

# Ecosystem-based Adaptation in a changing climate: from Practice to Policy?

Implementing climate change adaptation  
programmes: an EU perspective on the  
role of EbA

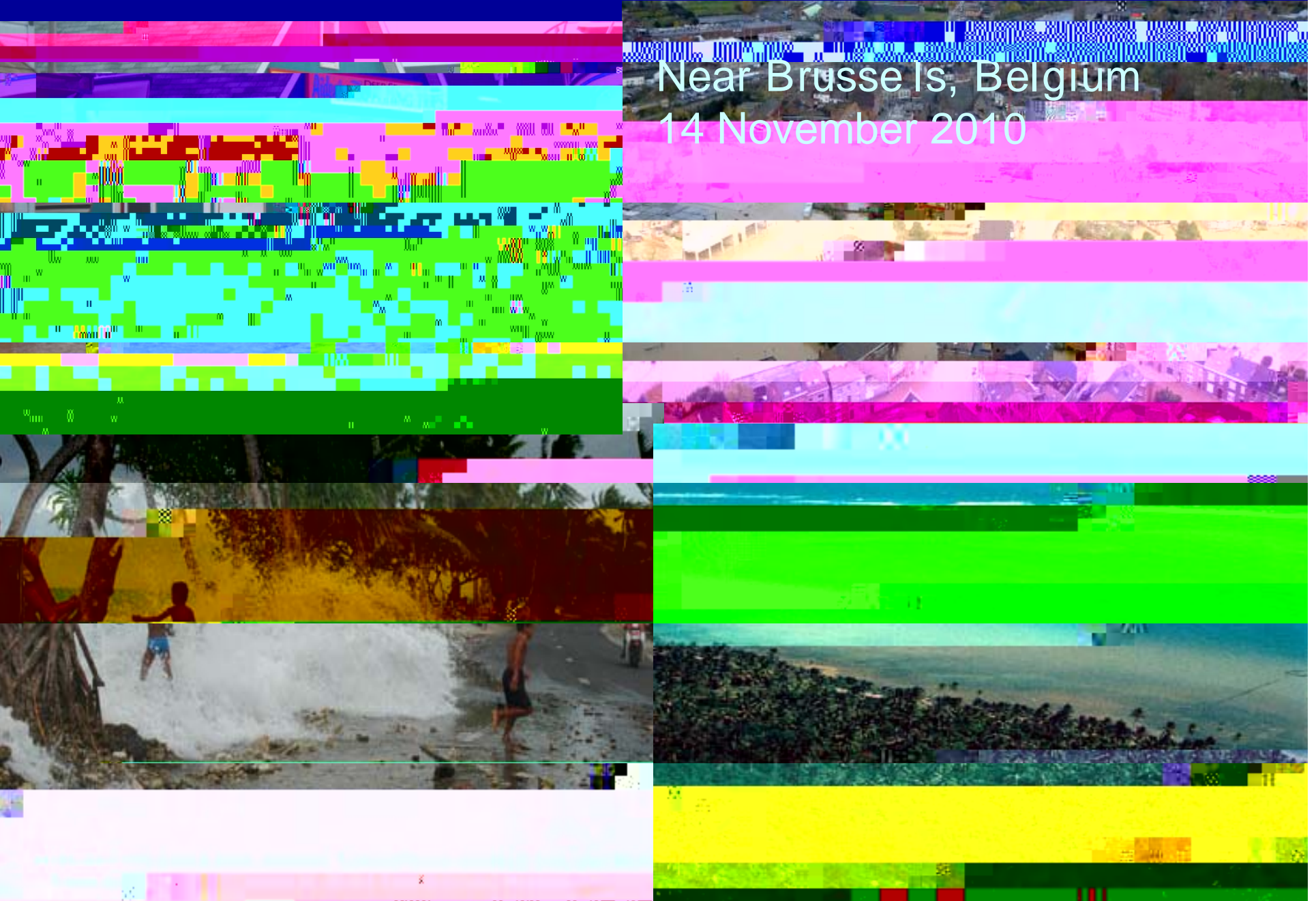
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Side-event Rio Conventions Pavilion, Durban, 3 December 2011



# LESS BIODIVERSITY – MORE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

Near Brusse Is, Belgium  
14 November 2010





# Dual Role

- Adaptation for Biodiversity
  - Preserving biodiversity resources
- Adaptation with Biodiversity
  - Ecosystem -based approaches to climate-change adaptation – short: Ecosystem-based adaptation, EbA
  - Working, building with nature
  -

# Working with nature part of the solution

## Ecosystem-based approaches

- are ready for use and easily accessible
- involve people and build responsibility

# Water Retention & Land Use related Measures

## Measures

Reforestation and afforestation  
Riparian forests and vegetation  
Meadows / Pastures restoration  
Buffer strips, Tillage, Terracing  
Crop practices, Green Cover  
Filter strips,

## Direct Impacts

improving soil's water

## ESS

Flood prevention

# Investing in ecosystem-based approaches - green infrastructure

- provides business and job opportunities
- contributes to green economy and sustainable development
- contributes to maintaining and restoring healthy ecosystems
- promotes creativity
  - discover “undiscovered solutions”
- valorises traditional knowledge
- helps building trust and partnerships



# What does the EU do?

- Policy development
  - EU biodiversity strategy
- Implementation
  - BEST Scheme (Biodiversity and EcosystemS in EU Territories)



# Implementation (1): BEST scheme

to promote conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the European Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories

- Specific objectives include – inter alia –  
... “addressing the wider ecosystem challenge by maintaining healthy, resilient ecosystems and fostering green... infrastructure and ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation which often bring multiple benefits” ...

# Open call for Proposals BEST-2011

8 proposals shortlisted including :

- **Piloting the Development and Implementation of National level Joint Activities between the**

Maintaining and restoring mangroves, coral reefs and flood plains contribute to flood and storm protection and capture and storage of carbon





# What next

- Green Infrastructure Strategy (green paper) upcoming in 2012
  - Studies
  - Expert Working Group
- Contribution to the Adaptation Framework upcoming in 2013