



**With the milestone of the Paris Agreement behind us, attention is now concentrated on the implications and countries' commitments to reduce emissions and enhance adaptation programs.**

Coastal and marine ecosystems and their important role as carbon sinks are, for the first time, recognized in this Agreement, emphasizing the need to optimize management measures to conserve and improve the habitats that act as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases, where necessary.

**Blue Carbon**, the carbon absorbed and stored by marine and coastal ecosystems such as **wetlands, marshes, mangroves** and **seagrasses**, represents a large natural carbon sink. Recognition of these important sinks, may provide new incentives to prioritize the restoration and conservation of these important ecosystems.

The current global understanding of the role and services of these coastal ecosystems indicate highlight their importance, but... **What information we do we have and what kind of projects would help mitigation of climate change on our coast?** And adaptation? How can management and decision making use the opportunity provided by these ecosystem services? What are the options and challenges for implementation of management decisions?

This meeting organized by **IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation**, invites the participation of **scientific experts, administrators** and other stakeholders to discuss the current knowledge about these ecosystems in the face of climate change, from the **ecological and socio-economic perspectives**. Bringing the experiences of different projects and initiatives on aspects of governance, knowledge of ecosystem services and their values, the two-day meeting will present and discuss the results and **future prospects for Blue Carbon ecosystems as tools for mitigation and adaptation to climate change** together with how to promote their **conservation and restoration**.

This conference is one of the actions under the **Life BlueNatura** project coordinated by the **Regional Ministry of Environment and Planning of the Government of Andalusia**, together with other partners: **IUCN-Med, Environment Agency and Water of Andalusia (AMAYA), CSIC-CEAB, and Association Man and Territory (HYT)**.

**Blue LIFE Natura (2015-2019)** is a European project whose **main objective is to understand and quantify blue carbon sinks on seagrass and coastal wetlands in Andalusia** and assess their ecosystem services using the tools and policies associated to climate change.



All presentations will have **simultaneous translation into Spanish and English**

**Seating capacity to 150 people**

Please **reserve a place** by email to:

Arantxa CENDOYA en [Arantxa.CENDOYA@iucn.org](mailto:Arantxa.CENDOYA@iucn.org)

## TECHNICAL MEETING CONSERVATION OF COASTAL CARBON SINKS

**21 to 22 November 2016**  
**Malaga, Spain** · La Térmica  
Av. de los Guindos, 48

Organizing  
**IUCN Center for  
Mediterranean Cooperation**


  
 JUNTA DE ANDALUCIA  
CONSEJERIA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y ORDENACION DEL TERRITORIO

Socios beneficiarios:



  
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Cofinanciador:



With the assistance of:



# AGENDA

The meeting will include plenary presentations and thematic sessions with the following topics:

1. Climate change on the marine environment and national and international actions to combat it. Review of policy development and the needs of Blue Carbon
2. Coastal ecosystems services, resilience and ability to sequester carbon
3. Research on Blue Carbon
4. Experiences and initiatives of carbon offset projects and works for the conservation and restoration of mangroves, salt marshes and seagrasses

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## Monday 21 November 2016

### 9:30h. **Opening**

**Javier Madrid Rojo**, General Director, Natural resource management and Protected Areas

**Antonio Troya**, Director of IUCN Center for Mediterranean Cooperation

### 10:00h. **Presentation: The oceans as Blue Solutions**

**Dan Laffoley**, IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas

### **Session 1. Climate change on the marine environment and international and national efforts on mitigation and adaptation**

Facilitator: **Soledad Vivas**

### 10:10-10:30h. **Report Results from the IPCC Group 2 on the coast and the sea**

**Cristina Izaguirre**, IH Cantabria

### 10:40-11:00h. **Project LIFE SHARA** (Sharing Awareness and Governance of Adaptation to Climate Change in Spain).

**José Ramón Picatoste Ruggeroni**, Spanish Office of Climate Change, Minister (OECC), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment

### 11:00h. **Coffee break**

### **Session 2. Services of coastal ecosystems, their management and ability to sequester carbon**

Facilitator: **Francois Simard**

### 11:30-12:10h. **Introduction to the Blue Carbon Initiative**

**Dan Laffoley**, IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas  
**Jennifer Howard**, Conservation International

### 12:20-12:40h. **Evaluation of ecosystem services and carbon balances of Spanish Mediterranean wetlands**

**Antonio Camacho**, Institute Cavanilles of Biodiversity and Evolution Biology, University of Valencia

### 12:40-13:00h. **Integrating ecosystem resilience into coastal planning for the persistence of natural flood protection and wetland ecosystem services**

**Martin Skov**, Universidad de Bangor, Wales

### 13:30-15:00h. **Lunch**

### **Session 2** (continuation)

### 15:00-15:20h. **Evaluation of ecosystem services of Mediterranean seagrasses**

**Nuria Marbá**, IMEDEA, CSIC

### **Session 3. Research on blue carbon in Europe**

Facilitator: **Elena Díaz**

### 15:30-15:50h. **Evaluation of sequestered Carbon on Posidonia meadows in the Natura 2000 site "Great Herbiere de la Plaine Orientale, Corsica**

**Gerard Pergent**, University of Corsica, France

### 16:00-16:20h. **Seagrasses, the submarine lung in the bay of Cadiz**

**Luis Gonzalo Egea Tinoco**, University of Cádiz

### 16:25-16:45h. **Seagrasses: a study of its carbon sequestration capacity and its importance in National Parks**

**Miguel A. Mateo**, CSIC.

### 16:45-17:00h. **Questions and Open discussion**

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## Tuesday 22 November 2016

### **Session 3** (Continuation)-

### **Research on blue carbon in Europe**

### 9:30h-9:50h. **Carbon absorption in the benthic communities in rocky bottoms**

**José Carlos Hernández**, University of Las Palmas, Canary Islands

### 10:00-10:20h. **Carbon sequestration of coastal vegetation (low saltmarsh and seagrass) along a hydrodynamic gradient**

**Rui Santos**, University of Algarve, Portugal

### 10:30h. **Coffee break**

### **Session 4. Experiences and initiatives on carbon offset projects and works on conservation and restoration of mangroves, salt marshes and seagrasses.**

Facilitator: **María del Mar Otero**

### 11:00h-11:20h. **Presentation of Life BlueNatura project**

**Soledad Vivas**, Agencia de Medio Ambiente y Agua

### 11:25-11:50h. **Mikoko Pamoja, a project for the conservation and restoration of mangroves with the local communities of bay of Gazi, Kenia**

**Martin Skov**, Bangor University

### 12:00-12:20h. **The regeneration of threatened habitats in the Marine Protected Area of Cape Carbonara, Sardinia, Life project RESMARIS**

**Fabrizio Atzori**, Director, Cape Carbonara MPA, Italy.

### 12:25-12:45h. **Restoration of coastal wetlands and carbon offsets projects**

**Steve Crooks**, Silvestrum Climate Associates, USA.

### 12:45-13:10h. **Life Admiclim, Delta del Ebro**

**Nuno Caiola**, IRTA, Cataluña

### 13:30-15:00h. **Lunch**

### 15:00-15:20h. **Diagnosis of anchoring methodologies as a tool for the conservation of marine phanerogams in Catalonia**

**Jordi Sánchez**, Submon

### 15:30-15:50h. **Marine seagrasses: experiences in restoration, conservation and climate change in the Basque Country**

**Joxe Mikel Garmendia**, AZTI Tecnalia

### **Roundtable discussion**

### 16:00h. **Public-Private Partnerships**

This roundtable discussion will present the different perspectives of private sector actors, consultancies working on carbon projects and administrations on how to work together to promote funding mechanisms for climate in the marine environment.

Facilitator: **Lourdes Lázaro**

Invited experts: **Enrique Hernández** (Aqualia FCC), **Juan Martín** (Salarte), **Jose Illana** (Want Marketing), **Julie Urban** (Factor CO2), and **Joan Ylla** (Direcció General de Pesca i Afers Marítims, Cataluña).

### 18:00h. **Conclusions and closing of the meeting**