

MEKONG EBA SOUTH

Ecosystem-based Adaptation
in Thailand and Viet Nam

2023-2027



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Introducing climate-resilient agriculture interventions - including agroforestry, drip irrigation and drought-resilient crop varieties - to 1,000 community members.



Reconnecting river floodplains and promote flood-based agriculture to enhance floodplain ecosystem function and reduce flooding and drought.



Training 1,000 community members on adaptation solutions, including ecosystem-based adaptation, water management, and climate-resilient agriculture.



Restoring 930 hectares of important ecosystems in the Greater Mekong Sub-region.

PROJECT TITLE:

ENHANCING CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN THE GREATER MEKONG SUB-REGION THROUGH ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION IN THE CONTEXT OF SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

EXECUTING ENTITIES:



International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)



Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand



Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam

KEY TARGETS:

930

Hectares of valuable ecosystems restored

1,000

Community members trained to plan and implement adaptation interventions

54

Technical government staff trained on ecosystem-based adaptation practices and principles

FUNDING:

USD 7,000,000

From the Adaptation Fund



ADAPTATION FUND

UN 
environment
programme

INTRODUCTION

- The Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) crosses over six countries, including Thailand and Viet Nam, and supports 75 million people living who rely on its natural resources.
- Despite the critical importance of the ecosystems of the GMS, they face multiple threats that reduce their capacity to provide goods and services for local communities that depend on these ecosystems for livelihoods.
- This project is using Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) to combat drought and flood risk across the GMS, including rehabilitating forests, grasslands, riverbanks, and community forests.
- In addition, the project is building climate resilience by introducing climate-resilient agriculture, improved water management practices, a national adaptation strategy, and training programmes to build adaptation capacity.

CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

- The objective of the project is to help local populations adapt to climate change through **Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA)**, which refers to the holistic strategy of using nature-based solutions to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on people.
- The project is rehabilitating 930 hectares of **forest and grasslands**, and 200 hectares of **riverbanks** and community forests using multiuse climate-resilient tree species. This is helping improve groundwater infiltration and water quality, protecting the communities against flooding and drought.
- A **training course** is being developed to help 1,000 community members in planning and implementing adaptation interventions, including EbA approaches.
- Through the implementation of **climate-resilient agriculture** interventions - such as planting drought-resistant crop varieties, using 'climate-smart' agricultural techniques, and establishing multi-use home gardens - the project aims to diversify food and income generation.
- To reduce water scarcity, the project is mapping historical floodplains and reconnecting wetlands to **enhance groundwater infiltration** and reduce floods and droughts.
- To **enhance knowledge and awareness** of adaptation measures, the project is training 54 technical government staff members on EbA, conducting 3 regional training events, developing 3 policy briefs to advance the knowledge of adaptation in the region.

CLIMATE IMPACTS

- Climate change is leading to higher temperatures and changing rainfall patterns in the Young River Basin in Thailand and the Tram Chim National Park in Viet Nam, where communities rely on the local ecosystems for food production and livelihoods.
- Climate-induced droughts are causing water shortages, reducing food security, and decreasing agricultural production in the region.
- Heavy flooding from extreme rainfall events inundates agricultural land and distributes sediment over farmers' fields, causing declines in rice production and reducing their income.
- Deforestation and the unsustainable exploitation of ecosystems that have historically provided defences and buffers against the impacts of climate change is further compounding the climate challenge and putting communities at risk.

PROJECT LOCATION



The project is implemented in the Young River Basin in north-eastern Thailand (yellow) and the Tram Chim National Park in Vietnam's Mekong Delta Region (green).

RESOURCES

- [UNEP project page](#)
- [Climate adaptation resources & multimedia](#)
- [Adaptation Gap Report 2023](#)
- [Global EbA Fund](#)

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- The project is also developing a **national adaptation strategy** that incorporates the climate change interventions demonstrated through the project.
- A set of recommendations are being developed on how implementing climate adaptation interventions can strengthen **regional cooperation** and south-south collaboration.
- Finally, the project is establishing a well-defined **monitoring programme** to collect information on the cost-effectiveness of project interventions in the GMS.



ADAPTATION FUND

