

ORISSA SAMUDRIKA SAMPADA SAMRAKSHANA SAHONTI
ORISSA MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION CONSORTIUM (OMRCC)
Concept draft prepared on the 12th December 2004

I. Mission

To ensure sustainable use of marine living resources and livelihoods

II. Objectives

1. To reduce and prevent the over exploitation of marine resources of Orissa.
2. To protect the rights of the traditional fisherfolk in Orissa.
3. To define the rights, resources, responsibility and roles of the various stake holders in marine conservation in Orissa.
4. To work towards sustainable livelihoods of traditional fisherfolk in Orissa.
5. To promote and engage in the conservation of threatened marine life in Orissa.
6. To conduct periodic assessments of the effectiveness of sea turtle conservation measures in Orissa.
7. To conduct periodic assessments of the impacts of sea turtle conservation measures on the livelihoods of fisherfolk of Orissa.
8. To promote and facilitate collaborative sea turtle and fishery resource conservation actions in Orissa.
9. To evolve and promote a common sea turtle conservation strategy developed by various stakeholders represented in the OMRCC.
10. To develop conflict management mechanisms to address fisheries and conservation related issues in Orissa.
11. To advocate against polluting activities and environmentally unsustainable development practices in the coastal areas of Orissa.
12. To define and promote indigenous, innovative technology for sustainable harvesting of marine resources.
13. To develop eco-friendly indigenous markets for marine resources of Orissa.
14. To liaise with the state government, NGOs, central government, CEC, fishing communities and other policy level institution and bodies to achieve the objectives of the OMRCC.

III. OMRCC Members

- Representatives from the Orissa Traditional Fish Worker's Association and other representatives of traditional fishworker's associations
- Operation Kachhapa and other local marine conservation NGOs
- Representatives from marine fishworker's cooperative societies
- Marine scientists , turtle biologists, fisheries experts
- Marine resource conservation and management experts

Second Phase (Within 1 year)

The OMRCC shall endeavour to include other groups such as:

- Trawler representatives from different areas
- Panchayat Raj Institutions related to coastal areas
- Fish traders (particularly those associated with traditional fishworkers)

IV. OMRCC Support group

A support group consisting of representatives from various national level governmental and non-governmental organizations shall be formed to provide support to the OMRCC.

- National Fishworker's Federation, and other traditional fishworker support organizations.
- National environment conservation NGOs
- Turtle biologists
- Representatives from relevant governmental institutions working on issues related to marine conservation and fisheries.
- International NGOs working on issues related to fisheries and marine conservation
- Interested individuals with expertise in marine conservation / fisheries

V. Target groups

- Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India
- Forest Department of the Orissa State Government
- Fisheries Department of the Orissa State Government
- Coast Guard
- International bodies related to marine conservation and sustainable fisheries
- Others

VI. Coordination

One coordinator and 2 assistant coordinators shall be selected to carry out the administrative duties of the OMRCC. The following persons have been selected for a period of three months starting from 12.12.2004 till 12.03. 2005.

Coordinator: K. Alleya , Secretary, Orissa Traditional Fish Workers' Union

Assistant coordinators: 1. Biswajit Mohanty, Programme Coordinator, Operation Kachhappa
2. Aarthi Sridhar, Research Fellow, ATREE

Responsibilities of the coordinators:

- The coordinators of the OMRCC shall be responsible for all administrative responsibilities of the OMRCC.
- The coordinators shall consolidate all the decisions taken at the OMRCC meetings and shall convey the same to all the members of the OMRCC.
- The coordinators shall undertake the follow up of decisions taken and actions initiated by the OMRCC
- The coordinators shall provide all members with periodic updates on issues undertaken by the OMRCC
- The coordinators shall call for meetings on matters related to the OMRCC
- The coordinators shall maintain all records and documents related to the functioning of the OMRCC. Details of this shall be provided to all members upon request.

Facilitators: A group of facilitators have been identified to provide inputs and provide coordination support on specific areas:

- Natural resource management experts – Dr. N. P. Gantayat
- Advocacy – Mr. Ashis Senapati, Project Swarajya
- NGO and civil societies groups – Ms. Dolly Dash, Project Swarajya
- Community groups – Budhimanta Rao, MGSMYS
- Participatory Research – Basudev Tripathy, ATREE