

## MFF and Intellectual Property Rights

### Background

Based on a decision of RSC-2 (December 2007), the MFF Secretariat has produced the following summary guidelines on intellectual property rights relating to the publication of information produced as a result of work contracted by the MFF, or information obtained from the MFF.

These guidelines will apply particularly to the publication of results from contracted studies under the MFF Programmes of Work (PoWs); other reports and reviews contracted by MFF; and results/reports on MFF project activities.

### MFF contracted work

- MFF contracts are prepared using an IUCN template, which is a legal document signed by IUCN on behalf of MFF.
- The IUCN contract allows consultants and other contractees to publish information based on the contracted work, provided prior permission is obtained from IUCN.
- Potential authors can request permission to publish through the MFF Secretariat, which will liaise with IUCN regarding a decision. The Secretariat retains the right to inspect the draft document before agreeing to request permission to publish it from IUCN.
- Authorship will be based on the co-authors' relative contribution to the work being reported on. This will include MFF Secretariat, IUCN and other MFF partners who may have assisted with the planning and implementation of the work, and/or preparation of document.

### Scientific Papers

- Scientific Papers must include an Acknowledgements Section, based on the style of the Scientific Journal selected for publication. The acknowledgements should include the following statement: "This study was undertaken with financial support from the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) Initiative and its partners" Other assistance received from MFF partners (countries, organizations or individuals) should also be acknowledged.

### Published Reports

- Published Reports based on MFF supported work must include the above Acknowledgement, plus the following Statement of Indemnity: “The designation of geographical entities in this report, and the presentation of the material, do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), or the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) Initiative concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN or the MFF Initiative, nor does citing of trade names or commercial processes constitute endorsement.”

#### **Information obtained from the MFF**

- In cases where authors have used information obtained from published MFF documents, the source document should be cited in the text and the full reference should be given in the Bibliography, or Reference List, at the end of the document.
- In cases where authors have requested unpublished information from the MFF, it should be acknowledged in the text as “Source: Mangroves for the Future (MFF) Initiative, unpublished.” Additionally, more extensive use of unpublished information should also be recognized in the document’s Acknowledgements Section.

#### **Translated Publications**

- Translated publications must cite the original document, with clarification of whether it is a completely translated document, or just a summary (partial), or modified (edited) version.