



An introduction to Nature-based adaptation

By Pieter van Eijk, Copenhagen, December 2009

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Introduction

Ecosystem degradation increases vulnerability...

Deforestation...

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Over exploitation & pollution...

Introduction



Desertification...

Introduction

Direct result of loss of 'ecosystem services'...

Flood mitigation

Storm protection

Biodiversity

Food and water provision

Prevention of saline intrusion

Protection against erosion



Introduction

Many hazards are exacerbated by climate change: storms, floods, droughts etc...



Ecosystem conservation and restoration is crucial for successful adaptation!!!

Key objectives

- **Ecosystem-based adaptation approaches recognised in policy and planning**
- **Integrated with other adaptation measures, different sectors linked**
- **Avoid, adverse impacts of adaptation measures on environment and people 'mal-adaptation'**
- **Sustainability safeguards in funding frameworks**
- **Understanding adaptation, piloting approaches and building capacity**



Collaboration in the conservation sector

- **Joint policy work**
- **Field pilots and research**
- **Capacity building programme and policy dialogue on community- and ecosystem-based adaptation**
 - CI, CPWC, IUCN, IWA, Oxfam-america, MER commission, WWF and Wetlands International
 - 7 modules for local policymakers, planners and 'practitioners'
 - Condensed version for high-level policymakers
 - Disseminated in Africa, Latin America and Asia



But more collaboration is needed

- **Bridging science, policy and practice, e.g.:**
 - How can science be optimally translated into practice?
 - How to link policy with practical adaptation?
 - **Conservation NGOs: joining forces and distributing tasks**
 - **Linking with development NGOs, engineers etc.**
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- **How to accomplish this?**
 - **Identify a joint agenda**
 - **Input from other sectors**



Programme

- **John Matthews (WWF): Examples of ecosystem-based adaptation approaches**
- **Koen Kramer (Wageningen University): research on 'nature adaptation areas'**
- **Short Interventions by among others Fred Boltz (CI), Mark Smith (IUCN) and Trevor Sandwith (TNC)**
- **Plenary discussion facilitated by Henk van Schaik (CPWC)**
- **Wrap-up by Kemi Seesink (Wetlands International)**



More Information?



www.wetlands.org



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