







### **Event Documentation**

### EbA Knowledge Day during UNFCCC SBSTA 46 (11 May 2017) - fostering exchange and sharing knowledge on strengthening EbA into policy frameworks and practical implementation

In the framework of the 46<sup>th</sup> meeting of the subsidiary bodies of UNFCCC, GIZ, IUCN and the Friends of EbA Network (FEBA) invited around 45 delegates and representatives from governments, international organizations, NGOs and research to share knowledge and practical experiences for strengthening EbA into policy frameworks, at national and subnational level based on practical examples.

After a short welcoming by Mathias Bertram (GIZ), Lea Herberg (BMUB, Division International Climate Finance & International Climate Initiative) opened the event with a brief presentation on key aspects of Ecosystem-based Adaption and how it increased significance in the context of the UNFCCC and country adaptation strategies. She provided a snapshot of IKI's portfolio of adaptation and EbA with about 22% of funding for adaptation, including 33 EbA projects amounting to 130 million Euro. Lea Herberg also welcomed the recent development of the FEBA technical paper on EbA qualification criteria and quality standards led by GIZ and IUCN as well as the question-based based guidance to assess the effectiveness of EbA led by IIED.



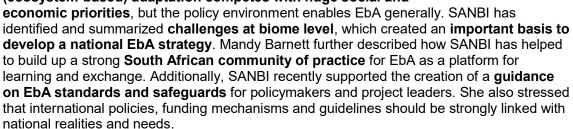
Ali Raza Rizvi (IUCN) moderated a panel session with distinguished guests including Lea Herberg (BMUB), Mandy Barnett (South African National Biodiversity Institute), Paul Mafabi (Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda), Albert Magalang (Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines), Dr Mike Jones (Stockholm Resilience Centre), and Alexandre Meybeck (FAO).



**Lea Herberg (BMUB, Germany)** explained in more detail the prominent role of EbA in the context of the International Climate Initiative (IKI) as one of the main funders of EbA projects. She put forward that while EbA has been integrated into positions, policies, official texts, etc. at many levels, it can always go further especially by upscaling lessons learnt from pilot initiatives and strengthening EbA into specific sectors. She identified **four main challenges** 

that still remain for facing the uptake and implementation of EbA: i) a lack of **conceptual clarity** on EbA, ii) a need for greater **capacities** to mainstream EbA, iii) gaps in understanding how to **monitor and evaluate EbA**, and iv) a need to **improve communications** surrounding EbA, especially regarding its holistic and no-regrets nature.

Mandy Barnett (SANBI, South Africa) shared experiences on how SANBI has strengthened the role of ecosystems within national development and adaptation planning (NAP) in South Africa. She described the importance of leadership in complex governance processes and how SANBI's position, as co-leader with the South African government on an EbA programme of work, has presented a unique advantage. In South Africa (ecosystem-based) adaptation competes with huge social and economic priorities, but the policy environment enables EbA generally. SAN identified and summarized challenges at biome level, which created an importance of a pational EbA strategy. Mandy Barnett further described how SAN



Mike Jones (Swedish Biodiversity Centre) gave an introduction to lessons learned about the application of resilience thinking to EbA with forest landscape restoration (FLR) as an example. He proposed that a social-ecological resilience assessment of ecosystems will strengthen EbA. He said there are two major challenges facing application of resilience thinking to EbA: (1) promoting systems thinking as an encompassing frame for understanding ecosystem complexity as opposed to linear thinking (i.e.simple cause and effect); and (2) changing governance institutions to increase flexibility of ecosystem management approaches such as EbA and FLR. Governments can reform policy and law so that they increase local capacity for innovation and adaptation. He added that industrial age governance systems are not appropriate for the current age of environmental and social turbulence.

Paul Mafabi (MoE, Uganda) gave an overview of EbA-driven successes in the Mount Elgon region of Uganda, as well as how Uganda has integrated EbA into its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), national climate change policy and current national adaptation planning process (NAP). EbA, as any approach needs to centrally address the improvement of livelihoods, especially in a country like Uganda with a high population density. He stressed the importance of local level governments to understand the benefits of EbA (e.g. food, water, risk reduction) for local communities to further integrate them into their own plans. Also, stakeholder platforms, as in Mount Elgon, have proven very important for improving EbA planning as well as managing peoples' expectations for EbA interventions. He also mentioned that project-based approaches can only be a starting point for replication and upscaling of EbA.

Albert Magalang (DENR, Philippines) summarized what the Philippines is in the process of systematically integrating EbA into sector and national strategies through the landscape approach. Part of this process was the issuing of an explicit memorandum by DENR to all its Central and Regional officials to operationalize the Paris Agreement with EbA as a key element. Albert Magalang acknowledged that GIZ has been a partner in the Philippines for a very long time, and that the Philippines is a partner country under GIZ's EbA Mainstreaming project, funded by IKI. He also described the "sustainable integrated area"

development" (SIAD) as a ridge to reef approach and entry point for EbA in the Philippine regional planning. SIAD is a government strategy that addresses cross-sectoral

challenges in a specific geographical area context (and so is area focused). He stressed the usefulness of following the EbA cycle approach and using an **ecosystem and climate lens** for screening policy and governance frameworks. The goal is to **break the silos** within that area by **fostering multi-sector and multi-stakeholder planning and convergence**.

Alexandre Meybeck (FAO, Italy) reflected that in fact most sectors are far from applying the "EbA lens". Sectors that heavily depend on biodiversity and ecosystem services (e.g. fisheries and forestry) would be rather advanced in this perception, while rather traditional sectors that use natural resources in a very intensive manner (e.g. agriculture and livestock) would gradually treat crops and grasslands as more complex ecosystems. There is a need to bring these sectors together. He added that EbA as an



approach (i.e. the strong linkage between ecosystems and societies/economies) can also be extremely helpful in understanding what has to be improved in specific sectors and systems. An emerging idea is ecosystem-based production systems. There is **still a lot to do on the science of measuring EbA's positive impact on agriculture** – we have models, but they are not as complex as reality. Thanks to previous and ongoing EbA initiatives, however, we are **observing the real impacts of ecosystems on the ground**. He also noted that the **NAP process** constitutes a **very good opportunity to bring together around the concept of ecosystem-based adaptation the agriculture sectors** (agriculture, forestry, fisheries) and all actors concerned by ecosystems and natural resources management.



Ali Raza Rizvi (IUCN) opened the floor for questions and discussion. Questions covered topics including how communities with existing governance structures, adapted to the ecosystems where they live, are built into EbA approaches and how those communities are given the opportunity and platform to tell their stories. Panelists responded that of course, existing local context is critically important, that in governments they have learned a lot on the strengths and weaknesses of top-down approaches, and that we often underestimate what local stakeholders and communities understand about climate change and their local environments.

Other questions focused on how governments can approach EbA monitoring and evaluation over the scale of decades, and whether the failing of some EbA interventions to meet expectations (perhaps due to short project periods, linear thinking, etc.) presents a risk to the EbA concept at large. Points were made that the challenges of M&E are similar for all adaptation projects. BMUB conducts an evaluation of all IKI projects every few years, and is now setting up a new evaluation, though it is not specific to adaptation projects. Additionally, regarding M&E, it is important to consider what we are managing towards – a previous, current, or a different target?

**Mathias Bertram (GIZ)** introduced participants into a **marketplace session** with the objective to showcase concrete examples and approaches for strengthening EbA and related frameworks into sector planning and implementation. 8 presenters from international organizations gave brief introductions into the poster topics and entered into a dialogue with participants during the market place. Presenters and poster topics covered the following:

- 1. Elmedina Krilasevic (IUCN) *The intersection between Forest Landscape Restoration, the Bonn Challenge, and EbA*
- 2. Katherine Blackwood (IUCN) *Friends of EbA (FEBA) technical paper proposing EbA qualification criteria and quality standards*
- 3. Sylvia Wicander (UN Environment WCMC) *Improving access to tools for ecosystem-based adaptation*
- 4. Angela Andrade (CI) Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Water Regulation and Supply for the Area Chingaza-Sumapaz-Guerrero
- 5. Nathalie Seddon (IIED) Ecosystem-based Adaptation and the Paris Agreement, an analysis of NDCs and how they address EbA
- 6. Neomi Lorentz (GIZ) Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Aichi Poster tool for countries to communicate their actions towards ecosystem restoration/ selection of EbA relevant publications by the German Government (e.g. Committed to Biodiversity)
- 7. Alexandra Köngeter (GIZ) *Mainstreaming EbA into development planning a training course for decision makers, planners and practitioners*
- 8. Paolo Domondon (Rare) Climate Change needs behavior change what is the one variable that is central and essential to meaningful climate action? people.

(see poster documentation in annex I)



During the marketplace participants circulated among posters, entered into a discussion on the possibilities and challenges of EbA and learned more about the initiatives and outputs of other EbA and adaptation practitioners.











Participants gathered for **concluding remarks**, delivered by Mathias Bertram and Ali Raza Rizvi, and to provide their own major takeaways from the event. Among other feedback, **Felix Diesner (BMUB)** pointed out the importance of practitioners **not creating an "EbA silo"**, and reinforced the day's discussions on how EbA is a means, and not an end.

Fabrice Renaud (UN University, Institute for Environmental and Human Security) summarized discussions on the many linkages between Eco-DRR and EbA.

Elmedina Krilasevic (IUCN) likewise pointed out the encouraging discourses on how Forest Landscape Restoration and EbA can reinforce one another. In response, Ali Raza Rizvi suggested that creating a FEBA Working Group on Adaptation and Mitigation would be a good way forward for these discussions.

**Paul Mafabi (MoE, Uganda)** announced that Uganda's Ministry of Environment had just become the newest member of FEBA to continue the discussion and exchange on EbA mainstreaming with a wider group of institutions and individuals.

There was agreement among participants to continue with similar exchange formats in upcoming events, including the bi-annual FEBA meeting (12 May 2017), the UNFCCC NWP side event on ecosystems and EbA (15 May 2017), the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation organized by IIED (26-29 June 2017), and the 2<sup>nd</sup> International EbA Community of Practice Workshop organized by GIZ (21-27 August 2017) as well as the Adaptation Futures 2018 (11-14 June 2018) in Cape Town.

It was recommended by participants that another **EbA Knowledge Day** shall be organized during **UNFCCC CoP 23** in Bonn in November 2017.

### Further contact:

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## Annex I - EbA Knowledge Day - Market place poster documentation

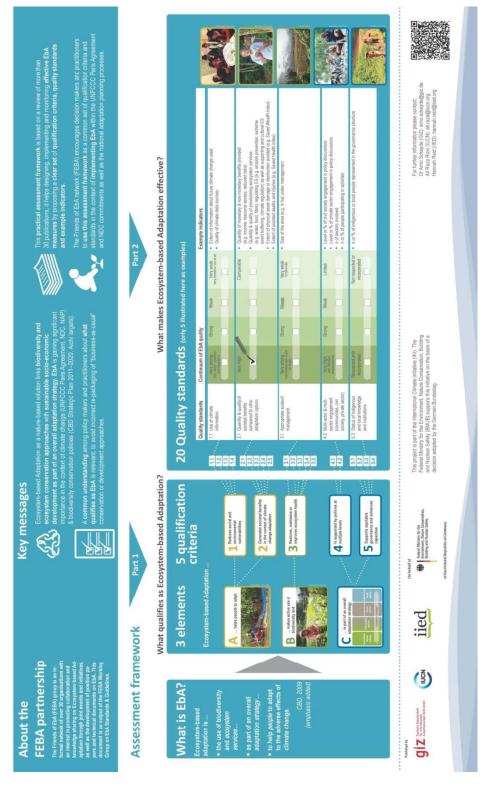


# Katherine Blackwood (IUCN) - Friends of EbA (FEBA) technical paper proposing EbA qualification criteria and quality standards



### Making Ecosystem-based Adaptation effective –

# A framework for defining qualification criteria & quality standards





# Ecosystem-based Adaptation and the Paris Agreement

im Pye, Hannah Reid, Dilys Roe, Danielle Mountain and Ali Raza Rizi



### What does the Paris Agreement say about adaptation?

The Agreement aims to enhance enhance "adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal." (Article 7.1) It also calls on parties to pursue actions "on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty." (Article 4.1)

Uptake of EbA by UNFCCC

### prominently as both the context for and Ecosystems and biodiversity feature method of adaptation

To determine the extent to which signatories have committed to adopting EbA, we reviewed 162 hattorially Determined Contributions (NDCs) submitted to the VECC, We broad hat of the 137 MCCs, with an adaptation component 88% refer to bloidversity and/or ecosystems (strong emphasis by lower-middle income tropical and subtropical hatform).

### Prominence of EbA

- Most nations (P65%) have an ecosystem-orientated vision for adaptation (i.e. propose contension or resistation, agricorestry etc.)
  As ansions explicitly mention EbA (23 from biodiverse tropics is subtropics)
   EbA strop component for B NDCs submitted by Bangladesh, Costa Rica.

  La P Reople's Democratic Republic, Mexicle, Myanmar, Nepal,
  Seychelies, Vannuta and Vetteram.

   Some contries (i.e.) Pero and the Seychelles) describe current EbA activities of most present EbA as future proofit.

### Measurable and locally meaningful targets?

Commitment to Eak rarely translates into clear targets, Even where measurable targets are set, it is unclear whether they will be sufficient to meet the adaptation needs of the communities and ecosystems involved.

- Measurable larget generally concernation i restoration of specific areas of habitat within pean transferance (e.g. Madapapear aims to restore 35,000 ha of primary and mangrore breats by \$202, Bolivia amis to have 25,000 ha of primary and mangrore breats by \$202, Bolivia amis to have 25,000 had not make to be proad aims which are difficult to measure (e.g. 36,001 Sudim value broad aims which are difficult to measure plans to protect wherefire and response fluture water available sharperment plans to protect wherefire and response fluture water available for

be implemented using participatory, community-led approaches. Yet only 22% of countries describing EbA activities in their NDCs refer to the involvement of to deliver social resilience and adaptive capacity, especially in low-income cou where livelihoods are often dependent on natural resources. EbA activities sho

Paris Agreement marks a major turning point in the struggle to both combat the effects of climate change and maintain

64% of NDCs with adaptation plans recognize the loss of flootiversity and ecosystem degradation as issues that justify adaptation planning, 52% recognize biodiversity as a distinct sector at risk due to climate change biosphere integrity

### What is EbA?

EbA is 'the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services ... to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change 'and includes' sustainable management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems, as part of an overall adaptation strategy that takes into account the multiple social, economic and cultural co-benefits for local adaptation strategy that takes into account on Bological Diversity 2003, 2010)

### Key Messages

- Given the potential of EbA to help countries achieve sustainable and equitable development in a warming world, there is an urgent need to set measurable targets and involve continuities to that we can move from pleidge
- valuating EbA effectiveness need to share know iding greater danty on optimal EbA strategies.
- A key challenge is to build capaolly among communities to develi-adaptation plans, fine-turned to their economic, social and environms

How Adapt? Fig 2. Top 5 approaches to adap (% countries by income group)

Why Adapt?

(% countries by income group)

### Policy Pointers

- ☐ Governments and non-state actors are recognizing EbA as a p-highly cost-effective adaptation approach with the capacity to deliner significant co-benefits.
- There is an urgent need to share learning on what makes EbA economically, socially and environmentally effective and to ensure information shapes the redrafting of NDCs.
- Countries should be encouraged to establish measurable and meaningful EAA targets in ratioost plans, report on progress lower heres in their Mods and rank EDA alongstide other key elements of sustainable development.

Delationma that fund or support mitigation and resiltence strategies
 – 4 g. UNREDD. the Cactors fund, for derend Chinate Fund and brister
initiatives – should adopt a more hosist approach by highlighting and
promoting EAA and its co-benefits for sustainable development.

Conservation of one or more ecosystems (particularly forests in catchments and coastal habitats) is most commonly cited current or



### Sylvia Wicander (UN Environment WCMC) - Improving access to tools for ecosystembased adaptation

### Improving access to tools for Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA)



### Taking stock of EbA-relevant tools and methodologies

Many tools, methodologies and approaches have been developed specifically to assist people in planning and implementing EbA, or have been adapted for use in EbA from other fields, such as broader climate change adaptation, biodiversity ation, and assessment of ecosystem services / natural capital

Two projects supported by the German International Climate Initiative (IKI), have developed an inventory of EbA-relevant tools and methodologies' in order to: improve access to information about the materials that are currently available; document user experiences of the tools and methodologies; and understand better whether there are important gaps that the projects should aim to address.

The inventory covers tools that provide procedural guidance on different steps in the cycle of planning, implementing and mainstreaming EbA; tools that provide access to data and information; and tools that facilitate the knowledge sharing.

For each tool, the inventory lists information on the objectives, scope, scale and target audienc user requirements and access conditions, as well as links to the relevant websites.

The inventory was circulated among project partners, the EbA community and other adaptation and ecosystem management practitioners to collect their experiences and feedback.

For more information please see: <u>https://www.iied.org/call-for-feedback-inventory-tools-support-</u> ecosystem-based-adaptation



### Are there enough tools to support EbA planning and implementation?















### Proportion of Tools & Methods covering each EbA Stage

### Are these the right tools to support EbA in different contexts?











### Are the tools accessible to the people who need them the most?

Number of Tools & Methods available in non-English language

Applicability of Tools & Methods for different user











### What next? We want your feedback...

More feedback is needed on user needs. How best can we build on the inventory to ensure EbA tools and approaches are more accessible, easily understood and navigable?

- Building up and streamlining the existing inventory?
- Developing a thematic/targeted toolbox?
- us on, and a particular group of target users

- Developing a navigable toolbox ?

version which could potentially be developed into an online toolbox in the future

These two projects are part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) supports this initiative on the basis of



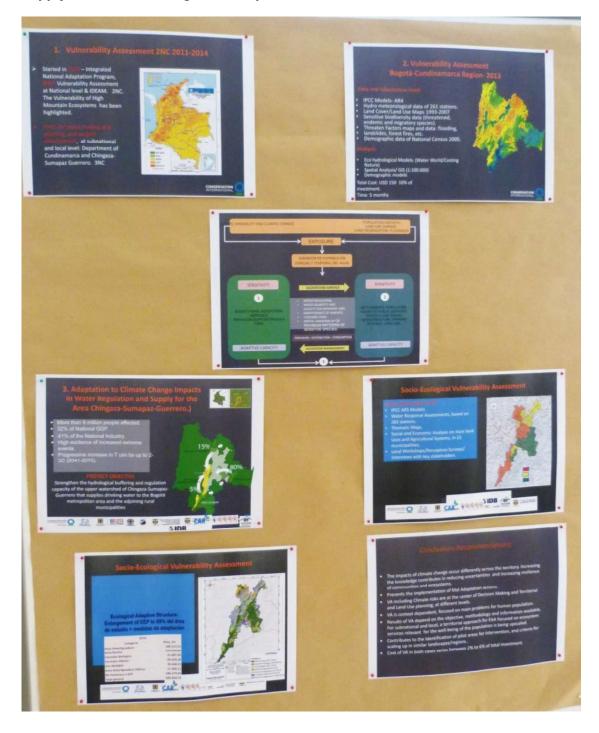








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### Alexandra Köngeter (GIZ) – *Mainstreaming EbA into development planning* – *a training course for decision makers, planners and practitioners*



Paolo Domondon (Rare) – Climate Change needs behavior change – what is the one variable that is central and essential to meaningful climate action? – people.

