

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Tuesday 7 June 2016</b>	
<b>Plenary session: Welcome and opening</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Jeffrey Manuel	
14:00–14:10	Welcome and introduction
14:10–14:30	Purpose of the Forum and programme overview, <b>Fahiema Daniels</b> and <b>Tammy Smith</b> (SANBI)
14:30–15:00	Keynote address: Grasslands in trouble, <b>Prof. William Bond</b> (SAEON)
15:00–15:30	Keynote address: The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Africa Assessment: an overview, <b>Dr Emma Archer van Garderen</b> (CSIR)
15:30–16:00	TEA
<b>Plenary session: Strengthening spatial biodiversity assessment and planning</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Jeffrey Manuel	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>This session will set the scene for the 2016 Biodiversity Planning Forum by highlighting South Africa's approach to spatial biodiversity assessment and planning. This practical, science-based approach, which draws on the principles of systematic biodiversity planning, has attracted interest internationally. It has recently been captured in a publication, Mapping Biodiversity Priorities, developed in partnership by SANBI and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC) which will be launched at the Forum. The session will summarise the essential elements of the approach and show how they have been encapsulated in the publication. It will also present progress and priorities for the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018, currently underway, which builds on the approach set out in Mapping Biodiversity Priorities.</p>	
16:00–17:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mapping Biodiversity Priorities: a practical, science-based approach to national biodiversity assessment and prioritisation, <b>Mandy Driver</b> (SANBI), Emily Botts (Independent consultant), Stephen Holness (NMMU), Matthew Ling (UNEP WCMC), Andy Arnell (UNEP WCMC) and John Tayleur (UNEP WCMC)</li> <li>2. Three ways to strengthen the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018, <b>Andrew Skowno</b> (SANBI)</li> </ol>
<b>Launch of Mapping Biodiversity Priorities</b>	
<b>Venue: The Lounge, Wilderness Hotel</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Kristal Maze	
17:30–19:00	Launch of Mapping Biodiversity Priorities and official welcome by SANBI CEO, <b>Dr Tanya Abrahamse</b> Interactive poster and exhibition session
19:00	DINNER

Session descriptions and presentations: Wednesday 8 June 2016	
Morning sessions (08:30–12:30)	
Plenary address	
Venue: Palm	
Facilitator: Jeffrey Manuel	
08:30–08:55	Historical imagery as a tool for condition assessment: different or degraded? <b>Prof. Timm Hoffman</b> (UCT)
Plenary session: Uptake of spatial information into environmental assessment initiatives	
Venue: Palm	
Facilitator: Jeffrey Manuel	
<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>This session will focus on environmental assessment initiatives and how spatial biodiversity information has been incorporated into these environmental planning tools. The session is split into two components with the first component focusing on Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs). The Department of Environmental Affairs has initiated SEAs to support the implementation of some of the 18 Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) as identified by the Presidency. SANBI and the CSIR, together with the Council of GeoScience, have been appointed by DEA to develop the SEAs for a number of the SIPs. This session will focus on the integration of spatial information into the SEAs for Electricity Grid Infrastructure, Square Kilometer Array and Shale Gas Development. The second component of this session will look at some other examples of where spatial biodiversity information has been incorporated into environmental planning tools.</p>	
08:55–10:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Square Kilometer Array (SKA) Phase 1 project in the Karoo (SIP 16), Northern Cape Province, South Africa, <b>Lydia Cape</b> (CSIR)</li> <li>2. Using Least Cost Path analysis for potential routing powerlines within electricity corridors identified in the Electricity Grid Infrastructure Strategic Environmental Assessment, <b>Tsamaelo Malebu</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>3. Shale Gas Strategic Environmental Assessment: a systematic spatial approach to SEAs, <b>Stephen Holness</b> (NMMU), Mandy Driver (SANBI), Simon Todd (SAEON), Kate Snaddon (Freshwater Consulting Group), Domitilla Raimondo (SANBI), Michelle Hamer (SANBI), Fahiema Daniels (SANBI), Jeffrey Manuel (SANBI) and Andrew Skowno (SANBI)</li> <li>4. The Karoo BioGaps Project, <b>Domitilla Raimondo</b> (SANBI), Krystal Tolley (SANBI), Simon Todd (SAEON), Brenda Daly (SANBI), Carol Poole (SANBI) and Theresa Sethusa (SANBI)</li> </ol>
10:30–11:15	<b>GROUP PHOTO AND TEA</b>

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Wednesday 8 June 2016</b>	
<b>Morning sessions (08:30–12:30)</b>	
<b>Plenary session: Uptake of spatial information into environmental assessment initiatives</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Jeffrey Manuel	
<b>Description</b> This is a continuation of the session above on how spatial biodiversity information has been incorporated into environmental planning tools.	
11:15–12:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lessons from the biodiversity component of the Sandveld Environmental Management Framework, <b>Genevieve Pence</b> (CapeNature) and Paul Hardcastle (Western Cape DEA&amp;DP)</li> <li>2. Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Tool: sensitivity themes for reporting, <b>Nicolene Fourie</b> (DEA)</li> <li>3. Developing Minimum Requirements for Biodiversity in Environmental Impact Assessments, <b>Pamela Kershaw</b> (DEA)</li> <li>4. Biodiversity offsets: losses and (potential) gains, <b>Norma Malatji</b> (SANBI)</li> </ol>
12:30–13:30	LUNCH
<b>Afternoon sessions (13:30–15:00)</b>	
<b>Parallel session 1: Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Africa Assessment</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Naledi Hlatshwayo	
<b>Description</b> The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) was established in April 2012, as an independent intergovernmental body open to all member countries of the United Nations with the overall objective to provide policy relevant knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services to inform decision making. IPBES provides a conceptual framework recognized by both the scientific and policy communities to synthesize, review, assess and critically evaluate relevant information and knowledge generated worldwide by governments, academia, scientific organizations, non-governmental organizations and indigenous communities. This session will provide an opportunity for further discussion on the IPBES Africa Assessment with a focus on Chapter 3 of the assessment which deals with the status, trends and future dynamics of biodiversity and ecosystems underpinning nature's benefits to people.	
13:30–15:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Update on the IPBES global assessment process from UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC)</li> <li>2. IPBES Africa Assessment: Chapter 3, <b>Benis Egoh</b> (CSIR)</li> </ol> <p>Discussion on the IPBES Africa Assessment</p>
15:00–15:30	TEA

Session descriptions and presentations: Wednesday 8 June 2016	
Afternoon sessions (13:30–15:00)	
Parallel session 2: Applying spatial data for the management of ecological infrastructure	
<b>Venue: Yellowwood</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> David Le Maitre	
<b>Description</b> South Africa's ecological infrastructure, including healthy mountain catchments, rivers and wetlands, is important for providing services and underpinning socio-economic development. This session will look at examples where spatial data has been used for the management of this ecological infrastructure.	
13:30–15:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delineating and updating South Africa's Strategic Water Source Areas, <b>Ashton Maherry</b> (CSIR), Jeanne Nel (CSIR), Helen Seyler (Delta-H Consulting), Lindie Smith-Adao (CSIR), Kai Witthüser (Delta-H Consulting) and Martin Holland (Delta-H Consulting)</li> <li>2. Biodiversity assessments in determining wetland conservation priorities: a catchment approach, <b>Piet-Louis Grundling</b>, (DEA and UFS)</li> <li>3. The extent at which ecosystem services align with biodiversity planning tools: the case of uMngeni catchment, <b>Smiso Bhengu</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>4. Identifying priority ecological infrastructure to enhance water security in the uMngeni River catchment, <b>John Dini</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>5. Refining the Land User Incentive (LUI) Spatial Framework, <b>Kedibone Lamula</b> (SANBI)</li> </ol>
15:00–15:30	TEA

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Wednesday 8 June 2016</b>	
<b>Afternoon session (15:30–17:30)</b>	
<b>Plenary session: Provincial biodiversity planning updates and technical advances</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Fahiem Daniels	
<b>Description</b> The development of provincial biodiversity plans is a key component of the systematic biodiversity planning in South Africa and therefore a strong focus of the Biodiversity Planning Forum. Many of the innovative approaches and methodologies have been initiated and established through the development of these provincial biodiversity plans. This session provides an opportunity for the provincial biodiversity planners to showcase some of the technical advances and updates made in their provincial biodiversity plans over the last year.	
15:30–17:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Overview of provincial biodiversity planning in South Africa, <b>Tammy Smith</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>2. The review of the Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan and Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, <b>Greer Hawley</b>, Derek Berliner and Alan Carter (EOH CES)</li> <li>3. The Western Cape's 2016 Spatial Biodiversity Plan, <b>Genevieve Pence</b> (CapeNature)</li> <li>4. The 2015 North West Biodiversity Sector Plan, <b>Ray Schaller</b> (North West DREAD) and Phillip Desmet (ECOSOL GIS)</li> <li>5. Report back on progress of the Free State Provincial Biodiversity Plan, <b>Nacelle Collins</b> (Free State DESTEA)</li> <li>6. The Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Area Map, <b>Enrico Oosthuysen</b> (Northern Cape DENC)</li> <li>7. Spatial assessment for the revised Mpumalanga Biodiversity Expansion Strategy, <b>Mervyn Lötter</b> (MTPA)</li> </ol>
<b>Late afternoon informal session (17:30–19:00)</b>	
<b>Informal discussion: Publishing our work</b>	
<b>Venue: TBC</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Kristal Maze and Tammy Smith	
<b>Description</b> Over the past 13 years of the Biodiversity Planning Forum, a strong community of practice has formed for biodiversity planners in South Africa. They have developed innovative methodologies for biodiversity planning and many lessons have been learnt about the implementation of these biodiversity plans. However, very little of this biodiversity planning work has been documented in the formal scientific literature and there is a growing need for this valuable information to be disseminated through the publication of peer-reviewed papers. SANBI, as the convener of the biodiversity planning community of practice, would like to investigate opportunities to support the development of a series of papers documenting this work. This session will provide an opportunity for interested participants to discuss ideas.	
17:30–19:00	Informal discussion on publishing our work
19:00	DINNER

Session descriptions and presentations: Thursday 9 June 2016	
Morning session (08:30–10:30)	
Plenary session: Assessing and mapping ecological condition	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Andrew Skowno	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Spatial data on ecological condition is fundamental to biodiversity assessment and planning, monitoring the state of biodiversity, and ecosystem accounting. There has been some progress in South Africa towards a consistent set of ecological condition categories and terms across the terrestrial and aquatic realms, and we have some excellent examples of condition assessments. However, there remain some conceptual issues, gaps in knowledge and research, and lack of systems for regularly repeated assessments over time. Building on last year's session on ecological condition, this session will explore approaches and methods for assessing ecological condition in the marine, estuarine, freshwater and terrestrial realms, with a view to moving towards a national strategy for advancing the assessment of ecological condition.</p>	
08:30–10:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assessing and mapping ecological condition: session introduction, <b>Mandy Driver</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>2. Accounting for ecological condition: experience and proposed way forward, <b>Jeanne Nel</b> (CSIR) and Mandy Driver (SANBI)</li> <li>3. Marine ecosystem condition in South Africa: current status and future prospects, <b>Kaylee Smit</b> (NMMU), Amanda Lombard (NMMU), Kerry Sink (SANBI), and Anthony Bernard (SAIAB)</li> <li>4. National assessment of the ecological condition of South Africa's estuaries, <b>Lara van Niekerk</b> (CSIR)</li> <li>5. Freshwater component of the Free State Biodiversity Plan: condition assessment of wetlands, an envisaged approach, <b>Nacelle Collins</b> (Free State DESTEA)</li> <li>6. Habitat modification analysis of the National Land Cover map, <b>Smiso Bhengu</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>7. The potential of remote sensing tools for ecological condition assessment and monitoring, <b>Jasper Slingsby</b> (SAEON and UCT), Glenn Moncrieff (SAEON and Stellenbosch University), Nasiphi Ntshanga (SAEON and UKZN), Alastair Potts (NMMU) and Adam Wilson (University of Buffalo)</li> <li>8. The landscape ecological impacts of game breeding in South Africa: mapping the rate of change in game fence density at two sites in Limpopo province from 2006 – 2015, <b>Philip Desmet</b> (ECOSOL GIS) and Sumeshni Pillay</li> </ol>
10:30–11:00	TEA

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Thursday 9 June 2016</b>	
<b>Morning parallel sessions (11:00–13:00)</b>	
<b>Parallel session 1: Implementing biodiversity plans: challenges and opportunities</b>	
<b>Local and provincial experiences</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Abigail Kamineth	
<b>Description</b>	
Biodiversity planning is only relevant if the plans are implemented. This session includes submitted presentations that focus on the implementation of biodiversity plans at the local and provincial level. This session will provide a platform to report on challenges and opportunities of implementation and interrogate the issues raised. The session will generate useful discussion and feedback for biodiversity planners and implementers to consider as they develop strategies to implement biodiversity plans further.	
11:00–13:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development of bioregional plans in Mpumalanga province, <b>Mervyn Lötter</b> (MTPA)</li> <li>2. Biodiversity targets in the City of Cape Town, <b>Julia Wood</b>, Clifford Dorse and Patricia Holmes (City of Cape Town)</li> <li>3. When role-players play (nicely) together: can we facilitate development and meet biodiversity targets at the same time? <b>Alana Duffell-Canham</b> (CapeNature) and Mellisa Naiker (Western Cape DEA&amp;DP)</li> <li>4. The changing landscape for biodiversity planning implementation: are EIAs nearing their conclusion, and if so where to next? <b>Dominic Wieners</b> (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife)</li> <li>5. The changing landscape for biodiversity planning: feedback on initiatives and challenges, <b>Boyd Escott</b> (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife)</li> <li>6. Mainstreaming spatial biodiversity plans in the Western Cape: progress to date and the way forward, <b>Rhett Smart</b> (CapeNature)</li> <li>7. Implementing a fine scale biodiversity plan in a metropolitan area, <b>Clifford Dorse</b>, Julia Wood and Patricia Holmes (City of Cape Town)</li> </ol> <p>Discussion: this session will close with additional discussion on the key issues raised by the presenters.</p>
13:00–14:00	LUNCH

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Thursday 9 June 2016</b>	
<b>Morning parallel sessions (11:00–13:00)</b>	
<b>Parallel session 2: Marine spatial planning in South Africa: legislation, science, and who's doing what?</b>	
<b>Venue: Yellowwood</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Amanda Lombard	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>Marine spatial planning is a fast-developing field in South Africa, with many advances and innovations. This session will look at marine spatial planning in South Africa, covering the legislation, the science and who is doing what. It will include a series of speed presentations by students conducting research in this field. The session will also develop some key questions that participants feel should be addressed in marine spatial planning in South Africa.</p>	
11:00–13:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to the marine spatial planning session and its objectives, <b>Amanda Lombard</b> (NMMU)</li> <li>2. MSP, ICM, ABM, and EBM: the alphabet of confusion? <b>Louis Celliers</b>, Susan Taljaard and Lara van Niekerk (CSIR)</li> <li>3. Marine spatial planning: capacity and support for implementation, <b>Adnan Awad</b> (International Ocean Institute - Southern Africa)</li> <li>4. Spatial patterns and characterization of benthic epifaunal biodiversity in Algoa Bay, <b>Hannah Raven</b> (NMMU and SAEON), Charles von der Meden (SAEON), Amanda Lombard (NMMU) and Lara Atkinson (SAEON)</li> <li>5. Ecosystem services valuation and ecosystem accounting techniques for marine systems in South Africa, <b>Jodie Reed</b> (NMMU), Amanda Lombard (NMMU) and Ken Findlay (CPUT)</li> <li>6. Deep water benthic fish communities of the KwaZulu-Natal shelf, assessed using BRUV systems, <b>Nokuthula Daweti</b> (NMMU and SANBI), Amanda Lombard (NMMU), Henning Winker (SANBI) and Bruce Mann (ORI)</li> <li>7. The development of a cetacean identikit to inform marine spatial planning in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, <b>Summer Newton</b> (NMMU), Amanda Lombard (NMMU) and Ken Findlay (CPUT)</li> <li>8. Using systematic biodiversity planning principles to identify and map Key Fishing Areas within South Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), <b>Tsamaelo Malebu</b> (NMMU and SANBI), Kerry Sink (SANBI) and Amanda Lombard (NMMU)</li> <li>9. Quantifying the impact of environmental change on the movement ecology of marine top predators with applications to marine spatial planning, <b>Theoni Photopoulou</b> (NMMU and UCT) (TBC)</li> <li>10. Identifying and mapping sensitive deep-sea ecosystems in South Africa, <b>Zoleka Philander</b> (NMMU and DEA) (TBC)</li> </ol> <p>Key questions and discussion: the session will close with additional discussion and the development of some key questions that the group feels should be addressed in marine spatial planning in South Africa.</p>
13:00–14:00	LUNCH

Session descriptions and presentations: Thursday 9 June 2016	
Afternoon parallel sessions (14:00–16:00)	
Parallel session 1: Implementing biodiversity plans: challenges and opportunities National perspectives and lessons	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Fulufhelo Mukhadi	
<b>Description</b> Biodiversity planning is only relevant if the plans are implemented. The earlier session looked at how implementation was being achieved at the local and provincial level. This session includes submitted presentations that focus on the implementation of biodiversity plans from a national perspective and look at lessons learned from biodiversity planning and the associated tools in South Africa.	
14:00–16:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lessons learned from bioregional plans, <b>Sagwata Manyike</b> (SANBI).</li> <li>2. Implementing bioregional plans: lessons learned from environmental management frameworks (EMFs), <b>Dirk Cilliers</b> (NWU)</li> <li>3. Bridging theory and practice: learning from 13 years of conservation planning in South Africa, <b>Chuma Banji Chinzila</b> and Mathieu Rouget (UKZN)</li> <li>4. Assessing the integration of biodiversity priorities in local land-use planning using international and local case studies, <b>Khumbelo Makhuvha</b> (MTPA and UKZN)</li> <li>5. The role of social dynamics in the implementation of systematic conservation planning in South Africa, <b>Sam Lloyd</b> (Imperial College London)</li> <li>6. The biodiversity economy and biodiversity planning: challenges and opportunities, <b>Lizanne Nel</b> (SA Hunters and Game Conservation Association)</li> </ol> <p>Discussion: this session will close with additional discussion on the key issues raised by the presenters.</p>
16:00–16:30	TEA

Session descriptions and presentations: Thursday 9 June 2016	
Afternoon parallel sessions (14:00–16:00)	
Parallel session 2: The freshwater component of the National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA) 2018	
<b>Venue:</b> Yellowwood	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Heidi van Deventer	
<b>Description</b> The freshwater realm presents a number of unique challenges for biodiversity planning, which have been met by several innovations over the years. This session will focus on the freshwater component of the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018. The freshwater component deals with both rivers and wetlands. The presentations and discussion will highlight some of the current thinking and plans for this component of the NBA and will provide a platform for the participants of the session to contribute to the proposed way forward.	
14:00–16:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Freshwater Component of the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018, <b>Heidi van Deventer</b> (CSIR), Namhla Mbona (SANBI), Jeanne Nel (CSIR), Lindie Smith-Adao (CSIR), Chantel Petersen (CSIR) and Ashton Maherry (CSIR)</li> <li>2. The river sub-component of the freshwater component of the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018, <b>Lindie Smith-Adao, Chantel Petersen</b> and Jeanne Nel (CSIR)</li> <li>3. Data audit for the wetlands map and mapping prioritization, <b>Namhla Mbona</b> (SANBI), Heidi van Deventer (CSIR) and Andrew Skowno (SANBI)</li> <li>4. Freshwater component of the Free State Biodiversity Plan: results and implications for the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018, <b>Nacelle Collins</b> (Free State DESTEA)</li> <li>5. A quantitative approach towards determining the regional setting (Level 2) of wetlands: a Free State example, <b>Nacelle Collins</b> (Free State DESTEA).</li> <li>6. Predicting wetland types using springs data, <b>Ashton Maherry</b> and Heidi van Deventer (CSIR)</li> </ol>
16:00–16:30	TEA

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Thursday 9 June 2016</b>	
<b>Late afternoon informal discussions (16:30–18:30)</b>	
<b>Informal discussion 1: A proposed terrestrial biodiversity index aimed at national level reporting</b>	
<b>Venue:</b> TBC	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Andrew Skowno	
<b>Description</b> The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) has approached the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) to provide input into the development of a terrestrial biodiversity index to be used in national level reporting. DEA has provided a fact sheet on the proposed index and SANBI has offered to host a short workshop on the topic at the Biodiversity Planning Forum 2016. We will present the DEA factsheet and some initial suggestions made by SANBI for discussion, with the aim of providing DEA with a clear set of recommendations for the further development of the concept.	
16:30–18:00	A proposed terrestrial biodiversity index aimed at national level reporting. This informal discussion is hosted by SANBI on behalf of DEA.
<b>Informal discussion 2: The implications of wetland delineation legislation for forestry and agriculture</b>	
<b>Venue:</b> TBC	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Richard Lechmere-Oertel	
<b>Description</b> This session will look at the implications of wetland delineation legislation for forestry and agriculture in the uMgungundlovu District Municipality. This work forms part of the UNDP Global Environmental Facility funded project on mainstreaming biodiversity into land use regulation and management at the municipal scale being coordinated by the South African National Biodiversity Institute. The work is investigating better ways to implement and apply wetland delineation and buffering legislation and policy in the forestry sector and will present and discuss the planned approach.	
16:30–18:00	The implications of wetland delineation legislation for forestry and agriculture
19:00	DINNER

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Friday 10 June 2016</b>	
<b>Morning session (08:30–10:00)</b>	
<b>Plenary session: Technical advances in national assessments and planning</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Mandy Driver	
<b>Description</b> Biodiversity planning methodology is constantly improving and plans are regularly updated to include the latest information. This session includes a series of submitted abstracts which highlight technical advances in biodiversity assessment and planning over the last year. The session ends with information on national processes related to climate change adaptation that will be relevant for the biodiversity planning community of practice to engage with.	
08:30–10:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy 2016, Dave Balfour, <b>Stephen Holness</b>, James Jackelman and Andrew Skowno (Independent consultants)</li> <li>2. The IUCN Red List of Ecosystems: how does it compare to South Africa's approach to listing threatened ecosystems? <b>Maphale Matlala</b> and Andrew Skowno (SANBI)</li> <li>3. Testing the foundations: using available species data to test and possibly strengthen the VEGMAP, <b>Anisha Dayaram</b>, Andrew Skowno and Leslie Powrie (SANBI)</li> <li>4. Biodiversity and ecosystems sector response to climate change, <b>Ntando Mkhize</b>, Tshifhiwa Munyai and Muleso Kharika (DEA)</li> </ol>
10:00–10:30	TEA
<b>Late morning parallel sessions (10:30–12:00)</b>	
<b>Parallel session 1: Spatial data and information systems related to biodiversity assessments and planning</b>	
<b>Venue: Palm</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Brenda Daly	
<b>Description</b> Biodiversity planning relies strongly on robust management and dissemination of spatial data and metadata. This session includes a series of submitted abstracts that focus on spatial data and information systems related to biodiversity planning and assessment including the recently revamped BGIS website, the development of a tool to support decision-making for renewable energy and a discussion on the key data collaboration and standards required for the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018.	

<b>Session descriptions and presentations: Friday 10 June 2016</b>	
<b>Late morning parallel sessions (10:30–12:00)</b>	
<b>Parallel session 1: Spatial data and information systems related to biodiversity assessments and planning</b>	
10:30–12:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development of a National Biodiversity Information System, <b>Jeffrey Manuel</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>2. BGIS: revamped and reloaded, <b>Sediqa Khatieb</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>3. Metadata management for the new BGIS website, <b>Gert Conradie</b> (Compass Informatics)</li> <li>4. Showcase of the Bird and Bat Environmental Impact Assessment tool, <b>Rukaya Johaadien</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>5. GIS data collaboration and standards for the National Biodiversity Assessment, <b>Heather Terrapon</b> (SANBI)</li> </ol>
<b>Parallel session 2: National Status Report on Biological Invasions</b>	
<b>Venue: Yellowwood</b>	
<b>Facilitator:</b> Sebataolo Rahlao	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>The South African National Biodiversity Institute is mandated, in terms of the Biodiversity Act, to produce a report on the status of listed invasive species by October 2017 and every three years following this date. This session will discuss this National Status Report on Biological Invasions and will consider what is required for this report in terms of the content, structure and processes or systems. The session will also identify key stakeholders for this process.</p>	
10:30–12:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to the session and the National Status Report, <b>Sebataolo Rahlao</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>2. Report back from the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Research Symposium on the Management of Biological Invasions, <b>Tsungai Zengeya</b> (SANBI)</li> <li>3. Invasive species monitoring, control and eradication plans for organs of state and management authorities of protected areas: regulations, guidelines and compliance, <b>Stiaan Kotze</b> (DEA)</li> <li>4. Participatory, local-level planning of invasive plant species management to protect biodiversity and secure ecosystem services, <b>David Le Maitre</b> (CSIR and Stellenbosch University) and Greg Forsyth (CSIR)</li> <li>5. Invasive Species Management Plans for the City of Cape Town, <b>Louise Stafford</b> (City of Cape Town) (TBC)</li> <li>6. SANParks strategy for Invasive Alien Plants: towards the status report, <b>Nicholas Cole</b> (SANParks)</li> </ol> <p>Discussion: what is needed for the National Status Report on Biological Invasions</p>
<b>Close of Forum</b>	
12:00–12:30	Evaluation, thanks and close of 2016 Forum, <b>Jeffrey Manuel</b> and <b>Tammy Smith</b> (SANBI)
12:30	LUNCH

