

Title: *The Nature of the Climate and the Three Global Conditions Framework for Nature-Based Solutions*

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The UN Climate Summit on Nature-Based Solutions has the potential to be transformative by integrally linking climate change mitigation and adaptation with nature conservation. This important new agenda would be helped if it had a general framework for action that is grounded on some clear principles and practices.

I propose to offer some basic and easily understood science that demonstrates why nature conservation and restoration can be a first-class climate change adaptation and mitigation strategy (as explained in the article the “Nature of the Climate”, Locke and Mackey, 2009). I will also illustrate where the wide variety of carbon rich ecosystems are found around the world. But not every nature-based solution is appropriate everywhere. It depends on the conditions present.

Fortunately, we can map the world into three broad conditions for biodiversity conservation and natural solutions: cities and farms: shared landscapes; and large wild areas. Each condition requires a suite of conservation strategies specific to it ranging from protection to restoration. The Three Global Conditions for Biodiversity Conservation framework developed by a global team of scientists can guide which nature-based solutions are appropriate in each of those conditions. These conditions have been mapped at both global and national scales (the map from Locke et al in prep cannot be shared on-line as it is not yet published but I could share it with you for consideration).

Using a *Three Global Conditions Framework for Nature-Based Solutions* approach would help ensure that nature -based solutions are planned to provide mutual benefits for nature conservation and climate change adaptation and mitigation. Such a framework would also help to prevent inadvertent harm to biodiversity from well-intended climate actions. It could also serve as a guide for private actors doing natural solutions.

The Three Conditions framework is fit for use within existing UN Rio treaty architecture. It lends itself to being incorporated in Nationally Determined Contributions under the UNFCCC and in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity. It can also be used to set ambitious goals that recognize common but differentiated responsibilities in accordance with Rio Principle 7.