



Ecological infrastructure: Nature delivering services

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Biodiversity for Life

Overview

- The concept of ecological infrastructure and its application
- Initial analysis of ecological infrastructure in City of Tshwane, with emphasis on water

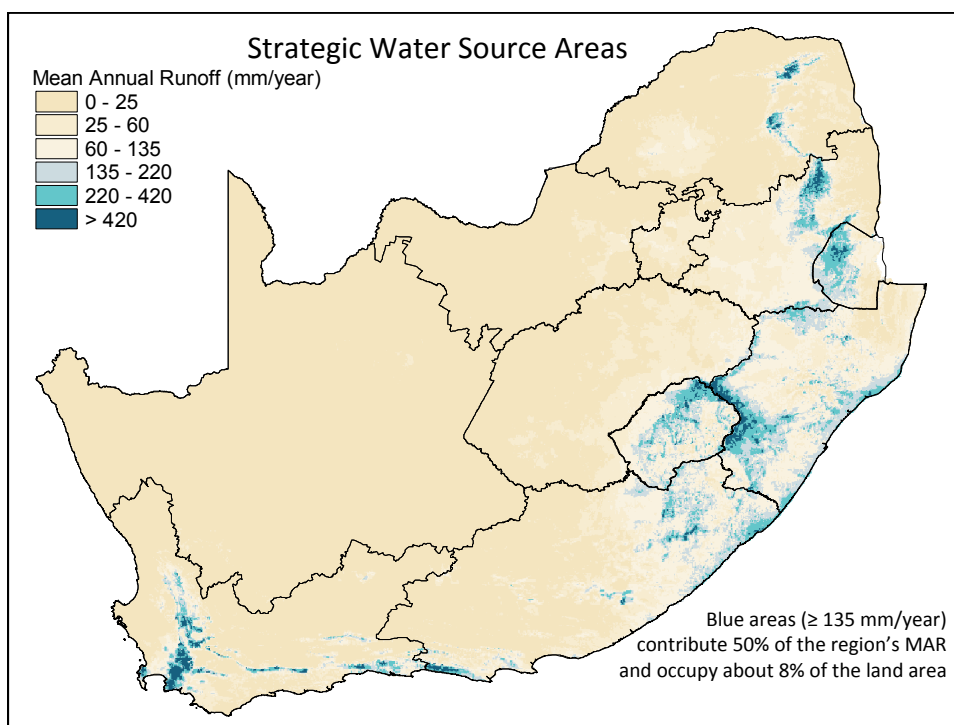


Ecological infrastructure is...

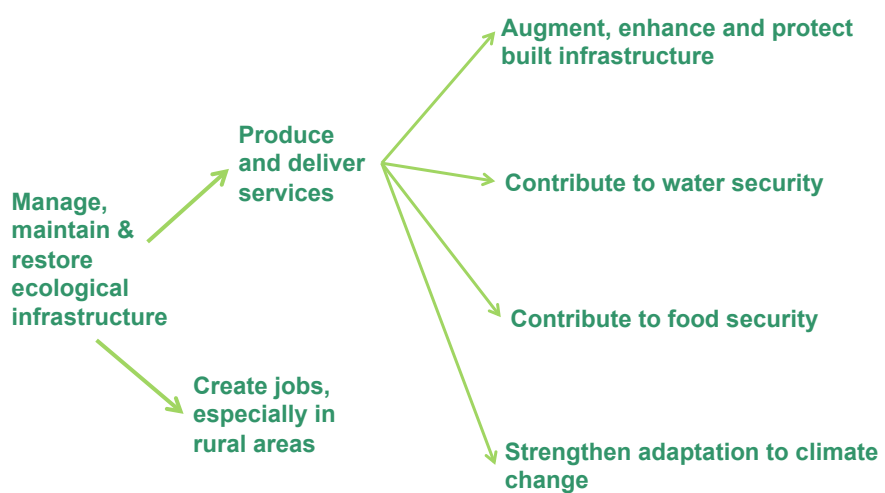
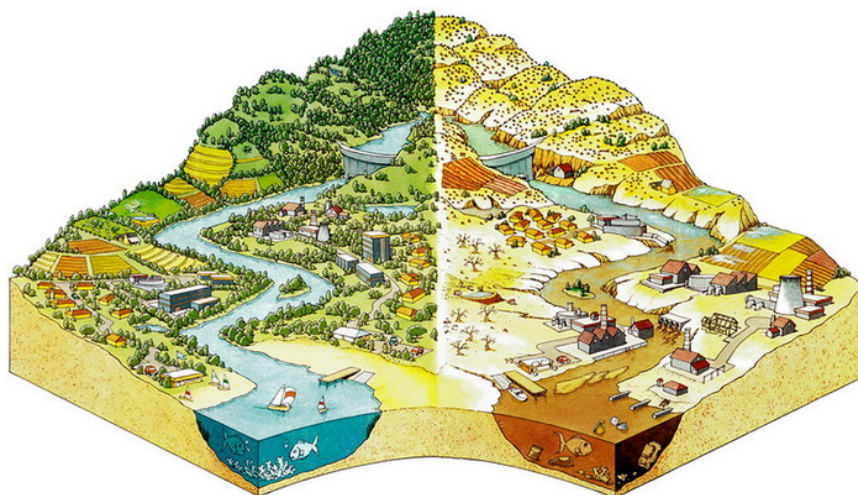
- nature's equivalent of built infrastructure
- functioning ecosystems that deliver valuable services to people
 - e.g. mountain catchments, rivers, wetlands, coastal dunes, spawning grounds, nodes and corridors of natural habitat
 - network of interconnected structural elements in the landscape and seascape

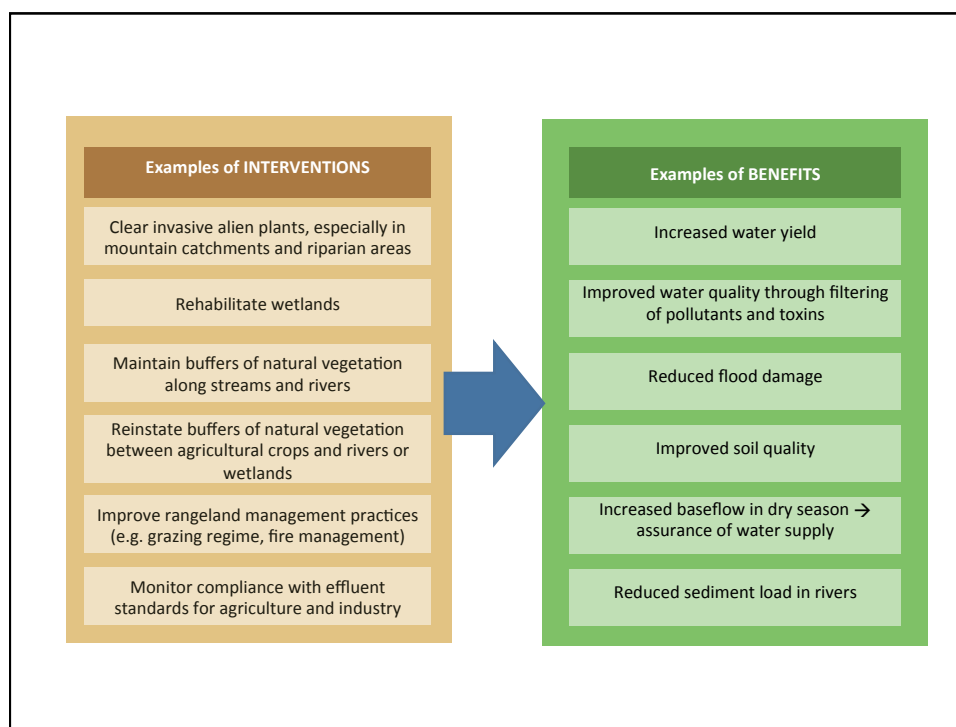
Why use the term ecological infrastructure?

- Services flow from something – an underlying stock of assets
- Often tricky to map a service – much easier to map the underlying asset
- Draws attention to similarities with built infrastructure



Optimal development of landscapes





Wetlands in the City of Tshwane

Total no. wetlands mapped = 1,130

Total area of wetlands = 2,586ha

% of total municipal area = 1,19%

