Sea turtle nests may be relocated to a hatchery as part of a conservation, research or outreach programme. From a conservation perspective, nests should only be relocated to a hatchery if it is absolutely essential i.e. if there is a significant danger of predation, tidal flooding or other threats.

- The hatchery should be located about 20 to 30m from the high tide line to prevent flooding and should be close to the nesting site.
- Hatchlings should be released at night immediately after hatching and allowed to crawl down the beach into the sea.
- Close to the emergence date, each nest should be covered with a basket/plastic mesh.
- The hatchery can be constructed with poles and mesh; nests should be at least 2 metres apart.
- The shape of the nests should be similar to that of natural nests.
- Basic data should be recorded on a placard at the nest, and a detailed data book should be maintained.

- The hatchery should not be covered on top or in the shade of trees.
- The hatchlings should never be held in buckets of water or sand.
- The hatchery should not be established at the same site for two consecutive years.
- Hatchlings should not be released at the same site everyday.