

IUCN & Blue Forest launch New Blue Carbon Partnership @ UN Ocean Conference 2022 - A Model for Sustainable Regeneration

Innovative world-first global partnership supporting mangrove reforestation, protecting coastal ecospheres & incomes of coastal communities via carbon credits

LISBON, PORTUGAL, July 2, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and [Blue Forest](#) Company today announced the signing of a MOU to instigate the NEW BLUE CARBON PARTNERSHIP, part of THE GREAT BLUE WALL initiative, designed to accelerate ocean conservation and regenerative economic development in the Western Indian Ocean.

IUCN and Blue Forest are establishing a collaboration under which both Parties shall work towards “Sustainable Development and Biodiversity Conservation of mangrove forests in Mozambique, through effective implementation of the Ministry of Land and Environment of the Republic of Mozambique and IUCN’s programmes.

The MOU is designed to restore and preserve extensive tracts of mangrove forest financed through carbon credits where the majority of the net income generated over the multi-year project would be channeled to the local communities living alongside those mangrove forests.

The announcement was made at a joint High-Level Event, co-hosted by IUCN and Blue Forest,



Blue Forest & IUCN MOU Signing at United Nation Ocean Conference, UNOC 2022



Blue Forest mangrove reforestation NGO logo

together with the Government of Seychelles, Danny Faure Foundation, UNECA, Nekton, WIOMSA and the [UN COP27 High Level Climate Champions team](#), held alongside the 2022 United Nation's Ocean Conference in Lisbon, Portugal.

This event is part of the Regional blue dialogues and action: Initiatives and financing mechanisms catalysing the transition to an inclusive and sustainable blue economy in the Western Indian Ocean programme co-hosted by the Governments of Kenya and Mozambique.

The MOU heralds a substantial mangrove reforestation programme as both a key defensive and profitable approach to tackle the many issues affecting the vast and sensitive area and additionally forms part of the Western Indian Ocean Resilience & Prosperity Initiative (WIO RPI).

This initiative helps deliver the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Life Below Water (SDG 14) and many of the other inter-related SDG Goals.

IUCN Director General Dr. Bruno Oberle commented: “Political leadership and financial support can be the catalyst for a self-sustaining regenerative blue economy that will empower the Western Indian Ocean region and its people. We're actively seeking partnership initiatives such as the collaboration with Blue Forest that will scale-up ocean-based action, helping manage, protect, conserve and restore marine and coastal ecosystems, making fisheries sustainable and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.”

Vahid Fotuhi, Founder and CEO of Blue Forest, specialists in mangrove reforestation partnerships said: “this MOU is a watershed moment for us, coming as it does on the back of significant success in reforestation projects in Eastern and Southern Africa, in Mozambique and Kenya. In Mozambique our starter project is already restoring and preserving 185,000 hectares, alongside much sustainable job creation. These projects are just the start of an ambitious plan to truly reforest mangroves around the world, to restore balance to the environment and the communities which rely on the ecosystems there.”

Thomas Sberna, IUCN's Eastern & Southern Africa's Regional Head of Coastal and Ocean



IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature logo

Resilience pointed to the many and diverse representatives in attendance as a signifier of the event's importance, saying: "The event has been massively over-subscribed, which is an acknowledgement of how great this topic resonates with coastal and ocean communities around the world and the dire urgency for its solutions."

This release, a photo of the signing and links to video clips of the signing can be found at www.blueforest.co/IUCN/

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About IUCN

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. By harnessing the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,400 Member organisations and the input of some 15,000 experts, IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

About Blue Forest

Blue Forest is a UAE-based developer of mangrove reforestation projects around the world. The company is currently restoring 400,000 Hectares of degraded mangrove forests located in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. The projects are financed through carbon credits, with the majority of the proceeds channeled to the local communities which live alongside the forests. For more information, please visit: www.blueforest.co

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Blue Forest can be found at:

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