

Brainstorming Call: Nature-based solutions and peace

23 May, 15h CET, Zoom

14 attendees

Discussion:

- What are nature-based solutions (NbS)?
 - “As per IUCN definition, NbS are 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.” [Learn more here.](#)
 - From Conservation International on EbA - Use of nature to address climate impacts on people and livelihoods. [Learn more here.](#)
- Project Idea: Catalogue or database of nature-based solutions for peace
 - Will be hosted here: <https://www.ecosystemforpeace.org/nature/>
 - A previous prototype is here:
<https://unepstrata.org/nature-based-solutions/>
 - Only 9 of 27 really seemed to be specifically aligned with peace.
 - PAX is working on this and welcomes contributors or partners.
 - We will eventually include a repository of solutions with detailed information on each case.
 - (i.e., primary purpose of the NbS project, monitoring of environmental impact, monitoring of peacebuilding impact).
 - Why? We want to support the continued shift from a risk discourse to a solutions discourse, but often don't have the data to back up which kinds of project ideas work, which don't work.
 - How can people collaborate?
 - You can submit case ideas here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciRCCp5t6kTik2_HVzw3nP_XzF3GxNRK_LauYTAc32VEKMheg/viewform
 - Q: Do they need to be designed with peace in mind, or do NbS in conflict-affected areas also apply?
 - As long as we can understand *how* they were implemented in a conflict-sensitive way and/or what the impact on peace & conflict is, they are relevant!
 - You can join a working group of ECCP participants who will review the submitted case ideas and evaluate whether or not they fit the database.
 - Participants would review maximum one case per every 6 weeks.
 - Join by sending an email to Marie Schellens at PAX:
m.schellens@paxforpeace.nl

- You can suggest funders who might be interested in scaling the project up.
- Project idea: Including conflict and peace in the NbS resolution at UNEA-6
 - PAX collaborated with some other ECCP participants to write a [white paper/recommendations](#) on the opportunities of NbS for peace for UNEA-5.2
 - There was language about conflict within the original resolution text, but it unfortunately was removed over the negotiations
 - They'd like to draft new language for UNEA-6, drawing on new cases in the past year to continue building policy momentum ([like this article suggests](#))
 - Suggestion to explore opportunities within the UN Convention on Biodiversity as well
- Discussion
 - Funding ideas
 - Recent call for proposals from UN Youth Envoy on gender & youth, climate security, climate change adaptation & mitigation <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/gypi-en>
 - This could be a great place to look to for funding ideas of NbS for peace!
 - If you are interested in collaborating on this, feel free to contact Annika directly at annika@gpplatform.ch.
 - https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en
 - https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/cluster-5-climate-energy-and-mobility_en
 - How do we really define what the impact of NbS on peace *is*? What are the indicators?
 - This could be an interesting task for the database submission working group to explore and define.
 - One example to explore is this: <https://www.everydaypeaceindicators.org/>
 - What were some of the key takeaways at last week's session on NbS at the Stockholm Forum?
 - A summary doc will be available soon
 - Key discussion focused on challenges of scaling up NbS initiatives
 - Endogenous challenges from community-members, that other may take advantage of what has been restored
 - Funding challenges, particularly in accessing decentralized funding - governments have a tendency to recentralize funding when they see the benefits are too high

- And is it necessary for funds to be explicitly allocated to environmental peacebuilding?
 - There's also a lack of evidence of benefit of NbS for peace processes
 - The limits of using IUCN definition vs. creating space for contextual and community-owned definitions
 - Some practical examples were shared, including from Mercy Corps, University of Bonn
- Other resources/ideas shared in the chat:
 - <https://globalebafund.org/3041039-2/>
 - <https://www.globalresiliencepartnership.org/what-we-do/knowledge/see-ds-of-resilience-for-peace-and-stability/>
 - HD is actively looking for partners to *do* nature-based solutions together with