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Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) strategies may contribute positively to combat climate change risks in Iran. Aim: identify strategies applied in practice to improve the economic conditions of local communities. Data were collected by interviews and field observations.

Four EbA strategies were identified: changing croplands into sumac woodlands, establishing agroforestry systems, changing cropping patterns, and collecting Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs).

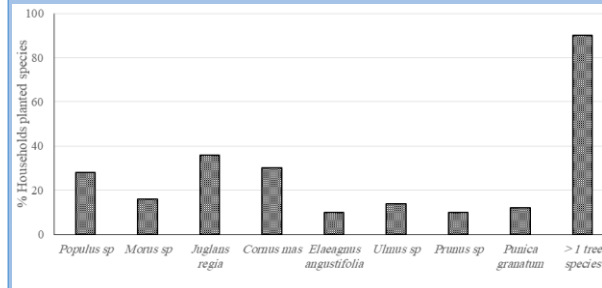
Naumann et al. 2011. Assessment of the potential of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation in Europe. Pramova et al. 2012. Forests and trees for social adaptation to climate variability and change. Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change, 3(6): 581-596.

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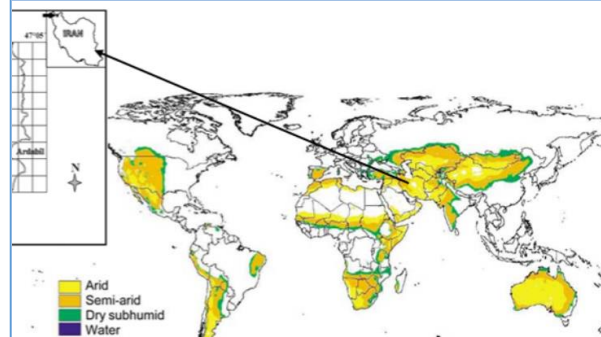
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Farmland area (ha) was an opportunity for sumac planting, especially on the sloped farmlands. The mean farmland area was 5.9 ha per household and we found that each household has converted about one-hectare of farmland into sumac stands. Most of the households of the six villages (82%) were found to be involved in intensively planting sumac.



Our research found that the vast majority of households (91%) were involved in some type of agroforestry. In agroforestry, the tree species used is usually determined based on financial revenue and its effectiveness in adapting to climate change.

Data were collected using a socio-economic survey. The socio-economic survey included various methods including, field observations, informal discussions, focus group discussions (FGD) and implementation of a household survey. We identified four adaptation strategies through field observations which included, changing croplands into sumac woodlands, agroforestry, changing cropping patterns, and collecting Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs).



استراتژی های سازگاری مبتنی بر اکوسیستم ممکن است به طور مثبت در مقابله با خطرات تغییر آب و هوا مانند امنیت غذایی در ایران کمک کند. داده ها با مصاحبه و مشاهدات میدانی درباره دانش و انتظارات جوامع در مورد خدمات اکوسیستم های آینده، جمع آوری شد. چهار استراتژی مشخص شد: تغییر زمین های زراعی به جنگل های سماق، توسعه سیستم های اگر فارستری، تغییر الگوهای کشت و جمع آوری محصولات جنگلی غیر چوبی.

Climate change increases the odds of worsening droughts occurring in many parts of the world. Although short-term global droughts have remained relatively constant across the world, many intense or long-term droughts have been observed in arid and semi-arid regions since the 1970s. Rural communities are particularly vulnerable due to their high reliance on natural systems because of the type of activities. Throughout history, rural households and smallholder farmers have adapted to and coped with climate change risks.