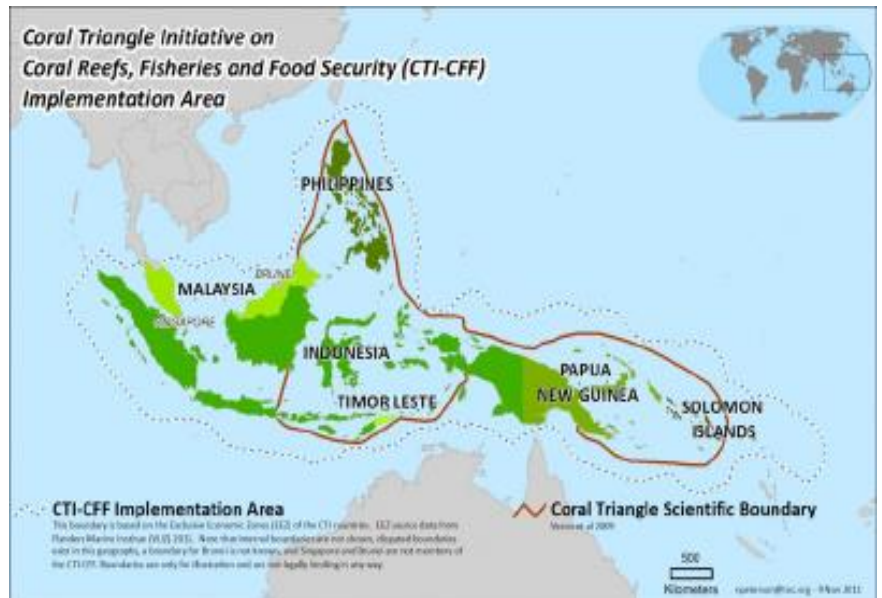




Seascapes within the Coral Triangle

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. In the agreement, these six countries came together to address urgent threats facing the coastal and marine resources of the Coral Triangle region, an area of approximately 2.3 million square miles, which includes the exclusive economic zones of each country.



The CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) was designed to leverage and coordinate action and investment across this vast expanse of ocean space. Goal 1 of the RPOA is “Priority Seascapes Designated and Effectively Managed.” This Goal directs CTI-CFF countries to prioritize large-scale geographies for investment and action and expand the use of best practices in these areas.

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WHAT IS A SEASCAPE?

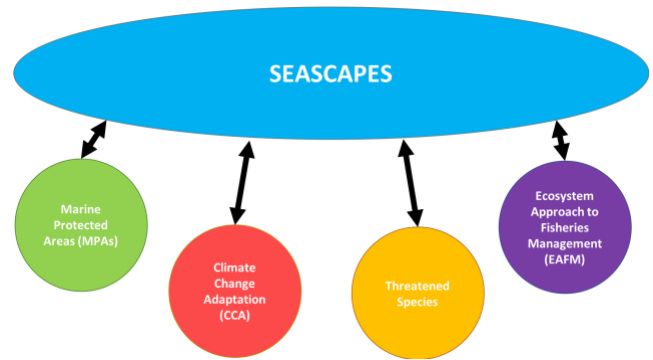
A seascape is **a geographic area where multiple uses and sectors, as well as multiple management designations and governance mechanisms, can be integrated and coordinated.** The area is often ecologically valued, politically relevant and logistically practical to manage, and can serve multiple purposes, such as fishing, tourism, recreation, and protection from some of the effects of climate change. As the countries of the Coral Triangle move forward, seascapes can offer benefits at the regional and national level.



The intention of the CTI-CFF was to establish seascapes as a tool for large-scale marine management that can both build a consistent framework for sustainable management as well as provide a platform for future investment.

BENEFITS OF SEASCAPES

Seascapes recognize the linkages and interdependence of the multiple sectors and users within the marine space. Within the CTI-CFF, Seascapes can serve as an umbrella to integrate all the Goals of the CTI-CFF and as a vehicle for integration. Within a geographic area, seascapes **integrate and incorporate various approaches**, utilize a **range of planning tools**, and bring together **different management agencies, sectors, and stakeholder groups** which may not traditionally work together within the same geography.



The five Goals of the CTI-CFF



NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY BENEFITS

- *Combining and Coordinating multiple types of policies and regulations* to limit conflicts between sectors, users or priorities
- *Standardizing management of marine activities and uses* such as fisheries and aquaculture, marine-based tourism, mining, shipping and navigation, and cultural activities
- *Assisting in the identification of priorities* for marine and coastal resource conservation and management, maximize economic opportunities in a sustainable manner, coordinate government agencies at different scales, and recognize traditional rights and practices of communities.
- *Pursuing multiple commitments, targets and goals* at both national and international levels to improve ecological and socio-economic well-being



ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- *Enhancing the security and predictability of benefits* to ocean users by ensuring transparency and efficiency of ocean uses and reducing user conflicts
- *Encouraging private sector investment in ocean activities*, such as eco-tourism and coastal development, through the creation of a stable and productive business environment
- *Ensuring the long-term sustainability of vital industries*, such as fishing and tourism, by managing local impacts and sustaining ocean health using the principles of ecosystem-based management; and
- *Inciting the development of alternative and supplemental industries*, which diversifies income generation and makes local economies less vulnerable to social and environmental impacts.



SOCIAL AND CULTURAL BENEFITS

- *Ensuring the inclusion of social equality, traditional knowledge and cultural values* by providing a platform for multi-stakeholder participation in management decisions and regimes;
- *Encouraging communication between national, provincial, and local government* and bringing together officials from different administrative or jurisdictional areas who may not otherwise plan together thereby facilitating cooperation across government levels and sectors;
- *Providing for the incorporation of customary rights and cultural nuances* into large-scale resource management through the flexible and collaborative planning process; and
- *Promoting transparency between communities and decision-makers* through open and participatory processes.