Mangrove Reforestation and Environmental Education in Can Gio, Ho Chi Minh City

Background
Almost all of mangrove forests in Can Gio were destroyed in the herbicide spraying by US during the Vietnam War. The local people have positively planted mangroves on the ruined land since during the war and the forest recovered in most damaged area. This area was designated in the Mangrove Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 2001. However, there is partially a poor result plantation area because unsuitable species such as Eucalyptus were planted. The Management Board for Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve planned a ten years reforestation program for recovering an original ecosystem with rich diversity and started it in 2002, though there is a problem of lack of funds. Nam Du Association expected to carry out 50 ha reforestation under technical support by the Management Board.

Overall Goal/ Objective

(Project Purpose)
1) To reforest 50 ha of mangrove forests including 8ha of already reforested area with rich diversity
2) To set up permanent plots for long-term monitoring of the recovering processes of mangrove ecosystems and to monitor the initial stage.
3) To offer a chance for cross culture understanding and environmental education for youth in Japan and Vietnam through the cooperative works of mangrove plantation and monitoring.

Counterpart

Vietnamese side:
1) The People’s Committee, Can Gio District
2) The Management Board for Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve
3) Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Ho Chi Minh City

Japanese side: The Nam Du Association

Major Activities
The project conducts main activities on:
- Mangrove reforestation
- Monitoring

Duration
August 2004 ~ July 2007

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