

The 11th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation (CBA11), Kampala, Uganda, June 26-29, 2017.

The Community-Based Adaptation (CBA11) conference was held in the Ugandan Capital, Kampala. This year's Conference focused on harnessing natural resources and ecosystems for adaptation and highlighted the benefits and challenges of using them as part of the overall adaptation strategy. CBA focuses on empowering communities to use their own knowledge and decision-making processes to act on climate change. CBA11 provided an opportunity to review the latest developments in CBA practice, policy and theory with participants from around the world. The event enhanced the capacity of stakeholders to work together to improve the livelihoods of those most vulnerable to climate change.

The formal conference featured plenary and parallel interactive sessions, hands-on learning opportunities, group discussions, high-level speaker panels, video competitions and poster presentations among others. The conference was attended by participants from over 50 countries including policymakers, non-government organizations, research and policy institutes, those funding CBA initiatives, academics, government officials involved in adaptation and practitioners with grassroots experience. The Government of Uganda hosted the conference, which was managed by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), in collaboration with the International Centre on Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), and the Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovations (MUCCRI).

Ahead of the conference (22-25 June), 20 delegates took part in field visits to community adaptation projects located in a variety of ecosystems in Uganda. Three Climate Champions, working in partnership with the USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve Climate Change Adaptation (ERRICA), hosted the delegates in the field. The concept of a climate champion envisions a legacy of trained and climate capable individuals from around Uganda who become a nationwide network of local/regional "go-to" people for accurate and useful climate change advice to support a climate resilient Uganda. The Climate Champions are training their communities in climate smart agriculture and technologies, such as the use of improved seed crop and livestock varieties; contours; mulching; bottle irrigation; rain water harvesting; bio-intensive gardening i.e. commercial kitchen gardens, sac mounds, compost manure application, manufacture and use of organic pesticides.

On 28-29 June, a two-day Youth Conference ran parallel to the main CBA11 conference. The Youth Conference aimed at raising awareness, engaging, and sensitizing the youth on Community adaptation and resilience to Climate Change and building a knowledge and innovations base. Under the theme, 'enhancing the ability of youth to build ecosystem resilience', it examined ways to incorporate the ideas and innovations of youth in the policy recommendation on community-

based adaptation to climate change. It played a vital role in building a stronger network among youth participants and sharing their knowledge and ideas.

The Conference attracted over 150 youth from Uganda, Kenya, Namibia, India, Ethiopia, and Nepal. It was organised by MUCCRI, in collaboration with the European Union (EU), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), IIED, and the Uganda Ministry of Water and Environment.