

What climate (in)action means for coastal India?

Rising temperatures, coral bleaching, collapsing fisheries, and extreme weather are exacerbating the vulnerabilities of coastal communities, particularly small-scale fishers (SSF). SSF in India face compounded challenges, including heat stress, poor nutrition, coastal erosion, land tenure insecurity, and ecosystem degradation, which are driving many into debt and migration.

India's NDC pledges a 45% reduction in GDP emissions intensity and an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ through reforestation. However, there is no clear plan for coastal adaptation and resilience. Furthermore, the social and ecological frameworks for effective mitigation through blue carbon and climate financing remain ill-defined. These gaps undermine India's climate action strategies and threaten coastal communities' rights and future livelihoods.

Dakshin's approach to the climate crisis

Dakshin builds evidence to guide climate policy and actions, focusing on promoting climate justice and developing adaptation strategies for communities in coastal India. We engage in outreach and capacity building to raise awareness, enhance local capabilities, and implement effective climate mitigation measures. Our work also involves influencing bottom-up climate policy to drive practical solutions for the climate crisis.



We aim to achieve three critical outcomes with support:

- 1) Mainstreaming coastal and marine issues through strategic communication and public engagement.
- 2) Enhancing policy and climate justice by empowering grassroots change-makers.
- 3) Advancing blue growth and blue carbon by developing a Blue Carbon Atlas and an interdisciplinary Ocean Solutions facility.

Our approach ensures that both coastal communities and ecosystems receive the support they need to tackle climate challenges.

About Dakshin Foundation

Dakshin Foundation is an India-based non-profit dedicated to conserving and managing coastal, marine, and island ecosystems. Our mission is to advance conservation and sustainable resource management while promoting social development and environmental justice.

We leverage interdisciplinary expertise and practical fieldwork to develop scalable solutions in collaboration with local communities, government bodies, civil society organisations, and the private sector. With a long-term presence in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Odisha, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu, Dakshin runs six field programmes that support diverse coastal communities and ecosystems. Visit our website www.dakshin.org



Scan QR code to learn more

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TURNING THE TIDE

Dakshin Foundation's Climate Initiatives





Monitoring nests to understand climate impacts on hatchling sex ratios



Assessing coral reefs responses to changing environmental stressors

Climate-Wise Interventions

OCEAN SOLUTIONS

Developing nature-based strategies to combat marine degradation and enhance well-being, including blue carbon mapping, sustainable ocean enterprises, and responsible carbon pathways.



Building local access to health, sports and well-being



Mapping coastal areas to secure tenure for SSF and local communities