

# Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, Papua New Guinea

Outcomes of Development Workshop  
10 June 2010, Daru



***Together we are making sure there are marine turtles and dugongs  
for everyone today, and for our children tomorrow!***

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<http://www.seaturtlefoundation.org/>

With input from  
Reef & Rainforest Research Centre Ltd

Theme 5 *Education and Awareness* Action 5.1 'Bilateral Framework to Support the Sustainable Management of Marine Turtles and Dugongs in the Western Province, PNG'



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## Project Background

The Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG) has bilateral responsibilities with the Australian Government to manage marine turtle and dugong resources under the *Torres Strait Treaty 1984*. The Treaty allows for marine turtles and dugongs to be hunted in Torres Strait waters by Australian and PNG Torres Strait Traditional Inhabitants.

Marine turtle and dugong management is advanced in Australian Torres Strait communities. Management plans have been put in place around communities and rangers are employed to manage hunting activities. PNG Treaty communities were consulted during the development of the Torres Strait Dugong and Marine Turtle Management Plans as required under Article 14 of the Torres Strait Treaty: to consult with PNG Treaty villagers regarding conservation plans and actions.

Consultation took place at the Daru Dugong and Turtle Workshop, held on Daru Island, Western Province, PNG on Wednesday 15 April 2009. The workshop brought together PNG Treaty village representatives, Torres Strait Island delegates, PNG government delegates and local Daru community members to discuss the Torres Strait Dugong and Marine Turtle Management Plans. The result of the workshop was general agreement from PNG Treaty communities to support the Torres Strait Island communities' Dugong and Turtle Management Plans and passing of the following resolution:

*'We of this meeting pass the motion to support the management plans developed by Torres Strait Island communities and highlight the need for logistical support and resources for PNG Treaty Villages to be involved in sustainable dugong and turtle management.'*

In addition to this outcome Treaty community representatives had been developing a Marine Turtle and Dugong Management Plan for the PNG region under the Australian Government funded PNG Engagement Project. In group discussions during Treaty village visits and at the PNG Engagement Workshop held on Daru in February 2009, PNG Treaty communities developed a plan titled '*A Framework to support the sustainable management of marine turtles and dugongs in the Western Province, PNG*', commonly known as the 'Guiding Framework'. The seven-point plan addresses the impacts of unsustainable practices relating to marine turtle and dugong harvests in the PNG sector of the Torres Strait and provides a package of actions to address local, regional and national or international management needs.

This project addresses Theme 5 of the Guiding Framework, *Education and Awareness*, with a specific focus on the development and delivery of a culturally appropriate marine turtle and dugong awareness program in the Western Province.

The Sea Turtle Foundation, in partnership with the PNG Department of Environment and Conservation (PNGDEC), Australian Government and Torres Strait Regional Authority will develop and deliver the Awareness Program. The Sea Turtle Foundation is a Townsville-based non-profit, non-government organisation that works to protect endangered marine turtles through research, education and action.

## Objective

### *Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, PNG, Development Workshop, 10 June 2010, Daru*

The workshop was held at the New Century Hotel, Daru on Thursday, 10 June 2010. Combined attendance at the workshop was 35 participants (Appendix 1). The workshop brought together representatives from the 13 PNG Treaty villages in Western Province, as well as PNG representatives from the Department of Environment and Conservation and the PNG Fisheries Department; the Chair – PNG Traditional Inhabitants Committee; the PNG Border Liaison Officer; the Australian Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA); the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT); Sea Turtle Foundation; and the Reef & Rainforest Research Centre. The workshop was funded through the Australian Government's Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (MTSRF).

Unfortunately, the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) and the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) were unable to attend due to their hosting of a major workshop to further develop Dugong and Marine Turtle Management Plans in the Torres Strait.

The workshop gave participants an opportunity to develop the Education and Awareness component of the Dugong and Marine Turtle Awareness Program which the Sea Turtle Foundation will deliver in the 13 Treaty communities and in Daru.

Workshop objectives were to:

1. Review the Guiding Framework that resulted from the Daru Turtle and Dugong Workshop (February 2009);
2. Introduce concepts for the Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, PNG; and
3. Seek feedback from workshop participants on content and delivery options for the Awareness Program.

## Methodology

The workshop was delivered according to an agreed agenda (Appendix 2). The workshop commenced with an overview of the project's background and a review of the Guiding Framework. Participants were then introduced to the Awareness Program, including its aims, potential learning and teaching components, and potential delivery methods.

Participants next worked through a survey sheet (Appendix 3) that gathered answers to key questions raised during Awareness Program development meetings held prior to Daru workshop. These were questions with non-subjective answers that could easily be answered by community members.

The final workshop session involved participants forming 'break-out' groups to discuss and provide feedback on key points of design and delivery for the Education and Awareness program. Whilst discussion points were provided for this session (Appendix 4) the participants were encouraged to raise any items for discussion they thought important. This session finished with representatives from each break-out group presenting their findings to the workshop and a facilitated discussion around key points identified by each group.

## Workshop Findings

Treaty community representatives proved to be well informed about the issues pertaining to the management of marine turtle and dugong hunting. They have a genuine concern over the future of marine turtle and dugong populations in their traditional waters and are very keen for an Education and Awareness program to be delivered. The workshop identified priorities so that an effective program can be designed. The following findings from the three workshop objectives will be used to guide the design and delivery of the Awareness Program and to inform other activities under the Guiding Framework.

### **Objective 1: Review the Guiding Framework that resulted from the Daru Turtle and Dugong Workshop (February 2009)**

The Guiding Framework developed by the PNG Engagement Program during consultations with Treaty communities identifies seven broad strategies for the management of marine turtle and dugong populations in the region. The document calls for the involvement of Treaty communities, PNG and Australian Government agencies, NGOs and other interested parties in addressing the management needs for marine turtle and dugong.

The workshop commenced with a welcome, general introductions and an outline of the objectives of the workshop. Chair of the PNG Traditional Inhabitants Committee, Mr Sisa Kima outlined the objectives from the perspective of the Western Province Treaty villages.

A review of the seven points raised in the Guiding Framework was conducted, placing the Awareness Program into context. Participants voiced concern that they had not received copies of the Guiding Framework and that the long time lag between workshops meant that the content of the Guiding Framework had become unfamiliar to them. Copies were quickly distributed and a more in-depth review than initially intended was delivered.

The representatives stressed the need for continued communication with Treaty communities. Consequently community representatives' addresses were collected so that program updates can be forwarded during periods of non-contact. Government stakeholders assured communities that communications would be enhanced.

### **Objective 2: Introduce concepts for the Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, PNG**

Participants were introduced to an outline of the potential Awareness Program. The introduction was purposefully kept very broad to avoid stifling participant feedback. Participants were informed that the Program should result in the following outcome:

- ▶ ***Communities learn about marine turtle and dugong conservation, sustainable take practices, and are engaged in conservation activities.***

Further, participants were asked if the Program should be targeted towards adults, children and/or teachers with a culturally appropriate message about marine turtle and dugong life cycles, conservation, and values both ecological and cultural. Participants were asked if the Program should also inform hunters about sustainable take practices.

With this broad outline of desired program design, workshop participants were ready to give feedback on their ideas for program content and delivery methods.

**Objective 3: Seek feedback from workshop participants on content and delivery options for the Awareness Program**

The majority of the workshop was given over to this objective and two tools were developed to facilitate the process of giving feedback: a survey sheet (Appendix 3) and directed break-out group discussions (Appendix 4).

The survey sheet aimed to gather answers to logistical queries that had been raised by facilitators during program development sessions. These were non-contentious questions appropriate to participants engaged within their communities.

The break-out groups engaged participants in answering key program development points that have the potential for subjective replies. The small group format enabled participants to debate their replies in confidence prior to reporting their group's findings to the workshop. Participants were supplied with break-out group discussion points but were informed that these were to facilitate discussions only and that they were welcome to add additional points for discussion as they deemed necessary.

Generally, where a single community had more than one representative, these participants divided themselves between groups for greater discussion opportunities.

***Survey Sheet Findings***

A total of 24 surveys were completed and returned.

Answers to survey questions that sought specific names of community representatives have not been included below, however the Sea Turtle Foundation will ensure that they are involved in program design and delivery.

***1. What is the preferred Program language?***

Among workshop participants English speaking skills were of an extremely high standard.

English is the preferred language for delivery with 20 responses placing it as the first preference; Local Language (Kiwai) received 11 votes for second preference; Pidgin proved the least popular with 11 votes for third preference.

**Conclusion:** English will be acceptable as the primary language for the Awareness Program. Some posters/leaflets may also be produced in the local language if appropriate.

***2. Are you an Elder or can you recommend an Elder who would be interested in sharing traditional knowledge and stories with the program developers?***

***3. Would Elders in your community be happy to share traditional knowledge and stories with community members during program delivery?***

***4. Are there major cultural differences between communities? Do villages share some traditional knowledge and stories?***

Sixteen responses indicated that there are no major cultural differences between communities and that villages share some traditional knowledge and stories. Other responses stated that differences were found around language groups.

**Conclusion:** Similar traditions exist throughout the region, with some variation. Due to limitations in the ability to immediately incorporate all traditional stories and knowledge, the Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will explore a strategy for collecting traditional stories and knowledge during program delivery, to be presented back to communities at a later stage.

**5. Are there any taboo areas we should be aware of?**

Yes = 16 (e.g. traditional fishing boundaries and other traditional laws)

No = 6

**Conclusion:** Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will proceed but with respect for traditional customs, i.e. seek permission from an Elder or village representative of each community prior to engaging in awareness activities; ask to be made aware of village taboo areas on arrival, etc. A village visit protocol will be created prior to village visits to avoid accidental infringement of traditional customs.

**6. Are you, or do you know a school teacher who would like to help the program developers with content and ideas?**

**7. Are you, or do you know a teacher who would like classroom activities for their pupils as part of the Program?**

**8. Are there any times of the year when it would be inconvenient for the Awareness Program to come to your community? (For example around a special ceremony, please give dates as close as possible)**

Many answers were received to this question and use them to identify appropriate times for village visits.

**9. Is there a television and DVD player in your community/school?**

- 16 responses indicated YES to both (note, some doubling up as some communities were represented by several people);
- 6 responses indicated YES to community and NO to school;
- 1 response indicated NO to both; and
- 1 blank response.

**Conclusion:** Sufficient access to televisions and DVDs exist to make supplying a DVD of marine turtle and dugong issues a worthwhile element of the Awareness Program.

**10. Thinking about the development and delivery of the program, are there any other points you would like to raise?**

**Responses relevant to the Awareness Program:**

- **Program materials:** DVD; dramas; dancing; drawing images; radio; CDs; school children learning resources; community learning resources.
- **Program content:** sustainable hunting practices.
- **Program delivery:** A local leader, elder, teacher on the marine sustainability issue; desire expressed to be involved in delivery; training and involvement of local people; communities to take ownership of the program; same knowledge to be delivered to non-Treaty villages; a person to be engaged in Daru by the organisation to coordinate the program.

**Conclusion:** There is a strong desire for this program to continue and for local ownership of delivery.

**Responses relevant to other management issues:**

- Establish an office/ranger/manager in Daru to run marine turtle and dugong management programs;
- A committee member in NEA pertaining to Beche-de-mer;
- Fishing programs; and
- Training for rangers to protect our resources.

**Conclusion:** Community representatives are thinking beyond this Awareness Program and are keen to see action taken against other points of the Guiding Framework.



Photo: David Roe



Photo: David Roe

(Above) Treaty Village Chairman, Sisa Kimia and Sam More of Pamara Island discuss the Awareness Program. (Below) Break-out discussion groups.

### ***Break-out Group Findings***

A total of five break-out groups were formed.

#### **1. What do you think are the most important issues that should be addressed by the Awareness Program?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop hunting turtle and dugongs for commercial purposes</li> <li>• Communities must agree on how many to be hunted for ceremonial purposes</li> <li>• Protecting our environment / Conserve for future generation</li> <li>• History / Global changes (i.e. climate change)</li> <li>• Over fishing / Depleting the species</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of turtle and dugongs</li> <li>• Create set of preserved rules</li> <li>• Create training opportunities</li> <li>• Educational awareness</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental damage: Mining effect / Global warming (climate change) / Human destruction</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To take precautionary measure of preserving our marine resources for our future generation</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life history</li> <li>• Life cycle</li> <li>• Cultural values/traditions</li> <li>• Management of the resource</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Feedback highlighted the need for the Awareness Program to raise awareness of:

- Marine turtle and dugong life cycles to increase understanding of the effect of impacts;
- The conservation status of marine turtle and dugongs;
- Concepts of ecological values; and
- Sustainable fishing practices.

Additionally the Awareness Program will seek Elder participation in school and community activities so that traditional knowledge and stories are an integral part of delivery.

Some responses to this question are outside the scope of the Awareness Program, i.e. community agreement on hunt limits for ceremonial purposes; however these points should be noted for future work to meet the outcomes of the Guiding Framework

**2. As a hunter, what would help convince me to reduce my catch? Is it to do with money, or protecting my culture, or protecting my environment?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting our environment for future generations</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Protecting my culture: Traditional methods of hunting for turtle and dugongs; limit number of catch; seasonal harvest.</li> <li>b. Protecting my environment: Risk of extinction; to avoid over harvesting; avoid modern fishing methods (such as over size nets, explosives, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental protection and my culture</li> <li>Government to introduce fish farming and cash crop farming so that this will reduce turtle and dugongs catch</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seasonal hunting</li> <li>Doing away with nets and using traditional method of fishing</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control the use of nets – no nets would be better</li> <li>Policy on catch (take system)</li> <li>Licences</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Responses to this question show a strong concern for environmental and cultural protection and a strong desire to return to traditional methods of hunting. With this in mind the Awareness program will endeavour to convey the following messages:

- Protect our environment for future generations;
- Protect our culture; and
- Use traditional methods of hunting.

However it should be noted that economic realities may not give hunters the luxury to reduce take even if that is what they want. This question also brought forth responses relating to alternate supplies of protein to replace marine turtle and dugongs through government backed schemes. It is noted that this is an outcome of the Guiding Framework and should be the subject of future work outside the scope of this project.

**3. What learning resources would help our community to understand the need to hunt sustainably?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DVD / posters / learning materials / workshops (practical) theory</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Posters / pamphlets / radio / TV / newspapers / CD / t-shirts / displays etc</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audio visual equipment</li> <li>Posters / booklets / drama plays / traditional songs / stories</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational materials such as: posters, booklets, seasonal calendar, DVD, media, drama</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media – radio, TV, DVD</li> <li>Posters, pamphlets, books</li> <li>Community meetings (Toksauas)</li> <li>Traditional stories</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will take these responses into account during Program development.

**4. What would I like to see my children learn at school so they grow up understanding the need to hunt marine turtles and dugongs sustainably?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local knowledge</li> <li>• Cultural Calendar</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Posters / pamphlets</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I want my children to be fully aware of the life cycle of the turtle and dugongs and the after effects of excessive catching</li> <li>• Traditional stories regarding turtle and dugongs</li> <li>• Traditional songs</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I want to see that my children are taught how to preserve the turtle and dugong species and other marine resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the school learning curriculum</li> <li>• Lessons taught at school</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will take these responses into account during Program development.

**Note:** Sea Turtle Foundation will not aim to meet specific outcomes of the PNG school curriculum to avoid any sensitivity around one country explicitly targeting the school curriculum of another country.

**5. What learning resources would help teachers to reach school children with a marine turtle and dugong conservation message?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local knowledge</li> <li>• Learning materials</li> <li>• DVD / TV / overhead projector / laptops</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum printed materials</li> <li>• Teacher training programs</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVD disc to show school children / posters / booklets</li> <li>• Marine wildlife officers to give awareness in schools</li> <li>• Community elder's participation in teaching traditional methods of fishing</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational materials such as posters, booklets, seasonal calendars, DVDs, drama</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School media program:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ TV Program (adv) / DVD / CDs</li> <li>○ Dramas</li> <li>○ Conduct workshop / in-service for teachers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will take these responses into account during Program development.

**6. What would help to make a lasting difference?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in stock</li> <li>• Ban of fishing for commercial purposes</li> <li>• Introduce turtle and dugong management plan</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children, sustainability for the future</li> <li>• Avoid disappearance of these species</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More awareness and adherence</li> <li>• Protect environment to provide for you</li> <li>• Concentrate on cultural methods</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ban on turtle and dugongs net fishing</li> <li>• Ban on turtle egg harvesting</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set policies at the LLG level (community), then at the provincial level</li> <li>• Setting of rangers</li> <li>• Registration of sea transport</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will develop a Program that aims to instil in children a sustainable outlook to hunting of marine turtles and dugongs, their environment and their cultural value.

Many other responses to this discussion point fall outside the scope of this Program, however they do cover issues that are raised in the Guiding Framework and should be considered when work to meet those objectives commences.

**7. Is there an activity that is reducing turtle and dugong numbers that could be easily changed through education? What barriers exist to stop the change?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ban on oversized nets (cooked/burnt)</li> <li>• Group 1 noted that they have received or are aware of threats from illegal fishers</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To stop over harvesting for money</li> <li>• Ethnic clashes may take place</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern technology fishing</li> <li>• Environmental damage</li> <li>• Not enough awareness to the Treaty communities or general public</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change (Note: by this they meant they want to see adaptive measures to climate change)</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial activities (change through) marketing and sales</li> <li>• Group 5 noted that there is ‘no implementation of the management polices that are in place currently and continued absence of rangers’</li> <li>• Finance: Political involvement; Network with partners</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Throughout the Workshop commercial fishing was identified as having a major impact on marine turtle and dugong numbers. Net size is a particularly contentious area. A direct approach to ban or reduce commercial fishing is outside the scope of the Awareness Program, however the Program can prepare the ground for future work in this area by instilling in people a knowledge of marine turtle and dugong conservation and threats, building a desire for sustainable take levels, and promoting the use of traditional fishing practices.

**8. What Program theme would best reach our people? Is it:**

- a. Leave some turtles and dugongs for your children, or they will all be gone;**
- b. Turtles and dugongs have a right to exist;**
- c. Turtles and dugongs have supplied us with food for generations, now we must care for them; or**
- d. Other?**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave some turtles and dugongs for your children or they will all be gone</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave some turtles and dugongs for your children or they will all be gone</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave some turtles and dugongs for your children or they will all be gone</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave some turtles and dugongs for your children or they will all be gone</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turtles and dugongs have a right to exist (for the reason that they are God's creatures)</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will base the core message of the Awareness Program around the theme of sustainable take so that future generations can share the resource.

**9. How can we best deliver the message of the Awareness Program to reach:**

- a. Adults; and**
- b. Children**

<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults: consultation</li> <li>• Children: educational resources</li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Posters / pamphlets / radio / TV / newspapers / CD / t-shirts / displays, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults: media</li> <li>• Children: education</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults: conservation</li> <li>• Children: education programs</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community meetings</li> <li>• Individual clan meetings</li> <li>• Plays / field visits</li> </ul>

**Conclusion:** Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will take these responses into account during Program development.

## Conclusions

Based on findings from the Awareness Program development workshop, as well as other information sources (including successful environmental educational programs and marine turtle and dugong experts), the Sea Turtle Foundation, PNG Department of Environment and Conservation and the Torres Strait Regional Authority will develop an Awareness Program and deliver it in to Daru and the 13 Treaty communities, focussing not only on the general community but also schools.

The Program will aim to achieve the following outcome:

- ▶ **Communities learn about marine turtle and dugong conservation, traditional values, sustainable take practices, and are engaged in conservation activities.**

It will be based around the theme of:

- Sustainable take so that future generations can share the resource

and will raise awareness of:

- Marine turtle and dugong life cycles, to increase understanding of the effect of impacts;
- The conservation status of marine turtle and dugongs;
- Concepts of ecological values; and
- Sustainable fishing practices.

The Sea Turtle Foundation will ensure that traditional knowledge and stories are an integral part of the Awareness Program by inviting Elder participation in school and community activities.

Delivery methods will be based as closely as possible on those identified in these workshop findings, such as posters, brochures, school pupil resources, teacher resources, radio announcements, etc., however final decisions will have to be made with consideration of cost so as to maximise outcomes from the available budget.

Community representatives and teachers have expressed a desire to be involved in the development and delivery of the Awareness Program. The Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will work with Treaty village representatives during development and delivery. The Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will also explore the possibility of establishing a local representative capable of continuing awareness work and providing a liaison role with Treaty communities.

## Future Directions

The Sea Turtle Foundation (as the lead agency) in collaboration with the TSRA and PNGDEC will now develop the Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program and deliver it into Daru and the 13 Treaty communities.

The Sea Turtle Foundation will commence forwarding project updates to community representatives in PNG, the PNGDEC and other interested parties. The intention is to keep Treaty stakeholders aware of progress being made and to keep them engaged in the program during periods when we are unable to visit.

The Sea Turtle Foundation has made a long-term commitment to delivering marine turtle and dugong awareness programs in Treaty communities. As such Sea Turtle Foundation is seeking additional funding from grant bodies, philanthropic trusts and corporate sponsors so that the program can continue once activities under the current funding are completed.

The Sea Turtle Foundation has secured additional funding from the PNG Sustainable Development Program (PNGSDP).

The Sea Turtle Foundation and collaborators will raise awareness of the Treaty communities' engagement in marine turtle and dugong conservation. Outcomes to date include:

- Article in PNG Post Courier, 29 June 2010, 'Western Province Welcomes Marine Awareness' (Appendix 5);
- Story in Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council (NPARC) newsletter August 2010, 'PNG Treaty Communities Embrace Sea Turtle and Dugong Conservation' (Appendix 6);
- Announcements in Sea Turtle Foundation newsletters, e-zines and social networking sites; and
- Project page on Sea Turtle Foundation website.

The Sea Turtle Foundation Program Manager will present a project update at the Traditional Inhabitants Meeting on Thursday Island in August 2010.

The Sea Turtle Foundation will explore means to expand the range of activities under the Program, for example enabling a touring drama group.

## Appendix 1

### *Workshop Participants*

1.	Sui village	Mr Anton Aruba / Ward Member Mr Senea Makiba / Rep Mr Kadea Elia / Community Recorder
2.	Parama village	Mr Sam More / Ward Member Mr Gemai Mugura / Community Recorder Mr Patrick Ema / Community Recorder
3.	Kadawa village	Mr More Peteru / Community Rep Mr Biza Gera / Community Rep
4.	Tureture village	Mr Gedi Dabu / Ward Member Mr Wonigu Lota / Community Chairman Mr Freddy Wasa / Community Recorder
5.	Old Mawatta village	Mr Sisa Kimia / Ward Member Mr Eric Norphily / Community Chairman Mr Giromi Gagoro / Community Rep
6.	Mabudawan village	Mr Kebei Baduame / Ward Member Mr Elfidies Keiba / Rep Mr Dubari Iapia / Rep
7.	Parama Kona	Mr Tom Awage / Kona Rep
8.	Tureture Kona	Mr Nauwa Bani / Kona Chairman Mr Kasel Bani / Kona Rep
9.	Old Mawatta & Mabudawan Kona	Mr Elia Kura / Kona Chairman Mr Elia Kura Jnr. / Kona Rep
10.	Daru Pioneers	Mr Robin Wainetti / Deputy Chairman Mr Reginald Samson / Rep
11.	Buzi / Berr	Mrs Buna Narua / Community Rep
12.	Katatai village	Mr Tibau Kaware / Ward Member Mr Sawia Maku / Rep Mr Fred Lifu / Rep
13.	Daru Government Representatives	Mr Koloni Odori /Provincial Fisheries Officer Ms Daina Auro/Provincial Fisheries Officer Mr Ema Narua/Provincial Fisheries Officer

## Appendix 2

### *Workshop Outline*

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#### **Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, PNG Development Workshop**

**Place:** New Century Hotel, Daru, Western Province, PNG  
**Date:** Thursday, 10 June 2010  
**Time:** 09:00 to 17:00

***Together we are making sure there are marine turtles and dugongs for everyone today and for our children tomorrow!***

#### **Workshop Outline**

- Prayer
- Introductions and Apologies
  - Introductions around the room, name, where you are from, your position
- Acknowledgements
- Workshop Environment
  - An atmosphere where questions are encouraged and feedback welcomed
  - Please advise if there is something you don't understand or if we speak too quickly

#### **Project overview**

- How we have all got to here

#### **Workshop Activities**

- Activity 1**      Review of Guiding Framework that resulted from the Daru Turtle and Dugong Workshop (February 2009)
- Activity 2**      Introduction to the Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, PNG
- Introduction
  - Aims of the Program
  - Potential delivery methods and activities
- Activity 3**      To seek feedback from workshop participants on the Awareness Program
- Complete survey sheet
  - Break out groups to discuss key questions
  - Presentation of findings to the group

The workshop will finish with a free period for:

- Questions on any aspect of the Program
- General comments
- Invitation for community members to participate in delivery
  - Paid Program Facilitator position
- Ideas for future Education projects that community members would like to see

#### **For more information please contact:**

David Roe, Program Manager, Sea Turtle Foundation, [www.seaturtlefoundation.org](http://www.seaturtlefoundation.org)  
Tel: +61 (0)7 4721 2699, Mobile: 0431 259 129, [david.roe@seaturtlefoundation.org](mailto:david.roe@seaturtlefoundation.org)

## Appendix 3

### *Workshop Survey Questions*

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**Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, PNG  
Development Workshop – Daru – 10 June 2010**

*Together we are making sure there are marine turtles and dugongs  
for everyone today and for our children tomorrow!*

**Workshop Activity 3 – Survey Sheet**

These short questions will help us develop a suitable and effective Awareness Program.  
If these questions raise a major issue you may prefer to address it in the break-out session.

**1. What is the preferred Program language?**

*Please put a 1 next to your first preference, 2 for your second preference and 3 for your third preference.*

English ..... Pidgin ..... Local Language .....

**2. Are you an Elder or can you recommend an Elder who would be interested in sharing traditional knowledge and stories with the Program developers?**

Elder Name: .....

Community: .....

Contact: .....

**3. Would Elders in your community be happy to share traditional knowledge and stories with community members during Program delivery?**

Elder Name: .....

Community: .....

Contact: .....

**4. Are there major cultural differences between communities? Do villages share some traditional knowledge and stories?**

.....  
.....

**5. Are there any taboo areas we should be aware of?**

.....  
.....

**6. Are you, or do you know a school teacher who would like to help the Program developers with content and ideas?**

Teacher Name: .....

School Name: .....

Contact: .....

**7. Are you, or do you know a teacher who would like classroom activities for their pupils as part of the Program?**

Teacher Name: .....

School Name: .....

Contact: .....

**8. Are there any times of the year when it would be inconvenient for the Awareness Program to come to your community? (for example around a special ceremony, please give dates as close as possible)**

Community: .....

Dates: .....

**9. Is there a television and DVD player in your:**

Community? YES / NO

Community: .....

School? YES / NO

School Name: .....

**10. Thinking about the development and delivery of the Program, are there any other points you would like to raise?**

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**For more information please contact:**

David Roe, Program Manager, Sea Turtle Foundation, [www.seaturtlefoundation.org](http://www.seaturtlefoundation.org)  
Tel: +61 (0)7 4721 2699, Mobile: 0431 259 129, [david.roe@seaturtlefoundation.org](mailto:david.roe@seaturtlefoundation.org)

## Appendix 4

### *Break-out Group Discussion Points*

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#### **Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program for Western Province, PNG Development Workshop – Daru – 10 June 2010**

***Together we are making sure there are marine turtles and dugongs  
for everyone today and for our children tomorrow!***

#### **Workshop Activity 3 – Break-out Groups**

Your feedback is very important to ensure a strong awareness program is created that changes views and actions, and results in a more sustainable approach to using marine turtle and dugong resources.

Please tell us anything that you think is important to include in the program, and any thing that we should definitely not include.

We would like you to discuss these points in your groups and jot down your thoughts and ideas (bullet points are fine). At the end you will have the opportunity to address the workshop and tell us your main findings. Also we would like to keep your written responses so that we can reference them when developing the program. Thank you.

#### **Break-out groups discussion points:**

The Marine Turtle and Dugong Awareness Program aims to inform community members of marine turtle and dugong conservation issues, traditional values and sustainable take practices.

1. What do you think are the most important issues that should be addressed by the Awareness Program?
2. As a hunter what would help convince me to reduce my catch? Is it to do with money, or protecting my culture or protecting my environment?
3. What learning resources would help our community understand the need to hunt sustainably?
4. What would I like to see my children learn at school so they grow up understanding the need to hunt marine turtles and dugongs sustainably?
5. What learning resources would help teachers reach school children with a marine turtle and dugong conservation message?
6. What would help to make a lasting difference?
7. Is there an activity that is reducing turtle and dugong numbers that could be easily changed through education? What barriers exist to stop the change?
8. What Program theme would best reach our people, is it:
  - a. Leave some turtles and dugongs for your children or they will all be gone, or
  - b. Turtles and dugongs have a right to exist, or
  - c. Turtles and dugongs have supplied us with food for generations, now we must care for them, or
  - d. Other?
9. How can we best deliver the message of the Awareness Program to reach:
  - a. Adults?
  - b. Children?

## Appendix 5

Article in the PNG Post Courier, 29 June 2010

THE NEWS

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# Western Province welcomes marine awareness

By NELLIE SETEPANO

COMMUNITIES in Western Province have welcomed a new program to raise awareness on the issues of over-hunting sea turtles and dugongs.

The program recently started with a workshop in Daru where treaty community representatives spoke about the falling numbers of sea turtles and dugongs, and supported an awareness program to educate the community to reduce impacts.

The program will be delivered by Sea Turtle Foundation — a non-profit, non-government organisation based in Townsville, Queensland, with the support of the Department of Environment and Conservation. It will educate children about sea turtle and dugong lifecycles and make adults aware of sustainable hunting practices.

"Treaty community representatives are deeply concerned over this issue. At the workshop they told us they want to ensure sea turtle and dugong populations are safe and will always be found in Torres Strait waters," said David Roe of Sea Turtle Foundation.

"We will now develop activities and resources and take that message into treaty villages and schools. By raising awareness of the issues and showing ways to reduce impact we are turning a corner in sea turtle and dugong conservation in the region. The aim is to bring back the animals to safe numbers," Roe said.

Sea turtles and dugongs are listed as threatened species due to a wide range of human impacts. They are caught in fishing gear, hit by boats, shallow marine debris and lose their habitat to coastal developments.

"People are seeing fewer sea turtles and dugongs every year. All treaty communities have agreed to work together to reduce take from hunting. This is important to us, our children and our culture," treaty village chairman Sisa Kimia said.

Western Province treaty people can hunt Australia's Torres Strait waters under the Torres Strait Treaty Act 1984 in recognition of this being their traditional hunting and fishing sea country. Sea turtle and dugong conservation work is well advanced in the Australian side of the Torres Strait.

"A ranger program and management plans to care for these animals but sea turtles and dugongs are migratory so for this work to be effective, similar work must also take place in PNG. We are very pleased to be starting that work with the full support of all 13 PNG treaty communities," Mr Roe said.

The program has core funding from the Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (MTSRF), a component of the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts has the support of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

## Appendix 6

Story in Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council (NPARC) newsletter August 2010, 'PNG Treaty Communities Embrace Sea Turtle and Dugong Conservation. This will be re-released to the *Torres News* with acknowledgement to the contribution made by TSRA in the Programs development.

**PNG Treaty Communities Embrace Sea Turtle and Dugong Conservation**

Communities in Western Province, Papua New Guinea have welcomed a new program to raise awareness of the issue of over-hunting of sea turtles and dugongs. The Program recently commenced with a workshop in Daru, PNG, where Treaty community representatives voiced their concern over falling sea turtle and dugong numbers and strongly supported an Awareness Program that will educate community members to reduce impacts.



Treaty Village Chairman, Mr Sisa Kimia and Mr Sam More of Pamara Island discuss the Awareness Program. Photo by David Roe.

The Program will be delivered by Sea Turtle Foundation with the support of the PNG Dept of Environment and Conservation. It will educate children about sea turtle and dugong life-cycles and make adults aware of sustainable hunting practices.

"Treaty community representatives are deeply concerned over this issue," said David Roe of Sea Turtle Foundation. "At the workshop they told us they want to ensure sea turtle and dugong populations are safe and will always be found in Torres Strait waters."

"We will now develop activities and resources and take that message into Treaty villages and schools," continued Mr Roe. "By raising awareness of the issues and showing ways to reduce impacts we are turning a corner in sea turtle and dugong conservation in the region. The aim is to bring these animals back to safe numbers."

Sea turtles and dugongs are listed as threatened species due to a wide range of human impacts. They are caught in fishing gear, they are hit by boats, they swallow marine debris and they lose their habitats to coastal developments. "The people are seeing fewer sea turtles and dugongs every year," said Sisa Kimia, Treaty Village Chairman. "All the Treaty communities have agreed to work together to reduce take from hunting. This is important for us, our children and our culture." Western Province Treaty people can hunt in Australia's Torres Strait waters under the Torres Strait Treaty Act 1984 in recognition of this being their traditional hunting and fishing sea country. Sea turtle and dugong conservation work is well advanced in the Australian side of the Torres Strait.

"In the Torres Strait there is a Ranger Program and management plans to care for these animals," continued Mr Roe. "But sea turtles and dugongs are migratory so for this work to be effective similar work must also take place in PNG. We are very pleased to now be starting that work with the full support of all 13 PNG Treaty communities."

The Program has core funding from the Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (MTRSF) – a component of the Dept of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts - and has the support of the Dept of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Sea Turtle Foundation is a non-profit, non-government organisation based in Townsville, Qld.

Businesses interested in supporting the Program should contact David Roe 07 4721 2699, david.roe@seaturtlefoundation.org. To learn more about Sea Turtle Foundation's program of research, education and action go to [www.seaturtlefoundation.org](http://www.seaturtlefoundation.org)

Article by Mr David Roe, Sea Turtle Foundation



Want to walk hand in hand?  
Don't be silly. How?



Let's just rub our heads together!

**New Mapoon Arts Centre**  
... well worth a visit

Located midway between Bamaga and Seisia, next to NPARC Council building at New Mapoon, is the New Mapoon Arts Centre (Tel. 4083 0271), in its first year of operation. It's a place to mingle with local artists, have a yarn, and admire the works their gifts allow. In the display room are original works from various Cape York artists. Next door, and around the back, busy hands work on the next projects.



Original works of art on display and for sale



...more on page 22

NPARC Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Stuart Duncan