



## UNEP/CMS OFFICE – ABU DHABI

United Arab Emirates

Secretariat to the Memorandum of Understanding  
on the Conservation and Management of Dugongs  
and their Habitats throughout their Range

### TEMPLATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF NATIONAL REPORTS

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

|   |
|---|
| Signatory/Range State:<br><br>Which agency or institution has been primarily responsible for the preparation of this report?<br>Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities  |
| List any other agencies, institutions, or NGOs that have provided input:  |
| Memorandum in effect in Signatory State since (31/10/2007):<br>21/10/2008   |
| Date of report being submitted: (dd/mm/yyyy):   |
| Designated Focal Point (and full contact details):<br>Ms Jillian Grayson<br>Marine Division<br>Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities<br>GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601<br>Phone: +61 2 6274 1569<br>Email: Jillian.Grayson@environment.gov.au |

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION:

The purpose of completing the national report is to provide information on your country's implementation of the Dugong MoU including, as far as possible, contributions of cooperating non-governmental partners. For each main objective and its associated sub-objectives, you are required to rate an order of priority (High, Medium or Low) from a national as well as sub-regional perspective. This information will allow us to collate regional and global priorities for conservation and management actions. It will also give an indication of what has been done already (helping to avoid duplication of effort); what is generally not being done (gaps that need to be addressed); and what interventions or specific assistance may be required?

The reporting template is divided into these nine main objectives, and asks specific questions in relation to the activities that need to be carried out to fulfil those objectives.

To check the boxes, bring cursor to the middle of the check box and double click with left mouse button on the box field, select default value "checked" and "ok".

Text boxes can be expanded to accommodate longer answers or to explain and provide additional information, beyond what is requested. Details of future plans are especially encouraged. Wherever possible, please try to indicate the source of information used to answer a particular question, if a published reference is available. Remember that you are sharing information with other countries about your progress, so that it may be of benefit to them.

Implementation will be assessed in terms of the nine objectives of the Conservation and Management Plan (CMP). A process for self-assessment of effectiveness and completeness of actions undertaken – intended to stimulate reflection within a given Signatory State/Party on what more could or should be done in relation to a

particular activity will be the basis for a workshop to be held in association with the First Official Signatory State Meeting on 4-6 October 2010 in Abu Dhabi.

Please submit the completed report to the UNEP/CMS Office – Abu Dhabi by email (CmsOffice.ae@cms.int) as a Word attachment. Feel free to attach additional material (published reports, maps, etc.) to this template and send them separately by e-mail or by post.

## OBJECTIVE 1: REDUCE DIRECT AND INDIRECT CAUSES OF DUGONG MORTALITY

### 1.1 Threats facing dugong population

What has your country done to identify, assess and evaluate the threats to dugong populations? What kind of measures has your country developed to address these threats? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                                   | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Established baseline data collection and monitoring programmes to gather information on the nature and magnitude of threats  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Regularly updated existing data on threats to dugong populations and their habitats  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Determined those populations affected by traditional subsistence and customary use, incidental capture in fisheries, and other sources of mortality  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Conducted socio-economic studies among communities that interact with dugongs and their habitats   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Implemented programmes to correct adverse social and economic incentives that threaten dugong populations  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Facilitated the development of means of subsistence to minimise resultant adverse social and economic impacts  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Enacted, where not already in place, legislation and prohibited the direct use (capture or killing) of, and domestic trade in, dugongs their parts or products, whilst allowed exceptions for traditional subsistence or customary use |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Established management programmes to enforce such legislation  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Negotiated, where appropriate, management agreements in consultation with other concerned States   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Identified resources and sources of funding for the above programmes   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |             |            |                   | Other, please describe:  |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:

Anthropogenic threats to dugongs such as habitat loss, mortality from nets used for commercial fishing and shark control, vessel strike and indigenous hunting have been identified in Australia. Grech and Marsh (2008) developed a spatial risk assessment approach for the urban coast and remote Cape York regions of Queensland and identified five 'hot spots' for conservation action where the current level of risk to dugongs is predicted to be high. However, this analysis needs to be updated. There is little data on the magnitude of threats to dugongs across their range in Australia.

Dugong populations affected by anthropogenic mortality have been determined. As more development is planned across remote areas of northern Australia, more information on dugong populations that may be affected is being collected.

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* prohibits the direct use of and domestic trade in dugongs, their parts or products, whilst allowing exceptions for traditional subsistence and customary use.

Australia has also been working with Papua New Guinea to develop a Guiding Framework for the conservation of

dugongs and marine turtles, which addresses some management actions to manage threats to dugongs in Papua New Guinea.

Many of the programmes in Australia to identify, assess and evaluate the threats to dugong populations are ongoing.

Rate Objective 1.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 1.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

## 1.2 Dugong mortality in fishing activities

What has your country done in order to reduce, to the greatest extent practicable, the incidental capture and mortality of dugong in the course of fishing activities? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            | Developed and used gear, devices and techniques to minimise incidental capture of dugongs in artisanal and commercial fisheries, such as the use of alternative gears and spatial closures or limit or control the use of gears known to be harmful to dugongs throughout the range of dugong |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            | Developed procedures and extension programmes to promote implementation of these measures   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            | Exchanged information and, upon request, provide technical assistance to together Signatory and cooperating States to promote these activities  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            | Liaised and coordinated with fishing industries, fisheries management organisations and community groups to develop and implement these activities  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            | Developed and implemented net retention and recycling schemes to minimise the disposal of fishing gear at sea and on beaches  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            | Provided and ensured the use of onshore facilities for the disposal of ship-borne waste   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            | Other, please describe:   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:

Whilst dugong mortality is widely known to occur in fishing gear in eastern Australia there has been no collation of data on the number or rate of dugongs caught in fisheries in Australia. However, Australian fisheries are assessed against the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to ensure fisheries management agencies address capture of non-target species. This process is also occurring for the Torres Strait where dugong and marine turtles are managed as fisheries.

Injury and fatality to vertebrate marine life caused by ingestion of, or entanglement in, harmful marine debris was listed in August 2003 as a key threatening process under the Australian Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). A key threatening process is a process that "threatens or may threaten the survival, abundance or evolutionary development of a native species or ecological community". The aim of the Threat Abatement Plan for the impacts of marine debris on vertebrate marine life 2009 is to provide a coordinated national approach to the implementation of measures to prevent and mitigate the impacts of harmful marine debris on vertebrate marine life. To achieve this aim, the plan provides a framework for implementing measures with four main objectives:

- Contribute to the long-term prevention of the incidence of harmful marine debris
- Remove existing harmful marine debris from the marine environment
- Mitigate the impacts of harmful marine debris on marine species and ecological communities

- Monitor the quantities, origins and impacts of marine debris and assess the effectiveness of management arrangements over time for the strategic reduction of debris.

Australia presented our threat abatement plan for the impacts of marine debris on vertebrate marine life (TAP) to the recent CMS Scientific Council meeting (June 2010) to facilitate the strengthening of international collaboration to identify the origins and effective responses to the impacts of harmful marine debris on migratory species. Broad support was expressed at the Scientific Council meeting for Australia to pursue drafting a resolution regarding marine debris for submission to CoP10. The Marine Debris TAP will be presented to all CMS Parties as a model measure to address harmful marine debris at a national level.

Programmes in Australia to reduce, to the greatest extent possible, the incidental capture and mortality of dugong in the course of fishing activities are ongoing.

Rate Objective 1.2 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 1.2 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 1.3 Dugong mortality due to human activities

What has your country done in order to reduce, to the greatest extent practicable, the incidental mortality of dugongs arising from other anthropogenic activities? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assessed the level, location and impact of anthropogenic impacts on dugongs at ecologically relevant scales  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Reduced, as much as possible, all other human impacts on dugongs and their habitats in areas that sustain subsistence and customary use  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Established appropriate management programmes to ensure that anthropogenic impacts are addressed, taking account of the temporal and spatial variability of dugong reproductive rates and other impacts on the species in a precautionary manner |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:  |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:

Incidental mortality of dugongs arising from anthropogenic activities is addressed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). For example, activities that are likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance, such as dugongs, must be assessed under the EPBC Act.

Rate Objective 1.3 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 1.3 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 1.4 Illegal take of dugong

What has your country done in order to reduce, to the greatest extent practicable, the illegal take of dugong? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

| P                                   | C                        | PI                                  | NA                       | P-Partial   | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assessed the level, location and impacts of the illegal take of dugongs                               |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Established appropriate management programmes to ensure that the illegal take of dugongs is addressed |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:   |             |            |                   |
|                                     |                          |                                     |                          |   |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:

Allegations of illegal take are investigated by the relevant authorities and where offences are found prosecutions are undertaken.

Rate Objective 1.4 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 1.4 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 1.5 Sustainable dugong use

What has your country done in order to ensure that subsistence and customary use of dugong is sustainable (in areas where it is permitted)? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

| P                                   | C                        | PI                                  | NA                                  | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Assessed the level, location and impact of subsistence and customary use on dugongs at ecologically relevant scales  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Reduced as much as possible all other human impacts on dugongs and their habitats in areas that sustain subsistence and customary use  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Determined the cultural and subsistence values and uses of dugongs (both consumptive and non-consumptive)  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Established culturally appropriate management programmes to ensure that subsistence and customary use is sustainable, taking account of the temporal and spatial variability of dugong reproductive rates and other impacts on the species in a precautionary manner |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ensured that such programmes do not have adverse unintended consequences (e.g. increase use of other threatened species such as marine turtles)  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Considered the development of alternative means of subsistence in areas where the subsistence and customary use of dugong is permitted to alleviate adverse social and cultural impacts  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Negotiated, where appropriate, management agreements on the sustainable level of subsistence and customary use (where it is permitted), in consultation with other concerned States, to ensure that such use does not undermine conservation efforts                 |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ensured that the management of other species (including fisheries) does not have adverse unintended consequences on the subsistence and customary use of dugongs where it is permitted   |             |            |                   |

Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:*

Evaluation of the level, location and impact of subsistence and customary use on dugongs at ecologically relevant scales has commenced through a range of government funded and community-based initiatives. Indigenous rangers are starting to develop and implement catch-monitoring programs for dugongs and marine turtles.

Culturally appropriate management programmes to ensure that subsistence and customary use of dugongs is sustainable include:

- Development of Torres Strait community-based management plans to manage turtles and dugongs, led by the Torres Strait Regional Authority;
- Development of Traditional Use of Marine Resource Agreements between the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Traditional Owners, supported by the Reef Rescue Land and Sea Country Indigenous Partnerships Program; and
- Saltwater People Network supported through the Caring for our Country program and administered by the North Australian Land and Sea Management Alliance;

**Rate Objective 1.5 as a National priority:**    High  Medium  Low

**Rate Objective 1.5 as a Regional priority:**    High  Medium  Low

## OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING THROUGH RESEARCH AND MONITORING

### 2.1 Dugong populations and habitats

What has your country done so as to determine the distribution and abundance of dugong populations to provide a base for future conservation efforts and actions? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial   | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Conducted baseline studies or gather secondary information on dugong populations using cost effective techniques where possible, including community-based monitoring |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:   |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on measures developed:

Dugong populations have been examined using aerial surveys. The 20-year time series of aerial surveys suggests that dugong populations are stable in Shark Bay, the Exmouth/Ningaloo Reef region of Western Australia, the Gulf of Carpentaria, the Northern Great Barrier Reef, and the Southern Great Barrier Reef; and fluctuating in Torres Strait, Hervey and Moreton Bays.

Some areas in northern Australia have been surveyed intensively (Shark Bay, Torres Strait, entire Queensland coast) whereas other areas including the Western Australian coast north of Exmouth Gulf, most of the Northern Territory coast outside of the Gulf of Carpentaria, and offshore territories such as Cocos Keeling Islands and Ashmore Reef, population estimates are unavailable or outdated due to few or no aerial surveys having been undertaken. Many of the areas that have not been systematically surveyed are also outside of defined management areas such as listed Marine Parks or World Heritage Areas.

At the local scale, cultural information, important for the sea country planning of Indigenous Australians, is being collected through collaborations between Indigenous communities and researchers. For example, research is in progress in the sea country of the Yanyuwa peoples (Northern Territory) with a view to developing techniques to combine non-Indigenous scientific and Indigenous knowledge of dugong distribution and abundance.

Rate Objective 2.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 2.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 2.2 Dugong research

What has your country done to conduct research and monitoring into dugong? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial   | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Initiated and/or continued long-term monitoring of priority dugong populations at appropriate spatial scales                  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Identified migratory routes through the use of techniques such as genetic studies and/or satellite tracking where appropriate |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Carried out studies on dugong population dynamics and survival rates  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Promoted the use of traditional ecological knowledge in research and management studies, where possible                       |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Involved local communities in research and monitoring programmes with training as   |             |            |                   |

- required
- Reviewed periodically and evaluated research and monitoring activities
  - Identified and included priority research and monitoring needs in regional and sub-regional action plans
  - Conducted collaborative studies and monitoring of genetic identity, conservation status, migrations, and other biological and ecological aspects of dugongs
  - Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:*

No detailed information is yet available on the migration routes of dugongs because of the difficulties in tracking swimming dugongs. However, movement data that are available suggest that dugongs make individual, directed movements and swim relatively close to the coast although individual dugongs are capable of crossing ocean trenches as indicated by contemporary reports of a vagrant dugong in the Cocos Keeling Islands. More than 100 dugongs have been VHF or satellite tracked in Australian waters since the mid 1980s, typically for periods of a few months. An increasingly large dataset of satellite tracked animals is providing evidence for trends in movement patterns and satellite tracked animals provide important data on habitat utilisation at a local to regional scale dependent on the range of movement.

Projects on population dynamics, genetics and satellite tracking are currently being conducted and the results of these studies can be shared as they become available.

**Rate Objective 2.2 as a National priority:** High  Medium  Low

**Rate Objective 2.2 as a Regional priority:** High  Medium  Low

### 2.3 Data collection and analysing

What has your country done in order to collect and analyse data that supports the identification of sources of mortality, the mitigation of threats, and improved approaches to dugong conservation practices? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                                  | NA                       | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Identified and prioritised populations for conservation actions  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Identified population trends using local information where appropriate   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Used research results to improve management, mitigate threats and assess the efficacy of conservation activities (e.g. habitat loss)           |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Involved local communities in research and monitoring programmes with training as required   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Developed and harmonised data collection and analysis protocols  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Where appropriate, developed and harmonised the reporting format that can be used for informing decision-making (local, national and regional) |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:  |             |            |                   |

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented*

A Dugong Wildlife Conservation Plan is being developed by the Department, which will identify and prioritise populations for conservation actions. Areas of high dugong abundance in Australia include: Shark Bay, Exmouth bay/Ningaloo (Western Australia); north of Melville Island and the Sir Edward Pellew Islands (Northern Territory); Mornington Island, Torres Strait, northern Great Barrier Reef (especially Starcke River, Bathurst Bay, Campbell Point region, Temple Bay and Shelburne Bay), Hinchinbrook-Cleveland Bay region, Shoalwater Bay, Hervey Bay and Moreton Bay (Queensland).

A *Dugong Aerial Survey Manual* has been developed by Professor Helene Marsh from James Cook University, which outlines methods for conducting dugong aerial surveys. The use of this manual could facilitate the use of standardised aerial survey designs across northern Australia to enable comparisons among surveys.

**Rate Objective 2.3 as a National priority:** High  Medium  Low

**Rate Objective 2.3 as a Regional priority:** High  Medium  Low

## OBJECTIVE 3: PROTECT, CONSERVE AND MANAGE HABITATS FOR DUGONG

### 3.1 Dugong habitat mapping

What kind of actions has your country implemented in terms of identifying and mapping areas of important dugong habitat? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

| P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial   | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Identified and mapped areas of critical habitat such as seagrass beds and migratory corridors, using rapid assessment technique where appropriate |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:   |             |            |                   |
|                                     |                          |                          |                          |   |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:

Although understanding on seagrass distribution and quality is becoming more detailed, gaps in information on seagrass distribution patterns and dugong distribution/movement remain. Researchers have recently developed a Bayesian model to predict the distribution of seagrass in waters less than 15m deep in the Great Barrier Reef region from point data on seagrass distribution.

Some parts of Australia have been surveyed intensively (for example, the entire Queensland coast, Torres Strait) but little to no seagrass monitoring has occurred in other areas including the Western Australian coast and most of the Northern Territory coast outside of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Most areas that have not been surveyed are logistically difficult to study due to their remoteness, complex seafloor topographies, deep waters, or turbidity. The threats to dugong in these remote areas are however likely to be low.

Rate Objective 3.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 3.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 3.2 Protect dugong habitats

What has your country done to establish necessary measures in order to protect and conserve dugong habitats? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

| P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial   | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Designated and managed protected/conservation areas, sanctuaries or temporary exclusion zones in areas of critical habitat, or took other measures (e.g. modification of fishing gear, banning destructive fishing practices, restrictions on vessel traffic) to remove threats to such areas and involving the local community as much as possible |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Considered protecting dugong habitats as part of ecosystem based management (e.g. networks of marine protected areas)   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Developed incentives for adequate protection of areas of critical habitat outside protected areas   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Assessed the environmental impact of marine and coastal development and other human activities on dugong populations and their habitats   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Monitored and promoted the protection of water quality from land-based and maritime pollution, including marine debris, which may adversely affect dugongs and their habitats   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Strengthened the application of existing bans on the use of poisonous chemicals and explosives in the exploitation of marine resources  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other, please describe:   |             |            |                   |
|                                     |                          |                          |                                     |   |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on measures developed:

Impacts on dugong habitat arising from anthropogenic activities are addressed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). For example, activities that are likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance such, as dugongs, must be assessed under the EPBC Act. Significant impacts may include impacts to the species or its habitat.

The Australian Government is currently undertaking a Marine Bioregional Planning Process. This is a process through which areas within Commonwealth waters are identified for inclusion in the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas. Those places of particular importance to protected species, such as dugongs, which are subject to threats for which spatial management is thought to provide the best option, will be considered for inclusion in the proposed network of marine protected areas.

See item 1.3 for information on marine debris.

Rate Objective 3.2 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 3.2 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 3.3 Actions to address habitat loss

What has your country done to assess the risk of the degradation of dugong habitats? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

| P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Identified and enhanced recovery of degraded seagrass habitats used by dugongs               |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Identified and enhanced recovery of degraded mangrove and coral reef habitats used by dugong |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Undertook measures to restore degraded habitats  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other, please describe:  |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on measures developed:

Changes in seagrass communities in the Great Barrier Reef appear to be mainly due to natural cycles of decline and recovery, although influenced by runoff from catchments. Impacts on water quality from catchment runoff are being addressed through a number of initiatives, including the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan, which was updated in 2009.

Rate Objective 3.3 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 3.3 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 3.4 Degraded dugong habitats

What has your country done concerning degraded dugong habitats? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

| P | C | PI | NA | P-Partial | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|---|---|----|----|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------------|
|---|---|----|----|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------------|

Identified and undertook measures, where appropriate, to enhance recovery of degraded seagrass habitats used by dugong

Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:*

See 3.3 for measures undertaken to enhance the recovery of degraded seagrass habitats used by dugongs.

Rate Objective 3.4 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 3.4 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

## OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF DUGONG HABITATS THROUGH RESEARCH AND MONITORING

### 4.1 Research of habitats

What has your country done with regards to conducting research into and monitoring of important dugong habitats? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Conducted baseline studies or gathered secondary information on dugong habitats using cost effective techniques where possible, including community-based monitoring |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Initiated and/or continued long-term monitoring of priority dugong habitats  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Promoted the use of traditional ecological knowledge in research and management studies, where possible  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Involved local communities in research and monitoring programmes with training as required   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Reviewed periodically and evaluate research and monitoring activities  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Identified and include priority research and monitoring needs in regional and sub-regional action plans  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:  |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:

Rate Objective 4.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 4.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

## OBJECTIVE 5: RAISE AWARENESS OF DUGONG CONSERVATION

### 5.1 Information programmes

What has your country done with regards to establishing education, awareness and information programmes? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Collected, developed, co-ordinated and disseminated education materials (e.g. dedicated regional website)  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Identified key persons/champions to help disseminate messages about the need to conserve dugongs and their habitats  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Established community learning/information centres   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Developed and implemented mass media information programmes  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Developed and conducted focused education and awareness programmes for target groups (e.g. policy makers, teachers, schools, fishing communities, subsistence and customary users, media)  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Encouraged the incorporation of dugong biology and conservation issues into school curricula   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Organised special events related to dugong conservation and biology (e.g. Dugong Day, Year of the Dugong, symposia, community education workshops)   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Promoted public participation in conservation activities   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Involved stakeholders, including key policymakers, subsistence and customary users, and local communities in particular, in planning and implementation of conservation and management measures  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Encouraged the participation of government institutions, intergovernmental governmental organisations, the private sector and the general community (e.g. students, volunteers, fishing communities, local communities) in research, conservation and management efforts |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Implemented, where appropriate, incentive schemes to encourage public participation (e.g. T-shirts, public acknowledgement and certificates)   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other, please describe:  |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:

Rate Objective 5.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 5.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 5.2 Encourage local community participation

What has your country done with regards to encouraging local communities to actively participate in conservation efforts? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                        | C                        | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Identified, developed and facilitated alternative programmes (including means of subsistence and incentives) that are not detrimental to dugongs and their habitats, in consultation with local communities and other stakeholders |             |            |                   |

Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:*

**Rate Objective 5.2 as a National priority:    High     Medium     Low**

**Rate Objective 5.2 as a Regional priority:    High     Medium     Low**

## OBJECTIVE 6: ENHANCE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### 6.1 Combat illegal trade

What has your country done in order to collaborate with and assist Signatory and non-Signatory States to combat illegal international and domestic trade? What kind of measures have been developed to cooperate in enforcement activities relating to dugong products? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                                   | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Encouraged Signatory States, that have not already done so, to become Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Reviewed at a national level, compliance with obligations under CITES relating to illegal international trade in dugong parts or products  |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Facilitated better compliance with CITES through training of relevant authorities in cooperation with other Signatory States, the CITES Secretariat and other relevant organisations   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Identified routes of international illegal trade through monitoring, and sought cooperation to take action to prevent, deter and, where possible, eliminate it   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Exchanged and discussed information on compliance and illegal trade issues at regular intervals, such as through annual reporting to the MoU Secretariat and at meetings of the Signatory States   |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Identified, prevented, deterred and, where possible, eliminated domestic illegal trade through monitoring, implementation of legislation, identification of gaps in enforcement capabilities in each country, and training of enforcement officers |             |            |                   |

Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:*

Rate Objective 6.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 6.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 6.2 Information exchange

What has your country done to develop and implement mechanisms for effective exchange of information? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Identified and strengthened existing mechanisms for cooperation at the regional and sub-regional level |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Developed a website and/or newsletter to facilitate networking and exchange of information             |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Developed a web-based information resource for dugong conservation (including data on                  |             |            |                   |

- populations, migration, on-going projects) based on IUCN website
- Regularly updated a directory of experts and organisations concerned with dugong conservation
  - Developed networks for cooperative management of shared populations, within or across sub-regions, and where appropriate, formalise cooperative management arrangements
  - Cooperated where possible in the establishment of transboundary marine protected areas using ecological rather than political boundaries
  - Developed a streamlined format for reporting and exchanging information (through the MoU Secretariat and among Signatory States) on the state of dugong conservation at the national level
  - Encouraged MoU signatory States that have not already done so to become Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
  - Encouraged Signatory States to become contracting parties to global fisheries agreements such as the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (1995) and the FAO Compliance Agreement (1993) and implemented the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995)
  - Established relationships with regional fisheries bodies with a view to obtaining data on incidental capture and encouraged them to adopt dugong conservation measure within Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) and territorial waters
  - Determined the most appropriate methods for information and expertise among nations, scientific institutions, non-governmental and international organisations, in order to develop and implement best practice approaches to conservation of dugongs and their habitats
  - Exchanged at regular intervals scientific and technical information and expertise among nations, scientific institutions, non-governmental and international organisations, in order to develop and implement best practice approaches to conservation of dugongs and their habitats
  - Disseminated traditional knowledge on dugongs, their habitats and traditional practices for conservation and management in a culturally appropriate manner
  - Updated data on dugong populations of regional interest on a regular basis (e.g. country status reports)
  - Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:*

**Rate Objective 6.2 as a National priority:** High  Medium  Low

**Rate Objective 6.2 as a Regional priority:** High  Medium  Low

### 6.3 Improve coordination

What has your country done in order to improve coordination among government and non-government sectors and communities in the conservation of dugongs and their habitats? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- P C PI NA P-Partial C-Completed PL-Planned NA-Not Applicable
- Reviewed the roles and responsibilities of government agencies related to the conservation and management of dugongs and their habitats
  - Designated a led agency responsible for coordinating national dugong conservation and management policy

- Identified non-governmental organisation with an interest in dugong conservation and management
- Encouraged cooperation within and among government and non-government sectors, including through the development and/or strengthening of national networks
- Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions implemented:*

**Rate Objective 6.3 as a National priority:** High  Medium  Low

**Rate Objective 6.3 as a Regional priority:** High  Medium  Low

#### 6.4 Database

In relation to dugong conservation and management, what has your country done to develop and implement a regional database of relevant information? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- P C PI NA P-Partial C-Completed PL-Planned NA-Not Applicable
- Collated and managed information relevant for dugong conservation and management in a regional database that is easily accessible to all interested parties
  - Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:*

**Rate Objective 6.4 as a National priority:** High  Medium  Low

**Rate Objective 6.4 as a Regional priority:** High  Medium  Low

## OBJECTIVE 7: PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOU

### 7.1 Encourage participation in the MoU

What has your country done to encourage all Range States to participate in the MoU and its conservation and management activities? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

P C PI NA P-Partial C-Completed PL-Planned NA-Not Applicable

- Encouraged non-Signatory States to sign the MoU
- Arranged regional and sub-regional workshops involving non-Signatory States to raise awareness of the MoU
- Considered at the first meeting of the Signatory States the development of a timetable for regular review of implementation the MoU
- Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:*

Rate Objective 7.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 7.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 7.2 Support the Secretariat

What has your country done to support the Secretariat of the MoU to ensure the objectives of the Conservation and Management Plan are met? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

P C PI NA P-Partial C-Completed PL-Planned NA-Not Applicable

- Secured reliable sources of funding to support the MoU Secretariat
- Other, please describe:

*\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:*

Rate Objective 7.2 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 7.2 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 7.3 Seek resources

What kind of actions has your country taken to seek resources to support the implementation of the MoU? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Prioritised conservation and management activities for funding   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Explored funding options with governments and other donors such as the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, UNDP, European Union, UNEP, GEF, etc.               |             |            |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Solicited funding and other contributions from industries that have impacts on dugongs and their habitats (e.g. fisheries, tourism, oil industry, real estate) |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Explored international funding support and other incentives for Signatory States that effectively manage populations   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other, please describe:  |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:

Rate Objective 7.3 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low   
 Rate Objective 7.3 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 7.4 Synergy with other conventions

What has your country done to create links and develop synergies with other relevant regional conservation conventions, MoUs and Agreements? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Identified, facilitated and explored links to other international, regional, sub-regional fora, conventions, agreements and MoUs |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:  |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:

Rate Objective 7.4 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 7.4 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

## OBJECTIVE 8: IMPROVE LEGAL PROTECTION OF DUGONGS AND THEIR HABITATS

### 8.1 Incorporation into national legislation

What has your country done to encourage all Range States, and ensure Signatory States, to incorporate dugong and habitat conservation and protection measures into national legislation? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                        | C                        | PI                       | NA                                  | P-Partial   | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Encouraged MoU Signatory States, that have not already done so, to become Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)  |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Encouraged the establishment of legislation to protect dugongs and their habitats while recognising existing traditional management systems   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reviewed domestic policies and laws to address gaps or impediments to dugong conservation   |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ensured corporate sanctions for harming dugongs or destroying habitat, trained law enforcement authorities, raised public awareness to boost surveillance for reporting of illegal activities |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other, please describe:   |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:

Rate Objective 8.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 8.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

### 8.2 Legal protection

What kind of measures your country has developed to review and, where necessary, strengthen legal protection for dugongs and their habitats? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial  | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cooperated in law enforcement to ensure compatible application of laws across and between jurisdictions (including through bilateral/multilateral agreements and intelligence sharing) |             |            |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please describe:  |             |            |                   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on measures developed:

Rate Objective 8.2 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 8.2 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

## OBJECTIVE 9: ENHANCE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON CAPACITY BUILDING

### 9.1 Promote capacity building

What has your country done to promote capacity building at all levels to strengthen conservation measures? Please check box when applicable and provide a specific description on the free text field\* below.

- | P                                   | C                        | PI                       | NA                       | P-Partial | C-Completed | PL-Planned | NA-Not Applicable |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Identified needs for capacity-building in terms of human resources, knowledge and facilities  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Provided training (e.g. through workshops) in conservation and management techniques for dugongs and their habitats to relevant agencies, individuals and local communities                         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Coordinated training programmes and workshops   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Developed partnerships with universities, research institutions, NGOs, training bodies and other relevant organisations to support capacity building initiatives                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Identified assess, develop and implement training programmes for local communities, NGOs, community-based organisations, media, enforcement officers, policy makers, law makers and decision makers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Enhanced capacity at all levels to develop and undertake joint research programmes on dugong and their habitats   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Organised forums (local, national and regional as appropriate) with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders to enable knowledge sharing and capacity building                                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Provided training on development, implementation and monitoring of community rehabilitation programmes  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Supported local communities and relevant national organisations with necessary basic equipment and facilities to enable protection, conservation and management of dugong and their habitats        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |             |            |                   | Other, please describe:   |

\* Free text field for a specific description on actions taken:

Rate Objective 9.1 as a National priority: High  Medium  Low

Rate Objective 9.1 as a Regional priority: High  Medium  Low

**Other remarks**

Please provide any comments/suggestions to improve the present reporting format.

Australia provided a range of feedback on the template at the last meeting in Brisbane that appear not to have been incorporated in this current template. To reiterate one suggestion made previously, we believe that the template would benefit from inclusion of an “ongoing” rating category. In additional consideration is that focussing on outcomes rather than specific objectives may be more effective and efficient for reporting purposes.

Provide additional information not covered above: