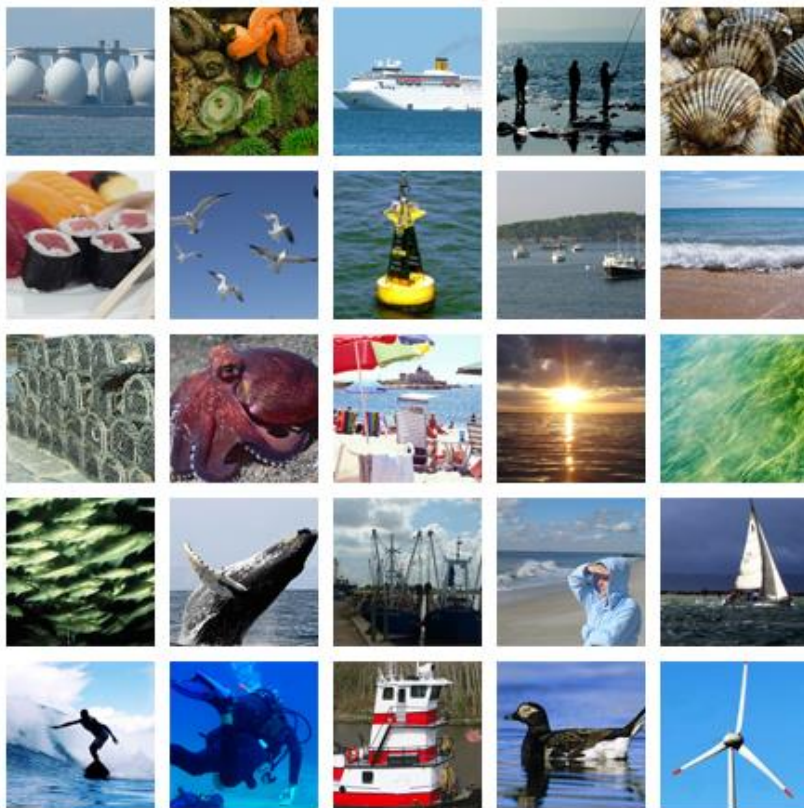


OUR PARTNERS



OVERVIEW

Ocean Accounts Framework applicability in Algoa Bay.

Erika Brown

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Community of Practice: Western Indian Ocean, Ocean Accounts Work Programme 2 Progress Workshop 2 Report: June 2021

Workshop 2 Report: June 2021

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1. Executive Summary

The second workshop for the National Research Foundation (NRF) Community of Practice: Western Indian Ocean, Ocean Accounts Framework Work Programme 2 (WP2) was held on the 25th March 2021, in a follow up to the first workshop held in December 2020. Stakeholders were first provided a recap on what Ocean Accounts is and how it is being implemented in South Africa and, then provided information and transparency in the WP2 approach to accessing and utilizing oceanographic biophysical and biochemical data in Algoa Bay. While preliminary suggestions were made regarding data already acquired for use in an Ocean Accounts Framework (OAF) (i.e. modelled and tabular data), additional data gaps, needs, and/or redundancy will be determined by ongoing stakeholder engagement and feedback. A follow up workshop will be hosted in November/December 2021 to showcase a representative GIS platform and online user tool of Ocean Accounts related spatial data from the Algoa Bay area.

This second stakeholder engagement was successful in raising awareness about Ocean Accounts in South Africa and garnering expert feedback and advice concerning data acquisition and utilization in an OAF Geographic Information System (GIS) spatial database setting. Attendance was not as high as anticipated which points to the need to advertise further in advance for the third and final phase of this project, but also indicates a need to continue to promote the value of OAF for use by different stakeholders.

Next steps will include development of a GIS database and associated oceanographic layers according to the extent specifications and depth related 'Levels' shown in this workshop as well as a publicly accessible online Map Atlas and user tool for visualizing any Ocean Accounts data, and lastly, a series of Ocean Accounts tables of extent and condition of ocean assets, services and ecosystems in Algoa Bay will be made available.

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2. Workshop Focus

NRF Community of Practice in Western Indian Ocean- Ocean Accounts Framework (OAF) data development, needs, gaps and insights.

Purpose: To engage with stakeholders policy/decision makers and other ocean user communities to identify their needs/preferences for reporting on environmental variables, and to highlight the progress of OAF Work Programme 2 in Algoa Bay spatial data development for extent and condition accounts, data needs/gaps for populating the accounts, and conceptualize a multi-user GIS platform/online tool for informing and accessing outputs from the WP2 and greater OAF process in SA.

Who Should Attend: Algoa Bay stakeholders, collaborators, CoP WP research teams, ocean user communities, marine professionals and researchers.

Table 1. WP2 Workshop 2 Original Agenda.

Agenda Items:	Time Available:
10:00 –10:10 am	Opening, Rules of Engagement & Introductions
10:10 –10:25 am	Brief Introduction of Ocean Accounts Framework - Research Chair CPUT Oceans Economy, Prof Ken Findlay
10:25 -10:45 am	Synopsis of WP2 and spatial data development and identification of needs/preferences for stakeholder reporting on environmental variables. -Erika
10:45 –11:00 am	Q & A + 10 min Break
11:00 –11:10 am	GIS Platform/Online Tool -Introduction, conceptualization and how will the stakeholder, policy maker, ocean user community inform, access and utilize this platform? -Erika
11:10 -11:20 am	Spatial Data for OAF extent accounts 5 min -Erika
11:20 -11:30 am	Algoa Bay Models 10min SAEON Egagasini Giles Fearon -
11:30am-12:00pm	Input and Outputs Tables for OAF 10min -CPUT Post Doc Taina Loureiro
11:30am-12:00pm	Summarize, Survey/Feedback Request, Q & A, Discussion and Reflections, Conclude -Erika

3. Workshop Content

A multi-part workshop that entailed a recap of the Communities of Practice Western Indian Ocean Working Group Ocean Accounts Framework (OAF) as developed by the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (GOAP) by Erika Brown and Prof Ken Findlay, an overview of data needs and gaps by Erika Brown, an introduction to the possibility of using hind and forecasting modelled data by Giles Fearon, the development of the Ocean Accounts Framework tabling process by Taina Loureiro and a detailed update on Algoa Bay oceanographic data development and product output by Erika Brown was presented and discussed. To view the presentations refer to this [link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wlwGscmaai5K2zvdXGJX_pv5P7ukAi_j/view?usp=sharing).

(https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wlwGscmaai5K2zvdXGJX_pv5P7ukAi_j/view?usp=sharing)

3.1 Part1: Introduction to Ocean Accounts

The oceans are facing increasing anthropogenic pressures and with the oceans considered the next economic frontier, this is likely set to increase in coming years. This is apparent in the international discussions on the development of ocean economies or blue economies including such initiatives as the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership and more locally the AU 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy and South Africa's Oceans Phakisa Programme.

South Africa is also one of five countries participating in the UN Natural Capital Accounting & Valuation of Ecosystem Services Project (led by Stats SA and SANBI nationally) which aims to assist the participating partner countries to advance the knowledge agenda on environmental and ecosystem accounting and initiate pilot testing of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (EEA), now EA after a recent review process, with a view to improving the management of natural biotic resources, ecosystems and their services at the national level as well as mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems in national level policy, planning and implementation.

Within this, the Ocean Accounting component is still in development, and the newly established NRF Communities of Practice - 'Western Indian Ocean: Assessing the applicability of the ocean-accounts framework' aims to engage with these international programmes to develop oceans accounts in South Africa and contribute to the above mentioned initiatives.

3.1.1 Ocean Accounts Framework and the Work Programmes

The ocean-accounts framework (OAF) provides a common, consistent and standardised information infrastructure for organising and integrating ocean data from various domains. It is increasingly being recognised as an important ocean-governance and policy-development instrument, which boosts the transdisciplinary power of data for marine spatial planning, integrated coastal management (ICM) and international reporting. The goal of this community of practice (CoP) is to assess the applicability of the OAF in South Africa

and the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) as a central component of a wider strategy to ensure that ocean governance contributes as optimally as possible to the broader sustainable goals of South Africa and the other Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) member States by ensuring the inclusivity, safety, security and sustainability of coastal communities.

The aim of the CoP will be achieved through the following phased objectives during phase 1 over the course of 2020 to 2021:

(a) to investigate and assess the efficacy and relevance of the OAF in the process of sustainable and inclusive ocean-policy development and implementation and in the process of applying ocean-governance instruments in three of the coastal provinces of South Africa (the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape);

(b) to explore the role of gender and culture in the OAF through the identification and disaggregation of data; and

(c) to ascertain the extent to which the OAF can contribute to the assessment of the risk and associated hazards, exposures and vulnerabilities associated with climate change, food security and unsustainable development in the three provinces.

Due to the severe impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on research activities, the main focus of the CoP will be on the Algoa Bay area, without excluding readily available data and case studies relating to other coastal locations in the three provinces. The work of the CoP is organised under eight work programmes (WP).

WP1 - Legal environment and regulatory aspects of the oceans-account framework

WP2 - The role of oceanographic research and large datasets for ocean accounting models within ocean governance

WP3 - The structure of the ocean-accounts framework in ocean governance

WP4 - Women's economic empowerment in the Western Indian Ocean

WP5 - Socio-ecological aspects of the oceans account framework

WP6 - Blue-carbon-habitats aspects of the oceans account framework

WP7 - Risks and vulnerability in the ocean

WP8 - Focuses on OAF-related knowledge-production opportunities across the other WPs.

3.1.2 An overview of the focus of Work Programme 2

Work Programme 2 focuses on the contribution that oceanographic research and large datasets can make to spatially-based ecosystem accounting models within the OAF and aims to review biophysical datasets and their applicability of use to develop spatially based ecosystem accounts (of extent and condition) and natural capital flows to social and economic domains and to identify data deficiencies and needs for the data development approaches required for spatially based Oceans Accounting.

Identifying ecosystem assets are important within the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) ecosystem accounting (EA) framework as these assets form the basis of the statistical units for EA, for which statistics are ultimately compiled. For ecosystem assets this is the information with regard to their extent, condition, the services they provide and their value.

How to spatially delineate marine areas and how to assess or envisage this is currently under review by the UN SEEA programme so South Africa is well-placed to provide valuable feedback and advice.

The Global Ocean Accounts Partnership's "Technical Guidance on Ocean Accounting for Sustainable Development", version 0.9, 2019, is a valuable resource to refer to for advice on how to approach implementation of an OAF. There have been several iterations of this guide and it will continue to evolve at least into the near future. It puts all of the aforementioned frameworks and accounting systems in context and provides some guidance when embarking on establishing an OAF.

There are five main points included in the guide (see below) and Points 4 and 5 fall under the mandate for WP2.

1. Sustainability Indicators,
2. Sectoral Evaluation, Finance and Investment,
3. Strategic Sectoral Development Planning,
4. Spatial Management, and
5. Ocean Analyses, Monitoring and Assessment.

Ocean complexity begs for integrated management plans like we see globally and locally through the SA MSP process, SANBI's NBA 2018, OCIMS spatial information management system, NMU CMRs Algoa Bay Project and the MARISMAs EBSA process. The Netherlands is one of many other countries further along than South Africa in their MSP process (Figure 1) and can serve as a valuable resource to draw upon for strategy implementation, challenges, pitfalls and successes for example.

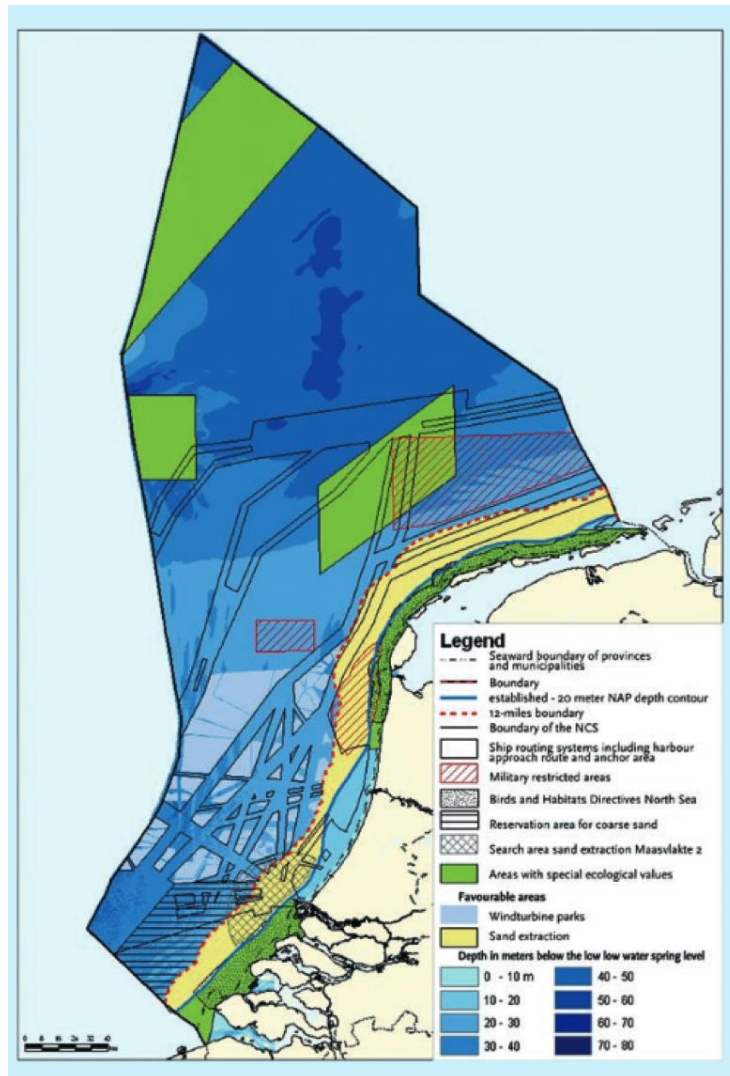


Figure 1. Example of the complexity of multiple users in an ocean space and the Marine Spatial Planning process. Source: IDON, “integrated Management Plan for the North Sea 2015” The Netherlands, 2005.

Humans derive numerous benefits from complex ocean systems through ecosystem and abiotic services. Both market and non-market values, and assets require accounting in the estimation of the contribution of oceans to societal well-being, as do the impacts of economies on environment.

New “blue economy” approaches to ocean governance are required to account for inclusivity and sustainability (Figure 2).

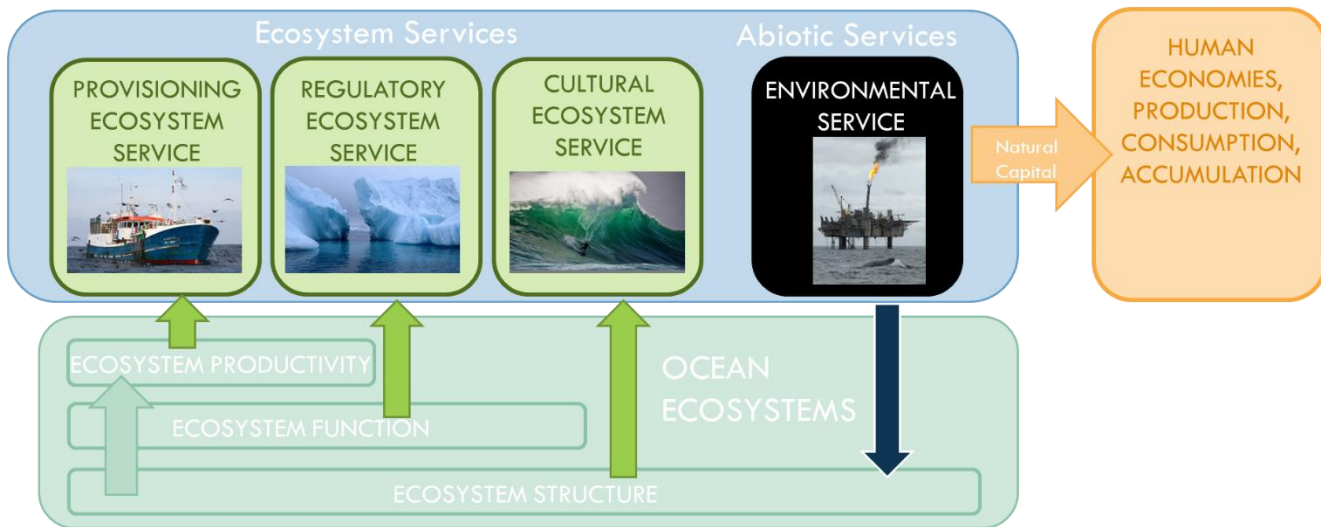


Figure 2. Flow diagram of how oceanographic variables relate to and inform ecosystem and abiotic services which creates the Natural Capital supplying our economies. Source: Findlay K., 2020.

Why Ocean Accounts?

1. Development of integrated indicators that decision makers can understand for informed decision making that includes sustainability and inclusivity within ocean planning (extends from an ecosystem level to a National Accounts level).
2. The development of inventories that strengthen national statistical systems.
3. Integration of large volumes of novel ocean data and identification of data gaps and needs.
4. Justification of the value of research, management, and policy in the ocean space.

When considering why Africa at large can benefit from Ocean Accounts, some facts to recall are 70%, that's 38 of Africa's 54 sovereign states, are coastal. Africa has a coastline of approximately 30,500 km – 40, 000km. South Africa alone has 3200 km of coastline. Africa's oceans and inland water areas are 3 x the size of its land mass. Maritime zones under Africa's jurisdiction total approximately 13 million square kilometres and about 6.5 million square kilometres of relatively accessible continental shelf. 90% of Africa's imports and exports are conducted by sea.

Some definitions of ocean governance to consider. Ecological governance - "a process of informed decision-making that enables trade-offs between competing resource users so as to balance environmental protection with beneficial use in such a way as to mitigate conflict, enhance equity, ensure sustainability and allow accountability" (Turton *et al.* 2007). Governance is about Trade-Offs which require valuations (across nested environmental social and economic domains). They are all intertwined and connected and value can no longer be strictly determined by GDP (Figure 3). This is an unsustainable practice. Ocean Accounting aims to try and achieve a new way forward.

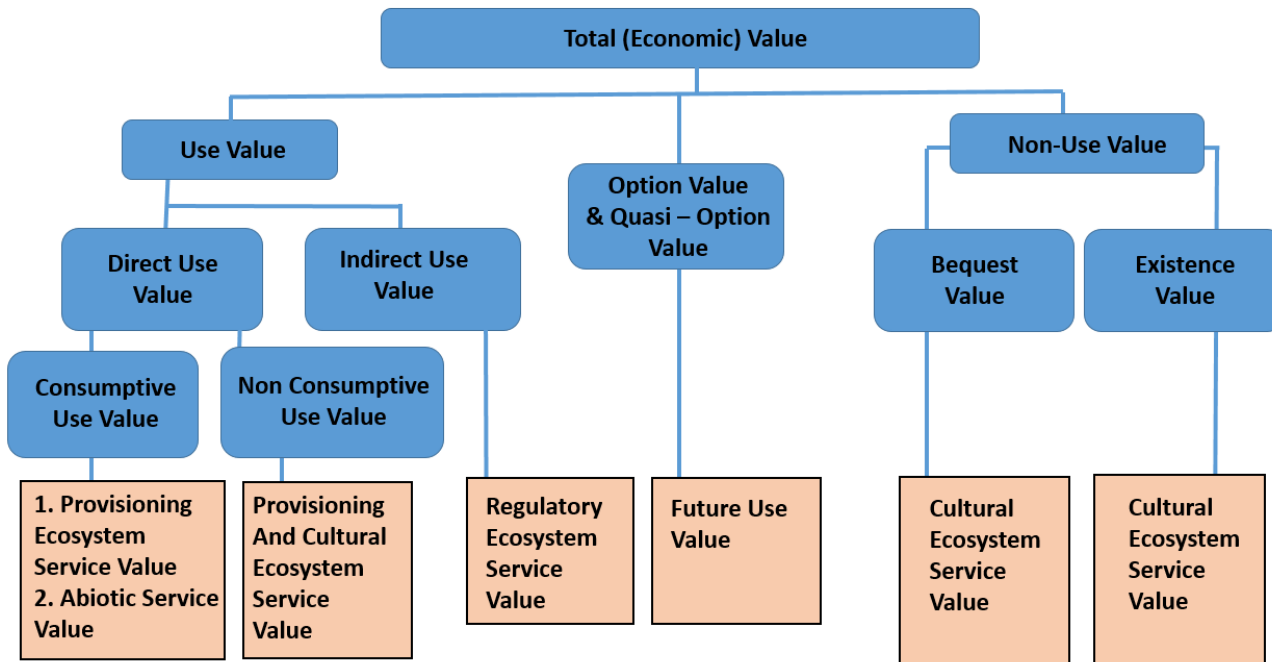


Figure 3. Flow chart of how ecosystem services feed into economic use values and non-use values, as well as the option between the two. Source: Findlay, K., 2020.

3.2 PART 2: WP2 and spatial data development, needs and gaps

Because oceans are changing (naturally and anthropogenically), ocean measurement and analyses are changing, and human resource use of oceans are changing, it is clear, as highlighted above, that how we value and quantify this process must also change.

The aim is to contribute to the international dialogue for developing ecosystem asset extent and condition accounts by reviewing available datasets and their applicability for use to develop spatially based Ecosystem Accounts (through case studies), with the outcome to provide a GIS platform and an online tool to visualize the accounts.

The WP2 role in the greater OAF project is to engage with stakeholders around dataset availability, and potential for collaborations and shared experiences; develop and implement a GIS platform, using oceanographic data provided; develop ecosystem assets, extent, condition and ocean ecosystems typology derived from the data; identification of ecosystem flows to social and economic domains; and finally, translate GIS information into accessible stakeholder and policy maker knowledge (Figure 4).

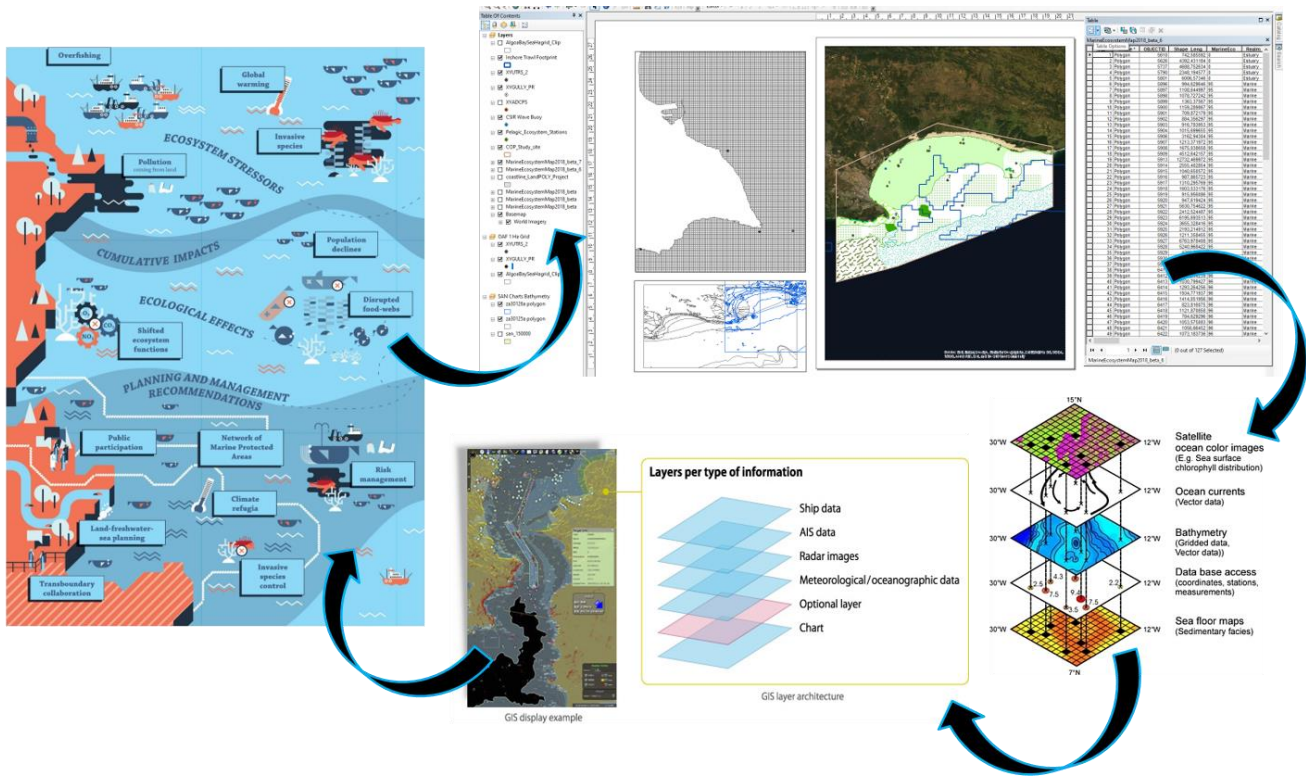


Figure 4. OAF data flow to inform planning, management and policy makers.

Algoa Bay is the initial area of focus because of the COVID-19 pandemic limitations which led to scaling back the original scope of the project. Algoa Bay is a representative area to test applicability of this framework because of its complex web of users, productive upwelling environment, dynamic oceanographic forcings in the bay, long term data availability, multi-organisation collaborations are ongoing, and topical work in process at present through the work of SANBI, The Algoa Bay Project and the MSP strategy (under the jurisdiction of the new Marine Spatial Planning Act (Government of South Africa, 2019)).

Ecosystem extent accounts, along with ecosystem condition accounts, usually form the basis of ecosystem accounts. This workshop addressed, How does an OAF get started? and What are the benefits to this approach?

Ocean Accounts forms a holistic valuation, a step in the larger process to policy and governance. Below are several useful definitions that will help address these implementation considerations as well as a diagram to show OAFs position within the greater MSP process (Figure 5).

Variables are any quantitative measure reflecting a phenomenon of interest. Variables may measure individual characteristics and are often direct measures, such as temperature or number of individuals of a species (GOAP, 2020).

Indicators are variables with a normative interpretation associated with a view to informing policy and decisions. Indicators are often the results of comparison with a reference condition, such as temperature above seasonal average, or number of individuals in a species compared to 10 years ago (GOAP, 2020).

An index is a (thematically) aggregated indicator, which represents relatively broad aspects of the studied system in a single number. Temperature is combined with other data on timing to create indices of growing season length. Populations of several species may be combined into a biodiversity index (GOAP, 2020).

An asset is a useful or valuable thing or person, an item of property owned by a person or company, regarded as having value and available to meet debts, commitments, or legacies.

Asset in a biodiversity context- Species, ecosystems and other biodiversity-related resources that generate ecosystem services, support livelihoods, and provide a foundation for economic growth, social development and human wellbeing (Sink et al., SANBI Marine Realm Report, 2019).

Asset in a biophysical or oceanographic context- [DRAFT DEFINITION-EB] Environmental and ecosystem related resources that either support or directly generate ecosystem services, support livelihoods, and provide a foundation for economic growth, social development and human wellbeing.

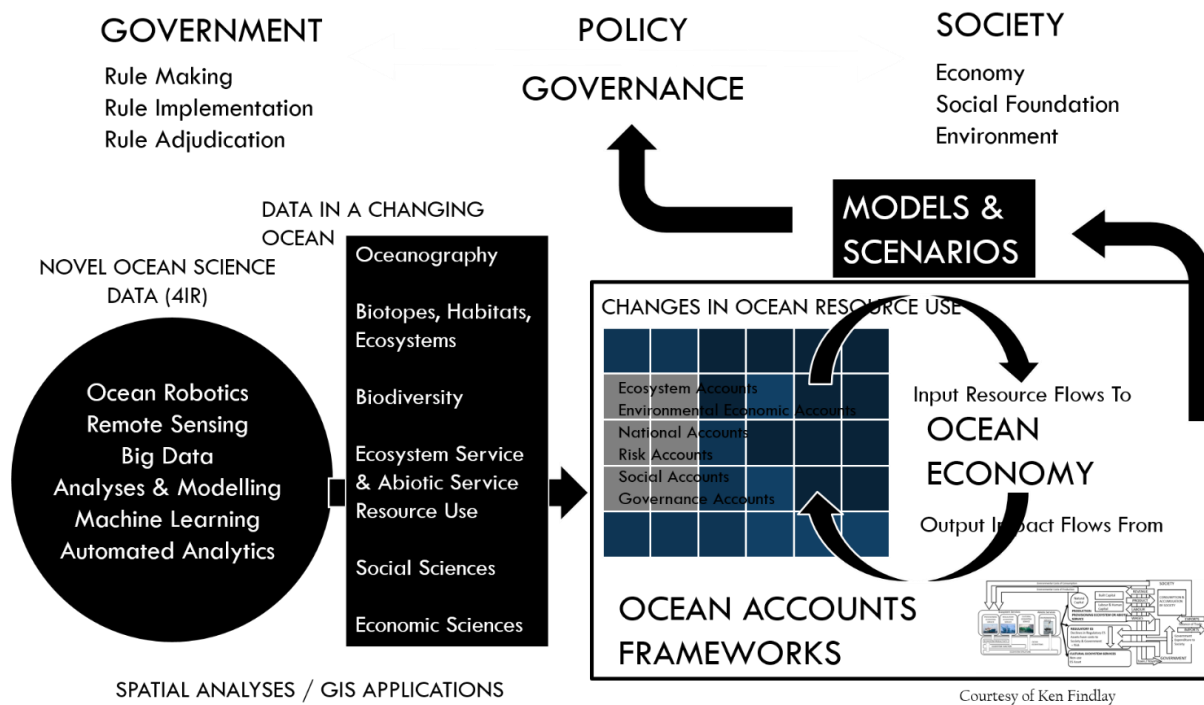


Figure 5. A diagram depicting a holistic approach to valuing Natural Capital and how OAF informs policy, governance, government and society.

3.2.1 OAF Algoa Bay data

Basic elements of the spatial data infrastructure should include shoreline, bathymetry and the designation of spatial units (i.e., MBSUs based on a grid or other spatial framework). Other elements would be overlaid as either asset types, uses or conditions.

The choice of condition measures will be informed by national priorities and data availability. For example, data on nutrient concentrations would inform concerns about algal blooms or eutrophication. There are many approaches to “reference condition” and these should be agreed and policy relevant (e.g., pristine, sustainable, specific date in the past, pre-industrial, etc.). Generally, reference conditions should be distinct from “target conditions”, which may be set by policies, but not necessarily consistent with maintaining or improving capacity to provide optimal long-term ocean services.

Some key condition variables that would inform multiple ocean-related concerns include:

- pH (acidity)
- BOD, COD, Chlorophyll a, primary productivity (an indicator of eutrophication)
- Species diversity, ecosystem diversity (Shannon index of diversity)
- Concentration of floating plastics
- Sea surface temperature (SST)
- Coral condition (cover, % living, %bleached)
- Seagrass and mangrove cover (%)

In the case of Algoa Bay, seagrass and mangrove cover could be replaced by kelp forest cover for instance.

Initially the SAEON Sentinel Site, NMU, SAIAB, and Rhodes University data from Algoa Bay will be utilized to inform a case study application (Figure 6). Gully Temperature Probes (GTU), Underwater Temperature Recorders (UTR), Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP), and Conductivity Temperature Depth (CTD) instruments that have been recording oceanographic conditions as a part of a long term monitoring project in Algoa Bay will be used. Oceanographic and biological variables will include depth (m), sea temperature °C, salinity (PSU), dissolved oxygen (ml/L), nutrients (nitrate, phosphate, silicate in μM), and chlorophyll (Chl-a). While data spanning 2008 -2020 exists, 2018 and 2019 data will be used to start. Most of the data captured is up to 30 m depth, with exceptions up to 100m.

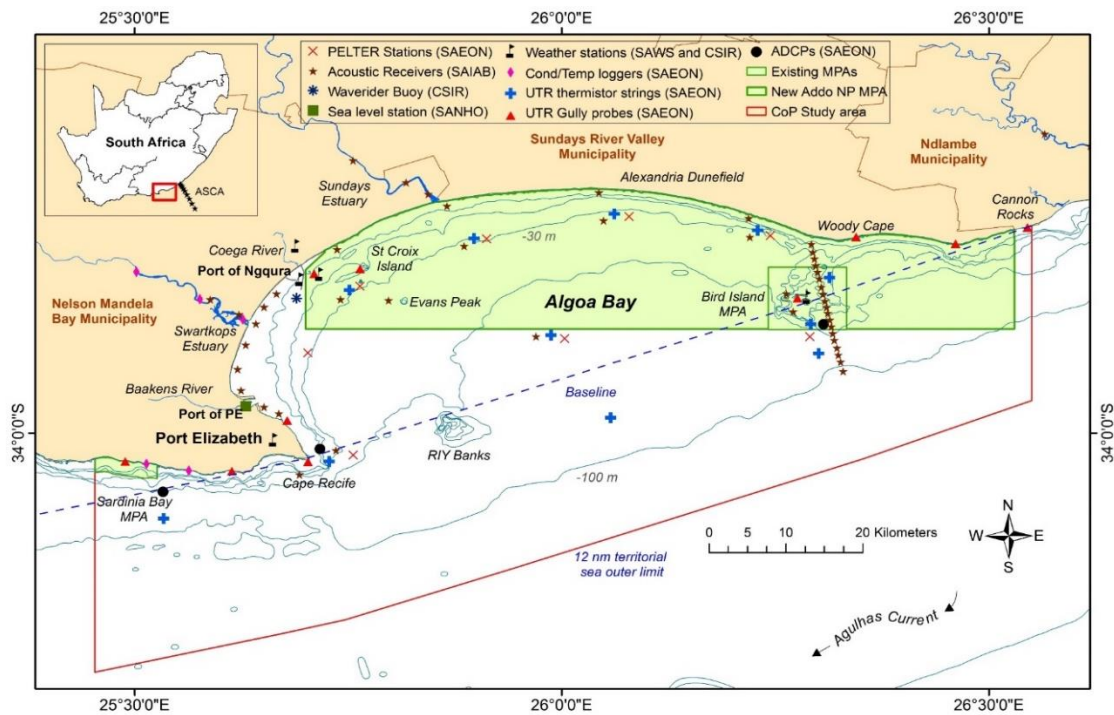


Figure 6. A map showing the SAEON Sentinel Site and associated instrument locations in Algoa Bay. Data from the PELTER Stations, CTDs, UTR thermistor, UTR Gully Probes and the ADCP's will be used to create a GIS database and associated spatial layers.

The ocean is large, three-dimensional, moving, much is outside national jurisdictions and spatial data are collected by many local, national and international organizations. This poses challenges to mapping; therefore, only 20 percent of the global ocean seafloor has been mapped in terms of depth (bathymetry) and less than 0.001 percent has been sampled in terms of substrate and biota (DOALOS, 2016, Chapter 33). Although remote sensing provides global data, only the surface of the ocean is visible from satellite. This requires special attention to establishing a spatial data infrastructure that will serve to integrate many types of data including from local in situ studies.

While extensive data sets do exist in this area, one of the key aims of this work is to discern which data sets and related locations, in x, y and z space, are relevant and applicable for OAF purposes.

Following a study by Sayre et al., 2017 (Figure 7), an ocean mesh for assessing extent and condition of oceanographic variables in x, y, z space will be used: from a global to a regional context, Algoa Bay grid zonation (Figure 7) will be defined as:

- 100m x 100 m grid blocks (1 ha)
- Additionally consider 25m, 50m, 100m resolution

- Discrete point data should fall within 50 m of centroid within block
- Cluster data at the centroid.
- Column of oceanographic data represented up to 100 m depth with current data sets

The WP2 group suggestions for delineating extent for oceanographic variables being considered are as follows:

- Extent in an oceanographic context has not only x and y values, but also z values so we will look at 2D and 3D extent
- High water mark to 30 m depth contour – coastal ‘realm’
- 30 m depth contour to 200 m depth contour – nearshore, past 200 m depth (Shelf edge – Neritic zone)
- In z space, 2 zones within the photic zone, 0 – 30 m through the water column, and 30 – 200 m
- Both spatial and temporal disaggregation in data will need to be flagged and tracked
- Data will be batched into 5 Levels -Sea surface, Water column (WCI - 0-30m and WCII - 30 – 200m), Sea floor, and Sub sea floor

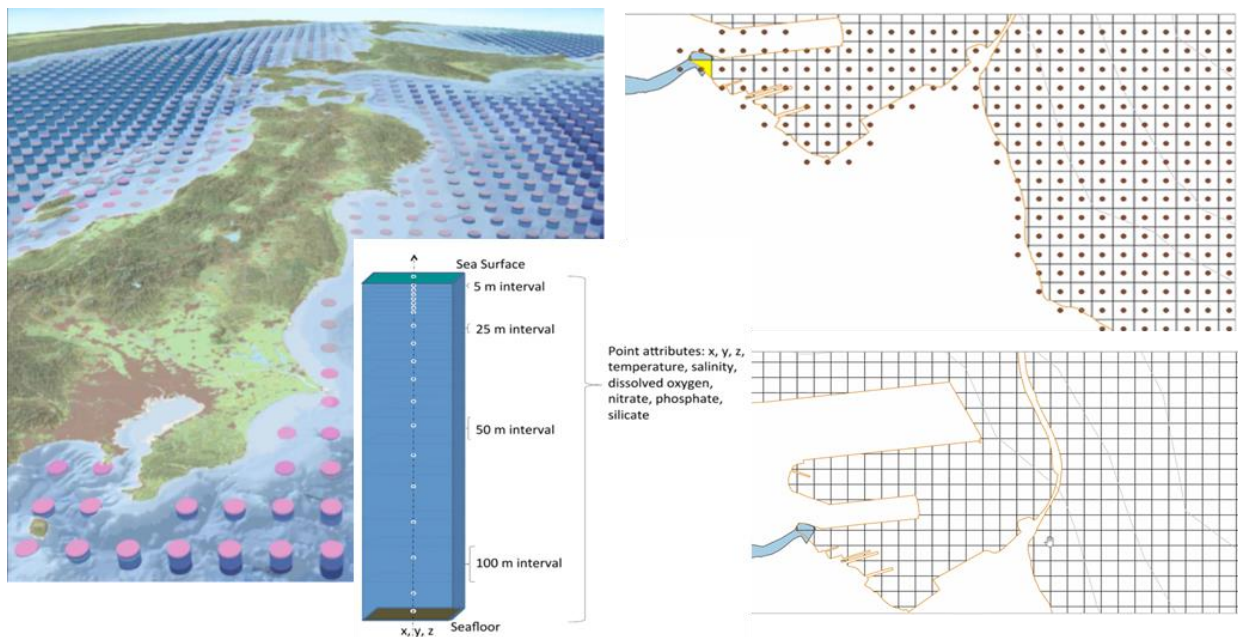


Figure 7. Sayre et al., 2017 global ocean mesh grid system and associated xyz water column with centroid representation, on the left. Example of Algoa Bay local scale 1 ha grid system with centroid points, on the right.

The Basic Spatial Unit (BSU) may be as small as a remote sensing image pixel (30-100m), a national grid reference system (1nm) or small administrative units (e.g., marine statistical area). Smaller BSUs have the advantage of being more homogenous. That is, when delineating ecosystem extent, some ecosystems, such as mangroves, or estuaries, may be in strips of 5m wide and therefore undetectable by satellite at 100m resolution. Since ecosystems tend to be more complex in coastal areas and data tends to be more generally available, some countries maintain data at finer resolution near the coast. In this case, it may be practical to distinguish between coastal units (CBSU) and marine units (MBSU). Coastal Basic Spatial Units and Marine (nearshore) Basic Spatial Units will be developed from oceanographic variables in x, y, z space and over time to determine ocean ecosystem types in Algoa Bay.

Out of 150 SANBI (NBA 2018) ecosystem (habitat) types along the SA coastline, 15 are present and delineated in Algoa Bay (SANBI NBA, 2018). The goal is to establish extent and condition in an OAF to derive ocean ecosystem types. The two approaches are connected but different. Will biodiversity ecosystem types correlate to ocean based ecosystem types? Will there be crossover, differences, similarities? When the z factor is included as defined Levels (depth) how will the ecosystem type change or not? These are questions that will be considered through the next phase of WP2.

3.2.2 Spatial database

Ocean accounts can be built from maps (spatially explicit) or tables (spatially independent), but the power is in combining them. Maps can be used to generate tables and data in tables can be allocated to areas of the ocean.

The following guidance is provided in the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership. Technical Guidance on Ocean Accounting for Sustainable Development, United Nations, 1st edition, 2019. Establishing the spatial database for Ocean Accounts is an important early step that will facilitate the integration of spatial data from many sources. If the data sources already adhere to the standards of a National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) that includes coastal and marine areas (or Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure, MSDI), then spatial standards will not have to be developed specifically for the pilot. If not, then an ocean accounting pilot may be the catalyst to expand an existing NSDI to the country's EEZ. These considerations will be developed further and synchronized among all of the WPs by WP3.

Many pilots have begun by compiling maps as a basis for a physical ocean asset extent account. If there is no NSDI/MSDI, then standards such as shoreline vector, definition of "coastal", projections and scales will need to be established. It is possible to generate initial analytical results by overlaying spatial data in a GIS without creating an integrated spatial

data infrastructure. However, this does not facilitate the production of the accounting tables. That is, to produce a physical Ocean Asset Extent Account, it is best to first align data (e.g., separate maps of mangroves, coral, seagrasses, kelp beds etc.) using the same shoreline and spatial units. Doing this will ensure validation of the data by revealing gaps and overlaps.

Although the Ocean Accounts Framework suggests spatial units and ecosystem classifications, pilot physical Ocean Asset Extent Accounts typically begin with existing national spatial units and ecosystem classifications. SANBI's NBA 2018 will be largely drawn upon as well as the work of NMUs The Algoa Bay Project for reference and where relevant comparison.

3.2.3 Modelled data

In a country like South Africa, where *in situ* data can be costly and sparse, modelled data plays an important role for assessing the state of an ocean ecosystem. Dr. Giles Fearon demonstrated the advances in modelled hind and forecasted oceanographic data for Algoa Bay.

Recent work within OCIMS on bay scale modelling 'downscales' global ocean models (BRAN, HYCOM, GLORYS) to high resolution over Algoa Bay (~500 m) where hindcast simulations validated against 2.5 years of in-situ observations from ADCPs, UTRs and GTPs located in the Bay provide a snapshot of sea surface temperature (Figures 8 and 9). Along with supporting various research and training objectives, uses for this type of product include scenario testing (for managers and policy makers) as well as identification and dissemination of key historical metrics and indicators.

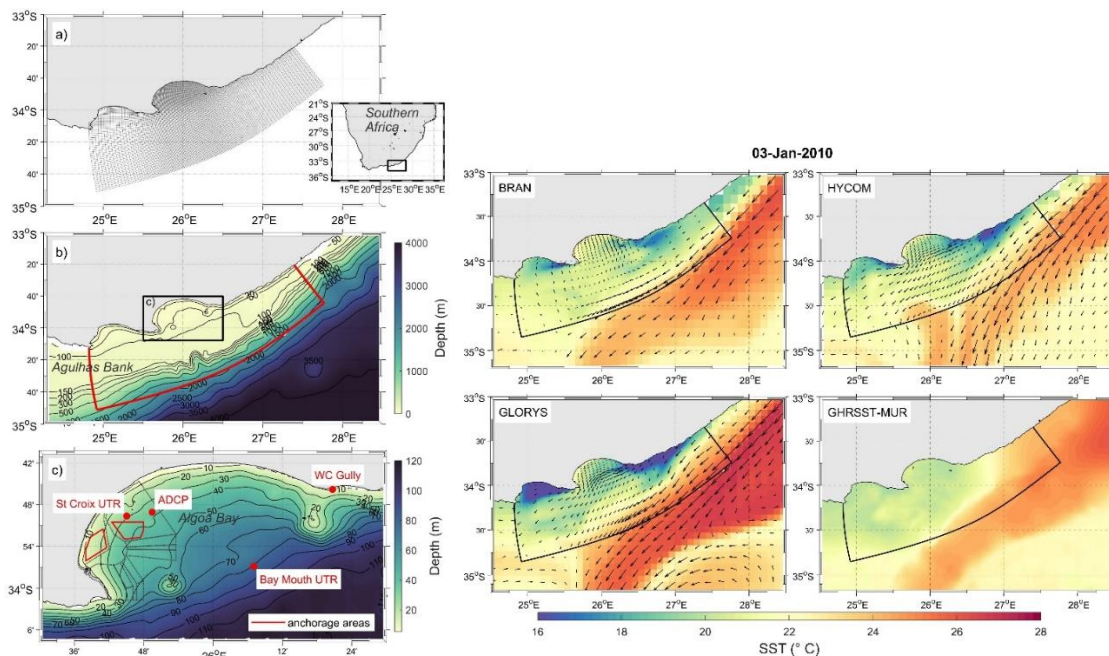


Figure 8. Downscaling of global ocean models, BRAN, HYCOM, GLORYS, for the purpose of high resolution hindcasting of SST over Algoa Bay.

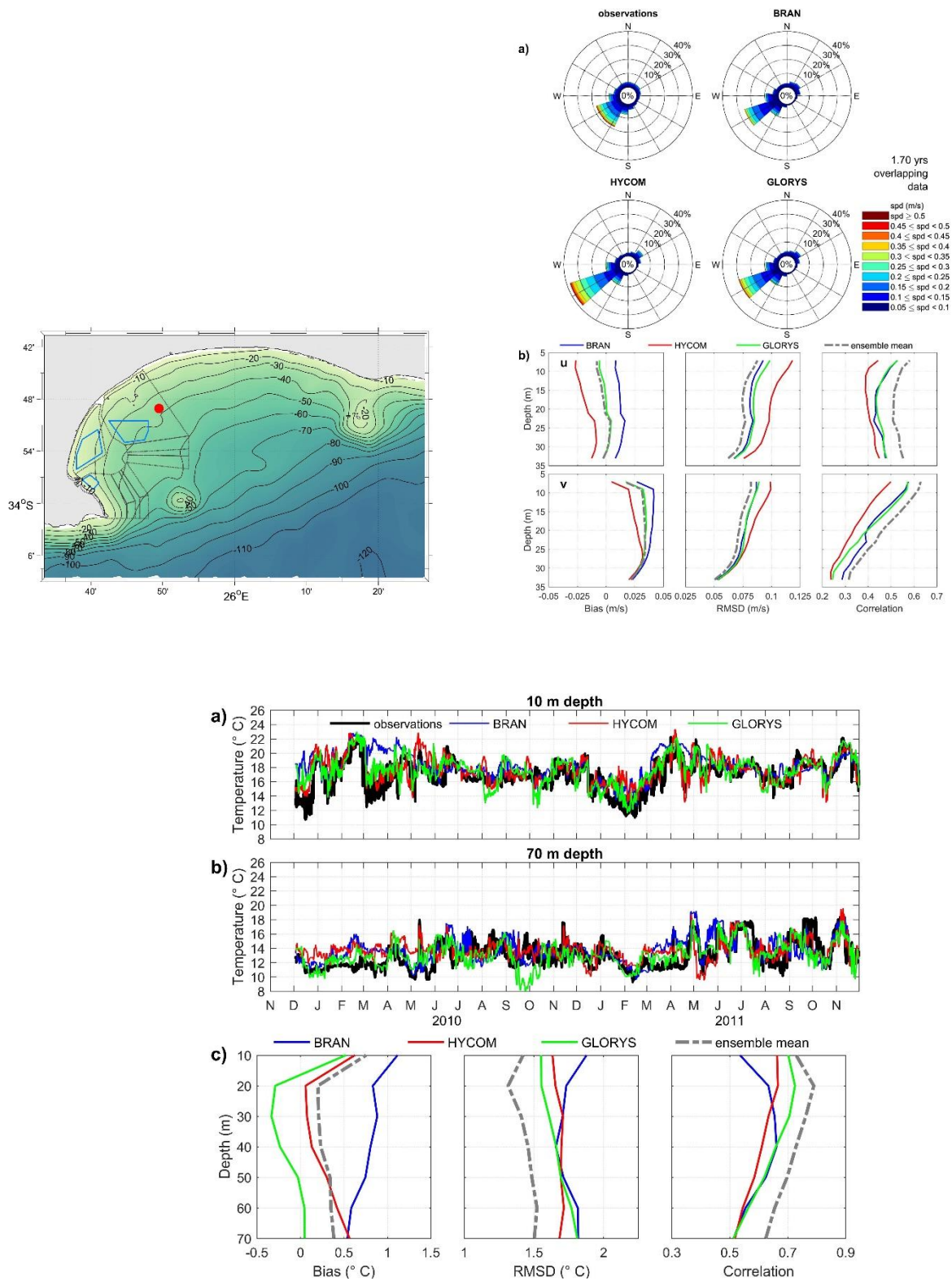


Figure 9. Evaluation of Algoa Bay model against in situ observations provided by SAEON eLwandle coastal node and of Lwandle Marine Environmental Services (on behalf of PetroSA).

Within an OAF concept products like these can aid measuring change over time within the environment of focus. Additionally, elaborate simulations can be created based on local oceanographic conditions that would support risk and response scenarios and associated decisions in planning and management. OCIMS test platform link for high resolution model forecasts for Algoa Bay can be accessed here [link](#) where a hypothetical oil spill model simulation can be viewed.

3.2.4 OAF Ecosystem accounting tables

CPUT Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dr. Taina Loureiro, presented detailed examples of the associated accounting tables for Ecosystem Accounting within an Ocean Accounts Framework where stock accounts and flow accounts are broken up into physical accounts and monetary accounts respectively (Figure 10). Once finalized by the WP3 team, these accounts will be linked to the GIS platform.

Ecosystem Accounts and how they relate to each other

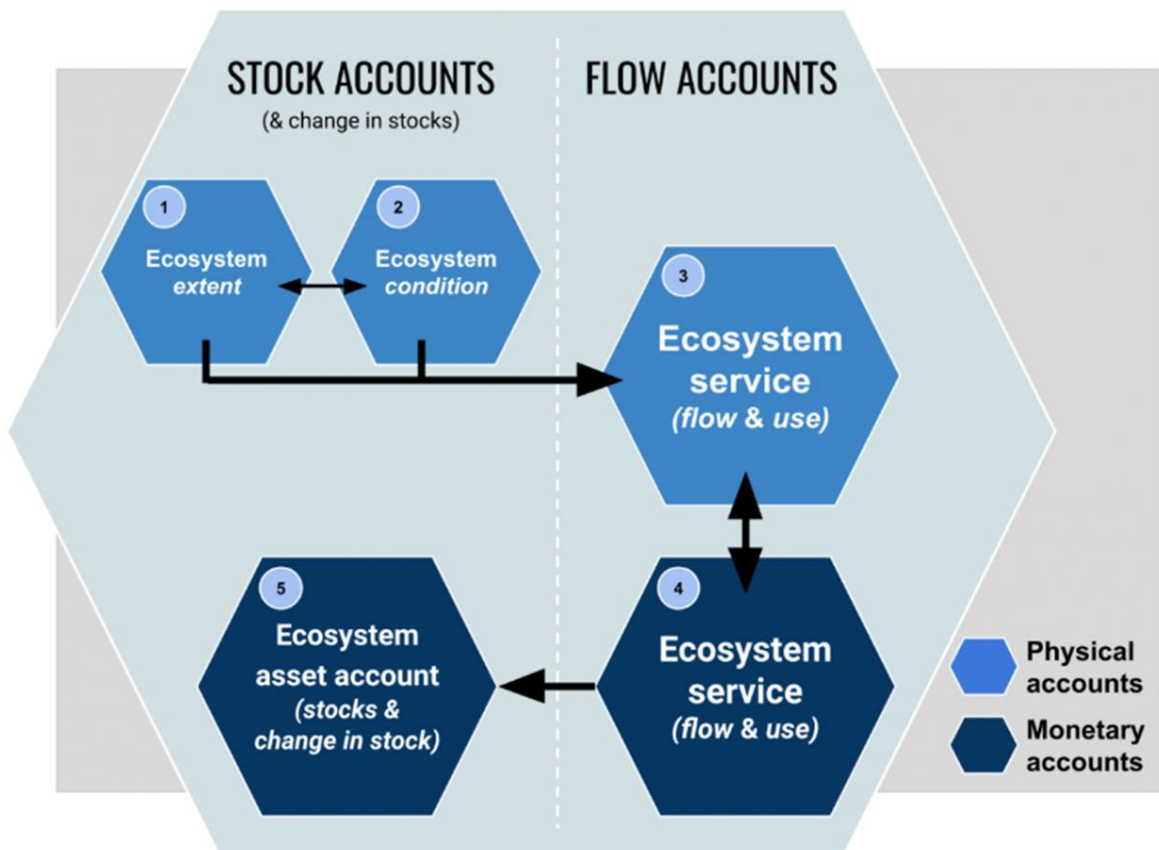


Figure 10. Ecosystem accounts and how they relate to one another, <https://seea.un.org/ecosystem-accounting>.

3.2.5 Online GIS platforms and user tools

In an attempt to assess the applicability of the role that oceanographic data can play in the OAF a brief review of already available GIS platforms and online user tools was conducted (Figure 11, see Annexes 3-4). In addition a detailed synopsis of data to be compiled, global and regional data providers and sources and an Algoa Bay focused data catalogue have been compiled and can be viewed in Annexes 2 – 4 at the end of this report.

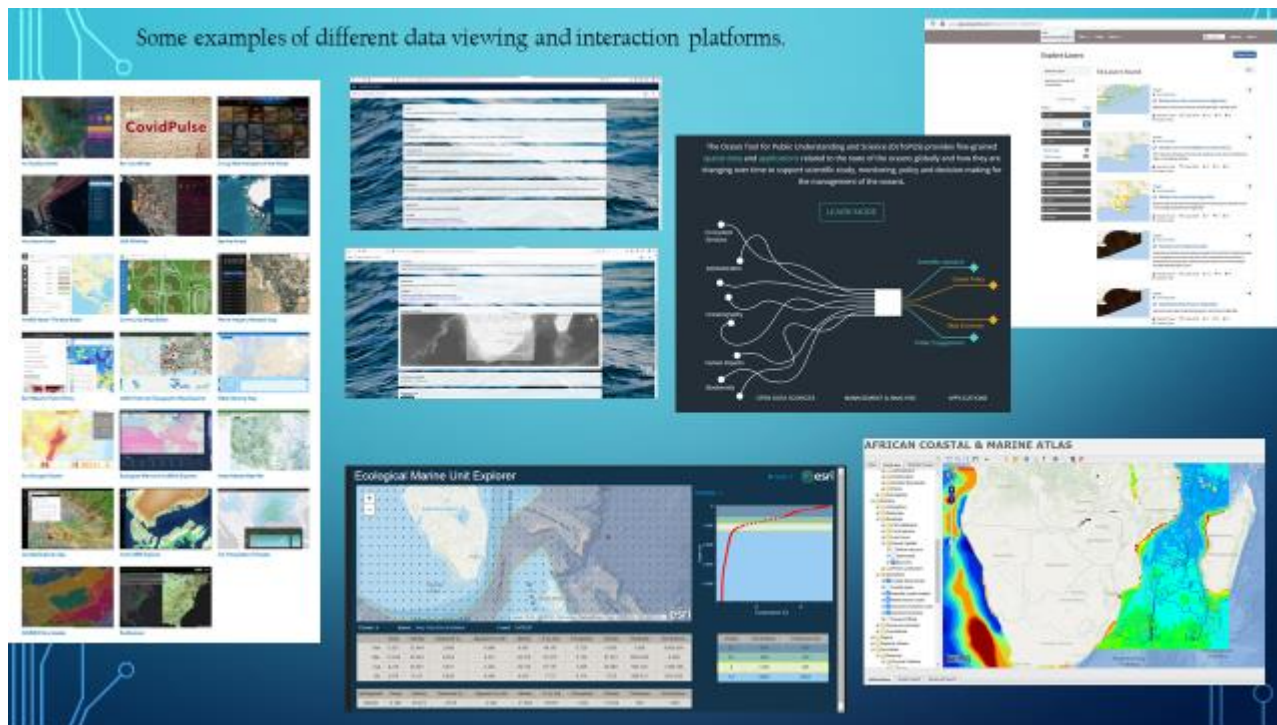


Figure 11. GIS based online user platforms for viewing oceanographic data (see Annexes 2 – 4 for references and more information).

The novel aspects of ocean accounting means that there is considerable scope for experiential dialogue from across African case studies in the accounts refinement process as well as drawing on work already underway internationally with respect to development and implementation, and in the manner of use in decision making processes.

This project will work extensively with external partners, including the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership, the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (through GOAP), WIOGEN, IORA Academic Groups and the African Natural Capital Accounts Working Group on Ocean Accounts as well as draw on the National and local work by SANBI NBA 2018 and The Algoa Bay Project working group, respectively.

We also endeavor to engage with and share in as many additional local, regional, and national groups as feasible and willing.

4. Concluding Remarks

Virtual workshop attendance and participation was moderate but satisfactory. Since the start of the year additional stakeholders have been engaged with and attended the follow up workshop where data needs and gaps as well as product development were addressed. Additional stakeholder engagement, more advanced final workshop notice and increased participant numbers are goals for the next function. The final workshop and GIS platform product showcase is planned for November/December 2021.

4.1 Questions and challenges to date

- Stakeholder engagement challenges (i.e. knowing who the appropriate stakeholders to engage are, at times- lack of participation, not receiving feedback from stakeholders after an engagement, or getting productive, specific results from an engagement)
- What ocean information is needed?
- What format is it needed in? (i.e. netcdf, excel, tables/reports, derived metrics, visuals)
- Online tools to consider
 - -OCTOPUS
 - -IMOS -AODN
 - -ESRI EMU Explorer
- What timescales and frequencies are relevant?
- Where are there gaps in available data? There are a lot of gaps so this is the BIGGEST challenge.
- Data sharing
- Is there synergy across work streams within OAF WPs and across government-based MSP processes?

4.2 Suggestions and Next Steps

Suggestions

- Liaise further with the Algoa Bay Project and MSP CoP to align workstreams and engage further on finding out who the relevant stakeholders are; meet with Dr. Kaylee Smit; liaise with Prof. Ken Findlay for assistance with policy maker engagements, create a more focused workshop agenda with specific requirements that must be met by the end of the workshop, more advanced notice of engagement dates

- Ocean use types, cumulative pressures on the ecosystem and indicators of ecosystem change are needed as well as better coverage of coastal and nearshore environmental variables such as pH, bathymetry, temperature, salinity, chl a, nutrients, habitat types, substrate and sediment data.
- Excel, netcdf, tables, derived metrics, visuals and metadata are required
- ESRI EMU Explorer and Map Atlas are the current platforms we are modelling our tool after
- In answer to timescales and frequencies required, initially annual monthly snapshots will be provided, but as this work evolves quarterly or even biannual (seasonal) synopsis is recommended
- In order for data sharing to be more forthcoming, Ocean Accounts needs to be formally adopted, advertised and promoted so that across organization and national departments can develop better understanding and formal channels for further and comprehensive data sharing
- The synergy across the WPs could be greatly improved, a proposal with suggestions to improve this part of the project has been submitted (see) and a meeting with Dr. Kaylee Smit has been scheduled to discuss how to improve streamlining work and avoiding redundancy in national level ecosystem assessments, to date only WPS 3 has formally engaged with the MSP group.

Next Steps

- Additional data acquisition and analysis, format/resolve data, create GIS databases according to the available data, model/run interpolations to create end product/user layers for online application
- GIS platform product in the form of a Map Atlas
- Populate Ecosystem Accounting tables and link to GIS platform

5. List of Acronyms

AODN	Australian Ocean Data Network
BGIS	Biodiversity Geographic Information System
BSU	Basic Spatial Unit
CoP	Community of Practice
CPUT	Cape Peninsula University Technicon
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DEFF	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
DST	Department of Science and Technology
EA	Ecosystem Accounting
EBSA	Ecological and Biological Significant Area
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ESRI	Environmental Systems Research Institute
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information System
GOAP	Global Oceans Accounts Partnership
IMOS	Integrated Marine Observing System
IODE	International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange
IORA	Indian Ocean Rim Association
MARISMA	Marine Spatial Management and Governance Programme
MBSU	Marine Basic Spatial Unit
MSDI	Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure
MSP	Marine Spatial Planning
MMU	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
NBA	National Biodiversity Assessment
NCA	Natural Capital Accounting
NRF	National Research Foundation
NSDI	National Spatial Data Infrastructure
OAF	Ocean Accounts Framework
OCIMS	National Oceans and Coastal Information Management System
SEEA	System of Environmental Economic Accounting
SAEON	South African Environmental Observation Network
SAIAB	South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity
SAMREF	South African Marine Research and Exploration Forum
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
UN	United Nations
WIO	Western Indian Ocean
WP	Work Programme

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7. Annex 1: Participants

7.1 Names, affiliated institution and contact details of participants

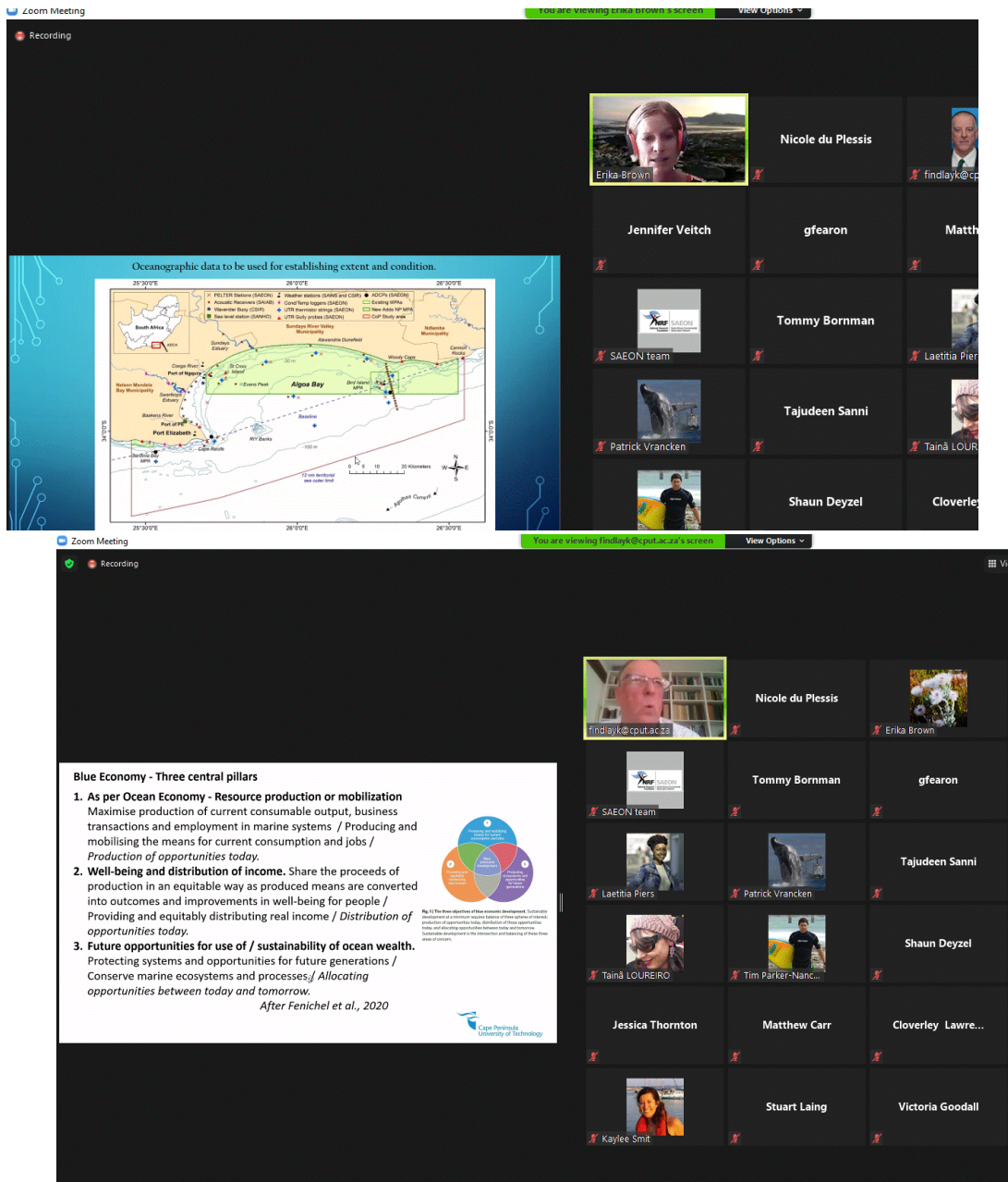


Figure 8. Zoom screenshots of the WIO: WP2 OAF Workshop 2 participants.

Table 2. WP 2 workshop 1 and 2 participants, 10 December 2020 and 25 March 2021, respectively.

No	Name	Workshop Attendance	Institution and Position
1	Ammaarah Abrahams	1 & 2	NMU, CoP OAF Administrator
2	Caroline Sejeng	1	SAEON/UCT student
3	Cloverly Lawrence	1	n/a
4	Erika Brown	1 & 2	GIS Product Developer CoP OAF WP2
5	Estee Vermeulen	1	PhD Candidate in Marine Spatial Planning at NMU
6	Hayden Wilson	1	SAEON Ulwazi Node, Scientific Program Officer
7	Jordan Van Stavel	1	SAEON/NMU MSc student
8	Juliet Hermes	1 & 2	SAEON Egagasini Node, Node Manager
9	Lara Atkinson	1	SAEON Egagasini – Offshore benthic scientist
10	Lara van Niekerk	1	CSIR
11	Lauren Williams	1	DEFF
12	Maxhoba Jezile	1	DEFF, Environmental Officer at Directorate Sustainable Aquaculture Management
13	Michelle Pretorius	1	DEFF
14	Millicent Makoala	1	DEFF, Branch: Oceans and Coasts. Control Environmental Officer: Marine Species and Ecosystems Management
15	Nasreen Burgher	1	SAEON, physical oceanography intern
16	Nicole du Plessis	1 & 2	SAEON Egagasini Node, Science Officer
17	Ntombovuyo Madlokazi	1	DEFF Oceans & Coasts– Antarctic and Southern Ocean Management, Control Environmental Officer
18	Prideel Majiedt	1	SANBI, Marine Research and Policy Practitioner
19	Rob Anderson	1	Stats SA, Director
20	Rudzi silima	1	SAEON MSc student
21	Sarah Taylor	1	National Oceanography Centre UK, Environmental Socio-Economist
22	Shaun Deyzel	1 & 2	SAEON Elwandle Node, Science/Data Coordinator & Plankton Ecologist
23	Stuart Laing	1	Blue Economy Research Institute, University of Seychelles
24	Susan Taljaard	1	CSIR
25	Tainã Loureiro	1 & 2	CIB/SUN post-doc (Marine Lab)
26	Tim Parker-Nance	1 & 2	SAEON Elwandle Node, Senior Developer (Coastal)
27	Tommy Bornman	1 & 2	SAEON Elwandle Node, Node Manager
28	Victoria Goodall	1 & 2	Data management consultant on the Algoa Bay project

No	Name	Workshop Attendance	Institution and Position
29	Ttanci	1	Unknown participant
30	Dr. Jenny Veitch	2	SAEON, Egagasini
31	Dr. Giles Fearon	2	SAEON
31	Laetitia Piers	2	WWF-SA
33	Jessica Leigh Thorton	2	NMU
34	Pro Patrick Vrancken	2	NMU
35	Matthew Carr	2	SAEON
36	Dr Tajudeen Sanni	2	NMU
37	Kaylee Smit	2	NMU

7.2 Comments from participants

When asked how would you rank the inclusion of certain physical and biological variables in the Ocean Accounts process, from most important (1st) to least important (8th) responses from the workshop attendees were captured and show that current direction and effluent discharge were considered the two most important to include and ph and rainfall the least important (Figure 9a). When asked to consider the likelihood of improved data sharing across organization’s and industries, the following opinions were captured (Figure 9b) which point to a more optimistic mind set in this small group of multidisciplinary professionals.



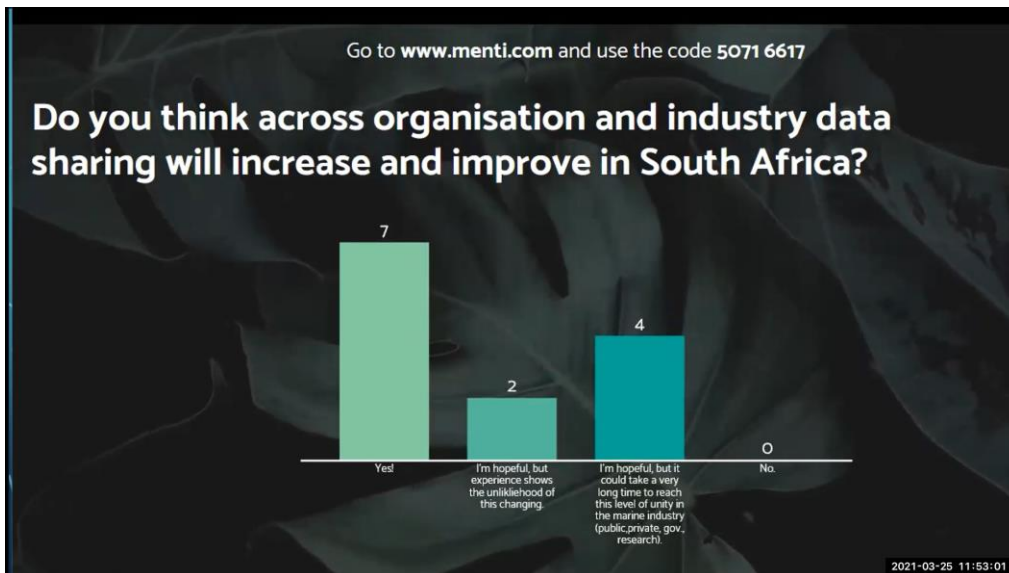


Figure 9a and b. Bar charts of the participant's opinions on the rank of secondary data types and improved inter organizational data sharing within and as a result of the Ocean Accounts development process.

Some additional comments and questions from the chat window are included for reference below:

10:35:02 From findlayk@cput.ac.za to Everyone : As an add to my brief talk - the GOAP O-A-F is being viewed as a precursor document to the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting - Oceans development by 2025.

10:35:02 From Laetitia Piers to Everyone : How far into years do you collect satellite data to compare with current data?

Where do you download this data? Which database has the oldest quality data?

10:41:33 From gfearon to Everyone : For more info on satellite sst -

10:41:51 From findlayk@cput.ac.za to Everyone : Yes Patrick we need to ensure that both quantitative (physical or monetarised) and qualitative information is included.

10:41:57 From Tajudeen Sanni to Everyone : As a follow up to Prof Vrancken's question...what is the relationship between numeric data and non-numeric data in the OAF?

10:44:47 From Cloverley Lawrence to Everyone : Following up on my question (@KenFindlay) it will be most beneficial to include all sectors of government making ocean related decisions since it's clear each department fulfils their mandates differently. In the case of Algoa Bay, the need for ocean economic development (i.e. aquaculture farms, ship to ship bunkering, and the soon to be implemented, ship to power operations) seems to outweigh the risks to the environment.

11:02:42 From Patrick Vrancken to Everyone : The map shows Algoa Bay as defined for the purposes of the Algoa Bay CoP (within red lines).

11:10:10 From Patrick Vrancken to Everyone : How far inland will the data be available? On what basis is the distance determined?

11:12:38 From findlayk@cput.ac.za to Everyone : Patrick, this is an aspect for discussion but import export models allow for transfer across boundaries - realising that ocean boundaries (e.g. in the Study Area) are also very porous.

11:13:39 From Patrick Vrancken to Everyone : Thank you, Ken. The distance might have to differ depending on the indicator.

11:14:39 From findlayk@cput.ac.za to Everyone : Yes Patrick completely agree on a fit for purpose approach depending on questions being asked.

11:16:56 From Erika Brown to Everyone : Hi Patrick, the general land extent is the spring high tide, highwater mark as well as estuarine functional zones when estuary data is considered. And yes as Ken mentioned is up for discussion and modifying over time if need be.

11:19:52 From Patrick Vrancken to Everyone : The Integrated Coastal Management Act requires State decision-makers to look further inland, I am afraid.

11:22:15 From Patrick Vrancken to Everyone : Forecasting is crucial to assess whether the precautionary approach has been lawfully followed.

11:39:17 From Patrick Vrancken to Everyone : Is it true that more data often leads to less accessibility?

11:40:06 From Patrick Vrancken to Everyone : Decision-makers often have little time and/or patience.

11:40:33 From Kaylee Smit to Everyone : Thank you for all the great/interesting presentations so far. There really are some great data available for this framework. I understand that oceanographic data are more readily available and easier to collect than biological data. But out of interest, what biological/ecological data or indicators are you considering using in the accounting tables and in the framework?

11:41:31 From findlayk to Everyone : Kaylee - to be determined. But will draw in international experiences...

11:47:10 From Stuart Laing to Everyone : @Patrick Vrancken, I agree, summaries for decision makers should be available. UNECA is busy developing a tool (Blue Economy Valuation Toolkit) that presents summaries of economic, social and ecological data in

graphical and table form for decision makers. Currently, data is gathered from existing data sources (national accounts for economic; SDGs, HDI, Gini coefficient for social aspects; spatial data of ecosystems that are valued according to published data and international ecological classification systems) and input into the 'backend' of the toolkit, resulting in tables and figures for decision makers. As I said, this is a work in progress, and will be relatively malleable as new information and data sources become available. It could complement ocean accounts well.

11:49:39 From Tajudeen Sanni to Erika Brown(Direct Message) : Thank you very much Erika for your presentation. Can you send it to me please.

8. Annex 2: List of Data To Be Compiled

Table 3. Types and themes of data to be collected.

Ecological data	Physical data	BioGeoChem Data	Human / socio-economic data	Others
Coastal Ecosystems	Bathymetry	Productivity/Chl-a	Fisheries	Administrative Boundaries
Marine Ecosystems	Temperature	Nutrients (Phosphate, Silicate, Nitrate)	Aquaculture	Population Distribution
Estuarine Ecosystems	Depth Zones	Dissolved oxygen	Tourism	Maritime/marine related policies/acts/laws
Areas of High Biodiversity	Waves		Recreation	
Areas of High Endemism	Wind		Maritime Transportation	
Areas of High Productivity	Turbidity		Ports	
Aggregation Sites	Salinity		Offshore Oil & Gas	
Spawning / Breeding Areas	Ocean Acidification/pH		Offshore Renewable Energy	
Feeding / Foraging Areas	Flood Risk		Telecommunication Cables	
Nesting Areas	Seismic Threat		Mining concession areas	
Nursery Areas	Sediment type		Sand & Gravel Mining	
Migration Routes / Migration Stopover	Benthic habitat type		Dredged disposal site	
Environmental Health	Tide		Seabed Mining	
Ecozones	Current Direction		Desalination Plants	
Eco Regions	Current Velocity		Carbon Sequestration Sites	
			Military Areas	
			Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage	
			Scientific Research	
			Marine Protected Areas	
			EBSAs	
			CBAAs	
			Effluent Outfall Pipes/Areas	

9. Annex 3: Potential data sources and providers

A Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) is a framework of technologies, policies and institutional arrangements that combined enable the creation, exchange and use of geospatial data and related information across an information-sharing community. SDI extends a Geographic Information System (GIS), ensuring geospatial data and standards are used to create official datasets linked to policies (ESRI, 2010), which can aid administration of current policies, as well as the development of new policies.

SDIs are particularly useful in the context of today's 'big data', when large volumes of geospatial data and web services are readily available (Hu and Li, 2017). A successful SDI interconnects leadership, people, computer networking, publishing and access software, data, policies, and metadata into a framework that helps put the appropriate tools and rules in place to maintain data and turn them into useful information products to support operations and decision-making (Jafari, 2014, IOC Technical Series, 161, 2021). Building an SDI not only sets a precedent to allow free access to spatial data for governmental authorities, stakeholders and citizens, but also provides many benefits to its users (Table 4) (Chafiq et al., 2013, IOC Technical Series, 161, 2021).

Table 4 Benefits of Spatial Data Infrastructures (Adapted from Chafiq et al., 2013 and IOC Technical Series, 161, 2021).

Financial	Strategic	Social	Users
Reduces the costs of spatial data collection, avoiding duplication	Improves data authorship	Improves working relationships between stakeholders and public administrators	Improves access to data
Reduces the costs of data access and sharing	Improves data privacy	Improves relationships between citizens and public administrators	Facilitates data use
Reduces the costs of data maintenance	Improves partnerships through efficient data sharing agreements	Improves understanding about relevance of spatial data	Improves services to users
Reduces the time of integration of data and interoperability	Improves data quality	Improves understanding about the issues related to the data	Improves users' responsiveness

Financial	Strategic	Social	Users
Reduces the risks and the costs of development of new applications	Improves documentation of metadata	Reduces redundancy in available applications	Improves data standards and expectations
Refocuses funding streams	Improves transparency about data collection, processing and updating		Attracts participation

The aim of this annex is to review the current SDIs available at different levels (global and regional) in order to identify potential data sources and providers that could contribute to the development of the OAF pilot area in Algoa Bay, South Africa, as well as contribute to a regional process going forward. A systematic analysis of global and regional SDIs was carried out to identify functional status and relevance to the OAF process in the pilot project based on an adaptation of the European “MSP Data Study” (European Commission, 2016).

The criteria considered are:

A. Type of infrastructure (SDI Type)

- Data Catalogue: a data list, its availability and how to source
- Data Portal: online direct access to datasets
- Data Viewer: service to display spatial data
- Information Service: service which aggregates data into information product (e.g., factsheets)
- Decision Support Tool: method or specialised tool to support further analysis and interpretation

B. Scale

- Global
- Regional

C. Goal

- Describe the marine area: state of the environment and distribution of maritime activities
- Describe interactions in the marine area: pressures and impacts of maritime activities
- Integrated management: integrated assessments, including monitoring and evaluation

D. Scope

- Marine
- Terrestrial

E. Data type

- Ecological
- Physical
- Socio-economic
-

Review of SDIs with relevance to Algoa Bay

A total of 19 SDIs that could be useful for OAF purposes were identified (Table 5).

Table 5. Overview of Spatial Data Infrastructures identified with potential relevance to the OAF development process in South Africa and for this case study within Algoa Bay.

Name	URL	SDI type	Scale	Goal	Scope	Data type
The Algoa Bay Project	http://www.algoabaydata.com/	Data Portal, Data Viewer, Information Service	Regional	Describe the marine area and uses	Marine	Ecological, Socio-economic
South African National Biodiversity Institute	http://bgis.sanbi.org/	Data Portal, Data Viewer, Information Service	Regional	Describe the marine area	Marine & Terrestrial	Ecological
The Marine Information Management System	https://data.ocean.gov.za/about/	Data Information Service	Regional	Describe the marine area and uses	Marine	Physical
The National Oceans and Coastal Information Management System	http://ocimstest.ocean.gov.za/algoa_bay_model/	Data Viewer, Information Service	Regional	Describe the marine area	Marine	Physical
Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas	https://cmr.mandela.ac.za/Research-Projects/EBSA-Portal/South-Africa	Data Viewer, Information Service	Regional	Describe the marine area	Marine	Ecological
Gov.UK	https://explore-marine-plans.marineservices.org.uk/	Data Viewer, Information Service	Regional (UK)	Describe the marine area and uses	Marine	Ecological, Physical, Socio-economic
Symphony for MSP in Sweden	https://www.havochvatten.se/en/eu-and-international/marine-spatial-planning/sympho	Data Viewer, Information Service	Regional (Sweden)	Describe the marine area	Marine	Ecological, Physical, Socio-economic

Substrates (dbSEABED)						
Ocean Color Web	https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/	Data Portal, Data Viewer	Global	Describe the marine area	Marine	Ecological
IW:LEARN Spatial Lab	http://geonode.iwlearn.org/	Data Portal, Data Viewer	Global	Describe the marine area	Marine	Physical
Ocean Tool for Public Understanding and Science, University of Oxford	https://octopus.zoo.ox.ac.uk/	Data Portal, Data Viewer, Information Service	Global	Describe the marine area	Marine	Ecological, Physical, Socio-economic

10. Annex 4: Alga Bay data catalogue to date

Table 6. Ocean Accounts Framework related data acquisition for Work Programme 2, 2021.

Dataset	Contact/Owner	Acquisition Status	Visualisation Ready?	Publication to ODP ready?	Type of additional Analysis	Responsible Person	Published to ODP	Metadata Link	Published to ESRI	Published to Living Atlas?
Sea Temperature	SAEON Tommy Bornman or Shaun Deyzel	Acquired								
Salinity	SAEON Tommy Bornman or Shaun Deyzel	Acquired								
Dissolved Oxygen	SAEON Tommy Bornman or Shaun Deyzel	Acquired								
pH	SAEON Tommy Bornman or Shaun Deyzel	Acquired								
Chl-a	SAEON Tommy Bornman or Shaun Deyzel	Acquired								
Turbidity	SAEON Tommy Bornman or Shaun Deyzel	Acquired								
Nutirents (Phosphate)	SAEON Tommy Bornman or Shaun Deyzel	Acquired								

