

CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

ANNUAL REPORT

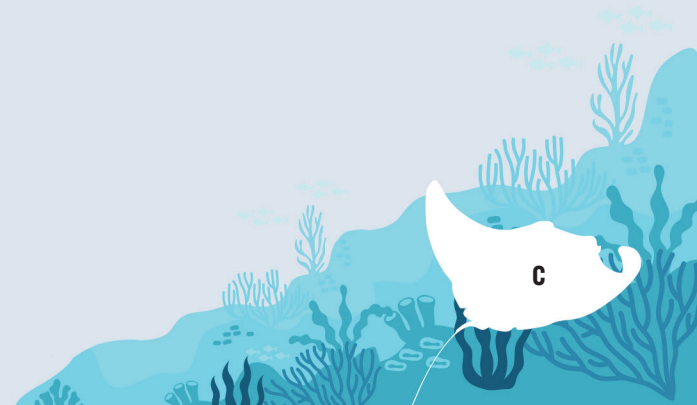
2023



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CTI-CFF ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

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This report is prepared for the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) by the Regional Secretariat, as requested by the 17th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-17). It aims to provide comprehensive insights into the CTI-CFF progress and achievements toward effective marine resource management, highlighting critical conservation strategies, policy recommendations, and collaborative efforts essential for the protection and resilience of the Coral Triangle's unique ecosystems.

Cover photo © CTI-CFF/Solomon Sundah

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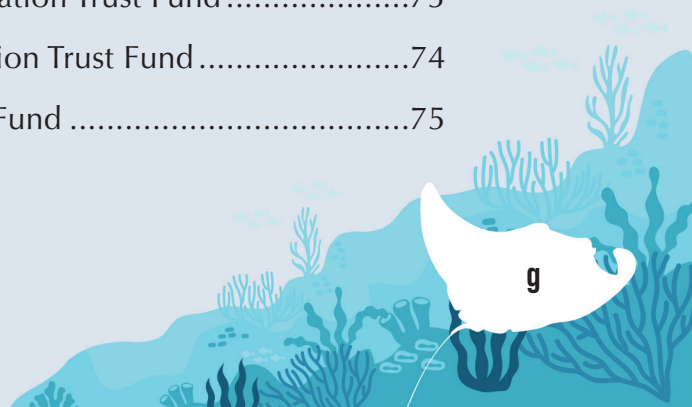
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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank	FCF	Fisheries Credit Facility
ATSEA	Arafura Timor Sea Ecosystem Action	FMA	Fisheries Management Area
BMB-BFAR	Biodiversity Management Bureau - Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources	FMP	Fisheries Management Plan
CBRM	Community Based Resource Management	FOM	Finance and Operation Manager
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation	FPPM	Financial Policies and Procedures Manual
CCDA	Climate Change Development Authority	FRWG	Financial Resources Working Group
CEPA	Conservation and Environmental Protection Agency	FTT	FAO-Thiaroye Technology
CMEMP	Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Plan	GEF	Global Environment Facilities
COASTFISH	Coastal Fisheries	GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
CONMIRA	National Marine Scientific Research Initiatives and Related Activities	GIS	Geographical Information System
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease 2019	GYC	Global Youth Conference
CTC	Coral Triangle Center	HCA	Host Country Agreement
CTCF	Coral Triangle Conservation Fund	IFAD	Inshore Fish Aggregating Device
CTI-CFF	Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security	INC	International Negotiating Committee
CTMPAS	Coral Triangle Marine Protected Area System	IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
DED	Deputy Executive Director	IRC	Internal Resource Committee
DED-CS	Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services	IRI	International Republican Institute
DED-PS	Deputy Executive Director for Program Services	IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
DKP	Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan	IUU	Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated
EAFM	Ecosystem Approach for Fisheries Management	KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau
ED	Executive Director	LIT	Line Intercept Transect
EU	European Union	LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Area
		MEM	Monitoring and Evaluation Manager
		MEWG	Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group
		MFAET	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade
		MFMR	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
		MMAF	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries



MPA	Marine Protected Area		and Education Center
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council	SIIVA	Solomon Islands Integrated Vulnerability Assessment
MSP	Marine Spatial Planning	SOM	Senior Officials Meeting
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield	SOMACORE	Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience
NCC	National Coordinating Committee	SPC	South Pacific Commission/Pacific Community
NDB	National Development Bank	SPPM	Staff Policies and Procedures Manual
NFA	National Fisheries Authority	SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Programme
NPOA	National Plan of Action	SSS	Sulu Sulawesi Seascape
NSOC	National State of the Oceans and Coasts	STREIT	Support to Rural Entrepreneurship, Investment and Trade
PACRES	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building	SUFIA TS	Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support
PERMEN	Peraturan Menteri	SWG	Seascape Working Group
PEUMP	Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership	TAC	Total Allowable Catch
PIO	Public International Organization	TOT	Training of Trainers
PNG	Papua New Guinea	TPM	Technical Program Manager
PWD	Person With Disabilities	TWG	Technical Working Group
RCTF	Regional Conservation Trust Fund	UN	United Nations
RDMA	Regional Development Mission Asia	UNDP	United Nations Development Program
REX	Regional Exchange	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization	WCL	Wallacea Conservation Licoupanang
RPOA	Regional Plan of Action	WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
RS	Regional Secretariat	WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
R-SAT	Resilience Self-Assessment Tool	WLF	Women Leaders' Forum
SC	Steering Committee	WPS	West Philippine Sea
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal	WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
SEACONNECT	Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape Approach to Coral Reef Sustainable Livelihoods	YAP	Youth Ambassador Program
SEAFDEC	South-East Asia Fisheries Development		



REMARK FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Esteemed Members, Partners, and Stakeholders,

It is with immense pride that I present the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Annual Report 2023. This year's report highlights the numerous achievements and activities undertaken at national, regional, and international levels. As we move beyond the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CTI-CFF has resumed a full range of activities, visits, and training sessions, many of which were successfully held in person.

A landmark achievement for the Regional Secretariat was the finalization and signing of the Host Country Agreement (HCA) between Indonesia and the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in January 2023. This milestone further cements Indonesia's role as the host country and strengthens the operational framework of the Secretariat.

We are also proud to have launched the report, "Marine Plastic Pollution and Its Sources in the Coral Triangle," in collaboration with the WWF Coral Triangle Program. This crucial report underscores the pressing need for regional strategies to address the growing crisis of marine plastic pollution. Without immediate intervention, the 6.2 million tonnes of mismanaged plastic waste produced annually in the Coral Triangle could double by 2025, threatening human health, marine biodiversity, and vital industries such as fishing and tourism.

The 18th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-18), held virtually in November 2023, marked an important period of transition. It was here that leadership was formally passed from myself, Dr. Mohd. Kushairi Mohd. Rajuddin, to Acting Executive Director, Mr. Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu. Additionally, we bid fare-

well to Mr. Gustaaf Adolf Lumiu, who concluded his term as Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services. I extend my deepest gratitude to Mr. Lumiu for his dedication and leadership, especially during the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Regional Secretariat has also made great strides in establishing the Regional Conservation Trust Fund, now branded as the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund (CTCF). Set to be operational in 2024, the CTCF represents a significant step toward securing sustainable and climate-resilient marine protected areas in the Coral Triangle.

Our international engagements this year have been particularly fruitful, including our participation in the 8th Our Ocean Conference in Panama, the UN 2023 SDG Summit in New York, and other key forums. These events have enhanced our global presence and underscored our commitment to international collaboration on marine conservation and sustainable development.

The CTI-CFF Youth Ambassador Program, held in partnership with USAID's SuFiA TS program, was another major highlight of the year. It successfully brought together 15 young leaders from across the Coral Triangle to advocate for critical issues like illegal fishing and biodiversity loss. These young ambassadors will continue to be instrumental in advancing our shared mission.

As my tenure with CTI-CFF comes to an end, I wish to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the National Coordinating Committees, the Committee of Senior Officials, and all of our partners and stakeholders for their unwavering support, trust, and collaboration. The dedication shown by Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon

Islands, and Timor-Leste has been nothing short of inspiring, and it has been a true honor to serve alongside you all.

I leave with immense gratitude for the opportunity to have been part of this incredible journey. I am confident that with the continued commitment and collaboration of our member countries and partners, the CTI-CFF will continue to thrive, advancing conservation initiatives and safeguarding the Coral Triangle's precious marine resources for generations to come.

Thank you all for your trust, your hard work, and your passion for this vital mission.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mohd. Kushairi bin Mohd. Rajuddin

Executive Director

Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security Regional Secretariat



REMARK FROM THE CHAIR OF COMMITTEE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS

To the esteemed countries and valued partners of the CTI-CFF,

As we reflect on the achievements of the CTI-CFF for the year 2023, it is with immense pride and gratitude that we acknowledge the collective efforts that have driven our progress. The journey of implementing the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 has been both challenging and rewarding, and it is a testament to the resilience and dedication of all stakeholders involved.

First and foremost, I extend my deepest appreciation to the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat. Their unwavering commitment and hard work have been instrumental in facilitating and supporting the Initiative and the member countries. Through their diligent efforts, we have made significant strides in aligning our activities with the goals and objectives set within the RPOA 2.0. The Regional Secretariat's role in maintaining momentum and ensuring that our targets are met cannot be overstated.

Our accomplishments this year would not have been possible without the invaluable support from our member countries and partners. Their active participation in regional exchange events, capacity-building workshops, and various international fora has been crucial. The collaborative spirit demonstrated by



these entities has enriched our initiatives, provided critical expertise, and reinforced our collective commitment to the RPOA 2.0. It is through these collaborative efforts that we have been able to advance our mission and make a tangible impact on marine conservation and sustainable development.

I would like to congratulate the countries that have achieved their ambitious targets this year. Your accomplishments have significantly contributed to the goals and objectives of RPOA 2.0 and align with the global commitment to marine conservation. Notably, we have seen remarkable progress in the number of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) classified under categories 3 and 4 within the CTMPAs framework. This progress is a commendable step towards achieving the global 30x30 target and reflects our commitment to preserving marine biodiversity for future generations.

Furthermore, the collaboration within our three priority seascapes—the Sulu-Sulawesi, Bismarck-Solomon Seas, and Lesser Sunda Seascapes—has been exemplary. These seascapes are vital to our regional and global conservation efforts, and the dedication of the member countries in these areas underscores our shared vision for a sustainable future.

A proper acknowledgement of the exceptional leadership of Dr. Mohd. Kushairi bin Mohd. Rajuddin and Mr. Gustaaf Lumiu, who have guided the CTI-CFF through a particularly challenging period marked by the global COVID-19 pandemic. Their leadership as the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services, respectively, has been pivotal in navigating the complexities of this global crisis. Their dedication and expertise have been a source of strength for the Initiative, and their contributions have been instrumental in steering us through these difficult times.

As we emerge from the shadow of the pandemic, we look forward with optimism and renewed determination. The challenges of the past few years have tested our resolve, but they have also demonstrated our capacity to adapt and persevere. With the pandemic's impact receding, we are poised to advance with greater vigor towards the successful implementation of the RPOA 2.0 targets. It is my sincere hope that the coming years will bring continued success and flourishing for the CTI-CFF, enabling us to achieve our conservation and sustainability goals with even greater efficacy.

In conclusion, the achievements of 2023 are a reflection of our collective dedication, collaboration, and resilience. As we move forward, let us continue to build on these successes and work together towards a sustainable and prosperous future for the Coral Triangle and our shared marine heritage.

Sincerely,

CELESTINO DA CUNHA BARRETO

**Chair of Committee of Senior Officials
Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs,
Fisheries and Food Security**

Executive Summary

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) proudly presents its Annual Report for 2023, highlighting significant achievements and milestones driven by the Regional Secretariat and the six Coral Triangle (CT6) member countries—Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste. This report captures the collective efforts aimed at advancing marine conservation, sustainable fisheries management, and food security across the region.

2023 was marked by key leadership transitions within the CTI-CFF. In February, Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu was appointed as the Deputy Executive Director for Program Services (DED-PS), reinforcing the Regional Secretariat's programmatic capabilities.

CTI-CFF's Executive Director, Dr. Mohd. Kushairi bin Mohd. Rajuddin, led several diplomatic engagements to strengthen relationships with key stakeholders. These included courtesy visits to the embassies of Brunei Darussalam and Singapore in Jakarta, encouraging both nations to join the initiative, as well as strategic meetings with Timor-Leste's leadership to support the country's 2023–2024 chairmanship.

During March, the CTI-CFF delegation engaged with Timor-Leste's National Coordinating Committee (NCC) and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Hon. Pedro dos Reis, to discuss the implementation of the

new Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 and strategies for Timor-Leste's leadership in the initiative. Additionally, meetings with Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and Papua New Guinea's Conservation and Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) reaffirmed the commitment of these countries to advancing the CTI-CFF's goals, with discussions centered on marine protection and rehabilitation efforts.

One of the standout achievements of 2023 was the release of the joint report with WWF's Coral Triangle Program titled "Marine Plastic Pollution and Its Sources in the Coral Triangle." The report revealed that the region generates 6.2 million tonnes of mismanaged plastic waste annually, with significant consequences for marine ecosystems, human health, and industries such as fishing and tourism. The report calls for urgent action, highlighting the need for a comprehensive regional strategy to combat this growing threat.

In terms of technical collaboration, CTI-CFF continued to advance key conservation and sustainable fisheries initiatives. A variety of technical working group meetings were held throughout the year, addressing critical issues such as marine protected area (MPA) resilience, the protection of marine migratory species, and ecosystem-based fisheries management (EAFM). Workshops like the Communication Workshop in July 2023 emphasized the importance of strategic conservation communication, while the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group refined national plans in partnership with organizations such as WWF and the Allen Coral Atlas.

An anticipated milestone of the year was the soft launch of the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund (CTCF) during Coral Triangle Day 2023. Set to

become fully operational in 2024, CTCF will be instrumental in providing financial resources to support the implementation of RPOA 2.0. The fund will focus on three key pillars—Protect, Restore, and Transform—and will drive conservation projects, research initiatives, and community-based programs. CTCF represents a major step forward in fostering cross-sectoral collaboration among governments, private sectors, and civil society to protect the Coral Triangle’s unparalleled biodiversity.

CTI-CFF continued to foster collaboration across the Coral Triangle region through a variety of events and workshops. Notable among these was the Workshop on Protecting Marine Migratory Species, which advanced regional efforts toward achieving the 30x30 conservation target—protecting 30% of the world’s oceans by 2030. The EAFM meeting in June 2023 further solidified regional frameworks for managing transboundary fisheries, an area crucial to addressing illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

Throughout the year, CTI-CFF also organized learning exchanges on MPA resilience, and conducted workshops on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI). These activities contributed significantly to the achievement of RPOA 2.0’s goals, enhancing regional cooperation on conservation, sustainable fisheries management, and the promotion of inclusivity.

In 2023, CTI-CFF actively participated in various international forums, reinforcing its commitment to marine conservation and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the 8th Our Ocean Conference, the organization shared insights on MPA management and ocean governance. CTI-CFF also played a key role in Indonesia’s Sea Turtle Symposium,

which addressed the threats facing sea turtle populations in the region. CTI-CFF’s involvement in the UN SDG Summit, the EU Ocean Governance Project’s Global Conference, and the ADB Workshop on the blue economy, underscored its leadership in advocating for resilient and sustainable ocean management.

Youth engagement remained a cornerstone of CTI-CFF’s outreach activities. It empowered young leaders from the CT6 countries to take active roles in marine conservation. The program emphasized awareness campaigns and on-the-ground conservation activities, fostering a new generation of marine advocates in the Coral Triangle region.

CTI-CFF’s financial management for 2023 received a clean audit from the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia, confirming the accuracy and reliability of its financial statements. The audit, conducted in accordance with international standards, affirmed the transparency of the Regional Secretariat’s financial practices. This provides assurance to stakeholders and partners that resources are being managed effectively to support the organization’s mission and long-term goals.

The 2023 Annual Report includes detailed reports from each CT6 member country, showcasing their individual progress toward achieving RPOA 2.0 objectives. Countries reported improvements in the management of MPAs, the protection of endangered species, and the implementation of climate change adaptation and GESI policies. Several nations highlighted their efforts in combating IUU fishing through the adoption of EAFM principles and showcased enhanced collaboration within key seascapes, underscoring the importance of regional partnerships.





**UPDATE FROM
THE CTI-CFF
REGIONAL
SECRETARIAT**

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SOM-17 MANDATES AND TASKS

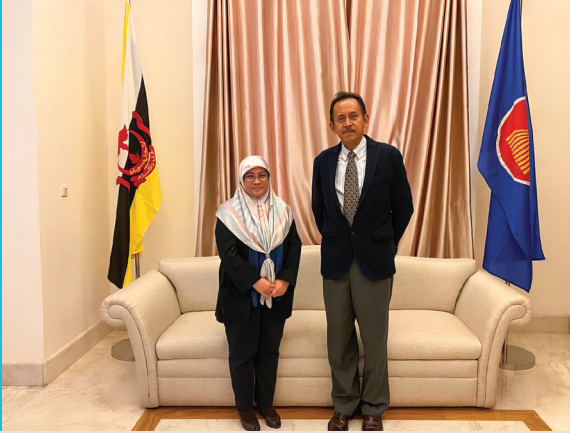
Along the 2023, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat has done tasks mandated by the 17th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-17). A major milestone was the finalization and signing of the Host Country Agreement (HCA) between Indonesia and the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat (RS) by the end of January 2023. This agreement solidifies Indonesia's role as the host of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat. The ratification process and supplementary agreements are on track to be completed by 31 December 2023, further strengthening the operational framework of the Regional Secretariat.

The Regional Secretariat reviewed and amended the Staff Policies and Procedure Manual (SPPM) and Financial Policies and Procedures Manual (FPPM). Key amendments include updates to Regulation 3 on definitions, Regulation 12 on overtime, and Regulation 14 on entitlements for first reporting of duty, relocation, and termination. Changes were also made to Regulation 18 on sick leave and maternity leave. The FPPM was updated with Appendix 11.1 on Per Diem Allowances. These amendments have been issued in hard copy for internal use.

In early 2023, the Appointment Committee successfully concluded the recruitment process for the Deputy Executive Director for Program Services (DED-PS). The committee endorsed the recommended candidate, Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu, who formally joined the Regional Secretariat in February 2023. His expertise will support the advancement of CTI-CFF's programs and services.

REGIONAL SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES

1.2



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The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Mohd. Kushairi bin Mohd. Rajuddin, conducted courtesy visits to the embassies of Brunei Darussalam and Singapore in Jakarta. These visits aimed to present CTI-CFF's long-term goals outlined in the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 (2021-2030) and extend an invitation to both nations to consider joining the Coral Triangle Initiative. At the Brunei Darussalam Embassy, the Executive Director was warmly welcomed by the Charge d'Affaires A.I, Dayang Yuhanizah Binti Dato Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail, while at the Singapore Embassy, he met with the First Secretary.

A coordination meeting was held on 13 February 2023 between the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, KfW, and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) to explore potential partnerships, including collaboration on the Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF). Discussions covered updates on the fund's establishment, such as board recruitment and strategy development. WCS offered technical assistance, while USAID supported recruitment efforts. KfW expressed interest in further engagement. The RCTF aims to raise \$15 million over 10 years to support the CTI-CFF's Regional Plan of Action 2.0, with its official launch planned for Coral Triangle Day 2023.



OCEAN SOLUTIONS Episode 008

OCEAN TALK

Global Ocean Treaty dan Komitmen 30 x 30: Bagaimana Menghindari Konservasi Kejar Setoran?

Narasumber

- Printha Agung, M. Sc. **Co-ordinator Komitmen 30x30** Kementerian Kelautan dan Perikanan
- Dr. Handoko Adi Soe, M. Sc. **Deputy Project Manager** OI (Indonesia Ocean Watch) 2021-2022
- Christovel Rotinsulu, **Deputy Executive Director for Program Services** of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat

Catatan Reflektif

- M. Zulfiar Mohtar, **Editor**

Moderator

- Atiyya Nugraha, **Editor**

Sabtu, 18 Maret 2023
15.30-17.00 WIB

WALUK OCEAN SOLUTIONS

Instagram zoom YouTube

Jadwal selanjutnya

Episode	Tanggal	Topik
Ep 009	25 Maret 2023	Hati-hati Kecelakaan Irpor Ikan!

The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, represented by Deputy Executive Director for Program Services Mr. Christovel RS. Rotinsulu, took part in the “Ocean Talk,” an online panel discussion organized by Ocean Solutions Indonesia (OSI) on 18 March 2023. The discussion centered on the historic Global Ocean Treaty and the 30x30 Commitment, marking a significant victory for marine conservation. The treaty addresses major issues like pollution, plastic waste, IUU fishing, overfishing, climate crises, and threats to marine biodiversity. Currently, only 1.2% of international waters are conserved, with just 0.8% fully protected, while the goal is to conserve 30% of the ocean by 2030. However, challenges remain, particularly ensuring proper governance and avoiding rushed, superficial conservation efforts.



From 20-22 March 2023, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat visited Timor-Leste, where they met with government officials and the National Coordinating Committee (NCC). The delegation was received by the Chair of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO), Sir Acacio Guterres, Director General of Fisheries at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, alongside other senior officials. Discussions focused on the new Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 and gathered input from Timor-Leste. The Secretariat also emphasized their support for Timor-Leste’s chairmanship in 2023-2024 and how the country could benefit from its participation in the CTI-CFF partnership.



On the second day of the visit, the delegation met with Hon. Pedro dos Reis, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Chair of the CTI-CFF Council of Ministers. The discussion highlighted Timor-Leste’s commitment to leadership within the CTI-CFF and its support for advancing the Regional Conservation Trust Fund, as well as the implementation of key conservation initiatives.

During the trip, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat team had the opportunity to visit the Atauro Island Marine Protected Area (MPA), one of Timor-Leste's most important MPAs. Located off the coast of Dili, this MPA covers over 14,000 hectares of coral reefs, seagrass meadows, and mangrove forests. It serves as a habitat for threatened species like dugongs and hawksbill turtles and acts as an essential spawning ground for various fish species.

The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat was invited to the opening of Indonesia's first marine protection exhibition space, hosted by the Coral Triangle Center (CTC) in Sanur, Bali, on 20 May 2023. The exhibition combines art, science, and culture to highlight the beauty of the Coral Triangle's marine life and address critical issues such as climate change and plastic pollution. Interactive displays encourage visitor participation in conservation efforts, including coral adoption, online courses, and field trips.

On 23 May 2023, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat visited NCC Indonesia to meet with Indonesian government officials regarding the supplementary agreement for the Host Country Agreement (HCA). Executive Director Dr. Mohd. Kushairi bin Mohd. Rajuddin and Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services Mr. Gustaaf Lumiu were received by Dr. Kusdiantoro, the new Secretary of the Directorate General of Marine Spatial Management at the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF).

From 27-31 May 2023, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat paid a courtesy visit to Papua New Guinea, including a site visit to Bootless Bay Marine Protected Area. Here, they observed coral rehabilitation efforts led by IRI Coral and the Conservation and Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA). Meetings with CEPA and the National Coordinating Committee covered the implementation of RPOA





2.0 and the National Plan of Action (NPOA). The delegation also engaged with key agencies such as the National Fisheries Department, Climate Change Development Authority (CCDA), and the Departments of Treasury and Foreign Affairs. Discussions focused on fisheries management, climate change adaptation, and strengthening partnerships, with special emphasis on PNG's leadership in the EAFM Working Group and its blue carbon and mangrove projects.



On 27 July 2023, the CTI-CFF Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group met in Manado, led by Malaysia, with Indonesia and Timor-Leste attending in person, and Malaysia and the Philippines joining virtually. This meeting followed the USAID SuFIA-supported workshop held on 25-26 July. The Regional Secretariat was tasked with developing the National Plan of Action (NPOA) based on RPOA 2.0, aiming to finalize it by the end of 2023. The group commended Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines for their progress, and urged Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste to submit their data. A need for training on Monitoring and Evaluation was identified, along with collaboration with the Allen Coral Atlas.



The Regional Secretariat attended the 125th Anniversary of Philippine Independence in Manado, hosted by Philippine Consul General HE Lolita B. Capco at the Four Points by Sheraton, attended by over 150 distinguished guests

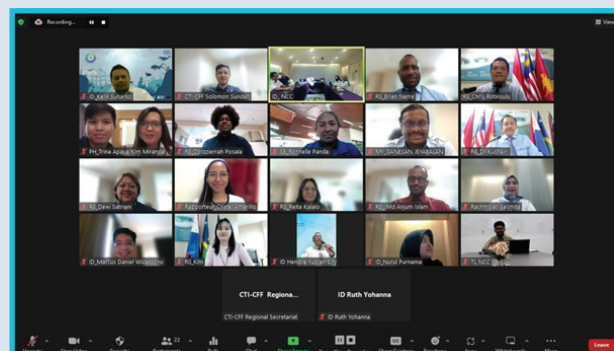
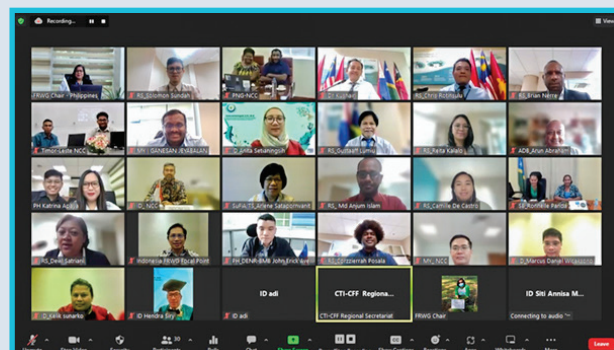
CTI-CFF, in collaboration with the WWF Coral Triangle Program, released a report on "Marine Plastic Pollution and Its Sources in the Coral Triangle." The report revealed that the Coral Triangle, famous for its marine biodiversity, produces 6.2 million tonnes of mismanaged plastic waste annually. If current practices continue, this

amount is expected to double by 2025, threatening human and ecosystem health, as well as critical industries such as fishing, tourism, and shipping. Most plastic waste originates from land-based sources, compounded by inadequate waste management and weak regulations, underscoring the urgent need for a regional strategy to address the crisis.

On 29 August 2023, the CTI-CFF Financial Resources Working Group (FRWG) held an In-situ meeting through Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform, chaired by Ms. Armida P. Andres and Mr. John Erick P. Avelino. The meeting reviewed updates on FRWG Members, the SOM-17 Decision, and the Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF), and proposed the 2024 FRWG Budget for SOM-18 approval. Key discussions included Partners' activities and GEF-8. Representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste acknowledged progress on the RCTF and support from organizations like the Wildlife Conservation Society and USAID Regional Development Mission Asia (RDMA) were highlighted.

On September 13, 2023, the Internal Resource Committee (IRC) of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) held a virtual meeting via ZOOM, chaired by Mr. Hendra Yusran Siry from Indonesia, in the absence of Mr. Celestino Da Cunha Barreto. The meeting aimed to evaluate the Regional Secretariat's actions following the 17th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-17) and to prepare for the upcoming 18th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-18). Key topics included the review of the 2022 Audit Report, the status of 2023 Country Contributions, and the 2023 budget utilization. The committee also discussed the proposed 2024 budget and the Budget Forecast for 2025-2026. Updates on the PIO Grant and the Regional Conservation Trust Fund were covered, reflecting the commitment to conserving the Coral Triangle's marine ecosystems.

A delegation of professors from Gajah Mada University visited the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in Manado as part of their "Professors go to Frontiers" program. The visit focused on advancing SDGs with themes of boundary integrity, technology, and enhancing maritime economy and tourism. The professors engaged with various stakeholders





in North Sulawesi, including provincial and district authorities, coastal communities, and professionals, fostering lively discussions and idea exchanges.

CTI-CFF also participated in several global event, among others were Limerick 2023 Ocean Conference in Ireland, 5th International Symposium on Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans held on April 17-21 2023 in Norway, UN SDG Summit in New York on 18-19 September 2023, 37th ICRI General Meeting in Hawaii in 19-23 September 2023, the Archipelagic Island States Summit in Bali, Indonesia 10-11 October 2023, the Our Ocean Conference in Panama on March 2-3, 2023, and the XXV International Congress of Environmental Funds of Latin America and the Caribbean on October 23-26 2023.



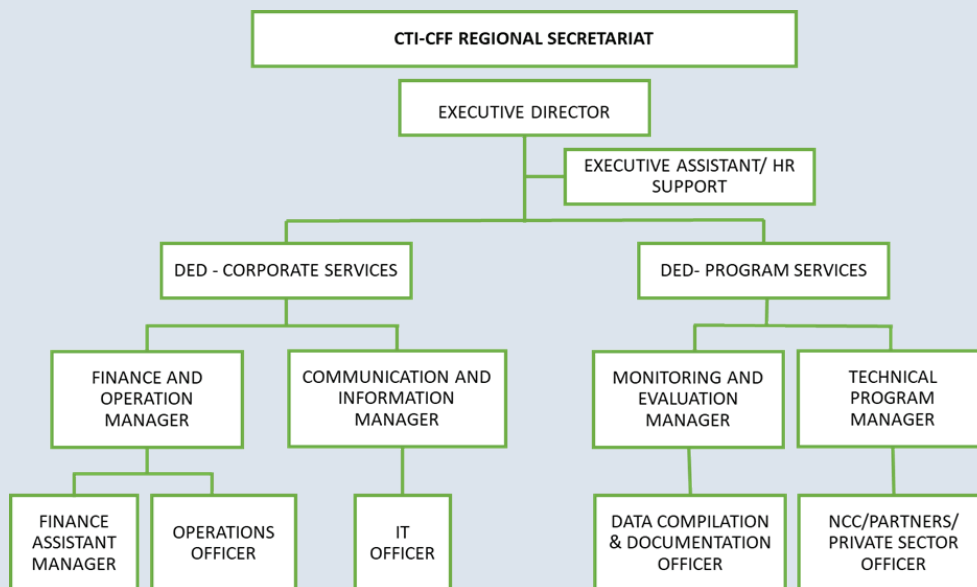
STAFF OF REGIONAL SECRETARIAT

1.3

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat bid farewell to key staff, including Mr. Md. Anjum Islam (Monitoring and Evaluation Manager) and Mr. Brian Nerre (Finance and Operations Manager). New team members welcomed in 2023 include Mr. Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu (DED for Program Services), Mr. Corzzierrah Posala (Technical Program Manager), and Mr. Agostinho Andy Irmawan (Monitoring and Evaluation Manager).

The recruitment of the CTI-CFF Executive Director (ED) and Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services (DED-CS) progressed with interviews held in October 2023. The selection process is expected to conclude in early 2024, advancing the organization’s leadership.

In late 2023, the RS team undertook a team bonding and capacity-building trip to Waisai, Raja Ampat, Indonesia. This visit to a level 4 marine conservation area enhanced their understanding of marine ecosystems and conservation. The trip included sessions on Marine Conservation 101, with topics such as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), sustainable fisheries, and coral taxonomy, led by experts like Acting Executive Director Chris Rotinsulu and MEM Agostinho Andy Irmawan. Team-building activities, led by TPM Corzzierrah Posala and FOM Reita Kalalo, further strengthened teamwork and collaboration among the RS staff.



1.4

THE 18TH SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING



The 18th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-18) of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security marked a significant step forward in regional cooperation and conservation efforts. Held on November 6-7, 2023, via the Zoom virtual meeting platform, the event was chaired by His Excellency Celestino Da Cunha Barreto, Chair of the Committee of Senior Officials, representing Timor-Leste. This virtual gathering brought together all six member countries, underlining the continued commitment to addressing the challenges faced by the Coral Triangle region.

The primary objectives of SOM-18 were multi-faceted, including acknowledging reports and addresses, providing approval for the budget and work plans of various working groups for 2024, and expressing gratitude for the support received from strategic partners and other stakeholders.

The meeting summed up 136 acknowledgements and recommendations outlined in the Chair's Summary. These decisions were a culmination of collaborative efforts from various stakeholders, including technical working groups, the



Regional Secretariat, the University Partnerships, and strategic partners. The decisions align with the goals set forth in the Regional Plan of Action 2.0, illustrating a collective commitment to safeguarding the Coral Triangle's rich marine biodiversity.

Key decisions emerging from SOM-18 include the development of a National Plan of Action for each member country, expedite the operation of the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund, and the establishment of an Internal Control Committee. This committee, suggested by external auditors, will play a pivotal role in supporting the Regional Secretariat, enhancing its operational efficiency and financial integrity.

Furthermore, the meeting endorsed potential partnerships to strengthen the Coral Triangle Atlas—a crucial tool for monitoring and marketing efforts. This collaborative approach aims to harness the expertise of various stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of conservation initiatives.

SOM-18 also expressed gratitude for the ongoing support from partners, with special recognition given to USAID for its contributions, including the Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support project. Additionally, the Coral Triangle Center and WWF were acknowledged for their collaborative efforts with the Regional Secretariat in developing the Capacity Building RoadMap.

At the end of the meeting, SOM-18 witnessed the handover from the Executive Director, Dr. Mohd. Kushairi Mohd. Rajuddin to the Deputy Executive Director for Program Services, Mr. Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu. Dr. Kushairi and Mr. Gustaaf Adolf Lumiu the Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services, concluded their service contracts with the Regional Secretariat on November 8, 2023. The meeting expressed deep gratitude for their invaluable contributions and wished them success in their future endeavors.

Mr. Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu is set to serve as the Acting Executive Director until the appointment of the new Executive Director from Papua New Guinea. This seamless transition underscores the continuity and commitment of the Coral Triangle Initiative in its mission to conserve and sustainably manage the marine resources of this ecologically vital region.

1.5

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND (RCTF)



The Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF), which serves as a sustainable financing mechanism to support the implementation of RPOA 2.0, will provide critical resources for conservation projects, research, and community-based initiatives within the Coral Triangle region. It will foster collaboration among governments, private sector partners, and civil society organizations to achieve our shared goals of preserving the Coral Triangle's unique biodiversity.

The Steering Committee (SC) has made progress towards establishing the Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF), aiming to have it in place by the next Leader's Summit. The active participation of SC members remains critical to achieving this goal and ensuring sustainable funding for the CTI-CFF's initiatives.

On February 13, 2023, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat (RS) hosted a coordination meeting with representatives from KfW Germany and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). The meeting focused on potential collaborations,



especially regarding the Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF). Dr. Mohd. Kushairi Mohd. Rajuddin provided an update on the RCTF's progress, including advancements in board recruitment and the development of its legal framework. Both KfW and WCS expressed interest in further engagement, with WCS aiming to raise \$15 million over the next decade to support CTI-CFF's Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0. The RCTF is anticipated to launch during Coral Triangle Day 2023.

The inaugural meeting of the RCTF board was held virtually on May 17, 2023, marking a milestone in supporting a sustainable, climate-resilient Marine Protected Areas network in the Coral Triangle. The board includes Dr. Mohd. Kushairi Bin Mohd. Rajuddin, Anne Desdoigts, Rili Djohani, Len Garces, Salvatore Aricò, and Michael Oto'ara Ha'apio, PhD., who bring diverse expertise in conservation, climate resilience, and financial management to guide the RCTF's mission.

The RCTF which afterwards branded as the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund (CTCF), was soft launched during the Coral Triangle Day 2023 celebration. The CTCF, set to be fully operational in 2024, will provide essential resources for implementing RPOA 2.0. With strategies of 'Protect, Restore, and Transform,' CTCF will support conservation projects, research, and community-based programs, fostering collaboration among governments, private sectors, and civil society to preserve the Coral Triangle's biodiversity.

16

PROGRAMMATIC ACHIEVEMENTS



In pursuit of achieving the goals and objectives outlined in the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0, which serves as a guiding framework for the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and the six member countries, the RPOA 2.0 provides the foundation for activities from 2021 to 2030. Each Working Group will agree on an annual work plan, which will then be implemented at the national level. The progress achieved by each country will contribute to the regional targets established in the RPOA 2.0.

The CTI-CFF Communication Workshop, supported by USAID, was held on July 25, 2023, in Manado. The workshop focused on strategic communication to advance conservation goals, with discussions on CTI-CFF's Communication Strategy, advocacy, education, and cross-country collaboration. Led by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and USAID's SuFIA TS, the workshop featured group exercises on designing communication materials and tailoring strategies for various audiences, fostering alignment and commitment to effective communication.



On July 27, 2023, the CTI-CFF Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group (MEWG) meeting took place in Manado, Malaysia. The meeting advanced key initiatives, including the development of the National Plan of Action (NPOA) based on RPOA 2.0, with workshops scheduled for finalization by year-end. The meeting highlighted contributions to the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan Framework, emphasizing data submission and training needs. Collaboration with Allen Coral Atlas and WWF was prioritized, including the upcoming launch of a

Marine Plastic Pollution report. Leadership transitions were also discussed, with Papua New Guinea and the Philippines poised to assume new roles.

The Workshop on Protecting Marine Migratory Species and Achieving the 30x30 Target was held in Manado, Indonesia, from May 15-17, 2023. Organized by the WWF Coral Triangle Program, EU Ocean Governance Project, and CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, the event included the Threatened Species Working Group meeting. It brought together member countries and partners to exchange knowledge and strategize on protecting marine migratory species and advancing the 30x30 conservation target, which aims to protect 30% of the world's surface by 2030.

From June 13-16, 2023, the CTI-CFF EAFM Working Group Meeting and the Sulu Sulawesi Seascape Regional Exchange (SSS REX) were held at Park Inn by Radisson North EDSA, Quezon City, Philippines, with full support from USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS). The EAFM WG meeting aimed to finalize the draft COASTFISH regional framework. The SSS REX provided technical support for updating the Sub-regional Plan for Managing Transboundary Fisheries in the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape (SSS) using an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM). The event was attended by 45 representatives from CT6 countries, CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, and strategic partners, both in-person and online.

To commemorate World Sea Turtle Day, CTI-CFF supported the 2023 Indonesia Sea Turtle Symposium held on June 14-15, 2023 in Jakarta. Organized by the Directorate of Marine Conservation and Biodiversity, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia, WWF-Indonesia, and Taka Indonesia Foundation, the event featured 69 oral and 14 poster presentations. The symposium aimed to consolidate scientific data on turtle management and population status in the Coral Triangle region, enhancing national conservation efforts. Key topics included the National Action Plan for Turtle Conservation 2022-2024, bycatch





and stranding guidelines, and a workshop on 20 years of turtle conservation.

On July 3, 2023, the Resilience Partnership, a vital component of the EU-funded Ocean Governance Project which aims to enhance MPA resilience amidst climate change and human impact, hosted the III Learning Exchange Workshop for CTI-CFF MPA managers from Southeast Asia and the Atlantic, alongside the MPA WG Meeting and training on the

Resilience Self-Assessment Tool (R-SAT).

The workshop provided MPA managers and stakeholders from Coral Triangle countries with theoretical and practical training on R-SAT, including self-assessments and result interpretation. The multilingual trainers facilitated diverse participation, marking a significant step in strengthening MPA resilience through adaptive management practices.

On September 26, 2023, CTI-CFF with support by the USAID SuFiA held a workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, titled “Gender Integration in Small Scale Fisheries Training,” to introduce a training module and piloted it in Southeast Asia. The training aimed to combine traditional and modern methods, producing a reviewed Training Module and Manual ready for broader application. Documents from workshops and meetings also contributed to finalizing the



draft CTI WLF (Women Leaders in Fisheries) documents. An Activity/Workshop Report will detail the insights and progress of this initiative. The revised Training Module is expected to be used in future sessions and will support the establishment of the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Hub in 2024, advancing inclusive and sustainable fisheries practices.

The CTI-CFF participated in a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) workshop organized by the USAID SuFiA TS from September 26-28, 2023, in Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop aimed to develop guidelines addressing GESI issues in fisheries across the Indo-Pacific region, benefiting marginalized groups. CTI-CFF contributed to these guidelines, which align with the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action 2.0. Additionally, the Women Leaders Forum elected Solomon Islands as Chair and re-elected CTC as Co-Chair for 2023-2024, fostering continued leadership in GESI initiatives.



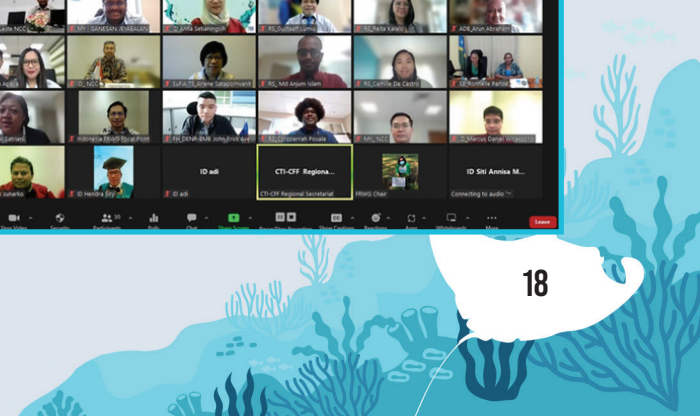
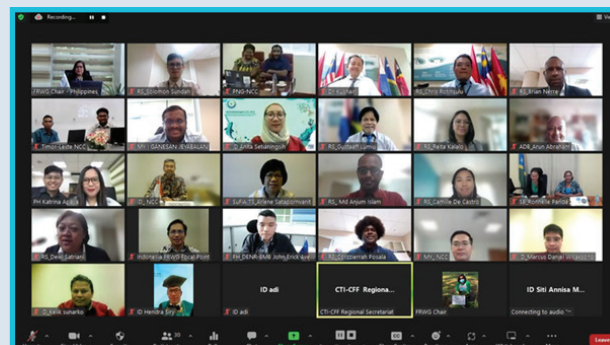
INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURES



The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) participated in the 8th Our Ocean Conference, held in Panama with the theme “Our Oceans, Our Conference.” It showcased global efforts to promote healthy oceans, marine ecosystems, and sustainable fisheries. The CTI-CFF Executive Director Dr. Mohd Kushairi Bin Mohd Rajuddin, sat on a panel discussing “Marine Protected Areas: Expanding the Protection of Our Ocean.” CTI-CFF shared insights on ecological connectivity, governance, and marine protection. The panel included notable figures like Sylvia A. Earle and Cristian Samper, discussing the importance of regional governance for effective marine conservation.

In celebration of World Sea Turtle Day, CTI-CFF supported the “2023 Indonesia Sea Turtle Symposium and The Greater Coral Triangle Region” in Jakarta, hosted by the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, WWF Indonesia, and Taka Indonesia Foundation. The symposium addressed threats facing sea turtles, including poaching, habitat loss, and bycatch, and emphasized the need for multilateral partnerships. It featured 69 oral and 14 poster presentations, highlighting key initiatives under CTI-CFF’s Regional Plan of Action 2.0. The event also integrated data on turtle conservation over the past 20 years to enhance management and protection efforts across the region.

The CTI-CFF Financial Resources Working Group (FRWG) held a virtual meeting on August 29, 2023, chaired by Ms. Armida P. Andres and Mr. John Erick P. Avelino. The meeting focused on updates to FRWG members, SOM-17 decisions, and the Regional Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF). It included discussions on the 2024 FRWG Budget and insights into partners’ activities, notably in GEF8. Highlights included acknowledgment of progress, endorsement



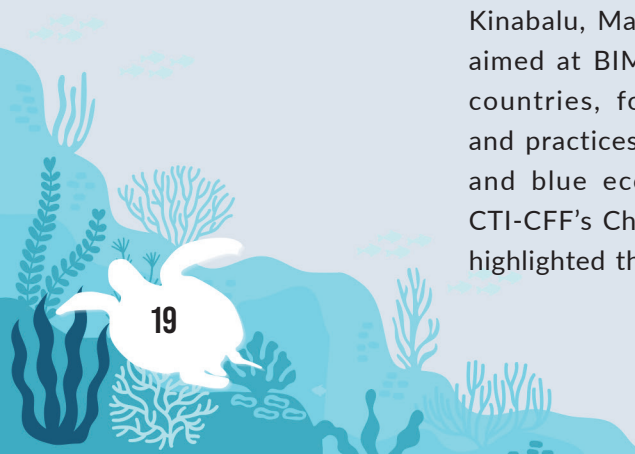
of the 2024 budget, and plans for a physical meeting in Manila in March 2024. The meeting concluded with thanks to key organizations and an emphasis on combating IUU fishing and promoting sustainable fisheries.

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat had the privilege of attending the UN 2023 SDG Summit in New York on 18-19 September 2023, showcasing CTI-CFF's steadfast dedication to supporting the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The CTI-CFF's endorsement of SDGs is articulated in an article titled "CTI-CFF – Toward the SDGs in the Coral Triangle" featured in the A Better World Vol. 9 publication, shedding light on the collective efforts of the six Coral Triangle nations in conserving marine resources that significantly contribute to SDGs. CTI-CFF is an honour to be part of the global initiative towards a better and more sustainable world.



The EU Ocean Governance Project's Global Conference, held from September 20-22 in Tarragona, Spain, united over 70 marine protected area managers and partners from 30+ countries. Mr. Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu of CTI-CFF highlighted capacity-building and cooperation in Southeast Asia's conservation, focusing on ecosystem restoration in Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. The event also featured a Networks Twinning event discussing MPA management. The conference emphasized global collaboration in marine conservation and concluded with a field trip to the Punta de la Móra Marine Protected Area, showcasing the impact of collective efforts.

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) participated in the ADB Workshop on Fostering Coastal Resilience and the Blue Economy from November 13-17, 2023, in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. The workshop, aimed at BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT countries, focused on strategies and practices for coastal resilience and blue economy development. CTI-CFF's Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu highlighted the blue economy's role



in sustainable resource management and local economic growth through ecotourism. The event underscored CTI-CFF's commitment to enhancing regional resilience and socioeconomic conditions by 2030, aligning with its RPOA 2.0.

In December 2023, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat attended the inaugural IUCN Green List Annual Forum in Cape Town, South Africa. Acting Executive Director Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu engaged with global conservation experts on the IUCN Green List Development Plan for 2024, aimed at enhancing protected areas' effectiveness. The forum introduced upcoming revisions and Assurance arrangements aligned with CBD COP 16. It also reviewed the Green List's progress and strategic priorities, and discussed the '30x30' target, emphasizing the Green List's role in driving global conservation efforts.

The Regional Secretariat had the honor of hosting a visit from the Marine and Fisheries Agency (DKP) of East Java Province team on Thursday, December 14, 2023. The East Java Provincial Government aims to enhance its role in sustainable marine resource utilization efforts. The RS team, led by Technical Program Manager Mr. Corzzierrah Posala, presented on CTI-CFF and its regional role, encouraging the East Java DKP team to coordinate with the Central Government to increase East Java's contribution to the CTI-CFF goals.



1.8

CORAL TRIANGLE DAY 2023: COMBATING PLASTIC POLLUTION IN LIKUPANG AND LAUNCH OF RPOA 2.0 AND THE CORAL TRIANGLE CONSERVATION FUND



Coral Triangle Day, celebrated every 9th of June, serves as a powerful platform to raise awareness about the significance of the Coral Triangle region and its diverse marine ecosystems. It is a day for people across the Coral Triangle countries and beyond to come together and express their appreciation for the ocean and the vital resources it provides.

Coral Triangle Day 2023, celebrated in Likupang, North Minahasa, North Sulawesi, focused on empowering conservation efforts and combating plastic pollution in marine ecosystems. Organized by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in partnership with the North Sulawesi Provincial Government, North Minahasa Regency, Likupang Special Economic Zone Authority, and Wallace Conservation Likupang (WCL).

The event emphasized the “OceansNeedActions” theme with key activities included raising awareness among local communities and businesses about plastic waste reduction. The North Minahasa Regency and WCL launched a socialization program for food vendors on Paal Beach, introducing a policy to stop bottled water sales and promote reusable water bottles. The North Minahasa government committed to gradually implementing the bottled water reduction policy in government offices and tourist areas, with WCL supporting the initiative’s expansion across the region.

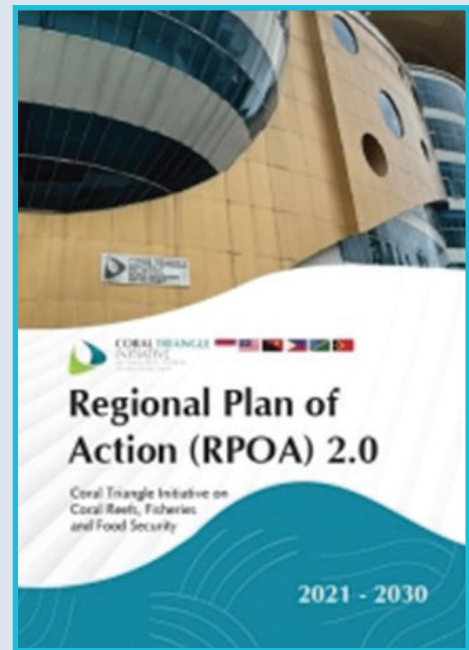
A panel discussion was held to commemorate the day, moderated by Ms. Paquita Widjaja, founder of WCL. Featured speakers were CTI-CFF Executive Director

Coral Triangle Conservation Fund

Sustaining The Nursery of the Seas

Dr. Mohd. Kushairi, Assistant 3 of North Sulawesi Provincial Government Mr. Franciscus Manumpil, and Mrs. Angelique Batuna and Mrs. Amelia Tungka as local tourism players, focusing on sustainable tourism and ecosystem protection.

As a concrete action for the ocean, CTI-CFF proudly launched the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 and a fundraising strategy to support its implementation through Coral Triangle Conservation Fund (CTCF). The RPOA 2.0 outlines the vision and goals for the next ten years, building upon the successes and lessons learned from the previous phase. RPOA 2.0 aims to enhance the resilience of coral reefs, promote sustainable fisheries, and strengthen the capacity of local communities to adapt to climate change and other challenges.



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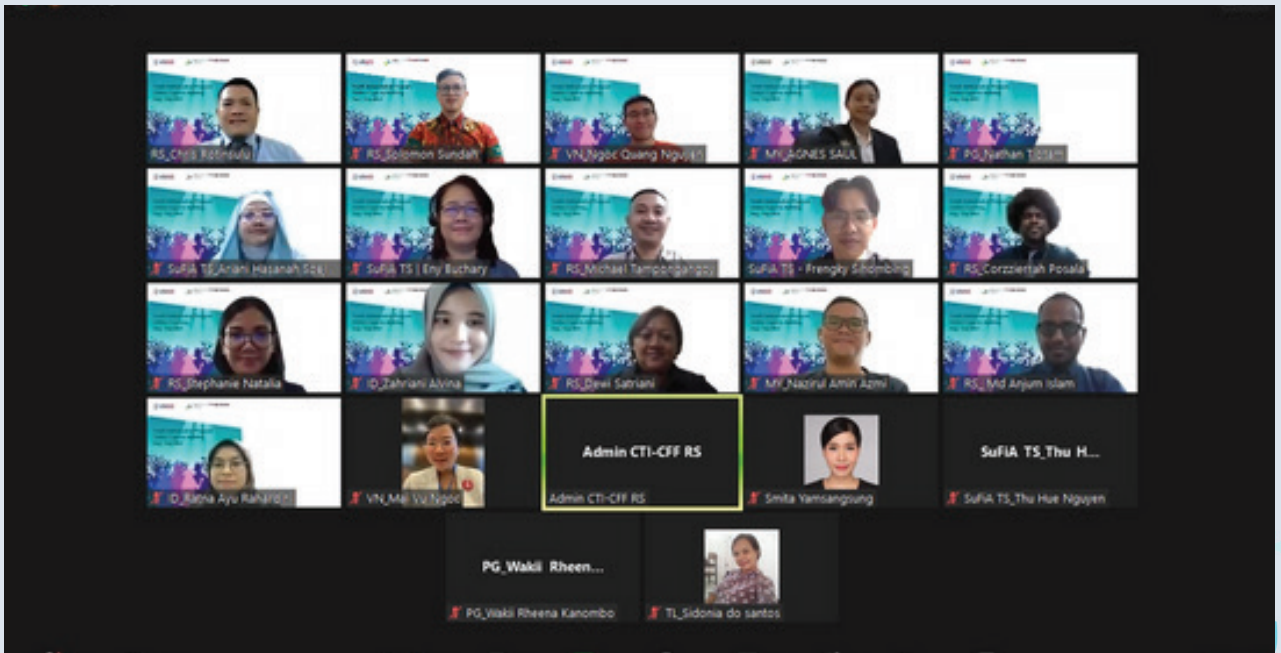
YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The CTI-CFF, in collaboration with the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia (SuFiA) Technical Support program, engaged young generations from the six Coral Triangle (CT6) countries in the CTI-CFF Youth Ambassador Program (YAP). The program involved youth and young professionals of 18-35 years old, to go through an online capacity development workshops, and join the Global Youth Conference (GYC) 2023 focused to raise awareness on marine conservation and unsustainable fishing practices. Held in Bali, Indonesia from October 27-29, 2023, the event aims to empower youth and young professionals to advocate for action on issues such as illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and biodiversity loss.



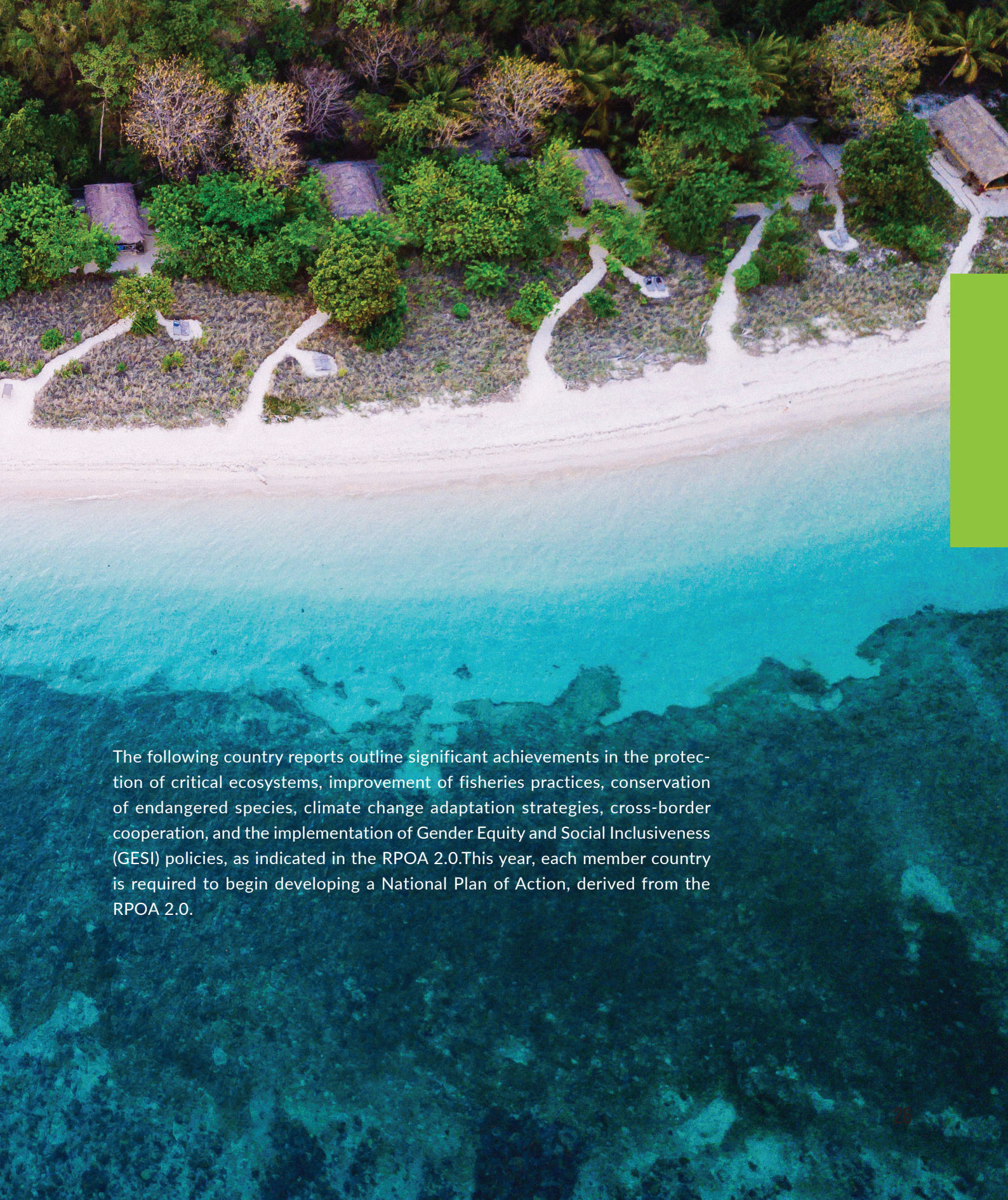
Aligned with CTI-CFF's Principle #8, which emphasizes inclusivity and the engagement of various stakeholders, including youth, women, and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), the conference seeks to amplify young voices in the Indo-Pacific region. The Youth Ambassadors, comprising 12 youth from the CT6 countries, along with 2 young professionals from Vietnam and 1 Bajau youth from the Philippines, participated in the Ocean Conservation Concurrent Technical Session, supported by Precious Island and CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat. Their participation is expected to inspire collaborative efforts toward marine conservation across the region.

Selection of youth and young professionals were managed through the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) of each respective country, and through nomination by the USAID SuFiA for participants from Vietnam and Bajau community. They went through at least 5 online sessions which provided knowledge around marine conservation and sustainable fisheries. The final online session required participants to write an essay to be submitted to and presented in the GYC. One CTI-CFF YAP participant from Malaysia, Ms. Agnes Saul, was appointed the best presenter in the GYC. She presented her project in the University of Malaysia Terengganu, she also actively participates in volunteer work, university clubs, and environmental and community projects.



An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The top half of the image shows a dense forest of palm trees and other greenery. Several thatched-roof huts are nestled among the trees. A sandy path winds through the forest towards a white sandy beach. The bottom half of the image shows the turquoise ocean with a small person swimming in the shallow water. A green rectangular overlay is on the left side, and a larger green rectangular overlay is at the bottom containing the title text.

COUNTRY REPORTS AND NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



The following country reports outline significant achievements in the protection of critical ecosystems, improvement of fisheries practices, conservation of endangered species, climate change adaptation strategies, cross-border cooperation, and the implementation of Gender Equity and Social Inclusiveness (GESI) policies, as indicated in the RPOA 2.0. This year, each member country is required to begin developing a National Plan of Action, derived from the RPOA 2.0.

INDONESIA



Indonesia's journey in sustainable fisheries management has been a story of resilience, adaptation, and innovation. Nestled in one of the world's most biodiverse marine regions, the country is home to rich fisheries and marine ecosystems that are vital to millions of livelihoods. Yet, balancing conservation with sustainable resource use has been no easy task. Through a combination of regulatory reforms, capacity building, and on-the-ground action, Indonesia is leading the way in integrating the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) across its vast archipelagic waters.

Indonesia's push towards sustainable fisheries began by laying down the essential regulatory framework. Across its 11 Fisheries Management Areas (FMAs), the government took a detailed look at the health of its fish stocks, conducting assessments of Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and Total Allowable Catch (TAC). But it didn't stop there—Indonesia has been actively protecting and empowering its small-scale fishers, the backbone of its fishing economy. Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) for each of the FMAs and other crucial species have been rolled out, ensuring that the needs of both the environment and local communities are being considered.

One notable achievement is the establishment of Fisheries Management Councils in all FMAs, creating a platform for dialogue, decision-making, and action. A key innovation has been the introduction of electronic logbooks, which digitalize the fishing industry's data collection. With this leap into the digital age, the government now has real-time insights into fishing activities, improving monitoring and compliance.

A Training Ground for the Future

In line with these regulatory advancements, Indonesia has also been focusing on strengthening its human capital. Through the development of competency standards for EAFM planners and evaluators, the country has been preparing its people to lead in fisheries management. These standards were officially established through the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Decree No. 9/PERMEN-KP/2015, creating a benchmark for expertise in the field.



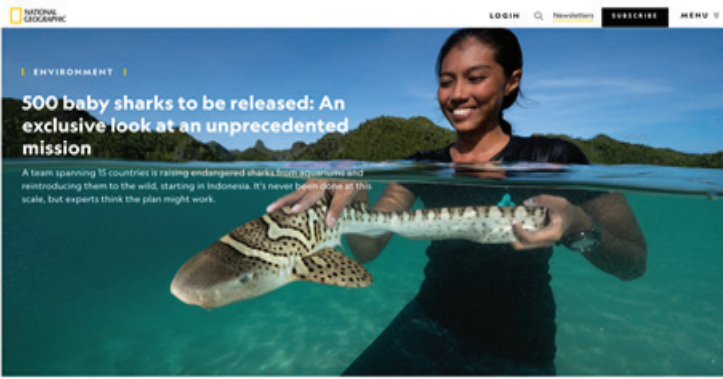
To bring these standards to life, training modules were created, and numerous training programs have been held across the country. In 2021, a hybrid training session was held for EAFM planners, while EAFM evaluators gathered for an intensive 5-day workshop in Bali. In addition, critical EAFM materials were translated into Indonesian to ensure the knowledge reaches as many practitioners as possible.

The local impact of these efforts is already being felt. Assessments conducted in regions like Wakatobi, Derawan Islands, and Maluku have begun to shape more region-specific conservation strategies, bridging the gap between policy and practice.

Tuna on the Global Stage

Indonesia's tuna fisheries are a source of pride—and challenge. With increasing global demand for sustainable seafood, the country has taken bold steps to improve its tuna management. Fisheries Management Plans for coastal tuna in FMAs 713, 714, and 715 have set the stage for better governance of Yellowfin, Bigeye, and Skipjack Tuna. On the international front, Indonesia's compliance with regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) has significantly improved, reaching compliance rates of 77% with the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and over 80% with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Perhaps the most significant milestone came when Indonesia earned its first Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification for an Indonesian tuna exporter, PT Citra Raja Ampat Canning. This recognition, alongside Fair Trade certification for small-scale tuna fishers in Maluku, marks a significant step toward



sustainable tuna management that benefits local communities and opens doors to international markets..

Protecting the Coral Triangle's Treasures

Indonesia's dedication to conservation extends beyond tuna. Its reefs, sharks, rays, and marine mammals are all part of a complex ecosystem that the country is committed to protecting.

In 2023, a major victory was achieved with the formal protection of Walking Sharks under Ministerial Decree No. 30, an effort that highlights Indonesia's commitment to safeguarding its lesser-known marine species. The country has also been actively developing technical guidelines for handling bycatch of sharks, rays, and other endangered species, ensuring that fisheries operate within sustainable boundaries.

Indonesia has become a key player in shark conservation through its National Plan of Action (NPOA) for Whale Sharks (2021-2025), an effort to protect these gentle giants from overfishing and habitat degradation. The StAR project, focused on recovering endangered zebra shark populations through innovative translocation and restocking efforts, underscores Indonesia's leadership in shark rewilding efforts.

Coral reef restoration has also taken center stage. In commemoration of the 12th Coral Triangle Day in 2023, Indonesia continued its coral reef rehabilitation activities in the Malaumkarta Egek Zone in Sorong, creating a Coral Stock Center to serve as a future hub for coral propagation and marine research. The reef rehabilitation project, involving the transplantation of over 650 coral fragments, is a testament to Indonesia's commitment to restoring its marine habitats for future generations

Challenges on the Horizon

Yet, the road has not been without obstacles. Implementing the EAFM approach on a national scale requires consistent communication and coordination among working groups. Indonesia has identified the need to better align activities between different fisheries management themes and to address data gaps in vessel and fishing census information. Moreover, while subsidies for fishers are critical to their survival, there is growing recognition of the need to ensure these subsidies promote sustainable fishing practices rather than overexploitation.

For sharks, rays, and other endangered species, the challenge of monitoring and enforcing regulations across the vast and often remote ocean areas remains a pressing issue. Marine mammal strandings and bycatch incidents, while unpredictable, continue to demand urgent attention and resources.

Indonesia's story in 2023 is one of determined progress—grounded in tradition but pushing forward with innovation. As the country continues its efforts to balance economic needs with marine conservation, it is becoming a model for sustainable fisheries management in the Coral Triangle and beyond. The journey ahead will undoubtedly be filled with challenges, but with its roadmap set and its goals clear, Indonesia is on a promising path to safeguarding its marine resources for future generations.

MALAYSIA

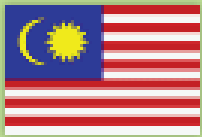


Photo by: Dr Mohd Kushairi/RS, CTICFF

In the heart of the Coral Triangle, Malaysia stands as a vital player in the region's quest to balance marine conservation and sustainable fisheries management. As one of the six Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) member countries, Malaysia has made significant strides toward achieving its National Plan of Action (NPOA) goals, aligned with CTI-CFF's regional vision. The country's accomplishments span from seascape management to protecting threatened species, showcasing a commitment to preserving marine ecosystems while addressing the needs of local communities.

Malaysia's participation in seascape management has been instrumental in advancing the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape, one of the region's most ecologically significant areas. Two key Seascape Technical Working Group (TWG) meetings took place online in 2023, gathering experts and stakeholders on April 13 and October 24, to discuss cross-border cooperation and management strategies.

The highlight of Malaysia's efforts in seascape management was its active involvement in the Sulu Sulawesi Seascape Regional Exchange, held on June 15-16 in Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines. This event brought together Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines to exchange best practices, strengthen partnerships, and work on the SEACONNECT project, a critical initiative under the Global Environment Facility's 8th replenishment (GEF-8). Malaysia's writing team contributed significantly to the development of this project, aimed at promoting sustainable coral reef livelihoods across the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape.

Malaysia's commitment to the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) was highlighted by a series of community engagement and capacity-building initiatives. Early in the year, the EAFM Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted in Sandakan on March 1-2, with 14 participants from government agencies, NGOs, and local higher learning institutions receiving critical EAFM training. The training laid the groundwork for stronger local fisheries management efforts.

Following this, a series of EAFM Marine Conservation Workshops were held across key coastal communities:

- Sandakan (March 16), with 15 stakeholders from the local shrimp fisheries management unit.
- Semporna (April 14), engaging 16 stakeholders from local fisheries operators.
- Kota Marudu (May 12), where 16 fishing community members actively participated in discussions on sustainable practices.

Beyond fisheries, Malaysia also made significant strides in environmental education. The Inter-School Environment Day 2023 in Kota Kinabalu on July 15 saw the participation of 150 students from 10 secondary schools, sparking an early interest in marine conservation among the younger generation. A subsequent Inter-School Environmental Outreach Program, held on October 8, engaged 300 students from eight primary and secondary schools, promoting the next wave of environmental stewards.

In terms of policy, Malaysia also hosted an EAFM Workshop from a Law and Enforcement Perspective on October 26 in Sandakan, drawing 83 participants from government agencies, NGOs, and fisheries associations. This workshop bridged the gap between policy and on-the-ground enforcement, ensuring that sustainable fishing practices were not just encouraged but actively regulated.

Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

Protecting marine biodiversity is central to Malaysia's strategy, with a particular focus on expanding and managing its Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). In 2023, Malaysia hosted the 14th Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Area Conference, underscoring the country's leadership in sea turtle conservation.

Efforts to protect other marine species also gained momentum. A preliminary study was launched to assess coastal vulnerability at marine parks in Sabah, while state stakeholders were mobilized to address concerns over diseased sharks at Sipadan Island Park. Additionally, Malaysia made significant progress toward the gazettelement of the Lima Group of Islands and Darvel Bay Park,





expanding its network of protected marine areas.

Marine management plans were also developed for Labuan Marine Park, and fisheries refugia sites were established to provide critical habitats for species like *P. Polyphagus* in Johor East and *P. Monodon* in Kuala Baram, Sarawak.

In response to growing climate risks, Malaysia has taken steps to mitigate and adapt to the impacts on its marine ecosystems. One of the most prominent efforts was the celebration of World Seagrass Day on March 29, 2023, at the Borneo Marine Research Institute, Universiti Malaysia Sabah. The event highlighted the importance of seagrass ecosystems in carbon sequestration and coastal protection.

This celebration was followed by a Blue Carbon Program from June 6-7, where seagrass monitoring and awareness activities took center stage. Throughout the year, a seagrass monitoring program collected valuable data along the coastal areas of Kota Kinabalu to support Malaysia's Blue Carbon initiatives.

Climate change awareness was also a priority, with a lecture on El Niño delivered on June 15, raising awareness about the climatic phenomenon's effects on Malaysia's marine and coastal ecosystems.

Threatened Species

Conservation of threatened species remained a critical area of focus for Malaysia in 2023. A multi-stakeholder consultation and engagement process for the NPOA Sharks Plan 3 began in July, followed by a workshop on August 21-22 to finalize the plan. Collaborative efforts with SEAFDEC were undertaken to collect data on sharks and rays in Kota Kinabalu and Tawau, while a study on shark and ray nursery grounds in Nenasi, Pahang, was launched.

In a significant step toward protecting the dugong population, Malaysia initiated the gazettelement of a Dugong Sanctuary Reserve Zone. Local communities and stakeholders were engaged in studies focusing on dugong movement patterns, boat speed limits, and sanctuary zoning, all aimed at minimizing human-wildlife conflicts and protecting these gentle giants.

Sea turtle conservation also saw notable achievements. Throughout 2023, data collection on sea turtle landings and hatchlings continued in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries Malaysia, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, and Sabah Parks. A sea turtle hatchling release program was held to encourage public participation in marine conservation, while a workshop on finalizing the NPOA Sea Turtle Plan 2 is scheduled for December 2023.

Challenges and Constraints

Malaysia's progress has not been without challenges. Limited financial and human resources have constrained the implementation of certain projects, while coordination and monitoring efforts require strengthening. Translating conservation efforts into tangible social and economic benefits has proven difficult, and time constraints have affected project execution. The need for dedicated personnel to focus on CTI-related matters and the lack of scientific data to inform policies remain ongoing hurdles.

Malaysia's commitment to marine conservation and sustainable fisheries remains steadfast, but it requires continuous collaboration, resource allocation, and scientific research. As the country moves forward, addressing challenges such as resource gaps and improving coordination will be key to turning its achievements into long-lasting impacts. Malaysia's story is one of dedication and hope, with 2023 marking a pivotal year in its journey toward safeguarding the marine resources of the Coral Triangle for future generations.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA



In the year 2023, Papua New Guinea made significant strides in marine conservation and sustainable development, demonstrating a continued commitment to addressing key challenges in these areas.

A pivotal achievement for Papua New Guinea was the ongoing review of the Papua New Guinea Marine Program on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (The National Plan of Action) for the period 2019-2023. This review aims to align the program with the updated Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0, with the revised document expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2024.

Papua New Guinea's focal point for Seascapes actively participated in several critical meetings and training sessions throughout the year. Notably, the Pacific Regional Preparatory Workshop, supported by the Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Programme (SPREP) and funded by the Government of Australia, prepared participants for the upcoming Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-3) session on plastic pollution. Additionally, collaboration with SPREP and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks Authority highlighted efforts to share knowledge and explore innovative solutions for coral reef management through the Pacific Coral Reef Collective forum.

The Fisheries Credit Facility (FCF) continued to support the expansion of the fishing industry, providing vital funding through a Memorandum of Agreement between the National Development Bank Limited (NDB) and the National Fisheries Authority (NFA). This initiative has been crucial for establishing and expanding fishing enterprises. In the East Sepik Province, the European Union's STREIT program connected 10,000 women to the formal financial system and launched a new fish processing site using the FAO-Thiaroye Technique (FTT), which was handed over to the Kandangapma Women's Business Group, benefiting 325 fisherwomen.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) also contributed by donating craft boats to fisher communities in the Sepik region, further supporting the sustainable development of the fisheries value chain.

In the realm of fisheries management, Papua New Guinea conducted stock assessment surveys across all 14 maritime provinces in preparation for the 2024 fishing season. The review of the BDM National Management Plan and the Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan, including the implementation of fishing season closures and quotas, were key activities. Additionally, ongoing efforts in the Inshore Fish Aggregating Device (IFAD) Program and Trap Net Fisheries Program ensured continued deployment and assessment of fishing grounds.



Papua New Guinea made progress on marine protected areas (MPAs) by hosting the 9th Marine Protected Areas Regional Exchange, which showcased the integration of culture and marine conservation. The establishment of two large MPAs in New Ireland Province is in progress, awaiting gazettal, while the first mangrove boardwalk, set to be completed in 2024, was initiated within the Bootless Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

The country also focused on climate change adaptation by reviewing and publishing the Community-Based Mangrove Planting Handbook, aimed at supporting the government's 'Millions of Mangroves Initiative'. Training for government staff and communities in climate resilience and early warning systems was carried out, and climate-resilient infrastructure, such as the Alotau Provincial Wharf, was successfully constructed. Additionally, water catchment and tank installations were completed across several provinces, enhancing community resilience.

Efforts to conserve threatened species included the ongoing review of the Sharks and Rays National Plan of Action and various projects focused on dolphin, shark, and ray bycatch. The development of conservation approaches for sawfish and rhino rays is underway, involving multiple partners, and legislative reviews are in progress.



Assessment of target and non-target species catch rates in the Kikori fish maw fishery and local ecological knowledge of locally threatened dolphin species

Final report prepared for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
AP_2/29 Assessment of by-catch of threatened marine species by small scale fishers and mitigation options in the Kikori River Delta, Papua New Guinea



Marine turtle conservation also saw advancements with the Conflict Island Turtle Monitoring Program and the Kamiali Leatherback Turtle Monitoring, alongside a new Turtle National Plan of Action proposed for future development.

Papua New Guinea's involvement in the ATSEA project led to the completion of stakeholder consultations for the draft National Action Plan, with continued efforts to seek funding for critical conservation work.

The Women Leaders' Forum highlighted increased participation of women in blue economy projects and marine conservation awareness initiatives. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Integration in Fisheries Training further supported these efforts.

Despite these accomplishments, Papua New Guinea faced challenges such as institutional and governance issues, interagency coordination gaps, and limited funding. Nevertheless, the country's initiatives and ongoing projects reflect a robust commitment to marine conservation, sustainable fisheries management, and climate resilience.

A notable success story from the year was the BESE-element trial in Gwarumemase Village. This project used biodegradable and environmentally friendly materials to rehabilitate mangroves, providing a foundation for natural restoration and promoting the recovery of various coastal and marine ecosystems.

Overall, 2023 was a year of significant progress and continued dedication for Papua New Guinea in advancing marine conservation and sustainable development goals.



In 2023, the Philippines made significant strides toward achieving its commitments under the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF). The year was marked by the continued implementation of its National Plan of Action (NPOA), focused on enhancing the health of coastal and marine ecosystems, promoting sustainable fisheries, and building resilience to climate change.

The Philippines began the year by submitting its Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan Framework for the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 to the Regional Secretariat in March. This framework provided a strategic guide to monitor the progress of the country's initiatives under the CTI-CFF. Alongside the draft outline of the NPOA 2.0, the Philippines also convened the 1st National Coordinating Committee on Coral Triangle Initiatives (NCCC) meeting to advance discussions on the revised NPOA. By the second NCCC meeting, crucial topics, including the conduct of a multistakeholder forum and discussions on the committee's operational guidelines, were addressed.

Building on this momentum, the country hosted a workshop dedicated to the development of the NPOA 2.0 and the updating of the National State of the Oceans and Coasts (NSOC) report. This workshop aimed to take stock of the achievements of the first version of the NPOA while setting new goals and a refreshed vision for the country's continued efforts under the CTI-CFF. The plan culminated in the finalization of specific activities, the identification of responsible agencies, and the allocation of funds to ensure that the objec-

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PHILIPPINES





tives of the NPOA 2.0 were met. The workshop also highlighted opportunities for leveraging resources across different government agencies to mainstream CTI-CFF goals in national policies and programs.

Efforts to safeguard coastal and marine ecosystems continued through several key initiatives. A notable highlight was the National Marine Scientific Research Initiatives and Related Activities (CONMIRA) stakeholder meeting in the Philippine Rise, which emphasized collaboration among stakeholders. Additionally, the country held a West Philippine Sea (WPS) policy orientation, underscoring the importance of national maritime interests and protection of marine areas. In August, the Philippines convened the 1st National Multi-stakeholder Consultation Workshop, mapping initiatives and policy measures aimed at meeting the country's 30x30 conservation pledge, which seeks to protect 30% of its marine waters by 2030.

Marine species conservation was another priority for the country. The Philippines continued monitoring marine turtle nesting and foraging habitats, including flipper tagging programs. Efforts were also made to protect critical habitats for sea turtles and the dugong (sea cow), along with plans to finalize and adopt conservation action plans for both species.

The ongoing implementation of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Plan (CMEMP) provided a foundation for these activities, including actions outlined in the BMB-BFAR Convergence Memorandum of Agreement.

In terms of broader ecosystem management, benthic habitat mapping was undertaken to assess the extent of coastal and marine ecosystems. The country also launched its Environment and Natural Capital Accounting Roadmap to integrate ecological wealth into its national accounting system, aligning financial systems with sustainable practices. Additionally, the government continued to promote its National Plan of Action on Marine Litter, aiming to reduce plastic waste and other pollutants in the ocean.

Socio-economic initiatives remained integral to the country's efforts under the CTI-CFF. Through the implementation of the CMEMP and the COASTFISH regional framework, the Philippines sought to enhance food security and improve the livelihoods of coastal communities. Parallel efforts were made to advocate for the Magna Carta for Workers in the Informal Economy and the Magna Carta for Rural Women, recognizing the importance of social protections for vulnerable groups. Gender mainstreaming was also embedded in several GEF-funded and UNDP-supported projects, reinforcing the importance of inclusive approaches to environmental conservation and community resilience.

In policy and governance, the Philippines made strides in mainstreaming integrated coastal management into local government planning, including the implementation of the Green Fins initiative, which promotes sustainable diving practices. The country's National Coordinating Committee on



Coral Triangle Initiatives (NCCC) was also reconstituted to include new members such as the Philippine Commission on Women, the Philippine Coast Guard, and private sector representatives, enhancing the body's capacity to implement CTI-CFF priorities. Further integration of climate change vulnerability assessments into investment planning ensured that resilience was at the forefront of development efforts.

Despite these achievements, challenges remained. The frequent turnover of government personnel created gaps in data management and continuity, impacting the quality of information used for decision-making. Reduced financial allocations and constrained budgets also hindered the full implementation of some initiatives. Additionally, enforcing environmental laws and regulations within the CTI region proved difficult due to limited resources, complex jurisdictional issues, and the need for stronger legal frameworks to combat illegal activities.

Throughout the year, the Philippines continued to share its knowledge and expertise through various publications, including scientific articles in *The Philippine Journal of Fisheries* and updates to the IUCN Red List assessments for marine species. The country also marked Coral Triangle Day 2023 with activities such as mural painting and social media campaigns, raising public awareness about the importance of marine conservation.

As the year concluded, the Philippines remained committed to achieving its CTI-CFF objectives, recognizing the importance of regional cooperation in addressing the shared challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainable development in the Coral Triangle region.

11.5 SOLOMON ISLANDS



In 2023, the Solomon Islands made notable strides in advancing its Seascope work, bolstering its national programs and collaborative efforts within the CTI-CFF framework. The country has actively participated in the Seascope work through virtual engagements with the Seascope Working Group (SWG) and has championed the integration of seascope approaches in project proposals. These approaches include developing marine protected area (MPA) networks, marine spatial planning (MSP), and connectivity studies. The implementation of the Solomon Islands National Ocean Policy and Integrated Ocean Governance has been a significant milestone, facilitated through collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade (MFAET) and the Ocean12 initiative. Additionally, the Solomon Islands has engaged in turtle tagging and data-sharing with NGOs, setting the stage for discussions on SOMACORE opportunities.

Related activities reflect a robust commitment to marine conservation and management. The development of the offshore Kavachi Marine Managed Area (MMA) under the Protected Areas Act 2010, in collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), highlights this commitment. The country continues to advance its Marine Spatial Planning efforts with support from IUCN, PEUMP, SPREP, and SPC Ocean12. The inception of the Maritime Compliance Project, in partnership with MFAET and IUCN, and preparations for the GEF-7 SAFE Project with UNDP underscore Solomon Islands' focus on seascapes, community-based resource management (CBRM), and threatened species.

New collaborations with entities such as the Blue Nature Alliance and Nia Tero Foundation, along with the upcoming Blue Nature IUCN Solomon Islands Partnership set to commence in December 2023, further enhance marine spatial planning and sustainable ocean finance.

In the realm of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), the Solomon Islands has been active in raising awareness about regulations through the cChange: Solwata Blo Umi Project. The National CBRMN Strategy, launched in November 2022, and the "Our Fish Our Future" WWF





Project are key initiatives reflecting the country's dedication to sustainable fisheries management.

The country's efforts in Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are extensive. Ongoing support to over 200 MPA/LMMA communities and sites is complemented by the initiation of an update to MPA/LMMA datasets.

GIS and enforcement training for MPA practitioners, managers, and rangers across various provinces underscore the commitment to strengthening local capacities. Notable related activities include community consultations for potential MPAs such as the KMMA, the development of a draft No-Take Zone map in collaboration with PUEMP/IUCN, and support for eco-tourism development through the TNC/ACMP Project.

In climate change adaptation, Solomon Islands has demonstrated considerable progress. The continuation of CCA National TWG meetings and support for national, provincial, and community-level CCA and mitigation programs reflect a comprehensive approach to climate resilience. Activities such as SIIVA assessments, the implementation of the Third National Communication/Biennial Update Report, and the PACRES Project are pivotal. Additionally, the establishment of water harvesting systems and protection of forest areas as part of CCA and mitigation efforts underscore the country's proactive stance. The development of the Coral Reef Rescue Initiative program, consultations on draft Climate Change Policy, and preparation for COP28 are

further evidence of the country's commitment to addressing climate change challenges.

In addressing threatened species, the Solomon Islands has focused on reviewing and updating key action plans. The review of the Sharks National Plan of Action and the Marine Turtles Action Plan, along with local community conservation efforts at sites like WAIHAU and Haevo LBT Nesting Beach, highlight the ongoing efforts in species protection. The completion of the Saltwater Management Plan and national assessments of sea cucumber populations are additional steps towards enhancing species conservation.

In the realm of gender equality and social inclusion (GESI), the integration of gender into the CBRM Package for Provincial Fisheries Officers and the review of the MFMR Gender Mainstreaming Policy signify progress. National training on gender statistics and monitoring the SDGs further support the country's GESI efforts.

However, the Solomon Islands faces several challenges. These include the need for increased funding support from potential donors through the CTI Regional Programme, limited funds for implementing CTI-related activities, and the need for greater regional cooperation to access funding from major donors such as the Green Climate Fund and Global Environment Facility. Additionally, unreliable internet connections for online meetings highlight the necessity for more face-to-face interactions.



TIMOR-LESTE



In 2023, Timor-Leste continued its steadfast efforts to advance its National Plan of Action (NPOA) under the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF), demonstrating significant progress in several key areas.

One of the standout achievements has been the establishment of the Transboundary Nature Peace Park, a symbol of Timor-Leste's dedication to promoting peace through environmental conservation. A Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis Validation Workshop was also conducted, showcasing the country's commitment to fostering cross-border collaboration in marine conservation and resource management.

In the realm of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), the country made strides in enhancing the livelihoods of its coastal communities. Notably, capacity-building initiatives provided fishermen with skills in fiberglass boat construction, while women's groups were empowered with knowledge on fish and seaweed diversification products, opening new avenues for economic sustainability. A rapid assessment of Red Snapper, utilizing improved techniques and gears along the southern coast of Timor-Leste, yielded valuable data that can enhance sustainable fishing practices. Surveys on the value chain and fish consumption provided further insights into improving fisheries management. Community-based programs, such as a public evaluation campaign against illegal fishing, expanded awareness and reinforced the importance of sustainable practices among coastal communities. Additionally, the establishment of the National Fishery Advisory Committee marked a key milestone in institutionalizing fisheries management, alongside the distribution of fiberglass boats and engines, strengthening the fishing capacity of local communities.

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) received a significant boost with ongoing efforts to scale up the management of existing areas and the consultation process for establishing new Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs). Through seagrass mapping and





training for conservation groups on advanced techniques like the Line Intercept Transect (LIT) method, Timor-Leste is fortifying its marine conservation framework. Events like the Tarabandu, or cultural customary law ceremonies, in Liquica and Manufahi municipalities, underscored the role of tradition in protecting both the MPAs and species like sea turtles. These cultural practices, paired with regular beach clean-ups, have become powerful symbols of the community's dedication to marine conservation.

Timor-Leste's climate change adaptation efforts took a holistic approach, integrating environmental education into schools through the Green School initiative and public awareness campaigns about the impacts of plastic pollution and climate change on coastal communities. Mangrove reforestation and carbon capture activities further highlighted the nation's efforts to mitigate climate change and protect vulnerable ecosystems. Local campaigns, including the distribution of water bottles to schools and weekly cleaning programs for public servants, emphasized the importance of sustainable practices at all levels of society.

Protecting endangered species, particularly sea turtles, remained a priority. Education campaigns targeting coastal communities and primary schools raised awareness about the importance of turtle conservation. Regular monitoring of turtle nesting sites and the cultural Tarabandu ceremonies added layers of protection to these vulnerable species. In a unique educational initiative, the distribution of the first storybook detailing the annual migration of pygmy blue whales along the Ombai-Wetar Strait captivated the imagination of schoolchildren and strengthened their connection to marine biodiversity.

The Women Leaders' Forum and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) initiatives saw considerable success, particularly through the promotion of seaweed and fish diversification products for gender groups. Empowering women with skills in fisheries and household vulnerability assessment



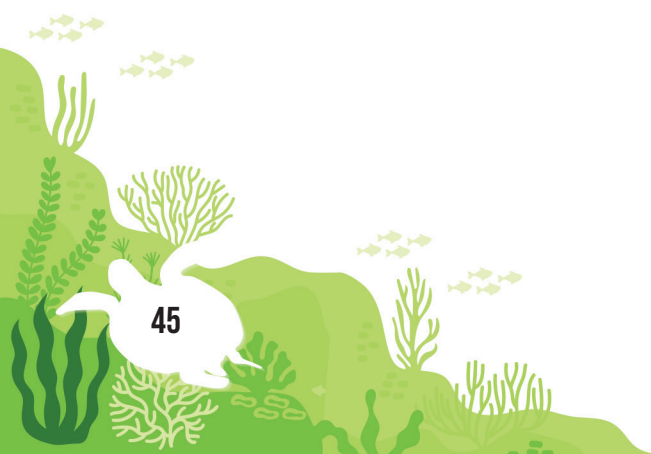
bolstered their role in the sustainable management of marine resources. These initiatives, alongside the active participation of youth in programs like the CTI-CFF Youth Ambassador Program, underscored the importance of inclusive, community-driven conservation efforts.

Despite these achievements, challenges remain. Limited human and financial resources, coupled with capacity-building needs, hinder full implementation of the NPOA. Collecting reliable baseline data and engaging all stakeholders effectively also proved challenging, underscoring the need for further investment in these areas.

Coral Triangle Day 2023 provided a moment of celebration and reflection. The vibrant community of Cristo Rei, Dili, came together for a successful beach and diving clean-up, emphasizing the importance of collective action in protecting marine ecosystems. Volunteers combed the shoreline, removing litter and debris, while divers ensured the coral reefs beneath the waves were freed from harmful materials. This event served as a powerful reminder of the community's enduring commitment to the environment.

In the field, the Tarabandu ceremony in Samba Sembilan Marine Protected Area (MPA) in Liquica municipality was a standout success. Months of preparation culminated in a ceremony that highlighted the importance of adhering to traditional laws that protect the marine ecosystem. The event brought together local leaders, government officials, and development partners, setting a strong example of how cultural practices can enhance modern conservation efforts.

Overall, Timor-Leste's efforts in 2023 reflect its unwavering commitment to balancing conservation with the sustainable use of marine resources. Through innovative approaches, community involvement, and respect for tradition, the country continues to make significant strides in protecting its unique and diverse marine ecosystems for future generations.





FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

photo by Tracey Jennings/Ocean Image Bank

The financial report of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat for the year ending December 31, 2023, provides a comprehensive overview of its financial health. The statement of financial position shows a snapshot of the assets and liabilities, giving a clear picture of the Secretariat's overall financial standing. The statement of activities reveals the Contributions and expenses incurred during the year, showing whether the organization operated at a surplus or deficit. Changes in net assets reflect the movement in reserves, while the cash flow statement highlights how funds were utilized in both operating and investment activities. The report complies with Indonesian Financial Accounting Standards, ensuring transparency and accountability in financial management.

1. Audit Report

The audit of the financial statements of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, conducted by an independent auditor the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia, confirms that the financial statements for the year 2023 are accurate and reliable. In their opinion, the financial position, activities, changes in net assets, and cash flows of the Secretariat are fairly represented and align with Indonesian Financial Accounting Standards. The audit was carried out in accordance with international auditing standards, and the auditors affirm their independence and adherence to ethical guidelines throughout the process. This ensures stakeholders that the Secretariat's financial management is transparent, with sufficient evidence supporting the accuracy of its reports.

Total expenditures were \$973,503, below the budgeted \$1,316,714 by \$337,760, showing efficient use of resources. Major savings came from program services, general administration, and governance, with a combined underspend of \$329,697. The Secretariat's budget management allowed for a significant excess of receipts over expenditures, amounting to \$426,513. This highlights the organization's effective cost control and conservative spending, providing a cushion for future financial obligations or additional program activities.



THE AUDIT BOARD OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

AUDIT OPINION

CERTIFICATE OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
THE CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES, AND FOOD
SECURITY (CTI-CFF) REGIONAL SECRETARIAT AS AT AND FOR THE FINANCIAL
PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

To The Coral Triangle Initiative Committee of Senior Officials and Council of Ministries

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Secretariat (the Secretariat), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023; and the statement of activities, the statement of changes in net assets, and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the CTI-CFF as at December 31, 2023, and financial activities and cash flows for the year then ended of the Secretariat in accordance with Indonesian Financial Accounting Standards (IFAS).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Secretariat, in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFAS, and for such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Secretariat's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Management either intends to liquidate the Secretariat or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Secretariat (the Secretariat), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023; and the statement of activities, the statement of changes in net assets, and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the CTI-CFF as at December 31, 2023, and financial activities and cash flows for the year then ended of the Secretariat in accordance with Indonesian Financial Accounting Standards (IFAS).

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Statement of financial positions As of 31 December 2023 and 2022

(Expressed in United State Dollar, unless otherwise stated)

	Notes	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2c, 3	1,387,975	744,183
Accounts receivable	4	387,794	615,212
Prepaid expenses	5	10,615	8,302
Advances	6	1,427	1,602
Total current assets		1,787,811	1,369,299
Noncurrent assets			
Fixed assets – net	2g, 7	31,737	48,597
Intangible assets - net	2g, 7	2,166	3,610
Total noncurrent assets		33,903	52,207
Total assets		1,821,714	1,421,506
Liabilities and net assets			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	8	17,465	9,085
Accrued expenses	9	11,239	12,153
Total liabilities		28,704	21,238
Net assets			
With restriction from donors:			
- Temporary restricted	2f	1,793,010	1,400,268
Total net assets		1,793,010	1,400,268
Total liabilities and net assets		1,821,714	1,421,506

The accompanying notes to financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Statement of activities
For the year ended 31 December 2023 and 2022

(Expressed in United State Dollar, unless otherwise stated)

Notes	31 December 2023			31 December 2022		
	Without restriction from donors	With restrictions from donors – Temporary restricted	TOTAL	Without restriction from donors	With restrictions from donors – Temporary restricted	TOTAL
Revenues:						
Country contributions	24, 10	-	1,143,900	-	718,304	718,304
Grants	24, 11	-	220,850	-	20,000	20,000
Interest income	-	1,495	1,495	-	1,251	1,251
Other income	-	-	-	-	209	209
Total revenues			1,366,245		739,764	739,764
Expenditures:						
Program services	24, 12, 13	(29,384)	-	(35,879)	-	(35,879)
Communication information	24, 12, 14	(27,106)	-	(14,270)	-	(14,270)
General administration	24, 12, 15	(821,601)	-	(577,358)	-	(577,358)
Governance and others	24, 12, 16	(54,172)	-	(56,870)	-	(56,870)
Recruitment	24, 12, 17	(17,296)	-	(1,941)	-	(1,941)
Others (depreciation and exchange rate)	12, 18	(23,944)	-	(23,293)	-	(23,293)
SUFIA LCD Activity	12, 11	-	-	(40,313)	-	(40,313)
Total expenditures		(973,503)	(973,503)	(749,924)		(749,924)
Surplus (deficit)		(973,503)	392,742	(749,924)	739,764	(10,160)
Other comprehensive income						
Total comprehensive income (loss)		(973,503)	392,742	(749,924)	739,764	(10,160)

The accompanying notes to financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Statement of changes in net assets
For the year ended 31 December 2023 and 2022

(Expressed in United State Dollar, unless otherwise stated)

	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Net assets without restrictions from donors		
Beginning balance	-	-
Surplus (deficit) - current year	(973,503)	(749,924)
Net assets released from restrictions - current year (note 12)	973,503	749,924
Ending balance	-	-
Other comprehensive income		
Beginning balance	-	-
Surplus (deficit) - current year	-	-
Ending balance	-	-
Net assets with restrictions from donors		
Temporary restricted		
Beginning balance	1,400,268	1,410,428
Changes of net assets – current year		
Surplus (deficit) - current year	1,366,245	739,764
Net assets released from restrictions - current year (note 12)	(973,503)	(749,924)
Net changes of net assets - current year	392,742	(10,160)
Ending balance	1,793,010	1,400,268
Total net assets	1,793,010	1,400,268

The accompanying notes to financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 December 2023 and 2022

(Expressed in United State Dollar, unless otherwise stated)

	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Cash flows from operating activities		
Changes in net assets	392,742	(10,160)
Additional (deduction) of items that is not affecting operating cash flow:		
Depreciation expenses	23,756	21,024
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	227,418	(37,326)
Prepaid expenses	(2,313)	(1,073)
Advances	175	(1,602)
Accounts payable	8,379	(24,877)
Accrued expenses	(914)	535
Net cash flows provided from (used in) operating activities	649,243	(53,479)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of fixed assets	(5,451)	(19,800)
Net cash flows provided used in investing activities	(5,451)	(19,800)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	643,792	(73,279)
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning	744,183	817,462
Cash and cash equivalents - ending	1,387,975	744,183

The accompanying notes to financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

11.2

2. Budget Utilization Report

In 2023, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat collected \$1,400,016 in revenue from the country contribution, surpassing its budgeted amount of \$1,316,714 by \$83,302. This was mainly due to a surplus increase of \$81,807, but interest revenue fell short by \$1,495. The surplus primarily contributed to the revenue increase, reflecting a positive financial trend. This indicates prudent financial management and an ability to harness additional funds beyond expectations. The Secretariat can potentially allocate these funds to future programs or reserve them for unforeseen expenditures.

Supplementary Information
CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
For CTI-CFF Members' Contributions
Fund Accountability Statement
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Attachment I

(Expressed in United State Dollar, unless otherwise stated)

	2023		
	Budget	Actual	Under (over)
Revenues			
Country contributions	1,143,900	1,143,900	-
Surplus	172,814	254,621	(81,807)
Interest income	-	1,495	(1,495)
Total revenues	1,316,714	1,400,016	(83,302)
Expenditures			
A. Program services	68,000	29,384	38,616
B. Communication information	39,710	27,106	12,604
C. General administrations	1,078,854	821,601	257,253
D. Governance & others	88,000	54,172	33,828
E. Recruitment	25,000	17,296	7,704
F. Capital Expenditure	7,150	5,451	1,699
G. Appropriation	10,000	-	10,000
H. Others (depreciation and exchange rate)	-	23,944	(23,944)
Total payments	1,316,714	978,954	337,760
Purchase of fixed assets		(5,451)	
Total expenditures		973,503	
Excess of receipts over expenditures		426,513	

The financial report also reflects a balanced budget for the SUFIA SOAC IFM Activity administered by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in 2023. Total grants received amounted to \$220,850, aligning with the budgeted revenue. However, no expenditures were made during the reporting period, as none of the planned activities, including workshops, consultant costs, or the recruitment of the CTCF CEO, were initiated. The surplus of funds, \$220,850, indicates that all allocated resources remained unused. This suggests either delays in project implementation or changes in activity schedules, requiring further assessment to ensure that funds are deployed efficiently toward the intended goals.

Supplementary Information
CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
A Project Administered By CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
SUFIA SOAC IFM Activity
Under USAID Award Number AID-486-T-13-00002
Fund Accountability Statement
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Attachment II

(Expressed in United State Dollar, unless otherwise stated)

	2023		
	Budget	Actual	Under (over)
Revenues			
Grants	220,850	220,850	-
Total revenues	220,850	220,850	-
Expenditures			
Planning the CT6 Regional Support for NPOA Development			
A. Inception Workshop	17,725	-	17,725
B. Finalization Workshop	17,725	-	17,725
C. Consultant Costs	15,400	-	15,400
Recruitment of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund (CTCF)			
A. CTCF CEO Compensation Package	170,000	-	170,000
Total expenditures	220,850	-	220,850
Excess of receipts over expenditures		220,850	



APPENDICES

CTI-CFF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS



H.E. Marcos da Cruz (Chair)
Minister
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Dili, Timor-Leste



H.E. Sakti Wahyu Trenggono (Vice Chair)
Minister
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Jakarta, Indonesia



H.E. Tuan Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad
Minister
Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change
Putrajaya, Malaysia



H.E. Simo Kilepa (MP)
Minister
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea



H.E. Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga
Secretary
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Quezon City, the Philippines



H.E. Stanley Festus Sofu (MP)
Acting Minister
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change,
Disaster Management and Meteorology
Honiara, the Solomon Islands

CTI-CFF COMMITTEE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS



H.E. Celestino da Cunha Barreto (Chair)
National Director for Marine Spatial Planning,
Capture and Aquatic Resource Management
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Dili, Timor-Leste



H.E. Drs. Victor Gustaaf Manoppo, M.H. (Vice Chair)
Director General of Marine Spatial Management
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Jakarta, Indonesia



H.E. Dato' Haji Rosli Bin Isa
Secretary General
Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change
Putrajaya, Malaysia



H.E. Jude Tinok Tukuliya
Acting Managing Director
Conservation and Environment Protection Authority
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea



H.E. Atty. Jonas Leonas
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs
Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines
Quezon City, the Philippines



H.E Susan Sulu
Permanent Secretary for the Department of Environment,
Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology.
Honiara, the Solomon Islands

CTI-CFF NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOCAL POINTS



Dr. Hendra Yusran Siri

Acting Adviser to Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries for Economics, Socio, and Cultural Affairs / Director of Marine Research Centre
Jakarta, Indonesia



Dato' Mohamad Razif Bin Haji Abd Mubin

Secretary-General
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability
Putrajaya, Malaysia



Ms. Kay Kumaras Kalim

Director
Sustainable Environment Program
Ministry of Environment and Conservation and Climate Change
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Mr. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr.

Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and concurrent OIC Director,
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Quezon City, the Philippines



Mr Trevor Maeda

Principal Conservation Officer
Environment and Conservation Division
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change,
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Honiara, the Solomon Islands



Mr. Horacio Guterres

National Director of Aquaculture
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Dili, Timor-Leste

CTI-CFF CHAIRS OF TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

SEASCAPE



Ms. Yvonne Tio (Chair)

Executive Manageress, Conservation and Environment Protection Authority, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change



Mr. Fidelino Sousa Marques (Vice Chair)

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Director
Department of Fisheries Sabah



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Mr. Trevor Maeda

Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology

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ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT



Mr. Azhar Kassim (Chair)
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Mr. Aisi S. Anas (Vice Chair)
Executive Manager
Fisheries Management PNG National Fisheries Authority



Dr. Ridwan Mulyana
Director of Fish Resources Management, MMAF



Atty. Demosthenes R. Escoto
Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources



Mr. Peter Husi'au'ana Kenilorea
Chief Fisheries Officer, MFMR



Mr. Timotio Alves
Technical Staff for Department of Capture and Post-Harvest

CTI-CFF CHAIRS OF TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

MARINE PROTECTED AREA



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Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries



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Mr. Bernard Kombeng Suruman
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Mr. Peter Husi'au'ana Kenilorea
Chief Fisheries Officer, Ministry of
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CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION



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Mr. Rui dos Reis Pires

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Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries



Atty. Demosthenes R. Escoto (Vice Chair)

Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources



Alternate: Mr. Azlan Md Noor

Head of Conservation, Ecosystem and Biodiversity



Mr. Vagi Rei

Manager Conservation and Environment Protection Authority



Mr. Paul Tua

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Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources



Mr. Benvindo Maria Deus Araujo dos Santos

Technical Staff under the Department of Conservation, Marine
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CTI-CFF CHAIRS OF GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUPS INTERNAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE



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Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry



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Acting Adviser to Minister on Economics, Socio and Cultural/Director of
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Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, In concurrent capacity as
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Assistant Secretary Policy and Planning Division,
Ministry of Fisheries & Marine Resources

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CTI-CFF CHAIRS OF GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUPS

MONITORING AND EVALUATION



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Executive Manager, Conservation Environment Protection Authority



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CTI-CFF CHAIRS OF CROSS-CUTTING INITIATIVES

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Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources



Mr. Fidelino Sousa Marques

Chief Cabinet of General Directorate of
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CTI-CFF STRATEGIC PARTNERS



Australian Government



Inspiring People Saving Oceans

CTI-CFF STRATEGIC COLLABORATORS



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme

giz



CTI-CFF UNIVERISTY PARTNERS



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Sam Ratulangi University



Scientific Advisory Group Coordinator
Prof. Budy Wiryawan
IPB University (Bogor Agricultural Institute)



The University of
Papua New Guinea



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



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Executive Director	Dr. Mohd. Kushairi Bin Mohd. Rajuddin
Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services	Gustaaf Adolf Lumiu
Deputy Executive Director for Program Services	Christovel R.S. Rotinsulu
Executive Assistant	Maria Mawati
Acting Finance and Operation Manager	Reita Kalalo
Communication and Information Manager	Dewi Satriani
Technical Program Manager	Corzzierrah Kuloburu Posala
Monitoring and Evaluation Manager	Agostinho Andy Irmawan
Finance Assistant Manager	Reita Kalalo
Operation Officer	Ingrid Kandolia
Information and Technology Officer	Solomon Sundah
National Partner Private Officer	Michael Tampongangoy
Data Collection and Documentation Officer	Stephanie Mapalief

GRANT COMMITTEE OF CTI-CFF REGIONAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

CT 6 REPRESENTATIVES



Dr. Firdaus Agung

Head of sub-Directorate of Infrastructure, Facility and Conservation Partnership, Directorate of Conservation and Biodiversity, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia



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Dir. Angelito V. Fontanilla

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CTI-CFF PARTNERS

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Mr. Yabanex Batista

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Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR)



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Ms. Araya Poomsaringkarn

Project Management Specialist,
USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia



Mr. Francis Staub

Global Coordinator,
International Coral Reef Initiative



Mr. Chris Stone

Conservation Finance, Blue Nature Alliance,
Conservation International



Ms. Laura Whitford

Conservation Partnership Director,
The Nature Conservancy



BOARD OF CTI-CFF REGIONAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

Dr. Mohd. Kushairi Bin Mohd. Rajuddin

CTI-CFF Executive Director representing the CTI-CFF (ex-officio) and serving as founding Chair of the Board



Anne Desdoigts (United Kingdom)

Independent Senior Advisor,
Development Guarantee Group



Rili Djohani (Indonesia)

Executive Director,
Coral Triangle Center



Dr. Len Garces (Philippines)

VP for Technical Services, Pacific Ream Innovations
Management and Exponents, Inc.



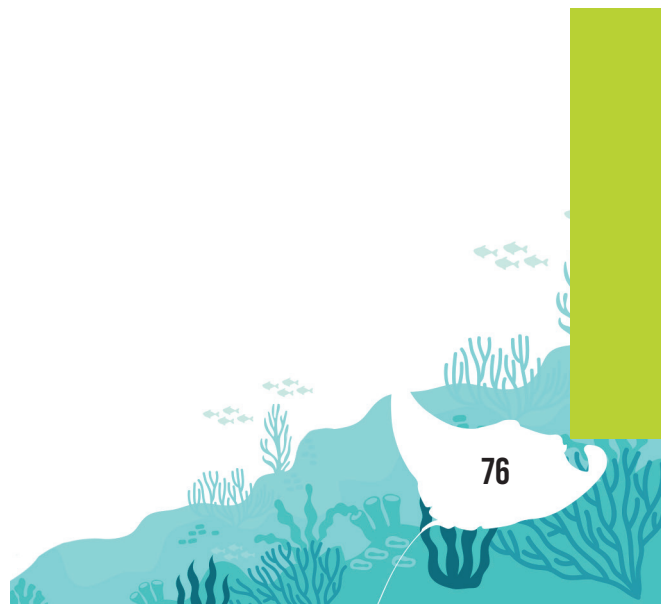
Tan Sri Zakri bin Abdul Hamid (Malaysia)

Chairman Atri Advisory



Dr. Michael Oto'ara Ha'apio (Solomon Islands)

Commonwealth National Climate Finance Advisor
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