Welcome to our third issue of the Adaptation Newsletter. Covering the latest in the field of climate change adaptation in Africa and beyond. We are always happy to spotlight your Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) activities, announcements, events and new initiatives.

www.unep.org/climatechange/adaptation/

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- PROVIA: The 5th Steering Committee Meeting held in Fortaleza-Brazil
Adaptation Opportunities and New Funding

UNE A adopted a resolution on Ecosystems-Based Adaptation which encourages all countries to include and improve ecosystem-based adaptation and community-based adaptation in their national policies, including those on climate change adaptation, food security and sustainable management of forests, according to their national circumstances and priorities. In the resolution, countries are urged to incorporate indigenous, local and traditional knowledge systems and practices as one of the major resources for adapting to climate change.

Countries have made tremendous efforts to adapt to the impacts of climate change, using artificial infrastructure with little consideration of the contribution of ecosystems which are nature’s infrastructure. Ecosystems-based Adaptation (EBA) can augment on-going efforts. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment reported that 60% of ecosystems assessed were in decline, jeopardising their ability to provide the essential goods and services humans rely on.

Studies have shown that a global investment in ecosystems restoration of USD 45 billion could provide benefits of an estimated USD 5 trillion annually. Investing USD 20 billion to reduce deforestation will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as providing employment.
The Flood and Drought Management Tools project, executed by DHI and The International Water Association, aims to support land, water and urban area managers operating in transboundary river basins in recognizing and addressing the implications of the increased frequency, magnitude and unpredictability of F&D events.

The project will develop methodologies and tools to incorporate information about F&D and likely climatic scenarios into IWRM planning, Water Safety Plans, and Transboundary Diagnostic Analyses (TDAs). The outcome will enable stakeholders to compile information, with models, indicators and existing planning methods and to develop future planning scenarios that are robust and resilient and pragmatic on both a transboundary basin scale and local scale for urban and industrial areas.

The F&D Management Project is being implemented from 2014-2018, and is supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) trust fund, with the United Nations Environment Programme as the implementing agency. DHI and the International Water Association are the executing organisations.

For more information: http://goo.gl/wCEdM

Tools project contact Oluf Zeilund Jessen (DHI) at ozj@dhigroup.com

The UNEP-GEF Climate Change Adaptation work consists of a portfolio of projects funded by the Least Developed Countries Fund, Special Climate Change Fund and the Adaptation Fund which support the implementation of concrete adaptation measures in Least Developed Countries and other developing countries.

The total grant value of the approved portfolio stands at US$120M which reflects an exponential growth of support provided by UNEP to LDCs and other developing country member states during the 5th cycle of the GEF that has just closed. This portfolio is well aligned with the GEF strategy for adaptation focal area while supporting the implementation of UNEP’s Mid-Term Strategy and its Programme of Work.

The unit is currently developing PIFs for NAPA implementation projects in Rwanda, Laos, Uganda, Nepal. The Rwanda PIF will focus on advancing the country’s national adaptation planning (NAP) process in addition to implementing elements of Rwanda’s NAPA.

In addition, the unit is focused on mainstreaming NAPs into to national development planning processes. Currently, a Global Support Programme for assisting LDCs to advance on their NAP process, funded through the LDCF and jointly implemented with UNDP, is nearly in mid-term of its implementation. In addition to this global support programme, an SCCF-funded project on helping non-Annex 1 countries under the UNFCCC that are not LDCs to advance on their NAPs, is in project preparation phase.
Adaptation Opportunities and New Funding

The GEF portfolio has received numerous new Project Implementation Form (PIFs) approvals. The development of the following full project proposals are underway following their approval by GEF:

- **LDCF: Tanzania**: Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Rural Resilience.
- **LDCF: Regional**: Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the Asia-Pacific region.
- **LDCF: Gambia**: UNEP/UNDP: Strengthening Climate Services and Early Warning Systems in the Gambia for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change - 2nd Phase of the GOTG/GEF/UNEP LDCF NAPA Early Warning Project.
- **LDCF: Djibouti**: Implementing Adaptation Technologies in Fragile Ecosystems of Djibouti’s Central Plains project.
- **LDCF: Sudan**: Enhancing the Resilience of Communities Living in Climate Change Vulnerable Areas of Sudan using Ecosystem based Approaches to Adaptation (EbA).
- **LDCF: Comoros**: Building Climate Resilience through Rehabilitated Watersheds, Forests and Adaptive Livelihoods.
- **LDCF: Global**: Expanding the Ongoing Support to Least Developed Countries (LDC) with Country-driven Processes to Advance National Adaptation Plans (NAP).
- **LDCF: Tanzania**: Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Rural Resilience.
- **LDCF: Regional**: Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the Asia-Pacific region.

Click map of link herein to the interactive map.
23-27 June, Nairobi - Kenya: UNEA Meeting
Resolution/Decision 8: Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EBA)
23-27 June, Nairobi: The first United Nations Environmental Assembly adopted a resolution on Ecosystems Based Adaptation (EbA). In addition to requesting the Executive Director to provide support to countries, the decision encourages all countries to include and improve EbA and community-based adaptation in their national policies incorporating the indigenous, local, and traditional knowledge systems. http://www.unep.org/unea

14-17 April, Addis Ababa - Ethiopia: Anglophone and Francophone Africa LDCs
As part of the global LDCF-funded UNEP project entitled ‘Assisting Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with country-driven processes to advance National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)’, 2 regional training workshops were held for Anglophone African LDCs (14-17 April) and Francophone African LDCs (21-24 April) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The workshops brought together delegates from Ministries of Environment, planning and Finance from more than 30 LDC’s in Africa to help advance their NAP process. Further information can be found here http://goo.gl/ybNQtB

9 June - Bonn: Adaptation Knowledge Day V
Adaptation Knowledge Day V, 9 June 2014, Bonn, Germany: Adaptation Knowledge Day, annual event organized by UNEP Global Adaptation Network took place alongside the SBI and SBSTA meetings of the UNFCCC in Bonn, Germany. The theme of the event was Adaptation Gaps, with three sessions on Knowledge, Financial and Technological Gaps. The speakers were from the Adaptation Committee, the UNFCCC, UNDP, IUCN, UNEP-Risoe Center, CTCN, Japan, the GEF and others. More information via link http://goo.gl/aHHMeX

24-25 June, Copenhagen - Denmark: Global GAP Report
UNEP Global Adaptation Gap Report -update (24-25 June Copenhagen): Lead authors and steering committee members met in Copenhagen on 24-25 June to discuss of the report and agree on timeline and actions required to prepare the full draft version that will go out for external review in late August. Good progress was made on establishing a common understanding of adaptation gap approach and methodology and on detailing chapter content. Next physical meeting will take place September 22-23 in Copenhagen.
23 - 25 May, Cusco - Peru: World Mountain Forum

World Mountain Forum 2014: The World Mountain Forum (WMF), a gathering space for science, policy makers and practitioners of Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) around the world, was held in Cusco, Peru on May 23rd - 25th 2014. The objective was to create a space to discuss and exchange experiences on topics related to climate change, family farming, mountain communities and mountain cities, in the framework of working in mountains. For more click link http://goo.gl/2NyRSx

4 - 15 June, Bonn - Germany: Durban Platform

UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for implementation (SBI), the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) was held in Bonn, Germany from 4-15 June 2014 in Bonn, Germany

2-3 June, Phnom Penh - Cambodia: PSC

The second Project Steering Committee meeting for an Adaptation Fund project in Cambodia entitled "Enhancing Climate Change Resilience of Rural Community Living in Protected Areas in Cambodia" was held from 2-3 June 2014, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

12-16 May, Fortaleza, Ceara - Brazil: 3rd International Futures Adaptation Conference

The conference focused on climate impacts and adaptation options. It brings together scientists, decision makers, and practitioners from developed and developing countries to share research approaches, methods and results. It explored the way forward in a world where impacts are increasingly observable and adaptation actions are increasingly required.

6-10 May, Jinghong - China: Annual Project Steering Committee & M&E Workshop

The Annual Project Steering Committee meeting and M&E training workshop for the GEF China SCCF project entitled "Project Enhancing Capacity, Knowledge and Technology Support to Building Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Developing Countries" was held from 6-10 May in Jinghong, China. An important outcome of the Monitoring and Evaluation workshop and the Project Steering Committee meeting was the decision to develop a common framework for continuous data collection at the project sites, which will be used to inform the project’s long-term research as well as increase the efficiency of ongoing Monitoring and Evaluation of the project’s indicators and targets.

16-18 June, Bogor - Indonesia: International Science-Policy Workshop on Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation

Over 70 researchers, policymakers and practitioners from 30 countries were brought together to explore how ecosystems management could be applied for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) and guide development policies in the 21st century.
LDCF/SCCF Council and assembly was held from 25-30 May 2014. The meeting was held in Cancun.

UNEP hosted the fifth PROVIA Interim Scientific Steering Committee meeting in Fortaleza, Brazil. The Committee reviewed PROVIA 2013-2014 workplan, and developed the work-plan for 2014-2015, called PROVIA priority activities for 2014-2015, which is broadly divided into three areas:

i) research activities: advancing policy-relevant research on VIA,
ii) engagement activities: coordinating and facilitating dissemination and practical application of research, and
iii) development and training activities.

The Committee requested activities and plans to disseminate two reports that PROVIA has published in 2013:

- Research Priorities on Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation: Responding to the Climate Change Challenge
- PROVIA Guidance on Assessing Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change

Link to full extract  http://goo.gl/S92I9d

25 June, Nairobi - Kenya : PROVIA Climate Science for Adaptation Policy

Saleemul Huq, Co-chair of PROVIA Interim Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) welcomed and thanked all the participants. On behalf of UNEP and PROVIA family, he extended gratitude to Mr. Michel Rentenaar from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands, and the European Commission for their support to co-host the International Adaptation Futures Conference in 2016.

Link to report  http://goo.gl/UmpTMy

25-30 May : Cancun - Mexico: LDCF/SCCF Council

LDCF/SCCF Council and assembly was held from 25-30 May 2014. the meeting was held in Cancun.

24 June, Nairobi - Kenya : MOOC Launch

UNEP launched the MOOC on Disasters and Ecosystems: Resilience in a Changing Climate during the first United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) held in Nairobi. Organized by UNEP in collaboration with the Cologne University of Applied Sciences and Center for Natural Resources Development, the launch event was attended by country delegates, civil society and students. The MOOC is open to all individuals free of charge and will be ready in end October 2014. For more information regarding the MOOC, write to the.mooc@unep.org

Mahesh Pradhan, UNEP, presented the Master’s Course on Ecosystem-based DRR, developed by PEDRR and CNRD in 2013, and is the basis of the MOOC

Sylvia Heuchemer, Vice-President, Academic Affairs, Cologne University of Applied Science (CUAS), delivered a video message
Planned or Upcoming Meetings

PROVIA 2014 Nomination Call

PROVIA Nominating Committee welcomes both self-nominations and nominations by a third party to submit qualified names for consideration. A completed nomination package must be received by 10 August 2014, 12:00 noon Nairobi time. Please refer to the Nomination call in order to be considered. click here

4-7 August, Bonn - Germany : LDC Expert Group (LED)

26th Meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), to be held from 4-7 August 2014 in Bonn, Germany

23 September, New York - USA : UN climate summit 2014

Climate Summit 2014 provides a unique opportunity for leaders to champion an ambitious vision, anchored in action that will enable a meaningful global agreement in 2015.

8-10 October, Marrakesh - Morocco: 4th Climate Change & Development in Africa conference

The conference (CCDA-IV) will be convened on the theme: “Africa Can Feed Africa Now: Translating Climate Knowledge into Action”. http://www.uneca.org/ccda4

28 - 30 September, London, UK : ARC3-2 Midterm

Authors Workshop

1-12 December, Lima - Peru : UNFCCC COP 20

The 20th session of the Conference of the Parties and the 10th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. COP 20/CMP 10 will be hosted by the Government of Peru http://www.cop20lima.org/

29 September- 3 October, Bonn - Germany : 6th Adaptation Committee

6th meeting of the Adaptation Committee meeting.

1-3 October, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia : Climate Change Adaptation Forum 2014

Over 500 climate change adaptation practitioners will join public and private sector officials and top experts at the 4th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum.

With over 150 speakers and 30 sessions, the Forum is among the biggest climate change adaptation events in the region. Three Forums have been co-organised by the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) since 2010.

24 - 27 September, Bogota, Colombia: Adaptation Knowledge Gap - Priority setting workshop

UNEP is collaborating with the UNFCCC secretariat in implementing the Adaptation Knowledge Initiative, an action pledge UNEP has made under the Nairobi work programme. The Initiative aims to prioritise and catalyse responses to strategic adaptation knowledge needs in the context of various sub-regional and thematic domains. For this initiative a priority-setting workshop will take place in Bogota, Colombia. The purpose of this priority-setting workshop is to identify a set of prioritized adaptation knowledge gaps and a preliminary list of response actions and associated institutions for addressing these priority gaps
Coastal EbA: Natural lines of Defence

**Natural lines of defence**

Seychelles will soon embark on a coastal ecosystem-based adaptation project. **What does it all mean?**

By the end of the 21st century, a crescent standing at Saint-Vincent beach may be knee-deep in water, if projections come to pass. Scientists predict that sea levels may rise by up to 1 metre in Seychelles, and they will come hand-in-hand with storm surges, water shortages, and more droughts. One way of mitigating such risks is to go for nature-based approaches that make use of and benefit the resilience of ecosystems found across the archipelago. This was the focus of a workshop that opened yesterday as part of a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) project on Coastal Ecosystem-based Adaptation (Coastal EbA). Funded partly by the European Commission, it will be implemented over the next two and a half years to better manage and restore ecosystems around Mahé and the other islands.

Ecosystem-based adaptation is essentially the opposite of hard engineered adaptation—such as seawalls. Launching the workshop yesterday, Minister of Environment, Ralph Perotiv, gave three locally-rooted examples of ecosystems that should be protected as as to build defenses against the knock-on effects of climate change. For one example, take coral reefs, which suffered a branching event in 1998. Later studies found that they play an important role in headlands formation and coastal stability, he said. Mr Perotiv then turned to wetlands, noting that Seychelles has seen through a "turn" of decades developing on and draining marshlands, culminating in heavy flooding experienced in La Digue over the last two years. Such heavy construction is "undoing" natural pathways which play a very important role in circulating water and regulating flooding he explained. Deforestation is also believed to have contributed to the severe landslide known as "Lumbador" in 1862, as cutting down trees affects the stability of steep slopes, he said.

Speaking to the gathered participants, UNEP Project Manager, Stuart Crane said that Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have a "huge lack of adaptive capacity and services that ecosystems can provide to challenge posed by climate change." The main objectives of the project, he said would be to: first, to assist Seychelles in maintaining tropical-based coastal ecosystems, and to enhance regional capacity in the area. UNEP has worked on ecosystem-based approaches across mountains, dry-land and urban environments, but this will be the first time it is applied to small island states. "It's a flagship programme," Mr Crane said, that is being piloted in Seychelles and its sister island of Grenada. For Seychelles, which faces severe financial constraints in implementing its national adaptation strategy, the project is also "valuable for being the "most cost-effective'' adaptation approach globally according to the UNEP Project Document. Indeed, recent studies have shown that every USD 1 (SBD 1.25) spent restoring a mangrove area is more than three times as effective as a dollar spent building a seawall. It may be no option Seychelles simply can't afford to ignore.

Download via link [http://goo.gl/GiqHaI](http://goo.gl/GiqHaI)

Africa Adaptation Newsletter: 7th Issue

**Africa Adaptation Newsletter**

**A collection of Factsheets, reports and brochures for EbA Practices from NEPAL**

A collection of publications from the NEPAL program can be found on link - www.ebaflagship.org/resources/publications/reports
Click individual publication to view *(you will require internet connectivity)*

Download via link [http://goo.gl/F0Eerz](http://goo.gl/F0Eerz)
Anna Kontorov joins the CCAU/GEF team starting September after return from maternal leave and will be handling GEF related projects.

Jessica Holterhof recently joined the CCA Unit as a secondment from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in Geneva, Switzerland, where she works as an Associate Expert for Climate Observations in the marine and terrestrial domains in the Secretariat of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).

Acronyms:

- **DEPI**: Division of Environmental Policy Implementation
- **CCATEB**: Climate Change Adaptation and Terrestrial Ecosystems Branch
- **CCAU**: Climate Change Adaptation Unit
- **GEF-CCA**: Global Environment Facility – Climate change adaptation
- **FMEB**: Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch
- **PCDMB**: Post Conflict and Disaster Management Branch
- **IEMP**: International Ecosystem Management Partnership
- **DTIE**: Division of Technology, Industry and Economics
- **DEWA**: Division of Early Warning & Assessment
- **DELC**: Division of Environment Law and Conventions
- **ROWA**: Regional Office for West Asia
- **ROAP**: Regional Office for Asia Pacific
- **ROA**: Regional Office for Africa
- **ROE**: Regional Office for Europe
- **RONA**: Regional Office for North America
- **ROLAC**: Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
- **WCMI**: World Conservation Monitoring Center – UNEP
- **RISOE**: UNEP Risoe – UNEP collaborating center
- **GRID-A**: GRID Arendal – UNEP collaborating center
- **AF**: Adaptation Fund

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