



**CORAL TRIANGLE  
INITIATIVE**  
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES  
AND FOOD SECURITY



# The 20<sup>th</sup> SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING

Seascapes

BALI, INDONESIA | 10-11 December 2025

Chair (Rep) of STWG Ms. Janice T. Cubo

Technical Working Group  
Report

# OUTLINE

SOM20

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# Focal Points



# Focal Points of Seascapes-TWG

Member Country	Focal Points
<b>Indonesia (Co-Chair)</b>	Dr. Abdi Tunggal Priyanto, S.Si, M.T.,M.Sc., Associate Expert Marine & Coastal Ecosystem Manager Alternate: Mr. Arief Sudianto, Senior Manager of Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Management, Directorate General of Marine Spatial Planning, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and Ir. Suharyanto, M.Sc , Senior Expert in Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Management, Directorate General of Marine Spatial Planning, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Malaysia	Datin Dr. Shuhadah Mustapha, Director, Department of Fisheries Sabah Alternate: Mr. Lawrence Kissol Jr., Deputy Director (Operation) Department of Fisheries Sabah Mr. Irman Isnain, Senior Assistant Director, Department of Fisheries Sabah
Papua New Guinea	Ms. Yvonne Tio, Executive Manageress, PNG Marine Programs, Conservation Environment Protection Authority Alternate: Mr. Aisi S. Anas, Principle of National Fisheries College, National Fisheries Authority
<b>Philippines (Chair)</b>	Ms. Mariglo Rosaida I. Laririt, Assistant Director of Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Alternate: Mr. Elizer S. Salilig, MFT National Director, Bureau Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Solomon Islands	Mr. Trevor Maeda, Principal Conservation Officer, Environment and Conservation Division, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology Alternate: Mr. Fredrick Dotho , Senior Conservation Officer, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology
Timor-Leste	Mr. Fidelino Sousa Marques, National Director of Aquaculture – MALFF (Alternate: Mr. Timotio Alves, Professional Technical Staff for National Directorate of Fisheries at MALFF)





# Action Taken for SOM-19 Decisions



# Action Taken for SOM 19 Decisions

Decisions	Status
1. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by Seascope Technical Working Group (Annex 8.1);	Status Completed.
2. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope and Bismarck-Solomon Seascope, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascope, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings hosted by Malaysia on 12–16 August 2024 as the collaboration among CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ–SOMACORE;	Status Completed. SuFiA-TS support ended February 2025. On-going support from current CTI Partners.
3. Acknowledged and appreciated the inclusion of the Lesser Sunda Seascope in the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope and Bismarck-Solomon Seascope, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascope, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings;	Status Completed.
4. Acknowledged and appreciated the USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ–SOMACORE for the financial and technical aspect support of the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope and Bismarck-Solomon Seascope Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascope, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings;	Status Completed. SuFiA-TS support ended February 2025.
5. Acknowledged the 2024 M&E Report for Seascope TWG and the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (Annex 8.2);	RS through the M&E team and is working with the CT6 in developing the reporting template. This will be updated in the Pre-SOM MEWG Session. Currently, draft of reporting & monitoring template – will be socialized in Q1, 2026
6. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to facilitate or explore the possibility of including discussions on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of Parties (COP) within the CTI agenda, such as the study of the Coral Triangle Region to be identified as an Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Area;	Discussions covered in the 2025 REX. RS will continue working with partners to share linkages promoting the CT Region on the regional and international platforms. Included in the 2026 Workplan w workshop on EBSA

# Action Taken for SOM 19 Decisions (Cont.)

Decisions	Status
<p>7. Acknowledged the concern of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste through the circular of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry, Timor Leste No. 635/DGD/PAGRA/XI/2024 dated 2 December 2024 (Annex 8.3) to make a revision of the RPOA 2.0 with particular to change the word “transboundary” into the word “connectivity” and to remove the line which indicates national jurisdiction boundary;</p>	<p>Revision was made to the RPOA 2.0 boundary maps with the removal of the boundary line (Annex 4). All "transboundary" text was transcribed into "connectivity" in the RPOA 2.0</p>
<p>8. Accepted the removal of all lines which indicated national jurisdiction boundary in Annex 4 of the RPOA 2.0 and retaining only the Coral Triangle Scientific Boundary and CTI-CFF Implementation Area;</p>	<p>All national boundary lines indicating national jurisdiction boundaries in Annex 4 of the RPOA 2.0 are now removed, and only the Coral Triangle Scientific Boundary and the Implementation Line were retained.</p>
<p>9. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to immediately follow up the removal of the lines which indicate national jurisdiction boundary in RPOA 2.0;</p>	<p>RS accepted this SOM-19 decision and with adherence to Principle #6 of the RPOA 2.0 - removed all lines indicating national jurisdiction boundaries in the RPOA 2.0</p>
<p>10. Approved the Seascape Technical Working Group 2025 Workplan and Budget;</p>	<p>Status Completed.</p>





# Update on the Workplan and Budget 2025 by the Chair of Seascapes TWG

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# Seascapes TWG Workplan and Budget 2025

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget Estimation (USD)		Objectives	Activity Status
			CTI	Partners		
1	Strengthen collaboration, and creating partnership within the 3 Sub-regional Seascape: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSS</li> <li>• LSS</li> <li>• BSS</li> </ul>	Q1-Q2 2025	-	15,000 (5k each seascape)  SOMACORE	To strengthen sub-regional Seascape partnerships through national parties and the local private sector, through the respective seascapes dialogue set by the convenor.	Current sub-seascapes collaboration is through the SOMACORE project, with partners supporting respective priority seascapes.  Each sub-seascapes are in the process of developing the SOPs, which would include how to collaborate with partners.
2	Identify existing and potential collaborators for the Seascape work. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEAFDEC</li> <li>• ATSEA</li> <li>• SeaConnect (GEF-8 Prop)</li> <li>• MSG</li> </ul>	Q1	-	Seeking 3,000  SOMACORE	To strengthen Seascape TWG and the sub-regional Seascape partnerships through potential collaborators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEAFDEC: In Progress, RS is still looking at opportunities to link up with SEAFDEC.</li> <li>• ATSEA 2: In Progress</li> <li>• SEACONNECT: PPG Phase – Project anticipated to start in July 2026.</li> <li>• MSG: In Progress – MSG reached out to the RS indicating the interest to collaborate in early 2025.</li> </ul>
3	Develop Capacity building program for each sub-regional Seascape	Q1-Q3 2025	-	CTC and SOMACORE WWF	To identify the needs of the sub-regional Seascapes and improve resource and human technical capacity. This will be an output for from the 3 Seascape dialogues.  Online, 1st Dialogue, REX	Seascape TWG recommends to be incorporated into the three priority seascapes' workplans.
4	Identify, assess and approach potential partners and sustainable financing models to support each sub-regional seascapes	Q2-Q3 2025	-	10,000 SOMACORE	To increase financial self-reliance for the management of coastal and marine ecosystems in the sub-regional seascapes	Progress to be conducted within the three priority seascapes' workplans.

# Seascapes TWG Workplan and Budget 2025 (Cont.)

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget Estimation (USD)		Objectives	Activity Status
			CTI	Partners		
5	Convene a SSS tri-lateral exchange to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing and potential overlapping synergies</li> <li>Integration of EAFM, TS, MPA, and CCA into the SSS workplan</li> <li>To support the Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) updating process in the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape, guiding the identification of priority regional KBAs in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)</li> </ul>	Q2-Q3 2025	30,000 For REX	Seeking additional support of 25,000  SOMACORE	To enhance and foster collaboration in the sub-regional Seascapes.	Activities 5, 6, & 7 combined into the REX 2025. Completed.
6	Facilitate a bi-lateral exchange for a (MoU) regarding LSS governance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministerial level, Inter-ministry collaboration between two countries coordinated by NCC</li> <li>Develop networking and partnership with NGOs.</li> </ul>	Q1-Q4 2025				
7	Convene a BSS tri-lateral exchange to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tri-lateral overlapping synergies</li> <li>Develop and operationalize workplan 2025-2030.</li> </ul>	Q1 2025				

# Seascapes TWG Workplan and Budget 2025 (Cont.)

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget Estimation (USD)		Objectives	Activity Status
			CTI	Partners		
8	8 <sup>th</sup> Annual Seascape Technical Working Group Meeting	Q2-Q3	With REX events		To coordinate the update and reporting on the implementation of the RPOA 2.0 activities-related to Seascape.	Completed on the 17th October 2025 in Bohol, Philippines.
9	Conduct M&E assessment and establish data and reporting mechanism of the sub-regional seascapes	Q4 2025		10,000 SOMACORE	To create an environment that is feasible for the monitoring and evaluation of the activities under the three sub-regional seascapes.	Discussion in progress with the three priority seascapes, sub-regional groups. To be further discussed in the three priority seascapes' discussions.
10	Building capacity of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat under the Seascapes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment of Seascapes Staff based in RS</li> </ul>	Q1 2025		GIZ-SOMACORE	To enhance the capacity of administrative staff in the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat focusing on the coordinating the implementation of the RPOA 2.0 activities related to Seascapes, and activities relating to the SOMACORE.  SOMACORE to Update.	As updated in the 2025 REX, GIZ conducted the 2nd round of recruitment advertisement, awaiting the final decision by GIZ.  <i>Staff to be based in Jakarta (GIZ-Indonesia Office).</i>
<b>Total Budget</b>			<b>30,000</b> <b>25,000</b>			Actual budget expense 34,730





# Proposed Workplan & Budget 2026 by the Chair of Seascapes TWG

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# Proposed Seascapes TWG Workplan and Budget 2026

No	Activities	Time Frame	Budget Estimation (USD)		Objectives
			CT6 Contribution	Partners	
1	Develop the CTI-CFF three priority seascapes' workplans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SSS</li> <li>- LSS</li> <li>- BSS</li> </ul>	Q1-Q3		Supported by <b>SSS:</b> Seaconnect project and GIZ <b>LSS:</b> KI and CITL <b>BSS:</b> WWF and TNC	To develop and align specific work plan for the sub-seascape level with the support of the relevant key partners.
2	Conduct a write-shop for the modification of an Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Area in the Coral Triangle region.	Q1-Q2 2026		Partner + CT6 Support Needed	To develop, review, and explore Coral Triangle region as EBSA.
3	2026 Seascape REX: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOPs</li> <li>- EBSA updating</li> <li>- MSP</li> <li>- BBNJ</li> </ul>	Q2-Q3 2026	With TWG Meeting / or other TWG events	Partner + CT6 Support Needed	To build capacity, share knowledge and discuss on SOPs, EBSA, MSP and Seascape Communication Plan, and the socialization and benefits of the BBNJ.
4	9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Seascape Technical Working Group Meeting: Chair (SB) to host the TWG Meeting.	Q2-Q3 2026	45,000	Partner + CT6 Support Needed	To coordinate the update and reporting on the implementation of the RPOA 2.0 activities-related to Seascape.
<b>TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET</b>			<b>45,000</b>	<b>TBD</b>	



# Change of Chair and Co-Chair

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# Announcement of the upcoming Seascapes Chair and Co-Chair

## Roles of Chair and Co-Chair of SWG:

1. The Chair of the SWG shall rotate, in alphabetical order, based on the name of the CTI- CFF Party, every two years. The designated Party shall confirm its nominated Chair representative and their alternate to the RS within 30 days of the appointment.
2. The Co-Chair of the SWG shall rotate, in alphabetical order, based on the name of the CTI- CFF Party, every two years. The designated Party shall confirm its nominated Co-Chair representative and their alternate to the RS within 30 days of the appointment.

Year	Chair	Country	Co-Chair	Country
2026 - 2027	TBC	Solomon Islands	Datin Dr. Shuhadah Mustapha	Malaysia
2024 - 2025	Mr. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr	Philippines	Mr. Suharyanto, M.Sc	Indonesia
2021 - 2023	Ms. Yvonne Tio	Papua New Guinea	Mr. Fidelino Sousa Marques	Timor-Leste
2021 - 2022	Dr. Norasma Dacho	Malaysia	Ms. Agnetha Vave-Karamui	Solomon Islands
2017 – 2018	Mr. Suharyanto	Indonesia	Philippines	Philippines
2016 – 2017	Dr. Ir. Subandono Diposaptono	Indonesia	Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim	Philippines





# Seascapes TWG SOM-20 Decisions

SOM20



# SOM-20 Decisions of Seascapes TWG

1. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation from the Technical Working Group (TWG) report by Seascope TWG (Annex 8.1).
2. Acknowledged and commended the successful conduct of the CTI-CFF Seascope Regional Exchange (REX), back-to-back with the EAFM REX, hosted by the Philippines Government on 13–15 October 2025, in Bohol, Philippines. Acknowledged the excellent contribution of Mr. John Erick Avelino from the Philippines (PH) for his effective leadership and facilitation as Chair of the Seascope Technical Working Group Meeting and recognized his valuable role in advancing the discussions and outcomes of the session.
3. Acknowledged and appreciated the financial and technical support from CTI development partners, particularly the BMUKN-IKI through the SOMACORE Programme, along with the contributions of other development partners, such as CI, CTC, GIZ, IUCN, KI, Rare, WCS, WWF, ILMMA and YKAN who participated and supported the 2025 CTI-CFF Seascope Regional Exchange (REX) back-to-back with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) REX.
4. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of the 2025 CTI-CFF 10th EAFM and 8th Seascope Technical Working Group (TWG) Joint Meeting hosted by the Government of the Philippines in Bohol, Philippines on 17th October 2025.
5. Acknowledged the conduct of the Seascapes Sub-Group activities and appreciated the support of the development partners to support mutual dialogues of CTI-CFF three Priority Seascapes as follows:
  - a) 1st Trilateral Dialogue of the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope Sub-Group, convened by the Philippines and hosted in Bohol, Philippines on 16th October 2025 with the support from SOMACORE Program Consortium Partner GIZ.
  - b) 1st Dialogue of the Lesser Sunda Seascope Sub-Group, convened by Indonesia on 5th May 2025 hosted in Dili, Timor-Leste and the 2nd Dialogue of the Lesser Sunda Seascope Sub-Group in Bohol, Philippines on 16th October 2025 with the support from the SOMACORE Programme Consortium Partners, Konservasi Indonesia and Conservation International Timor-Leste.
  - c) 1st Dialogue of the Bismarck Solomon-Sea Seascope Sub-Group convened by Papua New Guinea on 26th September 2025 hosted in Honiara, Solomon Islands, and the follow-up meeting conducted in Bohol, Philippines on 16th October 2025 with the support from the SOMACORE Programme Consortium Partner WWF-Solomon Islands.

# SOM-20 Decisions of Seascapes TWG (Cont.)

6. Acknowledged the reporting from the Sub-groups and endorsed the sub-group interim work plans for implementation with the support from development partners.
7. Acknowledged the country presentations on the Seascapes and EAFM work plan implementation.
8. Acknowledged the valuable contributions of the development partners in the Seascapes TWG and Seascapes Sub-group work plan and target implementation.
9. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to facilitate the conduct of the next Regional Exchange on the topics including the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of the Seascapes Sub-groups, Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs), Marine Spatial Planning, discussion on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Agreement (BBNJ), and marine turtles, amongst others.
10. In consideration of the Seascape general model and framework, encouraged the review and integration of TWG workstreams and activities as part of the priority seascapes using the platform of a joint TWGs Regional Exchange.
11. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to facilitate the conduct of a stand-alone workshop for the modification of an EBSA in the Coral Triangle region.
12. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to facilitate participation of the CT6 to available capacity building activities offered by the development partners, prioritize these through a programmatic approach, and revisit the Seascapes Model to guide next steps and inform the Sub-group agenda.
13. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to facilitate the development of a sustainable finance mechanisms by identifying, assessing, and approaching partners and sustainable financing models to support each priority seascape.

# SOM-20 Decisions of Seascapes TWG (Cont.)

14. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to develop a communication plan for the seascape implementation.
15. Tasked the Regional Secretariat, in collaboration with the CT6 countries, to update sub-seascape profiles with relevant fisheries and ecosystem-based management information, integrate activities into M&E strategy aligned with the RPOA 2.0 targets, and ensure all updates are reflected in the CT Atlas to support evidence-based planning and decision-making.
16. Acknowledged that all official communication of the Lesser Sunda Seascape (LSS) will be circulated from the LSS convenor through the Indonesian NCC, and to the Regional Secretariat, for circulation to the respective parties.
17. Endorsed the draft workflow and mechanism of the LSS and encouraged the Seascape Sub-Groups to develop their respective Rules of Procedures and submit these to the Seascape Technical Working Group for acknowledgment and subsequent adoption.
18. Acknowledged and appreciated the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, GIZ, and CTI Partners for conducting the side event on the priority seascapes in the Coral Triangle area, which reflects the shared commitment in strengthening connectivity in Marine Spatial Planning in the priority seascapes on 9 December 2025 in Bali, Indonesia.
19. Endorsed the recommendation of the Seascape TWG to turn over the Chair from the Philippines to the Solomon Islands and the turnover of the Co-chair from Indonesia to Malaysia for the period of 1st January 2026–31st December 2027, based on the provision stipulated in the rules of procedures of the CTI-CFF Seascape TWG.
20. Acknowledged the excellent contributions of Mr. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr. and Ms. Mariglo Rosaida I. Laririt, as Chairs from the Philippines, and Ir. Suharyanto, M.Sc as Co-Chair from Indonesia for the period of 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2025.
21. Acknowledged and accepted the Seascape Technical Working Group Workplan and Budget 2026 (Annex 8.2).



CORAL TRIANGLE  
INITIATIVE  
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# 20<sup>th</sup> SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING (SOM-20) OF THE CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY (CTI-CFF)

Bali - Indonesia | 8 - 11 December 2025

# Thank you

Chair (Rep) of Seascapes:  
Ms. Janice T. Cubo  
Philippines

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