



**RISTIC: MANGROVE REFORESTATION IN COSTA RICA**  
**A Project of the [Clean Shrimp Initiative](#)**

The Ristic AG has been offering sustainable shrimp - both wild caught and from organic farms - very successfully for many years in the seafood market. It provides an excellent alternative to "conventional" breeding and fishing methods. More than ten years ago, the company was Germany's first importer of certified organic shrimp for the national market.

Ristic gets its seafood from a proprietary organic shrimp production in Costa Rica. In alliance with the sustainability strategy, a new mangrove afforestation project in Costa Rica will now be supported.

The organic shrimp farm covers a total area of 396 ha. 35 % of this district is mangrove forest. It functions like a protective belt from the sea and has been conserved since 1992. Mangroves stabilize the coast and prevent the removal of the soil (erosion) and floods. At the same time, they serve shrimp and other marine animals as breeding ground.



Ristic AG Farm Terranova Marina Novamar, Costa Rica

The reforestation project in cooperation with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ, [www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)) initially includes a protected area of 10 ha on the Nicoya Peninsula. The Ristic AG is the first company worldwide that committed itself to the Global Conservation Standard e.V. ([www.globalconservationstandard.org](http://www.globalconservationstandard.org)), in order to support a controlled reforestation. Once planted, the district may not be used for any other purpose; this is being monitored by the Costa Rican conservation authority SINAC.

As an ambitious goal, Ristic decided to tenfold this mangrove area in Costa Rica to 100 ha, with a financial requirement of 500,000 US\$ within the next 10 years. However, this can only be realized in cooperation with trading partners. Therefore, the Ristic AG welcomes any involvement that helps protect this important ecosystem.

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