

We started with the word “bioregion”

Means everything to everybody? Not quite. But because of the ‘legal high ground’ now held by DEAT/SANBI, we may cause more confusion than anything else by mainstreaming it as the focus of our study

So –

We will change to CORM (Conservation-Oriented Regional Management)

Let’s discuss

(1) What problems ‘region’ raises

(2) Why it might still be helpful to review “bioregions” (sensu all)

“region” to us means either

- An agglomeration of districts etc at a sub-national scale, with some reason for being considered together

OR

- An agglomeration of bigger areas at an adjacent but international scale, with some reason for being considered together

We would like to deal with both, so: so far so good!

The “edges” are perceived as more fuzzy than a bioregion, esp a DEAT bioregion. Is this a problem?

A host of different bioregion-type formulations:

UNESCO biosphere

World Heritage sites

Conservation International Hotspots

AWF Heartlands

DEAT bioregions sensu SANBI (evolving interpretation) From the Biodiversity Act: a bioregion “contains whole or several nested ecosystems and is characterized by its landforms, vegetation cover, human culture and history”

Associated biome/ecosystem programmes CAPE, SKEP, STEP etc

Transfrontier Conservation Areas (many are non-hotspots biodiversity-wise but maybe political collaboration hotspots)

There are some other groups thinking about this e.g.

The Resilience Alliance “Reserves in Regions” programme

<http://www.resalliance.org>

Economics world

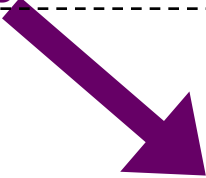
It's not only about
PAs
(Hansen & De Vries)



"Bioregions" –
consider the
whole landscape



Economic
incentives /
institutional
arrangements



Spatial biodiversity planning world

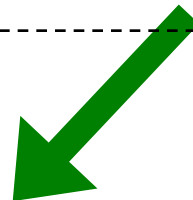
Irreplaceability
surfaces



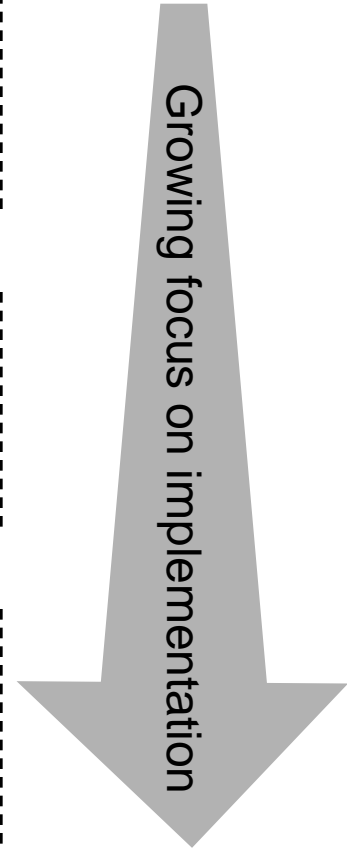
Maps of critical
biodiversity areas



Land use
guidelines



Pilot projects in
"bioregional"
programmes



Do these streams of work link?
→ Conservation-oriented regional management?
If so, what are the research questions?

Strategic Objectives of NBSAP - to be implemented over 15 years

SO 1: An enabling policy and legislative framework integrates biodiversity management objectives into the economy.

SO 2: Enhanced institutional effectiveness and efficiency ensures good governance in the biodiversity sector.

SO 3: Integrated terrestrial and aquatic management minimizes the impacts of threatening processes on biodiversity, enhances ecosystem services and improves social and economic security.

SO 4: Human development and well-being is enhanced through sustainable use of biological resources and equitable sharing of the benefits.

SO 5: A network of conservation areas conserves a representative sample of biodiversity and maintains key ecological processes across the landscape and seascape.

Includes a spatial component: the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment