

Community-Based Adaptation

A UNDP/GEF Project, in partnership with the GEF/SGP

Climate Change Adaptation in Action



The Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) programme supports community-driven climate change adaptation projects through small-scale grants and leverages lessons emerging from projects to catalyze change in national and sub-national policy in support of systematic adaptation. The CBA project also promotes global learning on community-based adaptation through an evidence-based approach based on project-derived lessons and accomplishments. The CBA project is a partnership between UNDP, the GEF, the GEF/Small Grants Programme, and the United Nations Volunteers.

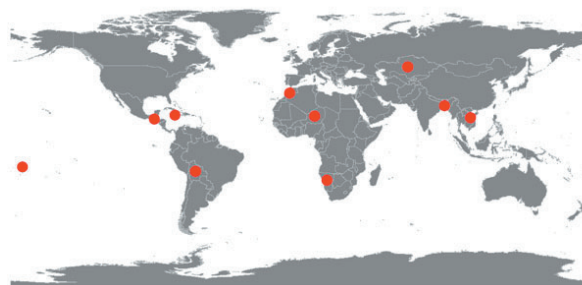
People in small communities are the most severely affected by climate change impacts, but are often the least equipped to cope and adapt. While the need for action at the community level is large and growing, there are only a few practical examples of support for climate change adaptation at the community level.

UNDP-GEF's CBA programme helps to address this gap, piloting tangible support for adaptation at the community level in 10 countries. The initiative will support 8-20 projects in each country, leading to approximately 125 projects by 2012. Projects will be driven by the adaptation priorities of communities, while national-level project portfolios will be leveraged to advocate for systematic policy changes needed to reduce vulnerability to climate hazards.

UNDP's approach to Climate Change Adaptation is ultimately about doing development differently—integrating climate change risk management into MDG-focused development projects, plans, and strategies. Thus, CBA projects add an *adaptation layer* to community-based environment/development initiatives.

Implementation Status (July 2008)

CBA began implementation officially in February 2008. National strategies have been developed in each of the pilot countries, and community outreach activities have begun. Several projects are under preparation by NGOs and community-based organizations, and CBA expects to begin implementation of 10-15 projects by the end of the year.



PROJECT STATISTICS

Cost: USD \$4.5 million (+ co-financing)
\$20K – \$50K per project (+ co-financing)

Time: 5 Years, 2008 – 2012

Scope: 8-20 projects per country
Approximately 125 community projects globally

10 Pilot Countries:

- Bangladesh • Bolivia • Namibia • Niger
- Guatemala • Jamaica • Samoa • Viet Nam
- Kazakhstan • Morocco

Key Partners:

- UNDP • GEF/SGP
- The Global Environment Facility

Project Profiles

Jamaica: Sustainable Agriculture for Safer Slopes

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Climate change projections for Jamaica include increased intensity of hurricanes, tropical storms, and rainfall events, as well as increased intensity of drought. In Jamaica's Blue Mountains, these combined impacts threaten to worsen erosion, increase the risk of landslides, and upset the cool microclimate that local farmers rely on to grow high-value produce like coffee. CBA is supporting the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust to work with farmers to pilot adapted agricultural practices that will be more resilient in the face of climate change impacts and reduce risks of erosion and landslide.



Climate change will worsen landslide and erosion risks in Jamaica's Blue Mountains.



Climate change impacts contribute to coastal erosion in Samoa.

Samoa: Vaovai Village Coastal Adaptation Project

Grant Amount: \$26,000

The vast majority of Samoa's population lives within 1 kilometer of the coast, and faces significant climate change threats stemming from stronger cyclones and storm surges. However, natural coastal defenses are being stressed by the combination of human pressures like mangrove deforestation, and climate-related pressures like beach erosion and coral bleaching. CBA is supporting the Vaovai Village Council of Chiefs to rehabilitate natural coastal defenses and work with government to develop and implement a climate-resilient coastal resources management plan to guide development and protect the community from increased risks, while also protecting key habitats for endangered species and promoting local ecotourism.

Niger: Agropastoral Adaptation in Rombou Commune

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Part of the African Sahel, Niger has always had a variable climate. However, climate change is exacerbating cycles of flood and drought, while increasing overall aridity and stressing the dryland ecosystems upon which rural people rely. CBA is supporting the NGO Action pour la Gestion Intégrée des Ressources (AGIR) to work with agropastoral communities to develop climate-resilient alternatives to present practices, which are becoming increasingly risky. Project activities will include piloting, demonstration, and community training in forage cultivation, dune fixation, and erosion reduction measures around increasingly fragile water points.



CBA Niger focal region.



Cattle drinking from seasonal waterpoints (Oshanas) in Namibia.

Namibia: Reducing Climate Change Risks in Agriculture in the Omusati Region

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Namibia is naturally the driest country in Africa, with a naturally variable climate and significant baseline water shortage issues. Scientists project that climate change will further increase this aridity while increasing the intensity of inter-annual variability and intra-seasonal weather impacts—with less overall rainfall and greater intensity of individual rainfall events. These impacts will stress crops, worsen erosion, reduce groundwater recharge, and increase the risk of floods—threatening the livelihoods of agricultural communities. In response, a local community-based organization OIKE (Omalundu, Imuna Komitiye Yelungameno) will pilot agroforestry, water harvesting, and other measures to increase water use efficiency, improve availability, and reduce erosion and flood risks.