

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultancy on

Review and Assessment of the Coral Triangle Initiative – Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Plan of Action (RPOA)

Background and Rationale

The Coral Triangle, or ‘Amazon of the seas’ is the epicenter of marine life abundance and diversity on the planet, with over 75% of all known coral species, 53% of the world’s coral reefs, over 3000 fish species the greatest extent of mangrove forests of any region in the world and spawning and juvenile growth areas for what is the largest tuna fishery in the world.

Over 120 million people are directly dependent on the Coral Triangle for their food and income with an estimated value on fisheries and tourism worth 2.3 billion U.S. dollars per year. It also hosts the largest tuna fisheries in the world that generates billions of dollars in global income annually.

The region is facing tremendous threats including Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing; Over fishing; Unsustainable coastal development and practices; plastics and pollution; and climate change to name a few. These threats contribute mainly to the depletion of fish stocks, massive conversion of mangrove areas and severe coral reef systems degradation.

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) is a regional and multilateral partnership of six countries namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste collectively known as the Coral Triangle six or CT6 countries. Founded in 2009 through a Leaders Declaration from the CT6 countries, the CTI-CFF formed a 10-year Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) that sets measurable steps in addressing the increasing threats facing the coastal and marine resources in the Coral Triangle which is considered one of the most biologically diverse and ecologically rich regions on the planet.

Five goals, with corresponding targets and actions, are spelled out in the RPOA address prevailing issues:

Goal 1 Priority Seascapes” designated and effectively managed

Goal 2 Ecosystem approach to management of fisheries (EAFM) and other marine resources fully applied;

Goal 3 Marine protected areas (MPAs) established and effectively managed (Including community- based resource utilization and management);

Goal 4 Climate change adaptation measures achieved; and

Goal 5 Threatened species status improving.

The CTI-CFF operates through a core decision-making and implementing bodies, including the CTI-CFF Council of Ministers, the CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials, and the CTI-CFF National Coordinating Committees, all of which are supported by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat. The CTI-CFF Council of Ministers (CTICOM) is the highest formal decision-making body of the initiative that meets regularly and has the power to adopt and approve CTI-CFF resolutions at Ministerial Meetings. Each Minister heads the primary agency tasked to implement the CTI RPOA in their respective countries. The Chairmanship of the CTICOM rotates among the six countries and has a fixed term.

The CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials is composed of designated senior government officers from the six Coral Triangle countries who are tasked to oversee and decide on the technical decisions of the CTI-CFF as well as provide direction to the Regional Secretariat. The Senior Officials meet annually or as needed to ensure that the business of the CTI-CFF is carried out efficiently.

The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat is the (RPOA) primary body that coordinates the implementation of the CTI Regional Plan of Action. The Regional Secretariat coordinates, and supports official meetings and events being implemented under the CTI-CFF RPOA road map. These include the annual high-level CTI-CFF Senior Officials Meeting and Ministerial Meetings and the periodic meetings and workshops organized by the technical working groups. The Regional Secretariat also provides technical and coordination support to the NCCs on emerging opportunities and priorities related to reaching the goals and targets of the CTICFF Regional and National Plans of Action. In addition, the Regional Secretariat serves as the primary communication platform for the CTI-CFF.

The RPOA has been under implementation since 2009. It is noteworthy to review and assess RPOA implementation at present time in terms of delivering on the goals and targets. It is an opportunity to also capture to what extent that the regional collaboration has been effective in achieving impacts on coral reefs, fisheries and food security.

2. Purpose

The purpose of Consultancy is to review and assess the implementation of and make recommendations to update, if necessary, the RPOA in terms of relevance, effectiveness of the Plan framework, implementation strategies, arrangements, methodologies and resource allocations on the Plan. The TA will undertake the assessment through the scheduled forums and interviews, desk literature reviews, identification of gaps and opportunities and recommendation on the follow-up plan of action for the RPOA.

Specifically, the evaluation will:

- Assess the extent to which the RPOA has been implemented
- Assess the effectiveness and relevance of the RPOA framework in achieving the CTI-CFF Goals, impacts and sustainability.

- Identify and evaluate the constraints and problems which have been or are being encountered and the effectiveness of resource utilization in achieving the CTI-CFF Goals;
- Asses the gaps, opportunities and make recommendations on the follow-up Plan of Action
- Provide recommendations to improve the relevance of the RPOA with reference to the attainment of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
- Determine the connection between the RPOA and economy, food security and climate change and provide recommendations to strengthen the RPOA along these lines
- Assess the extent of intergovernmental cooperation in the region during implementation of RPOA, and the impact and benefits derived by the countries and the region as a whole;

3. Work and Financial Plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS
Posting	December 2017	
Hiring	January to February 2018	
Inception Workshop and submission of Inception Report	March 2018	
Data gathering, interviews	April to May 2018	
Analysis	June 2018	
submission of 1 st draft and Circulation of 1 st draft to GWG Coordinator and circulation to CT6	July 2018	
Submission of comments from CT6 to GWG Coordinator	August 2018	
Consolidation of comments and preparation of 2 nd draft report by	September 2018	
Submission of 2 nd draft to GWG Coordinator	1 st to 3 rd week of October 2018	
Consolidation of comments from MEWG and Submission of Final draft to MEWG	4th week of October 2018	
Endorsement of Report to SOM and approval of MM	November 2018	

The consultant shall submit a detailed activity plan based on the approved work and financial plan that will describe how the consultative forums will be carried out and the production of the draft schedule of the plan of action review process will be carried out.

4 . Work Relationship

- The consultant shall be supervised by the Chair and Co-Chair of the MEWG;
- The consultant shall have direct communication to GWG and Cross Cutting Themes Coordinator of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat who shall facilitate the access of the

consultant with concerned technical personnel for the purpose of the RPOA review and who shall provide logistical support;

- All the deliverables of the consultant shall be submitted to GWG and Cross Cutting Themes Coordinator of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat for circulation/distribution to and comments of concerned parties;
- All deliverables submitted by the consultant should be reviewed by the GWG and Cross Cutting Themes Coordinator of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat prior to submission to MEWG to ensure that the comments of the concerned parties are incorporated on the same;
- All deliverables shall be cleared and approved by the Chair and Co-Chair of the MEWG.

5. Deliverables

The Consultant shall submit the following:

- 1) An inception report that presents the following:
 - a) assessment framework and methodology
 - b) list of assessment questions / parameters
 - c) list of the target participants to be consulted / interviewed from various agencies, institutions, and organizations, including but not limited to CT6 National Coordinating Committee, Regional Secretariat, CTI CFF Technical Working Groups, and Development Partners
 - d) detailed work and financial plan indicating the schedules, specific roles and responsibilities of each team member
 - e) CVs of the assessment team members
- 2) Submission of draft reports to GWG Coordinator
- 3) A presentation of the final draft report of review and assessment to the CT6 through MEWG during the Pre-SOM;

6. Time Frame

The period covered by the contract shall be ten (10) months upon signing of the contract. Extension on the same shall be at no additional cost from the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat/Funding organization or institution.

7. Consultant Skills and Experience

- a) A minimum of Masters Degree in International Development, Environmental Science, Social Sciences, Development Studies, Political Science or related discipline.
- b) Experienced in evaluation of projects, surveys, organizational assessment, and knowledge management

- c) Broad knowledge and understanding of marine biodiversity conservation, evaluation and research
- d) With experience of working with partners at international, regional and national organizations, teams, committees on similar issues
- e) Knowledge of national and international programs on coastal and marine conservation is an advantage.
- f) Proficiency in oral and written English communication.

8. Payment Schedule

Tranche	Condition	Percentage
1 st tranche	Upon signing of contract and submission and acceptance of the design of the Inception Workshop	10%
2 nd tranche	Upon submission and acceptance of Inception report	30%
3 rd tranche	Upon submission and acceptance of 1 st draft	20%
4 th tranche	Upon submission and acceptance of 2 nd draft	10%
5 th tranche	Upon submission and acceptance of Final Draft Report	30%

9. Submission of Expressions of Interest

Please submit your expression of interest including full CV, proposed fee and a technical proposal for the consultancy to CTI CFF Regional Secretariat to the following email address: _____
 cc: _____ the email subject line marked 'Expression of Interest for CTI CFF Review of the Regional Plan of Action by XXXDate