



# Building the Leadership for Nature-based Solutions for Coastal and Marine Blue Carbon Ecosystems

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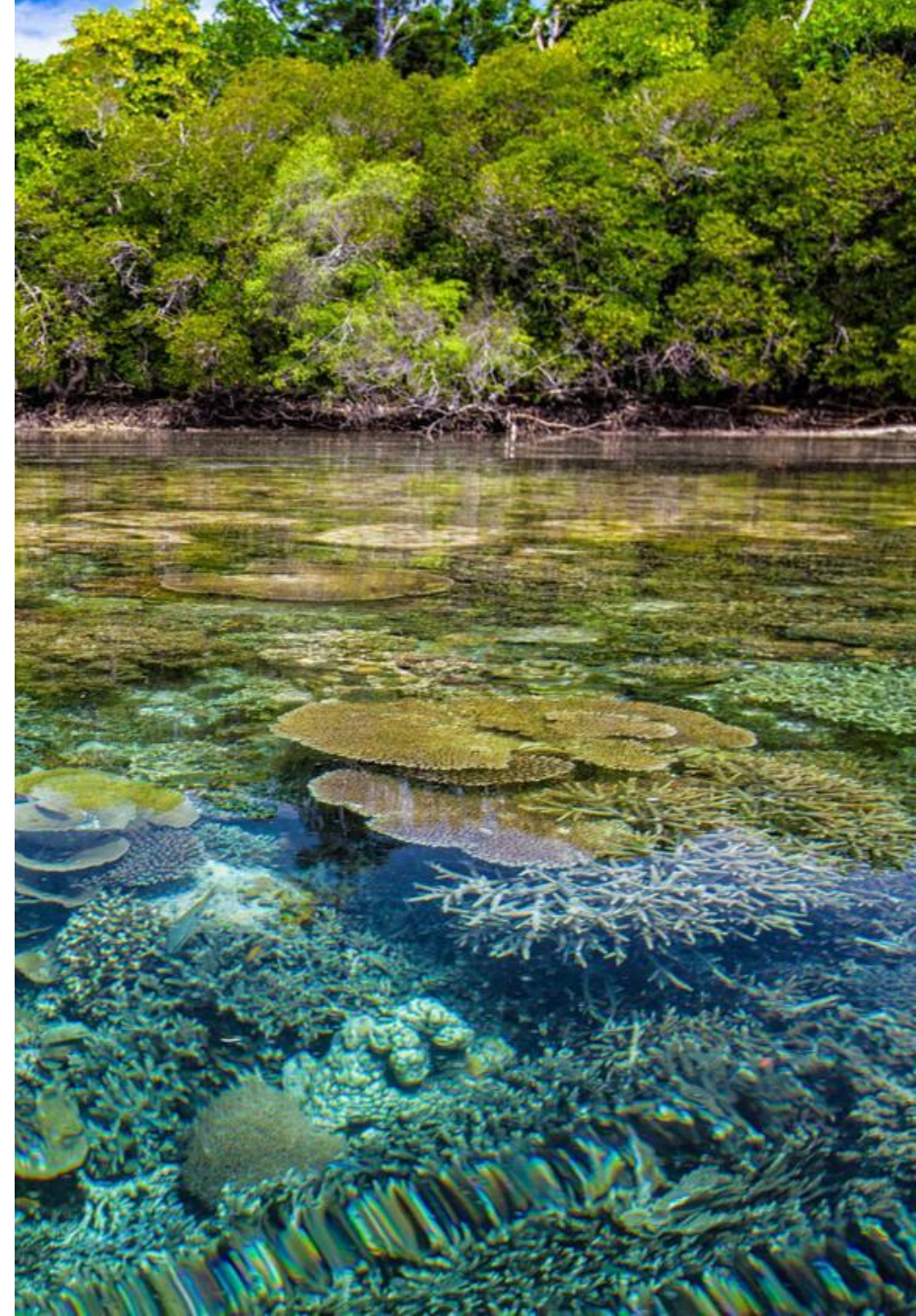
**OVER  
200**  
**MILLION PEOPLE**  
worldwide live and  
depend on coastal  
ecosystems

**10x**  
**MORE CARBON**  
by area is sequestered  
by coastal than by  
terrestrial ecosystems

**2%**  
**PER YEAR**  
is the rate at which coastal  
blue carbon habitats  
are being lost



In the marine environment, the degradation and loss of coastal habitats particularly, ecosystems capturing carbon, is resulting in an unprecedented loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.







## Deep Blue Opportunities

A need for a range of incentives and mechanisms to be used to ensure both, reduction of impacts with more sustainable practices and achievement of conservation goals for these ecosystems.

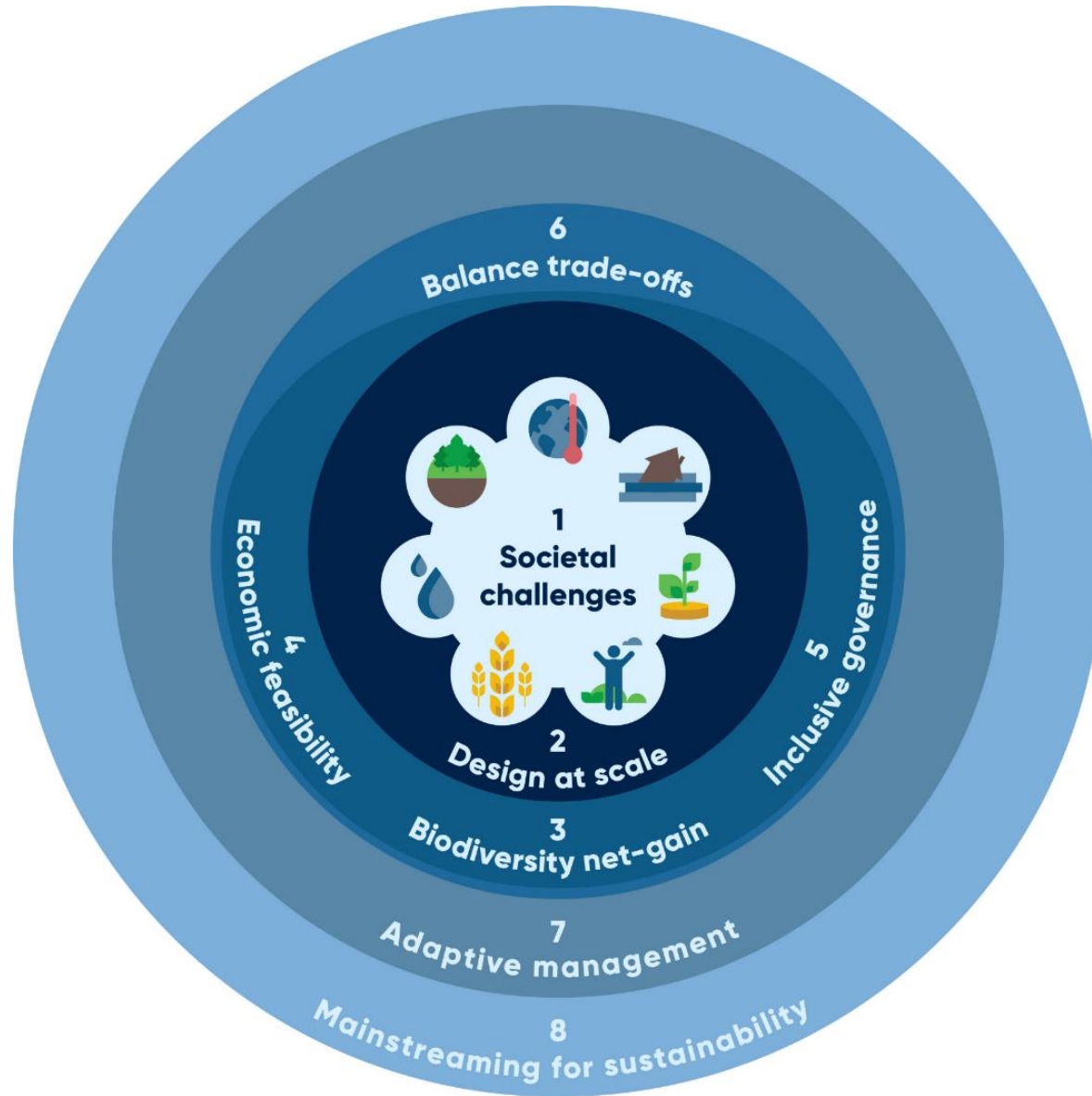




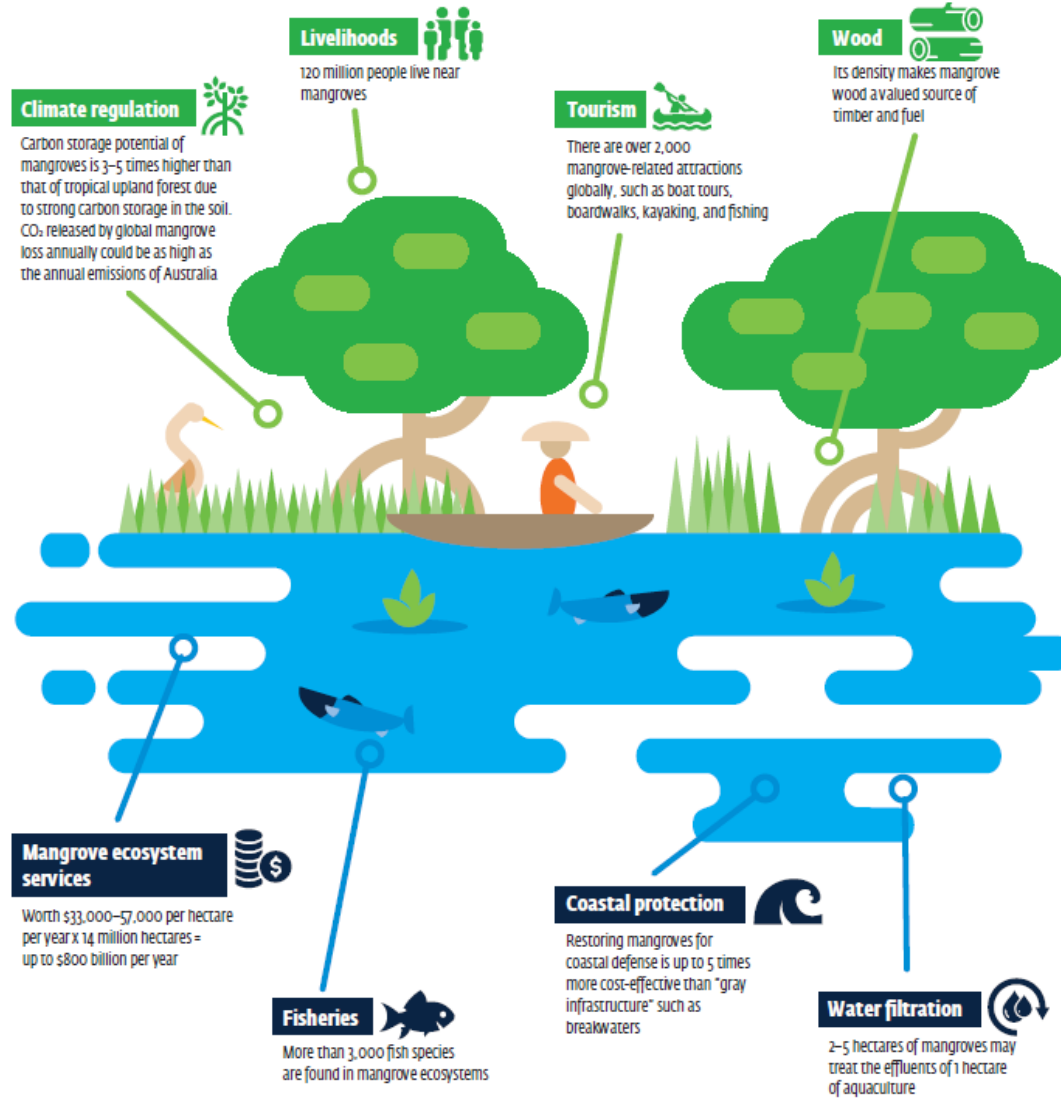
# Nature-based Solutions

IUCN defines nature-based solutions as: “actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges (e.g. climate change, food and water security or natural disasters) effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits”

- WCC 2016, Resolution 069



## ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



Source: WWF and IUCN.



## IUCN Projects:

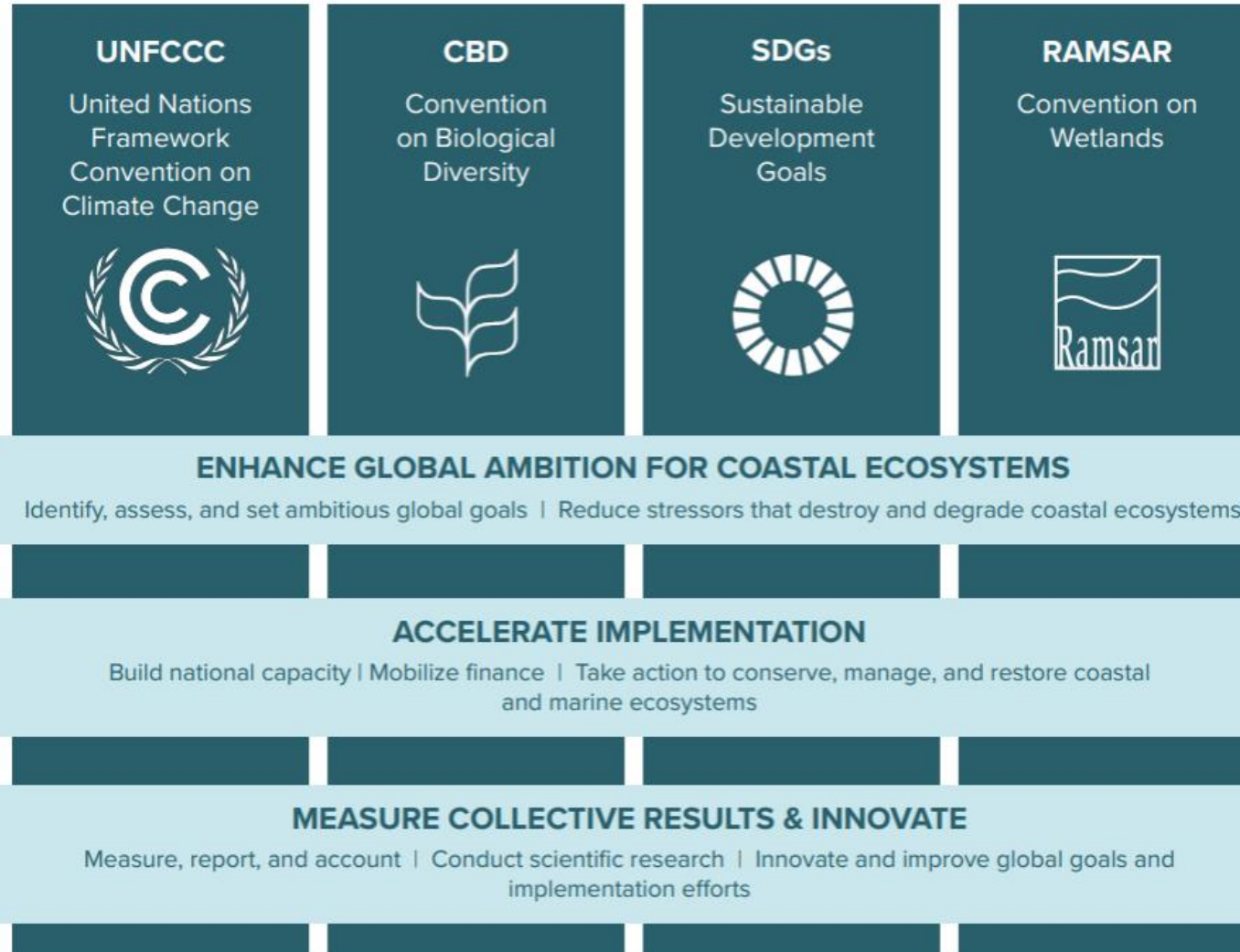
- NbS from marine ecosystems in a post-COVID-19 Mediterranean
- Blue Carbon Accelerator Fund
- Life – Blue Natura
- POSBEMED+
- RestCoast





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- The sustainable blue economy is an important component of a just transition to a net-zero and nature-positive economy but requires adequate finance.
  - Blue Finance success relies on public-private partnerships and **blended finance solutions** to de-risk investments, with robust **metrics and monitoring** and an **enabling regulatory framework**.
  - NbS, including blue Carbon and Blue Natural Capital can help to **engage** private sector partners, local communities and civil society and offers opportunities to address risks and support resilience.







## European Green Deal

A package of policy initiatives which aims to set the EU on a path to green transition, with the overarching goal of reaching climate neutrality by 2050.

Fit for 55 package

EU Strategy on  
Adaptation to  
Climate Change

Circular Economy  
Action Plan

European Climate  
Law

EU Biodiversity  
Strategy for 2030





## EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

### Relevant goals

- Enlarge protected areas, by designating existing Natura 2000 sites. Legally protect 30% of the EU's sea area and integrate ecological corridors, 10% of EU seas should be strictly protected.
- 25% of EU budget dedicated to climate action to be invested on biodiversity and nature-based solutions.
- A core feature of this would be the Nature Restoration Law

## European Climate Law

### Relevant provisions

- Article 5(4) on adaptation to climate change requires EU Member States to promote nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation.
- Nature-based solutions are also cited as beneficial for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity protection.



- Nature Restoration Law proposal:
  - Article 4: Restoration of terrestrial, **coastal** and freshwater ecosystems

*“Member States shall put in place the restoration measures that are necessary to improve to good condition areas of habitat types listed in Annex I which are not in good condition [...] on at least 30 % of the area of each group of habitat types listed in Annex I that is not in good condition [...] by 2030, on at least 60 % by 2040, and on at least 90 % by 2050.”*
  - Article 5: Restoration of **marine** ecosystems:

*“Member States shall put in place the restoration measures that are necessary to improve to **good condition** areas of habitat types listed in **Annex II** which are not in good condition [...] on at least 30 % of the area [...] by 2030, on at least 60 % by 2040, and on at least 90 % by 2050”*

Both measures would also cover the re-establishment of listed habitat types.
- Listed habitats include:
  - *Posidonia oceanica*
  - *Cymodocea nodosa*
  - Salt steppes and salt marshes







The protection and restoration of these coastal ecosystems offer effective solutions for adaptation and climate change mitigation efforts that need to be brought into practice to avoid further degradation of these valuable ecosystems across the region.







Thank You

