



CBEMR Community-Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration



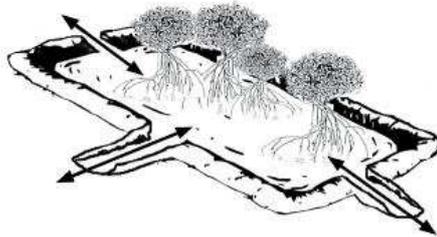
Information Sheet

MAP has been promoting the CBEMR methodology since 2005. MAP adopted CBEMR based on EMR developed by Robin Lewis of Florida, USA, as a means to rehabilitate mangrove forests in response to failures of mainstream restoration efforts that focus on nurseries and planting seedlings. The terms CBEMR and EMR are used interchangeably by MAP.

What is **CBEMR**?

ecological restoration

CBEMR-Community-Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration is a **mangrove restoration methodology** that is grounded in the basic principle that restoring mangroves requires that **the natural ecological processes that once supported the healthy mangrove need to be restored first and foremost**. CBEMR thus places a strong emphasis on correcting hydrological problems and dealing with natural or man-made stressors in order to facilitate natural mangrove regeneration. It reaches far beyond mere hand-planting of seedlings, as is typical of mangrove restoration projects, and increases the effectiveness of restoration of degraded mangrove forests by embracing and understanding the mangrove ecosystem as a whole.



community stewardship

CBEMR is also a participatory, community-led process that thinks long term. Community involvement occurs from the planning stage, through implementation often engaged in the required physical adjustments to the site to the monitoring and follow-up, which may involve developing a management plan. By engaging the local community from the onset of the restoration project, CBEMR does not consider community involvement as a mere mechanism to levy labour for field work. Rather it **relies on participation as an empowering process that creates a sense of ownership of the restoration project** among the community and that helps maintain the project's benefits the long run. The CBEMR approach teaches local people how to restore the hydrology of former or degraded mangrove sites



to facilitate the natural regeneration of mangroves. MAP learnt **Ecological Mangrove Restoration (EMR)**

from Robin Lewis → (email) and incorporated the Community-Based (CB) approach to support community stewardship in restoration projects.



Where can I find out more on CBEMR?

MAP makes CBEMR knowledge and experience available via multimedia channels. Here is a selection!

CBEMR videos [↗](#)

The first video of this string shows the basics of CBEMR in 2 min, explaining how the ecosystem and the local communities are embraced as a whole in a holistic approach. The other videos present the methodology further, CBEMR training and a project from Talae Nok Village, Ranong, Thailand.



CBEMR blog [↗](#)

... reports experience of MAP's CBEMR projects.



CBEMR projects

MAP co-leads two site-based mangrove restoration projects in Thailand.

Ecosystems Protecting Infrastructure and Communities (EPIC) [↗](#)

EPIC is a 5-year initiative launched in 2012 that undertakes field projects in East Asia, Europe, South America and West Africa with the aim to gather information and create capacity to consistently apply ecosystem-based approaches to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. In Thailand, MAP applies CBEMR to rehabilitate abandoned shrimp ponds to support sustainable local livelihoods.

Global Nature Fund (GNF)'s Mangrove rehabilitation in Asia – Local Action and cross-border Transfer of Knowledge for the Conservation of Climate, Forests and Biodiversity [↗](#)

This 4-year initiative launched in January 2012 aims to develop country-specific long term mangrove protection concepts in India, Sri Lanka, Cambodia and Thailand and establishes an international long-term network for the protection of mangroves.



CBEMR e-group [↗](#)

MAP established the CBEMR e-group in 2005 to share information amongst mangrove restoration practitioners on the CBEMR methodology, practice in the field and other information on mangrove conservation. The CBEMR e-group is open to anyone interested in CBEMR and has proved to be an effective platform for information - and experience-sharing. As of January 2015, the CBEMR e-group counts more than 150 members including students, NGOs, academics, and mangrove restoration practitioners from Asia, Africa, North America, Europe and Australia.

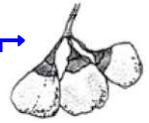


Key publications

- Lewis & Brown. 2014 . Ecological mangrove rehabilitation – a field manual for practitioners. Version 3. 275 p. [↗](#)
- Quarto. 2012. Ecological Mangrove Restoration (EMR): Re-Establishing a More Biodiverse and Resilient Coastal Ecosystem with Community Participation. Mangrove Action Project. [↗](#)
- Lewis. 2005. Ecological engineering for successful management and restoration of mangrove forests. *Ecol. Eng.* 24: 403-418. [↗](#)
- Robin Lewis' website contains about 150 publications [↗](#)
- EMR manuals [↗](#)

CBEMR website [↗](#)

And also [↗](#)



Does MAP provide CBEMR training?

Yes!

... as part of MAP's commitment to make mangrove restoration work on the ground!

Over the past 10 years, MAP has held CBEMR training workshops in Cambodia, El Salvador, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Each training workshop is **custom-designed** for the participants and local region. The training usually involves 20-25 participants, lasts 2-5 days and includes several practical field study trips to the nearby mangroves.

More information [↗](#) and video on EMR Methodology and Training [↗](#)

