

**PEW TRUSTS -**  
**ADVANCING**  
**COASTAL**  
**WETLANDS**  
**CONSERVATION**  
**PROJECT**





# What

- Commitments to mangrove, seagrass and/or saltmarsh ecosystems in countries Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement.
- “Blue carbon” ecosystems – adaptation & mitigation.
- Alternative - not substitute - policy framing.
- NbS in practice

# How

1. Nationally Determined

2. Project Partnerships:

- Political process – technical NDC development.
- Strengthened capacity (research/policy/finance/outreach) – implementation.
- Locally “owned”.
- Ideally, scalable/replicable learnings/components.
- Partnerships

# How



# Where: 2019-22



# 2020/21 NDCs



- Map seagrass ecosystems across full 1.3m km<sup>2</sup> EEZ
- 50% of mangrove & seagrasses protected by 2025; 100% by 2030.
- National seagrass monitoring protocol
- Blue carbon in GHGi

- 6000 hectares mangrove protection by 2025; 6000 more 2030.
- 2000 hectares mangroves restored by 2025; 2000 more 2030.
- National Seagrass Policy
- Blue carbon in GHGi

- Protect all wetlands in National Wetlands Inventory by 2025.
- Development of PES for Marine/Coastal
- National restoration targets.
- Community-led management/protection protocols.

# 2020/21 NDCs



# Phase 2: 2022 - current

1. Implementation & Finance
2. Scale – Diversify & Replicate
3. Scale



# Western Indian Ocean

# Latin America & Caribbean

**Phase 1: 2019 -**  
Implementation &  
Finance



**Phase 2: 2025**  
Scale, replicate,  
NDCs  
diversify



# Western Indian Ocean

# Latin America & Caribbean

**Phase 1: 2019-  
Implementation &  
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**Phase 2: 2025 NDCs -  
Scale, replicate,  
diversify**



## Western Indian Ocean Seagrass Mapping Initiative



**Regional  
Engagement: 2021-**



# — Western Indian Ocean Seagrass Mapping Project

- Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), Nairobi Convention, Oxford University, IUCN, Country Partners - Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar (2025/6)
- Field work; strengthening local capacity and policy buy-in.
- NDCs – 2025/26
- Regional policy...



“By continuing this effort, **we will be able to strengthen, diversify and replicate our model.**

This deepening involvement **will inform us of the potential to scale up efforts significantly in the future”**





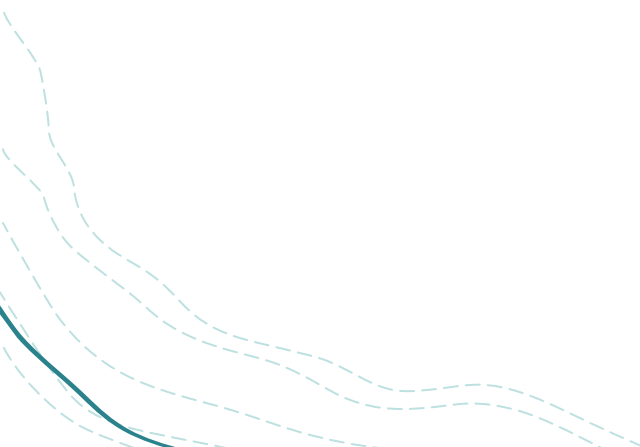
# THE WHY

# Why NDCs

*Still losing them... CBD/Ramsar/Sendai*

- Legally binding (ish), global instrument.
- Flexible – *nationally determined...*
- “Ratchet mechanism”
- Inclusive: values – adaptation, mitigation, resilience.
- Inclusive: frameworks – complementary, not substitute, policy approach.
- Appropriate to wetlands?
- Case studies in “biodiversity & climate” crisis.

# What have we learnt?



# What have we learnt?





# What have we learnt?

## 1. Blue Carbon

- Policy – powerful entry point. Means or ends?
- Finance & policy – necessarily high burden of proof/capacity
  - Handle carefully...
- Majority of current NDCs – adaptation
  - + + + ecosystems?

## — 2. Scale...

- Enabling Policy Conditions
- Scaling “High Quality” Project Implementation
- Large Scale Strategic Financing
- Building Capacity



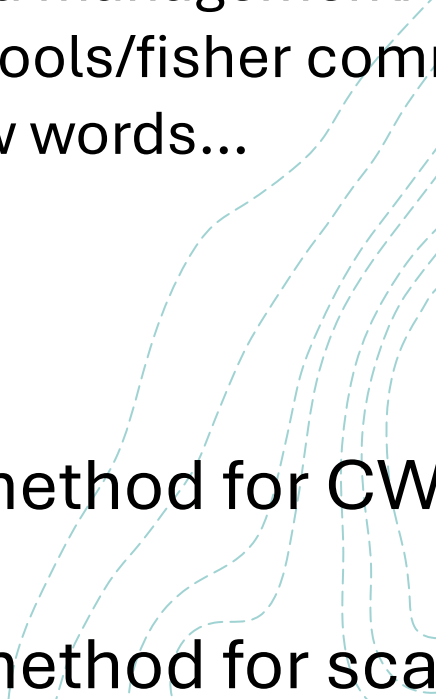
## — 2. Scale...

- Inclusive, Evidence-Based, Enabling Policy + Management
- Scaling + Securing “High Quality” Project Implementation
- Large Scale Diverse Strategic Financing
- Building Strengthen Capacity





# 3. Partnerships

- Different needs, and approaches, to common challenges
    - Mangrove/seagrass habitat and carbon stock assessment
    - Land tenure, legal, institutional analyses
    - Data management/GHGi training
    - Schools/fisher community outreach
    - New words...
  - NDCs
  - Best method for CWs – fragmented management/responsibility
  - Best method for scale – national foundations; regional scale?
- 

## — Plenary Q&A

- **Where** are blue carbon ecosystems in your country's NDC?
- **How** are targets represented? Qualitative (policy development) or Quantitative (area-based/emission reduction targets).
- **Why** are blue carbon ecosystems important for people?
- **What** do you need to scale ambition and implement?
- **Who** has overall responsibility for management of blue carbon ecosystems?