



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

**A SUMMARY REPORT ON THE
REGIONAL EXCHANGE ON
MONITORING & EVALUATION FOR IMPROVING
MPA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS IN THE
CORAL TRIANGLE COUNTRIES
MAY 8-13, 2011 (BATANGAS, PHILIPPINES)**



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The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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The CTI Regional Exchange on Improvement MPA Management in the Coral Triangle Countries was hosted by the National CTI Coordinating Committee of the Philippines (NCC-Philippines) with support from the US CTI Support Program and in coordination with the CTI Interim Regional Secretariat. The US CTI Support Program is implemented primarily through the following agencies and organizations: Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP), a consortium of World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International and The Nature Conservancy; the USAID Regional Development Mission Asia (RDMA); USAID Bilateral Missions in Indonesia and The Philippines; US Department of State; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and the Program Integrator.

The overall design and conduct of the Regional Exchange was facilitated by Dr. Alan White, Lead for MPA Regional Theme for USCTI from TNC, and Ms Anne Walton, Program Director of the International MPA Capacity Building Program at NOAA, with support from the MPA Regional Exchange Planning Team.

BACKGROUND

Rationale

The *Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) Regional Exchange and Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation for Improved Marine Protected Area (MPA) Management Effectiveness in the Coral Triangle (CT) Countries* was held on May 8-13, 2011. It was hosted by the Government of the Philippines through its CTI National Coordinating Committee (NCC) with assistance from the US CTI Support Program and in coordination with the CTI Regional Secretariat. The purpose of the activity was to address Goal 3 (*MPAs established and effectively managed*) of the CTI Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) and, specifically, to build capacity for effective management of the CT MPA System (CTMPAS). The US CTI Support Program Regional Activities for 2011-13 aim to support one regional collective action through developing the regional MPA system, and one parallel activity that focuses primarily on national settings but links through common elements into a regional program by contributing to:

- Action 1 (*Jointly establish overall goals, objectives, principle, and operational design elements for a CT MPA System centered around priority MPA networks*) and
- Action 3 (*Build capacity for effective management of the CTMPAS*).

The Regional Exchange, the second of two CTI regional exchanges so far organized by the USCTI Support Program that focused on MPAs, consisted of five days of workshops and expert and case study presentations, and included a visit to a functional MPA to test tools for assessing management effectiveness. It was attended by 40 participants, including 25 official delegates from the six CTI member countries (CT6), namely, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea (PNG), the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste.

The first MPA regional exchange was held in Phuket, Thailand, in June 2010, and tackled MPA network and system design and operations. That activity produced the following results:

- 1) A collective review of the current principles, objectives, models and regional case studies of MPA networks;
- 2) The practical application of common network principles through the parallel designs of national MPA network pilot sites in each country;
- 3) The drafting of priority objectives for a CTI Regional MPA System that could eventually be managed cooperatively by the CT countries; and
- 4) The identification of next steps toward collective efforts on MPAs and MPA networks.

Objectives

As a follow-through activity of the regional initiative to establish the CTMPAS, this 2nd Regional Exchange on MPAs was focused on assisting country teams to plan for the establishment or strengthening of national and regional MPA management effectiveness systems that adhere to international standards. It was designed to provide input for planning and training that will transfer a consistent set of core tools on improving management effectiveness to on-site managers of MPAs and networks. The specific objectives were:

- 1) Provide participating teams from the CT6 countries with concepts, models, lessons and approaches for the development and operation of effective MPAs, networks and systems in their countries and at a regional scale.
- 2) Share experiences and learn from other CTI countries about development and implementation of MPA effectiveness monitoring protocols.
- 3) Develop and test a MPA monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system in one MPA in the Philippines to inform the development of an effectiveness monitoring tool for each country.

- 4) Develop an activity design or draft next steps based on the lessons learned that will guide the 3rd Regional MPA Activity on the development of the CTMPAS in follow up to the first Regional Exchange conducted in Phuket, Thailand, June 2010.

The Philippines was chosen as the venue because the country has a functional management effectiveness system in many of its MPAs that offers an opportunity for sharing and learning.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS & OUTPUTS

Proceedings

The Regional Exchange engaged experts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and partner organizations in Australia, the Philippines and Indonesia, who shared information, experiences and knowledge on the different MPA management effectiveness assessment tools being used in various parts of the world, including:

- 1) World Bank Scorecard to assess progress in achieving MPA management effectiveness goals
- 2) World Bank/World Wildlife Fund Alliance Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (Philippine experience)
- 3) The Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report
- 4) Guide to Improving MPA Management Effectiveness in Indonesia
- 5) NOAA National Marine Sanctuary System-wide Monitoring and Sanctuary Condition Report
- 6) ICRI East Asia's work on MPA management effectiveness
- 7) MPA competence standards developed by the ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation
- 8) Oslo-Paris Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment Guidance on Management Effectiveness
- 9) Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation MPA Rating System (Philippines)
- 10) MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (Philippines)

The country groups looked at these models in order to select one or a combination that would be a good fit for their respective countries. They then developed roadmaps outlining the activities that they would need to take to make the system operational based on the specific needs of their MPA systems at various levels of management. The roadmaps are shown below.

In addition to developing the roadmaps, the participants compared notes and exchanged information on the MPA systems operating in their countries. Among the CT6, Indonesia and the Philippines had the most experience in using management effectiveness assessment tools, but even those that had no formal management effectiveness systems realized from their discussions with the experts and other delegates that they already had some essential elements in their MPA systems that they could build on to develop their own management effectiveness programs.

The following CTI concerns were also discussed during plenary and in other side conversations with some members of the resource team:

- 1) *How to integrate climate change adaptation (CCA) and ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) into resilient MPA network design principles* – This discussion was premised on the application of EAFM, CCA and MPA networks as an integrated strategy for the Coral Triangle, a key objective of the USCTI. It was included in the agenda to generate participant feedback on a draft report which aims to define a set of MPA network design principles that integrates fisheries and climate change objectives and is applicable for use by the CT6 in the regional (CTI) context. The report's focus on the biophysical aspects of MPA management and the exclusion of socioeconomic concerns and any link to enforcement or policy generated the most comments from participants, who underscored the importance of these aspects of the MPA system especially at the local government and community level. It was

explained that the intention is only to provide some guidance on the biophysical elements based on information at the regional scale that may not be as easy to generate locally as the more country-specific or site-specific policy, enforcement and socioeconomic aspects of management.

- 2) *CTI MPA Learning Network* – This was a key outcome of the 1st Regional Exchange on the design and operation of the CTI Regional Learning Network held in March 2011 in the Philippines, which identified MPAs as one area of focus of the CTI learning network process. The discussion started with a presentation that explained the CTI MPA Learning Network, the work done so far and steps that still need to be taken to make it happen. Participants were keen to start up the network and insisted that, while taking the formal route to get the CTI ministers’ stamp of approval on the MPA Learning Network proposal paper, the Coral Triangle Center (CTC) can “start coordinating with organizations within the region.” It was agreed at the Regional Exchange in March 2011 that the CTC would take the lead in the development of the Network.

Key Outputs

Country Roadmaps

The following roadmaps (reproduced here with little editing) will be presented to the NCC and MPA technical working group (TWG) in the respective CT6 countries, and will be used for planning the development and adoption of MPA effectiveness systems appropriate for each country.

Indonesia

Network/system: Nation-wide system ME Model: Model 3 (based on programmatic standards)			
Development steps	TIMELINE		Notes
Legal basis	Done		Laws and regulations.
Standardization	START	2008	Guidelines, standard operating procedures, etc.
	END	2011	
Adoption by government	2012		MPAME Guide
Capacity and awareness building	2012		Training, technical assistance, dissemination (regional government)
	2013		
Implementation	2012		Funding, dedicated team, list of MPAs (regional government)
	2013		
M&E (system improvement)	2012		Adaptive management
Reporting	2013		External (regional/international), internal

Additional notes/comments:

- 1) Legal basis –In Indonesia, it is difficult to talk about any program without an enabling law, because government funding is required for implementation. Fortunately, the enabling laws for a nation-wide management effectiveness program are already in place. These include

various fisheries laws (e.g. 5/1990; 31/2004; 60/2007) and coastal management laws (e.g. 27/2007), which provide for management effectiveness.

- 2) Standardization –The MPAME Guide contains the guidelines that are currently applied nationally, but other guidelines are also being reviewed and may be integrated into the MPAME tool to make it more comprehensive. The development and field testing of standards have been going on since 2008, and are expected to be completed this year. The tool will need government approval, which is targeted for 2012.
- 3) Capacity and awareness building -- Capacity-building at the regional government/local government will take time because the program still has to be approved by the national government to ensure that funding will be available for its implementation. If approval is secured in 2012, capacity building at the regional/local government level can start in 2013.
- 4) Implementation – A first step toward implementation is to identify the MPAs where the tool will be implemented. Indonesia has estimated to have 13.5 million hectares of MPAs across 60 states, with 15 MPAs under local government authority, 9 under the national government, and 7 under forestry management authority, not counting community-based MPAs managed at the village level. Also, implementation will require a dedicated national coordination team supported by expert groups. Having the laws and management effectiveness standards does not guarantee that implementation will happen. The national coordination team should have the necessary mandate to make sure that implementation is programmed at all levels of government, funded and subsequently implemented.
- 5) M&E – The primary reason for doing M&E is to improve the management system.
- 6) Reporting – In addition to international bodies (e.g. CTI and donors), the target audience of MPA management effectiveness report will include the Indonesian president, ministers and other concerned people with authority on this matter.

Malaysia

Network/system: State-wide system – Sabah Parks ME Model: Model 3 (based on programmatic standards)		
Development steps	INDICATIVE TIMEFRAME	Notes
Proposal paper presentation and endorsement by the Board of Directors of Sabah Parks	6 months	
Creation of the management effectiveness team - Set up and improve the organizational structure - Design standard management effectiveness method	6-12 months	Approved by management effectiveness team
Preparation for data gathering (including creation of 3 technical groups: biophysical, socioeconomic and governance)	6-12 months	
Field work, data gathering, meeting/workshop with stakeholders	6-12 months	
Gathering of information, data analysis and report writing	6 months	To be outsourced to consultant/s
Submission of draft report to management effectiveness team (management meeting to review report)	3 months	
Roadshow/seminars/workshops, management meeting and preparation of final draft, submission to Sabah Parks Board of Directors for approval	3 months	

Additional notes/comments:

- 1) The Board of Directors of Sabah Parks is composed of representatives from various ministries who meet two to three times in a year to discuss matters concerning Sabah Parks. They need to approve the proposal before the management effectiveness process can begin, and for this reason, the roadmap does not set specific dates for the planned activities, only an estimate of the timeframe needed to complete each activity. (The timeframes indicated above may overlap).
- 2) Provisions for adaptive management will be included in the plan and the management effectiveness report.

PNG

Network/system: Kimbe Bay Managed Marine Area ME Model: Model 3 (based on programmatic standards)			
Development steps	T I M E L I N E		Notes
TNC Marine Program Retreat, NCC Meeting	June 2011		Introduction of management effectiveness to project site and at policy level.
Community consultation; Stakeholder workshop	START	December 2011	Completion of community consultation; main aim of the consultation is to introduce conceptual framework (Steps 1-5)
	END	December 2011	
Identify and develop review team	March 2012		
Training for review team	May 2012		Develop a work plan at the training
Review team to implement management effectiveness tool (compile biophysical, socioeconomic and governance data; create data management system; create register of governance tools, e.g. national and provincial laws, policies, management plans, etc.)	December 2012		The review team will be divided into subcommittees to ensure transparency and efficiency
Review team workshop to do assessment, develop scorecard.	April 2013		Same process will be done at the community level and the results communicated to stakeholders as done at the start
Communicate results through consultation.	June 2013		

Additional notes/comments:

- 1) Budget is not an issue at the moment because TNC is already doing monitoring and evaluation (M&E) in the area, and the provincial authority has also allocated some funds for this purpose. But looking at the long term there is an intention to expand to a national scale, and there is plan to include the program in the budget process.
- 2) Kimbe Bay is generally the initial focus of marine programs in PNG because it is considered as the country's demonstration site for such programs, and the lessons that are generated there are always shared with other sites. The management effectiveness program should eventually be replicated in other sites, initially perhaps in Manus Province. The tool will also probably be applied by the LMMA network because the management effectiveness team will also involve people who are working in the network.

Philippines

Network/system: Bay-wide MPA network				
ME Model: Combination of Model 1 (using management objectives), Model 2 (using competence standards) and Model 3 (based on programmatic standards)				
Objective: To assess management effectiveness of the MPAs in Pandan Bay, Central Philippines				
Development steps		T I M E L I N E		Notes
Creation of management effectiveness team		Feb 2012		Team members: LGU technical staff, DENR, LIPASECU technical staff, etc.
Orientation of respondents/stakeholders		March 2012		Council members, NGAs, LGUs, municipal technical staff (9 MPAs, 119 hectares)
Distribution of forms and application		March 2012		DENR and UPMSI to facilitate
Data gathering and analysis		May 2012		
Validation		September 2012		
Submission of reports		December 2012		To be submitted to LGUs, council, DENR, MSN (for benchmarking)
Budget item	Details	Amount	Source	
3-day orientation workshop (transportation, supplies, accommodations)	35 participants X 3 days X Php1,500 per day	Php250,000	DENR, Provincial Government, external funding (persons involved: council members, Governor, Sangguniang Panlalawigan (Provincial Boards), DENR Regional Directors)	

LGU - local government unit; DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources; LIPASECU - Libertad, Pandan, Sebaste, Culase (an association of municipalities in Antique, Philippines); UPMSI – University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute; MSN – MPA Support Network

Additional notes/comments:

- 1) The roadmap is very specific to Pandan Bay because the MEAT is already being implemented in several sites in the Philippines and this is one site where the tool has not been implemented.
- 2) Budget specified is only for the first activity (3-day orientation workshop for respondents/stakeholders) outlined in the roadmap.

Solomon Islands

Network/system: Solomon Islands Locally Managed Marine Areas (SILMMA) ME Model: Twin Rocks model (based on management objectives) and Indonesia MPAME scorecard (based on programmatic standards)			
Development steps	T I M E L I N E	Notes	Budget
Submission of report to NCC			TNC, CTSP
Formalization of MPA TWG (NCC)		To support SILMMA (Core team, MPA Regional Exchange Partners)	
Consultation with SILMMA		June 2011	
Development of management effectiveness model/system for CTSP integration sites		2-day workshop will be conducted, probably facilitated by a consultant, to identify information needs; sustainable financing included in the plan	CTSP?
Presentation of outcome to NCC by MPA TWG of the NCC		October 2011	SILMMA, WWF and FSPI
Training for data collectors and MPA managers		FSPI, WWF, WFC at integration sites	FSPI?
Collection and evaluation of data; development of database		To be confirmed after development of plan	SILMMA to host information; technical assistance required to setup database
Reporting to NCC through SILMMA	2-year reporting cycle	National, provincial, communities (GERUSA and Gizo), NGOs (WWF, FSPI, WFC, etc.), donors.	
M&E	Ongoing	SILMMA	

FSPI – Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International; WFC – World Fish Center; GERUSA – Gella-Russell-Savo natural resource management network

Additional notes/comments:

- 1) SILMMA is the social network of all MPAs in the Solomon Islands.
- 2) Some aspects of the models are not applicable to the local setting in the Solomon Islands and will have to be adapted to specific site requirements.
- 3) The plan has to be approved by the NCC before it can be implemented in the integration sites.
- 4) M&E results will input into an adaptive management process.

Timor-Leste

Network/system: National Park – Niño Konis Santana ME Model: “Twin Rocks model” (based on management objectives)				
Development steps	TIMELINE		Notes	
Management effectiveness team meeting	June 2011		NCC, CCG, MPA TWG, stakeholders	
Gathering of information	START	July 2011	MPA MEP Team	
	END	August 2011		
Formulate workplan	September 2011			
Consultations	START	October 2011		
	END	December 2012		
Review and finalize	START	January 2012		Workshop (stakeholders)
	END	February 2012		
Approval	March 2012			Concerned ministries
Implement	START	April 2012		MPA MEP Team
	END	April 2013		
Monitoring	3 / month			
Evaluation	1 / year			

CCG – Climate Change Group; MEP – management effectiveness planning

Additional notes/comments:

Before it can be tested and implemented and to ensure funding, the plan will need approval from government.

Next Steps

The MPA workshop provided the opportunity for each country to assess the status of MPA management effectiveness systems in each country and to determine critical next steps as shown in the roadmaps to move the process of development forward in 2011 and beyond. The Resource Team also recommended the following "next steps" for the country teams to follow:

- 1) Build standardization into roadmaps so that the management effectiveness models can be integrated at a national scale (it may be difficult to do the standardization and integration when the management effectiveness plans are already finalized and approved.)
- 2) Field test models as soon as practicable. The sooner the model is field-tested, the sooner it is going to evolve into something useful. It is wise to think ahead and get the management effectiveness process in the budget cycle as early as possible -- ideally for some countries supported by CTSP, the proposals must be ready by the end of May of each year to be considered for funding the following year.
- 3) Keep respective NCCs informed of what you are doing. This will help you get more national support.

Another Regional Exchange on MPAs (focused on the Coral Triangle MPA System) is planned before the end of 2011 and a follow-up workshop is planned for 2012.

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PHOTO: AGU

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