

Workshop on Knowledge Exchange on Sustainable Financing

November 6 to 8, 2024

Manila, Philippines

The USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle (SCT) is a five-year grant awarded by the United States Agency for International Development Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID/RDMA). This grant is implemented by the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Regional Secretariat (RS). The aim of this grant is to support the sustainable management of marine biodiversity and fisheries resources in the Coral Triangle region. The focus areas include strengthening governance, building capacity, enhancing community engagement, and securing blue financing for conservation efforts.

Objective of the Workshop:

Under Objective 3 of the USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle, Expected Result 3.2, the aim is to develop, refine, and implement the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund's (CTCF's) guidelines, tools, and mechanisms. Specifically, Activity 3.2.1 involves conducting a Workshop Knowledge Exchange on Sustainable Financing regarding CTCF, focusing on private sector engagement, partnerships, understanding blue finance, and financial basics.

After the workshop is completed, all participants from CT6 will use the skill to help RS identify the best financial solutions for the implementation of the RPOA 2.0. A consultant will be engaged separately after that to conduct feasibility studies on the proposed solutions based on the outcomes of this workshop.

This activity aligns with RPOA 2.0 Output A1.2.1.a, which focuses on preparing and distributing feasibility assessments of innovative sustainable financial measures. The indicators under Output Indicator A1.2.1.a include:

- # of feasibility assessments of innovative sustainable financial measures/options (e.g., Payment for ecosystem services) explored and accepted for finance opportunities by 2023.
- # of meetings/consultations with CT6 and partners to explore the concept of environmental funds (endowment, sinking fund, revolving fund, cess) by the private sector by 2023.

This workshop on Knowledge Exchange on Sustainable Financing, which may be combined with the CTI-CFF FRWG meeting, aims to enhance the understanding and implementation of innovative sustainable financial measures in the Coral Triangle region. By engaging experts and stakeholders, the workshop will contribute to the sustainable management of marine

biodiversity and fisheries resources, aligning with the goals of USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle and the RPOA 2.0.

Expected Results

- Improved understanding of CTCF guidelines, tools, and mechanisms.
- Enhanced knowledge of private sector engagement, partnerships, and blue finance.
- Completed feasibility assessment of innovative sustainable financial measures.
- Actionable plans for implementing innovative financial measures.

Target Participants

- Representatives from CT6 Member Countries (FRWG and NCC Focal Point)
- USAID/RDMA Officials
- CTI-CFF strategic partners and collaborators (e.g., SUFIA TS, GIZ SAMACORE, ADB, GEF, Australian Government).
- Private sector stakeholders.
- Financial experts and consultants.
- CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Staff and USAID SCT
- CTCF
- Other CTI-CFF Strategic Partners and Collaborators

Provisional Agenda

Time	Sessions	Main Speakers	Guest Speakers
08:00 - 08:30	Registration and Pre-Event Assessment		
Day I			
08:30 - 09:00	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome Remarks by Dr. Frank Keith Griffin the ED of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat ● Welcome Remarks by USAID/RDMA ● Remarks by the Host Country /(and) FRWG Chairs ● Round of Introduction ● Group Photo 		
09:00 - 09:10	Presentation on USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle		

09:10 – 09:20	Presentation on CTCF		
09:20 - 11:00 (Break for 15 minutes in between)	<p>Session 1 - Conservation Finance Introduction – 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of Finance for Nature – inflows, needs and gaps. ● Conservation Finance – Definitions, Theory and Key Elements ● Introduction to Taxonomy of Conservation Finance Mechanisms 	David Meyers	
11:00 - 12:10	<p>Session 2 - Public Finance for Nature – 1.5 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to Public Finance ● Public Fiscal Planning, Budgeting and Disbursement ● Results based budgeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural Capital Accounting ○ Blue Budget Tagging ● Public Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government Grants ○ Official Development Assistance (ODA) ○ Bilateral and Multilateral Donors ○ Development Banks ○ Specialized Funds (GEF, GCF, etc.) ● Taxes ● Subsidies – Positive and Negative ● Regulations, Fines and Penalties ● Earmarking Revenues for Nature 	David Meyers	Blue budget tagging – WCS Breakout rooms for discussions.
	Breakout Discussions – Small Groups Report back in Plenary		
12:10 - 13:00	Lunch Break		

13:00 - 15:00	Session 3 - Tourism Finance – 2 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Entrance fees ● Activity Fees ● Special Use Permits ● Concessions ● Visitor Taxes ● Volunteering and Donations ● Feasibility, Challenges and Safeguards 	David Meyers	BLUD Blue Abadi Palau Indonesian/Philippines Govt
15:00 - 15:10	Break		
15:10 - 17:00	Session 4 - Conservation Trust Funds - 2 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Background, concept, and Principle activities of CTFs ● CTF Management Structures ● Types of Program Funds – endowments, sinking, revolving and pass-through funds. ● Resource Mobilization ● CTF Evolution and Practice Standards ● Examples of CTFs 	David Meyers	Kehati/Blue Abadi PNG
Day 2			
08:00 - 08:30	Registration		
08:30 - 08:45	Check-in: Recap from Day 1		
08:45 - 12:00 (Break for 15 minutes in between)	Session 5 - Private Investments in Conservation 3 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Private Public Partnerships ● Impact Investing ● Blended finance ● Blue Carbon Finance ● Conservation Business 	David	Blue Finance Initiative
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break		

<p>13:00 - 15:45 (Break for 15 minutes in between)</p>	<p>Session 6 - Sustainable Fisheries Finance (EDF/CSF) - 3 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Status of Global Fisheries ● What is Sustainable Fisheries Management? ● Importance of integrating sound management. ● Current sources of investment and finance gaps in fisheries. ● Key enablers to leverage investors ● Key enabling conditions needed for small-scale enterprises/fishers to make effective use of the funds. 	<p>David Meyers</p>	<p>Conservation Strategy Fund - TBD</p>
<p>15:45 - 17:00</p>	<p>Session 7 - Mitigation Hierarchy, Compensation and Offsets (private/public sector conservation) - 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Biodiversity standards and targets ● Mitigation Hierarchy ● Biodiversity Offset Finance ● Significance of Offsets – reducing biodiversity finance gaps ● Key Elements of Biodiversity Offsets ● Implementation: Where and How? ● The 3 Financing Options 	<p>David Meyers</p>	<p>Ask Ray and TBC</p>
<p>Day 3</p>			
<p>08:00 - 08:30</p>	<p>Registration</p>		
<p>08:30 - 08-45</p>	<p>Recap from Day 2</p>		
<p>08-45 - 10:15 (Break for 15 minutes in between)</p>	<p>Session 8 - Other Innovative Financial Mechanisms – 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Debt conversion/Debt for Nature Swaps ● Coral Reef Insurance ● Bonds – Nature bonds, Impact bonds, green bonds and blue bonds. ● Payment for Ecosystem Services 	<p>David Meyers</p>	<p>TNC - Blue bonds/debt swaps (Laura Whitford)</p>

10:15 - 12:15	<p>Session 9 - Business Planning for MPAs – 3 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is Business Planning? ● Objectives of Business Planning ● Business Planning Process and Outline ● Six steps to develop Business Planning ● SWOT analysis ● Financial Analysis ● Ecosystem Services Assessment (BAT+) ● Prioritize and Diversify Financial Solutions 	David Meyers	ASEAN – Philippines (David)
12:15 - 13:15	Lunch Break		
13:15 - 15:00	<p>Session 10 - Exercise on Identifying and Prioritizing Finance Solutions – 3 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review Existing Solutions ● Identify New Opportunities ● Rapid Screening ● Detailed Screening - Prioritization ● Feasibility Study ● Implementation Plan for Mix of Solutions ● Summary Paragraph 	David Meyers	(Anisa's tool)
	<p>Wrap Up and Course Evaluations 15 mins Break 15 mins</p>		
15:30 - 17:00	FRWG meeting		

Contact Information

For further information or inquiries, please contact regional.secretariat@cticff.org.