

Outreach and surveillance to reduce fishing pressures and unsustainable fishing practices in the Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve (TAMR)

Type of priority area

Marine Protected Area

Marine Managed Areas

Primary objective

Management Effectiveness

Target groups

Local Communities

Fishermen

Main activity focus

Management Plan


Legal Framework/
Regulation


Illegal Activities

Enforcement


Monitoring/Patrol Equipment


 **Duration**
01.07.2021 – 31.12.2021

 **Type of grant & budget**
Rapid Response Grant | 49.917,55€

 **Location**
Belize, Caribbean

 **Protected & Conserved Areas**
Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve

 **WDPA ID**
555582995, 55582999, 555582998,
555583000, 555582996, 555583001,
555583002, 555583003, 555583004

 **BIOPAMA RRIS Link**
<https://rris.biopama.org/country/bz>

Project Lead

Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association (TASA)

Project Partners

N/A

Description of the project :

Project objective: To reduce increased fishing and unsustainable fishing practices in the TAMR to pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels. There project includes six activities:

1. Reinstall pre-COVID Conservation Officer's deployment schedule- supplement staff salaries in order to facilitate optimal staff deployment at the three staff bases.
2. Procurement of a marine outboard engine along with tool kit for troubleshooting and maintenance for downed patrol boat.
3. Conduct regular and strategic patrols from the three bases stations at the TAMR.
4. Co-finance a third communication link or TASA's northern conservation post at Maugre in order to upload daily patrol data and weekly reports.
5. Prepare a crisis communication plan- crisis communication refers to the technologies, systems and protocols that enable an organisation to effectively communicate during a major threat to its operations.
6. Implement crisis communication plan- execute the steps outlined in the plan.





Diagnostic Tools Used

- METT (2020)



The BIOPAMA Action Component Objectives Addressed

- ✓ Enhance the management and governance of priority areas by addressing existing limitations (strengthening on-site infrastructure/equipment for patrolling, poaching control, developing capacity of staff)



Priority Need Addressed

COVID-19 related emergency.



The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas

It's very important that surveillance and monitoring efforts be conducted in tandem. The intention is not to stop fishers from making their living, however, they must be made aware that there are ways to earn their living in a sustainable manner.

The RRG will be used to:

1. Increase surveillance and monitoring of the TAMR- this will be done through reinstalling the pre-COVID Conservation Officer's deployment schedule, repairing the downed patrol boat, conducting regular and strategic patrols, and co-financing a third communication link for TASA's northern conservation post at Maugre in order to upload daily patrol data and weekly reports.
2. Awareness of new and existing fishers- prepare a crisis communication plan and implement the plan through direct outreach to the fishers.

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