

THE ARAFURA & TIMOR SEAS (ATSEA) 2 Sustainable Marine-Coastal Ecosystems

The Arafura and Timor Seas (ATS) are part of the North Australian Shelf marine ecosystem – stretching between the Pacific and Indian Oceans across the Timor Sea and the Torres Strait. The region hosts some of the world’s richest marine biodiversity and plays an important economic and ecological role for Timor-Leste, Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. The project aims to sustain the flow of ecosystems goods and services from the Arafura and Timor Seas and protect biodiversity through a transboundary governance strategy and sustainable management of marine-coastal ecosystems.

National Priorities

 <p>Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach Fisheries Management (EAFM)</p>	 <p>Designation of a new MPA on the South Coast and Strengthened Management of the National Park of Nino Koni Santana.</p>	 <p>Implementation of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) in Natarbora, Manatuto</p>	 <p>Oil Spill early response on South Coast</p>
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Project Main Activities

 <p>Capacity building on fisheries management.</p>	 <p>Support for the implementation of ICM in Natarbora, Manatuto.</p>
 <p>Conservation of threatened species (turtles).</p>	 <p>Establishment of an oil spill early response system, including monitoring and reporting.</p>
 <p>Establishment of a new Marine Protected Area.</p>	

Quick Facts

Project Title
Implementation of the Arafura and Timor Seas Regional and National Strategic Action Programs (ATSEA-2)

Duration
2019 – 2024

Government Counterparts
National Directorate of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Resources from Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Total Budget
US\$ 2,120,000

Beneficiaries
Communities in 5 municipalities and 1,500 people

Co-Funded by



SDG alignment



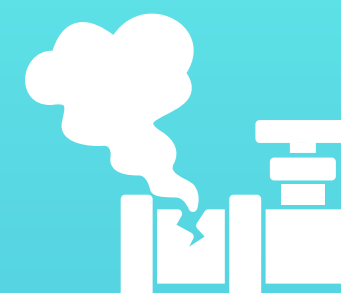
Key Development Challenges



The Coral Triangle is home to the world's richest marine biodiversity including; 90% of the world's mangrove species, 15 different seagrasses and 350 different species of coral reef fish



ATS fisheries provide livelihoods for millions of people in the region, contributing to food security and to export markets. However, many of the ATS fisheries are now being fully exploited or over exploited



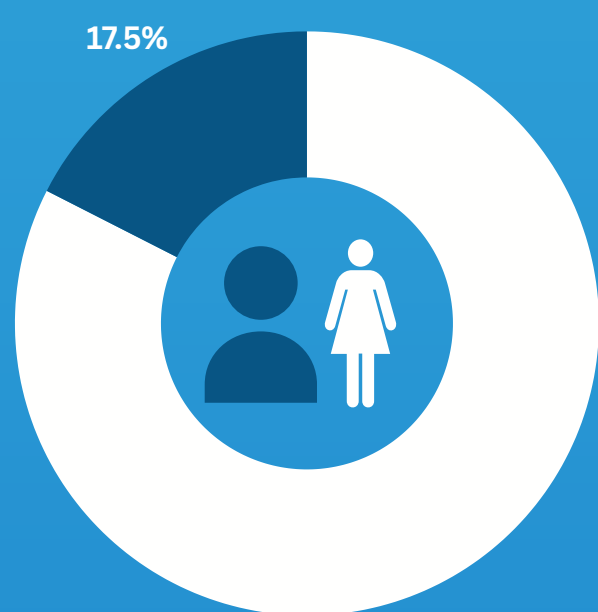
ATS is also rich in oil and gas reserves, making it vulnerable to leakages and dredging which could destroy majority of the biodiversity

Key Results



The National Ocean Policy was approved by the Council of Ministers

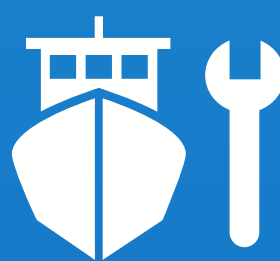
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Participants (Women 33 and Men 7) benefitted from training on the importance of seafood value addition in strengthening sustainable fisheries management for improved food and nutrition security



EAFM plan for red snapper in the ATS region in collaboration with MAF were validated



Conducted training on boat repair and maintenance for 10 fishermen from the south coast (Covalima, Manufahi, Manatuto, Viqueque & Lautem in collaboration with MALFF

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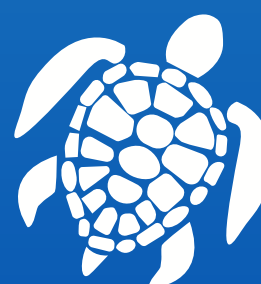
Stakeholders in the south coast region Manufahi and Covalima municipalities attended oil spill preparedness and response training



Validated draft Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) plan for suco Uma Boco (Manatuto) collaboration with UNTL, MAF and Manatuto Municipality Administration



Conducted Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) assessment for Nino Konis Santana (NKS) National Park

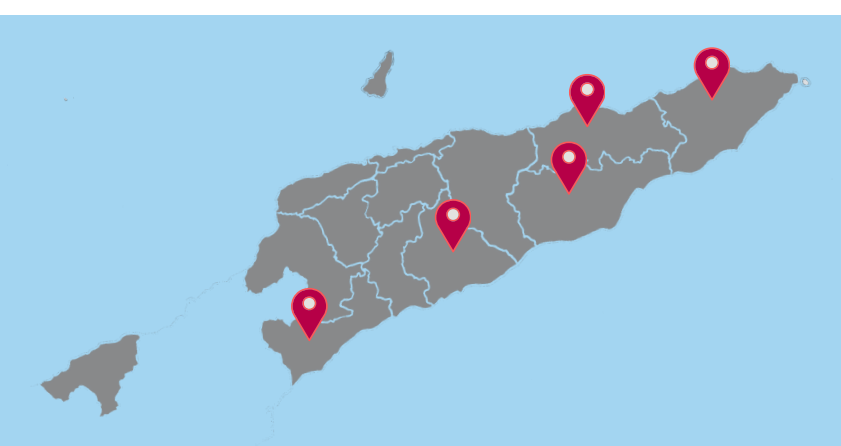


Initiated a Pilot project to improve community-based turtle conservation and ecotourism opportunities



Collaborated with NGO NETIL to help obtain legal approval from the Ministry of Justice for the founding of Tok-Derek Cooperative.

Project Map



Voices

"We won't just stop here. Tok-Derek aims to empower more women and diversify its influence. "We aren't just forming a cooperative. Our goal is to create a thriving community through financial empowerment, which unlocks our full potential."

Maria da Gloria Mendes (Women's Cooperative coordinator)

