



2025 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue - SBSTA 62
Plenary Statement Submission from the Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force
Submitted to the co-facilitators on June 10, 2025

Members of the Mangrove Breakthrough [NDC Task Force](#) (NDC Task Force) look forward to participating in the 2025 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue (Dialogue), taking place at SBSTA 62 in Bonn, Germany on June 16th and 17th, 2025. The NDC Task Force offers our congratulations to the co-facilitators of the Dialogue for their tireless coordination and commitment to elevating the critical role that the ocean plays as a climate solution. Specifically, the NDC Task Force wishes to express gratitude, and share complementary resources, for this year's three important themes: 1) Ocean-based measures in NDCs; 2) The ocean under the GGA; and 3) Ocean-climate-biodiversity synergies.

The NDC Task Force is a community of mangrove policy and science experts that mobilizes policy action through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and aligned policy frameworks in support of the [Mangrove Breakthrough's](#) goal to secure the future of 15 million hectares of mangroves globally by 2030 through collective action by non-state actors and governments. The NDC Task Force provides technical policy and data guidance to governments as they develop clear, science-based, and measurable NDCs that recognize the climate adaptation and mitigation benefits of mangroves. Of particular relevance to the themes of this year's Dialogue, the NDC Task Force recently developed a [set of practical policy guidance resources for recognizing mangroves within NDCs and the GGA](#), key points of which are below in alignment with the Dialogue's three themes.

Dialogue theme: *Ocean-based measures in NDCs*

[Reasons to Include Mangroves in Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#): Mangrove ecosystems exist at the edge of land and sea and provide benefits to coastal countries by buffering floods and storms, sequestering and storing large amounts of carbon, and providing innovative opportunities to finance climate action. Yet more than half of these ecosystems are at risk of collapse by 2050, [according to the IUCN](#). To combat the decline of mangrove ecosystems, countries have the opportunity to develop targets and measures to conserve, restore, and sustainably manage mangroves within their NDCs:

Climate Adaptation: Mangroves act as natural coastal defenses against storms and rising seas. They support biodiversity, fisheries, water filtration, and coastal livelihoods, enhancing the climate resilience of coastal communities. Countries can harness the adaptation benefits of mangroves through commitments to conserve, restore, and manage mangroves in their NDC.

Climate Mitigation: On average, mangroves sequester and store more carbon than terrestrial forests, per hectare, meaning they have strong climate mitigation benefits that can be recognized in NDCs. Mangroves are one of the three marine ecosystems with [IPCC methodology](#) for measuring the carbon sequestered and stored within their biomass and sediments.

Climate Finance: Including mangrove targets in NDCs can help countries access sustainable blue finance. Recognizing the benefits of mangroves can help countries attract external financing and can catalyze national sustainable financing for mangroves and the communities that depend on them.

Loss and Damage: Climate-induced loss and damage threatens the security and livelihoods of people who rely on mangrove ecosystems. Healthy mangrove forests can protect frontline communities and reduce losses and damages by buffering coastlines from sea level rise and storms. NDCs can reflect the urgency of addressing loss and damage and capture the economic benefits of reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience.

Dialogue theme: *The ocean under the GGA*

The Case for Recognizing Mangroves in the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA): The conservation and sustainable management of mangroves is a nature-based adaptation approach, offering a critical pathway to achieve the targets under the GGA and enhance countries' adaptation and resilience actions. The benefits of mangrove ecosystems for climate, people, and nature directly support the attainment of GGA targets 9d and 9e while advancing progress towards related adaptation and mitigation goals under the Paris Agreement and wider international environmental accords, such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Below are selected options from the consolidated indicators that explicitly reference coastal ecosystems or have strong linkages to mangroves, some of which can be supported by existing, multi-scale, near real-time data from the [Global Mangrove Watch](#) (GMW).

Indicators submitted supporting GGA target 9d, Ecosystems and Biodiversity:

- *Managed terrestrial, inland waters, coastal and marine areas under climate-resilient management practices (% , ha, km)*
- *Coverage of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures*
 - This indicator can be supported by data from the GMW's "Mangrove Net Change" layer which allows governments and other stakeholders to track the proportion of mangroves in protected areas per country against national and international environmental goals, including climate adaptation.
- *Area under restoration*
 - This indicator can be supported by data from the GMW's "Mangrove Restoration Potential" layer which allows governments and other stakeholders to track the likely ease of achieving successful restoration, the total restorable mangrove area, and the ecosystem service benefits of mangrove restoration in that country.

Indicators submitted supporting GGA target 9e, Infrastructure and Human Settlements:

- *% of municipalities with climate change adaptation plans that integrate nature based solutions (NbS) and ecosystem based adaptation (EbA) measures (green/blue infrastructure) to manage and reduce climate change impacts, with identified actions, targets, and resource allocations (indicator ID 9e06).*
- *Proportion of NbS and EbA projects (e.g., wetlands, urban forests - green/ blue infrastructure) that have been monitored and shown to reduce at least two climate hazards (e.g., flood attenuation and heat mitigation) (indicator ID 9e08).*



Dialogue theme: *Ocean-climate-biodiversity synergies*

The NDC Task Force highlights the vital importance of ocean ecosystems—especially mangroves—in delivering synergistic outcomes for climate mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and coastal community resilience. We recommend that Parties and stakeholders align ocean-based climate actions with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), particularly:

- **Target 2:** By ensuring that mangrove restoration efforts explicitly aim for *effective and equitable restoration* that delivers measurable benefits for climate, biodiversity, ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity, with long-term monitoring and community engagement as core components.
- **Target 3:** By prioritizing the *conservation of existing intact mangrove ecosystems* through area-based measures that secure long-term protection, contributing simultaneously to NDCs and the GBF's 30x30 conservation ambition.

To maximize impact, national and subnational climate and biodiversity policies should be coordinated, ensuring that ocean-based measures in NDCs contribute meaningfully to the implementation of the GBF. The Task Force is committed to supporting these integrated approaches through shared learning, technical guidance, and strategic partnerships.

Ocean-climate action is critical in 2025 as countries prepare NDCs 3.0, participate in the GGA indicator selection process, and enhance climate-ocean-biodiversity synergies. The NDC Task Force is proud to contribute clear and practical guidance for mangroves on these topics, and expresses gratitude to the co-facilitators for planning a constructive and action-oriented Dialogue which will progress ocean-climate action while recognizing the conservation, management, and restoration of mangrove ecosystems as one of the most powerful nature-based solutions to climate change.