



Mangroves for the Future (MFF) E-Newsletter Issue No: 15

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Welcome to the fifteenth 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



Dr. Naomi Doak joined IUCN's Asia Regional Protected Areas Programme as Programme Officer in May 2010. As part of her role she will be working on the Thailand Mangroves for the Future large project entitled *Evaluating and Improving Management Effectiveness of Thailand's Marine and Coastal Protected Areas*. Naomi is an Australian national and has more than fifteen years of experience in conservation, ecology and protected areas. She has spent the last four years working in the Conservation NGO arena in the Seychelles including 18 months on Aldabra Atoll, the worlds largest raised coral atoll and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Naomi holds a BSc in Zoology and Marine Biology from James Cook University and a PhD from Griffith University, Australia. She can be contacted at: naomi.doak@iucn.org.

Mr. Nick Osborne, is the Asia Regional Director for Care and the new MFF Regional Steering Committee Care Representative. Nick has almost twenty years of international development experience providing technical, management and strategic leadership in contextual analysis, program assessment, design, implementation, evaluation, policy and strategic influence and planning. His technical expertise and experience covers a wide range of sectors that include: food security, agriculture and natural resources, water and sanitation, health, education, social protection, micro-finance, conflict and complex emergencies. He is experienced in development processes, leading organisational evolution and transition, gender equity, advocacy and rights based programming that address context specific underlying causes of poverty. Prior to his current position, Nick was the Care Country Director for Sri Lanka. He can be contacted at: nosborne@care.org.



Thailand NCB appoints new Chair

Adisak Thongkaimook, Director General of Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (*right*) has been appointed as the new Chair for the MFF Thailand NCB.



The **MFF Seychelles NCB Chair Mr. Denis Matatiken** (*left*), has been appointed by the President of Seychelles as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA) covering both marine and terrestrial protected areas in the Seychelles. However, Denis will remain the NCB Chair for MFF Seychelles.



Recent Events



Fifth Global Oceans, Coasts and Islands 3-7 May, UNESCO HQ, Paris, France

The fifth Conference on Oceans, Coasts and Islands themed; *Ensuring Survival, Preserving Life, and Improving Governance*, brought together over 850 participants from 80 countries (63% were from developing and small island developing States), including leaders from governments, UN and other international agencies, NGOs, industry, donors, and science groups and other networks. A two-day Policy, Science and Technical Symposium was followed by special roundtables with high-level national officials, ocean parliamentarians, and regional, provincial and local authorities.



His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco
© MFF Secretariat

Charting the Way Ahead

A highlight of this Global Oceans Conference was a Special Address by His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco. Prince Albert pointed that *“we must learn to adapt and be innovative in order to preserve the world’s oceans. There can be no one solution, so various initiatives, such as the Monaco Blue Initiative, should be developed and their benefits multiplied”*. He also noted that the recent oil spill has drawn attention to the visible threats to the oceans, but other problems such as acidification go on almost unnoticed. He concluded by reminding the audience that we must develop a collective will to act – oceans have fascinated man but they remain neglected.

MFF at the Global Oceans, Coasts and Islands

MFF Coordinator, Don Macintosh, gave a presentation in the session organised by the Nature Conservancy on “Ecosystem-based Adaptation to the Impacts of Climate Change on Coasts, Oceans and the People who Depend on Them”. This session was attended by 50 people, making it one of the most popular of the many parallel sessions during the conference.

MFF was also invited to participate in the Special Roundtable for Regional, Provincial, and Local Authorities. This was chaired by Prof. Raphael Lotilla, Executive Director of PEMSEA and by Dr. Nguyen Van Thanh, Mayor of Haiphong City, Vietnam, and later by Dr. Nguyen Chu Hoi, Vietnam Administration for Seas and Islands (VASI) and co-chair of NCB Vietnam. This was another well attended session with about 30 participants. It included presentations by MFF and a number of other regional programmes/ organisations, including ASLME (Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem), PEMSEA, WIOMSA, UNEP Regional Seas Programme and GCRMN (Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network).

For a report on the conference visit:

www.iisd.ca/yimb/oceans/goc5/html/yimbvol68num5e.html



Dr. Chu Hoi and Prof. Lotilla © MFF Secretariat

LEARNING



Second Learning and Sharing Seminar of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform, Asia Pacific

Coastal Ecosystems' Role in Climate Change Adaptation, 3 June 2010, Bangkok, Thailand

MFF together with WWF Thailand co-organised the second bi-monthly knowledge sharing & learning seminar on *Coastal Ecosystems' Role in Climate Change Adaptation* which gathered over 80 policy and decision-makers, practitioners, coastal managers from regional and national organizations. The highlights of the learning event were plenary presentations on projected climate change impacts in the coastal ecosystem from both scientific consensus and traditional local knowledge perspectives (by Dr. Don Macintosh, MFF), case studies on evaluating response options to sea level rise and salt water intrusion in Krabi Province (by Dr. Anond, START) and community driven ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) in Khok Kham, Thailand to address increased climatic variability (by Dr. Geoff Blate, WWF Thailand). Mr. Voraphol Dounglomjan of the Khok Kham community also shared his personal testimony in the building of bamboo walls as a means to trap sediments to pave way for mangrove restoration. The workshop sessions identified an array of gaps as well as opportunities to localise policy and planning in support of local adaptation, community-based practices to mainstream climate change and participatory monitoring and evaluation approaches, as well as research and knowledge needs on standardising climate change tools and communicating research results effectively. These learning events are part of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia initiative which is a collaboration between **AIT**, **SEI**, **SENSA/Sida** and **UNEP** and its Regional Resource Center for Asia and the Pacific. The next learning seminar will be held in August, 2010. For more information about the platform and how to get involved, contact: info@rrcap.unep.org.

Reef to Ridge Global Initiative Meeting, Costa Rica, 19-21 May, 2010

MFF Programme Manager Janaka de Silva participated in an "Expert Meeting on the Development of an Initial Framework for an IUCN Reef to Ridge Global Initiative" in Costa Rica. Coordinated by IUCN's Water and Nature Initiative, the meeting brought together 15 experts from across the globe to develop a framework for the initiative. MFF contributed knowledge from the Asia region towards the development of the strategy. The outcome of the meeting was the finalization of the contents of a reef to ridge white paper, the development of a definition of a reef to ridge approach under the initiative, agreeing on a common vision for the initiative, its goals and objectives.



While in Costa Rica, MFF made a presentation on the MFF and its operational modalities to IUCN's Regional Office for Mesoamerica, who are interested in learning on how the MFF model can be adapted to IUCN's Caribbean Initiative. Additionally, MFF participated in the Pacific 2020 Challenge update.



Photos by: GEC/S.Y. Chin; GEC/H. Izwan

Mangroves based Sustainable Livelihood training Workshop, Kuala Gula, Perak, Malaysia., 3-7 May 2010

This sustainable livelihood workshop was co-organized by the CIMB Foundation, Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (JPSM), Global Environment Centre (GEC) and Mangrove Action Project (MAP)-Indonesia. This workshop was attended primarily by local community fisherfolk, together with representatives of government agencies involved in the management of the Kuala Gula Wildlife Sanctuary and other community-based mangroves conservation related organizations in Malaysia. All participants were engaged in hands-on learning about sustainable livelihood activities, through a series of practical and outdoor classroom lessons. It was a fruitful workshop where participants learned how to process the mangrove-based products from *Avicennia spp.*, *Sonneratia spp.*, *Acanthus spp.* and *Acrostichum spp.* If you would like to know more, please visit www.friendsofmangrove.org.my or www.gec.org.my.



MLE@Suratthani April10

MFF Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation (MLE) team visits Thailand's first Large Project

The MFF MLE team visited the MFF large project "Reversing environmental damage through community focused sustainable livelihoods" in Ban Don Bay, Surat Thani Province, Southern Thailand, managed by Wetland International Thailand Programme.

The team met with local stakeholders and the project team which included members of the Ban Don Bay Conservation Network (BDCN), and the Department of Marine Coastal Resource Regional Research Office.

The MLE team noted the strong commitment from BDCN and endorsement from local Government to support the project. During the consultations, the MFF team was requested by the DMCR to consider providing training to help understand the potential impacts of the climate change on coastal livelihoods, previously not considered/ incorporated in the project design. The MLE team suggested that the use of the Community-based Risk Screening Tool-Adaptation and Livelihoods (CRiSTAL) would be a good model that could be tested and should be explored by Wetland International as part of its training activities.



Right: Three year old mangrove (naturally generated)



This abandon shrimp pond will be the pilot site for Rehabilitation.

Of specific interest was one of the sites chosen to demonstrate the rehabilitation of abandoned shrimp ponds owned by Mr. Winai Chanson, a member of BDCN. The site has the potential to become an important learning site that would enable the proponents to document and compare ponds that have been naturally rehabilitated over a course of 5 years with those proposed under the project both locally and for the MFF region.



Mr. Winai chanson (right), the pond owner happy and excited that MFF choose his pond.

Private Sector Engagement

Developing a Regional plan for Engaging the Private Sector Workshop, 25-26 May, 2010

The IUCN Asia Business and Biodiversity programme recently held a workshop at the Amari Atrium Hotel in Bangkok supported by MFF for four of the MFF focal countries namely India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Given the growing interest of the private sector to engage with MFF, a private sector strategy and guidelines for private sector engagement of MFF is being developed. The aim of the workshop was to develop an Operational Plan for engaging the private sector in a more structured way. The workshop was very well received, especially the application of a range of tools. The workshop participants are now working together to use the data gathered to lead to the development of practical and focused operational plans for private sector engagement in these selected countries as pilots to be replicated in other MFF countries. MFF Secretariat staff and National Coordinators participated in this workshop. The workshop was led by Paul Myers, an external consultant with numerous years of experience in the private sector.

Upcoming Events

Understanding how to move forward with mangrove carbon sequestration projects: a project development perspective, Katoomba XVII Workshop: Viet Nam, 25-27 June, 2010.

There is increasing interest in market-based conservation strategies, such as payments for ecosystem services (PES). But PES projects are typically small-scale pilot projects and information, capacity and institutional support for on-the-ground implementation are often lacking. The Katoomba Group is an international network of individuals working to promote, and improve capacity related to markets and PES. The Katoomba group seeks to address this knowledge gap by producing a series of case studies on PES in South-East Asia. These will serve as key inputs for the Katoomba Workshop 25-27 June, 2010 in Hanoi Viet Nam which will cover the themes of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD), marine ecosystem services, and the cross-cutting theme of PES benefits sharing . This meeting will bring together key government agencies, UN and other international experts in the field of mangrove rehabilitation, PES and carbon marketing.



Mangroves, Viet Nam © D. Macintosh, MFF

The Katoomba meeting will be co-hosted by MARD and MONRE and co-organised by MFF. A field trip to Xuan Thuy National Park, Vietnam's first Ramsar site in the Giao Thuy District, Nam Dinh Province is also being co-organised by MFF and the IUCN Viet Nam Office. The Katoomba meeting will assist Viet Nam and other neighbouring countries to assess the potential to include mangrove forests under PES, especially for carbon marketing using REDD and other mechanisms. To view the agenda, please visit: <http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org/Assets/documents/Katoomba-Workshop-Agenda.pdf>

Investment Forum for Food Security in Asia and the Pacific, Manila, Philippines, 7-9 July, 2010.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) are co-organizing an Investment Forum for Food Security in Asia and the Pacific to be held from 7 to 9 July 2010 at the ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines. The Forum will showcase Asia and the Pacific as an attractive region for increased public and private sector investments on food security related initiatives. MFF will present a paper on Ecosystem Approaches to Coastal Resource Management in Session 3: Investing in Innovative Approaches and Good Practices in Natural Resource Management For more information, please visit:

<http://www.adb.org/investmentforum>

Download: [Brochure](#) + [provisional agenda](#)



White shrimps, Indonesia © D. Macintosh, MFF



Joint BOBLME and MFF Regional Training Course on *Effective Communications to support Integrated Coastal Management*, 28-30 July, 2010, Bandos Resort, Maldives

The Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project and the MFF initiatives recognize communications as an integral part of efficient programme delivery and partnership development and is therefore organising a three-day communication skills and media training to be held 28-30 July, 2010 in the Maldives. This introductory training course is designed exclusively for BOBLME and MFF focal country mid-career marine and coastal professionals seeking to improve their delivery of scientific and technical information/advice and to be better equipped with the skills needed to communicate their work on a non-technical level, clearly and confidently to a wide range of audiences.

Media



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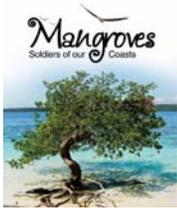
Media personnel visit coastal zone management activities in Puttalam lagoon, 7 May, 2010

IUCN Sri Lanka Office has been implementing several coastal zone management related projects in and around the Puttalam lagoon under the MFF SGF Programme. The activities include biodiversity and socio-economic assessments as a prelude to formulating a lagoon management plan, ecosystem restoration including mangrove replanting, provision of alternative livelihoods for fisher families, awareness raising, and introducing measures to reduce pressures on the lagoon, as well as building capacity of state institutions mandated for managing the lagoon resources.

In order to facilitate the media to get first hand information on some of the outputs of these initiatives, an excursion to the Puttalam lagoon area was arranged on 7 May 2010. Seven print and electronic media agencies including the national TV channel participated. The participants were briefed on the importance of mangroves at the Mangrove Information Centre of the Small Fishers Federation at Pambala where they also had the opportunity to see some rare mangrove species such as *Lumnitzera littorea* and *Scyphiphora hydrophyllacea*.

A documentary on Climate change impacts on ecosystems and people in the Seychelles: What are the options for adaptation?

TV Channel France 5 is making a documentary about climate change in the Seychelles, investigating impacts of climate change on coastal populations and the ecosystems that they depend on and how human-beings are fighting it, using mangroves as an entry point. Ms. Lyndy Bastienne, MFF Seychelles Coordinator is coordinating the film team's visit to MFF project sites and grantees (Seychelles Island Fund, Sustainability for Seychelles and Wildlife Club of Seychelles) in late June 2010.



New Schoolbook on Mangroves!

MFF India together with TREI has produced a book about the important role of mangroves and their direct and associated goods and services in English for school children aged 11-16 year under the MFF Small Grant Facility programme. The book will primarily be tested in schools in major cities like Chennai, Calcutta, Vizag and Gandhi Nagar. MFF India Coordinator Dr. Iswar is discussing translating the book into local languages to increase the reach, as well as using the government supported Green Corps programme, a network of selected teachers to introduce the book into the school curriculum.

Vacancy Announcements

MFF Regional Knowledge Management Officer, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok, Thailand

MFF is looking for a dynamic person with at least 7 years of relevant professional experience in project management, networking, communications and knowledge management, as well as a good understanding of Asia Regional issues and challenges facing coastal and marine areas to develop and maintain an MFF Knowledge Platform to build, share and apply project results, lessons learned and best practices, to support capacity development and technical assistance needs at regional and national levels. Working experience with NGOs, International Organisations and/or the UN system in the Asia Region is desirable. **Closing date for applications** is June 30th 2010. **Contract duration:** two years, with the possibility of extension. For more information about the position and how to apply, please visit:

<http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org/Assets/documents/VA%20MFF%20Knowledge%20Mgt.pdf>

Aquaculture Coordinator, Velondriake, SW Madagascar

Blue Ventures, an [award-winning](#) marine conservation NGO dedicated to conservation, education and sustainable development in tropical coastal communities is currently looking for an Aquaculture Coordinator to help develop aquaculture-based alternative livelihoods in the Velondriake Marine Protected Area. The Aquaculture Coordinator will manage the current sea cucumber and seaweed farming projects, as well as to lead Aquaculture activities, and proactively work to expand both grant funded and commercial opportunities in this area. **Closing date for applications:** June 30th 2010, **Position start date:** Beginning August 2010 **Contract duration:** Minimum 18 months. For more information about the position and how to apply, please visit:

<http://blueventures.org/home/careers/34-careers-overseas/684-aquaculture-coordinator-madagascar.html>

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.

To subscribe to this E-newsletter please sign up on-line at: 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 several outreach 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.

