



WWF

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2011

© Jürgen Freund / WWF-Canon

## The Coral Triangle

# NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2011

The Coral Triangle, the global centre of marine biodiversity, is a 6 million-km<sup>2</sup> area spanning Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste and the Solomon Islands.

Within this *nursery of the seas* live 76% of the world's coral species, 6 of the world's 7 marine turtle species, and at least 2,228 coral reef fish species.

### IN THE NEWS

#### FAO Unveils New Guidelines on Fishing Discards

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation unveiled new guidelines aimed at reducing fishing discards that threaten the sustainability of many fisheries and the livelihood of millions of fishermen.

► [Full article](#)

#### A Grassroots Approach to Ending IUU

Regulations to prevent illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing are incomplete without grassroots, consumer-driven demands for sustainably fished seafood.

► [Full article](#)

#### Asia's Billion Dollar Live Reef Food Fish Trade

Levels of seafood consumption in Hong Kong are 3.6 times higher than the global average. However, educating consumers on the importance of sustainable seafood remains a challenge.

► [Full article](#)

#### Steering Panel Set Up for Tun Mustapha Park in Malaysia

The Park's Interim Steering Committee has been formalized, and it will work towards a management plan focusing on conservation, sustainable development and poverty alleviation. The Park is a priority site under the CTI's Malaysian National Plan of Action.

► [Full article](#)

## Developing World Fisheries Take Centre Stage at Seafood Summit



© Bob Zuur

Conservationists, representatives from the seafood industry—and even celebrity chefs—gathered in Vancouver early February for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Seafood Summit.

A broad delegation from WWF attended, and Dr Geoffrey Muldoon, Live Reef Food Fish Trade Strategy Leader for the WWF Coral Triangle Programme, showcased Seafood Savers, a WWF-initiated Business-to-Business partnership of key players in the seafood market chain who are committed to champion sustainable fisheries across the Coral Triangle and beyond.

The WWF Sustainable Seafood Group meeting focused on the roll-out of the new 'Moving towards Certification' category, and provided an opportunity to discuss the future of Seafood Guides.

Meanwhile, a meeting between WWF and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) centred on an appropriate certification model for fisheries in the developing world, a recurrent theme during the Summit.

In addition to this important focus, discussions during the Summit also considered engagement opportunities with China, some facilitated by the Packard Foundation.

## STAFF PROFILE



© Marie de Longcamp

### Marie de Longcamp

Marie is a Director at the WWF-US Conservation Finance Department. She provides immediate, short-, medium-, and long-term advisory services to help governments and CTI partners to achieve financial sustainability of the Coral Triangle's ecosystems. As an international conservation finance expert, she brings her experience in the design of innovative financing mechanisms, development of public and private partnerships, and creation of financial sustainability strategies.

For the last eight years at WWF, Marie has been working simultaneously for different high biodiversity regions, including the Coral Triangle. Among other projects, she recently designed a US\$40 million (€30 million) subsidized credit loan to support tourism ventures that meet environmental standards in Thailand and leveraged US\$51 million out of debt swaps in Africa. Of French origin, Marie worked 7 years for international corporations in the US and Europe after her degree in business administration and international affairs.

## WWF Coral Triangle Programme Looks Back, Plans for Future



© Marc-Antoine Dunais / WWF

In early February, WWF's regional Coral Triangle programme team reflected on its effectiveness over the past 4 years and considered new directions for the next 3 years.

Colleagues discussed how the regional strategies of the programme had added value to their national and local marine conservation programmes. The focus on private sector engagement was considered particularly useful, and the group discussed how projects initiated with the tuna industry and live reef food fish trade partners could be rolled out to increase the supply of more responsible - eventually MSC-certified - seafood products, while at the same time protecting biodiversity, food security and livelihoods inside the Coral Triangle.

There was a consensus that Seafood Savers—the new WWF-initiated B2B seafood platform—along with the [Coral Triangle Fishers Forum](#), should be further expanded.

The group further discussed how to support the CTI political process amongst other development partners and agreed for the WWF regional team to continue focusing on sustainable finance while WWF national teams would continue providing technical advice via the national coordination committees.

In addition to supporting further development of the Climate Adaptation Market Place, the group agreed that an even larger focus for the regional programme over the next 3 years would be to a) motivate public-private partnerships for livelihoods and food security across the Asia-Pacific region and b) build the foundations for Seafood Savers, of which more is to come in the months ahead.

## SPECIES OF THE MONTH



© Robert Delfs / WWF-Canon

### Saddled Snake Eel

Also known as snake eel or half-banded snake eel, the saddled snake eel (*Leiuramus semicinctus*) can usually be found with its head showing above the sand, waiting for prey to conveniently pass by—usually unsuspecting small crustaceans and molluscs. When it feels threatened, it uses its stiff, pointed tail to quickly burrow backward into the sand for a swift retreat. The saddled snake eel is found throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

Source: [Fishbase](#)

## WWF NEWS

### Dolphin Crusader AG Saño is Newest WWF Hero

WWF-Philippines has recognized AG Saño as its newest Hero of the Environment. The 34-year old campaigned against dolphin slaughter and exploitation by painting 23,000 dolphins, the annual figures of culled dolphins in Japan, on 120 concrete walls.

► [Full article](#)

### Bataan Residents Learn to Rescue Whales, Dolphins

To address rising incidents of whale and dolphin stranding in Bataan, WWF-Philippines recently conducted a 2-day cetacean stranding rescue workshop at Anvaya Cove in Morong, Bataan, an area that has seen numerous cetacean strandings.

► [Full article](#)

### Seafood sustainability recipe needed as increased fish demand collides with failing fisheries

IUU represents the ugly underbelly of global fisheries and we must all rally to eliminate the loud minority that stains the silent majority,” Dr Davies said. “We hope the SOFIA 2010 report will stimulate nations and Regional Fisheries Management Organisations to clamp down and lend support to emerging trade measures such as the EU IUU regulation.

► [Full article](#)

## LEADER CORNER

### Peter Scheren, Leader for WWF Coastal East Africa Network Initiative

I am very pleased to address the CTNI forum as the new Coastal East Africa NI Leader. The CEA-NI has been long behind in getting properly established but is currently gaining a lot of momentum. Important steps have already been undertaken in reforming the tuna fisheries sector in the Western Indian Ocean, through addressing some of the shortcomings in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, and in particular by raising the capacity and skills of the East African countries in negotiating a better deal for their share in the fisheries, based on principles of equal sharing of benefits and conservation.



Also, good progress has been made in striving towards MSC certification of shrimp fisheries in Mozambique, an important contributor to the country's economy and vital for the livelihoods of the coastal fishing communities. On the terrestrial side, furthermore, our agenda is geared at addressing the currently unsustainable and largely illegal exploitation of forest resources for timber export, most of which is leaving the region towards China. Making major advancement in CBNRM, climate change adaptation, spatial planning and new financial mechanisms such as REDD, to secure the 9 priority landscapes of the region, top up our agenda for this biodiversity-rich part of the world.

These are important agenda items and we believe that we can learn a lot from more advanced programmes, such as the CTNI, in light of some of the great successes gained. We look forward, therefore, to a close and fruitful collaboration between our two NIs.

## Minding (and Filling) the Gap in MPA Financing



*“It is better to have a permanent income than to be fascinating”*

-Oscar Wilde

Assessing gaps in funding and recommending the feasibility of finance mechanisms for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are among the first steps to secure stable and sufficient long term resources. This is what WWF has been tasked to do by the governments of the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia who manage the Sulawesi Seas Marine Ecoregion (SSME), a priority seascape.

The CT6 agreement stipulates that there is a need for a comprehensive, ecologically representative and well-managed region-wide Coral Triangle system of MPAs that are connected, resilient, and sustainably financed. During the 4th SSME Tri-Com Meeting, Senior Officials agreed to develop a sustainable financing strategy and requested the support of WWF, which has leveraged over US\$400 million since the 80s through a variety of financing mechanisms that support conservation in some of the world's most critical regions.

WWF proposed a bottom-up approach starting at the local level to scope out potential financing mechanisms in Malaysia and Indonesia. Following this consultation, the Malaysian and Indonesian teams will discuss how to combine the findings and to complete these with the assessment for the Philippines. The goal is to report back at the next SSME Tri-com Meeting for final endorsement.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### Towards a More Sustainable Live Reef Food Fish Trade in the Coral Triangle

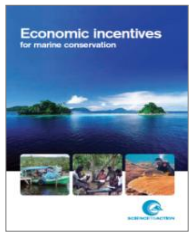


This report by Dr Lida Pet Soede, Dr Geoffrey Muldoon and Dr Raoul Cola presents the results of a technical workshop focused on bringing together practitioners to present the most up-to-date information on the Live Reef

Food Fish Trade and to outline a roadmap and strategy to address the unsustainable aspects of the live reef food fish trade.

► [Read the abstract](#)

### Economic Incentives for Marine Conservation



Conservation practitioners are increasingly turning to incentive-based approaches to encourage local resource users to change behaviors that impact biodiversity and natural habitat.

This guidebook from the Science-To-Action partnership presents three economic incentive approaches (buyouts, conservation agreements, and alternative livelihoods) and analyzes 27 case studies to provide project design advice.

► [Download report](#)

### Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication



This major report by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) aims to prove that appropriate policies and relatively modest redirections of global investment flows could grow the global economy at equivalent or greater levels than current forecasts.

It provides evidence that a clean and green economy is most likely to deliver a more secure, prosperous and less tumultuous future for humanity.

► [Read it online](#)

## Migrating 'Lady' Gets Satellite Tag



Lady Daunivonu is the latest loggerhead turtle to be satellite tagged in Fiji.

Community-based turtle monitors, locally known as the “Dau ni Vonu”, took the lead and applied the training they received from WWF, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration to tag Lady Daunivonu.

Signals from the satellite antenna attached to the turtle's back will be tracked by NOAA and SPREP, revealing the turtle's migration patterns and hence informing the development of conservation measures to safeguard the species.

The turtle monitor from Yadua Island, Pita Qarau, said he was grateful that the villagers were able to carry out the tagging themselves so that they could take ownership of the tagging activities.

The four villages that participated in the tagging include Nakalou, Yadua, Naivaka and Koroinasolo. These villages are all part of the “Dau ni Vonu” network along the northern coast of Vanua Levu Island adjacent to the Great Sea Reef, which supports the recovery of marine turtles through awareness programmes.

## WWF Coral Triangle Contacts

### Dr Lida Pet-Soede

Programme Leader

[LPet@wallacea.wwf.or.id](mailto:LPet@wallacea.wwf.or.id)

### Paolo Mangahas

Communications Manager

[pmangahas@wwf.org.my](mailto:pmangahas@wwf.org.my)

Can't get enough of WWF and the Coral Triangle?  
Click on the links below to find us on...



[facebook](#)



[twitter](#)



[flickr](#)



[youtube](#)



WWF's Coral Triangle programme is made possible in part by the Turing Foundation

[www.panda.org/coraltriangle](http://www.panda.org/coraltriangle)