

# STAP perspectives and GEF guidelines on ecosystem-based adaptation

Guadalupe Durón  
UNFCCC technical workshop on  
ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation to climate change under the  
Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and  
adaptation to climate change  
21-23 March 2013  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

**Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel**

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility



# Outline of presentation

- Framing ecosystem-based adaptation
- Enhancing the resilience of ecosystems to climate change
  - Ensuring continued benefits from GEF interventions related to ecosystems (**STAP's climate risk tool for the GEF**)
- Using ecosystems as a means for reducing vulnerability and enhancing adaptation to climate change
  - Ecosystem-based approaches for supporting adaptation (**GEF's preliminary guidelines on ecosystem-based adaptation for SCCF/LDCF**)

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility



# The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility



**Thomas E. Lovejoy**  
Chair



**Michael Stocking**  
Advisor to STAP Chair



**Jakob Granit**  
International  
Waters



**Brian Huntley**  
Biodiversity



**Henk Bouwman**  
Chemicals & POPs



**Annette Cowie**  
Land Degradation



**Anand Patwardhan**  
Adaptation



**Ralph Sims**  
Climate Change

**STAP is supported by a Secretariat in Washington, D.C.**

# Framing ecosystem-based adaptation

Two dimensions –

1. Making ecosystems more resilient in the face of climate change
2. How to use ecosystems more effectively to reduce vulnerability to climate change and strengthen socio-economic systems



Source: The Economist, 2008

# The context for climate resilience of GEF projects: GEF council decision

“The Council having reviewed documents, Evaluation of the GEF Strategic Priority for Adaptation...requested the Secretariat to **develop and implement screening tools**. These tools will serve as a first step **to ensure the mainstreaming and targeting of adaptation and resilience, to reduce the risks from climate change in GEF focal areas and its activities**...report in November 2012 on steps taken...including indicators for RBM and M&E.”

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility





# Climate risk screening tool and resilience enhancement measures for GEF

1. Is the GEF project area or location subjected to climate risks (*high/medium/low/no*)? – Has the PIF/PFD considered the climate risks? Climate risk could include Current Climate Variability (CV) and/or projected Climate Change by 2020s/2030s/2050s; According to current state of knowledge is the climate change risk in the project location - high/medium/low.

2. Are the GEF project components targeted (forests, wetlands, semi-arid croplands, etc) or objectives/outputs or interventions prone to climate change risks over the period 2020s, 2030s, 2050s and has the PIF addressed the risks of impacts of current climate variability and projected climate change? Do the project interventions contribute to reducing the vulnerability to climate risks, even if climate risks are not explicitly considered in the PIF/PFD? Is there any possibility of project interventions increasing the vulnerability to climate risks or leading to mal-adaptation?

3. Has the PIF considered resilience enhancement practices, measures and technologies to the identified or projected climate risks and impacts?

4. Has the PIF considered the technical and institutional capacity needed and information needs for addressing climate risks and designing resilience enhancement measures?

5. Are the local communities in the GEF project area vulnerable to climate change? (None/Unlikely/Possible)? Are the natural resources on which local communities depend and targeted by the project vulnerable to climate risks?

# LDCF and SCCF

## ecosystem-based adaptation

- Natural resources are important for the LDCF and SCCF target countries
- 15.5% of sectors prioritized in NAPAs of LDCs focus on ecosystems
- Management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems, that is informed climate change and variability can contribute to climate change resilience of vulnerable communities

**Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel**

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility



# Operational guidelines on ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation

## Definition

Ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation are the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change

## Purpose of the Guidelines

- To facilitate the access of LDCF and SCCF funds for EbA oriented projects
- Clarifies criteria for projects that intend to employ ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation

**Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel**

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility





# Operational guidelines on ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation

1. Identification of communities or development projects or programmes vulnerable to climate change
2. Identification of ecosystems and related ecosystem services necessary for communities and development initiatives.
3. Assessment of the status and vulnerability of the identified ecosystems.
4. Using the assessments undertaken (Steps 1-4), establish linkages between humans and ecosystems
5. Development of ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation interventions based on scenario exercises, comprehensive assessments and comparison against an array of possible adaptation measures.
6. Develop an action plan for implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation that is aligned with the GEF project criteria.
7. Monitoring and evaluation system that assesses project effectiveness through indicators that measure ecosystem health, provision of ecosystem services to the vulnerable populations and reduction in the level of climate risks.

**Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel**

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility



# Thank you!

Guadalupe Durón  
STAP Secretariat

[Guadalupe.Duron@unep.org](mailto:Guadalupe.Duron@unep.org)  
[www.stapgef.org](http://www.stapgef.org)



Source: Annette Cowie, 2012

**Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel**

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility

