

# Costa Rica's Marine Payment for Environmental Services — Mangrove Conservation by Gulf of Nicoya Mollusk Harvesters

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Costa Rica

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

## Summary

Costa Rica's first marine PES scheme pays Gulf of Nicoya mollusk-harvester associations for verified mangrove conservation, scaling from 157 harvesters in 6 associations (2024) to 544 harvesters in 15, backed by FONAFIFO, SINAC, INCOPECA and World Bank/Earthshot funding.

## Key dimensions

| Dimension                                               | Score |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced             | 1/3   |
| Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced    | 2/3   |
| Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control | 1/3   |
| Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced             | 0/3   |
| Governance, certification & transferability             | 3/3   |

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

## Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-22

[FONAFIFO \(Fondo Nacional de Financiamiento Forestal\)](#), with SINAC, INCOPECA and FUNBAM — accessed 2026-09-22

[Delfino.cr programme overview](#) — accessed 2026-09-22

[World Bank feature](#) — accessed 2026-09-22

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