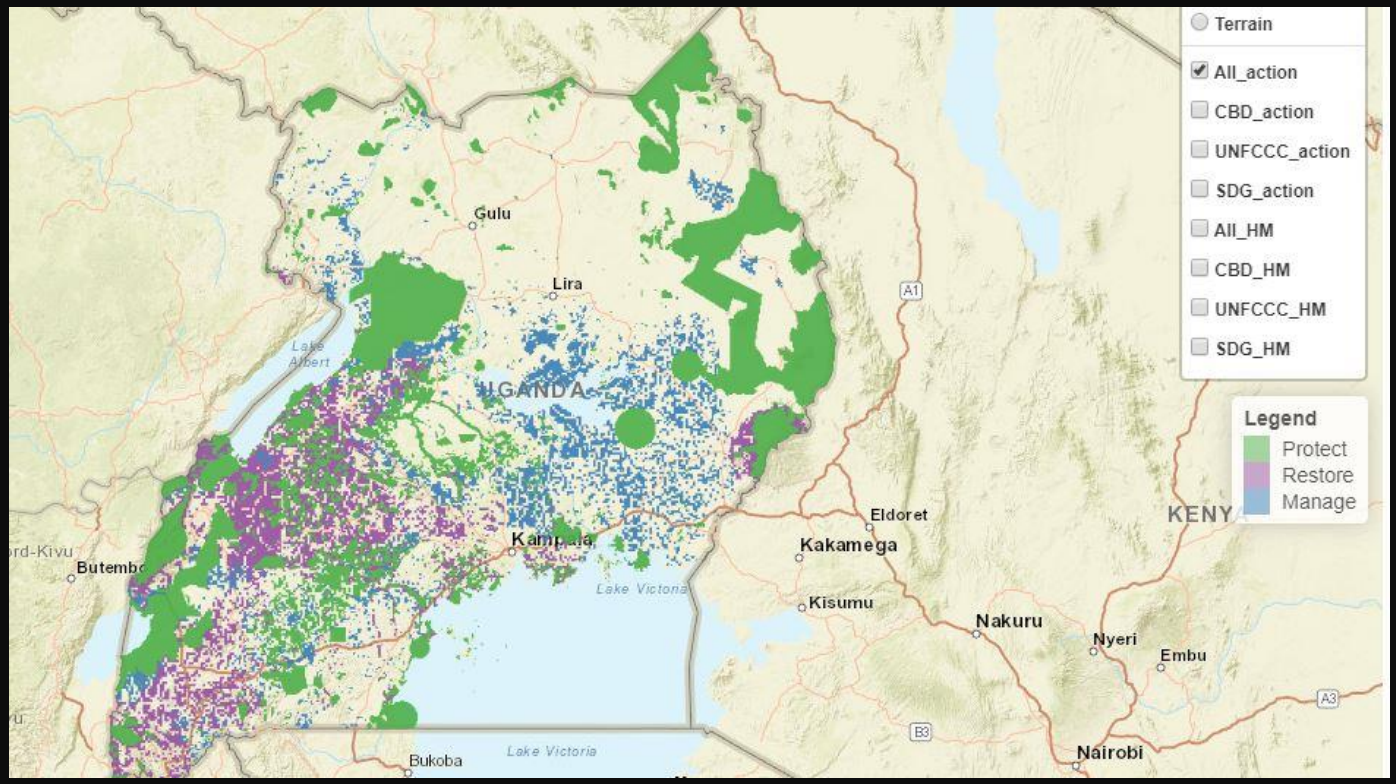
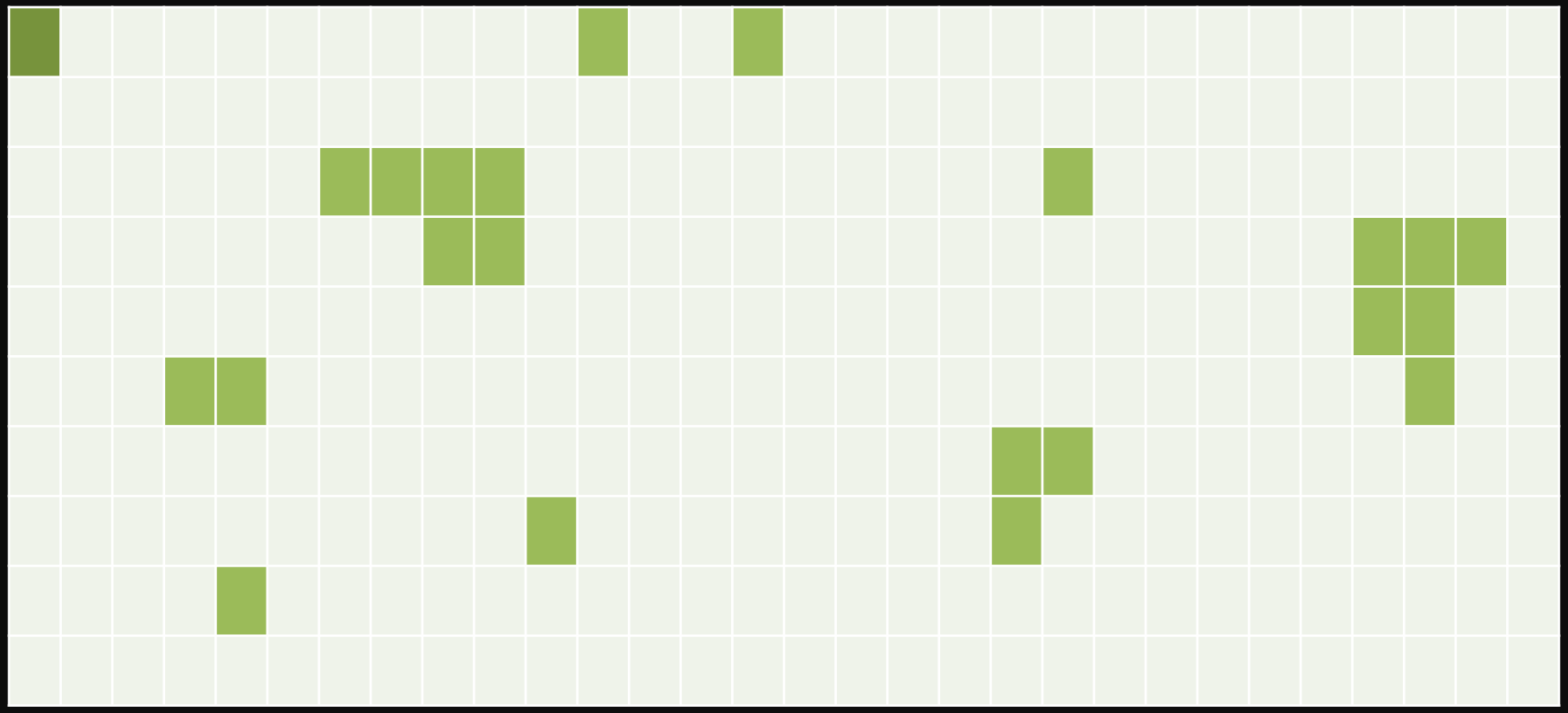
Identifying Essential Life support areas which if protected, managed and restored will support nature-based commitments to biodiversity, climate change and human well-being



Design criteria

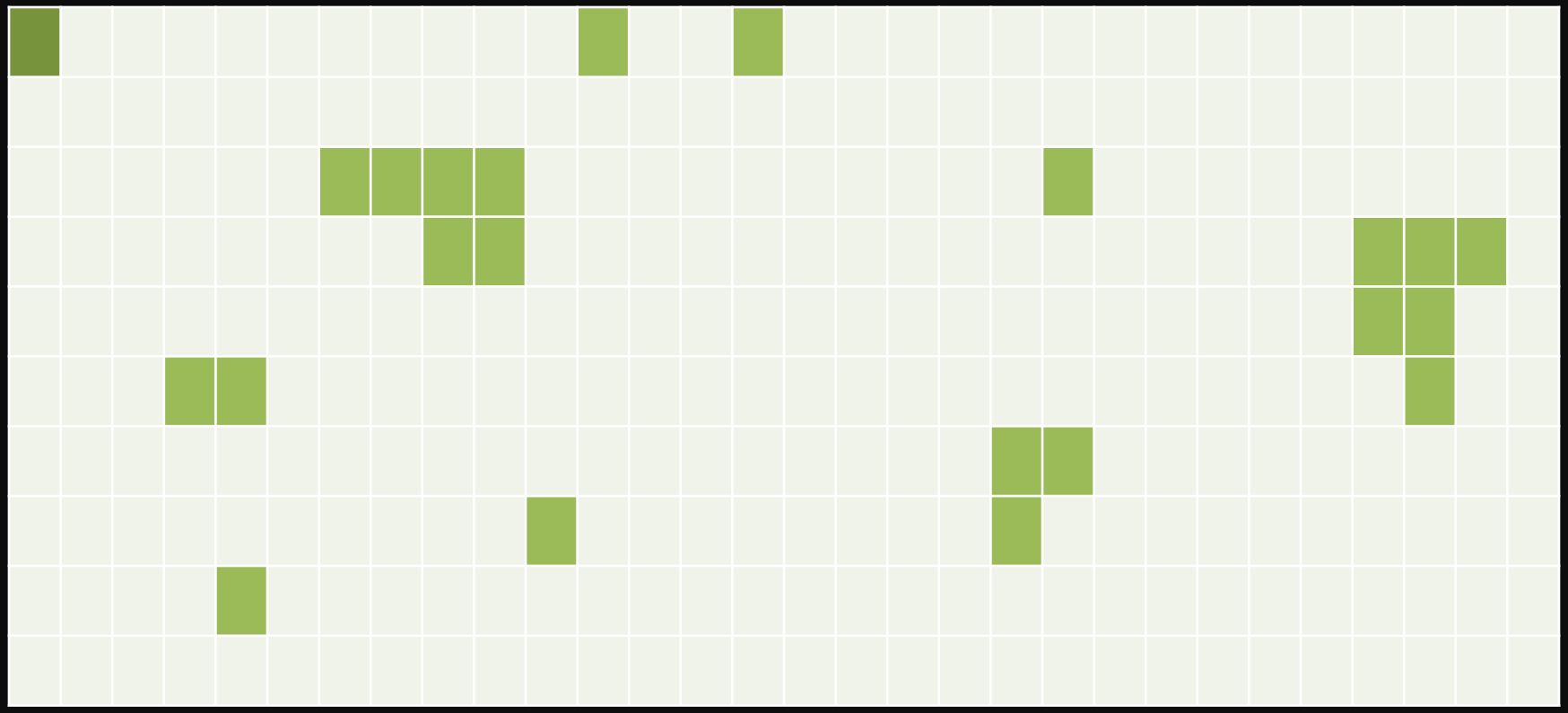
1. Directly support national policy commitments (CBD, UNFCCC, SDGs)
2. Include actions to Protect, Manage and Restore lands and ecosystems
3. Harness national expert opinion and stakeholder values
4. Use the tools and concepts of Systematic Conservation Planning
5. Spatially explicit, national level
6. Indicative Areas, not precise locations for implementing programs
7. Use national datasets where available, and global datasets where suitable
8. Include hard constraints on landbase
9. Be flexible, allowing exploration of how results change under different scenarios before producing final ELSA maps

Why use a systematic conservation planning tool to help with land use planning?



The decision problem is BIG!

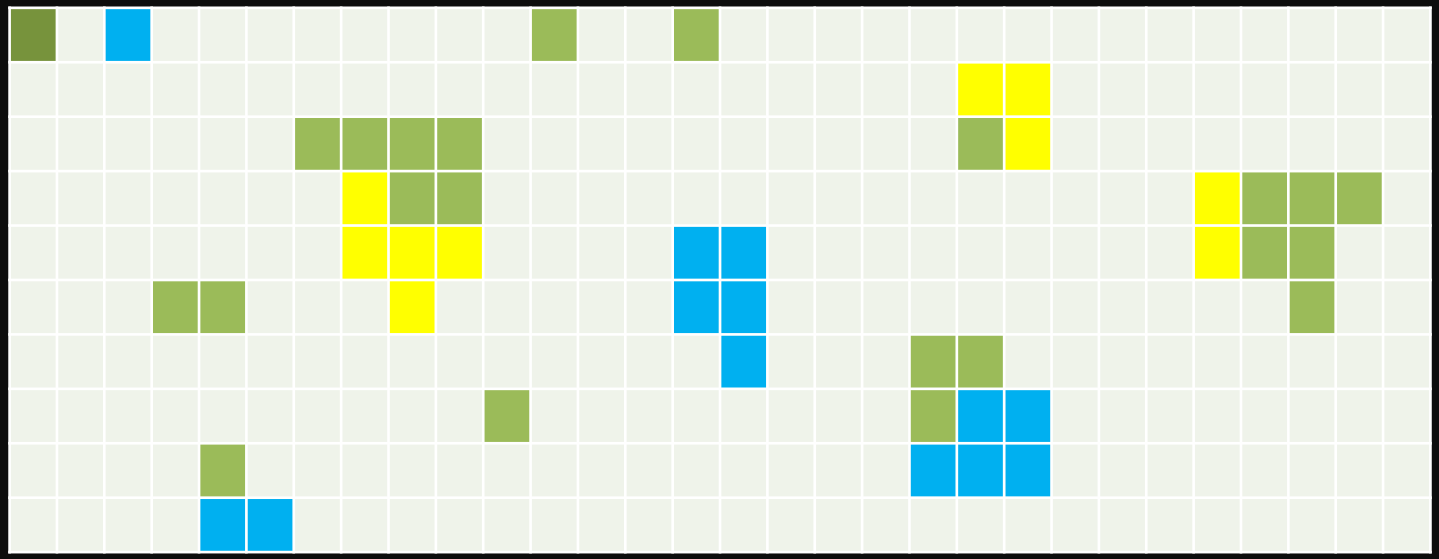
So let's use software to help

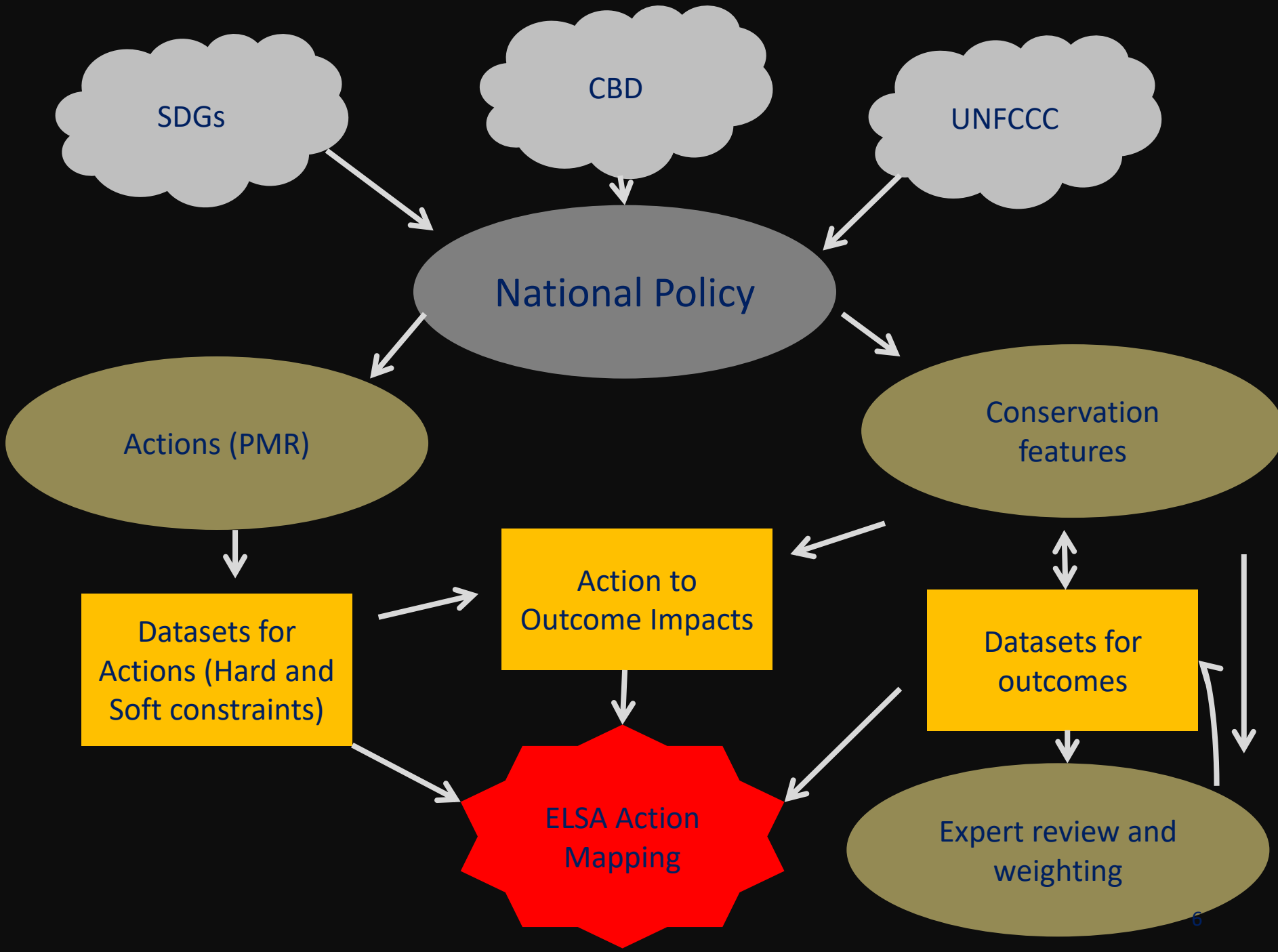


2,037,035,976,334,490,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000

2X10^90 > 10^78 – 10^82 *Atoms in the known universe*

Planning for multiple actions




SDGs
CBD
UNFCCC
National Policy
Actions (PMR)
Conservation features
Datasets for Actions (Hard and Soft constraints)
Action to Outcome Impacts
Datasets for outcomes
ELSA Action Mapping
Expert review and weighting