



Advancing Community Stewardship, OECMs, and Innovative Finance for a Resilient Coral Triangle

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Recommendations to SOM 20

1. Institutionalize Community-Led SSF and Coastal Conservation as a Core Pillar of the RPOA

Building on Rare’s successful MA+R/TURF systems, CTI-CFF countries could **strengthen national policies** that formally recognize community-led governance in coastal fisheries. This includes embedding clear co-management model and access rights for small-scale fishers, integrating local ecological knowledge into national management protocols, and ensuring that these systems contribute to climate resilience and biodiversity outcomes.

2. Formally Recognize OECMs as Complementary Tools to MPAs

Based on Rare’s experience, it is clear that OECMs bring value in supporting community livelihood and stewardship, strengthening long-term governance, and contributing measurable protection toward global biodiversity targets. CTI-CFF can accelerate collective progress by developing a **regional OECM framework**, capacity-building curriculum, and joint reporting mechanism; expanding conservation coverage beyond MPAs in culturally appropriate ways.

3. Develop a Regional Innovative Financing Roadmap for Coastal and Fisheries Conservation

Rare’s SSF Impact Bond and ongoing work in outcome-based financing offer practical lessons for the region. CTI-CFF can convene governments, donors, and investors to co-design a regional **“Blue Financing Facility”** that supports performance-based financing models, resilience insurance for fishers, blended finance for community-led conservation, and incentives for compliance and ecological recovery.

4. Strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation Through Community Science and Digital Tools

Rare’s community-based data systems—including catch monitoring, behavior change, and participatory mapping—show the power of local ownership of data. CTI-CFF could encourage **adoption of standardized, community-friendly monitoring tools** that feed into national dashboards and regional biodiversity reporting while improving transparency and decision-making at the village level.

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5. Advance GEDSI Integration in Fisheries and Marine Conservation Programming

Across Indonesia and the Philippines, Rare has embedded women's leadership, youth participation, and equitable benefit-sharing into SSF management. CTI-CFF can scale this by developing and/or adopting a **regional GEDSI guideline** for fisheries and coastal conservation, ensuring more inclusive governance and stronger social resilience—key foundations for sustainable conservation.

6. Promote Regional Learning Exchanges and Joint Pilots Across CTI Countries

Drawing on the Rare–CTI-CFF MoU, CTI Senior Officials can **expand structured exchanges** among provinces, districts, and communities that share similar ecosystems (e.g., reef fisheries, coastal mangroves, remote island communities). Joint pilots on OECM development, community tenure systems, behavior change campaigns, and innovative financing will accelerate regional best practice adoption.

7. Incorporate Climate-Resilience Mechanisms in SSF Governance and Livelihood Systems

Rare's work shows that fishers benefit greatly from climate risk mechanisms such as parametric insurance, climate-smart fishing practices, and diversified coastal livelihoods. CTI-CFF can **champion a regional program** integrating these tools into fisheries management plans, safeguards, and financing instruments to protect coastal communities from increasing climate shocks.

