

IKI Brown Bag Lunch

Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) – From Concept to Practice

How IKI projects are meeting the chances and challenges on the ground

Online, 29th September 2026



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Climate Action,
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

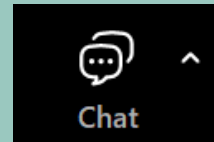


Welcome

IKI Brown Bag Lunch

Netiquette:

- Please log in with your full name and organization
- Please switch off all microphones
- Chat icon for content-related questions and technical questions
- Please use the raise your hand icon to ask questions during the Q & A Session





Welcome Note: Anke Wolff

Policy Advisor Division IK I 7 "International Adaptation to Climate Change", Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN)



Introduction: EbA Criteria & Projects represented on the panel

EbA – Ecosystem-based Adaptation Definition

Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) is the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change ([Convention on Biological Diversity](#)).

EbA is **one type** of Nature based Solutions that addresses climate change impacts. EbA focuses on the benefits humans derive from biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Element A: Helps people adapt to climate change



Criterion 1:
Reduces social & environmental vulnerabilities



Criterion 2:
Generates societal benefits

Element B: EbA makes active use of biodiversity and ecosystem services



Criterion 3:
Restores, maintains or improves ecosystem health

Element C: EbA is part of an overall adaptation strategy



Criterion 4:
Is supported by policies at multiple levels



Criterion 5:
Supports equitable governance and enhances capacities

EbA is a **people-centric concept**, but one that acknowledges that human resilience depends critically on the integrity of ecosystems. Yet ecosystem health alone does not guarantee human resilience, so EbA is best implemented as an integrated element of a broader **adaptation strategy** ([Making Ecosystem-based Adaptation Effective](#) - [FEBA](#), 2017).

Scaling-up ecosystem based adaptation in rural latin America, EbA LAC

Implementing Organisation: GIZ, CATIE, IUCN, IISD, WCMC

Implemented in: Costa Rica, Ecuador & Guatemala

Goal:

The project aims to scale-up EbA and increase the resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems in rural areas of Costa Rica, Ecuador and Guatemala. Ecosystem services are maintained and restored at landscape level in the water, agriculture and tourism sectors.

Dr. Astrid Michels, Program Manager



Main Target Groups:

Vulnerable rural communities; smallholder farmers, water users; Indigenous groups; women and youth; local governments; MSMEs

Main Sectors:

Water, agriculture, forest, livestock, finance, tourism, biodiversity

Future Landscapes

Implementing Organisation: The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and UFZ

Implemented in: Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay & Peru

Goal:

Generate systemic change toward climate-resilient, Regenerative Agriculture across Latin America

Mauricio Castro Schmitz – Agriculture Director Latin America Region



Main Target Groups:

Farmers (small/medium/large), trade associations, industrial partners, consumers, public policy officials. With focus on women, Indigenous peoples and local communities and youth

Main Sectors:

Value chains: Ranching, palm, sugar cane, cocoa, Non-timber forest products (NTFP)

Land-use planning and financial innovation (SAbERES)

Implementing Organisation: World Resources Institute

Implemented in: Mexico

Goal:

Reduce the climate change vulnerability and increase adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers in Mexico

Promote climate change adaptation among smallholder farmers in rural Mexico through financial and planning tools, EbA strategies, and technical support

Ismael Arce, Ecosystem-based Adaptation Coordinator at the WRI Mexico



Main Target Groups

Vulnerable smallholder farmers

Main Sectors:

Agricultural systems, corn, agave, coffee, cocoa, beekeeping, livestock, forestry, and ecotourism

Strengthening Disaster Resilience and Risk Mitigation through Ecosystem-based Planning and Adaptation

Implementing Organisation: GIZ

Implemented in: Philippines

Goal:

National and subnational authorities are integrating ecosystem-based adaptation and climate risk insurance into the planning system to strengthen disaster risk management in the Philippines

Andrea Teran, Project Manager



Main Target Groups:

National and subnational government agencies, Eastern Visayas provinces and select municipalities and peoples' organizations, academia, insurance industry associations and private sector

Main Sectors:

Agriculture and aquaculture (rural sector), ecotourism, insurance and other financial services, disaster risk reduction



Speed Panel



Paramedic Insurance

Challenge: providing first aid to mangroves after typhoons

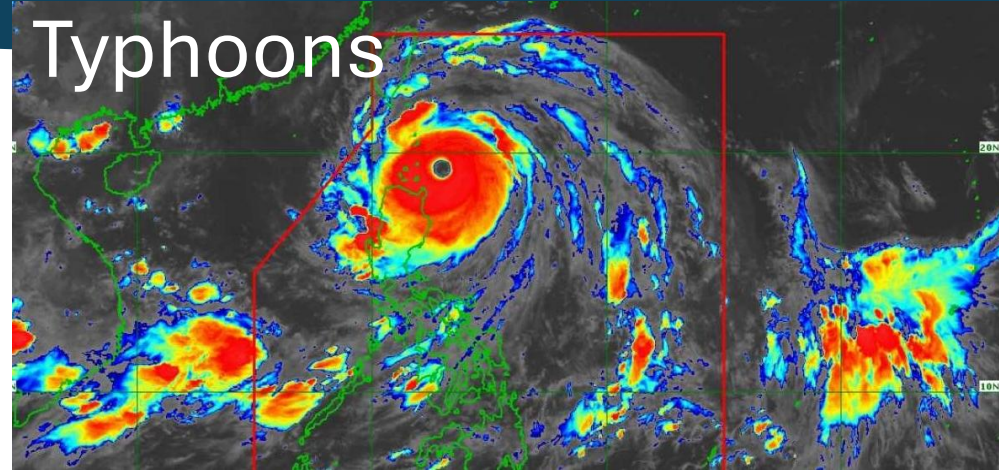
Mangroves



Key ecosystem services

- Stabilise and protect coast
- Essential to sustaining fisheries
- Livelihood for local communities
- Trap sediments; clean water
- Capture and store CO2

Typhoons



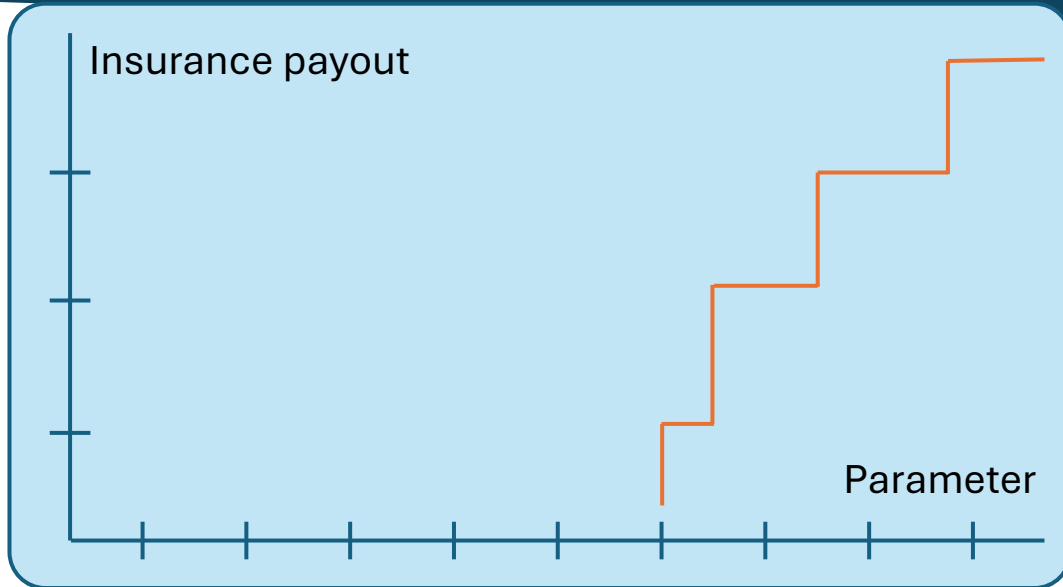
Primary threat to mangroves

- Intensifying typhoons due to climate change
- Severe wind: defoliation; trunk snapping
- Storm surge: uprooting; substrate scouring

Secondary threats:

- Rapid sedimentation: smothering
- Prolonged flooding: root hypoxia; saline shock
- Physiological stress: reduced recruitment; growth suppression

Solution: mangrove parametric insurance & contingency plan



Parametric insurance

- wind speed and storm surge index
- Modelled loss -> rapid payout
- Liquidity for First Aid measures
- Payout: PHP 150k per ha (tbc)
- Premium: PHP xxx per ha (tbc)

Contingency plan post event

Day 1-5: Rapid damage assessment

- Map damage extent
- Categorise damage
- Define urgent measures

Day 6-14: Restore hydrology

- Remove debris and sediment plugs
- Clear blocked tidal creeks
- Restore normal water flow

Day 15 -20: Documentation

Contingency plan

- Technical protocol to follow
- Responsibilities and resources
- Community involvement

Rehabilitation:

- Assisted regeneration
- Restoration / replanting if severely damaged



Q&A SESSION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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