



CORAL  
TRIANGLE  
CENTER

Inspiring People Saving Oceans

# FOURTH QUARTER 2024 REPORT

CORAL TRIANGLE CENTER



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## CORAL TRIANGLE CENTER

A center of excellence in tropical marine resource management:  
Building local leadership for long-term conservation in the Coral Triangle



Inspiring People Saving Oceans

### VISION

Healthy seas that enrich people and nature.

### MISSION

To inspire and train generations to care for coastal and marine ecosystems.

### VALUES

#### Excellence

In the quality of our teaching. In the performance and integrity of our staff.  
In our commitment to being a world-class center of tropical resources management.

#### Local Stewardship

Based in the heart of the Coral Triangle, we maintain strong roots in the field and close ties to stakeholders at all levels. We value traditional knowledge and practices, and promote local ownership of our projects.

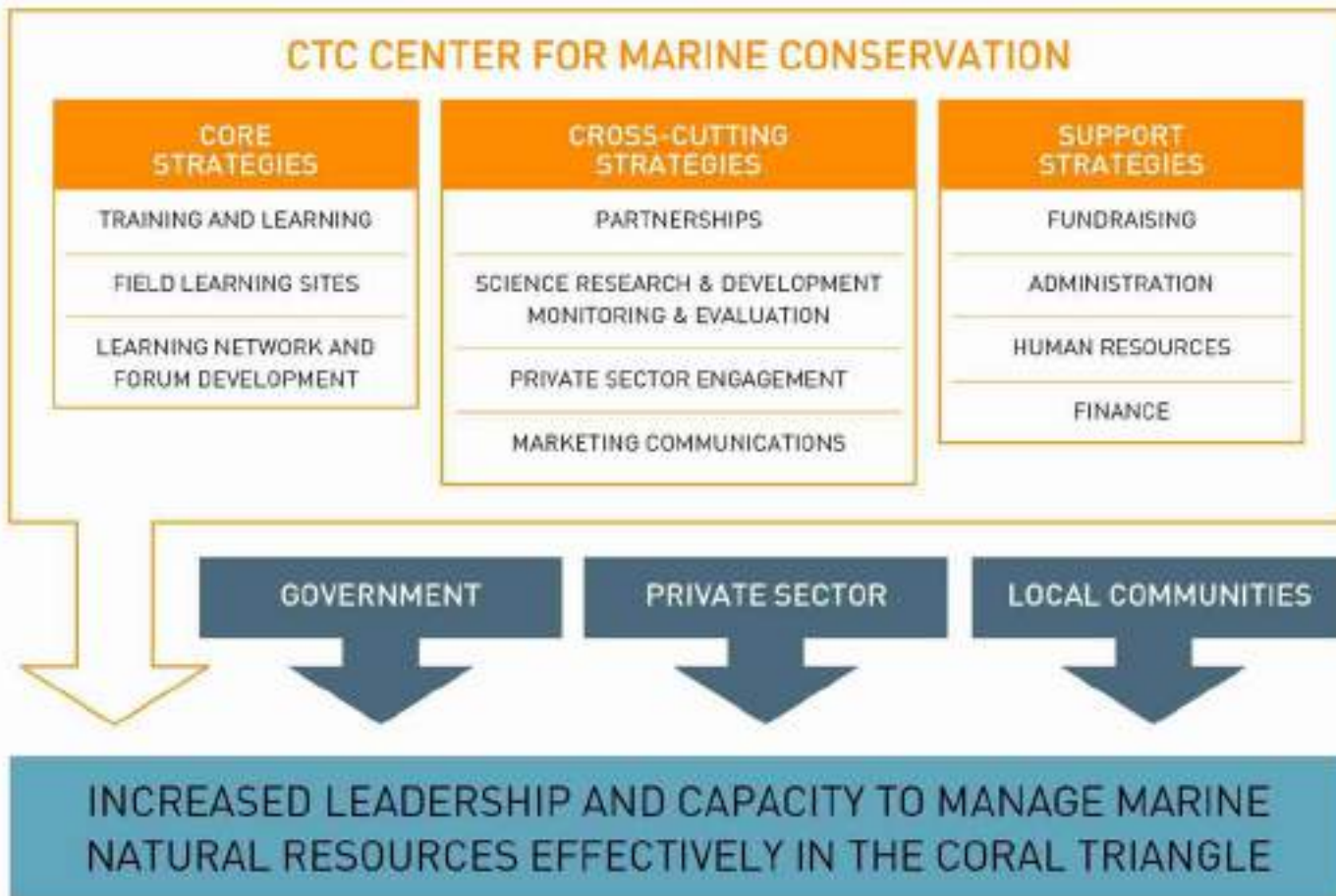
#### Collaboration

We build partnerships among leaders in government, communities, NGOs, education, and the private sector because only by engaging all constituencies can solutions be effective.

#### Result

We provide trusted information, are transparent in our actions, and hold ourselves accountable for the quality of our programs, changing our strategies as necessary and measuring our impact over time.

# CORAL TRIANGLE CENTER STRATEGIES



CTC is an official development partner of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) - a government-led initiative of the six countries of the Coral Triangle region namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste. CTC supports the CTI-CFF in cross-cutting activities such as capacity building, women empowerment, local government leadership, sustainable tourism and private sector engagement. CTC is also a member of the International World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)

# FOREWORD

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Convention of Parties (COP16), held in Colombia this year, underscored a defining challenge of our time: making peace with nature. As UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres emphasized, this task is not only urgent but must be a collective effort-one that redefines our relationship with nature and upholds climate justice for all.

One of the key outcomes of COP16 was the commitment to protecting 30% of the world's oceans by 2030, a critical step toward ensuring the health of marine ecosystems. Countries also agreed on an expanded role for Indigenous Peoples and local communities in biodiversity conservation, the adoption of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), and the ground breaking operationalization of a global mechanism for equitable sharing of genetic resources.

As a longstanding partner of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF), the Coral Triangle Center (CTC) remains steadfast in supporting regional conservation efforts. The renewal of our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat strengthens our commitment to the Regional Plan of Action 2.0. Our efforts include establishing effective Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), safeguarding threatened species, and delivering capacity-building programs through regional training, workshops, and learning exchanges.

This five-year MOU also prioritizes gender equality, youth engagement, and sustainable financing initiatives. As co-chair of the CTI-CFF Women Leaders Forum and a key implementer of the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap, CTC is dedicated to expanding and sustaining skills development across the Coral Triangle. Inclusivity remains at the heart of our mission, ensuring that all stakeholders benefit from our programs.

At the 19th Senior Officials Meeting and 9th Ministerial Meeting in Dili, in December, the six Coral Triangle countries - Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste - formally agreed to integrate the capacity-building roadmap we developed in collaboration with the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). This roadmap builds upon the tools we have developed over the years, such as the CTC Academy, MPA learning sites, and regional learning networks, to strengthen marine conservation efforts.

As we embark on our fourth five-year plan (2025-2029), we remain focused on addressing pressing environmental threats and aligning our initiatives with global, regional, national, and local conservation and sustainable development goals. Our commitment to the 2030 Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly Target 3 (30x30), will be implemented in an inclusive and equitable manner.

Looking ahead, CTC will continue fostering collaboration, aligning efforts, and leveraging collective expertise to secure a sustainable and resilient future for the Coral Triangle. Together, we can turn commitments into action and create a thriving marine environment for generations to come.



**Rili Djohani**  
Executive Director



# ON-THE-GROUND CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

## Celebrating a Milestone: Nusa Penida Designated as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA)



Nusa Penida Marine Protected Area (MPA) has reached a significant milestone in marine conservation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) officially designating it, along with Gili Matra, as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) during the 82nd session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC). This marks Nusa Penida as Indonesia's first PSSA, the second in Asia, and the 19th globally. The designation recognizes the unique ecological and socio-economic importance of these waters.

This achievement follows years of collaboration led by Indonesia's Ministry of Transportation's Directorate General of Sea Transportation (Ditjen Hubla Kemenhub), with support from the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and the Institute of Technology Sepuluh Nopember (ITS).



The Coral Triangle Center (CTC) contributed crucial data, reports, and insights on biodiversity and socio-economic conditions, alongside hosting discussions to strengthen the effort. Support from 21 IMO member countries, including Brazil, Australia, and South Africa, highlights the global significance of protecting these areas.



The PSSA designation is vital due to the high shipping traffic in the Lombok Strait, a maritime route near the PSSA, with over 77,000 annual ship transits, including tankers and container ships carrying chemicals and oil. This poses a threat of maritime pollution and accidents, underlining the need for protective measures.



Indonesia's success in securing the PSSA designation strengthens its commitment to marine conservation and sets the stage for additional PSSA designations in 11 other conservation areas along the Indonesian Archipelagic Sea Lanes (ALKI). This achievement is a testament to the power of collaboration in safeguarding marine ecosystems for future generations.

## CTC Reef Health Monitoring Update: Exciting Gains and Crucial Next Steps for Nusa Penida MPA

CTC in collaboration with the Coastal and Marine Resource Management Center (IUPTD), Denpasar Coastal and Marine Resources Management Center (BPSPL) and local volunteers from Temple Dive, Sanctum Dive and Legend Dive, successfully completed a Reef Health Monitoring and Coral Resilience Assessment across 14 sites in the Nusa Penida MPA.



This year's monitoring focused on coral reef resilience, water quality, sediment, and algae, with benthic cover data collected using the Point Intercept Transect (PIT) and Underwater Photo Transect (UPT) methods. Early results show promising developments: coral cover has increased in Atuh, Suwehan, and Manta Point, while coral bleaching in Manta Bay and Crystal Bay has decreased. Fish populations have also increased, with surgeonfish and reef snappers being the most abundant species. Similarly, 36 turtles were observed, predominantly hawksbill and green turtles.



In terms of resilience, the overall resistance and recovery values for all RHM 2024 sites showed improvement, except for Ceningan Point. Mangrove Point recorded the highest resilience value at 65, while Manta Bay had the lowest at 48. Additionally, killer sponges and crown-of-thorns starfish (COT) were observed at several sites.



However, recovery values at Ceningan Point showed slower progress, highlighting areas for future focus. The data collected will be analyzed further to assess indicators of marine pollution and inform future conservation efforts. This initiative emphasizes CTC's on-going commitment to protect and preserve Nusa Penida's rich marine ecosystem for future generations.



## Coral Reef Monitoring Update: Exploring Resilience in the Lease Islands, Maluku Province



CTC and the Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (DKP) of Maluku Province recently concluded a coral reef monitoring survey in the Lease Islands Marine Protected Area (MPA) from October 15-25, 2024. The 14-member team included representatives from CTC, DKP Maluku, Pattimura University students, local communities, and women activist Soraya Rahmad. Their goal was to assess coral reef health, examine marine ecosystem resilience, and evaluate the impacts of human activity and pollution.

The team conducted dives at 24 sites, including key areas under consideration for Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECM) status, and used underwater survey methods such as Point Intercept Transect (PIT), Underwater Photo Transect (UPT), and Underwater Visual Census (UVC). They also sampled sediment and algae for pollution analysis.

Preliminary findings showed a generally healthy coral ecosystem, with Live Hard Coral Cover (LHCC) averaging 42.3%, slightly lower than the 46.5% observed in 2020. Fish communities were abundant, with vibrant coral colors and minimal bleaching, though fish biomass decreased to 1,034.99 kg/ha from 1,234.12 kg/ha in 2020, indicating increasing fishing pressures.

Resilience scores varied, with sites like Abubu, Nalahia, and Oma showing the highest resilience, while Haruku Petuanan and Itawaka needed more attention. A surprise sighting of a dugong in Saparua Bay highlighted the area's biodiversity. Despite challenges, the survey's data will inform targeted conservation strategies, contributing to CTC's ongoing efforts to protect the Lease Islands MPA and ensure the resilience of its marine ecosystems for the future.



## Continued Deployment of Zoning Boundary Markers in Samba Sembilan MPA, Timor-Leste



On October 9, 2024, CTC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, and Forestry (MALFF), local government of Liquiçá, and the local community, successfully deployed zoning boundary markers in Samba Sembilan MPA. This milestone enhances MPA management, strengthens marine conservation efforts, and establishes a clearer framework for sustainable resource management.

Named after a local hero, the Samba Sembilan MPA was declared in 2023 and encompasses over 8,000 hectares of Liquiçá's waters and marine ecosystems. The MPA includes four designated zones: the core zone, marine tourism zone, sustainable fisheries zone, and utilization zone. Since 2017, CTC and local partners have supported MALFF in establishing the Samba Sembilan MPA.

The deployment of these markers represents a significant step forward in supporting the MPA management. About 8 zoning markers are deployed in Samba Sembilan MPA. They play a crucial role in defining zones for sustainable use, helping to protect marine biodiversity while supporting local livelihoods. Previously, we also supported the deployment of zoning boundary markers in the Atauro Island MPA.

A ceremonial launch of the deployment markers was held on November 22, 2024 to raise public awareness of the MPA zoning systems. With the successful deployment of boundary markers in the Atauro Island MPA and the Samba Sembilan MPA, CTC committed to collaboratively enhancing marine protection and promoting the sustainable use of marine resources in Timor-Leste's waters.



# BUILDING CAPACITY IN MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## Empowering Conservation Leaders: Strengthening the Management of Karimata Islands Marine Nature Reserve

From November 18-22, 2024, CTC in collaboration with Yayasan Planet Indonesia (YPI) conducted the final Conservation Area Management Planning Training and competency assessment for 17 participants, including staff from the West Kalimantan Nature Conservation Agency (BKSDA Kalimantan Barat) and YPI. This training wrapped up a series of sessions held in August and October 2024, aimed at building capacity to manage the Karimata Islands Marine Nature Reserve (CALK Karimata).



This five-day program combined classroom sessions, a hands-on learning trip, and assessment preparation. Participants spent three days in class, followed by a fun learning trip to Nusa Lembongan, where they explored the Nusa Penida Marine Protected Area (MPA), coral reef restoration techniques, and mangrove ecotourism. The final day was dedicated to refresher sessions in preparation for the competency assessment.



On November 22, the competency assessment tested knowledge at the operator and expert levels. Topics covered at the operator level included the principles of conservation areas, while expert-level assessments focused on advanced management planning. "CTC, and its trainers, managed to package the training in a way that was not boring, dry, tense, or monotonous. The training sessions were presented in an interesting and professional manner," said Yoga, First Forest Ecosystem Controller at BKSDA.



The participants expressed how the training equipped them with valuable skills and knowledge, essential for effectively managing the Karimata Islands Marine Nature Reserve (CALK Karimata). CTC is proud to have played a key role in strengthening the capacity of local conservation leaders and advancing marine protection efforts in the region.

## Learning Exchange Aims to Strengthen MPAs in Bali and West Nusa Tenggara



CTC facilitated a knowledge exchange between Bali and West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) provincial governments to strengthen marine conservation management across Indonesia. Held from November 28 to 30, 2024, the event focused on the development of Public Service Agencies (BLUD) to enhance local marine conservation efforts.



Key stakeholders included officials from Bali's Organization Bureau, Legal Bureau, Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), Bali Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (DKP Bali), and the Technical Implementation Unit of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Bali (UPTD KKP Bali). From NTB, participants included representatives from the NTB Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (DKP NTB), Assistant II for the Regional Secretariat of the NTB Provincial Government (Asisten II Setda Provinsi NTB), and the Head of BLUD MPA of NTB, alongside conservation partners like the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).

The three-day exchange allowed participants to learn from Bali's successes and challenges in establishing the BLUD KKP model, a critical framework for regional marine governance. The delegation visited the Gita Nada Marine Protected Area (MPA) in West Lombok, a key example of BLUD management.



A significant focus of the discussions was fostering collaboration between local governments, conservation organizations, and other stakeholders for practical and sustainable marine protection. Participants outlined steps for creating a BLUD in NTB and discussed creating a separate management entity for Nusa Perida, to improve management of its unique marine ecosystems.



The event concluded with agreements on drafting governance documents, strategic plans, service standards, and financial projections for BLUD establishment. CTC's facilitation underscored its commitment to fostering community-driven marine conservation models across Indonesia, ensuring the sustainability of marine protected areas.

## Strengthening Marine Conservation Knowledge through Training for Future Leaders

CTC conducted a Marine Conservation Action Planning (MCAP) training for 74 final-year students of Politeknik Ahli Usaha Perikanan (AUP) in Jakarta from December 3-6, 2024. This training, part of CTC's collaboration with Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (KKP), aimed to equip students with practical strategies for effective marine resource management.



Led by CTC Training Specialist Denny Boy Mochran and Nusa Perida Project Leader Evi Nurul Ihsan, the course introduced students to the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation (OSPC) framework and hands-on use of MIRADI software, a globally recognized conservation planning tool.



Over four days, students learned to identify conservation targets, analyze threats, and design marine protection strategies. Interactive discussions, guided exercises, and group work helped them bridge theory with real-world application.

"This training is crucial in preparing young professionals to face real-world conservation challenges," said Denny Boy. "By equipping them with tools like MIRADI, we're helping build a new generation of marine leaders."



Vice Director I of Politeknik AUP, Heri Triyono, praised the initiative, stating, "The knowledge gained here will not only improve their skills but also serve as a foundation for future conservation efforts."



Students found the training highly relevant, with many reporting improved understanding of stakeholder analysis and action planning. CTC remains committed to capacity building, ensuring Indonesia's marine biodiversity is protected for generations to come.



# PARTNERSHIPS AND LEARNING NETWORKS

## CTC Renews Partnership Agreement with the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat



Leaders from the six Coral Triangle nations—Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste—convened in Dili, Timor-Leste, for the 19th Senior Officials' Meeting and 9th Ministerial Meeting of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF). Held from December 1-6, 2024, at Timor Plaza Hotel, the event set ambitious 2025 conservation goals to tackle overfishing, climate change, and pollution affecting marine ecosystems and the livelihoods of 130 million coastal residents.



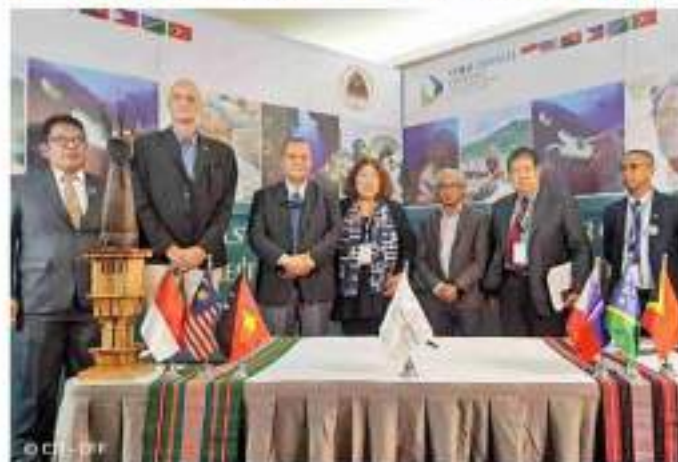
Delegates reviewed progress under the Regional Plan of Action 2.0 (2021-2030) and outlined key priorities, including large-scale area management, habitat protection, and reducing human impact on marine environments. A major milestone was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CTI-CFF and Coral Triangle Center (CTC), strengthening collaboration on MPA management, seascape approaches, capacity-building, and community empowerment.



CTC Executive Director Rili Djohani, speaking on behalf of the seven CTI-CFF partners, reaffirmed CTC's commitment to marine conservation, sustainable fisheries, and gender-inclusive capacity-building. CTC co-chairs the Women Leaders Forum and supports the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap.



Other partners, including GIZ SOMACORE, USAID, Conservation International, IUCN, and WCS, emphasized the urgent need for regional cooperation to sustain fisheries and biodiversity, reinforcing the Coral Triangle's global significance.



## New Scientific Paper: Prospective Ecological Contributions of Potential Marine OECMs and MPAs to Enhance Marine Conservation in Indonesia

Indonesia is exploring Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) to complement its Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). This study highlights that the recognition of 382 potential OECMs could add to the nation's conservation efforts, supporting the preservation of unique ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrasses, and coral reefs. While these OECMs are smaller and located in diverse coastal contexts, they offer unique governance strengths and socioeconomic benefits. By formally recognizing these areas, Indonesia could strengthen its marine conservation network, MPAs and potential OECMs collectively contributing to conserving 13% of the nation's waters by 2030.

CTC Senior Program Manager Hesti Widodo is one of the co-authors of this paper along with other Indonesian scientists. Read more: [bit.ly/NewPaperOECM](https://bit.ly/NewPaperOECM)



## CTC Joins CTI-CFF Marine Protected Area Regional Exchange



CTC joined the 10th Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Technical Regional Exchange (REX) and MPA Technical Working Group Meeting, which took place from October 7-10, 2024 in Manado. Organized by the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF), the event gathered MPA focal points from six Coral Triangle countries and strategic partners, including the Coral Triangle Center (CTC), IUCN, GIZ, WWF, and Konservasi Indonesia. Discussions centered on strengthening MPA management to support biodiversity, sustainable livelihoods, and coral reef resilience.



Key topics included MPA effectiveness, financing, data management, and the adoption of the IUCN Green List, a global standard recognizing well-managed protected areas. The event also focused on the 30x30 target, which aims to protect 30% of marine areas by 2030, and the development of the Coral Triangle Marine Protected Areas System (CTMPAS).



CTC played a pivotal role, with Executive Director Rili Djohani, GIS Lead Nyoman Suardana, and Nusa Penida Project Leader Evi Nurul Ihsan contributing expertise on capacity-building and data management. A field trip to Bunaken National Park showcased best practices in MPA management. The meeting concluded with setting the 2025 work plan, reinforcing regional collaboration and commitment to marine conservation.



## Enlivening ICSCR 2024, CTC Showcases Global and Local Cultural Approaches to Coral Conservation



CTC highlighted the critical role of cultural heritage and local wisdom in coral reef conservation during its side event, "Global and Local Culture, Capacity Building for Coral Issues", held on December 14, 2024, at the International Conference on Sustainable Coral Reefs in Manado, Indonesia. The event gathered over 70 participants and 30 schoolchildren to discuss the integration of traditional practices and modern conservation efforts in the Coral Triangle, the world's most biodiverse marine region.



CTC Executive Director Rili Djohani opened the discussion, emphasizing, "By weaving traditional wisdom with modern conservation efforts, we can protect coral reefs more effectively." Experts shared insights on successful cultural conservation models, including Sasi in Maluku, presented by BRIN Senior Researcher Dr. Regina Melianawati Sudjono, and Tara Bandu in Timor-Leste, highlighted by Walter Oliveira Soares. Program Manager Evelyn Deguit from the Philippines and WWF Malaysia's Choo Poh Leem showcased community-driven conservation in Central Visayas and Sabah, respectively. Sea Women of Melanesia Coordinator, Jacintha Jonathan underscored the vital role of women in coral reef protection in Papua New Guinea.

Indonesian leaders, including Muhammad Saleh Garo (Alor MPA) and Syafri (Raja Ampat MPA), shared community-led reef management successes. M. Imran Amin (YKAN) discussed cultural education efforts under the USAID Kolektif Project, while Sandra Tjan and conservationists Purwanto and Noni Tuharea presented initiatives like the Kalesang Dugong Project in Maluku.



The event concluded with youth engagement activities, including a puppet show, fun learning games and storytelling blending traditional art with marine conservation. CTC Senior Program Manager Dr. Hesti Widodo reinforced the importance of cultural heritage, stating, "Local knowledge and traditions hold the keys to resilience." The side event underscored the need to integrate cultural wisdom into conservation strategies for a sustainable future.



## EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

### Adopt-a-Mangrove Program Launched to Mitigate Climate Change and Restore Nusa Penida MPA's Mangrove Ecosystems



CTC has officially launched the \*Adopt-a-Mangrove\* program, inviting the public to participate in restoring mangrove forests in Nusa Penida Marine Protected Area (MPA). Nusa Lembongan's mangrove forests, home to 13 species, provide crucial habitats, support local livelihoods, and protect shorelines from storm surges.



"Through the Adopt-a-Mangrove program, we aim to foster a sense of ownership, responsibility, and appreciation among local communities and visitors, highlighting the critical role mangroves play in maintaining biodiversity and mitigating climate change," said Wira Sanjaya, CTC Bali Portfolio Manager.



To strengthen conservation efforts, CTC has partnered with the local community group Gili Bhuana, signing an MoU to operate a mangrove nursery, provide educational opportunities, and engage the public in replanting initiatives. "Together with Gili Bhuana, we are dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of these ecosystems and inspiring collective action to protect them," said CTC Executive Director, Rili Djohani.



The program offers hands-on activities, including planting mangrove seedlings with children and community members. "We provide mangrove seedlings to children and community members, allowing them to actively participate in the planting process," said I Wayan Suarbawa of Gili Bhuana.



Participants can also adopt baby mangroves online or at CTC's Center for Marine Conservation in Sanur, receiving a certificate, a photo of their mangrove, and an annual impact report. By engaging diverse stakeholders, \*Adopt-a-Mangrove\* aims to promote lasting support for mangrove conservation, helping mitigate climate change and restore Nusa Penida's coastal ecosystems.

## Coral Restoration Takes the Stage in Nusa Penida Festival 2024



CTC continued its restoration efforts at the Nusa Penida Festival 2024 on October 11, 2024. In collaboration with Nuansa Pulau Community Group, CTC installed a total of 80 Reef Stars with 1,200 coral fragments at the restoration site in Ped Village.

During the coral tying process to the 35 Reef Stars, we were helped by approximately 20 students of the elementary school from Nusa Lembongan. It was a great opportunity for the students to gain hands-on experience in coral reef restoration. The event was also attended by I Nyoman Jendrika, the acting regent of Klungkung, who participated actively in tying the coral fragments to the Reef Stars.

The Nusa Penida Festival is an annual festival celebrating the rich culture and natural beauty of Nusa Penida Islands. The festival features a variety of activities, such as traditional dance performances, art exhibitions, and culinary events featuring local Balinese food, as well as activities to emphasize environmental stewardship, such as coral reef restoration. The festival highlights the importance of the environment, especially marine conservation and community involvement in protecting Nusa Penida's marine ecosystems.

By participating in the event, CTC not only promoted its coral restoration program but also raised public awareness about the crucial role of coral reefs in our oceans. Furthermore, CTC also strengthens its commitment in supporting marine conservation efforts in the Nusa Penida MPA for a better future.



## Engaging Communities for Marine Conservation: CTC's Outreach and MPA Awareness in Timor-Leste

CTC successfully conducted the "Diskusuan Konservasi" outreach series in Timor-Leste, engaging youth in marine conservation discussions. The first session on November 5, 2024, featured Lenuk Tasi, a youth group advocating for sea turtle conservation, and introduced CTC's Marine Protected Area (MPA) framework to 15 participants. On November 15, 2024, another session focused on "Advocating for Cetacean Conservation through Photography," with guest speaker Potenzo Lopes emphasizing ethical wildlife photography.



The third session, on November 25, 2024, brought together 23 participants, including university students and volunteers, to discuss the significance of MPAs in Timor-Leste. Participants expressed strong interest in further discussions on marine conservation. The final session on December 5, 2024, explored "The Whale Season in Timor - Challenges and Opportunities for Economic Growth," with experts from the Association of Marine Tourism Timor-Leste. CTC's leadership team also joined, enriching the dialogue.

Additionally, on November 26, 2024, CTC and Atauro MPA's management installed educational signboards in Beloi and Vila, enhancing public awareness of MPA regulations. These initiatives highlight CTC's commitment to sustainable marine conservation, empowering local communities and fostering long-term stewardship of Timor-Leste's marine ecosystems.

## Sanur's Future Ocean Keepers Celebrate Graduation



The Ocean Keeper Club (OKC) celebrated a significant milestone on December 21, 2024, as 44 students and teachers gathered at the Center for Marine Conservation for their graduation after completing 12 engaging learning sessions. Designed to inspire the next generation of ocean stewards, the program introduced students to marine ecosystems, conservation challenges, and practical solutions.



The event honored students' dedication, awarding eight participants for perfect attendance and recognizing outstanding teachers. "The students were very excited to join the OKC activities. They were introduced early to the understanding that small actions to care for the ocean can have a significant impact in the future," said Ni Wayan Damiasih, a teacher from SDN 2 Sanur, who was named Best Teacher for OKC 2024.



OKC, a Coral Triangle Center (CTC) initiative, engages children through interactive sessions on mangrove ecosystems, seagrass meadows, coral reefs, and plastic pollution. Activities like Wayang Samudra, a traditional storytelling puppet show, reinforce conservation messages in a creative way. "I am very happy to learn more about the ocean. Through OKC, I have learned about many types of fish. I hope the ocean can be better protected so it becomes more beautiful," shared Kadek Dinda Kirana, an OKC participant.



Since 2022, OKC has reached over 1,200 children across Indonesia. This year focused on local students from Sanur, shifting back to in-person sessions post-pandemic. "Our big dream is for children across Indonesia to join this program," said Herni Frilia, CTC's Education and Outreach Coordinator. OKC's success underscores education's power in shaping future ocean keepers.



# CENTER FOR MARINE CONSERVATION

## CTC Hosts Pew Marine Conservation Fellows Annual Meeting



A key highlight was a roundtable discussion on human rights-based approaches to ocean conservation. Experts emphasized the need to uphold local community rights while protecting marine ecosystems, reinforcing the link between social equity and sustainable conservation strategies.

The event concluded with a vibrant tour of CTC's immersive exhibition, showcasing Indonesia's marine conservation efforts. Guests enjoyed a dinner with live jazz music, followed by a "Wayang Samudra" performance—an artistic tribute to ocean conservation that blended cultural storytelling with environmental advocacy.

This gathering underscored the importance of integrating science, culture, and human rights in marine conservation, reinforcing CTC's commitment to fostering inclusive and sustainable ocean stewardship.

CTC proudly hosted the Pew Fellows Program in Marine Conservation 2024 in Bali, bringing together over 100 global scientists, conservation leaders, and marine experts. This prestigious event fostered collaboration, knowledge exchange, and discussions on the future of marine conservation.

The program began with an introduction to Tri Hita Karana, a Balinese philosophy promoting harmony between people, nature, and the divine. Participants explored its application in the Nusa Penida Marine Protected Area (MPA), demonstrating how traditional wisdom can complement modern conservation efforts.



## Dutch Artist Anne van Borselen Transforms CTC's Entrance with Stunning Marine Murals

At B7, the vibrant Dutch artist Anne van Borselen has returned to Bali with her signature energy, volunteering once again at Coral Triangle Center (CTC). This time, Anne dedicated her talents to completing vivid images of marine animals on CTC's entrance fence. Anne, based in Amsterdam, is a frequent visitor to Bali and has roots in both Dutch and Indonesian art. Born in Surabaya in 1937, she comes from a family of artists. Her mother, Emiria Soenassa, was a renowned Indonesian painter, and her great-great-grandfather, J.W. van Borselen, was a celebrated landscape artist for King William III of the Netherlands.



Known for her vibrant, layered combination of colors and motifs, Anne works across various artistic mediums, bringing a distinctive freeform style to her art pieces. We had the pleasure of sitting down with her to discuss the inspirations behind her captivating artworks. In under four hours, Anne painted captivating depictions of a whale, turtle, and various fish, transforming the fence into a vibrant homage to marine life. Her work celebrates the beauty of Bali's ocean creatures, with more to come, including stunning renditions of a manta ray, dugong, and mola fish, set to further brighten the CTC's entrance.

"I hope people will learn from this area, and learn to respect everything and see the beauty of the animals," says Anne.



# ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## Staff Retreat and Work Planning 2025

From November 8-9, 2024, the CTC team participated in a staff retreat in the beautiful setting of Uluwatu, Bali. The retreat featured fun team-building activities that strengthened collaboration and deepened connections among team members.

Following that, on November 11-12, 2024, the team held their annual two-day work plan meeting to review past efforts and develop strategies for the 2025-2029 strategic plan. This important gathering provided a chance to reflect on achievements, address challenges, and ensure all initiatives align with CTC's mission to conserve marine biodiversity. The meeting included breakout sessions for in-depth discussions and problem-solving, along with detailed presentations from each division and program. These sessions offered valuable insights to guide future plans and refine goals.

Together, the retreat and work plan meeting reinforced CTC's commitment to its mission and team, laying a strong foundation for effective and sustainable marine conservation efforts. CTC also began working with consultants from MDF Indonesia to develop its 4th Five-Year Strategic Plan for 2025-2029.

MDF, with headquarters in the Netherlands, consists of a diverse team of professionals with complementary expertise in training and consultancy for development. MDF provides learning trajectories, advisory guidance, facilitation, evaluations, enterprise development, and partnership services worldwide. Its pool of in-house experts combines international quality with local knowledge, and our offices worldwide enable us to offer context-appropriate and cost-effective services.



## New Team Members



### Kayla Azzahra, Multimedia Communications Officer

Kayla Azzahra joined CTC in October 2024 as a Multimedia Communications Officer. A Marine Science graduate from Universitas Diponegoro, she brings a strong passion for marine life conservation and sustainability. Kayla has experience in design, publication, and documentation, with a focus on raising awareness about environmental issues. She has also led eco-friendly initiatives, such as beach cleanups and mangrove planting. In her new role, Kayla will enhance CTC's social media presence and collaborate on innovative strategies to promote the organization's mission. Outside of work, she enjoys illustration, music, and sports, embracing opportunities for growth and creativity.



### Agostinho Andy, Timor-Leste Project Leader

Agostinho Andy joined CTC in November 2024 as the Timor-Leste Project Leader, managing programs and operations in Timor-Leste. He leads efforts to strengthen marine protected areas (MPAs), build capacity for multi-stakeholder engagement, and develop annual work plans, budgets, and reports in collaboration with government agencies and partners. As part of the Lesser Sunda Portfolio team, Andy also supports coastal and marine programs at the country and regional levels. Andy, a Timorese professional based in Dili, holds a Bachelor's degree in Animal Husbandry from Mercu Buana University and a Master's in Geology from Padjadjaran University, Indonesia. With expertise in project management, data analysis, and technical assistance, his previous roles include serving as the Monitoring and Evaluation Manager for the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, Technical Adviser at the Instituto do Petróleo e Geologia, and Senior Lecturer at the National University of Timor-Leste. Andy's dedication to environmental and community development projects aligns seamlessly with CTC's mission.



### Bambang Wicaksono (Sony), CTC Policy Coordinator

Bambang Wicaksono, also known as Sony, joined CTC as Policy Coordinator to support the implementation of the 10-Year MPA Vision Roadmap. His role focuses on achieving national MPA targets, fostering cross-sectoral government relations, and engaging with key ministries and institutions such as MMAF, MoF, MoHA, and BRIN. Sony will also address policy issues related to MPAs, sustainable marine tourism, climate change, and marine debris while representing CTC at national and provincial meetings and workshops. Sony holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Master's in Public Policy from Gadjah Mada University. His extensive professional experience includes roles with Bappenas, MMAF, ATR/BPN, USAID, DFAT, the World Bank, and UNDP. As part of the Lesser Sunda team, Sony's expertise in governance, institutional strengthening, and policy development will be pivotal in advancing CTC's initiatives.

# COLLABORATION

## National Governments in the Asia Pacific Region

01. Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Secretariat and National Coordinating Committees
02. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Timor-Leste
03. Center for South China Studies of Ministry Foreign Affairs
04. Department of Marine Parks, Malaysia
05. Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

## Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) of the Government of Indonesia

01. MMAF Human Resources & Community Development Agency (BPSDM-KP)
02. MMAF DG KP3K, Directorate KKJI
03. MMAF Directorate Marine Biodiversity Conservation Area (BKHL)\*
04. MMAF Fisheries Training Center in Banyuwangi
05. MMAF Fisheries Training Center in Tegal
06. MMAF Fisheries Training Center in Ambon
07. MMAF BPSPL Denpasar
08. MMAF Balai Kawasan Konservasi Perairan Nasional (BKPPN) Kupang
09. MMAF Pengawas Sumberdaya Kelautan Pas Banda

## Provincial Governments and Agencies

01. Bali Provincial Government (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan)
02. NTT Provincial Government (Dewan Kawasan Konservasi Perairan Nasional - BKPPN)
03. Maluku Provincial Government (Bappeda and Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan)
04. Klungkung District Government (Bupati, Bappeda, Dinas Peternakan - Perikanan dan Kelautan, Dinas Pariwisata)
05. Klungkung Regency Government (Pemerintah Klungkung)
06. Central Maluku District Government (District Planning and Marine-Fisheries Office)
07. Seram Timur District Government (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan)
08. Certification Institute for Marine Core Competencies - LSPK (Lembaga Sertifikasi Profesi Kelautan)
09. Pusat Pelatihan Mandiri Kelautan dan Perikanan (P2MKP)
10. Balai Teknologi Industri Kreatif Keramik (BBPT-BTIKK)
11. Balai Pengelolaan Hutan Mangrove Wilayah I

## Non Government Organizations

01. International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)
02. Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC)
03. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
04. The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
05. World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
06. Conservation International (CI)
07. RARE Conservation
08. Conservation Strategic Fund (CSF)
09. Pusat Pendidikan Lingkungan Hidup (PPLH) Bali
10. Yayasan Bahera Nusantara - Bali
11. Yayasan Nusa Wisata, Nusa Penda
12. Friends of National Park Foundation - Nusa Penda
13. Yayasan Warisan Budaya Banda Naira - Kepulauan Banda
14. Aquatic Alliance Foundation
15. Yayasan Masyarakat dan Perikanan Indonesia (MDPI)
16. Mission Blue
17. Plastic Pollution Coalition
18. Reef Word Foundation
19. Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)
20. Starling Resources
21. Oceanic Society
22. Lembaga Partisipasi Pembangunan Masyarakat (LPPM)
23. aL. SiL. Kie Raha
24. Yayasan Bailao
25. Role Foundation
26. Australian Volunteers International (AVI)
27. Studio Gelombang
28. Seattle Aquarium
29. Mars Sustainable Solutions

## Academic Institutions

01. Australian Tropical Marine Alliance (ATMA)
02. Murdoch University - Australia
03. Georgia University - USA
04. Wageningen University - Netherlands
05. Western University of Australia
06. Victoria Shanghai Academy - Hongkong
07. Indonesian Institute for Science - LIPI
08. Institut Pertanian Bogor - IPB
09. Brawijaya University - UNIBRAW
10. Udayana University - UNUD
11. Hasanudin University - UNHAS
12. Diponegoro University - UNDIP
13. Pattimura University - UNPATTI
14. University Warmadewa in Bali
15. Sekolah Tinggi Perikanan - STP
16. Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha Singaraja - UNDIKSA
17. University of Khairun
18. Sekolah Tinggi Perikanan Hetta Syahrir
19. University of Darussalam

## Private/Corporates/Agencies

01. World Ocean Council
02. Young Presidents Organization
03. National Geographic Society
04. Asian Geographic Magazines Pte Ltd
05. The Body Shop Indonesia
06. Jenggala
07. Grand Luley Resort
08. Kummara
09. GummyBox
10. OceanBeltz
11. PADI
12. Hotels in Bali (Hard Rock Hotel Bali, Fairmont, Mercure, Sudamala, Prama, Sanur Paradise, Tanjung Sari)
13. Dive Operators Community Komodo (DOCK)
14. GAHAWISRI Bali
15. GAHAWISRI Maluku
16. Smiling Tours
17. Buffalo Tours
18. Tierra Mar
19. Sustainable Solutions
20. Studio JVG

## Bali and Nusa Penida

01. Lembongan Marine Association
02. Nusa Lembongan World Diving
03. Lembongan Dive Center
04. Lembongan Dive Operator Association
05. Blue Corner Dive Center
06. Big Fish Dive Center
07. Two Fish Dive Center
08. Bali Hai Cruise
09. Crystal Dive Center
10. All4diving
11. Eria Dive Center Marine Adventures
12. LivingSeas
13. Bali Diving Academy
14. Coningan Divers Resort
15. Reef Seen Resort

## Maluku and North Maluku

01. Blue Motion Dive Center
02. Mahu Lodge
03. Pari Dive

## Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

### Bali & Nusa Penida

01. Satya Posana Nusa
02. Celagi Buana Putra
03. Majelis A&T
04. Forum Krana Muda
05. Mangrove Tour Jungut Batu
06. Forum Petani Rumpuk Laut
07. Forum Nelayan
08. Karang Taruna Sanur Kajah
09. Yayasan Pembangunan Sanur
10. Kelompok Nuansa Pulau

### Banda

01. Kelompok Konservasi Masyarakat Pulau Ay
02. Kelompok Konservasi Masyarakat Pulau Rhun
03. Kelompok Konservasi Masyarakat Pulau Hatta
04. Kelompok Kreatif Anak Banda (KKAB)

### Less, Sula and Buano Islands

01. Moluccas Coastal Care (MCC)
02. Happy Green Islands (HGI)
03. Klasis Gereja Protestan Maluku
04. DPD Komite Nasional Pemuda Indonesia (KNPI)

## Donors

01. SymAsia Foundation
02. Rainbow Foundation
03. David and Lucille Packard
04. Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies
05. Walton Family Foundation
06. Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF)
07. Waterloo Foundation
08. National Geographic
09. Hard Rock Hotel Bali
10. USAID Sustainable Ecosystems Advanced (SEA) Project
11. USDOl (United States Department of Interior)
12. Australia's Government (Department of Environment & Energy)
13. AusAid (Australian Consulate-General Bali)
14. UN Environment Programme
15. Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Approach (ATSEA)
16. Bloomberg Philanthropies





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## Coral Triangle Center

Jl. Bet Ngandang II, No.88-89, Sanur  
Bali, 80228 Indonesia

[info@coraltrianglecenter.org](mailto:info@coraltrianglecenter.org)

[www.coraltrianglecenter.org](http://www.coraltrianglecenter.org)