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MFF Newsletter, July 2016

This newsletter is published by Mangroves for the Future (MFF), a unique partner-led initiative, co-chaired by IUCN and UNDP, to promote investment in coastal ecosystem conservation for sustainable development.

Feature Story

Synergetic partnerships for healthier oceans

To facilitate greater flows of expertise and to effectively close the gap in sustainable management of both fisheries and non-living sea resources, partnerships among stakeholders within and across countries, regions, international agencies and the private sector need to be forged.

[Read more in this commentary >>](#)

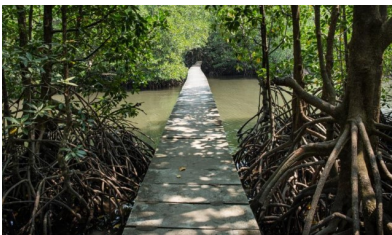


News



Thailand unveils coral bleaching response plan amidst looming climate change threats

Responding to the third global coral bleaching event, the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources and IUCN have proposed to close 32 sensitive reef areas temporarily to minimise human impact in those areas.



New farming practices to boost mangrove conservation efforts in Cambodia

MFF grantee Research and Human Resource Development is helping to reduce destructive logging practices and overfishing in the sanctuary by working with local communities to make farming livelihoods more lucrative and sustainable.



Pakistan: IUCN and Engro Elengy Terminal Limited to restore mangroves on 500 hectares of coastline

To mitigate the impacts associated with the construction of a liquefied natural gas terminal, students from Karachi University planted mangroves at a site near Port Qasim in Karachi. This activity is part of a project that aims to plant mangroves on 500 hectares of coastline.

Private Sector



IUCN and Thai Union Group to strengthen natural resource governance in Thailand

To increase the resilience of communities and the ecosystems they depend on, IUCN and a global leading seafood processor are currently developing a long-term plan for community-based coastal resources management in Pathiu Bay, Chumphon Province.



Marriott and MFF: The power of private sector partnership

MFF's partnership with Marriott Hotels & Resorts helps protect the environment and supports Thailand's local communities. In this article, Mr. Sean Panton, Co-Chairman and Director of Corporate Social Responsibility for Marriott Thailand Business Council explains why he thinks the private sector can play an integral role in contributing to coastal conservation.

People and Projects

Empowering women for community and ecosystem resilience

An NGO in Bangladesh is helping to alleviate poverty and promote conservation by providing rural women in villages near the Sundarbans Impact Zone with alternative and sustainable livelihoods, financial training and a sense of ecological stewardship.

[Read more >>](#)



Profile



Wetlands and its communities: The story of Yus - an advocate for coastal conservation

In the first of a series of stories celebrating and

External Stories



Scandinavia supports resilient coastal communities

A recent article published by Scandasia highlights the

honouring people who have been instrumental in contributing to coastal conservation, MFF spoke with Yus Rusila Noor, Programme Manager for Mangroves and Climate Change for Wetlands International on his passion for working with local communities and using a bottom-top approach for sustainable wetlands management.

MFF in Hawai'i



The MFF Secretariat will be presenting at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i in September in the following sessions:

1. Closing the gap: Enhancing data, analysis and awareness for gender equality and environmental sustainability

3 September, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Room 319 B

In this workshop, Maeve Nightingale, Capacity Development Manager and gender focal point for MFF, will be demonstrating how MFF incorporates gender into the resilience analysis process for collecting sound gender-disaggregated data in priority geographic sites. The presentation will be part of a workshop that illustrates how existing knowledge can effectively inform national gender and environment policies.

2. Scaling up Nature-Based Solutions for Adaptation and Building Resilience: Linking Practice and Policies

5 September, 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm, Room 312

In this session, Raquibul Amin, MFF Senior Operations Manager will be sharing learnings from the field on how to use nature-based solutions for adaptation and resilience-building and mainstreaming them into policies.

Announcements

25 - 28 Oct
(Tentative dates)

**13th annual
Regional Steering
Committee
meeting**

This year the Regional Steering Committee meeting will be held in Cox Bazaar, Bangladesh. The annual meeting of MFF partners and donors will assess 2016 achievements and discuss MFF's sustainability strategy.

support MFF receives from Scandinavian countries, as well as the programme's achievements to date. MFF coordinator, Steen Christensen, explains what lies ahead for the programme beyond its current funding.

Did You Know?



Coral reefs are so valuable to fishing and tourism industries, as well as in protecting shorelines from storm damage, that destroying just 1 kilometer of coral reef means a loss of between USD 137,000 to USD 1,200,000 over a 25-year period.

And yet, nearly 60% of the world's coral reefs are threatened by human activities.

Irresponsible diving is just one of the many human activities that can negatively impact coral reefs and marine and coastal environments.

Established in Thailand, the Green Fins approach is a tool that aims to lessen the impact of the diving and snorkeling tourism industry by promoting sustainable diving practices. The approach, which is now active in six countries, has become even more accessible to stakeholders in the tourism industry with the launch of the Green Fins Toolbox.

[Read more here>>](#)

Photo and Video Galleries



Two Minutes on Oceans with Jim Toomey: Green Fins for a Blue Planet



Staff training by MFF and IUCN Asia for Hua Hin Marriott Resort & Spa



Mangroves : Reducing the Risk of Disaster through Nature-Based Solutions

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