

Blue Carbon Initiative

Emily Pidgeon Ph.D.
Conservation International

Steve Crooks Ph.D.
Silvestrum Climate Associates

Kirsten Isensee
IOC UNESCO

Dorothee Herr
IUCN (formerly)

the
**BLUE
CARBON**
initiative

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

International Blue Carbon Scientific Working Group



2010



2020



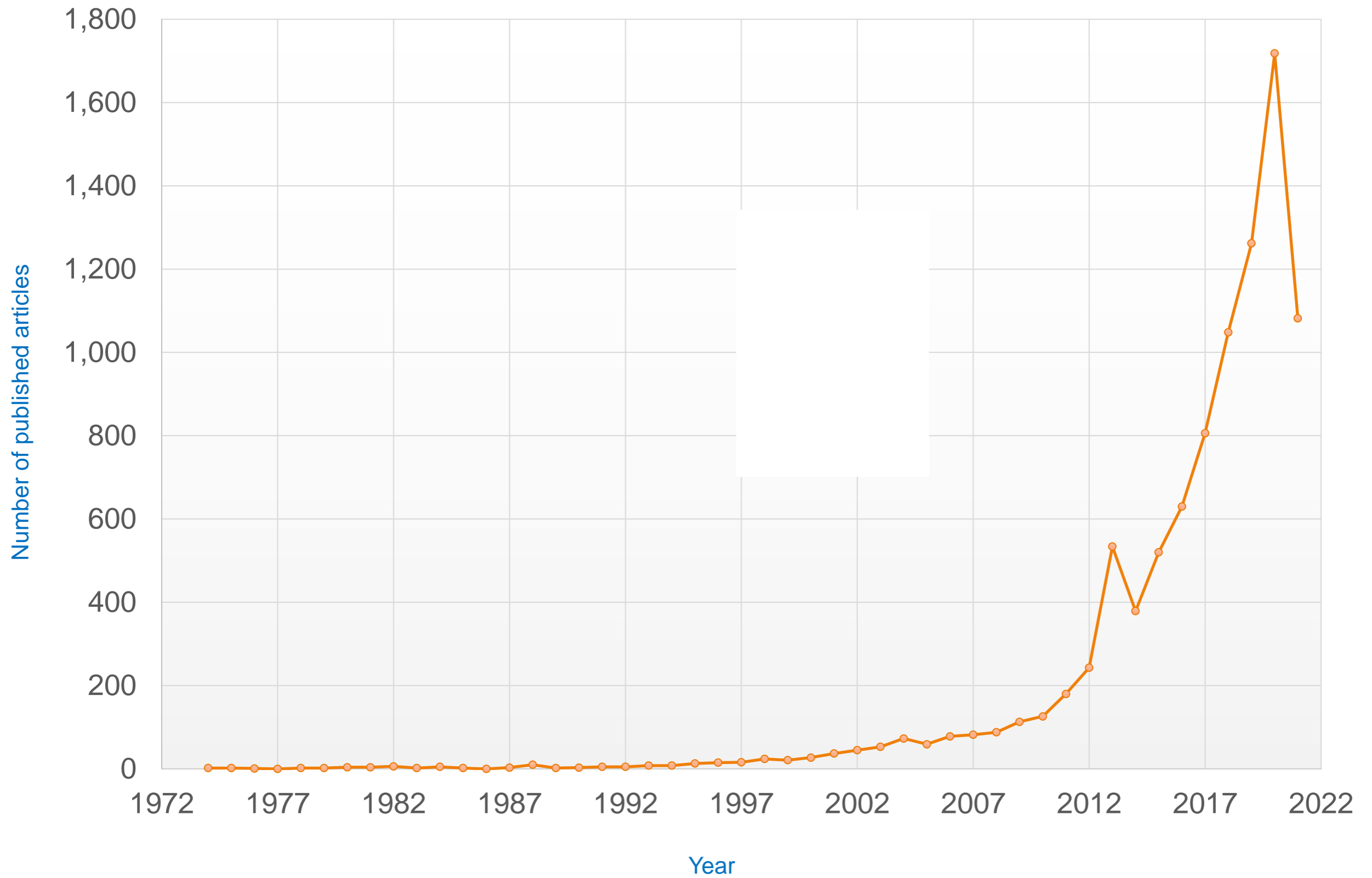


UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE UK 2021




IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



Blue Carbon in the Science Literature



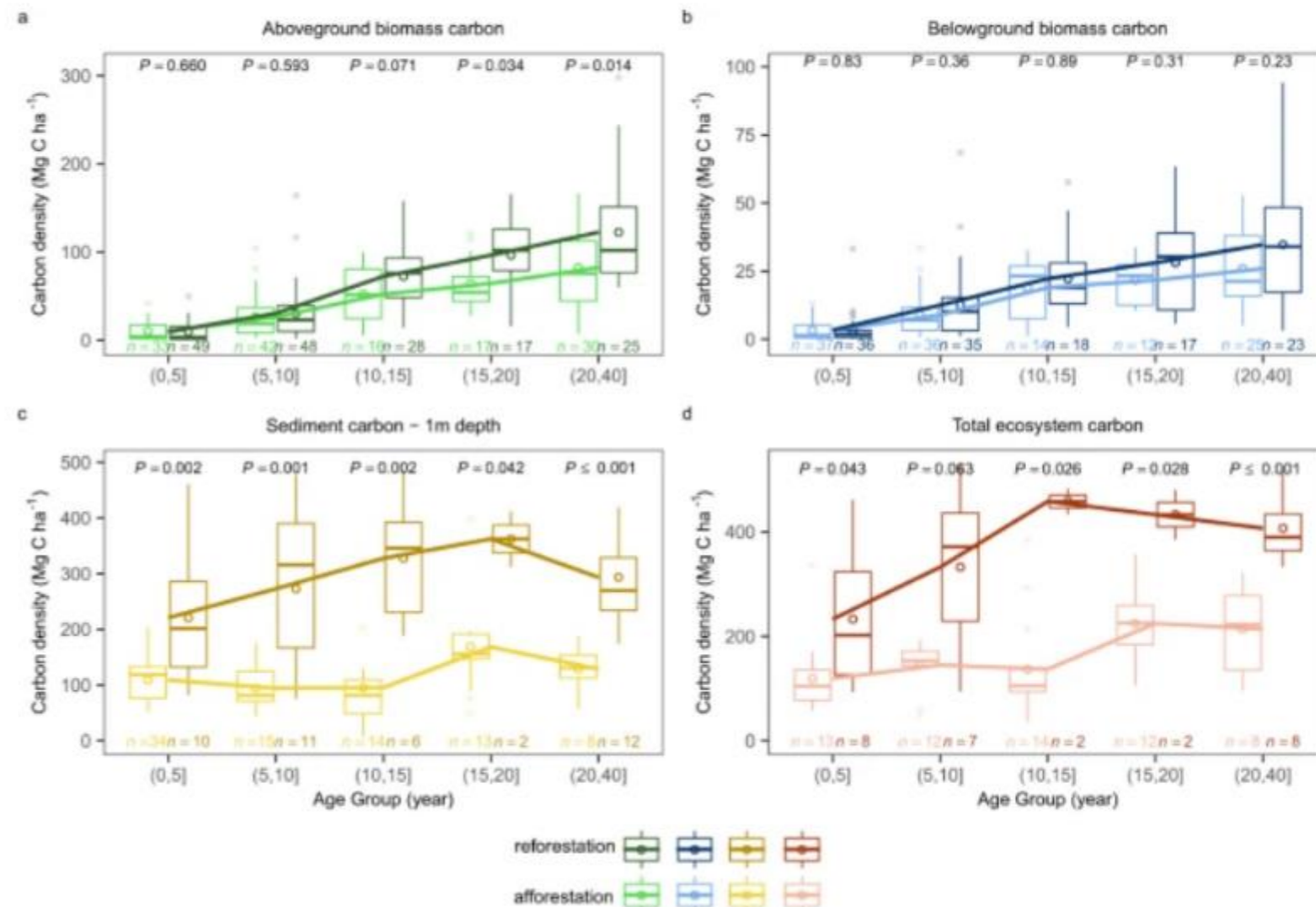
Mangrove reforestation provides greater blue carbon benefit than afforestation for mitigating global climate change

[Shanshan Song](#), [Yali Ding](#) , [Wei Li](#) , [Yuchen Meng](#), [Jian Zhou](#), [Ruikun Gou](#), [Conghe Zhang](#), [Shengbin Ye](#), [Neil Saintilan](#), [Ken W. Krauss](#), [Stephen Crooks](#), [Shuguo Lv](#) & [Guanghai Lin](#) 

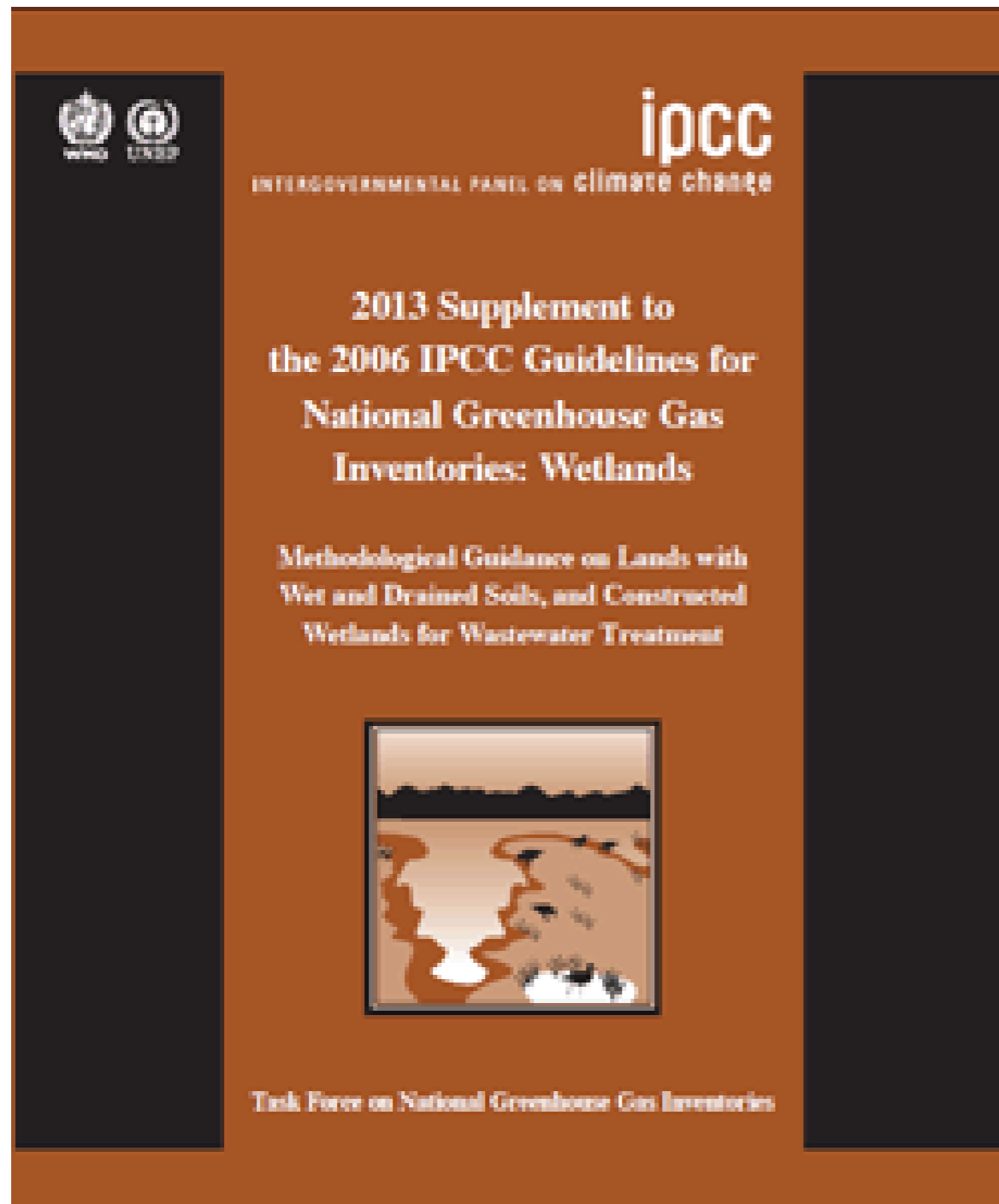
[Nature Communications](#) **14**, Article number: 756 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

3969 Accesses | **80** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Fig. 2: Comparison of carbon density between mangrove reforestation and afforestation projects over a 40-year period.



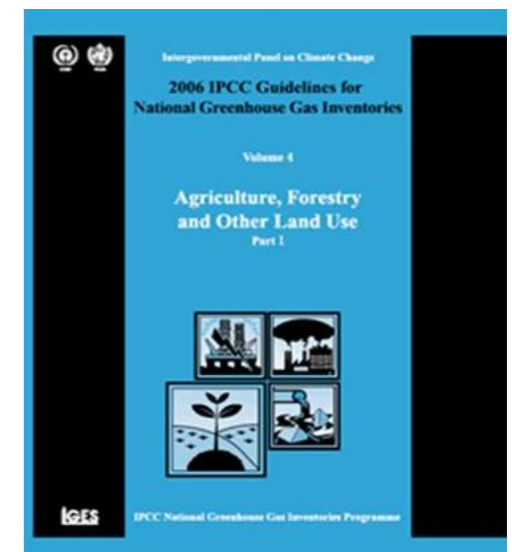
Integrating Blue Carbon Science into Policy Tools



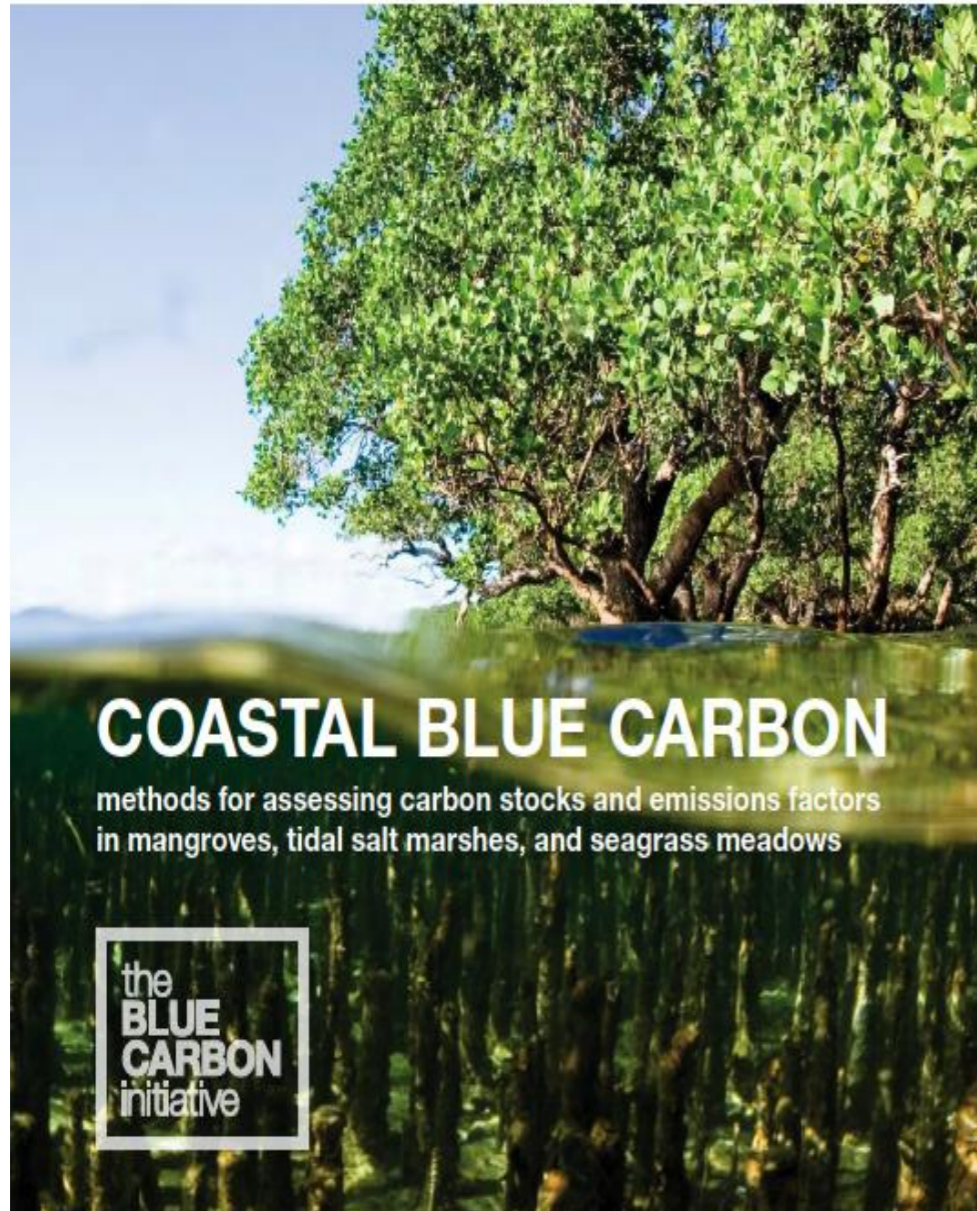
2013 Supplement to the
2006 IPCC Guidelines
for National Greenhouse
Gas Inventories:
Wetlands

+

2019
Refinement

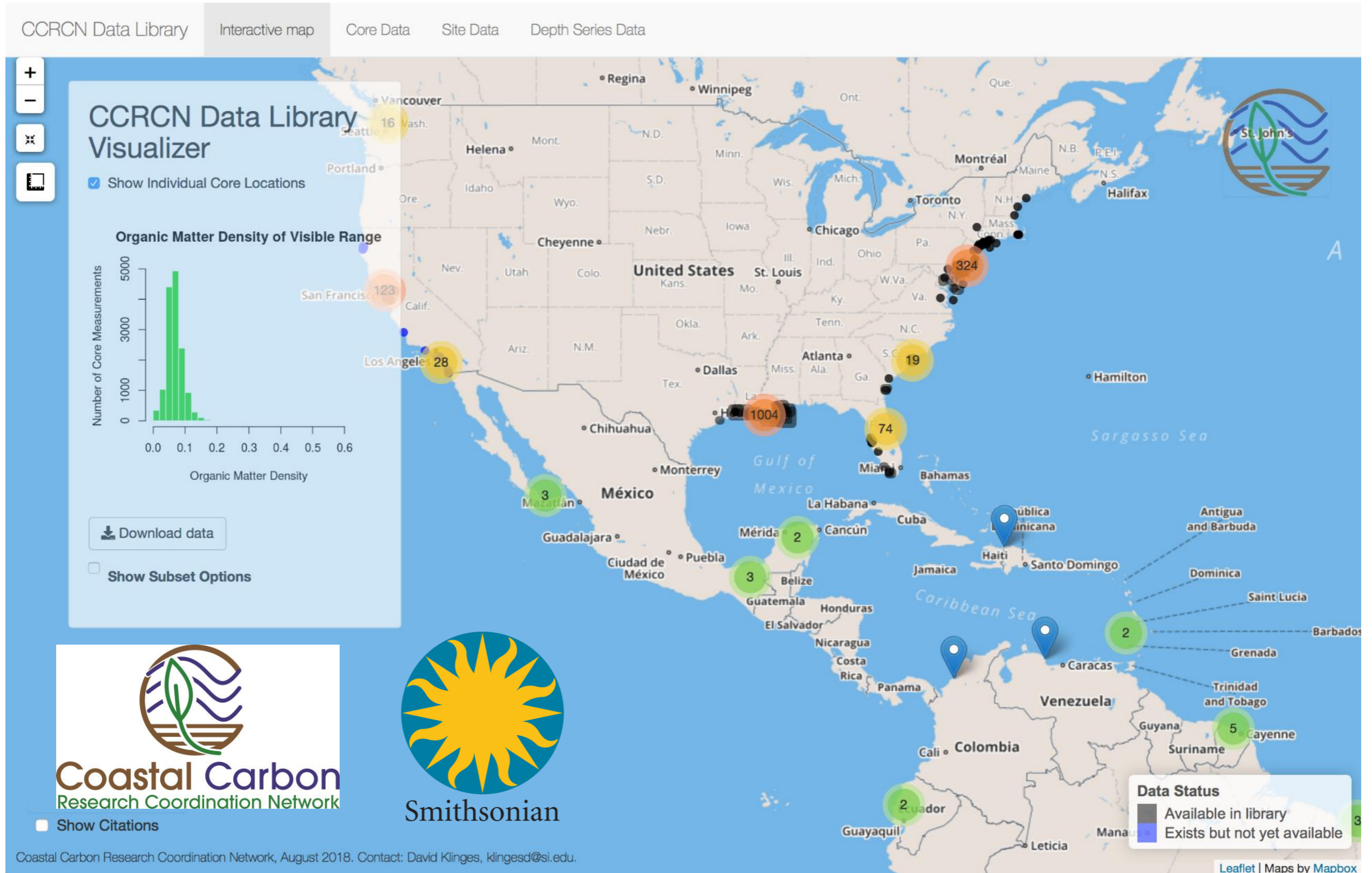


Globally accessible standards and methods? Is it practical?



Free to download:
thebluecarboninitiative.org/manual

Coastal Carbon Research Coordination Network





BLUE CARBON AND NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS



Guidelines on Enhanced Action

A guide on how countries may include blue carbon in their Nationally Determined Contributions



Options for strengthening action on the ocean and coasts under the UNFCCC

June 2022

Coastal mangrove forest in the Bahamas. © Jill Hamilton

An earlier version of this options paper was published in October 2021, prior to COP 26. This is an updated version reflecting the developments under ongoing UNFCCC processes.

Executive Summary

The science is clear and the findings are sobering—anthropogenic climate change is impacting the ocean, and ocean dependent communities, to an unprecedented degree. Sea levels are rising at alarming rates, ocean temperatures are the warmest since records began, marine heatwaves are becoming more frequent and intense, and increased carbon dioxide levels are absorbed by the ocean, causing acidification and harming life below water.¹

The relationship between ocean and climate was specifically referenced in the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group II Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) published in February 2022,² which highlighted the current state of knowledge on the importance of coastal and marine ecosystems for climate adaptation and mitigation, and provided solutions to respond to the climate crises. The ocean has a critical role in regulating the Earth's climate, yet it is at jeopardy if we continue to misuse the ocean's carbon sink capacity as a buffer to atmospheric changes. Global cooperation to address and respond to the interlinked challenges of the ocean and climate change is more urgent than ever before. The ocean holds a suite of solutions—both for mitigation and adaptation—if implemented coherently and sustainably.

¹ IPCC. (2021). "Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change." https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_SPM.pdf

² IPCC. (2022). "Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability." <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-ii/>

How do we access climate change financing?

Connecting Blue Carbon to Carbon Markets

Tidal Wetland Restoration & Methodologies
Conservation

VCS WRC (VM0033)

VCS REDD+MF (VM0007)



VCS Methodology

VM0007

REDD+ Methodology Framework (REDD+ MF)

Version 1.6
08 September 2020
Sectoral Scope 14

MIKOKO PAMOJA - KENYA



- “Mangroves Together”
- The first mangrove PES project in the world
- A community-led project in south coast Kenya

Objective: Restoration and protection of mangroves through sale of **carbon credits**

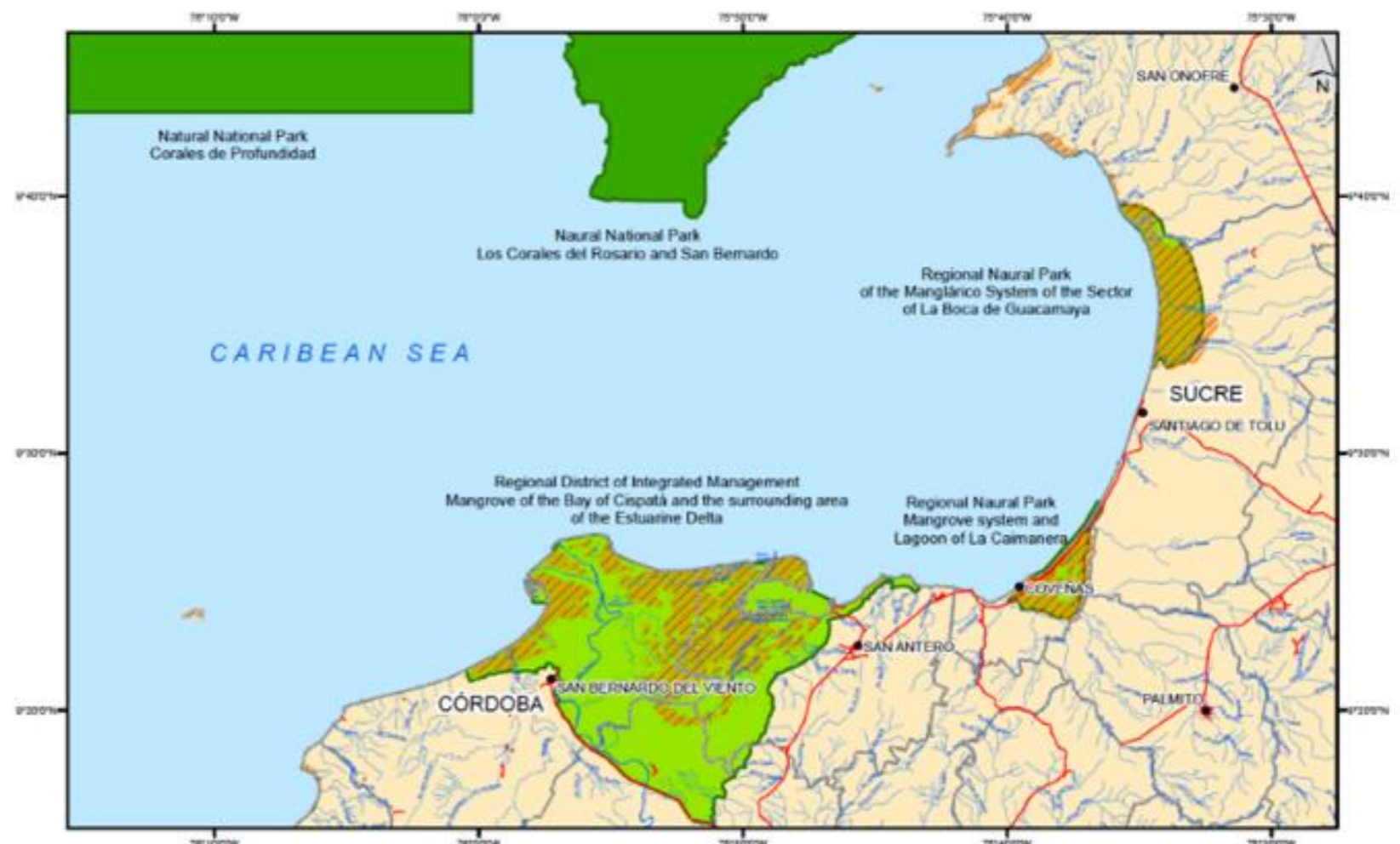
- Verified 20yrs by **Plan Vivo standards**
- Carbon sold into voluntary market = 3,000 tCO₂

Cispata, Colombia

Protect and restore 11,000+ hectares of mangrove forests

1 million tons of VCUs

financing for sustainable ecotourism, aquaculture, and improved fishing practices in community of 12,000



Indus Delta Blue Carbon Project: Massive Scale



INDUS DELTA
CAPITAL





Standards for a
Sustainable Future



Seascope Carbon Initiative

Contact: Liz Guinessey, Verra,

Steve Crooks, Silvestrum.