



# Improving communication and collaboration amongst all relevant stakeholders in Sri Lanka to enhance seagrass and dugong conservation



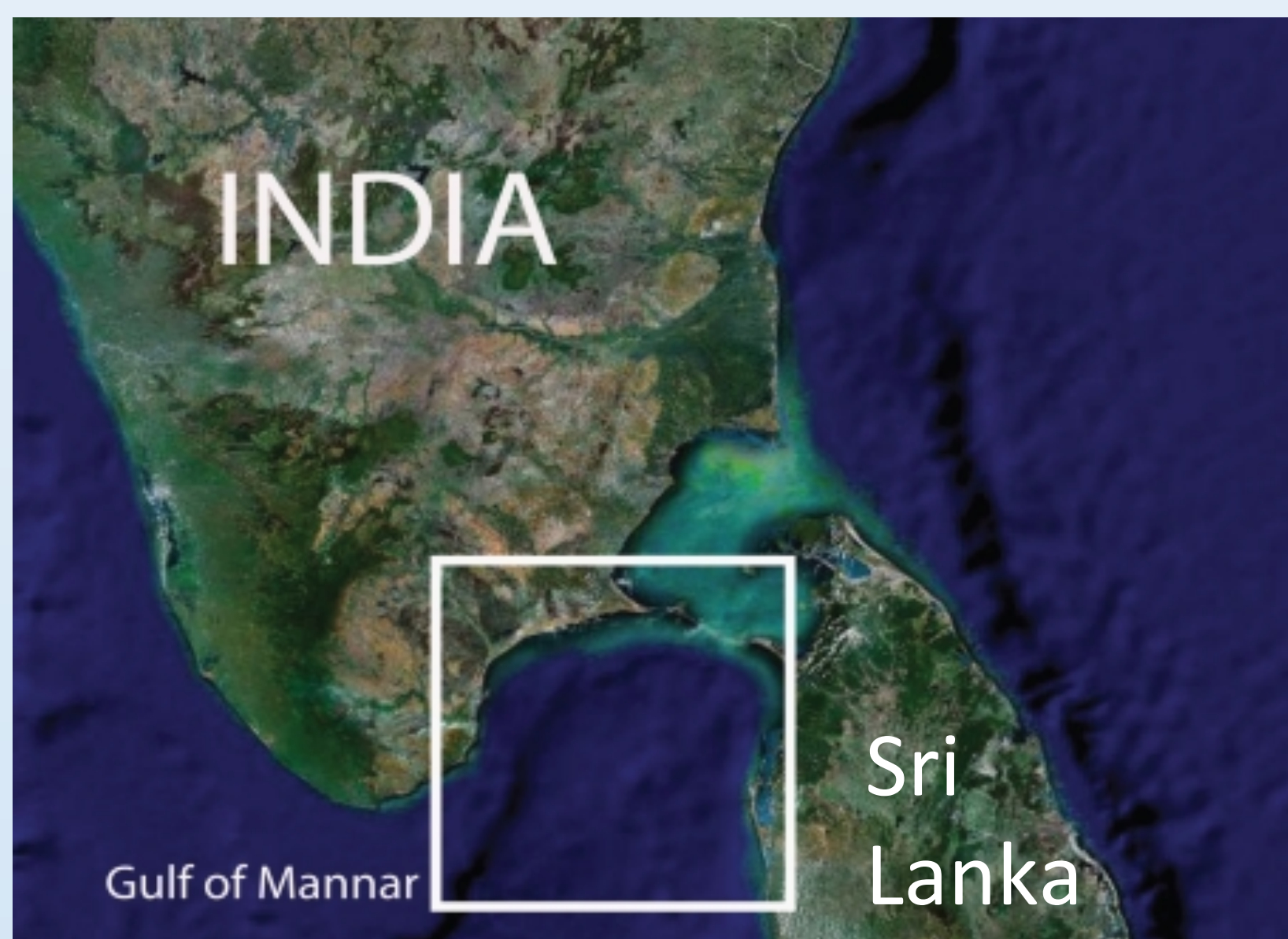
## Project Summary

In coastal areas where dugongs are present there is not a center to detect or monitor the activities related to conservation. The Dugong Conservation Coordination Center (DCCC) helps to fill this gap.

Communication among government agencies and other stakeholders helps to collect realtime information. This helps to develop a database and to strengthen law enforcement.

The National Steering Committee will formulate the appropriate policy framework on dugong and sea grass conservation.

Community-based tourism industry on marine mammals, benefits the local communities. Guidance and regulations of marine mammal tourism will sustain the industry. And these activities will be coordinated through this project.



## Results

Dugong conservation coordination center functioning with the assistance of local community

Mobile-based communication application developed and communication network established

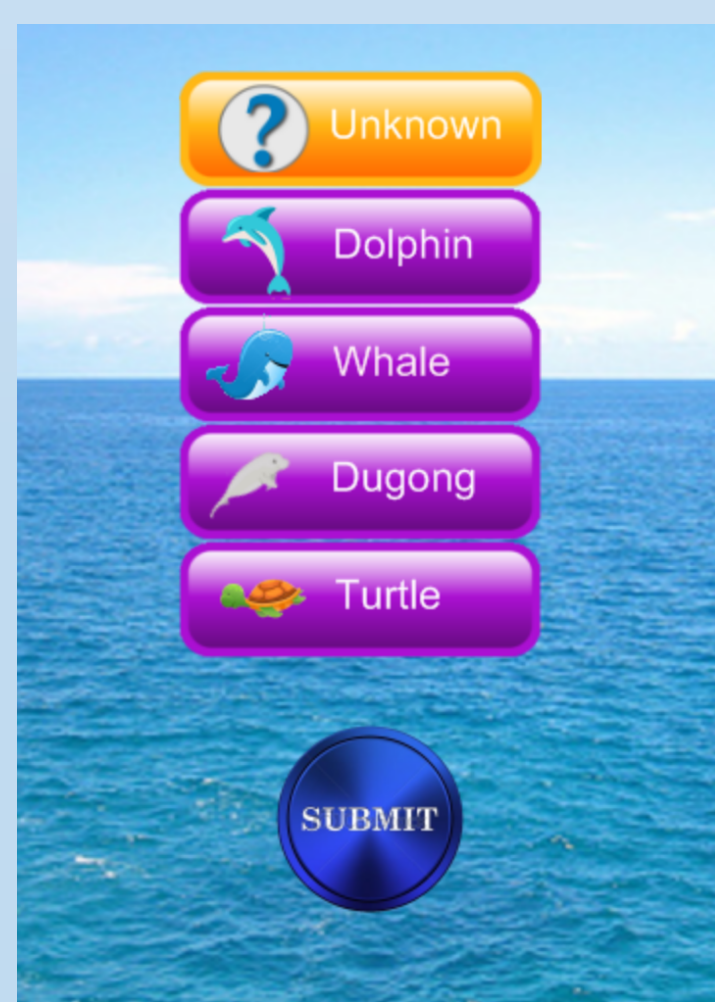
National level steering committee with the participation of all national level stake holders established and functioning



NSC – National Steering Committee Meeting



Mobile app demonstration



Screen shot of mobile app



Fishing pressure to be addressed

## Next Steps & Lessons Learned

Dugong Conservation Coordination Center strengthened with ensuring the participation of local community

Dugong database established and linked with mobile communication network

National steering committee on marine sector conservation strengthened and recognized as a consultative body for decision making

Marine sector conservation capacities developed

## About Our Organization

The Department of Wildlife Conservation is the government entity that is empowered by law to conserve wildlife and to develop and implement the policies on wildlife conservation. Fourteen percent of the terrestrial landmass is reserved for protected areas, wildlife species and their habitats including protected marine species are looked after by DWC in Sri Lanka.

The department is the Focal Point of the international conventions of CMS, Ramsar and CITES.

