



## The GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project

### Project Progress Report

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

#### 1. PROJECT GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>National Project Code &amp; Title:</b>	LK 8 – 2134 National Facilitating Committee For GEF Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project		
<b>Project Partner(s):</b>	IUCN		
<b>Location (country, region/ district and commune/ city/ village/ region etc.)</b>	Sri Lanka		
<b>Of which areas under protection (please indicate the name and size of protected areas or locally managed marine areas, if applicable)</b>	Bar Reef Marine Sanctuary, Wilpattu National Park, Wankalai Sanctuary, Adams Bridge National Park		
<b>Project start date</b>	01 May 2015	<b>Project intended completion date</b>	30 September 2018

## 2. PROJECT PROGRESS

### 2.1. Narrative of project progress during the past semester by Project Activity<sup>1</sup>

- Several meetings and discussions were held with project partners to discuss different project activities and for monitoring of their progress. Permission letters to facilitate field activities (Research and Data Collection) were issued through National Focal point of CMS i.e. the department of Wildlife Conservation.
- Training need assessment was done with the participation of major stake holders i.e. Navy, Coast Guard, Central Environment Authority, Project partners, Universities and the officers from the DWC.
- The officers of DWC marine management Unit is undergoing training on different aspects and skills development including training on snorkelling and identification of marine species in the field. The training is being conducted by Mr. Arjan Rajasuriya of IUCN.
- A Meeting on the National Facilitating committee has been organised and scheduled to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 at the IUCN office.
- One person has been hired to support to work of the National Facilitator.
- Nomination from national level stake holder agencies on marine sector was called for national steering committee and the first committee meeting is scheduled to be held in the month of July 2016.
- District level awareness has been scheduled and the first programme will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 for Puttallam District which is located in North-western province of the country.

### 2.2. Project implementation progress<sup>2</sup>

Outputs & Activities <sup>3</sup>	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of end of reporting period expressed in %	Describe any problems in delivery and any changes/mitigation action required.
<b>Output 4.1</b>			
<b>Activity 1:</b> Conduct policy reviews relevant to the conservation of dugongs, seagrasses, other sensitive ecosystems and the environment. Identify gaps and make recommendations	30 September 2016	%	

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

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

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

Outputs & Activities <sup>3</sup>	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of end of reporting period expressed in %	Describe any problems in delivery and any changes/mitigation action required.
Activity 2 Conduct a training needs assessment of national level capacity in monitoring and conservation of dugongs and seagrass ecosystems	30 April 2016	80%	Initial discussion was held at NFC meeting and training need assessment was done
Activity 3 Based on activity 2 Conduct a training of trainees for government officials in relevant agencies and participants selected from the Community Conservation Groups	31 December 2016	10%	DWC officers in management level were trained on snorkelling and lectures are being conducted to identify marine species in the field. The training is being conducted by Arjan Rajasuriya of IUCN.
<b>Output 4.2</b>			
<b>Activity 1</b> Promote the conservation of dugongs and seagrass ecosystems among government organizations at national, regional and local levels and other stakeholders including private sector for CSR activities	Continue	10%	National Steering committee on marine sector conservation has been established under the Marine Conservation Unit of DWC. District level awareness was started and will continue up to the local level.
<b>Activity 2</b> Preparation of strategic plan for the implementation of the dugong and seagrass conservation project	30 March 2016	50%	
<b>Activity 3</b> Conduct regular NFC meetings every 3 months	Continue	16%	2 meetings were held for the reporting period

### 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	Mitigation measures
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		(Low/ Medium/ High)	
<b>Project Management</b> (team capacity, internal communication, co-financing, budget, financial management, reporting, etc.)	Non		
<b>Socio-cultural issues</b> (external communications, capacity of and work with stakeholders, cultural aspects)	Communication to the different cultural groups	Low	Communicate through local community leaders and through the officers who are familiar with local language.
<b>Political risks</b> (Political stability in country, political impacts on the project)	Non		
<b>Environmental risks</b> (severe weather events/ disasters, natural causes negatively affecting project areas, habitats and species)	Non		
<b>Other (please specify)</b>			

### 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.

Individual project progress was reviewed at the NFC Meeting

#### 4. OTHER INFORMATION

##### 4.1. Meetings<sup>4</sup>

Meeting type <sup>5</sup>	Title	Venue	Dates	Convened by	Organised by	No. of participants	Report issued Y/N	Language	Dated
Partner consultation workshop	National Facilitating committee	DWC	14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	National Facilitator	DWC/NF	10	Y	English/Sinhala	
Partner consultation workshop	Training need assessment	DWC	14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	National Facilitator	DWC/NF	13	Y	English/Sinhala	
Organization committee meeting	Discussion on District level awareness workshop	IUCN	14 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	National Facilitator	IUCN	05	N	English/Sinhala	

##### 4.2. List(s) of meeting participants<sup>6</sup>

No.	Name of participant	Nationality
1	1. Dr. Lakshman Peiris – (NF)	Sri Lankan

<sup>4</sup> Expand table as necessary

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

<sup>6</sup> Expand table as necessary

	2. Dr. Vasantha Pahalawaththaarachchi - NARA 3. Dr. Gihan Dahanayake – NARA 4. Mr. PrasannaWeerakkody – ORCA 5. Mr. Sajith Subashana - ORCA 6. Mr. Ranil Nanayakkara – BEAR 7. Mr. Arjan Rajasuriya – IUCN 8. Mr. Asoka Rajapaksha - DWC, 9. Mr. Keerthi Chandrarathne - DWC, 10. Mr. Shantha Weerasingha – DWC 11. Channa Suraweera – DWC.	
2	1. Dr. Lakshman Peiris – (NF) 2. Dr. Vasantha Pahalawaththaarachchi - NARA 3. Dr. Gihan Dahanayake - NARA 4. Mr. PrasannaWeerakkody – ORCA 5. Mr. Sajith Subashana - ORCA 6. Mr. Ranil Nanayakkara - BEAR 7. Mr. Arjan Rajasuriya – IUCN 8. Mr. Asoka Rajapaksha - DWC, 9. Mr. Keerthi Chandrarathne - DWC, 10. Mr. Shantha Weerasingha – DWC 11. Channa Suraweera – DWC, 12. Brg Jayalath – Navy 13. Officer from Coast Guard	Sri Lankan
3	1. Dr Lakshman Peiris 2. Mr. Arjan Rajasuriya 3. Mr. Channa Suraweera 4. Miss Miss. Harini Nishanka 5. Matheesha Katuwawala	Sri Lankan

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

No	Type <sup>7</sup>	Title	Author(s) Editor(s)	Publisher	ISBN	Publication date

Name of Project coordinator:- Lakshman Peiris		Name of Project Manager Supervisor:	
Signature:	Date:	Signature:	Date:

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