

Better Tools and Standards: Enhancing Effectiveness and Mainstreaming of Ecosystem-based Adaptation

SBSTTA 22: July 3rd, 2018 18:15-19:45 in Room A

The concept of using biodiversity and ecosystems to adapt to climate change – Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) – has emerged as a promising approach due to an increased recognition of the multiple environmental and socioeconomic benefits they provide. We are taking the opportunity this year as the 10th anniversary of EbA (EbA+10) to reflect on the progress and possibilities of EbA. Project implementation has revealed that successful EbA at scale is limited and therefore the approach has yet to reach its full potential. To plan effective and feasible EbA interventions it is necessary to have a more systematic consideration of the complexity of social-ecological systems to understand their vulnerabilities to climate change and address them.

This jointly held side event aims to address these challenges based on the diverse experiences of Friends of EbA (FEBA) members IISD and IUCN. **Presentations will concentrate on the biodiversity-adaptation nexus and the introduction of different tools, quality criteria, and standards to enhance the effectiveness of EbA.** A specific focus will be the new Adaptation, Livelihoods and Ecosystems (ALivE) Planning Tool. ALivE is a practical computer-based EbA planning tool designed to support its users in organizing and analyzing information to plan effective EbA options based on a context-specific analysis of ecosystems, livelihoods, and climate change, to assist adaptation practitioners, conservationists, and government decision-makers with the development and planning of effective EbA projects. Such tools increase the effectiveness of EbA implementation on the ground and also enhance integration of effective EbA into conservation and development approaches and policy.

Speakers:

- **Anika Terton**, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
ALivE: Adaptation Livelihoods and Ecosystem Planning Tool
- **Tatirose Vijitpan**, UN Environment International Ecosystem Management Partnership
- **Risa Smith**, IUCN Protected Areas Climate Change Specialist Group
Ensuring restoration works for biodiversity and climate change mitigation
- **Oscar Guevara**, Senior Climate Change Adaptation Specialist for WWF and member of the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Climate Change Specialist Group
Enhancing EBA Effectiveness: The experience of National EbA Guidelines
- **Daniela Guaras**, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
- Moderated by **Ali Raza Rizvi**, IUCN

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