

Blue Carbon Bundled with Ecosystem Services in UAE

An integral part of UAE's
coastal and marine resources

Natural Capital Symposium
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United Arab Emirates (UAE)



Ecosystems Studied

Seagrass meadows

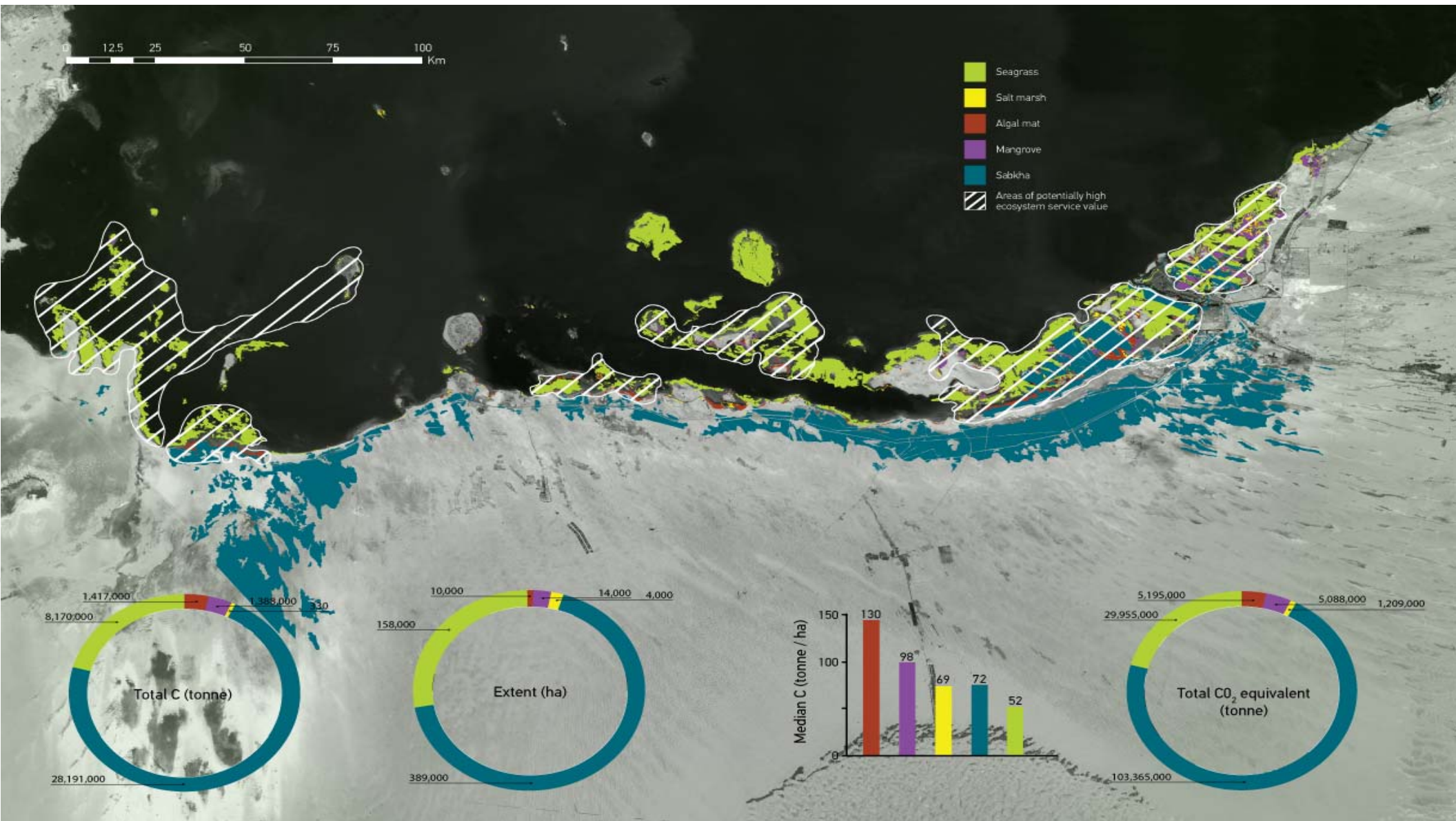
Saltmarshes

Intertidal cyanobacterial mats

Coastal Sabkha

Mangroves





Value of coastal and marine amenity services of Water Quality in Abu Dhabi

- US \$141 million to only 15 Abu Dhabi hotels per year equalling a net present value of between US \$1.3 and US \$2.1 billion over 13 years.
- US \$683 million to beach users per year. This conservative number, assuming only 4.2% of the residents of Abu Dhabi visit the beaches.
- The residential estate market and commercial properties could also experience significant losses, but these could not be estimated.

**The value of one basket of services
to two user groups
estimated to be
US \$824 million pa.**

What happens then...

“In the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught.”

Baba Dioum

- Importance of bridging and bringing together the science/policy interface
- Importance of true engagement
- The UAE utilizing results for our National Natural Capital Map, NBSAP reporting, Aichi targets, National and Sub-National Level Climate Change Policy and Strategy and will be utilizing it towards our commitment to TEEB for Oceans and Coasts and involvement into IPBES.
- Regionally building a blue carbon and ecosystem services regional working group
- *Even if the Blue Carbon storage values are low, and aside from the financial mechanisms possible, it can play an integral part of national and subnational policy and regulations frameworks*