

Collaboration between longline fisheries and a sea turtle care centre in Reunion Island

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IOTC Workshop – Reunion Island



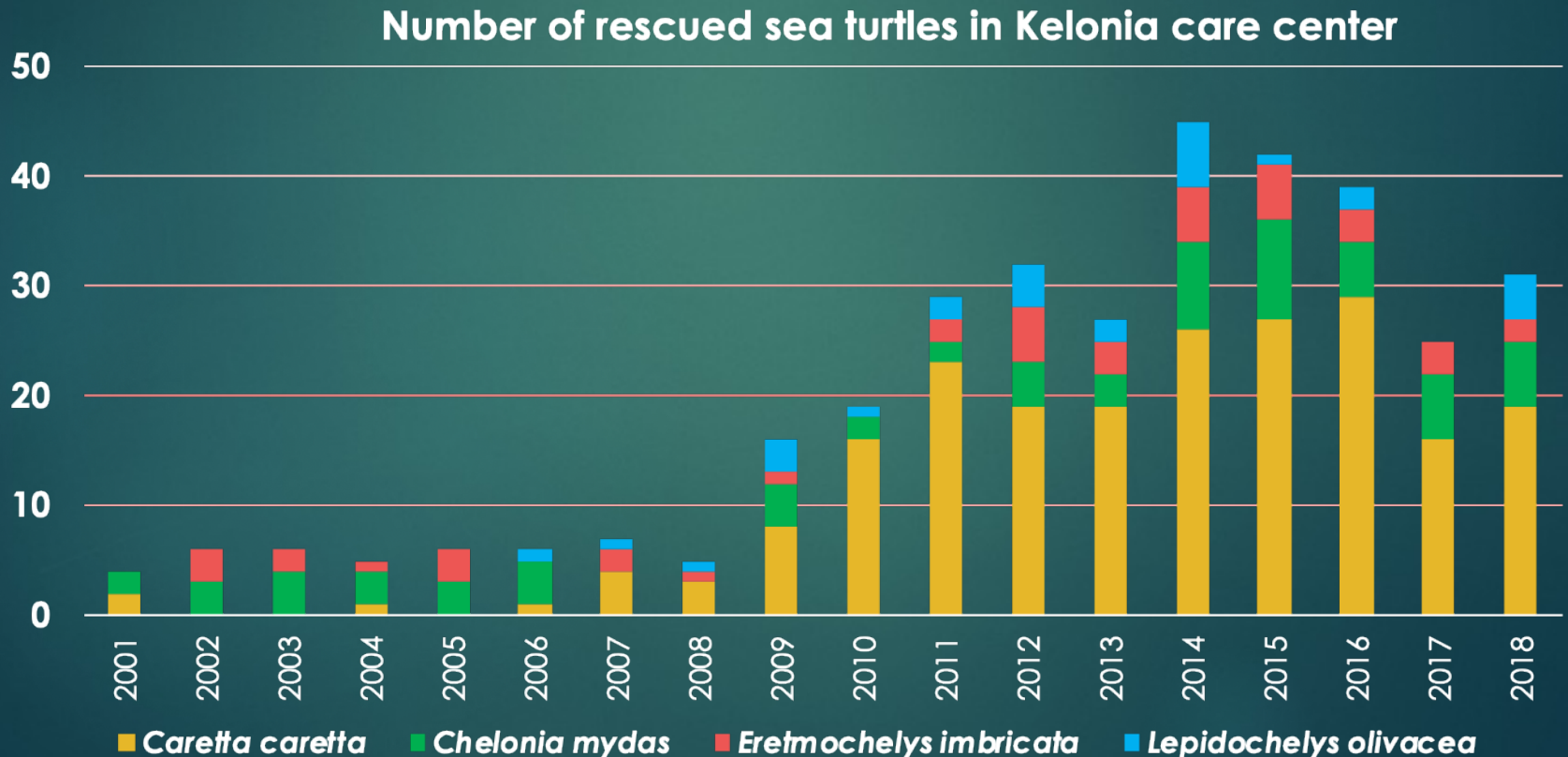
Context

- ▶ Kelonia, sea turtle care center :
 - * 17 single quarantine tanks
 - * 4 shared recovery tanks
 - * 350 rescued marine turtles between 2001 and 2018



Context

- ▶ Mainly green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) and hawksbill turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) until 2006 (85% of animals)
- ▶ Mainly loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) since 2006.



Other partnerships

- ▶ Scuba and free diving centers, Passenger boats
 - * Alerts
 - * 2006 : First rescued sea turtle
 - * 2007 : Launch of Photo-ID program
- ▶ 2 to 3 turtles (in mean) since 2011



Partnership with fishermen

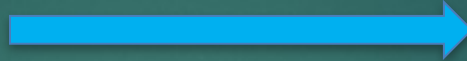
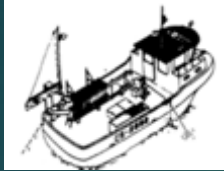
► Professional fishermen

- * 2001: 2 loggerhead turtles from bycatch brought to shore
- * 2007: First dialogue between fishermen and Kelonia
- * 2008: Partnership with Cap Run (Hydro Réunion)
- * 2013-2016 : dedicated project (Coca-Loca)

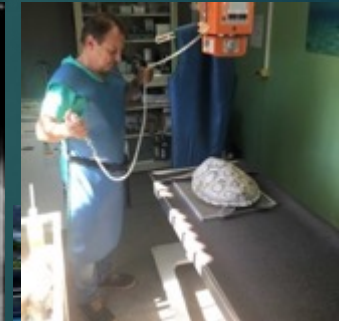
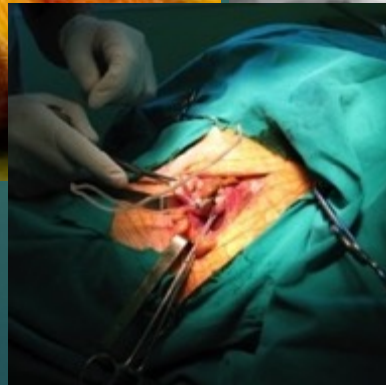
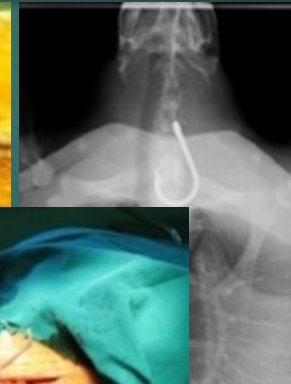
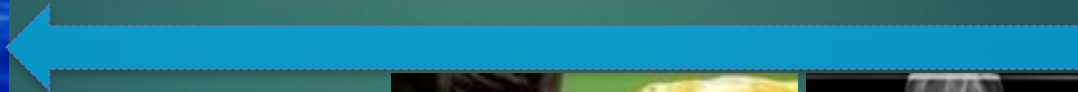


Reduce incidental bycatch and impact on marine megafauna
Understand the spatial dynamics of sea turtles in the Indian Ocean

Rescue process



Regional and operational center for surveillance and rescue



A fishermen initiative

- ▶ 41 captains of longline fishing boats are collaborating
- ▶ 30 longline fishing boats
- ▶ Occurrence of oceanic species rarely occurring in Reunion coastal waters :

✱ Loggerhead turtle
(*Caretta caretta*)

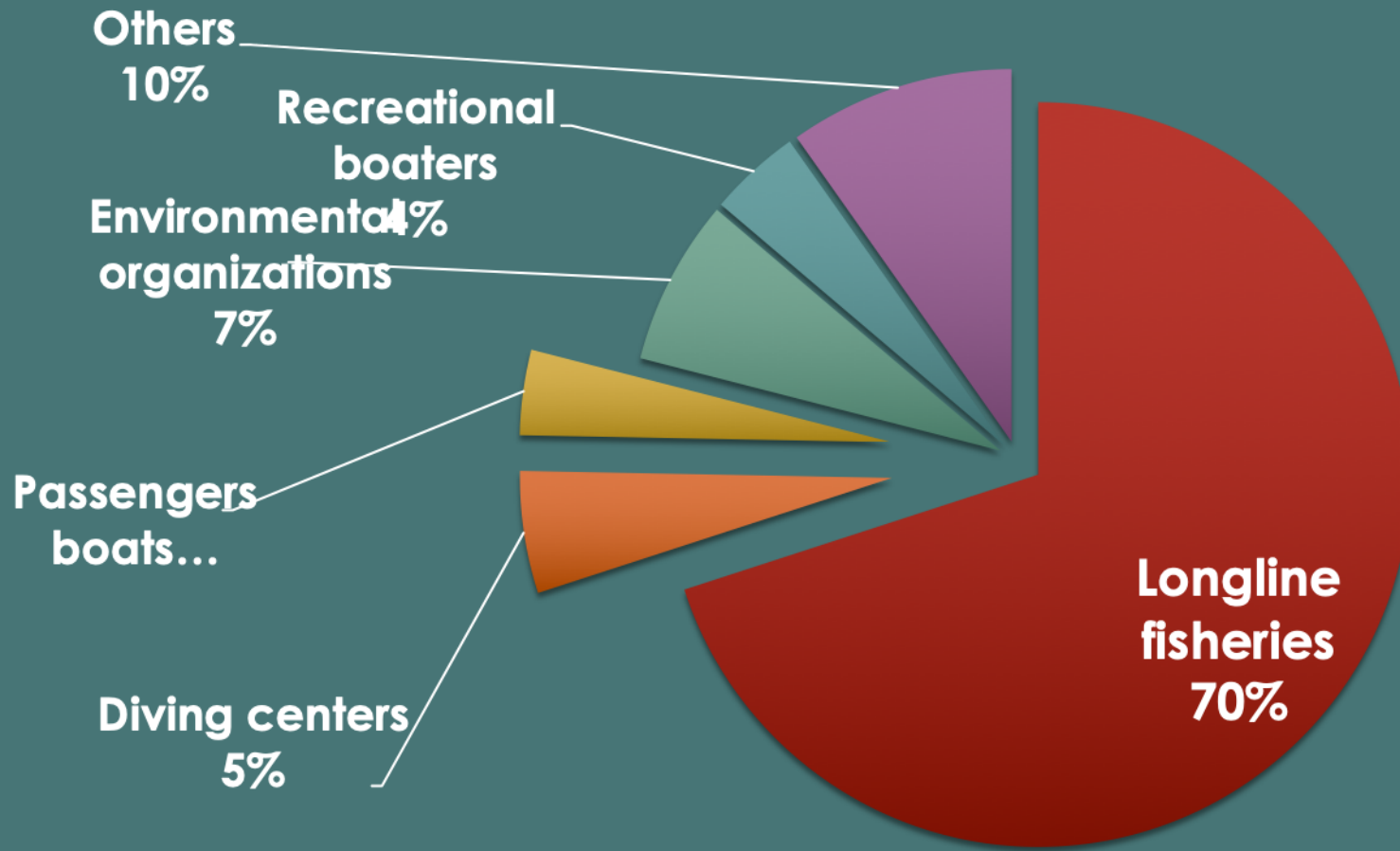


✱ Olive ridley turtle
(*Lepidochelys olivacea*)



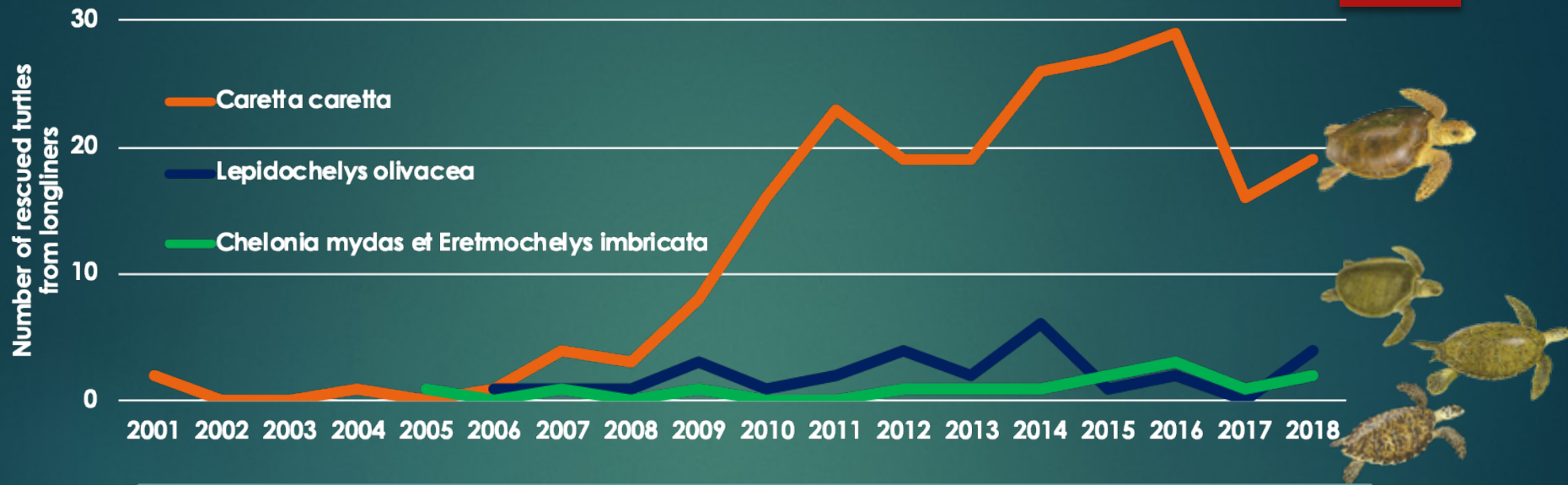
A fishermen initiative

Participation des usagers de la mer

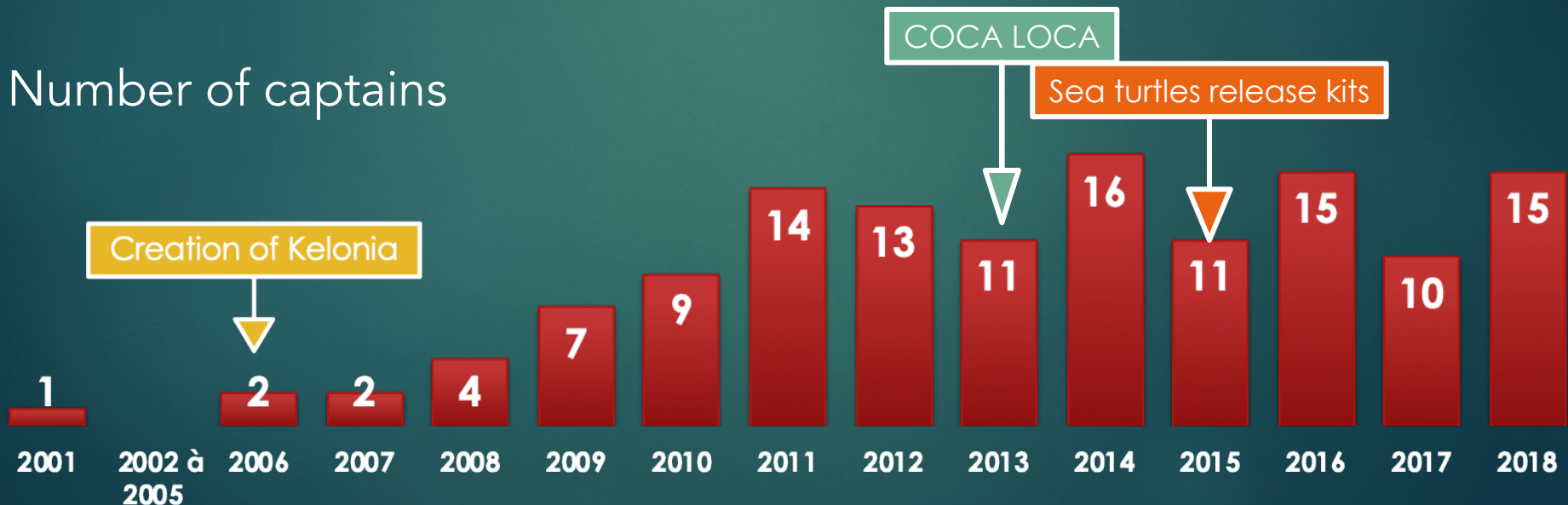


► Rescued animal contribution between 2007 and 2018

A fishermen initiative



Number of captains



Onboard Sea turtles release kits



A – Mouth openers

B - Bites

C – Bolt cutter

D - Pliers

E - Dehookers

F – Line cutter

G - Pole

H – Dipnet

Onboard procedures



CAPTURES ACCIDENTELLES DE TORTUES MARINES

EN CAS DE CAPTURE ACCIDENTELLE D'UNE TORTUE MARINE:

- 1- Monter la tortue à bord, si possible à l'aide de l'épuisette pour éviter les blessures.
- 2- Noter le nom de l'espèce, la position GPS, la date et l'heure de capture. Au retour donner l'information à CAP RUN ou par mail : centredesoins@kelonia.org
- 3- Relâcher la tortue après avoir retiré l'hameçon si possible (voir au verso);

OU

Ramener la tortue au centre de soins de Kelonia (voir ci-dessous).

RAMENER LA TORTUE AU CENTRE DE SOINS DE KELONIA :

Si la capture a lieu moins de 5 jours avant le retour, ramener la tortue au centre de soins permet de retirer l'hameçon en toute sécurité et d'accroître les chances de survie.

Pour cela :

-Prévenir impérativement le CROSS RU par VHF (canal 16) ou téléphone (0262 43 43 43) Donner la date et heure d'arrivée, Kelonia viendra récupérer la tortue au Port.

-Maintenir l'animal à l'ombre, la carapace couverte d'un linge humide. Mouiller la tortue régulièrement (au moins toutes les 4h).

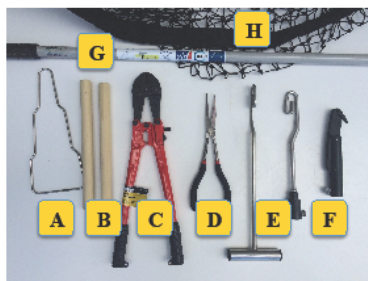
KIT DE SAUVETAGE DES TORTUES:

A - 1 Ecarteur de mâchoire

B - 2 Mors

C - 1 Pince monseigneur

D - 1 Pince



E - 2 Dégorgeoirs

F - 1 Coupe ligne

G - 1 Perche

H - 1 Epuisette

RETIRER UN HAMEÇON FACILEMENT ACCESSIBLE:

L'hameçon doit être retiré seulement si cela ne crée pas de lésion plus importante

- Si l'hameçon est profond dans l'œsophage et non visible, couper la ligne au plus court avec le coupe ligne puis relâcher la tortue.
- Si l'hameçon est visible et facilement accessible, le retirer selon la méthode décrite ci-dessous puis relâcher la tortue.



Attention aux morsures ! La sécurité du pêcheur prime.

- 1- Ouvrir la bouche grâce à l'écarteur à plat dans la gueule, puis le pivoter.
- 2- Placez le mors en bois et le maintenir en arrière à deux mains.
- 3- Si l'ardillon est ressorti, utiliser la pince monseigneur pour couper l'hameçon. Utiliser ensuite la petite pince pour retirer le reste d'hameçon.
- 4- Si l'ardillon est inaccessible, essayer de retirer l'hameçon avec le dégorgeoir.
- 5- Relâcher la tortue à la mer.

Merci de votre participation !

Data analyses

Spatial occurrences

Spatial dynamics

Biometry

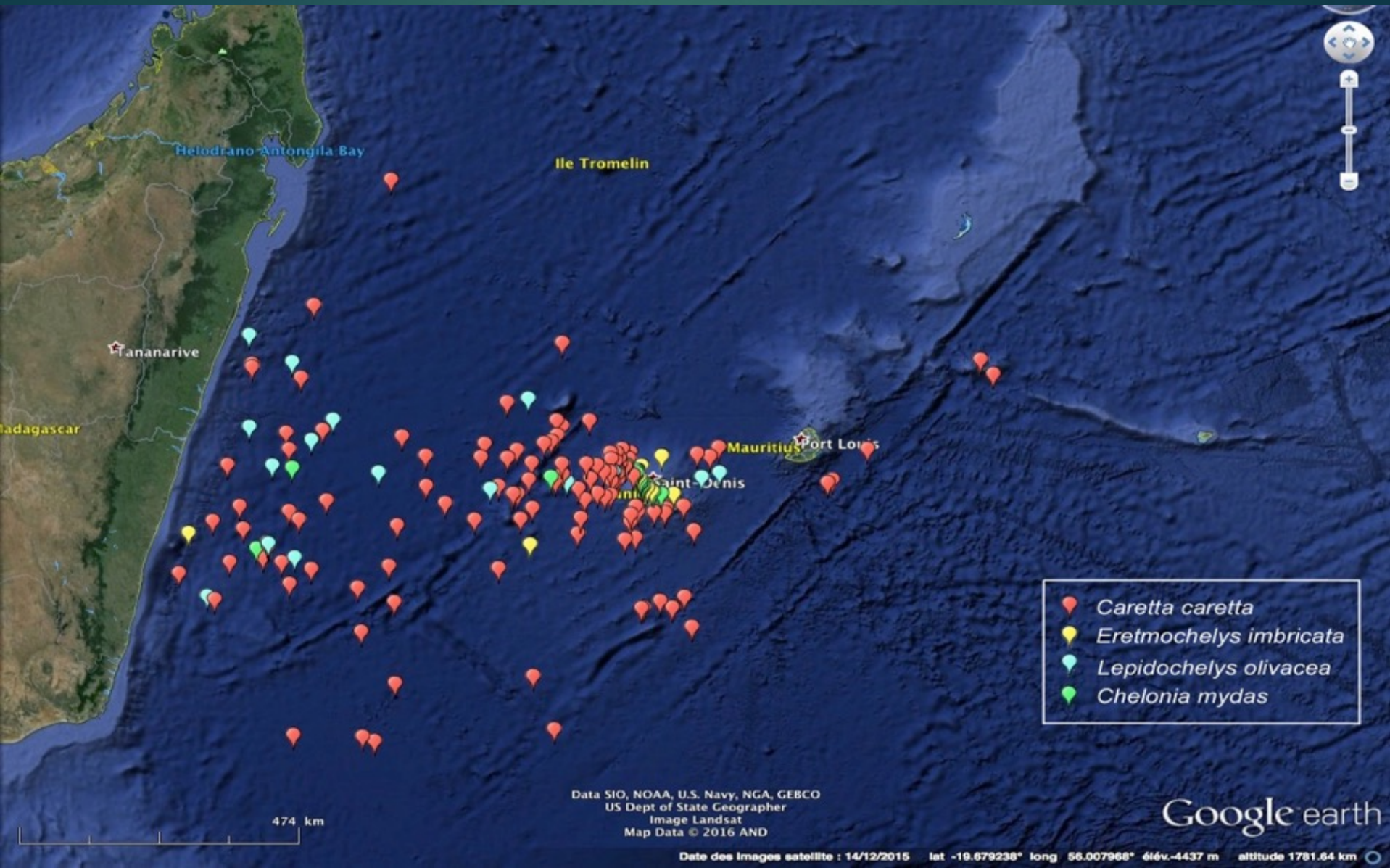
Plastic ingestion monitoring

Blood parameters

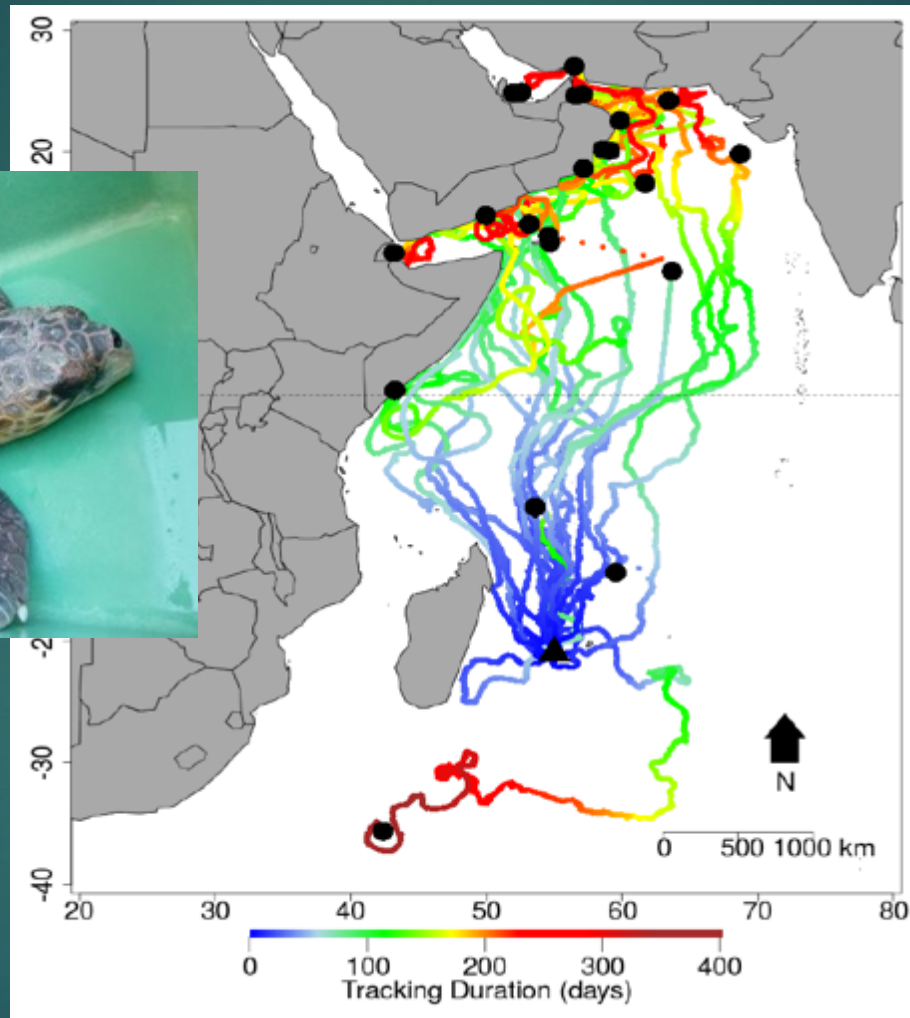
Bacteriology

Survival and rehabilitaton

Spatial occurrences



Spatial dynamics



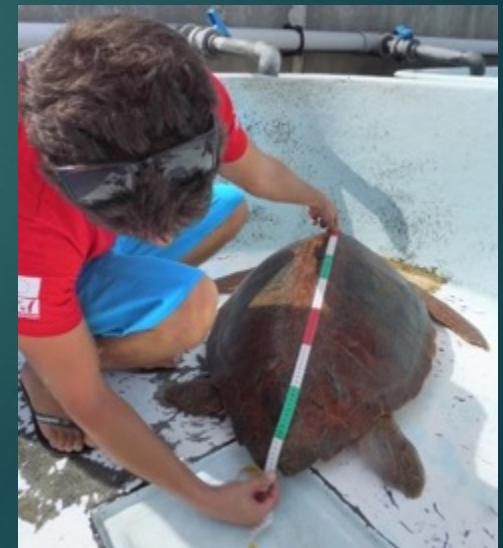
22 tracked loggerhead sea turtles between 2014 and 2015 (Coca Loca)

Biometry

- From 2001 to 2018 : 350 rescued turtles including:
- * 208 loggerheads (59,42%)
 - * 27 olive ridleys (7,5%)
 - * 14 green and hawksbills (4%)

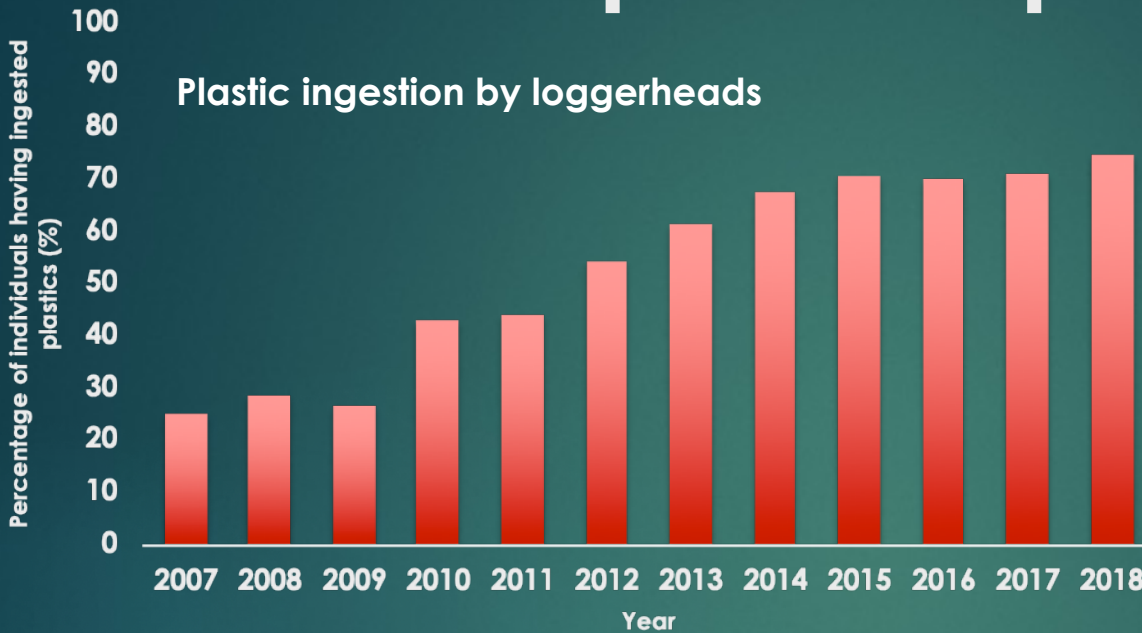


Species	N	Weight (kg)	Mean CCL (cm)
Cc	208	44,9 ± 10,6	70,3 ± 7,0
Lo	27	20,7 ± 8,3	56,3 ± 8,1
Cm	7	16,4 ± 24,3	47,01 ± 17,4
Ei	7	16,7 ± 23,0	46,14 ± 8,7
Total	247	16,8 ± 18,4	43,9 ± 51,3



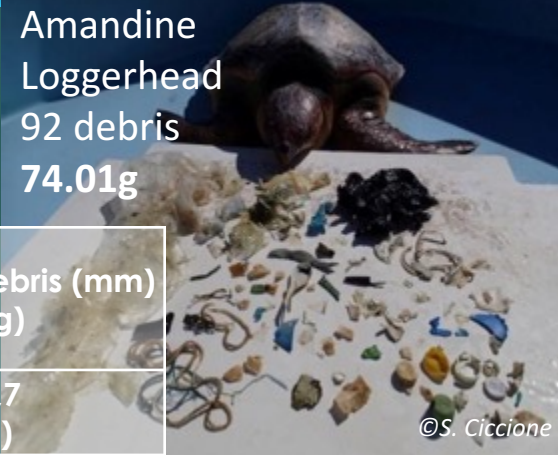
Impact of plastics

Plastic ingestion by loggerheads



Amandine
Loggerhead
92 debris
74.01g

Species	N	Mean weight of ingested debris (g) $\pm$ SD (rang)	Mean number of debris $\pm$ SD (rang)	Mean length of debris (mm) $\pm$ SD (rang)
Cc	170	16,99 $\pm$ 18,7 (0,1 – 82,3)	45,48 $\pm$ 52,85 (1 - 233)	28,1 $\pm$ 39,7 (5 - 1450)
Cm	8	1,9 $\pm$ 2,7 (0,1 – 7,4)	18,6 $\pm$ 32,5 (1 - 95)	34,1 $\pm$ 50,9 (5 – 293)
Ei	5	1,4 $\pm$ 1,4 (0,1 - 3,8)	11,6 $\pm$ 5,7 (6 - 20)	34,9 $\pm$ 32,9 (7 – 203)
Lo	4	0,7 $\pm$ 0,7 (0,1 – 1,6)	3,5 $\pm$ 1,3 (2 - 5)	84,2 $\pm$ 142,5 (11 – 560)
Total	187	16,8 $\pm$ 18,4 (0,1 – 82,3)	43,9 $\pm$ 51,3 (1 - 233)	28,5 $\pm$ 40,7 (5 - 1450)



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Blood parameters

- ▶ Blood analysis on arrival
- ▶ Health of individuals
 - * Hematocrit
 - * White blood cells counts
 - * eosinophils presence...

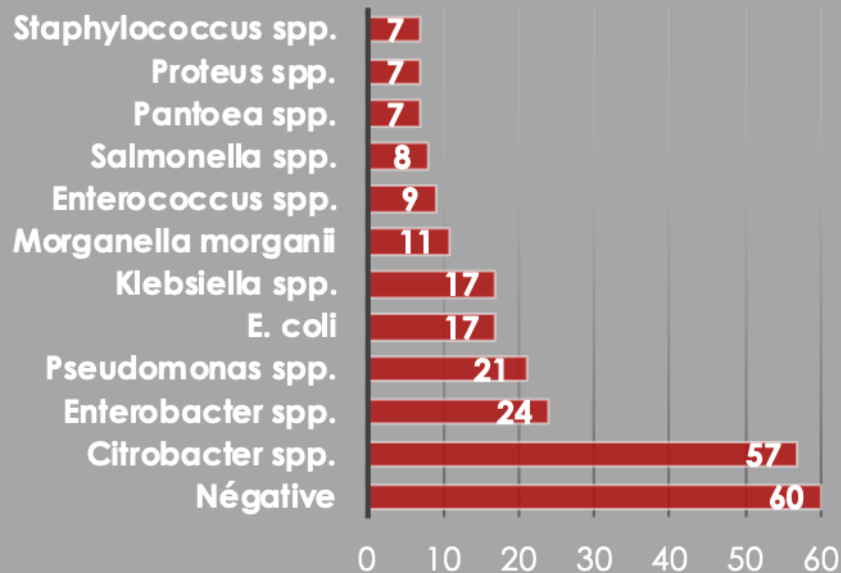


	Hematocrit (%)	Hemoglobin (g/L)	Whit cells (10 ⁹ /L)	Eosinophils (10 ⁹ /L)	Phosphire (mg/dL)	Calcium (mg/dL)	Ca/Ph	Urea (g/L)
Cc (N=438)	32,4 ± 9,36	10,4 ± 3,04	19,1 ± 14,7	2,11 ± 2,81	76,27 ± 20,7	62,0 ± 16,3	0,88 ± 0,39	3,4 ± 37,5
	2 - 71,4	0,8 - 23,8	1,6 - 88,3	0,6 - 138	23,28 - 161	1 - 160	0,01 - 2,41	0,26 - 2,7
Lo (N=31)	22,85 ± 10,7	6,45 ± 2,80	12,96 ± 18,85	4,42 ± 5,52	81,95 ± 30,0	63,5 ± 21,9	0,89 ± 0,49	1,1 ± 0,6
	7,1 - 59,3	2,4 - 15	0,5 - 45	6,3 - 11,4	29,3 - 147,3	54 - 82	0,44 - 2,15	0,43 - 2,32

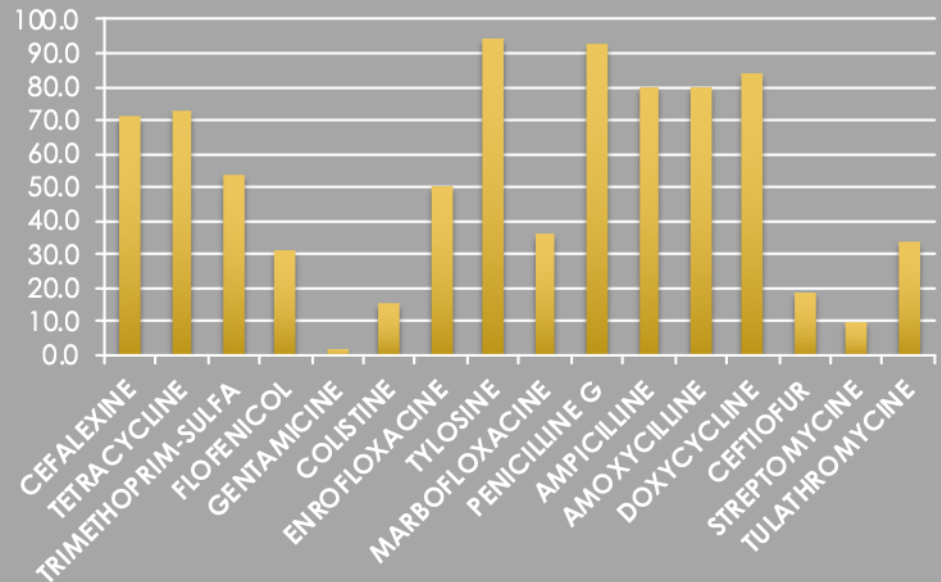
Bacteriology

- ▶ 274 bacteriology analyses:
 - * 39 bacterial species identified
 - * Antibiotic treatment relying on antibiogram

Number of isolates
Cc and Lo

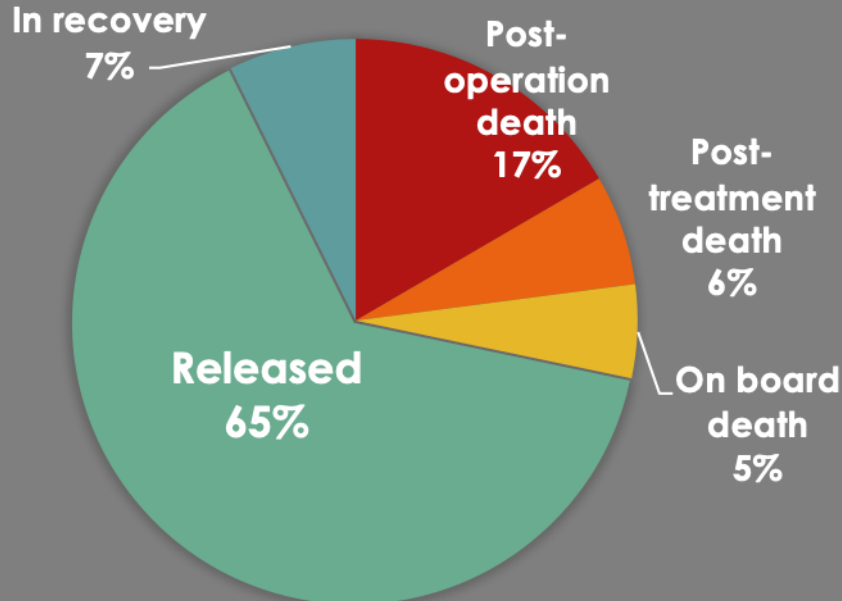


Mean resistance of isolated
bacteria

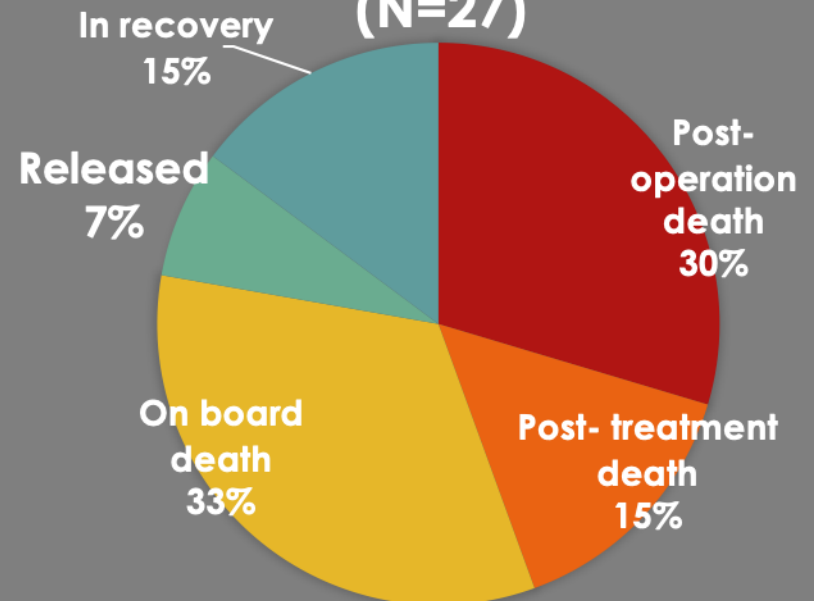


Survival & Rehabilitation

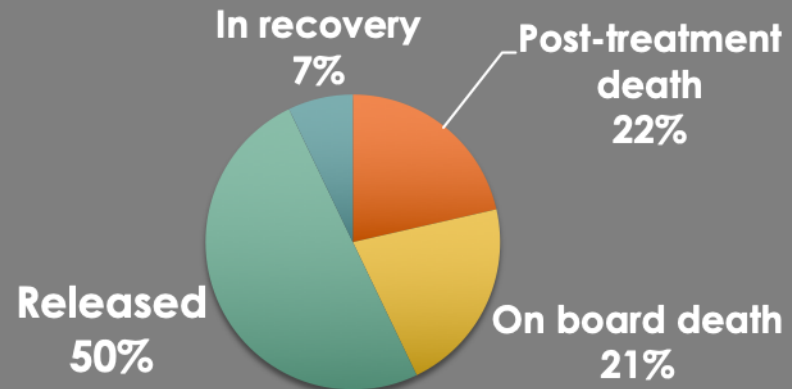
Caretta caretta (N=208)



Lepidochelys olivacea (N=27)



Chelonia mydas
& *Eretmochelys imbricata* (N=14)



Sensitization

- ▶ Sea turtles are sponsored by students or captains
- ▶ Individual sponsoring (Marine turtle days, World Ocean day...)
- ▶ Kelonia : dedicated center, 160 000 visitors in 2017
- ▶ Communication through social network



Take home

- ▶ Long term partnerships since 2001
- ▶ Growing number of involved captains
- ▶ Reduction of impacts
- ▶ 70% of individuals rescued in the care center
- ▶ 145 rescued turtles released
- ▶ New scientific opportunities (plastic debris ingestion, satellite tracking, veterinary care...)
- ▶ Amelioration of the rescue protocol



© Kelonia/CEDTM



© Gecko Blue

What's next ?

- ▶ New courses for fishermen
- ▶ Maintenance of partnerships
- ▶ Develop new partnerships
- ▶ Scientific publications
- ▶ New scientific projects

A photograph showing four men on the deck of a boat. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. In the foreground, a large sea turtle is lying on the blue-painted deck. The man on the far left is wearing a blue cap and yellow overalls, holding a black net. The man next to him is wearing a grey cap and yellow overalls. The man in the center is wearing a grey cap and yellow overalls. The man on the far right is wearing a green shirt and a green visor. In the background, there are several large spools of colorful fishing line (red, blue, green) hanging from the boat's structure. The text "Thanks a lot to every fishermen that help protecting sea turtles" is overlaid in white on a semi-transparent dark background.

Thanks a lot
to every fishermen that help
protecting sea turtles

Thank you for your attention

