

Global Climate

2025 IMPACT REPORT
JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



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Dear Friends,

No matter where on Earth you live, you've likely experienced impacts of climate change by now. From catastrophic wildfires and drought to devastating floods and extreme storms, the climate crisis has touched every corner of the planet.

But just as likely, you've witnessed climate solutions. You may have seen trees growing between crops as part of an agroforestry project, meant to store carbon and diversify revenue for local farmers. You may have seen solar panels installed on a former mining site, making smart use of land for a renewable energy project. You may have seen a restored mangrove forest that's supporting a thriving fishery and helping a coastal community brace for future storms. Proven, affordable solutions like these are possible everywhere—and around the world, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is working with local communities to help advance them.

Reflecting on the last year, we are proud of how TNC's climate team has risen to unprecedented challenges by leveraging what we do best: building partnerships with stakeholders and rightsholders most impacted by climate change, enabling innovative finance mechanisms to support tangible climate action, and contributing crucial science to inform rigorous decision-making. The stories in this report illustrate these institutional strengths and highlight some of our proudest accomplishments. We hope you find them as inspiring as we do.

As we look ahead to 2026 and beyond, we are more aware than ever of the urgency of our work—and we remain focused on TNC's unique ability to drive climate solutions that work for people and nature.

Clare Shakya

Rebecca Benner

Cover: TNC works with partners in the Global Mangrove Alliance to protect and restore vital mangrove forests, championing people like Pak Umar, who has been a passionate advocate for mangrove conservation in Sulawesi, Indonesia for over 20 years. © Valentin Giebel



**Introducing our
team's work**

TNC's global climate team has identified several areas where we and our partners can have the greatest impact:



Clean energy transition

To accelerate a clean, green, and equitable energy future, TNC works to increase global ambition and accountability for a rapid, nature-positive, and just energy transition. We promote science-based siting of renewables to accelerate deployment in areas that have lower risk and higher benefit for nature and communities, and we advance policy, market, and community solutions that build public trust in renewables and support climate, conservation, and community goals.



Natural climate solutions (NCS)

TNC advances natural climate solutions—protecting, improving the management of, and restoring nature to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance nature's ability to absorb and store carbon. We support effective locally led projects by developing and sharing scientific tools and resources, and by driving policies and market mechanisms for durable systemic change.



Climate adaptation

We partner with under-resourced populations to reduce the risk of climate-related impacts and foster long-term resilience in human and natural systems. We support communities around the world in codesigning and implementing equitable nature-based adaptation solutions that improve their livelihoods and enhance their well-being. We seek to strengthen institutional structures that facilitate communities' access to funding and inclusive governance.



Climate and ocean

Coastal ecosystems are one of our strongest allies in mitigating and adapting to climate change. TNC accelerates protection of coastlines, using cutting-edge science to support site-based work. We partner with local stakeholders and global leaders to advance effective coastal management and innovative financial mechanisms like resilience credits.

Crosscutting initiatives

Women and Allies in Climate

Women and Allies in Climate unites people from all backgrounds to solve the climate crisis. We convene women scientists, philanthropists, legislators, tribal leaders, CEOs, and allies in the industry to find creative ways to address the impacts of climate change in every sector.

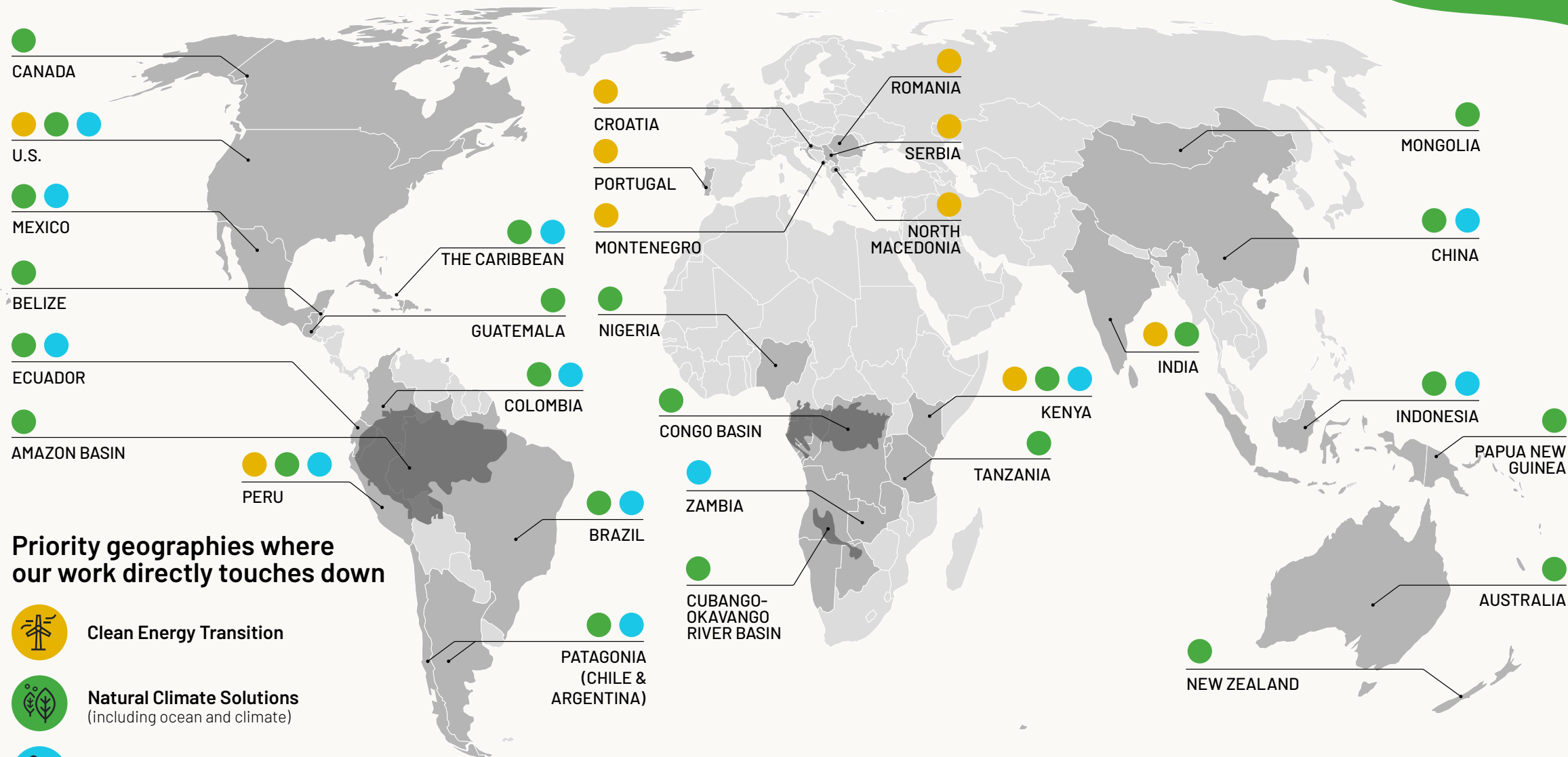


Left: Women & Allies in Climate builds a network of climate leaders through events like multi-day Innovation Labs. © Margaret Southern Right: At major gatherings like Climate Week NYC, N4C hosts well-attended events highlighting the important roles of Indigenous Peoples and investments in nature. © Mariana Ceccon/Nature4Climate



Nature4Climate

Hosted by TNC, Nature4Climate (N4C) is a coalition of over 25 international environmental, conservation, and business organizations dedicated to promoting nature's role in tackling the climate crisis. Using strategic communications, advocacy, campaigning, and movement building, N4C aims to drive investment, build trust, and accelerate large-scale implementation of high-integrity nature-based solutions.





**Stories we
celebrate**

A critical milestone in renewable energy policy

TNC played a key role in a major EU policy decision that now requires impacts on biodiversity to be considered in renewable energy deployment.



Previous page: Community members grow mangrove saplings in Papua New Guinea. © Annette Ruzicka; This page from left: The Oslomej solar park in North Macedonia is built on a former mine site, avoiding development of natural habitat. © Ciril Jazbec; The Jasenice wind power plant in Croatia helps the country pursue a nature-positive transition to clean energy. © Ciril Jazbec

The new Net-Zero Industry Implementing Act, approved in May 2025, directs Member States and developers to consider biodiversity criteria when selecting, approving, or financing projects. This requirement will encourage offshore and onshore projects to follow best environmental practices, from siting through planning.

To support this decision, TNC worked with industry groups and other organizations to develop policy briefings, attend European Commission meetings, and host public consultations and stakeholder meetings. Our communications emphasized the deep connections between the climate and biodiversity crises, and the solutions to address them. Going forward, TNC will advocate for a clear methodology—including qualitative and quantitative measures—to support effective implementation of the act and ensure that projects achieve net-positive contributions to biodiversity.



Driving change on the world stage

This year, TNC leveraged our deep track record of collaboration and innovation to influence outcomes at the world's most important climate events.

At Climate Week NYC 2024, TNC hosted 15 events highlighting diverse climate solutions. For example, Women and Allies in Climate partnered with the Doris Duke Foundation to facilitate a conversation with global leaders and TNC CEO Jennifer Morris about equitable climate solutions. Nature4Climate also hosted the Nature Hub, where the team facilitated more than 40 events. Financial experts, private-sector leaders, and policymakers from 515 organizations convened in the space over two days to advocate for tripling public and private investment in nature. Outcomes included the announcement of a landmark \$180 million deal for carbon credits to reduce deforestation in the Amazon and a new partnership of 40 green banks to invest in clean energy across the U.S.

At the UN climate conference, COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, TNC helped move forward several important milestones. With N4C, we launched the Guide to Including Nature in Nationally Determined

Contributions—a critical tool to help governments maximize nature's potential to address the climate crisis. Although it is much less than the amount needed, developed nations committed to providing \$300 billion per year by 2035 to help developing countries transition to clean energy and deal with climate impacts. COP29 also delivered consensus on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which promises to unleash the financial and nature-positive power of carbon markets. However, much work remains to ensure the global rules drive a well-regulated market.

In the lead-up to COP30 in Belém, Brazil, TNC has been engaging in high-level consultations to advise on how innovative finance can help leverage the \$1.3 trillion committed to climate action as part of the Baku to Belém Roadmap.

TNC and N4C gathered leaders at more than 40 events at Climate Week NYC 2024 to advocate for greater investment in nature. **Left from top:** © Mariana Ceccon/Nature4Climate; © NYC Flickr/Margarita Corporan



Cutting-edge science for climate action

As the urgency of the climate crisis intensifies, decision-makers increasingly rely on experts to help them steer resources and investments to the highest-impact climate solutions.

This year, TNC scientists contributed cutting-edge research to help ensure natural climate solutions and renewable energy innovations are deployed with rigor and precision. Some highlights include:

- ▶ A study led by scientists from TNC and other leading institutions provides unprecedented clarity on where **restoring forests** can help fight climate change. The [new global maps](#) show the areas least likely to involve tradeoffs between reforestation and other urgent priorities like wildlife habitat, food production, and freshwater availability.

- ▶ TNC partnered with Microsoft's AI for Good Lab and Planet to develop the [Global Renewables Watch](#), a first-of-its-kind living atlas that uses AI and satellite imagery to map solar and wind projects worldwide, helping decision-makers accelerate energy solutions.
- ▶ Researchers at the University of Cambridge and TNC mapped the carbon-storing impact of [tidal marsh soils](#) around the world. We estimate tidal marshes store 1.44 billion metric tons of carbon globally—equivalent to the energy-related emissions of 700 million U.S. homes. Now that these values are available, these ecosystems can be integrated into national and international climate policies.

From top: Wetlands like these in New Jersey store carbon, protect communities from flooding, and provide habitat for wildlife. © George Steinmetz; Dr. Elma Kay, biologist and managing director of the Belize Maya Forest Trust, measures a tree to monitor carbon storage. © Eva Lepiz

Peatlands: nature's carbon strongholds

In January 2025, TNC launched a multiyear initiative to protect and restore peatlands, a climate powerhouse essential for meeting our climate goals.



From left: In Indonesia, TNC is studying how rewetting peatlands affects carbon storage. © Nanang Sujana for YKAN; A camp for monitoring peatland restoration is located in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. © Markurius Sera/TNC Photo Contest 2022

Although peatlands cover only 3% of the planet, they store 10% of global freshwater and one quarter of Earth's soil carbon—more carbon than in the world's forest biomass. With their relatively small global area, conserving peatlands can have an outside impact.

This initiative, funded by the Sall Family Foundation, will deliver best-in-class examples of durable, gender-equitable peatland conservation and restoration in three key geographies. The projects include sustainable livelihoods tied to avoided peat fires in Indonesia, sustainable grazing practices in Mongolia, and sustainable sphagnum harvesting in Patagonia. These flagship projects will build local capacity and center the rights, livelihoods, and leadership of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and people who depend on peat. This initiative underpins our global peatlands strategy to demonstrate, share, and scale up lessons around the world.

A new approach to managing wildfire risk

TNC announced a first-of-its kind insurance policy that considers forest management to reduce fire risk.



From left: To clear flammable vegetation, TNC conducts prescribed burns with local and federal partners. © Jason Houston; TNC led an all-female crew at a prescribed fire in Florida. © Carlton Ward, Jr.

The announcement comes at a critical moment. As climate-change-fueled wildfires become more common and intense, the insurance market in places like California has reached a breaking point. In Southern California, for instance, thousands of residents had their insurance canceled just weeks before the devastating Los Angeles wildfires.

TNC worked with partners in the insurance industry and at UC Berkley to design the policy, which improves the availability and affordability of insurance for a community in California. Policyholders were rewarded for their efforts to reduce wildfire risk, such as prescribed burns and tree thinning to reduce flammable vegetation, with a 39% lower premium and 89% lower deductible than would have been the case without improved forest management. This groundbreaking policy shows great promise in inspiring other insurance underwriters to account for the benefit of thinning and prescribed fire.

A fisherman in a small boat, wearing a yellow shirt and a traditional conical hat, is using a large, circular, conical net to catch fish in the waters of a mangrove forest. The scene is set in a dense mangrove forest with tall, thin trees and thick foliage. The water is dark and calm, reflecting the surrounding greenery. The fisherman is standing in the boat, which is partially submerged in the water. The net is being pulled up, creating a splash of water. The background shows more trees and a bright sky with some clouds.

A global collaboration to save mangroves

Mangroves absorb and store carbon, nurture fisheries and biodiversity, and buffer communities from storms and sea-level rise. To help conserve these vital ecosystems, TNC cofounded and leads the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA).

This coordinated, multidisciplinary effort brings together more than 100 organizations working across 45 countries to conserve and restore mangroves at a scale that matters.

In July 2024, the GMA released the third annual [State of the World's Mangroves report](#), which features input from over 100 authors from multiple sectors and dozens of countries. The report has been downloaded more than 3,500 times since its release. The report includes the latest data and maps from [Global Mangrove Watch](#), case studies of mangrove projects around the world, and progress on mangrove policies. It also features new research on the main drivers of mangrove loss from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

A fisherman in Myanmar attempts to catch fish in the waters of a mangrove forest. © Teo Chin Leong/TNC Photo Contest 2023

In 2025, the GMA launched its first direct funding initiative to improve protection and management of 200,000 hectares of mangroves and train 9,000 coastal zone managers. Two projects in Ecuador and Myanmar were selected to receive \$1.5 million in grants to accelerate local conservation efforts.

Collectively, GMA members have restored or conserved about 110,000 hectares of mangroves since 2020. Member initiatives touch down in places like Liberia, where mangroves are being integrated into land-use planning, and the Philippines, where mangroves play an important role in coastal resilience. By 2030, the alliance aims to halt the loss of mangroves, restore half of recent loss, and double protection of remaining mangroves.

Media Hits

Mongabay

A new study in Science indicates that reforestation projects, which restore degraded or destroyed forests, are the most effective land-based method for carbon removal and biodiversity protection.



Nature.org

Supportive financing for nature stewards is key to keep forests standing in the Amazon.



The Guardian

New study shows regions with best potential to regrow trees and suck climate-heating CO₂ from the air.



COP29 Daily Show

TNC experts explain how negotiations at UN climate conferences actually happen.



Nature.org

To secure a sustainable and competitive future, the EU must integrate nature and communities into its clean industrial transformation.



Politico

An experimental wildfire insurance policy aims to show how communities can get affordable coverage if they manage trees and vegetation.



The New York Times

A constellation of satellites orbiting 250 miles above Earth's surface shows how solar and wind have taken off in recent years.



Top from left: A farmer and TNC partner in the Mantiqueira Mountains of Brazil © Felipe Fittipaldi; Blue and yellow macaw in full flight in the cerrado region of central Brazil © Christian Spencer/TNC Photo Contest 2022; Pau Brasil National Park in Brazil © Adriano Gambarini; Bottom from left: COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan © Unsplash/Daniel Silva; Blooms and wind turbines in South Africa © Jon Kerrin/TNC Photo Contest 2023; Towering trees in Washington © Rand Peterson; Solar panels and windmills in California © adamkaz/Getty Images

A woman in a red shirt is harvesting a cacao pod from a tree. She is using a knife to cut the pod, which is hanging from a branch. The background is a lush green forest with many trees and leaves. The woman is looking up at the pod with a focused expression.

TNC is entering a bold new chapter in our climate work—one defined by a sharper focus, bigger outcomes, and catalytic impact.

Building on years of success, we've refined our strategy to concentrate on a core set of high-impact programs that channel our lessons into ambitious, forward-looking action. Think of this as complementing our greatest hits with a curated selection of pioneering solutions. By collaborating with diverse, influential partners, Nature4Climate and Women and Allies in Climate are advancing these refreshed strategies worldwide. With continued backing from partners and supporters like you, we're turning momentum into transformation.

Looking forward



NEXT STEPS: Clean energy transition

- ▶ **Smart siting:**
Advancing renewables for people and planet
Using environmental and community information, we're supporting responsible siting of energy projects.
- ▶ **Mining the sun: From brownfields to brightfields for a clean energy future**
We're increasing clean energy development on former mine lands and brownfields by identifying opportunity sites, supporting policies and incentives, and engaging host communities.
- ▶ **Renewables for good: Strengthening community acceptance of renewable energy**
TNC is developing best practices and standards for responsible renewable energy by integrating climate, conservation, and community values into projects, procurement, and markets.
- ▶ **Powering with policy:**
Supportive policies for a livable climate
Collective action is the way forward, which is why we're building diverse coalitions to create, implement, and defend policies that accelerate adoption of clean energy technologies and reduce emissions across the economy.



NEXT STEPS: Natural climate solutions (NCS)

- ▶ **Carbonscapes:**
Safeguarding nature's climate vaults
Forests, peatlands, and other lands play a crucial role in fighting climate change by storing carbon. TNC partners with Indigenous Peoples, communities, and landowners around the world—from the Amazon to the Congo Basin to the U.S.—to conserve these critical carbon-rich ecosystems.
- ▶ **Community-led NCS:**
Building capability, delivering durability
To achieve lasting change, natural climate solutions must be locally led. We work with communities to address systemic barriers and knowledge gaps and build local capacity to manage equitable, high-impact projects.
- ▶ **Climate finance:**
Scalable finance for durable outcomes
The best financing mechanisms factor in local complexities and opportunities. TNC designs innovative and sustainable financing mechanisms, tailored to local geographies and conditions, to support NCS implementation and enduring outcomes.

Previous page: Crops like cacao can be grown in agroforestry systems to restore deforested land in the Amazon. © Maira Erlich;
This page from top: Wind turbines produce clean energy in the Appalachian mountains of West Virginia. © Kent Mason; Members of the Mihima Village Natural Resource Committee use an app to monitor forest activities in southern Tanzania. © Roshni Lodhia



NEXT STEPS: Climate adaptation

- ▶ **Locally led adaptation:
Grounded perspectives, lasting impact**
We're working with communities to assess climate risks and understand challenges and opportunities in the landscape. Together, we'll design roadmaps that improve resilience, secure food and water, and keep humans and nature healthy in the long run.
- ▶ **Resilience finance toolkits:
Innovation for desirable futures**
It's not enough to unlock funding for underserved communities and regions. We must ensure it's available in the long term. That's why we're leveraging new business models and market mechanisms to make long-term funding available, while also reducing risk through healthier and protected ecosystems.
- ▶ **Climate-smart systems:
Mainstreaming adaptation through policy and action**
We're using the potential of nature and learning from community initiatives to ensure that agriculture, freshwater, coastal resilience, and extreme heat strategies and projects—and even national climate plans—are relevant, inclusive, and built to last.



NEXT STEPS: Climate and ocean

- ▶ **Comprehensive coastal mapping:
Charting our oceans toward a sustainable future**
We can't protect what we don't know exists. TNC maps coastal ecosystems to inform conservation efforts and pinpoint restoration opportunities, securing a healthier future for people and nature.
- ▶ **Blueprints: Protecting our ocean, one policy at a time**
Informed policy relies on great data. We provide policymakers with information on conservation benefits, carbon mitigation potential, and economic incentives to help develop community-centered, climate-smart policies.
- ▶ **Coastal capital: Building bridges from donors to coasts**
Despite its importance, funding for climate-related ocean conservation has significant gaps. TNC invests donor capital in financial tools that benefit coastal ecosystems and communities, bridging the gap between need and opportunity.
- ▶ **Radical partnerships:
Conservation and restoration rooted in community**
TNC cannot tackle global problems alone. Through cross-sector partnerships rooted in best practices and community knowledge, we turn bold ideas into lasting impact.



To learn more about TNC's work in more than 80 countries and territories, and in all 50 U.S. states, visit [nature.org](https://www.nature.org).

If you are interested in supporting this urgent work, please contact Lindsay Hower, director of development for TNC's Tackle Climate Change Program, at lindsay.hower@tnc.org.

TNC is working with Montenegro to identify areas suitable for solar and wind power installations that avoid significant natural and cultural sites. © Ciril Jazbec