FAVOUR OR RESTORE NATIVE SPECIES

OBJECTIVE

Favour and restore native species that could better adapt to future conditions.

DESCRIPTION

To favour native and more resilient species in a community or forest type should get better under future climate change can facilitate a gradual shift in the forest composition. Establishing or emphasizing future-adapted species now may create opportunities to fill the niche left by species that decline. Where communities are dominated by one or a few species, this approach will probably lead to conversion to a different community type, albeit with native species.
Examples: underplanting a variety of native species on a site to increase overall species richness and provide more options for future management; favouring or establishing oak, pine, and other species more tolerant to drought and heat on narrow ridge tops, south-facing slopes with shallow soils, or other sites that are expected to become warmer and drier; seeding or planting drought-resistant genotypes of commercial species (e.g., loblolly pine) where increased drought stress is expected.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Identified species that withstand future climate conditions and be adapted to harsh urban environments.

RESULT INDICATORS

Number of native species preserved.

INVOLVED ACTORS

Animal or plant experts, natural managers, communities, scientists.

EXPECTED TIMELINE FOR ACTION

- Medium term (5-10 years)
- Long term (> 10 years)

BEST PRACTICES

- Caribbean; Midwest & Northwest – USA

CRITICALITIES

Different tolerances to future climatic conditions by species.

SCOPE OF THE ACTION

- Adaptation

TYPE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Green

SECTOR OF ACTION

- Agriculture / Forests / Land use
- Biodiversity / Conservation of ecosystems
- Public health
- Tourism and leisure
- Urban settlement
- Other

CLIMATE IMPACTS

- Change or loss of biodiversity
- Drought
- Extreme precipitation
- Extreme temperatures
- Fires
- Floods
- Salinization and acidification of water
- Strong winds
- Other

IMPLEMENTATION SCALE

- Region / Country

SOURCE

https://adaptationworkbook.org/niacs-strategies/forest
https://www.fs.usda.gov/ccrc/approach/favor-or-restore-native-species-are-expected-be-adapted-future-conditions-0