

THE GLOBAL MANGROVE ALLIANCE

A PHASE-SHIFT IN CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANGROVES.

UNITED FOR MANGROVES

In a rapidly changing world, mangroves serve as ecosystems of hope. Connecting land and sea, mangrove forests are some of the most productive and biologically diverse ecosystems on the planet. They act as nature's insurance policy against climate change by providing a natural barrier against storm surges, flooding and erosion. They also provide habitat for fish and other marine life, filter our air and water and regulate our climate by sequestering and storing carbon.

Recent history has seen vast mangrove losses and 50% of mangroves are at risk of collapse by 2050. Their degradation and destruction currently result in annual emissions equal to 475 million cars, impacting millions of people and large areas of critical biodiversity. Yet, the tide is turning thanks to radical partnerships like the **Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA)**. Rates of mangrove loss have decreased dramatically, while our knowledge of their value and importance has shifted from a broad sense of importance to a very real and quantified inventory. Now, more than 40% of the world's remaining mangroves are formally protected and efforts to restore mangroves have surged, along with the tools and knowledge to support global restoration.

ECOSYSTEMS OF HOPE

The **GMA** recognizes mangroves' important role in combatting climate change and building coastal resilience. Founded in 2018 on the principles of collaboration and collective action, the GMA works globally, nationally and locally to foster a community committed to securing mangroves and protecting their critical value. We harness science to fill knowledge gaps between big-picture discussions and on-the-ground realities.

OUR ROLE

Unite Sectors and Align Strategies

Collaboration that prioritizes knowledge-sharing of science, experiences and funding opportunities for scalable solutions.

Accelerate Scalable Restoration

Research, monitoring and data tools that ensure restoration activities align with best practices and can be scaled.

Transform Global Policy

Government stakeholder coordination that brings national voices to the global stage and national policies and targets in line with best practices.

Strengthen Financial Access

High quality funding opportunities across private, public and philanthropic sectors to provide financial readiness to our members and chapters.

MANGROVE BENEFITS

21B

Tons of CO₂ stored

USD 65B

Saved in storm related property damage

700B

Juvenile fish and invertebrates supported

15M

People protected from floods, storms and erosion

5x

2-5x cheaper than building a concrete breakwater

341

Threatened marine species provided for globally

CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION AT SCALE

MEMBERS

We firmly believe that through true collaboration, innovation and perseverance, we can achieve meaningful progress. We unite diverse stakeholders from government, academia, non-profit organizations and industry to tackle challenges facing these ecosystems. Our community of over 100 members represents technical experts, civil society organizations, governments, local communities, businesses, funding agencies and foundations.



NATIONAL CHAPTERS

National chapters are the driving force of the GMA, which is in turn driven by local partners. Chapter strategies reflect bespoke needs that link to the worldwide efforts of the GMA Global Team. Our country chapters represent local coalitions of passionate individuals who see value in ensuring that coordinated mangrove actions are occurring in real time. Chapters develop national conservation strategies and implementation plans in partnership with governments and build out sustainable revenue streams to drive action on the ground.

“Mangroves are not just a home, but a pulsing heart for the surrounding lands and seas.”

Astrid Schomaker, *Executive Secretary Convention on Biological Diversity*



THE WORK

Guided by a shared vision of a world where mangroves thrive and communities prosper, the GMA combines global coordination with empowering local leadership. The GMA works alongside global partners to safeguard these ecosystems through the advancement of science and understanding; collaboration and information sharing; practical management interventions; and the many policy, legal, and financial tools that will help to secure a better future for these ecosystems. With a global vision for mangrove conservation, the GMA is accelerating change and building opportunities for coastal peoples and biodiversity through an ambitious plan for 2030.

HALT LOSS

Reduce net mangrove losses driven by direct human actions to zero, saving approximately 16,800 hectares of mangroves that would otherwise be lost annually.

DOUBLE PROTECTION

Increase areas under conservation measures from 40% to 80%, protecting approximately 6.1 million additional hectares of mangroves.

RESTORE HALF

Conduct science-based restoration to bring back half of all restorable mangroves lost since 1996, approximately 408,300 hectares.

LOCAL STORIES

GLOBAL IMPACT



ECUADOR

We are working on the creation of Mangrove Custodian Group that will be comprised of community fishermen and shellfish collectors. They will come up with a working plan that will be integrated into Ecuador's national mangrove plan to ensure sustainability of their extractive livelihoods. Currently, four mangrove fishing organizations have joined together to create an enterprise called Manglares del Sur (MANSUR) dedicated to the production of products derived from red crab and black clam, the main mangrove fishery resources. These organizations will be supported to improve production and added value, ensuring that each product and secondary product utilizes a family business model to efficiently meet market demand, identifying and implementing practices that generate adaptation to climate change, ensure the sustainable management of black clam and red crab resources and promote recycling and self-sufficiency



KENYA

We are working to support and strengthen the capacity of Kenya's Kiunga and Pate Island community conservancies to protect, manage and restore priority mangrove habitat. In order to do this, we are addressing weak governance and institutional frameworks by establishing a Community Forest Association (CFA) to build local capacity to collaboratively manage mangrove forests, and hold trainings and develop synergies with other community-led conservation institutions. In addition, the project supports community enforcement mechanisms to control unregulated exploitation of mangroves. The project restores degraded mangroves through community initiatives and support drafting of area-specific mangrove zoning plans for Pate Island to guide sustainable mangrove harvesting and enhance community benefits.



SENEGAL

In the Saloum delta in Senegal we are working with women groups to develop sustainable mangrove-based livelihood activities such as oyster farming and apiculture; subsequently we help them to add value to their produce and enhance market access. Amongst others we support product processing and packaging, certification with food health authorities and access to markets in urban areas.

