

Becoming a Partner to the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security

What is the Coral Triangle Initiative?

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) is a multilateral partnership between the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste. The countries are working together to sustain extraordinary marine and coastal resources of the Coral Triangle region by addressing crucial issues such as food security, climate change and marine biodiversity.

There is broad scientific consensus that the Coral Triangle represents a global epicenter of marine life abundance and diversity. Spanning only 1.6% of the planet's oceans, the Coral Triangle region comprises 76% of all known coral species, hosts 37% of all known coral reef fish species, 53% of the world's coral reefs, the greatest extent of mangrove forests in the world, and spawning and juvenile growth areas for tuna and other globally significant commercial fish species. These unparalleled marine and coastal living resources provide significant benefits to the approximately 363 million people who reside in the Coral Triangle, as well as billions more outside the region. As a source of food, income and protection from severe weather events, the ongoing health of these ecosystems is critical.

At the Leader's Summit in 2009, the Coral Triangle countries agreed to adopt a 10-year CTI Regional Plan of Action (CTI RPOA). The RPOA has five goals: strengthening the management of seascapes, promoting an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, establishing and improving effective management of marine protected areas, improving coastal community resilience to climate change, and protecting threatened species. Each of the Coral Triangle countries has also established National Plans of Action (NPOAs)

What are CTI Partners?

At the inception of the CTI, seven "CTI Development Partners" were invited by the Coral Triangle countries to help them develop and implement the CTI.

The role of CTI Partners is described in a decision of the CTI Ministers:

Function: to help mobilize resources for the CTI and bring greater coordination and effectiveness to the financial and technical support that partners are providing.

Current CTI Partners

Australian Government
United States of America
Asian Development Bank
Global Environment Facility
The Nature Conservancy
Conservation International
World Wildlife Fund

Description: The CTI Partners may include governments, multilateral agencies, international financial institutions, nongovernment organizations, and private sector that are providing direct assistance to the CTI or supporting the goals of the CTI Regional Plan of Action.

General terms of Reference:

- *Provide coordinated technical and financial support to the CTI.* Provide technical expertise, training, other capacity building activities, and funding in a coordinated fashion, aligned to the CTI Regional Plan of Action to support implementation.
- *Support the Technical Working Groups and National Coordination Committees.* Participate actively in dialogue and provide inputs to TWGs and NCCs for consideration.

- *Stimulate public-private partnerships.* Engage private sector partners in CTI implementation and funding.
- Develop funding streams to support implementation of the CTI RPOA, Work collaboratively with the SOM to raise funds to implement the CTI RPOA.
- *Actively engage a broad group of stakeholders.* Stakeholders from across the CTI implementation area and beyond will be engaged through dialogue with the CTI.

In addition to the seven official Partners, there are a wide range of organisations working to support implementation of the CTI goals and objectives at regional and national levels. Some of these organisations have expressed interest in becoming an official Partner.

Recognising this, in November 2012 the CTI Ministers agreed to a process for the official admission of new Partners. They also agreed to establish a second category of involvement in the CTI - a "CTI Stakeholder Group".

CTI Partners are intended to be a select group of states and organisations that provide sustained and significant support to the implementation of the CTI at regional and national levels, and its ongoing development and success as a regional initiative.

The CTI Stakeholders Group comprises other organisations that are involved in activities relevant to the CTI. It is a forum for getting involved in the CTI through sharing of information on activities and receiving information on CTI plans and activities. Members may be invited to CTI meetings where it is relevant to their activities.

How can an organisation become a CTI-CFF Partner?

The CTI Rules of Procedure identify that an organisation wishing to become a CTI Partner must:

- be approved by consensus by the Ministers of the CTI countries
- commit to supporting the objectives and principles of the CTI, and abide by the rules and agreements in place to govern the CTI
- meet criteria that have been agreed by the Ministers of the CTI countries

The criteria that have been agreed are:

- Demonstrated commitment, capability and integrity to be a major supporter over a sustained period of time for the implementation of the CTI Regional and National Plans of Action
- A commitment to work with the Regional Secretariat, National Coordinating Committees and other Partners in planning and providing support towards achieving the shared vision of the CTI.
- A commitment to work with the Coral Triangle countries and other Partners to help to successfully develop the CTI as a regional forum, and to help plan, coordinate and mobilize efforts to achieve successful implementation of the CTI Regional and National Plans of Action.

If you are interested in becoming a CTI Partner, you should contact the CTI Regional Secretariat to let them know of your interest. The Secretariat can talk to you more about what it means to be a Partner and explain the process for formal admission.

If you decide to apply to become a partner, you will need to write to the CTI Regional Secretariat expressing interest and providing information relevant to the above criteria. This should include some background on your organisation and an indication of the nature of proposed support for the CTI. The Regional Secretariat will facilitate consideration of your expression of interest by the Coral Triangle countries.

Organisations wishing to become CTI Partners have the opportunity to attend official CTI meetings as observers, and this is encouraged. Contact the CTI Regional Secretariat should you wish to take up this opportunity.

Expressions of interest to become a CTI-CFF Partner should be addressed to:

The Regional Secretariat

Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs,
Fisheries, and Food Security Secretariat
Building
Jl. A.A. Maramis Kayuwatu, Kairagi II
Manado, North Sulawesi 95254
Indonesia

e-mail: regional.secretariat@cticff.org

Interested in joining the CTI Stakeholder group?

If you do not feel official CTI Partner status is appropriate or necessary for your organisation, but you still want to be involved in the CTI, you can register with the CTI Stakeholder Group. Arrangements for this group are still being established, but you can register your interest with the CTI Regional Secretariat.

In registering your interest, please indicate your areas of interest, including the CTI groups you wish to be involved with, and some information on your activities related to the CTI goals and plans.

Seeking more information?

Contact the CTI Interim Regional Secretariat

Visit the official CTI website at
www.coraltriangleinitiative.org/

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Contact for enquiries and registration to the CTI -CFF Stakeholder Group

Dr. Mohd Kushairi Mohd bin Mohd Rajuddin,
Executive Director of the Regional Secretariat
Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs,
Fisheries, and Food Security Secretariat Building
Jl. A.A. Maramis Kayuwatu, Kairagi II
Manado, North Sulawesi 95254
Indonesia

Phone +62 431 724 1927
ext 401 (direct)
Email: drkushairi@cticff.org