

Project Update: September 2010

In the last 3 months we have been improving the fishing gear looking to optimise the fish capture and obtain more money from the fishing activity. The strategy is working but the commercialisation conditions and prices offered by the fish buyers were not good. So, Colombia Marina looked for new alternatives and found new allies, who pay a higher price and offer better pay conditions for the fishermen because they are protecting the turtles. This week was the first deal and the fishermen are very excited. They know, this new condition depends of their participation in the project, and are aware they gain more money been part of this community conservation programme than selling the nests in the black market. With this new strategy we have obtained their compromise for the next nesting season since the beginning (March), in order to protect the nest and females, and be able to have hatchling in these beaches.

About alternative activities for the women of the community, this month we have developed the first recycled paper workshop. The participation of women and young girls was really good and they liked the proposal. The things they are doing are very nice and the possibility of commercialisation is high. Now we are waiting for their decision in order to begin to producing the products to sell in the Christmas season.

The environmental activities with children are improving each month. They already express to their parents their wish of not to consume meat from wild animals and to protect the forest and ocean. A lot of parents have come to the house to assist the activities and they understand what is happening inside their children's head. The construction workshop with plastic bottles is going to be performed in the next week, so, the children are excited with the recycling programme.

