



COUNTRY UPDATE: [INDIA]

1. New research or conservation projects related to marine turtles and/or their habitats

- Tracking olive ridley sea turtle movements in Maharashtra (WII, Dehradun)
- Comprehensive sea turtle population monitoring assessment (WII, Dehradun)
- Tracking leatherback turtles in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (IISc and Dakshin Foundation, Bangalore)
- Flipper tagging of leatherback turtles in the Nicobar Islands (ZSI)
- Flipper tagging of olive ridley turtles in the mass nesting beaches of Odisha (ZSI)
- Photo mark recapture of green and hawksbill turtles in Lakshadweep (Dakshin Foundation, Bangalore)
- Ghost gear and marine debris monitoring and collection in Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Kerala and Gujarat (WWF-India)



IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU
4th Meeting of the Northern Indian Ocean Marine Turtle Task Force
Baa Atoll, Maldives & *online*, 7-9 March 2023

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2. Large infrastructure developments affecting marine turtles and/or their habitats (proposed or underway)

- Proposed port development plan at Galathea Bay in Nicobars (Important leatherback habitat) –Mitigation plan being prepared by WII and ZSI



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3. Changes in national policy, laws, or management frameworks affecting marine turtles and/or their habitats

- National Marine Turtle Action Plan launched in January 2021 (Current state level actions under action plan to be assessed)
- Amendment to Wildlife Protection Act under process with a increased focus on CITES implementation



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4. Emerging threats or challenges (incl. caused/aggravated by the pandemic)

- Ghost gear and marine plastics monitoring required to be implemented
- Standardised rescue and rehabilitation guidelines to be developed
- Coastal lighting policy to be framed with reference to important sea turtle areas



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5. Achievement/Success story



National Marine Turtle Action Plan

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

(2021-2026)

