

Seeking to **protect and restore coastal blue carbon ecosystems** for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The International Partnership for Blue Carbon brings together governments, research institutions and non-government organisations who are collaborating to enhance understanding of coastal blue carbon ecosystems. We are coordinating efforts to increase the capacity of governments and their partners to develop and implement policies and projects. We are doing this by:



BUILDING AWARENESS

in the international community of the importance of coastal blue carbon ecosystems for climate change adaptation and mitigation, and ecosystem services.



SHARING KNOWLEDGE

expertise and experience to build capacity in blue carbon policy, science and practical action.



ACCELERATING PRACTICAL ACTION

to protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems in identified priority regional 'hot-spots'.

Coastal blue carbon ecosystems

The term 'coastal blue carbon ecosystems' refers to three main types of vegetated coastal habitats – mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses. These ecosystems are globally significant carbon sinks – sequestering two to four times more carbon than terrestrial forests – and are increasingly being recognised for their role in mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change. Coastal blue carbon ecosystems also help protect coastlines, regulate water quality, provide habitat for commercially important fisheries and endangered marine species, and provide food security and sustainable livelihoods for many coastal communities.



MANGROVES

Mangroves are evergreen shrub lands or forests that occur in tropical and subtropical shores and estuaries, which generally grow from mean sea level to the highest spring tide. Countries with the largest areas of mangroves include Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria and Papua New Guinea.



TIDAL MARSHES

Tidal marshes are dominated by dense salt-tolerant plants such as succulent herbs and low shrubs, and grasses. They are found on soft sediments on sheltered coastlines, they are from the sub-arctic to the tropics, though most extensively in the temperate zones of Europe, North America, and Australia and in the higher latitudes of South-America and Africa.



SEAGRASSES

Seagrasses are communities of underwater-flowering plants and are generally restricted to habitats with sediments comprised of sand, silt and mud and high light availability. Seagrasses prefer wave-sheltered conditions and are found in coastal waters of all continents except Antarctica.

What we're doing



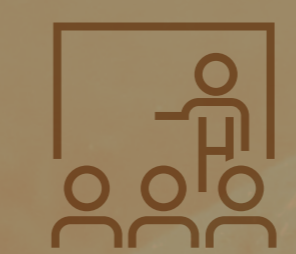
Coordination, communication and connection

- Linking governments, experts and on-ground practitioners, to facilitate knowledge sharing on science, international frameworks, projects and tools.
- Sharing project success stories and challenges by collating and disseminating case studies, as a resource for understanding blue carbon management.
- Regularly sharing updates and links to resources to inform our individual and collective efforts.



Policy dialogues and resource development

- Producing guidance material on commonly identified challenges and opportunities.
- Meeting virtually via focal groups to hold discussions with experts and government policy makers around barriers to action and ways the Partnership might be able to help.
- Sharing lessons learned and experiences in implementing blue carbon policies to support increased policy uptake and practical action by governments.



Event hosting and strategic planning

- Hosting side-events at international climate change and environment meetings, and conducting targeted workshops in priority regions – some events serve to raise awareness in the broader community, while others address a specific challenge or technical issue.

GET INVOLVED AND FIND OUT MORE

Join a growing number of international governments, intergovernmental bodies, research institutions and non-government organisations who are collaborating on the International Partnership for Blue Carbon. Visit the website to find out more and get in touch with the coordinator.

BlueCarbonPartnership.org