



The GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project Project Progress Report

Reporting Period **From:** January 2016 **To:** June 2016

1. PROJECT GENERAL INFORMATION

National Project Code & Title:	MG 2 - 2106: Fisher knowledge, awareness and behaviour change for the conservation of dugongs and seagrass using the Mihari network of Locally Managed Marine Areas in Madagascar.		
Project Partner(s):	MIHARI Network		
Location (country, region/ district and commune/ city/ village/ region etc.)	Madagascar		
Of which areas under protection (please indicate the name and size of protected areas or locally managed marine areas, if applicable)	NA		
Project start date	1 st August 2015	Project intended completion date	30th September 2018

2. PROJECT PROGRESS

2.1. Narrative of project progress during the past semester by Project Activity¹

This project has been working over the last 6 months to bring members of the GEF Dugong project together, to understand how we can best work together and how the MIHARI network can be used to leverage their projects, and what support they would most like from the MIHARI network. We held a meeting with national partners (WCS, Blue Ventures, C3 and COSAP Sahamalaza) to learn from their experiences and to collaborate. MIHARI's role is to facilitate learning and sharing between community based organisations, and communities, and therefore will make a synergy between all partners and evaluate all methodologies and materials used by them.

3.1.1. Questionnaire sent to NGO partners to complete using community focus groups for preparation before national Mihari forum 2015. As we did not receive as many results from the questionnaires from the 2015 fora, a new set of questionnaires will be sent to the three NGOs supporting the three priority sites identified for MIHARI support, in the next few weeks.

3.1.2 Organisation of dugong and seagrass information gathering at regional and national Mihari fora in 2015. Although information was collected in 2015, we will also use the MIHARI regional forum 2016 to gather more specific information. We will gather together over 50 associations that manage LMMAs. Further information (knowledge on status, threats, understanding of their importance) will be collected on dugong and seagrass in Madagascar at this regional forum.

3.1.3. Methods and training materials identified and developed tailored to needs of community for participatory mapping. Several meetings have been organized with C3 to check their methodology for participatory mapping. This led to the signing of a collaboration agreement between C3 and MIHARI to share information and methods - in particular that MIHARI will use some of the methodologies and materials developed by C3. Agreements will also be established with the other national partners. Their materials and methodologies will be available for, and via MIHARI once the agreement is made.

3.1.4 Training in participatory mapping of priority seagrass habitat areas at selected LMMA sites

Training in mapping will now occur later this year.

¹ Briefly describe progress made during the previous six months highlighting major outcomes/benchmarks achieved during the period.

3.1.6 Participatory data collection

Data collection will occur after the training, later this year now.

2.2.1 Selection of key LMMA sites for further community-based awareness work.

Meetings have been organized with the partners supporting the three priority sites that were identified during MIHARI regional forum in 2015 to check whether they are interested for the project to work with them (Blue Ventures, GIZ and DELC). All of them confirmed their willingness to integrate the GEF dugong and seagrass project in their activities. The three components of the project (participatory monitoring, education/awareness, Dina support) have been introduced to them. All of them were interested to work on the three components. MIHARI is now in the process of establishing a partnership agreement with those three NGOs. Once the final sites are identified in Boeny and Ambaro Bay, MIHARI will start the first activity in each site: training in participatory mapping and data collection.

The sites supported by national partners in the NW (C3, WCS and Sahamalaza) will be integrated into MIHARI activities and agreement will be signed between MIHARI and each one. Their sites will benefit from the activities developed by MIHARI while their methodologies and materials will be available for MIHARI's use.

2.2.2 Baseline data collected on current awareness.

The MIHARI meetings with national partners have allowed us to gather some basic information on this from partner's perspectives. The regional forum in the NW will include a special day focussed on seagrass and dugongs, and allows us to gather more detailed knowledge on current awareness (biology, importance, status, threats).

2.2.3 Develop educational campaign/social marketing campaign.

A dugong and seagrass education and awareness day will be held on 8 July as part of the NW forum.

2.2.7 Assessment of long-term sustainable financing mechanisms for LMMAs and MIHARI support

We have not made any progress on this activity at this point, although we have secured two further grants for MIHARI. MIHARI is currently focussed on establishing the long-term organisational framework for the network, which will also dictate the level of funding

required in the future.

1.1.1. Current LMMAs and hotspots identified in 3.1. assessed for priority sites for dugong and seagrass LMMAs.

Three priority sites were identified based on the analysis of the data from MIHARI regional forum in 2015 in Mahajanga. The sites are located in Mahajanga and Ambaro Bay. They are supported by DELC, GIZ and Blue Ventures. A last check will be made before finalizing the sites. All of them are interested to integrate the three components of the MIHARI project into their sites (monitoring, education and Dina support). GIZ and DELC requested the organization of trainings or exchanges with the national partners to help them become more integrated within the overall project.

2.2. Project implementation progress²

Outputs & Activities ³	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of end of reporting period expressed in %	Describe any problems in delivery and any changes/mitigation action required.
Output 3.1 Critical knowledge gaps (dugongs and seagrass ecosystems) identified and surveys completed	NA	NA	NA
3.1.1. Questionnaire sent to NGO partners to complete using community focus groups for preparation before national Mihari forum 2015.	September 2016	75%	The information gathered are not complete. Additional questionnaires will be added for the final identification of priority sites in Ambaro Bay and Boeny.
3.1.2 Organisation of dugong and seagrass information gathering at regional and national	December 2016	20%	Although we have collected quite a lot of information informally and during the Mihari forum in 2015. We will

² Information provided in “Quarterly Expenditure Report” should be in line with output/activity progress reported in this table.

³ Outputs and activities as described in the project proposal or in any updated project revision. Expand table as necessary.

Mihari fora in 2015.			use regional fora throughout 2016 to collect further information where the opportunity arises
3.1.3. Methods and training materials identified and developed tailored to needs of community for participatory mapping.	August 2016	60%	The establishment of the collaboration agreement between MIHARI and the different national partners takes time. Once the agreement is done, MIHARI will collate all methodologies and training materials available.
3.1.4 Training in participatory mapping of priority seagrass habitat areas at selected LMMA sites.	October 2016	5%	Sites are identified (in Ambaro bay and Boeny) but the exact locations are not yet identified. Need a second selection to be done from August (site visit + use of scientific data).
3.1.6 Participatory data collection	January 2017	0%	Please see comment above.
Output 2.2 Awareness raising and social marketing programmes contributing to more sustainable practices (subsistence and small-scale artisanal fishers) in target areas			
2.2.1 Selection of key LMMA sites for further community-based awareness work.	August 2016	80%	The first site selection was based on the analysis of the data from MIHARI for 2015. A second selection through site visits and use of scientific data are needed.
2.2.2 Baseline data collected on current awareness.	September 2016	50%	NA
2.2.3 Develop educational campaign/social marketing campaign	December 2016	50%	NA
2.2.7 Assessment of long-term sustainable financing mechanisms for LMMAs and MIHARI support	January 2017	20%	NA
Output 1.1 Governance structures for community involvement in conservation and monitoring of dugong and seagrass ecosystems established or strengthened in target areas	NA	NA	NA

1.1.1. Current LMMAs and hotspots identified in 3.1. assessed for priority sites for dugong and seagrass LMMAs.	August 2016	60%	NA
1.1.2. Dina from LMMAs within priority sites reviewed (and amended if necessary) to protect dugongs and seagrass.	Jan 2017	30%	NA
1.1.3. Technical support provided to new LMMA site for seagrass and dugong established.	Jan 2017	10%	NA

2.3. Risk and risk management

Please describe internal and external risks (examples included in brackets) that could affect successful implementation of project activities and the proposed risk mitigation measures.

Risk group	Description	Risk level (Low/ Medium/ High)	Mitigation measures
Project Management (team capacity, internal communication, co-financing, budget, financial management, reporting, etc.)	Limited staff time within MIHARI to work on the project specifically. Limited capacity of the existing team on Dugong and seagrass	Medium	Currently recruiting additional team members. Sharing information across partners and possible attendance on trainings on Dugong/ seagrass or organization of exchanges.

Socio-cultural issues (external communications, capacity of and work with stakeholders, cultural aspects)			
Political risks (Political stability in country, political impacts on the project)	No clear dugong focal point or NFC due to changes in Ministries. This has caused some extra work for MIHARI to coordinate meetings with partners.		Partners continue to meet themselves, the NFC starts asap or a new partner takes on the role of NFC.
Environmental risks (severe weather events/ disasters, natural causes negatively affecting project areas, habitats and species)			
Other (please specify)	Limited capacity for scientific assessment in the identification of the priority sites		Need to collaborate with the national partners working in the area and use their data (cartography)

3. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

3.1. Please describe activities for monitoring and evaluation carried out during the reporting period.

Examples include: baseline data collection, stakeholder surveys, field surveys, steering committee meetings to assess project progress, peer review of documentation to ensure quality, mid-term review, etc.

Do not include routine project reporting.

We are continuing to gather information on dugongs and seagrass from other associations that manage LMMAs around Madagascar. The regional forum in the NW will also include a day focused on seagrass and dugongs, so we can gather more detailed knowledge on current awareness (biology, importance, status, threats).

We have made good progress towards defining appropriate methodologies that can be shared through the MIHARI network, such as some of the participatory mapping methodologies and materials developed by C3. These will be shared and form the basis for future monitoring and evaluation activities.

4. OTHER INFORMATION

4.1. Meetings⁴

Meeting type ⁵	Title	Venue	Dates	Convened by	Organised by	No. of participants	Report issued Y/N	Language	Dated
Partners consultation (GIZ)	Presentation of the GEF Dugong/ seagrass project and inquiry of interest to work on it	Blue Ventures office - Antananarivo	19 May 2016	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	2	NA		
Partners consultation (DELC)	Presentation of the GEF Dugong/ seagrass project	Blue Ventures office - Antananarivo	19 May 2016	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	2			

⁴ Expand table as necessary

⁵ Meeting types: e.g. expert group meeting, project inception workshop, training workshop/seminar, partners consultation workshop, project Steering Committee meeting etc.

	and inquiry of interest to work on it								
Partners consultation (C3)	Update on partners' progress on the project and inquiry for collaboration	C3 office - Antananarivo	19 May 2016	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	2	NA		
Partners consultation (COSAP Sahamalaza)	Update on partners' progress on the project and inquiry for collaboration	Blue Ventures office - Antananarivo	27 May	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	2	NA		
Partners consultation (WCS)	Update on partners' progress on the project and inquiry for collaboration	Blue Ventures office - Antananarivo	8 June 2016	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	2	NA		
Partners consultation	Update on the government's involvement with the project and meeting with the new NFC	Secrétariat d'Etat charge de la mer – Antananarivo	14 June 2016	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	2	NA		
Partners consultation	Presentation of the GEF Dugong/ seagrass project update to MIHARI partners in the northwest	Ambanja	17 June	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	18	NA		
Partners consultation (C3)	Preparation of the GEF Dugong/ seagrass	C3 Office Diego	24 June 2016	MIHARI Network	MIHARI Network	4	NA		

	education and awareness day								
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4.2. List(s) of meeting participants⁶


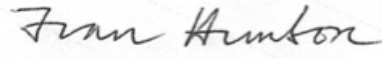
No	Name of participant	Nationality
	Vatsoa Rakotondrazafy (MIHARI Network)	Malagasy
	Jean Eric Rajaobelirina (GIZ)	Malagasy
	Lalarisoa Rakotoarimino (C3)	Malagasy
	Lalaina Rakotoarisoa (DELIC)	Malagasy
	Stephanie D'agata (WCS)	French
	Yvette Razafindrakoto (COSAP Sahamalaza)	Malagasy
	Lavitra Thierry (Secretariat d'Etat mer)	Malagasy
	Hasimbola Razafimahefa (GIZ Diana)	Malagasy
	Mund Eva (GIZ Diana)	German
	Maisonneuve Nathalie (GIZ Diana)	French
	Justine Maillot (Blue Ventures)	French
	Fanantenana Ramanandraibe (Blue Ventures)	Malagasy
	Bienvenue Zafindrasilivonona (Blue Ventures)	Malagasy
	Katrina Dewar (Blue Ventures)	English
	Adrian Levrel (Blue Ventures)	French
	Jomazandry (Conservation International)	Malagasy
	Ismael Pepin (Conservation International)	Malagasy
	Ramanamiary Bernardine (DELIC)	Malagasy
	Ramiandravola Haja (WWF)	Malagasy

⁶ Expand table as necessary

	Santisy Andriamiravo Abdoul (WCS)	Malagasy
	Mananavy René Clovis (Madagascar National Parks)	Malagasy
	Bejoma Anwar (C3)	Malagasy

4.3. Documents, other printed materials, videos, and soft products (such as CDs or websites)

No	Type ⁷	Title	Author(s) Editor(s)	Publisher	ISBN	Publication date
	Flyers	LAMBOHARA info board	MIHARI/ C3			

Name of Project Manager: Vatosoa Rakotondrazafy		Name of Project Manager Supervisor:	
Signature: 	Date: 7/7/16	Signature: 	Date: 7/7/16

⁷ Documents and printed material types: e.g. technical publication, meeting report, technical/substantive report, brochures, media releases, etc.

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