



Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle (SOMACORE)

Bridging the Gap: Development of Regional Platforms and Targeted Training to Strengthen Local Capacity Across the Coral Triangle Region

Project Description

The Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle (SOMACORE) programme is a regional project funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) via the International Climate Initiative (IKI).

The SOMACORE programme has been developed to support the countries of the Coral Triangle (CT) as they seek to develop and implement the regional concepts of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF), particularly those described in the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0. The SOMACORE programme aims to utilize a Seascape approach to implementation, focusing on the three priority seascapes recognized by the CTI-CFF: the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape (SSS), the Lesser Sunda Seascape (LSS) and the Bismarck Solomon Seascape (BSS).

The programme works with the governments of the six Coral Triangle countries and the Regional Secretariat of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) and is implemented through various forms of partnerships and agreements with the following organisations: Conservation International, Konservasi Indonesia, Coral Triangle Center (CTC), Eco Custodian Advocates, Indonesia Locally Managed Marine Area Network, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, The Nature Conservancy, Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund for Nature Pacific – Solomon Islands and World Wide Fund for Nature – Malaysia.

Under the SOMACORE programme, CTC aims to build human capital across the three seascapes of the Coral Triangle through the implementation of key components of the CTI-CFF Capacity Building RoadMap. This will be done through two approaches. First, CTC will **develop and implement regional training nodes** to advance effective marine and coastal governance across the three seascapes of the Coral Triangle. Second, CTC will **design, develop and operationalize a repository for capacity building** in the Coral Triangle and associated online training courses to support practitioners' capacity needs across the three seascapes of the Coral Triangle. These approaches will also help ensure that the CTI-CFF Gender Equality and Social Inclusion policy is integrated across all capacity building programs and activities.



CTC SOMACORE Work Package 1:

Develop and implement regional training nodes to support the three seascapes of the CT to support the delivery of the CTI-CFF Capacity Building RoadMap

1.1 Identify and engage regional capacity providers/experts for regional training node support to advance effective marine and coastal governance across the three seascapes of the Coral Triangle

- Organize and establish a mobile CTI-CFF training team capable of providing add-on training components to CTI-CFF Technical Working Group (TWG). This includes mobilizing experts from wider capacity providers across the seascapes to help develop, customize and deliver training on a needs basis.
- Tailor and implement seascape-level training with priority topics to be identified in collaboration with Marine Protected Area (MPA), Seascapes, and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) TWGs, and aligned to support leadership and awareness of the IUCN Green List.
- Implement at least one cross-regional training in conjunction with annual SOM and / or CTI-CFF workshops, in collaboration with strategic partners.



1.2 Advance the awareness, adaption and adoption of the IUCN Green List across the three seascapes of the Coral Triangle

- Collaborate with IUCN to establish a regional Green List coordination group linked to or within existing CT technical or partnership bodies and /or other relevant group.
- Identify and engage expert members from across the Coral Triangle region to engage in emerging technical support groups, and provide virtual training in the GL process and Global Standard in collaboration with IUCN, including accreditation for their evaluation role (EAGL). Expert members will be linked to mobile training team, and sourced from capacity providers in the CT who will work to institutionalize training beyond the SOMACORE project.
- Develop tailored IUCN Green List guidance for the CT region linked with existing tools, reporting frameworks and databases.
- In collaboration with IUCN, identify at least 12 Green List candidate sites from the programme Seascapes, using participation in the CTMPAS framework as one priority selection criteria and provide an online training course on the Green List assessment and evaluation methodology utilizing the regionally tailored guidance materials.

1.3 Advance peer learning across the three seascapes of the Coral Triangle

- Design, develop and implement a peer learning exchange for MPA managers across three seascapes, including Green List training through the MPA, Seascapes and CCA TWGs.
- Conduct an exploratory study on the potential for Bajau community women and youth engagement in exchange learning through the Women Leaders Forum.
- Support CTI-CFF Technical Working Group's Learning Exchanges to advance peer learning across the Coral Triangle.



CTC SOMACORE Work Package 2:

Design, develop and operationalize a repository for capacity building in the Coral Triangle and associated online training courses to support practitioners' capacity needs across the three seascapes of the Coral Triangle

2.1 Establish and operationalize a repository platform to support practitioners' capacity building needs across three seascapes of the Coral Triangle

- Collaboratively develop repository plan and associated guidelines, including information architecture, taxonomy design, and page navigation; schematic for repository interface and back-end set up.
- Collate preliminary resources, training materials, tools, case studies, field guides for the repository through communication and collaboration with wider international platforms (IUCN Panorama), regional and national platforms and capacity / resource providers.
- Translate priority products into select language(s) to enable accessibility for ranging practitioners across the Coral Triangle, including case studies linked to the IUCN Panorama platform.
- Collate materials for submission to the IUCN Panorama platform to expand Coral Triangle exposure internationally. Build directories of capacity providers, capacity building opportunities, and active learning networks.
- Finalize and test the Repository and prepare a marketing and communications strategy and communication collaterals to optimize use of the repository across CT audiences.
- Launch repository.

2.2 Establish and operationalize a repository platform to support practitioners' capacity building needs across three seascapes of the Coral Triangle

- Collate and link online self-taught training courses with the Repository and CTC Academy, and expand/adapt existing courses for wider CT audiences.
- Develop at least one new online training module to address priority needs for Coral Triangle practitioners.





Photo: Robert Deltis

About the Coral Triangle Center

Coral Triangle Center (CTC) is a foundation based in Indonesia with regional scope and global impact. Established in 2010, CTC works closely with local communities, private sector, governments, and partners to strengthen marine resource management in the Coral Triangle to protect coral reef ecosystems, ensure sustainable livelihoods and food security.

CTC supports on-the-ground conservation in Bali, Maluku, as well as in Timor-Leste, and leads learning networks of women leaders and marine protected area practitioners in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste. CTC is developing its Center for Marine Conservation in Bali as an integrated learning space for training programs, outreach activities, interactive exhibits, and artistic and cultural performances to influence millions of people to care for our oceans and those who depend on it.

In collaboration with partners, CTC led the development of the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap which has a vision to “accelerate skills-building across the CT to sustain and effectively manage resilient marine and coastal resources and seascape ecosystem services, in support of the CTi-CFF RPoA2.0 targets, benefitting nature and communities.”



Photo: Hesti Widodo/CTC



Photo: Evi Ihsan/CTC

To manage what we treasure, we must invest in the people who protect it.

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