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Abstract

Why documenting ecosystem services in African BR?

- **Need expressed** by the African Biosphere Reserves Network (AfriMAB)
- **African Biosphere Reserves (BR)**
 - living labs for sustainable development
 - synergies between people and nature
 - high anthropogenic pressures (rapid population growth, strong dependence on natural resources)
- Gaining **knowledge about ES** provision, use and trends in BRs, and the risks that they are facing, are key for inclusive sustainable management

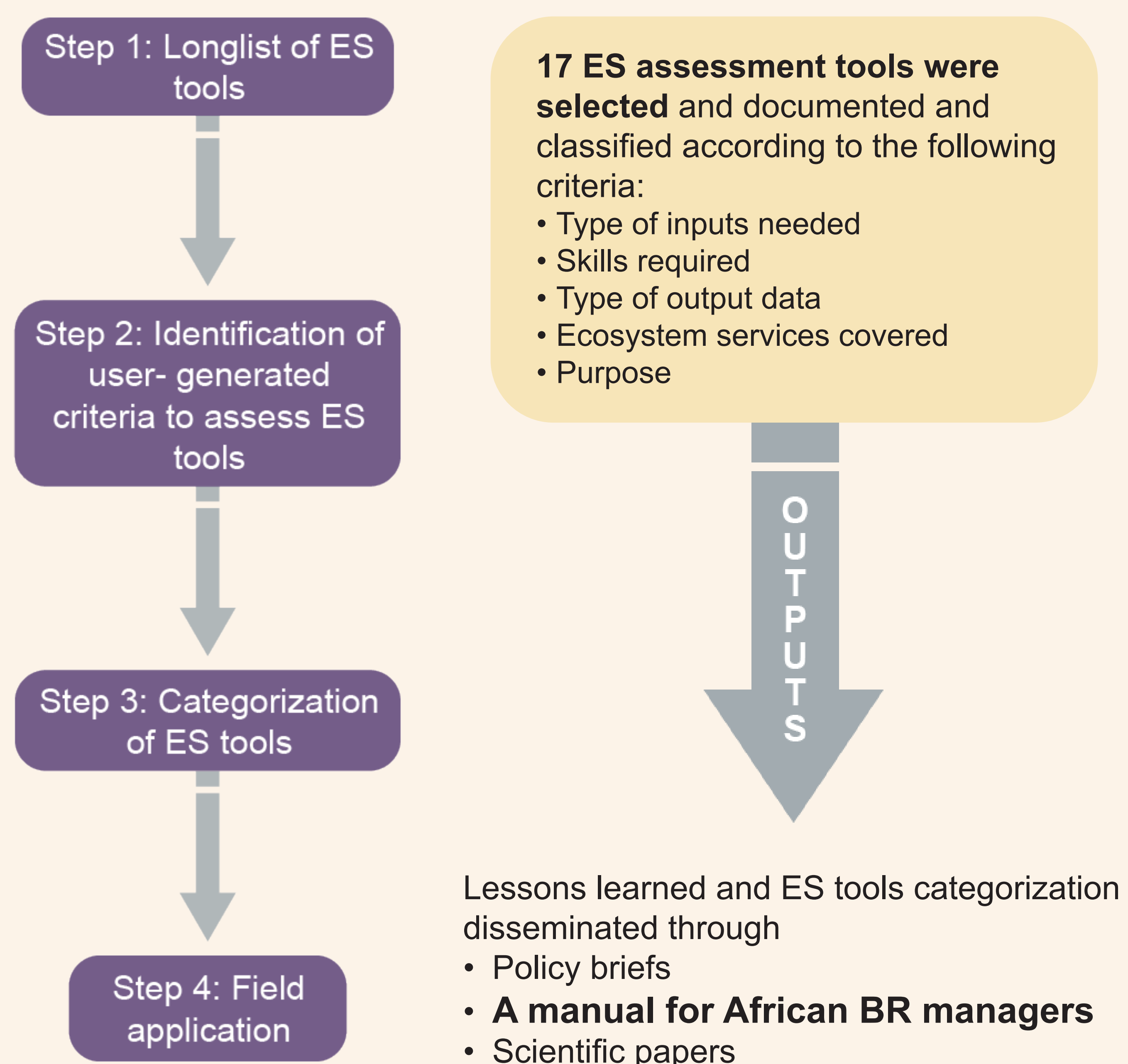
What do ES assessment tools need to do?

- Translation of ES into actual management decisions
- Assessment of ES and their contributions to human wellbeing in a systematic, quantifiable, robust and credible way
- Being user-friendly, well known and available
- Better match between user-friendliness and the demands wrt data, skills, time and resources

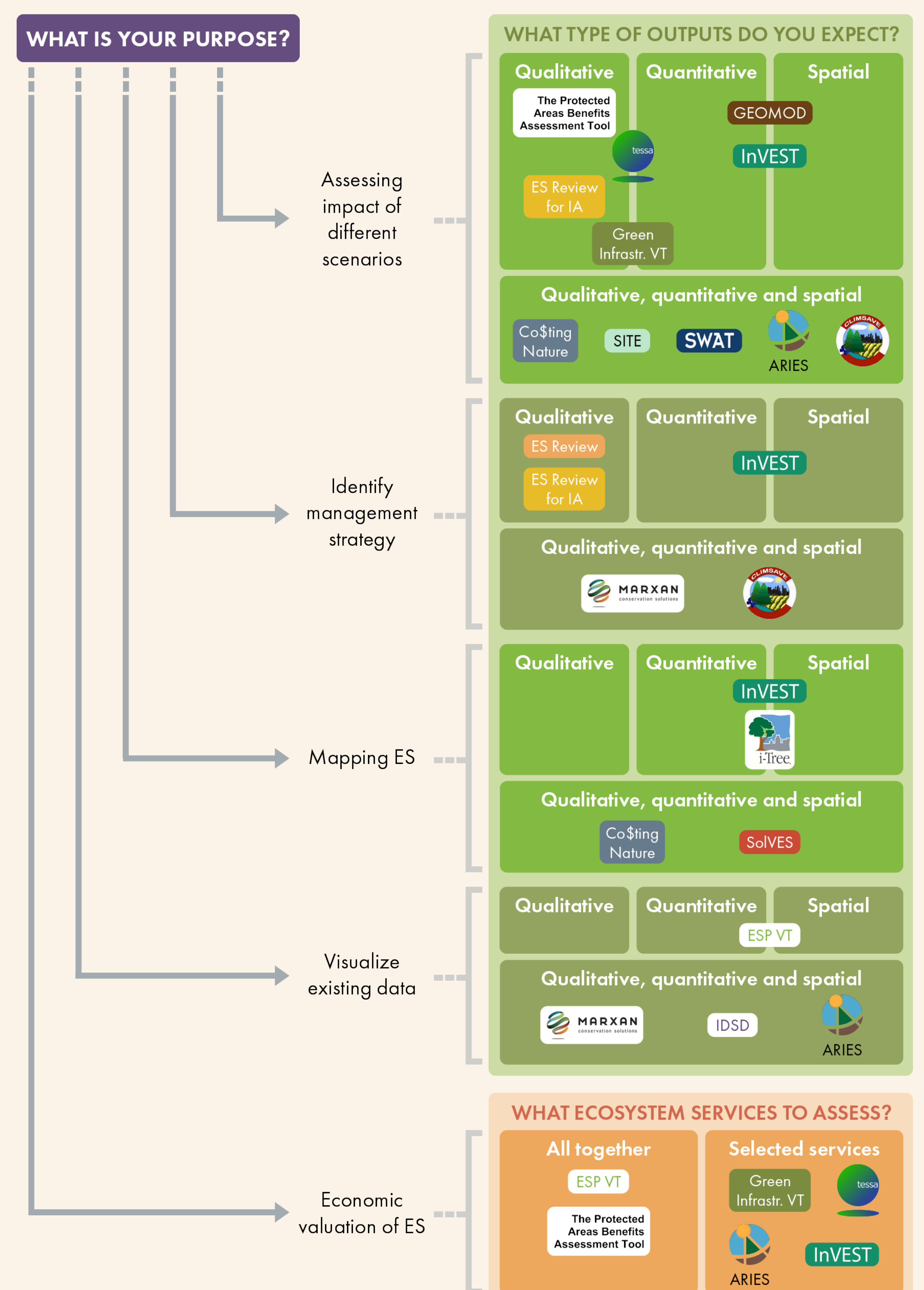
We performed a review of widely applicable, rapid and affordable tools to assess multiple ecosystem services in the specific context of African BRs.

Methods

Steps followed to select and categorize ecosystem services rapid assessment tools that are suited to African BRs?



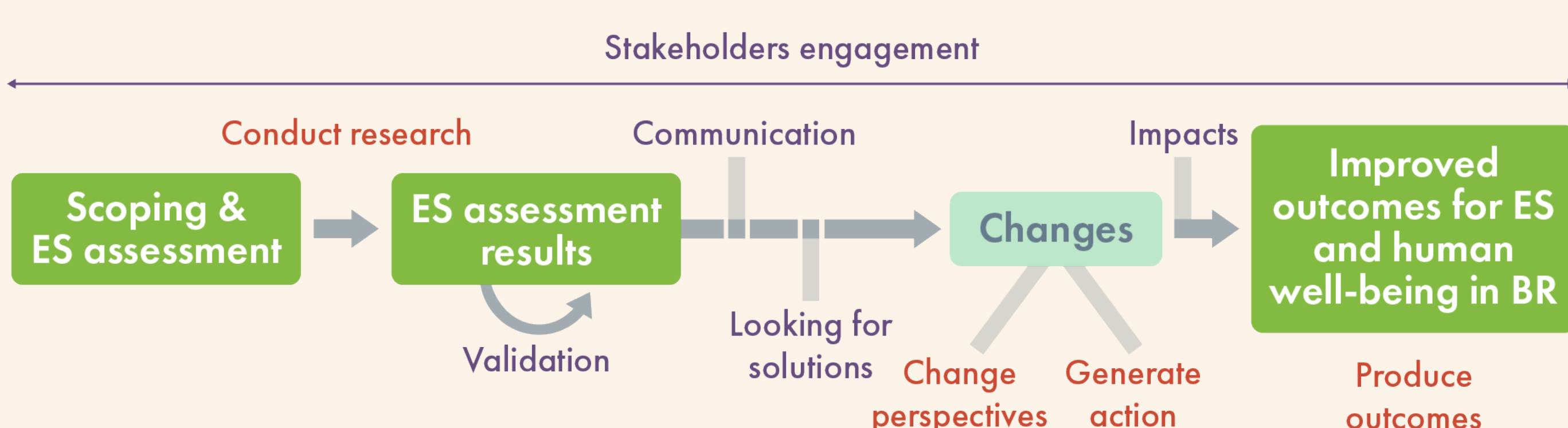
Which ES assessment tools exist and how to select them?



Conclusion

How can ES tools contribute to better BR management?

Applying ES assessment tools should be part of a whole process, where scoping, continuous stakeholders engagement and communication are key, in order to achieve outcomes.



About EVAMAB (2017-2020) <http://www.biodiv.be/evamab>

- (Economic) valuation of ecosystem services in Biosphere reserves (BR): testing effective rapid assessment methods in selected African BRs
- Focus on 4 Biosphere Reserves: Benin: Pendjari BR (Benin), Mount Elgon BR (Uganda), Lake Manyara BR (Tanzania), Lake Tana BR (Ethiopia)