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Ocean Solutions

Connecting people, policy and practice

About Dakshin Foundation

Dakshin Foundation is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation established in 2008 with a mission to inform and catalyse conservation and natural resource management while promoting and supporting sustainable livelihoods, social development, and environmental justice.

India's coastal, marine, and island systems form the primary focus of Dakshin's work. The organisation carries out applied environmental research, implements on-ground interventions, and engages with policy and governance processes to address complex social and ecological challenges. Today, Dakshin works across mainland India's coastline, the Lakshadweep Islands, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Dakshin's approach combines expertise across ecological, social, economic, and political dimensions to develop context-specific solutions that are grounded in evidence and responsive to local realities. Through long-term partnerships with communities, governments, researchers, and civil society organisations, Dakshin works to support positive outcomes for both people and the ocean.

Dakshin also owns and operates the [Andaman and Nicobar Environment Team \(ANET\)](#), a multidisciplinary research station and conservation centre that supports research, education, and long-term ecological monitoring in the islands. In addition, Dakshin contributes to policy and governance processes at local, state, and national levels, bringing evidence and field-based experience into decision-making spaces.

To learn more about Dakshin's work and impact, read our [latest Annual Report](#).

Why Ocean Solutions

As one of the largest economies in the Indian Ocean region, India's approach to ocean development will influence how questions of sustainability, equity, and resource use are addressed well beyond its own coastline. Oceans are key drivers of economic growth, climate action, food security, national development and regional cooperation. Ambitious blue economy agendas, emerging blue carbon markets, expanding coastal infrastructure, and growing investments in ocean-based sectors are creating new opportunities for growth across the country's coastal and marine regions, while also raising important questions around sustainability and long-term resource use.

As blue economy ambitions accelerate, there is growing demand for evidence-based solutions, stronger collaboration across sectors, and practical models that balance ecology, livelihoods, and development.

Ocean Solutions was established by Dakshin to bridge these gaps. It brings together science, facilitation and expert-based solutions to strengthen ocean resource security, support marine-dependent livelihoods, and contribute to more sustainable and equitable blue economy pathways across the Indian Ocean.

What is Ocean Solutions

Ocean Solutions is Dakshin Foundation's solutions-oriented facility that promotes and catalyses equitable and ecologically sustainable blue growth across the Indian Ocean.

The facility is designed to accelerate structural shifts across critical themes associated with blue growth. These themes are identified through Dakshin's integrated SeaChange approach to landscape wide interventions that support healthy ecosystems and thriving communities. SeaChange uses systems thinking to identify priority problems and design scalable interventions for coastal and marine landscapes. Dakshin's programmes contribute to SeaChange to address standalone and integrated problems through research, long-term field engagement, partnerships, and collaboration with communities, governments, and other stakeholders across diverse geographies and ecosystems.

Ocean Solutions helps translate lessons, evidence, and experience from Dakshin's programmes into policy-relevant knowledge and action. It develops frameworks, tools, partnerships, and strategic engagement opportunities that help decision-makers respond to complex coastal and marine challenges. It bridges field realities and policy spaces, community perspectives and sector-level decisions, and brings together policy and practice for a healthy Indian Ocean.

Ocean Solutions also serves as a platform for collaboration. It convenes researchers, policymakers, practitioners, enterprises, communities, and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge, strengthen partnerships, and advance shared solutions. Through initiatives such as the Blue Economy Enterprise (BEE) Hive and other platforms, it seeks to build networks that can accelerate true and tested sustainable, equitable, and resilient blue economy solutions.

POLICY SCAFFOLDING

Powered by
Dakshin
programmes

OCEAN SOLUTIONS

A solutions-oriented facility for sustainable blue growth in India

Blue Economy
Enterprise (BEE) Hive

Blue
Carbon Atlas

Strategic
Communications

TOOLS & PLATFORMS

PRIORITY THEMES

Blue
enterprises &
livelihoods

Blue carbon
pathways

Marine
conservation

Sustainability &
resource security

Blue
foods

Health &
wellbeing

Ocean
governance

SITE EMBEDDED

SEA CHANGE

Dakshin's systems based intersectoral interventions for change

What Ocean Solutions does

Ocean Solutions creates pathways for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and influence across the coastal and marine sector, with a focus on key arenas and agents of sectoral change. It:

- **Builds capacity** through courses, workshops, and experiential learning opportunities that connect policy and decision-making processes with on-ground realities and strengthen understanding of coastal and marine challenges.
- **Convenes dialogues** among communities, governments, researchers, practitioners, enterprises, and civil society organisations to foster more informed and inclusive approaches to ocean governance and development.
- **Supports collaboration** across sectors and disciplines, helping stakeholders identify shared priorities and co-develop solutions to complex challenges.
- **Shapes public narratives** around the ocean through strategic communications, awareness-building initiatives, and engagement with policy and sectoral networks.
- **Translates field-based experience into broader influence** by connecting local realities with policy processes and supporting sector-level change.

Through these efforts, Ocean Solutions helps move knowledge, experience, and tested approaches from individual landscapes into wider policy and sectoral spaces.

Sustainability tools and platforms

Ocean Solutions will use a set of important decision support tools and platforms developed by Dakshin's programmes, which support evidence-based decision-making, climate action, and knowledge exchange across coastal and marine sectors. These foundational outputs from Dakshin are leveraged across Ocean Solutions' initiatives.

Blue Carbon Atlas of India

The Blue Carbon Atlas of India is a national web GIS platform for India's blue carbon ecosystems, including mangroves, seagrasses, and saltmarshes. The Atlas maps, monitors, and analyses these ecosystems at multiple scales. It combines ecological data with socio-economic indicators and provides decision-support for climate planning, coastal governance, and blue carbon finance. The Atlas supports state and non-state actors in identifying restoration opportunities, understanding community vulnerability, and making informed decisions about coastal ecosystems and climate action.

Blue Economy Enterprises (BEE) Hive

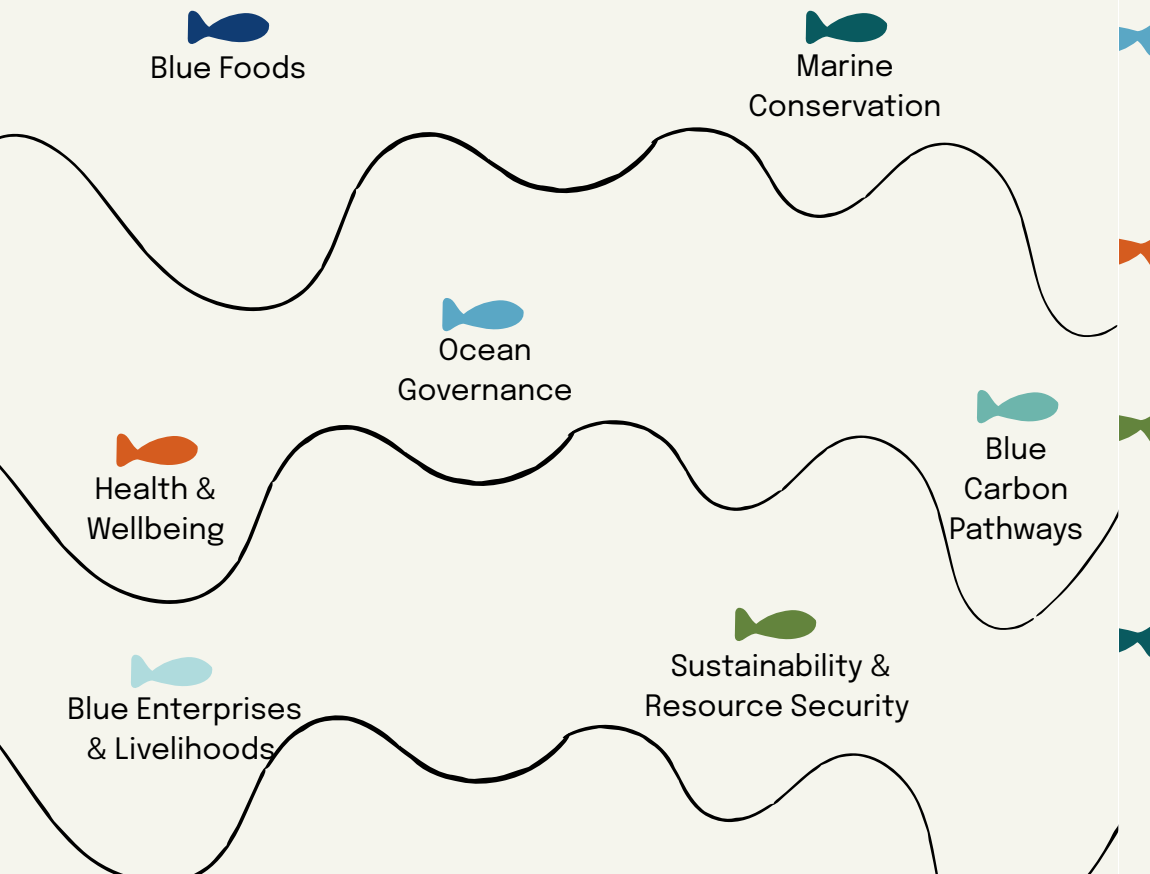
Using the Blue Carbon Atlas as its core knowledge base, the Blue Economy Enterprises (BEE) Hive is a curation and facilitation space that spotlights real-world blue economy options that meet the criteria of ecological sustainability, equity, and blue justice. At a first stage, the BEE Hive showcases practical options for community led blue economy livelihood models, skills, and tools within diverse economies and enabling ecosystem conditions for entrepreneurship.

Strategic communications for climate

Climate action depends on timely and strategic communication - what, why, and how to use information in the right direction. Ocean Solutions helps deploy accurate and inclusive climate knowledge to strengthen climate communication by supporting policy engagement and building the capacity of grassroots actors to engage with climate issues and decision-making processes.

Thematic areas

Ocean Solutions will support sector-level shifts across a range of interconnected blue economy themes. These areas reflect both emerging opportunities and pressing challenges in India's coastal and marine regions, and will evolve in response to changing policy priorities, research, and field experience.



Blue Foods

Supporting sustainable, equitable, and resilient food systems that depend on marine and coastal resources.

Blue Enterprises and Livelihoods

Advancing livelihood and enterprise models that strengthen local economies while supporting ecological sustainability and community well-being.

Blue Carbon Pathways

Supporting the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of blue carbon ecosystems through science, policy engagement, and decision-support tools.

Ocean Governance

Strengthening governance systems, policy processes, and institutional frameworks that support inclusive and effective decision-making.

Health and Wellbeing

Exploring the links between healthy ecosystems, coastal communities, livelihoods, nutrition, and human well-being.

Sustainability and Resource Security

Promoting approaches that support the long-term sustainability of marine resources and strengthen resilience to environmental and socio-economic change.

Marine Conservation

Supporting conservation strategies that balance ecological integrity with the needs and aspirations of coastal communities.

Primary institutional donors



Key thematic donors

- Accenture Solutions Private Limited
- Dasra UK
- Dasra USA
- International Sustainable Energy Foundation
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, India
- Swiss Philanthropy Foundation
- Transform Bottom Trawling Coalition

Partner with Dakshin

Dakshin Foundation seeks to work with governments, research institutions, civil society organisations, philanthropic partners, enterprises, and practitioners who share a commitment to sustainable and equitable ocean futures. To explore opportunities for collaboration, partnership, or support, write to info@dakshin.org

