

The ABCG partners survey on Climate Change Adaptation

by the ABCG partners

compiled by

Anton Seimon and James Watson, Global Conservation WCS

Why this report?

- Africa-focused assessment of adaptation initiatives in conservation not yet performed
- All ABCG partners are actively working on adaptation initiatives
- Opportunity to share experiences and lessons learned based on several years of work
- Improve efficiency and effectiveness in our respective future initiatives
- Explore opportunities for further collaborative work

Methods

Completed

- In-person interviews with ABCG leads on climate change adaptation
- Questionnaire
- Preliminary report

In process

- This workshop
- Final report
- Use results to plan activities for 2012 and beyond

Principal project work

summarized in report and to be introduced at this meeting

AWF- mountain gorilla work with IGCP;

Kenya/Samburu landscape vulnerability
assessment

CI – Madagascar and South Africa initiatives

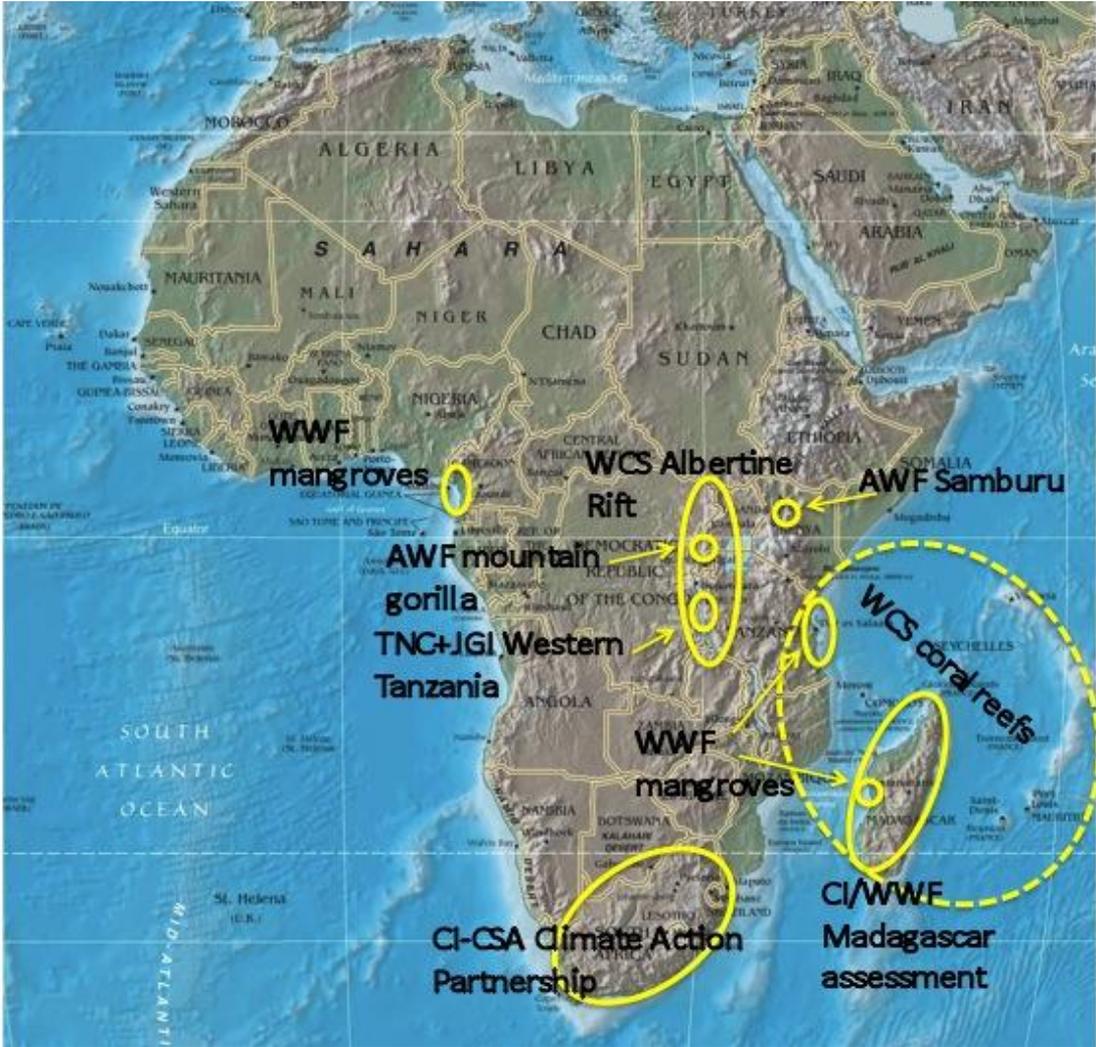
JGI & TNC – western Tanzania project

WCS – Albertine Rift and Coral Reef initiatives

WRI – World Resources Report and case studies

WWF – mangrove projects and others

Geographical coverage of principal projects by ABCG partners



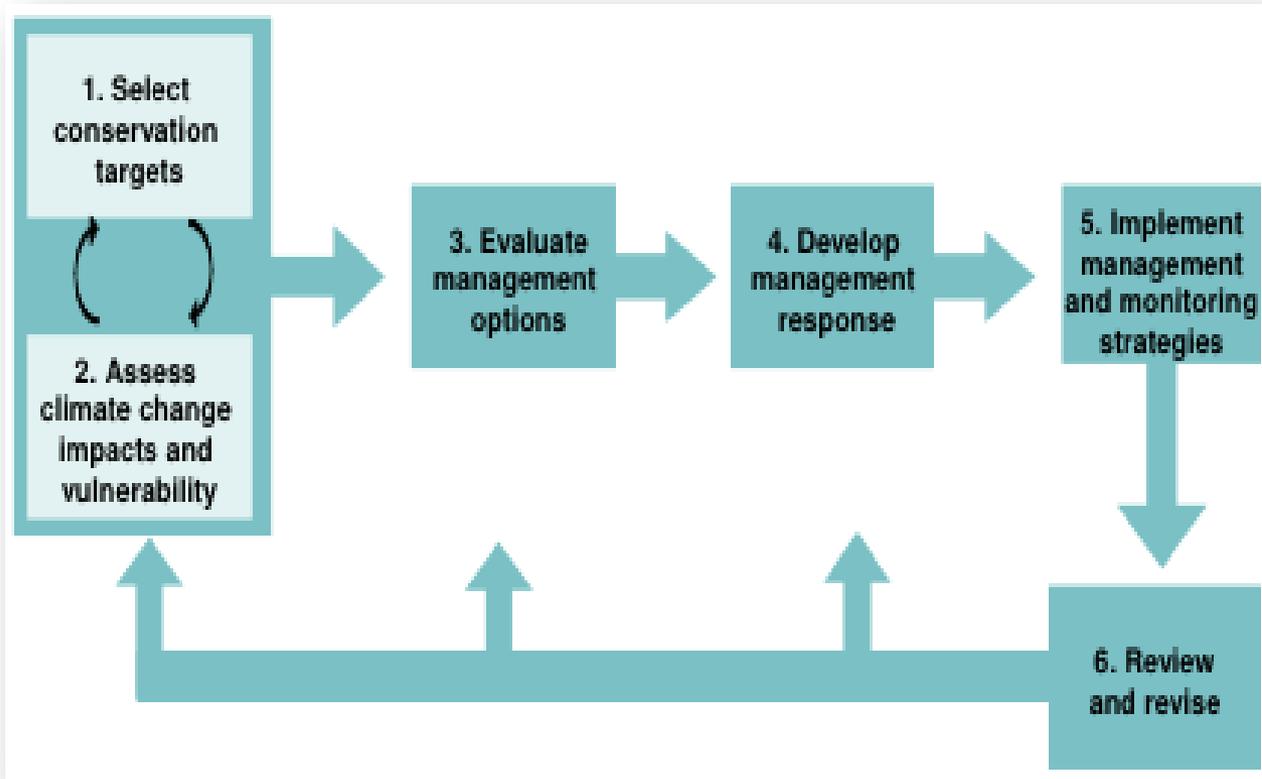
Evaluating frameworks

The survey examined how the diverse array of projects could be evaluated collectively according to published frameworks

- There is as yet no widely accepted methodology on climate change adaptation for conservation
- Convergence towards a paradigm for effective adaptation is suggested by commonalities among several published frameworks

Framework examples

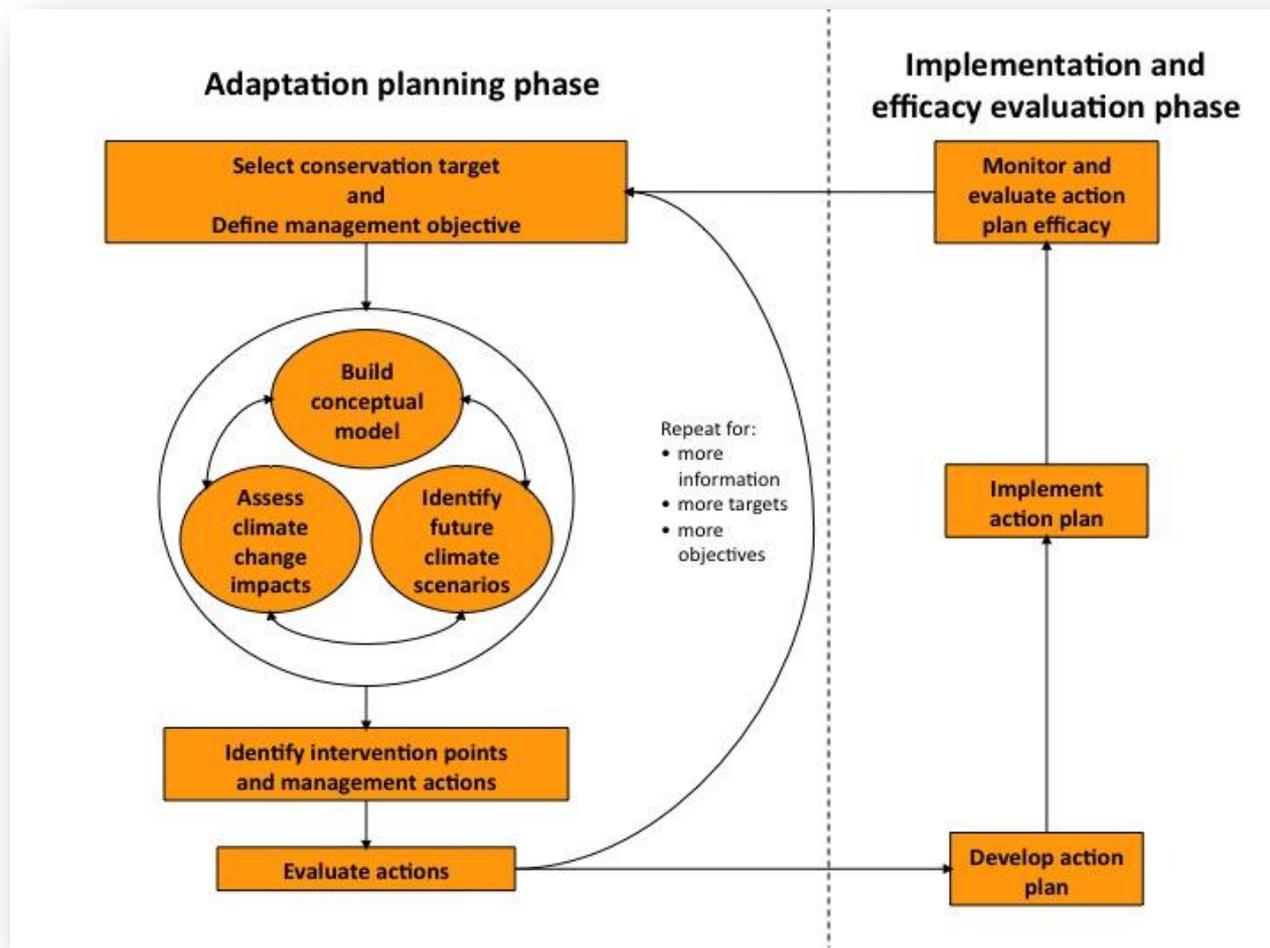
National Wildlife Federation (2009)



A framework for adapting conservation planning for climate change developed by the National Wildlife Federation that reflects elements from several preceding versions by other groups. From [Glick et al. \(2009\)](#).

Framework examples

Adaptation for Conservation Targets (ACT)



From Cross et al. (in review)

Steps in the ACT framework

- **Identify features targeted for conservation** (e.g., species, ecological processes, ecosystem services, ecosystems, or social communities) and specify explicit, measurable management objectives for each feature.
- **Build a conceptual model** that illustrates the climatic, ecological, social, and economic drivers of each feature.
- Examine how the feature(s) may be affected by multiple plausible **climate change scenarios**. This can be a threats-based analysis of current and future states, and often takes the form of a vulnerability assessment.
- Identify intervention points and potential **actions required to achieve objectives** for each feature under each scenario.
- **Evaluate potential actions** for feasibility and tradeoffs. Applying on-the-ground actions or shifting conservation strategies as adaptive responses towards improving outcomes under future climatic conditions.
- **Implement priority actions**, monitor the efficacy of actions and progress toward objectives, and reevaluate to address system changes or ineffective actions.

TABLE 1: Qualitative assessment of ABCG partner projects according to the Adaptation for Conservation Targets (ACT) framework.

Identify features targeted for conservation (e.g., species, ecological processes, or ecosystems) and specify explicit, measurable management objectives								
Build a conceptual model that illustrates the climatic, ecological, social, and economic drivers of each feature.								
Examine how the feature may be affected by multiple plausible climate change scenarios								
Identify intervention points and potential actions required to achieve objectives for each feature under each scenario.								
Evaluate potential actions for feasibility and tradeoffs.								
Implement priority actions, monitor the efficacy of actions and progress toward objectives, and reevaluate to address system changes or ineffective actions								
ABCG organization	AWF	AWF	CI	CI	JGI + TNC	WCS	WCS	WWF
Project	mountain gorilla project	Samburu project	Island-wide biodiversity vulnerability assessment	CAS role in Climate Action Partnership	Gombe-Masito-Ugalla project	Albertine Rift project	West Indian Ocean coral reef project	Coastal wetlands-mangrove project
Location	Rwanda, Uganda, DR Congo	Kenya	Madagascar	South Africa	Tanzania	Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, DR Congo	Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar and islands	Madagascar, Tanzania, Cameroon

Qualitative assessment of ABCG partner project structure and activities relative to the six stages of the Adaptation for Conservation Targets (ACT) framework.

Color key:

green = developed/completed

tan = partially developed/incomplete

red = not yet developed or not included among objectives.

Themes considered in ABCG partner projects

TABLE 2: Thematic foci of current ABCG partner projects in Africa									
Wildlife species									
Wildlife health									
Humanity & livelihoods									
Ecosystems									
Ecological processes									
Landscapes/seascapes									
National level planning									
National level policy									
International policy									
ABCG organization	AWF	AWF	CI	CI	JGI + TNC	WCS	WCS	WRI	WWF
Project	mountain gorilla project	Samburu project	Island-wide biodiversity vulnerability assessment	CAS role in Climate Action Partnership	Gemba-Masita-Ugalla project	Albertine Rift project	West Indian Ocean coral reef project	World Resources Reports & surveys	Coastal wetlands-mangrove project
Location	Rwanda, Uganda, DR Congo	Kenya	Madagascar	South Africa	Kenya	Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, DR Congo	Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar and islands	Mali, Namibia, Rwanda	Madagascar, Tanzania, Cameroon

Spatial scales of ABCG partner projects

Table 3: Spatial Scales of ABCG Partners in Africa									
N.G.O.	PROJECT	LOCATION	SCALE						
			Local - Protected Area	Protected Area Clusters	National	Multi-nation Regional	Major Biome	Pan-African	Inter-national
AWF	Mountain Gorilla Project	Rwanda		X					
	Samburu Project	Kenya		X					
CI	Island-wide Biodiversity Assessment	Madagascar			X				
	CAS Role in Climate Action Partnership	South Africa	X		X				
JGI/TNC	Gombe-Masito Ugalla Project	Tanzania		X					
WCS	Albertine Rift Project	Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, DR Congo	X	X		X			
	West Indian Ocean Coral Reef Project	Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar and Islands		X	X	X	X		
WRI	World Resources Reports and Surveys	Mali, Namibia, Rwanda			X				X
WWF	Coastal Wetlands Mangrove Project	Madagascar, Tanzania, Cameroon		X					

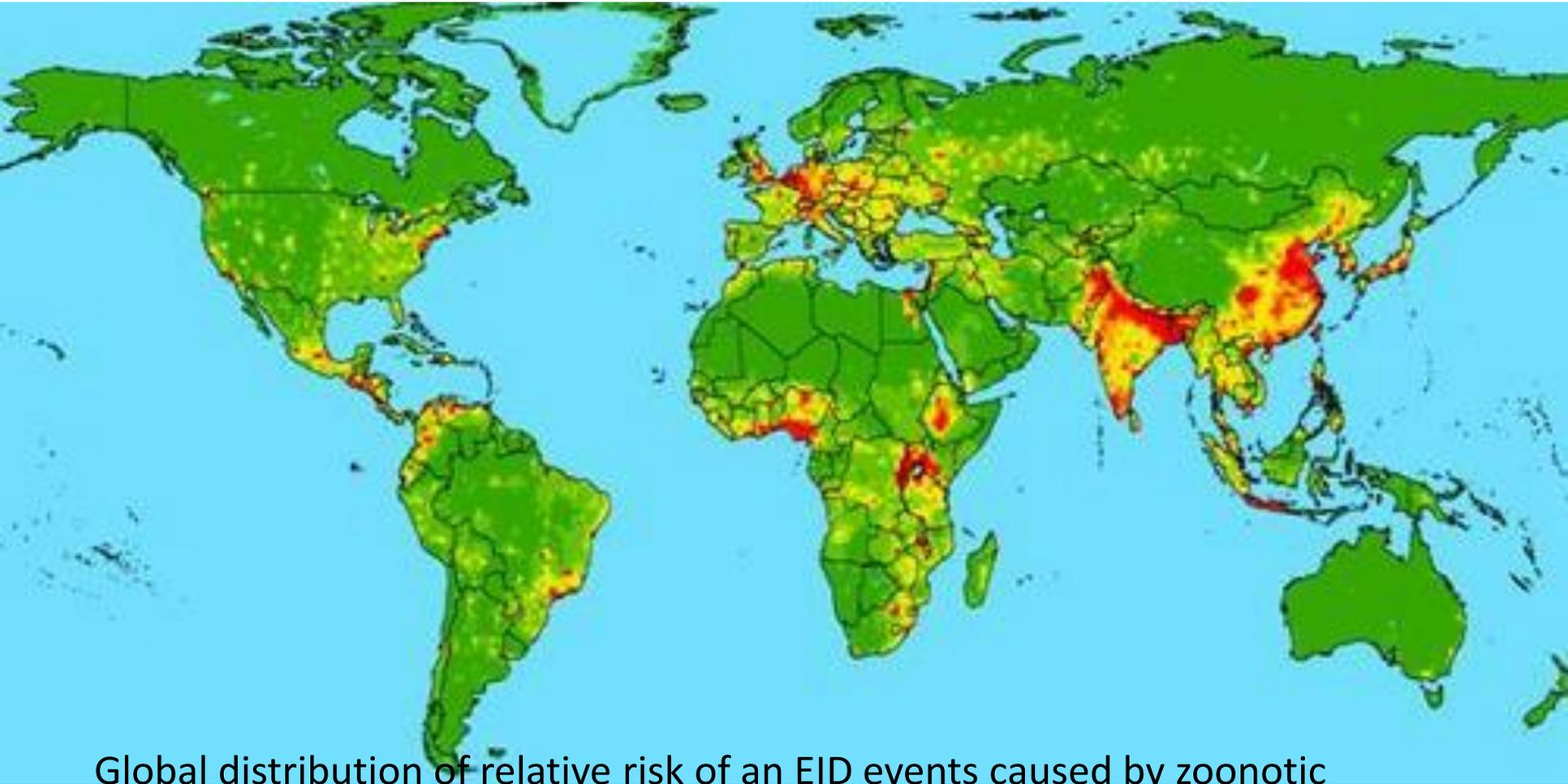
Results

- Projects being conducted independently share some common traits
- Evidence of donor agendas shaping adaptation work (geographic foci, timing of work)
- In general, project outputs have yet to drive on the ground actions on adaptation
- Ecosystems, people/livelihoods have most attention
- Spectrum of spatial scales

What is missing?

- Geographic coverage has large gaps
- Efforts are hindered by poor baseline knowledge, absence of comprehensive monitoring networks
- Consideration of human and wildlife disease
- Consideration of implications of human population increase
- Implementing findings through actions that change conservation planning and management
- Others?

Emerging Infectious Disease origin regions



Global distribution of relative risk of an EID events caused by zoonotic pathogens. The relative risk is mapped on a linear scale from green (lower values) to red (higher values)

Recommendations for future work

- Expand geographic coverage to all major targets for biodiversity conservation in Africa
- Increase monitoring to detect changes and understand their dynamic causation
- Address the “implementation gap”
- Increase attention to disease as factor in conservation under climate change
- increase integration of ecosystem and human adaptation, and increase partnerships to achieve adaptation, particularly with the development and disaster risk reduction sectors
- engagement with the energy, transport and agricultural sectors to promote green infrastructure through ecosystem services where appropriate, and avoid foreclosing future options with development of large-scale hard infrastructure
- engagement in regional, national and local policy and planning processes to mainstream adaptation, providing environmental inputs to vulnerability assessments and encouraging multi-disciplinary approaches

Break out group questions – to be discussed in the afternoon session

1. Is the report structure adequate? Does it miss any key components?
2. Does the introduction to the report adequately cover the major themes of climate change and adaptation?
3. How do people feel about the evaluation methodology? If there are problems, what needs to be done?
4. Is the results section adequate? Were any questions not asked that should be? Are there other important results that were overlooked?
5. Is there any feedback or additions on the section around lessons learnt?
6. Are there any other questions about the future pathways/opportunities section?
7. any other feedback?