

# Improving coastal environment and livelihoods in India

**Friday October 19, 2007, 13.15 - 14.45**

Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University  
Room 312, Kräftriket 2B, Roslagsvägen 101

Many fisher families in Tuticorin, India, are solely dependant on fishery on and around a number of heavily exploited coral reef fringed islands. These essential fish habitats and fishing grounds are seriously threatened by over fishing, dynamite fishing, and coral mining. In response to this, Sughanthi Devadason Marine Research Institute (SDMRI), since five years back, implements a research and management program supported by CORDIO, Sida, Spider and others.

The status of marine habitats and patterns of resource use have been assessed. Options for reef restoration have been examined. Community based efforts to stop coral mining and dynamite fishing have been made. To make the coastal households less dependent on dwindling fish catches, and to reduce pressure on marine resources, alternative livelihoods have also been provided.

Hundreds of fisher women are now engaged in enterprises that produce eco-friendly products. To better equip the women for effective production, marketing and sales of their products, they receive training in self-education, through the Swedish Folkbildning-concept, in reading and writing, and in the use of internet. IT-facilities are also installed the villages.

SDMRI, CORDIO, Nyköpings Folkhögskola, and Stockholm Resilience Centre warmly welcome you to take part of the hands-on experiences from this multifaceted program!

## Registration

For registration, directions and questions please contact [dan.wilhelmsson@zoologi.su.se](mailto:dan.wilhelmsson@zoologi.su.se)

## Program

- 13.15-13.25 Welcome and introduction, including shortly on CORDIO South Asia  
*Dan Wilhelmsson, Department of Zoology*
- 13.25-13.50 Assessing the status and improving management of marine resources, the comprehensive approach.  
*Dr. J.K. Patterson Edwards, Director of SDMRI, project leader*
- 13.50- 14.15 Role of fisherwomen in reef management and poverty reduction  
*Dr. Jamila Patterson, SDRMI, Project leader*
- 14.15-14.45 Discussion (Panel: SDMRI, CORDIO, Nyköpings Folkhögskola)



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