



ARAFURA AND TIMOR SEAS STRATEGIC ACTION

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.

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



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

Expected Outputs

- 1 Establish regional, national and local governance for large marine ecosystem management.
- 2 Improve LME carrying capacity to sustain provisioning, regulating and supporting ecosystem services

Expected Impacts



Strengthen regional and national **governance structures** with participatory mechanisms for implementing priority actions



Strengthen **institutional and human resource capacities** in integrated approaches to natural resource management



Respond to **priority environmental objectives** identified in the ATS in Indonesia and Timor-Leste



Ensure biodiversity conservation management integrates priorities, and ensures **climate change adaptation** is developed for **125km of coastline** in Indonesia and Timor-Leste



Establish **climate adaptation** measures for at-risk coastal villages in Manatutu with measures to **rehabilitate mangrove forests and upstream vegetation to** strengthen climate-resilience

Quick Facts

Project Title

Implementation of the Arafura and Timor Seas Regional and National Strategic Action Programs (ATSEA-2); Second Phase of the Arafura Timor Seas Ecosystem Action (ATSEA) Program

Duration

2019 – 2023

Implementing Partner

National Directorate of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Total Budget

\$ 2,120,000

Target Beneficiaries

5 communities and 1,500 people

Funded by



SDG alignment



Project Map

