

Checklist | Blue Carbon Readiness Framework



PILLAR

1

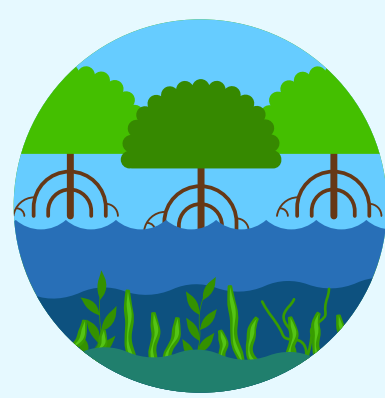
DATA & ANALYTICS

EVALUATING BLUE CARBON ACTIONS

✓ CHECKLIST 1

Identifying Established Blue Carbon Ecosystems Within Your Country

The first step in the process of evaluating blue carbon actions is identifying if your country currently has, or has had, any of the following blue carbon ecosystems (BCEs). BCEs fall into one of two categories: Established or Emerging.



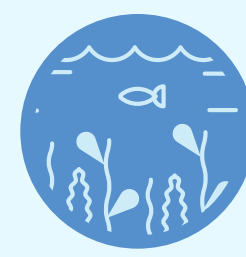
ESTABLISHED BLUE CARBON ECOSYSTEMS –

Mangroves, seagrass beds, and salt marshes are recognized as falling into an established inventory category of wetlands. These ecosystems are considered “actionable” because they are eligible for Blue Carbon crediting instruments.



Salt Marshes – explore the UNEP Global Distribution of Salt Marshes map located at the link below. From the link you can download spatial data on the baseline inventory containing global seagrass distribution. Data used to develop this map covers studies from 1973 – 2015.

<https://data.unep-wcmc.org/datasets/43>



Seagrasses - explore the UNEP Global Distribution of Seagrass map located at the link below. From here, you can zoom to your country to view salt marsh distribution or download spatial data to view distribution across a customizable area. Data used to develop this map covers studies from 1934 – 2015.

<https://www.unep.org/resources/publication/global-distribution-seagrasses>



Mangroves – Global Mangrove Watch (GMW) provides a variety of data on the global distribution of mangroves at yearly intervals going back to 1996. Using their online mapping portal, you can view the distribution of mangroves within your country, as well as a variety of different data layers on carbon storage, mangrove type, and mangrove area change over time.

www.GlobalMangroveWatch.org



EMERGING BLUE CARBON ECOSYSTEMS –

The following BCEs are considered emerging as they are “likely” actionable, meaning they meet some of the actionability criteria. In the future, these ecosystems may be eligible for Blue Carbon crediting instruments. Currently, there is limited data on the global extent of emerging BCEs, and as such, there are few resources available for countries looking to assess national extent/area of these ecosystems.