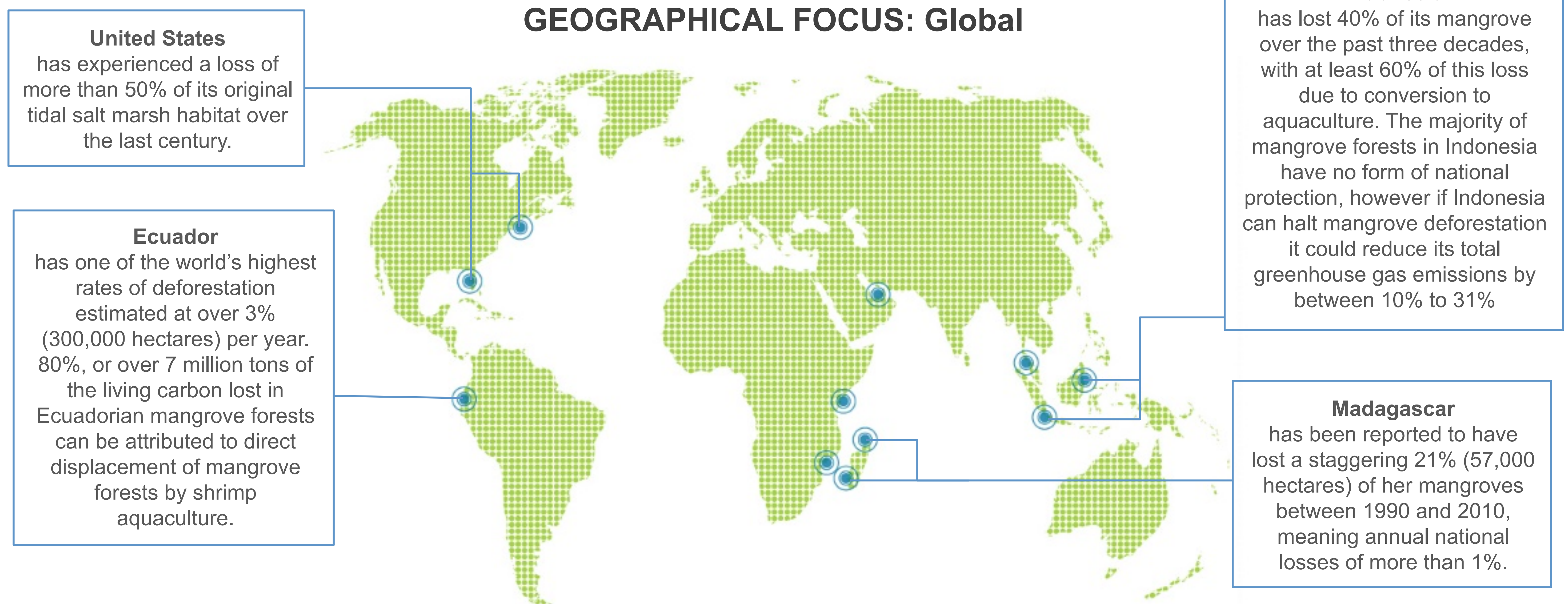# blueforests

The **Blue Forests Project** promotes better coastal ecosystem management by harnessing the values associated with coastal and marine carbon and ecosystem services.

PROJECT APPROACH

To achieve improved ecosystem management and support climate resilient communities, the values associated with carbon and other ecosystem services will be harnessed for globally replicable solutions. The project will achieve this though multiple on the ground demonstrations, targeted research to address key blue forests knowledge gaps, assessing potential policy pathways and providing experience and tools for up-scaling and replication.

GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS: Global

United States has experienced a loss of more than 50% of its original tidal salt marsh habitat over the last century.

Ecuador has one of the world's highest rates of deforestation estimated at over 3% (300,000 hectares) per year. 80%, or over 7 million tons of the living carbon lost in Ecuadorian mangrove forests can be attributed to direct displacement of mangrove forests by shrimp aquaculture.

Indonesia has lost 40% of its mangrove over the past three decades, with at least 60% of this loss due to conversion to aquaculture. The majority of mangrove forests in Indonesia have no form of national protection, however if Indonesia can halt mangrove deforestation it could reduce its total greenhouse gas emissions by between 10% to 31%

Madagascar has been reported to have lost a staggering 21% (57,000 hectares) of her mangroves between 1990 and 2010, meaning annual national losses of more than 1%.

GEF IW RESULTS INDICATOR

Process: Following the Project Steering Committee Meeting and the development of the Project Document the project is assisting in the global development and application of the blue forests methodologies and approaches including though action plans for each of the GEF-funded project sites.

Stress Reduction: Demonstration projects and targeted research on blue forests across the five project sites and policy assessments are being conducted.

Environmental and Socioeconomic Status: The development of the Project Document established critical environmental, social and economic baseline information on the Blue Forests Project.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Scope: Global

Countries: Ecuador, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Thailand, United States, and the United Arab Emirates.

Grant: $4.5 million

Co-finance: $23.2 million

Implementing agency: UNEP

Executing agency: GRID-Arendal

Project website: www.gefblueforests.org

SUPPORTING SDGs

SDG5 - Supporting gender equality through new project and management matrixes.

SDG10 - Encouraging development assistance and financial flows to least developed countries, where blue forests habitats are most threatened.

SDG13 - Taking urgent combat climate change and strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.

SDG14 - Conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Blue forests projects can also support the following SDGs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17

PARTNERS

CONTACT   Project Coordination Unit, gefbf-pcu@grida.no

UNEP · gef · GRID ARENDAL *A Centre Collaborating with UNEP* · AGEDI *Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative* · Blue Climate Solutions · blue ventures *beyond conservation* · CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY · CONSERVACIÓN INTERNACIONAL Ecuador · Duke UNIVERSITY

blue carbon center · IUCN · K.M.F.R.I · NOAA · THE OCEAN FOUNDATION · SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS *African Perspectives. Global Insights* · Stockholm University · UBO *université de bretagne occidentale* · UNEP WCMC · FOREST SERVICE · WWF