Costa Rica is home to 3.5% of the world’s reported marine species, including 85 endemic species, and has 23 marine protected areas of various management categories totaling more than 165,000 km².

**30% MARINE PROTECTION**

In 2021, Costa Rica achieved the global goal of 30% marine protection. This initiative is part of the country’s efforts to fulfill its commitment to marine biodiversity conservation as part of the **High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People**, co-chaired by Costa Rica, France, and the United Kingdom.

**THE CHALLENGE**

92% of Costa Rica’s territory is sea. To effectively manage the 30% of protected marine territory, mechanisms and financial resources are required, as well as collaboration between the public, private and civil society sectors.

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1 Cortes, J., 2009, Marine Biodiversity of CR, Springer, USA.
BLUE FUND COSTA RICA

The Blue Fund Costa Rica is a joint fundraising strategy between the Government of Costa Rica, Forever Costa Rica, Re:wild and other donors. This financial mechanism complements the country’s marine and coastal conservation efforts.

$3,500,000 USD  $10,000,000 USD  7 years
Initial fund amount  Fundraising goal  Duration

The Fund will implement projects through calls for proposals, through non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia, the private sector or consortiums, in the following strategic lines of action:

1. Management effectiveness
   Implementation of management plans, control and surveillance activities, monitoring and research, and adaptation to climate change

2. Blue economy
   Sustainable use of marine resources, responsible fishing, sustainable tourism, transformation of fishing gear and practices.

Governance Structure: Forever Costa Rica, within the framework of its public-private partnership with the Government of Costa Rica, will manage the financial resources of the Blue Fund Costa Rica, under the following structure:

Donors Council
Donors: Decide investment amounts, revise commitments and priorities.

Oversight Committee
MINAE-SINAC, INCOPESCA, Donors: Select call for proposals’ funding priorities.

Advisory Council
Government institutions, academia, NGOs: Provide recommendations and technical advice.

For more information, visit: costaricaporsiempre.org/blue-fund