

## **Meeting Summary:**

### **Friends of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (FEBA) Biannual Members' Meeting**

10<sup>th</sup> November 2017, 14:00-17:00

German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), Robert-Schuman-Platz 3, 53175 Bonn

#### **Agenda:**

14:00-14:20 – Welcome and introductions

14:20-14:25 – Update from the FEBA Secretariat

14:25-15:35 – Updates from participants on EbA-related activities

15:35-15:50 – Coffee break

15:50-17:00 –

- a) Any updates, announcements, reflections from participants related to COP23
- b) Discuss opportunities for collaboration, including enhancing interactions on adaptation with the UNFCCC
- a) Discuss options and ideas for next FEBA joint paper
- b) 2018: celebrating and reflecting on 10 years of EbA

#### **1) Welcome and introductions**

Lea Herberg (BMUB IKI) began the meeting by welcoming FEBA members to BMUB, noting this is the fourth formal FEBA network meeting hosted at their offices. She noted that many strong EbA events are taking place at COP23, the ZEF-EHS-IUCN seminar series organized under FEBA was a success, and offered congratulations. 2017 was a successful year for EbA, with IKI now crossing the threshold of EUR 150 million invested in its portfolio of EbA programmes and projects. IKI is, similarly, convening knowledge sharing networks, including this year the EbA community of practice workshop in Thailand, and the Community-based Adaptation workshop in Uganda. The CBD voluntary guidelines for Parties are under development in 2017, additionally. Lea finally expressed she looked forward to hearing about initiatives, plans, possibilities among FEBA members present.

The 29 attendees, representing 20 FEBA member institutions, made a round of introductions. (See Annex 1 for a list of meeting attendees, affiliations, and acronyms.)

#### **2) Update from the FEBA Secretariat**

Four new members joined FEBA since the last meeting on May 12, 2017: Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, Seychelles; National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change, Mexico; Smithsonian Institution; and Stockholm Environment Institute.

#### **3) Updates from participants on EbA-related activities**

***Margarita Caso Chavez – National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC), Mexico***

INECC is assessing vulnerability to climate change impacts at national and local levels, conducting pilots with a systems approach. A new project focuses on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation measures. INECC is conducting a consultation on a national vulnerability atlas (including vulnerabilities of populations, ecosystem services, and food production activities).

***Tamara Thomas – The Nature Conservancy (TNC)***

Led by the Netherlands, TNC and other partners are launching a global center for excellence in adaptation, with which there is an opportunity for FEBA to align. TNC is also initiating several marine EbA projects, including one on the global value for mangroves for risk reduction; a policy workshop in the Federated States of Micronesia on watershed management for island resilience; and a project on water security in urban areas. TNC's Caribbean EbA programme includes technical support to the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund, which has just launched an EbA facility. TNC has received EUR 5 million to pilot EbA in Jamaica, Grenada, Dominican Republic, including piloting artificial reef structures in Grenada.

***Julia Barrott – Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)***

SEI is an applied research organization on environment and development, and Julia is in charge of the WeADAPT platform for collaboration ([www.weadapt.org](http://www.weadapt.org)). Language and terminology can be barrier, so SEI is running a project on how climate change and disaster risk language can be interpreted and aligned. SEI is interested in FEBA's work on EbA criteria and standards.

***Karim Ould-Chih – KfW***

KfW is prepping the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund facility, now with an EbA window. They have hired asset manager Deutsche Bank, and hired EbA facility programme manager Joth Singh. They are developing the EbA facility charter, developing policies, guidelines, and proposals will be opening in Q1 or Q2 2018. With TNC, KfW is looking at vulnerability analysis. Two other projects not funded by BMU deal with reforestation in Brazil that is loan based, and an eco business fund based in Luxembourg, financing sustainable fisheries, forestry, etc. in Latin America.

***Fabrice Renaud and Zita Sebesvari – UN University Institute for Environment and Human Security (EHS)***

ZEF-EHS-IUCN (FEBA) seminar series this week was a success, very good turnout and not just students, also participants from COP. EHS is involved in various other networks: including Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR), Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM). EHS is discussing standards in various networks for scientific and technical relevance. EHS continues to work on risk assessment. Developed a product called GDRI, looking at social-ecological systems to international development intervention option.

***Xiaoting Hou Jones – International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)***

IIED is also an applied research institute. IIED is leading EbA effectiveness assessments in 12 countries, using a common research framework to build capacity to collate evidence of effectiveness, and using the outcomes to develop future activities. IIED is using existing tools related to planning to identify M&E options for EbA. In June 2017 IIED ran the Community Based Adaptation (CBA) conference in Kampala. IIED is leveraging financing opportunities through its Money Where It Matters work.

***Sylvia Wicander – UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Center (WCMC)***

WCMC has produced an inventory of tools and methods for EbA, and continues to collate additional tools. Please let WCMC know if you've made new tools! WCMC is gathering user feedback on what would be most appropriate format to make the inventory more navigable for finding what users need. The Beta version will be ready by early next year. WCMC has also been reviewing UN Environment's portfolio of 55 GEF funded EbA projects, and is producing set of briefing notes.

***Ronald Jumeau - Republic of Seychelles; Global Island Partnership (GLISPA)***

Seychelles has finalized the financial part of USD 21.6 million debt swap with Paris Club to protect 30% of its EEZ. 15% will be designated as high biodiversity areas, including no-take zones. Seychelles has in the last month launched the trust that is managing the debt swap, and has also announced USD 250k granting mechanism to do EbA work or other adaptation activities. World Bank and GEF announced second sustainable finance package of USD 20m+ grants and loans for sustainable fisheries and conservation. Next year Seychelles will launch its first blue bonds. Together these add up to more than USD 40m. USD 750k per year will be available to local communities.

***Juliana Ribeiro - Fundação Grupo Boticário de Proteção à Natureza (Grupo Boticario)***

Publication about concept of EbA was launched in 2015. Grupo Boticario is working with local governments on how to bring EbA to the ground (particularly local government and water treatment company – on the impact of climate change on water system and treatment). The results will be ready next year at World Water Forum. With WRI, TNC, IUCN, Grupo Boticario is working on a natural capital protocol, conducting green grey impact assessment for Brazil. Preliminary results are proving that natural infrastructure is cheaper – final results to be launched at World Water Forum. Grupo Boticario has launched a call for case studies on NbS in Brazil, and has received 90 submissions and proposals. 15 case studies have been selected, and Grupo Boticario will launch the publication on NbS next month, on Dec 14. They will also have a report on impact of climate change on biodiversity in Brazil – like the IPCC, based on inputs of a panel of scientists.

***Sakhile Koketso – Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)***

CBD is focusing on two main streams of work on EbA: (1) voluntary guidelines for Parties on EbA and ecoDRR, and (2) dialogues. Workshop on the voluntary guidelines will be held in Bonn Nov 20-22. Half of participants will be Parties. Workshop is reviewing draft guidelines, and the result will be a second draft, which will be peer reviewed before presentation to SBSTTA body. Dialogues have taken place in several regions already, comprising three days of dialogue between Parties' CBD and CC focal points – more to come, followed by field visit program. Future dialogues include South Africa, Fiji, and others. CBD invites those in FEBA with regional presence to join.

***Andrew Taber and Florencia Zapata – The Mountain Institute (TMI)***

TMI is chair of the Global Mountain Partnership, which is learning valuable lessons from GLISPA on mobilizing island leadership for EbA to do same for mountain world. TMI's ongoing work includes that on community resilience in Himalayas and Andes. TMI started new project in July with IUCN on Scaling up Mountain EbA, building on the Mountain EbA flagship programme of BMU IKI. TMI wants to join forces with anyone working in the 6 programme countries – Nepal, Peru, Uganda, Colombia, Kenya, and

Bhutan. TMI is organizing with IUCN and GIZ an EbA learning workshop at the December meeting of the Global Mountain Partnership. The Scaling Up Mountain EbA program planning meeting takes place in April in Peru. Erin Gleeson (TMI) attended EbA workshop in Thailand in August.

***Barney Dickson – UN Environment***

UN Environment is investigating its EbA evidence base – with learning led by WCMC. It is also looking at the way in which adaptation is communicated under UNFCCC, hoping to do work on developing guidelines or similar for reporting on EbA up with other adaptation mechanisms. UN Environment is closely involved with GCE for climate adaptation to be launched at COP23 – this will focus on three areas in year one, including EbA. A2R (Adapt, Absorb, Respond) is organizing three high-level events on resilience for COP23. General comment: we're all collaborating a lot, but there is the sense that the sum could be more than the parts of what is going on here... we need to keep pushing outwards and upwards on EbA. We need to know better who is doing what in FEBA to link up more.

***Ariane Steins-Meier – Rare***

Invitations to collaborate: (1) Just finalized global analysis of all programs, now trying to link campaigns with EbA (a special working group has been established for this); (2) new collaboration with SEI, but also looking for practitioners to join the network; (3) Integrating EbA with NbS work at the community level; (4) Fisheries: bringing ecosystem approaches to fisheries (Rare welcomes expertise on that), integrating mangrove restoration in this. Rare is launching with Brazil a mangrove initiative.

***Arno Sckeyde and Mathias Bertram – GIZ***

With the EbA community of practice workshop in Thailand in August, the idea was to dig in deeply to EbA issues on monitoring, finance, entry points, guidelines for managers and investors. Workshops laid basis for in depth studies on the way. PANORAMA has 51 solutions from mountains to the oceans [Mathias shared great examples from the portal]. There is a perfect opportunity to submit Brazilian solutions mentioned by Juliana. Work includes trainings in Peru's Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Economy and Finance, and a 3 month online training on how to integrate EbA into Mountains. In Mexico GIZ has implemented a training of trainers for tourism sector and agriculture. GIZ is also working with UNU on setting up guidance.

***Britta Garfield – Smithsonian Institute***

Britta works for the Smithsonian's Office of International Relations; Smithsonian is a governmental trust that can function as an NGO. Recent and ongoing work includes a ridge to reef project in Myanmar with integrated approach including protected areas; a program in Panama to improve land use management decisions and watershed management, also bird-friendly coffee certification. Earlier this year, Smithsonian launched its conservation commons, an initiative to bring together research institutes at Smithsonian and external partners. Its four focal areas are: Working land and seascapes; Movement of lives (migration); Biodiversity friendly food; and Earth optimism (cross cutting). Smithsonian is building capacity across disciplines, via e.g. citizen science, the Smithsonian Mason school of conservation, etc.

***Angela Andrade – Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM); Conservation International (CI)***

CEM (which has 1200+ members) has a Thematic Group on EbA, which includes more than 150 experts on EbA and EbM. Next year CEM will start working specifically on linkages with urban areas; a workshop

is planned for next year – CEM wants to know if others are working in this area. CEM is looking for case studies on implementation of EbA in biosphere reserves, including culture and governance issues (new area of work for CEM). CEM is working with the IUCN secretariat on the development of standards for NbS.

CI is working with TNC and WWF in Colombia on EbA issues, and presenting contributions of EbA to government. CI has been working in mountains of Colombia, will work with PANORAMA and The Mountain Institute.

***Lea Herberg – International Climate Initiative, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB IKI)***

IKI's RFP 2017 comprised ten funding windows (including for EbA) for programmes of EUR 15-20m. Together with another window, EbA received the most proposals. One will be chosen and announced hopefully by next meeting.

***Radhika Murti and Ali Raza Rizvi – International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)***

NbS standards consultation process is coming up, please contact IUCN to engage further; already engaging ecoDRR and EbA networks through PEDRR and FEBA. The first flagship EcoDRR for EbA project (Ecosystems Protecting Infrastructure and Communities – EPIC) closed this year following 5 years of implementation. Lessons learnt and guidelines publication will be available online after 15 November. RELIEF-Kit, a CBD funded project that is looking at the role of biodiversity (as opposed to ecosystem services) in EbA and EcoDRR; there is very sparse literature, therefore it is a research priority. RELIEF-Kit's resulting publication - *Helping Nature Help Us* – is available online. This project facilitated five regional workshops, training 160 senior policy people. IUCN is linking ecological risk and capacity assessments with social vulnerability assessments; 15 countries have done their Red List of Ecosystems, and are using these results to look at application. Next year IUCN will be 70 years old, and is looking for suggestions on events where we can mark this. The Global Mangrove Alliance launched in 2017, IUCN has joined coordinating group with WWF, CI, TNC, Wetlands International.

***Maria Nuutinen (absent, updates conveyed by Katherine Blackwood) – FAO***

FAO is organizing a series of webinars starting in late November focusing on ecosystem-based approaches to climate change in the food and agriculture sectors. Regarding capacity development for Forest and Landscape Restoration: FAO and partners are organizing an online knowledge-sharing forum "Innovative Approaches for Monitoring Forest and Landscape Restoration" that will start on 30 November. FAO will share the invitations to the online events with FEBA. In terms of products and publications: (1) In collaboration with UNDP, the NAP-Ag Programme focusing on integrating agriculture sectors in National Adaptation Plans, is planning to publish an info note on EbA in NAPs (in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2018). (2) FAO is updating the [technical paper "Climate change implications for fisheries and aquaculture"](#) by summer 2018. Also, FAO supports countries also through projects. As an example, in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, FAO leads 6 GEF-funded adaptation projects, with a portfolio of USD 30 million, active in 2018. As an encouragement to FEBA partners for the finalization of the Technical contribution: *Tool for integration of ecosystems into climate change adaptation planning processes*, it would be excellent if the final EbA Tool would comprise more approaches that contribute also to food and nutrition security. Based on these activities and outputs, FAO would like to propose a

joint FEBA side event with focus on EbA and food security to be organized, for example in COP24 next year.

#### **4) All other business; discussions**

##### ***Sharing of failures and bad practices at an event/in a joint paper next year***

Noting that the sharing of “good practices” is a common exercise that can only go so far to facilitate learning from each other’s experiences, Ali Raza Rizvi (IUCN) asked the group whether there would be interest in collaborating on a paper or event with the goal of sharing the “don’ts” of EbA. Fabrice Renaud (UNU-EHS) suggested that “Bad practices, failures, and ways not to reproduce them” would be a good way to frame the event or paper. Margarita Caso Chavez (INECC) agreed it was an excellent idea to share failures. Karim Ould-Chih (KfW) said he would be willing to share these experiences – that we should aspire for the good and learn from the bad. Liz McLeod (TNC) shared that in Micronesia and Melanesia, TNC is learning from the “bad” – e.g. beneficiaries asking that “another climate projections workshop” not be planned, rather they’d prefer to had an event where they can talk story. This recognition brought out the importance of traditional knowledge. Sakhile Koketso (CBD) suggested that the group should think about the limits of EbA. For example, while in Fiji recently, she went on a field tour on Viti Levu, along Kings Road, to a site where Tropical Cyclone Winston had hit particularly badly, tearing up the mangroves. Participants analysed why EbA did not work. She reinforced that we should not “sell it as a panacea”, and suggested that EbA limits would be a good master’s or PhD topic for UNU-EHS students. Also on learning from failures, Felix Ries (BMUB IKI) shared that a new cycle of independent evaluations of all IKI projects is taking place now for projects that began starting 2011, through the next couple of years. These will include a few impact evaluations with resources and robust methods.

##### ***Forging partnerships between implementing agencies and scientific organizations***

Fabrice mentioned that it would be nice to find a mechanism (possibly through FEBA) to more systematically link implementing agencies with academics and scientific organizations.

##### ***FEBA coordination and events in 2018***

Sakhile noted that as 2018 marks both IUCN’s 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and 10 years of EbA, the CBD SBSTTA 22 and COP 14 will both focus on climate change on the agenda, and so could be good venues for events. She suggested FEBA do something on climate and development days on margins of SBSTTA 22, for example. We could take the opportunity to share experiences on a more concrete level, over 1-2 days. Lea Herberg (BMUB IKI) added that BMUB will be marking the 10<sup>th</sup> year of IKI, and they are looking for ways to celebrate. Ariane Steins-Meier (Rare) expressed interest in more information sharing and in more coordinated capacity and sharing project ideas amongst FEBA members. Andrew Taber (TMI) suggested that the FEBA secretariat maintain a calendar of upcoming events. The global meeting in mid-December for the Global Mountain Partnership could be an interesting engagement for FEBA, and next year in December, there is a meeting called Mountains 2018. Juliana added that she is organizing a conference on biodiversity conservation next year.

##### ***Hybrid solutions***

Thora Amend (GIZ consultant) reported that one major finding of her interviews on EbA is that corruption is a main issue. For example, you can't get as much money for green infrastructure as for grey infrastructure investments. Juliana Ribeiro (Grupo Boticario) responded that she had heard the same in Brazil. Fabrice added that yes, corruption is a big problem for EbA, but that "going hybrid" will not fix corruption. He suggested "why don't we propose a portfolio of options, instead of coming with our own agenda on green infrastructure?" Florencia mentioned that restoring ancient, currently underused technologies could be a good focus of future work. Fabrice mentioned that "green and grey" was a major topic of the last PEDRR (Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction) workshop, but through the lens of ecoDRR. He suggested that with FEBA, could we diffuse in that direction. Radhika Murti (IUCN) suggested that similar to PEDRR, FEBA could develop a joint paper – an information/technical/policy brief; our joint voice and position is influential.

### ***The green corner***

A second major takeaway Thora mentioned from her interviews was that EbA practitioners need to get out of the green corner, e.g. by working to develop training modules for the careers of other sector education systems. Mae added that the World Banks and ADBs of the world have two arms – one for green, the other for infrastructure - how do we align these? Zita reinforced that FEBA needs to leave the green corner, e.g. by attending (as FEBA) events outside our sector. Liz added that the Army Corps of Engineers is drafting relevant guidance with support from TNC, TNC is working with Swiss Re and insurers, and is presenting at engineering conferences. Radhika emphasized the need to engage more into climate finance events, starting at this COP. Sylvia pointed out that finance discussions are often behind closed doors, but a lot of us probably have business teams who can follow up on bringing EbA to the discussions.

### ***UNFCCC***

Building on a previous comment made by Barney Dickson (UN Environment) Ali asked the group to consider whether we are at the stage to influence international policy instruments. Zita Sebesvari (UNU-EHS) added that Barney had also mentioned the Global Stocktake of Paris, and that UNU have also started to think about how the scientific community could inform the Global Stocktake. Ali then offered that the FEBA Secretariat could provide a briefing at the next meeting (May 2018) on the status of UNFCCC negotiations, and many in the room agreed this would be welcome. Ali went on to mention that the Adaptation Committee is welcoming inputs from FEBA, as is the Nairobi Work Programme. The next FEBA technical paper could be on integrating EbA approaches into Forest Landscape Restoration, addressing two silos - systems theory of resilience, which acknowledges the non-linear nature of resilience, and restoration/FLR.

### ***M&E***

Liz brought up that while the meeting had addressed M&E, TNC was interested to learn from others whether anyone has developed methods for getting metrics that communities can track themselves. Florencia Zapata (TMI) replied that TMI has applied three different methodologies for assessing vulnerability, and wants to go deeper on the social dimension. Arno Sckeyde (GIZ) reminded the group that M&E was one of the four topics at the Thailand workshop in August, and that there is a need to communicate EbA to engineers, funders, private sector, agriculture. Possible area of future

collaboration. Margarita shared that INECC is starting an M&E project including hybrid solutions, and that once it starts getting results she will share those.

### ***Platforms for sharing EbA***

Julia Barrott (SEI) highlighted that the weADAPT.org platform has a theme for EbA specifically. Juliana added that the Brazilian government is also developing a platform on adaptation and climate scenarios, in Portuguese, based on weADAPT – so far a very collaborative effort.

### ***Other topics of discussion***

Mae Adams (TNC) mentioned an IKI project ending in June, and asked for advice on how TNC ought to frame the lessons to interest outsiders/others. E.g. payment for ecosystem services in small site has led to a bigger government led initiative by Papua New Guinea on PES. Similarly, Palau is also scaling up.

Sherry Constantine (TNC) asked whether anyone in the meeting had a sense of how many countries have EbA in their climate finance. Ali responded that IUCN, IIED, and WCMC had done an analysis.

Ariane congratulated Seychelles on joining FEBA, and expressed that all should keep encouraging more countries to become FEBA members.

Thora mentioned that UNDP is implementing a project on microfinance for EbA, on which she conducted interviews in Panama. Another topic that came up several times in interviews is research needs, especially research on where to draw the line where ecosystems *cannot* adapt.

### **5) Meeting action points:**

- FEBA Secretariat will develop a matrix of FEBA members for networking and identifying area of expertise
- FEBA Secretariat will prepare a brief on the status of UNFCCC negotiations in advance of the next FEBA meeting
- FEBA Secretariat will explore opportunities for broadening the participation in FEBA meetings, by planning a remote meeting for members



## Annex 1: Meeting participants

First name	Last name	Affiliation	Acronym
Mae	ADAMS	The Nature Conservancy	TNC
Thora	AMEND	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	GIZ
Angela	ANDRADE	Commission on Ecosystem Management; Conservation International	CEM; CI
Julia	BARROTT	Stockholm Environment Institute	SEI
Mathias	BERTRAM	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	GIZ
Katherine	BLACKWOOD	International Union for Conservation of Nature	IUCN
Robert	BOVINO	The Nature Conservancy	TNC
Margarita	CASO CHAVEZ	National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change, Mexico	INECC
Sherry	CONSTANTINE	The Nature Conservancy	TNC
Barney	DICKSON	UN Environment	
Britta	GARFIELD	Smithsonian Institution	
Lea	HERBERG	International Climate Initiative, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety	BMUB IKI
Xiaoting Hou	JONES	International Institute for Environment and Development	IIED
Ronald	JUMEAU	Republic of Seychelles; Global Island Partnership	
Sakhile	KOKETSO	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity	CBD
Elizabeth	MCLEOD	The Nature Conservancy	TNC
Radhika	MURTI	International Union for Conservation of Nature	IUCN
Karim	OULD-CHIH	KfW Bankengruppe	KfW
Ali	RAZA RIZVI	International Union for Conservation of Nature	IUCN
Fabrice	RENAUD	United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security	UNU-EHS
Juliana B.	RIBEIRO	Fundação Grupo Boticário de Proteção à Natureza	
Felix	RIES	International Climate Initiative, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety	BMUB IKI
Arno	SCKEYDE	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	GIZ
Ariane	STEINS-MEIER	Rare	
Andrew	TABER	The Mountain Institute	TMI
Tamara	THOMAS	The Nature Conservancy	TNC
Dania	TRESPALACIOS	The Nature Conservancy	TNC
Sylvia	WICANDER	UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre	WCMC
Florencia	ZAPATA	The Mountain Institute	TMI