



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY



6-7 November 2023

18TH SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING



Country Report: **Papua New Guinea**

[Ms. Kumaras Kay KALIM]

[Head of Delegation]



OUTLINE

1. Members (Agencies) of the National Coordination Committee
2. Progress/Accomplishments towards NPOA (*for each Working Group*)
3. Challenges/Constraints Affecting Implementation
4. National Roadmap 2024 (*for each Working Group*)
5. Potential Regional Program and Support Required
6. Coral Triangle Day Celebration
7. Communication and Publications
8. Story from the Field



MEMBERS (AGENCIES) OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE

WORKING GROUP	FOCAL POINT	AGENCY
Seascope	Ms. Yvonne TIO Alternate: Mr Aisi. Anas	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority National Fisheries Authority
EAFM	Mr. Aisi ANAS Alternate Ms Lorel DANDAVA Ms. Rachael RABI	National Fisheries Authority
MPA	Mr. Bernard SURUMAN Alternate:	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority
TSWG	Mr. Vagi REI Alternate: Ms. Phelameya HAIVETA	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority Conservation and Environment Protection Authority
CCA	Mr. Iki Peter Alternate: Ms Stephanie Rere	Climate Change Development Authority
FRWG	Mr. Junior HASU Alternate: Ms. Yvonne TIO	Department of Treasury Conservation and Environment Protection Authority
IRC	Ms. Yvonne TIO Alternate: Mr. Junior HASU	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority Department of Treasury
WLF	Ms. Phelameya Haiveta Alternate: Marzena Ann Marinjemi	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Review of “Papua New Guinea Marine Program on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (The National Plan of Action) 2019-2023”



- “PNG Marine Program (2019 -2023): Papua New Guinea Marine Program on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (The National Plan of Action) 2019-2023”
- The PNG Marine Program Investment Plan 2019-2023
- The PNG Marine Program is currently under review to align with the RPOA 2.0. The expected reviewed document to be available first quarter of 2024



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS SEASCAPES

1. PNG Focal point for Seascapes attended several meetings and capacity building/training including;

- The Pacific Regional Preparatory Workshop by the Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Programme (SPREP), from the 12-20th of October, with funding support from the Government of Australia. This was to prepare for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-3), which is scheduled to take place from 13 to 19 November 2023 at the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.
- The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks Authority facilitated by International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) for the Pacific Coral Reef Collective forum delegates to share knowledge and experience in reef management and explore innovative solutions to protect reefs across the Pacific region, now and into the future. This collective is an integral part of delivering the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan 2021-2030.



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS EAFM

1. Fisheries Credit Loan

- The Fisheries Credit Facility (FCF) is provided as an access to finance the fishing sector to expand the fishing industry through establishing and expanding individuals, co-operatives, associations, and small enterprises.
- The Fisheries Credit Facility funding is made available through an existing Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the National development Bank limited (NDB) and the National Fisheries Authority (NFA).

2. European Union Support to Women in East Sepik-Papua New Guinea

- EU Streit Program Connected 10,000 women to the formal financial system in the Greater Sepik region

EU STREIT program, launched another FAO-Thiaroye Technique (FTT) site for enhanced fish processing in Angoram District, East Sepik Province. The FTT is handed over to Kandangapma Women's Business Group with a total of 325 fisherwomen.



Karawambo Women's Business Group showcasing the new technology FTT-Thiaroye.



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS EAFM

3. FAO supports coastal and Island fisher communities in Papua New Guinea

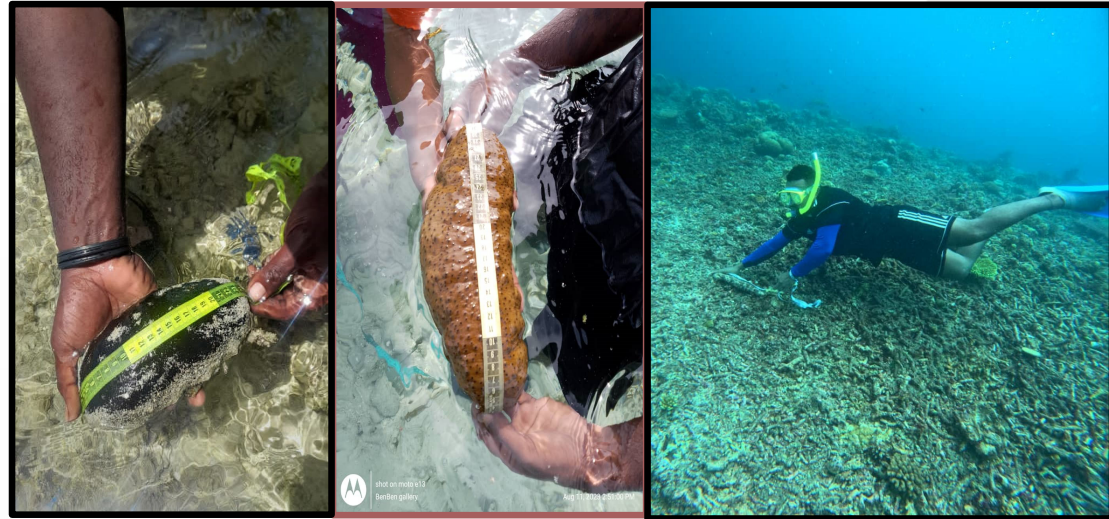
- Craft boats donated to fishers to drive the sustainable development of the fisheries value chain in Sepik region.



PROGRESS – EAFM

BDM Fishery

- Stock assessment surveys in all 14 Maritime provinces throughout the country in prep for 2024 opening season. Caps on license issuance, buying & export quotas to be set for each province as part of overall management of fishery
- BDM National Management Plan review in process in prep for 2024 fishing



Mud Crab Fishery

- Fishing season closure April-October to protect peak spawning season.
- Stock assessment surveys completed to determine quotas for 2023-2024 fishing season
- Review of National Mud crab management plan soon to follow.



EAFM PROGRESS UPDATE

Inshore Fish Aggregating Device (IFAD) Program

- Continuation of deployment activities for the 14 maritime provinces
- Baseline assessment of monitoring sites prior to IFAD deployment
- Ongoing community and stakeholders' consultation
- Training on **Tails** data collection app

Trap net Fisheries Program

- Surveys of new additional fishing grounds in Manus and New Ireland Provinces.



EAFM UPDATE

ATSEA:

- Finalized draft of the Marine Environment & Artisanal Fisheries Management Bill by Nov 23
- Training workshop on rights-based fisheries management- Darwin, June 19-24
- Training workshop on sea turtles conservation, Bali, September 14-16 (NFA, CEPA, South fly)
- Training on management plan, fisheries law and data collection for village data recorders as part of socializing the draft artisanal management plan (Nov-Dec 2023)



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS MPA

1. Marine Protected Areas Regional Exchange

Hosted the 9th Marine Protected Areas Regional Exchange showcasing Culture and Marine Conservation- the PNG ways through documentaries

2. Development of Draft Coral Rehabilitation Guideline

3. Establishment of Two large Marine Protected Areas

Awaiting gazettal of MPAs in New Ireland Province, work done by WCS, awaiting endorsement from Local Level Governments and Provincial Environment Council.

4. First mangrove boardwalk in PNG

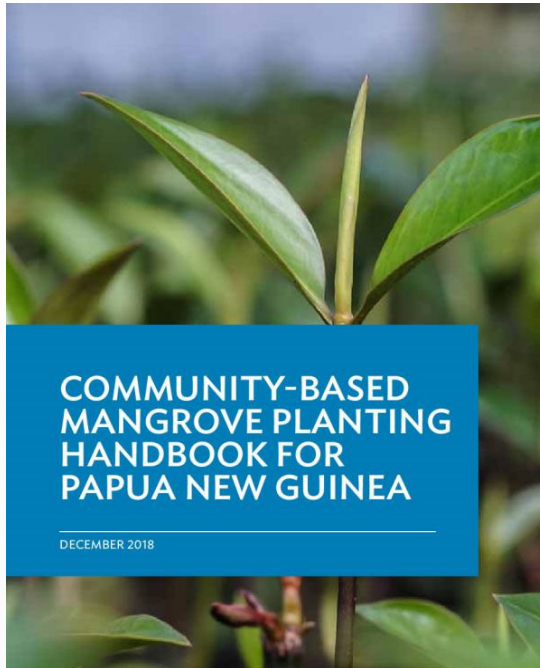
To be fully constructed in 2024 within the Bootless Bay National Marine Sanctuary by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and Seventh Day Adventist Central Papua Conference (CPC)



DRAFT



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS CCA



1. **Review and edit the Climate Change Development Authority community-based mangrove planting handbook (NPOA Activity 4.1.3)**
 - Community-Based mangrove Planting Handbook for Papua New Guinea reviewed and published.
 - This step-by-step handbook was developed as a tool to advance the governments 'Millions of Mangroves Initiative', aimed at helping communities with the necessary skills to take responsibility for their actions to protect themselves from increased coastal erosion and sea surges.
 - Link: <https://dx.doi.org/10.22617/TIM189796-2>



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS CCA



2. Train central and provincial government staff in climate resilience (climate change committees) – (NPOA activity 4.1.1)

- All 22 provincial government representatives trained on climate resilience through the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) development process.



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS CCA

5. Building climate resilient coastal infrastructure

- PNG's first climate resilient/proof wharf was successfully constructed and built. The Alotau Provincial Wharf in Milne Bay province was redesigned and constructed to withstand sea level rise, storm surges and other impacts for the next 50 years.



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS CCA

6. Water catchment and tank installations are completed. A total of 142 Tanks were delivered as,

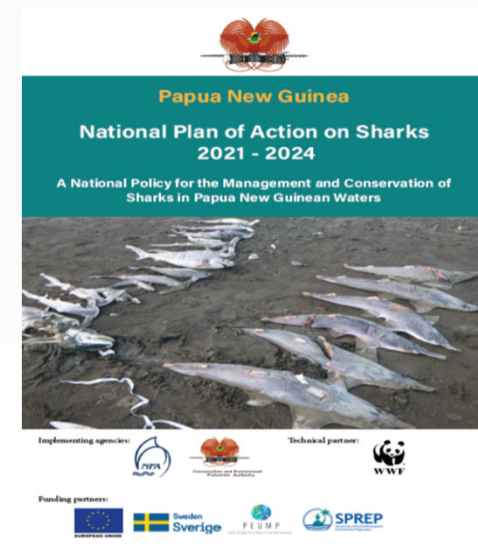
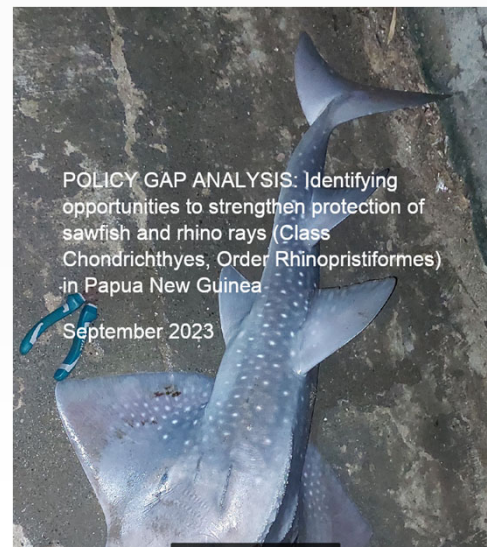
- East New Britain Province: 17
- Autonomous Region of Bougainville: 39
- Morobe Province: 22
- Milne Bay Province: 51
- Manus Province: 30



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS TSWG

1. SHARKS & RAYS

1. Threatened Species National Conservation Plan (Pending-subject to support)
2. Sharks and Rays National Plan of Action (2020-2023) Due for Review 2024
3. Policy Gap Analysis led by WCS-funded by the Shark Conservation Fund



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS TSWG

1. SHARKS & RAYS

- Dolphin, Shark & Ray by catch project under Piku Biodiversity Network- in the Gulf of Papua
- Assessment of Target and non target catch rates in the Kikori swim bladder fishery
- Dolphin by-catch data collection and community engagement in Kikori River Delta to assess by-catch of threatened marine species by small-scale fishers
- Ongoing work funded by SRPEP-PEUMP, with opportunity to be supported by Australian DFAT-2024

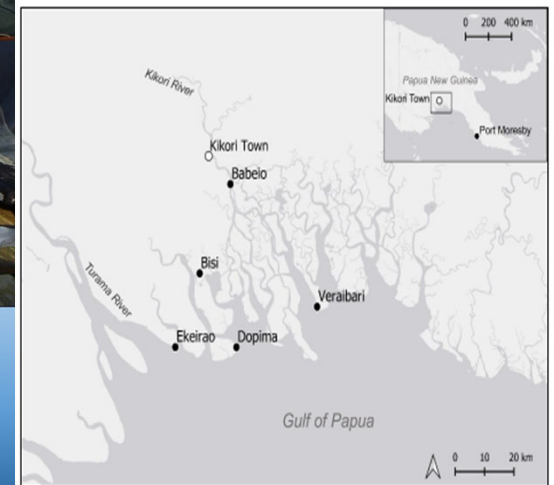


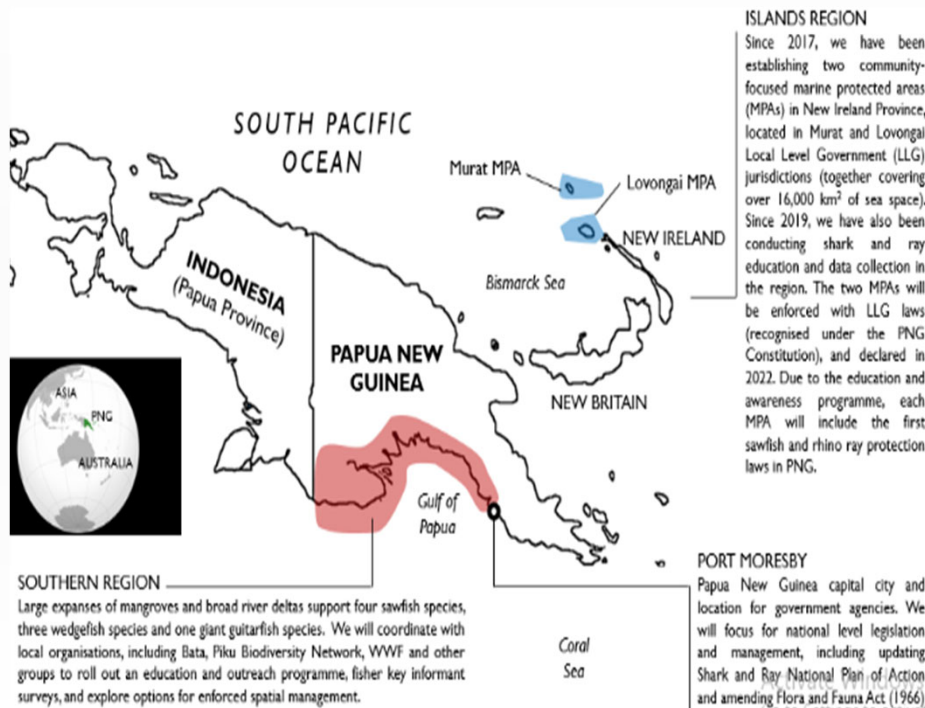
Figure 1. Location of fishing village communities engaged to enumerate fisheries landings.



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS TSWG

1. SHARKS & RAYS

DEVELOPING CONSERVATION APPROACHES FOR SAWFISH AND RHINO RAYS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA (JULY 2022 - JUNE 2025)



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:

- World Wildlife Fund for Nature
- Piku Biodiversity Network
- Bata Development Foundation
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- Co-develop an updated and amended Shark and Ray National Plan of Action (NPoA) for 2025-2029, with specific provisions for sawfish and rhino rays
- Legislative Review



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS TSWG

2. MARINE TURTLES

- Conflict Island Turtle Monitoring Program-Hawksbill Turtles (Milne Bay Province) Turtle Cooling Project - WWF(Ongoing)
- Kamiali Leatherback Turtle Monitoring of nesting season December 2023 (Morobe Province)- ranger training conducted to 10x community representatives- Opportunity for MOU with University of Papua to carry out monitoring-2024
- Turtle Use Project-WWF (Completed-awaiting stakeholder comments)
- Turtle NPOA and Legislative Review- Proposed for 2024 onwards-subject to funding(WWF & SPREP)

WWF - SPREP Turtle Use Project in Papua New Guinea

Community Turtle Use Workshop Project Report, May 2023 (Draft Vs3)

Elouise Haskin
Manuai Matawai
Jackie Thomas
Christine Madden Hof



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS TSWG

2. MARINE TURTLES

- TS Focal point attended 1x Regional Exchange on Sea Turtle Conservation in Bali, from 14-16 September 2023. Organized in collaboration with Turtle Conservation and Education Center (TCEC), under ATSEA Phase 2 Project.
- 1x CEPA officer given access to the (TREDS) Turtle Research and monitoring Database System held by SPREP- a large amount of historical turtle data- 3x capacity building online sessions via Zoom

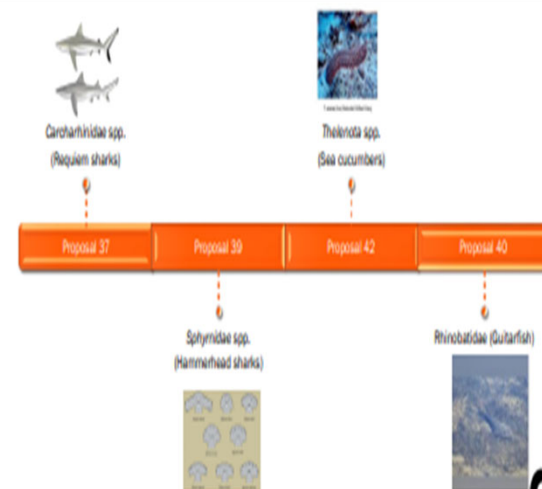


PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS TSWG

3. PNG CITES UPDATE

- Shell Bank
CITES CoP19
Turtle Resolution
endorsed and now includes a draft of actions for PNG to enact around turtle trade, genetic sampling, stronger enforcement
- Legislative Review being undertaken by CEPA for International Fauna Protection and Control Act – All species of marine turtles added on to the list
- NDFs for Sharks and Ray species listed under Appendix 2 needs to be done-subject to partner support

CITES MARINE LISTED SPECIES



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS TSWG

4. PNG ATSEA PROJECT

- Draft National Action Plan-stakeholder consultations completed in August
- CEPA has worked on several proposals to apply for funding from the CMS Dugong MOU Secretariat to support awareness and research work in the Western Province to protect critical seagrass habitats.
- Opportunity under ATSEA-2 NAP to support work for conservation of key sites in Western Province.
- Potential also for support under Australian Torres Trait-PNG Bilateral Partnership.



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS CCA

3. Develop appropriate EWS for communities based on identified threats (NPOA activity- 4.1.2c)

- Early Warning and Communication Network Systems have been installation in 5 provinces, East New Britain Province, Morobe Province, Manus Province and AROB through the Building Resilience to Climate Change (BRCC) Project.

4. Train communities and LLG staff in use of EWSs (NPOA activity 4.1.2d)

- Around 50 community and LLG and Provincial staff from the above 5 provinces trained in use of EWSs



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS WLF

1. Women SME's

Participation in scoping mission-UNDP Blue Economy Project-interviewing women groups in target sites and assessing business viability for blue based business opportunities- women requested for more training opportunities.

Also under this project, observed how Social/Gender Environmental Safeguards are streamlined into UN Projects.



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS WLF

2. Awareness for youths

- Awareness drive on Marine Conservation to Students and Youth in 2 provinces (June-July August)
- Establishing informal networks with Young Leaders in Conservation (August-September)
- Ongoing partnerships with NGO Groups eg. Sea Women of Melanesia, Resilient Peers, East New Britain Sea Keepers



PROGRESS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS WLF

3. GESI Integration In Fisheries Training

- The Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Integration in Fisheries Training was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from September 26-27 2023. The training was organized by the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support Activity (SuFiA TS) in collaboration with CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, a GESI Integration in Fisheries Training for CTI-CFF WLF members and partners.
- Trainees to pilot GESI Integration training & Gender Analysis in organization/National Coordinating Committee
- Adopt the regional GESI Integration framework into reviewed PNG National Marine program (NPOA)



CHALLENGES/CONSTRAINTS AFFECTING IMPLEMENTATION

- Institutional challenges and lack of governance frameworks that exist at the national level within the responsible agencies of the National Coordinating Committee.
- Lack of interagency coordination to implementing the National Plan of Action from Lead Agencies
- Lack of commitment from the National Government, resulting in non-payment of country contributions to CTI-CFF since 2018
- Limited capacity and funding to implement activities.

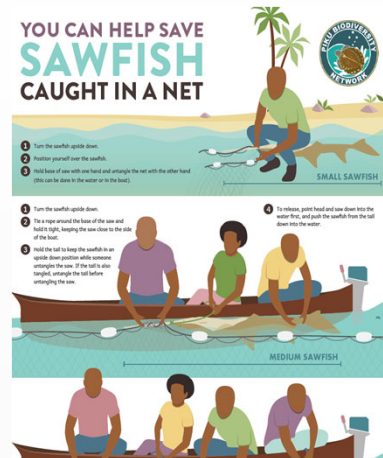


PUBLICATIONS



Community based mangrove planting handbook for PNG

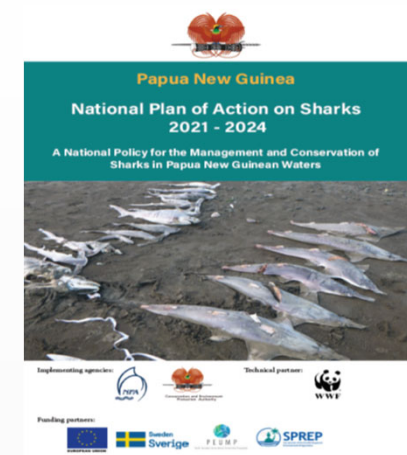
This step-by-step handbook was developed as a tool to advance the governments 'Millions of Mangroves Initiative', aimed at helping communities with the necessary skills to take responsibility for their actions to protect themselves from increased coastal erosion and sea surges.



Sawfish guides



Assessment of target and non-target species catch rates in the Kikori fish maw fishery and local ecological knowledge of locally threatened dolphin species



National Plan of Action on Sharks (2021-2024)



POTENTIAL REGIONAL PROGRAM AND SUPPORT REQUIRED

- Capacity Building program
- Technical support
- RS support for NPOA review and alignment to RPOA 2.0
- Support for production of communication and awareness materials.



2024 ACTIVITY PLAN

Activity	Time Frame	Budget (PGK)
Review of PNG Marine Program	Q1-Q2	200,000 Needs partner support
Marine Spatial Planning	Q2-Q4	200,000 Needs partner support
Blue Economy Investment Strategy consultation & Incubation facility Establishment	Q2-Q3	Need partner support
GESI training	Q2	Needs partner support
Review and Draft of NPOA Sharks & Rays, Marine Turtles	Q3-Q4	200,000 Needs partner support





CORAL TRIANGLE DAY 2023

A large group of people gathered on a beach, some standing in a circle and others walking. The scene is outdoors on a sandy beach with a clear sky.A circular logo for the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) 2023. The logo features the text "SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING" around the perimeter, "SOM" in the center, and "18" in a large font with "2023" to its right.



STORY FROM THE FIELD

BESE-ELEMENT TRIAL IN GWARUMEMASE VILLAGE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA- SUCCESSFULLY TRIAL

- ❑ The Water & Carbon Group collaborated with the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority to conduct a BESE-element trial set up to rehabilitate mangroves
- ❑ The Biodegradable Ecosystem Engineering element (BESE-element) are environmental friendly and sustainable, side stream potato starch, renewable raw materials, carbon neutral, non-toxic product and biodegradable.
- ❑ It provides 3D structure for attachment, reduces local currents and waves, promotes stability and acts as a shelter that protects against predators.
- ❑ The project is used to stimulate the recovery of shellfish reefs, salt marsh vegetation, dune vegetation, bank-side vegetation and reed beds, submerged macrophytes, fish habitats, mangroves, coral reefs and natural filter systems. The BESE-elements serves as a foundation for the natural restoration.
- ❑ The project commenced in January 2023 and monitored for 6 months.
- ❑ The mangrove seedlings are intact and growing



WE, THE LEADERS ENTRUSTED WITH
THE MANAGEMENT OF THE WORLD'S
MOST PRISTINE CORAL REEFS, PLEDGE
TO CONSERVE THEIR BIODIVERSITY
AND PRODUCTIVITY FOR
GENERATIONS TO COME.

