

Key Outcomes of the 9th Meeting of Signatory States to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU



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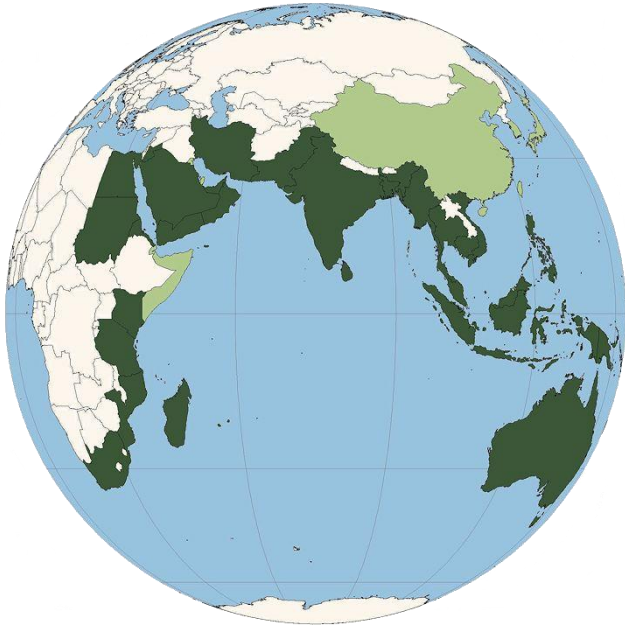
CMS / IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU
Secretariat

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

- Global Convention
- 133 State Parties
- Covers mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and insects – includes all species of marine turtles
- Appendix I
- Appendix II
- www.cms.int
- COP14 held in February 2024, COP15 to be held in March 2026



Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU)



- A contract (non-binding) signed by 36 governments in the region
- In effect since 2001
- Objective: to work together to conserve and manage marine turtles and their habitats
- www.cms.int/iosea-turtles

What is the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU?

- Covers 6 of the 7 species of marine turtles

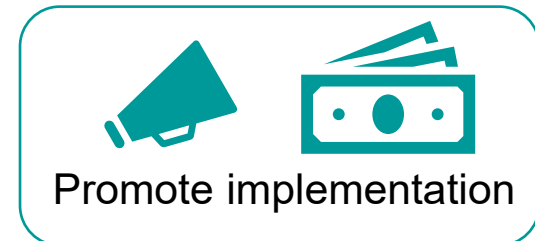
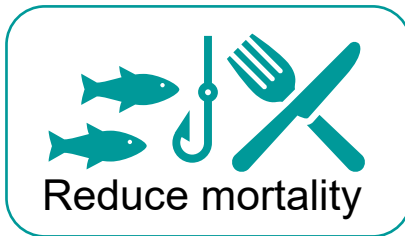


| What is the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU?

- Meeting of Signatories
 - the decision-making body of the MOU, reviews progress made and difficulties encountered and lay down the priorities for the next years
- Advisory Committee
 - established to provide scientific, technical and legal advice to the Signatories, individually and collectively, on the conservation and management of marine turtles and their habitats
- Secretariat
 - coordinating body of the MOU

What is the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU?

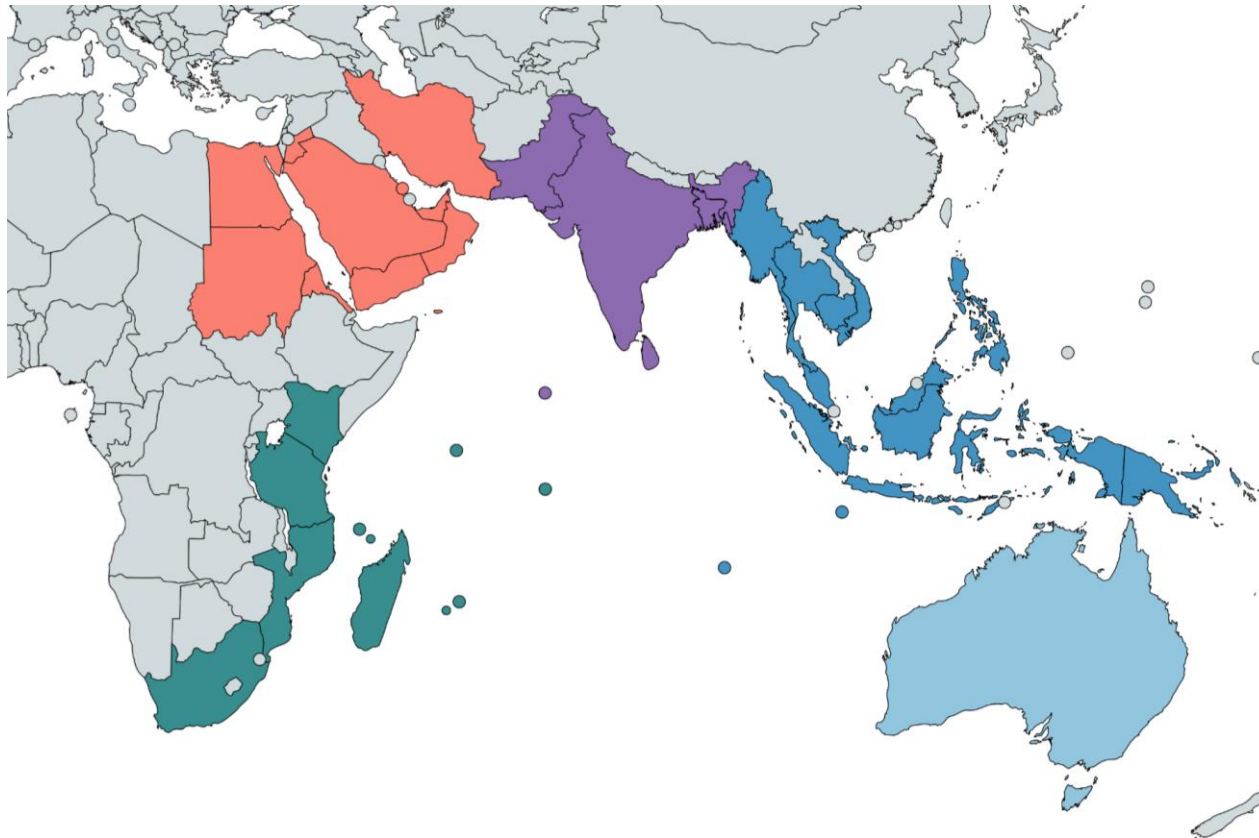
- Conservation and Management Plan (CMP)
 - 6 Objectives



- 24 Programmes
- ~ 80 Activities

Facilitating Implementation

- Four sub-regions



- WIO
 - NWIO
 - NIO
 - SEA+
- Two sub-regions have **Marine Turtle Task Forces**:
- WIO since 2007/08
- NIO since 2015

| 9th Meeting of the Signatory States



Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, 24-27 June 2024

IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU: MOS9 Outcomes

- 9.1 Work Programme 2024-2028
- 9.2 Network of Sites of Importance for Marine Turtles in the Indian Ocean - South-East Asia Region
- 9.3 Single Species Action Plan for the Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) in South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Ocean Region
- 9.4 Budget for 2025-2028
- 9.5 Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee
- 9.6 Advisory Committee Membership
- 9.7 Sub-Regional Focal Points
- 9.8 Intersessional Working Groups

IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU: Work Programme 2024-2028

- Structured following the CMP

CMP 1	Subject	Measures to be taken	In-Country Actors ²	Support from AC, Sec & MTTF (* requires funding)	Overall Priority	WIO ³	NW IO ⁴	NIO ⁵	SEA + ⁶
Section 1: Measures that Implement CMP Objectives and Programmes									
Objective 1: Reduce direct and indirect causes of marine turtle mortality									
1.1	Identify and document the threats to marine turtle populations and their habitats a) Collate and organise existing data on threats to marine turtle populations b) Establish baseline data collection and monitoring programmes to gather information on the nature and magnitude of threats c) Determine those populations affected by traditional and direct harvest, incidental capture in fisheries, and other sources of mortality								
	Threat assessment	1. Conduct a situational analysis of threats to sea turtle populations in the SEA+ region a) Identify gaps in knowledge on threats b) Prioritize threats based on impacts to populations (e.g., risk analysis)	Sigs NGO Res	AC to provide advice upon request.		n/a	n/a	n/a	
	Genetics Fisheries Interactions Take and Trade	2. Determine population-specific threats to be used as a basis for monitoring and management: a) collect samples to perform genetic analysis on marine turtles caught in fisheries interactions, take or trade and record results systematically b) using existing information (e.g., satellite tracking, stable isotopes, flipper tags, genetic markers) to determine population structure of marine turtles caught in fisheries interactions, take or trade c) map potential overlaps of fishing activities and turtle distribution.	Sigs NGO Res	AC to provide advice upon request.	H	H	H	H	

* CROSS-LINKS TO EXISTING GUIDANCE DEVELOPED UNDER THE MOU

IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU: Network of Sites of Importance for Marine Turtles in the Indian Ocean - South-East Asia Region

- Currently 15 Sites
- Objective: to promote the long-term conservation of sites of regional and global importance to marine turtles and their habitats



IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU: Intersessional Working Groups

- **Signatory-led Groups**
 - Working Group on the National Reporting Format
 - Working Group on Site Network Documents
 - Working Group on Illegal Take and Trade (ITWG)
 - Site Network Discussion Group
- **AC-led Groups**
 - SG on Bycatch (with CMS)
 - SG on Nesting Beach Management (with CMS)
 - WG on Capacity Building
 - WG on TurtleNet
 - WG on WP 2024-2028 Implementation Evaluation
 - WG to Develop an Evaluation Questionnaire

To learn more:

Visit:

www.cms.int

www.cms.int/iosea-turtles



Thank you!

and/or write to:
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