



Protector against Cyclones & Tidal Waves
Keeps Shoreline Intact & Protects Bio-diversity

- **HOW MANGROVES BENEFIT US:** Mangroves build soil with silt deposits among their entangled roots
- They store three to four times more carbon than other trees
- They store and stock pile carbon in their trunks, branches and in the soil under them
- They are a unique home to many animals: from the Royal Bengal Tiger to monkeys to myriads of bird species
- Mangroves are a vital nursery to a variety of fish species, mollusks, manatees, crabs and crocodiles and the ganges dolphin
- Home to a myriad variety of animals ...Royal Bengal Tiger to the tiny squirrel; 428 species of birds
- Provide oxygen and improve air quality
- Improve the quality of water in the tidal and inter-tidal coastal region

GETTING READY

Village women getting the seeds ready for planting at Dulki, Gosaba Block, Sunderbans, India



The Story Begins...After a devastating cyclone in May 2020, SISK decided to plant mangrove saplings in the Sunderbans, at the head of the Bay of Bengal
First planting of 1000 mangrove saplings on 11th November, 2020 in partnership with Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage
Caught the imagination of NASI of India as well as SIGBI
Active involvement: SI Pune Metro East & SI Chennai Downtown became active partners, sharing knowhow and contacts
Clubs & Individuals across the Federation and beyond donated generously
Resonates with **#PlantTreesforABrilliantFuture**, the Centenary Theme

The Nursery of Mangrove Saplings



WORK IN PROGRESS

- Women transporting saplings to the site
- Women transplanting the saplings





UN SDGs addressed: 13, 14, 1, 2, 5, 10 & 17

- Climate Action & Life Under Water
- Food Security ensures No Hunger
- Livelihood options ensure sustainable income & reduced inequalities
- Partnerships help us to extend our reach



25,112 mangroves planted in 15 months

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IN THE NEWS



Twin goals with sapling drive

DEREJAMITRA

Calcutta: More than six lakh mangrove saplings have been planted in the Sunderbans over the past two years in a drive that aims to preserve the delta's delicate ecosystem and generate income for women.

The project was launched in August 2000 with over 300 women engaged in collecting mangrove fruits from riverbanks. Now, over 1,400 women do the job, those behind the drive said.

The threatened by the mangroves are washed away by the tidal water — away from land in low tide and into the land in high tide. The fruits are taken to a nursery in Duttavillage in Gosaba, around 100km from the heart of Calcutta.

The seeds are planted in the soil and sand mixture and kept in polythene packs. The boxes with the sapling in them



Mangrove saplings being planted in the Sunderbans

replanted on the riverbank.

The non-profit behind the drive started with planting around two lakh saplings within the first couple of months of the launch of the project. Since then, it has reached out to organisations for adoption of saplings.

"Till date, we have planted over 4.1 lakh adopted saplings. The rate is Rs 4 for a single sapling. The money we receive

goes to the women working for us, members of self help groups," said Arpana Mukherjee, president of the Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage, the NGO that has been steering the project.

Mangroves are known for vigorous germination where seeds germinate and develop into seedlings while still attached to the parent tree. With favourable conditions, they germinate a colony.

The women work from home in Duttavillage in Gosaba. They are involved in three jobs — fruit collection, taking care of saplings and planting them on the riverbank. The fruits are collected

from the banks of the Durgam

and creek and the Durga river. The adopters include government and private organisations and NGOs.

Scriptmist International of South Kolkata, the city chapter of an international voluntary organisation for women working for the promotion of human rights and gender equality, has adopted around 10,000 saplings in the Sunderbans.

"Mangroves are our protectors. They protect us from cyclonic storms. Cyclone Aila (May 2009) caused massive damage in the Sunderbans. Planting mangroves along the coastline mitigates the danger from such disasters," said Shikha Chatterjee, president elect of the city chapter.

Jasodha Mondal, in her job, works in the mangrove project. A resident of Duttavillage, she earns around Rs 1,400 per month. The money is used to buy books for her grandchildren. In the past, they had recharged their mobile phones with the money so that they could attend online classes," she said.

SISK leading the planting of mangrove saplings



Goal 1: Climate Action

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Goal 2: Augment livelihood options for the marginalized women of the coastal areas

OUR PARTNERS

- **Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage**
- **SI Chennai Downtown**
- **SI Pune Metro East**

OUR SUPPORTERS

- SI Calcutta
- SI Chennai
- SI Burdwan
- SI Kettering
- SI Dundee
- SI Perth
- Scotland North Region
- SI Surrey Hills
- SI Loughborough
- SI Malta
- SI Cardiff & District
- SI Chelmsford
- Many Individuals across the Federation & beyond



KSCH: Grassroots partners

SICD & SIPME: Partners sharing knowledge and networking

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

