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ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR
SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES
(ECOFISH) PROJECT

ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH) Project

YEAR 2 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT (01 OCTOBER 2013 – 31 MARCH 2014)

ECOFISH Document No.: 02/2014

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

Managed by:

Tetra Tech ARD

14 May 2014

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

Table of Contents

Abbreviations and Acronyms.....	iv
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Project Objectives.....	1
3. General Work Plan Overview.....	5
4. Year 2 Semi-Annual Accomplishments.....	6
4.1. Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change.....	6
4.2. Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change.....	10
4.3. Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs.....	12
4.4. Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report.....	13
4.5. Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted.....	14
4.6. Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established.....	16
4.7. Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs.....	19
4.8. Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species.....	20
4.9. Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs.....	22
4.10. Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs.....	23
4.11. Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs.....	25
4.12. Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs.....	26
4.13. Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs.....	27
5. Site-Level Year 2 Semi-Annual Accomplishments.....	29
5.1. Calamianes Island Group MKBA.....	29
5.2. Danajon Reef MKBA.....	35
5.3. Lingayen Gulf MKBA.....	40
5.4. San Bernardino - Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf MKBA.....	45
5.5. South Negros MKBA.....	49
5.6. Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA.....	54

5.7. Tawi-Tawi MKBA	58
5.8. Verde Island Passage MKBA.....	63
6. Performance Synopsis.....	69
6.1. Unplanned Activities	70
6.2. Issues and Concerns.....	74
6.3. Activities Not Accomplished and Why	75
6.4. Recommended Courses of Action	75
6.5. Initial Project Impacts.....	76

List of Tables

Table 1. Main Relationship between Project Deliverables and Key Results	4
Table 2. Performance Indicators, Life of Project Targets, Year 2 Cummulative Targets and Accomplishments for First Half of Year 2.	71

List of Figures

Figure 1. Map of the Eight Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (MKBAs) of ECOFISH	3
Figure 2. General Calendar of ECOFISH Activities and Interventions, Highlighting the Year 2 Activities and Indicating the Period Covered by the Year 2 Semi-Annual Report.	6

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
ADSDPP	-	Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan
AMPA	-	Adopt a Marine Protected Area
APM	-	Advanced Participation Methods
ARMM	-	Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao
ASG	-	Ateneo School of Governance
BAS	-	Bureau of Agricultural Statistics
BEMO	-	Bohol Environment Management Office
BERT	-	Batangas Environment Response Team
BFAR	-	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BUB	-	Bottom-Up-Budgeting
CADT	-	Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
CBA	-	Cost Benefit Analysis
CBMS	-	Community Based Monitoring Survey
CBO	-	Community-Based Organization
CCA	-	Climate Change Adaptation
CCEF	-	Coastal Conservation Education Foundation
CFRM	-	Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management
CFVR	-	Commercial Fishing Vessel Registration
CIFMP	-	Calamianes Integrated Fisheries Management Plan
CLE	-	Coastal Law Enforcement
CLET	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Team
CLWUP	-	Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan
COP	-	Chief of Party
COR	-	Contracting Officer's Representative
CTI	-	Coral Triangle Initiative
CRM	-	Coastal Resource Management
CNFIDP	-	Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan
CSR	-	Corporate Social Responsibility
CTSP	-	Coral Triangle Support Program
DA	-	Department of Agriculture
DAP	-	Development Academy of the Philippines
DCOP	-	Deputy Chief of Party
DENR	-	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DILG	-	Department of Interior and Local Government
DOF	-	Department of Finance
DOJ	-	Department of Justice
DOLE	-	Department of Labor and Employment
DOST	-	Department of Science and Technology
DRR	-	Disaster Risk Reduction
DSWD	-	Department of Social Welfare and Development

DTI	-	Department of Trade and Industry
EAFM	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
ECOFISH	-	Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries
EO	-	Executive Order
EwE	-	Ecopath with Ecosim
FARMC	-	Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
FIMC	-	Fisheries Information Management Center
FISH	-	Fisheries Improved for Sustainable Harvest Project
FishR	-	National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration
FLET	-	Fisheries Law Enforcement Team
FRMD	-	Fisheries Resource Management Division
GAD	-	Gender Analysis and Development
GCM	-	Growth, Control and Maintenance Mechanism
GIZ	-	German Society for International Cooperation
GPH	-	Government of the Philippines
HIPADA	-	Hinatuan Pass Development Alliance
ICM	-	Integrated Coastal Management
ICITAP	-	International Criminal Investigation Training Assistance Program
ICTO	-	Information and Communication Technology Office
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IFRM	-	Integrated Fisheries Resources Management
IRR	-	Implementing Rules and Regulations
IUU	-	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
LGU	-	Local Government Unit
LMP	-	League of Municipalities of the Philippines
MARINA	-	Maritime Industry Development Authority
MBI	-	Market-Based Instrument
MCS	-	Monitoring Control and Surveillance
MEAT	-	Management Evaluation and Assessment Tool
MENRO	-	Municipal Environment and Natural Resource Office
MERF	-	Marine Environment Resources Foundation
MDC	-	Mayors Development Center
MKBA	-	Marine Key Biodiversity Area
MIS	-	Monitoring Information System
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	-	Marine Protected Area
MSN	-	MPA Support Network
NAPC	-	National Anti Poverty Commission
NEDA	-	National Economic and Development Authority
NFARMC	-	National Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
NFR	-	NGOs for Fisheries Reform
NGA	-	National Government Agencies
NGO	-	Non-Government Organization
NOAA	-	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSAP	-	National Stock Assessment Program

OEECC	-	Office of Energy, Environment and Climate Change
OPA	-	Office of the Provincial Agriculturist
PACPI	-	Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc.
PAO	-	Provincial Agriculture Office
PEMSEA	-	Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia
PCG	-	Philippine Coast Guard
PCL	-	Philippine Councilors League
PCRA	-	Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment
PCSG	-	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
PDP	-	Philippine Development Plan
PEMO	-	Provincial Environment Management Office
PES	-	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PFO	-	Provincial Fisheries Office
PGENRO	-	Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office
PNPA	-	Philippine National Police Academy
PNP	-	Philippine National Police
PNP-MG	-	Philippine National Police – Maritime Group
PPP	-	Public-Private Partnership
PRIMEX	-	Pacific Rim Innovation and Management Exponents, Inc.
PPSC	-	Philippine Public Safety College
QRT	-	Quick Response Team
RDMA	-	Regional Development Mission for Asia
REECS	-	Resources, Environment and Economics Center for Studies, Inc.
SAF	-	Special Activities Fund
SCREMP	-	Sustainable Coral Reef Ecosystems Management Program
SCTR	-	State of the Coral Triangle Report
SEAFDEC	-	Southeast Asia Fisheries Development and Educational Center
SGIDS	-	Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist
SLP	-	Sustainable Livelihood Program
SMRR	-	State of the Marine Resources Report
TTCIA	-	Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island Association
TWG	-	Technical Working Group
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
US DOI	-	United States Department of Interior
VIP	-	Verde Island Passage
WWF	-	World Wildlife Fund

1. Introduction

The technical assistance and services contract was awarded to Tetra Tech - ARD 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 Year 2 Semi-Annual Report documents activities and interventions during the first two quarters of the ECOFISH Project's second year of implementation covering the period 01 October 2013 to 31 May 2014. It describes major activities to put in place interventions that will serve as building blocks for, as well as directly influence the achievement of, the final outcomes of the project.

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 ecosystem approaches to fisheries management (EAFM) as a cornerstone of improved social, economic and environmental benefits.

The ECOFISH Project is designed to make an impact on eight MKBAs in the country (Figure 1), 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) 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, namely:

- loss of marine biodiversity;
- declining fish stocks;
- high population growth;
- limited private sector investment;
- inconsistent policies and programs for sustainable fisheries; and
- weak institutional and stakeholder capacity to plan and implement fisheries management.

Although majority of project activities will cut across these eight MKBAs, implementation strategies, focus, priorities, and levels of engagement may differ from place to place mainly because each MKBA has unique ecosystem features, opportunities, and threats.

At the end of five years, the 13 ECOFISH project deliverables are expected to lead to the following key results:

- (A) An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.
- (B) A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the project.
- (C) Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.
- (D) Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH project created and operating.
- (E) One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.
- (F) A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.

Table 1 presents the main relationship between the 13 deliverables and the six key results. Deliverables leading to Results C and D build the foundation for project activities. Those for Results E and F drive the implementation at the MKBA level, and taken together they attain the overall ECOFISH Results A and B.

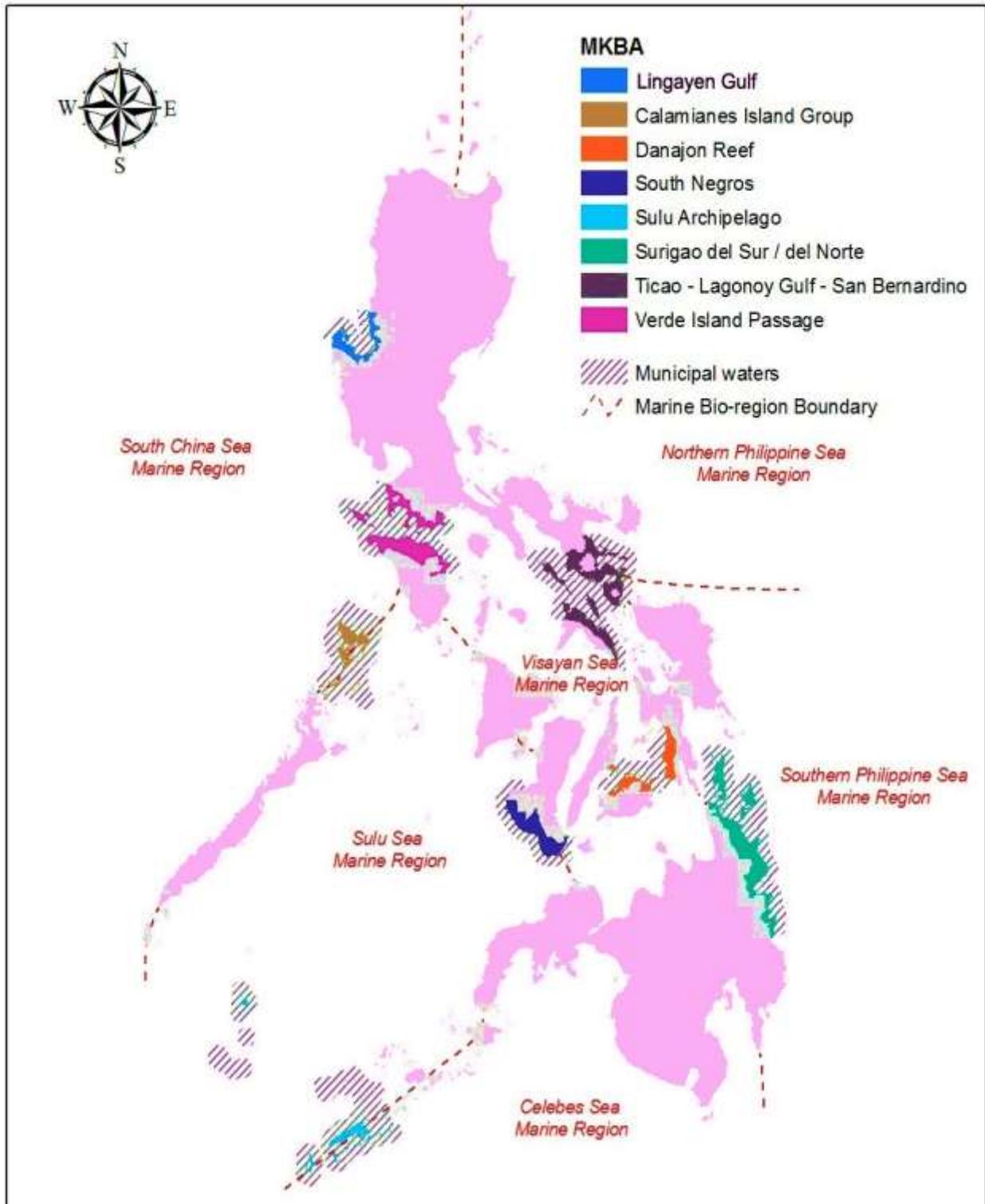


Figure 1. Map of the Eight Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (MKBA) of ECOFISH

Table 1. Main Relationship between Project Deliverables and Key Results

Tasks	Deliverables	Results	
		<p>Result A. An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.</p> <p>Result B. A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the project</p>	Final Outcomes
<p>Task 1. Establish and Implement a National Training Program</p> <p>Task 2. Provide Technical and Advisory Support at the National Level</p> <p>Task 3. Create Public-Private Partnerships</p>	<p>Deliverable 1. Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</p> <p>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</p> <p>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report</p> <p>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</p> <p>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</p>	<p>Result C. Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.</p> <p>Result D. Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH project created and operating</p>	Build Foundation
<p>Task 4. Provide Technical and Advisory Support at the Local Level</p> <p>Task 5. Develop a Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters</p> <p>Task 6. Identify and Implement Sustainable Financing Programs to Support EAFM Projects</p> <p>Task 7. Establish a Baseline on Coastal and Marine Resources and Relevant Socio-economic Information, Develop and Apply Metrics on Monitoring EAFM Implementation in Target MKBAs</p>	<p>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA- Specific Fish Species</p> <p>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p>Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs</p> <p>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</p>	<p>Result E. One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.</p> <p>Result F. A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.</p>	Implement Best Practices

3. General Work Plan Overview

Guided by the LOP work plan (ECOFISH Document No.:01/2013) and the Year 2 Annual Work Plan (ECOFISH Document No.: 10/2013), this document describes the host of activities/interventions during the second year of ECOFISH Project implementation, from 01 October 2013 to 31 March 2014. Major thrusts for this period include the following:

- Put in place interventions that will serve as building blocks as well as directly influence the achievement of the final outcomes of the project, namely: an average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass and a 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management.
- Use baseline assessment results as inputs to fisheries management and socioeconomic interventions.
- Establish and strengthen networks of MPAs.
- Establish boat and gear registration to complement FishR.
- Accelerate the establishment of community partnerships.
- Develop the Municipal Fisheries Management Toolkit series.
- Institute market-based financing instruments.
- Develop institutional arrangements with stakeholder groups in each MKBA.
- Develop constituency-building strategies.

During the annual planning exercise, the project team decided to place priority on setting in place interventions that will serve as building blocks for, as well as directly influence the achievement of, the final outcomes of the project. These are activities that will lead to increase in fisheries biomass and increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management. This is over and above the regular activities and deliverables already planned for Year 2 in the Life of Project Work Plan (LOP). This means putting some activities upfront, mainly those that can contribute to achieving the final ECOFISH outcomes.

Figure 2 summarizes the general calendar of ECOFISH activities and interventions for the life of project, showing a higher time resolution for the second year of the Project. The key activities and interventions during the period covered by this Year 2 Semi-Annual Report are shaded for purposes of emphasis. Note that these activities and interventions are planned to culminate during specific periods beyond the current report coverage, as described in the Life of Project Work Plan.

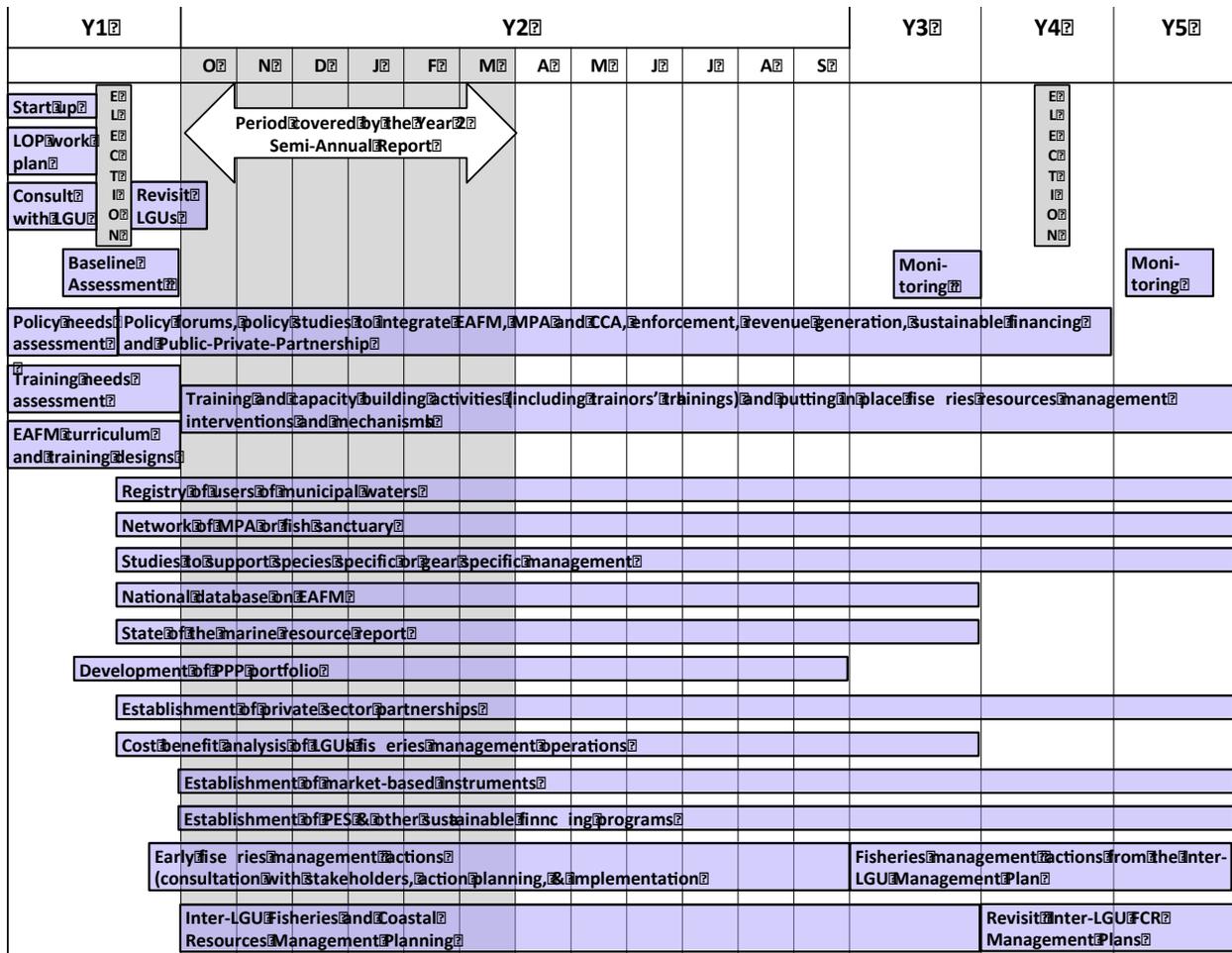


Figure 2. General Calendar of ECOFISH Activities and Interventions, Highlighting the Year 2 Activities and Indicating the Period Covered by the Year 2 Semi-Annual Report.

4. Year 2 Semi-Annual Accomplishments

Descriptions of the key activities/interventions under each of the 13 deliverables during the first six months of Year 2 of ECOFISH implementation are given below.

4.1. Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change

In Year 1, the entry point of ECOFISH was to consult with BFAR, other key partner agencies and stakeholders to identify priorities for policy studies, and design a process for a consultative process of conducting the studies. In response to the identified priorities, ECOFISH provided assistance to BFAR in improving fisherfolk registration through an enhanced National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration (FishR).

In Year 2, the Project started to complement FishR with a revitalized municipal fishing boat and gear registration under Executive Order No. 305 that devolved registration of fishing boats under 3 gross tons to LGUs. The Project continued to facilitate discussions on a number of issues started in Year 1, including climate change impacts on fisheries, EAFM and MPAs (following upon CTI/CTSP initiatives), administrative adjudication, registration and licensing of commercial fishing boats, use of fish aggregating devices, and establishment of closed seasons.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 1.

Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct studies on EAFM policies and policy implementation in providing an enabling environment for EAFM				
Conduct study to revitalize fishing boat registration under Executive Order No. 305 including gear licensing	O	O		
Conduct policy forums with relevant stakeholder groups				
Conduct two policy forums with relevant stakeholder groups. (Possible subjects of the forums include climate change impact on fisheries, administrative adjudication, commercial fishing boat registration, FADs, closed seasons, wildlife trafficking).	O	O		
Conduct policy studies to integrate CTI themes, (EAFM, MPAs, and CCA) into existing policy instruments				
Conduct policy study or studies on climate smart MPA networks and resiliency of fishing livelihoods	O	O		
Conduct policy studies on revenue generation, sustainable financing, and PPPs to support sustainable fisheries management				
Provide technical assistance to NAPC in drafting the Poverty Reduction Program for Fisheries.	O	O		
Provide technical assistance to PNP-MG in formulating their Adopt an MPA Program and Barangay Patrol Action Teams Program	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Chief of Party Key Partners: BFAR, DA, DENR, DILG, NEDA, DTI, DOF, DOJ, DBM, LMP, NFR, NFARMC, commercial fishing sector				

Accomplishments during the first month of Year 2 consist of activities that sustained Year 1 outputs and also accomplishments from new initiatives:

- The FishR Program of BFAR, which ECOFISH helped conceptualize, is in full swing, with almost 500,000 records in the database. BFAR is on track to substantially complete the registration of municipal fisherfolk in 1 year. BFAR issued FOO 2014-10 and FOO 2014-15 to implement the incentives for LGUs in the implementation of FishR.
- ECOFISH facilitated development of an offline registration app, in partnership with Microsoft, to enable LGUs to register fisherfolk into the FishR database even in the absence of internet connection. The app has been accepted by BFAR;

- The PNP-Maritime Group (PNP-MG) is also implementing the Adopt an MPA Program (AMPA) at full speed. ECOFISH continues to link champion LGU officials with their counterparts in the PNP-MG in order to build confidence and strengthen cooperation. Gov. Nurbert Sahali of TawiTawi was the guest of honor during the anniversary celebration of the PNP-MG. Governor Sahali singled out the FISH Project as instrumental in changing him from disinterested executive to champion of fisheries and coastal management.
- PNP-MG conducted trainings of their staff, with the support of ECOFISH in the project MKBAs, to ensure that their personnel have the requisite technical knowledge about MPAs.
- PNP-MG has also been very active in law enforcement, resulting in high profile arrests of illegal fishers in Tawi and Calamianes.
- Discussions were pursued with the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation (CCEF) for a possible continuation of their secretariat services to the Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council (DDBRMC). CCEF has proposed to continue building the capacity of the DDBRMC which it had initiated under a grant from USAID two years ago. DDBRMC has been envisioned as the management body that would oversee the sustainable use and management of the coastal and fisheries resources of the Danajon Double Barrier Reef. CCEF proposes to continue building the capacity of DDBRMC in its goal to promote and operationalize a collaborative system of fisheries management or governance between and among municipalities bounding the Danajon Double Barrier Reef.
- Discussions were likewise pursued with the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) to serve as the primary convener of inter-LGU partnerships and inter-LGU alliances and to revive the Movement for Responsible Fisheries or MOREFISH, an aggrupation of champion mayors advocating the cause of sustainable fisheries. LMP has been a long standing partner of USAID funded projects in coastal and fisheries resource management (CFRM) and has been a most effective ally in promoting CFRM in the country's national and local agenda. MOREFISH mayors on the other hand served to "model the way" as regard coastal and fisheries management and served as spokespersons /resource persons in various training courses and/or public forums. It is envisioned that LMP will initiate and encourage the establishment of collaborative governance arrangements that would bring together concerned local government units (LGUs) to work together in managing their municipal waters through an ecosystems approach. A key objective of this partnership is to promote meaningful inter-LGU alliances and collective participation in managing their shared resources.
- ECOFISH has renewed collaboration with MARINA in the conduct of training of LGU staff in boat registration. Despite the DOJ opinion upholding EO305 and the power of LGUs to register fishing vessels 3 gross tons and less, MARINA has not sent a clear signal to its field staff (some of whom still insist on MARINA's authority). ECOFISH will continue to help clarify the issue between MARINA and LGUs, in parallel to the development of updated training modules on boat registration for LGUs.
- ECOFISH took the opportunity to propose a Fisheries Office Order to formally adopt the Training Design and Training Modules for the National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP). The training design and modules, which ECOFISH helped prepare, are already

being used in training NSAP enumerators and data analysts. The FOO formally adopting the Training Program is expected to be approved in Q3.

- In the aftermath of the Bohol earthquake and Super typhoon Yolanda, partners in Bohol expressed a need to understand the science behind the natural disasters and the impact to coastal resources and communities. In response, ECOFISH organized a public forum called “Disasters, Climate Change and Biodiversity” and brought in experts in geology, meteorology and climate science to Bohol on 04 December 2013 to explain to the public and to local officials the impacts of the natural disasters. The forum was very well received and attended. Experts provided clear and science-based information, dispelling rumors and assuaging anxieties. They also exhorted the LGUs to make disaster risk management a priority and for the general public to share in the responsibility of reducing risks. The forum was widely covered by media, which enabled more people outside the venue to hear and discuss the matter even days after the event. ECOFISH also researched and collated easy to understand/popularized materials on the topics for dissemination to forum participants.
- ECOFISH supported the 3rd Negros Occidental Fisherfolk Summit during 11-13 December 2013, primarily to discuss the priorities and action plans of fisherfolk groups in the Province. ECOFISH took this as an opportunity to bring together fisherfolk and provincial government representatives from Negros Oriental, for possible replication in their province. The Project provided key inputs on registration and licensing, and the bottom-up budgeting (BUB) process. It also set up an exhibit on ECOFISH and its activities in Southern Negros as well as disseminated information materials to participants.
- The Provincial Government of Batangas requested ECOFISH support for the conduct of the 2014 Batangas Environmental Summit (BEST) held on 26-28 March 2014. ECOFISH helped design the summit, including inviting LGU partners from Bohol, Cebu and Negros Occidental to share their experiences with counterparts in Batangas. The result is a regional forum on fisheries management, participated in by the provincial government, all coastal LGUs in the province, Chiefs of Police of every LGU in the province, Batangas Bantay Dagat Network, civil society, private sector and academic institution partners. The BEST regional forum facilitated an exchange of knowledge among practitioners from Bohol, Negros Occidental and Batangas and also led to the public expression of support from all stakeholders for the coordinated implementation of the comprehensive coastal and fisheries development plans of the province, major bays and individual LGUs.
- ECOFISH also worked with select LGUs for the preparation of updated CRM ordinances. The draft revision of the Tubigon, Bohol ordinance has been submitted to the LGU, and discussions have been initiated on revisions for the Mabini, Batangas ordinance.
- Assistance was also provided to the municipalities of Leyte and Southern Leyte in finalizing their CFRM plans which had remained incomplete these past two years. Attended by participants from the municipal LGUs, non-government organizations and the academe, ECOFISH facilitated the conduct of a two-day workshop that allowed participants to systematically review their current drafts and to identify information gaps. The participants came up with a “to do” and “next steps” list for the completion of their respective plans. A follow up visit to each of the municipalities showed that all were on

track in finalizing their plans. It was agreed that all plans will be completed and submitted for approval to the Sangguniang Bayan as well as for inclusion in the municipalities' respective annual investment plans by end June 2014.

- Discussions on the proposed closed season for small pelagics in the Verde Island Passage are on-going.
- ECOFISH was requested by a broad group of scientists and NGOs to facilitate discussions to develop a coastal greenbelt program, especially a draft bill for the purpose. While coastal greenbelts were not identified as a priority intervention for the Project, we have been frequently drawn into the discussions in the aftermath of super typhoon Yolanda, and in the context of coastal ecosystem/ community resilience. ECOFISH facilitated an exchange of ideas among a select group of experts to come up with key points for consideration in a draft law. The Office of Senator Aquino took up the study recommendations and filed a bill, Senate Bill No. 2179, establishing a national coastal greenbelts program.
- Policy support for NAPC Poverty Alleviation Program for Fisherfolk was temporarily set aside to focus on rehabilitation efforts for Yolanda victims; it is expected to pick up again soon.

4.2. Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change

In Year 1, ECOFISH conducted an inventory and review of existing toolkits to support capacity-building activities. In Year 2, ECOFISH continued to refine the initial drafts of the LGU EAFM Start-Up Guide and Training Curriculum through the implementation and assessment of training courses in the 8 MKBAs. The Start-Up Guide and Training Curriculum are designed to adapt and respond to the specific needs of the area and the current capacity of the partner LGUs to implement EAFM.

ECOFISH started to document case studies in every MKBA that illustrate good fisheries/coastal resources management – e.g. effective fisheries law enforcement, livelihood programs for fisherfolk, public-private partnerships, community participation in governance. These case studies will be used in promoting EAFM nationwide through inclusion in IEC and training materials, and as highlights of learning visits/ exchanges.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 2.

Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop the Municipal Fisheries Management Toolkit series (update Volume 1, develop additional volumes)				
Draft the overall and individual sections working outline of the municipal fisheries management toolkit	O	O		

Develop individual sections of the municipal fisheries management toolkit (e.g. climate smart MPAs; registration system for fisherfolk, boat and gear, etc.)	O	O		
Develop case studies on the integration of CTI themes (EAFM, MPAs, and CCA) at the site level				
Identify and draft a case study on EAFM, MPA and CCA, at least one for each MKBA.	O	O		
Develop and produce Fishery Law Enforcement Procedural Handbook				
Develop the Fish Examiner’s Training Manual	O	O		
Produce fishery law enforcement instructional video				
Develop the Fish Examiner’s Training video.	O	O		
Team Lead: IEC Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist, and MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, PNP, LMP, university network, NFR				

ECOFISH continued to refine draft knowledge products through field-testing in various trainings conducted. Recent accomplishments under this project deliverable include:

- The LGU Start-Up Guide is almost complete, considering responses of partner LGUs in various trainings to specific components in the Guide, including basic principles, flow and prioritization of activities/ interventions. Based on discussions and feedback, it was agreed that instead of being a start-up guide on EAFM per se, given the basic levels of some LGUs in the MKBAs, the start-up guide would primarily focus on providing LGUs the basic tools of starting a sustainable municipal fisheries program. With this start-up guide; LGUs are expected to know how to go about: (1) making a plan for sustainable municipal fisheries; (2) developing a protocol for monitoring and evaluation; and (3) communicating or “selling” the plan to key stakeholders and the local community. The guide is being written in such a way to allow readers to immediately get a handle on the range of information and actions needed and management options available to start their journey towards sustainable municipal fisheries. The guide will serve as first reference material on fisheries management and for a more comprehensive discussion on EAFM, readers will be directed to specific companion pieces on EAFM that will be subsequently developed.
- ECOFISH participated in the General Assembly of the League of Municipalities – setting up a booth to provide basic information about coastal resources and fisheries management. The booth was a popular stop of mayors from partner LGUs and even those that are not part of the project MKBAs. This was an opportunity to renew ties with the LMP and plan out future collaboration, including a possible co-hosting of the third Conference of Coastal Municipal Municipalities in 2015 and the reactivation of the MOREFISH program.
- ECOFISH hosted an RTD among fish examiners in Region 7, as input to the design of the Fish Examiner’s Training Manual and Training Video. The discussion also focused on the need to update the guidelines for the recruitment, training and deployment of fish examiners around the country. ECOFISH also continued coordination with BFAR and the

US-DOI representative to jointly develop the Fish Examiner’s Training Manual and Video.

4.3. Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs

In Year 1, the project has already put in place a database system that serves as receptacle for encoded information from fish catch monitoring, registration of fishers, boats and gears, and socioeconomic monitoring of ECOFISH. This system already supports routines for data capture, retrieval, and some analysis. This is also in support of, and in line with, the baseline assessment and monitoring plan developed by the Project to measure the key result areas.

Focus of activities in Year 2 is the development of various protocols for data entry, retrieval, and analysis. The team has started development of routines for use by LGU personnel in accessing and processing data on registration and licensing and the Project’s use to monitor project results, drafting of fishery profiles and inputs to fishery management initiatives supported by the Project in the eight MKBAs. The database on EAFM should be able to integrate information from various fisheries management initiatives in the country into one national database. Consolidated information from the national EAFM database will likewise feed into the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR).

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 3.

Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop national database				
Incorporate socioeconomic and fishery law enforcement information into the database	O	C		
Improve or revise routines for capture and retrieval of fisherfolk, fishing boat, and fishing gear registration and licensing to be compatible with BFAR-FIMC system.	O	O		
Develop protocol for data collection & entry in the national database				
Develop protocol for entry and retrieval of data using the ECOFISH fisheries, socioeconomic and enforcement baseline data.	O	O		
Develop protocol for entry and retrieval of data on fishing boat and fishing gear registration.	O	O		
Test the use of database system in selected focal areas of ECOFISH (particularly the former FISH Project sites).				
Develop protocols for fish catch monitoring system to become part of the National Stock Assessment Program				
Present to NSAP the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results	O	O		

Finalize agreement on sets of information to be uploaded for NSAP use	O	O		
Develop protocols for benchmarking local EAFM				
Finalize EAFM benchmarking and to include socioeconomics and enforcement benchmarks	O	C		
Incorporate the EAFM benchmarks into the database system	O	O		
Conduct training on the national database system				
Conduct training on the national EAFM database in at least 2 MKBAs				
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, LMP, DENR				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 3 during the reporting period include:

- Incorporated socioeconomic and fishery law enforcement information into the database.
- Finalized EAFM benchmarking and to include socioeconomics and enforcement benchmarks.
- Presented to the participants during the Registration and Licensing Training in Calamianes the elements, scope of coverage, and utility of the current version of the database.
- Discussed with BFAR’s Fisheries and Information Management System (FIMS) team the compatibility issues of the FishR and the municipal fishing boat registration databases.

4.4. Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report

The State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR) will provide a comprehensive set of information on the status of fisheries, associated ecosystems and their management. It is intended to inform LGUs and national government agencies about the conditions of the fisheries and marine resources with the objective of raising awareness and enhancing capacity to manage these resources. The SMRR will serve as the Philippine Government’s input to the State of the Coral Triangle Report (SCTR) of the 6 CTI countries.

In Year 1, ECOFISH conducted a review of the SCTR and other reports on the state of the fisheries resources, coastal resources, and the marine environment in general and met with key partners to present the results of the review. The project developed the framework of the SMRR and generally agreed on tasks in drafting and further development of the report. In Year 2 the ECOFISH, through MERF, started conducting review sessions and workshops with partners to draft various sections of the report with the goal of coming up with the first consolidated draft by Year 3.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 4.

Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct workshops and review sessions with partners to develop sections of the report				
Finalize outline of the State of the Marine Resource Report	O	O		
Workshops, writeshops and review sessions with partners to draft various sections of the report	O	O		
Prepare State of the Marine Resource Report				
Develop a working draft of the State of the Marine Resource Report	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DENR, LMP, university network, WWF				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 4 during the reporting period include:

- ECOFISH finalized subcontract with MERF to take the lead in developing the State of Marine Resources Report (SMRR).
- MERF further enhanced the framework of the SMRR and finalized with the rest of the ECOFISH team the detailed program of work for Year 2 including scope and participation of various partners and stakeholders in the review sessions, workshops and writeshops for the drafting of the report.
- The fisheries resource management team of ECOFISH served as resource persons for the 5-day training of data analysts of NSAP to revisit and standardize procedures for estimation of fish population parameters and status of fish stocks that will ultimately form part of the SMRR.

4.5. Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted

ECOFISH is expected to design, implement and help institutionalize a National Capacity Development Program for EAFM that has, at its core, a comprehensive and systematic training program, and strategically complemented by IEC and scientific research. The National Capacity Development Program forms the foundation for assisting LGUs in the project sites to implement EAFM. The project will see to it that the capacity development program is aligned with the priorities of the key partners, especially BFAR, and serve the needs of frontline resource managers – LGUs and local community partners.

In Year 1, ECOFISH conducted a training needs assessment as its entry point. The Project reviewed the capacity-building program developed under the FISH Project, and matched this with results of the training needs assessments conducted in the 8 MKBAs. The Project established the baseline for LGU capacity for implementing EAFM based on a set of governance benchmarks. The team solicited the support of national institutions (BFAR, DILG, LMP, PNP,

PCG, and NAPC, among others) to provide assistance to LGUs in the 8 MKBAs to enhance law enforcement, fisheries management and livelihood generation activities.

In Year 2, ECOFISH continued implementing trainings under the EAFM Training Curriculum and assisted LGUs in establishing the framework for increasing economic benefits from equitable access to fisheries resources through establishment of registration systems for fisherfolk/boats/gear, and access to government and private sector livelihood opportunities. In addition, the Project continued with institutional collaboration among agencies including the PCG and PNP-MG, among others.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 5.

Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop or refine training courses				
Refine 8 to 10 courses to cover the following: MPA establishment, law enforcement, fishery registration systems, fisheries use zoning, fisheries management planning, EAFM executive course, formulation of local legislation, administrative adjudication, vulnerability assessment, and monitoring and evaluation.	O	O		
Develop 5 to 7 courses to cover the following: fish examiners training, fisheries catch monitoring, species- and gear-specific management, constituency building and conflict management, establishment of MPA networks, socioeconomic baseline assessment and monitoring, database management (catch monitoring, socioeconomic, registration and licensing).	O	O		
Deliver training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university network in MKBAs (at least 4/MKBA)				
Deliver at least 2 training courses for national partners (Completed 2 trainings, 1 National Training for Trainers for the National Stock Assessment Program and 1 National Training on Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Change Adaptation)	O	O		
Deliver at least 36 training courses at the local level.	O	O		
Conduct training series for National Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement				
Fish examiner’s training module review and trainer’s training	O	O		
Conduct training series for MKBA Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement				
At least 3 trainings in each MKBA on fish examiner’s training, basic and advance law enforcement.	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, IEC Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, DENR, Philippine Coast Guard, PNP, NFARMC and LMP				

The development of the training design and training modules for the National Stock Assessment Program is the major accomplishment under this deliverable. Law enforcement trainings also picked up during the period covered by this report. Highlights include the following:

- BFAR requested ECOFISH to support the training and retraining of the NSAP enumerators and data analysts nationwide. Before that, BFAR Director Perez asked ECOFISH to explain to the BFAR Regional Directors the importance of NSAP in fisheries management. After the orientation conducted by ECOFISH and NFRDI, the Regional Directors became even more enthusiastic in supporting NSAP.
- As a follow through, ECOFISH and NFRDI developed a standard training design and standardized modules for the NSAP Training Program, covering basic stock assessment sampling methodology, and fisheries biology and taxonomy.
- Since ECOFISH cannot cover all regions in the country, NFRDI and ECOFISH held a trainer's training to orient regional experts on the new training program. The regional experts will conduct the trainings for enumerators and data analysts in their area. ECOFISH will provide technical support, if needed, in the Regions where the Project MKBAs are located.
- During this reporting period, several law enforcement assessment and strengthening workshops were conducted in the project sites, including in Southern Negros, Surigao, Calamianes and VIP.
- As a result of the law enforcement trainings and 'networking' during these trainings, law enforcement actions, and augmentation of personnel and materials picked up in the project sites resulting in:
 - a. Arrest of illegal fishers and wildlife poachers in Tawi, Calamianes and Southern Negros;
 - b. Private resort owners in Southern Negros offered their boats with gasoline to the PNP-MG in Negros Oriental for patrolling, since the PNP-MG did not have boats;
 - c. In March 2014, Navy Cmdr. Reynaldo Yoma assigned a gunboat specifically to patrol Danajon Bank.

4.6. Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established

At this juncture, the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) component of the project was focused on two fronts: executing and implementing ongoing strategic partnerships as well as developing new ones; and rolling out community partnership development in line with the enterprise development strategy of the project. ECOFISH's PPPs are now geared to directly complement the socio-economic interventions of the project as priority.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 6.

Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Develop strategic partnerships				
Establish connectivity and mobile registration hubs for the TV white space supported fisherfolk registration in the Danajon Reef	O	C		
Implement mobile registration option for selected municipalities using the TV white space supported fisherfolk registration in the Danajon Reef	O	O		
Finalize agreement and design of the species-specific assessment and pilot of the SPR method towards the sustainable management of blue swimming crabs in Danajon Reef	O	C		
Conduct species-specific assessment and pilot SPR method in selected landing sites in Bohol	O	O		
Finalize agreement and design and conduct training on enhancing enforcement operations in Tawi-Tawi through improved reporting of fisheries and wildlife related violations via Infoboard	O	O		
Implement Infoboard supported enforcement reporting in Tawi-Tawi		O		
Conduct scoping, finalize design and agreement on establishing a standardized and streamlined vessel and gear registration system	O	O		
Implement and pilot standardized system in Surigao and nationwide		O		
Conduct scoping of other prospective PPPs with FirstGen, OceanCare Advocates, PBSP, Hikari, the Spark Project, Asian Institute of Management and others	O	O		
Establishment of community partnerships				
Conduct partnership scoping activity in San Bernardino	C			
Community Partnership/Business Planning Training in remaining 5 sites (Tawi-Tawi, Lingayen, VIP, Surigao, San Bernardino)	O	O		
Establish ECOFISH Business Network and facilitate mentorship, impact assessment, and networking for community-based enterprises	O	O		
Team Lead: SSG Advisors Partnership Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, REECS, SSG				
Key Partners: BFAR, private sector, LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 6 during the reporting period include:

- Successfully rolled-out the “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration in the Danajon Reef” on April 4, 2014 in San Jose National High School in Talibon, Bohol, where partners DOST-ICT Office, and Microsoft together with ECOFISH turned over to BFAR, the Province of Bohol and respective local government officials, TV White Space connectivity for over 20 public schools in the municipalities of Tubigon, Talibon, Ubay, Bien Unido, Trinidad, and Carlos P. Garcia. These connected public schools will serve as mobile registration hubs under the FishR and, together with the 30 tablets provided, are expected to significantly increase the capacity of the pilot municipalities to facilitate registration of fisherfolk.

- In connection with the fisherfolk registration system, a prototype offline FishR application was developed and turned over by the partnership to BFAR for further development and integration into the FishR platform to be launched within the year by BFAR. This will be applicable to the rest of the country.
- Successfully kicked-off the “Species Specific Assessment and Piloting of Spawning Potential Ratio Method for the Blue Swimming Crab in the Danajon Reef”, on January 30, 2014. As a partnership with the Philippine Association of Crab Processors Inc. (PACPI) and the Province of Bohol, the methodology and workplan for the partnership was agreed upon and this included the orientation of the Danajon Bank Double Barrier Reef Management Council in April 2014 and the commencement of the baseline data collection in May 2014.
- Officially formalized through an MOU last March, the strategic partnership between USAID and the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) for the development and implementation of a pilot PPP and EAFM training program for at least 20 government champions. A draft training module has since been circulated between partners for the PPP component for roll-out within Year 2.
- Finalized details and circulated a draft MOU for formalization of the “700DALOY (Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity)” Partnership between the Philippine National Police-Maritime Group, SMART and USAID. A soft launch of the partnership and training were conducted in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi for pilot users on April 7-9, 2014. A central Information Management Center (IMC) has since been established in PNP-MG headquarters and 25 phones have been distributed to pilot users in Tawi-Tawi. A formal launch and deployment of “hotlines” for reporting will be rolled-out in May 2014.
- Circulated a draft MOU for formalization of the “Bancas for the Philippines: Calamianes” Partnership with WWF-USAID-Polymer Products Philippines for the provision of up to 300 fiberglass bancas to Yolanda hit areas in Calamianes. The training of boatmakers and delivery of banca-building kits was conducted between March and April 2014.
- Circulated a draft MOU for formalization of the “Technical Support for Enterprise Development” Partnership with the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) which will provide targeted skills building to ECOFISH partners towards the development of social enterprises across the 8 MKBAs
- Circulated a draft MOU for formalization of the “Community-based manufacturing and assembly of Mother-of-Pearl Products in Calamianes” Partnership with USAID, Hikari SSP and Peter and Paul Inc. which will facilitate the training and establishment of a community-based group in Hikari’s areas of operation in Calamianes for the assembly and manufacturing of high-end souvenir products out of Hikari’s unutilized mother-of-pearl for sale of Peter and Paul for their national and international clients.
- Continuing discussions with various potential strategic partners towards assisting enterprise development across the 8 MKBAs, including the Batangas Coastal Resource Management Foundation (BCRMF) in VIP for the bundling of closed season of 4 fish species with jobs generation for affected fisherfolk, as well as provision of technical vocational skills for fisherfolk; the Zoological Society of London and INTERFACE for the upcycling of nets for high-end carpet tiles as alternative livelihood in Danajon Reef, Surigao and Negros Oriental; the Impact Investment Exchange for potential investors for

ECOFISH’s social enterprises; and Gawad Kalinga for enterprise development support in Surigao.

- Secured commitment from DSWD to provide funding for a selection of business plans developed in the Calamianes. Requests for Danajon Reef and Negros Oriental business plans are pending.
- Conducted Grassroot Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP) for Busuanga Federation of Farmers and Fisherfolk Associations in the Municipality of Busuanga.
- Conducted interviews to develop Eco-Tourism enterprise concept note for Barangay Lajala in Coron for potential support of ABS-CBN Foundation. Meeting with the women and men members of Coron Sustainable Tourism Cooperative, Barangay Captain Allan Mondia, boat builder Joey Lopena Zabalo and tour operator Al Linsangan III.
- Conducted Grasroot Participatory Budget Process and Organizational Diagnosis in three (3) municipalities of Southern Negros, namely: Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan. Continued technical and organizational support for municipalities deciding to pursue their business plans.
- Conduct Grassroot Participatory Budget Process and Organizational Diagnosis in three (3) municipalities of Bohol and these are the following: Tubigon, Clarin and Inabanga. Continued technical and organizational support for municipalities deciding to pursue their business plans.

4.7. Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs

By design, baseline assessments and subsequent monitoring events of the Project will be conducted in Years 1, 3, and 5. In Year 2, results of these assessments will be communicated to partners, particularly at the local level. Fisheries, socioeconomic, MPA, enforcement and governance baseline information will be integrated into the fisheries profiles of each MKBA. Fisheries baseline information can likewise be used to identify species-or gear-specific management interventions, or at least provide some lead to determining fisheries management interventions.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 7.

Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct fisheries baseline assessment and monitoring				
Presentation of fisheries baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs	O	O		
Integration of fisheries baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA	O	O		
Use of fisheries baseline assessment information for species and gear specific management interventions	O	O		
Conduct MPA baseline assessment and monitoring (as part of MPA establishment)				

Presentation of MPA baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs	O	O		
Integration of MPA baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA	O	O		
Conduct socioeconomic baseline assessment and monitoring				
Presentation of socioeconomic baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs	O	O		
Integration of socioeconomic baseline information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA	O	O		
Use baseline results as inputs to socioeconomic project interventions as reflected in other deliverables	O	O		
Conduct enforcement baseline assessment and monitoring				
Presentation of enforcement baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs	O	O		
Integration of enforcement baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA	O	O		
Conduct EAFM governance baseline assessment and monitoring using benchmarking system in MKBA focal area LGUs				
Presentation of EAFM governance baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs	O	O		
Integration of EAFM governance baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA	O	O		
Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist. Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 7 during the reporting period include:

- Baseline data from 14,874 catch landings, 24 marine protected areas, and 4,727 households interviewed from the 8 MKBA were entered into the database and were used to estimate various parameters, profiles, and comparative figures.
- Summary tables and figures per MKBA were prepared and, together with enforcement and governance parameters, are now being reported back to the LGUs and other partners for use in formulating their fisheries resource management plans.
- Aside from serving as baseline, the fisheries, MPA, socioeconomic, enforcement and EAFM benchmarking data will also be used as inputs to other project activities and interventions in the various MKBAs.

4.8. Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species

Scientific studies on specific species and components of the marine ecosystem are key inputs to the EAFM planning process. The immediate goal is to put in place management measures for species that constitute the major portion of the food web while the end goal is to establish the trophic system and interaction of the fisheries for the right-sizing of fishing effort. However, the

scientific studies of the Project are not just limited to these. Other resource management-focused scientific work will also be supported by the project.

In Year 1, ECOFISH has already collected information on commonly caught species in the 8 MKBAs, first, for use to guide the enumerators in the fish catch monitoring for the baseline assessment and, second, to compile biological parameters as inputs to the process of establishing the trophic system as initial step in the right-sizing of fishing effort.

In Year 2, the constructed models will be updated using the results of the bio-physical and socioeconomic baseline assessments for the 8 MKBAs. Also in Year 2 and towards Year 3, fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results will be used to identify species or gear specific management intervention, or at least provide some lead to determining the appropriate interventions. Compilation and review of literature on the biology and ecology of candidate species for species-specific management interventions is on-going. The cost-benefit analysis and economic value study will commence in Year 2. The collection of the required information was already incorporated in the design of the baseline assessment. Also to commence in Year 2 is the assessment and evaluation of candidate mariculture species (with preference towards lower trophic level species) and the mitigation measures for mariculture activities.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 8.

Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Determine and establish trophic interactions and appropriate fishing effort configuration using Ecopath model				
Develop and refine trophic models for MKBAs covering former FISH project areas	O	O		
Develop various choice scenarios on effort configuration in former FISH project sites	O	O		
Consultation with stakeholders on establishing appropriate fishing effort in former FISH project sites		O		
Identify species-specific or fishing gear studies based on results of baseline assessment (in new MKBA focal areas)				
Provide a short list of species or gear specific interventions for each MKBA	O	C		
Consult with stakeholders to determine the priority species or gear interventions	O	O		
Draft policy instrument to manage priority species or gears.				
Assess and evaluate the viability of mariculture species (with preference towards lower trophic level species)				
Review and revisit the priority mariculture species for the former FISH Project sites	O	C		
Assess and evaluate the viability of mariculture species in the rest of the other MKBA				
Establish mitigation measures for mariculture activities				

Review and revisit the mitigation measures for mariculture activities in former FISH Project sites	O	C		
Establish mitigation measure for mariculture activities in the rest of the other MKBA				
Determine economic values and perform cost-benefit analysis in MKBA focal area LGUs (same as in Deliverable 12)				
Perform CBA in VIP comparing costs of enforcement with tourism benefits	O	C		
Collect baseline information on CRM revenues and expenditures per LGU	O	O		
Perform CBA in 2 other MKBAs		O		
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF, Senior Resource Economics Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, SEAFDEC, University network (SAF may be used to support these institutions)				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 8 during the reporting period include:

- The focal areas have come up with an initial short list of species or gears that are candidate for specific management interventions. These will be the subject of consultations with local government partners and stakeholders during the various trainings and workshops of the project.
- Construction of trophic models for the former FISH project areas covered under FISH has been completed but will be further refined using the information gathered during the recent baseline assessment activities.
- Review of the priority mariculture species and the mitigation measures for the mariculture activities in the former FISH Project sites have been completed. Discussion with SEAFDEC and Bohol Island State University (BISU) on the culture of humphead wrasse for the purpose of increasing the wild stock population is on-going.

4.9. Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs

MPA network analyses involve the construction of connectivity matrix using results from hydrodynamic study and dispersal models and will be used to identify potential sources and sinks of larvae. Dispersal models for Calamianes Island Group, Danajon Reef and Tawi-Tawi systems have already been developed and will be utilized for MPA network analysis and establishment or strengthening the network of MPAs. ECOFISH, through MERF, has started the development of the dispersal models for the rest of the other MKBAs ((Lingayen Gulf, Verde Island Passage, San Bernardino Strait – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf, and South Negros) and are expected to be completed within Year 2.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 9.

Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct hydrodynamic study and dispersal modeling				
Develop hydrodynamic study and dispersal models for area selected for establishment of network of MPAs	O	O		
Develop MPA network design (includes climate change adaptation strategies)				
Draft MPA network design	O	O		
Consult with partners until finalization of the MPA network design		O		
Establish MPA network in new MKBAs				
Conduct partner consultations and meetings to set up component MPAs as part of the network	O	O		
Develop plan to implement component MPAs including tasking and financing	O	O		
Strengthen MPA networks in existing MKBA focal areas				
Evaluate existing MPA networks and determine activities to restore or strengthen the networks	O	C		
Develop customized capacity building program for MPA networks to promote compliance and enforce regulations		O		
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF				
Key Partners: BFAR, University network (SAF may be used to support local colleges)				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 9 during the reporting period include:

- The development of the hydrodynamic models for the new sites (Lingayen Gulf, Verde Island Passage, San Bernardino Strait – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf, and South Negros MKBAs) has been completed.
- Field surveys to measure horizontal flow of water current and vertical profiles (surface to 100m) for the new sites/MKBAs have been completed.
- Revisited, assessed, provided technical assistance and strengthened the management councils of existing networks of MPAs in the Calamianes Island Group and the Verde Island Passage MKBAs.

4.10. Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs

For EAFM to work, it is necessary to develop integrated management plans for appropriate clusters of LGUs comprising the ecosystem. The approach consciously links the management planning process to other LGU collaborative initiatives, such as the creation and operation of inter-LGU enforcement units, comprehensive bay-wide (or any broader bodies of water) fisheries and water use zoning, registration, licensing, and right-sizing of fishing effort.

In Year 1, ECOFISH revisited the implementation of the integrated management plans of former FISH Project sites and consulted with partners and LGUs regarding initiatives to revive or strengthen the initiatives. In Year 2, ECOFISH started to focus its efforts to restore key elements of inter-LGU arrangements in the former FISH Project focal areas and initiated the establishment of inter-LGU alliances in the rest of the other focal areas of the MKBAs. The key interventions are the establishment or strengthening of individual LGU's fishery law enforcement team and the building or strengthening of inter-LGU regulatory compliance and enforcement capabilities. Other project interventions started by the Project in Year 2 are the development of marine spatial zoning plan, and rolled out registration and licensing to manage fishing effort.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 10.

Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Conduct integrated coastal and fisheries management planning for cluster of municipalities or LGU alliances				
Conduct activities to revive or strengthen inter-LGU CFRM initiatives in former FISH project sites	O	O		
Initiate inter-LGU planning process in new MKBAs				
Provide technical support in the establishment of coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (new sites)				
Conduct an inventory of enforcement capacities and response capabilities of LGUs in the focal areas of the MKBAs	O	C		
Conduct courses on fishery law enforcement as intermediate step in establishing enforcement teams	O	O		
Provide technical support to strengthen coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (former FISH sites)				
Conduct an inventory of enforcement capacities and response capabilities of LGUs in the focal areas of the MKBAs	O	C		
Conduct refresher courses on fishery law enforcement as intermediate step in strengthening enforcement teams	O	O		
Build/strengthen inter-LGU regulatory compliance and enforcement capabilities				
Establish or strengthen inter-LGU enforcement arrangements	O	O		
Conduct joint operations planning for cluster or alliance of LGUs	O	O		
Develop marine spatial zoning plan				
Revisit and review the fisheries use zoning plans of clusters of LGUs in former FISH Project sites	O	C		
Assist the cluster of LGUs in reviving or strengthening the zoning plans	O	O		
Initiate marine spatial zoning activities in the rest of the focal areas of the MKBAs		O		
Assist cluster of LGUs in developing the marine spatial zoning plan				
Establish appropriate fishing effort configuration for focal areas in the MKBAs				

Consultation with focal area LGUs on the appropriate fishing effort configuration		O		
Team Lead: DCOP for Operation, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist				
Key Partners: BFAR regional and provincial offices, provincial governments and PNP				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 10 during the reporting period include:

- Completed the inventory of enforcement capacities and response capabilities of LGUs in the focal areas for all MKBAs.
- Conducted refresher courses as well as orientation trainings on fishery law enforcement as intermediate step in strengthening enforcement teams in 4 MKBAs. The rest of the enforcement trainings will be completed within Year 2.
- Conducted joint operations planning for cluster or alliance of LGUs in 4 MKBAs.
- Established or strengthened inter-LGU enforcement arrangements by defining roles of various players and clearly defining the rules of engagement.
- Revisited and reviewed the fisheries use zoning plans of clusters of LGUs in former FISH Project sites.
- Conducted workshop and validation to incorporate revisions in the fisheries use zoning plan of the Calamianes Island Group.

4.11. Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs

The trainings pertaining to the registry of users of municipal waters are integrated into the overall EAFM training curriculum being developed. In Year 2, Project activities related to registration and licensing will mainly focus on municipal boat and gear registration to complement FishR. ECOFISH started working with LGUs and BFAR to develop a registration system for boats and gears that will be linked to (but distinct from) the national database on municipal fisherfolk that BFAR will complete under its FishR Program.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 11.

Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance				
Conduct training on admeasurement, fishing boat registration and licensing of fishing gears for at least 30 LGUs in the 8 MKBAs	O	O		
Assist at least 30 LGUs in the 8 MKBAs in drafting of ordinance on fishing boat registration and licensing of fishing gears	O	O		

Registration systems component of national database developed and deployed to LGUs				
Develop data acquisition and retrieval for the registration systems (focus only on fishing boats and gears) compatible with FishR	O	O		
Training on use of registration system in each MKBA for management				
Conduct training of at least 10 LGUs on the use of registration system.	O	O		
Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist. Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 11 during the reporting period include:

- ECOFISH coordinated with MARINA to revive the trainings on boat registration for LGUs. This was set-aside for a number of years because of the jurisdictional issue between MARINA and local governments in the registration of fishing vessels less than three gross tons. Despite the issuance of the DOJ opinion in December 2013 upholding LGU jurisdiction, there seems to be resistance within MARINA to comply with the opinion.
- ECOFISH took measures to engage MARINA in local registration and licensing training for fisherfolk, boats and gear, consistent with EO305. The series of trainings for Project MKBAs began in Calamianes on 26-28 March 2014 with 4 LGUs, and will continue to cover all other LGUs in Project MKBAs.

4.12. Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs

For this deliverable, ECOFISH intends to conduct studies on the viability of economic instruments as well as implement already proven effective instruments for selected LGUs in the various MKBAs. The bulk of the work for this deliverable will commence when management and business planning activities have taken place in the MKBAs. However, two LGUs, i.e. Mabini in VIP and General Luna in Surigao del Norte are being provided with assistance ahead of the rest to take advantage of the eagerness of these LGUs to establish appropriate fees during this reporting period.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 12.

Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Cost-benefit analysis of LGU operations involved in fisheries management				
Perform CBA in VIP comparing costs of enforcement with tourism benefits	O	C		
Collect baseline information on CRM revenues and expenditures per LGU	O	O		

Institute market-based financing instruments				
Valuation studies of tourists' willingness to pay in Siargao	O	C		
Valuation studies involving major stakeholders in Calamianes				
Valuation studies involving major stakeholders in Southern Negros	O	O		
Design user fee schemes and determine valuation studies necessary for other MKBAs		O		
Facilitate larger access to national government budgets through BuB				
Coordinate with BuB process at the local level	O	O		
Liaise with national government agencies involved in the BuB process	O	O		
Link BuB proposals with IFRM business plans	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economist, REECS, and SSG				
Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, LPP, LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 12 during the reporting period include:

- The VIP LGUs are being consulted on potential economic instruments for fisheries management, in addition to existing market-based instruments (MBIs) that have been established by prior projects and initiatives. In particular, Mabini will be assisted in setting appropriate user fees enumerated in their draft CRM Code.
- General Luna LGU in Siargao is being assisted in setting appropriate entrance fees for tourists, particularly surfers. A willingness to pay survey was conducted, and the results are currently being analyzed. Recommendations on appropriate entrance fees will be presented to the LGU during the next reporting period.

4.13. Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs

For the sustainable financing programs, initially the team started to gather and review existing coastal and fisheries management plans of municipalities in the focal sites, scope for potential commodities that will become the target for the value chain analysis, and explore the possibilities of setting up payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes for selected LGUs in the MKBAs.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable13.

Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Translate IFRM Plans into business plans				
Review existing management plans for developing business plans	O	O		
Draft business plans for selected LGUs with existing management plans	O	O		
Value chain analysis for local fisheries				

Choose species for value chain studies	C			
Conduct value chain studies		O		
Enterprise Development				
Identify potential enterprises that can employ fisherfolk in MKBAs	O	O		
Link up with interested partners from the private sector and/or NGOs in setting up the enterprise and community organizing work	O	O		
Link up with DSWD-SLP for various stages in enterprise development	O	O		
Development of Inter-LGU Trust Funds				
Explore and coordinate with agencies on the establishment of resource management funds	O	O		
Capitalization of Coastal Adaptation Funds				
Set up incentive schemes through MKBA Awards	O	O		
Establish PES Schemes				
Conduct scoping to determine and establish areas and ecosystem services that can serve as pilot cases for the establishment of marine PES schemes	O	O		
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economics Specialist, REECS, and SSG Key Partners: BFAR, LGUs, Private Sector				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 13 during the reporting period include:

- A framework for establishing social enterprises is now being developed for each MKBA. At the end of this reporting period, there are 2 MKBAs that are ready with their strategies and partner NGOs, two more are in the planning stage, and 2 are still being assisted in identifying partner NGOs that can help the project implement proposals on the ground.
- Fisheries management plans will be drafted during the next half of the second year. Business plans will be drafted immediately after. Inputs for sustainable financing schemes are being provided to MKBAs that are in the process of formulating their management plans.
- Potential target fisheries for value chain analysis have been identified through the FGDs and key informant interviews done during the socio-economic baseline surveys. Negotiations with Dr. Pomeroy are ongoing for the conduct of value chain studies in the 8 MKBAs, which will commence during the fourth quarter of year 2.
- Brainstorming meetings are being conducted with NAPC on the establishment of a Resource Management Fund meant for CRM projects of coastal LGUs all throughout the country. The Fund is being proposed on the premise that poverty is directly related to poor natural resource management, and that poverty alleviation measures should start or done parallel with natural resource enhancement activities. For the fisheries sector, this translates to improvements of marine and coastal habitats as a poverty alleviation measure that the national government will pursue in partnership with coastal LGUs.
- Scoping activities are still ongoing on which areas and ecosystem services can serve as pilot cases for the establishment of marine PES schemes. In connection with this, a national PES scheme through the blue carbon initiative is being scoped by the project together with CI, B+WISER, Ateneo de Manila, and National University of Singapore.

- Together with WWF and UP-MSI, the project facilitated a workshop towards the development of a socio-economic assessment tool (SEAT) for MPA management that will accompany the existing MPA effectiveness assessment tool (MEAT), which is being administered across the country every two years. SEAT intends to assess whether MPA management is achieving the socio-economic objectives it set forth when the MPA was established. It will further be used to expand the bi-annual National MPA Awards, as well as input into the planned MKBA Awards. The latter will serve as the platform towards the capitalization of coastal adaptation funds across the project sites.

5. Site-Level Year 2 Semi-Annual Accomplishments

As mentioned earlier, the priority among the major thrusts of ECOFISH in Year 2 is putting in place interventions that will serve as building blocks for, as well as directly influence the, achievement of the final outcomes of the Project, namely: an average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass and a 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management. This was intensively discussed during the July and December 2013 team planning exercises and the MKBA activities are expected to reflect this.

Two major natural disasters struck the Philippines. A magnitude 7.2 earthquake with its epicenter near the Danajon Bank MKBA struck the central Philippines on 15 October 2013 and super typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda hit Samar, Leyte, northern Cebu and the Calamianes Islands on 08 November 2013. While ECOFISH had to put on hold a number of planned activities (specifically in the Danajon Bank and Calamianes Island Group) it also had to respond to the immediate relief and rehabilitation efforts in response to the twin disasters. In particular, the Public Forum on Disasters, Climate Change and Marine Biodiversity enlightened the Boholanos and demystified various phenomena in relation to earthquakes and storm surges. With the gained knowledge and information, the LGUs and other constituents are now better guided in their rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. The speakers from PHIVOLCS, UPMSI and Project NOAH have successfully provided the forum accurate and timely information

5.1. Calamianes Island Group MKBA

In Year 1, the ECOFISH Project in the Calamianes Island Group successfully went through its start-up activities with full support from DA-BFAR, DENR and DILG at the provincial and regional levels. In addition to various consultation, orientation, baseline assessment and benchmarking activities, the local project team conducted an evaluation of the existing MPA network established during the FISH Project using the MPA Management Evaluation and Assessment Tool (MEAT). This is to identify activities to strengthen the network, revisit the Calamianes Integrated Fisheries Management Plan developed through the FISH Project, and conducted an inventory of enforcement capacities and response capabilities of the four Calamianes LGUs.

The Year 2 work plan activities continued interventions initiated in Year 1, but with focus on activities that are expected to contribute towards 10% increase in fish biomass and 10% increase in employment. These included strengthening the individual MPAs and MPA networks (with emphasis on implementing the strategies identified during the MPA network forum), capacity building of local partners on coastal and fisheries law enforcement, MPA assessment and management, preparation of marine use plan, and formulation of business plans. Activities initiated in Year 2 included registration and licensing of fisherfolks and fishing boats and gears, feedback of baseline assessment results to finalize immediate fisheries management actions, economic enterprise development, policy review at the municipal level, and development of constituency-building strategies.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the Calamianes Island Group MKBA.

Calamianes Island Group MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				
Courtesy call with the Provincial Governor of Palawan	C			
Consultation with BFAR MIMAROPA regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Vetting of prospective trainees from the PNP, PCG and Philippine Navy	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA by providing data for the case study	O	O		
Finalize first draft of fisheries profile	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Feedbacking of baseline assessment results		C		
Conduct Fish Examiner's training				
Orientation on climate change impacts				
Conduct EO 305 orientation, local legislation and administrative adjudication system	C			
Coastal Law Enforcement Training				
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Conduct community partnership training/enumerators orientation on business planning workshop	C			
Community partnership monitoring and mentoring	O	O		
Social preparation on enterprise development (strengthening POs and meetings with business groups and private enterprises)	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results	O	C		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Identify species-specific or fishing gear based on results of baseline assessment	O	O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				

Organize training on MPA baseline assessment and actual assessment for non-priority MPAs		O		
Provide technical assistance during MPA Network meetings	O	O		
Facilitate various meetings with MPA management councils including updating of MPA management plan and re-organization of MPA management council	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Validation of zones and mapping of expansion areas	O	C		
Conduct training and writeshop on formulation of Marine Spatial Plan document	O	O		
Review/amendment of fishery ordinance	O	O		
Training for LGU on catch monitoring	O	O		
Assist in the organization or strengthening of enforcement teams of the LGUs	O	O		
Strengthen/re-organize the Municipal FARMC	O	C		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Conduct training and facilitate the implementation of FishR		O		
Conduct training to implement fishing boat and fishing gear registration		O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide technical and administrative assistance in the conduct of economic value chain studies on siganids (Coron), and crab (Busuanga/Culion) and live fish trade	O	O		
Organize business planning workshop focusing on the translation of Calamianes Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (CIFMP) into business plan	O	O		
Participate in the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan	O	C		

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- A meeting with Palawan Governor Jose Alvarez held on 08 October 2013 led to the immediate approval of ECOFISH project SEP clearance. The SEP clearance was approved and signed on 30 October 2013 during the PCSD regular monthly meeting. This clearance system in Palawan is a requirement under Republic Act 7611 also known as the Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan Act.
- Sharing of ECOFISH baseline assessment results was organized in a public forum on 10 March 2014 in Coron, Palawan. This was participated by the four (4) Calamianes Island Group LGUs, national government agencies and NGOs. The event catalyzed discussions on fisheries issues and problems and the range of management interventions/measures that can be taken to address these as appropriate to local contexts and conditions.
- The Project organized and facilitated the Coastal and Fishery Law Enforcement Appreciation Course for Municipal Enforcement Units of Calamianes Group of Islands on 11-13 March 2014. Sixty-five (65) participants from 4 municipalities in CIG, national

enforcement teams and technical support agencies attended the training course.

- A de-briefing meeting was conducted with SSupt Jonathan Ablang, Chief of staff of PNP-MG, and members of the MARPSTA Calamianes troops. SSupt Ablang brought up the need to come up with a manual of best practices in launching and implementing AMPA. The experiences in Calamianes would serve as a good case to promote replication in other Maritime Police Stations across the country.



Participants of the enforcement training together with ECOFISH team and resource persons (left).
Participants practicing their newly acquired basic navigation skill (right).

- Provided continued technical assistance in Coron, Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga in the formal organization of their CLET. Executive Orders creating the Municipal Wardens have been approved by the local chief executives in the four municipalities of Calamianes. Several meetings with Local Police Chiefs were also conducted to discuss the Leahy vetting and documentation process. An initial discussion with the enforcement team leader of Bantay Coron was held on 23 October 2013 to provide project brief and enforcement initiatives that have been conducted in Year 1.
- ECOFISH provided continued business plan mentoring assistance to community partners in the municipalities of Busuanga and Culion. One of the actions taken was refinement of business plans and identification of next steps. Although funds were not yet available for the community partner in Busuanga-Arandeman, the group agreed to make samples of the souvenirs they want to produce out of the materials available to them. They decided to meet after a month to present the samples, try to market it to existing shops in Coron and Busuanga and to evaluate the best designs and quantity for possible regular production.
- The Project joined the Bancas for the Philippines program, a PPP between USAID-WWF-Polymer Products Philippines Inc., which will target to deploy fiberglass boats across Yolanda-hit areas. The partnership aims to distribute up to 380 fiberglass boats worth of raw materials to selected fisherfolk communities in Coron, Culion, and Busuanga in support of recovery efforts. ECOFISH staff facilitated the social preparation for the deployment of the boat materials and identification of trainees for the training that will be conducted in April 2014. ECOFISH will also ensure that beneficiaries follow EAFM principles.
- Discussions with key LGU officials and fishers were conducted to determine species-specific or gear-specific studies. In Busuanga, the Municipal Agriculturist requested a

study on the effect of Lambaklad or Otoshi-ami fishing installed in the municipal waters particularly in Barangay Panlaitan. In Culion, the LGU proposed a gear restriction on capture of gravid blue crabs, while both municipalities of Coron and Culion expressed that closed season for siganids and anchovies should be implemented in their site.

- Courtesy meeting and consultations on the project Year 2 Workplan were conducted with SB members and local chief executives of Coron, Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga. The SB members of Culion and Busuanga showed willingness to make a resolution for the



A week after supertyphoon Haiyan/Yolanda struck the Visayas and northern Palawan, ECOFISH Calamianes MKBA team led by Vivien Facunla, reported hundreds of damaged boats and fishing gears in Coron.

Chief Executive to enter into an MOU with ECOFISH if the latter would find it necessary to enhance the partnership between the two parties.

- ECOFISH in collaboration with Calamianes MPA network (CMN) organized a CMN Seminar workshop: “Scaling-up of MPA network in CIG” on 27-28 February 2014. The seminar-workshop enabled MPA managers to give updates on the status of their respective MPAs and election of the new set of officers of CMN. The network also invited and recognized the Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island Association (TTCIA), currently managing the network of small MPAs in the island under Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT), as honorary members of the organization. The Chief of Staff of PNP-MG provided a status update on PNP-MG’s performance and the objectives of the AMPA project. The network welcomed the assistance of PNP-MG in improving the effectiveness of Calamianes MPAs. SB representatives who attended the CMN seminar-workshop agreed to sponsor resolutions for their respective Mayors to sign MOUs with the PNP-MG for implementation of the AMPA.
- Some important milestones are the launching of the AMPA program in two MPA sites, namely, the Balisungan MPA in Coron on 28 February 2014, followed on 01 March by

the AMPA launch in Kayangan Lake in Coron Island. This time, an MOU between the TTCIA and PNP-MG Calamianes was formally signed in front of the Council of Elders of TTCIA and of the PNP-MG leadership through SSUPT Jonathan Ablang. TTCIA warmly welcomed the PNP-MG in their CADT, and were very hopeful that the AMPA project will greatly help them in successfully implementing their Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan (ADSDPP).

- Facilitated the first organizational meeting of the new set of officers of the Calamianes MPA (CMN) Network on 28 February 2014. The officers agreed to prioritize the review of CMN by-laws and plan. The group scheduled an MPA visit to every municipality to personally observe the status of each MPA and strategize on how the network can help



Launching of AMPA in Balisungan MPA, Coron, Palawan (left). Launching AMPA in Coron island and signing of MOA between TTCIA and PNP-MG (right).

them to effectively manage their respective MPAs.

- Provided technical assistance to Bugor Island MPA management council in Culion for the re-organization of MPA management council and review of MPA management plan. ECOFISH also provided inputs on the importance of MPA and how to effectively manage it.
- As part of its technical assistance to LGUs of Calamianes, the project assisted in the formulation of water use plans, a series of validation activities on water use zones and mapping of expansion areas on 04-10 February 2014. Additional uses identified were: proposed MPA, tourism area, mariculture and navigational lane. Validated map will be processed for inclusion in the Comprehensive Land and Water Use plan (CLWUP) of the municipalities.
- ECOFISH supported the Provincial Agriculturist coordinator and local government units of Coron and Culion in the orientation about FAO 196 and re-organization of MFARMC in the municipalities.
- Training on Municipal Fisheries Registration and Licensing was conducted on 25-28 March 2014 attended by 27 participants. The activity was fully supported by the DA-BFAR personnel both from the Region 4B and Central office in collaboration with Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA). At the end of the training, ECOFISH turned over two (2) netbooks per LGU to aid them in the registration of fisherfolk and licensing of fishing gears and fishing vessels and other related coastal and fisheries management activities.

- Scoping activity was conducted in Bgy Bulalacao, Coron, Palawan in January 2014 to determine the needs of the community and explore the possibility of putting up community-based development and assembly of mother-of-pearl products in the Calamianes.
- A series of meetings with Executive Director of Calamianes Conservation and Cultural Networks Inc. (CCCNI) were conducted for a potential tie-up in setting up a community-based social enterprise in Bgy. Lajala, Coron. ABS-CBN Foundation is willing to fund the whole undertaking. CCCNI can take care of product development while ECOFISH assists in social preparation and in MPA establishment.
- ECOFISH site staff attended meetings on 11-12 December 2014 and 24 January 2014, respectively as official member of Local Poverty Reduction Action Teams (LPRAT) in the two municipalities of Coron and Culion.
- ECOFISH participated in the setting up of the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting (GPB) Provincial Secretariat for the province of Palawan on 28 March 2014. ECOFISH was nominated as one of the members of the Provincial secretariat representing Calamianes Island Group pending endorsement from the four (4) municipalities of Coron, Culion, Busuanga and Linapacan.



Participants conducting the actual ad-measurement of municipal fishing vessel.

5.2. Danajon Reef MKBA

In Year 1, orientation and benchmarking workshops were conducted to determine the priority needs of the LGUs. Baseline assessments including catch monitoring, inventory of fishing gears, and socio-economic profiling were completed. Capacity assessment of municipal law enforcement teams was undertaken in order to assess and analyze the threats to municipal waters, assess individual knowledge and skills of LGU fishery law enforcers and identify their training needs and areas for improvement in addressing threats. Evaluation results for MPAs using MEAT were reviewed and analyzed and potential additional MPA sites were identified.

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) orientation for the various LGUs were completed. An MOU was then signed between the USAID, DOST-ICTO, Microsoft, ECOFISH, and BFAR to formalize collaboration to support mobile fishery registration through the use of TV White Space and Super Wi-Fi. Initial business ideas for commodities have been compiled for further business planning.

The Year 2 set of activities is generally guided by the result of the EAFM benchmarking conducted during the ECOFISH orientation with LGUs and other local partners. It is likewise guided by the project's focus on activities that are expected to contribute towards increase in fish biomass and increase in people gaining employment or better employment. The project has

likewise prioritized activities to strengthen the individual MPAs and establish the network of MPAs and support to fishery law enforcement teams.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the Danajon Reef MKBA.

Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General activities				
Consultation with BFAR Region 7 regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Vetting of prospective trainees	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Climate change impact and vulnerability assessment training				
Develop MPA network design and establishment of MPA network		O		
Baseline assessment results, IEC/Conflict Management		O		
Provide support in the conduct of fish examiner training				
EO 305 orientation, local legislation and administrative adjudication training (Bohol)				
Conduct of coastal law enforcement training (Bohol)	O	O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Pilot testing of online fishery registration using TV White Space and Super Wi-Fi (Bohol)	O	C		
Implement mobile registration system (Bohol)	O	O		
Establish registration hub and training (Bohol)	O	O		
Community partnership training/business planning (Bohol)	O	O		
Community partnership monitoring and mentoring (Bohol)		O		
Conduct assessment of blue crab using Spawning Potential Ratio (Bohol)	O	O		
Link up with DSWD-SLP for community partnership (Bohol)				
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Conduct consultations with fisherfolks through MFARMC regarding the identification of species-specific or gear-specific management		O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
MPA MEAT result validation (Bohol)	C			
Establish MPA network (Bohol)				
Conduct MPA MEAT (Leyte)		C		
Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs for the formulation of MPA management plans		O		

Provide technical assistance to POs managing the MPAs/Fish Sanctuary in the implementation of their management plans				
Collaborate with BFAR, PFO, OPA & BEMO for the deputization of special enforcement team for the POs managing the MPAs (Bohol)				
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Review and second drafting of Danajon Bank fishery resource management plan involving BFAR, NGOs, OPA, BEMO, DENR and other partners.		O		
Provide technical assistance in the finalization of Danajon wide Fisheries Management Plan.				
Conduct coastal law enforcement assessment workshop (Leyte and Southern Leyte)	C			
Provide technical assistance to LGUs on the review and finalization of municipal CFRM Plans (Leyte)				
Conduct consultation/review of existing fisheries use zoning plans		O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Consultation with partner agencies (MARINA, PNP-Maritime, PNP, PCG, BFAR, PAO and LGUs) on fisherfolk, fishing boat and fishing registration and licensing	O			
Provide technical assistance in the conduct of fisherfolk registration	O	O		
Registration and licensing and drafting of ordinance (Leyte)				
Training on fishing boat and gear registration system				
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Data collection on LGU revenue and expenditures (Bohol)	O	C		
Conduct of IEC for paying their obligations as revenue generation system	O	O		

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- Right after the 15 October 2013 earthquake, the Bohol-based ECOFISH team started coordinating with the PDRRMC on the system of distribution of relief goods, as well as with the Cebu and Manila Office regarding the relief effort in the project site. This was followed on 13 November 2013 by meetings with Bohol Governor, PPP Specialist and the Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist on TVWS, installation of the super wifi, and updates on ECOFISH project activities in Danajon Bank particularly on the relief efforts.
- The Danajon MKBA team likewise organized a well-attended Public Forum on Disasters, Climate Change and Marine Biodiversity on 04 December 2013, followed by a 10 December 2013 dialogue with USAID Assistant Deputy Administrator for Asia Bureau, USAID-Philippines, Tubigon municipal officials and MDRRMC members on the impacts of the earthquake and typhoon Haiyan on coastal ecosystem and livelihoods.
- The Danajon Bank MKBA team met with ELAC and the enforcement thematic lead on the conduct of consultation meetings with the enforcement teams, lawyers and judges in support of the litigation process.

- A total of sixty-six (66) uniformed personnel in Bohol, while 45 PNP personnel in Leyte and Southern Leyte, were vetted. Selections of top 8 to 10 newly assigned enforcers/MCLET/MFLET are now being generated in all covered municipalities Danajon-wide.



ECOFISH Deputy Chief of Party Nygiel Armada, USAID COR Becky Guieb and Bohol Governor Edgar Chatto (standing) join experts from Project NOAH, PHIVOLCS and UP MSI in a public forum on “Disasters, Climate Change and Marine Biodiversity” in Tagbilaran City on 04 December 2013.

- Danajon MKBA supported the Public Private Partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Microsoft Philippines on the use TV White Space technology for mobile fisherfolk registration. The system was installed ahead of schedule in November 2013 in the Telecommunication Office and Tubigon Community Hospital to serve as a hub of communication in support of the relief efforts for the earthquake victims. The system was used primarily by the PDRRMC, DSWD, PNP and Tubigon Community Hospital. Requests for donations and relief goods from various donors were immediately communicated, responded, and delivered to the affected areas.
- Coordinated the visit of the USAID Assistant Deputy Administrator for Asia Bureau, USAID-Philippines Mission Director, and ECOFISH team for the conduct of dialogue

with the Municipal Officials and stakeholders on the impacts of the earthquake and typhoon Haiyan on the coastal ecosystem and livelihoods. The output of the meeting resulted in USAID's affirmation to support the short-term relief and long-term



Bohol visit of the USAID and ECOFISH team at the earthquake relief center of Tubigon on 10 December 2013. Present were USAID Mission Director Gloria Steele, USAID Asia Bureau Assistant Deputy Administrator Gregory Beck, COR Becky Guieb, WWF's Lorenzo Tan, and local partners.

rehabilitation efforts of the Government of the Philippines, particularly Bohol that was severely affected by a massive earthquake.

- Completed the MPA Monitoring Evaluation Assessment Tool (MEAT) result validation and assessment workshop for all MPAs under the focal municipalities in Danajon Bank, Bohol. The assessment team was composed of BEMO, BFAR, OPA, and ECOFISH staff. A total of thirty (30) MPAs were evaluated.
- The Project conducted training workshops on business planning and identified activities for potential livelihood or income generation projects to be supported by public-private sector partnerships. Validation of business plans was done in all of the municipalities in the focal area and these are now being finalized.
- Facilitated the conduct of orientation and creation of administrative adjudication board in the Municipality of Tubigon as pilot work. Workshop outputs, including proposed amendments to the municipal fishery code, were presented for comments and finalization by the Sangguniang Bayan.
- In reporting to the BFAR Region 8 and other partners such as PNP-PRO8 and PNP-RMU8 in Tacloban City, the ECOFISH team presented project updates and upcoming project activities for each of the two MKBAs (Danajon Reef and San Bernardino Strait).
- Revisited the draft coastal/fishery resource management plan for Leyte and Southern Leyte. The activity was well attended by the municipal CRM technical working group members, other partner agencies from DILG, BFAR, DENR, PNP and PNP-Maritime Group.

- Coastal law enforcement assessment workshop was also conducted and was made to coincide with the launching of the AMPA of the PNP-MG represented by RMO Chief PSSupt Carlos E. Salazar of PNP-RMU8 and Deputy Chief Ronel Antonio Refama.
- Presented ECOFISH Project to the Sangguniang Bayan of Macrohon, Southern Leyte. Also present were the PFO of BFAR, Municipal Agriculturist, and Agricultural Technician. Sangguniang Bayan members expressed their full support of the project.
- Facilitated in the conduct of CRM TWG consultation meeting to discuss the refinement and review of the output and revision of the draft CFRM plans of Bato, Matalom, Hindang, Hilongos, Baybay, Inopacan, Macrohon and Maasin City.
- Presented the concept of spawning potential ratio for the assessment of the state of fisheries of blue swimming crab in selected sites of Danajon Bank and facilitated the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Provincial Government, PACPI, USAID and ECOFISH/BFAR in the conduct of study on SPR for blue crab.
- Facilitated scoping meeting with potential NGO partners for enterprise development, MPA strengthening and networks, and training on psycho-social and stress management. Four potential NGOs e.g. WDC, VSU, CCEF, PSF/ZSL were identified. These NGOs are currently preparing their respective SAF project proposals

5.3. Lingayen Gulf MKBA

Coordination mechanisms with the BFAR Regional Office and LGU partners in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA were put in place in Year 1. Capacity building of BFAR counterpart staff, including staff from other provinces in Region 1 was initiated with the conduct of ECOFISH orientation, training on habitat assessments and MPA monitoring, and the introduction on EAFM. Results of the LGU orientation and benchmarking revealed that the priority issues include declining catches/profitability, diminishing sizes of fish, increasing capture of juveniles, increasing fishing effort, and increasing resource use conflicts.

The focus in Year 2 is strengthening the BFAR's and partner LGUs' capability to implement EAFM, formulation of municipal fisheries management plans in conjunction with revision and updating of CRM Plans, and strengthening of local fisheries law enforcement capability.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA.

Lingayen Gulf MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				
Consultation with BFAR Region 1 regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Vetting of prospective trainees	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA,	O	O		

Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Conduct ECOFISH-EAFM Training for BFAR Region 1 QRT	C			
Conduct law enforcement training for BFAR Region 1 QRT	O	O		
Conduct training on results of baseline assessments and benchmarking	O	O		
Conduct training on EO 305, with registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance in 8 LGUs (3 batches)		O		
Conduct FARMC-wide orientation on ECOFISH and EAFM – initiate consultation process on EAFM issues		C		
Conduct LGU orientation- training on EAFM to initiate fisheries management planning process		C		
Provide support in the conduct fish examiner training				
Assist in climate vulnerability assessment through consultation and training				
Conduct consultation for inter-LGU zoning of fisheries and other uses of marine waters				
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Mobilize partners and assist in conducting community partnership training/business planning training		O		
Assist in community partnership in monitoring and mentoring				
Assist in enabling community partnership				
Impact assessment of community partnership				
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific studies on selected MKBA-specific fish species				
Finalize candidate species for specific studies and conduct rapid assessment of status of fisheries for the species in MKBA		C		
Gather secondary data on candidate species		O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Provide technical assistance for the strengthening of existing MPAs and AR management	O	O		
Conduct basic MPA orientation and MPA Plan formulation training for local partners, MPA management councils in La Union (and Ilocos Sur)	C			
Conduct MPA Monitoring training for local MPA management councils in La Union and Alaminos	O			
Conduct meetings with PNP-MG to facilitate Adopt an MPA Project	C			
Conduct assessment of candidate MPAs for network and identify needs to strengthen management		C		
Consult with partners for finalization of the MPA network design; conduct partner consultations and meetings to set up component MPAs as part of the network		C		
Conduct workshop for organization of the Lingayen MKBA MPA network (to include Ilocos Sur MPAs; will use results of larval studies)				
Draft MPA network design for existing MPAs in La Union/Sual-Alaminos-Northern La Union				

Conduct MPA Network Plan formulation workshop and agreement				
Develop plan to implement MPA network management in component MPAs including tasking and financing				
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Conduct an assessment/inventory of enforcement issues and response capabilities of focal area LGUs	C			
Conduct Fisheries Management Planning Workshop for San Fernando City and Bauang	O	O		
Conduct Fisheries Management Planning Workshop for Caba, Aringay and Agoo	O	O		
Conduct Fisheries Management Planning Workshop for Rosario and Sto. Tomas and Alaminos City		O		
Provide technical assistance on finalization and adoption of fisheries management plans				
Conduct workshops to enable formulation of Provincial Fisheries Management Program				
Conduct consultations on development of LGU alliances in Lingayen Gulf				
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Training on use of on-line fisher registration system		O		
Orientation on fishing boat and fishing gear registration system		O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Leverage with SCREMP – Agoo-Damortis Protected Seascape, Hundred Islands National Park	C			
Assist to assess/validate feasible environment-friendly micro-enterprises		O		
Leverage for collaboration with DOLE-SLP for micro enterprise development		C		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA				
Conduct assessment of possible value chain improvements				
Assist in capitalization of coastal adaptation funds				

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- Discussions were initiated with the City Agriculture Office of the San Fernando City local government on the need to improve local policies for the three MPAs under the jurisdiction of the City. ECOFISH Lingayen staff provided technical assistance to redefine MPA boundaries and provided training on the formulation of the Lingsat MPA Management Plan.
- A major understanding in discussions with DENR SCREMP was for the SCREMP to utilize ECOFISH information materials and case studies on climate change generated for Alaminos City during the climate change and vulnerability training conducted by the MERF/UPMSI. The SCREMP Project Manager emphasized that with ECOFISH CC-

related data already being processed, SCREMP may no longer need to repeat CC-related training and baseline data gathering for its pilot area – Alaminos City. A total of 9 LGU personnel from one city and two municipalities in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA attended the climate change/vulnerability training conducted by ECOFISH in Tagaytay City.



A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DA-BFAR, ECOFISH and the province of La Union was signed on 30 October 2013 in San Fernando City. MOU participants were represented by BFAR 1 Director Nestor Domenden, Gov. Manuel Ortega and ECOFISH COP Gerry Silvestre.

- Fundamental EAFM concepts were promoted by the Lingayen Gulf MKBA team in numerous occasions. Lecture sessions on EAFM were delivered during training activities conducted for: (a) all BFAR regional office staff in a symposium held in connection with the celebration of Fish Conservation Week in October 2013; (b) two MFARMC trainings conducted by Alaminos and Aringay LGUs for their newly re-organized FARMCs; (c) one Regional FARMC Conference; (d) two fish warden deputation trainings conducted by the BFAR RO1 for San Fernando City and Alaminos City; and (e) in the Pangasinan LGU orientation with delegations from 12 coastal municipalities of Pangasinan in attendance. All of the activities for the FARMCs were funded by the BFAR while the respective local governments of San Fernando City and Dagupan City funded the fish warden training.
- All in all, the ECOFISH was able to reach out to more than 350 personnel from the local government partners, FARMCs and fish wardens. This broad base of constituents from partner institutions in the Lingayen Gulf is expected to be major advocates of EAFM management principles in the MKBA. This is clearly manifested in requests for EAFM orientation by individual LGUs for their respective FARMCs, fisher associations and fisheries law enforcement personnel.
- The Coastal Law Enforcement Assessment Workshop was conducted in December 2013 with the attendance of more than 70 participants from 8 focal area municipalities in the

Lingayen MKBA. The CLE assessment resulted in the prioritization of issues on fisheries law enforcement: (a) prevalence of fishing with the use of explosives in three municipalities in the La Union focal area, (b) capture of juveniles through fishing employing fine mesh nets, and (c) insufficiency of supplemental livelihoods.

- The mobilization of the PPP Community Partnership Coordinator for the Lingayen Gulf MKBA was momentarily suspended following refinements being adjusted for PPP strategic interventions for the site. Nevertheless, in consultation meetings with the BFAR, the ECOFISH has secured commitment from the Bureau for the funding of supplemental livelihood projects that the Project may formulate and present in line with collaborative efforts to implement specific fisheries management measures in pivotal focal areas, especially in LGUs with relatively high incidence of poverty in fishing communities.
- ECOFISH in the Lingayen MKBA has completed meetings with the DENR SCREMP in connection with the mutual interest of both projects to collaborate in certain aspects of their respective work plans. Among others, the SCREMP has indicated that it can apportion some of its project funds for livelihoods to ECOFISH-supported livelihood recipients for as long as such projects are in line with the overall effort of the SCREMP to strengthen management of protected areas. In this particular case, the Alaminos area has been prioritized.
- Discussions with key LGU officials and FARMCs strongly indicate that the protection of Siganid species, a favored fish locally termed *Malaga*, across almost all LGUs in the MKBA, including in Alaminos City, Pangasinan where significant seagrass meadows fringe the Hundred Islands National Park. In La Union, the ECOFISH Team suggested that seagrass assessments to determine spawning grounds or juvenile areas of the Siganid be conducted in the coastal waters of Aringay, Caba, Sto. Tomas, and San Fernando City.
- Data on the status of fish sanctuaries and MPAs in Pangasinan have been consolidated through meetings with Office of the Pangasinan Provincial Agriculturist. The list of MPAs was provided to the PNP Maritime Group of Region 1 in order to serve as reference for the PNP Maritime Group in the implementation of its AMPA Project.
- Similarly, consultations with the LGU of San Fernando City and the BFAR indicate that an MPA network in La Union will include the three fish sanctuaries/MPAs in the City as the focal point of an MPA Network in La Union. The BFAR emphasizes, however, that the three MPA cells can be connected to the fish sanctuaries in the northern region of La Union Province but MPAs in this region would need strengthening and local capacity building. In Pangasinan, discussions with SCREMP and the Pangasinan PAgO revealed that an MPA network should include fish sanctuaries in the ABBA group of municipalities (Anda-Bolinao-Bani-Alaminos) with 18 sites covering 380 hectares.
- Ultimately these MPAs need to be linked to the Hundred Islands National Park in Alaminos where SCREMP and 4 more private institutions can be tapped for collaborative efforts in MPA network establishment and management. The ECOFISH Lingayen Gulf MKBA team is awaiting the results of the MPA baseline assessment and larval dispersal simulation studies conducted by MERF in the MKBA so that data can be drawn as the basis for MPA Network establishment.
- In another initiative, the ECOFISH Lingayen Gulf MKBA conducted the training on Fundamentals of MPA Establishment and Management for the PNP Maritime Group, the local government of Alaminos City and the Provincial Agriculture Office of Pangasinan

province in March 2014. The training led to the confirmation of a set of preliminary agreements between the LGU of Alaminos, the Provincial Agriculture Office of the Province of Pangasinan, the BFAR and the PNP Maritime Group on a set of activities that will enable a more focused and dynamic implementation of the latter's AMPA project in the MKBA. Among others, these will include the conduct of SB orientation sessions, conduct of extensive IEC activities and forging of specific MOUs between the PNP Maritime Group and local government partners. The ECOFISH Project was requested to provide technical assistance for these activities.

- In March 2014, the Lingayen Gulf MKBA team prepared the Terms of Reference for the engagement of an academe-based partner in the conduct of activities relating to strengthening of existing MPAs, capacity building for local MPA management bodies and the establishment of an MPA network. Consultations with the BFAR and DENR SCREMP indicate that potential academic partners to implement the task called for in the TOR include the Mariano Marcos State University in Ilocos Sur, the Pangasinan State University College of Fisheries in Binmaley, Pangasinan, and the Don Mariano Marcos State University in La Union.
- In Lingayen Gulf, the conduct of workshops leading to the formulation of municipal fisheries management plans was preceded by consultations with the respective focal area LGUs. In the ECOFISH workshop in December 2013, the Lingayen MKBA spelled out its priority Roll-Out Strategies that prioritized the formulation of a Provincial Fisheries Management Plan for La Union from whence municipal fisheries improvement plans will be drawn. The main strategy in this regard is to re-activate the Lingayen Gulf Alliance of LGUs that will subsequently serve as the platform for the development of fisheries management plans at the local level.
- Discussions with the BFAR and the DENR SCREMP were conducted to define possible collaborative funding for supplemental livelihood projects for fisher associations. In particular, SCREMP and ECOFISH Lingayen were able to define the terms of cooperation for mutually-reinforcing efforts in MPA technical assistance and livelihoods development.

5.4. San Bernardino - Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf MKBA

ECOFISH conducted an orientation workshop in Year 1 for local government officials and community representatives about the project and the concept of EAFM. The workshops enabled the participants to recognize the present condition of their resources and the necessary interventions that must be put in place to properly manage the fisheries. Parallel to this, available secondary information were collected and bio-physical and socioeconomic baseline assessments were carried out. Year 2 focused on activities to put in place building blocks to achieve the final project outcomes but balance it with the needs of the local partners. The implementation of Year 2 activities will require closer collaboration with the BFAR Regional Offices (Regions 5 and 8) and the LGUs assuming the role of resource managers.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the San Bernardino – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf MKBA.

San Bernardino - Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				
Consultation with BFAR Regions 5 and 8 regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	O	C		
Vetting of prospective trainees	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA	O	C		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Formation of ECOFISH TWG	C			
Baseline assessment results, IEC/conflict management				
EO 305 Orientation, local legislation, and administrative adjudication				
Conduct of law enforcement training				
MPA Network training				
Establish Private Sector Partnerships(D6)				
Community partnership scoping				
Community partnership training/business planning				
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment				
Conduct of PCRA for Sta. Magdalena, Bulan, Capul, Biri and San Vicente				
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Identify species or fishing gear studies based on results of baseline assessments	C			
Economic valuation and cost-benefit analysis performed				
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
MPA site identification in the focal area	O	O		
Community consultations on MPA network establishment				
Drafting of MPA management plan and ordinance				
Consultation and enactment of MPA ordinances				
Organization and training of management committee				
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Governance-level of enforcement (assessment)	C			
Provide technical assistance in the CFRM Planning for 6 LGUs				
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance (6 LGUs)				
EO 305 registration system/admeasurement training				
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				

Collection of baseline on the revenues and expenditures of LGUs on CFRM				
Cost-benefit analysis for local fisheries (FGDs)				

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- Collected information about fishery resources, gears and fishers in the six focal municipalities from the annual municipal fisheries profiles compiled by the respective Municipal Agriculture Offices. Only Capul and Biri have information about fish habitats.
- PNP personnel of Bulan, Matnog, Sta. Magdalena, Prieto Diaz and San Vicente have been oriented and asked to fill up the Leahy vetting form. Applicants from the first three municipalities have already been vetted.
- ECOFISH team conducted meetings and consultations with BFAR Regional and Provincial Offices on project updates and MPA establishment and solicited references of potential service providers.
- Coordinated with BFAR Region 8 in providing a two-day fishery laws orientation on 06-07 November 2013 for the San Vicente LGU and FARMC.
- Met Executive Director of the Sentro ha Pagpauswag ha Panginabuhi Inc. (SPPI) and the Coordinator of the Center for Empowerment Resource Development (CERD) to discuss collaboration with ECOFISH to further promote livelihood opportunities. SPPI is present in Capul and San Vicente while CERD operates in Biri.
- The team held discussions with Prieto Diaz LGU officials on how to improve the conceptualization and implementation of their BUB proposal which seeks to re-establish an MPA in Barangay Diamante, an area with extensive mangroves and seagrass beds. *Danggit* deboning and drying and sea urchin gonad processing are economically



On 04 March 2014, ECOFISH San Bernardino site coordinator Rupert Sievert gave a lecture about EAFM before 75 off-duty police officers and criminology students at Camp Delgado, Catarman, Northern Samar.

important activities of the barangay. The Sorsogon PFO had included the deployment of two fish cages in the MPA BUB proposal.

- Assessment of MPAs indicate that there are only three pre-existing MPAs in the 6 municipalities of the focal area in the San Bernardino Strait MKBA although many LGU officials and extension workers have heard about MPAs and have prioritized its designation. Of the three, only 2 have legal documentation.
- The ECOFISH team reached agreement with PNP MG RMU5 to jointly provide assistance to Bulan LGU in re-evaluating the Butag fish sanctuary.
- Met with the members of the Sorsogon Sanggunian Panlalawigan Fisheries Committee to explain the benefits of establishing MPAs. The Sorsogon SP had raised some objections to the promotion of MPAs as a fisheries management tool.
- Met with faculty members from the UEP College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources and the College of Science who have been engaged by BFAR, DOF and DOST in related projects in the past. They are capable of providing technical assistance (resource assessment, design and preparation of management plans, community consultations, IEC, and monitoring) to ECOFISH in the establishment of MPAs.



On 03-05 March 2014, the San Bernardino team met Northern Samar provincial officials & UEP to work for inter-local cooperation on fisheries management (left and center). Then on 20 March 2014, RMU5 Chief PSSupt Cupid Calica sought ECOFISH support for the implementation of the AMPA Project (right).

- San Bernardino Strait does not have an existing inter-municipal coordination mechanism; the closest it came to that was an IFARMC that was organized in the Sorsogon side five years ago and is now defunct. On the initiative of the Sorsogon SP Fisheries Committee, public hearings have been conducted to test the feasibility of having an integrated fisheries ordinance as a beginning towards a common management of the municipal waters.
- Attended a public hearing of the Sorsogon SP Fisheries Committee regarding the enactment of an integrated fisheries ordinance.
- The ECOFISH team met officials of the Northern Samar provincial government and the UEP to conceptualize how to go about an inter-local cooperation for fisheries management. UEP, which has established good working relations with BFAR, LGUs and other institutions, would be acceptable to all parties as facilitator in this endeavor.
- Met with the Superintendent of the BiriLaRoSa Protected Seascape to clarify the boundaries and exercise of fisheries management inside the protected area. It was learned that the protected area covers the entire shoreline and part of the municipal marine waters of Biri which are adjacent to the shore. The other half of the municipal marine waters which are deeper and are farther from the shore and bounded by Bulusan, Sorsogon are

outside of the protected area. Biri retains primary management responsibility for its waters inside the protected area but its ordinances which pertain to these waters must have the approval of the Protected Area Management Board.

- The San Bernardino site team has gathered existing secondary information related to revenue generation. Only Biri has a “user’s fee” ordinance which charges Php 50.00 each visitor to the “Rock Formation” (headlands located in northern Biri Island). Revenue generation and sustainable financing workshops and valuation studies in the focal area/MKBA have not yet been scheduled

5.5. South Negros MKBA

For Year 1, major accomplishments include the benchmarking of LGUs to implement EAFM, coastal law enforcement capacity assessment, underwater assessments of MPAs, and fisheries and socio economic baseline assessments. The results of these assessments enabled ECOFISH to analyze the current state of fisheries and coastal resources in South Negros, which will be very useful in identifying strategies and planning for the activities in the next years of the project. One of the major challenges in implementing EAFM in South Negros is the prevalent commercial fishing vessel intrusion within municipal waters. Banking on the strong and continuing provincial support to local coastal and fisheries resource management programs and the presence of inter-LGU collaborations to complement local fisheries management, integrated fisheries management planning and implementation coupled with intensification of coastal law enforcement are the main focus for Year 2.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the South Negros MKBA.

Southern Negros MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				
Consultation with BFAR Regions 6 and 7 regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Orientation for governor and newly elected local executives	C			
Vetting of prospective trainees	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Basic coastal law enforcement training (2 clusters- Negros Oriental and Occidental)	C			
Follow up EO authorization of newly trained Municipal or City FLET	C			
Finalization and presentation of CLE posters to LGU and printing of posters	O	O		
Training on local legislation and administrative adjudication				
Facilitate coastal vulnerability assessment workshop in focal areas	O	O		

Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Facilitate the conduct of community partnership training	C			
Follow up meeting with PPP partners	O	O		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment	O	C		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Validation meeting with LGU and fisherfolks on proposed species- and gear-specific management initiatives				
FGD with the fisherfolk and other concerned stakeholders on the proposed species and gear management				
Consultations and workshops on drafting the ordinance				
Follow-up enactment of ordinance				
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Presentation of MPA network design/ MPA network training-workshop		O		
Support new MPAs in Hinoba-an and Sipalay (creation of MPA Management Committee and formulation of MPA Management Plans)	O	C		
MEAT assessment in all MPAs (to be done annually)				
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Facilitate the conduct of integrated coastal and fisheries management planning for South Negros		O		
Follow-up activities: consultations on proposed fisheries management strategies such as registration, licensing, gear and species specific management, coastal zoning, etc.		O		
Facilitate FGD with QRT and orientation with BFAR Region 6	C			
Facilitate meeting on the finalization of delineation ordinance of Cauayan and Siaton		O		
Technical support to Basay and Cauayan in drafting their Comprehensive Fisheries Ordinance		O		
Facilitate marine spatial planning in South Negros				
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance	O	O		
Facilitate forum on mobile CFVRs and EO305	C			
Support to the actual mobile registration in Negros Occidental and Oriental	C			
Support Negros Occidental Fisherfolk Summit : registration and licensing (FishR and FishBgeR)	C			
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Collection of data/ information needed for revenue generation schemes	C			
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				

Collect necessary data needed and scoping for PO partners in social enterprise development	C			
Consultation with the POs, LGUs and other players in preparation for the social enterprise development in partnership with Alter Trade	O	C		
Consultation with Campomanes Ballo MPA Management Committee on sustainable financing strategies	C			

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- Following through the Coastal Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Change Adaptation Training in Tagaytay City, orientation workshops were conducted by BFAR 7 staff in the Provinces of Cebu, Negros Oriental and Siquijor.
- With the available secondary data collected and information gathered during workshops and field visits, the Fisheries Profile of South Negros MKBA has been drafted and submitted.
- In collaboration with the PNP-MG, Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Bayawan City Prosecutor’s Office, BFAR 7 and the 3rd District Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC) of Negros Oriental, the Coastal Law Enforcement Training for Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan City and Basay was conducted on 29-31 October 2013.



A Coastal Law Enforcement Training for the LGUs of Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan City and Basay was conducted on 29-31 October 2013. As a result of the training activity, LGU Basay Team has been reactivated and is now regularly conducting seaborne patrols.

- Ten fishery law enforcement team members from Siaton, 7 from Sta. Catalina, 10 from Bayawan City, 10 from Basay and 2 each from PNP MG 702nd Unit, Philippine Coast Guard and Philippine Navy were trained. As a result of the said training activity, the LGU Basay Team was reactivated and has been conducting seaborne patrols within their municipality in close coordination with the local PNP.
- Eight business plans were presented to various people’s organizations (POs) and LGUs of Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City.

- Community Partners Meetings were held in Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City on March 12-14, 2014 and discussed: (1) the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Processes (GPBP), updates on the proposals submitted for CY 2014-2015 and identification of enterprises/livelihood projects that can be proposed for CY 2016; (2) an overview on Organizational Diagnostic Tools to facilitate the assessment of their respective Fisherfolk Associations (FAs); and (3) the status of the business plans prepared last 17-18 September 2013. Organizational diagnostics will be facilitated in each partner People's Organization (PO) to determine their readiness to implement projects.
- The biophysical (fisheries and MPA), governance, and socio-economic baseline assessment results for Southern Negros were presented on 14-16 April 2014. The discussions include how to utilize these data in fisheries management (gear and species specific management, zoning), identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment, among others.



On 10-13 February 2014, the ECOFISH South Negros team hosted a visit of USAID/Philippines OEECC Chief Joseph Foltz and CO Eric Singer. They were accompanied by ECOFISH COP Gerry Silvestre, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist Mar Guidote and COR Becky Guieb. Among those they met was Silliman University's Dr. Angel Alcala.

- In partnership with the City of Sipalay, a Management Planning Workshop was held on November 18-21, 2013 to draft Management Plans for four MPAs, namely: (1) Campomanes-Ballo Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (CBMRS) in Brgy. IV and Maricalum; (2) Maasin Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (MMRS) in Brgy. Maricalum; (3) Sunken Island Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (SIMRS) in Brgy. IV; and, (4) Julien's Wreck Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (JWMRS) Brgy. Cartagena. These MPAs were established in 2013 except for CBMRS, hence it is very timely to orient the Management Committees on the concept of coastal resource conservation, management and rehabilitation and the importance of MPAs. The ECOFISH Socioeconomic Specialist discussed sustainable financing mechanisms and MPA monitoring.
- Facilitated the CLEC meeting hosted by Bayawan City on November 6, 2013 to discuss coordination of seaborne operations and clarified roles and responsibilities of each team member.
- Participated and facilitated in the 3rd Negros Occidental Fisherfolk Summit on December 10-13, 2013. The activity served as a venue for all FARMC Chairpersons and their LGU counterparts to share their experiences, lessons learned and identify gaps and priorities in fisheries management, and at the same time elect their Provincial Fisherfolk Representative.

- The Technical Working Group of the Southern Negros Coastal Development and Management Council (SNCDMC) met on March 20, 2014 to present Alliance and ECOFISH updates and discuss the Annual Investment Plan for 2014. It was also unanimously agreed to activate the Alliance-Based Coastal Law Enforcement Team (ABCLET).
- A major challenge in implementing Coastal Fisheries Resources Management (CFRM) in the Province of Negros Occidental is the prevalent illegal fishing violations particularly commercial fishing vessel intrusion within the municipal waters in South Negros. Thus, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental is reactivating its Provincial Bantay Dagat Special Action Team (PBDSAT) in order to augment the municipal fishery law enforcement teams from the 25 coastal municipalities and cities. The said team will be comprised of uniformed personnel from the Negros Occidental Provincial Public Safety Company, Regional Maritime Unit 6, 603rd Maritime Police Station, Philippine Coast Guard and the National Bureau of Investigation.
- The ABCLET composed of Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO), Philippine Reef and Rainforest Foundation, Inc. (PRRCFI), Regional Maritime Unit VI and 603rd Maritime Police Station in Bacolod City and Negros Occidental Provincial Public Safety Company reported the successful apprehension of a commercial fishing vessel with 27 crew members on 25 March 2014 for fishing within the municipal waters of Cauayan.
- Conducted the Forum on Fisheries Registration, Licensing and Permitting System in Siaton and Basay on 23-24 October 2013 in partnership with BFAR Regional Office No. 7 and Negros Oriental Provincial Fisheries Office and the Philippine National Police Maritime Group (PNP-MG) 702nd Unit. Around 100 municipal and commercial fisherfolk and LGU personnel of Siaton and Basay, Negros Oriental participated in the activity.
- During field visits, it was noted that a significant number of commercial fishing vessels in Southern Negros have not acquired registration and license from MARINA and BFAR, respectively. Based on the assessment of BFAR 7, more than 50% of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) commercial fishing vessels (CFVs) in the region are from Southern Negros. To expedite the renewal of registration of commercial fishing vessels, BFAR 7 has facilitated a series of Joint Mobile Registration in Bayawan, Siaton, and Dumaguete City. This served as an avenue for commercial fishing vessel operators and owners to register their fishing vessels with MARINA, radio equipment with NTC and secure fishing license from BFAR.
- In support to the implementation of Fisherfolk Registration (FishR), a FishR database orientation for Dumaguete City, Siaton and Sta. Catalina technical staff were facilitated.
- The approved project concept on Sustainable Enterprises for Municipal Fishing Communities of South Negros (SEMFISH-South Negros) in partnership with Alter Trade Foundation, Inc. will complement the larger ECOFISH project by empowering fishers' communities through multiple people-based enterprises that will improve and sustain their livelihood on non-fishing endeavors. While the ECOFISH Project focuses on improving the biodiversity and the ecosystem productivity in South Negros, the SEMFISH project will assist coastal communities to develop sustainable social

enterprises in harmony with ecosystem conservation and generate sufficient income for the small fishers' households.

5.6. Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA

The Year 2 focus of the project are on activities that are expected to contribute towards increase in fish biomass and increase in people gaining employment or better employment. The project has also prioritized activities to identify sites for new MPAs, strengthen the existing individual MPAs, establish the network of MPAs and the creation of enforcement teams of municipalities constituting the focal area.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA.

Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				
Consultation with BFAR CARAGA Region regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Vetting of prospective trainees	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Conduct climate change impact and vulnerability training	O	O		
Develop MPA network design	O	O		
Conduct marine protected area network training workshop	O	O		
Present baseline assessment results and conduct IEC and conflict management training		O		
Conduct fish examiner training		O		
Conduct orientation on EO 305 and local legislation and administrative adjudication training				
Conduct coastal law enforcement training	O	O		
Conduct orientation and consultation with Surigao City Marine Traders Association and market officials re: ECOFISH Project overview and introduction to basic EAFM and fisheries concepts	C			
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Pilot testing of Smart-DILG-DA-DOTC PPP	O	O		
Conduct scoping and focus group discussion on public-private partnerships	O	O		
Conduct community partnership training and business planning		O		
Conduct community partnership monitoring and mentoring				
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				

Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment	O	O		
Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs in the conduct of PCRA		O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Conduct consultations with fisherfolk through Municipal FARMC regarding the identification of species-specific or gear- specific management		O		
Assist BFAR-FRMD in the conduct of consultations for the sailfish management plan	C			
Provide technical assistance to BFAR in the implementation of sailfish management plan in Surigao del Norte	O	O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Conduct marine protected area baseline assessment (MPA MEAT)				
Establish MPA network				
Provide technical assistance to PAO and PEMO for the finalization of mechanics for the provincial search for the best marine protected area or fish sanctuary	C			
Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs for the formulation of MPA management plans		O		
Presentation of MPA management plans to barangay councils and City or Municipal FARMCs for adoption		O		
Provide technical assistance to POs in the implementation of MPA or fish sanctuary management plans		O		
Collaborate with BFAR, PFO, PAO & PEMO in the deputization of PO members as fish wardens in managing MPAs or fish sanctuaries				
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Conduct coastal law enforcement assessment workshop	C			
Review the existing provincial CRM framework plan involving BFAR, PAO, PEMO and HIPADA-Technical Advisory Group	C			
Conduct workshop on the updating and finalization of the provincial CFRM framework plan	C			
Provide technical assistance to PAO & PEMO for the presentation and adoption of the provincial CFRM framework plan		C		
Facilitate issuance of executive orders on the creation of municipal coastal law enforcement teams	O	O		
Facilitate issuance of executive orders on the creation of municipal CFRM technical working groups	O	O		
Conduct consultations with HIPADA-LGUs on the drafting and formulation of coastal and fisheries resources management plans		C		
Provide technical assistance to HIPADA-LGUs on the formulation and finalization of CFRM plans				
Provide technical assistance in the presentation of CFRM plans to municipal development councils for adoption and integration into their annual development and investment plans				

Conduct consultation and review of existing municipal zoning plans of HIPADA-LGUs	C			
Develop marine zoning plan		O		
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Provide technical assistance to BFAR Caraga in the conduct of Fisherfolk Registration	O	O		
Consultation with partner agencies (MARINA, PNP-MG, PNP, PCG, BFAR, PAO and LGUs) on fisherfolk registration	C			
Conduct registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance		O		
Conduct training on EO 305 and boat and gear registration system				
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Consultation with LGUs of Del Carmen and General Luna, Siargao Is.	C			
Conduct of willingness-to-pay survey in Gen.Luna, Siargao Island	C			

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- In collaboration with the LGU of Tagana-an, HIPADA-TAG, PAO, PEMO, PNP-MG and BFAR, conducted training on December 10-12, 2013 on PCRA and MPA establishment and management in view of the fisherfolk’s desire to establish the LGU’s second marine sanctuary in Barangay Fabio. Around 30 participants composed of barangay council members, FARMC representatives, Bantay Dagat and PO members attended the training workshops.



ECOFISH Surigao site coordinator Nestor Escara talks about coastal resource management to council members, PO officers and fisherfolk of Barangay Fabio, Tagana-an during a hands-on training on 10-12 December 2013.

- Consulted FARMC members of Surigao City on 18 February 2014, fisherfolk of Barangay San Isidro and Barangays Alang-alang and Buenavista. Common concerns include illegal fishing practices using dynamite and *boso*/compressor in marine sanctuaries, and the need for law enforcement training and strengthened coordination to address persistent destructive fishing activities. Around 90 fishers, women, elders, barangay officials and Bantay Dagat members attended the consultations in Surigao City.

- Provided administrative and logistical assistance in the conduct of MPA baseline information assessment in coordination with the PAO, PEMO, BFAR-PFO, the LGUs of Surigao City, Tagana-an and Gigaquit.
- Surigao MKBA updated the Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance (HIPADA) - Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on the ECOFISH interventions.
- In collaboration with PAO and PEMO, reviewed the draft CRM framework plan on 25 October 2013 and conducted a writeshop on 11-13 February 2014 with representatives from the original group that drafted the plan and those from other local partners such as PNP-MG, Placer, Surigao City, and other key LGUs.
- Provided initial technical assistance to BFAR through the FRMD in the preparation of its draft sailfish management plan of Siargao Island. During consultations, the LGUs unequivocally expressed their position to ban the use of *pamo* (gill nets) in the island as a direct management measure that will sustain game fishing in the island.
- Conducted Basic Fishery/Coastal Law Enforcement Training on 18-21 March 2014 to enhance the skills and capabilities of law enforcement teams of covered LGUs in undertaking actual field operations and enforcement functions.
- With an average number of participants of about 100, each of these activities highlighted the importance of the ecosystem perspective in law enforcement by strengthening inter-LGU, multi-sectoral, multi-level and inter-jurisdictional cooperation among covered LGUs; and facilitated information-sharing among covered LGUs and local partners, including PNP-MG and PCG.



Local partners from Surigao representing PAO, PEMO, BFAR, PNP, PNP-Maritime Group, Philippine Coast Guard, HIPADA-LGUs and Fisherfolk organizations during the Coastal Law Enforcement Assessment Workshop held in September 2013.

- Attended consultations with the PEMO on the formation of the Provincial Fishery/Coastal Law Enforcement Task Force, and provided advice and direction in the finalization of the MOA creating the Task Force composed of BFAR, DENR, PNP-MG, PCG, MARINA, and other local partners. The provincial government was prompted to form the said task force by the worsening coastal and marine pollution from vessels and industries in the coastline, and the flagrant intrusion of *liba-liba* (Danish seine), dynamite fishing and other destructive fishing practices in municipal waters.
- Currently coordinating with LGUs on the status of the on-line registration. Based on recent consultations with MA/MAOs and ATs for Fisheries, the most common problem

encountered is the weak and unreliable Internet connection in the municipalities. Currently exploring options to assist LGUs in uploading accomplished registration forms.

- Conducted tourists' Willingness-To-Pay Survey in General Luna to determine possible means to generate income that would support strengthening and sustainability of management, protection and conservation of the island's marine and coastal environments. As an internationally acclaimed surfing destination, General Luna in Siargao Island has to maintain conservation efforts to keep its marine and coastal ecosystems in their best condition to ensure long-term benefits from tourism, fisheries and related activities.
- Assisted in the selection and training of six (6) local enumerators from General Luna and Dapa that interviewed a total of 601 local and foreign tourists from August to November 2013.

5.7. Tawi-Tawi MKBA

In Year 1, the Tawi-Tawi project team conducted an evaluation of the existing MPA network established during FISH Project using the MPA Management Evaluation and Assessment Tool (MEAT) to identify activities to strengthen the network. Identification and establishment of additional MPAs, particularly in the municipalities of Tandubas, Sapa-Sapa, and South Ubian is on-going and will continue towards the second half of Year 2 of the project.

In Year 2, the project team focused on activities that will contribute to the increase in fisheries biomass and increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management. The site team likewise prioritized activities such as the establishment of marine protected areas, establishment of Public-Private Partnerships supporting ECOFISH objectives, and capacity building on policy and governance, and especially the strengthening of coastal law enforcement teams.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the Tawi-Tawi Bay MKBA.

Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				
Consultation with BFAR ARMM regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Vetting of prospective trainees	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Fatwa consultation and production of IEC materials in local dialect	O	O		
EAFM orientation for BFAR ARMM regional team		O		
Coordinate BFAR ARMM, MARINA and LGU on EO305		O		
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the conduct of orientation on EO305				
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the Training of Police Community Relations Officers (PCRs) and Intelligence Officers on Community-oriented Policing System in the Coastal Environment in collaboration with the National QRT, PNP Training Command and US-DOJ ICITAP				
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the Training for all PNP Maritime Group in collaboration with PNP Training Command in support of the AMPA Program of the PNP-MG		C		
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the Fish Examiners Training for selected partners				
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Develop strategic partnership, conduct partner negotiations, prepare MOUs, and conduct partnership forums	O	O		
Conduct training of enforcers in utilizing InfoBoard service of SMART		C		
Implementation of InfoBoard service and monitoring		O		
Develop community partnership/scoping activity	O	O		
Capacity building, community partnership training/business planning training	O	O		
Community partnership monitoring and mentoring	O	O		
Develop and establish ECOFISH business network				
Conduct scoping activities on which communities can be tapped for potential PPPs		O		
Conduct scoping activities on potential private sector partners for PPPs in ECOFISH MKBAs		O		
Conduct scoping activities to identify alternative livelihood schemes aside from PPPs for fishing communities				
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment	O	O		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				

Identification of species-specific or fishing gear studies based on results of baseline assessment	O	O		
Conduct consultative meeting with BFAR, LGU and stakeholders on species-specific and fishing gear management		O		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Re-organization and strengthening of MPA Management body of existing MPAs	O	O		
Establishment of new MPAs in Tandubas, Sapa-Sapa and South Ubian (consultation with community, training on MPA establishment, installation, and drafting of ordinance)		O		
Provide assistance to PNP Maritime Group in the AMPA Project	O	O		
Conduct of MPA MEAT for Bongao, Sapa-Sapa, Tandubas and South Ubian municipalities	O	O		
Facilitate meeting and consultations of MPA network in former FISH sites	O	O		
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants on the conduct of enforcement training for MPA enforcers to coincide with the basic fishery law enforcement				
Intensify IEC campaign	O	O		
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Review of Fisheries Management Plans of Panglima Sugala and Simunul municipalities	O	C		
Reorganization/strengthening of Municipal Coastal Law Enforcement Teams (FISH sites)	O	C		
Provide technical support in the establishment of coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (LGUs new sites)		O		
Strengthen Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance and establish linkage to PNP Maritime Group		O		
Formation/organization of municipal CLE teams (new sites) and issuance of authorization including facilitation of 1-day regular team meetings		O		
Provide assistance on the coordination and mobilization of participants for the conduct of on-demand/need-basis one (1) day specialization seminar for all team members				
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the province-wide Team Building Exercises of coastal law enforcers				
Participate and or facilitate team meeting of Tawi-Tawi MCS team		O		
Facilitate revival of the Provincial Coastal Law Enforcement Team of Tawi-Tawi		O		
Strengthen the inter-LGU law enforcement team (Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance)	O	O		
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the Training for Tawi-Tawi MCS Team in coordination with BFAR-ARMM and ICITAP				
Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				

Review of municipal ordinance on the registration and licensing of fishers, fishing boat and gear (FISH sites)	O	O		
Provide assistance to LGUs on the implementation of registration and licensing (FISH sites)	O	O		
Coordination and support to BFAR ARMM regional office in the implementation of FishR		O		
IEC on building awareness on the acceptance of the registration system		O		
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the conduct of FishR implementation, planning and actual implementation				
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the conduct of admeasurement training with gear and boat registration in conjunction with MARINA, PCG and BFAR				
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the conduct of workshops for SBs on drafting regulatory ordinance on licensing in collaboration with PCL local chapters or UP Law Center's popularizing the Law or Law for All program				
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Scoping for a feasible revenue generation system		O		
Generate data in support for user's fee scheme				
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Identification of sustainable financing program		O		
Conduct site validation for feasible sustainable financing program				
Conduct consultation with LGU and stakeholders				

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- The Sulu MKBA site team coordinated the gathering of relevant data on EAFM, MPA and CCA with local government units.
- The team also facilitated a discussion with religious groups or Mufti on the preparation of a project proposal for the formulation of Fatwa on Climate Change through an environmental diplomacy program of the USAID.
- Presented and discussed with partner LGUs, PNP and the MPA Management Committees on the use of 700-DALOY of SMART Communications and the PNP-Maritime Group on enhancing enforcement operations in Tawi-Tawi. This is an innovative strategy on enforcement combining information gathering, sharing and social media. Partners were thrilled at how the service might improve response and public support to the different enforcement issues in Tawi-Tawi Bay.
- Assistance to thematic leads in the coordination with PNP Regional Maritime Unit, ARMM and MARPSTA on the upcoming training of 700-DALOY and launching event.
- On-going scoping for potential community partnership in Bongao and Panglima Sugala municipalities.
- Completed baseline assessment of the three Marine Protected Areas by UP Visayas headed by Dr. Willie Campos last 04-08 December 2013. The three (3) critical MPAs

that will contribute to the 10% increase in biomass are Ungus-Ungus Fish Sanctuary of Bongao, Batu-Batu Kulape MPA of Panglima Sugala, and Tonggusong-Maruwa Fish Sanctuary of Simunul.

- Initially discussed with Prof. Abdulganih Eshmael on identifying scientific studies for species fish species particularly on bangus spawner/*sabalo* in the municipality of Simunul. The mayor of Simunul showed interest in preserving and protecting bangus spawners and wants to consider the Look area for seasonal fishing or be declared a protected area.
- The site team assisted the PNP-MG in the documentation of the confiscated 23 marine turtles (15 live and 13 dead/stuffed turtles) that were apprehended in the municipal waters of Sitangkai municipality. The site team helped in species identification of the marine turtles (hawksbill and green turtles) and coordinated with BFAR, LGU of Bongao and DENR for their proper disposal and release. The dead and stuffed turtles were turned over to the provincial office of the DENR while the remaining 13 live turtles were released at Tango Island.



In Tawi-tawi, the AMPA Project of the PNP-Maritime Group, has improved enforcement against illegal, unregulated and unreported fish and such as the recent arrest of poachers and confiscation of turtles (photo taken by Chino Gaston/GMA News).

- Conducted various meetings with MPA and Fish Sanctuary Management Committees where reorganization of the groups were initiated. Management issues and concerns were raised. Unanimously all the fish sanctuaries need rehabilitation on the boundary markers, rehabilitation of guard house and repair and/or procurement of patrol boats.

- Initial meeting with Dr. Jumelita Romero of MSU-Bongao campus for the submission of proposal of SAF on the establishment/strengthening of MPAs. The site team provided data and information on the status of MPAs in Tawi-Tawi Bay.
- Facilitated various meetings in support to Adopt a Marine Protected Area (AMPA) Project of the PNP-MG. Convening the Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance gave a head start by introducing the members to the PNP-MG. Among the three (3) MPAs to be adopted are Lagasan-Pababag MPA, Ungus-Ungus Fish Sanctuary and Batu-Batu Kulape MPA. The team introduced the local PNP-MG to the members of the MPA Management Committees of the three (3) identified MPAs.
- In support to AMPA, the site team assisted the PNP-MG in presenting the project MOU to Mayor Regie S. Generale of Panglima Sugala and Mayor Jasper S. Que of Bongao. Both Mayors committed to support the program and activities related to MPA. Mayor Generale suggested that all MPAs in Panglima Sugala be included in the AMPA Project.
- The MKBA team facilitated a review of the fisheries management plans of the three municipalities of Bongao, Panglima Sugala and Simunul. Majority of the activities planned were not implemented mainly due to lack of financial support. The change in local executives has greatly affected the implementation of fisheries programs.
- The National Fisherfolk Registration Program of BFAR was launched in Tawi-Tawi with ECOFISH assistance on 25 November 2013 at Dan Mar Beach Resort. The launching event was followed by a hands-on training of BFAR provincial staff and LGUs on how to access the database.
- Provided assistance to the Municipal Fisheries Officers and MPDCs of Bongao and Panglima Sugala LGUs in an executive briefing with the Municipal Administrator of Bongao and Mayor Regie S. Generale on the FishR implementation. Both LGUs committed to support the fisherfolk registration. Majority of the 11 LGUs of Tawi-Tawi started their fisherfolk registration in January 2014. As of March 2014, Tandubas municipality already finished the registration and uploading of the forms to the system.
- An exploratory meeting was held between the ECOFISH site team and the Provincial Tourism Officer for scoping a feasible revenue generation system like collection of fees to arriving or visiting local and foreign tourists in Tawi-Tawi. This concept is to be further discussed with the provincial government for approval and develop materials for advocacy and promotion. The provincial government of Tawi-Tawi is producing a video entitled “*Janti ma Tawi-Tawi*” (meaning Beautiful Tawi-Tawi), to promote the culture and beautiful beaches and sceneries of Tawi-Tawi.

5.8. Verde Island Passage MKBA

In Year 1, Coastal Law Enforcement and EAFM benchmarking were conducted to provide project partners with a clear picture on the actual status of governance, resource management programs as well as enforcement and compliance in each coastal municipality. This will serve as guide to identify the appropriate courses of action to effectively implement EAFM. A particular intervention identified was a proposed closed season for small pelagics. ECOFISH in collaboration with PGENRO and Conservation International, conducted a series of consultations with commercial fishers, fishing operators, municipal fisherfolks, LGU officials, NGOs, POs, and other stakeholders to roll out the initiative.

The CLE and EAFM benchmarking results served as guide for the set of activities identified for Year 2. One key project intervention is the conduct of catch surveys and gonad study to determine the appropriate close season for small pelagics.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities in the Verde Island Passage MKBA.

Verde Island Passage MKBA				
Project Intervention/Activity	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				
Consultation with BFAR Region 4-A and Provincial Government regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Coordinate with the Provincial Executive Committee on the finalization and signing of MOU	C			
Courtesy call and presentation of ECOFISH project with the Governor, Batangas LMP Chapter and DILG	C			
Vetting of prospective trainees	O	O		
Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA	O	O		
Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted				
Coordinate with partners the conduct of Fish Examiners Training for municipalities in the focal area	O	O		
Provide technical assistance to partner PNPs, PCGs on Community-Oriented Policing System in the Coastal Environment and preventive fishery law enforcement in collaboration with the National QRT, PNP Training Command and US-DOJ ICITAP		O		
Provide technical assistance to PNP Maritime Group in collaboration with PNP Training Command to support the Adopt an MPA Program of the PNP-MG	O	O		
Provide technical assistance on fisheries catch monitoring and assessment for municipalities in the focal area.				
Conduct orientation on coastal law enforcement, relevant policies, regulatory systems and environmental protocols to Bantay Dagat, MPA Managers, PNP	C			
Provide MAOs, MENROs and Bantay Dagat guidelines and survey methods on resources and habitat assessment.	C			
Assist BFAR and OPA in the training and reactivation of FARMCs	C			
Coordinate consultative planning workshop on VA for fisheries and updating CCA to incorporate fishery-specific adaptation tools	O	O		
Training of BERT members (second liners) on fishery law enforcement including deputation		C		

Seminar for local judges/fiscals on fishery law enforcement and environmental cases procedures		O		
Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established				
Coordinate and conduct joint review workshop with partners to assess and finalize short-listed enterprises identified during the previous scoping session	C			
Coordinate conduct of inventory of POs, potential partners and potential donors	C			
Forge collaboration with DOLE, DILG and NAPC	C			
Assist in the mobilization and conduct of business planning workshop		C		
Assist partners in the formulation of IEC materials aimed to attract investors and partnerships		C		
Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment	O	C		
Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species				
Collect, consolidate and compile previous studies on habitat condition, population dynamics of threatened/ commercially important species in Balayan Bay and Lubang Island for scientific study	O	C		
Coordinate conduct of trainings, catch monitoring and consultative meetings for closed season in Balayan Bay	C			
Popularized spawning cycle of <i>galunggong</i> , sardine and other species as well as the principles of spill over among the coastal communities	C	C		
Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs				
Assist LGUs in updating their MPA Plans and reviewing their existing MEAT	C			
Assist LGUs and PGENRO in the conduct of MPA MEAT and accomplishment of monitoring tool particularly for LGUs that are new		C		
Assist Lemery, Taal and Tingloy in the establishment of new MPAs/ Fish Sanctuaries as well as drafting of ordinance	O	O		
Strengthening of MPA Management body through collaborative undertakings and co-management with PNP-MG in management and safeguarding the MPAs	C			
Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs				
Coordinate and conduct joint review workshop with partners to assess existing coastal and marine resources and habitat management practices and programs as well as regulatory/ordinances	C			
Provide technical assistance and coordination in the formulation of Integrated CFRMP (consultations, orientations and planning)	O	C		
Coordinate conduct of Project-wide consultative meeting and planning workshop for the formulation of Integrated CFRM Plan		O		
Assist LGUs in the zoning and spatial planning of zones for economic uses and reduce use conflicts		O		

Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
Assist BFAR-PFO, OPA and concerned LGUs in the popularization of FishR particularly in the conduct of consultative meetings and orientations in the coastal communities.	C			
Assist and coordinate conduct of admeasurement training for LGUs in collaboration with MARINA, PCG and BFAR.		O		
Coordinate seminar or workshop for Sanguniang Bayan on formulation and drafting of regulatory ordinance on registration and licensing system in collaboration with DILG, BFAR, PCL and/or other concerned assisting institutions	O	O		
Assist LGUs and maintain database on registered fisherfolks, vessels and gears	O	O		
Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs				
Data gathering on existing local legislations, licensing system and economic use zones	C			
Provide assisting institutions/ organizations with information on demand and market of Green Cleaning, Rags, etc.	C			
Skills inventory and organizational assessment of POs and screening of project beneficiaries.	C			
Forge collaboration with TESDA, DOLE and DILG for skills development and other capacity building programs.	O	O		
Collaborate with DILG for the implementation of the 2014 BUBs for Calaca, Balayan, Calatagan, Lemery and Bauan.	C			
Meeting with Calatagan seaweed farmers, self-reliant groups in Balayan and Calaca	C			
Assist in business planning workshop and documentation of pilot testing of Green Solution	O	O		
Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs				
In coordination with DA-BFAR, conduct of inventory of existing livelihood and extension programs of BFAR and partners for purposes of complementation, harmonization as well as document best practices	O	C		
Assist LGUs in the formulation/ development of regulatory mechanisms, ordinances (e.g. fees, fines, rents etc.) on coastal and marine resource use		O		
In coordination with REECS, sustainable financing systems introduced to partners particularly on user's fees, resource rents for mangroves and beaches, aquaculture and mariculture projects and other related projects	O	O		
Provide technical and administrative assistance in the conduct of economic value chain studies of important species		O		
Coordinate and organize business planning workshop focusing on the translation of Fisheries Management Plan into business plan		O		
Assist LGUs in the identification of eco-friendly enterprises	O	C		

Highlights of key site-level activities during the reporting period include:

- Attended the TWG meeting for Balayan Bay Seasonal Closure and VIP consultative meeting on Sustainable Financing in Lemery, Batangas and presented the proposed Seasonal Closure for Balayan Bay and other Project updates during the Lemery Sangguniang Bayan session on 31 October 2013.
- Presented ECOFISH Project at the LMP Conference in Batangas City on February 28, 2014.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the implementation of the ECOFISH Project in the Province of Batangas was reviewed and finalized by the PGENRO and OPA. The MOU was signed by Gov. Vilma Santos-Recto, BFAR 4A regional director Esmeralda Manalang and ECOFISH Chief of Party Gerry Silvestre last 26 March 2014 during the Batangas Environmental Summit (BEST) 2014.
- Participated in the scoping and planning of the PNP-MG's AMPA Project. The site



ECOFISH team and PNP officers led by PSSupt. Danilo Maligalig posed during the planning meeting for the AMPA Project (left). VIP site coordinator Maricar Daquioag and ECOFISH PPP specialist Lawrence Ang greet PNP-Maritime Group officers during the AMPA soft launch in Solo, Mabini, Batangas on 02 December 2013 (right).

coordinator represented ECOFISH during the AMPA project soft launch in Mabini, Batangas on 02 December 2013.

- ECOFISH partnered with the Batangas PGENRO, Conservation International and First Gas Corporation in undertaking a series of CLE refresher courses for 70 participants from Mabini, Tingloy, Batangas City and Lian on 20-22 November 2013. The refresher course focused on the core components of CLE particularly mapping and chart reading, pre-boarding and boarding procedures, and criminal procedure and basic intelligence management. Among the participants were provincial prosecutors led by the Provincial Prosecutor and the Provincial Legal Officer who both expressed their support to the members of the Bantay Dagat.
- Dialogued with the Police Provincial Director of Batangas for a general orientation of the local PNP stations in the 15 coastal municipalities at the Batangas Provincial Police Office on 28 January 2014.
- Facilitated with PGENRO the training needs assessment (TNA) for Batangas PNP on 12 February 2014 for 30 selected PNP officers mostly composed of the Municipal Chief PNP's and their Investigators.

- In partnership with the PGENRO, Batangas Environment Response Team (BERT), a Summit was conducted on 26-28 March 2014 to review the existing compliance and enforcement strategies undertaken in the Province, as well as review of the respective functions of BERT.
- ECOFISH conducted training for Fisheries Monitoring for the Balayan landing site on 05-06 November 2013 and provided technical and administrative assistance to fish catch enumerators and concerned LGUs during the actual data gathering intended to support fisheries management interventions.
- Provided technical and administrative assistance to the MAOs of Tingloy and San Luis for the reactivation of MPA management body and identification and establishment of



ECOFISH provided technical and administrative support to fish catch enumerators and partner LGUs during the actual data gathering from 14 September 2013 to 09 February 2014. The 4 sites selected are Anilao in Mabini, Barangay Wawa in Batangas City, San Piro in Balayan, and Pulong Bato in Calatagan.

additional MPA areas.

- Provided technical and administrative assistance to TWG of Balayan Bay particularly regarding the formulation of the Baywide Fisheries Management Framework Plan.
- Attended and participated in the series of consultative meetings and TWG meeting on Balayan Bay species-specific management proposal.
- Provided technical and administrative assistance to Mabini, Tingloy, Calaca, Taal, Bauan, Lemery and Lian during the orientation on FishR for the municipal fisher folks. ECOFISH also provided technical assistance in troubleshooting basic software program of FishR.
- Attended and participated in the BFAR-PFO series of stakeholders consultation in February 2014 regarding existing livelihood programs related to fisheries resource management.
- Conducted stakeholders consultation entitled “Incorporating Fisheries Resources Management (FRM) and Coastal Resources Management (CRM) into the Bottom-Up Budgeting (BuB) Process for 2015” held at BFAR-NFRDI National Biological Station in Butong, Taal on 06 November 2013.

6. Performance Synopsis

Two major natural disasters struck the Philippines during at the first half of Year 2 of project implementation. A magnitude 7.2 earthquake with its epicenter near the Danajon Bank MKBA struck the central Philippines on 15 October 2013. On 08 November 2013, super typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda hit Samar, Leyte, northern Cebu and the Calamianes Islands. ECOFISH had to put on hold a number of planned activities (specifically in the Danajon Bank and Calamianes Island Group) and had to respond by immediately shifting to relief and rehabilitation efforts. The project team immediately coordinated collection of relief goods in the country and in the U.S. through the home office personnel.

In the aftermath of the Bohol earthquake and Supertyphoon Yolanda, partners in Bohol expressed a need to understand the science behind the natural disasters and the impact to coastal resources and communities. In response, ECOFISH organized a public forum called “Disasters, Climate Change and Biodiversity” and brought in experts in geology, meteorology and climate science to Bohol on 04 December 2013 to explain to the public and to local officials the impact of the natural disasters. The forum was very well received and attended. Experts provided clear and science-based information, dispelling rumors and assuaging anxieties. They also exhorted the LGUs to make disaster risk management a priority and for the general public to share in the responsibility of reducing risks. The forum was widely covered by media, which enabled more people outside the venue to hear and discuss the matter even many days after the event. ECOFISH also researched and collated easy to understand/popularized materials on the topics for dissemination to forum participants.

The Project successfully conducted relevant preparations for the roll-out of the “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration in the Danajon Reef” in San Jose National High School in Talibon, Bohol. The actual roll-out is slated for 04 April 2014, where partners DOST-ICT Office, and Microsoft together with ECOFISH will turn over to BFAR, the Province of Bohol and respective local government officials the TV White Space connectivity for over 20 public schools in the municipalities of Tubigon, Talibon, Ubay, Bien Unido, Trinidad, and Carlos P. Garcia. These connected public schools will serve as mobile registration hubs under the FishR and, together with the 30 tablets to be provided, are expected to significantly increase the capacity of the pilot municipalities to facilitate registration of fisherfolk. Additionally, a prototype offline FishR application was developed and turned over by the partnership to BFAR for further development and integration into the re-engineered FishR platform to be launched within the year by BFAR.

ECOFISH coordinated with MARINA to revive the trainings on boat registration for LGUs. This was set-aside for a number of years because of jurisdictional issue between MARINA and local governments in the registration of fishing vessels less than three gross tons. Despite the issuance of DOJ opinion last December 2013 upholding LGU jurisdiction, there seems to be resistance within MARINA to comply with the opinion.

A framework for establishing social enterprises is now being developed for each MKBA. At the end of this reporting period, there are 2 MKBAs that are ready with their strategies and partner NGOs, two more are in the planning stage, and 2 are still being assisted in identifying partner NGOs that can help the project implement proposals on the ground.

Overall, the project is on track with its Year 2 Work Plan implementation. Minor delays have been encountered in some site- and national-level activities, but such delays can be addressed during the remaining months of Year 2. Table 2 shows the major performance indicators, life of project targets, Year 2 targets and actual accomplishments. The number of national and local EAFM training courses conducted, number of persons trained, and number of person-hours of training on EAFM, MPA, and CCA have exceeded the targets. This is largely because a number of orientation, assessment and evaluation workshops were transformed into full-blown training programs. Also some sites are more advanced than the others and training activities intended for later years, such as planning for network of MPAs and spatial planning, were requested by partners to be conducted ahead of their intended schedule. The number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management has also exceeded the target. In the preparation of project proposal, the team underestimated starting level of fisheries management initiatives in the former FISH project sites and presumed that they have declined since the termination of that project in 2010. It was likewise assumed that the four new sites would have very low level of fisheries management capabilities and interventions. Therefore, the project proposed a conservatively low target. However, the management and institutional benchmarking exercises conducted at the onset of project implementation provided a better picture than expected.

6.1. Unplanned Activities

A number of activities participated in by the project team were not all part of the plan. Both the thematic leads of the team and the site managers were involved in activities that are primarily related to the deliverables of the project as well as foster good relation with partners. The ECOFISH team members participated, co-facilitated, assisted or supported various activities at the national level. These include, among others, the following:

- After the initial onslaught of the typhoon, efforts were exerted to help the people of the Calamianes Island Group get back on their feet and deal with the loss of homes, farmlands, and fishing paraphernalia on which they depended for their primary source of food and income. During the first quarter of 2014, intensive coordination was done with major donors, NGOs and national government agencies that wanted to participate in long-term recovery. As a result of these coordinating activities, the project has partnered with the Philippine Disaster Recovery Foundation for mangrove rehabilitation efforts, with the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) for the provision of fiberglass boats for 300 typhoon victims and boat building training for 15 locals, and with Smart Communications for the donation of water filtration systems to nine barangays whose water supply systems were affected by the typhoon.

Table 2. Performance Indicators, Life of Project Targets, Year 2 Cumulative Targets and Accomplishments for First Half of Year 2.

PIRS ¹ No.	Key Result Area	Indicator	LOP Target	Year 2 Target	Accom- plished
1	Result A. An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.	Percentage increase in the biomass of selected fisheries in the focal areas across the 8 MKBAs relative to baseline using fisheries dependent method and MPA assessment method	10	NA	NA
2	Result B. A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the project	Percentage increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment in the focal areas across the eight MKBAs relative to baseline using socio-economic methods	10	NA	NA
3	Result C. Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.	Number of EAFM training courses conducted (national, regional and local)	120	50	49
4		Number of persons trained in EAFM, MPA and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-27: Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation]	1,800	750	1,629
5		Number of person hours of training on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-29: Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance]	24,000	10,800	26,064
6		Number of policy studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national) [FACTS 4.8.2.28: Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change and/or biodiversity conservation formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance]	8	5	3
7		Result D. Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH project created and operating	Number of strategic partnerships formally established and operating (cumulative)	8	4
8		Number of community partnerships actively engaged and mobilized (cumulative)	100	40	61
9	Result E. One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.	Number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management (cumulative) [FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance]	1,000,000	400,000	478,176
10		Number of hectares of MPAs and network of MPAs established (cumulative) [FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance]	320	64	1,650
11	Result F. A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.	Number of inter-LGU/MKBA fisheries management plans developed	8	2	0
12		Number of LGUs that have achieved EAFM benchmark level 2 or higher (cumulative)	42	10	11

¹ Performance Indicator Reference Sheet (refer to Appendix 1 of the ECOFISH Performance Monitoring Plan for details)

- The National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), the agency leading government efforts in providing long-term livelihood assistance, has also been working closely with the project in setting up alternative livelihood activities for affected fishing families. Finally, the project has been approached by various NGOs planning to conduct similar activities, in order to avoid duplication of efforts on the ground.
- ECOFISH was requested by a broad group of scientists and NGOs to facilitate discussions to develop a coastal greenbelt program, especially a draft bill for the purpose. While coastal greenbelts were not identified as a priority intervention for the Project, we have been frequently drawn into the discussions in the aftermath of super typhoon Yolanda, and in the context of coastal ecosystem/ community resilience. ECOFISH facilitated an exchange of ideas among a select group of experts to come up with key points for consideration in a draft law. The Office of Senator Aquino took up the study recommendations and filed a bill, Senate Bill No. 2179, establishing a national coastal greenbelts program.
- ECOFISH provided technical support to NFRDI in developing the training design and training modules for the expanded National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP). The training design and training modules are already being used in training NSAP enumerators in the expanded NSAP sites as well as retooling of enumerators in the old NSAP sites.
- A series of meetings with Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Councils (MDRRMC) in the three municipalities of Calamianes (Coron, Culion and Busuanga) were conducted on December 8-10, 2013. These municipalities were badly hit by super typhoon Yolanda in November 2013. The meetings provided updates on damages and needs of affected barangays. One of the identified needs is the provision of boat assistance to the fishers, since FishR has not yet started in the three municipalities because orientation was just completed in September 2013. The LGU wants to tie this up with boat assistance, wherein registration will be conducted simultaneously with distribution of boats. Initial scoping for enterprise development proposal in Calamianes was also undertaken during these meetings. Potential partners in the implementation of enterprise development were identified.
- Assisted the Regional Director of Region 4B when he visited the typhoon affected fishing community in Culion in November 2013. ECOFISH was also instrumental in identifying the beneficiaries of AHON project of BFAR in Calamianes Island Group by providing the list of fisherfolk with damaged boats. Also, ECOFISH supported the launching and turn over ceremony of the project.
- The Provincial Government of Batangas requested ECOFISH support for the conduct of the 2014 Batangas Environmental Summit (BEST) held on 26-28 March 2014. ECOFISH helped design the summit, including inviting LGU partners from Bohol, Cebu and Negros Occidental to share their experiences with counterparts in Batangas. The result is a regional forum on fisheries management, participated in by the provincial government, all coastal LGUs in the province, Chiefs of Police of every LGU in the province, Batangas Bantay Dagat Network, civil society, private sector and academic institution partners. The BEST regional forum facilitated an exchange of knowledge among practitioners from Bohol, Negros Occidental and Batangas and also led to the public expression of support from all stakeholders for the coordinated implementation of the

comprehensive coastal and fisheries development plans of the province, major bays and individual LGUs.

- Facilitated the visit of the USAID Assistant Deputy Administrator for Asia Bureau Greg Beck and USAID-Philippines Mission Director Gloria Steele for the conduct of dialogue with the Municipal Officials and stakeholders on the impacts of the earthquake and typhoon Haiyan on the coastal ecosystem and livelihoods. The output of the meeting resulted in USAID's affirmation to support the short-term relief and long-term rehabilitation efforts of the Government of the Philippines, particularly Bohol that was severely affected by the earthquake.
- Facilitated USAID visit to South Negros from March 5-7, 2014 which included courtesy call at the Vice Mayor's Office of Dauin, Negros Oriental. This was followed by a visit to Apo Island Marine Sanctuary and Protected Seascape and a dialogue with the LGU Officials of Dauin and Barangay Council of Apo on the first day. On the next day, the team travelled to Bayawan City for a courtesy visit to the Mayor, quick tour of fisheries support facilities of the city and a dialogue with the Fisheries Section Chief at the same time Chairperson of the Coastal Law Enforcement Cluster (CLEC). This was followed by a brief visit to Silliman University- Institute of Environmental and Marine Sciences (IEMS) and dinner with Dr. Angel Alcala. The 3-day visit was capped with a meeting and interaction with major partners from the BFAR 7 led by the Regional Director, Chief of ENRD Negros Oriental, Program Manager of RARE, Station Chief of 702nd Maritime Police Station, Philippine Navy, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary (PCGA) and Dumaguete City's Administrator.
- Assisted BFAR and NFRDI in the training of research staff from Regions 5, 6, 7, and 8 and researchers of MV DA-BFAR on the analysis of research data. Trained the research staff on procedures to estimate demersal stock biomass from trawl survey data.
- Assisted the FRMD of BFAR Region 5 in the conduct of the bay-wide fisheries resources management planning for San Miguel Bay. Introduced to the participants the EAFM concept and discussed various fisheries resources management options applicable in the area.
- Assisted the Fisheries Resource Management Division of BFAR in the conduct of the National Conference on Fisheries Resources Management. Discussed the science, tools, actual practice, and governance scale of ecosystem approach to fisheries management.
- Participated in the NSAP Year End Review and Planning in Laoag, Ilocos Norte. The ECOFISH team served as evaluators of NSAP Regional Reports and likewise introduced new fisheries resources assessment and management tools for use by NSAP.
- Assisted the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in the conduct of the Coastal Fisheries Stock Assessment Training for DOST scholars. Discussed fish stock assessment principles, estimation of fish population parameters, and analytical tools.
- Assisted PCAARRD of DOST in the conduct of the National Sardine Research and Development Program Review and Integration. Served as technical evaluators of the various researches conducted on sardine biology, fisheries, and ecology. Also provided the strategy and approach for integrating results of various researches as well as

recommended research areas that still need to be conducted for an ecosystem approach to managing sardine fisheries.

- BFAR requested ECOFISH to orient BFAR Regional Directors the importance of NSAP in fisheries management. After the orientation conducted by ECOFISH and NFRDI, the Regional Directors became even more enthusiastic in supporting NSAP. A series of orientation on the underlying concepts and use of NSAP information in managing fisheries is being planned not only for the technical personnel of the BFAR Regional Offices but also for the entire administrative staff.

6.2. Issues and Concerns

The various start-up activities provided the ECOFISH project team a good opportunity to work closer with partners on the ground and at the national level. This enabled the team to learn more about the partners and the areas/sites of project implementation (including candid communication of their perceived issues and concerns they hope the project can address). The project team has tried to resolve these issues and concerns as they arose and to the best of the team's ability. Most of these require only some quick fix solutions, but a few would require medium to long-term solutions. These include the following:

- Funding of the enterprise development proposals remains to be a challenge. Initially, the project thought it could rely on the Phil-Am Fund to complement project interventions on the ground. However, the Fund's cycle is taking longer than expected, potentially affecting the delivery of ECOFISH interventions within the project's timeframe. The Project is therefore trying to source out other potential partners in funding the social preparation activities to enable the fisherfolk organizations to take off and engage in social enterprises that will help contribute to the Project's objectives.
- The Mayor of Coron has issues with project due to her perception that: (1) she is already doing many of the project interventions in Coron that ECOFISH is doing; (2) all that the project does is conduct workshops and meetings; and (3) there is no downloading of funds to the Coron LGU. However, these perceptions are not shared by members of the municipal council and the rest of the municipal government. But just the same, implementation of planned activities in the municipality might be affected by these perceptions of the Mayor.
- Delays in finalizing the USG-GPH bilateral assistance agreement and its implementing arrangements has delayed formalization of the project's coordination and reporting arrangements with key national partners (DA-BFAR, DENR-BMB and DILG-BLGD). With COR inputs, ECOFISH is trying to work out at least a DA-wide oversight and reporting arrangement.
- Intrusion of commercial fishing vessels in municipal waters remains as the main enforcement issue in South Negros MKBA and strong political support of LCEs and Legislative Bodies complemented with heightened community awareness on coastal conservation, protection and management are imperative. Logistical support thru provision/ leverage funding for coastal law enforcement (CLE) assets in detection, reporting, responding and disposing fishing violations are also needed. Nonetheless, the project is also banking on the support of active NGA partners in the area - Philippine

Navy, PNP-MG and Coast Guard. With the recent launch of the AMPA Project, PNP-MG has been very keen in supporting and collaborating with the Project and LGU partners in the implementation of AMPA at the same time addressing the IUU fishing issues.

- The fisheries sector in South Negros MKBA was also affected by the flooding incident brought about by Typhoon Quedan last October 5-6, 2013. In Bayawan City alone, fifteen (15) CFV operators with a total of twenty (20) CFVs (12-totally damaged and 8-partially damaged) and 10 municipal fishing vessels (7- totally damaged, 2- partially damaged and 1-lost engine) were damaged (*from Bayawan City Damage Report, October 15, 2013*). Sources of assistance to respond to these impacts are being explored by ECOFISH.
- LGU Sta. Catalina has proposed for fish aggregating devices/payaos as Bottom up Budgeting (BUB) project in 2013 and has been approved. Likewise, BFAR National Office has delivered 12 units of payaos intended for LGUs in South Negros MKBA on October 29, 2013. These payaos are intended for hook and line municipal fishers from organized Fisherfolk Associations. Since these will be installed within the municipal waters, ECOFISH is quite apprehensive if the LGU and POs are ready to implement such and make sure that only the targeted beneficiaries will benefit from it. In most cases, payaos have greatly benefited commercial fishers which are in fact banned within municipal waters and has significantly increased fishing pressure.

6.3. Activities Not Accomplished and Why

A number of activities were not accomplished as planned. The cause for these were usually beyond the project's control, and can be addressed during the remaining part of Year 2 implementation. Key delays pertain to the following:

- The coastal vulnerability assessment workshop in focal areas was supposedly scheduled last February 2014 but was cancelled by MERF. However, BFAR 7 in partnership with PLGU Negros Oriental thru ENRD and Provincial LGU of Negros Occidental are initiating orientations on vulnerability assessments in the province.
- Since the business plans drafted in September 2013 are still for finalization, the PPP impact monitoring was not yet implemented. On the other hand, needs assessments and organizational diagnostics were facilitated per PO to determine their readiness in implementing these plans.
- The presentation of MPA network design scheduled in January 2014 was not realized since the MERF Team just finished the hydrodynamics survey during the same month. More time is needed for analyzing the data collected by MERF.

6.4. Recommended Courses of Action

In addition to the specific response to issues and concerns and accelerating the conduct of activities not accomplished on time detailed above, the project also will pursue the following recommended actions:

- ECOFISH is closely coordinating with the Mayor of Coron in all the activities conducted by the project and provided continued consultation and dialogues with members of the municipal council and heads of office.
- ECOFISH is coordinating with MERF to speed up MPA network design and VA inputs.

6.5. Initial Project Impacts

At this early stage of implementation, the impact of the project could not still be fully realized. However, recent project activities with partners at the national and MKBA levels have already shown some initial impacts:

- ECOFISH has been instrumental in the quick recovery of CIG from the devastating impacts of typhoon Yolanda/ Haiyan. Because of its strong presence on the ground and its close collaboration with the LGUs and MDRRMCs, other NGOs and donor agencies have been closely coordinating with the Project in planning and implementing their respective recovery and rehabilitation efforts. As such, ECOFISH has been playing a leading role in providing and eventually implementing long-term livelihood strategies, most of which are targeted towards the fisheries sector. The credibility of the Project has been established particularly with the LGUs of Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga, thereby allowing the smooth rollout and implementation of all other Project interventions in these municipalities.
- The Typhoon Yolanda provided new opportunities for partnership in enterprise development and ECOFISH has been recognized by many organizations for potential collaboration in implementing fisheries management and recovery assistance.
- In the preparation of the State of the Marine Resources Report, an important agreement was forged between ECOFISH and NFRDI. It was agreed that the report should focus on the exploitation ratio values and key population parameters of important fish stocks. These sets of information are regularly collected and annually estimated by BFAR-NFRDI NSAP teams all around the country. These sets of information will be able to show the overall state of exploitation of important fish stocks of the country.
- ECOFISH implementation of its site- and national-level activities has led to high visibility and credibility of the project among organizations and stakeholders in the fisheries sector. The project is often sought by various partners in collaborative activities in fisheries and coastal resources management efforts.