Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, ecosystem restoration and sustainable land management in EbA in the context of the Rio Conventions

Sakhile Koketso
CBD Secretariat
21 March 2013

Japan Biodiversity Fund

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

UNEP

Ecosystem based adaptation

According to the Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change:

Ecosystem-based adaptation uses the opportunities provided by the ***sustainable management***, ***conservation***, and ***restoration of ecosystems*** to provide services that enable people to adapt to the impacts of climate change …

Integrating conservation of biodiversity into EbA

The CBD Mandate:

Article 8 of the Convention:

- conservation of biodiversity including through PAs and regulations to protect species inside and outside of PAs

The COP, through its decisions:

- Adopted and developed PoWPA which amongst other things requires development of protected area action plans which include the adaptation of PAs and use of PAs for EbA

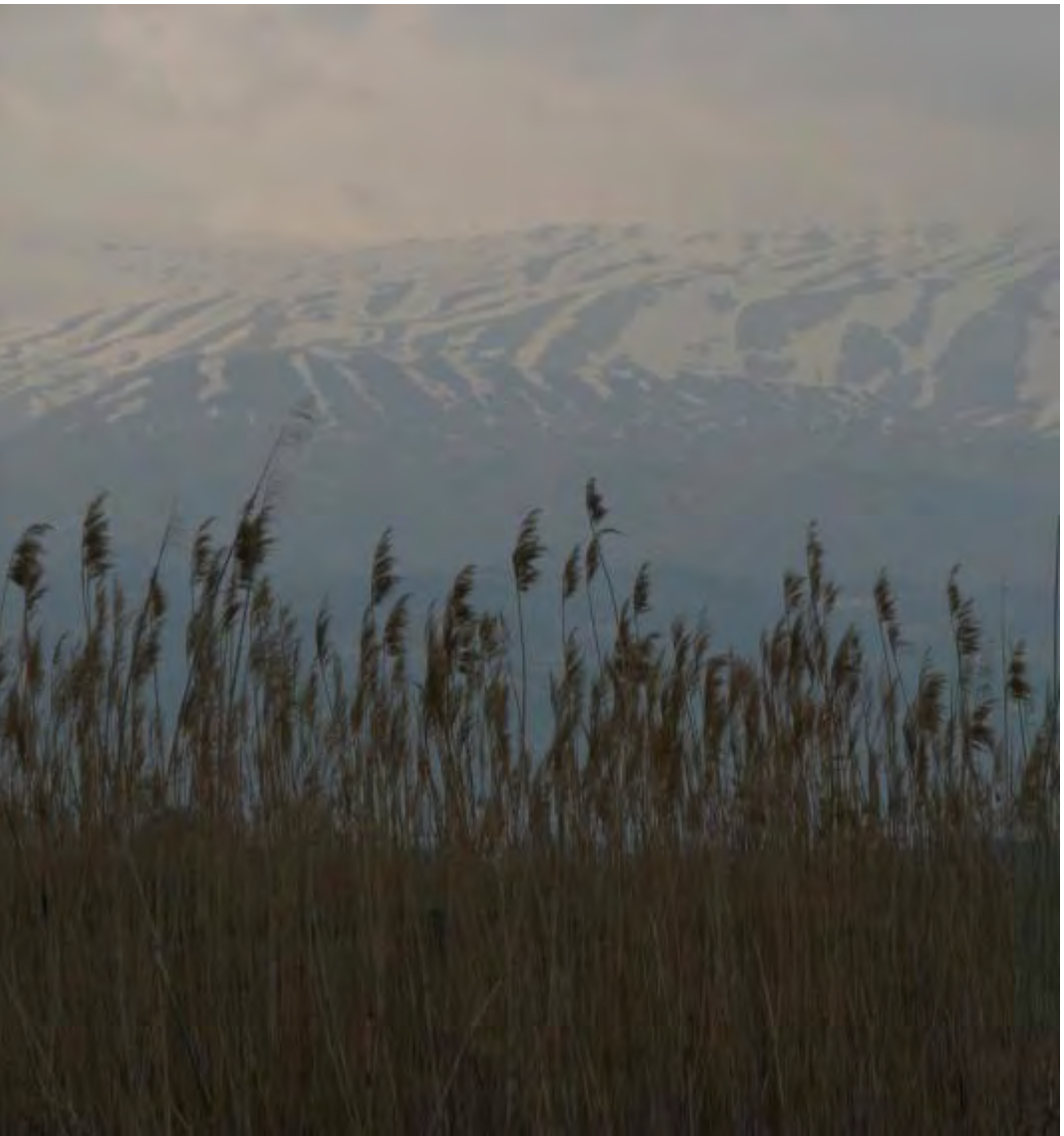
The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020:

- Target 11: By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas, especially areasof particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into wider landscapes and seascapes

Why are PAs important for ecosystem based adaptation?

- Well designed and effectively managed PA systems are a key mechanism for enabling climate change adaptation because they protect ecosystems and allow them to keep providing services that are important for adaptation

Target 11: … protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures



Al Hima: a traditional system for natural resource management in the Arabian peninsula. *Hima* means 'protected place' set aside for all creatures.The practice is being revived in several countries, as an alternative to traditional conservation approaches.

"In the harsh conditions … living sustainably under the hima was the only way for people to survive ... helped secure enough food for whole communities amongst an uncertain and unforgiving environment …"

Integrating PAs and other approaches such as Al Hima into EbA strategies will strengthen adaptation outcomes at national level.

Pic: Kfar Zabad IBA, Lebanon
© David Thomas/ BirdLife

Integrating sustainable use of biodiversity into EbA

The CBD Mandate:

Article 10 of the Convention:

- sustainable use of biodiversity, including customary sustainable use

The COP, through its decisions:

- Adopted the Addis Ababa Guidelines on Sustainable Use

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020:

- Goal B - Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use; including through:
  - Reducing the rate of loss of all natural habitats (Target 5)
  - Managing and harvesting fish and invertebrate stocks (Target 6)
  - Managing areas under agriculture, forestry and aquaculture sustainably (Target 7)
  - Reducing pollution (Target 8)
  - Controlling and eradicating invasive alien species (Target 9)

Why?

- Because utilizing biodiversity sustainably helps to maintain and strengthen resilience; and also by reducing other pressures on biodiversity and ecosystems, they are better able to adapt to climate change

Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats is reduced

- The Shinyanga region of Tanzania was historically covered by Acacia scrub and Miombo Woodland,
- By 1985 there was widespread degradation of the forests through conversion to cropland, overgrazing and population relocation – only 1,000 ha were left
- *Ngitilis* (woodland enclosures), were traditionally used by residents for dry season fodder, fuelwood & other products,
- Since 1985, 250,000ha have been restored through *ngitilis*
- Benefits have included: increase in fodder production, fuelwood, poles and water and other products such as fish and non-timber forest products such as honey

Source: www.bankofnaturalcapital.com

Integrating ecosystem restoration into EbA

The CBD Mandate:

Article 8 of the Convention:

- rehabilitation and restoration of ecosystems

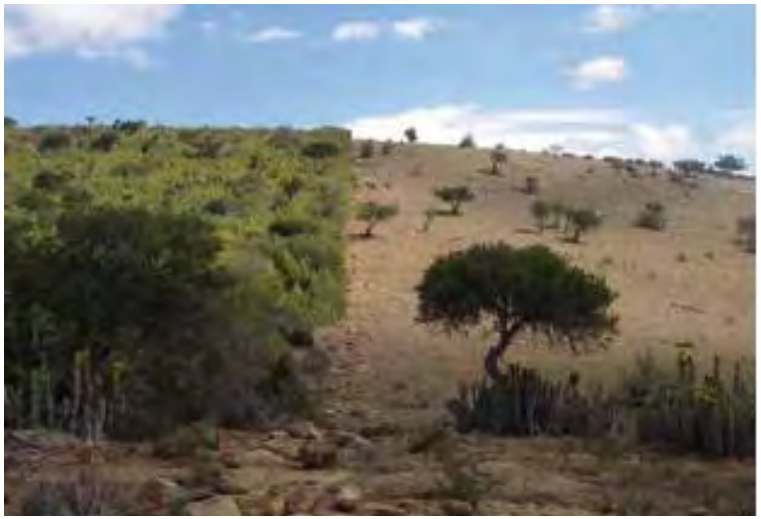
The COP, through its decisions:

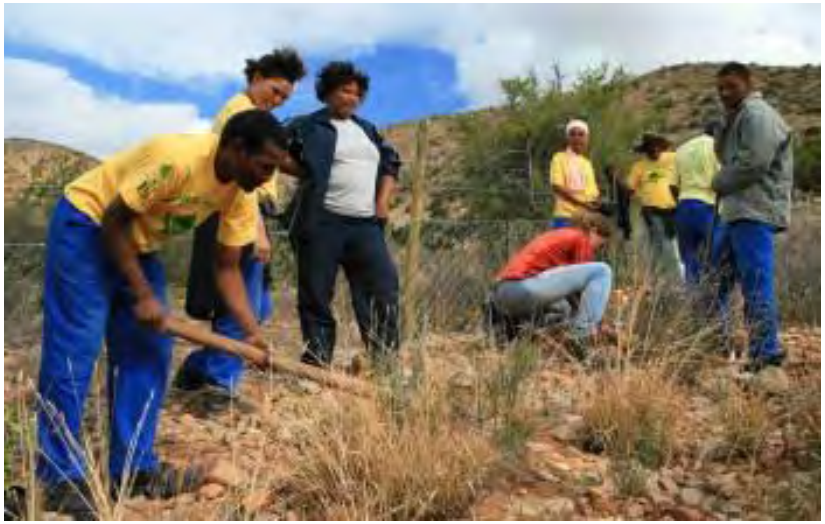
- Highlighted the importance of ecosystem restoration for climate change mitigation and adaptation

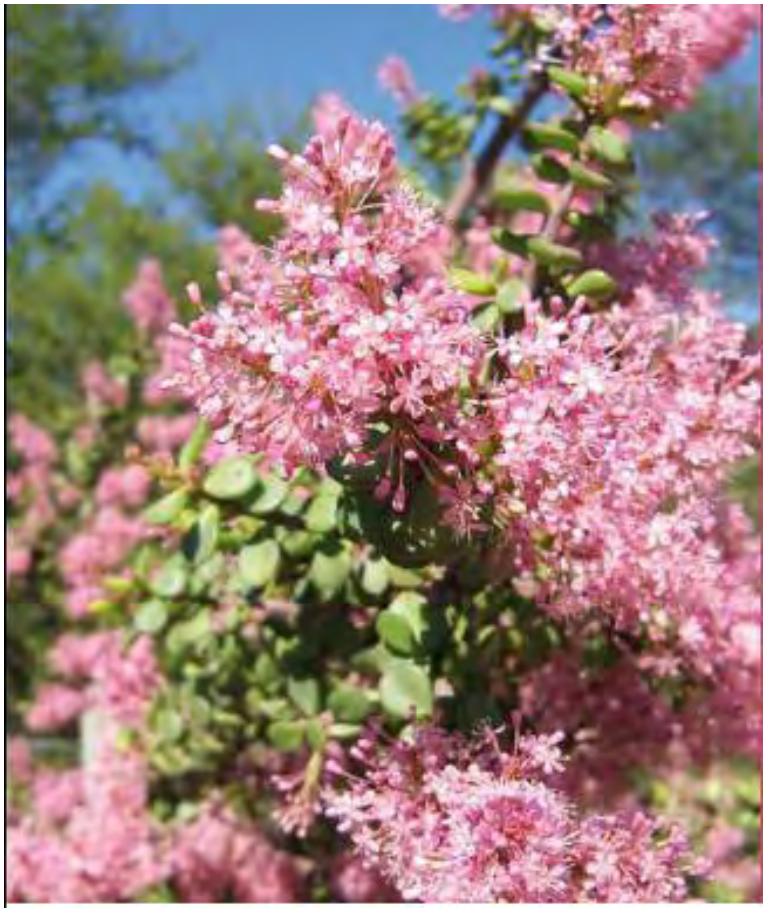
The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020:

- Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide ***essential services***, including services related to water, and ***contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being***, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.
- Target 15: By 2020, ***ecosystem resilience*** and the ***contribution of biodiversity*** to carbon stocks ***has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration,*** including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, ***thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation*** and to combating desertification

Target 15: … ecosystem resilience is enhanced through conservation and restoration ecosystems …







The Working for Woodlands Programme in RSA is restoring thickets on degraded lands with benefit for local communities, water resources, biodiversity and climate mitigation and adaptation. Source: Mills et al, 2010

Integrating EbA into biodiversity planning at national level

Parties to the CBD are required to:

- Develop national strategies, plans or programmes for biodiversity

NBSAPs should be:

- The **process** by which countries can address the threats to their biodiversity and promote its sustainable use for national development.
- The **principal instrument** for the implementation of the Convention **at the national level**.
- **Incorporated** into the **planning and activities** of all those sectors whose activities can have an impact (positive and negative) on biodiversity

EbA should be integrated into NBSAPs through:

- Identification of priority ecosystems (e.g. essential ecosystem services, degraded, or high potential for adaptation)
- Setting national targets for their management, restoration and adaptation
- Identification and implementation of measures (legal, technical, technological, social, economic etc) to manage these priority ecosystems
- Monitor progress and adjust as necessary

Thank you for your attention!

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

413 Saint Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, QC, H2Y 1N9, Canada
Tel: +1 514 288 2220
Fax: + 1 514 288 6588
Email: secretariat@cbd.int
www.cbd.int