

International Blue Carbon Policy Working Group

Overview from discussions and outcomes of the 2nd workshop

10-11 January 2012
European Parliament, Brussels



J. Tamelander



The Blue Carbon Initiative

Overarching goal: Increased conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal Blue Carbon ecosystems



- International Blue Carbon Science Working Group
- International Blue Carbon Policy Working Group
- Blue Carbon research projects
- Demonstration projects
- Capacity building

Blue Carbon Policy Working Group

- Provide guidance for Blue Carbon policy and incentives mechanisms that support and finance management of coastal ecosystems for climate change mitigation:
 - Identify opportunities, limits and risks of advancing Blue Carbon in different international climate, coastal and ocean fora;
 - Identify activities and stakeholders;
 - Identify important milestones for achieving policy change;
 - Identify areas of current policy and economic research gaps.

First workshop in Arlington, VA July, 2011

Second workshop in Brussels, Belgium Jan. 2012



Blue Carbon Policy Framework



- Defines activities and a timeline to increase policy development, coastal planning and management activities that support and promote avoided degradation, conservation, restoration and sustainable use of coastal Blue Carbon systems;
- **Blue Carbon ≠ new or separate policy or financing scheme; inclusion of Blue Carbon activities into existing policy and financing processes whenever possible**

Blue Carbon Policy Objectives

1. Integration into the international **policy and financing processes of the UNFCCC**
2. Integration of Blue Carbon fully into **other carbon finance mechanisms** such as the voluntary carbon market
3. Develop a network of Blue Carbon **demonstration projects**
4. Integration of Blue Carbon into other international, regional and national frameworks and policies, including **coastal and marine frameworks and policies**
5. Facilitate the inclusion into the accounting of **ecosystem**

Blue Carbon Policy Objectives

1. Integration into the international **policy and financing processes of the UNFCCC**
2. Integration of Blue Carbon fully into **other carbon finance mechanisms** such as the voluntary carbon market
3. Develop a network of Blue Carbon **demonstration projects**
4. Integration of Blue Carbon into other international, regional and national frameworks and policies, including **coastal and marine frameworks and policies**
5. Facilitate the inclusion into the accounting of **ecosystem**

Blue Carbon Policy Objectives

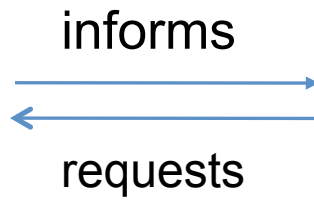
1. Integration into the international **policy and financing processes of the UNFCCC**
2. Integration of Blue Carbon fully into **other carbon finance mechanisms** such as the voluntary carbon market
- ~~3. Develop a network of Blue Carbon **demonstration projects**~~
4. Integration of Blue Carbon into other international, regional and national frameworks and policies, including **coastal and marine frameworks and policies**
5. Facilitate the inclusion into the accounting of **ecosystem**

UNFCCC



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

IPCC

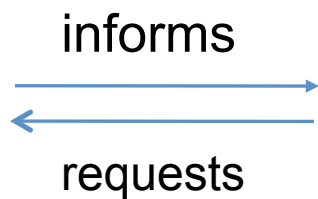


UNFCCC



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

IPCC



UNFCCC



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

main bodies

SBSTA

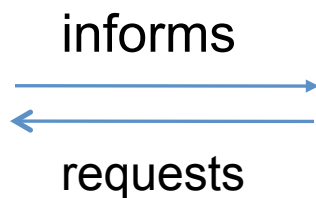
Science &
technical
issues

SBI

Implementation

COP

Decisions



UNFCCC



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

main bodies

SBSTA

Science &
technical

SBI

Implementation

COP

Decisions

issues

ad hoc bodies

AWG -KP

AWG-LCA

ADP-Durban
Platform

agreements/ protocols

Kyoto Protocol

(most) developed
countries

until 2015

Cancun agreements

Durban agreement

new global agreement
by 2015



Developed countries

- Annex I

UNFCCC – Agreements – COP Decisions

USA
& Co.

Kyoto Protocol

(most) developed countries

legally binding

LULUCF - activities

- Accounting for deforestation, afforestation, reforestation (mandatory)
- 'Drainage and rewetting' and others (voluntary)

CDM - offsets

- Mangrove methodologies

Developing countries

- non- Annex I

Developed countries

- Annex I

UNFCCC – Agreements – COP Decisions

USA
& Co.

Kyoto Protocol

(most) developed countries
legally binding

LULUCF - activities

- Accounting for deforestation, afforestation, reforestation (mandatory)
- 'Drainage and rewetting' and others (voluntary)

CDM - offsets

- Mangrove methodologies

Developing countries

- non- Annex I

REDD+

NAMAs

National Appropriate
Mitigation Actions

Developed countries

- Annex I

UNFCCC – Agreements – COP Decisions

USA
& Co.

Kyoto Protocol

(most) developed countries
legally binding

LULUCF - activities

- Accounting for deforestation, afforestation, reforestation (mandatory)
- 'Drainage and rewetting' and others (voluntary)

CDM - offsets

- Mangrove methodologies

Developing countries

- non- Annex I

REDD+

NAMAs

National Appropriate
Mitigation Actions

New 2015 agreement – new country categories?

Integration into the international policy and financing processes of the UNFCCC

- full integration of Blue Carbon sinks and reservoirs into a possible **new global mechanism/agreement (2015)**; and
- continued integration of Blue Carbon into **current discussions of current mechanism** e.g. REDD+, LULUCF, CDM to inform a possible new global mechanism/agreement.



Integration into the international policy and financing processes of the UNFCCC

- SBSTA workshop including marine and coastal ecosystems (technical/scientific)
- SBSTA research dialogue
- SBSTA - Mangroves & REDD and discussion on methodological guidance (reference levels, monitoring, drivers, gender,)
- NAMAs and access of Green Climate Fund
- LULUCF – new definition & accounting rules



Coastal and marine frameworks & policies

- National and regional governance structures
(Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Marine Protected Areas, Marine Spatial Planning etc.)
- Need for additional economic analysis
- Private sector engagement – e.g. shrimp farming, value chain analysis



Other activities

- Submitted joint text to **UNFCCC SBSTA** - developments in research activities relevant to the needs of the Convention/research dialogue
- **Raised awareness and discussed** coastal ecosystem management for climate change mitigation at relevant meetings, e.g. UNFCCC COP17 (side-events etc)
- **Provide relevant information** into other international fora: CBD, Ramsar, ...

Blue Carbon open Symposium

- EP Intergroup meeting
- High attendance from different EU stakeholders, including MEPs and Directors EU Commission - DGs
- Representatives from the Blue Carbon Science Working Group – Boone, Jim & Steve
- Awareness raising, discussion, networking



Tuesday, June 12, 2012