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What is the Nature-Based Solutions Inventory?

This inventory is intended to showcase the variety of nature-based solutions (NbS) projects (both completed and ongoing) that are being implemented in Fiji's diverse ecosystems. They represent Fiji's commitment to placing ecosystems and nature at the centre of the country's response to the climate and biodiversity crises, as well as addressing the increasing risks and vulnerabilities with our changing climate.

The inventory provides relevant information on the different NbS projects, including their NbS approaches, climate and biodiversity risks addressed, intended beneficiaries, and the ecosystems they target. It provides a useful compilation of NbS projects for the Fijian government, adaptation and conservation practitioners, as well as donors to help them understand the landscape of NbS implementation in Fiji and facilitate the further adoption and mainstreaming of NbS. It could also help the target audience to research existing NbS efforts in different parts of Fiji to understand gaps, avoid duplication of efforts, and facilitate partnership and collaboration.

The NbS Inventory is a living document that has been developed by the International Institute for Sustainable Development under the <u>Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas</u> (<u>CAPA</u>) initiative funded by Global Affairs Canada. The CAPA initiative is implemented in Fiji by the Wildlife Conservation Society Fiji.

Who is the NbS Inventory for?

The inventory has been specifically designed to be utilized by stakeholders working in or with an interest in the NbS sphere of work. These include but are not limited to:

- · Indigenous communities
- government agencies involved in policy development and implementation
- · civil society organizations
- funding agencies, i.e., philanthropies, donor partners
- academia



What are NbS?

NbS are "actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefits" (United Nations Environment Assembly, 2022). These actions help people and communities mitigate and adapt to climate change and increase ecosystem resilience. They can also provide social co-benefits by recognizing and involving underrepresented groups as active agents of change within the implementation of NbS for adaptation.

Ecosystem-Based Adaptation in Fiji

Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) actions, a subset of NbS, use "biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change" (CBD, 2009). They include measures that protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use, and manage natural ecosystems with the aim of strengthening the resilience of communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. They involve assessing how climate change will affect ecosystems and people of all genders and social backgrounds and identifying how ecosystems could help address these impacts to people.

Why do NbS and EbA matter for Fiji?

Fiji's National Adaptation Plan defines EbA as an ecological approach to climate change adaptation that places ecosystems at the centre of adaptation planning and biodiversity conservation. For Fiji, EbA is particularly significant given the country's vulnerability to climate change impacts (such as sea level rise, extreme weather events, and dramatic changes in rainfall patterns). EbA interventions have a relatively low implementation cost compared to more conventional forms of increasing resiliency, such as concrete-based seawalls. The definition of EbA in Fiji may likely be built upon or revised with the development of Fiji's NbS Policy and the review of its National Adaptation Plan.

What are We Learning About NbS in Fiji?

A key outcome of the NbS Inventory was to show the concentration and spread of NbS projects throughout Fiji. At the time of writing, the current NbS projects show a greater concentration of work taking place in the northern and western divisions of Fiji. This can be attributed to multiple factors, such as the exposure and vulnerability of communities in these areas, guidance by government to development partners and donor agencies to focus on these regions, and existing working relations between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local communities.

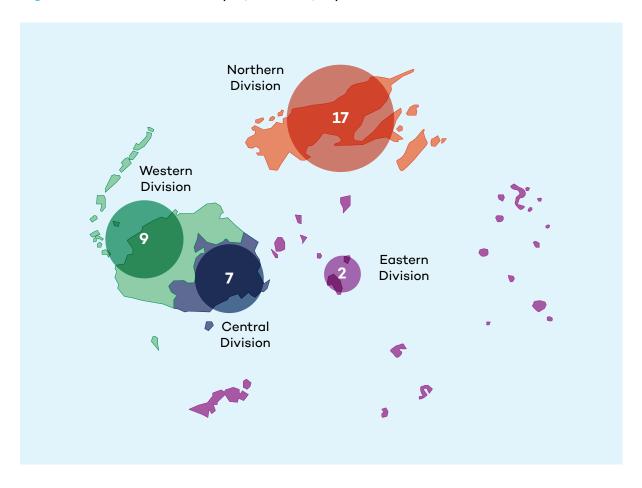
Another inference that can be made is that most NbS projects in the country are focused on coastal protection, primarily through mangrove planting. This can be attributed to the government's emphasis on remediating coastal seawalls and using hybrid solutions to ensure that infrastructure is more resilient. It can also be credited to the guidance under Fiji's



National Adaptation Plan, which envisions utilizing more NbS to help increase the adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities.

The inventory can also be used to indicate relationships between other indicators, such as biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, human health, and water security, amongst other things.

Figure 1. Distribution of NbS projects in Fiji by division



Source: Authors.



NbS Inventory

1 Riverbank stab	ilization using vetiver grass technology		
Implementation entity	Ministry of Waterways and Environment		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Central Division: Namoka Village, Wailailai Settlement, Malabi Village, Nabulini Village, Nasau Village, Naveiveiwali Village, Wailotua #2 Village, Nasautoka Village, Sawani Village, Nasevou Street, Qauia, Lami, Naivicula Village, Lutu Wainibuka, Nabouva Village, Nailega Village, Waidracia Village, Nasaibitu Village, Viro Seawall, Navatuyaba Village, Kiuva Village, Kasavu Village Western Division: Tobu Village, Nalidi Village, Naroro Village, Naduri Village, Lawai Village, Nasau Settlement (both sides of the river), Bilalevu Settlement, Loma Settlement, Bila Settlement, Navula Settlement, Narata Village, Yavulo Village, Nasigatoka Village, Nayawa Village, Laselase Village, Bemana Parish, Raiwaqa Village, Tuvu Village, Keiyasi Village, Toga Village		
Intended beneficiaries	Indicated villages and all other downstream communities.		
Societal challenges addressed by NbS	Climate adaptation		
	Biodiversity degradation & loss Food security		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Freshwater, river system		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Erosion prevention, water filtration, flood prevention, freshwater biodiversity conservation, topsoil retention, food security		
Description of NbS	The vetiver grass project primarily looks at ensuring that river systems are not polluted by surface runoff, which in this case would be the soil along weakened riverbanks due to continual floods or animal crossing. Topsoil runoff into the rivers has caused eutrophication and, in some cases, algal blooms, effectively killing riverine life, such as freshwater clams and fish that provide both sustenance and economic activity for rural communities. Increased deposit of silt runoff at riverbeds through bank erosion also causes inland flooding during Fiji's rainy season.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Fiji's National Adaptation Plan (Government of the Republic of Fiji, 2018) articulates that flooding events are among the primary climate hazards the country faces. This NbS helps improve the resiliency of riverside communities, particularly in decreasing the chances of flooding during peak cyclone season, which lasts from November to April.		



Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	The NbS reduces silt/topsoil runoff into river systems that effectively destroys freshwater ecosystems. Downstream implications could also include reduced impacts on coral reefs along the river delta. These impacts could include
	 Reduced light availability for corals and seagrasses for photosynthesis due to increased turbidity
	 Smother coral reef organisms due to settling of suspended sediment
	 Favour growth of microalgae at the expense of corals due to high nutrient availability
Reference website	https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/ministry-implements-new-green-system-for-riverbank-stabilisation/



2 Riverbank stab	lization projects (hybrid-vetiver and boulders)		
Implementation entity	Ministry of Waterways and Environment		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Central Division: Matamaivere, Vunibau, Wainibuabua, Wainiwaqa, Nadakuni, Savu, Nakaile Western Division: Navutu, Mataniqara Northern Division: Qelemumu, Bulileka		
Intended beneficiaries	Indicated villages and all other downstream communities.		
Societal challenges	Human health Disaster risk reduction		
addressed by NbS	Climate adaptation Food security		
	Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Freshwater, river system		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Erosion prevention, water filtration, flood prevention, freshwater biodiversity conservation, topsoil retention, food security		
Description of NbS	Planting of vetiver grass alongside riverbanks is a low-cost and viable option for reducing silt runoff alongside riverbeds and as a decontaminator of agrochemicals particularly pesticides. However, certain areas require further strengthening of riverbanks, and thus, locally sourced (within the vicinity of the target community) boulders are placed at the foot of the riverbanks to reduce the possibility of silt runoff.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Fiji's National Adaptation Plan articulates that flooding events are among the primary climate hazards faced in the country. This NbS helps improve the resiliency of riverside communities, particularly in decreasing the chances of flooding during peak cyclone season which lasts from November to April.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	The NbS reduces silt/topsoil runoff into river systems, which effectively destroys freshwater ecosystems. Downstream implications could also include the reduced impacts on coral reefs along the river delta. These impacts could include reduced light availability for corals and seagrasses for photosynthesis due to increased turbidity smothering of coral reef organisms due to settling of suspended sediment		
Reference website	https://www.facebook.com/fiji.agriculture/posts/vetiver- grass-bank-stabilization-project-for-naveicovatu-villagethe- pioneering-i/2294151350856056/		



3 Coastal protec	tion [.]	through NbS seawall		
Implementation entity	Ministry of Waterways and Environment, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)		ent, International Union for	
Project status	Ong	oing		
Location	Central Division: Galoa village, Toguru village			village
	East	ern Division: Qarani village		
	Nab	tern Division: Navutu village ukadra, Verevere, Malomalo, ge, Navolau village		
	Northern Division: Kanakana village, Natewa village, Lakeba village, Raviravi, Naividamu, Drekeniwai, Vatubogi, Mali Island, Nakawaqa village, Vesi village, Ligaulevu village, Somosomo village			ai, Vatubogi, Mali Island,
Intended beneficiaries	Indic	cated villages and all other c	downs	tream communities.
Societal challenges	*	Human health	A	Disaster risk reduction
addressed by NbS	*	Climate adaptation	~	Water security
	#	Economic & social development	7	Biodiversity degradation & loss
	**	Food security		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Coa	Coastal forests/bush, freshwater tables		es
Ecosystem services enhanced	Food and economic source for target communities, decreased tidal surges, decreased saltwater contamination of freshwater tables.			
Description of NbS	Mangroves are planted along the shore near vulnerable communities, after which a wall approximately 2 metres high is constructed using locally sourced boulders near the target community. To build the wall, soil and other materials are backfilled so they rise at least 2 metres above the king tide level. The soil is held in place by tightly packed boulders that start near the mangrove forest and gradually rise to reach the 2-metre mark.			
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	It addresses the following risks: coastal inundation due to large swells tidal surges during climate change induced intense natural disasters, e.g., Category 5 cyclones sea level rise and encroachment into coastal communities saltwater intrusion into freshwater tables livestock farming would also be negatively affected due to contamination of freshwater sources			



Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	By extension, the barriers help reduce the chances of saltwater intrusion, which would have damaging impacts on freshwater and other terrestrial species with low tolerance for salt water.
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/ biodiversity-conservation/nature-based-seawall-project



5 Nature-positiv	e business for climate-critical ecosystems		
Implementation entity	World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Pacific and Matanataki		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Western Division: Nailaga, Nacula Northern Division: Nadogo, Sasa		
Intended beneficiaries	Indicated villages and all other downstream communities		
Societal challenges	Climate adaptation Disaster risk reduction		
addressed by NbS	Economic & social development Food security		
	Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Mangroves, coastal tidal marshes, coral reefs		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Food and economic source for target communities		
Description of NbS	The project is designed to assist in facilitating community-led approaches, such as resource governance to maintain and enhance the functionality of linked climate-critical ecosystems, including reefs, mangroves, and forests. The project will support communities in Fiji (Macuata and Ba Province) in developing mangrove management plans that integrate with existing fisheries management plans.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	The project will be utilized to scale identified NbS activities to address climate change impacts, which include sea level rise and coastal inundation.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Though not directly, the project places emphasis on the utilization of mangroves as an NbS intervention with positive biodiversity implications being spillover benefits that may include established mangrove forests creating safe habitats and breeding zones for marine species.		
Reference website	https://www.climateresilientbynature.com/projects/wwfpacific		



Sustaining coastal fisheries management through community

business			
Implementation entity	WWF		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Northern Division: Mali, Sasa, Qoliqoli Cokovata, Nadogo		
Intended beneficiaries	Indicated villages.		
Societal challenges addressed by NbS	Food security Economic & social development		
	Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Coastal reefs, mangroves		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Food and economic source for target communities		
Description of NbS	Most, if not all, coastal villages across Fiji depend on fisheries for sustenance or as an income source, often both. Over the years, sustainable practices, such as seasonal fishing and fish size limits, have been strongly encouraged by the Ministry of Fisheries and respective NGOs. This project aims to build upon this existing work and develop nature-positive business within project sites by allowing access to markets for fishers who conventionally rely on roadside sales, analyzing fish catch data to determine ecosystem health, informing decision making, and providing capacity building for villagers in sustainable post-harvesting techniques.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	By extension, the project looks at the health status of the coastal marine ecosystem, particularly the protected areas managed by the villages/communities, which may have been affected by climate change-induced phenomena such as coral bleaching or damage to reefs due to intense cyclones, thus affecting fish populations. However, the purpose of the project is more centred on sustainable fisheries practices.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	It addresses unsustainable fishing practices, unregulated coastal development, and illegal harvesting of mangroves to protect biodiversity.		
Reference website	Learn more at the WWF website.		



7 Mangroves for	community and climate—Bezos project		
Implementation entity	WWF		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Central Division: Vutia Western Division: Ba (district) – communities not specified Northern Division: Naivuatolu, Savusavu		
Intended beneficiaries	Indicated villages		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation		
addressed by NbS	Climate adaptation Food security		
	Economic & social development Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Mangroves		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Food and economic source for target communities, protection against natural disasters, habitat for local species, carbon sequestration		
Description of NbS	This project seeks to restore degraded mangroves and develop a community mangrove policy. It will also build community resilience to climate change through disaster response planning for communities. WWF is working with local communities to expand livelihood opportunities that complement traditional management practices.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Coastal inundation and tidal surges by the restoration and conservation of existing mangrove forests		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	It addresses illegal harvesting of mangroves and destruction of natural habitats to protect biodiversity.		
Reference website	https://www.worldwildlife.org/initiatives/mangroves-for- community-and-climate		
	https://www.bezosearthfund.org/grants/mangroves- community-climate		



8

Empowering community fisheries co-management with national agencies as a demonstrative model towards sustaining fisheries along Fiji's globally significant marine ecosystem, the Great Sea Reef

Implementation entity	WWF with key ministries and government agencies		
Project status	completed		
Location	Northern Division: Great Sea Reef area with all dependent villages		
Intended beneficiaries	Areas spanning the Great Sea Reef		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation		
addressed by NbS	Climate adaptation Food security		
	Economic & social development Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Coral reefs		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Food and economic source for target communities		
Description of NbS	This project sought to develop community fisheries management and governance capacity within target villages by working with national entities such as the Ministry of Fisheries. Potential benefits would be regulated fishing seasons, setting size and catch limits, and implementing gear restrictions to prevent overfishing and ensure the long-term health of fish stocks.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Yes, co-management can enhance the resilience of fisheries to climate change by incorporating adaptive management strategies. This may involve monitoring and responding to changes in ocean temperature and other climate-related impacts, as well as implementing measures to mitigate these effects, such as establishing resilient fishing practices and diversifying livelihoods.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	It addresses illegal and unregulated fishing practices leading to a decline in fish stocks near coastal communities to protect biodiversity.		
Reference website	https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/great_sea_reef_case_study.pdf		



Living with Change: Resilient mangroves, fisheries, and people of Fiji and Papua New Guinea

Fiji ana Papua	New Guilleu		
Implementation entity	WWF		
Project status	Completed		
Location	Northern Division: Great Sea Reef area with all dependent villages		
Intended beneficiaries	Areas spanning the Great Sea Reef		
Societal challenges	Climate adaptation		
addressed by NbS	Economic & social development Biodiversity degradation & loss		
	Food security		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Coral reefs, mangroves		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Food and economic source for target communities		
Description of NbS	The project increases climate change resilience and improves livelihoods and food security in coastal communities, located in one of the two globally significant marine areas in the Pacific—Fiji's Great Sea Reef. Specific interventions are currently being determined at the project sites, though these may include policy interventions at the sub-national level and the development of financing instruments that could sustain mangrove conservation in these areas, such as jointly run tourist attractions by community and the private sector.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	The project looks specifically at the implications of sea level rise and the increasing frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones within the region.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Biodiversity risks: Extreme disaster events, particularly Category 4 and 5 cyclones, have severely impacted large areas of mangrove forests across Fiji. This project aims to restore these forests while simultaneously enhancing the resiliency and adaptive capability of vulnerable coastal villages within the vicinity of the Great Sea Reef. The project also aims to promote sustainable fishing practices within coastal communities to prevent overfishing.		
Reference website	https://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?323150/WWF-Pacific- announces-launch-of-Living-with-Change-Resilient- Mangroves-FisheriesPeople-of-Fiji-and-PNG-Project https://www.wwfpacific.org/?348490/Vatutavui-villagers-plant- more-mangroves		



11 Viro village hyb	orid (bio-engineering) coastal protection program		
Implementation entity	Government of Fiji, multiple donors		
Project status	Completed		
Location	Eastern Division (maritime Island): Viro		
Intended beneficiaries	Viro village		
Societal challenges	Climate adaptation		
addressed by NbS	Food security Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Established and new mangrove forests		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Natural barrier against tidal surges, food source.		
Description of NbS	A seawall was bioengineered using mangrove hedges, natural boulders, bunding, and vetiver grass and backfilling.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Tidal surges, which have been exacerbated due to sea level rise		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	The hybrid seawall has resulted in the re-establishment of mangrove forests that function as a biodiversity hotspot for marine life and allow for the repopulation of aquatic species disturbed and/or diminished during previous cyclones.		
Reference website	https://pipap.sprep.org/news/first-hybrid-seawall-will-protect-village		



12 Identifying key	reforestation sites for climate change resilience		
Implementation entity	Community Centered Conservation		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Northern Division: Raviravi, Naividamu, Lakeba, Sese, Baleyaganiga, Yaro, Ligau, Kavewa, Lagi, Qaranivai		
Intended beneficiaries	Target communities and villages with native rights to reforested land		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation Food security		
addressed by NbS	Economic & social development Biodiversity degradation & loss		
	Climate adaptation		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Native forests		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Shelter during storms and cyclones, source of food, housing (timber), traditional uses (medicine)		
Description of NbS	The areas being reforested have been devastated over the years due to logging and severe tropical cyclones. Approximately 43 hectares of land is being reforested with native hardwood and local fruit and flowering trees to increase resiliency and promote future carbon trading potential of target areas.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	The loss of forest cover increases the vulnerability of surrounding villages to extreme winds during cyclones. There are also implications on livelihoods and culture, given the interconnectedness of people and land.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	The 10 selected sites for reforestation have been severely impacted by unregulated logging within the province and frequent, intense cyclonic events. This has resulted in the loss of native flora and reliant fauna.		
Reference website	From Community Centered Conservation		



13 Marking a no-t	ke area in the community of Navakavu		
Implementation entity	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries		
Project status	Completed		
Location	Central Division: Suva, Navakavu		
Intended beneficiaries	Navakavu residents and adjacent villages		
Societal challenges addressed by NbS	Economic & social development Food security		
	Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Coral reefs and target fishing areas		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Income generation, food source, recreational area		
Description of NbS	The Navakavu community has demarcated its protected area (tabu area) by traditional means, which involve lining the perimeter of the protected area with mangrove branches (rising clearly above the water line), often with a red piece of cloth indicating that fishing within the area is prohibited, even for the villagers.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	No		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	There is considerable illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in this area due to its proximity to Suva city and its respective fish markets, as well as the fact that this area also boasts a healthy population of fish. Destructive fishing practices such as poisoning and blast fishing have been used in the area before.		
Reference website	https://panorama.solutions/en/solution/marking-no-take-area- community-navakavu		



14 Building coast	al resilience/dune ecosystem in Fiji		
Implementation entity	National Trust of Fiji (Kiwa Initiative)		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Western Division: Sigatoka, Sigatoka sand dunes		
Intended beneficiaries	Areas around Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park		
Societal challenges addressed by NbS	Climate adaptation Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Sand dunes, coral reefs, and related sparse forests		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Natural barrier against tidal swells, recreation park, and income source (landowners have authority to sell sand to construction companies).		
Description of NbS	The project assists in the restoration of forest sites around the sand dunes national park, which is done by park rangers and community members. Activities include agroforestry, addressing invasive species and limiting degradation.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	The project plans to increase the climate resilience of the area by establishing three forest restoration demonstration areas and achieving 80% community engagement in agroforestry. It also plans to increase community awareness and climate adaptation action through the publication of an ethnobotany research study of the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	The specific biodiversity risk being addressed is the threat of invasive species coming into the sand dunes. Park rangers plan to reduce the spread of five key identified invasive species throughout the Sigatoka Sand Dunes ecosystem by 2025.		
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/building-coastal- resilience-forest-restoration-invasive-management-actions- and-the-heritage-in-young-hands-program-project		



Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation for Climate Change Plus (PEBACC +) Pacific scaling up ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change in the Pacific Islands

climate change in the Pacific Islands					
Implementation entity	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme				
Project status	Ongoing				
Location	Northern Division: Labasa, Taveuni, Savusavu				
Intended beneficiaries	People of Taveuni and Savusavu (town areas mostly)				
Societal challenges	•	Climate mitigation	~	Water security	
addressed by NbS	•	Economic & social development	7	Biodiversity degradation & loss	
		Climate adaptation			
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Fore	ests, coral reefs			
Ecosystem services enhanced	Sustainable sources of timber, traditional medicine, natural barriers, food and income source, improved water quality				
Description of NbS	The PEBACC project supports the identification and implementation of EbA as best suited to the locality while simultaneously promoting EbA as a climate adaptation strategy within Fiji. The project also encourages inter-regional dialogue on best practices and lessons learned from activities elsewhere. It will include reforestation and agroforestry programs in Taveuni and an integrated coastal zone management plan in Savusavu, as well as training for decision-makers on EbA approaches, green infrastructure, and environmental protection.				
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	The project increases the adaptative capacity of vulnerable communities through EbA interventions, such as reforestation and management of upstream land-based practices (such as agriculture), decreasing downstream impacts. Reforestation and enhanced land management practices also contribute to climate mitigation via sequestration potential of forests and decreased emissions from sustainable agriculture and/or use of renewable energy sources for development and other activities.				
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Reduction of invasive species, conservation of native species				
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/scaling-up-ecosystem-based-adaptation-to-climate-change-in-the-pacific-islands https://www.sprep.org/sites/default/files/documents/ publications/Pacific-Ecosystem-based-adaptation-climate-change.pdf				



16 INSPIRE - Inva	sive species management for resilient ecosystems		
Implementation entity	BirdLife International		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Central Division: Maritime zone, Navukailagi, Gau Island		
Intended beneficiaries	People of Gau		
Societal challenges	Water security		
addressed by NbS	Climate adaptation Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Terrestrial, coastal, and marine ecosystems		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Income, food, and water source		
Description of NbS	Site assessments are still being conducted to determine which type of NbS is best suited for implementation. Generally involve management and protection of terrestrial, coastal, and marine ecosystems, restoration and rehabilitation of these ecosystems.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Yes. The project focuses on the management of invasive species and the added implications of climate change in this area. Impacts include reduced water security, reduced incomegeneration opportunities from negative impacts on ecosystem services, pollution of water supplies and treatment plant, contamination of human food crops, as well as animal and human disease transmission.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Yes. It addresses the threat that invasive species pose to native species of flora and fauna.		
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/media-center/520-press-release-kiwa-initiative-cos-16-05-2023-1/file https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/biodiversity-conservation/inspire-invasive-species-management-for-resilient-ecosystems		



Using nature-based solutions to protect coastal communities from the negative impacts of climate change in northern Vanua Levu, Fiji

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Implementation entity	Community Centred Conservation Limited (C3) Fiji		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Northern Division: Macuata		
Intended beneficiaries	Not specified; however, primarily villages in Macuata		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation		
addressed by NbS	Economic & social development Economic & social & Biodiversity degradation & loss		
	Climate adaptation		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Mangroves		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Natural barriers, food and income source		
Description of NbS	Restoration of mangrove forests in target communities, mainly with locally managed marine areas		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Addresses coastal erosion and inundation (largely due to sea level rise), extreme weather events exacerbated by climate change, and ocean acidification resulting in loss of coral reefs		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Yes. The project addresses the destruction of mangrove forests in key areas due to cyclonic events and, as such, sets out to restore forests within these areas and plant new mangroves in other identified sites. It addresses biodiversity and habitat loss due to climate change and extreme weather events such as cyclones.		
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/ biodiversity-conservation/using-nature-based-solutions-to- protect-coastal-communities-from-the-negative-impacts-of- climate-change-in-northern-vanua-levu		



Increasing climate change resilience in remote coastal communities of the Macuata province

Implementation entity	C3 Fiji		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Northern Division: Macuata		
Intended beneficiaries	Not specified; however, primarily villages in Macuata		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation		
addressed by NbS	Climate adaptation Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Terrestrial forests, mangrove forests		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Source of food and income, natural barriers, herbal medicine, fuel, and timber		
Description of NbS	Restoration of mangrove and native forests as well as extension in key areas and, where feasible, to assist as inter alia carbon sinks (mangroves primarily) and wind barriers.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Yes—reduction in greenhouse gases within the atmosphere via carbon sinks. Although unrelated to NbS, the project also encourages the use of fuel-efficient stoves, which will lead to decreased emissions from rural communities.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Yes—restoration of damaged and or logged forested areas and the establishment of new forested area with positive downstream effects such as return of localized flora and fauna.		
Reference website	From C3 Fiji		



19 Promoting Pacific Islands nature-based solutions (PPIN)			
Implementation entity	Project Management Unit: IUCN Implementing Partners: Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Pacific region, Piloted in three countries: Fiji, Vanuatu, and Tonga Note: The project doesn't target specific communities or villages, but rather works at a regional level.		
Intended beneficiaries	Government officers and implementing organizations Stakeholders from various sectors: Tourism, infrastructure, fisheries, agriculture, forestry, CROP agencies, NGOs, donors, and sub-regional agencies		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation		
addressed by NbS	Water security		
	Climate adaptation Food security		
	Economic & social development Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Various ecosystems across the Pacific region		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Multiple ecosystem services depending on the specific NbS implemented, but could include coastal protection, water security, food security, biodiversity conservation, and climate mitigation and adaptation		
Description of NbS	The PPIN project promotes the development and implementation of tailored NbS solutions based on the specific needs and priorities identified in each demonstration country (Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu). This means the specific NbS will vary depending on the chosen sectors and priorities within each country. However, the project envisions a range of potential NbS options that could be considered, such as mangrove restoration for coastal protection and biodiversity enhancement; reforestation for watershed management, soil erosion control, and carbon sequestration; agroforestry for improved soil fertility, food production, and biodiversity conservation; energy and Tourism development; climate-smart agriculture; water management; and infrastructure development and public utilities. The final selection of NbS will be determined through a consultative process involving stakeholders in each country by the implementing partners to ensure alignment with national priorities and context.		



Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	The specific climate risks tackled will depend on the chosen sectors and implemented NbS in each country, the PPIN project aims to address various climate risks associated with climate change in the Pacific such as sea level rise, extreme weather events, and coral bleaching and acidification.
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	The specific biodiversity risks addressed will depend on the chosen sectors and implemented NbS in each country. PPIN project targets various biodiversity risks in the Pacific, such as habitat loss and degradation due to deforestation, development, unsustainable resource use, and the overexploitation of resources.
Reference website	https://www.iucn.org/our-work/region/oceania/our-work/deploying-nature-based-solutions/promoting-pacific-island-nature https://www.iucn.org/our-work/projects/promoting-pacific-islands-nature-based-solutions https://open.iucn.org/projects/P03748



20 Kiwa Initiative: seawalls in Fiji	Enh	ancing coastal protec	tion	/nature-based	
Implementation entity	Fiji N	Fiji Ministry of Waterways			
Project status	Ong	Ongoing (March 2023–December 2024)			
Location	Wes	tern Division: Navola, Navolo	u		
	Nort	Northern Division: Nakawaqa, Ligaulevu, Vesi, Somosomo			
Intended beneficiaries	Coa	stal communities in the six t	arget	sites	
Societal challenges	*	Climate mitigation	A	Disaster risk reduction	
addressed by NbS	\$	Human health	÷,	Water security	
	*	Climate adaptation	**	Food security	
	#	Economic & social development	7	Biodiversity degradation & loss	
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Coa	Coastal ecosystems, including mangroves, rivers, and beaches			
Ecosystem services enhanced	Coastal protection, water security, biodiversity conservation, and food security (indirectly)				
Description of NbS	Hybrid seawalls that blend the ecosystems with traditional hard structures for robust coastal protection, including mangrove restoration for wave attenuation and shoreline stabilization; boulder structures for additional protection; and vetiver grass planting for soil stabilization behind the seawalls				
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	 Tackles multiple climate risks: Rising sea levels, a pressing concern, are countered by the wave-dampening mangroves, reducing coastal inundation. The robust hybrid structure offers enhanced protection against increasingly frequent and intense storms and cyclones, safeguarding communities and infrastructure. 				
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	 The project addresses crucial biodiversity risks: degraded coastal ecosystems, particularly dwindling mangrove forests, are revitalized through restoration. This creates critical habitat for diverse marine and terrestrial species, fostering biodiversity and restoring lost ecosystem services. The project combats habitat destruction and promotes the return of a thriving coastal ecosystem, benefiting both nature and local communities. 				
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/ biodiversity-conservation/nature-based-seawall-project				



21 Kiwa Initiative:	Pacific organic learning farms network (POLFN)		
Implementation entity	SPC		
Project status	Ongoing (2021–2025)		
Location	Regional: Fiji, Nauru, Tonga, Solomon Islands Current implementation area in Fiji: Wainunu, Vanua Levu		
Intended beneficiaries	 Smallholder farmers in project countries Pacific Island communities facing food security challenges 		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation Climate adaptation		
addressed by NbS	Human health Food security		
	Economic & social development Economic & social & Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Agricultural land, coastal land		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Food production, carbon sequestration, coastal protection, topsoil retention, sustainable income source, food source, pollination, coastal protection, regulation of soil fertility and nutrient cycling		
Description of NbS	The establishment of the organic learning farm network (network) seeks to develop the capacity of farmers to utilize climate-friendly and ecologically sustainable practices in farming. Moreover, the network will also provide market access to farmers, improving incomes and ensuring sustainable production practices are maintained. The marine aspect of the project looks at working with locally managed marine area networks to conserve or reestablish mangrove forests, enhancing coastal protection and, by extension, fisheries productivity.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones? Does the NbS project	 Increasing the resilience of agricultural systems to droughts and floods through sustainable practices Protecting coastal communities from storms and sea level rise through mangrove restoration Reducing greenhouse gas emissions Promoting biodiversity-friendly farming practices 		
address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Protecting and restoring mangrove ecosystems		
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/biodiversity-conservation/an-organic-learning-farm-network-to-build-the-climate-resilience-of-smallholder-producers-in-the-pacific https://www.spc.int/updates/news/media-release/2023/07/launch-of-organic-learning-farm-centres-provides-major-boost-for		



22 Kiwa Initiative:	Restoring mangroves for livelihoods in Fiji		
Implementation entity	C3 Fiji		
Project status	Ongoing (July 2022–June 2024)		
Location	Northern Division: Sese village, Navidamu village, Ravi ravi village		
Intended beneficiaries	 Local communities in project sites Wider population of Macuata Province through awareness activities 		
Societal challenges	Climate mitigation Disaster risk reduction		
addressed by NbS	W Human health Food security		
	Climate adaptation Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Mangrove forests		
Ecosystem services enhanced	 Coastal protection (buffer against storms and sea level rise) Fisheries productivity (nursery grounds for fish and shellfish) Water quality regulation (filtration of pollutants) Carbon sequestration Livelihood opportunities (e.g., crab fattening) 		
Description of NbS	The project sites have been earmarked to undergo mangrove restoration and conservation to enhance resiliency and adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities. Beneficiaries will be trained in conservation practices and mangrove ecology to ensure sustainability of the project post completion.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	 Enhancing coastal protection through mangrove restoration Promoting climate-resilient livelihoods Raising awareness about climate change and adaptation 		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	 Restoring and protecting critical mangrove habitat Supporting sustainable resource management practices Engaging communities in conservation efforts 		
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/ biodiversity-conservation/using-nature-based-solutions-to- protect-coastal-communities-from-the-negative-impacts-of- climate-change-in-northern-vanua-levu		



Kiwa Initiative: Watershed interventions for systems health plus (WISH+) Implementation entity Wildlife Conservation Society **Project status** Ongoing (2022-2026) Location Regional: Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea Western Division: Vatu-i-Ra Seascape Intended beneficiaries Local communities in project areas Policy-makers and government agencies Societal challenges Climate mitigation Water security addressed by NbS Human health Food security Biodiversity degradation Climate adaptation Economic & social development Ecosystem(s) targeted Forests and watersheds, coastal ecosystems Water regulation and supply, soil erosion control, flood **Ecosystem services** enhanced mitigation, habitat for biodiversity, coastal protection **Description of NbS** The project involves the implementation of integrated watershed management by way of several key components aimed at achieving sustainable land and water resource management. This includes the adoption of sustainable land practices like reforestation and agroforestry, alongside improved water resource management and sanitation measures. Community engagement is emphasized through communitybased conservation and resource management initiatives. Decision-support tools are utilized to target interventions effectively, identifying high-risk watersheds for water security and health improvement while prioritizing areas for NbS investments.

Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?

- Improving water security and resilience to droughts and floods
- · Reducing flood risks through watershed management
- Enhancing coastal protection through healthy ecosystems

Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?

- · Protecting and restoring habitats like forests and reefs
- Promoting sustainable resource management practices
- Reducing pressure on biodiversity through improved land and water management

Reference website

https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/biodiversity-conservation/implementing-integrated-watershed-management-for-biodiversity-climate-resilience-and-human-health-co-benefits-into-the-pacific-communities



AQUA-Pearl: Scaling up inclusive community-led nature-based oyster aquaculture for climate resilience in Fiji

oyster aquacul	ture tor climate resilience in Fiji		
Implementation entity	International Institute for Sustainable Development (Wildlife Conservation Society, SPC)		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Asia-Pacific/Fiji		
Intended beneficiaries	Village households (~150) & community members, policy-makers, private sector		
Societal challenges	Climate adaptation Food security		
addressed by NbS	Economic & social development Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Ocean/coastal		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Provisioning (oysters for consumption), regulating (enhanced water quality through restoration of riparian vegetation and by bivalve filtration)		
Description of NbS	This initiative entails implementing nature-based approaches to aquaculture through sustainable community-led pearl oyster meat farms and restoration of upstream vegetation to enhance water quality. As climate impacts (together with overfishing) reduce fisheries catches, community-led oyster farms provide other economic options, relieve fishing pressure on certain fisheries, and provide alternate sources of protein. Bivalve and seaweed aquaculture are examples of non-fed aquaculture that show promise for improving coastal protection efforts and promoting environmental sustainability.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Yes. The climate risks faced by communities are reduced fish catches and subsequent reduced livelihoods opportunities due to climate change directly affecting fish abundance and population ranges. This NbS seeks to alleviate these risks by incorporating nature-based solutions into aquaculture approaches.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Aquatic habitat loss and degradation, poor water quality		
Reference website	https://idrc-crdi.ca/en/project/aqua-pearl-scaling-community-led-nature-based-oyster-aquaculture-climate-resilience-fiji		



25 Climate adaptation and protected areas (CAPA) initiative		
Implementation entity	Wildlife Conservation Society & International Institute for Sustainable Development	
Project status	Ongoing	
Location	Central, Western, Northern/Tailevu, Ra, Bua, Lomaiviti Namalata, Dawasamu, Nakorotubu, Bureta, Bua, Kubulau, Waisa, Natokolau, Nasasaivua, Navatu, Nayavuira, Natalaira, Nasinu, Delakado, Davetalevu, Veinuqa, Naitutu, Nasau, Veidrala, Kiobo, Nabalabalawa, Natadrave, Nadogoloa, Nbukadra, Nayavutoka, Saioko	
Intended beneficiaries	Village households (~250) & community members	
Societal challenges addressed by NbS	Water security Disaster risk reduction	
	Climate adaptation Food security	
	Economic & social development Biodiversity degradation & loss	
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Marine, mangrove forests and forests	
Ecosystem services enhanced	Fish stocks in tabu areas, water filtration through healthy watersheds, improved biodiversity (pollination), soil health for agricultural practices, climate adaptation (buffers against extreme weather events)	
Description of NbS	 The initiative will focus on the following NbS: Promoting sustainable fisheries and safeguarding locally managed marine areas through supporting improved licensing and monitoring arrangements in Vatu-i-Ra Seascape within the Nakorotubu, Bua, and Bureta customary fishing grounds Build the capacity of local communities to implement NbS to enhance resilience and biodiversity conservation in watersheds Conduct restoration using NbS to increase climate resilience and support biodiversity conservation to provide buffers to existing protected areas. NbS will include planting native trees along with vetiver grass and exploring community forest conservation areas. 	
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Increasing the adaptive capacity and resilience of communities and ecosystems is a core deliverable of CAPA. Activities planned for implementation across the 20 sites plan to address climate change-related risks resulting from hazards such as sea level rise, extreme weather events, ocean acidification, temperature increase and changing rainfall patterns.	



Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Biodiversity conservation is a core component of the CAPA initiative, and all NbS projects will have a strong focus on addressing biodiversity risks, such as habitat loss, invasive species, coral reef degradation, pollution, and unsustainable practices, e.g., fishing in tabu (protected) areas specifically for the Bua, Nakorotubu, and Bureta sites.
Reference website	https://www.iisd.org/capa



Kiwa-WISH+: Delivering co-benefits for climate resilience, biodiversity, health and well-being through nature-based solutions in Melanesian watersheds

Implementation entity	Wildlife Conservation Society		
Project status	Ongoing		
Location	Central/Lomaiviti Bureta		
Intended beneficiaries	Village households (~250) & community members		
Societal challenges addressed by NbS	Water security Disaster risk reduction		
	Climate adaptation Food security		
	Economic & social development Economic & social & Biodiversity degradation & loss		
Ecosystem(s) targeted	Watersheds		
Ecosystem services enhanced	Water regulation and filtration, habitat for terrestrial/marine organisms		
Description of NbS	Improved watershed areas via reforestation and sediment/ silt socks for safely managed drinking water, sanitation, and wastewater in high-risk watersheds.		
Does the NbS project address identified climate risk? If yes, which ones?	Yes. It involves planting vetiver grass and native trees to stabilize runoff from riverbanks and mountains, and fill sediments into water source.		
Does the NbS project address specific biodiversity risks? If yes, which ones?	Yes. It addresses the loss of fertile soil and loss of some marine organisms.		
Reference website	https://kiwainitiative.org/en/projects/filters/cobenefits/ biodiversity-conservation/implementing-integrated-watershed- management-for-biodiversity-climate-resilience-and-human- health-co-benefits-into-the-pacific-communities		



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Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas (CAPA) Initiative

The Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas (CAPA) Initiative seeks to promote nature-based solutions (NbS) to strengthen climate resilience and protect biodiversity in and around protected areas and critical ecosystems. The CAPA Initiative, funded by Global Affairs Canada, will work with local communities, traditionally underrepresented groups, women's groups, and national and local authorities in Belize, Fiji, the Greater Virunga Landscape, and the Kavango–Zambezi Landscape to implement site-specific activities that respond to the risks, vulnerabilities, needs, and priorities of local communities and ecosystems, as identified through comprehensive assessments of the climate, gender, biodiversity, and conflict contexts. The CAPA Initiative is led by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

To learn more, visit https://www.iisd.org/capa.



Project partners





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