

Chile Marine Strategy (2022 Update) 2022-2023

What has changed?

The world has changed in many ways since 2020. As a global community, we are continuing to confront a pandemic that has exposed and exacerbated severe health and economic inequities across our communities. The climate crisis has grown more intense than ever, with devastating impacts on communities all over the world. Significant social changes are transforming countries as well. In Chile, voters overwhelmingly approved writing a new Constitution and installed a Constitutional Convention to draft it.

Amid these challenges and changes, the Packard Foundation is exploring how the Foundation can better meet the changing needs of the world today and support greater positive impact. This internal process, called *Vision to Strategy (V2S)*, is an opportunity to think expansively about the future of the Foundation, with respect for the significant history and legacy of its work with grantees and other partners over the last five decades. As part of this long-planned ongoing process, a first step was taken to rearticulate the Foundation's vision and mission and reexamine its organizational values. These [foundational elements](#) will frame the Foundation's new strategic plan. Furthermore, across our Ocean strategies, we aim to build on findings from the Ocean Strategic Framework [evaluation](#), which underscored the importance of equity work and is catalyzing strategy teams to take action.

As the V2S Foundation-wide process continues to advance, this updated Chile Marine Strategy considers Chile's socio-political context, brings a more focused and holistic approach to the work the Foundation supports, and aligns our available funding with meaningful action toward equitable outcomes.

This **Chile Marine Strategy (2022 Update)** is designed to guide the Packard Foundation's grantmaking in Chile from 2022 through 2023. The updated strategy has been nourished by the Foundation's grantee partners feedback and recommendations. Once the Foundation completes its internal V2S process, all the Foundation's programmatic work will be aligned with the Foundation's new strategic direction. We look forward to engaging with grantees and other partners during that process.

What is the updated strategy's focus?

The Foundation's Chile Marine work will continue to be guided by the Strategy's 2030 outlook for ocean conservation in Chile, which focuses on two goals: **a)** support a network of *sustainably managed areas* that safeguard coastal biodiversity and is representative of Chile's natural heritage; and **b)** support organizations working with the country's *small-scale fisheries* so that most are on a path towards sustainability.

In line with this outlook, the Foundation will support conservation work carried out through marine protected areas (MPAs), as well as through [other effective area-based conservation measures](#), such as Marine and Coastal Areas of Indigenous Peoples (EMCPOs) and Marine Areas for the Management and Exploitation of Benthic Resources (AMERBs), which are part of Chile's legal framework to advance sustainable territorial management of coastal-marine resources. Using a more holistic approach and opportunities for better coordination and integrated work among these socio-ecological systems, the Foundation seeks to promote long-term conservation practices with equitable approaches. Specifically, the Chile Marine Strategy will support work within and between the socio-ecological systems as depicted in Figure 1.

The Foundation's kelp and rockfish fisheries work, previously supported through *Open Access Areas* socio-ecological system, will now be supported through the AMERB workstream shown in Figure 1, as this territorial access model represents a timely opportunity and reference to improve these fisheries' management. Finally, support for *Coastal Wetlands* conservation work in Chile will continue to be funded by the Foundation through its [Marine Birds Strategy](#). Updated interim and long-term outcomes for the Chile Marine Strategy can be found below in Table 1.

Figure 1. Socio-ecological systems supported through the Chile Marine Adjusted Strategy.

MPA

FOCUS: EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Financial mechanisms to ensure long-term effective implementation of existing MPAs.

Integral MPA monitoring and evaluation methods, coordinated with authorities, for the effective implementation of Chilean MPAs.

Coordinated efforts to accomplish NDC 11 committed by Chilean government.

DEI dimensions:

- Local governance
- Indigenous peoples leadership
- Gender equity
- Youth involvement

ECMPO

FOCUS: DESIGN, CREATION & EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Design novel and culturally pertinent approaches and knowledge systems for ECMPO management and assessment.

Increase indigenous nations' representation within the EMCPO system.

Catalyze the transfer of technical capacities to scale-up the participatory design and implementation of ECMPOs along the Chilean coast.

DEI dimensions:

- Local governance
- Indigenous peoples leadership
- Gender equity
- Youth involvement

AMERB

FOCUS: DESIGN, CREATION & EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Participatory design and implementation of AMERB reserves model.

Sustainable management of macroalgae and rockfish fisheries through AMERB-like tools.

Catalyze the transfer of technical capacities to scale-up the participatory design and implementation of AMERB reserves along the Chilean coast.

DEI dimensions:

- Local governance
- Gender equity
- Youth involvement

Opportunities for better coordination and synergic work among the three socio-ecological systems.

This strategy also supports:

- Capacity building for grantee partners
- Relevant content generation & communications
- Public policy analysis and recommendations



MPA: Marine Protected Area

ECMPO: Marine and Coastal Areas of Indigenous Peoples

AMERB: Marine Areas for the Exploitation of Benthic Resources

NDC: Nationally Determined Contribution

DEI: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

A. Marine Protected Areas

Intended Outcome: Financial mechanisms and management tools to ensure effective long-term implementation of Marine Protected Areas are in place.

Why it matters:

Chile is positioned as an international leader in marine biodiversity protection. In 2014, 4.1% of the country's Exclusive Economic Zone was under protection through MPAs. This number increased to 42.4% by 2018, covering an area over 146 million hectares of coastal-marine ecosystems. Despite this progress, important work remains to ensure effective implementation of these areas. First, MPA administrative and surveillance responsibilities fall under five government agencies, making comprehensive management and governance of MPAs complex. Second, as a consequence of reduced public financing, implementation of these areas is low: seven out of 28 declared areas have management plans in place, representing only 0.28% of the total area covered by Chilean MPAs. Finally, there is an underrepresentation of central and northern marine biodiversity in the MPA system, as most MPAs are located in the Patagonia region.

To ensure effective implementation of Chilean MPAs, the government has assigned urgency status to a bill that would create a Biodiversity and Protected Area Service (SBAP). The creation of SBAP is expected to increase public funding for protected areas and administration effectiveness, as the whole system will be managed by a single agency. Furthermore, in 2020, Chile committed to strengthening marine conservation as a nature-based solution to climate change in its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). As established in NDC 11, Chile committed that 100% of MPAs created before 2020 will have published management plans by 2025, and that at least 40% of these areas will be effectively implemented by 2025.

Considering the challenges faced by those working on the MPA system in Chile, the Foundation seeks to support comprehensive actions designed to enhance **effective implementation** of these areas.

What we fund:

- Legal support and/or technical assistance to advance the establishment of long-term financial mechanisms for the effective implementation of MPAs.
- Technical assistance to develop management plans, including novel and culturally pertinent management approaches, for officially established MPAs.
- Design and implementation of effective MPA monitoring and evaluation methods in strong coordination with the government agencies in charge of MPA implementation.
- Opportunities to integrate marine and terrestrial conservation strategies into MPA administration plans.
- Work to coordinate the effective implementation of the MPA system with neighboring ECMPOs and AMERBs, including synergic opportunities to strengthen local governance.
- Work to address significant threats to the effective implementation of MPAs.
- Exchanges and training opportunities for MPA managers, local management committees and local communities to share knowledge and best management practices for these areas.

- Work to coordinate and advance the accomplishment of Chile's NDC 11.

B. Marine and Coastal Areas of Indigenous Peoples

***Intended Outcome:** Marine and Coastal Areas of Indigenous Peoples are representative of Indigenous Nations in Chile, as well as effectively designed and implemented by Indigenous communities.*

Why it matters:

The Marine and Coastal Areas of Indigenous Peoples Policy (EMCPOs) was established in 2008 by the Chilean State. This policy provides a new legal framework that recognizes territorial rights of coastal Indigenous peoples in Chile, as well as the importance of their active participation in the restoration of marine ecosystems and the recovery of fish stocks in these areas. Since the policy was established, over 91 EMCPOs have been requested by Indigenous communities; 11 are already fully operating and the rest are currently at different stages of the approval process. These EMCPOs represent more than 32,000 km² of marine coastal areas spread along the Chilean coast and have been solicited by three out of nine recognized Indigenous nations in Chile.

The Foundation acknowledges the crucial role of Indigenous peoples in ensuring long-term conservation practices and will support ongoing efforts to **request, design, and effectively implement** EMCPOs within Chilean marine and coastal territories.

What we fund:

- Legal support and/or technical assistance to advance the EMCPO request process.
- Technical assistance to develop management plans, including novel and culturally pertinent management approaches, and their implementation in approved EMCPOs.
- Design and implementation of culturally pertinent knowledge systems to assess EMCPOs' capacity to enhance climate change resilience, management practices, and conservation impacts.
- Work to increase technical and co-management capacities, as well as regulatory and legal knowledge, in the communities that have started an EMCPO solicitation process or are already operating an EMCPO.
- Exchanges among EMCPO implementers and authorities to share knowledge, best practices, and opportunities to improve current legal frameworks.
- Opportunities to integrate marine and terrestrial conservation strategies into EMCPOs' administration plans.
- Efforts to articulate the effective implementation of the EMCPO system with neighboring MPAs and AMERBs, including synergic opportunities to strengthen local governance.
- Implementation of coastal Indigenous community-led adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change.
- Opportunities to catalyze sustainable activities that provide additional income sources for communities managing EMCPOs.

C. Marine Areas for the Management and Exploitation of Benthic Resources

Intended Outcome: Reserves within Marine Areas for the Management and Exploitation of Benthic Resources are effectively designed, established, and implemented by small scale fishers through participatory processes.

Why it matters:

In Chile, benthic fisheries are managed through Marine Areas for the Management and Exploitation of Benthic Resources (AMERBs), a territorial use rights for fisheries model that has operated in the country since 1997. Their purpose is to foster the sustainable management of benthic resources by providing territorial concessions to organized artisanal fishers, who then develop specific management plans and follow established extraction quotas. About 791 AMERBs have been officially declared, of which 58% are operational. These areas cover over 127,000 hectares along the Chilean coast, providing work and income to more than 93,000 fishers (a third of whom are women) through the extraction of about 6,000 tons of mollusks and crustacea and over 54,000 tons of algae.

In addition to being one of the largest examples of fisheries co-management globally, Chilean AMERBs could also become a global model to promote coastal-marine ecosystem conservation. A 'benthic bill' that recognizes and enables the establishment of reserves, also known as no-take areas (*zonas de resguardo*), within AMERBs is being reviewed by the Chilean Congress. Currently, there are five voluntary reserves established by fishers in central Chile; the first examples of this conservation mechanism in the country. If the 'benthic bill' is approved, it will foster the establishment of reserves, promoting marine conservation through a combination of fisheries management systems. Additionally, AMERBs management could also benefit from the recently approved legislation promoting gender parity in the fisheries sector. This law recognizes fisheries-related activities, historically performed by women, as relevant to the sector. The law requires expanding the Artisanal Fishing Registry to include the people who carry out these activities, making visible women's contributions to fisheries in the national statistics. The law also requires gender parity in decision making. AMERBs have the potential to become an exemplary global model for fisheries management *with* gender parity.

Finally, AMERBs hold the potential as conservation tools for sustainable fisheries management, for enhanced marine ecosystem adaptation, and for coastal community resilience to climate change by improving the management of critical species for ecosystem functioning and carbon sequestration, such as macroalgae.

What we fund:

- Legal support and/or technical assistance for the effective design and implementation of reserves established within AMERBs.
- Design and implementation of knowledge systems seeking to assess AMERB reserves' capacity to enhance climate change resilience and conservation impacts.
- Work to increase technical and co-management capacities, as well as regulatory and legal knowledge, in fishing communities and syndicates operating AMERBs.
- Exchanges among AMERB reserve implementers to share knowledge, best practices and opportunities to improve reserve management and conservation impacts.

- Opportunities to catalyze sustainable activities that provide additional income sources or increase revenue for fishing communities managing AMERB reserves.
- Work to coordinate the effective implementation of the AMERB system with neighboring MPAs and ECMPOs, including synergic opportunities to strengthen local governance.
- Implementation of coastal Indigenous community-led adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change.
- Opportunities to test AMERBs or AMERB-like tools for kelp and rockfish fisheries' effective management.

Table 1. Chile Marine Strategy interim and long-term outcomes.

Marine Protected Areas
A financial mechanism to ensure long-term effective implementation of existing MPAs are in place.
An integral MPA monitoring and evaluation methodology to assess the effective implementation of these areas is nested under the Chilean Ministry of Environment.
Grantee partners contribute to advance the implementation of NDC11.
Marine and Coastal Areas of Indigenous Peoples
Novel and culturally pertinent approaches and knowledge systems for ECMPO management and assessment are shared with Chilean authorities.
Three Indigenous Nations are part of the ECMPO system.
Technical capacities are transferred to local communities and organizations to support the establishment of new ECMPOs in Chile.
Marine Areas for the Management and Exploitation of Benthic Resources
A participatory model for the effective design and implementation of AMERB reserves is documented.
Sustainable management of macroalgae and rockfish fisheries is tested through AMERBs.
Local communities and organizations possess the technical capacity to scale up the AMERB reserves model in Chile.

Learn More

For more information about the Packard Foundation's Chile Marine Strategy (2022 Update) and grantmaking, visit us online or contact our team:

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