

Inputs provided by: IUCN

1. General description of mandates and objective(s) of your organization / associated network with institutional structure

IUCN's work on ecosystem based disaster risk reduction (eco-DRR), as is our work on Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA – where both EbA and DRR are closely linked) is extremely relevant to the work on loss and damage. In its role as a convener of the global conservation union, IUCN has strongly highlighted the need for environment managers/conservationists to work on risk reduction from natural hazards. This promotes the preservation and restoration of ecosystem services by reducing risks to people and property, which helps reduce loss from natural hazards, including hazards related to climate change impacts and extreme weather events. This in turn contributes to the resilience of the overall systems. In this respect IUCN is also contributing to the documentation and understanding of non-economic losses, mainly impacts on essential ecosystem services, which remain broadly unaccounted for.

IUCN was requested to conduct ecosystem assessments following the Western Indian Ocean tsunami in Sri Lanka in 2004 (where a publication has been produced). In addition its regional and country offices have increasingly become involved in DRR and relief due to reasons such as presence in a disaster prone location or community requests for assistance with preparedness via ongoing community based natural resource management projects being implemented by IUCN.

IUCN's mandate is informed and approved by its 1200+ members, a significant part of the global conservation community. In the last two World Conservation Congresses, IUCN members tabled and approved 4 motions that mandates IUCN and the conservation community to work on natural hazard risk reduction.

IUCN has networks of experts who help guide the work of the conservation community. One such network, The Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), has a specific thematic group of global experts who work on DRR issues as well as raise awareness amongst DRR, Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), and conservation communities of practice on the need for integrated approaches.

IUCN is a founding member of The Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR – www.pedrr.net). The partnership, since 2008, advocates for ecosystem based DRR effectively from global to local levels in order to mobilize donor resources, activate interest, and build capacities in implementing eco-DRR. PEDRR is now recognized as a key thematic platform of UNISDR. Due to the growing evidence on the real and important links between DRR, CCA and conservation, PEDRR has now expanded its mandate to include the advocacy of EbA.

2. Relevant operational framework(s)

Within IUCN's global programme 2013-2016, a key result area is Deploying Nature Based Solutions to Global Challenges, including climate, food and development. Climate change includes natural hazard risks as underlying risks that must be addressed, if ecosystem, and indeed community approaches, based adaptation is to have a positive impact. All natural hazards are included in this result area.

IUCN has been raising awareness on the need for the conservation community to work with DRR amongst its core partners, for example Germany, Switzerland, France and United States of America. IUCN has invested core funds in understanding and gathering emerging evidence on the links between conservation and DRR. Now we are increasing our portfolio related to DRR, for example from Germany and Japan to implement eco-DRR.

IUCN has promoted membership of the Union amongst DRR stakeholders. As a result, the number of IUCN members working on DRR or having a strong mandate on DRR is increasing.

IUCN has invested significant efforts in building capacities of national governments in DRR (in collaboration

with PEDRR) so that the national governments can accelerate the uptake of eco-DRR. It has been working with some 'champion' Governments (Sri Lanka, Japan, India) to catalyze resource allocation and action for eco-DRR. Thus we are working closely with a number of UNFCCC parties

IUCN prioritizes engagement with UNFCCC and Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) processes to highlight the need to conserve and improve the management of ecosystem services which are critical in helping reduce loss and damage from climate change and natural hazards, as well as enhancing the EbA – which in turn benefits both people and nature.

3. Focus areas of risk management for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts

Areas as per introductory note – b), c), d), e), and g). , namely :

- (a) The systematic observation of, and data collection on, the impacts of climate change, in particular slow onset impacts, and accounting for losses, as appropriate;*
- (b) Implementing comprehensive climate risk management approaches, including scaling up and replicating good practices and pilot initiatives;*
- (c) Promoting an enabling environment that would encourage investment and the involvement of relevant stakeholders in climate risk management;*
- (d) Enhancing access to, sharing and the use of data, at the regional, national and subnational levels, such as hydrometeorological data and metadata, on a voluntary basis, to facilitate the assessment and management of climate-related risk.*

4. Geographic coverage

- Implementation - global but due to resource allocation – Africa, Latin America and Asia for now. Increasingly in Pacific Islands and Western Indian Ocean.*
- Advocacy for resource mobilization – Europe and USA*

5. Key stakeholders

- Developed and developing country Governments, especially policy makers for CC, DRR, conservation and development planning.*
- Insurance sector (collaborative opportunities under development)*
- Conservation community, including NGOs, CSOs*
- United Nations, especially UNISDR, UNEP, UNFCCC, UNDP and UNU*

Implementation modality / delivery mechanisms

- Projects – 3 to 5 years and delivered through local offices, local partners, local communities and local IUCN members*
- Engaging with global policy mechanisms – UNFCCC, HFA, Convention on Biological Diversity, World Heritage Convention*
- Working with research institutes to document empirical evidence in order to establish a stronger case for eco-DRR*

Please provide information related to the technical, financial and institutional support mechanism. This has already been presented in the above section

Please provide information related to reporting, if any

IUCN produces a variety of publications to report on its activities. Though we do not formally report our LnD work to UNFCCC at this stage, we have engaged in a number of UNFCCC LnD consultations over the past 18 Months and we will be engaging with the consultation happening in Fiji in September. We are shortly about to produce an IUCN discussion paper on our engagement with the LnD process to date, and as to why IUCN needs to engage more strategically in this process

6. Key activities / outputs to date

UNFCCC's work on LnD and IUCN's eco-DRR work have a lot of information to share and much to collaborate on. Work on issues such as non-economic losses within LnD, can benefit a lot from IUCN's experience with ecosystem management for risk reduction. IUCN would be very keen to map out the synergies and collaborative opportunities collectively. Some key activities include

- (a) PEDRR training for different countries*
- (b) Major BMU funded project working on eco-DRR in Chile, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Nepal, China and Thailand to gather empirical evidence on different eco-DRR options for different disaster types including flooding, slow on-set droughts, landslides, and avalanches*
- (c) IUCN's EbA portfolio – much of which included elements of eco-DRR, and where we are working with other partners, for example UNEP and BMU to map out all the projects that work with EbA*

7. Any additional information and contact details

IUCN has been actively engaged with the NWP EbA process – culminating in the Tanzania workshop. There are important linkages that need to be made with the eco-DRR community (and the DRR community more generally) – this is also important for Loss and Damage.

Contact details:

Edmund Barrow

Head, Ecosystem Management Programme

IUCN, Rue Mauverney 28, 1196 Gland Switzerland

Tel + 41-22-999-0273

and

IUCN, P O 68200 – 00200, Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254-20-2493561/65/70

Cell + 254-722-797745

Skype Edmund.Barrow