

# PROTEUS ANNUAL MEETING

13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019, David Attenborough Building, Cambridge, UK



# HORIZON SCAN:

## Emerging Issues and Trends In Biodiversity Management and Data

Corli Pretorius

# Combined Carbon and Biodiversity Management

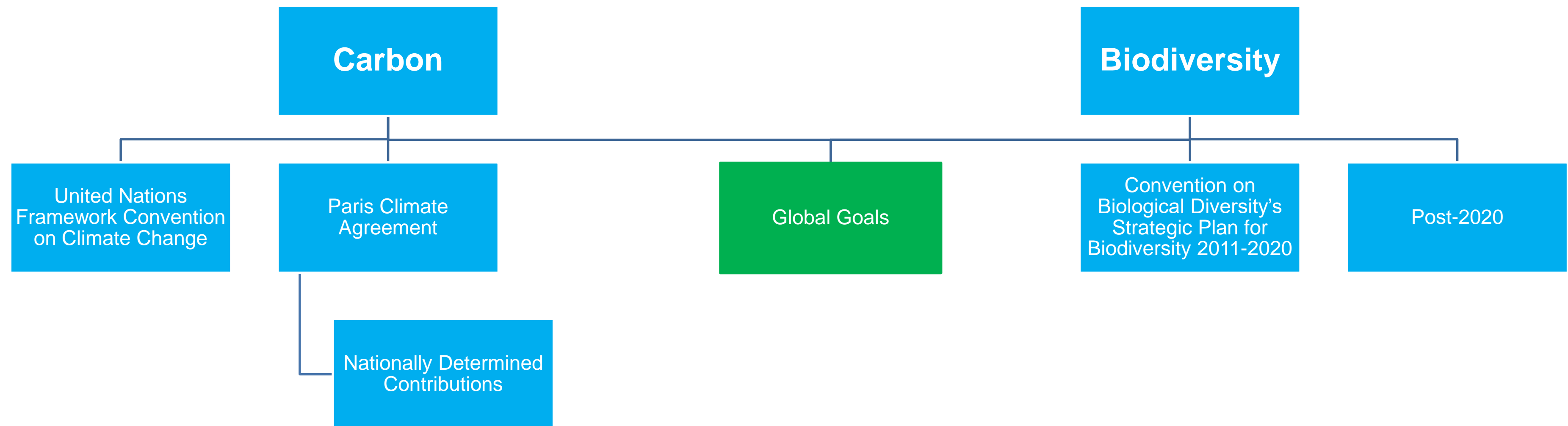
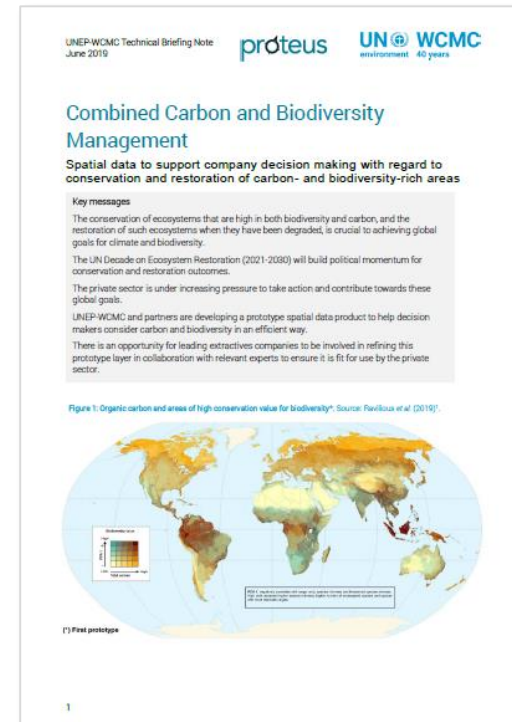
Sebastian Bekker

# Overview

1. **Context**
2. **Developing new spatial data**
3. **Applications for Proteus Partners**

**Context**

# Global drivers for action



*Alignment between the Three Rio Conventions (Nature, Climate Change, Desertification)*

*UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030*

*UN Convention to Combat Desertification*

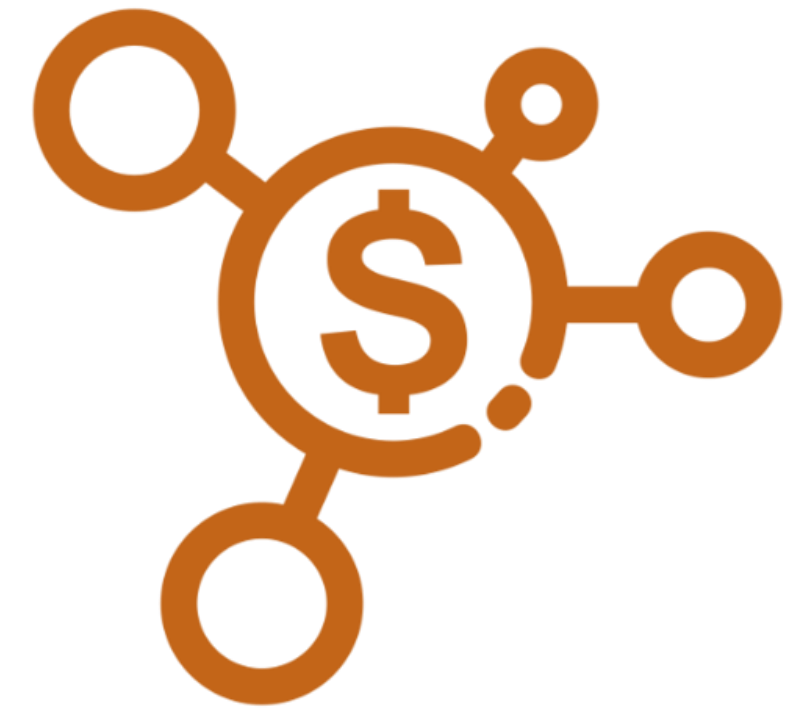
# Increasing pressure on business from stakeholders

## Financial institutions

- Equator Principles: 96 financial institutions in 37 countries
- Performance standards (e.g. IFC PS3 and PS6)

## Shareholders, investors and rating agencies

- Expect climate and biodiversity action (e.g. carbon neutrality, No Net Loss/Net Gain)

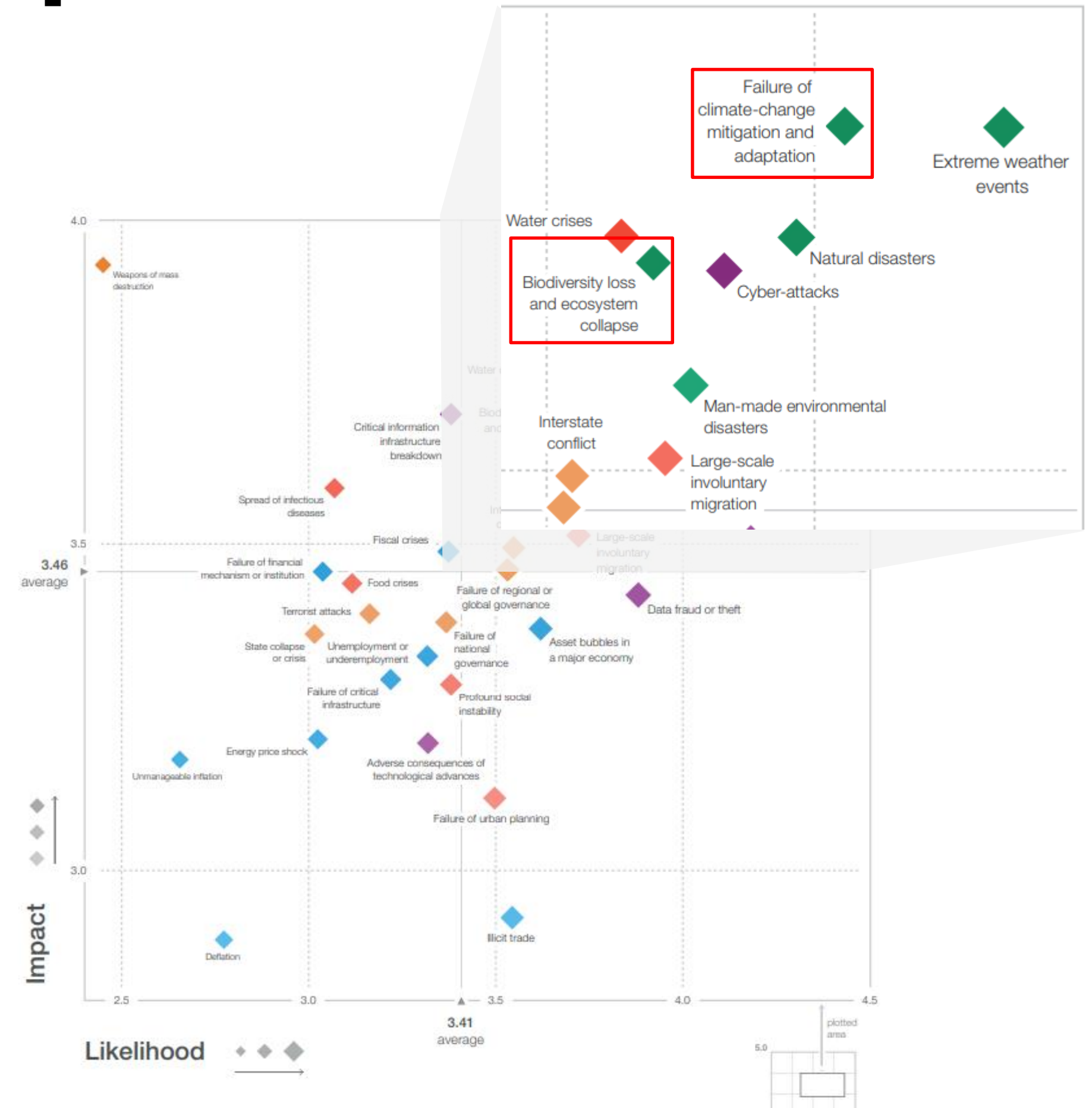


# Need for combining approaches

Climate change and biodiversity have remained somewhat separate

Increasing alignment between agendas for both

Companies stand to benefit from aligning approaches to carbon and biodiversity management



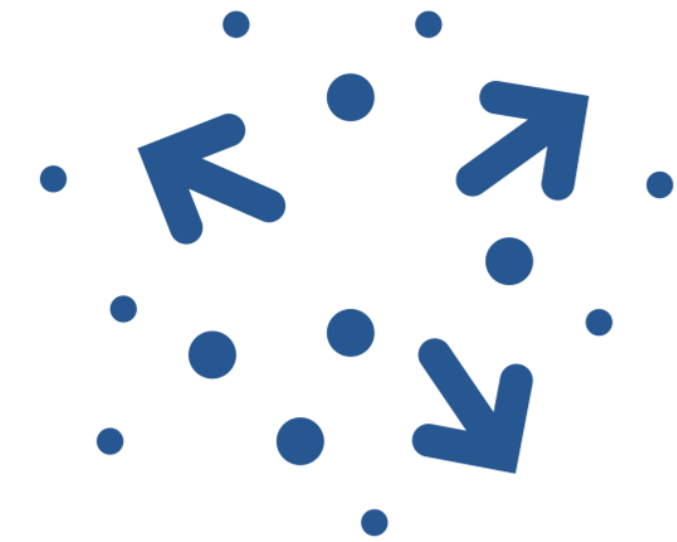
# Developing New Spatial Data

# Why?

**No standardised way to identify opportunities for combined carbon and biodiversity management**

**Would allow:**

- Greater synergies between climate change and biodiversity management activities
- Streamlined approach to conservation and restoration at multiple scales
- Demonstrating commitment to addressing carbon and biodiversity

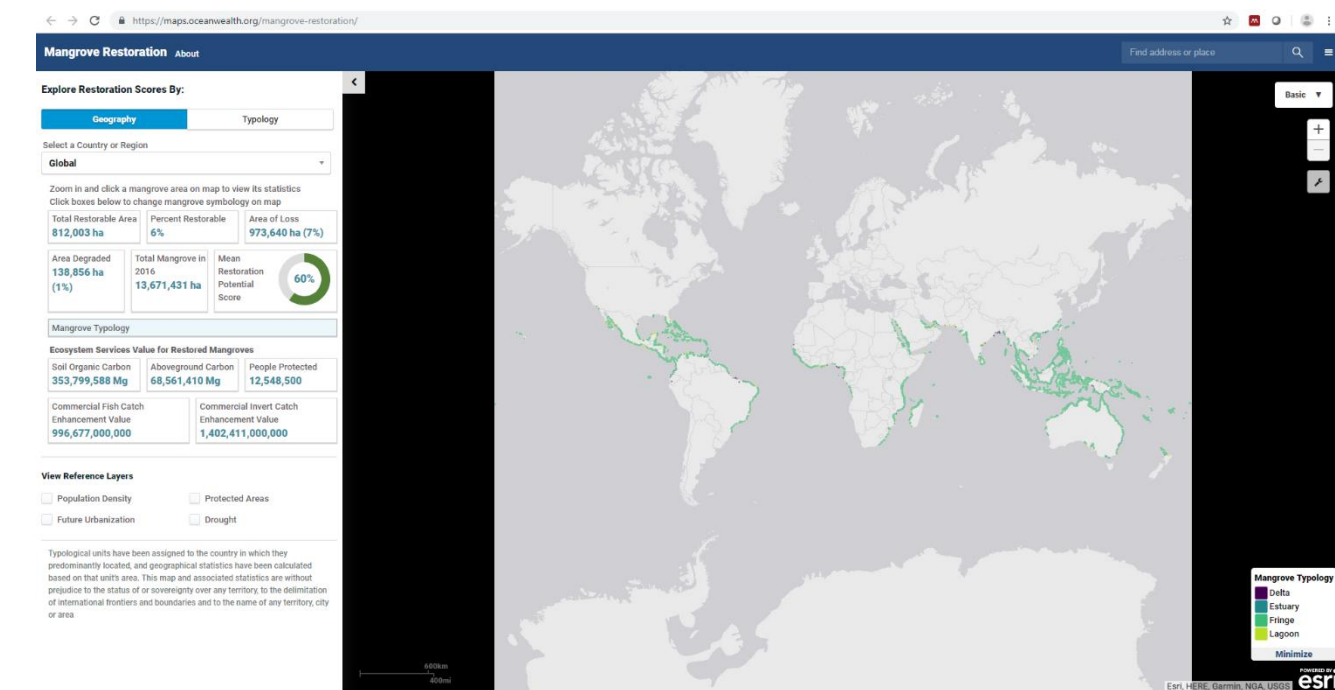
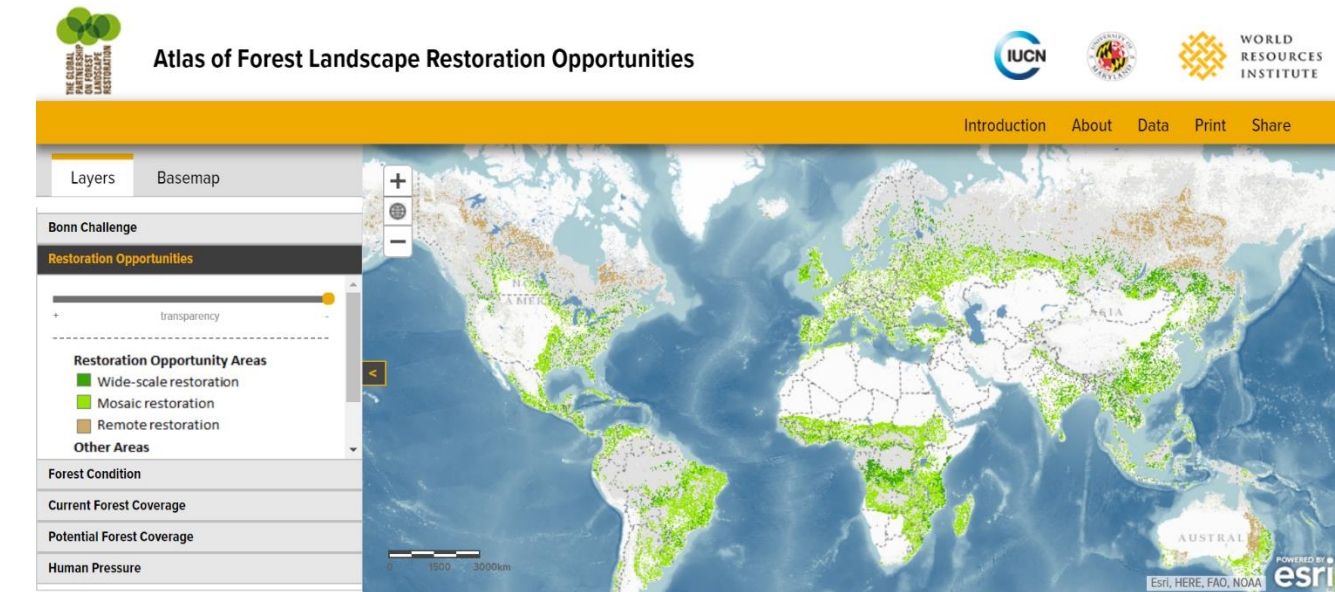


# Opportunity to tailor data to Proteus Partners' needs

Some data available or under development, but not currently tailored to private sector needs

No unified product covering terrestrial and marine realms

Input data and outputs will vary according to intended use



The screenshot shows the 'Nature Map Earth' website. The page has a dark blue header with navigation links for 'About', 'Q&A', 'Partners', and 'Contact'. The main content area is titled 'Motivation' and contains text explaining the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services. A globe icon is visible on the right side of the page.

**Motivation**

The world is losing biodiversity, biomass and soil carbon, and other ecosystem services at unprecedented rates. On current trends the Aichi targets for biodiversity and the 2020 biodiversity targets contained in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be missed by a wide margin.

A failure to preserve habitats and halt species extinction would have knock-on effects on the objectives of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which forests, peatlands, wetlands and other high carbon ecosystems store large volumes of carbon and can – if left intact – absorb a significant share of greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere. Moreover, most pathways towards decarbonizing energy systems foresee large negative emissions from land-use and food systems. If poorly managed, such mitigation strategies might further accelerate the loss of natural habitats and species.

In 2020 the 16th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will convene in China to agree on the 2020-2030 Strategic Plan for the CBD, including 2030 targets for maintaining biodiversity as well as a longer-term vision for nature. Two months later, countries will convene under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to review the level of ambition of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and to submit their long-term Low Emission Development Strategies (Art. 4.9 Paris Agreement) that lay out how countries will achieve the long-term objective of the convention, which requires zero net emissions of greenhouse gases.

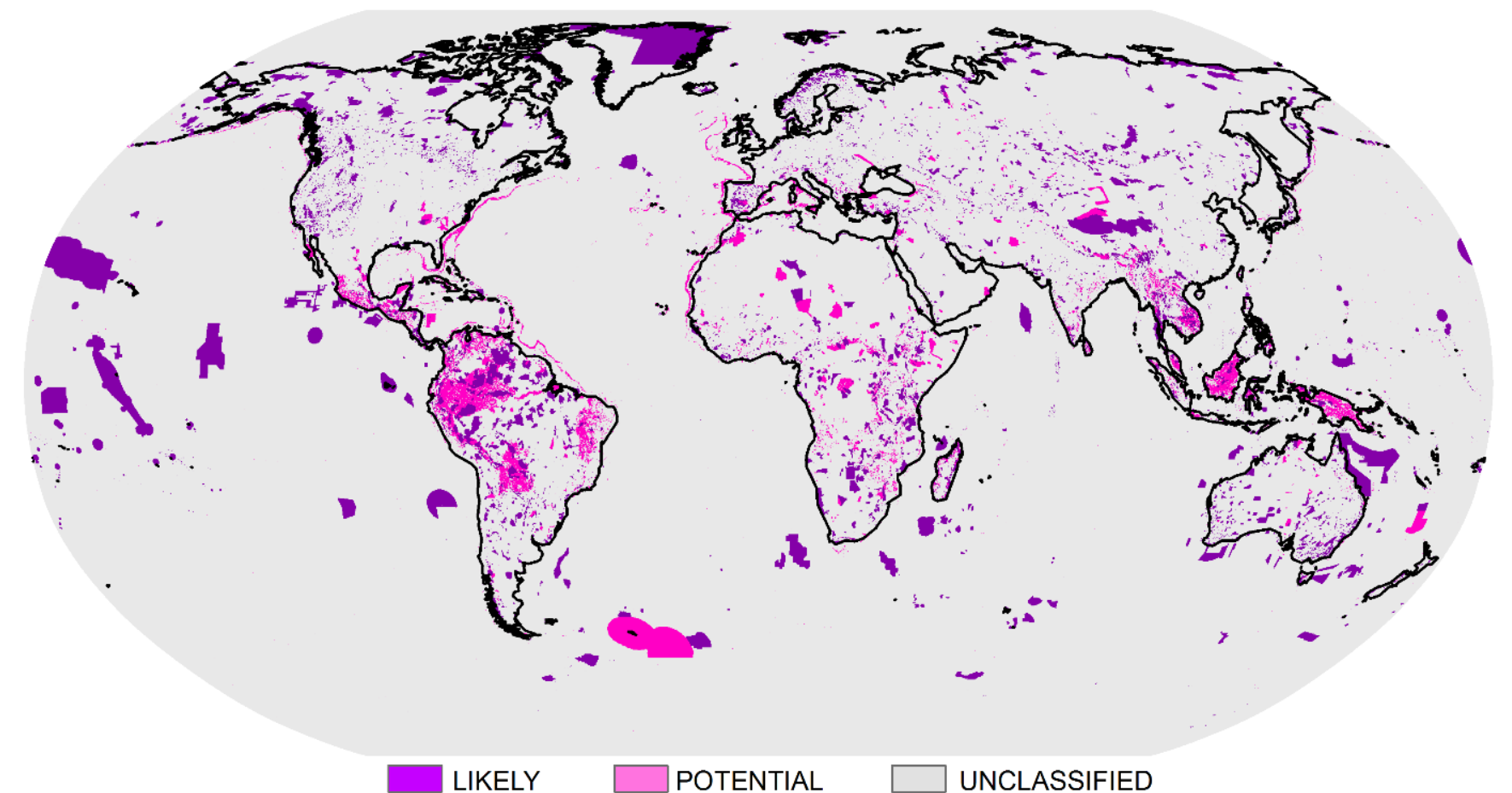
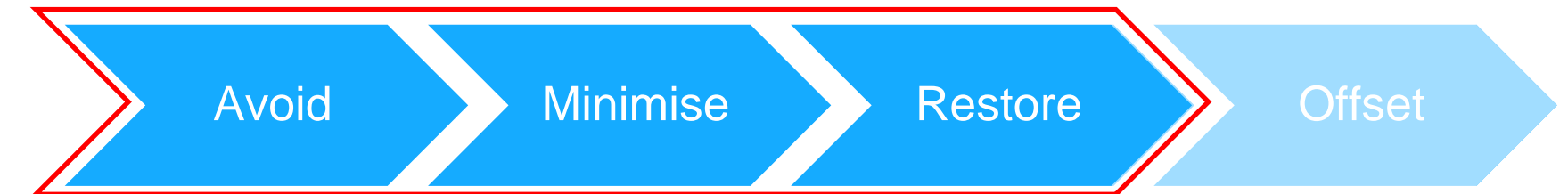
# Applications for Proteus Partners

# Supporting environmental risk management

Opportunity to adapt data to inform environmental risk management processes

Data layer(s) could complement existing data used during screening

Similar approach to Global Critical Habitat Screening Layer



UNEP-WCMC (2017) *Global Critical Habitat screening layer (Version 1.0)*. Cambridge (UK): UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre. <http://data.unep-wcmc.org/datasets/44>

# Offsets and additional conservation actions

**Spatial data to support identification of potential offset sites**

**Additional conservation actions**

- Restoration of past impacts

**Opportunity to tailor data to Proteus Partners' needs and systems**

**Key considerations**

- What decisions will the data support?
- What insights should the data provided?
- What (if any) other data should be included?

Key ecosystem services (e.g. hydrological service provision)  
'Political will' (legal and regulatory frameworks)

# QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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# Menti

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