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**ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR
SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH)
PROJECT**

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QUARTERLY UPDATE (01 APRIL – 30 JUNE 2014)

ECOFISH Document No.: 03/2014
Version: Final

Implemented with:

Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
National Government Agencies
Local Government Units
Assisting Organizations

Supported by:

United States Agency for International Development
Contract No.: AID-492-C-12-00008

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Tetra Tech ARD

11 August 2014

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The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIM-SIL	-	Asian Institute of Management – Social Innovation Laboratory
AMPA	-	Adopt an MPA
ARD	-	Assistant Regional Director
ARMM	-	Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BEMO	-	Bohol Environmental Management Office
BFAR	-	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BuB	-	Bottom-up Budgeting
B+WISER	-	Biodiversity and Watershed Improvement for Stronger Economy and Ecosystem Resiliency
CAO	-	City Agriculture Office
CCRES	-	Capturing Coral Reef and Related Ecosystem Services
CCEF	-	Coastal Conservation Education Foundation
CFRM	-	Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management
CFV	-	Commercial Fishing Vessels
CI	-	Conservation International
CLE	-	Coastal Law Enforcement
CLEC	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Council
CLUP	-	Comprehensive Water and Land Use Plan
COP	-	Chief of Party
COR	-	Contracting Officer’s Representative
CTI	-	Coral Triangle Initiative
CRM	-	Coastal Resource Management
CRS	-	Community Relations Specialist
CSO	-	Civil Society Organization
DA	-	Department of Agriculture
DCOP	-	Deputy Chief of Party
DDBRMC	-	Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council
DENR	-	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DILG	-	Department of Interior and Local Government
DOST	-	Department of Science and Technology
DSWD	-	Department of Social Welfare and Development
EAFM	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
ECOFISH	-	Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries
ELAC	-	Environmental Legal Assistance Center
ENRO	-	Environmental and Natural Resources Office
FAD	-	Fisheries Assessment Database
FARMC	-	Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
FIMC	-	Fisheries Information Management Center
FishR	-	National System on Municipal Fisherfolk Registration
FMO	-	Fisheries Management Office
FLET	-	Fishery Law Enforcement Team
FRMD	-	Fisheries Resources Management Division
GIZ	-	German Society for International Cooperation

GPH	-	Government of the Philippines
GPS	-	Global Positioning System
HIPADA	-	Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance
ICTO	-	Information and Communications Technology Office
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IR	-	Intermediate Result
LCE	-	Local Chief Executive
LGU	-	Local Government Unit
LMP	-	League of Municipalities of the Philippines
LPRAT	-	Local Poverty Reduction Action Team
MA	-	Municipal Agriculturist
MAO	-	Municipal Agriculture Office
MARINA	-	Maritime Industry Development Authority
MARPSTA	-	Maritime Police Station
MCLET	-	Municipal Coastal Law Enforcement Team
MDC	-	Municipal Development Council
MDRRMC	-	Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council
MEAT	-	Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool
MENRO	-	Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office
MEPU	-	Marine Environment Pollution Unit
MERF	-	Marine Environment Resources Foundation
MFARMC	-	Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
MFO	-	Municipal Fisheries Officer
MKBA	-	Marine Key Biodiversity Area
MOA	-	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	-	Marine Protected Area
MPDC	-	Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator
MRDP	-	Mindanao Rural Development Program
MSU	-	Mindanao State University
NAPC	-	National Anti Poverty Commission
NFBS	-	National Fisheries Biological Station
NFRDI	-	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute
NSAP	-	National Stock Assessment Program
NTC	-	National Telecommunications Commission
OPA	-	Office of the Provincial Agriculturist
PAC	-	Provincial Agriculture Coordinator
PACPI	-	Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc.
PAO	-	Provincial Agriculture Office
PAWB	-	Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau
PCG	-	Philippine Coast Guard
PCGA	-	Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary
PCRA	-	Participatory Coastal Resources Assessment
PCSD	-	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
PDRRMC	-	Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council
PEDO	-	Provincial Environmental Desk Officer

PEMO	-	Provincial Environmental Management Office
PFO	-	Provincial Fisheries Office
PGENRO	-	Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office
PHIVOLCS	-	Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology
PMES	-	Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Section
PNP	-	Philippine National Police
PNP-MG	-	Philippine National Police – Maritime Group
PO	-	People’s Organization
PPDO	-	Provincial Planning and Development Office
PPO	-	Police Provincial Office
PPP	-	Public- Private Partnership
QRT	-	Quick Response Team
RMU	-	Regional Management Unit
SEAT	-	Socioeconomic Assessment Tools
SEEM	-	Socio-Economic and Environment Management
SEP	-	Strategic Environmental Plan
SB	-	Sangguniang Bayan (Municipal Council)
SBU	-	Special Boat Unit
SLP	-	Sustainable Livelihood Program
SMRR	-	State of the Marine Resources Report
SNCDMC	-	Southern Negros Coastal Development and Management Council
SP	-	Sangguniang Panlalawigan (Provincial Council)
TAG	-	Technical Advisory Group
TK	-	Tanggol Kalikasan (Defense of Nature)
TVWS	-	Television White Space
TWG	-	Technical Working Group
UniLab	-	United Laboratories
UPMSI	-	University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute
UPVFI	-	University of the Philippines in the Visayas Foundation Incorporated
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
VIP	-	Verde Island Passage
WCPFC	-	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WPEA	-	Western Pacific East Asia
WWF	-	World Wildlife Fund

1. Introduction

The technical assistance and services contract was awarded to Tetra Tech for the implementation of USAID/Philippines' Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries (ECOFISH) Project in June 29, 2012, under contract number AID-492-C-12-00008. The main objective of the ECOFISH Project is to improve the management of important coastal and marine resources and associated ecosystems that support local economies. The ECOFISH Project is intended to foster fishing sector reforms through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in larger marine conservation areas and involving clusters of Local Government Units (LGUs). It will promote the growth and restore the profitability of fisheries through conservation of ecosystem health and effective management.

The ECOFISH Project is in line with the current U.S. Country Assistance Strategy with respect to assistance directed at reducing threats to biodiversity and improving natural resources and environment. The ECOFISH Project is expected to contribute to achieving "Development Objective 3: Environmental Resilience Improved," particularly "IR3.2 Natural Resources and Environmental Management Improved" of the results framework of USAID/Philippine Mission's Country Development Cooperation Strategy (2012-2016). The Project is also designed to contribute to priority goals and actions laid out in the Philippine Development Plan (2011-2016) particularly Chapter 4 (Competitive and Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries), and Chapter 10 (Protection, Conservation and Rehabilitation of Environment and Natural Resources). This five-year project will provide technical assistance to the Government of the Philippines (GPH), through the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) and implemented in partnership with selected LGUs.

This report is a brief quarterly update covering the period 01 April – 31 June 2014. It consists of a monthly calendar of activities for the quarter and discussion of important accomplishments and priority implementation issues.

2. Project Objectives

The main objective of the ECOFISH Project is to improve the management of important coastal and marine resources and associated ecosystems that support local economies. It will conserve biological diversity, enhance ecosystem productivity and restore profitability of fisheries in eight marine key biodiversity areas (MKBAs) using the ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) as a cornerstone of improved social, economic and environmental benefits.

The application of EAFM principles and practices is a proven approach for reversing the decline of fish biomass in municipal waters and build community resilience. EAFM aims to manage fisheries at ecosystem scales rather than the scales defined by jurisdictional boundaries. Effective collaborative governance arrangements for EAFM provides the multiple benefits of improving ecosystem management, reducing the unit costs of management, and making the establishment of sustainable financing mechanisms and public-private partnerships (PPPs) more feasible and

attractive to investors. Development of PPPs is a key strategy of the Philippine Development Plan.

The ECOFISH Project is designed to make an impact in eight MKBAs in the country, namely: (1) the Calamianes Group of Islands MKBA, (2) Lingayen Gulf MKBA, (3) Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino Strait MKBA, (4) Danajon Reef MKBA, (5) South Negros MKBA, (6) Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte MKBA, (7) Tawi-Tawi in the Sulu Archipelago MKBA, and (8) Verde Island Passage MKBA. They represent all six marine bio-regions of the Philippines and were selected due to their extremely high need for marine biodiversity conservation. These areas are marine ecosystem “hotspots” in the Philippines that mirror the common issues impacting capture fisheries locally and nationally.

3. Monthly Calendar of Key Activities

3.1 National Level Activities

April 2014	
01-04 April	Training on estimation of population parameters and application of analytical models for the data analysts of the National Stock Assessment Program of BFAR-NFRDI.
04 April	Officially rolled out the “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration”. About 27 areas connected via TV White Space to the FishR to facilitate improved fisherfolk registration. DOST-ICT Office, BFAR, Bohol Province and Microsoft ceremonially turned over these mobile registration hubs and tablets to the 6 pilot municipalities. Training on use of tablets for FishR was also facilitated by BFAR and ECOFISH.
07 April	Socioeconomics TOC discussions with B. Best and OEECC key staff.
07-09 April	Conducted orientation on PPP “700DALOY (Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean BiodiversitY)” to PNP Maritime Group and local enforcement units in Tawi-Tawi in preparation for a public launch in May. More than 50 enforcement personnel were trained by PNP-MG, ECOFISH and SMART towards using the text hotline managed by the PNP-MG for improved reporting of maritime violations. Over 30 smart phones were also turned over.
08 April	Meeting with lawyers of the Office of the Solicitor General and Legal Counsel of BFAR on the FAO on the total ban of the modified Danish seine in the country.
09 April	Sponsored and facilitated the NFARMC roundtable discussion on coral propagation in Tagaytay City in connection with the proposed BFAR FAO.
10 April	USAID's Chief of Party meeting. Attended hearing as BFAR's fisheries expert on the TRO for the FAO on the ban of the modified Danish seine.

	Meeting with Dr. Porfirio Alino of MERF on MPA Socioeconomic Assessment Tool.
21 April	Online meeting with Measuring Impact team on Theory of Change.
22-23 April	Team meeting with COR on ECOFISH's communication strategy, socioeconomic and livelihood strategies, roll out of Info Board in Tawi-Tawi and future activities with USAID's Measuring Impact team.
25 April	Meeting with RARE Philippines on enterprise development and collaboration/coordination opportunities.
28 April	Presentation of EAFM concepts, principles, strategies and tools during the Basic Training on Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries for the CTI-ADB supported Pacific Island countries (Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Vanuatu and Timor Leste).
28 April	Meeting with the Sangguniang Bayan on its CRM Code, Mabini, Batangas.
29 April	Meeting at Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries (PCAF) and WWF in preparation for the National Consultation on the ASEAN Fisheries Improvement Protocol.
30 April	Update discussion with WWF Philippines on boat distribution and disaster rehabilitation.
May 2014	
02 May	Meetings with B+WISER COP and NAPC regarding Fish Fund.
05 May	Meeting with NAMRIA on municipal water delineation and collaboration/coordination opportunities.
05 May	Meeting of the Technical Working Group on the management of small pelagics in the waters of Palawan and Mindoro.
05-07 May	Participate in the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on CBD.
06 May	PPP Specialist Lawrence Ang and Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist Mar Guidote participate in the Regional Maritime Conference in PNP-MG Headquarters. They oriented the personnel on 700DALOY and, with SMART, turned over 70 smart phones for use under the hotline.
07 May	Meeting with State/USAID/Embassy staff on mFish, White Label, tech camps and Fishackatons.
07 May	Meeting with WWF on joint activities with ECOFISH for the bay-wide management of Lagonoy Gulf (an ECOFISH expansion area).
08-09 May	Orientation workshop of MERF for the development of the State of Marine Resources Report at UPMSI. This was participated in by the site coordinators, CRS, and key partners from the eight MKBAs. The objectives of the workshop are: (1) to present the overall framework of the SMRR, (2) to agree on the structure, content and process of the SMRR and (3) to agree on the timeline of activities towards the completion of the SMRR. The outline of the SMRR with timeline of activities were agreed upon.
09 May	Team meeting on the visit of Ambassador Goldberg to the VIP.
11-12 May	Roundtable Discussion with US Ambassador Philip Goldberg and the California Academy of Sciences, Mabini, Batangas.
12 May	Coordination meeting with USG partners for the public launch of 700DALOY in Tawi-Tawi set for 28 May.

13 May	Coordination meeting with DAP on module development and roll out of the PPP training for fisheries. Meeting with Conservation International on the activities for the management of small pelagics in the Verde Island Passage.
14 May	Meeting with NOAA coordinator on the roll out of EAFM and climate change activities.
14 May	Briefing of Smart Communication senior management on 700DALOY and public launch.
15 May	Team meeting with COR on the roll out of socioeconomic/livelihoods/PPP activities in the MKBAs.
16 May	NSAP training on technical writing and presentation in Baguio City. Evaluation and critiquing of the presentation of NSAP results by all regional NSAP teams. Team meeting with COR, STAM and FM on preparations for 21 May RTD with partners on mFish and Fishackatons Problem Statement.
19 May	Meeting with Gina Green and Kristin Blogett of the home office on activities for the week of the home office team's visit.
20 May	Facilitated briefing for the PNP command on 700DALOY and public launch. Update meeting with key OEECC staff on ECOFISH progress and briefing for 700DALOY launch in Tawi-Tawi.
21 May	Roundtable Discussion conducted with BFAR NSAP team, Smart Communication, Ideospace Foundation and ECOFISH for the development of a problem statement as contribution to the Fishackathon event under US State Sec. Kerry's Oceans Conference and mFish Program set in June 2014.
22 May	Meeting with mFish Program representative Mark Kaplan, COR Becky Guieb and Acting Chief of OEECC Joe Foltz to discuss future direction of mFish for the Philippines.
23 May	Follow-up discussions with RARE Philippines on livelihoods development and other collaboration opportunities.
26-28 May	Participated in Environmental Law Talks 3, organized by the University of Cebu College of Law and IUCN.
27 May	Meetings with USPC Coordinator and UPMSI Director on livelihood projects involving marine invertebrates such as shellfishes and sea cucumbers.
27-30	Attended and served as keynote speaker of the Regional Forum on Solutions for oceans, coasts and human well-being in Asia and the Pacific.
28 May	Official launching of 700DALOY in Bongao Pier, Tawi-Tawi to over 200 guests and local leaders in attendance. This was followed by a mangrove planting activity in Sandbar Lepa.

June 2014	
04 June	Meeting with Coastal Resource Center of University of Rhode Island on ECOFISH's innovative use of mobile technology for fisheries registration and licensing system in connection with addressing overcapacity in small scale fisheries.
06 June	Participate in US Ambassador Enforcement Briefing program with other USG/USAID project and Palawan enforcement/LGU partners.
10 June	Participated and served as resource persons in the National Stakeholders Consultation on Fisheries Improvement Protocol for ASEAN.
11 June	Team meeting on supplemental activities and budget.
13 June	Meeting with USAID, US Public Affairs Office and SPS regarding Seacamps.
16 June	ECOFISH participates in "call-in" during Fishackathon to elaborate on problem statement during Secretary Kerry's Oceans Conference.
17 June	Presented "Addressing overcapacity in capture fisheries" at the US Embassy's "Our Ocean Conference in Manila". Participated in the first ARMM International Business Conference and explored potential for engaging the economic zone being set up between Tawi-Tawi, Tuawaw, Malaysia and Tarakan, Indonesia.
17-20 June	Feedbacking of baseline assessment results and EAFM framework planning for Danajon Bank LGUs.
19 June	Meeting with key OEECC staff and SSG Advisors on Development Impact Bonds (DIBs).
22-23 June	Bago River Watershed PES Workshop, Bacolod.
24 June	Meeting with PNP-MG regarding various requests from ECOFISH socioeconomic component.
25 June	ECOFISH team meets with ANC for potential media partnership for adaptation to climate change in the fishery sector.
25 June	Meeting with USAID-COMPETE on collaboration in sites and initiatives common to both projects.
25-27 June	Writeshop to draft concept note for Protected Area Management Enhancement (PAME) partnership fund. Prepared generic logical framework for the proposed MPAs in the expansion areas of ECOFISH.
26 June	Meeting with ABS-CBN Foundation to discuss potential partnership for Calamianes, and for marketing and value-adding community-produced goods across ECOFISH sites.
26 June	Participated in the Mangrove Management Workshop of B+WISER, DENR and partner institutions.

27 June	Meeting with potential seaweed partner, Mr. Jolly Alhajah.
30 June	Meeting with National Anti Poverty Commission on Fisheries Fund and initial listing of proposed LGU fish landings. Meeting with ECOFISH team and COR in preparation for the visit of USAID's Measuring Impact Team and proposed Theory of Change and Miradi training in the VIP.
30 June	Debriefing and next steps at PNP-MG post-700DALOY launch. Initial case-studies and reports were processed for further documentation. 5 satellite sleeves and iPhones were also turned over as part of SMART's commitment.



14 May 2014, Mabini, Batangas. ECOFISH governance specialist James Kho, and senior resource economist Rina Rosales held meetings with the Municipal Mayor, Vice Mayor and Sanggunian Bayan to review its CRM Code. Photos shows the various users of the coastal resources of Mabini (from left): tourist resorts, fisherfolks, and dive operators.

3.2. Site-Level Activities

3.2.1. Calamianes Island Group

April 2014	
01-06 April	First leg of the fiber glass boat building training held in Coron under the “Bancas for the Philippines” PPP between USAID through ECOFISH, WWF and Polymer Products Philippines. A total of 14 boat builders from 4 municipalities in CIG underwent the training. Simultaneously, town meetings were held in Culion, Busuanga and Coron with roughly 300 beneficiaries of the boat assistance activity.
01 April	Coordinated the meeting between ECOFISH and Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff.
04 April	Coordination meeting with Palawan State University Director in Linapacan regarding potential partnership with ECOFISH specifically on the management of MPAs in the municipality of Linapacan.
05 April	Meeting with the barangay officials of Libis, Culion on their management plan on Bugor Sand Island MPA. Drafted a resolution to be submitted to the LGU for approval.
07-09 April	Facilitated the deployment of fiberglass boat materials to Busuanga, Linapacan and Culion.
10 April	Facilitated the meeting with Mr. Ruby Sandoval, land owner in Coron, and PCI Romeldo Flores, PNP-Maritime Station Chief to discuss potential donation of parcel of land to PNP-Maritime where they can rebuild their station. PNP-Maritime station was washed out when super typhoon Yolanda hit Calamianes. After the meeting, Mr. Sandoval agreed to donate a small portion of land to the agency. Participated in the first Dugong Conservation Workshop organized by C3 Philippines. The workshop presented the initial results of the dugong survey in the Municipality of Busuanga.
12-15 April	Facilitated the deployment of fiberglass boat materials to Busuanga, Linapacan and Culion.
23 April	Meeting with DSWD Municipal Coordinator of Coron to provide updates regarding ECOFISH initiative on Yolanda rehabilitation and explore potential partnership.
24-25 April	Meeting with the trained boat builders to discuss the status of the remaining kits, boat building, identification/ re-visitation of boat building area, challenges encountered and next steps. Various meetings with partners in Culion were conducted to gather data for the social enterprise development proposal.
25 April	Provided project updates to PCSDS executive director and technical staff and discuss possible collaboration. Meeting with Rina Rosales to further enhance the proposal to be submitted to PDRF.
25-26 April	Meeting with PCSD, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan to update on ECOFISH activities in the Calamianes Group of Islands MKBA.

28 April	Met with Mrs. Dela Rosa of WPU-Culion regarding fisheries related program that can be tapped by partner communities of ECOFISH project. Boat building monitoring in Busuanga and Coron.
29-30 April	Provided technical inputs in the proposal being developed for Calamianes. Follow up monitoring of boat building activity in Coron and Busuanga. Assisted the organizers of State of the Marine Resources Report (SMMR) workshop in the distribution of invitation letters and confirmation of participation to partner LGUs in Calamianes Island Group MKBA.
May 2014	
02 May	Coordinated the boat building activities with the Barangay Captain of Lajala, Coron.
06 May	Provided administrative support to ECOFISH socio-economic specialist and Smart Philippines for their visit in Coron.
07 May	Meeting with Dan Florida DILG Culion regarding the Regional Assessment Team that will be organized to determine the capacity of the LGU to get a seal of good governance.
08 May	Coordinated the ECOFISH technical team visit to the municipality of Linapacan to conduct validation of water use zones, provide project updates to the LGU and present the PNP Maritime AMPA project.
09 May	Updated MLGOO of Coron, on the boat building activities and other ECOFISH activities in Calamianes.
12-13 May	Meeting with PO president in Marcilla, Buanavista, Turda, Coron to explore potential livelihoods. Assisted and represented ECOFISH in the DILG assessment on Seal of Good Local Governance in Busuanga. Attended the launching of livelihood program in Guadalupe, Coron organized by International Labor Organization.
14 May	Assisted the chairman of Calamianes MPA Network (CMN) in finalizing the agenda for the regular CMN meeting which include formulation of by-laws and constitution, discuss individual MPA issues and oath taking ceremony of the newly-elected officers. Provided technical inputs in the review of documents during DILG assessment on seal of Good Local Governance in CIG.
15-16 May	Monitor boat building activity in Barangay Lajala, Coron. Assisted and represented ECOFISH in the DILG assessment on Seal of Good Local Governance in Busuanga.
17 May	Coordinated with FAO personnel regarding Calamianes MPA requirements.
19 May	Facilitated the distribution of Atmospheric Water Filter system in Busuanga which was donated by Smart Philippines. Assisted and represented ECOFISH in the DILG assessment on Seal of Good Local Governance in Coron.
20 May	Provided technical inputs to the mangrove rehabilitation proposal submitted to DSWD.
21 May	Consultations were held with Mayor del Prado and MPDC of Linapacan. They both appreciated the offer of ECOFISH to help their municipality.

22 May	<p>An enforcement team meeting was held in Linapacan, participated in by selected SBs, representatives from PNP and PCG, the head of the BFARMC of San Miguel, Municipal Administrator, and the Executive Assistant of the Mayor. Major Flores of PNPMG MARPSTA Calamianes presented the AMPA and inquired on the interest of the LGU in issuing a resolution supporting AMPA.</p> <p>Consultations were held with the Bgy. Captain of Bgy. Pical, Linapacan regarding their MPA and the possibility of setting up social enterprises. Assisted and represented ECOFISH in the DILG assessment on Seal of Good Local Governance in Linapacan.</p>
23 May	ECOFISH conducted consultations with officials of Bgy. San Miguel, which has the only officially declared MPA in Linapacan. The MAO and MDRRMO joined the meeting, along with the BFARMC Chairperson.
24 May	<p>Meeting with barangay officers in Barangays Pical and Barangonan, Linapacan on the status of MPA establishment in the area.</p> <p>Validation of water use zones in Barangay Pical, Linapacan.</p>
25 May	Meeting with International Labor Organization, potential funder of enterprise development in CIG. The ILO representative qualified that they are willing to fund enterprise development only for Coron, and the project has to end by November 2014. Labor costs should comprise at least 70% of the proposed budget, and there are no funds that will be allotted for consultants and resource persons, except for honoraria during training workshops. They are, however, very keen to funding project proposals related to fisheries.
28 May	Attended the annual Farmers and Fisherfolks Family Day celebration in Coron and gave a brief update on ECOFISH activities being conducted in the municipality.
29 May	Met the MPA management council representative of Concepcion MPA to discuss their MPA activity plan.
30 May	Provided technical inputs to the MPA proposal that will be submitted to GIZ.
June 2014	
02 June	Meeting with FAO staff and tackled the ECOFISH intervention in Calamianes and possible collaboration with the organization.
03 June	Facilitated the delivery of water filtration system in Barangay Lajala, Coron. The unit was donated by Smart Philippines.
05 June	<p>Meeting with PNP-Maritime and discussed the schedule of MPA Guard trainings in Calamianes.</p> <p>Monitored the boat building activity in Busuanga.</p> <p>Coordination meeting with CMN chairman on the preparation for the upcoming network meeting.</p>
06 June	Meeting with Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island Association (TTCIA) Council of Elders on various issues including livelihood and sustainable fishing.
07 June	Meeting with MLGOO of Coron regarding water filtration system donation, submission of business plans and proposals and fiberglass boat building training course part 2.
09 June	Preparation for the second round of the boat building training program and identification of prospective recipients.

10-11 June	Facilitated the delivery of water filtration system in Barangay Guadalupe, Coron and Busuanga. Met the newly-assigned MLGOO of Busuanga and oriented her about the work of ECOFISH in the municipality. Meeting with partner LGU and POs in Busuanga to follow up status of business plans and proposals.
12 June	Facilitated the delivery of water filtration system in Barangay Tagumpay, Coron. The unit was donated by Smart Philippines for the victims of typhoon Yolanda.
13 June	Facilitated the delivery of water filter system in Culion. The unit was donated by SMART Philippines for the victims of typhoon Yolanda. Meeting with partner LGU and POs in Culion to follow up status of business plans and proposals. Facilitated the inventory and hauling of boat kits in Culion. Meeting with LGU Culion to consult about ECOFISH year 3 workplan.
14 June	Coordinated the hauling of training kits that will be used for the round 2 fiberglass boat building training course.
15-20 June	Facilitated the conduct of the second round fiberglass training course on partnership with WWF-Philippines, Polymer Products Inc and USAID through ECOFISH. Ten trainees and five observers were trained. Meetings with recipients from Calait, Busuanga and Barangays of Turda and Buenavista, Coron were also held. An additional 120 beneficiaries will be given fiberglass boats. At the end of the training, sea testing of the boat was conducted at the Coron Bay area with WWF Philippines and the Asian Development Bank, together with the trainees and trainers. After the training, 6 boats fabricated by the trained boat builders were awarded to Western Philippines University Culion Campus and San Agustin Foundation and Multi-Purpose and Cooperative.
24 June	Facilitated the inventory of fiberglass boat kits.
25 June	Monitored the boat building activity in Barangay Lajala, Coron.
27 June	Meeting with PB Badang, CMN chairman, and finalized the agenda of the upcoming CMN meeting. Meeting with FAO staff and discussed requirements to effectively manage the MPAs in Calamianes. Follow up ECOFISH Civil Society Organization (CSO) accreditation in Coron.
30 June	Facilitated the hauling of fiberglass boat building kits.

3.2.2. Danajon Reef

April 2014	
01 April	Meeting in preparation for the official turn over program of TVWS to partner Local Government Units. Facilitated and provided assistance to the Sangguniang Bayan of Tubigon in the drafting of their Revised Municipal Fishery Code. Assisted in the consultation meeting on the draft business plans of Tubigon.

02 April	Assisted the Community Facilitator and the LGU of Inabanga during consultation meeting on the draft business plans. Conducted follow up on the communication to the Municipal Mayors who were recipients of the tablets for online fisherfolk registration.
03 April	Meeting with BFAR, CRM staff of Talibon, and other partners in the final preparation for the official turnover of TVWS.
04 April	Officially rolled out the “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration”. About 27 areas connected via TV White Space to the FishR to facilitate improved fisherfolk registration. DOST-ICT Office, BFAR, Bohol Province and Microsoft ceremonially turned over these mobile registration hubs and tablets to the 6 pilot municipalities. Training on the use of tablets for FishR was also facilitated by BFAR and ECOFISH.
07 April	Phone conference with Mayor of Inabanga regarding her comments and suggestions on the draft business plans. Meeting with the Bohol Island State University and Women Development Center regarding the concept paper in the conduct of Psychosocial and Stress Management Seminar.
08 April	Meeting with the Provincial Fishery officer of BFAR-Bohol regarding their incentives system to the LGU and the identified livelihood projects under BuB. Provided technical assistance in the enforcement training of MFLET of Macrohon, Southern Leyte.
14 April	Coordination meeting with the Municipal Mayor of Inabanga together with the representatives from partner institutions particularly RARE Philippines, PATH Foundation Philippines, BFAR-Bohol, and LGU/CRM staff regarding presentation of different projects and possible collaboration with the community and People’s Organizations. Participated in the meeting with the Bohol Coastal Resource Management Task Force (BCRMTF) in preparation for Month of the Ocean Celebration.
16 April	Briefed the OIC Head of the Provincial Agriculture Office regarding the concept of the SPR study for blue crab in Danajon Bank.
21 April	Meeting with the Bohol Coastal Resource Management Task Force on the final program of activities for Month of the Ocean Celebration.
24 April	Orientation of the Technical Working Group on the catch monitoring to determine the spawning potential ratio (SPR) for the management of blue crab in Danajon Bank.
28-30 April	Training of enumerators and commencement of data gathering for determining Spawning Potential Ratio for the management of blue swimming crab in the Danajon Bank.
29-30 April	In support to WWF and Asian Development Bank, ECOFISH Bohol staff assisted in the preparation and sharing of learning on Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management to the participants from five countries (Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, and Vanuatu) during their workshop and visit to BFAR office and other LGUs covered by FISH/ECOFISH Project.

May 2014	
01 May	Skype conference with the executive director of BUSWACC regarding livelihood enterprise development partnership in Danajon Bank.
02 May	Coordinated with the Bohol Coastal Resource Management Task Force during the opening program on Month of the Ocean at the activity center of Luisa Galleria, Tagbilaran City.
06-07 May	Meeting with COP of ECOFISH Project on the stages and processes of field implementation. Identified projected activities and anticipated sustainability plan and replication to other municipalities. Substantiated the critical factors in attaining 10 % increase of fish biomass and employment of fishers.
13 May	Meeting with CRM staff of BEMO re. conduct of MCLETs strengthening in all LGUs in Danajon area. Reviewed the necessary topics and finalized the program flow.
14-16 May	Coordinated the conduct of three-day Training on Pilot Assessment of Blue Swimming Crabs Monitoring held in Tubigon, Bohol.
19 May	Meeting with the IEC Team of Facilitators from University of San Carlos to review the flow of the program and expected outputs of the training.
20 May	Assisted in the conduct of Basic Law Enforcement Training to new MCLETs members of Hilongos, Inopacan, Hindang and Baybay City in Baybay, Leyte.
21 May	Assisted in the Basic Law Enforcement Training to new MCLETs members of Bato, Matalom, Macrohon and Maasin City held in Maasin City.
22 May	Meeting and courtesy call and presentation of ECOFISH Project to the Provincial Administrator of Maasin Province and Provincial PNP Director.
23 May	Meeting with various Regional Enforcement Agencies in Cebu to coordinate the planning and implementation of enforcement activities.
28 May	Meeting with the Provincial PNP Director, Provincial PEDO and Provincial Operation Officer regarding Leahy vetting policy and issues and problems in law enforcement operations in Danajon Bank. Provincial PEDO requested for orientation of all PNP Chiefs of Police and Municipal PEDOs in all coastal municipalities of Bohol.
30 May	Participated in the culmination program on Month of the Ocean and likewise in the kick-off program of the Environment Month. Conducted orientation seminar on Leahy vetting policy to all Chiefs of Police and Police Environment Desk Officers in the coastal towns of Bohol.
June 2014	
02 June	Meeting with the Deputy Chief of SEAFDEC and Researcher/Instructor from Bohol Island State University regarding the study on humpback wrasse in the Danajon area.
03 June	Meeting with the Provincial Chief of Bohol Tourism Office regarding presentation of the LGU outputs on identified projects related to tourism. The Bohol Tourism Office committed to integrate these plans into the provincial tourism framework plan.

09 June	Meeting with the Regional Director of BFAR region 7 and other regional division heads who partner directly with ECOFISH regarding updates and accomplishments of ECOFISH project to date. Round table discussion with the IEC Thematic Lead and representative from the CCEF regarding SAF for the secretariat to handle the strengthening and sustainability of the Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council.
11 June	Meeting with the Regional Director, Assistant Regional Director of BFAR Region 8 and regional management committee regarding status of accomplishments of ECOFISH Project. Courtesy call and presentation of ECOFISH project updates to the City Mayor of Baybay City.
12 June	Reviewed the second draft of the Coastal/fishery resource management plan of Inopacan, Hilongos, Bato and Matalom.
13 June	Discussed with the Fishery Technician and Municipal Agriculturist of Matalom, Bato and Inopacan regarding completion of the fisheries management strategies and budgetary requirements of CFRM plans.
18-20 June	Conducted feedbacking on the baseline assessment results and framework planning workshop on Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management.
21 June	Meeting with the Supervisor of Enumerators on the status of assessment, monitoring, and gathering of data on blue swimming crabs.
23 June	Meeting with the Provincial Governor of Bohol together with the OIC Deputy head of BEMO and staff regarding the conduct of Danajon Bank law enforcement summit, status of assessment and monitoring of blue swimming crabs, and other updates on ECOFISH project implementation. The Governor committed to continue support for the implementation of ECOFISH Project. Discussed with the Country Director of ZSL/PSF regarding the submission of their Project Proposal on MPA establishment and network.
24 June	Reviewed and enhanced second draft of CFRM plans of Inopacan and Bato, Leyte.
25 June	Resource Speaker during the conduct of MCLETs strengthening in the Municipality of Carlos P. Garcia.
26 June	Reviewed and enhanced second draft of CRM plan of Hilongos and Hindang.
27 June	Resource Speaker during the conduct of MCLETs strengthening in the Municipality of Trinidad. Consultation meeting with the Municipal Fishery Aquatic Resource Management Council re. presentation of the Revised Municipal Fishery Code of Tubigon.
30 June	Assisted with the PPP team in the conduct of Organizational Diagnosis for POs in the municipality of Getafe.

3.2.3. Lingayen Gulf

April 2014	
21 April	Courtesy visits to Office of the Provincial Agriculturist of La Union, the City Agriculturist, and the City Environment and Natural Resources Officer.
22 April	Courtesy visits to Municipal Agriculturists of Bauang, Aringgay, Sto. Tomas, and Rosario
25 April	Courtesy visits to Municipal Agriculturists of Caba, Agoo and City Agriculturist of Alaminos CAO; meeting with DENR-SCREMP (Sustainable Coral Reef Ecosystem Management Project) regarding collaboration in common project areas.
28 April	Meeting with BFAR on their involvement with the FLET, ECOFISH request for counter-part training materials, and agreement that the Regional Director be signatory to the invitations.
May 2014	
02-05 May	Coordination with various partners regarding FLET, SMRR, and other concerns.
06 May	Signed COP letters regarding the Special Activity Fund (SAF) were sent to Pangasinan State University, Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University, and the Mariano Marcos State University.
12 May	Brainstorming session and site planning for June 2014 activities.
13-14 May	Review of fisheries ordinances.
15 May	Preparation of activity proposal on the conduct of a seagrass assessment to contribute to management interventions.
16 May	Coordination with DENR on support for PCRA in Alaminos (later moved to Anda which is out of ECOFISH focal area).
21 May	Coordination with Dr. Mike Fortes on visit to Bolinao and possible seagrass assessment resource person.
22 May	Visit to Bolinao Office of the Municipal Agriculturist regarding fisheries management initiatives and visit to UP-MSI Marine Laboratory to gather information on seagrass and rabbitfish studies.
26 May	Preparation of FGD guidelines for FGD with fishers to be held on 02-05 June.
27 May	Coordination with concerned LGU for the seagrass assessment and FGD.
28 May	Visit to the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist to gather information regarding previous Gulf alliance initiatives and its 10-year Provincial Coastal Management Framework Plan.
29 May	Visit to NEDA to gather information regarding previous Gulf alliance initiatives.
30 May	Participation in the launching by CENRO of the Poro MPA, San Fernando City, with further discussions on ECOFISH support for the MPA.
June 2014	
02 June	Seagrass assessment and FGD, Rosario, La Union.
03 June	Seagrass assessment and FGD, Sto. Tomas, La Union; Meeting with USAID Rebecca Guieb and courtesy call to BFAR RD Nestor Domenden and discussed project activities.

13 June	Meeting with municipal Mayors (and concerned officers) of focal areas through its regular League of Municipalities chapter meeting to get feedback on possible inter-LGU alliance.
17 June	Presentation on MPA Management and IEC strategies to the AMPA of PNP Maritime, Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur, as requested by BFAR.
20 June	Research on inter-LGU alliance practices and TWG establishment.
24 June	Meeting with regional government agencies during NEDA's quarterly Environment Sector Committee Meeting to present ECOFISH and discuss inter-LGU and inter-agency alliance or collaboration.
27 June	Follow-up of submission of SAF proposals from SUCs; set up meeting with BFAR for workplan review; coordination regarding Site Feed-backing activity and other matters.
30 June	Discussion on establishing regular focal area visits on a monthly basis.

3.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao – Lagonoy Gulf

April 2014	
02-04 April	Meeting with Sorsogon PFO staff concerning the Prieto Diaz LGU project proposal for the re-establishment of the Marilag Marine Reserve and Fish Sanctuary; BFAR Region 5 and CRS carried out an underwater survey of the Marilag Marine Reserve and Fish Sanctuary in Prieto Diaz.
04-11 April	Assisted Sorsogon PFO staff in review of BUB proposals; monitored BUB project implementation in Bulan (replacement of fine nets with nets of legal mesh size [120 beneficiaries] and seaweed culture [29 beneficiaries]).
14-15 April	Attended Philippine Rural Development Project (MPA GEF component) pre-implementation conference at the Sorsogon Provincial Fisheries Office.
16 April	Reviewed Prieto Diaz documents (ordinances, FLA, DENR Coastal Environment Program, Tambuyog articles, etc.)
21-22 April	Meetings with Sorsogon PFO staff regarding issues arising from the review of the Prieto Diaz documents.
23-25 April	Meetings with Prieto Diaz LGU officials and fisherfolk for clarification regarding issues involving the re-establishment of the Marilag MPA.
29 April	Presentation of the results of the 02-04 April Marilag MPA coral reef survey (undertaken by BFAR Region 5 and CRS) to Prieto Diaz LGU officials and fisherfolk leaders.
30 April	Coordinated with MERF, LGUs and BFAR Region 5 for the 08-09 May SMRR workshop.
May 2014	
02 May	Coordinated with MERF, LGUs and BFAR Region 5 for the SMRR workshop.
03 May	Meeting with BFAR Region 5 for updates and the upcoming enforcement assessment workshop in Sorsogon.
05-06 May	Coordinated with MERF, LGUs and BFAR Region 5 for the SMRR workshop (substitution of original participants).
08-09 May	Attended SMRR workshop at UP-MSI, Diliman, Quezon City.

12 May	Meeting with BFAR Region 8 officials for updates and the upcoming enforcement assessment workshop in Sorsogon.
15 May	Meeting with Sorsogon PFO staff for BUB updates and collection of additional information for the SMRR.
16 May	Provided LGUs and BFAR Region 5 copies of the socio-economic baseline assessment results.
17 May	Site team preparation for the 09-11 June baseline assessment results presentation and enforcement assessment workshop.
21 May	Finalized with Prieto Diaz LGU the list of enforcement assessment workshop participants.
23 May	Finalized with Matnog LGU and PNP the list of baseline assessment results presentation and enforcement assessment workshop participants.
26 May	Meeting with Sorsogon PFO for assistance in the 09-11 June baseline assessment results presentation and enforcement assessment workshop.
27 May	Finalized with Bulan Mayor and Municipal Agriculturist the list of baseline assessment results presentation and enforcement assessment workshop participants.
28 May	Finalized with Sta. Magdalena LGU the list of baseline assessment results presentation and enforcement assessment workshop participants.
June 2014	
02 June	Coordinated with PCI of the Sorsogon Provincial Police Office for attendance of vetted Municipal Police Station personnel.
04-05 June	Coordinated with Regional and Provincial Police Offices, Maritime Unit 5, Coast Guard and BFAR Region 5 for resource persons in the enforcement assessment workshop; meeting with RMU5 Chief PSSupt Cupid Calica for AMPA implementation in Sorsogon.
06 June	Meeting with Sorsogon Provincial Board Member Arze Glipo (Chairperson of the Agriculture and Fisheries Committee) about the forthcoming baseline assessment results presentation and the enforcement assessment workshop.
09 June	Baseline assessment results presentation; 52 persons (LGU officials and fisherfolk leaders from Bulan, Matnog, Sta. Magdalena and Sorsogon Province) attended the presentation.
10-11 June	Enforcement assessment workshop; 100 persons (LGU officials, Bantay Dagat and police personnel) attended the workshop; PNP MG National Director PCSupt Noel Vargas was the guest speaker.
20 June	ECOFISH Project briefing for the League of Municipalities of the Philippines Sorsogon Chapter at its meeting in Casiguran.
23 June	Provided LGUs, BFAR5, PNP, RMU5 and PCG the June 10-11 enforcement assessment workshop results.
23-24 June	Workshop with WWF and BFAR to identify and roll out activities in preparation for the EAFM planning for Lagonoy Gulf.
26 June	Meeting with Sorsogon PFO staff about MERF's coral reef/MPA baseline assessment results and enforcement assessment workshop outputs.
27 June	Meeting with PCI of the Sorsogon PPO about the issues in the enforcement assessment workshop outputs, particularly distribution of information of identified common violators to Municipal Police Stations.

3.2.5. Southern Negros

April 2014	
01 April 02 April	Preparatory meeting with Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO) and the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist of Negros Occidental regarding the finalization of training module and speakers, roles and responsibilities and logistical needs for the Provincial Fishery Law Enforcement Training on 22-25 April, 2014.
04 April	Terence Dacles of GIZ visited ECOFISH Dumaguete Office to present Protected Area Management Enhancement (PAME) Project and discuss the call for proposals from Marine Key Biodiversity Areas all over the Philippines.
14-16 April	Conducted the baseline assessment result feed backing and EAFM framework planning for South Negros Marine Key Biodiversity Area (MKBA). The participants came up with an EAFM Framework Plan specific for South Negros MKBA and individual CFRM Plan for all seven focal LGUs.
22-25 April	Conducted the Provincial Inter-Agency Coastal Law Enforcement Team (PIACLET) Training primarily in preparation for the reactivation of the Negros Occidental Provincial Bantay Dagat Special Action Team (PBDSAT) in order to augment the municipal fishery law enforcement teams of the 25 coastal municipalities and cities. This is in response to the prevalent illegal fishing violations particularly commercial fishing vessel intrusion within the municipal waters in South Negros. Resource persons included those from the PNP Maritime Group, BFAR Region 6 FRMD, Quick Response Team, OPA, PEMO and Provincial Legal Officers.
29 April	Meeting with US Peace Corps volunteers from Zamboangita, Siaton and Bayawan for the upcoming Youth Day Camps in Basay, Bayawan, Sta. Catalina, Siaton and Zamboangita on 26-30 May in celebration of the Month of the Ocean.
May 2014	
14-16 May	Conducted a series of meetings with LGU focal persons from Hinobaan, Sipalay City and Cauayan to discuss the individual CFRM Plans and EAFM Framework Plan formulated last 14-16 April 2014 in Dumaguete City. Establishment of new MPAs were identified as the priority activities in Hinobaan and Sipalay. The following are the proposed sites: (1) Pitogo Island in Brgy. Talacagay (co-managed by Sipalay and Hinobaan); (2) Brgys. Cayhagan; and (3) Brgy. Cartegena, both in Sipalay City. The meeting in Sipalay was also followed with visits to Brgy IV and Brgy. Maricalum to meet with MPA Management Council and witness the turnover of social marketing shirts, posters, billboards and calendars. The meeting with Cauayan also paved the way for discussing their immediate concerns in the LGU such as reorganization of their FARMC, activation of the trained Bantay Dagat Members and facilitation of the Comprehensive Fisheries and delineation ordinances.

19 May	Facilitated the Organizational Diagnostics as part of the community partnership activities for all our partner POs. Also facilitated their Vision, Mission and Goals formulation specifically for the Cabangahan Mangingisda Association (CAMASS) together with the LGU of Siaton.
24 May	Coordinated the visit of Mr. David Felson, TetraTech Project Manager in Dumaguete City including a briefing meeting with the BFAR-Negros Oriental's Provincial Fisheries Officer and the 702nd Maritime Police Station Chief. Assisted in the facilitation of the Culmination Activity of Farmer's and Fisherfolk Month of the Provincial Fisheries Office.
27-30 May	Facilitated a series of day camps for high school students of Bayawan, Siaton and Zamboangita in partnership with US Peace Corps volunteers assigned in Southern Negros and the Local Government Units (LGUs) in celebration of the Month of the Ocean and Farmers and Fisherfolk Month with the theme " <i>Mangingisdang Direktor para sa Mas Matatag na Balikatan</i> ".
June 2014	
03-05 June	Facilitated the MPA Participatory Planning Workshop for the four MPAs in Hinobaan, namely: Sangke, Culipapa, Daug and Pook . It was participated by punong barangays, barangay kagawads, chair persons of the Committee on Agriculture/Fisheries/Environment, fisherfolk organization representatives, Bantay Dagat representatives, resort operators, religious sector representatives, youth representatives, women representatives, senior citizen's representatives, Fishery Regulatory Officer, community organizers, MFARMC representative and DENR-CENRO. Resource persons and facilitators were from the ECOFISH Project, Sipalay City and OPA Negros Occidental.
05-06 June	Meetings with Sam Mamauag of MERF regarding the State of the Marine Resources Report. Review the information and data checklist together and identified the data needs and gaps.
06 June	Youth Day Camp in Sta. Catalina, the last of four series of camps in celebration of the Month of the Ocean and Farmer's and Fisherfolk Month with the theme " <i>Mangingisdang Direktor para sa Mas Matatag na Balikatan</i> " in partnership with US Peace Corps volunteers.
09 June	Visited BFAR Region 7 in Cebu City with Ms. Gulayan of the Danajon Bank MKBA to meet with Director Andres Bojos and Divisions Chiefs of the Fisheries Resources Management Division (FRMD) and Fisheries Regulatory, Licensing and Enforcement Division (FRLED) and Quick Response Team (QRT) team Leader to discuss updates on ECOFISH Project in Danajon and Southern Negros, and Year 3 plans.
10-13 June	Visited partner POs in Andulay, Brgy. Siit in Siaton, Villareal Tinago Boyco Fishermen's Association in Bayawan and Caranoche Mangrove Community Association in Sta. Catalina to discuss the status of their business plans, the results of the organizational diagnostics and the remaining deliverables and other concerns of the office.

16 June	Meeting with the newly appointed BFAR 6 Regional Director Remia Aparii and FRMD and FRLED Chiefs regarding updates on ECOFISH Project in Southern Negros and Year 3 plans.
26-27 June	In celebration of Environment Month, a series of orientation and feed backing were conducted in three (3) Barangays of Siaton with established Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), namely: Siit, Bonbonon and Salag. This activity was participated by the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC) Chair, Municipal Agriculture's Office staff, Bantay Dagat members, Barangay officials and members of various fisheries associations. These series of community dialogues were started with coastal clean-up where the type and amount of collected garbage were documented.

3.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

April 2014	
03 April	Orientation of PNP personnel of Surigao City Station in coordination with DILG and PNP-PPO on ECOFISH interventions and fishery/coastal law enforcement issues in Surigao City and the province.
07 April	Signing of Memorandum of Understanding among the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, DILG, PNP-Maritime, DENR and the LGU of Tagana-an on the Adopt-A-Marine Protected Area (AMPA) Project covering the LGU's Tagana-an Marine Sanctuary 1 (TMS1) at Sitio California, Barangay Opong. Training of enumerators of NSAP Caraga Region on standardized data collection process.
10 April	Review of Report on the Results of the Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment (PCRA) in Barangay Fabio, Tagana-an conducted in December 2013 with the BFAR, PAO, PEMO and HIPADA-TAG.
14 April	PNP-Maritime Orientation / Training for AMPA guards in Barangay San Isidro, Surigao City.
18 April	Coordination with ECOFISH IEC Specialist and PNP-Maritime regarding the write up on confiscation of <i>tubli</i> (devil's roots) used by a local fisher to catch fish in Surigao City.
21-23 April	Preparation, finalization and submission of Theory of Change (TOC) for Surigao del Norte MKBA.
26 April	Presentation of ECOFISH Project Updates to BFAR Director Asis Perez, Congressman Arturo Matugas, Vice Governor Egay, Mayor Lucio Gonzales, and other LGU officials and personnel in Pilar, Siargao Island during the Fisherfolk Consultative Meeting.
29 April	Assistance to LGU/MAO and FARMC in the preparation of the resource map of Barangay Fabio in Tagana-an to complete PCRA conducted in December 2013.
May 2014	
05 May	Opening Activities of BFAR Caraga in Celebration of the Annual Fisherfolk Month.

07 May	Pre-workshop meeting with LGU and BFAR participants in the Workshop on State of the Marine Resources Report at UP-MSI, Diliman, Quezon City.
14 May	Assisted BFAR in conduct of SCUBA Surero/Underwater clean up in Barangay San Isidro Fish Sanctuary, Surigao City as part of Fisherfolk Month Celebration.
15 May	Meeting with RARE personnel regarding ECOFISH interventions in Siargao Islands and possible areas of collaboration.
22 May	Preparation, finalization and submission of performance evaluation of the Community Relations Specialist (CRS) of the ECOFISH Project in Surigao del Norte MKBA.
23 May	Coordination with Senior Fisheries Management Specialist and local partners regarding preparations for Marine Sanctuary Forum. Consultation with the Coral Triangle Initiative focal person regarding Annual Coral Triangle Day Celebration in June in Surigao del Norte MKBA.
26 May	Updating with BFAR Caraga FishR point person regarding the status of registration in the province and problems/issues encountered by LGUs that have caused delays in completion of registration.
27 May	BFAR Caraga Sailfish Management Plan Consultation on the Joint DA-DILG Administrative Order on the Regulation and Management of Sailfish in Siargao Island.
28 May 29 May	Marine Sanctuary Forum in coordination with BFAR Caraga, PAO, PEMO, PNP-Maritime, DILG.
30 May	Meeting with UP-MSI focal person Richard Muallil regarding inventory of references and sources of information in view of data-gathering for the State of the Marine Resources Report.
June 2014	
02 June 03 June	Consolidation of outputs from Marine Sanctuary Forum and preparation and submission of matrix on status of existing MPAs in Surigao del Norte MKBA.
05 June	Preparation of activity design for the Feedbacking of Baseline Information Assessment Results and EAFM Framework Planning Workshop.
09 June	Coordination with CTI, Bacuag and Gigaquit regarding preparations and arrangements for the Celebration of Coral Triangle Day.
10 June	Coordination with local partners re. attendance of invited participants and preparations for the Feedbacking and EAFM Framework Planning Workshop.
11 June	Assisted LGU personnel of Bacuag in the conduct of coastal clean-up in collaboration with members of Barangay Council, Bantay Dagat, FARMC and the MAO.
12 June	Assisted LGU personnel of Gigaquit in the conduct of coastal clean-up and coastal reforestation to coincide with the celebration of Philippine Independence Day, in collaboration with the MAO, DILG, DepEd, the Gigaquit Officers' and Staff Multi-Purpose Cooperative, and local schools.
24-26 June	Assistance to BFAR Caraga and local partners in the conduct of the PCRA in Santa Monica, Siargao Islands.

3.2.7. Sulu Archipelago

May 2014	
02-04 April	Preparation of invitation letters and coordination with Governor Nurbert Sahali to render the opening message during the orientation training of 700DALOY Tawi-Tawi users.
07-09 April	Assisted in the conduct of orientation training of Tawi-Tawi users of 700DALOY in Bongao, which was attended by 25 participants from PNP Maritime Group, PNP Municipal Police Stations of Bongao, Simunul and Panglima Sugala, Tawi-Tawi Provincial Police, Bongao Coast Guard, Naval Task Force 62, Civil Military Relation Officer of Phil. Marines, LGUs of Bongao, Simunul and Panglima Sugala, and the provincial and municipal fisheries coordinators of BFAR ARMM.
10 April	Conducted an inter-agency meeting with partners from the PNP Maritime Group, Bongao Coast Guard, Naval Task Force, CMO, BFAR PFO and the Provincial Administrator. The meeting was to plan activities for the Month of the Ocean in May. The planning activity was called upon to provide an avenue for partners to present the transition in enforcement activities of FISH to ECOFISH; that is from corrective to a preventive context. Translating science to enforcement (the science behind enforcement) was projected as the anchor of the planned activities of the Project. Each agency also provided their respective activities for the month.
22 April	Coordination meeting with RMU-ARMM to discuss the ground preparation and security plans for the launching and unveiling of 700DALOY campaign and AMPA guards training in May.
24 April	Coordination meeting with BFAR PFO on the attendance of the Municipal Fisheries Coordinators in the SMRR Workshop in Manila conducted by MERF.
29 April	Coordination meeting with the Chancellor of the Mindanao State University to discuss the scheduled visit of USAID officials on 28 May. Presented the proposal for mangrove planting in the abandoned fishpond of the College of Fisheries near Sandbar Lepa. The chancellor agreed to the proposal as long as the area to be planted is along the side of the fishpond. DENR had already committed to provide 2000 mangroves propagules.
30 April	Conducted a consultative meeting with BFAR PFO and PNP Maritime Group in relation to the proposed poster campaign for the reactivation/organization of "I Love the Ocean Tawi-Tawi Youth Movement" in support to the 700DALOY. Joined the PNP Maritime Group in a courtesy visit to Mayor Jasper Que of Bongao and SB members and help present the AMPA project and the 700DALOY.

May 2014	
02 May	Conducted staff meeting and briefing with the new site coordinator, Madzni Sarahadil, on the project framework as well as administrative functions; initially visited the two possible locations for the launching of 700DALOY and explored sites for mangrove planting and coastal cleanup.
07 May	Conducted a coordinating meeting with PGO officials where ECOFISH initially presented the program of activities of the 700DALOY launching. Met Dr. Filemon Romero of WWF for a collaborative engagement on some activities like a scheduled youth camp in June, in observance of environment month. The team went to Panglima Sugala municipality for a coordinating meeting with Mayor Regie Generale and TF62 Commander Capt. Alberto Cruz where the team presented a briefed preview of the 700DALOY and its launching on 28 May, as well as a proposed AMPA guards training to be held at the Naval Station. The mayor expressed her support to the campaign to eradicate illegal fishing activities in the municipality and also the training of MPA guards for Panglima Sugala MPAs be held in Batu-Batu.
08 May	Meeting with PNP Maritime Group and ocular inspection of billboard installations; explored potential areas for mangrove planting and coastal cleanup. Coordination meeting with MSU Tawi-Tawi Chancellor to discuss the proposed program of activities for the upcoming visit of the US Embassy officials to the campus. Chancellor Reyes suggested to have a short program before the serving of lunch and a campus tour.
09 May	ECOFISH team meeting to discuss details and assignments in the next few days to include sending of invitations, request for use of facilities, equipment and manpower for the 700DALOY launching.
11 May	Participated in the Scubasurero and coastal cleanup activity initiated by MSU held at the College of Fisheries in observance of the Month of the Ocean. A short program was held which was attended by Congresswoman Hja Ruby Sahali supporting environmental awareness activities. Other participants included the PNP, Bongao Coast Guards, Philippine Marines, TF62, PNP Maritime Group, Tawi-Tawi Divers, WWF, ECOFISH Project and the Youth for Nature volunteers.
15 May	Conducted a coordination meeting with PGO officials led by Administrator Cadirie Sahali, partners from PNP Maritime Group, Provincial Police Office, TTF62, CMO, BFAR and JSOTF. The meeting was held to provide updates on the program of activities of the 700DALOY launching, list of VIPs and guests, as well as to seek assistance from partners for the use of transport vehicles of guests and security plans. The site team joined the JSOTF team led by Capt. Eric Heilscher for a courtesy visit to Governor Nurbert Sahali. Briefed the governor of the details of activities for the launching and confirmed his commitment to host a welcome breakfast for a “meet and greet” with the guests and a closing dinner on 28 May.

19-21 May	Distribution of letters of invitation and coordination for the 700DALOY events.
22 May	Visit of MSU Tawi-Tawi Chancellor Reyes to the ECOFISH site office for updates of the program in preparation for the campus visit of officials from US Embassy/USAID.
23 May	Coordination visit with PNP RMU PSSupt Rama to the PNP Provincial Director to present and discuss initial security plans in preparation for the launching of the 700DALOY.
26 May	<p>ECOFISH team coordination meeting with MSU Tawi-Tawi Chancellor on the scheduled campus visit of officials from US Embassy/USAID. Explained to Chancellor Reyes the cancellation of the visit of the said officials due to the recent peace and order situation in the neighboring provinces of Sulu and Basilan.</p> <p>Conducted a short orientation program for the “I Love the Ocean” Tawi-Tawi Youth Movement. The PCR of PNPMG will lead in the recruitment of members. The youth were grouped and have assigned tasks during the 700DALOY launching activities.</p>
27 May	Final security briefing with partners in the PNP, AFP, LGUs, MSU, PGO, BFAR and Smart Communications. Governor Nurbert Sahali and wife Anabelle also attended the briefing. A walkthrough of the program and contingencies were discussed.
28 May	<p>Launching and unveiling of 700DALOY billboard held at the PNP Maritime Group Station, Bongao Pier. This major event aimed to gather major government and non-government partners within Tawi-Tawi and ARMM region to officially launch the 700DALOY hotline and campaign pilot in Tawi-Tawi, a partnership between the PNP-MG, USAID and Smart Communication.</p> <p>Guests and visitors were then directed to the MSU-TCTO Gymnasium for a “boodle fight” lunch. Partners converged and shared lunch to symbolize unity and respect to faith, culture and status in life in the continuing struggle to promote protection and conservation of our marine environment.</p> <p>Mangrove Planting and Coastal CleanUp led by the MSU TCTO while DENR provided 2000 <i>Rhizophora apiculata</i> mangrove propagules. Prof. Eldani of MSU Tawi-Tawi gave a short briefing on how to plant mangroves. Governor Nurbert Sahali and Mayor Jasper Que of Bongao actively joined in the activity.</p>
29 May	<p>Site visit of ECOFISH COP and partners from PNP MG, Smart Communication and the Provincial Tourism Office to Simunul and Panglima Sugala. Mayor Generale of Panglima Sugala directed them to the Batu-Batu_Kulape MPA and mangrove reforestation site.</p> <p>Exit calls with partners USG JSOTF, provincial government of Tawi-Tawi, PNP-MG, ECOFISH, Smart Communication, Municipality of Panglima Sugala, Navy Task Force 62, and Marine Battalion Landing Team-5. This was conducted to introduce JSOTF among ECOFISH partners in nearby areas of Simunul and Panglima Sugala municipalities.</p>

30 May	Official turnover of responsibilities and office equipment to the new site coordinator, Madzni Sarahadil.
June 2014	
03 June	Meeting with Tawi-Tawi Marine Resource Development Foundation for the status update of its SAF proposal.
04 June	Courtesy call to the Office of the Bongao Police Chief station.
05-06 June	Office set up activities. Followed up the tarpaulin status for installation at the different visibility sites e.g. Marine checkpoint, Police Outpost at Market site, Junction.
09 June	Courtesy call to the office of the Regional Chief of PNP-Maritime Group ARMM. During the visit, status of MOU for AMPA was tackled and it is still on process for signature of LGUs concerned. The Mayor of Bongao suggested the separation of Lagasan from Pababag which was also mentioned by the PNP-MG police community relations staff Aron Tinonas so that Lagasan will have a new MPA for inclusion in the AMPA project. Visited police chief of Bongao PCINSP Galbon to request approval to install 700DALOY billboard at the PNP outpost at Market site. Courtesy call to the office of the Provincial Fisheries Officer Mr. Faisal Nahul. Request for annual plan of BFAR Tawi-Tawi, but then only the on-going FishR was given. After the meeting with the PFO, municipal fishery coordinator of Panglima Sugala Mrs. Evelyn Martinez mentioned about the municipal plan to create a MCLET and training on capacity building.
18 June	Assisted in the release of 5 turtles trapped inside the pond at the Tubig Sallang, Sanga-sanga, Bongao, Tawi-Tawi. The release was headed by the Provincial Governor, Congresswoman Sahali, and was attended by the PNP-SAF, PNP-MG, barangay officials of Tubig Sallang, WWF, TMRDF.
21-22 June	Supported the Ecological Youth Camp at Sand Bar Lepa, Pasiagan, Bongao, Tawi-Tawi. The activity was organized by Dr. Filemon Romero, and was supported by the Office of the Congresswoman and ECOFISH. There were at least eight (8) I Love the Ocean youth who participated in this camp.
23 June	Assisted in the facilitation of appropriate action for the apprehended fishermen using dynamite fishing.
23-24 June	Preparation period for the conduct of TTBFSA updates and workshop.
25-26 June	Conducted TTBFSA updates and workshop. Attended by the different barangay chairmen, MFO, MFC PNP-MG, team leaders of bantay sanctuary, TMRDF-Office of the Congresswoman.

3.2.8. Verde Island Passage

April 2014	
07 April	Meeting with LGU Mabini Mayor, Vice Mayor and Sanggunian Bayan on the CRM Code in Mabini, Batangas.
09-11 April	Coastal Law Enforcement Training for Bantay Dagat of Nasugbu with the initiative of the Nasugbu LGU and in coordination with the PG-ENRO at the Club Punta Fuego, Nasugbu, Batangas.
	Data collection for the user's fee scheme in Mabini and other related matters for the CRM Code of Mabini.
May 2014	
05 May	Participated in the Educational Outreach of California Academy of Sciences and Pusod, Inc. conducted at the Mabini Municipal SB Hall.
08-09 May	Participated in the State of the Marine Resources Report Workshop at the UP MSI, Quezon City.
12 May	US Ambassador's Visit to VIP site at Aiyanar Resort in Mabini, Batangas.
13-14 May	Conducted MPA and Site Validation for the CRM Code of Mabini, presentation of results at the Municipal SB Hall of Mabini and consultation on coastal zoning issues.
14 May	Meeting with PG-ENRO and CI on the proposed Fisheries Management Option in Balayan Bay at the PG-ENRO ICM Center.
22 May	Technical Working Group Meeting on proposed Fisheries Management Option in Balayan Bay at the PG-ENRO ICM Center.
27 May	MPA and BD Network regular meeting at the PG-ENRO ICM Center.
28 May	MPA and Site Validation for the CRM Code of Mabini for the Batangas Bay side.
June 2014	
19 June 24-25 June	Conduct of Organizational Diagnostics for the People's Organization of the municipalities of Calatagan, Lobo, Mabini and Nasugbu.
20 June	TWG Meeting on the proposed Fisheries Management Option in Balayan Bay at the PG-ENRO ICM Center. Meeting with PGENRO and Conservation International on the schedule of series of consultations with Local Chief Executives and Commercial Fishers in 5 municipalities in Balayan Bay Area.

4. Important Accomplishments

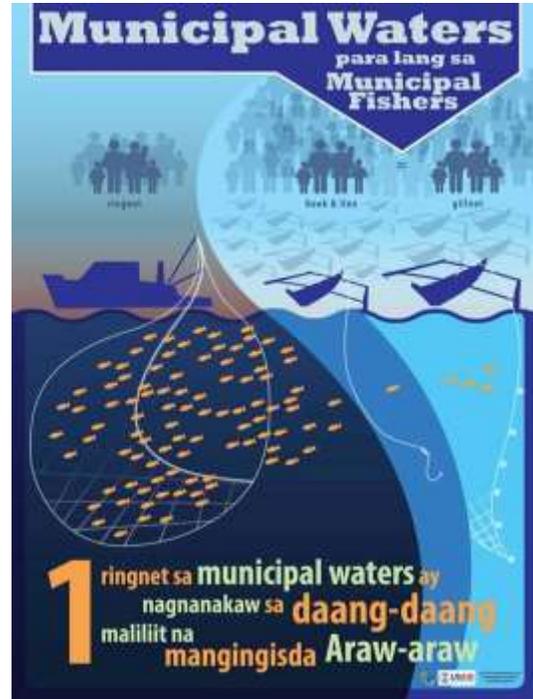
4.1. Important Accomplishments at National Level

- At the request of Batangas Province PG-ENRO and the Mayor of Mabini, Batangas, ECOFISH presented comments on the draft CRM Code and suggested a plan to conduct mapping, ocular inspection, socio-economic survey to gather needed inputs to the

revision of the draft Code. Final draft of CRM Code is expected by September 2014, and for approval before December 2014.

- ECOFISH met with LMP Secretariat to map out long-term partnership arrangements, where LMP will serve as the hub for EAFM capacity-building program for LGUs – negotiations still on-going.
- ECOFISH supported the NFARMC in the conduct of an RTD on coral propagation, to enable members of the NFARMC and stakeholders to clearly understand the science behind the draft FAO on coral propagation. ECOFISH suggested scientific and social safety nets to ensure that biodiversity is not adversely affected and marginal fisherfolks are not displaced. NFARMC deferred consideration of the draft FAO pending further scientific inputs and site inspection of experimental sites (Bolinao and Lubang).
- ECOFISH hosted a RTD led by US Ambassador Philip Goldberg. The discussion focused on challenges of protecting coastal and marine biodiversity especially given the added threat of climate change. This RTD is in preparation for the Oceans Conference that was hosted by Sec. John Kerry in Washington.
- ECOFISH participated in Environmental Law Talks 3, which focused on the links between science and law. The keynote speakers were former Chief Justice Reynato Puno, retired SC Justice Adolfo Azcuna and leading international environmental lawyer, Antonio Oposa. A number of participants from ASEAN, South Asia and Africa also attended.
- ECOFISH facilitated meetings of the TWG on seasonal closure for small pelagics in Verde Island Passage. This is a continuing support of ECOFISH for Batangas Province. Previously, ECOFISH conducted scientific assessment of the catch and reproductive biology of small pelagics in order to determine the appropriate timing of the proposed seasonal closure.
- BFAR regularly updated ECOFISH on the progress of FishR. At the end of June 2014, fisherfolk registration has reached 900,000 nationwide. ECOFISH continues to facilitate implementation and monitoring of FishR in the project MKBAs.
- ECOFISH produced an infographic on the inequality caused by commercial fishing in municipal waters. The infographic was an entry to the competition launched by USAID/Philippines on its Facebook page.

- ECOFISH provided scientific and legal inputs to support the cases filed against BFAR to enjoin the implementation of the ban on modified Danish seines. ECOFISH helped frame the legal issues and arguments based on data and experience on the damage caused by MDS.
- Socio-economic baselines were presented in various MKBAs together with biophysical, governance and enforcement baselines/ benchmarks. EAFM framework planning has been initiated in some MKBAs.
- Various coordination meetings and consultations were held with potential partners for enterprise development work: potential private sector partners, potential funders, potential technical experts, potential NGOs for implementing enterprise development on the ground, and community partners who will be beneficiaries of the intervention. Some promising leads include:
 - a. Sea ranching of sea cucumber, in partnership with UP-MSI;
 - b. Mangrove rehab-related enterprises, e.g. crab fattening, in partnership with B+WISER, CI, DENR, DSWD, AIM, and BFAR;
 - c. Seaweeds farming in partnership with Mr. Jolly Alhajah, BFAR;
 - d. Ecotourism in Bgy. Lajala, Coron – in partnership with ILO, ABS-CBN Foundation, and AIM; and
 - e. Business planning and improved user fee scheme for the Tagbanua Tribes of Coron, in partnership with TTCIA, PAFID, UNDP-SGP, and AIM.
- Coordination meetings were held with other USAID programs with potential overlaps with ECOFISH, in terms of geographical scope and in terms of scope of work. Potential collaboration includes:
 - a. COMPETE's ecotourism and credit lending interventions can be tapped for Bohol and Palawan; and
 - b. USPC's volunteers can be tapped to work on ECOFISH-related field work in South Negros, Bohol, Northern Samar, and Mindoro Oriental.
- Amendments to the proposed CRM Code of Mabini, Batangas are being introduced, particularly on revenue generating mechanisms for various users of Mabini's coastal resources.
- The concept note for the establishment of a national Fish Fund was drafted together with NAPC. The Fish Fund intends to serve as the Trust Fund that can be accessed by coastal LGUs for CRM and IFRM plans and programs. This is now being refined through continuing consultations of ECOFISH and NAPC with LGUs, ULAP, LMP, DENR, BFAR, and DBM.
- Together with WWF, the project implemented the training on fiberglass boat making in Culion. A total of 10 trainees participated, and 300 boat beneficiaries were mobilized in



town meetings for an orientation on fiberglass boats and conditions of the donation. The trainees completed the 5-day training and were awarded with certificates of completion in a simple graduation ceremony participated in by some LGU officials.

- Together with Smart and Green Focus, the project distributed 9 water systems to Yolanda-affected barangays in the towns of Culion, Coron and Busuanga. Green Focus manufactures the water systems, which produce water by “harvesting” humidity from the air, purifying it through a four-stage process, de-humidifying it, and then dispensing it as pure drinking water. Each machine is capable of producing up to 30 liters of pure water per day.
- The project was asked to report its accomplishments during the past 12 months to the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD). The PCSD is finding ways on how the project can work more smoothly with the LGUs in CIG, particularly with the LGU of Coron.
- The PNP-MG has requested Ecofish to assist them in coming up with economic justifications in increasing their staff complement and equipment. A study will be undertaken to satisfy this request, particularly on assessing the potential damages that may be avoided with an increase in PNP-MG personnel in the field.
- The Environmental Diplomacy Fund has awarded a grant for the Seacamp proposal, submitted by Save Philippine Seas in coordination with Ecofish. The project will closely coordinate with SPS on the conduct of the seacamps, given that these will be conducted in ECOFISH sites.
- A scoping visit in Linapacan revealed that there is great potential for helping the municipality establish MPAs in each of its 10 island barangays. The project has decided to pursue this through potential funders and implementing partners, with the project providing technical assistance and resource persons. Live fish trading is a thriving economic activity in the municipality, and if the project decides to pursue enterprise development in Linapacan, it will have to take this activity into account.
- The project organized a roundtable discussion with the US Ambassador, back to back with a snorkeling activity co-organized by the California Academy of Sciences. Participants included representatives from the Batangas LGU, Mabini LGU, BFAR-NFRDI, PNP-MG, academe, environmental NGOs and the US Embassy. The US Ambassador cited three things for him to take away from the roundtable discussion:
 - a. Get more content included in the science and technology agreement with the GOP;
 - b. Higher policy work should be targeted, starting with the Oceans Conference with Sec. Kerry in June; and
 - c. More work needs to be done at the macro level, with different programs getting together and working towards common objectives and goals.

- The PPP “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration” is officially rolled out with more than 27 public schools and areas connected via TV White Space to the FishR to facilitate improved fisherfolk registration. As of 20 May, an increase of 3200 fisherfolk registrants was noted across the 6 pilot municipalities signifying over 200% increase in fisherfolk registration performance pre-TVWS, hence demonstrating the influential role of connectivity, tablets and incentives for improving fisherfolk registration.



28 May 2014, Bongao, Tawi-tawi. The 700DALOY launching program and pledging session of the I Love the Ocean Tawi-Tawi Youth Movement, was capped by mangrove planting at the Mindanao State University – Tawi-Tawi Campus. Governor Nurbert Sahali, Chancellor Lorenzo Reyes, Director Noel Lazarus Vargas, Smart Communications and ECOFISH officials joined the Tawi-Tawi youth in planting about 2,000 mangroves.

- The PPP “Species Specific Assessment and trial of Spawning Potential Ratio towards the Sustainable Management for Blue Swimming Crab” was formally introduced by ECOFISH and PACPI to the Bohol Province TWG assigned on marine matters and officially commenced the baseline data gathering phase of the project across sampling sites spread out in 5-6 municipalities.
- The PPP “700DALOY (Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean BiodiversitY)” was officially launched in Bongao Pier, Tawi-Tawi with over 200 guests and local leaders in attendance—showing major public interest in the national and provincial agenda of marine environmental protection. As of end of June, 2 cases have been filed as a result of reporting and coordination facilitated by the 700DALOY hotline, with over hundreds of reports being processed.
- The first and second leg of the fiber glass boat building training were held in Coron under the “Bancas for the Philippines” PPP between USAID through ECOFISH, WWF and Polymer Products Philippines Inc. Over 25 new boat builders were certified to assist the

Yolanda-hit barangays across the Calamianes by building an equivalent of 300 fiber glass boats.

- Participation in the Oceans Conference Fishackathon and the mobilization of stakeholders for a prospective Fishackathon in the Philippines.

4.2. Important Accomplishments at Site Level

4.2.1. Calamianes Island Group

- The partnership between World Wide Fund Philippines (WWF-Philippines), Polymer Products (Phil.) Inc. and USAID through ECOFISH project was made to support the implementation of the Bancas for the Philippines project for the Calamianes Group of Islands as means for livelihood recovery of local fisherfolk affected by Supertyphoon Yolanda. The partnership mobilized and trained local boat builders within Coron, Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan. A total of 24 boat builders underwent training courses on fiberglass boat building. The first round of training course was conducted on April 1-5, 2014 where fourteen (14) boat builders were trained, and because of the success of the latter and to address the needs of building more boats for the affected fisherfolk, it was decided to conduct another round of training on June 1-5, 2014 where ten (10) boat builders were trained. Each boat builder was provided with a banca mold and a minimum of 20 kits and tools for building 20 boats. Town meetings were held in Culion, Busuanga and Coron with roughly 400 beneficiaries of the boat assistance activity. Representatives



01-05 April, Calamianes. ECOFISH Project supported WWF Philippines in training 14 fiber glass boat builders in Linapacan, Culion, Busuanga and Coron. Nine (9) MPAs received one monitoring boat each all from the 10 boats produced during the training proper. The PNP Maritime Group (inset) was also provided one monitoring boat.

from barangays badly hit by Yolanda shared their experiences on how their boats were damaged during the storm. Local government officials expressed their utmost support and appreciation for the donation of boats to their constituents. They all promised to do their share in helping ECOFISH achieve their conservation objectives by promoting and implementing policies supporting sustainable fisheries in Calamianes.

- To complement the boat donations, fisherfolk registration activities were held simultaneous with the distribution of deeds of donation. All beneficiaries were required to register themselves upon receipt of their deed of donation.
- As recognized and accredited Civil Society Organization in the Calamianes Group of Island (CIG), ECOFISH was appointed as member of the Regional Assessment Team (RAT) in Palawan Cluster 1-CIG organized by DILG. The RAT is directed by the Department to conduct assessment and validation of Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLC) of the 4 LGUs in the CIG. The assessment was conducted on June 12-23, 2014. The team is composed of not less than three (3) members from DILG, CSO and NGA-partners. The Local Governance Performance system (LGPMS) and Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLC) are core components of the performance oversight, incentives, recognition and awards program of the department for local governments.
- Provided continuing technical assistance to the enforcement teams in CIG. An enforcement team meeting was held in Linapacan on May 22, 2014, participated in by selected SBs, representatives from PNP and PCG, the head of the BFARMC of San Miguel, Municipal Administrator, and the Executive Assistant of the Mayor. Major Flores of PNPMG MARPSTA Calamianes presented the AMPA and inquired on the interest of the LGU in issuing a resolution supporting AMPA. ECOFISH will follow this up. Upon issuance of the resolution, PNPMG will coordinate with the enforcement team and conduct training sessions if deemed necessary.



ECOFISH facilitated the gathering of data for social enterprise development through a series of partner consultations in the municipalities of Culion, Linapacan and Coron in the Calamianes Island Group MKBA.

- A series of partner consultations and gathering of data for social enterprise development were held this quarter. Some of the important information collected were: (a) mariculture of abalone, oysters, sea cucumber, siganids, green grouper are potential species that can be cultured in Culion; (b) Western Philippines University (WPU) has an existing fish processing course which include processing of spicy *dilis*, fish rings, smoking, drying and *lamayo* making; (c) Linapacan is not yet ready to delve into ecotourism. For one thing, power is not yet constant, with electricity available for only 12 hours a day. Water supply is still a major problem, with only a few water sources tapped for the 7 thousand

residents. Basic infrastructure has to be provided first before tourism-related investors are invited. There are, however, a number of existing and potential ecotourism sites around the 10 island barangays; and (d) In Barangay Pical in Linapacan, an island barangay inhabited mainly by Tagbanuas, appears to have potential for setting up an enterprise involving herbal medicines. This type of enterprise will be scoped with Unilab, a Filipino drug company that has expressed interest in partnering with ECOFISH in scoping for herbal-based drugs.

- Green Focus is a Philippine company that manufactures water production and filtration systems. Together with Smart Philippines, they donated nine units for Typhoon Yolanda victims in CIG. ECOFISH was requested to identify the recipients and coordinate the roll-out of the donations. The choice of villages was based on which ones are actively participating in ECOFISH activities, aside from the obvious criteria of being heavily damaged by the typhoon. Three units were distributed to Busuanga, for the following barangays: Concepcion, Salvacion and Bogtong. The units will be stationed in health centers. Two units were distributed to Coron for the following barangays: Guadalupe and Tagumpay. The units will be stationed in their elementary schools. Four units were distributed in Culion for the following barangays: Baldat, Galoc, Binudac and Malaking Patag. All units will be stationed in health centers. The officials will try to ensure constant electricity supply by supplementing regular power with power from generators, when their main power supply is switched off.
- Provided technical assistance and coaching to the MPA management teams of Coron, Culion and Linapacan to effectively manage their protected areas. ECOFISH is also working closely with Calamianes MPA Network officers (CMN) to assist them in the formulation of by-laws and constitution, at the same time work on strengthening the network which will create a venue to coordinate with one another to share experiences, enhancing the efforts to manage their respective MPAs.

4.2.2. Danajon Reef

- Consultations on EAFM policies were conducted for the revision of the municipal fishery code of Tubigon. An amendment on the process of creating an adjudication board was presented by Atty James Kho. After finalizing the specific amendments on the article and sections of the code, it was referred to the Municipal Fishery Aquatic Resource Management Council. The MFARMC passed a resolution to the Sangguniang Bayan for deliberation and presently in the process of adoption.
- Data was collected from various sources (e.g., municipal fishery profiles, ECOFISH baseline assessment results, fishery profiles from NGO partners, BFAR and other books/reference materials) on past studies within the Danajon area, Bohol. A meeting was held with the Team Leader (Dr. S. Mamauag) of MERF to review and validate the data collected. Transcribed initial inputs on the various sections and outline of the State of the Marine Resources Report.
- Two trainings were conducted on basic law enforcement for new members of Municipal Fishery Law enforcement team in 6 towns of Leyte (Baybay City, Hindang, Hilongos, Inopacan, Bato, Matalom) and for Southern Leyte, City of Maasin and LGU of

Macrohon. Aside from the inputs on legal aspects, a workshop on poster development was conducted. The participants were able to develop concepts on how to best convey to the public through drawings needed support for enforcement.

- Consultation meeting with Provincial Governor Chatto, OIC Chief of BEMO Samuel Racho, CRM Sector staff on the conduct of coastal/fishery law enforcement summit and presentation of updates on the study on blue swimming crabs and other activities implemented by ECOFISH. The meeting resulted in additional commitment of support from the Governor of Bohol.
- Two municipalities (Trinidad and Carlos P. Garcia) were reoriented on fishery law enforcement and reorganization of the MCLETs.
- Consultation meeting with the Provincial PNP Director, DILG Director, PEDO and PNCO re. status of fishery law enforcement in Danajon and vetting of PNP trainees as requirement from USAID.
- Reorientation/briefing on Leahy Vetting policy for Chiefs of Police and Police Environment Desk Officers who are newly assigned in 30 coastal municipalities in the province of Bohol. After the briefing about 30 PNP personnel filled up the vetting forms.
- TV White Space-supported National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration turned over tablets to the six (6) municipalities of Carlos P. Garcia, Ubay, Bien Unido, Trinidad, Talibon, and Tubigon. Each municipality received two tablets and two tablets given to the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist.
- Orientation was conducted for the members of Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council; Provincial Technical Working Group on the study of Species Specific Assessment; and Spawning Potential Ratio Method (SPR) assessment for blue swimming crabs in Danajon Reef.
- Three enumerators and one supervisor were hired and trained to conduct the inventory of primary blue crab fishing operation, data on catch trends, size frequency and other baseline information in the island of Hambongan, Inabanga, Handumon island, Getafe Guindacpan island, and mainland barangay of San Pedro. The baseline data collection started during the third week of May 2014.
- Reviewed the second draft of the coastal/ fishery resource management plan of six municipalities of Leyte and two



municipalities in Southern Leyte. These plans are now in different stages of completion. Revised CFRM plan of Matalom and Bato were presented to the Sangguniang Bayan and approved on 23 June 2014. Inopacan CFRM plan was already submitted to the Sangguniang Bayan for further deliberation and for approval of the budget on the second week of July 2014. Hilongos and Hindang is in the process of updating entries on fisheries data including the budgetary requirement of programs and activities. Baybay City CFRM plan is still being restructured by the members of Municipal Technical Working Group and fisheries data and management strategies are being verified. Macrohon and Maasin city is in the process of refinement and finalization of municipal fishery related data, and budgetary requirement of various activities.

- Conducted baseline assessment feedbacking and revisited previous fisheries management plans. Apart from the re-planning of EAFM per LGU, the provincial technical working group members came up with an Inter LGU fisheries management plan. The LGU outputs will be presented to their respective SB and municipal mayor for finalization and adoption.
- Business plans were converted into project proposals and presented to SB and Municipal Mayor and subsequently linked with BuB proposals for budget allocation. Conducted organizational diagnosis (OD) of the Fishers Organizations/POs in the municipalities of Tubigon, Inabanga and Getafe to determine the capacity of POs in handling livelihood and other fisheries-related projects. Presented the tourism related business plans at the Provincial Tourism Office of Bohol, through skills training but also integrating the plans into the provincial tourism development framework plan.
- Conducted a series of consultation meetings with potential partners (LSU, ZSL/PSF, BUSSWAC, WDC, CCEF,) in the preparation of project proposals on the following: MPA establishment and networking, enterprise development, training on Psycho-Social and Stress Management, and inter-LGU, Provincial and regional sustainability mechanism as secretariat of Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council.
- On marine protected area management, Leyte State University through Dr. Jun Montes already submitted their project proposal to ECOFISH, while the Zoological Society of London is still in the process of preparing their project proposal.
- In coordination with the Bohol Coastal Resource Management Task Force (BCRMTF), assisted/participated in conducting various activities for celebration of Month of the Ocean.
- Installed ECOFISH Project Poster during the conduct of environmental summit at the provincial capitol of Southern Leyte province.
- Conducted consultation meeting with the Regional Director, Assistant Regional Director and regional division heads of BFAR –Region 7 and 8 re: Year 3 work plan inputs and status of ECOFISH implementation in the Danajon site.

4.2.3. Lingayen Gulf

- Continued to establish working relations with BFAR RO1 and local government units in the focal area. Regional Director Nestor Domenden expressed strong support for the project.
- Ground work for the establishment of an inter-LGU alliance led to a meeting with Mayors through the regular chapter meeting of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP). The officers expressed support for an alliance as long as the Provincial Governor is supportive of the initiative. Suggestions on how to achieve this were likewise made, including the creation of a Technical Working Group. Further discussions with the provincial governments of La Union and Pangasinan are being made.
- Feedback on an inter-LGU alliance was sought from the Environment Sector Committee of the Regional Development Committee (RDC) Region 1 during its quarterly meeting. The body expressed support for an alliance, and proposed a resolution to this effect. The RDC likewise suggested the need to revive the committee's Coastal Resource Management (CRM) Technical Working Group. This body could possibly be a member of the inter-LGU alliance.
- The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Region 1, during the RDC1 meeting, agreed to the inclusion of RA8005 as an indicator in the establishment of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG). This was further confirmed by the DILG's national office which will include RA8005 in their deliberations on final indicators.
- Request for proposals for the establishment of a network of marine protected areas in the Lingayen Gulf were sent to prospective academic institutions, namely the Pangasinan State University, the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University, and the Mariano Marcos State University. Deadline for submission of proposals was extended to 31 July 2014.
- Representatives from BFAR RO1, the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist in La Union, the Office of the City Agriculturist of Alaminos, and ECOFISH site staff participated in the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR) Workshop conducted at the UP-Marine Science Institute in Quezon City. The group identified data gaps and information sources for the SMRR, drafted resource maps and threat maps in the Lingayen Gulf focal area.



30 May 2014, San Fernando City, La Union. ECOFISH supported the launching of the Poro Marine Protected Area (MPA). The event was dubbed as “Facilitating Public-Private Partnerships through Co-Management of Poro Marine Protected Area (MPA)”, various government agencies (such as BFAR, PNP, Coast Guard, Navy) were represented.

- A seagrass and shellfish assessment was conducted in the municipalities of Rosario, Sto. Tomas, Agoo, and San Fernando City to determine spawning grounds of rabbitfish. FGDs were likewise conducted with local communities. Data and information will be used to determine strategies for the protection and management of Siganid, including formulation of ordinances to create seagrass and shellfish reserves.
- With the Project’s support for the PNP-Maritime Adopt-a-Marine-Protected-Area (AMPA) initiative, ECOFISH staff positively responded to BFAR’s request to conduct a workshop with BFAR on MPA Management and IEC strategies for PNP Maritime and barangay officials of Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur. This provided an opportunity to know the challenges in implementing AMPA in the region.

4.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao – Lagonoy Gulf

- The site team, in response to the Prieto Diaz LGU’s request for advice in re-establishing the Marilag Marine Reserve and Fish Sanctuary, discovered a complicated background of past management arrangements (presidential proclamation for a mangrove wilderness; fishpond development; municipal ordinances for a fish sanctuary, seagrass reserve, and mangrove reserve; a DENR mangrove reforestation project and a stewardship agreement, mangrove park, CRM Plan) surrounding the Marilag reef and its vicinities. These issuances and activities have not been rationalized and integrated and presently only partly remembered by the LGU and the community, thus producing an incomplete understanding of the situation. The clarification of this confusion became a necessary first step in moving towards a more successful management. It was also discovered, by mapping and ground truthing, that the legislated site of the MPA was mostly inside a seagrass bed and that the corals were dead.
- The site team was able to participate in BUB proposal review and implementation monitoring. The team has also established through BFAR5 a working linkage with the Philippine Rural Development Project which will provide commodity (cacao, coffee, pili, coconut and seaweed) production assistance to the coastal barangays of Matnog and

Bulan under the MPA GEF component. The site team was consulted regarding a livelihood assistance grant being worked out by BFAR RO5 and Second District Congressman Ding Ramos for Sta. Magdalena.

- The site team assisted MERF which enabled LGU (with the exception of Matnog) and BFAR5 participation in the 08-09 May SMRR Workshop at UP-MSI. The team followed up the invitations, recommended substitutions/additions, and bridged differences among the partner agencies.
- The results of the baseline fisheries, MPA and socio-economic assessments were presented to LGU, fisherfolk and BFAR5 representatives. The participants at the conference found the information about the conditions of the MPAs/coral reefs most useful for improving existing MPAs and establishing new ones.
- The enforcement assessment workshop provided participants a broader framework for thinking and doing enforcement. In addition, the workshop guided them to take practical steps through formal organization of the enforcement team, recognition of common violators for surveillance, and planning for more effective operations. Bulan has already organized its Bantay Dagat which has 63 members.
- Three LGUs in the Sorsogon side of the San Bernardino Strait (Gubat, Barcelona and Bulusan), have expressed interest to join Sta. Magdalena, Matnog and Bulan in establishing a common arrangement for jointly managing their municipal waters.

4.2.5. Southern Negros

- As a result of the Baseline Assessment Feedbacking and Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Planning for South Negros last 14-16 April 2014, an EAFM Framework Plan for South Negros was developed and the LGUs of Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan City, Basay, Hinobaan, Sipalay City and Cauayan came up with their



individual Coastal Fisheries Resource Management (CFRM) plans.

- On 22-25 April 2014, the Provincial Inter-Agency Coastal Law Enforcement Team (PIACLET) Training at Circle Inn, Bacolod City was facilitated which resulted in the reactivation of the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental's Provincial Bantay Dagat Special Action Team (PBDSAT), now called the PIACLET. The said team will augment the municipal fishery law enforcement teams from the twenty five (25) coastal municipalities and cities of Negros Occidental. The PIACLET and BFAR-QRT 6 have been operating in South Negros Occidental since April 2014.
- Four (4) draft MPA Management Plans for the MPAs in Brgy. Sangke, Culipapa, Daug and Pook were developed as a result of the Management Planning Workshop in Hinobaan on 03-05 June 2014.

4.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

- ECOFISH has begun to strengthen cooperation with DILG and the PNP. Conducted leveling off with DILG program director and PNP Surigao City station chief to identify areas for further collaboration and harmonization of programs and activities.



07 April 2014, Tagana-an, Surigao del Norte. MOU Signing on the Adopt-A-Marine Protected Area (AMPA) Project of the PNP-Maritime Group in collaboration with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Local Government of Tagana-an, Surigao del Norte. The project covers the 58-hectare Tagana-an Marine Sanctuary 1 (TMS1) in Sitio California, Barangay Opong, Tagana-an.

- ECOFISH has likewise been closely working with PNP-Maritime, strengthening collaboration in areas of common interest such as marine sanctuary protection and management. ECOFISH has been assisting PNP-Maritime by providing technical support in orientation and training activities. Assisted in the review and finalization of MOU on the AMPA project of the PNP-Maritime Group that has helped strengthen ties between BFAR Caraga and the PNP-Maritime.
- Updated BFAR Director Perez and local leaders such as Congressman Matugas, Vice Governor Egay and Mayor Gonzales of Pilar on the status of project implementation and accomplishment, during a fisherfolk consultative meeting in Pilar, Siargao Islands in April. This served as an opportunity to note reactions from the BFAR Director on the

ECOFISH interventions in the islands, specifically those related to livelihood prospects and law enforcement initiatives.

- Assisted BFAR and local partners in the conduct of PCRA in key LGUs around the province, as this activity will provide information that will update fishery profiles of the covered LGUs and may also serve as basis for management actions addressing fishery and coastal issues.
- The assistance to BFAR in the finalization of the Sailfish Management Plan of Siargao Islands is an important contribution. ECOFISH provided inputs and suggestions to the BFAR Caraga Fisheries Resource Management Division on the process of finalizing the draft plan and the prioritization of options raised during consultations with concerned LGUs and government agencies.



- The outputs from the Marine Sanctuary Forum are important sources of information that will help formulate action plans that will update and improve management and resource enhancement interventions in the area. The activity determined that out of 38 marine sanctuaries sometime in the early 2000's, there are now only 19 existing marine sanctuaries in the province of Surigao del Norte. These sites have also been subjected to self-assessment by the LGU participants using the management effectiveness assessment tool (MEAT). The LGUs are now familiar with the tool and may help validate the results of the initial assessment in the succeeding months.
- Participation in the initial workshop on the preparation of the Status of the Marine Resources Report was successful. Sources of information have been determined. Actions and next steps have been identified. And focal persons were assigned and introduced to local contact person/s.
- Celebration of Coral Triangle Day in two (2) LGUs were conducted. The previous year, only Gigaquit volunteered to celebrate with ECOFISH and CTI, mobilizing over 400 participants that are mostly students from local high schools with the LGU personnel, FARMC members, Bantay Dagat, local PNP, POs, and the DepEd. Since then, Gigaquit has been regularly conducting coastal clean-ups. This year, Gigaquit increased participation to about a thousand representatives and participants from different sectors. The celebration culminated in an outdoor lunch with music at the Freedom Park. Gigaquit LGU cost shared the funding for the celebration. Bacuag, the second LGU to join the celebration this year on the other hand, gathered a fewer number of participants of about

60 representatives from the MAO, PNP, Bantay Dagat, FARMC and local PO. In both LGUs, collected garbage was minimal as coastal communities seem to be more and more aware of environmental protection and sanitation.

4.2.7. Sulu Archipelago

- Spearheaded the launching of 700DALOY and putting up of billboards in strategic areas of Bongao and focal sites.
- Spearheaded Mangrove planting and coastal clean-up in observance of the Month of the Ocean.
- Established the “I Love the Ocean” Youth Movement in Tawi-Tawi on 26 May 2014 with a starting membership of around 70 members from the different youth sectors and schools.
- Assisted in filing the case against illegal fishers (Dynamite fishing) by the Bantay Sanctuary of Lagasan MPA headed by Mr. Julpikar Ladjahali. The concerned individuals were apprehended along the vicinity of Simandagit waters and were turned over to the PNP-MARPSTA. The captured fishes (siganids) were examined by Mr. Ibno Imlah of BFAR Tawi-Tawi and the positive result using dynamite was confirmed by him.
- Conducted a meeting on the status of the Marine Protected Areas and Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary alliance. Participants included new barangay chairmen, MFC-BFAR, MFO and SAF provider. PNP-MG was also in attendance as observer. Introduction of the new site coordinator and the newly-assigned PNP-MG Regional Chief for ARMM was included in the meeting.

4.2.8. Verde Island Passage

- Conducted a series of CLE trainings which was attended by participants from 9 coastal towns of Batangas, 6 of which belong to the ECOFISH focal area. Provincial Prosecutors Team and the Assistant Provincial Legal Officer participated and expressed their support, vouched free legal support for the Bantay Dagat, and the provincial prosecutors team expressed their intention to participate in the coming trainings. Bantay Dagat participants, PGENRO staff, LGU staff from Mabini and Lian, Municipal Mayor of Mabini, the Mayor and Vice-Mayor of Lian and the Provincial Prosecutor acknowledged the importance of knowledge of maritime laws, boarding protocols and procedures as well as criminal proceedings.
- The expertise of ECOFISH as well as its network was well-recognized by partner LGUs making ECOFISH one of the highly in demand assisting institution particularly in the field of law enforcement and fish monitoring. It is noteworthy that ECOFISH assisted in the planning of the partner LGUs for the 2015 BuB program, where several LGUs included the procurement of enforcement equipment in their 2015 program, as well as tapping ECOFISH in the conceptualization of revenue generating programs, livelihood

development, and establishment of protected areas (e.g. municipalities seeking technical assistance of ECOFISH are Tingloy, Bauan, Taal, and Lemery).

- The continued mentoring of ECOFISH on gonad studies and the importance of database



12 May 2014, Roundtable Discussion with US Ambassador Philip Goldberg at Aiyonar Resort, Mabini, Batangas. ECOFISH chief of party Gerry Silvestre discusses the Project's plans to address the remaining threats in the Verde Island Passage (VIP). From left: Luis Awitan (Batangas PGENRO, Silvestre, Joseph Foltz, and Amb. Goldberg.

information in determining the season and height of the spawning of small pelagic fishes in Balayan Bay provided clearer understanding and appreciation by the members of the TWG (who are all representing the key and major stakeholders in Balayan Bay) of the necessary control and regulatory mechanisms, particularly the seasonal closure strategy. Through ECOFISH guidance, representatives of commercial and municipal fishers, MAs, and PGENRO are suggesting the urgent need to have a management system such as, but not limited to, closed season fishing for small pelagic fishes in Balayan Bay (to be supported also with supplemental income generating program during the implementation of any management intervention).

- The Mayors of Lubang and Looc in Occidental Mindoro have expressed their interest and invited ECOFISH to also provide technical assistance in Lubang Island after hearing the Project briefing.

5. Priority Implementation Issues

5.1. Priority Implementation Issues at National Level

- ECOFISH is trying to highlight the issue of the impact of climate change and ENSO on fisheries resources. The Project initiated the conduct of a scientific/policy forum on the matter. However, because of the busy schedule of the key agencies, including BFAR, the forum has been postponed.
- BFAR is currently occupied with immediately implementing measures to address IUUF, in order to comply with EU regulations. Because of this, issues that are not directly related to IUUF are temporarily set aside. However, this is also an opportunity for ECOFISH to push for programs and policies that are essential to EAFM, and at the same time contribute to compliance with EU regulations (such as registration of fishing vessels, strengthening of law enforcement capacity, and developing a standard training program for fish examiners, among others).
- Technical assistance and guidance continues to be provided for the PPP component of the project. Partnerships need to be angled more towards providing livelihood opportunities in order to contribute to the targeted outcome of 10% increase in employment/better employment.
- The organizational diagnosis results reveal that people's organizations in three (3) MKBAs (Southern Negros, VIP and Calamianes) are in different stages of organizational development. Most of them were established recently by the Municipal Agriculture Office in their respective municipalities. Majority of the organizations do not have a clear Vision, Mission and Goal statement; and without any written plans, organizational or financial. Most of the organizations get their accreditation from DOLE and with the Sangguniang Bayan of their municipality.
- The livelihood projects implemented by the people's organization in the coastal areas are mostly related to fisheries like *payao* (fish aggregating device), mud crab, seaweeds, mangrove reforestation, fish pond, fish processing like dried *danggit*, *tinapa*, bottled sardines, *balatan* (sea cucumber) culture, fish and sea urchin *bagoong* (fish paste), and eco-tourism. Land based livelihood projects are mango and tomato processing, tomato and tamarind candies, bamboo crops, organic farming, basket weaving, *cogon* roof making, souvenirs and wood carving.
- Enterprise development has to be set up in most, if not all, MKBAs for results to take effect within the project's timeframe.
- The trust fund deliverable will be attempted at the national level rather than on a per MKBA level.
- The project needs to speed up efforts in setting up revenue generating mechanisms in the next 2 quarters in order to contribute to the project's outcomes by the 5th year.
- Value chain studies will need to commence by the start of year 3 of the Project.
- Continued monitoring of the PPPs "TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration" and "700DALOY" is needed, particularly documenting achievements and performing basic analytics.

- Conduct of initial data analysis is needed for the species specific assessment of blue crab using spawning potential ratio.
- Roll-out of the PPPs on technical support is needed, particularly the PPP training with DAP and enterprise development mentorship program with AIM.
- Immediate facilitation of PPPs for enterprise development is needed for the 4 priority sites of VIP, Calamianes, Southern Negros and Bohol.

5.2. Priority Implementation Issues at Site Level

5.2.1. Calamianes Island Group

- Fiberglass boat building through the Bancas for the Philippines activity provided an opportunity for ECOFISH CIG team to work closely with the marginalized fishers and LGUs. However, there are issues encountered:
 - a. Four trained boat builders from Culion and two from Coron did not want to continue with their contracts. The slack will be picked up by other builders who have completed their contracts, but this has resulted in delays in the distribution of boats to beneficiaries.
 - b. Beneficiaries could not be consistently counted on to assist in boat building, and builders had to find other volunteers to assist them. For those that had to work on their own, they needed two days to finish one boat. Hence, the original price of PhP 500 per boat was not enough to compensate their work.
 - c. There is no available warehouse that can be used to store the excess boat building kits.
- Difficulty in convening the municipal enforcement teams due to frequent re-assignments of Chiefs of Police.

5.2.2. Danajon Reef

- No issues.

5.2.3. Lingayen Gulf

- Priority roll-out strategies to achieve the target of 10 percent increase in fisheries biomass include the formation of an inter-LGU alliance to spearhead mutually-reinforcing activities on fisheries management, including cohesive law enforcement across all seven focal municipalities, protection of a priority species of fish, and adoption of fisheries registration and licensing. This includes expanding support for the inter-LGU alliance through existing regional or provincial bodies such as the Regional Development Council, the La Union Bay Watch (which seems to operate only in San Fernando), the Sagip Lingayen (which is focused only in Pangasinan), and the Regional Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee headed by the PNP.
- Priority roll-out strategies to achieve the target of 10 percent increase in livelihoods through enterprise development and Public-Private Partnerships would include an inception workshop to determine best strategies in identifying livelihoods; identifying possible partners for PPPs; and providing technical support and training where needed. A challenge for confidence-building in ECOFISH efforts to increase or improve the livelihoods of communities is the lack of material support for livelihoods. Nevertheless, the BFAR has expressed possible support for fisheries-based livelihoods. There is a need to further discuss possible collaboration with DENR-SCREMP particularly its livelihoods component.
- Numerous researches have been made in the Lingayen Gulf yet there has been expressed sentiment that none of these researches are fed back to local government units in the area, which could otherwise contribute to more effective policies from local councils. A policy forum wherein research outputs are to be shared to LGU law makers has been included in the workplan for Year 3. A review of local fisheries ordinances show that a policy forum could also level the playing field of information and knowledge available to all policy makers from the various LGUs.
- The lack of shared information and researches made in Lingayen Gulf seems to have also led to a dearth of IEC materials and IEC activities about the resources, the threats, and means of “saving” Lingayen Gulf from further fisheries and habitat destruction. A site-specific IEC plan and collaborative implementation strategies need to be developed with local partners.



Seagrass assessments were conducted by a joint technical team from BFAR RO1 and ECOFISH to determine the spawning grounds of siganids along the coast of La Union in Lingayen Gulf.

5.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao – Lagonoy Gulf

- The site team will work towards the resolution of the proper (re-)establishment of the Marilag Marine Reserve and Fish Sanctuary. After locating the bounds of each management arrangement, the team must be able to propose a suitable site for the MPA, one which recognizes on-going commitments (like the Mangrove Stewardship Agreement) and compatible with existing human uses. A new location for the MPA, different from the one which has been legislated, is also necessary.
- Assistance shall be provided to the PNP RMU5 which plans to put up a more effective presence in Bulan and an additional station in Matnog. The RMU Chief has requested the site team for help in this regard and also the inclusion of the Subic (Matnog) and Butag (Bulan) MPAs into AMPA.
- The 10-11 June enforcement assessment workshop opened up areas which the site team, with the respective Municipal Agriculturist Offices, should follow through. Full authorization from the Mayor and increased budget allocation from the Sangguniang Bayan for the Bantay Dagat must be secured. Trainings to improve the capability of the Bantay Dagat are also needed and a closer working relationship between the Bantay Dagat and the Municipal Police Stations must be fostered. There are also particular and specific concerns (already identified during earlier fieldwork and reinforced at the workshop) to be dealt with. Fishers who use explosives and compressors and traders of dynamited fish are closely associated with certain local officials. Many ringnets which use the southern Bulan barangays as home ports are falsely classified as “municipal”. An honest re-admeasurement is therefore necessary. There are areas which are hubs of illegal activities: the use of poison in the reefs of Prieto Diaz use of fine nets in the northern Bulan barangays, while at the Bulan-Matnog boundary the area has become “off-limits” to the police due to insurgent presence. These are more complex cultural and political problems.
- The delineation and delimitation of the municipal waters in San Bernardino Strait is a salient issue among the LGUs. The 2001 preliminary results of the delineation and delimitation conducted by NAMRIA were not accepted by the LGUs. The site team will propose for a series of conferences among neighboring municipalities for the settlement of disputes.

5.2.5. Southern Negros

- Intrusion of commercial fishing vessels in municipal waters remains the main enforcement issue in Southern Negros MKBA, plus the fact that majority are operating without registration and fishing licenses and some are owned by top government officials. ECOFISH has capacitated the local fishery law enforcement teams and facilitated their authorization letters from their respective Local Chief Executives, but the fact that Siaton and Sta. Catalina do not have their own patrol boats have greatly affected their capacity to enforce. As part of the Coastal Law Enforcement Cluster (CLEC), the three LGUs (Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan) are sharing Bayawan City’s patrol boat but unfortunately, the same unit was dry docked for major repairs leaving the team with

no boat to use for patrolling during the last two quarters (January to June). The project is banking on the support of active NGA partners in the area (Philippine Navy, PNP-Maritime Group and Philippine Coast Guard) that have conducted individual or joint operations with BFAR since January 2014.

- In the case of Negros Occidental, Mayor Estrao of Hinobaan has ordered to stop the operations of the Hinobaan Law Enforcement Team after several reports of alleged extortion of some members from commercial fishing vessel operators. Another batch of fishery law enforcers were trained by OPA and are waiting for the authorization from the Mayor. For Cauayan on the other hand, Mayor Tabujara has issued an Executive Order for the trained law enforcers last September 2013.
- All the three LGUs of Cauayan, Sipalay City and Hinobaan were visited by PNP Maritime Group 6 were they presented the Adopt a Marine Protected Area (AMPA) project as well as the salient points in the proposed Memorandum of Understanding. But given that the LGUs will provide for all the operational costs of the PNP-MG while they guard the



MPAs, they opt to have their local Bantay Dagat guard the MPAs instead and will request for assistance as needed.

- On 22 May 2014, BFAR 7 turned over 12 units of 4'x8' vacuum type fish aggregating device/ *payaos* to ECOFISH Project sites from Siaton down to Sipalay only (since Mr. Delfin, Fisheries Officer of Negros Occidental, has agreed that Cauayan is not yet ready to implement this project). This is intended for hook and line municipal fishers from organized Fisherfolk Associations in South Negros but in most cases, *payaos* have greatly benefited commercial fishers which are in fact banned within municipal waters and have significantly increased fishing pressure.
- During our dialogues with the three (3) fisherfolk associations in Bonbonon, Siit and Salag (all in Siaton) last June, members are clamoring that commercial fishing vessels are indeed fishing in the *payaos* they have availed from BFAR and BUB projects leaving them no more fish to catch. They are requesting the local Bantay Dagat and national law enforcement agencies to help them address this concern.
- In connection with the business plans (BPs), ECOFISH has just received the draft BP on Canaway River Tour in Siaton from SG Manila (to be referred to Siaton Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDC)/Tourism Office for discussion if the LGU will fund this project). The following BPs have been translated to project proposals- Green Mangrove Eco-Tour of Sta. Catalina, VITIBO Lucky Fishing Supply in Bayawan and Sta. Catalina Ice Plant; while the following BPs were “cancelled” since they were already implemented with BFAR funding:
 1. Mud crab fattening in Siit, Siaton will be changed to Native Chicken Production;
 2. Siit Andulay Community Base Eco-tour will be changed to Backyard Quail Farm;
 3. Let's Grove to the Mangroves (no identified project yet); and

4. Siit Bay Seaweeds Farm (no identified project yet).
- With regard to FishR implementation, Hinobaan has the highest number of registered fisherfolk – 2,808 as of June 2014 while the rest are still struggling in connecting to the internet and uploading data (especially the pictures). This has greatly affected the turnout in their online fisherfolk registration.
 - MERF has presented the underwater assessment reports of 3 MPAs in Siaton last April 2014. This was also presented to fisherfolk associations managing these MPAs last June 2014. While Andulay MPA's live coral cover is only 0.8% after the wrath of Typhoons Sendong and Pablo, the report further shows decline in coral cover. Fish species diversity in Bonbonon and Salag MPAs has also declined. The results of MEAT also showed the need for improved governance in all three MPAs particularly in sustained financing, IEC, monitoring and evaluation. Aside from the need to establish more MPAs, support is also needed to improve the management of these MPAs to contribute to the project's goal of 10% increase in fish biomass.

5.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

- The site team needs to continue identifying local champions to push for law enforcement and CRM/EAFM and influence local leadership to intensify and unify law enforcement efforts to effectively address persistent illegal fishing activities in the area.
- Among the most urgent issues in fishery law enforcement is the lack of local fish examiners that will certify/testify in court as expert witnesses against illegal fishers for the illegal use of dynamite in fishing. Suggestions included training of PNP/PNP-Maritime personnel to have in-house experts on fish examination. On the other hand, the more favored option is to train new sets of examiners from the LGUs as previously trained personnel may have retired already and/or shifted careers. To date, BFAR Caraga Regional Director Nerio Casil as an immediate response to this need, committed to train and assign PFO Staff as fish examiners. This may be another window for ECOFISH to extend assistance.
- In relation to the law enforcement issue cited above, the creation of a provincial law enforcement task force has been taking time since initial efforts were undertaken last year. The task force is conceived to oversee all law enforcement activities within the province, and to facilitate inter-agency coordination among partners. With this delay, municipal law enforcement teams and the PNP/PNP-Maritime continue to deal with the challenge in the preparation of evidence, inter-agency protocols and prosecution of illegal fishers. ECOFISH in this respect might be able to intervene by providing an intermediate step to promptly address urgent law enforcement issues while the provincial task force is still being formed.

- BFAR Caraga has conducted a number of PCRA since last year in mostly ECOFISH-covered municipalities in collaboration with their respective MAOs, the PAO, PEMO and the HIPADA-TAG. Likewise, in response to LGU requests, BFAR also has been conducting underwater assessments in fish sanctuaries with the same partners, including ECOFISH. However, it seems the results of these assessments are not readily available due to presumably the need for BFAR and partners to enhance skills and capability to prepare assessment/technical reports. There is need to further collaborate with DENR and the recently formed composite underwater monitoring team of the HIPADA-TAG to address this need.



12 June 2014, Coral Triangle Day Celebration in Gigaquit, Surigao del Norte. Mayor Carlos Egay Sr. (in green shirt and fisherman's cap) led almost a thousand students from local high schools, personnel and staff of the DepEd, PNP, DILG, LGU of Gigaquit, and members of FARMC, Bantay Dagat, and POs in a coastal clean up and mangrove planting in Barangay Alambique.

- There is need for the identification of potential service providers capable of assisting LGUs in the establishment and management of MPAs, now that ECOFISH with local partners have determined the status of MPAs in the MKBA.
- The unreliable internet connection in Surigao del Norte is one of the major factors affecting the accomplishment and implementation of the FishR in the province. BFAR Caraga is looking into collaborating with ECOFISH on possible “uploading sessions” to assist LGUs with accomplished survey forms for uploading via internet.
- Governor Matugas and Congressman Matugas have met illegal fishers in Siargao Islands in the previous months encouraging them to abandon destructive fishing practices with a promise to provide more sustainable and more eco-friendly alternative livelihoods. BFAR Director Perez also recently reinforced the Governor and Congressman’s thrusts by assigning to ECOFISH the study on the crab fattening potential in the island considering the island’s vast mangrove ecosystem. He elaborated in the fisherfolk consultative meeting last April for the Project to look into the feasibility of a “laying-in” protected area for gravid crabs to ensure supply of young crabs for fattening. He specifically instructed ECOFISH to study costing and to determine the number of prospective beneficiaries from local fishing communities.
- With the forthcoming socioeconomic activities and plans to establish pilot sites for revenue generating mechanisms for LGUs, NGOs that could assist in community organizing and development have to be identified immediately.

5.2.7. Sulu Archipelago

- There is prevalence of poaching of sea turtles in the province based on information gathered by the DENR, PNP-MG and partners. These are being sold by local businessmen (influential people and politicians) to Chinese and Taiwanese vessels directly in Sitangkai and Languyan municipalities.
- Lagasan-Pababag MPA. Since the shooting incident, management of said MPA site is no longer effective, thus the Chairwoman of Pababag (Mrs. Lukaiya Joe) proposed that management of the MPA shall be separated into two (2) according to barangay to avoid future conflict and political differences. The municipal mayor of Bongao supports the proposal.
- Delayed issuance of the result of fish examination of apprehended fishes due to dynamite fishing e.g. last 23 June 2014 when a group of three (3) fishers were caught by bantay sanctuary of Lagsan-Pababag and brought to PNP-MG for proper action. The fishes were examined the same date by Mr. Ibno Imlah of BFAR, and confirmed that the said fishes were caught using dynamite, but then the result was issued 28 June which delay hindered the timely filing of a case within 18 hours of detention. Hence, the fishers were released due to non-filing of cases within the prescribed time.

5.2.8. Verde Island Passage

- The Leahy Vetting protocol is an additional substantive work load, particularly running after the PNP personnel that submitted incomplete data. This also delays other target activities since vetting entails time and additional work, particularly searching for the personnel and coordinating with their mother units.
- Although the recent earthquake and super typhoon did not directly hit the VIP, they likewise affected several activities of the Project (either via cancellation or rescheduling of these activities) because of the unavailability of some staff who were directly affected by the disasters.
- Continuing weak participation in project implementation by OPA and BFAR personnel despite close coordination with designated focal persons. Despite this, activities were still able to push through and were completed on schedule.

6. Schedule of Upcoming Important Activities

July 2014	
01-04 July	Baseline assessment results feedbacking and EAFM framework planning in Surigao del Norte MKBA.
08-09 July	Reef Summit of DENR.
21-25 July	ECOFISH Year 3 Work Planning.
30-31	Meetings with BFAR Regions 5 and 8 on Year 3 Work Plan, potential fish landing sites and fresh sardines suppliers.

31 July	Miradi training at USAID.
August 2014	
01 August	Miradi training at USAID. Consultation with local chief executives and commercial fishers of Calaca, Batangas.
04-05 August	Theory of Change and Miradi workshop of USAID-OEECC in Mabini, Batangas.
04-08 August	Meetings with provincial government regarding the inter-LGU alliance in Lingayen Gulf MKBA.
05 August	Batangas MPA and Bantay Dagat Network Meeting.
07 August	Consultation with local chief executives and commercial fishers of Balayan, Batangas.
08 August	BFAR-NAPC workshop on fish landing sites.
11-12 August	Courtesy Call with BFAR ARMM RD Musali and dialogue with ARMM Solicitor General, PCG and MARINA.
11-15 August	Discussions with MAO of Sto. Tomas for establishment of seagrass reserve in Narvacan, Sto. Tomas and possible AMPA site.
11-15 August	Presentation of Willingness-to-Pay results in Siargao, Surigao del Norte
14 August	Scoping meeting for COMPETE and ECOFISH on collaboration in Danajon Bank.
14-15 August	National Shark Summit in Cebu City.
18-20 August	Baseline assessment results feedbacking and EAFM framework planning in Lingayen Gulf MKBA.
19-22 August	Orientation on administrative adjudication, review of fisheries ordinances, and action planning on boundary delineation.
27-29 August	Baseline assessment results feedbacking and EAFM framework planning in the Verde Island MKBA.
September 2014	
01-02 September	NSAP Conference in General Santos City.
02-04 September	Strategic partnership meeting in Surigao del Norte.
03-04 September	Tuna Congress in General Santos City.
08 September	PNP information meeting in Matnog, Sorsogon.
08-12 September	USAID COMPETE visit and ITCIA Users Fee Development in Calamianes.
16-19 September	VMG and Strategic Planning Workshop in Calamianes.
17-19 September	PPP Training of ECOFISH and Development Academy of the Philippines.
18-19 September	BERT clustering meeting in Batangas.
23-26 September	Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC) Summit in Danajon Bank.
29-30 September	Value chain training for research assistants who will collect the various information requirements.