

A photograph of a dense mangrove forest lining a riverbank. The water in the foreground is calm with some ripples. The mangroves are tall and green, extending from the water's edge into the background.

# **Coastal Protection & Mangrove Restoration of Pulau Tekong, Singapore**

Mr Koh Kwan Siong  
Manager, Projects  
National Biodiversity Centre  
National Parks Board, Singapore

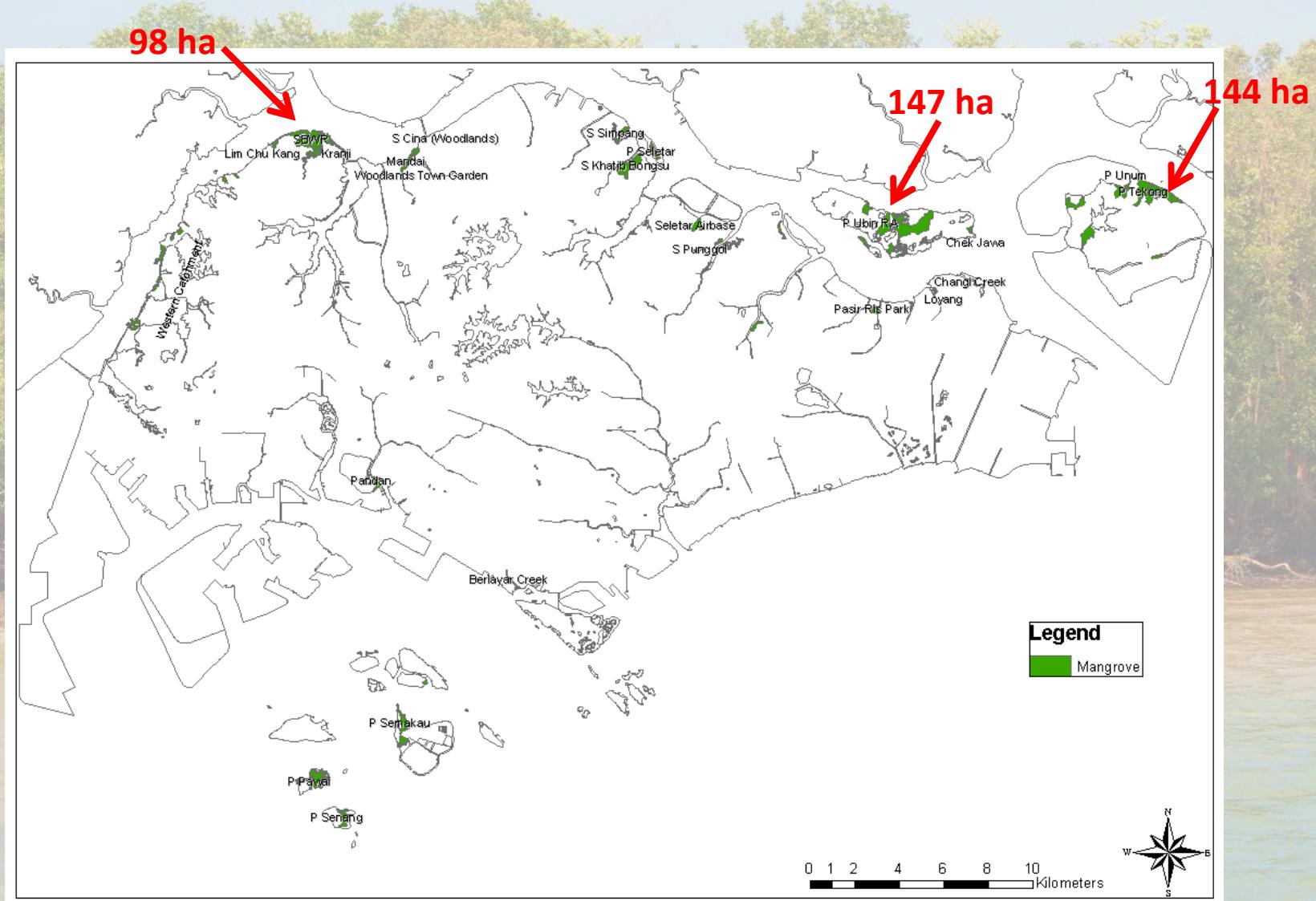
# Content

- Mangrove Forests in Singapore
- Mangrove Restoration Project

# Mangrove Forests in Singapore

- 200 years ago → approx 7500 ha
- 2013 → approx 735 ha
- Singapore's current mangroves → 1% of total land space

# Mangrove forests in Singapore



# List of mangrove flora species

No.	Species	Family	Conservation Status*
1.	<i>Acanthus ilicifolius</i>	Acanthaceae	-
2.	<i>Acanthus ebracteatus</i>	Acanthaceae	Vulnerable
3.	<i>Acanthus volubilis</i>	Acanthaceae	Vulnerable
4.	<i>Acrostichum aureum</i>	Ceratopteridaceae	-
5.	<i>Acrostichum speciosum</i>	Ceratopteridaceae	-
6.	<i>Aegiceras corniculatum</i>	Myrsinaceae	Endangered
7.	<i>Avicennia alba</i>	Acanthaceae	-
8.	<i>Avicennia marina</i>	Acanthaceae	Critically Endangered
9.	<i>Avicennia officinalis</i>	Acanthaceae	-
10.	<i>Avicennia rumphiana</i>	Acanthaceae	-
11.	<i>Brownlowia tresa</i>	Malvaceae	Endangered
12.	<i>Brownlowia argentata</i>	Malvaceae	Nationally Extinct IUCN Global Data Deficient
13.	<i>Bruguiera cylindrica</i>	Rhizophoraceae	-
14.	<i>Bruguiera gymnorhiza</i>	Rhizophoraceae	-
15.	<i>Bruguiera parviflora</i>	Rhizophoraceae	Endangered
16.	<i>Bruguiera hainesii</i>	Rhizophoraceae	Critically Endangered; IUCN Global Critically Endangered
17.	<i>Bruguiera sexangula</i>	Rhizophoraceae	Critically Endangered
18.	<i>Ceriops zippeliana</i>	Rhizophoraceae	Endangered

No.	Species	Family	Conservation Status*
19.	<i>Ceriops tagal</i>	Rhizophoraceae	Vulnerable
20.	<i>Dolichandrone spathacea</i>	Bignoniaceae	Critically Endangered
21.	<i>Excoecaria agallocha</i>	Euphorbiaceae	-
22.	<i>Heritiera littoralis</i>	Malvaceae	Endangered
23.	<i>Kandelia candel</i>	Rhizophoraceae	Critically Endangered
24.	<i>Lumnitzera littorea</i>	Combretaceae	Endangered
25.	<i>Lumnitzera racemosa</i>	Combretaceae	Endangered
26.	<i>Nypa fruticans</i>	Arecaceae	Vulnerable
27.	<i>Pemphis acidula</i>	Lythraceae	Critically Endangered
28.	<i>Rhizophora apiculata</i>	Rhizophoraceae	-
29.	<i>Rhizophora murconata</i>	Rhizophoraceae	-
30.	<i>Rhizophora stylosa</i>	Rhizophoraceae	Vulnerable
31.	<i>Scyphiphora hydrophyllacea</i>	Rubiaceae	-
32.	<i>Sonneratia alba</i>	Lythraceae	-
33.	<i>Sonneratia caseolaris</i>	Lythraceae	Critically Endangered
34.	<i>Sonneratia ovata</i>	Lythraceae	Critically Endangered
35.	<i>Xylocarpus granatum</i>	Meliaceae	-
36.	<i>Xylocarpus moluccensis</i>	Meliaceae	Endangered

Source: J.W. H. Yong (SUTD), K. S. Koh (NParks), S. F. Yang (NParks)

# Notable mention

- Extinction only 1 species: *Brownlowia argentata*
- Addition of *Rhizophora x lamarckii*



Source: Joseph Lai & K. S. Koh (NParks)

# Notable mention

- Addition of 7 *Bruguiera hainesii* + 4 existing = 11



Source: K. S. Koh (NParks)

# Conservation Efforts of Mangroves

- Semakau Landfill
- Mangrove Restoration in Pulau Tekong



# Mangrove Restoration in Pulau Tekong

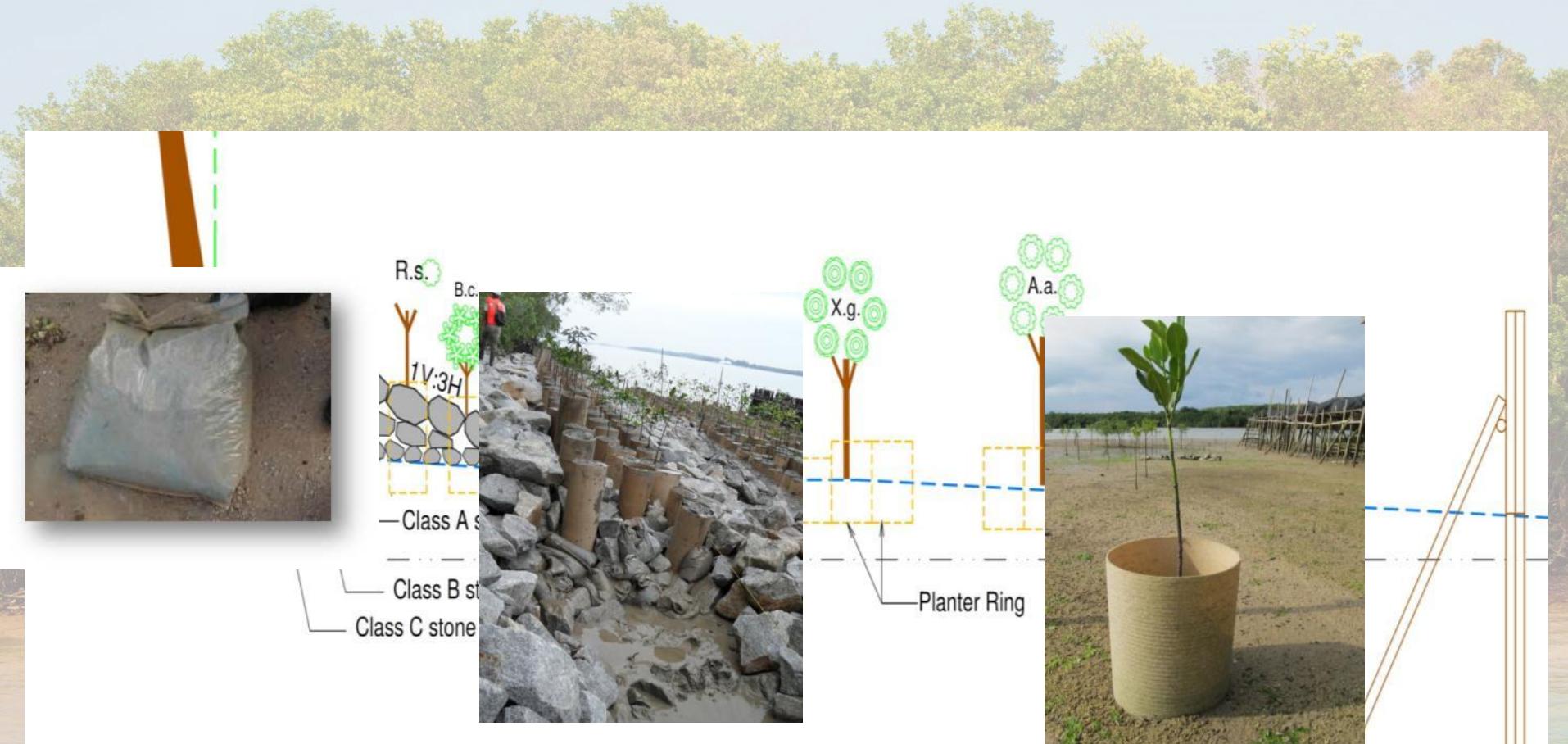
- Severe erosion of the coastline
- Land loss



# Guiding Principles

- ‘Green’ engineering
- Biotic and abiotic factors
- Assisted regeneration

# Final Design



Surbana International Consultancy Pte Ltd

# Use of Biodegradables



Agricultural Waste



Plastic Waste



R3PLAS Technology



Seeding bags



Planter rings



Mud filling bags

# Factors influencing choice of mangroves

- Wave Energies
- Depth, Duration and frequency of Inundation
- Salinity
- Sediment Composition and stability

# Mangrove Species Planted

Ideal Mangrove species: *Rhizophora stylosa*



Photos by Yang Shufen

# Mangrove Species Planted



Mangrove Species	
<i>Avicennia alba</i>	<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i>
<i>Bruguiera cylindrica</i>	<b><i>Rhizophora stylosa</i></b>
<i>Bruguiera gymnorhiza</i>	<i>Sonneratia alba</i>
<i>Bruguiera sexangula</i>	<i>Sonneratia caseolaris</i>
<i>Ceriops tagal</i>	<i>Sonneratia ovata</i>
<i>Lumnitzera littorea</i>	<i>Xylocarpus granatum</i>
<i>Rhizophora apiculata</i>	<i>Xylocarpus rumphii</i>
<i>Bruguiera hainesii</i>	<i>Kandelia candel</i>
<i>Bruguiera parviflora</i>	



\* Native stock

\*\* All species planted, grown from local stock

# Propagule Propagation



# Acclimatising before Planting

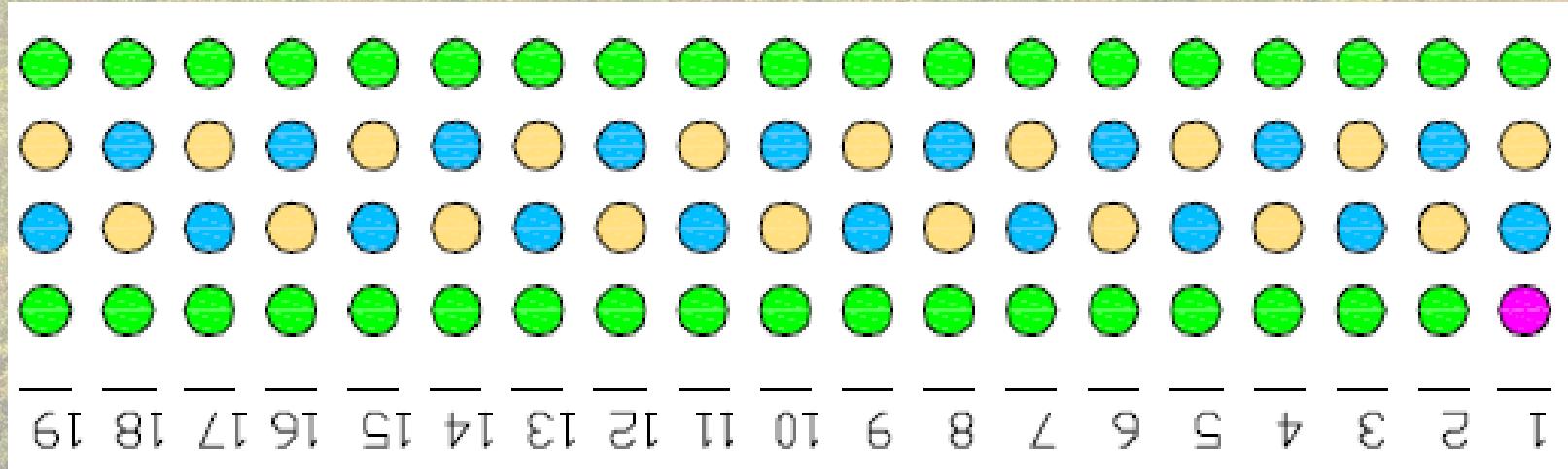


Surbana Consultancy

# Completed Works



# Methodology for Sapling Survival Assessment



Coastal Protection Configuration



# Methodology for Sapling Survival Assessment

## *Classification*

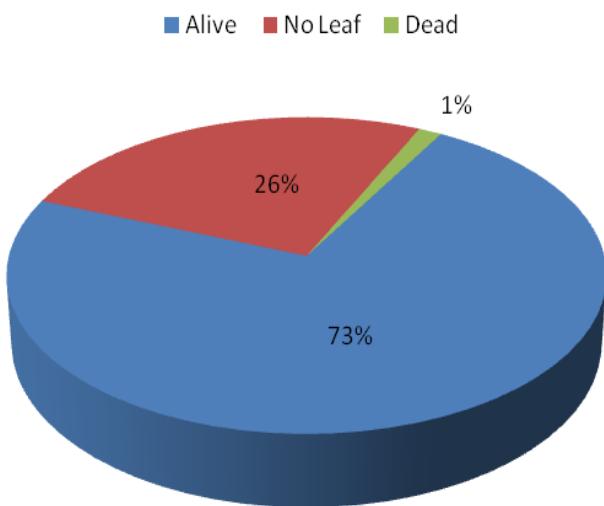
Classification	Symbol	Characteristics
Alive	✓	Leaves present
No Leaf	○	Leaf absent Shoot may be present or absent Stem is green and sturdy
Dead	✗	Leaf absent Shoot absent Stem is brittle and/or already decaying

# Results for Sapling Survivability

Bay Area:

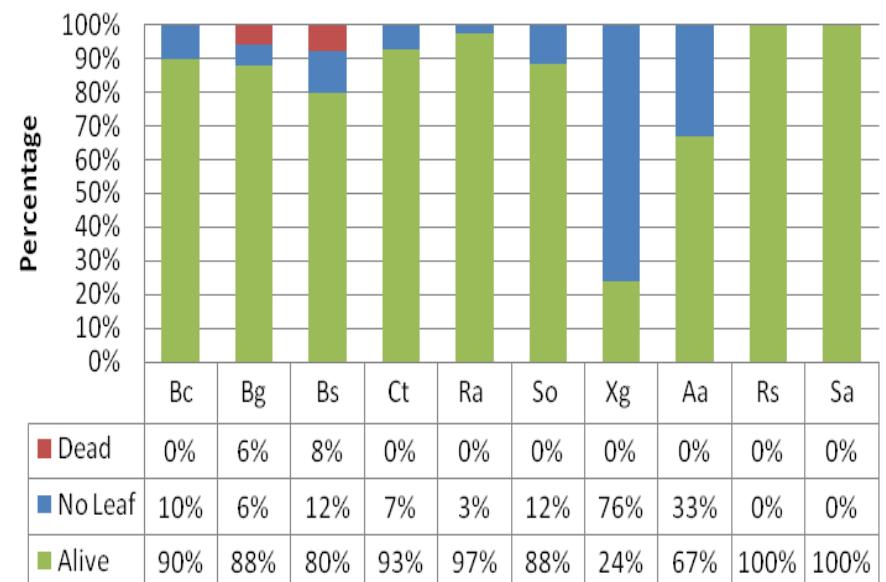
- 355 planted; 355 monitored

Survivability of Saplings on Bay Area



(2013)

Species Survivability on Bay Area



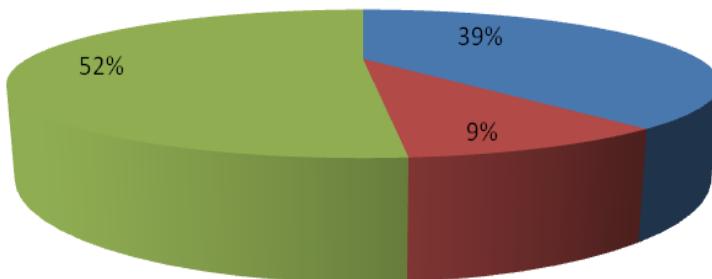
# Results for Sapling Survivability

## Coastal Protection:

- 3968 planted; 3908 monitored

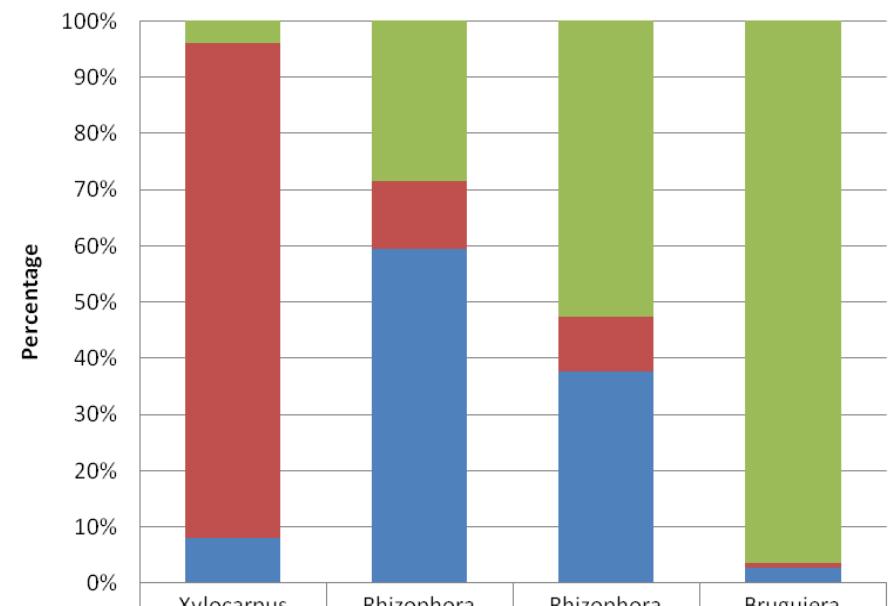
### Viability of Saplings in Chainage D Coastal Protection

■ Total Alive ■ Total No leaf ■ Total Dead



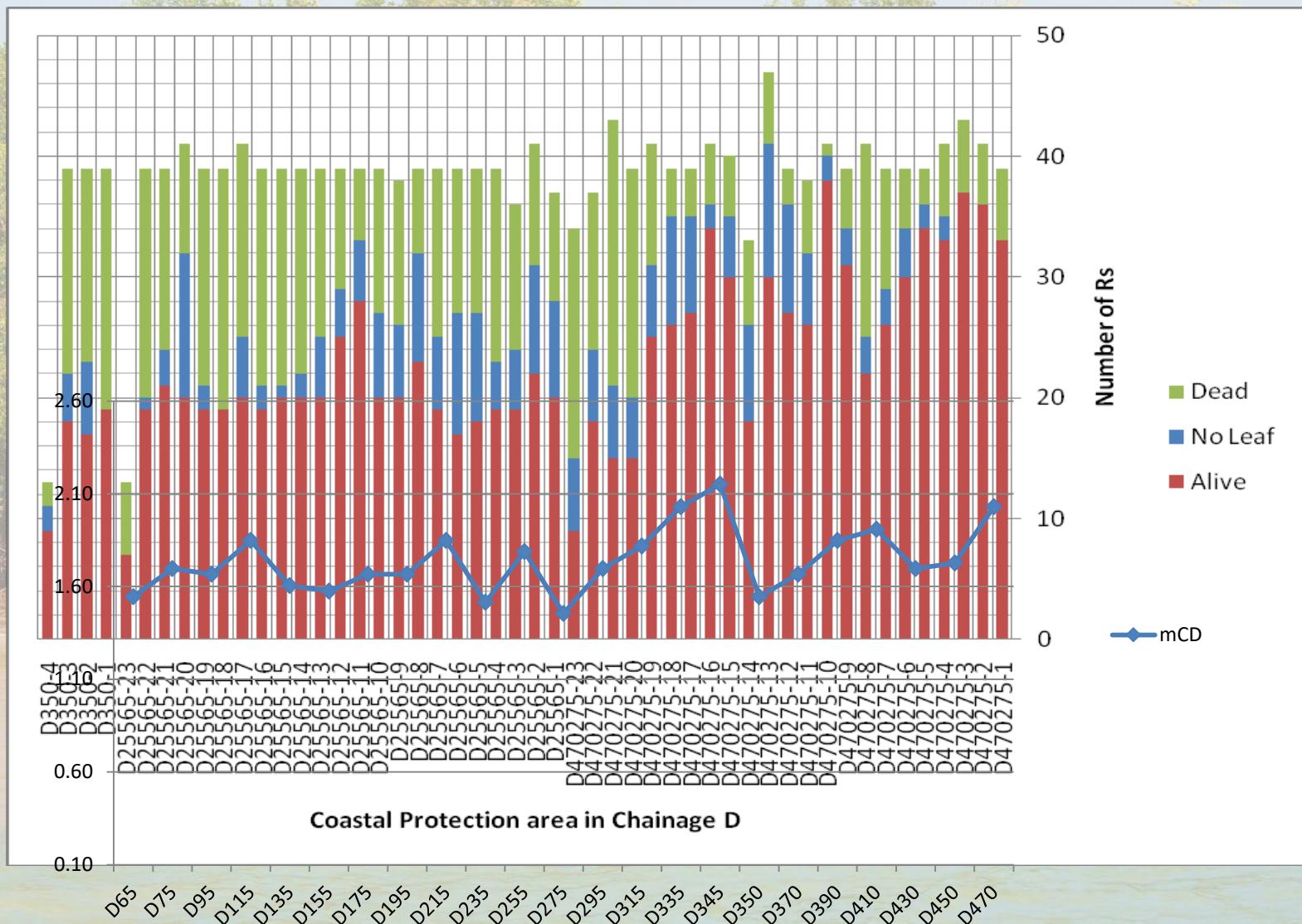
(2013)

### Species Survivability on Coastal Protection



	Xylocarpus rumphii	Rhizophora stylosa	Rhizophora apiculata	Bruguiera cylindrica
Dead	4%	28%	53%	96%
No Leaf	88%	12%	10%	1%
Alive	8%	59%	38%	3%

# Survivability distribution of *Rhizophora stylosa* on Coastal Protection



# Sapling Survival

- Sapling Survival is dependent on:
  - Species
  - Salinity
  - Substratum
  - Inundation level & frequency
  - Hydrodynamic (Currents)

# Conclusion

- ‘Green’ engineering
- Biotic and abiotic factors
- Assisted regeneration required?

# References

- Tomlinson, P.B. 1986. *The Botany of Mangroves*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge
- Alongi, D.M. 2009. *The Energetics of Mangrove Forests*, Springer Publication
- Hogarth, P.J 2007. *The Biology of Mangroves and Seagrasses*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, New York.
- Boo, C.M 2009. *Project Nursery & Specialist Consultancy Services for Growing & Planting of Mangrove Plants, Uvaria Tide, Singapore*.
- Eganathan P. & Srinivasa Rao C. 2001. *Manual on vegetative and micropropagation of mangroves M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai, India*
- Lewis R. 2006. *Five Steps to Successful Ecological Restoration of Mangroves, Mangrove Action Project / Yayasan Akar Rumput Laut, Yogyakarta, Indonesia*

Special Thanks to: Yang Shufen, Boo Chin Minh , Surbana International Consultany Pte Ltd for photos and data for the project