

Special Session on:
***The Regional Economy of
Mangroves: Ecosystem
Services, Inclusive Livelihoods,
and Climate-Resilient
Development***



Organizers

Fabian Vilema Escudero (Chair)
Conservation International Ecuador
Email: fvilema@conservation.org
Raúl Carvajal
Conservation International Ecuador
Email: rcarvajal@conservation.org
Natalia Molina
Espíritu Santo University, Ecuador
Email: natimolina@uees.edu.ec

Purpose and Scope

This special session examines mangroves as strategic natural capital for climate-resilient regional development. It focuses on the spatially explicit valuation of ecosystem services (coastal protection, fisheries support, and blue carbon) and how these benefits translate into local employment, inclusive livelihoods, and territorial competitiveness. We welcome empirical and methodological contributions on natural capital accounting, regional multipliers, cost-benefit and distributional analysis, and governance mechanisms that strengthen community management and prevent the concentration of benefits. Articles may address policy instruments, financing mechanisms, and market access strategies that align conservation outcomes with well-being, equity, and long-term sustainability in coastal regions, including participatory planning and practical subnational budgeting tools.

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT