UN-2023 includes a specific outcome area on the protection of ecological assets. It envisions cities that protect, conserve, restore and promote the ecosystems in and around them, whether land or water. Improving waste and water infrastructure is one way to achieve this; planning for reduced urban sprawl is another. For its part, UN-Habitat seeks to catalyze connections and action in the global environmental arena, linking global actors and policies to local and national contexts. Its policy advice, technical support, knowledge production, and practice sharing are in increasing demand in rapidly growing coastal cities. As these cities seek to improve their interface with the ocean, UN-Habitat has responded through