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*U.S. SUPPORT TO THE CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE*

# US CTI SUPPORT PROGRAM INTEGRATOR QUARTERLY REPORT: OCT - DEC 2008

JANUARY 2009 (BANGKOK, THAILAND)



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**JANUARY 2009 (BANGKOK, THAILAND)**

**Prepared for the US Agency for International Development  
by ARD, Inc. under Contract No. EPP-I-00-06-00008-00**

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## **DISCLAIMER**

**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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# ACRONYMS

BALANCED	Building Actors and Leaders for Advancing Community Excellence in Development (USAID/Washington project)
BFAR	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Philippines
BSSE	Bismarck Solomon Sea Eco-region
CI	Conservation International
CMWG	Coordination Mechanism Working Group
CT6	Coral Triangle Countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste)
CTI	Coral Triangle Initiative
CTSP	Coral Triangle Support Partnership Project (USAID/Asia)
CRMP	Coastal Resource Management Project (USAID former project)
CRM	Coastal Resource Management
ECOGOV	Environmental Governance (USAID/Philippines project)
EBFM	Eco-system based Fisheries Management
FISH	Fisheries Improved for Sustainable Harvest (USAID/Philippines project)
GDA	Global Development Alliance
IEC	Information, education and communication
IUU fishing	Illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing
IPOPCORM	Integrated Population and Coastal Resource Management
IR	Intermediate Results
LRFFT	Live Reef Fish Food Trade
LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Area
LGU	Local Government Unit
LMP	League of Municipalities of the Philippines
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MMAF	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Republic of Indonesia
MOST	Ministry of Science and Technology
MPA	Marine Protected Area

NCC	National Coordinating Committee
NCCC	National CTI Coordinating Committee
NGO	Non-government organization
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPOA	National Plan of Action
PCG	Program Coordination Group
PEMSEA	Program for the Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia
PHE	Population, Health and Environment
PI	Program Integrator
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PNG	Papua New Guinea
RDMA	Regional Development Mission for Asia
RPOA	Regional Plan of Action
SRU	Strategic Resource Unit
SSME	Sulu-Sulawesi Seas Marine Eco-region
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
USG	US Government
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
US CTI	United States Support to the Coral Triangle Initiative
USG	United States Government
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

## BACKGROUND

The Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) is a multilateral partnership founded on the commitment of the six Coral Triangle countries to safeguard coastal and marine resources and communities. Despite increased investment and efforts by governments and organizations to improve management, the condition of the resources continues to decline. Coral reefs and fisheries, the source of invaluable ecological and socioeconomic benefits, are being subjected to increasing threats from population growth in coastal areas, overfishing, and changes in oceanographic conditions, including increase in sea surface temperature and ocean acidification, resulting from climate change.

Regional commitment and cooperation is expected to catalyze, expand, and sustain national and local-level implementation efforts through the CTI Regional Plan of Action. Within the broad framework of the CTI Regional Plan of Action, the six countries have developed National Plans of Action, and are working together to identify and implement those actions that require regional cooperation. CTI thus encompasses a distinctively regional approach, building on country-driven priorities and actions.

The US CTI Support Program represents the US Government's commitment to support the efforts of the CT6 countries plus two additional countries, Fiji and Vanuatu, and is composed of team members from USAID, the US State Department and NOAA, and projects funded by these entities. USAID RDMA serves as the program lead and provides overall management of the program in coordination with USAID Washington D.C. and other key USAID missions in the Philippines and Indonesia, as well as the U.S. State Department. RDMA supports implementation through the Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP) implemented by a consortium of NGOs composed of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and Conservation International (CI). The U.S. Department of State supports the CTI Regional Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia through a grant provided to the NGO Consortium and managed by TNC.

As part of the US commitment to CTI, RDMA also supports a US CTI Support Program Integrator (PI) through a task order under the USAID PLACE contract to ARD Inc. Modeled after the U.S. Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System (IOTWS) Program, the PI is responsible for coordinating inputs from the various USG agencies and partners, including other donors, providing strategic technical support to the region. The PI supports the US CTI Support Program by coordinating consolidated planning and reporting, facilitating adaptive management, and providing strategic technical support to the region. This programmatic support, defined under five program areas and 13 tasks, supports RPOA goals at a regional level of implementation. The overall objective of the PI is to facilitate a unified USG response to the CTI and regional exchange among all CTI stakeholders to assess status and needs and share lessons learned.

This Quarterly Report for the period of October through December 2008 presents progress achieved within the five Program Areas and 13 Tasks provided in USAID Task Order EPP-I-07-06-00008-00 and Contract No: EPP-I-00-06-00008-00 for ARD Inc. to serve as U.S. Support to the Coral Triangle Initiative Program Integrator. The five Program Areas are: 1) Overall Coordination, Administrative Support and Program Outreach; 2) Capacity Building to the CTI Secretariat and other Technical Support Groups; 3) Regional Exchange Support; 4) Assessments and Stakeholder Consultations; and 5) Private Sector Alliance Building.

## PROGRAM AREA I:

# OVERALL COORDINATION, ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND PROGRAM OUTREACH

### **Task I: Coordination of US Support to the Coral Triangle Initiative Activities and Current USG Activities in the Region**

#### **Progress Update**

In this quarter, it was agreed that the PI will facilitate a Program Coordination Group (PCG) call every two weeks, which greatly benefited the implementation of the US Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System Program. The PI will draft the agenda, set up the call, and send around minutes of each meeting. As such, the PCG has functioned through planned biweekly conference calls, facilitated through emailed agendas and materials, followed up with PCG minutes, which are distributed and uploaded on the Program Web Portal. The PCG has consisted of two representatives from the USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA), one from each bilateral Mission (Philippines and Indonesia), three from USAID DC, two from the Department of State, one from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), five from the Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP), and three from the PI. For this period, 5 PCG virtual conferences were conducted on: October 16, October 30, November 24, December 8, December 22.

In October 17 the PI organized the first PCG conference call with eight people in attendance. During the call CTSP provided points of contact for each country to USAID. RDMA said that it will send out letters to the CTI Secretariat and USAID Mission Directors in CT6 countries to introduce the US CTI Support Program while the NOAA representative reported that a senior level planning team has been convened to determine NOAA's short and long term contribution to the program. The PI team gave an update of the compilation of indicators for the CTI Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) and circulated the CTI Project Map template with a request for development partners to complete and fill out required information. Preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Development Partners Coordination Meeting in Manila and the role of the USG in the Ministerial Meeting in Manado were also discussed.

In the October 30 PCG, the PI reported on the highlights of the Senior Officials Meeting and 2<sup>nd</sup> Development Partners Meeting in Manila such as US Ambassador to the Philippines' formal announcement of the \$40 million US Government support to the CTI; the ratification of the CTI RPOA by the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM); and the establishment of CTI working groups for Governance Structure and Coordination Mechanisms, Monitoring and Evaluation and Financial Resources. The PI also updated the PCG on the status of the Program Integrator Web Portal, Project Mapping and possible provision of web support to the CTI Secretariat. CTSP reported on the status of the mobilization of country teams and the work planning in CT6 countries. The PCG also discussed possible ways to engage with the CTI interim Regional Secretariat. The call ended with a summary and schedule of upcoming meetings until February 2009.

In the November 24 PCG, highlights from the Townsville workshop such as providing assistance in finalizing the national plans of action in all CT6 countries and establishment of CTI national coordination bodies were discussed. The PI and CTSP also reported on the outcomes of the meeting with the CTI interim Regional Secretariat in Jakarta and the details of the State Department Grant supporting the Secretariat. CTSP gave an update on the status of the country team mobilizations and quick start projects while the representative from NOAA reported that a NOAA CTI Working Group

has been formed. The PI solicited comments on the draft Outreach and Communications Plan and reported that the PIP has been successfully launched.

In the December 8 PCG, the team discussed the status of development partners and the roles and responsibilities of various working groups. There was also a discussion on whether working groups should be responsible for confirming membership, developing TORs and targets for milestones such as CC4, SOM3 and Ministerial Meetings. CTSP reported on the status of the country team mobilizations while NOAA reported on how governments can tap or access the Global Reef Expedition, whose main objective is to conduct assessments distance from and close to communities to determine impacts of reef trade. Feedback about the PIP and cross cutting issues identified at the Townsville workshop were also discussed.

In the December 22 PCG, CTSP reported that USAID has agreed the relocation of the Regional Coordinating Team to Jakarta and that it has scheduled a workplanning meeting on January 12-16 in Washington, DC as well as an inception workshop from February 2-6. CTSP also reported that the NPOAs, which vary widely among CT6 countries, will be finalized by January 5, 2009. The PI led discussions regarding the preparations for the CCC4 Ministerial Meeting and the Manado Leaders' Summit.

PCG Call	Topics Addressed
PCG Call #1 October 17, 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NGO Consortium Points of Contact</li> <li>2. NOAA Contribution to CTI</li> <li>3. CTI Project Mapping template</li> <li>4. 2<sup>nd</sup> CTI Development Partners Meeting in Manila</li> <li>5. Role of US in Manado</li> </ol>
PCG Call #2, October 30, 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Report Out from SOM2 Manila Meeting and 2<sup>nd</sup> Development Partners Meeting</li> <li>2. Status of PIP and Project Mapping</li> <li>3. Mobilization of Country Teams and National Work Planning Process</li> <li>4. CTI Secretariat Engagement and Support</li> <li>5. Post-Manila Communication Products</li> <li>6. Upcoming Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Townsville, Nov 10-14</li> <li>• CCC4, Jan 2009</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> Dev Partner Meeting , Feb 2009</li> <li>• SOM3, Feb 16-17, 2009</li> <li>• Ministerial Meeting, Feb 18, 2009</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
PCG Call #3, November 24, 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summary of Townsville Workshop</li> <li>2. Engagement with CTI Secretariat</li> <li>3. Status of mobilization of country teams</li> <li>4. NOAA Update</li> <li>5. Rollout of PIP and Project Map</li> <li>6. Communication Products</li> </ol>
PCG Call #4, December 8, 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Status of mobilization of country teams</li> <li>2. Status of Development Partners and Working Groups</li> <li>3. Feedback and Next Steps for using PIP</li> <li>4. Follow up on Townsville Meeting</li> <li>5. Global Reef Expedition</li> </ol>

PCG Call #5, December 22, 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CTSP Regional Coordination Team relocation to Jakarta</li> <li>2. CTSP Workplan development process</li> <li>3. NPOA Status of CT6</li> <li>4. CTI Secretariat Support</li> <li>5. CCC4/Ministerial Meeting Venue and Dates</li> <li>6. Manado Leaders Summit (Foreign Ministries no longer Heads of State)</li> <li>7. PI Updates on PIP and Communications Plan</li> </ol>
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## **Task 2: Coordination with non-USG Coral Triangle Programs**

### **Progress Update**

The PI facilitated and organized the first CTI Development Partners Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand on October 1-2, 2011 which were attended by partner organizations from the program's NGO consortium (Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy and the World Wildlife Fund), from development organizations such as the Asian Development Bank, Global Environment Facility, the Australian Government and USAID. During the meeting, Development Partners also highlighted the importance of cooperation and a unified direction is to implement the CTI effectively. This would involve the agreement on key practical issues such as the key dates for upcoming meetings and key events, information on consultations and analysis within countries, points of contact for various issues, key studies and reports generated within CTI, and indicators used by partners to measure progress. Coordination tools can include conference calls, meetings, staff/personnel, and websites. Although it was noted that there will be limitations on the types of information that can be shared, but information sharing among partners is essential.

The PI also participated in the Second CTI Development Partners Meeting held in Manila, Philippines on October 23, 2008. During the meeting, it was agreed that development partners will work with ADB and the PI to map and track CTI activities/projects and associated financial resources for DPs contributing to implementation of the CTI Regional Plan of Action. The mapping exercise which will eventually be posted on the CTI Partner Portal. The database tracks projects and not activities within projects and has 15 attributes. Future plans include the addition of several other attributes (i.e. hectares covered by project, indicators, targets, and lessons learned).

## **Task 3: Internal and External Communications**

### **Progress Update**

In this quarter, the PI developed the consolidated version of the Outreach and Communication Strategy for the US CTI Support Program and submitted it to USAID on November 2008. The strategy aims to achieve the following:

- Present the US CTI Program in a consistent and unified manner;  
Provide tools to inform internal and external partners on the developments, progress, successes, and impacts of the US CTI Program;
- Provide mechanisms for the U.S. CTI Program partners to effectively and efficiently communicate with each other so that the program activities are conducted in a coordinated fashion using the most recent information for decision making; and
- Enable USAID and other U.S. agencies supporting the program to rapidly provide information to Congress, the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), other high-level officials,

and other entities on the status and results of program activities.

In this quarter, the PI devoted effort in developing both the program's public website as well as the PI Partner Portal which includes posting the weekly updates, news stories, resource materials and presentations and files from various meetings and workshops supported by the program. The portal is a mechanism to facilitate project coordination and collaboration to share information among project members and stakeholders. The main feature of the Portal is that it is a publicly accessible website with some sections password protected. The website will allow for downloading of documents and a filing system that allows information organization to create a library. Documents can be tagged with specific attributes (geographic scope, key words, abstract/ brief, etc.). Collaborative real time work will be possible through this system. The Portal was rolled out in this quarter to ensure that it is useful during the entire duration of the CTI project. It is envisioned that the CTI Secretariat would eventually take over the Portal

#### **Task 4: USAID Administrative Support**

##### **Progress Update**

During the first CTI Development Partners Meeting in October, the PI led the discussion on the Performance Management Plan that led to the preparation of a first cut of indicators for review and refinement by USAID RDMA by December 2008.

The PI also reminded US CTI team members to coordinate other travel clearance process with USAID is very important for each mission to keep track of people who will be visiting and the purpose of their visits. It was also agreed that the PI and the NGO consortium will provide input for press releases and speeches, and USAID requests at least two weeks lead time for review and approval. USAID described the review process and emphasized that working with local media can significantly raise the profile of events.

## **PROGRAM AREA 2: CAPACITY BUILDING TO THE CTI SECRETARIAT AND OTHER TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUPS**

#### **Task 5: Technical and Administrative Support to Secretariat and Technical Support Groups**

##### **Progress Update**

The PI provided assistance to the Regional Secretariat to prepare for the Senior Officials, Ministerial and Partners Meetings at the World Ocean Conference (WOC)/CTI Summit in May 2009. Tasks included preparing draft English remarks for multiple opening, chairing and closing sessions for CTI Regional Secretariat leadership, maintaining documentation for the CTI Summit/WOC report to Indonesian Cabinet via Secretariat.

The PI coordinated meetings between the US CTI Support Program and the interim CTI Regional Secretariat to establish coordination mechanisms for various Program activities planned until December 2009.

### **Task 6: Perform Secretariat Organizational and Training Needs Assessment**

A plan for completion of this task was developed and provided to the Interim Regional Secretariat, which in turn led to the PI supporting the CTI Coordination Mechanisms Working Group tasked to propose to the CT6 Senior Officials and Ministers the most appropriate organizational structure for a permanent secretariat and other bodies. This task will be addressed following decision of the CT6 on establishment of a permanent regional secretariat.

### **Task 7: Long-Range Sustainability Planning**

This task is scheduled for completion in October 2010, and will be initiated in Year 2 following establishment of a permanent regional secretariat.

## **PROGRAM AREA 3: REGIONAL EXCHANGE SUPPORT**

### **Task 8: Regional Exchange Support**

#### **Progress Update**

The PI has an exchange program with a modest budget over five years. Most of the exchanges would take place within the region, for example for government officials or technical staff to visit another country to learn about best practices. In some cases exchanges may include visits to the US for training, but the process to send someone to the US is extremely burdensome. The PI will present an exchange plan within the next quarter.

### **Task 9: Conference and Regional Meeting Facilitation**

See Tasks 1 and 2 above.

## **PROGRAM AREA 4: ASSESSMENTS AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS**

#### **Progress Update**

This quarter the PI has undertaken continuous research about ongoing US-supported CTI and non-US CTI partner programs and progress on new ones to develop the CTI Project Map. The map was developed in collaboration with ADB the projects of CTI partners such as the Global Environment Facility, WorldFish, and Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of Southeast Asia (PEMSEA). The PI has conducted consultations held among program partners on the template of the project map and its key functions. Review is underway to expand attributes and applications of CTI Project Map for all CTI partners.

## **PROGRAM AREA 5: PRIVATE SECTOR ALLIANCE BUILDING**

### **Task 13: Identify Opportunities and Facilitate Creation of Alliances with Private Sector**

**Progress Update**

The PI developed a set of proposed strategies to initiate a private sector alliance program, which it plans implement in Year 2, based upon finalization of the Program's results framework. The decision to push private sector alliance building into to the second year of the program was in part based on a decision that it would be more effective to approach potential private sector partners once the CT6 had actually approved the Regional Plan of Action and to align private sector involvement more closely with CTI priorities.