

WORKSHOP REPORTS

GOI – UNDP workshop on Sea turtle conservation and management in Lakshadweep, 9th February 2002, Kavaratti

Under the sub-programme of Govt. of India – United Nations Development Programme's Olive Ridley Sea Turtle Project, the Wildlife Institute of India conducted a detailed survey of sea turtles in the islands during July 2001 to February 2002. To disseminate the information gathered and to develop a turtle conservation action plan in a participatory manner, the Wildlife Institute of India organized a workshop on "Sea turtle Conservation and Management in Lakshadweep" at Kavaratti, Lakshadweep on 9th of February 2002 in collaboration with the Department of Environment & Forests, Administration of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

This one-day workshop was inaugurated by Shri K.S. Mehra, I.A.S, the Administrator of Lakshadweep. The Director of Wildlife Institute of India, Shri S. K. Mukherjee presided over the function and Shri B. C. Choudhury, Nodal Officer of

GOI – UNDP Olive Ridley Sea Turtle Project conducted the workshop. It was attended by more than 48 participants from different governmental agencies and representatives from the non-governmental organizations of Lakshadweep. The workshop was conducted in three sessions that discussed available updated information on i) current situation and problems of sea turtles ii) involvement and action by other organizations in sea turtle conservation and iii) Assessment of conservation needs and action plan for the Lakshadweep group of islands. The proceedings encompass the collective opinion and ideas of a conceptual plan that can be refined and shaped into a proper implementable action plan for the benefit of the sea turtles and people of the Lakshadweep Islands.

Source: Basudev Tripathy, Lakshadweep survey component of GOI – UNDP Sea Turtle Project, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

Report on the Capacity Building Training Workshop on Sea turtle conservation and management, 19 - 21 June 2002, Cochin

Under the GOI – UNDP sea turtle project, the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Cochin conducted a workshop on "Capacity Building and Training for the frontline staff of Wildlife, Fisheries and Research organizations of the west coast of India and Lakshadweep" during 19 – 21 June, 2002 at Cochin, jointly with the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The workshop was sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, and UNDP. Prof. K.V. Peter, Vice Chancellor, Kerala Agricultural University inaugurated the workshop. Prof. Mohan Joseph Modayil, Director, CMFRI, presided over the function. Prof. N.R. Menon, Director, CIMCOZ, Cochin University, offered felicitation. Prof. K.V. Peter released the book "Management of Scombroid

fishes", edited by N.G.K. Pillai, N.G. Menon, P.P. Pillai and U. Ganga of CMFRI. The workshop imparted training by resource personnel from CMFRI, Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA), WII and Coast Guard to 50 frontline and field staff in the protection of sea turtles, fishery interface problems, monitoring of breeding and nesting grounds, community participation and education programmes towards sea turtle conservation. The workshop also provided a forum to share experiences in the area of sea turtle conservation and management.

Source: Dr. M. Rajagopalan, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Cochin