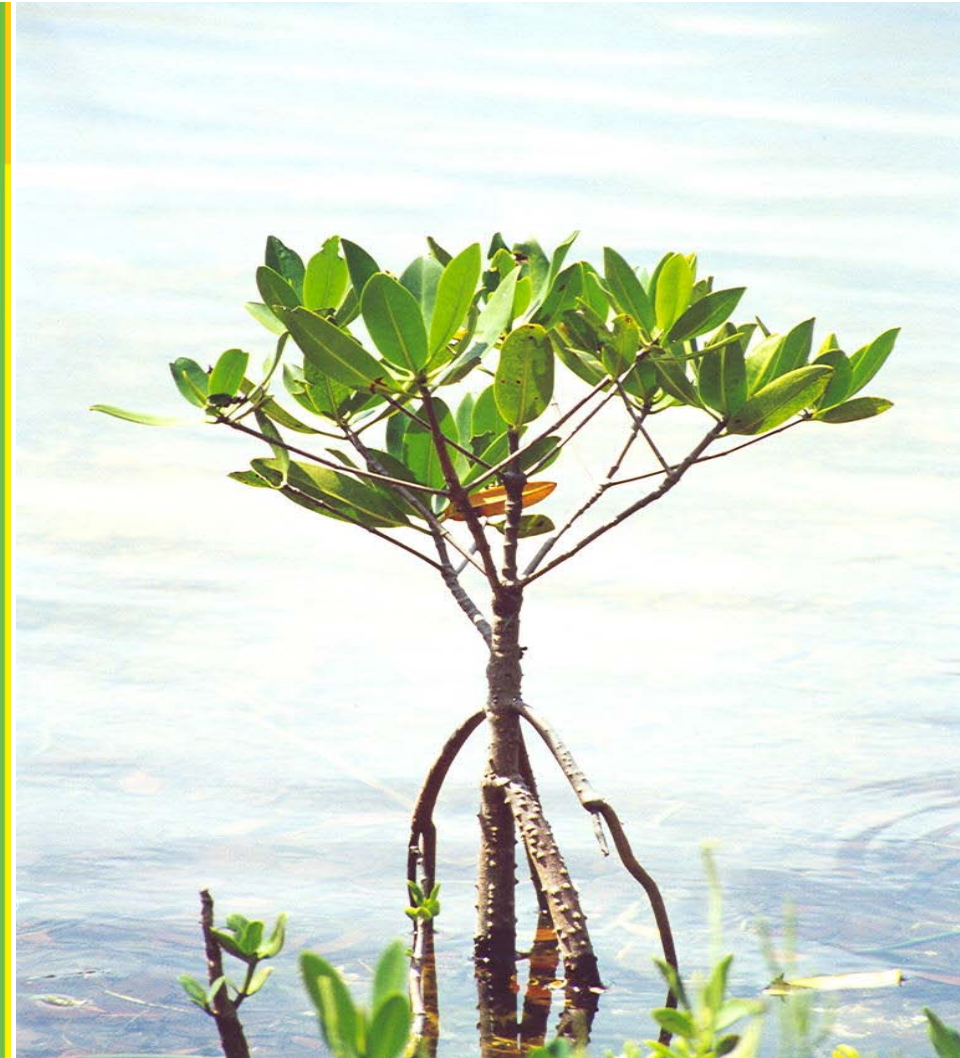




CLIMATE**FOCUS**

# Blue Carbon: Policy Options Assessment

Robert O'Sullivan  
12 July 2011





# Report Overview

IPCC

UNFCCC

- NAMAs; REDD

Kyoto Protocol

- Non-Annex I (CDM); Annex I (caps; JI; GIS)

Regional and national trading

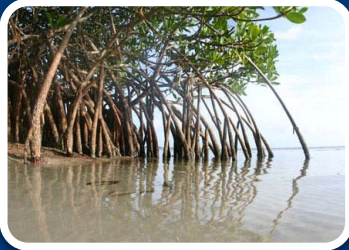
- Australia; EU; California

Other

- Voluntary market; Fast start finance; Adaptation



# IPCC Reporting Guidelines



## Mangroves

- May be “forest” or “grassland” depending on species; if neither then “wetland”



## Salt marshes

- May be “grassland” depending on species; otherwise “wetland”



## Sea grasses

- Not covered by IPCC guidelines as do not occur on “land” as understood within IPCC



# IPCC: Key findings and recommendations

## IPCC guidelines don't adequately cover BC

- Sea grasses not covered
- 2006 guidelines focus on narrow definition of managed wetlands
- No emission or removal factors for most BC
- Countries can't use simple Tier 1 approach for BC, but Tier 2 or 3 may be possible with sufficient data

## Need additional guidance

- Rate of accumulation of carbon in soil
- Defaults for above ground biomass accumulation and soil carbon stocks
- Accounting for soil carbon emitted to the ocean and atmosphere
- IPCC Task Force to create a "2013 Supplement to 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands"



# Incentives under the UNFCCC

## NAMAs

- Best suited for salt marshes, sea grasses, and non-forest mangroves
- Prioritize either readiness or implementation depending on existing capacity
  - May include sectoral approaches and crediting?
- Funding through multi-/bilateral initiatives providing fast-start finance

## REDD+

- Could include mangroves that meet forest definition
- Support readiness activities including improving data on carbon content and drivers of deforestation and degradation



# Other Relevant Areas

## Fast-start Finance and Other Funding Sources

- Pledges (may be) approaching US\$30 billion
- Can leverage additional funds, increase experience and awareness
- Already being deployed by bilateral and multilateral funds for mitigation and adaptation activities in coastal zones
- Non-climate related finance such as development or biodiversity

## Adaptation

- US\$1.6 billion to date is much lower than levels of mitigation funding, but should not be ignored
- Activities with mitigation and adaptation co-benefits may receive higher priority



**Thank you. For more information contact:**

Robert O'Sullivan

[r.osullivan@climatefocus.com](mailto:r.osullivan@climatefocus.com)

Donna Lee

[d.lee@climatefocus.com](mailto:d.lee@climatefocus.com)