

CTI MPA Thematic Working Group: Structure and Operations

1.0 Purpose and Tasks MPA TWG

The RPOA has five Goals, and technical working groups are created to help facilitate progress on achieving these goals were approved at SOM5, along with a general Terms of Reference for all the TWGs. As regional exchanges and other regional-level work has begun, the Technical Working Groups have begun to emerge, organize and begin their work. To this end, in reviewing the Progress in the Priority Actions and in asking the TWGs to prepare the relevant portions of the CTI Progress Report, the GOAL thematic presentations were made by the Chairs of the TWGs.

The primary function of the MPA TWG, as provided by SOM6, is to provide technical inputs and recommendations to the Regional Secretariat and the National Coordinating Committees of the CT6 in achieving the over-arching goals that have been set forth in the RPOA. Specifically, the MPA TWG shall:

- Convene the MPA TWG regular and on-need meetings and discussions
- Prepare annual MPA TWG work plans
- Coordinate and assist in the identification, compilation, and consultation of thematic issues
- Prepare the technical and communication materials on MPA TWG matters for distribution to regional secretariat and CT countries

In addition, the MPA TWG may also perform the following functions:

- Track and report on the progress on the implementation of the regional priority actions especially pertaining to the MPA goal and targets
- Guide and review progress on other actions in the RPOA as requested by SOM
- Collaborate with the CT Atlas in drawing the relevant map data layers as well as non-spatial attribute data
- Provide inputs and review of the regional State of the Coral Triangle Report especially the chapters relating to the MPA goal and targets
- Prepare and review the MPA TWG inputs to the CTI Annual Progress Report
- Link with Learning Networks for collaboration
- Assist in the organization and conduct of regional exchanges and workshop as public consultations
- Review and make inputs on funding proposals, reports and other related CTI activities.

2.0 Membership and Structure

2.1 Membership. The MPA TWG will be composed of one representative from each of the CT6 and a representative from the Regional Secretariat. The names of the representative of each of the CT6 shall be submitted to the Chair of the MPA TWG, and the Regional Secretariat copied to this submission of name of the CT6 representative to the CTI MPA TWG. Likewise, the Regional Secretariat shall inform the Chair of the CTI MPA TWG its representative to the MPA TWG.

2.2 Term of the Chair and Co-Chair.

The term of the Chair and Co-Chair is two years starting on 01 January of the year, following the confirmation of the SOM. The selection of the Chair and Co-Chair will be based on rotation. Subsequent Chairs and Co-Chairs shall be named following the alphabetical order of the CT6 country name.

The first Chair and Co-Chair of the MPA TWG has been named in SOM7. Based on the presentations made by the Technical Working Groups and the discussions held on those topics at the 7th Senior Official Meeting (SOM) held in October 2011, the Senior Officials endorsed the establishment of the MPA Technical Working Group with the Philippines as the Chair and Indonesia as Vice Chair.

3.0 Program Planning and Coordination

3.1 Regular MPA TWG meetings. The MPA TWG shall conduct at least one meeting annually to discuss and endorse the annual TWG work plan and annual report to the SOM. The schedule of the meeting will take into consideration planned CTI regional events and SOM / MM meetings. In addition to the annual meeting, conference calls may be arranged among the MPA TWG focal points to keep the CT6 abreast with the developments on the MPA TWG work plans and progress towards the overall MPA target across the CT6. The Chair shall inform the TWG focal points of the CT6 at least two weeks about the date of the conference call and the agenda.

3.2 MPA TWG Annual Work Plan Preparation and Presentation to SOM. In coordination with and support from the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, the MPA TWG shall prepare an annual work plan showing directions and activities leading towards the successful completion of the priority actions set forth by SOM on MPA goal and targets. The MPA TWG shall encourage the support and participation of the CTI-CFF development partners and other TWGs in drawing the MPA TWG annual work plan. The MPA TWG work plan shall be presented to SOM for endorsement.

Resource allocation needed to complete the activities presented in the annual work plan shall be integral in the work plan preparation. The funding sources from within the CT6

governments and development partner organizations will be identified and form part of the presentation of the work plan to SOM.

3.3 Collaboration with other TWGs. The MPA TWG shall extend support to other CTI TWGs and the Regional Secretariat in the planning and conduct of regional priority actions including the reporting on these actions, as and when appropriate.

3.4 Collaboration with Technical Experts and Supporting Institutions and Organizations. The MPA TWG shall invite and duly recognize the technical experts and supporting institutions (e.g. academe and research organizations) as technical advisers to the TWG, as and when needed. The Regional Secretariat shall assist the MPA TWG in putting together a pool of technical advisors which will be called on for specific questions or issues. The specific functions of the technical advisors are:

- To provide technical support in the compilation, review and analysis of issues relating to RPOA MPA goal and targets
- To provide technical support in the preparation of communication messages including press releases, and other information and communication materials
- To guide the preparation and/ or review concept notes and or funding applications
- To guide the preparation of reports of CTI regional activities concerning MPAs

3.5 Monitoring and Reporting of Progress. The MPA TWG shall develop an M&E system to track and report on progress of the MPA TWG work plan implementation and the achievement of the MPA goal and targets. The MPA TWG M&E system will be aligned with the regional M&E system that is adopted by SOM.