



**CORAL
TRIANGLE
CENTER**

Inspiring People Saving Oceans



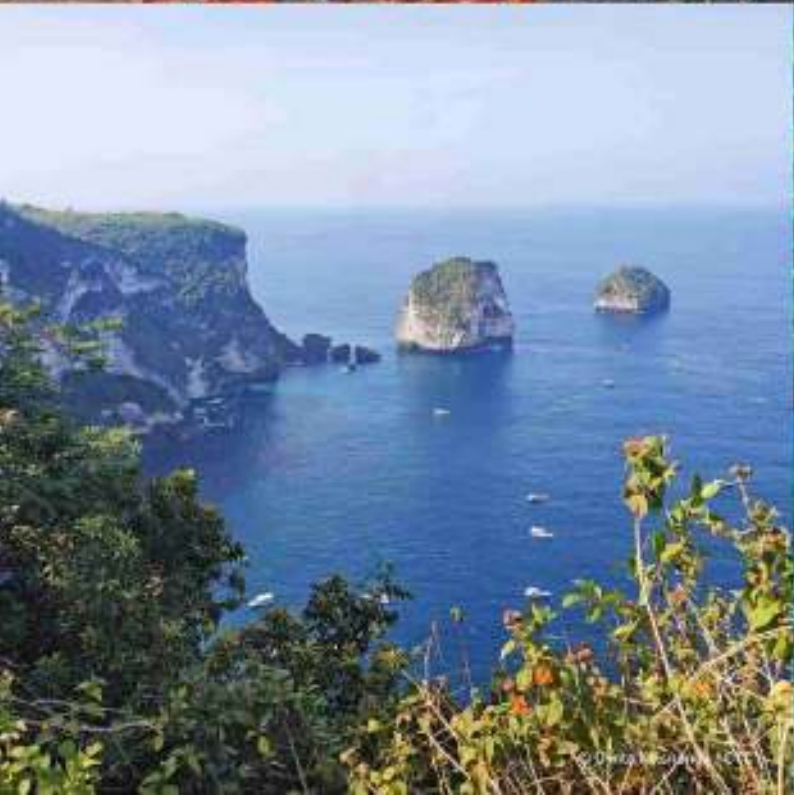
**2025
REPORT**



© Eureka Amadea / CTC



© Eureka Amadea / CTC



© Eureka Amadea / CTC



© CTC

iv	GUIDING PRINCIPLES
01	ABOUT US
02	BOARDS
03	FOREWORD
04	MPAs, DECMs & SEASCAPES IN THE CORAL TRIANGLE
08	REGIONAL CONSERVATION HUB ON COASTAL & MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
10	HUMAN CAPACITY BEYOND MARINE PROTECTED & CONSERVED AREAS
11	PARTNERSHIPS AND CROSS-CUTTING APPROACHES
13	ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
16	COLLABORATION





Inspiring People Saving Oceans

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

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: 15 YEARS OF INSPIRING OCEAN STEWARDSHIP

Founded in 2010, Coral Triangle Center (CTC) is an Indonesian foundation with a regional reach and a global impact. We work hand in hand with local communities, governments, NGO partners, universities and the private sector to strengthen marine resource management across the Coral Triangle—safeguarding vibrant coral reef ecosystems, supporting sustainable livelihoods, and securing food for millions.

CTC supports on-the-ground conservation in Bali, Maluku, and Timor-Leste. We also facilitate dynamic learning networks that bring together women leaders, local government officials, and marine protected area (MPA) practitioners from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste.

In Bali, our Center for Marine Conservation serves as a unique hub—an integrated learning space where training programs, community outreach, interactive exhibits, and artistic and cultural performances come together to inspire countless individuals to care for our oceans and the people who depend on them.

Over the past 15 years, we have remained steadfast in our mission to inspire care for the seas. From 2010 to 2024, we have helped protect more than 435,000 hectares of critical marine habitat and trained over 8,000 people to advance MPAs and sustainable fisheries management throughout the Coral Triangle. Our Center for Marine Conservation has welcomed more than 27,000 visitors, many of whom have been moved to take direct action for our oceans. In just the past three years, we've reached an average of 200,000 people annually through our social media platforms. Through our monthly children's education program, we've engaged over 2,000 school children in Indonesia, nurturing the next generation of ocean stewards.

As we celebrate this milestone, we look forward to the journey ahead. With your continued support, we can keep the momentum strong and inspire even more people to protect the ocean that connects us all.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

- Mr. George S. Tahija → Commissioner, ANJ-Group
 Mr. Made Subadia → Former Senior Adviser to the Minister of Environment and Forestry
 Prof. Dr. Hasyim Djalal (t) → Former Ambassador at Large for the Law of the Sea and Maritime Affairs

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Mrs. Yuli Ismartono → Board Chair and Managing Editor, AsiaViews
 Mr. Hendrik Sasmito → Owner, PT Panarub Industry

SUPERVISORY BOARD

- Mr. Rahmat S.S Soemadipradja → Founding Partner, Soemadipradja & Taher Law Offices
 Ms. Linda Uiharto → Director of PT BPOSeven Inovasi Indonesia
 Dr. Suseno Sukoyono → Senior Principal, Indonesia National Institute of Public Administration
 Dr. Hilmar Farid Setiadi → Senior Lecturer, Jakarta Arts Institute
 Mr. Jason Tedjasukmana → Creator and host of the *Southeast Asia on the Edge* Podcast

BOARD OF MANAGERS

- Ms. Safira Warili Hawari Djohani → Executive Director, Coral Triangle Center
 Mr. Marthen Welly → Marine Conservation Advisor, Coral Triangle Center
 Mr. I Nengah Winiarta → Finance Manager, Coral Triangle Center

BOARD OF ADVISERS

- Dr. Jamal Jompa → Hasanuddin University, Indonesia
 Dr. Tonny Wagey → Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia; Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem ActionsCenter for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies,
 Dr. Ir. Luky Adrianto → Chairperson, International Research Institute for Maritime, Ocean and Fisheries IPB University, Indonesia
 Prof. Dr. Nor Aieni Binti Haji Mokhtar → University Malaysia Terengganu
 Dr. Mundita Lim → Executive Director, Environmental Studies Institute, Miriam College
 Ms. Kay Kumaras Kalim → Director for Sustainable Environment Programs Division with Conservation and Environment Protection Authority.
 Dr. Augustine Mungkaje → University of Papua New Guinea
 Ms. Agnetha Vave Karamui → Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management, Solomon Islands
 Dr. Anne H. Walton → Marine Protected Area Capacity Building Specialist, USA
 Dr. Rod Salm → The Nature Conservancy Micronesia Marine Program, Senior Advisor Emeritus, USA



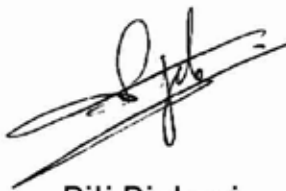
As we marked fifteen years of CTC's journey, I am filled with deep gratitude and renewed purpose. This milestone year has been one of deepening roots - consolidating our programs, systems, teams, and partnerships to build the foundation for even greater impact in the years ahead. Our 15th Anniversary celebration was a proud and moving moment, honouring our fifteen Ocean Legacy Award champions and reflecting on how far we have come together.

Across our field programs in Bali, Maluku, and Timor-Leste, renewed donor support and strengthened partnerships - coupled with dedicated, passionate teams - are driving meaningful progress. Together, we have achieved significant milestones, including new MPA management guidelines and the establishment of a national committee on fish resources conservation.

Our Ocean Keeper Club now reaches over 2,000 children across Bali, with plans underway to expand to our MPA sites. Our Centre has welcomed more than 32,000 visitors since opening, and upcoming digital exhibitions in collaboration with OceanX promise to bring our ocean story to many more. Regionally, CTC continues to strengthen the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security through training, learning exchanges, and - for the third consecutive time - our role as co-Chair of the CTI-CFF Women Leaders Forum.

We are equally proud to be advancing CTC's identity as a regional training hub, through our partnership with IUCN on Green List standards. New academic collaborations with institutions in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Germany are weaving together fundamental research and applied conservation - an approach we believe will define the next chapter of our work.

To our board, staff, partners, donors, and volunteers: none of this would exist without you. CTC endures, grows, and thrives because of you.


Rili Djohani
Executive Director

Rili Djohani has over 30 years of experience in marine conservation and sustainable fisheries in the Asia-Pacific region. She co-founded the Coral Triangle Center (CTC) in 2010 and serves as its Executive Director. Rili has been instrumental in developing CTC's Center for Marine Conservation in Bali and played a key role in the establishment of the multi-national Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security, where she currently co-chairs its Women Leaders Forum. She holds master's degrees from Leiden and Newcastle Universities. In 2022, she received the International Coral Reef Society's World Reef Award for her significant contributions to conservation in the Coral Triangle region.

MPAs, OECMs & SEASCAPES IN THE CORAL TRIANGLE

CTC Partners with Blue Action Fund to Protect the Banda Sea

In September 2025, CTC formalized signed its new partnership with German-based Blue Action Fund to implement a \$4.8 million initiative aimed at safeguarding the Banda Sea, one of the world's most biodiverse

and culturally significant marine regions. The project will focus on establishing a locally managed network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and creating a model for managing small island ecosystems in remote areas that can be replicated across Indonesia.

CTC Executive Director Rili Djohani emphasized the importance of strong community engagement, stating, "This project will develop a model for managing small island ecosystems through active community involvement, ensuring both ecological and social benefits." Over the next five years, CTC and local partners will work closely with communities to conserve critical habitats, protect endangered species such as sharks, whales, and sea turtles, and promote sustainable livelihoods.

The initiative aligns with Indonesia's commitment to protect 30% of marine and coastal waters by 2045 and complements other regional conservation efforts, including the World Bank-supported LAUTRA initiative. This collaboration aligns CTC's ongoing commitment to combining science, local leadership, and community stewardship to advance marine conservation. By protecting the Banda Sea, the project aims to strengthen ecosystem resilience while supporting the people and communities that depend on its rich marine resources.



Resource Utilization Monitoring Strengthens Compliance in Maluku's Marine Protected Areas



In July 2025, CTC collaborated with government agencies and local communities to conduct Resource Utilization Monitoring (RUM) in two marine conservation areas in Maluku: the Ay and Rhun Islands Regional Marine Conservation Area (KKD) in the Banda Islands and the Lease Islands Marine Protected Area (MPA). These routine monitoring and surveillance activities aim to document marine resource use, strengthen compliance with zoning regulations, and support effective management.

The Ay and Rhun Islands KKD, established in 2021, covers 61,178 hectares within the Banda Islands marine conservation area and includes core, limited-use, and other management zones. The Lease Islands MPA, also established in 2021, spans 67,484 hectares and protects important coral reef, seagrass, and mangrove ecosystems that support species such as dugongs and reef fish. Both areas face pressures from human activities and environmental change, highlighting the importance of regular monitoring.

Monitoring conducted on 30 July in the Ay and Rhun Islands documented 25 resource-use activities, including fishing, tourism, mooring buoys, and fish aggregating devices. No violations were detected, resulting in 100 percent compliance. Similarly, monitoring in the Lease Islands on 28 July recorded 28 activities, primarily traditional fishing and fixed structures, with full compliance observed.

The activities also strengthened the capacity of local monitoring groups, customary institutions, and village representatives. Partners emphasized the need for continued monitoring, outreach, improved data systems, and clearer boundary markers to support community-based conservation and Indonesia's marine protection goals.

CTC Facilitates Basic Training on Marine Conservation and Fisheries For Maluku Stakeholders



From August 25-27, 2025, CTC conducted a three-day training on Basic Marine Conservation and Fisheries in Ambon, Maluku. The program brought together 27 participants, including village government representatives, customary leaders, community surveillance groups (Pokmaswas), and local community members, as well as potential Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM) management units. The training focused on coastal ecology, fish ecology and fisheries management, fundamentals of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and OECMs, and marine resource surveillance.

The initiative aimed to strengthen local knowledge and skills to support the identification of potential OECM sites and enhance customary governance institutions in Maluku. Funded by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the program empowers communities to take active roles in managing marine and fisheries resources while ensuring conservation approaches remain inclusive, culturally relevant, and grounded in local knowledge.

The training aligns with Indonesia's target to protect 30% of national marine waters by 2045 through a combination of MPAs and OECMs. It also emphasizes the integration of traditional practices such as Sasi, a centuries-old system that temporarily limits resource use to allow ecosystems to recover. Enforced by customary institutions like Kewang and Saniri, these practices exemplify how local wisdom can complement modern conservation strategies, supporting biodiversity protection and sustainable livelihoods.

Through this training, CTC continues to build community capacity and strengthen the role of local governance in marine conservation, advancing sustainable management across Maluku.

Strengthening Marine Protection Across Islands: CTC Supports Monitoring Efforts in Nusa Penida and Ay-Rhun MPAs



In September 2025, CTC supported Resource Utilization Monitoring (RUM) activities in Nusa Penida Marine Protected Area (MPA) and Ay-Rhun MPA in Banda, reinforcing sustainable management of Indonesia's marine resources.

From 15-16 September, CTC joined the Nusa Penida MPA Management Unit, Bali MPA authorities, and enforcement agencies to conduct aerial and water patrols. The sea patrol recorded 44 users, including 41 tourism and 3 fisheries fleets, while documenting minor violations in Tanjung Samuh and Ped core zones. Drone surveillance captured 74 boats at Manta Point and 55 at Crystal Bay, identifying 11 violations near sensitive manta cleaning stations. Observations highlighted growing compliance and awareness among tourism operators and fishermen, supported by ongoing field presence and education on zoning regulations.

On 29 September, CTC collaborated with local authorities and enforcement agencies in Banda for RUM in Ay-Rhun MPA. The team documented 14 mobile users, 7 fixed structures, and recorded no violations, achieving 100% compliance. Sightings of whales and dolphins underscored the area's rich biodiversity. Outreach with local communities reinforced understanding of zoning, sustainable fishing, and responsible tourism.

These activities illustrate CTC's integrated approach to marine protection, combining sea patrols, drone technology, and community engagement. By promoting compliance, education, and collaboration, the Nusa Penida and Ay-Rhun MPAs exemplify effective conservation practices that safeguard marine ecosystems while supporting the livelihoods of local communities.

Routine Monitoring and Patrol Conducted in Atauro Island Marine Protected Area

On July 8, 2025, CTC in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Fisheries (MALFF), Roman Luan, the Atauro Island MPA Management Unit, and the Atauro Administrative Authority, conducted a routine Resource Use Monitoring (RUM) and patrol around Atauro Island Marine Protected Area (MPA). The activity aimed to strengthen surveillance, ensure compliance with zoning regulations, and gather community feedback on MPA management effectiveness.

Prior to the patrol, a one-day refresher session was held for 12 personnel, covering patrol safety, proper use of monitoring forms, and follow-up procedures for potential violations, ensuring efficient and standardized operations.

The patrol, conducted using two speedboats, confirmed that no violations occurred within the MPA's core zone. Interviews with local community members highlighted the MPA's positive impact on livelihoods and growing awareness of marine conservation's importance. Additionally, all buoy and pillar markers were found intact and fully operational.

This monitoring and patrol will continue on a monthly basis as part of CTC's ongoing efforts to support effective management of the Atauro Island MPA. By combining regular surveillance, community engagement, and inter-agency collaboration, these activities help safeguard marine ecosystems while maintaining the social and economic benefits the MPA provides to local communities.



Strengthening Customary Law for Marine Conservation in Timor-Leste



On August 22, 2025, CTC hosted a national workshop presenting a study on Tara Bandu and Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in Timor-Leste. This one-day event advanced understanding of traditional tenure systems in coastal and marine resource management, providing valuable guidance for integrating local community wisdom into marine protected area (MPA) design. The study was conducted collaboratively with Universidade Nacional Timor-Lorosa's, the Department of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, and an independent consultant.

Tara Bandu, deeply rooted in Timorese culture, is a customary law system that establishes communal agreements to restrict or prohibit harmful practices, safeguarding natural resources. In marine conservation, it empowers communities to enforce rules on fishing and zoning, promoting responsibility, compliance, and sustainable resource use.

The workshop brought together 41 participants, including representatives from Liquiçá, Bobonaro, and Atauro municipalities, as well as NGOs such as Blue Ventures Timor-Leste, World Fish, Conservation International, Roman Luan, Sustainable Ocean Alliance, Lenuk Tasi, and Assosiasaun Pesca Maionia Timor-Leste. Academics and other stakeholders contributed to interactive discussions, sharing experiences and insights on applying customary law to modern conservation frameworks.

These efforts highlight the importance of community-led approaches in marine conservation. By strengthening Tara Bandu and integrating traditional knowledge into OECMs, Timor-Leste is building a model for sustainable marine resource management that preserves both biodiversity and cultural heritage for future generations.



Reef Health Monitoring Shows Positive Trends in Atauro Island Marine Protected Area



From September 26 to October 2, 2025, CTC partnered with the Timor-Leste Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry (MALFF), the Atauro Island MPA Management Unit, Blue Ventures Timor-Leste, and the Roman Luan Foundation to conduct Reef Health Monitoring (RHM) in the Atauro Island MPA. The activity aimed to collect standardized coral reef and fish data to support science-based management and contribute to a unified annual report for the Government of Timor-Leste.

Results indicate that Atauro's reefs remain in strong condition. Several sites recorded more than 60 percent live coral cover, with hard corals dominating many reef areas. Fish abundance and biomass have increased compared to 2017 baseline surveys, suggesting positive ecological recovery under ongoing protection measures.

Notable findings included high coral cover around Atekru and abundant fish populations at Fatuu and Akrema Villages. Teams observed diverse marine life including reef fish, groupers, giant trevallies, reef sharks, sea turtles, and lobsters. Offshore sightings of whales, dolphins, and dugongs near Beloi Village further demonstrated the area's ecological significance.

A few sites showed localized stress from boat anchors, algae, or sponge overgrowth, though water quality remained generally good. These areas are being considered for targeted restoration efforts. The results highlight the effectiveness of collaborative conservation among local communities, government agencies, and partners in safeguarding Atauro's marine biodiversity and supporting long-term ecosystem health.



Advancing MPA Management in Nusa Penida through the IUCN Green List Process

CTC in partnership with the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), hosted the Bali Marine Protected Area (MPA) Green List Workshop in Sanur, Bali. The two-day workshop held on July 24-25, 2025, aimed to strengthen MPA management effectiveness and equity through the IUCN Green List framework, a global benchmark for well-managed protected and conserved areas.

Twenty-six participants from national and local institutions—including MMAF, Bali's Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (BPSPL), academic institutions, and local conservation organizations—reviewed Nusa Penida MPA against Green List criteria. The workshop included expert-led sessions on updated Green List tools, such as the Site Evaluation Matrix and Information System, alongside group exercises to apply indicators and assess strengths, challenges, and opportunities for improvement.

Participants emphasized enhancing governance, stakeholder engagement, and adaptive management, with commitments to strengthen coordination between local and national authorities. Discussions highlighted the importance of effective management in achieving Indonesia's 30x45 goal of protecting 30 percent of marine areas by 2045. The workshop represents a key step in supporting Nusa Penida MPA's journey toward world-class conservation status. By building capacity, fostering collaboration, and applying international standards, CTC continues to advance sustainable marine conservation practices that benefit both ecosystems and the communities that rely on them.



REGIONAL CONSERVATION HUB ON COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Coral Triangle Countries Advance Regional Strategy on Marine Plastic Pollution



Government representatives, NGOs, and technical experts from the six Coral Triangle countries—Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste—gathered in Bali on 7–8 July 2025 to advance a regional strategy on marine plastic pollution. Hosted by CTC at the Center for Marine Conservation in Sanur in partnership with WWF, the meeting contributed to the development of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0.

The Coral Triangle, home to 76 percent of the world's coral species, faces growing threats from plastic pollution affecting marine ecosystems, fisheries, and coastal communities. Participants focused on identifying the root causes of plastic leakage and strengthening regional cooperation, emphasizing prevention and reduction efforts alongside improved waste management.

Key challenges included inadequate waste infrastructure, weak policy implementation, unsustainable production and consumption patterns, and limited resources in many coastal and island communities. Solutions explored included reducing problematic single-use plastics, promoting extended producer responsibility, improving waste management systems, and advancing circular economy approaches.

Community-led case studies from Indonesia and the Philippines highlighted successful efforts that integrate waste management with sustainable livelihoods and innovative financing mechanisms.

The resulting strategy will focus on strengthening governance and policy, building capacity, mobilizing financing, and enhancing cross-sector collaboration. Its recommendations will inform CTI-CFF's RPOA 2.0 and a regional capacity-building roadmap. A media briefing after the meeting helped share outcomes and promote broader public engagement on marine plastic pollution.



CTC Hosts CTI-CFF Climate Change Adaptation Roundtable and Technical Working Group Meeting

From 7–9 July 2025, CTC hosted the Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Roundtable and the 8th CCA Technical Working Group (TWG) Roundtable at its Center for Marine Conservation in Sanur, Bali. Convened by the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Secretariat, the regional meeting brought together national focal points from the six Coral Triangle (CT6) countries, along with strategic partners, to strengthen collaboration on climate adaptation for coastal and marine ecosystems.

Supported by CTC through the SOMACORE Project, the meeting facilitated cross-country dialogue on the implementation of CTI-CFF National Plans of Action (NPOAs) in alignment with the Regional Plan of Action 2.0. Participants also reviewed key CCA TWG documents, including the Joint Communiqué and Policy Guidelines on Gender and Climate Change, reinforcing the importance of inclusive and gender-responsive adaptation planning.

CTC's GIS and Knowledge Management Lead, Nyoman Suardana, presented the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap and online repository, which aim to strengthen regional learning and knowledge exchange. CTC Executive Director Rili Djohani highlighted the critical role of marine protected areas in building climate resilience, while noting their increasing vulnerability to climate-related threats. She also introduced new guidance from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Commission on Protected Areas, outlining four principles for climate-adaptive MPAs: understanding change, strengthening adaptation and resilience, ensuring equity and inclusivity, and generating holistic co-benefits.



Exploring The Deep Without Limits with OceanX Portal



From September to October 2025, CTC's Center for Marine Conservation presented the OceanX Portal, an immersive educational exhibit that brought the ocean to life with 360-degree visuals and surround sound. Developed by OceanX Education, the Portal allowed visitors to explore deep-sea landscapes and encounter marine life as if aboard the research vessel OceanXplorer.

The exhibit strengthened CTC's long-term collaboration with OceanX, aiming to expand ocean literacy and foster a deeper understanding of marine ecosystems. Founded in 2016, OceanX is a nonprofit ocean exploration initiative that leverages advanced technology to study the ocean and share discoveries through media, education, and scientific collaboration. In 2024, OceanX partnered with the Government of Indonesia to study the nation's deep-sea ecosystems.

Through the OceanX Portal, visitors to the Center for Marine Conservation experienced the richness and diversity of the underwater world, gaining new perspectives and a greater appreciation for the importance of ocean conservation. The interactive and immersive format engaged visitors of all ages, making complex scientific knowledge accessible and inspiring public interest in marine protection. The OceanX Portal was available at the CTC Center for Marine Conservation in Sanur, Bali. Entry was free and open to the public, providing a unique opportunity for audiences to explore the depths of the ocean and connect with its wonders without limits.

Ocean Keeper Club Inspires Young Ocean Stewards in Bali

CTC continued implementing its Ocean Keeper Club (OKC), engaging students in Sanur through interactive marine conservation education and hands-on learning experiences. The sessions began with a special outreach on June 18, 2025 at SD Negeri 8 Sanur, where 146 students learned about coastal ecosystems and the concept of a "coral city." Through interactive quizzes and a screening of *Who's the Blue?*, students explored the importance of coral reefs, coastal protection, and the impacts of plastic pollution while learning practical ways to care for the environment.

Following the outreach, OKC Batch 3 officially launched on July with the first session, *Mengenal Ekosistem Laut* (Getting to Know Marine Ecosystems). The session brought together 90 students and nine teachers from six local schools. The second session, *Bermain ke Hutan Mangrove* (A Journey to the Mangrove Forest), was held in August wherein participants learned about mangrove ecosystems, species diversity, and the role of mangroves in protecting coastlines and supporting biodiversity. The third session held in September focused on *Padang Lamun dan Dugong* (Seagrass Beds and Dugongs), involving 77 students and eight teachers. Through group activities and discussions, students explored the importance of seagrass ecosystems and dugong conservation.

Together, these activities fostered environmental awareness, curiosity, and stewardship among Sanur's future ocean leaders as they continue their ocean learning adventure through the rest of the year.



Climate REEFS Workshop and Dissemination: Fostering Learning in Climate Adaptation



CTC hosted a provincial-level workshop to disseminate findings from the Climate REEFS Project at Zest Hotel, Ambon on August 20, 2025, in collaboration with Pattimura University. The event highlighted research on the resilience and vulnerability of coral reef ecosystems and coastal communities to climate change, using case studies from the Lease Islands MPA and Ambon in Maluku Province.

The Climate REEFS Project, implemented with scientists, NGOs, and universities, aims to integrate inclusive, climate-smart reef management into conservation networks, strengthen community resilience, and sustain biodiversity and the livelihoods of reef-dependent communities. The project also has global relevance by mapping adaptive reefs to guide climate adaptation strategies worldwide.

By linking reef ecology, thermal regimes, and genomic diversity with social and gender dimensions, Climate REEFS provides evidence-based adaptation strategies that prioritize women and marginalized groups. The Ambon workshop reinforced CTC's commitment to inclusive, science-driven solutions, ensuring lessons from Maluku inform both local conservation actions and global efforts to safeguard coral reefs and the communities that depend on them.

The workshop brought together 32 participants, including representatives from Maluku's Departments of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Environment, Agriculture and Food Security, Regional Disaster Management, and Village Community Empowerment, as well as MPA management units, local NGOs and village leaders from Haruku and Rutong. Participants shared ongoing and planned climate programs, fostering exchanges that will enhance Climate REEFS implementation.



Sustainable Tourism through Green Fins

From September 1-3, 2025, CTC conducted an annual Green Fins assessments in Pemuteran, Bali, with dive operators Abyss Oceans World and Easy Divers. These assessments aim to strengthen sustainable diving practices and support operators in minimizing environmental impacts on coral reefs and marine ecosystems.

Green Fins is a global initiative led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and coordinated internationally by The Reef-World Foundation. In Indonesia, CTC serves as the national coordinator, helping dive and snorkel operators implement environmental standards that protect marine life and promote responsible tourism.

Abyss Oceans World maintained its Gold level in this fifth assessment, reflecting its long-term commitment to sustainable operations and leadership in the local diving community. Easy Divers, in its fourth year as a Green Fins member, demonstrated significant improvements, including the adoption of new four-stroke engines that reduce emissions and lessen environmental impact.

Indonesia currently has 49 active Green Fins members, including both diving and snorkelling operators who have undergone assessments or hold digital certification. Abyss Oceans World and Easy Divers exemplify how committed operators can lead sustainable marine tourism, safeguarding coral reefs while supporting local communities. CTC looks forward to continuing collaboration with these operators, further promoting environmentally responsible practices and reef conservation in Pemuteran and across Indonesia.



Coral Triangle Women Leaders Forum Regional Exchange Celebrates a Decade of Leadership

From September 22-26, 2025, the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security [CTI-CFF] Women Leaders Forum (WLF) Regional Exchange was held in Honiara, Solomon Islands. Themed "From Southeast Asia to Melanesia: Celebrating the Resilient Voyage of Our Women Leaders," the event marked the WLF's decade-long role in advancing women's leadership, gender equality, and marine conservation since its establishment in 2014.

The exchange brought together representatives from the six Coral Triangle countries—Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste—alongside strategic partners, regional organizations, and community leaders. It was co-organized by the Solomon Islands Government, CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, and CTC, with support from the SOMACORE Program, WWF, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Society, and SPREP.

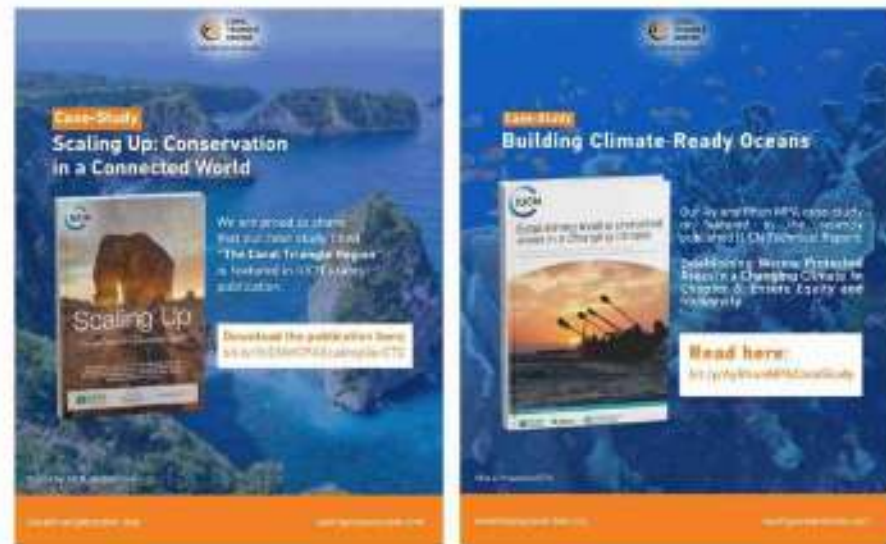
Participants reflected on WLF achievements, sharing lessons on women's roles in shaping policy, strengthening community resilience, and leading conservation efforts. National updates highlighted progress and challenges in implementing CTI-CFF's Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Policy. Community perspectives showcased grassroots initiatives in sustainable livelihoods and local conservation. Field visits to the Ngella Islands provided firsthand insights into community-driven conservation and the integration of traditional knowledge with modern management.

The exchange concluded with the 11th WLF Meeting, reviewing progress, workplans, and budgets, and planning for 2026 with emphasis on GESI alignment, waste management, marine plastics, and youth engagement—reaffirming women leaders' commitment to empowering communities and protecting the Coral Triangle.



CTC's Case Studies Featured in Two IUCN Conservation Publications

Two CTC case studies were featured in publications by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), highlighting the organization's contributions to inclusive, climate-resilient, and large-scale conservation efforts.



The Ay and Rhun Marine Protected Area (MPA) case study from the Banda Islands was included in the IUCN technical report Establishing Marine Protected Areas in a Changing Climate, published by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the International Partnership on MPAs, Biodiversity and Climate Change. The report provides guidance on designing and managing MPAs that can better withstand climate-related threats. Featured in the chapter on equity and inclusivity, CTC's case study demonstrates how community-led approaches can support biodiversity conservation while strengthening local livelihoods and stewardship. It highlights the importance of involving communities in decision-making and long-term management.

A second CTC case study, the Coral Triangle Region, was featured in Scaling Up: Conservation in a Connected World, published by the IUCN WCPA Large-Scale Conservation Area Task Force. Launched at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025, the publication showcases successful large-scale conservation initiatives from around the world.

Together, these publications not only recognize CTC's work at both local and regional scales, they also contribute valuable lessons to global efforts supporting equitable, adaptive conservation and the achievement of international biodiversity targets, including the 30x30 goal.

CTC Renews Collobaration Agreement with Maluku Provincial Government

CTC and the Maluku Province Marine and Fisheries Department renewed their Cooperation Agreement for 2025-2028. Signed by CTC Executive Director Rili Djohani and Dr. Ir. Erawan Asikin, Head of the Maluku Marine and Fisheries Department on August 15, 2025, the signing marked years of fruitful collaboration while setting the stage for new initiatives to protect Maluku's rich marine biodiversity.

Maluku, located in the Coral Triangle, is globally recognized for its extraordinary marine life, supporting local livelihoods, food security, and ecosystem health across the region. The renewed partnership emphasizes sustainable management of these resources to benefit current and future generations.

The agreement prioritizes strengthening Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and networks, promoting sustainable fisheries, preserving customary practices like Sasi, and fostering sustainable tourism that supports both conservation and local economies. It also highlights the identification and management of Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs), complementing existing MPAs and expanding conservation coverage across the province.

By blending scientific approaches with cultural traditions and community-led practices, the partnership ensures that biodiversity protection contributes to social and economic well-being. Through this renewed agreement, CTC and the Maluku Marine and Fisheries Department demonstrate that marine conservation is not only an environmental imperative but also a commitment to sustaining local livelihoods, traditions, and resilient coastal communities.



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CTC Marks 5 Years with 2025 Ocean Legacy Awards Honoring Fifteen Marine Conservation Leaders

On 17 August 2025, CTC celebrated its 15th anniversary by hosting the Ocean Legacy Awards, recognizing fifteen individuals and community leaders whose contributions have significantly advanced marine conservation while supporting community well-being. The event highlighted CTC's legacy of collaboration, innovation, and locally led solutions across the Coral Triangle region, and featured short films and personal reflections from awardees that underscored the power of collective action.

Chair of CTC's Board of Trustees, Yuli Ismartono, emphasized that safeguarding marine ecosystems requires shared commitment among governments, communities, civil society, and individuals. She noted that the awards honor leaders who exemplify integrity, partnership, and long-term vision in advancing CTC's mission to inspire and empower generations to care for coastal and marine ecosystems.

Awardees were selected based on CTC's core values of excellence, local stewardship, collaboration, and results. National Champions recognized included Dr. Ir. Suseno Sukoyono, Dr. Firdaus Agung, Lilly Aprilya Pregiwati, Amehr Hakim, and Dr. Ir. Erawan Asikin for their leadership in people-centered marine conservation, capacity building, marine protected area (MPA) development, and inclusive policy approaches in Indonesia. Regional Champions honored were H.E. Acacio Guterres, Dr. Frank Keith Griffin, and Constancio dos Santos Silva for strengthening sustainable fisheries, regional cooperation, and marine spatial planning across the Coral Triangle and Timor-Leste. Local Champions included Christina Maritje Lawalata, Masnah La Empe, Ni Luh Putu Wira Astuti, I Kadek Artana Yasa, Ni Wayan Damiasih, Sam Bencheghib, and Edward Speirs, whose grassroots leadership spans traditional governance, waste management, sustainable livelihoods, ecosystem restoration, marine education, environmental advocacy, and media engagement.

Several awardees reflected on the importance of collective responsibility, noting that meaningful conservation outcomes are achieved through the combined efforts of communities, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates working across scales and sectors. CTC Executive Director Rili Djohani highlighted that the awardees represent a growing community of ocean champions shaped by shared learning and collaboration. She reaffirmed CTC's commitment to advancing innovative approaches, inclusive partnerships, and sound policies, particularly in the face of increasing threats to marine ecosystems, to ensure healthy oceans for current and future generations.



Staff Development Week 2025: CTC at the Frontlines of Change



CTC held its annual Staff Development Week at the CTC Center for Marine Conservation in Sanur, Bali, bringing together teams from Indonesia and Timor-Leste under the theme "CTC at the Frontlines of Change." The event, held July 16-18, 2025, focused on skill-building, reflection, and strengthening collaboration across divisions to advance CTC's mission for ocean conservation.

Throughout the week, participants engaged in diverse sessions, sharing progress, celebrating achievements, and identifying areas for growth. Workshops emphasized both professional and practical skills, including storytelling and communication, gender equality and social inclusion, dive safety, and ethical use of AI. Facilitators included Bart van Haltern and Imam Mulyadi from MDF, Titiek Kartika Hendrastiti, Bayu Wardoyo from Divers Alert Network, and Tom West from Juicebox.

The program also encouraged creativity and team bonding through a resin art workshop by Kultara and a museum tour at UC Silver. These activities complemented learning by fostering inspiration, reflection, and stronger interpersonal connections. Staff Development Week reinforced CTC's core values, promoted cross-team collaboration, and equipped staff with tools to enhance their impact in the field and in communities. The event concluded with renewed energy and a shared commitment to continue leading innovative, inclusive, and effective marine conservation efforts across the Coral Triangle region.

CTC Continues to Strengthen its Professional Training Standards



Four CTC staff and competency assessors successfully completed the Competency Improvement Training and Recertification in Jakarta on September 8-9, 2025. Organized by LSP-Pramindo (Lembaga Sertifikasi Profesi Pramuwisata Indonesia), the program renewed the assessors' licenses for three more years and reinforced CTC's role as an accredited Competency Assessment Center (Tempat Uji Kompetensi or TUK) under LSP Konservasi dan Jasa Kelautan (LSP KJK).

The two-day program included refresher training on core competency units-planning assessments, conducting evaluations, and contributing to validation processes-followed by competency assessments led by senior assessors from the National Professional Certification Agency (BNSP). Participants, drawn from tourism, marine conservation, AI, and heavy machinery sectors, applied these skills to certification clusters relevant to their fields. CTC staff Kasman and Nyoman Suardana focused on Community Awareness on Marine and Coastal Resource Conservation, while Purwanto and Wira Sanjaya worked on Coral Cover Data Collection. All four assessors successfully passed portfolio verification and competency interviews.

This recertification ensures that four of CTC's six active assessors remain licensed in 2025, maintaining the center's compliance with national standards and supporting its mission to deliver credible, high-quality assessments. Since 2016, TUK CTC has conducted 25 assessments, certifying 452 professionals in marine conservation. The renewed licenses strengthen CTC's capacity to uphold professional standards and contribute to Indonesia's human resource development in marine and coastal conservation.

New Team Members

During this quarter, CTC welcomed the following new CTC staff:



Wawan Rowandi Tjahadi Kanou - Regional Training & Learning Coordinator

Kanou joined CTC in July 2025. As Regional Training and Learning Coordinator, he coordinates the implementation and evaluation of CTC's regional training activities as well as SOMACORE program activities, helping strengthen regional capacity in line with the Regional Plan of Action 2.0 and the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap. He works with the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, National Committees, Technical Working Groups, and partners to deliver regional trainings and learning exchanges across the Lesser Sundas, Sulu-Sulawesi, and Bismarck-Solomon seascapes. He also collaborates with IUCN to advance the Green List and assists with developing the CT repository. With a strong background in marine conservation and sustainable fisheries, Kanou holds a Fisheries degree from IPB and a Master's in Ocean Sustainability from WMU Sweden.



Wulan Mayastika - HR and GA Coordinator

Wulan joined CTC in August 2025. She is an experienced human resources professional who has progressively built her expertise in talent acquisition, employee relations, and HR business partnering. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Gadjah Mada University and began her career in Indonesia's fintech industry, where she developed a strong foundation in strategic HR management. At CTC, Wulan contributes to HR and General Affairs by supporting a collaborative and supportive work culture and helping ensure effective day-to-day operations that advance CTC's marine conservation mission.

During this quarter, CTC welcomed the following interns and volunteers:



Holly Foothorap - University of California Los Angeles (USA)

Holly joined CTC in July 2025 and supported the Maluku Portfolio for a period of 2 months. She is studying Environmental Science with a minor in Conservation Biology. She has a strong interest in biological oceanography, marine conservation, and water management. In the future, she hopes to attend law school and pursue a career in environmental law. Holly has participated in climate change research at UCLA, interned at the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, and volunteered on a sustainable practices project in the Dominican Republic.



Mayumi Sasame - University of California Los Angeles (USA)

Mayu joined CTC in July 2025 and supported the Training and Learning team for a period of 2 months. She is originally from Japan but was raised in the United States. She is a fourth-year student at UCLA majoring in Education and Social Transformation, with minors in Visual and Performing Arts Education and Community Engagement and Social Change. She holds a kindergarten teaching license from Japan. She interned at CTC to deepen her knowledge of marine life.



Adelle Kurniawan - University of Sussex, UK (Indonesia)

Adelle joined CTC in July 2025 and supported the Maluku team for 2 months in CTC's Ambon office. She contributed to the research on dugong populations and supporting related reporting. Through this experience, she hopes to deepen her understanding of marine conservation. Adelle is an undergraduate student at the University of Sussex, UK, entering her second year in International Development with an elective in Italian. Originally from Jakarta, Indonesia, she has a strong interest in environmental sustainability and climate change, and is passionate about how international development connects with conservation.



Candy Mackinnon - (UK-Ecuador)

Candy joined CTC in August 2025 and supported both the Communications and CMC teams. Candy is an architect who recently completed her Master's degree in Sustainable Design and Development at Oxford Brookes University in the UK. With a rich cultural background, being both English and Ecuadorian. Candy grew up between the two countries. Her upbringing has instilled in her a deep connection to the natural world, influenced by Ecuador's exceptional biodiversity and England's strong legacy of environmental stewardship, home to numerous conservation organisations and foundations.

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 (KKHL)*
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 (BKKN) Kupang
09. MMAF Pengawas Sumberdaya Kelautan Pos Banda

Provincial Governments and Agencies

01. Bali Provincial Government (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan)
02. NTT Provincial Government (Dewan Kawasan Konservasi Perairan Nasional - DKKPN)
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) | 15. Yayasan Masyarakat dan Perikanan Indonesia (MOPI) |
| 02. Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) | 16. Mission Blue |
| 03. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) | 17. Plastic Pollution Coalition |
| 04. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) | 18. Reef World Foundation |
| 05. World Wildlife Fund (WWF) | 19. Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) |
| 06. Conservation International (CI) | 20. Starling Resources |
| 07. RARE Conservation | 21. Oceanic Society |
| 08. Conservation Strategic Fund (CSF) | 22. Lembaga Partisipasi Pembangunan Masyarakat (LPPM) |
| 09. Pusat Pendidikan Lingkungan Hidup (PPLH) Bali | 23. eL SiL Kie Raha |
| 10. Yayasan Bahtera Nusantara - Bali | 24. Yayasan Baileq |
| 11. Yayasan Nusa Wisata, Nusa Penida | 25. Role Foundation |
| 12. Friends of National Park Foundation - Nusa Penida | 26. Australian Volunteers International (AVI) |
| 13. Yayasan Warisan Budaya Banda Naira - Kepulauan Banda | 27. Studio Gelombang |
| 14. Aquatic Alliance Foundation | 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

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. OceanBellz
11. PADI
12. Hotels in Bali (Hard Rock Hotel Bali, Fairmont, Mercure, Sudamala, Prama, Sanur Paradise, Tandjung 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

Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

Bali & Nusa Penida

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

Donors

01. SymAsia Foundation
02. Rainbow Foundation
03. David and Lucile Packard
04. Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies
05. Walton Family Foundation
06. Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF)
07. Waterloo Foundation
08. National Geographic

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 Hatta Syahrir
19. University of Darussalam

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. Ena Dive Center Marine Adventures
12. LivingSeas
13. Bali Diving Academy
14. Ceningan Divers Resort
15. Reef Seen Resort

Maluku and North Maluku

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

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)

Lease, 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)

09. Hard Rock Hotel Bali
10. USAID Sustainable Ecosystems Advanced (SEA) Project
11. USDOl (United States Department of Interior)
12. Australian 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





Coral Triangle Center

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

info@coraltrianglecenter.org

www.coraltrianglecenter.org