UNEP – GEF Adaptation

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UNEP – GEF Adaptation Portfolio

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- UNEP work on Adaptation
- UNEP GEF portfolio
- Why ecosystems and EbA (including lessons learnt)
- Lessons learnt from implementation of projects
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UNEP's work on adaptation

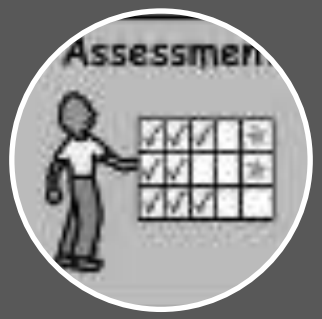
- Assisting governments and local communities of LDCs and other developing countries in building resilience of vulnerable ecosystems and economies through adaptation actions and ensuring that adaptation measures are environmentally sound and sustainable.
- Four mutually-supportive key pillars in UNEP's role:
  - Science and assessments
  - Knowledge and policy integration
  - Ecosystem Based Adaptation
  - Adaptation Finance

UNEP GEF Adaptation Portfolio

- Size of portfolio as of September 2016
  - **140** M$ (LDCF,SCCF, AF grant) – active
  - **524.3** M$ (co-finance)
  - **37.3** M$ - GEFsec technically cleared – awaiting encashment
  - **20** M$ - Under development

- Number of projects: **46** of which 33 (including 3 AF projects) are active (26 single country, 5 global, and 2 regional projects), 7 are technically cleared, 1 is under review, and 4 are under development. The projects cover over 20 countries, with more than one project in several countries.

Project Conceptual Framework



Assessments

Institutions, Capacity Building, Policy revisions

Demonstrations (with focus on Ecosystem Based Adaptation)

Knowledge (generate, manage, share)

Sustainability, Replication, Upscaling, and Monitoring and Evaluation

Why Ecosystem based approaches to Adaptation (EbA)

Why ecosystems matter?

- 1 billion people in over 100 developing countries are locked in the cycle of poverty and environmental degradation made worse by the effects of climate change;
- 60% (15 out of 24) of the ecosystem services are being degraded or used unsustainably….” (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005.)
- Impacts of CC being felt in different ecosystems
- Healthy ecosystems and their services provide opportunities for sustainable economic prosperity while at the same time providing defense against the negative effects of climate change.

Rivers running dry…drought

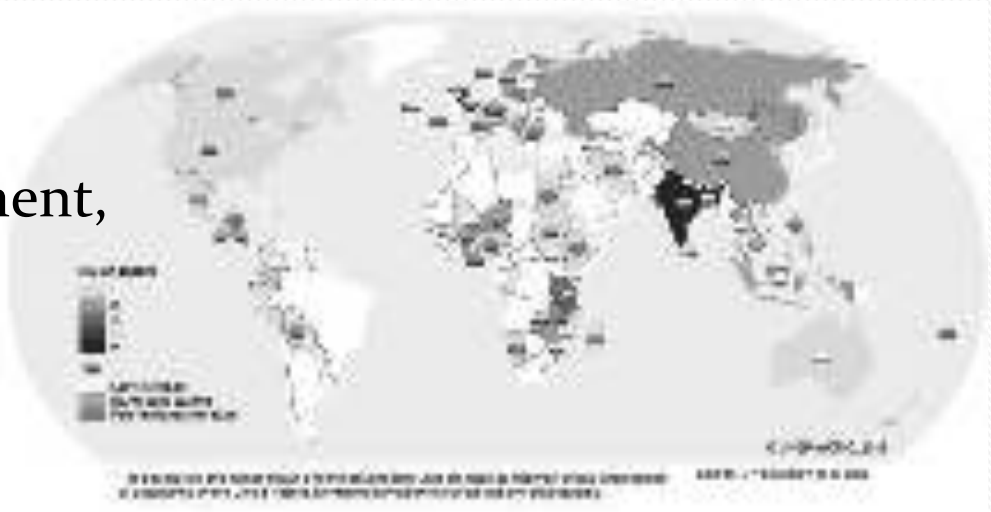
Degraded drylands

EbA definition and term

- **EbA usually is defined as**:
  - Ecosystems Management + Climate Risk or
  - Resilient ecosystem management
- **CBD**: "the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change"
- **UNEP** : "harnesses the natural climate resilience of ecosystems as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people and communities minimize the negative impacts and benefit from the positive effects of climate variability and change"
- **IUCN definition**: 'the use of the biodiversity as part of the overall adaptation strategy to help people adapt to adverse impacts of climate change"
- **EbA term**: Ecosystem-based Adaptation/ Ecosystem based Approaches for Adaptation /Ecosystem Approaches to Adaptation / Ecosystem Based Approaches

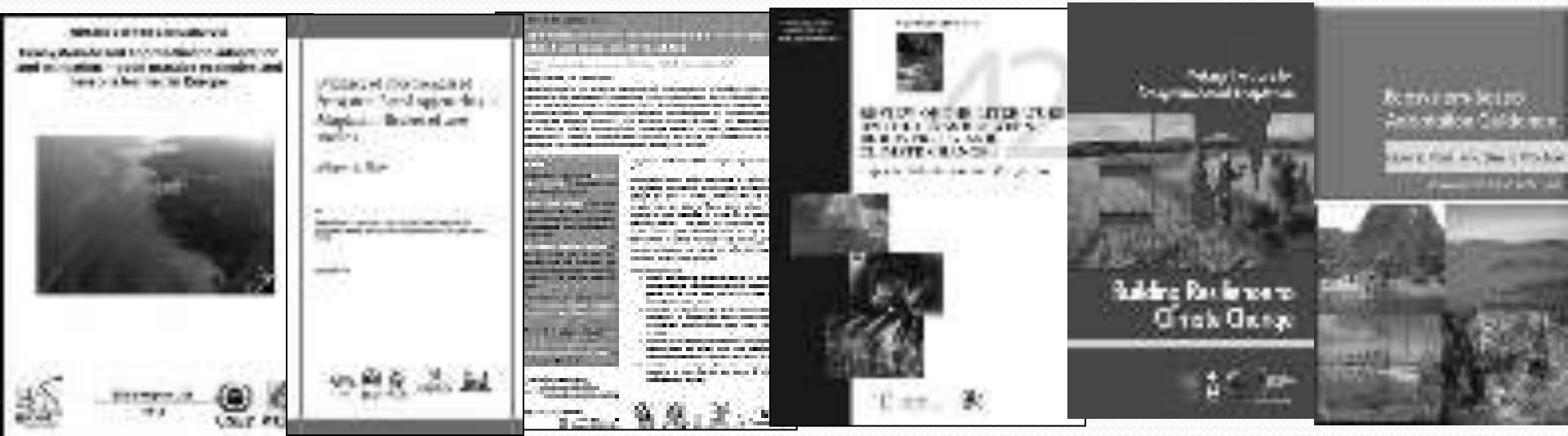
Progress on the ground

- A large range of adaptation activities using EBA approaches being implemented in various ecosystems.
- Wealth of knowledge for EBA exists though dedicated 'EBA' projects are few.
- Communities have been using ecosystems (Mangroves and wetlands) for disaster mitigation over decades.
- Using past/on-going work to inform implementation of EBA
- Tools, methods are being developed
- Evidence is emerging
- EbA has been implemented by a wide range of actors from conservation, environment, development and disaster management communities



Learning from EbA implementation

- EbA has lower cost and more effective than alternatives in some cases,
- especially in the long term, and local communities can do this themselves;
- EbA has multiple benefits – livelihoods, aesthetics/spiritual, biodiversity; climate change mitigation benefits.
- Ecosystems can adapt naturally whereas engineering constructions do not (should avoid mal-adaptation)



Examples of UNEP-LDCF EbA projects

	Country	EBA interventions	Non - EBA
1.	**Djibouti - LDCF**	- Mangrove restoration with salt tolerant species in the north of Djibouti to reduce coastal erosion -Degraded watersheds and wadi shores rehabilitated in 2 project areas to reduce sea water intrusion and intense rains	- Borehole restoration / relocation - Alternative livelihoods to
2.	**Nepal - LDCF**	- Multi-beneficial, biodiversity-rich forests established in landscapes that were initially highly degraded - ecosystem restoration that increase infiltration of rainwater into topsoil undertaken in degraded forest and rangeland watersheds - Alternative livelihoods based on the benefits of fully-functioning ecosystems developed (Tourism - protection of highly endangered species: tigers and snow leopards in forest ecosystems and high hill rangelands respectively.	
3.	**Comoros - LDCF**	-Reforestation of 95 ha in Grande Comoros and 90 ha Anjouan . -Undertake research into reforestation in the Comoros using the data generated by small-scale weather stations. -Raise awareness of community members of the benefits associated with reforestation activities (and conversely, the costs associated with deforestation).	- Water network rehabilitation to resist to climate change risks -Borehole rehabilitation
4.	**Cambodia - LDCF**	-Tree planting (14 ha) in Krasaora beach to stabilize sand and reduce erosion. -Replanting 60 ha of mangroves -Plant "Teap Tus " trees (15 ha) to stabilise dyke soils by preventing the dykes situated near mangrove forests from sinking into the soft mud and thus protect agricultural fields from increased flooding as result of climate change.	- 0.5 m dyke rehabilitation (Ouk Gha Heng and Toul Tokoeng) to protect agricultural fields from increased SLR, flooding and storm surges as a result of climate change.

Lessons learnt from Implementation

Strong leadership is a key success factor

- Contribution of executing agency, project manager PSC, stakeholders towards meeting the project objectives
- Examples:
  - Rwanda LDCF project: strong leadership through REMA and a dedicated NPC and have helped the project yield results including on integrating adaptation into national and local plans and upscaling The Gambia LDCF EWS – Phase I: leadership through the Department of Water Resources; very successful combo-NPC and CTA. Successful implementation and good ground for scaling up
  - SCCF project: CB for EBA in the context of SSC – Leadership through International Ecosystem Management Partnership (IEMP) and a strong PMU and CTA have set the ground for successful implementation

- **Project champions to gather support**
  - Champions are the best to advocate about the project
  - Need keep them engaged.
  - Examples:
    - Rwanda LDCF project - the head of REMA advocated for and supported the integration of climate change into Gishiwati region development plans including budget allocations for weather stations as well for its integration into the green growth agenda and vision 2020 for Rwanda which sets the ground for sustainability of project interventions.
    - The Gambia LDCF EWS project: The spokesman of LDC group (high level official of the Gambia) played a key role towards the autonomy of the Gambia Hydro-metrological services which set the ground for the LDCF EWS-second phase

- **Building on a strong body of work/projects**

  - The first round of NAPA implementation has been used as a pilot phase for drawing lessons for the remainder of NAPA priorities implementation;
  - Retaining the PMUs, PSC, CTAs, experts from the first round proved a good practice
  - It also built momentum in terms of:
    - Technical capacity; Institution mechanisms ; Ownership
  - Examples:
    - Rwanda, the Gambia, Comoros, Tanzania, Djibouti, Lesotho

- **Stakeholder engagement**

  - This includes mechanisms of engagement, collaboration, communication
  - Examples:
    - Rwanda LDCF: Quite successful collaboration with Rwanda Met service and Ministry of disaster management and refugee affairs (MIDIMAR), Ministry of Agriculture in setting up the EWS. Collaboration with district environment and planner officers was key for climate resileient district development plans.
    - Cambodia LDCF : Collaboration with communities of Peam Krasoap district for successful planation of mangroves and Prey Nup for dyke rehabilitation
    - Afghanistan LDCF: Collaboration with provinces of Bamyan, Balkh, Daikundi, and Badakshan since PPG phase has in identification of intervention sites and types of interventions

- **Partnership is key for leveraging additional support**
  - Examples:
    - NAP GSP for LDCs: Partnership built with IFAD, FAO, UNITAR, GWP, UNFCCC, LEG, GEF, GIZ, PROVIA is the key factor of the success of the programme
    - SCCF CB for EBA in the context of SSC: Partnership with China National & Development Reform Commission (NDRC) and Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR) leveraged significant cash co-finance and additional technical support to the project participant countries
    - Cambodia LDCF: Partnership with EU, SIDA, DANIDA leveraged funding – CARP project. Built on its community level groundwork (training of local community on mangrove restoration) and scaled it up.
    - Comoros LDCF project: partnership with Flemish government which leveraged additional funding (150,000 Euros) to undertake water treatment and sustainable land management in the project sites

- **<u>Credible information for evidence based adaptation is necessary</u>**
  - with the viewpoint of **scaling up**, **sustainability**, measuring the **effectiveness** of adaptation interventions
  - **benefits** of EBA could be seen way beyond the project
  - need to invest on the **baseline data and information**
  - Example:
    - <u>SCCF EBA project</u>: The project has adopted China's experience, approach and knowledge collected from long term research on ecosystems
      - Research platforms and relevant data and info will be handed over to the research institutions for implementation and information collection after the project. I.e University of Seychelles will be engaged and take over the research platform.

- **<u>Paving the way for medium and long term planning</u>**

  - Going beyond urgent and immediate adaptation through
    - Revision of existing plans to address climate risk or setting of climate information systems to support long term planning
  - Examples:
    - <u>Lesotho LDCF:</u>Climate -proofed Rangeland Management and Rehabilitation Plans (RMRPs) for pilot project villages developed and implementation taken over by Ministry of Agriculture;
    - <u>Rwanda LDCF:</u> Four Districts Land Management Strategies in Gishiwati area and Vision 2020 integrate climate change risks.
    - <u>Djibouti, Gambia, Rwanda, Lesotho</u> – have put or are putting an EWS in place to support long term planning

Concluding remarks

- LDCF/SCCF projects are operating in small scales mainly due to funding constraints
  - though LDCF/SCCF portfolio does not contribute much in filling the **FINANCE GAP** on adaptation, it can still generate credible knowledge and information on adaptation which can contribute to fill the **KNOWLEDGE GAP** on adaptation
    - Countries need this as they prepare to adapt to 2 degree pathway
  - there is room for scaling up and leveraging the impact through:
    - solid knowledge, strong partnerships, institutions, technologies, awareness and putting adaptation into medium and long term perspective

Thank you !

Any Questions?