

Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force

Examples of Mangroves in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)



Policy Brief

Mangrove-positive NDC targets are **ambitious, science-based**, and developed through **inclusive and participatory decision-making processes**. Targets reflect both the **blue carbon mitigation benefits as well as the adaptation, coastal resilience, and other ecosystem services of mangroves**. Targets have **clear actions for effective implementation** and are linked to and aligned with other national policies and priorities.

This policy brief provides examples of **mangrove-positive NDC targets that countries have previously submitted to the UNFCCC**. These examples can serve as a resource for governments who seek to recognize mangroves in their enhanced NDCs.



Incorporating Mangroves into NDCs

Defining a Mangrove-Positive NDC

Signatories to the Mangrove Breakthrough with mangrove extent should include **ambitious, measurable, time-bound, and area-based commitments** to protect, restore, and/or improve the management of mangrove ecosystems in their enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement. When possible, NDC targets are costed and outline financing needs and opportunities.

Countries may include mangrove targets within either, or both, **the adaptation and mitigation sections of their NDCs**. Within the adaptation section of an NDC, targets may **include actions that recognize various mangrove benefits including enhanced resilience, biodiversity, local economy, fisheries, community livelihoods, and other relevant ecosystem services**.

Within the mitigation section of an NDC, targets are expressed as quantitative emissions reductions and/or removals. The metrics should include assessments of the necessary area-based conservation and/or restoration goals to meet the emissions target, and follow the [IPCC guidance](#) from the 2013 Wetlands Supplement.

Where appropriate, **targets may seek to improve a country's baseline understanding of its mangrove ecosystems** by mapping and field-verifying the extent of their mangroves and conducting in-situ mangrove carbon stock assessments. These efforts related to collecting and compiling baseline data support improved mangrove management by providing accurate data and robust information. This enables a stepwise, country-tailored approach that fosters progressively greater ambition in future NDC's, as mandated by the Paris Agreement.

Either or both the adaptation and mitigation benefits of mangrove ecosystems for climate, people, and nature can be recognized in an NDC based on a countries' priorities, capacity, and data availability.

Signatories to the Mangrove Breakthrough without mangrove extent or with mangroves within overseas territories may outline measurable contributions to mangrove ecosystems within NDCs and/or associated diplomatic and policy initiatives to:

- **Commit financing** either directly through bilateral or overseas development assistance to specific countries, or to wider multilateral or partner initiatives aligned to the headline US\$4 billion goal of the Mangrove Breakthrough to support implementation of mangrove conservation, restoration, and management activities.
- **Commit specific measurable technical** (e.g. Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification capacities), **research** (support for mapping or carbon stock assessments), and/or **diplomatic resources** to support implementation of mangrove conservation, restoration, and management activities. Such support should focus on strengthening the long-term national and local capacities necessary for durable conservation, restoration, and management outcomes.

NDCs as a Policy Lever for the Mangrove Breakthrough

As coastal wetlands, **mangroves provide countless benefits to society and nature** by enhancing coastal resilience in the face of flooding and storms, they sequester and store more blue carbon than any other ecosystem (per unit area), and they provide critical habitat for biodiversity, including economically important fisheries and other marine species. As such, either or both **the adaptation and mitigation benefits of mangrove ecosystems for climate, people, and nature can be recognized in an NDC**, based on the countries' priorities, capacity, and data availability.

Global achievement of the Paris Agreement relies on NDCs, with each Party required to submit progressively more ambitious commitments over five-year cycles to achieve the Agreement's long-term goals. This **"ambition mechanism"** ensures continued enhancements over time, measured through global stocktake exercises conducted between NDC submissions. NDCs allow governments to give direction and clearly state their future ambitions to address climate change, and in doing so, can send up-to-date and ambitious signals to the global community, outlining country priorities, capacity considerations and financing needs for successful implementation.

Examples of Mangrove NDC Targets

The following are mangrove targets within NDCs that countries have previously submitted to the UNFCCC. These examples, which are separated into target types, can serve as a resource for governments who seek to recognize the climate benefits of mangroves within their enhanced NDCs.

Baseline Data Target Examples

Target Type	Country	NDC Language
Baseline Data	Panama, 2024	Complete an update to the National Wetland Inventory with a focus on coastal wetlands by 2030, which will include an evaluation of the wetlands’ biodiversity and the ecosystem services they provide.
	Seychelles, 2021	Map the full extent of the blue carbon seagrass and mangrove ecosystems within its waters and measuring their carbon stock values. These assessments will inform their goal to include these ecosystems within our GHG inventory by 2025.
	Liberia, 2021	Invest in coastal zone monitoring equipment for data collection, research, and management purposes by 2030.
	Kenya, 2020	Conduct a blue carbon readiness assessment for full integration of blue carbon/ocean climate actions into NDCs.

Links to Featured NDCs:

[Belize, 2021](#)

[Costa Rica, 2020](#)

[Fiji, 2021](#)

[Indonesia, 2022](#)

[Kenya, 2020](#)

[Liberia, 2021](#)

[Panama, 2024](#)

[Seychelles, 2021](#)

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Management Target Examples

Target Type	Country	NDC Language
Management	Panama, 2024	Evaluate and improve effective mangrove management at the national level by 2027; and, if the necessary external financial support is secured, achieve the protection and effective management of at least 50% of the country’s mangroves within SINAP (National System of Protected Areas) by 2028.
	Costa Rica, 2020	Enhance the protection and conservation of existing blue carbon ecosystems through improved management plans and capacity-building initiatives.
	Costa Rica, 2020	Ensure effective management and monitoring of coastal wetlands while fostering sustainable community use of key mangrove areas for local livelihoods.
	Belize, 2021	Implement and enforce 2020 Fisheries Act and 2018 Forests (Protection of Mangroves) Regulation. Develop and adopt fisheries regulations to complement the 2020 Fisheries Act.
	Seychelles, 2021	Establish a long-term monitoring programme for seagrass and mangrove ecosystems by 2025 and include the GHG sink of Seychelles’ blue carbon ecosystems within the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory by 2025.
	Fiji, 2021	Through its National Ocean Policy, allocate 30% of its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) as Marine Protected Areas and work towards 100% management of its EEZ by 2030. This compliments Fiji’s National Adaptation Plan, concurrently its Low Emission Development Strategy, which highlights the need to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems, strengthen their resilience, and restore them when they are degraded. This includes conserving ocean reservoirs as carbon sinks through supporting the restoration, enhancement and conservation of coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, sea grasses and coral reefs.
	Fiji, 2021	Prioritize the conservation and protection of its marine biodiversity and critical ocean ecosystems. This would include measures for promoting sustainable fishing practices, coastal protection, preservation, and enhancement of its mangroves, and engaging with coastal communities to promote sustainable practices and livelihoods.

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Target Type	Country	NDC Language
Management	Seychelles, 2021	Implement its adopted Marine Spatial Plan and the effective management of the 30% marine protected areas within the Seychelles' Exclusive Economic Zone.
	Kenya, 2020	Kenya prioritizes "marine spatial planning and sustainable management approaches" to protect coastal ecosystems. Kenya seeks to "integrate the use of nature-based solutions, including the implementation of the national mangrove management plan, into national and county development plans". Enhancing community governance in managing coastal resources is another key focus.
	Liberia, 2021	Promote mangroves within the National REDD+ Strategy by 2025.
	Liberia, 2021	Develop training, capacity building, and strategic communications plans for coastal managers and communities to implement coastal adaptation actions, especially by increasing support for education and training on climate risks and adaptation solutions for vulnerable groups.
	Liberia, 2021	Enhance national policies, plans and incentives to increase mangrove and coastal conservation and restoration, based on a survey analysis of coastal zone ecosystems to identify threats and priority action areas.
	Indonesia, 2022	Implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation in coastal zone development. Implementation of integrated management of mangrove ecosystem.

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Conservation Target Examples

Target Type	Country	NDC Language
Conservation	Panama, 2024	Ensure that at least 50% of the nation's mangrove ecosystems are integrated into the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP), the government agency in charge of managing Panama's national parks, wildlife reserves, and other protected areas by 2026.
	Costa Rica, 2020	Protect and conserve 100% of coastal wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory by 2025; increase registered estuarine wetlands by 10% by 2030.
	Belize, 2021	Double the existing mangrove area protections, safeguarding 12,000 new additional hectares (120 sq. km) by 2030.
	Seychelles, 2021	Protect its blue carbon ecosystems, i.e., at least 50% of its seagrass and mangrove ecosystems by 2025, and 100% of seagrass and mangrove ecosystems by 2030.
	Liberia, 2021	Improve protection and conservation measures in 30% of mangrove ecosystems and reduce GHG emissions by a total of 1,800 GgCO ₂ e through avoided conversion and draining of mangrove ecosystems by 2030.
	Liberia, 2021	Expand marine and coastal ecosystem protection by establishing 2 Marine and 2 Coastal Protected Areas and develop new or updated Protected Area management plans by 2030.
	Indonesia, 2022	Coastal zone protection: Mainstreaming adaptation into policies and programs on coastal zone and ocean.

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Restoration Target Examples

Target Type	Country	NDC Language
Restoration	Panama, 2024	Restore and/or increase mangrove coverage at a national level by 1,800 hectares by 2028.
	Costa Rica, 2020	By 2025, Costa Rica commits to restoring prioritized coastal wetland areas as identified in the National Landscape Restoration Strategy, with additional targets for 2030.
	Belize, 2021	Strengthen the resilience of local communities and enhance the ecosystem services provided by mangroves through the restoration of 2,000 ha of mangroves, including within local communities, by 2025 and an additional 2,000 ha by 2030.
	Liberia, 2021	Enhance coastal carbon stocks by restoring 35% of degraded coastal wetlands and mangrove ecosystems by 2030.
	Indonesia, 2022	Restoration of degraded mangrove and peatland.



Fisherman catching a blue crab in the mangroves,
Eloy Alfaro, Ecuador
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Oyster farmers, Dionewar Island, Senegal
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Finance Target Examples

Target Type	Country	NDC Language
Finance	Costa Rica, 2020	Costa Rica will explore innovative financing mechanisms, including payments for ecosystem services, to support blue carbon objectives.
	Costa Rica, 2020	Costa Rica will explore potential public-private investments to support mangrove protection and restoration efforts.
	Kenya, 2020	Promoting and expanding opportunities for nature-based enterprises such as seaweed farming and mangrove ecotourism. Harnessing the mitigation benefits of the sustainable blue economy, including coastal carbon Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES).

Halt loss Target Examples

Target Type	Country	NDC Language
Halt loss	Costa Rica, 2020	Halt or reverse the net loss of coastal wetlands by 2030 by addressing the main causes of deforestation and degradation that threaten their health and vitality.
	Belize, 2021	By partnering with local communities, private landowners and other key stakeholders, halt and reverse mangrove loss by 2025.
	Liberia, 2021	Improve protection and conservation measures in 30% of mangrove ecosystems and reduce GHG emissions by a total of 1,800 GgCO ₂ e through avoided conversion and draining of mangrove ecosystems by 2030.

Annex A: Additional NDC Task Force Resources

Policy Guidance Documents	Objective
<u>The Case for Mangrove-Related Indicators under the Global Goal on Adaptation</u>	This guidance document is intended to contribute to the refinement of indicators for measuring progress towards the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), specifically focused on target 9d, under the UAE-Belém Work Programme on the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience (UAE FGCR).
<u>Template Language for Including Mangroves in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)</u>	This document provides mangrove-positive NDC template language for the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems that countries can choose from and adapt based on their national circumstances and priorities as they develop their NDC 3.0.
<u>Reasons for Governments to Include Mangroves in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)</u>	Guidance intended to share brief statistics about the benefits of including mangroves in NDCs under the following 4 themes: 1) adaptation, 2) mitigation, 3) Loss and damage, and 4) finance.
<u>Defining a Mangrove-Positive NDC</u>	2024 guidance developed by the Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force to recommend signatories to the Mangrove Breakthrough with mangrove extent should include ambitious, measurable, time-bound, and area-based commitments to protect, restore, and/or improve the management of mangrove ecosystems in their 2025 nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement.
<u>Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force Concept Note</u>	Transforming Endorsements to the Mangrove Breakthrough into Action via Mangrove-Positive 2025 NDCs
<u>Integrating Mangrove Ecosystems into NDCs through the Global Mangrove Watch</u>	The Global Mangrove Watch represents a critical tool, based on the most accurate science, to support countries in the process of implementing, updating or revising their NDCs, and ratcheting up national and collective ambition on the potential of mangrove ecosystems for climate action.

Annex B: About the Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force

The Mangrove Breakthrough Hub and its partners are enabling the mobilization of USD 4 billion by 2030, boosting actions to protect and restore 15 millions of hectares of mangroves — along with the communities and biodiversity that rely on them. The Hub empowers cross-sector collaborations by reinforcing national policies, structuring a global pipeline and driving transformative approaches. The Goals of the Mangrove Breakthrough are as follows:

Halt Loss *Reduce net mangrove losses driven by direct human actions to zero.*

Double Protection *Ensure long-term protection is doubled from 40% to 80% of remaining mangrove extent.*

Restore Half *Restore mangroves to cover at least half of all recent loss.*

Sustainable Financing *Ensure sustainable finance to existing mangrove extent.*

The Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force brings together policy and mangrove experts from international and local environmental and development organizations to provide technical and policy guidance, coordinate knowledge sharing, and facilitate institutional and stakeholder coordination for Mangrove Breakthrough countries as they prepare to enhance their NDCs.