

Abstract

SESSION 1:

A Decade of Partnerships in Sustainable Development of the Seas of East Asia: Synergies and Achievements

WORKSHOP 1.3:

Coastal and Ocean Governance in the Seas of East Asia: From Nation to Region



THE EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS 2015
16-21 November 2015 • Danang, Vietnam

Global Targets
Local Benefits

Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

The Coral Triangle marine Protected Area System (CTMPAS) Framework

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The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) was launched in 2009 by the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor Leste to address the crucial threats suffered by the region such as food security, marine biodiversity and climate change. They adopted a 10-year CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to safeguard the region's coastal and marine resources. The third of the five goals of the RPOA aims to establish a fully functioning and effectively managed region-wide Coral Triangle MPA System (CTMPAS).

The CTI-CFF MPA-Technical Working Group (TWG) was formally established on 2011 to guide regional MPA efforts and to ensure that Goal 3 of the CTI RPOA is achieved. Through five year regional workshops, it facilitated the development of the overall goals, objectives, principles and operational design elements of the CTMPAS that is centered on priority MPAs and MPA Networks and effective management.

The CTMPAS Framework and Action Plan was developed to harmonize neighboring jurisdictions of the same level, and between the various community-to-regional level managers which is a critical component to success for participating MPA and MPA networks across the CT6. It is being implemented through five (5) basic strategies with three reoccurring themes contributing to the success of a comprehensive and effective CTMPAS: 1) Ecology, 2) Governance and 3) Society. The inclusion of MPA sites and networks in the CTMPAS is based on their regional value, uniqueness or importance, and the level of effectiveness they achieve in meeting basic criteria in design and implementation as MPA sites or networks.

The four site categories that comprise the CTMPAS are:

Category 1: Recognized CTMPAS Sites – those that have a legal status and can provide sufficient data to be represented on a map

Category 2: Effectively Managed Regional Sites – those that have been evaluated for management effectiveness using a national review system

Category 3: Priority Development Sites – those sites of regional significance in terms of design and ecological and/or social importance but still require significant assistance to become fully functional MPAS/networks

Category 4: Flagship Sites – those sites of regional significance that stand out as very important in terms of ecological and social values and are effectively managed and moving towards true sustainability

Basically, the CTMPAS serves as the umbrella under which most CTI-CFF MPA activities come together and most importantly it sets the stage for improved quality of design and implementation to assist in achieving the goals of the CTI-CFF countries.

About Theresa Mundita S. Lim:

Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim is the Director of Biodiversity Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines. She received her DVM from the University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman and eventually earned a spot as a Biologist for the Pawikan (Marine Turtle) Conservation Project in 1989. After more than 20 years in public serve, Dr. Lim earned her Career Executive Service Officer Rank III. In addition to her leadership as the Chair of the CTI MPA-TWG, Dr. Lim serves as the Chair to several international and national committees related to biodiversity conservation. She has contributed to various publications on the status of the Philippines Biodiversity and has received multiple awards including the Distinguished Alumna Award for Public Service by the UP Alumni Association in 2008. She can be contacted at munditalim@yahoo.com.