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#GGSD  
Forum

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Valerie Kapos is Head of the Climate Change & Biodiversity Programme of the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre. She leads the Centre's work on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and the role of ecosystems, in climate change mitigation and adaptation – nature-based solutions. Particular foci are REDD+ and management of ecosystems other than forests for mitigation, and ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation (EbA).

The work on mitigation focuses on supporting decision makers to take account of biodiversity and ecosystem services in planning and implementing REDD+ and other ecosystem management action that delivers multiple environmental benefits. Countries are also supported to develop their approaches to the Cancun Safeguards and to identify and address the potential risks and benefits of REDD+ accordingly.

The Programme's work on EbA focuses on building the evidence base on the effectiveness of EbA approaches, identifying and promoting good practice, including in monitoring and evaluation, and supporting public and private sector decision makers in incorporating ecosystems/NbS in adaptation planning and policy, and in implementing such options for adaptation to climate change.

Before joining UNEP-WCMC, Val spent over 15 years doing field research in tropical forest ecology in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has published over 65 peer reviewed journal papers, and numerous (over 150) articles, technical reports, book chapters.