

Mangroves for the Future (MFF) builds on a history of coastal management interventions before and after the 2004 tsunami, in particular the call to continue the momentum and partnerships generated by the immediate post-tsunami response. MFF initially focused on the countries worst-affected by the tsunami; India, Indonesia, Maldives, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. MFF has recently expanded to include Pakistan and Viet Nam. MFF will continue to reach out other countries of the region that face similar issues, with an overall aim to promote an integrated ocean wide approach to coastal zone management.



The protective value of mangroves was recognized following the impact of the tsunami and while MFF uses mangroves as a flagship ecosystem, the initiative is inclusive of all coastal ecosystems, including coral reefs, estuaries, lagoons, sandy beaches, sea grasses and wetlands.

MFF's long-term management strategy is based on identified needs and priorities for lasting sustainable coastal ecosystem management. These priorities originally emerged from extensive consultations with over 200 individuals and 160 institutions involved in coastal management in the Indian Ocean region during the initial development stages of MFF.

In December 2006 President Bill Clinton planted the first mangrove tree to launch the MFF initiative at a fishing village on Phuket Island, Thailand. At the launch of the Tsunami Legacy Report (2009) in the United Nations in New York In April 2009, Bill Clinton said that MFF has been one of the most positive and forward-looking developments since the tsunami.

The initiative is founded on a vision for a more healthy, prosperous and secure future for all coastal communities, where all ecosystems are protected and managed sustainably.

MFF provides a collaborative platform among the many different agencies, sectors and countries which are addressing challenges to coastal ecosystem and livelihood issues, to work towards a common goal of a healthier, more prosperous and secure future for all coastal communities.

MFF seeks to achieve demonstrable results in influencing regional cooperation, national programme support, private sector engagement and community action. This will be achieved using a strategy of generating knowledge, empowering institutions and individuals to promote good governance in coastal ecosystem management.

The three main objectives of MFF are: to improve, share and apply knowledge; strengthen Integrated Coastal Management Institutions and empower civil society; and enhance coastal governance at all levels.

MFF undertakes actions and interventions required to manage coastal ecosystems sustainably, equitably and effectively, as well as to strengthen frameworks that influence community investment and actions. Together, these objectives tackle both the direct and the underlying causes of ecosystem degradation, unsustainable livelihoods and persistent vulnerability in coastal areas.



MFF has its presence in Pakistan since early 2010.

