



August 6, 2024

Dr. Frank Keith Griffin
Executive Director
CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Manado, Indonesia

Subject: Invitation to participate in the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Regional Exchange from September 9-10, 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand

Dear Dr. Griffin,

The USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia presents its compliments to the Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reef, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) for its notable efforts to promote sustainable fisheries management and for its continued support to the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS) activities in the region.

I am writing regarding the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Regional Exchange which will be organized by the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS) Activity on **September 9-10, 2024** at **Novotel Bangkok on Siam Square, Bangkok, Thailand**.

On November 24, 2021, the United States Agency for International Development Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID/RDMA) awarded Tetra Tech a 4-year contract to implement the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS) Activity. The goal of the SuFiA TS Activity is to improve the management of marine biodiversity and fisheries resources in the Indo-Pacific region by reducing unsustainable, illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. SuFiA TS is committed to integrating gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) approaches in all its activities. Systematic discrimination in the fisheries sector makes it challenging for women, migrants, youth, stateless fishers, and other marginalized groups to participate in decision-making and access resources and information about their rights as equal contributors to the fishing and seafood industries.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) is a cross-cutting theme in the implementation of SuFiA TS and works to increase the integration of GESI in regional fisheries management frameworks and interventions, as well as on actions within the fisheries labor force, particularly among small-scale, migrant, and stateless fishers of all genders, and other stakeholders. GESI serves as a critical underlying foundation supporting the implementation of all SuFiA TS activities.

SuFiA TS is committed to the implementation of GESI priorities and recommended actions identified in the Gender and Inclusive Development Action Plan, based on the findings of the regional GESI Analysis. These



interventions address GESI issues across the Indo-Pacific region that will benefit not only women, but also men, youth, the disabled, and marginalized social groups.

As part of the implementation of these interventions, SuFiA TS is organizing a **GESI Regional Exchange** and facilitating the establishment of a **Regional Gender Equality Hub (GE Hub)**, with the participants as founding members. The main objectives for the GESI REX among Coral Triangle and Southeast Asian GESI practitioners and advocates are to:

- Provide a venue for sharing the status of international, regional, and national GESI policy implementation, achievements, and success stories, challenges, and recommendations.
- Discuss the establishment of a regional Gender Equality Hub, including the rationale and objectives of having a regional GE Hub, identification of members, launching event, and planning for activities, outputs, outcomes, timetable, and budget.
- Conduct capacity building on grant proposal writing. GESI-sensitive communications, and leadership.
- Conduct the CTI Women Leaders' Forum (CTI WLF) Meeting.
- Develop a communication and knowledge product to document GESI status, successes, and challenges in sustainable fisheries management.

With this, we are extending an invitation to the Regional Secretariat and the focal points of the CTI-CFF Women Leaders' Forum (WLF) representing each CT6 member, including the Chair and Co-Chair of the WLF. SuFiA TS will provide financial assistance for a total of seven (7) participants, i.e., 6 WLF focal points and the WLF co-chair, which includes round-trip economy tickets to and from Bangkok, Thailand, hotel accommodation, and per diem. On this note, will it be possible for RS to cover the travel expenses of the WLF Chair, unless the Chair also comes as her country's Focal Person?

We will be requesting the WLF country members to prepare a 5-min presentation on the status of GESI, policies, issues, challenges, successes, opportunities, and gaps in their respective countries. The presentation template shall be shared once the participants have registered.

To confirm the availability and interest of the WLF members in accepting this invitation, please complete the online registration form at <https://forms.gle/7sTSHuxY3ppzDoSS9> or scan the following QR Code no later than **Friday, August 16, 2024**.



Should you require further information regarding the GESI REX, please contact the following;

- Ms. Jasmin Saad, Technical Lead at jasmin@oceanresearch.biz



- Ms. Smita Yamsangsung at smita.yamsangsung@tetrattech.com

Thank you for your kind attention and we look forward to seeing you at the GESI Regional Exchange.

Sincerely,

Araya Poomsaringkarn

Ms. Araya Poomsaringkarn
Project Management Specialist
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Bangkok, Thailand

Enclosure: Agenda

Cc:

Ms. Payton Deeks, Regional Conservation Advisor, USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia, Bangkok, Thailand
Dr. Arlene Nietes Satapornvanit, Chief of Party, SuFiA TS, Bangkok, Thailand
Mr. Chris Rotinsulu, Deputy Executive Director (Program Services), CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Mr. Corzierrah Posala, Senior Program Manager (Program Services), CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Mr. Anjum Islam, Project Manager, Sustainable Coral Triangle (SCT)
Ms. Nguyen Thu Hue, SuFiA TS Regional Expert Technical Team (RETT) Lead, Hanoi, Vietnam
Ms. Jasmin Mohd Saad, SuFiA TS RETT Member, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Mr. Frengky Sihombing, SuFiA TS RETT Member, Bali, Indonesia
Ms. Abhilawan Otwong, SuFiA TS RETT Member, Bangkok, Thailand
Ms. Smita Yamsangsung, Technical Program Coordinator, Bangkok, Thailand



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