



## Side Event Concept Paper

*Scaling Blue Carbon Investments: Enabling Financing for Seagrass and Coastal Ecosystems*

**Joint Side Event:** GGGI, Notre Grande Bleu, IUCN, and Partners

**Date & Time:** June 12, 2025 | 14:00–15:15

**Location:** UNOC3, Room 1 (Blue Zone)

### OVERVIEW

Blue carbon ecosystems—including seagrasses, mangroves, and salt marshes—sequester carbon at often higher rates than terrestrial forests, while simultaneously buffering coastal communities from storm surges, sustaining marine biodiversity, and supporting livelihoods through fisheries, ecotourism, and ecosystem services. Yet despite their immense value, these ecosystems remain severely underfunded, under-protected, and underrepresented in climate finance frameworks.

This joint side event, hosted by the **Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)** and **Notre Grande Bleu (NGB)** in partnership with the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** and with support from partners including the **United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD [DESA])**, the **Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF)**, the **Mediterranean Posidonia Network (MPN)**, and the **Agence Française de Développement (AfD)** alongside national government counterparts from Kenya, Indonesia, and France will examine how investments in seagrass ecosystems and blue carbon can be structured to achieve climate action, biodiversity restoration, and resilient coastal development.

By bridging science, policy, and finance, the session will explore regional initiatives to promote blue carbon from around the world. It will highlight global best practices and introduce new tools such as seagrass policy-finance roadmaps and regional ecosystem baselines. It will also spotlight emerging investment mechanisms and Article 6-aligned carbon markets that can scale nature-positive ocean finance. We will explore various approaches to scaling up finance for blue carbon ecosystems and how effective policy forms the backbone of those efforts.

### OBJECTIVES

The side event hosted by GGGI & NGB seeks to:

- 1) Highlight the role of blue carbon in delivering climate, biodiversity, and development benefits and showcase regional approaches of framing policy through science to enable effective ecosystem management
- 2) Share best practices on scaling seagrass, mangrove, and coastal ecosystem investments from regions around the world
- 3) Discuss innovative financial mechanisms to support blue carbon investments
- 4) Present the science-policy and policy-finance pipeline that can enable ecosystem investments and drive resilience

### AGENDA

Time	Presentation & Speakers
14:00–14:10	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ingvild Solvang, Direct of Climate Action &amp; Inclusive Development, GGGI</li> </ul> <b>Welcome Remarks</b>



Time	Presentation & Speakers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hon. Minister, Kenya (TBD)</li> <li>Hon. Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Dominican Republic (TBD)</li> </ul>
14:10–14:15	<b>Framing the Conversation: How Science can Enable Effective Policy for the Regenerative Blue Economy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barkha Mossae, Regenerative Blue Economy Manager, IUCN</li> </ul>
14:15–14:40	<b>Panel 1: Science for Policy Action</b> <i>Discussion on ecosystem mapping, MRV, and science-policy tools for coastal resilience and NDCs.</i> <b>Moderator:</b> Mercedes Munoz, Marine Biodiversity & Blue Economy Manager, IUCN <b>Panelists include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Ahmed Ghedira, President, Notre Grande Bleu</li> <li>Mr. Park Chun Kyoo, Head, UNOSD(DESA)</li> <li>Ms. Florence Merle, Deputy Director of European and International Relations, French Office for Biodiversity</li> </ul>
14:40–14:45	<b>Framing the Conversation: How Effective Policy and Innovative Finance can Enable Blue Carbon Investments</b> Michael Bak, Senior Analyst Adaptation & Resilience, GGGI
14:45–15:10	<b>Panel 2: Scaling Finance for Blue Carbon Ecosystems</b> <b>Moderator:</b> Ingvild Solvang <b>Panelists include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tanja Lieuw, Conservation Finance Program Manager, CBF</li> <li>Samuel Henry, Blue Carbon Facility Coordinator, AfD</li> <li>(TBD) Indonesia Ministry of Marine Affairs &amp; Fisheries</li> </ul>
15:10–15:15	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Hon. Minister, France