



Blue Carbon Scientific Working Group

1st Meeting

15-17th February, 2011

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris
Room IX
7, Place de Fontenoy
Paris 75007

AGENDA

With thanks to our sponsors:



Tuesday 15th February

- 9:00 Official Welcome
Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright
Assistant Director General and Executive Secretary
IOC/UNESCO
- Welcome
Dr. Luciano Fonseca (IOC | UNESCO)
- 9:30 Participant Introductions
Moderator: Dr. Luciano Fonseca, IOC | UNESCO
- Brief (2 sentence) personal introduction from each participant
- 10:30 Coffee
- 11:00 Overview of Coastal Blue Carbon Program and Scientific Working Group
- Overall (2 year) Working Group Objectives
- Working Group Objectives and workshop outputs for this meeting
Dr. Emily Pidgeon, Conservation International
Moderator: Dr. Steve Crooks, ESA PWA
- Discussion
- 12:00 Lunch
- 13:00 Overview of Coastal Blue Carbon (15 min presentations)
Moderator: Jerker Tamelander (IUCN)
- Global Carbon Cycle Overview
Dr. Christoph Heinze (University of Bergen)
- Carbon Sequestration and Storage in Mangroves
Dr. Kathy Lovelock (University of Queensland)
- Carbon Sequestration and Storage in Seagrasses
Dr. Jim Forquean (Florida International University)
- Carbon Sequestration and Storage in Salt Marshes
Dr. Patrick Megonigal (Smithsonian Institution)
- Discussion

Breakout Sessions:

- 15:00 Breakout Session 1: Coastal Carbon Hotspots
Identify regions and sites globally with known or likely high coastal carbon storage and sequestration. Highlight particular “hotspots”. Specify (as known)
- Type, characteristics, extent of carbon deposits etc
 - Available data for each region
 - Known threats and associated emissions
- Identify known data sources that can be used to map carbon characteristics of these “hotspots”.
Is an estimate of global coastal carbon pools and sequestration possible?

For each breakout session, three breakout groups will meet concurrently

- Mangroves
Chairs
Dr. James Kairo (Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute)
Dr. Boone Kaufmann (US Forest Service)

- Salt Marshes
Chairs
Dr. Patrick Megonigal (Smithsonian Institution)
Dr. Beverly Johnson (Bates College)

- Seagrasses
Chairs
Dr. Miguel Fortes (University of Philippines)
Dr. Peter Ralph (University of Technology, Sydney)

15:45 Coffee

16:15 Breakout Session 1: Coastal Carbon Hotspots (cont’d)

17:30 Close

18:00 **Opening Reception**
-20:00 **Hosted by IOC-UNESCO**

UNESCO Headquarters
7th Floor Restaurant
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Paris 75007

Wednesday 16th February, 2011

- 9:00 Review of Day 1 including reports from Breakout Group Sessions
Moderator: Dr. Kathy Tedesco (IOC | UNESCO)
- 9:30 Presentation on Remote sensing in coastal areas: What is possible?
Dr. Marc Simard (NASA)
- 10:15 Breakout Session 2: Defining Coastal Carbon Systems
Create a draft definition for carbon-rich coastal ecosystems. Consider local and regional scales.
When is a coastal system relevant to discussions about coastal carbon potential?
What parameters need to be considered? E.g. physical boundaries, ecosystem characteristics, major carbon cycle components, total GHG emissions (eg methane?), sources of variance etc.
What are the data gaps? How should criteria be applied?
- Draft a practically applicable classification system for coastal carbon ecosystems including likely carbon density, storage and sequestration. Consider local and regional scales.
What data/analysis is needed to complete system?
- For each breakout session, three breakout groups will meet concurrently
- Mangroves
 - Salt Marshes
 - Seagrasses
- 10:30 Coffee
- 11:00 Breakout Session 2: Defining Coastal Carbon Systems (con'd)
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Existing Methodologies for Carbon Accounting in Mangroves and Wetlands
Dr. Iginio Emmer (Silvestrum)
Dr. Steve Crooks (ESA PWA)
Moderator: Dr. Emily Pidgeon (CI)
Discussion

- 15:00 Breakout Session 3: Quantifying and Monitoring Coastal Carbon Systems
Consider essential elements of carbon cycling, fate and transport – what processes result in carbon release from these systems?
Identify parameters/data required to locate, quantify and monitor coastal carbon storage and sequestration.
- minimum required to identify a coastal carbon sites and estimate carbon storage
 - possible proxy indicators
 - essential for higher level quantification and monitoring
 - review currently available techniques
- For each breakout session, three breakout groups will meet concurrently
- Mangroves
 - Salt Marshes
 - Seagrasses
- 15:45 Coffee
- 16:15 Breakout Session 3: Quantifying and Monitoring Coastal Carbon Systems (con'd)
- 17:30 Close

Thursday 17th February, 2011

- 9:00 Review of Day 2 including reports from Breakout Group Sessions
Moderator: Jerker Tamelander (IUCN)
- 9:45 Initial Recommendations for Coastal Carbon Management
Review and endorse initial recommendations for coastal management
(prepared prior to meeting)
- 10:30 Coffee
- 11:00 Review scientific working group objectives and proposed timeline
Outline immediate products from workshop.
Get feedback on proposed working group objectives, timeline,
membership etc for preparation into funding proposals and to guide
work before next meeting.
- 13:00 Close