



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY



SOM19

The 19th SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING

DILI, TIMOR-LESTE | 5 December 2024

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..... Technical Working Group Report

Threatened Species

Mr. David Aram

Chair of Threatened Species TWG

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Focal Points



Focal Points of Threatened Species-TWG

Member Country	Focal Points
Indonesia	Dr. Firdaus Agung, Director for Conservation Ecosystem and Aquatic Biota, MMAF;
Malaysia	Dato' Haji Adnan bin Hussain, Director General of Department of Fisheries Malaysia Alternate: Mr. Azlan Md Nor, Head of Conservation, Ecosystem and Biodiversity Conservation Section, Fisheries Conservation and Protection Division, Department of Fisheries Malaysia
Papua New Guinea	Mr. Vagi Rei, Manager Conservation and Environment Protection Authority. Alternate: TBD
Philippines	Mr. Isidro M. Velayo, OIC Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Alternate: Mr. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Biodiversity, In concurrent Capacity as Director Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Solomon Islands (Chair)	Mr. David Aram, Principal Fisheries Officer, Inshore Fisheries Division, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Alternate: Ms. Rose Babaua, Chief Conservation Officer, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology Supported by: Mr. Trevor Maeda, Principal Conservation Officer, ECD, MECDM
Timor-Leste (Co-Chair)	Mr. Constantio dos Santos, Chief Department of Marine Spatial Plan Alternate : Pedro Pinto, National Director for forestry conservation and ecotourism

Action Taken for SOM-18 Decisions

Action Taken for SOM 18 Decisions

Decisions	Status
1. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by the Threatened Species Technical Working Group (Annex 8.11).	Done
2. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of Workshop on Protecting Marine Migratory Species and Achieving the 30x30 Target Through Transnational Approaches, organized by CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, WWF, and EU Ocean Governance Project in Manado on 15-17 May 2023.	Done
3. Acknowledged and appreciated the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) Republic of Indonesia and WWF Indonesia for hosted the 4th Threatened Species Technical Working Group meeting back-to-back with the 2023 Indonesia Sea Turtle Symposium in Jakarta on 12-14 June 2023.	Done
4. Acknowledged and appreciated the WWF for the Targeting Regional Investigations for Policing Opportunities & Development (TRIPOD) Project implementation in three of the CT6 countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines), and encouraged further continuity of the TRIPOD activities in the CT6 region.	Done
5. Encourage the CT6 member countries to update the list of Threatened Species Technical Working Group experts.	CT6 to update, Q2 2024 ID: Done SB: 2025, TL: Will update MY: Waiting for endorsement (Q1 2025) PG, PH: Will Recirculate again
6. Encourage the Regional Secretariat to discuss further with potential partner for the possibilities of supporting in the development of “Status of Marine Threatened Species in Coral Triangle Region” report (Annex 8.12).	In progress - RS looking at potential partners support

Action Taken for SOM 18 Decisions (Cont.)

Decisions	Status
7. Agreed on the conduct of the 5th Threatened Species Technical Working Group in-person meeting to be undertaken in 2024, and welcoming potential partner support.	Done
8. Appreciated the excellent contribution of Dr. Firdaus Agung as Chair from Indonesia and Atty. Demosthenes R. Escoto and Mr. Marcial C. Amaro Jr as Co-Chairs from the Philippines in the year of 2022-2023.	Done
9. Approved the recommendation of the Threatened Species Technical Working Group to turn-over the Chair from Indonesia to Solomon Islands and the turn-over of the Co-chair from the Philippines to Timor Leste in the year of 2024-2025, based on the provision stipulated in the rules and procedure of the CTI-CFF Threatened Species Technical Working Group.	Done
10. Approved the Threatened Species Technical Working Group 2024 Workplan.	Done



Update on Workplan and Budget by the Chair of Threatened
Species TWG for 2024

Workplan and Budget for 2024

Planned Activities	Time Frame	Budget (USD)
<p>5th Threatened Species working group Meeting (In-person)</p> <p>Write-shops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft the Framework plan for the Regional Conservation Plan <p>Back-to-back with workshop/webinar</p>	Q2 - Q3	<p>SSS 2 and BSS REX back-to-back with TWG meeting in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia on 12-16 August 2024</p> <p>Supported by USAID SuFiA TS and GIZ</p>
<p>Conduct workshops/webinars on threatened species and Develop annual updates on TS of CT Region (e.g CITES appendix)</p> <p>[Output A.2.1.1a: By 2023, a regional guide, campaign material tools and messages regarding threats to threatened species and on addressing the threats (e.g. marine pollution including marine debris, oil spill and Deep-Sea Tailing Disposal, and illegal fishing methods), are developed and distributed).</p> <p>Output A.2.2.1.b: By 2025, a regional campaign to combat illegal wildlife trade on priority threatened species (marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks and rays) is designed and implemented, as well as promoted, at national, regional and international levels</p> <p>Outcome A2.2.2: A reduction of the wildlife trade on priority threatened species (marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks and rays) is achieved] - <i>Part of annual update status by CT6</i></p> <p>Output A2.2.1.c</p> <p>By 2025, build regional capacity, including training, information sharing and exchanges, for combating illegal marine wildlife trade with focus on the priority threatened species (marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks and rays). - Scaling using resources from Tripod project</p>	Q2/3/4	<p>Potential WWF Interest</p> <p>Open to other partner support</p> <p>Activities integrated into Work Plan 2025</p>

Workplan and Budget for 2024 (Con.)

Planned Activities	Time Frame	Budget (USD)
<p>Develop CT Region Sea Turtles genetic database (Contribute Shellbank Data to CT Atlas)</p> <p>[Output A2.2.2.a: By 2030, illegal wildlife trade identified and monitored, focus on priority threatened species (marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks and rays), aligned with relevant CT6 national conservation or management plans]</p> <p>CTI-CFF member States participate in the Asia Pacific Marine Turtle Genetic Working Group and contribute to ShellBank, in line with CITES turtle mandates, to collect DNA samples from wild and seized marine turtle specimens to determine species and geographic origin in support of research, investigations and prosecutions</p>	Q1 – Q3	WWF Interested to support.
<p>Initiate Turtle Use Project to help understand use and trade of turtles and underpin where future enforcement and/or community alternative livelihoods are needed.</p> <p>Shellbank (CT6 to develop a plan of implementation with the support of WWF)</p>	Q1 – Q2	Looking for partners support/WWF
<p>Identify priority regional threatened species migratory pathways and home range for transboundary management, and implement project within the 3 priority seascapes (Long Term Activities)</p>	Q1 – Q2	In progress
<p>Develop, review, finalize Marine Turtle, Sharks and Rays National Plan of Action</p> <p>(In Support the Development of Regional Conservation Plan)</p> <p>(Long Term Activities)</p>	Q2 – Q3	Looking for partners support
<p>Strengthen work planning with the Seascapes WG, develop and implement projects within the 3 priority Seascapes to further conservation, management and protection for Threatened Species</p> <p>(Long Term Activities)</p>	Q2 – Q3	In progress

A photograph of an underwater coral reef. The foreground is dominated by a large, dense patch of brown, branching coral. To the left, there are other types of coral, including some with pinkish and white hues. In the background, a scuba diver is visible, swimming towards the right. The water is clear and blue.

Workplan and proposed Budget by the Chair of Threatened Species
TWG for 2025

Threatened Species TWG Workplan and Budget 2025

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget (estimation) USD		Objective	RPOA 2.0 – Objective A				
						TARGET A2				
			RS	Partner		Outcome	Output	Indicators		
1	Established /improve collaboration with IUCN	Q1-Q4 2025	-	Seeking IUCN support	To enhance and improve the status of CTI-threatened species in the IUCN Red List and initiatives	Target Outcome A2	T. Output A2.1	T. Output Indicator A2.1		
2	Development of the Threats to Marine Species in CT6 Index	Q1-Q2 2025	-	Need support from partners and CT6	Build capacity and collaboration with partners with the Regional Secretariat and within the CT6, in creating and/or developing a collaborative systematic index to identify threats (Marine debris, overfishing, illegal harvest, wildlife trade).				T. Output A2.2	T. Output Indicator A2.2
3	Assess, establish and/or improve integrated transboundary efforts within the CTI Region. Map and identify gaps in marine turtle population connectivity across the CTI, contributing to the CT Atlas.	Q2-Q3 2025	-	Seek support from partners (for marine turtles, WWF).	To improve the collaboration within Seascapes, and contribute to the CTI Priority Threatened Species Regional Conservation Plan. To identify and map priority threatened species migratory corridors and home ranges, starting with marine turtles.					

Threatened Species TWG Workplan and Budget 2025

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget (estimation) USD		Objective	RPOA 2.0 – Objective A		
			RS	Partner		TARGET A2		
						Outcome	Output	Indicators
4	Annual 6 th Threatened Species Working Group Meeting back-to-back with REX	Q2 2025	30,000	Seeking Additional 10,000 Support: - Partners support. - Host Country Support.	To coordinate the progress of implementation on the Threatened Species related activities under the RPOA 2.0. and update the monitoring component. Proposed Location: Honiara, Solomon Islands(as requested by SB during TWG Meeting)	T. Outcome A2	T. Output A2.1 T. Output A2.2	T. Output Indicator A2.1 T. Output Indicator A2.2
5	Establishing a collaborative private sector partnership addressing waste management within the CT6 region	Q1-Q3 2025		10,000 Seeking partner support with private sector	To create a private sector partnership that would assist the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in addressing Marine Debris (Waste Management) in the region, through capacity and resources.	A2.1.1	A2.1.1.a A2.1.1.b A2.1.1.c	A2.1.1.a A2.1.1.b A2.1.1.c
6	Hire a consultant (or partner) to assess regional and international policies on threatened species reduction program	Q1 2025	-	Seeking partner support, including Coral Fellows	To ensure the development and implementation of the TS-TWG is aligned to the current initiatives addressing threatened species.			

Threatened Species TWG Workplan and Budget 2025

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget (estimation) USD		Objective	RPOA 2.0 – Objective A		
						TARGET A2.1		
			RS	Partner		Outcome	Output	Indicators
7	Establish a CTI-CFF waste-management oriented sub-committee. Lead initial planning on a proposed CTI-CFF Waste Management Program	Q1 2025		10,000 Seeking support from partners and institutions (WWF)	To facilitate and drive the implementation of international and regional policies in the region. Provide technical advice and address the needs of marine pollution and waste-management initiatives.		A2.1.1.a A2.1.1.b A2.1.1.c	A2.1.1.a A2.1.1.b A2.1.1.c
8	CTI-CFF Regional Exchange Marine Threatened Species (Whale/Sharks/Rays, Sea Turtle, Marine Mammals) Symposium x 3 days	Q2 2025		Seeking Host Country, University Partnership Network and Partner Support (10,000)	To facilitate and strengthen the role of the private sector, partners, research and academic institutions, and CT6 governments on addressing priority threats to species in the CT6 region.	A2.2.1	A2.2.1.a A2.2.1.b A2.2.1.c A2.2.1.d	A2.2.1.a A2.2.1.b A2.2.1.c A2.2.1.d
9	Collaborative UP partnership with the Threatened Species Symposium	Q2 2025	-	CT6 University Support				

Threatened Species TWG Workplan and Budget 2025

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget (estimation) USD		Objective	RPOA 2.0 – Objective A		
						TARGET A2.1		
			RS	Partner		Outcome	Output	Indicators
10	Identify and establish a regional collaboration-framework on reducing threats to threatened species in the CT6 Region.	Q2-Q3 2025	-	Seeking partner support	To develop a collaborative framework in the region and build knowledge capacity addressing threats to threatened species in the Coral Triangle Region.	A2.2.1	A2.2.1.a A2.2.1.b A2.2.1.c A2.2.1.d	A2.2.1.a A2.2.1.b A2.2.1.c A2.2.1.d
11	Hire a consultant to design a program integrating management of threatened species in Seascapes and CTMPAS	Q1 2025		Need CT6 and partner support	To promote the guideline for priority species protection in the CT6 Region.	A2.3.1	A2.3.1.a A2.3.1.b A2.3.1.c A2.3.1.d	A2.3.1.a A2.3.1.b A2.3.1.c A2.3.1.d
12	Design project proposal/s to strengthen and support collaborations and multi-lateral agreements across marine/seascape corridors, focusing on: a. Improving status of priority threatened species. b. Addressing marine waste-management	Q1-Q4 2025	-	5,000 Seeking Additional Partners' Support	To strengthen the capacity of bilateral agreements and support actions of protecting threatened species	A2.3.1	A2.3.1.a A2.3.1.b A2.3.1.c A2.3.1.d	A2.3.1.a A2.3.1.b A2.3.1.c A2.3.1.d

Threatened Species TWG Workplan and Budget 2025

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget (estimation) USD		Objective	RPOA 2.0 – Objective A		
			RS	Partner		TARGET A2.2		
						Outcome	Output	Indicators
13	Adopt ShellBank as a traceability tool to actively track and monitor illegally traded marine turtles across the CT region in accordance with CITES and other relevant instruments.	Q2-Q4		Seek support from partners (WWF, ShellBank)	To improve regional collaboration, and monitoring efforts to effectively address and combat illegal turtle trade, in the Coral Triangle region. And improve regional collaboration, enhance and improve the status of CTI-threatened species.	A2 and A3	T. Output A2.2, 2.3	
14	Develop a Bycatch Working Group in the CT region and broader Asia-Pacific region	Q3-Q4		Seek support from partners (WWF, NOAA Fisheries)	To improve regional collaboration, enhance and improve the status of CTI-threatened species, and assist delivery of EAFM (links to Target B1)	Target A2	T. Output A2	
Total Proposed Budget			30,000	45,000				

Draft Recommendations for SOM-19

Draft SOM-19 Recommendation

1. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by the Threatened Species Technical Working Group Meeting (Annex 8.16);
2. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings, hosted by the Government of Malaysia on 12–16 August 2024 as the collaboration between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ SOMACORE;
3. Acknowledged and appreciated the inclusion of the Lesser Sunda Seascape in the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings on 12–16 August 2024;
4. Acknowledged and appreciated WWF for the technical aspect support of the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings on 12–16 August 2024;
5. Acknowledged and appreciated the 2024 M&E Report for Threatened Species TWG and recognized the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (Annex 8.17);
6. Approved the Threatened Species Technical Working Group 2025 Work Plan and Budget;

An underwater photograph of a coral reef. The scene is dominated by large, white, branching coral structures in the foreground and middle ground. The background is a deep blue, with many small fish swimming in the water. The lighting is somewhat dim, typical of an underwater environment.

Thank You

Threatened Species TWG Report - Mr. David Aram

The logo for SOM19, featuring the letters 'SOM19' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'O' is stylized with a green and blue wave-like shape inside it. The logo is enclosed in a thin green rectangular border.

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