The Adaptive Watershed
Training program for inclusive, ecosystem-based watershed management
Module 1

Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals
Workshop orientation

Welcome, on behalf of IISD and IDRC

- What to expect: interactive, small-group learning, focused at the spatial scale of your watershed
- A facilitated experience guiding development and ecosystem-based adaptation for watershed management strategies
- Where this is going: actionable goals, guided implementation and accountability
- Commitment and follow up

Module 1: Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals
Activity: Introductions 20 min

- We will be working closely together and each person brings talent, experience and expertise.
- Take a moment to tell the rest of us:
  - Your name and institution
  - An obstacle you are working to address in the watershed
  - One thing you personally hope to know or be able to do differently after this workshop
  - One watershed-scale goal you would offer to make this a better place
Learning outcome & flow

Our goal is to empower watershed stakeholders, led by a local manager, in designing, implementing and evaluating an adaptive ecosystem-based approach to watershed management.

We are designing actions for the next 3–5 years that provide informed opportunities for managing the climactic and watershed conditions of 2030–2050.
Goals

• Build, share and refine a concept of how the watershed ecosystem functions
• Use that concept as a base upon which we will build and which we will refine as we discuss ecosystem management and climate change adaptation
• Agree upon a series of action steps, for the next 12 months and for 3–5 years, to empower an adaptable future … and accept accountability for those steps
Why those goals?

- Increase our ability to develop and evaluate alternative management approaches
- Increase our ability to identify, engage and communicate with a range of stakeholders
- Strengthen planning for reflective, adaptive management with measurable indicators for iterative and transparent goals
Ecosystem approach

- Framed as ecosystem goods and services (EGS)
- Incorporates the function of the watershed ecosystem into planning and management
- Guides management of water and land within the watershed
- Helps maintain ecosystem health
- Incorporates stakeholder values to influence behaviour, increasing adaptability

Module 1: Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals
Ecosystem approach

“… focuses on the broader goal of balancing and sustaining ecosystem services, complementing IWRM as a strategy for the integrated management of water, land and living resources in a way that maintains ecosystem health and productivity in balance with sustainable water use … it links ecosystem service delivery and human needs.”

– The Critical Connection
Ecosystem management

- Uses an ecosystem approach
- Applies lessons of holistic ecosystem functions within a management-defined area
- For us, “management area” is the watershed
Climate-sensitive adaptation

1. Consider watershed livelihoods
2. Analyze climactic risks
3. Identify and prioritize adaptation options
4. Ensure that priorities address gender equity and the needs of vulnerable groups
5. Design actions to facilitate priority options
6. Identify key outcomes to be measured
7. Assess outcomes and change management as appropriate
# The overall flow

## Themes
- Understanding our watershed and our people
- Making informed decisions for an adaptive watershed plan
- Inclusive management: committing to action and evaluation

## Learning Path
- Understand the watershed
- Analyze risks to ecosystems and livelihoods
- Identify and prioritize options
- Identify opportunities & constraints
- Monitor, evaluate and adapt
- Engage and communicate

## Modules
1. Introduction
2. The Watershed and its Socioeconomic Context
3. Stakeholders and Vulnerable Social Groups
4. Ecosystems, Ecosystem Services, Structure and Function
5. Climate Change Impacts in the Watershed
6. Non-Climatic Stressors and their Impacts in the Watershed
7. Ecosystems Under a Changing Climate
8. Managing for Ecosystem Services
9. Understanding the Policy Context
10. A Toolbox for Adaptation
11. Trade-offs in Adaptive Ecosystem Management
13. Building a Path to the Future
14. Engaging with Stakeholders on Implementing a Path to an Adaptive Watershed

## Learning activities
- Understand the concepts
- Map the watershed
- Identify climatic and non-climatic stressors and impacts on the watershed
- Explore possible adaptation actions
- Determine management actions and the data required
- Align actions with existing SDGs, national/local policies and programs
- Explore existing tools for watershed management
- Understand trade-offs and how to select fair goals
- Understand monitoring indicators, reporting and how to adapt your plan
- Identify goals and actions for the coming year
- Communicate your plan with transparency

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**Module 1:** Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals
The modules and activities of Theme 1. Our Watershed Ecosystem: Understanding our place and people

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Learning activities</th>
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<td>• Understanding the Concepts</td>
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<td>2. The Watershed and its Socioeconomic context</td>
<td>• Map the Watershed</td>
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<td>3. Stakeholders and Vulnerable Social Groups</td>
<td>• Significant Land Uses</td>
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Module 1: **Introduction**: Structure, expectations, goals
The modules and activities of theme 1. (continued)

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<td>5. Climate Change Impacts in the Watershed</td>
<td>• Identify climatic and non-climatic stressors and impacts on the watershed</td>
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A mid-workshop assessment between Modules 5 and 6 - requesting your input

Module 1: Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals
The modules and activities of theme 2.
Setting priorities and making informed decisions

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<td>9. Understanding Policy Context</td>
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Module 1: *Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals*
The modules and activities of Theme 2 (continued)

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Module 1: Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals
The modules and activities of Theme 3
Adaptive thinking and committing to action to prepare for the future

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<tr>
<td>12. Adaptive Management and Evaluation</td>
<td>• Understanding monitoring indicators, reporting and how to adapt your plan</td>
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<td>13. Building a Path to the Future</td>
<td>• Identify goals and actions for the coming year</td>
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Module 1: Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals
### The modules and activities of Theme 3. (continued)

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<td>14. Engaging with Stakeholders on Implementing a Path to an Adaptive Watershed</td>
<td>• Communicate your plan with transparency</td>
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Module 1: **Introduction: Structure, expectations, goals**
Questions? (15 min)

- Are there elements of the workshop structure that are unclear?
- Are there specific goals you have that might not be met with that structure?