

Message from Global Major Groups Stakeholder Forum on Ecosystem based Adaptation to Climate Change

1. We recognize Climate change challenges and developments in the fields of energy generation, agriculture production, overuse of resources, population growth, environmental pollution, and urban growth have a server impact on ecosystems. There is need to urgently tackle climate change challenge.
2. We recognize human kind depends on ecosystems services to meet its needs and therefore there is need to ensure availability continuity and equal access of these services.
3. We welcome the initiative of Uganda and Zimbabwe on putting forward the draft decision 7 on ecosystem based adaptation to climate change (EbA).
4. We affirm that Ecosystem-based approaches are crucial to reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts and increase communities' resilience. They are nature based solutions that are cost effective and connects communities with nature. Ecosystem-based adaptation approach includes strengthening natural values and economic activities in the most vulnerable territories, valuing tradition knowledge, integrated territorial land planning and resources management.
5. We consider that resilience must be addressed in both ecological aspects and socioeconomic sectors such as agriculture and livestock, biodiversity, water and waste, forest,(industry), services and trade, transport, fisheries, health, energy, tourism and urban planning
6. We recognize the role of civil society and scientific institutions in contributing to producing evidence, tools, case studies, implementation of best practices and monitoring ecosystem based adaptation solutions.
7. We call upon Governments at national, subnational and local level to support their communities' efforts to develop adaptation strategies and action plans and promote key initiatives in particular with regards to raising awareness, transferring of knowledge on adaptation and increasing the resilience of their sectors and ecosystems.

8. We call upon all countries to adopt Ecosystem based Adaptation as a major approach to their climate, biodiversity and development plans and policies.