



CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE

ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

**Annex-4
Decision Document on:
Marine Protected Area WG Report
and CTMPAS**

8th CTI-CFF Senior Officials Meeting (SOM8)

**22-24 November 2012
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

**Adopted 22th November 2012
by the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines,
Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste**

Session #2
Day 1, 22 November 2012
MPA TWG and CTMPAS

Background:

The Coral Triangle Initiative's Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) Goal 3 (*Marine Protected Areas established and effectively managed*) has one Target, to have a Region-wide Coral Triangle MPA System in place and fully functioning by 2020.

RPOA Action 1 (*Jointly establish overall goals, objectives, principle, and operational design elements for a CT MPA System centered around priority MPA networks*) was prioritized at the May 2010 *CTI Regional Priority Actions and Coordination Workshop*, with the following activities defined:

- Conduct workshop(s) to establish the goals and operational design for a CTMPAS including MPA management effectiveness (Preparation includes National workshops, Regional workshops, CT6 focal points, Collaboration between regional scientists and CT6).
- Develop and manage an information system to track MPAs in the CT6 that can be used in the planning and development of MPA networks and their representation of critical habitats and species in the system.

To accomplish the above-mentioned targets, the MPA TWG was constituted based on the SOM6 decision in Manado in 2010 outlining the general terms of reference of thematic working groups. An ad-hoc MPA working group was first convened in the Coral Triangle MPA System Design workshop in June 2010 in Phuket, Thailand during which temporary MPA focal points or coordinators for each country were designated. The meeting also agreed that Indonesia and the Philippines would jointly chair the CTI MPA Technical Working Group for the interim.

The workshop defined short term and longer term mechanisms for coordinating the regional MPA activities; these were understood to be interim measures until the CTI formally established other mechanisms.

In SOM7, the MPA-TWG was formally approved as a TWG with the following focal points:

- Philippines (Chair): Ms. Mundita Lim, Director, PAWB, DENR
- Indonesia (Vice): Mr. Toni Rachimat, Director, MMAF
- Malaysia: Dr. Sukarno Wagiman, Director, Dept. of Marine Parks; Mr. Paul Basintal, Director Sabah Parks
- Papua New Guinea: Ms. Kay Kalim, Director, Dept of Environment and Conservation
- Solomon Islands: Mr. Peter Kenilorea, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
- Timor Leste: Mr. Pedro Pinto, Park Manager, Nino Konis Santana Park

Decision:

Based on the presentations made by the Technical Working Group and the discussions held on the session on MPA TWG Report at the 8th Senior Official Meeting (SOM8), the Senior Officials take the following decisions:

- a. Recognized the significant accomplishments of the MPA-WG;
- b. Adopted the outputs generated from MPA Regional Exchanges in March and October 2012 as basis in formulating the Coral Triangle Marine Protected Area System
- c. Adopted the Coral Triangle Marine Protected Area System (CTMPAS) Road Map clarifying the short-medium- and long-term action plans (attachment 1).
- d. Requested the Countries to review the CTMPAS Framework and send inputs to the Chair of MPA-WG by January 30, 2013.

Attachment: (see next page)

Attachment – I

Coral Triangle Marine Protected Area System (CTMPAS): Framework and Action Plan

Information Sheet

Draft Version I—November 2012—Framework and Action Plan Developed

BACKGROUND

Establishing and effectively managing marine protected areas (MPAs) is one of the five goals identified in the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) by the six Coral Triangle countries (CT6). The RPOA promotes ecosystem-based management (EBM) as a useful and appropriate framework to achieving these goals. Overexploitation of fish and other coastal resources, destructive fishing practices, climate change and unmanaged coastal development in the Coral Triangle are the primary threats for marine and coastal ecosystems (*Reefs at Risk Revisited-Coral Triangle*, World Resources Institute, 2012) and the human populations who rely on them. The CT6 recognize the importance of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) as a proven tool towards conserving marine biodiversity while sustaining critical fisheries and other marine resources in the Coral Triangle region. Approximately 2000 MPAs of various designs and purpose have already been established and are operating among the six countries. The prioritized actions of the CT6 under their National and Regional Plans of Actions include increasing the management effectiveness of these MPAs, primarily by strengthening human capacity and local enforcement, and by developing learning and management networks that increase the benefits of individual MPAs. Understanding the design and operation of MPA networks, and agreeing on a regional set of principles and activities that the six countries can implement in a coordinated but independent manner are fundamental steps in achieving effective networks. The Coral Triangle Marine Protected Area System (CTMPAS) Framework and Action Plan was developed through a series of expert workshops and consultations between the CT6 and partners. It defines the ecological, governance and social networks that make up the CT MPA System; and it includes core strategies and principles with a decentralized national-level management structure that is coordinated and guided regionally by the CTI MPA Technical Working Group and the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat. The Framework and Action Plan include short, medium and long-term actions to launch the CTMPAS and operate it through the life of the current CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action until 2020.



The objectives of the CTMPAS Framework and Action Plan are: a) to define the fundamental strategic approach and structural design of the CTMPAS at the regional scale; and b) to help guide the six Coral Triangle countries through an adaptive and iterative process by defining annual collective actions and activities to achieve its objective through the medium-term of 2020. The intended target audiences of this Framework and Action Plan are regional and national government marine resource managers and their technical staff, and partners of the CTI-CFF such as national and regional organizations, NGOs, academia, donors and the private sector who are also interested in providing technical assistance or supporting shared activities.

FRAMEWORK OVERVIEW

The *Framework* includes a goal, an objective and a vision for the CTMPAS and four strategies as follows:

The **goal** of the CTMPAS is to have a “Region-wide Coral Triangle MPA System in place and fully functioning by 2020”.

The **objective** of the CTMPAS is a “comprehensive, ecologically representative and well-managed region-wide system” in place and fully functioning by 2020.

The **vision** of the CTMPAS is a system of “prioritized individual MPAs and networks of MPAs that are connected, resilient, and sustainably financed, and designed in ways that (i) generate significant income, livelihoods, and food security benefits for coastal communities; and (ii) conserve the region’s rich biological diversity.

The **Strategies** for the CTMPAS include:

- Use and strengthen existing regional mechanisms, partners, programs, in developing and operating CTMPAS.
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- Prioritize activities that develop effective MPA Sites and Networks MPA/network sites that can immediately contribute strength or effectiveness to a regional network or system
- Start and learn with “flagship” MPA sites that are already recognized, managed and of high conservation value. Phase-in other prioritized sites that fill regional conservation and management gaps in follow-on years or phases.
- Direct Governance and Socio-Economics to protect Ecosystem Functions

The **Core Components** of the CTMPAS include Governance, Ecology and Society as follows:

- **Governance:** Includes using an integrated ecosystem approach to CTMPAS, operating at the highest political level with the CT countries managing their own sites and contributing information and support to the regional activities, with a functional system operating with joint activities within 5-6 years.
- **Ecology:** Includes maintaining ecosystem function and biodiversity that can protect resilient coral reef habitats to survive threats, support increasing fish and other living resources populations, and maintain populations of threatened species for intrinsic value, education and scientific value and human heritage value.
- **Society:** Includes developing communications mechanisms, learning networks, community education in resource management while prioritizing cultural heritage, community benefits, livelihoods and social welfare through sustainable natural resources management.

The CTMPAS *Framework* defines and recognized four Levels of Sites in the CT MPA System: a) Flagship Regional Sites, b) Priority Development Sites, c) Effectively Managed Regional Sites, and d) Recognized CTMPAS Sites in order to be inclusive of all willing sites while prioritizing some more valuable sites for management effectiveness.

ACTION

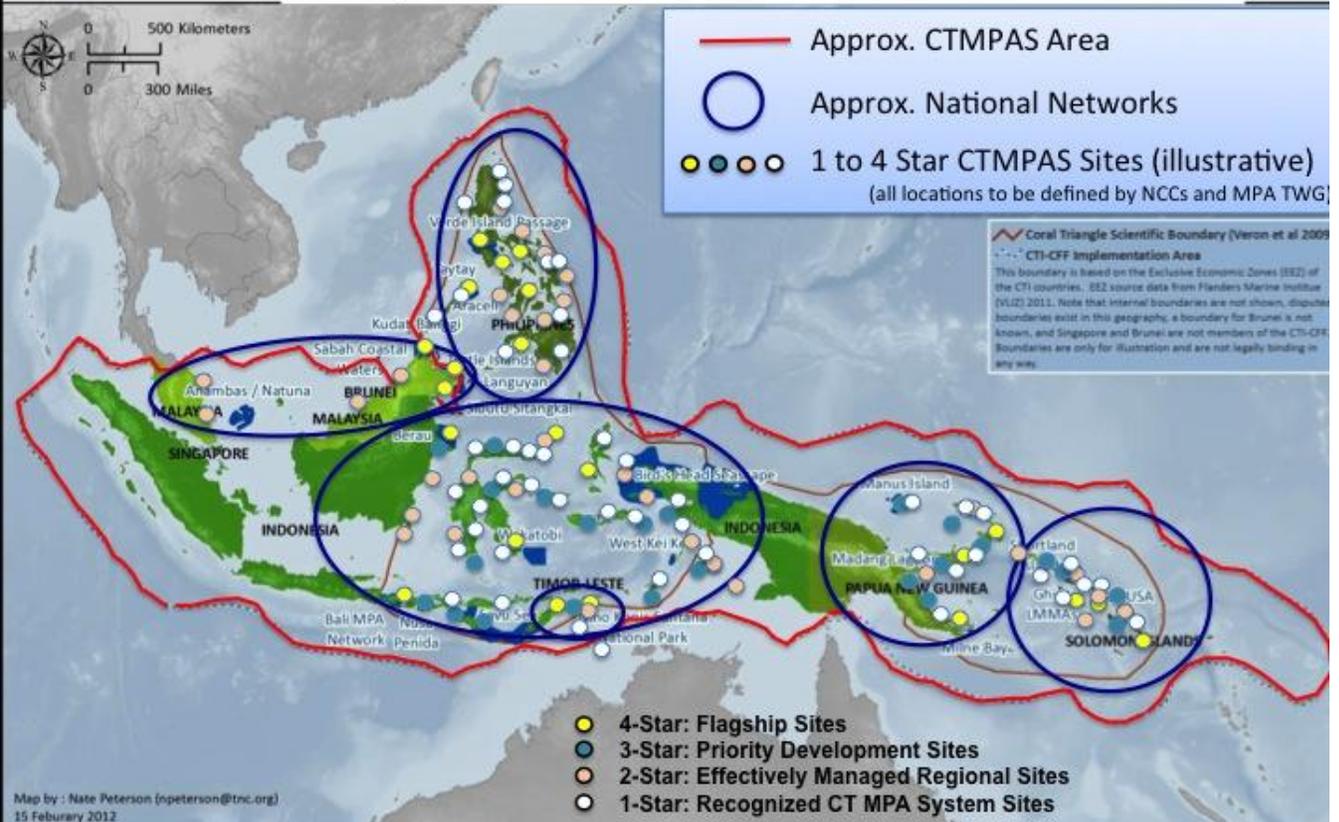
PLAN

OVERVIEW



The CTMPAS *Framework* and *Action Plan* is being presented to the CTI-CFF Senior Officials in Nov 2012 for endorsement to continue preparing the launch of the CTMPAS in mid-2013. For more information on this CTMPAS, contact Lynnette Laroya (CTI MPA TWG; Philippines) lynette_laroya@yahoo.com or Alan White (The Nature Conservancy) alan_white@tnc.org.

FRAME: Cartoon of Geographic Structure of Local, National Networks and CTMPAS Sites



● **Illustrative MPA Sites and Local Networks that could be members of CTMPAS**