

**GOAL 5
THREATENED SPECIES STATUS IMPROVING**

TARGET 1	
<p style="text-align: center;">IMPROVED STATUS OF SHARKS, SEA TURTLES, SEABIRDS, MARINE MAMMALS, CORALS, SEAGRASS, MANGROVES AND OTHER IDENTIFIED THREATENED SPECIES</p> <p>Populations of sharks, sea turtles, marine mammals, corals, seagrass, mangroves and other threatened marine species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (or listed under CITES) will no longer be declining (2015), followed by a clear trend towards an improved status (2020), as key steps for preventing their extinction and supporting healthier overall marine ecosystems.</p>	<p>2015 (population declines halted)</p> <p>2020 (toward improved status)</p>
<p>Annotations explaining Target 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of the marine species to be the <i>focus</i> of work under this Target will need to be determined in the early stage of implementation, but is likely to include, in particular: all five species of threatened cetaceans in the CT, all six species of threatened sea turtles in the CT, all groupers and threatened wrasses, and all species of threatened elasmobranchs (i.e., sharks, skates, rays) in the CT. Priority species for conservation action should be continuously revised as more species are assessed under IUCN Red List criteria and added to the IUCN Red List. • A special focus under this Target will be on the <i>multilateral</i> dimensions to improving the threatened status of these species, addressing such issues as: (i) habitat needs for all life-cycle stages of highly migratory species; (ii) international trade impacts; (iii) international sanctuaries; (iv) international shipping and its impacts on cetaceans; (v) by-catch related to foreign fishing fleets and fisheries operations across multiple countries in the CT; and (vi) impacts of non-CTI countries on threatened species when fishing within the CT or in their own waters during migrations. • Further inventories and targeted surveys/research will help inform early stages of implementation of this Target, including identification of species and geographies requiring priority attention. • Regional actions described below will include a special emphasis on addressing by-catch of threatened marine species • For certain threatened species in which human/wildlife conflict is an important issue (e.g. crocodiles, sharks), guidelines will be developed for their management. • Each regional action plan referenced below will specify tangible conservation outcomes (e.g., maintaining viable populations, threat reduction, etc.) and development outcomes (e.g., livelihoods) which will provide input to monitoring and evaluation. 	
REGIONAL ACTION 1	
<p>Assess species status by supporting ongoing and new assessment programs</p> <p>Support completion of assessments of all vertebrates, and selected invertebrates and plants, found in the waters of the CTI Implementation Area, with a focus on targeted marine threatened species using commonly accepted standards such as the IUCN Red List criteria and categories. These assessments (including biodiversity status) will contribute toward the establishment of national and regional lists of priority species for conservation and active recovery. This will support the other actions outlined below and provide an essential baseline of data to inform the other Goals / Targets in the CTI Plan of Action.</p>	<p>2012</p>
REGIONAL ACTION 2	
<p>Complete and implement region-wide Sharks Conservation Action Plan</p> <p>Building on existing regional plans and efforts, and on National Plans of Actions for Shark Fisheries (as recommended by FAO for its members), jointly adopt and implement a region-wide <i>Sharks Conservation Action Plan</i> based on solid scientific information that identifies the most important measures needed (at the regional and national levels) to improve the status of sharks across the CT Implementation Area—with a particular focus on the following <i>multilateral</i> dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standards/mechanisms for reporting and monitoring, to assess levels and extent of shark harvest (i.e., directed catch and bycatch) at the species level; • finning export industry and needed reforms, including addressing supply side issues (shark finning industry) and demand side issues (consumer markets); • targeted collaborative research; • incidental by-catch in other fisheries (e.g., longline tuna), including legislative reforms and practical modifications of fishing gear; 	<p>2012 (complete plan)</p> <p>Ongoing (implementation)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shark fisheries for broader consumption, particularly spurred by international trade (i.e., establishment of the status of shark fishery and utilization, imports, and exports in CT6 countries); enforcement legislation and action on shark fishing, including reducing incidence of IUU catch; support needed to strengthen capacity to implement key policy frameworks across all CT countries; and science-based management measures for sharks, particularly pelagic and migratory species. 	
REGIONAL ACTION 3	
<p>Complete and implement region-wide Sea Turtles Conservation Action Plan Building on existing regional plans and efforts, and on national sea turtle conservation efforts, jointly adopt and implement a region-wide <i>Sea Turtles Conservation Action Plan</i> that identifies the most important measures needed (at regional and national levels) to improve the status of sea turtles across the CT Implementation Area —with a particular focus on the following <i>multilateral</i> dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard monitoring systems among CT6 countries for threatened turtle species; trans-boundary nature of life-cycle stage requirements, migratory patterns, and related protection strategies; international trade in turtle meat and parts, including surveillance and enforcement; incidental by-catch in other fisheries (e.g., longline tuna, purse seine, and small-scale fisheries), including legislative reform and practical modifications of fishing gear; targeted collaborative research; traditional management and regulation addressing conflict over the use of critical habitats (e.g., nesting beaches, feeding grounds); and support needed to strengthen the capacity to implement key policy frameworks across all CT countries. <p>(<u>Note</u>: The Action Plan will build on and strengthen existing efforts, such as the Indian Ocean and South East Asia Memorandum of Understanding for Marine Turtles (IOSEA), and the tri-national agreement for conservation of turtles in the Bismarck Solomon Seas Ecoregion, TIHPA, SSME, agreements among Pacific SIDS with Australia and ASEAN/SEAFDEC.)</p>	<p>2012 (complete plan)</p> <p>Ongoing (implementation)</p>
REGIONAL ACTION 4	
<p>Complete and implement region-wide Sea Bird Conservation Action Plan Building on existing regional plans and efforts, and on national sea bird conservation efforts, jointly adopt and implement a region-wide <i>Seabird Conservation Action Plan</i> that identifies the most important measures needed - - at regional and national levels -- to improve the status of sea birds (especially, pelagic species under national, regional and/or global threat such as Petrels, Shearwaters, Tropic birds, Boobies, Frigate birds, Terns and Noddies) across the CT Implementation Area – with particular focus on the following <i>multilateral</i> dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> trans-boundary nature of life-cycle stage requirements, including breeding, feeding and roosting grounds, and related protection strategies; national and regional sanctuaries and enforcement; interaction with fisheries activities (i.e., direct and indirect takes); incidental bycatch and bycatch reduction mechanisms; invasive species introductions and habitat destruction at feeding and roosting grounds; science-based targeted collaborative research and management measures; and support to strengthen the capacity to implement key policy frameworks across all CT countries. 	<p>2012 (complete plan)</p>
REGIONAL ACTION 5	
<p>Complete and implement region-wide Marine Mammals Conservation Action Plan Building on existing regional plans and efforts, and on national marine mammal (i.e., cetaceans and dugong) conservation efforts, jointly adopt and implement a region-wide <i>Marine Mammals Conservation Action Plan</i> based on solid scientific information, that identifies the most important measures needed (at regional and national levels) to improve the status of marine mammals across the CT Implementation Area —with a particular focus on the following <i>multilateral</i> dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> population status and distribution (particularly for threatened cetaceans); international sanctuaries and enforcement; impact and management of threats (e.g., from fisheries, international shipping lanes, ship strikes, solid waste, noise pollution, and habitat degradation); incidental catch or by-catch and mitigation mechanisms; stranding, monitoring and response; non-consumptive utilization (e.g., sustainable tourism); targeted collaborative research; and support needed to strengthen the capacity to implement key policy frameworks across all CT countries. 	<p>2012 (complete plan)</p> <p>Ongoing (implementation)</p>

REGIONAL ACTION 6	
<p>Complete and implement region-wide <i>Conservation Action Plan for Targeted Reef Fish and Invertebrate Species that are threatened</i> Building on the above and other relevant efforts, jointly adopt and implement a comprehensive, region-wide <i>Conservation Action Plan for Targeted Reef Fish and Invertebrate Species that are threatened</i>, identifying the most important measures needed (at regional / national levels) to improve the status of these species, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementation of best practices; • completion of non-detrimental findings (NDF); • site protection; • trade monitoring (living/non-living commodities); • identification of gaps in management (e.g., IUU, exports at sea, quotas on domestic trade); • <u>Note</u>: actions to address marine species of particular importance to the livelihoods and food security of coastal communities will be targeted, specifically: high-priced wrasses and groupers, seahorse and other fish and invertebrate species. 	<p>2012 (complete plan)</p> <p>Ongoing (implem)</p>
REGIONAL ACTION 7	
<p>Complete and implement region-wide <i>Invasives Action Plan on Biosecurity of Marine Species</i> Building on existing efforts at regional and national levels, jointly adopt and implement a comprehensive, region-wide <i>Invasives Action Plan on Biosecurity of Marine Species</i> (including Invasive Marine Species) that identifies the most important existing invasive species and actions needed (at regional and national levels) to mitigate their impacts on threatened species, and addresses the prevention of future introductions.</p>	<p>2012 (complete plan)</p> <p>Ongoing (implem)</p>
REGIONAL ACTION 8	
<p>Adopt and strengthen (i) local and national legislative, policy and regulatory frameworks; and (ii) regional and international agreements on threatened species, and put in place supporting networks and information management systems In each CTI country, and at the regional and international levels, adopt and strengthen effective legislative, policy, regulatory and incentive frameworks to protect threatened marine species, and put in place supporting networks and information management systems. This will entail (i) the sharing of relevant information across CTI governments (e.g., draft and finalized versions of national laws to help enable harmonization of legal and policy frameworks); (ii) recognition and enforcement of laws and regulations to combat IUU fishing and trafficking of threatened marine species as transnational organized crime; and (iii) coordinated efforts to strengthen the protection of threatened marine species through transnational cooperation.</p>	<p>2013</p>
REGIONAL ACTION 9	
<p>Jointly develop and implement capacity building activities that support the above actions on threatened species Collaborate around development and implementation of capacity building activities designed to support implementation of the regional actions described above (e.g., IUCN Red Listing process, taxonomy, museum archiving) covering practical, hands-on training and/or virtual methods of learning; institutional strengthening; and other activities.</p>	<p>On going</p>