

**INFORMATION NEEDS AND PRIORITIES IN EASTERN INDIAN OCEAN AND
PACIFIC SUB-REGION (CMP objectives 2 and 4)**

	Dugong information gaps	Dugong habitat information gaps
Thailand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population size: Gulf of Thailand • Movement & habitat use • Genetic sampling • Identification of genetic populations (Cambodia, Vietnam) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of seasonal seagrass habitats for dugong (Eastern Gulf)
Key priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation with countries in South-East Asian region on dugongs and habitat to address by-catch of marine mammals, including dugong (exploring opportunities to cooperate with regional organizations such as SEAFDEC) • Undertaking in Thailand: (a) tagging studies; (b) mapping of seasonal seagrass habitat in the eastern area of Gulf of Thailand 		
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys to investigate links to Indian populations? Eastern coastal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of seagrass on western coast
Key priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys to investigate links to Indian population on Pakistan's south-eastern coast (Indus delta) • Mapping of seagrass in areas of Kalamat Hor, Astola Island (off Pasni coast) and Jiwani on western coast of Pakistan 		
Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend fisher surveys: where? • Dugong movements & habitat use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seagrass mapping: where?
Key priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of dugong occurrence and distribution in Rakhine and Tanintharyi coastal area • Seagrass mapping in Rakhine and Tanintharyi coastal areas • Marine mammal by-catch study in Rakhine coastal area (explore linkages to Thailand priorities) • Transboundary dugong survey in Tanintharyi coast (Myanmar) and east Andaman coast (Thailand) 		
New Caledonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological parameters • Dugong mortality • Movement & habitat use • Better understanding of cultural relationship between dugong & indigenous people and how it is being used in management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing seagrass monitoring • Better understanding of cultural relationship between dugong & indigenous people and how it is being used in management
Key priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify dugong movement and important habitats; 20 dugongs tagged using GPS and TDR tags in intercountry collaboration • Quantify threats: coastal communities questionnaire surveys • Better understand cultural relationship between dugong & indigenous people through supporting a masters degree on social and cultural values and traditional use of dugongs all around the island • Identify genetic population (intercountry collaboration) • Obtain knowledge of biological parameters and dugong mortality through collaboration, network, coordination to monitor strandings, ongoing long-term project 		

	Dugong information gaps	Dugong habitat information gaps
Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding of spatial distribution and relative importance of human impacts on dugongs in northwestern Australia • Better understanding of cultural and socio-economic relationship between dugongs & indigenous people • Better transfer of traditional knowledge about dugongs and consideration of how it could be used in management • Better understanding of capacity-building requirements across the range for community-based management • Better understanding of spatial distribution and relative importance of human impacts on dugongs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding of spatial distribution and relative importance of human impacts on dugong habitat in northern Australia • Better understanding of cultural and socio-economic relationship between dugongs & indigenous people • Better transfer of traditional knowledge about dugong habitat and how it could be used in management • Better understanding of the capacity-building requirements across the range for community-based management • Better understanding of spatial distribution and relative importance of human impacts on dugong habitat
Key priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genetic sampling (international cooperation) 		
SPREP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding of dugongs in SPREP countries (numbers, habitat use) • Understanding of capacity to undertake research & management • Identification of opportunities for community-based management • Better understanding of cultural relationship between dugongs & indigenous people and how it is being used in management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, mapping & prioritizing seagrass habitats • Better understanding of cultural relationship between dugongs & indigenous people and how it is being used in management
Key priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify important dugong populations using appropriate methodology in Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Solomon islands and Palau • Determine genetic population structure in SPREP range States by collecting and analysing specimens 		