

CTI-CFF *newsletter*

July-September 2020 • Issue 16



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**

ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY



Drawing up CTI-CFF's **Regional Plan of Action**

Photo credit: Cris Tagupa/Uhspash



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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin



The COVID-19 has caused a grave impact on the economic and social conditions of countries around the world. COVID-19 has delayed or stalled some of CTI-CFF regional and national activities, but I am thankful that the CT6 member countries continue to support and cooperate to carry out to CTI-CFF activities despite these trying times.

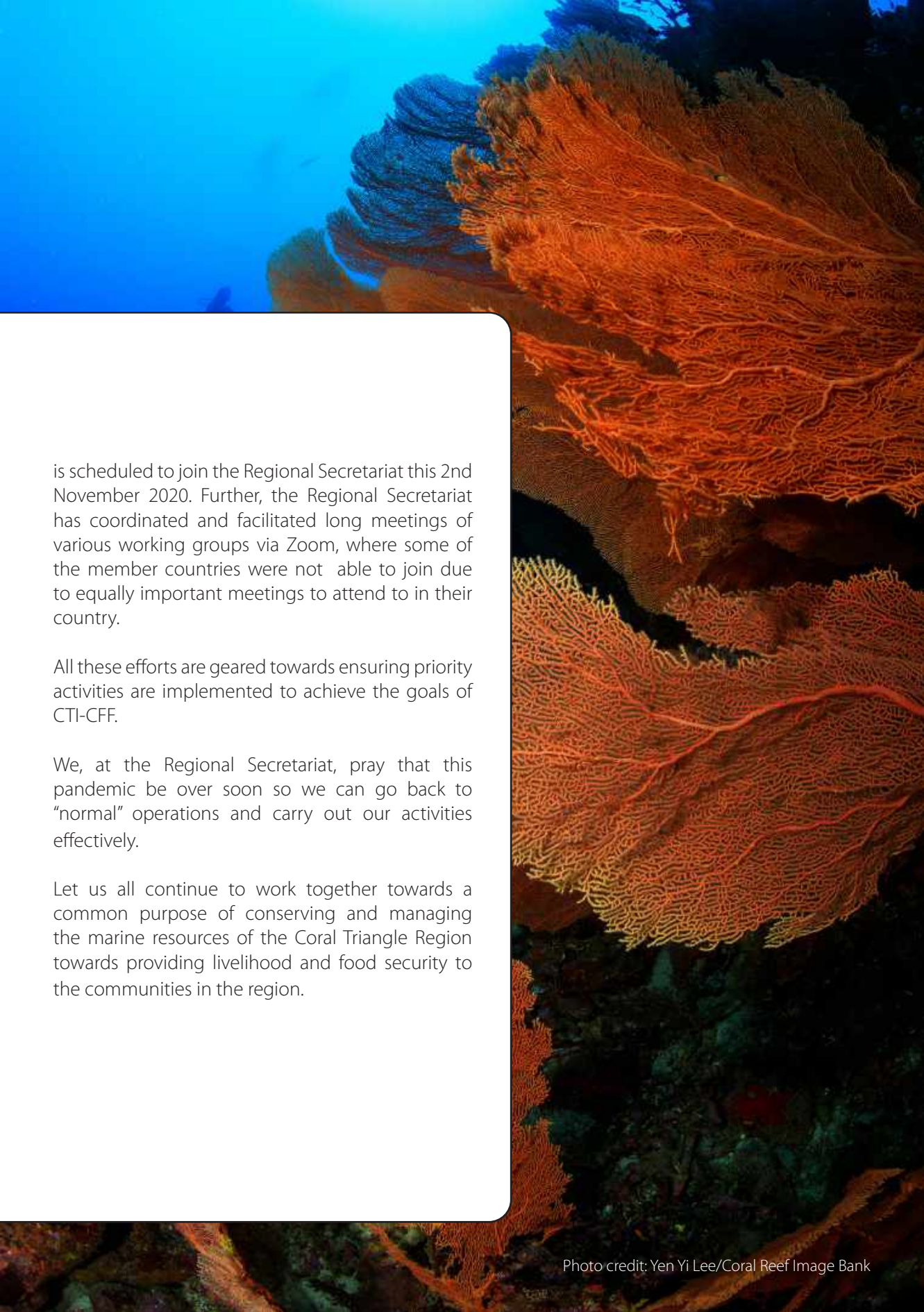
The challenges posed by the current situation, especially the travel restrictions being observed by most countries compelled the Regional Secretariat to continue using digital platforms like ZOOM to conduct CTI-CFF meetings to ensure that priority activities are still pursued and met.

The Regional Secretariat has ardently coordinated and facilitated priority activities in this third quarter such as the 2nd meeting of the Internal Resource Committee, the meeting on the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group back to back with RPOA 2.0 Writeshop, and the Preparatory Meeting for the renewal of the draft Host Country Agreement between the Regional Secretariat and the Government of Indonesia.

Particularly, we thank the CT6 member countries for their commitment and hard work to go through the process of reviewing the draft RPOA 2.0 for a number of days to refine the CTI-CFF's vision and goals for the next 10 years to manage and safeguard the environmental assets of the Coral Triangle Region, the global epicentre of marine life, abundance, and biodiversity.

Also, we thank the CTI Partners who continue to support and to materialize CTI-CFF activities, including the finalization of the draft RPOA 2.0. The CTI Partners have diligently giving assistance to support the Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF) process. The Regional Secretariat is hopeful to be able to initiate the trust fund framework set up process as a step towards attaining sustainable financing for CTI-CFF.

The Regional Secretariat has also initiated activities to further build capacity of CT6 member countries through the CT Atlas Training and Introductory to Monitoring and Evaluation Webinar. Also, the Regional Secretariat has recruited an M&E Manager who

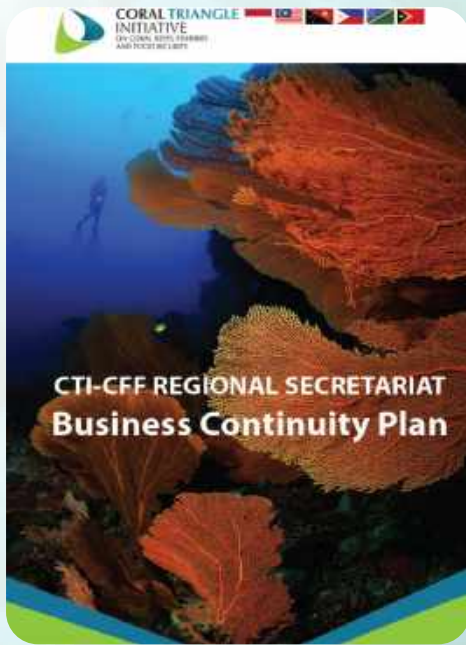


is scheduled to join the Regional Secretariat this 2nd November 2020. Further, the Regional Secretariat has coordinated and facilitated long meetings of various working groups via Zoom, where some of the member countries were not able to join due to equally important meetings to attend to in their country.

All these efforts are geared towards ensuring priority activities are implemented to achieve the goals of CTI-CFF.

We, at the Regional Secretariat, pray that this pandemic be over soon so we can go back to “normal” operations and carry out our activities effectively.

Let us all continue to work together towards a common purpose of conserving and managing the marine resources of the Coral Triangle Region towards providing livelihood and food security to the communities in the region.



RS develops Business Continuity Plan in COVID-19 situation

The Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF has developed a Business Continuity Plan which outlines RS key business functions and recovery priorities to endure changes brought about by COVID-19 pandemic. The plan is also intended to ensure that RS's processes, services, and activities continue particularly on the finalization of RPOA 2.0.

The development of the plan also complies to the task assigned to RS as agreed upon by the CTI-CFF Financial Resources Working Group and Internal Resource Committee.

Threatened Species Distribution/Migratory Map available on CT Atlas

The Threatened Species Distribution/Migratory Map is now available on CT Atlas via the link <http://ctatlas.coraltriangleinitiative.org/>

The migratory map includes information on mammals, sharks and rays, and turtles from Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. Information from other member countries shall be uploaded once available.

The map was produced through the assistance of WWF Indonesia.

Photo credit: Ray Aucott/Unsplash

GESI Policy and Action Plan Interim Report

The Interim Report on the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Policy and Action Plan was developed and circulated to the members of the Women Leaders' Forum (WLF). The report was prepared by Dr. Ria Fitriana, CTI-CFF's WLF Consultant.

The Report covers a review of existing CTI-CFF gender-related documents, GESI policy of other international organizations and investigates the lack of policy and implementation challenges.

Dr Fitriana is currently consulting the CT6 member countries and the development partners regarding GESI Policy and Action Plan for CTI-CFF.

ID, MY and PH push forward for University Queensland project for GEF funding

The Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines had agreed to pursue the University of Queensland (UQ) proposal on "Transboundary Approach on Securing Coral Reef Fishery and Biodiversity Resources in the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape" and to drop the Implementation of the Regional Strategic Action Program (RSAP), Sulu Celebes Large Marine Ecosystem (SC-LME) for funding under the Global Environment Facility (GEF). There were some administrative requirements that led to the decision to pursue the UQ proposal.

RS provides inputs to SPREP's new Regional Action Plan

RS was invited by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) to provide inputs to SPREP's Draft Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan 2020-2030. The plan aims to foster a coordinated and effective approach that complements and integrates relevant initiatives in the region to address new needs for protecting and restoring coral reefs.

2019 CTI-CFF Annual Report available

The 2019 CTI-CFF Annual Report is now available via the link <https://bit.ly/2F8X56y>. The Report highlights the activities undertaken in 2019 to meet and realize the goals set in the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA). It also presents the progress made by CT6 member countries in the implementation of their respective National Plan of Actions (NPOA) as well as the continuous engagement with strategic partners, among others.

Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle (SOMACORE): Malaysia Consultation

The Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF coordinated and facilitated Malaysia consultation for the GIZ-proposed SOMACORE programme on 25 August 2020. The SOMACORE as a programme aims to work within the framework of CTI-CFF to improve the resilience of ecosystems and communities. The programme if approved by the Germany's Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), will be funded through the IKI, a funding mechanism for the German government.

The consultation discussed the period and area of implementation of the programme in Malaysia; implementation team and how the budget will be channeled to the national implementation team. Possible risks/challenges and/or opportunities were also identified regarding the programme implementation.

The consultation was attended by representatives from the Malaysia Government - Ministry of Environment and Water, Department of Fisheries Malaysia, and Department of Fisheries Sabah; GIZ; WWF Malaysia; Pt Hatfield; and CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat.

Calendar of Events

1 October 2020

WWF-RS discussion on TORs for Marine Plastic Pollution Stocktake

2 and 5 October 2020

Continuation of the IRC meeting on draft CTI-CFF Staff Policies and Procedures Manual

6 October 2020

MPA Working Group Call Meeting

7-8 October 2020

Continuation of the meeting on draft Host Country Agreement between the Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF and the Government of Indonesia

12-13 October 2020

RPOA 2.0 Writeshop in finalising the draft RPOA 2.0 and M&E Indicators

13 October 2020

ATSEA 2 Team Courtesy Visit at the Regional Secretariat

3rd or last week of October (tbc)

Online Training to be organized by Allen Coral Atlas

1st week of December 2020 (tbc)

16th CTI-CFF Senior Officials Meeting (virtual meeting)

RS continues to prioritize health and safety during COVID-19 pandemic

The Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF continues to prioritize health and safety of staffs during COVID-19 pandemic. For the third time, in a periodical schedule, all RS staff including utility service team underwent rapid COVID-19 test to ensure that staffs are not exposed to the corona virus.

Hand sanitizers are easily accessible and are placed near and around high-touch surfaces and communal areas, including entrances and exits. Staff are regularly reminded to follow all rules set in previous directives regarding social distancing and safety steps within the RS building, as well as to constantly take good care of one's health and those of family members.

Also, since the announcement of WHO of COVID-19 as a pandemic in mid-March 2020, the Regional Secretariat has set a number of remote working policies for work from home arrangements following either the decree issued by the Government of Indonesia or the governing bodies of North Sulawesi and Manado City. Work and all meeting schedules are maintained via online platforms Microsoft Team, Google Meet or Zoom and mobile communication – SMS and Whats App.

The COVID-19 situation as well as host country and local government directives are regularly monitored to assist RS in decision-making and appropriate actions.

COVID-19 rapid test administered to staff and utility personnel of RS.



CTI-CFF MEWG acknowledges CTI-CFF Member Countries' ownership of the draft RPOA 2.0

H.E. Undersecretary Atty. Juan Miguel T. Cuna, the Philippines' representative to the CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) graciously chaired the online meeting of the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group (MEWG) of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) back to back with RPOA 2.0 Writeshop on 27 July – 10 August 2020. In his Opening Speech, he acknowledged the CT6 countries' ownership of the draft Regional Plan of Action (RPOA 2.0). The MEWG members reviewed and deliberated on the draft RPOA 2.0 that set anew the CTI-CFF vision and goals for the next 10 years to ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods by protecting marine and coastal resources of the Coral Triangle Region, which is the global epicentre of marine life, abundance, and biodiversity.

"I would say the CT6 countries have taken ownership of the RPOA, ensuring the interest of the CT6 governments on food security for its people and the protection of this unique and biodiversity-rich Coral Triangle region," H.E. USec. Cuna said. He added that the CT6 countries need to sit down and come up with S.M.A.R.T. indicators that will guide the next chapter of member countries collaboration in the Region.

H.E. USec. Cuna also acknowledged the CTI-CFF's Strategic Partners for their unwavering support and renewed commitment. He said "Moving forward, it is with best interest of both the CTI-CFF member parties and our strategic partners that this regional cooperation



Top: Screenshot of H.E. USec. Juan Miguel Cuna, Committee of Senior Officials chaired the MEWG 2.0 Workshop. Right: Screenshot of the participating Meeting and RPOA 2.0 Writeshop.

achieves financial sustainability as we seek to maintain both the health of ecosystems to provide goods and services and the health of the people as we battle existing and unprecedented crisis like this pandemic."

He urged members of the MEWG to continue informing their respective country leaders about the progress made in the Coral Triangle region to be able to get official commitment for the RPOA 2.0.

Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin, the Executive Director of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat stated that the Secretariat will provide the necessary support to CT6 countries during this COVID-19 situation to ensure the completion of the RPOA 2.0 in order to come up with a common regional position and perspectives towards addressing marine conservation, food security, and climate change in the CT region.

The MEWG had an online RPOA 2.0 Writeshop again from 1- 8 September 2020 to continue with the refinement of the draft RPOA 2.0. The meeting was organized by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat.



a, Philippines' representative to the
WG Meeting back to back with RPOA
ants who participated in the MEWG



**Monitoring and Evaluation
Working Group (MEWG) Meeting
Back to back with
RPOA 2.0 Writeshop**
27 July - 10 August 2020



Review on the renewal of the draft Host Country Agreement commences

The review on the draft Host Country Agreement renewal between the Regional Secretariat and the Government of Indonesia commenced on 28 August 2020. The member countries of CTI-CFF met virtually and went through the draft document with representatives from Indonesia joining as observers. The existing Host Country Agreement will be expiring on 1 December 2020.

Ms. Ronelle Panda from the Policy Planning Division of Solomon Islands' Ministry of Marine Resources and Fisheries sat in for Dr. Melchior Mataki, Chair of the CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials (CSOs) and Permanent Secretary of Solomon Islands' Ministry of Environment, Climate Change Disaster Management (MECDM) who was attending an equally important meeting at the national level. She expressed gratitude to Indonesia for hosting the Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF.

Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin, Executive Director of RS also thanked the Government of Indonesia, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of State Secretariat for the untiring support and assistance given to the international staff of RS to smoothly and securely work for the Secretariat.

"We hope that as we carry out the review on the HCA, we take into consideration of the mutual interests of the CT6 member countries in having the desired outcomes and opportunities for all parties involved while respecting the rules, culture, and the laws of the host country. Also, may the result of the discussions would further strengthen the ties and cooperation between the CT6 member countries," Dr. Kushairi said.



Left: Screenshot of Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin, Executive Director of RS delivering his Welcome Remarks; Below: Ms. Ronelle Panda from Solomon Islands who chaired the meeting and sat-in for H.E. Dr. Melchior Mataki, Chair of CSOs.



2nd IRC meeting tackles anew efficient operations and financial management of RS

The 2nd meeting of the Internal Resources Committee (IRC) discussed the operation and financial management of the Regional Secretariat. The Committee pressed the optimization of XERO, an online accounting software, for efficient preparation and submission of financial reports as well as for transparency to promote good governance. Improved coordination and communication between RS and NCCs, especially on operations and financial matters was stressed to build mutual trust and confidence towards efficient implementation of CTI-CFF projects and activities.

Members of the IRC also highlighted the importance of prioritizing activities in implementing activities considering the 'new normal' posed by COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting also reviewed the 2019 CTI-CFF Audit Report; budget utilization until 30 June 2020 and budget forecast from 2021-2023; regulations and policies; discussing on funding for prime activities, such as the 16th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-16) and 8th Ministerial Meeting (MM-8), Leaders' Summit and high-level meeting between heads of states and business groups; and the re-branding of the Regional Coral Triangle Network Officers (RCTNO).

Further, noting the imminent expiration of the Host Country Agreement (HCA) between RS and Indonesia by 1 December 2020, the IRC agreed that discussions on the renewal of the draft HCA shall be discussed during preparatory meetings made in consultation and in the presence of Indonesia, RS and CT6. Also, RS shall submit official exchange of notes for the extension of the current HCA to June 2021 or until the new HCA is signed.

IRC meets to review draft and finalise CTI Staff Policies and Procedures Manual

RS and CT6 representatives to the Internal Resource Committee (IRC) had a series of virtual meeting to review the draft CTI-CFF Staff Policies and Procedures Manual (SPPM) recognizing the importance of keeping the content updated and also with reference to other international organizations' regulations and best practices in line with the directive as voiced by the Chair of CSOs on his visit to RS last year. The meeting was conducted on 26 August and 11 September.

Mr. Alick Misibini, chair of IRC and Financial Controller from the Solomon Islands' Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources was pleased to see the perseverance of each member countries to review and finalise the draft SPPM despite the challenges of COVID-19 situation.

Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin, Executive Director of RS said that the review and finalization of the draft SPPM is important to create a stable, conducive, and value-laden work environment for the staff of RS. He also said that a clear, inclusive, and objective staff policies and procedures would ensure consistency and rationality in decision-making and would boost the morale of the staff.

Screenshot of participants at the 2nd IRC Meeting.



SEAFDEC commends CTI-CFF for ongoing development of RPOA 2.0



The Secretary General of Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), Ms. Malinee Smithrithee commended CTI-CFF for the ongoing development of its Regional Plan of Action (RPOA 2.0). SEAFDEC sees it as vital in furthering collaborative efforts with CTI-CFF through its programs and activities that are of interest to CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC Member Countries.

“We recognize that the benefits from such programs could accelerate the advantages that the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC member countries could gain towards achieving their respective sustainable development goal in the 21st century, especially in the areas of fisheries, and marine resources and habitats development,” Ms. Smithrithee said in her statement sent to CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat during the CTI-CFF’s ongoing Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group Meeting back to back with RPOA 2.0 Writeshop.

“Let me assure the CTI-CFF that the SEAFDEC Technical Departments would jointly cooperate with CTI-CFF in the various technical areas targeted by the RPOA 2.0. On behalf of SEAFDEC, let me affirm our commitment to continue supporting the implementation of the CTI CFF programs and activities as well as CTI-CFF Member Countries, especially

under the latest version of the RPOA 2.0,” Ms. Smithrithee said.

The CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC entered into a collaborative agreement through an MOU in 2015 signed at Chiang Rai Province of Thailand, where the key areas of collaboration include human resource development, research and development, consultancy and information management, and networking. The collaborative agreement has resulted in a number of collaborative activities which include the regional capacity building on ecosystem approach to fisheries management, sharing of lessons learnt from the implementation of the electronic version of traceability for fish and fishery products through the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme, information exchange on the regional fishing vessels records, promotion on the implementation of FAO voluntary guidelines on small-scale fisheries, capacity building program on Port State Measures, RPOA Fishing Capacity, among others.



From top, left to clockwise: Screenshot of Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin of CTI-CFF RS; ASec. Ricardo Calderon of the Philippines' DENR; Regional Director Dr. Martin Callow of WCS; Exec. Dir. Rili Djolani of Coral Triangle Center; Dr. Craig Kirkpatrick of USAID RDMA; Ms. Franca Sprong of GIZ; and Senior Environment Specialist Mr. Arun Abraham of ADB/GEF.

CTI Partners reaffirm support of RS and the finalization of CTI-CFF RPOA 2.0

The CTI Partners have conveyed support to CTI-CFF and the Regional Secretariat and look forward to further collaborating with the refinement, finalization, and implementation of the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0.

As the CTI-CFF works on finalizing the RPOA 2.0, the Strategic Partners namely, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Australian Government), USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Coral Triangle Center, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Conservation International (CI) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) noted the importance of sustainable finance such as a Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF) for the ongoing vitality of CTI-CFF and a revised RPOA will be an essential foundation for it.

The partners conveyed technical assistance to support the RCTF design process. They

also identified the establishment of a trust fund as an important step and encouraged the consideration of blue financing mechanisms.

Dr. Martin Callow, the Regional Director of Southeast Asian Archipelago of WCS who represented the Strategic Partners also stated that the RPOA 2.0 would be beneficial if it will be aligned with other international frameworks such as 30x30 marine protected area targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, Sustainable Development Goals, to which CT6 Member Countries have committed.

“A Leaders’ Summit would be an important way to generate and demonstrate ongoing CT6 commitment to the CTI,” Dr. Callow said. He further noted that strategic partners believe that the ongoing provision of member contributions to the Regional Secretariat acts as an important signal to current and potential donors regarding the level of member countries’ commitment to the organization.

“We believe that the Regional Secretariat (and its staff) perform a significant technical and operational function within CTI-CFF, and we recommend that it is continued to be appropriately invested in by countries, such that it can maintain its core functions- this is especially important in these complex times of COVID-19, during which unforeseen business and operating challenges have emerged, and donor funds are potentially harder to secure. To reiterate, this continued commitment by Member Countries to the RS is also essential if the ambitions of the CTI-CFF and RS are to be realized, such as with regards to the previously mentioned RCTF,” Dr. Callow conveyed.

CTI Partners

recommend a review of Project Preparation Facility

The strategic partners of CTI-CFF remain enthused and supportive of the CTI-CFF and the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 during the Partners Dialogue session in the continuation of the RPOA 2.0 writeshop.

Ms. Cristina Velez Srinivasan, Ecosystems Management and Trade Team Lead of USAID, who represented the CTI Partners cited the importance of the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) of CTI. However, they find the PPF complex which makes it difficult and time consuming for new projects to develop in a streamlined and efficient way.

“We note that there are a number of exciting and ambitious projects in the pipeline that directly align to the RPOA and we would recommend further emphasis on streamlining their co-creation and development. As such, we believe that a review of the project preparation facility and process might be beneficial for all involved,”Cristina said.

She further added that the Regional Secretariat could also be empowered to take a leadership role in reviewing and adjusting the project preparation facility process with the CT6 and Partners. “By doing so, we believe Strategic Partners will be in a better position and be able to co-develop new projects with CT RS / CT6 countries with more clarity, efficiency and conviction,”Cristina said.

The CTI Partners who were present in the meeting were representatives from Asian Development Bank, Australia’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Coral Triangle Center, World Wide Fund for Nature, The Nature Conservancy, and Wildlife Conservation Society.

Screenshot of Partners’ Dialogue Session of the RPOA 2.0 Writeshop.



Ms. Cristina Velez-Srinivasan of USAID represented the CTI Partners during the Partners’ Dialogue Session of the RPOA 2.0 Writeshop.

CMAR-CTI-CFF conducts two webinars on tourism management and effective management of MPAs

The Corredor Marino del Pacifico Este Tropical (CMAR) has collaborated with the Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF in conducting two webinars on the topics of tourism management and measurement of the effective management in Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin, Executive Director of RS noted that tourism is an important component of national and local economies in the CT6 countries and these countries have grown well in tourism market. He said development can be further planned in broader perspectives towards sustainability of the present livelihoods and economic development of local communities in the CT6.

Mr. Ricardo Meneses-Orellana of the Pro Tempore Secretariat of CMAR emphasized the importance of tourism in MPAs since it is one of the important pillars in strengthening economies as well as in promoting the conservation and preservation of marine resources. He also noted the importance of strengthening the relationship of CTI-CFF and CMAR to analyze the areas where they can work together and to start the discussion.

The first day focused on the sustainable tourism efforts of CMAR and CTI-CFF which were presented by Ms. Luz Castro, the head of the CMAR Sustainable Tourism Working Group and Dr. Sharifah Nora Ibrahim, Deputy Executive Director for Program Services of CTI-CFF, respectively.

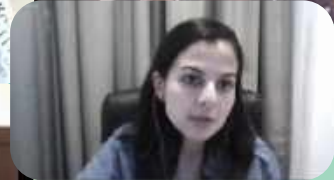
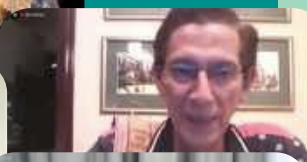
The second day focused on the effective management of MPAs. The webinar included presentation on the results of the Gorgona Island Workshop in 2019 where both representatives from CMAR and CTI-CFF participated; results of the joint work between CMAR and CTI-CFF about the MPA component.

Discussions focused on sharing of experiences in topics such as identification and management of MPAs or Locally Managed Marine Areas (LLMAs); monitoring and surveillance of MPAs, gaining international recognition/nominations for MPAs, fishing management, surveillance and monitoring and communicating marine plastics/debris. The webinar also recognized the benefits of conducting online meetings where a number of participants can join from both CMAR and CTI-CFF.

Habitat loss, women and youth and importance of communicating sustainable tourism were some of the points of discussion.



Top: Screenshot of participants of Day 1 webinar on tourism management; left: Screenshot of presentation titles.



Screenshot of Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin of RS; Mr.

Ricardo Meneses-Orellana of CMAR Secretariat; Ms. Luz Castro of Natural National Parks of Colombia; and Mr. Esteban Herrera, CMAR Representative for MPA Working Group.

As a way forward, CMAR and CTI-CFF will be submitting topics of interests on 26 October 2020 that will be further discussed in a virtual meeting for possible collaboration/continuing activity of both Initiatives.

Training Webinar on Introduction to

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

highly successful

The Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF successfully conducted a virtual training webinar on 9-10 July 2020 on Introductory Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and S.M.A.R.T. Indicators, which targeted members of the National Coordinating Committees (NCCs) of the CTI-CFF, in preparation of the important finalization process of the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0.

Dr. Sharifah Nora Ibrahim, the Deputy Executive Director of Program Services of the CTI-CFF stated that the CT6 NCCs have relatively newcomers who may not be aware of the history of the CTI-CFF M&E systems created between 2007-2014. Further, she noted that theory and practice of M&E itself have evolved during the last decade. "It is important for the NCCs to know about the existing CTI-CFF M&E system as M&E of projects on the ground would be done by the NCCs themselves, mainly and to improve the current M&E system is crucial", emphasized Dr Nora, who heads the Program Services of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat that oversees and facilitates the current finalization of the RPOA 2.0 and its

future implementation. Learning from the past, an improved knowledge on M&E is crucial for the upcoming RPOA 2.0

The webinar featured presentations by Dr. Sada Hussain Shah Syed, an M&E specialist who presented on the concepts of M&E, Indicators and a few examples from the draft RPOA 2.0; Ms. Luz T. Baskinas, Vice-President for Project Development of WWF Philippines, who presented on the CTI-CFF M&E operations Manual of 2014; Ms. Shwu Jiao Teo, an IT and GIS expert from the WorldFish, who presented on the CT Atlas and the importance of good data; and Dr. Alan White, Chief of Party of USAID Sea Project, who focused on S.M.A.R.T. Indicators and some history of CTI-CFF M&E systems.

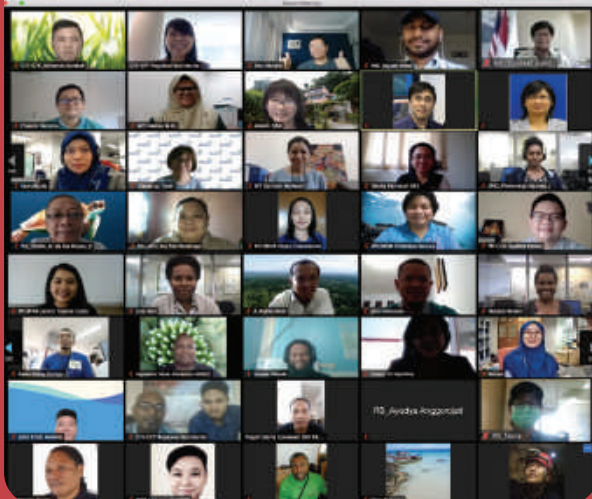
Based on the lively Q&A, and the evaluation conducted before and after the webinar, the CT6 NCCs have improved their knowledge on M&E and S.M.A.R.T. indicators, and the participants requested for more of such technical training webinars.

Screenshot of participants at the Introductory M&E Webinar.

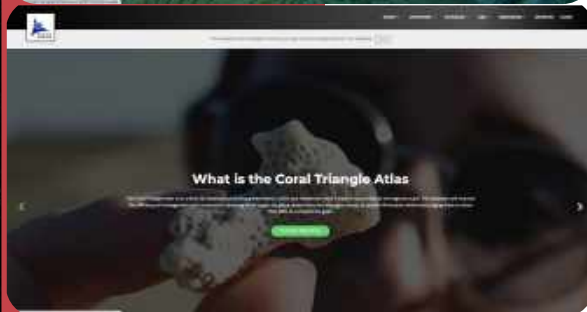


CT ATLAS TRAINING FOR CTI-CFF NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEES

17 July 2020



Screenshot of participants of CT Atlas Training for NCCs.



Screenshot of CT Atlas webpage.

CT Atlas Training for NCCs

The Regional Secretariat (RS) of CTI-CFF in collaboration with the WorldFish successfully conducted the online Coral Triangle (CT) Atlas Training for CTI-CFF National Coordinating Committees (NCCs) on 17 July 2020. This CT Atlas Training for NCCs is to fulfil SOM-15 decision 6.11.

The online training gave insights to NCCs on how to use the re-designed CT Atlas, particularly guide through its basic features and on how to optimize its contents such as interactive panel, layers, exporting of maps, and updating country profiles.

An interesting presentation by Ms Teoh Shwu Jiau, a GIS expert from the WorldFish demonstrated the importance of good data from the CT6, by showing some discrepancies in MPAs data and locations. This captured the interest of the CT6 audience and their enthusiasm to correct their country data.

The CT Atlas is an online GIS database, with the most up-to-date spatial data at the regional scale of the Coral Triangle which will improve the efficiency of management and conservation planning in the region. It provides governments, NGOs, researchers, managers,

communities and others the access to spatial data while encouraging them to share their data to complete the gaps, therefore reducing duplicate data collection efforts and providing the most complete and most current data available. The CT Atlas was started in 2009 and was housed at the WorldFish Center in Penang, Malaysia. In 2019, the CT Atlas was re-designed and migrated from the WorldFish to the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat.

“We hope that the CT6 countries, is encouraged to make use of the data already collected and to actively contribute their new data. The up-to-date data you will be providing undoubtedly will contribute to the credibility of CT Atlas as an effective tool to help ensure that the CT Atlas achieves its objectives in providing a dynamic and updated decision-support tool for the CT6, strategic partners, research institutions, NGOs, communities, and others,” said Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin who is the Executive Director of RS in a message delivered on his behalf by RS’s Deputy Executive Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Gustaaf Lumiu.

Allen Coral Atlas, a new map for coral conservation

The Regional Secretariat (RS) of CTI-CFF collaborated with the team of Allen Coral Atlas to introduce to CT6 countries the Allen Coral Atlas, a new map for coral conservation in a webinar conducted on 19 August 2020.

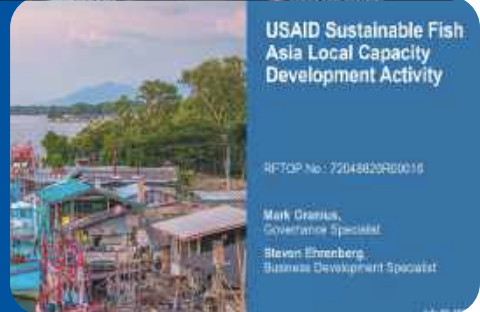
The Allen Coral Atlas (<http://allencoralatlas.org>) partnership uses high-resolution satellite imagery and advanced analytics to map and monitor the world's coral reefs, creating unprecedented global coverage. The team of Allen Coral Atlas brings together partners from Planet, University of Queensland, Arizona State University's Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science (GDSCS) and National Geographic Society.

The webinar was part of RS's efforts to partner with international organizations in order to coordinate initiatives on marine environmental-related strategies and share best practices and lesson learned.

"The Regional Secretariat believes that we need to share tools, and the support from the international community for a collaborative, integrated and continued action towards the preservation, management and conservation of the Coral Triangle resources," Mr. Gustaaf Lumiu, Deputy Executive Director of Corporate Services said, who sat in for Executive Director.



Screenshot of SUFIA presentation and representatives from the 3 Parties: CTI-CFF RS, USAID, and Research Triangle International (RTI).

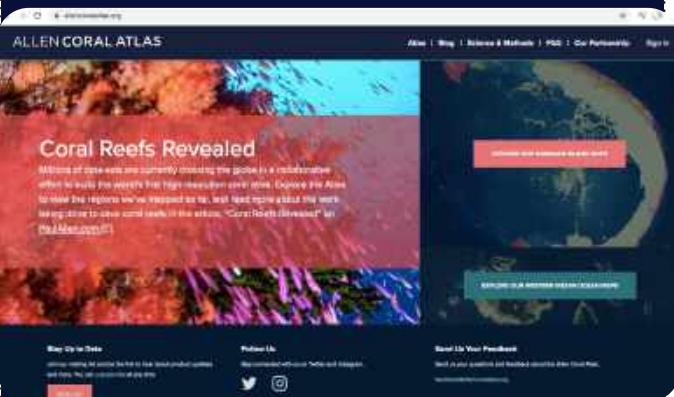


RS Kickoff Meeting for USAID SUFIA Project

The Regional Secretariat kickoff virtual meeting for USAID Sustainable Fish Asia (SUFIA) Local Capacity Development project began on 22 September 2020. The meeting was attended by representatives from RS led by Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin with Mr. Gustaaf Lumiu as the Focal Point; USAID team led by Ms. Cristina Velez Srinivasan and representatives from USAID's implementing partner, RTI led by Mr. Mark Granius.

The meeting was a venue to introduce all team members from the three (3) Parties working on the project as well as present the proposed first year work plan. Further, the meeting was an opportunity to discuss expectations and ensure everyone understands the project goals and scope.

The USAID SUFIA Project with CTI-CFF as one of the partners will be working on two (2) tasks: (1) provide organizational assessment & capacity building; and (2) private sector engagement assessment for fisheries industry in Asia.



Top: Screenshot of Allen Coral Atlas; and clockwise: Mr. Gustaaf Lumiu of RS with Ms. Zoe Lieb, Dr. Helen Fox and Ms. Brianna Bambic.

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat calls for 'contextualized' ocean stories for media

"For marine professionals who have access to relevant data and information about marine concerns, this is a great opportunity for you to pack information with more context and adding in the relevant missing information in the media today," Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin, Executive Director of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat said in his message during the third part of the Coral Triangle Day webinar series titled "Tell About the Ocean."

Dr. Kushairi said that there is a need for adequate and accurate stories about ocean and marine environment in order to raise awareness and commitment to sustainable marine and coastal management and conservation. He also called upon ocean/marine enthusiasts to be a partner in raising awareness about marine and coastal issues and solutions.

The webinar "Tell About the Ocean" featured the presentations from Ms. Leony Aurora, a communication strategist for sustainability who highlighted the dominant ocean stories

in Indonesia's media which were about plastic pollution/waste, illegal fishing and mangrove planting. She also shared the missing narrative which is the role of ocean in mitigating climate change.

Participants who joined the webinar also gained some pointers from Mr. Angelo Gabriel Lantin, chief storyteller and communication officer of World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Philippines on how to write good stories for media. He gave three (3) tips: (1) know your goal; (2) immerse yourself; and (3) contextualize.

The webinar, which was supported by the Coral Triangle Center and WWF, was aimed at providing marine professionals with techniques on how to write stories about marine environment/conservation and how to optimize content for print and online media.

Screenshot of presenters, left-clockwise: Mr. Angelo Gabriel Lantin of WWF, Ms. Janet Polita and Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin of RS; and Ms. Leony Aurora, communication strategist; bottom: screenshot of the presentation titles.



Bringing Real Stories to the Media
Insights from Analysis of
Online Media Coverage
in Indonesia

Leony Aurora, Terra Komunika
July 2020



Announcement

Indonesia's MMAF appoints new CTI -CFF NCC Indonesia Focal Point and Member of CTI-CFF CSOs

The Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) has appointed Dr. Hendra Yusran Siry as the new Secretary Directorate General of Marine Spatial Management and First Secretary for National Committee Secretariat of CTI-CFF Indonesia, effective on 23 September 2020. Also, he has been assigned as Acting Director General of Marine Spatial Management and as the Executive Secretary for NCC Indonesia and Member of CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials on 29 September 2020.

The CTI-CFF wishes Dr. Siry the best in his new responsibilities.

Thank you and Farewell to NCC Indonesia Focal Point



The CTI-CFF expresses its gratitude and farewell to Mr. Agus Dermawan, former Secretary Directorate General of Marine Spatial Management and First Secretary for National Committee Secretariat of CTI-CFF Indonesia. Mr. Dermawan's support and guidance through the years have been instrumental in attaining the goals of the CTI-CFF. His contributions to Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and CTI-CFF will always be recognized and valued.

The CTI-CFF extends best wishes to Mr. Dermawan on his new endeavour.

Prayers and Condolences-
H.E. Dr. Aryo Hanggono

On behalf of the CTI-CFF and the Regional Secretariat, we would like to express our sincere condolences to the family of **H.E. Dr. Aryo Hanggono**, former Director General for Marine Spatial Management of Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and Indonesia's representative to the CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials.

Despite the grief and pain of his loss, we hope that the family of H.E. Hanggono as well as his colleagues and friends at the MMAF and CTI-CFF, can see that his work did not end with his passing, but instead, his spirit will live through the daily acts of the people that he had inspired, helped, and served throughout his professional life.

We pray that Allah SWT grant him eternal peace and continue to give strength and courage to his beloved family during this trial.



CTI-CFF *newsletter*

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Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security

The CTI-CFF 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.

The CTI-CFF was established formally during the Leaders' Summit in 2009 with approval of the leaders from the CT6 countries. They adopted the CTI Regional Plan of Action (CTI RPOA) which is a strategic action plan with five goals: (1) designation of effectively managed seascapes; (2) application of an ecosystem approach to fishery management; (3) establishment of a fully functional marine protected area system; (4) strengthening climate change adaptation and resilience; and (5) improving the status of threatened species.

 Coral Triangle Initiative

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INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY

