

South Korea Country Insights

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Congratulations! This country has available data.

This page includes country-specific insights and more detailed analysis, including carbon stocks, emissions factors, and ecosystem wetland area for mangrove, marsh, and seagrass ecosystems. This report details information for the selected country, **South Korea**.

Please explore the rest of the dashboard for more exciting visualizations, map features, and data.

Resources referenced to calculate estimates for **South Korea** are listed below under ‘References’ at the bottom of this document.

Total Carbon Stock Estimates

Total Carbon stock estimates were calculated for each country and habitat. At this time, total Carbon stock estimates do not include seagrass.

We estimate that **South Korea** contains between 6265423.73 to 3601573.65 metric tonnes of soil C to a depth of 1 m, with a mean estimate of 4933498.69 metric tonnes C.

country	territory	habitat	total_stocks	total_stocks_lower	total_stocks_upper	total_stocks_se
South Korea	South Korea	total	4933499	6265424	3601574	679553.6

This total estimate includes total mangrove carbon stocks, from NA to NA metric tonnes of soil C to a depth of 1 m, with a mean estimate of 0.

country	territory	habitat	total_stocks	total_stocks_lower	total_stocks_upper	total_stocks_se
South Korea	South Korea	mangrove	0	NA	NA	NA

This total estimate also includes total tidal marsh carbon stocks, ranging from NA to NA metric tonnes of soil C to a depth of 1 m, with a mean estimate of 4933498.69.

country	territory	habitat	total_stocks	total_stocks_lower	total_stocks_upper	total_stocks_se
South Korea	South Korea	marsh	4933499	NA	NA	693711

Seagrass carbon stocks were not included in the total value due to lack of a global, transparent, and independently assessed seagrass habitat map; however, best available areas and stocks for **South Korea** are explored in the following ‘Wetland Areas and Activities’ section.

Wetland Areas and Activities

We estimate mangrove area in **South Korea** to be 0 to 21871.5368510917 hectares, with a mean estimate of 0 hectares according to Global Mangrove Watch Bunting et al. (2018).

We estimate tidal marsh area in **South Korea** to be 11718.7240772912 to 21871.5368510917 hectares, with a mean estimate of hectares according to Worthington et al. (2024).

We estimate seagrass area to be **South Korea** to be a mean of 7000 hectares, according to McKenzie et al. (2020), aggregating data from multiple sources.

McKenzie et al. (2020) classifies seagrass area estimates as either high or medium to low confidence. seagrass_area_high_confidence % of the estimated seagrass area of **South Korea** is considered high to medium confidence, while seagrass_area_low_confidence % of the estimated seagrass area is categorized as low confidence.

Calculated Stocks and Emissions Factors

This section of the report details whether data is available to estimate Tier I, Tier II, or Tier III value estimates for tidal marsh, mangrove, and seagrass ecosystems in **South Korea**.

If data for the selected country is available in the Coastal Carbon Atlas, we have applied a Tier II emission factor based on a simple average of country specific data queried from the Atlas.

Data from **South Korea** includes 0 soil profiles from 0 watersheds. This data comes from 0 different habitat types.

If there is not yet any country specific information in the Coastal Carbon Atlas, we instead applied IPCC Tier I estimate. IPCC Tier I estimates for mangrove, marsh, and seagrass ecosystems are listed below.
SOURCE

The table in this section also details whether the calculated Tier II value is significantly different from the estimated Tier I values. This is observed in the “Overlap” column.

Table 4: IPCC Tier I Value Estimates

Habitat	Mean	Lower_CI	Upper_CI
mangrove	386	351	424
marsh	255	254	297
seagrass	108	84	139

Table 5: Availability of Tier I and Tier II Data

Country	Territory	Habitat	Tier	Overlap
South Korea	South Korea	mangrove	Tier I	NA
South Korea	South Korea	marsh	Tier I	NA
South Korea	South Korea	seagrass	Tier I	NA

Tier I Carbon Stocks

This table includes Tier I Carbon Stocks included for **South Korea**.

country	territory	habitat	stock_MgHa_mn	stock_MgHa_lowerCI	stock_MgHa_upperCI	tier	carbon_pool
South Korea	South Korea	mangrove	386	351	424	TierI	soil
South Korea	South Korea	marsh	255	254	297	TierI	soil
South Korea	South Korea	seagrass	108	84	139	TierI	soil

Tier II Carbon Stocks

This table includes Tier II Carbon Stock estimates for **South Korea**. Estimates in this table were derived from data queried from the Coastal Carbon Atlas. SOURCE

country	territory	habitat	tier	carbon_pool	stock_MgHa_mn	stock_MgHa_lowerCI	stock_MgHa_upperCI	stock_MgHa_lowerCI
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Tier III Carbon Stocks

Tier III carbon stocks were estimated, when available, from remote sensing data from Maxwell et al 2021 and Sanderman et al 2018. The table below details whether estimated values are available for **South Korea**, and any overlap with associated Tier I or Tier II values.

If there are no Tier III estimates associated with the selected country, please refer to Tier I and Tier II tables.

[1] "There are currently no Tier III remote sensing estimates for this country. Please refer to Tier

References

- Bunting, Pete, Ake Rosenqvist, Richard M. Lucas, Lisa-Maria Rebelo, Lammert Hilarides, Nathan Thomas, Andy Hardy, Takuya Itoh, Masanobu Shimada, and C. Max Finlayson. 2018. "The Global Mangrove Watch—a New 2010 Global Baseline of Mangrove Extent." *Remote Sensing* 10 (10): 1669. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs10101669>.
- McKenzie, Len J, Lina M Nordlund, Benjamin L Jones, Leanne C Cullen-Unsworth, Chris Roelfsema, and Richard K F Unsworth. 2020. "The Global Distribution of Seagrass Meadows." *Environmental Research Letters* 15 (7): 074041. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ab7d06>.
- Worthington, Thomas A., Mark Spalding, Emily Landis, Tania L. Maxwell, Alejandro Navarro, Lindsey S. Smart, and Nicholas J. Murray. 2024. "The Distribution of Global Tidal Marshes from Earth Observation Data." *Global Ecology and Biogeography* 33 (8). <https://doi.org/10.1111/geb.13852>.