

Coral Triangle Marine Protected Areas Systems (CTMPAS)



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



Photo Credit: The Ocean Agency

Rationale

The Coral Triangle six member countries have determined that a region-wide system will be more efficient and effective at reducing threats across the region. The creation of the CTMPAS System is built on the following premises:

- Similarities in CT marine ecosystems, resources and shared fishing stocks;
- The need to address common resource threats, e.g., habitat degradation, overfishing and dwindling fish stocks that often cross national boundaries;
- Ongoing challenges of MPAs (which are mostly small and scattered) that require learning networks, design and implementation tools, incentives, and an effective means of monitoring and improving quality locally and across the region;
- Shared and interdependent sources and sinks of marine populations that support fisheries and form structural habitat for exploited species;
- Management resource sharing that create efficiencies of scale (i.e., tap into existing programs, create economies of scale, attract funding through branding, and maximize the individual expertise of municipalities, provinces and countries); and,
- Planning at scales that consider broad ecological affinities and movements.

The CT6 envision a system of “networks” of MPAs which are scaled from small to larger areas and from sites to national and regional networks.

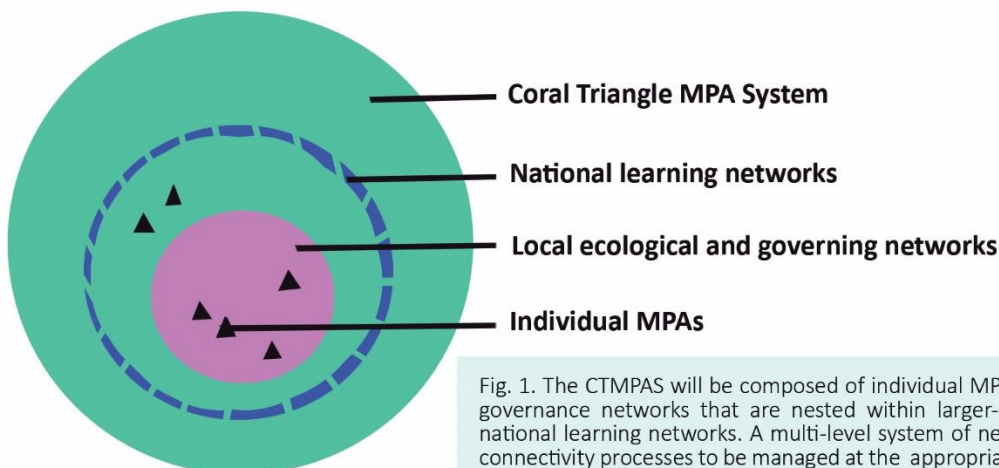


Fig. 1. The CTMPAS will be composed of individual MPAs that form local ecological and/or governance networks that are nested within larger-scale social networks, such as the national learning networks. A multi-level system of nested initiatives allows for ecological connectivity processes to be managed at the appropriate scale and for social and economic benefits from management to be received by those undertaking those actions.

Design Strategies

The CTMPAS has been designed and will be implemented based on the following five basic strategies:

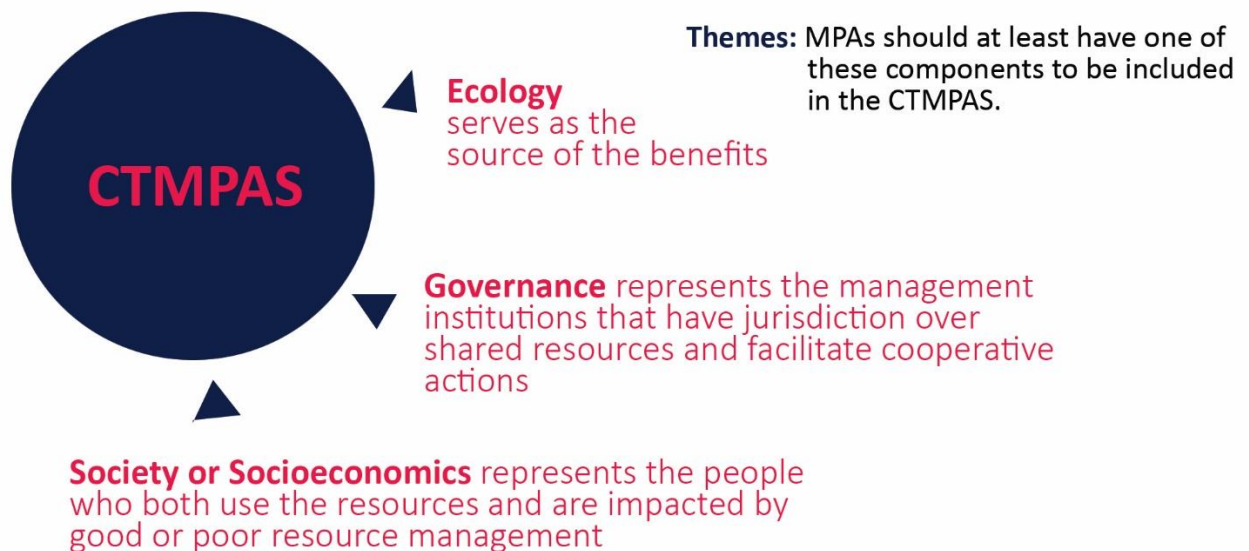
- Strategy 1:** Use and strengthen existing regional mechanisms, partners, programs, in developing and operating the CTMPAS.
- Strategy 2:** Prioritize activities that develop effective MPAs and networks and MPA/network sites that can immediately contribute strength or effectiveness to a regional network or system.
- Strategy 3:** Start and learn with “flagship” MPA sites that are already established, managed and of high conservation value. Phase in other prioritized sites that fill regional conservation and management gaps in subsequent years or stages.
- Strategy 4:** Define and recognize four Categories of Sites in the CTMPAS: a) Flagship Regional Sites, b) Priority Development Sites, c) Effectively Managed Regional Sites, and d) Recognized CTMPAS Sites, to be inclusive of all willing sites while prioritizing some more valuable sites for management effectiveness.
- Strategy 5:** Direct governance and socioeconomics to protect ecosystem functions.

Objectives and Vision

The design strategies of the CTMPAS are built on the following objectives and vision set out in the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action:

Objective: A “comprehensive, ecologically representative and well-managed region-wide system” in place and fully functioning by 2020.

Vision: A system of “prioritized individual MPAs and networks of MPAs that are connected, resilient, and sustainably financed,” and designed in ways that (i) generate significant income, livelihoods, and food security benefits for coastal communities; and (ii) conserve the region’s rich biological diversity. The CTMPAS should include “most critical resources and the full range of use categories” (from strict to many allowed uses).

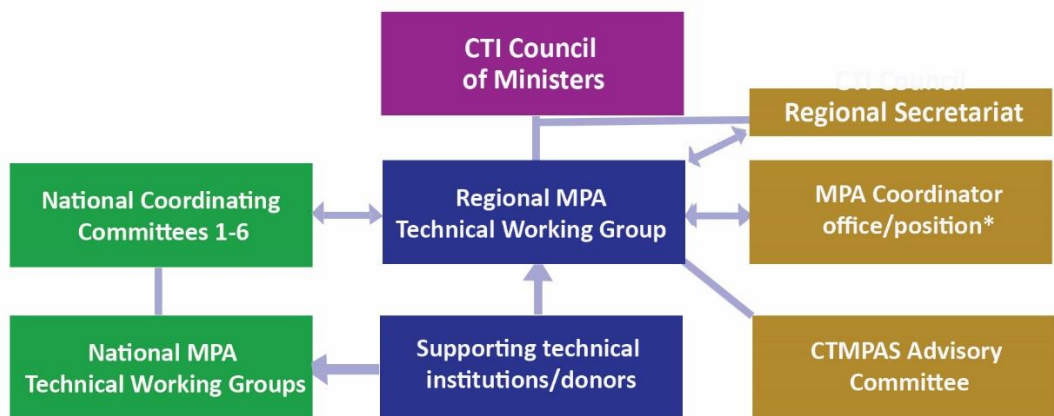


Building the CTMPAS

Implementation of the CTMPAS requires several steps or phases that are either currently underway or projected to occur. These steps include:

3. Build the CTMPAS and coordinate with other programs
2. Build the administrative platform
1. Build the system of sites to populate the four categories of the CTMPAS

CTMPAS COORDINATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



*The MPA Coordinator Position is recommended in the CTMPAS Framework to provide support to the MPA TWG in the implementation and coordination of the CTMPAS process at the regional level in coordination with CTI Secretariat.

The identified roles of the following institutions

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat: The official institutional home for coordination of the CTMPAS. It will be responsible for incorporating MPA information and planning into the general CTI-CFF planning and reporting cycle; facilitating the incorporation of fisheries, seascapes and climate change linkages with MPA and threatened species; and representing the CTMPAS in various forums.

MPA-TWG: The steering and oversight committee for the design, development and operation of the CTMPAS and its regional level activities, including fundraising.

Supporting Institution or Individuals: Handles the routine and technical operational tasks, coordination and other secretariat functions of the CTMPAS. Primary functions are 1) Coordinate and support the internal and technical operations of the CTMPAS; 2) Seek and facilitate funding; and 3) Coordinate/liase with other CTI-CFF bodies and MPA-related international forums on CTMPAS matters.

CT6 NCCs: Responsible for developing, strengthening and operating their own national MPA systems as well as any of the sites or programs that they contribute to the CTMPAS.

Advisory Committee: The primary task of the Advisory Committee will be to review national site nominations to the CTMPAS.

Partners and other collaborating organizations: Can support and benefit from the CTMPAS by providing technical and advisory services and funding, leveraging contributions or in-kind services, and other means.

Financing the CTMPAS

As a regional initiative under the RPOA, the CTMPAS operations and programs will likely be supported by financing from multiple sources. Options include but are not limited to:

- Funds committed by the CT6 to the regional operational mechanisms and to national MPAs and networks,
- Grants and loans from donors,
- In-kind assistance and grants from NGOs and private parties,
- Partnerships with the private sector,
- In-kind contributions from participating or hosting NCC and agencies, and
- In the future, a sustainable finance mechanism such as a revolving fund from membership fees or similar revenue streams.

Source:

Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF). 2013. Coral Triangle Marine Protected Area System Framework and Action Plan. CTI-CFF, United States Agency for International Development Coral Triangle Support Partnership and US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Cebu City, Philippines. 75 pp,

Contact

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat

CTI-CFF Secretariat Building
CTI-Center

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

Tel. nos.: +62 (0431)7241927 / +62 (0431) 724 2026

E-mail: regional.secretariat@cticff.org

Website: www.coraltriangleinitiative.org



The Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Secretariat
in Manado, Indonesia.