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ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR
SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES
(ECOFISH) PROJECT

ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH) Project

QUARTERLY UPDATE (01 APRIL– 30 JUNE 2015)

ECOFISH Document No.: 03/2015
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

14 August 2015

Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries (ECOFISH) Project

Quarterly Progress Update

(01 April– 30 June 2015)

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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 | - | Bantay Dagat Network |
| AIM-SIL | - | Bohol Coastal Resource Management Task Force |
| 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 Baptist 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 |
| CLEAR 7 | - | Coastal Law Enforcement Alliance for Region 7 |
| 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 |
| DOST | - | Department of Science and Technology |
| DOST-ICT | - | Department of Science and Technology-Information and Communications Technology |
| DSWD | - | Department of Social Welfare and Development |
| EAFM | - | Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management |
| ECAN | - | Environmentally Critical Areas Network |
| ECOFISH | - | Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries |

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| ENRD | - | Environment and Natural Resources Division |
| 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 |
| FRLED | - | Fisheries Regulatory and Law Enforcement Division |
| FRMD | - | Fisheries Resources Management Division |
| GAD | - | Gender and Development |
| GIZ | - | German Society for International Cooperation |
| GPB | - | Gender and Development Planning and Budgeting |
| GPBP | - | Grassroots Participatory Budgeting and Planning |
| GPH | - | Government of the Philippines |
| GPS | - | Global Positioning System |
| GST | - | Gender Sensitivity Training |
| 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 |
| LOC | - | Letter of Commitment |
| 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 |
| MHO | - | Municipal Health Office |
| MKBA | - | Marine Key Biodiversity Area |
| MMSU | - | Mariano Marcos State University |
| MOA | - | Memorandum of Agreement |
| MOU | - | Memorandum of Understanding |
| MPA | - | Marine Protected Area |

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|----------|---|--|
| MPDC | - | Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator |
| MRDP | - | Mindanao Rural Development Program |
| MSI | - | Marine Science Institute |
| MSOU | - | Maritime Special Operations Unit |
| MSP | - | Marine Spatial Planning |
| MSU | - | Mindanao State University |
| MSWD | - | Municipal Social Welfare Development |
| 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 |
| OPLAN | - | Operation Plan |
| PAC | - | Provincial Agriculture Coordinator |
| PACPI | - | Philippine Association of Crab Processors |
| PAWB | - | Protected Area and Wildlife Bureau |
| PCG | - | Philippine Coast Guard |
| PCGA | - | Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary |
| PCRA | - | Participatory Coastal Resources Assessment |
| PCSD | - | Palawan Council for Sustainable Development |
| PDRRMC | - | Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction 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 |
| PRRCFI | - | Philippine Reef and Rainforest Foundation, Inc. |
| PSU | - | Palawan State University |
| QAQC | - | Quality Assurance and Quality Control |
| QRT | - | Quick Response Team |
| RMU | - | Regional Management Unit |
| RO | - | Regional Office |
| 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 |

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|--------|---|--|
| 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) |
| SPMP | - | Siete Pecados Marine Park |
| SPS | - | Save Philippine Seas |
| 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 |
| UPV | - | University of the Philippines in the Visayas |
| 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 |
| ZSL | - | Zoological Society of London |

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 April – 30 June 2015. It consists of a monthly calendar of activities for the quarter and discussion of important accomplishments and priority implementation issues.

2. Project Objectives

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

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

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

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

3. Monthly Calendar of Key Activities

3.1 National Level Activities

| April 2015 | |
|-------------|---|
| 06-09 April | Planning for Social Enterprise Development in Calamianes Island Group |
| 07-09 April | Writeshop for the drafting of the Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan for focal area in Surigao del Norte. |
| 08-10 April | Conducted Values Formation, VMG (Vision, Mission and Goals) and Strategic Planning for four (4) Fisherfolk Organizations in Nasugbo, Batangas. The Fisherfolk Organizations were the <i>Bukluran ng Maliliit na Mangingisda ng Balaytigue</i> of Brgy. Balaytigue, Rural Improvement Club of Brgy. Wawa, <i>Samahan ng Mangingisda at Mag-iisda ng Calayo</i> of Brgy. Calayo and <i>Samahan ng Mamamalakaya sa Papaya</i> (SAMAPA) from Brgy. Papaya. The outputs of the 3-day training-workshop were the formulation of the VMG and 1-year plans of the respective organizations. |
| 13 April | Discussed with UNILAB and SEKAYA’s Terence Ang and Dr. Eliseo Banaynal a prospective community partnership in Calamianes to scope for potential medicinal herbs for local economic development. |
| 14-15 April | Participated in the League of Municipalities of the Philippine General Assembly. |
| 15 April | Presented the TV White Space Partnership between ECOFISH, Microsoft and DOST- Information and Communication Technology Office (ICTO) at the League of Municipalities General Assembly at Manila Hotel with the Deputy Executive Director of the DOST-ICTO Ms. Bettina Quimson. ECOFISH received a token of appreciation on behalf of its support to the LMP, including the 700DALOY reporting system. |
| 15 April | Conducted consultation-meetings with 3 Fisherfolk Organizations from the Municipality of Calatagan, Batangas who were identified as potential partners for local enterprise development projects. They were the Encarnacion Rural |

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| | <p>Improvement Club of Brgy. Encarnacion, <i>Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Brgy. Talisay</i> and <i>Samahang Kapit Bisig ng Brgy Sta. Ana</i>.</p> <p>Key findings from the consultation-meetings are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>The Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Brgy. Talisay</i> had submitted a proposal on sea cucumber culture to the Grassroot Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP). The proposal had already been approved by the GPBP. The project is expected to benefit primarily their women members since sea cucumber gathering is an activity carried out mostly by the women in the community. 2) The Encarnacion Rural Improvement Club is a recipient of a tomato farming project also from the GPBP. Future skills trainings include tomato processing. As for future projects, they prefer those that will promote the members' skills and knowledge in sewing. 3) The <i>Samahang Kapit Bisig ng Sta. Ana</i> is a spin-off of the <i>Samahang Kapit Bisig ng Calatagan</i> (SAMACA) organization. They are currently implementing a fish processing project that they acquired from the GPBP and are likewise waiting for the release of another budget for salted egg making. 4) The Municipal Agriculturist requested a training on Business Plan and Financial Management for the fisherfolk organizations that acquired projects from the GPBP. |
| 16-17 April | BFAR Technical Working Group Writeshop for the drafting of the Palawan Roundscad Fisheries Management Plan. |
| 20-24 April | Value chain analysis workshop and writeshop for the drafting of the value chain analysis report. |
| 21 April | Meeting with USAID MARKET's Timothy Moore to discuss the latest on the partnership on Species-Specific Assessment of Blue Swimming Crabs in the Danajon Reef, Bohol and strategized for possible support to elevate lessons learned to the ASEAN Fisheries Improvement Protocol level. |
| 28 April | DOST-PCAARRD and Worldfish Center workshop on sustainable aquaculture and small scale fisheries. |
| May 2015 | |
| 04-09 May | Organized a study tour on EAFM for the Tawi-Tawi Provincial Government and focal area municipalities. The study tour showcased CRM champions and best practices in South Cebu LGUs, which were former sites of the Coastal Resources Management Project (CRMP) of the DENR and USAID. |
| 05 May | Debriefing meeting of The ECOFISH Team with the M&E Consultant on the status and recommendations for the improvement of the M&E system of the project. |
| 06 May | Meeting with Tiesto Apparel's CEO on a prospective strategic partnership to develop community-based garment manufacturing in select municipalities in the Verde Island Passage. |

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| 06-08 May | USAID Mission Director visit to Calamianes Island Group. |
| 07 May | Meeting with PNP-MG, Smart Philippines and ECOFISH on scaling up of 700DALOY. |
| 13 May | Facilitated a meeting between SMART, the PNP-MG and the PNP Directorate of Police Community Relations to explore the broader adoption of 700DALOY outside the PNP-MG and utilizing LGU assets. |
| 15 May | Meeting with Tojo Motors executive team to explore a possible partnership for piloting a feasibility study for eBancas. Assisted in the development of a livelihoods project proposal by the <i>Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Brgy. Talisay</i> of Calatagan, Batangas together with AIM through Mr. Alvin Gatchalian. |
| 19-21May | Meeting with fisherfolk organizations of CIG MKBA to acquire status updates and strengthen existing partnerships with the signing of Letters of Commitment (LOC). Assisted 8 fisherfolk organizations from Culion in their submission of project proposals to the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP). Some of them previously accessed mangrove-planting projects from SLP. |
| 21-22 May | Participated in the 5 th ASEAN Fisheries Improvement Protocol Steering Committee Meeting in Bali, Indonesia through PPP Specialist Lawrence Ang who discussed the latest developments on the Species-Specific Assessment of Blue Swimming Crabs in the Danajon Reef using the Spawning Potential Ratio Method, among others. |
| 25-28 May | ECOFISH Team M&E training and workshop to improve the M&E and DQA system of the project. |
| 27-29 May | The ECOFISH PPP Team in partnership with the Development Academy of the Philippines conducted a 3-day intensive training course entitled “Public-Private Partnerships for Sustainable Fisheries: An Introductory Course”. Over 20 participants coming from ECOFISH sites participated in the training and drafted 10 PPP concept notes for further development. |
| June 2015 | |
| 01 June | Participated in the first of a series of meetings and workshops to update the NFRDI’s Research Agenda. |
| 03 June | Strengthened partnerships with 5 fisherfolk organizations in the Municipality of Lobo in VIP (<i>Malabrigo Fisherfolk Organization, Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Brgy. Soloc, Samahan ng Maliliit na Mangingisda sa Brgy. Lagadlarin, Olo-Olo Seaside Workers Associations and Bega Fisherfolk Organization</i>) through the signing of LOCs. |
| 04 June | Strengthened partnerships with 12 fisherfolk organizations in the Municipality of Calatagan in VIP (<i>Lucsuhin Rural Improvement Club, Brgy. Biga Farmer's Association, Encarnacion Women's Club, Bucal Baniay Kalikasan, Samahan ng Mangingisda sa Brgy. Talisay, Real Women's Club, Baha RIC, Poblacion IV Sitio Payapa Women's Organization, Samahan ng Mangingisda at Magbibiklad, Samahang Kapit-Bisig ng Sta.</i> |

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| | <i>Ana, Sambungan RIC, Samahan ng Maliliit na Magtitinda ng Isda sa Brgy. Hukay</i>) through the signing of LOCs. |
| 05 June | <p>Oriented the Junior Chamber International (JCI) Manila on 700DALOY in Anilao, Batangas and explored potential areas for collaboration in the Adopt a Marine Protected Area (AMPA) Project and 700DALOY.</p> <p>Meeting with 15 women's organizations (<i>Balikatan sa Kaunlaran, PSWO, Brgy. Caretonan Green Archers, Ugnayan sa Pag-unlad, Pagsapain Club, United Parents Organizations, Bali Tree Balikatan sa Kaunlaran ng Brgy. Balibago, "Ka-Barangay" Ng Poblacion 1, Samahan Laban sa Kahirapan ng Barangay, Samahan Binigkis ng Kababaihan Biga, Mother's Power, Association of Small Income Family, Orchids Pantawid Hukay Organization, Talisay Parent Organizations and Home Ka Nanay</i>), which were composed mainly of fishermen's wives regarding their livelihood projects from the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP) and future ECOFISH assistance, to include trainings on business plan formulation and financial management. Strengthened partnerships with these women's organizations through the signing of LOCs.</p> |
| 08 June | Meeting with PEMSEA's Ryan Whisnant and Nancy Bermas to discuss a strategic partnership regarding a capacity-building program for Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in ECOFISH focal and expansion sites that will include the institutionalization of a community of practitioners capable of conducting MSP on-site. |
| 08-12 June | Strengthened partnerships with 15 fisherfolk organizations in CIG MKBA (7 from Busuanga, 8 from Culion) with the signing of LOCs. Three more fisherfolk organizations signed LOCs on a later date. |
| 10-12 June | Sea and Earth Advocates (SEA) Camp in Coron, Palawan. |
| 11 June | US Embassy Regional Media Seminar in Coron, Palawan. |
| 14-16 June | Strengthened partnerships with fisherfolk organizations from 3 South Negros MKBA municipalities, namely, Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan, with the signing of LOCs. |
| 16 June | Meeting with the Deputy Director of the PPP Center of the Philippines to finalize discussions on a strategic partnership, which will establish an official GPH mentorship program aimed towards the participants of the USAID-DAP PPP Training to realize their PPP concept notes and transform them into actual PPP bids in support of EAFM. Additionally, it was agreed that a BFAR-level policy will be crafted to recognize the role of PPPs in EAFM. |
| 18 June | Strengthened partnerships with 4 fisherfolk organizations from Nasugbo, Batangas in VIP MKBA with the signing of LOCs. |
| 22-24 | Visit to the Calamianes Island Group project sites with Jerry Bisson of USAID/Washington DC to interact with implementing partners. |
| 25 June | Roundtable discussion of USAID funded programs on environmental law enforcement to share lessons learned in utilizing technology, community, |

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| | and partnership to support enforcement efforts and sustainability mechanisms of interventions. |
| 30 June | Presented in a partners' meeting the results from the 1-year Pilot Assessment of Blue Swimming Crabs and application of the Spawning Potential Ratio for species-specific management in the Danajon Reef. The results triggered the partners (i.e. LGUs, BFAR, and PACPI) to take collective action to ensure the sustainability of the blue swimming crabs resources. Among the important commitments were: to strengthen the implementation of existing laws for blue swimming crabs harvest (LGU), implement a gear-swap program to eventually eliminate the use of crab liftnets that harvest primarily juvenile crabs (BFAR), and strict enforcement of minimum size and selective sourcing of blue crabs for processing (PACPI). |

3.2. Site-Level Activities

3.2.1. Calamianes Island Group

| April 2015 | |
|-------------------|--|
| 01 April | Facilitated the drafting of the Marine Spatial Plan and Activity Guidelines of LGU-Linapacan. |
| 06 April | Coordinated a meeting with SB in Busuanga on water use zonation map presentation. Submitted request letter to DSWD on mangrove reforestation project for no-cost extension. |
| 07 April | Meeting with Balisungan MPA management council to finalize activities and endorsement of the PNP-MG's Adopt an MPA (AMPA) Project. |
| 08 April | Provided technical inputs during a Siete Pecados Marine Park (SPMP) management planning workshop. Meeting with the Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island Association (TTCIA). Some of the important updates noted were: TTCIA is now depositing their revenues in a bank and they have likewise applied for a business permit from the Coron LGU. They will pursue their plans of business planning with ECOFISH once the UNDP-SGP proposal is approved. They would further like ECOFISH to assist them in improving the visitors' center in Kayangan Lake. This will be part of the business planning exercise. |
| 09 April | Conducted initial data gathering for a willingness-to-pay (WTP) survey at SPMP. Conducted site inspection at Balisungan MPA for re-configuration of boundaries. |
| 11-12 April | Conducted initial data gathering on WTP in Coron Island and Culion. |
| 13 April | Facilitated the Mangrove Reforestation Project's Project Management Team (PMT) meeting to apprise the members of the PMT on the status of mangrove planting and disbursement of payments to beneficiaries. Assisted the municipal enforcement team in their special meeting. Some key agreements during the meeting were: identification of new members of the team, amendment of executive order and schedule of regular meetings. Participated in the stakeholders meeting with Malampaya Foundation Inc. (MFI) and Brgy. Officials of Libis to discuss a potential partnership in Bugor Island MPA. |
| 14 April | Provided technical guidance/mentoring to SPMP Manager on MPA management. |

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| | Facilitated the gathering of documents from Busuanga LGU for the user-fee system study being conducted by ECOFISH. |
| 15 April | Meeting with TWG Coron regarding the finalization of the MSP document. |
| 16 April | Discussed and documented the Leahy Vetting process at Linapacan Local PNP Station. Facilitated the gathering of documents from the Linapacan LGU for the user-fee system study being conducted by ECOFISH. |
| 16-18 April | Conducted initial data gathering in Linapacan for the WTP survey. |
| 22-25 April | Participated in the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) writeshop. |
| 24 April | Attended Operation <i>Listo</i> on disaster preparedness and dialogues with CSOs of Palawan. |
| 28 April | Meeting with LGU-Coron regarding the user-fee system, enterprise development work, and USAID visit. Administered PNP-MG survey. |
| 27-29 April | Provided administrative coordination for the USAID Mission Director's visit in CIG MKBA. |
| 30 April | Meeting with LGU-Culion regarding user-fee system and enterprise development work. |
| May 2015 | |
| 02 May | Conducted site validation in Coron Island for the WTP survey. |
| 05 May | Attended a coordination-meeting with BFAR QRT to discuss ECOFISH support to enforcement-related activities. |
| 06 May | Meeting with Vice Mayor Pe regarding USAID visit and enterprise development work in CIG. |
| 07 May | Attended Teremis-temes Festival in Culion to celebrate good harvest and bountiful blessing in the municipality and highlighted the importance of environmental protection |
| 08 May | Coordinated the USAID Mission Director's visit in Coron Island to meet the TTCIA and the luncheon meeting with LGU-Coron. |
| 11-12 May | Reviewed and updated the Balisungan MPA management plan. Conducted a follow-up ocular visit to the MPA site to locate boundaries and possible re-configuration of the area. |
| 13 May | Attended a coordination-meeting with LGUs of Coron and Culion regarding MPA assessments. |
| 16 May | Conducted an orientation-seminar on WTP survey with enumerators. |

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| 18 May | Provided technical guidance and mentoring to SPMP manager on MPA management. |
| 18-20 May | Participated in the Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN) Monitoring and Enforcement training organized by PCSD and presented the ECOFISH CLE baseline assessment results. |
| 21 May | Meeting with Vice Mayor of Busuanga regarding the WTP survey and provided ECOFISH project updates. |
| 21-22 May | Participated in the <i>Sa Karagatan Festival</i> in Busuanga, a festival tribute to farmers and fisherfolks. |
| 24 May | Attended a coordination-meeting with the UPV's MPA monitoring team in preparation for the monitoring assessments in CIG. |
| 25-28 May | Attended the ECOFISH Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Training. |
| 25-26 May | Presented ECOFISH project updates during the LGU Business Planning Workshop for Workforce Development. |
| 27-29 May | Co-organized and served as resource person during the Gender Sensitivity Training (GST) CUM 2016 GAD Planning and Budgeting (GPB) and Gender Mainstreaming of Ecosystem-based approach for Sustainable Fisheries Management into GPB and local development plans. |
| June 2015 | |
| 02 June | Provided technical guidance to Siete Pecados Marine Park (SPMP) Manager in the implementation of rules and regulations in the park. Coordinated preparations for USAID Deputy Chief on OEEC Joe Foltz's visit to Barangay Bulalacao. |
| 03 June | Facilitated coordination with TTCIA, LGU-Coron regarding SEACamp culmination activities. Meeting with LGU-Coron regarding site validation activities of the Galing Pook Foundation in SPMP. |
| 08 June | Preparatory meetings with the Save Philippine Seas (SPS) organizing team regarding SEACamp culmination activities. |
| 09 June | Series of meetings were conducted with Community Centered-Conservation (C3) staff, DSWD-SLP Project Development Officer and MLGOO respectively, regarding the proposed enterprise development in Busuanga. Conducted ocular visit to the proposed Busuanga River cruise as a local livelihoods project. |
| 10 June | Provided technical support during the SPMP Meeting. Facilitated USAID Senior staff Joe Foltz's visit in Barangay Bulalacao. |

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| 11 June | Assisted US Acting Chief of Mission Eric Kneedler's visit in Coron Island and Siete Pecados Marine Park. Meeting with Key LGU officials regarding the proposed amendments to the municipal fisheries ordinances. |
| 12 June | Co-organized atour for the US Embassy Regional Media Seminar participants in the Siete Pecados Marine Park and Coron Island. |
| 13 June | Co-organized a tour for the SEACamp participants in the Siete Pecados Marine Park and Coron Island. |
| 16 June | Facilitated co-operation between AIM (student) and the TTCIA key leaders towards the development of a livelihoods project proposal. |
| 22 June | Conducted a technical review of seacucumber value chain analysis report. |
| 23-24 June | Provided administrative assistance during USAID Senior Staff Jerry Bisson's visit in CIG and arranged a series of meetings/dialogues with LGU-Culion, the SPMP manager, TTCIA, LGU-Coron, and the Calamianes Fiberglass Makers. |
| 25 June | Meeting with PMT for mangrove reforestation project monitoring. Conducted ocular monitoring of mangrove reforestation in Barangays Osmeña and Baldat, Culion. |
| 26 June | Conducted ocular monitoring of mangrove reforestation in Barangays Halsey and Malaking Patag. |
| 27 June | Conducted ocular monitoring of mangrove reforestation in Barangays Galoc and Luac. Attended a preparatory meeting with key members of the SPMP Council regarding the Galing Pook Foundation site validation in Coron. |
| 29 June | Provided technical inputs during Galing Pook award evaluation in Siete Pecados Marine Park. |
| 30 June | Meeting with the Calamian MPA Network (CMN) Chairman together with Municipal Agriculturist to discuss the status of the network. |

3.2.2. Danajon Reef

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| April 2015 | |
| 06 April | Meeting with Coastal Law Enforcement Alliance for Region 7 (CLEAR 7) held at the BFAR Regional Office, Cebu City. Presented the accomplishments of ECOFISH in relation to fishery law enforcement efforts in Bohol. |

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| 07 April | In response to the request of the Municipal Mayor of Tubigon, provided ECOFISH orientation to Danajon LGU's external partners, including PHILDRA, ZSL, RICE, and DANAJON WATCH. |
| 10 April | Meeting with BEMO staff Adel Salutan, Provincial PNP Action Officer Police Superintendent Olaivar, and the PEDO SPO3 Camilo Estrera, regarding the conduct of an orientation for the Chief of Police on OPLAN KADAGATAN and finalize schedules for the CLEC Clusters General assembly and oath taking ceremony. |
| 17 April | Attended a coordination-meeting with the Bohol Coastal Resource Management Task Force in preparation for the Month of the Ocean celebrations. |
| 20-24 April | Attended the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) writeshop and drafted the report on the value chain study of the blue swimming crabs in Danajon. |
| 21-25 April | Conducted Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QAQC) for the Catch Monitoring Assessment in Danajon Reef MKBA. |
| 27 April | Conducted QAQC of fish catch monitoring and data gathering activities in Pandanon Is., Getafe and Hambongan Is. and Cuaming Is., Inabanga. |
| 28 April | Conducted QAQC of fish catch monitoring and data gathering activities in Brgy. Asinan, Buenavista, Brgy. Sto. Niño and Brgy. Lawis, Inabanga, Brgy. Nahawan, Clarin and Brgy. Tinangnan, Tubigon. |
| 29-30 April | Facilitated the training on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) participated in by the ten municipalities of Danajon Reef MKBA, namely, Tubigon, Clarin, Inabang, Buenavista, Getafe, Talibon, Trinidad, Ubay and Pres. Carlos P. Garcia. |
| May 2015 | |
| 04 May | Organized and coordinated with provincial partners during the grand opening program of the Month of the Ocean. Launched the CLE posters of the 10 Danajon Reef MKBA, Bohol municipalities. |
| 06 May | Attended an inter-agency meeting on fishery law enforcement in Cebu City and presented ECOFISH accomplishments relating to fishery law enforcement activities in Danajon, Bohol. |
| 07 May | Meeting with the project manager of PACPI to solicit information regarding the status of meat picking stations and exporters of blue swimming crabs from Danajon. |
| 15 May | Meeting with the members of the Provincial Coastal Law Enforcement Task Force regarding the draft of the Operations Plan (OPLAN) and leveling-off with the lawyers assigned to the respective CLEC Clusters. |

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| 19-20 May | Supported LGU-Getafe in the preparation of their Municipal Agri-Fishery Development Plan. Assisted BEMO in the preparations for the CLEC General Assembly Meeting and Oath Taking of elected officers. |
| 21 May | Facilitated a presentation of the OPLAN by the Provincial PNP PSSUPT. Batuan and coordinated the CLEC General Assembly Meeting and Oath Taking of CLEC Clusters officers. |
| 25-29 May | Attended the ECOFISH Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Training |
| June 2015 | |
| 01 June | Meeting with the VCA enumerator for status and report updates. |
| 04 June | Meeting with BEMO to discuss the next steps following the oath taking of the CLEC Clusters Officers and presentation of the OPLAN. |
| 05 June | Meeting with the Economic Development Committee of NEDA regarding ECOFISH's role and assistance in the creation of CELEBOSOLE and the Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council. |
| 11 June | Strengthened partnerships with POs from the municipalities of Clarin, Inabanga, Buenavista, and Getafe with the signing of Letters of Commitment (LOCs). Training on Basic Law Enforcement for Municipal and Barangay Level Enforcement Teams in Inabanga. |
| 16 June | Meeting with provincial partners regarding final preparations for the photo exhibits during the USAID visit. Meeting with Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and CRM staff of Tubigon to identify areas of collaboration in the conduct of law enforcement trainings. . |
| 17 June | Coordinated and assisted in the installation of ECOFISH project photo exhibits for the USAID visit in Bohol. |
| 18 June | Oriented USAID's John Spears, Joe Foltz and Gloria Steel regarding ECOFISH project activities in Danajon Reef MKBA. |
| 19 June | Provided logistical support and arrangements during the USAID's visit to the Balicasag MPA, during which, the PNP-MG presented updates on the AMPA while the PCG provided updates on how wildlife trafficking is being addressed in Bohol. Meeting with the OIC Provincial Fishery Officer and his staff to identify IEC needs that can be possibly supported by ECOFISH. |
| 22 June | Facilitated/assisted in the conduct of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) site validation in the Municipality of Tubigon. |

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| 23 June | Facilitated/assisted in the conduct of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) site validation in the municipality of Clarin. |
| 24 June | Facilitated/assisted in the conduct of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) site validation in the municipality of Inabanga. |
| 25 June | Facilitated/assisted in the conduct of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) site validation in the municipality of Buenavista. |
| 26 June | Discussions with PSSUPT. Lorenzo Batuan regarding the approval of the OPLAN KADAGATAN from the PNP Provincial Director. |
| 30 June | Attended a partners' meeting to present the results of the 1-year Pilot Assessment of Blue Swimming Crabs and the application of the Spawning Potential Ratio for species-specific management in the Danajon Reef. |

3.2.3. Lingayen Gulf

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| April 2015 | |
| 07-10 April | Conducted QAQC of fish catch monitoring and data collection activities in San Fernando City and Rosario, La Union, and Alaminos City, Pangasinan. |
| 13-14 April | Meetings with ECOFISH thematic leads to explore and discuss potential inter-local alliance activities in Lingayen Gulf MKBA. |
| 15,17 April | Meetings with BFAR and the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA) in preparation for the Summit on Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries. |
| 20-24 April | Participated in the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) Writeshop. |
| 28-30 April | Organized and facilitated the Summit on Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries and the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement on the Institutional Strengthening of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries, San Fernando City, La Union. |
| May 2015 | |
| 18 May | Participated in the Month of the Ocean and conduct of IEC activities with the Province's Cure the Sea Program. |
| 21 May | Conducted EAFM governance benchmarking with focal LGUs. |
| 26-28 May | Attended the ECOFISH Monitoring and Evaluation Training. |
| June 2015 | |
| 03 June | Meetings with NGO <i>Katinnulong Daguiti Umili Iti Amianan, Inc.</i> (KADUAMI, Inc) and the PNP regarding possible collaboration activities. |
| 08 June | Meeting with the Province of La Union in preparation for the Policy Forum. |
| 09 June | Facilitated the Policy Forum for the Advancement of Responsible Fisheries |

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| | in La Union. |
| 10 June | Conducted a Coastal Law Enforcement Coordination Workshop. |
| 11 June | Meeting with the PNP Province of La Union to identify and evaluate fishery law enforcement activities. |
| 15-16 June | Participated in the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries Planning through the Provincial Planning Office of La Union. |
| 18-19 June | Meeting with Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) regarding concerns and finalization of the SAF for the MPA Network. |
| 24 June | Assisted the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist in preparing report to NEDA Regional Development Council – Environment and Natural Resources Committee. |

3.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf

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| April 2015 | |
| 06 April | Meeting with PFO to: 1) outline the program for the Fisheries Conference; 2) draft an agenda for the Law Enforcement Committee meeting; and 3) review new BUB proposals. |
| 10 April | Coordination with BFAR Regional Office 5 - Fisheries Regulatory and Law Enforcement Division (FRLED) regarding the conduct of a QRT training needs assessment. |
| 15 April | Completed the Capul socio-economic monitoring field survey. Meeting with Capul MA and MPS personnel regarding the conduct of barangay information drives. |
| 16 April | Completed the Sta. Magdalena socio-economic monitoring field survey. Provided LGU-Sta. Magdalena anti-illegal fishing information materials. |
| 17 April | Conducted field visits/ocular inspection of fish catch monitoring activities in Sta. Magdalena. Interviewed Sta. Magdalena non-motorized banca BUB project beneficiaries. |
| 18 April | Field visits/ocular inspection of fish catch monitoring in Bulan. Conducted interviews with Bulan <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> surface gillnet fishers regarding their marketing strategy. |
| 20 April | Conducted training needs assessment of QRT and other staff at BFAR 5. |
| 21 April | Meeting with the PFO for identification of community fish landing centers. |
| 22 April | Participated in an orientation on the PFO's TARGET Program. |
| 23 April | Participated in a meeting with LGU-Bulan to re-validate candidate trainees |

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| | for the PPP DAP Training. |
| 29 April | Identified information gaps in the <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> VCA field survey and planning for the May contract extension of the enumerator. |
| May 2015 | |
| 04 May | Meeting with the PFO for BUB and TARGET projects. |
| 05 May | Meeting with the Provincial Agriculture and Fisheries Council to address depletion of <i>Portunus pelagicus</i> in Sorsogon Bay. |
| 06 May | Meeting with the PFO to recommend a regulation of the “Taiwanese” fish trap. |
| 08 May | Coordinated with PFO staff for the conduct of a <i>Bantay Dagat</i> training. |
| 11 May | Conducted EAFM governance benchmarking with LGU-Matnog. |
| 12 May | Conducted EAFM governance benchmarking with LGU-Sta. Magdalena. |
| 13 May | Conducted EAFM governance benchmarking with LGU-Bulan. |
| 14 May | Completed the Bulan socio-economic monitoring field survey. Observed the examination of fish products at the Bulan Fish Port. |
| 15-16 May | Meeting with Bulan Mayor Marnellie Robles to finalize the list of trainees for the PPP DAP Training. Attended the Bulan Farmers-Fisherfolk Summit. |
| 18 May | Attended the Sanggunian Panlalawigan Fisheries Committee public hearing to discuss the depletion of <i>Portunus pelagicus</i> in Sorsogon Bay. |
| 19 May | Participated in a Sorsogon radio program to discuss fisheries issues in Sorsogon Bay. Attended a meeting at the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist as a follow up to the Sanggunian Panlalawigan public hearing on the depletion of <i>Portunus pelagicus</i> in Sorsogon Bay. |
| 21 May | Observed joint Sta. Magdalena-PNP operations against compressor fishing. |
| 26-28 May | Attended the ECOFISH Monitoring and Evaluation Training |
| June 2015 | |
| 02-03 June | Meetings with BFAR RO 8 to provide updates and discuss NSAP coordination in the 3 focal municipalities. |
| 04 June | Meeting with the PFO regarding mangrove reforestation issues. |
| 06-07 June | Reviewed <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> VCA data. |
| 08 June | Meeting with the PFO regarding the Sorsogon Provincial Fisheries Summit. |
| 09 June | Attended the Sanggunian Panlalawigan Fisheries Committee Technical |

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| | Working Group meeting in preparation for the Sorsogon Provincial Fisheries Summit. |
| 10 June | Meeting with informants regarding the compressor fishing “protection network” in Sta. Magdalena. |
| 11-15 June | Preparatory activities for the ECOFISH Environmental Summit, including the selection of participants from 7 municipalities and consultation-meetings with BFAR RO 5 and the PFO. |
| 16 June | Meeting with the PFO to evaluate BUB project proposals. |
| 17 June | Attended the Sanggunian Panlalawigan Fisheries Committee Technical Working Group meeting to finalize the program and budget for the Sorsogon Provincial Fisheries Summit. |
| 19 June | Attended the Local Poverty Reduction Action Team meeting to review BUB implementation problems and fast track implementation. Meeting with BFAR RO 5 ARD Marjurie Grutas and staff on BUB and other matters. |
| 22 June | Meeting with Sta. Magdalena Mayor Alejandro Gamos and MENRO Marlon Futol regarding the establishment of an MPA in Peñafrancia and in Poblacion III. |
| 23-24 June | Assisted/co-facilitated in the Prieto Diaz FARMC re-organization. |
| 25 June | Public meeting at the Bulan Fish Port to discuss the “poor” prices for <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> that fishers get from fish traders and the unrestricted entry of dynamited fish at the Port. Meeting with Bulan Mayor Marnellie Robles and Municipal Administrator Jemer Honra to conduct resource mapping in the Butag MPA. |

3.2.5. Southern Negros

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| April 2015 | |
| 07-08 April | Participated in the Annual Assessment Planning Workshop of the Southern Negros Coastal Development Management Council (SNCDMC). The said activity provided a venue for the SNCDMC- Technical Working Group (TWG) to assess the Alliance’s accomplishments and capacity needs for a more effective and sustainable fisheries management in South Negros. By the end of the workshop, they were able to formulate EAFM Strategies and Plans of Action for the Calendar Year 2015, a Work and Financial Plan for 2015, and a review of their Manual of Operations. |
| 10 April | Participated in an inter-agency meeting attended by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Philippine National Police (PNP), US-Department of Interior (DOI) and the Philippines Biodiversity |

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| | and Watersheds Improved for Stronger Economy and Ecosystem Resilience (B+WISER) Program representatives at the US Embassy, Manila. The said meeting was organized by USAID after the PNP has requested assistance on the development of a Program of Instruction (POI) on Environmental Laws for integration into the PNP School of Investigation and Detective Development. |
| 20-23 April | Facilitated an underwater assessment in the proposed MPA of Brgy. Cayhagan, Sipalay City in partnership with the SNCDMC, Sipalay City and US Peace Corps. |
| 20-24 April | Participated in the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) Writeshop wherein all the data from the yellowfin tuna VCA study were consolidated, value chain maps were prepared, and an initial write-up was drafted. |
| 28 April | Attended the SNCDMC meeting for the presentation and approval of Planned Activities and Work and Financial Plan for 2015 and a launching of the Sustainable Enterprises for Municipal Fishing Communities (SEMFISH) of South Negros-Negros Occidental cluster in partnership with Alter Trade Foundation, Inc. (ATFI) at the Hinobaan Training Center. |
| May 2015 | |
| 01-02 May | Participated in the Visayan Leg of the Sea and Earth Advocates Camp (SEACamp) of the Save Philippine Seas (SPS) in Siaton, Negros Oriental that gathered 30 promising youth leaders of the Visayas region. By the end of the camp, 10 SEACamp participants were selected to receive small grants and to implement project proposals with the assistance from local partners and guidance from the SPS. |
| 5 May | Participated in the opening program of the annual Farmers and Fisherfolk Month celebrations at the BFAR Provincial Fisheries Office, Dumaguete City. |
| 6 May | Joined the Inter-agency Information Sharing on Illegal Fishing and Related Crimes in Danajon Bank and Southern Negros at the Golden Prince Hotel, Cebu City. The coastal law enforcement status and issues in South Negros and Danajon Bank were presented. Possible courses of action were discussed with representatives from BFAR, PNP-MG, the Philippine Navy, and the PCG. |
| 7 May | Meeting with ECOFISH Deputy Chief of Party, Nygiel Armada and Eco Modelling/ Training Specialist, Regina Bacalso on the finalization of South Negros' Inter-Local Government Unit (LGU) Fisheries Management Plan. |
| 8 May | Meeting with Project Net-works Project Manager Mr. Amado Blanco and Alter Trade Foundation Executive Director Ted Lopez and staff to provide an overview of the Project Net-Works and its upcoming activities to assess the viability of the project in the province. |

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| 14 May | Meeting with SNCDMC TWG members to finalize the MPA sites for underwater assessment and the Special Activity Fund (SAF) support for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Negros Marine Key Biodiversity Area (MKBA) in partnership with the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation, Inc. (PRRCFI). |
| 20 May | Facilitated a review of the MOA of the CLEC at the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) Session Hall, Bayawan City. This was participated by representatives from the municipalities of Siaton, Sta. Catalina, and Bayawan City, the ENRD of Negros Oriental, and concerned NGAs (DA-BFAR, PNP-MG, DENR, PCG). Atty. Kho of ECOFISH Project facilitated the plenary workshops that increased participants' understanding of the status of the CLEC and generated suggestions for improving the MOA. |
| 21 May | Served as resource persons during the Girls Leading Our World (GLOW) Camp organized by the Peace Corps Volunteers on May 20-23, 2015 at Brgy. Siit, Siaton, Negros Oriental. This was attended by high school students from the Municipalities of Zamboangita and Siaton. |
| 25 May | Attended an orientation-meeting with the President and staff of PRRCFI in Bacolod City on the workplan and deliverables for the SAF on MPA establishment and MPA Networking. This was followed by a meeting with Atty. Peñalosa and Daylin San Jose of PEMO, the new team leader of Task Force Lawod and several of its members to discuss the challenges during seaborne operations, the status of apprehended commercial fishing vessel in Cauayan, and the proposed training for the new members. |
| 26-28 May | Attended the ECOFISH Monitoring and Evaluation Training. |
| June 2015 | |
| 2-3 June | Provided technical assistance and training materials such as mask and snorkel, slate boards and life vests during the Training on Biophysical Assessment Techniques for local members of Brgy. Manalongon, Sta. Catalina organized by Charles Taylor, US Peace Corps Volunteer in partnership with ECOFISH. |
| 11 June | Attended and provided technical inputs during the public hearing for the proposed MPA in Brgy. Manalongon, Sta. Catalina. Once established, this will be the first MPA in the municipality. |
| 16-18 June | Facilitated an underwater assessment for the proposed MPA in Brgy. Linaon, Cauayan in partnership with the SNCDMC, US Peace Corps, Municipality of Cauayan and Linaon Barangay Council. |
| 23 June | Facilitated the internship assignments of 7 incoming fourth year students from the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences of the University of the Philippines Visayas (UPV) in Miagao, Iloilo. The students were primarily assigned to support the conduct of Participatory Coastal Resource Assessments (PCRA) in the Municipalities of Cauayan, Negros Occidental and Basay, Negros Oriental and the implementation of Project Net-Work in |

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| | South Negros MKBA. |
| 24 June | Conducted a briefing with the MENRO, Fisheries Technician, and US Peace Corps Volunteer of Zamboangita, Negros Oriental as part of the ECOFISH South Negros expansion sites. |
| 25 June | Conducted an orientation and introduction for ECOFISH expansion sites of South Negros at the BFAR Provincial Fisheries Office attended by representatives from the municipalities of Bacong, Dauin and Dumaguete City. This activity also served as an opportunity for ECOFISH to introduce the Project Net-works to the participants. |
| 26-27 June | Conducted scoping surveys (i.e. interviews with barangay officials, fisherfolk leaders and members) together with the student interns from the UPV for the Project Net-works in selected coastal barangays of Dumaguete City and Dauin, Negros Oriental. |
| 29-30 June | Together with the UPV interns, conducted a courtesy call to Hon. Mayor Lenin Alviola and visited the coastal barangays of the municipality of Bacong to conduct focus group discussions and key informant interviews for the project Net-Works. |
| 26 June | Meeting with the MFARMC and Basak MPA Management Committee in Zamboangita to provide an overview of the ECOFISH Project's objectives and strategies, as well as present the current and planned fisheries programs in the municipality. As a result, the fishers were encouraged to participate in the national fisherfolk, gear and boat registration programs. |
| 29 June | Conducted a courtesy meeting with Mayors, Municipal Agriculturists and Fisheries Technicians in Siaton and Sta. Catalina with the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Foundation (PRRCFI, Inc.) to discuss the planned activities for MPA establishment in these areas. |

3.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

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| April 2015 | |
| 02 April | Attended an organizational meeting of the Barangay Alambique Fisherfolks Association (BAFA) in Gigaquit to gather base information for the organizational diagnosis to be conducted by Community Partnership Specialist Alfredo Lazarte. |
| 08 April | Facilitated the conduct of a QAQC of fish catch monitoring activities in Punta Bilar, Surigao City, Barangay Alambique, Gigaquit, Barangay Panatao, Claver, Poblacion, Bacuag and Barangay Sampaguita, Tagana-an. |
| 13 April | Finalized report and presentation materials on the results of the Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment (PCRA) in five (5) coastal barangays of Santa Monica in collaboration with BFAR Caraga and PAO personnel Antonio Perral. |

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| 20-24 April | Participated in a writeshop on Value Chain Analysis (VCA). |
| 23 April | Conducted QAQC of fish catch monitoring activities in Kawilan Is., Tagana-an, Banga Is., Placer and Nagubat Is., Gigaquit to check if sampling standards and procedures are being followed and to identify issues and problems at the site level that needed immediate attention and action. |
| 27 April | Provided technical assistance to LGU-Taganaan in the MFARMC meeting that aimed to finalize the draft ordinances on the creation of the Tagana-an Marine Sanctuary Management Board and on the establishment of the LGU's second fish sanctuary in Barangay Fabio. |
| May 2015 | |
| 08 May | Consulted PAO personnel Antonio Perral and HIPADA Operations Management Office Executive Director Joseph Nacario with GIZ volunteer coordinator Anke Steinel for comments and additional inputs to the draft Inter-LGU Fisheries Management Plan (EAFM Plan) of the Surigao del Norte MKBA focal LGUs. |
| 11 May | Facilitated field validation of MPA MEAT results of the Corregidor MPA of LGU-Dapa in Siargao Island in cooperation with BFAR, PAO, LGU personnel, and members of the Corregidor Fisherfolk Association. |
| 12 May | Hosted the PNP-Maritime Group 13's Certification of its Performance Governance System at the ECOFISH Project Office as part of its Advisory Council. Presented PCRA results with BFAR and PAO personnel to fisher folks and LGU officials of Santa Monica, in Siargao Island. |
| 13 May | Briefed MAs, ATs for Fisheries, and MPDCs/Os of Tagana-an, Bacuag, Gigaquit and Claver on the EAFM governance benchmarking tool and assist the LGUs assess their respective governance capacity and skills from 2013. |
| 19 May | Presented to the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of HIPADA the ECOFISH key activities with inter-LGU scope and the EAFM governance benchmarking tool to solicit the HIPADA-TAG's help in accomplishing EAFM benchmarking forms. Provided technical assistance in the preparatory meeting for the CLE operational planning in Bacuag, participated in by the local <i>Bantay Dagat</i> , PNP personnel, LGU personnel and BFAR Caraga FLE-QRT personnel to discuss options for coordination and arrangements that will strengthen collaborative efforts among participating agencies in coastal law enforcement in the MKBA. |
| 26-28 May | Attended the ECOFISH Monitoring and Evaluation Training. |

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| 27-28 May | Provided logistical and technical support to BFAR Caraga in the conduct of field exercises during the province-wide BoatR Launch, which was participated in by mainland LGUs and Siargao Island LGUs. |
| June 2015 | |
| 09 June | Validated and finalized EAFM benchmarking outputs from focal LGUs in cooperation with the PAO. Consulted B+WISER Coordinator Alix Yao regarding possible collaborations during the planned Mangrove Forum in Del Carmen for the month July. |
| 16-19 June | Facilitated the conduct of the BFAR Caraga FLE-QRT Capability and Team Building in collaboration with BFAR Caraga, PEMO, PAO, MARINA, PNP/PNP-MG 13, SAF, PCG, Philippine Navy, and the Philippine Army. |
| 27-29 June | Assisted in the organizational diagnosis of key POs, namely, the Barangay Alambique Fisherfolk Association in Gigaquit, Bacuag Fisherfolk Association in Bacuag and the Tagana-an Sanctuary Management Board in Tagana-an. The activity was led by Community Partnership Specialist Alfredo Lazarte with PAO personnel Antonio Perral, and in coordination with the respective MAOs/MAs and ATs for fisheries. |
| 30 June | Assisted in the facilitation of the PAMB meeting to draft a PAMB Resolution proposing the new user fee rates in Siargao Island, with inputs from Senior Resource Economist Rina Rosales and Senior Governance Specialist Atty. James Kho based on the WTP results conducted by ECOFISH in 2013. |

3.2.7. Sulu Archipelago

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| April 2015 | |
| 01-30 April | Facilitated the conduct of Value Chain Analysis (VCA) study on Tawi-Tawi blue swimming crabs in select barangays of the municipalities of Panglima Sugala, Sitangkai, Sapa-Sapa, Bongao, and Tandubas. |
| May 2015 | |
| 09-15 May | Assisted the Save Philippine Seas in the conduct of SEACamp activities in Tawi-Tawi. |
| 23 May | Assisted the PNP-MG 1 st MSOU in the preparation of documents for the apprehension of at least 5 illegal fishers from the Visayas who were caught fishing using compressor within Bongao municipal waters. |
| June 2015 | |
| 04 June | Assisted BFAR Tawi-tawi and LGU-Bongao to orient the LGU officials on BoatR. |

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| 15-16 June | Participated in the Bud Bongao Council's Committee meeting and workshop facilitated by WWF (Worldwide Life Foundation). |
| 15 June | Attended the turn-over ceremony and inauguration of Panglima Sugala's fish landing site and public market wherein BFAR Tawi-Tawi awarded 30 boats to recipients from Panglima Sugala . Likewise, DILG Tawi-Tawi turned over a 180-water tank as part of a BUB project of the municipality. |
| 16 June | Attended the Provincial Peace and Order Council's Meeting conducted by the Tawi-Tawi Provincial Government chaired by Governor Nurbert M. Sahali. |
| 17-30 June | Conducted several courtesy visits to enforcement partners. |

3.2.8. Verde Island Passage

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| April 2015 | |
| 2 April | Assisted in the interview with Dr. Wilfredo Campos for the Audio Visual Production (AVP) of the Balayan Bay Closed Season. |
| 10 April | Facilitated the presentation of the initial results of the research assessment for the Balayan Bay Closed Season conducted by the German Institute for Development (GID). |
| 8-10 April | Conducted trainings on Value Formation, Vision Mission Goal, and Strategic Planning to the <i>Samahang Mangingisda at Mag-iisda ng Brgy. Calayo</i> , the Rural Improvement Club of Brgy. Wawa, <i>Bukluran ng Maliliit na Mangingisda ng Brgy. Balaytige</i> and the <i>Samahan ng Mamamalakaya ng Brgy. Papaya</i> in Nasugbu, Batangas. Facilitated the production of a short version of the Balayan Bay Closed Season audio-visual presentation during the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) general assembly. |
| 14-15 April | Provided technical advise to the visiting mayors at the ECOFISH booth during the LMP General Assembly. |
| 20-24 April | Participated in a writeshop on Value Chain Analysis (VCA). Drafted a report for the round scad VCA in VIP. |
| 30 April | Attendended the final presentation of the GID on their research and assessment for the Balayan Bay Closed Season. |
| May 2015 | |
| 12-15 May | Conducted a review of EAFMgovernance benchmarks in Tingloy, Mabini, Lemery, Balayan, Calatagan and Calaca. |
| 14 May | Assisted the Socio-economic thematic lead during the consultation-meeting with the LGU and PO members in Calatagan. |

| | |
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| 19-22 May | Conducted a review of EAFM governance benchmarks in San Luis, Taal and Bauan. |
| 21 May | Facilitated the re-shooting of the audio visual presentation of the Balayan Bay Closed Season in Brgy. San Juan, Balayan. |
| 25 May | Provided assistance during the Study Tour of various Ghannian government officials and presented the role of ECOFISH in the Balayan Bay closed season. |
| 26-28 May | Attended the ECOFISH Monitoring and Evaluation Training. |
| June 2015 | |
| 01 & 11 June | Provided technical and logistical assistance during the Inter-LGU Training on Basic Life Support (BLS) and Water, Search and Rescue (WaSAR) in Taal, Batangas. |
| 03-05 June | Conducted and co-facilitated a 3-day CLE Training for the Bantay Dagat of San Juan, Batangas. This training was funded by the San Juan LGU and First Gen. |
| 09 & 26 June | Participated in the assessment and evaluation for the BRAVO Awards, the results of which were included in the Socio-Economic Assessment Tool developed by Ms. Rina Rosales. |
| 18 June | Attended the BRAVO Team meeting in preparation for the regular meeting of the MPAs and Bantay Dagat Network of VIP Batangas. |
| 23-24 June | Conducted the Batangas Coastal and Marine Law Enforcement Orientation-Training for judges, prosecutors and enforcement groups. |

4. Important Accomplishments

4.1. Important Accomplishments at National Level

- At national level, ECOFISH continues to provide technical assistance in deliberations to enact a National Greenbelt Law (now expanded to mangrove and beach forest conservation law) by providing suggestions in harmonizing the House and Senate versions and to ensure that the law is science-based.
- ECOFISH also provided assistance to the preparation of the IRR for the recently passed amendments to the Fisheries Code, specifically providing suggestions on procedures for administrative adjudication.
- ECOFISH contributed to the conduct of the LMP General Assembly and supported the participation of select LGU Executives with working knowledge and rich experience in implementing EAFM initiatives.
- ECOFISH met with DA-BFAR and NFRDI to revive interest in conducting a workshop to review the scientific research agenda of NFRDI.

- Assisted LGU-Coron in updating and finalizing the management plan of the Siete Pecados Marine Park. The status of the draft management plan has been pending for approval for more than five years. ECOFISH's assistance in nominating the Siete Pecados for the Galing Pook Awards triggered an interest by the LGU to speed up the review and approval of the said management plan. The assistance to Siete Pecados also encouraged the LGU to expand policy and operational support for the other MPAs of the municipality, and eventually, to form a uniformly managed MPA network. Subsequently, the LGU further unlocked funds to invest for the upgrading of the MPA's facilities.
- ECOFISH assisted in the review and preparation of a draft Provincial Fisheries Ordinance for La Union.
- ECOFISH conducted consultations with LGUs in South Negros to understand why the CLEC LGUs of Negros Occidental decided to terminate their inter-LGU cooperation. Following the consultations, ECOFISH suggested a revised LOU that accurately reflects the objectives and interests of the LGUs.
- ECOFISH facilitated a workshop for law enforcers, prosecutors, and judges in Batangas to draw recommendations for improving efficiency and effectiveness in prosecuting fisheries violations. The participants expressed interest in learning more about the science behind the violations, as well as enhancing knowledge and skills pertaining to the technical aspects of the violations (e.g. what active/passive gears actually look like).
- Draft reports of value chain studies from 6 MKBAs were submitted. These are currently being edited and finalized.
- The PPP involving AIM and select POs in GIG and VIP MKBAs is implemented with 2 graduate students who are providing financial management and bookkeeping trainings and assistance to the POs.
- WTP surveys were carried out in CIG and South Negros for to identify appropriate recreational user fees. In Siargao, a PAMB meeting was held to discuss how to coordinate the establishment of a user-fee system together with the provincial LGU of Surigao del Norte and component LGUs of Siargao Island.
- Enterprise development preparations in CIG, Surigao del Norte and VIP were conducted. Ads were placed for potential bidders for VIP and CIG, while a community organizer was hired for Siargao. Several scoping and coordination meetings were held with stakeholders onsite, as well as with potential private sector partners in Metro Manila.
- The SEACamp culminating event was held in Coron, whereby 30 youth participants presented their community-based projects, which are expected to contribute to the promotion of marine conservation in the country. The SEACamps were held in ECOFISH sites, thereby increasing visibility and awareness of the objectives and initiatives of the Project.
- An accompanying assessment tool of whether MPAs are promoting socio-economic benefits at the community level was drafted. The socio-economic assessment tool or SEAT aims to complement the existing MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT) to assist LGUs in determining whether their respective MPAs are creating positive socio-economic impacts among their constituents. The draft SEAT will be pilot-tested in selected

ECOFISH sites. Parallel pilot-tests shall be conducted by the UP-TMEM students in their respective sites.

- In collaboration with ECOFISH, the German Development Institute (GDI or DIE) conducted a socio-economic impact assessment of the seasonal closure for the commercial fishing of small pelagics in Balayan Bay. Results were subjected to two rounds of review and validation where key stakeholders were able to comment onsite and in Metro Manila. The final report shall be made available online.
- The NAPC expressed keen interest in taking the results of the Balayan Bay Seasonal Closure forward. Initially, they have already shown the video presentation produced by ECOFISH to DSWD and DBM officials. Further, they intend to present the results during a subsequent Cabinet Cluster E meeting and propose that DSWD scale-up the program nationwide, particularly in bays that have been identified to be in serious need of fisheries conservation programs.
- Encoding and processing of data gathered for the socio-economic monitoring activities are underway. Data analysis will be conducted in the succeeding quarter.
- A series of training workshops was conducted for selected fisherfolk POs in VIP, Surigao del Norte and CIG MKBAs as part of ECOFISH's continuing assistance in the implementation of the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP). Trainings on values formation, strategic planning, gender sensitivity and vision-mission-goals (VMG) formulation were held during the period.
- A partners meeting attended by the Province of Bohol, Danajon LGUs of Bohol, the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI) and ECOFISH was held last June 30, 2015 in Tagbilaran City to present the results of the 1-year Pilot Assessment of Blue Swimming Crabs and the Application of the Spawning Potential Ratio for Species-specific Management in the Danajon Reef. Key findings include: (1) crab liftnets catch predominantly the immature/juvenile crabs and (2) the Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR) of blue swimming crabs in the Danajon Reef is at 27% (an SPR of 30-40% is considered risk adverse for most species). The ECOFISH project then facilitated a workshop to further enhance the management of blue swimming crabs for competitive local economic development in line with an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. Among the important commitments were: (1) to strengthen the implementation of existing laws for blue swimming crabs harvest (LGU), to implement a gear-swap program to eventually eliminate the use of crab liftnets (BFAR), and strict enforcement of the minimum size and selective sourcing of blue crabs for processing (PACPI). Furthermore, PACPI committed to distribute temporary holding pens for harvested berried blue crabs.
- Over 20 champions across ECOFISH sites participated in a 3-day intensive introductory training course on PPPs in support of sustainable fisheries. The training was held at the Development Academy of the Philippines last June 27-29, 2015 where 10 concept notes ranging from infrastructure to tourism and economic development prospects were submitted. Trainees will receive mentorship from the Government of the Philippines' PPP Center, BFAR, the Development Academy of the Philippines and ECOFISH to further develop and finalize the concept notes.

- ECOFISH’s participation in the 5th ASEAN Fisheries Improvement Protocol Steering Committee Meeting last May 21-22, 2015 in Bali, Indonesia highlighted the interest of regional partners to pick up the experiences and “best practices” from ECOFISH sites and initiatives, particularly the Blue Crabs Pilot Assessment and 700DALOY for broader regional applications. Furthermore, Seafood Watch - one of the precursor certification schemes to the Marine Stewardship Council - has expressed an interest to engage in a “desk review” of the pilot assessment and resulting management actions for the sustainable fisheries of blue swimming crabs in partner Danajon Reef LGUs.

4.2. Important Accomplishments at Site Level

4.2.1. Calamianes Island Group

- Scoping and data gathering activities for the Social Enterprise Development and establishment of user fees were conducted in Coron, Culion and Busuanga on April 8-9, April 28-30 and June 9, 2015. The important findings/outputs are as follows:

- 1) Various initiatives are simultaneously being planned in CIG geared toward livelihood development for Typhoon Yolanda victims. NAPC, PHILSSA and the CIDA-funded LGSP are all potential partners for the enterprise development work to be initiated by ECOFISH;
- 2) NAPC would like to ensure that the re-settled families will be among the target beneficiaries of the enterprise development;
- 3) The TTCIA plans to open new tourist sites, which shall be subjected to user fees;
- 4) Culion officials requested ECOFISH assistance in setting up procedures and a system for collecting tourism entrance fees, which they intend to charge to every visitor that visits Culion for tourism and recreational purposes. The LGU has likewise assigned a specific MPA for snorkeling and diving, and a mangrove park that offers a 4 km stretch of mangrove area that is ideal for mangrove walks and kayaking.



ECOFISH Resource Economist Rina Rosales exploring potential partnership opportunities with Community Centered-Conservation (C3) on seacucumber ranching in CIG

- 5) Numerous livelihood projects have already been set up in Culion. Instead of introducing new social enterprises, ECOFISH offered to conduct an inventory of past livelihood projects and to study which ones could be revived by addressing the implementation gaps and limitations, as long as they fall within the Project’s objectives and deliverables.



NAPC-led writeshop in collaboration with PHILSSA-PAGE & DSWD at Safari Lodge, Culion last April 30, 2015.

- 6) Business proposals for (a) mud-crab fattening and (b) a Busuanga river cruise that were developed during the ECOFISH business planning workshop were submitted, and subsequently approved by the Regional Director of the DSWD-SLP in Busuanga. During a meeting with partners, ECOFISH agreed to facilitate the provision of technical assistance for the mud crab fattening (following EAFM principles).
 - 7) The LGU of Coron expressed appreciation of ECOFISH's offer to undertake a WTP survey among tourists in CIG. The results of the WTP survey will be used to update a planned environmental fee that is initially pegged at PHP 200.
- ECOFISH provided inputs to the NAPC-led writeshop for proposals conducted last April 30, 2015 in Culion, Palawan. The proposals were submitted to the DSWD's CBLA and are meant to provide livelihood alternatives to fishers affected by Typhoon Yolanda, particularly those who availed the relocation program of the government.
 - ECOFISH provided technical inputs during the Balisungan MPA (BMPA) management council meeting last April 7, 2015. In this meeting, the PNP Maritime Group (PNP-MG) presented the Adopt an MPA (AMPA) Project, which was subsequently endorsed by the council through a resolution. The PNP-MG will help the BMPA through fisheries enforcement and provision of assistance to MPA Guards. Other important agreements from the meeting include the immediate conduct of an ocular inspection to the site to locate its boundaries and the finalization of the BMPA management plan.
 - The Siete Pecados Marine Park (SPMP) management plan was reviewed and updated. Key updates in the plan include the establishment of a ticketing and collection system, enforcement of a color-coding system for mooring buoys and markers, the prohibition of fish feeding in the marine park, reproduction and distribution of SPMP management plans to all concerned agencies, conduct of regular briefings to the guests prior to entering the park, and the creation of a permanent position for the Park Manager. ECOFISH introduced the business planning method to the SPMP management and LGUs whereby revenues and expenditures from park management activities can be estimated.



Presentation of OPLAN with Bantay Dagat-Culion at Tabing Dagat Lodge on April 13, 2015.

- The Enforcement Operational Plan (OPLAN) and Executive Order issued by the Municipal Mayor of Culion were reviewed. Key agreements from the review include the identification of new team members who are pro-active in implementing the laws and an amendment of the Executive Order to improve its effectiveness against illegal fishing in the area.

- ECOFISH staff attended the stakeholder meeting conducted on April 13, 2015 with MFI and Brgy. Officials of Libis, Culion on April 13, 2015 to determine investments given by NGOs in support of the MPA and seal possible support and interventions at Bugor Island Sand MPA.



Stakeholder meeting with MFI and Brgy. Officials of Libis at Brgy. Hall, Libis on April 13, 2015.

- ECOFISH presented the draft Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) to the Technical Working Group (TWG) of Coron on April 15, 2015.

Information gaps were identified while other sections of the plan were finalized. The final MSP will be included in the Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan of the municipality.

- ECOFISH project commenced its study on Estimating the Recreational Value of Ecosystems in CIG on April 11, 2015. The study aims to estimate the tourism value of CIG’s coastal and marine resources, as well as the tourists’ willingness to pay (WTP) for user fees, which in turn will be used to finance the management of the resources. Six enumerators were trained and employed for this study. The WTP covered the following types of visitors: (a) divers in Coron sites, (b) non divers in Coron Sites, (c) visitors to Culion sites and (d) visitors to Busuanga sites. Surveys were conducted at tourist entry and exit points (e.g. airports, piers) and during boat trips. The results from the WTP survey will provide basis for drafting/updating the LGUs’ respective Environmental and/or Tourism Codes, as well as in establishing their environmental fees.

- USAID Mission Director Gloria Steele visited CIG MKBA on May 8, 2015. The visit provided context of USAID’s assistance in implementing sustainable fisheries management in CIG. The USAID Mission Director’s dialogue meeting with NCIP and TTCIA



USAID Mission Director luncheon meeting with LGU Coron (left) and Interaction with TTCIA leaders last May 8, 2015 (right).

representatives provided an overview of the Coron Island CADT and its eco-tourism experiences and plans. The Mission Director was particularly interested in how their user fees are being managed and disbursed. The Mission Director and USAID representatives were toured around some existing ecotourism sites in Coron Island, including a future tourism site. After Coron Island's visits, a luncheon meeting was held with Coron LGU representatives. Vice Mayor Pe introduced some of his planned programs that aimed to boost tourism in Coron, at the same time address environmental problems brought about by increased tourist traffic. He further outlined potential programs for alternative livelihoods for fisherfolk that can help wean them away from destructive fishing methods, in the hope that ECOFISH can provide support. SB Yuri talked about Coron's experiences in establishing MPAs and the MPA network in CIG, all of which are being assisted by USAID through the former FISH project and the current ECOFISH project. MD Gloria Steele mentioned existing USAID programs that can provide additional assistance to the LGU, particularly the COMPETE project which aims to unlock public resources to boost infrastructure development that will spur economic growth.

- On May 16, 2015, ECOFISH staff attended the coordination meeting with LGU-Culion, PHILSSA-PAGE, NAPC, MHO, MSWD, MDRRMO, and KALAHI-CIDDS. The purpose of the meeting was to map the livelihood interventions of different supporting sectors in the municipality of Culion. At the end of the meeting, the participating body agreed to conduct regular meetings every last Friday of the month for the LGU to be regularly updated and to avoid overlapping or replication of programs.



(Left) ECOFISH assisting the LGUs of Coron and Culion during the Enforcement action planning workshop and (Right) Training Participants during ECAN Board and Enforcement Training

- An Environmental Critical Areas Network (ECAN) Board and Enforcement training was conducted last May 18-20, 2015. The training was organized by Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS) with funding support from USAID-DOI. Participants of the training were ECAN board members from four (4) municipalities of Coron, Culion, Busuanga and Linapacan. One of the important outputs of the training is the



Posting of IEC materials during SaKaragatan Festival

agreement to form the Calamianes Law Enforcement Network, which will be formalized through an MOU.

- On May 21-22, 2015, ECOFISH CIG participated in the SaKaragatan Festival in Busuanga. The Festival is a tribute to farmers and fisherfolks of Busuanga. It is a call for the unity of the people who worked hard to produce agricultural and fisheries products. The project displayed IEC materials during the event, participated on judging of float and food fest competition.
- A 5-day MPA habitat monitoring assessment in the three priority MPAs was conducted on May 25-29, 2015. The data generated from the assessment of coral reef and fisheries within and outside the MPAs will be utilized to determine ECOFISH Project result indicators. MPA wardens and local government officials participated in the activity. Results of the survey are currently being processed.
- ECOFISH CIG attended the LGU Business Planning Workshop for Workforce Development and presented ECOFISH project updates to partners on May 25-26, 2015.
- ECOFISH co-organized a Gender Sensitivity Training (GST) CUM 2016 GAD Planning and Budgeting (GPB) and Gender Mainstreaming of Ecosystem-based approaches for sustainable fisheries management into the GPB and local development plans.
- Held the SEACamp Culminating activity in partnership with Save Philippine Seas (SPS). Ten representatives from each region were chosen based on the marine and coastal conservation project proposals they pitched to a panel of mentors at the end of each regional SEACamp.
- Provided coordination support during a US Embassy Regional Media seminar on June 10-12, 2015. During this event, ceremonial signing of Siete Pecados Marine Park was done which was witnessed by media participants and the National scientist, Dr. Angel Alcala. ECOFISH CIG also facilitated the tour of participants to SPMP and Coron Island.



ECOFISH Community Relations Specialist giving lecture on Mainstreaming Gender Responsiveness in Project Development and Management



Signing of Siete Pecados Marine Park Management Plan witnessed by the regional media, Dr. Angel Alcala, *National Scientist*, Joe Foltz, *USAID Deputy Chief, Office of Environment, Energy and Climate Change* and Nygiel Armada, *ECOFISH Deputy Chief of Party*

- The project hosted the visit of Director for Economic Growth Office in USAID’s Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, Jerry Bisson and USAID’s Division Director Dani Newcomb and Development Specialist Rebecca Guieb on June 23-24, 2015. Series of meetings with partners from LGUs of Culion and Coron, TTCIA, the Fiberglass Makers’ Association and SPMP Manager were arranged. The meetings discussed learnings from FISH project and how its efforts continued in the current ECOFISH project.
- ECOFISH continues to provide support to the Mangrove Reforestation Project in Culion covering 6 barangays as a member of the Project Management Team (PMT). Three Hundred (300) families of the municipality participated in the planting activities wherein 240,000 mangrove seedlings were planted over 47 hectares of denuded mangrove area due to rampant cutting of trees for charcoal making. The PMT



Mangrove Reforestation in Barangay Malaking Patag, Culion (left) and Project Management Team Meeting(right).



Visit of Jerry Bisson, Director for Economic Growth Office USAID Bureau for Europe and Eurasia. Meeting with Culion LGU officials (left), meeting with Siete Pecados Marine Park Manager (middle), and interaction with IP leaders in Coron Island (right).



Consultation with communities on June 29-30, 2015 facilitated by National Selection Committee members of Galing Pook Foundation to validate Siete Pecados Marine Park best practices for Galing Pook award entry.

conducted a monitoring activity in the re-planted sites, and found that approximately 80-90% of the mangrove seedlings have been steadily growing. Although there are still reports of mangrove cutting in the sites, the beneficiaries mostly expressed hope that the seedlings they have planted will secure their livelihoods in the future.

- The Siete Pecados Marine Park (SPMP) was short-listed for the Galing Pook Awards (GPA) 2015. ECOFISH provided technical assistance to LGU-Coron in the preparation of application documents and during site validation activities. The results of site validation will serve as basis for the National Selection Committee (NSC) in their final deliberations.
- ECOFISH provided legal assistance during a meeting with Busuanga key LGU officials in support of the marine spatial planning. As a result, a draft zoning ordinance was developed patterned after other ECOFISH sites that are already ahead in the MSP. Important data gaps were likewise identified, including CADT of Calautit, water lease of RRW, pearl farm application of Hikari, and the complete area of the capture fisheries zone.

4.2.2 Danajon Reef

- Reports and updates of the coastal and fishery law enforcement initiatives in Danajon were presented during a conference with CLEAR 7 in Cebu on April 06, 2015. The conference provided an opportunity for the BFAR 7-QRT to source funding and logistical aide from other partners for their operations. The Provincial Governor of Bohol likewise committed to support the enforcement activities especially those geared towards protecting the Danajon Double Barrier Reef.
- Established linkages with other NGOs and private agencies working in the Danajon Reef such as the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), PHILDRA, and Rice Watch and Action Network (RIWAN).
- Continued to provide support to fisheries law enforcement through activities such as: the creation of a Provincial Coastal Law Enforcement Task Force; preparation, review and finalization of the OPLAN Kadagatan; facilitation of organizational reviews (i.e. functions, roles, responsibilities of different law enforcement agencies); participation in CLEC general assemblies; assisting the CLECs in the drafting of their respective action plans; participation in inter-agency collaborative meetings where information concerning illegal fishing activities are shared to aid enforcement; assisting the PNP-MG in AMPA-related activities; and IEC (e.g. production of law enforcement posters tailored for each LGU).
- Finalized a training module for the conduct of trainings that will lead to the creation of Municipal and Barangay Enforcement Teams in the municipality of Inabanga.
- Continued to provide support and technical assistance to MPA management and MPA networking. Participation in the drafting of a [provincial] MPA Management Plan;
- The Regional Development Committee for the Visayas Area passed a resolution no. 7 (series 2015) adopting the CELEBOSOLE/DDBRMC as a special project and enjoins the Economic Development Committee (EDC) of Regions 7 and 8 to serve as the technical arm of the said project. ECOFISH participates as a member of the Technical Working Group purposely created for the planning and development of the Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Project.
- Completed the 1-year Pilot Assessment of Blue Swimming Crabs and Application of the Spawning Potential Ratio for Species-Specific Management in the Danajon Reef. The assessment was a PPP initiative involving the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI), ECOFISH and the Danajon Reef LGUs. The results were presented to the partners, including BFAR-7 represented by no less than Regional Director Andres Bojos

himself. The SPR of the blue crabs stocks in the Danajon pilot areas is computed at 27%, which is below the precautionary SPR of at least 30% for most stocks to remain sustainable. The partners outlined a set of concrete management actions and commitments to improve the sustainability of the the Danajon Reef's blue swimming crabs resources, including the selective sourcing of blue crabs for processing by PACPI as a form of market-denial where only blue crabs caught by crab gillnets and crab pots are accepted, a gear-swap program from crab liftnets to crab pots to be initiated and funded by BFAR 7, and for the LGUs to strengthen their enforcement of existing legislations that prohibit the catching, selling, and buying of berried crabs and legislations that set minimum size limits for the harvest of blue crabs.

- Facilitated the conduct of Fish Catch Monitoring activities, MPA assessments, and Socio Economic Profiling for project performance monitoring.
- Completed the conduct of surveys for the Value Chain Analysis of blue swimming crabs in Danajon. The first draft of the report was submitted to Ms. Rina Rosales.
- The Marine Spatial Planning for the municipal waters of the Danajon LGUs was initiated during the FISH Project (2004-2010). Since then, no follow-up was conducted to review/assess the progress of the LGUs in the implementation. ECOFISH revisited the fisheries and sea-use zoning of the 10 Danajon Reef LGUs in a 3-day workshop. While several LGUs were able to successfully advance their MSPs to the adoption stage (via a zoning ordinance), some LGUs lagged behind. On the other hand, all LGUs needed to update their municipal water zoning plans and activity guidelines. ECOFISH will continue to provide technical assistance through site validations with ECOFISH GIS Specialist R. Martinez and if necessary, in the drafting/updating of zoning ordinances.
- Provided technical assistance in South Leyte and Leyte expansion sites via the drafting of the Coastal/Fishery Resource Management (CFRM) Plans of South Leyte LGUs. The CFRM Plans of Bato, Matalom and Inopacan are now ready for packaging and reproduction. The CFRM Plan of Macrohon is still under processing and review. The draft CFRM plan of Baybay City is still encoded while that of Maasin City needs to be reconstructed (due to unexpected damage of their computer). Huge fisheries data gaps was identified as a major hindrance to the drafting and finalization of the CFRM Plans for many of the LGUs.
- Provided logistical support and facilitated the USAID visit in Bohol last June 18-19, 2015. The event included a visit to Balicasag MPA, orientation and consultation-meetings with the PCG and PNP-MG, and photo exhibits.

4.2.3. Lingayen Gulf

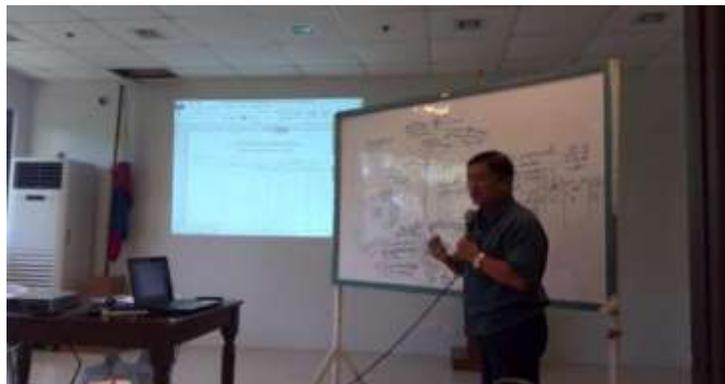
- The Summit on Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries, held on April 28-30, 2015, highlighted the formalization of the inter-local alliance in the Province of La Union, and culminated with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing on the Institutional Strengthening of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries (LUBNSF). The LUBNSF involved the Province of La Union, all twelve coastal LGUs, sixteen government agencies and bodies, two non-government organizations, one academe, and two private



Participants discuss preliminary action plans of their respective action groups during the Summit on Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries, 28-30 April 2015. This was followed by the MOA-signing of the Institutional Strengthening of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries (LUBNSF).

bodies. Action groups were decided on, namely, for coastal law enforcement, resource management, IEC/sustainable livelihoods, and policy.

- A Policy Forum on the Advancement of Responsible Fisheries in La Union was held on June 9, 2015. Feedbacks, comments, and suggestions from the participating LGUs and NGAs were considered for the improvement of the draft Provincial Integrated Fisheries Ordinance. Two members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) who were present expressed support for facilitating the adoption of the ordinance. The Provincial Administrator affirmed a provincial support of PhP2.5 million for activities outlined. The draft Provincial Integrated Fisheries Ordinance is currently with the Sangguniang Panlalawigan for finalization.



Dr Leonardo Quitos, Jr. facilitated the planning and budgeting workshop of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries. The workshop was organized by the Provincial Planning and Development Coordinating Office. This was a follow-through to the preliminary discussions held during the Summit on Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries.

- A Coastal Law Enforcement Coordination Workshop was held in June 10, 2015 wherein it was primarily decided to cluster contiguous LGUs by three's for easier coordination. Follow-through workshops by cluster will follow as soon as LGUs provide authorization for each member of their Coastal Law Enforcement Teams. The CLE Coordination Workshop was hosted by the Province of La Union.
- The Provincial Planning and Development Coordination office of La Union conducted a comprehensive Planning Workshop of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries. This was a follow-up activity of the Summit on Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries wherein a preliminary plan of action was made by each action group. The PPDC will be submitting a budget component for future approval of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.



Ms Leony Gagni, of the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (Fisheries), facilitates the discussion on a Chapter of the draft Provincial Integrated Fisheries Ordinance.

4.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf

- ECOFISH conducted a law enforcement training needs assessment attended by 19 BFAR RO 5 personnel, including six from the QRT. The participants identified a set of training topics that will improve the efficiency of local law enforcement teams. A tentative schedule was drawn up for future C/FLE Trainings.
- Established informal arrangements with barangay residents to monitor more closely the compressor fishing activities in Sta. Magdalena.
- Facilitated the conduct of Fish Catch Monitoring activities, MPA assessments, and Socio Economic Profiling for project performance monitoring..
- ECOFISH facilitated the second round of governance benchmarking with focal municipalities.
- Sta. Magdalena and Bulan LGUs have finally agreed to fund the establishment of three MPAs in Peñafrancia and Poblacion III in Sta. Magdalena and in Butag in Bulan. Starting in August, community resource mapping to delineate the extent of each area (and the zones within each) that will be acceptable to the fishers will be conducted with technical assistance from ECOFISH. Results from the MERF bio-physical assessment provided initial basis for MPA site-location.

- ECOFISH provided assistance to LGUs and BFAR RO 5 in the appraisal of BUB proposals and in the monitoring of implementation.



On June 25, LGU Bulan in Sorsogon arranged a consultation with the local fishers and dealers to resolve the issue on dynamited fish (particularly “lawlaw” or *Sardinella lemuru*) being landed in Bulan Port. The Local Chief Executive, BFAR, PCG and PNP-MG were present.

Bulan’s 2013 proposal for payao establishment was finally withdrawn. Funding for Bulan’s 2014 proposal for coastal conservation IEC will be transferred soon to the LGU.

Meanwhile, the procurement of materials for the LGUs other five fisheries-augmentation projects (i.e. fish pots, large mesh gill nets, jiggers, concrete artificial reefs, and tilapia hatchery) is still on-going. Bulan’s 2015 proposals for additional gears (for use in gear exchange) and fish processing are under revision. Sta. Magdalena’s procurement of 50 non-motorized bancas has been completed. The first 20 units have already been turned over to the beneficiaries. Procurement for Sta.

Magdalena’s second project – a fish farming assistance related project – is underway. Matnog, which has been disqualified by DILG for fund transfer will have the procurement for her two projects (jiggers and hook and lines and fingerling dispersal) done by BFAR.

- The field work for the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) of *Sardinella lemuru* has been completed. A report has likewise been drafted and is currently being edited.
- The site team attended a public meeting at the Bulan Fish Port where fishers complained about the current poor market price of *Sardinella lemuru* and the entry of dynamited fish from Northern Samar and Masbate. The LGU will make available the use of a newly-installed blast freezer to maintain freshness which is a big factor in price negotiation. BFAR RO 5 will train more LGU fish inspectors in order to have greater control in the fish trade.

4.2.5. Southern Negros

- Along with fisheries, ecotourism has been identified as one of the major uses of marine biodiversity in many of the project sites in South Negros. In order to determine the values and benefits of the MKBA for tourism and recreation purposes, a survey of tourists’ Willingness to Pay (WTP) for user fees were conducted in Hinobaan, Negros Occidental and Siaton, Negros Oriental from April to June 2015 in partnership with the concerned LGUs and the US Peace Corps.
- The Project Net-Works has been implemented by ZSL and Interface, a carpet tile producer from discarded fishing nets for early three years in the Philippines. This year, as part of their goal to operate in other coastal areas, the ECOFISH Project forged an MOU with ZSL for its expansion in the Danajon and South Negros MKBAs. Project Net-Works aims to establish community-based supply chains for discarded nylon-6 fishing nets in fishing communities in the Philippines that generate social and environmental benefits within those communities. A series of focus group discussions and key informant interviews were conducted by UPV Interns in the expansion sites, specifically in Dumaguete City, Bacong, Dauin and Zamboangita. Further, in partnership with Alter Trade Foundation Inc. (ATFI), hired

enumerators will assess the viability of the project in focal LGUs namely Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan and Basay, Negros Oriental and Hinobaan, Sipalay City and Cauayan, Negros Occidental.



Meeting of representatives from Zoological Society of London, Alter Trade Foundation Inc, various NGOs, and ECOFISH to establish community-based supply chains for discarded nylon-6 fishing nets in fishing communities.

Another component of Project Net-Works is introducing and capacitating communities in self-help financial groups known as Community Savings and Credit Associations (CoMSCAs). Our partner NGOs, ZSL and ATFI will be assisting our partner fisherfolk associations in this endeavor which will ensure a transparent and cohesive platform for the collection of nets, access to simple financial services and provide opportunities to save income earned from the discarded fish nets.

- Establishment and strengthening of MPAs and MPA networks is one of the major strategies of the ECOFISH Project to achieve its goal of increasing fish stocks and improving livelihood, in the eight MKBAs. This will be supported through the SAF, which will be implemented by PRRCFI. The assistance will be geared toward the establishment and management of new MPAs (where potential increase in fish stocks is anticipated to be



Meeting of the MPA managers, PRRCFI and ECOFISH for the establishment of the network of MPAs in South Negros. The ECOFISH Site Coordinator presented the right-sizing of fishing effort initiative of the project

significant) and the establishment of the network of MPAs in the MKBA. PRRCFI has already signed a contract with ECOFISH in May 2015.

- In coordination with the ECOFISH South Negros MKBA site Team, BFAR Region 7, Environment and Natural Resources Department (ENRD) of Negros Oriental and key local government staff, PRRCFI will provide technical assistance to communities in the final selection of the location of MPAs/sanctuaries. Conduct of collaboration activities pertain to the delineation and marking of the areas covered by the protected areas, conduct of the baseline assessment, creation of the MPA management body, drafting of the MPA management plan, and, to the extent possible, drafting of the ordinance to legitimize the protected areas.

4.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

- Completed the Value Chain Analysis of mud crab (*Scylla serrata*) in Surigao del Norte in May 2015 and is now in the process of preparing its final report. The study covered the whole of Siargao Island, identifying key LGUs such as Del Carmen, Pilar, San Isidro, Santa Monica, General Luna and Socorro as the main sources of mud crabs. On the other hand, the study also identified major sources in the mainland, including Gigaquit and Placer. Surigao City served as the main trading centre. The study noted that the supply of mud crabs in Surigao del Norte has remained generally dependent on wild sources, with only a few POs and individual fishers who are engaged in grow-out and fattening of mud crabs. Although the supply from the wild is seasonal, and to some extent may be unreliable, traders however find that mud crabs from the wild are of high quality, and are consequently preferred by exporters



Local enumerator for value chain study Robert Paitan interviews mud crab growers/suppliers in Gigaquit with PAO personnel Antonio Perral during the last few weeks of field survey.

and markets abroad, like Singapore and China. Local partners such as the PAO, the LGUs and other foreign-funded projects such as B+WISER and the Philippine Cold Chain Project are interested in the results of the study that may be used as basis for possible livelihood interventions. ECOFISH will present the results to stakeholders as part of the Mangrove Forum scheduled on 29-31 July 2015 in Del Carmen.

- The BFAR FLE-QRT Capacity and Team Building is the first in a series of five trainings that the Project has committed to BFAR. This training was primarily aimed to strengthen BFAR's in-house law enforcement arm, as well as its ties with partner CLE agencies such as the Philippine National Police/PNP-Maritime Group, Special Action Force, Philippine Coast Guard, Philippine Navy and the Philippine Army, and the respective enforcement teams of the focal LGUs. ECOFISH conducted this training on 16-19 June 2015 as a follow-up activity of the previous Round Table Discussions held earlier in the year that emphasized the need for collaboration among CLE partners, including the private sector, to effectively

address the persistent illegal and destructive fishing activities in the MKBA. Over 40 participants attended this activity.

- The Project coordinated with the CENRO in Siargao Island to hold a meeting with the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) to exclusively discuss the draft PAMB resolution on the new/proposed rates for user fees in the island. This meeting clarified the results of the tourists' willingness-to-pay (WTP) survey conducted by ECOFISH in 2013 in



Participants from BFAR Caraga and partner law enforcement agencies update and validate threat maps in workshop session, and follow instructions from facilitators in team building exercises during the BFAR FLeQRT Capacity and Team Building on 16-19 June 2015 at the Gateway Hotel, Surigao City.

relation to the rates proposed in the draft resolution. Present during the meeting were Assistant PASu Celsa Espadero, PhilCCAP, CENRO Staff and the MENROs of key LGUs in the island. ECOFISH provided inputs mainly on the sharing of proceeds from the proposed user fees, system of collection, and to what activities the funds will go. ECOFISH also took note of the natural features of key LGUs in the island: Magpungko Beach in Pilar; Taktak Falls in Santa Monica; Adventure Park in San Isidro; Sugba Lagoon in Del Carmen; and Cloud 9 surfing spot, as well as white sandy beaches, sand bars and islands and MPA, in General Luna. ECOFISH will revise the resolution integrating the agreements and results of this meeting. The revised resolution will be presented to the PASu and to the Provincial Tourism Office as well in August in view of the Provincial Revenue Code.

4.2.7. Sulu Archipelago

- Completed the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) of blue crabs.
- Completed the Socio-Economic Survey of fisherfolk in Bongao, Panglima Sugala and Simunul.

- Conducted courtesy visits to the LGUs of Tandubas, Sapa-Sapa, and South Ubian, during which ocular inspections of their MPAs were conducted. The MPAs were established by the PBSP (Phil. Business Sector of the Philippines) and through BUB of the LGU.
- Facilitated MCLET reorganization of Bongao municipality and orientation of LGUs on BoatR.
- Conducted courtesy visit to BLGU of Bongao Municipality and facilitated the re-organization of the MPA Management Committee.



Pulong-pulong with community (fisherfolks) at South Ubian with MPA as topic of discussion.

- Coordinated a study tour on EAFM for the Tawi-Tawi Provincial Government and focal area municipalities. The study tour showcased CRM champions and best practices in South Cebu LGUs, which were former sites of the Coastal Resources Management Project (CRMP) of the DENR and USAID.



Sharing of success story by the barangay chairwoman on the effect of earthquake and Mayor Garin on how he overcome the negative attitude of his people towards the marine environment and how hard he put in his passion in managing his people to accept changes especially on marine environment.

- Partnership clean-up drive of Bud Bongao (Bongao Peak) in collaboration with the PNP-MG 1st MSOU, BLGU of Bongao, I Love the Ocean Youth Movement, and React Philippines – Radio Club.

4.2.8. Verde Island Passage

- Conducted trainings on Value Formation, Vision Mission Goal, and Strategic Planning to Samahang Mangingisda at Mag-iisda ng Brgy. Calayo; Rural Improvement Club (RIC) of Brgy. Wawa; Bukluran ng Maliliit na Mangingisda ng Brgy. Balaytige; at Samahan ng Mamamalakaya ng Brgy. Papaya in Nasugbu, Batangas in preparation for the various enterprise development activities of the project.
- Completed the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) for roundscads in Balayan Bay.
- ECOFISH facilitated the presentation of the result of the research conducted by the German Institute for Development o assess the closed season on commercial fishing of small pelagics in Balayan Bay.



Facilitation during the presentation of the German Institute for Development on initial result of their research/assessment on the impact of the Balayan Bay closed season.

- Completed the review of the LGUs EAFM governance benchmarks involving Tingloy, Mabini, Lemery, Balayan, Calatagan, Calaca, San Luis, Taal and Bauan.
- Provision of technical and logistical assistance to the Inter-LGU training on Basic Life Support (BLS) and Water, Search and Rescue (WaSAR) in Taal, Batangas.
- Conduct and facilitation of the 3 day CLE training for Bantay Dagat of San Juan, Batangas. This training is funded by the San Juan LGU and First Gen. ECOFISH provided the resource



Benchmark review in Balayan, Calaca and Mabini, May 12-15, 2015



Consultation meeting with POs in Calatagan exploring possible socio-economic assistance from AIM. - May 14, 2015

persons from the Maritime Group.

- Attendance to the BRAVO Team meeting in preparation to the MPA and BD assessment/evaluation for the BRAVO Awards. Resulted to the inclusion of Socio-Economic Assessment Tool developed by Ms. Rina Rosales.

- Conduct of Batangas Coastal and Marine Law Enforcement workshop for Judges, Prosecutors and Enforcement groups.

5. Priority Implementation Issues

5.1. Priority Implementation Issues at National Level

- Collaboration with the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) is on hold. The LMP is requesting ECOFISH to co-sponsor its regional meetings, and in so doing provide ECOFISH with an opportunity to orient local government executives about EAFM. ECOFISH does not find this cost-effective. Instead, ECOFISH opts to conduct trainings for new mayors after the 2016 elections.
- ECOFISH is taking advantage of the gains from the Project's assistance that led to the Siete Pecados MPA's national recognition to build goodwill with LGU-Coron. At the same time, ECOFISH continues to assist the Tagbanuas of Coron to improve the financial management of the user fees that they collect. However, the LGU-Coron and the Tagbanuas are locked in conflict over control and use of the user fees in Coron Island. ECOFISH could be caught in the middle of this conflict.
- ECOFISH promotes inter-LGU cooperation. It is however unfortunate that the LGUs of Negros Oriental in South Negros MKBA decided to terminate their collaboration. ECOFISH was not able to convince the LGUs to keep the CLEC MOU. In our analysis, the problem is operational and can easily be remedied. After hosting a consultation-meeting with the respective LGUs, ECOFISH drafted a substitute MOU that more clearly reflects the interests of the various LGUs. However, there appears to be low interest in pushing for the MOU as the LGUs want to do fisheries law enforcement separately.
- The provincial fisheries ordinance that La Union intends to pass does not conform with the general principles of a Provincial Government's role as facilitator of municipal/city initiatives on fisheries and coastal management. ECOFISH assistance is geared towards convincing the Province of La Union to play a facilitative role.
- BFAR realizes the enormous challenge that its organization is currently faced with in implementing the provisions on administrative adjudication with the recently-amended Fisheries Code. BFAR finds that it does not have the capacity to implement the provisions. At the request of BFAR, ECOFISH is tasked to find an efficient and cost-effective solution given the current BFAR capabilities.

5.2. Priority Implementation Issues at Site Level

5.2.1. Calamianes Island Group

- Calamianes Island Group has to host a number of visits this quarter and somehow distracted the team from accomplishing the scheduled tasks on time. Otherwise, there are

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

- Due to the high number of members of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries and now with the inclusion and involvement of non-focal LGUs, it took three months to visit and explain the Project and MOA to partners and to get their inputs regarding the MOA. For some government agencies, a repeat courtesy call was conducted for recently-installed heads of agencies, such as at the PNP Province of La Union and the DENR.
- The Office of the Provincial Agriculturist of La Union has been very open and supportive of ECOFISH activities. This is important considering that the Secretariat of the La Union Baywatch Network for Sustainable Fisheries is jointly being performed by the OPAG and BFAR-ECOFISH.
- The OPAG currently staff-limited due to recent retirements of personnel. There are opportunities for capacity-building of the OPAG fisheries staff and other provincial offices for long-term sustainability.

5.2.4. San Bernardino – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf

- Bulan PPP DAP trainees did not attend the training because the training schedule was in conflict with the celebration of the municipal fiesta.
- Leahy vetting of PNP personnel are hindered by the frequent staff re-assignments. ECOFISH will continue to maintain close coordination with the PCR office.
- The absence of capable employees is preventing Biri, Capul and San Vicente LGUs in participating in the BUB process.

5.2.5. Southern Negros

- For the past few months, the CLEC member LGUs, Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City have gathered resolutions from the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC) requesting their Sangguniang Bayan to withdraw from the joint seaborne patrol program.
- A continuing concern that significantly affects Project implementation is the absence of a fishery technician in the municipalities of Cauayan and Basay. Further, the fisheries technician of Sta. Catalina has also just recently submitted his resignation effective August 2014. This poses a challenge for EAFM implementation in these LGUs since the FTs serve as focal persons for fisheries-related concerns and activities in the LGU.

5.2.6. Surigao del Norte and del Sur

- ECOFISH has a already identified technology support for the environment-friendly culture of mud crabs that does not depend on trash fish for feeding. The Project has likewise identified potential POs that may be trained in this new production technology. However, there are not enough funds to support the enterprise development activities for the key LGUs in Siargao. The Project will explore the possibility of sourcing funding support from BFAR Caraga through its extension program, from the Sustainable Livelihoods Program of DSWD, and from B+WISER.
- In line with the concerns cited above, organizational diagnoses and consultations conducted revealed that most, if not all POs in the mainland and in Siargao Island have no clear vision, mission and goals and organizational plans. They have apparently been existing for years and operating to implement projects funded by the LGUs and foreign donors with very little or no social preparation at all. For succeeding enterprise development interventions to succeed, these POs will need to undergo re-orientation and strengthening. This will likewise require additional funding support.
- While ECOFISH committed to assist BFAR in strengthening its FLE-QRT through a series of trainings, the composition of the team however may be worth looking into, just to assess the motivations of the members in joining the team. Although the BFAR Caraga FLE-QRT may have more members with a criminology background, it has been observed that most, if not all members joined because they were promised regular positions from their previous “job order” status from the various divisions of BFAR.

5.2.7. Sulu Archipelago

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

5.2.8. Verde Island Passage

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

6. Schedule of Upcoming Important Activities

| July 2015 | |
|--------------------|--|
| 03 July | Coron MFARMC Meeting TWG presentation of the roundscad fisheries various management options to the Steering Committee for decision. |
| 04 July | Updating of Balisungan MPA Management Plan |
| 06 July | ECOFISH team meeting to identify and prioritize immediate activities for 4 project sites that require immediate attention. |
| 07 July | Small group consultation and workshop to be facilitated by ECOFISH with the country key institutions in preparation for a wider consultation to review and revise the research agenda of NFRDI |
| 07-10 July | Fishing gear inventory training and start of inventory in Lingayen Gulf MKBA |
| 14 July | BRAVO Evaluation meeting with PG ENRO |
| 15 July | Meeting of ECOFISH key personnel with Jeremy Gustafson (Chief), Rebecca Carter (Deputy Chief), Dani Newcomb (Water and Adaptation Team Leader) and Rebecca Guieb (COR) of USAID-OEECC on ECOFISH activities and transition plan for key personnel. |
| 16 July | MERF's presentation of the Database System for the MPA Support Network and the proposed fisheries database for MPA network. Round table discussion at UPMSI with Justice Carpio on fisheries and coral reef concern in the West Philippine Sea. |
| 20-24 July | ECOFISH Year 4 Planning Workshop in Dumaguete City. |
| 27-31 July | Site validation on draft zoning map in Danajon Reef. |
| 29-31 July | Presentation of results of the value chain study on mud crabs to stakeholders during the Mangrove Forum in Del Carmen, Surigao del Norte. |
| 30 July | Meeting with representatives of Junior Chamber International on possible activities for collaboration. |
| 31 July | MFARMC Meeting in Mocaboc Island, Tubigon |
| August 2015 | |
| 03 August | Inception meeting of the initial members of the Editorial Board for the revival of The Philippine Journal of Fisheries. |
| 03-07 August | Writershop on the second revision of Value Chain Study on Blue |

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| | Swimming Crabs |
| 04 August | Post planning meeting of ECOFISH team to brief the COR on the results of the Year 4 work planning. |
| 05-07 August | TTCIA Financial Management Training |
| 10-11 August | Value formation and EAFM orientation for POs in the mainland municipalities of Surigao del Norte. 2 nd ICM Board Technical Working Group Meeting |
| 12-14 August | Mangrove Beach and Forest Training course for TTCIA |
| 13-14 August | Value formation and EAFM orientation for POs in the municipalities in Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. |
| 10-12 August | Cluster CLE Workshops for municipalities in the Bohol side of Danajon Reef. |
| 10-14 August | Mayors meeting on the issuance of certification or EO members of MCLET. MPA Network Training with MERF |
| 11-12 August | Drafting of the Fisheries Administrative Order for the closed season of roundscad in northern Palawan. |
| 17-18 August | DA-BFAR consultation meeting for the drafting of the IRR of the Section Banning of destructive gears under RA 10654. |
| 19-20 August | Level 2 Training of BFAR Caraga FLeQRT with law enforcement partners |
| 21-30 August | Boat and gear inventory in Balayan Bay for the catch monitoring and reproductive biology of small pelagics. Review sessions for enumerators in preparation for the catch monitoring and reproductive biology of small pelagics in Balayan Bay. |
| 26-27 August | Roundtable discussion on research needs and prioritization of research investments to support RA 10654. |
| 26-29 August | Inter-LGU advanced compliance promotion and enforcement training and operation planning on fishery law enforcement; Conduct training series for MKBA Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement; Launching of 700DALOY |
| September 2015 (tentative) | |
| 01 September | FishBase Symposium of the FishBase Information Research Group at Los Banos, Laguna. |

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|-----------------|--|
| 01-04 September | Training of data collectors on reproductive biology of <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> in San Bernardino Strait to serve as scientific basis for determining appropriate closed season for spawning stock. |
| 08-10 September | HIPADA Orientation on Marine Spatial Planning |
| 09 September | Consultation workshop for the sustainable management of siganids in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA |
| 9-11 September | Conduct trainer's training on MPA Management Plan Business Planning Workshop in CIG |
| 16-18 September | Conduct Maritime Enforcement Training on MPA Guards in |
| 17-18 September | Consultation with researchers and scientists from State Universities, Private Universities, Research Institutions, DOST-PCAARD, BAR, WorldFish Center, and BFAR researchers to review and revise the research agenda of NFRDI. |
| 22-24 September | Marine Spatial Planning workshop for Leyte municipalities of Danao Reef. |
| 22-24 September | Gender Sensitivity & Leadership Training for POs in the municipalities of Siargao Island. |
| 29-30 September | Marine Spatial Planning orientation and workshop for municipalities in the focal area of South Negros MKBA. |