

Grievance mechanism for GIF Seychelles project: 'The development of a co-management plan, designed by fishers, to minimise the impact of the Seychelles artisanal fishery on threatened species'

Project description

The objective of this project is to reduce the Seychelles artisanal fishery's impact (catch, by-catch and disturbance) on globally threatened species (IUCN classifications: VU, EN, CR).

- The project will develop a baseline of threatened species occurrence in the artisanal fishery through fisher interviews and consultation, literature review and an intensive 12-month survey of artisanal catch.
- The project will support fishers in the identification and development of pragmatic management measures to reduce artisanal fishing pressure on threatened species - (e.g. catch release, only landing mature individuals, reduce effort on critical habitats, gear modification etc...).
- These measures will be developed into the project's primary output of an artisanal fishery management plan for threatened species, regulated as a co-management plan under the 2014 Fisheries Act.

Secondary outputs will include:

- a threatened species database and baseline of occurrence in artisanal fishery catch,
- a threatened species identification guide and related technical and education materials,
- a protocol and format for threatened species catch monitoring with fishery technicians and researchers trained in their use.

The project will therefore: provide a pragmatic, stakeholder-led and regulated basis to minimise fishery impact upon threatened species, train technicians to monitor future threatened species catch and thereby enable its adaptive management. This in turn will result in improved site-level conservation status of various threatened species and contribute to a more diverse, resilient and productive marine ecosystem on the Mahé plateau; as an example of a Socio-Ecological Production Seascape. The entire process will be fully based on the principle of free and prior informed consent.

Grievances mechanism

Any comments, complaints, grievances in relation to the general implementation of the project shall be as a first stage reported by phone, in writing to the GIF head office. Stakeholders will also have regular opportunities to raise any concerns during the frequent consultations built into the process.

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Mahe, Seychelles

In the case of grievances reported by phone, the project officer will fill out a grievance note, including the name, contact details of the claimant, date of complaint and the detailed description of the complaint/ grievance, as well as any comments or suggestions of how to address the complaint. For any grievances submitted by email, the project officer will provide the same information.

GIF will respond in writing to any claimant within 15 days and take immediate action to address those grievances in consultation with the claimant if any resource restriction has been caused by the project. Claims, responses and actions taken to address grievances will be filed and included in project monitoring.

If the claimant is not satisfied with the response by GIF, the grievance may be submitted to Conservation International Japan (CI Japan), the chair of the Executive Team, directly at: GEF-Satoyama@conservation.or.jp
6-7-1-507 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0022 JAPAN
TEL: +81-3-5315-4790

CI Japan will respond within 15 calendar days of receipt, and claims will be filed and included in project monitoring. If the claimant is not satisfied with the response from the CI Japan, the grievance may be submitted to the CI-GEF Project Agency. Subgrantees are to describe further specifics of the grievance mechanism, as necessary, to suit whatever local-specific circumstances as part of the overall proposal and in accordance with CIGEF Project Agency Accountability and Grievance Mechanism.

For escalating a complaint, the complainant can file a report to CI using the following link: <https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/10680/index.html>

This grievances mechanism will be shared during initial awareness and all consultation meetings, and provided in writing to all fisheries associations in all project areas.