CTI-CFF Seascapes General Model and Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes
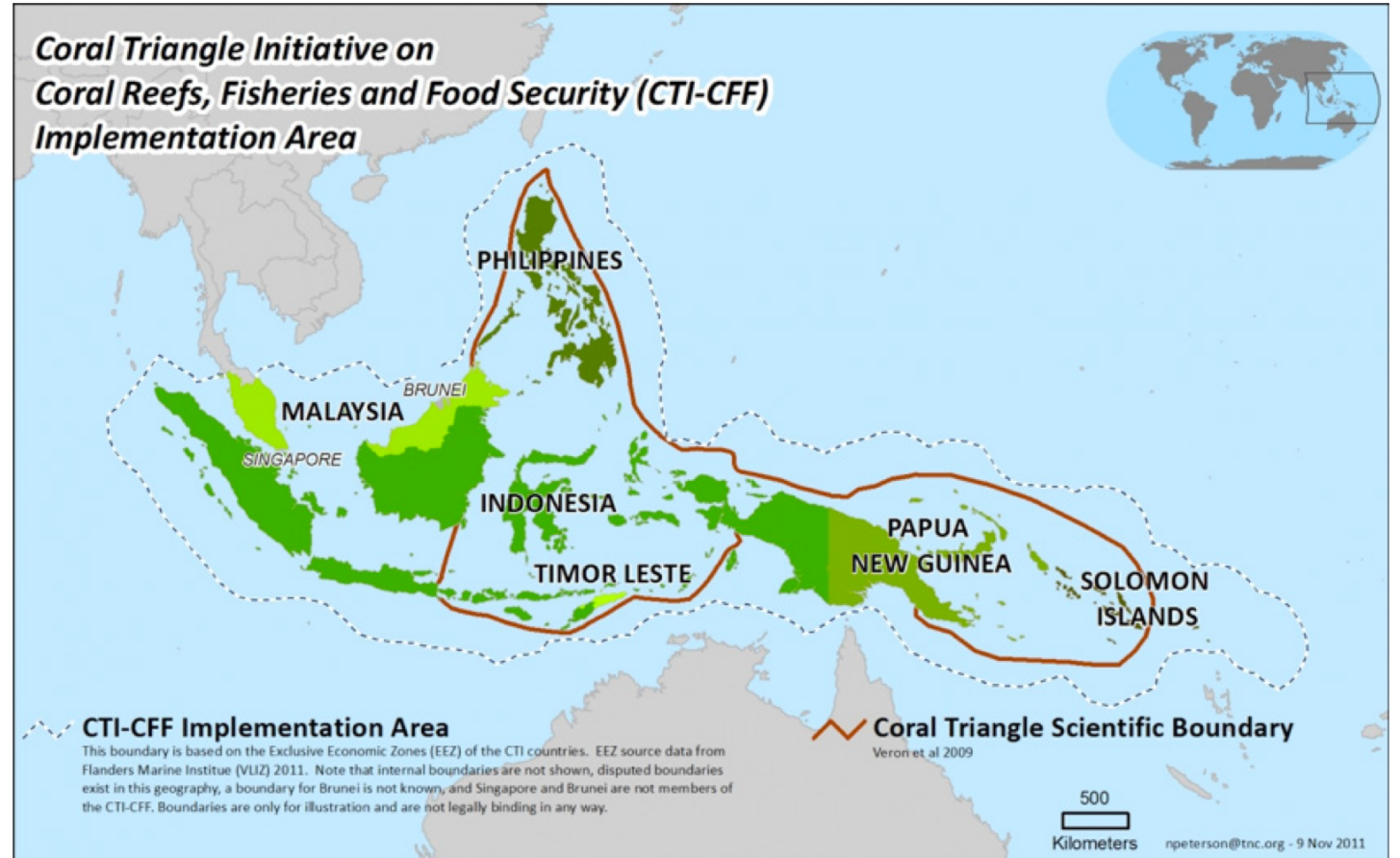
Securing the essential and valuable marine resources of the Coral Triangle for the benefit of current and future generations.

CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

Section One

An Introduction to CTI-CFF Seascapes and their benefits

Introduction to the CTI-CFF

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) is an agreement signed in 2009 between six countries, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste, that addresses urgent threats facing the coastal and marine resources of the Coral Triangle region.

Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Implementation Area

CTI-CFF Implementation Area
This boundary is based on the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the CTI countries. EEZ source data from Flanders Marine Institue (VLIZ) 2011. Note that internal boundaries are not shown, disputed boundaries exist in this geography, a boundary for Brunei is not known, and Singapore and Brunei are not members of the CTI-CFF. Boundaries are only for illustration and are not legally binding in any way.

Coral Triangle Scientific Boundary
Veron et al 2009

500 Kilometers

npeterson@tnc.org - 9 Nov 2011

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Introduction to CTI-CFF Seascapes

- The first goal of the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action, "Priority Seascapes Designated and Effectively Managed" directs CTI-CFF countries to **prioritize large-scale geographies for investment and action** and expand the use of best practices in these areas.

- Under this mandate, the Seascapes Workgroup of the CTI-CFF has developed a *CTI-CFF Seascapes General Model and Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes* document. **This document provides the foundation for the establishment of seascapes** under the CTI-CFF as well as a platform for future investment.

The Value of the Coral Triangle to the Global Ocean

- Global Ocean
  - Contributes **US $2.5 trillion** per year to the global economy
  - By 2030, the ocean economy is **expected to double in size** and outperform the global economy
  - Nearly **1 billion jobs** are directly related to the ocean economy

- Coral Triangle
  - **Global epicenter** of marine biodiversity
  - **90%** of the region's **400 million people** live within **50 kilometers** of the coast
  - **1/3 of the population** relies directly on marine and coastal resources for food and livelihoods

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What do Seascapes Offer?

A seascape is a geographic area where **multiple uses and sectors**, as well as **multiple management designations and governance mechanisms**, can be integrated and coordinated.

- **Umbrella to integrate** all the other work of the CTI-CFF under the RPOA
- **Serves multiple purposes** such as fishing, tourism, recreation, and protection from some effects of climate change
- Provide a **platform to coordinate** various policies, laws, and regulations within the marine space such as navigation, fishing, mining, and traditional and cultural uses
- Opportunity for **learning and sharing** between the CT6

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What do Seascapes Offer?
Seascapes' Role in International and National Policy

Investment in achieving the elements of seascapes will help the CTI countries meet **international, regional, and national level commitments and targets**.

What do Seascapes Offer?
Seascapes' Role in International and National Policy

At the **international level**, some examples are:

- UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Paris Climate Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Aichi Biodiversity Targets under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
- UN Fish Stocks Agreement under UNCLOS, and
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)

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What do Seascapes Offer?
Seascapes' Role in International and National Policy

At the **regional level**, some examples are:

- Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)
- Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

What do Seascapes Offer?
Seascapes' Role in International and National Policy

At **national level,** each country has specific policies/targets related to:

- Fisheries and Marine Resources
- Tourism
- Maritime Industries
- Employment
- Economic Development

What do Seascapes Offer?
Seascapes' Role in International and National Policy

Furthermore, **at the national level limited space frequently results in conflict** between sectors, users or priorities.

- High level of integrated management helps countries to
  - **Identify priorities** for marine and coastal resource conservation and management
  - **Maximize economic opportunities** in a sustainable manner
  - **Coordinate government agencies** at different scales
  - **Recognize traditional rights and practices**

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What do Seascapes Offer?
Benefits of Seascapes

Seascapes provide triple bottom-line framework of
economic, social, and environmental benefits.

Economic Benefits

- Ensuring **transparency and efficiency of ocean uses** and reducing user conflicts
- Creating a **stable and productive** business environment
- Ensuring long-term **sustainability of vital industries** by managing local impacts and sustaining ocean health
- Inciting the **development of alternative and supplemental industries**

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What do Seascapes Offer?
Benefits of Seascapes

Seascapes provide triple bottom-line framework of **economic, social, and environmental benefits**.

Social and Cultural Benefits
- Providing a platform for **multi-stakeholder participation** in management decisions and regimes
- Encouraging **communication between national, provincial, and local government**
- Providing for the **incorporation of customary rights and cultural nuances** into large-scale resource management through the flexible and collaborative planning process
- Promoting **transparency between communities and decision-makers**

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Section Two

An explanation of how seascapes align with and improve the implementation of and coordination among existing marine management approaches and tools

Seascapes Align with and Strengthen Approaches and Tools for Marine Management

- A seascape is a defined **geography** that is ecologically valued, politically relevant, and logistically practical.

- Seascapes are able to **integrate and incorporate various approaches** for large-scale planning and management.

- Seascapes can utilize a range of **planning tools**.

CTI-CFF Seascapes
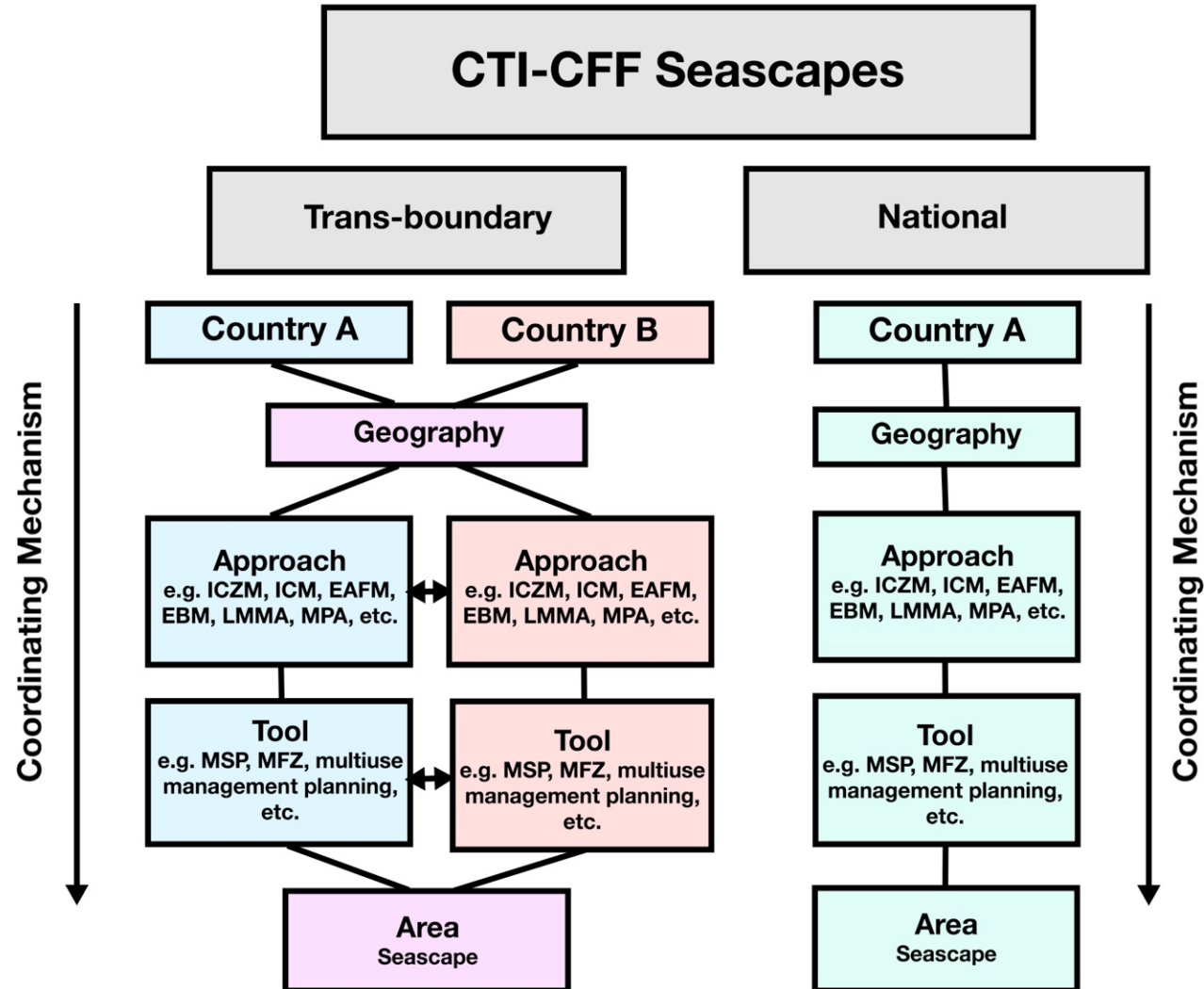
Seascapes Align with and Strengthen Approaches and Tools for Marine Management

Geographies for large-scale management are often chosen based on major ecological features, major resource uses such as fisheries, and political jurisdictions.

In the CT6, there are many common geographic designations for management including MPAs, MPA Networks, Fisheries Management Areas, LMMAs, etc.

- Seascapes **can and should be designed to align** with other geographic designations
- Seascapes **do not replace or duplicate** these efforts
- Seascapes **can enhance coordinate existing management activities** into a collaborative management effort
- Seascapes provide a geographic management designation where **trans-boundary and trans-national cooperation and collaboration can occur**.

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Seascapes Align with and Strengthen Approaches and Tools for Marine Management

An **approach** to large-scale marine management outlines the vision, goal, and guiding principles of management as well as a range of features that will be included in management.

In the CT6, there are many common approaches for marine management including EBM, EAFM, ICZM, ICOM, LMMA, MPA, etc. While these approaches can be effective, they are often limited in scope and focus.

- Seascapes provide a geography in which **comprehensive approaches** or even **multiple approaches** can be feasible implemented to **achieve a broader range of goals** such as balancing of biodiversity conservation, fisheries productivity, sustainable economic development, sustaining local cultures, etc.

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Seascapes Align with and Strengthen Approaches and Tools for Marine Management

Planning tools are used to plan the implementation of a chosen management approach by providing a process to gather and interpret key information about resources, threats, uses, and priorities to develop objectives and actions to pursue under the identified approach.

In the CT6, there are many common planning tools including Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), Marine Functional Zoning (MFZ), and multi-use or multi-objective management planning.

- Planning for seascapes **can use any or all of the planning tools** in use across the CTI.
- The key is to both **spatially manage** as well as **identify management objectives** and **needed actions** toward achieving the vision and goals.
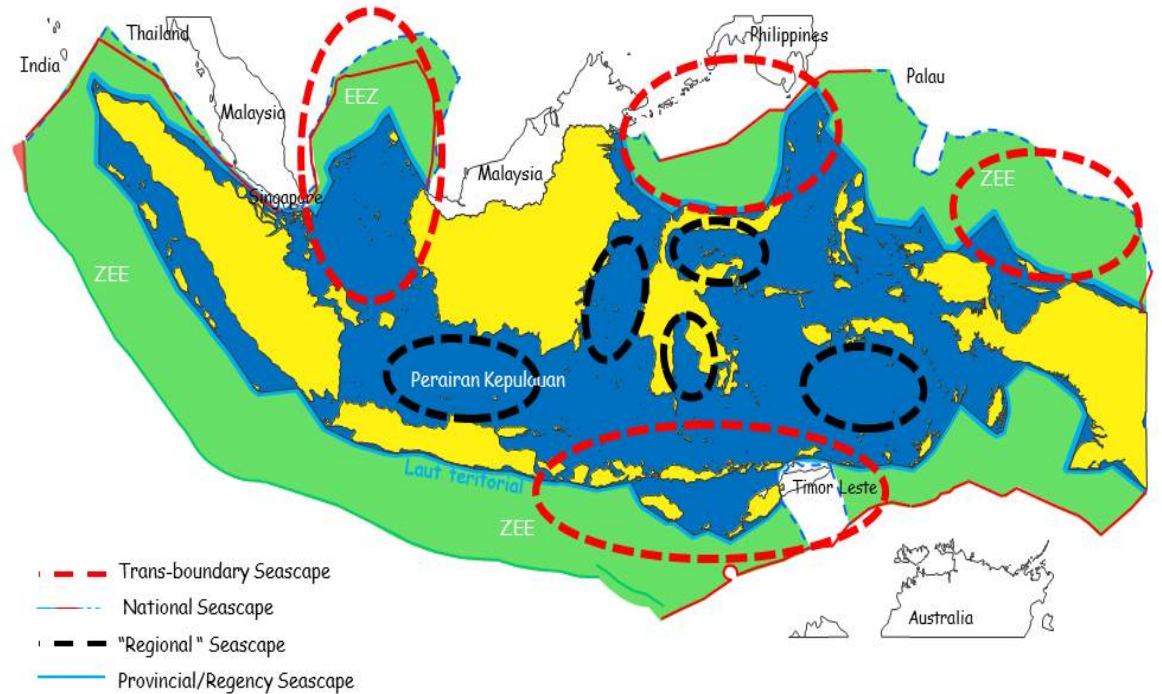
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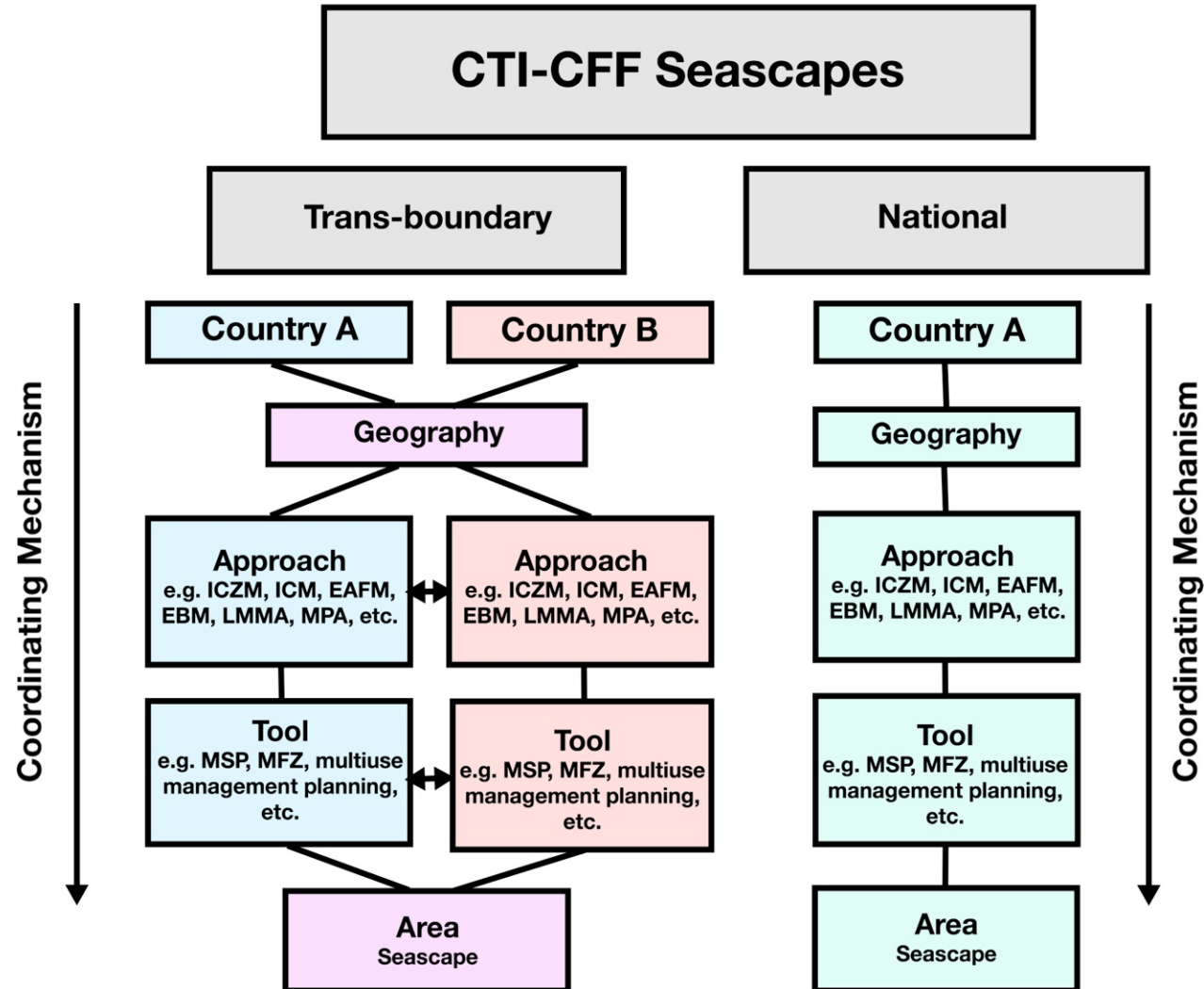
CTI-CFF Seascapes

Seascapes Examples

Section Three

The CTI-CFF Seascapes General Model

CTI-CFF Seascapes General Model

- This model is **optional guidance** for the countries of the CTI and individual **countries are not obligated** to comply with them.

- The definitions, themes and tools incorporated in the model are **consistent with stated goals and values of the CTI.**

- The model is intended to provide **initial steps** and **guidance** for the identification, selection, designation, and planning of seascapes.

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Definition

"A large, multiple-use coastal and marine area, scientifically and strategically defined, in which governments, communities, private organizations, and other stakeholders cooperate, collaborate, and coordinate to manage for sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, and human well-being."

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Key Elements

Fifteen Key Elements are crucial to achieving **Effective Governance, Ecological Well-Being, and Human Well-Being**

Each of the elements should be considered in the process of identifying, planning for, and implementing a CTI Seascape and the **most appropriate and applicable of them should be the focus** of planning and implementation.

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Key Elements

Effective Governance

- Social Support

- Political Will

- Harmonized Policies and Regulations

- Adequate Institutions and Partnerships

- Sustainable Financing

Key Elements

Ecological Well-Being

- Restoration of Critical Habitats

- Maintenance of Ecosystem Functions

- Protection of Threatened and Critical Species

- Fisheries Managed for Sustainability

- Integrated Terrestrial and Marine Management

Key Elements

Human Well-Being

- Respect for Customary Practices

- Education and Awareness

- Cultural, Gender, and Social Sensitivity

- Sustainable Social and Economic Development

- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Identification, Selection and Designation

This guidance constitutes important **factors to be considered** in the process for identifying, selecting, and designating seascapes.

It is up to the discretion of each of the CTI countries to interpret and make use of the following guidance in the manner more appropriate for their national context.

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Identification, Selection and Designation

Guidance for Seascape Identification and Selection

- An area will have **high biodiversity, socio-cultural and/or economic values** or **potential conflicts** between different values and/or uses

- **Current management, governance mechanisms and management interventions** (and scale) of the area are **insufficient** to address pressures and resource uses

- Management of the area requires **coordination, collaboration and management** across **different levels of government and sectors**
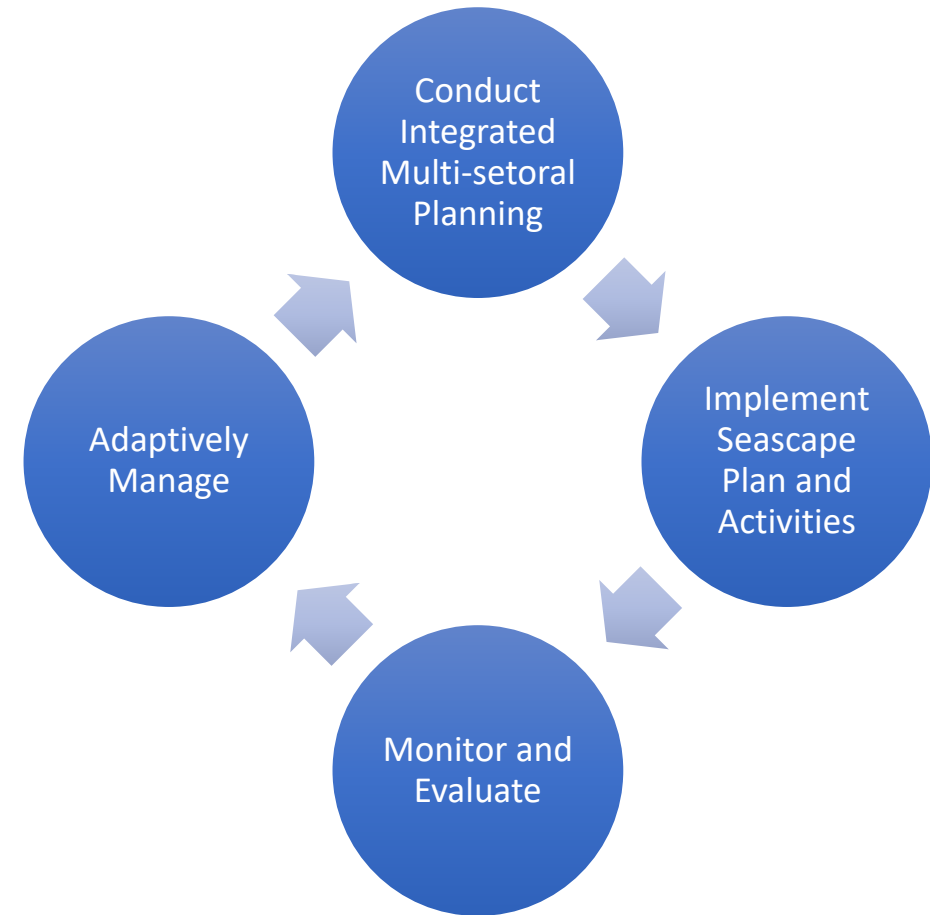
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Identification, Selection and Designation

Guidance for Seascape Designation

- Seascapes will be designated and planned appropriately and **consider regional and national circumstances**

- The process for designation of a Seascape may **vary from country to country** and must comply with relevant **regional, national and local authorities and procedures**

- Seascapes will be **designated by relevant government authorities** (at different levels) that will **provide the joint planning and coordination** (can be across communities, municipalities, districts, provinces, countries)

- Seascape **planning may at times precede designation** according to individual country processes

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Integrated Planning Model

The Integrated Planning Model is **intended to develop and effectively implement a seascapes plan** with active participation and input across appropriate governing bodies and levels, public institutions, and private entities.

Conduct Integrated Multi-setoral Planning

Implement Seascape Plan and Activities

Monitor and Evaluate

Adaptively Manage

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Section Four

Guidance on CTI-CFF Seascapes from a regional perspective.

CTI-CFF Seascapes:
Vision, Purpose, Objectives, and Geographic Scope

The following Vision, Purpose, and Objectives represent
a regional perspective on the **role of this document**
and the **intended conception** of
Priority Seascapes in the CTI.

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Vision for CTI-CFF Seascapes

A **set of seascapes** across the Coral Triangle region is **designated and sustainably managed** with comprehensive investments and action plans that contributes to biodiversity conservation, food security, sustainable development and human well-being.

Purpose of CTI-CFF Seascapes General Model and Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes

The CTI-CFF Seascapes General Model and Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes explain how Priority Seascapes under the CTI-CFF are **identified, established, planned, implemented, recognized, prioritized, evaluated, and tracked.**

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Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security

Seascapes General Model and Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes

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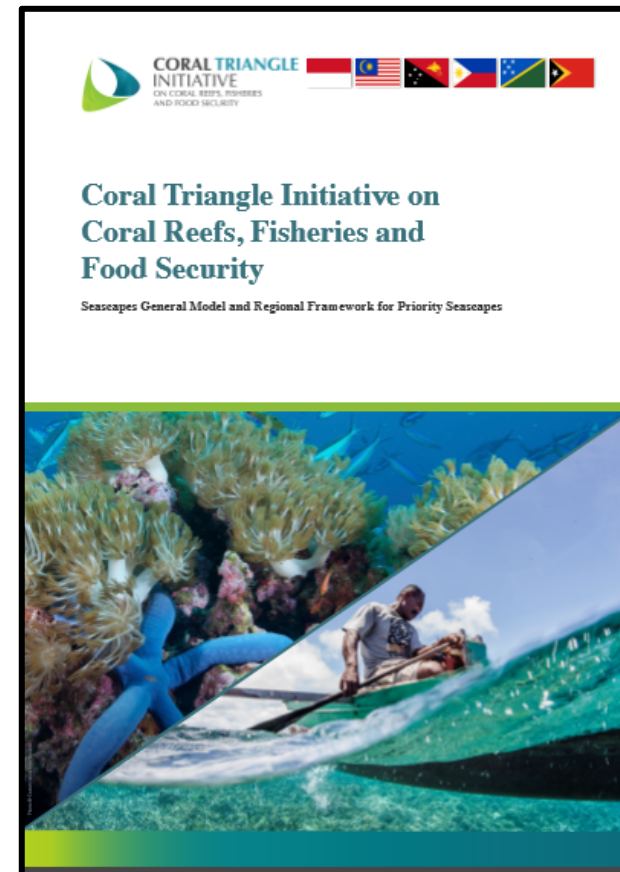
Objectives for CTI-CFF Seascapes

- Support regional, national and local collaboration, to recognize and designate priority seascapes for investment through the CTI-CFF.

- Strengthen the capacity of CT6 countries to establish and sustainably manage seascapes.

- Support the development and implementation of regional monitoring and evaluation indicators for seascapes.

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Geographic Scope for CTI-CFF Seascapes

Seascapes can be geographically located in one or across multiple countries. They may not necessarily cover the entire exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of each country. The result could be a series of spatially disjointed seascapes across the region.

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Section Five

CTI-CFF Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes

CTI-CFF Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes

The CTI-CFF Regional Framework for Priority Seascapes embodies the agreed upon **Criteria, Operational Process, Designated Bodies**, and **Monitoring & Evaluation** metrics that will be used to govern CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes.

*These parameters are not mandatory for countries to use within their own national jurisdictions.

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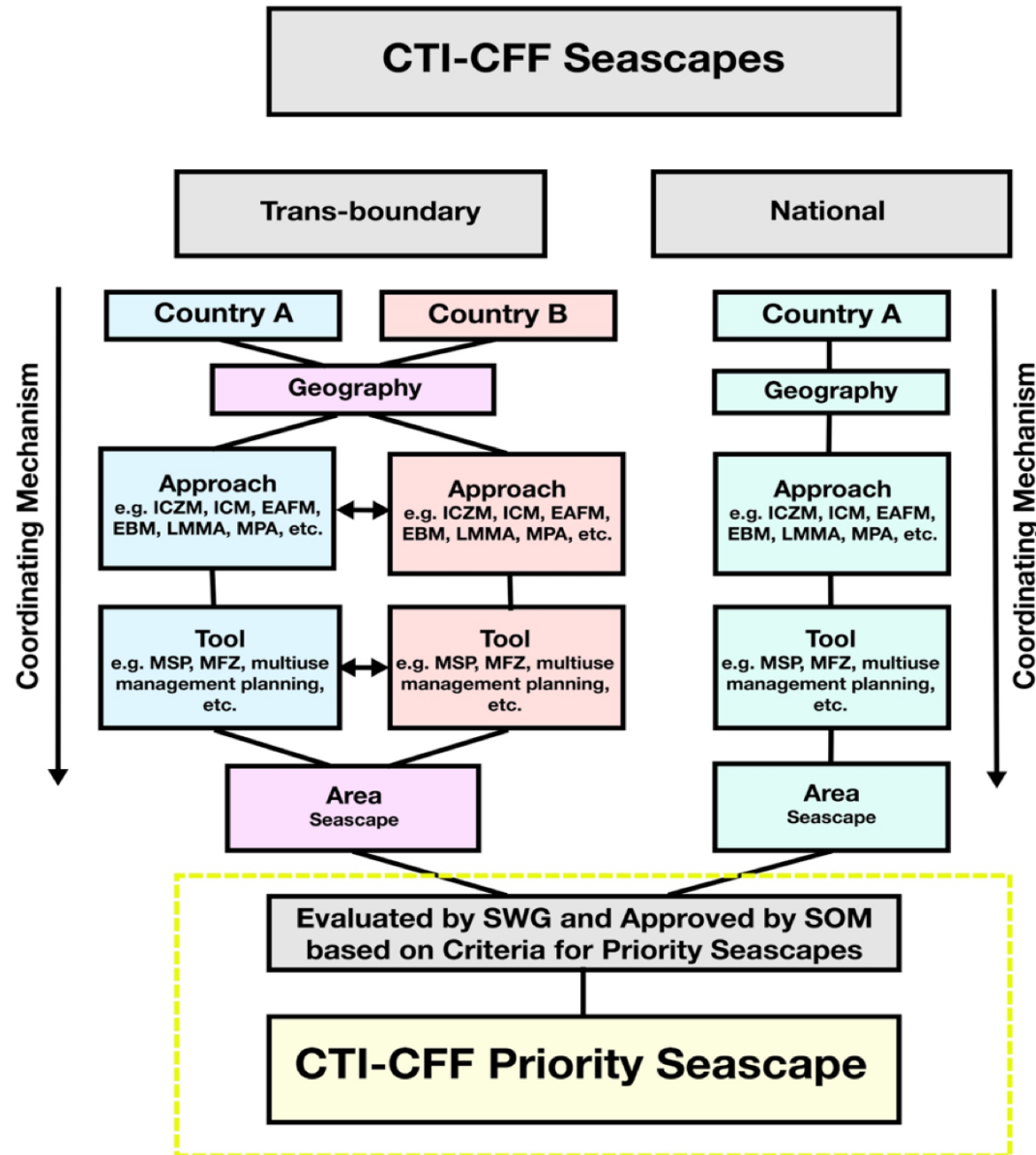
CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

Priority Seascapes are those Seascapes, which can be transboundary and/or national, that have been **evaluated based on the criteria** and **designated as "Priority"** by the Council of Senior Officials and Council of Ministers.

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CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

Goals for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

- **Integrate** the other goals of the CTI-CFF;

- **Trans-boundary** seascapes management may involve the **collaboration of two or more national governments**;

- Provide an **avenue for sustainable financing mechanisms** that allow the region to sustain management efforts.

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CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

Criteria for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

1. Each Priority Seascape demonstrates high values that bind and give purpose to the seascape. The specific high values of a Priority Seascape include at least three of the following:

   - Ecological significance (Examples: ecologically and biologically significant areas, key biodiversity areas, migratory routes, nesting sites for sea turtles, etc.)
   - Biological productivity
   - Economic (Existing or potential)
   - Cultural / heritage values
   - Resilience

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Criteria for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

2. Demonstrates significant connectivity within and outside the Priority Seascape in at least three out of the following ways:

- Biological
- Socio-Cultural
- Institutional (local government networks, official or unofficial)
- Economical

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Criteria for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

3. There must be sustainable economic and/or other human activities overlapping with and adding pressure/potential threat on the high values. (This is the justification for triggering the creation of a Priority Seascape.)

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Criteria for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

4. The following key enabling factors are present:

- Political will
- Governance
- Stakeholder support, engagement
- Opportunity – elaborate: collaboration and partnership, financial support from donor, etc. (add definition to explain that is outside of previous bullets topics)

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Criteria for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

5. A political and/or institutional enabling coordinating/governance mechanism is present (newly initiated or existing) in order to move the process of creating a seascape forward.

    Examples of enabling coordinating/governance mechanisms: Bilateral formal cooperation, treaties, Memorandum of Understanding, international agreements, CTI-CFF, CTI-CFF Sub-group, project, etc.

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Criteria for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

6. Priority Seascapes should have and contribute to the regional benefit of the CTI. The regional benefit of a specific Priority Seascape can come from a wide variety of factors including:

   - Ecological Factors
   - Social and Cultural Factors
   - Economic Factors
   - Biological representation
   - Regionally unique or significant phenomenon
   - Geographic representation

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Criteria for the Designation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

7. Priority Seascapes have data and information available and accessible for decision making.

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Designated Bodies

The Operational Process for nominating, evaluating, endorsing and approval Priority Seascapes involves the **participation of several Designated Bodies**. The **roles and responsibilities** of these bodies in the implementation of this process are outlined in the following slides.

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Designated Bodies

Council of Ministers (COM)
- Consider and adopt or reject endorsement from CSO

Council of Senior Officials (CSO):
- Consider and approve/disapprove recommendations from the SWG

National Coordinating Committees (NCCs):

- Nominate a Priority Seascape through SWG member
- Facilitate consultations in country
- Advisory body for implementation of a Priority Seascape
- Monitor and evaluate the Priority Seascapes to which they are party
- Identify the designated authority within the country to be the focal point for a Priority Seascape to which they are a party

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Designated Bodies

Regional Secretariat (RS):

- Overall coordination of review, establishment, coordination, planning, implementation, monitoring and/or evaluation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes.
- Facilitates the review and approval by CSO and COM
- Coordinating with the NCCs and SWG
- Preparation of the documents
- Ensuring alignment with the RPOA including the relating M&E WG
- Ensuring the CTI-CFF processes are followed
- Facilitate any proposals or projects submitted by the SWG for review and the NCC for approval
- Support the SWG to review and nomination of seascapes to be considered "priority"
- Establish and maintain a database for CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes

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Designated Bodies

Seascapes Working Group (SWG):
- Review the nomination of the Priority Seascape based on the criteria
- If accepted, make the recommendation to the SOM through the RS, if not, the nomination is given back to the recommending country(ies)
- Review and/or establish coordinating, planning, implementing, monitoring and/or evaluating mechanisms for Priority Seascapes that may be a sub-group or a separate body/group
- Administration of monitoring and evaluation systems
- The SWG may establish an evaluation team to review the nomination of the Priority Seascape or perform other functions relating to the nomination as determined by the SWG with support from the RS

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Designated Bodies

Sub-group:
- Carry out and perform activities tasked by the SWG
- They may be established and/or disbanded by the SWG
- The composition of the sub-group will be identified by the SWG in consultation with the NCCs
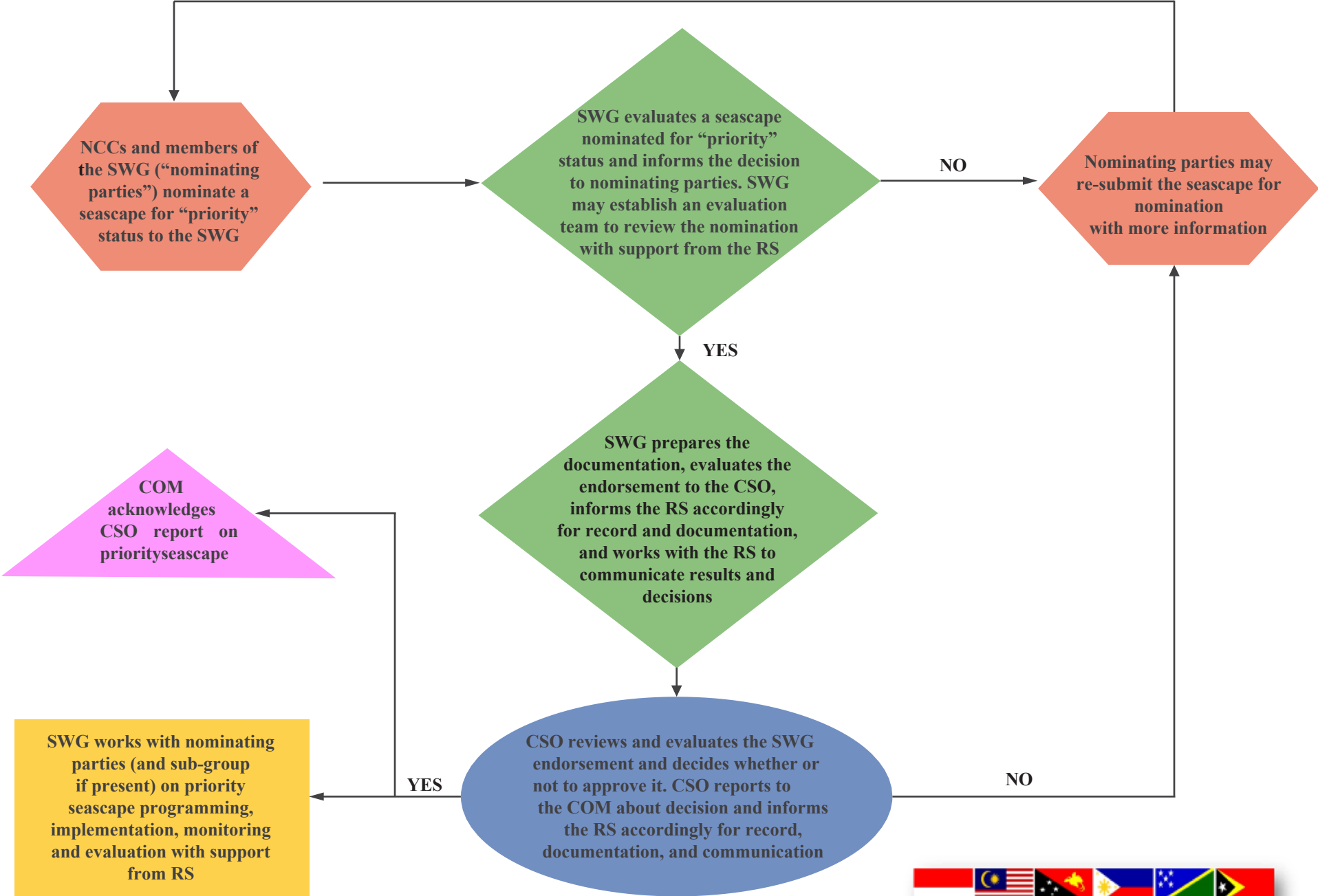
Partners:
- Support the development and implementation of CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes
- Communicate with both RS, NCCs, and SWG on activities and projects

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Operational Process

The process shown in the diagram outlines how CTI-CFF Priority Seascapes are **nominated, evaluated, endorsed and approved** within the CTI-CFF.

The sequence is the **pathway** by which an individual seascape is **designated as a "Priority Seascape"** and applies to seascapes that are both national and trans-boundary in nature.

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Operational Process

NCCs and members of the SWG ("nominating parties") nominate a seascape for "priority" status to the SWG

SWG evaluates a seascape nominated for "priority" status and informs the decision to nominating parties. SWG may establish an evaluation team to review the nomination with support from the RS

NO → **Nominating parties may re-submit the seascape for nomination with more information**

YES

SWG prepares the documentation, evaluates the endorsement to the CSO, informs the RS accordingly for record and documentation, and works with the RS to communicate results and decisions

COM acknowledges CSO report on priorityseascape

SWG works with nominating parties (and sub-group if present) on priority seascape programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation with support from RS

YES

CSO reviews and evaluates the SWG endorsement and decides whether or not to approve it. CSO reports to the COM about decision and informs the RS accordingly for record, documentation, and communication

NO

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Operational Process

For the designation of Priority Seascapes in the CTI, the following rules must be followed:

- If the proposed seascapes boundary involves **two or more countries**, representatives to the SWG from **each country must be involved in jointly nominating** to SWG.

- Any **regional assessment** on Priority Seascapes conducted by the Regional Secretariat **must consult with NCCs and SWG**.

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Monitoring and Evaluation

The set of indicators is intended to be used by the Regional Secretariat to **monitor and evaluate the status of Priority Seascapes** on the regional level. Individual Priority Seascapes will be monitored and evaluated based on indicators developing in the planning and implementation process.

1. Number of Priority Seascapes designated
2. Coordinating mechanisms for each "priority seascape" functioning to guide, monitor, and track efforts in the seascape/s
3. Number of Priority Seascapes with Action Plans and Investment Plans
4. Number of Priority Seascapes under continuous management based on the implementation of the Seascapes Action Plan
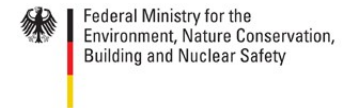
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We would like to acknowledge the work and support of the members of the CTI-CFF Seascapes Working Group, CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and Partners

For more information about Seascapes and the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security visit:

http://www.coraltriangleinitiative.org/seascapes