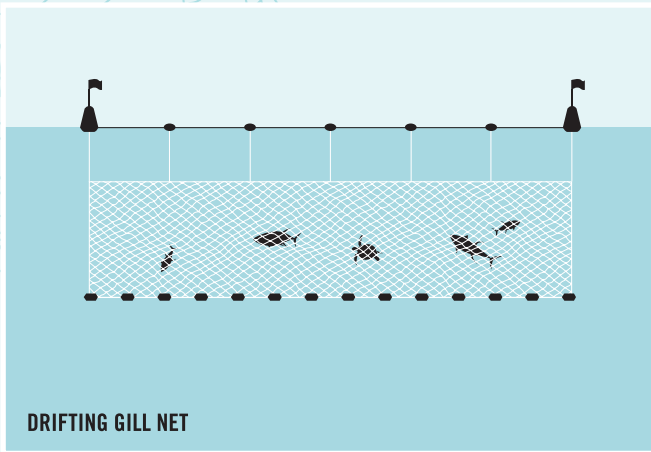
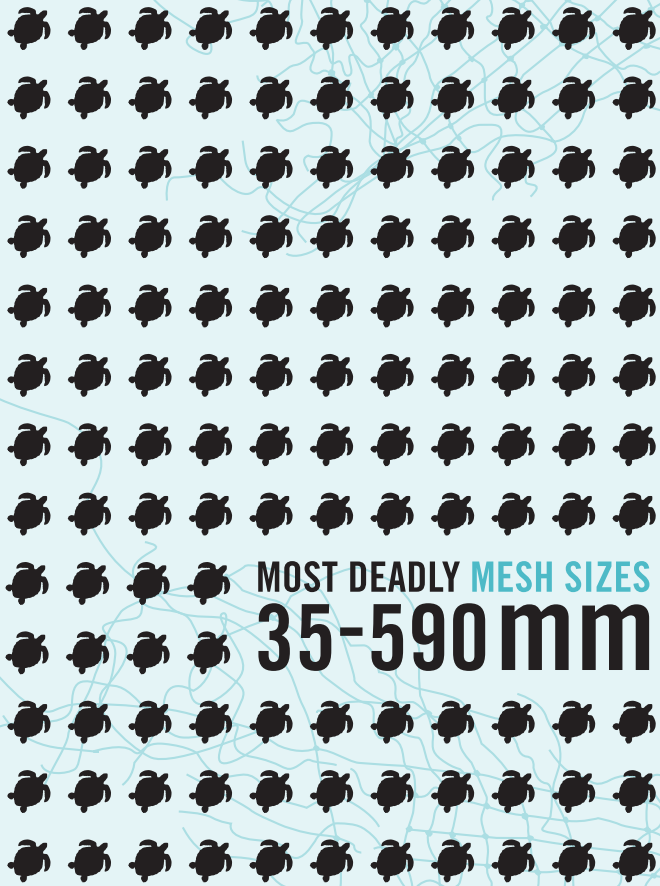
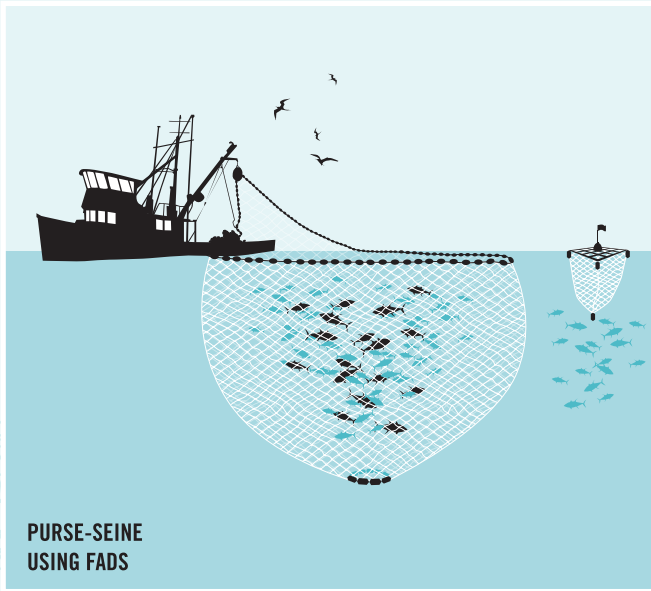


# 129 TURTLE ENTANGLEMENTS BETWEEN 1988-2014



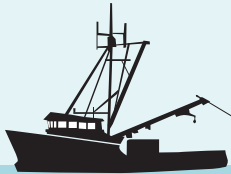
## 3 PROBLEMATIC FISHING TECHNIQUES CREATING GHOST NETS



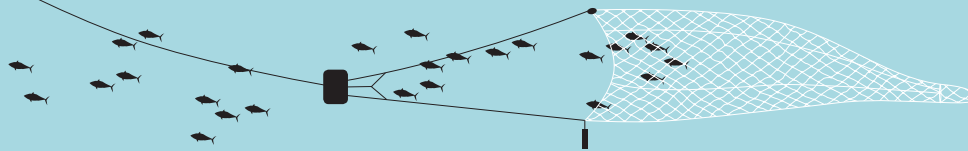
OLIVE RIDLEY PROJECT

# GHOSTS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

Available: 15 October 2014  
IOTC-2014-WPEB10-INF18



TRAWLING



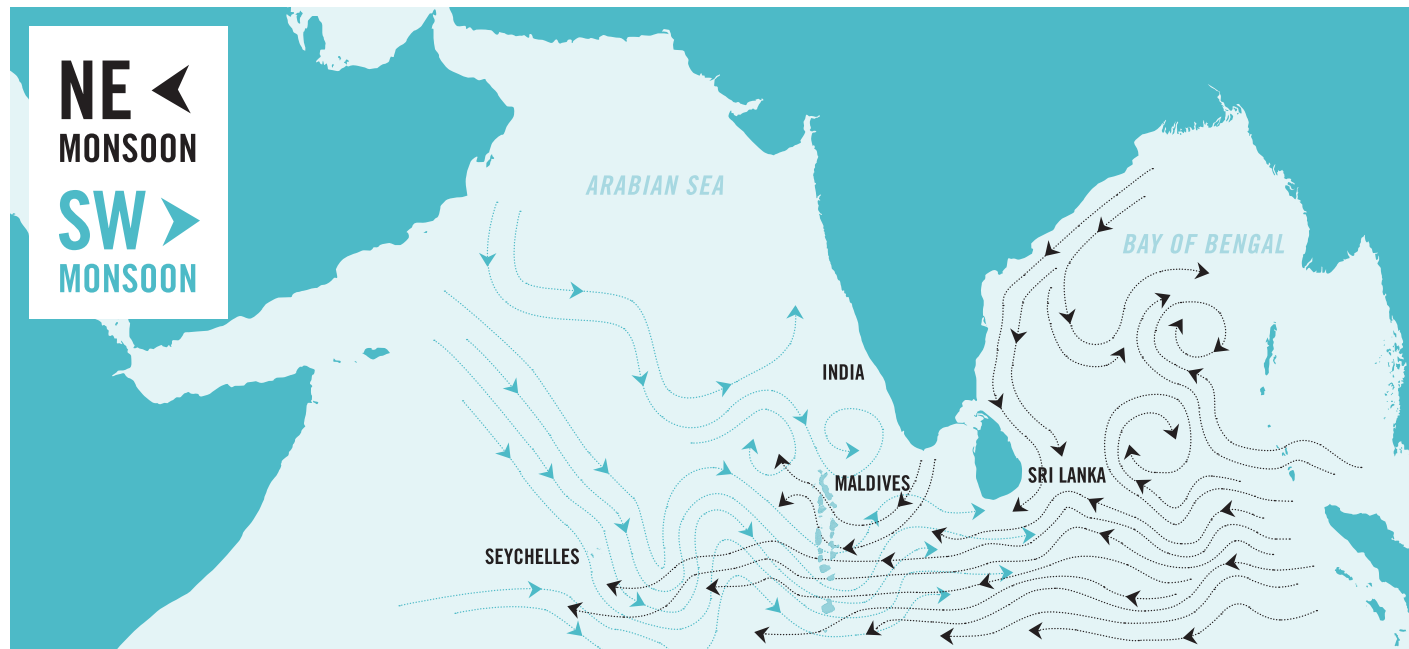
## THE PROBLEM

Lost, abandoned or discarded fishing nets, otherwise known as ghost nets, pose a serious risk to marine fauna throughout the world, including the Indian Ocean.

Since 1988, a total of 129 Olive Ridley Turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) have been found entangled in ghost nets in Maldivian waters. Many others have floated to their deaths, unseen and unrecorded.



## WHERE ARE THE NETS COMING FROM?

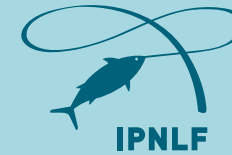


## HOW DO WE TACKLE THIS PROBLEM ON A LARGE SCALE?

- 1 Management that sets up a system of no-blame gear loss reporting and gear return at net disposal facilities in ports may reduce gear loss or shed light on fisheries that are losing large amounts of gear. It may also offer a financial incentive to fishermen, stopping them from dumping their damaged gear.
- 2 Global research groups are cooperating under the Global Ghost Gear Initiative to develop a centralised database of fishing net construction parameters. Such a database would be extremely helpful to aid in the identification of ghost nets found anywhere in the Indian Ocean.
- 3 Rapid adoption of non-entangling (net-free) Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) by all fleets operating throughout the Indian Ocean.
- 4 Reduction and eventual elimination of the gill net fishery in the Indian Ocean would drastically reduce the number of ghost nets and subsequent entanglements.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO AS A CONSUMER ?



Visit the International Pole and Line Foundation (IPNLF) <http://ipnlf.org> and only purchase fish that have been caught using sustainable, net-free, pole and line techniques.



## OLIVE RIDLEY PROJECT

Visit the Olive Ridley Project [www.oliveridleyproject.org](http://www.oliveridleyproject.org) and support our awareness campaigns on ghost nets.

Simply removing a ghost net found on a reef, along the shore, or in open water is an extremely effective and direct approach to tackle the problem of ghost nets.

