

# A Survey of Blue Carbon Field Projects

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# *Scope of Research*

Next steps for blue carbon

*Developing Field Projects*

This research

- Surveys existing blue carbon field activities
- Expands network of people working on blue carbon

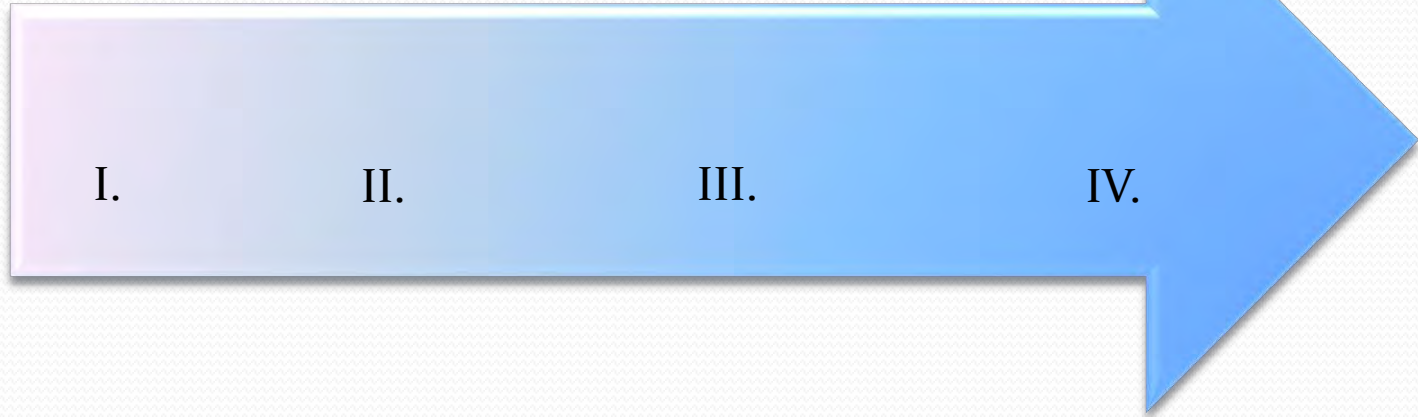
# *Findings*

There are many field projects using the blue carbon moniker...

*Are they really blue carbon projects?*



# Findings



I. “Blue Carbon Washed”, conservation in a blue carbon ecosystem, without any mitigation focus

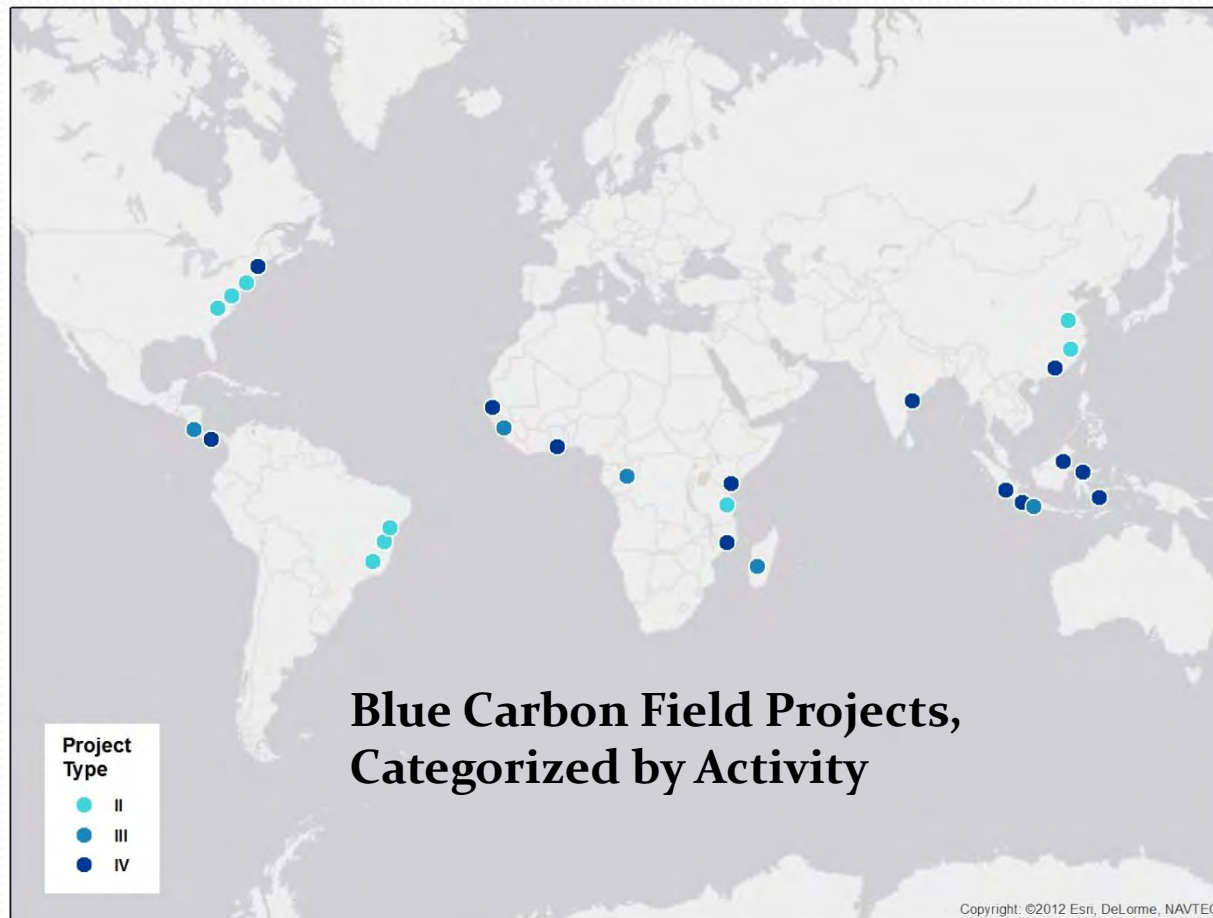
II. Research Activities

*Mapping, Carbon Stock Assessments, Restoration, Habitat Data Collection, Predictive Modeling*

III. Ecosystem Services Projects

IV. Blue Carbon Conservation/Restoration Projects

# *Findings*



# *Seagrasses in Brazil*

- A type “II” project
- Advancing scientific research
- Collecting seagrass biomass and sediment samples for carbon analysis
- Goal: to demonstrate carbon content in seagrasses
- Results expected late fall, 2012





# *Mangroves in Madagascar*

- A type “III” project
- Developing pilot sites for comprehensive, restoration and conservation projects, financed with payment for ecosystem services

Pressures include overharvesting for charcoal and construction



- Mapping extent/type
- Taking soil samples
- Community Engagement
- Developing methodologies

### Goals:

- Improve livelihoods
- Restore mangroves for their ecosystem services, including carbon storage potential, shoreline and flood protection, and productive fisheries





# *Mangroves in Kenya*

- A type “IV” project
- Collaboration between universities and Kenyan environmental agencies
- Intact and degraded sites
- Goal: A site that is conserved for its carbon value, financed by payments for carbon credits, and has community benefits



Mapping, Carbon Inventories, Planting alternative sources of timber, Capacity building for improved ecosystem management



Field work is complete



# *Tidal Marshes in MA, USA*

- A Type “IV” Project
- In partnership with various government agencies and research institutions
- Goal: Tidal marsh conservation for its carbon storage abilities

Measuring GHG exchanges, Assessing the impact of excess nitrogen in the marsh, Evaluating options for nitrogen removal as part of restoration activities



# *Mangroves in Indonesia*

- A type “IV” project
- Sumatra
- France-based NGO, working with local partners
- Mangrove restoration
- Goal: earn carbon credits for restored mangroves and infuse money into community development





- Productive mangrove species
- Planting in former fish/shrimp ponds
- Re-establishing economic opportunity with restored shellfish habitat

Planting seasons are underway,  
carbon credits expected for sale in 2014





# *Mangroves in India*

- A type “IV” project
- India’s Sundarban region
- Same France-based NGO, working with local partners
- Mangrove restoration
- Goal: earn carbon credits for restored mangroves and infuse money into community development



Inherent complexities – very remote, very impoverished  
Currently, highly dangerous conditions for the women in  
the community, who are the shellfish harvesters



*Benefits -*  
Mangrove Restoration,  
Restored Shellfish Population,  
Safer Harvesting Conditions,  
Increased Economic Opportunity

# What's Next?

## Short-term

*Distribute report of findings*

## Long-term

- Facilitate coordination on field activities
- Identify projects that the Blue Carbon Initiative/Working Groups might support
- Inform broader discussion on defining blue carbon projects
- Add to the inventory
- Continue building the network

*Thank you*

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