



February -March, 2010

**Welcome to the fourteenth issue of the MFF e-Newsletter!**

This e-Newsletter aims to keep MFF National Coordinating Bodies (NCBs), partner organisations and other stakeholder groups up to date on MFF activities and other marine and coastal news. We warmly welcome your contribution!

**News/Announcements**

**New comers!**



**Dr. Janaka De Silva** joined MFF as Programme Manager in February, 2010. Prior to this, Janaka was Programme Coordinator for the IUCN Thailand Programme. During his time with IUCN, Janaka was involved in implementing IUCN Thailand's post tsunami projects, the preparatory actions for MFF Thailand and subsequently provided technical backstopping for the MFF Thailand NCB. Janaka has 25 years of experience working in the academic, government and conservation arena in Asia and the US. Before joining IUCN, he was with the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Janaka holds a PhD in Oceanography and Coastal Sciences and is a Stock Assessment Biologist by Training. He can be contacted at: [janaka.desilva@iucn.org](mailto:janaka.desilva@iucn.org).

**Ms. Simone Frick** joined the MFF Secretariat as an intern for Private Sector Development on March 1, 2010. Simone is a Swiss national and has experience with multi-disciplinary programmes in emerging countries, such as Serbia, Ecuador, India, and Thailand. Before joining MFF she was working as a Programme Coordinator for Education for Sustainable Development, assisting in CSR, change management and environmental assessment projects in Thailand. Previously, she worked as a Project Manager with private sector companies at the Environmental and Health Protection Department of the municipality of Zurich. She holds a Master's degree in Environmental Science as well as a Teachers Certificate in Secondary Education for the subjects Environmental Education and Biology from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. Simone can be contacted at: [simone.frick@iucn.org](mailto:simone.frick@iucn.org).



**Mr. Oliver D. Abrenilla** joined the MFF Secretariat on March 15, 2010 as the UNEP seconded consultant to support MFF Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives. Before joining the MFF Secretariat, Oliver worked for a joint climate change adaptation Programme in the Philippines, where he was involved in strengthening the county's institutional capacity to adapt to climate change. His 10 year work experience is a mix of national and sub-national support to development planning and project management. Previously he worked for the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) working closely with communities on initiatives such as environmental management, land use and investment planning, and coastal resources management. He also served as a Senior Economic Development Specialist providing macro-level policy and planning support to the agriculture and natural resources sectors of the Philippines. Oliver has a BSc degree in Agriculture, major in

Agricultural Economics and is soon to complete his Master's degree in Business Management. He can be contacted at: [OliverAbrenilla@rrcap.unep.org](mailto:OliverAbrenilla@rrcap.unep.org).

**The MFF Sri Lanka National Strategy and Action Plan (NSAP) supports inter-sectoral mechanisms for integrated coastal zone management**

The National Strategy and Action Plan (NSAP) for an Ecosystem-based Integrated Coastal Management in Sri Lanka, prepared under the MFF programme, was presented to the Hon. Patalie Champika Ranawaka, M P, Minister of Environment & Natural Resources on 16 February, 2010 by Dr. Donald Macintosh, MFF Coordinator, Ms Padmini Batuwitige, Additional Secretary of the Ministry and the Chair of the National Steering Committee of MFF, and Dr. Ranjith Mahindapala, Country Representative, IUCN.



The NSAP, prepared with the assistance of relevant Government Agencies and other stakeholders, highlights the fact that Sri Lanka's coastal ecosystems are relatively small in size and in their micro-tidal setting resulting in low carrying capacity and resilience. The NSAP which draws on the vast in-country experiences, primarily that of the Coast Conservation Department and secondarily of the Central Environmental Authority seeks to support inter-sectoral mechanisms for integrated coastal zone management. It also complements the existing national policies. It is hoped that the NSAP will serve as a valuable reference document to support future planning on integrated ecosystem approach.

## Recent Events

### *Lets Plant Mangroves!*

About 2000 people attended the launch of Let's Plant Mangroves as a National Movement of Indonesian People to Save the Coast

The Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), H.E Fadel Muhammad, announced that the Ministry will replant mangroves in priority areas to rehabilitate degraded mangrove forests and to mitigate climate change under a national programme "Ayo Tanam Mangrove" (ATM) or Let's Plant Mangroves, in Pekalongan Regency, Central Java Province, 19 March, 2010.



Right: H.E Fadel Muhammad at the launch of ATM



Above: H.E Fadel Muhammad planting mangroves together with the participants

Indonesia has a total coastline of about 81,000 km and 9.4 million hectares of mangroves. Almost 70% of mangrove ecosystems have suffered damage from human activities for coastal development (residential, industrial and recreational purposes). Since 2003 the Ministry has planted 1.4 million mangroves, 1.15 million for coastal rehabilitation and 263,500 for climate change mitigation. But this effort could not meet the rehabilitation need of the coastal areas because the damage being done to mangrove ecosystems was far greater than the rehabilitation efforts. The ATM initiative was launched as a national programme by MMAF. The launch was attended by "Bupati" (Head of Regency) Pekalongan, Governor of Central Java, Head of Fisheries Office of Province and Regency, some of prominent persons from the House of Representative and NGOs amounting to 2000 people, including boy scouts and university students, as well as fisherman and coastal communities. The ceremony was followed by mangrove planting by all parties.

The main objective is to invite Indonesian people to replant mangroves as part of a public awareness raising campaign to save coastal ecosystems. The government has provided 10 million mangrove seedlings as part of the conservation programme but will also put strong emphasis on coastal governance and enforcement of rules and regulations. Provincial government supports the programme to restore damaged coastal areas and livelihoods by establishing local regulation regarding coastal area management, as well as providing 196 housing units to fisher communities in the area.



Right: Exhibition of mangrove food product (syrup)

### MFF supports Training of Trainers under the ATM initiative



The *Training of Trainers (ToT)* on Cultivation and Rehabilitation of Mangroves co-funded by MFF, kicked off the initiative, as well as a mangrove jamboree with thousands of boy scouts and traditional performances. 25 participants from various institutions and organizations including head of fisherman and coastal community groups and local NGO's attended the training to learn more about sustainable mangrove utilisation for food and batik material as well as mangrove conservation and management by mangrove experts. The Indonesian mangrove map by

Bakosurtanal (National Agency of Natural Resources Surveys and Mapping) was also launched. Following the event was an exhibition of mangrove products, also co-funded by MFF.



Photographs from SENSEA Retreat and Fieldtrip to Mae Tha District © MFF Secretariat

**Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia (SENSA) annual retreat 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2010, Le Méridien, Chiang Mai, Thailand,**

Tackling the Environment in Asia: Is being Regional the answer? This was the overall theme at the 7<sup>th</sup> SENSEA annual retreat held 17-19 March, 2010 which was attended by Minna Epps on behalf of the MFF Regional Secretariat. 70 representatives from Sida plus key regional and national environmental institutions and NGOs such as AIT, PEMSEA, RECOFT, IGES, ASEAN, SEI, UNEP, IUCN, IWMI, NAFRI, TEI, WorldFish Center and IISD, as well as other invited experts and the media attended the retreat. Issues such as climate change, poverty reduction and other global environmental concerns, as they pertain to Asia were debated. The aim of the meeting was to examine the merits of a regional approach, discuss the key issues and to explore the opportunities for knowledge-sharing and research in the context of the *Regional Climate Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia*. The importance of raising awareness of critical regional environmental issues through the means of communication tools like the media and the power of music was also discussed under a planned initiative “*Music and the Environment*”. The meeting was opened by the Governor of Chiang Mai Province, Mr. Amonrapun Nimanandh and by the Director of SENSEA Dr. Anders Granlund.

**LEARNING**

**Linkages between Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation**

*Asia Regional Climate Change Adaptation Platform - Knowledge Sharing and Learning Seminar, 31 March, 2010, Bangkok Thailand*

This learning event was the first of a series of bi-monthly knowledge sharing and learning seminars targeted at representatives of national, regional and international organisations based in Bangkok. The focus of the first session was the rationale for the convergence of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and the consequences and opportunities for doing so. The event brought together more than 70 experts and practitioners from UN agencies, NGOs, academia, private sector and the media. Key presenters and facilitators were **Dr. Lisa Schipper**, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and **Dr. Jerry Velasquez**, UN ISDR Thailand. These events are part of the Asia Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform initiative which is a collaboration between SEI, SIDA and UNEP and its Regional Resource Center for Asia and the Pacific. The next learning seminar will be held at the end of May 2010.

For more information please visit: [www.rrcap.unep.org/projects/ccakp.cfm](http://www.rrcap.unep.org/projects/ccakp.cfm) or e-mail: [info@rrcap.unep.org](mailto:info@rrcap.unep.org).

**Mangrove Rehabilitation Study tour Pred Nai Mangrove Conservation Group 3-6 March 2010, Thailand**



© S. Sriaram, MFF Thailand

Above: Mangrove rehabilitation – Rhizophora planted in a former shrimp pond

MFF in collaboration with the Good Governance for Social Development and the Environment Foundation (GSEI), which is a member of the MFF Thailand National Coordinating Body, brought five representatives from the Pred Nai Community in Trat Province to visit three sites along the Gulf of Thailand to learn about mangrove rehabilitation. Pred Nai is the second largest intact mangrove forest in Thailand. It is located on the east coast of Gulf of Thailand and has been rehabilitated from former shrimp ponds and charcoal concession areas. The Pred Nai community conservation group has rehabilitated 2000 rai (>300Ha) and is also responsible for the protection of a further 12,000 rai (>1800Ha) of healthy mangroves.

The conservation group travelled more than 2 000 km from Trat to Surat Thani Province in southern Thailand to learn from the MFF Large Project “[Reversing Environmental Damage through Community Focused Sustainable Livelihoods in Ban Don Bay, Surat Thani province, Southern Thailand](#)” being implemented by Wetlands International and a local award-winning conservation group, recognised for successfully turning abandoned shrimp farms into thriving mangroves with natural regeneration.



*“We really appreciate this learning opportunity as we are only a small group from a small community and to have the chance to see other places and gain more experience both in mangrove rehabilitation and energy sufficiency techniques....we are really grateful to the organizers because without this chance we will only see this on TV and not with our own eyes”.*

**Ms Ratchanok HuangNam, Pred Nai**

## MFF Monitoring Learning and Evaluation

With almost 100 projects in implementation, MFF has begun implementing its monitoring, learning and evaluation (MLE) framework. The MLE will be an essential component of MFF Phase 2 and two country visits per year are envisaged for each project. The MLE visits will monitor project progress and how these support the overall objectives of MFF both at the national and regional level. The MLE framework allows for continuous and systematic collection of information for demonstrating changes resulting from MFF interventions on the ground. The MLE also allows for capture and application of lessons learned at project and national level to be shared across the region providing opportunities for country to country learning and experience-sharing. The MLE visits will act as a learning opportunity for NCB members and Project Managers alike. Two recent MLE visits to the Maldives and the Seychelles have served as a further test for the framework and to help the Secretariat to finalise the MLE guidelines.

## Tackling the greatest environmental challenge in the Maldives



© H. Li, MFF Secretariat

Above: Garbage Island, close to MFF Project site

The MLE team comprised of Ms. Hanying Li, MFF Regional Secretariat, Mr. Adam Shareef, MFF Maldives Coordinator, Ms. Kumudeni Ekaratna, M&E expert, IUCN Sri Lanka, Ms. Fathimath Shafeeqa, Maldives NCB member, Country Manager for Live & Learn Environmental Education and Ms. Ilham Atho Mohamed, Maldives NCB member, Environment Analyst, Ministry of Housing, Transport and Environment visited three SGF Projects in the Maldives between March 21-26, 2010.



Right: MLE Team meeting with grantees

One of the main environmental challenges in the Maldives is waste management. All three MFF projects are tackling this issue but in different ways through direct measures such as establishing a proper waste disposal site on Hdh. Vaikaradhoo Island or indirectly through increased local awareness about waste management on HA Horafushi Island and through effective outreach using media such as radio to communicate environmental messages and to raise environmental awareness. The latter has proven to be very successful mainly due to the interactive nature of the project which is enabling greater civil society engagement.



© H. Li, MFF Secretariat

Left: Burning of waste causing visible air pollution at one of the MFF project sites, HA Horafushi Island, Maldives.

Right: Construction materials for the new waste management centre being built under one of the MFF SGF project on Hdh Vaikaradhoo Island, Maldives.



© H. Li, MFF Secretariat



© M. Epps, MFF Secretariat



## MFF in the Seychelles



Current MFF SGF projects in the Seychelles were visited as part of the recent MLE visit to monitor, evaluate and learn from on-the-ground implementation. The MLE visit to the Seychelles focused on sustainability, impact and learning. The four current grantees are the Marine Conservation Society of Seychelles (MCSS), the Green Island Foundation (GIF), the Wildlife Clubs of Seychelles (WCS) and the Seychelles Island Foundation (SIF), all addressing and supporting various community actions. These include restoration and management of coastal ecosystems, building local capacity, enhancing public awareness, promoting innovative community based coastal restoration and rehabilitation projects. The SGF projects and the MFF initiative as a whole are receiving considerable attention and public support through their on the ground interventions and through the national media (newspapers and radio programmes).

The MFF team comprised of Ms. Minna Epps, MFF Regional Secretariat, Ms. Lyndy Bastienne, MFF Seychelles Coordinator, Ms. Fabrina Molle, UNDP Project Assistant, Ms. Nanette Laure, MoE (NCB member) and Ms. Veronique Carola, SeaLevel Rise Foundation (NCB member). The team first visited the MCSS' project "*Conservation of turtle rookeries on the developed island of Mahé through increased awareness and public involvement*". The project has already identified a number of nesting sites and is working towards increasing nesting success through regular beach monitoring and management. For the long-term success, there is a strong local community involvement helping to take the project forward. A partnership approach whereby the private sector, communities and law enforcement work together, is essential to help diminish some of the threats to marine turtle populations.



© V. Carola  
Release of Hawksbill hatchlings saved from stray dogs



© M. Epps, MFF Secretariat  
Demonstration of educational materials produced under the MFF

SIF is producing an attractive education book and activity tool kit about the Aldabra Atoll for formal and extra-curricular education programmes under the MFF SGF project "*Development and production of two children's educational activity books, including a science toolkit about UNESCO World Heritage Site Aldabra Atoll*". This project is led by a group of teachers who said that this project has been a great learning opportunity. The WCS project "*Mangroves are a must-Establishing mangrove conservation awareness and education in the face of Climate Change, in the Seychelles Islands*" is illustrating the benefits of mangroves and wetlands bring to people, while stressing their vulnerability. Students are involved in planning the conservation activities, as well as educating their peers, community members and hotel operations adjacent to the project sites about the local environment and its importance.

The GIF project "*Capacity building in artisanal shark fishermen*" is helping the general public to better understand the role of sharks in an ecosystem, thus promoting sustainable fishing. The aim is to help artisanal shark fishermen to be better organised and to monitor their activities, record data and report results. This will help them to become more involved and better represented in national decision-making processes.

All four MFF SGF projects are all progressing well, mainly owing it to the highly committed and dedicated project managers which have the relevant skills and capacity to carry out the projects with great results. All the projects have great potential to play an important role in the future, depending on how the results and information are shared and used to plan marine and coastal management interventions. The grantees highlighted the learning experience of implementing the projects and are actively involved in networking and sharing information with other NGOs and conservation groups, as well as to look for co-financing opportunities and other means to achieve longer term sustainability. Further, the grantees should be commended for the high level of ownership of the projects by local stakeholders. MFF hopes that these projects can serve as inspirational models for policy-makers, building local capacity, enhancing public awareness, and promoting innovative community-based coastal restoration and rehabilitation influencing national policies.



© M. Epps, MFF Secretariat

St. Etoile Secondary school students proudly presenting their work carried out during the Wetlands Week.

## Private Sector Engagement

### Global Launch of the CSR Asia Center at Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)



MFF Secretariat attended the CSR Asia Launch 25 March, 2010 at the Foreign Correspondent's Club of Thailand in Bangkok. The CSR Asia Center is a joint venture between CSR Asia and AIT. Not only will it provide access to networks of governments, business, and NGOs as well as provide training, research, and consultancy, but it will also deliver a professional Master's degree in CSR. It is located at the AIT campus in Pathumthani, Thailand. It aims to advance the development and implementation of effective and innovative sustainability solutions and CSR strategies for and by business, as well as to facilitate the development of a set of framework conditions for corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainable development.

Following the signing ceremony involving the President of AIT, Professor Said Irandoust and Dr Richard Welford the Founder and Chairman of CSR Asia, speeches were given by His Excellency Dr. Tej Bunnag, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, AIT, and Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thailand as well as by His Excellency Mr. Kasit Piromya, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Thailand. Furthermore, Mr. Chaovalit Ekabut, President SCG Paper and President of the AIT Alumni Association gave his perspectives on CSR as a private sector leader.

Dr. Richard Welford presented new research findings of the state of CSR and environmental responsibility in Thailand. The interest of over 140 guests from business, government, NGOs, academic institutions, and the media attending this event is an encouraging indication that CSR is gaining momentum in Thailand. For details on upcoming events, to download the presentations from the launch event and the research paper on CSR in Thailand, as well as for more information on the CSR Asia Center at AIT, please visit the website at [www.csrcenter.ait.asia](http://www.csrcenter.ait.asia).

### "Save Our Planet 2" Asian Affairs Business Council second conference

On March 25, 2010 the Asian Affairs Business Council and the Climate Summit organised the second in a series of conferences "Save Our Planet 2" where 11 speakers from government, business and experts participated in dialogue enlighten business and government leaders on taking action on climate change. As part of the dialogue Dr. Janaka De Silva MFF, Programme Manager made a presentation on the need to integrate the cost of ecosystem services into business in coastal ecosystems.

### Costs and benefits of conserving mangroves in the Indus delta

The value of mangroves is their high biological productivity, providing nutrients and harbouring many species of finfish and crustaceans (especially in mangrove breeding and nursery grounds) which contribute extensively to the offshore fisheries yield. "There are about 100 identified species of finfish and crustaceans that breed in these waters and 25 of them have commercial value," says Tahir Qureshi, IUCN Pakistan in a recent interview. All the villagers directly or indirectly find their employment in mangroves, most of the villagers are fishermen, others are associated with boat building, net making and trading of fish. Despite this, there has been no serious commitment by the industries located in the area.



According to Tahir Qureshi, Mangroves once occupied 600,000 hectares of the coastline but today they only cover only 80-90 hectares. This is attributed to water shortages, rising pollution, poor governance and poverty. Mangroves are also nature's first line of defence against storms, hurricanes and tsunamis and prevent erosion as they stabilise fine sediments. A recent study in India has calculated the monetary value of this by assessing losses incurred in the State of Orissa through modern modelling techniques. The study concluded that the opportunity cost of each hectare mangrove forested land is USD 8,670, while the cost of regenerating one hectare is only USD 110. In the case of Orissa, an additional 10 per cent mangrove coverage would have reduced the human casualties by 12.5 per cent. Financial viability can be increased by conversion of the area into an environmental park that attracts tourists, as well as introducing an environmental toll for ships that navigate these waters. "A thorough and detailed cost and benefit analysis CBA may reveal the exact business sense in protecting the mangroves but no matter what the numbers may be, physical evidence and conventional wisdom predicts that the data will be skewed in favour of conservation of this wonderful habitat," concludes Parvaiz Amir, a leading Ecological Economist. To read the full story by **Rehan Ali**, go to: <http://www.businessday.com.pk/details.asp?id=15093>.

## Upcoming Events

### 5th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts and Islands

3-7, May, 2010, Paris, France

The theme of the fifth Conference on Oceans, Coasts and Islands is: *Ensuring Survival, Preserving Life, and Improving Governance*. For more information and to find out how you can participate, please visit: [www.globaloceans.org/content/registration](http://www.globaloceans.org/content/registration). It will also be the 50th Anniversary of UNESCO which has its headquarters in Paris. MFF will be attending the conference and will take part in Session 6, Ecosystem-based Adaptation to the impacts of climate change on Coasts, Oceans and the People Depending on them, organised by the Nature Conservancy.

## Media



Building erosion dams © M. Epps, MFF Secretariat

### Eco-Social Festival, REEARTH 25-26 February, 2010 Koh Samui, Thailand

Sida/SENSA and MFF supported the novel eco-social music festival to promote environmental awareness.

The event attracted more than 3 000 people. The ticket entry fees went towards local environmental activities such as building simple erosion dams from local materials as a priority identified by local stakeholders. Prior to the festival organisers and artists together with boy and girl scouts built erosion

dams to help reduce the flow and retain the moist in the soil. The event was welcomed by the islanders and local restaurant owners and craftsmen were able to sell their food and goods at the festival providing supplementary income. MTV Thailand was present and covered the event. Watch the [MTV BUZZ](#) video clip!



© Ulf Berglund

### Communicating Climate change workshop in the Seychelles



Workshop participants © M. Epps, MFF Secretariat

The Seychelles is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The national Climate Change Strategy affirms that it is now critical that the population of Seychelles becomes more aware and pro-active in terms of how they can both mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. Individuals working in the media and public relations (PR) need to understand the causes of climate change, how it will impact Seychelles and what can be done to mitigate or adapt to climate change in order to effectively communicate this to the general public. Sustainability for Seychelles (S4S), a local NGO invited MFF Programme Officer Minna Epps to conduct a one day workshop for journalists and public relations officers.

The aim was to engage workshop participants in discussions and activities to help them understand how and why climate change is relevant to their audiences and what is newsworthy, as well as to help participants learn strategies for communicating effectively about climate change, connecting it to their audiences lives and communities. Veronique Carola from the SeaLevel Rise Foundation helped to increase participants' awareness of climate change and its expected impacts on Seychelles. This was followed by group exercises and a field visit to look at visible climate change impacts. 25 journalists, government and NGO PR representatives actively participated in the workshop, the first of its kind. The workshop was also covered on the evening news and the MFF commissioned Earth Report Heads Above Water was also aired.



Above: Ms. Michele Martin, S4S being interviewed by Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation (SBC) after the workshop

Media coverage of MFF in Seychelles in the Nation: <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=19006>

## Thai Citizen Reporters- linking grassroots level to Thai National TV

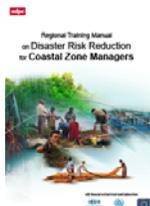
MFF and TV Thai hosted a "Citizen Reporter" training workshop for MFF grantees and partners. The workshop was held in Phuket 26 – 28 March, 2010. The training brought together 34 trainees from small projects in Phang Nga and Phuket and MFF large grantees from Suratthani, Trang and Nakorn Sri Thammarat and the MFF /SixSenses project in Pranburi. The concept of "Citizen Reporter" is to use the Thai TV channel to broadcast "news from local communities". With the newly acquired video camera techniques and editing skills, the project grantees are able to produce their own video stories reflecting the problem/message from their community directly. Ten video stories will be hosted and broadcasted online and can be viewed at: <http://citizen.thaipbs.or.th/>.



From Left to right: A girl from a fishing village in Phuket shed a tear while telling her story about fighting for their rights; A boy from a Youth Conservation Group in Phang Nga. Ms. Suwimol Sereepaowong, Project Assistant (MFF Small Grant Facility Thailand), UNDP Thailand, and a grantee from MFF large project in Nakorn Srithammarat practicing video recording technique.

## Coastal Ecosystem Rehabilitation Koh Kor Khao

The losses triggered by the Asian 2004 Tsunami have severely impacted local communities and the ecosystems on Kor Khao island in Phang-nga Province of Thailand. After immediate relief and support by international agencies, the Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) continued to work with local communities to sustain their coastal ecosystem management. They began focusing on the social dimensions and activities to rehabilitate coastal ecosystems followed. In collaboration with the BMZ project the information about rehabilitation and management of the coastal ecosystems was compiled and published in 2009. The publication contains local knowledge as well as a coastal ecosystem management plan for local agencies including every household on the island.



### New Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Training Manual!

The "Regional training manual on Disaster risk reduction for coastal zone manager" was prepared by the Asian Disaster and Preparedness Center (ADPC) / and UNEP with financial contributions from UN ISDR and the EC-AIDCO. The full report can be downloaded at: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=13190> or contact the MFF UNEP Focal Point, Ms. Serena Fortuna ([serena.fortuna@unep.org](mailto:serena.fortuna@unep.org)) for hard copies.

## Put your news in the next issue of the MFF E-Newsletter!

Do you have any news or stories that you would like to feature in the next issue of the bi-monthly MFF Newsletter? Send us your latest news and other activities to: [e-news@mangrovesforthefuture.org](mailto:e-news@mangrovesforthefuture.org).

To subscribe to this E-newsletter please sign up on-line at: [www.mangrovesforthefuture.org](http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org).

## About MFF

Mangroves for the Future (MFF), is a unique partner-led initiative to promote investment in coastal ecosystems which builds on a history of coastal management interventions before and after the 2004 tsunami, as well as extensive consultations with over 200 individuals and 160 institutions involved in coastal zone management. It focuses on the following countries; India, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam, as well as dialogue countries in the region that face similar issues. MFF uses mangroves as a flagship ecosystem but is inclusive of all coastal ecosystems. MFF provides a collaborative platform among the many different agencies, sectors and countries who are addressing challenges to coastal ecosystem and livelihood issues. Through generating knowledge, empowering institutions and individuals to promote good governance in coastal ecosystem management. MFF seeks to achieve demonstrable results in influencing regional cooperation, national programme support, private sector engagement and community action.

Produced by the MFF Regional Secretariat with the financial support of Norad and Sida.

