

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Libyan Society for Birds
Project Title:	Sea Turtle Conservation in Partnership with Artisanal Fishermen in the Gulf of Sirte, Libya
Grant Number:	CEPF-111560
Hotspot:	Mediterranean Basin II
Strategic Direction:	1 Support civil society to engage stakeholders in demonstrating integrated approaches for the conservation of biodiversity in coastal areas
Grant Amount:	\$119,352.00
Project Dates:	June 01, 2021 - September 30, 2023
Date of Report:	December 19, 2023

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

- Municipality of Sirte: The municipality will allocate a small building on the beachfront to install a sea turtle rescue center.
 - Ministry of Environment: In order to ensure a long-term management of the rescue center, we contacted the Environment General Authority, Sirte branch, and a convention was discussed for the joint management of the rescue center between ME, LSB and AMWAJ as described previously.
 - Ministry of Education (Sirte office): An entertaining and awareness day with schoolchildren that includes painting, modeling activities and an educational show about sea turtles.
 - Public Authority for Culture and Civil Society (Sirte office): Assembly administrative support through the authority's civil society commission - media spaces about the project via the authority's radio and newspaper.
- Academia:
- Sirte University: Exchange of visits with the College of Science, a visit that includes students (males and females) to the field and to the rescue center.
- NGOs:
- Libyan Organization for Conservation of Nature (Misurata): LOCN Collects data about stranding on Al-Washka, Abu Qreen, Misurata, Zliten, and Al-Khums beaches.
 - Green Fingerprint Association (Benghazi): Collecting data about stranding from the beaches of Ras Lanuf, Zwaitina, Benghazi, Al Marj, Al Bayda, Derna, and Tobruk.
 - Bado Society for Environment (Zuwara): Collecting data about stranding on Zuwara, Farwa, Sabratha, Sorman, and Zawiya beaches.
- Groups:
- Sirte Fishermen's Syndicate: Engaging professional fishermen and joining them in the national network of sea turtle stranding.
 - Ehrawa Fishermen's Syndicate: Engaging professional fishermen and joining them in the national network of sea turtle stranding.

- Al-Wadi Lahmar Fishermen's Syndicate: Engaging professional fishermen and joining them in the national network of sea turtle stranding.
- Local Citizens: Engage the local Citizens living near high nesting density beaches in the conservation of sea turtles.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

Planned Long-Term Impacts: 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
The first Stranding Platform in Libya is established, associating 400 active fishermen, fishing NGOs and syndical organizations	Contribution to establish the platform with fisherman and local NGO. After some peer-to-peer meetings and 3 local workshops gathering a total of 61 fishermen, locals started to adopt the idea and consider sea turtle. Some fishermen start to contact LSB or AMWAJ when they encounter sea turtle while fishing
At least 50% of damaged turtles are treated and released	This impact hasn't been reached officially
The local status of Sea Turtles population is improved through reduced bycatch	after meetings and some awareness campaign, bycatch reduced because fishermen started to release sea turtle. we assume this behaviour will continue post CEPF project.

Planned Short-Term Impacts: 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Created the first fishermen network for stranding along the entire Libyan coast to record and conduct studies on stranded sea turtles	Coordination with partner NGOs along the Libyan coast including 5 NGOs to collect data on stranding on target beaches with the daily beach survey during the nesting season. - We met with 61 professional fishermen to clarify the project and the mechanism of joint work. The objectives and approach of the project are explained to communities and stakeholders directly affected. A poster with project information was designed and printed in the local language including providing them with the means by which they can may raise a grievance with LSB
A Rescue center established in Sirte, to host and cure damaged turtle, with management conventions and long-term financing secured	A tripartite partnership agreement was signed between the Libyan Society of Birds, the Ministry of Environment, and the Municipality of Sirte for the establishment of a rescue center in the site of Thalathine. The minister of environment Ibrahim Alarabi Mounir committed that the ministry will contribute to the management of the center after its establishment which allow its sustainability. With the mayer of syrte agreed to allocate 4 of the old small buildings adjacent to the seashore in the Al-Thalatheen, west of Sirte, in order to establish a rescue center

Impact Description	Impact Summary
	One person who will work at rescue center has been trained on "monitoring sea turtles stranding network", the sea turtle network, a sub-regional training on monitoring sea turtles stranding network was organized by (SPA/RAC, UN-Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan) in collaboration with Lampedusa Turtle Rescue Center within the implementation of the MAVA funded Marine Turtles and the EU funded MED-Marine Litter 2. Projects. (Training took place in Lampedusa, Italy 15-20 November 2021).
The Capacities of AMWAJ are increased, leading to a stronger, recognized organization in Libya	Amwaj NGO created its bank account. AMWAJ and LSB developed their capacities in managing project and administrative aspects. (CSTT and GTT for initial and final submitted Equipements were persuaded to support LSB and AMWAJ
Reduced predation rate by 70% through Installing at least 400 metal cages, and releasing treated sea turtles	160 metal cages were installes on syrte beache reducing the predation for about 40%
The coasts of the Gulf of Sirte KBA (455.52 hectares), covering the eastern and western beaches of Sirte (about 227.76 km long), are better surveyed and managed, with focus on high density nesting beaches	During the nesting season the team carried out a daily survey of the beaches and collecting data according to the appropriate Protocols. The surveys covered about 200km long. Syrte beach

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

- Strong positive relations with fishermen on the central coast of Libya led to cooperation in various fields.
- The financial crisis in the country cast a shadow on various activities, and the emphasis and restrictions on NGOs by the government, especially regarding financial procedures, led to negative effects on many activities.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

Created the first fishermen network for stranding along the entire Libyan coast to record and conduct studies on stranded sea turtle.

The Capacities of LSB are increased, leading to a stronger, recognized organization in Libya.

The local status of Sea Turtles population is improved through reduced bycatch.

Reduced predation rate by 40% through Installing at least 160 metal cages, and releasing treated sea turtles.

The coasts of the Gulf of Sirte KBA (455.52 hectares), covering the eastern and western beaches of Sirte (about 227.76 km long), are better surveyed and managed, with focus on high density nesting beaches.

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	Reinforcing the national network for sea turtle stranding	1.1	Standard protocol and report sea turtle stranding recording, data collection and first aid during the 1st and 2nd month of the project	Protocols were achieved, a protocol for a stranding network including all activities related to stranding recording and sample collection, and a first aid protocol for individual injured due to bycatch, stranding, or other injuries. AMWAJ and LSB contributed as well to the protocols developed by Nastned that will be adopted once approved
1.0	Reinforcing the national network for sea turtle stranding	1.2	Reports, photos, Facebook posts on sea turtle stranding along the Libyan coast	Social media channels have been created and a website is under way for LSB and AMWAJ
1.0	Reinforcing the national network for sea turtle stranding	1.3	Chart, reports on creating the national network of sea turtle stranding	AMWAJ is part of NastNet networking as a regional Network At national level, AMWAJ is in contact different Lybian organizations that work on Sea turtle conservation such as BADO, Besida, Alhayat.
1.0	Reinforcing the national network for sea turtle stranding	1.4	A smartphone application to capture information by fisherman	Not acheived
2.0	Rehabilitation and equipment of the rescue center in partnership of the municipality of Sirte	2.1	Preparing a brief EIA (during the first months of the project)	The EIA for the rescue center rehabilitation was prepared and submitted to CEPF in the deadline and submitted to CEPF
2.0	Rehabilitation and equipment of the rescue center in partnership of the municipality of Sirte	2.2	Convention, Reports, meeting minutes on coordination and communication with partners and stakeholders	All local stakeholders and fishermen were associated to our meetings Convention with the ministry of environment based a Tripoli and the municipality of Syrte

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
2.0	Rehabilitation and equipment of the rescue center in partnership of the municipality of Sirte	2.3	Convention on the allocation of the building from the municipality of Sirte	Convention signed with the municipality of Syrte for the reallocation of the building to LSB, a convention was signed The rehabilitation of the building started in July 2022 https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=5280224472070128&set=pcb.5280226075403301
2.0	Rehabilitation and equipment of the rescue center in partnership of the municipality of Sirte	2.4	Report, photos, on the rehabilitation of the rescue center	A tripartite convention was signed between LSB, Ministry of environment and the municipality of Syrte for the management of the rescue center
2.0	Rehabilitation and equipment of the rescue center in partnership of the municipality of Sirte	2.5	Convention on the management of rescue center	A tripartite convention was signed between LSB, Ministry of environment and the municipality of Syrte for the management of the rescue center
3.0	Capacity building of LSB and AMWAJ	3.1	Website created and communication package to improve LSB and AMWAJ society communication	not achieved, the informations were published on LSB facebook page
3.0	Capacity building of LSB and AMWAJ	3.2	Reports, photos, Training courses for society members	4 members of LSB and AMWAJ participated to training on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizational capacity - Rescue center monitoring - Sea turtle monitoring
3.0	Capacity building of LSB and AMWAJ	3.3	CSTT, and GTT filled and submitted to CEPF	The CSTT and GTT of LSB and AMWAJ were submitted in the beginning and the end of the project
4.0	Sea turtle monitoring and survey on 230km of Gulf of Sirte KBA	4.1	Reports, Photos and data on the coastal day and night	a survey was organized involving 4 members from LSB and 5 from Amwaj.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
			survey during turtle nesting season 2021	https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=5275247029234539&set=pcb.5275250725900836
4.0	Sea turtle monitoring and survey on 230km of Gulf of Sirte KBA	4.2	Report on predation reducing in Sirte KBA	160 metal cages were installed on the nests, with a focus on beaches with a high predation density in 2021 and 2022. The predation was reduced hugely noticing that the sea turtle emergency was 100% for these nests
5.0	Awareness campaigns and information tools for fishermen, residents, stakeholders and local actors on sea turtle's conservation and handling	5.1	A 12 minutes documentary on the AMWAJ's efforts about sea turtle conservation along the Libyan coast	this documentary was partially achieved it will be shared with CEPF after the final completion of the project
5.0	Awareness campaigns and information tools for fishermen, residents, stakeholders and local actors on sea turtle's conservation and handling	5.2	Event report on celebrating turtle day with schoolchildren and relevant stakeholder	Several workshops and awareness campaigns were organized with fishermen and local stakeholders. A total of 61 fishermen were part of these events. https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=4522789254480324&set=pcb.4522789627813620

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:

- Standard protocol and report sea turtle stranding recording, data collection and first aid.
- communication package to improve LSB and AMWAJ society communication.
- A 12 minutes documentary on the AMWAJ's efforts about sea turtle conservation along the Libyan coast.

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
1.2	Number of hectares of coastal KBAs under improved management	455	About (455.52 hectares), covering the eastern and western beaches of Sirte (about 227.76 km long) at Gulf of Sirte KBA will be under improved management	200	Turtle monitoring was conducted over about 200 km along Syrte beach. were set up to avoid fox predation. This achievement was in place before the army forces arrived and took the rehabilitated rescue center and occupied the beaches
1.4	Number of globally threatened species benefiting from reduced pressure from unsustainable practices (hunting, fishing, over-harvesting)	1	Loggerhead sea turtles (Caretta caretta)	1	Caretta caretta benefitted from the project through set up of 160 metalcages against predation. Fisherman awareness that start to contact AMWAJ when they accidentally capture sea turtle. The monitoring of 200 km along syrte beach in 2021

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Protected Areas

Protected areas that have been created and/or expanded as a result of the project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID*	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Original Total Size (Hectares) **	New Protected Hectares ***	Year of Legal Declaration or Expansion
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*World Database of Protected Areas

**If this is a new protected area, 0 should appear in this column

*** This column excludes the original total size of the protected area.

Key Biodiversity Area Management

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) under improved management—where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation—as a result of the project.

KBA Name	KBA Code	Size of KBA	Number of Hectares with Improved Management
Gulf of Sirte	LBY08		200

Production Landscapes

Production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity as a result of the project.

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
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Benefits to Individuals

- **Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
5	1	Administrative training for organizational aspects Turtle monitoring and protocole implementation

- **Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
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Benefits to Communities

View the characteristics column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the benefits column below with the following corresponding codes:
1- Small Landowners	a. Increased Access to Clean Water
2- Subsistence Economy	b. Increased Food Security
3- Indigenous/ Ethnic Peoples	c. Increased Access to Energy
4- Pastoralists / Nomadic Peoples	d. Increased Access to Public Services
5- Recent Migrants	e. Increased Resilience to Climate Change
6- Urban Communities	f. Improved Land Tenure
7- Other	g. Improved Use of Traditional Knowledge
	h. Improved Decision-Making
	i. Improved Access to Ecosystem Services

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Type of Benefit									Country	Number of Males Benefitting	Number of Females Benefitting	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i				
Sirte Fishermen's Syndicate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Libya	70	10

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

View the topics column below with the following corresponding codes:			
A- Agriculture	E- Energy	I- Planning/Zoning	M- Tourism
B- Climate	F- Fisheries	J- Pollution	N- Transportation
C- Ecosystem Management	G- Forestry	K- Protected Areas	O- Wildlife Trade
D- Education	H- Mining and Quarrying	L- Species Protection	P- Other

No.	Name of Law	Scope	Topics															
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P

“Other” Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment

Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

A company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted

Networks and Partnerships

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable.

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/ Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
Nastnet	2023	Egypt;Libya; Morocco;Tunisia	No	Sea turtle conservation in 5 countries, sharing experience, standardization of the protocols for sea turtle survey and monitoring

Sustainable Financing

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

Name of Mechanism	Purpose	Date Established	Description	Country/Countries	Project Intervention	Delivery of Funds?
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Globally Threatened Species

Globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, benefitting from the project.

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
Caretta	caretta	Loggerhead Turtle	VU	The team Conduct a daily survey of the beaches and collecting data according to the methodology prepared with support of SPA-RAC within the MAVA project. The team tags about 9 sea turtles on nesting beaches with metal tags from LibSTP in the peak period of the season. The team Install about 160 metal cages to reduce predation of sea turtle nests with an emphasis on beaches with high predation density.	Increasing

LESSONS LEARNED

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

LSB submitted a stakeholder engagement plan that was implemented engaging relevant stakeholders at local and national level. The convening of the ministries can show this involvement.

A grievance mechanism was explained to partners and local community.

An EIA was prepared for the rescue center and shared with CEPF.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$0.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	

INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. For more information about this project, you may contact the organization and/or individual listed below.

Libyan Society for Birds (LSB), Alfornaj Street, Tripoli, Libya, Telephone: 00218914715529, Email: khaledetayeb@yahoo.com