

## INVEST INTO THE FUTURE OF THE CORAL TRIANGLE

Here's our goal: a healthy, functional, vibrant Coral Triangle where businesses, wildlife and fishers can thrive. From seafood lovers to business leaders, none of us can afford to lose this challenge. This is why we need to work together—on climate adaptation strategies, more efficient and environment-friendly fishing methods, and policies that will help set aside some of the most productive and fragile parts of the Coral Triangle for generations to come.



There is a place in the Asia Pacific region whose extraordinary marine diversity feeds the world's appetite for seafood, directly sustains more than 120 million people, and brings visitors from all over the world. Will you help us protect it? ▶



# THE CORAL TRIANGLE

## Nursery of the seas



**Why we are here**  
To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.  
[panda.org/coraltriangle](http://panda.org/coraltriangle)  
[panda.org/coraltriangle/business](mailto:panda.org/coraltriangle/business)

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## THE CORAL TRIANGLE - NURSERY OF THE SEAS





Imagine a giant marine ecosystem that enshrines the world's epicentre of marine diversity — an area whose extraordinary natural productivity and diversity sustains thousands of businesses, millions of people and countless species.

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## A PLACE THE WORLD CAN'T DO WITHOUT

Nowhere else can one find 76% of the world's coral reef species, 37% of the world's reef fish species, whales, dolphins, rays, sharks and six of the world's seven marine turtle species.

For over 120 million people, the Coral Triangle is a source of food supply and livelihood. For the world at large, this region is the heart of a vast trade in marine resources, generating billions of dollars annually in tuna, live reef fish trade and tourism services.

And here lies the problem.

Fishing boats are taking tuna out of the sea faster than stocks can support. Too many reef fish are caught using highly damaging practices and exported before they have had a chance to reproduce and sustain their population size.

Every year, thousands of endangered turtles are caught in fishing nets and traded for their parts, eggs or meat. And across the Coral Triangle, people are feeling the impacts of climate change—from algae collectors around remote Wakatobi National Park (Sulawesi) to seafood exporters in Metro Manila.

What is at stake is not just threatened species and ecosystems, but the livelihood of millions of people.

To keep the Coral Triangle as it is—vibrant, productive, amazing—and to ensure it continues meeting the needs of businesses and people living here and beyond in an equitable way, we must rethink together how the region's marine resources are used. This process has already started, but we must act fast.



**THE CORAL TRIANGLE** — the nursery of the seas — is the most diverse marine region on the planet, covering six million km<sup>2</sup> of ocean across six countries in the Indo-Pacific region (Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, and Timor Leste).



▶ **37%** of the world's coral reef fish species are found in the Coral Triangle.  
SOURCE: ALLEN, 2007. UNPUBLISHED DATA



▶ **76%** of known coral species grow in the Coral Triangle.  
SOURCE: VERON ET AL. UNPUBLISHED DATA



▶ **US\$1 BILLION** — Value of tuna commodities and exports from Coral Triangle countries since 2005.  
SOURCE: FAO FISH STAT



▶ **THOUSANDS** of threatened leatherback marine turtles die every year because of entanglement with fishing gear.



▶ **WIDESPREAD** coral bleaching is forecast to become increasingly severe and frequent in the future as a result of climate change.

## MAKING THE CORAL TRIANGLE EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

WWF has been pioneering conservation in the Coral Triangle for more than twenty years, collaborating with businesses, NGO, government agencies and communities. Today, we are aboard 30-foot fishing vessels giving training on how to dehook caught turtles, meeting with heads of state to secure funding and catalyze governmental support for the Coral Triangle Initiative, and signing deals with some of the leading seafood businesses in the region to help them capitalize on more sustainable ways of doing business.

Six strategies combine to make the WWF Coral Triangle programme. ▼

## WWF STRATEGIES FOR CHANGE



### BYCATCH

In the Coral Triangle, WWF has partnered with businesses and fishing communities to roll out technologies that reduce impacts on non-targeted marine life, such as sea turtles and juvenile fish, without affecting the economic bottom line. Leading the way are "circle hooks", which WWF and partners are successfully introducing into fishing gear in Indonesia, the Philippines and elsewhere to reduce bycatch of threatened species.

### TUNA

To supply the booming global demand for tuna and to protect stocks from overfishing and destructive fishing, we are working on models that will raise funds from the global tuna trade to support responsible tuna management in Coral Triangle countries. Part of this effort involves removing illegal, unregulated and unreported fish from the supply chain, promoting incentives for sustainable fishing, and engaging consumers to make more sustainable seafood choices.

### LIVE REEF FOOD FISH TRADE

Working along the entire supply chain of the live reef food fish trade from reefs to dinner plates, WWF's collaborations with businesses and governments aims to work towards reversing overfishing and destructive fishing in the Coral Triangle.

To reach this goal, we forge trade alliances that promote best practices for wild-caught fish, promoting increased production of reef food fish from sustainable full-cycle mariculture, while helping consumers and businesses navigate their way towards sustainably-sourced fish.

### CLIMATE CHANGE

Global climate change is one of the defining issues of our time, and its impacts are being felt now in many parts of the Coral Triangle. Urgent action is needed to reduce the vulnerability of communities and ecosystems to these impacts. WWF is using its global experience in policy development and on-ground implementation to push for investments in actions that enable people and natural systems adapt to a changing climate.

### MARINE TURTLES

WWF seeks to protect turtles in the Coral Triangle at every stage of their life cycle, from the beaches where they hatch to the ocean where they forage.

Key elements of this strategy include reducing turtle bycatch, promoting marine protected areas where turtles nest, forage, and migrate, and helping end turtle trade (meat, turtle parts, and eggs).



### MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Well-designed and appropriately-managed networks of marine protected areas are essential to enhance resilience against climate change, and prevent further loss of biodiversity, including fisheries collapse.

Through new sustainable finance mechanisms and investments in climate adaptation, WWF plans to support networks of marine sanctuaries and locally-managed conservation areas across the Coral Triangle.



The WWF Coral Triangle programme recognizes leaders who are pioneering sustainability in their business practices.



## CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE, A ROADMAP TO A HEALTHY CORAL TRIANGLE

Formalized in 2009 by all six heads of state of the Coral Triangle countries, the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security is a commitment to a set of conservation and development targets across the region.

WWW.CTI-SECRETARIAT.NET

▶ [panda.org/coraltriangle/bycatch](http://panda.org/coraltriangle/bycatch)



▶ [panda.org/coraltriangle/tuna](http://panda.org/coraltriangle/tuna)



▶ [panda.org/coraltriangle/reefseafoodtrade](http://panda.org/coraltriangle/reefseafoodtrade)



▶ [panda.org/coraltriangle/climate](http://panda.org/coraltriangle/climate)



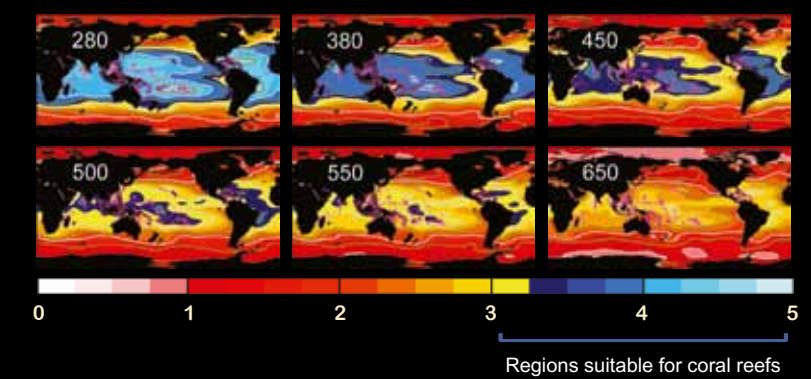
▶ [panda.org/coraltriangle/turtles](http://panda.org/coraltriangle/turtles)



▶ [panda.org/coraltriangle/mpa](http://panda.org/coraltriangle/mpa)



Marine areas suitable for coral reef formation (in blue) will shrink and disappear altogether with increasing CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations as a result of climate change. ▶



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Regions suitable for coral reefs