3D Mapping of the Caribbean Coasts: Chapter I: Mangrove Forest Height, Biomass and Productivity

Using SRTM Calibrated with Lidar (ICEsat/GLAS and airborne) and Field Data.

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Role in Carbon Cycle
Mangrove ecosystems are among the most productive on Earth, contributing 11% of global total C export to the ocean;

Loss of Biodiversity
Already 35% of mangrove forests have disappeared and 60% could be lost by 2030;
Societal Benefits
The economical value varies geographically between $200k to $900k per km$^2$ year (UN report 2006);

Mangroves act as a protection of shoreline against topical storms, hurricanes, storm surges and Tsunamis;