

# COASTAL LIVELIHOODS AND MANGROVES PROJECT

*Protecting People and Planet*



This initiative seeks to...

VISION FOR IMPACT

- Strengthen the coastal tenure rights of up to **119.3 million** people
- Mitigate up to **1.3 billion** metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent
- Protect up to **4.9 million** hectares of mangrove forests



Mangrove forests are among the planet's most productive ecosystems, supporting livelihoods for hundreds of millions of coastal people while storing vast amounts of carbon. These nurseries of the sea are also teeming with life, their root systems sheltering 800 billion young fish, crabs, prawn, and crustaceans each year.

Since 2022, Landesa has partnered with governments, civil society and local communities to strengthen coastal land tenure rights in some of the world's most vital – and vulnerable – mangrove areas. This ambitious effort is improving outcomes for people and planet through programming that sustains livelihoods, protects mangroves, and mitigates climate change.

## Sustaining Livelihoods

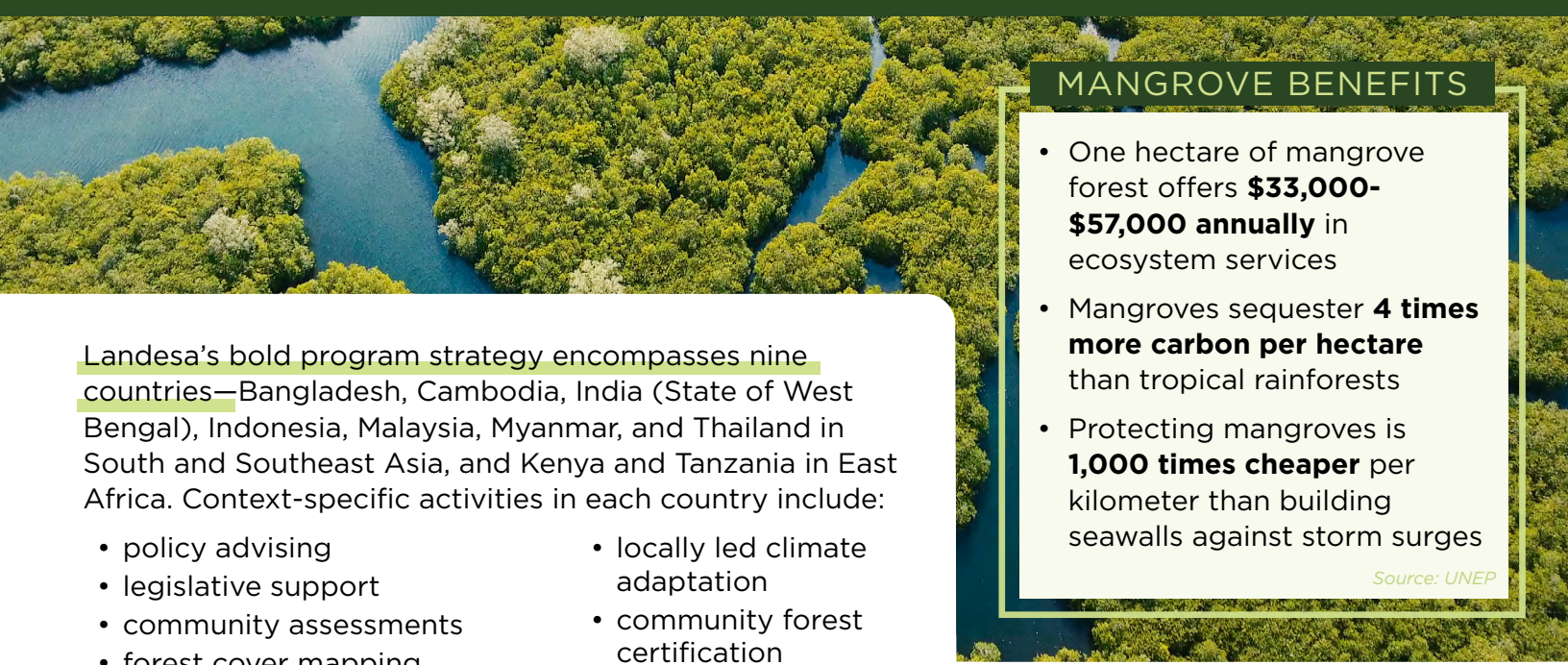
The Indigenous Peoples, women, and communities living in coastal areas depend on mangroves for fishing, food collection, and small-scale farming. Mangrove forests also serve as a critical buffer area, sheltering coastal communities from extreme weather.

But families with weak forestland rights are often displaced, and with disrupted means of income and subsistence, they encounter food insecurity. With secure land and coastal tenure rights, communities have greater incentive to invest in their coastal forests through restoring and sustainably harvesting mangroves, preserving both their future livelihoods and an indispensable coastal ecosystem.

## Advancing Climate Resilience

Threats to mangrove forests are substantial and widespread—ranging from large-scale development to expansion of plantations and shrimp farming enterprises—and pose risks to both the mangroves and forest dwellers.

A critical bulwark against climate change, mangrove forests are among the planet's most effective carbon sinks and protect communities from coastal storms and floods. A healthy mangrove buffer averts economic destruction and shields inland homes and farmlands. →



## MANGROVE BENEFITS

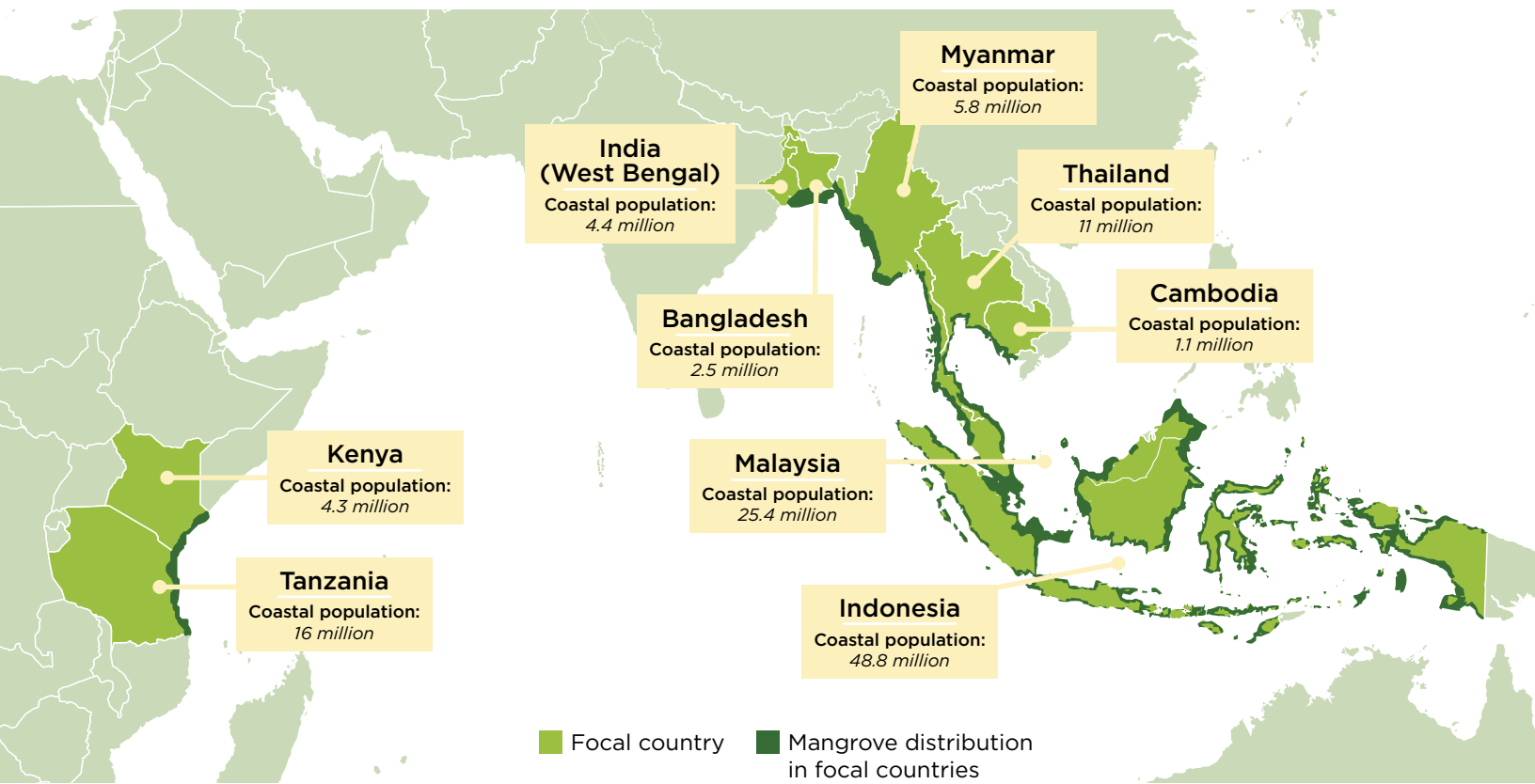
- One hectare of mangrove forest offers **\$33,000-\$57,000 annually** in ecosystem services
- Mangroves sequester **4 times more carbon per hectare** than tropical rainforests
- Protecting mangroves is **1,000 times cheaper** per kilometer than building seawalls against storm surges

Source: UNEP

Landesa's bold program strategy encompasses nine countries—Bangladesh, Cambodia, India (State of West Bengal), Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Thailand in South and Southeast Asia, and Kenya and Tanzania in East Africa. Context-specific activities in each country include:

- policy advising
- legislative support
- community assessments
- forest cover mapping
- locally led climate adaptation
- community forest certification

Landesa offers guidance around forest tenure, land use planning, and climate mitigation and adaptation to several regional policy bodies, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), while also supporting bilateral policy between countries. We're a member of the Global Mangrove Alliance and Mangrove Breakthrough, collaborative networks of NGOs, governments, scientists, funders, communities and other stakeholders that are committed to restoring and conserving mangrove ecosystems. Our commitment to learning and collaboration enables us to build capacity and share technical expertise and best practices across countries and regions.



To join us in leveraging land as a foundation for climate justice, contact [getinvolved@landesa.org](mailto:getinvolved@landesa.org).



Learn more about our climate work: [landesa.org/land-rights-for-climate-justice/](https://landesa.org/land-rights-for-climate-justice/)

