### **CORREDOR MARINO**

110

### SEASCAPE

### **BENTANG LAUT**



# **SEASCAPES:** Globally Important Marine Ecosystems

## **SEASCAPES** A new future for marine conservation



#### WHAT IS A SEASCAPE?

Seascapes are large, multiple-use marine areas, defined scientifically and strategically, in which government authorities, private organizations, and other stakeholders cooperate to conserve the diversity and abundance of marine life and to promote human well-being. Seascapes typically have high biological diversity, ecological and economic connectivity, and aesthetic and cultural value. Seascapes may include government-authorized protected areas for addressing special management needs and provide an opportunity for government agencies to coordinate their efforts voluntarily to secure more effective regional management programs.

Seascapes define places where conservation goals and human well-being can be secured through partnerships between governments, local communities, and nongovernment and private organizations.





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'The Seascapes Program builds on a growing trend favoring large, multiple-use marine management regimes. By assisting governments in enhancing stewardship of important ocean places, CI and other stakeholders help ensure continued ecosystem value to people and the future of marine life."

ROGER MCMANUS, Senior Director, Global Marine Division, Conservation International



#### Seascapes

- Combine conservation science with strategy
- Address the interests of multiple user groups while maintaining marine resources
- Include partners committed to assisting stakeholders and governments to meet stewardship needs
- Highlight proactive stewardship
  of marine areas

Beautiful, unique, and ecologically important marine life, such as sharks, sea turtles, and whales, are threatened with extinction. Similarly, habitats such as mangroves, coral reefs, sea grass beds, and estuaries are vanishing. The most effective way to halt this decline is through cooperative action informed by sound science and through efforts on a sufficient scale to ensure conservation success





#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SEASCAPES?

The sea is essential for maintaining the conditions that make life on Earth possible. It is home to a great diversity and abundance of life. Ocean currents warm and cool the continents, dictating coastal weather. Marine ecosystems provide a large portion of the world's food and resources. Human economies depend on healthy marine ecosystems. Seascape scale management aims to

- Conserve marine biodiversity to benefit ecosystems and present and future human generations
- Contribute to sustainable livelihoods for communities and larger enterprises through healthy fisheries
- Maintain ecosystem services by, for example, contributing opportunities

#### WHY ARE SEASCAPES FORMED AT THE REGIONAL SCALE?

Ecosystem-based management is fundamental to the seascape strategy. Effective management must move beyond a focus on individual species to take into account ecosystems. The wide variety of human the many populations, species, habitats, and processes that are linked to compose a healthy, productive, and resilient ecosystem. Similar to biodiversity conservation corridors on land, oceans also have species-rich areas that, when linked,

"The coastal and marine biological diversity opportunities for sustainable development for

CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ, Minister of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica,

can encompass more territory than conventional marine management areas.

People are central components of uses of and impacts on marine ecosystems must be managed at the appropriate scale. No single local or national government can achieve effective ecosystem management alone. Resource users and nongovernment and other organizations have the responsibility to work with governments at all scales. Their combined efforts in helping to prevent extinctions

and to conserve species and their habitats, as well as in maintaining a healthy resource base, will allow for a variety of longterm uses for people.





Wide-ranging species and the processes on which they depend do not recognize political borders. Seascape management supports participating governments and stakeholders in coordinating efforts to share responsibilities and costs of marine ecosystem management, both in formally protected areas and in the waters that link them.



for recreation, offering storm protection, and providing flood control

• Facilitate a management framework to guide sustainable tourism, trade, and other economic activities

#### **BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIPS**

Each Seascape partner contributes crucial expertise. The benefits of joint action are

- Greater coordination to optimally use scarce financial and human resources
- Improved collaboration in identifying priorities and external sources of financial and technical assistance
- Increased participation in management decisions for seascapes by users of marine resources

"The Raja Ampat Islands will be developed through the marine sector and not others. We believe the islands contain vulnerable marine resources, which we very much depend upon. Therefore, we will need an appropriate development strategy that will ensure long-term benefits for our people." – MARCUS WANMA, Head of Regency, Raja Ampat

For more information about Seascapes and marine conservation, visit www.defyingoceansend.org OR http://portals.conservation.org/marine

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### WHAT IS THE SEASCAPES PROGRAM?

The Seascapes Program is an initiative to support the establishment of large, multiple-use marine management regimes to ensure the future of healthy ecosystems and the diversity and abundance of marine life. Decisions on where to facilitate Seascapes are determined by the willingness of governments and stakeholders to commit to such regimes and the importance of the sites for biodiversity conservation. Seascapes boundaries are determined by natural science and by socioeconomic and political considerations, contributing to the potential success of the management regimes in meeting conservation needs and the needs of people.

Conservation International is committed to promoting Seascape management regimes in a manner that best engages all stakeholders in meeting their stewardship needs. Ultimately, governments are the

decisionmakers in managing their national marine waters, but collaboration and support of stakeholders can enhance government management and greatly expand efforts to benefit the Seascapes, the associated marine life, and the well-being of people.





