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ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR  
SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  
(ECOFISH) PROJECT

## ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH) Project

### QUARTERLY UPDATE ( 01 OCTOBER – 31 DECEMBER 2014 )

**ECOFISH Document No.: 01/2015**  
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

05 February 2015

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### ***DISCLAIMER***

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

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

700DALOY	-	Decidated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity
AFP	-	Armed Forces of the Philippines
AIM	-	Asian Institute of Management
AIM-SIL	-	Asian Institute of Management – Social Innovation Laboratory
AMPA	-	Adopt a Marine Protected Area Project
ARMM	-	Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
AR	-	Artificial Reef
BD	-	Bantag Dagat Network
BEMO	-	Bohol Environmental Management Office
BERT	-	Batangas Environmental Response Team
BFAR	-	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BMB	-	Biodiversity Management Bureau
BoatR	-	National System for Boat Registration
BuB	-	Bottom-up Budgeting
BPPO	-	Batangas Province Police Office
CAFB	-	Culion Association of Fundamental Baptish Churches
CBLA	-	Cash for Building Livelihood Assets
CFRM	-	Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management
CFGBA	-	Calamian Fiber Glass Builders Association
CI	-	Conservation International
CIG	-	Calamianes Island Group
CLE	-	Coastal Law Enforcement
CLEC	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Council
CMN	-	Calamian MPA Network
COP	-	Chief of Party
CTI	-	Coral Triangle Initiative
CRM	-	Coastal Resource Management
CRS	-	Community Relations Specialist
CSO	-	Civil Society Organization
DA	-	Department of Agriculture
DCOP	-	Deputy Chief of Party
DDBRMC	-	Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council
DENR	-	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DILG	-	Department of Interior and Local Government
DSWD	-	Department of Social Welfare and Development
EAFM	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
ECOFISH	-	Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries
ENRO	-	Environment and Natural Resources Office
FAO	-	Food and Agriculture Organization
FARMC	-	Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council
FGD	-	Focused Group Discussion
FIMC	-	Fisheries Information Management Center

FLC	-	Fish Landing Center
FishR	-	National System on Municipal Fisherfolk Registration
FMO	-	Fisheries Management Office
FLET	-	Fishery Law Enforcement Team
FRMD	-	Fisheries Resources Management Division
GIZ	-	German Society for International Cooperation
GPH	-	Government of the Philippines
GPS	-	Global Positioning System
GPBP	-	Grassroots Participatory Budgeting and Planning
HIPADA	-	Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance
ICTO	-	Information and Communications Technology Office
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IR	-	Intermediate Result
LCE	-	Local Chief Executive
LGU	-	Local Government Unit
LMP	-	League of Municipalities of the Philippines
LPRAT	-	Local Poverty Reduction Action Team
MA	-	Municipal Agriculturist
MAO	-	Municipal Agriculture Office
MARINA	-	Maritime Industry Development Authority
MARPSTA	-	Maritime Police Station
MCLET	-	Municipal Law Enforcement Team
MDC	-	Municipal Development Council
MDRRMC	-	Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council
MEAT	-	Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool
MENRO	-	Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office
MEPU	-	Marine Environment Pollution Unit
MERF	-	Marine Environment Resources Foundation
MFARMC	-	Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
MFI	-	Malampaya Foundation, Inc.
MFO	-	Municipal Fisheries Officer
MKBA	-	Marine Key Biodiversity Area
MOA	-	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	-	Marine Protected Area
MPDC	-	Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator
MRDP	-	Mindanao Rural Development Program
MSI	-	Marine Science Institute
MSU	-	Mindanao State University
NAPC	-	National Anti Poverty Commission
NFBS	-	National Fisheries Biological Station
NFRDI	-	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute
NOAA	-	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSAP	-	National Stock Assessment Program
NTC	-	National Telecommunication Commission
OPA	-	Office of the Provincial Agriculturist
PAC	-	Provincial Agriculture Coordinator
PACPI	-	Philippine Association of Crab Processors Inc.

PAWB	-	Protected Area and Wildlife Bureau
PCG	-	Philippine Coast Guard
PCGA	-	Philippine Coast Guard Auxilliary
PCRA	-	Participatory Coastal Resources Assessment
PCSD	-	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
PDRPMC	-	Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council
PEDO	-	Provincial Environmental Desk Officer
PEMO	-	Provincial Environmental Management Office
PFO	-	Provincial Fisheries Office
PHILSEA	-	Partnership of Philippine Support Seine Agencies
PGENRO	-	Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office
PHIVOLCS	-	Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology
PMES	-	Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Section
PNP	-	Philippine National Police
PNP-MG	-	Philippine National Police – Maritime Group
PO	-	Peoples Organization
PPDO	-	Provincial Planning and Development Office
PPO	-	Police Provincial Office
PPP	-	Public Private Partnership
PSU	-	Palawan State University
QRT	-	Quick Response Team
RMU	-	Regional Management Unit
RTD	-	Round Table Discussion
SAF	-	Special Activity Fund
SEAT	-	Socio-Economic Assessment Tool
SEEM	-	Socio-Economic and Environment Management
SEMFISH	-	Sustainable Enterprises for Municipal Fishing
SEP	-	Strategic Environmental Plan
SB	-	Sangguniang Bayan (Municipal Council)
SBU	-	Special Boat Unit
SLP	-	Sustainable Livelihood Program
SMRR	-	State of the Marine Resources Report
SNCDMC	-	Southern Negros Coastal Development and Management Council
SP	-	Sangguniang Panlalawigan (Provincial Council)
TAG	-	Technical Advisory Group
TK	-	Tanggol Kalikasan (Defense of Nature)
TVWS	-	Television White Space
TWG	-	Technical Working Group
UniLab	-	United Laboratories
UPMSI	-	University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute
UPVFI	-	University of the Philippines in the Visayas Foundation Incorporated
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
USG	-	United States Government
VCA	-	Value Chain Analysis
VIP	-	Verde Island Passage
VMG	-	Vessel Monitoring Group
WCPFC	-	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

WPEA - Western Pacific East Asia  
WTP - Willingness to Pay  
WWF - World Wildlife Fund

## **1. Introduction**

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

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

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

## **2. Project Objectives**

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

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

sustainable financing mechanisms and public-private partnerships (PPPs) more feasible and attractive to investors. Development of PPPs is a key strategy of the Philippine Development Plan.

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

### 3. Monthly Calendar of Key Activities

#### 3.1 National Level Activities

<b>October 2014</b>	
01 October	Value Chain Workshop/Training for site coordinators and candidate enumerators.
02 October	Community meetings in Bauan and Lemery for the closed season of Balayan Bay.
07 October	Meeting in Balayan for the closed season of Balayan Bay. Assisted the VIP site coordinator in identifying possible activities of the fisherfolk that are beneficiaries of the Cash for Building Livelihood Assets (CBLA) support which is funded by DSWD. Conducted values formation orientation for the 23 farmers and fisherfolk women organizations who are the beneficiaries of 2014 Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process in Calatagan , Batangas. Meeting of the National Technical Working Group for the Management of Roundscad Fisheries.
07-10 October	Feedbacking of baseline assessment results and EAFM framework planning for the Tawi-Tawi MKBA.
10 October	Organized a meeting between ECOFISH, AIM’s Social Innovation Laboratory Team and NGO partners towards developing the framework for the “incubation” of social enterprises.
10-17 October	Conducted scoping for Lingayen Gulf covering Bauang, Caba, Aringay, Sto. Tomas, Rosario, Agoo, San Fernando and Alaminos.
13 October	Field visit of PACPI Board of Directors and US-based National Fisheries Institute’s Director of Communications/Head of Crab Council Gavin Gibon to a pilot site and demonstration in Talibon for the “Species Specific Assessment of Blue Crab” PPP.

15 October	Meeting with BFAR's Planning Office and Fisheries and Information Management Center (FIMC) to discuss technical requirements of BFAR for the National Program on Boat and Gear Registration (BoatR).
15-17 October	Calamianes marine spatial planning writeshop to draft the activity guides on use of various zones.
16-17 October	Participated in the refresher training of the PNP-Maritime Group for the enhanced use of 700DALOY.
20 October	Meeting with EKO Asset Management Partners on possible PPP collaboration.
22 October	Leadership Training in fisherfolk organizations of Culion. 34 officers from 8 fisherfolk organizations participate in the training.
27-28 October	Conducted Strategic Planning and Leadership Training for Calamian Fiber Glass and Builders Association. State of the Marine Resources Report writeshop. Improvement and refinement of draft. Joint committee meeting of the USG and GPH science and technology agreement.
29-30 October	NOAA-ECOFISH EAFM Training for BFAR staff and selected LGU partners.
30 October	Meeting with NOAA and USAID on 2015 ECOFISH and NOAA joint activities. Presented ECOFISH ICT PPP achievements in USAID HQ in Washington DC.
<b>November 2014</b>	
03 November	Meeting with EKO Asset Management Partners of the Bloomberg Vibrant Oceans Initiative to discuss possible collaboration regarding the establishment of a formal PPP for fisheries.
06-07 November	Meetings with Siquijor provincial and municipal officials on the proposed provincial fisheries management plan.
10 November	Meeting of the Roundscad Technical Working Group in Puerto Princesa to refinement of estimates of population parameters and maturity stages of diffenet species of roundscad.
10-12 November	Workshop on Vision, Mission, Goals (VMG) and Strategic Planning for the (10) ten fisherfolk organizations of Busuanga, and also for 3 organizations in Culion.
15-17 November	Facilitated Vision, Mission and Goal Setting and Strategic Planning for Culion coastal barangays and people's organizations.
18 November	Meeting with MSI on SEAT and enterprise development for EAFM.
21 November	Meeting with Balayan Bay LGUs regarding Cash for Work program in connection with the seasonal closure for small pelagics in the bay.
24-27 November	BoatR launch and training of PFOs on admeasurement. Presentation of ECOFISH Year 2 achievements and Year 3 work plan to BFAR Director, Regional Directors and key staff during the BFAR ManCom meeting. Endorsement by BFAR of Year 3 Work Plan.

25 November	Gathering of information on all cases filed under 700DALOY.
26 November	Finalization of terms for the PPP with Artemis Salt Corporation for alternative livelihood support in Bauan, Batangas, and coordination with DSWD for list of possible participants.
27 November	Presentation of the biological and stock assessment studies on roundscads to the Steering Committee for the Management of Roundscad Fisheries in Palawan waters.
26-28 November	Facilitated the Information, Education and Communication workshop for the LGUs of Verde Island Passage. NSAP year end meeting and planning. Reviewed results of stock assessment studies in the regions and other NSAP studies.
27 November	Meeting with NAPC regarding Fish Landing Centers and Fish Fund.
27 November	Meeting with SMART regarding BoatR PPP for mobile application support.
<b>December 2014</b>	
01 December	ECOFISH finalizes the MOU between Artemis Salt Corporation, ECOFISH and Bauan.
02-03 December	Conducted Values Orientation and Gender Sensitivity Training for Calamianes Fiber Glass Boat Builders Association. Evaluation of Manila Bay oceanographic, fisheries and biological researches of NFRDI research staff.
03 December	Meeting with DILG on Seal of Good Local Governance and GPBP.
10 December	Launching program for the closed season of Balayan Bay or <i>Pagpapahingang Look Balayan</i> .
11-14 December	Planning session with Altertrade regarding enterprise development in Negros MKBA.
12 December	ECOFISH organizes a workshop to identify common areas of interest under 700DALOY and broader enforcement efforts with the AFP.
15 December	Meeting with TV White Space partners to discuss updates and next steps.
15 December	Meeting and consultation with BFAR ManCom and NFRDI regarding updating of NFRDI's scientific research agenda.
15-19 December	ECOFISH team year-end meeting and planning session for the roll out of Year 3 activities.
22 December	Monitoring the Cash for Building Livelihood Assets (CBLA) program in Balayan and Calatagan, Batangas.
30 December	The TV White Space partnership officially closes.

## 3.2. Site-Level Activities

### 3.2.1. Calamianes Island Group

<b>October 2014</b>	
03 October	<p>Attended FAO Project inception meeting on strengthening resilience of vulnerable small-scale fishers in Region 4B. The project will be implemented in the 4 municipalities in CIG for 18 months, a regular project funded by the Government of Italy.</p> <p>Provided project orientation during Calamianes Association of Fundamental Baptist Churches (CAFBC) meeting to highlight the role of the church in fisheries management.</p> <p>Meeting with MFI to discuss current project initiatives and finalize collaboration on MPA management meeting in Linapacan.</p>
07 October	Organized and facilitated the CMN meeting to draft the by-laws and review the VMG of the network.
09 October	<p>Facilitated the Culion Mangrove Reforestation and Rehabilitation Project Management Team Meeting.</p> <p>Scoping on Value Chain Analysis (VCA) study in Culion.</p>
12 October	Facilitated the updating of Minugbay-Malbato-Tagpi MPA management plan.
13 October	ECOFISH staff attended meeting organized by NCIP. The meeting was attended by different NGOs working in CIG. The activity was conducted to orient the NGOs on FPIC process in the IP areas.
14-16 October	Organized and coordinated the Mangrove and Beach Forest Training Course in Culion. Thirty-three (33) participants were trained on species identification, nursery establishment and maintenance.
15-17 October	Organized and facilitated the drafting of MSP document through a writeshop. Representatives from three (3) municipalities of Coron, Busuanga and Linapacan attended the activity.
16 October	Facilitated the gathering of adjudication cases report of Linapacan with the Office of Municipal Agriculturist.
17 October	<p>Communicated the joint Linapacan MPA Management Council Meeting of San Miguel and Pical to Malampaya Foundation Inc (MFI) Community Development Officer.</p> <p>Facilitated the signing of MOA between and among DSWD Region 4B, ECOFISH and LGU Culion.</p>
21 October	Facilitated the identification and hiring of fish catch enumerators.
22 October	Coordinated the upcoming activities in Linapacan with the Municipal Mayor and heads of offices.
23 October	Reviewed and revised the Mangrove Reforestation Project workplan.
25 October	ECOFISH staff co-organized the Balisungan MPA Management Council meeting and oath-taking ceremony.
26 October	Coordinated the remaining boat releases and Leadership Training for POs in Busuanga and Culion.

27-28 October	Attended the State of the Marine Resources Report Workshop.
29 October	Communicated and coordinated with Javier Triana on boat assistance interview of recipients which will be conducted with WWF.
30 October	Attended the meeting of civil society organizations in Linapacan spearheaded by the MLGOO. ECOFISH was elected as vice-chair of the LPRAT.
<b>November 2014</b>	
03 November	Conducted meeting and finalized the schedule of the upcoming MPA meeting and enforcement planning with OIC-MAO, MFI, LGU and PSU.
04 November	Courtesy meeting with Hon. Henry Liao-OIC, MPDC and provided inputs on the purpose of field visit to Linapacan and introduce the newly hired CRS. Finalization of Linapacan water use zone map and review of activity guidelines with SB Members.
05-06 November	ECOFISH, in partnership with MFI, facilitated the re-organization of San Miguel MPA and updating of MPA management council. The Project also provided technical support to the Pical MPA in the formulation of its vision, mission and goal and development of action plan for the declaration of the site as a MPA. Meeting with Palawan State University-Linapacan to explore potential partnership.
07 November	Facilitated the Linapacan Enforcement Operation Planning workshop together with PNP, PCG, SB Members, MPDO, BFARMC, MFI and MDRRMO.
09 November	Visited So. Malbato, Brgy. Bintuan for oath-taking of MPA Management Council together with MAO-Coron.
10 November	Meeting with FAO to discuss the beneficiaries for motorized engines and gears.
11 November	Courtesy meetings on fish catch monitoring and endorsement of fish catch enumerators to <i>punong barangays</i> of Tagumpay, Pob 5 and Pob 2. Facilitated the updating of municipal water use zone of Coron with Municipal Assessor, MAO and MPDC. Scoping with Municipal Agriculturist for sea cucumber and round scad value chain study. Coordinated the monitoring and evaluation activity of WWF-Bancas for the Philippines project.
12 November	Facilitated the finalization of the water use zone map of Busuanga MAO; ECOFISH agreed to provide the activity guidelines before end of November 2014. Courtesy meetings on fish catch monitoring and endorsement of fish catch enumerators to Punong Barangays of Salvacion and Sto Nino, Busuanga.

13 November	<p>ECOFISH had a courtesy meeting with the Municipal Administrator of Culion to update him on the status of the project. Newly hired CRS was also introduced to LGU partner.</p> <p>Coordinated the mangrove rehabilitation and reforestation project orientation for the LGU Culion. The LGU agreed to provide the transportation for the whole duration of the orientation.</p> <p>Coordinated the WWF monitoring and evaluation activity for Bancas for the Philippines.</p>
14 November	<p>Facilitated the finalization of the water use zone map and marine spatial plan of the municipality of Culion.</p> <p>Prepare the documentary requirement for the request for financial assistance to PHILSSA regarding mangrove rehabilitation project completion.</p>
15 November	<p>Brief meeting with Regional Director Jardin regarding the upcoming Enforcement OPLAN activity in Culion and introduce the newly-hired CRS.</p>
13-16 November	<p>Conducted Fish Catch Monitoring Training. Sixteen (16) individuals were trained on different sampling methodologies, fish classification and fishing gear and vessel inventory. The participants were composed of representatives from Coron, Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga.</p>
17 November	<p>Conducted barangay Orientation on Mangrove Reforestation Project in Brgy. Galoc.</p> <p>Facilitated the Culion Enforcement Operation Planning Workshop together with the LGU (PNP, SB Member, PCG, Kabayan Action Group).</p>
18 November	<p>Conducted barangay Orientation on Mangrove Reforestation Project in Brgy. Halsey and Malaking Patag.</p>
19 November	<p>Attended the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting and Planning (GPBP)-LPRAT Orientation at Darayonan Lodge, Coron.</p> <p>Conducted Barangay Orientation on Mangrove Reforestation Project in Brgy. Luac.</p>
20 November	<p>Conducted Barangay Orientation on Mangrove Reforestation Project in Brgy. Osmena and Baldat. After the orientations, an exit meeting with the Project Management Team was held to plan for next steps.</p>
21 November	<p>Meeting with the Linapacan ICO/MAO, SB Secretary, MLGOO and executive assistant on project updates.</p>
22 November	<p>Attended and facilitated the IEC for communities at Brgy. Plaza, San Miguel that was spearheaded by MFI.</p> <p>Meeting with Ma. Lita Rodriguez, Planning Assistant I and Marivel Llavan, PSU CCRD Linapacan Instructor for the upcoming workshop on formulating of SM MPA IRR.</p>
24 November	<p>ECOFISH staff attended the regular session of Sangguniang Bayan at Municipal Hall Building, Linapacan.</p> <p>ECOFISH gave a project orientation to BS Fisheries students of PSU CCRD Linapacan at San Miguel National High School.</p>

25 November	<p>ECOFISH staff facilitated the formulation of implementing rules and regulations (IRR) and management policies of San Miguel Marine Protected Area at Rodriguez Hall, San Miguel.</p> <p>Facilitated coordination with partners regarding USAID visit.</p> <p>Assisted the Socio Economic Specialist in data gathering for users' fee study.</p> <p>Assisted WWF Philippines in their M&amp;E activity on fiberglass boat making.</p> <p>Coordination meeting with NCIP.</p>
27-29 November	<p>Attended the Marine Turtle and Dugong Orientation workshop organized by Palawan Provincial Government and DENR.</p>
28 November	<p>Drafting of Saligang Batas of SMMPA together with BS Fisheries Students (OJT), PSU CCRD Linapacan Campus.</p>
<b>December 2014</b>	
01 December	<p>Conducted project orientation for PSU students.</p> <p>Facilitated the drafting of Siete Pecados Marine Park signage.</p>
04 December	<p>Provided data to MERF for SMMR gaps.</p>
09 December	<p>Coordinated the request for mangrove project extension to DSWD.</p>
10 December	<p>Coordinated the Decalve MPA and BFARMC reorganization, Malbato-Tagpi-Minugbay oath-taking and Mangrove Reforestation Project re-orientation for partners.</p> <p>Meeting with Al Linsangan regarding the LGPD-LED project.</p>
11 December	<p>Decalve MPA and BFARMC reorganization and Malbato-Tagpi-Minugbay oath-taking ceremony and ocular inspection in Brgy. Guadalupe for CMN.</p>
16 December	<p>Facilitated logistical arrangement for USAID visit and coordination meeting with Siete Pecados Marine Park manager and TTCIA with USAID.</p>
22-23 December	<p>USAID MKBA monitoring.</p>

### 3.2.2. Danajon Reef

<b>October 2014</b>	
07 October	<p>Meeting with the Provincial Fishery Officer Cres Pahamutang and staff regarding schedule of activities for Fish Conservation week and other preparations.</p>
13 October	<p>Joint meeting with PACPI, USAID representative, Bohol provincial government and LGU of Talibon re: presentation on the initial output of the 6 months monitoring of blue swimming crabs.</p>
15 October	<p>Participated in a meeting with provincial partners on the program of activities initiated by the Provincial Governor in commemoration of the 15 October 2013 Bohol earthquake.</p>
24 October	<p>Facilitated/Assisted in the conduct of MPA MEAT validation in the municipality of Ubay.</p>
27-29 October	<p>Participated in the validation workshop on SMRR profile initiated by UP/MERF.</p>

<b>November 2014</b>	
04 November	Telephone conference with the FRMD staff headed by the Regional Chief of BFAR 7 Ellen Ylanan and her staff re: training design on MFARMC assessment, re-orientation, action planning and EAFM benchmarking.
07 November	Conference with the Regional Director of BFAR 7 regarding ECOFISH assistance and all preparations for the conduct of FARMC assessment, action planning and EAFM Benchmarking.
11 November	Participated in consultation meeting with the MPA Provincial Technical Working Group.
12-13 November	Assisted/facilitated in the conduct of FARMC assessment, action planning and EAFM benchmarking workshop.
14 November	Assisted USAID staff on meeting with heads of government line agencies and City Government of Tagbilaran in preparations for the workshop on city development planning.
17 November	Courtesy calls with the municipal mayors of Talibon, Getafe, and Inabanga together with the enumerator on Value Chain Study on Blue Swimming Crabs.
18 November	Meeting with Marian Navata of USAID Manila regarding the confirmation of the participants for the workshop on Tagbilaran City development planning.
20 November	Meeting with the City Fishery Law Enforcement Team Leader Jepoy Centino of Maasin City and City Agriculturist Monching Acasio and staff on the status of the project implementation and CFRM plans finalization. Meeting with the Head of the Provincial Environment and Management Office of Maasin City, Eva Abad, regarding support of the provincial government to the City of Maasin. Also discussed with the Municipal Agriculturist of Macrohon and fishery technician re: lacking information to be incorporated in the CFRM plan.
21 November	Facilitated meeting with the City Fishery Aquatic Resource Management Council of Baybay City regarding implementation of fishery management activities and role of CFARMC in FishR, law enforcement and livelihood projects. Inputted topic on the level of FARMC development indicators.
24 November	Meeting with BEMO staff on the correction/amendment of the Executive Order regarding Strengthening and Sustaining the Coastal Monitoring and Protection Program of the Province of Bohol by Institutionalizing Coastal Law Enforcement Councils and Providing Mechanisms for its Effective Implementation.
25 November	Discussed with the Bohol PFO, Head of BEMO and OPA regarding the survey questionnaires.
26 November	Served as resource speaker and facilitator during the conduct of orientation and strengthening of the MCLET in the municipality of Tubigon.

<b>December 2014</b>	
01-04 December	Para-legal Training for LGUs of Leyte, Southern Leyte and Northern Samar held in Palo, Leyte.
08 December	Meeting with the BEMO Head regarding status of the executive order and documentation of the CLE summit.
09-11 December	Gathered data on the financial statement and expenditures starting year 2009-2013 for the LGUs of Getafe, Buenavista, Inabanga, Tubigon and Clarin.

### 3.2.3. Lingayen Gulf

<b>October 2014</b>	
07 October	Meeting with BFAR Regional Director regarding inter-local government cooperation.
13 October	Coordination and briefing regarding schedule for the scoping on social enterprise.
14 October	Scoping with fisherfolk associations of Bauang, Caba, Aringay.
15 October	Scoping with fisherfolk associations of Sto Tomas, Rosario, Agoon.
16 October	Roundtable discussion on inter-local government cooperation in La Union province.
17 October	Scoping with fisherfolk associations of San Fernando City and Alaminos City.
19-30 October	Facilitated the ECOFISH-NOAA EAFM National Workshop at the NIFTDC-BFAR, Bonuan, Binloc, Dagupan City.
26-29 October	State of the Marine Resources Validation Workshop, UP-MSI.
<b>November 2014</b>	
07 November	Monthly meeting with BFAR Regional Office.
10 November	Meeting with Provincial Agriculturist and Fisheries Coordinator of Pangasinan, Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan.
11 November	Start of value-chain study on siganids. Initial discussions on value chain questionnaires; continuous value-chain activities for the quarter.
12 November	Meeting with BFAR Provincial Fisheries Officer of Pangasinan regarding the RTD.
17 November	Meeting with BFAR RO1 regarding TWG.
18 November	Courtesy call and meeting with Provincial Administrator of Pangasinan regarding the RTD.
20 November	Meeting with Provincial Administrator of La Union regarding TWG.
21 November	First Ad-hoc Technical Working Group Meeting on inter-local cooperation.
24 November	Meeting with BFAR resource speaker; report-writing; value-chain discussions.
25 November	Meeting with BFAR regarding Artificial Reef Management Workshop.
<b>December 2014</b>	
03-05 December	Artificial Reef Management Workshop, Hotel Ariana, Bauang, La Union.
08 December	Value chain orientation for <i>punong barangays</i> of San Fernando City.

10 December	Value chain orientation for <i>punong barangays</i> and Mayor, Alaminos City.
11 December	Presentation of ECOFISH Project updates to NEDA Regional Quarterly Meeting.
12 December	Second Ad-hoc Technical Working Group Meeting on inter-local government cooperation.
22 December	IEC on Responsible Fishing during Festivities of Bauang, La Union.

### 3.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf

<b>October 2013</b>	
01-02 October	Shared with BFAR RO8 observations from a field trip the previous month regarding the <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> surface gillnet fishery in Bulan, San Vicente and Capul which is of management interest; inquired from the RO the proper course of action which the Biri LGU should take for the change of specifications of the BUB-funded patrol boat.
07-08 October	Review of literature of value chain analysis studies in fisheries.
16 October	Facilitated selection of EAFM trainees.
17, 20-22, 24-26 October	Gathered additional info from Bulan, Sta Magdalena, Matnog, BFAR and other sources for the SMRR.
23 October	Drafted supplemental MOA for the Biri BUB-funded patrol boat.
27-28 October	Inquired from OPA and PFO about previous conferences regarding municipal water delineation. Attended SMRR Review Workshop.
29-30 October	Gathered background information for the local case studies.
31 October	Coordinated with LGUs for the VCA sardine survey.
<b>November 2014</b>	
07 November	VCA sardine survey budget finalized.
10-11 November	Site team meeting; detailed the VCA sardine survey work plan and questionnaires.
13-14 November	Meetings with socio-economic monitoring enumerators.
15 November	Coordination with SPPI (local NGO) for joint activities in Capul.
17-20 November	Briefings for Bulan LGU and BFAR RO5 regarding the VCA sardine survey.
18 November	Filling out of SMRR data gaps together with BFAR 5 personnel.
19 November	Radio plugging in Mix FM on basic EAFM.
21 November	Meeting with PNP Sorsogon for updates and vetting schedule.
24 November	Meeting with PNP Northern Samar for updates and vetting schedule.
25 November	EAFM benchmarking in Biri; meeting with Biri Mayor and other officials.
26 November	Vetting of Biri PNP.
27 November	Vetting of Allen and Lavezares PNP; meetings with Allen and Lavezares Mayors and Municipal Agriculturists.
28 November	Vetting of San Antonio PNP; meeting with San Antonio Mayor and other officials.

<b>December 2014</b>	
10 December	Conducted benchmarking in Matnog.
11 December	Conduct benchmarking in Sta. Magdalena.

### 3.2.5. Southern Negros

03 October	Provided technical support during the regular MFARMC Meeting of Siaton at Brgy. Albiga.
13 October	Meeting with Dr. Andrea Barcelona and partners at the Provincial Environment Management Office (PEMO) Negros Occidental to finalize the training flow and topics to be presented. This was followed by a brief meeting with Mr. Almoneda of Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA) Negros Occidental on ECOFISH Project updates. Attended the opening activity of 51st Fisheries Conservation Week at BFAR Regional Office in Cebu City. At the same time, met with Ms. Evangeline Morre, Regional MFARMC Coordinator and for the possible organization of MFARMC in Basay, Negros Oriental.
17 October	Preparatory meeting with ENRD, Peace Corps volunteers and South Negros LGU counterparts to brainstorm on the theme and topics to be discussed during the annual Fish Conservation Week and Buglasan Festival of Negros Oriental.
21-22 October	Co-organized and served as resource person and co-facilitator in the Coastal Vulnerability Assessment Facilitators Training involving 20 coastal LGUs of Negros Occidental at Mambukal Resort, Murcia, Negros Occidental. This is in connection with the goal of National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) in mainstreaming Disaster Risk Assessment and Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment in the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plans.
27-28 October	Together with the BFAR-Negros Oriental Provincial Fisheries Officer (PFO), Provincial ENRD Head and Sta. Catalina Fisheries Technician, participated in the 2nd State of the Marine Resources Report Workshop at UP Diliman, Quezon City.
<b>November 2014</b>	
12-13 November	Assisted SPS staff in the ocular inspection of possible sites for the SEACamp and introduced them to ECOFISH partners from BFAR, ENRD and Silliman University's Institute of Environmental and Marine Sciences (SU-IEMS).

19-20 November	Facilitated a Workshop on Municipal Fisheries Ordinance Review and Administrative Adjudication. The activity served as an avenue for Vice Mayors, <i>Sangguniang Bayan</i> (SB) Committee Chairman on Agriculture/Fisheries and Environment, municipal agriculturists and fisheries technicians from the 7 focal LGUs to review and update their municipal fisheries ordinances at the same time gain more knowledge on local legislation and administrative adjudication.
21 November	Attended the regular Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC) meeting in Siaton.
<b>December 2014</b>	
03-04 December	Facilitated the orientation and briefing for local officials of Bayawan City and Hinobaan on the Tuna Value Chain objectives, core processes and work plan.
08-10 December	Commenced the tuna value chain survey in Bayawan City where 6 (4 commercial fishing vessel owners and 2 fish traders) key informant interviews were conducted.
09 December	In partnership with the BFAR 7 Regional Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC) Coordinator, an orientation and creation of Municipal FARMC was facilitated in Basay, Negros Oriental.
10 December	Participated in the Annual General Assembly of the Siaton FARMC which was joined by Dir. Andres Bojos and technical staff from BFAR regional and provincial offices, Philippine Coast Guard and fourteen (14) fisherfolk associations in the municipality.
12-13 December	Meeting with ATFI to level-off on ECOFISH objectives and work plan and SEMFISH 2-year work plan followed by a scoping visit in 2 fishing communities in Cauayan, Negros Occidental.
12 December	Conducted focused group discussions (FGD) with commercial fishing vessel crew in Bayawan City.
29 December	Conducted focused group discussion (FGD) with commercial fishing vessel crew in Bayawan City as part of the tuna value chain survey.

### 3.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

<b>October 2014</b>	
01-02 October	Provided technical assistance to the LGUs of Tagana-an, Placer and Bacuag in the joint field validation and ocular inspection of coastal terminal points (CTP) as prerequisite to the delineation/delimitation of municipal waters between the HIPADA member municipalities. Signing of Joint Statement of Commitment between the LGUs of Bacuag-Placer and Placer-Tagana-an, in view of field validation and ocular inspection of coastal terminal points.
10 October	HIPADA-TAG meeting on the resolution of remaining boundary issues and validation of coastal terminal points in municipalities outside of Project coverage to complete the delineation of municipal water boundaries within the Province of Surigao del Norte.

13 October	Meeting with Mayor Napuli and SB members of Placer regarding validation of coastal terminal point between Placer and Bacuag, in view of the eventual delineation of municipal water boundaries. Field validation of MEAT output of Tagana-an Marine Sanctuary 1 at Sitio California, Barangay Opong.
14 October	PNP-Maritime Group RMU 13 1301st MARPSTA meeting regarding its Performance Governance System and oath-taking of the members of its Advisory Council, where ECOFISH Project is a member.
16 October	Site inspection for potential pickle farming project in Del Carmen, in collaboration with PAO, PEMO, BFAR-PFO, SIKAT and the MAO/LGU of Del Carmen.
21 October	Coordination meeting with DENR-PhilCCAP regarding potential areas for collaboration in Surigao del Norte.
22 October	Presentation of Tourists' Willingness-to-Pay (WTP) Survey Results during PAMB Executive Committee Meeting at the Provincial Capitol in Dapa, Siargao Island, in collaboration with DENR.
22 October	Conducted orientation on basic fisheries management concept and ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management as part of the Fish Conservation Week Celebration and dialogue with fish vendors and marine traders on law enforcement and fisheries-related issues, in cooperation with BFAR FRMD, PFO, QRT, PNP, PNP-MG and the City Public Market Administration. Meeting with PNP Surigao City regarding possible engagement to render illustrations for the raw posters from the law enforcement workshop conducted in the previous month.
23 October	Attended closing ceremony of BFAR's Fish Conservation Week Celebration and updated concerned LGUs regarding requirements and arrangements for the MPA baseline assessments in Surigao City, Tagana-an and Gigaquit.
23 October	Meeting with PNP-13 Regional Operations Head, Col. Pedro Obaldo Jr., with Provincial PNP operations personnel re: status and priorities in fishery law enforcement in Surigao del Norte.
27-28 October	Workshop on the preparation of the SMRR at the Marine Science Institute, UP-Diliman, Diliman, QC.
<b>November 2014</b>	
05 November	Preparation of Work and Financial Plan for the proposed Value Chain Study of <i>Galunggong</i> (round scad). Field validation of MPA MEAT results for the Nagubat and Cagban Fish Sanctuaries of the LGU of Gigaquit.
11 November	MFARMC meeting on the amendment of the Municipal Fishery Ordinance of Gigaquit, to include provisions on the expansion of the existing fish sanctuary now covering Borason Reef in Sitio Nagubat.

12-13 November	Assistance to BFAR in the collection of FishR forms from the LGUs of Del Carmen, San Benito, Santa Monica, Burgos, San Isidro, Dapa, Pilar and General Luna in Siargao Island. Courtesy calls to LGU officials of Del Carmen, San Benito, Santa Monica, Burgos, San Isidro, Dapa, Pilar and General Luna in view of the Value Chain Study on Mudcrab in Siargao Island.
15 November	Technical assistance to the LGU of Gigaquit in the delineation, zoning and mapping of Cagban, Burason and Nagubat Island fish sanctuaries, as part of agreements made during the joint MFARMC-LGU officials meeting on the incorporation of these fish sanctuaries to the LGU's existing CRM Code.
17 November	Meeting with Philippine Navy patrol gun boat Commanding Officer Lt. Muksin A. Jasid and Jake Miranda regarding fishery law enforcement status and priorities in the MKBA.
19 November	Technical assistance to BFAR in the presentation of the final draft of a Joint DA-DILG Administrative Circular on the management of sailfish to LGUs and stakeholders in Siargao Island.
20 November	LGU consultation regarding Value Chain Study on Mudcrabs in General Luna, Sta. Monica, San Benito, Burgos, Pilar and Socorro, Siargao Islands.
25 November	PCRA Training in Placer. Field surveys were aborted due to bad weather condition brought about by typhoon. Continuation of PCRA training to be scheduled in early 2015.
27 November	Coordination meeting with PEMO on the revision and updating of draft Provincial CRM Framework Plan and Gear Identification Orientation/CLE Consultation with partner NGAs.
28 November	Review and finalization of questionnaires for the Value Chain Study on Mud Crab in Siargao Island.
<b>December 2014</b>	
03 December	Signing of the MOA on the AMPA project of the PNP-Maritime Group in barangays San Isidro and Buenavista, Surigao City.
04-05 December	Technical assistance in the drafting of supplemental ordinance for the inclusion of Cagban, Burason and Nagubat Island fish sanctuaries to the existing Municipal CRM Code of Gigaquit.
09 December	Coordination meeting with local partners, PAO, PEMO and BFAR, regarding review of outputs/results of key activities, and priorities for next year.
10 December	Review, validation and revision of outputs SMRR, EAFM and draft Provincial CRM Framework Plan with PAO, PEMO and BFAR.

### 3.2.7. Tawi-Tawi

<b>October 2014</b>	
07-09 October	Conducted review and refinement of existing ordinances on fisheries resource management, and training on the drafting of fisheries ordinances and other basic local legislations. Feedbacking of baseline assessment results and EAFM framework planning for the Tawi-Tawi MKBA.
13-14 October	Supported BFAR-ARMM in the celebration of Fish Conservation Week. There was a Coastal Clean-up from barangay Simandagit to Marlboro Beach of barangay Swangkagang. The second day was dedicated for school children's activities. There were poster making and slogan contest for elementary grade schools, essay writing contest and quiz bee for high school level.
20-24 October	Attended EAFM Essential training at BFAR Training Center, Bauan, Dagupan City.
27-28 October	Participated in the SMRR review at UP-MSI, UP Campus, Diliman, Quezon City.
<b>November 2014</b>	
05 November	Courtesy call and meeting with the BFAR Director Janice Musali who came to Tawi-Tawi to attend the celebration of the 634th Shiek Makhdum Day in Simunul. Submitted accomplishment reports from August to October 2014 followed by a "meet and greet" with the BFAR regional team.
07 November	Attended the celebration of the Shiek Makhdum celebration under the BFAR delegation. There was a fluvial parade and awarding of fishing paraphernalia to the grantees.
08 November	Initial meeting with the religious leaders on Fatwa modification at the Islamic Information Center.
10 November	Meeting with the Provincial Governor on feedbacking of accomplishment and activities: Verafiles, EAFM plan of LGUs, updates of activities. Meeting with BFAR re: Inter-LGU alliance meeting.
13 November	Attended Senate public hearing on the Bangsamoro Basic Law chaired by Senator Bongbong Marcos at Sandbar, Pahut, Bongao, Tawi-Tawi.
15 November	Attended Congressional public hearing on the Bangsamoro Basic Law at Sandbar, Pahut, Bongao, Tawi-Tawi.
17 November	Meeting with Mayor Rejie Sahali-Generale on (1) feedback on 07-09 Oct 2014 survey results feedbacking and EAFM; (2) SEACAMP site assessment on 25-28 Nov 2014; (3) Value chain analysis activities for blue crab. Courtesy visit to the Naval Station new commanding officer. Courtesy visit to the PNP-MPS chief for vetting. Courtesy visit to the Batu-Batu National High School principal Glori Maquiso.
18 November	Courtesy visit to the new Air Force Commander Lt. Marquez and meeting for the site venue of SEACamp. Courtesy visit to the PNP-SAF for SEACamp activities and Leahy Vetting.

21 November	Meeting with PNP-Maritime Group chaired by PINSP Cuaresma and Boat Command team leader Turmo on issue by Veraffles, SEACamp activities, and updates about illegal fishing.
24-27 November	Facilitated and accompanied the representative of the Save Philippine Seas (SPS) during their site visit for SEACamp activities on May 2015. There were courtesy calls conducted to the different LGUs (Bongao and Panglima Sugala) and BLGUs. Conducted ocular visit to Tundon, Panglima Sugala as target for field activities during the camping.
30 November	Meeting of the members of I Love the Ocean Tawi-Tawi Youth Movement: election of officers and school point persons, convergence action planning and launching of the call to action of ILTO.
<b>December 2014</b>	
01-03 December	MPA visitation at Panglima Sugala for re-activation of MPA ManCom and MEAT. Courtesy call to the barangay officials of Buan and Karaha for the VCA on blue crab in these areas and endorsed Yunadzmar Ong, VCA enumerator.
04 December	Initiated the Inter-LGU initial meeting. Technical Working Group to request LGUs to appoint 2-representatives to the TWG of Inter-Alliance of Tawi-Tawi MKBA.
10 December	Assisted PNP-MG, Municipal Police and BFAR for coordination on illegal fishing apprehensions by the municipal police of Panglima Sugala.

### 3.2.8. Verde Island Passage

<b>October 2014</b>	
02 October	Assisted the senior resource economist Rina Rosales in the meeting with the Municipal Agriculture Officers of Bauan and Lemery regarding the mechanisms on the Cash-for-Work program in relation to the closed season of Balayan Bay.
07 October	Attended the meeting with Mayor Emmanuel Fronda, Councilor Jasmine Anda, MPDC, MAO and MSWD of Balayan, Batangas on the mechanisms of the Cash for Building Livelihood Asset (CBLA) work program of the DSWD in relation to the closed season of Balayan Bay.
09-10 October	Provided assistance to the PGENRO by facilitating the 2-day workshop to review the Operational Plan of the Batangas Environmental Response Team (BERT).
17 October	Provided assistance to Lingayen Gulf site team in facilitating the Roundtable Discussion on Enforcement in Bauang, La Union.
21 October	Provided assistance to PFO/BFAR 4A in the conduct of FARMC orientation for LGUs and their respective MFARMC chairpersons at NFRDI-NFBS, Brgy. Butong, Taal, Batangas.
23 October	Conduct EAFM workshop for the LGU of Tingloy, Batangas at the municipal hall of Tingloy. The workshop was participated by the Municipal Agriculturist, some fisherfolk and <i>Bantay Dagat</i> members of Tingloy.

20-24 October	Attendance and participation to the 5-day Essential EAFM Training in Dagupan City.
27-28 October	Attendance and participation in the SMRR Validation Workshop at UPMSI, UP Diliman, Quezon City.
<b>November 2014</b>	
11 November	Participated in the public hearing conducted by the <i>Sangguniang Bayan</i> of Lemery to address questions and clarification of the fisherfolk in relation to the approval of the ordinance for the closed season of Balayan Bay.
12 November	Courtesy calls with Value Chain project enumerator with the LGUs of Bauan, Lemery and Balayan.
13-14 November	Conducted a training needs assessment meeting with the members of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Patrollers in Calatagan, Batangas.
26 November	Participated as a resource person in the public hearing conducted by the <i>Sangguniang Bayan</i> of Balayan, Batangas in relation to the approval of the ordinance for the closed season of Balayan Bay.
27-28 November	Conducted the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Workshop attended by participants from 9 LGUs in Tagaytay City.
<b>December 2014</b>	
04-05 December	Provided assistance to the PGENRO in the facilitation of the 2-day Finalization of the Operational Plan of the Batangas Environmental Response Team (BERT) in Days Hotel, Batangas City.
10-12 December	Provide assistance to the LGUs of Lemery, Bauan, Balayan and Calaca in the orientation for the Cash for Building Livelihood Assets (CBLA).
11 December	Attendance and participation in the motorcade and launching of the closed season of Balayan Bay in Balayan, Batangas.
18 December	Provide assistance to PGENRO by facilitating in the special meeting of BERT with the head of QRT BFAR national office in relation to monitoring and enforcement of the closed season.
22 December	Provide assistance to the DSWD staff in the payout for the Cash for Building Livelihood Assets (CBLA) in the municipalities of Balayan, Calatagan, Calaca, Lemery and Bauan.
27 December	Attendance in the meeting of PGENRO, LGUs and Bantay Dagat with BFAR Director Asis Perez at the MCS boat in Lemery, Batangas.

## 4. Important Accomplishments

### 4.1. Important Accomplishments at National Level

- Launch of BoatR, as a follow through to FishR - ECOFISH provided facilitation and technical guidance for the preparation of training materials for admeasurement, and the conduct of municipal fishing boat registration.
- Implementation of *Pagpapahinga ng Look ng Balayan* – ECOFISH provided technical and policy support, and facilitated livelihood support for the implementation of the first-ever inter-LGU enforced seasonal closure. Nine LGUs of Balayan Bay agreed to enforce the seasonal closure in

December 2014, based on the scientific and policy recommendations of ECOFISH. ECOFISH initiated linkage with DSWD to implement a complementary cash-for-work program for affected fishing boat crew who temporarily stopped fishing during the closure.

- ECOFISH shared with Tawi Tawi LGUs the results of the baseline assessments conducted in their area. The ecosystem, socio-economic and governance baseline assessment will provide the LGUs the needed information to fine-tune their proposed fisheries management interventions.
- In Calamianes, ECOFISH conducted inter-LGU writeshop to draft the marine spatial plan (MSP) that will guide LGUs in preparing their integrated fisheries management plan. One unique feature of the MSP is its integration with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Upland Use Plan of the Calamianes Island Group.
- ECOFISH collaborated with NOAA in the conduct of EAFM training for BFAR staff and selected project partner LGUs. Based on the results of the training, ECOFISH will refine the EAFM training course to include Philippine-specific context and examples. ECOFISH and NOAA also agreed to roll out the actual planning process in a selected bay or ecosystem covered under ECOFISH.
- ECOFISH and AIM Social Innovation Lab established the framework for their collaboration in support of social enterprise development which will focus on VIP, Calamianes and Negros Oriental. The framework outlined how AIM mentors will be mobilized to engage with ECOFISH's partner NGOs to develop social enterprises and provide technical support with business management, among others.
- The PPP on "Species Specific Assessment of Blue Swimming Crab" with PACPI and Bohol Province has collected data for a period 3 months with the support of ECOFISH and local enumerators. The data, which was also presented to PACPI and US-based National Fisheries Institute, which has members representing the largest importers of Blue Swimming Crab in the US, indicate possible gear management interventions.
- The PPP "700 Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity" or 700DALOY organized a refresher training for PNP-Maritime Group and its partners for soliciting and managing text reports regarding marine wildlife violations. The Patrol 117 hotline of DILG has also agreed to serve as mirror of 700DALOY emergency reports. ECOFISH was also able to collect information regarding the 3 cases officially filed as a result of reports coursed through the hotline.
- The fisheries management team of ECOFISH provided technical support in estimating population parameters, interpretation of biological information, and drafting of policy for the management of roundscad fishery in the waters of Palawan. The results and various management options were presented to the steering committee for the formulation of policy to support the management efforts.
- ECOFISH provided technical advise during the evaluation of various oceanographic, fisheries and biological researches of NFRDI in Manila Bay. The objective was to strengthen the scientific knowledge to provide the governemtn with plausible options on the use of Manila Bay.
- ECOFISH in consultation with BFAR developed the parameters for a possible PPP to develop the mobile application to support BoatR and admeasurement.
- ECOFISH entered into an MOU with Artemis Salt Corporation to facilitate alternative livelihoods for fisherfolk communities in VIP.
- ECOFISH provided knowledge and skills to fisherfolk organizations of Calatagan that are beneficiaries of the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process. Conducted Organizational Diagnosis and Value Orientation for different farmers, fisherfolk and women's organization in Calatagan.

- Identified the 8 women fisherfolk organizations that are potential partners for the enterprise development.
- ECOFISH facilitated the formulation of Vision, Mission, Goals and Strategic Plans of the fisherfolk organizations in CIG particularly in the Municipalities of Coron, Culion and Busuanga. To enhance or strengthen the organizational values and cultures, the following trainings were conducted: Values Formation, Leadership and Gender Sensitivity trainings.
- Designed and spearheaded the facilitation of Vision, Mission, Goals formulation and Strategic Plan development for the fisherfolk beneficiaries of National Anti-Poverty Commission in Culion.
- Developed Information, Education and Communication poster that will be used in advocating or promoting the closure of Balayan Bay.
- Value chain studies for all 8 MKBAs were launched at the beginning of the quarter. The studies are expected to stretch out for six months, after which a write-shop will be held to consolidate and write the results.
- A feedback session was held in Zamboanga City for Tawi-Tawi LGUs to present the baseline results of the Project. Initial strategies were formulated in preparation for the IFRM plan to be drafted in 2015, as well as to identify potential project interventions for social enterprise development in Tawi-Tawi.
- Enterprise development was finally launched in the South Negros MKBA. Planning meetings were held with the partner NGO of the Project, Altertrade Foundation. Initial scoping visits were conducted with two potential PO partners in Hinobaan, Negros Occidental. Meanwhile, the RFP for enterprise development in VIP was released in November. Finally, meetings were held with AIM to map out the partnership details, particularly on specific assistance that can be provided by AIM for social enterprises to be established by the Project.
- The seasonal closure for commercial fishing in Balayan Bay was launched in December. In preparation for the program, a series of meetings was held with Balayan Bay LGUs to map out and plan for the cash-for-work component with DSWD, particularly in identifying potential jobs and mapping out schedules for the three weeks of effectivity of the closed season. The first tranche of payments was made on 22 December, halfway into the program.
- Discussions with NAPC were held on how to design government assistance in the roll out of fish



A meeting with officials of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) in November 2014.

landing centers (FLCs) across the country. It was agreed that the FLCs would serve as a physical hub of CRM or EAFM-related activities of organized fisherfolk in coordination with FARMCs,

where possible. ECOFISH will provide technical assistance in designing a training program for managing FLCs, and will provide resource persons in selected training workshops for EAFM lectures and related activities. Siquijor was requested specifically to be one of the pilot areas where ECOFISH will directly assist in social preparation activities for the FLCs. A scoping activity in the area was thus conducted in November by selected members of the team.

- Data gathering for the estimation of auxiliary income taxes and cost-benefit analysis studies for all 8 MKBAs commenced during this period. Recommendations on auxiliary income taxes will be formulated in Year 3, while CBA studies will be done in Year 5.
- A series of training workshops was conducted for selected fisherfolk POs in VIP and CIG MKBAs as part of the continuing assistance in the implementation of the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP). Trainings on values formation, strategic planning, gender sensitivity and VMG formulation were held during the period.
- Meetings with MSI were conducted in planning for the incorporation of the Socio-Economic Assessment Tool (SEAT), as part of the overall tool for assessing management effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas in the country.
- Exploratory discussions with BFAR/DENR were initiated to include ECOFISH in the multi-agency CTI/NCCC. This is in view of requirement for a multi-agency PSC reviewing and vetting project work plans and accomplishment.

## **4.2. Important Accomplishments at Site Level**

### **4.2.1. Calamianes Island Group**

- ECOFISH co-organized and facilitated the Calamian Island Group MPA Network (CMN) meeting on 07 October 2014 at Busuanga Island Paradise, Coron, Palawan. The regular meeting was attended by the MPA management council chairmen/managers and secretary, representatives from Municipal Agriculture Office, SB and academe. The Network's Vision, Mission and Goals were reviewed and by-laws were drafted. The said document will be presented to the body during their annual assembly meeting for approval.
- During this quarter, ECOFISH commenced the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) study for sea cucumber in CIG. The objectives of the project are to determine the value chain of sea cucumber in CIG, examine the potential of sea cucumber production on enterprise development and use the results of sea cucumber value chain study in the CIG Integrated fisheries management plan. Further, the study want to know the number of affected/impacted key players in the implementation of harvestable size of sea cucumber for marketing; and the potential of sea cucumber activity in replacing the live fish trade industry in CIG. Reconnaissance which include collection of preliminary information on numbers and locations of actors, finalization of study area and identification of logistical requirements were all done in October 2014 while actual gathering of data through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in Busuanga, Coron, Culion and Linapacan started in November 2014 and still ongoing.

- A partnership between ZSL-Philippines and ECOFISH Project was initiated in August 2014 to equip the community with right knowledge and skills on mangrove reforestation and rehabilitation concept which will be done by training selected community members. The training course is part of the preparatory activity for Mangrove rehabilitation and reforestation project in Culion with approved budget from DSWD through its Cash for Building Livelihood Assets (CBLA) amounting to nearly PhP1.6 Million. The Mangrove and Beach Forest Training Course was conducted on 14-16 October 2014 with financial support from Christian Aid, USAID-ECOFISH Project, DSWD, PHILSSA, PAGE Inc., and Municipal LGU of Culion.



Trainers from ZSL orienting the group before the actual species identification and damage assessment at Sitio Bulok-bulok, Osmena, Culion, Palawan.

- Organized and facilitated the drafting of MSP document through a writeshop. Representatives from three (3) municipalities of Coron, Busuanga and Linapacan attended the activity on 17-20 October 2014 at Busuanga Island Paradise resort, Coron, Palawan. After the writeshop, target audience and the corresponding type and nature of Marine Spatial Plan were identified. Zoning guidelines were reviewed and basic outline for the MSP document was constructed. At the end of the activity, the participants agreed on the schedule of activities toward finalization of the MSP document.
- Banking on the results of the organizational diagnosis of partner POs in CIG conducted in July 2014, ECOFISH facilitated a series of leadership trainings and strategic planning workshops with POs in Culion, Busuanga and Coron on 21-27 October 2014 and 12-14 November 2014. To date, ECOFISH have been assisting 21 POs: 2 in Coron, 10 in Busuanga and 9 in Culion. Twenty-one (21) POs have already reviewed/formulated Vision, Mission and Goals and have developed their 3-year plan. However, there are areas of concern that need attention such as having clear financial system and capacity building for the organization to effectively implement projects.
- The Project provided technical assistance to MPA management councils of Coron which include updating of MPA management plans in Balisungan MPA and Minugbay-Malbato-Tagpi MPA and re-organization of the Decalve MPA council, all located in Coron. In Linapacan, ECOFISH in partnership with MFI facilitated the re-organization of San Miguel MPA, updating of MPA management plan and formulation of Implementing Rules and regulations (IRR). The project also provided technical support to Pical MPA in the formulation of vision, mission and goal and development of action plan for the declaration of the site as MPA.
- Participated in the State of the Marine Resources Report Writeshop on 27-28 October 2014.



Members of Bantay Dagat Culion together with ECOFISH Team during Enforcement Operation Planning on November 17, 2014 at Hotel Maya, Brgy. Libis, Culion.

- Attended Civil Society Organization (CSO) meeting in Linapacan on 30 October 2014 spearheaded by MLGOO. ECOFISH was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Local Poverty Reduction Action Team (LPRAT). LPRAT is the group chaired by the local chief executive (LCE) and composed of CSO and government representatives that spearhead formulation and monitoring of the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP).
- ECOFISH facilitated the finalization of water use zone maps and marine spatial plan in Calamianes Island Group including Linapacan, Coron, Busuanga and Culion. The activities were held on 04, 11-12 and 14 November 2014. The water use zonation is a management tool or regulatory mechanism that is being conducted in the municipality to address the issues arising from the multiple use of water bodies by different stakeholders. Allowed and prohibited uses/activities in the water use zone were tackled in the discussion. The validated water zonation map and marine spatial plan will be integrated in the Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan (CLWUP) of the municipality.
- As part of coaching and mentoring assistance with municipal enforcement teams, ECOFISH facilitated the drafting of Enforcement Operation Plans in the municipality of Linapacan and Culion on 07 and 17 November 2014, respectively. The planning workshops were participated by PNP, PCG, SB Members, MPDO, BFARMC, MFI and MDRRMO. Participants from different offices/departments updated on enforcement activity and shared experiences on enforcement. In Linapacan, enforcement teams identified some of the critical areas, namely: San Miguel, Maroyogroyog, Pical and Nangalao, they said that illegal fishing activities are all-year round and fishers from municipalities of Mindoro, Batangas, and Pale are suppliers of blasting caps used in dynamite fishing. In Culion, the team identified and marked operation of commercial fishing vessels in Binudac and they expressed amendment of Executive Order (EO) Bantay Culion to include other players like pearl farms and private sector in the municipality.
- Conducted Fish Catch Monitoring Training on 13-16 November 2014 in Culion. Sixteen (16) individuals were trained on different sampling methodologies, fish classification and fishing gear and vessel inventory. The participants were composed of representatives from Coron, Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga. After the training, eleven (11) enumerators and one (1) encoder were hired by the project to conduct the fish catch monitoring. Conducted courtesy meetings on fish catch monitoring and endorsements of fish catch enumerators to *punong barangays*.
- The Project attended and facilitated the IEC for communities of Brgy. Plaza, San Miguel, Linapacan on 22 November 2014. Moreover, ECOFISH provided project orientation to BSc Fisheries students of PSU CCRD Linapacan on 24 November 2014.
- Assisted WWF Philippines through their Bancas for the Philippines project in the conduct of a survey of over 60 trainees and beneficiaries in Calamianes Island Group on 26-27 November 2014. The survey is part of the monitoring and evaluation process which aims to determine whether the project has truly contributed to restoring food security and increasing resilience to climate change impacts. Survey responses will be analyzed and reports will be made available in January 2015.
- ECOFISH staff attended the Marine Turtle and Dugong orientation workshop organized by Palawan Provincial Government and DENR on 25-27 November 2014.
- Coordinated the visit of the USAID Governance and Coastal Marine Management Specialist in Coron on 22-23 December 2014. The visit was an opportunity for both USAID and project partners for dialogue on marine protected area initiatives, fish catch monitoring and other ECOFISH interventions.

## 4.2.2. Danajon Reef

- In coordination with RARE project, assisted technical support to the Municipality of Inabanga during the conduct of Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment.
- Conducted Trainers Training on MPA MEAT validation with the provincial and municipal partners together with the MPA Management Council in all MPAs of Carlos P. Garcia on 23 October 2014 and in Ubay on 24 October 2014. Overall result were submitted to the M&E focal person.
- Coordinated/facilitated with partner representatives, PACPI, SSG/ECOFISH in the presentation on initial results of blue swimming crab monitoring on 13 October 2014 at Talibon Interpretive Center. Actual field observation and inter-action was facilitated in one of the landing site at Barangay San Pedro of Talibon.
- Two meetings were facilitated with the Regional Director of BFAR Region 7 Director Andy Bojos together with his staff assigned on Fishery Resource Management Division re: assistance of ECOFISH in providing technical and financial support for strengthening Fishery Aquatic Resource Management Council, capacity building for the Quick Response Team, research on fish catch and blue swimming crab monitoring.
- Assisted with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources –regional office in the conduct of a re-orientation and strengthening of Fishery Aquatic Resource Management Council within the ten municipalities (CPG, Ubay, Bien Unido, Trinidad, Talibon, Getafe, Buenavista, Inabanga, Clarin, Tubigon) of Danajon-Bohol on 12-13 November 2014 in Panda Tea Garden , Tagbilaran City. The outputs were the results of the assessment of respective FARMCs and the formulation of action plans. Apart from the action plans, LGUs were able to evaluate their Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management Plan (EAFM) benchmarking.
- Two meetings were conducted together with the OIC of BEMO, Head of SEEM and Provincial Legal Office, re: correction of the Executive Order 01 series 2015, titled Strengthening and Sustaining the Coastal Monitoring and Protection Program of the Province of Bohol by Institutionalizing Coastal Law Enforcement Councils and Providing Mechanisms For Its Effective Implementation. Activities after the approval of the EO were also identified.
- On 02-04 December 2014, facilitated Para-Legal Training held in Tiera Milagros, Tanauan Palo, Southern Leyte. Attendees were comprised of MAO, SB Committee on Fisheries, PNP-PEDO, Chief of Police, Fishery Technician from the six Municipalities of Leyte, two in Southern Leyte and three municipalities (Biri, Capul, and San Vicente) of Northern Samar. The participants were satisfied on their queries pertaining to the issues and problems of their enforcement operation.



BFAR Region 8 Director Juan Albaladejo (in checkered shirt) joins the participants off the Para-legal Training held in Palo, Leyte on 02-04 December 2014. The participants, mostly coming from the provinces of Leyte and Southern Leyte in the Danajon Reef MKBA, were joined by others from the towns of San Vicente, Biri and Capul are part of the San Bernardino MKBA.

- A series of meetings had been conducted in the municipalities of Leyte and Southern Leyte. Outputs during meetings were the following: reviewed and finalized the CFRM plans of Bato, Inopacan, Matalom and Macrohon. The *Sanguniang Bayan* in the said municipalities have already approved and adopted the plans. While for the municipalities of Baybay City, Maasin City, Hindang and Hilongos these are still on the process of writing the CFRM/EAFM plans.

### 4.2.3. Lingayen Gulf

- Inter-local cooperation on coastal law enforcement and sustainable fisheries has been the priority of the Lingayen Gulf MKBA. Following the initial groundwork in the previous quarter, this quarter saw continuous and progressive achievements made with the Province of La Union, LGUs, and partner agencies during a number of discussions. The initial Roundtable Discussion (RTD) on Inter-local Cooperation held on 16 October 2014 set the stage for agreement among partners to strengthen the existing but non-operational La Union Bay Watch, and was strongly supported by the Province of La Union.
- This was followed by the first ad-hoc Technical Working Group meeting on 21 November 2014 that determined the nature and name of the inter-local cooperation, and sought feedback on membership to the body. It was basically determined that the inter-local cooperation will not only be focused on coastal law enforcement but will also work on fisheries management, including tourism. After much deliberation and justification, the agreed name was La Union Bay Watch for Sustainable Fisheries.
- On 12 December 2014, during the second ad-hoc Technical Working Group meeting, further comments were made on the draft Memorandum of Agreement. The draft MoA is yet undergoing finalization. The target is to conduct the MOA-signing during the second quarter of the project year.
- Meetings with partners in Pangasinan were held on the background of inter-local alliances in Pangasinan. It was agreed with them to have a similar Roundtable Discussion (RTD) for Pangasinan (as was held for La Union). The experiences here quite differ with a past project-led Sagip Lingayen Task Force that slowly became non-operational, an LGU-initiated cooperation called the A.B.B.A. Task Force, and smaller dual-LGU initiatives that may prove more promising. The RTD will be held during the second quarter of the project year.



Discussions on strengthening of inter-local cooperation among partners in La Union led to the agreement to strengthen the re-named La Union Bay Watch for Sustainable Fisheries.

- A scoping of possible social enterprises was led by the ECOFISH social enterprise specialist among fisherfolk associations in the respective focal LGUs of the project. This involved a total of 41 representatives from 23 fisherfolk associations, and 8 LGU representatives. Basically, it was seen that almost all fisherfolk associations seem to have weak structures and management based on their identified past and current activities; also, there is a need to further strengthen potential associations through possible training in organizational management and financial management. Some existing start-up projects of a few associations are the banana vinegar in Agoo; artisanal bagoong in San Fernando City; and Gracillaria seaweed-drying in Rosario. Further assessments may need to be made to determine more-encompassing livelihood options in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA.
- Representatives from BFAR RO1, the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist in La Union, the Office of the City Agriculturist of Alaminos, and ECOFISH site staff participated in the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR) Workshop conducted at the UP-Marine Science Institute in Quezon City from 27-28 October 2014. The group validated data for the report, and provided other data sources for UP-MERF.
- Two batches of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) National Workshop were held from 19 to 30 October 2014, at the NIFTDC-BFAR, Bonuan, Binloc, Dagupan City. The Lingayen Gulf MKBA site staff provided assistance to resource speakers during the duration of the two workshops.
- Most coastal towns of La Union are not endowed with naturally-occurring coral reef areas. In this instance, they have opted to pursue the installation of artificial reefs (ARs) to facilitate regeneration of fish populations. However, due to the practice and current mind-set that ARs are also fishing grounds, the project undertook to conduct a workshop on the establishment and management of artificial reefs for the pilot municipalities of Bauang and Caba. These municipalities were provided ARs through their respective bottom-up-budget. The AR Management Workshop came up with respective AR Management Plans, and drafting of ordinances creating ARs as fish sanctuaries were drafted with the two municipalities.
- As part of the site's IEC strategies on promoting responsible fishing, some interactive games were conducted during the municipality of Bauang's fiesta activities. IEC materials such as key chains and button pins on responsible fishing were distributed with explanations on responsible fishing.

#### **4.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf**

- Two local case study ideas were submitted: the management measures instituted by the LGU and BFAR PFO in Matnog Port which includes a fish sanctuary, mangrove reforestation, mariculture, and beach tourism and the proposed redesign of the Butag Bay fish sanctuary (Bulan) in order to obtain better compliance from fishers.
- Benchmarking in Biri, Sta. Magdalena and Matnog was carried out.
- Additional data requested by MERF from the LGUs and BFAR RO5 for the SMRR were gathered.
- In coordination with the PNP Northern Samar Provincial Director, twenty personnel in four municipalities were vetted.



Meeting with BFAR5 personnel on Value Chain Study of *law/law*: (From left to right) Assistant Regional Director Marjurie Grutas, Fisheries Resources Management Chief Noemi Lanzuela, Post-Harvest and Marketing Chief Nelia Buena, and National Stock Assessment Program Chief Virginia Olaño.

- Meetings with LGU officials on specific issues (unregistered and unlicensed fishing vessels in Bulan; unmitigated compressor fishing in Matnog, Capul and Sta. Magdalena; Biri ordinance banning the use of compressors; spatial conflict between tuna fishing and seaweed farms in Capul; authority over the collection of auxiliary invoice for the transshipment of marine products; absence of a regular LGU employee assigned for fisheries) were held.
- The VCA sardine survey has started in Bulan. The study is fully supported by the LGU and BFAR RO5.
- The site team facilitated Biri's request for a change of the technical specification of the BUB-funded patrol boat; the team also assisted in the identification of five fish landing sites for the NAPC program.

#### 4.2.5. Southern Negros

- The Municipality of Basay is the only LGU in the South Negros Marine key Biodiversity Area (MKBA) with no Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC). The FARMC empowers the subsistence fisherfolks through active participation in the decision making process and primarily serves as an advisory body in managing and protecting the fisheries and aquatic resources of the municipality.

- Recognizing the role of FARMC in coastal fisheries resources management (CFRM), FARMC organizing has been one of the priority activities identified since the start of the ECOFISH project implementation. Finally last 09 December 2014, at least seventy (70) representatives from Fisherfolk People's Organizations, accredited non-government organizations, youth and women's organizations, Municipal Planning and Development Office, Basay Sangguniang Bayan and the Municipal Development Council gathered together to participate in the FARMC orientation and creation.



Workshop on Municipal Fisheries Ordinance Review and Administrative Adjudication from the seven focal LGUs to review and update their Municipal Fisheries Ordinances at the same time gained more knowledge on local legislation.

- Approved the project concept on Sustainable Enterprises for municipal fishing communities of South Negros (SEMFISH-South Negros) in partnership with Alter Trade Foundation, Inc. The SEMFISH-South Negros project 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 that harmonize with ecosystem conservation and generate sufficient income for the small fishers' households.
- The contract with ATFI was signed last 01 December 2014 and the targeted activities for the Phase 1 are being implemented in coordination with South Negros Office.
- With the prevalent need of national and local governments to prepare strategic actions or adaptations to climate change, vulnerability assessment (VA) has been a practical step in gathering critical information on the sensitivity and level of exposure of an area to climate change impacts. One of the common goals of the ECOFISH Project and the Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO) of Negros Occidental is to facilitate VAs and to incorporate the VA results in the local and provincial development and management plans.
- The VA facilitators training conducted in 21-22 October 2014 enabled local technical staff from the twenty (20) coastal Local Government Units (LGUs) in Negros Occidental to facilitate VA assessments in their respective sites.

#### 4.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

- LGUs and partners find the results of the Tourists' Willingness-to-Pay (WTP) Survey very relevant and useful. After the presentation of said results in the PAMB meeting, DENR CENRO in Dapa recommended a special ExeCom Meeting that would exclusively discuss details of the survey results. The Provincial Tourism Office is also interested in view of the existing provincial revenue code.
- After years of unsuccessful crusade against destructive/illegal fishing in the MKBA, the confiscation of fishing boats and gears and filing of cases against illegal commercial/*liba-liba* operators, was ground-breaking news. As this was primarily through the efforts of the Philippine Navy and the BFAR Caraga QRT, this serves as a clear statement of commitment of BFAR and the Philippine Navy to protect the marine environment and its resources.



PNP-Maritime Group 13 awarded ECOFISH Project with a Plaque/Certificate of Recognition during the Launching of its AMPA Project Site in Barangays San Isidro and Buenavista, Surigao City, on 03 December 2014 at the Surigao City Hall, citing the technical support that the Project has been providing the PNP-Maritime Group 13 in the conduct of its field duties in law enforcement and protection of marine environment and coastal resources.

- The technical assistance being extended to the LGU of Gigaquit in strengthening the management and expansion of its existing fish sanctuaries would be an important contribution to the CRM efforts of the LGU and fisherfolk stakeholders. The Project assisted the MAO and the MFARMC in refining the LGU's fish sanctuary-related ordinance, and in the validation and rectification of coordinates of fish sanctuary sites, which will make succeeding management activities more in order.
- Local partners have been familiar and "at home" with the ECOFISH Project Office. PNP-Maritime Group 13 held its Performance Governance System and Oath-Taking of Members of Advisory Council on 14 October 2014 at the ECOFISH Project Office. ECOFISH have been selected as member of its Advisory Council.

#### 4.2.7. Tawi-Tawi

- Conducted review and refinement of existing ordinances on fisheries resource management, and training on the drafting of fisheries ordinances and other basic local legislations (back to back with Baseline Results Feedbacking).

- Supported BFAR-ARMM in the celebration of Fish Conservation Week. There was a Coastal Clean-up from barangay Simandagit to Marlboro Beach of barangay Swangkagang. The second day was dedicated for school children’s activities. There were poster making and slogan contest for elementary grade schools, essay writing contest and quiz bee for high school level. Supported BFAR-ARMM in the celebration of Fish Conservation Week.
- Courtesy call and meeting to the BFAR Director Janice Musali who came to Tawi-Tawi to attend the celebration of the 634th Shiek Makhdum Day in Simunul. Submitted accomplishment reports from August to October 2014 followed by a “meet and greet” with the BFAR regional team. ECOFISH facilitated and coordinated the visit to MPAs/Fish Sanctuaries by PNP-MG. This effort by the PNP-MG to actively implement the AMPA Program received positive response from the barangay officials, MPA management committees, and bantay sanctuaries.



Inter-LGU meeting on 04 December 2014 with Mayor Rejie Sahali-Generale attending. Mayor Generale gave an inspirational talk about better Fisheries Management.

- Meeting with Mayor Rejie Sahali-Generale on 1) feedback on 07-09 Oct 2014 survey results feedbacking and EAFM; 2) SEACAMP site assessment on 25-28 Nov 2014; 3) Value chain analysis activities for blue crab. Courtesy visit to the Naval Station new commanding officer. Courtesy visit to the PNP-MPS chief for vetting. Courtesy visit to the Batu-Batu National High School principal Glori Maquiso. MPA visitation at Panglima Sugala for re-activation of MPA ManCom and MEAT.
- Courtesy call to the barangay officials of Buan and Karaha for the VCA on blue crab in these areas and endorsed Yunadzmar Ong, VCA enumerator.
- Initiated the Inter-LGU initial meeting. Technical Working Group to request LGUs to appoint 2-representatives to the TWG of Inter-Alliance of Tawi-Tawi MKBA.

#### **4.2.8. Verde Island Passage**

- The ECOFISH VIP provided technical assistance to the PGENRO in the reactivation of Batangas Environmental Response Team (BERT) by facilitating the BERT workshops on the Review of Operational/Implementation Plan and Clustering of the Members and Finalization of Operational and Implementation Plan last 09-10 October, and 04-05 December 2014, respectively. Both activities were attended by all members of the BERT such as the PNP BPPPO, PNP-Maritime Group, PCG, BD Network, 15 LGUs, Provincial DILG, Provincial Legal Office and Office of the Prosecutors. The said activities were conducted in preparation for the enforcement support of BERT to the implementation of the “*Pagpapahinga ng Look Balayan*” last 11-31 December 2014.
- Coordinated with the DSWD Regional office and 5 LGUs in the preparation and implementation of the Cash for Building Livelihood Assets (CBLA) as livelihood support for more than 1,500 fisherfolks affected by the 21 days closed season. The affected fisherfolks were engaged by their respective LGUs in coastal clean ups, de-clogging of rivers and water ways, clean up of markets, reforestation and other clean-up activities and they were paid P271 each per day.
- ECOFISH played an important role in the planning and implementation of the “*Pagpapahinga ng Look Balayan*” (closed season). From the very start, ECOFISH provided technical and scientific assistance to the PGENRO as well as in facilitating Technical Working Group (TWG) meetings in the early stage of preparation for the closed season.
- The Project also provided assistance to the *Sangguniang Bayan* of 9 municipalities in the Balayan Bay area by drafting a uniformed ordinance that served as policy for the implementation of the 21-day closed season. ECOFISH VIP also assisted the PGENRO during the implementation and monitoring of the “*Pagpapahinga ng Look Balayan*”.

### **5. Priority Implementation Issues**

#### **5.1. Priority Implementation Issues at National Level**

- Close coordination with NOAA in the customization of the EAFM Training Course to the Philippines; coordination with BFAR in the future conduct of EAFM trainings following the customized training course.
- Documentation and post-implementation impact monitoring of the seasonal closure in Balayan Bay.
- Coordination with BFAR and NFRDI on priority activities to support policy and training programs of BFAR, particularly on BoatR, municipal fish landing centers and NFRDI research agenda.
- Evaluate the performance and impact of the 700DALOY in facilitating communications and improved reporting for marine wildlife violations, prior to expansion to other sites.
- Evaluate the performance and impact the PPP “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration in the Danajon Reef” as it officially closed by December 2014, for reporting by March.
- Implement mentorship program for social enterprise development with AIM and partner NGOs in VIP, Negros Oriental and Calamianes.
- Implement the PPP training with DAP which was rescheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015.

- Start the implementation of capability trainings for the social preparation to other MKBA's like in Verde Island Passage, Tawi-Tawi, Surigao and Bicol.
- Ensure that all trainings for the social preparation are implemented such as EAFM, simple bookkeeping, advocacy and networking, marketing, business plan etc. for CIG as part of consolidation phase. Ensure that all activities for the social prep must be achieved in VIP, Tawi-Tawi, Surigao and in San Bernardino Strait.
- Monitor the organizations' activities and ensure that all organizations are registered in DOLE and in other agencies of the government.
- Identification of the potential partners in enterprise development for the CIG and VIP.
- Ensure the formalization of the fisherfolk organization (accreditation in government agencies and establishment of organizational systems like finance, membership and policies of the organization).
- As part of the monitoring work of the project, socio-economic monitoring surveys in all 8 MKBAs will be set up during the next quarter.
- In rolling out the establishment of fish landing centers in ECOFISH sites, the project will continue to provide assistance to NAPC and BFAR in the social preparation component and in designing the training component for POs and LGUs that will manage the FLCs.
- Surveys will be conducted in CIG and South Negros for establishing and enhancing user fees among the recreational users in these two sites.

## **5.2. Priority Implementation Issues at Site Level**

### **5.2.1. Calamianes Island Group**

- No substantive constraints, obstacles, or challenges were encountered during this reporting period.

### **5.2.2. Danajon Reef**

- No substantive constraints, obstacles, or challenges were encountered during this reporting period.

### **5.2.3. Lingayen Gulf**

- The search for an immediate big-impact social enterprise may take time in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA, considering that fisherfolk associations have their own challenges in terms of organization and financial management. It may be necessary to prioritize associations that have potential to provide these trainings to. In addition, although the immediate target population is small, there is future in a few existing projects that could be supported by ECOFISH through linkage with the appropriate partners.

- Valuing the Lingayen Gulf to the wider public is a challenge that has to be taken through a well-planned and coordinated information-education- communication (IEC) strategy. This will be pursued through the inter-local alliances in La Union and in Pangasinan once the alliances are formally organized. Collaborative implementation strategies needs to be developed with local partners and the wider public.

#### **5.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf**

- The absence of a regular LGU employee assigned to fisheries is hampering coordination with Biri and Capul. In addition and affecting all the municipalities, the unavailability/insufficiency of the budget for travel by LGU personnel within their municipalities curtails extension work. The site team has taken up these matters with the Mayors and SBs.
- The 60-day suspension of the Bulan Mayor by the Sorsogon Governor led to the cancellation of the benchmarking exercise.
- *A force majeure*, Typhoon Ruby, affected the scheduled activities in the first week of December.

#### **5.2.5. Southern Negros**

- In celebration of the annual Fish Conservation Week and Buglasan Festival of Negros Oriental, the Environment and Natural Resources Department (ENRD) has requested the ECOFISH Project to co-organize the first Marine Protected Area (MPA) Summit in the province on 30 October 2014. A series of preparatory meetings with Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) - Provincial Fisheries Office and South Negros LGUs has been facilitated by ENRD and ECOFISH to brainstorm on the summit theme and topics. Unfortunately, three days before the proposed date, ENRD informed us to cancel the said activity. Much to our dismay, we immediately informed our partner LGUs and fisherfolk associations of the decision of Governor Degamo. Nevertheless, a similar activity will be organized with BFAR for this year.
- Another major implementation issue is that there is no LGU Fisheries Technician for the Municipality of Cauayan and just last year, the fisheries technician of Basay took an indefinite leave. This posed a challenge for EAFM implementation in these LGUs since nobody is initiating the planned EAFM activities. Our CRS has been closely working with the Municipal Agriculturist of Basay in developing their fisheries profile and organizing of FARMC.
- With regard to the LGU requests for support to the establishment of new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), we need to fast track the finalization of the Special Activity Fund (SAF) Agreement to be able to start the targeted activities in Sipalay, Hinobaan and Sta. Catalina this year. The LGUs have been looking forward to the finalization of the contract since the approval of the SAF concept note last May 2014.

### 5.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

- Resurgence of illegal fishing operations within municipal waters. On a number of occasions, *liba-liba* fishers have been spotted operating in the general area of west Bucas Grande in Socorro, up to the municipal waters of Tagana-an, Placer, Bacuag and Gigaquit. Such undaunted intrusion of illegal/destructive commercial fishing in the municipal waters is allegedly supported by certain local politicians. On the other hand, a group of small liba-liba operators in Placer have expressed through the MAO their willingness to abandon the illegal fishing practice if the Government can provide other livelihood options.
- LGU officials generally remain lukewarm and/or reluctant in investing on fisheries and coastal resource management, presumably because this may mean unfavourable results in the forthcoming elections in 2016. It is also highly likely that they find the lure of mineral extraction more financially lucrative and rewarding.

### 5.2.7. Tawi-Tawi

- No substantive constraints, obstacles, or challenges were encountered during this reporting period.

### 5.2.8. Verde Island Passage

- No clear agreement/understanding with Conservation International - Philippines regarding cost sharing in some activities during the preparation and implementation of the closed season including the strengthening of the Batangas Environmental Response Team (BERT).
- The site-based ECOFISH team needs regular, fast internet access in the office aside from mobile internet service.

## 6. Schedule of Upcoming Important Activities

January 2015	
09 January	Launching of the Professional Masters in Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management (PM-TMEM) of the three campuses of the University of the Philippines.
12 January	Meeting with WinRock Chief of Party regarding potential areas for collaboration in the Surigao del Norte MKBA
13-16 January	Fisheries catch monitoring training in Danajon Reef MKBA for enumerators and LGU technical staff.
18 January	MFARMC meeting and presentation of Supplemental Ordinance to SB Members for its adoption and approval in Surigao del Norte MKBA
19 January	WWF-Philippines Workshop on Fisheries Improvement Project for yellowfin tuna handline fisheries.

21-23 January	Socio-Economic Survey Training for Danajon Reef MKBA.
27-30 January	Fisheries catch monitoring training in Surigao del Norte MKBA for enumerators and LGU technical staff.
27 January	Sharing session on Balayan Bay Seasonal Closure.
28 January	Meeting with LMP secretariat on strengthening of MoreFISH and other constituency building collaboration on fisheries management.
30 January	AMPA Assessment with PNP Maritime Group and representative local government units.
<b>February 2015</b>	
01-03 February	Socio-Economic Survey Training for San Bernardino Strait enumerators.
01-06 February	Identification and establishment of community partners in Tawi-Tawi, Surigao and in the San Bernardino MKBA.
04-06 February	US Ambassador's visit to Bohol.
06 February	Roll out of BoatR
06-09 February	FLC Orientation Workshop for mentors.
2 <sup>nd</sup> week of February	Conduct of trainings for consolidation phase in CIG.
2 <sup>nd</sup> week of February	Training on MPA Network Establishment (Surigao).
09-13 February	Delineation of municipal water boundaries (follow up activities: joint validation of coastal terminal point) in Surigao.
10-11 February	Socio-Economic Survey Training for VIP.
12 February	Summit on DILG SGLG indicators.
13 February	Visit of USAID's OAA to Calamianes.
16-19 February	Socio-Economic Survey Training for Surigao.
18 February	Gear Identification Orientation/CLE Consultation in Surigao.
3 <sup>rd</sup> week February	Socio-Econ Enumeromicators' Training (Surigao). PAMB Execom Special Meeting on WTP Results (Surigao). Meeting with Provincial Tourism re: WTP Results. (Surigao)
23-25 February	Socio-Economic Survey Training for Tawi-Tawi.
25-16 February	TWG and Steering Committee meetings on the management of roudscad fisheries in the wtares of the Province of Palawan.
26 February	PCA Summit.
23-27 February	Preparation of Final Draft SMRR.
<b>March 2015</b>	
02-03 March	Socio-Economic Survey Training for South Negros.
04-06 March	Theory of Change workshop with the Measuring Impacts Team in Bohol.
02-06 March	Submission of partnership report for the TV White Space.
1 <sup>st</sup> week of March	Monitoring of 700DALOY reports, performance and impact for potential expansion.
09-13 March	Series of scoping visits and meetings in Biri, Northern Samar.
09-13 March	Marine Spatial Planning for the municipalities in Balayan Bay (VIP MKBA)

16-18 March	Socio-Economic Survey training for Lingayen.
3 <sup>rd</sup> week of March	Roll-out of PPP development targetted for social enterprise development.
3 <sup>rd</sup> week of March	Mobilize PPP support for BoatR.
3 <sup>rd</sup> week of March	Conduct social preparation activities for Tawi-Tawi, Surigao and San Bernardino Strait.
3 <sup>rd</sup> week of March	Continuation of PCRA in Placer in preparation for establishment of fish sanctuaries in 3 coastal barangays. (Surigao)
4 <sup>th</sup> week of March	Orientation on inter-LGU zoning of marine waters for fisheries and other uses. (Surigao)
4 <sup>th</sup> week of March	Development of MPA network design. (Surigao)
4 <sup>th</sup> week of March	Socio-Economic Assessment in focal sites (Placer, Bacuag and Gigaquit)
4 <sup>th</sup> week of March	Conduct hydrodynamic and larvae dispersal modelling. (Surigao)
4 <sup>th</sup> week of March	Finalization of Provincial CRM Framework Plan. (Surigao)
4 <sup>th</sup> week of March	Value Chain Study on Mudcrab in Siargao Island.