

IOSEA QUESTIONNAIRE – 2011 on

NATIONAL NETWORKS / COMMITTEES FOR MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION

Signatory State:

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

IOSEA Focal Point (or name of person completing this form)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

National network or Committee (give the name, if applicable):

PNG MARINE PROGRAM NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Brief Description / Status / Terms of Reference: (Is the network/committee formally designated by legislation, ministerial accord, MoU or some other administrative formality? Or is it an *ad hoc* organisation?)

The PNG Marine Program NCC is an endorsed committee through the National Executive Committee through the National Parliament.

Lead agency / organisation / institution:

Department of Environment & Conservation, Marine Division, Marine Ecosystems Management Branch.

Representation in the national network / committee (list all members):

- **Government agencies:**
 - National Fisheries Authority
 - Department of Manus, Provincial Environment, Disaster & Marine office
 - Department of West New Britain
 - Department of Western Province
 - Department of Central Province
 - National Capital District Commission
 - Office of Climate Change & Development
 - Department of New Ireland
- **Academic and research organizations:**
 - University of PNG
 - University of Devine Word
 - University of Technology
 - Mahonia Na Dari Research Station
 - Motupore Island Research Department
- **Environmental NGOs:**
 - WWF
 - TNC
 - CI
 - WCS
 - Village Development Trust

- **Development and human rights NGOs:**
 - UNDP Small Grants Facility
- **Fisheries sector:**
 - PNG Fisheries Association
 - Observer Program
- **Tourism sector:**
 - PNG Dive Association
- **Other private sector:**
 - Bank of South Pacific, PNG
 - LNG Gas Project
- **Others:**
 - Local & Private companies

Specific resources for developing and maintaining the network / committee:

There is currently a need for sustainable financing to supporting the local Network on its meetings and to get regular feedback from representatives from around the country. The schedule now is to have 4 meetings spread out over the 12 months.

Means of communication (e.g. in-person meetings, conference calls, email etc.)

Each person for decisions are contact via mobile phones or email for those who may have access. However we try and ensure that all members are equipped with mobile phones to make contact very easy

Number of meetings held each year:

- **2006: 3**
- **2007: 3**
- **2008: 3**
- **2009: 2**
- **2010: 1**
- **2011: 2**

Most important topics of discussion (past / current):

Sustainable financing of some of these projects. Many are conducted on a voluntary basis which individuals put in time and effort to help communities move these projects. For areas that have tourism support have an entry fee which is paid through local community incentives and not to individuals
Capacity building mainly on tagging exercise and recording of eggs and other parameters are needed to be taught for all local communities as identified through meetings

Most important advances and contributions resulting from the work of the network / committee:

We have had our implementing partners been our main assistants on the field and it is hope that ownership will be transferred to local and provincial authorities to take ownership

Most important challenges and difficulties encountered by network / committee:

The communication network has been very challenging at times and keeping track of the projects has been difficult. Participation of members on the meeting have been well supported but challenges having been securing the support from funding institutions.

Plans for the future functioning and development of the network / committee:

A draft Marine Turtle Management Plan has been completed and this will need to taken to the province for consultation with all the different stakeholders. It is hope that this will be done early next year 2012 through the Department of Environment and Conservation. There are currently now plans to link the Marine Turtle Program with the Coral Triangle Initiative on alignment with Goal 5: on Threaten Species

Other comments:

It is the vision of the PNG Marine Program Implementation Plan 2010 – 2013, that the Marine Turtle Program be well plan and managed and better aligned and implemented through a coordinated effort with the Coral Triangle Initiative Program for PNG.

The information in this form was last updated (*month / year*): 15th November 2011