



IPBC COUNTRY PARTNERS' INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS TO BLUE CARBON. AN OVERVIEW.

First Edition | January 2024



Recommended citation:

International Partnership for Blue Carbon. 2024. *IPBC country Partners' international commitments to blue carbon. An overview. First Edition. January 2024.*

IPBC country Partners' international commitments to blue carbon (mangroves, seagrasses and/or tidal marshes).

IPBC country Partner	NDC include the conservation or restoration of mangroves, seagrasses, and/or saltmarshes as mitigation components of NDC ¹	GHG inventory include blue carbon ecosystems ²	Ramsar Sites containing one or more blue carbon ecosystems ³	UNESCO World Heritage Sites including one or more blue carbon ecosystems ⁴	NBSAP include coastal wetlands for their role in climate change mitigation and adaptation ⁵	Country is member of the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (Ocean Panel)
Australia	No	Yes	29	6	Yes (wetlands)	Yes
Costa Rica	Yes	No	7	2	No	No
Fiji	Yes	No	1	N/A	Yes	Yes
France	No	N/A	17	3	Yes (wetlands)	Yes
Indonesia	Yes	Yes	5	2	Yes	Yes
Japan	No	Yes	10	1	No	Yes
Madagascar	No	Yes	6	N/A	Yes	No
Monaco	No	No	1	N/A	No	No
Norway	No	No	12	1	No	Yes
Papua New Guinea	Yes	No	1	N/A	No	No
Portugal	No	No	6	N/A	Yes (adaptation)	Yes
Republic of Korea	Yes	Yes	8	4	No	No
Seychelles	Yes	No	2	1	Yes	Yes
Sierra Leone	Yes	N/A	1	N/A	No	No
Somalia	No	No	N/A	N/A	Yes	No
United Arab Emirates	Yes	Yes	5	N/A	N/A	No
United Kingdom	No	No	65	2	Yes	Yes
United States of America	Yes	Yes	8	3	N/A	Yes

¹ Source: Lecerf, M., Herr D., Thomas, T., Elverum, C., Delrieu, E. and Picourt, L., (2021). *Coastal and marine ecosystems as Nature-based Solutions in new or updated Nationally Determined Contributions*, Ocean & Climate Platform, Conservation International, IUCN, GIZ, Rare, The Nature Conservancy, Wetlands International and WWF available at <https://ocean-climate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/coastal-and-marine-ecosystemDEF.pdf>

² Source: IPBC Activities and Needs Assessment for Countries, 2021 and 2022; Ministry of the Environment of Japan.

³ Source: [Convention on Wetlands Secretariat](#) (2023); Ministry of Economy and Maritime Affairs of Portugal (2024) with data from [geoCATALOGO \(icmf.pt\)](#); Korea Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) (2024); and Ministry of the Environment of Japan (2024).

⁴ Source: UNESCO. 2020. *UNESCO Marine World Heritage: Custodians of the globe's blue carbon assets*. Paris, France available at <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000375565> and from the Korea Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) (2024).

⁵ Source: [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) (2023); Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs of France (2024).

Total area of Ramsar Sites and UNESCO World Heritage Sites that contain one or more blue carbon ecosystems (mangroves, seagrasses and/or tidal marshes) in IPBC country Partners.

IPBC country Partner	Total area of Ramsar Sites containing one or more blue carbon ecosystems (ha) ¹	Total area of UNESCO World Heritage Sites containing one or more blue carbon ecosystems (ha) ²
Australia	3,784,912.0	39,138,400.0
Costa Rica	240,190.0	346,700.0
Fiji	134,900.0	N/A
France	650,401.0	70,170,100.0
Indonesia	1,130,276.3	297,847.0
Japan***	27,727.0	71,100.0
Madagascar	623,568.5	N/A
Monaco	23.0	N/A
Norway	16,325.3	122,712.0
Papua New Guinea	590,000.0	N/A
Portugal*	59,538.0	N/A
Republic of Korea**	18,009.8	129,346.0
Seychelles	44,024.0	35,000.0
Sierra Leone	295,000.0	N/A
Somalia	N/A	N/A
United Arab Emirates	18,815.5	N/A
United Kingdom	455,547.9	422,101.4
United States of America	1,037,469.6	46,613,637.0

¹ Source: [Convention on Wetlands Secretariat](#) (2023).

² Source: [UNESCO World Heritage Convention](#) (2023).

* Additional source: Ministry of Economy and Maritime Affairs of Portugal (2024) with data from [geoCATALOGO \(icnf.pt\)](#).

** Additional source: Korea Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) (2024).

*** Additional source: Ministry of the Environment of Japan (2024).

List of Ramsar Sites in IPBC country Partners that contain one or more blue carbon ecosystems (mangroves, seagrasses and/or tidal marshes).

Australia

1. Apsley Marshes (880 ha)
2. Ashmore Reef Commonwealth Marine Reserve (58,300 ha)
3. Bowling Green Bay (35,500 ha)
4. Cape Barren Island, east coast lagoons (4,473 ha)
5. Cobourg Peninsula (220,700 ha)
6. Corner Inlet (67,186 ha)
7. Currawinya Lakes (151,300 ha)
8. Eighty-mile Beach (125,000 ha)
9. Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs Marine National Nature Reserve (187,726 ha)
10. Gippsland Lakes (60,015 ha)
11. Glenelg Estuary and Discovery Bay Ramsar Site (22,289 ha)
12. Great Sandy Strait (93,160 ha)
13. Hosnie's Spring (202 ha)
14. Hunter Estuary Wetlands (3,388 ha)
15. Kakadu National Park (1,979,766 ha)
16. Kerang Wetlands (9,784 ha)
17. Lake Gore (4,017 ha)
18. Lake Warden system (2,300 ha)
19. Moreton Bay (113,314 ha)
20. Ord River Floodplain (140,766 ha)
21. Peel-Yalgorup system (26,530 ha)
22. Pittwater-Orielton Lagoon (3,334 ha)
23. Port Phillip Bay & Bellarine Peninsula (22,897 ha)
24. Pulu Keeling National Park (2,603 ha)
25. Roebuck Bay (55,000 ha)
26. Shoalwater and Corio Bays Area (202,023 ha)
27. The Coorong, Lake Alexandrina & Albert Wetland (142,530 ha)
28. Towra Point (632 ha)
29. Western Port (59,297 ha)

Costa Rica

1. Cabo Noreste (75,310 ha)
2. Gandoca-Manzanillo (9,445 ha)
3. Isla del Coco (99,623 ha)
4. Manglar de Potrero Grande (139 ha)
5. Palo Verde (24,519 ha)
6. Tamarindo (500 ha)
7. Terraba-Sierpe (30,654 ha)

Fiji

1. Qoliqoli Cokovata (134,900 ha)

France

1. Baie du Mont Saint-Michel (62,000 ha)
2. Basse-Mana (59,000 ha)
3. Bassin d'Arcachon – Secteur du delta de la Leyre (5,175 ha)
4. Estuaire du fleuve Sennamary (28,400 ha)
5. Etang des Salines (207 ha)
6. Golfe du Morbihan (23,000 ha)
7. Grand Cul-de-Sac Marin de la Guadeloupe (29,500 ha)
8. Île Europa (214,872 ha)
9. La Vasière des Badamiers (125 ha)
10. Les Etangs littoraux de la Narbonnaise (12,334 ha)
11. Marais Breton, Baie de Bourgneuf, Ile de Noirmoutier et Forêt de Monts (55,826 ha)
12. Marais De Kaw (137,000 ha)
13. Marais du Fier d'Ars (4,452 ha)
14. Marais salants de Guérande et du Mès (5,048.8 ha)
15. Marais Vernier et Vallée de la Risle maritime (9,564.5 ha)
16. Salins d'Hyères (900 ha)
17. Zones humides et marines de Saint-Martin (2,996.7 ha)

Indonesia (provisional)

1. Pulau Rambut Wildlife Reserve (90 ha)
2. Rawa Aopa Watumohai National Park (105,194 ha)
3. Sembilang National Park (202,896.3 ha)
4. Tanjung Putin National Park (408,286 ha)
5. Wasur National Park (413,810 ha)

Japan

1. Akkeshi-ko and Bekambeushi-shitsugen (5,277 ha)
2. Furen-ko and Shunkuni-tai (6,139 ha)
3. Kiritappu-shitsugen (2,504 ha)
4. Manko (58 ha)
5. Miyajima (142 ha)
6. Nagura Amparu (157 ha)
7. Notsuke-hanto and Notsuke-wan (6,053 ha)
8. Shizugawa-wan (5,793 ha)
9. Tofutsu-ko (900 ha)
10. Yonahawan (704 ha)

Madagascar

1. Complexe des lacs Ambondro et Sirave (CLAS) (14,481.5 ha)
2. Iles Barren (463,200 ha)
3. Mangroves de la Baie d'Ambaro (54,000 ha)
4. Mangroves de Tsiribihina (47,218 ha)
5. Site Bioculturel d'Antrema (20,620 ha)
6. Zones Humides de Sahamalaza (24,049 ha)

Monaco

1. Réserve sous-marine du Larvotto (23 ha)

Norway (provisional)

1. Grunnfjorden (1,472 ha)
2. Harøya Wetlands System (190 ha)
3. Ilene and Presterodkilen Wetland System (216 ha)
4. Kurefjorden (392 ha)
5. Laukvikøyene (1,084 ha)
6. Mellandsvågen (96 ha)
7. Ørland Wetland System (3,168 ha)
8. Risøysundet (504 ha)
9. Sandblåst-/Gaustadvågen Nature Reserve (245.3 ha)
10. Skogvoll (5,544 ha)
11. Stabburneset (1,568 ha)
12. Trondheimfjord wetland system (1,846 ha)

Papua New Guinea (provisional)

1. Tonda Wildlife Management Area (590,000 ha)

Portugal

1. Estuário do Sado (25,658 ha)
2. Estuário do Tejo (14,416 ha)
3. Mondego Estuary (1,518 ha)
4. Ria de Alvor (1,430 ha)
5. Ria Formosa (14,374 ha)
6. Sapais de Castro Marim (2,142 ha)

(continued)

List of Ramsar Sites in IPBC country Partners that contain one or more blue carbon ecosystems (mangroves, seagrasses and/or tidal marshes) (ii)

Republic of Korea

1. Janghang Wetland (595.8 ha)
2. Suncheon Bay (3,550 ha)
3. Muan Tidal Flat (3,589 ha)
4. Seocheon Tidal Flat (1,530 ha)
5. Gochang & Buan Tidal Flat (4,550 ha)
6. Jeungdo Tidal Flat (3,130 ha)
7. Songdo Tidal Flat (611 ha)
8. Daebudo Tidal Flat (453 ha)

Seychelles (provisional)

1. Aldabra Atoll (43,900 ha)
2. Port Launay Coastal Wetlands (124 ha)

Sierra Leone

1. Sierra Leone River Estuary (295,000 ha)

Somalia

N/A

United Arab Emirates (provisional)

1. Al-Zora Protected Area (195 ha)
2. Bul Syayeeef (14,504.5 ha)
3. Jabal Ali Wetland Sanctuary (2,002 ha)
4. Mangrove and Alhafeya Protected Area in Khor Kalba (1,494 ha)
5. Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary (620 ha)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (provisional)

1. Akrotiri (2,171 ha)
2. Alde-Ore Estuary (2,547 ha)
3. Belfast Lough (432 ha)
4. Benfleet & Southend Marshes (2,251 ha)
5. Blackwater Estuary (4,395 ha)
6. Booby Pond and Rookery (82 ha)
7. Bridgend Flats, Islay (331 ha)
8. Burry Inlet (6,672 ha)
9. Carlingford Lough (831 ha)
10. Chesil Beach & The Fleet (748 ha)

11. Chichester and Langstone Harbours (5,810 ha)
12. Colne Estuary (2,701 ha)
13. Cromarty Firth (3,747 ha)
14. Crouch & Roach Estuaries (1,736 ha)
15. Deben Estuary (979 ha)
16. Dengie (3,127 ha)
17. Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet (7,837 ha)
18. Duddon Estuary (6,806 ha)
19. East Sanday Coast (1,515 ha)
20. Exe Estuary (2,346 ha)
21. Firth of Forth (6,314 ha)
22. Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary (6,918 ha)
23. Foulness (10,933 ha)
24. Gibraltar Point (414 ha)
25. Gruinart Flats, Islay (3,261 ha)
26. Hamford Water (2,187 ha)
27. Herm, Jethou and The Humps (1,802.9 ha)
28. Humber Estuary (37,988 ha)
29. Hungry Bay Mangrove Swamp (2 ha)
30. Inner Clyde Estuary (1,825 ha)
31. Inner Moray Firth (2,339 ha)
32. Lame Lough (396 ha)
33. Lihou Island and l'Erée Headland, Guernsey (427 ha)
34. Lindisfame (3,679 ha)
35. Lough Foyle (2,204 ha)
36. Lover's Lake Nature Reserve (2 ha)
37. Mersey Estuary (5,033 ha)
38. Moray and Nairn Coast (2,412 ha)
39. Morecambe Bay (37,405 ha)
40. North, Middle & East Caicos Islands (58,617 ha)
41. North Norfolk Coast (7,887 ha)
42. North Uist Machair and Islands (4,705 ha)
43. Outer Ards (1,154 ha)
44. Paget Marsh (11 ha)
45. Paghman Harbour (637 ha)
46. Poole Harbour (2,439 ha)
47. Portsmouth Harbour (1,249 ha)
48. Ribble & Alt Estuaries (13,464 ha)

49. Sea Lion Island (1,000 ha)
50. Severn Estuary (24,701 ha)
51. Solent and Southampton Water (5,415 ha)
52. Somerset Long Bay Pond (1 ha)
53. South East Coast of Jersey, Channel Islands (3,210 ha)
54. South Uist Machair & Lochs (5,019 ha)
55. Spittal Pond (10 ha)
56. Stour & Orwell Estuaries (3,324 ha)
57. Strangford Loch (15,581 ha)
58. Teesmouth & Cleveland Coast (1,247 ha)
59. Thames Estuary and Marshes (5,589 ha)
60. Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay (2,169 ha)
61. The Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore (2,078 ha)
62. The Swale (6,515 ha)
63. The Wash (62,212 ha)
64. Upper Solway Flats & Marshes (43,637 ha)
65. Western Salt Ponds of Anegada (1,071 ha)

United States of America

1. Chesapeake Bay Estuarine Complex (45,000 ha)
2. Connecticut River Estuary and Tidal River Wetlands Complex (6,602.8 ha)
3. Elkhorn Slough (724 ha)
4. Everglades National Park (610,497 ha)
5. Palmyra Atoll National Wildlife Refuge (204,127.2 ha)
6. Quivira National Wildlife Refuge (8,957.7 ha)
7. San Francisco Bay/Estuary (SFBE) (158,710.9 ha)
8. Tomales Bay (2,850 ha)

Source: [Convention on Wetlands Secretariat](#) (2023); Ministry of Economy and Maritime Affairs of Portugal (2024) with data from [geoCATALOGO \(icmf.pt\)](#); Korea Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) (2024); and Ministry of Environment of Japan (2024).

List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in IPBC country Partners that contain one or more blue carbon ecosystems (mangroves, seagrasses and/or tidal marshes).

Australia

1. Great Barrier Reef (34,870,000 ha)
2. Heard and McDonald Islands (658,903 ha)
3. Lord Howe Island Group (146,300 ha)
4. Macquarie Island (557,280 ha)
5. Ningaloo Coast (705,015 ha)
6. Shark Bay (2,200,902 ha)

Costa Rica

1. Area de Conservación Guanacaste (147,000 ha)
2. Cocos Island National Park (199,700 ha)

Fiji

N/A

France

1. French Austral Lands and Seas (67,296,900 ha)
2. Gulf of Porto: Calanche of Pianna, Gulf of Girolata, Scandola Reserve (11,800 ha)
3. Lagoons of New Caledonia: Reef Diversity and Associated Ecosystems (1,574,300 ha property, 1,287,100 ha buffer zone)

Indonesia

1. Komodo National Park (219,322 ha)
2. Ujung Kulon National Park (78,525 ha)

Japan

1. Shiretoko (71,100 ha)

Madagascar

N/A

Monaco

N/A

Norway

1. West Norwegian Fjords – Geirangerfjord and Nærøyfjord (122,712 ha)

Papua New Guinea

N/A

Portugal

N/A

Republic of Korea

1. Seocheon Getbol (6,809 ha)
2. Gochang Getbol (6,466 ha)
3. Shinan Getbol (110,086 ha)
4. Boseong-Suncheon Getbol (5,985 ha)

Seychelles

1. Aldabra Atoll (35,000 ha)

Sierra Leone

N/A

Somalia

N/A

United Arab Emirates

N/A

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

1. Gough and Inaccessible Islands (7,900 ha property, 390,000 ha buffer zone)
2. St Kilda (24,201.4004 ha)

United States of America

1. Everglades National Park (567,017 ha)
2. Kluane / Wrangell-St. Elias / Glacier Bay / Tatshenshini-Alsek (9,839,121 ha)
3. Papahānaumokuākea (36,207,499 ha)

Source: UNESCO. 2020. *UNESCO Marine World Heritage: Custodians of the globe's blue carbon assets*. Paris, France; Korea Environment Management Corporation (KOEI) and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) (2024).

