



Integration of EbA into National (Adaptation) Planning and Programmes in South Africa

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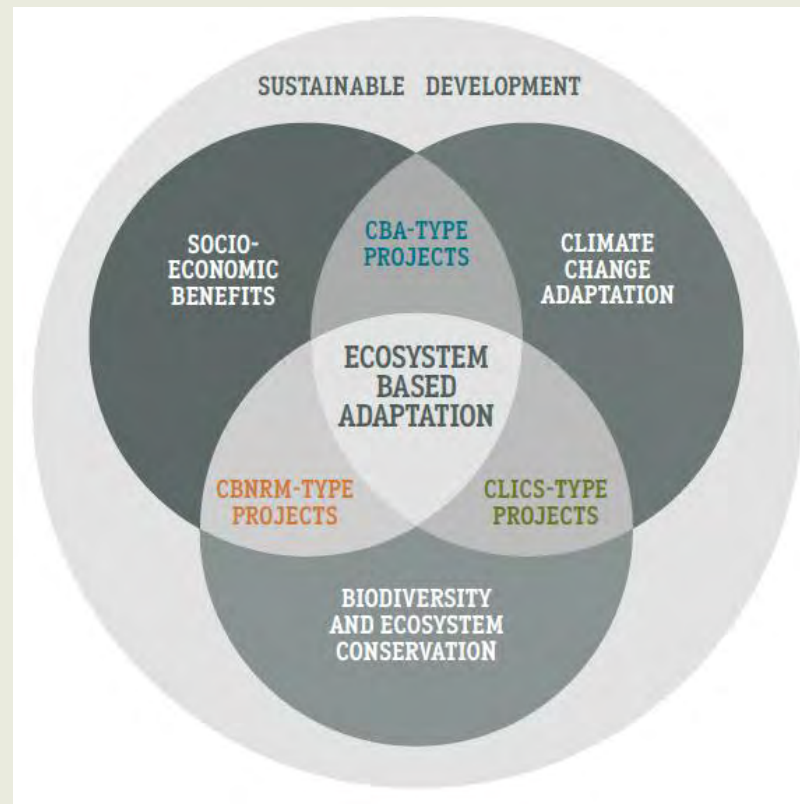
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environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EbA) **integrates** biodiversity and ecosystem conservation, socioeconomic benefits and climate change adaptation outcomes, within the context of Sustainable Development

(Midgley et al 2011)

There are many plans and policies that lend themselves to integrating and enabling EbA.

Did you know?

In the last decade the population of South Africa grew by **7 million** (between 2001 & 2011)

| Population 1996 | Population 2001 |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 40,5 million | 44,8 million |

8 out of 10 people were black African

Total population
51 770 560

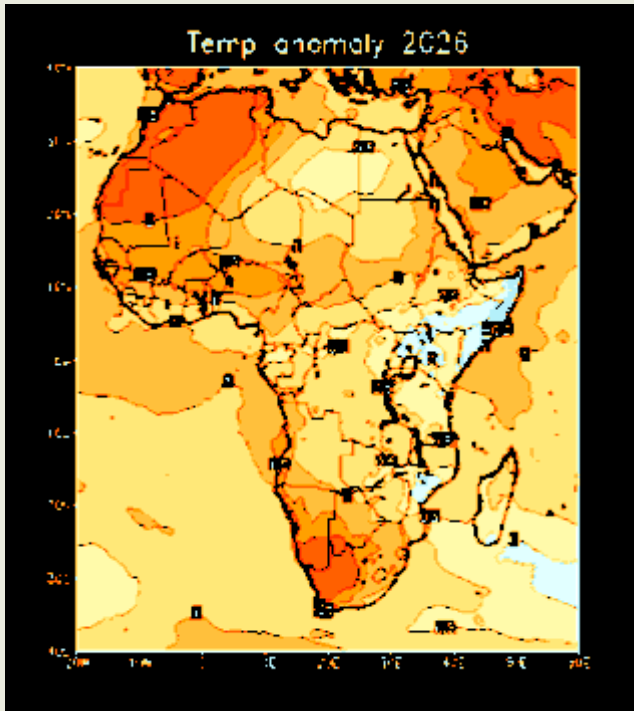
Average age **25** ↑



South Africa 2011

- Unequal access to services
- Low levels of education
- High levels of unemployment
- **Uneven and in many places high vulnerability to Climate Change**

Climate predictions for South Africa: Uncertainty



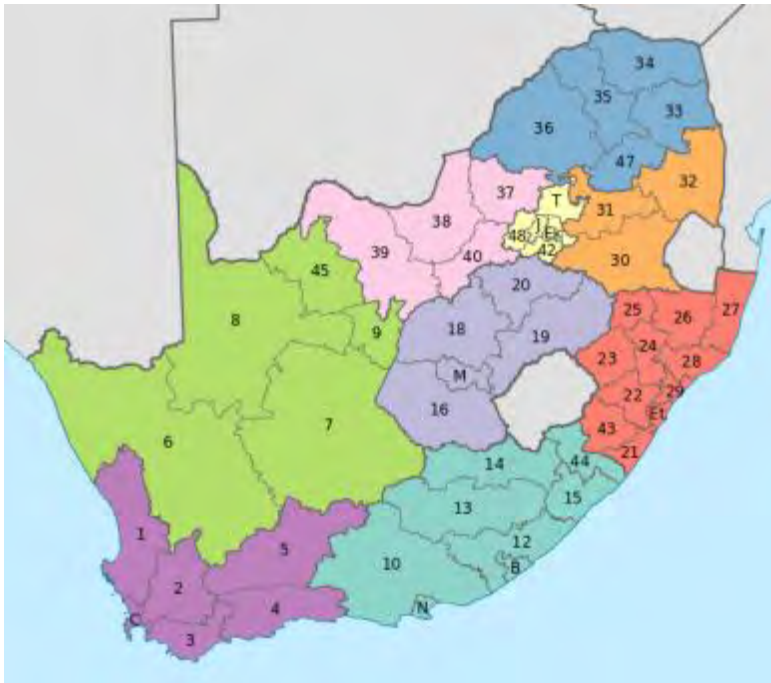
- **Warmer** - especially interior, accelerating temperature trend if no mitigation- global average temperature increase doubled for SS Africa
- **Greater rainfall variability** - especially in summer rainfall region, with higher intensities and frequencies, trend towards less rainfall in winter rainfall region but some scenarios differ
- **Tendency towards drought conditions overall** (drier soil, greater evaporation), but combined with the more intense rainfall events in summer rainfall areas

.....Implications for water, agriculture, health, human settlements, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity and ecosystems

In the face of this uncertainty...**building resilience and reducing vulnerability will be critical**

SA has a complex set of institutional arrangements between **three spheres of government** (national, provincial and local)

Within this complexity, there are **many enablers for EbA** – direct and indirect



Nine Provinces

Local Government:
52 District
municipalities which in
turn are divided into
local municipalities.

EbA and the NATIONAL planning and policy environment

National Climate Change Response White Paper (2011) –
Climate policy for SA.

Identifies a list of Near-term **Priority Flagship Programmes** that will be implemented.

Three are adaptation-related:

- The **Environmental Expanded Public Works Programme**
- The **Water Conservation and Demand Management** Flagship Programme;
- The **Long Term Adaptation Scenarios** programme: Scope sectoral adaptation requirements and costs and identify adaptation scenarios with cross-sectoral linkages and benefits – will align with **national sector strategies**



South Africa's environmental Expanded Public Works Programs grow the Green Economy

A photograph showing several workers in blue and yellow uniforms and hard hats (yellow and green) engaged in a construction project. They are building a stone wall using large grey rocks and wire mesh. The background features a vast, green, hilly landscape under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The workers are in the foreground, with one in a yellow shirt and green helmet gesturing towards the wall.

Job creation through
ecosystem
rehabilitation and
restoration – R1.2
billion, 400 000 jobs

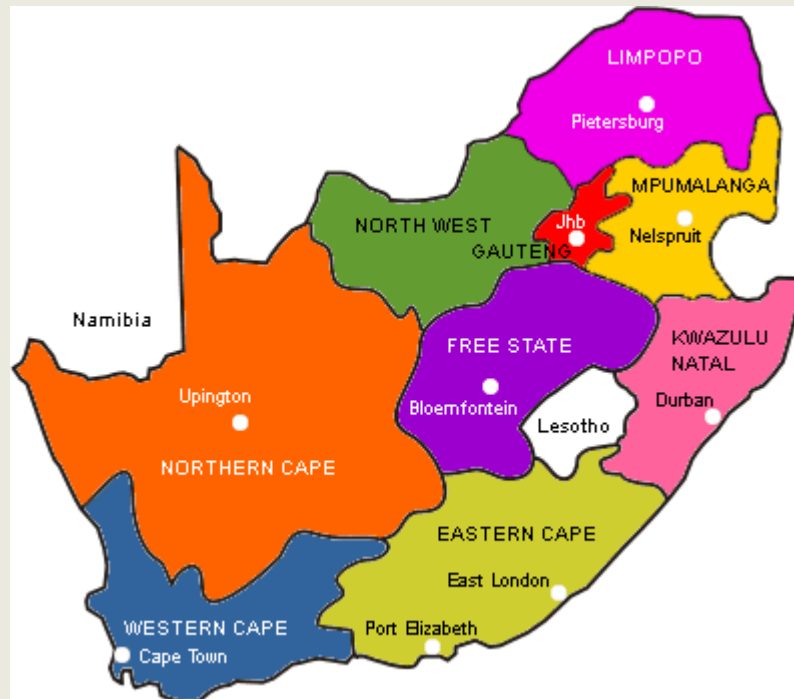
EbA and the NATIONAL planning and policy environment cntd

- South Africa's first **National Development Plan 2030** identifies Climate Change as a major threat and provides a platform for the development and implementation of response strategies.
- Low carbon economy investment window in **Green Fund** (R800 million) and job creation opportunities in **Presidential Jobs Fund** (R4 billion).
- **National Water Resources Strategy** and **water pricing strategy** is currently underway, and provides a major opportunity for mainstreaming EbA in a key national policy process.
- The **Disaster Management Act** (Act 57 of 2002) - under review and opportunity to make links EbA
- Various **National Sector Strategies** – will be informed by LTAS outcomes.



EbA and the PROVINCIAL planning and policy environment

- Provinces develop provincial spatial development plans, sustainable development plans, green economy plans, and various sectoral plans.
- In terms of the NCCRP, “each province will develop a climate change response strategy” (2011:37).
- These are at varying stages with province-wide and sectoral focuses.



EbA and the MUNICIPAL planning and policy environment

Municipalities develop integrated development plans. These have spatial, economic development, disaster risk and financing components.

Important link for EbA

- Better resourced municipalities have already developed climate change related assessments and strategies.
- Several local and international NGOs are supporting this process
- Several Vulnerability Assessments underway, providing good platform for EbA responses.
- ‘Let’s respond’ toolkit- developed by National Department of Environment to promote integration of adaptation at municipal level.



So, if EbA is understood to be a component of SD and if it is already enabled in so many plans and policies, what is stopping its implementation?



Barriers to integration of EbA

Poor understanding of EbA as a concept, and how it differs from other forms of adaptation



Capacity Building efforts must be strengthened - partly underway but needs better resourcing

Barriers in interpreting evolving climate models



Would be users need support to interpret models, understand impacts and develop responses

Poor coordination and alignment between sectors



Frameworks for integration are needed – an overarching policy for EbA with a coherent approach?

Difficulty in distinguishing responses from business as usual (while simultaneously promoting development and adaptation)



Needs clear site-based objectives and a robust M&E framework (various initiatives underway)

Lack of case studies that show benefits of investments in EbA



Need demonstration pilots – partly underway through NIE for Adaptation Fund, Green Fund and others

**Thank you
Asante**

