

**Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle (SOMACORE)
PN: 20.9020.7-001.01**

**Job Description
Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Advisor (4T)**

Project Description

The coastal and marine areas of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste – the so-called Coral Triangle (CT) - represent the global centre of marine biodiversity. The associated ecosystem goods and services provide the source of local livelihoods and national blue economies, but at the same time they are increasingly at risk due to human and climate change induced stress factors.

The vast size of the coral triangle and its complex ecological connectivity patterns necessitate a large-scale approach to the management and conservation of its marine resources. Under the jointly implemented Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF), the Governments of the six CT countries and a range of national and regional partners have initiated targeted efforts with a specific focus on three transboundary seascapes. Currently these are at different stages, with remaining gaps in key policy frameworks and capacities.

The regional programme “Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle” (SOMACORE) aims to support national and regional stakeholders in their efforts to scale up proven practices in a multilevel approach across the six CT countries.

The foreseen measures and activities in each country and seascape include support for the development and implementation of sectoral strategies and action plans, and the promotion of cross-sectoral cooperation on local and national level. Scaling successful solutions is core to this programme and is supported through the work at various levels and the involvement of different stakeholder groups. Knowledge exchange, joint learning, capacity development, technical support and policy advocacy aim to promote replication of good practices.

GIZ is responsible for the coordination of efforts toward the delivery of the outputs and outcome of the programme and works with the governments of the six CT countries, the Regional Secretariat of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) and a consortium of NGO partners, operating globally, regionally, nationally and locally.

In the Philippines, GIZ works closely with the key players in the biodiversity and fisheries sector specifically with the Biodiversity Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Department of Agriculture focusing on ecosystem-based resource management and effective area-based conservation practices in the Philippine component of the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape.

Main Role

The Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Coordinator/Advisor will coordinate the implementation of the ecosystem-based resource management activities in the Philippines, with emphasis on the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape. This role includes contribution to technical and administrative support for marine protected areas and MPA networks, threatened and migratory marine species to stakeholders at both the national and local levels.

Major Functions/Duties

The incumbent performs the following major functions/duties:

- Work closely with DENR-BMB in the implementation of the MPA activities under SOMACORE, and other Philippines CTI-CFF related tasks that maybe assigned.
- Coordinate with key stakeholders and project partners and facilitate implementation of activities to support and advance the marine turtle protected area network.
- Provide technical assistance across all outputs as required for the timely, effective, and efficient implementation of activities.
- Ensure effective information flow and facilitate exchange between the SOMACORE Programme team, and relevant implementing partners and key stakeholders.
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation, documentation, and reporting of activities.

Further functions/duties are:

Professional Advice and Consultancy

- Provides technical assistance to partners and other stakeholders in the area of integrated coastal zone management, ecosystems and biodiversity conservation, establishment of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM), marine wildlife conservation and management, and other related topics through:
 - Design and conduct of interventions or approaches, production of technical reports and/or activity designs.
 - Analysis of external environment and trends and development of strategic options
 - Representation of GIZ or SOMACORE in relevant working groups at the local and national levels.

Capacity Development

- Strengthens the performance capabilities of partners and other stakeholders through
 - Situational analyses in the implementation of technically appropriate, economically viable and sustainable interventions and activities
 - Training and support of colleagues and staff in matters related to the field of expertise

Quality Management

- Ensures quality of the project measures including technical design / supervision / implementation through
 - Conceptualizing and implementing participatory processes in determining / setting success indicators and quality standards
 - Providing quality control for technical services
 - Ensuring the implementation of agreed and established monitoring and evaluation plans and frameworks

Information, Knowledge Management, and Public Relations

- Ensures the documentation and utilization of technical expertise, lessons learnt and best practices through:
 - Monitoring, documentation and reporting of progress and results
 - Workshops on subject matter expertise or GIZ tools expertise
 - Contributions to publications, scientific technical papers and posters

Coordination and Management

Contributes to the overall management of the project through:

- establishing contacts and dialogues with stakeholders for needs analysis
- facilitation of project planning and implementation
- cooperating with other relevant development initiatives

General Corporate Tasks

Performs other tasks relevant to the job or organization unit when the need arises (e.g. assisting/ writing proposals); participates in task teams and other corporate entrepreneurial or strategy-linked endeavours

Competency Requirements

- Demonstrated experience in marine protected areas (MPA) and MPA networking, and assessing MPA management effectiveness (utilizing e.g. MEAT, METT, NEAT, etc) and GESI tools
- Working knowledge on migratory species research and conservation is an advantage, specifically in regard to marine turtles and Dugong,
- Familiarity with gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) approach in biodiversity conservation and ecosystems management
- Excellent working knowledge of MS Office (especially Excel) and digital communication software, including MS Teams, Outlook and willing to learn GIZ-internal software for company-wide monitoring purposes
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and Filipino
- Demonstrated organisation and project management skills
- Ability to relate with people of diverse cultures and at all levels of a hierarchical organisation and cooperate with colleagues
- Strong communicator with the ability to transmit knowledge in a user-oriented way
- Result- and performance-oriented
- Strategic and solution-oriented thinking
- Integrity, accountability, and authenticity

Language Proficiency

- Must be fluent in both English and Filipino for effective communication at all levels.

Professional Qualifications

- A University Degree in Coastal and Marine Management, Marine Biology, or other relevant courses
- Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in biodiversity conservation, coastal and marine ecosystems management, MPA management effectiveness tools, migratory species protection and management

Reporting Relationship/Duty Station

The Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Adviser/Coordinator will report to the SOMACORE Chief Advisor and will be based in Quezon City. Domestic business travels are required, e.g., to partner offices and project sites in Palawan and Mindanao. International travel can be necessary.

Period of the Assignment

Earliest possible date – 30 June 2027.