INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT MANGROVES

Mangroves are highly productive ecosystems. The areal extent of the world’s mangrove forests has declined by 30-50% over the past half century as a result of coastal development, aquaculture expansion and over-harvesting.

Mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass meadows and other natural coastal habitats provide protection from storms, sea-level rise and to some extent even tsunamis.

1997 $181 BILLION

The annual value of the natural goods and services that the world’s mangroves provide has been estimated at approximately $181 billion (in 1997 US$ values).

Mangrove forests contain an average of 1,000 tons of carbon per hectare, up to 3 times as much as some terrestrial forests.

In Thailand for example, according to a study done by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the value of mangroves has been estimated as 3.5 million dollars per sq. km per year.

The average yield of fish and shellfish in mangrove areas is about 90 kg per hectare, with maximum yield of up to 225 kg per hectare.

In 2014, the IUCN-MARRIOTT partnership

$ Raised 896,000 Baht (around $28,000)
Ordered over 500,000 baht of sustainable seafood from local communities
Planted 7,650 mangrove trees and related species
Invested over 2,000 volunteer hours by Marriott associates and guests

1M Ordered over 1 million baht worth of welcome bracelets made by local community groups

IN 2015, WE AIM TO

Raise 2 million baht (around $60,000)

Plant 20,000 trees in strategic mangrove restoration projects in Thailand with Mangroves for the Future (MFP) and local community groups

Increase orders of sustainable seafood and locally made handicrafts in Marriott hotels in Thailand

Planted 7,650 mangrove trees and related species

IN 2014, THE IUCN-MARRIOTT PARTNERSHIP

Planted 7,650 mangrove trees and related species

Mangroves are an important nursery ground for many commercial species of fish, prawns and crabs and they provide habitat for endangered species including turtles and seahorses and offer nesting sites for birds.