

Mangroves and UNFCCC COP31

Entry Points and Recommendations

Global Mangrove Alliance Policy Working Group

GLOBAL MANGROVE ALLIANCE

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Key Messages

1. **COP31 marks the first COP in the new NDC 3.0 implementation cycle, making delivery of strengthened Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs 3.0) central to mangrove policy.** Mangroves feature across multiple entry points within the UNFCCC process, including NDC implementation, the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), ocean and coastal resilience, Article 6 and blue carbon, and the second Global Stocktake (GST2). Completing these processes, the COP31 Action Agenda provides an additional platform for advancing mangrove-related action, particularly through its Oceans and Seas and Climate Implementation Bridge priorities. The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) also offers a mechanism for tracking and reporting progress on mangrove-related climate commitments. These entry points create a cross-cutting pathway across mitigation, adaptation, and finance.

2. **For countries that have submitted NDC 3.0s with mangrove commitments, COP31 shifts the focus to implementation.** This means translating targets into data baselines, institutional frameworks, monitoring systems, investment and implementation plans, and financing arrangements. Country examples illustrate what this looks like in practice and offer transferable models for countries at earlier stages. Community-led initiatives also demonstrate how local organisations can contribute to implementation, monitoring and long-term ecosystem stewardship. For those still finalising NDC submissions, the lead-up to COP31 remains a window to strengthen mangrove-specific targets, drawing on template language and country examples already developed by the Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force.

3. **The Belém Adaptation Indicators include mangrove-relevant metrics under GGA Target 9d, and the refinement process is now moving into a further technical and policy phase.** The UNFCCC Technical Paper by the Secretariat (FCCC/TP/2026/4) reviews early use of the 59 indicators, their methodological maturity, their alignment with existing country reporting, and options for aggregation.[1] COP31 thus offers an important opportunity to retain mangrove-relevant indicators as the framework evolves toward more outcome-oriented measures of adaptation.

4. **The ocean and coastal resilience agenda at COP31 provides a salient political and implementation entry point.** The Blue Package launched at COP30 by Activation Group 7 of the Action Agenda, the SBSTA 64 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue, and the Pacific pre-COP in Fiji and Tuvalu collectively create an important platform for advancing mangrove-based coastal adaptation arguments, particularly for SIDS and climate-vulnerable coastal communities.

Key Messages

5 **Article 6 decisions at COP31 on the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM) can help shape how effectively carbon market mechanisms include nature-based solutions (NbS), including blue carbon.** Parties can provide clear guidance to the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body to ensure mangrove blue carbon methodologies are not implicitly excluded and that methodology assessment is grounded in science and best practice, while also advancing non-market approaches where market mechanisms are less viable.

6 **Climate finance remains the critical bottleneck between mangrove NDC ambition and implementation.** Scaling finance to match country needs requires not only increased flows under the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance but also simpler access processes, stronger country-readiness support, and long-term programmatic investment frameworks that move beyond project-by-project approaches. In-country technical partners and existing mangrove platforms can help governments identify investment opportunities, prepare bankable proposals, and build the institutional capacity needed to absorb and deploy finance effectively. Finance should be accessible to community-based organisations and cover the full project cycle, including maintenance, monitoring, research and local capacity development.

7 **COP31 initiates the Second Global Stocktake (GST2), offering an early opportunity to establish mangroves within the evidence base of the next Paris Agreement stocktake.** GST2 will run from the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA8) in November 2026 to CMA10 in November 2028, beginning with information collection and preparation. Ensuring mangroves feature explicitly in the GST2 evidence base from the outset will be important for maintaining their visibility in the Paris Agreement implementation cycle and for capturing their contributions to mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation.

1. Introduction

1.1 Why COP31 matters for mangroves

UNFCCC COP31 convenes in Antalya, Türkiye, from 9th to 20th November 2026, under a co-presidency arrangement in which Türkiye serves as COP President and host, and Australia holds the Presidency of Negotiations. Building upon COP30's framing of the post-NDC 3.0 period as one focused on translating strengthened commitments into implementation frameworks, finance, and measurable action, COP31 continues this shift with a focus on concrete delivery across mitigation, adaptation, and means of implementation.

COP30 laid important groundwork for this. The Brazilian Presidency's Action Agenda organised global climate action around six thematic axes and 30 key objectives, with Activation Group 7 placing ocean-based solutions at the centre, advancing mitigation, adaptation, resilience, finance, and governance through the Blue Package, a coordinated framework of over 50 initiatives presenting concrete, time-bound strategies to accelerate progress toward global climate and nature goals. For the first time, COP30 included a dedicated objective on ocean-based climate action, recognising the ocean as the "blue thread" linking climate and biodiversity.[2,3,4] The first Global Stocktake reaffirmed the urgent need to conserve, protect, and restore marine and coastal ecosystems.

COP31 is expected to build upon this foundation. SBSTA 64 in Bonn further advanced the Ocean and Climate Change dialogue ahead of COP31, with the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA) and Mangrove Breakthrough contributing directly to these discussions,[5] and a Pacific pre-COP was held in Fiji in October 2026, including a leaders' event in Tuvalu, designed to elevate Pacific and SIDS priorities and maintain momentum on ocean-based climate action through to the COP itself.[6] The COP31 Presidency's Action Agenda explicitly prioritizes resilience of vulnerable regions, oceans and seas, and cross-sectoral action on climate, biodiversity, and land degradation, building on these foundations toward concrete implementation.

For mangroves, the moment is significant: analysis by the Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force found that of revised NDCs analysed, 19 Mangrove Breakthrough-endorsing countries with mangrove extent mentioned mangroves in their submissions, with 17 including mangrove-specific

Targets spanning conservation, restoration, blue carbon, and coastal adaptation.[7, i] The NDC Task Force has developed a suite of policy guidance resources to support their design and implementation.[8] Not all countries with significant mangrove extent have yet submitted NDC 3.0s, and for those still finalising submissions, the lead-up to COP31 remains a window to strengthen mangrove-specific targets.

This brief identifies the entry points where mangroves have the greatest traction at COP31 and where there is potential to advance enhanced ambition, accountability, and cross-framework coherence. It outlines the NDC implementation landscape drawing on country experience and sets out recommendations for Parties.

1.2 The implementation landscape

1.2.1 Translating commitments to measurable targets

The defining challenge for mangrove policy at COP31 is the gap between commitment and implementation. NDC 3.0 submissions have raised the ambition of national mangrove targets in many countries, but whether those targets translate into measurable outcomes depends on enabling conditions that vary considerably across national contexts: robust baseline data, clear institutional mandates, technical capacity to prepare, implement and monitor large-scale and investment-ready initiatives, the adoption of best practices for mangrove restoration, secure tenure arrangements, and access to adequate financing.

The evidence also points to a significant gap between ecosystem-level adaptation commitments and mangrove-specific implementation frameworks. A FAO assessment of 153 policy documents, covering the latest NDCs with a clear adaptation section from 93 mangrove-hosting countries and NAPs from 51 countries, found that while 61 NDCs included adaptation targets, only 16 included mangrove-specific targets.[9] This suggests that the next implementation phase will require not only translating existing mangrove commitments into action, but also making targets sufficiently specific and traceable to enable monitoring and accountability.

Panama's NDC 3.0, submitted as the Nature Pledge or "Pacto de Panamá con la Naturaleza," illustrates what synergistic implementation can look like in practice: by consolidating climate, biodiversity, and desertification obligations into a single integrated framework, Panama has closed the gap between parallel commitments and created a unified basis for implementation, financing, and accountability across conventions. The Pledge includes mangrove-specific targets encompassing 2,500 hectares of restoration and conservation under a strengthened national protected areas system by 2035.[10] A national mangrove carbon stock assessment, developed for the

i. To date, the Mangrove Breakthrough has secured 50 endorsements from national and subnational governments, representing more than 60% of the world's mangrove extent. Of the 30 national governments that have endorsed the initiative, 19 mention mangroves in their NDC 3.0 submissions, including Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador,The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Liberia, Mexico, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, and the United Arab Emirates.

government in partnership with The Pew Charitable Trusts and the Smithsonian Institution and made publicly available through the Coastal Carbon Atlas, provides the scientific foundation for these targets and their link to carbon finance. The Project Finance for Permanence initiative, led by Panama's Ministry of Environment, is working to secure long-term financing for protected area management, including mangroves.

Honduras' NDC 3.0, published in February 2026, included specific commitments to coastal wetland ecosystems for the first time, with a target to restore at least 10% of mangrove forests by 2035.[11] The reestablishment of the National Biological Monitoring Board and National Wetlands Technical Committee enabled these commitments by providing the institutional coordination and baseline data needed to develop science-based targets. Honduras illustrates how targeted investment in data generation and institutional capacity can open pathways for countries to include mangrove commitments in their NDCs for the first time.

1.2.2 Building the enabling conditions for implementation

Cambodia offers a useful illustration of how secure local land and resource tenure arrangements can support national climate and conservation objectives. Its NDC 3.0 includes existing arrangements, such as Protected Areas (PAs), Community Protected Areas (CPAs), Community Forests (CFs), and Community Fisheries (CFis), as mechanisms for sustainable forest management, strengthening carbon stocks and maintaining ecosystem integrity.[12] Measure 41 commits to bringing all forest land, including these areas, under improved Forest Management Plans by 2050, with 60% coverage by 2030; Measure 17 similarly promotes improved forest management practices, including integrated landscape management and sustainable forestry. Cambodia's experience demonstrates how secure tenure and community stewardship can help translate national climate commitments into locally grounded action, particularly in coastal and mangrove ecosystems.

Suriname provides a complementary example of continuity across planning cycles: mangrove-related targets identified in its 2020 National Adaptation Plan appear to be reflected in its 2025 NDC.[13,14] This illustrates the value of maintaining traceability between NAP and NDC processes, rather than treating each planning cycle as a standalone exercise.

Kenya offers a further example of moving from NDC commitments to an operational implementation framework when the Government of Kenya launched the Blue Carbon Ecosystems NDC Implementation and Investment Plan 2025-2035, developed through a multi-agency Technical Working Group led by the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, and the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs.[15] The plan brings together Kenya's blue carbon commitments for mangroves, seagrasses, and coastal wetlands in a single national framework, with headline targets including restoration of at least 75% of degraded mangroves, creation of up to 70,000 jobs, and mobilising USD 620 million by 2035, alongside arrangements for MRV, institutional coordination, and multi-source financing.[16] The plan illustrates how a dedicated implementation and investment plan can translate blue carbon commitments into a clearer pathway for delivery and resource mobilisation.

Jamaica's NDC 3.0 provides a strong example of ambitious, time-bound commitments to mangrove conservation and restoration. It includes targets to protect 67% of the island's mangroves by 2033, restore and protect 7,000 hectares by 2027, and establish a no-net-loss policy for coastal wetlands by 2035.[17] By combining quantified conservation and restoration targets with a longer-term policy commitment, Jamaica demonstrates how countries can integrate measurable ecosystem protection objectives into their national climate strategies while strengthening the foundation for sustained coastal resilience.

1.2.3 Financing, community engagement and implementation support

The Gambia offers a complementary, community-level perspective. Through the Nnaa Saama Mankolou (Mangroves for Our Future) initiative, the Sankandi Youth Development Association (SYDA) combines mangrove restoration with environmental stewardship, citizen science, community monitoring and inclusive livelihood development. SYDA also proposes a rural environmental research hub to connect local knowledge with systematic environmental data and strengthen applied restoration.[18] The initiative shows how community-based organisations can contribute to restoration activities and to monitoring, local knowledge demonstration and long-term ecosystem stewardship.

The financing dimension remains particularly underdeveloped in NDC adaptation commitments. In the FAO assessment, inventories and monitoring strategies were referenced in 63 countries' NDCs and climate information services in 61, compared with 39 referencing economic incentives or market-based instruments and only five referencing payment for ecosystem services.[9] This points to a persistent disconnect between the development of adaptation planning and the specification of financing mechanisms for implementation.

Across these and other cases, a consistent set of implementation requirements emerges: data baselines and monitoring systems to underpin target design and progress tracking; institutional coordination across climate, environment, and coastal management agencies; meaningful engagement of coastal communities and Indigenous Peoples as governance actors, knowledge holders and benefit-sharing partners, including through locally grounded monitoring and gender-responsive approaches; the adoption of best practices for mangrove restoration and conservation. Sustained access to finance, including both public mechanisms and emerging blue carbon markets, is also essential. Available resources to support these requirements include updated Global Mangrove Watch (GMW) geospatial data and the GMW policy brief on integrating mangrove ecosystems into NDCs; the GMA Best Practice Guidelines for Mangrove Restoration offer practical guidance on restoration standards and approaches; and the Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force guidance on mangrove-related indicators for the GGA7 provides a direct link between NDC implementation and the UNFCCC adaptation reporting framework. When used together and embedded in national monitoring and planning systems, these tools can meaningfully support the shift from NDC commitment to measurable implementation.

2. Mangrove Entry Points at COP31

2.1 NDC implementation

The 2013 IPCC Wetlands Supplement provides the foundational methodological basis for recognizing mangroves within UNFCCC climate policy, establishing the guidance countries use to include mangrove carbon stocks and emissions in national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, covering both above-ground biomass and below-ground soil carbon.[19] Despite this, uptake remains uneven: many countries continue to report mangroves under broad forest land categories rather than as a distinct coastal wetland category, and below-ground soil carbon, which can represent a substantial and, in some settings, dominate share of total mangrove carbon stocks, is frequently omitted from inventories due to data gaps and methodological challenges.[19, 20]

COP31's central mandate is implementation of Paris Agreement commitments, with the latest NDCs providing the framework for national action. For mangroves, this means translating the commitments already secured, which span conservation, restoration, the role of mangroves in blue carbon and coastal adaptation, into implementation frameworks, monitoring systems, and financing arrangements, including ensuring that mangrove carbon is accurately accounted for in national GHG inventories. Not all countries with significant mangrove extent have yet submitted NDC 3.0s, and for those still finalising submissions, the lead-up to COP31 remains a window to strengthen mangrove-specific targets, drawing on NDC Task Force template language and country examples.[7,8]

The distinction between explicit and broader ecosystem commitments is important for implementation tracking. The FAO assessment of 93 mangrove-hosting countries found that, among countries whose NDCs did not explicitly mention mangroves, most nevertheless referred to ecosystems and biodiversity, marine and coastal ecosystems, wetlands or forests.[9] This suggests that mangrove action may be embedded within broader ecosystem commitments, but such framing can make mangrove-specific targets, implementation and progress more difficult to identify and monitor.

2.2 Global Goal on Adaptation

The Belém Adaptation Indicators, adopted at CMA7 in 2025, mark a significant step forward for adaptation tracking under the UNFCCC, providing 59 voluntary metrics to measure progress toward GGA targets across all thematic areas, including ecosystems and biodiversity. At COP31, Parties will continue the Belém-Addis Vision on adaptation, alongside technical work on the indicators' metadata and methodologies.[21,ii] The refinement process now draws on a September 2026 UNFCCC Secretariat technical paper that assesses the 59 indicators, the maturity of available methodologies, their alignment with existing country-reported information, and options for aggregation under the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience. It identifies significant gaps between existing country-reported information and the six Belém indicators under Target 9(d) on ecosystems and biodiversity. In particular, methodological coverage remains uneven for indicators related to ecosystem resilience, ecosystem services, and the

ii. Mangrove-relevant indicators under Target 9d include the proportion of coastal blue carbon systems (mangroves, seagrass, tidal marsh) restored or protected, and the number of countries incorporating NbS and EbA into NAPs and NDCs; mangrove restoration for flood risk reduction is explicitly cited as an example of NbS under this target. COP31 will focus on technical refinement and political alignment of the 59 adopted Belém Adaptation Indicators through the Belém-Addis Vision process.

outcomes of EbA and NbS. For mangrove-rich countries, COP31 therefore offers an important opportunity to strengthen the collection and reporting of ecosystem adaptation information in ways that can contribute to the emerging Belém indicator framework, including evidence on ecosystem resilience, adaptation actions, ecosystem services, and outcomes.

Within this framework, GGA Target 9d, is the most directly relevant target for mangroves. It addresses reducing climate impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity and accelerating EbA and NbS. Mangroves are explicitly referenced as an example of NbS for flood risk reduction, and mangrove-relevant metrics in the adopted indicators include the proportion of coastal blue carbon systems restored or protected and the number of countries incorporating NbS and EbA into NAPs and NDCs.[21] GMW data is directly applicable to several of these indicators.[22]

National adaptation planning evidence reinforces the importance of this process. Among 51 mangrove-hosting countries with NAPs assessed by FAO (2026), only seven included mangrove-specific indicators; among 93 countries with adaptation sections in their NDCs, mangrove-specific indicators were identified in just over one-third of NDCs containing indicators, and these were all quantitative.[9] This points to a dual gap for the GGA refinement process: improving the visibility of mangroves in national adaptation monitoring, while also expanding indicators beyond area-based measures to capture adaptation outcomes and social and institutional dimensions.

Adaptation communications under the GGA are not limited to NDCs. Parties may use a range of instruments to communicate adaptation information, including NAPs, adaptation communications, and other national planning documents.

2.3 Ocean and coastal resilience

2.3.1 Ocean and climate change dialogue

The SBSTA Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue at SBSTA 64 in Bonn in June 2026 provided a dedicated space to advance ocean and climate priorities ahead of COP31, with country submissions and stakeholder contributions highlighting the role of coastal ecosystems, including mangroves, in coastal adaptation and blue carbon. GMA members contributed directly to these discussions, reinforcing mangroves' relevance to both the mitigation and adaptation dimensions of the ocean-climate agenda.[5] COP31 will continue this dialogue, and Parties and non-state actors are increasingly calling for it to become more action-oriented, with a multi-annual strategy or roadmap that embeds ocean dialogue outcomes more systematically into UNFCCC processes and the Paris Agreement implementation cycle.

2.3.2 COP30 action agenda- Activation Group 7

The Blue Package, coordinated by the Ocean & Climate Platform in collaboration with several partners and supported by initiatives in Activation Group 7 (AG7) at COP30, serves as the ocean community's Plan to Accelerate Solutions. It brings together over 50 existing initiatives into a unified framework with concrete, time-bound strategies to advance ocean-based mitigation, adaptation, resilience, finance, and governance.[3] COP31 is the first COP at which the Blue Package's progress can be assessed and its ambition advanced, making it a key moment to ensure mangrove restoration and coastal ecosystem protection feature explicitly in reported outcomes.

The Pacific pre-COP in Fiji in October 2026, including a leaders' event in Tuvalu, further elevates Pacific and SIDS priorities ahead of COP31, adding political weight to arguments about climate-vulnerable coastal communities where mangroves play a direct role in shoreline protection, fisheries productivity, and community livelihoods.[6]

2.4 Article 6 and nature, including blue carbon ecosystems

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement offers a critical opportunity to finance nature-based solutions, including the conservation and restoration of coastal blue carbon ecosystems. At COP31, countries will provide annual guidance to the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body under the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM) and to Article 6.2 on expediting its implementation, both critical to ensure Article 6 approaches provide finance for high-carbon ecosystems. Additionally, key decisions will be made about the next phase of the Glasgow Committee on Non-Market Approaches — an additional relevant pathway for financing blue carbon action.

At COP31, it is important that Parties mandate the SBM (the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body, which oversees the new international carbon crediting mechanism established under Article 6) to ensure that nature is not implicitly excluded from the Article 6.4 mechanism when it carries out the review and assessment of methodologies submitted for approval under the mechanism. The SBM should further align on science while relying on best practices when assessing and approving methodologies. The Glasgow Committee on Non-Market Approaches also warrants attention as an additional financing pathway outside carbon market mechanisms, particularly relevant for countries where tenure insecurity, community governance structures, or ecosystem characteristics make market-based approaches less viable.

Additional background: Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement establishes a framework for countries to voluntarily cooperate to achieve climate goals under a centralised UN market mechanism, now called the PACM. At COP29, Parties agreed that the Article 6.4 SBM will develop the technical work needed to operationalise the PACM. Parties can provide guidance to the SBM at each COP, including instructing it to review past decisions, or they can agree to adjust the SBM mandate if appropriate. Over the past years, SBM has developed standards and tools on several topics that may affect financing for high-carbon ecosystems, such as tropical forests and mangroves, through both global and national carbon markets. SBM decisions carry significant consequences, as many will look to the PACM as a reference and may set similar rules for other carbon markets.

2.5 Second Global Stocktake

The second Global Stocktake (GST2) process begins in November 2026, making COP31 the moment to influence how mangroves and coastal ecosystems are positioned within it from the outset. The first GST reaffirmed the urgent need to conserve, protect, and restore marine and coastal ecosystems, and GST2 provides an opportunity to build on this by ensuring mangroves feature explicitly across all three pillars of the Paris Agreement: mitigation, through blue carbon accounting and NDC targets; adaptation, through GGA Target 9d and the Belém Adaptation Indicators; and means of implementation, through NCQG (New Collective Quantified Goal)-linked finance streams and Article 6 mechanisms. Evidence inputs to the GST2 scoping process can draw on GMW data,[22] GMA national chapters and Mangrove country endorsers' experience,[23] and the 2026 State of the World's Mangroves assessment.[24]

2.6 Enhanced Transparency Framework

The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and associated Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) offer a systematic opportunity to ensure Parties consistently and comparably report mangrove-related climate actions. The Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue at SBSTA 64 identified BTRs as a key implementation reporting process where ocean and coastal ecosystem actions, including mangroves, remain inconsistently reflected. COP31 provides an opportunity to advance guidance on how mangrove conservation, restoration, and blue carbon contributions are captured within BTR reporting, including through alignment with GMW data[22] and the GHG inventory guidance provided by the 2013 IPCC Wetlands Supplement.[19] More systematic inclusion of coastal ecosystem indicators within the ETF would strengthen comparability and accountability for mangrove-related climate action.



Mangroves in the Port Royal Protected Area near Kingston, Jamaica. © The Pew Charitable Trusts

3. Recommendations

Based on these entry points for mangroves, Parties can advance mangrove outcomes at COP31 through the following recommendations:

1 **Strengthen NDC implementation and investment planning.**

- For countries that have already included mangrove commitments in NDC 3.0s: prioritise translating those targets into data baselines, institutional coordination arrangements, monitoring systems, and financing plans. Include community-based organisations as funded implementation and governance partners from site selection and planning through maintenance, monitoring and benefit-sharing, with clear roles and responsibilities.

- Ensure mangrove carbon accounting in national GHG inventories applies the 2013 IPCC Wetlands Supplement, including appropriate accounting of below-ground soil carbon and, where appropriate, disaggregated reporting of mangrove ecosystems.

- For countries still finalising NDC submissions: use the remaining window to strengthen mangrove-specific targets on conservation, restoration, blue carbon, and coastal adaptation, drawing on existing template language and country examples.

Supporting resources: NDC Task Force Template Language for Including Mangroves in NDCs; NDC Task Force Examples of Mangrove NDCs; GMA Best Practice Guidelines for Mangrove Restoration; Global Mangrove Watch; IPCC Wetlands Supplement; and Landesa Technical Guidance for Integrating Land Tenure into Nationally Determined Contributions.

2 **Secure a robust process for the Belém Adaptation Indicators under GGA Target 9d.**

- Support agreement at COP31 on the design and mandate of the Task Force for technical refinement and policy alignment of the Belém Adaptation Indicators.

- Ensure the refinement process retains and strengthens mangrove-relevant metrics under Target 9d, including coastal blue carbon systems restored or protected, while encouraging a progression beyond activity- and area-based measures toward indicators of adaptation outcomes, including coastal vulnerability reduction, resilience, ecosystem services and relevant socio-economic outcomes. The refinement should also recognise the incorporation of NbS/EbA into NAPs and NDCs as an indicator of mainstreaming and institutional progress.

- Promote the use of existing geospatial data, including Global Mangrove Watch, to support reporting against these indicators and reduce national reporting burdens.

Supporting resources: NDC Task Force guidance on mangrove-related indicators for the GGA; Global Mangrove Watch; and IUCN/GMA Guidance on Mangrove Indicators in the KMGBF.

3 Advance the ocean and coastal resilience agenda.

- Support a more action-oriented approach to the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue and the PAS Blue Package, including a multi-annual strategy that embeds ocean and coastal outcomes more systematically into Paris Agreement implementation.
- Ensure mangrove restoration and coastal ecosystem protection feature explicitly in Blue Package progress reporting and related COP31 outcomes.
- Elevate mangrove-based coastal adaptation as a priority for SIDS and climate-vulnerable coastal communities, building on the political momentum of the Pacific pre-COP and the COP31 focus on resilience of vulnerable regions.

Supporting resources: GMA article on SBSTA 64 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue; Blue Package/AG7 PAS2; and Mangrove Breakthrough Regional Readiness Reports

4 Safeguard nature and blue carbon under Article 6.

- Provide clear guidance to the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body to ensure that NbS, including blue carbon methodologies for mangroves, are not implicitly excluded when methodologies are reviewed and assessed under the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM), and that methodology assessment and approval are grounded in science and best practice.
- Advance the Glasgow Committee on Non-Market Approaches as a complementary pathway for financing mangrove conservation and restoration, particularly where market-based approaches are less viable.
- Ensure that any carbon-related approach safeguards community rights and responsibilities, provides for meaningful participation and consent, and establishes transparent and equitable benefit-sharing and accessible grievance mechanisms.

Supporting resources: IUCN/CI International Policy Framework for Blue Carbon Ecosystems; NDC Task Force guidance on mangrove-positive NDCs; and Ocean Risk Alliance High-Quality Blue Carbon Practitioners Guide; IPCC Wetlands Supplement.

5 Embed mangroves in the second Global Stocktake from the outset.

- Ensure mangroves and coastal ecosystems feature explicitly across all three GST2 pillars in early scoping discussions: mitigation (blue carbon and NDC targets), adaptation (GGA Target 9d and Belém Indicators), and means of implementation (NCQG finance and Article 6).
- Support evidence inputs that draw on robust geospatial data, national implementation experience, and the 2026 State of the World's Mangroves assessment.

- Monitor early GST2 framing and identify gaps where marine and coastal ecosystems risk being under-represented.

Supporting resources: Global Mangrove Watch; State of the World's Mangroves 2026; and Mangrove Breakthrough Regional Reports and Country Summaries.

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