1. **Name:**

Coral Triangle Initiative

1. **Short description:**

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) is a multilateral partnership of six countries working together to sustain marine and coastal resources by addressing crucial issues such as food security, climate change and marine biodiversity.

1. **Formality:**

Has a secretariat

1. **Regional coverage:**

Southeast Asia / South Pacific

1. **Members (including states and non-states):**

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

1. **Includes non-state actors?**

Yes. The CTI has several NGO partners, as well as University partners. These are referred to as ‘development partners’.

1. **Date created:**

2009

1. **Date visibly started to engage with maritime security (e.g. first document that refers to it):**

2009

1. **Brief History and Description:**

The CTI-CFF came about through the CTI6, a grouping of countries looking to preserve the Coral Triangle marine environment. At the Leader’s Summit in 2009, these governments agreed to adopt a 10-year CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (CTI RPOA) to safeguard the region’s marine and coastal biological resources. The permanent Regional Secretariat was officially established with the appointment of the first Executive Director in April 2015, where the headquarter is based in Manado, Indonesia. It works to strengthen fisheries policies and legislations among member countries through discussions on management, protection and governance. It has a number of working groups including the Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management, the Seascape working group, the working group on Marine Protected Areas, the Threatened Species working group, and the Clime Change Adaption working group. All of these enact various activities and workshops.

1. **Maritime Security Issues Covered:**

IUU Fishing, pollution

1. **Noteworthy documents and strategies:**

CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (CTI RPOA)

CTI-CFF Annual Report 2020

Concept Note on Local Capacity Development Program

1. **Intensity:**

Extremely active – 97 events across all CTI working groups and Initiatives in 2021

1. **Ongoing projects and activities:**

There are several projects and activities relevant to Maritime Security. Most important is the implementation of the electronic Catch and Documentation System (e-CDTS) for Tuna Fisheries from 2017 to 2019 to combat Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing.

The CTI CFF produces National Plans of Action and a roadmap of priority regional activities. Other important ongoing projects are the finalization of the draft Regional Plan of Action (RPOA 2.0), draft Host Country Agreement (HCA) and draft Staff Policies and Procedures Manual (SPPM); and virtual meetings of the Working Groups and Cross-Cutting Initiatives. Threats to the coastal and marine ecosystems are also monitored and/or reduced, and training on Fisheries Traceability Technologies and Sustainable Fisheries Management to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in the Coral Triangle Region undertaken.

The CTI CFF also seeks to develop national capacity. During the 2nd IRC Meeting 2020, the Regional Secretariat presented its proposal on rebranding the program components of the Regional Coral Triangle Network Officers (RCTNO) to Local Capacity Development Program (LoCaDP). Participants from each country attend training and are tasked with CTI-CFF program activities.

1. **Funding structure:**

The CTI is run on member and donor contributions. There is an ongoing project to establish a CTI Trust Fund to help mobilize funding from international donors and the private sector.

1. **Challenges:**

Challenges have been identified in the National Action Plans, and include time zone differences, virtual meeting fatigue, and a lack of representation from member countries. The poor quality of internet connections for several countries also caused interruption during the discussions, which caused some comments not captured by some participants and increased the time taken for the meeting

16. **Cooperation or link with other arrangements:**

SEAFDEC

RPOA-IUU

1. **Institutional contacts:**

DEB

1. **Noteworthy literature**:
2. **Knowledge gaps to follow up on:**