

Finding Success: A review of natural capital case studies

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Finding Success: Overview

1. **Who we are:** GGKP Expert Working Group
2. **Problem:** Dearth of success stories
3. **Audience:** Policymakers and practitioners
4. **Approach:** A systematised review of case studies
5. **Results:** Literature characteristics and gaps
6. **Conclusions:** Where we stand
7. **Next steps:** Building the evidence base

GGKP Natural Capital Expert Working Group



Goal: Better integrate nature and biodiversity into national green growth planning



Activities:

1. Push knowledge frontier
2. Mainstream natural capital in green growth
3. Strengthen implementation



2019 Research: Groundwork on natural capital data, metrics and policy



Next Steps:

1. Focus on peer review and building practical applications
2. Address further gaps in finance, infrastructure and biodiversity



Finding Success: Problem

- ▶ Proliferation of natural capital information, yet **lack of implementation** in green growth policy
- ▶ GGKP identified **key knowledge gaps**, incl. a dearth of “success stories”
- ▶ Desire from senior policy-makers for **new evidence** of natural capital uses to inform policy

Finding Success: Audience

- ▶ **Policymakers** - demonstrate use cases for natural capital, provide concrete examples, communicate factors for success
- ▶ **Practitioners & researchers** - support efforts to build the evidence base by clarifying gaps in the literature and sharing best practices

Finding Success: Approach

- ▶ 2018/19: GGKP & UCL collaborate on a systematised review of **300+ case studies** in grey and academic literature
- ▶ Compare cases on the basis of natural capital stock, geographic region, information used, policy relevance and policy impact
- ▶ Limited to what was discussed in the text - “relevant” if explicitly targets policy change

Finding Success: Literature search



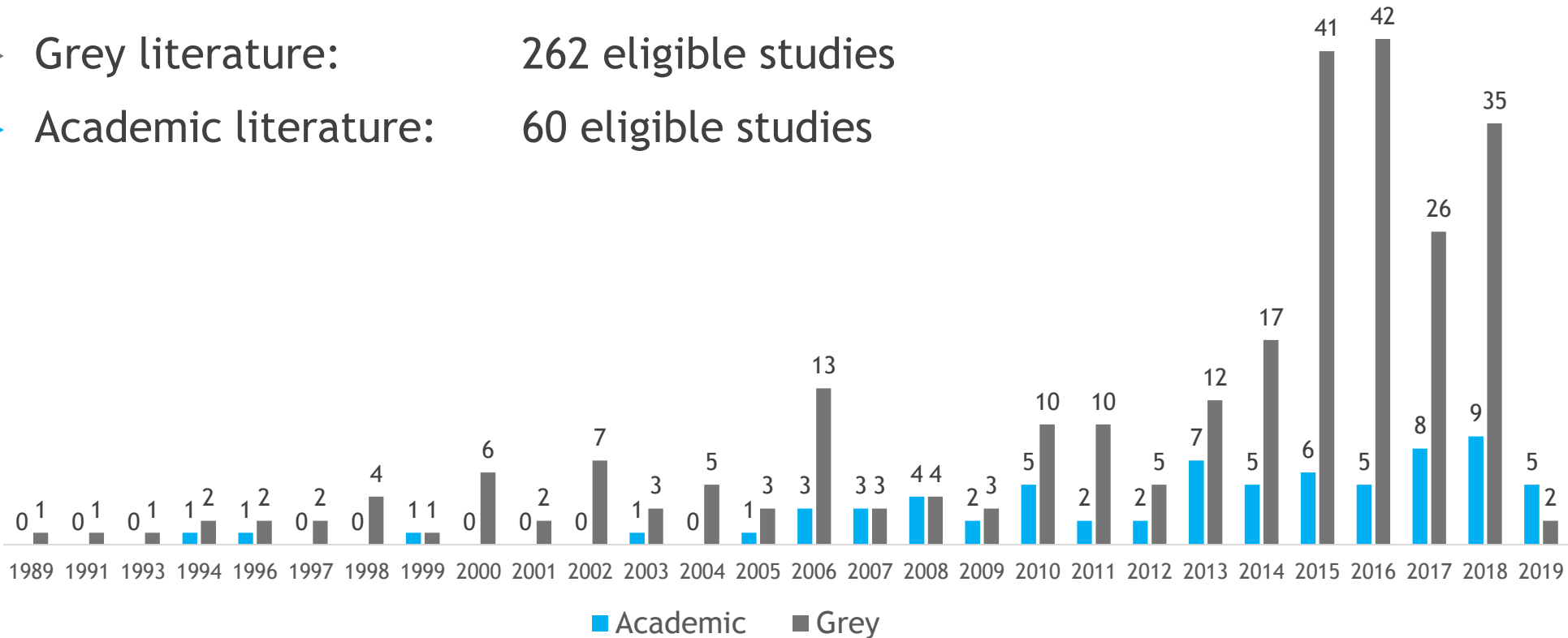
- ▶ GGKP develop **grey literature dataset** of 360 cases by searching online databases of relevant organisations and governments



- ▶ UCL develop **academic literature dataset** of 71 cases by searching Scopus electronic database using terms “natural capital” and “case study” and “national”

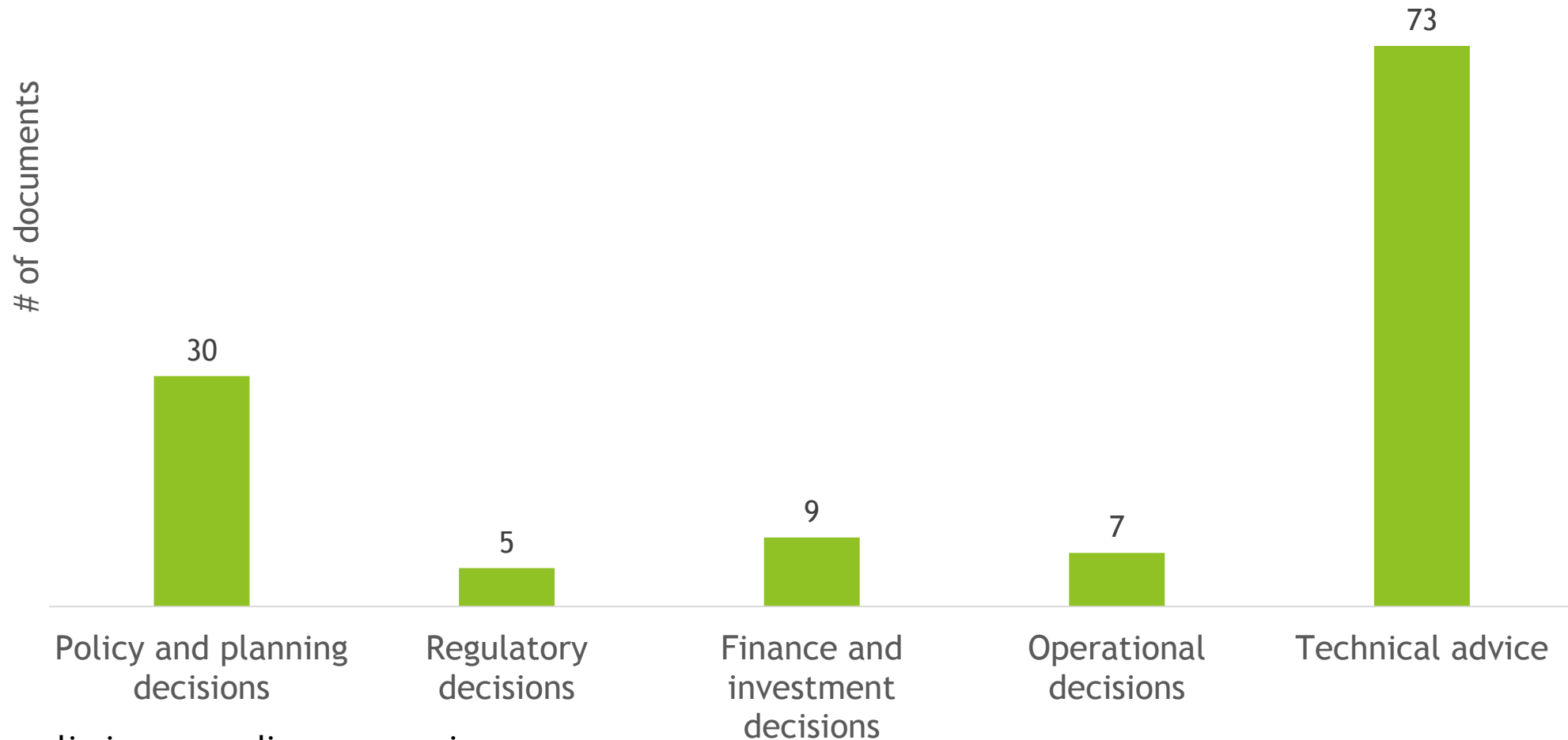
Finding Success: Result 1 - Proliferation*

- Grey literature: 262 eligible studies
- Academic literature: 60 eligible studies



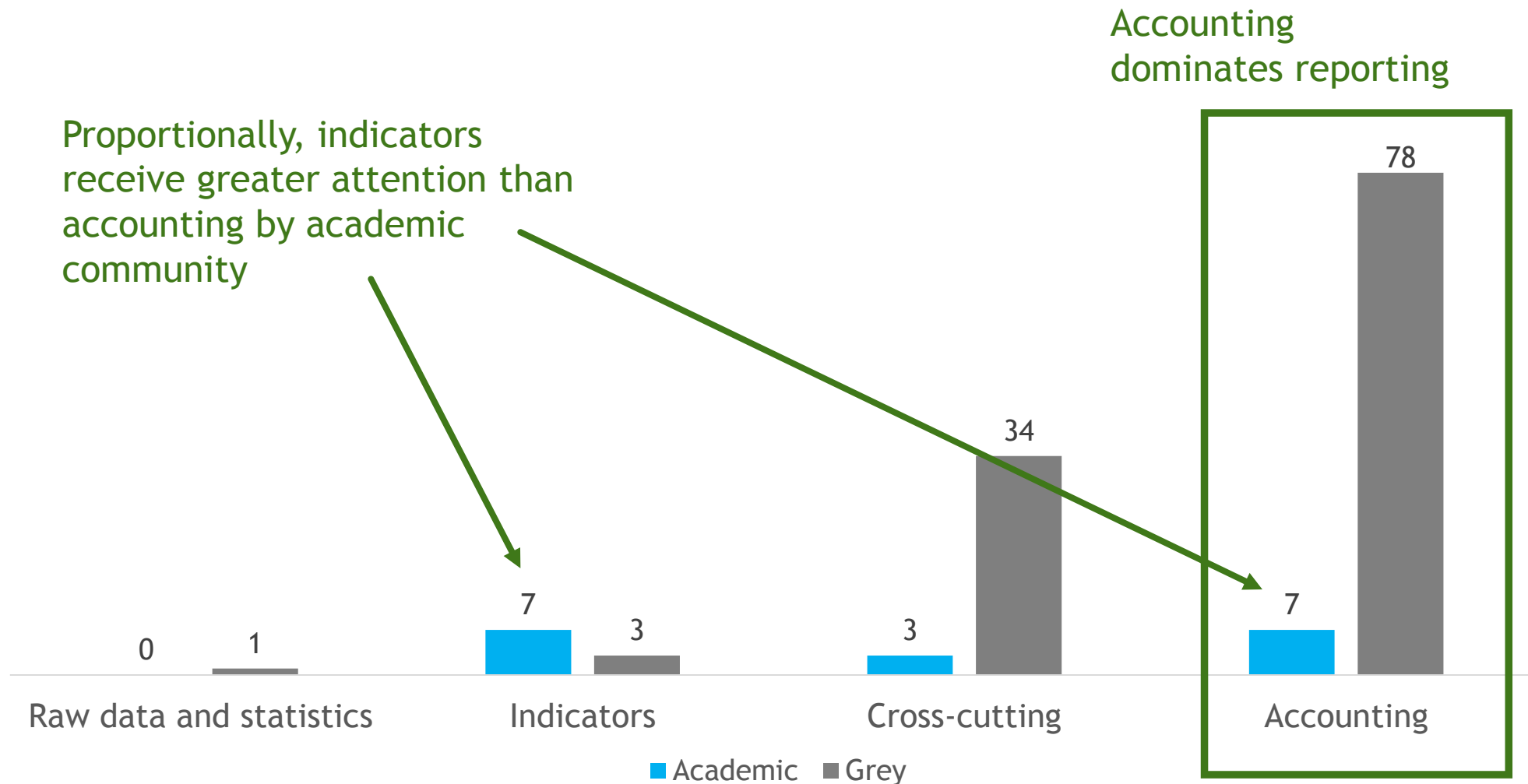
*Results are preliminary pending peer review.

Finding Success: Result 2 - Use*



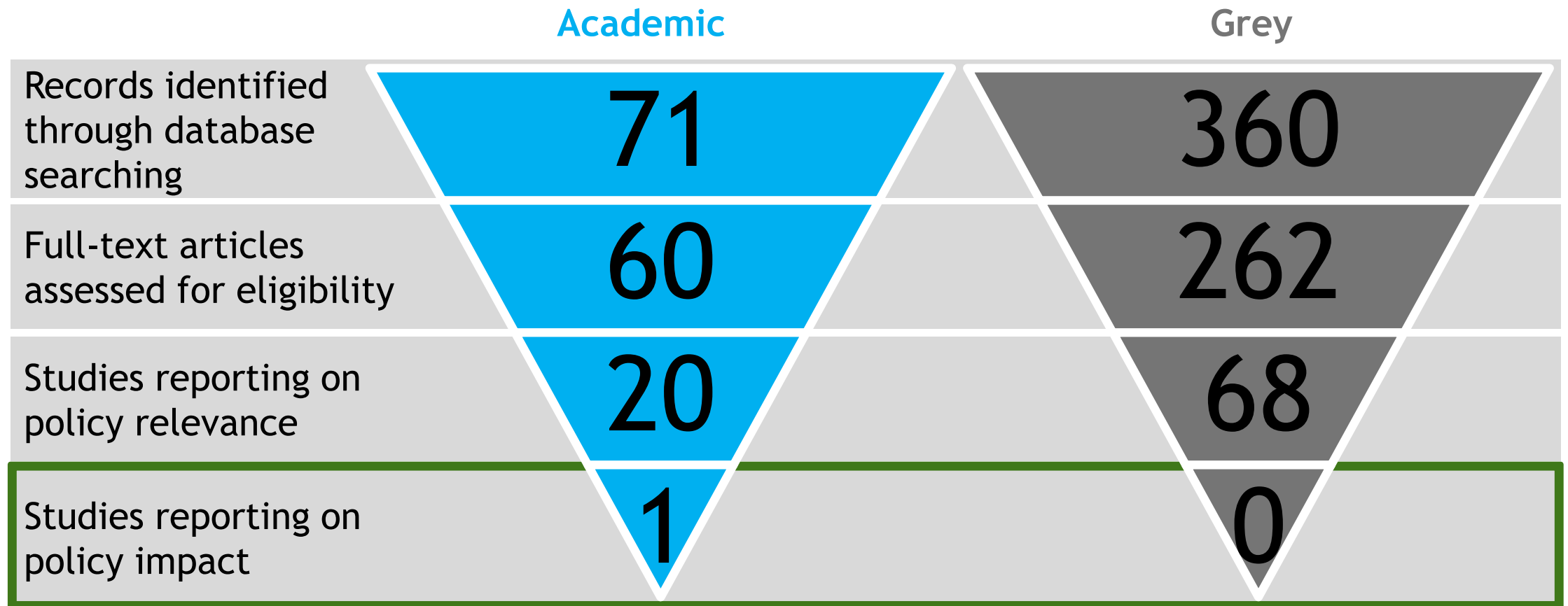
*Results are preliminary pending peer review.

Finding Success: Result 3 - Information type*



*Results are preliminary pending peer review.

Finding Success: Result 4 - Impact reporting*



*Results are preliminary pending peer review.

Finding Success: Conclusions*

- ▶ **Spike in literature** on natural capital since 2015
- ▶ Literature often focuses on providing **technical advice** instead of promoting policy change
- ▶ **Accounting** is a driving force for this literature, while work tying **indicators** to policy is scarce
- ▶ Yawning **gap in reporting impact**, suggesting a strong need for more ex-post impact analysis
- ▶ **Lack of standardised reporting** of case studies - dataset difficult to collect and evaluate

*Conclusions are preliminary pending peer review.

Finding Success: Next steps

- ▶ Develop a **robust online database** of natural capital case studies linked to policy demand
- ▶ Disseminate **best practices** for producing success stories in green growth and natural capital
- ▶ Support activities linking a coherent set of natural capital **indicators** to policy decisions, incl. SDGs
- ▶ Collaborate with OECD, GGGI, AfDB and other GGKP partners to **mainstream** natural capital
- ▶ Encourage partners to begin conducting more ex-post **impact analyses** in their areas of operation

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Finding Success: Data sorting

