

## Project Update: January 2015

From 14th – 27th November 2014, I was hosted at the Mankoadze sea turtle research station by Wildlife Officer and sea turtle specialist Andrews Akyekumhene and Dan Barbour, project manager of the station. The aim of my being there was for them to provide me with practical conservation skills. Amongst the knowledge and experience that I acquired over the period include:

1. How to identify sea turtle species using their tracks.
2. Tagging and proper handling of nesting sea turtles.
3. Field patrolling techniques.
4. Effective techniques in interviews with fishers and coastal residents.

In order to apply these acquired skills; on my return to the project area I initiated an early morning (4 am -6 am) patrolling regimen to identify sea turtle nesting activities and species in the area. Early morning patrolling begun on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and I intend to continue up until 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015.



Measuring, tagging and counting of eggs of an Olive Ridley by Fredrick Jonah and other interns at Mankoadze. Photo credit - Dan Barbour



Eggs of Olive Ridley as she nests. Photo credit - Fredrick Jonah