

Common conservation challenges in a changing climate

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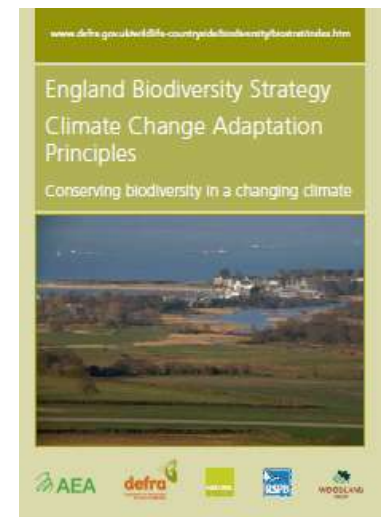
Conservation & adaptation

- ▶ Thinking is neither new nor specific to climate change
- ▶ BUT presents common/immediate challenges to understand & work with natural systems



EBS Climate Change Adaptation Principles

- ▶ Take practical action now
- ▶ Maintain & increase ecological resilience
- ▶ Accommodate change
- ▶ Integrate action across all sectors
- ▶ Develop knowledge & plan strategically





WTPPL

Conservation organisations cannot deliver >>>
scale/type of action required



Indirect impacts of climate change could be more damaging >>




Focusing on biodiversity is allowing continued erosion of our natural environment >>>

Challenges for Government



Government needs to recognise:


- ▶ Environment is the basis of all useful function
 - ▶ Everyone needs to understand their reliance on it, impacts and responsibilities
 - ▶ Sustainable self-organisation happens if benefits are $>$ costs of rules; loss of short-term gains are offset; there is no cheating
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Converting vision to reality requires:

- ▶ Outcome indicators embedded across Depts
- ▶ Valuation of ecosystem services
- ▶ Enabling mechanisms
- ▶ Using the Govt estate as an exemplar




Enabling mechanisms include:

- ▶ Promoting indicative spatial planning
 - ▶ Integrating, simplifying & promoting AES
 - ▶ Reinforcing planning should conserve the environment & increasing habitat protection
 - ▶ Taxing polluters
 - ▶ Giving tax breaks for investing in sustainable management
 - ▶ Using the Green Investment Bank to stimulate delivery of ecosystem services
 - ▶ Encouraging green tariffs & biodiversity offsets
 - ▶ Enabling generation of domestic carbon credits by UK forestry
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Challenges for conservation organisations




Conservation organisations need to focus on being catalysts by:

- ▶ Helping Govt promote understanding of impacts & dependencies on biodiversity/ ecosystem services & associated risks & opportunities
 - ▶ Helping Govt identify/promote best practice
 - ▶ Advising land/resource managers
 - ▶ Securing/brokering corporate funding
 - ▶ Supporting community action (inevitably location-specific and sporadic)
 - ▶ Enabling dialogue between Big Society & Govt
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Challenges for local authorities



Local authorities need to:

- ▶ Involve all stakeholders in indicative spatial planning
 - ▶ Protect all high quality habitats from development
 - ▶ Implement an ecosystems approach on their land
 - ▶ Support community action
 - ▶ Enable dialogue between Big Society and Government
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Challenges for companies & land/resource managers



Companies & land/resource managers need to:

- ▶ Identify impacts/dependencies on biodiversity & ecosystem services
- ▶ Assess associated risks and opportunities
- ▶ Avoid, minimise and mitigate risks
- ▶ Grasp opportunities – cost efficiencies new products & markets



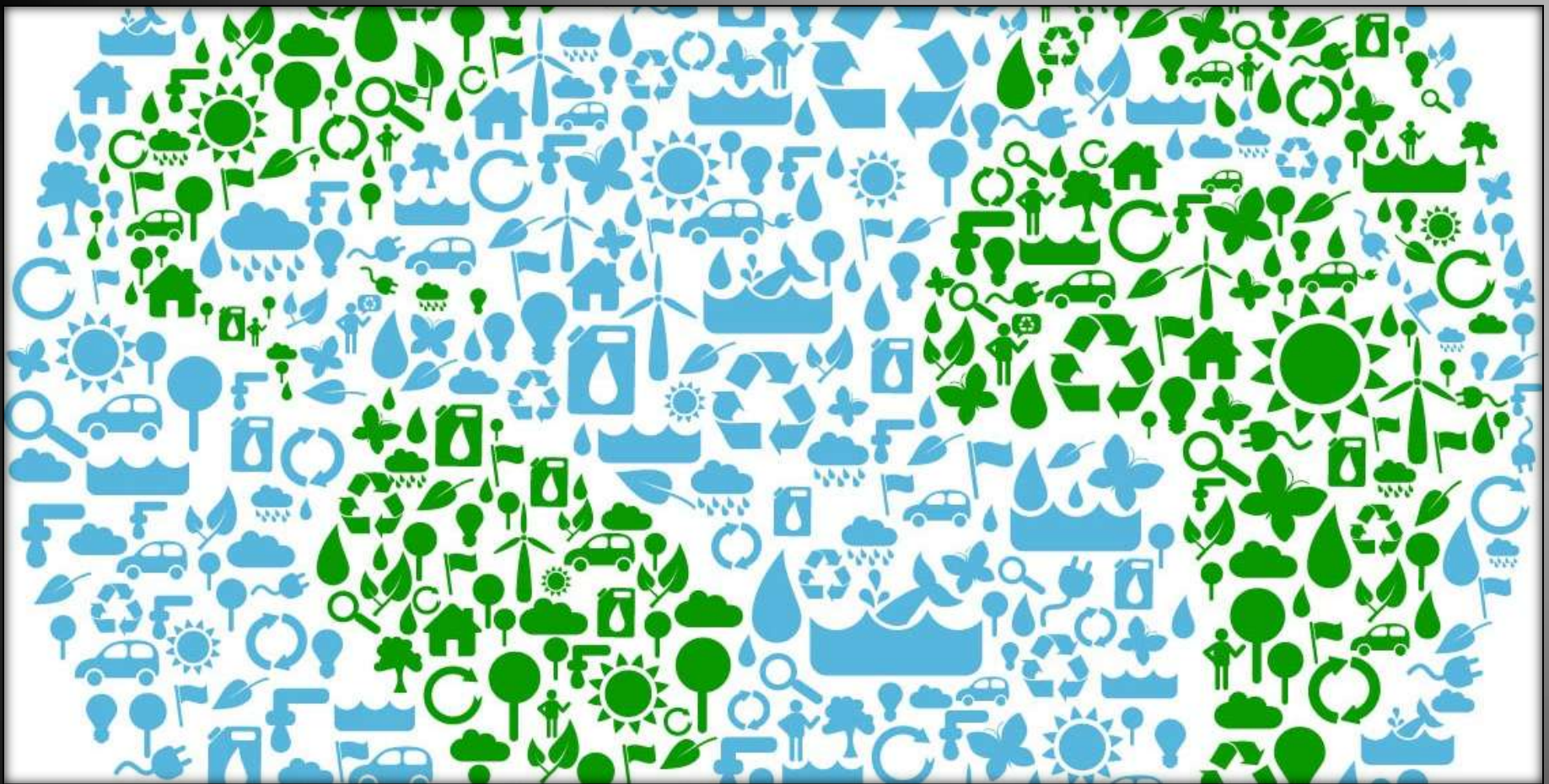
Challenges for everyone



Individually, we all need to:

- ▶ Understand our impacts on the environment
- ▶ Reduce our impacts
- ▶ Take action to protect & enhance the environment locally & nationally
- ▶ Take responsibility for telling authorities where policies are leading to degradation and where action could improve the environment





Not throwing the baby out with the bathwater, >>>
just a bath for all