

Bridging theory and practice: learning from 13 years of Conservation planning in South Africa

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Structure

- Background
- Hypothesis
- Methods
- Framework
- Preliminary results
- Conclusion & way forward



Background

Quality and quantity of conservation planning tools and techniques has improved since 2003

But there remains a science-action gap because of:

- lack of documentation (publication) of successfully implemented conservation planning initiatives

(Ehrenfeld, 2000; Maddock and Benn, 2000; Balmford, 2003; Knight et al., 2006; Sarkar et al., 2006; Knight et al., 2008; Cadman et al., 2010; Reyers et al., 2010).

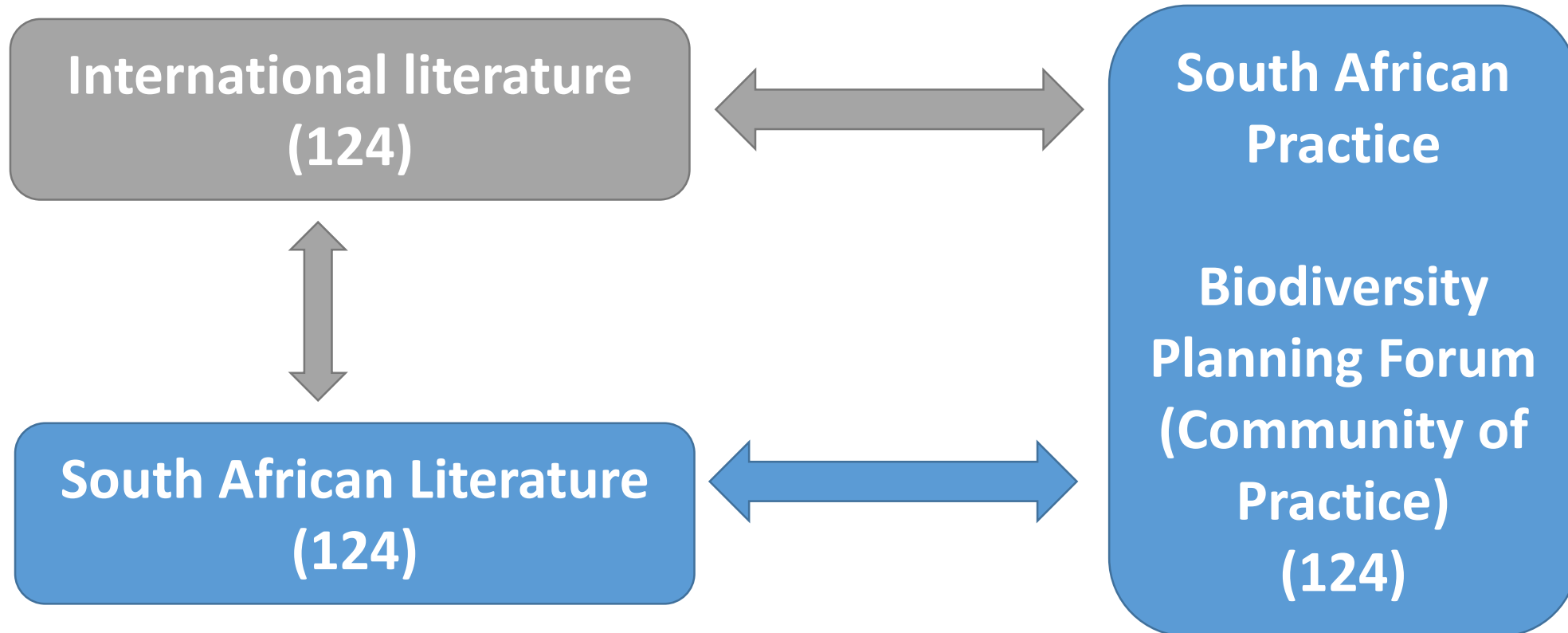


Hypothesis

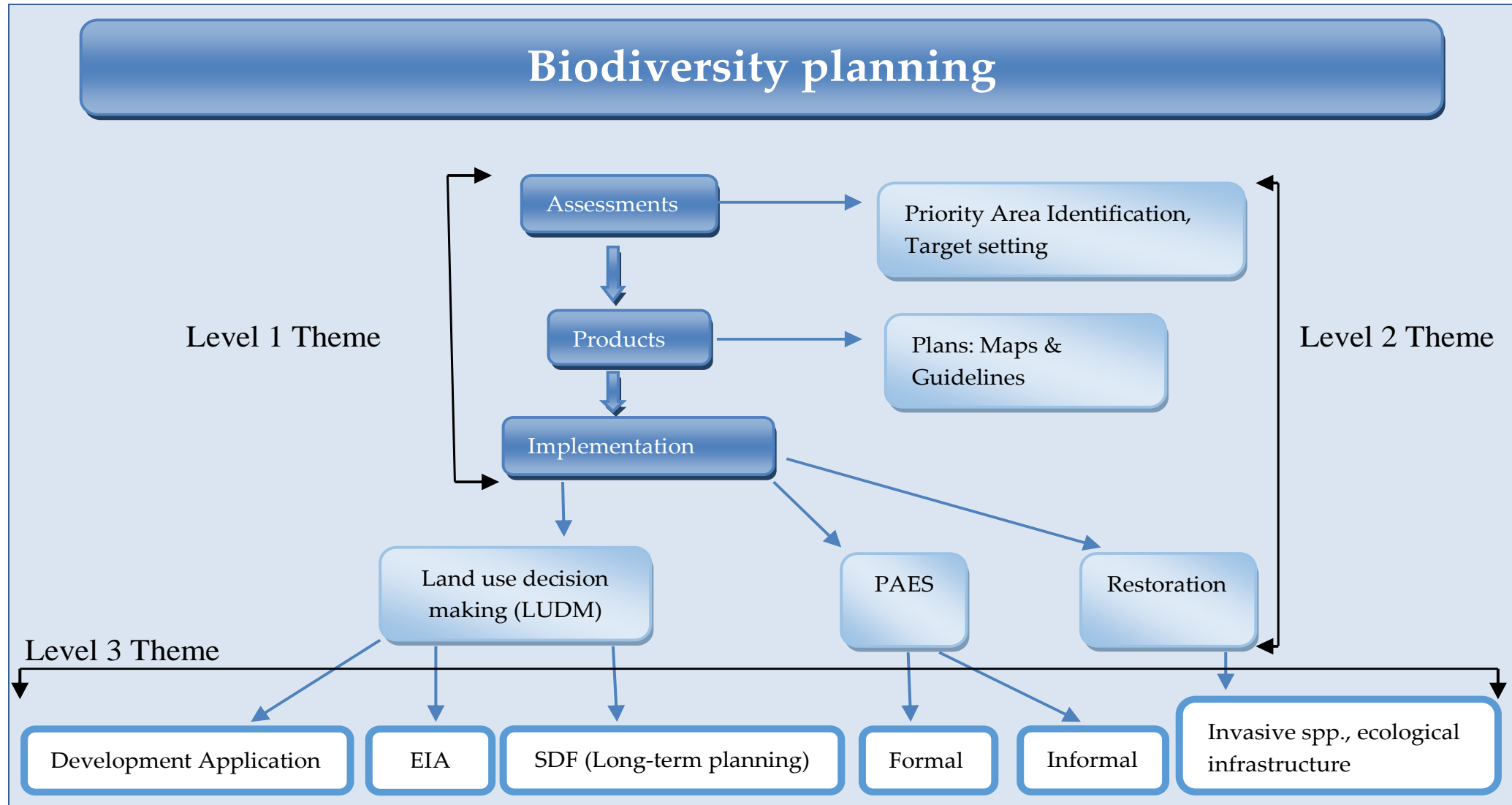
1. The quality and quantity of conservation science has grown over the past 13 years but there is little published evidence of implementation.
2. South African conservation planning shows more practice than is highlighted in literature.

Method

- Systematic Review for the period 2003 to 2015:



Framework



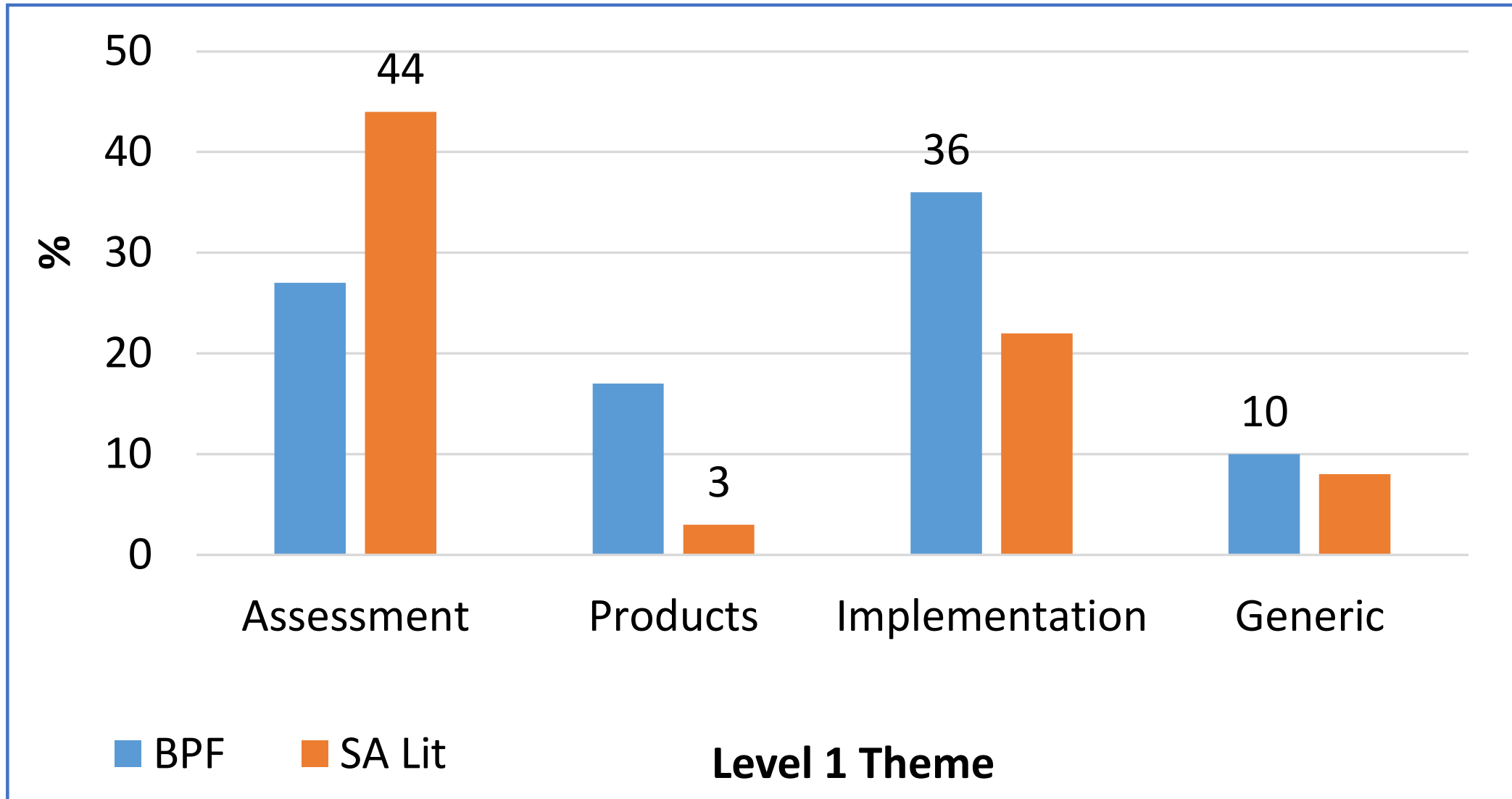
Preliminary Results



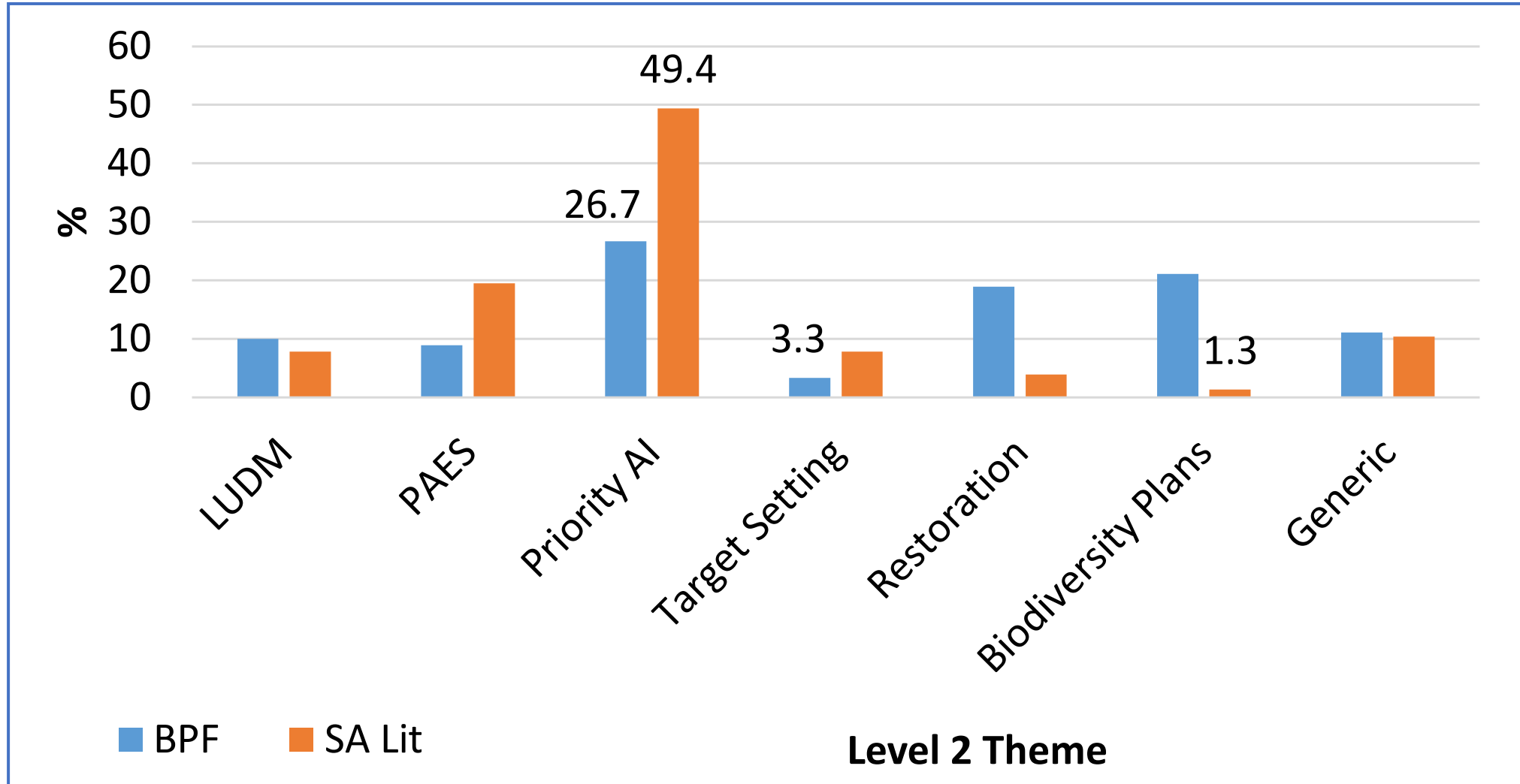
WARNING

...the following slides contain lots of graphs which may be offensive to sensitive viewers, viewer discretion is advised.

Level 1 theme focus



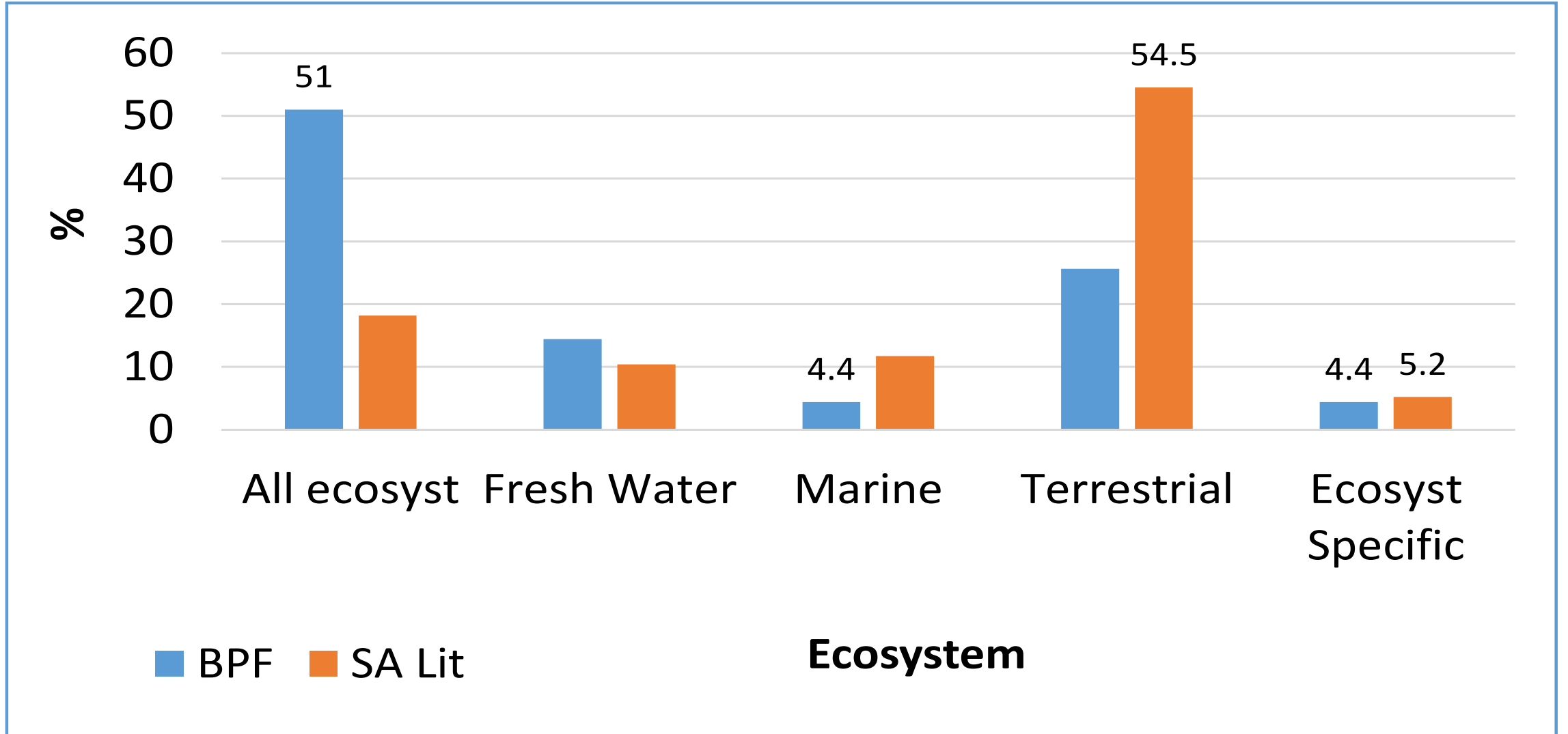
Level 2 theme focus



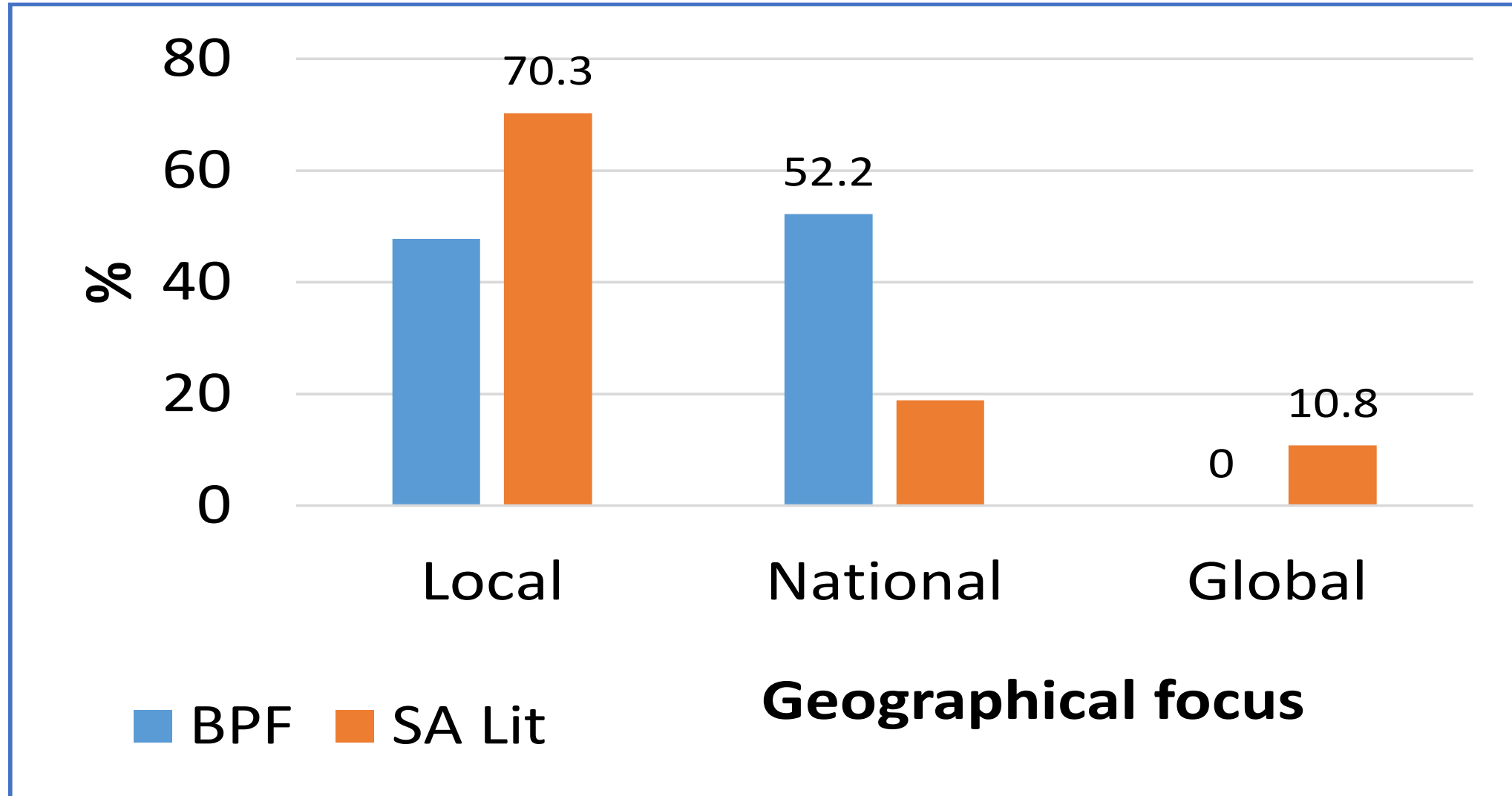
Content focus

	Problem O.M	Solution O.M	Data	Adaptive Mgt.	Evaluation	Stakeholder engagement	Monitoring	Mainstreaming
BPF	22.5	6.7	22.5	29.2	9	5.6	0	4.5
SA Lit	38.7	12	21.3	6.7	13.3	5.3	2.7	0

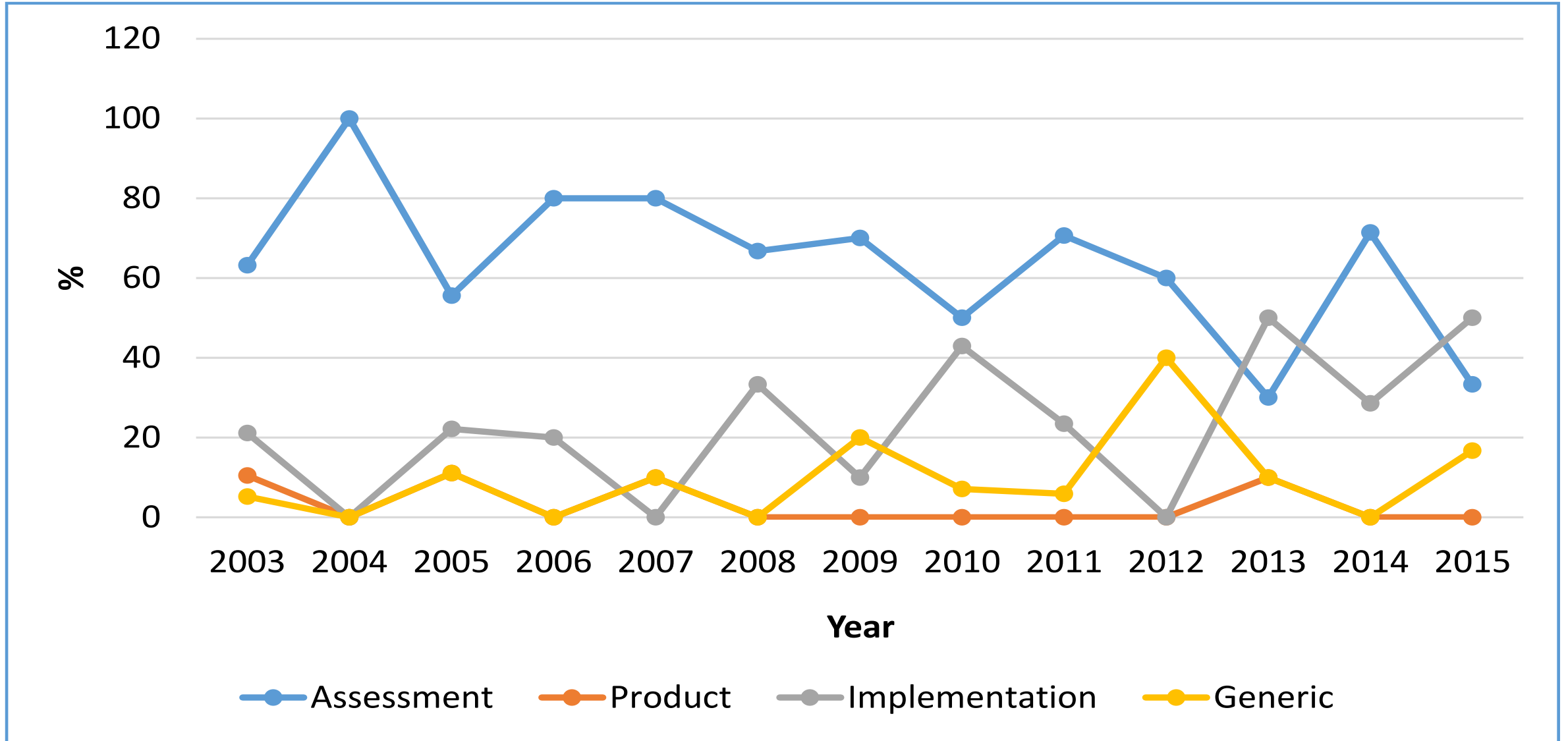
Ecosystem focus



Geographical focus



Change in focus over time – SA Lit.



Conclusion

Focus	SA Literature	SA Practice
General	Assessment: problem oriented methods	Implementation: adaptive management
Ecosystem	Terrestrial	All ecosystems
Geographical	Local	National

Conclusion contd...: Gaps

Literature

- Products
- Implementation
- Mainstreaming

Practice

- Ecosystem specific focus on Beach and grassland ecosystem
- Monitoring

Preliminary results reinforce the disparities between science and practice: what scientists are writing about does not reflect practice

Way forward

We acknowledge that the practitioners may not be able to actively participate in documenting their work, as such, we suggest:

- Strategic collaboration between scientist (academic institution) and practitioners
- Establish scientific departments/sections within practice agencies to:
 - Document practice
 - Interpret science to practitioners and vice versa

***We look forward to seeing the whole picture after complete analysis and incorporating international literature

Thank you!

Suggestions, comments..., questions?

