

# IOSEA QUESTIONNAIRE – 2011 \*

## NATIONAL NETWORKS / COMMITTEES FOR MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION (Pursuant to Objective 6.4 of the IOSEA CMP)

**Signatory State:**

The United Republic of Tanzania

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

Rashid Bakari Hoza

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

Tanzania Turtle and Dugong Conservation Committee (TTDCC)

**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?)

This is an organization formed by Ministries, Institutions and Non Governmental Organizations that are responsible for conservation of endangered species. It is yet to be incorporated in the Fisheries Legislation.

**Lead agency / organisation / institution:**

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development

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

- **Government agencies:**
  - Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development (Fisheries Development Division and Marine Parks and Reserves Unit) and Vice Presidents Office (Division of Environment) In future more Agencies will be added.
- **Academic and research organizations:**
  - Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) and University of Dar es Salaam - Department of Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries
- **Environmental NGOs:**
  - WWF- Tanzania Country Office and Sea Sense.
- **Development and human rights NGOs:**
  - Nil
- **Fisheries sector:**
  - Fisheries Development Division
- **Tourism sector:**
  - Marine Parks and Reserve Unit

▪ **Other private sector:**

– Nil

▪ **Others:**

– Nil

**Specific resources for developing and maintaining the network / committee:**

Government financial and human resources and contribution from WWF Tanzania Country Office and Sea Sense

**Means of communication** (e.g. meetings, conference calls, email etc.)

Email. [rbhoza@yahoo.com](mailto:rbhoza@yahoo.com) TTDC meetings

**Number of meetings / conference calls held each year:**

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

**Most important topics of discussion (past / current ):**

5.0 i) Formation of National Committee for conservation of Marine Turtle and Dugong ii) Project proposal for surveying dugong and habitats in cross border areas Survey of turtles was included. iii) Training of technical staff for conducting survey on dugongs, turtles, dolphins and whales

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

Preparation of national report showing the status of marine turtles in Tanga and Mtwara regions. This was a product of the survey of dugongs in Tanzania which was funded under the auspices of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) UNEP Dugong Memorandum of Understanding (UNEP/CMS) Secretariat, Ministry of Livestock Development and Fisheries (Fisheries Development Division and Marine Parks and Reserve Unit) and Sea Sense.

**Most important challenges and difficulties encountered by network / committee:**

Inadequate funds to support field activities and committee meetings  
Inadequate participation of local communities on the conservation of turtles  
Inadequate information on the status of turtles  
Inadequate human capacity to conduct biological and other related studies on turtles

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

The status of marine turtles is not known in other parts of the country. Tanzania is planning to survey coastal areas of Lindi and other parts of Mtwara regions to assess the status of marine turtles (nesting seasons and well the major threats)

**Other comments:**

The TTDC will expand its membership to include other Government Agencies, fishing communities (Beach Management Units), Private Sector, Academic Institutions among others. Public awareness campaigns will be conducted to reduce incidental capture from gillnets, form conservation groups at village level and identify areas that need to be protected for nesting of turtles through community participation.

**The information in this form was last updated: (*month / year*):** January 2012.

**\* PLEASE REFER TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONNAIRE (2008), AS APPROPRIATE**