

## KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

1. Over 500 discrete sites of importance for marine turtles identified, including for many a subjective rating of intensity of threats. Most prevalent threats: incidental capture in fisheries, natural threats, egg collection
2. Very limited information on incidental capture/mortality, and little international exchange of information/technical assistance in this area. However, some R&D activities are reported: TEDs (Australia), drifting FADs (France, Spain), circle hooks (South Africa); gillnet monitoring (Tanzania)
3. Direct harvest/trade prohibited by legislation, but traditional consumption still prevalent (with moderate to high impacts in at least 6 Signatories)
4. Seven Signatories (Australia, Oman, Philippines, Seychelles, South Africa, United States, Viet Nam) reported to have long-term (> 10 years) sea turtle monitoring programmes in place. National action plans in place/close to finalisation in at least 10 Signatories.
5. Fairly comprehensive beach management programmes, but insufficient evaluation of their effectiveness. Most Signatories engaged in monitoring/recovery of coral reefs, mangroves, but rather limited work on sea grass habitat
6. Insufficient information available to judge whether tagging, satellite tracking, genetic sampling etc have helped to elucidate migration routes. Only occasional exchanges of scientific and technical information and expertise among Signatories.
7. Alternative livelihoods identified for income-generation include: aquaculture, seaweed culture, apiculture; handicraft production, artisan retraining/compensation; beach monitoring/nest protection; tourism; habitat rehabilitation.
8. Top six conservation/management priorities identified by Signatories (ranked): targeted studies on marine turtles and their habitats; education and information programmes; capacity-building, training and partnerships; habitat protection and conservation measures; incidental capture and mortality; and beach management programmes.
9. Issues requiring *international* cooperation: Frequent mention: training and capacity building; identification of turtle populations/migration routes; illegal fishing, poaching and illegal trade in turtle products; and tagging/satellite tracking. Relatively high urgency: Enforcement/ patrolling of territorial waters and hunting/harvest by neighbouring countries
10. Resource and capacity building needs are identified, but not to the extent of demonstrating impediments to progress
11. The extent of policy and legislative reviews, with a view to addressing gaps/impediments in implementation, is unclear.