



UNEP and the European Commission are promoting improved ecosystems management for disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR) to achieve sustainable and disaster-resilient development. From 2012-2015, field-based demonstration projects are being implemented in four countries: Sudan, Afghanistan, Haiti and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

## ECO-DRR PROJECT FACT SHEET

# AFGHANISTAN



### **MOUNTAIN PARTNERS: INCREASING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN RESPONSE TO SEVERE WINTERS AND FLOODS**

In Bamyan, the Central Highlands are renowned for their exceptional beauty and unique ecology. Yet, they experience harsh winters and flash floods from rapid snowmelt in spring-time. Over many generations, people learned to survive and adapt in these extreme environments. However, a growing population, decades of conflict and climate change are placing major pressures on the natural resources that local communities depend on for their livelihoods. Overgrazing and over extraction of

fuel wood have resulted in de-vegetation and severe degradation of rangelands, which in turn puts people at greater risk of floods and extreme cold.

Our Eco-DRR strategy applies a catchment-based approach for disaster risk-sensitive and sustainable land-use planning in the Koh-e Baba watershed. Improved land management provides livelihood benefits as well as re-establishes natural protective buffers, enhancing community resilience against disasters.

## **WORKING THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS**

**UNEP works through its local and national partners to implement the Eco-DRR Project in Afghanistan.**

Key partners include:

National Government of Afghanistan:

- Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority
- National Environmental Protection Agency
- Ministries for Agriculture and Rural Development

Provincial Government of Bamyan

Conservation Organisation for Afghan Mountain Areas (COAM)

Community Development Councils under the framework of the National Solidarity Programme

Save the Children

Kabul University

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

## PLANNED INTERVENTIONS

Community tree nurseries

Reforestation and rehabilitation of slopes prone to avalanche and floods

Trainings on community-based nursery management

Community-based early warning and disaster preparedness trainings

Village-level Green and Resilient Development Planning in seven villages

Cluster village development planning in three village clusters, based on the seven village development plans

Cluster village development plans integrated into the Koh-e Baba Mountain Area District Plan, encompassing the Koh-e Baba watershed

National Training on Eco-DRR for Sustainable Development

National and community-level awareness raising on ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction

## CONTACTS

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## OUR TARGETS

**Six community nurseries established** for seven villages, with each nursery producing 200,000 saplings of indigenous and hazard-resilient tree species, namely apple, apricot, almond, walnut, pear, peach and poplar, that also provide additional income to households

**163,000 tree cuttings planted** in selected avalanche and flood prone areas across the seven villages

**Building designs for winter-resilient, community centers developed**, that will benefit 1,200 households in 12 communities by providing safe shelters and a place for environmental education and livelihood trainings

**Seven trainings on early warning and disaster preparedness conducted** in the seven targeted villages

**Nine trainings delivered on community-based nursery management**, involving women and vulnerable households as primary beneficiaries

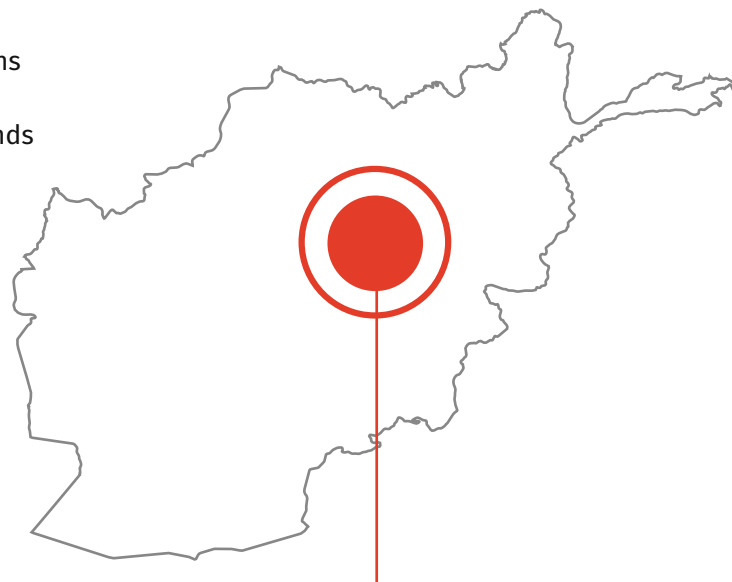
**Seven village development plans and three cluster village development plans**

**Eco-DRR approaches mainstreamed in provincial development plans** in Bamyan



### ECOSYSTEMS IN FOCUS

Mountains  
Forests  
Rangelands



### MAIN HAZARDS TARGETED

Harsh winter  
Avalanche  
Flood



### LOCATION

The Koh-e Baba Mountain range, Bamyan Province  
**Target:** 7 villages in 3 village clusters (Kushkak, Foladi and Dukoni)