

# REVIEW OF IOSEA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

Document 6 (Part I), Doc. 6 (Addendum – Rev.1), Doc. 6.1



## IOSEA Conservation and Management Plan (CMP)

Six main objectives

- Reduce mortality
- Education Awareness Participat'n
- Protect Habitat
- International Cooperat'n
- Research / Monitoring
- Promote Implementation

~ 80 aspects of implementation


24 programmes

### IOSEA National Reporting

- § Directly linked to IOSEA Conservation and Management Plan (CMP)
- § Unique system for monitoring performance across thematic areas of work (and by country)
- § Region-wide overview, 4 sub-regional break-downs
- § Temporal comparisons (past evaluations)

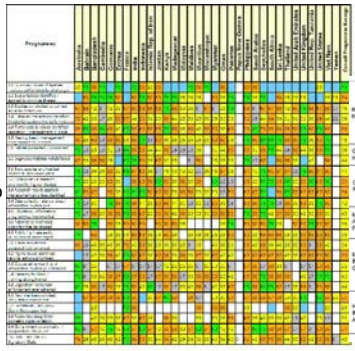
### IOSEA National Reporting - 2011

Doc. 6 - Addendum Rev.1



- § Core report / Site Data Sheets / Action requested
- § Roughly 1/2: pretty good (in one or both aspects)
- § Roughly 1/3 reports: shortcomings (SDS)
- § Remainder: average

### Performance Matrix - All 33 IOSEA Sign. States (2011)




24 CMP Programmes

**Doc. 6 – Annex 1**

- § 8-10 areas of strength (O/G)
- § ~ 6 areas of weakness
- § 12 / 33 SS with relatively good performance

Methodology:  
Doc. 6 (Parts II & III)



## IOSEA Marine Turtle Memorandum of Understanding

Four sub-regions:

- Northern Indian Ocean
- Northwestern Indian Ocean
- Western Indian Ocean
- South-East Asia + AU, JP, CN, KR

## Implementation review, by IOSEA sub-region (Doc. 6 Annexes 1a-d)

- § Western Indian Ocean: good progress
- § Northern Indian Ocean: much improved
- § SEA+: unchanged overall (despite new SS)
- § Northwest Indian Ocean: weakest overall, but most improved

## Notable Strengths

Most countries have done a good job to describe their turtle populations and threats;

Many have identified specific adverse economic incentives that work against turtle conservation and have started to introduced remedial measures;

Many describe exemplary conservation approaches that are worthy of being written up in more detail, as examples of "best practice" that might be replicated elsewhere

We now have a better understanding of the fisheries that are interacting with turtles and of the range of measures that Signatory States are applying to try to reduce and mitigate turtle by-catch. For example, **set gill nets** are reported by half of the Signatories to have "moderate to relatively high" impacts on turtles.

**By-catch in shrimp trawls** has been identified as a problem, yet less than a third of the members have effective systems in place to address it.

Signatories have started to document the nature of the harmful **illegal fisheries** occurring in their waters, including illegal take and destructive fishing methods.

We now have a better appreciation of the uses and values of marine turtles across the IOSEA membership, and can observe that **traditional consumption of meat and eggs** still occurs in three-quarters of the Signatory States.

We are beginning to get a sense of the extent of **socio-economic studies** carried out to examine the complex relationships between coastal communities and marine resources and of programmes to **identify alternative livelihoods**.

We are more aware of the vital research that is -- and is not yet -- being conducted by the member States. Australia, Oman, Seychelles and South Africa are among the countries have been **monitoring their turtle populations literally for decades**; and several more countries have programmes of longer than 10 years duration.

These and other countries have made advances in identifying migration patterns by use of satellite tracking and good progress has been made to identify genetic stocks of turtles.

Through information contained the national reports, we have a good record of the rather comprehensive **legislation and management programmes** that have been put in place.

At least a dozen Signatory States already have **national Action Plans** focussing on turtle conservation, while many others working towards these national plans – a laudable achievement over the space of a few years.

Provide to Secretariat

Setting priorities:

Signatory States have done well to identify what they consider to be their highest conservation and management priorities, among them:

- **targeted research,**
- **habitat conservation,**
- **enhanced education/awareness,**
- **capacity-building and**
- **reducing incidental mortality in fisheries.**

## Areas for improvement

- § Better documentation, implementation and coordination of measures to reduce incidental capture and mortality
- § More experimentation with alternative fishing practices
- § Identification and protection of critical habitat outside of established protected areas
- § More cooperatives management actions; more systematic exchange of information among Signatory States
- § Articulation of resource needs and mobilisation of domestic resources
- § Equitable sharing of operational costs

**The Online Reporting Facility** now contains information on more than **1000 discrete sites** of importance for marine turtles throughout the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia.

Users can query this system to obtain a truly phenomenal amount of information on the occurrence of **species**, the **threats** they face at a given site, the **mitigation** measures that are being implemented, as well as the **research** activities being carried out.

The mapping interface, takes full advantage of the satellite imagery offered by GoogleMaps and Google Earth, to provide unprecedented visual presentations of informative data.

From this system, we find that Signatory States identified **incidental capture** in coastal fisheries as the most common threat to turtles, followed closely by **natural threats**, such as predation. Both threats are reported to occur with “moderate to strong” intensity at about 30 % of the sites surveyed, covering about 18 countries.

Moderate to strong threat of egg collection came third in the ranking, being problematic at 20 % of the sites in 16 countries.

**What to do with this information?**

Part I: recommendations for consideration by SS

Advisory Committee deliberations

Also, suggestions for improvements in reporting

Working groups (2 objectives each)