

Mangroves for the Future (MFF) is a unique partner-led initiative, co-chaired by IUCN and UNDP, to promote investment in coastal ecosystem conservation for sustainable development



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MFF works to protect and restore the health of Asia's coastal ecosystems. The goal is to strengthen the resilience of ecosystem-dependent coastal communities by promoting "nature-based solutions," recognising that well-managed healthy ecosystems contribute significantly to human resilience and well-being.

# Building Resilience in Coastal Communities

## THE EVOLUTION OF MFF

### From Relief to Resilience

MFF started as a disaster response program working in the 6 countries most affected by the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, and has since evolved into a strategic program building resilience in ecosystem dependent coastal communities in 11 member countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. MFF's strategic approach supports member countries to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 1 No Poverty, SDG 5 Gender Equality, and SDG 14 Life Below Water.

2004 - 2006	2007 - 2010	2011 - 2013	2014 - 2018	2019 - 2024
Post-disaster recovery	Ecosystems as "infrastructure" for coastal development	Sustainable development with an ecosystem-based approach	Transformational adaptation and resilience	Climate change mitigation and adaptation

## MFF MOVING FORWARD

### What's Next

Mangrove coastal forest ecosystems are a significant ally for climate change mitigation and adaptation, storing significant amounts of carbon, protecting coastlines, and supporting the livelihood of millions of people in Asia.

Unfortunately, the world is losing its mangrove forests at an alarming rate, particularly in Asia due to clearance for other land uses such as shrimp farming and agriculture, and over harvesting for firewood and charcoal production.

Moving forward MFF plans to build on the success of the initiative over the last 10 years and address the role of coastal ecosystems, particularly mangroves, in climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives, including REDD+.



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## THE MFF APPROACH

### How we work



Policy-Relevant



People-Focused



Partnership-Based



Investment-Oriented

## KEY FOCUS AREAS

### What we do

#### Applying Knowledge

MFF works to strengthen the knowledge base for sustainable coastal management through projects that generate new knowledge that is effectively shared and influences policy decisions.

#### Empowering Communities

MFF empowers communities to engage in decision making; building awareness and the capacity of civil society, and supporting processes and fora that help manage the resources they depend on for their livelihood. Gender equality is a central strategic approach for MFF.

#### Enhancing Coastal Governance

With more than 500 institutional and implementing partners, MFF's unique governance structure allows for true ownership of the initiative at the regional, national and community level. MFF fosters partnerships between multiple stakeholders; government, civil society, and the private sector, to achieve more integrated and inclusive coastal governance.

#### Grants Facility

MFF is the largest grant making mechanism for coastal ecosystem conservation in the region. The programme's Grants Facility funds projects that catalyse change and demonstrate approaches that can be scaled up, encouraging investment from other partners. MFF's portfolio includes more than 350 projects implemented since 2006.

