

Project Update: April 2003

Conclusions of a recent workshop:

1. Objective 1: (the establishment of network among various stakeholders of marine turtle in Tasikmalaya). The network is not in the form of an organisational forum, but it brings together key stakeholders (especially government agencies), who during the workshop expressed their willingness to actively involve (or be involved) in information dissemination on marine turtle conservation along the south coast Tasikmalaya. One form of active participation is the plan to build a marine turtle information centre, which will be managed by the community.

2. Objective 2: Identification of material needed for conservation and training programmes. Main educational materials needed are Moslems' values related with nature conservation (for marine turtle), the dissemination of regulations in Indonesia that protect marine turtle and local community traditional customs and beliefs related with marine turtle conservation. The material would be disseminated through community outreach and training programmes. At the district level the requirement is zoning area management for a better area designation for marine turtle conversation.

3. Future action programmes to support marine turtle conservation programme are awareness programmes, law enforcement (especially regulations related with marine turtle conservation), training, zoning area management, coordination and participation, conservation management, and income generative resources.

4. Local communities agreed that marine turtle has the potential to be developed as part of ecotourism. The marine turtle ecotourism opens possibilities for the community to gain incentive without threatening the marine turtle and its habitats. Community strengthening programmes for example, training and community outreach programme, are strongly required and suggested during the workshop. Also, at the district level, it is essential to have an integrated management programme for area zoning to support the marine turtle and its habitat along the south coast of Tasikmalaya.

ALAMI Foundation is still regularly in contact with local institutions/ individuals related with marine turtles and habitat conservation programme of Tasikmalaya, West Java.