Project Update: August 2023

Skin samples of green turtles (Chelonia mydas) from five nesting rookeries in the Eastern Pacific have been collected between 2021 and 2022, including Hawaii-USA, Revillagiaedo-Mexico, Michoacan-Mexico, Guanacaste-Costa Galapagos-Ecuador. During 2022, CITES permits from each involved country were requested to ship samples to University of Massachusetts for library preparation. DNA extraction of each sample was performed at the beginning of 2023 and library preparation was finalised in June 2023 at the University of Massachusetts. In July 2023, samples were shipped to Novogene laboratory (USA) for whole genome sequencing (96 samples), whose results were recently delivered. At the moment, the whole genomes are uploaded to the cluster at the Universidad de Chile, where they will be analysed using bioinformatic tools in the next few days. Data analysis includes population structure, connectivity, and adaptation, among others. It is expected to obtain preliminary results during October-November 2023. With these results, it is expected to elaborate one or two scientific manuscripts; to present results in one national and one international congress; and to deliver local recommendations in each involved country, as well as to deliver regional recommendations and to perform outreach activities (social media, informative talks and workshops).









