

2018 Newsletter

Friends of EbA (FEBA) is an informal network of organizations with an interest in promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing on Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) through joint events and initiatives, as well as the development of position papers and technical documents on EbA. More than 50 government ministries and sub-agencies, UN bodies and conventions, NGOs, research centers, and other institutions make up the Friends of EbA. IUCN serves as the FEBA Secretariat. Visit www.iucn.org/feba to learn more. Have inputs for this newsletter? Send them to [Katherine Blackwood](mailto:katherine.blackwood@iucn.org) to see them included in updated editions.

2018 marks the tenth anniversary of EbA's conceptual definition, and presents this community with an opportunity to reflect on the challenges, achievements, and lessons realized on this journey. FEBA looks forward to a year of EbA+10!

The enclosed member information was assembled by IUCN with support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB).

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Supported by:



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
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Events

First and Second EbA Knowledge Days

11 May and 6 November 2017

In the framework of UNFCCC SBSTA 46 and COP23 respectively, GIZ, IUCN, IIED and FEBA co-hosted two EbA Knowledge Days where delegates and representatives from governments, international organizations, NGOs and research institutions were welcomed to share knowledge and practical experiences for strengthening EbA into policy frameworks, at national and subnational level based on practical examples.

Download the event reports: [11 May](#) | [6 November](#)

Contact [Mathias Bertram](#) for more information.



Photo: GIZ / EbA Mainstreaming

FEBA Member Meetings

12 May and 10 November 2017

FEBA convened two members' meetings in 2017, both in Bonn, Germany during UNFCCC SBSTA 46 and UNFCCC COP23, respectively. FEBA meetings are an opportunity for members to share information about their own initiatives, brainstorm areas of collaboration, and plan FEBA outputs.

Download the meeting reports: [12 May](#) | [10 November](#)

Contact [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

The 11th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation (CBA11)

26-29 June 2017

The 11th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation (CBA11) to climate change took place in Kampala, Uganda from 26-29 June 2017. Field visits accompanying the conference took place in various parts of Uganda from 22-25 June. Community-based adaptation to climate change (CBA) focuses on empowering communities to use their own knowledge and decision-making processes to take action on climate change. CBA11 provided an opportunity to review the latest developments in CBA practice, policy and theory with participants from around the world.

This year's conference highlighted the benefits and challenges of using natural resources and ecosystems as part of adaptation work. The conference was designed for practitioners, policymakers, planners and donors working on community-based adaptation at all levels and scales. The event enhanced the capacity of stakeholders to work together to improve the livelihoods of those most vulnerable to climate change.

The formal conference featured plenary and parallel interactive sessions, hands-on learning opportunities, group discussions, high-level speaker panels, video competitions, poster presentations and more. Ahead of the conference, delegates took part in field visits to community adaptation projects located in a variety of ecosystems in Uganda.

[Read more](#) about the conference

Contact [Hannah Reid](#) for more information



Photo: GIZ EcosWat

2nd International EbA Community of Practice Workshop

21-24 August 2017

Around 80 experts from governments, research and policy institutions, and civil society from 22 countries came together to exchange on selected topics defined during the 1st workshop in June 2016. The workshop was structured around plenary and parallel discussion sessions that aimed to contribute to four core objectives: Identifying entry points for EbA mainstreaming; monitoring and evaluation of EbA; financing challenges and opportunities; evidence of EbA effectiveness.

[Read more about the workshop](#)

GIZ has produced four Learning Briefs resulting from the workshop:

[Monitoring and evaluation – how to measure success of Ecosystem-based Adaptation](#)

[Financing Ecosystem-based Adaptation](#)

[Entry points for mainstreaming Ecosystem-based Adaptation \(EbA\)](#)

[Evidence of EbA effectiveness](#)

Contact [Mathias Bertram](#) for more information.



Photo: BMUB IKI

The Power of Pride: Developing Social Norms for Community-Based Watershed Management

30 August 2017



Photo: SIWI

On the margins of World Water Week in Stockholm, Rare's Director of Strategy and Development in Colombia, Catalina Mejia, spoke about how behavioral insights and leveraging the powerful emotion of pride can be applied to improve community-based watershed management, drawing on Rare's experiences in Latin America.

[Watch the Sofa Talk](#)

Rare continues to partner with communities and local authorities to scale-up its approach to community watershed management and hopes to highlight additional progress at events like the 8th World Water Forum in Brazil and the next World Water Week in Stockholm.

Contact [Catalina Mejia](#) or [Nikki Schulman](#) for more information.

South Africa: Regional Dialogue and Learning Mission on Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity at the National Level

2 – 6 October 2017

The meeting was the first in a series of regional dialogue and learning missions co-organized with SwedBio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre. The meeting in South Africa welcomed over 50 participants from Eastern and Southern Africa. Biodiversity and climate change experts, policy makers and practitioners shared experiences and lessons learned with ecosystem based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, as well as forest and ecosystem restoration. The dialogue seminars provided an informal setting for open discussions on existing approaches, challenges and opportunities for improved policy making and implementation, and the field visits allowed host countries to showcase successfully implemented EbA projects.

Two more regional dialogue and learning missions took place in 2017, and three more are scheduled for 2018.

Contact [Sakhile Koketso](#) for more information.

Fiji: Regional Dialogue and Learning Mission on Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity at the National Level in the Pacific
23 – 27 October 2017

The meeting was the second in the series of regional dialogue and learning missions. It welcomed close to 50 participants and provided an important opportunity to share experiences and lessons learned with ecosystem based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, as well as coral reef and ecosystem resilience. The meeting took place in Suva, Fiji.

Three more regional dialogues are scheduled for 2018.

Contact [Sakhile Koketso](#) for more information.

Behavioral Insights in Development and Environment Summit
25-26 October 2017

Together with its new partners from the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Rare co-hosted the Behavioral Insights in Development and Environment Summit. A group of 50 select attendees with various backgrounds and expertise gathered to share behavioral insights and explore synergies as well as partnerships in advancing behavior-centered research, design and practice for environmental development. The event was a milestone for the *Development and Environment Behavioral Insights Network* (DEBIN) that was founded in early January 2017 as an informal community of practice.

Contact [Frederik Stapke](#) or [Ekaterina Bessanova](#) for more information.

Future events are still to be determined. Want to be part of our growing community or simply interested? Anyone is welcome to get in touch.



Brett Jenks, Rare CEO. Photo: SEI



Photo: ZEF

FEBA Seminar Series
6-10 November 2017

ZEF, UNU-EHS and IUCN (under FEBA) organized five seminars on the intersections of biodiversity, ecosystems, and climate change, during UNFCCC COP23. FEBA members and partners made presentations and discussed topics such as land degradation, EbA, and ecosystem services.

Watch the seminars:

- 6 November - Biodiversity and protected areas under climate change**
- 7 November - Ecosystem services and climate change**
- 8 November - Land degradation and climate change**
- 9 November - Ecosystem-based adaptation planning and implementation**
- 10 November - Ecosystem-based adaptation standards, criteria, and linkages**

Contact [Zita Sebesvari](#) and [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

Celebrating the journey of Ecosystem-based Adaptation: Nature-based Solutions to climate change

15 November 2017

During UNFCCC COP23, IUCN hosted a reception at which BMUB IKI, CBD, and Ministers from El Salvador, Honduras, Madagascar, Uganda, and Vietnam highlighted the contributions EbA has made to international and national efforts in climate change adaptation and sustainable development.

Contact [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

FEBA members were extremely active and engaged at COP23. See the [calendar](#) of side events.



Honourable Lina Pohl, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, El Salvador; Inger Andersen, IUCN Director General; and Dr. Johanita Ndahimananjara, Minister of Environment, Ecology and Forests, Madagascar. Photo: IUCN



Map of the ten Solution Search finalists. Image: Rare

Solution Search Awards Ceremony

16 November 2017

Amidst 300 global leaders and thinkers from conservation, agriculture and the private sector, Rare honored the ten Solution Search: Farming for Biodiversity Finalists and the six contestants that took home one of the grand- or side prizes. All ten community-based initiatives exhibit innovative thinking and local leadership to stem the challenges of food insecurity, climate change and biodiversity loss.

Read more about Solution Search

Over the course of the next two years, Rare will showcase their Solution Search contestant's successes and pitch their ideas and messages in international policy processes and fora, such as CBD and UNFCCC COPs and FAO's Committee on Food Security (CFS). Eight country-based campaigns around the globe will scale solution uptake at the national level.

Contact [Ann-Kathrin Neureuther](#) for more information.

Bonn, Germany: Technical Workshop for Review of the Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Effective Implementation of Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

20 – 22 November 2017

A technical workshop where 21 country-nominated experts, 19 experts from agencies, and two representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities reviewed a draft of the voluntary guidelines on ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The meeting took place in Bonn, Germany, and was hosted and supported by the German Government.

A notification will be sent to CBD National Focal Points, governments and relevant organizations to participate in the peer review for the guidelines in 2018.

Contact [Lisa Janishevski](#) for more information.

Colombia: Regional Dialogue and Learning Mission on Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity at the National Level in South America

27 November to 1 December 2017

This was the third regional dialogue and learning mission held in 2017. It was held in Bogota, Colombia, and participants included 12 country-nominated experts from 7 countries, 4 representatives from IPLCs, and 6 experts including CBD staff.

Three more regional dialogues are scheduled for 2018.

Contact [Sakhile Koketso](#) for more information.

SBSTTA 21 Side Event - Opportunities for Enhanced Integration of Ecosystem-based Approaches in National Climate Change Policy

12 December 2017

A side event was held to share experiences from the three regional dialogues held in South Africa, Fiji and Colombia in 2017, and to inform upcoming regional dialogues. Presentations were made by Ms. Sakhile Koketso from the CBD Secretariat, Mr. Shonisani Munzhedzi from the South African Department of Environmental Affairs, Ms. Ana Maria Hernandez from the Colombia Ministry of Environment.

Three more regional dialogues are scheduled for 2018. They will take place in Central America and the Caribbean, Central and West Africa, and East and Southeast Asia.

Contact [Sakhile Koketso](#) for more information.

SBSTTA 21 Side Event - Responding to Decision XIII/4: Draft Voluntary Guidelines on Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

13 December 2017

A side event was held on the margins of SBSTTA to highlight the importance of developing synergies among conventions, including the process and current status of the “Draft voluntary guidelines on ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction” being developed by the CBD and partners. Attendees heard presentations from Mr. David Cooper, CBD Deputy Executive Secretary, Mr. Manuel de Cossío Klüver from the Peruvian Embassy in Montreal, Ms. Lisa Janishevski from the CBD Secretariat, Ms. Adriana Vidal from IUCN, Ms. Yuri Hayashi from Japan, and Ms. Martha Mphatso Kalemba from Malawi.

A notification will be sent to CBD National Focal Points, governments and relevant organizations to participate in the peer review for the guidelines in 2018.

Contact [Lisa Janishevski](#) for more information.

Mainstreaming EbA into Development Planning

14-15 December 2017



Photo: TMI

A 2-day workshop on Mainstreaming EbA was held at the FAO in Rome following the Fifth Mountain Partnership General Meeting. The two-day training session, developed by GIZ and offered in cooperation with The Mountain Institute and IUCN, enabled participants to become familiar with the latest international political and conceptual discussions on Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) mainstreaming issues and provided an overview of the basic steps of the EbA mainstreaming cycle. The training focused specifically on EbA in mountain ecosystems.

Contact [Erin Gleeson](#) or [Alexandra Koengeter](#) for more information.

Interested parties can visit [Adaptation Community](#) for more information about EbA. An EbA Community of Practice workshop is expected to be held just prior to the Adaptation Futures meeting in South Africa in June 2018; more information will be posted on the Adaptation Community website when available.

Global Landscapes Forum Discussion Forum: Land Use Change Needs Behavior Change

19 December 2017

For the first time, a session at the Global Landscapes Forum was dedicated entirely to the question of community behavior change and how conservation and development professionals can apply insights from behavioral economics and psychology to help local leaders facilitate sustainable change. The session prominently featured two local initiatives – from Kalimantan, Indonesia and Sao Paulo, Brazil – that had succeeded in achieving climate adaptation and mitigation goals through nature- and biodiversity-based solutions.

Read more about the event and watch the recording

An in-depth digital summit on behavioral insights for the environment will be organized by Rare in collaboration with the Global Landscapes Forum in February/March 2018.

Contact [Ann-Kathrin Neureuther](#) for more information.

Publications and communications



Adaptation planning, implementation and evaluation addressing ecosystems and areas such as water resources Synthesis report by the secretariat, FCCC/SBSTA/2017/3
By UNFCCC Secretariat

EbA has demonstrated potential to increase social and ecological resilience to climate change and adaptive capacity in the long term and in an economically viable way. The evidence of the effectiveness and economic viability of EbA, although largely anecdotal and project-derived, is promising. Quality data and tools are essential for determining the economic viability of EbA measures. Institutional arrangements, finance and capacity-building also play a critical role in ensuring the effectiveness of EbA. This synthesis report was prepared under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in collaboration with members of Friends of EbA. Information in 45 submissions served as primary inputs.

Read the report: [EN](#) | [ES](#) | [FR](#)

Contact [Rojina Manandhar](#) for more information.

Making Ecosystem-based Adaptation Effective - A Framework for Defining Qualification Criteria and Quality Standards

By Mathias Bertram (GIZ), Edmund Barrow (IUCN), Katherine Blackwood (IUCN), Ali Raza Rizvi (IUCN), Hannah Reid (IIED), and Stephanie von Scheliha-Dawid

This FEBA paper provides a practical assessment framework for designing, implementing and monitoring EbA measures by proposing a set of 3 elements, 5 qualification criteria and 20 quality standards and example indicators. The framework is endorsed by more than a dozen FEBA member institutions.

Download the paper: [EN](#) | [ES](#) | [FR](#)

Contact [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.



Nature-based Solutions

by Getulio Vargas Foundation and Boticario Group Foundation

Special edition of the publication “P22_ON” focused on Nature-based Solutions. This publication brings the results of a call for case studies on NbS in Brazil, with contribution to the National Adaptation Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals, some of the case studies bring NbS to climate change adaptation. English version will be launched in February 2018.

Download the publication (in Portuguese)

Read more about P22_ON

Contact [Juliana Baladelli Ribeiro](#) for more information.

Fish Forever Progress Updates

By Rare

Fish Forever is a solution to inspire and accelerate community, and then national, adoption of spatial, rights-based management systems, combined with marine reserves, by leveraging Pride - Rare's proprietary, proven behavior change methodology. The Fish Forever Progress Update is a regular communication to supporters and stakeholders on the key advances Rare is making on the ground, the challenges we're working to surmount, and the learning and adaptive management we're doing along the way. The blogs appear on a bi-monthly basis.

[Read the blog](#)

Contact [Larissa Hotra](#) for more information.



FISHFOREVER



Valuing the Benefits, Costs and Impacts of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Measures: Tools for enhancing climate adaptation decision-making

By GIZ

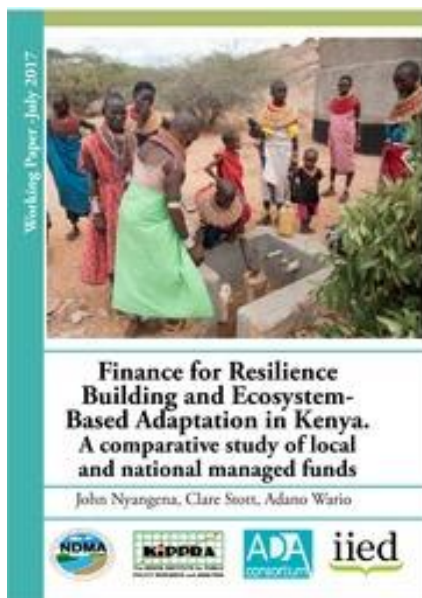
A new sourcebook helps to assist adaptation planners in building awareness, knowledge and capacity for valuing the costs, benefits and impacts of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) measures in comparison (and combination) with grey measures.

It combines information on valuation theory and methods with 40 real-world examples, as well as, practical steps for commissioning, designing and implementing EbA valuation studies.

[Download the sourcebook](#)

Contact [Andrea Bender](#) for more information.

The sourcebook will be published in Spanish as well by end of January 2018.



Finance for resilience building and ecosystem-based adaptation in Kenya: A comparative study of local and national managed funds

By John Nyangena (IIED), Clare Stott (Itad), and Adano Wario

Since the establishment of the Green Climate Fund, research interest on funding modalities to deliver adaptation and development benefits to the local level has grown exponentially. A key question is how climate change funding can be effectively channeled to support adaptation, including ecosystem-based adaptation initiatives, in natural resource dependent dryland environments.

This paper compares the strengths and weaknesses between a locally and a nationally managed funds to supporting development and climate change initiatives in Isiolo County, Kenya. Using two case studies of the Isiolo County Climate Change Fund (ICCCF) and the Community Development Trust Fund (CDTF), this working paper compares their degree of alignment to development strategies, access to funds by beneficiaries, accountability and transparency measures, the benefits of financial investments, opportunities and challenges.

[Download the report](#)



Ecosystem-based adaptation: the key to reducing climate risk in Uganda
 By Hannah Reid (IIED), Evelynne Busingye (IUCN), and Sophie Kutegeka (IUCN)

All developing countries must address climate vulnerability and identify the best ways to help their people adapt. Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) is one increasingly popular and tested strategy. Uganda — a country already implementing EbA — is at a moment of political opportunity to harness the full benefits of this approach, as its climate change policy evolves into law.

As policymakers create the legal frameworks to ensure ecosystems continue to be healthy and provide for communities, evidence for the efficacy of EbA approaches strongly suggests it should be formally prioritised and resourced accordingly. We seek to inform Uganda’s decision makers by using a local case study to discuss: the effectiveness of EbA, what is helping or hindering implementation, and how challenges can be addressed in emerging legislation and government planning.

[Download the brief](#)

Contact [Hannah Reid](#) for more information

Ecosystem-based adaptation: question-based guidance for assessing effectiveness
 By Hannah Reid (IIED), Nathalie Seddon (IIED), Edmund Barrow (IUCN), Charlotte Hicks (UNEP-WCMC), Xiaoting Hou-Jones (IIED), Ali Raza Rizvi (IUCN), Dilys Roe (IIED), Sylvia Wicander (UNEP-WCMC)

This booklet sets out guidance for assessing the effectiveness of an ecosystem-based approach to climate change adaptation. It describes a process, based around asking a detailed set of questions, that can be used by project managers and researchers to shape project design, assess the progress of an ongoing project or draw conclusions about the effectiveness of a project that has ended.

Policy and decision makers are increasingly recognising that nature-based solutions or ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) may often provide the most cost-effective and broadly beneficial solution to adapting to climate change.

The assessment process has been developed as part of a four-year project called ‘Ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation: strengthening the evidence and informing policy’ coordinated by IIED, IUCN and UNEP-WCMC as part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI).

[Download the report: EN | ES | FR](#)

Contact [Hannah Reid](#) for more information



Programs, projects, and initiatives

Bringing EbA to Scale with National Policy Action

January – June 2017

Conservation International (CI) is supporting our country programs and national government offices to identify and prioritize the natural spaces and ecosystem services that help people adapt to a changing climate. In 2017, this included policy engagement on ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) using the CI-IUCN “[Tool for Integrating Ecosystems into Climate Change Adaptation Planning](#),” in collaboration with the following in-country activities and meetings:

- Madagascar: Participation in national adaptation committee, and 3-day EbA planning workshop;
- South Africa: Ongoing technical support to move national EbA policy planning to implementation, and a two-day workshop on tools for subnational EbA planning;
- Indonesia: Convening national stakeholders to initiate a national adaptation planning process

Contact [Erin Beasley](#) for more information.

CI is providing continued policy support on EbA planning to our country programs in 2018. Following these workshops, CI is also working to consolidate policy tools and lessons learned as part of a toolkit on EbA Policy.

AdaptaClima Platform

Developed 2015 – 2017

Launched on 7 December 2017 and supported by European partners, the [AdaptaClima platform](#) makes available various materials on adaptation to climate change, such as studies, tools and methods, in a participatory system where users share their contents. The proposal is to disseminate quality information to decision makers from the different segments of the economy and society that struggle to reduce vulnerabilities related to climate change. The platform will provide collaborative and interactive information and material on adaptation to climate change and encourage the connection between providers and users of knowledge around this agenda. The development of AdaptaClima platform was coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of Environment (MMA, acronym in Portuguese), implemented by the Center for Sustainability Studies of the São Paulo Business School of Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV- EAESP) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), with support from the British Council through the Newton Fund.

Contact [Juliana Baladelli Ribeiro](#) for more information.

Center for Behavior & the Environment Launch

August 2017 – ongoing

After more than 30 years of applying behavior change principles to reverse environmental threats around the world, Rare launched the [Center for Behavior & the Environment](#). The center is a new initiative and virtual online platform designed to catalyze widespread adoption of more sustainable behaviors, bridging the gap between the science of human motivation, decision-making and the practice of environmental protection.

Contact [Rare](#) for more information.

Scaling Up Mountain Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: building evidence, replicating success, and informing policy

July 2017 – June 2020

The Ecosystem-based Adaptation approach is widely recognized as an important strategy for adapting to the impacts of climate change. It is cost-effective, yields multiple benefits, and can be implemented by communities themselves. But in mountain areas, on-the-ground EbA measures have not been widely implemented.

To help build support for EbA approaches in mountains, both on the ground and in national and international policy, The Mountain Institute (TMI) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) have joined forces to launch a three-year program working on EbA in key mountain regions.

Our goal is to expand EbA work started during the “Mountain EbA Flagship Programme” in the Himalayas (Nepal), Mount Elgon (Uganda) and the Andes (Peru) and to support the EbA approach being adopted in neighboring Bhutan, Kenya and Colombia. Our Mountain EbA Program seeks to benefit local people directly, as well as the millions downstream who depend on the water and other benefits that come from mountains. We will also identify and assist conservation and development projects already underway that could benefit from Mountain EbA practices. The EbA experience and data we develop through this program will be instrumental in building wider support and generating financing for EbA within national governments and at international forums.

Read more about the programme.

Contact [Erin Gleeson](#) or [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

Ecosystems Protecting Infrastructure and Communities (EPIC)

September 2012 – August 2017

EPIC was a five-year initiative that promoted the implementation of ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction through five case studies in Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Nepal, Senegal and Thailand. The project contributed to community resilience by:

1. Documenting scientific evidence
2. Building capacities to understand vulnerabilities and take action by using best practices
3. Promoting effective policies for integrated approaches to disasters, climate change and environment management.

Three key lessons for effective ecosystem-based approaches emerged from EPIC:

1. It is important to involve communities and value traditional knowledge to identify local strategies to cope with extreme events
2. Science and research is an important in informing and guiding effective strategies
3. To ensure scaling up of ecosystem-based approaches to risks, it is important to work with authorities to inform and influence policy at local and national levels.

The project was funded by the Germany’s Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety’s International Climate Initiative. Coordinated by IUCN, working closely with the University of Lausanne (Switzerland), l’Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (France), the Mangrove Action Project (Thailand) and the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research.

Contact [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

Resilience through Investing in Ecosystems - knowledge, innovation and transformation of risk management (RELIEF Kit)

2015-2018

RELIEF Kit is a 3 year initiative (2015-2018) to document linkages between biodiversity and disasters and establish capacity development knowledge products for policy makers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders.

With the increasing incidence and severity of natural hazards, it is critical to identify opportunities for effective disaster risk reduction strategies. The past decade provided compelling evidence on the role of nature in reducing vulnerabilities to natural hazards. However there remain information gaps when it comes to implementation of Ecosystem-based DRR (Eco-DRR) approaches. This project will address the knowledge gaps by carrying out 6 regional assessments to generate knowledge on the importance of biodiversity and ecosystems in Eco-DRR approaches at national and regional levels.

Limited technical capacities, lack of resources, coordination and synergies can also limit the adoption of Eco-DRR approaches. In an effort to strengthen capacities for Eco-DRR implementation, the project will use the regional assessments as information sources and background material for a series of regional trainings. The trainings will equip participants with the necessary knowledge to better inform and influence policy-making and it can catalyse actions to protect biodiversity for disaster risk reduction. By involving multiple stakeholders, the capacity development events will also facilitate networks and cross sectoral collaborations.

The project is coordinated by the Global Ecosystem Management Programme at IUCN, working closely with various partners of the Partnership on Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR), including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as well as six regional offices in Asia, South America, Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, Oceania, Eastern and Southern Africa, and West and Central Africa Regional Office.

Contact [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts on the Coastal Wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico

2011-2017



Photo: Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts on the Coastal Wetlands in the Gulf of Mexico Project, INECC

Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Coastal Wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico (GEF project through the World Bank Group). From 2011 to 2016, the INECC designed and implemented pilot adaptation measures to reduce the vulnerability of human communities located in 3 pilot sites in coastal wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico. Above all, an EbA approach was considered, but a socio-ecosystem and social approach with gender equity were also included through the active participation of women and men in every stage of the project, capacity building, and the involvement and ownership of the adaptation measures by the local population.

There are important lessons learned and good practices that will be reported in Mexico's Sixth National Communication to the UNFCCC. The project contributes to the EbA adaptation goal of Mexico's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

[Learn more about the programme.](#)

Contact [Margarita Caso Chavez](#) for more information.

Plans for 2018

Events

13-16 March 2018

The Blue Solutions Fair

Thailand

The Blue Solutions Fair brings together practitioners, policy makers, experts and funders who are working towards addressing climate change in the marine and coastal realm. The event aims to:

- accelerate action for implementing and improving projects and initiatives addressing climate change
- allow participants to learn from what works and understand how lessons can be applied in other contexts to avoid reinventing the wheel
- connect practitioners, policy makers and potential funders interested in supporting climate change initiatives on different levels
- facilitate an international knowledge exchange and provide a networking opportunity

The Blue Solutions Fair is organized by the Blue Solutions Initiative – a multi-organisational initiative implemented jointly by GIZ, GRID-Arendal, IUCN and UN Environment, and financed by the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) through the International Climate Initiative (ICI).

[Read more about the event](#)

Contact [GIZ](#) for more information.

18-23 March 2018

VIII World Water Forum

Brasilia, Brazil

The World Water Forum, organized by the World Water Council (WWC), is the world's biggest water-related event and is contributes to the dialogue of the decision-making process on water at the global level, seeking to achieve the rational and sustainable use of this resource. The 8th edition of the World Water Forum will hold more than 200 sessions and debates about themes related to water.

[Read more about the World Water Forum](#)

[Review program sessions](#)

[Register for the Forum](#)

Boticario Group Foundation will be participating with side events, presentations, etc. Contact [Juliana Baladelli Ribeiro](#) for more information.

19 April 2018

Ecosystem-Based Adaptation at USAID

Washington DC, USA

Informal presentation on a new set of resources on EbA (case studies, evidence summaries) developed by USAID, with examples from USAID and potentially other institutions.

Contact [Jonathan Cook](#) for more information.

4 May 2018 **FEBA Members' Meeting**

Bonn, Germany

The meeting will take place during UNFCCC SBSTA 48.

Contact [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

18-21 June 2018 **Adaptation Futures 2018**

Cape Town, South Africa

Adaptation Futures 2018 – Dialogues for Solutions – aims to progress discussion and learning within the adaptation community on how to move from problem diagnosis to successful implementation. What is the community learning about making adaptation work, at different spatial, institutional and time scales, in different geographies, and in different political and economic settings? What are we learning from mistakes, unexpected outcomes and outright failure, as well as our successes? How does adaptation support successful development, and when does it not?

Adaptation Futures 2018 will take advantage of its location in Africa to stimulate critical Southern perspectives on adaptation to inform regional and global policy, practice and research, and to increase the focus on the links between adaptation and sustainable development.

[Read more about the conference](#)

Several FEBA members have plans to attend and present at Adaptation Futures 2018. For more information contact [Sylvia Wicander](#) (UN Environment WCMC), [Xiaoting Hou Jones](#) (IIED), or [Mathias Bertram](#) (GIZ).

24-29 June 2018 **6th GEF Assembly (to be held in conjunction with the 54th GEF Council Meeting)**

Da Nang, Vietnam

The conclusion of the GEF 7 Replenishment process will take place at 54th GEF Council meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the 6th GEF Assembly. The GEF Council will take note of the Summary of Negotiations (document agreed upon by contributing participants), and endorse the following 3 documents: (i) Policy Recommendations; (ii) Programming Document; and (iii) Replenishment Resolution. GEF Council will request the GEF CEO to transmit the Summary of Negotiations to the World Bank, with a request that the World Bank Executive Directors be invited to adopt the Replenishment Resolution. Finally, the Assembly will endorse the Report on the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund.

[Read more about the Assembly and other meetings](#)

Representatives from Rare will be in attendance. Contact [Lisa Pharoah](#) for more information.

31 July - 2 August 2018 **IX Brazilian Congress on Protected Areas**

Florianopolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil

One of the most prestigious events on Nature Conservation in Latin America, its ninth version will be held in Florianopolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil. The main theme of the discussions will be "Possible Future: Nature and Economy".

[Read more about the Congress](#)

IUCN is one of the institutional supporters, along with GIZ. Any FEBA member who would like to participate or to be involved in the Congress, please let us know.

Contact [Juliana Baladelli Ribeiro](#) (Boticario Group Foundation) for more information.

15-20 October 2018

**45th Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS 45):
Side event focused on local solutions for mainstreaming biodiversity, together with a government partner**

Rome, Italy

Together with a government partner and community-based local leaders, Rare will showcase brightspots that already succeed in connecting agriculture with biodiversity protection, furthering climate adaptation and mitigation goals.

[Read more about the Session](#)

Contact [Ann-Kathrin Neureuther](#) for more information.

Rare would be keen on joining forces with FEBA partners at CFS to showcase EbA success stories.

10-22 November 2018

**CBD COP14:
Side event showcasing campaign brightspots**

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt

In a CBD COP side event, Rare will work with local leaders who have been scaling their solutions to biodiversity loss in agricultural landscapes within their countries. Rare are partnering with FAO and CBD for this event focused on bringing in local voices and success stories.

[Read more about COP14](#)

Contact [Ann-Kathrin Neureuther](#) for more information.

Rare would be keen on joining forces with FEBA partners at the CBD COP to strengthen the EBA message.

3-14 December 2018
(Date TBD)

FEBA Members' Meeting

Katowice, Poland

The meeting will take place during UNFCCC COP24. Details TBC.

Contact [Katherine Blackwood](#) for more information.

Publications and communications

Ecosystem-based Adaptation, climate change and biodiversity in Brazil

By Boticario Group Foundation, PBMC (Brazilian Panel on Climate Change) and FBDS (Brazilian Foundation for Sustainable Development)

To be launched at the UN Conferences (CBD and UNFCCC) in the end of 2018 – draft version will be reported for CBD SBSTTA 22 in July 2018

Special edition of the Report of the Brazilian Panel on Climate Change, this edition will analyze the synergies between Climate and Biodiversity UN Conferences, with focus on Nature-based Solutions to climate change adaptation in Brazil, case studies for urban areas, rural areas and also a brief review about the impacts of climate change on biodiversity. English version will also be available.

Contact [Juliana Baladelli Ribeiro](#) for more information.

Peer Review for the Guidelines for Ecosystem-based Approaches for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

To be launched at the UN Conferences (CBD and UNFCCC) in the end of 2018 – draft version will be reported for CBD SBSTTA 22 in July 2018

The thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted decision XIII/4 which requested the Executive Secretary to prepare voluntary guidelines for the design and effective implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice prior to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

In accordance with this request, the draft guidelines have been made available for peer review on the web page for the twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. The Secretariat is accepting comments from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations until 16 February 2018. Comments can be submitted using the template located [here](#).

Contact [Lisa Janishevski](#) for more information.

Navigator of tools and methods relevant to EbA

By UN Environment WCMC

The Navigator of tools and methods relevant to EbA is being developed as part of the IKI funded global projects Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA): Strengthening the evidence and informing policy, implemented by IIED, IUCN and UNEP-WCMC, and Mainstreaming Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA): Strengthening EbA in planning and decision making processes, implemented by GIZ. The navigator will help its users to find the tools and methods they need to support the planning, assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and mainstreaming of EbA projects. It is aimed at practitioners, policy-makers and researchers looking to identify the appropriate methods and tools to support their work. The navigator currently contains over 230 tools/methods.

Contact [Charlotte Hicks](#) and [Sylvia Wicander](#) for more information.

Once the navigator has been launched mid-2018, FEBA members are encouraged to make use of the navigator and promote it amongst projects and partners.

Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Resources

By USAID

A set of case studies and evidence summaries about the use of EbA in different development contexts (food security, water security, disaster management). Some are already available on Climatelinks (e.g. <https://www.climatelinks.org/resources/ecosystem-based-adaptation-and-extreme-events>, and other links at bottom of page).

Contact [Jonathan Cook](#) for more information.

Facing Climate Change Impacts in Coastal Wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico through Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Hybrid Measures

By Margarita Caso (INECC), Karina Santos del Prado Gasca (UNDP), Patricia Arendar Lerner (UNDP), Aram Rodríguez de los Santos (INECC), Alejandra Tenorio Peña (INECC) and Alejandra Domínguez Álvarez (INECC)

The abstract presents the adaptation measures of the project “Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Coastal Wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico” -designed specifically for each site with the participation of the communities- combined the Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) approach with some hybrid measures to effectively reduce the vulnerability of populations living in the wetlands, and had a strong component of social participation which included gender equity, and the recovery of community knowledge. These win-win measures generated a community response to face the effects of climate change by strengthening the social organization and adaptive capacities of the population and increasing the ecosystem resilience through ecosystem restoration activities.

The project triggered a transformation process within the local communities. Nowadays women and men understand the importance of the conservation of the natural resources on which they depend, challenging traditional roles to move towards gender equality, and are aware of the importance of maintaining a continuous adaptation process.

The abstract was submitted to Adaptation Futures 2018.

Contact [Margarita Caso](#) for more information.

Links between Community based Adaptation and Ecosystem based Adaptation: implementation in coastal wetlands of Tabasco, Mexico

By Patricia Arendar Lerner (UNDP), Margarita Caso (INECC), Karina Santos del Prado Gasca (UNDP), Aram Rodríguez de los Santos (INECC), and Alejandra Tenorio Peña (INECC)

In the abstract links between Community based Adaptation and Ecosystem-based Adaptation approaches are recognized. It presents the adaptation measures of the project “Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Coastal Wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico”, which are a combination of CbA and EbA with innovative actions and methodologies of social participation with a gender approach that sought to reverse the social apathy, lack of community social organization, leadership and credibility in projects sponsored by the government, and the presence of traditional gender allocations which in Mexico’s communities implies that women and young people do not have access to positions of power and decision. This panorama was very noticeable in the communities of Tabasco, so it was decided to invest greater resources to implement training, workshops and capacity building in these communities.

The project challenged the vision that currently prevails in areas of the three levels of government, and in technical teams who consider that the participation of the citizens should only be formal, limited to endorse policies, to make consultations for very limited time, without allowing the creation of spaces for exchange. On the contrary, the motto of the project was "Communities in action, adapting to climate change", which implied the detonation of social participation processes that allowed not only to reverse the current social and participative panorama, but also to generate new leaderships, but especially in young people and women .

The abstract was submitted to Adaptation Futures 2018.

Contact [Margarita Caso](#) for more information.

Let's monitor the influence of Ecosystem-based Adaptation on our food security.

By Melissa Marín (IUCN ORMACC)

There is an increasing number of adaptation projects involving food security impacts, but rarely these involve comprehensive and easy-to-apply Monitoring and Evaluation Systems to generate evidence of the real impacts of adaptation and, in particular, EbA interventions in Mesoamerica. There is not enough information about the relationship between food security, climate change and EbA. The document proposes a framework to monitor food security in rural communities as one of the possible benefits of ecosystem based adaptation strategies.

Contact [Melissa Marín](#) for more information.

Ecosystem-based Adaptation Toolkit

By Marta Pérez de Madrid (IUCN ORMACC) and Alejandro Jimenez (IUCN ORMACC)

Although there are several training materials about the benefits of EbA, there is little practical training material and guidelines about EbA implementation and methodologies in Spanish; furthermore, documents are very technical, and there is a lack of a full and comprehensive understanding of the basic concepts that underline the EbA approach for a non-academic audience. Communities, civil based organizations and municipalities are in need of guidelines to be able to develop Local Adaptation Plans with the EbA Approach. Beyond general guidelines, experience with communities revealed that specific guidelines focusing on different ecosystems were needed to develop more efficient and tailor-made guidelines for communities and practitioners. Moreover, a first Training Workshop using the EbA Toolkit is planned for February 2018 with indigenous communities from Costa Rica and Panama that already implement an EbA plan focused on food security benefits.

Key issues covered in the EbA Toolkit are: Adaptation planning, EbA projects cycle, EbA measures criteria, EbA monitoring and evaluation options, and linkages between water governance and EbA. The toolkit covers i) ABC methodology for EbA project design/integration in adaptation planning and ii) 4 guidelines for EbA implementation in Mangroves, Wetlands, Forest and Agriculture Landscapes.

Contact [Marta Pérez de Madrid](#) for more information.

Water and Adaptation: Opportunities from EbA implementation in Central America

By Marta Pérez de Madrid (IUCN ORMACC) (Ed.), CEM members

Central America is one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change in the world. Water related impacts including droughts and floods will affect millions of people and the economy of the region. Despite this situation a recent inventory of adaptation projects in Mesoamerica showed that adaptation projects are not mainstreaming the "water" impact as a core aspect of adaptation. Besides that, cases addressing specific climate change effect of practices on water-basin services are rarely systematized and disseminated for scaling up lessons.

With the support of BMUB/IKI, IUCN ORMACC has been working in the implementation of EbA since 2010, merging the approaches of EbA and IWRM. It has implemented around 10 EbA demonstration sites in transboundary water basins of Mesoamerica. The cases have been a laboratory to understand the pros and cons of EbA interventions, the limitations, and the best practices in the whole project cycle.

Following a comprehensive introduction of the links among EbA, water-basin services, and food security benefits, the Book will be a compilation and comparative analysis of case studies and evidences, where EbA was implemented. Qualitative and quantitative data have been collected and analyzed at the local level (around 20 communities from Chiapas-Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Panama) and will be also analyzed at the water basin scale.

Some of the pre-identified cases to be compiled in the book are:

- Cahoacán river basin, Mexico: The role of forest subsidies in EbA implementation for water-related services.
- Sixaola binational river basin: Binational water governance for adaptation planning
- Coatán river basin, Guatemala: Participatory adaptation planning with microwatershed committees

Contact [Marta Pérez de Madrid](#) for more information.

Programs, projects, and initiatives

NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN BRAZIL: Investing in Nature for Water Security

2016-2018

With WRI, TNC, IUCN, and Natural Capital, Boticario Group Foundation is working on a natural capital protocol, conducting green grey impact assessment for Brazil (3 main capitals). Preliminary results are proving that natural infrastructure is feasible for the Cantareira System, São Paulo – results to be launched at World Water Forum in March 2018.

[Read more about this initiative](#)

Contact [Juliana Baladelli Ribeiro](#) or [Suzanne Ozment](#) for more information.

Any inputs will be welcome, we'll be discussing the results at the World Water Forum.

Campaigning for Conservation – Scaling of Farming for Biodiversity brightspots in eight countries

March-December 2018

Over the course of 2018, we will run eight campaigns in as many countries, aiming to scale the bright community-based ideas crowdsourced through our Farming for Biodiversity: Solution Search contest. All solutions work to increase biodiversity-friendly farming practices and have strong links to climate change adaptations. Campaigns will run in: Kenya, Mexico, Ecuador, Nepal, Benin, Peru, Ethiopia and Vietnam.

[Read more about this initiative](#)

Contact [Ann-Kathrin Neureuther](#) for more information.

FEBA members working on agriculture and/or biodiversity issues in one or more of the eight campaign countries are encouraged to get in touch with us for possible participation in social marketing and technical trainings.

Methodological proposal for an Early Warning System (EWS) at community level to strengthen capacities and contribute to the reduction of vulnerability to climate change in communities of the municipality of Cárdenas, Tabasco, Mexico.

March – July 2017

The EWS will be built with simple and accessible messages, allowing people at risk to make decisions on how to act and organize themselves in the face of an imminent climate threat, as an adaptation measure to climate change. The project will explore the links between EbA and Disaster Risk Reduction.

Contact [Margarita Caso](#) for more information.

Implementation of adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change in communities of the municipality of Cárdenas, Tabasco, Mexico.

2017-2019

Implementation of adaptation measures considering EbA and CbA approaches: mangrove reforestation; sustainable use and management of mangrove as an option for economic diversification; backyard orchards to improve food security; waste management at a community level, to lessen the impact of waste disposal in the mangrove ecosystem; and the strengthening of adaptive capacities through community workshops to highlight the importance of the conservation of ecosystem services, as part of the adaptation strategy. INECC is developing the project proposal to be submitted to the Adaptation Fund.

Contact [Margarita Caso](#) for more information.

Conservation of Coastal Watersheds in the Context of Climate Change

2013-2018

“Connecting people, sharing well-being”. The C6 project focuses in the integrated management of 16 coastal watersheds in the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulf of California. By promoting an effective management of the territory and conservation of the natural resources, involving three federal institutions of Mexico: CONANP (the National Protected Area Commission), CONAFOR (the National Forest Commission), and INECC, as well as the Mexican Fund for the Conservation of Nature (FMCN). This institutional arrangement forces the synchronization of programs and projects, to attain these shared goals, and facilitates the involvement of key sectors of society.

The integrated management of these coastal watersheds starts by identifying the relationships between provision and demand areas, and their environmental services. The projects are directed to promote the watershed functionality through the conservation and restoration of natural resources with the full participation of local inhabitants, and the coordination between institutions.

The CONANP is responsible for the administration and management of natural protected areas; the CONAFOR collaborates in the management of forest areas as well as with local communities through the payment for environmental services; the INECC contributes with the scientific criteria to the site selection where the conservation, restoration, and sustainable actions should be carried out; the FMCN administrates and manages the financial resources and is in charge of positioning the project in the conservation and environmental field. So far 1,000,000 people are connected, 3,810,825 hectares have been impacted, it has triggered adaptation process to climate change, and has avoided 4.015 Mt of carbon dioxide emissions. The project contributes to the EbA and social sector adaptation goals of Mexico’s NDC.

Learn more about the programme.

Contact **Daniel Iura** or **Jose Machorro** for more information.



Utilization of the role of ecosystems and traditional/community knowledge to build resilience and promote adaptation to climate change in North American wetlands

2015-2017

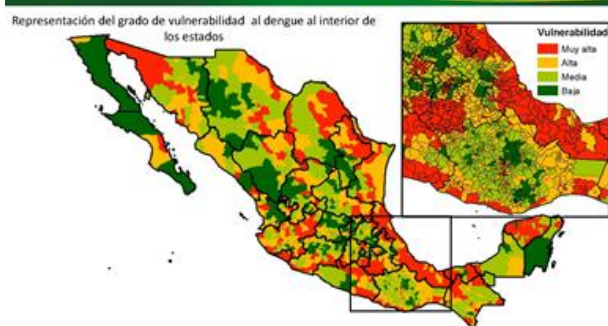
The objective of the project was the exchange of tools to identify the vulnerability of local or indigenous communities in three countries of Tabasco, Mexico, as well as carry out pilot tests on tools and integral management of wetlands. The project aimed to improve ecosystem services through sustainable practices that contribute to the well-being of the communities.

Tools and lessons learned from other GEF project in Mexico (ECOSECHAS) are being shared. The INECC will generate factsheets and a manual to monitor the quality of ecosystem services and biodiversity of wetlands, considering indicators of: Indirect fauna; Environmental flow; Complexity of the environment; Soil conditions; Carbon capture; Pollination; etc.

Contact **Margarita Caso** or **Paula Garcia** for more information.

National Atlas of Vulnerability to Climate Change (NAVCC) of Mexico.

2014-2018



Workshops of the NAVCC and an example of the grade of vulnerability related to dengue at subnational level.

Photos: INECC, 2017

Brief description: The National Atlas of Vulnerability to Climate Change (NAVCC) is a tool that shows the territorial vulnerability of current and future impacts of climate change in Mexico. In order to identify the main problems related to climate, the vulnerability analysis to climate change impacts was carried out in coordination with different government agencies that implement diverse activities in the territory. The objective of the NAVCC is to show the territorial vulnerability associated with climate impacts, to contribute the decision-making process for climate change adaptation and improve development planning.

The NAVCC shows the differential vulnerability of the municipalities of Mexico to different climate-related threats. Some of the vulnerabilities assessed are: floods, landslides and diseases transmitted by vector in human settlements, droughts in agriculture and livestock, among others.

The information in the NAVCC covers four broad themes: population, infrastructure, economic activities and natural capital. The climatic, social, environmental, economic and institutional information was integrated considering the vulnerability assessment framework of the IPCC 2007 and under the principles of spatial multicriteria analysis. The results allow us to compare the level of vulnerability of all the municipalities at a national level, but also within the state to which they belong. The NAVCC improves the decision-making process for adaptation and contributes to a better development planning in a climate uncertainty scenario in Mexico.

[Learn more about the programme.](#)

Contact [Daniel Iura](#) for more information.