

## Project Update: May 2014

The project titled “Sea Turtle Conservation: By-Catch Handling and Release Practices for Fishermen in Muni-Pomadze Ramsar Site, Ghana” adopts a capacity building approach in training the local fishermen on best practices for bycatch handling and release methods for sea turtles as well as providing them with some requisite tools to be able to safely handle and release the species. This training was necessary because sea turtle numbers have been declining purposely because local fishing groups do not possess the appropriate tools and/or understanding to handle and release bycatch sea turtles. In line with the project objectives, a 3-day training workshop was organised for the first batch of 50 fishermen within the Muni-Pomadze Ramsar Site fishing area. Participants were taken through the best handling procedure and release methods for captured sea turtles. The 3-day training took place from Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013 and was held at the conference auditorium of Latter-Day Saints-Winneba Junction. Mr Andrews Agyekumhene (A member of IUCN Turtle Specialist Group) was the key expert trainer. Participants were taken through practical handling and release procedures at the Akosua Village Beach. Fishing groups were presented with tools to facilitate their handling and release actions.

