



FURG



BLUE CARBON ECOSYSTEMS FROM SOUTH AMERICA

the role on carbon sequestration and mitigation of climate changes

Dra. Margareth Copertino
INSTITUTO DE OCEANOGRAFIA
UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE RIO GRANDE - FURG BRAZIL
doccoper@furg.br marga.copertino@gmail.com



Blue Carbon

Carbon stored, sequestered or released from vegetated coastal ecosystems - mangroves, tidal marshes, and seagrass meadows.

When coastal ecosystems are degraded or destroyed, that carbon is released back into the atmosphere as CO₂ emissions.

Thus, effective management and conservation of coastal wetlands is now a critical priority, especially in regions where people are highly dependent on these ecosystems for critical services.



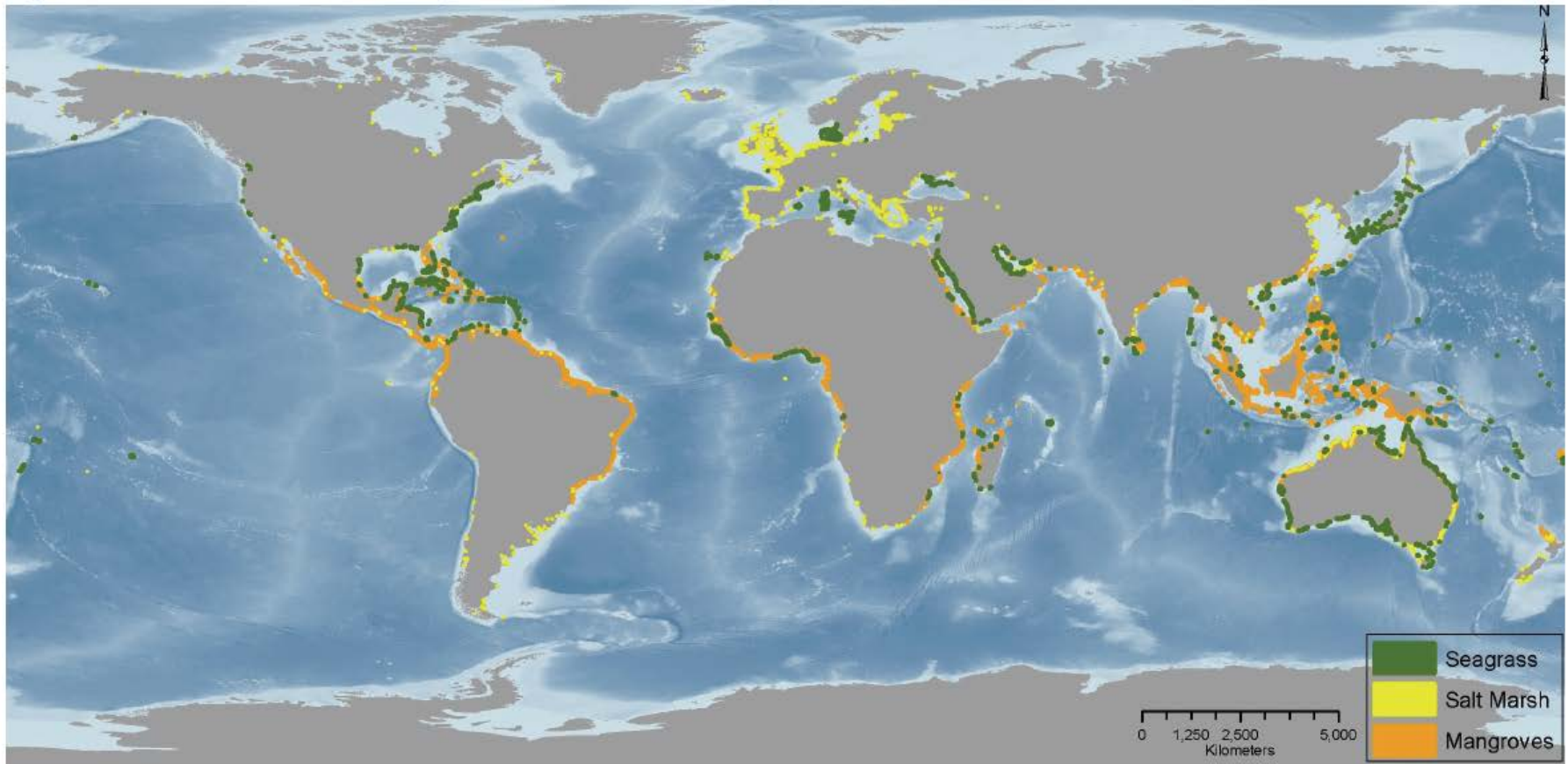
Vegetated coastal ecosystems

mainly mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrass meadows

recognized as having very high levels of carbon stocks and sequestration rates



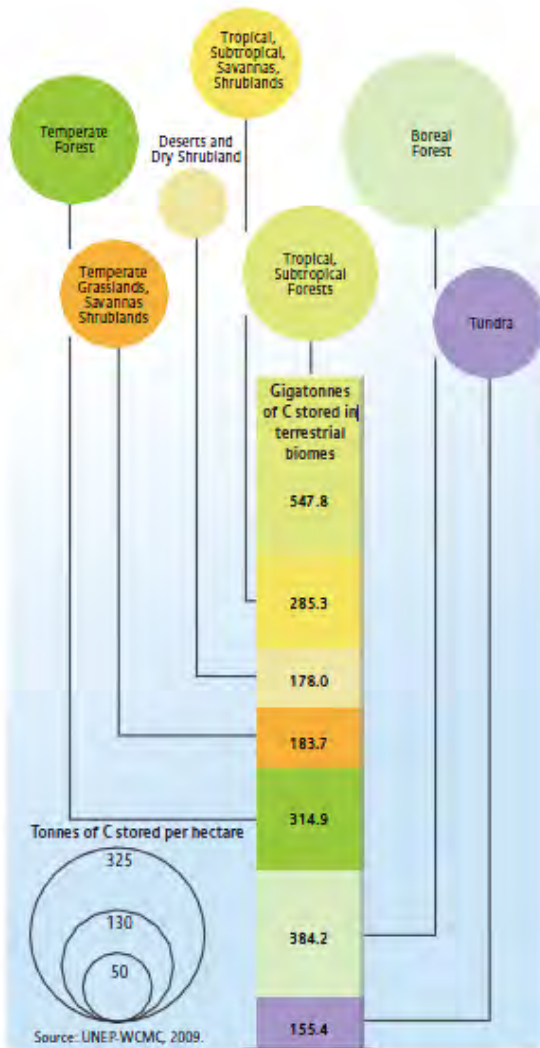
Global distribution of seagrasses, salt marsh and mangrove



Globally ~2.3 – 7 million km² - cover 0,2 - 2 % of the marine bottoms corresponding to less than 3% of terrestrial vegetation

Blue Carbon Systems account for 46% of total carbon burial in the ocean sediments

Green Carbon



Despite the small fraction of ocean surface, mangroves, salt marshes and seagrasses account together for 46% of total carbon burial in the ocean sediments.

Blue carbon sink

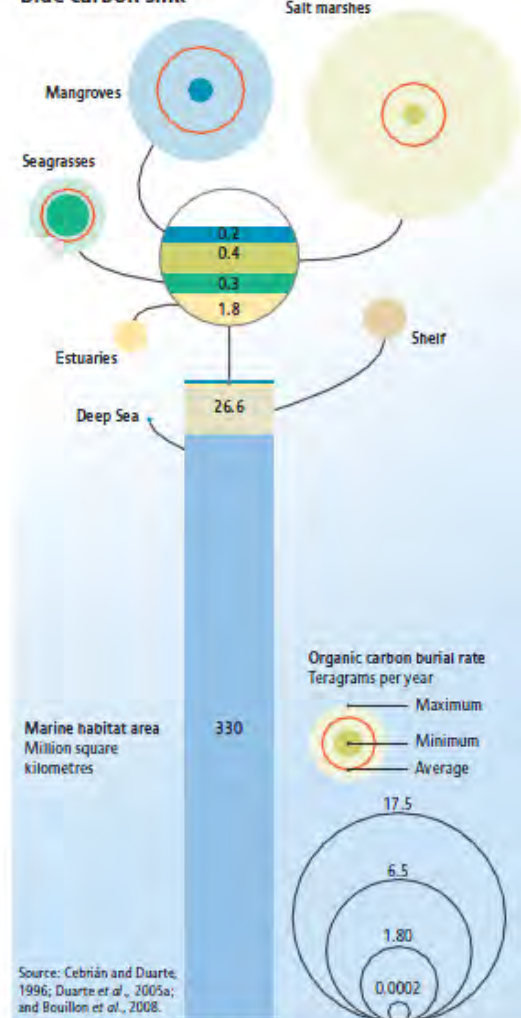
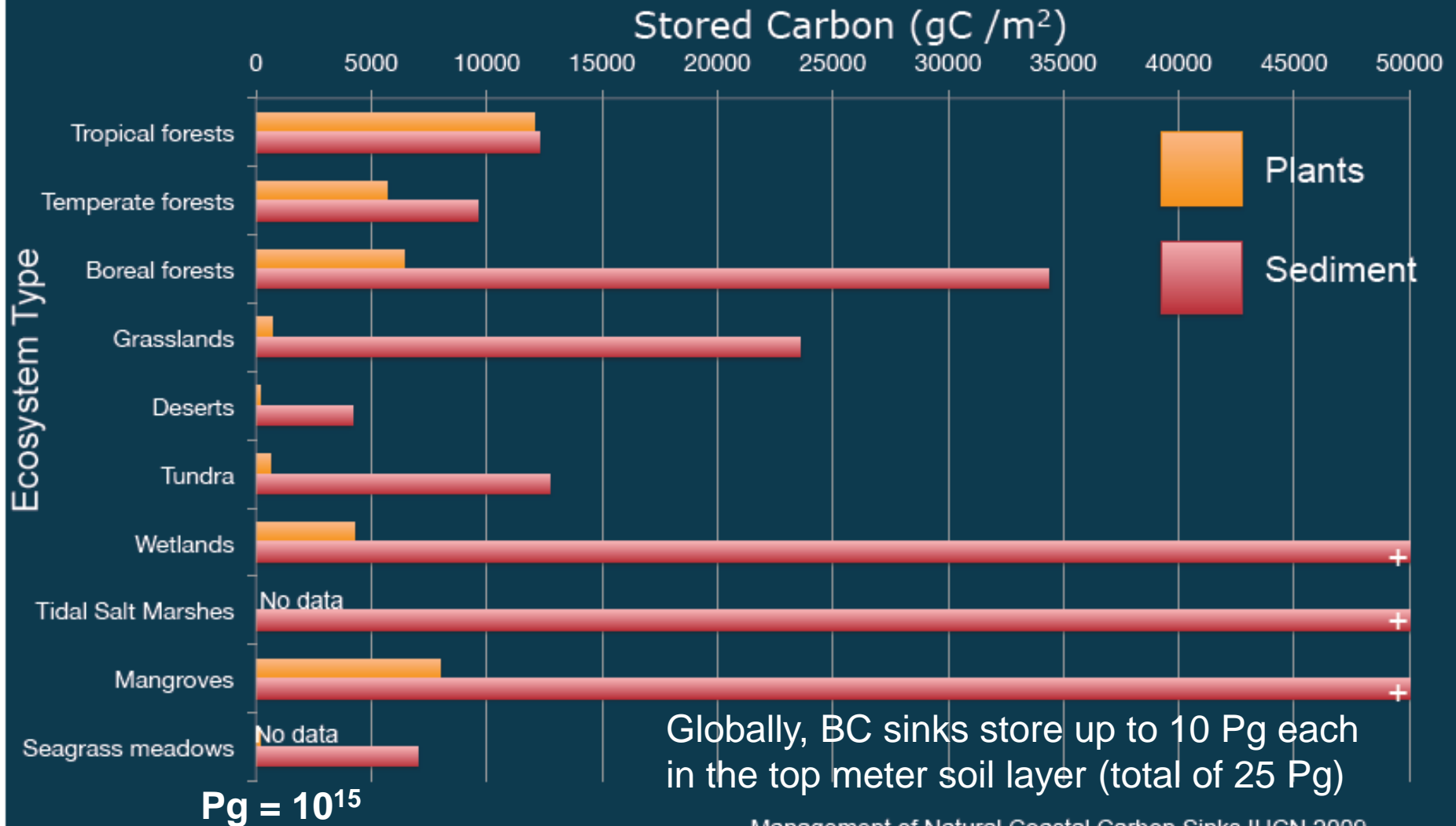
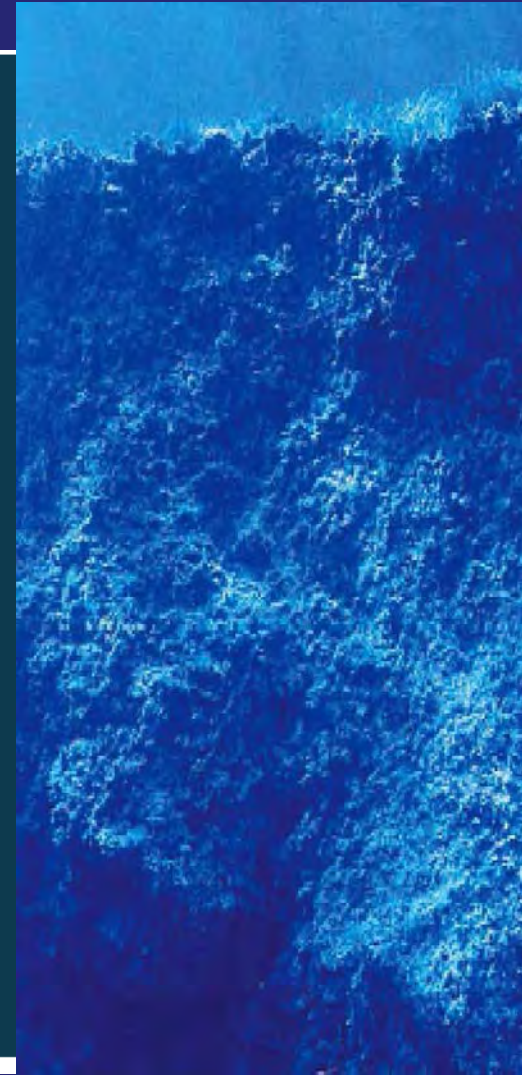
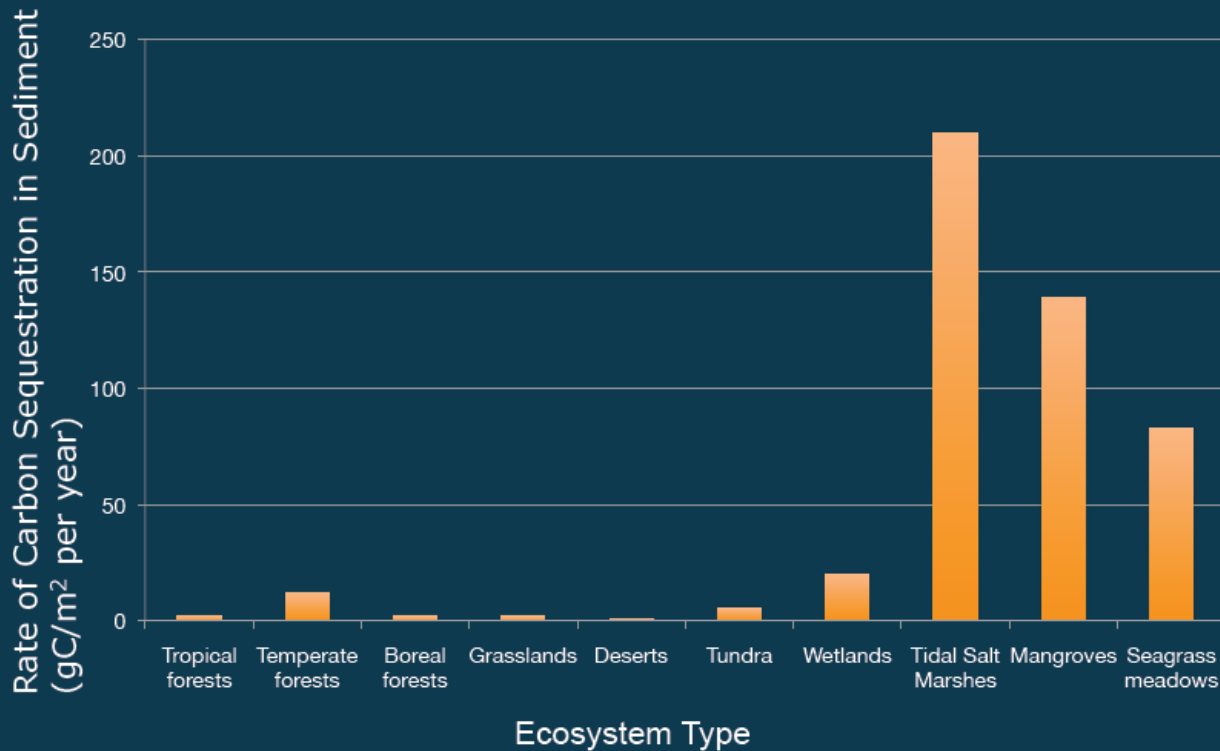


Figure 17: Blue carbon sinks.

Coastal ecosystems store large amounts of carbon in the sediment



Coastal ecosystems have very high rates of carbon sequestration.



Burial rates in mangroves, salt marshes and seagrasses are exceptionally high, exceeding those in the soils of terrestrial forest by 30-50 fold.

Bury similar amount of OC to terrestrial forest annually, despite the extent of less than 3% of that forests

Among the most valuable ecosystem on earth

Constanza et al. 1997

- USD \$1.6 billion in ecosystem services annually
- play an essential role in the livelihoods and well being of billions of people
- Regulate nutrient fluxes,
- Provide habitat
- Climate regulation
- Coastal protection
- CO2 sinks

Coastal areas are among the most threatened natural ecosystems on Earth

Alongi 2002, Waycott et al. 2009, Saintilan et al. 2009, Donato et al. 2010



Coastal ecosystems are being lost in fast rates

Habitat Type	Global extent (km ²)	Conversion drivers	Annual Loss Rate (~1980–2000)	Total Historical Loss (%)
Seagrass	300,000–600,000 ^a	Water quality degradation, mechanical damage	1.2%–2% ^b	29 ^c
Tidal Marsh	400,000 ^d	Historical reclamation for agriculture & salt ponds; real estate development	1%–2% ^e	Centuries of conversion ^f
Mangroves	137,000–170,000 ^g	Aquaculture, forestry uses, Agriculture	0.8%–2.1% ^h	35 ⁱ

Sources: (a) Charpy-Roubaud and Sournia 1990, Duarte et al. 2005; (b) Short and Wyllie-Echeverria 1996; adapted from Waycott et al. 2009; (c) Waycott et al. 2009; (d) Nellemann et al. 2009; (e) Adam 2002; Duarte et al. 2008; (f) Bromberg Gedan et al. 2009; (g) Valiela et al. 2001; FAO 2007; (h) Valiela 2001; FAO 2007; Giri et al. 2011; (i) Valiela 2001; Duke et al. 2007. See Appendix for complete references.



Even providing us an estimated USD \$1.6 billion in ecosystem services annually and play an essential role in the livelihoods and well being of billions of people, coastal areas are among the most threatened natural ecosystems on Earth.

Degradation causes Emissions of GHG

Pendelton et al. 2012

Habitats	Soil Organic C at risk (tCO ₂ e/ha)	Total C at Risk (tCO ₂ e/ha)	Habitat Extent (Mha)	Annual C loss 0.7% rate (BtCO ₂ e)	Annual C loss 2% rate (BtCO ₂ e)
Salt Marsh	250	282	5.1	0.01	0.029
Mangroves	1298	1762	13.8	0.17	0.49
Seagrass	500	511	30	0.107	0.31
Total			48.9	0.287	0.829

Equivalent to 5-20 % from emissions by deforestation and land use change

Variability of Organic Carbon in sediment

Duarte et al. 2005. Biogeosciences

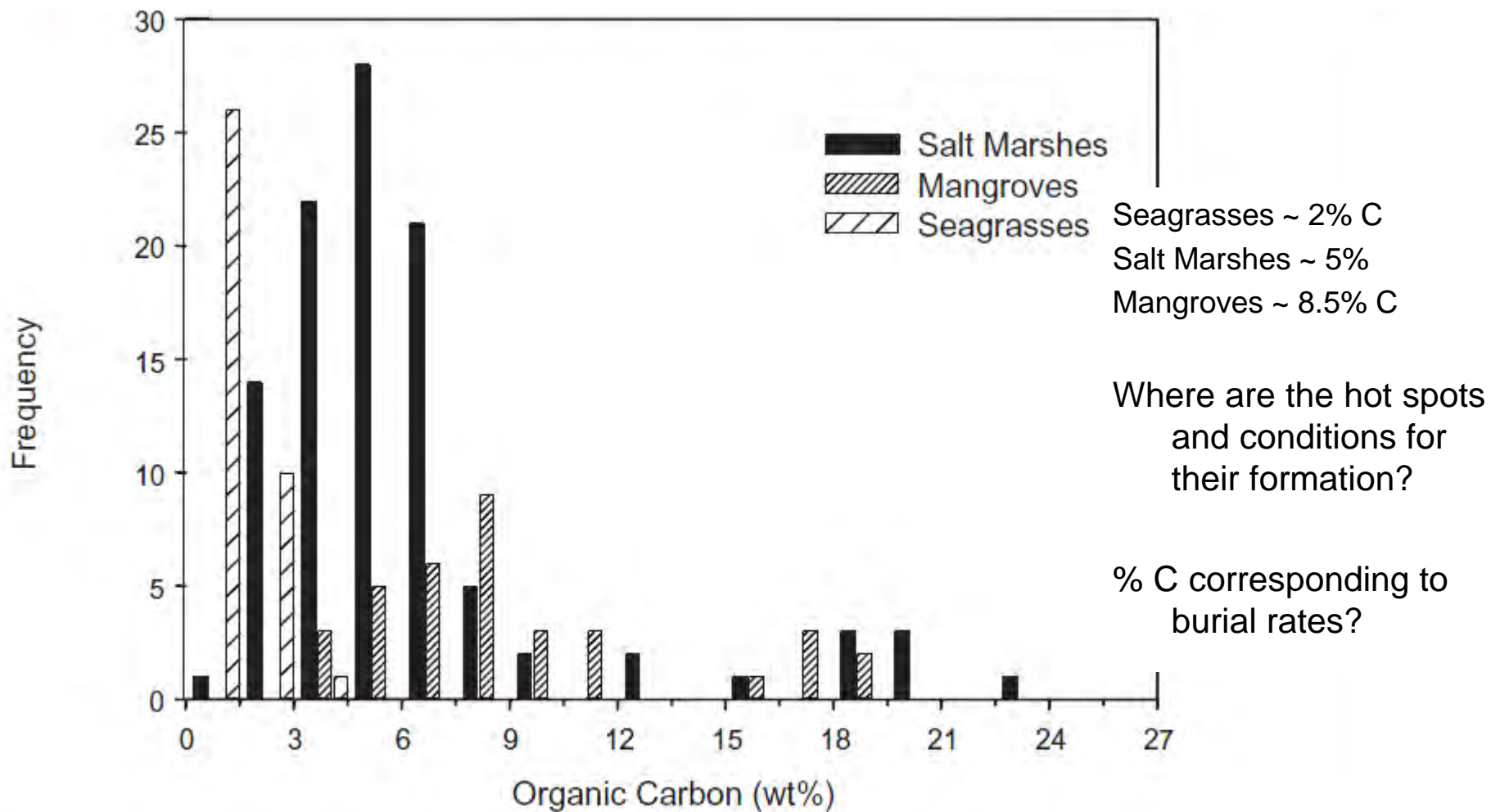


Fig. 2. Frequency distribution of organic carbon content in salt marsh, mangrove and seagrass sediments. Data sources in Table 2.

GHG emission reduction (up to 25%) could be achieved by conservation and recovering of green and blue carbon

Green carbon: Reducing deforestation rates by 50% by 2050 would avoid the direct release of up to 50 Gt C, equivalent to 12–15% of the emissions reductions needed to keep atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide below 450 ppm (Trumper *et al.*, 2009).

Blue carbon: protection, improved management and restoration of the ocean's blue carbon sinks would result in preventing the annual loss of up to 450 Tg C yr⁻¹, corresponding 10% of the emissions reductions needed (Nellemann *et al.* 2009).

the **BLUE CARBON** initiative

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



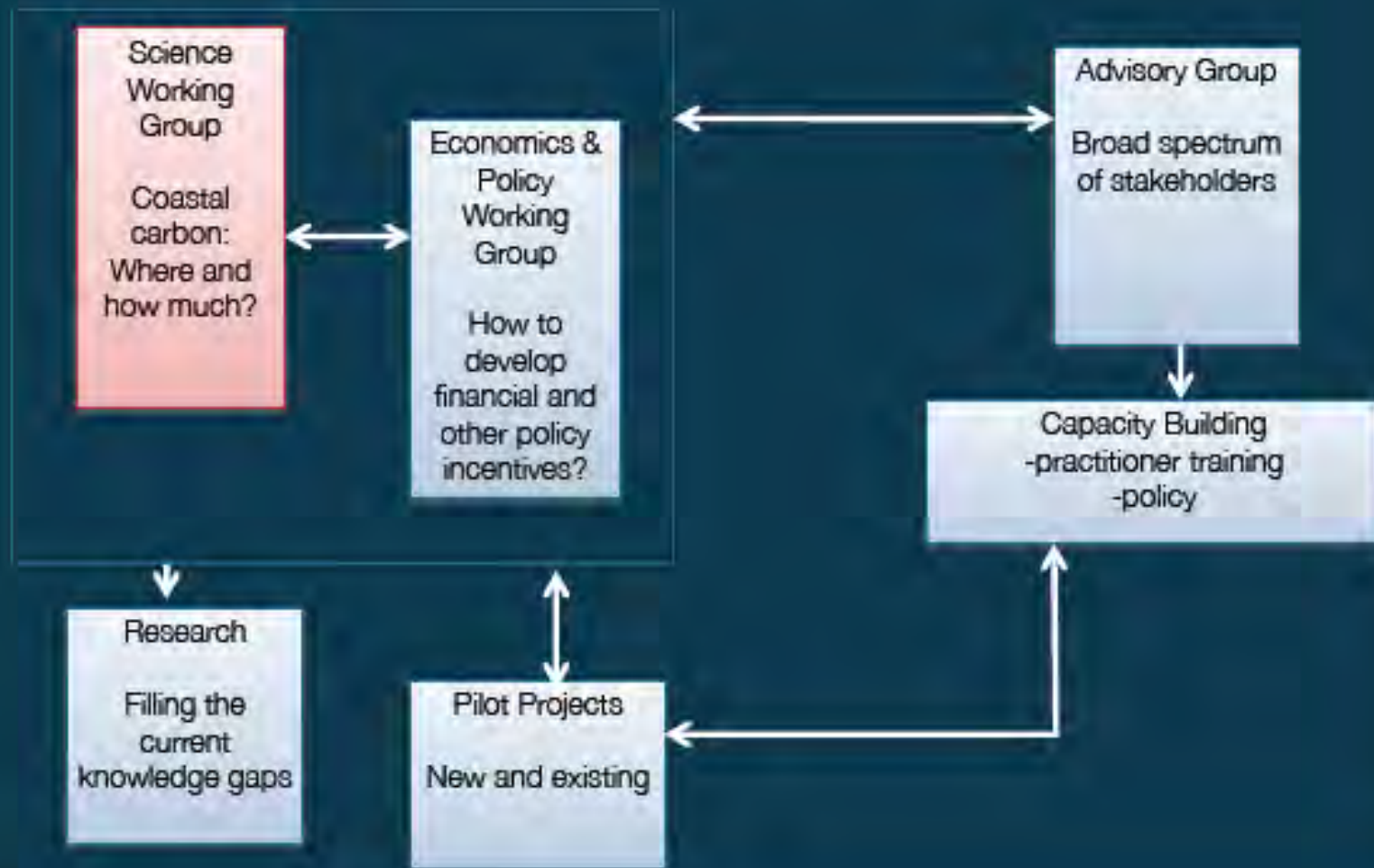
Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



International and integrated program focused on mitigating climate change by conserving and restoring coastal marine ecosystems globally.

Led by CI, IUCN and UNESCO, works with partners from national governments, research institutions, nongovernmental organizations, coastal communities, inter-governmental and international bodies and other relevant stakeholders.

Blue Carbon Program



Blue Carbon Scientific Working Group



Provides the scientific foundation for the Blue Carbon Initiative.

Focused on synthesizing current and emerging science on blue carbon and providing the robust scientific basis for coastal carbon conservation, management, and accounting.

The International Working Group on Coastal "Blue" Carbon was formed in February 2011 to address the global significance of climate change mitigation through the sequestration of carbon by coastal ecosystems – specifically mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses. The working group reviews current scientific knowledge of coastal carbon, develops guidelines for maximizing storage and sequestration of coastal carbon and provides recommendations for quantifying and monitoring carbon, and emissions thereof, in coastal systems.



Minimizing Carbon Emissions and Maximizing Carbon Sequestration and Storage by Seagrasses, Tidal Marshes, Mangroves

Recommendations from the International Working Group on Coastal “Blue” Carbon

Enhanced international recognition of coastal carbon ecosystems

Current international actions to reduce the impacts of climate change do not recognize the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the degradation of coastal wetlands or the role of healthy coastal ecosystems in sequestering carbon dioxide.

Enhanced national and international research efforts

Building on existing scientific data, analysis, and available technologies, a coherent and programmatic global data gathering and assessment effort is needed.

Enhanced local and regional management measures

Existing knowledge of the large carbon stocks, sequestration potential, and emissions from degraded or converted coastal ecosystems is sufficient to warrant enhanced management actions now.

Blue Carbon International Scientific Working Group

October 20-23, 2014

FURG, Rio Grande – Brazil

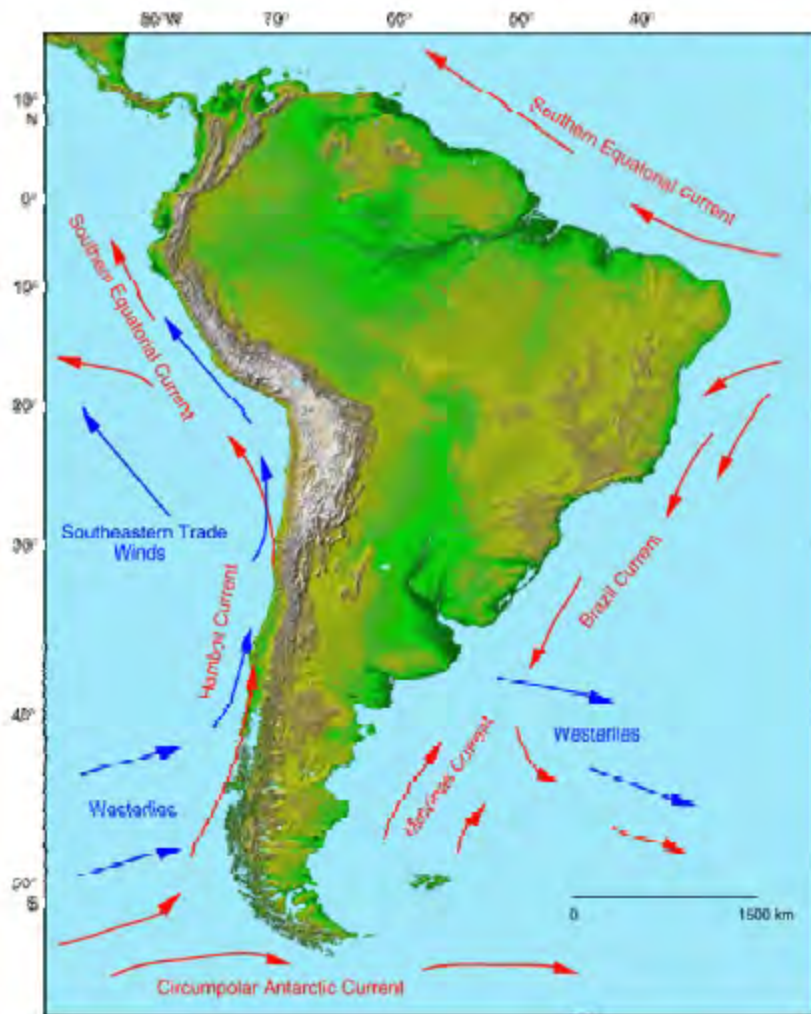


the
**BLUE
CARBON**
initiative

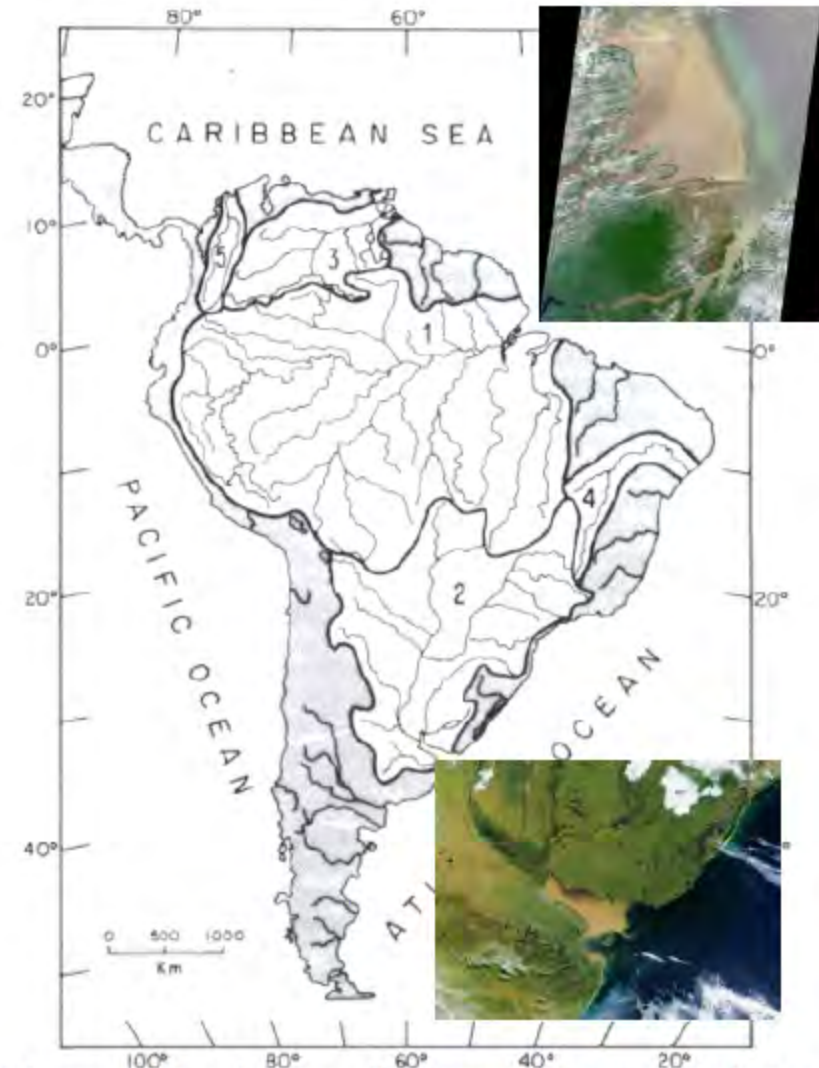
South America

Hidrographic Basins

Flow paths of major ocean currents

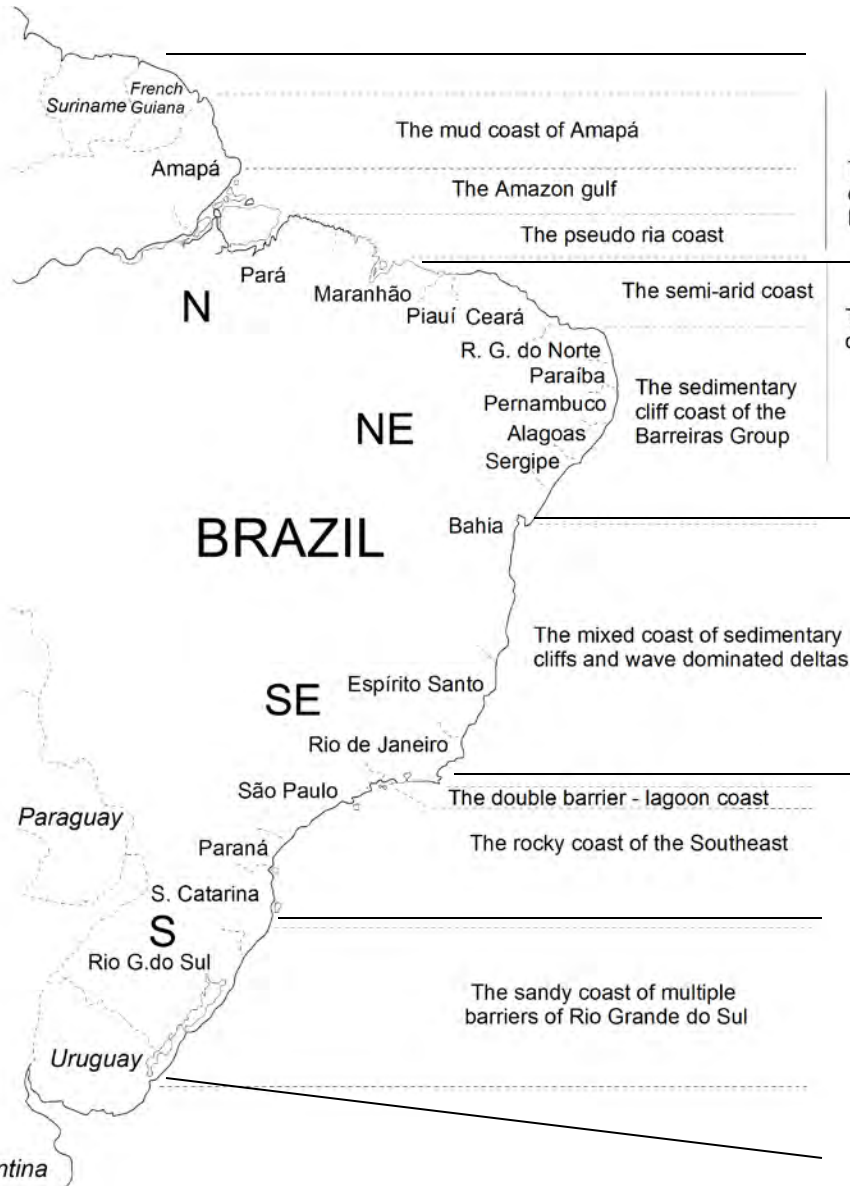


SA surrounded by water masses of different origins and properties, which have a great



Discharge of river basins affect coastal geomorphology and water properties (turbidity, salinity, temperature, nutrients etc.). Plume of the Amazonas and La Plata rivers make the major coastal barriers for marine organisms.

Geomorphology of Brazilian Coast line (according to Dieter 2010)



The tide and mangrove dominated coast of the North region

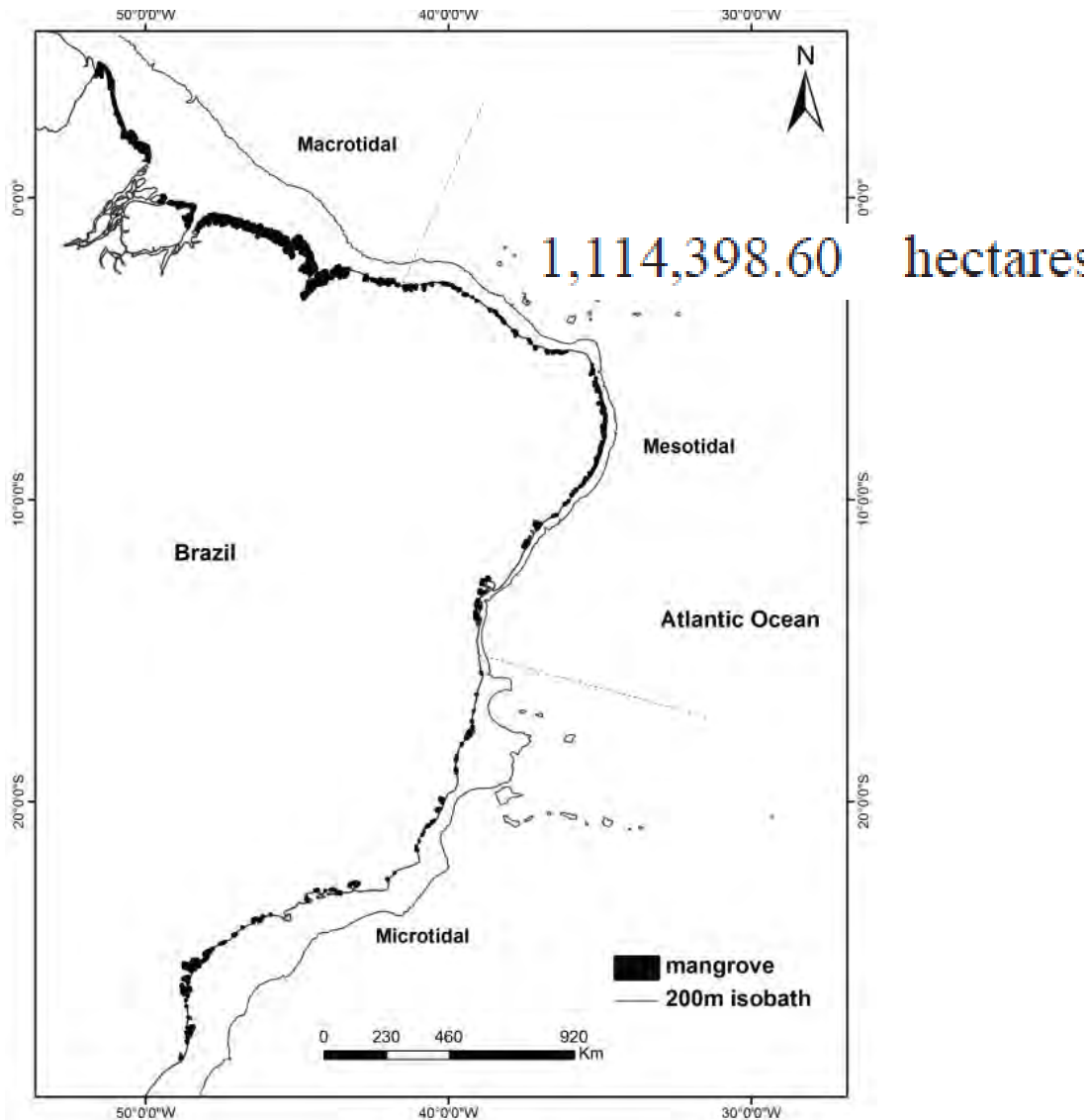


The sediment starved coast of the Northeast



The sandy coast of multiple barriers of Rio Grande do Sul

Brazilian mangrove forest



R. MAGRIS & R. BARRETO

Pan-American Journal of Aquatic Sciences (2010), 5(4):546-556

Spalding et al. (2010)
 "World Atlas of Mangroves"

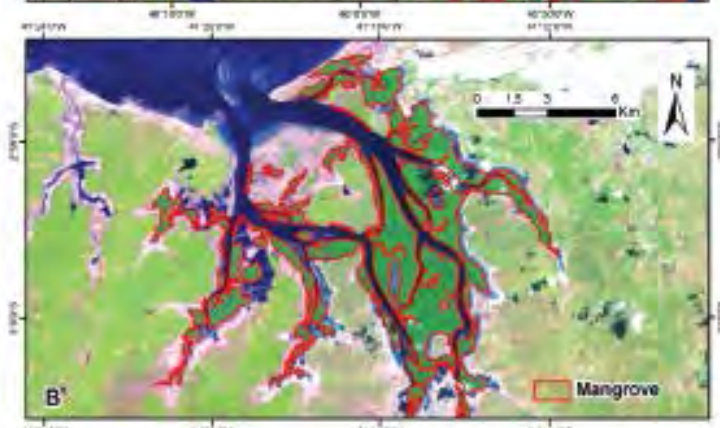
Country	Mangrove area (km ²)	Proportion of global total
Indonesia	31,894	20.9%
Brazil	13,000	8.5%
Australia	9910	6.5%
Mexico	7701	5.0%
Nigeria	7356	4.8%
Malaysia	7097	4.7%
Myanmar	5029	3.3%
Bangladesh	4951	3.2%
Cuba	4944	3.2%
India	4326	2.8%
Papua New Guinea	4265	2.8%
Colombia	4079	2.7%

Brazilian mangrove forest

Total 1,114,398.60 hectares

Protected Areas

425,530.57 hectares of protected mangrove forest were registered: 201,123.52 ha under strict protection and 224,407.05 ha under sustainable use.



Coastal sector	Mangrove in protected areas	
	Area (ha)	%
Macrotidal	810,892.96	87.98
Mesotidal	27,178.53	23.09
Microtidal	52,080.99	69.38

Geophysical and Climate Drivers in Mangrove Aboveground Biomass in the Neotropics

Pagliosa et al. (in review)

AGB determination at site level

Dataset of forest structure in the Neotropics



1011 sites (134 studies) containing Forest Structure data



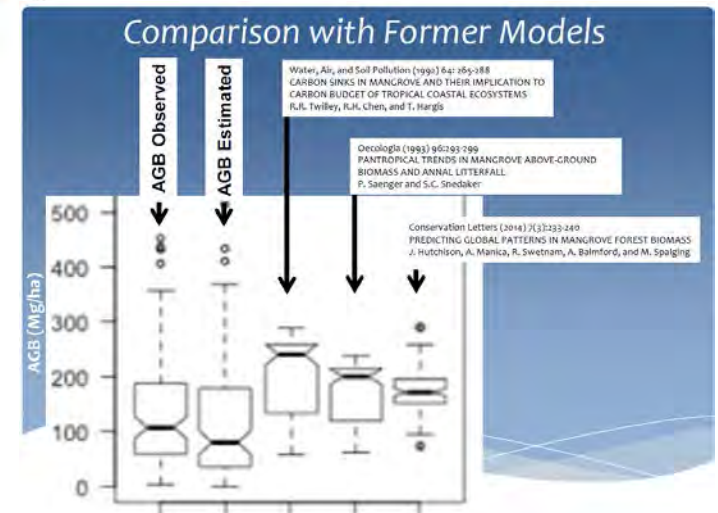
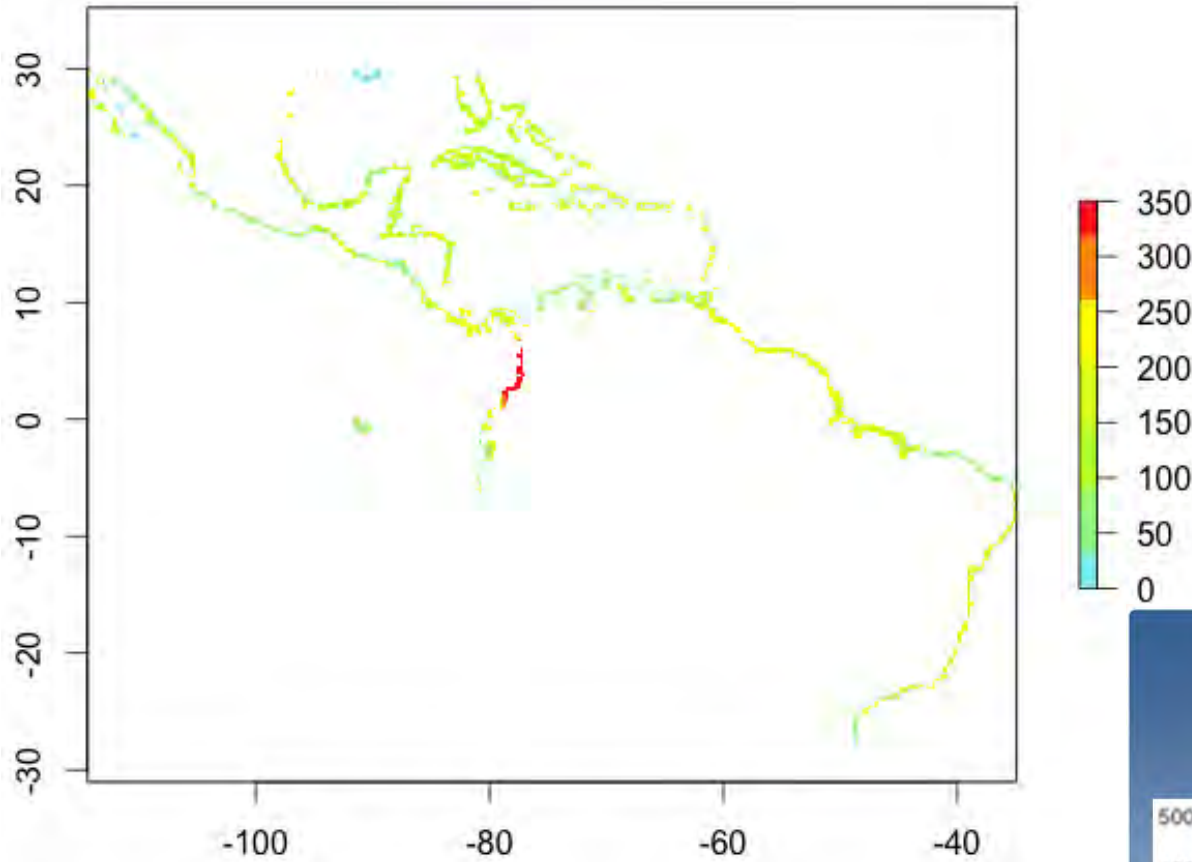
Geophysical - tides, river discharge, wave energy
Climate - temperature, precipitation

Model mangrove AGB in the Neotropics

Dr. Paulo Pagliosa,
Dra. Alessandra Fonseca,
MSc Andre Rovai - UFSC

Geophysical and Climate Drivers in Mangrove Aboveground Biomass in the Neotropics

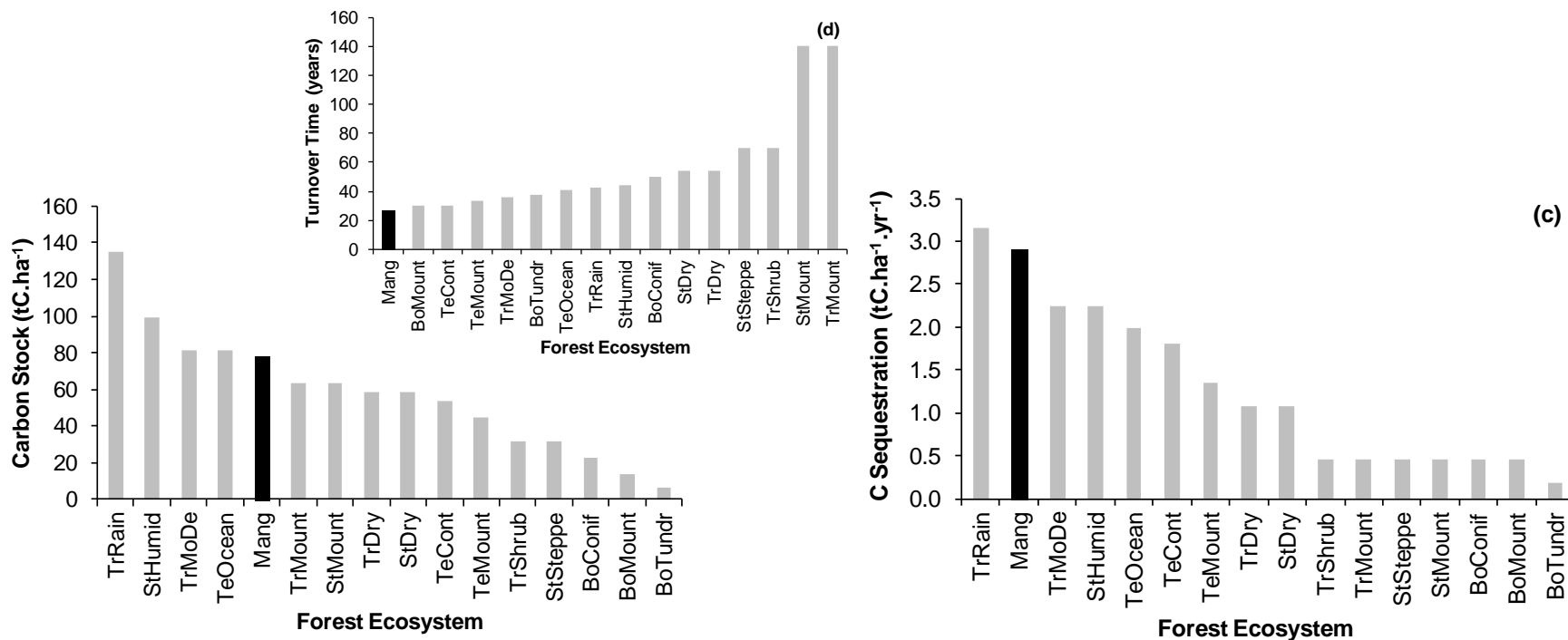
Pagliosa et al. (in review)



GLOBAL AVERAGES OF CARBON STOCK AND SEQUESTRATION

Estrada et al. 2014 *Estuarine Coastal Shelf Science*)

	Mean \pm SD	Max	Min	Articles (Values)
<i>Carbon Stock (tC.ha⁻¹)</i>	78.0 \pm 64.5	418.5	0.9	69 (316)
<i>Carbon Sequestration (tC.ha⁻¹.ano⁻¹)</i>	2.9 \pm 2.2	9.7	0.4	26 (101)



Data of forest ecosystems from: IPCC (2003) and IPCC (2006)

Mapping changes in the largest continuous Amazonian mangrove belt using object-based classification of multisensor satellite imagery

W.R. Nascimento Jr. et al. / *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 117 (2013) 83–93

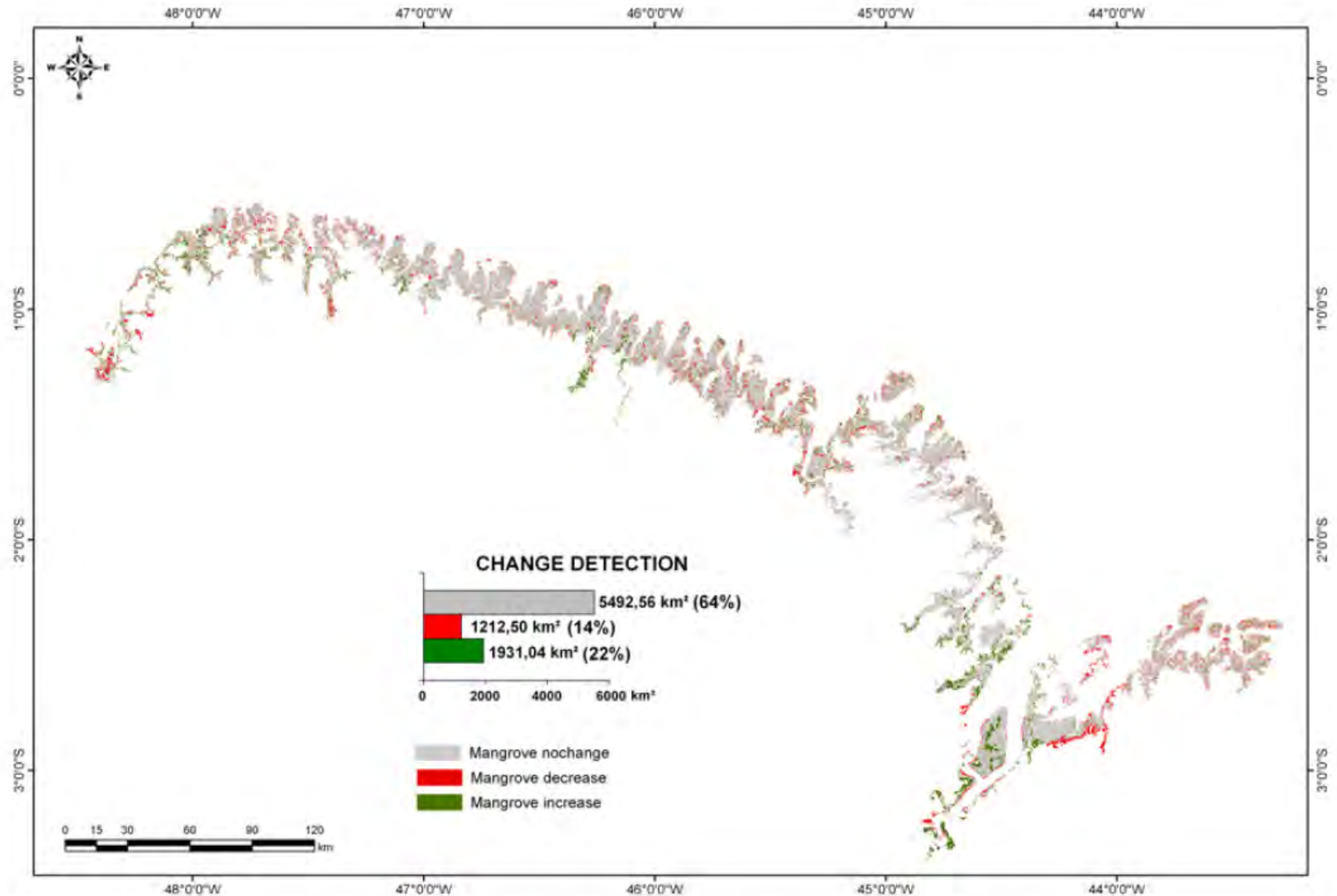
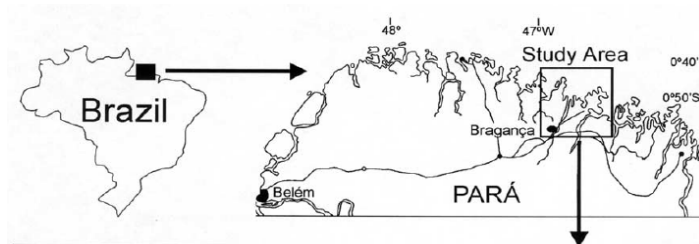


Fig. 7. Amazon mangrove forest change from 1996 to 2008.

Coastal erosion Northern Brazil



an 25-year period (1972–1997).

Table 1. Vegetation coverage changes along the studied sector of the Pará coastline including Bragança.

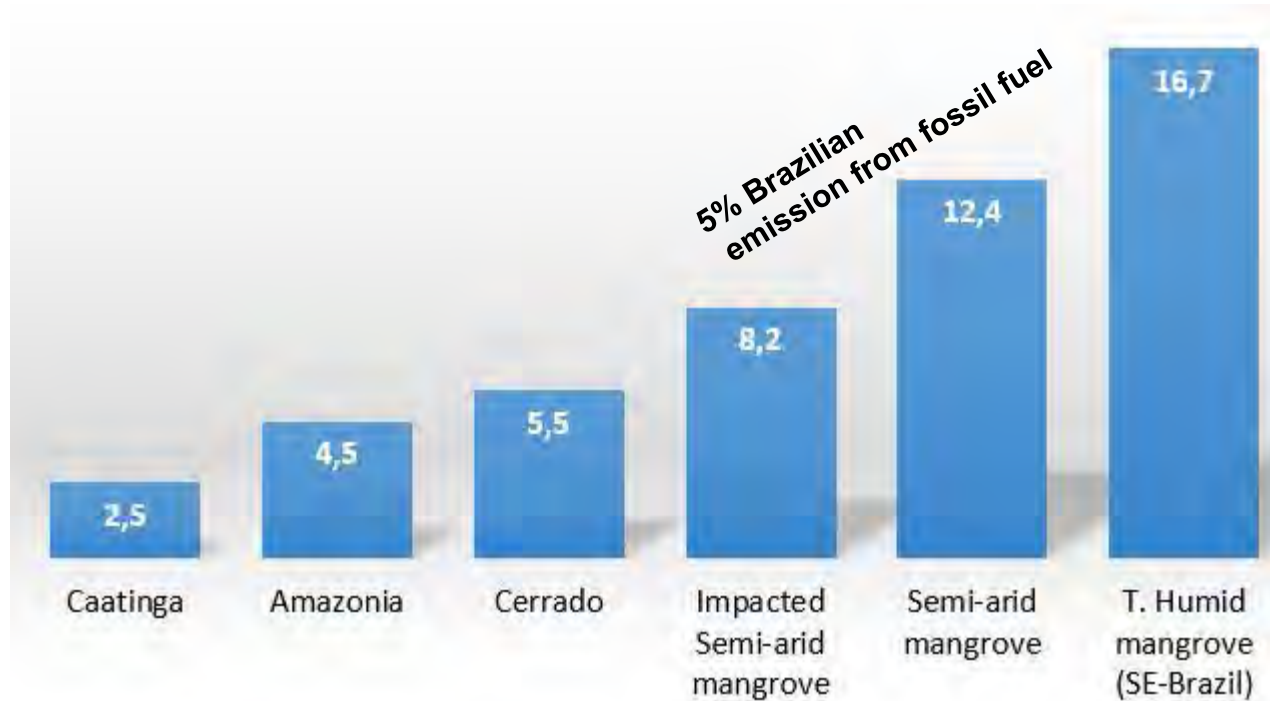
Overall	72–86	86–91	91–97	72–97
Initial mangrove area (km ²)	592	585	583	592
Loss along coastline length (%)	37	40	42	42
Gain along coastline length (%)	19	16	5	19
Stable coastline length (%)	44	44	53	39
Gross loss (km ²)	18	9	12	39
Gross gain (km ²)	11	7	2	20
Net loss (km ²)	7	2	10	19
Net loss rate (km ² /yr)	0.5	0.4	1.6	0.8



Soils or Sediments

Soil Carbon Stock in Brazilian Biomes or Ecosystems

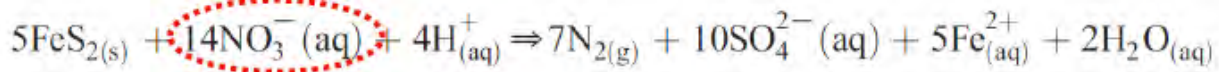
Carbon Stock (kg C m⁻²)



Nóbrega et al (2015.)



@ Dr. Tiago O. Ferreira, ESALQ – USP
Soil Science



5FeS

Carbon dioxide emissions rate in NO- impacted and impacted soils by waste aquaculture

5Fe_i

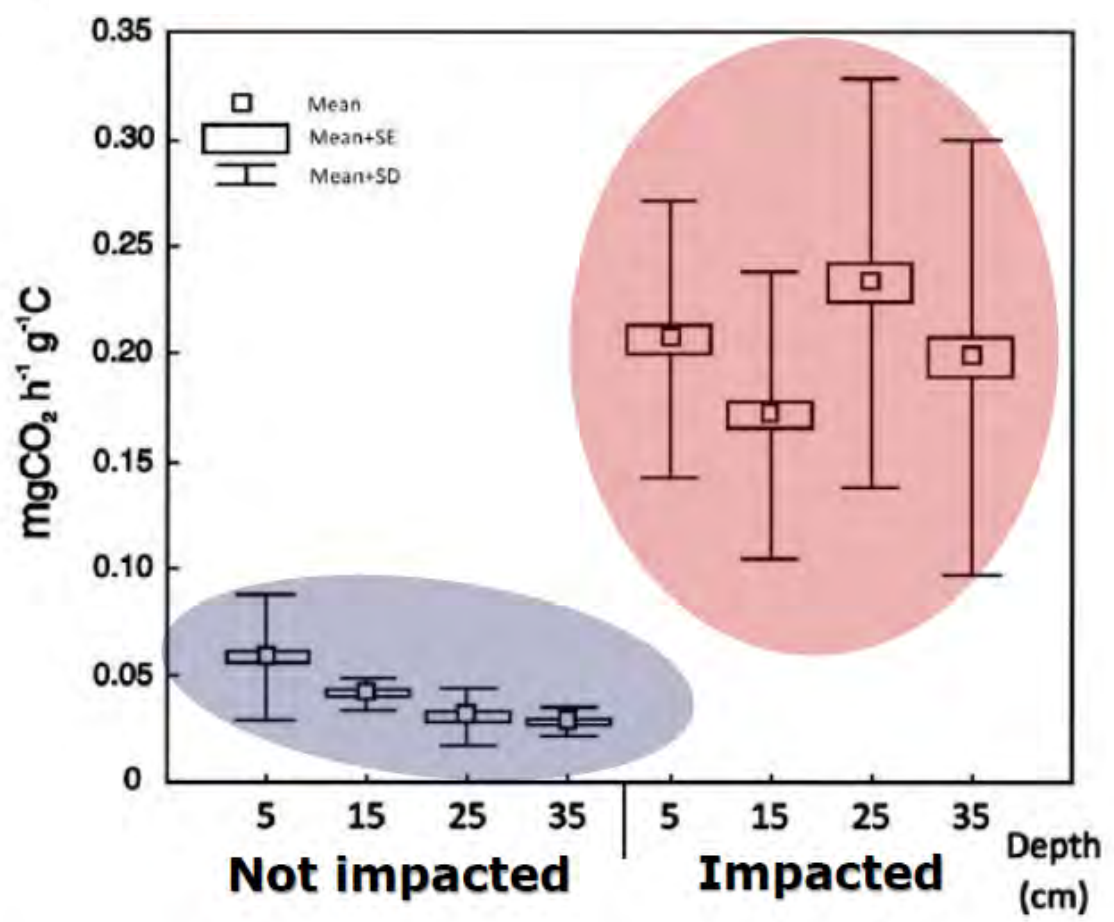
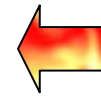


Fig. 4. Carbon dioxide emission rate (mg CO₂-C h⁻¹ g⁻¹) in Non-WAM soils and WAM soils under *Rhizophora* sp. stands sampled in the wet season.

Salt marshes of the Atlantic South America

C. Costa – Blue Carbon Scientific Working Group, 2014



Cartagena Bay
(Colômbia, 10° N)



 Tropical

 Temperate

Southern limit of mangroves
Laguna (28° 28' S)



Magallanes Region
(Chile, 55° S)



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Tropical



Atlantic Tropical Salt Marshes

- Total extension is unknown.
- Estimates from few studies (% of marsh cover)

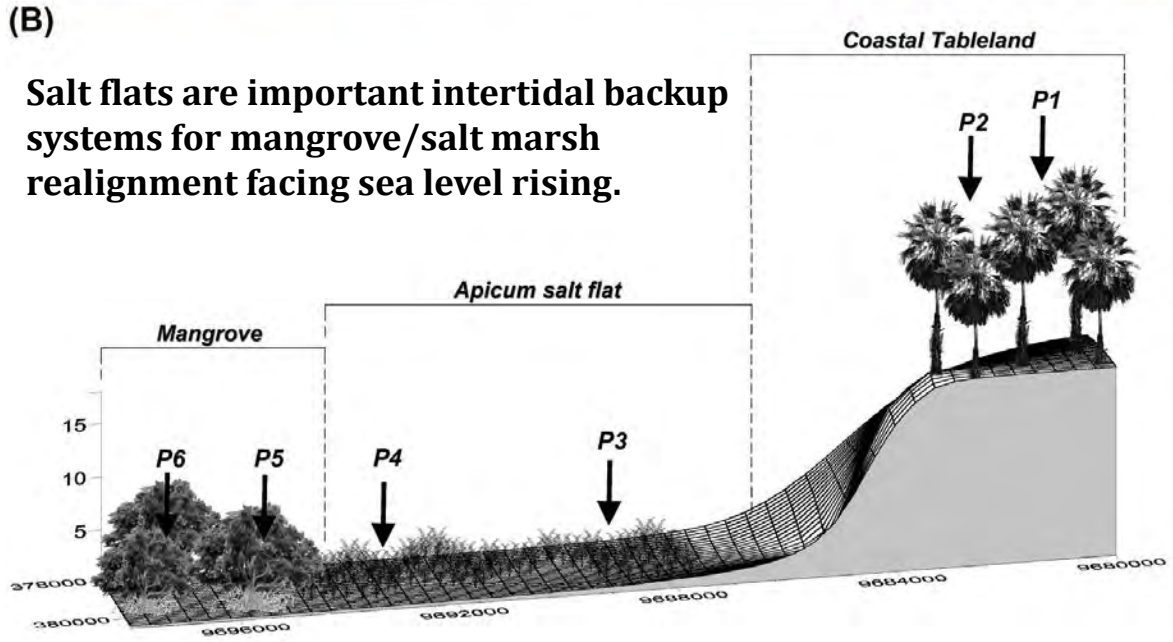


Inability to distinguish bare salt flats and marshes with spaced herbaceous plants by the resolution of satellite image used.

Salt flats are important intertidal backup systems for mangrove/salt marsh realignment facing sea level rising

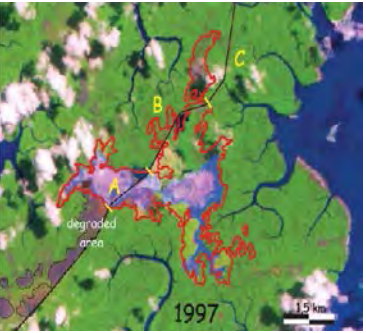


Apicum – Salt flats associated to mangroves



Salt flats are important intertidal backup systems for mangrove/salt marsh realignment facing sea level rising.

APICUM:
1.5 % TOC
Ferreira et al. Soil Research 52: 140–154 (2014)



Salt Flats
Y Km²
72-> 9.0
86-> 7.1
88-> 6.3
91-> 6.2
97-> 5.6

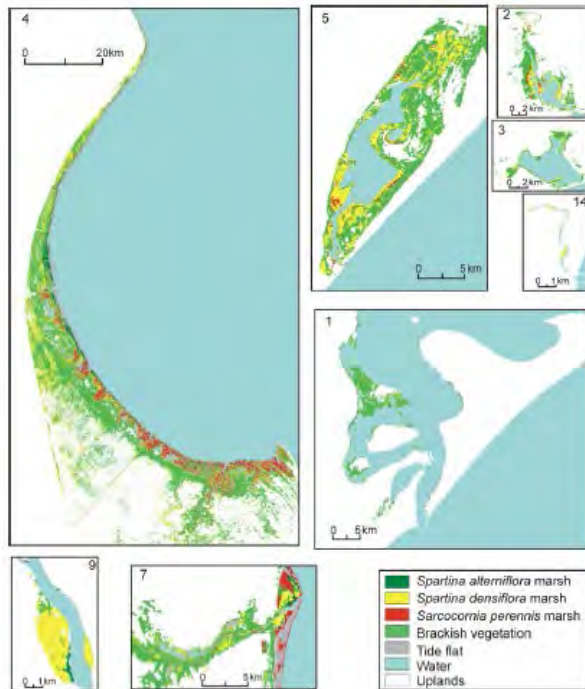
Net gain
3.4 Km²

Cohen^{1,*} & Rubén J. Lara²
Wetlands Ecology and Management 11: 223–231, 2003.

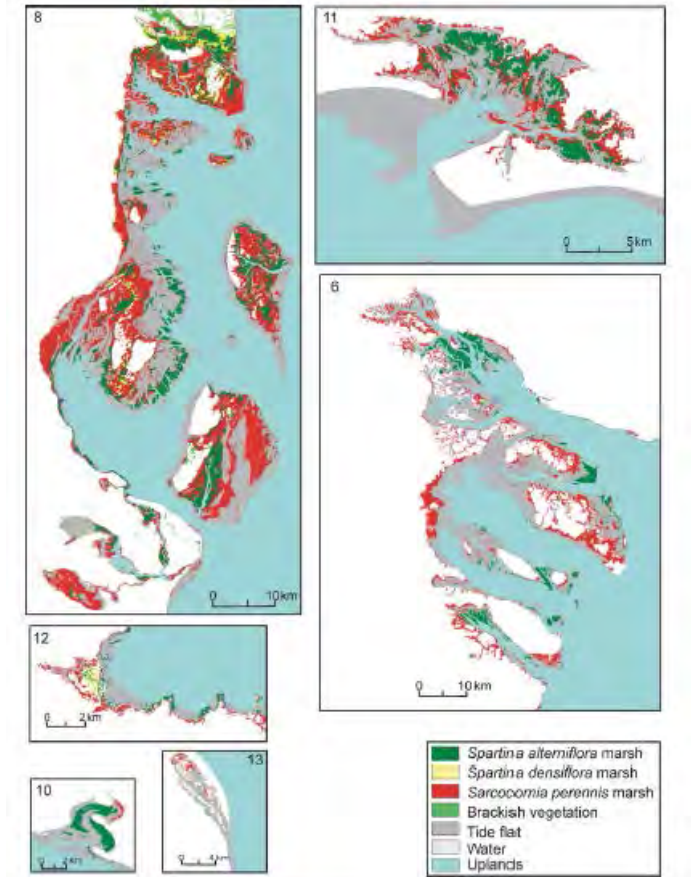
Atlantic Temperate Salt Marshes

- Areal extent
- (Isaach et al. 2006).

Brackish microtidal marshes



Salty macrotidal marshes



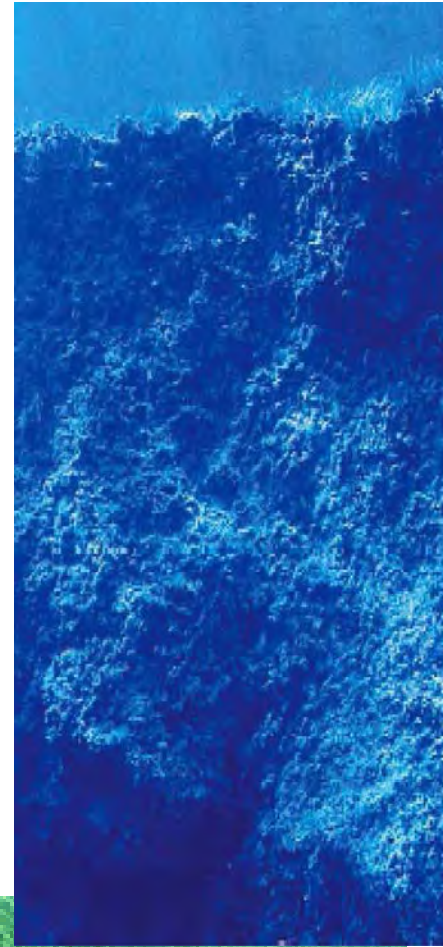
Atlantic Temperate Salt Marshes

Habitats' areas



~ 218. 964 Hecs

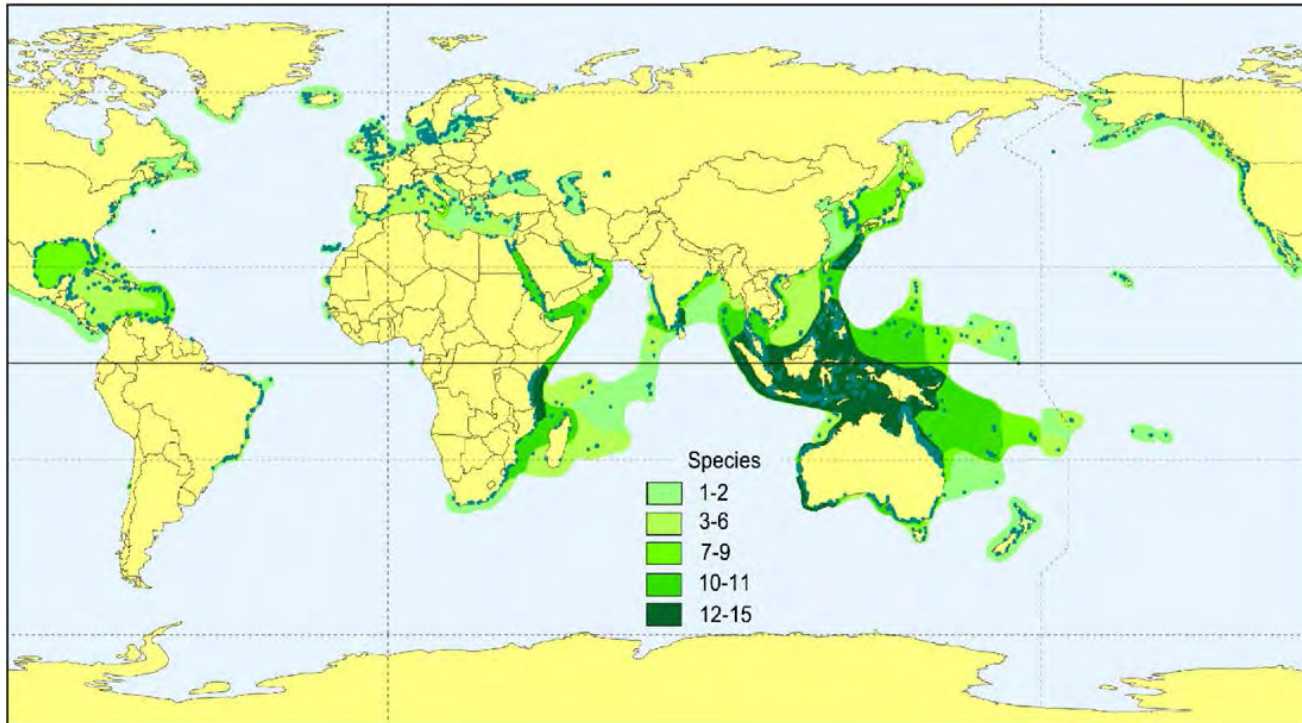
Stock ~ 5 Ton C / ha



Seagrasses



Seagrass meadows distribution and area (Km²)



Larger uncertainties about area and distribution globally

Short et al, 2010
2005, UNEP-WCMC

Based on modeling, with few validation sites

	Temperate Northern Hemisphere	Temperate Southern Hemisphere	Tropical Americas	Tropical Asia	Africa	Mediterranean	Global (km²)
Min	68.000	21.000	45.000	123.000	29.500	13.500	300.000
Max	136.000	42.000	89.500	246.000	59.000	50.000	600.000

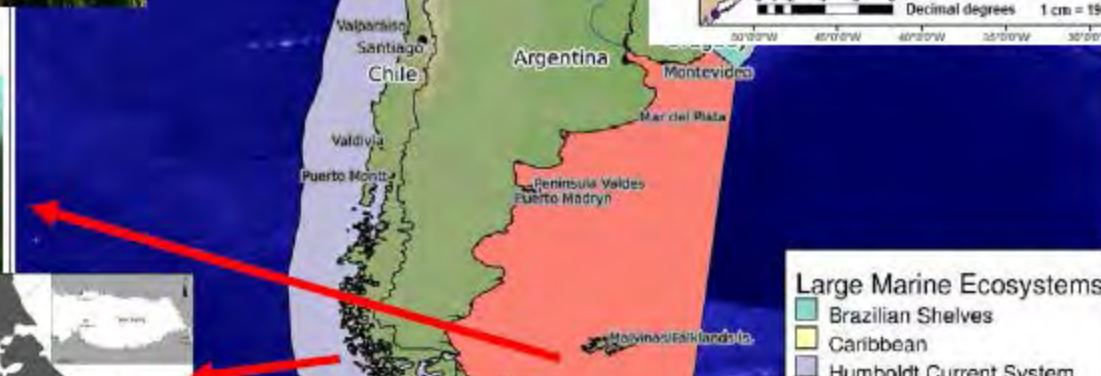
Distribution of Seagrasses across South America



30.000 km of Coastline de costa, with distinct morphology and oceanographic influences



Seagrass habitats concentrated in the Caribbean Region and Brazil



Large Marine Ecosystems
 Brazilian Shelves
 Caribbean
 Humboldt Current System

Distribution of seagrasses (including eurihaline species) in South America

Coast	Clim. Zone	Country/ Region	N	Species (dominant in bold)	Area (ha)
Caribe	<i>Equatorial</i> (10° N)	Colômbia	6	<i>Thalassia testudinum</i> , <i>Syringodium filiforme</i> , <i>Halodule wrightti</i> , <i>Halophila decipiens</i> , <i>H. bailoni</i> , <i>Ruppia maritima</i>	43.225 mapped
		Venezuela	6	<i>T. testudinum</i> , <i>S. filiforme</i> , <i>H. wrightti</i> , <i>H. decipiens</i> , <i>H. bailoni</i> , <i>H. engelmani</i>	~ 80.000 potential
		Trinidad & Tobago	4	<i>T. testudinum</i> , <i>H. wrightti</i> , <i>H. decipiens</i> , <i>S. filiforme</i>	~ 500 potential
Atlântico	<i>Tropical</i> (0 to 25° S)	Brasil (NE, SE)	5	<i>H. wrightti</i> , <i>H. emarginata</i> , <i>H. decipiens</i> , <i>H. bailoni</i> , <i>R. maritima</i>	> 30.000 estimated
	<i>Subtropical/</i> <i>Temperado</i> (28 to 40° S)	Brasil Sul/ Uruguai/ Argentina/	3	<i>R. maritima</i> , <i>H. wrightii</i> , <i>Zannichellia palustris</i>	~15.000 mapeado/ estimated
	<i>SubAntartic</i> (>50° S)	Magalhães/ I. Malvinas	1	<i>Ruppia filifolia</i>	~ 5.000 estimated
Pacífico	<i>Subtropical</i> (27 to 30° S)	Norte do Chile	1	<i>Heterozostera tasmanica</i>	~ 250 mapped
TOTAL South America (estimated)			11	~1/6 total species	>173.975
TOTAL Globe (estimated)			60	< 1% total area	30 - 60 Mha

Distribution of seagrass species along Brazilian coast based on studies and observations



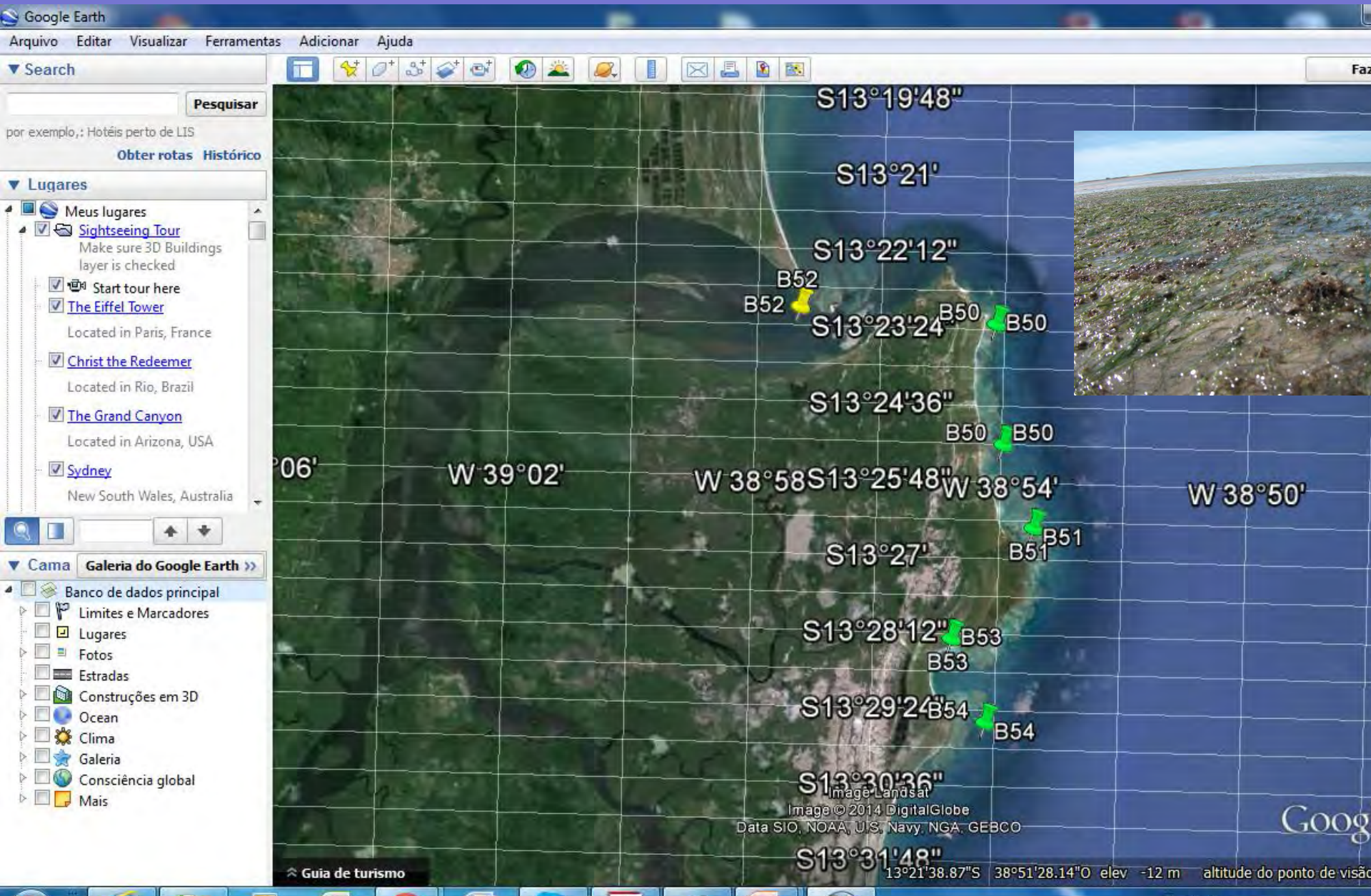
- **Halodule emarginata**
- **Halodule wrightii**
- **Halophila baillonii**
- **Halophila decipiens**
- **Ruppia maritima**

Review and metadata

- **List of Studies on Brazilian seagrasses**
- **Locations and geographic coordinates;**
- **Parameters collected;**
- **Methodologies used;**
- **Period or date of collection;**
- **Publications associated to the data;**

Id	Shape #	latitude	longitude	Estado	Local	Especie	Data_d	Referencia	Documento
1	Point	-23.9	-43.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Amado Filho e Florido (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Creada1999.pdf
2	Point	-23	-43.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía da Ribeira	Halodule wrightii	1999	Amado Filho e Florido (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Creada1999.pdf
3	Point	-17.9	-38.63333	Bahia	Arboretos Archipelago, Ilha Redonda	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed e Amado Filho (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Creada1999.pdf
4	Point	-17.9	-38.63333	Bahia	Arboretos Archipelago, Ilha Sintia	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed e Amado Filho (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Creada1999.pdf
5	Point	-22.75	-41.9	Rio de Janeiro	Búzios, Praia da Tartaruga	Halodule wrightii	1997	Creed (1997)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1997.pdf
6	Point	-22.73233	-41.80233	Rio de Janeiro	Búzios, Praia de Fervedouro	Halodule wrightii	1997	Creed (1997)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1997.pdf
7	Point	-22.66	-42.5	Rio de Janeiro	Lagoa de Araruama, Praia dos Ambrósio	Halodule wrightii	1997	Creed (1997)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1997.pdf
8	Point	-22.66667	-42.5	Rio de Janeiro	Lagoa de Araruama, Praia dos Coqueiros	Halodule wrightii	1997	Creed (1997)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1997.pdf
9	Point	-22.66667	-43.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
10	Point	-22.66667	-43.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
11	Point	-22.66667	-43.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
12	Point	-22.66667	-43.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
13	Point	-22.66667	-43.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
14	Point	-22.16667	-44.16667	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1997	Creed (1997)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1997.pdf
15	Point	-22.03233	-44.15233	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
16	Point	-22.83333	-43.76667	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
17	Point	-23.03333	-44.3	Rio de Janeiro	Angra dos Reis, Coad. Praia Dourado I	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
18	Point	-23.03333	-44.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
19	Point	-23.03333	-44.33333	Rio de Janeiro	Baía de Sepetiba, Ilha de Itacurujá, Prai	Halodule wrightii	1999	Creed (1999)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1999.pdf
20	Point	-22.83333	-45.38333	Ilha Paqueta	Ilha de São Sebastião, Praia de Angra	Halodule emarginata	1969	den Hartog (1971)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1969.pdf
21	Point	-3.5	-59.13333	Carara	Panacurú	Halodule wrightii	1970	den Hartog (1972)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1970.pdf
22	Point	-7.82769	-34.62574	Paraná	Ponta da Pedra	Halodule wrightii	1970	den Hartog (1972)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1970.pdf
23	Point	-7.86667	-34.83333	Paraná	Suape	Halodule wrightii	1970	den Hartog (1972)	D:\ArquivosSGF\Anengames\Cread1970.pdf

Seagrass distributional mapping



Seagrass monitoring in Brazil

Ilha do Japonês, Cabo Frio, RJ - 19 years monitoring *Halodule wrightii* (SeagrassNet site since 2002)

Lagoa dos Patos, Rio Grande, RS – 34 years monitoring *Ruppia maritima*. Site PELD-FURG) since 1999)

Abrolhos, BA e Tamandaré, PE SeagrassNet sites since 2002



Biomass values of *H. wrightii*: comparison among different parts of Brazil and tropical world (from Barros 2008)

	Local	g DW m ⁻²	Reference	Plant part
Brazil ⇒⇒	Tampa Bay (USA)	4,0 a 27	Zieman, 1987*	Above
	Tampa Bay (USA)	38 a 50	Philips & Lewis, 1983*	
	São Paulo (Brasil)	4,0 a 33	Oliveira et. al., 1997	
	Ilha de Itamaracá (Brasil)	20,92***	Magalhães et. al., 1997	
	Inhaca Island (Moçambique)	16±22,2 (verão) 6,9±5,5 (inverno)	Boer, 2000	
	Baía de Suape (Brasil)	1,1-148,7	Magalhães et. al., 2003	
→	Ceará (Brasil)	1,569 (seco)*** 2,56 (chuvoso)***	Barros 2008	
⇒⇒	Tampa Bay (USA)	60 a 140	Philips & Lewis, 1983*	Bellow
	São Paulo (Brasil)	16 a 55	Oliveira et. al., 1997	
	Ilha de Itamaracá (Brasil)	123,41***	Magalhães et. al., 1997	
	Inhaca Island (Moçambique)	17,1±14,5 (verão) 7,4±3,4 (inverno)	Boer, 2000	
	Baía de Suape (Brasil)	4,0 a 338,4	Magalhães et. al., 2003	
→	Ceará (Brasil)	13,529 (seco)*** 18,4 (chuvoso)***	Barros 2008	
⇒⇒	São Paulo (Brasil)	20 a 88	Oliveira et. al., 1997	
	Ilha de Itamaracá (Brasil)	20,34 a 133,16	Magalhães et. al., 1997	
	Inhaca Island (Moçambique)	21,2±17 (verão) 22,9±8,2 (inverno)	Boer, 2000	
⇒⇒	Baía de Suape (Brasil)	8 - 635	Magalhães et. al. (2003)	All Plant
	Baía de Suape (Brasil)	53,25 a 619,41	Reis, 2007	
	Pernambuco (Brasil)	14,3±14,2 (verão) 1114,7±190 (inverno)	Reis, 2007	
	Texas (EUA)	150 a 500	Dunton, 1994**	
	Texas (EUA)	166 a 610	Burd & Dunton, 2001**	
	Flórida (EUA)	50 a 250	Zieman, 1987**	
	Flórida (EUA)	50 a 140	Gallegos e Kenwoethy, 1966**	
	Alabama (EUA)	328 a 1354	Gallegos et. al., 1994**	
	México	40 a 600		
→	Ceará (Brasil)	3,13 (seco)***	Picanço, 2004	
→	Ceará (Brasil)	15,139 (seco)*** 52,1 (chuvoso)***	Barros 2008	

Values are higher in Pernambuco (NE, protected coasts), similar to other tropical places

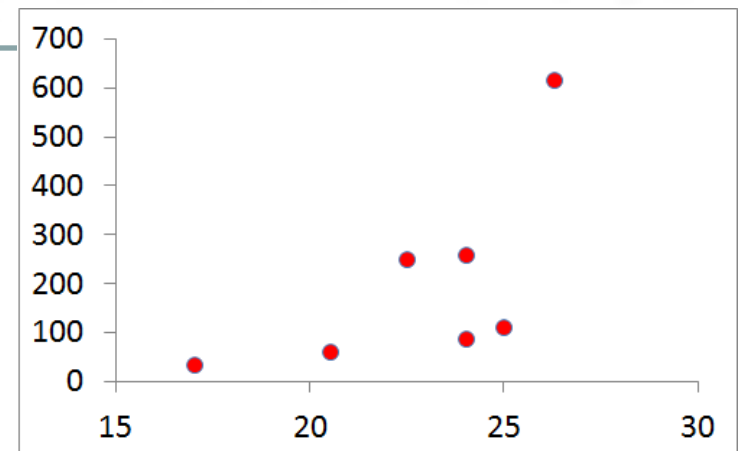
Decreasing towards North and South

Biomass values of *H. wrightii*: comparison across latitude of Americas (Sordo et al. 2011)

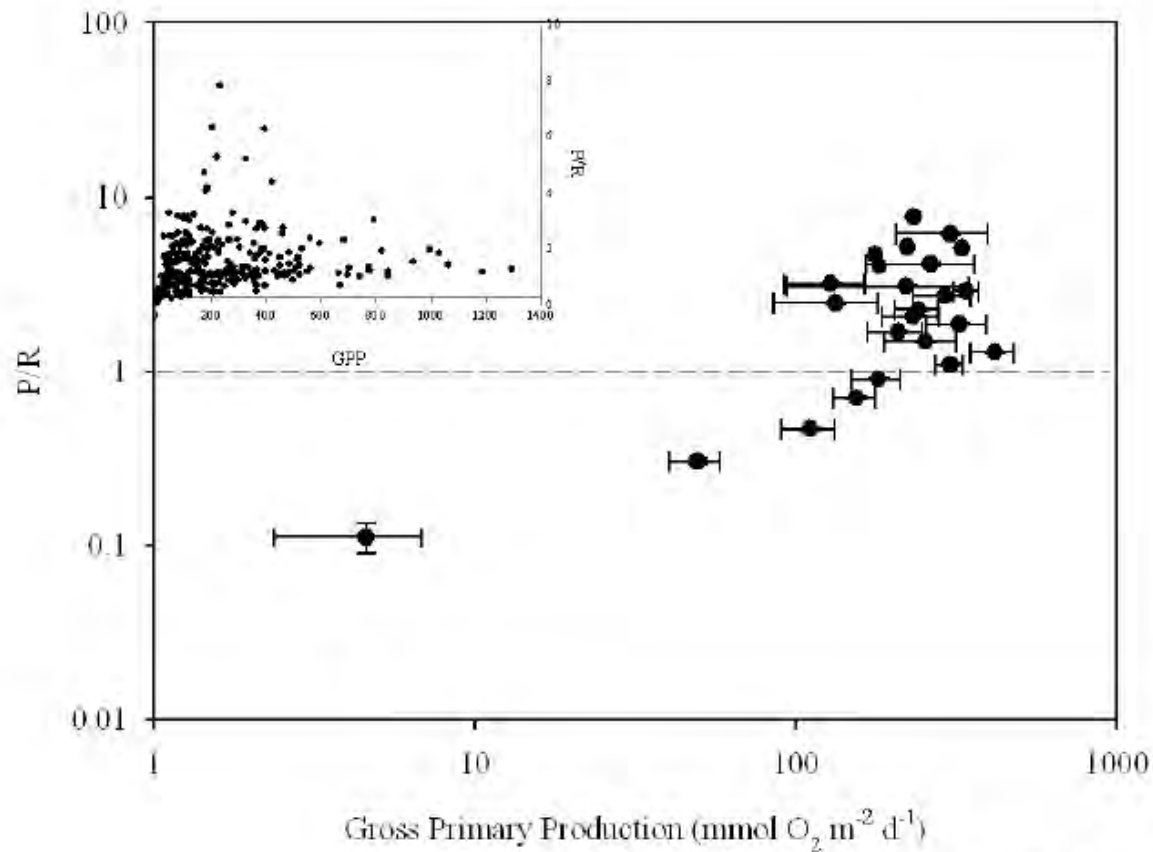
Table 4 *Halodule wrightii*: sites of occurrence across the Americas: location and climate, mean DW biomass, mean annual air temperatures and references.

Location (climates)	Latitude (longitude)	DW biomass (g DW m ⁻²)	Temperature (°C)	Reference
San Antonio Bay, USA (subtropical)	27°54'N (97°29'W)	22–62	20.5	Dunton 1994
South Florida, USA (tropical)	26°39'N (80°43'W)	50–250	22.5	Zieman 1987
Puerto Morelos, Mexico (tropical)	21°N (87°W)	616	26.30	Gallegos et al. 1994
Pernambuco, Brazil (tropical)	08°47'S (35°07'W)	33.17–260	24	Short et al. 2006
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (tropical)	22°53'S (42°00'W)	11.5–112.6	25	Creed 1999
São Sebastião, Brazil (subtropical)	23°50'S (45°26'W)	88	24	Oliveira et al. 1997
Paraná, Brazil (subtropical)	25°32'S (48°24'W)	5.46–35.6	17	Present study

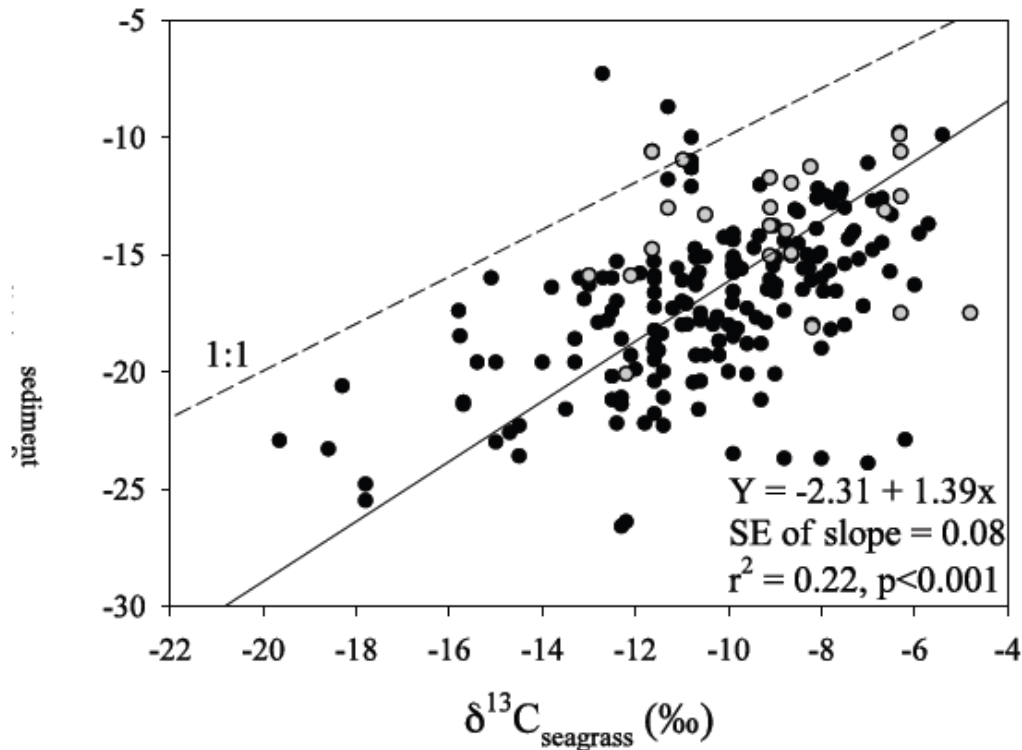
**Trend in biomass decreases
according to mean
annual temperature**



Dense seagrass beds fix more CO₂ than they consume



Only about half of the C buried in seagrass beds is derived from seagrass



A very rough estimate of South American C stocks in segrass meadows

Assuming average biomasses and soil C content (estimated from OM)

Above ground 0,70 – 0,95 Mg C/ ha

Bellow ground 1,756 – 2.5 Mg C/ha

Total biomass 2,514 – 3.0 Mg C/ ha

Average soil Corg content: 2% (but in caribe values range from 8% to 20%)

Soil Bulky Density: 1 %

% C	Total Biomass (Mg C/ha)	Habitat Extent (ha)	C Stock (Mg C)
2-16	2,5 – 3,5	173,975	435-609

Based in a very much conservative approach, according to Fourqurean et al. 2013

Will conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems impact GHG mitigation?

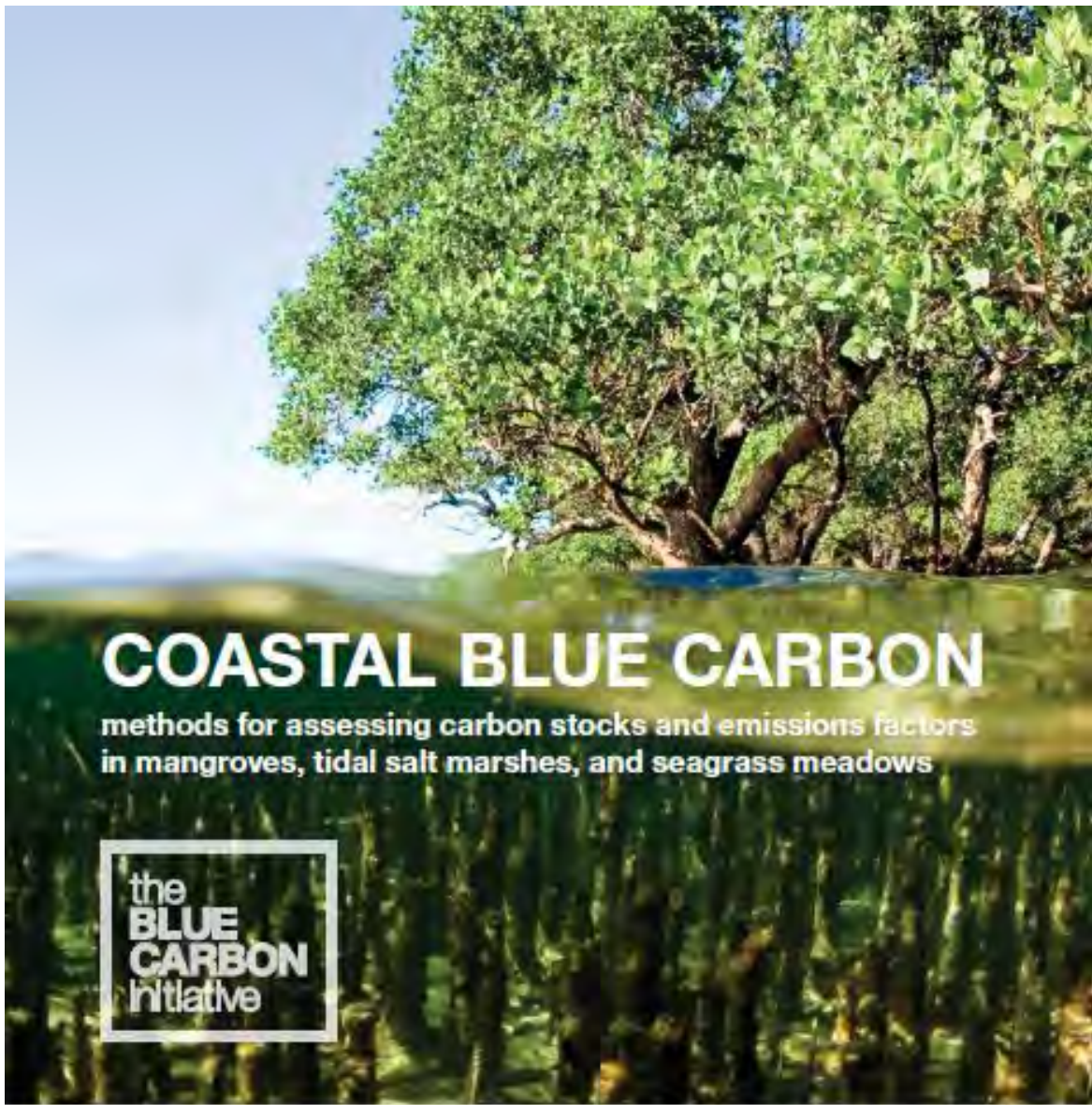
How much carbon is stored/sequestered by coastal systems? Is it significant to global GHG inventories? Where is it?

What are the GHG emissions when these systems? Where do the GHGs go? What are the main causes?

How do we inventory and monitor GHG storage and sequestration in coastal systems? On local scales? On national scales?

How does carbon vary between coastal systems? What are the major sources of variance?

How do we manage coastal systems to ensure their GHG storage and sequestration capacity?



- 1 – Why Measure Carbon Stocks
 - 2 – Conceptualizing the Project and Developing a Field Measurement Plan
 - 3 – Field Sampling of Soil Carbon Pools in Coastal Ecosystems
 - 4 – Field Sampling of Vegetative Carbon Pools in Coastal Ecosystems
 - 5 – How to Estimate Carbon Dioxide Emissions
 - 6 – Remote Sensing and Mapping
 - 7 – Data Management Appendices
- References



Howard, J., Hoyt, S., Isensee, K., Pidgeon, E., Telszewski, M. (eds.) (2014).

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