

European Pavilion  
**Digital  
Ocean**  
Nice | France  
2 - 13 JUNE 2025

Breaking the Status  
Quo:  
Towards Massified,  
Community-Led Ocean  
Protection and Climate  
Action  
June 12, 2025





**Muñoz, Alex**

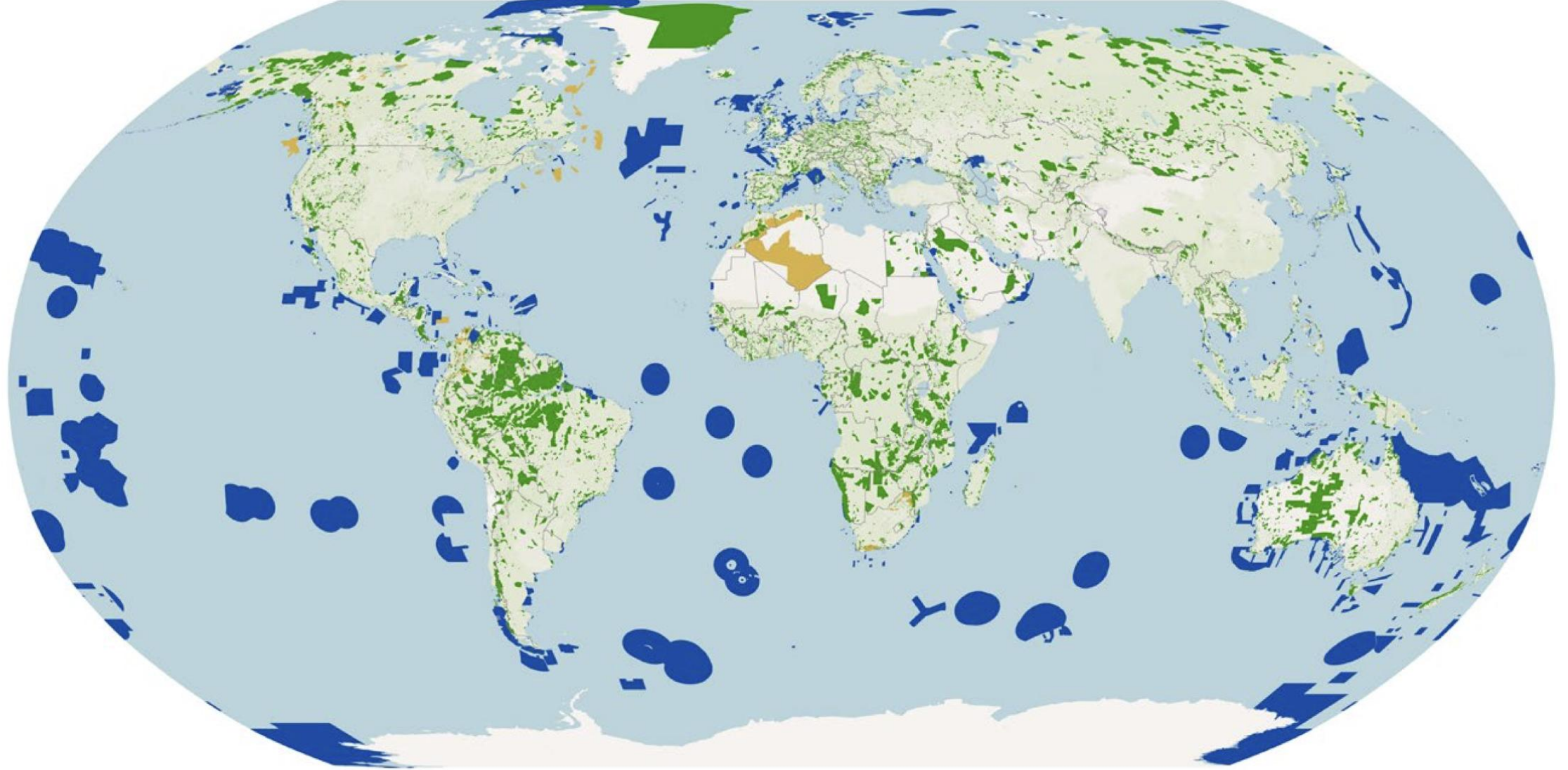
Vital Oceans – C Minds



30x30





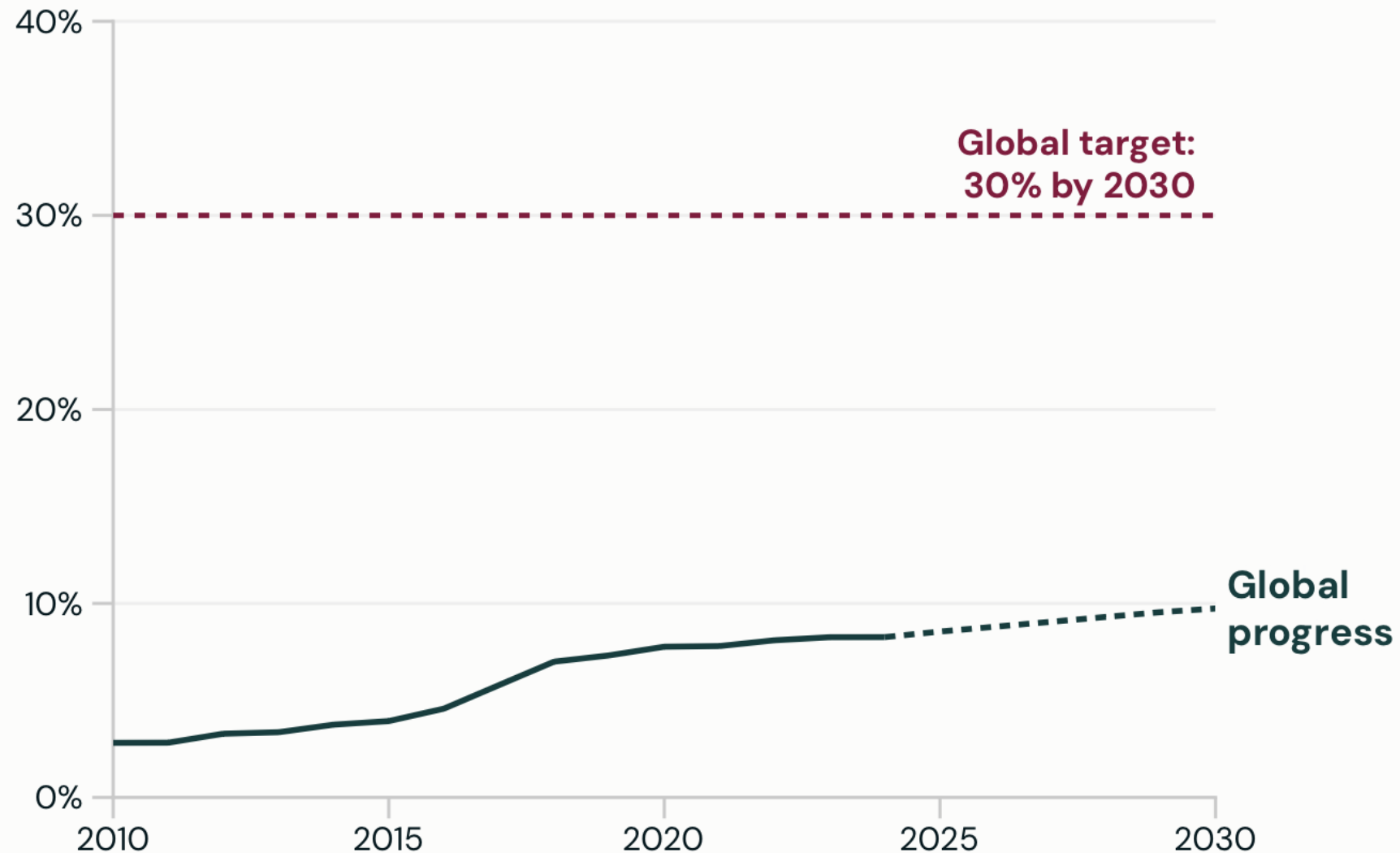


■ Terrestrial and inland waters ■ Marine and coastal ■ OECMs

Figure 4. Protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) of the world, August 2024. Terrestrial protected areas are shown in green, marine protected areas in blue and OECMs in orange. Source: UNEP-WCMC and IUCN 2024.

# How much of the ocean is protected?

Percentage of ocean under protection, historical and projected



Data source: Metabolic (2024) • Graphic: Dialogue Earth





**There are 16,516 MPAs  
in the world.**

**20 largest MPAs  
globally contribute  
approximately 70% of  
the total area covered  
by all MPAs.**



## But...

- ✓ These have often been led by large NGOs, which control most of the funding.
- ✓ They are not representative of different ecosystems.
- ✓ Blue ecosystems that are key to addressing climate change remain unprotected.
- ✓ The rights of indigenous and local communities are not always respected.
- ✓ When they are remote, they do not help to restore coastal fisheries.

Water

# Ocean protection needs \$15.8 billion funding annually, but is receiving only \$1.2 billion: Report

*Finding comes ahead of the United Nations Ocean Conference 3 (UNOC3) to be held in France between June 9 and 13*





Philanthropic funding for marine conservation has more than doubled over the past decade-plus, reaching USD 1.0 billion in 2022.

Based on analysis from Our Shared Seas, philanthropic funding levels for marine conservation have followed a steady upward trend, more than doubling, from USD 430 million in 2010 to USD 1.0 billion in 2022.

Figure 4. Philanthropic ocean-related grantmaking, 2010–2022 (USD)

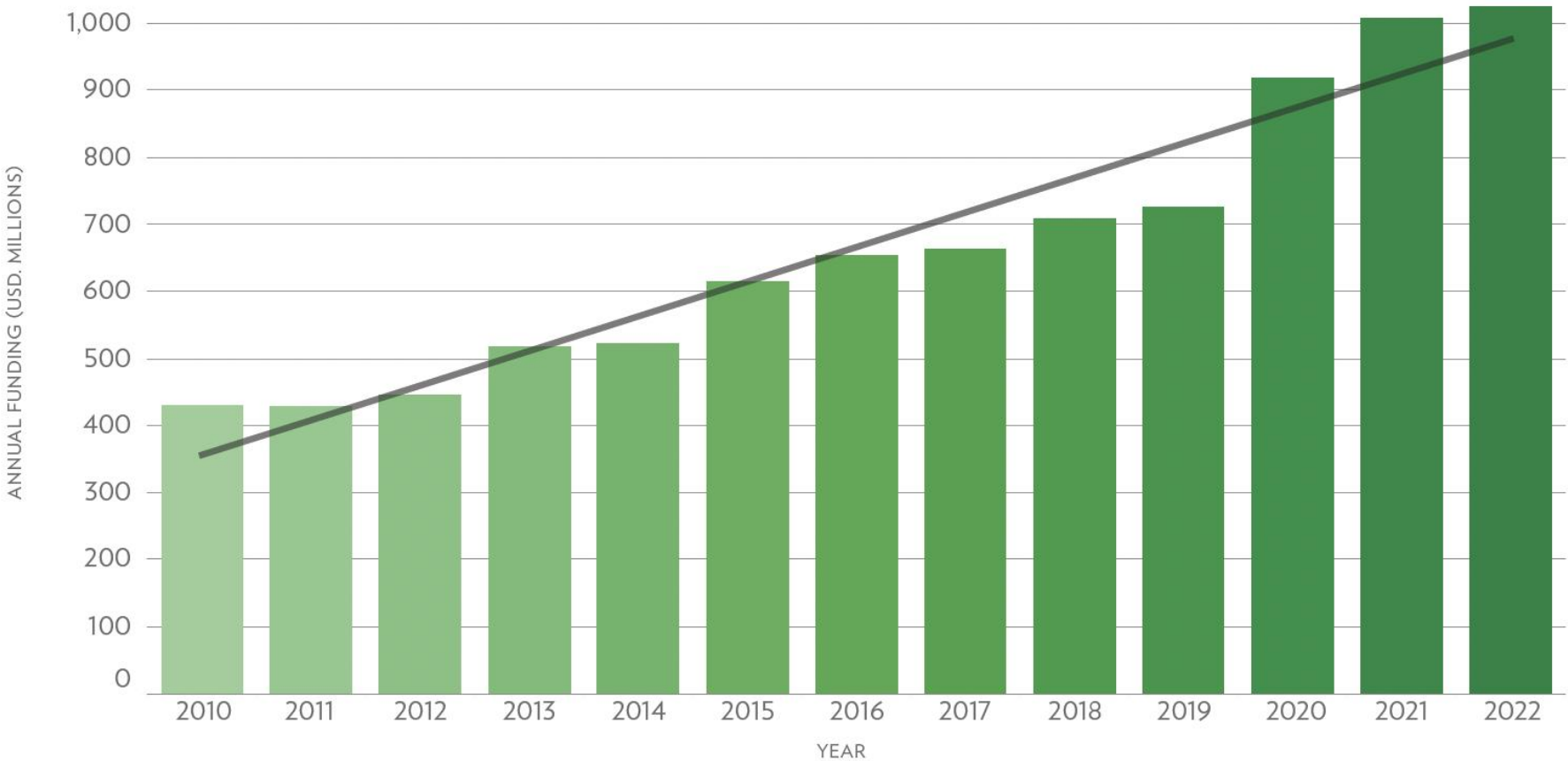
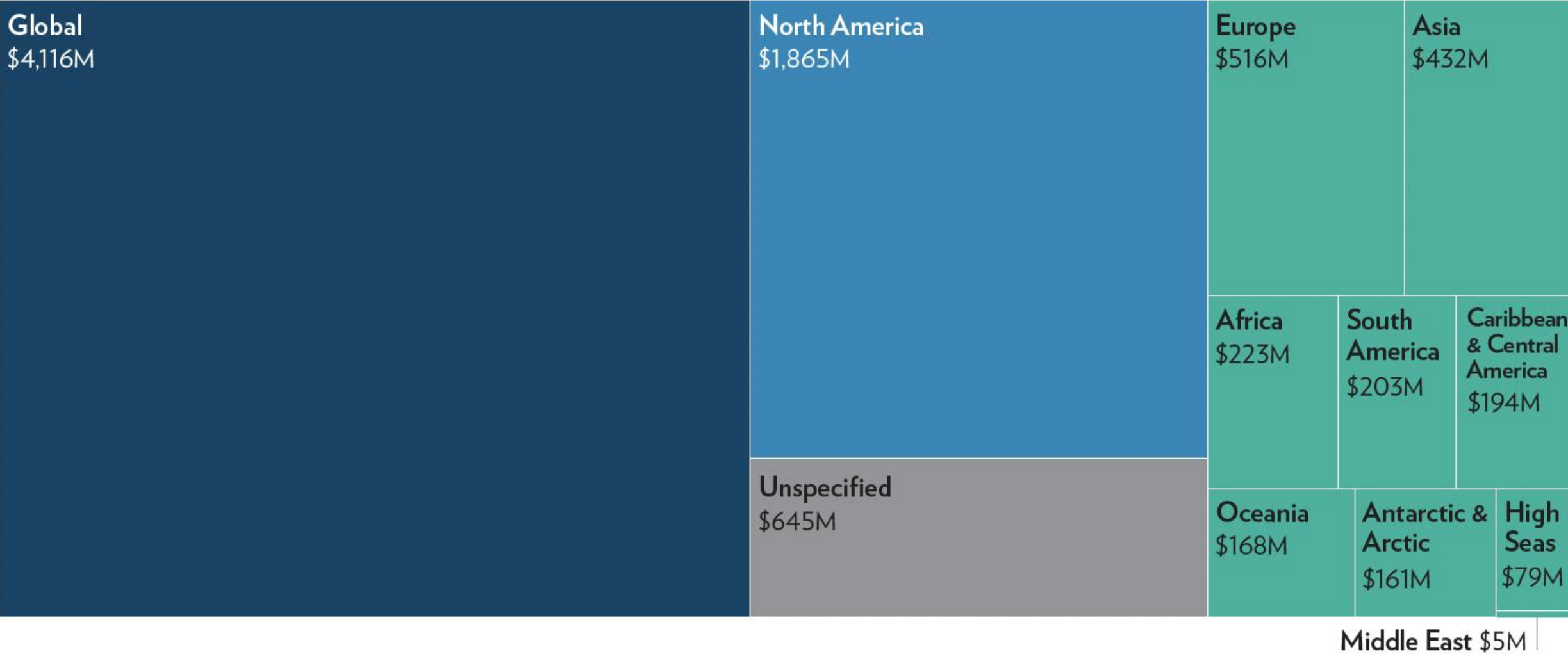
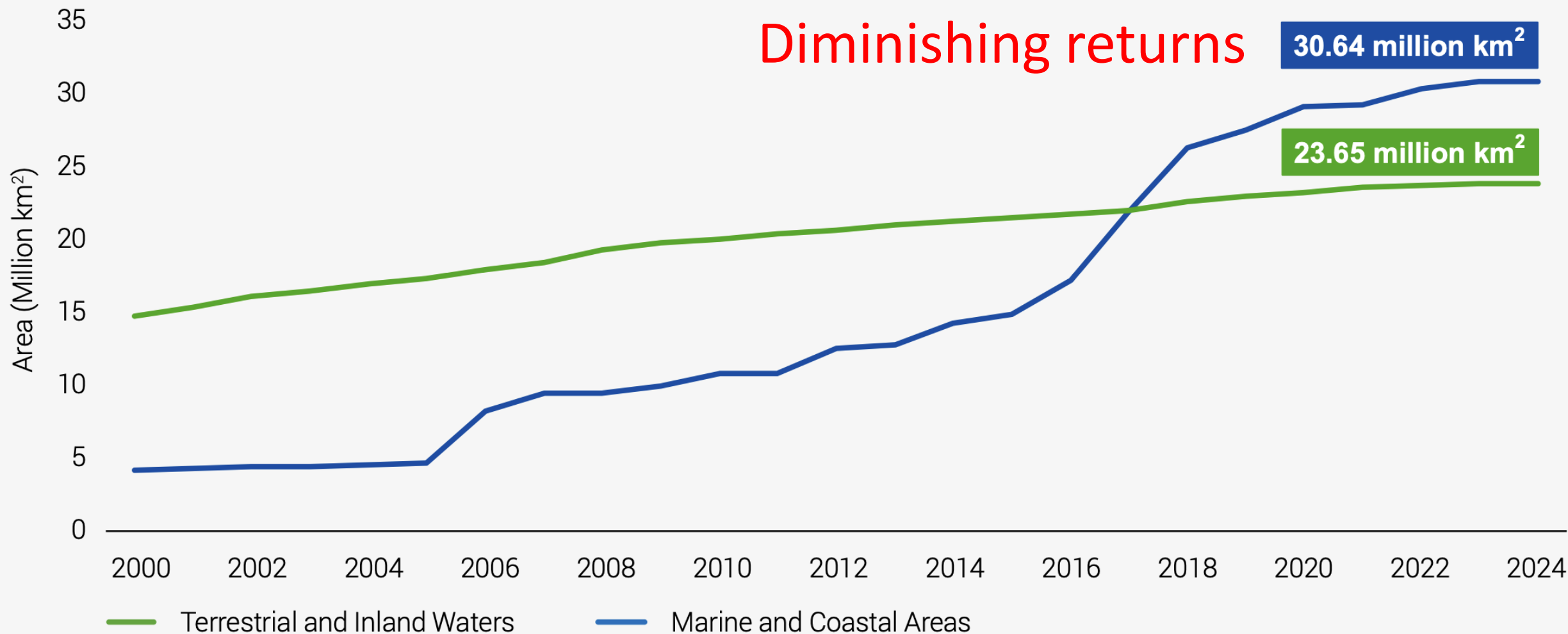


Figure 12. Total marine philanthropic funding by Tier 1 geography, 2010–2022 (USD)





**Figure 6.** The global area (km<sup>2</sup>) covered by protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), for the terrestrial and inland waters realm and for the marine realm, between 2000 and 2024. Source: UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, 2024.



## Cabo Pulmo in 10 years

Biomass	446%
Diversity	21%
Size	28%















Menu



News



Map



Help

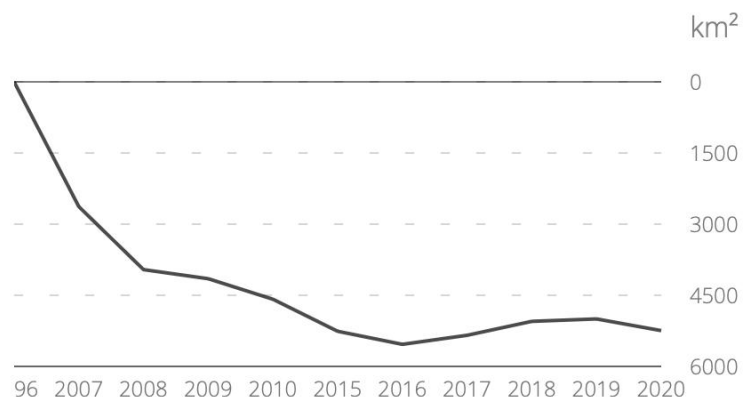
Data applicability: Global, National, Sub-National, and Local. [Learn more](#)

## MANGROVE NET CHANGE



The extent of mangroves in **the world** has **decreased** by **5,245.24 km<sup>2</sup>** between **1996** and **2020**.

| Net change ■ Gain ■ Loss



Data applicability: Global, National, and Sub-National. [Learn more](#)

## MANGROVE HABITAT CHANGE



**VITAL**   
**OCEANS**

# A comprehensive approach



## **Community-led**

Traditional knowledge  
+ local leadership



## **AI-Powered**

Tech and data lower  
barriers to MPA



## **Policy-aligned**

Supports 30x30 and  
national



## **Blue economy**

SME incubation

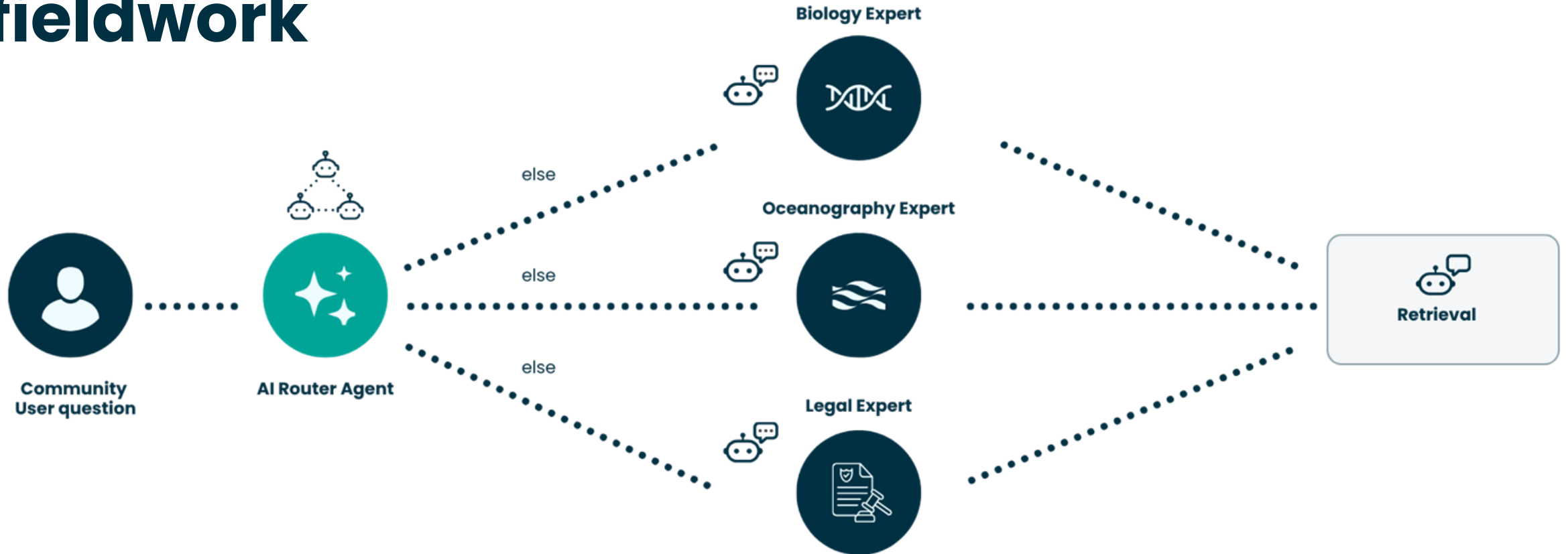


## **Replicable,**

cost-effective,  
scalable model



# The role of AI in **supporting** **fieldwork**





11:56

June 12, Thursday



HEALTHY OCEANS

1 min ago

**Your participation is fundamental!**

MPA El Centenario, Bahia la Paz, MX needs  
your vote to review a new change request





Expenses



MPA  
Execution  
Plan




Smart  
Contract




Philanthropy



Financial Transparency Module





Joe DeminAdmin

In Progress



HEALTHY OCEANS

MPA El Centenario,  
Bahia La Paz, MX

Country of Impact

Mexico

Timeframe

10 Months

Budget

\$40.000

Beneficiary

Hector Arrua

Project Version

1.2

Project proposal

Legal agreement

Project Progress

Milestones

Blockchain History

Request changes

01

About the Project

The grant would be used to fund local activities aimed at engaging the community and effectively communicating the project's objectives and benefits to support the declaration of the MPA.

In addition to fostering community engagement, the grant will fund local activities to engage the community and communicate the project's goals for the Marine Protected Area (MPA). It will also support educational workshops and outreach programs to raise awareness about marine conservation, empowering residents to take an active role in preserving the environment and promoting sustainable practices.

02

Mission and Vision

The mission of the community of El Centenario is to promote the conservation of marine biodiversity and the sustainable use of coastal resources through the active participation of its residents. We aim to designate a 500 km2 Marine Protected Area (MPA) that preserves coral reefs, and sustainable fishing zones.

Project progress



Project Progress

Project Balance

Total Progress

%53

Total Expenses

\$6.000

See milestones

### Project Members

JH

Juan Manuel Hernandez

Grantee - Treasurer

▼

AT

Andrea Torres Lopez

Investor

▼

MC

Maria Laura Cetraro

Investor

▼

LM

Luis Alberto Mendoza

Auditor

▲

BT

Bernardo Taus

Investor

▼


HA

Hector Arrua

Beneficiary

▼

Email: luis.mendoza@niparaja.org

Address: 0x53055D4E2fc157F47ef5279b3c95a...

### Project Progress

Milestones Progress

Project Started15%

Project Finished100%

Amount Income

Available amount \$11.200100%

Total Amount 11.200100%

Amount Outcome

Amount Spent \$6.00053%

Goal Amount 11.200100%

### Milestones

MILESTONE 1 - Community Engagement Action Plan

Approved

FUNDING

Budget

Current

\$11.200

\$11.200

SPENDING

Budget

Current

\$11.200

\$6.000

PAYBACK

Budget

Current

\$11.200

\$6.000

EVIDENCES

5 TRANSFER

4 IMPACT

Define community engagement action plan

View activities

PAYBACK - Initial funding

View evidences

Approved

Committed

Current

Evidences

\$11.200

\$11.200

3 TRANSFER 1 IMPACT

Description

Send initial funds to the community

Acceptance Criteria

Robb Vices purchase order

Order is produced on time and Yellow Leaf is paid on time

FUNDING - Hire a local operations manager

View evidences

Approved

FUNDING - Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit.

View evidences

Approved











## Priorities for the next 10 years

- Protect more coastal than oceanic areas.
- Cover a large portion of blue ecosystems
- A less opportunistic and more systematic approach to selecting sites.
- Build infrastructure to ensure funds reach local communities directly.
- Provide more funding for science and make data widely available.
- Support businesses that can thrive from marine protection.
- Get governments to commit to designating a massive number of MPAs led by communities and scientifically supported.