

MUBADALA GRANTS SUPPORTING SPECIES CONSERVATION IN GUINEA

SUPPORTED PROJECTS

African manatee (*Trichechus senegalensis*)
IUCN Status: Vulnerable



Atlantic humpback dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*)
IUCN Status: Critically Endangered

Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)
IUCN Status: Critically Endangered



126 Protected Areas
(14 with management effectiveness evaluations)

35.83% of Terrestrial Area protected
(88,286km² of 246,427km² total land area)

0.53% of Marine Area protected
(583km² of 110,136km² total marine and coastal area)

346 threatened species
on the IUCN Red List



Project Target Areas

Coastal Areas and Interior Rivers, Guinea

Little is known about Guinea's African manatees and this is the first dedicated research and conservation project in Guinea to focus on African manatee. Guinean researchers are being trained in African manatee research and conservation techniques, while also conducting a threat assessment of all manatee habitat use areas of the country - both coastal and rivers in eastern Guinea. Biological samples are collected opportunistically and analyzed to provide the first information about manatee population genetics, feeding ecology and habitat use in Guinea. Threat assessment results will be shared with wildlife law enforcement and we are working with them to encourage enforcement of laws to protect the species. Education programs as well as TV, radio, newspaper and other media announcements will raise awareness of the need to protect the manatee.

Conservation Partner: 

Coastal Waters of Guinea

In 2015, the last time this dolphin was officially studied in Guinea, the researchers documented only 47 animals. The IUCN assigned it a status of Critically Endangered because of it being accidentally caught in fishing nets and other gear as well as being deliberately hunted. This project assesses the distribution and number of Atlantic humpback dolphin in Guinea where it has been documented in low numbers. Noting its key habitats, the study carefully documents the threats to the species and seeks to minimize these threats to help the dolphins to continue to survive. Once more is known about the status of dolphin in this area, efforts will be made to collaborate with local communities to conserve it into the long-term future.

Conservation Partner: Consortium for the Conservation of the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (CCAHD) and Biotope

Katrack Island, Tristao Archipelago, Guinea

One hundred miles from Conakry, the capital of Guinea, lies the island archipelago of Tristao where endangered marine turtles and communities share a fragile marine protected area. Within the archipelago, on the island of Katrack, is a 20 km long sandy beach where Hawksbill, Green and Olive Ridley marine turtles come ashore to nest in this global turtle hotspot. This project works with the local communities to protect the nests, prevent poaching, reduce habitat degradation, conduct DNA analysis and ensure this valuable population of endangered sea turtles continues to thrive. Community engagement includes the support of a local school and a dispensary. To shepherd this project, a doctoral student is studying the impact of community engaged conservation on nesting and foraging marine turtles.

Conservation Partner: 

