



**CMS**

## **IOSEA Marine Turtles Memorandum of Understanding - National Report 2024**

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE NATIONAL REPORTING QUESTIONNAIRE:**

The main purpose of completing the National Reporting Questionnaire (NRQ) is to provide information on your country's implementation of the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU, including its Conservation and Management Plan (CMP) and the IOSEA Work Programme adopted by the 8th Meeting of Signatory States. Please include activities undertaken by the government, non-governmental organizations, private sector and other relevant stakeholders.

The IOSEA Secretariat will analyze national reports and use the provided information to facilitate marine turtle conservation work using the resources at its disposal, as well as in fundraising efforts. The information will also be used to raise any issues, as mandated by IOSEA Signatories, at relevant political fora, such as CMS, CITES, or Regional Fisheries Management Organizations.

Most importantly, collecting information of relevance to marine turtle conservation in the NRQ can help national decision makers to plan marine turtle conservation activities within countries and sub-regions, and guide national and international project planners and donors.

The NRQ is structured to reflect progress in implementation of the six objectives of the CMP: There are two modalities of the NRQ: it can be accessed via the online reporting system (ORS) or filled out using an MS Word file. However, the Word version should be used only if using the online questionnaire is not possible for technical reasons (e.g. the internet connection is too unreliable).

Please answer all questions as fully and as accurately as possible. Wherever possible, please indicate the source of information used to answer the question, particularly if a published reference or report is available. Comprehensive responses to the questions posed in Section 1.4 should also satisfy many of the reporting requirements of the 2009 FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations, thereby avoiding duplication of effort.

When working on the online version of the NRQ, save your information by clicking on the "Save all" button inside each section. An auto-save feature also saves any changed responses every 30 seconds, and whenever you move between sections. If additional information is available (e.g. published reports, maps) please attach it to this questionnaire. If working on an offline MS Word file, please submit the completed NRQ by email to the IOSEA Secretariat ([iosea@un.org](mailto:iosea@un.org)); with a copy to the Coordinator ([heidrun.frisch-nwakanma@un.org](mailto:heidrun.frisch-nwakanma@un.org)), as a Word attachment.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Signatory State:

>>> Egypt

List any other agencies, institutions, or NGOs that have provided input:

- >>> - Lake and fisheries resources development & protection Agency
- National Institution for Oceanography & fisheries
- Arab federation for wild life protection
- Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport
- Egyptian CITES management Authority
- Arab Union for Sustainable Development & Environment
- Suez Canal University
- the Hurghada Environmental Protection Association (HEPCA)

Memorandum in effect in Signatory State since (dd/mm/yyyy):

>>> 01/ 05/ 2014

Designated Focal Point (and full contact details):

>>> Dr Luay Elsayed ZONKLE  
Coordinator of Wildlife Program  
Ministry of Environment  
Rapporteur of Egyptian CITES  
Management Authority  
luay09@yahoo.com  
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Other relevant contacts:

>>> Mr. Mohamed Said Abdelwarith  
mohamed7j@hotmail.com

# MARINE TURTLE SPECIES AND HABITATS

Provide sources of information supporting the responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources, and attach digital files if necessary.

## 0.1 Overview of marine turtles and their habitats in the IOSEA MOU Signatory States within the IOSEA region.

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

### a) Please list marine turtle species and genetic stocks in your country, give a general population estimate and trend for your country and indicate where they occur.

	Geographic area	Type of habitat (nesting, feeding developmental)?	Species, genetic stock	Number of egg clutches per year	Population trend (increase, decrease, stable, unknown)
	Increase	between 66 - 121	Chelonia mydas	Nesting	Red Sea
	Increase	30 - 95	Eretmochelys imbricata	Nesting	Red Sea
	Stable		Caretta caretta	Feeding	Red Sea
	stable		Lepidochelys olivacea	Feeding	Red Sea

### b) Do government agencies and/or scientific institutions submit data on the occurrence and population numbers of marine turtles to an international database?

NO

### c) Does your country have index nesting beaches in the IOSEA region?

YES

### d) Does your country have an IOSEA Network site?

NO

# OBJECTIVE I: REDUCE DIRECT AND INDIRECT CAUSES OF MARINE TURTLE MORTALITY

## 1.1 BEST PRACTICE APPROACHES TO MINIMIZING THREATS

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departamental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

**1.1.1. Are there any best practice protocols relating to the protection of marine turtles and their habitats used in your country that you would like to share with other IOSEA Signatories? Please name the protocols and describe briefly, providing references or links to more detailed reports or online texts.**

If more rows are required, please contact the secretariat at [iosea@un.org](mailto:iosea@un.org)

	Title of best practice protocol or approach	What does this approach/ protocol help to achieve	Has the effectiveness of this approach been evaluated? What was the result?	References and links
		Awareness for by-catch & monitoring	Saving sea turtles stranded in fishing nets	Arab federation for wildlife protection
		No Plastic Campaign in the Red Sea	to protect the threatened and endangered species which are severely affected by ingestion, starvation, suffocation, drowning, entanglement and toxicity from plastic remains which affects the human health accordingly	The Hurghada Environmental Protection and Conservation Association (HEPCA)

## 1.2 REDUCTION OF INCIDENTAL CAPTURE AND MORTALITY

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departamental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

**1.2.1 Indicate, and describe in more detail, the main fisheries occurring in the waters of your country (including territorial waters and the EEZ), as well as any high seas fisheries in which flag vessels of your country participate and interact with marine turtles within the IOSEA region.**

For each of the different fisheries listed below, please indicate whether the fishery is present and use the text box below to provide more detailed information. Please include information on what marine turtle species are affected and number of reported interactions, if known.

### 1) Bottoms trawls (including shrimp trawls)

#### a) Fishing effort:

PRESENT

**Please provide the information below:**

Number of vessels:

>>> 114 vessels (77 in Suez gulf & 37 in Red Sea)

Boat size (range or average):

>>> 15 m

Number of trips per year:

>>> 25 trips per year for each boat during the opening seasons for fishing (the stope period of fishing from 1st April to 30th October)

Geographic distribution:

>>> Suez gulf & South of the Red Sea

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> The interaction with fisheries need to study

Number of bycaught turtles per year:

>>> Rare

### **b) Methods used by your country to minimise bycatch of marine turtles in this fishery**

- Safe handling (as per existing protocols e.g., FAO guidelines) of incidentally caught turtles (e.g. resuscitation or release by fishers using equipment such as de-hooking, line cutting tools and scoop nets)
- Spatial and temporal control of fishing (e.g. seasonal closures of fishing activities)
- Effort management control

Details:

>>> The Egyptian government works to protect its biodiversity in general and marine diversity in particular. There are many Egyptian laws concerned with the protection of marine turtles (Laws 102/ 1983 & 4/ 1994) in addition to its commitment to many international and regional agreements and memoranda of understanding. It is also implementing environmental monitoring and awareness programs and supporting scientific research turtles in both the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea areas.

If applicable, the measures are mandatory under the following regulation:

>>> Laws 102/ 1983 for protected areas & 4/ 1994 for Environmental protection, as well as, the Red Sea governmental decrees.

### **c) Programmes to promote implementation of measures to minimise bycatch of turtles. Please tick the boxes that apply in your country and provide details in the text boxes below.**

- Onboard observer programmes
- Inspections (i.e. at sea, in port, at landing sites)
- Training programmes / workshops to train fishers on the use of bycatch reduction methods
- Informative videos, brochures, printed guidelines etc.

### **Onboard observer programmes**

The measure is mandatory under the following regulation:

>>> Laws 102/ 1983 for protected areas & 4/ 1994 for Environmental protection, as well as, the Red Sea governmental decrees.

### **Training programmes / workshops to train fishers on the use of bycatch reduction methods**

Details/future plans:

>>> There is cooperation on awareness programs with the Red Sea Environmental Conservation Associations (HEPCA), the Red Sea Governorate Media Center, schools, and fishermen's associations.

### **Informative videos, brochures, printed guidelines etc.**

Details/future plans:

>>> There is a continuous update of means of raising awareness and engaging experts and technicians, whether in the fields of marine sciences, fisheries, or media professionals.

## **2) Pelagic trawling**

### **a) Fishing effort:**

- UNKNOWN
- PRESENT

## **3) Set nets**

**a) Fishing effort:**

NONE

**4) Driftnet**

**a) Fishing effort**

NONE

**5) Purse seine (with or without FADs)**

**a) Fishing effort**

PRESENT

**Please provide the information below:**

Number of vessels:

>>> 118 vessels (81 inside Suez gulf & 37 in the south of the Red Sea)

**b) Methods used by your country to minimise bycatch of marine turtles in this fishery**

- Safe handling (as per existing protocols e.g., FAO guidelines) of incidentally caught turtles (e.g. resuscitation or release by fishers using equipment such as de-hooking, line cutting tools and scoop nets)
- Spatial and temporal control of fishing (e.g. seasonal closures of fishing activities)
- Effort management control

If applicable, the measures are mandatory under the following regulations:

>>> Laws 102/ 1983 for protected areas & 4/ 1994 for Environmental protection, as well as, the Red Sea governmental decrees.

**c) Programmes to promote implementation of measures to minimise bycatch of turtles. Please tick the boxes that apply in your country and provide details in the text boxes below.**

- Onboard observer programmes
- Inspection (i.e. at sea, in port, at landing sites)
- Training programmes / workshops to train fishers on the use of bycatch reduction methods
- Informative videos, brochures, printed guidelines etc.

**6) longline**

**a) Fishing effort**

PRESENT

**Please provide the information below:**

Number of vessels:

>>> 887 vessels (98 inside Suez gulf & 789 out side the Suez gulf).

Geographic distribution:

>>> along the Red Sea coast & Suez gulf.

**b) Methods used by your country to minimise bycatch of marine turtles in this fishery**

- Safe handling (as per existing protocols e.g., FAO guidelines) of incidentally caught turtles (e.g. resuscitation or release by fishers using equipment such as de-hooking, line cutting tools and scoop nets)
- Spatial and temporal control of fishing (e.g. seasonal closures of fishing activities)

Effort management control

If applicable, the measures are mandatory under the following regulation:

>>> Laws 102/ 1983 for protected areas & 4/ 1994 for Environmental protection, as well as, the Red Sea governmental decrees.

**c) Programmes to promote implementation of measures to minimise bycatch of turtles. Please tick the boxes that apply in your country and provide details in the text boxes below.**

Onboard observer programmes

Inspections (i.e. at sea, in port, at landing sites)

Training programmes / workshops to train fishers on the use of bycatch reduction methods

Informative videos, brochures, printed guidelines etc.

## **7) Artisanal fishing gear**

### **a) Fishing effort**

UNKNOWN

## **8) Other types of fisheries**

### **a) Fishing effort**

UNKNOWN

**1.2.2 Provide sources of information supporting the responses in 1.2.1, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources, and/or attach digital files to this report.**

References and links:

>>> Periodic statistical bulletin for the fisheries sector

Periodic reports for the Red Sea protectorates

**1.2.3 Are the bycatch mitigation measures described above (in 1.2.1) periodically reviewed and evaluated for their efficacy?**

UNSURE

**1.2.4 Has your country provided technical assistance (formally or informally) to other Signatory States of the IOSEA MOU to promote the activities to mitigate incidental catch of marine turtles in fisheries?**

NO

**1.2.6 Describe illegal unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing that is known to occur in the territorial waters of the exclusive economic zone of your country that may impact marine turtles. Does IUU fishing occur in your country?**

UNKNOWN

## **1.3 ADDRESSING HARVEST OF, AND TRADE IN, MARINE TURTLES**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

**1.3.1 Are marine turtles and/or their eggs harvest in your country? Please indicate which species are harvested.**

NO

Details:

>>> No sea turtles eggs harvesting in the Red Sea coasts in Egypt due to the most nesting areas under protection.

**1.3.2 Which types of consumptive use of turtles are practiced in your country?**

Use the text boxes below each rating to explain or clarify your responses.

**a) Meat consumption**

NO

**b) Egg consumption**

NO

**c) Fat and oil consumption**

NO

**d) Traditional medicine**

NO

**e) Shell**

NO

**f) Making of tortoise shell products (bekko)**

NO

**h) Which type(s) of consumptive use of marine turtles are the most common in your country?**

Please list the most common types of consumption:

>>> No

**1.3.3 Does your country have active legislation to prohibit direct harvest and domestic trade in marine turtles, their eggs, parts and products?**

YES

If yes, please provide details (title/date) of the relevant legislation, as well as any exemptions (e.g. for traditional use) under that legislation and comment on effectiveness of the legislation in terms of enforcement.

If more rows are required, please contact the secretariat at [iosea@un.org](mailto:iosea@un.org)

	Legislation title	Legislation date	Is traditional use allowed under this legislation?	Is the legislation enforced?	What are the challenges?
	Financial & human resources	yes	No	1983	Protectorates law
	Financial & human resources	yes	No	1994	Environmental law
	Financial & human resources	yes	No	1966	Agriculture law
	Financial & human resources	yes	No	2021	Fishing Agency law
	Financial & human resources	yes	No	1978	CITES regulations

**1.3.4 Please describe the LEGAL traditional harvest of marine turtles, their parts and products in your country by answering the questions below.**

NOTE: If there is no legal harvest of marine turtles in your country, please skip question 1.3.4 and 1.3.5.

**b) Does this or another regulation limit the level of traditional take?**

YES

**c) Does your country have a harvest quote for traditional use of marine turtles?**

NO



**1.3.11 Does your country have mechanisms in place to identify domestic and international illegal trade routes (for illegally traded marine turtles, eggs and derivatives)?**

Please provide references to any published reports (e.g. already prepared for CITES purposes) that give a more ample explanation.

YES

Details:

>>> Enforce the law by monitoring customs and port security

**1.3.13 Has your country submitted the annual illegal trade report to CITES, including information relevant for marine turtles?**

Please provide a copy of this report or a link to the published report online, if possible.

YES

**1.3.14 Are there any compliance and/or trade issues (either domestic or international) that your country would like to raise at the upcoming IOSEA MOS or otherwise through the IOSEA Secretariat?**

NO

**1.4. MINIMIZING MORTALITY THROUGH NESTING BEACH PROGRAMMES**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

**1.4.1 Tick the boxes that apply to indicate whether your country has any of the following measures in place to minimise the mortality of eggs, hatchlings and/or nesting females.**

Please indicate if these measures are being implemented at the IOSEA Network sites and index beaches that you described in question 0.2.

**Measures**

**a) Nesting beach monitoring (eggs and nesting females)**

YES

Details:

>>> Regular monitoring activities & law enforcement.

Implemented at the sites described in question 0.2 (name the sites, where this applies):

>>> Red Sea coast & islands

**b) Nesting beach protection (patrolling)**

YES

**c) Predator control**

NO

**d) Nest screening (placing wire screens over the buried nests)**

NO

**e) Vehicle access restrictions**

YES

**f) Regular removal of debris / clean-up programmes**

YES

**g) Has re-vegetation of dunes at nesting beaches been carried out, using native vegetation?**

NO

**h) Building location design regulations (coastal protection)**

YES

**i) Light pollution reduction (direct lights visible from the beach)**

YES

**k) Are these measures in place in protected areas only, or also outside of established protected areas?**

In protected areas only (list the measures above e.g. a, b, c, etc.):

>>> These procedures are applied within the scope of protection, taking into account the submission of environmental impact assessment studies for projects affecting the characteristics of beaches in areas outside the protection to ensure the application of appropriate standards to protect sea turtles and other marine organisms.

**1.4.2 To what extent is egg relocation practiced in your country (including relocation to hatcheries)?**

Egg relocation is NEVER practiced

**1.4.3 Has your country undertaken an evaluation of the effectiveness of its nesting beach management programmes in terms of maximizing the recruitment of marine turtle hatchlings?**

YES

# **OBJECTIVE II: PROTECT, CONSERVE AND RESTORE MARINE TURTLE HABITATS**

## **2.1 MEASURES TO PROTECT AND CONSERVE MARINE TURTLE HABITATS**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

### **2.1.1 Please list Protected Areas (PAs), sanctuaries or temporary exclusion zones that were created to protect marine turtle habitat. Please provide the official name and date of establishment.**

Details:

>>> Mangrove & Red Sea islands PA (2006)

Red Sea north islands PA (2006)

Wadi El-Gimal PA (2003)

Elba PA (1986)

References and links:

>>> <https://www.eeaa.gov.eg/>

### **2.1.3 Is marine water quality (including marine debris) monitored near turtle habitats? If yes, describe the nature of this monitoring and any remedial measures that may have been taken.**

YES

Details:

>>> This is done through a program and periodic monitoring stations for water quality along the coast of the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea.

### **2.1.4 Are measures in place to prohibit the use of poisonous chemicals and explosives in the marine environment?**

YES

Use the text box to elaborate on your response.

Details:

>>> Environment law (4/ 1994)

Protectorates law (102/ 1983)

## **2.2 RESTORATION OF DEGRADED MARINE TURTLE HABITATS**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

### **2.2.1 What efforts are being made to recover degraded coral reef habitat? Give details (location, how long efforts have been carried out, effectiveness, lessons learned, future plans, etc).**

YES see below

### **2.2.2 Are efforts being made to recover degraded mangrove habitats that are important for turtles?**

YES see below

### **2.2.3 What efforts are being made to recover degraded seagrass habitats? Give details (location, duration, effectiveness, lessons learned, future plans etc.).**

YES, see below

## OBJECTIVE III: IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF MARINE TURTLE ECOLOGY AND POPULATIONS THROUGH RESEARCH, MONITORING AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE

### 3.1 STUDIES ON MARINE TURTLES AND THEIR HABITATS

provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

#### 3.1.1 Please list monitoring programmes that are currently in place or are being planned in your country.

Please enter details in the following table. If more rows are required, please contact the secretariat at [iosea@un.org](mailto:iosea@un.org)

	Site geographical name (refer to questions 0.1 and 0.2)	Species genetic stock	Start year	Duration of the monitoring programme	Nature of monitoring	Population trend	Is this a protected area?
	Yes	Increase	regular patrolling	Spring seasons	2006		Mangrove & Red Sea islands
	Yes	regular patrolling	regular patrolling	Spring seasons	2006		Red Sea North islands
	Yes	regular patrolling	regular patrolling	Spring seasons	2003		Waid El-Gimal
	Yes	Stable	regular patrolling	Spring seasons	1986		Elba

#### 3.1.2 Has your country undertaken an evaluation of its marine turtle monitoring programmes?

YES

#### 3.1.3 Which of the following methods have been or are being used to identify migration routes of turtles?

Use the text boxes to provide details

##### a) Tagging (flipper)

YES

Details (e.g., list species, duration of programme, start and end year):

>>> Green turtles, 2019 to 2020.  
Hawksbill turtles 2019 to 2020.

##### b) Satellite tracking

No

### **c) Genetic studies**

YES

#### **3.1.4 Have the studies mentioned in 3.1.3 helped to identify foraging and migration areas of marine turtles in your country?**

UNSURE

#### **3.1.5 Is the use of traditional ecological knowledge in research being promoted?**

YES

### **3.2 COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AND MONITORING**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

#### **3.2.1 Does your country participate in any regional or sub-regional action plans that identify regional priorities in terms of research and monitoring needs?**

NO

#### **3.2.2 On which of the following themes have regional collaborative studies and monitoring been conducted? Use the text boxes to describe the nature of this international collaboration or to clarify your response. Answer 'NO' if the studies/monitoring undertaken do not involve international collaboration.**

##### **a) Reproductive biology (including any of the following: nesting data, hatchling survival, nest protection, recruitment, etc.)**

NO

##### **b) Genetic characterization**

NO

##### **c) Migratory and dispersal routes**

NO

##### **d) Other biological and ecological aspects**

NO

### **3.3 DATA ANALYSIS AND APPLIED RESEARCH**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

#### **3.3.1 Describe how research results are being applied to improve management practices and mitigation of threats.**

Details:

>>> These researches and studies contributed to identifying the most important sites to be declared natural protected areas.

#### **3.3.2 Is traditional knowledge on marine turtles and their habitats being used for conservation and management?**

YES

### **3.4 INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

#### **3.4.1 Has your country undertaken any initiatives (nationally or through collaboration with other IOSEA Signatory States) to standardise methods of data collection?**

YES

If yes, please give details of the agreed protocol(s).

Details:

>>> Researchers in nature reserves were trained on standardized models for monitoring biodiversity and sea turtles.

**3.4.2 Has your country taken part in producing IUCN regional status reports for red list assessments?**

NO

**3.4.3 How often does your country share information on marine turtle populations of regional interest with other IOSEA Signatories?**

every 3 years

**3.4.4 Since 2019, has your country taken part in any workshops or other events with participation of other countries, scientific institutions, non-governmental or international organisations in order to develop and implement best practice approaches for marine turtle conservation?**

YES

# **OBJECTIVE IV: INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE THREATS TO MARINE TURTLES AND THEIR HABITATS, AND ENHANCE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES**

## **4.1 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION PROGRAMMES**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

### **4.1.1 Are education/awareness programmes in place at/near nesting beaches?**

YES

Please indicate at which sites, described in question 0.2 these programmes are being implemented.

Details:

>>> Mangrove & Red Sea islands  
The Red Sea North Islands  
Wadi El-Gimal  
Elba

### **4.1.2 Describe the educational materials, including mass media information programmes that your country has collected, developed and/or disseminated.**

Details/future plans:

>>> Awareness campaigns include cleaning campaigns, distributing brochures and T-shirts, and showing short video films about the importance of sea turtles

### **4.1.3 Which of the following groups have been the targets of focused education or awareness programmes?**

- Fishing industry
- Communities that interact with marine turtles and their habitats
- Local/Fishing communities
- Tourists
- Media
- Teachers
- Students
- Military, Navy, Police
- Scientists
- NGOs
- Enforcement personnel
- judicial personnel

### **4.14 Have any community learning centres or information centres been established in your country?**

YES

## **4.2 STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

### **4.2.1 Are there public participation programmes in place at nesting beaches to involve local stakeholders in activities to conserve marine turtles?**

YES

If yes, which stakeholders are being involved?

- Fishing industry
- Communities that interact with marine turtles and their habitats
- Local/Fishing communities
- Tourists
- Teachers
- Students
- Military, Navy, Police

NGOs

**4.2.2. The role of local communities. Please answer the questions below, giving examples of activities that took place since 2019.**

a) Is traditional knowledge used in the development of education and awareness programmes in your country?

YES

b) Do local communities participate in the development and implementation of conservation measures?

Details, examples:

>>> Yes

**4.2.3 Describe initiatives undertaken or planned since 2019 to involve and encourage the cooperation of Government institutions, NGOs and the private sector in marine turtle conservation programmes.**

Details/future plans:

>>> Bleach Watch Egypt 2023 - 2024

Young women against plastic

Underwater Military Museum - Alternative Dive Sites

The Great Fringing Reef of the Egyptian Red Sea

Red sea without plastic initiative

No Plastic Campaign in the Red Sea

Boats' Crews Training

Red Sea Wonders Museum & Research Center

Reef Restoration Program



# **OBJECTIVE V: ENHANCE NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

## **5.1 COOPERATION NEEDS**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

### **5.1.1 Please indicate, the extent to which the following local management issues require regional and/or international cooperation in order to achieve progress.**

In other words, how important is **regional/international** cooperation for addressing the issues listed below?

#### **a) Illegal fishing in territorial waters**

IMPORTANT

#### **b) Incidental capture by foreign fleets in territorial waters**

IMPORTANT

#### **c) Enforcement/patrolling of territorial waters**

IMPORTANT

#### **d) Illegal fishing in EEZ**

LIMITED

#### **e) Incidental capture by foreign fleets in EEZ**

LIMITED

#### **f) Enforcement/patrolling of EEZ**

LIMITED

#### **g) Harvest exploitation of turtles and eggs**

IMPORTANT

#### **h) Illegal trade in turtle parts and products**

ESSENTIAL

#### **i) Development of gear technology to reduce bycatch of marine turtles**

ESSENTIAL

#### **j) Marine pollution, including oil spills and marine debris**

ESSENTIAL

#### **k) Training / capacity-building**

IMPORTANT

#### **l) Alternative livelihood development**

IMPORTANT

#### **m) Characterisation of turtle populations/genetic stocks**

IMPORTANT

#### **n) Identification of migration routes**

IMPORTANT

#### **o) Tagging / satellite tracking**

IMPORTANT

**p) Habitat studies**

IMPORTANT

**q) Genetic studies**

IMPORTANT

**5.2 COOPERATION AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

**5.2.1 Regional cooperation to enhance marine turtle conservation and management**

a) Which regional/bilateral agreements for marine turtle conservation and management does your country participate in?

Details:

>>> CMS

Barcelona convention

ACCOBAMS

CBD

CITES

PERSGA

b) Please list the organizations that your country cooperates with to enhance regional collaboration on marine turtle conservation in your subregion.

Details:

>>> The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency

**c) Do these agreements and organizations have an associated action plan for the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats? Please list the respective actions plans.**

If more rows are required, please contact the secretarat at [iosea@un.org](mailto:iosea@un.org)

	Name of the regional/sub-regional action plan (include web links to plan if available)	Species covered	Geographic coverage	Objectives	Threats addressed by the plan
			The Mediterranean basin		The regional action plan for the conservation of the sea turtles in the Mediterranean.

**5.3 CAPACITY-BUILDING**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

**5.3.1 Describe your country's needs in terms of human resources, knowledge and facilities, in order to build capacity to strengthen marine turtle conservation measures in the IOSEA region.**

Details:

>>> - There is a need to fund the participation of Egyptian research teams in regional training and exchange of experiences

- There is a need to provide technical and financial support to working groups in implementing conservation programmes

**5.3.3 Specifically in relation to capacity-building for the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats, describe any partnerships with universities, research institutions, training bodies and other relevant organisations, national, regional, and/or international.**

Details/future plans:

>>> Cooperation with regional organizations and universities, especially in the countries of the Western Indian Ocean.

## **5.4 STRATEGY AND LEGISLATION**

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

### **5.4.1 Development of a national action plan**

**a) Is there a national action plan for the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats in your country?**

YES

Details:

title of the document, year, link:

>>> National action plan to protect sea turtles along the Egyptian Mediterranean coast

**c) List the genetic stocks (marine turtle populations) identified as priorities in the national action plan or in other action plans for conservation of biodiversity in your country.**

Details/future plans:

>>> Green turtles

Hawksbill turtles

Loggerhead turtles

Olive turtles

**5.4.2 Which are the main threats to marine turtles in your country per species and the most urgent management activities to address them?**

Please list up to 5 corresponding activities from the IOSEA Conservation and Management Plan (CMP).

>>> pollution

Bycatch

the noise

Tourism development

Intentional killing

**5.4.3 Has your country conducted a review of policies and laws to address any inconsistencies in relation to the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats?**

YES

Details, future plans:

>>> Issuing new versions of legislation related to the environment, agriculture, fisheries, communications, and tourism development. All of these proposals are being presented for study and vote in Parliament.

**5.4.5 Does your country have legislation that explicitly requires marine and coastal development projects and natural resource extraction projects to be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in relation to marine turtles and their habitats?**

YES

a) If yes, please provide references to legal texts, date of adoption and briefly describe such legislation.

Details:

>>> Environment law (4/ 1994)

## OBJECTIVE VI: PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOU, INCLUDING THE CMP

### 6.1 IOSEA MARINE TURTLE MOU MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

#### 6.1.2 Is your country currently favourable, in principle, to amending the MOU to make it a legally binding instrument?

YES

### 6.2 RESOURCES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOU

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

#### 6.2.2 In the last 5 years, what funding sources have been available for your country to support marine turtle conservation?

YES

Details: (national, other governments, international organisations, donor organisations, industry, private sector, foundations)

>>> At national level "Government funding and some NGO contributions"

#### 6.2.3 In accordance with CITES decisions on marine turtles, has your country attempted to raise funds for the activities listed below through CITES?

NO

### 6.3 COORDINATION AMONG GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Provide sources of information supporting the above responses, include reports (governmental, departmental, university, NGO, etc.) as well as published articles (scientific or online articles); also include appropriate links to these information sources and/or attach documents to this report.

#### 6.3.1 List government agencies that play a role in the conservation and management of marine turtles and their habitats in your country. Please indicate their responsibilities in relation to protecting marine turtles and their habitats.

If more rows are required, please contact the secretariat at [iosea@un.org](mailto:iosea@un.org)

	Name of the agency	Role in the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats
	Management of fisheries	Lake and fisheries resources development & protection Agency
	Scientific research	National Institution for Oceanography & fisheries
	Education	Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport
	Control of illegal trade	Egyptian CITES management Authority
	Education	Suez Canal University
	Conservation & management	Ministry of Environment

#### 6.3.2 What are the main limitations of enforcing the laws in relation to marine turtles and their habitats across and between jurisdictions?

Details:

>>> insufficient of financial resources

Lack of human resources

## **OTHER REMARKS**

**Please provide any comments/suggestions to improve the present reporting format.**

>>> There are many similar points that should be summarized.