

IUCN, CI and IOC-UNESCO, co-organized a side event entitled “Coastal Carbon Ecosystems. Fundamental for Ocean and Human Health” which addressed the following questions:

*** How can carbon accounting improve coastal conservation?**

Jennifer Howard from Conservation International provided an overview of the role of coastal ecosystems for climate change mitigation, a state of the science as well as a case study on how carbon assessments is being done in a field projects in Indonesia.

*** How does Blue Carbon fit into the SDGs and national policy context?**

Dorothee Herr from IUCN highlighted the history of how Blue Carbon found its footing in the UNFCCC and the work undertaken to support countries in strengthening their Blue Carbon elements in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) as well as nationally policies.

*** What collective actions towards transforming coastal management can we take?**

Kirsten Isensee, IOC-UNESCO, discussed the Blue Carbon Initiative as well as how Blue Carbon fit into the various SDGs.

Julian Simpson, with the Australian Embassy encouraged other countries to join the new International Blue Carbon Partnership and updated on on-going and future activities

Serge Ségura, the French ambassador of the Oceans, gave some insights on the interest of France in Blue Carbon – namely through their large overseas territories and their mangroves. He also referred to some experiences in coastal management in Mozambique.