

EbA in Mountain Ecosystems in Nepal

The Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EbA) in Mountain Ecosystems in Nepal, Peru and Uganda aims to strengthen the capacity of these countries, which are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts, through ecosystem based adaptation approaches. The project aims at strengthening the resiliency of ecosystems within these countries and reduces the vulnerability of local communities with particular emphasis on mountain ecosystems.

The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) through its International Climate Initiative and is jointly implemented by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The project consists of activities at different levels i.e. national, regional and local levels and of different types including assessment, capacity building and knowledge on EBA. The project is designed on the premise that the social/human adaptation is best achieved by ensuring the continued provision of ecosystem services and enhancing human capacities to address current challenges and future uncertainties.

Project Objective and Outcome

The main objective of the project is to enhance ability of decision makers in Nepal to plan and implement EbA strategies and measures at national and ecosystem level.

The major outcome of the project is to mainstream environment, energy and climate change into national and local development planning with a focus on gender, social inclusion and post conflict environmental rehabilitation.

Components of the project

The project has four major components.

Component 1: Development of methodologies and tools for EbA decision-making in mountain ecosystems

The outcome of this component is to make available a set of tools and methodologies aimed at building national and local

institutional knowledge and capacity to adapt to climate change using Ecosystem based Adaptation approaches. The project will build on global and national best available knowledge, which will be refined based on the fieldwork under Component 2.

Component 2: Application of EbA methodologies and tools at the ecosystem level

Under this component, work will be undertaken at a pilot site in Nepal to develop an Ecosystem based Adaptation plan by using decision making tools developed under component 1.

Component 3: Implementation of EbA pilots at ecosystem level

Under this component, priority actions identified in the plan developed under Component 2 will be implemented. These activities will be jointly managed by UNDP Nepal and IUCN Nepal using their experience of field implementation and knowledge in relation to environment and biodiversity.



Component 4: Development of Business Case for EbA at the national level

Under this component, the project will prepare business case for EbA, build the capacity of the government to plan, implement and monitor EbA options, support in incorporating EbA options in sectoral policies, strategies and plans as well as disseminate the lesson learnt on EbA at national and international level.

PROJECT AREA

The project is piloted in 17VDCs of Panchase Protected Forest and its surrounding areas in Kaski, Parbat and Syangja districts of Western development region. The altitudinal variation of area starts from 1450m to 2517m. 'Panchase' which literally means 'Five Seats', is the meeting place of 5 peaks.

The region has great biological, cultural, religious diversities and natural beauty. It represents an important middle mountain's ecological zone which is less addressed amongst the country's protected area



system and is only biological corridor linkage of Lowland (Chitwan–Nawalparasi) and of Annapurna Himalaya range. Panchase Protected Forest is gazette in 2012 with an area of 57.76 sq kilometer. The forest is sub-tropical and temperate mixed evergreen forest.

IMPLEMENTATION MODALITY

In Nepal, the project is executed by Department of Forest under Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MFSC) as a lead agency for implementation at the national level in partnership with UNDP, IUCN and UNEP. Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE) plays an overall coordination role.



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