

## **Letter Of Intent**

**between**

**The Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science at Arizona State University**

1001 S McAllister Ave, Tempe, AZ 85281

**and**

**Coral Triangle Initiative Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security Regional Secretariat**

Jl. A.A. Maramis Kayuwatu, Kairagi II, Manado, North Sulawesi, 95254, Indonesia

**for**

**Furthering Scientific and Engagement Cooperation**

### **BACKGROUND**

1. Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security, is a multilateral partnership between the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste (hereinafter referred to as “CTI-CFF”). The CTI-CFF seeks to address both poverty reduction through economic development, food security, sustainable livelihoods for coastal communities and biodiversity conservation through the protection of species, habitats and ecosystems, managed through the Regional Secretariat The Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science (hereinafter referred to as “GDCS”) at Arizona State University manages the Allen Coral Atlas, currently found at [www.allencoralatlas.org](http://www.allencoralatlas.org), a system that converts various sources of data on coral reefs to generate detailed maps, monitoring, and other information on coral reefs, training, knowledge exchanges and is made publicly available as a resource to further research and conservation efforts on coral reefs around the world (the “Atlas”)
2. CTI-CFF and GDCS, hereafter referred to as “The Sides”, desire to collaborate and explore ways to integrate the data, outputs and knowledge generated from their activities with the goal of providing a more holistic and accurate view of coral reef monitoring and management advice.

### **AREAS OF COOPERATION of Cooperation**

1. The Sides will work in cooperation to:
  - a. Support the scientific monitoring and evaluation of CTI countries’ coral reef systems;

- b. Encourage the use of the Atlas and the scientific, spatial information and advice arising from the Atlas to improve and support the planning, governance and management of coral reef ecosystems;
  - c. With CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, cooperatively enhance the Atlas, skills, knowledge and networks throughout CTI-CFF member countries to empower long-term sustainable planning, governance, monitoring, evaluation and management;
  - d. Support the development of the Atlas to expedite access to ocean data to support improved planning, governance, monitoring, evaluation and management;
  - e. Explore future applications of the Atlas, like monitoring coastal ecosystems, to assist in enhanced support, knowledge, skills and networks; and
  - f. Explore ongoing capacity building through a range of programs such as 'train the trainer' and fellowships.
  - g. Amplify each other's communications messaging and collaborate on mutually beneficial materials such as social media posts, blogs, and newsletters.
2. Training and capacity building: CTI-CFF's role may include:
- 1. Creating links to a CTI-node on the Atlas, through the CTI-CFF's web platforms (e.g., CTI Mapping Tool) to allow simple extraction, interrogation and dissemination of relevant CTI datasets;
  - 2. Where applicable, a member of the Atlas team to join as a guest speaker one or multiple of CTI-CFF cross-government meetings,
  - 3. Where applicable, co-supervising and supporting of CTI academic students undertaking relevant research and training;
  - 4. Where applicable, co-develop a workshop, invite regional, and local experts to receive relevant training courses involving the Atlas or related marine management technology tools to enhance effective and efficient decision-making within the CTI-CFF, including areas of marine science, management effectiveness, and design and establishment of MPAs; and specifically, organize a meeting with the CTI member countries to identify who is interested and has the capacity and in the right stage of the Marie Spatial Planning process for an Atlas workshop
  - 5. Sharing relevant information, research or news arising from activities of the CTI-CFF and its Partnerships.

## **TERMS**

- 1. Notwithstanding anything contained in this LOI, each Side retains its autonomy to conduct research independently of this LOI.
- 2. Each Side's rights, title and interest in its intellectual property and confidential information remains unaffected by the existence of this LOI. For the avoidance of doubt, neither Side is obliged to disclose any confidential information to the other Side, and any disclosure or exchange of confidential information must be covered by an appropriate confidentiality agreement.

3. Upon signature by each Side, this LOI will be in effect for a period of three years or until otherwise terminated earlier in writing by either Side. An evaluation of this arrangement will take place three years after the date of signing. Either Side may terminate this LOI by giving the other Side at least one month in advance notice of intention to terminate. In the event of termination, the parties shall take down any reproduced data products acquired from the other as part of this agreement. Termination will incur no liability on either Side and will not affect any agreements or other legally binding arrangements in place between the two Sides.
4. This LOI is not governed by international or domestic law and does not constitute, nor is it intended to be a legally binding arrangement or contract. It does not create any legally binding or enforceable obligations, express or implied. It serves only as a record of each Side's separate intention pending execution of specific agreements governing the undertaking of activities as contemplated by this document.
5. Nothing in this LOI is to be treated as creating an agency, trust, joint venture or otherwise.
6. Any dispute, controversy, or difference as to the interpretation of this LOI will be settled amicably by mutual consent between the Sides.
7. Before implementing these activities, the parties will discuss the opportunities and challenges presented and may thereafter enter into specific agreements based on the mutually agreed objectives and outcomes.

For: Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science

Name: Dr. Greg Asner

Signature:

Title: Center Director, GDCS

Date:

For: Coral Triangle Initiative Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security

Name: Dr. Mohd Kushairi Bin Mohd Rajuddin

Signature:

Title: Executive Director, CTI-CFF

Date: