



Regional Contest

Demonstrating evidence of Ecosystem-based Adaptation: Cases in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Introduction

UN Environment and its Regional Portal for Technology Transfer and Action on Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean - REGATTA, aims to strengthen the capacity and exchange of knowledge, technologies and experiences of adaptation and mitigation of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Practical Action (Soluciones Prácticas) is an international technical cooperation organization that works together with people in poverty seeking practical solutions to eradicate poverty through research, application and dissemination of appropriate technologies. Practical Action generates and disseminates knowledge on issues of climate change and development.

UN Environment REGATTA and Practical Action have identified adaptation to climate change as a priority line of work and recognize the important role of ecosystems in actions against climate change, thus promoting ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) initiatives as an effective option for adaptation of the most vulnerable communities. With this consideration was established the [Community of Practice EbA](#).

The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are particularly vulnerable to the risks associated with climate change. The impact of these risks on communities and ecosystems varies by geography and may include longer and more severe dry seasons, increasing drought and water scarcity for agriculture, heat and water stresses for livestock and forest fires during the summer months. More erratic and non-seasonal rains can increase flooding, landslides and soil erosion. A serious threat to coastal countries is raising sea level combined with larger storm surges that cause coastal erosion and alter the salinity of coastal lands.

As a response to climate change, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are actively seeking to develop adaptation measures with ecosystem approach that are resistant to climate-related risks and stressors and to make efficient use of the limited available natural resources. In this regard, efforts are being made to develop, identify, promote and disseminate ecosystem-based adaptation practices to reduce vulnerability and increase the resilience of communities and ecosystems in the region.

For these reasons, UN Environment REGATTA and Practical Action are interested in documenting good examples of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) where implementing EbA technologies and practices contribute to adaptation to climate change.

2. The Contest

Practical Action, in collaboration with UN Environment – REGATTA, launches the contest titled "Demonstrating evidence on ecosystem - based adaptation: Cases in Latin America and the Caribbean.

This regional contest aims to identify successful cases of innovative and replicable EbA technologies or practices that contribute to the resilience and adaptation of communities and ecosystems to climate change.

The contest is open to any public, private or civil society organization working to improve adaptation to climate change.

2.1 Objective

The objective of this regional competition is to document and disseminate successful stories on the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation technologies and practices and then to raise awareness and promote them in the Latin American and Caribbean region and beyond.

2.2 Eligibility

A. Countries: The competition is open to experiences in countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

B. Organizations: The competition is open to any organization or group working on adaptation to climate change. This includes NGOs, universities, government institutions, international organizations among others.

C. Technical areas: Ecosystem-based adaptation technologies and practices that respond directly to the risks of climate change.

D. Be a member of the [Community of Practice EbA](#).

E. In order to learn what is considered as effective EbA initiatives, it is advisable to refer to the recording of the webinar from Thursday, 2nd of March 2017: *How to strengthen evidence of effectiveness of ecosystem-based adaptation to inform policy*. The video (in English) is available here: [Webinar](#).

3. Contest process

The contest begins on **1st March, 2017** and participants can submit their case studies from this point until **20th April, 2017**.

Ten case studies will be selected to be included in the publication of the book: "Evidence on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: Cases in Latin America and the Caribbean"

3.1 Guidelines

The "Application Form" for describing the case study is provided at the end of this document for your reference. All fields on the registration form must be filled in with concise and verifiable information written in "simple" language. The text, tables and charts can be included in the document in Word format. Case studies should be written in Spanish or English.

3.2 Evaluation of case studies

The case studies will be evaluated by a four-member panel of judges consisting of a representative of Practical Solutions, a representative of UN Environment REGATTA and two independent international experts.

3.3 Selection criteria for the competition

To be eligible to participate in the contest, the case study must clearly identify the climate risk affecting technology or ecosystem-based adaptation practice. The case studies will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. The technology or practice complies with the principles of the EbA approach (10 points)
2. The implementation of EbA technology or practice has contributed to community and ecosystem adaptation by reducing climate risk (20 points)
3. The implementation of EbA technology or practice has shown that it improves ecosystems / services that are particularly important to the livelihoods of the most vulnerable communities (20 points)
4. The implementation of EbA technology or practice has the potential to be replicated or scaled-up (10 points)
5. The initiative is sustainable (socially, environmentally and economically) (10 points)
6. Demonstrates that it generates co-benefits (efficiency in water use, supports women and young people, etc.) (10 points)
7. Lessons learned and effective advice for other professionals (15 points)

8. Complete the complete registration form (5 points)

3.4 Announcement of winners and prizes

The winners of this contest will be notified by email within one month after the closing of the contest. Ten winners will be selected. Each will receive:

- Publication of his case study in the book: Showing Evidence around the Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: Cases in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Presentation and promotion of the case study via Webinar (in English and Spanish).
- Recognition of UN Environment REGATTA to the ten (10) best initiatives presented.

4. Contact for more information

Any questions regarding the contest and the application process you may contact Dr. Lili Ilieva: lili.ilieva@solucionespracticas.org.pe

5. Important dates

Activities	Dates
Announcement of the contest	1 st March
Deadline for receiving applications	20 th April
Announcement of finalists	22 nd May



CONTEST: "Demonstrating Evidence on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: Case Studies in Latin America and the Caribbean"

Application form

Maximum: 2800 words

Case Title:

Organization that presents the case study: *clearly indicate the name of the organization that presents the history and the type of organization it is (civil society, local government, international cooperation, among others).*

Contact person: *clearly indicate the name and title of the person who presents the case study, its address, telephone number and e-mail address.*

Location of the case study (100 words): *Where does the case take place (country, district, city, region, other important information, map if available)?*

Ecosystem (100 words): *In what type of ecosystem was the EbA practice implemented (mountain, marine-coastal areas, arid / semi-arid zones, jungle, etc.)?*

Background (150 words): *Provide a brief summary of the initial situation documented in the case study.*

Climate risk is being addressed: (250 words): *Clearly indicate the climatic risk faced by farmers and motivated the implementation of technology and / or practice.*

Risk related to climate change	Mark if applicable	Please describe what was happening. How did the risk in this area increased in the last decades? What impacts did this risk have?
Increase in climate variability		
Increased temperature		
Change in the availability of wáter and precipitation		
Increase in sea level and salinization of coastal land		
Increase in occurrence of floods		
Soil erosion		
Others (please indicate)		

Objective of the EbA case implemented or implemented (50 words): *Describe the general objective of the EbA initiative.*

Describe the implemented EbA technologies or practices (450 words): *clearly describe the EbA technologies and practices that were implemented to address climate risk. For how long has it been implemented?*

How does the EbA practice contribute to the adaptation / resilience of ecosystems and communities? (300 words): *Describe clearly how adaptation / resilience, both for ecosystems and the community, was improved through EbA technology or practice.*

How do you measure and monitor the impacts of your EbA initiative (200 words)? *Describe what type of indicators and monitoring system you have developed to document the impacts of EbA technology or practice.*

Does this case contribute to national and sub-national frameworks to improve long-term success for EbA initiatives? (150 words): *Indicate if the case seeks to influence the processes of specific policies and plans at local and national level - National Adaptation Plans; National Action Programs-NAPA, Sectoral Adaptation Plans, Conservation Plans, other adaptation plans and strategies.*

Results obtained (500 words): *Indicate the results or impacts that have been obtained through the implementation of EbA technology and practice and how this changed the initial situation described. What have been the generated co-benefits?*

Beneficiaries (200 words): *Indicate and describe the beneficiaries of the EbA technology and practice, indicate the number of people or families, including the number of women and young people, and specify who benefits from the technology and practice EbA.*

Lessons learned (450 words): *Describe the lessons learned from the implementation of EbA technology and / or practice? Lessons learned can be divided in two categories, but you may add a different category as well.*

Planning and implementation processes: *Describe lessons learned about the process of planning, implementation, monitoring of EbA technologies or practices.*

Policy impact: *Describe lessons learned about experience in engagement with decision makers / public policy.*

Links: *Please provide links to any available website for more information.*

Photos: *it is recommendable to include 2 or 3 photos if available on technologies, farms or beneficiaries. Please send to: lili.ilieva@solucionespracticas.org.pe*