

## **Rapidly diminishing mangrove forests in Myanmar (Burma) a review**

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### **Abstract**

Mangroves are a very productive ecosystem found in tropical and subtropical latitudes. Southern and south western coastlines of Myanmar host a large number of mangrove species, many under threat of extirpation. This review analyzes recent changes and the current status of mangrove vegetation along the coastline of Myanmar and key factors causing rapid reduction of mangrove coverage. Remote sensing techniques can be used to improve mangrove mapping and monitoring in Myanmar in the future. Community-based mangrove reforestation has helped restore green coastal areas to some extent, even though there are limitations due to the lack of specific biodiversity in reforested areas. Mangrove ecosystem research, conservation and restoration in Myanmar have gained new momentum after the 2010 political reform. Some urgent measures are still needed for the conservation of rapidly diminishing mangrove forests, as well as improving community-based mangrove reforestation, enhancing biodiversity, implementing sustainable aquaculture, and reinforcing environmental protection laws..

### **Keywords**

Mangroves in Myanmar, Coastal area protection, Biodiversity, Mangrove rehabilitation, Aquaculture.