

<b>Name:</b>	<b>13. COMMUNITY-BASED COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION ('GREEN COAST PROJECT')</b>		
<b>Region</b>	Asia	<b>Country</b>	Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and Malaysia
<b>Ecosystem</b>	Forest & woodland; Marine & coastal		
<b>Nature of approach</b>	Improvement in capacity, design and policy measures (identifying and/or developing adaptation approach, promoting policy change); Implementation of EBA measures (natural resource management)		
<b>Description of approach</b>	<p><b>Objective/Expected outcomes</b> Healthy coastal ecosystems are vital for fisheries, aquaculture and other sources of income for coastal populations such as eco-tourism and agriculture. They also function as buffer zones in case of extreme weather events such as storms and prevent coastal erosion and intrusion of salt water in fresh water systems.</p> <p>Working in areas of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, and Malaysia that had suffered in the 2004 tsunami, the 'Green Coast' project aimed to restore and manage damaged coastal ecosystems to restore livelihoods and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p><b>Actions</b> Communities were engaged in the planning, preparation, planting and nursing of mangroves and other coastal vegetation. The project provided financial and technical support for communities to explore alternative livelihood activities. Policy guidance was also provided, aimed towards influencing coastal resource management policies of district and national governments and to increase general awareness on value of coastal ecosystems.</p> <p><b>Results achieved</b> Within 3 years, the project planted more than 3 million seedlings, re-establishing over 1,100 hectares of coastal forest and mangroves, helping to protect communities against storm surges, sea level rise and coastal inundation. In addition, communities were involved in the cleaning up of beaches and over 100 hectares of coral reef and sea grass beds. Sand dunes were restored over a total length of 3km and some other key natural habitats such as lagoons were rehabilitated. The restoration activities help to increase the resilience of 91,000 people in the coastal regions, whilst more than 12,000 households directly benefit from increased income through livelihood activities (fishing, small scale aquaculture, eco enterprises, home gardening and animal husbandry).</p> <p><b>Lessons learned</b> The benefits of restoring coastal ecosystems can help to deal with threats from multiple impacts of climate change, including storms, coastal flooding, saltwater intrusion and erosion (with knock on effects for other ecosystems including coral reefs). An independent assessment of the project found it to be a highly cost-effective and successful approach to disaster risk reduction. The model is now being promoted by Wetlands International to restore mangroves along highly vulnerable tropical coastlines, including West Africa. Challenges include ensuring the legacy of the project, which requires ongoing management of the rehabilitated mangroves to ensure the resilience of the ecosystem.</p>		
<b>Type of organisation</b>	NGO; IGO	<b>Name of organisation:</b>	Wetlands International, Both ENDS, WWF and IUCN
<b>Further information and contact details</b>	<a href="http://www.wetlands.org/Whatwedo/Ouractions/Worldmapofourfieldwork/GreenCoastcommunitybasedrestoration/tabid/436/Default.aspx">http://www.wetlands.org/Whatwedo/Ouractions/Worldmapofourfieldwork/GreenCoastcommunitybasedrestoration/tabid/436/Default.aspx</a> <a href="#">Colls, A., Ash, N. and Ikkala, N (2009). Ecosystem-based Adaptation: a natural</a>		

[response to climate change. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN](#)

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