Nature-based Solutions and the GEF
Rosina Bierbaum, STAP Chair
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IUCN definition of NbS:

Actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.
IUCN 8 principles for NbS

1. NbS embrace nature conservation norms/principles)
2. NbS can be implemented alone or in an integrated manner with other solutions to societal challenges
3. NbS are determined by site-specific natural & cultural contexts that include traditional, local, and scientific knowledge
4. NbS produce societal benefits in a fair and equitable way in a manner that promotes transparency and broad participation
5. NbS maintain biological and cultural diversity and the ability of ecosystems to evolve over time
6. NbS are applied at a landscape scale
7. NbS recognize and address the trade-offs between the production of a few immediate economic benefits for development and future options for the production of the full range of ecosystem services
8. NbS are an integral part of the overall design of policies, and measures or actions, to address a specific challenge
However IUCN suggests ... 

...that NbS is weaker in considering:

- adaptive management and governance;
- effectiveness of an intervention;
- change and uncertainty;
- multi-stakeholder participation; and
- clarifying the longer timeframes over which success should be determined.

Multi-stakeholder participation and long-term durability are major concerns for the GEF.
Conceptualizing NbS

- Nature-based solutions
- Mainstreaming nature into other outcomes
- Benefits to nature
- Benefits to wellbeing

Strong NbS seeks to move towards the upper right:
- Monoculture carbon forestry
- Exclusive nature reserves

Mainstreaming other outcomes into conserving nature:
- Street trees for heat relief
NbS and the GEF

Sample and initial interrogation stages

Who?
A joint effort between the GEF, STAP, University of Maryland, and University of Michigan
Interrogation: 4 questions

• Does this project (or program) include elements that can be considered to be NbS?

• Does the project adequately address issues of spatial and temporal scale and risk which could affect long-term durability?

• Does the project provide detailed information about benefits to people, and to nature?

• Does the project exhibit design factors which contribute to durable outcomes?
What did we find? NbS by Project Type
# Design Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Design Elements</th>
<th>Number of Projects</th>
<th>Percentage of Projects</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate Risks</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>ToC</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Training</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Level</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional Level</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainability / Scalability</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Good Examples - Single Focal Area Projects**

**South Africa**  
*Objective:* grassland biodiversity rehabilitation and restoration  
*Highlights:* Biodiversity mainstreaming, recommendations and lessons learned

![Photo](http://www.southernportal.com)

**Mexico**  
*Objective:* reduce the impact of climate change on important biodiversity  
*Highlights:* Biodiversity mainstreaming at national level and indigenous involvement.

![Photo](http://www.southernportal.com)
Good Examples - Multi Focal Area Projects

Colombia
Objective: Promote the adoption of environment friendly silvopastoral production systems
Highlights: Social and environmental balance, end-user involvement and a partnership with private sector.

Turkey
Objective: Managing and conserving the Mediterranean forest region
Highlights: MSD and payment for ecosystem services (PES) with monetary valuation
Good Examples - Child Projects

Cameroon (child project, TRI)
*Objective: Forest Landscape Restoration for conservation, SLM, climate resilience, improved community livelihoods*
Highlights: clear NbS and knowledge management, included co-benefits, synergies, and tradeoffs

Ethiopia (child project, IAP: Food Security)
*Objective: To enhance long-term sustainability and resilience of food production systems*
Highlights: Strong multi-stakeholder processes, theory of change revisited after midterm review, synergies & tradeoffs
IAPs and The Restoration Initiative
4 continuing NbS challenges

- Defining co-benefits / tradeoffs

- Benefits for whom?
  - global vs local
  - local livelihood benefits
  - balancing the long and short term

- MEL – lots of monitoring, but is it translated into learning, adaptive management?

- Durability
What next?

• Guidelines to steer NbS towards the upper right quadrant.
• NbS have both societal and environmental objectives. How should a balance be struck between the interests of nature and of people?
• How to calculate costs and benefits of NbS for people, and for nature?
• How to avoid leakage?
• Balancing local vs global benefits?
End of Rosina’s first presentation
Arrangements for tomorrow

• Three breakout groups 9-11am (email later today will explain the details)
• Three questions:
  - group 1: how to balance the interests of nature and of people in NbS?
    co-chairs: Bob Watson (former chair IPBES), Nancy Grimm (Arizona State University)
  - group 2: barriers to implementing NbS, and how to scale up?
    co-chairs: Tom Lovejoy (STAP), Caleb McLennen (WCS)
  - group 3: how to make NbS operational (design, execution, management)?
    co-chairs: Mark Stafford Smith (STAP), Charlotte Karibuhoye Said (MAVA)
• Reconvene in plenary at 11am for the closing session
Next steps...

- STAP will report back to the GEF Council in June
- STAP will develop NbS guidance for the GEF over the summer
- STAP, WCS and Moore will prepare a paper for the Global Commission on Adaptation in the Fall
- Possible journal article