



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); with a copy to the Coordinator (heidrun.frisch-nwakanma@un.org), as a Word attachment.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Signatory State:

>>> Kingdom of Bahrain

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

>>> Supreme Council for Environment

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

>>> 01/03/2007

This report was last modified: (dd/mm/yyyy):

>>> 29/05/2024

Designated Focal Point (and full contact details):

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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.

	Population trend (increase, decrease, stable, unknown)	Number of egg clutches per year	Species, genetic stock	Type of habitat (nesting, feeding developmental)?	Geographic area
	stable	no record	Chelonia mydas;	feeding	Territorial waters of Bahrain, except the far south of Bahrain
	stable	no record	Eretmochelys imbricata	feeding	Fasht Al Adhem, Fasht Al jarim, Northern Hayrat, Hawar Island, Om al nassan
	stable	no records	Caretta caretta	feeding	North of Bahrain
	unknown	no records	Lepidochelys olivacea	Rare sighting of sea turtles documented	north of Bahrain

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[endangered Turtles in Bahrain](#)

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

N/A

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

NO

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, 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.

1.1.1. 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

	References and links	Has the effectiveness of this approach been evaluated? What was the result?	What does this approach/ protocol help to achieve	Title of best practice protocol or approach
	https://legalaffairs.gov.bh/PDF/RWMP20518.pdf	yes, the results was in less number of Turtle mortality	banning trawls nets	Decision No. (205) of 2018 regarding the Ban of the use of Trawl Nets at Sea (Karaf)

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Decision No. \(205\) of 2018 regarding the Ban of the use of Trawl Nets at Sea \(Karaf\)](#)[Decision No. \(205\) of 2018 regarding the Ban of the use of Trawl Nets at Sea \(Karaf\) - english version](#)

[Decision No. \(205\) of 2018 regarding the Ban of the use of Trawl Nets at Sea \(Karaf\) - arabic version](#)

1.2 REDUCTION OF INCIDENTAL CAPTURE AND MORTALITY

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.

1.2.1 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:

NONE

Please provide the information below:

Number of vessels:

>>> it is prohibited to use bottoms trawls in Bahrain.

Boat size (range or average):

>>> -

Number of trips per year:

>>> -

Mesh size used:

>>> -

Geographic distribution:

>>> -

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> -

Number of bycaught turtles per year:

>>> -

Details:

>>> it is prohibited to use bottoms trawls in Bahrain.

2) Pelagic trawling

a) Fishing effort:

NONE

Please provide the information below:

Number of vessels:

>>> -

Boat size (range or average):

>>> -

Number of trips per year:

>>> -

Geographic distribution:

>>> -

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> -

Number of bycaught turtles per year:

>>> -

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> -

3) Set nets

a) Fishing effort:

NONE

Details:

>>> Currently, Bahrain does not have well-documented or specific measures in place to minimize bycatch of marine turtles, handle incidentally caught turtles, or control fishing practices in ways that directly impact turtle conservation.

4) Driftnet

a) Fishing effort

NONE

Details:

>>> It's prohibited by law now.

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

>>> Order 205 for the year 2018.

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

Informative videos, brochures, printed guidelines etc.

Informative videos, brochures, printed guidelines etc.

Details:future plans:

>>> In the media, this method is prohibited.

5) Purse seine (with or without FADs)

a) Fishing effort

PRESENT

Please provide the information below:

Number of vessels:

>>> Small scale.

Boat size (range or average):

>>> Vary

Number of trips per year:

>>> 1000 approx

Mesh size used:

>>> vary

Geographic distribution:

>>> all around territorial water of Bahrain

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> Not reported.

Number of bycaught turtles per year:

>>> Not significant.

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

None of the above

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> None

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.

None of the above

None of the above

Explanation/future plans:

>>> - awareness programs will be launched

6) longline

a) Fishing effort

PRESENT

Please provide the information below:

Number of vessels:

>>> no specific number of vessels for such type of fishing.

Boat size (range or average):

>>> Vary

Number of trips per year:

>>> Not reported

Mesh size used:

>>> Vary

Geographic distribution:

>>> Vary

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> Not reported.

Number of bycaught turtles per year:

>>> None

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

None of the above

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> None

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.

None of the above

None of the above

Explanation/future plans:

>>> -

7) Artisanal fishing gear

Type and description:

>>> Not applicable.

a) Fishing effort

NONE

Please provide any available information below:

Number of vessels:

>>> -

Boat size (range or average):

>>> -

Number of trips per year:

>>> -

Main gear used (beach seine, traps, nets, handline, other?):

>>> -

Geographic distribution:

>>> -

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> -

Number of bycaught turtles per year:

>>> -

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

None of the above

Details:

>>> This method is not applicable to Kingdom of Bahrain.

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

>>> -

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.

None of the above

None of the above

Explanation/future plans:

>>> This method is not applicable to Kingdom of Bahrain.

8) Other types of fisheries

Type of description:

>>> -

a) Fishing effort

NONE

Please provide any available information below:

Number of vessels:

>>> -

Boat size (range or average):

>>> -

Number of trips per year:

>>> -

Mesh size used:

>>> -

Geographic distribution:

>>> -

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> -

If known, turtle species affected:

>>> -

Number of bycaught turtles per year:

>>> -

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

None of the above

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> -

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

None of the above

None of the above

Explanation/future plans

>>> -

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:

>>> Not applicable.

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?

UNSURE

1.2.5 What legislative and practical measures has your country taken in support of UN General Assembly Resolution 46/215 concerning the moratorium on the use of large-scale driftnets?

Details:

>>> Drift nets are used to catch Spanish mackerel. This net can be extended to several kms. The use of drift gillnet is banned in Bahrain waters according according to item 20 of the Bahrain's fisheries law for the year 2002.

References and links:

>>> <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/bah72240.pdf>

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?

NO

a) Please indicate number of vessels per year (0, 1-10, 11-50, 51-100, 101-500, more than 500)

>>> -

b) Countries of origin of IUU fishing, if known?

Details:

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

c) Is there enforcement in place to deter these practices? Please indicate area covered and challenges.

Details:

>>> -

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:

>>> Order No. 3 for the year 2003 issued by the General Commission for the Protection of the Marine Resources, Environment, and Wildlife prohibited the catch of dugongs, turtles and dolphins in waters of the Kingdom of Bahrain. Also, order 20 for year 2002 and order 7 for year 2022.

References and links:

>>>

https://www.sce.gov.bh/Media/Pdf/legislations/%D9%82%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%88%D9%86%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%207%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202022%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A6%D8%A9.pdf?fbclid=PAAabcYnQGsfzAfL7CRfxz1s_Ppw__iSuHhVdjGDx71

<https://www.lloc.gov.bh/Legislation/HTM/RCPMW0303>

[https://www.sce.gov.bh/Media/Pdf/legislations/2002/%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B1%D8%B3%D9%88%D9%85%20%D8%A8%D9%82%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%88%D9%86%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%20\(20\)%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202002%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%AA%D9%86%D8%B8%D9%8A%D9%85%20%D8%B5%D9%8A%D8%AF%20%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%BA%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%84%20%D9%88%D8%AD%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%8A%D8%A9%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AB%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%A9%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%8A%D9%91%D8%A9.pdf](https://www.sce.gov.bh/Media/Pdf/legislations/2002/%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B1%D8%B3%D9%88%D9%85%20%D8%A8%D9%82%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%88%D9%86%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%20(20)%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202002%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%AA%D9%86%D8%B8%D9%8A%D9%85%20%D8%B5%D9%8A%D8%AF%20%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%BA%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%84%20%D9%88%D8%AD%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%8A%D8%A9%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AB%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%A9%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%8A%D9%91%D8%A9.pdf)

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

Details (e.g. species, estimated number taken per year, location, if known):

>>> -

b) Egg consumption

NO

Details (e.g. species, estimated number taken per year, location, if known):

>>> -

c) Fat and oil consumption

NO

Details (e.g. species, estimated number taken per year, location, if known):

>>> -

d) Traditional medicine

NO

Details (e.g. species, estimated number taken per year, location, if known):

>>> -

e) Shell

NO

Details (e.g. species, estimated number taken per year, location, if known):

>>> -

f) Making of tortoise shell products (bekko)

NO

Details (e.g. species, estimated number taken per year, location, if known):

>>> -

g) Other

Details (e.g. species, estimated number taken per year, location, if known):

>>> -

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:

>>> Not reported.

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

	What are the challenges ?	Is the legislation enforced?	Is traditional use allowed under this legislation?	Legislation date	Legislation title
	-	yes	no	2003	Order No. 3 for the year 2003 issued by the General Commission for the Protection of the Marine Resources, Environment, and Wildlife prohibited the catch of dugongs, turtles and dolphins in waters of the Kingdom of Bahrain
	-	yes	no	2022	law No. 7 for the year 2022 regarding Environment
	limitation in human resources	yes	no	2002	decree law 20 for the year 2002, regarding regulating fishing, exploitation and protection of marine resources

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.

a) Please provide the regulation, which allows traditional harvest of marine turtles in your country.

Details:

>>> it is completely prohibited to hunt Turtles in Bahrain

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

NO

Details:

>>> it is completely prohibited to hunt Turtles in Bahrain

References and links:

>>> <https://www.lloc.gov.bh/PDF/RCPMW0303.pdf>

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

NO

Details:

>>> There is no established harvest quota for traditional use of marine turtles in Bahrain. Conservation measures and regulations are in place to protect marine turtles and prevent their exploitation

References and links:

>>> -

e) Please list the specific locations where harvest is allowed.

Note: please provide a reference to any reports or documents, which give the background for the management of turtle harvest in your country.

Details:

>>> In Bahrain, harvest of marine turtles is not allowed anywhere within its jurisdiction.

References and links:

>>> -

f) Where does traditional harvest occur, and which species are affected?

Details:

>>> In Bahrain, there is no traditional harvest of marine turtles. Marine turtles are protected under both national and international regulations, and there are no known traditional harvest practices for marine turtles in Kingdom of Bahrain.

References and links:

>>> -

g) How is the compliance with the existing regulations on traditional harvest monitored?

Details:

>>> Compliance with regulations on marine turtle protection in Bahrain is monitored through inspections, reporting systems, collaboration with NGOs, and public awareness campaigns. While there is no traditional harvest, these measures ensure adherence to conservation laws and address any potential violations.

References and links:

>>> -

1.3.5 List any management agreements between your country and other States in the IOSEA region to ensure that legal harvest of marine turtles has no negative effects on the population size. Please provide references and links to published documents.

Details:

>>> Not applicable, since there is no traditional harvest of turtle in Bahrain.

References and links:

>>> -

1.3.6 Please describe the ILLEGAL harvest of marine turtles and eggs in your country by answering the questions below.

a) Does illegal harvest of marine turtles occur in your country?

NO

Details:

>>> not applicable

References and links:

>>> -

b) Please list the specific locations where illegal harvest is known to occur, if possible.

Details (examples of areas where illegal harvest is known to occur):

>>> Not applicable.

References and links:

>>> -

c) What is the impact of this illegal harvest on the populations of marine turtles? In case of

illegal egg collection, what is the impact on marine turtle recruitment?

Details:

>>> Not applicable.

References and links:

>>> -

1.3.7 Which of the following adverse economic incentives are encouraging illegal take of marine turtles in your country?

Not Applicable

Please use the text box below to explain your response(s) including 'Not Applicable'.

Details:

>>> Not applicable, since there is no traditional harvest of turtle in Bahrain.

References and links:

>>> -

1.3.8 Has your country taken any measures to try to correct these adverse incentives?

NOT APPLICABLE (no adverse economic incentives exist)

1.3.9 Are there touristic activities linked in marine turtles in your country?

NO

1.3.10 Are there any standard and government-certified protocols to ensure that touristic activities do not harm turtles and/or hatchlings?

YES

Please briefly describe the type of protocols used, references or links, if available.

Details:

>>> there are no touristic activities for turtles in Bahrain. however, harming turtles is prohibited by law.

References and links:

>>> -

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.

NOT APPLICABLE

Details:

>>> -

References and links

>>> -

1.3.12 Please describe any activities/projects that aim(ed) to reduce illegal take of and/or trade in marine turtles in your country.

If more rows are required, please contact the secretariat at iosea@un.org

	Project website or other links with project description	Lessons learned	How does the project involve local communities?	End year (if completed)	Start year	Implemented by	Title of the project/activity
	not applicable						

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.

NO

Details:

>>> Not applicable.
there is no illegal trade of turtles in Bahrain

References and links:

>>> -

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)

N/A

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

b) Nesting beach protection (patrolling)

N/A

Details:

>>> Not applicable, there is no nesting of turtles in Kingdom of Bahrain.

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

c) Predator control

N/A

Details:

>>> Not applicable.

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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

N/A

Details:

>>> Not applicable, there is no nesting of turtles in Kingdom of Bahrain.

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

e) Vehicle access restrictions

N/A

Details:

>>> Not applicable.

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

f) Regular removal of debris / clean-up programmes

N/A

List recent clean-up programmes/references and links:

>>> Not applicable.

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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

NO

Details:

>>> None.

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

h) Building location design regulations (coastal protection)

NO

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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

NO

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

j) Other

Details:

>>> -

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

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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.):

>>> - n/a

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

>>> - n/a

References and links:

>>> -

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

Egg relocation is NEVER practiced

References and links:

>>> -

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?

NOT APPLICABLE

Please indicate when the evaluation took place, and provide a reference or a copy of any published or unpublished reports describing any lessons learned.

Details:

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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:

- >>> 1. Hawar Islands Protected Area, Bahrain Established in 1996.
2. Arad Bay Marine Protected Area, Bahrain Established in 2014.
3. Northern Hayrat in 2017.
4. Mishtan Island in 2002.
5. Tubli Bay in 2006
6. Nijwa Bulthama in 2017.

References and links:

>>> Source: "Decree No. 2 of 1996 Concerning the Establishment of a Protected Area in the Hawar Islands" - Government of Bahrain, 1996. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov.bh/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Hawar-Protected-Area.pdf>

Source: "Decree No. 48 of 2014 Concerning the Establishment of a Marine Protected Area in Arad Bay" - Government of Bahrain, 2014. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov.bh/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Arad-Bay-Marine-Protected-Area.pdf>

[https://www.sce.gov.bh/en/Media/Pdf/legislations/%D9%82%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%B1%20%D8%B1%D8%A6%D9%8A%D8%B3%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%AC%D9%84%D8%B3%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89%20%D9%84%D9%84%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A6%D8%A9%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%20\(2\)%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202017%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%AA%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B1%20%D9%86%D8%AC%D9%88%D8%A9%20%D8%A8%D9%88%D9%84%D8%AB%D8%A7%D9%85%D8%A9%20%D9%85%D9%86%D8%B7%D9%82%D8%A9%20%D9%85%D8%AD%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9%20%D8%A8%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A9.pdf](https://www.sce.gov.bh/en/Media/Pdf/legislations/%D9%82%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%B1%20%D8%B1%D8%A6%D9%8A%D8%B3%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%AC%D9%84%D8%B3%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89%20%D9%84%D9%84%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A6%D8%A9%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%20(2)%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202017%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%AA%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B1%20%D9%86%D8%AC%D9%88%D8%A9%20%D8%A8%D9%88%D9%84%D8%AB%D8%A7%D9%85%D8%A9%20%D9%85%D9%86%D8%B7%D9%82%D8%A9%20%D9%85%D8%AD%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9%20%D8%A8%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A9.pdf)
<https://www.legalaffairs.gov.bh/Legislation/HTM/K5306>

2.1.2 Has your country developed any incentives to encourage protection of marine turtle habitat outside of protected areas?

Details:

>>> 1. Coastal Zone Management Plan:

Bahrain has developed a Coastal Zone Management Plan that aims to balance development and environmental protection along the country's coastline.

The plan includes measures to mitigate impacts on sensitive coastal habitats, including nesting sites for marine turtles.

2. Awareness and Education Campaigns:

The Supreme Council for Environment in Bahrain has organized various awareness and education campaigns to promote the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats.

These campaigns target local communities, fishermen, and other stakeholders to raise awareness and encourage voluntary protection efforts.

3. Incentives for Ecotourism:

Bahrain has been developing ecotourism initiatives that highlight the country's natural assets.

The government provides incentives and support for ecotourism operators to develop sustainable tourism activities that contribute to the protection of these habitats.

4. Collaboration with Local and International Organizations:

Bahrain collaborates with local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and research institutions to monitor and protect marine turtle populations and their habitats.

These partnerships often involve data sharing, joint research projects, and the implementation of conservation measures.

References and links:

- >>> 1. <https://www.sce.gov.bh/en/CoastalZoneManagementPlan>

2. <https://www.sce.gov.bh/en/Environmental-Awareness-and-Education>
3. <https://www.bahrain.com/en/article/Bahrain's-Ecotourism-Strategy>
4. <https://www.sce.gov.bh/en/Environmental-Partnerships>
Source: Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain
Source: Ministry of Tourism, Bahrain

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:

>>> Marine Water Quality Monitoring:

The Supreme Council for Environment in Bahrain conducts regular monitoring of the water quality in coastal and marine areas, including near known turtle migration route.

Parameters monitored include water temperature, salinity, pH, dissolved oxygen, and the presence of pollutants and contaminants.

This monitoring helps in assessing the overall health of the marine environment and identifying any potential threats to turtle habitats.

References and links:

>>>
<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sce.gov.bh%2FMedia%2FDocument%2Fmarine%25202007%2520-%25202016%2520may%25202017.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

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:

>>> Using of poisonous chemicals and explosives are prohibited in the marine environment according to order #7 for year 2022 and order #3 for year 2021.

References and links:

>>>
https://www.sce.gov.bh/Media/Pdf/legislations/%D9%82%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%88%D9%86%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%207%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202022%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A6%D8%A9.pdf?fbclid=PAAabcYnQGsfzAfL7CRfz1s_Ppw__iSuHhVdjGDx7l
<https://www.sce.gov.bh/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%AD%D9%83%D9%85%D9%81%D9%8A%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%84%D9%88%D8%AB?cms=iQRpheuphYtj6pyXUGiNqnUGrcjKT52e>

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).

No efforts to recover degraded coral reefs

Details/future plans:

>>> there are no dredged corals in Bahrain.

References and links:

>>> -

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

YES see below

If yes, give details (location, duration, effectiveness, lessons learned, future plans etc.)

Details/future plans:

>>> Mangrove Cultivation Efforts:

The Kingdom of Bahrain has set a goal to plant 460,000 mangroves by the end of 2023.

As of November 2023, the country has already planted 749,000 mangroves, exceeding the original target by 163%.

This mangrove planting initiative is part of Bahrain's commitment to achieving net-zero carbon neutrality by 2060 and combating climate change.

Mangroves had been planted in several areas across Kingdom of Bahrain such as Fash Aljarem, Ras Hayan, Arad Bay, Tubli Bay and Sitra island.

The efforts are being led by the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture and are in line with the directives of HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister to expand afforestation across the country.

Stakeholder Involvement:

The mangrove cultivation program involves collaboration between various government entities and stakeholders.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister met with HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa to review the latest developments in the mangrove cultivation efforts.

The meeting also included the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, providing updates on the progress achieved.

Environmental and Climate Benefits:

The mangrove planting initiatives are part of Bahrain's broader efforts to combat climate change and achieve environmental security. The increased mangrove coverage is expected to provide important habitats for various species, including turtles, and contribute to the overall ecological resilience of the coastal ecosystems.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals:

The mangrove recovery efforts support Bahrain's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 13 (Climate Action) and Goal 14 (Life Below Water).

References and links:

>>> <https://www.bna.bh/en/news?cms=q8FmFJgiscL2fwlzON1%2BDiNgl4a6lJjroX8TzgLSze0%3D>

<https://www.sce.gov.bh/en//news?cms=q8FmFJgiscL2fwlzON1%2BDnzwcdSdA2mw>

<https://sdgs.gov.bh/NewsDetails?nid=zCCteZqJle4VVGampQlytQ==>

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

Details/future plans:

>>> The Supreme Council for Environment (SCE) in the Kingdom of Bahrain, did several efforts to recover the degraded seagrass habitats:

Seagrass Mapping and Assessment:

a study has been conducted on mapping and assessment of seagrass habitats across Bahrain's coastal areas. This study identified the locations and extent of seagrass meadows, as well as the level of degradation and threats facing these ecosystems.

Seagrass Restoration Pilot Projects:

pilot seagrass restoration project in Diyar Al Muharraq.

this project involved transplanting seagrass shoots from healthy donor sites to degraded areas, with the aim of re-establishing the seagrass beds.

Future Plans and Upscaling:

Based on the lessons learned from the pilot projects, the SCE is now planning to expand the seagrass restoration efforts to other priority areas in Bahrain.

The goal is to develop a comprehensive seagrass restoration program, building on the knowledge and experience gained from the initial pilot projects.

The SCE aims to collaborate with local and international experts to further refine the restoration techniques and improve the long-term success of the seagrass recovery initiatives.

References and links:

>>> - <https://www.arabianbusiness.com/gcc/bahrain-launches-pilot-study-restore-seagrass-environment-644099>

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

	Is this a protected area?	Population trend	Nature of monitoring	Duration of the monitoring programme	Start year	Species genetic stock	Site geographical name (refer to questions 0.1 and 0.2)
	Yes	Stable	stranded, mortality, distribution	Ongoing	2005	Chelonia mydas, Eretmochelys imbricata, Caretta caretta	Hawar Islands, Mashtan, Northern Hayrat, tubli Bay, Arad Bay
	No	Stable	stranded, mortality, distribution	Ongoing	2005	Chelonia mydas, Eretmochelys imbricata, Caretta caretta	Hawar Islands, Mashtan, Northern Hayrat, tubli Bay, Arad Bay

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

YES

Please indicate when the evaluation took place and describe lessons learned.

Details:

>>> Annual review of the conducted works is conducted at the end of the year. It was found that the supreme council for environment is doing great work, but more efforts should be done to decrease the potential obstacles such as the small funding.

References and links:

>>> <https://www.sce.gov.bh/Media/Downloads/reports/pdf/11%20Eng%20Final%20Version%20of%20the%20report.pdf>

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)

NO

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

>>> Not yet conducted

References and links:

>>> -

b) Satellite tracking

No

Details (e.g. species, genetic stock):

>>> No enough Financial funding for this program.

References and links:

>>> -

c) Genetic studies

NO

Details (e.g. species, genetic stock):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

d) Other (list and provide details)

Details (e.g. species, genetic stock):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

e) None of the above

Explain briefly:

>>> -

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

NO

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

UNSURE

Explanation/examples:

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

3.1.6 Give a list of relevant literature that includes information from studies carried out in your country on marine turtle populations and their habitats, sorting them by topic.

a) Bycatch mitigation measures

Details (e.g. numbers and species of released turtles, type of fishery and gear used, method for monitoring survival, result):

>>> There is a study assessed bycatch in Bahrain's shrimp trawl fishery, finding 20-35% of boats reported catching turtles, with highest rates in certain areas, suggesting the green turtle as the dominant species. Several studies provide a comprehensive assessment of marine turtle populations and threats in Kingdom of Bahrain and the broader Arabian Gulf region. The key findings include: 1) 20-35% of shrimp trawlers in Bahrain reported catching turtles, with highest rates in certain areas; 2) 79 dead turtles were recorded in Bahrain in 2007, mainly due to bycatch and boat strikes; 3) important turtle habitats were identified that could benefit from protection; and 4) baseline data on the distribution and abundance of various turtle species.

Overall, the studies highlight the significant conservation challenges facing marine turtles in the region and the need for effective management and mitigation measures.

References and links:

>>> https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ebrahim-Abdulqader/publication/34373669_Study_of_bycatch_generated_by_shrimp_trawling_in_Bahrain_water/links/0deec52a837a8b162b000000/Study-of-bycatch-generated-by-shrimp-trawling-in-Bahrain-water.pdf
<https://meridian.allenpress.com/ccb/article-abstract/11/1/133/26977/Marine-Turtle-Mortalities-in-Bahrain-Territorial?redirectedFrom=fulltext>
Hodgson, A., 2006. The distribution, abundance and conservation of dugongs and other marine megafauna in Bahraini waters. Geomatec, James Cook University. pp. 50.
Miller, J. D. 1989. An assessment of the conservation status of marine turtles in Saudi Arabia. MEPA Coastal and Marine Management Series, report No. 9, Vol. 1, pp. 209.
Miller, J. D., Limpus, C. J., & Ross, J. P. 1989. An assessment of the conservation status of marine turtles in Saudi Arabia. MEPA Coastal and Marine Management Series, report No. 9, Vol. 2, pp. 63

b) Effect of bycatch mitigation measures on non-target species

Details (e.g. type of fishery and gear used, mitigation method assessed, result):

>>> This is one of the first studies to quantify turtle bycatch in the shrimp trawl fishery of the Arabian Gulf region. The findings highlight the need for bycatch mitigation measures to reduce the impact on marine turtle populations in Bahrain.

Another study had been conducted in order to monitor and document the incidence of dead marine turtles found in Bahrain's waters and to investigate the causes of turtle mortality. The study is comprehensive research to document the mortality of marine turtles in Bahrain's waters. The findings highlight the significant threats faced by turtle populations from fisheries bycatch and boat traffic. The data can inform conservation efforts and mitigation measures to reduce turtle mortality

References and links:

>>> Abdulqader, E. A. A. 2006. Turtle incidences in shrimp trawl nets during the seasons 1998/99 to 2002/03 in Bahrain's waters. Bahrain Centre for Studies and Research, pp. 24
Abdulqader, E. A. A., 2008. The death of marine turtles in the Kingdom of Bahrain's waters: Report of the Dead Marine Turtle Monitoring Program for the last quarter of 2007. Bahrain Center for Studies and Research, pp. 37. (in Arabic)

c) Frequency and pathology of disease in marine turtles

Details (disease, incidence, species and genetic stock):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

d) Genetic studies

Details (species and genetic stock):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

e) Socio-economic studies within communities that interact with marine turtles and their habitats

Details (aim of study, methods, results):

>>> There are two studies that discussed partially the social and economic factors relation and interactions with turtles and their habitats in Bahrain.

References and links:

>>> Al-Zayani, A. K. 2003. The selection of marine protected areas (MPAs): A model for the Kingdom of Bahrain. Centre for Environmental Sciences, University of Southampton, Ph D thesis, pp. 268.
Hodgson, A., 2006. The distribution, abundance and conservation of dugongs and other marine megafauna in Bahraini waters. Geomatec, James Cook University. pp. 50.

f) Evaluation of the efficacy of conservation activities for marine turtles and their habitats

Details (types of activities assessed, participation of local communities in the evaluation, methods, results):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

g) Other

Details (aim of study, results):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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?

YES

Please specify:

If more rows are required, please contact the secretariat at iosea@un.org

	Links	Identified research and monitoring needs	Regional or sub-regional action plan
	https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/kuw47649.pdf	protection of Marine life	Regional action Plan

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

Details (year when collaboration took place, project name, future plans):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

b) Genetic characterization

NO

Details (year when collaboration took place, project name, future plans):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

c) Migratory and dispersal routes

NO

Details (year when collaboration took place, project name, future plans):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

d) Other biological and ecological aspects

NO

Details (year when collaboration took place, project name, future plans):

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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:

>>> The ongoing monitoring program of marine turtles Mortality in Bahrain has provided evidence that the shrimp trawl fishery is responsible for the majority of marine turtle mortalities in Bahrain's territorial waters. These findings support the concerned authorities in enforcing regulations and measures to minimize the impact of the fishery on marine turtles. These findings participated in issuing the ministerial order #205 for the year 2018.

References and links:

>>> <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/bah187394.pdf>

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

NO

Details, future plans:

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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?

NO

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

YES

Details (year when more recent collaboration took place, project name, links):

>>> Bahrain Red List of Threatened Species.

Bahrain is evaluating the conservation status of various species. It provides critical information on endangered and threatened species, highlighting the need for conservation efforts. Key findings include species facing habitat loss and other threats, underscoring the importance of protecting Bahrain's biodiversity.

This had been done in 2022.

<https://bnature.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Bahrain-Red-List-Assessment.pdf>

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

every 5 years

Details:

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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

Details (name of the event, year, main objective of the event):

>>> 1. In 2020, Bahrain participated in the 8th Meeting of the Signatory States to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU. This virtual meeting brought together representatives from IOSEA member countries to discuss regional cooperation and conservation efforts.

2. In 2021, the Supreme Council for Environment in Bahrain signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to collaborate on various environmental initiatives, including marine turtle conservation.

3. In 2022, Bahrain participated in the 9th Meeting of the Signatory States to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU.

This in-person meeting allowed for further regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing on best practices for marine turtle protection.

4. Throughout 2021 and 2022, Bahrain continued its ongoing monitoring and research programs to assess the status of marine turtle populations in its territorial waters.

References and links:

>>>

<https://www.bna.bh/en/BHBSCesignMoUonenvironmentalconservation.aspx?cms=q8FmFJgiscL2fwlzON1%2BDkDX8c1ZCOfo%2BeIn2wsrAEY%3D>

<https://www.cms.int/iosea-turtles/en/meeting/IOSEA-MOS9>

<https://www.sce.gov.bh/en/OurEffortstoProtectourEnvironment?cms=iQRpheuphYtJ6pyXUGiNqiRBGRBjMv5O>

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?

NO

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

Details:

>>> we don't have nesting beaches; however, Bahrain has implemented marine turtle education and awareness programs near the fishing harbors.

References and links:

>>> -

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

Details/future plans:

>>> Kingdom of Bahrain implemented several awareness programs and activities to educate the public on the importance of preserving and protecting marine turtles and their sites."

These educational initiatives have included the production and distribution of brochures, leaflets, and other printed materials to raise awareness.

References and links:

>>> many posts in the official account of SCE in the Instagram:
https://www.instagram.com/sce_bh/

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

- Policy makers
- Communities that interact with marine turtles and their habitats
- Local/Fishing communities
- Media
- Students
- NGOs

Details, if necessary:

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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

NO

Details/future plans:

>>> There are several plans to establish learning centers that deliver the environment knowledge, but due to the shortage in the budget, this plan had been paused.

References and links:

>>> -

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?

N/A

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?

N/A

Details, examples:

>>> -

References and links:

>>> -

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

Details, examples:

>>> No

References and links:

>>> -

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:

>>> The initiatives are conducted by the government of Kingdom of Bahrain with cooperation with NGOs, local fishermen, citizens, residents and Private sectors in case of rehabilitation and Rasing a claim in case of mortality of turtles.

References and links:

>>> -<https://www.naturalbahrain.org/2014/06/05/%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%B4%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D8%AF%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AD%D9%81%D8%A7%D8%B8-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AD%D9%81-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8/>

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

IMPORTANT

g) Harvest exploitation of turtles and eggs

NOT AT ALL

h) Illegal trade in turtle parts and products

NOT AT ALL

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

IMPORTANT

j) Marine pollution, including oil spills and marine debris

IMPORTANT

k) Training / capacity-building

ESSENTIAL

l) Alternative livelihood development

NOT AT ALL

m) Characterisation of turtle populations/genetic stocks

LIMITED

n) Identification of migration routes

IMPORTANT

o) Tagging / satellite tracking

ESSENTIAL

p) Habitat studies

ESSENTIAL

q) Genetic studies

IMPORTANT

Other:

>>> -

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:

- >>> 1. IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU
- 2. Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
- 3. Kuwait Regional Convention For Co-Operation On The Protection Of The Marine Environment From Pollution
- 4. Convention on the Conservation of Wildlife and Natural Habitats In the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

References and links:

- >>> <https://www.cms.int/iosea-turtles/en>
- <https://www.cms.int/>
- <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/kuw47649.pdf>
- <https://www.legalaffairs.gov.bh/Legislation/HTM/L0902>
- <https://ropme.org/about-ropme/ropme-sea-area/>

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

Details:

>>> Kingdom of Bahrain cooperates with the several government entities to enhance regional collaboration on marine turtle conservation in the Arabian Gulf subregion such as:
 The environment Authority of Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and UAE.
 These regional partnerships allow Bahrain to share data, align conservation strategies, and implement joint protection measures for the vulnerable marine turtle populations in the Arabian Gulf subregion.

References and links:

>>> -

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 secretariat at iosea@un.org

	Threats addressed by the plan	Object ives	Geographic coverage	Species covered	Name of the regional/sub-regional action plan (include web links to plan if available)
	-				

5.2.2 Has your country encouraged Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs) in

the Indian Ocean to adopt marine turtle conservation measures within Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) and on the high seas? Please describe the interventions made by your country in this regard in the last 5 years, referring to specific RFMOs.

Details/future plans:

>>> None

References and links:

>>> -

5.2.3 Please describe any additional efforts of your country to enhance sub-regional turtle conservation.

Details/future plans:

>>> None

References and links:

>>> -

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:

>>> To strengthen marine turtle conservation in Bahrain and the IOSEA region, several key needs must be addressed:

Human Resources:

Specialized Training: Marine biologists, wildlife conservationists, and environmental educators need targeted training and capacity-building.

Workforce Expansion: Increase the number of trained conservation staff.

Knowledge:

Research: Enhance studies on marine turtle populations, threats, and health. Develop regional databases and facilitate data sharing.

Public Awareness: Launch education campaigns and create resources to inform the public and engage communities.

Facilities:

Monitoring Equipment: Acquire tracking devices and survey tools for effective data collection.

Research Labs: Establish or upgrade labs for genetic and health assessments.

Conservation Centers: Develop rescue, rehabilitation, and educational facilities.

References and links:

>>> -

5.3.2 Describe any training your country provided in marine turtle conservation and management in the last 5 years (e.g., workshops held, training manuals produced etc.), and indicate your plans for the coming year.

Details/future plans:

>>> Bahrain has participated in several workshops, meetings and seminars with respect to shrimp bycatch reduction, initiated by the global GEF/UNEP/FAO project

References and links:

>>> -

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:

>>> -

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 Biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP) 2007

<http://bh.chm-cbd.net/implementation/bahrain-nbsap/bahrain-nbsap-2015>

b) If there is no action plan yet, has a set of key management measures been identified that could eventually serve as a basis for a more specific action plan at a national or local level?

YES

Details:

Title of the documents, year, link:

>>> There is monitoring program to ensure that turtles are living in the ideal conditions. There is no clear developed action plan yet, only small procedures once a claim had been raised regarding an incident with one or more turtles. This program had been started since 2005.

<https://alwatannews.net/Bahrain/article/837837/%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%88%D8%B3%D9%85%D9%8A-%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%88%D8%B7%D9%86-%D8%AC%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%AD%D9%81-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%8A%D9%86-%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D9%88%D9%85%D9%87%D8%AF%D8%AF%D8%A9-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%82%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%B6>

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:

- >>> 1. Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)
2. Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)
3. Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

References and links:

>>> -

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).

>>> Habitat Loss: Coastal development and habitat destruction affect feeding grounds.

Climate Change: Rising temperatures affect nesting success and hatchling sex ratios.

Bycatch: Accidental capture in fishing gear is a major threat.

References and links:

>>> -

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:

>>> The policy had been updated. This reflections, assessment, and updated had been formulated in ministerial

order #7 for the year 2022.

Ministerial Order No. 7 of 2022 reflect an update in Bahrain's approach to Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), addressing the need for comprehensive assessments that include impacts on marine ecosystems, such as those affecting marine turtles. These updates are part of a broader effort to enhance environmental protection frameworks.

Review Focus: These updates aim to address gaps and improve the effectiveness of EIAs in considering and mitigating impacts on marine turtles.

References and links:

>>>

https://www.sce.gov.bh/Media/Pdf/legislations/%D9%82%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%88%D9%86%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%207%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202022%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A6%D8%A9.pdf?fbclid=PAAabcYnQGsfzAfL7CRfxz1s_Ppw_iSuHhVdjGDx7I

5.4.4 Which of the threats to marine turtles are not currently addressed by any policy or law in your country?

Details:

>>> Bycatch in Fishing Gear: Although covered indirectly, specific bycatch reduction measures for marine turtles are not detailed in the order.

References and links:

>>> -

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:

>>> Title: Ministerial Order No. 7 of 2022 regarding environment

Date of Adaptation: 2022

This legislation reflects Bahrain's commitment to preserving its marine and coastal environments, including critical habitats for marine turtles, through stringent environmental impact assessment and protection measures.

References and links:

>>>

https://www.sce.gov.bh/Media/Pdf/legislations/%D9%82%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%88%D9%86%20%D8%B1%D9%82%D9%85%207%20%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%86%D8%A9%202022%20%D8%A8%D8%B4%D8%A3%D9%86%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A6%D8%A9.pdf?fbclid=PAAabcYnQGsfzAfL7CRfxz1s_Ppw_iSuHhVdjGDx7I

b) Which measures are in place to ensure compliance with this regulation?

References and links:

>>> Regular periodic monitoring, inspections of site visits.

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.

6.1.1 What has your country already done in the past 5 years to encourage other States to sign the IOSEA MOU?

Details/future plans:

>>> -

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

YES

Use the text box to elaborate on your response, if necessary.

>>> -

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.

6.2.1 What programmes has your country funded for domestic implementation of marine turtle conservation activities related to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU?

Please refer to the IOSEA CMP and IOSEA Work Programme.

Name of the funded programme, corresponding CMP activity or IOSEA Work Programme measure:

>>> -

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

NO

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

>>> Self-funding from the government, but there is shortage in the budget. There is not enough allocated funds for all of the proposed activities and plans.

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

	Role in the conservation of marine turtles and their habitats	Name of the agency
	Formulate policies, oversee programs, enforce regulations.	Supreme Council for Environment (SCE)
	Regulate coastal development, ensure environmental impact assessments	Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning
	Patrol coasts, enforce laws, coordinate with agencies	Ministry of Interior (Coast Guard)

	Provide funding, allocate resources for conservation efforts	Ministry of Finance and National Economy
	Integrate education, collaborate on public awareness activities	Ministry of Education

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:

- >>> 1. Limitation in Enforcement Capacity.
- 2. Limited resources.

References and links:

>>> -

