

From 18th to 24th February 2018 I attended the 38th International Sea Turtle Symposium in Kobe, Japan. I did a poster presentation and it included previous Rufford funded activities (20848-B).



COMMUNITY OUTREACH TOWARDS SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION AT KALPITIYA PENINSULA OF SRI LANKA.

Lalith Ekanayake & Y.K. Mummah
Bio Conservation Society (BCSL), Kandy, Sri Lanka.



Introduction

Of the seven species of sea turtles in the world, five come ashore to nest in Sri Lanka's virgin forest beach-lands & mangrove ridges scattered around the island. The species are mainly green turtles, hawksbill, olive ridley, leatherback and the critically endangered hawksbill. The turtle conservation project in Kalpitiya Peninsula is an attempt to protect the turtles and their habitats from the threats of poaching, illegal trade, and other human activities. The project aims to raise awareness among the local community about the importance of sea turtles and their conservation. The project also aims to provide the local community with the necessary knowledge and skills to protect the turtles and their habitats.



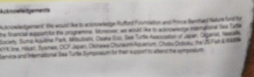
Objectives & Methodology

The aim and objective of the programme was to increase the education and awareness on sea turtle biology & conservation, legislation and law enforcement among the coastal communities such as fishers, school children and other coastal resource users. Awareness programmes were conducted at schools and villages for the school kids and community members from January to December 2017. An awareness booklet was printed and distributed among the participants. Several fun activities such as sport, singing, line dancing and beach volleyball were conducted.



Results & Discussion

About 35 awareness programmes were conducted at schools and villages for the school kids and the adult community members. The community members (both adult and school children) were very enthusiastic about the programme and the results were very positive. The community members were very aware of the importance of sea turtles and their conservation. The community members were also aware of the threats to sea turtles and their habitats. The community members were also aware of the need to protect the turtles and their habitats. The community members were also aware of the need to provide the necessary knowledge and skills to protect the turtles and their habitats. The community members were also aware of the need to provide the necessary knowledge and skills to protect the turtles and their habitats.



Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement: The project was funded by Rufford Foundation and PINE Foundation. The project was also supported by the local community members and the school children.



TurtleSpot Taiwan NEW INTERACTION, NEW RECORDS AND THE EMERGING POWER OF DIVERS

Chia-feng Fong^{1,2}, Hsueh Su^{1,2}, Peng-yu Chen^{1,2}, Daphne Z. Hui^{1,2} and Marco Cheng¹
¹ Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan; ² Institute of Oceanography, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan; ³ TurtleSpot Taiwan

WHAT IS IT?

TurtleSpot Taiwan is a citizen science project that began in June 2017. It was initiated by a group of divers who wanted to make a platform to collect sighting and photograph records of sea turtles.

WHY?

To establish an open database of sea turtles around Taiwan and apply on sea turtle education and conservation.

HOW?

Divers of all ages and backgrounds are encouraged to participate in the project. They can record sightings and photographs of sea turtles and upload them to the TurtleSpot Taiwan database.

HIGHLIGHTS

Hot spot areas: Luchuan Island, Luchuan Island, Luchuan Island.

Species: Green turtles, Hawksbill turtles, Olive ridley turtles, Leatherback turtles.

Records: 100+ sightings, 50+ photographs.

Community: 100+ divers, 100+ schools, 100+ villages.

Conservation: 100+ turtles, 100+ eggs, 100+ hatchlings.

Working together to keep our sea turtles safe.

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