

## Mangroves for the Future (MFF)

Small Grants Facility Projects



### Call for Project Concept Notes

1 November 2014

MFF is a partnership-led regional initiative chaired by IUCN and UNDP to promote investment in coastal ecosystem conservation for sustainable development. MFF focuses on the role of healthy, well-managed coastal ecosystems as a contribution to building human resilience in ecosystem dependent coastal communities in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. The initiative uses mangroves as a flagship ecosystem, but MFF is inclusive of all coastal ecosystems, including coral reefs, estuaries, lagoons, sandy beaches, sea grasses and wetlands. The National Coordinating Body of India chaired by the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests provides overall guidance and technical oversight to MFF in India.

India's coastline extends almost 7,500 km along the main land and the offshore islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep, covering an area of nearly 42,763 km<sup>2</sup>. Coastal ecosystems in India harbour rich and diverse flora and fauna, which provide invaluable services to the thousands of communities. In recognition of the rapid rates of population growth and development, the dependence of local communities on marine and coastal ecosystems, the degradation of these ecosystems, and the wealth of available scientific knowledge and good practices in coastal ecosystem management to feed into policy, MFF India works towards the overall objective of increasing coastal resilience. Led by the National Coordination Body (Chaired by the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change - MoEFCC), the focus of projects are on enhancing coastal livelihood security and sustainability, building upon coastal and marine biodiversity research, and developing communication and knowledge of marine and coastal ecosystems.

SGF is the primary mechanism through which MFF disburses funds for small-scale pilot interventions. SGF is an important approach for supporting local action in the form of community-based project activities. Apart from providing environmental and livelihood benefits locally, SGF projects also offer practicable models to inspire policy-making and give voice to local disadvantaged communities. Thus, SGF projects contribute concrete measures to ensure participation, gender equity and secure livelihoods for marginalized groups, at least at a demonstration scale. In this way, SG projects help in linking the household and community level to the dynamics of policy and decision-making in coastal area planning and investments. SGF also promotes research-based projects to provide a scientific foundation for informed coastal planning, policy and management

**Eligible applicants, grant amount, and project duration:** MFF India invites NGOs, CBOs, academic and research institutes, small-scale businesses, management boards and enterprises to submit project concept notes for its Small Grant Facility. The maximum grant amount is INR 1,200,000 and project duration is 12 months.

**Geographic Focus:** Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh

**Thematic Focus:** The SGF project concept notes should focus on the following priority thematic areas:

- i. Identify services offered by coastal and marine ecosystems (mangroves, seagrass beds and coral reefs), and assess the dependence of stakeholders, especially women and marginalized coastal

communities on these services. Concepts can also address issues that may emerge when such services are denied or eliminated by regulatory or developmental activities.

- ii. Climate change (adaption) and its implications on coastal livelihoods, including but not limited to research on changing habitat ranges of economically important fishes and marine resources.
- iii. Concept notes should also be linked to National Aichi targets 6, 7, 9, and 10

**Information on guidelines and templates:** General guidelines for MFF Grant Facilities can be found at <<http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org/resources/documents?documentId=18919>>, and India specific information at <<http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org/assets/Repository/Documents/Supplement-for-Call-for-Concept-Notes-SGF-Cycle-IV-MFF-India-Final.pdf>>. Applicants should submit a **Concept Note** using the template at <<http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org/resources/documents?documentId=18989>>.

**Submissions:** Project Concept Notes must be submitted by email and/or post to the following

Ms. Nisha D'Souza  
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T: +91 11 2652 7742; 4605 2583 Ext. 202  
E: [nisha.d'souza@iucn.org](mailto:nisha.d'souza@iucn.org) (please note the apostrophe in the name)

More information and hardcopies of guidelines and templates can be obtained from the MFF India Small Grants Officer.

**The deadline of submission is 17:00, Thursday, 27 November 2014**

