



CCE FOUNDATION

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SLOW BUT SURE: CCEF EXPANDS CEBU MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

CCEF is now working with several municipal governments in Southern Cebu to expand six existing marine protected areas (MPAs) to almost twice their current size. Most coastal management practitioners agree that a large MPA is better, as it offers a larger range and more resources for the species it protects.

But smaller MPAs are often more realistic to establish and manage for political and economic reasons. So CCEF has been encouraging local governments and MPA resource managers to establish whatever MPA they can initially, thus helping them to gain experience enforcing and managing an MPA. Once they have experienced the benefits of a local MPA, they are ready for CCEF to assist them to increase its size and environmental value.

In this case, the six MPAs are Guiwanon, Argao; Cawayan, Dalaguete; Pasil, Santander; Colase, Samboan; Saavedra, Moalboal; and Balabagon, Moalboal (see map). CCEF's current efforts focus on ensuring adequate habitat representation within the MPAs, establishing better migration routes for fish and coral larvae between MPAs, and assuring that the MPAs are large enough for the containment and protection of pelagic swimmers (such as sharks) and large schooling species (such as Jacks). Even "home bound" species benefit as a larger MPA allows more species to shift their habitat in response to human impact and climate change. The six MPAs will be increased from approximately 10 hectares each to 20 hectares or more. In addition, CCEF will advocate the adoption of the MPA Network management plan by these municipalities to assist in the coordinated management of their growing network of MPAs.

While large MPAs of 100 hectares or more are difficult to establish and even more difficult to enforce and manage effectively, CCEF's incremental approach, starting with small but effectively managed initial MPAs and time for people and local governments to adjust, is proving to be very effective in the long run. In all, CCEF is currently engaged in the redesign and enlargement of 21 established MPAs throughout Cebu and the Tañon Strait. In areas where marine space is not limited and the stakeholders are willing, CCEF advocates for establishing larger MPAs from the outset given the increased benefits to be derived. This work is carried out through CCEF's Local Governance for Coastal Management Project (LGCMP) and the MPA Networking Project supported by Packard Foundation and Pew Fellows for Marine Conservation grants, respectively. ■



MPAs in Cebu are getting bigger and more effective. (Argao)

CCEF Archive

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Sharing Field Successes: Local Governance Project Transforms CRM in Cebu

Alan T. White, Ph.D. and Atty. Rose-Liza Eisma-Osorio

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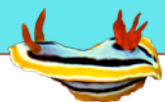
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CCE Foundation is proud to share the successes of its work for the past seven years in the Central Philippines through the Local Governance for Coastal Management Project supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. This innovative project is one of the most comprehensive community and local government based initiatives in the Philippines for building sustainable coastal resource management processes. It has focused on improving effectiveness of coastal management through MPA networking at the cluster and provincial levels along with constituency building and education activities at various governance levels. The project also integrated research and training including the application of management effectiveness tools for improved MPA outcomes.

One of its major accomplishments is the setting up and improvement of management interventions in 55 MPAs in South Cebu and Siquijor. Sustainable financing through user fees as well is being consistently implemented in 26 municipalities. Two very strong clusters of municipal government units have been established in South Cebu, which is now being replicated in other parts of the province and the rest of the country. Effective coastal law enforcement teams are operating. Finally, scaling up to MPA networks on the basis of ecosystem management is gaining support at both the municipal and provincial government levels.

Some key lessons being learned from the project include: 1) At the outset, projects need to find institutional and stakeholder support, and must be fully integrated with the local community and government; 2) Scientific

design and best practices must be merged into coastal management strategies in a manner that stakeholders can slowly learn by doing and that can constantly be reinforced for replication; 3) It is important to provide tangible and measurable gains through monitoring and evaluation systems that can be locally applied, understood and repeated; 4) Funding resources must be strategically allocated in a manner where the costs of implementing activities are shared to build self sufficiency so that dependency is reduced.

Indeed, working with coastal communities and governments have brought a wealth of experiences to CCEF. We are hoping that the best practices will be built on and continued by our many partners in the field while the challenges in coastal areas still remain. ■

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One percent (1%) of User Fees Allocated to Sustain MFARMC Activities in Moalboal

Romel Kirit

Moalboal has been actively implementing its Municipal Water User Fee (MWUF) since 2006. Revenues generated from the user fees have been targeted to support resource management programs, from mooring and marker buoys installation and maintenance to law enforcement, waste management and ecosystem rehabilitation, and other conservation efforts. The revenues were shared amongst different stakeholders such as the municipal government (30%), coastal barangays (30%), and the people's organizations (40%).

For the past year, the municipality has generated more than 1 million pesos from its user fee system. Just recently, the municipal government has decided to allocate 1% of the user fees to sustain activities of its Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council (MFARMC). The MFARMC, which is a multi-sectoral advisory body composed mostly of fishers, is tasked to provide fisheries policy recommendations to the local legislative council as well as to assist in the enforcement of fisheries laws in the municipality. The proposal started off from a resolution endorsed by the

MFARMC to allocate funds for its regular meeting, honorarium during trainings attended by its members and other financial assistance. The 1% allocation shall be taken from the gross collection. The SB Chair on Fishery and Agriculture authored the SB resolution endorsing favorably the MFARMC resolution.

Financial support for many MFARMCs all over the country is crucial. Transportation expenses to and from regular meeting and other activity are often times the clamor of many MFARMC members who are usually subsistence fishermen. It can be recalled that the MFARMC of Moalboal was instrumental in the approval of the municipal water wide environmental user's fee system.

Under its community-based user's fee system, the basic participatory approach in coastal resource management was adopted. Fisherfolk organizations are given the task of collecting user's fee ticket from designated dive sites within the municipal water. The number of user's fee ticket collected by each fisherfolk organization shall be the basis of their 40% share. This empowers the fisherfolks even in the revenue generation by giving them a stake in implementation of the system. Even in the allocation of their share, each organization will determine the activities and projects to be funded by submitting program of work.

Each coastal barangay also receives 30% from what their



A school of sardines is a common sight in Moalboal's Pescador Island, a favorite dive site among tourists.

respective fisherfolk organization have collected. In return, coastal barangays provide barangay police to assist POs in the collection and guarding the MPAs. They also allocate funds for IEC activities within their barangay such as barangay "pulong-pulong".

The municipal government provides the biggest share in the sustainability of coastal resource management. After it acquired a big patrol boat from the province, the municipality aims to build up its municipal coastal law enforcement team with the presence of two tourist police assigned in Moalboal. It also envisioned to protect its coral through coral transplantation in Pescador Is. and to establish the biggest marine reserve in the Province of Cebu covering 200 hectares of marine waters.

With the municipalities' integrated coastal resource management program, the role of the MFARMC cannot be overemphasized. The importance of MFARMC in the achievements of its program deserves the financial support coming from municipal user's fee system. ■



CCEF Staff getting ready to monitor the Saavedra Marine Sanctuary with support from local resorts.

Multi-sectoral Involvement Encouraged in MPA Management

Neil B. Antoque

Conscious of maintaining the good practices in the management of 14 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Northern Cebu, the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc. (CCEF) implemented an 18-month project funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) starting last October 2008. The project areas included the municipalities of Tuburan, Tabuelan and San Remigio.

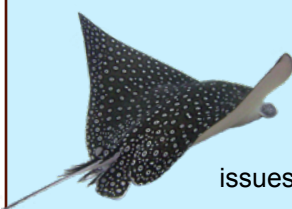
The project, which aims to develop MPA management effectiveness in the target 14 MPAs, initially established rapport with the various stakeholders in the coastal communities. Thereafter, a multi-sectoral management body (MMC) in each marine sanctuary was organized to ensure effective day-to-day management. The management body is composed of representatives from the people's organization, women, youth, ACADEME, religious, NGOs, LGUs and private establishments including resort, hotel, restaurants and other industries. The local government personnel of the three municipalities have realized the important role of each of these sectors in addressing the resource exploitation issues in these areas.

With the NOAA project, CCEF has accomplished the crucial task of educating the members of the MMC on the importance of MPAs as effective regulatory mechanisms in protecting and managing resources. As a result, comprehensive MPA management plans have been formulated for the 14 MPAs, which have been adopted by the municipal governments. With the formal adoption, the necessary budgetary allocation for the operations and

Malapascua Island Embarks on its Solid Waste Management Program

Analeh Patindol

CCEF is concerned with sustainable coastal development in all of its projects. A new addition to its portfolio is the development of a solid waste program for Malapascua Island, in the Northern tip of Cebu Island. Malapascua has become famous for its pristine white sand beaches and thresher shark diving. With only 119 ha of land (2 km long) and about 4000 people, most of whom depend on tourism, fishing, boat building or coconuts, the island community is closely connected. Because of its high tourism value and marine biodiversity, CCEF in collaboration with the Department of Tourism has just finished a project on solid waste management 0.to enhance the island as a tourist destination with a focus on resolving the solid waste management issues of the island.



The program included information dissemination on waste segregation, volume reduction, and waste minimization, as well as construction of satellite materials recovery facility, which are all necessary to ensure cleanliness and orderliness in the coastal zone, particularly shoreline and foreshore areas. These efforts are in line with the Malapascua Island Ecotourism Development Plan crafted by the various stakeholders of the island, including island residents, resort owners, and local government officials.

The solid waste management program also addressed related social issues such as public sanitation to protect people from diseases. The project now assists Malapascua to maintain and enhance its fragile island ecosystems that are essential for its tourism and fishing enterprises. It is well aligned with the integrated coastal management program of CCEF. ■

maintenance of the MPAs have been set aside not only in municipal level but also in the barangay level annually. Deputized fishwardens have been designated to guard the marine sanctuaries day and night. Information, Education, Information and Communication campaigns are regularly conducted by the MMC to increase awareness among the communities.

For each of the MPAs, biophysical monitoring using SCUBA has been conducted annually along with the conduct of the MPA management rating using CCEF's MPA Report Guide. These surveys are necessary to see if the efforts of the managers are successful or not, observe the status and condition of the MPAs so that adaptive

management activities can be conducted. The data could also serve as information in the formulation of plans, ordinances and other management interventions.

Towards the end of the project, an orientation on MPA networking was conducted with the key stakeholders in the Northern Cebu MPA cluster. It encouraged the stakeholders to form an institutional and learning network with one goal, which is to protecting the resources within the MPAs and their adjacent areas. This was seen as a timely initiative for the component LGUs straddling Tañon Strait to create an integrated and unified mechanism for the improved development and maintenance of MPA programs. ■

SPR 2010 – Southeast Cebu MPA Observations & Recommendations

Ethan Y. Lucas and Jimmy Paguio

Last March 2010, the Saving Philippine Reefs (SPR) was conducted in several Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Southeast Cebu. A team of 26 international and local divers assessed the biophysical status of the resources in 7 MPAs, which are currently managed by the local government units together with the MPA resource managers. In majority of the sites, fish density has increased while the live hard coral cover has been maintained from fair to good condition. However, there were some observations, which are notable indicators of ways to enhance the management effectiveness of these MPAs.

Specifically, some MPAs like Pasil and Colase have a very good buoy system, which delineates the boundaries of the protected area. These are also guarded by a highly visible guardhouse. While the North Granada and Arbor MPAs have a good marker buoy system, it could benefit from a billboard facing the sanctuary as well as additional mooring buoys for dive boats. But there were turtles and whale sharks observed within the North Granada sanctuary, thus, an increase in dive activity might be anticipated once



Laurent Boillon

Sumilon Island boasts of these spectacular views underwater inside the sanctuary.

word of these sightings has diffused throughout the dive community.

However, in MPAs like Daanlungsod-Guiwang MPA and Gawi additional mooring buoys are needed to be strategically placed for an anticipated increase in dive tourism. For instance, the Daanlungsod-Guiwang protected area is an offshore marine protected that is exposed to the elements and noted for its good management rating. Since the protected area does not encompass the entire offshore reef, boundaries may be difficult to immediately understand for those new to the area. This situation requires regular maintenance of boundary markers as well as regular marker buoys to ensure that visiting fishermen and dive boats will understand where the protected area is located.

On the other hand, MPAs like Sumilon Island and Arbor appear to have a need to address the encroachment by local fishers in addition to stones found underwater inside the protected area utilized as a fishing technique. Effective enforcement of protected area boundaries due to encroachment by local fishers are required. Lastly, enhanced collaboration between the resort, LGU and People's Organizations will be necessary to effectively enforce and maintain the protected area.

Management activities of MPAs are continuing efforts in order to sustain the effective implementation of MPA regulatory mechanisms. It is a never-ending process of action, reflection and adaptation to promote learning, sharing of knowledge and a better understanding of MPAs. ■

Laurent Boillon



Siquijor Environment Code Adopted

Elline Cañares

In the island-province of Siquijor, the provincial government has formally adopted its own Environment Code. CCEF was an active mover in the technical working group tasked to craft the Environment Code. The Code contains provisions in simplified and codified form which will serve as a guide and information source to policy-makers to enact laws for environmental protection and conservation, as well as to the appropriate enforcement agencies to see to it that the said laws are complied with.

The Province of Siquijor with a lone congressional district (population of 87,695--2007 Census), is the smallest province in Central Visayas. It consists of six (6) component municipalities with

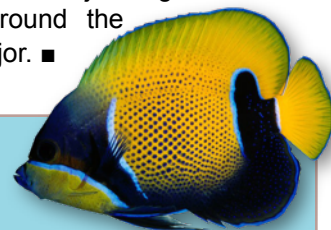
134 barangays. The Environment Code was enacted as a legal and policy framework for holistic management of environment and natural resources. It is subdivided into chapters aimed at protection of forest, minerals, water, and coastal resources.

In undertaking coastal resources management, the Code states that the Governor will establish a provincial Coastal Resources Management Framework (CRMF) to serve as guide for coastal municipalities in undertaking, among others, the delineation, establishment, management, and maintenance and protection of their municipal waters.

One of the noteworthy conservation measures adopted in the Environment

Code is the declaration of a closed season in the municipal waters throughout the province or a "Fish Holiday" three (3) days during full moon cycle of every month (two -2- days before the occurrence and the day of the full moon itself) and three (3) days during new moon cycle of every month (two -2- days before occurrence and the day of the new moon itself).

Presently, the Province of Siquijor in collaboration with CCEF and MSU-NAAWAN is in the midst of conducting a fisheries assessment to determine the status of their fisheries, including the fisheries stock of major target fishes in the waters around the island of Siquijor. ■



Marine Protected Area Networking Orientation Module Developed

Peta Johnstone
CCEF-AYAD Volunteer 2009

Marine Protected Area (MPA) networking continues to be a challenging component of coastal resource management in the Philippines. MPA networking involves utilising individual MPAs as stepping stones of genetic and ecological connectivity, to ensure the full range of biogeography, habitats, communities and genetic diversity are protected. CCEF has a long history in establishing individual MPAs, however the concept of linking these individual MPAs is becoming increasingly necessary to enhance fisheries production and conserve critical marine habitats.

Over the past six months CCEF has been developing and testing an MPA networking orientation module designed in the context of ecosystem-based management (EBM). The orientation training acts as a preliminary step in the move towards MPA networking by engaging participants in the reasoning behind networking and encouraging critical analysis as to its feasibility within their local contexts.

The orientation training has been designed to equip participants (including community-based MPA managers, municipal agricultural officers, Provincial and Local Government officials, people's organizations, other non-government organizations and those involved in coastal resource management) with fundamental knowledge and understanding of the concept of MPAs. The orientation training materials allow participants to develop a holistic knowledge based on MPA networking, specifically within the context of EBM and with an equal focus on ecological, social and institutional networking. Training encourages participants to openly discuss and evaluate the applicability of MPA networking in their localities in an open and transparent environment. A pilot orientation seminar was undertaken on 23 March 2010 engaging municipalities from both the

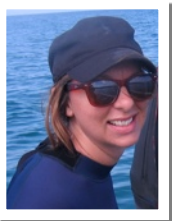
southwest (Ginatilan, Malabuyoc, Alegria, Badian, Moalboal, Alcantara, Dumanjug and Barili) and northwest (Tuburan, Tabuelan and San Remigio) of Cebu. The seminar allowed participants from these two municipality clusters to discuss the possibility of MPA networking implementation and to identify the major challenges arising during implementation. The seminar proved to be successful with participants genuinely engaged in the idea of forming social, ecological and institutional networks.

CCEF will continue to utilise the MPA Networking orientation training module throughout their project areas as the need for networking within the context of EBM continues to rise. The training module has been developed in coordination with the manual "Designing and Planning a Network of Community-Based Marine Protected Areas" (Varney et al. 2010). ■

Peta's AYAD Experience in the Philippines

Peta Johnstone CCEF-AYAD Volunteer 2009

I joined CCEF as an Australia Youth Ambassador for Development after working with the global consulting firm Sinclair Knight Merz and the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia for the past three years. I was at a point in my life where I was craving a new adventure. I wanted an adventure where I could lend my skills, an adventure where I could meet new people and an adventure that would test the things I had come to take for granted.



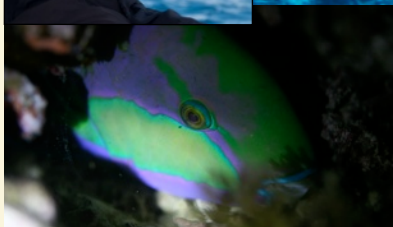
Prior to leaving Australia, my life was a whirlwind of packing, pondering and goodbyes. The reality of the adventure didn't hit me until I'd actually set foot in the country and realized that this is where I would be for the next nine months. During my first month in the Philippines I promptly understood that it didn't matter how many degrees one may have, or how much professional experience one may have gained, the most important thing to do was listen to my counterparts and learn from my surroundings. Over the first couple of months I had to jump headfirst into the learning bandwagon, learning about CCEF, learning about the project areas, learning about the intricacies of Cebu City and learning about how to live in a foreign land. These were challenging months, but I enjoyed them immensely. Everything was new and exciting, I discovered my colleagues were full of energy, Cebu City was a crazy rat race and mangoes are the most delicious fruit in the whole world!

From the past eight months I have learnt a great deal about marine resource management and the Filipino way of life. I continue to realize that managing the marine environment is fraught with challenges and setbacks, and the only way practices and knowledge can change is with time, patience and, of course, learning. I have also learnt that the Philippines is a country full of potential, I have witnessed a splendid Sinulog (the annual festival celebrated in the City), experienced the beauty of the underwater world and watched a nation vote for a new President in a calm, peaceful manner.

My experience to date has been one of learning, questioning, suggesting, watching and waiting. I have enjoyed every second of it and I have come to view the Philippines as being astonishingly diverse and full of hospitality. Highlights of my time here include visiting the world-renowned Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park, biophysical monitoring with CCEF's ReMote team around Cebu, conquering the jeepney system in the city, contributing to CCEF's training capabilities and of course chowing down on mangoes at any opportunity. So, did I get my adventure? Yes, I daresay I did. ■

Saving Philippines Reefs (SPR)

Photos taken during its 19th Coral Reef Monitoring Expedition! Held in Southeast Cebu, March 2010, participated by 26 divers from various countries.



CCEF Archive

Sea Turtle Nest Triggers Conservation Awareness in Cebu MPA

Joel Erediano

In San Remigio Municipality, Cebu, residents discovered about 50-60 40-mm diameter turtle eggs under a mangrove tree. A local deputized fish warden reported that they have sighted a sea turtle locally known as "pawikan" while making his nighttime patrol of the Luyang Marine Sanctuary.

After CCEF and local government staff showed pictures of various sea turtle species, the residents identified the nesting turtle as a hawksbill turtle. The hawksbill turtle derived its common name from its beak-like mouth which is more sharply pronounced and hooked than other sea turtles.

Five out of seven species of sea turtles in the world can be found in the Philippines. They are: Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), Olive Ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) and



The author was one of the first to see the sea turtle's nest in Luyang, San Remigio.

Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*). The hawksbill and leatherback are the most rare species found in the Philippines. Along with other sea turtles, they are facing a high risk of extinction due to hunting and egg gathering, hence classified by the government as critically endangered.

When informed of this unusual development, the municipal mayor of San Remigio affirmed that, "our conservation efforts are succeeding, with increased sightings of rare marine organisms such as sharks,

whales, manta rays and now sea turtles, San Remigio has now become a vital ground for marine conservation." Local residents are now closely protecting and monitoring the nesting area of sea turtles. ■



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"Promoting leadership for improved coastal resource management"

The Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc. (formerly Sulu Fund) was founded in 1998 to support marine conservation in the Philippines. The first name was taken from the Philippines' southern Sulu Sea known for its extremely high marine biodiversity unequalled in the world. The new name, Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, is more functional and reflects the organization's goals.

CCE Foundation is focused on protecting the marine environment. It tries to help conserve and manage coral reef ecosystems and other coastal resources while promoting sustainable uses for the benefit of people throughout time.

The A. White Library and Learning Center for Coastal Resource Management

The A. White Library and Learning Center's information resources on coastal resource management and related disciplines are continuously growing! The library and learning center serves as a one-stop-shop for information and training needs on coastal management. It houses more than 2000 volumes and 5000 reprints and reports, by far the most extensive library on coastal management in the southern Philippines.

At the same time its training facility provides a conducive venue for experts, community leaders, and other key sectors to come together, discuss issues, ideas and concerns on coastal conservation.

For more information on the A. White Library and Learning Center's services and rates, please contact us at ccef-lib@mozcom.com or the above mentioned contact numbers.

Staff Profiles

A warm welcome to our new staff!

Heidie Aplece is a Community Officer assigned in Southwest Cebu for the CLEANSE Project.

Reaan Gerald Catitig is the Project Officer of the Siquijor Mangrove Project.

Ma. May Saludsod is the Community Officer of the Siquijor Mangrove Project.

We bid you a fond farewell...

Roxie Diaz was the team leader for the Research/Monitoring Team (REMOTE).

Reggie Sabandal, Marilyn Lausa and Marilyn Cinco, researchers for the BALANCED Project.

Peta Johnstone is an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AYAD).

Kenneth Sotto was the Information, Education and Communications (IEC) Training Assistant.

Pablo Rojas Jr. was a researcher for the Research/Monitoring Team (REMOTE).

FOUNDATION WISHLIST:

Laptops
Underwater Video Camera
GPS Units
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