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## MFF Newsletter, October 2015

*This newsletter is published by Mangroves for the Future (MFF), a unique partner-led initiative to promote investment in coastal ecosystem conservation for sustainable development.*

## Feature story

### Revitalizing Demak's coasts through community action and local government support

A project in Demak Regency in Indonesia has harnessed the enthusiasm of community groups and the local government in nurturing mangroves in the coastal village of Wedung, showing how small grant projects can have broad and lasting impacts.

[Read more >>](#)



[View more snapshots from Demak >>](#)

## News



### Focus on gender equality

Men and women both play fundamental roles for successful conservation and sustainable development initiatives. MFF ensures that gender equality is a major consideration in programme planning.



### Spotlight on Sri Lanka

Since its inception in 2006, MFF has been active in Sri Lanka by supporting enhanced community participation in coastal area management, such as through the following projects in Jaffna and Delft.

- Revisiting Thondamanaru Lagoon to enhance

- Reducing the 'invisible workload' with access to safe drinking water in Bangladesh >>
- Addressing women's 'double burden' in Pakistan with alternative fuel sources >>
- Training gives women livelihood options in Karachi's seaside town of Kakapir >>
- its sustainability >>
- International Migratory Bird Day inspires Jaffna youth in ecosystem conservation >>
- New way of drying fish attracts health-conscious market in Delft Island >>

## Perspectives



### Building resilience must be a priority in Asia >>

The 6th IUCN Regional Conservation Forum, which brought together the Union's more than 250 Members in Asia, concluded last August 12. MFF was featured in two side events.



### Conserving Indonesia's mangroves could mitigate climate change >>

Conserving the effective carbon sinks of mangroves could reduce 10-31% of annual land-use emissions in Indonesia, scientists say.

## People and projects



### Journey from waste to art

Mariyam Leen, an 8th grade student from Maldives, demonstrates how community awareness can be achieved through creativity and passion for the environment.

[Read the story >>](#)    [Watch the video >>](#)

## Events

**Leaders for Nature India Master Class on coastal and marine biodiversity >>**

## Q & A

### How is gender equality integrated into Mangroves for the Future projects?

As part of its resilience approach to coastal management, MFF strongly focuses on gender responsive project planning. All members of the MFF implementation team are expected to be knowledgeable and skilled in the gender integrated planning process in order to be able to facilitate that process with national partners on the ground. This knowledge will ensure that project monitoring and reporting connect to gender responsive planning and programme implementation.

The **MFF Strategic Framework and Action Plan for Gender Integration** sets out the principles and approaches for gender integration in the Mangroves for the Future programme.

[Read more >>](#)

## Did you know?

**Mangroves are among the best carbon stores >>**

This infographic from the Center for International

Leaders for Nature India, a network of sustainability-minded business in Asia, collaborated with MFF to conduct a master class highlighting coastal issues in India.

The aim of the master class was to work towards a government-business-community alliance for on-the-ground action for conservation of the marine environment in the country's east coast.

Forestry Research shows how saving mangroves in countries such as Indonesia will make a big difference to climate change.

**More than one in six mangrove species worldwide are in danger of extinction** due to coastal development and other factors and it is estimated that in India and Southeast Asia around 80% of all mangrove area has been lost over the past 60 years >>

## Videos



### Our work in Indonesia

MFF activities in Indonesia support local communities to restore and manage coastal ecosystems with a focus on building awareness on the economic value of coastal resources >>



### Small grants, unexpected benefits

An overview of the Small Grants Facility of MFF in Sri Lanka. Projects focus on introducing sustainable livelihoods and research on environmental conservation activities >>

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