



IUCN Ecosystem based approaches to adaptation and risk reduction





- 1. What is IUCN?**
- 2. Ecosystem-based Adaptation**
- 3. Overview of IUCN's work on climate change adaptation and risk reduction**
- 4. Lessons learnt**
- 5. Priorities for the Future**



What is IUCN?

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

Members


- 1.141 Members worldwide from over 160 countries 
- States, Government agencies, NGO
- Over 60 regional and national committees

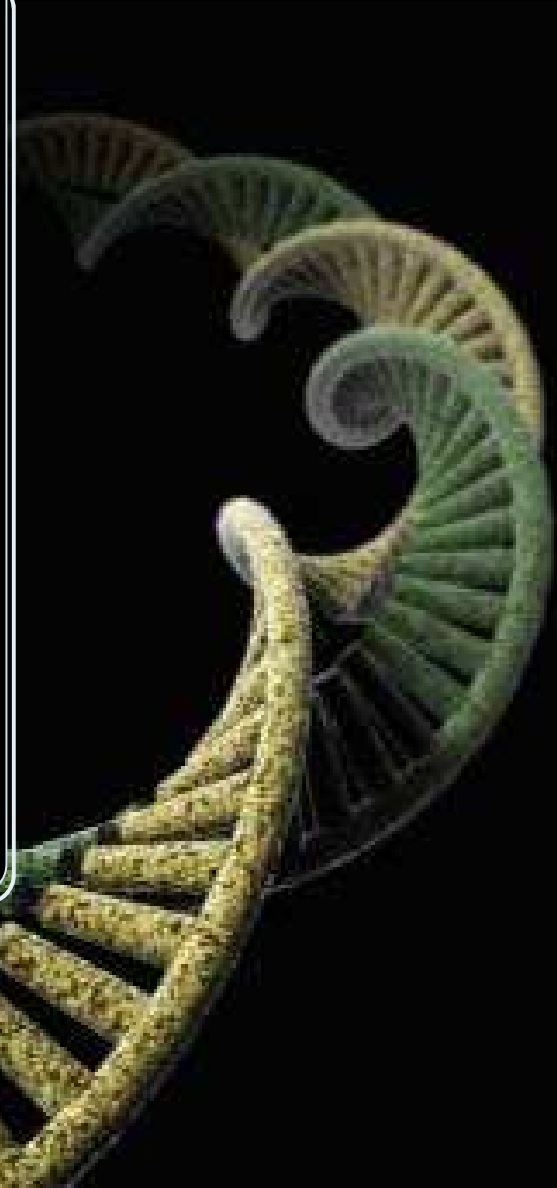
Commissions

- 10.000+ voluntary experts in 6 thematic groups:



Secretariat

- 1.000 full time staff worldwide
- HQ in Gland, Switzerland and 40 offices
- Thematic programmes: species, marine, protected areas, forests, water, ecosystems, economics, law 





Ecosystem based adaption

- *BD & ES as part of **overarching adaptation strategy** Aiming at maintain, rebuild and increase the **resilience** of social and ecological system to reduce the **vulnerability (landscape approach, SM, Conservation and Restoration)***
- Fair and equitable governance is a critical aspect of this to build social organization and learning need for better management, increasing opportunities and enhancing capacity



Overview of IUCN's Adaptation Work

- Projects and Initiatives
- Tools
- Impact and Vulnerability Assessments
- Capacity Building
- Policy
- Networks
- REDD+ and Climate Change Adaptation Strategies are fair and just and are based on the recognition of human rights, including of indigenous people.
- Food Security : filling the resilience gap – nature based, equitable approaches



Partnerships on Adaptation Work

- Commission on Ecosystem Management: publications, guidelines, training on EbA
- World Commission on Protected Areas: Natural Solutions, workshop, network
- CEESP: equitable and fair governance and institutions; fundamental rights, including to food, water and land as well as participation, accountability and transparency
- IUCN members active on EbA: TNC, CI, WWF and Birdlife International
 - Project implementation; Best practices; Communications; Policy advocacy



Examples of approaches

- Integrated Water Resources Management
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Agro-ecosystems
- SFM
- Conservation of intra-species diversity provides for food security





Ecosystem based approaches Principles in international and national policy



Nature-based solutions to climate change

1. Ecosystem-based Adaptation

Ecosystem-based mitigation developed, applied and included in **policies** and funding priorities

2. Guidelines, tools and innovative approaches developed and capacity built at local and national level for **ecosystem-based adaptation**

3. Increased understanding and awareness on the role of **ecosystems in sequestering carbon**

4. Rights mapping and integrated climate security assessment framework



Nature-based solutions to climate change

- Involve all relevant sectors and scientific disciplines, promote integrated solutions and multi-agency collaboration, and decentralise ecosystem management to the lowest appropriate level.
- Carefully balances competing interests for natural resources and ecosystems services, such as the needs of poor and vulnerable people with larger economic interests.



Nature based Solutions/EBA and risk reduction

- Respect the limits of ecosystems and maintain their effective functioning, by preserving , rebuilding and restoring them, by preventing fragmentation and overexploitation
- Develop holistic interventions at multiple levels and scales (local to national, regional).
- Make adaptation plans for current and future situations, and combines scientific and local knowledge, innovations and practices.



Nature based solutions/ EBA based adaptation and risk reduction

- Involve all relevant sectors and scientific disciplines, promote integrated solutions and multi-agency collaboration, and decentralise ecosystem management to the lowest appropriate level.
- Carefully balances competing interests for natural resources and ecosystems services, such as the needs of poor and vulnerable people with larger economic interests.



Ecosystem based approaches in international and national policy



EbA and International Policy

- IUCN on CBD that formalised EbA concept
- Participate in Adaptation Partnership
- Referenced in G8 Ministerial Declaration 2009
- Guiding Principle in Obama Administration
Adaptation Task Force Report
- Recognised by EU Adaptation Working Group



EbA and International Policy

- IUCN -UNFCCC
 - ❖ Policy advocacy for including EbA as an adaptation action under the Adaptation Framework – current text w reference to NRM in socio-ecological resilience
 - ❖ Submitted an Action Pledge on EbA under the Nairobi Work Programme and engaged in information sharing, publications and events of NWP
 - ❖ Developed position papers and policy briefs



EbA and National Policy

- Technical support to national **delegates attending UNFCCC meetings**
- **Adaptation** policy processes
- Developing **Gender** and Climate Change National Strategies (Zambia, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Mozambique, Tanzania)
- Technical support to drafting of **National Communications to the UNFCCC**
- **Mainstreaming of adaptation and EbA into sectoral policies** (coastal management (West Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa))



Flagship Products

- **EbA Adaptation Principles and Guidelines relevant to the RECs, National Governments and small NGOs**
- **Flagship tool kits on Adaptation planning, monitoring and evaluation**
- **Ecosystem Livelihoods and Adaptation Networks**
- **Capacity building programme on Ecosystem based approaches to disaster risk reduction**





Convergence on EbA with broader initiatives on adaptation



IUCN influence on various analysis

Programme Components	Related IUCN activities
Assessments and Knowledge Support VIA Economic Analyses Good practices; awareness raising; promotion of EbA	Community-based VAs Good practices Communications ELAN
Capacity building and demonstration Technology mobilization Pilots and demonstration Capacity building	Pilots and demonstrations and long term monitoring Capacity building
Integration in National Adaptation Plans Policy and legislation support Feasibility studies	Policy support Support NAPAs, Nat Coms, sectoral policies, National Climate Change Strategies etc. ELAN



Component Areas

Project component	IUCN expertise
VIAAs	Community-based tools, incl. CRiSTAL and CVCA, water and coastal area assessments
Implementation of Pilot Measures and capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementing pilot projects at landscape and community level• Providing training to multiple stakeholders, incl. Government, local governments and communities
Local ecosystem management and national plans and policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting development of ecosystem management plans and mainstreaming of adaptation and EbA• support to policy makers at local, regional and national level



Lessons learnt

- Eco-systems approach as a guiding framework.
- Market linkages for all ecosystem based adaptation measures.
- Planning and implementing EbA based on agro-ecological zones (AEZ)/Land use mapping
- Baselines: measure of actions relevance/impact
- Address Non-climatic factors that will undermine adaptation actions in the short, medium and long term.
- Private sector engagement and regulation
- Quantify and value and monitor the streams of ecosystem services.
- Address key capacity requirements such as climate data and appropriate research.



Lessons learnt

INTEGRATING ECOSYSTEM BASED ADAPTATION INTO NATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

-

Building fair, equitable and just governance and institutional systems at national and district level that recognize human rights, especially of indigenous people and other vulnerable groups

-Policy and governance frameworks: (particularly related for forest & water ecosystems) increasingly important role these will play for the adaptive capacity of African countries.

-Build on flexible responsive local institutions, institutional arrangements particularly at the local level

-Communication on Climate Change adaptation needs to address key assumptions and barriers for different target groups



Priorities for action – National level/Local levels

- Strengthening monitoring and quality of available climate data for improved decision making.
- Mobilisation of international and national finance for EbA
- Guidelines, tools and capacity for integrating CC adaptation into development planning processes.
- Increased market linkages to enhance diversity of livelihoods for adaptation and reduce pressures on ecosystems
- Provision of appropriate climate information, technologies and practices for adaptation.



IUCN Priorities for action – Regional level

- Review and harmonize relevant EbA policies across countries e.g. supporting inter-sector fora and institutional reform processes.
- Support capacity building mechanisms to improve access to financial resources (fiscal management and implementation capacity).
- Demonstrate the value of public-private partnerships for engagement and implementation of EbA e.g. providing climate relevant information.
- Strengthen information and advocacy networks.

Clarify the incremental value of EbA in a regional and national context (simple guidelines, cross-learning; economic and market



Priorities for action – Regional level continued

Mainstreaming

- Clarify the incremental value of EbA in a regional and national context (including simple guidelines, economic and market analysis of key sectors).
- Increase documentation of evidence and climate information to inform planning frameworks.

Support to country EbA implementation

- Ensure cross country learning through harmonizing and providing critical guidance on tools, design of assessment processes
- Review and document on integration of indigenous knowledge into response strategies.



THANK YOU