PROJECT CONCEPT DESIGN

CTI-CFF Climate Change Adaptation Program 2017 – 2020

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Introduction

There is broad scientific consensus that the Coral Triangle represents a global epicenter of marine life abundance and diversity. Spanning only 1.6% of the planet's oceans, the **Coral Triangle region** is home to the highest coral diversity in the world with 600 corals or 76% of the world's known coral species. It contains the highest reef fish diversity on the planet with 2,500 or 37% of the 6,000 worldwide coral reef fish species. It also a spawning and nursery ground for six species of threatened marine turtles, endangered fish and cetaceans such as tuna and blue whales.

History

The Coral Triangle spans across approximately 4 million square miles of ocean and coastal waters in Southeast Asia and the Pacific and encompasses economic zones where countries have exclusive rights to marine resources. These unparalleled marine and coastal living resources provide significant benefits to the approximately 363 million people who reside in the Coral Triangle, as well as billions more outside the region. As a source of food, income and protection from severe weather events, the ongoing health of these ecosystems is critical.



Photo: Coral Triangle Areas (CT6 Member Countries)¹

Although total fish catches have continued to increase in the coral triangle countries since 1950, several studies have indicated that the countries are nearing, or have already exceeded, the critical carrying capacity of their demersal and pelagic fishery resources. Demersal fish stocks had declined by as much as 20% in Malaysia and 64% in the Philippines since the 1950s until the mid-1990s. The National

¹ Photo credit to <u>www.coraltriangleinitiatives.org</u>

Commission on Stock Assessment in Indonesia reported overfishing of demersal fishes in 5 of 11 fisheries management areas (FMAs), and only one FMA was categorized as moderately exploited. Despite the importance of the Coral Triangle as a supplier of fish to the world, food security objectives remain a challenge due to the numerous anthropogenic and climatic threats that plague the region. CT6 member countries have high socioeconomic vulnerability as 16.6% of the population is poor and about 13.0% is undernourished. Poverty incidence in the coastal fishing communities is generally higher than the national average, and the climate change risk is high.

Consequently, in 2009, the leaders of six countries within Southeast Asia and Pacifics declared The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF). It is a multilateral partnership of six countries working together to sustain extraordinary marine and coastal resources by addressing crucial issues such as food security, climate change and marine biodiversity. These countries are: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and The Solomon Islands. These countries are later described as CT6 Countries.

Based on a report "Economics of Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Coral Triangle" produced by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), in 2011, coastal fishery resources provided food, sustained incomes, and fueled trade and enterprise for an estimated 373 million people living in the CT6 countries, a third of whom reside within 10 kilometers (km) of the coastline. In the same year, the CT6 countries contributed 11.3% (19.1 million tons) to global capture fisheries and aquaculture production. Of this, 69% (13.2 million tons) consisted of food fish, representing 10% of the global food supply, while the rest consisted of aquatic plants. Most food fish are obtained from the marine environment through capture fisheries (69%) and marine and brackish water aquaculture (13%). This same study, using 2007 data, estimated that the value of marine capture fisheries in the CT6 member countries was \$9.9 billion.

Despite their significant value, the coral reef ecosystems of the Coral Triangle are among the most threatened in the world. Further from the report, the CT6 countries also are challenged with illegal, unregulated, and unreported (IUU) fishing which results in significant economic losses, as measured by opportunity costs, faster pace of resource degradation, and unequal resource distribution. IUU fishing often comes into conflict with small-scale fishermen by encroaching on inshore waters, increasing competition for the resources, and leaving such areas depleted and with degraded habitats.

The ADB report further divulged that the estimated worldwide annual production from IUU operations ranges from 11 million tons to 26 million tons, which accounts for approximately 10% to 22% of the world's total fisheries production, valued at about \$10.0 billion to \$23.5 billion per year. In the Asia and Pacific regions, the total estimate of production from IUU fishing could be about \$5.8 billion annually. In the Arafura Sea of Indonesia, for example, the annual average total loss due to IUU fishing reaches 1.3 million tons valued at Rp11.4 trillion. The future threats from climate change and ocean acidification will compound these problems.

Climate change is the change in the state of the climate that can be identified by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties that persist for an extended period, typically decades or longer (United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or IPCC, 2001). Increasing air temperature and sea surface temperature are among the indicators of climate change resulting from increasing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouses gases such as carbon dioxide and methane caused by the burning of fossil fuels. The impacts of climate change – such as coastal flooding, coral bleaching, and changes in fish populations – will affect the built and natural environment, livelihoods, and food security (Hoegh-Guldberger et al., 2009; Bell et al., 2011). Climate change will dramatically affect coastal communities and ecosystems in the Coral Triangle. Changes in precipitation patterns will affect agriculture. Changes in ocean circulation and ocean chemistry will affect marine productivity and the distribution of marine life. Severe storms and coastal flooding will displace communities, damage infrastructure, and affect livelihoods. Understanding the extent of these changes and their impacts and identifying early adaptation actions is essential to protecting communities and marine and coastal resources in the Coral Triangle.²

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For the Coral Triangle Six Member Countries, climate change impacts and nonclimate threats are focusing on these eight areas:

1. Rivers and estuaries are experiencing changes in ecosystem structure, function, and services due to siltation from upland logging and saltwater intrusion from sea level rise

- Food security and livelihoods are at risk from climate and non-climate impacts to fish spawning and nursery areas in river and estuarine habitats in the Coral Triangle.
- Hydrology and geomorphology of rivers and estuarine systems will be altered by extreme weather events.
- River bank erosion and flooding events threatens adjacent communities.
- Rare freshwater mammals are at risk due to changes in food source and habitat.

2. Mangroves are experiencing changes in ecosystem structure, function, and services due to overexploitation from domestic use (firewood) and livelihoods (logging, boat building), exacerbated by increased temperature, sea level risk, and inundation events

- Food security and livelihoods are at risk from climate and non-climate impacts to fish spawning and nursery grounds in the mangrove forests in the Coral Triangle.
- Changes in sea level, temperature, storm intensity, and inundation events are expected to impact mangroves (Gilman et al. 2008).
- Species composition, productivity, and distribution will be affected by increasing air and sea surface temperature (Ellison and Farnsworth 1997; Ellison 2008).
- Sea level rise represents the greatest threat to mangroves. Coastal development adjacent to mangrove areas will prevent the natural landward migration of mangroves adapting to sea level rise (Saintilan and Wilton 2001; Wilton 2002; Gilman et al. 2007)

² Climate Change Adaptation for Coral Triangle Communities: A Guide for Vulnerability Assessment and Local Early Action Planning (LEAP Guide); page 11 and page 21

3. Bays and coves in rural and urban coastal areas are experiencing changes in ecosystem structure, function, and services due to increasing sedimentation and other land-based pollution from upland logging, industrial, maritime shipping and other human activities and due to severe storms

- Food security and livelihoods are at risk from climate and non-climate impacts to shellfish and fisheries that inhabit bays and coves in the Coral Triangle.
- Extreme storms will increase sedimentation and pollution from upland areas that can increase the incidence of toxic microalgae and shellfish poisoning in coastal areas.
- Increased sedimentation will smother coral reefs in adjacent coastal areas.

4. Coral reefs are experiencing changes in ecosystem structure, function, and services due to overexploitation from fishing and coral harvesting (lime production, roads); increasing sedimentation from logging (palm oil) and other land-based pollution; and coral bleaching and degradation from increasing sea surface temperature and ocean acidification

- Food security, livelihoods, and coastal tourism are at risk from human use and climate impacts to coral reefs in the Coral Triangle
- Mass coral bleaching occurs when symbiotic microalgae are ejected under thermal stress
- Ocean acidification will have significant impacts on coral growth and reef
 accretion

5. Fisheries are experiencing changes in species composition, distribution, and yield of fish and invertebrates due to overfishing, increasing sea surface temperature, and changes in ocean circulation

- Foods security and livelihoods are at risk from human use and climate impacts to fisheries in the Coral Triangle
- Changes in sea surface temperature and ocean circulation resulting from climate change are likely to impact fish yield and distribution (Allison et al. 2005; Allison et al. 2009)
- Climate change is affecting physiological processes and the seasonality of biological rhythms, altering food webs, and, consequently, fish production.
- Climate impacts to coral reefs, including coral bleaching and ocean acidification are likely to impact fisheries associated with these habitats.

6. Coastal communities living on small islands and in low-lying coastal areas are experiencing increasing populations growth in low lying coastal areas that are increasing vulnerabilities to coastal erosion, flooding, and inundation caused by sea level rise and severe storms

- Human health and safety, livelihoods, and economic development are at risk from climate impacts to villages and municipalities in the Coral Triangle.
- Increased severity and frequency of severe storms increase potential for disaster conditions in coastal communities.
- Coastal communities in small island environments have limited land area to accommodate sea level rise and chronic flooding

7. Critical coastal infrastructure is experiencing repetitive damages, loss, and disruption of services due to coastal erosion, flooding, and inundation caused by rising sea level and severe storms

 Human health and safety, livelihoods, and economic development are at risk from climate and non-climate impacts

- Transportation, power supply, water and sanitation, hospitals, ports, emergency services and other critical infrastructure may result in repetitive losses
- Government staff, facilities, and public records may be impacted causing loss of basic services

8. Coastal livelihoods and local economies are experiencing economic losses due to degradation of natural resources from overexploitation and due to flooding, storm surge, and strong winds from increased frequency and intensity of typhoons

- Food security, livelihoods, and economic development are at serious risk from climate and non-climate impacts to fishing, aquaculture, tourism, and other coastal livelihoods and businesses in the Coral Triangle
- Climate change impacts on coastal livelihoods and local economies will result from damaged fishing and coastal tourism infrastructure (Allison et al. 2005; Allison et al. 2009)
- Changes in distribution, species composition and habitats will require changes in fishing practices and aquaculture operations, as well as in the location of landing, farming and processing facilities
- Extreme events will also impact on infrastructure, ranging from landing and farming sites to post-harvest facilities, transport routes and coastal tourism
- Water stress and competition for water resources will affect aquaculture operations and inland fisheries production, and are likely to increase conflicts among water-dependent activities
- Reduced livelihood options inside and outside the fishery sector will force occupational changes and may increase social pressures

Regional Plan Of Action (RPOA) 2010 - 2020

In an effort to recognize and acknowledge the serious implications of the continued mismanagement and uncontrolled exploitation of marine resources, in 2009, six (6) regional government leaders launched the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) as a platform to implement effective and realistic programs and measures to safeguard these invaluable resources.

The CTI-CFF is a regional ocean governance initiative of unprecedented scale and breadth, with the goal of transforming local, national and regional policy and practices in sustainable fisheries management. This includes efforts to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, promote effective marine protected area (MPA) management, and build resilience to climate change within and across the six (6) member countries, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste.

As to serve as a uniting point for collective and parallel actions at regional, national, and sub-national levels, CTI-CFF has developed a 10-year Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) that sets out five (5) overarching goals achieved by the year 2020. These are:

Goal 1: Priority Seascapes designated and efficiently managed.

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Goal 2:	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and
	other marine resources fully applied.
Goal 3:	Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) established and effectively managed
- · ·	
Goal 4:	Climate Change adaptation measures achieved.
Goal 5:	Threatened Species status improving.

These goals are supported by a clear set of targets and regional actions bounded by specific timelines to address regional marine resource conservation and sustainability priorities. As to effectively manage actions pursuant to the RPOA goals, The CTI-CFF established five (5) technical working groups (TWGs) that correspond to each of the five (5) goals. In addition to the TWGs, the CTI-CFF also set up three (3) governance working groups (GWGs) that oversee coordination mechanism (CMWG), financial resources (FRWG), and monitoring evaluation (MEWG) sections of the RPOA. Besides those CTI-CFF RPOA-related organizations, crosscutting initiatives such as the Regional Business Forum (RBF), Local Governments Network (LGN), and Women Leaders Forum (WLF)[BP1] [JMS2] have been established and supported by various CTI Partners. These initiatives serve as platforms to communicate with various stakeholders and beneficiaries in capacity building and awareness programs.



Project Description

With the increasing threats and risks due to climate change in CT6 Member Countries, Goal 4 of the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action "Climate Change Adaptation Measures Achieved" is considered particularly urgent. Climate change will dramatically affect coastal communities and ecosystems in the Coral Triangle. Understanding the extent of these changes and their impacts and identifying early adaptation actions is essential to protecting communities and marine and coastal resources.

To increase the adaptive capacity of communities to impacts of climate change, it is necessary for communities to develop their Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) plans. This requires a vulnerability assessment of the area as well as the creation of various adaptation strategies. The vulnerability assessment toolkit, which is intended to enable data gathering on the vulnerability of coastal systems down to community levels will help Governments determine adaptation measures that they can implement in their area. In addition, results from vulnerability assessments and mapping are also a source of information for identifying potential rehabilitation, conservation or protection mechanisms to mitigate or reduce risks of disasters due to climate change. As CT6 member countries are most vulnerable to climate change, climate change adaptation is a priority need that should be answered down to the local community level. Through informed adaptation initiatives, active community participation and strong local leadership, coastal communities can enjoy enhanced resilience of their natural ecosystems, reduced cost and magnitude of climate change impacts, and sustainable local development.

In recognition of the importance of the CTI-CFF to address critical marine resource challenges, the United States Government provided financial, political and programmatic support for the initiative. From 2009 to 2013, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) funded regional and bilateral missions through the U.S. Coral Triangle Initiative Support Program (US-CTSP) in order to support Coral Triangle countries in their effort to better manage the rich coastal and marine ecosystems to ensure food security, better biodiversity conservation management, and pragmatic climate change adaptation measures. Upon the completion of the USCTI program, CTI-CFF, through USAID Regional Development Mission Asia (RDMA), established partnerships with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI), to provide ongoing scientific and technical assistance to CTI-CFF regional partners. Between the years 2014 to 2015, USAID-RDMA, NOAA and DOI worked in collaboration with the Coral Triangle Center (CTC) to promote country-to-country engagement, learning-bypractice, and undertook scientific and technical capacity building programs in its effort to meet the goals set out in the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA).

Goal, Objectives

The Goal of this project is for CT6 Member Countries to achieve climate change adaptation measures.

The Objectives of Goal 4 of RPOAs are:

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Objective 1	:	To Develop Region-Wide Early Action Plan for CCA (REAP-CCA) for the Near-Shore Marine and Coastal Environment and Small Island Ecosystem
Objective 2	:	To Implement Region-Wide Early Action Plan for CCA (REAP- CCA) for the Near-Shore Marine and Coastal Environment and Small Island Ecosystem
Objective 3	:	To Establish National Centers of Excellence on CCA for marine and coastal environments
Objective 4	:	To Implement Network of National Centers of Excellence on CCA for marine and coastal environments

The REAP-CCA serves as a major step toward implementing climate change adaptation under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change for the six Coral Triangle countries.

Project Outcomes

- By 2015, Region-Wide Early Action Plan for CCA (REAP-CCA) for the near-shore marine and coastal environment and small island ecosystems is developed Indicator:
 - (A) Number of regional agreements/frameworks/ plans under REAP-CCA have been developed
 - (B) At least two or more CT6 Countries have national agreements/frameworks/plans that follows REAP-CCA for CTI-CFF
- 2. In 2020, REAP-CCA for the near-shore marine and coastal environment and small island ecosystems is implemented

Indicators: (A) Number of national policies (including national CCA plans and frameworks), laws and regulations on climate change adaptation proposed and adopted

(B) Number of climate risk and vulnerability assessments conducted

(C) Percentage of local governments that have integrated climate adaptation into local governance (plans and actions)

(D) Number of early adaptation actions initiated, implemented, and monitored;

(E) Hectares of priority mangroves restored

(F) Hectares of mangrove protected

(G) Numbers of regional, national, and local institutions with strengthened capacity to address new and emerging climate issues

(J) At least Two Countries National Plans integrating climate risk reduction

 A Regional network of National Centers of Excellence on CCA for marine and coastal environments is established in 2013 Indicators:

(A) A national institution within CT6 designated and networked to address climate change adaptation coordinated with national government support

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- (B) Annual / Biennial Regional Exchange Meetings on CCA conducted
- (C) Centre of Excellence area for CCA is available to represent best practices for implementation of REAP-CCA for CTI-CFF region
- 4. National Centre of Excellence is operational in each CT country by 2020, that would serves to (a) Improve understanding of future climate change impacts and related issues; and (b) Support comprehensive application of effective adaptation measures to mitigate these impacts; at the National level

Indicators:

- (A) Centre of Excellence area for CCA is available and sustainably operational in each Country
- (B) Number of REAP-CCA priority activities successfully implemented in each country

Strategies & Approaches

To increase the adaptive capacity of communities to impacts of climate change, it is necessary for communities to develop their Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) plans. This requires a **Vulnerability Assessment** of the area as well as the creation of various adaptation strategies. The vulnerability assessment toolkit, which is intended to enable data gathering on the vulnerability of coastal systems down to community levels will help Governments determine adaptation measures that they can implement in their area. In addition, results from vulnerability assessments and mapping are also a source of information for identifying potential rehabilitation, conservation or protection mechanisms to mitigate or reduce risks of disasters due to climate change. As CT6 member countries are most vulnerable to climate change, climate change adaptation is a priority need that should be answered down to the local community level. Through informed adaptation initiatives, active community participation and strong local leadership, coastal communities can enjoy enhanced resilience of their natural ecosystems, reduced cost and magnitude of climate change impacts, and sustainable local development.

After vulnerability assessment, the project will identify the most important and immediate adaptation measures that could be taken at a regional level, and at each CT6 Member Countries. Once the priority of adaptation measures agreed by CT6 Member Countries, each country will return to their communities and start planning for implementation of these important adaptation measures. The REAP-CCA needs established and sustainable financial resources in order to successfully implement the plan – at a regional level or national level. Therefore, the project will also mobilize financial resources through collaborative efforts to finance implementation of the measures contained in the REAP-CCA. The role of CTI-CFF as a Multi Government Initiative is to invite, mobilize and gather financial supports from various stakeholders within CT6 Member Countries to Partners and Collaborators at the Regional and International level.

The implementation also requires a strong networking between CT6 Member Countries to share knowledge, experiences, lessons learnt and achievements. Thus,

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the Network of National Centre of Excellences should serve this purpose of sharing knowledge, expertise and experiences.

Outputs & Activities

Project Outputs

Output 1 - The most important and immediate adaptation measures that should be taken **across all CT countries**, based primarily on analyses using existing models are identified (2011)

Output 2 - The most important and immediate adaptation measures that could be taken **in each CT country** are identified (2011)

Output 3 - Fully start REAP-CCA implementation at regional and all national level by 2015

Output 4 - Capacity needs assessment and capacity building programs on CCA measures are identified and implemented

Output 5 - Collaboration on designing of a Pilot Phase for National Centers of Excellence achieved by 2012

Output 6 - Collaboration on the implementation of a Pilot Phase for National Centers of Excellence started in 2015

Detail Activities

Output 1

The most important and immediate adaptation measures that should be taken across all CT countries, based primarily on analyses using existing models are identified (2011) – Note: ACHIEVE??

Activities:

Funded by USAID I ASIA under CTSP program, REAP-CCA priorities for regional level was finalized through a series of regional exchange workshops on CCA. The priorities and immediate adaptation measures at a regional level are:

<mark>(....</mark>......)

Output 2

The most important and immediate adaptation measures that could be taken **in each CT country** are identified (2011) – Note: ACHIEVED Activities:

Also funded by USAID I ASIA under CTSP program, REAP-CCA priorities for Country Level was finalized and reported at the 7th CTI-SOM (Senior Official Meeting) in Jakarta back in 2011. See Attachment XX for Priority CCA at each CT6 Member Countries

Output 3

Fully start REAP-CCA implementation at regional and all national level by 2015

Commented [YA3]: Still assumption as we don't have supporting documents to back this up

Commented [YA4]: FIND documents for CCA Regional Priorities.

Commented [YA5]: Find a digital document of REAP-CCA for Nearshore Marine and Coastal Environment and Small Island Ecosystem! And attach it to this proposal

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Activities:

3.1 Compile and review existing guidelines and baseline assessment and rehabilitation methodologies

3.2 Develop damage assessment and valuation monitoring guidelines

3.3 Develop draft and final regional guidelines

3.4 Assess feasibility of establishing a CT Rehabilitation Fund

3.5 Evaluating Coastal Community Resilience to tsunamis and other hazards

3.6 Develop Planners on Adapting to Coastal Climate Change

Output 4

Capacity needs assessment and capacity building programs on CCA measures are identified and implemented

Activities:

- 4.1 Identifying Needs Assessment and Capacity Building Programs on CCA measures Note: Achieved
- 4.2 Implementing Needs Assessment and Capacity Building Programs on CCA measures
- 4.2.1 Capacity Building Activities at the Regional Level on CCA measures:
- 4.2.1.1 Training on (write training name) for representatives of CT6 Countries (for NCCs)
- 4.2.1.2 Training on (write training name) for CCA-WG members
- 4.2.1.3 Workshop on (write title/theme) for (write target participants)
- 4.2.1.4 Meeting on (write title/theme) for (write target participants)
- 4.2.2 Capacity Building Activities for CT6 Country Level on CCA measures
- 4.2.3 Training on (mention Training name) for (write Country name)
- 4.2.4 Training on (mention Training name) for (write Country name)
- 4.2.5 Technical Support on (write title/theme) for (write Country name)
- 4.2.6 Etc.

Output 5

Collaboration on designing of a Pilot Phase for National Centers of Excellence achieved by 2012

Activities:

Output 6

Collaboration on the implementation of a Pilot Phase for National Centers of Excellence started in 2015 Activities:

Time Frame

Ideally, the project will run up to 2020 (the end of RPOA Goals) To be filled in once Activities for the specific project is fully identified

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Budget

To be filled in once Activities for the specific project is fully identified Include: RS Operational / Shared Cost as co-financing; implementing partner's budget, etc

About Regional Secretariat

The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat has been established to function as the central entity to coordinate and support the activities developed by the CTI-CFF National Coordinating Committees (NCCs) of the CT6 member countries, Development Partners, and collaborators. The Regional Secretariat is guided by three-living documents including the establishment of the regional secretariat ratified by member countries, the decisions of the annual Senior Officials' Meetings (SOM), and of the biannual Ministerial Meetings. A permanent CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat officially replaced the Interim Regional Secretariat when the first CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Executive Director assumed office in April 2015. In general, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat is mandated to promote regional cooperation, sharing of lessons, and facilitate learning across the six Coral Triangle countries. The Regional Secretariat (RS) also coordinates and monitors the progress in achieving the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) goals. The Regional Secretariat's main activities cover organizational development, outreach and communication, regional coordination and mechanisms, technical and thematic working groups, development of key regional reports, and capacity development.

Among other initiated collaborations, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat has formalized a working arrangement with the "Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 3rd April 2015 in Chiang Rai, Thailand. This joint cooperation was acknowledged during the 11th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-11). During SOM-11, the CTI Council of Senior Officials (CTI-CSO) also acknowledged the efforts of the Regional Secretariat in facilitating works with SEAFDEC to secure funds and technical assistance from Partners. The Meeting also endorsed the EAFM TWG work plan and the agreements made between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and SEAFDEC for joint implementation activities and programs such as (i) capacity building activities on EAFM; (ii) joint research programs; and (iii) information development, dissemination and information networking.

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Organisational Structure of RS



