

On behalf of:



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany



Implemented by:



Strategic Mainstreaming of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Viet Nam (EbA)

Project name	Strategic Mainstreaming of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Viet Nam (EbA)
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear safety (BMUB)
Project region	National level and north-central regional provinces of Ha Tinh and Quang Binh
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
Implementing partner	Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE)
Other government partners	The Provincial People's Committees, the Departments of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE), Departments of Planning and Investment (DPI), Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) of Ha Tinh and Quang Binh, VNFOREST, The Vietnamese General Department of Land Administration, Vietnam Environment Administration, Department of Climate Change
Duration	2014 – 2019, with GIZ support ending 2018

Context

Viet Nam is one of the countries most seriously exposed to the impacts of climate change in a global context. The annual losses caused by consequences of climate change are estimated to lie at around 15 billion US Dollars (DARA climate vulnerability monitoring, 2012), or approximately 5% of Viet Nam's GDP.

Viet Nam is considered a biodiversity hotspot with a large share of endemic flora and fauna. On the one hand, impacts of climate change threaten this diversity, however on the other hand, intact capable ecosystems can contribute to climate adaptation and enhance the resilience of the population concerned. Land use changes, caused by steady economic growth and a growing population, are main driving forces for biodiversity loss.

The Vietnamese government has determined clear objectives for climate protection and adaptation to climate change, as well as for protection and sustainable use of biodiversity. This is reflected in a series of laws and decrees, ratification of corresponding international agreements and participation in international initiatives.

The ecosystem-based adaptation approach is increasingly put on the agenda as an alternative or supplement to other adaptation measures. Regeneration and preservation of mangrove forests as natural and cost-effective forms of coastal protection for instance are applied in practical terms.

However, a concrete starting point for the systemic anchoring of ecosystem based solutions in policy and society („Mainstreaming“) is absent. Furthermore, the development of effective instruments and programmatic approaches for the implementation and monitoring of the contribution of ecosystems towards adaptation is needed. The GIZ-supported project 'Strategic Mainstreaming of Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Viet Nam' was set up to support Viet Nam's efforts in achieving integration of ecosystem-based solutions into both policy and society.

Our approach

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders, at national and provincial level, to strategically mainstream EbA into the national climate adaptation policy framework. Capacity building in order to achieve continuous implementation of EbA measures on the ground is also a priority. The project provides technical support to Vietnamese partners seeking national and international finance possibilities, as well as providing a platform to share relevant experiences and lessons learned in regional and international forums.



Workshops are only one field of activity of the EbA project

Core areas

The project pursues activities in four main areas:

1. Awareness raising and capacity building for stakeholders at national and provincial levels. These stakeholders should come to recognize the advantages of ecosystem-based adaptation and acquire the capacities to mainstream and implement them.
2. Scaling up: the project is developing a solid base for the further use of ecosystem-based adaptation measures. This draws on an evaluation of existing experiences as well as a pilot measure that includes the development of technical instruments, guidelines, manuals and monitoring approaches.
3. Integration of ecosystem-based adaptation into the national climate adaptation policy and the relevant legal framework (with a focus on land-use and development planning), and identification of national and international sources of financing.
4. Processing of experiences gained through specific measures and pilot interventions; support for the partners and stakeholders in sharing the knowledge they gain from such activities by way of national and international networks and platforms.

Impacts

The project aims to create the following long-term impacts:

- **Contribution to adaptation to climate change:**
Through the project's support, innovative and effective methods, strategies and policy guidelines for supporting and implementing ecosystem-based adaptation are developed.
- **Mainstreaming of EbA into planning:**
The EbA project has been and still is involved in the production and revision of multiple guidelines and legal frameworks, such as Climate Change Response Action Plans, the Land Use Plan of Ha Tinh Province, and the integration of EbA into Vietnam's Strategic Environmental Assessment.



Pilot activities in the provinces

- **Awareness raising and capacity building:**
Multiple training courses on climate change, ecosystem-based adaptation and its integration into development planning have been conducted for different target groups, reaching from local farmers to ministerial decision makers.
- **Vulnerability Assessment:**
For upscaling purposes, a vulnerability assessment for social-ecological systems was conducted in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh province. A team of consultants identified more than 70 social-ecological systems, and suggested EbA measures for the ten most important ones.
- **Pilot measures of ecosystem-based adaptation:**
In Ha Tinh and Quang Binh, pilot activities of ecosystem-based adaptation started end of 2016. The objective is to improve the resilience and livelihoods of villagers in a mountainous area and a coastal protection forest ecosystem.
- **Multiplier impact:**
To make EbA more known, the project has been presenting the approach at multiple international conferences. Furthermore, a website on EbA has been developed – visit climatechange.vn/eba to learn more!

