



USAID | **ASIA**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

August 1, 2011

Ms. Agnetha Vave-Karamui
Chief Conservation Officer
Ministry for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology
Vavaya Ridge, Honiara, Solomon Islands
Email: agnetha.vavekaramui@gmail.com

Subject: US CTI Support Program: Focus Areas for Years 4 and 5

Dear Agnetha,

This letter is to let you know about some recent developments concerning USAID's Support Program for the Coral Triangle Initiative (U.S. CTI), which may affect planned activities in the Solomon Islands.

This past May, we conducted our annual Program Coordination Meeting bringing together our implementing partner agencies, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP), and Program Integrator (PI) to review efforts and achievements of the first three years of the Program, and to plan CTI support for the final two. We were pleased that almost all CTI Partners, including ADB and Australia, other USAID Missions, and the interim CTI Regional Secretariat attended and participated in the meeting, and our consultations with all of them were extremely helpful.

As a result of this planning and consultation process, and also considering the increasingly tight budget constraints placed on USAID, we have developed a more focused set of result areas for U.S. CTI that support the transformational vision of the CTI and describe high-level regional outcomes that can only be achieved through the cooperation of all six CTI countries.

The four result areas are the following:

1. CTI Secretariat and Coordinating Structures Established to Sustain Impact
2. Coral Triangle Marine Protected Areas (MPA) System Developed and Adopted
3. Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Regional Framework Adopted and Guidelines Developed for National Operationalization
4. Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) Adopted

A summary of planned result areas is provided in Annex A and we are working with NOAA, CTSP and the PI to align their programs of work with these result areas. While we regret some activities in the Solomon Islands may be reduced or even phased out, we believe the activities going forward are most critical to support the sustainability and impact of the overall Coral Triangle Initiative.

The U.S. CTI Support Program and its implementing projects will be finalizing Year 4 Work Plans for October 2011 through September 2012 starting this August. We look forward to reviewing these plans with CTSP partners and your colleagues in the Solomon Islands CTI National Coordinating Committee and discussing any specific adjustments in your country. We will also be prepared to provide an update at the next CTI Senior Officials Meeting, which I understand is being tentatively planned for late October 2011.

We would also like to propose that Mr. Rene Acosta from RDMA travel and meet with you and your colleagues when feasible sometime this August to review these plans and ensure that we maximize opportunities for coordination and collaboration in the coming years. He will be contacting you soon about convenient dates. In the meantime, if you would like any additional information, please let me know.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration with you.

Sincerely,



Winston H. Bowman
Regional Environment Director
Regional Environment Office

Cc:

Suseno Sukuyono, CTI Regional Secretariat
James Teri, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

Annex A

US CTI Result Areas for Years 4 and 5

1. CTI Secretariat and Coordinating Structures Established to Sustain Impact

- Limited support provided to the CTI Regional Coordinator (PI)
- Support to evaluate progress towards goals identified in the Regional Priorities Workshop (PI)
- Mobilize and strengthen NCCs and TWGs (i.e. MPA, EAFM, CCA, Monitoring and Evaluation WG, & Sustainable Finance WG) (PI, CTSP)
- Coordination support provided to US Government Agencies and CTI Development Partners (PI)
- Communications support to the CTI Secretariat (PI)
- Writing support to State of the Coral Triangle Report and CTI Annual Report (PI, CTSP)
- Establish a regional learning network, initially through the Coral Triangle Center (i.e. work with thematic teams, TWGs, and other institutions to collect and share tools, case studies, curricula, and other knowledge products through an interactive online portal) (PI)
- Mobilize CTI Local Governance Alliance to catalyze local government political will (PI, CTSP)

2. EAFM Regional Framework Adopted and Guidelines Developed for National Operationalization

- EAFM regional framework and 10-year road map formulated (CTSP, PI, NOAA)
- National EAFM operational guidelines developed (CTSP, PI, NOAA)
- Legal analysis for EAFM and Illegal Unreported, and Unregulated Fisheries completed and shared (CTSP, PI, NOAA)
- Limited support to establish the Live Reef Fish Trade international standards (PI)
- Regional exchange to inform development of and build support for adoption of the EAFM regional framework (PI, CTSP, NOAA)
- Comprehensive integrated toolkit, case studies and curricula for MPAs, CCA, and EAFM developed and disseminated and trainings delivered (i.e. CCA, Management Plan, Adaptive Management, M&E, and IUU/Enforcement) (CTSP, PI, NOAA)
- *(Support EAFM TWG to get government adoption)* (CTSP, PI)

3. CT MPA System Developed and Adopted

- Analysis of connectivity and climate impacts to inform MPA design (CTSP)
- Regional workshops for MPA TWG to design and adopt the CTMPAS (CTSP, PI, NOAA)
- MPA Effectiveness Protocol developed and adopted to inform resilient MPA design (CTSP)
- MPA integration sites finalized and linked to CTMPAS, and MPA Monitoring and Evaluation protocol implemented (CTSP)
- Regional exchange to inform design and build support for adoption of the CTMPAS (PI, CTSP, NOAA)
- Comprehensive integrated toolkit, case studies, and curricula for MPAs, CCA, and EAFM developed and disseminated and trainings delivered (CTSP, PI, NOAA)

4. CCA REAP Adopted

- Comprehensive integrated toolkit, case studies, and curricula for MPAs, CCA, and EAFM developed and disseminated and trainings delivered (PI, CTSP, NOAA)
- Regional exchange on REAP implementation and lessons learned, and to refine early actions (PI, CTSP)
- Priority REAP Actions initiated (CTSP, PI, NOAA)
- *(Support CCA TWG to get government adoption)*