



News from the Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project - A global effort to conserve dugongs and their seagrass habitats.
Newsletter #3 of 2016

Watch: Dugong mum nurses calf

Our Project Partner in Vanuatu, the Vanuatu Environmental Science Society, shared a video of a dugong mother nursing her calf. We think it is the first time dugong nursing behaviour has ever been recorded on film. Rather than nursing as she swims, the dugong mother and calf settle on the bottom. [Watch it here.](#)



[Click on photo to view YouTube video](#)

Seaweed farming threatens dugongs

Entanglement in fishing nets is a well-documented threat to dugongs; however, entanglement in seaweed farming ropes is not. A recent publication authored by our Project Partner, Community Centred Conservation (C3), documented cases of dugong entanglement in ropes for seaweed farming in Busanga, Palawan. [Read more here](#).

Project news: Mozambique health services linked to conservation

Our Project Partners in Mozambique are setting up a community health service to reach out to communities with conservation messaging. The project is modelled after the experiences and expertise of Blue Ventures - our Project Partner in Madagascar - who shared their success with us. [Discover more here](#).



The exchange group sending good vibes across the channel to Madagascar.
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Lessons from the field: Acoustic loggers lost in Madagascar

Acoustic loggers deployed in Northwest Madagascar to record dugong vocalisations have been lost to fishing nets. Lessons learned from the field - how to improve success. [Learn more about this experience here](#).

Announcement: 2nd meeting of the Executive Project Steering Committee

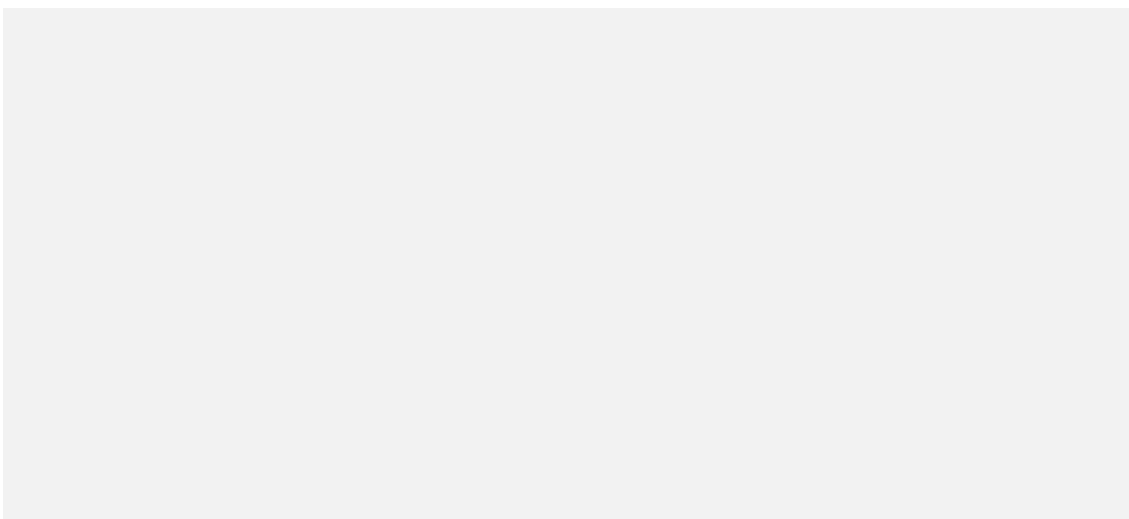
The second meeting of the Executive Project Steering Committee will take place between 1 and 2 November 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting will be hosted by Turtle and Marine Ecosystem Research Centre Department of Fisheries Malaysia, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-base Industry. For more information [visit our events calendar](#).



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Our Project through the eyes of 250+ future PR experts.

Professors and students from around the world gathered to promote conservation through our Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project. This work was the focus of this year's international GlobCom initiative, which was hosted by Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. [Read more here](#).





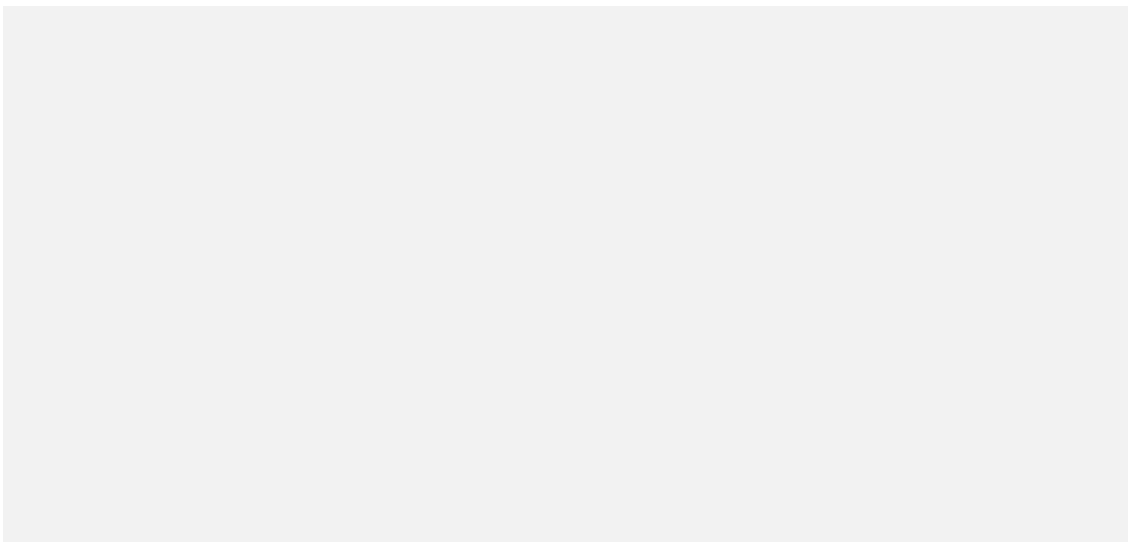
GlobCom 2016 was hosted by Zayed University in Abu Dhabi.

Dugong and seagrass experts discuss their experiences

Richard Unsworth on Seagrass. Christophe Cleguer on Dugongs and Senoveva Mauli on the Solomon Islands project. Read our discussions with dugong and seagrass experts in the [interview section of our website](#).

Art for conservation

Wonderful dugong and seagrass artworks are being created in Abu Dhabi. A team of artists in Abu Dhabi creates hand-painted scarves and neckties, as well as tasteful coffee and tea mugs. The items are used as giveaways and will be available for purchase soon.

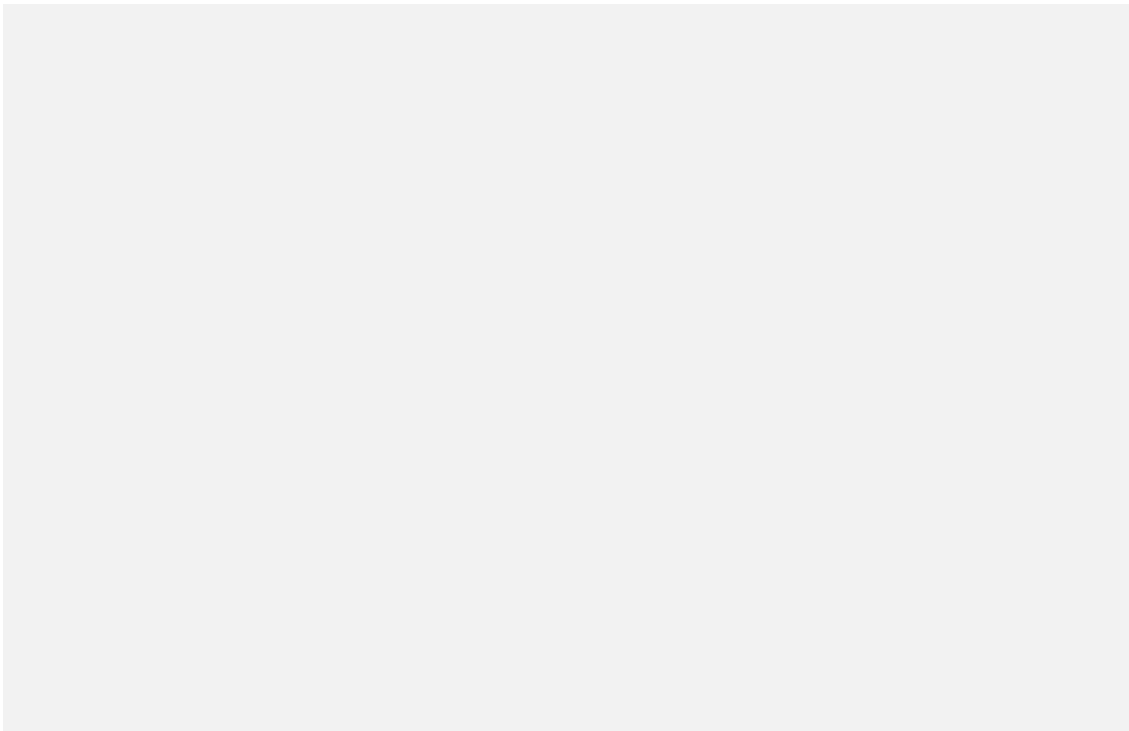




The silk scarves are hand painted and each is uniquely designed

Dugong and seagrass symposium in Indonesia

A two-day symposium for coordinating mutual initiatives for the preservation of dugong populations and seagrass habitat in Indonesia was held from 20 to 21 April 2016 in Bogor. The symposium was organised by the Department of Marine and Fisheries together with Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia (Indonesian Institution of Science), Institute Pertanian Bogor and WWF-Indonesia. [Read more here.](#)





Many gathered in April in Indonesia for a dugong symposium

CMS Dugong MoU Technical Group Meeting

Our Partner, the CMS Dugong MoU Secretariat, organised a meeting of the Dugong Technical Group in Bangkok last February. Results help map the direction of dugong and seagrass conservation work well into the future. Read more about the meeting on the [CMS Website](#).

Revised CMS Dugong MOU questionnaire available for download

A revised version of the Standardised Dugong Catch/Bycatch Questionnaire is now available along with a new shorter version of the Questionnaire. [You can find the documents here](#).

Visit our new website - www.dugongconservation.org

We launched a fantastic [website](#) in May 2016. It utilises the latest and most advanced website design and development techniques, uniquely incorporating live feeds from our Partners' social media accounts, as well as many multimedia capabilities.

Watch our project video

Want to know more about the Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project? A film describes the Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project. It focuses on

the project with captivating footage of dugong and seagrass in their natural habitat and features a number of our project partners. [View it here.](#)

Download our factsheets

Lots of interesting dugong and seagrass facts are available on our website. You can download all this information [here.](#)



This Project is executed by the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, with financing from the GEF, implementation support by UNEP and technical support from the CMS Dugong MoU Secretariat.

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