



# marine life of maratua

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## situation

2014 • Maratua Island

Maratua Island is situated in the Derawan Archipelago, off the coast of East Kalimantan, Indonesia.

### 384 square kilometers

of pristine beaches and mangrove forests

Surrounding waters are believed to host the third-highest level of marine biodiversity in the world.



## 1,000+ marine species in the Derawan Archipelago

Maratua has more than 20 dive spots where a wide variety of species can be observed, such as:



manta rays



green sea turtles



barracuda



sharks

Maratua Island has a population of about

**3,000 people**

Most belong to the Bajo Tribes, also known as Sea Gypsies, an ethnic group with deep knowledge of the coastal ecosystem.

### However, Maratua's biodiversity is threatened by:

- rising temperatures
- higher tides
- land erosion
- destructive fishing practices



## actions taken

To protect Maratua's biodiversity, the Maratua Ecotourism for Sustainable Small Islands program (MESSI) was formed as a collaboration between:

- **Chevron**
- **the KEHATI foundation,** a non-governmental organization
- **local government agencies**

After rigorous consultation with stakeholders, MESSI partnered with locals to:

- develop ecotourism plans for Maratua diving
- raise the community's awareness of climate change
- implement reef rehabilitation and conservation programs for protected species like the green sea turtle

## green sea turtles

These turtles are listed as an endangered species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Major threats include:

- loss of nesting beaches
- hunting
- pollution



grow to a length of

**4 feet**

live to be

**80 years old**

- Breathe air but can stay underwater for up to two hours
- Return to the same beach every year to lay up to 100 eggs, which hatch two months later



## results

MESSI's ecotourism activities have influenced residents to participate in environmental conservation and reduce pressure on natural resources.

The program also provides hospitality and management training to help elevate ecotourism standards for local businesses.

### MESSI's Maratua Eco Dive Center

- Built in 2016
- Encourages the use of homestay programs managed by women
- Additional monthly income of about \$80 (or 1.2 million Indonesian rupiah) generated for the 200 homestay families in a nearby fishing village called Bohe Sellian

## reef manta rays

- Listed as a vulnerable species by the IUCN
- Primary threat comes from fishing and habitat degradation
- Large size and slow swimming speed make them an easy target



grow to an average width of

**400 centimeters (about 13 feet)**

females have an estimated life span of

**40 years**

- Begin breeding at 8-10 years of age
- Typically give birth to a single pup at a time



On November 13, 2017, Chevron's conservation work in Maratua was presented internationally at the 23rd United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP) in Bonn, Germany.

our actions were consistent with our goal to conserve biodiversity:

**we strive to avoid or reduce the potential for significant impacts on sensitive species, habitats and ecosystems**

