ACTION PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE METHODOLOGY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CONSERVATION MEASURES IN ESTONIA

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Lessons learned from pilot assessment

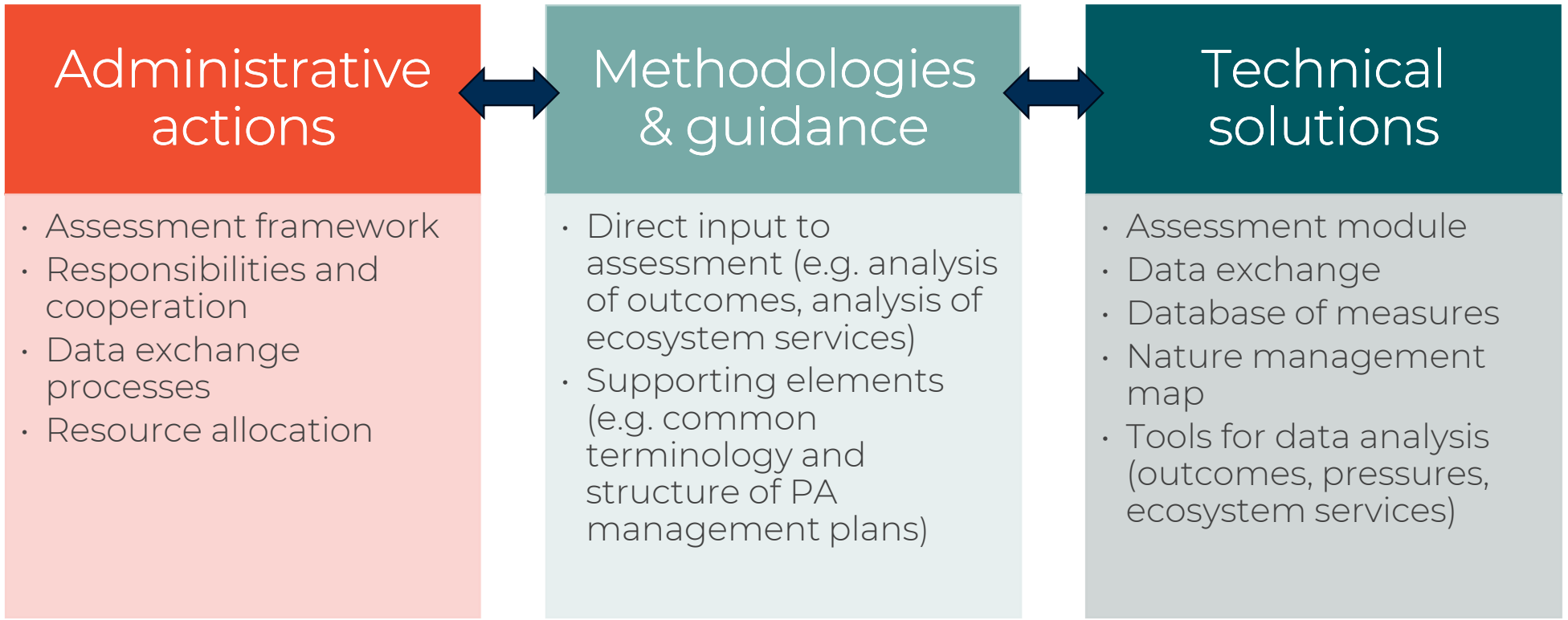
- Site level assessment (completing the assessment questionnaire) is very time-consuming.
- Most of the time is spent collecting the necessary input data (condition of species and habitats, implemented measures, etc).
- Available data is often incomplete, difficult to interpret and fragmented across different databases and data managers.
- Lack of overview of the implemented actions.
- The more incomplete the data, the more the results of the assessment depend on the knowledge and experience of the evaluator (respondent).

Main focus of the action plan

Improve the efficiency of assessment system by:

- more harmonised and specific management planning
- improved data management
- common principles for data analysis
- IT-solutions

Main actions



Administrative steps

- Agreeing on main principles
  - assessment cycle
  - scope of assessment (evaluated areas)

- Assigning roles and responsibilities
  - assessment procedure (evaluation team)
  - data analysis (support team)
  - data collection
  - information exchange between agencies and departments
  - development of supporting tools and methodologies
  - resource allocation

Technical solutions

Initial solution for immediate implementation +

Development of advanced solution for improved efficiency

- IT-tool for assessment questionnaires
  - completing assessment forms (questionnaires),
  - storing and easy accessibility of completed questionnaires,
  - analysis of the results and visual presentation
  - enabling further development (changes)
- Data exchange with existing systems and databases
  - retrieving data from different sources (condition of conservation values, pressures, measures, violations of the protection rules, etc)
  - automation of the response process where possible
- Development of database of measures

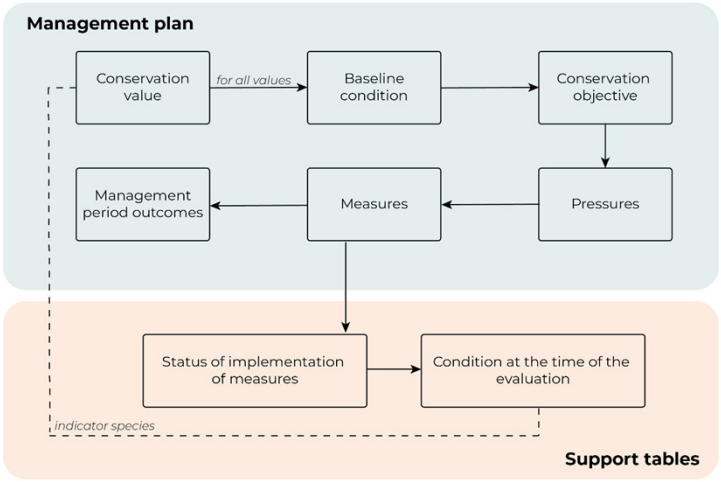
Supporting elements (1/3)

- Development of approach for selecting key indicator values (conservation values for which changes in condition are evaluated)

- Development of approaches and/or technical tools to assess changes in the condition of conservation values, considering various data collection methods (national monitoring programs, inventories, studies, remote sensing, etc)

Supporting elements (2/3)

- Enhancing and improving the structure of management plans
- Common terminology ('nature language') and classification systems (objectives, pressures, measures)
- Development of ‘nature management map’ and ‘nature atlas’
  - linking management information (objectives, measures) to spatial data (map layers)
  - compiling all relevant spatial data related to conservation management (values, conditions, pressures, objectives, measures) into a single web portal/map application

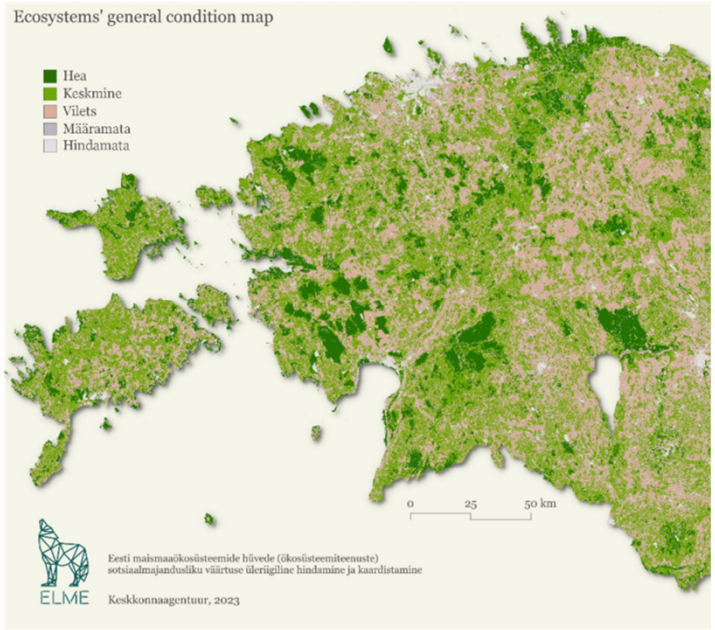


Supporting elements (3/3)

- Development of pressures and threats assessment system and/or supporting technical tool

- Development of approach and/or supporting technical tool to evaluate ecosystem services, ecological coherence, and climate mitigation based on (already available) spatial data

- Analysis of the needs for inclusion of additional evaluation topics (e.g. socio-economic or cultural aspects)



Roadmap

Action		I (2024)	II (2025-2028)	III (2029+)
I	**Administrative actions and assessment process**			
1.1.	Agreeing on preliminary assessment framework and resource allocation			
1.2.	Establishing (initial) data exchange processes for measures and other relevant data			
1.3.	Identifying development needs for full implementation and resource allocation			
1.4.	First cycle of (Tier 3) assessments			
1.5.	Establishing reviewed (updated) assessment framework			
1.6.	Regular Tier 1 reporting and Tier 2 & 3 assessments, full-scale implementation of evaluation system			
II	**Development of methodological approaches**			
2.1.	Development of updated structure and guidance document for management plans			
2.2.	Development of common terminology and classification systems			
2.3.	Development of pressures and threats assessment system			
2.4.	Development of approach for key indicator values			
2.5.	Development of approach for outcomes evaluation			
2.6.	Development of approach to evaluate ecosystem services and ecological coherence			
III	**Development of technical solutions**			
3.1.	Analysis and planning (including business analysis)			
3.2.	Development or adaptation of preliminary assessment solution (for first cycle)			
3.3.	Development of advanced/final evaluation module, including data exchange & reporting			
3.4.	Development of updated technical solution (digital format/database) of management plans			
3.5.	Development of database of measures			
3.6.	Development of nature management map			
3.7.	Development of supporting technical solutions for outcomes evaluation (*if required*)			
3.8.	Development of supporting technical solutions for pressures assessment (*if required*)			
3.9.	Development of supporting technical solutions for ecosystem services assessment (*if required*)			
3.10	Development of 'Nature Atlas'			
3.11	Maintenance and further developments			