

## Project Update: January 2018

Pulau Breuh (Aceh Island) eco-tourism group voiced their wish to continue turtle nest protection, initiated in the Sandwatch project. Additional hands on training was provided by YL and species expert from Unsyiah University. Turtle egg poaching is still happening but the release of the first hatchlings changed some of their minds on what they were doing. None of them or the wider community, adults and children, had ever seen turtle hatchlings. This was a first on many levels for this island and they attracted a great deal of media attention on their protection of turtle eggs. They aim to relocate and protect 1000 eggs this season and have already relocated over 500 eggs to safe areas. At the first release the group received praise from all marine conservation stakeholders, government and non-government and a lot of media attention on their wish to expand eco-tourism. This has motivated them and their community to continue. A bigger media event for the last hatchlings release will be organised by YL in March 2018.



Turtle egg protection site to relocate nests in vulnerable areas.



First ever turtle hatchling release on this island and first time any of the community had ever seen a turtle hatchling.