

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPETITION ON

“VIETNAMESE STUDENTS ACTION FOR A HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS AND SECURE FUTURE FOR VIETNAM’S COASTAL AREAS”

To commemorate the Vietnam Seas and Islands Week with the theme “Acting together for seas and islands of the homeland” launched by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment from 1 - 8 June 2013 and the World Oceans Day on 8 June 2013, Mangroves for the Future (MFF) in Vietnam announces the competition for “Vietnamese students action for a healthy, prosperous and secure future for Vietnam’s coastal areas”.

The functions and services of coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves, coral reefs, estuaries, lagoons, wetlands, sea grasses, etc., are dramatically declining due to high pressures of economic activities. In addition, problems such as pollution, biodiversity and fishery resources decline, salinity, natural disasters, etc., are becoming more emerging.

MFF is a partnership-based initiative aimed at enhancing the investment on coastal ecosystems to support sustainable development launched by Bill Clinton after the tsunami in Indian Ocean in 2004. MFF is now operating in 9 member countries in Asia, including Vietnam. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is the coordinating body of MFF in Vietnam. MFF calls for investment on coastal ecosystems through practical actions and measures from all sectors and levels in conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems as natural infrastructure for sustainable development of coastal areas.

Competition content: In recognition of their role as future owners of a coastal nation, Vietnamese students are welcome to join MFF Vietnam in **proposing solutions for conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems as contributing actions for a healthy, prosperous and secure future for Vietnam’s coastal areas.**

Objective: Students’ awareness, knowledge and creativity in coastal ecosystems conservation and restoration practices are promoted, through which their roles and responsibilities in protection of the country’s coastal resources are enhanced.

Eligible participants: Undergraduate students from universities and colleges all over the country.

Instructions on entry submission:

- Entry length: 3 pages (A4 size paper).
- Font: Arial 11; top, bottom, left margins at 1” and right margin at 0.7”
- Entry can be submitted in electronic files (converted in PDF format) or hardcopy with full details of name, university and class to:

Ms. Nguyen Thuy Anh
 Communication Officer
 IUCN Vietnam Office
 Floor 1, 2A Building, Van Phuc Diplomatic Compound



298 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi, Viet Nam
Email: thuyanh.nguyen@iucn.org;

- Entries that do not comply with these instructions will be considered ineligible

Timing:

- Launch the competition from 8 June 2013
- Deadline for entry submission: 17:00, Friday 16 August 2013

Awards:

- First prize: **a laptop**
- Second prize: award equivalent value at VND 4,000,000 (four million Vietnam dong)
- Third prize: award equivalent value at VND 3,000,000 (three million Vietnam dong)
- Team prize: award equivalent value at VND 5,000,000 (five million Vietnam dong)
- Consolation prizes (5 prizes): awards equivalent value at 5,000,000 VND in total (five million Vietnam dong)

The first, second, and third prize winners will be presented with their awards at an MFF/IUCN event in October 2013. MFF/IUCN will also support efforts by the winners to implement their ideas.

More information:

Further details about this competition are available at www.mangrovesforthefuture.org and www.iucn.org/vietnam.

