



SAFEGUARDING THE HEART OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY

Reef Protection, Coral Restoration, and Responsible Diving in the Coral Triangle

Dr. Frank Keith Griffin
Executive Director,



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



HOTSPOTS OF WORLD BIODIVERSITY



Amazon

Flora



Congo Basin

Flora & Fauna

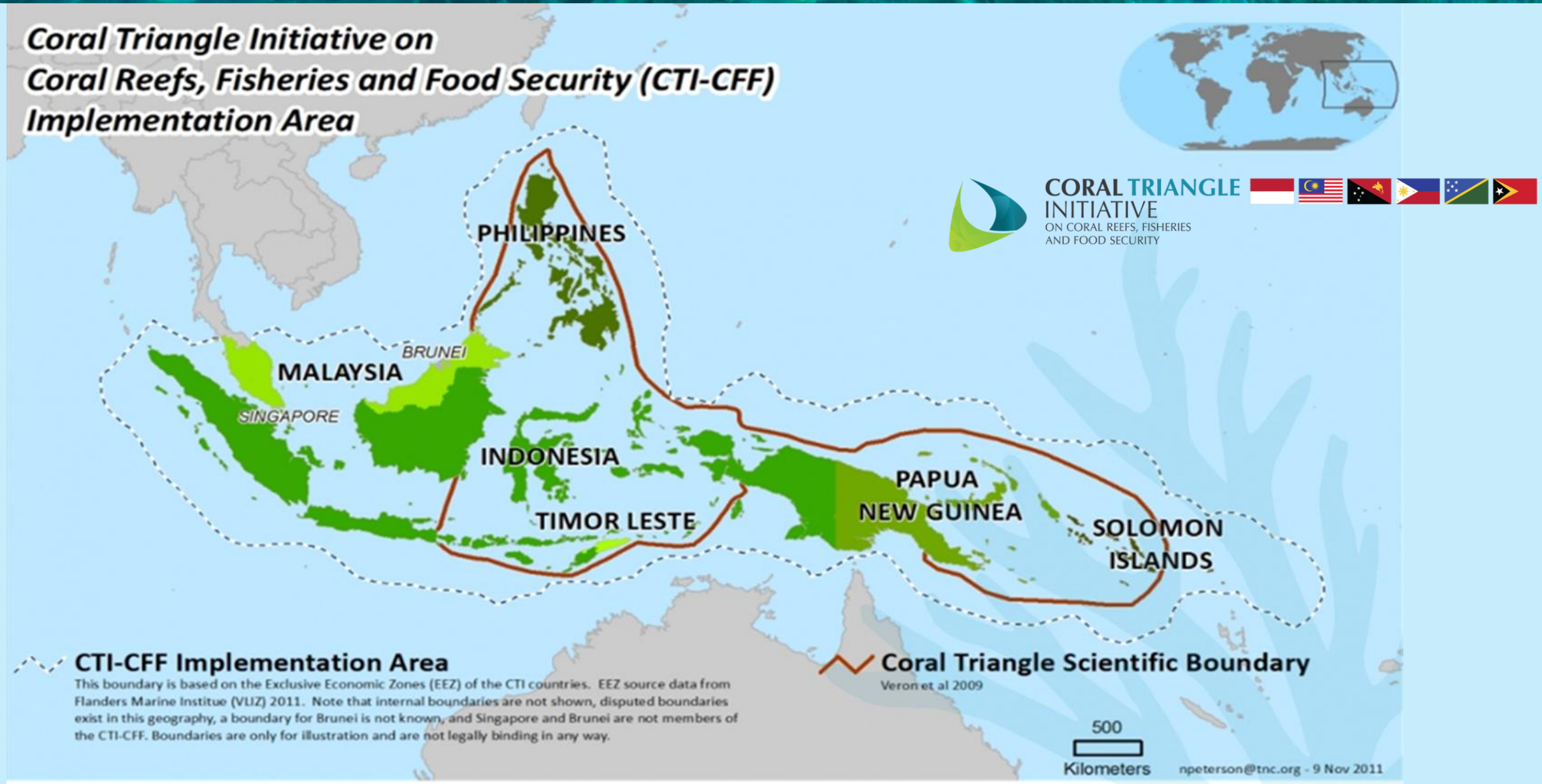


Coral Triangle

**Marine, Coastal and Coral
Reefs**



The Coral Triangle: the most extraordinary marine environment in the world



Why the Coral Triangle matters



Highest Coral Reef Diversity

- Coral Triangle is home to 75% of known coral species in the world
- 600 species of reef-building corals
- 3000 species of reef fish



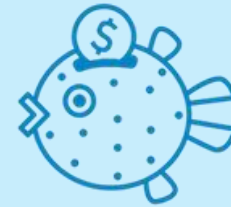
1/3 of Global Coral Area

- Countries manage 35% of global coral area
- 35% of the world's 50 most resilient reefs



Fisheries

- Coral reefs are nurseries for regional fisheries
- 2.8 million small-scale fisheries depends on Coral Triangle reefs



Tourism Benefits

- Coral Triangle reefs generate US\$5.7bn per year from tourism



Livelihood / Socio-Economic Support

- Coral Triangle Marine Resources directly support the livelihoods over 120 million people



Coastal Protection and Blue Carbon

- 26 million people are protected by reefs
- 45% of the world's mangrove-associated carbon is found in the coral triangle

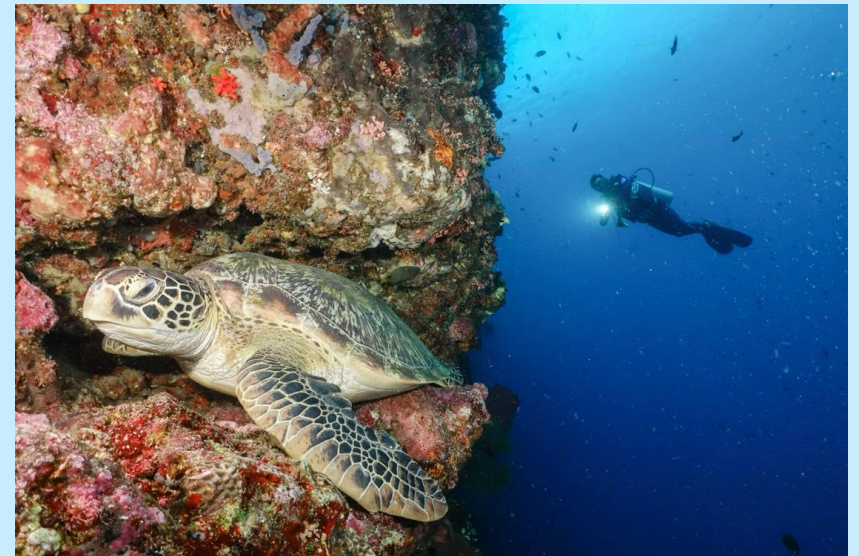


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Coral Reef Economy Report

- 👉 Based on this report, the Coral Triangle region generates approximately:
 - **\$5.7 billion per year** from tourism (as of 2017) and this includes:
 - ❖ Direct tourism revenue: \$3.1 billion
 - ❖ Indirect tourism revenue: \$2.6 billion
- 👉 These figures are based on reef-associated tourism, which includes:
 - On-reef activities: snorkeling, diving, boat tours
 - Reef-adjacent tourism: beach visits, coastal recreation benefiting from coral reef ecosystems
- 👉 Projected Tourism Value by 2030 (Healthy Reef Scenario):
\$8.52 billion per year



**HOWEVER, THIS MARINE
BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT IS AT
RISK FROM OVERFISHING,
PLASTIC POLLUTION, CLIMATE
CHANGE, AND UNSUSTAINABLE
TOURISM.**





CTI-CFF AT GLANCE

**Established in 2009,
multilateral partnership
between the six Coral
Triangle member
countries:**

**Indonesia, Malaysia,
Papua New Guinea,
Philippines, Solomon
Islands, and Timor-
Leste**

**5 Technical Working
Group:**

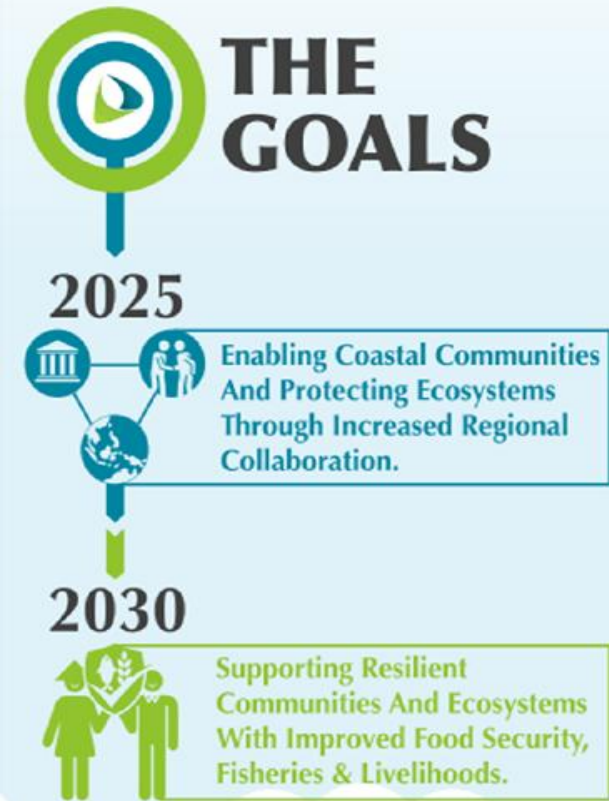
1. Marine Protected Areas (MPA)
2. Threatened Species
3. Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)
4. Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)
5. Seascapes



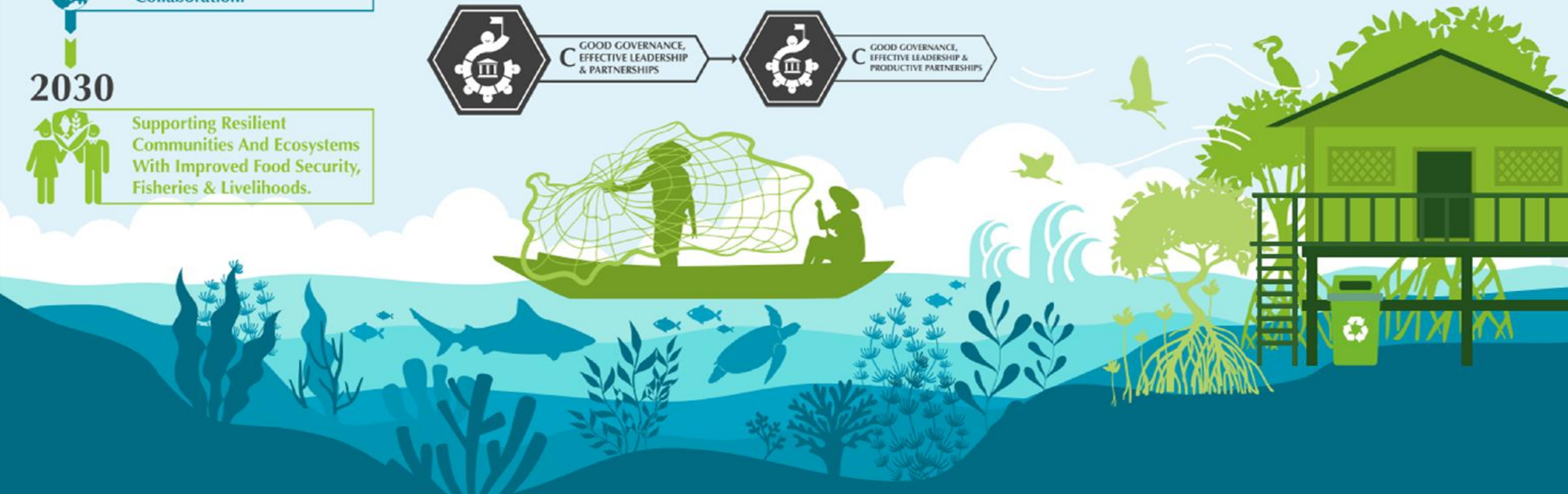
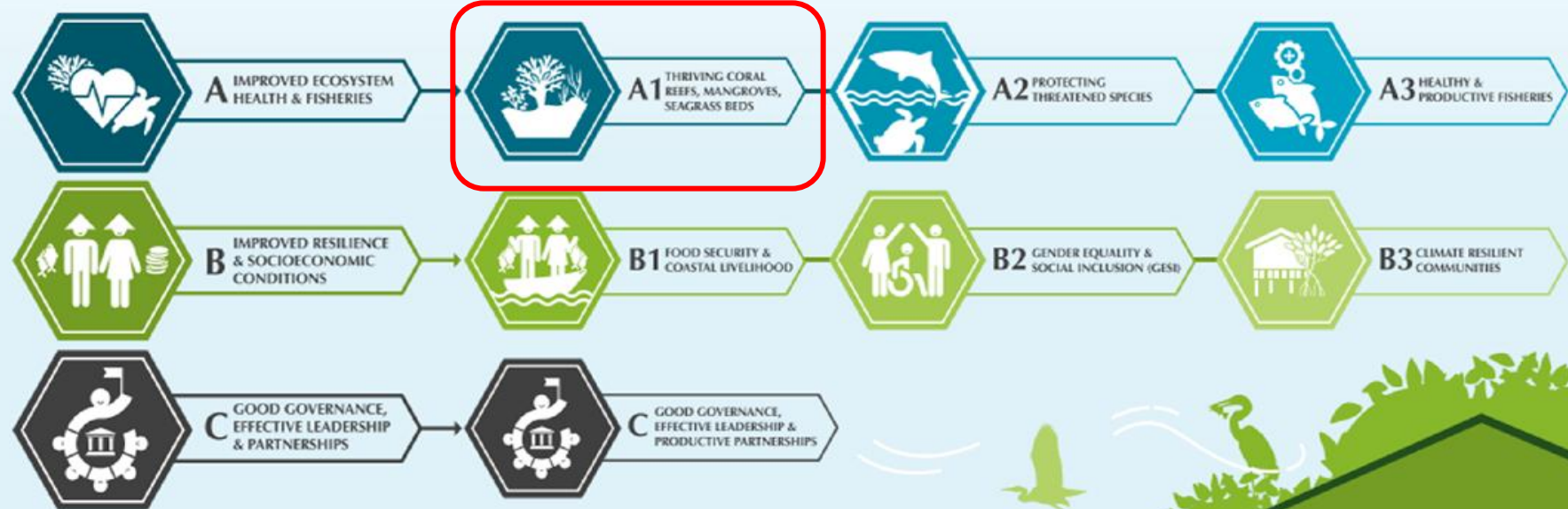
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Regional Plan Of Action (RPOA) 2.0



OBJECTIVES → 7 TARGETS



Reef Protection and Coral Restoration



- UNDER TARGET A1 OF RPOA 2.0, WE AIM TO ENSURE THAT CORAL REEFS, MANGROVES, AND SEAGRASS BEDS ARE RESILIENT AND EFFECTIVELY MANAGED. THROUGH REGIONAL ACTIVITIES LIKE:
 - ❖ Establishing and strengthening Marine Protected Areas (MPAs),
 - ❖ Promoting ecosystem-based adaptation,
 - ❖ Developing sustainable financing models etc...
- WE SUPPORT CORAL RESTORATION EFFORTS THAT ARE SCIENCE-BASED AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN.

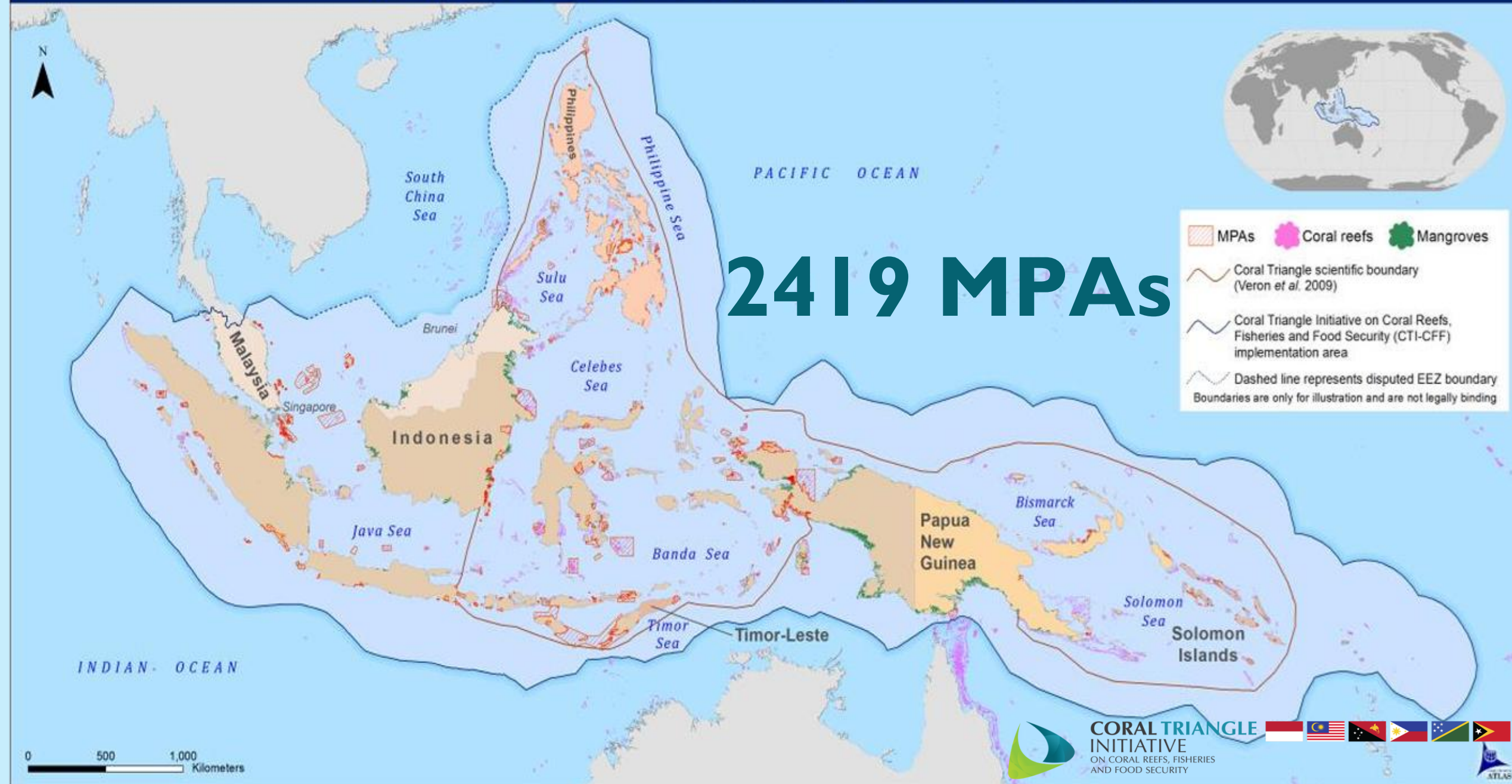


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Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Coral Triangle

2419 MPAs



Responsible Diving and Sustainable Tourism



➤ THE SUSTAINABLE MARINE TOURISM TASK FORCE:

- ❖ promotes codes of conduct and branding for eco-tourism

➤ THE COASTFISH FRAMEWORK

- ❖ integrates poverty reduction and food security with sustainable coastal livelihoods



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**GREEN
FINS**

THE GREEN FINS CODE OF CONDUCT

To protect our fragile marine ecosystems, Green Fins members and marine tourism operators who care about the environment should:

- 1 Adopt the Green Fins mission statement: "To protect and conserve coral reefs by establishing and implementing environmentally friendly guidelines to promote a sustainable diving and snorkelling tourism industry."
- 2 Display the Green Fins Code of Conduct, icons and signed certificate for your guests and staff to see
- 3 Follow the Green Fins Icons and act as responsible role models for guests
- 4 Take part in regular beach and/or underwater cleanups
- 5 Help to develop and implement or support mooring buoy programmes and actively use moorings, drift or hand place anchors for boats
- 6 Prohibit the sale or display of corals, shells and other marine life
- 7 Take part in regular marine life monitoring and report the data to an active database
- 8 Provide adequate trash facilities on board your vessel and dispose of all waste responsibly
- 9 Prevent any toxic chemicals (e.g. oil, cleaning products, sunscreen etc.) from entering the ocean
- 10 Abide by all local, regional, national and international environmental laws, regulations and customs
- 11 Explain the Green Fins icons to your guests in pre-dive briefings
- 12 Provide training, briefings, talks or information to help employees and guests understand good environmental practices for marine tourism activities (e.g. snorkelling, diving, boating, marine life interactions etc.)
- 13 Provide environmental materials (e.g. ID books, educational posters etc.) for your staff and guests to read
- 14 Inform guests about local Marine Protected Areas and their associated environmental rules and regulations
- 15 Promote a strict 'no touch' policy for all reef diving and snorkelling



Global Standards

➡ A global standard to reduce the environmental impact of marine tourism

➡ Adopted by Dive Operators in 14 Countries – including Coral Triangle nations



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**“PROTECTING AND RESTORING
REEFS IN THE CORAL TRIANGLE
ISN'T JUST A REGIONAL EFFORT —
IT'S A GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY.
BECAUSE WHEN THE CORAL
TRIANGLE THRIVES, THE OCEAN
THRIVES.”**



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THANK YOU



TERIMA KASIH



TENK IU TRU



MARAMING SALAMAT



TAGIO TUMAS



OBRIGADO



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INTERNAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE (IRC) MEETING
DILI, 25 - 26 SEPTEMBER 2024

