

STATUS OF NATIONAL NETWORKS / COMMITTEES

Signatory State: Seychelles

Focal Point / Person completing form Wilna Accouche, Ministry of Natural Resources

Information last updated: August 2008

National networks or committees:

TAGS (Turtle Action Group of Seychelles)

Status:

Legally registered independent association (2008)

Lead agency / organization / institution:

Independent

Representation in the national network / committee:

- **Government agencies:**
 - Marine Parks Authority, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- **Academic and research organizations:**
 -
- **Environmental NGOs:**
 - ICS, MCSS, NPTS
- **Development and human rights NGOs:**
 -
- **Private sector:**
 - Anonyme Island Resort, Cousine Island Company, Fregate Island Private, Grand Soeur Island Management
- **Fisheries:**
 -
- **Tourism:**
 - Banyan Tree Resort, Bird Island Lodge, Denis Island Lodge, Lemuria Resort Praslin, Southern Seas Project
- **Others:**
 - Parastatals: Seychelles Islands Foundation

Specific resources for developing and maintaining the network / committee:

Grant money will be sourced from funding agencies / trust funds

Means of communication:

Meetings, e-mail discussion groups

Number of meetings held:

- **2006:** N/A
- **2007:** N/A
- **2008:** 2

Most important topics of discussion:

- The sharing of information on marine turtles through a common database (data sharing)
- A ReComap funding proposal to kick-start the activities of the newly-registered association

Most important advances and contributions of the network / committee's work:

TAGS greater achievement has been to regroup Marine Turtle Stakeholders including government agencies, parastatal organisations, NGOs, nature resources, private island owners, noted operators, businesses in a formal network. Also, TAGS has elaborated an MoU on data sharing on marine turtles in Seychelles through a database

Most important challenges and difficulties in the network / committee's work:

Noted: TAGS is a newly-registered association, therefore works are still at an early stage.

Plans for the future development of the network / committee:

Develop and implement a sustainable mechanism for long-term coordination of the turtle monitoring and conservation programmes in Seychelles especially in regard to:

- Maintaining continuity in levels of monitoring efforts and quality of data collected
- Informed decision-making with regard to policy and legislation related to management of turtles and their habitats
- Co-operative mechanism for information exchange and data sharing among members

Other comments: