

## **Mangroves (Part 2)**

Mangroves act as green lungs to filter carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the atmosphere. In a report by a team of professors from the Centre for International Forestry Research, mangroves store five times more carbon per square kilometre than other forests. Indonesia has the largest area of mangroves in the world, and the quantity of CO<sub>2</sub> that those forests can absorb is equivalent to the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from all the country's cars. Not only that, mangroves help remove excess nutrients, sediment, and pollutants from oceans and rivers. They thus help to purify water for surrounding ecosystems through complex biochemical processes – breaking down, metabolizing, and absorbing toxic substances.

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Mangroves protect land by reducing coastal erosion and defend people, buildings, and fields from natural disasters, such as typhoons, floods, and tsunamis. The trunks, branches, and roots of mangroves act as barriers that reduce the effects of waves, flooding, and strong winds, while helping to maintain the land area by retaining and binding appropriate materials. If that weren't enough, mangroves provide jobs for people living in the region, including those in the tourism industry who benefit from visitors thrilled by the unique surroundings.

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What do mangroves filter from the air?

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What do mangroves filter from the water?

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How do mangroves protect against tsunamis and typhoon winds?