



SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, MANAGERS AND DECISION-MAKERS

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GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS CAN'T BE EXPECTED TO PROTECT DOLPHINS IF THEY DON'T KNOW THAT THEY'RE THERE.



Government stakeholders during
the launch of a dolphin conservation
project in Guinea. Photo by Biotope.

Conservation planning and actions work when both 'top down' and 'bottom up' approaches are coordinated and align. Both are needed in the urgent race to protect Atlantic humpback dolphins from further decline and extinction. While we pursue a range of activities to empower fishers and coastal communities, we also need to ensure that government and industry stakeholders have the necessary information and resources to environmental protections that safe-guard dolphins and other species when they plan, approve, regulate or implement coastal development activities.

Effective conservation measures also require awareness and collaboration between multiple categories of government agencies and the communities that they serve. While we usually think about agencies responsible for the environment, wildlife and protected areas, addressing threats also requires the involvement of bodies that regulate fisheries, transport, tourism, (marine) protected areas, and economic development (especially coastal construction, like ports and harbours). Law enforcement agencies like the coastguard and customs agents may also come into play to prevent illegal fishing or targeted hunting of dolphins. Many of these agencies are unaware of Atlantic humpback dolphins and their precarious conservation status.

Industry stakeholders including those that engage in commercial fishing, coastal construction, or transportation are also often unaware of dolphins and the impact their activities are having on these populations of animals. The CCAHD aims to enable managers and decision-makers to account for Atlantic humpback dolphins in their planning and policies by:

- Developing and disseminating communication materials for government and industry managers to promote awareness and highlight conservation needs. These can include printed and electronic posters and infographics, power point presentations that can be adapted for different audiences, and videos.
- Creating best practice guides on the inclusion of dolphins in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for coastal development projects, including mitigation of negative impacts. This would benefit developers responsible for conducting EIAs, as well as the government agencies responsible for assessing and approving them.

- Hosting face-to-face engagement meetings that bring together different government and industry stakeholders to start the process of national conservation planning.
- Conducting training for government agencies, including wildlife/park rangers, stranding responders, and research organisations to improve their capacity to collect and apply data to conservation management.



Photography: ©Tilen Genov



Photo above and left: ©G. Minton, CCAHD

Over 400,000 Euros are needed to conduct the CCAHD's ambitious government and industry stakeholder outreach plan over 5 years. Your contribution, no matter how big or small, will make a difference!

- **100-500 Euros** can help to print posters and infographics and other vital outreach materials.
- **1,000-5,000 Euros** can help to fund a national government stakeholder engagement meeting in one range country.
- **10,000-50,000 Euros** can fund a consultancy to develop best practice manuals for the conducting of environmental impact assessments and mitigation plans for coastal development projects in the Atlantic humpback dolphin range.
- **50,000-100,000 Euros** could fund a regional meeting for government and industry stakeholders to help raise awareness and promote implementation of the Convention on Migratory Species' Single Species Action Plan for *Sousa teuszii*.

[CLICK HERE](#) or scan the QR code to make a donation, or get in touch with the CCAHD Secretariat at infoccahd@gmail.com to learn more.

