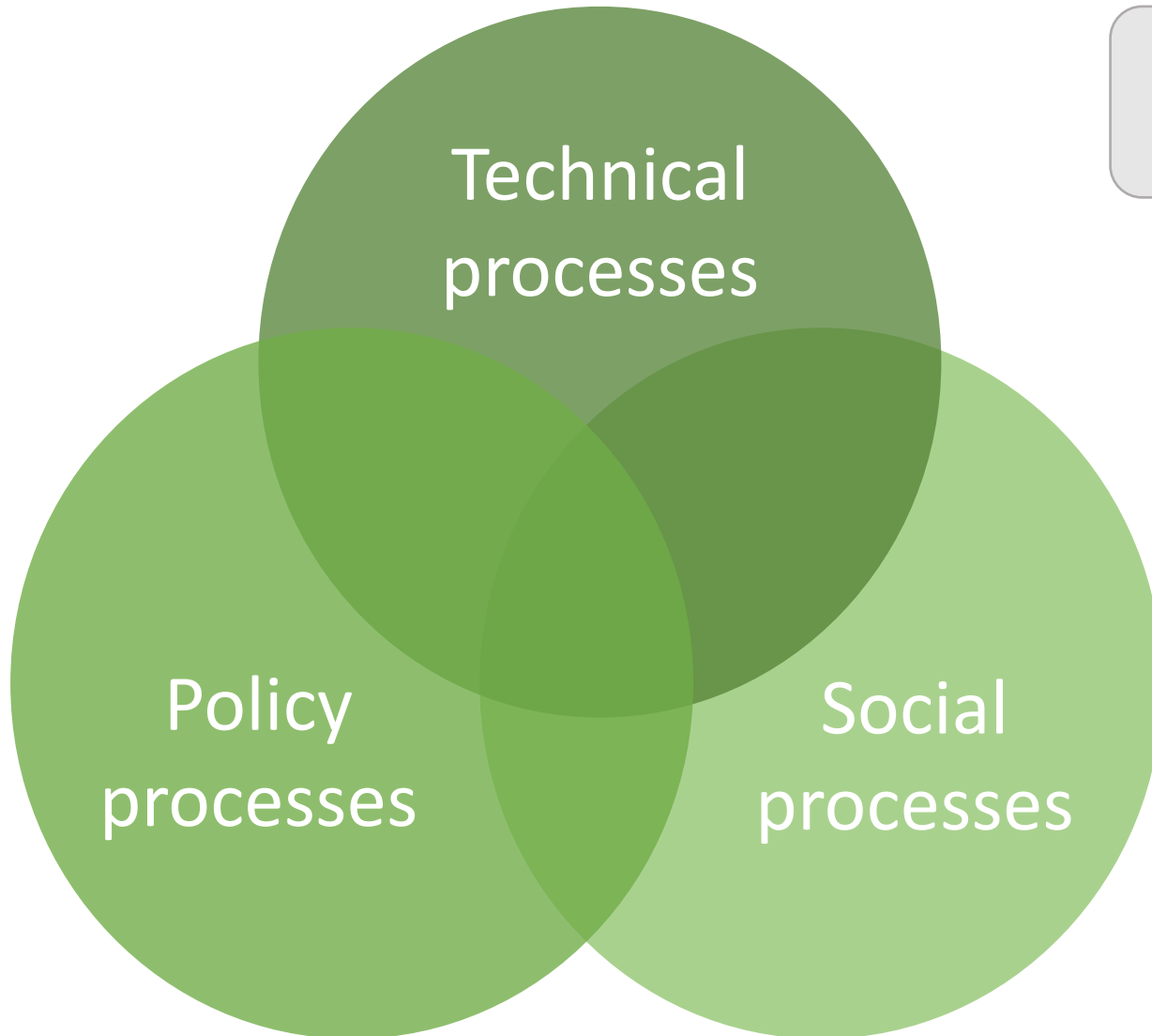
Map of ecosystem types



Terrestrial ecosystem extent account



Enabling factors



Key lesson: All three of these aspects are equally important

Attention to social process includes:

- Inclusive stakeholder involvement
- Making sure the right people are in the room
- Time for quality conversation
- Shared learning
- Building consensus



National NCA Strategy

A ten-year strategy for advancing NCA in SA

Published by Statistics South Africa in June 2021

Lesson: clear policy and strategy – led by NSO, but partnerships essential

Vision

Natural capital accounting is **widely used** to provide **credible evidence** for **integrated planning and decision-making**, in support of the **development needs** of the country

5 inter-related goals →

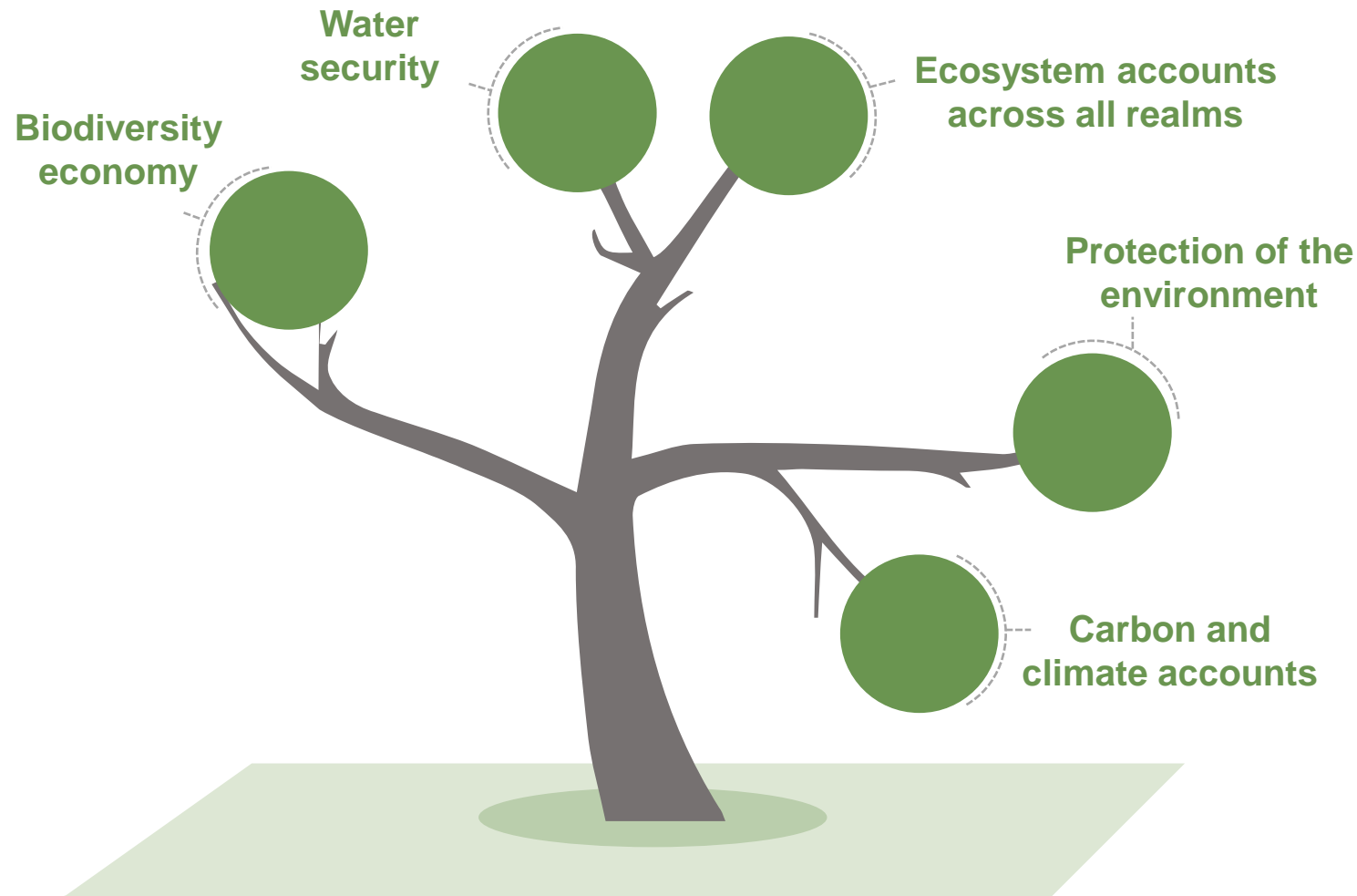
Roles & responsibilities for different partners set out

Intensive co-development process with range of stakeholders over 3 years



Into the future: NCA priorities on the high road. Four clusters for investment have been identified

1. Regular production of natural capital accounts in key areas



2. Mainstreaming natural capital accounts in policy and reporting.
3. Enabling and catalysing NCA over the long term.
4. Establishing a research and innovation hub to drive advancements in NCA and support a pipeline of expertise