



AGENDA REGIONAL WORKSHOP

“Mainstreaming ecosystem based approaches to climate change into biodiversity conservation planning”

1. Workshop Background

Vietnam is strongly impacted by climate change. Rising sea levels, changing rainfall patterns and increasing temperatures will have adverse effects on the ecosystems and natural resources in Vietnam. Sustainable use of natural resources, biodiversity conservation, and climate change are considered to be prioritized areas for the Vietnam Government, and there is a need to strengthen the institutional capacity to address these issues in Vietnam.

The National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Legislature XII, 4th session adopted the Biodiversity Law on November 13th, 2008 to conserve and develop natural resource in a sustainable way.

An important mission is to develop the Biodiversity Conservation Planning (BCP). This has many difficulties regulated in the Biodiversity Law of Vietnam. The Document no. 3353/VPCP-HTQT of the Prime Minister dated on May 31st, 2010 assigned the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) to develop the BCP until 2020 with the vision to 2030 submitting to the Prime Minister for approval by the end of 2013. It will be of key importance that biodiversity conservation planning also includes strategies from climate change adaptation and mitigation. The planning should propose activities and solutions that will preserve and enhance biodiversity and provide opportunities for adaptation and mitigation measures.

An Ecosystem-based approach (EBA) is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way that helps people and biodiversity adapt to the adverse impacts of a changing environment, including climate change. The mainstreaming of EBA to climate change into the BCP provides a cost-effective way to improve the effectiveness management of natural resources in Vietnam, which can generate social, economic, and cultural co-benefits and help to maintain

ecosystem resilience. EBA has been introduced in Vietnam and used in a few projects at small and medium scales and has achieved good results. However, there is no example for mainstreaming EBA to climate change into a plan development process.

Within the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) under the Partnership Driven Cooperation Programme (PDC) between the Governments of Sweden and Vietnam, the Sida funded project “Mainstreaming an ecosystem based approach to climate change into biodiversity conservation planning in Vietnam” has been implemented between June 2012 and October 2013 by the three partners; (i) Biodiversity Conservation Agency (BCA)/Vietnam Environment Protection (VEA)/Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE); (ii) World Wide Fund for Nature; and (iii) Stockholm University (SU). One of the important activities under the project framework is to organize the international workshop to share results with national and international partners; and discuss possibilities on applying this approach in GMS countries.

The workshop will be organized by VEA/MONRE, WWF and the GMS Environment Operation Center (EOC)/ADB to share lessons learned and seek opportunities for future partnership with more actors for the scaling up of project results and impacts.

2. Objective:

The objective of the workshop is to share results and experiences on how to mainstream an ecosystem based approach for climate change adaptation and mitigation into biodiversity conservation and development planning in Vietnam with national and international stakeholders and to discuss opportunities for regional cooperation with GMS countries.

3. Outputs

Expected outputs of the workshop are:

- The workshop’s participants to be aware of the EBA concept and methodology and how to mainstream an EBA into policy making processes;
- The role of ecosystem services and biodiversity in climate change adaptation and mitigation is discussed and shared;
- International and practical experiences on how to apply an EBA in biodiversity conservation and mainstreaming and for policy making processes, shared with the workshop’s participants;

- Highlights of EBA project results implemented in Vietnam shared with national and international stakeholders;
- Capacity building on EBA and relevant knowledge for participants improved;
- Long term partnership and cooperation on biodiversity conservation with Swedish and international partners expanded.

4. Detailed agenda

Day 1: 15 October 2013		
Time	Contents	Responsibility
<i>Chaired by MONRE; ADB; WWF and Sida</i>		
08.00-08.30	Registration	VEA/WWF
08.30-08.45	Introduction on workshop background, objective and participants	VEA/MONRE
08.45-09.30	Welcome/ Opening speeches	MONRE/ADB/Sida/WWF
09.30-09.35	Introduction on workshop agenda	VEA
Session 1: Experience in mainstreaming ecosystem based approaches to climate change into biodiversity conservation planning in Vietnam <i>Chaired by MONRE; WWF and ADB</i>		
09.35-09.55	Introduction to ecosystem based approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation	Ms. Raji Dhital, WWF
09.55-10.15	Overview of the Sida-funded EBA Project results	Huynh Thi Mai VEA/MONRE
10.15-10.30	<i>Photo Group</i>	
10.30-10.50	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.50-11.20	Piloting national ecosystems mapping, vulnerability assessment and valuation of ecosystem services under potential future scenarios	Hoang Viet, WWF
11.20-11.50	Experiences of ecosystem based adaptation in Soc Trang	Dr. Klaus Schmitt Chief TA GIZ in Vietnam
11.50-12.30	<i>Plenary discussion</i>	
12.30-13.30	<i>Lunch</i>	

Session 2: Current experience in ecosystem based approaches in GMS countries <i>Chaired by MONRE; WWF and ADB</i>		
13.30-13.50	Subject to be confirmed	Cambodia
13.50-14.10	Subject to be confirmed	China
14.10-14.30	Status of Ecosystem in Lao PDR	Mr. Sounadeth Soukchaleun MoNRE, Lao PDR
14.30-14.50	Subject to be confirmed	Myanmar
14.50-15.10	Subject to be confirmed	Thailand
15.10-15.30	EBA cooperation in GMS countries	Ornsaran Manuamorn, EOC/ADB
15.30-16.00	Coffee break	
16.00-17.30	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 2 group discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenges in EBA application, CC and biodiversity in GMS countries: capacity, methodology, policy framework, etc. - Cooperation opportunities: information and experience sharing, policy dialogue, transboundary collaboration, etc. 	
17.30-18.00	First day workshop wrap up	
Day 2: 16 October 2013		
Session 3: International experience on ecosystem based approaches to address climate change <i>Chaired by MONRE; ADB and WWF</i>		
08.30-09.00	International experience on ecosystem based approaches to address climate change	Mr. Eric Wikramanayake ADB Consultant
09.00-09.30	Ecosystem based approaches and mainstreaming in Europe	Dr. Jana Juhbandt, ISPONRE
09.30-10.00	State of the evidence-base for ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation	Mr. Robert Munroe UNEP/WCMC
10.00-10.30	Coffee break	
10.30-11.00	Ecosystem services - livelihood links	Steven Orchard University of Leeds, UK
11.00-12.00	Plenary discussion	
12.00-13.30	Lunch	

PARALEL SESSIONS		
Session 4a: Mechanisms and frameworks for mainstreaming ecosystem based approaches to address climate change <i>Chaired by MONRE and ADB</i>		
13.30-14.00	Guiding principle for mainstreaming EBA into national policy making process	Dr. Nguyen Van Tai ISPONRE/MONRE
14.00-14.30	Operational framework for ecosystem- based adaptation in Laos and Vietnam	Raji Dhital, WWF
14.30-15.00	Mainstreaming an ecosystem based approach into biodiversity conservation planning: guidelines and a case study in Ben Tre province	Tran Thi Mai Huong, WWF
15.00-15.30	Maintaining ecosystem services for sustainable aquaculture development in Vietnam	Ngo Tien Chuong, WWF
15.30-16.00	Ecosystem Risk Assessment	Than Thi Hien, MCD
Session 4b: Financial tools for maintaining and enhancing ecosystem services <i>Chaired by MONRE and WWF</i>		
13.30-14.00	PES for wetland ecosystem services in Vietnam - lessons learned from Mui Ca Mau National Park and international examples	Linus Hasselström Enveco Environmental Economics Consultancy Ltd. Sweden
14.00-14.30	PES experience in Lam Dong and Son La provinces, Vietnam	Dr. Nguyen Chi Thanh FORWET
14.30-15.00	PES experience in GMS and Vietnam (Quang Nam)	Lauren Sorkin ADB Vietnam Resident Mission
15.00-15.30	REDD+ in Vietnam	Dr. Pham Manh Cuong MARD
15.30-16.00	The tool kit for rapid assessment of ecosystem services at sites of biodiversity conservation importance	Mr. Robert Munroe UNEP/WCMC

16.00-17.00	Group discussion	
PLENARY SESSION		
17.00-17.40	Group presentation	
17.40-18.00	Wrap up and closing	MONRE/WWF/ADB

Key questions for sessions

Session 1: Experience in mainstreaming ecosystem based approaches to climate change into biodiversity conservation planning in Vietnam

- What do we understand about ecosystem based approaches to climate change?
- Why are ecosystem based approaches to climate change important for Vietnam?
- What are the next steps for scaling-up ecosystem based approaches to climate change, based on the achievements of the Sida-funded EBA project and related experience in Vietnam?

Session 2: Current experience in ecosystem based approaches in GMS countries

- What is the GMS-wide experience on mainstreaming EBA to climate change into biodiversity conservation planning?
- How can knowledge and expertise be shared and exchanged more effectively and at different scales (local, national, regional) within the GMS?
- How can bi- and multi-lateral donor agencies and the GMS Core Environment programme be enhanced to more effectively promote and support ecosystem based approaches to climate change?

Session 3: International experience on ecosystem based approaches to address climate change

- How have the ecosystem based approaches to climate change been applied in the GMS region and more widely?
- What are international experience and lessons particularly relevant to the GMS?

Session 4a: Mechanisms and frameworks for mainstreaming ecosystem based approaches to address climate change

- What are the successes and lessons learned to date from mainstreaming ecosystem based approaches to climate change into national strategies and policies?

Session 4b: Financial tools for maintaining and enhancing ecosystem services

- What are the relative merits and constraints of the various financial instruments being used to secure natural capital and their associated ecosystem services?
- What are the lessons learned to date from applying financial instruments to secure natural capital and their associated ecosystem services?