



THE BLUE CARBON DECK

A Transformative Partnership Platform

Hosted by CIFOR-ICRAF



Introduction

Blue carbon refers to the organic carbon sequestered and stored by coastal and marine ecosystems such as mangroves, tidal marshes, seagrass, and seaweed. These ecosystems hold tremendous potential for countries rich in wetlands to meet their national climate goals. However, they remain under-researched and face severe threats from climate change and degradation.

The Blue Carbon Deck is a Transformative Partnership Platform (TPP) designed to unite various initiatives focused on blue carbon. It aims to become the primary resource for researchers, civil society, and practitioners working in coastal communities. Hosted by the Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), this platform ensures that programs and projects are informed by the latest scientific insights while addressing the unique challenges faced by both people and foundational ecosystems.

Building on over a decade of pioneering research conducted under the Sustainable Wetlands Adaptation and Mitigation Program (SWAMP), funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Blue Carbon TPP has evolved through a long-standing collaboration between CIFOR and the United States Forest Service.

Networks

The Blue Carbon TPP leverages SWAMP's extensive network of stakeholders across 24 tropical countries, sharing findings through Scientific Working Group meetings. It also collaborates with organizations such as the Korean National Institute for Forest Science (NIFoS), Singapore's Temasek Foundation, the David & Lucile Packard Foundation,

Germany's International Climate Initiative (IKI), and Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI). Furthermore, it benefits from the experience and broad network of the International Partnership for Blue Carbon (IPBC), launched at the 2015 UN Climate Summit in Paris by CIFOR, the Government of Australia, and other partners. Additionally, the World Mangrove Centre (WMC), established by Indonesia and Germany, contributes valuable insights and experience. CIFOR-ICRAF also brings expertise from its active role in the Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Convention on Wetlands.

Why a Platform?

The term 'blue carbon' is widely recognized in scientific and policy circles, providing a framework for carbon storage in wetlands and facilitating stakeholder engagement in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Through the Blue Carbon Deck, scientists can engage in open and honest dialogues with the policy community, enabling policy-relevant research to thrive and evidence-based decisions to be adopted. Likewise, the platform facilitates partnerships with the business community, driving economic prosperity for coastal communities.

Partners

The Blue Carbon Deck fosters partnerships with academia at universities and research institutions to ensure credible knowledge generation and effective communication with governments at all levels. It also engages with civil society actors working closely with coastal communities and private sector stakeholders interested in promoting inclusive value chains and sustainable business models.

Key Data Point



Approximately **75%** of the world's mangroves are concentrated in just **15** countries, and less than **7%** of these crucial ecosystems are protected.

Source: Giri et al. 2011, Global Ecology and Biogeography, 20:154–159

Governance

As a Transformative Partnership Platform (TPP), the Blue Carbon Deck operates under the auspices of CIFOR-ICRAF and is guided by a steering committee representing individuals from various agencies. It receives support from the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF), a CIFOR-ICRAF initiative facilitating global outreach to key stakeholders, and Resilience Landscapes, a venture specializing in resource mobilization from traditional and new donors.

Support



The Global Landscapes Forum's global network of community-led chapters and online communities of practice (CoPs) will support accelerated local action toward more sustainable landscapes. Backed by science and context, Resilient



Landscapes, an CIFOR-ICRAF initiative, seeks to catalyze large-scale impact investment in nature-based solutions to address our planet's most pressing existential challenges. Serving as a bridge between the public and private sectors, it translates robust science and research into practical business solutions, ranging from sustainable supply chains to impactful carbon offsets.

For further information

Contact: Budhy Kristanty (B.Kristanty@cifor-icraf.org)

Focus Areas



Generating Knowledge on Blue Carbon

Research and data collection to advance our understanding of blue carbon ecosystems.



Science-Policy Dialogues

Facilitating open and evidence-based discussions between scientists and policymakers.



Community Business Models

Exploring sustainable economic opportunities for coastal communities.



Connecting People

Building networks and collaborations to drive positive change in blue carbon ecosystems.



Join us on this transformative journey to unlock the potential of blue carbon and create a sustainable future for coastal communities and the planet.

cifor-icraf.org/blue-carbon-tpp



CIFOR-ICRAF

CIFOR-ICRAF harnesses the power of trees, forests, and agroforestry landscapes to address the most pressing global challenges of our time – biodiversity loss, climate change, food security, livelihoods and inequity. Learn more at cifor-icraf.org