

Project Update: May 2016

The project is making great progress. Education programmes have so far been conducted in 19 schools and seven communities. Nine radio programmes have also been carried out on sea turtle conservation. The 30 fishermen trained in sea turtle rescue and safe release techniques are actively working with their skills. So far over 80 sea turtles captured by 15 boats (working directly with the project) have been released out of which 14 individuals were dead. This figure is way below the usual mortalities recorded by the fishermen indicating that they are applying the rescue and safe release techniques from training.

The next phase of the project will assess the impact of gear illumination (using LED green lights) on sea turtle capture in fishing. Twenty canoes will be selected to collect the data; 10 with LED lights and 10 without LED lights. Captures will be compared between the two sets of canoes.

